

**EU-MIDIS II**



# Second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey

## Being Black in the EU



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# Second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey

## Being Black in the EU



# Foreword

It is a reality both shameful and infuriating: racism based on the colour of a person's skin remains a pervasive scourge throughout the European Union. As FRA's second large-scale EU-wide survey on migrants and minorities – EU-MIDIS II – makes clear: almost twenty years after adoption of EU laws forbidding discrimination, people of African descent face widespread and entrenched prejudice and exclusion.

This report presents selected results from EU-MIDIS II, examining the experiences of almost 6,000 people of African descent in 12 EU Member States. A large majority are first-generation immigrants, hailing from 59 different countries of origin. But the survey also reached out to many individuals born in the EU.

The International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination emphasises in its preamble that racial barriers are “repugnant to the ideals of any human society”, and that “there is no justification for racial discrimination, in theory or in practice”. Yet the survey results paint a dire picture of reality on the ground.

Racial discrimination and harassment are commonplace. Experiences with racist violence vary greatly across countries, but reach as high as 14 %. Discriminatory profiling by the police, too, is a common reality.

Hurdles to inclusion are multi-faceted. One quarter of the respondents felt discriminated against during their job search. Finding suitable work is another challenge: the mismatch between individuals' educational levels and their current jobs is striking. Access to housing can also be difficult, both in the private and public sectors.

A particularly unsettling pattern is that younger individuals tend to experience more discrimination and exclusion than older individuals. This renders even more urgent the need for intensified efforts to promote the full inclusion of people of African descent in the EU. We hope that the reality check provided by these results prompts meaningful measures in support of this vital goal.

**Michael O'Flaherty**

*Director*



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## Why this report?

People of African descent have been an integral part of the social fabric of European Union (EU) countries for generations. Nonetheless, many regularly experience fundamental rights violations. This report highlights how racial discrimination, racist crime, racial profiling and social exclusion specifically affect people of African descent, based on findings from the EU Fundamental Rights Agency's (FRA) second EU Minorities and Discrimination Survey (EU-MIDIS II). The survey sample does not claim to capture the entire scale and complexity of the experiences of Black people across Europe. It includes immigrants living in 12 EU Member States who were born in countries of Sub-Saharan Africa (first-generation respondents) and persons with at least one parent born in these countries (second-generation respondents). In France and the United Kingdom, the sample also includes persons from overseas departments and overseas territories, as well as the Caribbean.

As both EU-MIDIS II<sup>1</sup> and the first wave of FRA's EU Minorities and Discrimination Survey (EU-MIDIS I)<sup>2</sup> confirm, simply "being Black" means often facing entrenched prejudice and exclusion. This situation cannot be tolerated in the EU, which is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities.

Since 2000, the Union has enacted legislation to combat racial discrimination and racist crime through the Racial Equality Directive (2000/43/EC) and the Framework Decision on racism and xenophobia (2008/913/JHA).<sup>3</sup> In parallel, policy developments point to efforts to address racism at EU level. For instance, the Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup (ARDI) of the European Parliament established a working group on discrimination against Black people in the EU.<sup>4</sup> The EU High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance<sup>5</sup> suggested that manifestations of discrimination and racism that specifically affect persons of African descent should be acknowledged to ensure effective responses to these phenomena.

The report draws the attention of policymakers in the EU and its Member States to gaps in the implementation of relevant EU law. The evidence and opinions included in this report can assist EU institutions and Member States in developing targeted legal and policy responses. Member States can also draw on evidence presented in the report to help assess progress with respect to their commitments under the International Decade for People of African Descent.<sup>6</sup> In addition, Member States can use the data for reporting on progress made in reaching two of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)<sup>7</sup> that will be examined at the UN High Level Political Forum in July 2019: SDG 10 on reducing inequalities within and among countries, and SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions.

1 European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) (2017b).

2 FRA (2009).

3 See [Annex III](#) for more information on the relevant legal framework.

4 For more information, see ARDI's [webpage on working groups](#).

5 European Commission, DG Justice and Consumers (2018).

6 United Nations (UN), General Assembly (2014).

7 For more information on the SDGs, see the UN's [webpage on sustainable development](#).

## EU-MIDIS II in a nutshell

- **Coverage** – EU-MIDIS II<sup>8</sup> surveyed 25,515 persons with different ethnic minority and immigrant backgrounds in all 28 EU Member States. This report analyses the responses of 5,803 immigrants and descendants of immigrants of African descent surveyed in 12 Member States: Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Sweden and the United Kingdom.<sup>9</sup>
- The **EU-MIDIS II sample** is representative for first-generation immigrants living in the EU and born in a Sub-Saharan African country and for persons with at least one parent born in Sub-Saharan Africa (second-generation respondents). In addition, in France and the United Kingdom, the sample includes first and second-generation respondents from overseas departments and overseas territories, as well as the Caribbean. Respondents are at least 16 years old, reside in private households, and have lived in the country for at least 12 months.
- **Limitations related to the definition of the target groups** – the main objective of the sampling strategy for all target groups in EU-MIDIS II was to achieve representativeness through random probability

sampling. Since most Member States provide no official information on racial or ethnic origin in administrative data, demographic characteristics, such as ‘country of birth’ and ‘country of birth of parents’ were used as proxy information for sampling.<sup>10</sup> The survey therefore cannot claim to capture the entire scale and complexity of the experiences of Black people across Europe.

- **Respondent characteristics** – on average respondents are 39 years of age. Women constitute 51 % of the sample, with differences across countries. On average, 63 % of respondents are citizens and 74 % were born outside the country. When asked about their religion, 60 % of people of African descent interviewed by the survey identified themselves as being Christian and 29 % as Muslim, with 6 % of respondents indicating they have no religion. Socio-demographic profiles vary considerably across countries of residence and countries of origin. More details can be found in [Annex II](#).
- **Comparison to other surveys** – Improvements in the sampling methodology and the application of sample design weights restrict direct comparability of all results with the first wave of this survey. Results are therefore compared with respect to substantial differences for selected indicators only. Comparisons to general population surveys are included, where relevant data are available.<sup>11</sup>

8 For more details on the survey methodology, see [Annex I](#).

9 The selection of target groups is based on a combination of several considerations. For more details, see FRA (2017b), p. 14 onwards.

10 In Luxembourg, it was not possible to access the available register for sampling, so FRA applied quota sampling. Results should therefore be interpreted with caution.

11 For more methodological details, see [Annex I](#) and FRA (2017b).

# 1

## Key findings and FRA opinions



The following FRA opinions build on the findings of the EU-MIDIS II survey relating to respondents of African descent. The opinions are addressed to EU and national-level policymakers to assist them in developing effective and targeted measures to combat racial discrimination, racism and xenophobia. The opinions are based on evidence generated by the survey and the current EU legal framework, including:

- the Racial Equality Directive (2000/43/EC),
- the Framework Decision on racism and xenophobia (2008/913/JHA), and
- the Victims' Rights Directive (2012/29/EU).

The opinions included in this report complement FRA opinions formulated in numerous publications:

- *Fundamental Rights Report 2018* (2018)
- *Hate crime recording and data collection practice across the EU* (2018)
- *Second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey - Main results* (2017)
- *Second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey. Muslims – Selected findings* (2017)
- *Together in the EU - Promoting the participation of migrants and their descendants* (2017)
- *Ensuring justice for hate crime victims: professional perspectives* (2016)

- *FRA Opinion on the Framework Decision on racism and xenophobia – with special attention to the rights of victims of crime* (2013)

- *FRA Opinion on the situation of equality in the European Union 10 years on from initial implementation of the equality directives* (2013)

- *Making hate crime visible in the European Union: acknowledging victims' rights* (2012)

These publications are available on the agency's [website](#).

## Racist harassment and violence are common occurrences

Significant proportions of people of African descent experience racist harassment and racist violence in the 12 countries surveyed, including at the hands of the police. Very few report such incidents to any authority or body.

One third of respondents (30 %) say they experienced racist harassment in the five years before the survey; one fifth (21 %) say they did so during the 12 months preceding the survey. Yet only 14 % of victims of racist harassment reported the most recent such incident to any authority. Experiences of racist harassment most commonly involve offensive non-verbal cues (22 %) or offensive or threatening comments (21 %), followed by threats of violence (8 %).

Concerning racist violence, 5 % of respondents say they experienced a racist attack in the five years before the survey; 3 % say they did so during the 12 months before

the survey. However, two thirds (64 %) of victims of racist violence, as well as a majority (63 %) of victims of racist physical attacks by police officers, did not report the most recent incident to any organisation – either because they felt reporting it would not change anything (34 %) or because victims do not trust or are afraid of the police (28 %).

Whereas most victims (61 %) do not know the perpetrators, they generally identify them as not having a minority background (65 %). Some 38 % of victims identified perpetrators as having a minority ethnic background other than their own. One in 10 (11 %) of those who experienced racist violence say that a law enforcement officer was the perpetrator.

The Framework Decision on racism and xenophobia requires bias motivation to be considered an aggravating circumstance or taken into consideration by the courts in the determination of the penalties imposed on offenders (Article 4). The Victims’ Rights Directive requires that victims of hate crime receive an individual assessment to identify their specific protection needs (Article 22). The full implementation of EU law entails encouraging victims to report racist offences to the police, as well as ensuring that the police properly record the racist motivation at the time of reporting. Doing so will not only support the investigation and prosecution of racist crime, but will also provide the basis for more effective victim support.

In this respect, it is encouraging that Member States agreed on three sets of key guiding principles that relate to hate crime and victim support in 2017, in the framework of the EU High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance. These sets of principles relate to hate crime training for law enforcement and criminal justice authorities; to improving the recording of hate crime by law enforcement authorities; and to ensuring justice, protection and support for victims of hate crime and hate speech. In 2018, FRA and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) began working with EU Member States to put into practice the guiding principles on improving recording of hate crime.

#### FRA opinion 1

*EU Member States should ensure that victims of racist crime can seek redress and are offered adequate support. They could achieve this by applying the guiding principles relating to hate crime and victim support agreed by the EU High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance. When doing so, Member States should take into account the reluctance of victims to report racist crime to any authority or body, particularly where police officers are the alleged perpetrators.*

*Member States should take necessary measures to ensure that investigations into or prosecution of racist offences are not dependent on a report or an accusation made by a victim, in line with Article 8 of the Framework Decision on racism and xenophobia. EU Member States could consider asking FRA and ODIHR for assistance in applying the guiding principles agreed by the EU High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance. Moreover, Member States should ensure that individual assessments of the specific protection needs of victims of racist crime are conducted, in line with Article 22 of the Victims’ Rights Directive.*

## Police stops are often experienced as racial profiling

Large numbers of people of African descent who are stopped by the police say they experience racial profiling, an unlawful practice that undermines their trust in law enforcement authorities.

One quarter (24 %) of all persons of African descent surveyed were stopped by the police in the five years before the survey. Among these, four in 10 characterised the most recent stop as racial profiling (41 %). Another one in 10 respondents (11 %) were stopped by the police in the 12 months before the survey, with four in 10 among them characterising the last stop as racial profiling (44 %). Men are three times more likely to be stopped (22 %) than women (7 %), and they are more likely to consider the most recent stop as racial profiling (44 %) compared to women (34 %).

Overall, respondents rate their trust in the police at 6.3 on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means ‘no trust at all’ and 10 indicates ‘complete trust’. The lowest average level of trust in the police is found among respondents who consider the most recent police stop they experienced as racial profiling (4.8).

Profiling involves categorising individuals according to personal characteristics, which can include racial or ethnic origin, skin colour, religion or nationality. For more on profiling, see FRA’s guide on *Preventing unlawful profiling today and in the future* (to be published in December 2018). The practice is commonly and legitimately used by the police to prevent, investigate and prosecute criminal offences. However, racial profiling is discriminatory and unlawful. Such profiling is defined as the “use by police, with no objective and reasonable justification, of grounds such as race, colour, language, religion, nationality or national or ethnic origin in control, surveillance or investigation activities”, as outlined in General Policy Recommendation N°11 of the Council of Europe Commission against Racism and Intolerance.

## FRA opinion 2

*EU Member States should develop specific, practical and ready-to-use guidance to ensure that police officers do not conduct racial profiling in the exercise of their duties. As noted in FRA's upcoming guide on preventing unlawful profiling (December 2018), such guidance can be attached to relevant legislation, issued by law enforcement authorities, or included in standard operating procedures of the police, or in codes of conduct for police officers, as a means to increase its effectiveness and reach. Guidance should be systematically communicated to front line law enforcement officers by their leadership.*

*In addition, Member States should assist relevant authorities in developing guidance for community policing, as a means to offset the existing negative impact of racial profiling on trust in the police among members of ethnic minority groups. Community policing entails the police working with local residents, businesses and other groups in the community to reduce crime and the fear of crime, to address anti-social behaviour, and to boost community cohesion. Member States could consider asking the EU Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) and FRA to assist them in developing guidance in these areas.*

## Racial discrimination is a reality in all areas of life

People of African descent regularly feel discriminated against in many areas of life, whether on the basis of skin colour, ethnic origin or religion. Very few report discrimination they experience to any organisation, despite knowing of equality bodies and antidiscrimination law.

Overall, four in 10 respondents (39 %) felt racially discriminated against in the five years before the survey; one in four (24 %) did so in the 12 months preceding the survey. One quarter of respondents (27 %) identify their skin colour as the main reason for experiencing discrimination when looking for work, at work, in education or in housing in the five years preceding the survey. One fifth (19 %) identify their ethnic origin as the main ground of discrimination in these areas of life, and another 5 % their religion or beliefs. Those who wear traditional religious clothing in public experience higher levels of discrimination on the ground of religion compared to respondents who do not wear such clothing in public (12 % vs. 3 %). Men are particularly affected (men: 17 %; women: 9 %).

One in six respondents (16 %) who felt racially discriminated against reported or made a complaint about the most recent incident to any organisation or body. The most common reasons for not reporting are the belief that nothing would change as a result (ranging from 45 % when trying to use public transport to 16 % when in contact with school authorities as a parent); because

the incident is not worth reporting (ranging from 40 % in education and in a restaurant or bar to 24 % when looking for work and in access to housing); or because they had no proof of having been discriminated against (ranging from 28 % in access to housing to 6 % when in contact with school authorities as a parent). Still, half of all respondents know of at least one equality body in the country where they live (46 %), and three-quarters are aware of national antidiscrimination legislation (79 %).

In light of this evidence, it can be noted that the Racial Equality Directive stipulates that “the principle of equal treatment shall not prevent any Member State from maintaining or adopting specific measures to prevent or compensate for disadvantages linked to racial or ethnic origin” (Article 5). The directive also establishes bodies for the promotion of equal treatment tasked with providing assistance to victims of discrimination, conducting research on discrimination, and making recommendations on how to address discrimination.

In this regard, it is encouraging that the European Commission issued a recommendation on standards for equality bodies in June 2018. These standards relate to the mandates of equality bodies, their independence and effectiveness, as well as to their coordination and cooperation with other bodies and authorities. It is also encouraging that the EU High Level Group on Non-Discrimination, Equality and Diversity has, in October 2018, endorsed *Guidelines on improving the collection and use of equality data*, through a process facilitated by FRA.

## FRA opinion 3

*EU Member States should ensure that equality bodies can fulfil their tasks, as assigned by the Racial Equality Directive. This entails ensuring that equality bodies are allocated sufficient human, financial and technical resources. When doing so, Member States should give due consideration to the European Commission's recommendation of June 2018 on standards for equality bodies, particularly as regards their independence and effectiveness.*

## FRA opinion 4

*In line with the principle of equal treatment, EU Member States should consider introducing measures to prevent or compensate for disadvantages linked to racial or ethnic origin, as enabled by Article 5 of the Racial Equality Directive. Such disadvantages could be identified through the systematic analysis of experiences of racial and ethnic discrimination in the areas of life covered by Article 3 of the directive. The analyses should draw on the full range of available data sources, including: population censuses; administrative registers; household and individual surveys; victimisation surveys; attitudinal surveys; complaints data from equality bodies; situation testing; diversity*

*monitoring by employers and service providers; as well as qualitative research strategies, such as case studies, in-depth interviews and expert interviews.*

#### FRA opinion 5

*EU Member States should ensure systematic data collection of reliable, valid and comparable equality data, disaggregated by racial and ethnic origin among other protected characteristics, based on self-identification, and in compliance with the principles and safeguards set out under the General Data Protection Regulation. In doing so, Member States should consult with representatives of population groups at risk of racial discrimination.*

## Labour market participation – not a level playing field

The survey findings on labour market participation are particularly striking, showing that people of African descent are often engaged in low quality employment that does not correspond to their level of education. The paid work rate among those with a tertiary degree is generally lower than that of the general population.

One quarter of respondents of African descent work in elementary occupations (26 %), which usually consist of manual work involving physical effort. Twice as many respondents with tertiary education (9 %) are employed in elementary occupations than members of the general population with that educational level (5 %).

These findings suggest unequal opportunities in labour market participation among persons of African descent, which could point to discrimination. Against this backdrop, it can be noted that the European Pillar of Social Rights is founded on the principles of equal opportunities and access to the labour market, regardless of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief. The third principle under the pillar relates to fostering equal opportunities for under-represented groups.

#### FRA opinion 6

*EU Member States should consider developing specific measures to counter discrimination in access to employment and at work, particularly as regards lower quality of employment among people of African descent. In line with the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights, such measures could include actions to promote diversity audits in public and private enterprises and the collection of data disaggregated by racial and ethnic origin; actions to strengthen the facilitation of the recognition of educational and training qualifications from non-EU countries; or actions encouraging the recruitment of under-represented groups in the public sector. Social partners should be actively involved in the design and implementation of any such measures.*

## Skin colour affects access to adequate housing

The survey findings on housing are also particularly remarkable, showing that persons of African descent experience racial discrimination in access to private and public housing to a great extent. Many also face precarious living conditions, which can exacerbate social exclusion.

Many respondents say they were prevented from renting accommodation by a private landlord because of their racial or ethnic origin (14 %). Some experienced this in municipal or social housing (6 %). Respondents face a particular risk of housing exclusion: only 15 % own their dwelling, compared to 70 % of the general population.

Nearly half of the respondents live in overcrowded housing (45 %), compared to 17 % of the general population in the EU. Moreover, one tenth of respondents (12 %) live in conditions of severe housing deprivation. This entails living in overcrowded dwellings with at least one of the following characteristics: a leaking roof; rot in the walls or windows; no bath/shower and no indoor toilet; or the dwelling being too dark.

The majority of respondents (55 %) have a household income below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold after social transfers in the country where they live. One in 10 (13 %) have great difficulties in making ends meet.

These findings need to be read against the commitment of the EU and its Member States to combat exclusion, including in housing. It can be noted that the European Pillar of Social Rights foresees access to social housing or housing assistance of good quality for those in need. The pillar's implementation and Member States' progress in this regard will be monitored through the Open Method of Coordination in the Social Protection Committee and supported by Union Funds, including the European Fund for Strategic Investments for social housing investments, the European Regional Development Fund for housing infrastructure, and the European Social Fund for social services.

#### FRA opinion 7

*The EU and its Member States should work closely to develop measures to eradicate housing exclusion, in particular where it correlates with experiences of racial discrimination. Drawing upon the full range of applicable Union funds, Member States should develop measures to improve the quality of municipal or social housing, including as regards overcrowding. Developing such measures should be done in close cooperation with local housing authorities.*

# 2

## What do the results show?



### 2.1. Harassment and violence motivated by racism

#### KEY FINDINGS

##### Harassment motivated by racism

- Nearly one in three respondents of African descent (30 %) experienced what they perceived as racist harassment in the five years before the survey; one in five (21 %) experienced such harassment in the 12 months before the survey (20 % of women and 23 % of men).
- The rates of racist harassment in the five years before the survey vary considerably between EU Member States, ranging from 20 % of respondents in Malta and 21 % in the United Kingdom, up to 63 % of respondents in Finland.
- Experiences of racist harassment most commonly involve offensive non-verbal cues (22 %) or offensive or threatening comments (21 %), followed by threats of violence (8 %).
- Young respondents are more likely to experience racist harassment. The risk of making such experiences decreases with age.
- Merely 14 % of the most recent incidents of racist harassment were reported to police or other services (16 % of incidents against women, 12 % of incidents against men), meaning that the overwhelming majority of incidents were never reported.

##### Violence motivated by racism

- In the five years before the survey, some 5 % of respondents experienced what they perceived as racist violence (including assault by a police officer). The highest rates were recorded in Finland (14 %) and in Ireland and Austria (both 13 %), followed by Luxembourg (11 %). The lowest rates were observed in Portugal (2 %) and the United Kingdom (3 %).<sup>12</sup> In the same period, 127 respondents (2 %) – mainly young men – experienced a racist assault by a police officer; the highest rate was recorded in Austria (5 %).
- In the year before the survey, 3 % experienced a racist physical attack (including assault by a police officer). The highest rate was recorded for respondents in Austria (11 %).
- There are no notable differences in the rates of racist violence towards men and women (7 % vs. 5 %). Men who wear traditional or religious clothing in public are, however, twice as likely to experience racist violence compared to men who do not (12 % vs. 5 %). Such differences are not observed among women.
- Most victims (61 %) do not know the perpetrators, but generally identify them as not having a minority background (65 %). Some 38 % of the victims identified the perpetrators as having a minority ethnic background other than their own. One in 10 of those who experience racist violence say that a law enforcement officer was the perpetrator (11 %).

<sup>12</sup> Results are based on a small number of cases and are therefore less reliable.

- A majority (64 %) of victims of racist violence did not report the most recent incident to the police or any organisation or service. There are substantial differences between men and women: half of women victims of racist violence (50 %) reported the most recent incident to the police or another organisation, but only one in four men (23 %) did so.
- A majority (63 %) of victims of racist physical attack by a police officer did not report the incident to anybody, either because they felt reporting would not change anything (34 %) or because they do not trust or are afraid of the police (28 %).

Not only is hate crime one of the most severe expressions of discrimination, it also constitutes a grave abuse of a person's dignity. Becoming the victim of a hate crime has implications for the persons who are targeted, as well as for their families, their communities and society as a whole.<sup>13</sup> This is also true for crimes motivated by racism or xenophobia, which demand a strong response from the authorities. The European Court of Human Rights has ruled that states have an obligation to unmask the bias motivation underlying racist offences.<sup>14</sup>

Yet gaps remain in how EU Member States record racist crime, as well as in the extent to which they collect and publish data on such crimes, as evidence collected by FRA shows.<sup>15</sup> The EU and its Member States have, though, committed to combating hate crime, including racist crime. For example, in December 2017, EU Member States agreed on a set of key guiding principles to improve the recording of hate crime by law enforcement authorities.<sup>16</sup> They also agreed – again in December 2017 – on a set of key guiding principles on how to ensure justice, protection and support for victims of hate crime and hate speech.<sup>17</sup> These agreements were reached in the framework of the activities of the EU High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance.

Still, data published by EU Member States on racist crime tend to remain patchy and fall short of giving an accurate picture of the prevalence of such crime in any given country. In addition, where EU Member States publish data on racist crime, these are generally not comparable, as no two countries record hate crime in the same way.<sup>18</sup> Furthermore, only 16 EU Member States published official data that pertain specifically to racist and xenophobic hate crime in 2017.<sup>19</sup>

The findings presented in this chapter provide a unique source of comparative data on people's experiences of racist crime, which policymakers at the EU and national levels can draw on to develop and refine their responses to such crime. These findings are also relevant to the development of responses by law enforcement and criminal justice authorities in Member States. Such responses need to take due consideration of obligations Member States have with regard to providing support to victims of racist crime, as required under Article 22 of the Victims' Rights Directive (2012/29/EU), which relates to the individual assessment of victims to identify their specific protection needs.

### 2.1.1. Experiences of harassment motivated by racism

This section focuses on respondents' experiences with perceived racist harassment – that is, harassment they experience because of their skin colour, religion or ethnic origin. The survey asked respondents about their experiences of five types of harassment:

- offensive or threatening comments in person,
- threats of violence in person,
- offensive gestures or inappropriate staring,
- offensive or threatening e-mails or text messages (SMS), and
- offensive comments made about them online.

To qualify as harassment, the incident had to involve action that the respondent found offensive or threatening. Respondents who said they experienced harassment were given the opportunity to provide further detail on the most recent incident they experienced in the five years before the survey, including information on perpetrators and whether they reported it to any authority or services.

<sup>13</sup> FRA (2012).

<sup>14</sup> FRA (2012).

<sup>15</sup> FRA (2018b).

<sup>16</sup> For more information on these principles, see FRA's [webpage](#) on the Subgroup on methodologies for recording and collecting data on hate crime and on the EU High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia, and other forms of intolerance.

<sup>17</sup> European Commission, DG Justice and Consumers, EU High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia (2017).

<sup>18</sup> FRA (2018b) or see ODIHR's [webpage on hate crime reporting](#).

<sup>19</sup> FRA (2018b).

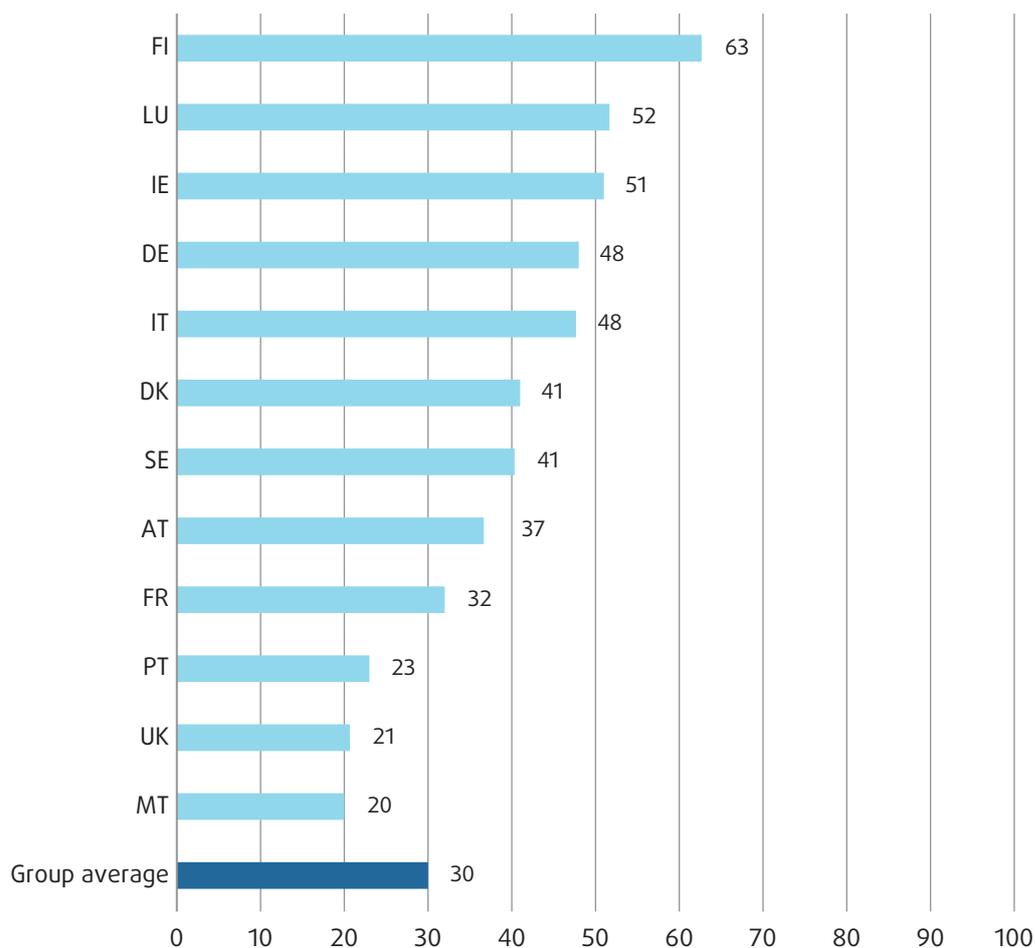


### Prevalence and frequency of harassment motivated by racism

Close to one in three respondents (30 %) indicated that they experienced racist harassment in the five years before the survey, with a great degree of variation between EU Member States, ranging from 20 % in Malta to 63 % in Finland (Figure 1). There are some notable differences between individual countries. For example, 51 % of people of African descent experienced hate-motivated harassment in Ireland, compared with 21 % in the United Kingdom; or 41 % in both Sweden and Denmark, compared with 63 % in Finland; or 23 % in Portugal, compared with 32 % in France and 48 % in Italy.

About one in five (21 %) respondents say they experienced racist harassment in the 12 months before the survey. In comparison, the 12-month rate of hate-motivated harassment is 30 % for Roma interviewed in EU-MIDIS II, 29 % for immigrants and descendants of immigrants from North Africa, and 23 % for immigrants and descendants of immigrants from Turkey, for example. These average results are, however, based on different countries and contain notable differences from country to country. Differences between countries in terms of the prevalence of racist harassment in the 12 months before the survey show similar patterns as the results for the five years before the survey – a country-by-country breakdown of the 12-month rates can be found in the EU-MIDIS II main results report.<sup>20</sup>

**Figure 1: Prevalence of perceived racist harassment in 5 years before the survey, by country (%)<sup>a,b</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent (n=5,803); weighted results.

<sup>b</sup> Question: "How many times has somebody done this in the past 5 years in [COUNTRY] (or since you have been in [COUNTRY]) [that is, each of the five types of harassment asked about in the survey] because of your ethnic or immigrant background?"

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

<sup>20</sup> FRA (2017a), Figure 21, p. 59.

People of African descent experience different types of racist harassment. In-person incidents are the most common form in the 12 months before the survey (21 %) – these include offensive gestures or inappropriate staring (15 %), offensive or threatening comments (13 %), and being threatened with violence (5 %). The respondents rarely experienced cyber harassment. When interpreting the overall prevalence of in-person harassment incidents, it should be noted that respondents could indicate that they had experienced more than one type of harassment, reflecting their experiences in the 12 months before the survey. This is why, for example, the sum of 12-month prevalence results for individual types of perceived racist in-person harassment exceeds the total prevalence (21 %) of perceived racist in-person harassment in the 12 months before the survey.

Figure 2 presents the prevalence of racist harassment by selected respondent characteristics. Of the survey respondents, 20 % of women and 23 % of men experienced racist harassment in the 12 months before the survey. In terms of age, 26 % of 16–24-year-old respondents experienced racist harassment, compared to 16 % of people over 60 years of age.

This finding is consistent with research on crime victimisation in the general population, which shows that young people are often at a higher risk of becoming victims of certain crimes, such as physical violence, compared to older persons. As would be the case with physical violence, the findings suggest that respondents tend to experience harassment when the victim and the perpetrator are in the same place (in-person harassment). The higher risk of victimisation among young people could therefore be due to their more active lifestyles, which may more frequently bring them into situations where victimisation can take place.

