



# REPORTS OF RACISM IN IRELAND

3rd quarterly report of iReport.ie

January-February-March 2014

Racism:  
see it  
send it  
end it.

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](http://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.

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 Criminology at the University of Hull. 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

## 3rd Quarterly Report of iReport.ie

January-February-March 2014

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







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".





## 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:**  
0 1 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/

## Reporting a racist incident

To report a racist incident, go to [www.iReport.ie](http://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.

## Overview

The iReport 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 for the third quarter has been carried out by Dr. Lucy Michael in consultation with Shane O'Curry, Director of ENAR Ireland.

One hundred and twelve incidents in the iReport system in the three-month period of January to March 2014 were analysed. Seventeen of these were reported through another organisation, with the highest number (13) in this quarter (similarly to the last quarter) reported through NASC, the Irish Immigration Support Centre, which is based in Cork and serves the city and Munster region.

With the establishment and promotion of the system throughout late 2013, cases reported are increasingly less likely to now include events which occurred before the first reporting period. There were just 6 reports in this quarter which referred to events occurring before July 2013, and only 12 which occurred in the latter half of 2013. Five of these occurred in December 2013 and were reported in early January. There was a highly consistent spread of reports throughout this quarter.

The most common forms of racist incident reported in this quarter are shouting and strong language, and incidents involving internet and social media. The highest number of reports in this period came from North and South Dublin, and Cork. Incidents occurred more frequently during midweek days and daylight hours, particularly connected to encounters in public spaces.

Victims were most likely to be aged between 25 and 55 years old, with a further significant number in mixed age groups, although the proportion decreased significantly when media and

social media related cases were accounted for. Perpetrators were significantly more likely to be male 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.

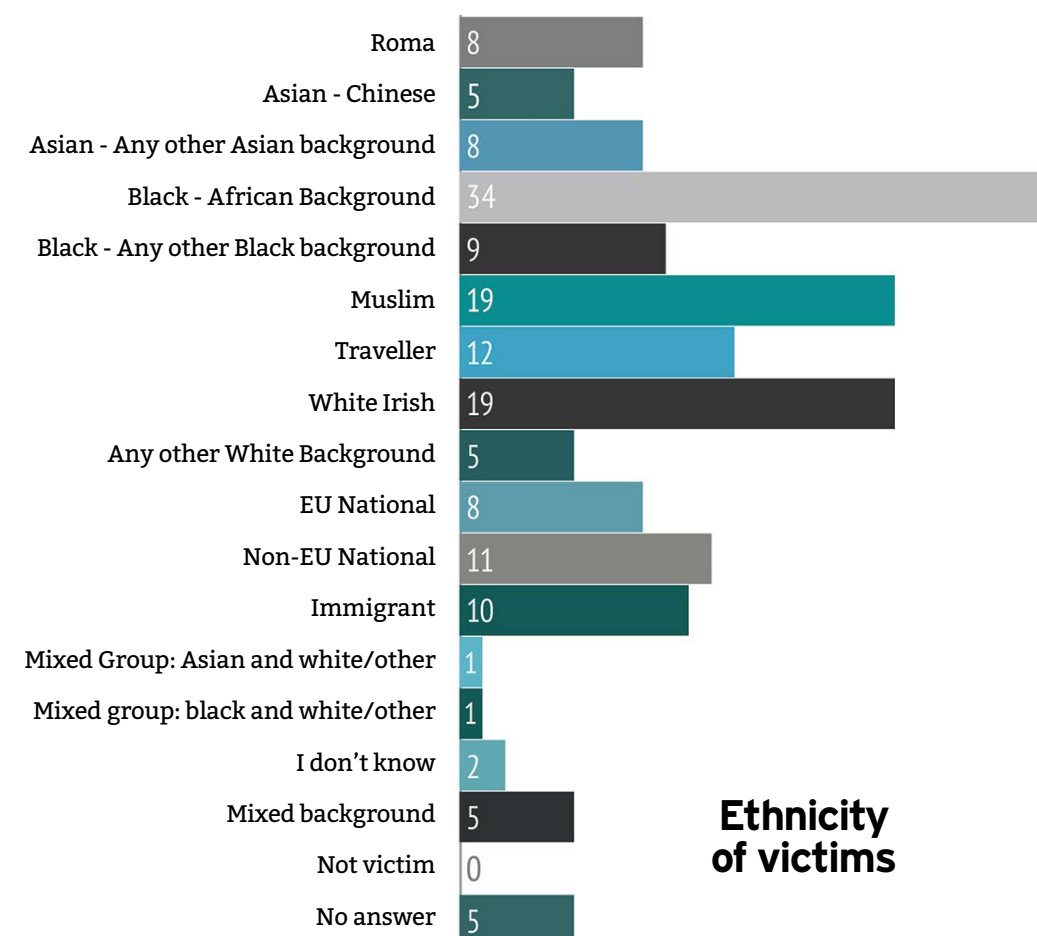
People identifying or identified as Black-African accounted for the highest number of victims. It is worth noting that victim numbers within this report do not fully capture the picture of secondary victimisation which occurs when family and friends who share a minority identity become aware of racial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

