

SURGE IN CAMPUS ANTISEMITISM



**October
2024**

A Comparative
Analysis of
September 2024 vs.
Pre-October 7th
2023 - Alarming
Trends and
Escalation Across
U.S. Universities

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Comparative Analysis of Campus Antisemitism: September 2023 vs. September 2024

In September 2024, antisemitism on college and university campuses was widespread, marking a troubling start to the new academic year. A significant new trend is the active role of faculty members, not just students, in these actions. This shift reflects how antisemitism has become more institutionalized and accepted within academic circles, often under the pretense of academic freedom, making it harder to address.

Despite a surge in antisemitism after October 7th during the 2023-2024 academic year, universities had time over the summer to implement measures to protect Jewish students. Yet, as the new year begins, antisemitism remains a critical issue. Another notable change is in the rhetoric—compared to 2023, the language is now more extreme, direct, and unapologetically hostile toward Jews, Zionists, and even the United States.

This report presents data from the first month of the fall 2024 semester, comparing it with U.S. campus data from the same period in 2023, before the events of October 7th. The Antisemitism Research Center (ARC) at CAM compiled this data through monitoring of media sources and reports. While not all incidents are captured, the trends are clear.

To address this, CAM's **F.A.C.E. (Fighting Antisemitism on Campus Everywhere)** Action Plan offers a framework for universities to protect students and combat rising antisemitism. The plan includes specific steps for creating a safe and inclusive campus environment. (Page 7)

Key takeaways include:

September 2024: 97 global campus incidents recorded;
88.7% linked to left-wing ideologies.

65 incidents occurred on U.S. campuses, making up **67% of the total.**

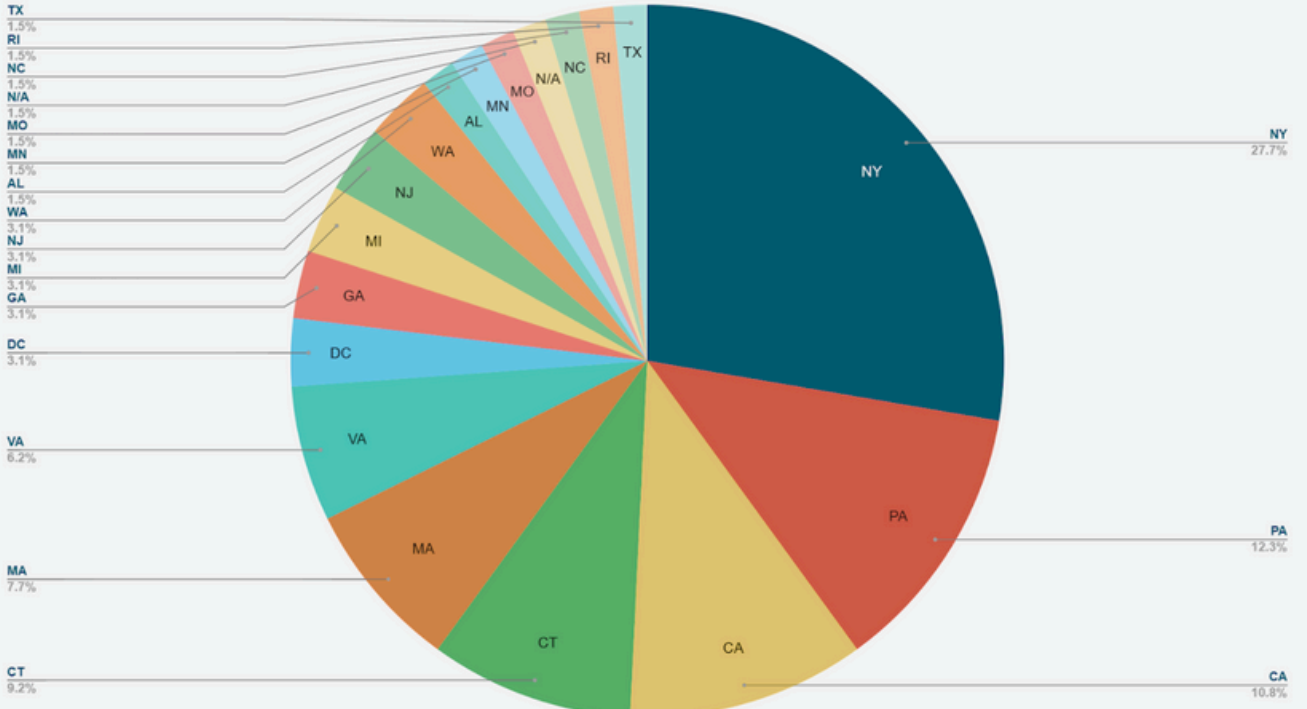
622.2% increase in U.S. incidents from September 2023

September 2023: Incidents recorded in **5 U.S. states**—PA, TX, AZ, KS, NY.

