

BEING BLACK IN THE EU

EXPERIENCES OF PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT

EU SURVEY ON IMMIGRANTS AND
DESCENDANTS OF IMMIGRANTS



FRA

Being Black in the EU

–

Experiences of people of African descent

Vienna, 2023

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Foreword

Imagine you apply for jobs but never hear back. Imagine you search for a home for your family but are never successful. Imagine you experience harassment or violence that leaves you deeply traumatised.

This is the reality for many people in the EU today, just because of the colour of their skin. People of African descent are routinely met with unfair treatment and bias when seeking jobs or homes. Racial discrimination, harassment and violence continues to haunt their daily lives.

These are not isolated incidents, but recurring experiences across all aspects of life.

In 2018, FRA reported on the widespread racism across Europe in its report, 'Being Black in the EU'. Five years later, it is a shameful acknowledgement to say that racism remains pervasive and relentless. Almost half of people of African descent in the EU face racism and discrimination in their daily lives, a rise since 2018.

But much of this remains invisible. Incidents of racial discrimination, racist harassment and violence often go unreported, denying victims the support they are legally entitled to receive from the institutions meant to protect them.

Without this much needed data, racial discrimination remains invisible. People's voices go unheard. FRA collects data to understand the experiences people face in their daily lives to help ensure everybody is treated equally and with dignity.

This report comes at a time when many are calling for swift action to combat the systemic racism so deeply ingrained in our societies. As we approach the end of the UN International Decade for People of African Descent 2015-2024, these findings prompt reflection on the alarming lack of progress despite binding anti-discrimination law in the EU since 2000.

Yet, amidst this, we should acknowledge a major milestone. As an immediate response to the killing of George Floyd and the mass protests it ignited, the EU adopted the first ever EU Anti-Racism Action Plan (2020-2025). Addressing racism head on, it serves to tackle individual attitudes and behaviours. It is a positive step forward, but its lasting effect will depend on its extension and the renewed commitment of the EU and its Member States past 2025.

Let us say this yet again: racism has no place in Europe. Being confronted with the true scale of racism is both shocking and shameful. These findings should be a wakeup call for action on equality and inclusion for people of African descent.

Michael O'Flaherty
Director

Abbreviations

EEA	European Economic Area
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
EU-MIDIS II	Second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey
FRA	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights
ISCED	International Standard Classification of Education
NEET	neither in employment nor in education or training
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Country codes

AT	Austria
BE	Belgium
DE	Germany
DK	Denmark
ES	Spain
FI	Finland
FR	France
IE	Ireland
IT	Italy
LU	Luxembourg
MT	Malta
PL	Poland
PT	Portugal
SE	Sweden
UK	United Kingdom

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Why this report?

This report presents the latest comparative evidence about experiences of people of African descent in 13 EU Member States. A year away from the end of the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015–2024), it shows that they continue to face racism, discrimination and hate crime despite the EU having binding anti-discrimination law since 2000 and significant EU policy developments having occurred since then.

EU law prohibits discrimination on the grounds of racial or ethnic origin ⁽¹⁾ based on provisions of the treaties ⁽²⁾ and the principles of non-discrimination and equality, set out in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights (Articles 20 and 21). The racial equality directive ⁽³⁾ forbids direct and indirect discrimination with regard to social protection, including social security and healthcare; social advantages; education; and public access to and supply of goods and services, including housing.

The framework decision on racism and xenophobia (Council Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA) sets out a common criminal law approach to combating racist and xenophobic hate crime and hate speech. The victims' rights directive ⁽⁴⁾ complements the decision. The directive requires Member States to ensure the fair and non-discriminatory treatment of victims of crime, with particular attention to victims of crime committed with a bias or discriminatory motive.

The racial equality directive does not define the term 'racial or ethnic origin'. However, in the *CHEZ* judgment, the Court of Justice of the European Union recognised that 'the concept of ethnicity ... has its origin in the idea of societal groups marked in particular by common nationality, religious faith, language, cultural and traditional origins and backgrounds' (*). European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) data show that a person's skin colour and/or religion can trigger ethnic or racial discrimination (**). For the purpose of this report, racial discrimination refers to discrimination occurring on at least one of three grounds: skin colour, ethnic or immigrant background, and religion or religious belief.

(*) Judgment of 16 July 2015, *CHEZ Razpredelenie Bulgaria*, C-83/14, EU:C:2015:480, paragraph 46; see also European Commission (2021), **Commission communication on the application of Council Directive 2000/43/EC implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin ('the racial equality directive') and of Council Directive 2000/78/EC establishing a general framework for equal treatment in employment and occupation ('the employment equality directive')**, COM(2021) 139 final, footnote 141.

(**) European Commission (2021), **Commission communication on the application of Council Directive 2000/43/EC implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin ('the racial equality directive') and of Council Directive 2000/78/EC establishing a general framework for equal treatment in employment and occupation ('the employment equality directive')**, COM(2021) 139 final, p. 17.

Equality data – any piece of information that can be used to describe and analyse the state of equality – demonstrate the nature and extent of racism, discrimination and inequality, which in turn supports evidence-based policymaking in the area of equality rights.

Several FRA surveys have compensated for the absence of official equality data: they point to persistent high levels of discrimination, bias-motivated harassment and crime across the EU. In 2008, FRA implemented the first European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey. This was followed in 2016 by the second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey (EU-MIDIS II).

EU-MIDIS II was the basis for the comparative report *Being Black in the EU*, published in 2018. The report confirmed that racism based on the colour of a person's skin remains pervasive throughout the EU. Racial discrimination was experienced in all areas of life, with many respondents facing discrimination when seeking work and housing. Racist harassment and violence were common occurrences, as was discriminatory profiling by the police.

The findings of EU-MIDIS II on labour market participation showed that people of African descent were often engaged in low-quality employment that did not correspond to their level of education. The rate of undertaking paid work among those with a tertiary degree was generally lower than that of the general population.

In 2022, FRA conducted its third survey on immigrants and descendants of immigrants, collecting comparable data in 15 EU Member States from 16 124 respondents. A sub-sample of these respondents provided data for this second edition of FRA's *Being Black in the EU* report. In 13 EU Member States, the survey collected data on people of African descent. These provide the basis for the analysis in this report.

The 5 years since the first edition of FRA's *Being Black in the EU* report were marked by the Black Lives Matter movement and global mobilisation to address racism and promote racial justice. During this time, the European Commission adopted the first EU anti-racism action plan and appointed a commissioner for equality and a coordinator on combating racism.

Informing EU policies: findings of EU-MIDIS II

The findings of EU-MIDIS II contributed to the following policies, among others: the EU anti-racism action plan 2020–2025; the EU strategy on victims' rights 2020–2025; the European Parliament resolution of 26 March 2019 on fundamental rights of people of African descent in Europe; the EU action plan on integration and inclusion 2021–2027; and the European Commission's report on the application of the racial equality directive (Council Directive 2000/43/EC) and the employment equality directive (Council Directive 2000/78/EC) (published in 2021).

The **EU anti-racism action plan 2020–2025** calls for the more effective enforcement of EU law, in particular the racial equality directive. It asks Member States to adopt national action plans to combat racism and racial discrimination by the end of 2022 and to address individual and structural forms of racism. The findings of this report will inform the Commission's first report on the implementation of its action plan and any future assessments of the state of equality in the EU.

On 4 March 2022, the Council adopted conclusions on combating racism and antisemitism in which it welcomed the publication of FRA's *Being Black in the EU* report. In its conclusions, it invited Member States to develop a common methodology for quantifying and characterising racial and antisemitic incidents within the Commission's high-level groups and in cooperation with FRA.

The European Parliament continues to exhort Member States to combat racism ⁽⁵⁾: its resolution of 6 July 2022, **Intersectional discrimination in the EU: socio-economic situation of women of African, Middle-Eastern, Latin American and Asian descent**, calls for the collection of reliable and comparable equality data, including data disaggregated by gender, racial and ethnic origin, sexual orientation and gender identity.

This report responds to these requests by:

- presenting the most recent data on racial discrimination, racist harassment and crime victimisation;
- looking at developments since 2016, when EU-MIDIS II was conducted;
- considering multiple and intersecting grounds of discrimination.

Member States could also draw on evidence presented in the report to help assess their progress on commitments made in national action plans and policies against racism and racial discrimination ⁽⁶⁾ and at the United Nations (UN) World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in 2001 ⁽⁷⁾, and under the International Decade for People of African Descent ⁽⁸⁾.

The report analyses the responses of over 6 700 people of African descent living in 13 EU Member States: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal, Spain and Sweden. Respondents were required to have been born in countries of sub-Saharan Africa or be descendants of immigrants, that is, have at least one parent who was born in countries of sub-Saharan Africa.

The report outlines selected findings on respondents' personal experiences of feeling discriminated against on different grounds in various areas of everyday life. It also highlights their experiences of specific forms of racist harassment or racially motivated physical violence. In addition, the report considers the reporting of incidents to the competent authorities and reasons for non-reporting, people's awareness of their rights and the socioeconomic situations of people of African descent.

Survey in a nutshell

COVERAGE

The EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, referred to in this report as 'the 2022 survey' ⁽⁹⁾, collected comparable data in 15 EU Member States: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain and Sweden.

Data were collected from 16 124 respondents who originated from or had at least one parent from North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, Syria and Türkiye. One, two or three target groups were surveyed in each survey country. The selection of groups to survey in each country was based on multiple criteria, which are detailed in Annex I to this report.

This report focuses on one survey group, analysing the responses of 6 752 immigrants and descendants of immigrants of **African descent** resident in 13 Member States: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal, Spain and Sweden. The main eligibility criterion for people of African descent for both this survey and EU-MIDIS II, conducted in 2016, was the respondents' country of birth or the country of birth of the respondents' parents. That is, respondents were either born in a sub-Saharan African country (immigrants) or born in the EU to at least one parent born in a sub-Saharan African country (descendants of immigrants). A list of the countries, departments and overseas territories of origin selected for the 2022 survey with respect to immigrants of African descent is available in Annex II to this report.

The report therefore focuses on immigrants of African descent from sub-Saharan Africa and direct descendants of immigrants of African descent from sub-Saharan Africa.

SAMPLE

The 2022 survey is representative of immigrants who were born in a sub-Saharan African country and of descendants of immigrants – people with at least one parent born in sub-Saharan Africa – living in the 13 countries surveyed. In France, the sample includes respondents from overseas departments and overseas territories, and the Caribbean. Respondents were at least 16 years old, had resided in the country for at least 12 months and lived in private households.

Throughout the report, respondents are referred to as people of African descent. In addition, the survey asked respondents if they defined themselves as a person of African descent or a Black person ⁽¹⁰⁾. This variable is used to disaggregate selected findings, along with other background variables (see Annex II to this report).

To enable comparisons with the findings of EU-MIDIS II, analyses presented in this report are based on all respondents who either were born in a sub-Saharan African country or have at least one parent who was born in a sub-Saharan African country.

LIMITATIONS RELATED TO THE DEFINITION OF THE TARGET GROUP

The main objective of the survey's sampling strategy was to achieve representativeness through random probability sampling. Given the lack of official data on racial or ethnic origin in administrative data, demographic characteristics such as 'country of birth' and 'country of birth of parents' were used as proxies for sampling. The survey therefore does not claim to capture the scale and complexity of the experiences of all people of African descent in Europe.

RESPONDENTS' CHARACTERISTICS

The median age of the respondents is 36 years. 47 % of respondents were women, while men make up 53 % of the sample. There were some differences in these proportions across countries. Thirteen respondents defined their gender in another way and are included in the analysis but excluded from the presentation of results by gender. Results are disaggregated by women and men only, not by a third category, due to anonymisation reasons.

On average, 46 % of respondents had citizenship of their country of residence and 84 % were born outside the survey country. When asked about their religion, 54 % identified themselves as Christian and 34 % as Muslim. 8 % of respondents indicated that they had no religion. Sociodemographic profiles vary considerably across countries of residence and countries of origin (for more details, see Annex II).

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS SURVEYS

The 2022 survey builds on the first European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey, conducted in 2008, and EU-MIDIS II, conducted in 2016. Nevertheless, the following factors affect the direct comparability of results between the different surveys: countries and target groups selected for surveying in each wave, changes and improvements in the sampling methodology, and changes in the mode of data collection. Considering these limitations, results are compared with respect to selected indicators only. Comparisons with results of general population surveys are included, where relevant data are available.

People of African descent were surveyed in 12 Member States in EU-MIDIS II. In 10 Member States – Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Portugal and Sweden – people of African descent were surveyed in both EU-MIDIS II and the 2022 survey. This allowed for comparisons over time. The recent survey includes Belgium, Poland and Spain, in addition to the countries surveyed in EU-MIDIS II. However, the survey does not cover Malta and the United Kingdom, which were surveyed in EU-MIDIS II.

Measures implemented to reduce the spread of COVID-19 may have affected some responses to the 2022 survey, such as questions about everyday activities or accessing services. Significant differences are observed when comparing the 2022 survey results with the findings of EU-MIDIS II in the countries where the same sampling and data collection approach was applied. For example, in Sweden the data for both surveys were collected through face-to-face interviews applying location sampling (see Annex I to this report).

Given the possible impact of COVID-19-related measures on how people congregate in public spaces or various locations, results for Sweden based on the 2022 survey should be interpreted with caution. This is especially important when comparing the results of this survey with the findings of EU-MIDIS II in 2016.

INTERSECTIONAL APPROACH

The report takes an intersectional approach. To do so, it disaggregates relevant indicators by age, gender, disability, religion, sexual orientation and gender identity, in the light of the complex interactions between multiple social identities and recognising the potential for different grounds of discrimination to intersect. In addition, the analyses look at the intersection of different grounds of discrimination with the socioeconomic situations or living conditions of the respondents ⁽¹⁾.

Key findings and FRA opinions

Drawing on the survey findings, FRA formulated the following opinions to help EU and national policymakers combat racial discrimination, racism and xenophobia. The opinions presented here complement, reinforce and, sometimes, reiterate **previous FRA opinions**.

Almost half of people of African descent surveyed experience racial discrimination, an increase from 39 % in 2016 to 45 % in 2022.

FRA OPINION 1

EU Member States should improve the effectiveness of regulatory measures and institutional arrangements established to enforce anti-discrimination legislation. They should adopt and enforce 'effective, proportionate and dissuasive' sanctions applicable to infringements of national provisions adopted pursuant to the racial equality directive.

At the operational level, Member States should promote the use of practical tools that help implement anti-discrimination law provisions, such as public sector equality duties and equality impact assessments.

In line with Article 5 of the racial equality directive, EU Member States are encouraged to introduce measures 'to prevent or compensate for disadvantages linked to racial or ethnic origin' and areas of life listed in the directive, including measures stimulating the promotion and the full and equal enjoyment of the rights of people of African descent.

Racial discrimination increased in key areas of life

The racial equality directive enshrines the principle of equal treatment. It establishes a framework for combating discrimination based on racial or ethnic origin. It prohibits direct discrimination, indirect discrimination, harassment and instructions to discriminate. The directive covers discrimination in the areas of employment, vocational training, working conditions, membership of workers' organisations, social protection, education and access to goods and services.

Almost 20 years after the implementation of the racial equality directive, the European Parliament called on Member States to recognise that people of African descent are 'entitled to protection from these inequities both as individuals and as a group, including positive measures for the promotion and the full and equal enjoyment of their rights'. It also **called on the Commission** to develop an EU framework for national strategies for the social inclusion and integration of people of African descent.

In 2020, the European Commission gave a new impetus to the EU equality agenda with the adoption of the **EU anti-racism action plan 2020–2025**, the **EU action plan on integration and inclusion 2021–2027** and the **EU gender equality strategy 2020–2025**. In 2022, the Commission also proposed two **directives on common standards for equality bodies**. Each of these directives emphasises the importance of mainstreaming equality in all policy areas, preventing discrimination, improving data collection and supporting vulnerable groups and victims of discrimination with targeted measures.

Despite the legal protection in place, respondents continue to experience discrimination, this report finds.

Almost half of respondents of African descent (47 %) felt discriminated against on any ground in the 5 years preceding the survey. The survey asked about grounds of discrimination including characteristics protected in EU law, such as skin colour, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, ethnic origin and religion or religious beliefs.

While the average 12-month prevalence of discrimination on any ground was 17 % for the general population in the EU-27 based on a 2019 Eurobarometer survey on discrimination in the EU, it was 36 % for people of African descent in the 2022 survey. The term 'prevalence' refers to the share (expressed as a percentage) of survey respondents who experienced discrimination (e.g. discrimination based on different grounds, harassment) in a defined period (12 months or 5 years preceding the survey).

More than half of respondents who felt discriminated against in at least one area of life say that they experienced it on more than one ground. Skin colour and ethnic or immigrant background were the two grounds most cited. This result is consistent with the findings of the 2018 *Being Black in the EU* report.

Overall, the 12-month prevalence of **racial discrimination** – discrimination on at least one of the three grounds (skin colour, ethnic or immigrant background and religion or religious beliefs) among people of African descent increased by 10 percentage points from 2016 (34 % in 2022 compared with 24 % in 2016). The 5-year prevalence of discrimination across all areas of life increased by 6 percentage points (45 % in 2022 compared with 39 % in 2016).

The analysis also finds evidence of discrimination on multiple and intersecting grounds. For example, the prevalence of discrimination on any ground is high among young people, people with a higher level of education, people with disabilities and people who wear traditional or religious clothing in public. The prevalence is also high among those who self-identify as belonging to a minority in terms of disability, gender identity or gender expression and sexual orientation and those who describe themselves as a person of African descent or a Black person.

On average, the prevalence of discrimination on any ground does not vary substantially between women and men. However, there are some variations between the experiences of women and men across countries, areas of life and grounds of discrimination.

The results show an intersection between the grounds 'skin colour' and 'ethnic or immigrant background'. A considerable proportion of respondents of African descent (63 %) who felt discriminated against because of their skin colour in the 5 years preceding the survey also felt discriminated against because of their ethnic or immigrant background during this time. Moreover, 12 % of respondents who felt discriminated against because of their skin colour in the 5 years preceding the survey also felt discriminated against based on their religion or religious beliefs during this time.

Trust and confidence in public authorities, including the police, are **key to social inclusion**. Like the results of EU-MIDIS II, those of the 2022 survey show that experiences of racial discrimination can undermine trust in public institutions, including the police, the legal system and local authorities. For example, the average level of trust in the police is 1.2 percentage points lower for respondents who felt racially discriminated against than for respondents who had not experienced racial discrimination.

A lack of national data makes it difficult for Member States to monitor progress on tackling racial discrimination.

FRA OPINION 2

In line with the EU anti-racism action plan, EU Member States are encouraged to collect data disaggregated by racial or ethnic origin, in order to capture experiences of discrimination and victimisation and intersecting forms of discrimination. These data should be comprehensive, reliable, representative and comparable. Collecting these data should be mainstreamed into EU and national surveys, and to the extent possible in administrative data systems.

The European Commission and EU Member States are encouraged to develop and implement a monitoring and accountability mechanism, complementing periodic implementation reports, to ensure the effective application and enforcement of EU anti-discrimination legislation and policy. In doing so, they should develop benchmarks, targets and indicators and build on the work of FRA and the EU Subgroup on Equality Data.

The European Commission is encouraged to renew the EU anti-racism action plan beyond 2025. Member States that have not yet adopted national anti-racism action plans are encouraged to do so, drawing on the guidelines and tools of the EU subgroup on the national implementation of the EU anti-racism action plan.

Equality data for monitoring the implementation of provisions of anti-racism and anti-discrimination law

Equality data enable Member States to assess the application of anti-discrimination legislation and monitor their compliance with human rights obligations relating to equality and non-discrimination. They also allow Member States to track their progress in achieving social and economic policy goals, such as those of the European semester and those of the UN's 2030 agenda for sustainable development. In addition, equality-related statistics help disaggregate data so Member States can better understand the situations of vulnerable and marginalised groups.

Nevertheless, there is still a lack of comparable and regular data on equality and non-discrimination. This limits the effective monitoring of the application of EU legal frameworks in this area. FRA has long exemplified and promoted the collection and use of equality data that (1) can be disaggregated by protected characteristics in EU law, including racial or ethnic origin; (2) are based on information about respondents' self-identification; (3) are collected on a voluntary basis and in a way that fully respects EU and national data protection regulations.

