



AUDIOVISUAL COUNCIL  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

# AUDIOVISUAL MEDIA LANDSCAPE OF AZERBAIJAN

*Taleh Guliyev*

Head of Communications Division of ACRA

Baku, 15 April 2025



BRIEF FACTS

- Area: **86,6 thousand km<sup>2</sup>**
- Population: **10.4 million inhabitants**
- GDP: **≈ 78.8 billion USD (2024)**
- GDP per capita: **≈ 7.7 thousand USD (2024)**

## 1998 – Abolishment of censorship



**“Media is the live nerve  
connecting the state and the society”**  
*(Heydar Aliyev)*

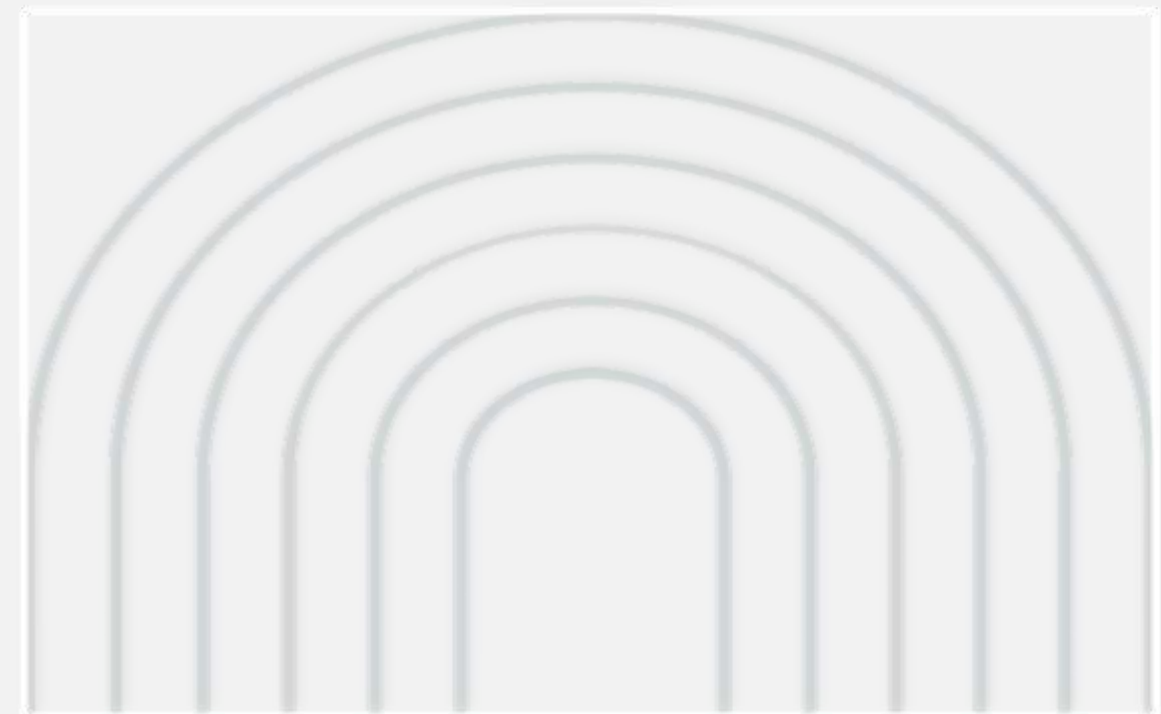
- **The Law “On Media” (2022)**
- **The Law “On Public Television And Radio Broadcasting” (2004)**
- **The Law “On Advertising” (2015)**
- **The Law “On Protection Of Children From Harmful Information” (2020)**
- **The Law “On Protection Of Intellectual Property Rights And The Fight Against Piracy” (2012)**
- **The Code On Administrative Offences (2017)**
- **The Election Code (2003)**



