Anti-Semitic Crime At Highest Recorded Level In British History, Study Finds

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Anti-Semitic crime has risen to its highest level in the United Kingdom, according to a new audit released by the Campaign Against Antisemitism.

According to the [National Antisemitic Crime Audit](http://antisemitism.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=90edceef8c5b3590f9019f500&id=42751d4aa2&e=d474aab4e8)  released on Sunday, anti-Semitic crime in 2016 rose 44 percent from 2014.

The audit for 2016 registered a total of 1,078 anti-Semitic crimes in 2016. The audit found that 105 of those crimes were violent but that only one violent anti-Semitic crime was prosecuted. In total, only 15 cases were prosecuted, leading to the conviction of 17 criminals. In 2015, 12 anti-Semitic crimes were prosecuted, of which 3 involved violence, leading to 17 convictions.

In its recommendations, the CAA called for specific training and guidance on anti-Semitic hate crime for officers and prosecutors, appointing a senior officer in each force with responsibility for overseeing the response to anti-Semitic hate crime, and requiring the Crown Prosecution Service to record and regularly publish details of cases involving anti-Semitism and their outcomes, as police forces are already required to do.

Anti-Semitic crime has already been a factor in the initial months of 2017, with incidents including the [firebombing](http://www.jta.org/2017/06/07/news-opinion/world/arsonists-attack-two-kosher-restaurants-in-manchester-england) of kosher restaurants in Manchester, a man stopped by police after [chasing](http://www.jta.org/2017/05/09/news-opinion/world/man-waving-meat-cleaver-and-threatening-jews-arrested-in-london) Jews in London brandishing a meat cleaver and machete, and police closing down London streets to make way for a major pro-Hezbollah march.

The group only began keeping statistics in 2014, though other outlets, such as the Community Security Trust, have been releasing figures for much longer. In February, the CST [reported](http://www.jta.org/2017/02/01/news-opinion/world/british-jews-record-highest-ever-annual-number-of-anti-semitic-incidents) a record 1,309 incidents in 2016, constituting a 36 percent increase over the 2015 tally.