OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2023 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/georgia

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

1 2023

Summary

Georgia regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Since 2020, Georgia has published an annual report on hate crime data following an inter-agency memorandum on co-operation. Georgia implemented ODIHR's Training Against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme in 2019 and the Prosecutors and Hate Crime Training Programme (PAHCT) in 2017.

In 2023, Georgia introduced the National Strategy for the Protection of Human Rights 2022-2030, which covers fundamental rights and freedoms with a particular focus on protecting vulnerable groups. In October 2023, a new memorandum was signed by state institutions representing the police, prosecution and judiciary to reflect additional responsibilities on collecting and publishing statistical data on hate crime.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Georgia's efforts to enhance inter-agency co-ordination on hate crime data collection. ODIHR observes that Georgia would benefit from developing its victim support system to ensure effective access to specialized assistance for hate crime victims.

Official Data

Statistical data on 2023 is published on the Geostat website based on a memorandum of co-operation on collecting data on bias-motivated crimes. The recording methodology is agreed between the contracting agencies of the memorandum. Reported data may include offences that fall outside the OSCE hate crime definition. Numbers under "recorder by the police" cover investigations under the Ministry of the Internal Affairs (MIA) of Georgia and the Special Investigation Service (SIS) of Georgia. The Special Investigation Service collected information on hate crime for November and December 2023.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2023	1,824	1,218	756

Police data by bias motivation



Gender-based

58

Unspecified

This bias motivation includes offences committed with bias based on age, political or other views, social affiliation, other grounds of discrimination and discrimination on multiple grounds.