~~The Law “On Mass Media” (1999)~~

~~The Law “On Television and Radio Broadcasting” (2002)~~

**The Law “On Media”**  
Entered into force on 8 February 2022



The Law distinguishes 4 types of media entities:

- **Audiovisual media entities**

to be licensed by



- **Online media entities**
- **Print media entities**
- **Information Agencies**

to be registered by



## Members of the Audiovisual Council

- Members are appointed by the President for 5 years
- Members can be appointed for a maximum 2 consecutive terms
- Chairperson is elected by the members by a simple majority of the votes



## Main functions of the Audiovisual Council

- policy-making;
- carrying out competitions;
- licensing;
- radio frequency planning;
- technical supervision of the broadcasting;
- monitoring of audiovisual content;
- permitting foreign channels to be broadcast via "AzerSpace" satellites;
- imposing sanctions;
- media literacy activity ....





# Office of the Audiovisual Council



**Assistant  
to the Chair**

**Head of the Office**



**Department of  
Supervision on  
audiovisual  
broadcasting  
and Information  
technologies**

**Department of  
Law and  
International  
Cooperation**

**Department of  
Monitoring &  
analytics of  
audiovisual  
programs and  
Communications**

**Department of  
Human  
resources and  
Correspondence**

**Department of  
Finances and  
Economics**

**83**  
**content provider**  
**licenses**

*Editorial responsibility  
on the media content  
they broadcast*



**52**  
**operator licenses**  
**for retransmission**  
**services**

*No editorial responsibility  
on the media content of the  
channels they retransmit*

**totally 135**  
**audiovizual media licenses**

## OPERATOR'S LICENSES:

- Platform (cable, IPTV, OTT) operators – **50**
- Multiplex (DTT) operators ----- **2**

## CONTENT PROVIDER'S LICENSES:

- Nationwide Terrestrial TV ----- **11**
- Regional Terrestrial TV ----- **10**
- Nationwide Terrestrial Radio ----- **19**
- Regional Terrestrial Radio ----- **4**
- Satellite TV ----- **13**
- Platform TV ----- **21**
- On-demand Media providers ----- **5**

## Based on competition

- *Terrestrial broadcasters*
  - *Satellite broadcasters*
    - *Multiplex operator*

LICENSE



## Formal licensing

- *Platform broadcasters*
  - *On-demand media providers*
    - *Platform operators*



## Monitoring of content:

### On daily basis

- National TV & Radio channels

### On the basis of complaints

- Regional TV & radio channels,
- Platform broadcasters,
- On-demand media providers



## Monitoring of retransmission packages:

### On regular basis:

- Platform operators
- Multiplex operators



## The Audiovisual Council can:

- ✓ **issue warning to broadcaster or operator;**
- ✓ **suspend broadcasting for 1-24 hours;**
- ✓ **suspend broadcasting for 1-30 days;**
- ✓ **apply financial penalty  $\approx$  2000 - 6000 US\$;**
- ✓ **suspend the License;**
- ✓ **revoke the License.**





## **“Radio Television Broadcasting & Satellite Communications” PA (TELERADIO)**

- Digital terrestrial transmission of FTA television channels;
- Analog terrestrial transmission of FTA radio channels;
- DAB+ digital terrestrial transmission in Baku;
- Uplink services for TV and radio broadcasters;
- Delivering of initial TV and radio signals to multiplex, platform and satellite operators;
- Development of DVB-T2 and DAB+ broadcasting.