In terms of differences related to level of education, results show that respondents who have completed more than lower secondary education experience higher rates of harassment (Figure 2). Concerning religion, differences in racist harassment experienced by Muslim (24 %) and non-Muslim (20%) respondents are small, and therefore unlikely to represent statistically significant differences between these groups.

Some 27 % of Muslim women of African descent who indicate that they wear a headscarf or niqab outside of the house say that they experienced inappropriate staring or offensive gestures because they did so; 15 % experienced verbal insults or offensive comments, and 2 % were physically attacked for the same reason in the 12 months preceding the survey.

## Perpetrators of harassment motivated by racism

Close to three in four (72 %) of victims of racist harassment indicate that the most recent incident they experienced was perpetrated by someone they did not know. Respondents could indicate more than one category of perpetrator. If the most recent incident involved several people, they could identify the perceived ethnic backgrounds of the perpetrators.

The respondents identified people from work or in their educational setting (16 %) and neighbours (6 %) as perpetrators of racist harassment. In addition to work colleagues or supervisors, experiences of racist harassment at work also involved customers or clients with whom the respondents were not previously acquainted. The percentages of respondents indicating that the most recent incident of racist harassment involved someone at work or in an educational setting were highest in France (21 %), Luxembourg (20 %) and Sweden (20 %).

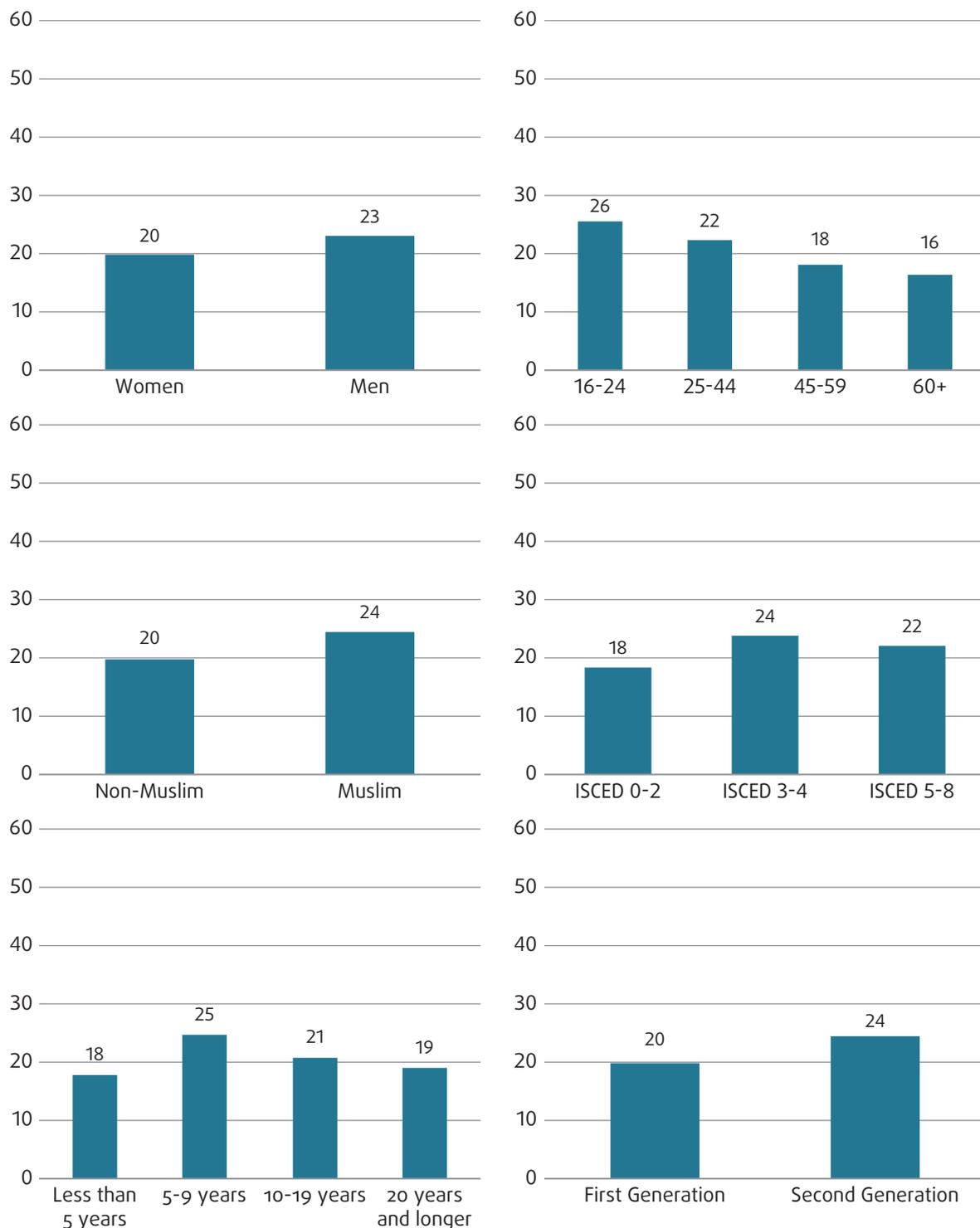
In most instances, perpetrators of racist harassment were described as not having an ethnic minority background – 66 % in the case of the most recent incident (Figure 3). The respondents also identified about one in three perpetrators (31 %) of racist harassment as having an ethnic minority background other than their own. The highest percentage of incidents involving perpetrators identified as having another ethnic minority background was observed in Sweden (44 %), while the lowest percentages were observed in Finland and in Malta (fewer than 10 %).

## Reporting harassment motivated by racism and reasons for not reporting

Relevant authorities can only provide adequate victim support and properly investigate incidents of racist harassment when these are reported. The survey findings show, however, that 86 % of respondents who experienced racist harassment did not report the most recent incident to any authority or service. One in three of the 14 % of respondents who did report an incident did so to the police, with close to two thirds reporting to another organisation or service. Most often, the respondents mentioned reporting the incident to somebody at the place where it happened.

As shown in Figure 4, differences between women (16 % reported) and men (12 % reported) are small. However, there are substantial differences in reporting levels of perceived racist harassment depending on respondents' educational level. Among respondents

**Figure 2: Prevalence of experiencing perceived racist harassment in 12 months before the survey, by sex, age, religion, education, length of stay in the survey country, and immigrant generation, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



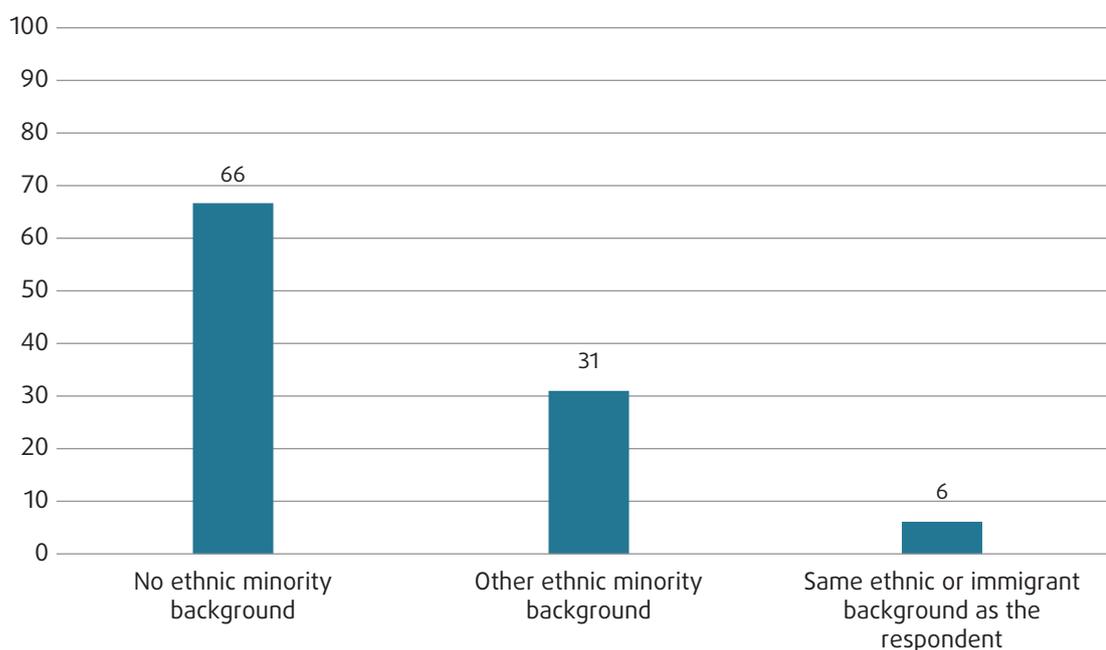
<sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent (n=5,803, except for education: n = 5,780 and length of stay among first-generation respondents: n = 4,978); weighted results.

<sup>b</sup> The educational level is grouped in three categories: lower secondary education or less (corresponding to the International Standard Classification of Education, ISCED 0 to ISCED 2); upper secondary, vocational, post-secondary and short cycle tertiary education (ISCED 3 and 4); and tertiary education (ISCED 5 to 8). For more details, see UNESCO's webpage on ISCED.

<sup>c</sup> Question: "How many times have such incidents [that is, each of the five types of harassment asked about in the survey] related to your ethnic or immigrant background happened in the past 12 months?"

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

**Figure 3: Perpetrators by ethnic background – most recent incident of perceived racist harassment in 5 years before the survey (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent who experienced hate-motivated harassment in the five years before the survey (n=2,126); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> The categories do not add up to 100 % because some incidents involve multiple perpetrators with different ethnic backgrounds.  
<sup>c</sup> Question: “Think about the person(s) who did this to you [that is, hate-motivated harassment experienced in the five years before the survey]. Were they of the same ethnic or immigrant background as you? Were they of another ethnic minority background than you?”

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

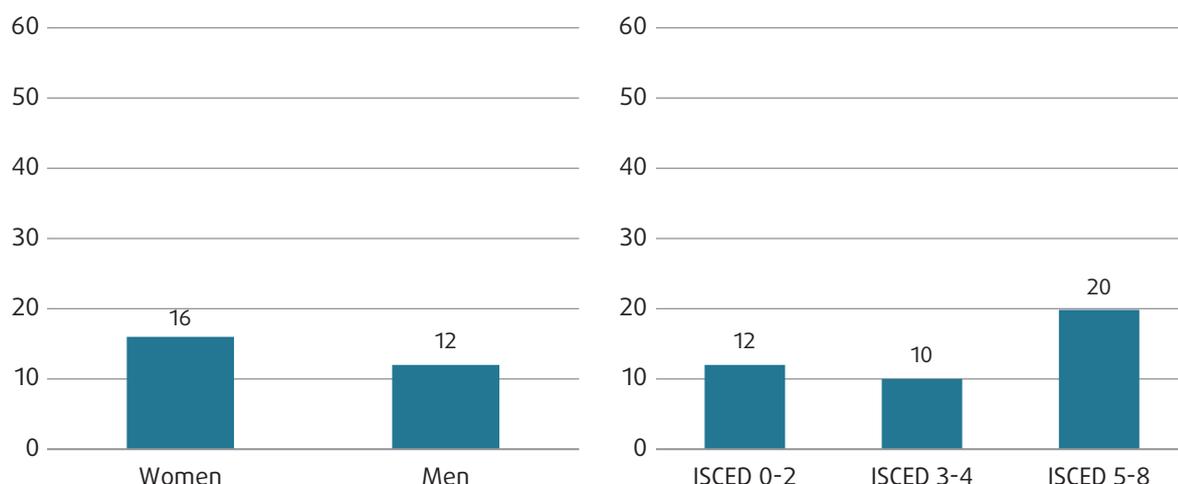
who completed a tertiary level of education, as many as 20 % reported the most recent incident of racist harassment to an authority or service. By contrast, the reporting rate for respondents who completed at most lower secondary education is 12 %, and for those with upper secondary education is 10 %.

Among victims of racist harassment, very few reported the same incident to multiple agencies (for example, the police and a victim support organisation). At the same time, despite their specific mandates, very few incidents were reported to victim support organisations (3 %) or national equality bodies, human rights institutions and ombudspersons (close to 0 %).

As Figure 5 shows, more than one third (36 %) of respondents who did not report racist harassment most often attributed this to the experienced incident being too minor to report or as being something that happens all the time.

In total, 36 % of respondents felt that nothing would change by reporting incidents of racist harassment. Remarkably, many more men (42 %) feel this is the case compared to women (29 %). More second-generation respondents (20 %) do not report incidents because this would be too bureaucratic or time-consuming compared with first-generation respondents (9 %).

**Figure 4: Rate of reporting perceived racist harassment to authorities or services (including police) – most recent incident in 5 years before the survey, by sex and education (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



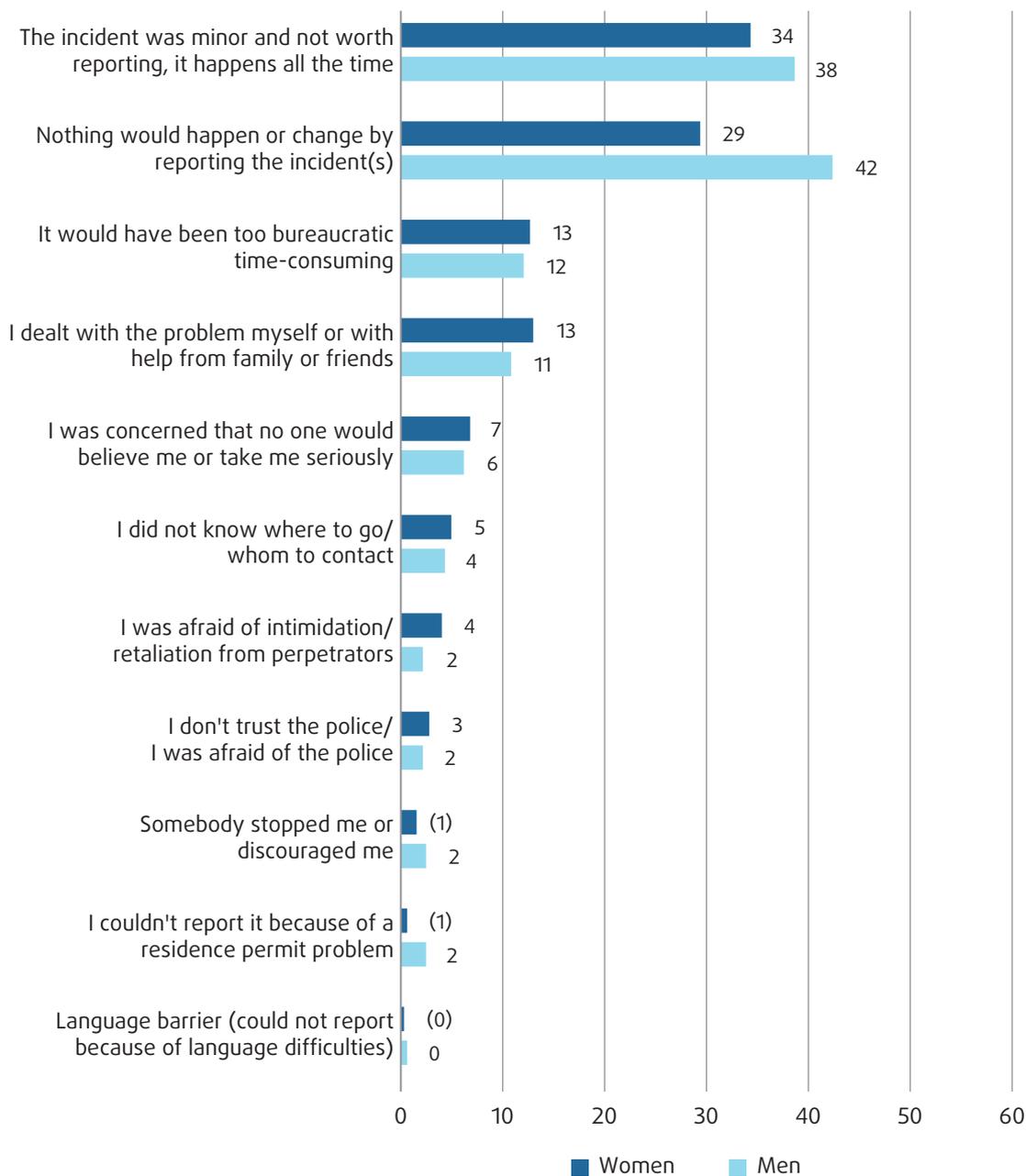
- Notes:
- <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent who experienced hate-motivated physical violence (sex: n = 2,262 and education: n = 2,258); weighted results.
  - <sup>b</sup> The educational level is grouped in three categories: lower secondary education or less (corresponding to the International Standard Classification of Education, ISCED 0 to ISCED 2); upper secondary, vocational, post-secondary and short cycle tertiary education (ISCED 3 and 4); and tertiary education (ISCED 5 to 8).
  - <sup>c</sup> Question: “Thinking about this LAST incident [that is, hate-motivated harassment experienced in the five years before the survey], did you report it or make a complaint about it?”

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

Among the few respondents who reported the most recent incident of racist harassment to the police, almost half (45 %) were satisfied with the way the complaint was handled. Men were more often satisfied (50 %)

than women (41 %). There were no notable differences between first- and second- generation respondents in terms of their satisfaction with the police when reporting racist harassment.

**Figure 5: Reasons for not reporting perceived racist harassment to authorities or services – most recent incident in 5 years before the survey (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent who experienced hate-motivated harassment in the five years before the survey (n=2,000); weighted results, sorted by the category 'Total'.  
<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.  
<sup>c</sup> Question: "WHY did you NOT report the incident [that is, hate-motivated harassment experienced in the five years before the survey] or make a complaint to the police or any other organisation?"

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

## 2.1.2. Experiences of violence motivated by racism

This section describes respondents' experiences of physical violence, which they perceived as having been motivated by racism. This includes incidents where the perpetrator hit, pushed, kicked or grabbed the respondent, as well as physical assaults by police officers. The survey also gave respondents an opportunity to provide information about physical attacks that may have occurred for other reasons, to place the hate-motivated incidents into context. In addition to the prevalence and frequency of these incidents, the survey asked detailed information about the last racist incident experienced by the respondents, such as characteristics of the perpetrators, whether the incidents were reported anywhere, and reasons for not reporting to the police or any other organisation.

### Prevalence and frequency of violence motivated by racism

Similarly to EU-MIDIS I, the results show that respondents of African descent are particularly at risk of criminal victimisation motivated by racism. On average, 5 % of all respondents of African descent in EU-MIDIS II indicate that they experienced racist violence – that is, one or more physical attacks – in the five years before the survey (Figure 6).<sup>21</sup>

The physical attack may have involved various perpetrators, including unknown persons, as well as police officers, which was addressed in the survey with a separate question. Incidents involving physical assault by a police officer are included in the prevalence rate of 5 % in the five years before the survey. The survey results suggest, however, that experiences vary greatly across Member States. The highest 5-year rate of hate-motivated physical violence was recorded for respondents in Finland (14 %) and in Ireland and Austria (both 13 %), followed by respondents in Luxembourg (11 %) and Denmark (9%). The victimisation rates are lowest in Portugal and the United Kingdom (Figure 6).

Overall, 3 % of respondents say that they experienced a racist physical attack in the 12 months preceding the survey. The 12-month victimisation rate would on average be 2 % instead of 3 % if 'assault by a police officer' – which was asked in the survey as a separate question, in addition to a question on physical attack by any perpetrator – were not considered in the calculation. The highest 12-month rate of racist violence was recorded for respondents in Austria (11 %). This rate is

21 The 5-year victimisation rate would on average be 4 % if 'assault by a police officer' were not considered in the calculation. The survey included a separate question concerning physical assault by a police officer, in addition to question about physical attack by any perpetrator.

also among the highest victimisation rates observed among all the population groups covered by the survey as a whole,<sup>22</sup> as shown in the EU-MIDIS II main results report.<sup>23</sup> Persons of African descent in Portugal and the United Kingdom show the lowest 12-month racist victimisation rates.<sup>24</sup>

Differences in the 12-month prevalence of hate-motivated physical violence between respondents of African descent and respondents with other ethnic or immigrant backgrounds can only be observed in Austria, where those of African descent are twice as likely to experience hate-crime compared to respondents from Turkey (SSAFR: 11 %, TUR: 5 %) (see also [EU-MIDIS II Data explorer](#)).<sup>25</sup>

Overall, 2 % of all people of African descent interviewed experienced a racist physical assault by a police officer in the five years preceding the survey. Respondents in Austria indicate the highest prevalence (5 %) – including when compared to all other target groups and countries surveyed, other than respondents from South Asia in Greece, 6 % of whom indicate they experienced a racist physical assault by the police.

Among those respondents who experienced racist violence in the 12 months before the survey, most (70 %) experienced one such incident. Another 27 % of those who experienced violence experienced two to five incidents, with 3 % experiencing six or more incidents.<sup>26</sup>

On average, no notable differences are observed between men (7 %) and women (5 %) of African descent regarding the prevalence of racist violence in the five years preceding the survey, nor between first-generation respondents (5 %) and second-generation respondents (6 %).

When it comes specifically to prevalence of perceived racist physical assault by a police officer in the five years preceding the survey, however, overall differences with regard to gender and generation become slightly more prominent. Men of African descent (3 %) and second-generation respondents (3 %) slightly more often

22 In Austria, Germany, Denmark, France, Italy, Portugal, Sweden and the United Kingdom another group/other groups were interviewed for the survey in addition to people of African descent, allowing for comparisons between these groups. In Finland, Ireland, Luxembourg and Malta, people of African descent were the only group interviewed in the country and therefore comparisons with other groups are not available.

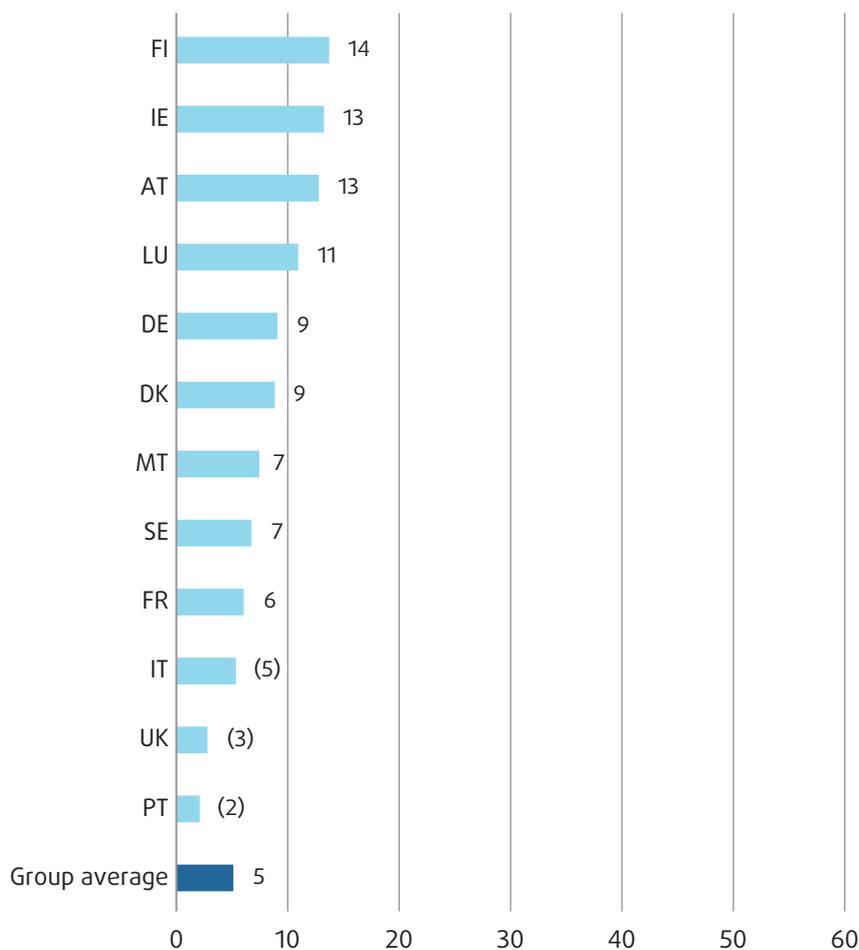
23 FRA (2017a), p.64.

24 Due to the rare nature of hate-motivated violence, the results for the 12 months preceding the survey are based on a small number of cases in seven out of 12 of the countries surveyed, and may therefore be less reliable.

25 Due to a small number of cases no further within-country comparisons can be done.

26 Result is based on a small number of cases, and may therefore be less reliable.

**Figure 6: Prevalence of perceived racist violence in 5 years before the survey, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c,d</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 5,803); weighted results.

<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.

<sup>c</sup> Incidents involving a physical assault by a police officer, which were addressed in the survey with a separate question, are included in the calculation of the prevalence of hate-motivated physical violence.

<sup>d</sup> Question: "How many of these incidents [that is, physical attack] in the past 5 years in [COUNTRY], have happened, in your opinion, because of your ethnic or immigrant background?".  
Question: "In the past 5 years in [COUNTRY], has a police officer ever physically assaulted you because of your ethnic or immigrant background? By this I mean something like being pushed, hit or kicked".

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

experienced physical assault by a police officer in the five years preceding the survey than women of African descent (1%<sup>27</sup>) and first-generation respondents (1%).

The prevalence of violence for *any* reason is highest for the youngest respondents and gradually decreases with age (16-24 years old – 12%; 25-44 years old – 8%; 45-59

years old – 6%; 60+ years – 5%<sup>28</sup>). However, the prevalence of racist violence does not substantially vary with age (16-24 years old – 5%; 25-44 years old – 6%; 45-59 years old – 5%; 60+ years – 3%<sup>29</sup>). This also shows that the overall risk of experiencing racist violence persists and does not decrease with age.

<sup>27</sup> Result is based on a small number of cases, and may therefore be less reliable.

<sup>28</sup> Result is based on a small number of cases, and may therefore be less reliable.

<sup>29</sup> Result is based on a small number of cases, and may therefore be less reliable.

## Impact of religion and traditional or religious clothing on experiences of racist violence

Overall, the prevalence of racist violence (including physical assault by a police officer) in the five years before the survey differs slightly between Muslim and non-Muslim respondents of African descent (7 % and 4 %, respectively). This finding points among others to a possible intersection of religion and racial or ethnic origin when assessing the risk of racist crime for persons of African descent.

When interpreting these results, however, one needs to consider that the distribution of respondents by religion differs from country to country, with a majority of people of African descent in some countries identifying themselves as Muslim (for example, in Denmark (92 %), Malta (86 %) and Sweden (57 %)), while in other countries a majority identifies as Christian (for example, in Ireland (84 %), Portugal (81 %), Austria (78 %) and Germany (71 %)). Therefore, the results concerning a particular religious group can also reflect the experiences of persons of African descent mainly in certain countries, while not in others.

Overall, there are no substantial differences in the five-year prevalence of hate-motivated violence between persons who wear traditional or religious clothing in public (including women who wear headscarves or niqabs) and those who do not: 7 % of respondents who wear such clothing in public experienced racist violence, compared to 5 % of respondents who do not wear such clothing.

Gender-specific differences can, however, be noted here. Specifically, the prevalence of racist crime among men of African descent who wear traditional or religious clothing in public is more than twice as high as that for men who do not wear such clothing in public (12 % vs. 5 %). This difference is not observed among women of African descent (3 % of women of African descent who wear traditional or religious clothing in public experienced racist violence, compared to 4 % among those who do not wear such clothing).

Looking more closely at the difference observed among men, it emerges that it primarily comes from a comparatively high number of Muslim men of African descent who wear traditional or religious clothing in public in France saying that they were physically assaulted by a police officer due to their racial or ethnic origin.

## Perpetrators of violence motivated by racism

Most victims of racist violence (61 %) indicate that the perpetrator of the most recent incident was a person they did not know. Still, 11% cited a police officer or a border guard; 10 % cited somebody from work, college or training; and 6 % say that the perpetrator was a neighbour.

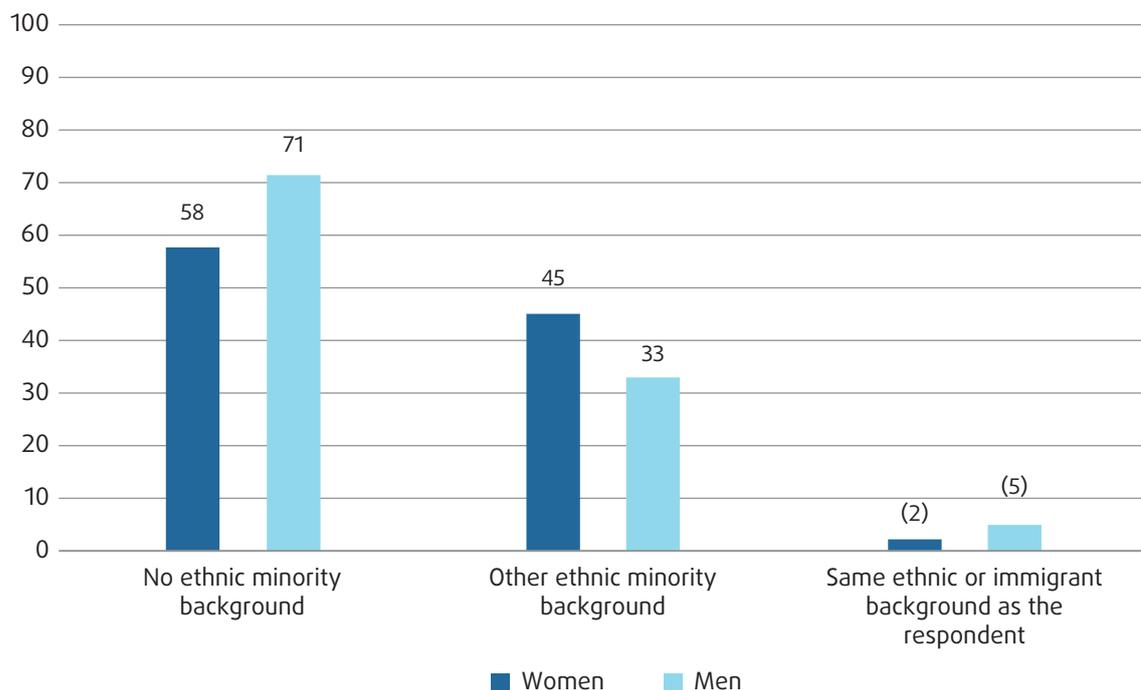
Regarding perpetrators' ethnic background (Figure 7), 65 % of persons of African descent who experienced racist violence describe the perpetrator as someone who did not have an ethnic minority background. Thirty-eight percent say that the perpetrator had an ethnic minority background other than their own. Women indicate more often than men that the perpetrator had another ethnic minority background (45 % vs. 33 %). On the other hand, men are more likely to experience racist violence by someone with no ethnic minority background compared to women (71 % vs. 58 %).

