



5th+6th quarterly reports of iReport.ie

July-December 2014

.ie





What is the iReport?

The iReport is a human rights monitoring tool which takes the form of quarterly and yearly observatories on racist incidents in Ireland. The iReport observatory compiles its data from information submitted by people who have been subjected to racism, by frontline anti-racist organisations and other organisations that are committed to combating racism, and by the general public. It uses iReport.ie, an online racist incident reporting system which can be found at www.iReport.ie

iReport.ie and the iReport are managed by ENAR Ireland, which coordinates a network of over 40 civil society organisations in Ireland working in anti-racism (see Page 6 and enarireland.org for complete list). ENAR Ireland is the Irish Coordination of ENAR, the European Network Against Racism. ENAR Ireland and ENAR work to coordinate common civil society led responses to racism and racial discrimination at a local, National and European level. ENAR Ireland used to be called INAR, the Irish Network Against Racism.

iReport.ie was launched on 11 July 2013. This, the fifth and sixth quarterly reports, iReport Q5 & Q6, covers the period 01 July to 31 December 2014.

To ensure the analysis of the iReport reporting system is in line with robust international standards of data collection and analysis, and for comparators with relevant international research, ENAR Ireland has partnered with Dr Lucy Michael, Lecturer in Sociology at the University of Ulster. Dr Michael is an authority on hate crime recording systems and on the impact of hate crimes on communities. She is the author of several works in the area including 'Hate Crimes against Students' (2013) and 'Securing civic relations in the multicultural city', (2009). She is a member of the British Society of Criminology, an Executive Committee member of the Sociological Association of Ireland, and the UK editor of the Irish Journal of Sociology.



Reports of racism in Ireland

5th+6th quarterly reports of iReport.ie

July-December 2014

Authored by **Shane O'Curry** (ENAR Ireland)
and **Dr Lucy Michael** (University of Ulster)





The launch of iReport.ie in Dublin on 11th July, 2013. At centre are comedian Tara Flynn (pink top), Dublin footballer Jason Sherlock and singer Maureen Aku Disu. Photo: Derek Speirs

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About iReport.ie

iReport.ie is a fully confidential and independent, civil-society based Racist Incident Reporting System. It is used for human rights monitoring, in line with best practise as set out by the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), and the recommendations from the Council of Europe's European Commission on Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) 2013 report on Ireland. The report generates data that is compatible with the monitoring requirements of UN CERD, the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA), the ODIHR, and other international Human Rights bodies. As such, the system should be seen as neither an alternative to, nor an extension of, the criminal justice system's own recording mechanisms.

As a non-state monitoring system it fills the gap left by the reporting system of the National Consultative Committee on Racism and Integration (NCCRI), when the organisation was all but wound down in 2009. This system, supported by the Community Foundation for Ireland, and embedded in a network of over 40 locally-based organisations, allows for locally gathered information to be fed into, and data to be disaggregated back out of, a centralised web-based racist incidents reporting and information management system. While locally based and sectoral organisations retain locally gathered data, which they use to inform localised and sectoral responses to racism, the national data is analysed and compiled into quarterly and annual reports, and used to inform the public, support lobbying submissions, and contribute to a broader national conversation on racism.

iReport.ie is also a system which makes it as easy as possible for people to self-report racist incidents by using the online form, giving a way for people whose voices are often unheard,

to have those voices heard. In this respect iReport.ie facilitates the inclusion of voices that are often excluded from the national conversation on racism. To facilitate this, the reporting mechanism is designed to be as inclusive of all communities as possible, and one which strives to overcome many of the barriers to reporting that have been identified in ENAR Ireland's own research, as well as in other domestic and international research.

Barriers to recording include: A reluctance by people who experience or witness racism to report to police or other state bodies (our own research suggests that, for a variety of reasons, 5 out of 6 people would not report to Gardai or official bodies); a reluctance to risk exposing oneself to further victimisation by sharing identifying details; a reluctance to engage in a lengthy legal or other processes; a reluctance to use forms that use complicated technical language and other off-putting vocabulary and; a reluctance to use a reporting system that is lengthy and unwieldy. These barriers mean that people from minority ethnic communities experience racism which goes unrecorded and unacknowledged by the state and wider society.

To overcome these barriers the iReport.ie reporting form guarantees confidentiality, is short and easy to use, is written in plain English, and can be filled in anonymously, if the person so wishes. The system also allows for people to be supported in recording racist incidents by organisations working with those communities most at risk of racism. In addition to this, witnesses and by-standers can also report, as can third parties who have heard of incidents in their communities. In this way iReport.ie is a tool intended to help "Break the Silence on Racism".



Report Racist Incidents | iReport

www.iReport.ie

Home About iReport.ie Contact Us Report Racist Incidents

Did anybody help?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Why do you think the incident was racist?

☒ Racist language was used

☐ Language about the person's religion was used

Reporting a racist incident

To report a racist incident, go to www.iReport.ie and fill out the online form. Photographs, screen grabs and other files can be uploaded as well.

The form can be filled in by:

- the person who has experienced racism
- someone supporting a person who has experienced racism
- someone who has witnessed racism
- someone who has heard about a racist incident.

What is racism?

ENAR Ireland uses the definition of Racism as established by the *UN International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD)* (1969): 'Any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference, based on race, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin, which has the purpose of modifying or impairing the recognition, the enjoyment or exercise on an equal footing of human rights and fundamental freedom in the political, economic, social, cultural, or any other field of public life constitutes racial discrimination.'

What is a racist incident?

Following the above definition, a racist incident is any incident which has the effect of undermining anyone's enjoyment or human rights, based on their background. ENAR Ireland follows international best practice in adopting the definition set out by UK Lord McPherson in his Report of the Inquiry into the Murder of Stephen Lawrence (1999), namely that a racist incident is: 'any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person'.

This definition has since been adopted by police forces across the UK (where the Association of Chief Police Officers welcomed it for the 'clari-

ty' it gives police forces). The definition is now also the definition used by An Garda Síochána, the Irish police force. The definition is also consistent with the standards set by the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), and which are used in the iReport.ie online questionnaire:

Question 6: Why would you or the person it happened to say the incident was racist?

- Racist language was used
- Language about the person's religion was used
- There did not appear to be any other possible motive
- It was about something else, but racism came into it

Racist incidents (as distinct from racist crimes) include a range of acts which are racist but which may or may not meet the criteria for being considered criminal offences, or which may be deemed by law enforcement to be too difficult to secure convictions with. The data captured by iReport.ie ranges from these kind of incidents to incidents that are unambiguously recognised by law as criminal offences.

It is important to capture the full spectrum of incidents, as patterns of incidents which fall below the threshold of criminality, or would be deemed too hard to prosecute, can have an effect on individuals, communities and community relations that is much more harmful than their 'mildness' might suggest. Patterns of 'minor' incidents can also act as warnings of more serious incidents. For the same reasons, the UK Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), in its guidelines on monitoring incidents recommends that police forces record all racist incidents, criminal and non-criminal.