44

Anti-LGBTI

40

Racist and xenophobic

10

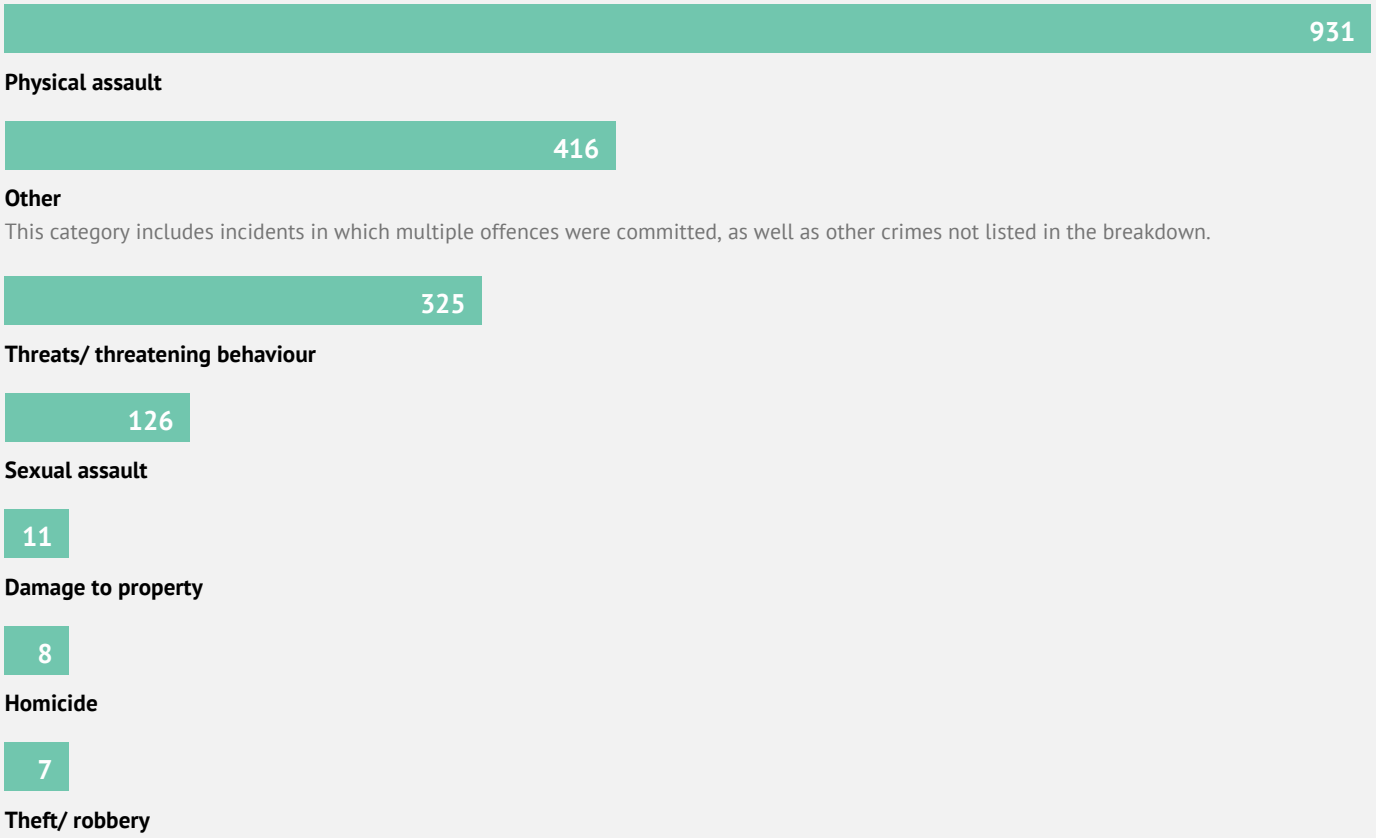
Disability

4

Other hate crime based on religion or belief

This category presents the total number of hate crimes motivated by anti-religious bias, including anti-Christian, anti-Muslim and anti-Semitic hate crimes.

Police data by type of crime



National Developments

Each year, the Georgian government administration prepares reports on the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities based on information about the implementation of internal action plans provided by state agencies. In 2023, the Prosecution Service of Georgia adopted its third annual Action Plan on "Protecting the rights of persons with disabilities".

In 2023, the Human Rights Protection Department of the Prosecutor General's Office monitored hate crime cases. The analysis of the 2023 hate crime cases was published both in Georgian and English on the prosecution service website.

In October 2023, the Prosecution Service, with the support of the Council of Europe, organized a joint meeting on the topic of hate crime for the Prosecution Service managers and judges. Representatives of the Special Investigation Service (SIS), Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) and the Supreme Court of Georgia also participated in discussions on national and international standards in identifying bias motives.

In October 2023, a new memorandum was signed by the **Supreme Court of Georgia**, the **Prosecution Service of Georgia**, the **Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia**, the **Special Investigation Service** (SIS), and the **National Statistics Office of Georgia**. The new memorandum reflects additional responsibilities of the parties to collect and publish even more detailed statistical data on hate crime.

With the support of the Council of Europe, representatives of the MIA, the General Prosecutor's Office and the Supreme Court held a presentation of the joint analysis of hate crime statistics. Part of the meeting was devoted to discussions with civil society organizations about the criminal justice policy on hate crimes, focusing on related challenges and future plans. The discussion touched on the deficiencies in the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of hate crime cases, measures to address these gaps and the importance of uniform approaches.

In 2023, the SIS joined the fifth "Equality Week" of the Council of Europe. Employees of the Investigation Quality Monitoring and Analytical Department conducted a training on the subject of hate crime investigation to students of various higher educational institutions.

As part of Equality Week, the MIA held a working meeting with the heads of police units to discuss current issues in combating hate crimes. The meeting was held within the framework of a Council of Europe project on "Promoting the Effective Protection of Equality and Non-Discrimination in Georgia".
In November 2023, the Prosecution Service of Georgia organized a meeting with other state agencies and civil society representatives. The meeting touched on criminal law related hate crime, challenges of addressing hate crime, and prospects for deepening co-operation with civil society organizations.