## Reporting violence motivated by racism and reasons for not reporting

Overall, 35 % of victims of racist violence reported the most recent incident to an organisation or service (including the police), while 64 % did not report the incident anywhere. Specifically, 22 % of victims contacted the police, 15 % turned to another organisation or service, and a few victims of racist violence contacted both the police and another organisation. Among other organisations/services than police, only few respondents mentioned contacting an institution and/or someone in the organisation/institution in which the incident took place. However, almost none of the victims contacted a victims' support organisation.

There are substantial differences in reporting rates between men and women victims of racist violence. Gender differences are particularly evident in reporting to the police: 31 % of women reported such incidents to the police, compared to 16 % of men. Looking at the total reporting rates – that is, including also reporting to another organisation or service – Figure 8 shows that half of women (50 %) victims of racist violence reported the most recent incident to the police or to another organisation, compared to one in four men (23 %) who did so.

**Figure 7: Perpetrators by ethnic background – most recent incident of physical violence in 5 years before the survey, by sex (%)<sup>a,b,c,d</sup>**



- Notes:
- <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent who experienced hate-motivated physical violence in the five years before the survey (n = 381); weighted results.
  - <sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.
  - <sup>c</sup> The categories do not add up to 100 % because some incidents involve multiple perpetrators with different ethnic backgrounds.
  - <sup>d</sup> Question: “Think about the person(s) who did this to you. Were they of the same ethnic or immigrant background as you? Were they of another ethnic minority than you? Was it someone who doesn’t have ethnic minority background?”

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

Similarly, the level of reporting of racist violence is much higher among victims who completed tertiary education (48 %) than among victims who attained upper secondary (28 %) or at most lower secondary education (33 %). Further disaggregation that takes into account respondents’ countries of residence, generation or age group is hindered by the low number of cases available for analysis.

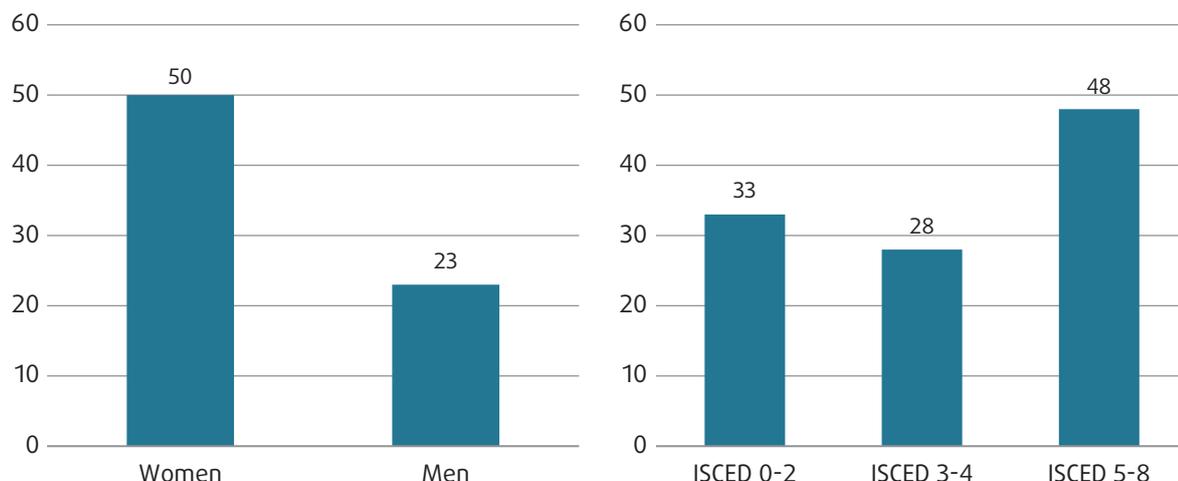
As mentioned previously, elsewhere in the survey, respondents were separately asked whether they had been physically assaulted by a police officer because of their racial or ethnic origin in the five years preceding the survey. Worth noting is that, overall, men are more likely to experience assault by the police than women. The reporting rates for incidents of racist violence by a police officer are marginally higher (37 %) than the overall reporting rates of racist incidents (35 %). Similarly, the majority of victims of hate-motivated

assault by a police officer (63 %) did not report the incident to anybody.

Victims of racist violence who reported the most recent incident to the police were asked about the extent to which they were satisfied with how the police handled their complaint. The overwhelming majority of respondents (83 %) said that they were dissatisfied with the way the police handled their complaint (women: 93 %, men: 69 %); 14 % said that they were satisfied (due to the small number of cases, a breakdown by gender is not possible).

Respondents who did not report the most recent incident of racist violence most often indicate that they were not convinced that anything would happen or change by reporting it (41 %) (Figure 9). Fourteen percent say that they dealt with the problem themselves or with the help of friends or family, and 13 % that

**Figure 8: Rate of reporting perceived racist violence to authorities or services – most recent incident in 5 years before the survey, by sex and education (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent who experienced hate-motivated physical violence (sex: n = 395 and education: n = 394); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> The educational level is grouped in three categories: lower secondary education or less (corresponding to the International Standard Classification of Education, ISCED 0 to ISCED 2); upper secondary, vocational, post-secondary and short cycle tertiary education (ISCED 3 and 4); and tertiary education (ISCED 5 to 8).  
<sup>c</sup> Question: “Thinking about the last incident, did you report or make a complaint about it? If yes, to whom did you report or make a complaint about the incident?”

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

reporting would have been too bureaucratic or time-consuming. Other common reasons for not reporting include the perception that the incident was too minor or because it happens all the time and is therefore not worth reporting (12 %) and the fear of intimidation/retaliation from perpetrators (10 %).

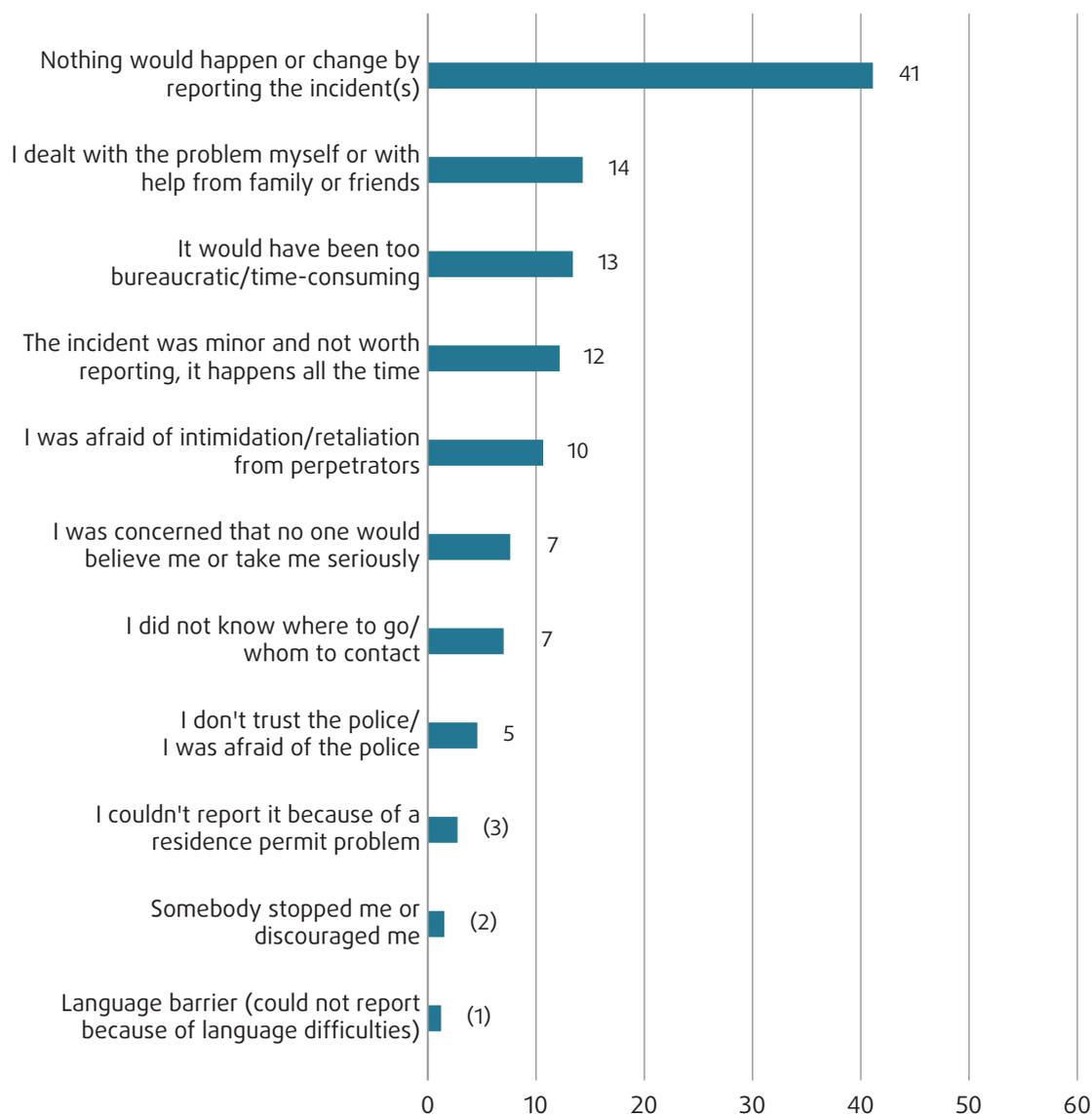
With few exceptions, the reasons for not reporting the most recent incident of racist violence were largely the same for women and men of African descent. Women are more likely to perceive that nothing would happen or change by reporting (58 %) compared to men (32 %). On the other hand, more men than women believe that reporting would be too bureaucratic or time consuming (men: 17 %; women: 7 %) or that reporting is not worth it because the incident was too minor, or because it happens all the time (men: 15 %; women: 6 %). With respect to generations, first-generation respondents believe to a higher degree that nothing would happen or change by reporting (45 %) when compared to second-generation respondents (21 %).

When asked about the reasons for not reporting the most recent incident of racist violence by a police officer, respondents mostly mentioned four reasons (Figure 10). First, 34 % of victims of such violence say that nothing would happen or change by reporting the incident. Another 28 % say that they do not trust the police or are afraid of them. Meanwhile, 23 % state that they did not report such violence because they are concerned that no one would believe them or take them seriously. Another 19 % were afraid of retaliation or of not being treated properly.

The reasons why respondents did not report incidents of hate-motivated violence to the police or to any other organisation are similar to those indicated by other respondents (target groups) surveyed within the EU-MIDIS II survey.<sup>30</sup> Overall, the same reasons are also most often mentioned by respondents included in other FRA surveys (e.g., EU LGBT survey) when asked about details of their experiences with violence.

<sup>30</sup> FRA (2017a), p. 67.

**Figure 9: Reasons for not reporting perceived racist violence to authorities or services (including police) – most recent incident in 5 years before the survey (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent who did not report the most recent incident of hate-motivated violence (n = 267); weighted results.

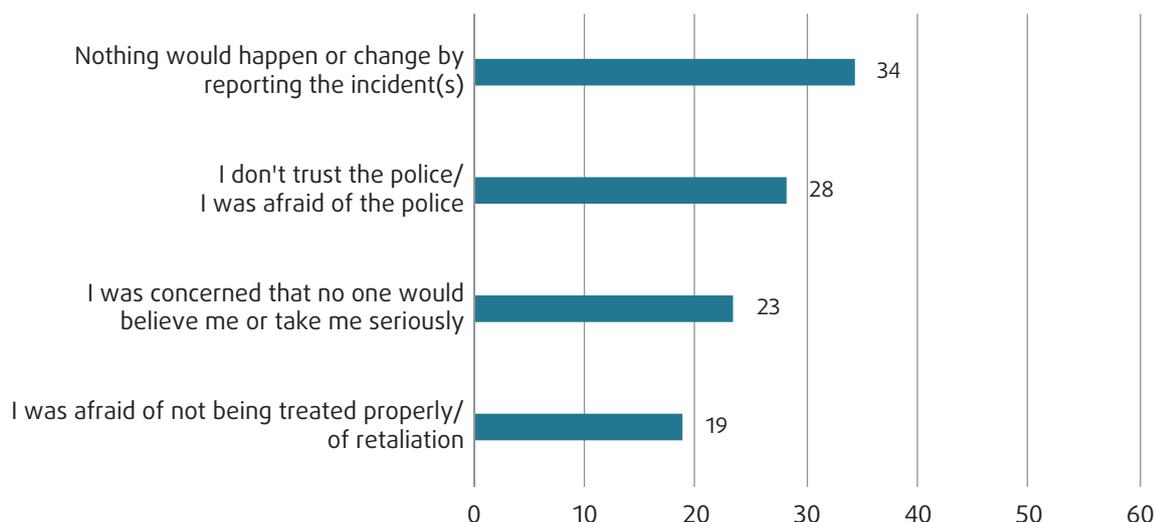
<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.

<sup>c</sup> Question: "Why did you NOT report the last incident or make a complaint about to the police or any other organisation?"

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016



**Figure 10: Most often mentioned reasons for not reporting assault by a police officer – most recent incident in 5 years before the survey (%)<sup>a,b</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent who did not report the most recent incident of assault by a police officer or a border guard in 5 years before the survey (n = 127); weighted results.

<sup>b</sup> Question: "Why did you not report the last incident or make a complaint?"

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

### 2.1.3. Harassment and physical violence against respondents' families or friends motivated by racism

Racist crime affects entire communities because victims are often targeted based on their perceived membership of a racialised group. Any person might therefore feel unsafe without having her/himself been a victim of racist violence. Moreover, victims of violence might not be willing to share their experiences with third parties (such as interviewers in a survey) because of fear of re-victimisation or stigmatisation or because they feel ashamed. EU-MIDIS II asked respondents not only about their personal experiences of racist harassment and violence but also about the experiences of others who are close to them, especially respondents' family members or friends, to gauge the level of awareness of racist harassment and violence experienced by somebody within respondents' close networks.

Overall, one in five respondents (20 %) of African descent are aware of someone in their circle of family

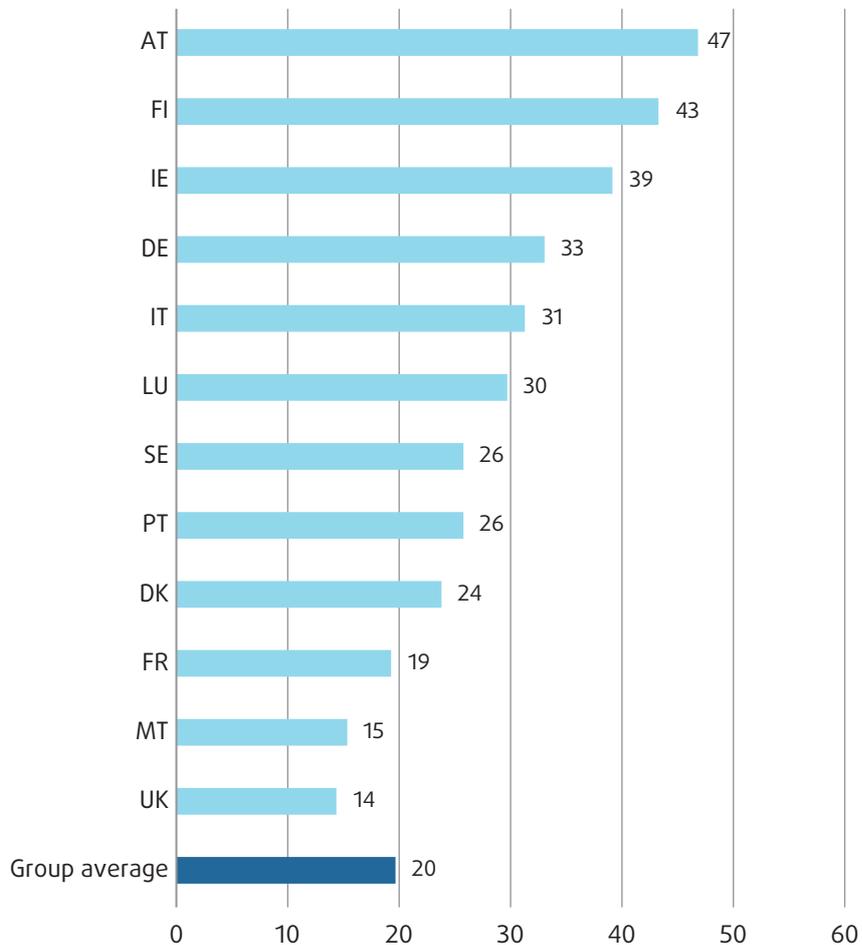
or friends being insulted or called names because of their racial or ethnic origin in the 12 months before the survey. The results vary substantially across Member States, ranging from every second respondent in Austria (47 %) to 14% of respondents in the United Kingdom (Figure 11).

The distribution of respondents' awareness of family members or friends experiencing racist harassment in the year before the survey among the Member States surveyed is similar to the prevalence of personal experiences of racist harassment in the 12 months before the survey.

With regard to awareness of racist violence experienced by close family members and friends, 7 % of respondents know of someone being physically attacked because of their racial or ethnic origin in the 12 months before the survey (Figure 12). Similar to respondents' personal experiences of racist violence, the results vary widely across the EU Member States surveyed. One out of five respondents is aware of such attacks in Finland (21 %) and in Austria (20 %). In Malta, 6 % are, and fewer are in the United Kingdom.<sup>31</sup>

<sup>31</sup> Result is based on a small number of cases, and may therefore be less reliable.

**Figure 11: Awareness of a family member or a friend being insulted or called names because of their ethnic or immigrant background in 12 months before the survey, by country (%)<sup>a,b</sup>**



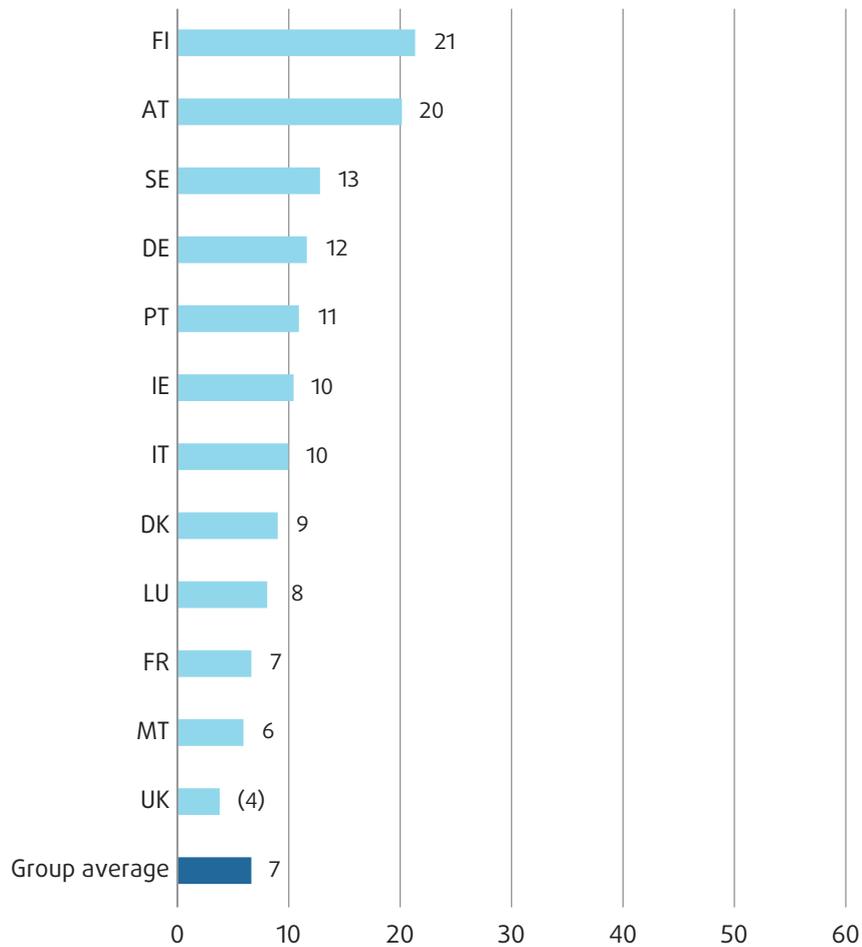
Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 5,803); weighted results.

<sup>b</sup> Question: "In the past 12 months, have you heard of anyone in your circle of family or friends being insulted or called names because of their ethnic or immigrant background?"

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016



**Figure 12: Awareness of a family member or a friend being physically attacked because of their ethnic or immigrant background in 12 months before the survey, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 5,803); weighted results.

<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.

<sup>c</sup> Question: "In the past 12 months, have you heard of anyone in your circle of family or friends being physically attacked because of their ethnic or immigrant background?"

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

## 2.2. Police stops

### KEY FINDINGS

#### Police stops and perceived racial profiling

- One in four (24 %) respondents of African descent were stopped by the police in the five years before the survey; 11 % were stopped in the 12 months before the survey.
- Among those stopped in the 12 months before the survey, 44 % believe the last stop they experienced was racially motivated. This view was shared at the highest rates by respondents in Italy (70 %) and Austria (63 %), and at the lowest rates by respondents in Finland (18 %).
- The rates of police stops and of perceived racial profiling vary substantially among countries. In both periods – five years and 12 months before the survey – respondents were stopped at the highest rates in Austria (5 years: 66 %, 12 months: 49 %) and Finland (5 years: 38 %, 12 months: 22 %). However, in Austria, the rate at which the latest police stop was perceived as ethnic profiling is almost eight times higher than that in Finland (31 % vs. 4 %), when looking at the 12-month period before the survey.
- Men are three times more likely to be stopped than women (22 % vs. 7 %) and four times more likely to perceive the most recent stop as racial profiling (men: 17 %, women: 4 %).
- With respect to age, results show a linear trend, with younger respondents more likely to perceive the most recent stop as racially motivated. Specifically, every second respondent aged 16 to 24 (50 %) stopped in the five years before the survey perceives the most recent stop as having been racially motivated. By contrast, every third respondent (35 %) aged 45 to 59 holds this view.

#### Treatment by the police and trust

- A majority (60 %) of respondents who were stopped by the police in the five years before the survey say that they were treated respectfully during the most recent stop. Meanwhile, 16 % say the police treated them disrespectfully. Larger proportions of respondents believe they were treated disrespectfully in Denmark (30 %) and Austria (29 %).
- Only 9 % of respondents who said they were treated disrespectfully reported or made a complaint about this.
- Overall, respondents' level of trust in the police is 6.3 on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means 'no trust at all' and 10 indicates 'complete trust'. Respondents in Finland trust the police the most (8.2). By contrast, respondents in Austria have the lowest level of trust in the police (3.6).
- The results show that levels of trust in the police are not affected by a police stop itself, but by whether the stop is perceived as racial profiling. The lowest average level of trust in the police is found among respondents who view the most recent police stop they experienced as racial profiling (4.8).

Profiling is commonly, and legitimately, used by law enforcement agencies to prevent, investigate and prosecute criminal offences. Profiling involves categorising individuals according to their (perceived) personal characteristics, which can include racial or ethnic origin, skin colour, religion or nationality. While police officers can take such characteristics into account when stopping an individual, they cannot use any of these characteristics as the sole or main criterion to stop the individual. Doing so would amount to racial profiling, which constitutes direct discrimination and is unlawful. Furthermore, racial profiling can undermine trust in law enforcement authorities among members of targeted communities,<sup>32</sup> which can negatively affect people's willingness to report incidents of racist harassment and racist violence they experience.

This section looks in more detail at experiences with the police of people of African descent included in the survey, with a particular emphasis on their perceived experiences of racial profiling. Relevant authorities can use these findings to assist them in developing responses to racism identified among law enforcement officers, as well as in developing further community policing initiatives.

### 2.2.1. Encounters with law enforcement

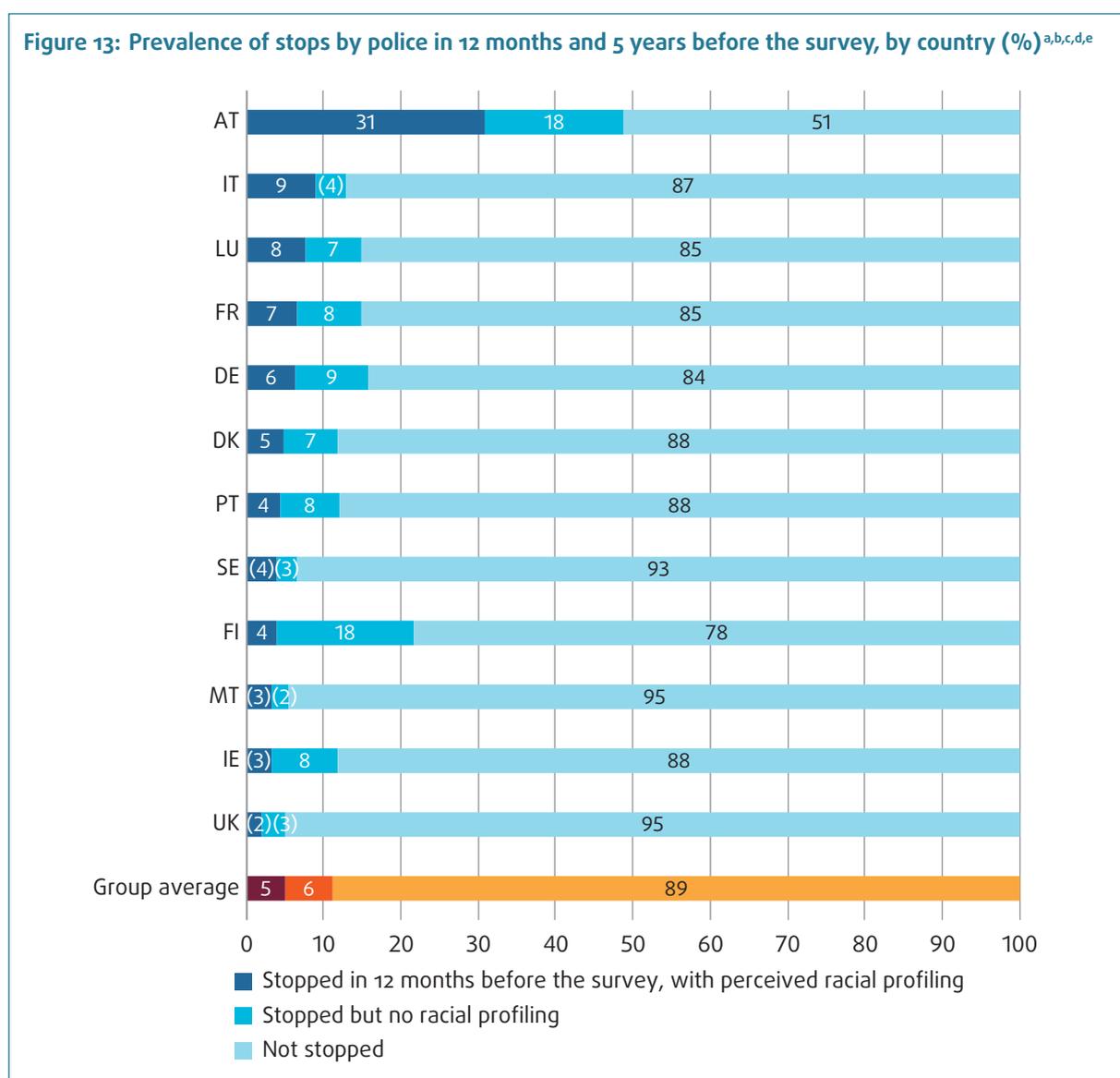
EU-MIDIS II asked respondents a series of questions about police stops. Respondents were also able to provide detailed information on the most recent police stop they experienced. For example, whether they felt they were stopped based on their racial or ethnic origin, or how they were treated by the police during the stop.

<sup>32</sup> FRA (2018c)[*upcoming December 2018*].

The results show substantial variations between EU Member States in both the rates of police stops and of perceived racial profiling. Moreover, as shown in the EU-MIDIS II Main results report,<sup>33</sup> racial profiling is a common occurrence for immigrants and descendants of immigrants as well as for ethnic and national minorities such as the Roma.

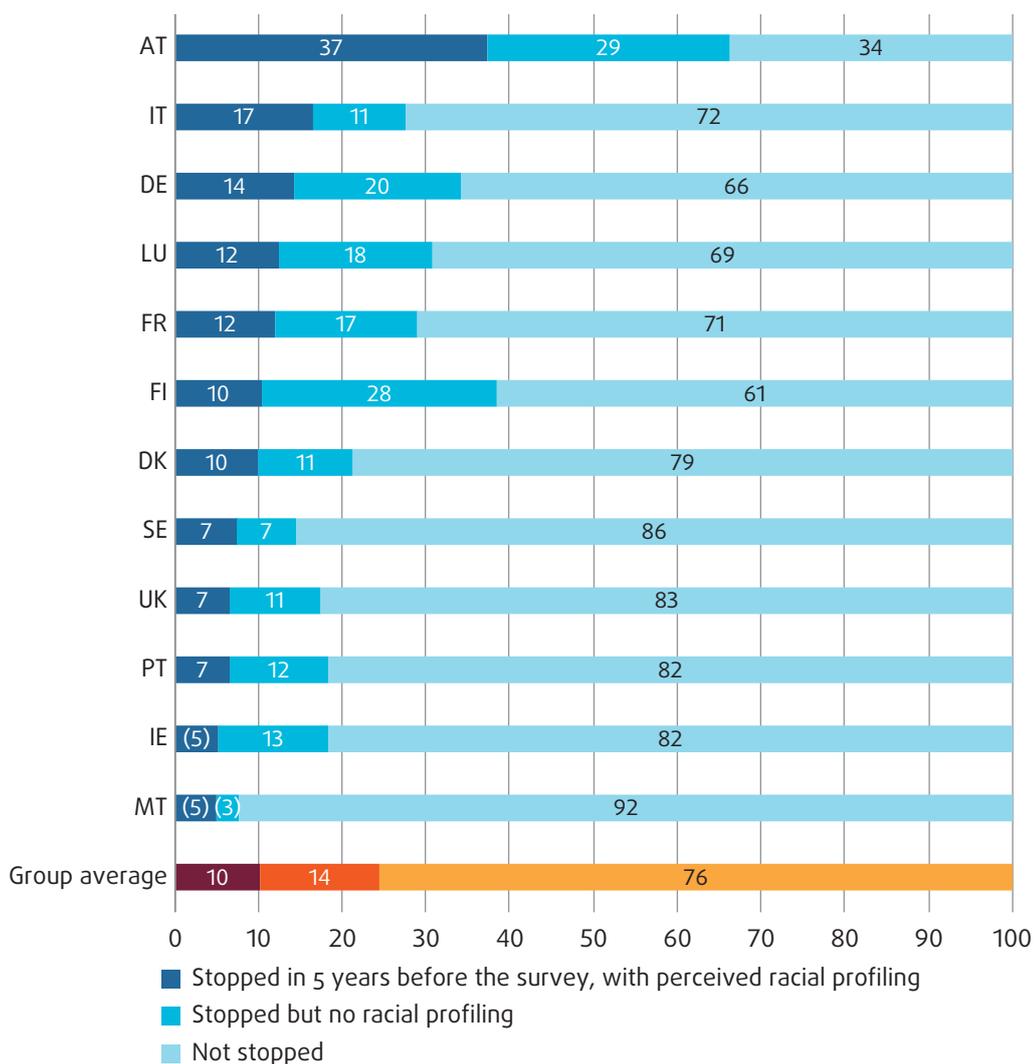
One in four respondents (24 %) were stopped by the police in the five years before the survey, with one in 10 (10 %) considering the most recent stop as racial profiling. In the 12 months preceding the survey, just over one in 10 respondents (11 %) were stopped by the police, and one in 20 (5 %) consider the most recent stop as racial profiling (Figure 13).