Reporting centres

Organisations which offer support to use iReport.ie include:

Canal Communities Partnership:
01-473 2196
info@canalpartnership.com

Cairde:
01 855 2111
info@cairde.ie
www.cairde.ie

Cultúr, Trim, Co Meath:
(046) 9093120
joana@cultur.ie
www.cultur.ie

Crosscare Refugee Service:
01 873 2844
crs@crosscare.ie
www.crosscare.ie

Doras Luimni: Limerick.
061 310 328
info@dorasluimni.org
www.dorasluimni.org

The Integration Centre,
Dublin:

info@integrationcentre.ie
01 6453070 www.integrationcentre.ie

The Jesuit Refugee Service:
Limerick: 061 480922
Dublin: 01 8148644
info@jrs.ie
www.jrs.ie

The Irish Traveller Movement or any of its member organisations:
01 6796577
itmtrav@indigo.ie
www.itmtrav.ie

The Irish Refugee Council:
(01) 764 5854
info@irishrefugeecouncil.ie
www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie

The Migrant Rights Centre Ireland:
01 889 7570
info@mrci.ie
www.mrci.ie

NASC Immigrant Support Centre:
021 450 3462
info@nascireland.org
www.nascireland.org

The New Communities Partnership, Dublin:
1 8727842
info@newcommunities.ie
www.newcommunities.ie

Offaly Traveller Movement:
057 93 52438
info@otm.ie
www.otm.ie

Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Rights centre:
01 8780255
info@paveepoint.ie
www.paveepoint.ie

South Dublin Intercultural Centre / Tallaght Roma Integration Project:

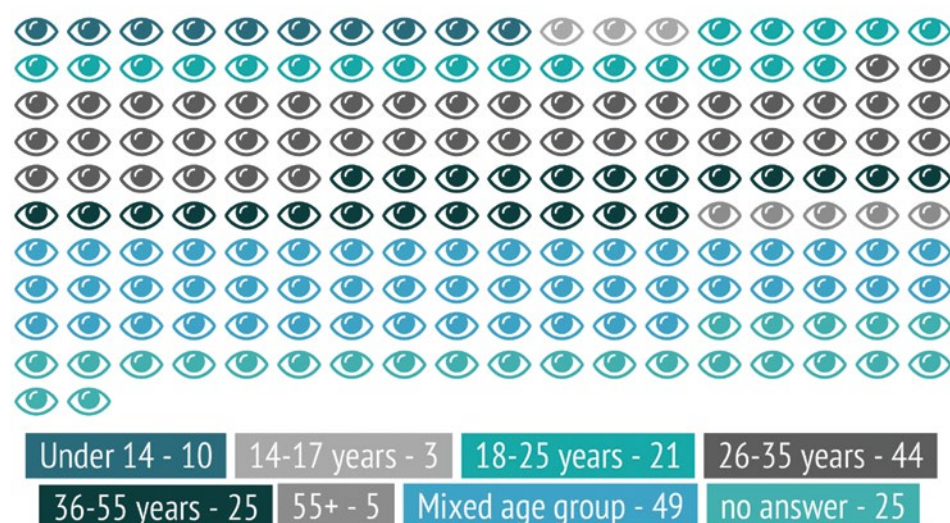
SDCC Intercultural Drop-in centre
01 464 9306
E.zuzana.tesarova@sdccpartnership.ie

The National Youth Council of Ireland
1 478 4122
info@nyci.ie
www.nyci.ie

The Union of Students in Ireland
(0)1 709 9300
info@usi.ie
www.usi.ie

A full list of the 40 ENAR Ireland and iReport.ie participating organisations can be found at:
www.enarireland.org/network-members/

Age of victim



Overview

The iReport.ie system for the reporting of racist incidents in Ireland was launched in July 2013. Reports can be made directly through the website or through a partner organisation. Questions are designed to capture a large amount of detail about racist incidents, including information about where, when and how the incident occurred and details about the victim(s) and perpetrator(s). The system also captures information about why the incident has been perceived as racist, its impact on the victim and/or witnesses, and the interplay with age, gender, sexuality and disability. The recording system has been designed to allow comparison with international patterns and to facilitate understandings of racism which are particular to the Irish context. Analysis of the data has been carried out by Dr. Lucy Michael of the University of Ulster.

One hundred and eighty-two incidents in the iReport.ie system in the six month period of July to December 2014 were analysed. Thirty-three of these were reported through another organisation, with the highest number in this period reported through NASC, the Irish Immigrant Support Centre, Cork, followed by Cultúr Migrants Centre, Co Meath. The variable level of reporting across the country and between different groups should not be interpreted to accurately reflect relative victimisation levels. Language fluency, education levels and feelings of belonging each affect reporting behaviours by victims and witnesses, as well as the capacity of local organisations to undertake reporting through various systems on behalf of their service users or members.

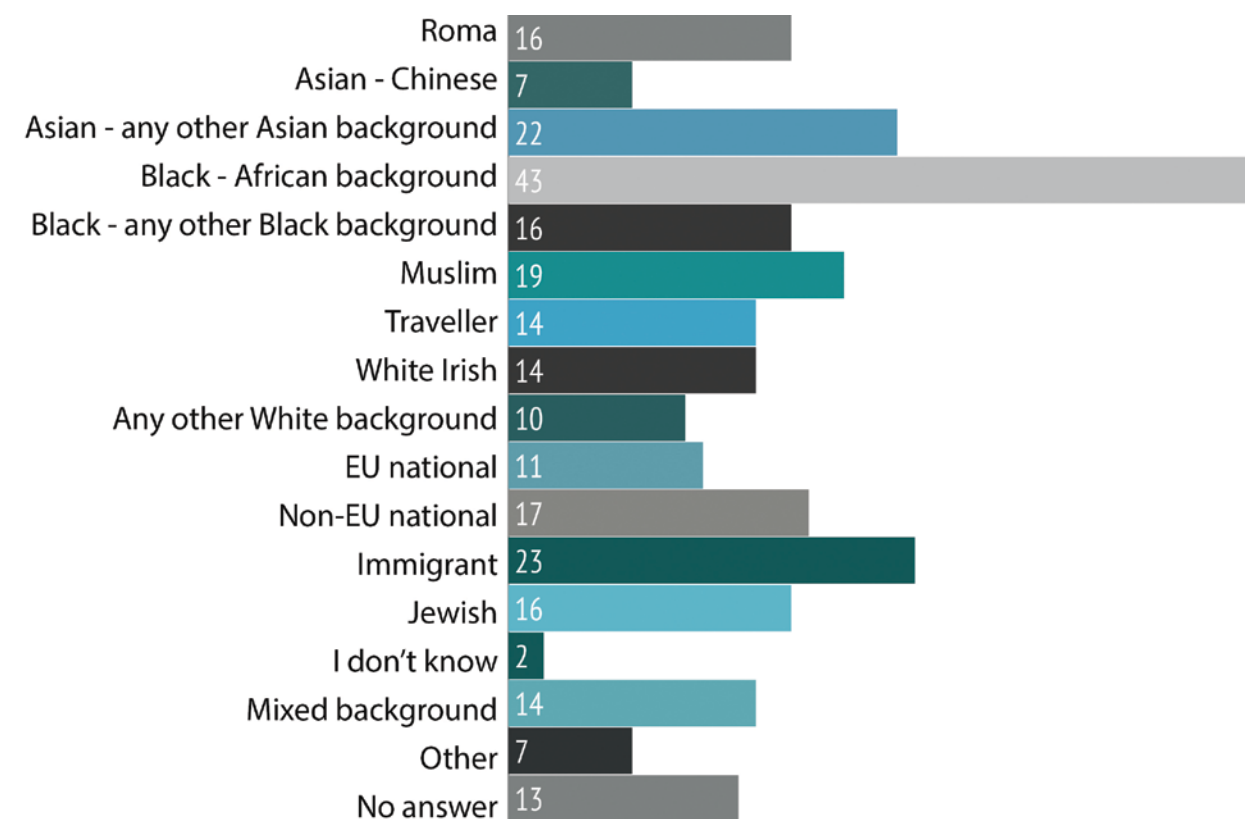
Eight of the reports concerned events occurring in 2013, with a further five cases in the first half of 2014. The majority of events (89%) reported in the July – December period also occurred in that period, with consistent reporting levels across the six month period.

