OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2021 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/armenia

For more information about ODIHR's Hate Crime Report, visit: hatecrime.osce.org/our-methodology

1 2021

Summary

Armenia regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Armenia implemented ODIHR's programmes on Prosecutors and Hate Crime Training (PAHCT) and Training Against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) in 2021 and 2022, respectively.

In 2023, amendments to hate crime provisions in the Criminal Code of Armenia were developed within the framework of a parliamentary initiative in coordination with civil society. The amendments came into force in 2024.

The Government of Armenia has adopted an Action Plan stemming from the National Strategy for the Protection of Human Rights (2023-2025). The Plan contains a number of measures to counter hate crimes. Action 4.7 provides for the development of guidelines for investigating cases of hate crime, hate speech, and discrimination for the police, investigative agencies, and the prosecutor's office.

Hate crime data collection in Armenia
Support for hate crime victims in Armenia
Hate crime capacity building in Armenia
Armenia's hate crime legislation

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Armenia's efforts to build the capacities of police, investigators and prosecutors to respond to hate crimes, namely through ODIHR's TAHCLE and PAHCT training programmes. ODIHR also recognizes Armenia's efforts to adopt a more progressive hate crime legislation. However, based on the available information, it observes that law enforcement agencies have not recorded the bias motivations of hate crimes. In addition, ODIHR observes that Armenia would benefit from strengthening collaboration with and facilitating the work of civil society on hate crimes, including on victim support.

Official Data

Police data were collected by the Police Information Centre and include 21 offences of "Public calls for violence, public justification or propaganda of violence" and two cases of "Breach of citizens' legal equality", which may have been applied in hate crime cases. Two cases of incitement to hatred and one case of "Action aimed at violating territorial integrity" have been excluded as they do not fall under the OSCE definition of hate crime. The data on criminal cases initiated by the prosecution represent cases included in the database of the Police Information Centre and those registered by the Military Police. All nine cases involved incitement to violence; one case of incitement to hatred reported in this category is not presented here as it falls outside of the OSCE definition of hate crime.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2021	68	9	3

Police data by bias motivation

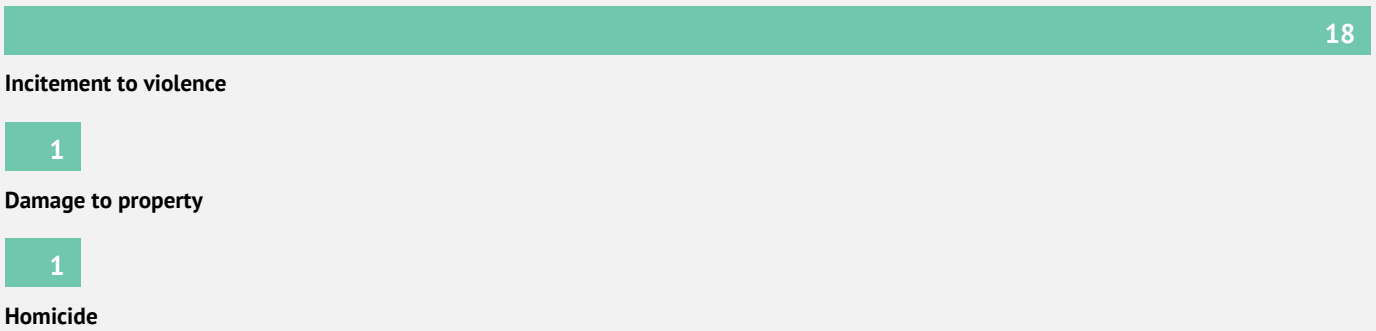
Data reported by police include 27 homicides, eight cases of damage to property, 21 cases of incitement to violence, and two cases of "Breach of citizens' legal equality", which may have been applied in hate crime cases. However, in most cases the information on bias motivation is unavailable.



Racist and xenophobic

Police data by type of crime

Data reported by police include 27 homicides, eight cases of damage to property, 21 cases of incitement to violence, and two cases of "Breach of citizens' legal equality", which may have been applied in hate crime cases. However, in most cases the information on bias motivation is unavailable.