Figure 13 shows that in both time periods – five years and 12 months before the survey – respondents were stopped at the highest rates in Austria (5 years: 66 %, 12 months: 49 %) and Finland (5 years: 38 %, 12 months: 22 %). However, in Austria, the level of perceived racial profiling in the five years before the survey is almost four times higher than the level in Finland or Denmark (37 % in Austria compared to 10 % in both Finland and Denmark), and five times higher than the level in Portugal, the United Kingdom and Sweden (7 % in all cases). For the 12-month period, the level of perceived racial profiling during the latest police stop in Austria is, for example, nearly eight times higher than the level in Finland (31 % against 4 %).



<sup>33</sup> FRA (2017a), p.69. Respondents from South Asia in Greece indicated by far the highest rates of ethnic profiling by the police in the EU-MIDIS II survey. A majority of South Asian respondents in Greece (53 %) experienced a racially motivated police stop in the five years before the survey, followed by respondents of African descent in Austria (37 %).

Figure 13: (continued)



- Notes:
- <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 5,803); weighted results, sorted by the rate of stops with perceived racial profiling.
  - <sup>b</sup> The total percentage of respondents who were stopped by the police in the five years before the survey is calculated by adding together two figures: the percentage figure of those who were stopped by the police in the five years before the survey and perceived that this was because of their immigrant or ethnic or immigrant background, and the percentage figure of those who were stopped by the police in the five years before the survey, but did not consider that this was because of their immigrant or ethnic minority background.
  - <sup>c</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.
  - <sup>d</sup> Question: "In the past five years in [COUNTRY] (or since you have been in [COUNTRY]), have you ever been stopped, searched or questioned by the police?"
  - <sup>e</sup> Some bars do not add up to 100 %; this is due to rounding of numbers.

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

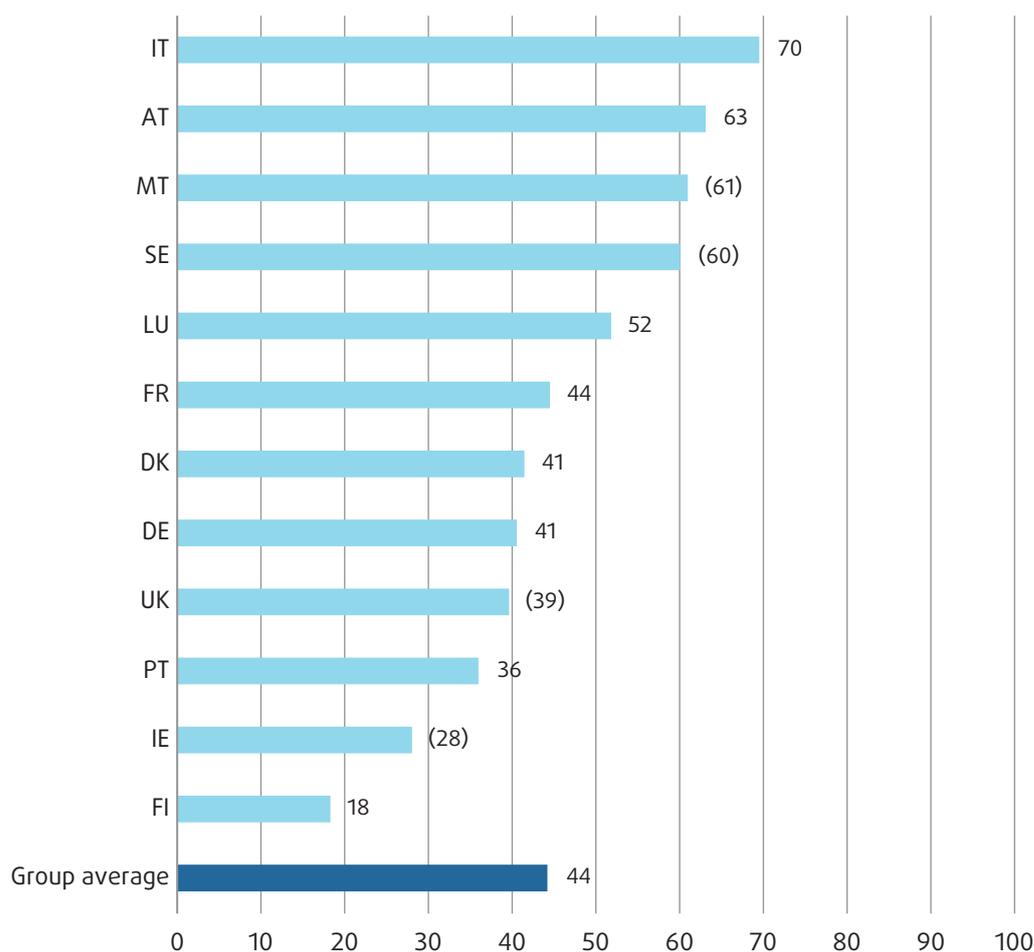
Among those stopped in the 12 months before the survey, 44 % consider the last stop to have been motivated by their ethnic or immigrant background. The highest rates are observed for respondents in Italy (70 %) and Austria (63 %), the lowest for respondents in Finland (18 %) (Figure 14). The distribution pattern is similar for the five-year period: of those stopped in the five years before the survey, 41 % believe that the most recent police stop occurred because of their ethnic or immigrant background, with significant variations in the rate: from 60 % in Italy to 27 % in Finland.

Men were three times more likely to be stopped (22 %) than women (7 %), and four times more likely

to perceive the most recent stop as being racially motivated (men: 17 %, women: 4 %). Of those stopped, more men also perceive the most recent stop as racial profiling (44 %) compared to women (34 %).

With respect to age, results on perceived racial profiling by the police show a linear trend, with younger respondents more likely to perceive the most recent stop as racial profiling compared to older respondents. Specifically, while every second respondent aged 16 to 24 (50 %) perceives the most recent stop as racial profiling, every third respondent aged 45 to 59 (35 %) does so, and still fewer do so in the age group 60+ years (Figure 15).

**Figure 14: Most recent police stop perceived to be due to racial profiling among those stopped in 12 months before the survey, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



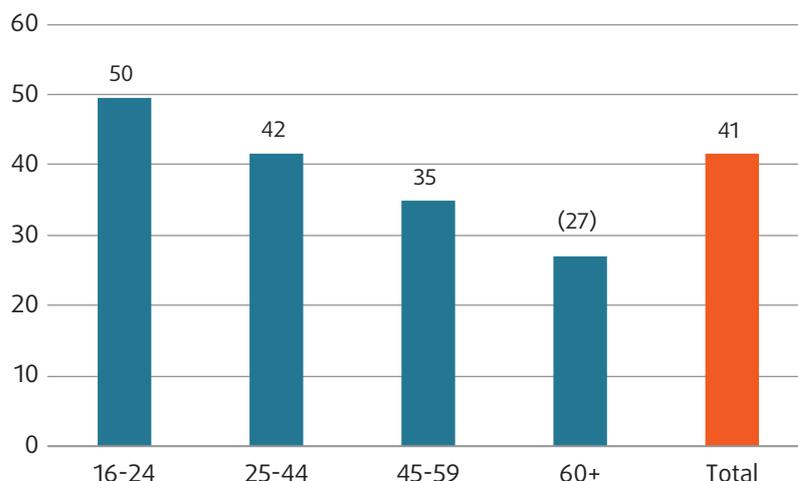
<sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent who were stopped by the police in the 12 months before the survey (n = 928); weighted results.

<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.

<sup>c</sup> Question: "Do you think that THE LAST TIME you were stopped was because of your ethnic or immigrant background?"

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

**Figure 15: Most recent police stop perceived to be due to racial profiling among those stopped in 5 years before the survey, by age group (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent who were stopped by the police in the five years before the survey (n = 1,620); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.  
<sup>c</sup> Question: “Do you think that THE LAST TIME you were stopped was because of your ethnic or immigrant background?”

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

### 2.2.2. Police stops and trust in the police

Overall, the population groups surveyed in EU-MIDIS II show high levels of trust in the police and the legal system, sometimes higher than the general population.<sup>34</sup> However, experiencing discrimination, harassment or violence strongly undermines trust in the police and the legal system, as shown in the EU-MIDIS II Main results report.

Figure 16 shows the average level of trust in the police on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means ‘no trust at all’ and 10 indicates ‘complete trust’. Overall, respondents’ level of trust in the police is 6.3. Respondents in Austria have one of the lowest levels of trust in the police (3.6) compared to the average level of trust of respondents in the other 11 countries surveyed. By contrast, respondents in Finland trust the police the most (8.2).

Similarly to EU-MIDIS I,<sup>35</sup> the results suggest that it is not the stop itself that affects the level of trust in the police. Instead, it is the extent to which the stop is perceived as racial profiling. Invariably, across all countries surveyed, respondents who perceive the most recent police stop as racial profiling trust the police less compared to those

who were not stopped or those who did not perceive the stop as racial profiling (Figure 17).

Respondents were also asked to evaluate the police’s conduct during the most recent police stop – that is, whether the police was respectful or disrespectful. Overall, a majority (60 %) of respondents who were stopped by the police in the five years before the survey say that they were treated respectfully during the most recent stop (24 % ‘very respectful’ and 36 % ‘fairly respectful’). One in four (24 %) assessed the treatment by the police as neutral. Some 16 %, however, say that the police treated them disrespectfully during the most recent stop (8 % ‘fairly disrespectful’ and 8 % ‘very disrespectful’).

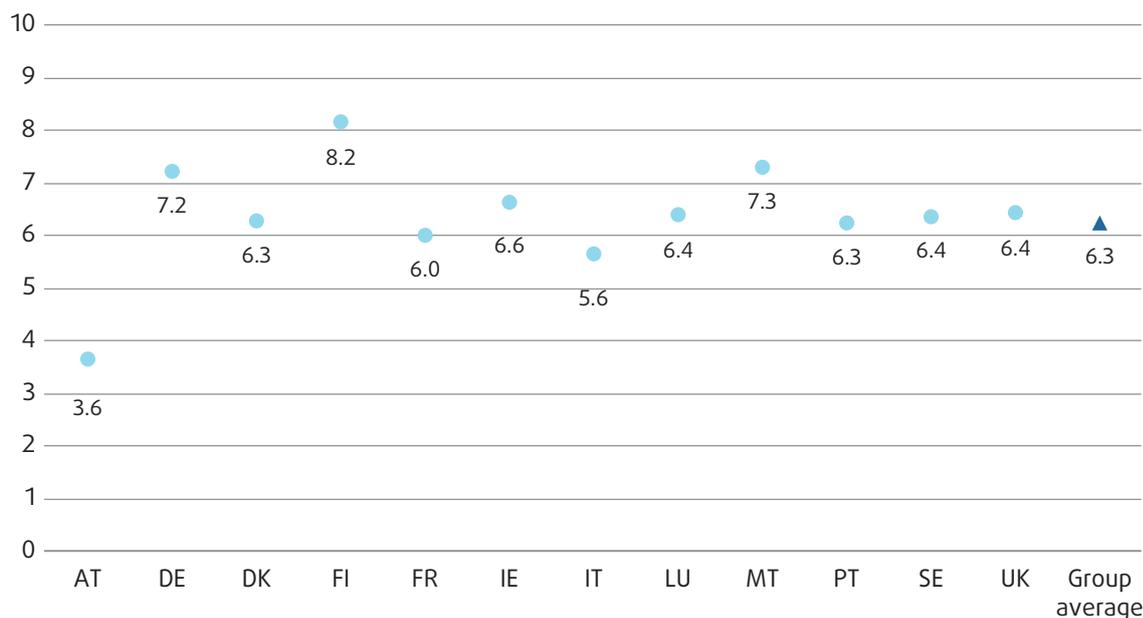
Respondents in Austria and Denmark tend to assess the conduct of the police during the most recent stop less favourably: almost a third of those stopped in these countries say that the police treated them disrespectfully during the last stop (Denmark: 30 %; Austria: 29 %). By contrast, most respondents stopped in Ireland, Finland and France believe that the police’s behaviour was respectful.<sup>36</sup>

<sup>34</sup> FRA (2017a).

<sup>35</sup> FRA (2010), p. 13 onwards.

<sup>36</sup> The results for Malta and Sweden are also notable, but based on a small number of responses and therefore less reliable.

**Figure 16: Levels of trust in the police, by country (average values on a scale ranging from 0 to 10)<sup>a,b</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 5,539); weighted results.

<sup>b</sup> Question: "Please tell me on a scale of 0-10 how much you personally trust each of the [COUNTRY] institutions I read out. 0 means you do not trust an institution at all, and 10 means you have complete trust?"

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

**Figure 17: Levels of trust in the police and experiences with police stops, by country (average values on a scale ranging from 0 to 10)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**

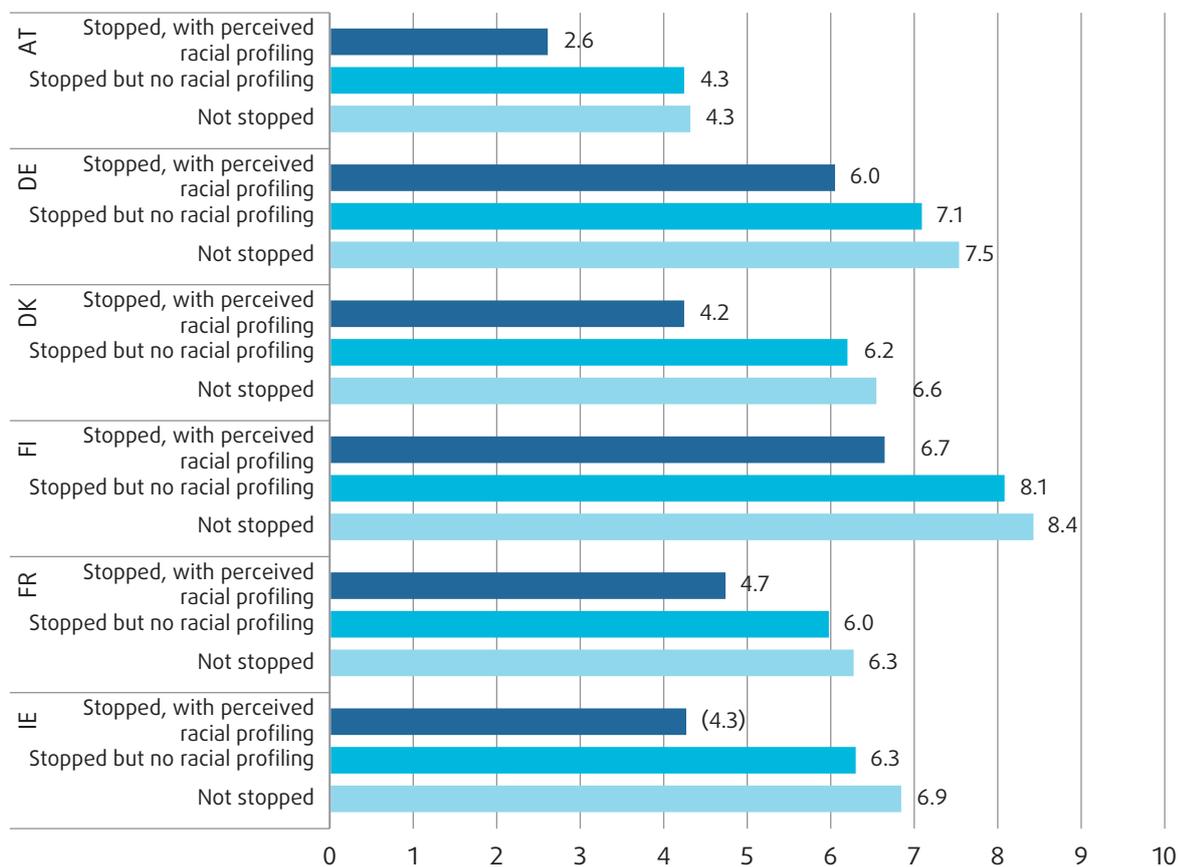
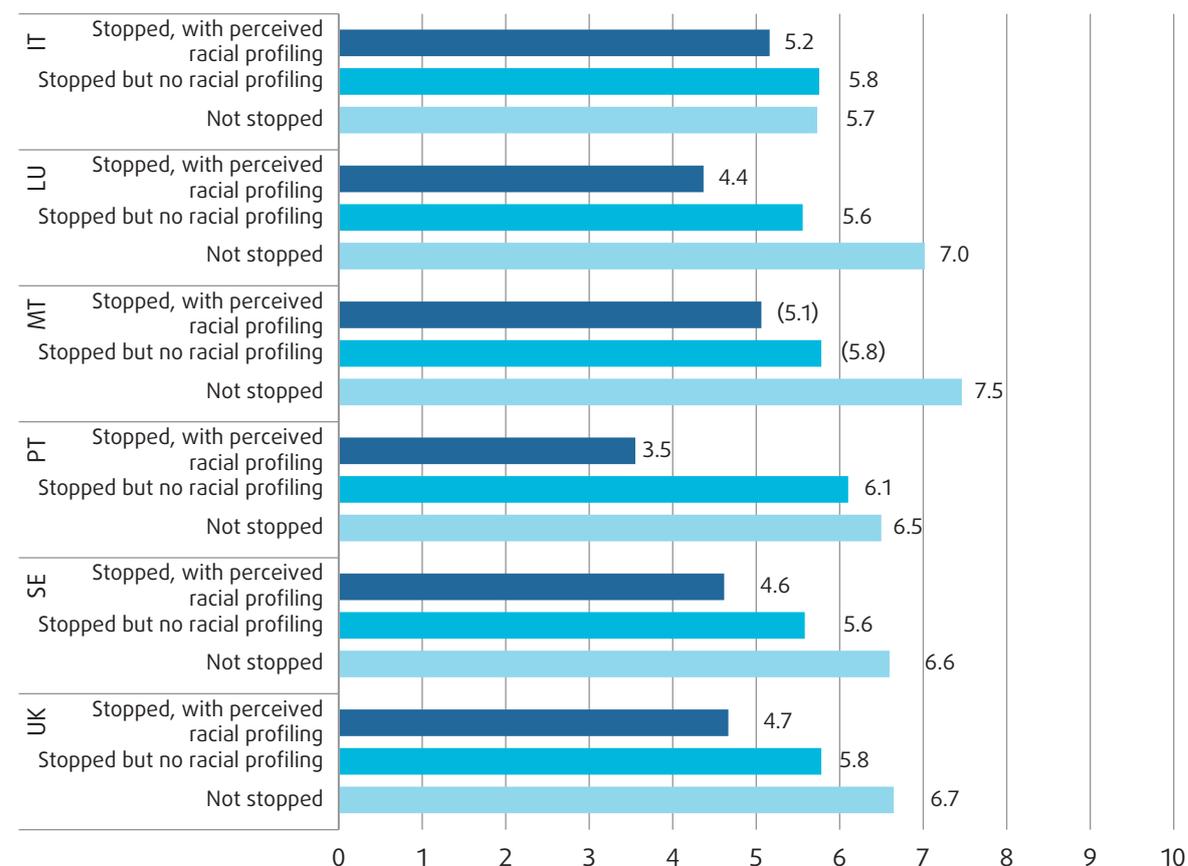


Figure 17: (continued)



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 5,539); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.  
<sup>c</sup> Question: “Please tell me on a scale of 0-10 how much you personally trust each of the [COUNTRY] institutions I read out. 0 means you do not trust an institution at all, and 10 means you have complete trust?”

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

Overall, 9 % of respondents who indicated that they were treated disrespectfully during the latest police stop reported or made a complaint about the police’s inappropriate conduct.

The findings also show that there is a correlation between disrespectful treatment during the latest stop and respondents’ level of trust in the police in all countries surveyed, except in Finland and France.<sup>37</sup> Weak correlation coefficients in Finland and France are mainly due to the small number of respondents who indicate that they were treated disrespectfully during the most recent stop, as well as to the circumstances of the stop – in both countries, most respondents were stopped while in a private car.

<sup>37</sup> Based on a bivariate correlation analysis. Coefficients vary between (.041\*\*) in Finland and (-.634\*\*) in Sweden.

## 2.3. Discrimination and awareness of rights

### KEY FINDINGS

- Overall, 39 % of respondents of African descent felt racially discriminated against in the five years before the survey. One in four (24 %) felt discriminated against in the 12 months before the survey. The highest perceived rates of discrimination in the 12-month period are found in Luxembourg (50 %), Finland (45 %), Austria (42 %) and Denmark (41 %). The lowest are found in the United Kingdom (15 %) and Portugal (17 %).
- Skin colour is the most commonly identified ground of discrimination, mentioned by over one fourth (27 %) of respondents, with higher rates for men (30 %) than for women (24 %). The second most commonly identified ground of discrimination is ethnic origin (19 %). Some 5% of respondents felt discriminated against because of their religion or religious beliefs.
- One in 10 (12 %) respondents who wear traditional or religious clothing in public say they experienced religious discrimination, with men (17 %) doing so more often than women (9 %).
- Few respondents (16 %) who felt racially discriminated against reported or made a complaint about the most recent incident. The highest reporting rates are observed in Finland (30 %), Ireland (27 %) and Sweden (25 %), and the lowest in Austria (8 %), Portugal and Italy (9 % each).
- Overall, 46 % of respondents know of at least one equality body in the country they live in. The highest awareness levels are observed in Ireland (67 %), the United Kingdom (65 %), and Denmark (62 %), and the lowest in Malta (9 %), Luxembourg (12 %), Italy (19 %) and Austria (20 %).
- Most respondents (79 %) are aware of anti-discrimination legislation in their countries of residence. The highest awareness levels are found in the United Kingdom (87 %) and France (81 %), and the lowest in Malta (18 %) and Italy (27 %).

The Racial Equality Directive (2000/43/EC) prohibits racial discrimination and ethnic discrimination in a number of key areas of life. This chapter provides the European Commission and Member States with information they can use in fulfilling obligations they have with regard to reporting regularly on the application of the directive. Findings presented in this chapter can also support efforts by the European Commission and national equality bodies to further develop standards for equality bodies, building specifically on the European Commission's recommendation of June 2018 on such standards.<sup>38</sup>

### 2.3.1. Discrimination experiences

#### Measuring discrimination in EU-MIDIS II

The survey asked respondents if they felt discriminated against on different grounds (skin colour, ethnic origin or immigrant background, religion or religious beliefs, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation), and in different areas of life: when looking for work; at work; in education or when in contact with their children's school personnel; in access to healthcare; in housing; and when using a variety of public or private services (such as public transport, administrative offices, when entering a night club, restaurant or a hotel, and shopping).

In this report, the discrimination rates indicate the percentage of respondents who felt discriminated against in at least one of the areas of life investigated. The rates are calculated for the 12-month and five-year periods preceding the survey. Determining the rates of discrimination based on the various individual grounds, which would make it possible to identify the most common ground for discrimination among the eight different grounds asked about in the survey, was only possible for four areas of life (when looking for work, at work, in access to housing, and when in contact with school authorities as a parent), and only with respect to the five years preceding the survey.

Respondents who indicated having experienced discrimination on at least one of three specific grounds – skin colour, ethnic origin or immigrant background, and religion or religious beliefs – were asked further details about the incident, applying the generic term 'ethnic or immigrant background' to encompass a variety of motivations behind the perceived discriminatory treatment. Results based on this categorisation can therefore not be further disaggregated along the three individual grounds.

### 2.3.2. Discrimination on different grounds

This section looks at the extent to which people of African descent experienced discrimination on different grounds in the five years before the survey in

<sup>38</sup> European Commission (2018).

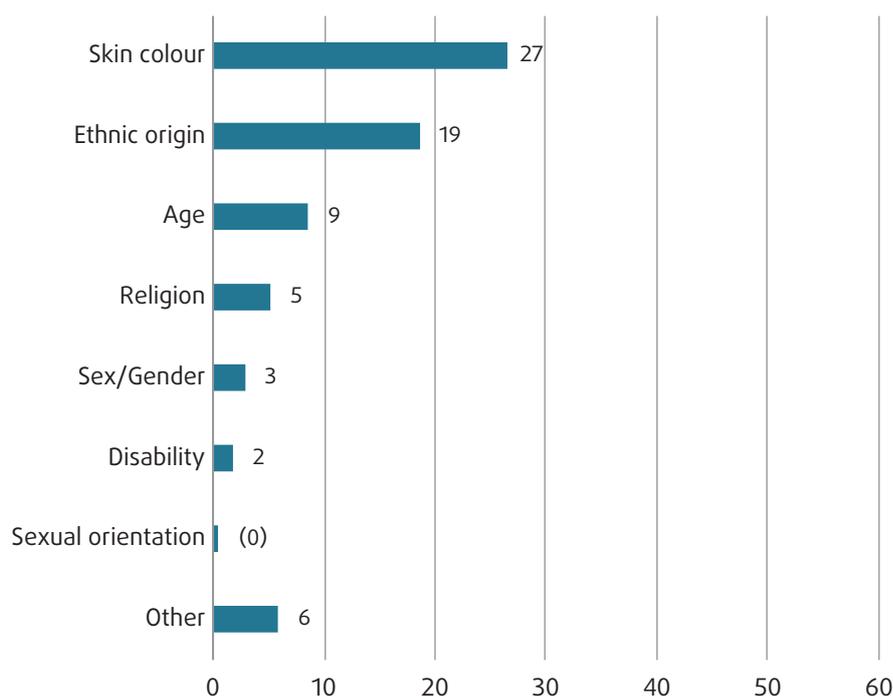
four areas of life: when looking for work, at work, in access to housing, and when in contact with school authorities as a parent. Respondents could also indicate if they experienced discrimination on more than one ground. In this way, the survey could capture multiple and intersectional discrimination.

Overall, skin colour is the most commonly identified ground of discrimination, mentioned by over a fourth (27 %) of respondents (Figure 18, Figure 19 and Figure 20). Every fifth respondent (19 %) felt discriminated against on the ground of ethnic origin, and some 5 % on the ground of religion or beliefs. Nine percent of respondents mentioned experiencing discrimination on the ground of age.

### Intersections between grounds of discrimination

Skin colour is the most commonly mentioned ground of discrimination (Figure 19), with the highest rates observed in Luxembourg (53 %), Austria (45 %), Germany and Italy (37 % each). Ethnic origin is the second most frequently mentioned ground, with the highest rates observed in Luxembourg (42 %), Italy (34 %), Austria and Finland (in both cases 30 %). Only in Finland, and to a lesser extent in Denmark, does ethnic origin surpass skin colour. The survey results further show that nearly half (49 %) of respondents who felt discriminated against because of their skin colour also felt discriminated against because of their ethnic origin.

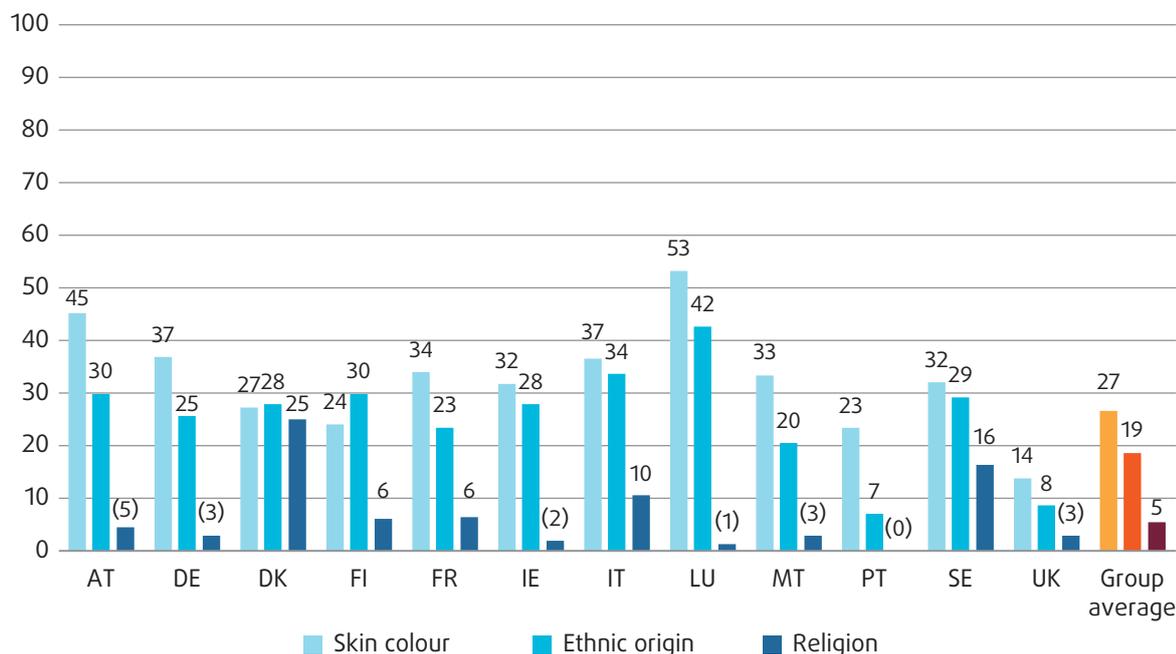
**Figure 18: Most commonly perceived grounds for discrimination experienced in four areas of life in 5 years before the survey (%)<sup>a,b,c,d</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent at risk of discrimination on different grounds in at least one of four areas of life asked about in the survey (n=5,141); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.  
<sup>c</sup> Areas of life considered for analysis: looking for work, at work, education (as parent or guardian) and housing.  
<sup>d</sup> Respondents could indicate multiple grounds on which they experienced discrimination (and therefore percentages might not sum up to 100 %): “[H]ave you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Tell me all that apply. Skin colour; Ethnic origin; Religion or religious beliefs; Age (such as being too old or too young); Sex/gender (such as being a man or a woman); Disability; Sexual orientation (such as being gay, lesbian or bisexual); Something else.”

