Strasbourg, 13/07/2026

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Part 2

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE EFFICIENCY OF JUSTICE (CEPEJ)

Support for a better evaluation of the results of judicial reform efforts in the Eastern Partnership

Justice Dashboard EaP Action

Data collection: 2025

Report prepared by the CEPEJ for the attention of the European Commission

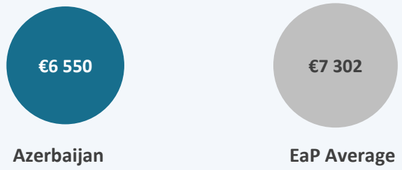
Part 2 - Beneficiary profile - Azerbaijan

Executive Summary - Azerbaijan in 2025

Population in 2025



GDP per capita in 2025



Average annual salary in 2025



€6 828

EaP Average: €8 113

Judicial Organisation

In Azerbaijan, there are courts of general (total of 92) and specialised jurisdiction (total of 24) organised in a three-tier court system. Courts of general jurisdiction deal with all matters that are not assigned to specialised courts, which are assigned competence over specific subjects, such as commercial, administrative and grave crimes along with military courts. Courts specialisation exists only at first instance level.

Budget

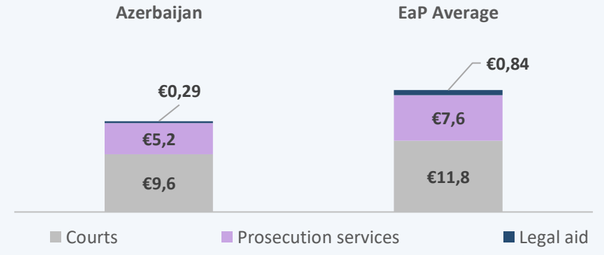
In 2025, Azerbaijan spent **€154 669 172** on the implemented judicial system budget. This means that Azerbaijan spent **€15,1 per inhabitant, which is significantly lower than the EaP Average (€20,3**). Most of the judicial system budget was devoted to **courts**, which received **63,5%** of the total**,** followed by **prosecution services (34,5%)** and **legal aid (1,9%)**. Compared to 2024, Azerbaijan has spent, per inhabitant, **8,5% more for courts, -12,9% less for prosecution services, and 4,6% more for legal aid**. The budgets spent for per inhabitant for all courts (9,6€), prosecution (5,2€) and legal aid (0,29€) were lower than the EaP Averages, respectively.

Legal aid

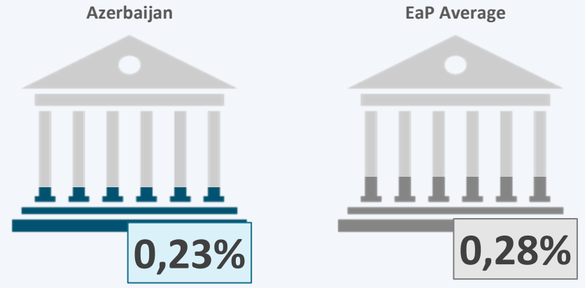
In Azerbaijan, legal aid is provided in various forms: legal representation (before courts and investigative authorities) and legal assistance in criminal cases and in other than criminal cases. In 2025, the total number of cases for which legal aid was granted was **34 073**, which was **50,5% more compared to 2020**. The number of criminal cases were 33 809, and the other than criminal cases were 264. The total cases brought to court were 23 169, while the total cases not brought to court were 10 904. On average, the amount granted per legal aid case was **€88**.

Budget of the Judicial System

Implemented Judicial System Budget per inhabitant in 2025



Implemented Judicial System Budget as % of GDP in 2025



Efficiency

Efficiency

For the purpose of this Profile, the data of only the 1st and 2nd instance courts is analysed.

In 2025, the performance of courts in Azerbaijan appears to vary by court instances and by categories of cases analysed therein. The highest Clearance rate (CR) for Azerbaijan was calculated for the **first instance Sum of Severe and misdemeanour criminal cases (104%)** and **second instance Sum of Severe and misdemeanour criminal cases (101%)**. However, it seems that courts were not able to deal as efficiently with the **first instance Administrative cases (CR of 83%).** The **second instance Civil and commercial litigious cases (DT of 67 days)** and first **instance Civil and commercial litigious cases (68 days)** were resolved faster than any other type of cases. It is to be noted that Azerbaijan had a lower number of incoming cases compared to the region, with numbers of incoming cases standardised per 100 inhabitants lower than the EaP Averages on analysed categories of cases. The **DT in Administrative cases** continued to be the highest with **301 days** in first instance. In 2025, the CR is above the EaP averages in most categories of cases and in both instances, except for administrative cases in first instance, where it remains below the EaP average.

In first instance, **over the period of 5 years**, the Clearance rate appears to have decreased in administrative cases (from 91% in 2020), while it increased in criminal cases (from 86% in 2020) The DT increased over the 5-year period in Administrative cases (from 180 days in 2020), while it decreased in civil and commercial litigious cases (from 88 days in 2020) and criminal cases (from 144 days in 2020). **In second instance**, the Clearance rates appear to have increased over the 5-year period in all categories of cases, most notably in criminal cases to 101%. The CR is above the EaP Averages in all categories of cases in 2025. The DT decreased in all categories of cases (to 67 days in and Civil and commercial litigious cases, 115 days in Administrative cases, 69 days in Criminal cases) and it is below the EaP Averages in all categories of cases in 2025. The 2025 data seems to indicate that particular attention is to be given to the way Administrative cases in first instance are dealt with by courts in Azerbaijan. A working group to monitor court performance was established, and pending cases older than 2 years has been reduced.

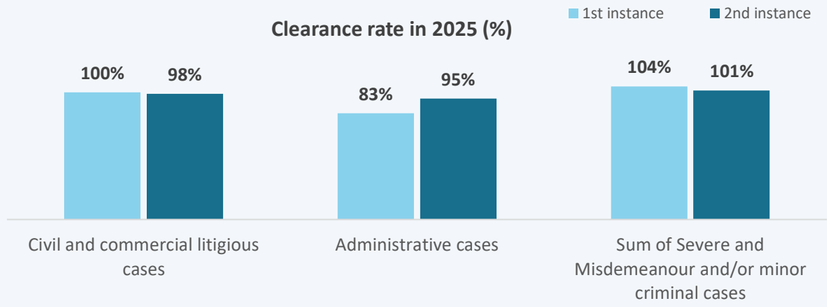
**The CEPEJ has developed two indicators to measure court's performance: clearance rate and disposition time.

Clearance Rate (CR) is the ratio obtained by dividing the number of resolved cases by the number of incoming cases in a given period, expressed as a percentage. It demonstrates how the court or the judicial system is coping with the in-flow of cases and allows comparison between systems regardless of their differences and individual characteristics. Its key value is 100%. A value below 100% means that the courts were not able to solve all the cases they received and, as a consequence, the number of pending cases increases. A CR above 100% means that the courts have resolved more cases than they received (they have resolved all the incoming cases and part of the pending cases) and, as a consequence, the number of pending cases decreases.

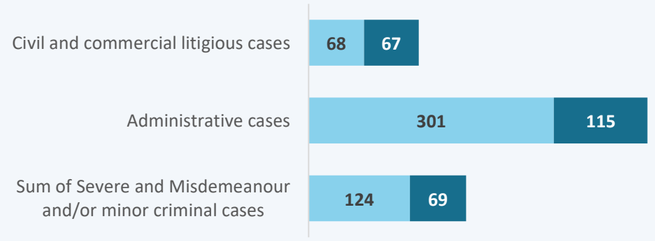
Disposition Time (DT) is the indicator that calculates time necessary for a pending case to be resolved and estimates the lengths of proceedings in days. It is a ratio between the pending cases at the end of the period and the resolved cases within the same period, multiplied by 365 days. More pending than resolved cases will lead to a DT higher than 365 days (one year) and vice versa.

Efficiency

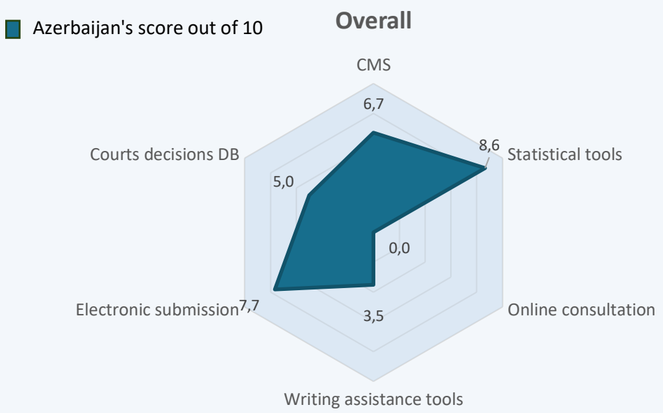
Clearance rate in 2025 (%)



Disposition time in 2025 (days)



ICT Deployment indices (scale 0-10)



The six ICT deployment indices (CMS, Courts decisions DB, Statistical tools, Writing assistance tools, electronic submission and online consultation) range from 0 to 10 points. Their calculation is based on the features and on deployment rates reported. The methodology for calculation provides points for each feature in each case matter. They are summarised and multiplied by the deployment rate as a weight. In this way, if the system is not fully deployed, the value is decreased even if all features are existing.

ICT indices

In Azerbaijan, the overall highest score is achieved by the Statistical tools index (8,6).
The Judiciary has one CMS, which has been developed more than 10 years ago.
In Azerbaijan, there was no overall Information and Communication Technology (ICT) strategy in the judicial system reported for 2025. However, plans for a change in the present IT system in the judiciary were reported, and developments are expected to be put in place by mid 2026.

Trainings

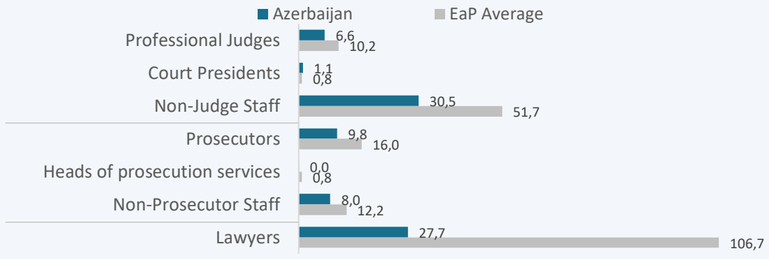
The total budget for the training of judges, prosecutors, and other justice professionals in Azerbaijan **was €0.43 per inhabitant in 2025**, which is higher than the EaP Average of €0.33 per inhabitant. The combined spending for training in 2025 amounted to approximately €4,349,291, allocated across the Judicial Academy, courts, and prosecution services. Over the period 2020–2025, the budget per inhabitant declined by 56.7%. In 2025, judges in Azerbaijan attended a total **of 5 live trainings in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights/European Convention on Human Rights** (6 training days with 151 participants).

ADR (Alternative Dispute Resolution)

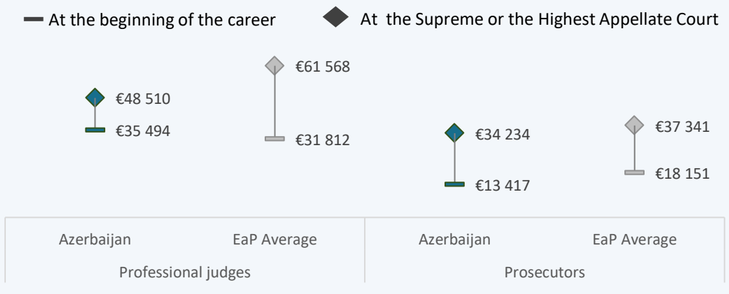
In Azerbaijan, legal aid for court-related mediation or related mediation provided free of charge could be granted. The judicial system provides for mandatory mediation with a mediator before or instead going to court. There are also mandatory informative sessions with a mediator. In 2025, the **number of mediators was 3,9 per 100 000 inhabitants**, which was below the EaP Average (15,9 per 100 000 inhabitants). Only **35,6% were female mediators**. There were in total **49 532 cases for which the parties agreed to start** mediation and **8 134 mediation procedures, which ended** with a settlement agreement.

Professionals of Justice

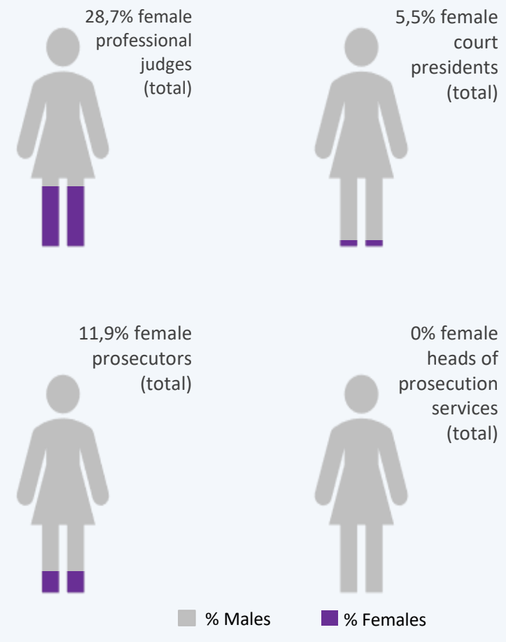
Total number of professionals per 100 000 inhabitants in 2025



Gross annual salaries of professional judges and prosecutors at the beginning of the career and at the Supreme or the Highest Appellate Court in 2025 (€)



Gender Balance



Professionals and Gender Balance

In 2025, Azerbaijan had **6,6 professional judges** and **9,8 prosecutors** per 100 000 inhabitants. Both figures were below the EaP Averages of 10,2 and 16, respectively. In 2025, there were **27,7 lawyers per 100 000 inhabitants** (which is considerably below the EaP Average of 106,7).
Although improvements in the presence of female professionals across these categories are noticeable compared to 2020, still only non-judge staff have more than 54,2% of female presence (72,7% EaP Average). Thus, in Azerbaijan, there were **28,7% female professional judges** (vs. 44,6% EaP Average) and **11,9% female prosecutors** (vs 29,2% EaP Average). **5,5 %** of **court presidents** were women (below the EaP Average of 24,1%) and there were no female **heads of prosecution offices**.

ECHR

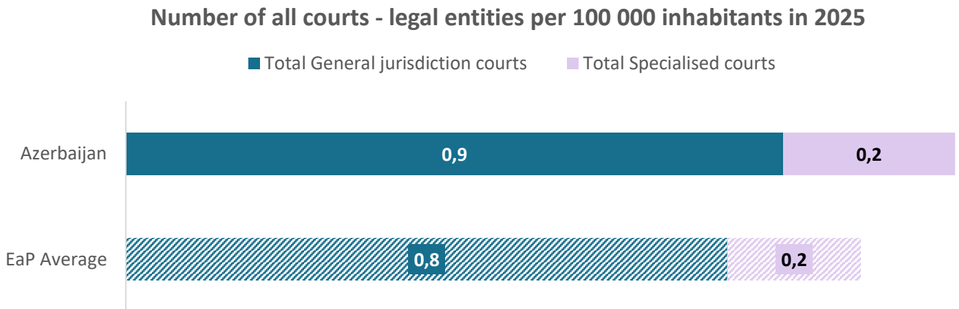
In 2025, the **applications** allocated to a judicial formation for Azerbaijan were **569** (-31 less than the previous year). The **judgement**s by the ECHR finding at least one violation for Azerbaijan were **43**; whereas they were 38 in 2024.The number of **cases considered as closed** after a judgement of the ECHR and the execution of judgements process was **7** in 2025; whereas they were 70 in 2024.In Azerbaijan, follow up at national level to the established violations by the European Court of Human Rights is given through awareness realising (ECHR case law is part of judge's and public prosecutors' training; Publication of the ECHR case law on official judicial internet pages (e.g., Government, Ministry of Justice, Judicial Council, etc.)); Information / dissemination of the ECHR decisions within the judicial system (within courts). Possible remedies include: the right to claim damages before national courts (besides the just satisfaction due by the State); the right to have the case reopened before national courts; request for annulment of the national court's judgment.

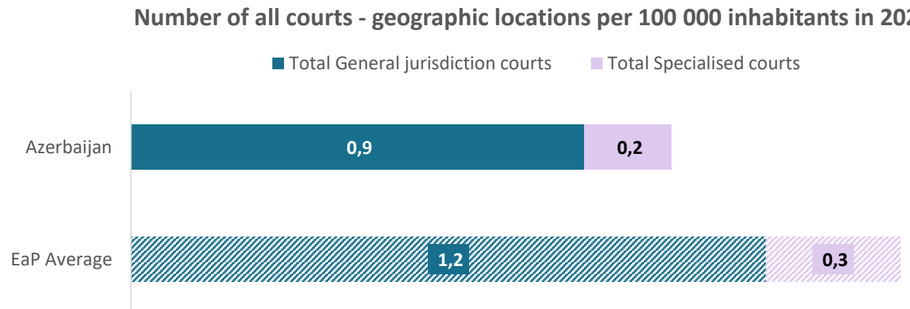
Judicial organisation in Azerbaijan in 2025 (Indicator 2.0)

The Law on Courts and Judges provides for a three-tier court system in Azerbaijan. Courts are of general (total of 92) and specialised jurisdiction (total of 24). Courts of general jurisdiction deal with all matters that are not assigned to specialised courts, which are assigned competence over specific subjects, such as commercial, administrative and grave crimes along with military courts. Courts specialisation exists only at first instance level. There are 6 courts of appeal and one Supreme Court.

• Number of courts - legal entities

		Number of courts - legal entities in 2025			Number of courts - geographic locations in 2025		
		Absolute number	Per 100 000 inhabitants	EaP Average per 100 000 inhabitants	Absolute number	Per 100 000 inhabitants	EaP Average per 100 000 inhabitants
Total number of all court (1 + 2)		116	1,1	0,9	105	1,0	1,4
General jurisdiction	Total General jurisdiction courts (1)	92	0,9	0,8	88	0,9	1,2
	1st instance	85	0,8	0,7	81	0,8	1,1
	2nd instance	6	0,1	0,1	6	0,1	0,1
	Highest instance	1	0,0	0,0	1	0,0	0,0
Specialised courts	Total Specialised courts (2)	24	0,2	0,2	17	0,2	0,3
	1st instance	24	0,2	0,1	17	0,2	0,2
	2nd instance	NAP	NAP	-	NAP	NAP	-
	Highest instance	NAP	NAP	-	NAP	NAP	-





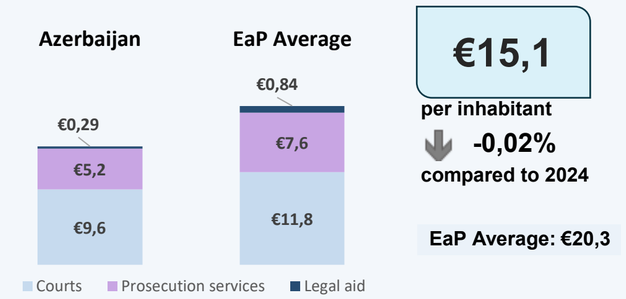
• Specialised courts

Areas of law concerned by the specialisation in 2025	Specialised courts (legal entities)	Specialised chambers and/or judges
Commercial and insolvency	✓	✓
Labour		
Family		
Rent and tenancies		
Enforcement of criminal sanctions		
Administrative	✓	
Juvenile		
Domestic violence		
Economic crime		
Corruption		
Organised crime/terrorism		
Cybercrime and internet related disputes		
Environment		
Immigration/asylum		
Other	✓	✓

Under the “Other” category: 6 military courts and 6 courts for grave crimes. It should also be noted that although there are no separately specialised courts at the appeal court level, each appeal court, as well as the Supreme Court, is composed of civil, commercial, administrative, and criminal chambers. At the first-instance level, specialisation exists in four types, while at the higher instances chambers are established for two of these specialisations, namely commercial and administrative. Cases examined by specialised courts at the first-instance level, such as military courts and serious crimes courts, fall within the jurisdiction of the criminal chambers at the higher instances (appeal and cassation).

Budget of the judicial system in Azerbaijan in 2025 (Indicator 1)

Implemented Judicial System Budget per inhabitant



€15,1

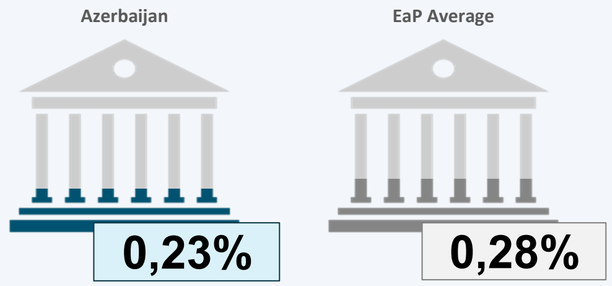
per inhabitant

-0,02%

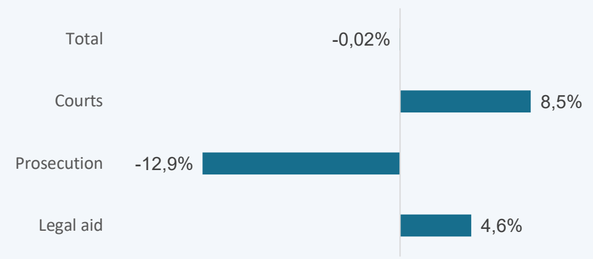
compared to 2024

EaP Average: €20,3

Implemented Judicial System Budget as % of GDP



Variation of the JSB per inhabitant between 2024 - 2025



JSB = Judicial System Budget

The Judicial System Budget (JSB) is composed by the budget for courts, public prosecution services and legal aid. In 2025, the implemented JSB for Azerbaijan was €15,1 per inhabitant, which is significantly lower than the EaP Average (€20,3). This amount reflects a -0,02% decrease compared to 2024. Within this budget, €9,6 was allocated to courts, €5,2 to prosecution services, and €0,29 to legal aid. For the EaP Average, the corresponding allocations were €11,8, €7,6, and €0,84 respectively. As a share of the gross domestic product (GDP), Azerbaijan dedicated 0,23% of its total economic output to the judicial system, which was lower than the EaP Average of 0,28%. These figures illustrate that Azerbaijan invests less in its judicial system per inhabitant and as a share of GDP compared to EaP Average. At the same time it increased the budgets of the courts and legal aid between 2024 and 2025.

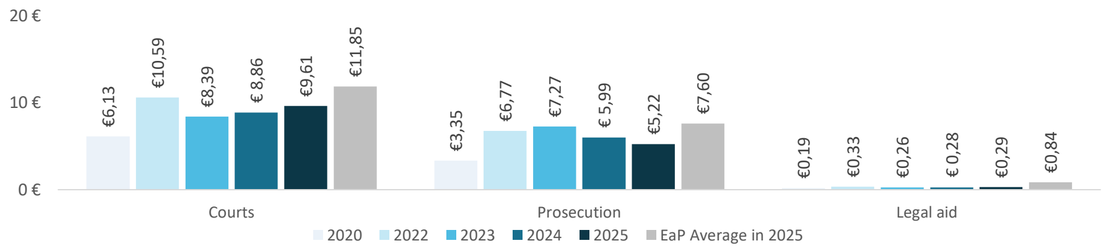
• Budget allocated to the judicial system (courts, prosecution services and legal aid)

In 2025 the implemented judicial system budget reached €154 669 172.The data show no significant change compared to 2024 (-0,02%) while, over the longer period of time, the implemented judicial system budget per inhabitant had a remarkable increase of 56,3% since 2020.
With respect to economic output, the judicial system budget accounted for 0,23% of GDP in 2025, compared to the regional average of 0,28%. This proportion decreased by -0,05 percentage points since 2020 and by 0,014 percentage points compared to 2024.
Looking more closely at the different components of the judicial system budget, most of the judicial system budget was devoted to courts, which received 63,5% of the total, followed by prosecution services (34,5%) and legal aid (1,9%).The implemented budget for courts was €98 273 056, which represents per inhabitant spending of €9,6 compared with €11,8 for the EaP Average. The courts' budget per inhabitant grew by 56,7% since 2020 and by 8,5% compared to 2024. The courts' share of GDP was 0,15%, below the regional average of 0,16%. The prosecution saw an implemented budget of €53 396 178 (€5,2 per inhabitant vs the regional average of €7,6). This budget category soared remarkably since 2020 (55,7%) and declined marginally from 2024(-12,85%). Morevoer, the prosecution's share of GDP was 0,08%, compared to the EaP Average of 0,11%. Meanwhile, legal aid's implemented budget was €2 999 938, equivalent to €0,29 per inhabitant — significantly lower than the regional average. The legal aid budget increased significantly by 53,2% from 2020 and marginally (4,6%) compared to previous year. Its GDP share was 0,004%, lower than the EaP Average of 0,012%.

Judicial System Budget	Judicial System Budget in 2025		Implemented Judicial System Budget per inhabitant				Implemented Judicial System Budget as % of GDP			
	Approved	Implemented	Per inhabitant in 2025	EaP Average in 2025	% Variation between 2020 - 2025	% Variation between 2024 - 2025	As % of GDP	EaP Average in 2025	Variation (in ppt) 2020 - 2025	Variation (in ppt) 2024 - 2025
Total	€180 907 117	€154 669 172	€15,1	€20,3	56,3%	-0,02%	0,23%	0,28%	-0,05	0,014
Courts	€123 898 298	€98 273 056	€9,6	€11,8	56,7%	8,5%	0,15%	0,16%	-0,03	0,020
Prosecution	€54 008 819	€53 396 178	€5,2	€7,6	55,7%	-12,9%	0,08%	0,11%	-0,02	-0,006
Legal aid	€3 000 000	€2 999 938	€0,29	€0,84	53,2%	4,6%	0,004%	0,012%	-0,001	0,000

PPT = Percentage points

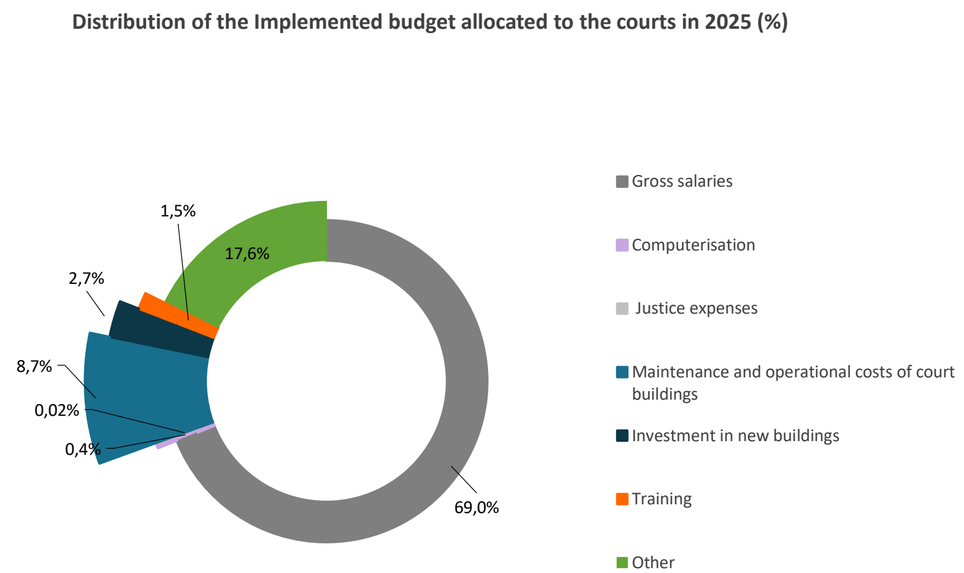
Evolution of the implemented judicial system budget per inhabitant between 2020 and 2025 (€)



• Budget allocated to the functioning of the courts - Categories

In 2025, Azerbaijan spent €98 273 056 on the implemented budget for courts. The largest share of the implemented court budget (69%) was allocated to gross salaries, reflecting the significant proportion that staff costs occupy within the judiciary's expenditure. The next substantial category is the "other" category, which accounted for 17,6% of the total courts budget, highlighting a variety of miscellaneous costs not specified in other budget lines. Moreover, maintenance and operation costs of court buildings represented 8,7% of the budget, demonstrating continued investment in the upkeep and day-to-day functioning of court infrastructure. Investment in new buildings amounted to 2,7% while training was allocated 1,5% of the total budget. Finally, computerisation and justice expenses were allocated 0,4% and 0,02% of the total budget, respectively.