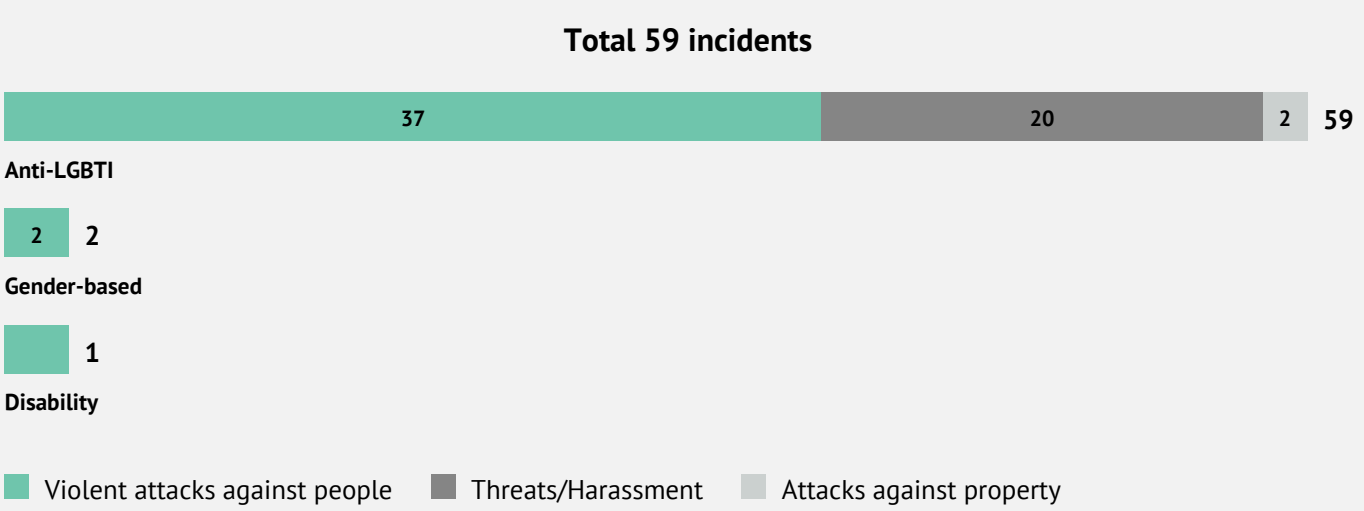


National Developments

On 1 July 2022, a new Criminal Code entered into force following its adoption by the **Parliament of the Republic of Armenia** on 5 May 2021. The new Criminal Code includes amended hate crime provisions, including extended lists of protected characteristics under both the general penalty enhancement provision (Aggravating circumstances for liability and punishment under the new Article 71) and the specific penalty enhancement provisions for a number of substantive offences.

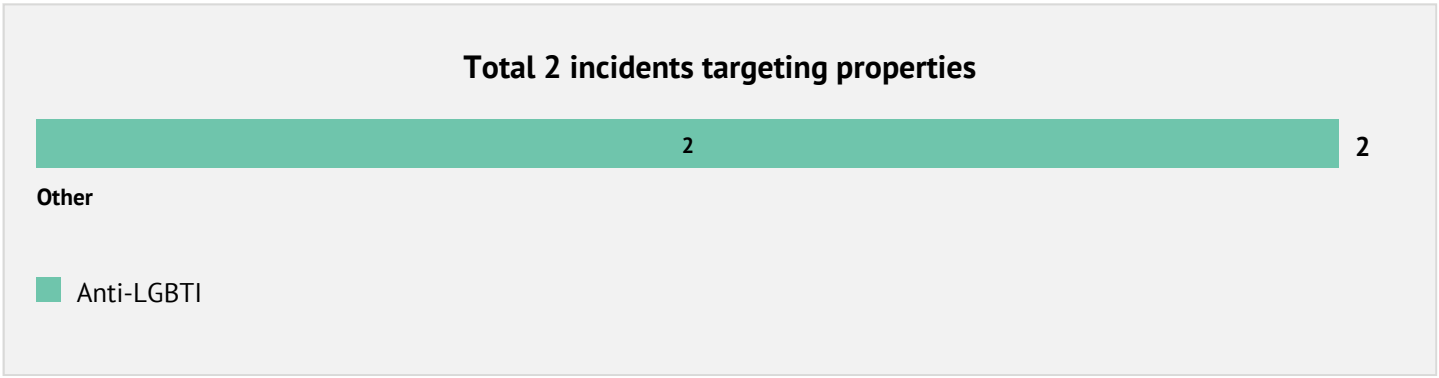
In 2021, Armenia signed two memoranda of understanding (MoU) to build the capacity of police and prosecutors to investigate and prosecute hate crimes. An MoU on ODIHR's Training Against Hate Crimes for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme was concluded between the **Police of the Republic of Armenia** and ODIHR. An MoU on ODIHR's Prosecutors And Hate Crimes Training (PAHCT) programme was concluded between the **Academy of Justice, the Office of the Prosecutor General**, and the **Investigative Committee of the Republic of Armenia**. On 1-3 December 2021, a PAHCT training of trainers was co-organized and held by the Academy of Justice and ODIHR. Plans to introduce cascaded training events led by ten certified PAHCT trainers were developed for implementation in 2022 and beyond.

Incidents reported by civil society

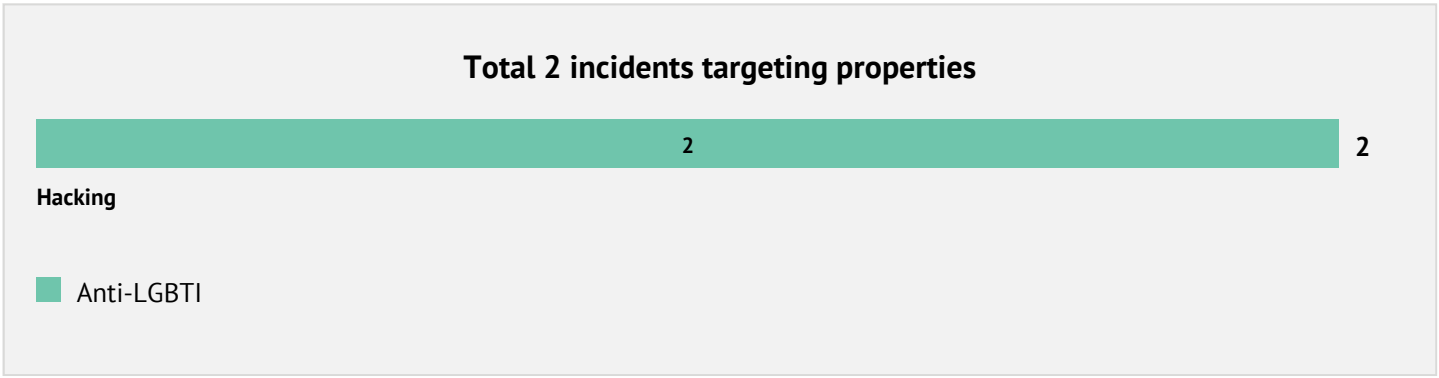


Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Armenia, 2021