Racist language was common to 70 percent of the reported cases. Comments on the victim's religion were made by perpetrators in 7 incidents. Levels of formal reporting via other recording systems were higher in this period, with 21 percent reported to Gardaí and 23 percent reported to other authorities or NGOs. The level of satisfaction with responses was low overall. Of those that reported to Gardaí, 6 reported a positive response, 12 negative responses and 4 neutral. International research shows that victims require a great deal of public support, and confidence in the reporting system, to make formal reports.

A slightly lower proportion of cases reported in this quarter to the iReport website were made by witnesses who had seen or heard about the incidents rather than by victims. However, it still constitutes a sizeable proportion at 46 percent. It is notable in this period that a significant number of reports were made by people identifying as White Irish on behalf of victims with whom they had no prior relationship.

This period shows a rise in the proportion of cases reported by people with no relation to the person or people experiencing racism, probably due to the high number of mediated incidents reported. However there is also a significant rise in the proportion of cases reported to the Gardaí, including by victims. This reflects, at least in part, the higher number of assault cases in this period.

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.



**Ethnicity of victims**

## Types of incident

This quarter is marked by a significant rise in the number of reports involving assault, which appeared in 14 percent of reports, compared to just 5 percent in the last reporting quarter. However other types of incident were quite consistent with the last reporting quarter. 'Being treated unfairly or differently in public' and 'Being unfairly or differently treated looking for service' appeared in 21 percent and 17 percent of incidents respectively. Harassment was identified by reporting parties in 18 percent of cases. Threats appeared in 13 percent of incidents.

The number of cases of refusal of service and refusal of entry was down compared to the last quarter, at just 5 percent each. Just 2 cases of offensive graffiti appeared in this quarter, but incidents involving spitting increased and appeared in 5 reports.

The largest number of reported incidents in this quarter involved 'Shouting or strong language'

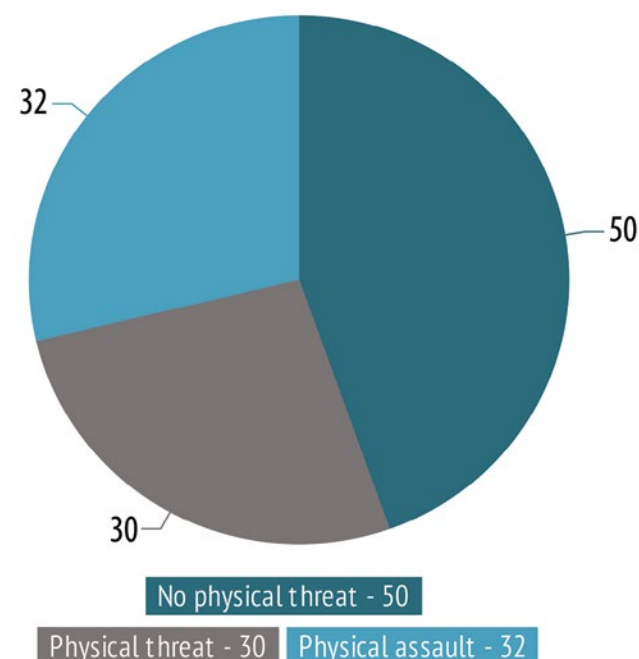
(29%), as in the last period, but just 8 of these incidents occurred outside media or internet related contexts. This period saw a significant rise in the proportion of incidents involving media and social media reported, which constituted 53 percent of all reports.

### Incidents of physical assault

Fourteen assaults were reported, with racist language used in twelve of the incidents. Seven of these incidents meet the criteria of the Non-Fatal Offences Against the Person Act, 1997, with racist language accompanying violence in all cases. Two of the victims were reported as hospitalised as a result of the violence, one of which involved the victim being kicked unconscious, the other a punch to the jaw which broke it. Both of these incidents occurred in Dublin city centre in daylight hours and involved small groups of white Irish assailants in unprovoked and sudden attacks. The victims, a single victim in each incident, were Brazilian and Asian Muslim.



## Level of violence



## Respondents' perception of racism



A Roma man was attacked with rocks at his home when he tried to leave the house to ring Gardaí after two front windows had been smashed. His family had been the recipients of an ongoing spate of similar attacks on the flat. He was visibly bleeding as a result of the attack. The incident was reported by a neighbour.

A Chinese couple were attacked by a group of young people of mixed ages in Dublin South on a midweek afternoon. It was not reported to Gardaí. A further assault involved a Black African taxi driver attacked by his passengers in Dublin South on a Saturday night at 2am. This was reported to the Gardaí. No serious bodily injuries were described explicitly in these cases.

