

# 4 Dead in Dagestan Helicopter Crash

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## Russian Emergencies Ministry

Four people were killed and three others injured when a private helicopter crashed in Russia's North Caucasus republic of Dagestan, authorities [said](#) Friday.

The helicopter was flying from one town in Dagestan to another when it went down near the coast of the Caspian Sea, according to a statement by the Emergency Situations Ministry.

The aircraft struck an unoccupied private house, which was destroyed in the resulting fire, the state-run news agency TASS [cited](#) emergency service sources as saying.

Emergency crews have since [contained](#) the blaze.

TASS sources identified the aircraft as the Ka-226 transport helicopter operated by the Kizlyar Electromechanical Plant and which was said not to be carrying tourists, contrary to earlier reports.

Russian investigators have opened a criminal case into the crash on charges of violating aviation safety rules.

Authorities are examining technical failure as a potential cause, while other explanations are also being considered.

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