Discrimination remains invisible: only 9 % of victims report incidents, and very few report incidents to an equality body.

Equality bodies promoting equal treatment

The effective implementation of existing legislation requires robust national structures and mechanisms. Article 13 of the racial equality directive requires Member States to designate bodies to promote equal treatment (equality bodies). These bodies assist victims of discrimination, conduct independent surveys, publish independent reports and make recommendations on matters relating to discrimination. They enable rights holders to claim their rights under EU law, and they play a vital role in protecting EU citizens from discrimination.

On 7 December 2022, the Commission submitted a proposal for directives on standards for equality bodies in the field of equal treatment. They aim to strengthen the role and independence of equality bodies, set minimum standards for their functioning and extend their mandate to matters covered by Council Directive 79/7/EEC and Council Directive 2000/78/EC, which do not currently confer powers on equality bodies.

Moreover, the directives on standards for equality bodies in the field of equal treatment aim to establish equality bodies as public entities and to foster the knowledge and build the capacities of public and private entities on matters related to equal treatment. The goal is to prevent the reoccurrence of discrimination. Member States should tackle low levels of awareness of equality rights and of the services that equality bodies provide.

The survey findings show that most incidents of discrimination are not reported to any organisation or body. They therefore remain largely invisible to institutions with a legal obligation to help victims. Only 9 % of respondents who felt discriminated against in the 12 months preceding the survey reported any of the incidents. In total, and as in EU-MIDIS II, very few respondents filed a complaint with an equality body (4 %).

Overall, women of African descent tend to report incidents of discrimination more often than men (12 % compared with 6 %). Slightly higher rates of reporting are seen for older people than for younger people: 3 % of 16- to 24-year-olds reported experiencing discrimination, while 10 % of 25- to 44-year-olds, 9 % of 45- to 59-year-olds and 14 % of those aged 60 years or over did so.

Respondents with higher levels of education are also more likely to report incidents of discrimination than those with lower levels: 6 % of those with International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) levels 0–2 reported that they experienced discrimination, while 11 % of those with ISCED levels 3–4 and 8 % of those with ISCED levels 5–8 did so. Furthermore, people who identify as a member of a minority in terms of gender identity or gender expression are more likely to report experiencing discrimination than those

FRA OPINION 3

Member States should work to raise awareness of anti-discrimination legislation and relevant redress mechanisms by all appropriate means, including among people of African descent, in line with Article 10 of the racial equality directive.

Member States should accelerate their efforts to adopt the proposal for directives on binding standards for equality bodies and ensure that equality bodies have the necessary mandates and resources to tackle discrimination and fulfil their roles effectively and independently, including in supporting victims, conducting surveys, and issuing reports and recommendations on matters related to discrimination and equal treatment.

The European Commission and EU Member States could consider developing guiding principles on encouraging the reporting of discrimination to equality bodies.

who do not (15 % compared with 9 %). The same is true of those who identify as belonging to a minority in terms of sexual orientation (13 % compared with 9 %).

Respondents who identify as Christian are almost twice as likely as Muslim respondents to file a complaint regarding or report incidents of discrimination (11 % compared with 6 %).

On average, fewer than a third of respondents of African descent (29 %) know of any organisation that supports or advises victims of discrimination. No progress has been made since EU-MIDIS II was conducted, when the average level of awareness among people of African descent was 30 %. 44 % of respondents of African descent know of at least one equality body, with considerable variations between countries. The overall awareness level based on EU-MIDIS II was 46 %.

Nevertheless, the evidence supporting a correlation between awareness of equality bodies and rates of reporting discrimination is not straightforward. It shows that factors other than victims' level of awareness may influence their readiness to seek help from the relevant authorities, such as 'effective, proportionate and dissuasive' sanctions, as outlined in the racial equality directive.

For example, while two thirds of respondents of African descent in Denmark (67 %) are aware of an equality body, only 1 in 10 respondents (10 %) who had felt discriminated against reported the incident to any authority. Similar trends are observed in Austria, France and Poland. By contrast, in Sweden, higher levels of awareness of equality bodies (52 %) are related to higher rates of reporting (27 %).

Racist harassment remains widespread. A third of people of African descent experience it. Most victims of racist violence suffer from psychological problems and worry about being attacked again.

Racist harassment and crime remain largely unreported

The framework decision on racism and xenophobia (Council Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA) establishes a common criminal law approach to tackling racist and xenophobic hate crime and hate speech. The 2012 victims' rights directive sets out minimum standards of justice, protection and support for victims of crime. The EU strategy on victims' rights 2020–2025 aims to ensure that all victims of crime can fully rely on their rights, empowering them to report crime and claim compensation.

The full and effective implementation of EU law relies on victims reporting racist offences to the police, as well as ensuring that the police properly record racist motivations at the time offences are reported. The EU High Level Group on combating hate speech and hate crime has adopted a set of **key guiding principles**, aimed at, for example, improving cooperation between law enforcement authorities and civil society organisations, encouraging hate crime reporting, and improving hate crime recording and data collection.

The survey findings show that a significant proportion of people of African descent experience racist harassment and racist violence in the 13 countries surveyed. Very few respondents report such incidents to any authority or body. One third of respondents (30 %) say that they experienced one or more incidents of racist harassment in the 5 years before the survey; one quarter (24 %) say that they did so in the 12 months preceding the survey. Yet only 12 % of victims of racist harassment reported the most recent such incident to any authority.

The results of the 2022 survey show the same trends as EU-MIDIS II in relation to the prevalence and circumstances of harassment and racially motivated violence that people of African descent experience.

Experiences of racist harassment most commonly involve offensive non-verbal cues (19 %) or offensive or threatening comments (15 %), followed by threats of violence (4 %). Concerning racist violence, 4 % of respondents say that they experienced a racist attack in the 5 years before the survey, and 2 % say that they did so in the 12 months before the survey.

However, two thirds (64 %) of victims of racist violence did not report the most recent incident of racist violence they experienced to any organisation. Some respondents did not report the incident because they felt that reporting it would not

FRA OPINION 4

Member States should fully and correctly transpose and enforce the provisions of the 2008 framework decision on racism and xenophobia. This includes taking measures to ensure that a racist or xenophobic motive is considered an aggravating circumstance and is taken into consideration in determining penalties. Such efforts should be coupled with measures to further improve the national law enforcement systems to identify and record hate crime effectively.

Member States should collect appropriately disaggregated data on racist hate crime and harassment, use them in national policymaking and impact assessment, and publish them regularly.

Member States should ensure that victims of racist crime can seek redress. With victims reluctant to come forward, structures that facilitate reporting should be established. Member States should draw on the key guiding principles developed by the EU High Level Group on combating hate speech and hate crime. Member States should sustain their efforts in raising victims' awareness of their rights and available support services, including enabling referrals to victim support services, consistent with their obligations under the victims' rights directive.

Member States should ensure that the police and other services, including public prosecutors and judges, are trained to recognise and respond appropriately to the impact of racist abuse on victims.

change anything (36 %) or because they considered reporting to be too bureaucratic or time-consuming (19 %). Others did not report it because they were concerned that no one would believe them or take them seriously or because they lacked trust in the police or were afraid of the police (both 16 %). 15 % of victims of racist violence did not know where to go or whom to contact to report it.

Respondents worry for their own safety and that of their family members because they are at risk of becoming targets of racist harassment or violence. Most victims of racist violence (61 %) suffer psychological problems (e.g. depression or anxiety) because of their experiences. A further 22 % of respondents are afraid to leave the house or visit places after experiencing physical abuse. Nearly one third of victims of racist violence (31 %) have suffered injuries but did not seek medical aid, and 12 % of respondents say that they needed medical help or were hospitalised as a result of a racially motivated physical attack.

Victims of racist crimes worry more about repetitive racially motivated physical aggression than those who have no such experiences. Ongoing encounters with racism severely limit people's enjoyment of their fundamental rights. These include their right to the protection of their human dignity, their right to respect for their private and family life, and their right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

Over half of people of African descent feel that their most recent police stop was a result of racial profiling.

FRA OPINION 5

Member States should adopt measures necessary to prevent and eradicate discriminatory institutional practices and culture that enables discriminatory attitudes among police officers and unlawful profiling. These measures may include guidance on how to de-escalate situations that are potentially racially charged. Drawing on FRA's 2018 guide on preventing unlawful profiling and FRA's forthcoming report on addressing racism in policing, such guidance should be issued by law enforcement authorities and be included in standard operating procedures, training and codes of conduct.

Member States should improve the collection and publication of data on racism in policing, including on unlawful ethnic profiling. Systematic collection of reliable data can help identify discriminatory practices and assess and improve the effectiveness of responses taken.

Police stops involving racial profiling

Profiling involves **categorising individuals according to personal characteristics**, which may include racial or ethnic origin, skin colour, religion or nationality. The police commonly use profiling to prevent, investigate and prosecute criminal offences. However, racial profiling is unlawful and inconsistent with international and European human rights law. Still, the results of this survey show that unlawful racial profiling by law enforcement persists.

One quarter (26 %) of respondents were stopped by the police in the 5 years before the survey. Among those, about half (48 %) characterised the most recent stop as racial profiling. 12 % were stopped by the police in the 12 months before the survey, and 58 % of those considered the most recent stop to be a result of racial profiling.

Comparing the findings of EU-MIDIS II and the 2022 survey regarding perceived discriminatory ethnic profiling among respondents of African descent whom the police stopped in the 5 years before the survey, the average rate increased across the countries surveyed from 41 % in 2016 to 48 % in 2022. Men are more likely to be stopped than women.

The majority (58 %) of respondents whom the police stopped in the 5 years before the survey say that they were treated respectfully.

Many people of African descent work in elementary occupations and are over-qualified for their jobs. Every third has a temporary contract and lacks job security.

Education and labour market participation

Article 14 of the **EU Charter of Fundamental Rights** provides that everyone has the right to education and to have access to vocational and continuing training. This right includes the opportunity to receive free compulsory education. The right to education without discrimination is protected under Article 28 of the **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**, which all 27 EU Member States have ratified. Article 3 of the **racial equality directive** covers public and private sectors, including public bodies, in relation to education.

The **European Pillar of Social Rights action plan** states that everyone has the right to good-quality and inclusive education, training and lifelong learning to maintain and acquire skills that enable them to participate fully in society and successfully manage transitions in the labour market.

FRA's survey findings show that on average the employment rate among people of African descent aged 20 to 64 years (71 %) is similar to that of the general population (73 %) of the same age range. However, almost a third (32 %) of respondents who are in employment work in elementary occupations, compared with an average of 8 % for the general population across all 27 EU Member States.

The **overqualification rate** – the proportion of people with tertiary education (ISCED 5–8) employed in low- or medium-skilled occupations – is higher for respondents of African descent than for the general population in the EU-27 regardless of whether they are nationals of the survey country (35 % compared with 21 %) or third-country nationals (57 % compared with 40 %).

Almost every third (30 %) employed respondent of African descent has a temporary contract. This proportion is three times that for the general population across the 27 EU Member States (11 %). A large proportion of respondents of African descent say that they faced racial discrimination, both when looking for work (28 %) and when at work (23 %) in the year preceding the survey.



FRA OPINION 6

EU Member States should develop specific policies to address racism and racial discrimination experienced by people of African descent in their enjoyment of key economic and social rights, such as in the realm of employment. Such measures should also facilitate the recognition of foreign educational and training qualifications from EU and non-EU countries and support the full socioeconomic inclusion of people of African descent so that they can get decent work (appropriate to their educational qualifications and professional experience), remain in employment and improve their job security.

Rising inflation and cost of living have put people of African descent at higher risk of poverty than the general population. A third face difficulties in making ends meet.

FRA OPINION 7

In line with Article 34 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the European Parliament resolution on fundamental rights of people of African descent in Europe (2018/2899(RSP)), Member States should take all measures necessary to address discrimination against people of African descent in the housing market, including addressing inequalities in accessing housing and ensuring adequate housing and housing assistance.

Within the remit of their respective areas of competence, the EU institutions and Member States should monitor the specific disadvantages of people of African descent when adopting measures to mitigate the burden of rising costs of living, housing and energy.

Impact of inflation and access to housing

In 2022, inflation at the EU level **increased the cost of living for median households by around 10 %**, material and social deprivation by around 2 % and the rate of energy poverty and absolute monetary poverty by around 5 %. Against this backdrop, the **European Parliament called on the Commission** and the Member States to reduce income inequalities and to fight poverty, reminding them of their commitment to achieving the EU poverty target.

Article 34 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights recognises the right to social and housing assistance to ensure a decent existence for all those who lack sufficient resources. Combating poverty and social exclusion is a target of the **European Pillar of Social Rights action plan**, to be reached by 2030, and of **goal 1** of the UN sustainable development goals.

The COVID-19 pandemic worsened existing social vulnerabilities and inequalities. Rising energy prices and the increasing cost of living have **hit the most vulnerable hardest**. In 2022, the number of Europeans who could not afford to keep their homes adequately warm **rose to more than 40 million** (9.3 % of the population).

The survey shows that people of African descent experience racial discrimination when trying to buy or rent a house. In some countries, social housing mitigates

this. One in four (23 %) respondents of African descent say that a private property owner prevented them from renting an apartment or a house because of their racial or ethnic origin. Respondents were over four times more likely to experience discrimination when trying to rent a property from a private owner than when trying to rent housing from a public or municipal authority (5 %).

Respondents are also at a higher risk of poverty, social exclusion and energy poverty than the general population. A third (32 %) of them face difficulties in making ends meet compared with 18 % of the general population in the EU-27. 14 % cannot afford to keep their house warm compared with 7 % for the general population. 18 % have been in arrears on their utility bills, more than double the proportion of the general population (6 %). Nearly one in two (45 %) respondents of African descent in the 13 countries surveyed live in overcrowded housing, a much higher proportion than in the general population (17 % in the EU-27).

Most people of African descent perceive their health as good. But almost 1 in 10 feel racially discriminated against when using healthcare services.

Unmet medical needs: guaranteeing the right to healthcare

Article 35 of the **EU Charter of Fundamental Rights** provides that everyone has the right to access preventive healthcare and the right to benefit from medical treatment under the conditions that national laws and practices establish. In providing healthcare, Member States must apply the provisions of the **racial equality directive**. The **European Pillar of Social Rights action plan** states that everyone has the right to timely access to affordable, preventive and curative healthcare of good quality.

The survey results show that 9 % of respondents felt racially discriminated against when using healthcare services in the 12 months before the survey. On average, respondents of African descent aged 16 to 64 years in 13 EU Member States have similar perceptions of their health status to those of the general population in the EU-27 of the same age range (81 % of respondents of African descent compared with 79 % of the general population perceive their general health as good).

Respondents of African descent also have similar perceptions of whether they experience long-standing limitations in usual activities due to health problems to the general population (20 % compared with 17 %). They also report lower levels of long-standing illness or health problems than the general population (18 % compared with 28 %). However, more respondents of African descent mention having unmet medical needs in the 12 months preceding the survey than people in the general population (9 % compared with 5 %).

FRA OPINION 8

EU Member States should ensure equal rights to healthcare and develop new monitoring tools, for example making use of human rights indicators to map health inequalities or highlight patients' rights and perspectives within the scope of EU law.

1

DISCRIMINATION AND AWARENESS OF RIGHTS



KEY FINDINGS

Prevalence and grounds of discrimination

- Overall, almost half of the respondents (47 %) felt discriminated against in at least one area of life on any ground in the 5 years preceding the survey and more than a third (36 %) did so in the year before the survey.
- Skin colour and ethnic or immigrant background were the two grounds of discrimination respondents of African descent most often mentioned experiencing in the 12 months before the survey (28 % and 22 %, respectively) and in the 5 years before the survey (38 % and 30 %, respectively).
- Overall, the 12-month prevalence of **racial discrimination** – discrimination on at least one of the three grounds (skin colour, ethnic or immigrant background and religion or religious beliefs) – has increased for people of African descent by 10 percentage points compared with 2016 (34 % in 2022 compared with 24 % in 2016).
- Across areas of life, the highest rates of racial discrimination occur in the area of employment, that is, when looking for a job (5-year prevalence of 34 %) or at work (5-year prevalence of 31 %); accessing housing (5-year

Legal corner

Article 20 of the **Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union** (the Charter) provides that everyone is equal before the law. Article 21 of the Charter prohibits ‘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’. Article 21 also prohibits any discrimination on the grounds of nationality ‘within the scope of application of the Treaty Establishing the European Community and of the Treaty on European Union ... and without prejudice to the special provisions of those Treaties’.

The **racial equality directive** prohibits direct and indirect discrimination on the grounds of racial or ethnic origin. Article 3 specifies that it applies to employment and occupation, vocational training, working conditions and membership of workers’ or employers’ organisations; social protection, including social security and healthcare; social advantages; education; and access to and supply of goods and services that are available to the public, including housing.

Under EU equality legislation, all Member States are required to designate ‘**equality bodies**’ to combat discrimination based on racial or ethnic origin, to provide assistance to victims of discrimination, and to conduct independent surveys, publish reports and make recommendations on matters relating to discrimination.

prevalence of 31 %); and in public spaces, or when using public transport or entering bars, shops or restaurants (5-year prevalence of 24 %).

- Discrimination remains a recurring experience: some 29 % of respondents say that it happened to them three to five times in the year before the survey, and 26 % experienced it six or more times.

Multiple and intersecting grounds of discrimination

- More than half of respondents who felt discriminated against in at least one area of life say that they experienced it on more than one ground. 40 % of respondents felt discriminated against in the year before the survey on two different grounds. One in 10 respondents (11 %) say that they felt discriminated against on three grounds, and another 5 % on four or more grounds.
- The findings suggest intersecting forms of discrimination: for example, discrimination **on any ground** most often concerns young people, people with higher levels of education and people with disabilities. It also commonly affects people who wear traditional or religious clothing in public; self-identify as belonging to a minority in terms of disability, gender identity or gender expression, or sexual orientation; or who describe themselves as a person of African descent or as a Black person. The prevalence of discrimination on any ground does not vary substantially between women and men. The experiences of women and men vary somewhat between countries, areas of life and specific grounds of discrimination.
- The results point to a substantial intersection of the grounds 'skin colour' and 'ethnic or immigrant background' among respondents of African descent. A considerable proportion of respondents (63 %) who say that they felt discriminated against because of their skin colour in the 5 years preceding the survey also say that they felt discriminated against because of their ethnic or immigrant background. Moreover, 12 % of respondents who felt discriminated against because of their skin colour in the 5 years preceding the survey also felt discriminated against based on their religion or religious beliefs.

Reporting of discrimination and awareness of rights

- Overall, only 9 % of respondents who felt discriminated against reported or made a complaint about any of the incidents they experienced in the 12 months preceding the survey. In total, and like in the previous FRA survey, very few filed a complaint with an equality body (4 %).
- On average, fewer than a third (29 %) were aware of any organisation that offered support or advice to victims of discrimination in their country of residence. No progress has been made since 2016, when the survey showed the average level of awareness among people of African descent to be 30 %. Moreover, 44 % of respondents of African descent know of at least one equality body, with considerable variations between countries. The overall results for knowledge of equality bodies are similar to 2016. The relatively low levels of awareness of equality bodies can only partly explain the low rates of reporting discrimination.

Racial discrimination and trust in public institutions

- Like in 2016, respondents have the highest level of trust in local (municipal) authorities, with an average score of 6.7 (on a scale of 0 to 10, where 0

stands for 'no trust at all' and 10 signifies 'complete trust'). The next most trusted organisations are the legal system and the police, both with an average trust score of 6.2. Among the seven institutions asked about in the survey, respondents' trust in national political parties and politicians is the lowest, with average scores of 4.8 and 5.0, respectively.

- As in 2016, the results show that experiences of racial discrimination undermine trust in public institutions. The greatest negative effect was on trust in the police, the legal system and local (municipal) authorities. For example, the average level of trust in the police is 1.2 points lower for respondents who felt racially discriminated against than for respondents who have not experienced racial discrimination.

1.1. EXPERIENCES OF DISCRIMINATION

What did the survey ask?