**epora** *since 2007*

 **BRAF** *since 2008*  
BLACK SEA BROADCASTING REGULATORY AUTHORITIES FORUM

*since 2011* **ibraf**

*since 2022* **T-BRAF**







**Radio Television Supreme Council of Türkiye  
(RTUK)**



**The Regulatory Authority for Electronic Media of The  
Republic of Serbia (REM)**



**The High Authority for Audiovisual Communication (HACA)**



**The Information Committee of the Ministry of Information  
and Social Development of Kazakhstan**



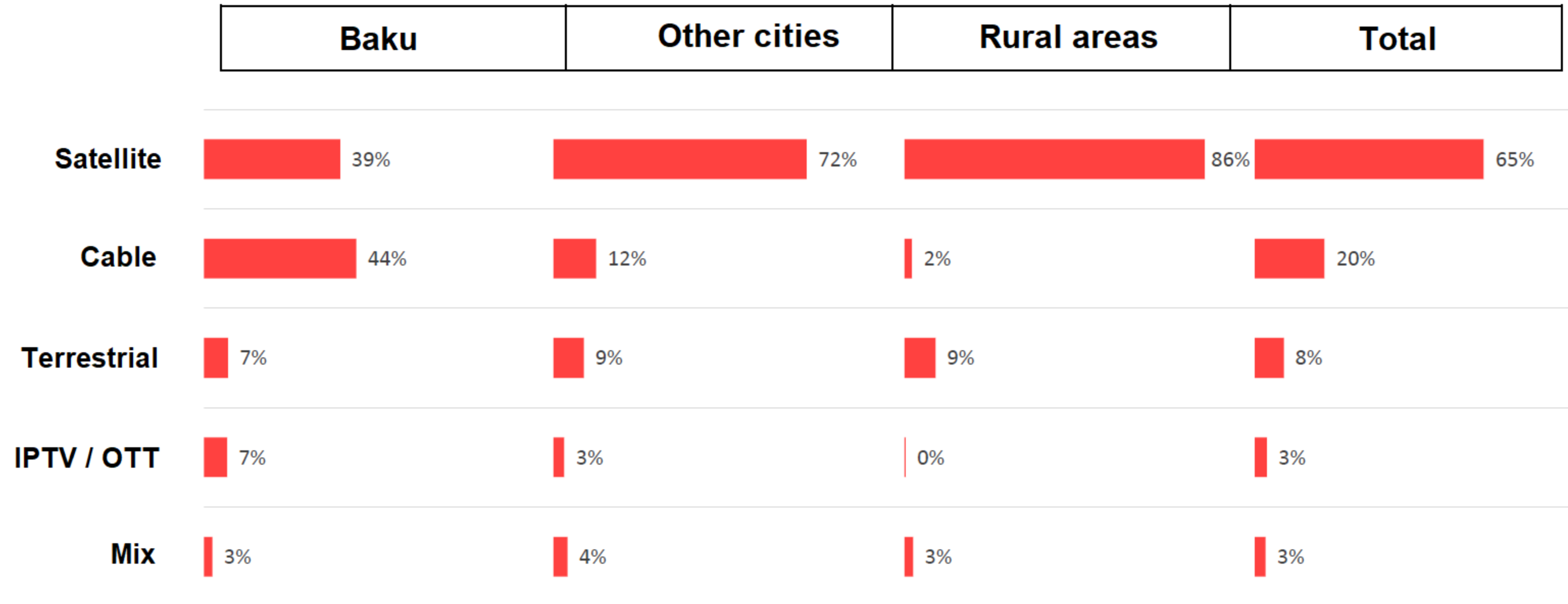
**The State Agency for Mass Communication of Uzbekistan**



- **Revision of the Law “On Telecommunications”** (2025)
- **Revision of the Law “On Advertising”** (2025)
- **Revision of the Law “On Public Broadcasting”** (2025)
- **Expanding FM radio of national radio channels to the whole country** (*almost done*)
- **Transition from DVB-T to DVB-T2** (*until 2027*)
- **DAB+ radio coverage in regions** (*until 2027*)
- **Combatting piracy in retransmission system**