	2025		% Variation between 2020 and 2025		% Variation between 2024 and 2025	
	Approved budget	Implemented budget	Approved budget	Implemented budget	Approved budget	Implemented budget
Total (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7)	€123 898 298	€98 273 056	87,8%	60,6%	29,9%	9,0%
1. Gross salaries	€90 782 818	€67 805 448	106,8%	70,2%	28,9%	1,8%
1.1 Salaries of professional judges	€58 278 781	€36 466 757				
1.2 Salaries of non-judge staff	€32 504 037	€31 338 691				
1.3 Salaries/remunerations of other judges	NAP	NAP				
2. Computerisation (2.1 + 2.2)	€464 002	€440 280	-94,3%	-94,6%	-91,7%	-91,9%
3. Justice expenses	€34 808	€19 895	-99,5%	-99,7%	17,7%	-5,1%
4. Maintenance and operational costs of court buildings	€9 273 278	€8 592 760	1626,2%	1499,5%	3,4%	4,5%
5. Investment in new buildings	€2 618 487	€2 618 487	NAP	NAP	-36,2%	-35,3%
6. Training	€1 800 429	€1 452 240	-75,6%	-78,9%	19,9%	-2,6%
7. Other	€18 924 476	€17 343 946	269,5%	238,6%	299,4%	296,7%

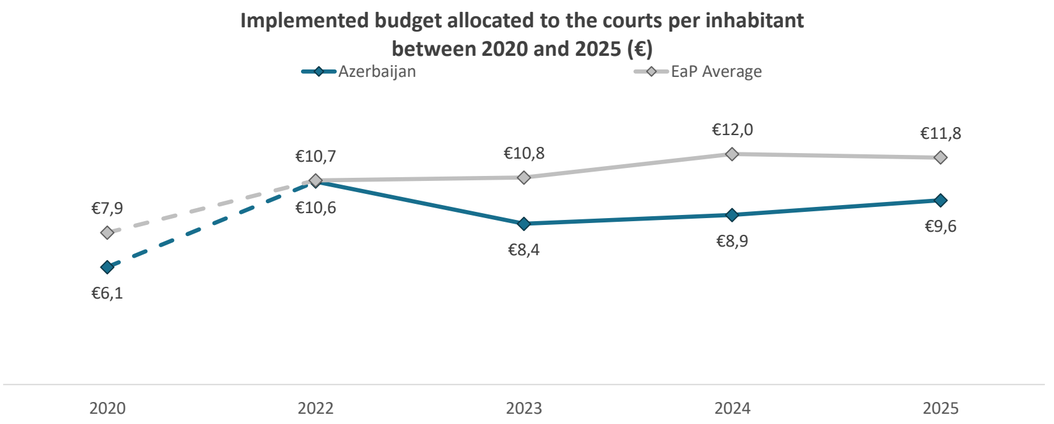


When reviewing the trend through the years, Azerbaijan's budget for courts per inhabitant was €6,1 in 2020 and attained €9,6 in 2025, representing a total growth of 56,7% over this period. The most pronounced annual change occurred between 2024 and 2025 when the budget shifted from €8,9 to €9,6, equating to a 8,5% increase.

In each year, Azerbaijan's budget consistently remained below the EaP Average, which rose from €7,9 in 2020 to €11,8 by 2025. The gap between Azerbaijan and the regional average was most significant in 2024, reaching -€3,2 less per inhabitant than the EaP Average. The only period of notable convergence occurred in 2022, when the gap narrowed to -€0,1 per inhabitant.

The analysis demonstrates that while Azerbaijan has increased its per inhabitant funding for courts over the recent years, this investment continues to be less then spent in the region.

The variations by categories need to consider the aspiration of authorities to align with the categorisation methodology over the last cycles.

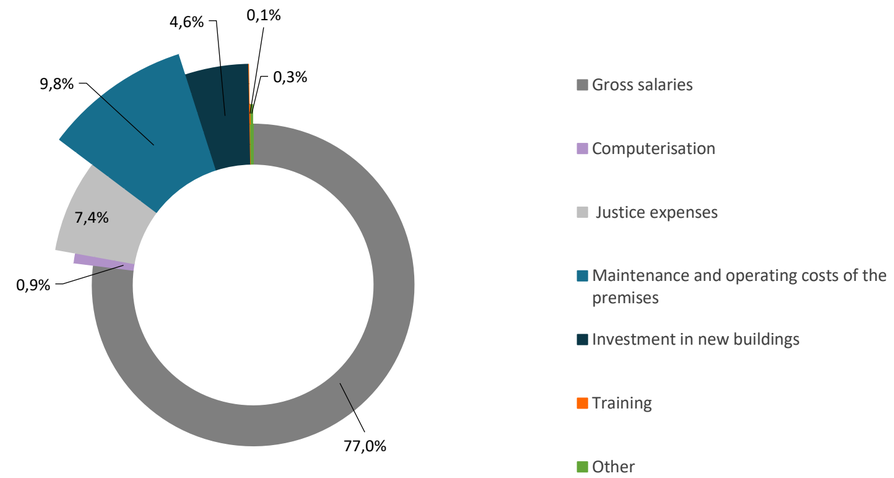


• Budget allocated to the functioning of all public prosecution services - Categories

In 2025, Azerbaijan spent €53 396 178 on the implemented budget for public prosecution services. The largest share of this budget (77%) was allocated to gross salaries, highlighting the substantial share of the expenditure dedicated to staff costs. The next substantial category is maintenance and operating costs of the premises, which accounted for 9,8% of the total, demonstrating continued investment in the upkeep and day-to-day functioning of public prosecution services' infrastructure. Moreover, prosecution expenses represented 7,4% of the implemented budget, indicating the importance of expenditures that are directly tied to the functions of prosecution. Investment in new buildings made up 4,6%, while computerisation was allocated 0,9% of the total budget. Finally, the "other" category and training were allocated 0,3% and 0,1% of the total budget, respectively.

	2025		% Variation between 2020 and 2025		% Variation between 2024 and 2025	
	Approved budget	Implemented budget	Approved budget	Implemented budget	Approved budget	Implemented budget
Total (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7)	€54 008 819	€53 396 178	53,8%	59,6%	-11,7%	-12,5%
1. Gross salaries	€41 258 941	€41 095 477				
1.1 Salaries of public prosecutors	€33 419 742	€33 287 336				
1.2 Salaries of non-public prosecutor staff	€7 220 314	€7 191 708				
1.3 Salaries/remunerations of professionals with similar duties to those of public prosecutors	€618 884	€616 432				
2. Computerisation	€466 500	€466 413				
3. Prosecution expenses	€4 296 485	€3 965 729				
4. Maintenance and operating costs of the premises	€5 321 564	€5 238 350				
5. Investment in new buildings	€2 500 000	€2 465 151				
6. Training	€29 933	€29 933	-96,7%	-96,5%	-98,0%	-97,9%
7. Other	€135 395	€135 124				

Distribution of the Implemented budget allocated to all public prosecution services in 2025 (%)

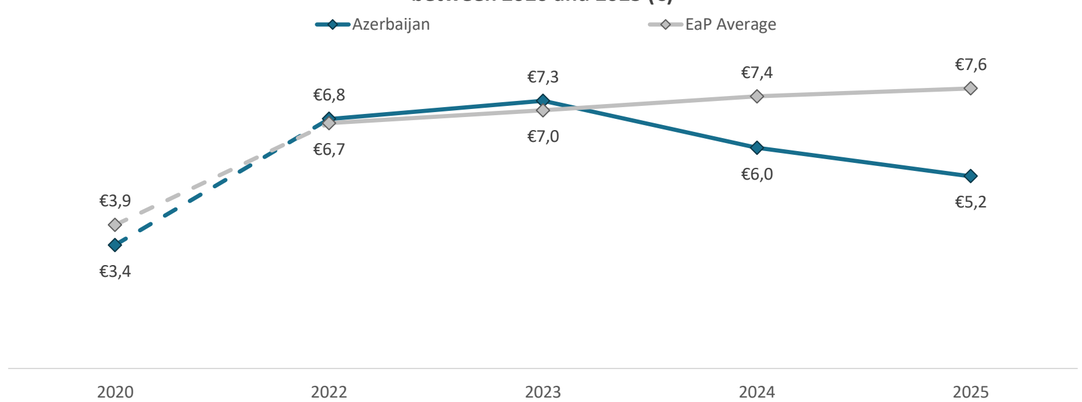


When looking at the trend through the years, Azerbaijan's public prosecution services budget per inhabitant was €3,4 in 2020 and attained €5,2 in 2025, representing a total growth of 55,7% over this period. The most pronounced annual change occurred between 2022 and 2023 when the budget shifted from €6,8 to €7,3, equating to a 7,3% increase.

Compared with the regional average trend, Azerbaijan's budget for public prosecution services steadily declined over the years, reaching -€2,4 difference with the EaP Average in 2025, which represents the most significant gap. The only notable convergence occurred in 2022, when the gap narrowed to €0,1 per inhabitant.

The analysis demonstrates that while Azerbaijan has increased its per inhabitant funding for public prosecution services over the recent years, this investment continues to be less than spent in the region.

Implemented budget allocated to all public prosecution services per inhabitant between 2020 and 2025 (€)



• Budget received from external donors

Where available, the percentages represent an estimate of the ratio between external donations and respective budget. The percentage is calculated in relation to the total implemented budget of each category. However, this does not mean that the external funds cover a percentage of the budget, since donations are not included in the judicial system budget.

	Absolute value	Calculated as %
Courts	NA	NA
Prosecution services	NA	NA
Legal aid	NAP	NAP

Professionals and Gender Balance in judiciary in Azerbaijan in 2025 (Indicators 2)

Professional Judges

6,6

per 100 000 inhabitants

+26,3%

compared to 2020

EaP Average: 10,2

28,7% female judges (total)

Prosecutors

9,8

per 100 000 inhabitants

-25,4%

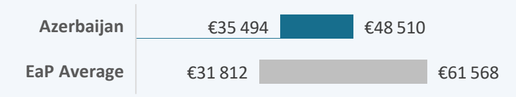
compared to 2020

EaP Average: 16

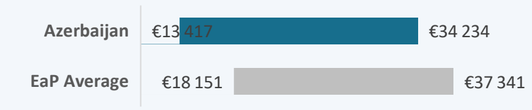
11,9% female prosecutors (total)

Salaries of judges and prosecutors

Professional judges - Gross annual salaries at the beginning of the career and at the Supreme or the Highest Appellate Court in 2025 (€)



Prosecutors - Gross annual salaries at the beginning of the career and at the Supreme or the Highest Appellate Court in 2025 (€)



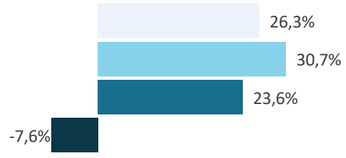
In 2025, Azerbaijan had 6,6 professional judges per 100 000 inhabitants and 9,8 prosecutors per 100 000 inhabitants. Both figures were below the EaP Average of 10,2 and 16, respectively. Less than half of professional judges (28,7%) and prosecutors (11,9%) were women (the EaP Average was 44,6% and 29,2%, respectively).

• Professional Judges

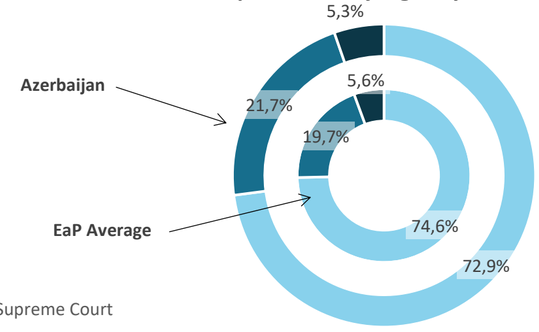
Professional judges in 2025				
	Absolute number	% of the total	Per 100 000 inhabitants	EaP Average per 100 000 inhabitants
Total	676	100,0%	6,6	10,2
1st instance courts	493	72,9%	4,8	7,6
2nd instance courts	147	21,7%	1,4	2,0
Supreme Court	36	5,3%	0,4	0,5

For reference only: the 2024 EU median is 23,4 judges per 100 000 inhabitants.

% Variation of no. of professional judges per 100 000 inh. 2020 - 2025



Distribution of professional judges by instance in 2025 (%)



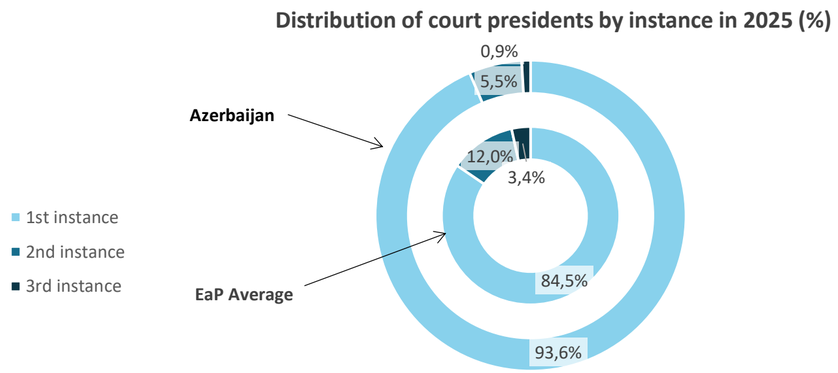
In 2025, the total number of professional judges in Azerbaijan was 676. This number translated to a ratio of 6,6 judges per 100 000 inhabitants, which was remarkably lower than the EaP Average of 10,2.

When examining the trends over the past 5 cycles, there has been an increase in the number of professional judges. Since 2020, the number of professional judges per 100 000 inhabitants rose by 26,3%.

Looking at the distribution of the professional judges by instance, 72,9% of judges are assigned to the first instance courts. This is -1,7 percentage points lower than the EaP Average (74,6%).

• Court presidents

	Court presidents in 2025			
	Absolute number	% of the total	Per 100 000 inhabitants	EaP Average per 100 000 inhabitants
Total	109	100,0%	1,1	0,8
1st instance courts	102	93,6%	1,0	0,7
2nd instance courts	6	5,5%	0,1	0,1
Supreme Court	1	0,9%	0,01	0,02



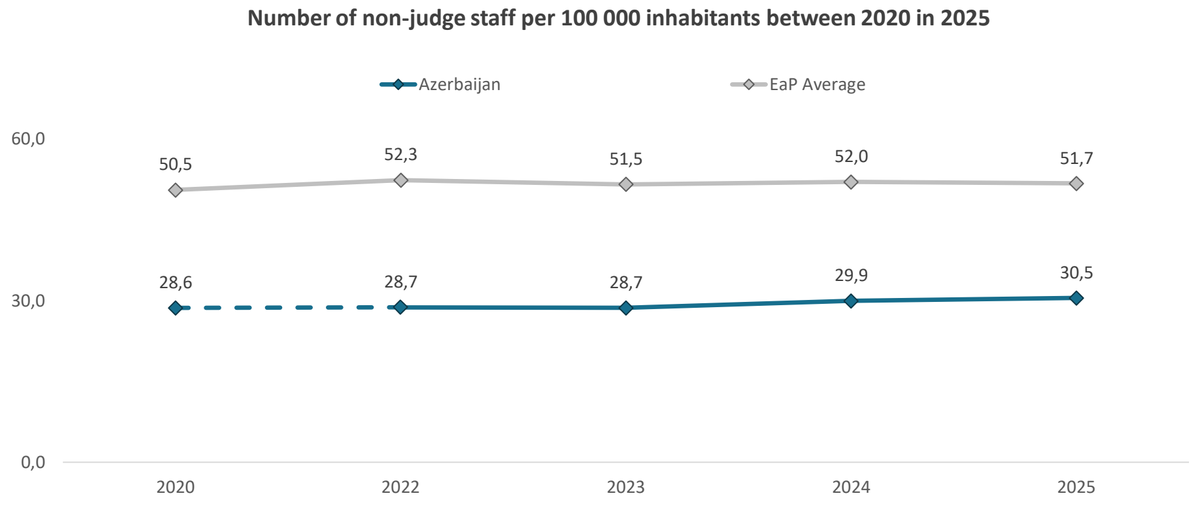
In 2025, Azerbaijan had a total of 109 court presidents. This figure corresponds to 1,1 per 100 000 inhabitants and it was higher than the EaP Average of 0,8.

Role of court president:

'The powers of court presidents are regulated by the relevant provisions of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Courts and Judges”. In this regard, the powers of presidents of district (city) courts, presidents of specialised courts, presidents of appellate courts, and the President of the Supreme Court are set out in separate articles. With regard to specialised courts, the powers of the court president for each specialisation are regulated by separate provisions.

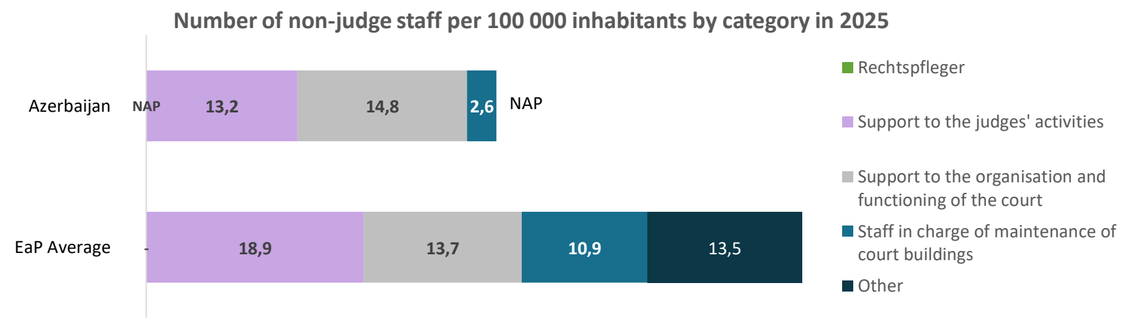
• Non-judge staff

	Number of non-judge staff by category in 2025			
	Absolute number	% of the total	Per 100 000 inhabitants	EaP Average per 100 000 inhabitants
Total	3 116	100,0%	30,5	51,7
Rechtspfleger	NAP	NAP	NAP	-
Support to the judges' activities	1 345	43,2%	13,2	18,9
Support to the organisation and functioning of the court	1 509	48,4%	14,8	13,7
Staff in charge of maintenance of court buildings	262	8,4%	2,6	10,9
Other	NAP	NAP	NAP	13,5



In 2025, the total number of non-judge staff was 3 116, which represents 30,5 per 100 000 inhabitants. This figure marks a 1,8% increase compared to 2024, when non-judge staff totalled 29,9 per 100 000 inhabitants. Over the longer period from 2020 to 2025, the total number of non-judge staff per 100 000 inhabitants rose marginally by 6%.

The largest group of non-judge staff were those in charge to support to the organisation and functioning of the court, accounting for 48% of the total, followed by staff supporting judges' activities, who represented 43%.

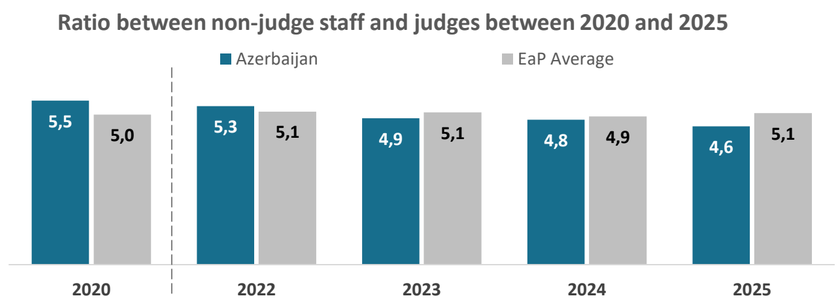


• Ratio between non-judge staff and professional judges

In Azerbaijan, the ratio of non-judge staff per professional judge was 4,6 in 2025, whereas the EaP Average was 5,1. This appears to have decreased from 5,5 in 2020.

	Ratio in 2025		% Variation 2020 - 2025
	Azerbaijan	EaP Average	Azerbaijan
Total	4,6	5,1	-15,7%

For reference only: the 2024 EU median ratio of non-judge staff per judge is 3,3.



• Prosecutors

	Number of prosecutors by instance in 2025			
	Absolute number	% of the total	Per 100 000 inhabitants	EaP Average per 100 000 inhabitants
Total	997	100,0%	9,8	16,0
1st instance level	NAP	NAP	NAP	-
2nd instance level	NAP	NAP	NAP	-
Supreme Court level	NAP	NAP	NAP	-

% Variation of no. of prosecutors per 100 000 inh. 2020 - 2025
-25,4%

For reference only: the 2024 EU median is 11,4 prosecutors per 100 000 inhabitants.

In 2025, Azerbaijan had 997 prosecutors in total, which equates to 9,8 per 100 000 inhabitants. This figure was remarkably lower than the EaP Average of 16.

Over the period between 2020 and 2025, the total number of prosecutors per 100 000 inhabitants showed a significant decrease by -25,4%.

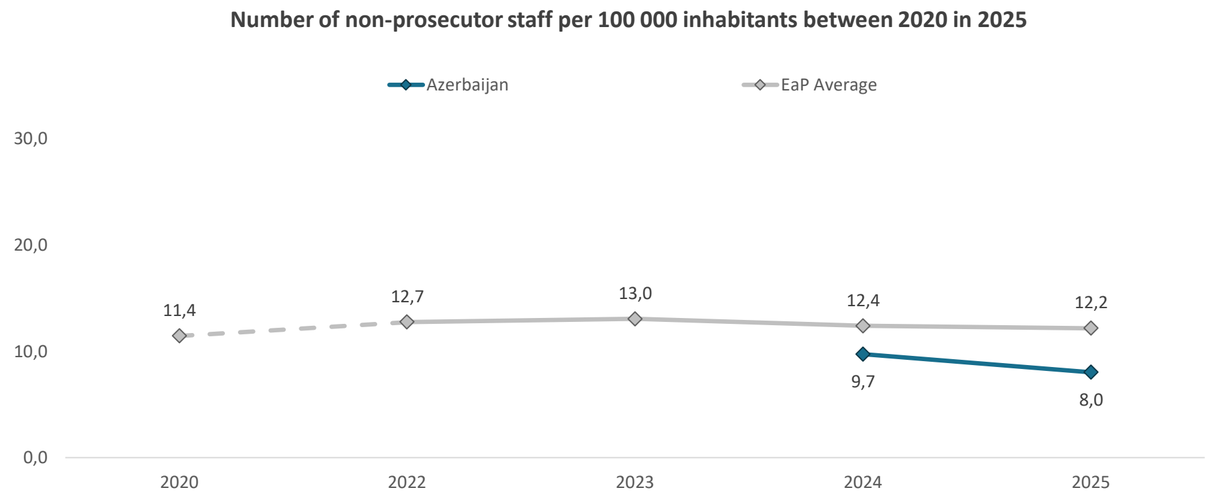
• Heads of prosecution services

	Heads of prosecution services in 2025			
	Absolute number	% of the total	Per 100 000 inhabitants	EaP Average per 100 000 inhabitants
Total	5	100,0%	0,0	0,8
1st instance level	NAP	NAP	NAP	-
2nd instance level	NAP	NAP	NAP	-
Supreme Court level	NAP	NAP	NAP	-

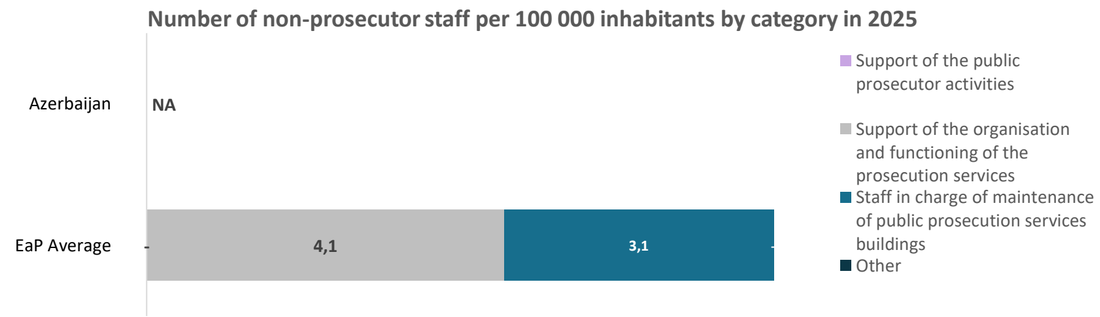
In 2025, Azerbaijan had a total of 5 heads of prosecution offices (same as in 2024).

• Non-prosecutor staff

	Number of non-prosecutor staff by category in 2025			
	Absolute number	% of the total	Per 100 000 inhabitants	EaP Average per 100 000 inhabitants
Total	820	100,0%	8,0	12,2
Support of the public prosecutor activities	NA	NA	NA	-
Support of the organisation and functioning of the prosecution services	NA	NA	NA	4,1
Staff in charge of maintenance of public prosecution services buildings	NA	NA	NA	3,1
Other	NAP	NAP	NAP	-



In 2025, the total number of non-prosecutor staff was 820, corresponding to 8 per 100 000 inhabitants. This figure represents a -17,5% decrease compared to 2024, when non-prosecutor staff totalled 9,7 per 100 000 inhabitants.

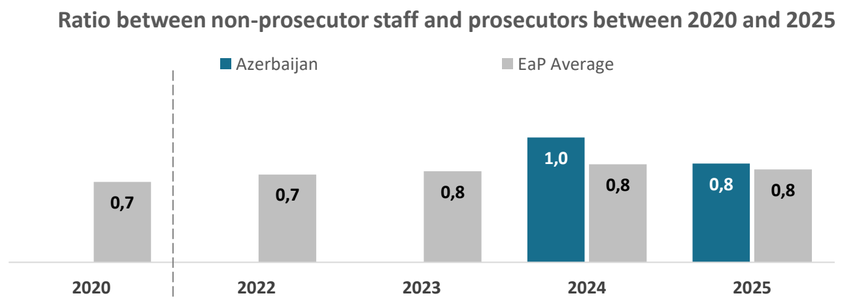


• Non-prosecutor staff and Ratio between non-prosecutor staff and prosecutors

In Azerbaijan, the ratio of non-prosecutor staff per prosecutor was 0,8 in 2025, on a par with the EaP Average. Comparison with year 2020 is not possible given the non availability of data for that year.

	Ratio in 2025		% Variation 2020 - 2025
	Azerbaijan	EaP Average	Azerbaijan
Total	0,8	0,8	NA

For reference only: the 2024 EU median ratio of non-prosecutor staff per prosecutor is 1,1.

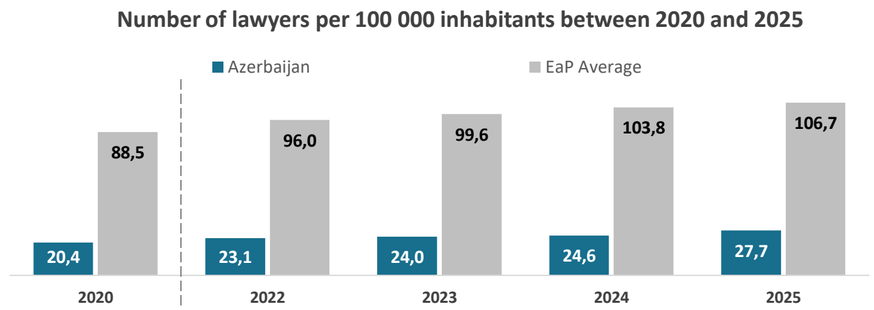


• Lawyers

	Number of lawyers in 2025			% Variation 2020 - 2025
	Absolute number	Per 100 000 inhabitants	EaP Average per 100 000 inhabitants	Azerbaijan
Total	2 837	27,7	106,7	36,3%

For reference only: the 2024 EU median is 138,7 lawyers per 100 000 inhabitants.

In 2025, there were 27,7 lawyers per 100 000 inhabitants, a figure that was remarkably lower than the EaP Average of 106,7. The number of lawyers per 100 000 inhabitants increased by 36,3% between 2020 and 2025.



Legal representation in courts exclusively exercised by lawyers in 2025

	First instance	Second instance	Third instance
Civil cases			
Dismissal cases			
Criminal cases – Defendant			
Criminal cases – Victim			
Administrative cases			

Yes, always
Yes, in some cases
No/NAP

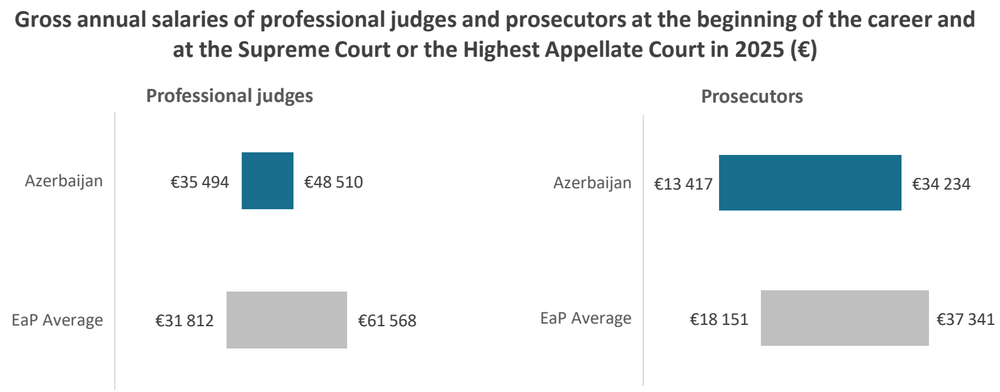
Pursuant to Part I of Article 20 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Advocates and Advocacy Activity”, legal assistance provided by a lawyer at the expense of the State, without any restrictions, shall be ensured for persons detained in administrative proceedings, suspects or accused persons in criminal cases, victims of domestic violence, and in other cases provided by law for persons who do not have sufficient financial means to pay for legal assistance in court. According to Article 14.4 of the Civil Procedure Code, persons participating in proceedings may defend their rights and interests themselves, except in cases where representation is mandatory by law. For the purpose of representation of their interests or the exercise of procedural rights, they may freely choose a lawyer in order to obtain professional legal assistance. Pursuant to Article 3 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Lawyers and Legal Practice”, the main duties of the legal profession consist of defending the rights, freedoms and legally protected interests of natural and legal persons, as well as state bodies (institutions), and providing them with high-quality legal assistance. Pursuant to Articles 49.3 and 49.4 of the Civil Procedure Code, the rights, freedoms and legally protected interests of minors aged from fourteen to eighteen, as well as of persons with limited legal capacity, are protected in court by their legal representatives. However, the court may involve such minors or persons with limited legal capacity personally in the proceedings.
The rights, freedoms and legally protected interests of minors under the age of fourteen, as well as of persons deemed legally incapable, are protected in court by their legal representatives. According to Article 69.2 of the said Code, a legal entity is represented in court by persons authorised under laws, other legal acts or the constituent documents of the legal entity, or by duly authorised employees whose principal place of work is that legal entity, or by lawyers. Pursuant to Article 19.4.4 of the Criminal Procedure Code, the authority conducting criminal proceedings must ensure the right of a suspect or accused person, in the cases and in the manner provided for by that Code, to defend himself or herself personally or through a defence counsel of his or her own choosing, or, if he or she does not have sufficient financial means to pay for a defence counsel, to receive free legal assistance. According to Article 19.5 of the same Code, in the cases provided for by that Code, the authority conducting criminal proceedings must involve the legal representative of a suspect or accused person in the proceedings. Pursuant to Article 26.3 of the Administrative Procedure Code, persons with limited legal capacity or lacking legal capacity are represented in administrative court proceedings in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Civil Procedure Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan. At the same time, Article 31 of the Administrative Procedure Code provides that participants in administrative court proceedings have the right to be represented by a lawyer. State and municipal bodies, as well as legal entities, may be represented through authorised representatives as provided for in Article 26.2 of that Code, while natural persons may be represented through close relatives.