Two of the reports concern physical bullying at Educate Together schools in Meath. It is not clear if they concern the same school as neither are explicitly named. Both reports concern bullying of Black African children, and report several connected incidents of apparently tolerated racist language within the school. Both reports expressed concern at a lack of action on the part of the school authorities and teachers.

An additional assault was reported in the media in which a 19 year old Chechen man was pulled from his car by a gang of Irish men, pushed into a stolen car and stabbed multiple times with a screwdriver, then his body hidden. He escaped only by pretending to be dead. When his mother called his mobile phone, she was verbally abused and told that he was dead.

### 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 to compile an index measuring the level of violence involved.

Of the 112 incidents reported, a quarter (27%) involved threat, and a further 29 percent involved physical assault. There was a corresponding decrease in this reporting period of non-threatening racist incidents and these made up 45 percent of the reports, compared to 63 percent in the last quarter. There were no significant incidents of property damage reported.

### Region

Reports in this quarter showed Dublin South, Dublin North and Cork together made up 49 percent of incidents, slightly lower than in the

previous quarter. There was a slight rise in the number of incident reported across the rest of the country. Meath reported 7 incidents in this period.

A fifth of reports in which a location was identified involved incidents occurring via social media. Cases involving media, internet and social media in this quarter represent a mix of established national and international media outlets, personal and corporate communications (e.g. via Twitter), and explicitly racist websites. Reported physical location was re-examined in the analysis of this data.

This analysis shows that more than 40 percent of cases occurring in Dublin South involved media or social media, with other areas reporting higher proportions of non-media incidents. Even accounting for this pattern, however, Dublin South remains the highest reported location with 14 reported incidents, followed by Cork with 13, and Dublin North with 12.

### Time of Incident

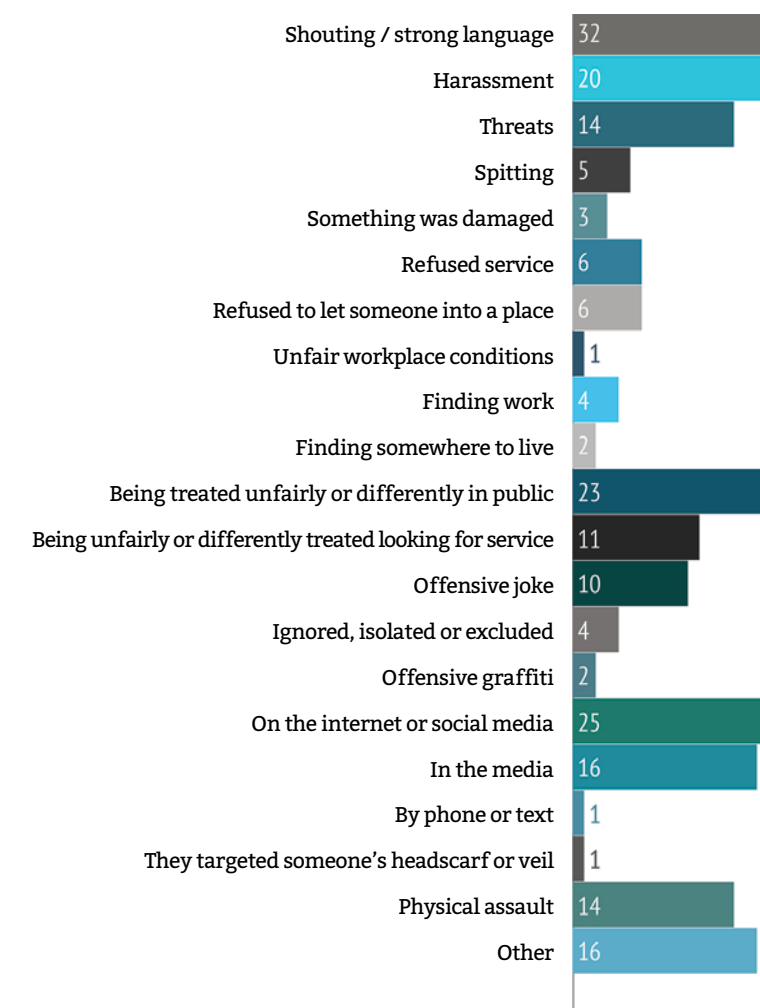
Dates are available for all of the 95 incidents reported as occurring in the last six months. Rates of occurrence are not consistent throughout the week in this period. Reported incidents were significantly more likely to happen on Thursday and Monday, with a much lower frequency on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Times are reported for 68 of the 95 reports, including 16 incidents involving social media. The majority of the social media incidents occurred between 12 and 5pm, while only a third of incidents not involving social media occurred in these hours. The overall pattern shows a slightly higher level of daytime occurrence with 41 incidents between 7am and 7pm.