The most common expressions of racism reported in this quarter occurred in face-to-face encounters as well as harassment of people at their homes. These were dominated by shouting and strong language, and harassment, although these were also often in conjunction with other forms of racist expression or behaviour such as threats, unfair treatment, refusal of service and physical assault. Just 18 cases involved only shouting or strong language.

Fifty-seven incidents involved media and social media, with a very small proportion of reports concerning direct online harassment of an individual. Most of these reports concerned racist comments published on websites and social media accounts of national media outlets. A significant number of reports included complaints that news media outlets should take responsibility for monitoring of the comments sections on these accounts.

The highest number of reports in this period came from South and North Dublin respectively, followed by Cork. Incidents occurred more frequently during daylight hours, particularly connected to encounters in public spaces and public transport at peak travel hours, but also to harassment in and around victim's homes

Ethnicity of victims



throughout the daytime and evening times. Neighbourhood-based harassment was often reported as involving repeated incidents of harassment, damage and sometimes assault. The overall numbers of incidents therefore significantly underrepresent the numbers of incidents which have occurred.

Victims were most likely to be aged between 36 and 55 years old, with a further significant number in mixed age groups. Perpetrators were significantly more likely to be male (and acting alone), than female in this period. Men and women were equally likely to experience racism, but again men experienced a higher proportion of incidents involving physical threat.

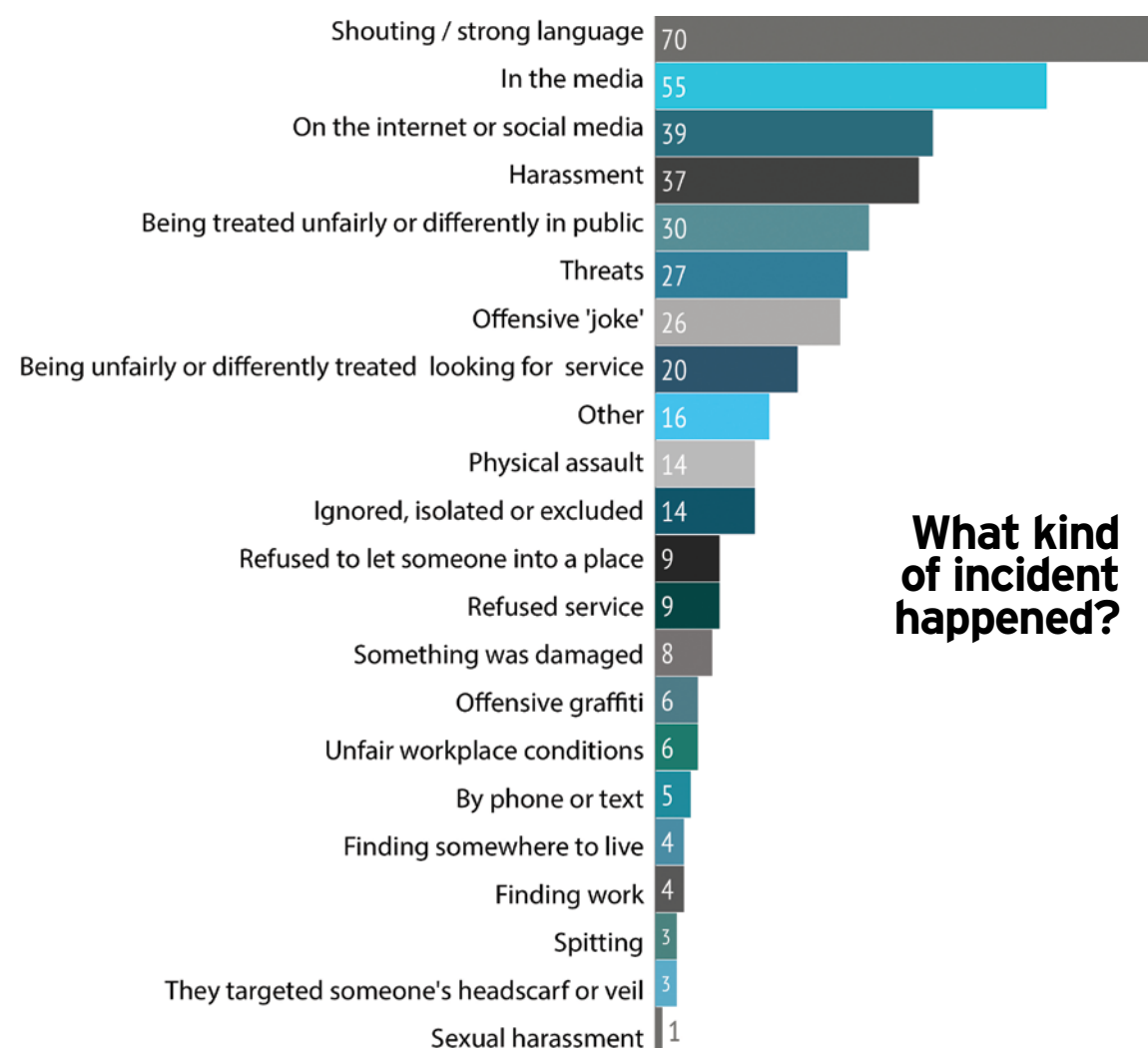
People identifying or identified as Black-African accounted for the highest number of victims. It is worth noting that victim numbers within this report do not fully capture the picture of secondary victimisation which occurs when family and friends who share a minority identity become aware of racial abuse.

