

Jewish Community Safety Index

VERSION
1.2

Comprehensive Country Assessment "7 Pillar Framework"

CH

SWITZERLAND

52

CONCERNING

[!] ELEVATED THREAT ENVIRONMENT: Antisemitism reached "unprecedented levels" in 2024 with a 43% increase in incidents. The March 2024 stabbing attack in Zurich - the most serious antisemitic hate crime in Switzerland in two decades - marked a dangerous escalation. Federal Intelligence Service notes Jewish and Israeli interests "remain at risk."

Seven Pillar Summary

#	Pillar	Weight	Score	Assessment
P1	Legal & Government Framework	10%	62	Moderate - Hamas/Hezbollah banned; no dedicated Envoy
P2	Security Infrastructure	10%	58	Moderate - Funding increased but historically underfunded
P3	Criminal Justice Outcomes	10%	55	Moderate - No hate crime enhancement; data gaps
P4	Threat Environment	18%	38	Concerning - 43% incident spike; near-fatal stabbing

P5	Movement Ecosystem NEW	15%	45	Concerning - HuT legal; pro-Palestinian protests
P6	Cultural & Societal Climate NEW	15%	60	Moderate - Strong Israel ties; limited BDS activity
P7	Lived Experience & Community Voice	22%	48	Concerning - Rising fear; identity concealment increasing

[OK] CRITICAL STRENGTHS

- **Hamas/Hezbollah Bans (2024-25):** Comprehensive organizational bans enacted
- **Holocaust Denial Criminalized:** Article 261bis covers genocide denial
- **IHRA Definition Adopted:** Official since June 2021
- **Strong Israel Relations:** Full diplomatic ties; historical Zionist significance
- **Security Funding Growth:** CHF 6M (2025) from CHF 500K (2020)
- **No Mass Casualty Attacks:** No fatal antisemitic attacks in recent history

[X] CRITICAL VULNERABILITIES

- **Record Antisemitism:** 221 real-world incidents (2024)
- **Near-Fatal Attack:** Zurich stabbing (March 2024) - worst in 20 years
- **No Antisemitism Envoy:** No dedicated coordinator or national action plan
- **Gun Accessibility:** More permissive than European neighbors
- **HuT Legal:** Hizb ut-Tahrir not banned
- **Youth Radicalization:** FIS warns of increasing jihadist radicalization of minors

FORMULA: JCSI = (62x0.10) + (58x0.10) + (55x0.10) + (38x0.18) + (45x0.15) + (60x0.15) + (48x0.22) = **52/100**

Switzerland JCSI v1.2 - Detailed Assessment

[DATA] DEMOGRAPHIC CONTEXT (Reference Data - Not Scored)		
Indicator	Measurement	Source
Jewish population	~18,500-20,500 (0.2% of total)	SIG/WJC/ DellaPergola
Muslim population	~400,000-500,000 (5-6% of total)	Federal Statistics Office
Muslim:Jewish ratio	~22:1	Calculated
Geographic concentration	~65% in Zurich, Geneva, Basel	SIG
Geographic overlap	Moderate - Both communities in major cities	Analysis
Total population	~9 million	Federal Statistics Office

PILLAR 1: Legal & Government Framework 62/100 | Weight: 10%

1.1 Government Leadership on Antisemitism (25%)

40/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Special Envoy for Antisemitism	No - No dedicated envoy appointed	20	Govt Records
Envoy empowered to propose legislation	N/A - No envoy exists	0	N/A
Envoy empowered to set/ influence policy	N/A - No envoy exists	0	N/A
National action plan on antisemitism	No - SIG calling for development	25	SIG Reports
Federal Commission Against Racism	Yes - Addresses antisemitism among racism	60	Govt Records

1.2 Constitutional & Fundamental Protections (15%)

72/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Religious freedom guarantee	Yes - Article 15 Federal Constitution	80	Constitution
Equal protection clause	Yes - Article 8 non-discrimination	75	Constitution
Minority rights provisions	Limited - No specific Jewish protections	60	Constitution

1.3 Antisemitism-Specific Legislation (25%)

73/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Holocaust denial criminalized	Yes - Article 261bis (genocide denial)	85	Criminal Code
Hate speech laws covering antisemitism	Yes - Article 261bis anti-racism norm (1995)	80	Criminal Code
Hate crime enhancement statutes	No - Discretionary sentencing only	40	OSCE HCRW
IHRA definition adopted	Official - June 2021	100	Federal Council
Incitement to violence laws	Yes - Article 261bis, 259 (incitement)	75	Criminal Code