• Salaries of professional judges and prosecutors

In 2025, the salary of a professional judge at the beginning of his/her career was €35 494 which saw a remarkable increase by 39,3% since 2020. The ratio of the starting salary of professional judges to the annual gross average salary in Azerbaijan was 5,2, which was significantly higher than the EaP Average (4). At the Supreme Court or the Highest Appellate Court, judges in Azerbaijan earned 36,7% more than at the start of their careers (€48 510), which represents a smaller increase compared to the EaP Average of 96,3%.

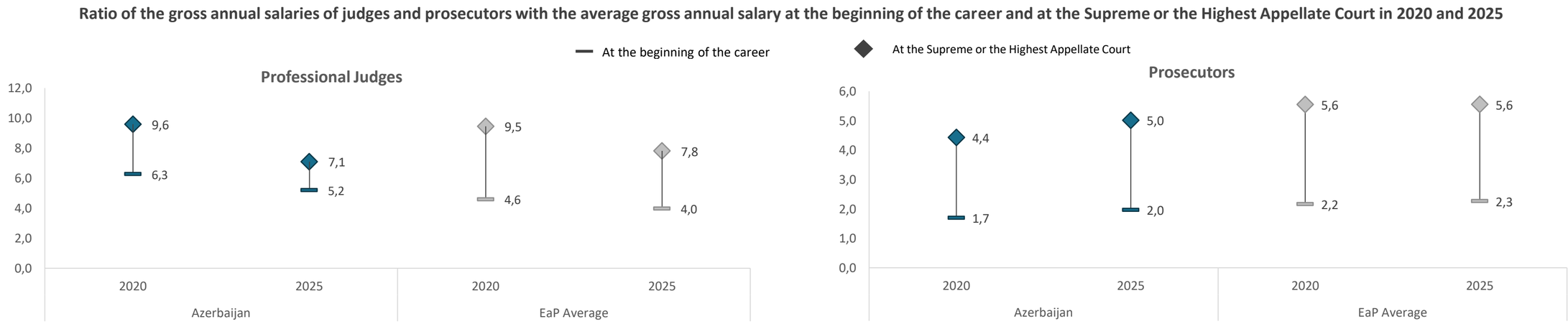
Similarly, the salary of a public prosecutor at the beginning of his/her career was €13 417 which saw a remarkable increase by 94,6% since 2020. The ratio of the starting salary of prosecutors to the annual gross average salary in Azerbaijan was 2, which was lower than the EaP Average of 2,3. Prosecutors serving at the Supreme Court or the Highest Appellate Courts earned salaries that were 155,2% higher than at the entry level (€34 234), a percentage increase that was significantly higher than the EaP Average increase of 111%.

		Salaries in 2025 (absolute values)			Ratio with the average gross annual salary	
		Gross annual salary in €	% Variation 2020 - 2025	Net annual salary in €	Azerbaijan	EaP Average ratio
Professional judge	At the beginning of his/her career	35 494	▲ 39,3%	31 233	5,2	4,0
	Of the Supreme Court or the Highest Appellate Court	48 510	▲ 24,4%	42 758	7,1	7,8
Public prosecutor	At the beginning of his/her career	13 417	▲ 94,6%	11 858	2,0	2,3
	Of the Supreme Court or the Highest Appellate Court	34 234	▲ 90,0%	30 054	5,0	4,8



For reference only: the 2024 EU median for the ratio of judges and prosecutors' salaries with average gross annual national salary is:

- professional judges' salary at the beginning of career: 1,8
- professional judges' salary at the Supreme or the Highest Appellate Court: 4,3
- prosecutors' salary at the beginning of career: 1,7
- prosecutors' salary at the Supreme or the Highest Appellate Court: 3,5



• Performance and evaluation of judges and public prosecutors

	Judges	Prosecutors
A mandatory formal evaluation system regulated by law	✓	✓
An optional formal evaluation system	✗	✗
An informal evaluation system (e.g., discussions with superiors, peer review)	✗	✗
Evaluation based on quantitative criteria	✓	✗
Evaluation based on qualitative criteria	✓	✗

Evaluation criteria for Judges: Workload in judicial activity and the ability to cope with it. The quality of judicial acts and case management, communication skills, judicial ethics, and professional discipline.

Rules on the Evaluation of the Performance of Judges: 1.2. The evaluation of the performance of judges is carried out for the purposes of improving the administration of justice, ensuring the proper organisation of the training process, as well as determining their suitability for promotion and for continuing their judicial and chairperson functions. 1.3. The performance of judges (chairpersons) shall be evaluated by the Judicial-Legal Council at least once every five years. 1.4. The performance of judges appointed to office for the first time shall be evaluated at the end of three years. 1.7. At the end of each year, the Judicial-Legal Council approves the evaluation schedule for the following year, indicating the judges (chairpersons) whose performance is to be evaluated, the Council members responsible for the evaluations, and the relevant timeframes, and the respective judges (chairpersons) are informed accordingly. If a judge applies for promotion or transfer, or if there is information regarding professional shortcomings, including deficiencies of a systematic nature in the application of substantive and procedural legal norms identified through court monitoring activities, the performance of that judge shall be evaluated outside the schedule, in accordance with the requirements of these Rules.

The legal framework includes: Judicial-Legal Council Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Article 13 Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Courts and Judges. Article 96; 96-1. “Regulations on the Judges Evaluation Committee” Approved by Decision No. 1 of the Judicial-Legal Council dated January 23, 2025. The Judges Evaluation Committee is formed by the Judicial-Legal Council in a composition of 9 judges, including 3 judges from each instance (three judges of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan, three judges of the courts of appeal, three judges of the courts of first instance). The activities of judges are evaluated on the basis of quantitative (judicial workload and ability to cope with it) and qualitative (quality of management of judicial acts and court proceedings, communication skills, judicial ethics and discipline) indicators, which allow determining their level of professionalism based on the materials collected by the Judges Evaluation Committee. The activities of court chairmen, deputy chairmen and chairmen of the chambers in the exercise of administrative powers are assessed on the basis of materials collected by the Judges Evaluation Committee, based on criteria that allow determining their management skills (observance of labour and executive discipline in the relevant court and the state of organization of work (conducting court statistics and archival work, compliance with clerical rules, organization of management of the court apparatus, the state of studying and generalizing judicial practice, reception of citizens, organization of work in the court in the field of considering applications).

The activities of judges are assessed taking into account the results of monitoring the activities of the courts, information from the Office of the Judicial-Legal Council, the judge whose activities are being assessed, as well as the chairmen of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan, courts of appeal and first instance, and the number of cases referred for mediation in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Mediation”. When assessing the activities of judges, the information available to the members of the Judicial-Legal Council may be used. The Judges Evaluation Committee, by drawing up a final opinion on the results of the assessment of the judge’s activities, Submits to the Judicial-Legal Council.

As a result of the assessment of the judge's performance, one of the following conclusions is determined: The judge's performance is highly evaluated. In this case, the Judicial-Legal Council considers the possibility of the judge's promotion. The judge's performance is assessed satisfactorily. In this case, the Judicial-Legal Council adopts a decision on the judge's suitability for the position. There are professional shortcomings in the judge's performance. In this case, including when systematic shortcomings in the application of substantive and procedural legal norms are revealed as a result of monitoring the activities of the courts, the judge's (except for persons appointed as judges for the first time) performance is re-evaluated at a time determined by the Judicial-Legal Council, but not earlier than one year and not later than two years. If professional shortcomings are again revealed in the judge's performance during the re-evaluation, his or her powers are terminated early in accordance with the procedure established by the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Courts and Judges".
At the conclusion of the evaluation of the activities related to the exercise of administrative authority by court chairpersons, deputy chairpersons, and chairpersons of chambers, one of the following results is determined:
the performance is assessed as satisfactory. In this case, the Judicial-Legal Council shall make a decision on submitting a proposal for the appointment of the court chairman, deputy chairman or chairman of the board to an administrative position. the performance has professional shortcomings. In this case, the Judicial-Legal Council shall make a decision on the unsuitability of the court chairman, deputy chairman or chairman of the chamber to hold the position.

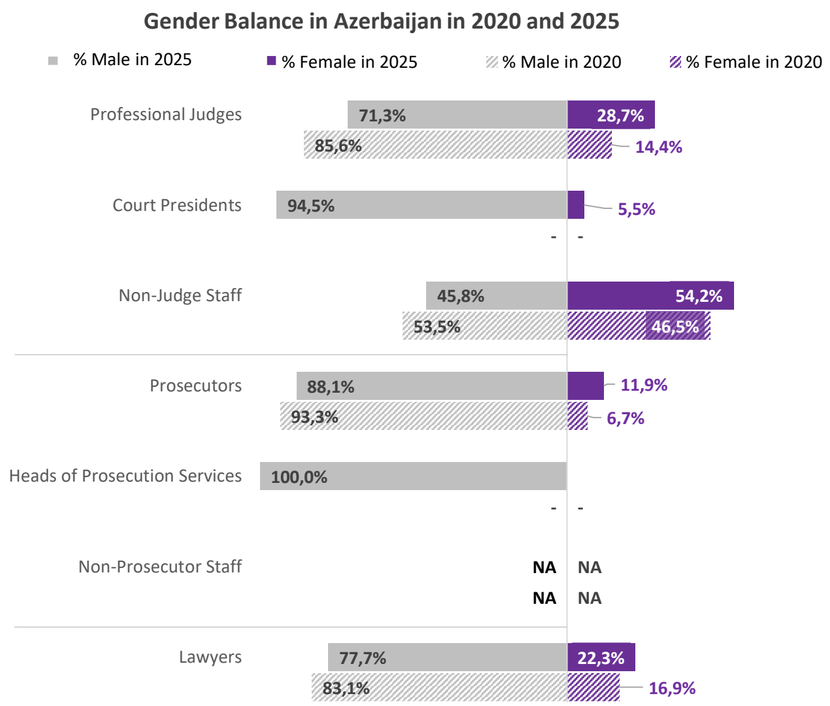
Public prosecutors

1. First instance level public prosecutors evaluated by the Head of the Department for the Defence of Public Prosecutions in Serious Crimes Courts, by Head of the Department for Public Prosecution Defence in the District Courts of Baku City, Head of the department for defence of public prosecution in district (city) courts 2. Second instance level public prosecutors evaluated by Head of the Department for the Defence of Public Prosecutions in Courts of Appeal 3. Highest instance level public prosecutors evaluated by Head of the Department of Public Prosecution Defence and Analytical Analysis at the Court of Cassation.

• Gender Balance

	% Female in 2025		Variation of the % females between 2020 - 2025 (in ppt)
	Azerbaijan	EaP Average	Azerbaijan
Professional Judges	28,7%	44,6%	▲ 14,3
Court Presidents	5,5%	24,1%	
Non-Judge Staff	54,2%	72,7%	▲ 7,7
Prosecutors	11,9%	29,2%	▲ 5,3
Heads of Prosecution Services	0,0%	5,6%	
Non-Prosecutor Staff	NA	65,6%	NA
Lawyers	22,3%	36,5%	▲ 5,4

PPT= Percentage points



For reference only: the 2024 EU medians on gender are among professionals are as follows: 63% women judges; 77% women non-judge staff; 63% women prosecutors; 79% women non-prosecutor staff; and 48% women lawyers.

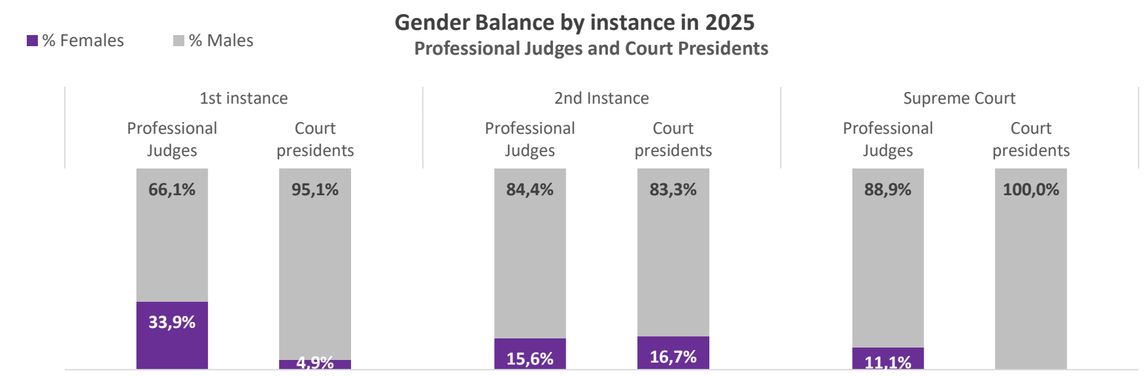
In 2025, the percentage of female professional judges was 28,7%, which was lower than EaP Average (44,6%). With a presence of 5,5%, the number of female court presidents in Azerbaijan was remarkably lower than the EaP Average of 24,1%. The percentage of female non-judge staff was 54,2% also lower than the EaP Average of 72,7%.

Finally, the percentage of female lawyers was 22,3%, which was lower than EaP Average (36,5%).

Non-judge staff were the only category with more than 50% of female presence.

	Professional Judges % Female		Court presidents % Female		Prosecutors % Female		Heads of Prosecution Services % Female	
	Azerbaijan	EaP Average	Azerbaijan	EaP Average	Azerbaijan	EaP Average	Azerbaijan	EaP Average
1st instance	33,9%	47,1%	4,9%	24,3%	NAP	-	NAP	-
2nd instance	15,6%	39,7%	16,7%	6,2%	NAP	-	NAP	-
Supreme Court	11,1%	29,5%	0,0%	60,0%	NAP	-	NAP	-

There is a decrease of % of female professional judges from 1st (33,9%) to Supreme Court level (11,1%). There is an increase in the % of female court presidents from 1st (4,9%) to 2nd instance courts (16,7%).



• Gender Equality Policies

There is no specific institutional body within the judicial system dedicated exclusively to gender equality.

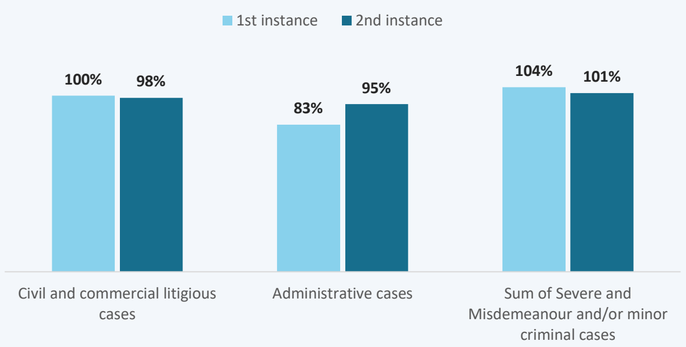
While there are no formal or direct measures within the Azerbaijani Bar Association (ABA) that specifically regulate gender equality in judicial recruitment or promotion, the ABA actively supports women legal professionals through several institutional initiatives. On 1 April 2022, the Women Lawyers Alliance of the ABA was established. This platform enables women lawyers to exchange experiences, access peer support, and benefit from a shared professional network that strengthens their career development. The Training Centre of the Azerbaijani Bar Association also delivers regular capacity-building programs, which include training on gender equality, women's rights, and non-discrimination. Moreover, there is close cooperation with the State Committee for Family, Women and Children Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan on matters supporting gender equality. Lawyers actively participate in the Committee's events, workshops, and other initiatives. Additionally, women lawyers on maternity leave are exempt from membership fees, reducing financial barriers during this period and helping ensure continuity in their professional standing.

Issues related to ensuring gender equality are continuously given due attention, as reported by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and relevant measures are implemented in this field in accordance with the requirements of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Guarantees of Gender (Equality between Men and Women)". In this regard, within the activities of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan, relevant analyses are conducted to ensure a balanced representation of female and male staff. In addition, within the framework of legal awareness-raising activities regularly carried out by the Justice Academy, topics related to women's rights and gender equality are incorporated into training programmes, thereby ensuring the enhancement of knowledge of justice officials, judges and lawyers in this field.

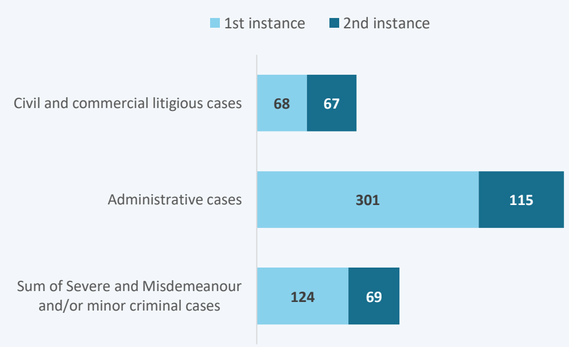
There is no specific institutional body within the prosecution service dedicated exclusively to gender equality. However, gender equality is ensured through transparent, merit-based recruitment and promotion procedures. In recent years, the number of female prosecutors has steadily increased. In 2025, the number of women appointed to prosecutorial positions rose significantly, including appointments of female prosecutors as district (city) prosecutors. Currently, women prosecutors are actively serving at various levels within the Prosecutor General's Office, from investigators to heads of departments, demonstrating their growing representation and role in the institution.

Efficiency in Azerbaijan in 2025 (Indicators 3.1 and 3.2)

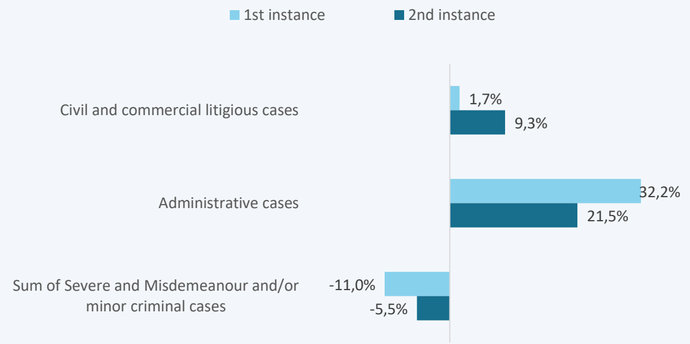
Clearance Rate in 2025



Disposition Time in 2025 (in days)



% Variation of pending cases at the end of year between 2024 and 2025



In 2025, the highest Clearance rate (CR) for Azerbaijan was calculated for the first instance sum of the Severe and Misdemeanour and/or minor criminal cases, with a CR of 104%. However, it seems that courts in Azerbaijan were not able to deal as efficiently with the first instance Administrative cases (CR of 83%). With a Disposition Time of approximately 67 days, the second instance Civil and commercial litigious cases were resolved faster than any other type of cases.

Compared to 2024, the pending cases at the end of year increased for the first instance Administrative cases (32,2%), as well as in second instance Administrative cases (21,5%), whereas they decreased for the first instance sum of the Severe and Misdemeanour and/or minor criminal cases by -11%.

First instance courts

The Clearance Rate increased in civil and commercial litigious case from 96% in 2020 to 100% in 2025; as well as in the sum of severe and misdemeanour criminal cases from 86% in 2020 to 104% in 2025. it appears to have decreased from 91% to 83% in 2025 in Administrative cases though, where it appears below the EaP Average of 2025.

The Disposition Time increased in Administrative case from 180 days in 2020 to 301 days in 2025 and it decreased from 88 days in 2020 to 68 days in 2025 in civil and commercial litigious cases. It also shows a decrease from 144 days in 2020 to 124 days in 2025 in the sum of severe and misdemeanour criminal cases. The Disposition Time is lower in all categories of cases compared to the EaP Average of 2025.

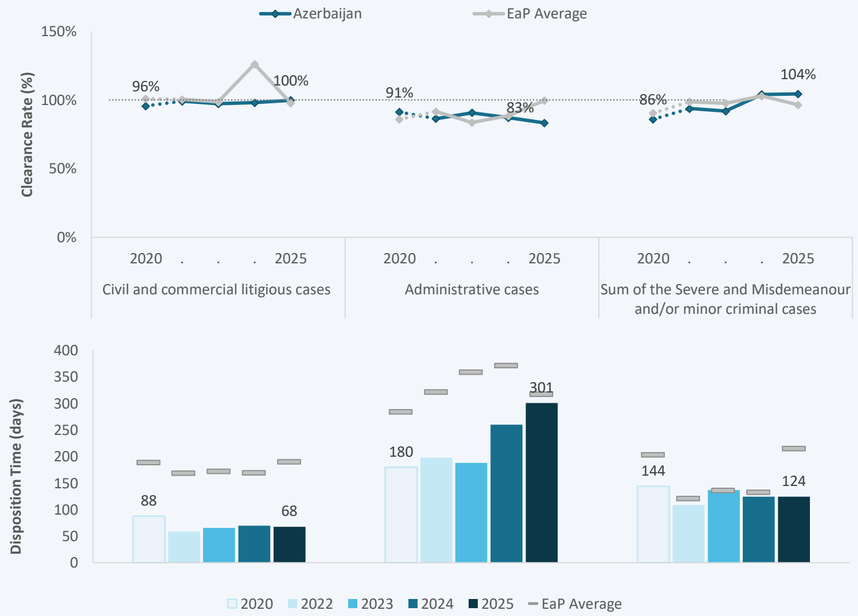
Second instance courts

Compared to 2020, the Clearance Rate increased in all categories of cases, most significantly in the sum of severe and misdemeanour criminal cases from 83% to 101% in 2025. As in 2024, in continued to be above the respective EaP Averages for 2025.

Similarly, over the 5 year period, the Disposition Time decreased in all categories of cases, again most notably in the sum of severe and misdemeanour criminal cases from 127 to 69 days. The courts in Azerbaijan appear to be below the EaP Average on Disposition Time in all categories of cases analysed herein.

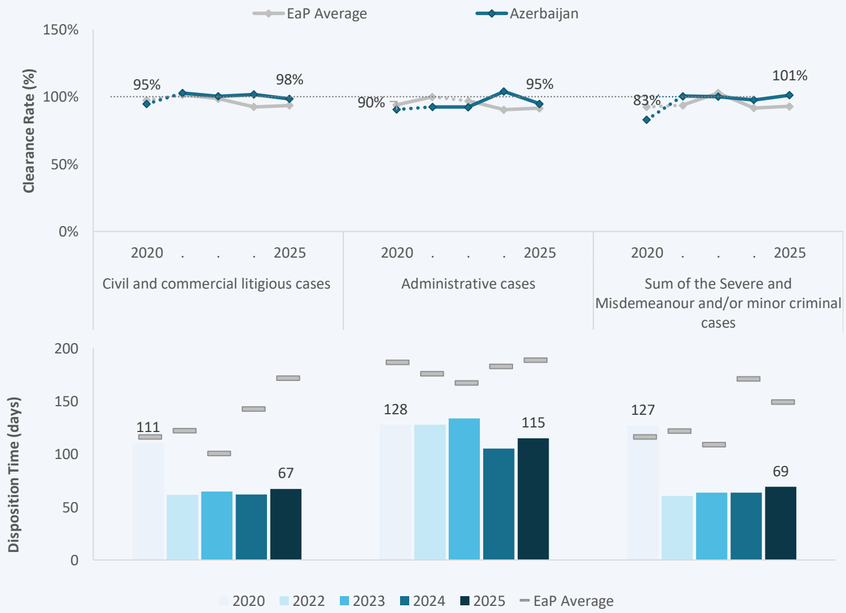
First instance cases

Clearance rate (%) and Disposition Time (days) for first instance cases from 2020 to 2025



Second instance cases

Clearance rate (%) and Disposition Time (days) for second instance cases from 2020 to 2025



• First instance cases - Other than criminal law cases

1st instance cases in 2025 (absolute values)		Azerbaijan (2025)				% Variation between 2024 and 2025			
		Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
1	Civil and commercial litigious cases	221 200	220 534	40 939	685	2,4%	4,1%	1,7%	-69,0%
2	Non-litigious cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
3	Administrative cases	33 326	27 756	22 860	782	19,3%	14,2%	32,2%	-50,6%
4	Other cases	NAP	NAP	NAP	NA	NAP	NAP	NAP	NA

In 2025, the incoming civil and commercial litigious cases were 221 200 (2,16 per 100 inhabitants vs the EaP Average of 2,49).They increased by 2,4% between 2024 and 2025. The resolved cases were 220 534 (2,16 per 100 inhabitants) and they increased by 4,1%. In 2025, the number of resolved cases was lower than the incoming cases. As a consequence, the civil and commercial litigious pending cases at the end of 2025 were more than in 2024. Indeed, the 2025 Clearance rate for this type of cases was 100% (above the EaP Average of 98%). This increased by 1,7 percentage points compared to 2024.

The Disposition Time for civil and commercial litigious cases was approximately 68 days in 2025 (below the EaP Average of 190 days). This decreased by -2,4% compared to 2024.

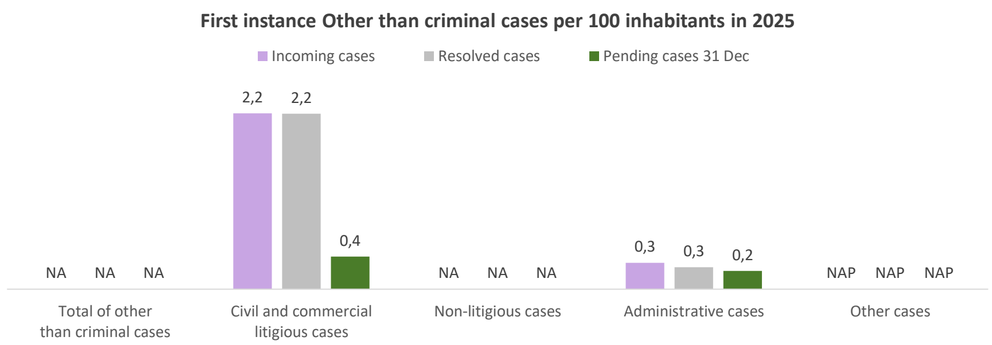
The incoming administrative cases were 33 326 in 2025 (i.e. 0,33 per 100 inhabitants vs the EaP Average of 0,67). They increased by 19,3% compared to the previous year. In 2025, the resolved cases were 27 756 (0,27 per 100 inhabitants, below of the EaP Average of 0,62). Between 2024 and 2025, the number of resolved administrative increased by 14,2%. The number of incoming cases was thus higher than the resolved cases. As a consequence, the administrative pending cases at the end of 2025 were more than in 2024 and the Clearance rate for this type of cases was 83% (below the EaP Average (100%). The CR decreased by -3,7 percentage points compared to the previous year.

Finally, the Disposition Time for administrative cases was approximately 301 days in 2025. This has increased by 15,8% compared to 2024 and it was below the EaP Average (317 days).

1st instance cases in 2025 (per 100 inhabitants)		Incoming cases			Resolved cases			Pending cases 31 Dec			Pending cases over 2 years		
		Azerbaijan		EaP Average	Azerbaijan		EaP Average	Azerbaijan		EaP Average	Azerbaijan		EaP Average
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)		NA		4,2	NA		4,0	NA		1,9	NA		0,40
1	Civil and commercial litigious cases	2,2	<	2,5	2,2	<	2,4	0,4	<	1,1	0,01	<	0,23
2	Non-litigious cases**	NA		0,4	NA		0,4	NA		0,1	NA		-
3	Administrative cases	0,3	<	0,7	0,3	<	0,6	0,2	<	0,4	0,01	<	0,08
4	Other cases	NAP		-	NAP		-	NAP		-	NA		-

Key: > Higher than the EaP Average; = Equal to the EaP Average; < Lower than the EaP Average

For reference only: the 2024 EU Median was as follows:
- Incoming first instance Civil and Commercial litigious cases per 100 inhabitants: 1,8;
- incoming first instance Administrative cases per 100 inhabitants: 0,4.