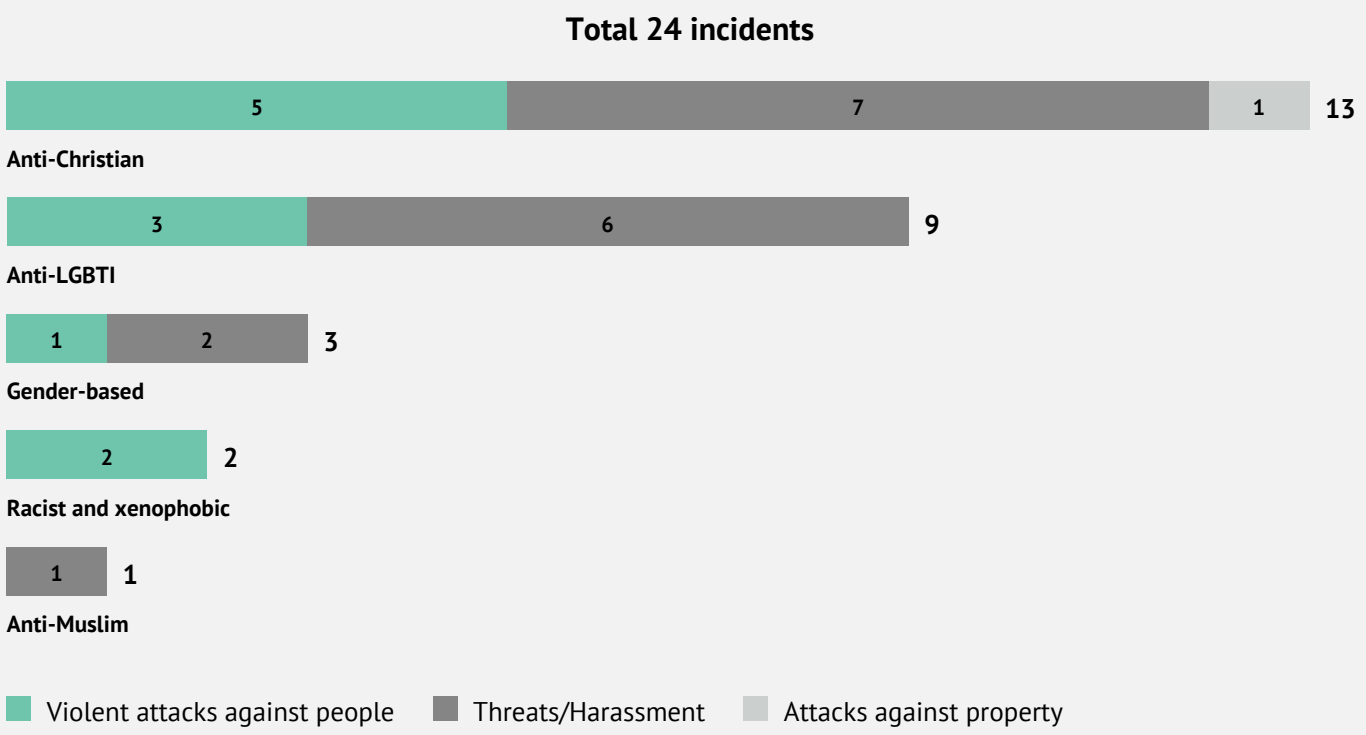
On 23 March 2023, the Parliament of Georgia adopted a second National Strategy for the Protection of Human Rights in Georgia, 2022-2030. The new comprehensive strategy addresses all fundamental human rights and freedoms and puts a special emphasis on the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups. It covers four priority areas: 1) strengthening justice, rule of law principles, and the effective application of civil and political rights; 2)strengthening the protection of economic and social rights; 3) reflecting the constitutional guarantees of equality in the state policy and the enjoyment of human rights and freedoms without discrimination; and 4) protecting the rights and freedoms of the population affected by the illegal occupation of the territories of Georgia by the Russian Federation. The Strategy attaches particular importance to ensuring equality at all levels of the public and private sectors, eliminating conditions conducive to inequality, and combating intolerance and hate crimes and other offences. The objectives of the Strategy include the continuous improvement of equality and anti-discrimination legislation and its effective enforcement, and improvement of victim-

oriented responses to crimes committed on the grounds of discrimination/intolerance.

Following the approval of the Strategy, an Action Plan on Human rights protection for the period of 2024-2026 was developed.