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

**Figure 19: Most relevant grounds for discrimination experienced in four areas of daily life in 5 years before the survey, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c,d</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent at risk of discrimination on different grounds in at least one of four areas of life asked about in the survey (n=5,141); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.  
<sup>c</sup> Areas of life considered for analysis: looking for work, at work, education (as parent or guardian) and housing.  
<sup>d</sup> Respondents could indicate multiple grounds on which they experienced discrimination (and therefore percentages might not add up to 100 %): “[H]ave you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Tell me all that apply. Skin colour; Ethnic origin; Religion or religious beliefs; Age (such as being too old or too young); Sex/gender (such as being a man or a woman); Disability; Sexual orientation (such as being gay, lesbian or bisexual); Something else.”

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

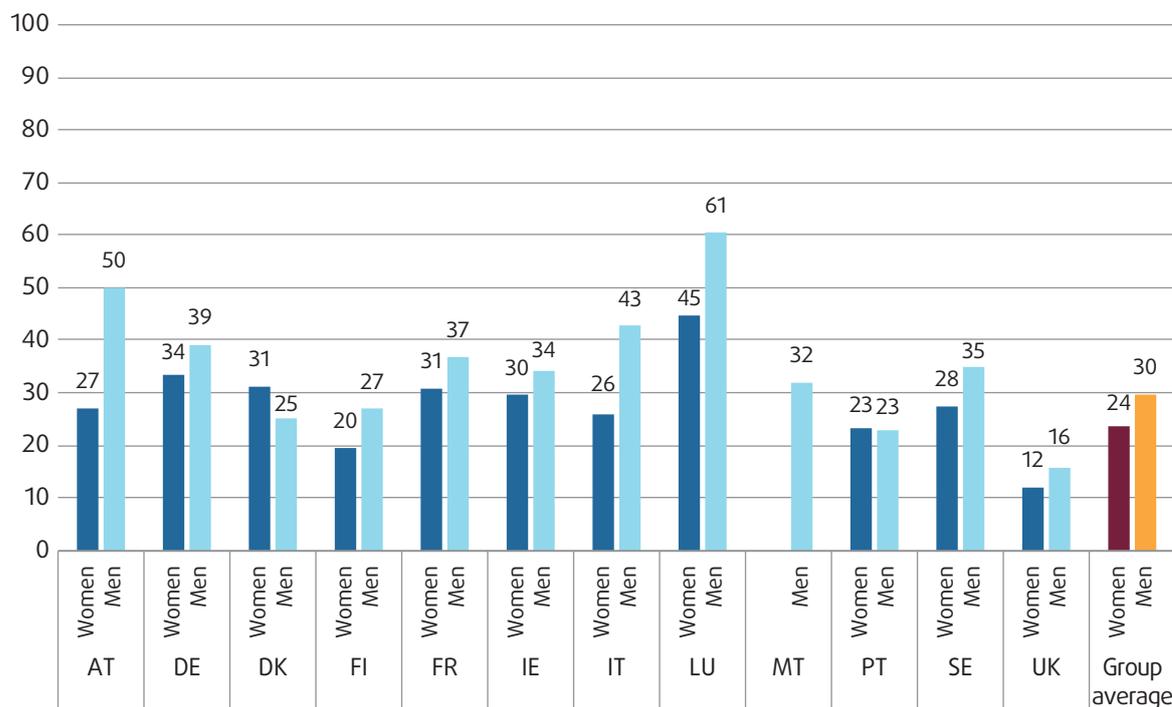
On average, the perceived level of discrimination based on skin colour is higher for men (30 %) than it is for women (24 %) – except in Denmark, where the rate is higher for women, and in Portugal, where the rates are the same for women and men. Variation between men and women is more prominent in some countries than in others, such as in Austria (men: 50 %, women: 27 %), Italy (men: 43 %, women: 26%) and Luxembourg (men: 61 %, women: 45 %) (Figure 20).

Respondents in Denmark (25 %), Sweden (16 %), Italy (10 %), Finland (6 %) and France (6 %) also indicate feeling discriminated against because of their religion or beliefs. Most respondents in Denmark (92 %) and a majority in Sweden (57 %) identified themselves as Muslim when asked about their religion. Further analysis shows that 15 % of all respondents who experienced discrimination based on skin colour in the five years before the survey say that they also experienced discrimination because of their religion or beliefs. There

are, however, substantial differences across the countries surveyed. For example, 61 % of respondents who felt discriminated against because of their skin colour in Denmark also say that they experienced religious discrimination, with 37 % saying so in Sweden, 23 % in Italy, and 14 % in France.

Wearing traditional or religious clothing in public affects experiences of discrimination, with 12 % of respondents who wear such clothing in public experiencing religious discrimination, compared to 3 % of those who do not. Men (17 %) who wear such clothing report more religious discrimination compared to women (9 %). Other effects of gender and clothing can be noted, with men who wear religious or traditional clothing experiencing more racial discrimination compared to women (35 % compared to 26 %). Men who wear such clothing also tend to experience more discrimination on the ground of ethnic origin compared to men who do not (27 % vs. 19 %).

**Figure 20: Discrimination perceived to be due to skin colour experienced in four areas of daily life in 5 years before the survey, by country and sex (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent at risk of discrimination on different grounds in at least one of four areas of life asked about in the survey (n=5,141); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published (such as the results for women in Malta in this figure).  
<sup>c</sup> Areas of life considered for analysis: looking for work, at work, education (as parent or guardian) and housing.

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

Overall, differences between first-generation respondents and second-generation respondents can be seen with respect to discrimination based on ‘ethnic origin’ (first generation: 20 %, second generation: 14 %).

### 2.3.3. Overall prevalence of discrimination based on ‘ethnic or immigrant background’

Respondents who indicate having experienced discrimination on at least one of the grounds of skin colour, ethnic origin or religion or belief were asked further details about such incidents (including frequency and reporting), applying the generic term ‘ethnic or immigrant background’ in the questionnaire to encompass a variety of motivations behind the discriminatory treatment experienced by respondents. The survey collected more detailed information on such discrimination in ten areas of life: when looking for work; at work; in education (self or as parent); healthcare; housing; and other public or private services, including public

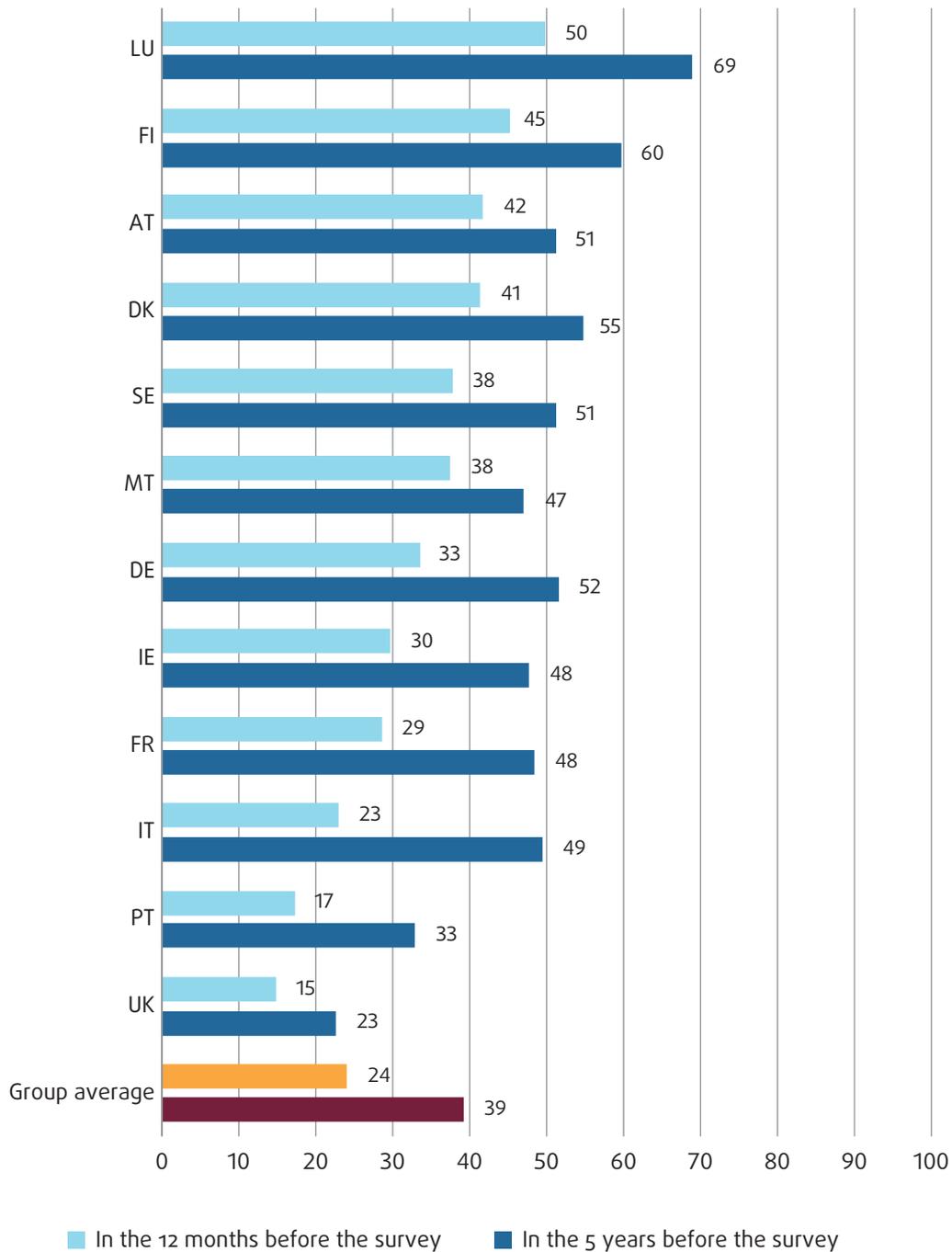
administration, at a restaurant or bar, on public transport, or when shopping.

The results presented in this section relate to discrimination on the broader ground of ‘ethnic or immigrant background’ and cannot be further disaggregated. Moreover, the discrimination rates presented in this section relate to both time periods – 12 months and five years preceding the survey.

On average, 39 % of respondents felt discriminated against because of their ‘ethnic or immigrant background’ in the five years before the survey; 24 % did so in the 12 months preceding the survey, with substantial variations across Member States (Figure 21). The highest levels of discrimination in the 12 months preceding the survey are observed in Luxembourg (50 %), Finland (45 %), Austria (42 %) and Denmark (41 %), and the lowest in Portugal (17 %) and the United Kingdom (15 %).

In the 12 months preceding the survey, women more often than men felt discriminated against because of their ethnic or immigrant background in Denmark

**Figure 21: Overall prevalence of discrimination based on 'ethnic or immigrant background' in 12 months and 5 years before the survey, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent at risk of discrimination based on ethnic or immigrant background in at least one of the areas of life asked about in the survey ('In 12 months before the survey': n=5,793 and 'In 5 years before the survey': n=5,788); weighted results, sorted by the 12-month rate.  
<sup>b</sup> Areas of life asked about in the survey: looking for work, at work, education (self or as parent), health, housing and other public or private services (public administration, restaurant or bar, public transport, shop).  
<sup>c</sup> Discrimination experiences in the area of health and health care were asked about only for the past 12 months, which explains the different sample sizes (n) for the two reference periods.

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

(women: 45 %, men: 40 %), Finland (women: 48 %, men: 43 %), France (women: 31 %, men: 26 %), and Italy (women: 29 %, men: 19 %). By contrast, the 12-month discrimination rate for men is twice as high as that for women in Austria (men: 49 %, women: 21 %), and is also higher in Luxembourg (men: 54 %, women: 45 %) and Portugal (men: 20 %, women: 14 %).

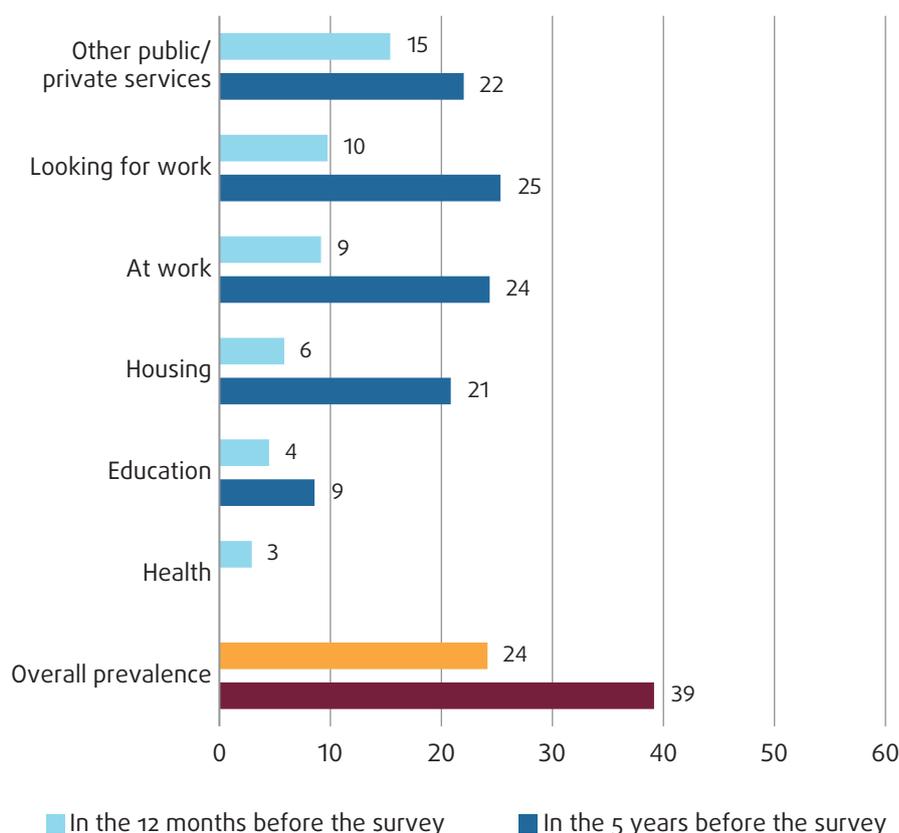
Few differences can be identified in the experiences of first- and second-generation respondents. For example, the 12-month discrimination rate for second-generation respondents in Portugal is more than twice as high as that for first-generation respondents (32 % vs. 15 %). Second-generation respondents also indicate higher discrimination rates in the United Kingdom (21 % vs. 12 %), Luxembourg (54 % vs. 48 %), and France (33 % vs. 27 %). By contrast, in Finland, more first-generation than second-generation respondents felt discriminated against because of their ethnic or immigrant background in the 12 months before the survey (46 % vs. 40 %).

The prevalence of perceived discrimination in the 12 months before the survey increases in relation to respondents’ level of education in all the countries surveyed, except Sweden: 19 % of respondents who completed lower secondary education; 22 % for those who attained upper secondary education; and 33 % for those who completed tertiary education. This finding can be explained by the fact that more highly educated persons tend to show higher awareness of what constitutes discrimination, as shown in other FRA surveys.

### Discrimination in different areas of life

Figure 22 shows that respondents encounter discrimination based on their ethnic or immigrant background (including skin colour) in all areas of life covered by the survey. More details on discrimination when looking for work, at work, in education and in housing are presented in Section 4.1. and Section 5.1.

**Figure 22: Prevalence of perceived discrimination in different areas of life in 12 months and 5 years before the survey (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent at risk of discrimination based on ethnic or immigrant background in the particular area of life ('In 12 months before the survey': n=3,887 and 'In 5 years before the survey': n=3,015); weighted results, sorted by 12-month rates.

<sup>b</sup> Areas of life summarised under 'other public or private services': public administration, restaurant or bar, public transport, shop.

<sup>c</sup> Discrimination experiences in the area of health and health care were asked about only for the past 12 months, which explains the different sample sizes (n) for the two reference periods.

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

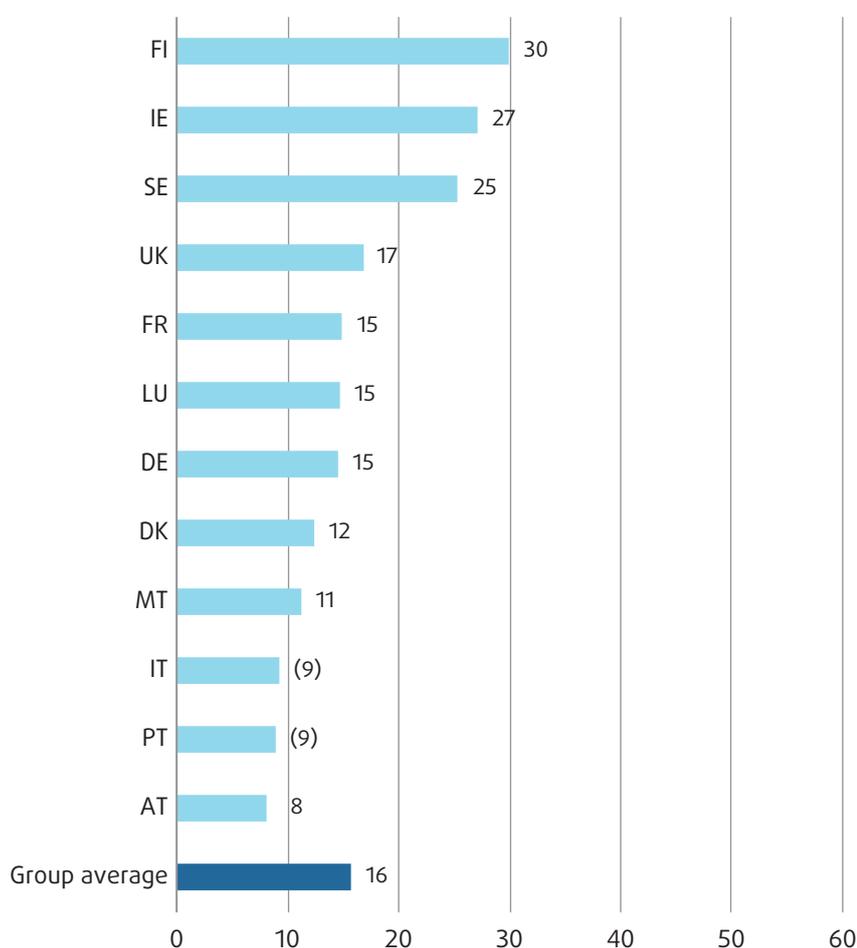
In the five years before the survey, respondents encountered similar rates of discrimination in the different life areas, except for education, which is partly related to the fact that relatively few respondents had children in education during that particular period. Every fourth respondent felt discriminated against when looking for work (25 %) or when being at work (24 %), and every fifth respondent (21 %) felt discriminated against when accessing housing or public and private services (22 %). The 12-month rate of perceived discrimination is comparatively high in the area of employment (looking for work: 10 %; at work: 9 %) and in other public and private services (15 %).

### 2.3.4. Reporting discrimination

EU-MIDIS II asked respondents who felt discriminated against whether they reported or made a complaint about the most recent incident. Response options included a list of organisations, such as equality bodies, the police, or where the incident occurred (including at work).

Overall, 16 % of respondents who felt racially or ethnically discriminated against reported or made a complaint about the most recent incident they experienced (Figure 23). The highest reporting rates are observed in Finland (30 %), Ireland (27 %) and Sweden (25 %), and

**Figure 23: Reporting perceived discrimination to authorities or services – most recent incident in 5 years before the survey, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



<sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent who experienced discrimination based on ethnic or immigrant background in at least one of the areas of life asked about in the survey (n=2,983); weighted results.

<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.

<sup>c</sup> Question: “Last time you felt discriminated against because of your ethnic or immigrant background at [domain], did you report or make a complaint about the incident?”

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

the lowest in Austria (8 %), Italy (9 %) and Portugal (9 %). No gender differences are observed in the level of reporting other than in Finland, where women tend to report incidents more often than men (36 % vs. 26 %).

The level of education affects the reporting rate. It is 8 % among those who completed at most lower secondary education; 17 % for those with upper secondary education; and 21 % for those who completed tertiary education. This finding could partly explain variations in the reporting rate observed between countries, with respondents in some having higher average educational levels (for example, Finland, France, Ireland and the United Kingdom) than in others (for example, Austria, Italy, Malta and Portugal).

Another possible explanation for the observed variation in the reporting rate could be respondents' awareness of anti-discrimination legislation and of specialised bodies with legal mandates to respond to discrimination complaints. Overall, 46 % of respondents of African descent know of at least one equality body in the country they live in, with notable differences between countries. The highest awareness levels of such bodies are observed in Ireland (67 %), the United Kingdom (65 %),

and Denmark (62 %), and the lowest in Malta (9 %), Luxembourg (12 %), Italy (19 %) and Austria (20 %).

Concerning respondents' awareness of laws prohibiting discrimination based on skin colour, ethnic origin or religion, on average, 79 % of respondents are aware of anti-discrimination legislation in their countries of residence. The highest awareness rates are found in the United Kingdom (87 %) and France (81 %), and the lowest in Malta (18 %) and Italy (27 %).<sup>39</sup>

When asked about the reasons for not reporting the most recent incident of discrimination they experienced, respondents most frequently mentioned that 'nothing would happen or change by reporting it' (ranging from 45 % 'when trying to use public transport' to 16 % 'when in contact with school authorities as a parent'). The second most often mentioned reason is that the incident is 'not worth reporting' (ranging from 40 % 'in education' and 'in restaurant or bar' to 24 % 'when looking for work' and in 'access to housing'). The third most frequently mentioned reason is that respondents had no proof (ranging from 6 % 'when in contact with school authorities as a parent' to 28 % in 'access to housing').

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39 FRA (2017a), p.55.



## 2.4. Education and employment

### KEY FINDINGS

#### Education

- One in 10 respondents of African descent (9 %) felt racially discriminated against in an educational setting, with 6 % of parents/guardians saying they experienced discrimination when in contact with school authorities in the five years before the survey.
- Eight in 10 (78 %) respondents who felt discriminated against when in contact with school authorities say that the main reason for such discrimination was their skin colour or physical appearance.
- One in five (18 %) respondents who are parents or guardians say that their children experienced racist bullying at school. Some 4 % of parents say that their children experienced racist violence at school.
- Overall, fewer respondents have completed tertiary education than the general population. However, in France (36 %), Finland (39 %) and Ireland (46 %), the proportion of men who completed tertiary education is higher than that of the general population (29 %, 30 % and 34 %, respectively).
- About one in five respondents (18 %) currently attend school or vocational training. Among young respondents between 16 and 24 years of age, more than half (57 %) are currently in education.

#### Employment

- One in four (25 %) respondents felt racially discriminated against when looking for work in the five years before the survey. The highest levels were observed in Austria (46 %), Luxembourg (47 %) and Italy (46 %).
- Eight in 10 respondents (82 %) believe skin colour or physical appearance is the main reason for experiencing discrimination when looking for work.
- One in four (24 %) respondents felt racially discriminated against at work in the five years before the survey, with slightly higher rates observed for men than for women (26 % vs. 22 %). Respondents identify skin colour or physical appearance as the main ground for discrimination at work (81 %).
- Seven in 10 (69 %) respondents of working-age (aged 20 to 64) are in paid work, with the rate higher among men (76 %) than among women (63 %). The highest paid work rates are observed in Portugal (76 %) and the United Kingdom (75 %), and the lowest in Denmark (41 %), Austria (45 %), Ireland and Malta (48 % each).
- The paid work rate among respondents with tertiary education is lower than that of the general population.
- One in five (18 %) respondents aged 16 to 24 years are neither in paid work nor in education or training, with substantial differences between countries. The share of young respondents who are neither in paid work nor in education or training is highest in Austria (76%), Malta (70 %), and Italy (42 %), with significant differences when compared to the rate for the general population (Austria: 8 %, Malta: 8 %, Italy: 20 %).
- Almost twice as many respondents with tertiary education (9 %) are employed in elementary occupations – usually manual work involving physical effort – than the general population (5 %).<sup>40</sup>

The international human rights framework protects the right to education without any discrimination under Article 28 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which has been ratified by all EU Member States. In parallel, Article 14 of the EU Charter of Fundamental

Rights guarantees everyone the right to education and access to vocational and continuing training. However, racial discrimination hampers participation in education and training, undermining opportunities for people of African descent.<sup>41</sup>

<sup>40</sup> European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (2011), p.36.

<sup>41</sup> The UN Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice recognised already 40 years ago that racism includes structural arrangements and institutionalized practices resulting in racial inequality. See the OHCHR's [webpage on the declaration](#).

Article 15 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights recognises that everyone has the right to engage in work and to pursue a freely chosen or accepted occupation. The same article entitles third-country nationals authorised to work to enjoy working conditions equivalent to those of EU citizens. International human rights instruments, including the European Social Charter (revised), on economic and social rights apply the principle of non-discrimination in their relevant provisions concerning work.

### 2.4.1. Education and training

#### Educational attainment and language proficiency

The average level of education of the respondents in the sample is comparable to that of the general population, albeit with notable differences between the countries surveyed (Figure 24).<sup>42</sup> The sample includes more young people compared to the average of the general population, many of whom are still in education.

Men of African descent tend to have slightly higher levels of education compared to women, with more men having completed medium<sup>43</sup> educational levels (39 % men vs. 34 % women) and more women having low educational levels (35 % women vs. 31 % men). The share of women with a low educational level in the sample is higher than that of women in the general population in most of the countries surveyed, when compared to respondents aged 16 to 64 years in the general population.

However, in Austria, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Sweden and the United Kingdom, the proportion of women of African descent with low educational levels is much higher than that of women in the general population. These differences are much less pronounced when comparing men of African descent to men in the general population (Figure 24). Notable differences exist between countries; for example, Malta (89 %), Portugal (64 %), Italy (54 %) and Austria (50 %) have high proportions of men of African descent with low

educational levels. By contrast, in Ireland, the share of men of African descent with low educational levels is considerably lower than that of men in the general population. Similarly, in Finland, France and Ireland, more men of African descent have high levels of education than men in the general population.

Overall, respondents who are citizens of the survey country have higher educational levels than respondents who are not citizens of the survey country – 26 % of citizens vs. 44 % of foreign citizens completed low educational levels. Almost one in five respondents are currently attending school or vocational training (18 %), with slightly more women (19 %) in education compared to men (16 %).

#### Perceived racial discrimination in education

The survey questions distinguish between respondents' personal experiences in educational settings and their experiences as parents or guardians. In the five years before the survey, almost one in 10 respondents (9 %) say that they felt racially discriminated against, and one in 20 respondents (5 %) in the 12 months preceding the survey. The proportion is higher than the average in the five years before the survey in Luxembourg (27 %) and Germany (22 %) and lower in the United Kingdom (5 %). Overall, 6 % say that they felt racially discriminated against as parents or guardians when in contact with educational institutions in the five years before the survey; this drops to 3 % for the 12 months preceding the survey.

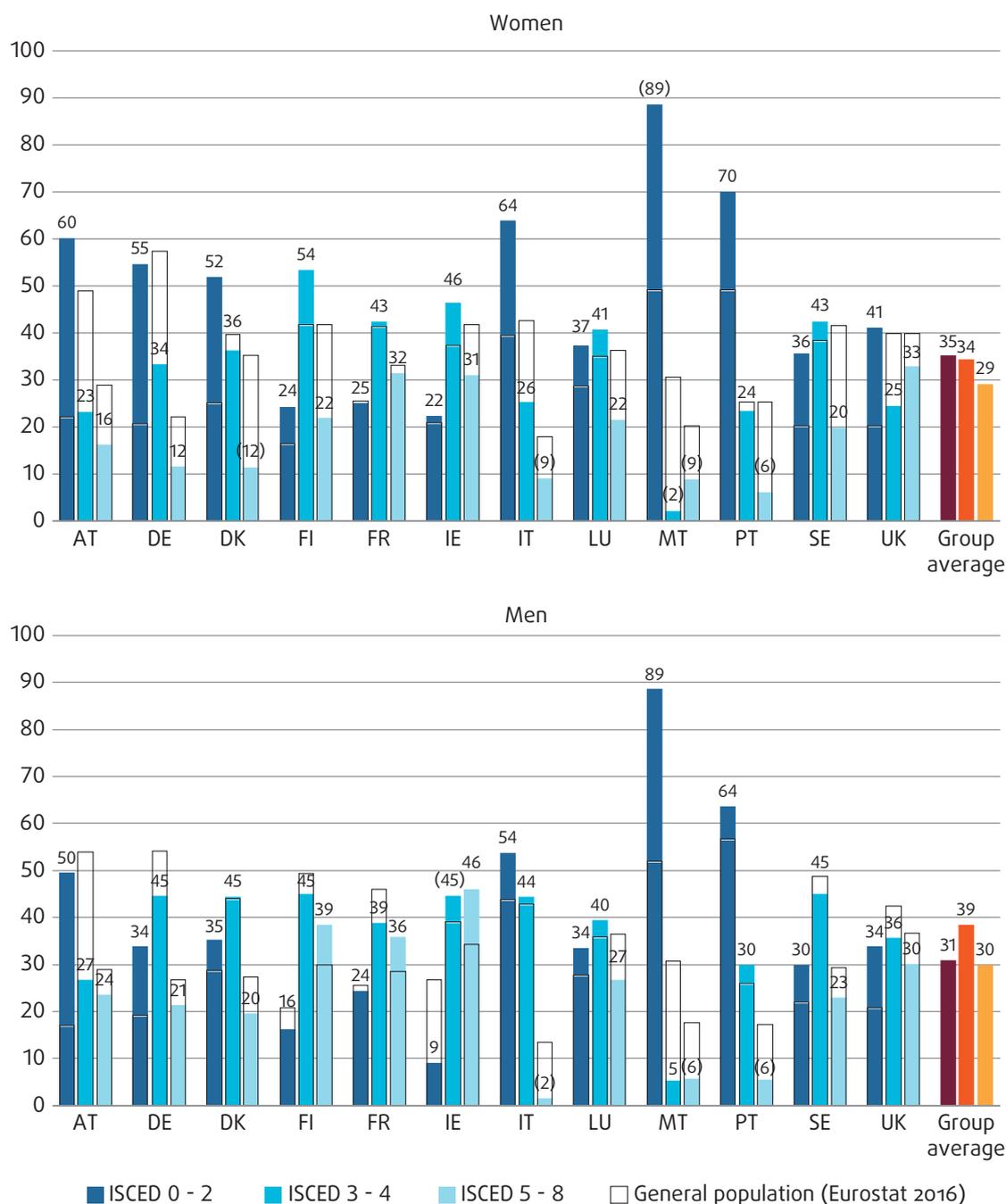
Eight in 10 respondents (78 %) who experienced discrimination when in contact with school authorities say that their skin colour or physical appearance was the main reason for this. The second most frequently mentioned reason is their accent or the way speak the survey country language (25 %). A slight gender difference in perceived racial discrimination is observed when in contact with school authorities in the past five years, with more women (9 %) experiencing such discrimination compared to men (4 %).

42 Data on the 12 Member States covered in this report are not available in an aggregate format from Eurostat, so EU-15 was used for comparisons to give a general sense of how the 12 Member States covered compare to the general population. Since the 12 Member States covered in this survey include the largest EU-15 countries, the data are considered comparable.