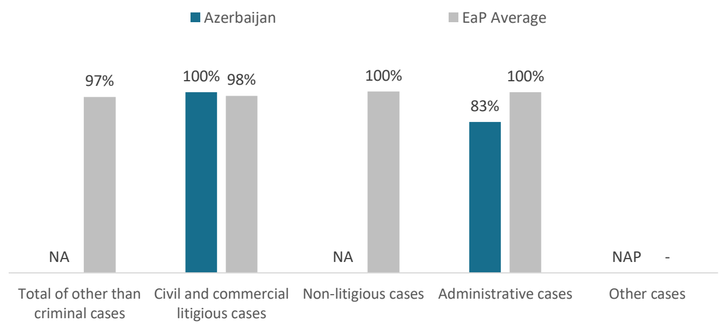


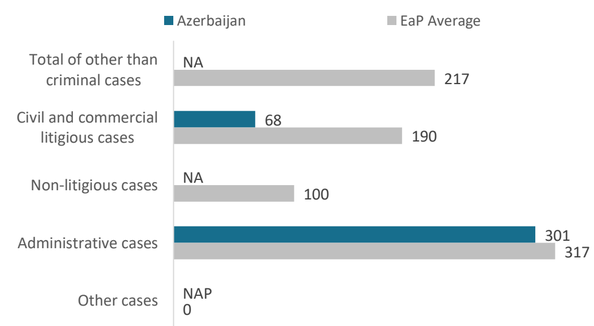
1st instance cases Clearance Rate (CR) and Disposition Time (DT) in 2025		CR (%)		DT (days)		% Variation 2024 - 2025	
		Azerbaijan	EaP Average	Azerbaijan	EaP Average	CR (PPT)	DT (%)
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)		NA	97%	NA	217	NA	NA
1	Civil and commercial litigious cases	100%	98%	68	190	1,7	-2,4%
2	Non-litigious cases	NA	100%	NA	100	NA	NA
3	Administrative cases	83%	100%	301	317	-3,7	15,8%
4	Other cases	NAP	-	NAP	-	NAP	NAP

PPT = Percentage points

For reference only: the 2024 EU Median for the first instance Civil and Commercial litigious cases was as follows:
- Clearance rate: 97,8%; - Disposition time: 248 days.

For reference only: the 2024 EU Median for the first instance Administrative cases was as follows:
- Clearance rate: 96,5%; - Disposition time: 327 days.





• First instance cases - Criminal law cases

1st instance cases in 2025 (absolute values)		Azerbaijan (2025)				% Variation between 2024 and 2025			
		Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)		14 921	15 573	5 292	240	-11,3%	-11,0%	-11,0%	-58,5%
Sum of Severe and Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases (1+2)		14 921	15 573	5 292	240	-11,3%	-11,0%	-11,0%	-58,5%
1	Severe criminal cases	2 373	2 683	1 573	120	-16,1%	-23,5%	-16,5%	-57,9%
2	Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	12 548	12 890	3 719	120	-10,3%	-7,8%	-8,4%	-59,0%
3	Other cases	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP

In 2025, the incoming severe and misdemeanour criminal cases were 14 921 (0,15 per 100 inhabitants vs the EaP Average of 0,64). They decreased by -11,3% between 2024 and 2025. The resolved cases were 15 573 (0,15 per 100 inhabitants). Between 2024 and 2025, they decreased by -11%. The number of resolved cases was thus higher than the incoming cases. As a consequence, the severe and misdemeanour criminal pending cases at the end of 2025 were less than in 2024. Indeed, the 2025 Clearance rate for this type of cases was 104% (above the EaP Average of 96,3%).

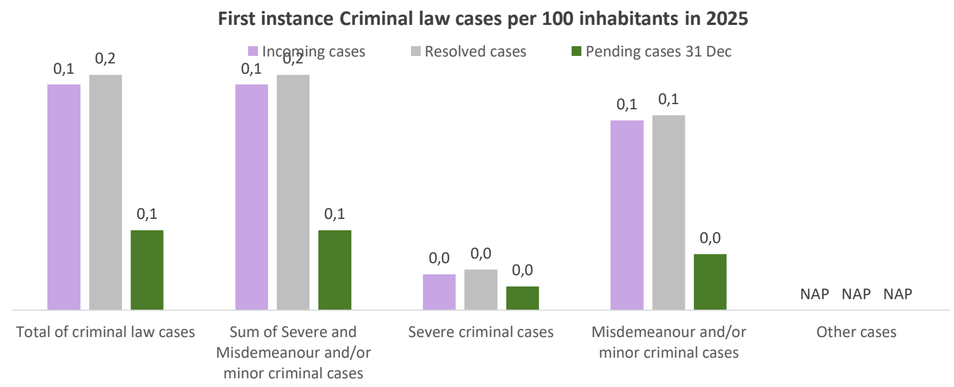
The Disposition Time for severe and misdemeanour criminal cases was approximately 124 days in 2025 (below the EaP Average of 214 days).

A working group was established to analyse the efficiency of the administration of criminal justice in courts. The working group has conducted regular monitoring activities. The reasons for the prolonged duration of cases in court proceedings have been analysed, relevant causes have been identified, and recommendation-based letters have been sent to the courts with a view to eliminating these issues, along with the implementation of other necessary measures. Consequently, pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the first instance court has been reduced.

1st instance cases in 2025 (per 100 inhabitants)		Incoming cases			Resolved cases			Pending cases 31 Dec			Pending cases over 2 years		
		Azerbaijan		EaP Average	Azerbaijan		EaP Average	Azerbaijan		EaP Average	Azerbaijan		EaP Average
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)		0,1	<	0,6	0,2	<	0,6	0,1	<	0,3	0,00	<	0,03
Sum of Severe and Misdemeanour and/or minor criminal cases (1+2)		0,1	<	0,6	0,2	<	0,6	0,1	<	0,3	0,00	<	0,03
1	Severe criminal cases	0,0	<	0,1	0,0	<	0,1	0,0	<	0,1	0,00		-
2	Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	0,1	<	0,4	0,1	<	0,4	0,0	<	0,1	0,00		-
3	Other cases	NAP		-	NAP		-	NAP		-	NAP		-

Key: > Higher than the EaP Average; = Equal to the EaP Average; < Lower than the EaP Average

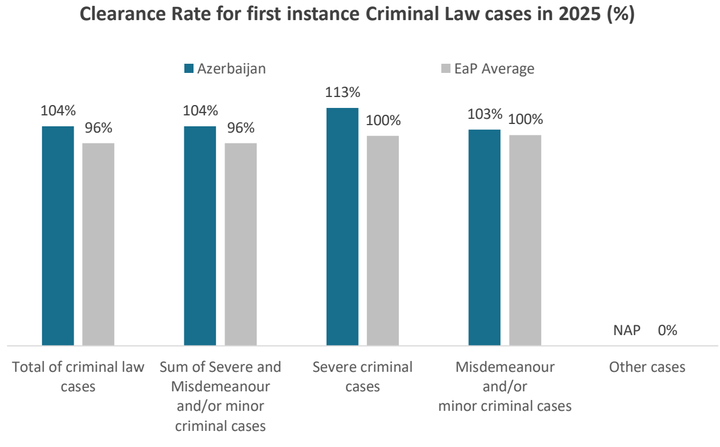
For reference only: for the first instance Total Criminal law cases, the 2024 EU Median was as follows:
- Incoming cases per 100 inhabitants: 1,7.

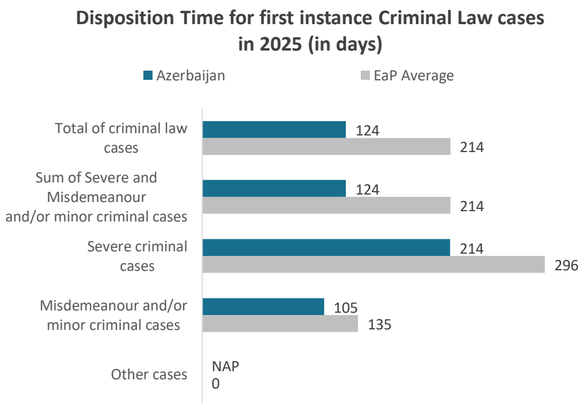


1st instance cases Clearance Rate (CR) and Disposition Time (DT) in 2025		CR (%)		DT (days)		% Variation 2024 - 2025	
		Azerbaijan	EaP Average	Azerbaijan	EaP Average	CR (PPT)	DT (%)
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)		104%	96%	124	214	0,4	0,0%
Sum of Severe and Misdemeanour and/or minor criminal cases (1+2)		104%	96%	124	214	0,4	0,0%
1	Severe criminal cases	113%	100%	214	296	-11,0	9,2%
2	Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	103%	100%	105	135	2,8	-0,7%
3	Other cases	NAP	-	NAP	-	NAP	NAP

PPT = Percentage points

For reference only: for the first instance Total Criminal law cases, the 2024 EU Median was as follows:
- Clearance rate: 98,8%; - Disposition time: 128 days.





• Second instance cases - Other than criminal law cases

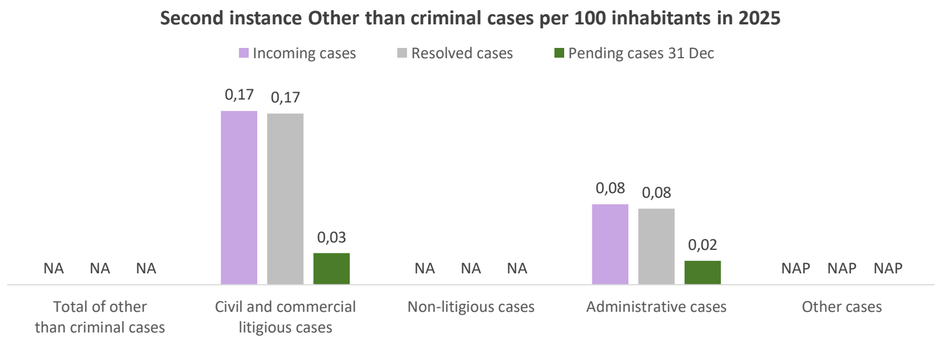
2nd instance cases in 2025 (absolute values)		Azerbaijan (2025)				% Variation between 2024 and 2025			
		Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
1	Civil and commercial litigious cases	17 599	17 327	3 190	89	4,1%	0,7%	9,3%	-74,1%
2	Non-litigious cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
3	Administrative cases	8 132	7 703	2 426	29	22,0%	11,3%	21,5%	-60,8%
4	Other cases	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP

In 2025, the incoming civil and commercial litigious cases were 17 599 (0,17 per 100 inhabitants vs the EaP Average of 0,28).They increased by 4,1% between 2024 and 2025. The resolved cases were 17 327 (0,17 per 100 inhabitants). Between 2024 and 2025, they increased by 0,7%. The number of resolved cases was thus lower than the incoming cases. As a consequence, the civil and commercial litigious pending cases at the end of 2025 were more than in 2024. Indeed, the 2025 Clearance rate for this type of cases was 98% (above the EaP Average of 93%). This decreased by -3,2 percentage points compared to 2024.
The Disposition Time for civil and commercial litigious cases was approximately 67 days in 2025 (below the EaP Average of 172 days). This increased by 8,5% over the 2024-2025 period.
The incoming administrative cases were 8 132 in 2025 (i.e. 0,08 per 100 inhabitants vs the EaP Average of 0,3). They increased by 22% compared to the previous year. The resolved cases were 7 703 (0,08 per 100 inhabitants, below of the EaP Average of 0,27). Between 2024 and 2025, the number of resolved administrative increased by 11,3%. The number of incoming cases was thus higher than the resolved cases. As a consequence, the administrative pending cases at the end of 2025 were more than in 2024 and the Clearance rate for this type of cases was 95% (above the EaP Average (92%). The CR decreased by -9,1 percentage points compared to the previous year.
Finally, the Disposition Time for administrative cases was approximately 115 days in 2025. This has increased by 9,1% compared to 2024 and it was below the EaP Average (189 days).

2nd instance cases in 2025 (per 100 inhabitants)		Incoming cases			Resolved cases			Pending cases 31 Dec			Pending cases over 2 years		
		Azerbaijan		EaP Average	Azerbaijan		EaP Average	Azerbaijan		EaP Average	Azerbaijan		EaP Average
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)		NA		0,49	NA		0,45	NA		0,30	NA		-
1	Civil and commercial litigious cases	0,17	<	0,28	0,17	<	0,25	0,03	<	0,14	0,00	=	0,00
2	Non-litigious cases	NA		-	NA		-	NA		-	NA		-
3	Administrative cases	0,08	<	0,30	0,08	<	0,27	0,02	<	0,13	0,00	<	0,00
4	Other cases	NAP		-	NAP		-	NAP		-	NAP		-

For reference only: the 2024 EU Median was as follows:
- Incoming Second instance Civil and Commercial litigious cases per 100 inhabitants: 0,2;
- incoming Second instance Administrative cases per 100 inhabitants: 0,1.

Key: > Higher than the EaP Average
= Equal to the EaP Average
< Lower than the EaP Average

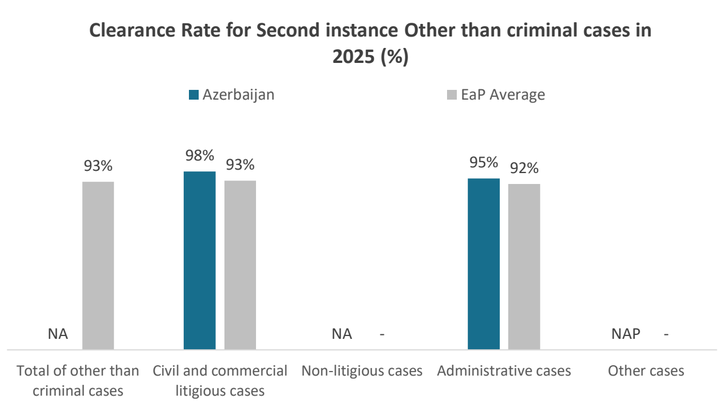


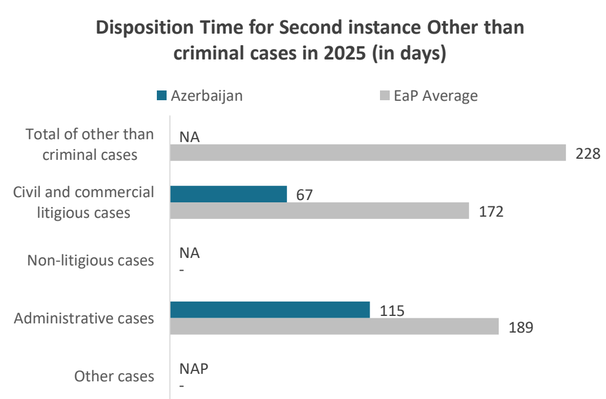
2nd instance cases Clearance Rate (CR) and Disposition Time (DT) in 2025		CR (%)		DT (days)		% Variation 2024 - 2025	
		Azerbaijan	EaP Average	Azerbaijan	EaP Average	CR (PPT)	DT (%)
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)		NA	93%	NA	228	NA	NA
1	Civil and commercial litigious cases	98%	93%	67	172	-3,2	8,5%
2	Non-litigious cases	NA	-	NA	-	NA	NA
3	Administrative cases	95%	92%	115	189	-9,1	9,1%
4	Other cases	NAP	-	NAP	-	NAP	NAP

PPT = Percentage points

For reference only: the 2024 EU Median for the Second instance Civil and Commercial litigious cases was as follows:
- Clearance rate: 100,8%; - Disposition time: 207 days.

For reference only: the 2024 EU Median for the Second instance Administrative cases was as follows:
- Clearance rate: 98,4%; - Disposition time: 339 days.





• Second instance cases - Criminal law cases

2nd instance cases in 2025 (absolute values)		Azerbaijan (2025)				% Variation between 2024 and 2025			
		Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)		4 740	4 793	908	23	-15,8%	-12,8%	-5,5%	-43,9%
Sum of Severe and Misdemeanour and/or minor criminal cases (1+2)		4 740	4 793	908	23	-15,8%	-12,8%	-5,5%	-43,9%
1	Severe criminal cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2	Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
3	Other cases	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NA	NA	NA	NA

In 2025, the incoming severe and misdemeanour criminal cases were 4 740 (0,05 per 100 inhabitants vs the EaP Average of 0,31). They decreased by -15,8% between 2024 and 2025. The resolved cases were 4 793 (0,05 per 100 inhabitants). Between 2024 and 2025, they decreased by -12,8%. The number of resolved cases was thus higher than the incoming cases. As a consequence, the severe and misdemeanour criminal pending cases at the end of 2025 were less than in 2024. Indeed, the 2025 Clearance rate for this type of cases was 101% (above the EaP Average of 92,9%). This increased by 3 percentage points compared to 2024.

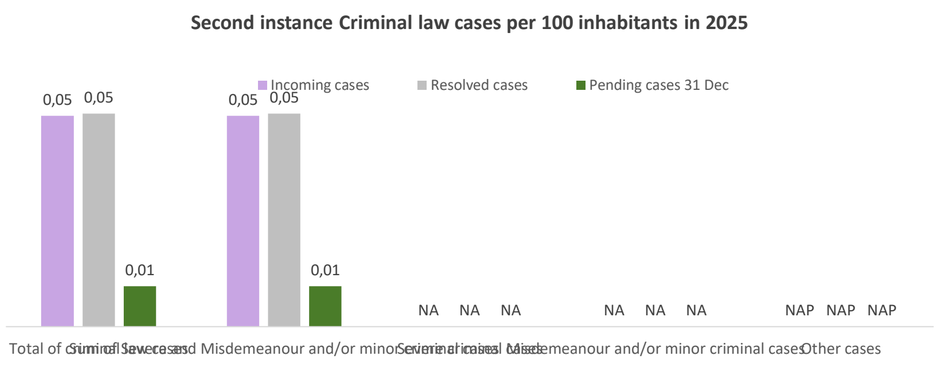
The Disposition Time for severe and misdemeanour criminal cases was approximately 69 days in 2025 (below the EaP Average of 149 days). This increased by 8,4% over the 2024-2025 period.

At the appellate instance level, there is a unified chamber for criminal cases and administrative offence cases (the criminal chamber). For this reason, since all such cases are examined within a single chamber, it is only possible to provide the total number of cases.

2nd instance cases in 2025 (per 100 inhabitants)		Incoming cases			Resolved cases			Pending cases 31 Dec			Pending cases over 2 years		
		Azerbaijan		EaP Average	Azerbaijan		EaP Average	Azerbaijan		EaP Average	Azerbaijan		EaP Average
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)		0,05	<	0,36	0,05	<	0,31	0,01	<	0,15	0,00	<	0,01
Sum of Severe and Misdemeanour and/or minor criminal cases (1+2)		0,05	<	0,31	0,05	<	0,25	0,01	<	0,18	0,00	<	0,02
1	Severe criminal cases	NA		-	NA		-	NA		-	NA		-
2	Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	NA		-	NA		-	NA		-	NA		-
3	Other cases	NAP		-	NAP		-	NAP		-	NAP		-

For reference only: for the second instance Total Criminal law cases, the 2024 EU Median was as follows:
- Incoming cases per 100 inhabitants: 0,1.

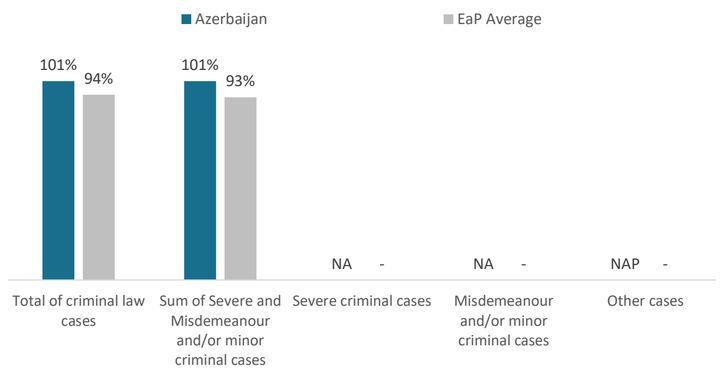
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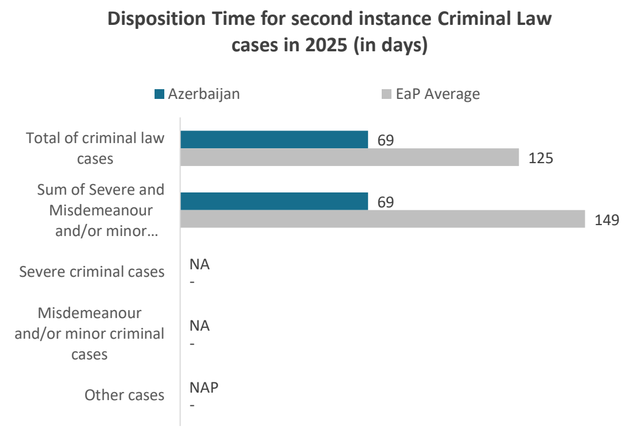


2nd instance cases Clearance Rate (CR) and Disposition Time (DT) in 2025		CR (%)		DT (days)		% Variation 2024 - 2025	
		Azerbaijan	EaP Average	Azerbaijan	EaP Average	CR (PPT)	DT (%)
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)		101%	94%	69	125	3,5	8,4%
Sum of Severe and Misdemeanour and/or minor criminal cases (1+2)		101%	93%	69	149	3,5	8,4%
1	Severe criminal cases	NA	-	NA	-	NA	NA
2	Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	NA	-	NA	-	NA	NA
3	Other cases	NAP	-	NAP	-	NAP	NAP

PPT = Percentage points

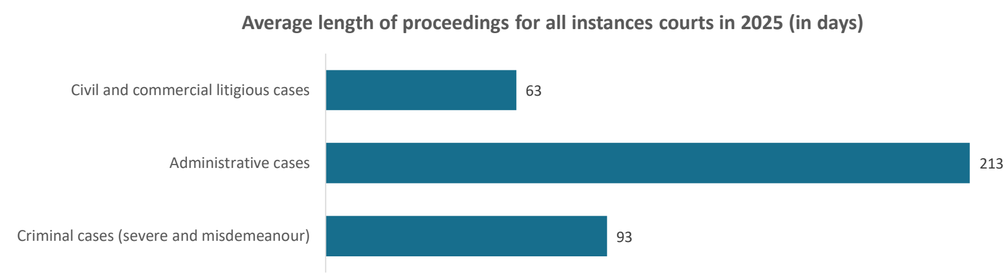
For reference only: for the second instance Total Criminal law cases, the 2024 EU Median was as follows:
- Clearance rate: 99,5%; - Disposition time: 121 days.





• Specific category cases

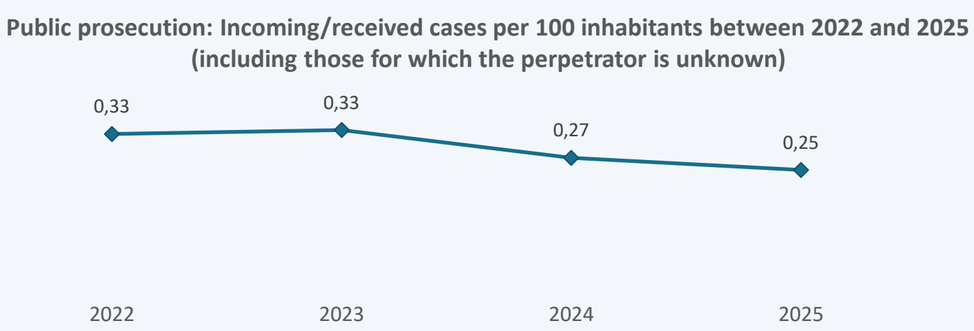
	Average length of proceedings (in days)							
	2025				% Variation between 2024 and 2025			
	First instance	Second instance	Third instance	Total	First instance	Second instance	Third instance	Total
Civil and commercial litigious cases	63	61	64	63	-13,7%	-1,6%	-5,9%	-6,0%
Administrative cases	301	115	223	213	NA	NA	NA	NA
Criminal cases (severe and misdemeanour)	124	69	85	93	NA	NA	NA	NA

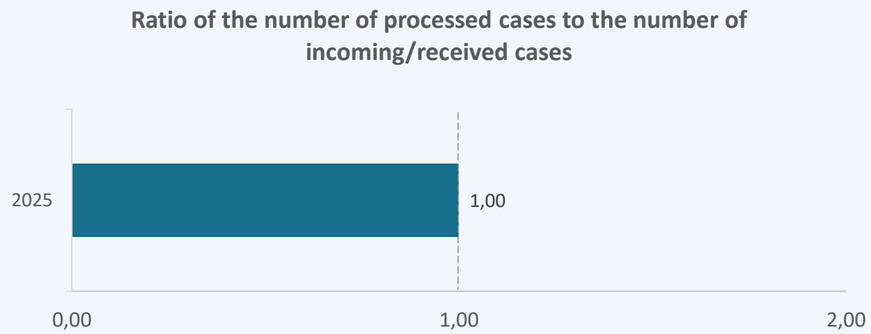


The average length of cases corresponds to the average length of resolved cases at a certain instance within the reference year.

	First instance specific cases in 2025					CR (%)		DT (days)	
	Azerbaijan								
	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case	Azerbaijan	EaP Average	Azerbaijan	EaP Average
Litigious divorce cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	108%	NA	116
Employment dismissal cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-	NA	-
Insolvency cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	96%	NA	560
Robbery cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	118%	NA	457
Intentional homicide cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	93%	NA	711
Bribery cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0%	NA	627
Trading in influence cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	44%	NA	0
Money laundering cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	84%	NA	908
Child sexual abuse cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	106%	NA	538
Child pornography cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	69%	NA	564

Public Prosecution in Azerbaijan in 2025 (Indicators 3.1.1)





Azerbaijan was able to distinguish criminal cases where the perpetrator is known from those where the perpetrator is unknown. In 2025, the public prosecution services in Azerbaijan received 0,25 incoming first instance cases per 100 inhabitants (where the perpetrators were known and known). On the cases where the perpetrated was known, it had 0,21 incoming, it processed 0,21 cases per 100 inhabitants, and had 0,06 cases per 100 inhabitants pending at the end of the year. Between 2022 and 2025, the incoming/received cases in the public prosecution offices decreased from 0,33 to 0,25 per 100 inhabitants. In 2025, the ratio of the number of processed cases to the number of incoming cases was 1.

Status of public prosecution services

The Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan is a single, centralized body within the judicial system, based on the subordination of territorial and specialized prosecutor's offices to the Prosecutor General.

The establishment of extraordinary prosecutor's offices, prosecutor's offices of foreign states, or prosecutor's offices created in a manner not provided for by this law is prohibited ("Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the Prosecutor's Office," Article 2).

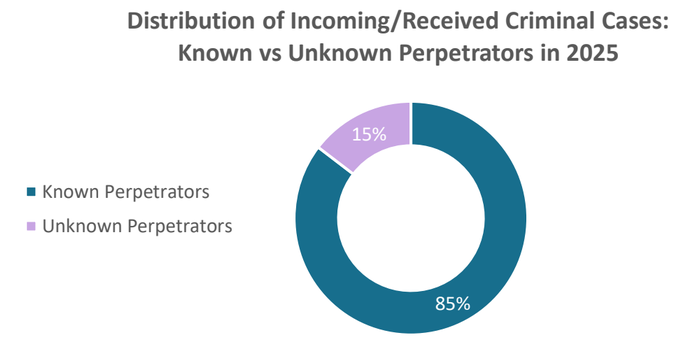
Different authorities involved in a pre-trial stage of criminal proceedings

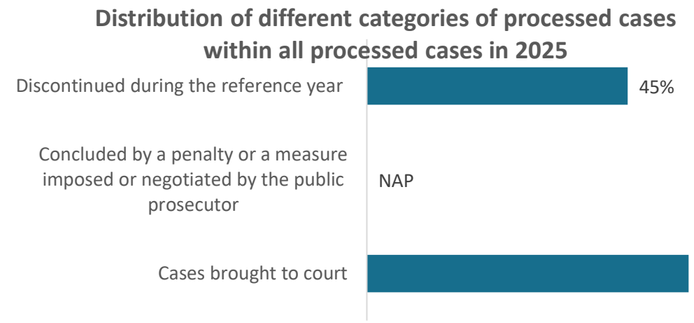
	Police	Public prosecutor	Investigating judge	Judge	Other
Receive a complaint	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Initiate investigation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Conduct investigation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Supervising investigation		✓	✓	✓	
Dismiss a case at the pre-trial stage	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bring a case to court	✓	✓			✓
Decide an alternative to prosecution	✓	✓		✓	✓
Close a case by imposing or negotiating a penalty or measure					

• Public prosecution: first instance criminal cases

Azerbaijan was able to distinguish criminal cases where the perpetrator is known from those where the perpetrator is unknown, as shown in the table below.

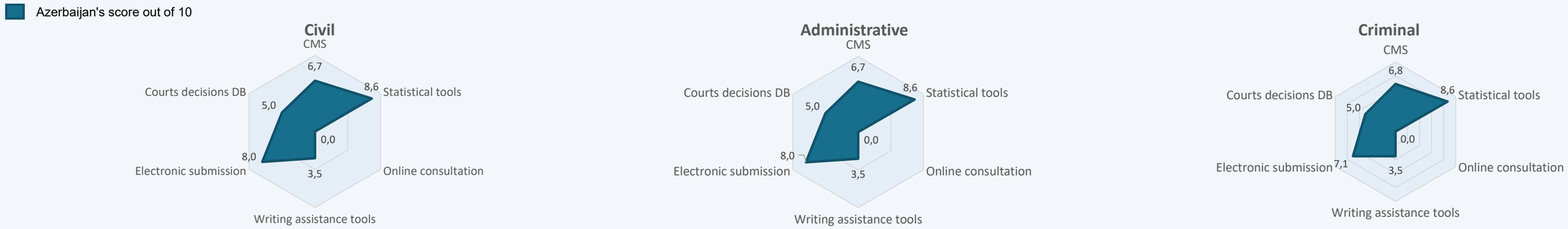
Public prosecution: 1st instance criminal cases in 2025			Absolute number in 2025	Per 100 inhabitants
1	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. Year		5 729	0,06
2	Incoming/received cases		21 645	0,21
3	Processed cases (3.1 + 3.2 + 3.3)		21 608	0,21
3.1	Discontinued during the reference year (3.1.1 + 3.1.2 + 3.1.3)		9 674	0,09
	3.1.1.	Discontinued by the public prosecutor due to the lack of an established offence	1 125	0,01
	3.1.2	Discontinued by the public prosecutor for reasons of opportunity	NAP	NAP
	3.1.3	Discontinued for other reasons	8 549	0,08
3.2	Concluded by a penalty or a measure imposed or negotiated by the public prosecutor		NAP	NAP
3.3	Cases brought to court		11 934	0,12
4	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year		5 766	0,06





Information and communication technology tools in Azerbaijan in 2025 (Indicator 3.3)

The six ICT deployment indices (CMS, Courts decisions DB, Statistical tools, Writing assistance tools, electronic submission and online consultation) range from 0 to 10 points. Their calculation is based on the features and on deployment rates reported. The methodology for calculation provides points for each feature in each case matter. They are summarised and multiplied by the deployment rate as a weight. In this way, if the system is not fully deployed, the value is decreased even if all features are existing.