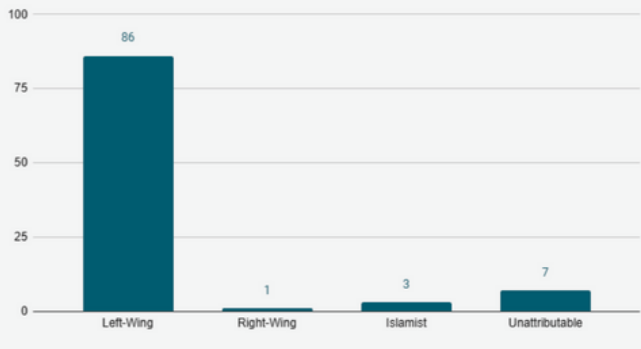
September 2024: Incidents spread across **17 U.S. states**, showing a nationwide rise.

NY, CA, PA, CT, and MA accounted for **67.7% of the September 2024 incidents.**

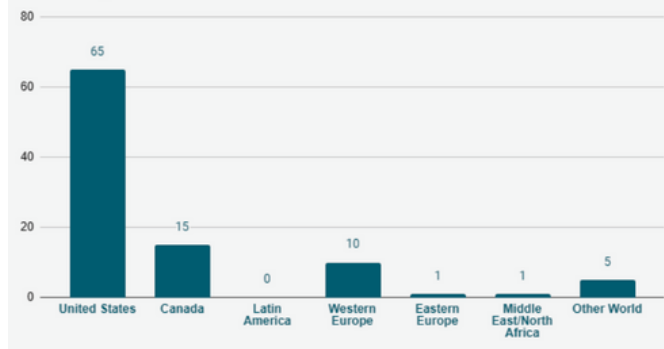
September 2024 - U.S. Campus Incident Breakdown by State (65 Incidents)



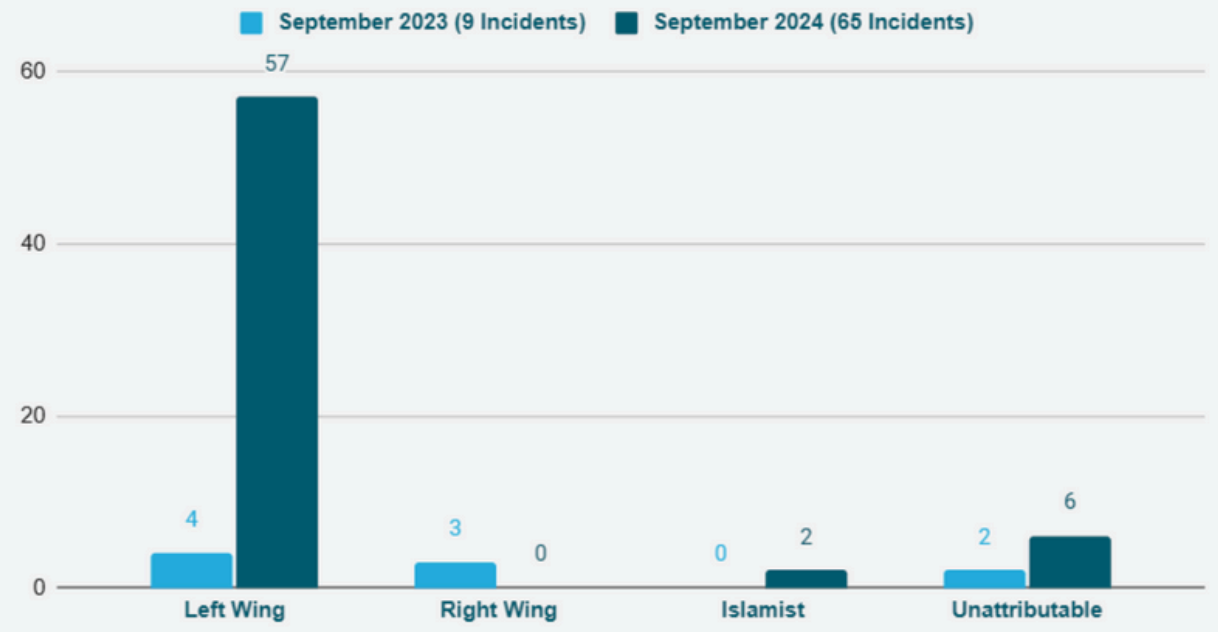
September 2024 - Global Campus Incident Count by Ideology (97 Incidents)



September 2024 - Global Campus Incident Count by Region (97 Incidents)



September 2023 & September 2024 - U.S. Campus Incident Count by Ideology



September 2024:

Ten Most Egregious Antisemitic Incidents on Campuses

- **September 29, 2024:** Jewish student assaulted at University of Pittsburgh in the second such crime that month. [Read Here.](#)
- **September 19, 2024:** University of North Carolina students vandalize university buildings, including UNC NROTC Naval Armory, with anti-Israel slurs. [Read Here.](#)
- **September 17, 2024:** George Mason University Muslim Student Association (MSA) posts video of an on-campus lecture to YouTube during which the speaker said “maybe 600,000” Jews were killed in the Holocaust. [Read Here.](#)
- **September 15, 2024:** A Jewish student at the University of Michigan was asked whether he was Jewish and then attacked after he answered affirmatively. [Read Here.](#)
- **September 12, 2024:** Anti-Israel group at University of Pennsylvania smears red paint on Benjamin Franklin statue. [Read Here.](#)
- **September 7, 2024:** Anti-Israel protesters at Baruch College target Jewish students, shout, “Where’s Hersh, you ugly a** b*tch? Go bring them home,” a reference to Hersh Goldberg-Polin, a dual U.S.-Israeli citizen whom Hamas abducted and murdered. [Read Here.](#)
- **September 7, 2024:** Vandal writes, “Where is Palestine” on Israeli flag in University of Virginia building. [Read Here.](#)
- **September 6, 2024:** Harvard students call for violence against Israel and Jews, chanting, “Long live the intifada” and “Globalize the intifada.” [Read More.](#)
- **September 3, 2024:** Dozens of anti-Israel protesters take to Columbia and Barnard campuses, shout, “resist until victory.” [Read More.](#)
- **September 3, 2024:** Protesters shout, “Back to Brooklyn - out of Middle East” at Jewish City College of New York students. [Read More.](#)

Recent Noteworthy Actions to Combat Campus Antisemitism

As pro-terrorist student groups, most prominently Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), continue their antisemitic antics amid the start of the fall semester, some universities have begun taking steps to protect Jewish students. Some of these actions involve updating university policies to deprive students of the ability to discriminate against Jews under the guise of targeting “Zionists,” banning on-campus encampments and masking to conceal identity, and/or suspending antisemitic groups. Universities around the world must follow suit to ensure that Jewish students can learn in safe environments free from harassment and hostility.

Several universities have also adopted institutional neutrality, which precludes official positions on contentious issues. Presumably, such a policy would forbid academic institutions from endorsing antisemitic or anti-Zionist policies and statements, but it could also forbid a strong political stance against them. Accordingly, whether institutional neutrality is a net positive or negative in the fight against antisemitism is a debate that warrants further discussion.

Anti-Discrimination Policies

- **September 2024:** Columbia University expanded its non-discrimination policy to include discrimination against Jews under the guise of criticizing “anti-Zionism.” [Read Here.](#)
- **September 2024:** University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign updated its policies to prohibit discrimination against Jews based on their Zionist identity. [Read Here.](#)
- **August 22, 2024:** New York University updated its policy to specify that harassing “Zionists” does not shield students from the possibility that their conduct violates anti-discrimination rules. [Read Here.](#)
 - On August 26, Rep. Ritchie Torres (D-NY) wrote a [letter](#) to several New York university leaders urging them to follow suit.
 - On August 28, SUNY Chancellor John B. King [wrote](#) in response to Rep. Torres’ letter, “SUNY is already in complete alignment with NYU that antisemitism is antisemitism whatever ‘code words’ are used, including if ‘Zionist’ is intended to mean the same thing as ‘Jewish.’”
- **August 2024:** The second Columbia University report from its Task Force on Antisemitism states, “we have heard from many Jewish and Israeli students who have been excluded from student groups because of their Zionist beliefs. This is not acceptable.” [Read Here.](#)
- **May 31, 2024:** Stanford University subcommittee noted in a report that antisemitism on campus is frequently “wrapped in layers of subtlety or thinly couched in code words, with ‘Zionist’ or the slang ‘Zio’ frequently standing in for ‘Jew.’” [Read Here.](#)

Policies Regarding Protests, Encampments, and Masking

- **August 2024:** The president of the University of California system, which covers 10 universities and more than 295,000 students, banned on-campus encampments and masking to conceal one's identity, a tactic of anti-Israel protesters. [Read Here.](#)
- University of Virginia, Vanderbilt, and University of Pennsylvania now prohibit outdoor encampments.

Banning Antisemitic Groups

- **August 2024:** Rutgers University suspended its New Brunswick SJP chapter for one year for violating the terms of its probation. [Read More.](#)
- **August 2024:** George Washington University suspended its SJP and Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) chapters through the fall semester. [Read More.](#)
- **August 2024:** American University placed its SJP chapter on probation. [Read More.](#)
- **November 2023:** Columbia University suspended its SJP and JVP chapters through the fall semester. [Read Here.](#)
- **November 2023:** Brandeis University de-recognized its SJP chapter due to its support for Hamas. [Read Here.](#)
- **October 2023:** Florida University System Chancellor Ray Rodrigues issued a memo to university leaders stating, “Based on the National SJP’s support of terrorism, in consultation with Governor DeSantis, the student chapters must be deactivated.” [Read Here.](#)

Institutional Neutrality

According to the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, institutional neutrality entails “a university remain[ing] neutral and abstain[ing] from declaring a collective opinion on political and social issues.”

