

# Armenia 2021

## Prohibition of torture index **78,32** ↓



### Key Challenges

**Dissolution of the dedicated torture investigation body. Virtually no convictions for torture. No requirement to perform medical assessment of all persons deprived of their liberty.**

Population	<b>2 963 300</b>
Prison population	<b>4 922</b>
Convicted	<b>3 687</b>
In pre-trial detention	<b>1 235</b>
Detainees (under administrative arrest)	In total in 2021 — <b>1 600: 1 487 men, 88 women, 25 minors</b>
Law enforcement budget	Total budget <b>131 574,2 EUR (77 694 570,8 AMD)</b> ; Police — <b>110 814,6 EUR (65 463 002,7 AMD)</b> ; Penitentiary service — <b>20 713,9 EUR (12 231 568,1 AMD)</b> .
Budget per prisoner per year	<b>8 907.7 EUR (5.260.000 AMD)</b>
Number of Penitentiary Service employees	<b>2012: 211 women, 1 891 men</b>
Number of police officers	<b>8 003: 7 170 men and 833 women</b>

### Judgments documenting the problem of torture

Judgments and decisions of international bodies documenting the problem of torture and ill-treatment	—
Judgments of Armenian courts	1

### Criminalization of torture and ill-treatment

Explicit prohibition of torture in criminal law	Torture is explicitly prohibited by law
Criminalization of acts falling within the definition of torture	Criminalized, sanctions clearly defined
Definition of torture consistent with international treaties	Consistent with relevant Conventions

### Government body investigating allegations of torture and ill-treatment

There is a body authorized to investigate torture	No separate body. Torture cases can be investigated by different law-enforcement agencies.
Number of investigators	No data
Investigator workload	—
Investigating body's jurisdiction	No exclusive jurisdiction, torture cases are under 50%
Geographic coverage	Major administrative units of the country
Budget	Covers all minimal costs, the agency has budget planning and spending power.
Number of complaints of torture and ill-treatment	The RA Main Department of Police received 43 complaints and reports from citizens alleging violence, torture, and inhuman or degrading treatment by police
Number of complaints of torture/ill-treatment from prisons	216 reports-complaints from persons in detention. The penitentiary service does not keep separate records of torture complaints.
Number of criminal cases instituted	138
Number of criminal proceedings instituted on charges of false denunciation for reporting torture	3

### Ratification of relevant international treaties

Relevant conventions	All relevant UN conventions are in force
Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (2002)	Signed and ratified
Ratification of individual complaints procedures of the UN Treaty Bodies	UN HRC Protocol
Istanbul Protocol	Partially implemented in national legislation

### Procedural guarantees

Documenting the actual detention start time	This guarantee is not provided by law. Records must be made within three hours of delivery to the police station.
Lawyer notification at the actual detention start time	No. In practice, the lawyer gets notified three hours after the detainee is delivered to the police station.
Family notification	Notified within three hours of delivery to the police station
Medical examination	No guarantees. Performed only at admission to a temporary detention facility (after delivery to the police station and only in respect of criminal suspects).

### Preventive mechanisms

Independent external review mechanism	An independent body is established and functioning. In major territorial units. Budget is protected.
Video surveillance	Some, but not all facilities are equipped. Private areas are not included.
Access to, and safekeeping of video evidence	Protected and accessible to officials at places of detention. There is liability for tampering with the archives.