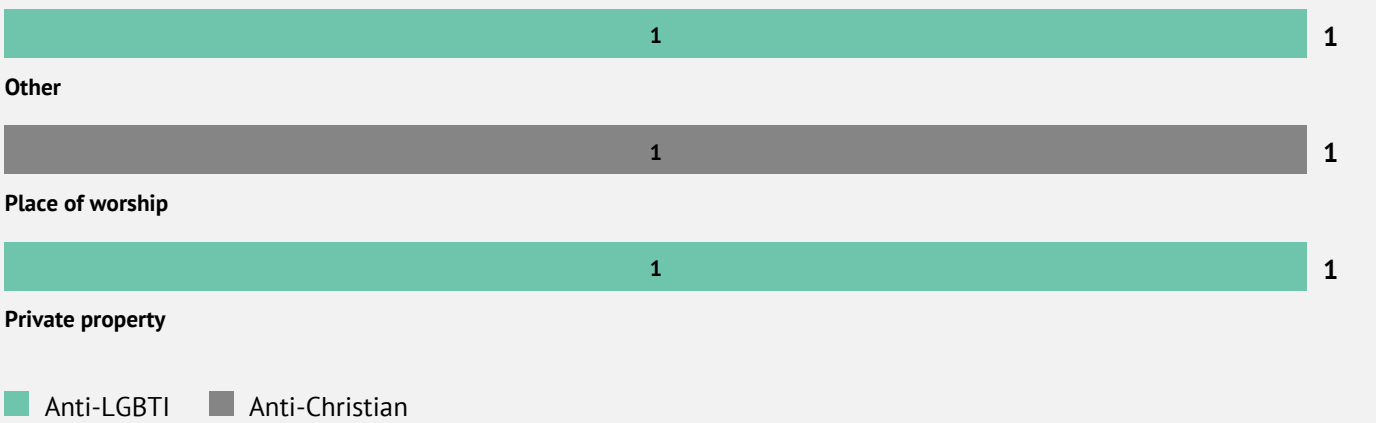
In January of 2024, "National Referral Procedures for Identification, protection, assistance and Rehabilitation of victims of violence against women and/or domestic violence" was approved. The referral procedures ensure rapid, effective communication and mutually agreed action between relevant agencies within their competence to protect victims and prevent re-victimization.

Incidents reported by civil society

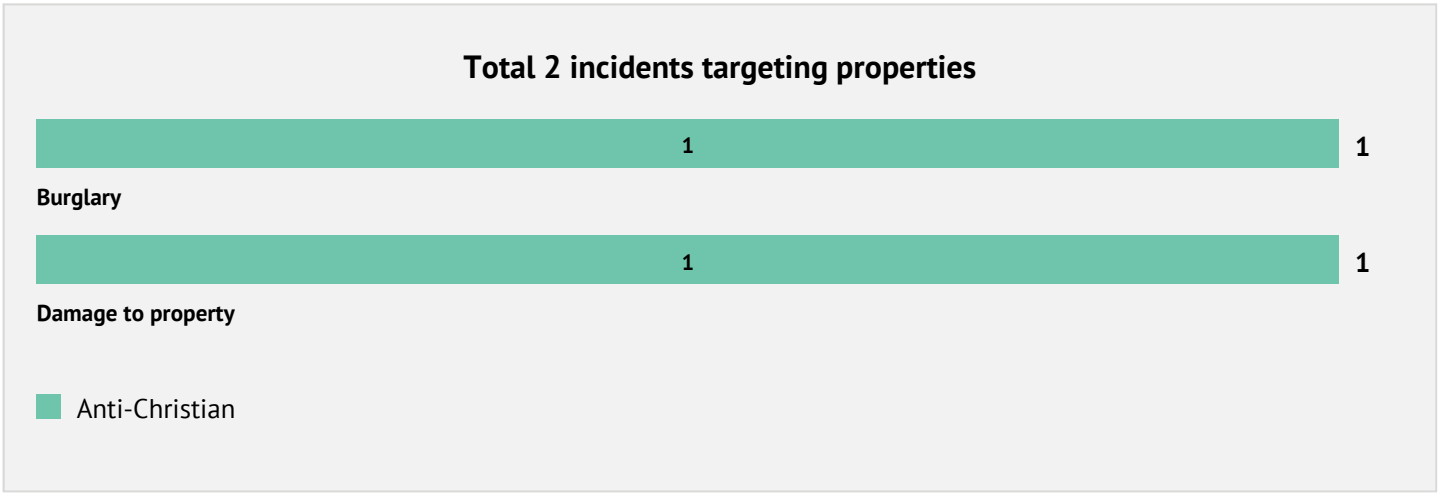


Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Georgia, 2023