

All data and sources:

Theme	Stats	Source
Hate crime on the rise	Police recorded hate crime increased by 11% in the latest year to March 2026 – 3074 reports Hate crime in Bristol is rising and reached a record high in 2025/26 - 3074 reports Hate crime in our city has been rising, with the highest volume of hate crimes recorded in 2025/26 - 3074 reports Hate crime is up 29% in Bristol over the past 3 years Last year, 3074 hate crimes were reported in Bristol	*Avon & Somerset Constabulary Offences (Niche)
Hate crime on the rise	Nationally, the latest Hate crime, England and Wales, year ending March 2026 report found that police recorded 146,825 hate crimes, representing a 7% increase on the previous year. Race hate crime increased by 9% and religious hate crime by 13%, while anti-Muslim and anti-Jewish incidents both saw notable increases. The report highlights the continued prevalence of prejudice-motivated offending and the importance of maintaining accessible reporting and support services. Across the Avon and Somerset Police force area, 5,725 hate crimes were recorded in the year ending March 2025. Race-related offences accounted for 3,987 incidents, representing the largest proportion of recorded hate crime, while religion-based offences increased significantly to 357 incidents. These statistics demonstrate that hate crime remains a substantial and growing challenge within the region. Over the past 12-18 months, several serious hate crime incidents in Bristol and the surrounding area have attracted significant media attention. While they involve different communities and motivations, they collectively demonstrate the continuing prevalence of race, religion and sexuality-based hostility.	**Bristol Hate Crime & Discrimination Service (BHCDs)

Hate crime strands: Religion	Anti-religion based hate crime is up by 44% in the latest year, and by 66% compared to two years ago (2023/24) Anti-religion hate crime: 2023/24: 133 reports 2024/25: 153 reports 2025/26: 221 reports Anti-religion based hate crime has increased by 66% over the past two years Religious hate crime has increased by 44% in one year (70 more recorded) Race-flagged hate crimes increased by 10% in one year (200 more recorded) Race hate crime: 2023/24: 1712 reports 2024/25: 2023 reports 2025/26: 2224 reports	*Avon & Somerset Constabulary Offences (Niche)
Gender	Hate crime against women is increasing across our city – 35% rise in crimes with female victims since 2023/24 Female victims accounted for over half of all victims of anti-religion hate crime where gender was recorded last year (51%), compared to 43% two years ago Over half of anti-religion hate crime victims were women Over half of anti-religion hate crime was against women In 2025/26, Gender and Transphobic hate crimes were predominantly linked with female victims (more than half), along with religion.	*Avon & Somerset Constabulary Offences (Niche)

	There has been a rise against males too, however the rise in females is greater - 15% rise with male victims since 2023/24	
Age	Across all hate strands, the number of persons linked as suspects aged 18-24 saw the biggest rise (18%) Suspects aged 18-24 linked to hate crime in Bristol saw a big rise – 18% in one year Suspects hate crime in Bristol are on average, 38 age. Victims hate crime in Bristol are on average, 36 age. Over half of victims were aged under 35 in the last year (53% compared to 49% two years ago)	*Avon & Somerset Constabulary Offences (Niche)
Hate crime referrals	SARI - Hate Crime Referrals (1 April 2026 - 13 October 2026) Between 1 April and 13 October 2026, SARI received 434 referrals, demonstrating a continued and significant demand for specialist hate crime and discrimination support services across the region. Race-related hate remains the most prominent issue, accounting for 285 referrals (66%). This reinforces a consistent picture seen both locally and nationally, with racism continuing to be the most frequently reported form of hate experienced by victims. Disability-related incidents accounted for 32 referrals, while 24 referrals related to Sexual Orientation. Religion or belief-related cases, including combined Race and Religion incidents, accounted for approximately 25 referrals, while 7 referrals related to Transgender identity. Smaller numbers of referrals were recorded under Gender and other protected characteristics. Geographically, Bristol generated the largest volume of referrals, accounting for 240 cases (55%) of all referrals received. This was followed by South Gloucestershire (54), Bath and North East Somerset (52), North Somerset (33) and Somerset (29). A further 25 referrals were received from outside SARI's core contract areas. The concentration of referrals within Bristol reflects both the city's population size and the continued impact of hate crime and discrimination experienced by diverse communities.	**Bristol Hate Crime & Discrimination Service (BHCDS)

Stories from SARI: racist abuse	Sarah Street Racially Aggravated Assault (September 2025) A particularly violent racial hate crime occurred in Sarah Street, Bristol, in September 2025. Two young Somali men were subjected to racist abuse before being assaulted by a group of offenders, one of whom allegedly used a metal pole. One victim suffered a fractured eye socket, broken jaw and internal injuries. Following a lengthy investigation, charges including racially aggravated assault and wounding with intent were brought in 2026. Police described the incident as having a profound impact on both the victims and the wider community.	**Bristol Hate Crime & Discrimination Service (BHCDS)
Stories from SARI: homophobic attack	Suspected Homophobic Attack in Bristol City Centre (April 2026) In April 2026, a man was left critically injured following an assault in St Nicholas Street in central Bristol. Information provided by a second victim led police to record the incident as a hate crime and investigate a possible homophobic motivation. Police subsequently engaged with local LGBTQ+ organisations and SARI because of concerns about the potential hate crime element. The case generated significant concern within Bristol's LGBTQ+ community. This followed a number of other very serious homophobic assaults in Castle Park, Bristol.	**Bristol Hate Crime & Discrimination Service (BHCDS)
Stories from SARI: racist attack	Avonmouth Attack on Filipino Seafarers (July 2026) One of the most serious recent cases involved a racist attack on three Filipino cargo ship workers in Avonmouth on 31 July 2026. One victim sustained life-threatening injuries and remains in a critical condition another was also very seriously injured. Avon and Somerset Police confirmed the incident was being treated as a race hate crime after allegations that racist language had been used towards the victims. Multiple arrests and charges followed. The case received national attention due to the severity of the violence and the fact that the victims were overseas seafarers who were just visiting Bristol's docks for an hour.	**Bristol Hate Crime & Discrimination Service (BHCDS)
Stories from SARI: religious hate crime	Protest-Related Religious Hate Crime Investigation (March 2026) Following protests and counter-protests in Bristol city centre in March 2026, police arrested a man on suspicion of religiously aggravated public order offences after footage circulated online. The investigation highlighted concerns about growing tensions around immigration, faith and	

	community relations and demonstrated the willingness of police to pursue hate crime allegations arising from public demonstrations.	**Bristol Hate Crime & Discrimination Service (BHCDS)
Stories from SARI: religious hate crime	Mosque Targeted During Ramadan (February 2026) A mosque on Cheltenham Road, Montpellier was targeted during the first week of Ramadan when bacon was deliberately placed on the mosque's glass entrance door during prayers. Police treated the matter as a religiously aggravated hate crime and increased patrols in the area to reassure worshippers. The incident received widespread coverage and was viewed as an attempt to intimidate members of Bristol's Muslim community during a significant period of religious observance.	**Bristol Hate Crime & Discrimination Service (BHCDS)
National hate crime	Home Office figures show 146,825 hate crimes recorded by police in England and Wales in the year to March 2026, up 7%; race-related offences rose 9% and religious hate crimes 13%.	[^] Home Office Data (2026)
Kick it out	1,744 reports of discrimination across the professional game, grass roots football and social media, suggesting that people are more willing to report than ever.	^{^^} Kick It Out Report (2025-26)