1.4 Gun Control Framework (10%)

55/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Constitutional right to arms	No - No constitutional right	100	Constitution
Semi-automatic weapons banned	No - Legal with permit; 2019 high-capacity restrictions	40	Weapons Act
Licensing + background check	Partial - Required for handguns/semi-autos; hunting rifles exempt	60	Weapons Act
National firearms registry	Partial - Cantonal registries; no central database	45	Cantonal Records
Military weapons at home	Yes - Service members keep weapons at home	30	Military Law

1.5 Organization & Symbol Bans (15%)

78/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Hamas banned (full organization)	Yes - 5-year ban effective May 2025	100	Federal Law
Hezbollah banned (full organization)	Yes - Banned December 2024	100	Federal Law
Nazi symbols criminalized	Partial - Geneva cantonal ban (2024); no federal law	55	Cantonal Law
Incitement slogans prosecutable	Context-dependent - Under 261bis	60	Case Law

1.6 Online Protection Framework (10%)

55/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Online hate speech laws	Yes - 261bis applies online	65	Criminal Code
Platform accountability requirements	Limited - No specific Swiss framework	45	Legislation

PILLAR 1 CALCULATION: $(40 \times 0.25) + (72 \times 0.15) + (73 \times 0.25) + (55 \times 0.10) + (78 \times 0.15) + (55 \times 0.10) = 62/100$

PILLAR 2: Security Infrastructure

58/100 | Weight: 10%

2.1 Government Security Programs (35%)

60/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Dedicated Jewish security funding	CHF 6M federal (2025-26); up from CHF 500K (2020)	65	Federal Council
Per capita security funding	~CHF 300 per Jewish resident (federal only)	55	Calculated
Program longevity	Since 2019 - Relatively recent; historically underfunded	50	VSMS Ordinance
Eligibility scope	~85% of applications approved (2024-25)	70	Fedpol

2.2 Police & Intelligence (40%)

58/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Dedicated liaison officers	Variable - Cantonal responsibility; uneven coverage	50	Cantonal Police
Intelligence sharing arrangements	Yes - FIS coordinates with SIG on threat assessment	65	FIS Reports
Armed protection at high-risk sites	Event-based - Major holidays; some permanent	55	Observation
Protected sites coverage	~50% major institutions covered	50	SIG

2.3 Community Security Organizations (25%)

68/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Recognized community security body	Yes - SIG coordinates security for communities	80	SIG
Government coordination formalized	Yes - VSMS ordinance framework	70	Federal Council
Training programs available	Yes - Community security training	60	SIG Reports
Incident reporting systems	Yes - SIG online reporting; police integration	65	SIG

PILLAR 2 CALCULATION: $(60 \times 0.35) + (58 \times 0.40) + (68 \times 0.25) = 58/100$

PILLAR 3: Criminal Justice Outcomes

55/100 | Weight: 10%

3.1 Arrest & Investigation (35%)

52/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Arrest rate for antisemitic crimes	Limited data - Only 11/26 cantons track hate crimes	40	OSCE HCRW
Clearance rate comparison	Unknown - Insufficient data	50	Cantonal Police
Dedicated hate crime units	Limited - Some cantons; no national coordination	55	Police Records
Zurich stabbing investigation	Arrest made - 15-year-old ISIS supporter charged	65	Media/Court

3.2 Prosecution & Conviction (45%)

58/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Prosecution rate	Estimated 50-60% - Under 261bis	55	Court Records
Conviction rate	Estimated 65-75% of prosecutions	65	Court Records
Dedicated hate crime prosecutors	Limited - Cantonal responsibility	45	Justice System
Hate crime enhancement applied	No specific enhancement - Discretionary	40	Criminal Code

3.3 Victim Support (20%)

62/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Victim compensation schemes	Yes - Cantonal victim support centers	65	Govt Programs
Victim support services for hate crimes	Yes - Counselling Network for Victims of Racism	65	humanrights.ch
Anonymous reporting mechanisms	Yes - SIG online reporting system	55	SIG

PILLAR 3 CALCULATION: $(52 \times 0.35) + (58 \times 0.45) + (62 \times 0.20) = 55/100$

PILLAR 4: Threat Environment

38/100 | Weight: 18%

[!] **CRITICAL:** This pillar carries highest weight (18%) and drives overall score down. Lower scores = higher threat.