Racist language was common to 57 percent of the reported cases. Comments on the victim's

religion were made by perpetrators in 14 percent of incidents. Levels of formal reporting via other recording systems represented 14 percent reported to Gardaí and 16 percent reported to other authorities or NGOs. The level of satisfaction with responses was low overall, with a high level of confusion amongst victims about the support available from Gardaí and the possibility for legal action in cases of assault and damage. A number of cases misrecognised assault and these were identified in the analysis. This may point to a need for clear information to be given to victims about the procedures involved in investigating racist incidents and the capacity of the Gardaí to receive information and provide feedback.

A sizeable proportion of reports (43%) were made by witnesses who had seen or heard about the incidents rather than by victims. While this suggests victims may report the incidents elsewhere, unaccounted for in this data, accounts of the impact on victims and witnesses suggest that trauma may prevent direct reporting by victims unless further support is provided.

Dr Lucy Michael, University of Ulster



The analysis in detail

Dr Lucy Michael, University of Ulster

All incidents

A total of 182 reports were received in this six month period, representing a consistent level of reporting with previous periods. Almost one third (31%) of reports in this six month period concerned racism in the media, or perpetrated through social media. This represents a steady rise in media-related cases to iReport.ie. Analysis of these incidents is offered separately throughout the report, and is simply described as 'media' to cover mass and social media formats. Distinct analysis on each is offered in a separate section below.

Assault appeared in 16 reported cases, with a further 17 cases involving serious threat. Two cases of arson were reported in Cork and Sligo. One incident involved the burning of a car close to a house in which 10 children were sleeping and endangering life. The second incident was arson on a house lived in by a man and his young daughter.

'Shouting or strong language' was reported in 38 percent of all cases, but appeared at a higher proportion (53%) in cases that did not involve media. 'Being treated unfairly or differently in public' and 'Being unfairly or differently treated looking for service' appeared in 22 percent and 16 percent of incidents respectively. Harassment was identified by reporting parties in 25 percent of cases excluding media, falling to 20 percent with media included. Threats were reported in 17 percent, falling to 15 percent with media included.

The proportion of cases of refusal of service and refusal of entry dropped slightly in comparison to the last quarter, from 13 and 11 percent respectively to 7 percent in both categories. Just 4 cases of offensive graffiti appeared in this six month period, and spitting appeared in just 3 reports. A further 6 cases involved property damage.

Incidents of physical assault

In line with advice from ODIHR, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, in-

depth analysis of assault cases was undertaken to ensure that cases defined as such met the relevant legal requirement under Irish law. A pattern of under identification has been consistent across 2013 and 2014. In this period, 4 cases of assault were not reported as such, although these cases clearly met the legal definition. These were reclassified by the research team to facilitate the analysis.

Racist language was used in eleven of the sixteen incidents classified as assault. All of these incidents meet the criteria of the Non-Fatal Offences Against the Person Act, 1997. The incidents included the following:

- An adult Asian man experienced assault and harassment in his professional workplace on repeated occasions.
- A young Black African male was assaulted by a group of 6 people while walking alone through Dublin city centre early on a midweek evening, leaving him with a serious eye injury.
- A six month pregnant woman was kicked in the stomach by her neighbour, after repeated incidents of verbal abuse.
- A ten year old Muslim girl was pushed, shoved and hit by a group of young people in a playground next to a community centre.
- A man and his daughter living in Cork experienced an arson attack at their home, after 18 other criminal incidents mostly involving property damage to their house and car.
- A Muslim couple in Dublin, living in Ireland for less than a year, have repeatedly experienced physical and verbal abuse from neighbours
- A woman identified as Black was threatened and had a drink thrown over her by a group in a Dublin pub early on a midweek evening.
- A Black-African parent and two children born in Ireland were pelted with eggs and rubbish leaving their house on a Saturday afternoon.
- A young migrant woman was hit repeatedly in the face in the street by a white couple walking by, leaving her with a black eye and scarring.
- A child identifying as a Traveller was assaulted in North Dublin on a weekday afternoon by a man during his theft of the child's bicycle.
- A young woman identifying as Asian-Chinese was hit on several different occasions by eggs and other food items by teenagers in Limerick. The perpetrators varied with each offence.
- A Chilean tourist near the Central Bank in Dublin on a Saturday evening was assaulted by a teenage girl, and was left with facial injuries.

Levels of violence

The combination of negative behaviours reported in all categories of incident required us to produce an understanding of the levels of threat

and violence experienced by the victims in each of the reports. We used the categories above as well as our own analysis of the reports to compile an index measuring the level of violence involved. Of the 182 reports received, nine percent involved threat, and a further ten percent involved physical assault. There was an increase in this reporting period of cases which involved no serious threat and these made up 80 percent of the reports.

Region

Geographical analysis is provided here for all cases not involving media or social media. Reports in this quarter showed Dublin South, Dublin North and Cork together made up 55 percent of incidents, with a significant rise in incidents in South Dublin. Limerick made up a further 8 percent of cases. Other regions produced just a few reports each.

Some analysis of key locations of incidents has been undertaken. Racism was commonly experienced in streets, shops and government offices. Public transport was associated with 12 incidents, 3 involving bus drivers, and 3 involving taxi drivers. Three incidents occurred at Luas stops, including two violent attacks.

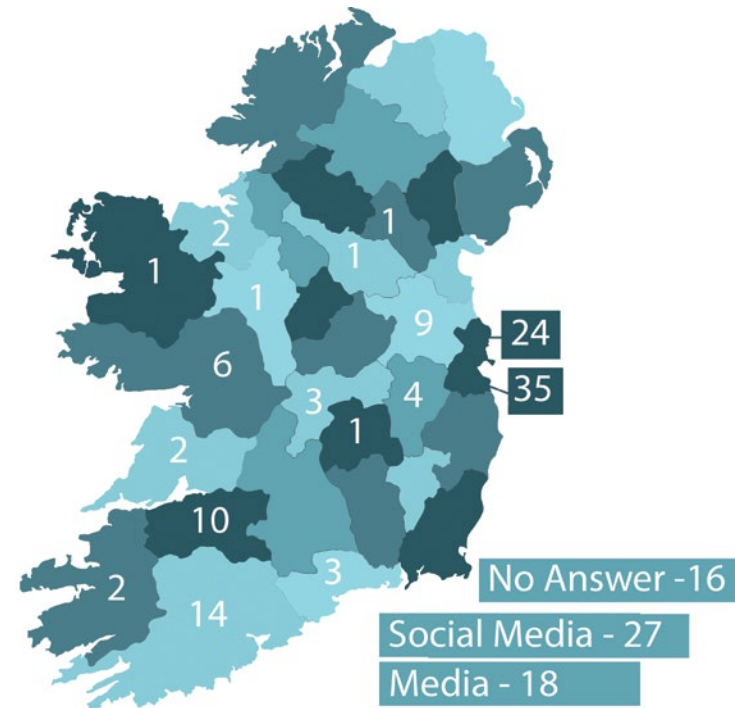
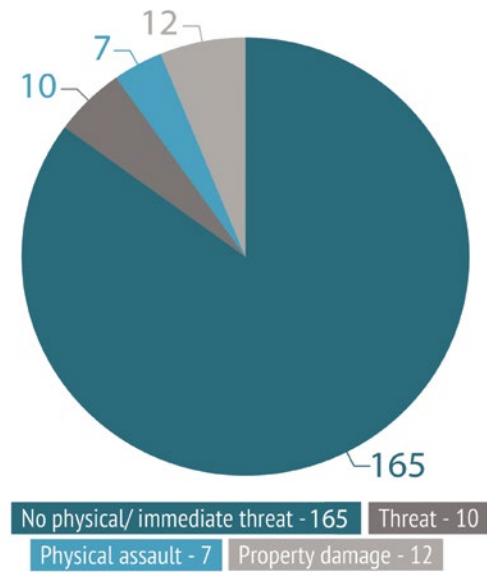
Time of incident

