OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2025 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/azerbaijan

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

2025

Summary

Azerbaijan regularly reports hate crime data and information to ODIHR.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

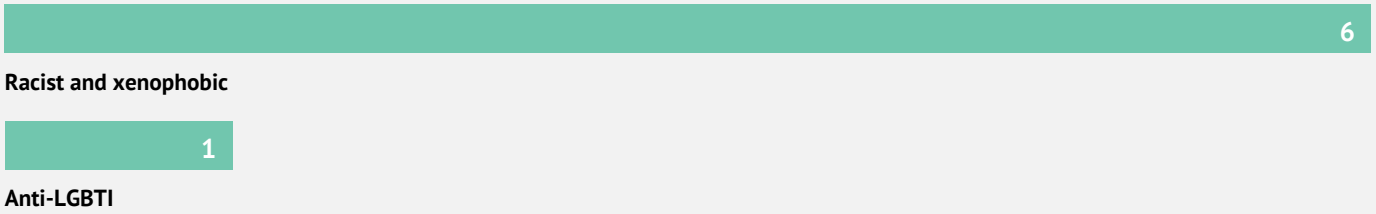
ODIHR recognizes Azerbaijan's efforts to report hate crime information and data to ODIHR. However, based on the available information, it observes the low numbers of officially recorded hate crimes. In addition, ODIHR observes that Azerbaijan would benefit from reviewing the existing legal framework in order to ensure that bias motivations can be effectively acknowledged and appropriate penalties imposed on the perpetrators.

Official Data

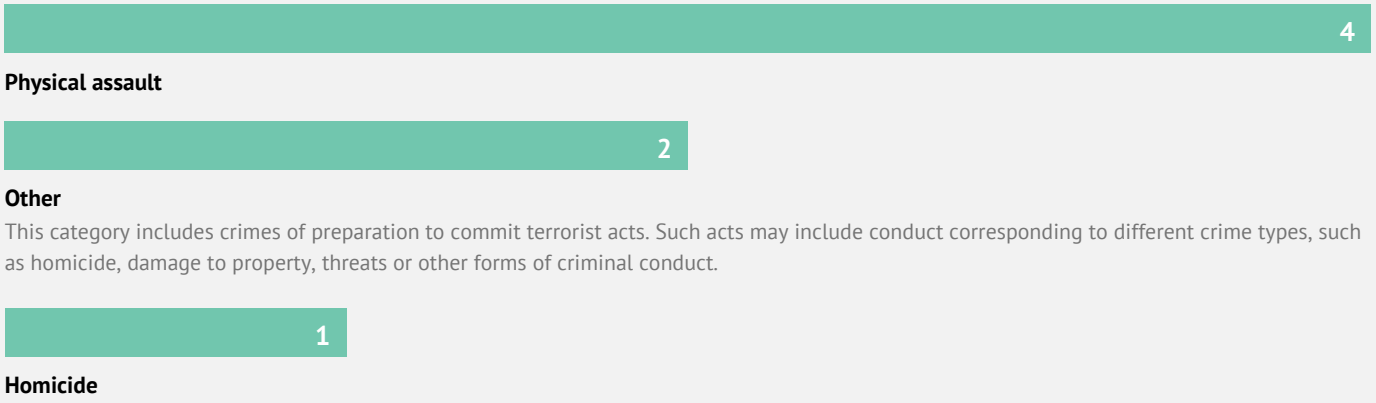
Police and prosecution figures refer to the same cases of bias-motivated homicide, physical assault and preparation to commit terrorism. In addition, six cases of hate speech were recorded by the police, but these were excluded as they fall outside of the OSCE's hate crime definition.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2025	7	7	8

Police data by bias motivation



Police data by type of crime



Incidents reported by civil society

For 2025, ODIHR received reports of hate incidents in Azerbaijan from the following civil society organizations:

- Center for Truth and Justice (CFTJ)
- International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF)
- Nafas LGBTI Azerbaijan Alliance

To learn more about these organizations, visit the Contributors page.

Individual incidents submitted by CSOs have been analysed by ODIHR. Those that are broadly considered to be hate crimes within the OSCE definition (criminal offence committed with a bias motive) are listed in the tables below according to the bias motivation category. Some incidents involved multiple biases and may be listed in multiple categories.

ODIHR's insights

For 2025, ODIHR received reports of 22 hate incidents that took place in Azerbaijan targeting a total of 119 victims in the following bias motivation categories: anti-Christian, anti-LGBTI, and racist and xenophobic hate incidents, as well as incidents involving both anti-LGBTI *and* gender-based, and both anti-Christian *and* racist and xenophobic bias motives.

The majority of incidents reported to ODIHR involved anti-LGBTI and gender-based bias motivations, including incidents of physical assault, abduction, threats and harassment. ODIHR observes a series of incidents in which LGBTI people were threatened with the disclosure of their sexual orientation and extorted for money by police officers, including one incident in which more than 100 people were threatened and harassed by police due to their sexual orientation and gender identity. ODIHR also observes three incidents of anti-LGBTI abduction involving family members, as well as one incident of homicide in which a young gay man was stabbed to death by his uncle due to his sexual orientation.

ODIHR received three reports of anti-Christian incidents in which Armenian Apostolic churches were vandalized and/or damaged.

It should be noted that ODIHR did **not** receive any reporting on Azerbaijan relating to anti-Roma, anti-Semitic, disability, and other incidents based on religion or belief, and received a low level of reporting related to gender-based incidents. This indicates potential gaps in the information reported here.
Please note that incidents reported here are based on voluntary civil society submissions and as such do not reflect the actual number of incidents or the most targeted communities in Azerbaijan.

To address under-reporting, ODIHR encourages any civil society organizations or groups that monitor hate incidents to report these to ODIHR at hatecrimereport@odihr.pl.

To export an Excel sheet with summaries of all incidents from Azerbaijan click here.

View civil society incidents for Azerbaijan, 2025