**MARSA**

**Receiving of television signals**

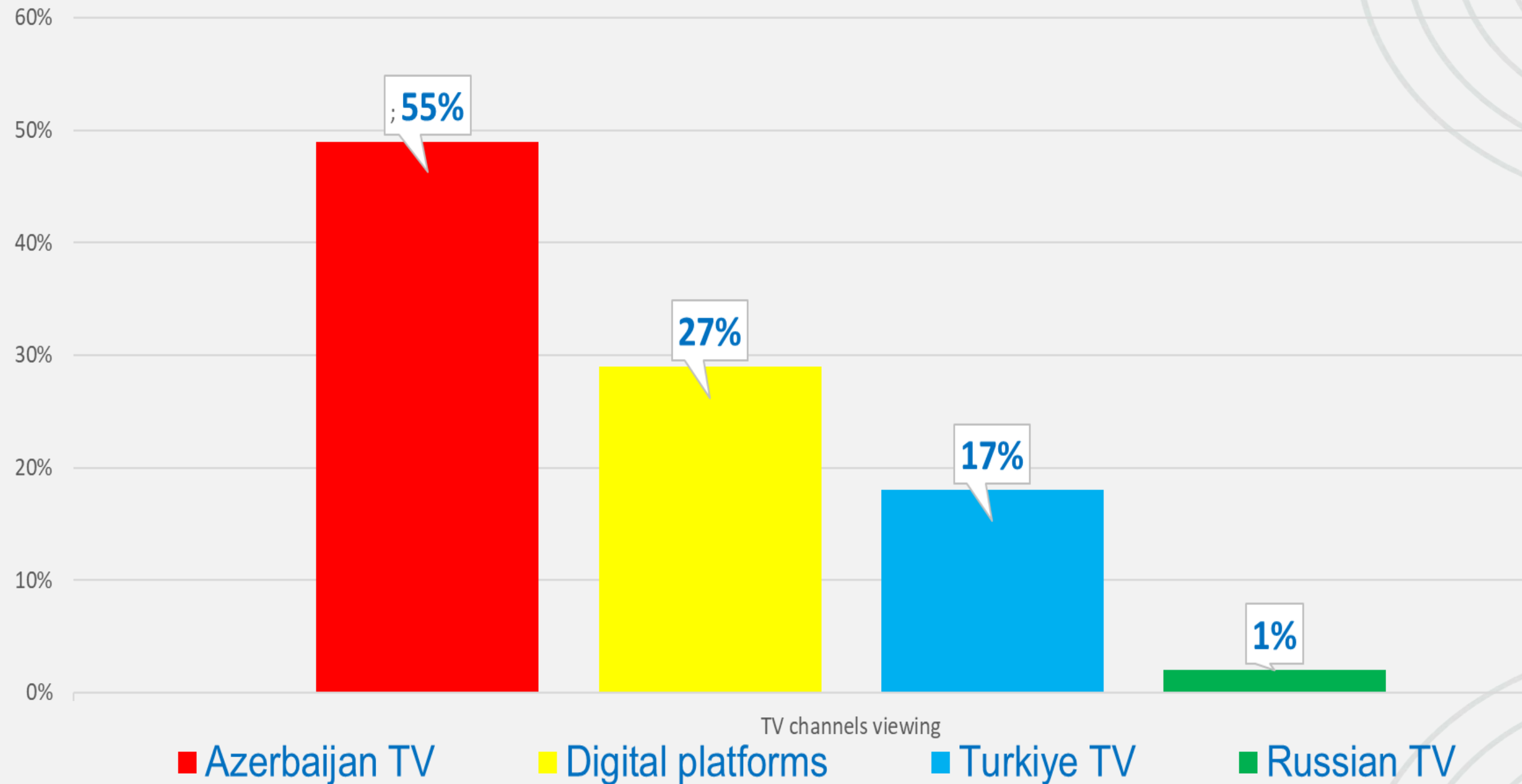


Television Audience Measurement system supported by

KANTAR MEDIA



# Daily television viewership shares



TELEVISION VIEWERSHIP



Television Audience Measurement system supported by

KANTAR MEDIA



**Thank you  
for your attention!**

***Taleh Guliyev***  
Head of Communications Division of ACRA

Baku, April 15, 2024