The survey asked respondents if they felt discriminated against on one or more grounds (skin colour, ethnic origin or immigrant background, religion or religious beliefs, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression and 'other') in key areas of life. These areas are employment; health; housing; education, or contact with staff at a children's school/university; contact with administrative offices or public services; entering a night club, bar, shop, restaurant or hotel, and using public transport. Respondents could also indicate if they felt discriminated against on more than one ground. In this way, the survey captures instances of discrimination on multiple and/or intersecting grounds.

Respondents who felt discriminated against on any ground in the 12 months preceding the survey were asked for further details about the frequency of discrimination incidents and about the reporting of such incidents. The survey collected information about the person or institution to whom the incidents were reported and the reasons for not reporting.

The overall prevalence of discrimination shows the percentage of respondents who felt discriminated against on any ground (out of eight listed grounds) in one or more areas of life asked about in the survey. The discrimination rates are calculated for the 12 months and the 5 years preceding the survey, as well as for specific grounds of discrimination and different areas of life.

This section presents the disaggregated findings for the 2022 survey. In addition, where possible, it compares selected survey results on discrimination with findings for EU-MIDIS II, as published in FRA's *Being Black in the EU* report ⁽¹²⁾, and with results of Special Eurobarometer 493, published in 2019, for the general population.

Special Eurobarometer 493: discrimination in the European Union (2019)

The Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers commissioned Special Eurobarometer 493, and the Directorate-General for Communication coordinated it. It is part of a series of Eurobarometer surveys examining discrimination conducted in 2006, 2009, 2012 and 2015. The survey covers residents of the EU Member States who live in the EU-27 and aged 15 years and over and includes questions about personal experiences of discrimination and to whom respondents would prefer to report discrimination.

Experiences of discrimination are measured with the following question: 'In the past 12 months have you personally felt discriminated against or experienced harassment on one or more of the following grounds?' This is followed by the question 'Thinking about the most recent time when you felt discriminated against, under what circumstances did it take place?' The latter question allows the respondents to choose from nine areas of life.

The **Special Eurobarometer 493** survey asks about experiences of discrimination in one general question, but the FRA survey asks about them for each area of life.

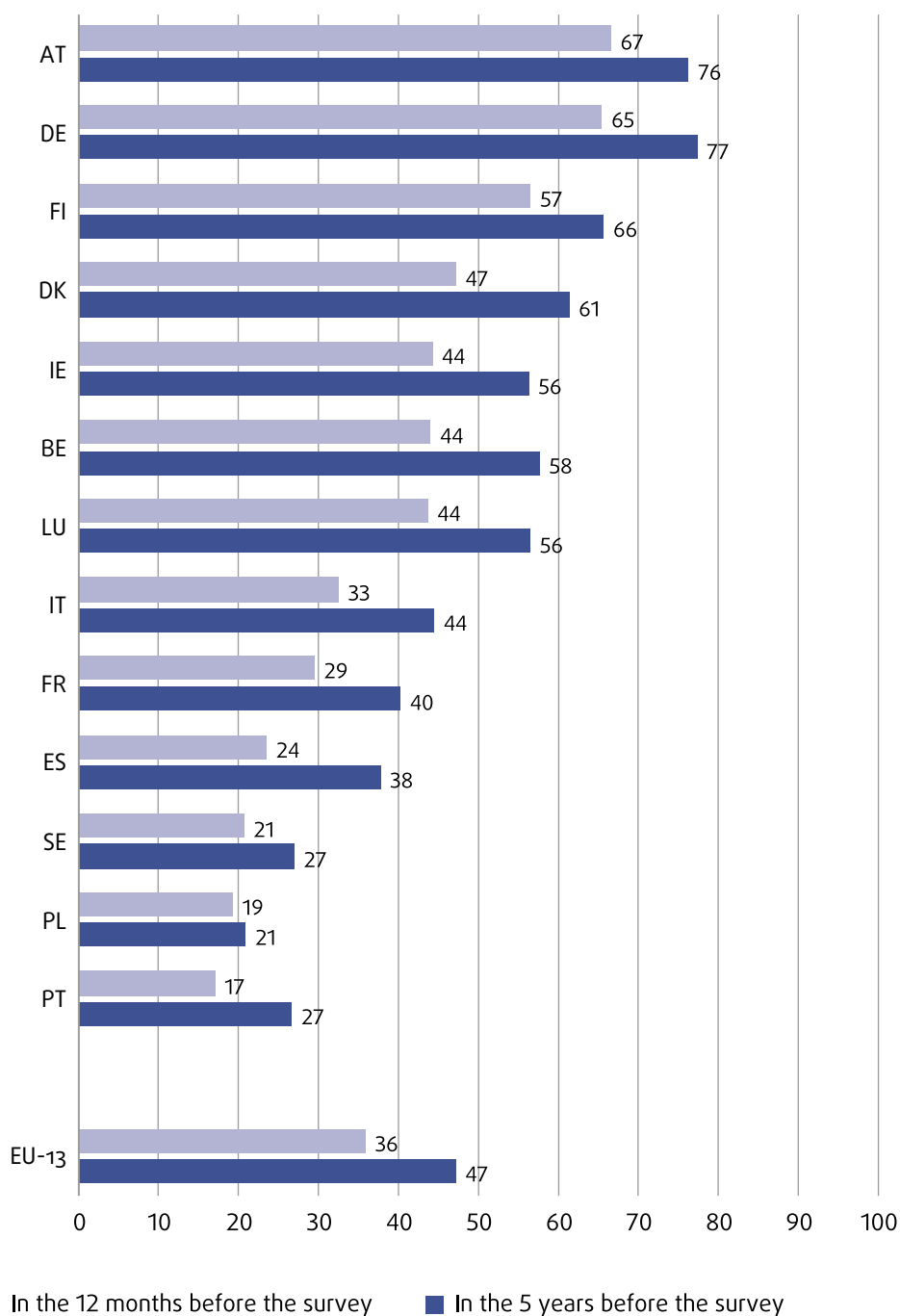
Source: Directorate-General for Communication (2019) 'Special Eurobarometer 493: discrimination in the European Union', May 2019.

1.1.1. Overall prevalence of discrimination

Overall, almost half of respondents of African descent (47 %) felt discriminated against on one or more grounds in the 5 years preceding the survey, and more than a third (36 %) did so in the year before the survey (**Figure 1**). There were substantial variations in the overall prevalence of discrimination across countries.

The highest levels of discrimination on any ground in both periods were in Austria (67 % in the 12 months before the survey and 76 % in the 5 years before the survey) and Germany (65 % and 77 %). The next highest levels were in Finland (57 % and 66 %) and Denmark (47 % and 61 %). Respondents in Portugal, Poland and Sweden⁽¹³⁾ experienced the lowest levels of discrimination on any ground in both periods.

FIGURE 1: OVERALL PREVALENCE OF DISCRIMINATION ON ANY GROUND IN THE 12 MONTHS AND THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who had engaged in activities in the areas of life asked about in the survey in the 12 months before the survey (n = 6 366) and in the 5 years before the survey (n = 6 547); weighted results, sorted by the 12-month rate.
- ^b Question: 'In the past 5 years[/12 months] in the country (or since you have been in [country]), have you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Skin colour; ethnic or immigrant background; religion or religious beliefs; age; sex/gender; disability; sexual orientation; gender identity or gender expression; other (please specify).'
- ^c Areas of life asked about in the survey are looking for work, at work, in education (as a student or as a parent), health, housing, and accessing administrative offices or public services, or other services, such as restaurants and bars, public transport or shops.

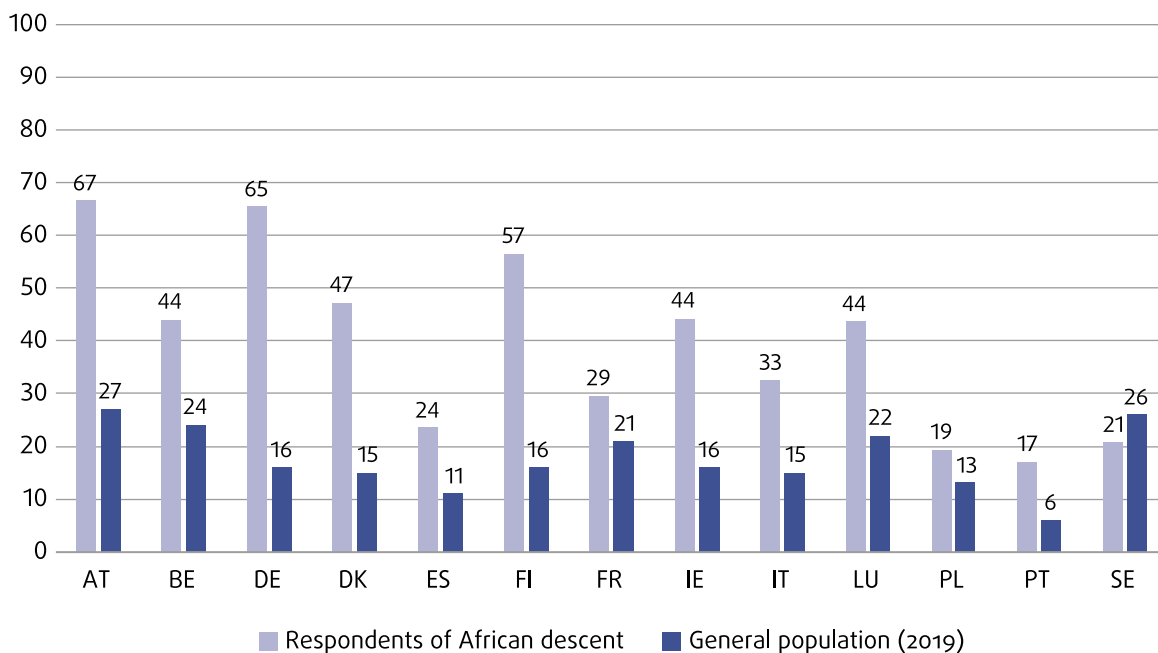
Notes:

- ^a For the FRA survey, the percentage is that of all respondents of African descent who had engaged in activities in the areas of life asked about in the survey in the 12 months before the survey (n = 6 366). For the 2019 Eurobarometer, n = 13 181; weighted results.
- ^b FRA survey question: 'In the past 12 months in the country, have you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Skin colour; ethnic or immigrant background; religion or religious beliefs; age; sex/gender; disability; sexual orientation; gender identity or gender expression; other (please specify).' Eurobarometer question: 'In the past 12 months have you personally felt discriminated against or experienced harassment on one or more of the following grounds? Ethnic origin; skin colour; gender; sexual orientation; being Roma; being transgender; being intersex; age; religion or beliefs; disability; political opinions; social class; general physical appearance; for another reason.'
- ^c The areas of life asked about in the FRA survey are looking for work, being at work, education (as a student or as a parent), health, housing, and accessing administrative offices or public services, or other services, such as restaurants and bars, public transport and shops.



While the average 12-month prevalence of discrimination on any ground is 17 % for the general population in the EU-27 based on the 2019 Eurobarometer survey, it is 36 % for people of African descent in the 13 Member States in the 2022 FRA survey (Figure 2). The biggest gaps between the general population and people of African descent are in Germany (49 percentage points), Finland (41 percentage points) and Austria (40 percentage points).

FIGURE 2: OVERALL PREVALENCE OF DISCRIMINATION ON ANY GROUND IN THE 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE SURVEY FOR RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT AND THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



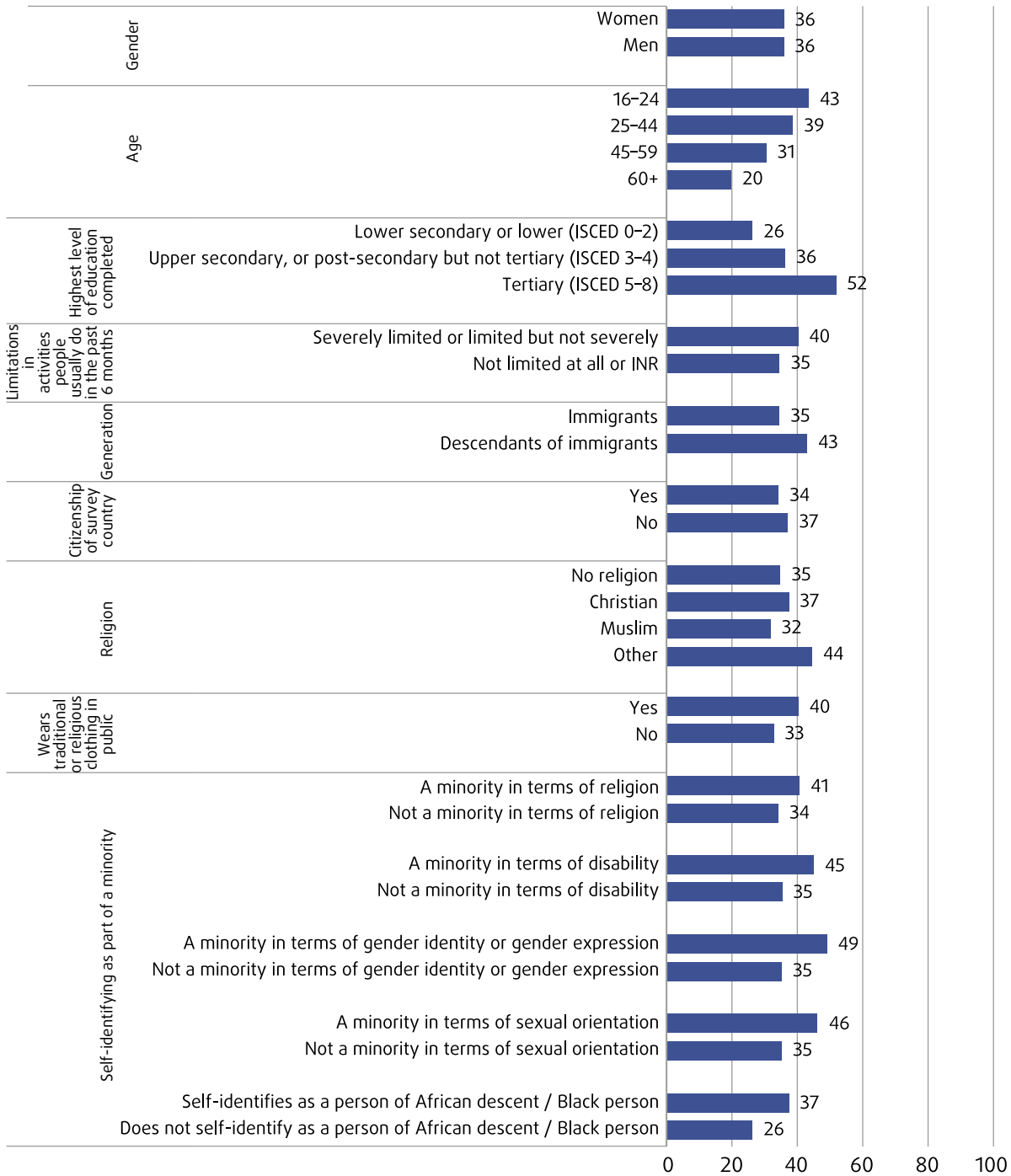
Sources: Special Eurobarometer 493, 2019; FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

Looking at the 12-month prevalence of discrimination on any ground, disaggregated by selected sociodemographic characteristics, there are no notable differences in the average rates of discrimination that women and men of African descent experienced in the year before the survey (36 % for women and 36 % for men). In terms of age, the 12-month rate of discrimination on any ground is highest among young people aged 16–24 years, at 43 %. The rates decrease by age, down to 20 % among respondents aged 60 years and over. Similarly, the rates of discrimination are higher for descendants of immigrants than for immigrants (43 % and 35 %, respectively).

Those with higher levels of education more often experience discrimination: more than half of respondents with a tertiary education (52 %) felt discriminated against in the year before the survey compared with one in four respondents (26 %) with lower secondary or lower levels of education.

There are differences in experiences of discrimination between those who wear traditional or religious clothing in public and those who do not (40 % compared with 33 %). There is a substantially higher prevalence of discrimination on any ground among respondents who define themselves as a member of a minority in terms of religion, disability, gender identity or gender expression and sexual orientation, or as a person of African descent or a Black person, than among respondents who do not identify as such (**Figure 3**). For more details on self-identification as ‘a person of African descent or a Black person’, see section ‘Survey in a nutshell’ and Annex II to this report.

FIGURE 3: PREVALENCE OF DISCRIMINATION ON ANY GROUND IN THE 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY SELECTED SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS (%)^{a,b,c,d,e}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

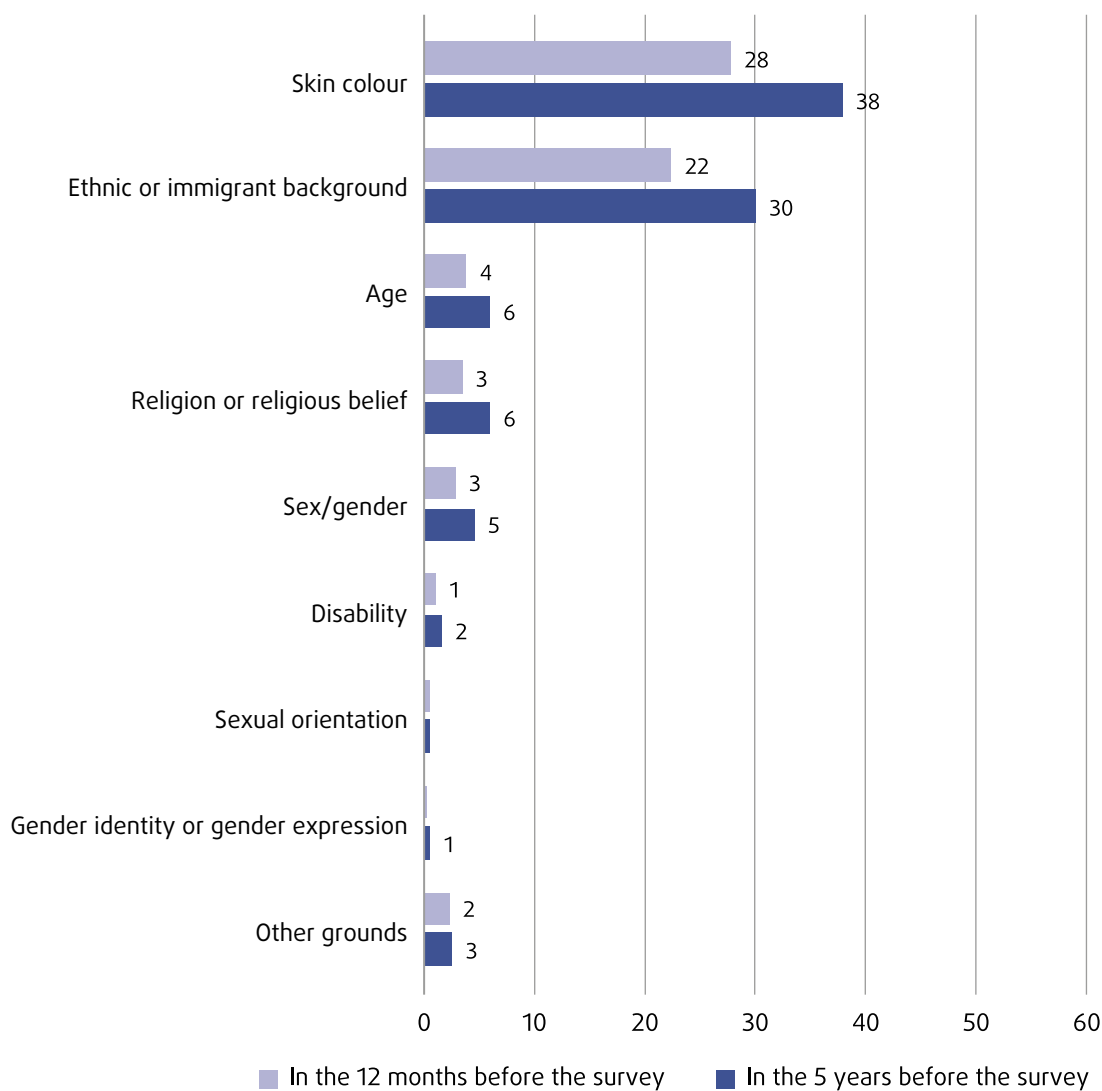
▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who had engaged in activities in the areas of life asked about in the survey in the 12 months before the survey (n = 6 366); weighted results.
- ^b ISCED 0-2 includes those who have never been in formal education or who did not complete primary education, those in primary education and those in lower secondary education. ISCED 3-4 includes those in upper secondary education, vocational training, post-secondary non-tertiary education, and all types of vocational training completed abroad corresponding to ISCED 35, 45 and 55 (hence, the proportion of respondents in ISCED 3-4 among respondents of African descent may be slightly overestimated compared with the general population). ISCED 5-8 includes short-cycle tertiary education, bachelor's level or equivalent education, master's level or equivalent education and doctorate or equivalent education.
- ^c Question: 'In the past 12 months in the country, have you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Skin colour; ethnic or immigrant background; religion or religious beliefs; age; sex/gender; disability; sexual orientation; gender identity or gender expression; other (please specify).'
- ^d Areas of life asked about in the survey are looking for work, being at work, education (as a student or as a parent), health, housing, and accessing administrative offices or public services, or other services, such as restaurants and bars, public transport and shops.
- ^e INR, item non-response.