Dates are available for 169 of the 182 cases reported in this six month period. Eight reports referred to cases occurring prior to 2014, while 13 reports did not report a date of occurrence. Analysis of the 161 cases reported as having occurred in 2014 is provided here.

Rates of occurrence are not consistent throughout the week in this period. As in previous periods, reported cases were significantly more likely to happen on weekdays, with a lower frequency on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. However, by excluding media-related cases, a more consistent pattern of incidents is evident throughout the week with a lower rate of incidence only on Sunday.

Times are reported for 132 of these reports, including 38 incidents involving media. It is necessary to analyse these separately, as 47 percent of cases involving media were reported as occurring between 5pm and midnight, when many people are engaged in social media networks and read online news sources. By comparison, only 37 percent of cases not involving media occurred in the same timeframe. Excluding media, there are noticeable peak points at morning and evening rush hours, and at midday. This is consistent with patterns in earlier iReport.ie analyses.

Level of violence



Reason	Percentage
Racist language was used	103
It was about something else but racism came into it	46
Language about the person's religion was used	25
There didn't appear to be another motive	52
No answer	17

The line graph illustrates the number of people in the car park at various times. The data points are as follows:

Time	Number of People
8:00am	10
8:10am	5
8:20am	5
8:30am	2
8:40am	0
8:50am	1
9:00am	0
9:10am	3
9:20am	4
9:30am	5
9:40am	5
9:50am	8
10:00am	7
10:10am	8
10:20am	6
10:30am	9
10:40am	8
10:50am	7
11:00am	14
11:10am	14
11:20am	12
11:30am	4
11:40am	3
11:50am	4
12:00pm	5
12:10pm	8

Reporting by victims

More than a third of the reports (38%) received by iReport.ie came directly from people against whom racism was perpetrated, with a further 16 percent reported by NGOs or other organisations supporting them. A further 28 percent were reported by eye witnesses, and 15 percent by people who had heard about the incident. Of the 79 reports from people who had seen or heard an incident, however, just 22 were from family, friends, colleagues or immediate neighbours of the person or people experiencing racism. Strangers reported 42 cases of racism they had seen or heard. Two cases involved the victimisation of tourists, and were reported by witnesses.

Of the 182 reported cases, 55 (30 percent) were known to have been reported to the Gardaí or another authority or NGO as well as to the iReport.ie website. Twenty five cases (14%) were reported to Gardaí. Of those that reported to Gardaí, 10 reported that they were still waiting on information, 5 were explicitly negative about the Garda response, and 5 reported a positive experience. Five were neither explicitly positive or negative, but reported some response on the part of Gardaí. All of the 16 assault cases were reported to Gardaí.

Age of Reported Victims

Victims in the 182 cases reported in this six

month period were most likely to be in the category of '36-55' years (20%) excluding media-related cases, although the category reported overall were '26-35' years (24%). Under 18s constitute less than 8 percent of all cases. Victims under 25 were particularly vulnerable on public transport, on the street, and in their own neighbourhood. However, the number of people exposed to racism cannot always be verified, as in the case of racist graffiti in Kildare beside two national schools, an Educate Together and a Gaelscoil.

Ethnicity of Victims

Consistent with previous iReport.ie analyses, reports of racism against people identified as Black remained high, with incidents against people identifying as Black-African constituting 24 percent of reports, with a further 9 percent of reports pertaining to racism against other Black identities. Asian victimisation remained higher for Asian Other than Asian Chinese, at 12 percent and 4 percent respectively. Muslims experienced racism in 10 percent of cases, and Travellers in 8 percent of cases, and rates of victimisation for these groups were consistent across media and non-media cases.

Differentiating media-related cases, however, exposes a significantly higher rate of victimisation by some groups offline. Thirty percent of cases offline were against people identified

as Black African and 16 percent of offline cases against Asian Other. Cases of anti-Semitism constituted 9 percent of reports, but no offline cases were reported against Jewish people in this period. Roma appeared in 9 percent of cases, but just 4 percent excluding media cases.

Seven percent of cases were reported as happening to White Irish people, but it should be noted that all but one were based on visibly mixed ethnicity, racism against someone with whom the victim had a relationship, or ethno-religious prejudices constituting racism, as well as racism observed in the media. Only one case concerned a racist remark about a white person from a person of another ethnicity.

The iReport.ie website allows people reporting incidents to choose more than one category of identification for the 'person this happened to'. The numbers in this chart therefore exceed the number of reports. This means of categorisation allow us to see the multiple ways in which people identify themselves and are identified by others, and the impact this may have on victimisation. The numbers featured in the table

also relate to the number of case reports, rather than the exact number of people experiencing racism in each case. These can be found in the next section.

Single and group victimisation

Thirty two incidents (18 %) were described as involving more than 10 victims. Twelve of these involved racist comments or representations in national and local media or social media with a wide general audience. Several incidents involved racist speech on public transport.

Sixty one percent of the 182 cases reported in this quarter involved single victims. It might be expected that this was correlated with the number of media reports read by individuals, but the proportion of single victims rises when media reports are excluded from the analysis. Small groups of 2-4 people experience 25 percent of cases, and groups of 5-10 people experience just 5 percent of reports (excluding media reports). These patterns are remarkably consistent with previous iReport.ie analyses. More than half of those who reported cases involving higher levels of threat were on their own at the time.