43 The report uses the terms 'low' for completed lower secondary education or less (corresponding to the International Standard Classification of Education, ISCED 0-2); 'medium' for upper secondary, vocational, post-secondary and short cycle tertiary education (ISCED 3-4); and 'high' for tertiary education (ISCED 5-8).



**Figure 24: Highest completed level of education among respondents of African descent aged 16 to 64 years compared with the general population, by country and sex (%)<sup>a,b,c,d,e,f</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent (men: n=3,263 and women: n=2,295); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> General population 2016: Eurostat [edat\_lfse\_03], (downloaded on 13/06/2018).  
<sup>c</sup> Restricted comparability with the Eurostat statistics for the general population. Eurostat data are for the population aged 15-64 years; EU-MIDIS II data are for respondents of African descent aged 16-64 years.  
<sup>d</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.  
<sup>e</sup> ISCED 3-4 includes all types of vocational training completed abroad corresponding to ISCED 35, 45 and 55. Hence there might be a minor overestimation of ISCED 3-4 among respondents of African descent compared to the general population.  
<sup>f</sup> Questions: "What is the highest level of education you have completed?", "What is the highest level of education you have completed in [COUNTRY]?", "And what is the highest level of education you completed in another country?"

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016 ; Eurostat database

With regard to generations, those who were born in the survey country experience discrimination slightly more often when attending education (12 % in the past five years and 7 % in the past 12 months), compared with respondents who were not born in an EU country (8 % and 3 %, respectively).

EU-MIDIS II also asked more concretely about specific discriminatory practices based on respondents’ racial or ethnic origin when in contact with school authorities, such as: being prevented from enrolling a child in a school; being asked to take a child into another school or the child being assigned to a class or track below their ability. While each of these situations were experienced by 2 % of the parents/guardians, overall 4 % mentioned at least one of the three situations.

The survey asked parents or guardians if their children experienced any racist treatment in school in the 12 months before the survey, including harassment, bullying, exclusion or violence (Figure 25). Overall, 18 % of respondents who have children at school indicated that their children experienced one or more of seven different situations of racist harassment or violence.

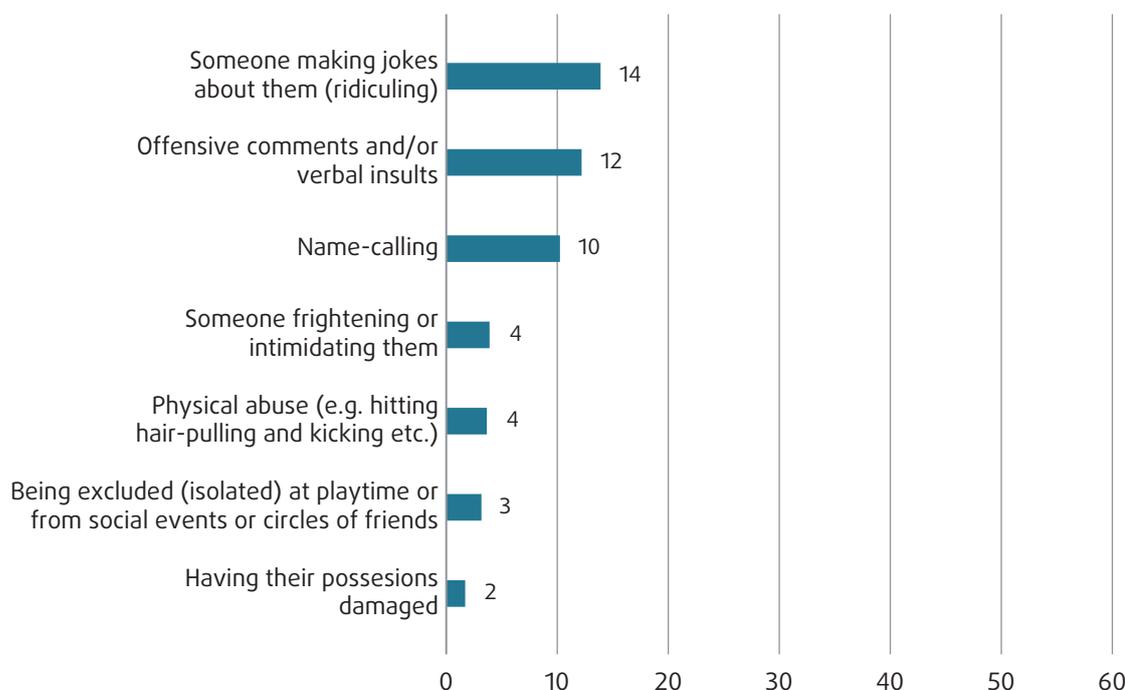
Parents in Finland (45 %), Austria (42 %) and Germany (41 %) reported the highest levels of racist harassment and racial discrimination experienced by their children at school.

## 2.4.2. Access to employment and quality of work

### Measuring main activity status in EU-MIDIS II

Respondents were asked to indicate their main activity status based on a predefined list of categories. These categories included situations such as “in paid work”, “self-employed”, “unemployed”, and several others, and respondents could choose the category that best describes their situation. The question used in EU-MIDIS II to measure the main activity status is somewhat different from the general employment status usually reported by Eurostat. Main activity status only reflects the respondents’ own assessment, which might differ from the definition and method of measurement used to produce official statistics such as the employment, activity or unemployment rates.

**Figure 25: Racist harassment experienced by respondents’ child or children at school in the 12 months before the survey (%)<sup>a,b</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent who are parents or guardians of a child or children aged [NATIONAL COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE RANGE] living in the survey country (n = 1,745); weighted results  
<sup>b</sup> Question: “To the best of your knowledge, has your child/have your children experienced any of the following situations at school in the past 12 months because of their ethnic or immigrant background?”

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

Statistics by Eurostat are also based on surveys, but are calculated using several specific questions and following the guidelines of the International Labour Organization (ILO).<sup>44</sup> While asking such a detailed set of questions can be necessary, for example, in the Labour Force Survey to produce official employment statistics, it was not possible to include such an extensive set of questions in EU-MIDIS II due to restrictions concerning the length of the survey and the need to include other questions on experiences that are particularly relevant to immigrants and ethnic minorities.

## Employment status

Among respondents aged 20 to 64 years,<sup>45</sup> slightly more than half assess their main activity status as 'employed' (56 %), 15 % consider themselves to be 'unemployed' and 29 % describe themselves as not being active on the labour market. The latter includes those retired (7 %), those engaged in domestic work (5 %), and those not working due to illness, disability (4 %) or other reasons, such as being in education or military service.

The rate of respondents who consider their main activity status as 'employed' differs from the paid work rate, which includes respondents who indicate having done some paid work in the four weeks before the survey. The paid work rate – discussed below – is more similar to the employment rate usually reported in official statistics, which is considerably higher than the rates of people who self-identify their main activity as 'employed'. The main activity does not exclude engaging in other activities, as well – for example, the self-declared main activity can be 'unemployed' while at the same time taking part in some form of training or education. In other words, the main activity measures respondents' self-declared main activity at the time of the survey.

Figure 26 shows considerable differences across countries in terms of respondents' self-declared employment status. Especially in Malta and Austria, a very large proportion of respondents identify themselves as unemployed (64 % and 47 %, respectively). In Denmark, Sweden and Finland, 30 % to 35 % of respondents report their main activity as 'other inactive', which is mainly related to many respondents currently being in education. Compared to other countries, larger proportions of retired respondents are observed in the United Kingdom (11 %), Portugal (11 %) and Germany (7 %). Finally, a large proportion of respondents in Italy mainly engaged in domestic work (25 %). This result is explained by the high proportion of women in Italy

engaged in domestic work, corresponding to almost two thirds of female respondents in Italy (61 %).

Overall, 10 % of women describe their main activity as 'domestic work', compared with less than 1 % of men. Men more often identify themselves as 'employed' compared to women (61 % men and 52 % women), which is true in almost all countries surveyed. An exception is Portugal, where more women consider their main activity to be 'employed' (65 % women vs. 58 % men) and men more often identify themselves as 'unemployed' (21 % men and 13 % women).

An indicator comparable to the Eurostat employment rate is the paid work rate, which indicates the proportion of respondents aged 20 to 64 who were engaged in any paid work in the four weeks before the survey. The survey found that 69 % of respondents are in paid work, with a considerably higher rate for men (76 %) than for women (63 %) (Figure 27). The highest paid work rates are observed in Portugal (76 %) and the United Kingdom (75 %). Lower rates are found in Denmark (41 %), Austria (45 %), Ireland and Malta (both 48 %). In these countries, the paid work rate is considerably lower than the employment rate of the general population.

Portugal is the only survey country where respondents indicate a higher paid work rate compared to the general population's employment rate. This is mainly due to the high paid work rate of women of African descent (79 %), which is higher than those of men (72 %) (see also Table 2 in Annex II). Gender differences are pronounced in Italy, where only one in three women are engaged in paid work, compared to three out of four men (women: 33 %; men: 74 %), as well as in Denmark and Ireland, with men having higher paid work rates than women.

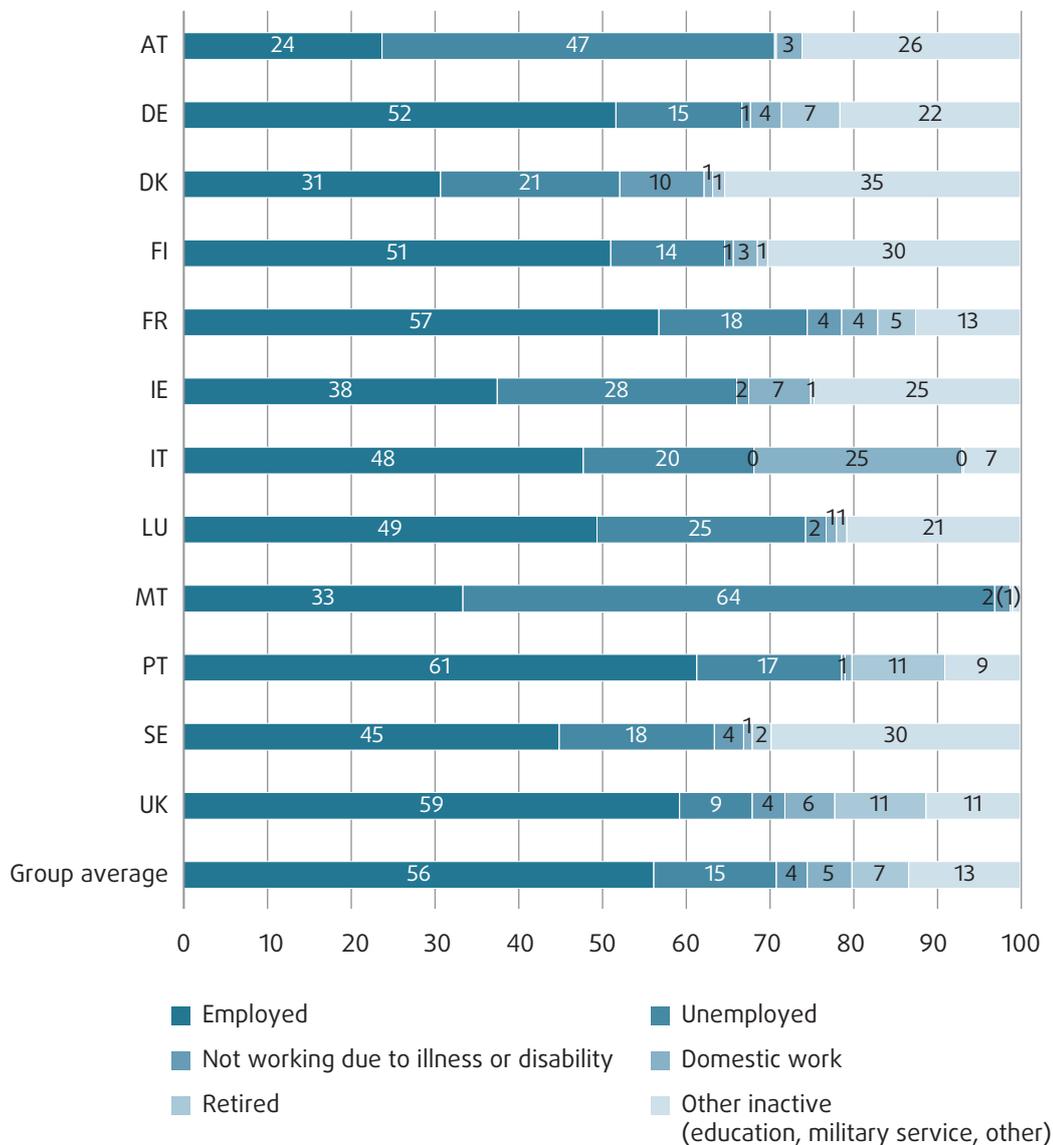
Citizenship plays an important role concerning the paid work rate. Respondents holding the citizenship of the survey country are more often in paid work compared to those who do not (73 % national citizens and 63 % non-nationals). This pattern holds true in almost all countries, with the exception of Portugal, where non-nationals show a high paid work rate (77 %). There are considerable differences in the paid work rate by citizenship in Austria and Sweden, as well. While in both countries the paid work rate is much higher among citizens compared with non-citizens, it is important to mention that the percentage of non-nationals among respondents in Austria is much higher compared to Sweden (see Table 1).

The proportion of young respondents who are neither in employment nor in education is an indicator commonly used to examine potential structural problems related to unemployment among young people. Figure 28 shows

<sup>44</sup> See Eurostat glossary entry on 'employed person – LFS' on the Eurostat webpage.

<sup>45</sup> Statistics on education and employment outcomes are limited to certain age groups following the standard practice of official statistics and to be able to compare to official statistics.

**Figure 26: Self-declared main activity status among respondents of African descent aged 20 to 64 years, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c,d</sup>**

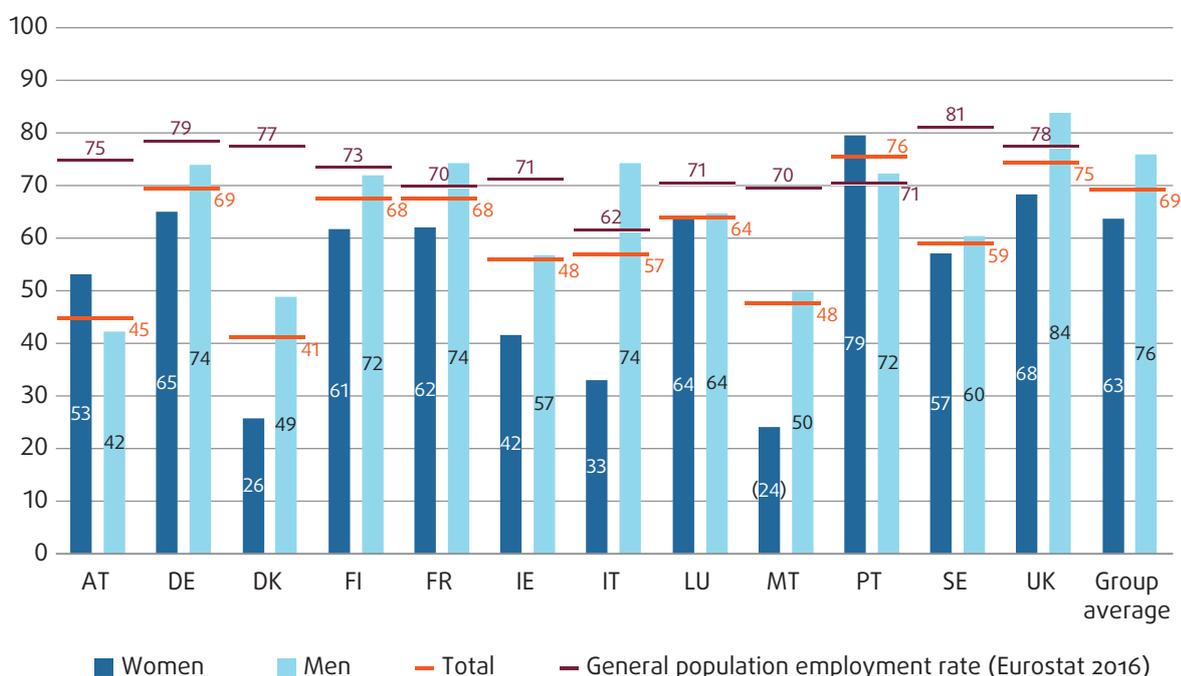


Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 5,794); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.  
<sup>c</sup> Question: "Please look at this card and tell me which of these categories describes your current situation best?"  
<sup>d</sup> Some bars do not add up to 100 %; this is due to rounding of numbers.

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016



**Figure 27: Paid work rate among respondents of African descent aged 20 to 64 years (including self-employment and occasional work or work in the past 4 weeks) compared with the general population employment rate, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent aged between 20 and 64 years (men: n=3,009 and women: n=2,114); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> General population 2016: Eurostat [lfsa\_ergaed], (downloaded on 03/07/2018).  
<sup>c</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016; Eurostat database

the rate of young respondents (aged 16 to 24) who are neither in paid work nor in education or training. Overall, almost one in five young respondents (18 %) are neither in employment nor in education. The highest rates are observed in Austria and Malta at 76 % and 70 %, respectively, as well as in Italy (42 %), France (24 %) and Portugal (23 %).

### Type and quality of jobs

Examining the labour market situation through self-declared activity status and paid work rates does not, in itself, account for the quality of work people engage in, which affects their well-being and their risk of being in poverty.

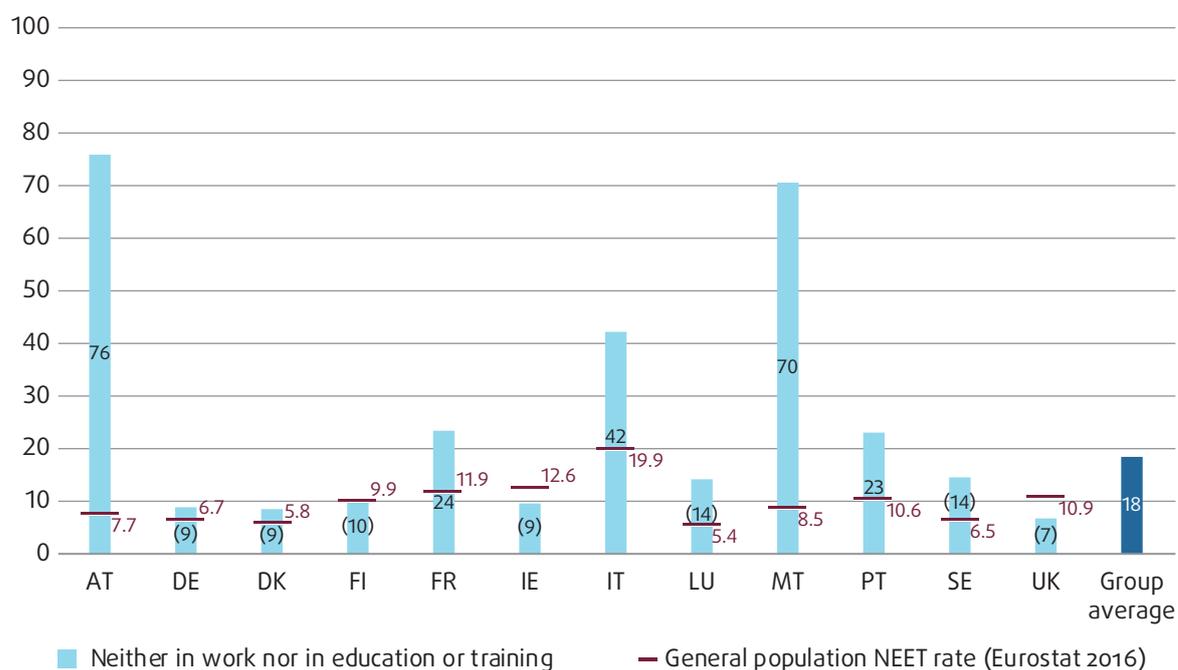
About half of the respondents who work are employed as skilled, administrative or service workers or in the military (51 %). Some 19 % are employed as professionals or managers. One quarter of respondents who are in employment (26 %) work in elementary occupations, compared to less than 10 % for the general population

across all 28 EU countries.<sup>46</sup> Elementary occupations usually consist of manual work involving physical effort. The proportion of those employed in elementary occupations is the highest in Malta (65 %), Portugal (50 %), Luxembourg (40 %) and Denmark (37 %). By contrast, in Ireland, a high proportion of those employed work in managerial or professional positions (29 %) (Figure 29). Nearly two-thirds (64 %) of women employed in Portugal work in elementary occupations.

Nearly half (44 %) of the respondents with a low level of education who are employed work in elementary occupations, with one in ten (9 %) of those who have completed tertiary education doing so. This still means that almost one in ten who have a tertiary education and are employed work in an elementary occupation. This points to over-qualification among persons of African descent, which could also be related to difficulties people face in having qualifications obtained abroad recognised in the country of residence.

<sup>46</sup> European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (2011), p. 22.

**Figure 28: Respondents of African descent aged 16 to 24 years who are neither in work nor in education or training, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c,d</sup>**

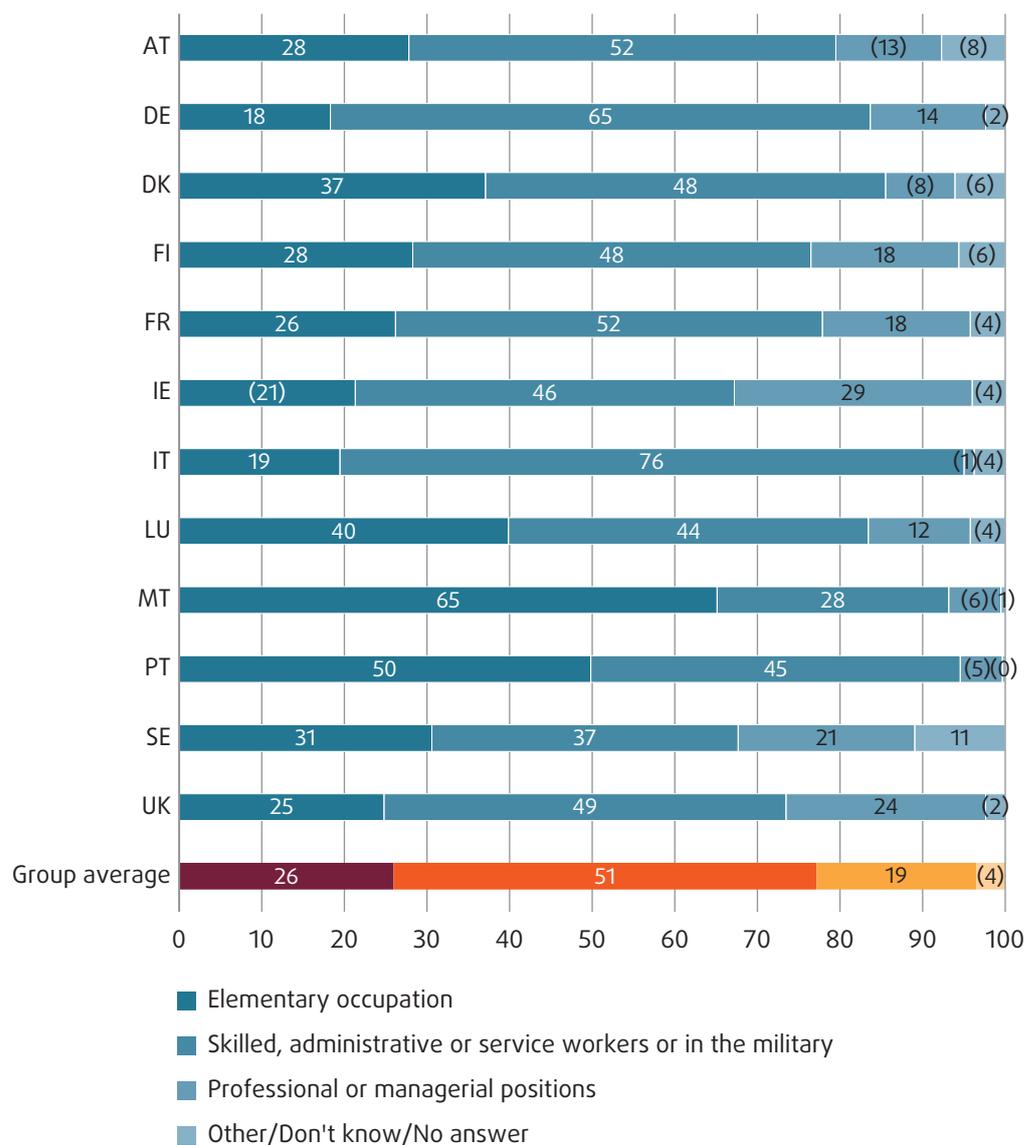


Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent aged 16-24 years (n=1,180); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> General population 2016: Eurostat [yth\_empl\_160], (downloaded on 09/07/2018).  
<sup>c</sup> Restricted comparability with the Eurostat statistics for the general population. Eurostat data are for the population aged 15-24 years who are not employed and not involved in further education or training, based on the ILO concept; EU-MIDIS II data are for respondents of African descent aged 16-24 years.  
<sup>d</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016; Eurostat database



**Figure 29: Types of occupation among respondents of African descent who indicated that they are employed, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c,d</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent who indicated that they are employed (n=2,826); weighted results.

<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.

<sup>c</sup> Question: "What is your current job or occupation?"

<sup>d</sup> Some bars do not add up to 100 %; this is due to rounding of numbers.

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

## Experiences of racial discrimination when looking for work and at work

### When looking for work

One in four (25 %) respondents felt racially discriminated against when looking for work in the five years before the survey. The lowest rate of perceived racial discrimination when looking for work is observed in the United Kingdom (15 %), with the highest rates observed in Austria (46 %), Luxembourg (46 %) and Italy (47 %).

While the rate of perceived racial discrimination is the same for men and women on average, gender differences can be observed in some countries. Men tend to experience racial discrimination when looking for work more often than women in Austria (49 % vs. 33 %), Sweden (41 % vs. 29 %), Italy (50 % vs. 42 %) and Luxembourg (51 % vs. 40 %). Women tend to experience discrimination when looking for work more often than men in Denmark and Ireland (Figure 30).

Eight in 10 (82 %) of those who experienced discrimination when looking for work perceive their skin colour or physical appearance as the main reason for the discrimination. One in five (21 %) indicate their accent or the way they speak the language of the survey country as the main reason for having felt discriminated against when looking for work and 17 % consider their first or last name to be the main reason. Some 13 % mention their citizenship.

There are differences in the levels of perceived racial discrimination when looking for work with regard to education. In general, those with high educational levels more often felt racially discriminated against when looking for work. Slightly more than one in five among those with low and medium levels of education felt

racially discriminated against when looking for work in the five years before the survey (22 %). This rate increases to one third (33 %) for those with high educational levels.<sup>47</sup> This difference is especially pronounced in Austria, France and Luxembourg. This could be related to persons with higher educational levels being more aware of what constitutes discrimination and of their rights.

### At work

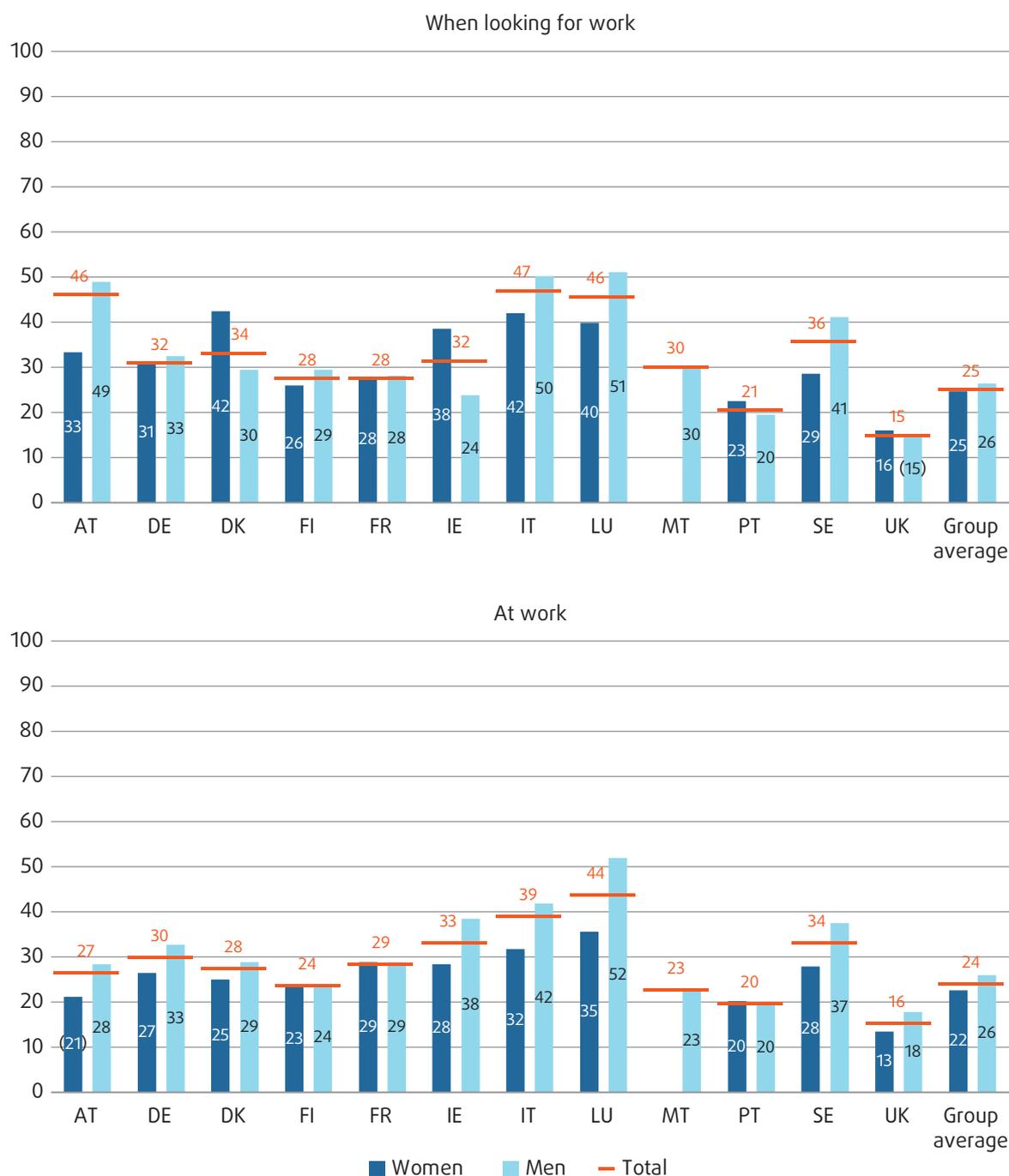
One in four respondents felt discriminated against at work in the five years before the survey (24 %), with the highest rates observed in Ireland, Sweden, Italy and Luxembourg (ranging from 33 % to 44 %). In the different countries, the rates are either the same for women and men of African descent or are higher for men. The latter is observed particularly in Luxembourg, Ireland and Italy, with rates for men higher by at least 10 percentage points. Most respondents who experienced discrimination at work believe their skin colour or physical appearance was the main reason for being discriminated against (81 %). Other reasons include the respondents' accent or the way they speak the survey country language (14 %) or their country of birth (10 %).