1.1.2. Grounds of discrimination

Skin colour and ethnic or immigrant background are the two grounds of discrimination that people of African descent most often cite in all 13 EU Member States surveyed. For the 12 months before the survey, the rates were 28 % and 22 %, respectively. For the 5 years before the survey, they were 38 % and 30 %, respectively (Figure 4). This result echoes the findings of FRA’s first *Being Black in the EU* report, based on data from 2016.

FIGURE 4: GROUNDS OF DISCRIMINATION EXPERIENCED IN THE 12 MONTHS AND THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY (%)^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA’s EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who had engaged in activities in the areas of life asked about in the survey in the 12 months before the survey (n = 6 366) and in the 5 years before the survey (n = 6 547); weighted results, sorted by the 12-month rate.
- ^b Question: ‘In the past 5 years[/12 months] in the country (or since you have been in [country]), have you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Skin colour; ethnic or immigrant background; religion or religious beliefs; age; sex/gender; disability; sexual orientation; gender identity or gender expression; other (please specify).’
- ^c Areas of life asked about in the survey are looking for work, being at work, education (as a student or as a parent), health, housing, and accessing administrative offices or public services, or other services, such as restaurants and bars, public transport and shops.

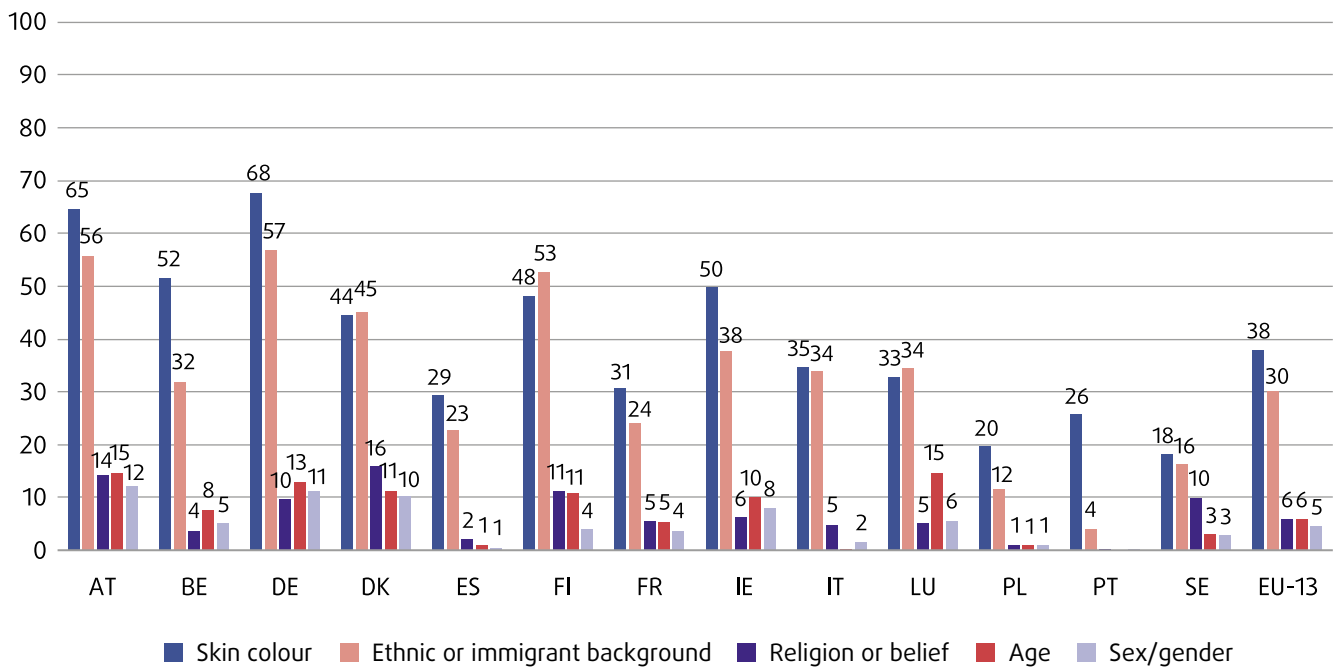
Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who had engaged in activities in the areas of life asked about in the survey in the 5 years before the survey (n = 6 547); weighted results.
- ^b Question: 'In the past 5 years in the country (or since you have been in [country]), have you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Skin colour; ethnic or immigrant background; religion or religious beliefs; age; sex/gender; disability; sexual orientation; gender identity or gender expression; other (please specify).'
- ^c Areas of life asked about in the survey are looking for work, being at work, education (as a student or as a parent), health, housing, and accessing administrative offices or public services, or other services, such as restaurants and bars, public transport and shops.

While respondents also mentioned age, religion or religious belief and sex/gender, the findings vary substantially between countries (Figure 5). For example, the proportion of respondents of African descent who felt discriminated against because of their religion in the 5 years preceding the survey is highest in Denmark and Austria (16 % and 14 %, respectively), followed by Finland (11 %), Germany and Sweden (14) (both 10 %). Some 15 % of respondents in both Austria and Luxembourg felt discriminated against because of their age, followed by 13 % of respondents in Germany. Some 12 % of respondents in Austria, 11 % in Germany and 10 % in Denmark felt discriminated against because of their sex/gender.

Respondents' religious profile varies across the 13 countries. Respondents of African descent are predominantly Christian in some countries (e.g. 82 % in Ireland, 78 % in Portugal, 65 % in Germany and 62 % in Luxembourg) and predominantly Muslim in others (e.g. 79 % in Sweden, 67 % in Spain and 47 % in Italy) (see Annex II to this report).

FIGURE 5: GROUNDS OF DISCRIMINATION EXPERIENCED IN THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

Overall, there are no differences between women and men in relation to discrimination based on skin colour (38 % of women experience it and so do 38 % of men). Small differences are observed in the prevalence of discrimination based on sex/gender (8 % of women and 2 % of men), age and religion (for both grounds, the prevalence was 8 % among women and 4 % among men), and ethnic or immigrant background (28 % of women and 32 % of men).

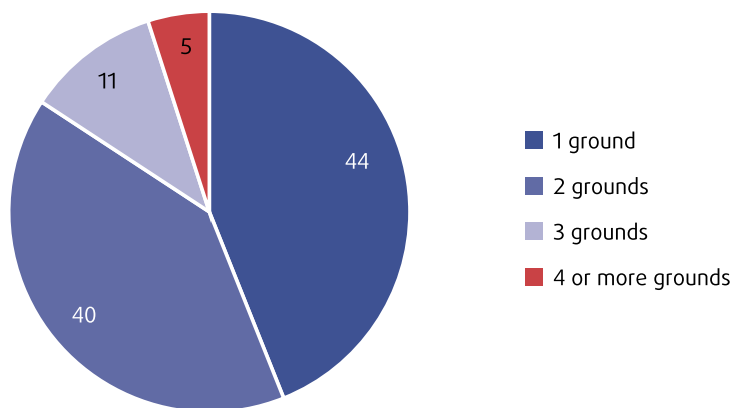
Differences in the prevalence of discrimination based on sex/gender between women and men of African descent are most pronounced in Germany (20 % for women and 4 % for men), Austria (21 % for women and 6 % for men)

and Denmark (16 % for women and 5 % for men). Women of African descent in Finland, Denmark and France are more likely than men to experience discrimination based on religion: in Finland, the prevalence is 16 % for women and 7 % for men; in Denmark, 19 % for women and 13 % for men; in France, 8 % for women and 2 % for men.

1.1.3. Multiple and intersecting grounds of discrimination

More than half of respondents of African descent who felt discriminated against in at least one area of life in the 12 months or in the 5 years preceding the survey say that they experienced it on more than one ground (Figure 6). While 40 % of respondents who felt discriminated against in the year before the survey mention two different grounds, every 10th respondent (11 %) says that they felt discriminated against on three grounds. Another 5 % suffered discrimination based on four or more grounds.

FIGURE 6: NUMBER OF GROUNDS OF DISCRIMINATION EXPERIENCED IN THE 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE SURVEY (%)^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

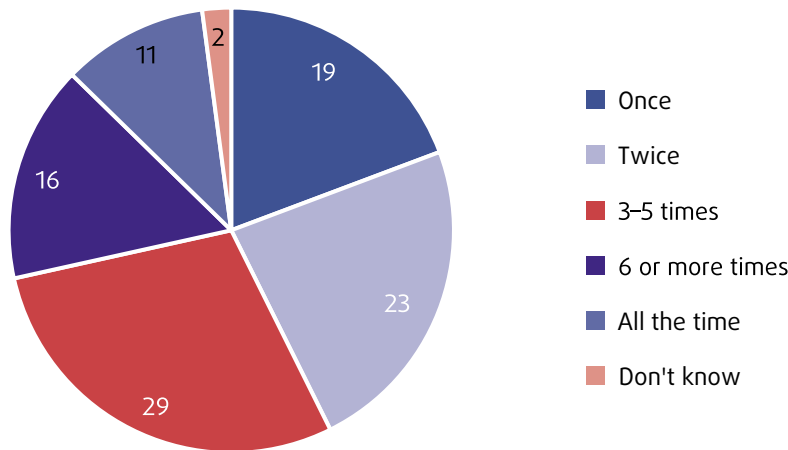
The results point to a substantial intersection of the grounds skin colour and ethnic or immigrant background among respondents of African descent. A considerable proportion (63 %) of those who felt discriminated against because of their skin colour in the 5 years preceding the survey also felt discriminated against because of their ethnic or immigrant background. Moreover, 12 % of respondents who felt discriminated against because of their skin colour in the 5 years preceding the survey also felt discriminated against based on their religion or religious beliefs.

The survey asked respondents how often, in the 12 months before the survey, they felt discriminated against on any ground across all areas of life. One out of five respondents (19 %) reported experiencing discrimination only once in the year preceding the survey (Figure 7). 11 % say it happened 'all the time', with the highest percentage among respondents in Spain (26 %).

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who had felt discriminated against on any ground in at least one of the areas of life asked about in the survey in the 12 months before the survey (n = 2 517); weighted results.
- ^b Question: 'In the past 12 months in the country, have you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Skin colour; ethnic or immigrant background; religion or religious beliefs; age; sex/gender; disability; sexual orientation; gender identity or gender expression; other (please specify).'
- ^c Areas of life asked about in the survey are looking for work, being at work, education (as a student or as a parent), health, housing, and accessing administrative offices or public services, or other services, such as restaurants and bars, public transport and shops.

FIGURE 7: FREQUENCY OF DISCRIMINATION IN THE 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE SURVEY (%)^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who had felt discriminated against on any ground in at least one of the areas of life asked about in the survey in the 12 months before the survey (n = 2 377); weighted results.
- ^b Questions: 'In the past 12 months in the country, have you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Skin colour; ethnic or immigrant background; religion or religious beliefs; age; sex/gender; disability; sexual orientation; gender identity or gender expression; other (please specify)' and 'You mentioned that in the past 12 months you felt discriminated against. How many times, overall, has this happened to you in the past 12 months?'
- ^c Areas of life asked about in the survey are looking for work, being at work, education (as a student or as a parent), health, housing, and accessing administrative offices or public services, or other services, such as restaurants and bars, public transport and shops.

1.1.4. Overall prevalence of racial discrimination

This section analyses the overall prevalence of discrimination on at least one of the three grounds – skin colour, ethnic or immigrant background and religion or religious beliefs – that were subsumed in the category 'ethnic or immigrant background' in the 2018 *Being Black in the EU* report. Acknowledging that there are some slight differences in the countries selected for the survey used in this report, the average percentage of people of African descent experiencing racial discrimination has increased since 2016.

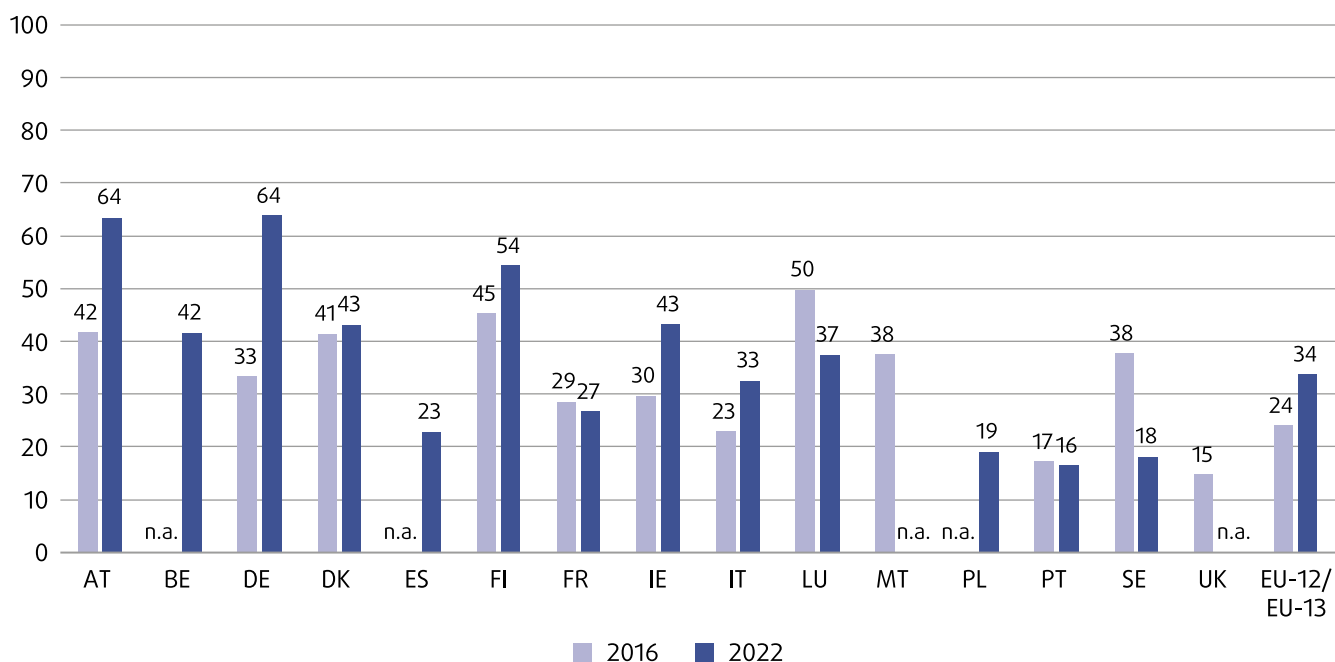
Figures 8 and 9 show the comparative findings from both FRA surveys on the 12-month and 5-year prevalence, respectively, of racial discrimination.

On average, around a third of respondents of African descent (34 %) surveyed in 2022 felt racially discriminated against in the year preceding the survey, compared with around one quarter of respondents (24 %) in 2016 (**Figure 8**). The 5-year discrimination rates in **Figure 9** show the same trend (45 % in 2022 compared with 39 % in 2016). There are considerable differences between Member States. In Austria, Germany and Ireland, both the 12-month and 5-year prevalence of racial discrimination substantially increased over time.

By contrast, no significant changes between 2016 and 2022 were noticed in Denmark (for both periods).

The results for Luxembourg and Sweden must be interpreted with caution, as a change in the sampling approach between the two surveys (in Luxembourg) and/or the potential impact of COVID-19 measures during fieldwork (in Sweden) could affect a direct comparison of results over time ⁽¹⁵⁾.

FIGURE 8: PREVALENCE OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN THE 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY COUNTRY AND SURVEY YEAR (%)^{a,b,c,d}

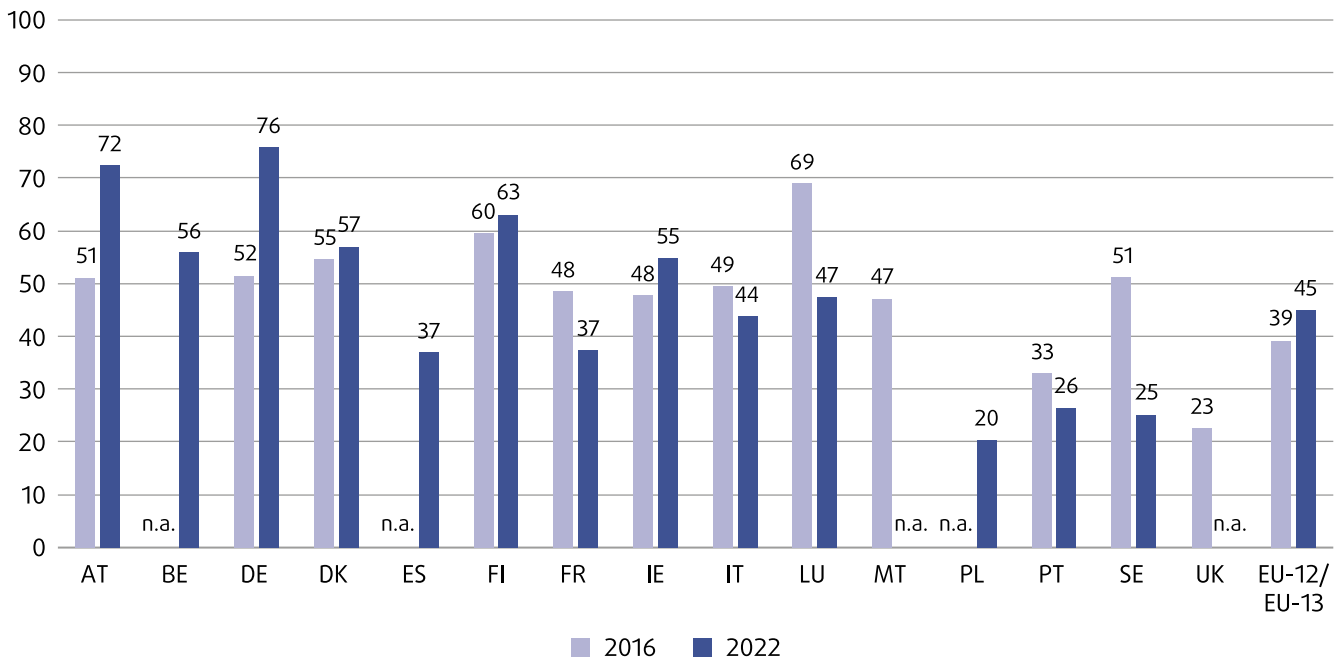


Sources: FRA's EU-MIDIS II, 2016; FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who had engaged in activities in the areas of life asked about in the survey in the 12 months before the survey ($n_{2022} = 6\,366$; $n_{2016} = 5\,793$); weighted results.
- ^b 2022 FRA survey question: 'In the past 12 months in the country, have you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Skin colour; ethnic or immigrant background; religion or religious beliefs.' 2016 FRA survey question: '[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.'
- ^c Areas of life asked about in the survey are looking for work, being at work, education (as a student or as a parent), health, housing, and accessing administrative offices or public services, or other services, such as restaurants and bars, public transport and shops.
- ^d n.a., not available.