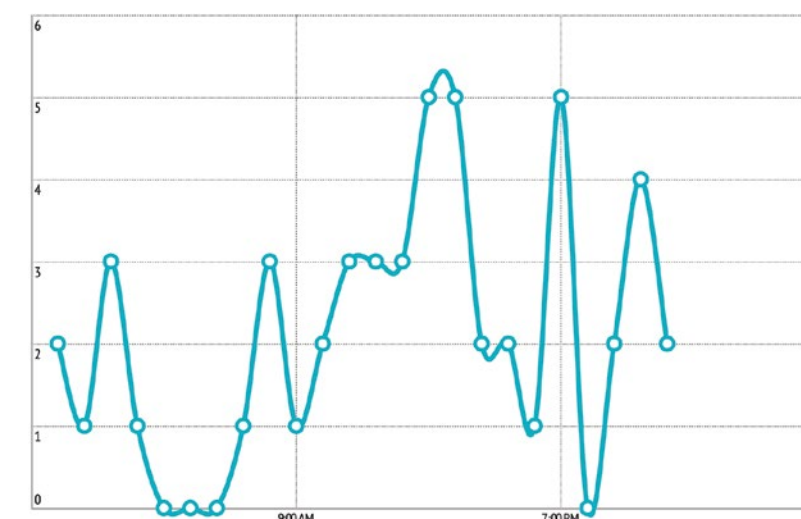
Again in this quarter, ethnic minority people were more likely to report incidents that occurred during the day. Two-thirds of incidents against Roma, half of incidents against people identified as Black, and nine-tenths of incidents against people identified as Asian occurred during the day. Just over half of incidents against Travellers also occurred during the day.

Comparing this data to international patterns, it may be extrapolated that confrontations are more likely to occur in public places, on public transport or the workplace, both of which are more heavily populated in the daytime. Ethnic minorities are also more likely to participate in mixed spaces during the day.

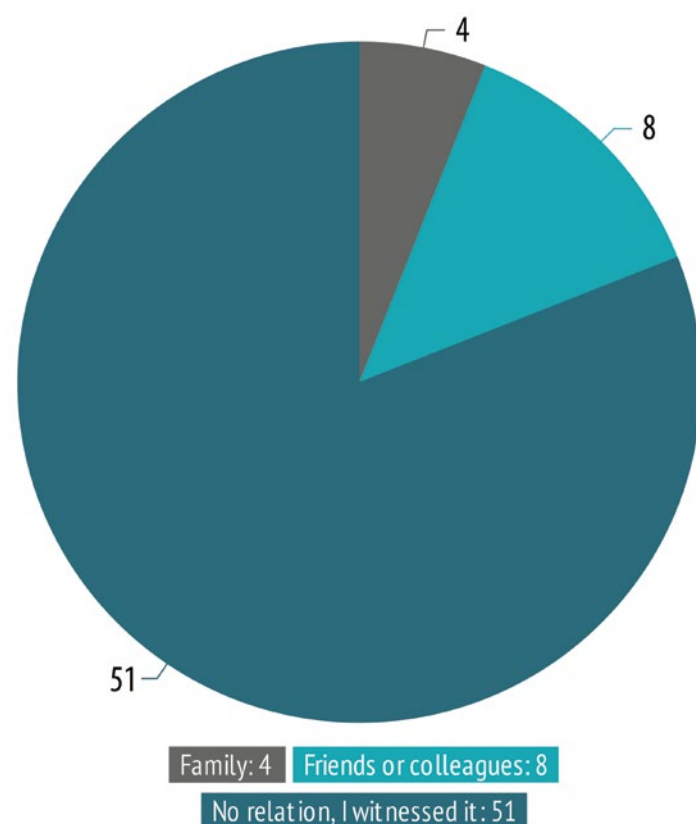
## What kind of incident happened?



## Time of incident



What relation to you?



Age of victim



## Information about victims

### Reporting by victims

More than a third of the reports (38%) received by iReport.ie came directly from victims. A further 39 percent were reported by eye witnesses. Of these 44 reports, however, just 8 were from family, friends or colleagues of the person or people experiencing racism. Overall, strangers reported 54 percent of all incidents in this period, compared to just 34 percent last quarter. This may affect the accuracy of the data on, for example, the age, ethnicity, nationality or sexuality of the victim, and whether they had a disability.

Of the 112 reported cases, 49 (44 percent) were known to have been reported to the Gardaí or another authority or NGO as well as to the iReport website. In a significant rise from the last quarter, 23 (21 percent) of cases were reported to Gardaí, 11 by victims themselves.