In addition to the general question about racial discrimination at work, the survey asked respondents if they have experienced specific discriminatory practices at work. The examples include six different situations, as shown in Figure 31. One in five respondents (19 %) experienced at least one of the situations. Most often, such situations involve respondents being given tasks below their qualifications (8 %) or being denied a promotion (8 %) because of their racial or ethnic origin. These situations were experienced more often by men of African descent, particularly in Denmark, Austria, Sweden and Luxembourg.

<sup>47</sup> See also FRA (2014) for similar findings with regard to perceived levels of sexual harassment.



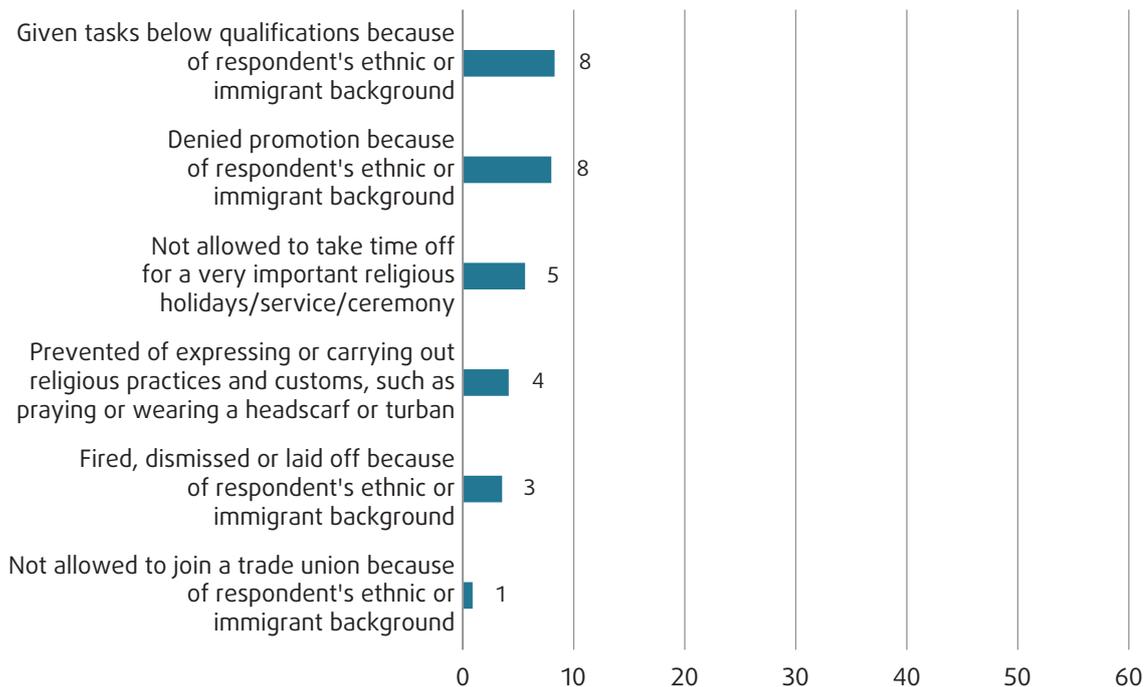
**Figure 30: Prevalence of perceived racial discrimination in the area of work in 5 years before the survey, by country and sex (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of respondents of African descent at risk of discrimination based on ethnic or immigrant background in the particular domain (when looking for work: n=3,732 and at work: n=4,288); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published.  
<sup>c</sup> Questions: "When looking for work in the past 5 years in [COUNTRY] (or since you have been in [COUNTRY]), have you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Tell me all that apply. Skin colour, ethnic origin or immigrant background, or religion or religious beliefs", "I would now like to ask you a few questions about discrimination at work. This includes incidents involving your employers or colleagues. In the past 5 years in [COUNTRY] (or since you have been in [COUNTRY]), have you ever felt discriminated against at work for any of the following reasons? Tell me all that apply. Skin colour, ethnic origin or immigrant background, or religion or religious beliefs."

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

**Figure 31: Respondents' experiences with specific discriminatory situations at work in 5 years before the survey (%)<sup>a,b</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent who said they worked in the 5 years before the survey (n=4,288); weighted results.

<sup>b</sup> Question: "While at work in the past 5 years in [COUNTRY] (or since you have been in [COUNTRY]), have any of the following situations occurred?"

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016



## 2.5. Housing and social inclusion

### KEY FINDINGS

- One in five respondents of African descent (21 %) felt racially discriminated against in access to housing in the five years before the survey. The highest rates were observed in Italy and Austria (39 % each), Luxembourg (36 %) and Germany (33 %). The lowest were observed in Denmark and the United Kingdom, where less than 10 % of respondents mentioned such experiences.
- Eight in 10 respondents (84 %) identify their skin colour or physical appearance as the main reason behind the most recent incident of discrimination they experienced when looking for housing. Other reasons include respondents' first or last names (16 %) and their citizenship (15 %).
- More than one in 10 respondents (14 %) of African descent say they were prevented from renting accommodation by a private landlord because of their racial or ethnic origin. The highest rates are observed in Austria (37 %), Italy (31 %), Luxembourg (28 %) and Germany (25 %). The lowest rate is observed in the United Kingdom (3 %).
- Some 6 % of respondents say that they were prevented from renting municipal/social housing because of their racial or ethnic origin. Meanwhile, 5 % were asked to pay a higher rental rate because of their racial or ethnic origin, with respondents in Italy (20 %) and Austria (18 %) particularly affected.
- Among the general population in the EU, 7 out of 10 persons own the accommodation in which they live, making ownership the most prevalent tenancy status. By contrast, 15 % of respondents of African descent own their dwelling.
- One in two respondents live in overcrowded housing (45 %), compared to 17 % of the general population in the EU-28. One in 10 (12 %) respondents experience housing deprivation, which includes living in a dwelling without a bath and toilet or in a dwelling that is too dark, has rot in the walls or windows, or has a leaking roof.
- More than one in two respondents (55 %) have a household income below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold after social transfers in the country where they live. The highest rates are observed in Austria (88 %), Malta (82 %) and Luxembourg (71 %). By contrast, this is the case for 14 % of the general population in Austria, and 17 % of the general population in both Malta and Luxembourg.
- More than one in 10 (13 %) respondents of African descent say that they have great difficulties in making ends meet – more so than the general population in the countries surveyed, except for Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom. This rate is highest in Austria, where one in two respondents (50 %) say they have great difficulties in making ends meet. By contrast, 4 % of the general population indicates having such difficulties in Austria.

“Housing exclusion represents one of the most extreme forms of poverty and deprivation, which risks depriving households not only from heating or cooling but also from hot water, lights and other essential domestic necessities,” as the European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion noted.<sup>48</sup> While the provision of affordable and adequate housing is primarily the responsibility of Member States, the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights states that “the Union recognises and respects the right to social and housing assistance so as to ensure a decent existence for all those who lack sufficient resources” (Article 34). Under the European Social Charter (Article 31), States Parties are further required to undertake measures to promote access to housing of an adequate standard and to make the price of housing accessible to those without adequate resources.<sup>49</sup> The Racial Equality Directive (2000/43/EC) prohibits racial

discrimination in access to and supply of goods and services, including housing.

### 2.5.1. Housing

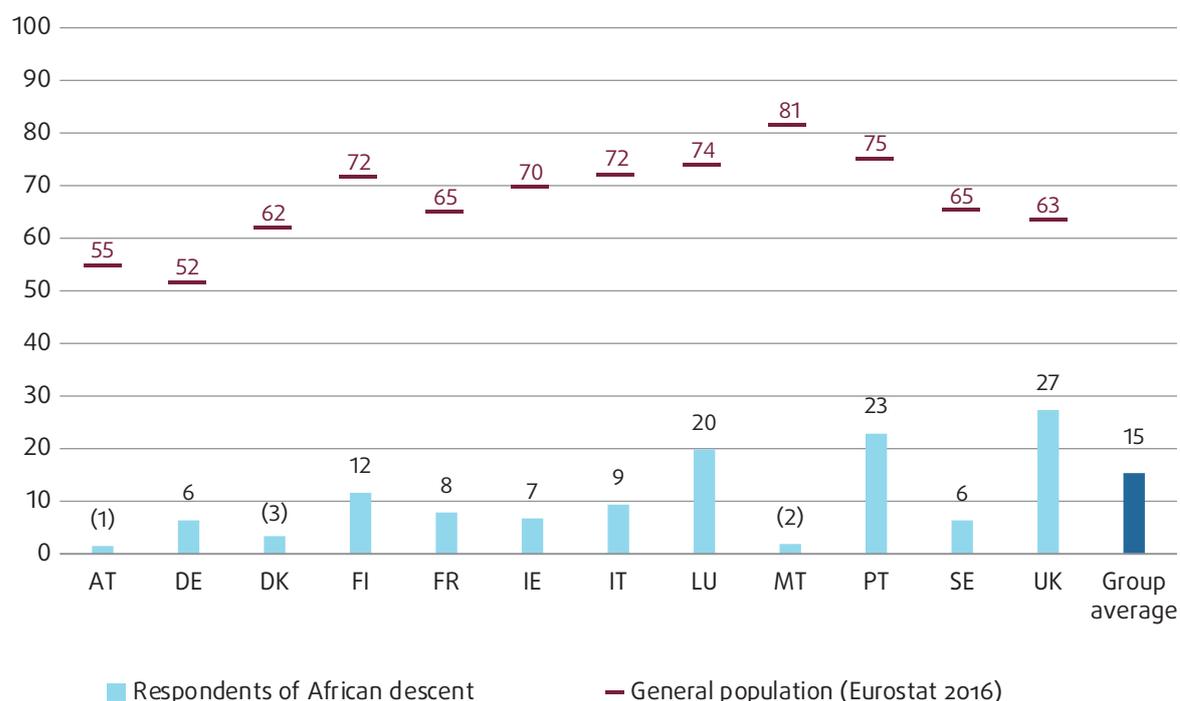
Decent housing at an affordable price in a non-segregated and safe environment is key to integration. The survey asked several questions on type and quality of housing. Living in an owner-occupied dwelling is the most prevalent form of tenancy status among the general population in the EU – 7 out of 10 persons own the accommodation in which they live. By contrast, respondents of African descent face a particular risk of housing exclusion, with only 15 % owning their dwelling (Figure 32).

On average, 56 % of respondents rent accommodation from social or municipal services, with large differences observed between countries. The highest shares of

<sup>48</sup> European Commission (2010), p. 5.

<sup>49</sup> European Social Charter (Revised), 1996.

**Figure 32: Respondents of African descent who live in accommodation they own, compared with the general population, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c,d</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent (n=5,706); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses.  
<sup>c</sup> Question: “Do you own or rent your accommodation?”  
<sup>d</sup> Owner-occupied dwelling with or without mortgage.

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

respondents renting social housing are found in Denmark (95 %) and France (71 %), and the lowest in Austria (20 %), Italy (19 %) and Luxembourg (11 %).

Restricted access to social housing and a low proportion of ownership of the dwelling might also be the result of discrimination in access to housing. High rates of perceived discrimination when looking for housing are observed in Italy and Austria (39 % in both), Luxembourg (36 %) and Germany (33 %). The lowest rates are observed in Denmark and the United Kingdom, where less than 10 % of respondents say they made such experiences (Figure 33).

More than eight in 10 (84 %) respondents mention their skin colour as the main reason behind the most recent

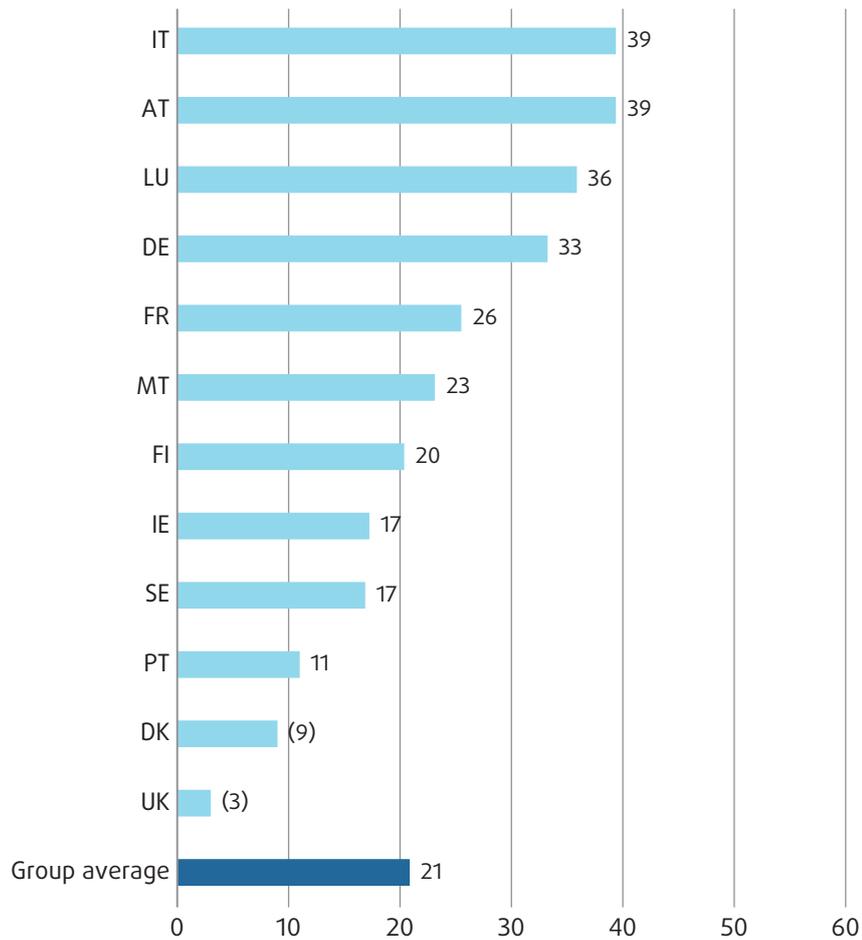
incident of discrimination they experienced when looking for housing.<sup>50</sup> Other reasons mentioned include the respondents’ first or last name (16 %), their citizenship (15 %) or their country of birth (8 %), as well as their accent or the way they speak the language of the survey country (10 %).

More than one in 10 (14 %) respondents say they were prevented from renting an apartment or a house because of their racial or ethnic origin by a private landlord in the five years before the survey (Figure 34). The highest rates are observed in Austria (37 %), Italy (31 %), Luxembourg (28 %) and Germany (25 %), with the lowest in the United Kingdom (3 %).<sup>51</sup> Some 6 % of respondents say that they were prevented from renting

<sup>50</sup> Respondents could choose among eight different reasons and were allowed to select several reasons (multiple response): respondent’s skin colour/physical appearance, their first or last name, the accent/the way they speak the survey country language, their way of dressing (such as wearing a headscarf or turban), the reputation of the neighbourhood in which the respondent lives, the respondent’s citizenship, and his or her country of birth.

<sup>51</sup> The result for the United Kingdom is based on relatively few cases, and therefore less reliable.

**Figure 33: Prevalence of perceived racial discrimination in access to housing in 5 years before the survey, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



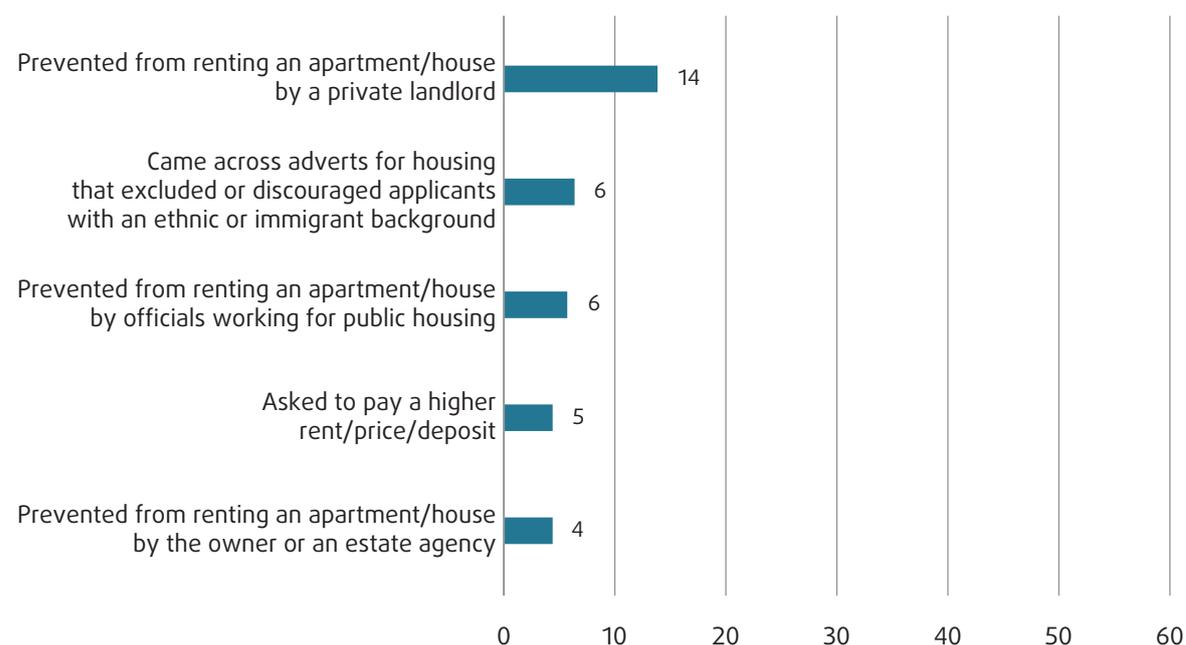
Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent who indicated they tried to rent or buy an apartment or a house in the 5 years before the survey (n=2,534); weighted results, sorted by 5-year rate.

<sup>b</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses.

<sup>c</sup> Question: "In the past 5 years in [COUNTRY] (or since you have been in [COUNTRY]), have you ever tried to rent or buy an apartment or a house?"

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

**Figure 34: Respondents' experiences with specific discriminatory practices when looking for housing in 5 years before the survey (%)<sup>a,b</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent who said they tried to rent or buy an apartment or house in the 5 years before the survey (n=2,534); weighted results.

<sup>b</sup> Question: "While you tried to rent or buy an apartment or house in the past 5 years in [COUNTRY] (or since you have been in [COUNTRY]), did any of the following situations occur?"

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

municipal/social housing because of their racial or ethnic origin, with the highest rate observed in France (7 %).

Overall, 5 % of respondents who looked for housing were asked to pay a higher rent/price/deposit, with notable differences across countries. The highest rates are observed in Italy (20 %) and Austria (18 %). Some 4 % of respondents said they were prevented from buying accommodation because of their racial or ethnic origin, with the highest rates observed in Italy (15 %) and Luxembourg (11 %).

### Overcrowding and severe housing deprivation

The survey asked about the quality of housing and if the respondents' households can afford it. The results show that nearly one in two respondents live in overcrowded housing (45 %) when using the Eurostat definition,<sup>52</sup> compared to 17 % of the general population in the EU-28

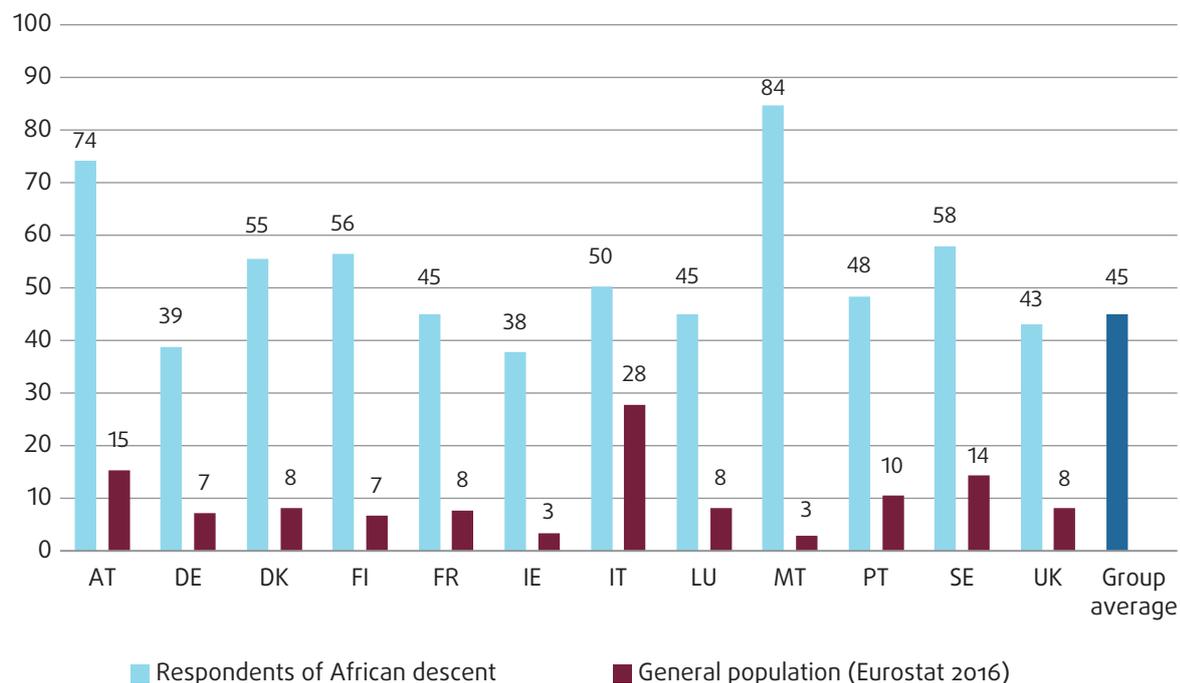
(Figure 35). While the highest rates of overcrowding are observed among respondents in Malta (84 %) and Austria (74 %), the rate is higher among respondents of African descent compared to the general population in all countries surveyed.

Severe housing deprivation is defined as living in an overcrowded dwelling and lacking basic sanitary facilities, i.e. no bath and toilet, or suffering from housing problems such as a leaking roof or rot in the windows, or living in a dwelling that is considered to be too dark. Across the EU-28 as a whole, 4.8 % of the general population suffered from severe housing deprivation in 2016.<sup>53</sup> On average, 12 % of respondents of African descent face overcrowding and suffer from one or more of four housing problems – a lack of bath and toilet, a dwelling that is too dark, rot in the walls or windows, or a leaking roof (Figure 36). One in three (29 %) respondents in Malta and one in five respondents in Austria (22 %) and Portugal (21 %) live in such dwellings.

<sup>52</sup> See Eurostat glossary entry on 'overcrowding rate' on the Eurostat webpage.

<sup>53</sup> Eurostat database: Severe housing deprivation rate by age, sex and poverty status - EU-SILC survey [ilc\_mdhoo6a], downloaded 15.07.2018.

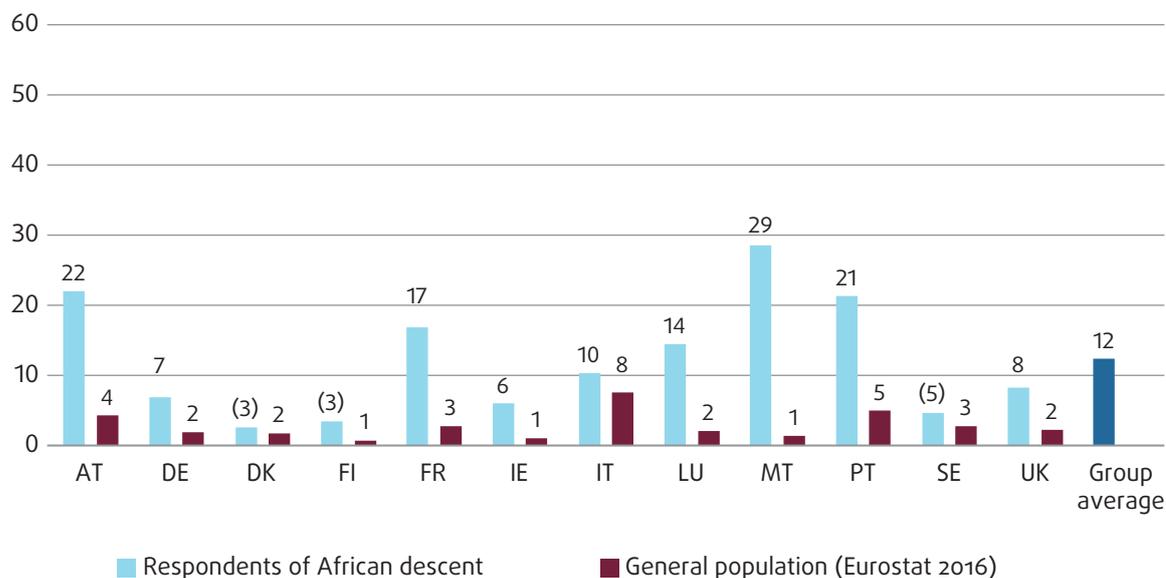
**Figure 35: Respondents of African descent who live in overcrowded housing compared with the general population, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 5,743); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> General population 2016: Eurostat [tessi170], (downloaded 13/07/2018).  
<sup>c</sup> A person is considered as living in an overcrowded household if the household does not have at its disposal a minimum number of rooms equal to: 1 room for the household plus: 1 room per couple in the household; 1 room for each single person aged 18 or above; 1 room per pair of single people of the same gender between 12 and 17 years of age; 1 room for each single person between 12 and 17 years of age and not included in the previous category; 1 room per pair of children under 12 years of age.

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016; Eurostat database

**Figure 36: Respondents of African descent who live in severely deprived housing compared with the general population, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c,d</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 5,028); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> General population 2016: Eurostat [ilc\_mdh006a], (downloaded on 15/07/2018).  
<sup>c</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses.  
<sup>d</sup> 'Severe housing deprivation rate' is defined as the percentage of the population living in a dwelling that is considered overcrowded and has one or more of the following characteristics: a leaking roof, rot in the walls or windows, no bath/shower and no indoor toilet, considered too dark.

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016; Eurostat database

## 2.5.2. Social inclusion

Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, referred to in Article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), enshrines the individual's "right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing, and medical care and necessary social services".<sup>54</sup> Together with the European Social Charter (revised), these international human rights instruments provide a broad foundation for developing the new European Pillar of Social Rights' consultation, which was announced by the European Commission in 2016.<sup>55</sup> The Pillar of Social Rights builds upon 20 key principles. It addresses social protection and inclusion in Chapter III and acknowledges the "right to adequate minimum income benefits ensuring a life in dignity at all stages of life".

Combating poverty and social exclusion is a headline target of the Europe 2020 strategy. It is also at the core of Goal 1 of the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which calls for an end to poverty in all its manifestations by 2030 and aims to ensure social protection for the poor and vulnerable and increase access to basic services.<sup>56</sup>

### Poverty

Respondents of African descent are at a high risk of poverty<sup>57</sup> compared with other high-risk groups, such as single parents. On average, more than one in two (55 %) respondents have a household income below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold after social transfers in the country where they live. This is particularly marked in Austria (88 % vs. 14 % for the general population), Malta (82 % vs. 17 % for the general population) and Luxembourg (71 % vs. 17 % for the general population) (Figure 37).

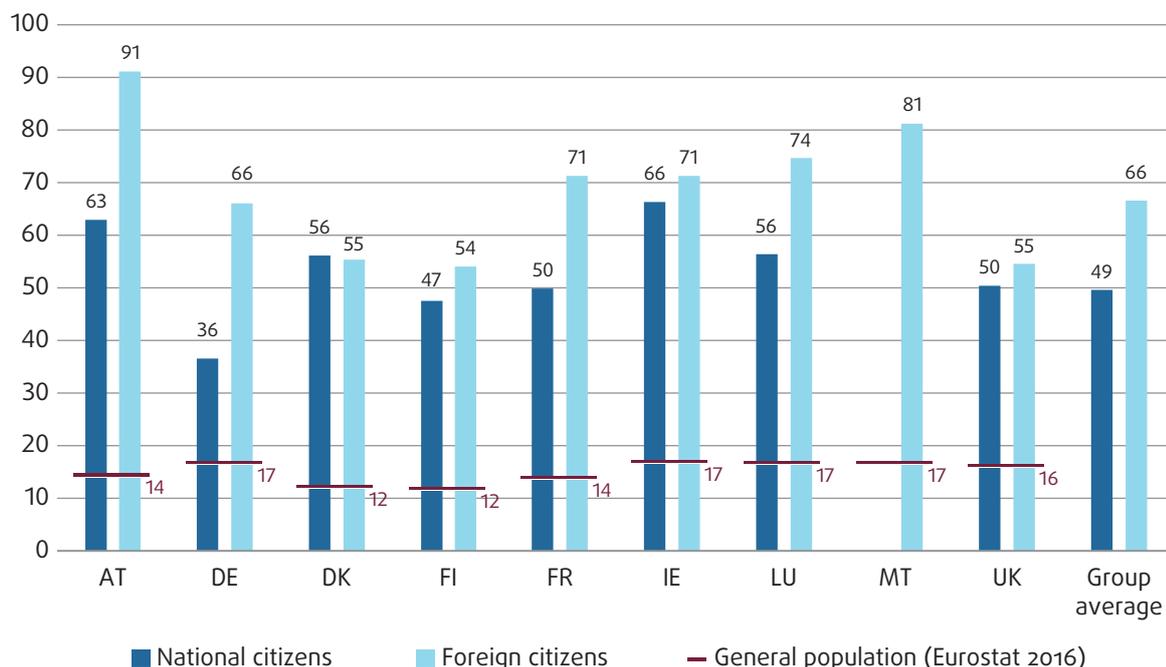
<sup>54</sup> UN, General Assembly (1948), [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#). See also UN, General Assembly (1976), [International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights](#), 3 January 1976, Art. 11.

<sup>55</sup> See [European Pillar of Social Rights](#).

<sup>56</sup> See the UN's [webpage on Goal 1](#).

<sup>57</sup> The Eurostat at-risk-of-poverty threshold is set at 60 % of the median disposable income of an 1-person household in the respective country.

**Figure 37: At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers among respondents of African descent, by country and citizenship and compared with the general population (%)<sup>a,b,c,d</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 4,509); weighted results.  
<sup>b</sup> General population 2016: Eurostat [ilc\_lioz ], (downloaded on 04/08/2018).  
<sup>c</sup> The EU-MIDIS II survey defines as at-risk-of-poverty all persons with an equivalised current monthly disposable household income below one twelfth of the national at-risk-of-poverty threshold 2014 (60 % of the median, published by Eurostat). The equivalised disposable income is the total income of a household, after tax and other deductions, divided by the number of household members converted into equalised adults, using the so-called modified OECD equivalence scale (1-0.5-0.3).  
<sup>d</sup> Values for Italy, Portugal, and Sweden cannot be published because of the high number of missing values for household income (> 40 %).