FIGURE 9: PREVALENCE OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY COUNTRY AND SURVEY YEAR (%)^{a,b,c,d}



Sources: FRA's EU-MIDIS II, 2016; FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

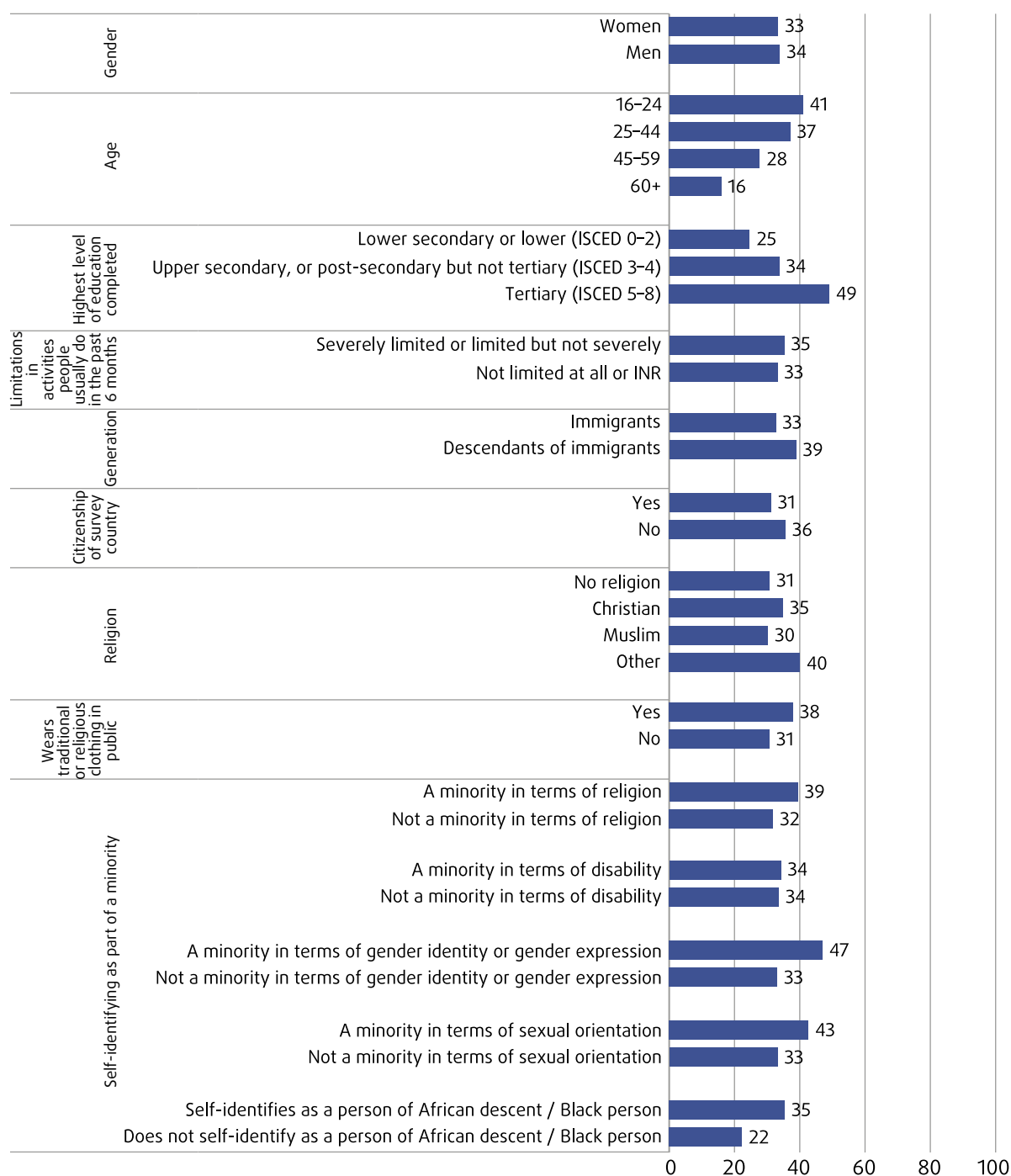
▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who had engaged in activities in the areas of life asked about in the survey in the 5 years before the survey ($n_{2022} = 6\,547$, $n_{2016} = 5\,788$); weighted results.
- ^b 2022 FRA survey question: 'In the past 5 years in the country (or since you have been in [country]), have you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Skin colour; ethnic or immigrant background; religion or religious beliefs.' 2016 FRA survey question: '[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.'
- ^c Areas of life asked about in the survey are looking for work, at work, education (as a student or as a parent), health, housing, and accessing administrative offices and other public or public services, or other services, such as restaurants and bars, public transport and shops.
- ^d n.a., not available.

Breaking down the overall 12-month prevalence of racial discrimination shows a similar pattern to the overall prevalence of discrimination on any ground (Figure 10). High rates of racial discrimination are observed among young people and people with a high level of education. High rates are also seen among people who wear traditional or religious clothing in public, who identify as belonging to a minority in terms of gender identity or gender expression, who identify as belonging to a minority in terms of sexual orientation or who describe themselves as a person of African descent or as a Black person⁽¹⁶⁾.

41 % of 16- to 24-year-olds in the 13 EU Member States surveyed experienced racial discrimination in the year before the survey, compared with 16 % of respondents aged 60 years or over. Among people with tertiary education and those who consider themselves to be part of a minority in terms of gender identity, almost half (49 % and 47 %, respectively) felt discriminated against on at least one of the three grounds concerned (skin colour, ethnic or immigrant background and religion). By contrast, 25 % of people with no more than lower secondary education and 33 % of people who do not consider themselves to be part of a minority in terms of gender identity or expression felt racially discriminated against.

FIGURE 10: PREVALENCE OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN THE 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY SELECTED SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS (%)^{a,b,c,d,e}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who had engaged in activities in the areas of life asked about in the survey in the 12 months before the survey (n = 6 366); weighted results.
- ^b ISCED 0-2 includes those who have never been in formal education or who did not complete primary education, those in primary education and those in lower secondary education. ISCED 3-4 includes those in upper secondary education, vocational training, post-secondary non-tertiary education, and all types of vocational training completed abroad corresponding to ISCED 35, 45 and 55 (hence, the proportion of respondents in ISCED 3-4 among respondents of African descent may be slightly overestimated compared with the general population). ISCED 5-8 includes short-cycle tertiary education, bachelor's level or equivalent education, master's level or equivalent education and doctorate or equivalent education.
- ^c Question: 'In the past 12 months in the country, have you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Skin colour; ethnic or immigrant background; religion or religious beliefs.'
- ^d Areas of life asked about in the survey are looking for work, being at work, education (as a student or as a parent), health, housing, and accessing administrative offices or public services, or other services, such as restaurants and bars, public transport and shops.
- ^e INR, item non-response.

Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who had engaged in activities in the areas of life asked about in the survey in the 12 months before the survey (n = 6 366) and in the 5 years before the survey (n = 6 547); weighted results, sorted by 12-month rate.
- ^b Question: 'In the past 12 months[5 years] in the country (or since you have been in [country]), have you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Skin colour; ethnic or immigrant background; religion or religious beliefs.'
- ^c Areas of life asked about in the survey are looking for work, being at work, education (as a student or as a parent), health, housing, and accessing administrative offices or public services, or other services, such as restaurants and bars, public transport and shops.

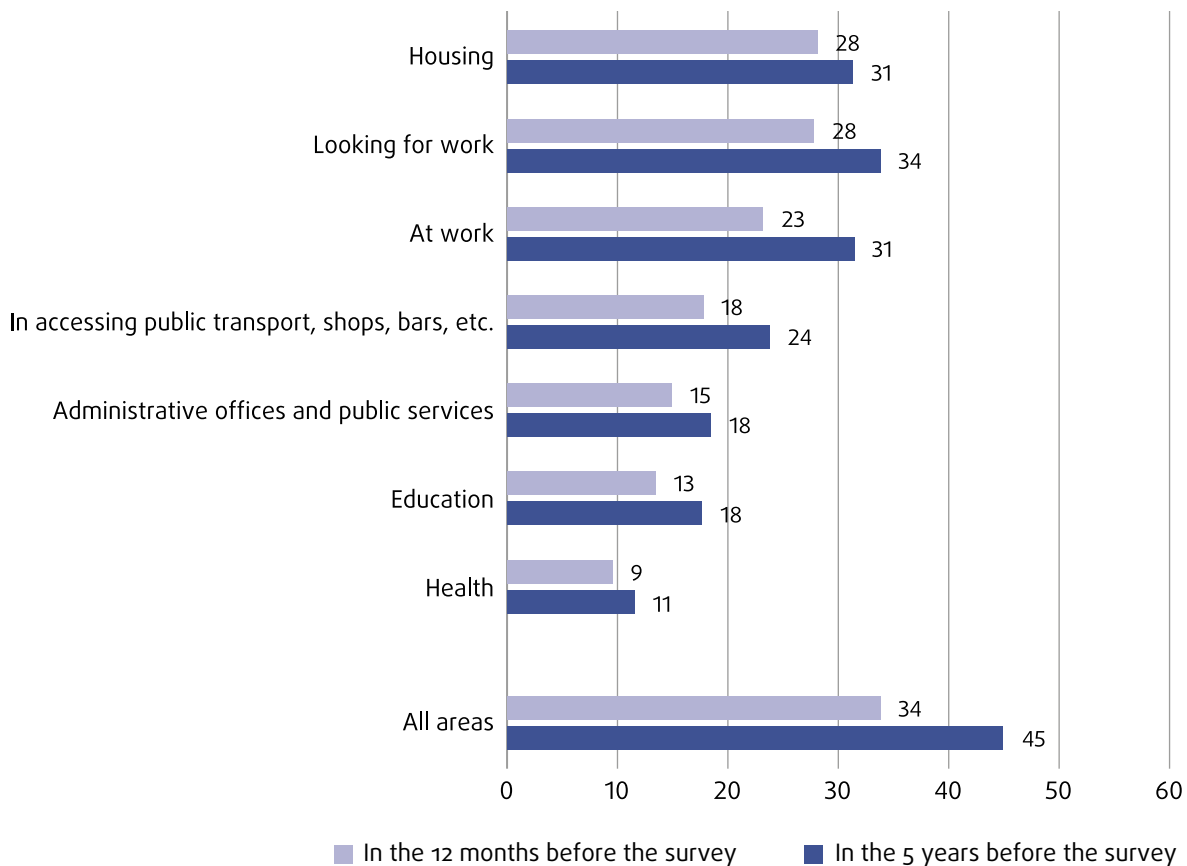
1.1.5. Prevalence of racial discrimination in different areas of life

This section considers the prevalence of racial discrimination (including that based on skin colour, ethnic or immigrant background and religion or religious beliefs) in the areas of life the survey covers.

As EU-MIDIS II also found, people of African descent experience racial discrimination in all areas of life (Figure 11). The highest rates were in the areas of employment (including when looking for a job and on the job) and housing, and when in public spaces, using public transport or entering bars, shops or restaurants. For example, out of all respondents who looked for work in the year preceding the survey, every fourth respondent felt racially discriminated against when looking for work (28 %) or at work (23 %).

Overall, the level of racial discrimination has substantially increased across all areas of life compared with the findings of the 2018 *Being Black in the EU* report. For example, the 12-month prevalence increased by 22 percentage points in accessing housing, by 18 percentage points in looking for work, by 14 percentage points at work and by 9 percentage points in education.

FIGURE 11: PREVALENCE OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN KEY AREAS OF LIFE IN THE 12 MONTHS AND THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY (%)^{a,b,c}

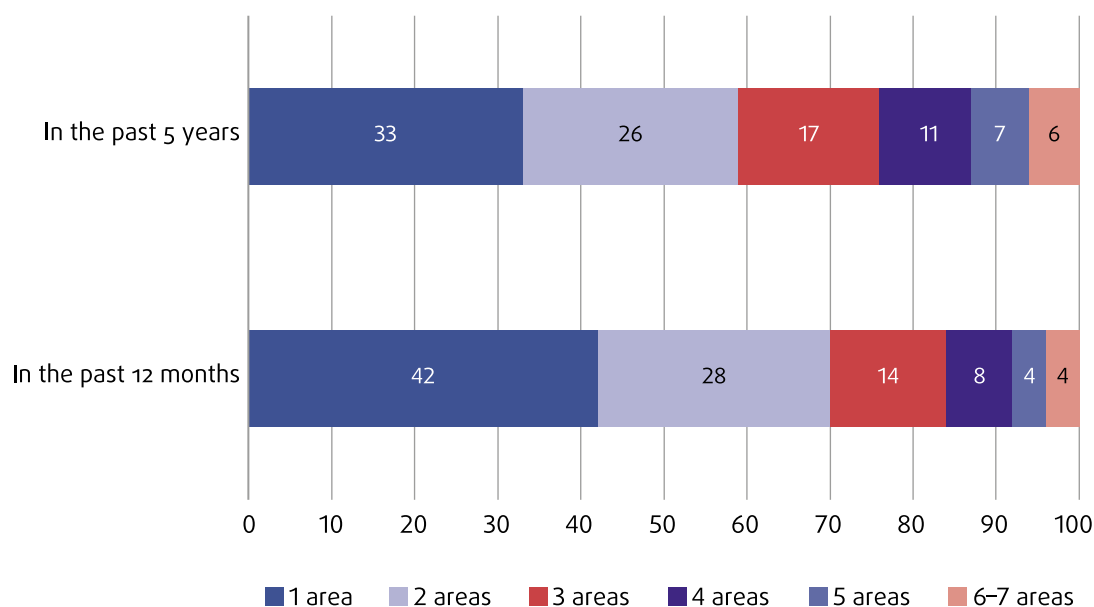


Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

The survey results show that racial discrimination may be amplified in certain institutional settings, such as education, the labour market and housing. This becomes particularly visible from studying the connections between respondents' experiences of racial discrimination in different areas of life.

Out of all respondents of African descent who had felt discriminated against in the 5 years preceding the survey, around two thirds (67 %) experienced racial discrimination in more than one area of life, with no significant differences between women and men (Figure 12). One in four respondents (26 %) who perceived that they were victims of discrimination say that it occurred in two areas of life, and another 17 % say that it took place in three areas of life for the same period. The results for the year preceding the survey show a similar trend: more than half of respondents (58 %) who felt racially discriminated against experienced this in more than one area of public life.

FIGURE 12: NUMBER OF AREAS IN WHICH RESPONDENTS FELT RACIALLY DISCRIMINATED AGAINST IN THE 12 MONTHS AND THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY (%)^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

The survey findings indicate that respondents of African descent often experience racial discrimination in multiple areas of public life. Racial discrimination is neither a once-in-a-lifetime experience (see Section 1.1.2) nor limited to a single area of life. The results indicate the cumulative and intergenerational nature of racial discrimination. Experiences of racial discrimination overlap in different areas of life, and across generations, in multiple institutional settings.

Experiences of racial discrimination in separate areas of life covered by the survey are discussed in more detail below.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who felt discriminated against in the 12 months before the survey (n = 2 377) and in the 5 years before the survey (n = 3 081); weighted results.
- ^b Question: 'In the past 12 months [/5 years] in the country (or since you have been in [country]), have you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Skin colour; ethnic or immigrant background; religion or religious beliefs.'
- ^c Areas of life asked about in the survey are looking for work, being at work, education (as a student or as a parent), health, housing, and accessing administrative offices or public services, or other services, such as restaurants and bars, public transport and shops.



Employment

Overall, about every third respondent (34 %) felt racially discriminated against **when looking for work** in the 5 years before the survey in 13 EU Member States, with the highest prevalence in Austria (59 %), Germany (56 %) and Finland (53 %). In these countries, more than half of respondents of African descent experienced racial discrimination (**Figure 13**).

The overall 12-month prevalence of racial discrimination is 28 %, with the highest rates in Italy (49 %), Germany (48 %), Austria (48 %) and Finland (46 %).

On average, there are no substantial differences in experiences between women (28 %) and men (27 %).

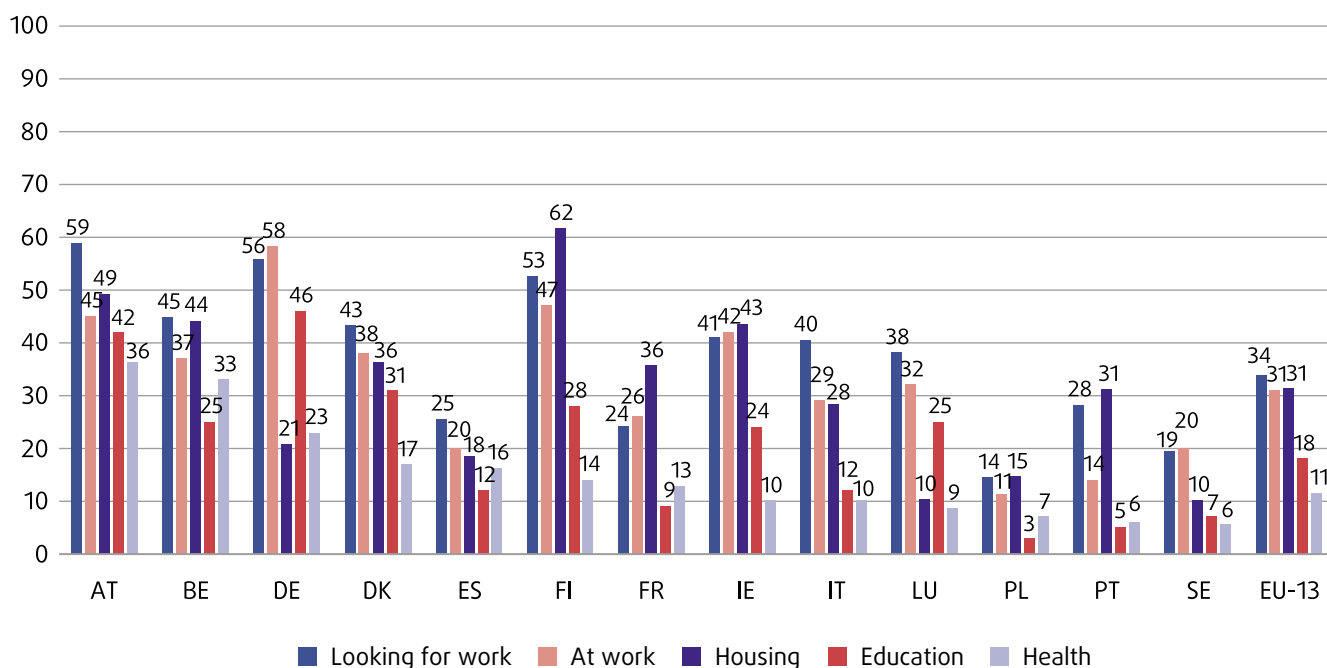
Overall, almost every third respondent (31 %) felt racially discriminated against **at work** in the 5 years before the survey, and 23 % did so in the year preceding the survey. The highest proportions of respondents with experience of racial discrimination in the previous 12 months were in Germany (46 %), Finland (40 %) and Austria (39 %).

On average, the prevalence of racial discrimination at work does not substantially differ between women and men, although such differences appear at the country level. More women than men felt racially discriminated against at work in Denmark (34 % compared with 20 %) and France (22 % compared with 14 %). The opposite is observed in Italy (20 % for men and 8 % for women), Portugal (17 % compared with 11 %) and Spain (18 % compared with 9 %).

Respondents who have completed higher levels of education experience racial discrimination at work more often than those with a lower level of education: 16 % of those with no education or with at most lower secondary education (ISCED 0–2) experience it and 31 % of those with tertiary education (ISCED 5–8) do so. Age, citizenship and language proficiency do not appear to influence respondents' perceptions of racial discrimination when at work.

Considered over time, the findings of the 2022 survey show increased rates of racial discrimination in employment, both when looking for work and when at work. The overall 5-year prevalence of racial discrimination when looking for work based on data from the 12 EU Member States surveyed in 2016 was 25 % and had increased by 9 percentage points by 2022 (34 %), based on the 13 countries surveyed. Similarly, the overall 5-year prevalence of racial discrimination at work was 24 % in the 12 EU Member States surveyed in 2016 and reached 31 % in 2022.

FIGURE 13: PREVALENCE OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN DIFFERENT AREAS OF LIFE IN THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

Housing

31 % of respondents of African descent indicate that they experienced racial discrimination when trying to rent or buy an apartment or a house in the 5 years preceding the survey (Figure 13). This is higher than in 2016 (21 %). The highest prevalence of racial discrimination was in Finland (62 %), Austria (49 %), Belgium (44 %) and Ireland (43 %).

