



2010 AUDIT OF ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS Quebec Regional Summary

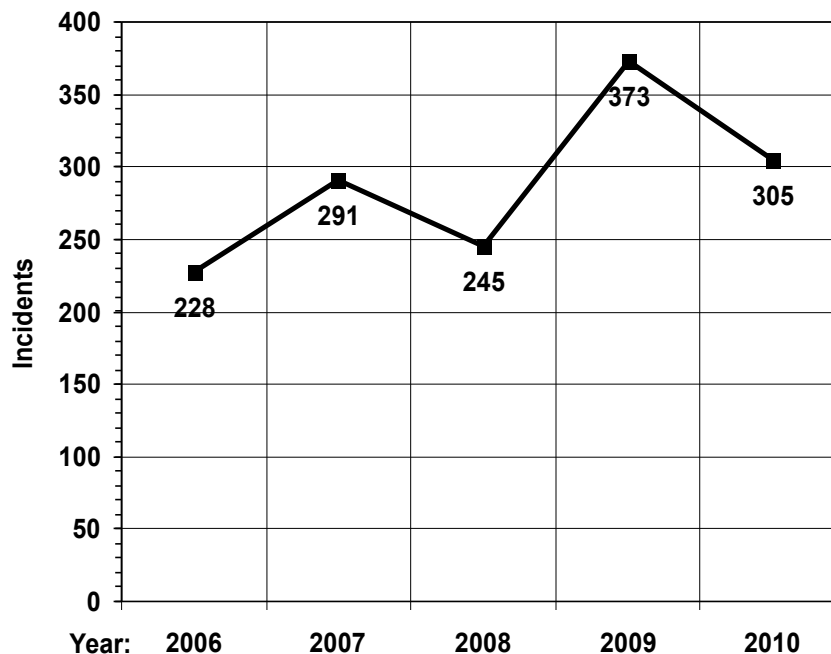
For twenty-nine years, the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada has documented hate-related incidents against the Jews in this country in its annual *Audit of Antisemitic Incidents*. This study provides an important picture of racism against the Jewish community, as expressed in incidents of harassment, vandalism or violence against individual Jews or the community's institutions. In Quebec, the following trends were noted.

Findings of the Audit: *Quebec Trends*

There were 305 cases reported across the province of Quebec in 2010, representing 23.4% of the total incidents recorded across Canada. Although this represents an 18.2% decrease from the 373 cases reported in 2009, it should be noted that this is up from the 245 incidents reported in Quebec in 2008. A five-year view shows that incidents in the province rose by 34% (from 228 in 2006 to 305 in 2010).

Incidents are broken down between Montreal and Regional Quebec (areas in the province, excluding Montreal). In Montreal, there were a total of 277 cases, representing a 13.2% decrease from the all-time high of 319 cases in 2009, but a substantial increase from the 201 cases in 2008. In Regional Quebec, there were a total of 28 cases, down from the 54 reported in 2009, a 48.1% drop.

Quebec Antisemitic Incidents



A Five Year View

The 305 cases for all of Quebec broke down as follows:

	Total for 2010	Harassment	Vandalism	Violence
All of Quebec	305	238	52	15
Montreal	277	219	51	7
Regional Quebec	28	19	1	8

Harassment cases in Montreal numbered 219 in 2010, representing a 10.6% decrease from the 245 cases recorded in 2009. In Regional Quebec, there were 19 cases of harassment, a decrease of 55.8% from the 2009 findings. Harassment in 2010 involved incidents such as the circulation of antisemitic conspiracy theories including epithets of Jewish domination and wealth, as well as antisemitic slurs in educational and workplace settings.

Vandalism in Montreal dropped from 67 cases in 2009 to 51 such cases in 2010, but this must also be compared to the 46 incidents reported in 2008. A concentration of graffiti incidents in areas of the city with large populations of visible Jews, as well as a series of attacks against synagogues, stirred great concern and community trepidation. In Regional Quebec, incidents of vandalism dropped from ten in 2009 to one in 2010, returning the region to its 2008 levels.

In Montreal itself, the category of violence remained unchanged at seven incidents in 2010, including physical attacks on a pregnant woman and a young boy. The League observes with particular concern the dramatic increase in incidents of violence in Regional Quebec, which increased from one in 2009 to eight in 2010. This is also a substantial increase from the three cases reported in 2008. Incidents in this category included the egregious behaviour by a group of teens who invaded a Jewish home and then continued on to shoot a BB gun at visibly Jewish passer-bys in the Ste. Agathe area, a location that saw several incidents in 2009.

Taking into account the annual fluctuations, a five-year view of incidents in Quebec confirms antisemitism is still a concern. In Quebec in 2010, fewer victims of hate crimes came forward to report their victimization than in 2009. Despite the decrease in reported incidents from last year, what has been noted in the Audit is an increase in the violent nature of incidents including the attack of visibly Jewish individuals and the particularly violent nature of pro-Israel students in Gatineau, Quebec being chased by a group of assailants, shouting antisemitic slurs and wielding a machete. Looking at the long term trends and patterns of antisemitic incidents in Quebec, antisemitism has always been and continues to be a serious issue in the province.

Examples of Incidents:

Montreal, Quebec - Windows are smashed at a Jewish day school.

Montreal, Quebec - A synagogue is desecrated, religious objects are ruined, and the *bima* (lectern) is defaced with a swastika.

Montreal, Quebec - Passers-by at a Holocaust commemoration event shout antisemitic slurs.

Gatineau, Quebec – Pro-Israel students are chased by a group of assailants, shouting antisemitic slurs and wielding a machete.

Montreal, Quebec - A visibly Chassidic Jewish pregnant woman is mugged as she walks through Vezina Park.

Montreal, Quebec - A Jewish history teacher finds swastikas penned on her desk.

Montreal, Quebec - A Montrealer posts antisemitic videos to the internet.

Montreal, Quebec - A rock is thrown through a synagogue window.

Ste. Agathe, Quebec - A group of boys target a Jewish home for a home invasion. The same group later shoots BB guns at Jewish residents of the town on a public street

Montreal, Quebec - Virulently antisemitic material is posted to a website which some politicians help fund.