OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2024 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

2024

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 capacity of law enforcement and criminal justice professionals to identify, prosecute and sanction hate crimes. 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

Statistics are collected in line with Georgia's memorandum of co-operation on collecting hate crime data. The recording methodology is agreed upon between the law enforcement and criminal justice agencies involved in the process. Reported data may include offences that fall outside the OSCE hate crime definition, such as hate crimes motivated by bias against political or other views, social affiliation and others.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2024	2,002	1,240	697

Police data by bias motivation

Police data include cases recorded by Georgia's Ministry of the Internal Affairs (1,887 cases) and Special Investigation Service (115 cases).



Gender-based

160

Unspecified

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

44

Racist and xenophobic

27

Anti-LGBTI

22

Disability

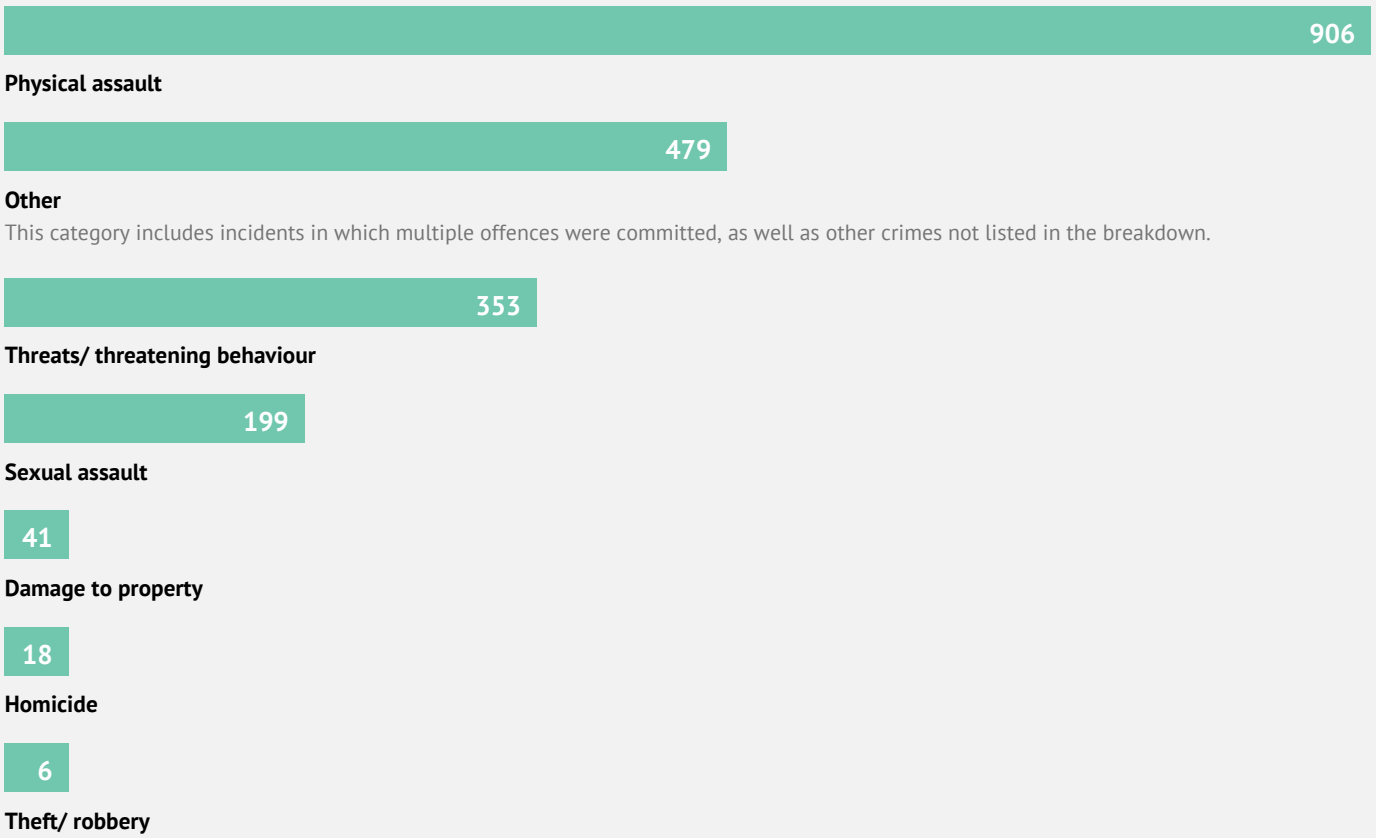
17

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

Police data include cases recorded by Georgia's Ministry of the Internal Affairs (1,887 cases) and Special Investigation Service (115 cases).