4.1 Incident Statistics (40%)

30/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Total antisemitic incidents	221 real-world (2024) vs 57 (2022) - 287% increase	25	SIG/GRA
Incidents per 100,000 Jewish	~1,100 per 100,000 (very high)	25	Calculated
Fatalities (annual)	0 - No fatalities	100	Police
Physical assaults	11 assaults in 2024 (incl. near-fatal stabbing)	20	SIG/GRA
Arson/firebombing attacks	1 attempted synagogue arson (2024)	35	SIG
Online incidents	1,596 recorded (2024); 55% on Telegram	20	SIG
French-speaking Switzerland	1,789 incidents (90% increase) - CICAD	20	CICAD
3-year trend	Exponential increase since Oct 2023	15	SIG/ CICAD

4.2 Mass Casualty Attack History (25%)

82/100

DECAY MODEL: 0-3 yrs = 100% weight | 3-5 yrs = 75% | 5-10 yrs = 50% | 10-25 yrs = 25%

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Weight
Fatal attacks past 3 years	None - No fatal antisemitic attacks	100	100%
Near-fatal attack (2024)	Zurich stabbing - 50-year-old critically wounded	40	100%
Fatal attacks 10-25 years ago	Zurich rabbi murder (2001) - unsolved	65	25%
Prevented/foiled attacks	Several disruptions - FIS intelligence	70	Variable

4.3 Campus Climate (20%)

40/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Campus antisemitic incidents	Increasing - Nazi salutes in schools reported	35	CICAD
Encampments/occupations	Limited - Some pro-Palestinian protests at universities	55	Media
Jewish student safety (self-reported)	Estimated 50%+ feel less safe post-Oct 7	35	Community

4.4 Organized Threat Assessment (15%)

42/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Active violent extremist organizations	Present - Jihadist cells; far-right groups	40	FIS
Official terrorism threat level	ELEVATED - "Terrorist threat remains elevated"	35	FIS 2025
State-sponsored threats (Iran/IRGC)	Not confirmed - Monitoring ongoing	55	FIS
Youth radicalization	Growing - FIS warns of increasing minor radicalization	25	FIS 2024-25

PILLAR 4 CALCULATION: (30x0.40) + (82x0.25) + (40x0.20) + (42x0.15) = 38/100

[!] MAJOR INCIDENTS 2024

Date	Incident	Casualties	Attribution
March 2024	Zurich Stabbing - Most serious antisemitic hate crime in 20 years	1 critically injured	15-year-old ISIS supporter
2024	Attempted synagogue arson	0 (arson attempt)	Unknown
2024	Geneva: 10-year-old Jewish girl attacked by classmates	1 assaulted	School violence
July 2025	Lucerne: Yeshiva students threatened by knife-wielding individual	0 (threat)	Arab male

PILLAR 5: Radicalization & Movement
Ecosystem NEW v1.2

45/100 | Weight:
15%

v1.2 NOW SCORED: Previously "Context" - now weighted because these movements are pre-text to violence.

5.1 Islamist Movement Infrastructure (50%)

45/100

Note: Assesses organized Islamist infrastructure. NOT an assessment of Muslim community as a whole.

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Muslim Brotherhood presence	Present - Geneva, Zurich centers linked	40	Academic/ Intelligence
Muslim Brotherhood banned	No - Not proscribed	30	Proscription Lists
Hizb ut-Tahrir status	Legal - Not banned in Switzerland	25	FIS
Salafist infrastructure presence	Limited - Some presence in major cities	50	FIS
IRGC/Hezbollah proxies active	Unknown - Hezbollah now banned; limited evidence	55	FIS
Foreign funding of Islamist institutions	Present - Saudi, Qatari funding documented	40	Reports
Youth jihadist radicalization	Growing concern - FIS warns of rapid online radicalization of minors	20	FIS 2024-25