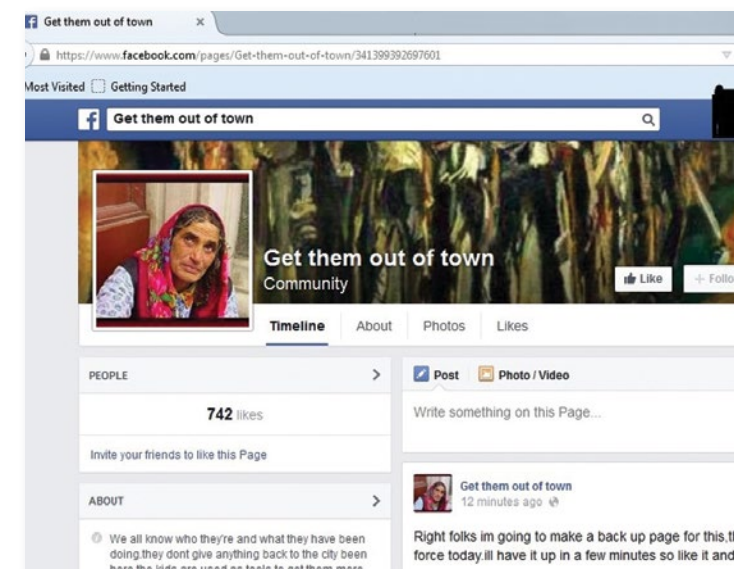
This cover of Phoenix magazine from August 2014 was the subject of numerous reports to iReport.ie for its allusion to the Holocaust, and was the subject of a debate in the subsequent issue of the magazine



Islamophobic memes posted by the Israeli Embassy official Facebook page during Israeli attack on Gaza in the summer of 2014



Right: second or third incarnation of anti-Roma Facebook page (after the first was removed by Facebook) which is believed to have led to several nights of street disturbances directed at Roma in Waterford City in October 2014.



Racism on the web and in social media

Fifty-seven incidents involving media and social media were reported in this period. Of these the majority of reports concerned racist comments on social media and newspaper websites in response to news articles. The largest single number of reports were submitted in relation to The Phoenix magazine's August edition. These reports came from both Ireland and the UK. A selection of the most reported cases is produced below.

Racist expressions on personal and corporate social media accounts:

- Antisemitic comments by several individual Twitter users, general and specifically regarding Minister for Justice Alan Shatter on Twitter, August and September.
- Antisemitic comments on own Twitter account by well known GAA player – later deleted, August.
- Islamophobic images shared on Twitter and

Facebook feeds by Israeli Embassy in Ireland, July.

- Anti-semitic image on cover of The Phoenix magazine, July and August.

Social media is increasingly reported as the medium for abuse of racialised minorities. The increasing use of social media, especially Facebook and Twitter, by newspapers to publicise articles has prompted a surge in comments on the attached pages. These comments are often not monitored to the same extent as comments hosted on the newspaper's website.

Responses to national news media:

- Anti-Roma comments on Journal.ie, July
- Anti-Semitic comments on the Irish Independent website, August.
- Anti-Irish comments on Irish Times website under a number of articles by same author.
- Broadsheet.ie republished xenophobic com-

ments by councillor originally reported by Connacht Tribune, August.

- Anti-Semitic comments on Journal.ie website, September.
- Anti-Traveller comments on Irish Times website on article about Traveller child denied funeral home services.
- Anti-Roma comments on Irish Times Facebook page on article about anti-racist rally in Waterford, October.
- Anti-Traveller comments on Facebook page of Irish Daily Mirror, November.
- Islamophobic comments on Journal.ie article on French terrorist attack, December.

Facebook groups are increasingly used by both racist and anti-racist groups to organise and share ideas and event information:

- Anti-Traveller comments left on Facebook page used to promote equality for Travellers, September.
- Two Facebook groups organising against Roma in Waterford, October.

- A Facebook group disseminating false information about immigration, October.
- A Facebook group disseminating Islamophobic materials, Northern Ireland, October.
- Video of racist chanting at football match shared on Irish nationalist commemorative Facebook page, June.
- Facebook group promoting British nationalism, with anti-Irish and Islamophobic materials, July.

Websites and other online activity:

- A number of American websites hosting racist and eugenicist comments (commonly reported to by people in Ireland after they appear in search engine results here)
- Racist comments about Asylum Seekers and Muslims left in response to YouTube video about Irish Direct Provision published by European Commission on Refugees and Exiles
- Supervalu advertising campaign utilising racist stereotypes in Mexican food promotion, November.

Support for victims

Individual support for people who have been subjected to racism is available from the organisations within our network. ENAR Ireland does not provide direct support of this kind, but welcomes comments on the support needs around the country.

Our partners providing this support include:

Akidwa Migrant Womens Network: info@akidwa.ie, 01-8349851, www.akidwa.ie
Crosscare: 2 Sackville Place, Dublin 1: (01) 8732844
Cultúr: Trim, Co Meath: (046) 9093120 www.cultur.ie, joana@cultur.ie
Doras Luimni: Limerick. www.dorasluimni.org. 061 310 328 info@dorasluimni.org
The Integration Centre, Dublin: 01 6453070 www.integrationcentre.ie, info@integrationcentre.ie
The Immigrant Council of Ireland, Dublin: info@immigrantcouncil.ie Tel: 01 674 0200

The Jesuit Refugee Service: www.jrs.ie, info@jrs.ie Limerick : 061 480922, Dublin: 01 1 8148644
The Irish Traveller Movement and any of its member organisations: www.itmtrav.ie 01 6796577 itmtrav@indigo.ie
The Irish Refugee Council, Dublin: www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie (01) 764 5854, info@irishrefugeecouncil.ie
The Migrant Rights Centre Ireland, Dublin: www.mrci.ie 01 889 7570 info@mrci.ie
NASC Immigrant Support Centre, Cork: www.nascireland.org 021 450 3462 Email info@nascireland.org
The New Communities Partnership, Dublin: www.newcommunities.ie 01 8727842, info@newcommunities.ie
Offaly Traveller Movement: 057 9352438 Email: info@otm.ie
Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Rights Centre:

info@paveepoint.ie, 01 8780255, www.paveepoint.ie
South Dublin Intercultural Centre / Tallaght Roma Integration Project: SDCC Intercultural Drop-in centre, 01 4649306, zuzana.tesarova@sdccpartnership.ie

A full list of ENAR Ireland participating organisations can be found at: www.enarireland.org/network-members/

It is important to stress that, while ENAR Ireland always encourages people to report racism to An Garda Síochána, the Irish police, because of confidentiality, reports of racism reported to iReport.ie will NOT automatically be reported to An Garda Síochána, unless expressly requested to be passed on. iReport.ie is NOT an emergency service and serious incidents should be reported to the emergency services. In an emergency call: 112 or 999

Perpetrators

The described ethnicity of perpetrators in the 182 reports was predominantly 'White Irish' (74%), with White Irish also appearing in a groups of perpetrators with a person or people of Other White or unspecified Other background. Five of the cases involved 'Travellers', and seven involved Other White. Asian perpetrators were identified in 2 cases, and Black perpetrators in 2 cases. Significantly, the proportion of 'White Irish' perpetrators rises to 84 percent when media cases are excluded. This is partly due to the difficulty attributing identity to media authors and partly to the global reach of media and social media messages.