National Developments

The official website of the Prosecutor's Office of Georgia presents hate crime data analyses in Georgian and English. Three new analytical documents were developed and published covering hate crimes in 2024:

- Hate crime analysis for 2023;
- Gender-based intolerance motive in violence against women and domestic violence cases, 2023; and
- The Intolerance Motive in Crimes Against Sexual Freedom and Sexual Inviolability, 2021-2023.

In 2024, the Human Rights Protection Department of Ministry of Internal Affairs, held 23 training sessions, including on hate crime, in which more than 1,300 employees of the Ministry were trained. With support from the Council of Europe, middle managers of the MIA attended a training programme on hate crime. Discrimination, hate speech, the concept of hate crime and many more relevant topics were discussed.

In 2024, a training was held for operators at LLPE "Public Safety Command Centre". Operators were informed about the role of the MIA in combating hate crime, bias indicators, and other relevant subjects.

Moreover, in 2024, the Police Academy held a baseline training programme on hate crime, which was attended by 521 people. .

In 2024, five training activities were conducted on hate crime, and 74 employees of the Prosecution Service of Georgia were trained, in addition, 50 intern-prosecutors attended a special training programme, which includes sessions on hate crime.

With support from the Council of Europe, a HELP training course on hate crime was launched for prosecutors and investigators of the Prosecution Service in 2024. The online training programme lasted three months and was attended by 13 prosecutors and 4 investigators.

With the support of UN Women, the Prosecution Service of Georgia held training courses on the effective investigation and prosecution of femicide, which were attended by 17 prosecutors and 15 managers.

In 2024, the High School of Justice conducted eight training sessions on hate crime, freedom of expression, international and European human rights legislation, and rights of persons with disabilities. A total of 10 judges and 90 employees of the judiciary participated in the training.

As of 2024, by a decree of the Prosecutor General of Georgia, prosecutors are required to involve witness and victim coordinators in hate crime criminal cases as a priority. In 2024, victim and witness coordinators of the Prosecution Service were involved in 521 criminal cases of hate crime.

Notable cases:

On 18 September 2024, a transgender woman was stabbed to death by her male partner due to her gender and gender identity. The perpetrator had previously subjected the victim to repeated physical and verbal abuse. The perpetrator was detained and prosecuted with murder committed under aggravating circumstances and violence, both of which were found to have committed with bias based on the victim's gender and gender identity. Later, the Court found the perpetrator guilty of all charges and sentenced him to life imprisonment.

In April 2024, a man was prosecuted for the rape of his daughter - a minor with disabilities. The child had intellectual impairments and was dependent on her father, who exploited her disabilities and threatened to kill the victim if she reported the rape. The prosecution found that the offence was committed with bias based on the victim's gender and disability. The perpetrator was sentenced to 13 years of imprisonment.

Incidents reported by civil society

For 2024, ODIHR received reports of hate incidents in Georgia from the following civil society organizations:

- Equality Movement
- European Association of Jehovah's Witnesses
- The Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in Europe (OIDAC)
- Tolerance and Diversity Institute (TDI)
- Trans Europe and Central Asia (TGEU)
- Women's Initiatives Supporting Group (WISG)

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

Individual incidents submitted by CSOs have been analysed by ODIHR. Those that were 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 2024, ODIHR received reports of 17 hate incidents in Georgia in the following bias motivation categories: anti-Christian, anti-LGBTI, anti-LGBTI and gender-based, and anti-Muslim.

ODIHR observes that most of the anti-Christian incidents reported were threats targeting Jehovah's Witnesses conducting religious activities in public spaces and private residences. ODIHR also observed incidents of confinement of LGBTI persons by family members after their sexual orientation was revealed. Finally, ODIHR noted a number of cases targeting transgender women with threats and violent attacks, including a homicide.

It should be noted that ODIHR did not receive any reporting on Georgia relating to anti-Semitic, anti-Roma, racist and xenophobic, other religion or belief, gender-based or disability hate 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 might not reflect the actual number of incidents or the most targeted communities in Georgia.

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 Georgia click here and search by year and country.

View civil society incidents for Georgia, 2024