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016; Eurostat database

Respondents of African descent tend to have lower incomes compared to other population groups included in the survey, which could be attributed to their lower employment rates and higher rates of being employed in elementary occupations. On average, 70 % of respondents of African descent whose length of stay in the survey country is below five years have a household income below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold. The at-risk-of-poverty rate remains high for second-generation respondents (48 %) and respondents who are citizens (49 %), and is higher compared to that of the general population. Overall, every second national citizen of African descent (49 %) has an income below the national at-risk-of-poverty threshold – except in Germany, where the corresponding proportion is 36 %.

It is not possible to analyse gender differences in terms of the at-risk-of-poverty rate, as this rate is calculated based on the total disposable income in a household and assumes an equal distribution of resources and living standards for women and men within the household. To enable gender analysis, more detailed

data would be needed concerning the distribution of resources between the household members.

### Making ends meet

Low income usually increases the risk of impoverishment but does not necessarily translate into poverty, depending on living and housing costs and social benefits in kind in the country one resides. EU-MIDIS II findings show that respondents of African descent most often indicate that they have great difficulties in making ends meet. On average, 13 % say that they have such difficulties, with large variations between countries (Figure 38). A possible explanation might be linked to the fact that, in comparison with other population groups included in the survey, respondents of African descent most often mention regularly sending remittances to family members outside the country.

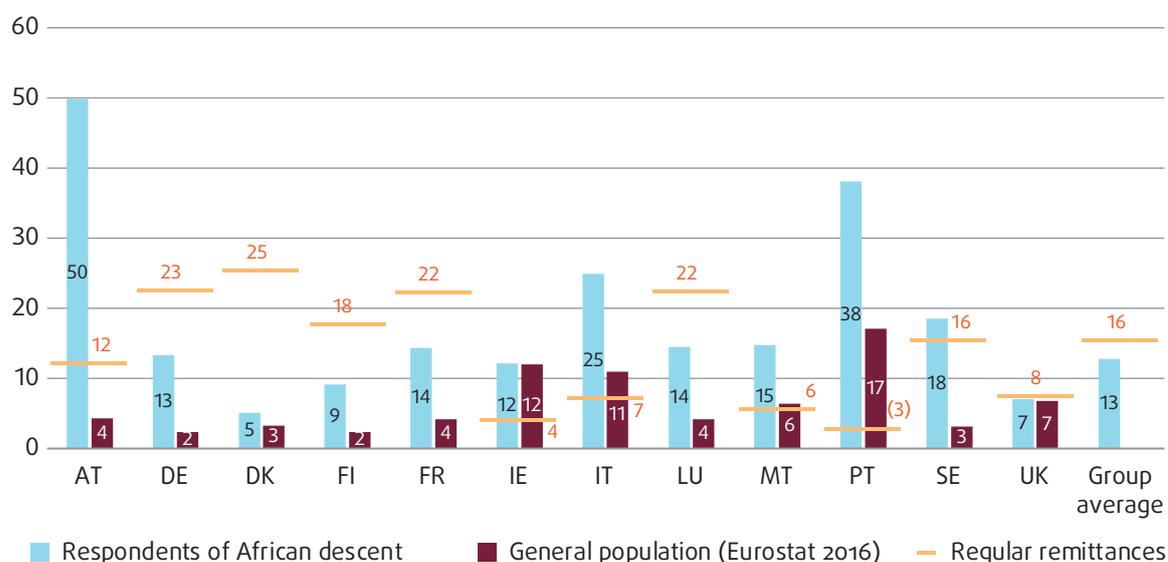
Overall, 16 % of respondents indicate that they regularly send money to family or friends, and another 26 % send money from time to time. Looking into country

variations, there is no clear evidence that remittances are linked to the precarious financial situation of households of respondents. In Austria, every second respondent (50 %) indicates having great difficulties making ends meet, compared to 4 % for the general population; only 12% of the respondents in Austria say, however, that they send money to family or friends in their country of birth. In Denmark, by contrast, one in four respondents (25%) regularly send remittances to family or friends in the country of origin, with 5% of respondents saying that they have great difficulties making ends meet, which is close to the share in the general population (3%). In Portugal, more than a third of respondents (38 %) have great difficulties making ends meet, compared to 17 % for the general population. In the United Kingdom, the share of respondents who have great difficulties doing so is 7 %, the same rate as for the general population.

In most countries, the housing cost burden for persons living in dwellings rented on the private market

is significantly higher than for those who benefit from reduced or subsidised rents in social housing or those who own the dwellings in which they live. According to the latest Eurostat figures, 27 % of tenants in the EU-28 who rent their accommodation from a private landlord spend more than 40 % of their disposable income on housing (referred to as the ‘housing cost overburden rate’). By contrast, the housing cost overburden rate is 7 % for owners and 12 % for those benefiting from reduced rents or living in dwellings free of charge.<sup>58</sup> In Austria, a country with a high share of private rentals, as noted, 50 % of the respondents state that their household makes ends meet with ‘great difficulty’ (Figure 38).<sup>59</sup> By contrast, in Denmark, where 95 % of respondents live in social housing, as noted, only 5 % say that they have ‘great difficulty’ making ends meet. Restricted access to affordable housing is linked to poor quality housing and increased housing cost burden. If the provision of social housing is not sufficient to keep up with the demand, it gets more difficult for the poorest households to afford adequate housing.

**Figure 38: Making ends meet ‘with great difficulty’ and regular remittances – comparing respondents of African descent with the general population, by country (%)<sup>a,b,c,d</sup>**



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent (making ends meet: n = 4,559; remittances: n = 5,736); weighted results. <sup>b</sup> General population 2016: Eurostat [ilc\_lioz], (downloaded on 04/08/2018). <sup>c</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. <sup>d</sup> Questions: “Thinking of your household’s total income, is your household able to make ends meet?”, “Have you, in the past five years, sent or brought money to your family members, relatives or friends living in your country of birth?”

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016; Eurostat database

58 See Eurostat glossary entry on ‘housing conditions’ on the Eurostat webpage.

59 Eurostat defines the ‘inability to make ends meet’ as a “subjective non-monetary indicator defining the ability to make ends meet”. The six response categories refer to the household making ends meet ‘with great difficulty’, ‘with difficulty’, ‘with some difficulty’, ‘fairly easily’, ‘easily’, and ‘very easily’.

# Annex I: EU-MIDIS II methodology

FRA's EU-MIDIS II survey collected data from persons with ethnic or immigrant background in all 28 EU Member States on their experiences of discrimination, (hate) victimisation and social inclusion.

Immigrants and descendants of immigrants (often referred to as first- and second-generation respondents) were identified by asking potential respondents about their country of birth and their parents' country of birth. Clearly defined countries and regions of origin were used for the different groups covered in each of the countries. To be considered a member of one of the target groups of immigrants and descendants of immigrants, respondents either had to be born in one of the selected countries of origin ('first generation') or one or both of their parents had to be from one of these countries ('second generation'). In addition, two selected groups of ethnic minorities are included in selected countries: Roma and the Russian minority.

Groups to be surveyed in each of the countries were selected based on multiple criteria, including the size of the target population, feasibility of carrying out a survey with the respective target population, the group's risk of experiencing 'racially', 'ethnically' or 'religiously' motivated discrimination and victimisation, their vulnerability for being at risk of social exclusion and comparability with previous FRA surveys and across countries.

For purposes of the survey, immigrants and descendants of immigrants encompass persons living in private households<sup>60</sup> based on the following categories:

- **'Immigrants'** include persons who were **not** born in an EU Member State or an EEA/EFTA country (Liechtenstein, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland), have their usual place of residence in the territory of the EU Member State where the survey was conducted, and had been living in the survey country for at least 12 months before the survey.
- **'Descendants of immigrants'** are persons who were born in one of the current 28 EU Member States or EEA/EFTA countries, whose usual place of residence was in the territory of the EU Member State where the survey was conducted, and who

had at least one parent **not** born in an EU or EEA/EFTA country (Liechtenstein, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland).

- In some EU Member States, EU-MIDIS II interviewed **'recent immigrants'**, namely, persons who immigrated to an EU Member State in the 10 years before the survey (i.e. **after 2004**), whose usual place of residence is in the territory of the EU Member State where the survey was conducted, and who had been living in the survey country for at least 12 months before the interview. The country of birth of 'recent immigrants' can be any country other than the EU-28 and other than the EEA/EFTA countries.
- **Ethnic minorities**, including Roma and the Russian minority, were included based on self-identification.

EU-MIDIS II covered the following groups under the concept 'immigrants and descendants of immigrants':

- Immigrants and descendants of immigrants from Turkey (in 6 EU Member States);
- Immigrants and descendants of immigrants from North Africa (in 5 EU Member States);
- Immigrants and descendants of immigrants from Sub-Saharan Africa (in 12 EU Member States);
- Immigrants and descendants of immigrants from South Asia and Asia (in 4 EU Member States);
- Recent immigrants from non-EU/EFTA countries (in 2 EU Member States);

For this report, the results are based on analyses for persons aged 16 years and older who are immigrants or descendants of immigrants of African descent.

For immigrants and descendants of immigrants of African descent, EU-MIDIS II collected information from 5,803 respondents in 12 EU Member States. The number of respondents in the countries ranged from 369 in Italy to 794 in France, with an average number of 484 per country (see [Table 1](#)). The sample sizes were determined based on an optimal allocation with respect to the estimated total size of the covered target population, in addition to practical considerations. For statistics produced in this report, the samples were weighted by their estimated size, which means that country and group comparisons take the estimated total size of the target groups per country into account and do not (directly) reflect the sample sizes.

<sup>60</sup> In a small number of countries, persons who were not living in private households were also included in the sample. For example, in Malta, the target population (immigrants and descendants of immigrants from Sub-Saharan Africa) was very small and, without including persons living in institutional homes, the coverage of this population would have been incomplete.

Ipsos MORI, a large international survey company based in the United Kingdom, undertook the fieldwork for EU-MIDIS II under the supervision of FRA staff, who monitored compliance with strict quality control procedures and oversight by the agency's Scientific Committee.

The main interview mode for EU-MIDIS II was Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) – that is, face-to-face interviews administered by interviewers using a computerised questionnaire. The English source questionnaire, developed by FRA, was translated into 22 EU languages as well as into Arabic, Kurdish, Russian, Somali, Tamazight and Turkish. These languages were used depending on the needs of the target group.

Interviewers were specially trained for the survey, including cultural and ethical training. Wherever possible or necessary, interviewers matching the respondents' ethnic background and/or gender conducted the interviews to increase responsiveness among the target groups.

## Coverage and selection of countries of origin

The detailed list of countries of origin for immigrants and descendants of immigrants used for sampling are listed in the separately published [EU-MIDIS II Technical Report](#) and further described in [Annex II](#). The countries included in EU-MIDIS II per target group cover the majority of immigrants from these respective groups. The countries of origin selected for EU-MIDIS II with respect to immigrants of African descent correspond to roughly 86 % of immigrants from the countries/departments/overseas territories considered for surveying this specific target group.

The countries/departments/overseas territories of origin of the respondents covered by the survey include Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mayotte, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Réunion, Rwanda, Saint Helena, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South

Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, The Gambia, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.<sup>61</sup>

In France and the United Kingdom, immigrants and descendants of immigrants from the following were also covered by the survey: Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Curacao, Dominica, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, and Turks & Caicos Island.

## Sampling

Most of the target groups in EU-MIDIS II can be considered as 'hard-to-reach' for survey research – in terms of being relatively small in size and/or dispersed – and due to the absence of sampling frames of the target groups. Relevant sampling frames for immigrants and descendants of immigrants would include, for example, population registers that contain information about a person's country of birth and their parents' country of birth, and this information being available for use in survey sampling. Whenever possible, a sample was drawn from a sampling frame covering the target population. However, the opportunities to sample the target population differed greatly across EU Member States due to different availability of sampling frames and distribution of the target group in the countries.

Advanced and new sampling methodologies had to be developed and employed in most countries, and the best possible design was chosen for each target group in each of the countries. In some countries, a combination of different methods was used to ensure better coverage of the target population. Detailed descriptions of sampling methods used are published in a dedicated [EU-MIDIS II Technical Report](#).

The survey aspired to national coverage of the target groups in each country, but in some cases this was not feasible. In multi-stage sampling, areas with low densities of the target population were excluded because screening of the target population would not have been possible in an efficient manner. In most countries, areas with target population densities below a certain threshold had to be excluded. These limitations were unavoidable due to the need for labour-intensive screening of respondents in most countries.

<sup>61</sup> For the purpose of the survey, persons from French departments such as Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Martinique, Mayotte and Réunion were included, although strictly speaking they cannot be defined as immigrants.



## Weighting

The survey results presented in this report are based on weighted data to reflect the selection probabilities of each household and individual based on the sampling design. The weights also account for the differences in the (estimated) size of the target population in each country.

Where possible, the sample was post-stratified to the regional distribution and population characteristics of the covered target population.<sup>62</sup> In Finland, the sample was also adjusted to the gender and age distribution, based on available population statistics for the target group.

To produce the statistics that summarise the survey results for all immigrants and descendants of immigrants of African descent in the 12 EU Member States, the samples are weighted by their estimated size, which means that country and group comparisons take the estimated total size of the target groups per country into account and do not (directly) reflect the sample sizes. Consequently, the group average statistics are influenced by the results for countries with larger population sizes of

the target groups (most notably the United Kingdom and France) (see also [EU-MIDIS II Technical Report](#)).

## Sampling error and confidence intervals

All sample surveys are affected by sampling error, given that surveys interview only a fraction of the total population. Therefore, all results presented based on a survey are point estimates with underlying statistical variation. Differences between groups of respondents have to be interpreted with respect to the range of statistical variation of the estimates and only more substantial differences between population groups should be considered as actual differences in the total population. Results based on small sample sizes are statistically less reliable and are flagged in figures and tables (for example, using numbers in brackets) and these results not interpreted substantially. These include statistics that are based on samples between 20 and 49 respondents in total. Results based on cell sizes with fewer than 20 persons are flagged as well. Results based on fewer than 20 respondents in total are not shown.

<sup>62</sup> External information and data sources for post-stratification are limited. Therefore, in most countries only region and urbanity were used for post-stratification based on the areas where the survey interviews were carried out. For example, in Malta, there is a very low percentage of women among the target group. In the absence of detailed population statistics for the target group in Malta, it is still assumed that women were slightly under-represented in the sample but this cannot be adjusted for by weights with the exception of non-response adjustment.

## Annex II: Persons of African descent in EU-MIDIS II

EU-MIDIS II surveyed a heterogeneous group of persons of African descent in terms of their demographic and socio-economic characteristics, as well as their migration histories. This report analyses the responses of respondents of African descent born in Sub-Saharan Africa (first-generation respondents), as well as persons with at least one parent born in Sub-Saharan Africa (second-generation respondents). In France and the United Kingdom, the sample includes, in addition, first- and second-generation respondents from overseas departments and overseas territories, as well as the Caribbean.

EU-MIDIS II surveyed immigrants and descendants of immigrants of African descent in 12 EU Member States – Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Immigrants were defined based on their country of birth and descendants of immigrants were defined based on their parents' country of birth. The geographical definition for the target group of people of African descent was all countries from Sub-Saharan Africa except for South Africa. In addition, for France and the United Kingdom, selected countries of the Caribbean and territories in the Indian Ocean with high proportions

of Black people were included, as well. Overall, 74 % of respondents who participated in the survey were born outside the EU – hence defined as immigrants. 26 % were born in the EU to at least one parent who was born in a country as previously defined in this report (see [EU-MIDIS II in a nutshell](#)). In most of the 12 countries included in the survey, the vast majority of respondents were first-generation migrants at over 80 % in all countries except for France and the United Kingdom, and close to 100 % in Austria, Ireland and Malta ([Table 1](#)).

Immigrants and descendants of immigrants of African descent in the EU are on average considerably younger than the general population in most countries.

First-generation migrants in the sample come from 59 different countries of origin, most often from Somalia, Nigeria, Cape Verde, Ghana and Senegal ([Table 3](#)).

In terms of age, gender and citizenship, we can observe certain countries with younger people, mainly first generation without citizenship of the country of residence (e.g. Austria and Malta) and countries with longer residence history of persons of African descent with more older people (in relative terms) and also a higher share of second generation (e.g. United Kingdom, France). Only in three countries there are slightly more women than men (Ireland, United Kingdom and France) and in some countries there are considerably more men, most notably Malta (6 % women), Austria (26 %) and Denmark (31 %).<sup>63</sup>

**Table 1: Samples per country – overview table**

Country	Average age (years)	Female (%)	Citizenship (%)	First generation (%)	Average stay (years)	Number of respondents
AT	32	26	10	97	7	476
DE	40	48	51	84	20	500
DK	34	31	58	87	17	451
FI	33	42	59	83	13	502
FR	38	51	59	75	18	794
IE	36	56	72	97	12	425
IT	34	40	17	94	12	369
LU	34	49	18	78	10	402
MT	28	6	2	100	5	411
PT	42	48	43	87	23	525
SE	33	42	56	88	12	400
UK	42	55	78	67	23	548
<b>Group average</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>5,803</b>

<sup>63</sup> This is partly related to the fact that it was more difficult to interview women in these countries because women were under-represented in the locations surveyed.



Reasons for migration differ for immigrants of African descent living in different EU Member States. Overall, most of these immigrants came for family reasons (31 %). The second most important reason is employment at 26 %. Meanwhile, 17 % came to seek protection and 16 % to study. In addition, 12 % indicate that they came to the EU as children with their parents, 2 % came without planning to stay in their current country of residence, and 9 % indicate that they had some other reason for coming to the EU.<sup>64</sup> Seeking international protection was, however, the most important reason in seven out of the 12 countries – Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Malta and Sweden. In Italy,

Luxembourg and Portugal, employment was the most important reason for migration, whereas in France and the United Kingdom most immigrants of African descent came for family reasons.

Table 2 shows the proportion of women and men of African descent aged 20 to 64 who were engaged in any paid work in the past four weeks before the survey compared with the employment rate of the general population, by country, sex and education.

Table 3 shows the most important countries of origin of first-generation respondents of African descent.

**Table 2: Paid work rate among respondents of African descent aged 20 to 64 years (including self-employment and occasional work or work in the past 4 weeks) compared with the general population employment rate, by country, sex and education (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**

Population Gender Education	Respondents of African descent Paid work rate						General population Employment rate					
	Women			Men			Women			Men		
	low	med	high	low	med	high	low	med	high	low	med	high
AT	49	(43)	(79)	45	35	45	50	71	82	60	78	87
DE	67	64	(59)	65	76	81	52	77	84	67	82	91
DK	(13)	(36)	-	38	49	63	53	76	84	69	82	88
FI	(15)	70	69	(41)	75	76	43	68	81	58	73	85
FR	56	61	68	72	70	80	44	66	80	58	73	85
IE	(31)	41	50	-	50	61	34	62	80	60	77	88
IT	35	(23)	-	75	73	-	35	56	73	65	74	83
LU	68	62	60	61	67	65	48	60	80	65	71	87
MT	-	-	-	46	(64)	-	34	70	87	79	85	93
PT	81	79	(63)	74	72	-	58	69	81	71	75	83
SE	(28)	61	86	45	70	56	53	79	88	68	84	89
UK	54	69	82	76	82	93	53	72	82	72	83	89
<b>Group average</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>82</b>						

Notes: <sup>a</sup> Out of all respondents of African descent aged between 20 and 64 years (men: n=3,009 and women: n=2,114); weighted results.

<sup>b</sup> General population 2016: Eurostat [*lfsa\_ergaed*], (downloaded on 03/07/2018).

<sup>c</sup> Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Thus, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total or based on cells with fewer than 20 unweighted observations are noted in parentheses. Results based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not published (-).

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016; Eurostat database

64 Multiple answers were allowed.

**Table 3: Most important countries of origin of first-generation immigrants of African descent by EU Member State<sup>a</sup>**

Country	Country/region of birth	Number of respondents	% within country and target group
AT	Nigeria	275	60
AT	Other	127	28
AT	Ghana	34	7
AT	Kenya	24	5
DE	Other	107	25
DE	Eritrea	81	19
DE	Ghana	78	18
DE	Togo	46	11
DE	Ethiopia	41	9
DE	Nigeria	30	7
DE	Cameroon	26	6
DE	Senegal	25	6
DK	Somalia	354	91
DK	Other	37	9
FI	Somalia	139	33
FI	Other	113	27
FI	Nigeria	47	11
FI	Ghana	39	9
FI	Ethiopia	33	8
FI	Cameroon	30	7
FI	Kenya	20	5
FR	Other	173	28
FR	Senegal	66	11
FR	Congo	63	10
FR	Cote d'Ivoire	60	10
FR	Mali	44	7
FR	Guadeloupe	40	7
FR	Comoros	33	5
FR	Martinique	30	5
FR	Democratic Republic of the Congo	28	5
FR	Cameroon	25	4
FR	Haiti	25	4
FR	Cape Verde	22	4
IE	Nigeria	218	52
IE	Other	93	22
IE	Somalia	42	10
IE	Democratic Republic of the Congo	23	6
IE	Angola	21	5
IE	Congo	20	5



Country	Country/region of birth	Number of respondents	% within country and target group
IT	Senegal	122	34
IT	Other	113	32
IT	Nigeria	71	20
IT	Ghana	48	14
LU	Cape Verde	126	40
LU	Other	114	37
LU	Cameroon	25	8
LU	Senegal	24	8
LU	Guinea-Bissau	23	7
MT	Somalia	298	73
MT	Other	61	15
MT	Eritrea	32	8
MT	South Sudan	20	5
PT	Cape Verde	231	50
PT	Guinea-Bissau	106	23
PT	Angola	68	15
PT	Sao Tome and Principe	52	11
PT	Other	9	2
SE	Somalia	133	37
SE	Other	126	35
SE	Eritrea	43	12
SE	Ethiopia	30	8
SE	Nigeria	26	7
UK	Other	172	43
UK	Jamaica	93	23
UK	Somalia	50	12
UK	Nigeria	44	11
UK	Ghana	42	10

Note: <sup>a</sup> All countries of birth with fewer than 20 respondents per country were included in the category 'Other'.

Source: FRA, EU-MIDIS II 2016

# Annex III: Terminology and legal framework

## On terminology

### **Racial origin**

“The European Union rejects theories which attempt to determine the existence of separate human races. The use of the term ‘racial origin’ in this Directive does not imply an acceptance of such theories.”

*Council Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin*

### **Descent**

“In this Framework Decision ‘descent’ should be understood as referring mainly to persons or groups of persons who descend from persons who could be identified by certain characteristics (such as race or colour), but not necessarily all of these characteristics still exist. In spite of that, because of their descent, such persons or groups of persons may be subject to hatred or violence. [...] ‘Hatred’ should be understood as referring to hatred based on race, colour, religion, descent or national or ethnic origin.”

*Council Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA of 28 November 2008 on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law*

### **People of African Descent**

“[P]eople of African descent living in the diaspora are the historical and continuing victims of the transatlantic, Mediterranean and Indian Ocean slave trades and of slavery. [...] The United Nations has recognized this group as one whose human rights must be promoted and protected, and who require support and a representative voice at the international level.”

*United Nations, Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent (2003), Report of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent on its first and second sessions, p. 17*

“Even Afro-descendants who are not directly descended from slaves face the racism and discrimination that still persists today, generations after the slave trade ended.”

*Office of the United Nations Commissioner for Human Rights, People of African Descent, p.1*

### **Racism**

“‘[R]acism’ shall mean the belief that a ground such as race, colour, language, religion, nationality or national or ethnic origin justifies contempt for a person or a group of persons, or the notion of superiority of a person or a group of persons.”

*European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) (2017), General Policy Recommendation N°7 (revised) on national legislation to combat racism and racial discrimination, p. 5*

### **Racial discrimination**

“‘[R]acial discrimination’ shall mean any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on race, colour, descent, or national or ethnic origin which has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on an equal footing, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural or any other field of public life.”

*Article 1 (1) International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination*

### **Equal treatment**

“For the purposes of this Directive, the principle of equal treatment shall mean that there shall be no direct or indirect discrimination based on racial or ethnic origin.”

*Article 2 (1) Council Directive 2000/43/EC implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial and ethnic origin*



**Profiling**

“Profiling involves categorising individuals according to their characteristics. To collect and process personal data, law enforcement and border management authorities must ensure that data collection and processing have a legal basis, have a valid, legitimate aim, and are necessary and proportionate. Protected characteristics such as race, ethnic origin, gender or religion can be among the factors that law enforcement authorities and border guards take into account for exercising their powers, but they cannot be the sole or main reason to single out an individual. Profiling that is based solely or mainly on one or some of the protected grounds amounts to direct discrimination, and therefore violates the individual’s rights and freedoms and is unlawful.”

*FRA (2018), Preventing unlawful profiling today and in the future – a guide [upcoming December 2018]*

**Racial profiling**

“For the purposes of this Recommendation, racial profiling shall mean, ‘The use by the police, with no objective and reasonable justification, of grounds such as race, colour, language, religion, nationality or national or ethnic origin in control, surveillance or investigation activities’.”

*European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) (2007), General Policy Recommendation N°11 on combating racism and racial discrimination in policing, p. 4*

**Harassment**

“Harassment shall be deemed to be discrimination [...] when an unwanted conduct related to racial or ethnic origin takes place with the purpose or effect of violating the dignity of a person and of creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment.”

*Article 2 (3) Council Directive 2000/43/EC implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial and ethnic origin*

**Hate-motivated violence and harassment**

This concerns violence and offences motivated by negative, often stereotypical, views and attitudes towards a particular group of persons who (are perceived to) share a common characteristic, such as sex, race, ethnic origin, language, religion, nationality, sexual orientation, gender identity or other characteristic, such as age or a disability. In this report, bias or hate motivation refers to incidents of harassment and crime motivated by hatred based on respondents’ religion or religious beliefs, their ethnic or immigrant background or their skin colour.

**Hate crime**

“Crimes such as threats, physical attacks, property damage or even murders motivated by intolerance towards certain [people and] groups in society are described as hate crimes or bias crimes. Hate crime can therefore be any crime that targets a person because of their perceived characteristics. The essential element distinguishing hate crimes from other crimes is the bias motive.”

*FRA (2018), Handbook on European non-discrimination law – 2018 edition, p. 81*

**Ethnic or immigrant background**

Some findings presented in this report use ‘ethnic or immigrant background’ as a generic term to include results for three grounds of discrimination asked about in the survey: skin colour; ethnic origin or immigrant background; and religion or religious belief. For more details on the intersection of ‘religion’, ‘skin colour’ and ‘ethnic origin’ as grounds for discrimination, see [Section 3.1.2](#) on ‘Discrimination on different grounds’.

## Combating racial discrimination, ethnic discrimination, racism and xenophobia – what does the law say?

### **European Union**

Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union states:

“The Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities. These values are common to the Member States in a society in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men prevail.”

Article 10 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union states:

“In defining and implementing its policies and activities, the Union shall aim to combat discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.”

Article 19 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union states:

“Without prejudice to the other provisions of the Treaties and within the limits of the powers conferred by them upon the Union, the Council, acting unanimously in accordance with a special legislative procedure and after obtaining the consent of the European Parliament, may take appropriate action to combat discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.”

Article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union states:

“Any discrimination based on any ground such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation shall be prohibited.”

Council Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin prohibits ethnic discrimination.

While the directive also applies to third country nationals, it “does not cover differences of treatment based on nationality” (Recital 13).

Article 3 sets out the scope of the directive, which applies to both the public and private sectors, and covers the following areas: conditions of access to employment and training; employment and working conditions; membership of trade unions, similar organisations and professions; social protection; social advantages; education; and, access to and supply of goods and services, including housing.

Article 5 of the directive states:

“With a view to ensuring full equality in practice, the principle of equal treatment shall not prevent any Member State from maintaining or adopting specific measures to prevent or compensate for disadvantages linked to racial or ethnic origin.”

Council Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA of 28 November 2008 on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law aims to “to ensure that certain serious manifestations of racism and xenophobia are punishable by effective, proportionate and dissuasive criminal penalties throughout the European Union (EU). Furthermore, it aims to improve and encourage judicial cooperation in this field.”

The Framework Decision sets out the obligation for Member States, among others, to penalise incitement to violence or hatred because of another person’s presumed race, colour, religion, descent, or national or ethnic origin and to ensure that, for any other crime, racist and xenophobic motivation is considered an aggravating circumstance or can be taken into consideration by the courts in the determination of the penalties.



**Council of Europe**

Article 1 of Protocol 12 of the European Convention on Human Rights states:

“1. The enjoyment of any right set forth by law shall be secured without discrimination on any ground such as sex, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, property, birth or other status.

2. No one shall be discriminated against by any public authority on any ground such as those mentioned in paragraph 1.”

**United Nations**

Article 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states:

“Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.”

Article 26 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights states:

“All persons are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to the equal protection of the law. In this respect, the law shall prohibit any discrimination and guarantee to all persons equal and effective protection against discrimination on any ground such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.”

Article 2 (1) of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination states:

“States Parties condemn racial discrimination and undertake to pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating racial discrimination in all its forms and promoting understanding among all races.”

Article 2 (2) of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination states:

“States Parties shall, when the circumstances so warrant, take, in the social, economic, cultural and other fields, special and concrete measures to ensure the adequate development and protection of certain racial groups or individuals belonging to them, for the purpose of guaranteeing them the full and equal enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.”

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## HELPING TO MAKE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS A REALITY FOR EVERYONE IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

Almost twenty years after adoption of EU laws forbidding discrimination, people of African descent in the EU face widespread and entrenched prejudice and exclusion. Racial discrimination and harassment are commonplace. Experiences with racist violence vary greatly across countries, but reach as high as 14 %. Discriminatory profiling by the police, too, is a common reality. Hurdles to inclusion are multi-faceted, with many respondents facing discrimination during their job search and when looking for housing.

These are just some of the findings presented in this report, which outlines selected results from FRA's second large-scale EU-wide survey on migrants and minorities (EU-MIDIS II). It examines the experiences of almost 6,000 people of African descent in 12 EU Member States.

While the survey results paint a dire picture of reality on the ground, they can serve as an important resource for policymakers committed to promoting the full inclusion of people of African descent in the EU.



**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

### FRA - EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

Schwarzenbergplatz 11 – 1040 Vienna – Austria  
Tel. +43 1580 30-0 – Fax +43 1580 30-699  
[fra.europa.eu](mailto:fra.europa.eu) – [info@fra.europa.eu](mailto:info@fra.europa.eu)  
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