Single perpetrators were involved in 59 percent of reports (61% excluding media). Groups of 2-4 perpetrated racism in 30 cases excluding media, while groups of 5-10 people were responsible in just 10 cases. Groups of more than 10 were responsible for 9 cases (excluding media), compared to 29 reports overall.

Racism was most perpetrated again in this period by people in the '36-55' years age category (23%), followed by those in the '26-35 years' and mixed age groups (14% each). However mixed age groups were more associated with media

cases, and constituted just 3 percent of other cases. Again this quarter, half of those in the 36-55 category were male perpetrators, mostly acting alone.

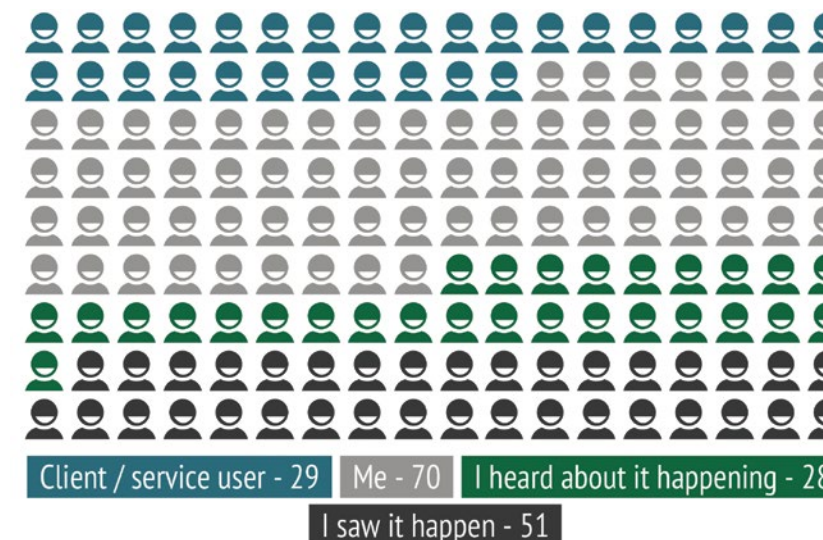
Perpetrators aged '18-25' were involved in 8 percent of reports and those aged under 18 were involved in 6 percent of reports, predominantly male and also acting as individuals and small groups of up to 4 people.

Perceptions of racism

Racist language was the only reason given in 37 percent of reports for perceiving racism in cases not involving media, and in 35 percent of cases overall. However racist language was used by the perpetrator in 54 percent of cases not involving media, and 57 percent of cases overall.

Reports were more likely to feature multiple reasons for perceiving the incident as racist. Only 18 percent of reports relied solely on the reason that 'There did not seem to be any other motive' (decreasing to 15% with media cases included), although a further 14 percent of cases in both analyses mention this reason in combination with another. These patterns are consistent with reporting in previous iReports. Language about

Who did it happen to?



the victim's religion was used in 8 percent of cases, but 14 percent of all cases including media. In more than two-thirds of cases involving higher levels of threat, language was used which was racist or referred to the victim's religion. Three cases also included explicit identification (one mistaken) of tourists.

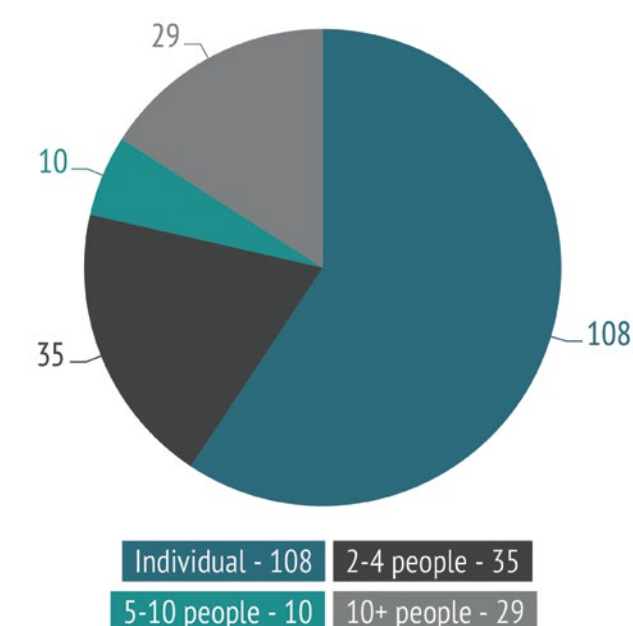
In 27 percent of reports, the reporting party perceived that racism was introduced into an incident around something else. There was no discernible pattern in these reports by ethnicity of victim, number of perpetrators or victims, location, time of day, or perpetrator type (i.e. institution or persons). The majority were classified in the present analysis as 'no threat' incidents, and involved daily activities such as shopping, using public transport, and being in the workplace or at home. These emphasise the inescapable and recurring phenomenon of racism in everyday life.

Gender

Gender has significant impact in looking at the perpetration of racism. Male individuals or all-male groups were involved in twice the number of incidents involving female perpetrators, whether they involved media or not. Mixed gender groups (including institutions) are involved in the perpetration of a fifth of incidents, as well as having media cases attributed to them. The latter may be in the absence of other information or where the case concerns a media discussion or online forum.

Victims were again in this reporting period almost equally likely to be male as female, each experiencing 36 percent of reports not involving media. However, women were more likely to experience racism in media and social media, with a 5 percent gap evident between men and women in this category. The experience of racism by both men and women was also spread consistently through all age groups. Men experienced racism when alone in a greater proportion of

Number of perpetrators



cases than women in this period. Men also experienced greater levels of aggression in threatening situations.

Sexuality and disability

Racist incidents are frequently perpetrated against people who identify with, or are identified in terms of, sexual orientation, transgender experience or disability. In line with international evidence, it would be expected that a number of victims in this period define themselves with, or were defined by, several of these identities. We have excluded general groups from this analysis (i.e. where reporting parties checked all categories). Of the specific victims described in this period, 3 reports included Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual (LGB) as well as describing a minority ethnic identity. Two of the reports specifically state that the person who experienced racism had a disability. Three people experiencing racism perceived sexuality or disability as a factor in the reported case, due to language used by the perpetrator.

This word cloud is based on respondents' answers to the question: 'How did you feel?'



Impact on victims

In addition to descriptions of the incidents, the reporting system also asks about the impact of the incident on the reporting person. Whether victim or eyewitness, it is evident that the majority of reported incidents had significant impact in terms of health, feelings of inclusion, and ability to work and form relationships.

During this six-month period, more people reporting racism gave details in this section of the questionnaire than in any previous comparable period. These were detailed comments which set out very clearly the multiple ways in which racism is felt in the long and short term. The longer comments on the impact have been abbreviated here to capture the most salient aspects. Just 19 of the 182 reports contained no comment on the impact of the experience. Media-related incidents were described in similar terms to other incidents in most cases. However cases involving assault or threat of assault had very serious impact on the victims and witnesses, with illness, insomnia, paranoia and fear of going out in public resulting from these incidents.