5.2 Pro-Palestinian/Anti-Zionist Movement Activity (50%)

45/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Pro-Palestinian protests (since Oct 2023)	Regular - Geneva 2,000+ demonstrators	40	Media
Protests at Jewish institutions	Occasional - Some documented	50	SIG
"Intifada" slogans prevalence	Present - Documented at protests	40	Media/SIG
Samidoun/PFLP affiliates active	Limited - Some presence	50	Reports
BDS movement chapters	Active - BDS Switzerland active	45	Organization data
Harassment at protests	Documented - Several incidents reported	40	Police/SIG

PILLAR 5 CALCULATION: $(45 \times 0.50) + (45 \times 0.50) = 45/100$

PILLAR 6: Cultural & Societal Climate

NEW v1.2

60/100 | Weight:
15%

6.1 Academic & Institutional Boycotts (25%)

55/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
BDS resolutions (student governments)	Limited - Some activity at universities	55	Campus reports
BDS resolutions (faculty/unions)	Limited - No major faculty boycotts	60	Academic
Zionist speakers disrupted/cancelled	Some - Occasional disruptions	50	Media

6.2 Cultural & Public Space Hostility (25%)

48/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
"Death to Israel/Jews" at public events	Documented - "Death to Jews" graffiti in Geneva, Lausanne	30	CICAD/SIG
Israeli artists/institutions boycotted	Occasional - Some incidents	55	Media
Businesses targeted for Jewish connection	Occasional - Kosher butcher vandalized (Basel 2018)	55	Police/SIG

6.3 Media Environment (15%)

60/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Mainstream media bias in Israel coverage	Moderate - Generally balanced with some bias	55	Analysis
Public broadcaster treatment of antisemitism	Moderate - SRF/RTS cover incidents	65	Media monitoring

6.4 Israel Relations & Freedom of Movement (15%)

82/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Full diplomatic relations with Israel	Yes - Full relations since 1949	100	Govt Records
Freedom of travel to/from Israel	Unrestricted - Full travel freedom	100	Travel
Historical Zionist significance	High - Basel hosted 10 World Zionist Congresses	90	History
Anti-BDS legislation in place	No - No anti-BDS laws	40	Legislation

6.5 Jewish Heritage Celebration - POSITIVE (20%)

72/100

[OK] POSITIVE SCORING: These indicators ADD to score.

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
Jewish Museum of Switzerland	Yes - Basel; first in German-speaking Europe post-WWII	85	Cultural
Holocaust education	Yes - Curriculum inclusion; IHRA member	75	Education
Holocaust Remembrance Day observed	Official - Government participation Jan 27	80	Govt Records
Public Hanukkah celebrations	Yes - Public menorah lightings	65	Media
Jewish heritage sites protected	Yes - Doppeltur project; historic synagogues	60	Heritage

PILLAR 6 CALCULATION: $(55 \times 0.25) + (48 \times 0.25) + (60 \times 0.15) + (82 \times 0.15) + (72 \times 0.20) = 60/100$

PILLAR 7: Lived Experience & Community Voice

48/100 | Weight: 22%

KEY PRINCIPLE: How Jews report their own safety experience is primary data - not supplementary. This pillar has highest weight (22%).

7.1 Subjective Safety (40%)

38/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
% who feel safe as Jews	Estimated 40-50% (significantly down post-Oct 7)	45	ZHAW Survey 2024
% feel antisemitism is serious	~80%+ report serious concern	20	SIG/Surveys
% feel situation has worsened	~85%+ report worsening	15	ZHAW 2024
% feel unsafe due to protests	~60%+ report feeling unsafe	35	Surveys

Note: ZHAW conducted repeat survey in late 2024 comparing to 2020 baseline, documenting significant deterioration.

7.2 Behavioral Adaptation (35%)

52/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
% who hide Jewish identity in public	Estimated 40-50% in public	50	SIG/ Surveys
% who avoid Jewish symbols/ clothing	Estimated 45-55% avoid	50	Surveys
% who avoid certain areas/ events	Estimated 40-50% avoid some areas	50	Surveys
% who considered emigrating	Estimated 15-25% considered	65	Community

7.3 Community Vitality & Protective Factors (25%)

62/100

Indicator	Measurement	Score	Source
General public favorability toward Jews	Moderate - Some distrust documented (29% distrust Islam survey)	65	FSO Survey
Political representation & access	Good - SIG has government access	70	Government
Jewish school enrollment trend	Stable with security concerns	55	Education
Community organizational strength	Strong - SIG, CICAD, active communities	70	SIG