### Age of Reported Victims

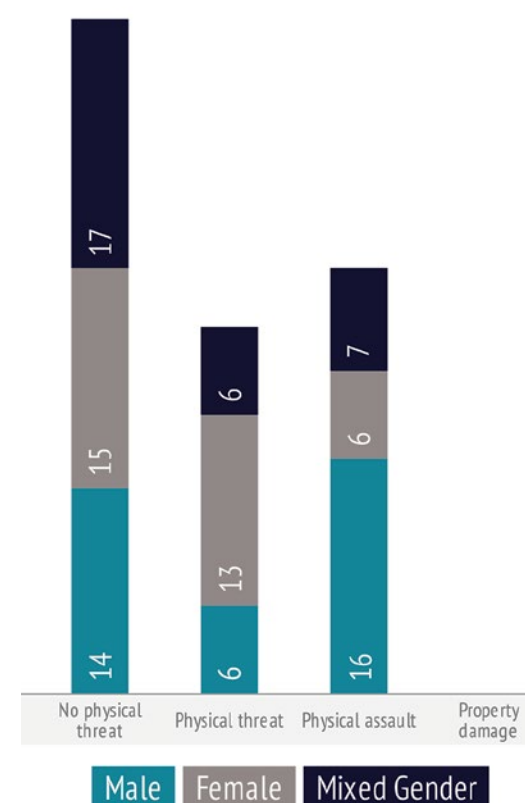
Reported victims in the 112 cases in this period were most likely to be in mixed age groups (27%), followed by the categories '25-35' years (26%) and '36-55' years (19%). This result is significantly affected by the number of social media based incidents reported. However, a closer look at the data shows that those under 35 are most likely to experience non-mediated incidents, and this is in line with international research connecting young people's vulnerability to increased experiences of violent and non-violent racisms.

Cases involving the highest threat levels, including those meeting the criteria for assault, significantly affected younger people. Four cases involved children under 14, and 5 cases involved 18-25 year olds, while 7 cases involved adults aged 26-35 years old. This compared to just 8 cases involving reported victims over the age of 35.

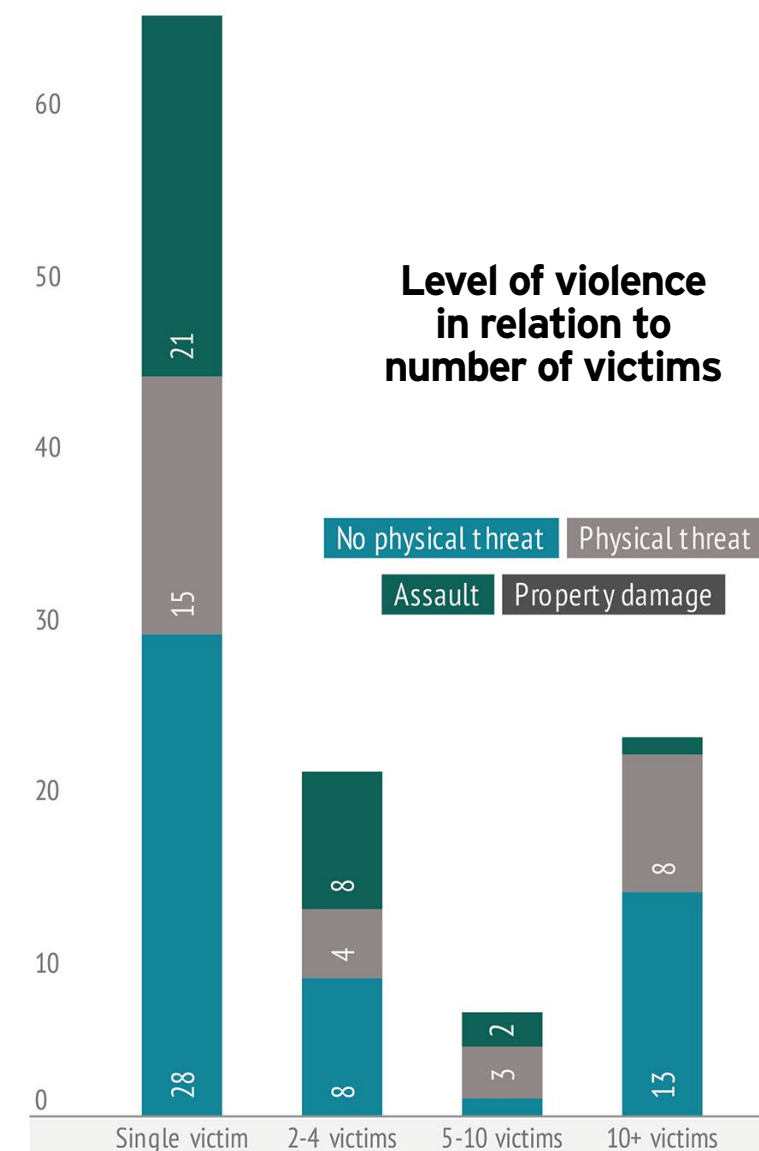
### Ethnicity of Victims

The largest number of cases involved racism against people described as Black-African (30%) at nearly twice the rate of the next highest group, which was Muslim (17%). Experiences of racism were fewer amongst other groups, but did not show the same similarity to one another

Level of violence in relation to gender of victim



Level of violence in relation to number of victims



as in the last quarter. Roma people and people of non-Chinese Asian background experienced 7 percent of cases each, but the number of cases against Travellers (White Irish and Other) rose to 12 percent in this quarter. It is worthy of note that again in this quarter the most visible Racialised category is that of 'Black', this time experiencing 40 percent of all cases. The higher number of White Irish appearing in this quarter reflects an increased level of reporting from people who have observed or been part of a non-white racialised group subjected to racial abuse, and a number of cases where perpetrators have incorrectly attributed ethnicity and nationality.