In 2025, the maximum overall score among the six ICT indexes is achieved in Azerbaijan by the Statistical tools index (8,6).

In Azerbaijan, there was no overall Information and Communication Technology (ICT) strategy in the judicial system. However, there are plans for a significant change in the present IT system in the judiciary in 2025, to be introduced by mid 2026.

There are 1 case management systems (CMS), e.g. software used for registering judicial proceedings and their management. This has been developed more than 10 years ago.

• Electronic case management system

The CMS is developed and used in all courts (95-100% for all matters). The data is stored on centralised and/or interoperable CMS databases. Numerous features are reported as in place and used, including the active case management dashboard, random case allocation, identification of a case between instances, e-transfer to another court, anonymisation of decisions, interoperability, access to closed/resolved cases, advanced search engine, protected log files, e-signature, storage of evidence.

	Deployment rate	Usage rate	Centralised and/or interoperable CMS databases	Active case management dashboard	Random allocation of cases	Case weighting	Identification of a case between instances (unique or linked id number)	Electronic transfer of a case to another instance/court	Anonymisation of decisions to be published	Interoperability with prosecution system	Interoperability with other systems (civil register, tax register, insolvency register)	Remote access for telework	Access to closed/resolved cases	Advanced search engine	AI-based categorization and allocation of incoming cases	AI-based case analysis tool	Protected log files	Electronic signature	Storage of the electronic evidence file	Other special functionality
Civil	95-100 %	95-100 %	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
Administrative	95-100 %	95-100 %	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
Criminal	95-100 %	95-100 %	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	

• Database of court decisions

The database of court decisions in Azerbaijan covers Civil, Administrative, and Criminal cases, with a deployment rate ranging from 95% to 100% for each category and for each instance.

	1st instance												
			Functionalities										
	Percentage of decisions published	Modalities of publication	AI anonymisation	Manual anonymisation	Free public online access	Link to the case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR)	Open data	Advanced search engine	AI-based (LLM) exploration tool	Machine-readable content	Structured content	Metadata	European Case Law Identifier (ECLI)	Other special functionality
Civil	95-100 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database	✓		✓			✓			✓			
Administrative	95-100 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database	✓		✓			✓			✓			
Criminal	95-100 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database	✓		✓			✓			✓			

	2nd instance												
Civil	95-100 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database	✓		✓			✓			✓			
Administrative	95-100 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database	✓		✓						✓			
Criminal	95-100 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database	✓		✓			✓			✓			

	Highest Instance												
Civil	95-100 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database	✓		✓			✓			✓			
Administrative	95-100 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database	✓		✓			✓			✓			
Criminal	95-100 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database	✓		✓			✓			✓			

• Statistical tools

The statistical tools are developed in all courts (deployment rate is 95-100% for all matters). All inquired upon functionalities are reported as being in place. The same applies to availability of data for statistical analysis, per below.

	Deployment rate	Functionalities									Data available for statistical analysis								
		Integration/connection with the CMS	Business intelligence software	Generation of predefined statistical reports	Generation of customised statistical reports	Internal page and/or dashboard	External page with statistics (public website)	Real-time data availability	Automatic consolidation of data at the national level	Other special functionality	Case flow data (number of incoming, resolved, pending)	Age of a pending case	Length of proceedings	Number of hearings	Cases per judge	Case weights	Number of parties in a case	Indicator of appeal	Result of the appeal
Civil	95-100 %	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Administrative	95-100 %	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Criminal	95-100 %	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓

• Writing assistance tools

The writing assistance tools are reported as deployed across all three case categories. Their functionalities include availability of templates, automatically generated text, and electronic signature.

	Deployment rate	Functionalities						
		Templates	Automatically generated text	AI generated proposal for a decision and/or reasoning	AI for summarization of documents	Speech-to-text	Electronic signature	Other special functionality
Civil	95-100 %	✓	✓				✓	
Administrative	95-100 %	✓	✓				✓	
Criminal	95-100 %	✓	✓				✓	

• Electronic submission of cases

	Deployment rate	Usage rate	Electronic or paper			Submitted by:				Data integration	
			Paper submission is still possible	Paper submission is not possible anymore (electronic submission is the only way)	Double submission (paper must accompany the electronic submission)	Public prosecutor (only for criminal)	Lawyer	Party not represented by a lawyer	Other	The data are electronically transferred to the Case Management System (CMS)	The data are manually re-entered in the CMS
Civil	95-100 %	95-100 %	✓				✓	✓		✓	
Administrative	95-100 %	95-100 %	✓				✓	✓		✓	
Criminal	95-100 %	95-100 %	✓			✓	✓			✓	

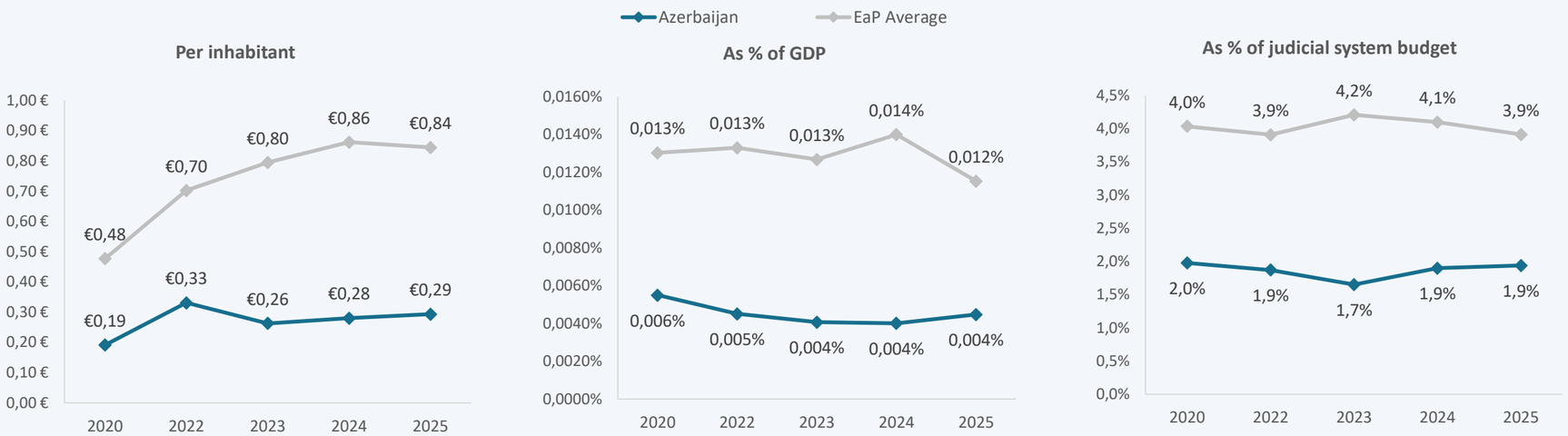
• Online consultation

Azerbaijan has not implemented online consultation of cases.

	Deployment rate	Usage rate	Content						Access				Consultation format		
			Case status	Documents	Notifications	Events/calendar	Court decision	Other	Public prosecutor (only for criminal)	Lawyer	Party not represented by a lawyer	Other	Electronic access at the court premises	Electronic access from any location	Other, please specify[MandatoryComment]
Civil	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP		NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP
Administrative	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP		NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP
Criminal	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP

Legal Aid in Azerbaijan in 2025 (Indicator 4)

Total implemented budget for Legal Aid between 2020 and 2025



Number of cases for which LA has been granted in 2025



0,33

per 100 inhabitants

EaP Average: 1,31

EaP Average: 1,31

In 2025, the implemented budget for legal aid spent by Azerbaijan was €2 999 938. Between 2020 and 2025, it increased from €0,19 to €0,29 per inhabitant. Compared to the EaP Average, which stood at €0,84 in 2025, this was substantially lower than the regional reference point.
Moreover, the implemented budget for legal aid as a percentage of GDP had a decrease, starting at 0,006% in 2020 and reaching 0,004% in 2025. This value was substantially lower than the EaP Average of 0,012%, indicating a considerably lower national investment in legal aid relative to economic output.
Looking at legal aid as a share of the judicial system budget, the percentage had a slight decrease from 2% in 2020 to 1,9% in 2025. In 2025, the share was substantially lower than the EaP Average of 3,9%.

• Organisation of the legal aid system (1/2)

Pursuant to Part I of Article 20 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Advocates and Advocacy Activity”, legal assistance provided by a lawyer at the expense of the State, without any restrictions, shall be ensured for persons detained in administrative proceedings, suspects or accused persons in criminal cases, victims of domestic violence, and in other cases provided by law for persons who do not have sufficient financial means to pay for legal assistance in court. Payment for legal assistance provided by a lawyer recognized as the legal successor of a deceased victim shall also be covered by the State budget of the Republic of Azerbaijan, except in cases where the court orders the convicted person to bear such expenses. The remuneration payable to a lawyer providing services to children who are victims of sexual exploitation or sexual violence, who independently exercise their rights in criminal proceedings and request free legal assistance, shall likewise be covered by the State budget, except in cases where the court orders the convicted person to bear the costs. In addition, the Civil Procedure Code and the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan also establish the grounds for the provision of free legal aid (at the expense of the State budget). Article 67-1.2 (Civil Procedure Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan) provides that individuals who need legal assistance in civil cases (in the district or Appeal) and second instances) but cannot afford to pay for a lawyer may be provided with one at the state’s expense. The court decides whether the person qualifies for this support. If legal help is needed before going to court, the local district (city) court handles the request based on an application from the person and a petition from the lawyers’ organization. If the case is already in court, the court hearing the case decides based on a written request from the individual. This provision explains the mechanism of provision of legal aid at the state’s expense both at court and at other legal services before the court. When it comes to criminal cases, a lawyer is appointed for a Low Income Person in court based on a court decision, or in the investigation process based on law enforcement organizations’ decision. Article 19 of the Criminal Procedure Code establishes regulations concerning the right to legal assistance and the guarantee of the right to defence. Accordingly, during the course of criminal prosecution, the inquiry officer, investigator, prosecutor or court must take measures to ensure the right of victims, suspects or accused persons to receive qualified legal assistance. The authority conducting the criminal proceedings must respect the right of the victim (private prosecutor), civil claimant, civil defendant or their legal representatives, as well as of a legal entity against which criminal-law measures are being applied, to make use of legal assistance provided by a representative invited by them in accordance with the procedure established by the Code.

Chapter 57 of the Criminal Procedure Code regulates the procedure for carrying out procedural and other actions in the provision of legal assistance in criminal cases, the general conditions for providing legal assistance within the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan, as well as the content of official requests and the rules governing their execution.

According to Article 14.4 of the Civil Procedure Code, persons participating in proceedings may defend their rights and interests themselves, except in cases where representation is mandatory by law. For the purpose of representation of their interests or the exercise of procedural rights, they may freely choose a lawyer in order to obtain professional legal assistance.

Pursuant to Article 3 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Lawyers and Legal Practice”, the main duties of the legal profession consist of defending the rights, freedoms and legally protected interests of natural and legal persons, as well as state bodies (institutions), and providing them with high-quality legal assistance.

Additionally, it should be noted that free legal assistance is provided to low-income persons by the Legal Clinic operating under the Justice Academy of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Furthermore, in order to enhance the quality of such legal assistance, a Memorandum of Cooperation in the field of free legal aid was signed in 2025 between the Justice Academy and the Bar Association of Azerbaijan.

Costs related to legal aid: According to Article 61 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, everyone has the right to receive high-quality legal assistance. In cases prescribed by law, legal assistance is provided free of charge at the expense of the state. Pursuant to Article 14.5 of the Civil Procedure Code, in cases defined by this Code, a person who does not have sufficient financial means to pay for a lawyer’s services has the right to receive professional legal assistance at the expense of the state for the representation of his or her interests and the exercise of procedural rights. According to Article 67-1 of the same Code, in civil proceedings before courts of first instance and courts of appeal, the issue of appointing a lawyer at the expense of the state for a person who requires professional legal assistance but lacks sufficient financial means for the representation of interests and the exercise of procedural rights is decided by the court. Such matters are examined by the district (city) court at the location of the lawyer’s organisation on the basis of an application by the person in need of legal assistance to apply to a court, and during court proceedings, by the court examining the case on the basis of a written request by a party to the proceedings. Taking into account the existence of preliminary evidence demonstrating the sufficient merits of the claim, the court, pursuant to Article 67-1.4 of the Code, adopts a reasoned ruling on exempting the persons specified in that provision from the payment of legal assistance fees provided by a lawyer and on covering such payment from the state budget of the Republic of Azerbaijan, or on refusing such exemption.

By Law No. 281-VIIQD of 31 October 2025 “On Amendments to the Civil Procedure Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Code for the Execution of Punishments of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan ‘On Lawyers and Legal Practice’”, amendments were introduced to Article 16 of the Law “On Lawyers and Legal Practice”, pursuant to which, during the period of membership in the Bar Association, a lawyer is obliged, in cases and in the manner prescribed by normative legal acts, to provide legal assistance at the expense of the state to persons who do not have sufficient financial means to pay for legal assistance.

• Organisation of the legal aid system (2/2)

Legal aid is applied to:

	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
Representation in court	✓	✓
Legal advice, legal assistance and other legal services	✓	✓

Legal aid is provided in various forms: legal representation (before courts and investigative authorities) and legal assistance (including assistance in drafting documents, applications, and complaints).

Criteria for granting or refusing legal aid

	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
Legal aid granted based on the financial situation	✓	✓
Legal aid may be refused for cases lacking merit, such as frivolous actions or those with no reasonable chance of success	✓	✓

The granting or refusal of a legal aid request depends on factors such as the applicant's financial situation, social status, and family composition (including monthly income, employment status, whether the person is a pensioner, a person with a disability, the number of dependents, etc.). Regarding the assessment and categories of low-income people: Persons belonging to certain categories mentioned below can be considered as "Low-income person": For example (categories): 1. persons entitled to receive social assistance and their family members; 2. members of the families of martyrs; 3. Group I and II disabled people; 4. January 20, disabled people of Karabakh, World War II, and Chernobyl; 5. war veterans; 6. victims of domestic violence; 7. abandoned children and orphaned minors; 8. Unemployed persons; 9. Persons whose per capita monthly income is below the minimum subsistence level for the country. Also, persons in addition to these categories may receive legal assistance at the expense of the state, depending on the actual circumstances of the case. More importantly, courts can immediately obtain this information by submitting an electronic request to government agencies and verify whether they are truly low-income people.

Legal aid is automatically granted

	Status of the recipient	Category of the case
Legal aid automatically granted	✓	✓

Articles 19.3-1 and 92.3 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan establish the cases in which the provision of a lawyer free of charge is mandatory.

Pursuant to these provisions, upon request of a child victim of sexual exploitation or sexual violence, or his/her legal representative, or a victim of domestic violence, the authority conducting the criminal proceedings must ensure the participation of a lawyer in the criminal process in order to provide free legal assistance.
Furthermore, the participation of a lawyer is mandatory where the suspect or accused is unable to independently exercise the right of defence due to total impairment of vision, hearing, or speech, or other serious impairments affecting speaking, hearing, or sight; suffers from a prolonged serious illness; or has intellectual disability, evident mental deficiency, or other disorders. It is also mandatory where the suspect or accused was a minor at the time of the commission of the offence; where the suspect or accused is charged with committing a particularly serious crime; and in other cases provided by law. In such circumstances, the authority conducting the criminal proceedings must ensure the participation of a lawyer in order to provide free legal assistance. According to Article 92 of the Criminal Procedural Code in criminal cases, a lawyer must be mandatorily appointed for certain categories of accused persons. For instance: 1. Minors; 2. Persons with physical or mental disabilities; 3. Persons accused of serious or especially serious crimes; 4. Persons who do not know the Azerbaijani language and so on. In all cases, a lawyer is appointed on the basis of a decision adopted by the law enforcement authority or the relevant court.

Timeframes of the procedure for granting legal aid

	Criminal cases (days)	Other than criminal cases (days)
Maximum duration prescribed in law/regulation	NAP	NAP
Actual average duration	1	NAP

There is no legally prescribed maximum timeframe for granting legal aid. Decisions are executed upon receipt by the Bar Association once the court or investigative authority issues the appointment. In practice, the actual duration is very short, as applications are processed without delay.

• Implemented budget for legal aid

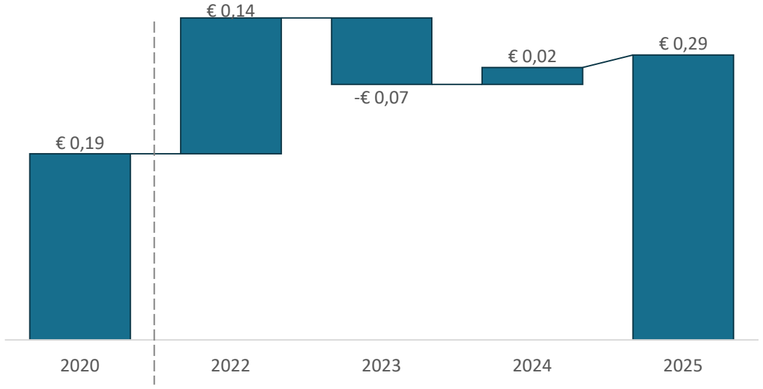
	Implemented budget for legal aid in €				Total implemented budget for legal aid per inhabitant		Total implemented budget for legal aid as % of GDP		Total implemented budget for legal aid as % of the judicial system budget	
	Total (a+b)	% Variation 2020 - 2025	Cases brought to court (a)	Cases not brought to court (b)	Azerbaijan	EaP Average	Azerbaijan	EaP Average	Azerbaijan	EaP Average
Total (1+2)	€2 999 938	57,1%	€1 605 861	€1 394 076	€0,29	€0,84	0,004%	0,012%	1,9%	3,9%
In criminal cases (1)	€2 979 464	NA	€1 585 388	€1 394 076						
In other than criminal cases (2)	€20 474	NA	€20 474	€0						

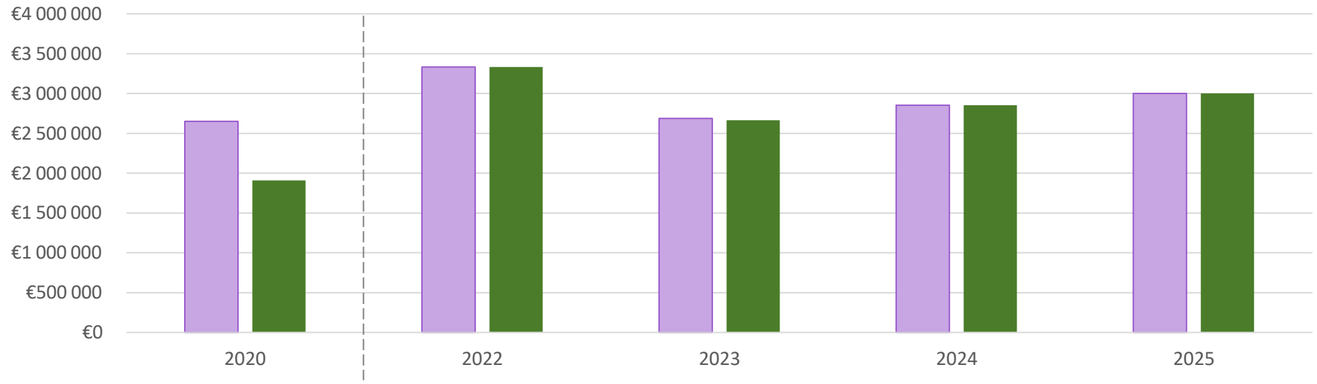
In 2025, the total implemented budget for legal aid, which covers both cases brought to court and those not brought to court, stood at €2 999 938. There has been a significant increase in the legal aid budget, with a 57,1% rise from 2020 to 2025. For criminal cases, Azerbaijan spent €2 979 464 while for other than criminal cases, it reported €20 474.

When evaluating the budget on a per capita basis, the amount dedicated to legal aid in 2025 was €0,29 per inhabitant, which was substantially lower than the EaP Average of €0,84. This suggests that, compared to the other beneficiaries, Azerbaijan allocated a lower share of its resources to legal aid per inhabitant.

Examining the legal aid budget as a proportion of the GDP, the figure stood at 0,004%. This percentage was substantially lower than the EaP Average of 0,0115%.

Additionally, the portion of judicial system budget set aside for legal aid was 1,9%, substantially lower than the EaP Average of 3,9%. Over the period between 2020 and 2025, the trend of this percentage stayed relatively stable.

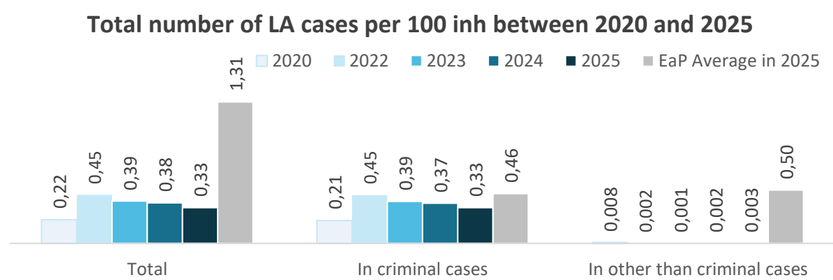




• Number of request for legal aid and number of cases for which legal aid has been granted

	Number of requests of legal aid				
	Total (a+b)			Cases brought to court (a)	Cases not brought to court (b)
	Absolute number	Per 100 inh.	EaP Average		
Total (1+2)	NA	NA	1,58	NA	NA
In criminal cases (1)	NA	NA	0,51	NA	NA
In other than criminal cases (2)	NA	NA	0,66	NA	NA

	Number of cases for which legal aid has been granted					Amount of LA granted per case (€)		
	Total (a+b)			Cases brought to court (a)	Cases not brought to court (b)	Total	Cases brought to court	Cases not brought to court
	Absolute number	Per 100 inh.	% Variation 2020 - 2025					
Total (1+2)	34 073	0,33	50,5%	23 169	10 904	88,0 €	69,3 €	127,8 €
In criminal cases (1)	33 809	0,33	55,0%	22 905	10 904	88,1 €	69,2 €	127,8 €
In other than criminal cases (2)	264	0,00	-67,6%	264	0	77,6 €	77,6 €	NA



In 2025, the number of cases for which legal aid was granted was 34 073, which was 50,5% more compared to 2020. The number of criminal cases were 33 809, and the other than criminal cases were 264. The total cases brought to court were 23 169, while the total cases not brought to court were 10 904. On average, the amount granted per legal aid case was €88.

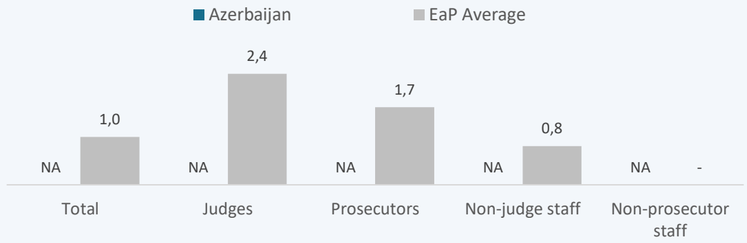
Training of judges and prosecutors in Azerbaijan in 2025 (Indicator 11)

Total budget for training per inhabitant



Average number of live training participations per professional

Please see the definition of the indicator on page 2.



Average number of participants per delivered training



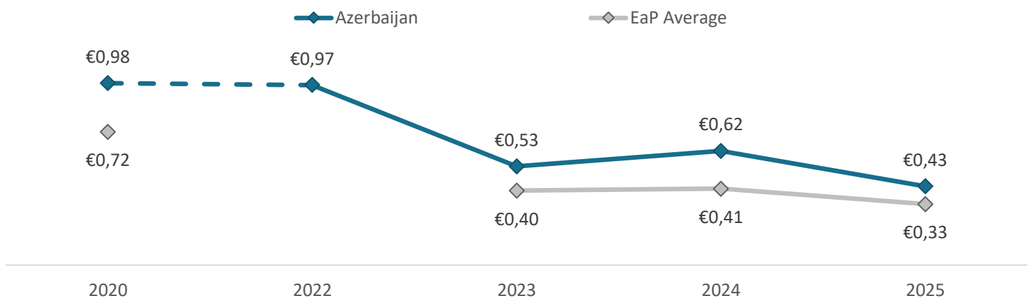
The total budget for judicial training in Azerbaijan was €0,43 per inhabitant, higher than the EaP Average of €0,33 per inhabitant.

• Budget for training

This part analyses the budget of training institution(s) for judges and prosecutors but also the budgets of courts and prosecutions dedicated to training (when applicable)

	Absolute Number	Per inhabitant		% Variation 2020 - 2025	% Variation 2024 - 2025
		Azerbaijan	EaP Average		
Total (1 + 2 + 3)	€4 349 291	€0,43	€0,33	-56,7%	-31,0%
(1) Budget of the training institution(s)	€2 867 118				
(2) Budget of the courts allocated to training	€1 452 240				
(3) Budget of the prosecution allocated to training	€29 933				

Evolution of the Total Training Budget per inhabitant from 2020 to 2025



In 2025, Azerbaijan spent in total €4 349 291 for judicial training, which represents €0,43 per inhabitant. This value was higher than the EaP Average of €0,33. Over the period between 2020 and 2025, it dropped by -56,7%, while it dropped by -31% compared to 2024.

The budget of the Judicial Academy of Republic of Azerbaijan was 1 677 199 Euro, which covers trainings for judges and non-judges staff. The budget expenditure for public prosecutors amounted to EUR 951,935, while the budget expenditure for non-public prosecutor staff amounted to EUR 237,984.

• Number of in-service live trainings and participants

Organisation of the trainings (number, duration and average number of participants on trainings)

	Live (in-person, hybrid, video conference) trainings (2025)						
	Number of delivered trainings	Delivered trainings in days	Number of participants	Average duration of trainings in days		Average number of participants per delivered training	
				Azerbaijan	EaP Average	Azerbaijan	EaP Average
Total	NA	NA	NA	NA	2,4	NA	8,8
Judges	NA	NA	NA	NA	1,6	NA	15,7
Prosecutors	NA	NA	NA	NA	2,7	NA	9,3
Non-judge staff	NA	NA	NA	NA	3,3	NA	46,1
Non-prosecutor staff	NA	NA	NA	NA	-	NA	-

Data for the calculation of the average duration of trainings in days for judges and prosecutors was not available for 2025.

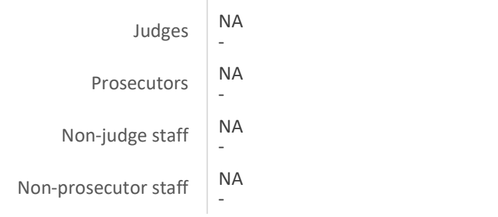
CEPEJ distinguishes these types of trainings:
"A live" training shall be understood as a training conducted in real time. This means that both trainers and participants are physically present in one location or several locations assisted with information technology (digital tools).
"Internet-based" trainings are all trainings that take place over internet, irrespective of the format of the training (such as trainings via specifically designed LMS - Learning Management System platforms, webinars, podcasts and other forms of downloadable lectures and self-learning digital tools). The internet-based training shall be understood as e-training that is implemented according to participant own pace and time of training.

