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Azerbaijan

Source of persecution Dictatorial paranoia

Population 9,924,000

Christians 321,000

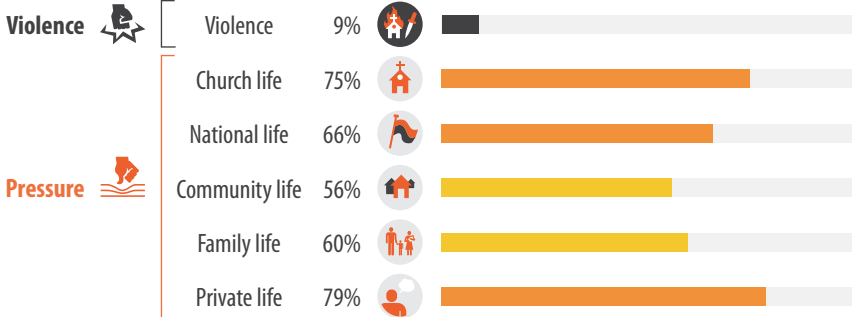
Main religion Islam

Government Presidential republic

Leader President Ilham Aliyev

Profile of persecution

Based on World Watch List 2019 data



Constant monitoring and pressure

On paper, Azerbaijan is secular and religion is tolerated. However, churches are subject to excessive surveillance by the government. Russian Orthodox churches experience the least problems from the government, as they do not usually attempt to make contact with the Azerbaijani population. It is the indigenous Christians with a Muslim background who face the most severe persecution both at the hands of the state and from family, friends and community.

Prayer points

- Pray specifically for those who convert to Christianity from Islam who face pressure from family, friends and community.
- Pray for non-traditional Christian communities who are required to make regular reports to the government and who are constantly monitored.
- Pray God would soften the hearts of local authorities who purposefully obstruct legal proceedings of new converts.