More men (36 %) than women (26 %) felt discriminated against in accessing housing in the 5 years preceding the survey. Discrimination is highest among young people aged 16–24 years, at 43 %. It decreases by age, reducing to 22 % among respondents aged 60 years or over. Discrimination rates are higher for descendants of immigrants than for immigrants (43 % and 35 %, respectively).

Differences emerge between those who wear traditional or religious clothing in public and those who do not (37 % compared with 26 %), and between respondents who see themselves as a member of a minority and those who do not. Overall, no differences in the 5-year prevalence of racial discrimination in housing are observed based on the household's ability to make ends meet. The rate is the same for both those who faced difficulties or great difficulties in making ends meet (33 %) and those who do not face such difficulties (31 %).

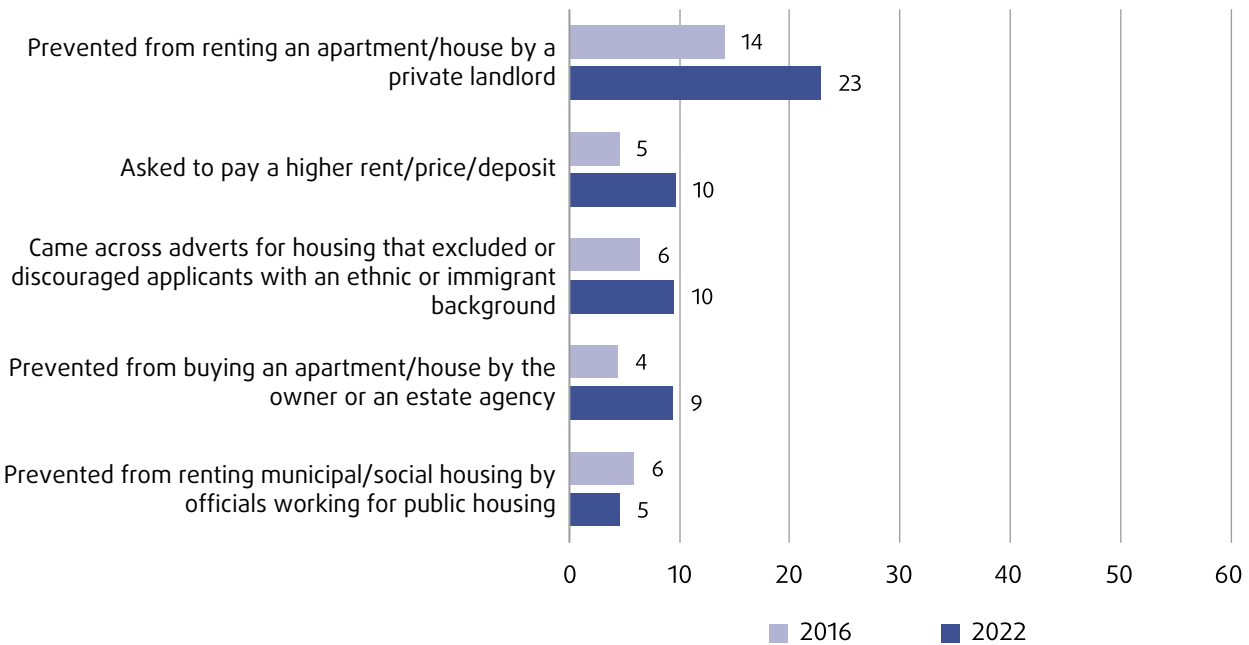
The findings vary across the countries. The biggest differences in the 5-year prevalence of racial discrimination in access to housing between those who faced (great) difficulties in making ends meet and those who did so (fairly or very) easily are in Italy (57 % compared with 30 %), Finland (57 % compared with 34 %), Spain (43 % compared with 20 %), Austria (63 % compared with 46 %) and Germany (74 % compared with 60 %).

Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who had engaged in activities in the areas of life asked about in the survey in the 5 years before the survey (n = 6 547); looking for work, n = 4 103; at work, n = 4 734; trying to rent or buy an apartment or a house, n = 3 137; in contact with educational facilities as a parent/guardian or as a student, n = 3 979; using healthcare services, n = 5 674.
- ^b Question: 'In the past 5 years in the country (or since you have been in [country]), have you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons? Skin colour; ethnic or immigrant background; religion or religious beliefs.'
- ^c Areas of life asked about in the survey are looking for work, being at work, education (as a student or as a parent), health, housing, and accessing administrative offices or public services, or other services, such as restaurants and bars, public transport and shops.

Respondents experience discriminatory practices more often when dealing with private landlords than when dealing with public housing authorities (Figure 14). One in 10 respondents (10 %) came across adverts for housing that excluded or discouraged those with an ethnic or immigrant background from applying. This is a slight increase from 2016. Moreover, 1 in 10 respondents (10 %) say that they were asked to pay more for housing due to their racial or ethnic background, which is twice the proportion in 2016.

FIGURE 14: RESPONDENTS' EXPERIENCES OF SPECIFIC DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES WHEN LOOKING FOR HOUSING IN THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY SURVEY YEAR (%)^{a,b}



Sources: FRA's EU-MIDIS II, 2016; FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

^a Out of all respondents of African descent who said that they tried to rent or buy an apartment or house in the 5 years before the survey ($n_{2016} = 2\,534$, $n_{2022} = 3\,129$); weighted results; sorted by category '2022'.

^b 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?'

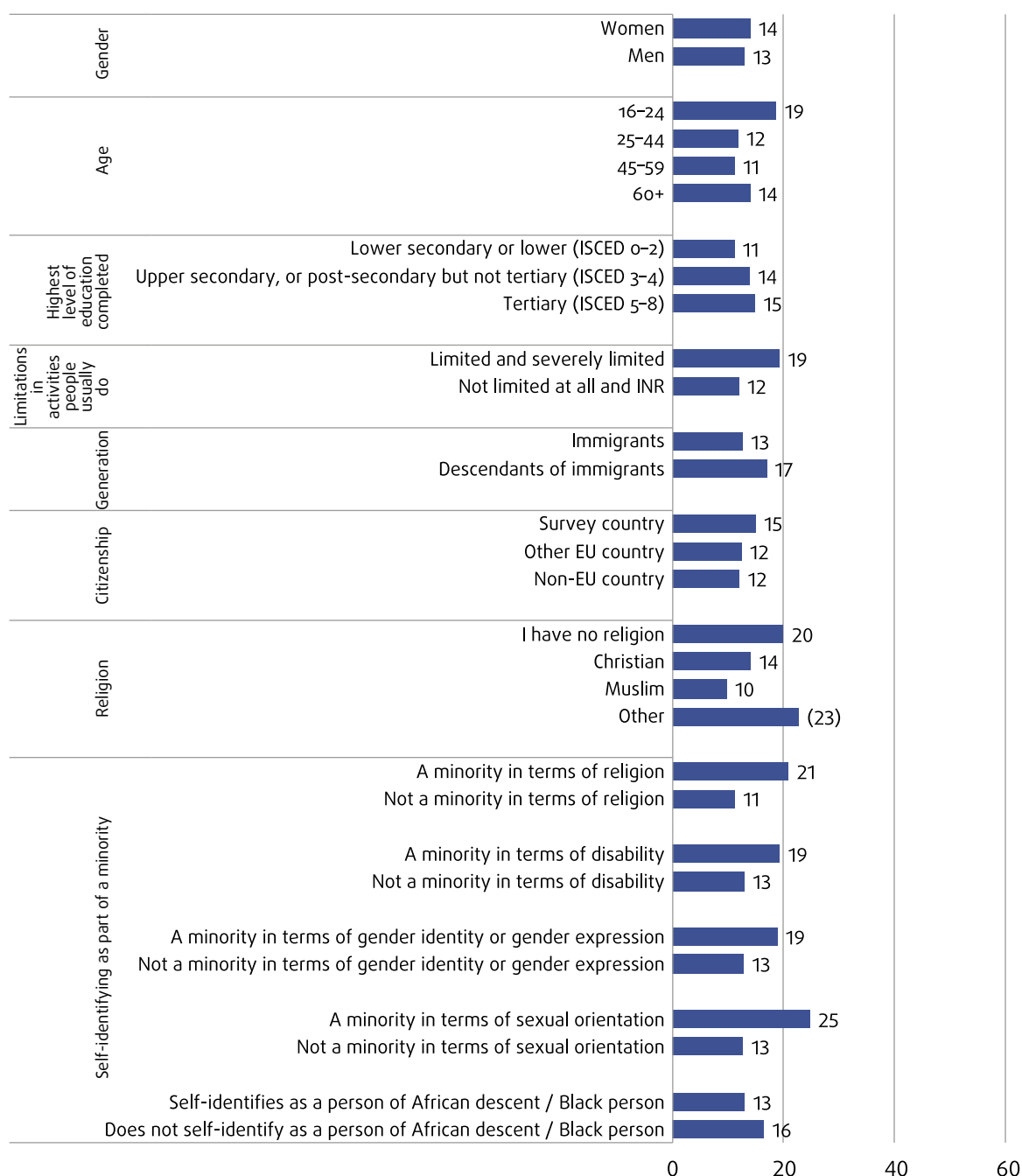
Education

Overall, about one in five respondents (18 %) who were in contact with educational facilities felt racially discriminated against in such settings in the 5 years before the survey. About one in eight respondents (13 %) felt the same in the year preceding the survey. For the more recent experiences (12 months before the survey), the largest proportions are in Germany (37 %) and Austria (32 %), and the lowest are in Poland and Portugal (2 % in both).

Considered over time, the 2022 survey shows higher rates of racial discrimination in education. For example, the overall 5-year prevalence of racial discrimination in education based on data from 12 EU Member States surveyed in 2016 was 9 %, compared with an overall rate based on data from the 13 countries surveyed in 2022 of 18 %. In Austria and Denmark, women are twice as likely as men to experience racial discrimination in education (42 % of women compared with 22 % of men in Austria, and 28 % of women compared with 15 % of men in Denmark).

Younger respondents (aged 16–24) face racial discrimination slightly more often (19 %) than those above 25 years of age (12 %). Respondents of African descent who self-identify as a member of a minority in terms of religion, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation face discrimination in education more often than those not self-identifying so (Figure 15).

FIGURE 15: PREVALENCE OF PERCEIVED RACIAL DISCRIMINATION WHEN IN CONTACT WITH SCHOOL AUTHORITIES (AS A PARENT/GUARDIAN OR AS A STUDENT) IN THE 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY SELECTED SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS (%)^{a,b,c,d}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Therefore, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total are noted in parentheses.

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who were in contact with educational facilities as a parent/guardian or as a student in the 12 months before the survey (n = 3 481); weighted results.
- ^b ISCED 0-2 includes those who have never been in formal education or who did not complete primary education, those in primary education and those in lower secondary education. ISCED 3-4 includes those in upper secondary education, vocational training, post-secondary non-tertiary education, and all types of vocational training completed abroad corresponding to ISCED 35, 45 and 55 (hence, the proportion of respondents in ISCED 3-4 among respondents of African descent may be slightly overestimated compared with the general population). ISCED 5-8 includes short-cycle tertiary education, bachelor's level or equivalent education, master's level or equivalent education and doctorate or equivalent education.
- ^c Question: 'When in contact with anyone from school/college/university(s) either as a parent/guardian or as a student in the past 12 months, have you ever felt discriminated against for any of the following reasons?' 'Skin colour', 'ethnic or immigrant background' and 'religion or religious beliefs'.
- ^d INR, item non-response.

Notes:

^a 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 = 1 773); weighted results.

^b 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?' 'Someone made offensive or threatening comments to your child or children in person such as insulting them or calling them names because of their ethnic or immigrant background'; 'Physical abuse (e.g. hitting, hair-pulling and kicking, etc.) because of their ethnic or immigrant background'; and 'Being excluded (isolated) at playtime or from social events or circles of friends because of their ethnic or immigrant background'.

The survey also asked parents or guardians of children of the national compulsory schooling age range if their children experienced any racist treatment at school in the 12 months preceding the survey. The acts it asked about included offensive or threatening comments made to the child or children in person, for example insulting them or calling them names; physical abuse (e.g. hitting, hair-pulling and kicking); and exclusion (isolation) at playtime or from social events or circles of friends because of their ethnic or immigrant background.

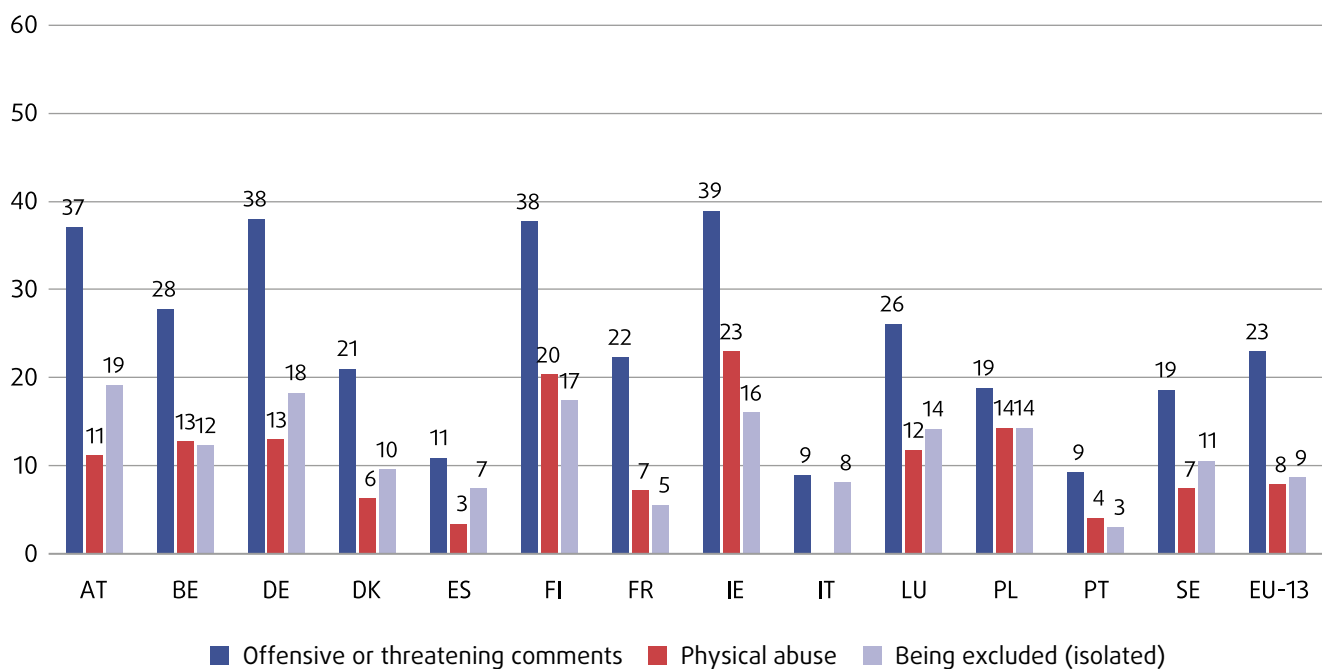
Overall, around every fourth respondent (23 %) indicated that someone made offensive or threatening comments to their child(ren) in person because of their ethnic or immigrant background (Figure 16). There were substantial variations between countries. Almost two out of five parents in Ireland (39 %), Germany and Finland (both 38 %) and Austria (37 %) disclosed such experiences.

On average, around every 10th parent/guardian (9 %) said that their children were isolated at playtime or from social events or circles of friends because of their ethnic or immigrant background. This phenomenon is observed most often in Austria (19 %), Germany (18 %), Finland (17 %) and Ireland (16 %).

8 % of parents of African descent mentioned physical abuse such as hitting, hair-pulling and kicking because of children's ethnic or immigrant background. The highest rates were in Ireland and Finland, where as many as 23 % and 20 % of parents, respectively, noted that their children had such experiences.

Considering changes over time, more respondents of African descent say that their children experienced racism at school in the 12 months preceding the survey than in 2016.

FIGURE 16: RACIST HARASSMENT EXPERIENCED BY RESPONDENTS' CHILDREN AT SCHOOL IN THE 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE SURVEY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.



Health

Every 10th respondent of African descent (9 %) felt racially discriminated against in the 12 months before the survey when accessing healthcare services, for example when seeing a doctor, nurse or dentist, or visiting a hospital, an emergency clinic or a medical centre. The overall 5-year prevalence is 11 %, with considerable differences among Member States (**Figure 13**). The highest 12-month prevalence of racial discrimination in access to healthcare is among respondents in Austria (28 %) and Germany (27 %), followed by respondents in Finland (18 %). The lowest rates are in France, Poland and Portugal (5 % in each).

Overall, the 12-month prevalence of racial discrimination in using healthcare services has increased since 2016 (9 % in 2022 compared with 3 % in 2016).

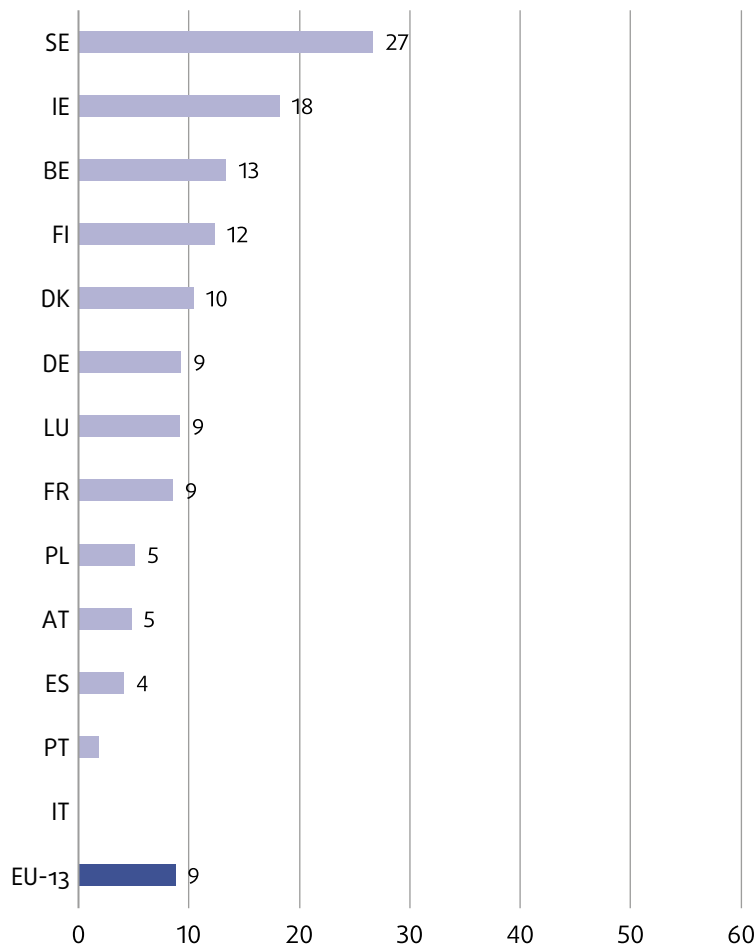
1.2. REPORTING DISCRIMINATION

The survey asked respondents who felt discriminated against whether they reported or filed a complaint about any incident of discrimination in the 12 months preceding the survey.

As in past survey rounds, most incidents of discrimination are not reported to any organisation or body and therefore remain largely invisible to institutions that have a legal obligation to provide support to victims.

Overall, only 9 % of those respondents who felt discriminated against in the 12 months preceding the survey reported the incident or made a complaint about it. There were substantial variations across the countries surveyed (**Figure 17**). The highest reporting rates are in Sweden (27 %) and the lowest are in Portugal (2 %) and Spain (4 %). In Italy, none of the respondents say that they reported an incident of discrimination. The results show no progress compared with 2016.

FIGURE 17: PREVALENCE OF REPORTING ANY INCIDENT OF DISCRIMINATION IN THE 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE SURVEY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

^a Out of all respondents of African descent who felt discriminated against on any ground in at least one of the areas of life asked about in the survey in the 12 months before the survey ($n = 2\,458$); weighted results.

^b Question: 'Did you report or make a complaint about any of these incidents?'

Overall, women of African descent tend to report incidents of discrimination more often than men (12 % compared with 6 %). Slightly higher reporting rates are also seen for older people than for younger people: 3 % of 16- to 24-year-olds, 10 % of 25- to 44-year-olds, 9 % of 45- to 59-year-olds and 14 % of those aged 60 years or over report incidents of discrimination.