Key: > Higher than the EaP Average
= Equal to the EaP Average
< Lower than the EaP Average

Indicators on training participation: Number of training participations per professional and unique participants

	Average number of live training participations per professional		Professionals attending at least one training (unique participants)		
			Number	% of total professionals by category	
	Azerbaijan	EaP Average		Azerbaijan	EaP Average
Total	NA	1,0	NA	NA	-
Judges	NA	2,4	NA	NA	-
Prosecutors	NA	1,7	NA	NA	-
Non-judge staff	NA	0,8	NA	NA	-
Non-prosecutor staff	NA	-	NA	NA	-



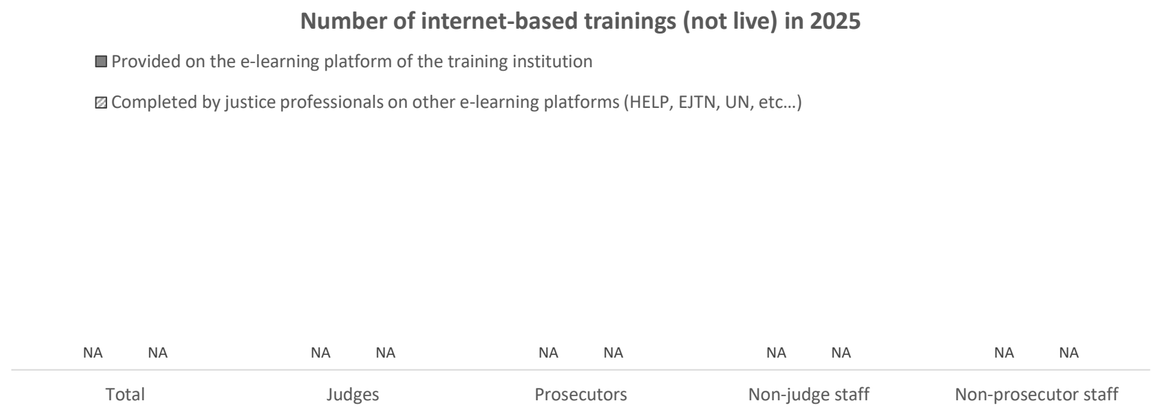


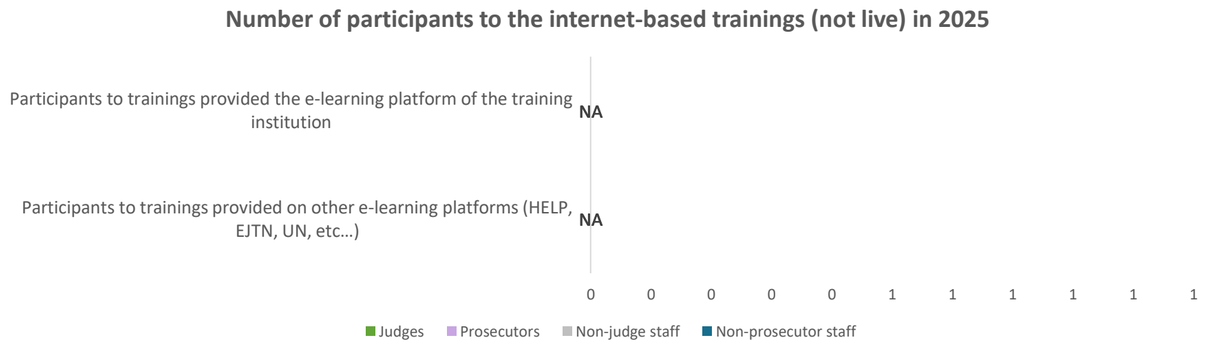
Average number of live training participations per professional

This indicator is calculated as follows: the number of participants in live trainings is divided by the number of professionals for that category. For example, the EaP Average for judges is 2,4. This means that, on average, each judge in the region participated to 2,4 live trainings. This indicator should also be analysed together with the indicator on percentage of professionals attending training, shown in the table as well. Indeed, this analysis allows to better understand how long a professional was trained on average and if all were trained.

• Number of in-service internet-based trainings and participants

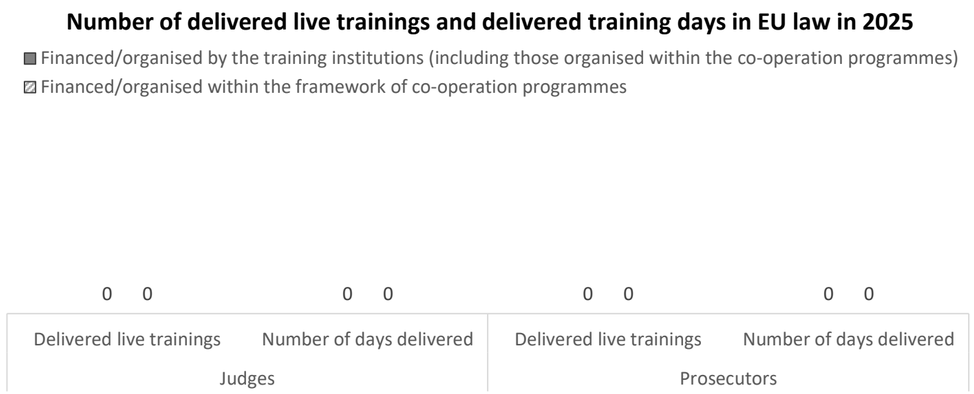
	Number of internet-based trainings (not live) in 2025			
	Provided on the e-learning platform of the training institution		Completed by justice professionals on other e-learning platforms (HELP, EJTN, UN, etc…)	
	Number of trainings	Number of participants	Number of trainings	Number of participants
Total	NA	NA	NA	NA
Judges	NA	NA	NA	NA
Prosecutors	NA	NA	NA	NA
Non-judge staff	NA	NA	NA	NA
Non-prosecutor staff	NA	NA	NA	NA



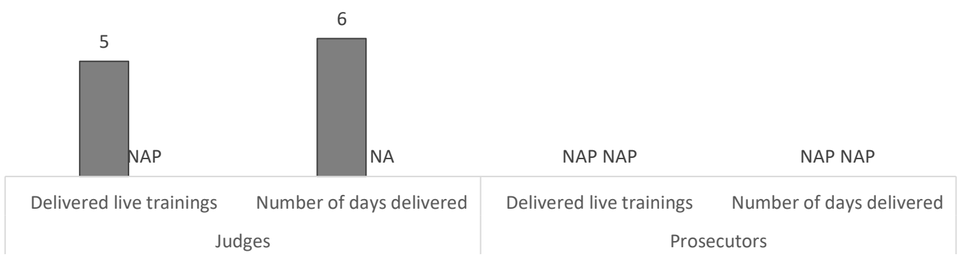


• Number of EU law training courses and participants

	Training in EU law			
	By the training institutions for judges and prosecutors		Within the framework of co-operation programmes	
Live trainings (2025)	**Judges**	**Prosecutors**	**Judges**	**Prosecutors**
Number of delivered live trainings	NA	NA	NA	NA
Number of days delivered	NA	NA	NA	NA
Number of participants	NA	NA		
Internet-based trainings (2025)				
Number of available trainings	NA	NA	NA	NA
Number of participants	NA	NA		



	Training in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights/European Convention on Human Rights			
	By the training institutions for judges and prosecutors		Within the framework of co-operation programmes	
Live trainings (2025)	**Judges**	**Prosecutors**	**Judges**	**Prosecutors**
Number of delivered live trainings	5	NAP	NAP	NAP
Number of days delivered	6	NAP	NA	NAP
Number of participants	151	NAP		
Internet-based trainings (2025)				
Number of available trainings	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP
Number of participants	NAP	NAP		



In 2025, judges in Azerbaijan attended a total of 5 live trainings in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights/European Convention on Human Rights. Judges participated in 6 training days with 151 participants.

Trainings reported above included:
1. Application of the European Convention on Human Rights and the case law of the European Court of Human Rights in Azerbaijan
2. “Women's access to justice: implementing and combating CoE standards in gender equality and preventing violence against women” implemented within the framework of the Partnership for Good Governance program
3. "International legal standards on access to information" organized by the Council of Europe Baku office within the framework of the project "Promoting media professionalism and freedom of information in Azerbaijan"
4. Application of the European Convention on Human Rights and the case law of the European Court of Human Rights in Azerbaijan
5. Issues of implementation of the international obligations of the Republic of Azerbaijan on human rights

• Type of trainings

		Types of training	
		Judges	**Prosecutors**
	Initial training	Compulsory for all	Compulsory for all
In-service training	**General**	Optional	Compulsory for all
	Specialised judicial functions	Optional	Compulsory for some
	Management functions of the court	Optional	Compulsory for all
	Use of computer facilities in courts	Optional	Compulsory for all
	On ethics	Optional	Compulsory for some
	On child-friendly justice	Optional	Compulsory for some
	On gender equality	Optional	Compulsory for some
	On prevention of corruption	Optional	Compulsory for some
	On conflicts of interest	Optional	Optional
	Other	Optional	Optional

Types of training offered to judges: Pursuant to Clause 13.1-2 of the Charter of the Justice Academy of the Ministry of Justice, approved by Presidential Decree No. 24 dated 21 November 2008, the duties of the Academy include providing training for persons appointed as judges for the first time, as well as ensuring the continuous training of judges.
According to Article 96 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Courts and Judges”, judges are appointed to judicial office for the first time for a period of three years. Immediately after their appointment, they are enrolled in professional training at the Justice Academy of the Ministry of Justice, in accordance with the procedure determined by the Judicial-Legal Council. Pursuant to Parts 2 and 3 of the “Rules on the Training of Judges Appointed for the First Time for a Period of Three Years”, approved by Decision No. 10 of the Judicial-Legal Council dated 5 November 2025, such training is conducted with the aim of enhancing the professional competence of judges. Judges appointed for the first time for a three-year term are enrolled, immediately after their appointment, in training programmes organised by the Justice Academy of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan in cooperation with the Judicial-Legal Council and the Judges Selection Committee. Upon completion of the training, within five (5) working days, the Justice Academy and the president of the court where the judge has undergone practical training submit to the Council a written assessment regarding the training outcomes for each judge. The judges' training program includes topics such as ethics, corruption, women's rights, etc. every year. However, judges' participation in these courses is voluntary. If, during the evaluation of the performance of judges, the performance of a judge is assessed as satisfactory (including involvement in training) by the Judges Evaluation Committee, then the participation of that judge in the relevant course may be considered necessary. According to Clause 3.6 of the Rules on the Evaluation of the Performance of Judges, when the performance of a judge is evaluated by the Council as “suitable for the position held”, issues related not only to the judge’s training needs, but also to promotion or transfer may be determined. “Training need” means that, although the judge does not have professional deficiencies as such, during the exercise of judicial functions he or she has committed certain characteristic shortcomings in the application of substantive and procedural legal norms. Such shortcomings may be remedied through participation in training courses, enabling the judge to continue his or her professional activity. In this context, the judge’s performance may still be considered satisfactory. As noted above, in such cases, participation in training courses relevant to the judge’s area of specialisation is considered necessary.

According to Clause 245.1 of the Rules on the Organization of Work, as a general rule, each employee of the **Prosecutor’s Office is involved in training activities** once every three years, as well as when changing their area of activity and when being promoted to a higher position. Prosecution offices have prosecutors specially trained in dealing with cases of domestic violence and sexual violence.

In Azerbaijan, **no sanction** is foreseen if judges and prosecutors do not attend the compulsory training sessions. Participation of judges in training is voluntary. If, during the evaluation of the performance of judges, the Judges Evaluation Committee assesses the performance of a judge as satisfactory (including involvement in training), the participation of that judge in the relevant course may be considered mandatory. However, in such cases, no penalties shall be imposed on such judges.

• Minimum number of compulsory trainings

	Initial compulsory training		In-service compulsory trainings	
	Minimum number of trainings	**Minimum number of days**	**Minimum number of trainings**	**Minimum number of days**
Judges	1	120	NAP	NAP
Prosecutors	1	20	29	75

• Quality of judicial training

Azerbaijan identifies (collects information about) future in-service training needs via:

Target audience itself	✓	Relevant judicial institutions	✗
Previous participants in trainings	✓	Ministry of Justice	✗
Trainers	✓	Other	✗
Courts/prosecutor's offices	✓		

Future in-service training needs are assessed annually.

The topics are determined by reviewing the results of those surveys and the annual reports of the Supreme Court.

In Azerbaijan, in-service trainings (seminars, workshops, round tables) are evaluated immediately after the training is delivered.
Judges are asked questions about the topics discussed in the training and the trainers. Judges write down their opinions. The survey is conducted anonymously.

The result of the training evaluation process is used:

To prepare a training evaluation report with recommendations	✗	To suppress a training course	✓
To improve the training course which, according to the report, needed improvements	✓	To introduce a new course	✓
To replace the trainers that failed to meet expected learning outcomes/were negatively evaluated	✓	Other	✗

Alternative Dispute Resolution in Azerbaijan in 2025 (Indicator 9)

Legal aid for court-related mediation or related mediation provided free of charge ✓

Mandatory informative sessions with a mediator ✓

Mandatory mediation with a mediator ✓

↓

Before/instead of going to court

Mediators

3,9

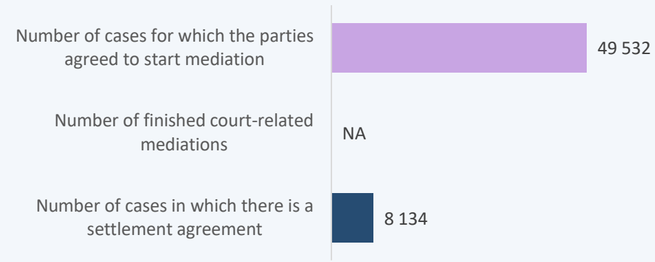
per 100 000 inhabitants

EaP Average: 15,9



35,6% female mediators

Total number of court-related mediations



In Azerbaijan, legal aid for court-related mediation or related mediation provided free of charge could be granted. The judicial system provides for mandatory mediation with a mediator before or instead going to court. There are also mandatory informative sessions with a mediator. In 2025, the number of mediators was 3,9 per 100 000 inhabitants, which was below the EaP Average (15,9 per 100 000 inhabitants). Only 35,6% were female mediators. There were in total 49 532 cases for which the parties agreed to start mediation and 8 134 mediation procedures which ended with a settlement agreement.

• Court-related mediation procedures

Court related mediation is the mediation which includes the intervention of a judge, a public prosecutor or other court staff who facilitates, directs, advises on or conducts the mediation process. For example, in civil disputes or divorce cases, judges may refer parties to a mediator if they believe that more satisfactory results can be achieved for both parties. In criminal law cases, a public prosecutor (or a judge) can refer a case to a mediator or propose that he/she mediates a case between an offender and a victim (for example to establish a compensation agreement). Such mediation may be mandatory either as a pre-requisite to proceedings or as a requirement of the court in the course of the proceedings.

Pursuant to Articles 4.5 and 4.6 of the Civil Procedure Code, where a contract, a contractual clause or any other document contains a provision (a mediation clause) requiring the parties to participate in mediation before applying to a court in relation to a dispute, the dispute may be submitted to the court only after compliance with that procedure.
In disputes arising from family and labour relations, participation in an initial mediation session, in accordance with the procedure established by the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Mediation”, is required before applying to a court.

According to Article 3.2 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Mediation", participation in the initial mediation session is required before applying to the court for disputes arising from family and labour relations. However, from December 2023, recourse to mediation in commercial disputes is completely voluntary.

• Other ADR methods

Mediation other than court-related mediation	Arbitration	Conciliation (if different from mediation)	Other ADR
✓	✓	✗	✗

According to Articles 1.1.1 and 3.1 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Arbitration”, arbitration is recognized as an alternative dispute resolution mechanism conducted by an arbitral tribunal for the purpose of issuing a legally binding decision, regardless of whether the proceedings are administered by a permanent arbitration institution.
The legislation also allows parties, in cases permitted by law, to entrust the resolution of disputes to a third party, including an arbitration institution.
In addition to arbitration, mediation outside the framework of court-related mediation also exists and is regulated under the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Mediation”.

• Mediators and court-related mediations

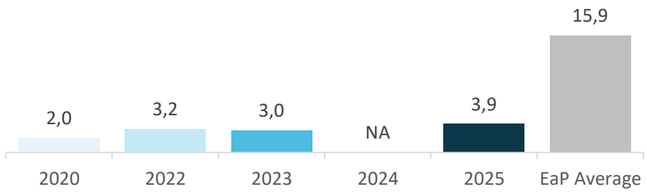
Requirements and procedure to become an accredited or registered mediator:

Persons with a higher education, over 25 years of age, and at least 3 years of work experience must participate in the training for the initial training of mediators at the Academy of Justice. Those who have successfully completed the training and obtained the appropriate certificate can become mediators by applying for membership of the Mediation Council. Persons who meet the requirements of the legislation can engage in mediation activities only after being admitted to the Mediation Council.

Accredited/registered mediators for court-related mediation			% Variation between 2020 and 2025
Absolute number	Per 100 000 inhabitants	EaP Average per 100 000 inhabitants	
396	3,9	15,9	103,1%

For reference only: the 2024 EU median is 19,2 mediators per 100 000 inhabitants.

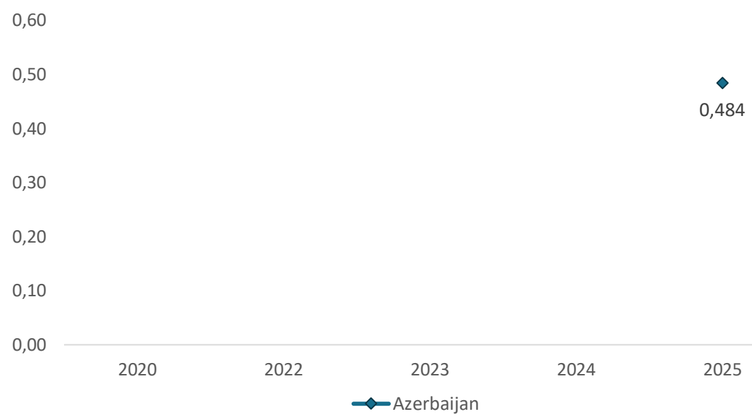
Accredited/registered mediators for court-related mediation per 100 000 inhabitants between 2020 and 2025



In 2025, the total number of mediators in Azerbaijan was 396, which is 103,1% more than in 2020.The number of mediators per 100 000 inhabitants was 3,9, which is less than the EaP Average of 15,9.

	Number of court-related mediations			Providers of court-related mediation services			
	Number of cases for which the parties agreed to start mediation	Number of finished court-related mediations	Number of cases in which there is a settlement agreement	Private mediator	Public authority (other than the court)	Judge	Public prosecutor
Total (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5+ 6)	49 532	NA	8 134				
1. Civil and commercial cases	938	NA	299	NAP	✓	NAP	NAP
2. Family cases	44 451	NA	7 394	NAP	✓	NAP	NAP
3. Administrative cases	1	NA	1	NAP	✓	NAP	NAP
4. Labour cases incl. employment dismissals	4 136	NA	434	NAP	✓	NAP	NAP
5. Criminal cases	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP
6. Consumer cases	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP
7. Other cases	6	NA	6				

Evolution of the number of court-related mediation for which parties agreed to start mediation per 100 inhabitants between 2020 and 2025



Court related mediations are provided by public authorities (other than the court). In 2025, mediation was most used for Family cases and Labour cases (including employment dismissals) (parties agreed to start mediation in 44 451 and 4 136 cases, respectively).

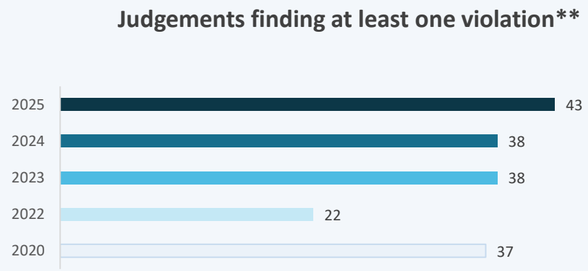
In Azerbaijan, it is possible to receive legal aid for court-related mediation or receive these services free of charge.

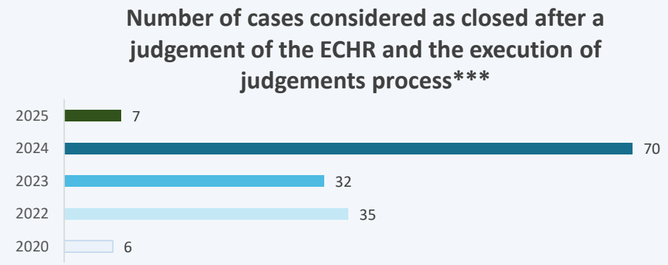
According to Article 1.0.3 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Mediation”, a mediator is defined as a natural person who meets the requirements established by the Law and who is engaged by the parties or appointed by a mediation organization to conduct the mediation process on a professional basis. Therefore, court-related mediation services in Azerbaijan are primarily provided by professional mediators through mediation organizations in the areas where mediation is applicable, including civil and commercial disputes, family disputes, administrative disputes, and labour disputes including employment dismissals. For this reason, the “Private mediator” column should not remain marked as NAP for the above-mentioned categories of disputes. In the context of Azerbaijan, the category “Public authority (other than the court)” does not refer to judges or prosecutors, but may relate to institutions or entities involved in supporting or organizing mediation-related activities where applicable. Furthermore, according to Article 11.1 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Mediation”, a mediation organization is a non-commercial legal entity established for the purpose of developing and improving mediation activities, organizing mediation services, appointing mediators, and ensuring the effective conduct of mediation procedures. Criminal and consumer cases remain outside the practical scope of court-related mediation services where applicable under the current system.

European Convention on Human Rights in Azerbaijan in 2025 (Indicator 10)

European Convention on Human Rights – Article 6 – Right to a fair trial (extract):

In the determination of their civil rights and obligations or of any criminal charge against him, everyone is entitled to a fair and public hearing within a reasonable time by an independent and impartial tribunal established by law. Judgment shall be pronounced publicly but the press and public may be excluded from all or part of the trial in the interests of morals, public order or national security in a democratic society, where the interests of juveniles or the protection of the private life of the parties so require, or to the extent strictly necessary in the opinion of the court in special circumstances where publicity would prejudice the interests of justice.





• ECHR

Follow-up at national level to the established violations by the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR)

Raising awareness	
ECHR case law is part of judge's and public prosecutors' training	✓
Publication of the ECHR case law on official judicial internet pages	✓
Annual report before the Parliament on ECHR case law	✗
Integration of the ECHR case law in the annual courts' report	✗
Other	✗

Information / dissemination of the ECHR decisions within the judicial system	
Within the Ministry of Justice	✗
Within other public institutions	✗
Within courts	✓
Within higher instance courts only	✓
Within public prosecution services	✗
Other	✗

The right to claim damages before national courts (besides the just satisfaction due by the State)	
The right to claim damages before national courts (besides the just satisfaction due by the State)	✓
The right to have the case reopened before national courts	✓
Request for annulment of the national court's judgment	✓
Other	✗

Number of applications to the ECHR, number of judgments, and number of cases considered as closed after a judgement of the ECHR

		2020	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications allocated to a judicial formation of the Court**		525	389	438	600	569
Judgements finding at least one violation**		37	22	38	38	43
Judgements finding at least one violation of the Article 6 of the ECHR	Right to a fair trial (1)	18	5	10	16	9
	Length of proceedings	0	1	0	1	0
	Non-enforcement	3	1	0	3	1

** Source: ECHR

(1) Figures in this line may include conditional violations.

	2020	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of cases considered as closed after a judgement of the ECHR and the execution of judgements process***	6	35	32	70	7

*** Source: Department for the Execution of Judgments of the ECHR

In 2025, the applications allocated to a judicial formation** for Azerbaijan were 569 (-31 less than the previous year). The judgements by the ECHR finding at least one violation for Azerbaijan were 43; whereas they were 38 in 2024. The number of cases considered as closed after a judgement of the ECHR and the execution of judgements process was 7 in 2025; whereas they were 70 in 2024.

Appointment, recruitment and promotion of judges and prosecutors in Azerbaijan in 2025 (Indicators 12 and 13)

Judges

Description of the specific procedure of recruitment

The process is managed by the Judicial-Legal Council (JLC) and the Judge Selection Committee. The Selection Committee of Judges has been founded for the purpose of selecting candidates for judicial post, and the procedure of selection of candidates for the judicial posts. The Regulation on the Selection Committee of Judges and the Rules for the selection of non-judge candidates for the vacant judicial posts have been prepared and adopted, and the composition of the Selection Committee of Judges has been formed.

Article 93 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Courts and Judges" sets out the requirements applicable to candidates for judicial office. In accordance with these requirements, pursuant to the first paragraph of Article 126 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan who have the right to participate in elections, possess higher legal education, and have more than five years of professional experience in the legal profession may be appointed as judges.

Persons who hold dual citizenship, have obligations towards other states, are clergy, have been declared legally incapable or with limited legal capacity by a court, are unable to perform judicial duties due to physical or mental impairments based on a medical opinion, have previously been convicted of a crime, whose criminal prosecution was terminated on non-exonerating grounds, or who have been dismissed from judicial office on disciplinary grounds may not be appointed as judges. It shall be noted that in accordance with the new rules for the selection of judges, equal conditions are established for all candidates, they take test exams in a single hall, and the results are announced immediately while being examined in front of the candidates in that hall.

Candidates for the position of judge who have passed the test exam held on the basis of transparent procedures and conducted in accordance with international standards, as well as those who are successful in written and oral exams are admitted to the next stage - initial long-term training courses. The results of the final interviews held after the successful completion of the internship period in the courts are evaluated by the Selection Committee of Judges and the candidates are presented to the Judicial-Legal Council.

Second way of becoming judge is via special procedure. According to Article 93-4 of the Law on Courts and Judges, outside procedures prescribed above, the person who meets the requirements provided by paragraph 1 Article 126 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, is prominent in the legal area, has 20 years of experience as a law practitioner and has high moral qualities, on proposal of the Judicial-Legal Council may be appointed to the high judicial posts according to the procedures provided by the legislation. They are not subject to examination and training at Justice Academy. In practice it is reported to be a very rarely used procedure.

Eligibility

WJA	Pre-conditions:	WJA **
✓	Basic law studies	✓
	Advanced law studies (masters or PhD)	
✓	Judicial exam/bar exam	
	Average grades in education	
✓	Years of work experience	
✓	Relevance of previous work experience	
✓	Citizenship	✓
	Age	✓
✓	Clean criminal record	✓
	Foreign language knowledge	
✓	Entry test / exam	✓
	Other	✓

** WJA = Without Judicial Academy

Prosecutors

Description of the specific procedure of recruitment

The recruitment procedure for prosecutors in Azerbaijan is carried out annually by the Prosecutor General's Office through a competitive examination process.

Application procedure:
- Candidates register electronically through the official HR portal of the Prosecutor General's Offic (https://hr.genprosecutor.gov.az/).
- During registration, candidates fill in required sections including personal information, educatio knowledge, criminal record, military service, relatives, work experience, and attach all required documents.
- Required documents include the application form, personal record sheet, CV, ID card, highe education diploma (with recognition certificate if obtained abroad), diploma supplement, and a 4x6 cm colour photo on a white background.
- All information must be complete and accurate, as applications can only be submitted once.

Eligibility criteria:
- Applicants must be Azerbaijani citizens under the age of 30.
- They must hold a higher legal education recognized in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
- They must be fluent in the state language and have the right to participate in elections.
- Certain categories are disqualified by law, including dual citizens, clergy, persons with restricte legal capacity, individuals with severe physical or mental health issues, those with a criminal record, and those who have previously been dismissed from prosecutorial positions for misconduct.

Examination procedure:
- After verification of applications, a test examination is conducted.
- Candidates who score 70 points or higher on the test are admitted to the written examinatic stage.
- Information regarding the exam time, place, questions, and legal references is publicly announce through mass media and on the official websites of the Prosecutor General's Office (www.prokurorluq.gov.az, www.genprosecutor.gov.az).

Selection and appointment:
- Recruitment is based strictly on merit and compliance with legal requirements.
- Successful candidates are appointed as prosecutors according to their test and written exar results.

This procedure ensures transparency, equal opportunity, and selection of highly qualified candidates, in the view of authorities.

Authority competent during the entry selection (both via or without Judicial Academy)

Judicial Council

The Judicial-Legal Council forms Judges' Selection Committee consisting of 11 members, more than half of the 11 members of the Judges Selection Committee are judges. The other members represent the executive power (Ministry of Justice), the Judicial-Legal Council administrative body, the Apparatus of the Milli Majlis (Parliament), the advocacy and the legal scholar.

In Azerbaijan, there exists the possibility for non pre-selected judge candidates to appeal this decision. The body competent to decide on appeal is the Judicial Council and the Court.

The Selection Committee of Judges adopts a decision." An appeal may be filed with the Judicial-Legal Council against a decision of the Selection Committee of Judges within 10 days from the date that decision is presented. The appeal shall be reviewed at a meeting of the Judicial-Legal Council within 1 month from the date of its receipt, and the Committee's decision shall be upheld, revoked, or amended.
In accordance with Article 18.1 of the Law 'On the Judicial-Legal Council', a judge or a candidate for a judicial office may lodge an appeal with the Plenum of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the correctness of the application of legislation on legal issues, against decisions adopted by the Judicial-Legal Council concerning them, including decisions on disciplinary proceedings (except for the decisions provided for in Article 17.4 of this Law), within twenty days from the date the said decisions are presented to the judge or the candidate for a judicial
According to Clause 3.39 of the "Rules for the Selection of Candidates for Vacant Judicial Positions," approved by Decision No. 5 of the Judicial-Legal Council dated August 4, 2025: A candidate dissatisfied with the results of the test examination may apply to the Selection Committee of Judges within 3 working days from the time the result is announced; if the test examination is conducted by the Centre [State Examination Centre], the application may be submitted to the appeals commission established by the Centre. The application shall be reviewed with the participation of relevant specialists, and a reasoned response shall be provided to the candidate. If it is discovered that the candidate's results were not calculated correctly, a recalculation is performed, and the candidate's examination results are updated. Following the review of the application, a relevant decision regarding the results is adopted. If the investigation determines that the candidate has achieved the passing score, a decision is made to admit them to the next stage. 4.12. A candidate dissatisfied with the results of the written examination may apply to the Selection Committee of Judges within 5 days from the time the result is announced to clarify the dispute. The matter shall be investigated with the participation of the applicant. This provision does not deprive the candidate of the right to appeal under the general procedure. 4.14. An appeal may be filed with the Judicial-Legal Council against a decision of the Selection Committee of Judges within 10 days from the date that decision is presented. The Judicial-Legal Council shall review such appeals in accordance with the procedure established by the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On the Judicial-Legal Council." In accordance with Article 18.1 of the Law 'On the Judicial-Legal Council', a judge or a candidate for a judicial office may lodge an appeal with the Plenum of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the correctness of the application of legislation on legal issues, against decisions adopted by the Judicial-Legal Council concerning them, including decisions on disciplinary proceedings (except for the decisions provided for in Article 17.4 of this Law), within twenty days from the date the said decisions are presented to the judge or the candidate for a judicial office.