The iReport 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

Twenty two incidents (20 percent of cases) were described as involving more than 10 victims. Sixteen of these involved racist comments or representations in national and local media or social media with a wide general audience. There were two instances of graffiti, and another case involving the display of racist stickers on public property.

More than half of the 112 cases reported in this quarter involved single victims (57%), despite the higher level of media and social media cases. Excluding media and social media cases, the proportion of single victims remains at 57 percent, while small groups of 2-4 people experience 25 percent of cases, and groups of 5-10 people experience just 4 percent of reports. This is similar to the patterns observed in the previous two reporting periods. Two thirds of those who reported cases involving the highest levels of threat were on their own at the time.





## Who did it happen to?

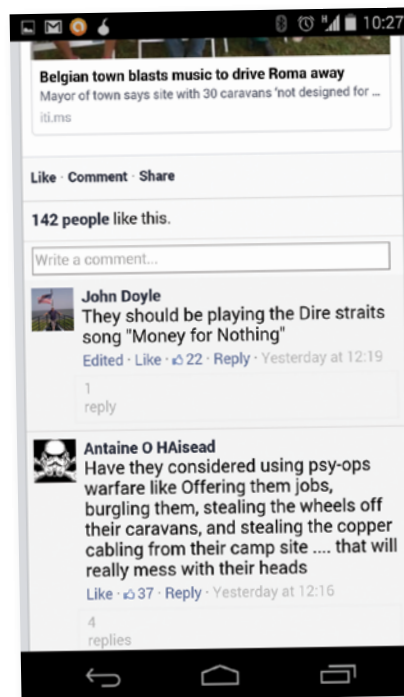


Me - 42 | I heard about it happening - 26 | I saw it happen - 44

## Mediated racist incidents

Twenty-seven incidents involving media and social media were reported in this period. Social media is increasingly reported as the medium for abuse of racialised minorities.

- Pat Talbot, an election candidate for the Immigration Control Platform was involved in a series of tweets with another Twitter user using abusive language to describe Travellers. Pavee Point's Twitter handle was named in the conversation to ensure that the correspondence was viewed by the organisation's members. This was reported twice.
- A Twitter user verbally attacked a Jewish woman – no further details were given.
- A tweet was posted about current events regarding Minister for Justice Alan Shatter making derogatory remarks about his Jewish identity and ascribing negative characteristics to Jewish people as a group. Two reports concerned this.
- A fake Twitter account regularly ridicules people identified as Black



## Perpetrators

The described ethnicity of perpetrators in the 112 reports was predominantly 'White Irish' (80%), with White Irish also appearing in a groups of perpetrators with a person or people of Other White or Asian background. Two of the cases involved 'Travellers'. No other minority ethnic group identification appeared in this category.

Single perpetrators were involved in 68 of the reports (61%), with groups of between 2 and 10 people involved in a third of all reports. Groups of 2-4 perpetrated racism in 32 cases, while groups of 5-10 people were responsible in 4 cases. Groups of more than 10 (including institutions) were responsible for a further 8 cases.