A number of the incidents involved wider secondary victimisation through family, friends and colleagues who were affected by the racist abuse. White Irish witnesses to racist abuse against people of other ethnic or national identities also reported experiencing shock, anger and fear for the victims which continued after the event.

An analysis of the responses to the question 'How did you feel?' shows that respondents overall reported extreme emotional experiences as a result of being a victim of or witness to racist incidents. The single most frequently used response, as in previous periods, from both witnesses and people who were targeted in instances of racism was anger, followed by shame and humiliation. Both usually co-existed with other emotions and

feelings of hurt. Witnesses to racism commonly referred to being ashamed of the perpetrators. The terms below were regularly prefixed by "extremely", "very" and "really". The full range of expressions used in the reports is reproduced here to accurately represent the mental and physical impact of racism on victims, co-victims and witnesses.

- 30 Ashamed/shamed/humiliated/embarrassed/disappointed
- 30 Angry/enraged/fuming/furious/infuriated
- 28 Depressed/upset/deflated/demoralised/sad/low
- 25 Shocked/appalled/horrified
- 20 Disgusted/disturbed
- 15 Awful/horrible/bad
- 14 Annoyed/frustrated
- 13 Afraid/scared/fearful/terrified
- 12 Hurt/damaged/traumatized/abused
- 11 Physically sick/nauseous
- 10 Belittled/worthless/undermined/unimportant
- 9 Unprotected/unsafe/vulnerable/defenceless
- 9 Isolated/disconnected/lost
- 8 Helpless/powerless
- 7 Uncertain/unsure/uneasy/uncomfortable/nervous
- 6 Insulted/offended
- 6 Anxious/worried/confused/agitated
- 5 Gutted/heartbroken/hopeless/despairing
- 4 Intimidated/bullied/cheated
- 3 Threatened/compromised

Positive impacts were reported in 7 of the cases. Several people described feeling 'compelled' to act as a result of their anger at observing racism. Three witnesses also recounted their interventions in racist incidents, which gave them feelings of greater confidence and hope where those were successful.

Concluding remarks

Racism is confirmed as a consistent fact of daily life for all racialised groups in Ireland.

This report of the data from the second half of 2014 also represents the closing report for the first phase of iReport.ie. It confirms again the remarkably consistent pattern in key findings across the 18-month phase. Just as this testifies to the reliability of our methodology, it also means that we can assert with a degree of confidence that our data set is representative of the real experiences of racism which people have had in Ireland in 2014.

People of Black, African or perceived African origin are routinely subjected to patterns of racist and dehumanising verbal abuse, often by strangers, escalating to harassment and at times to assault. In line with the ENAR research on the experience of People of African Descent across Europe, this demographic is most likely to be targeted during daylight hours in busy areas. Of course this doesn't mean that such incidents are confined to daylight hours. Mr Happy Agamah, a Ghanaian-born German citizen, was targeted while he slept at night by arsonists who had subjected him to a pattern of racist abuse.

Irish Travellers, Muslims, Asians and Roma are also subjected to unacceptably high levels of racism in the form of discrimination, verbal abuse and violence. International events have an impact on Ireland as they do across Europe: a number of reports of antisemitic and islamophobic incidents suggest a context relating to overseas conflicts.

The data also sheds light on the under-explored phenomenon of hate crimes against people on multiple grounds, for example ethnicity or race plus disability, sexuality or gender. In one incident a six month pregnant woman was kicked in the stomach by her neighbour.

We know more about the impact of hate crimes too on the victim and their behaviour, but also, through the ripple effects of secondary victimisation, on community relations which can deteriorate as a result. There is also a clear link between the use of racist language and violence against all groups.

In this period again, there are no reports at all from people who are awaiting their asylum applications in the long discredited regime of Direct Provision Centres. While the bleak conditions in the centres are well documented, we can only speculate from our own anecdotal evidence, and from other research into under reporting, as to why this is so. This degrading and inhuman regime must be brought to an end without delay.

The overall picture is of racism as a consistent, albeit grossly underreported fact of everyday life for all racialised groups in Ireland today. In the absence of a National Action Plan Against Racism, this worryingly persistent problem is set to become a major societal issue in years to come.

These stark facts, and the additional data on the repercussions of hate crimes, support the urgent need for the Government to introduce hate crime legislation. For such legislation to be truly effective, it must be flanked by an array of other measures, brought together under a new National Action Plan Against Racism, to combat segregation, discrimination and structural racism across a range of institutions. In doing this, Ireland would be meeting many of its international obligations and recommendations, including those of the 2013 European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) report on Ireland.

This six-month report of iReport.ie findings concludes the data using the Phase 1 data standards. Following a review involving feedback from our network members and consultation with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), reports for 2015 onwards will be compiled using new reporting standards intended to make the data more readily comparable to that of An Garda Síochána's (the Irish police force) as well as NGO and State data across Europe. This will also allow us to drill deeper into the reasons for the chronic underreporting of cases to An Garda Síochána, consistently over a 70%. With this data we will be able to make more focused recommendations, which can be fed in to the current process of Garda reform.

Shane O'Curry, Director

What they have said about iReport.ie

"I would like to commend all involved in the production of this robust and comprehensive report . . . ENAR Ireland's work on iReport.ie is of value not only for documenting racism in Ireland but also for pointing the way to policy and legislative gaps and issues. It can be a useful tool for others globally struggling with similar issues".

**Anastasia Crickley, former Ireland Rapporteur
and current Vice-president of the UN
Committee for the Elimination of Racial
Discrimination (UN CERD)**

"iReport.ie is very well done. It gives a thorough insight into the current situation and challenges and on top of that it is well written and accessible. I look forward to see how the project develops further and seeing its impact.

FRA considers making a good-practice-box about the report in the up-coming annual report together with a similar initiative in Greece."

**Morten Kjaerum, Director, European Union
Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)**

"The best way for everyone to help stamp out racism is to recognise and report it."
Irish Examiner Editorial December 16th, 2013

"The iReport.ie mechanism is an invaluable resource for those who experience racism, providing people a means through which they can document their particular experiences."

**James Carr, Dept of Sociology,
University of Limerick**

"The iReport.ie Quarterly report is an important stage in exposing the extent of racism in our society"

Ethel Buckley, SIPTU

"ENAR Ireland's iReport.ie is an excellent example of the kind of monitoring and reporting of discriminatory practices that is needed in the EU at the moment. ... which will hopefully ... bring about improved protection mechanisms and remedies to victims".

**Dr Michael Privot, Director,
European Network Against Racism**



Scan this code to report
racist incident

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Against Racism Ireland**
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Dublin 2

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Email: info@enarireland.org
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