Authority competent during the entry selection (both via or without Judicial Academy)

Prosecution services

The **Prosecutor General Office** carries out the prosecutors selection process.

In Azerbaijan, there exists the possibility for non pre-selected prosecutor candidates to appeal this decision. The body competent to decide on appeal is the Prosecutorial services.

Judges

Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Courts and Judges", article 93-3. Candidates for judicial office are selected based on a test examination, a written examination, and an interview. The examinations and the interview are organized by the Selection Committee of Judges.

Selection

WJA	Criteria	WJA
	Results/score from Judicial Academy training Additional testing for non-Academy graduates	✓
✓	Relevance of previous work experience	
✓	Duration of previous work experience	
✓	Interview evaluation	
	Performance appraisal (from previous employer)	
✓	Other	
	Automatic selection of each successful candidate from the Judicial Academy / Every pre-selected experienced candidate outside the Judicial Academy	

Prosecutors

Examinations for the prosecution authorities are organized by the Prosecutor's Office itself, not by a Judicial Academy. In fact, there is no separate judicial academy in Azerbaijan. There is a Scientific and Educational Centre, which operates as a department within the Prosecutor General's Office. This Centre organizes training programs for applicants who have already passed all three stages of the examination process. After completing the training, they are appointed as investigators or assistant prosecutors by the Prosecutor General.

Authority competent during the entry selection (both via or without Judicial Academy)

Judicial Council

In accordance with Article 93-2 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Selection Committee of Judges is a body formed by the Judicial-Legal Council that carries out the selection of candidates for the position of judge.

Authority competent during the entry selection (without judicial Academy)

Prosecution services

Prosecution Services - together with State Exam Centre Officials in the first stage (multiple test-choice exam)

Judges

Authority competent for the final appointment

Parliament and Executive power

Has a right to appoint some and reject some among the selected (proposed)

Appointment

Prosecutors

Authority competent for the final appointment

Other body

Only confirms all the selected (proposed) candidates

According to Article 93-4 of the Law "On Courts and Judges", when judges are appointed under a special procedure, their appointment to appellate and cassation instances is carried out by a decision of the Milli Majlis (Parliament).

In accordance with Article 95 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan, upon the recommendation of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, appoints the judges of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and the courts of appeal of the Republic of Azerbaijan." "In accordance with Article 109 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan appoints the judges of other courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan."

In Azerbaijan, there is no possibility for non-appointed judge candidates to appeal against this decision.

The competition commission prepares a list of candidates who have passed the third stage, and those candidates are appointed to the position.

In Azerbaijan, there exists the possibility for non-selected prosecutor candidates to appeal against this decision by addressing the Prosecutor General.

The Other body is competent to decide on the appeal

Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Courts and Judges", article 93. Persons with dual citizenship, obligations to other states, clergymen, those whose incapacity or limited capacity has been confirmed by a court, those unable to perform judicial duties due to physical or mental disorders based on a medical report, those previously convicted of a crime, those whose criminal prosecution was terminated without exonerating grounds, or those dismissed from judicial office as a disciplinary measure cannot be judges."
In accordance with Paragraph 5.9 of the Rules for the Selection of Candidates for Vacant Judicial Offices, a psychologist may be involved in the selection process of candidates for judicial office. The psychologist provides an opinion on the psychological profile of the candidate.

Integrity checks through:

- ✓ **Criminal records** ✓
- **Disciplinary proceedings and sanctions**
- **Intelligence investigation**
- **Integrity assessment test**
- ✓ **Psychological assessment**
- ✓ **Other**

In Azerbaijan, judges are appointed to office for an undetermined period, until the compulsory retirement at the age of for Supreme Court judges is 68, and for judges of other courts is 66. There is also a probation period (see below). The Judicial Council is competent to decide on the appeal.
In accordance with Article 13 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan 'On the Judicial-Legal Council', the Judicial-Legal Council evaluates the performance of judges appointed for an initial term of 3 years at the end of that period. The performance of judges is evaluated by the Judges Evaluation Committee based on collected materials, utilizing quantitative indicators (judicial workload and the ability to manage it) and qualitative indicators (the quality of judicial acts and court proceedings management, communication skills, judicial ethics, and discipline) that allow for the determination of their level of professionalism. The performance of judges is assessed by taking into account the results of the monitoring of court activities, information from the Office of the Judicial-Legal Council, the judge whose performance is being evaluated, as well as information from the chairpersons of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan, appellate courts, and courts of first instance, along with the number of cases referred to mediation in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan 'On Mediation'. Information held by the members of the Judicial-Legal Council may also be utilized during the evaluation of judges' performance. The Judges Evaluation Committee prepares a final opinion on the results of the judge's performance evaluation and submits it to the Judicial-Legal Council. The Judicial-Legal Council discusses the final opinion received from the Judges Evaluation Committee at its meeting and adopts a decision on the approval of the results of the judge's performance evaluation.

In accordance with Article 18.1 of the Law 'On the Judicial-Legal Council', a judge or a candidate for a judicial office may lodge an appeal with the Plenum of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the correctness of the application of legislation on legal issues, against decisions adopted by the Judicial-Legal Council concerning them, including decisions on disciplinary proceedings (except for the decisions provided for in Article 17.4 of this Law), within twenty days from the date the said decisions are presented to the judge or the candidate for a judicial office.

In Azerbaijan, prosecutors are appointed to office for an undetermined period, until the compulsory retirement at the age of 65. There is no probation period for them.

Promotion

Judges

Authority competent for the promotion

Judicial Council

According to the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, judges of the courts of first instance are appointed by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and judges of higher courts are appointed by the Milli Majlis upon the submission of the President. However, in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On the Judicial-Legal Council” (Article 12.0.4), the exclusive powers of the Council include the submission of proposals for the reassignment of all judges and their promotion. The promotion of judges, as well as their appointment to higher courts is carried out by the Judicial-Legal Council based on the results of the evaluation of their performance.
In accordance with Article 12.0.4. of the Law 'On the Judicial-Legal Council' The Judicial-Legal Council submits proposals to the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the transfer of judges to other positions, their promotion, the extension of their term of office, the appointment of chair, deputy chair, and chair of judicial chambers of the courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan from among the appointed judges (with the exception of the chairperson of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Supreme Court of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic), as well as the dismissal of these persons or their transfer to other positions. The judges' promotion procedure is based on assessment of judges performance.

In accordance with Article 12.0.4. of the Law 'On the Judicial-Legal Council' The Judicial-Legal Council submits proposals to the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the transfer of judges to other positions, their promotion, the extension of their term of office, the appointment of chairperson, deputy chairperson, and chairperson of judicial chambers of the courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan from among the appointed judges (with the exception of the chairperson of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Supreme Court of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic), as well as the dismissal of these persons or their transfer to other positions.

In accordance with Article 13 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan 'On the Judicial-Legal Council': 13.11. When adopting a decision on the evaluation of the performance of judges, only the judicial members of the Judicial-Legal Council shall participate in the voting. A meeting of the Judicial-Legal Council regarding the evaluation shall be quorate if more than half of the Council's judicial members who are entitled to participate in the voting are present. The decision shall be adopted by a simple majority vote of the judicial members of the Judicial-Legal Council participating in the voting. In the event of a tie, the vote of the person chairing the meeting of the Judicial-Legal Council shall be casting. 13.12. At the conclusion of the evaluation of a judge's performance, one of the following outcomes shall be determined: 13.12.1. the performance of the judge is highly evaluated; 13.12.2. the performance of the judge is evaluated as satisfactory; 13.12.3. there are professional deficiencies in the performance of the judge. 13.17. In the case provided for in Article 13.16.1 of this Law, a decision on submitting a proposal regarding the appointment of the court president, vice-president, or chairman of the college to an administrative office shall be adopted by the Judicial-Legal Council.

Procedure

Competitive test / Exam	
Previous individual evaluations	✓
Other procedure(s) (interview or other)	
No special procedure	

Criteria

Years of experience	✓
Professional skills (and/or qualitative performance)	✓
Performance (quantitative)	✓
Subjective criteria (e.g. integrity, reputation)	
Other	
No criteria	

Prosecutors

Authority competent for the promotion

Other body

Promotion of prosecutors is regulated in the Prosecutor’s Office Act (POA), the Act on Service in the Prosecutor’s Office (POSA) and the Civil Service Act, according to which performance appraisal constitutes one of the key principles of the civil service, to which all prosecutors belong. Prosecutors have the right to be promoted, following successful service in a particular grade for one to two years, on average (Article 32, POA). Vacancies are publicly advertised, also at the medium and senior level. Applications to any vacant position are managed by the Personnel Department of the Prosecutor General’s Office that makes relevant submissions to the Prosecutor General, based on the performance indicators of the applicant and his/her superiors’ references. Performance indicators for promotion within the grade include:
1. diligence; 2. professional qualifications; 3. work results; and 4. personal qualities (Article 11.3, POSA).
All prosecutors, including senior ones (employees of the Prosecutor’s Office holding positions corresponding to the 3rd-9th grade, except the Prosecutor General, his/her first deputy, deputies, the Director of the Anti-Corruption Directorate, Military Prosecutor and Prosecutor of Nakhichivan Autonomous Republic who hold positions corresponding to the 1st and 2nd grade) undergo performance evaluation every five years by Attestation Commissions composed of prosecutors representing the Prosecutor General’s Office, the Military Prosecutor’s Office, the Baku Prosecutor’s Office and the NAR Prosecutor’s Office, respectively. Evaluation is conducted via interview. Any change in position (promotion, transfer, demotion or dismissal) is to be formalised in a written and reasoned order issued by the Prosecutor General.

In Azerbaijan, the decision on the promotion of judges cannot be appealed.

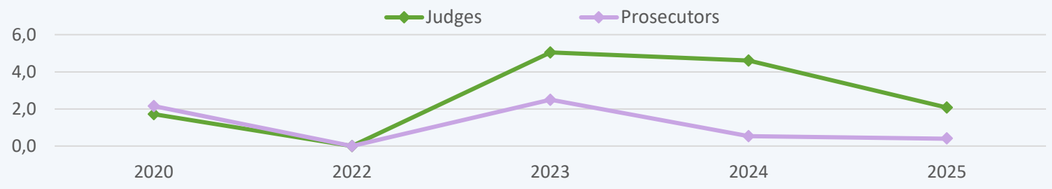
Article 110 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Courts and Judges” provides that where judges perform their duties exemplarily, serve for a long period in an impeccable manner, or make significant contributions to increasing the efficiency of the administration of justice through their activities, the Judicial-Legal Council may apply the following incentive measures in respect of them: awarding a valuable gift; granting an honorary certificate; awarding an honorary badge; and submitting a proposal to the relevant executive authority regarding the decoration of the judge.
Furthermore, Article 97 of the same Law stipulates that, in accordance with Article 127(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, judges are irremovable during their term of office. Judges may not be transferred to another position without their consent. Except for the grounds established by this Law, judges may neither be removed from office nor may their powers be terminated. It is precisely on the basis of the requirements of this provision that the rewarding of judges (including promotion in office) is carried out with the consent of the judge concerned.
In addition, Clause 1.7 of the “Rules on the Evaluation of the Performance of Judges” provides that where a judge applies for promotion or transfer, or where there is information regarding professional shortcomings, including deficiencies of a systematic nature in the application of substantive and procedural legal norms identified through court monitoring activities, the performance of that judge shall be evaluated outside the regular schedule, in accordance with the requirements of these Rules.

In Azerbaijan, the decision on the promotion of prosecutors could be appealed.

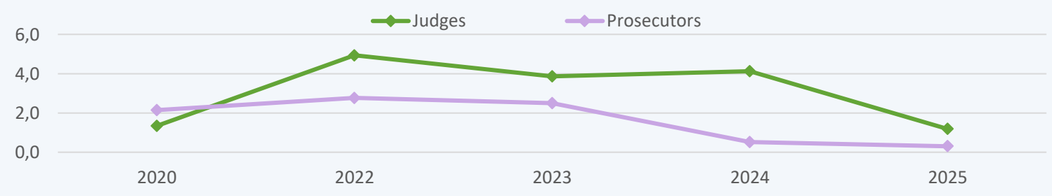
The Prosecutor General is competent to decide on the appeal

Accountability in Azerbaijan in 2025 (Indicator 14)

Number of initiated disciplinary proceedings against judges/prosecutors between 2020 and 2025 (per 100 judges/100 prosecutors)



Number of disciplinary sanctions against judges/prosecutors between 2020 and 2025 (per 100 judges/100 prosecutors)



• Promotion of integrity and prevention of corruption

Legal provisions guaranteeing the independence of judges and prosecutors

Legal provisions which guarantee the **independence of judges**: 1. Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan - Chapter VII, Article 125: Judiciary; Law on Courts and Judges.
Legal provisions which guarantee the **independence of prosecutors**: 1. Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan Article 133. The Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan I. The Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan supervises the implementation and application of laws in accordance with the procedures and cases provided by law; initiates criminal cases and conducts investigations in cases provided by law; represents the state prosecution in court; files lawsuits in court; and issues protests against court decisions. II. The Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan is a unified centralized body based on the subordination of territorial and specialized prosecutors to the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan. III. The Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan is appointed and dismissed by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan with the consent of the National Assembly of the Republic of Azerbaijan. 2. Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On the Prosecutor's Office" Article 7. Prohibition of interference with the activities of the Prosecutor's Office and disrespect toward it Any direct or indirect restriction, influence, threat, unlawful interference with the lawful activities of the Prosecutor's Office by any person for any reason, as well as disrespect toward the Prosecutor's Office, is prohibited and entails liability as provided by the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Number of criminal cases and sanctions against judges and prosecutors in 2025 was not available

	Number of initiated cases	Number of completed cases	Number of sanctions pronounced
Judges	NA	NA	NA
Prosecutors	NA	NA	NA

Measures to prevent corruption

	Gift rules	Specific training	Internal controls	Safe complaints mechanisms	Other	No mechanism in place
Judges	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Prosecutors	✓	✓	✓	✓		

For the latest GRECO Evaluation Report on Prevention of corruption in respect of judges and prosecutors, please click https://www.coe.int/en/web/greco/evaluations/round-4

Integrity of court staff

In Azerbaijan, the laws "On Ethical conduct" and "On Civil servant" of the Republic of Azerbaijan provide for various breaches of integrity in respect of court staff, including conflicts of interest, unauthorized disclosure of confidential or sensitive information on court cases and procedures, non-timely or incomplete asset declarations and breaches of Codes of Conduct.

Training on ethics and prevention of corruption

	Training on ethics	Training on prevention of corruption
Judges	Optional	Optional
Prosecutors	Compulsory for some	Compulsory for some

The judges' training program includes topics such as ethics, fight against corruption.

According to Clause 245.1 of the Rules on the Organization of Work, as a general rule, each employee of the Prosecutor's Office is involved in training activities once every three years, as well as when changing their area of activity and when being promoted to a higher position.

Code of Ethics

In Azerbaijan, there are Codes of Ethics applicable to judges and prosecutors, respectively. For **judges**, a counselling group was established at the Conference of the Union of Public Associations of Judges held on 20/02/2016, as a result of discussions on the Ethics Code of Judicial Conduct. The Group operates on a continuous basis, providing counselling on ethical issues upon request and on a confidential basis. Its members are only judges. It is composed of three experienced judges, representing all court instances (district court, appellate court and Supreme Court). Its guidelines and/or opinions are not publicly available and, in 2025, the data on the number of the guidelines/opinions it issued was not available.

For **prosecutors,** these rules are compiled in a single regulation called the "Rules on the Organization of Work." The code is further developed each year through numerous amendments. An Ethical Conduct Commission has been established in the Prosecutor General's Office. The Commission has 7 (seven) members, who are appointed by the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan from among the candidates elected by the Board of the Prosecutor General's Office. Its members are only prosecutors. Its guidelines and/or opinions are publicly available and, in 2025, it provided 0 guidelines/opinions.

Recusal of judges

In Azerbaijan, there exists a procedure to effectively challenge a judge (recusal), if a party considers that the judge is not impartial.

Total number of initiated procedures	NA
Total number of recusals pronounced	NA

any participant of the criminal process has objected before directly objecting to the circumstances that exclude the participation of the relevant person in the process. it is objected when it is proved that it is.
Objection to the judge (court composition) must be justified. Briefly an objection may be made if there are grounds for objection appears during the court review and if it is proved. Article 109 of the Code defines the range of circumstances that exclude a person from participating as a judge in criminal proceedings. According to Article 109.4 of the Code, the opinion of the participants of the criminal process and the protested judge is studied, and the relevant decision is made by considering the self-protest or the protest.

It was not possible to generate the number of recusals for judges directly from the Electronic Court Information System during 2025. Starting from the April 2026, the new upgraded version has been initiated and now new amendments and updates are being done for the improvement of the system.

Transparency in distribution of court cases

Organisation of the distribution of court cases	
Automatic allocation	✓
Random allocation	✓
Other type of allocation	
Specific allocation for priority cases	
Possibility to exclude a judge from the allocation	✓
All interventions on the system irreversibly logged / registered	✓

In Azerbaijan, court cases are, in principle, automatically allocated. Typically, there is a predefined list of judges and cases, which are assigned sequentially according to the order on the list (chronologically). Alternatively, cases may be randomly allocated by a computer algorithm. There are no exceptions to the general method allocating of priority cases. The system also anticipates different situations in which a judge could be excluded from the allocation of cases (illness, business trip, or vacation, e.g.). Finally, the system provides for all alterations to the allocation process to be logged/registered.

	Reasons for reassigning a case	Number of reassignments
Conflict of interest declared by the judge or by the parties	✓	NA
Recusal of the judge or requested by the parties	✓	NA
Physical unavailability (illness, longer absence)	✓	NA
Other		NA

Method to reassign a case	
Automatic allocation	✓
Random allocation	✓
By discretion of a president of a court	
Other	

In Azerbaijan, the reassignment of cases is required to be reasoned.

• Disciplinary procedures against judges/prosecutors

Judges

The Judicial-Legal Council is entrusted to initiate disciplinary proceedings against judges.

At the same time, the Ministry of Justice is also entrusted to send any information received about the violation of procedural rights of citizens in courts of first and second instances to the Judicial-Legal Council. According to the article 112 of the Law on Courts and judges only Judicial-Legal Council shall be entitled to institute disciplinary proceedings against judge. Chairpersons of the Supreme Court, courts of appeal, and the relevant executive body shall be bound, within their competence, to apply to the Judicial-Legal Council with motion to institute disciplinary proceedings, if there are elements on which the initiative of opening of a disciplinary procedure can be based or grounds for calling to disciplinary liability.

Who is authorised to initiate of a disciplinary proceedings

Relevant Court / Head of the organisational unit or hierarchical superior	
High Court (Supreme Court) / Prosecutor General (State public prosecutor)	✓
Judicial Council / Public Prosecutorial Council	✓
Disciplinary court	✗
Disciplinary body	
Parliament	

Prosecutors

In Azerbaijan, the Prosecutor General is the authority with disciplinary powers over prosecutors.

According to Articles 27.1, 27.2, and 27.12 of the Law “On Service in the Prosecutor’s Office,” disciplinary sanctions are imposed by the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The Prosecutor General may delegate, within certain limits, the authority to decide on the imposition of disciplinary sanctions to the Military Prosecutor of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Prosecutor of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic, and the Prosecutor of the City of Baku.

A judge may present an argumentation in hearing and written submission. He/she has also the possibility to appeal against the disciplinary decision.

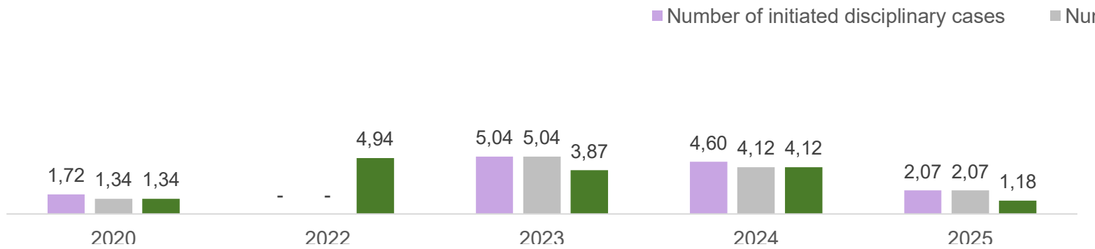
The Higher Court / Supreme Court is the authority competent to decide on the appeal

Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan

A prosecutor may present an argumentation in hearing. He/she has also the possibility to appeal against the disciplinary decision.

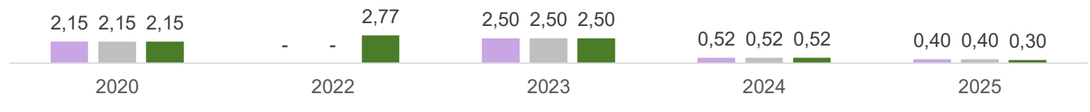
The Prosecutor General is the authority competent to decide on the appeal

Total number of initiated and completed disciplinary cases and number of sanctions pronounced against judges between 2020 and 2025 (per 100 judges)



As a result of disciplinary proceedings, five judges were issued an admonition. In six disciplinary proceedings, a relevant decision was adopted to terminate the disciplinary proceedings.

Total number of initiated and completed disciplinary cases and number of sanctions pronounced against prosecutors between 2020 and 2025 (per 100 prosecutors)



The Service Investigations Department examined disciplinary proceedings concerning 4 public prosecutors. In respect of 1 of them, no disciplinary liability was established, while the collected documents regarding the other 3 were forwarded to the Disciplinary Commission. Of those individuals, 1 was placed at the disposal (dismissed from office), and 2 received reprimands.

• Declaration of assets

Declaration of assets for judges and prosecutors

In Azerbaijan, the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Approval of the Rules for Submission of Financial Information by Public Officials”, the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Combating Corruption”, and the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Courts and Judges” require an assets declaration.

According to Article 5 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Combating Corruption”, public officials shall submit, in the manner prescribed by legislation, the following information: 1.information on their annual income, indicating its source, type and amount; 2. information on property constituting an object of taxation; 3. information on deposits in credit institutions, securities and other financial assets; 4. information on participation as a shareholder or founder in the activities of companies, foundations and other economic entities, as well as on their ownership share in such entities; 5.information on debts exceeding 5,500 manats; 6. information on other financial and property-related liabilities exceeding 1,100 manats.

Article 6.1 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Approval of the Rules for Submission of Financial Information by Public Officials.” Article 6. Timeframes for the submission of financial information: 6.1. The declaration shall be submitted annually from 1 January to 30 January. 6.2. Public officials shall submit a declaration within 30 days from the date they commence the performance of their duties. 6.3. Where public officials have submitted a declaration during the year in connection with the performance of another position, they shall not submit a new declaration. 6.4. Public officials shall submit a declaration within the period specified in Article 6.1 of these Rules during the one-year period following their dismissal from office,

The information referred to in Article 5.1 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Combating Corruption” shall also include information on the property, financial and property-related liabilities of the family members of public officials (husband or wife, as well as parents and children living together with him/her).Article 5.2 of the Law (mentioned above): information concerning the property, financial and property-related liabilities of family members is also reflected in a single declaration. It should be noted that, with regard to children and parents, the law considers as the main condition whether those persons live together with him/her.

According to Article 3.1 of the aforementioned Law, financial information is to be submitted by judges to the Commission on Combating Corruption of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In its activities, the Commission is guided by the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, international treaties to which the Republic of Azerbaijan is a party, the laws and other normative legal acts of the Republic of Azerbaijan, as well as the Statute approved by the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated 3 May 2005. The Commission is established and operates with a composition of 15 members. Five members of the Commission are appointed by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, five members by the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and five members by the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Article 6.5 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Approval of the Rules for Submission of Financial Information by Public Officials” provides that public officials shall be held liable in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan if they fail, without valid reason, to submit the declaration on time, or intentionally submit it in an incomplete or distorted form. The verification of financial information is regulated by Article 8 of the Law. Article 8. Verification of Financial Information 8.1. The bodies receiving financial information shall determine, upon receipt of the declaration, whether it has been duly completed. 8.2. The bodies receiving financial information may conduct a preliminary examination of the information indicated in the declaration. During the preliminary examination, the accuracy and completeness of the information contained in the declaration, as well as discrepancies between the financial information indicated in the latest declaration and the declarations previously submitted, shall be determined.

There is no register of the declaration of assets. The declarations are not published. Authorities reported that "there is no specific legal provision explicitly confirming or denying the existence of such a register." Article 9 of the aforementioned Law provides that the financial information submitted by a public official shall constitute a private life secret. The bodies receiving financial information shall ensure the confidentiality of such information. The said information may be requested from those bodies by the Commission, as well as on the basis of reasoned decisions of the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan or the courts in connection with corruption-related offences. The unlawful collection or dissemination of financial information submitted by public officials shall give rise to criminal liability in accordance with the procedure established by legislation.

	Judges	Prosecutors
Items to be declared		
Assets	●	●
Financial interests	●	●
Sources of income	●	●
Liabilities	●	●
Gifts	●	●
Other	●	●
Moment for the declaration		
At the beginning of the term of office	●	●
At the end of the term of office	●	●
When there is a significant change in the items	●	●
Other	●	●
Declaration concerning the members of the family		
Spouse	●	●
Partner	●	●
Children (under legal age)	●	●
Adult children	●	●
Other family members	●	●
Same declaration as for the judge/prosecutor	●	●
Declaration of assets verified as regards:		
Timeliness	●	●
Completeness	●	●
Accuracy of the content	●	●
Unexplained financial discrepancies	●	●

Article 7.2 of the Law provides that public officials shall, within 15 days from the commencement of the performance of their duties, be informed in writing by the bodies receiving financial information about the requirements established under Article 5.1 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Combating Corruption” and these Rules, as well as the legal consequences of failure to comply with those requirements. Article 10 further provides that violations of the Rules on Submission of Financial Information by Public Officials shall give rise to criminal, administrative or disciplinary liability in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan. According to paragraphs 5 and 6 of Article 111-1 of the Law “On Courts and Judges,” judges shall be subject to disciplinary liability in cases of failure to comply with the financial disclosure requirements established by Article 5.1 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Combating Corruption,” or where they commit the offences specified in Article 9 of that Law. Sanctions and procedures were reported as non applicable in 2025.

• Conflict of interest and Accessory functions/activities

Procedures/mechanisms for managing (potential) conflicts of interest in 2025		
Regulations / procedures:	Judges	Prosecutors
On reporting a (potential) conflict of interest	✓	✓
For recusal/withdrawal from a case	✓	✓
On receiving gifts	✓	✓
On combining the profession of a judge/ prosecutor with other functions/professional activities	✓	✓
Other		

In respect of judges:
Regulation/procedure on reporting a (potential) conflict of interest: According to procedural codes, in case of conflict of interest, a judge should give recusal to himself and withdraw from the case. At the same time parties also are entitled to give recusal to judge on the said basis.
Regulation/procedure for recusal/withdrawal from a case: According to procedural codes in case of conflict of interest, a judge should give recusal to himself and withdraw from the case. At the same time parties also are entitled to give recusal to judge on the said basis.
Regulation on receiving gifts: Article 18 of the Ethics Code stipulates that a judge shall not accept a gift, award, favour or benefit in connection with the case under his/her consideration; shall refrain from receiving any services if they can affect case outcome.

Regulation on combining the profession of a judge with other functions/professional activities: Article 104 of Law on Courts and Judges stipulates that, according to part II article 126 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, judges shall not hold other elective office or position; be engaged in entrepreneurship, commercial or other paid business, except for scientific, pedagogical and creative work; pursue political activity and be a member of political parties; receive payments other than their official wage and remuneration for scientific, pedagogical and creative work.
Regarding the distribution of cases in courts: Pursuant to Article 86(3) of the Law “On Courts and Judges,” the Judicial-Legal Council determines the rules for court administration in the courts referred to in Article 19(1) of that Law, including the random and automatic electronic distribution of cases and the anonymisation of court decisions published electronically.
Additionally, paragraph 2.3 of the National Action Plan for Strengthening the Fight against Corruption for 2022–2026, approved by Presidential Order No. 3199 dated 4 April 2022, recommends that the Judicial-Legal Council strengthen anti-corruption measures in the field of administration of justice and, taking into account international best practices, improve the rules governing the formation of the Judicial-Legal Council with a view to ensuring a more efficient organization of the judiciary during the period 2022–2026**.**
In respect of prosecutors:
Regulation/procedure on reporting a (potential) conflict of interest: Regulated by Articles 11-1 and 11-2 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Combating Corruption” titled “Disclosure of Corruption-Related Violations” and “State Protection of Persons Reporting Corruption-Related Violations”. These provisions govern the reporting, investigation, and protection of individuals who report corruption. During investigations, they ensure that there is no conflict of interest, meaning the person or unit handling the case has no personal or professional interest in the subject.
Regulation/procedure for recusal/withdrawal from a case: Regulated by Articles 107 and 112 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, titled “General Provisions on Objections and Self Objection” and “Objection to the Prosecutor”. -If a participant (including a prosecutor) has personal interests, familial ties, or other relationships that may cast doubt on their impartiality, they must be recused from the case.
Regulation on receiving gifts: Regulated by Article 8 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Combating Corruption” titled “Restrictions on Receiving Gifts”. -Officials may not solicit or accept gifts or privileges that could influence their objective and impartial performance. -Gifts exceeding a certain value become state property. -This rule prevents corruption and conflicts of interest.
Regulation on combining the profession of a prosecutor with other functions/professional activities: Regulated by Article 30 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On the Prosecutor’s Office” titled “Activities Incompatible with the Position of Prosecutor or Investigator”. Prosecutors or investigators may engage only in scientific, pedagogical, or creative work. They may not engage in business, commercial, paid activities, or political activity, nor be members of political parties. This prevents conflicts between professional duties and other interests. Furthermore: Guideline on Conflict of Interest published by Anti-Corruption Directorate with the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan (ACD):

Accessory functions / activities	With remuneration		Without remuneration	
	Judges	Prosecutors	Judges	Prosecutors
Teaching	✓	✓		✓
Research and publication	✓	✓		✓
Arbitrator				
Consultant				
Cultural function				✓
Political function				
Mediator				
Other				

Pursuant to Article 104 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Courts and Judges”, in accordance with Article 126(II) of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, judges may not hold any elected or appointed office and may not engage in entrepreneurial, commercial or other paid activities, except for scientific, pedagogical and creative activities. They may not engage in political activities or be members of political parties, and may not receive remuneration other than their official salary and the remuneration received for scientific, pedagogical and creative activities.