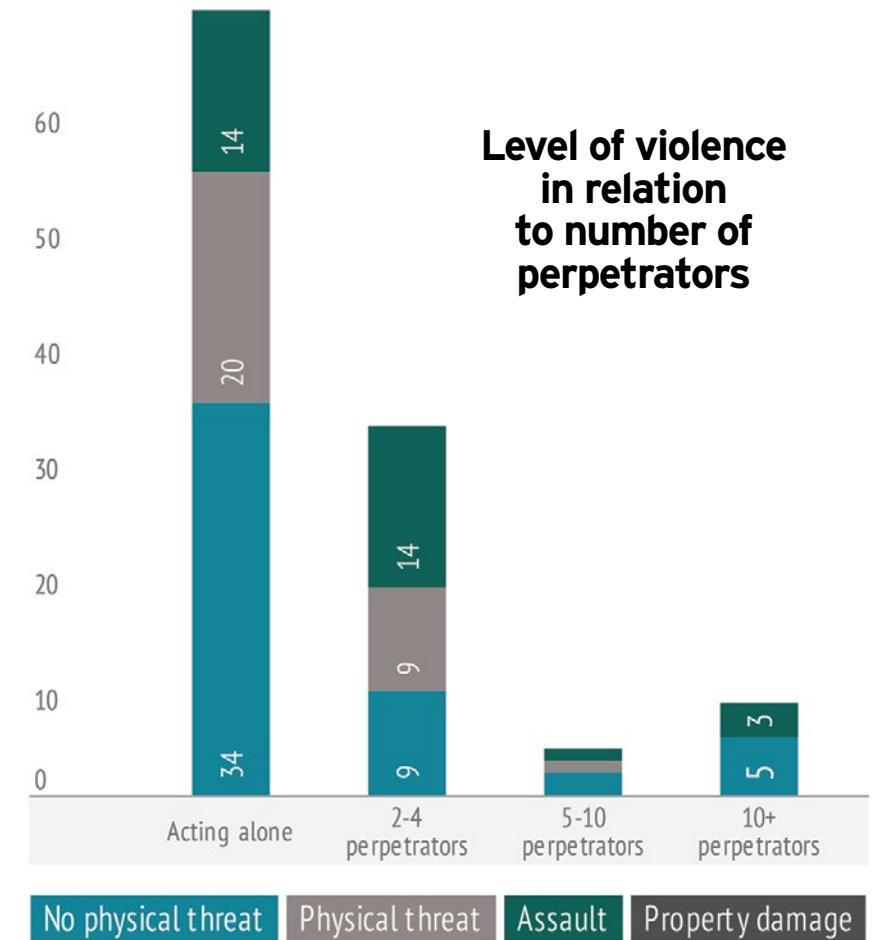
Levels of threat and violence varied depending on the number of people in the perpetrator's group. Single perpetrators dominated the cases classified in this analysis as the lower two levels of threat. However groups of 2-4 perpetrators displayed significantly higher levels of threat and violence than either single perpetrators or larger groups. Almost half of cases involving groups of 2 – 4 perpetrators involved the highest level of threat and violence.

Racism was most perpetrated again in this period by people in the '35-55' years age category (24%) and mixed age groups (20%). Half of those in the 35-55 category were male perpetrators, acting alone. Females acting alone constituted the majority of the other perpetrators in this category. The mixed age group was also predominantly characterised as mixed gender groups, and this was because it largely (but not exclusively) involved media or social media.

Perpetrators aged '18-25' and '26-35' were involved in 17 percent of the reports, mostly as individuals and small groups. Those aged under 18 were involved in just 9 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 45 percent of reports for perceiving the event as racist. However racist language was used by the perpetrator in 70 percent of the reports. Reports were more likely to feature multiple reasons for perceiving the incident as racist. Only 15 percent of reports relied solely on the reason that 'There did not seem to be any other motive', although a further 11 percent of reports mention this reason in combination with another. Language about the victim's religion was used in 7 percent of reported incidents. These figures are largely consistent with the previous reporting quarter.



Level of violence  
in relation  
to number of  
perpetrators



## 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: 011 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

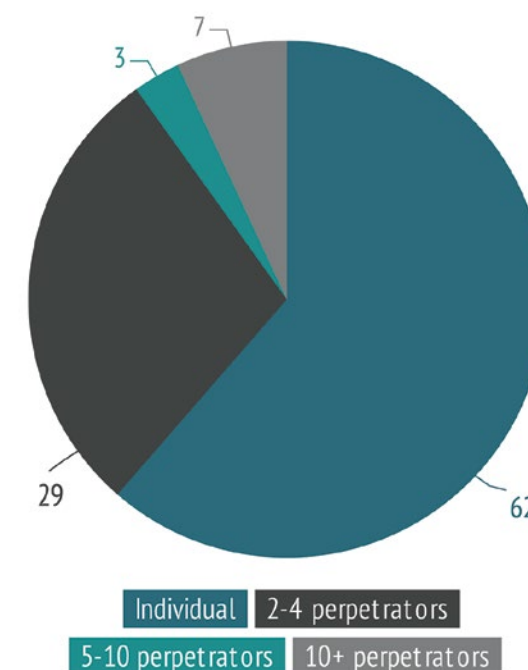
**A full list of ENAR Ireland participating organisations can be found at:** www.enarireland.org/network-members/

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

## Where did the incident happen?



## Number of perpetrators



## 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.

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. As in the previous reporting period, victims and witnesses expressed shock and anger.

An analysis of the responses to the question 'How did you feel?' shows that respondents overall felt shock and fear as a result of being a victim of or witness to racial incidents. For a significant number, anger was a part of their emotional response to the incident(s), and this usually co-existed with other emotions and feelings of hurt.