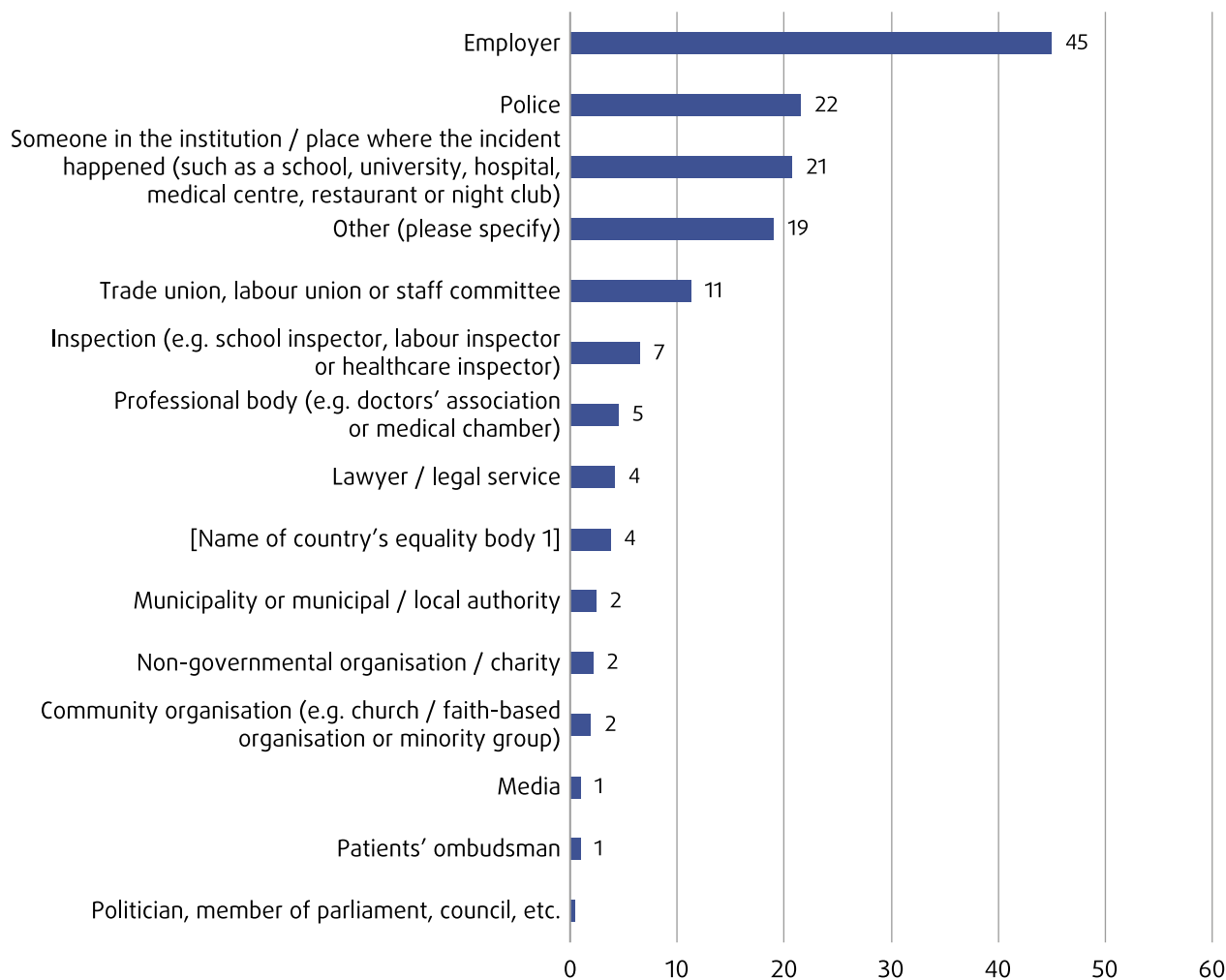
In addition, respondents with higher levels of education more often report experiencing discrimination than those with lower levels (6 % of those with ISCED 0-2, 11 % of those with ISCED 3-4 and 8 % of those with ISCED 5-8). People who identify as a member of a minority in terms of gender identity or gender expression are also more likely to report experiencing discrimination than those who do not (15 % compared with 9 %). Those who identify as belonging to a minority in terms of sexual orientation are also more likely to report incidents of discrimination than those who do not (13 % compared with 9 %).

Furthermore, respondents who identify as Christian are almost twice as likely as Muslim respondents to file a complaint or report incidents of discrimination (11 % compared with 6 %).

Of the very few respondents who reported an incident of discrimination in the year before the survey ($n = 239$), 45 % reported this to their employer (Figure 18) and 11 % to a trade union, labour union or staff committee. 22 % turned to the police, and 21 % complained to someone at the place where the

incident happened (such as a university, school or hospital). In total, like in the previous FRA survey, very few people filed a complaint with an equality body (4 %). In the questionnaire, the names of the countries' equality bodies were shown to respondents. The list of country-specific equality bodies is available in Annex IV to this report. Depending on the country, one to four bodies were mentioned.

FIGURE 18: REPORTING OF INCIDENTS OF DISCRIMINATION IN THE 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE SURVEY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

The most frequently cited reason for not reporting an incident of discrimination in the 12 months preceding the survey was 'nothing would happen or change by reporting it'. 40 % of respondents who felt discriminated against selected this response.

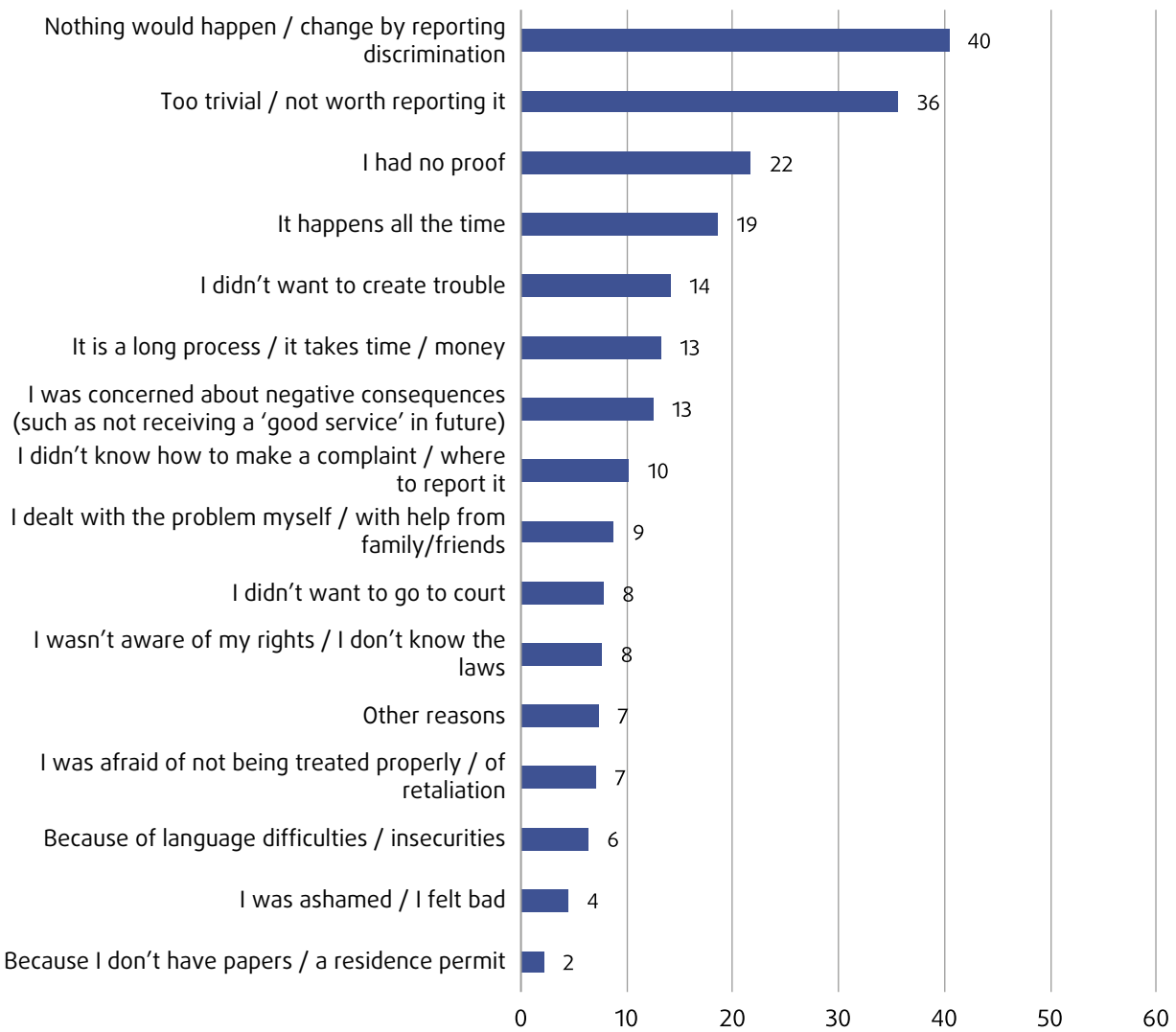
The next most common reason mentioned was that the incident was 'too trivial / not worth reporting'. 36 % of respondents mention this reason (Figure 19). Some 22 % say that they had no proof and another 19 % say that they did not report the incident because 'it happens all the time'. The results match the findings of FRA's first *Being Black in the EU* report and other FRA surveys and research that look more closely at the reasons for non-reporting (17).

▲ Notes:

^a Out of all respondents of African descent who felt discriminated against on any ground in at least one of the areas of life asked about in the survey in the 12 months before the survey and reported or made a complaint about any incident(s) to a person or institution (n = 239); weighted results.

^b Question: 'You mentioned that you reported or made a complaint about incident(s) of discrimination. Who did you report the incident(s) or make the complaint(s) to?'

FIGURE 19: REASONS FOR NOT REPORTING INCIDENTS OF DISCRIMINATION IN THE 12 MONTHS PRECEDING THE SURVEY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

^a Out of all respondents of African descent who felt discriminated against on any ground in at least one of the areas of life asked about in the survey in the 12 months before the survey and who did not report any incident(s) of discrimination (n = 2 458); weighted results.

^b Question: 'You mentioned that you did not report or make a complaint about the incident(s) of discrimination. Why did you not report the incident or make a complaint?'

1.3. AWARENESS OF SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS, EQUALITY BODIES AND ANTI-DISCRIMINATION LAWS

The survey asked respondents about their awareness of any organisations that offer support or advice to victims of discrimination on any ground. It also determines their specific knowledge of national equality bodies (see Table 3 in Annex IV) and their awareness of national anti-discrimination law using three specific survey questions.

On average, fewer than a third of respondents (29 %) are aware of any organisation that offers support or advice to discrimination victims in their country of residence. No progress has been made in this area since 2016. In only two countries – Poland and Sweden – are more than half of respondents of African descent aware of a specialised support organisation (56 % and 51 %, respectively). In the remaining 11 EU countries awareness levels are lower, ranging from 19 % in Spain to 37 % in Austria.

On average, more than half of respondents (56 %) in the 13 EU countries surveyed are not aware of any equality body in their country of residence. The remaining 44 % know of at least one equality body, with considerable variations between countries (see **Figure 20** below, and Table 3 in Annex IV, which lists the equality bodies presented to respondents in each survey country).

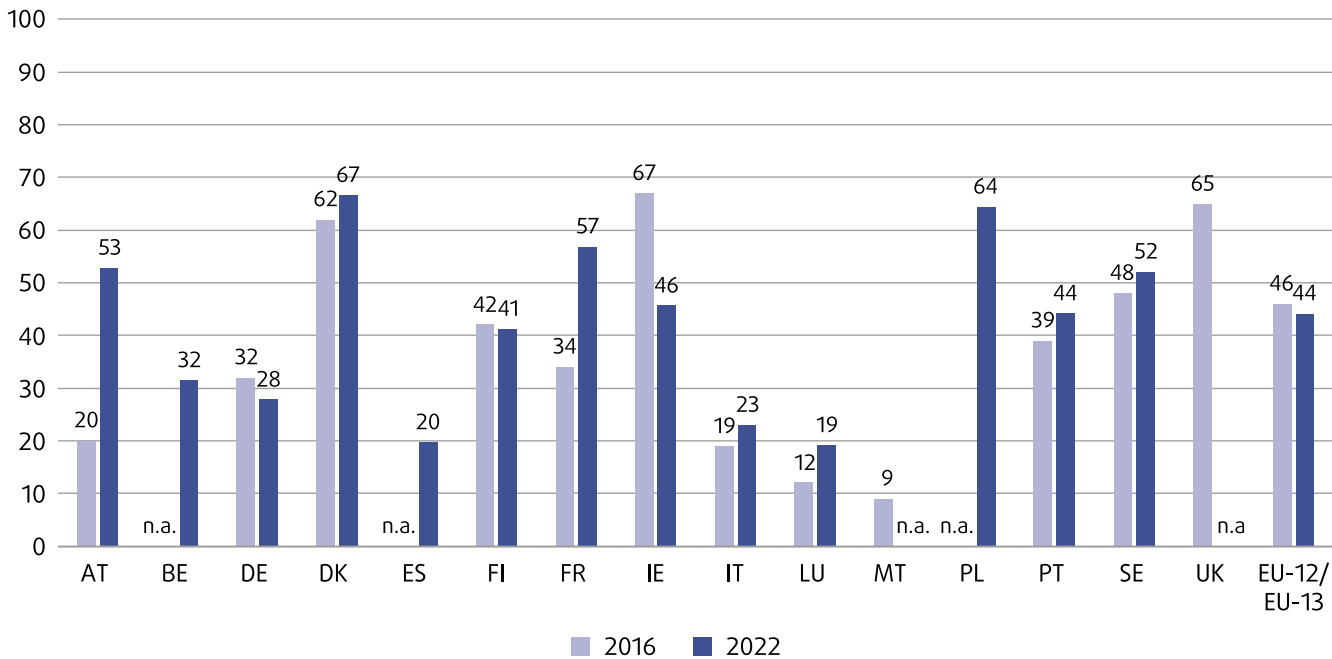
Awareness of equality bodies was highest in Denmark (67 %), Poland (64 %), France (57 %), Austria (53 %) and Sweden (52 %); the rates were lower in Luxembourg (19 %), Spain (20 %), Italy (23 %) and Germany (28 %). There is, however, no clear correlation between awareness of equality bodies and reporting rates. For example, while two thirds of respondents of African descent in Denmark (67 %) are aware of an equality body, only one in 10 respondents (10 %) who had felt discriminated against reported such incidents to any authority.

Furthermore, no major differences in awareness levels are observed between women and men (45 % compared with 43 %). However, awareness levels increase with age: 35 % of respondents aged 16–24 years, 43 % of respondents aged 25–44 years, 50 % of respondents aged 45–59 years and 55 % of respondents aged 60 years or over are aware of an equality body. Awareness levels also increase with educational level.

Legal corner

Article 13 of the racial equality directive stipulates that Member States should designate a body or bodies for the promotion of equal treatment of all persons without discrimination on the grounds of racial or ethnic origin. These bodies should provide independent assistance to victims, conduct independent surveys, publish independent reports and make recommendations.

FIGURE 20: AWARENESS OF AT LEAST ONE EQUALITY BODY, BY COUNTRY AND SURVEY YEAR (2016 AND 2022) (%)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA’s EU-MIDIS II, 2016; FRA’s EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent ($n_{2016} = 5\,803$, $n_{2022} = 6\,752$); weighted results.
- ^b Question: ‘Have you ever heard of the [name of equality body]?’
- ^c n.a., not available.

When asked about anti-discrimination legislation, the majority (75 %) of respondents know that ‘there is a law that forbids discrimination based on skin colour, ethnic origin or religion’ in the country where they live. However, results differ considerably across Member States, ranging from over 80 % in Denmark, France, Germany, Poland and Sweden to 34 % in Portugal and Spain and 25 % in Italy. There are no major differences in awareness levels with regard to respondents’ gender or age, but level of education and length of stay in the survey country improve respondents’ awareness of anti-discrimination legislation.

1.4. RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND TRUST IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

1.4.1. Trust in public institutions

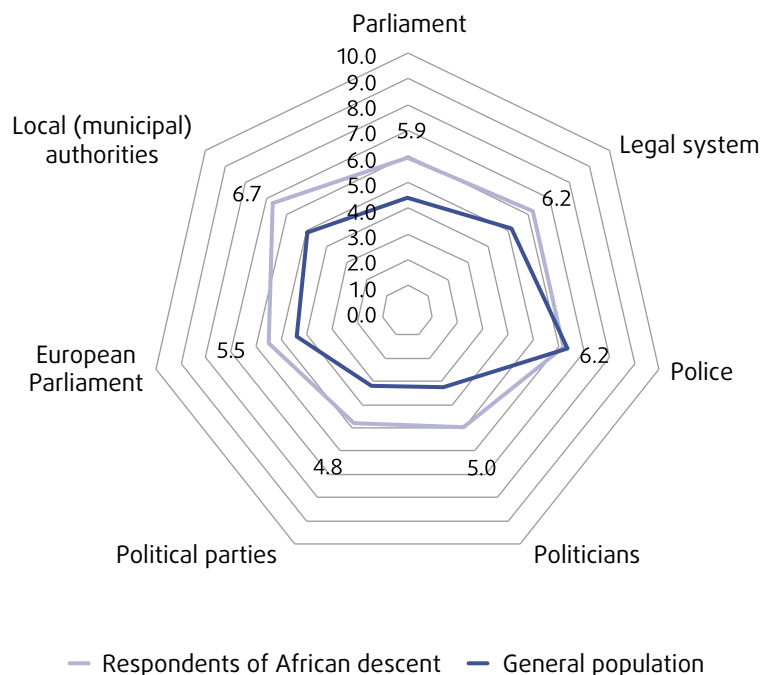
According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), public trust, defined as a person’s belief that another person or institution will act consistently with their expectations of positive behaviour, correlates with greater compliance with a range of public policies⁽¹⁸⁾. Such policies include public health responses. Public trust strengthens social cohesion by building institutional legitimacy⁽¹⁹⁾.

The survey asked respondents about their level of trust in public institutions using a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 stands for ‘no trust at all’ and 10 signifies ‘complete trust’. Public institutions included the national parliament, the country’s legal system, the police, national politicians, the country’s political parties, the European Parliament and local (municipal) authorities.

Overall, respondents of African descent have higher levels of trust in the listed public institutions than the general population. An exception is trust in the police, which is at a similar level among respondents of African descent to that of the general population (Figure 21). Like the EU-MIDIS II survey findings,

the highest level of trust is in local (municipal) authorities, with an average score of 6.7 out of 10. Trust in the legal system and the police is slightly lower, both with an average trust score of 6.2. Trust in national political parties and politicians is lowest, with average scores of 4.8 and 5.0, respectively.

FIGURE 21: TRUST IN INSTITUTIONS (AVERAGE VALUE ON A SCALE OF 0 TO 10)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA’s EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; European Social Survey European Research Infrastructure (ESS10).