In Azerbaijan, judges do not need an authorisation to perform any of these accessory activities and they do not have to inform their hierarchy about these accessory activities. Prosecutors need to an authorisation to perform them from the leadership of the Prosecutor General Office.

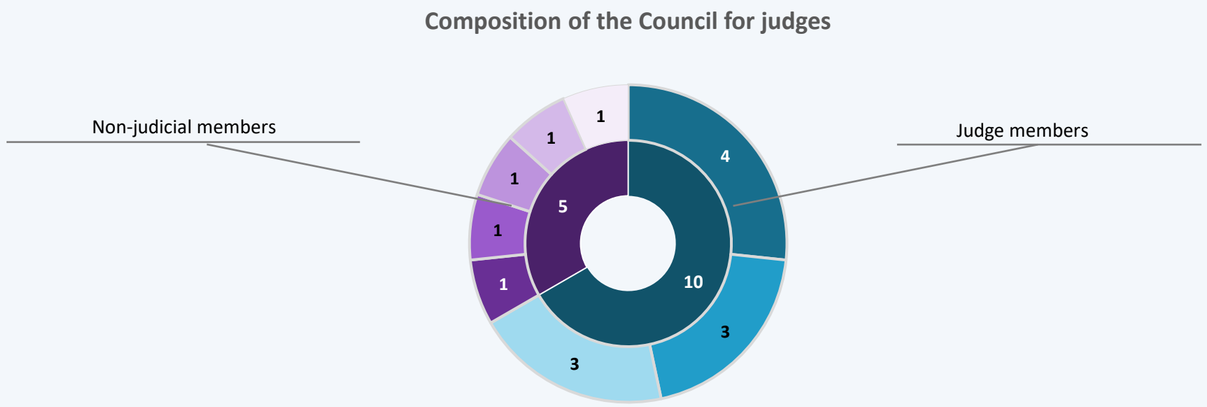
	Regulations on the proceedings for:			
	Breaches of rules on conflicts of interest		Sanctions for breaches of the rules	
	Judges	Prosecutors	Judges	Prosecutors
Law on prevention of conflict of interest				
Criminal procedure code	✓		✓	
Criminal code				
Civil procedure code	✓		✓	
Civil code				
Code of ethics	✓			
Law on judges / public prosecutors (public prosecution)			✓	✓
Law on the Judicial / Prosecutorial Council				
Other		✓		✓

According to procedural codes in case of conflict of interest, a judge should recuse himself and withdraw from the case. At the same time parties also are entitled to ask for the recusal of a judge on the said basis. If the judge fails to recuse himself/herself when there were reasons for that, when hearing the case the higher court is entitled to request to Judicial-Legal Council for initiating disciplinary proceeding against said judge.

For prosecutors, please see Article 33 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On the Prosecutor’s Office”, titled “Liability of Prosecutor’s Office Employees” and Rules on the Organization of Work of the Prosecutor General’s Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Procedures for breaches of rules on conflict of interest	Judges					Public prosecutors				
	2020	2022	2023	2024	2025	2020	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of initiated cases	0	-	0	1	0	0	-	0	0	0
Number of completed cases	0	-	0	1	0	0	-	0	0	0
Number of sanctions pronounced	0	-	0	1	0	0	-	0	0	0

Council for Judiciary / Prosecutorial Council(s) in Azerbaijan in 2025 (Indicator 15)



In Azerbaijan, the Judicial-Legal Council is composed by 15 members, 10 of which are proposed by judge members (3 proposed by the first instance courts, 3 by the second instance courts and 4 by the highest instance courts) and 5 by non-judicial members (1 proposed by the Parliament, 1 by the Ministry of justice, 1 by the Academic institution(s), 1 by the Bar Association and 1 proposed by another authority).

There is no Prosecutorial Council in Azerbaijan. A Collegium though functions in the Prosecutor General's Office.

In accordance with Article 6 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan 'On the Judicial-Legal Council:
6.1. The Judicial-Legal Council shall operate in a composition of 15 members. 6.2. The composition of the Judicial-Legal Council shall be formed of the following persons: 6.2.1. three judges of the cassation instance court elected by the conference of judges; 6.2.2. three judges of the appeal instance courts elected by the conference of judges; 6.2.3. three judges of the first instance courts elected by the conference of judges; 6.2.4. a judge appointed by the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan; 6.2.5. a person appointed by the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan; 6.2.6. a person appointed by the relevant executive authority of the Republic of Azerbaijan; 6.2.7. a lawyer appointed by the Bar Association of the Republic of Azerbaijan; 6.2.8. a legal scholar appointed by the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences; 6.2.9. a representative of the legal community elected by the conference of judges.
6.4. Persons elected (appointed) as members of the Judicial-Legal Council must have higher legal education and more than ten years of work experience in the legal profession.
6-1.1. The Conference of Judges is held for the election of the members of the Judicial-Legal Council specified in Articles 6.2.1 – 6.2.3 and 6.2.9 of this Law.
6-1.2. Judges of the cassation, appeal, and first-instance courts are represented at the Conference of Judges in the following manner: 6-1.2.1. 5 judges from the Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan; 6-1.2.2. 3 judges from each court of appeal instance; 6-1.2.3. 1 judge from each specialized first-instance court; 6-1.2.4. 1 judge from each district (city) court.
6-1.3. The Conference of Judges is considered quorate (authorized) when three-quarters of the judges provided for in Article 6-1.2 of this Law are present.
6-1.4. The Conference of Judges elects the members of the Judicial-Legal Council specified in Articles 6.2.1 – 6.2.3 and 6.2.9 of this Law by open ballot, with a simple majority of votes of the participants.

According to Article 6.4 of the Law 'On the Judicial-Legal Council,' persons elected (appointed) as members of the Judicial-Legal Council must possess a higher legal education and more than ten years of work experience in the legal profession. Article 7. Persons with dual citizenship, those having obligations toward other states, individuals engaged in entrepreneurial and commercial activities (excluding scientific, pedagogical, and creative activities), and clergymen may not be included in the composition of the Judicial-Legal Council. Pursuant to the amendment introduced to Article 6.4 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On the Judicial-Legal Council" by Law No. 905-VIQD dated 9 June 2023, persons elected (appointed) as members of the Judicial-Legal Council must possess higher legal education and have more than ten years of professional experience in the legal field.
The previous wording of Article 6.4 was as follows: "Persons appointed to the Judicial-Legal Council by the relevant executive authority of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the relevant executive authority of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and the Prosecutor General's Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan must possess higher legal education and have more than five years of professional experience in the legal field." The legislative amendment establishes that the requirement of more than 10 years of professional legal experience applies to all members of the Council.

• Councils characteristics

Judicial-Legal Council

According to Article 6-1.1 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan 'On the Judicial-Legal Council,' the conference of judges is held for the purpose of electing the members of the Judicial-Legal Council specified in Articles 6.2.1 – 6.2.3 and 6.2.9 of this Law.

There is no Prosecutorial Council in Azerbaijan. A Collegium though functions in the Prosecutor General's Office. They are appointed by Order No. 2087 of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated 10 June 2020, titled "On the approval of the composition of the Collegium of the Prosecutor General's Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the repeal of Order No. 746 of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated 19 June 2001 'On the approval of the composition of the Collegium of the Prosecutor General's Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan'."

Article 6.6 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On the Judicial-Legal Council" provides that the term of office of the members of the Judicial-Legal Council is five years. Judge members of the Council, except judge of Constitutional Court and Chief Justice of Supreme court, are subject to evaluation.

The Judicial-Legal Council publishes its decisions, which shall be reasoned.
As the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan is a unified centralized body based on the subordination of territorial and specialized prosecutor's offices to the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the collegium can report only to the Prosecutor General.

Body appointing the members

Judges/ prosecutors members are appointed by:	
Judges/Prosecutors Assemblies	✓
Other	✓
Non-judge/non-prosecutors members are appointed by:	
Constitutional Court	✓
Parliament	✓
Ministry of Justice	✓
Academic institution(s)	✓
Bar Association	✓
Other	✓

Conditions for the term of office

Term of office of members renewable	✓
Full-time position	
Members subject to evaluation procedures	✓

Term of office: 5 years

Accountability measures

Published activity reports	
Published decisions	✓
Reasoned decisions	✓
Other	

Competences of the Council

According to Article 1 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan 'On the Judicial-Legal Council,' the Judicial-Legal Council is the body performing the self-governance functions of the judiciary, which, within its competence, resolves issues regarding the organization of the judicial system in the Republic of Azerbaijan, ensuring the independence of judges and the judicial system, organizing the selection of non-judge candidates for vacant judicial positions (hereinafter referred to as 'candidates for the position of judge'), evaluating the performance of judges, their transfer, promotion, and initiation of disciplinary liability, as well as other matters related to courts and judges. According to Article 12 of the same Law. In connection with the performance of the duties assigned to it, the Judicial-Legal Council shall have the following rights: 12.0.1. to determine the rules for the selection of candidates for vacant judicial positions; 12.0.1-1. to determine the rules for the management of clerical work in courts, including the random and automatic electronic distribution of cases and the anonymization of court decisions published electronically; 12.0.2. to form the Apparatus of the Judicial-Legal Council; 12.0.2-1. to approve the Regulations on the Committee for the Evaluation of Judges and to form the Committee for the Evaluation of Judges; 12.0.3. to approve the Regulations on the Judges Selection Committee and to form the Judges Selection Committee; 12.0.1-1. to determine the number of judges in the courts included in the judicial system of the Republic of Azerbaijan within the framework of the total number of judges; 12.0.4. to submit proposals to the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the transfer of judges, their promotion, the extension of their term of office, the appointment of chairpersons, deputy chairpersons, and chairpersons of judicial boards of the courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan from among the appointed judges (with the exception of the chairpersons of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Supreme Court of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic), as well as the dismissal of these persons or their transfer to other positions; 12.0.4-1. to second judges, with their consent, to the Apparatus of the Judicial-Legal Council for a period of up to one year and, if necessary, to extend the period of secondment for up to another year with the consent of the seconded judge; 12.0.4-2. to discuss the matter of the seconded judge's return to their previous position upon the initiative of the judge themselves or the institution to which they were seconded; 12.0.4-3. to second a judge from another relevant court, with their consent, for a period of up to one year to a first-instance court when a judge of that court is unable to perform their duties or when a judicial position is vacant; 12.0.4-4. to temporarily assign the performance of duties of a chairperson or deputy chairperson in first-instance courts to one of the judges of that court when the chairperson or deputy chairperson is unable to perform their duties or when the positions of chairperson or deputy chairperson are vacant; 12.0.5. to submit proposals to the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the awarding of judges; 12.0.6. to reward judges; 12.0.6-1. to award representatives of state and other entities of the Republic of Azerbaijan and foreign countries, as well as representatives of international organizations and citizens of the country, with certificates of honour and honorary badges for their services in the development of the judiciary and for fruitful cooperation. 12.0.7. to hold judges disciplinary liable;" və ya "to bring judges to disciplinary liability; 12.0.8. to discuss the issue of termination of judges' powers and to submit proposals to the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan in this regard; 12.0.8-1. to discuss the issues regarding the termination of judges' powers in the case provided for in the first part of Article 113 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan 'On Courts and Judges', and the early termination of judges' powers upon the existence of grounds provided for in items 1, 3–5, 8 (in the event of termination of the judge's citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan), or 9 of the second part of Article 113 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan 'On Courts and Judges'; 12.0.9. to give consent for the criminal prosecution of judges and to temporarily suspend them from the exercise of their powers; 12.0.11. to obtain information and documents from courts, state bodies, legal entities, and physical persons regarding issues considered by the Judicial-Legal Council; 12.0.12. to involve employees, specialists, and experts from state bodies, scientific institutions, agencies, and organizations in its activities; 12.0.13. to adopt acts of a normative nature for the purpose of implementing and regulating the tasks assigned to the Judicial-Legal Council; 12.0.14. to adopt relevant decisions on matters considered by the Judicial-Legal Council; 12.0.15. to supervise the execution of its adopted decisions; 12.0.16. to analyse the activities of judges and the organizational issues of courts; 12.0.16-1. to determine the structure and staffing table of other court apparatuses, with the exception of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Supreme Court of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic, and the courts of appeal; 12.0.17. to conduct interviews with candidates proposed by the Judges Selection Committee; 12.0.18. to hear the report of the Chairperson of the Committee regarding the activities of the Judges Selection Committee; 12.0.19. to submit proposals on the improvement of legislation concerning courts and judges; 12.0.20. to conduct professional development courses, seminars, and training sessions in educational institutions for the purpose of increasing the professional level of judges; to apply to the relevant executive authority for the purpose of enhancing the professional training of judges and involving court apparatus employees in professional training and development; 12.0.21. to determine the rules for involving judges appointed for an initial term of 3 years in training at the Justice Academy of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan; 12.0.22. to propose to the chairpersons of first-instance courts to take into account the specialization of a specific judge when distributing cases among judges; 12.0.23. to establish international relations regarding its activities and to implement the exchange of experience in the field of judicial activity; 12.0.24. to attract funds from local and foreign organizations and to receive grants for the implementation of the tasks assigned to the Judicial-Legal Council; 12.0.25. to cooperate with non-governmental organizations and media subjects for the purpose of informing the public about judicial activities; 12.0.26. to submit proposals on improving the working conditions and material security of judges and court apparatus employees; 12.0.26-1. to provide opinions on proposals regarding the expenditures intended for the financial security of first-instance and appellate courts before they are submitted to the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Azerbaijan; 12.0.26-2. to establish the Appeal Council of the Judicial-Legal Council for the consideration of complaints filed against the results of interviews held for admission to the civil service in the apparatuses of the judicial authorities and the Judicial-Legal Council; 12.0.27. to exercise other rights defined by legislation. According to Article 1 of Law on Judicial Legal Council, Judicial-Legal Council is the body, which, within its competence, ensures organization of the court system, independence of judges and court system in Azerbaijan Republic; arranges selection of candidates who are not judges (hereafter candidates to the judicial post) to the vacant judicial posts; evaluates the activity of judges; decides on the issues of transfer of judges to different judicial post, their promotion, calling judges to disciplinary liability, as well as, other issues related to courts and judges, and implements self-governance functions of the judiciary. Detailed aspects of operation and authorities of Judicial-Legal Council is regulated by the aforementioned law.

According to Article 13 of the same Law, the Judicial-Legal Council evaluates the performance of judges appointed for the first time for a three-year term at the end of that term, and evaluates the performance of other judges at least once every five years. The performance of court chairpersons, deputy chairpersons, and chairpersons of chambers in exercising their administrative powers is also evaluated at the end of their term of office in those positions. The evaluation is carried out on the basis of materials collected by the Judicial Evaluation Committee and includes quantitative indicators (workload in judicial activity and the ability to manage it) and qualitative indicators (quality of judicial acts and management of court proceedings, communication skills, judicial ethics, and discipline), enabling an assessment of their professional competence. If a judge’s performance is evaluated as high, the Judicial-Legal Council considers the possibility of promotion. If the evaluation is satisfactory, a decision is adopted confirming the judge’s suitability for the position held. If professional deficiencies are identified, including systematic shortcomings in the application of substantive and procedural law revealed through court monitoring (except for judges appointed for the first time), the judge’s performance shall be subject to re-evaluation within a period determined by the Judicial-Legal Council, but not earlier than one year and not later than two years. If, during the repeated evaluation, professional deficiencies are again identified, the judge’s powers shall be terminated prematurely in accordance with the procedure established by the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Courts and Judges.”

Competence of the Council in cases of evident breach of independence or impartiality of judges

In Azerbaijan, the Judicial-Legal Council is competent in cases of evident breaches of independence or impartiality of judges.

In accordance with Article 286 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, sanctions are prescribed for interference in any form with the activities of the court for the purpose of obstructing the administration of justice.

In accordance with Article 100 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan 'On Courts and Judges' and pursuant to the first part of Article 127 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, judges are independent and are subject only to the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
In accordance with Article 11.0.7 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan 'On the Judicial-Legal Council', the Judicial-Legal Council shall take measures to ensure the independence of judges and to prevent external interference in the work of the courts.

According to Article 100 of Law on Court and Judges, in case of outside influence on the activities of the judge, he must apply to the Judicial Council. Article 11 of Law on Judicial-Legal Council, the Council takes measures to ensure independence of judges and to prevent meddling in their activity. As the additional guarantee for judges, in 2019 special hotline was introduced at the Council in order to receive applications from judges in case of interference with their activities. At the same time, any form of interference in the judicial process in order to impede the administration of justice is a criminal offense (Article 286 of the Criminal Code).

Reforms in Azerbaijan in 2025

On 24 June 2025 by the Decision of the Judicial-Legal Council, the "**Regulation on the Conduct of Clerical Work in the Courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan**" was approved and entered into force.
The Regulation establishes a unified framework for clerical administration in all courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In particular, it sets out: the rules for conducting clerical work in the courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan; the random and automated electronic allocation of cases; procedures for the anonymization of court decisions published electronically. The Regulation is currently in effect and is being consistently implemented across the judiciary.
On 24 June 2025, during the meeting of the Judicial-Legal Council, the "**Monitoring Working Group**" was established within the Apparatus of the Judicial-Legal Council. It was established for the purpose of analysing the effectiveness of justice in criminal, civil, and administrative disputes, as well as in connection with the activities of the Apparatus of the Judicial-Legal Council. The "Monitoring Working Group" is executing its functions in the mentioned directions.
Decision of the Judicial-Legal Council on the Approval of the "**Rules for the Selection of Candidates for Vacant Judicial Positions**" – August 4, 2025
Due to amendments to the legislation reducing the selection process for candidates for vacant judicial positions from four stages to three—namely, a test examination, a written examination, and an interview—the "Rules for the Selection of Candidates for Vacant Judicial Positions" have been revised and approved by a decision of the Judicial-Legal Council.
Among candidates for judicial positions with equal results, preference is given to candidates who have completed higher levels of education, and in cases where the educational level is the same, preference is given to those who graduated with distinction and those who possess foreign language proficiency.
The submission of documents for vacant judge positions can be done electronically. A psychologist may be involved in oral exams as an observer to provide a psychological assessment of candidates. The revised rules are in effect and being effectively implemented.

Decision of the Judicial-Legal Council on the Approval of the "Rules and Methodology for the Evaluation of Judges' Performance" – September 30, 2025 New rules and methodology for the evaluation of judges, with due consideration to the opinions of international experts and advanced international practice, were discussed and approved at the meeting of the Judicial-Legal Council. The new rules are now in effect and being implemented.
Decision of the Judicial-Legal Council on the Approval of the "Rules on the Provision of Special Information by the Courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan" – September 30, 2025
With the purpose of maintaining the mechanism for providing special information regarding force majeure situations, committed crimes in the courts and etc., the "Rules on the Provision of Special Information by the Courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan" has been approved by the decision of the Judicial-Legal Council. The Rules are now in effect and being implemented.
The "Working Group on the Organization of the Training and Educational Process for Judges" was established during the meeting of the Judicial-Legal Council on September 30, 2025. In order to effectively execute the duties in the field of judicial training, the "Working Group" has been established. The "Working Group" is executing its functions in relevant directions.
Decision of the Judicial-Legal Council on the Approval of the "Rules on the Training of Judges Appointed for the First Time for a Period of Three Years" – November 5, 2025
Based on the right of determining the rules for training of judges appointed for the first time for a period of three years, which was vested in the Judicial-Legal Council under the Law on November 7, 2024, the Council approved the aforementioned Rules. The Rules are now in effect and being implemented.
Decision of the Judicial-Legal Council dated 30 December 2025 on Amendments to the "Regulation on the Judicial Selection Committee" By the Decision of the Judicial-Legal Council dated 30 December 2025, amendments were made to the "Regulation on the Judicial Selection Committee" approved by the Decision of 11 March 2005.
Pursuant to this Decision, an additional competence was introduced to the powers of the Judicial Selection Committee, namely: "to participate in the training of judges appointed for the first time for a period of three years and in the process of continuous training of judges."

Forms of Statistical Reports on Judicial Activity
The forms of statistical reports on judicial activity were prepared by the "working group" established under the Judicial-Legal Council. The forms have already been discussed at a meeting of the Judicial-Legal Council and are expected to be approved in the near future.
The improvement of the Instruction on the management of clerical work in the courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the development of an expanded version of the Electronic Document Circulation program, and the integration of most state bodies into this application are of particular importance. The Civil Servants Registry Information System and the Unified Human Resources Management System play a significant role in ensuring the efficient management of personnel affairs at the Shaki Court of Appeal. These systems enable the collection and analysis of information regarding court employees, the monitoring of the awarding of qualification degrees, the calculation of their length of service in public administration, the management of leave entitlements, and the prompt resolution of other personnel-related matters.

Increasing the capabilities of the "e-court" information system, widespread implementation of electronic document circulation, and development of online processes and remote participation mechanisms are one of the main priorities. Measures are being taken to organize continuous training programs for judges and court staff, and to strengthen ethical behaviour and professional skills.
The mentioned reforms serve to increase the efficiency of justice in the country, strengthen the principles of the rule of law, and increase citizen satisfaction.
1. Deepening judicial-legal reforms (Presidential Decree No. 604 of 3 April 2019) Priority: Improving quality, transparency and efficiency of justice, promoting consistency in judicial practice and advancing procedural improvements. Status: Adopted and being implemented through action plans and implementation by the Judicial-Legal Council and relevant bodies.
2. Modernisation of judiciary and court processes Priority: Broader modernisation of the justice system to enhance access, transparency and efficiency, including procedural reforms and organisational improvements. Status: Under implementation with support from national strategies and institutional capacity building.
3. Strengthening case management and digitalisation Priority: Further development of e-justice tools, digital case management and interoperability between courts and other state institutions, to reduce administrative burden and improve service delivery. Status: Planned/ongoing implementation, with timelines and sub-measures being formulated by the Judicial-Legal Council, the Ministry of Justice and other bodies.
4. Capacity building and professional development Priority: Enhancing training and professional development for judges and court staff, especially in modern procedural standards and specialised areas of law. Status: Ongoing, supported by institutional frameworks and cooperation with international partners.
5. Access to justice and alternative dispute resolution Priority: Expanding mechanisms for alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and improving procedural access for various groups, including business communities. Status: Part of ongoing reform measures supported by strategic planning and legal frameworks.
6. Enhancing legal framework and judicial practice unification Priority: Strengthening the legal framework and mechanisms for unified judicial practice, including development of guidelines and better analysis of case law. Status: Implemented with follow-up measures through Supreme Court initiatives and regulatory actions.

Recent reforms in Azerbaijan focusing on the functioning of justice concern the legal profession.
By the amendments of 31 October 2025 to the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Lawyers and Legal Practice” (“the Law”) #783-IQ, several key changes were adopted and are being implemented. The required legal practice for admission to the Bar Association was reduced from three years to one year, which is expected to increase the number of lawyers and improve access to legal services. Mandatory annual training was introduced to ensure continuous professional development of lawyers. The Law also now regulates at legislative level the lawyer’s official identification card and lawyer’s order, including their issuance and use. In addition, amendments concerning disciplinary, professional, and ethical standards of lawyers were adopted to improve the quality, accountability, and accessibility of legal assistance.
An artificial intelligence–based platform, “E-qanun.ai”, relying on the national legal database and enabling effective search within Azerbaijan’s legal documents and legislation, has been launched. This platform, which provides users with rapid analysis and accurate results, is aimed at ensuring prompt and reliable answers to questions arising in the legal field.
With a view to increasing the efficiency of the enforcement of court decisions—which is an integral component of the right to a fair trial—expanding digitalisation, and enhancing the level of electronic services provided to citizens, a new version of the “Electronic Enforcement” information system, as well as the “Mobile Enforcement” software developed on the basis of that system, has been put into operation.
As an additional support mechanism to the existing enforcement system, the Law “On Private Enforcement Officers”, envisaging the introduction of the institution of private enforcement officers, as well as numerous other normative legal acts adopted for the implementation of that Law, have entered into force.
The Ministry's Probation Service became a full member of the Confederation of European Probation (CEP) as of 13 November 2024, and its membership was finally approved by the CEP General Assembly held in Vienna, Austria, on 15 October 2025.
In order to improve the quality of vocational education in penitentiary institutions and to ensure the social reintegration of persons released from serving sentences, the “Action Plan for 2025–2030 on Improving the Quality of Vocational Education in Penitentiary Institutions and Upgrading the Existing Infrastructure” was approved by a Presidential Decree of 25 June 2025.
With the aim of enabling convicted and detained persons to benefit from all capacities of the national healthcare system, amendments dated 24 October 2025 were introduced to the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Medical Insurance”, and, pursuant to a Presidential Decree ensuring the implementation of that Law, medical services are provided within the framework of compulsory medical insurance to detained persons and persons sentenced to deprivation of liberty for a fixed term or to life imprisonment (with the exception of those serving sentences in settlement-type penitentiary institutions), where the provision of medical services is not possible due to the lack of necessary medical equipment and/or relevant specialists.
In order to digitalise the activities of state bodies (institutions) in the field of forensic expertise and to ensure the integration of forensic institutions with state information resources and systems, the “Forensic Expertise” information system was established by a Presidential Decree dated 4 November 2025.

Furthermore, with a view to improving state governance and regulation in the field of forensic expertise and ensuring compliance of activities in this area with international standards, the “Development Concept for the Forensic Expertise Sector of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2025–2030” was approved by a Presidential Decree dated 11 December 2025.
Within the framework of the above-mentioned normative legal acts, measures are envisaged to improve the legal and regulatory framework of the forensic expertise sector, digitalise activities in this field, establish a quality assurance system and develop unified standards, strengthen the human resources capacity of forensic institutions, and implement other important initiatives.
In line with the tasks arising from the “National Action Plan for Strengthening the Fight against Corruption for 2022–2026”, approved by the relevant Presidential Decree, an Action Plan was adopted, and consistent measures were taken to accelerate the digitalisation of internal management processes, ensure integration between various information systems, further develop cooperation with civil society institutions, and organise training for municipal members and employees.
In addition, during the reporting year, the Law “On the Encouragement and Protection of Persons Reporting Corruption-Related Offences”, as well as other related draft laws and decrees, were prepared and submitted to the relevant authorities, and efforts were undertaken to further refine the draft decision “On Approval of the Rules for Managing Corruption Risks in the Activities of Bodies (Institutions)”.
In order to ensure the implementation of the “National Action Plan for 2023–2025 on Combating the Legalisation of Property Obtained by Criminal Means and the Financing of Terrorism”, approved by the relevant Presidential Decree, a “Three-Year (2025–2027) Sectoral Supervision Strategy on Combating the Legalisation of Property Obtained by Criminal Means and the Financing of Terrorism Based on a Risk-Based Approach” was approved for the Ministry of Justice.
During 2025, relevant training sessions were organised for notaries, employees of notarial offices, and representatives of non-governmental organisations.
In the reporting year, the “Standards of Conduct for NGOs in the Field of Combating the Legalisation of Property Obtained by Criminal Means and the Financing of Terrorism” were developed, as well as the “Guidelines for Non-Governmental Organisations on Combating the Financing of Terrorism”, aimed at enabling NGOs to safeguard themselves against various methods used in terrorist financing and to ensure transparency of their sources of income. These documents were published on the official websites of the Ministry of Justice and the State Agency for Support to Non-Governmental Organisations for use in NGO activities.
Justice reforms in 2025 focused on digitalisation, efficiency, transparency, and international cooperation. The Electronic Prosecution system was significantly expanded, now including 47 modules integrated with other state systems, improving case management, monitoring, and procedural control. This reform is implemented and continuously developing.
Procedural efficiency was strengthened through better prosecutorial supervision of investigations, cancellation of unlawful case closures, and improved control over the criminal justice process. In 2025, 953 unlawful case closures were annulled, showing active enforcement of legal accountability.
Mechanisms for asset recovery and compensation were enhanced. In criminal cases, 59.5% of identified damages were recovered, and significant assets were seized, demonstrating stronger enforcement of restitution.
International legal cooperation expanded, with 65 persons extradited from abroad, reflecting stronger cross-border judicial collaboration (implemented and ongoing).
The “Constitution and Sovereignty Year” amnesty applied to 14,589 persons, covering both ongoing investigations and convicted individuals (adopted and implemented).
Finally, public outreach and legal awareness initiatives were launched under the 2026 Roadmap, aiming to improve transparency, citizen access, and trust in the judicial system (adopted, implementation started).