21 Angry/enraged/fuming/furious/ infuriated  
 15 Disgusted/disturbed  
 21 Ashamed/shamed/humiliated/embarrassed/ disappointed

15 Shocked/appalled/ horrified  
 17 Depressed/upset/deflated/demoralised/ sad/low  
 5 Awful/horrible/bad  
 6 Afraid/scared/fearful/terrified  
 3 Guttled/heartbroken/hopeless/despairing  
 10 Insulted/offended  
 1 Belittled/worthless/undermined/unimportant  
 7 Anxious/worried/confused/agitated  
 9 Annoyed/vexed/frustrated  
 2 Intimidated/bullied/cheated  
 2 Threatened/compromised  
 4 Uncertain/unsure/uneasy/uncomfortable/ nervous  
 6 Unprotected/unsafe/vulnerable/defenceless  
 11 Hurt/damaged/traumatised/abused  
 3 Isolated/disconnected/lost  
 3 Helpless/powerless

The full range of expressions used in the reports is reproduced here to accurately represent the mental and physical impact of racist incidents on victims, co-victims and witnesses.

A further selection of responses to this question demonstrate the physical aspect, with reporting parties in this period describing incidents as leaving victims and witnesses in tears, unable to eat, and taking tranquillisers to get through everyday activities.

In 24 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, perpetrator type (i.e. institution or persons). The majority were classified in the present analysis as 'no threat' incidents, but included all of the cases involving workplace or service contexts and admission to premises.

### Gender

Gender is significant impact in looking at the perpetration of racism. Male individuals or all-male groups were involved in almost 3 times the number of incidents involving female perpetrators. The impact of the increased reporting of mediated racist incidents is visible again in this period in examining the role of gender in this period, with mixed gender groups (including institutions) making up a third of all reports.

Victims were again in this quarter equally likely to be male as female, experiencing 33 and 30 percent of reports respectively and mixed groups involved in a further 28 percent of reports. The experience of racism by both men and women was also spread consistently through all age groups, with all age categories almost evenly split by gender.

Men experienced racism when alone in a greater

proportion of cases than women in this period. Men appeared to experience greater levels of aggression in threatening situations. Men and women were equally likely to experience racism in cases we have classified as no threat, but almost three times more likely to experience the highest level of threat and violence in situations where there was threat. Women were only half as likely to experience the highest levels of threat and violence 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. Of the victims described in this period, no reports included Transgender and just one report included Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual (LGB) as well as describing a minority ethnic identity.

Only two of the reports specifically state that the person who experienced racism had a disability. One of these concerned the eviction of a large family due to noise complaints and the separation of children from their parents due to lack of accommodation, and one involved a threatening incident in a public park. Neither saw the disability as a factor in the reported case.



[illegible]

## A word cloud of negative terms associated with Muslims. The words are arranged in a circular pattern, with 'YEAR' and 'COMIN' being the largest. Other prominent words include 'GAL', 'CUSTOM', 'LOOKING', 'NEGAT', 'BELIEVE', 'DIFFERENTIAT', 'SUPPORT', 'DEPRESSING', 'ACCOUNT', and 'MUSLIM'. The colors are primarily shades of brown and orange.

As with the previous reports, the information in this third Quarterly Report of iReport.ie demonstrates that racism is experienced every day by a wide range of groups in Irish society. While reporting rates to iReport.ie are in this report highest for people who identify as being of Black or of African descent (38%), people from across almost the full range of minorities in Ireland are reporting startlingly high rates of racism. Almost, but not all: completely absent from the data are reports from people who are awaiting their asylum applications in the increasingly notorious regime of Direct Provision Centres. This is in spite of indirect reports to frontline workers indicating an abundance of abuses suffered by people living in centres across Ireland. This under-reporting must be seen as reflecting both the broader phenomenon of under-reporting, as well as the specific vulnerabilities of Asylum Seekers under the current institutional arrangement.

in addition to which analysis of the narrative reveals that a further 18 incidents would meet the criminal law definition of an assault. Two of these additional reports relate violent incidents against Black African children in schools. That these were among the incidents not recorded as “assaults”, is perhaps a reflection of our tendency as a society not to view violence against children in a school setting as constituting assault.

Given these patterns, it is perhaps less surprising to find that an significant proportion of incidents are taking place in broad daylight, often within full sight of witnesses. Two alarming incidents, both of which happened on St Patrick's day, are indicative of a brazenness which perpetrators are able to derive from what appears as an emerging culture of tolerance of racism and



In spite of initiatives such as ENAR's Anti-Racism Election Protocol, which all parties signed, the run-up to the local and European elections were not completely free from racism. In addition to individual candidates from mainstream political parties playing the race card, two independent local candidates stood on expressly racist and xenophobic platforms. One of these was elected for the second time. An increased number of anti-semitic incidents were also reported through iReport.ie, including one relating to the dissemination of literature which

It is to this gap, left by the absence of a National Action Plan Against Racism, which we must now address ourselves. It is a gap in which we can already see evidence that a culture of tolerance towards racism and violence is taking root. The conclusion is clear: the government must bring forward a new National Action Plan which is fit for purpose, if we are to prevent a slide into the kind of racial climate which some of our European neighbours are experiencing.

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## 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**

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