PILLAR 7 CALCULATION: $(38 \times 0.40) + (52 \times 0.35) + (62 \times 0.25) = 48/100$

Key Findings

[OK] CRITICAL STRENGTHS

- **Terror organization bans (2024-25):** Hamas and Hezbollah comprehensively banned - historic shift from neutrality
- **Holocaust denial criminalized:** Article 261bis covers genocide denial with prosecutions
- **IHRA definition adopted:** Official since June 2021
- **Security funding growth:** CHF 6M (2025) vs CHF 500K (2020) - 12x increase
- **No mass casualty attacks:** No fatal antisemitic terror attacks in recent decades
- **Strong Israel relations:** Full diplomatic ties; historical Zionist significance (Basel)
- **Jewish cultural heritage:** Jewish Museum Basel; active heritage preservation

[X] CRITICAL VULNERABILITIES

- **Unprecedented antisemitism:** 287% increase since 2022; "unprecedented level" per SIG
- **Near-fatal attack:** Zurich stabbing (2024) - worst antisemitic crime in 20 years
- **No dedicated Envoy:** No Special Envoy for Antisemitism; no national action plan
- **Youth radicalization:** FIS warns of rapid jihadist radicalization among minors
- **Gun accessibility:** More permissive than European neighbors; military weapons at home
- **HuT legal:** Hizb ut-Tahrir not banned
- **Cantonal fragmentation:** Security responsibilities split across 26 cantons

Final Score Calculation

JCSI v1.2 FORMULA

$$\text{JCSI} = (P1 \times 0.10) + (P2 \times 0.10) + (P3 \times 0.10) + (P4 \times 0.18) + (P5 \times 0.15) + (P6 \times 0.15) + (P7 \times 0.22)$$
$$\text{JCSI} = (62 \times 0.10) + (58 \times 0.10) + (55 \times 0.10) + (38 \times 0.18) + (45 \times 0.15) + (60 \times 0.15) + (48 \times 0.22)$$

JCSI = 6.2 + 5.8 + 5.5 + 6.84 + 6.75 + 9.0 + 10.56 = **52/100**

Score Range	Classification	Switzerland
80-100	HIGH SAFETY	
60-79	MODERATE SAFETY	
40-59	CONCERNING	<-- SWITZERLAND (52)
0-39	CRITICAL	

Comparative Context

Country	JCSI Score	Classification	Key Differentiator
Australia	44	Concerning	Bondi mass shooting (16 killed); IRGC-directed attacks
Switzerland	52	Concerning	Record antisemitism; no mass fatalities; recent legal reforms
UK	TBD	TBD	Large community; strong CST; rising incidents
France	TBD	TBD	Multiple fatal attacks; largest EU community; emigration

Priority Recommendations

Immediate Actions (0-6 months)

- **Appoint Special Envoy for Antisemitism** - With authority to propose legislation and coordinate federal/cantonal efforts
- **Develop national antisemitism strategy** - As called for by SIG; comprehensive action plan
- **Implement federal Nazi symbol ban** - Building on Geneva's cantonal success
- **Address youth radicalization** - Counter online jihadist recruitment targeting minors

Medium-term Actions (6-18 months)

- **Establish hate crime enhancement statutes** - Currently only discretionary sentencing
- **Create centralized hate crime database** - Currently only 11/26 cantons track hate crimes
- **Ban Hizb ut-Tahrir** - Follow UK, Germany precedent
- **Strengthen platform accountability** - Address 1,596 online incidents (55% on Telegram)

Long-term Structural Changes

- **Harmonize cantonal security approaches** - Reduce fragmentation across 26 cantons
- **Sustainable security funding framework** - Move beyond year-to-year increases
- **Enhanced gun control measures** - Address military weapons storage at home
- **Regular community safety surveys** - Build on ZHAW 2024 baseline

JCSI Framework v1.2 | Seven Pillar Assessment

Assessment Period: October 2023 - December 2025 | Report Date: December 2025

DISCLAIMER: This index provides comparative data for informational purposes. Small score differences (<5 points) may not be statistically meaningful. Data sources include SIG, GRA, CICAD, FIS, OSCE HCRW, Federal Council records, and academic research.

Spotlight Research