This policy has been adopted in full by at least 20 universities, with at least 19 adopting this policy in part or speaking favorably of it. A full list of these institutions is available [here](#).

Fighting Antisemitism on Campus Effectively (F.A.C.E.) Action Plan by CAM

The F.A.C.E. Action Plan by CAM is an urgent response to the surge of campus violence and the erosion of student security, which jeopardizes the inclusive unity and safety that should define our university communities. This action plan outlines specific measures for university administrations to deploy on their campuses, ensuring the protection and support of all students, particularly in combating rising antisemitism. These actions are critical for preserving the integrity and cohesiveness of our educational institutions while reinforcing their commitment to inclusivity, safety, and respect for all.

1. Integrate Antisemitism into University Policies: University administrations must ensure that antisemitism is explicitly included in the university's Code of Conduct and non-discrimination policies. Adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism, including all examples, as a guiding framework for identifying, investigating, and addressing antisemitic behavior. Administrators should work closely with faculty, staff, campus security, and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) offices to ensure comprehensive training and education on the IHRA definition and its application within university policies.

2. Establish Clear Reporting and Response Processes: Develop a transparent, accessible process for reporting antisemitic incidents, including a clear point of contact for students, staff, and faculty. The administration must ensure that this process is well-publicized and easy to navigate, providing immediate support and protection for those affected. Regularly update the campus community on reported incidents and the measures taken, demonstrating the university's commitment to addressing antisemitism swiftly and effectively.

3. Mandatory Antisemitism Education for Students and Staff: Implement mandatory educational programs on antisemitism for all students, faculty, and staff, including training on the IHRA definition, the historical context of antisemitism, and its modern manifestations, including anti-Zionism. Administrations should integrate this education into orientation programs and professional development initiatives, ensuring that every member of the campus community understands the nature and impact of antisemitism.

4. Enhance Campus Security and Access Controls: Conduct a thorough evaluation of campus security and implement measures that ensure the safety of all students. Administrations should restrict access to university buildings to authorized individuals through security protocols requiring government-issued identification, protecting students from unauthorized disruptions. Masks should not be used to conceal identities during campus activities, especially at protests and events, as it compromises safety and accountability. Additional security plans should be developed to prevent harassment, violence, and incitement during campus events.

5. Ensure Transparency of Foreign Funding: Require the disclosure of all funds received from foreign governments and NGOs, including the conditions attached. Assess and disclose any influence these funds may have on university curricula, faculty decisions, and support of student organizations. Transparency in these matters helps protect the university's integrity and independence from external pressures.

6. Enforce Disciplinary Measures for Antisemitic Conduct: Universities must implement clear disciplinary policies that are rigorously enforced against any student, faculty, or staff member engaging in antisemitic conduct, as defined in the IHRA and other university non-discrimination policies. Administrators should ensure that disciplinary actions are timely and decisive, mirroring the procedures used for racist or other discriminatory behavior on campus, thus underscoring the seriousness of antisemitism.

7. Adopt a Clear Anti-BDS Position: University administrations should take a clear and public stance against the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement, recognizing it as a form of discrimination against Jewish and Israeli individuals. Policies should prohibit support for BDS activities that undermine academic freedom and create a hostile environment for Jewish students and faculty. Administrations should also ensure that university funds and resources are not used to support BDS-related activities.

8. Publicly Condemn Antisemitic Incidents: Administrations must commit to publicly condemning all antisemitic incidents that occur on campus. By issuing timely and unequivocal statements, universities can reinforce their commitment to a safe and respectful environment for all students. These statements should clearly articulate the university's stance against antisemitism and outline the steps being taken to address the issue.

9. Address Hate Groups on Campus: University administrations must actively investigate and document the activities of campus groups deemed hate organizations, including Students for Justice in Palestine, Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), Young Democratic Socialists of America (YDSA) and Dissenters. Where permitted by law, revoke or deny recognition and access to funding for these organizations, ensuring that the university does not financially support or condone activities that promote hate or antisemitism.

10. Establish an Antisemitism Response and Education Team: Create an Antisemitism Response and Education Team composed of trained professionals responsible for addressing reports of antisemitism and related forms of discrimination. This team should provide immediate support to affected individuals, conduct thorough investigations, and recommend appropriate actions to the administration. Additionally, the team should lead ongoing educational initiatives and workshops to promote awareness and understanding of antisemitism, ensuring a proactive stance against hate and discrimination on campus.