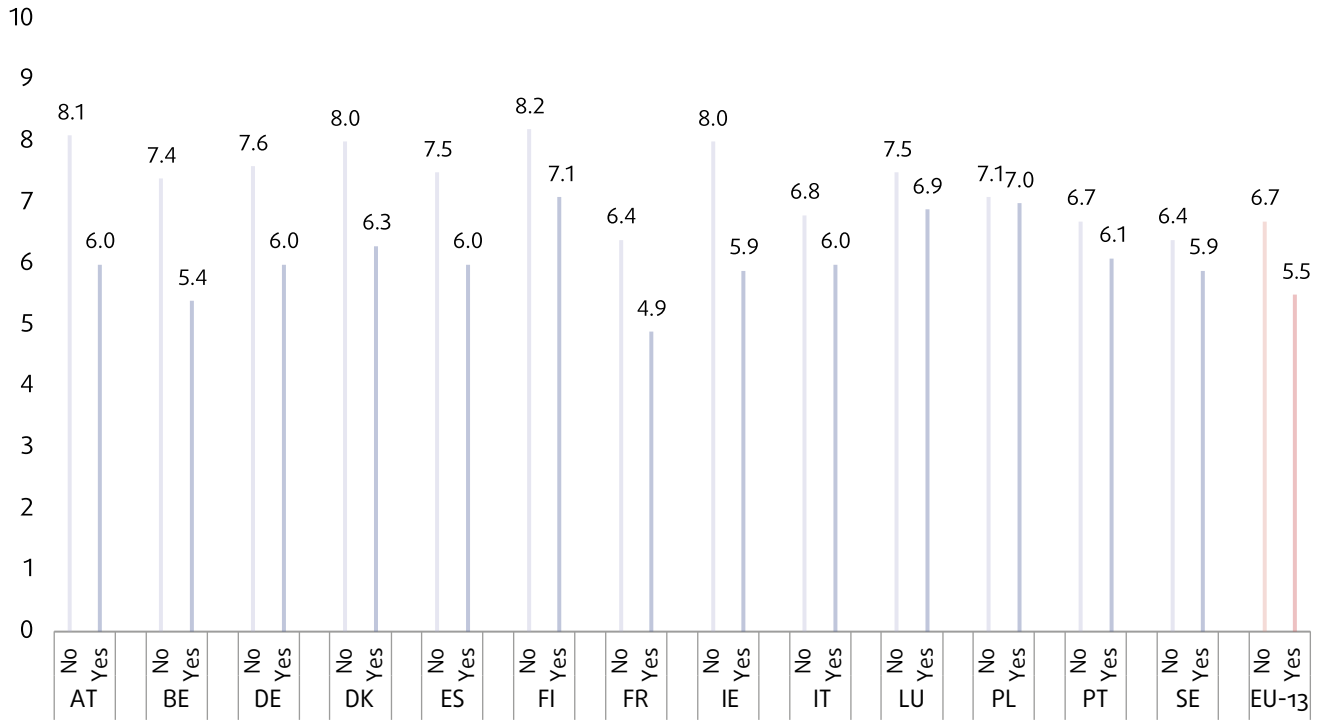
1.4.2. Racial discrimination reduces trust in public institutions

Like in EU-MIDIS II, the results of the 2022 survey show that experiences of racial discrimination substantially undermine trust in all public institutions, with the biggest negative effect on trust in the police, the legal system and local (municipal) authorities. Figure 22 presents the average levels of trust in the police both among respondents who felt racially discriminated against and among those who had not experienced racial discrimination. Respondents of African descent who experienced racial discrimination in the 5 years before the survey have a significantly lower level of trust in the police (with a score of 5.5 in terms of mean values on a scale of 0 to 10) than respondents who had not had such an experience (6.7). The average level of trust in the police is 1.2 points lower for respondents who felt racially discriminated against than for respondents who have not experienced racial discrimination.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 752); weighted results.
- ^b The general population data were taken from the European Social Survey European Research Infrastructure for 12 countries: Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Spain and Sweden (collected in 2021/2022; ESS10); data for Denmark were collected in 2018/2019 (ESS9) (n = 30 078); weighted results.
- ^c FRA survey question: ‘On a scale of 0–10, how much do you personally trust each of the following institutions [0 = no trust at all; 10 = complete trust]?’ European Social Survey question: ‘On a scale of 0–10 how much do you personally trust each of the following institutions [0 = no trust at all; 10 = complete trust]?’

FIGURE 22: RESPONDENTS' EXPERIENCES OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY AND AVERAGE LEVEL OF TRUST IN THE POLICE (AVERAGE VALUES ON A SCALE OF 0 TO 10), BY COUNTRY^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 752); weighted results.
- ^b Question: 'On a scale of 0–10, how much do you personally trust each of the following institutions [0 = no trust at all; 10 = complete trust]?'
- ^c On the horizontal axis, 'no' means no experiences of racial discrimination and 'yes' means experiences of racial discrimination.

Endnotes

- (¹) The EU rejects theories that suggest the existence of separate human races. The use of the term ‘racial origin’ does not imply the acceptance of such theories. See **Council Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin** (OJ L 180, 19.7.2000, p. 22). See also European Commission (2020), **Commission communication – A Union of equality: EU anti-racism action plan 2020–2025**, COM(2020) 565 final, p. 1.
- (²) Articles 2 and 10 of the Treaty on European Union and Articles 19 and 67(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.
- (³) **Council Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin** (OJ L 180, 19.7.2000, p. 22).
- (⁴) **Directive 2012/29/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2001/220/JHA** (OJ L 315, 14.11.2012, p. 57).
- (⁵) **European Parliament resolution of 26 March 2019 on fundamental rights of people of African descent in Europe (2018/2899(RSP)); European Parliament resolution of 19 June 2020 on the anti-racism protests following the death of George Floyd (2020/2685(RSP)); European Parliament resolution of 6 July on intersectional discrimination in the European Union: the socio-economic situation of women of African, Middle-Eastern, Latin-American and Asian descent (2021/2243(INI)); European Parliament resolution of 10 November 2022 on racial justice, non-discrimination and anti-racism in the EU (2022/2005(INI)).**
- (⁶) FRA (2023), **Fundamental Rights Report – 2023**, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, Chapter 4.
- (⁷) UN (n.d.), **‘World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, 31 August–7 September 2001, Durban’**.
- (⁸) UN (n.d.), **‘International Decade for People of African Descent – 2015–2024’**.
- (⁹) FRA (2022), **‘EU survey on immigrants and descendants of immigrants’**.
- (¹⁰) See Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) (2018), **A Human Rights-based Approach to Data**, Geneva; European Commission (2021), **Guidance note on the collection and use of equality data based on racial or ethnic origin**, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.
- (¹¹) See UN Women (2021), **Intersectionality Resource Guide and Toolkit – An intersectional approach to leave no one behind**.
- (¹²) FRA (2018), **Second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey – Being Black in the EU**, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.
- (¹³) Results for Sweden should be interpreted with caution; see the section ‘Survey in a nutshell’ and Annex I of this report for information on the potential impact of measures implemented to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on data collection and people’s everyday experiences.
- (¹⁴) Results for Sweden should be interpreted with caution; see the section ‘Survey in a nutshell’ for information on the potential impact of measures implemented to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on data collection and people’s everyday experiences.
- (¹⁵) See the section ‘Survey in a nutshell’ and Annex I of this report for information on the potential impact of measures implemented to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on data collection and people’s everyday experiences.
- (¹⁶) For more details on self-identification as ‘a person of African descent or a Black person’, see the section ‘Survey in a nutshell’ and Annex II of this report.
- (¹⁷) FRA (2017), **Second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey – Main results**, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg; FRA (2018), **Experiences and Perceptions of Antisemitism – Second survey on discrimination and hate crime against Jews in the EU**, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg; FRA (2020), **A Long Way to Go for LGBTI Equality**, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.
- (¹⁸) OECD (2017), **OECD Guidelines on Measuring Trust**, OECD Publishing, Paris.
- (¹⁹) OECD (n.d.), **‘Trust in government’**.

2

HATE CRIME: HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE

Legal corner

Article 2 of the **racial equality directive (Council Directive 2000/43/EC)** stipulates that harassment should be deemed discrimination when 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.

The 2008 council framework decision on racism and xenophobia (Council Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA) requires Member States to ensure that racist and xenophobic motivation is considered an aggravating circumstance. The decision also requires them to ensure that manifestations of racism and xenophobia, such as hate crime and hate speech, are punishable by effective, proportionate and dissuasive criminal penalties.

The **victims' rights directive (Directive 2012/29/EU)** provides a range of protections to victims of hate crime, including against repeat victimisation, intimidation and retaliation.



KEY FINDINGS

Racist harassment

- Nearly one in three respondents of African descent (30 %) say that they experienced racist harassment in the 5 years before the survey. There are considerable variations between EU Member States, ranging from 54 % of respondents in Germany and 52 % of respondents in Finland to 10 % of respondents in Portugal.
- One in four respondents (24 %) experienced racist harassment in the 12 months before the survey (27 % of women and 22 % of men).
- The results are similar to those of the 2016 survey.
- Racist harassment most commonly involves offensive non-verbal cues (19 %), offensive or threatening comments (15 %) and more rarely threats of violence (4 %).

- Overall, young respondents are more likely to experience racist harassment. For example, 31 % of 16- to 24-year-olds experienced it compared with 11 % of those aged 60 years and over.
- Women and men wearing traditional or religious clothing in public are more likely to experience racist harassment than those who do not wear such clothing in public (30 % compared with 21 %).
- 11 % of women of African descent who experienced racist harassment consider the most recent incident to be of a sexual nature.
- Only 12 % of the most recent incidents of racist harassment were reported to the police or other services (14 % of incidents against women and 10 % of incidents against men). The reporting rates for racist harassment remain at the same low level as in 2016.
- One in four respondents (23 %) who are parents or guardians say that their children experienced racist harassment/bullying at school. The highest rates are in Austria, Finland, Germany and Ireland, at almost 40 %. 8 % of parents/guardians say that their children experienced racist violence at school, with the highest levels in Ireland (23 %) and Finland (20 %).

Racist violence

- In the 5 years before the survey, some 4 % of respondents experienced racist violence. The highest rates are in Finland (11 %), Germany (9 %) and Denmark (8 %). Some 2 % of respondents experienced a physical attack that they perceive as racially motivated in the 12 months before the survey.
- The prevalence of racist violence experienced in the past 5 years is similar in the 2016 and 2022 surveys, at 5 %.
- There are no substantial differences in the overall prevalence of racist violence between women and men. However, respondents who wear traditional or religious clothing in public mention racist violence more frequently than those who do not (6 % compared with 3 %).
- Overall, over a third (36 %) of those who say that they experienced racist violence reported the most recent incident to an organisation or service, most commonly the police. The rates of reporting racist violence have not changed since 2016.

Impact of racist violence

- Most of those who say they experienced racist violence (61 %) suffered negative psychological consequences (e.g. depression or anxiety). A further 22 % were afraid to leave the house or visit places.

2.1. SCALE AND TYPES OF RACIST HARASSMENT

What did the survey ask?

The survey asked respondents about their experiences of five acts of harassment:

- offensive or threatening comments in person,
- threats of violence in person,
- offensive gestures or inappropriate staring,
- offensive or threatening emails or text messages (Short Messaging Service),
- offensive comments made about them online.

Harassment may involve various acts intended to intimidate or threaten the victim, or acts that lead the victim to feel intimidated or threatened even when this was not the conscious aim of the person responsible. The acts of harassment asked about in the survey may involve a single incident or repeated incidents experienced over a longer time, with the same or different perpetrators.

To qualify as harassment, the incident had to involve an action that the respondent found offensive or threatening. Harassment that respondents perceive as because of their skin colour, religion or ethnic origin is classed as racist harassment.

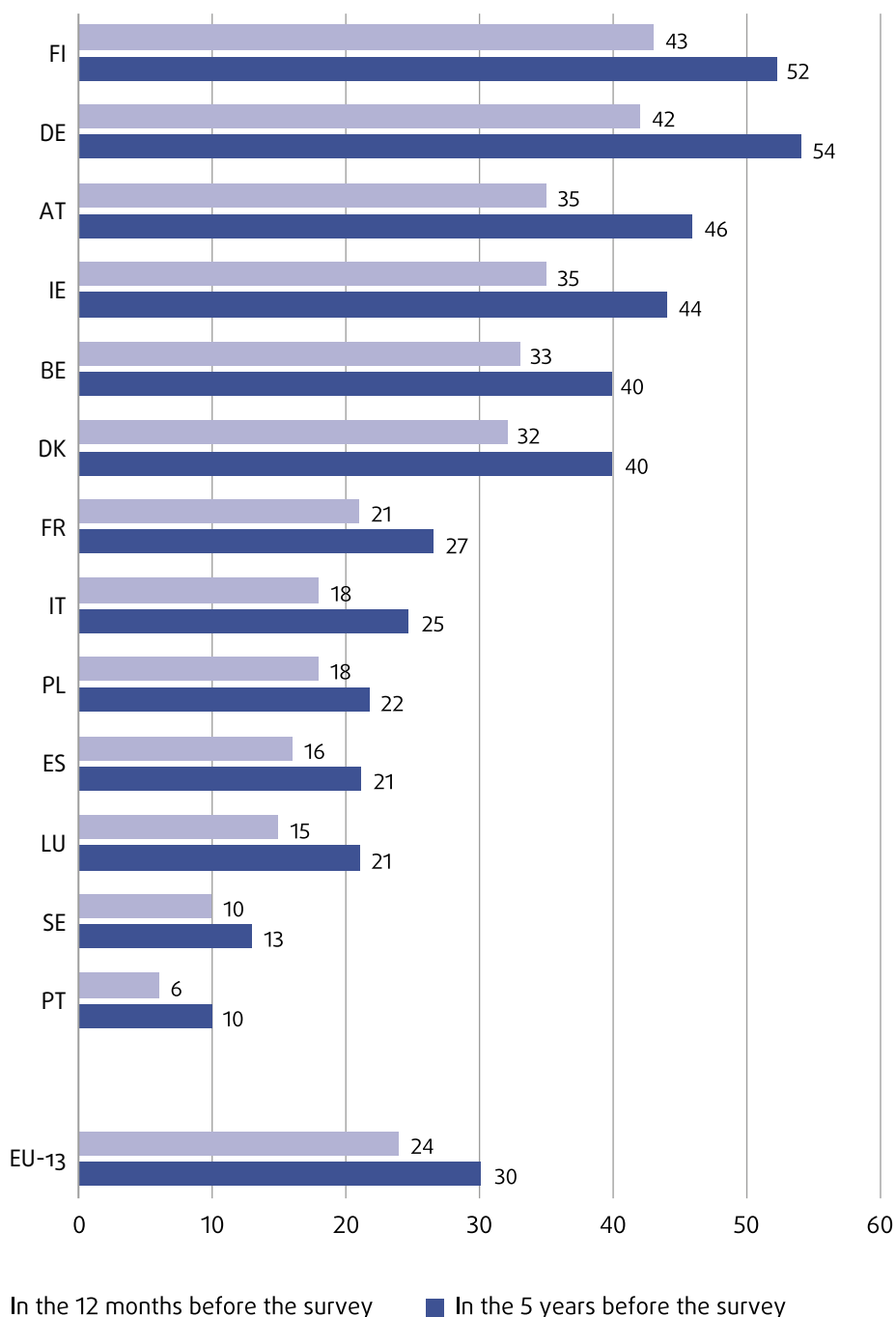
2.1.1. Prevalence of racist harassment

On average, nearly every second respondent of African descent (41 %) in the 5 years before the survey and every third (33 %) in the 12 months before the survey say that they experienced harassment on any ground.

Overall, almost one in three respondents of African descent (30 %) indicate that they experienced racist harassment in the 5 years before the survey, with substantial variations across Member States (**Figure 23**). The highest 5-year prevalence of racist harassment is in Germany (54 %) and Finland (52 %), where more than half of respondents experienced at least one act of racist harassment. Over 40 % of respondents in Austria (46 %) and Ireland (44 %) experienced racist harassment. The lowest rates are in Portugal (10 %) (*).

About one in four (24 %) respondents experienced at least one form of racist harassment in the year preceding the survey (**Figure 23**). Differences between countries in terms of the prevalence of racist harassment in the 12 months before the survey show similar patterns to the results for the 5 years before the survey, with the highest rates in Finland and Germany (43 % and 42 %, respectively), and the lowest in Portugal (6 %).

FIGURE 23: PREVALENCE OF RACIST HARASSMENT IN THE 12 MONTHS AND THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}



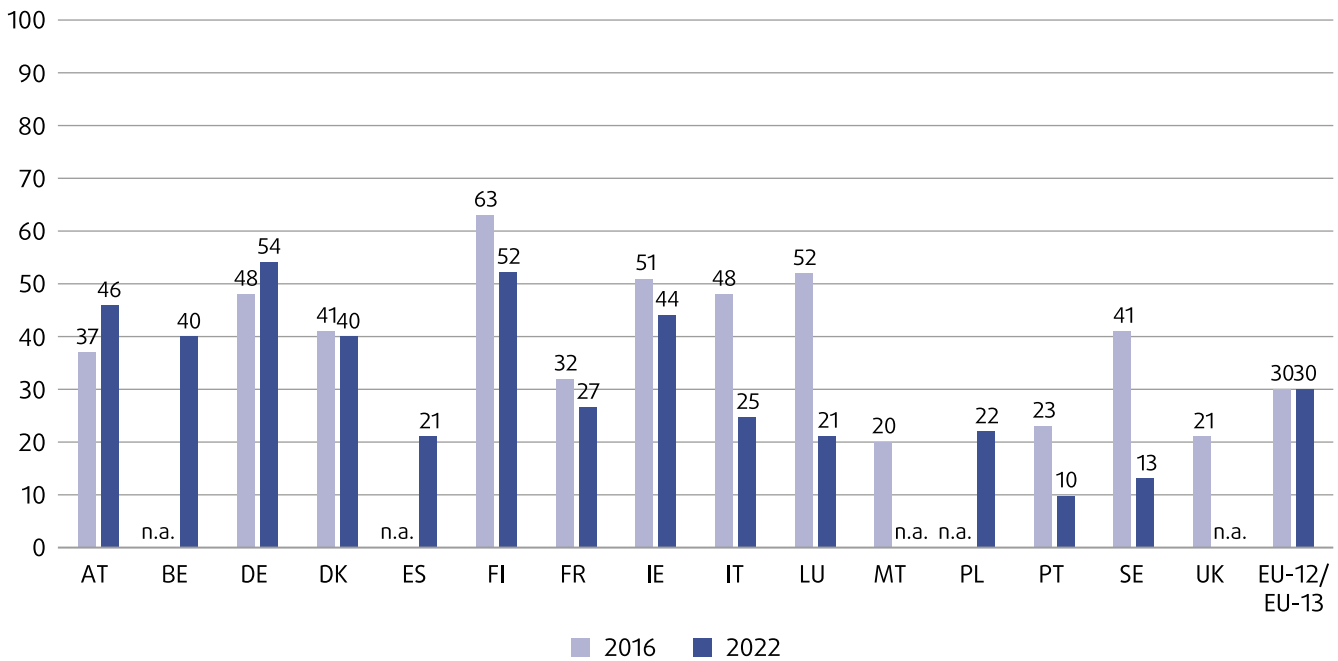
Source: FRA’s EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

The results of the 2022 survey are consistent with those of EU-MIDIS II in terms of the overall prevalence, scope and circumstances of racist harassment. However, there were some differences across the countries surveyed (Figure 24).

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 752); weighted results, sorted by the 12-month rate.
- ^b Questions: ‘In the past 5 years[/12 months] (or since you have been in [country]), has somebody done the following things [that is, each of the five types of harassment asked about in the survey] to you?’ and ‘Did this ever happen to you because of your ethnic or immigrant background?’

FIGURE 24: PREVALENCE OF RACIST HARASSMENT IN THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY COUNTRY AND SURVEY YEAR (2016 AND 2022) (%)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA’s EU-MIDIS II, 2016, and FRA’s EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent ($n_{2016} = 5\,803$, $n_{2022} = 6\,752$); weighted results.
- ^b Questions: ‘In the past 5 years (or since you have been in [country]), has somebody done the following things [that is, each of the five types of harassment asked about in the survey] to you?’ and ‘Did this ever happen to you because of your ethnic or immigrant background?’
- ^c n.a., not available.

2.1.2. Types and frequency of racist harassment

People of African descent can experience different types of racist harassment. Like the EU-MIDIS II findings, in-person incidents of racist harassment were the most common form mentioned in the 12 months before the 2022 survey (23 %). These included offensive gestures or inappropriate staring (19 %), offensive or threatening comments (15 %) and being threatened with violence (4 %). The respondents rarely say that they experienced online harassment (2 %), although the overwhelming majority had internet access and a smartphone (95 %).

Of those who experienced any racist harassment in the 12 months before the survey, the majority say that they experienced multiple incidents: 29 % say that they experienced a single incident, 46 % between two and five, and another 25 % six or more.

2.1.3. Prevalence of racist harassment by selected sociodemographic characteristics

Overall, 27 % of women and 22 % of men of African descent say that they experienced racist harassment in the 12 months before the survey (Figure 25). The prevalence was higher for younger respondents than for older respondents: almost a third (31 %) of 16- to 24-year-olds and 27 % of those between 25 and 44 years of age reported experiencing racist harassment, compared with 18 % of 45- to 59-year-olds and 11 % of those aged 60 years or over.

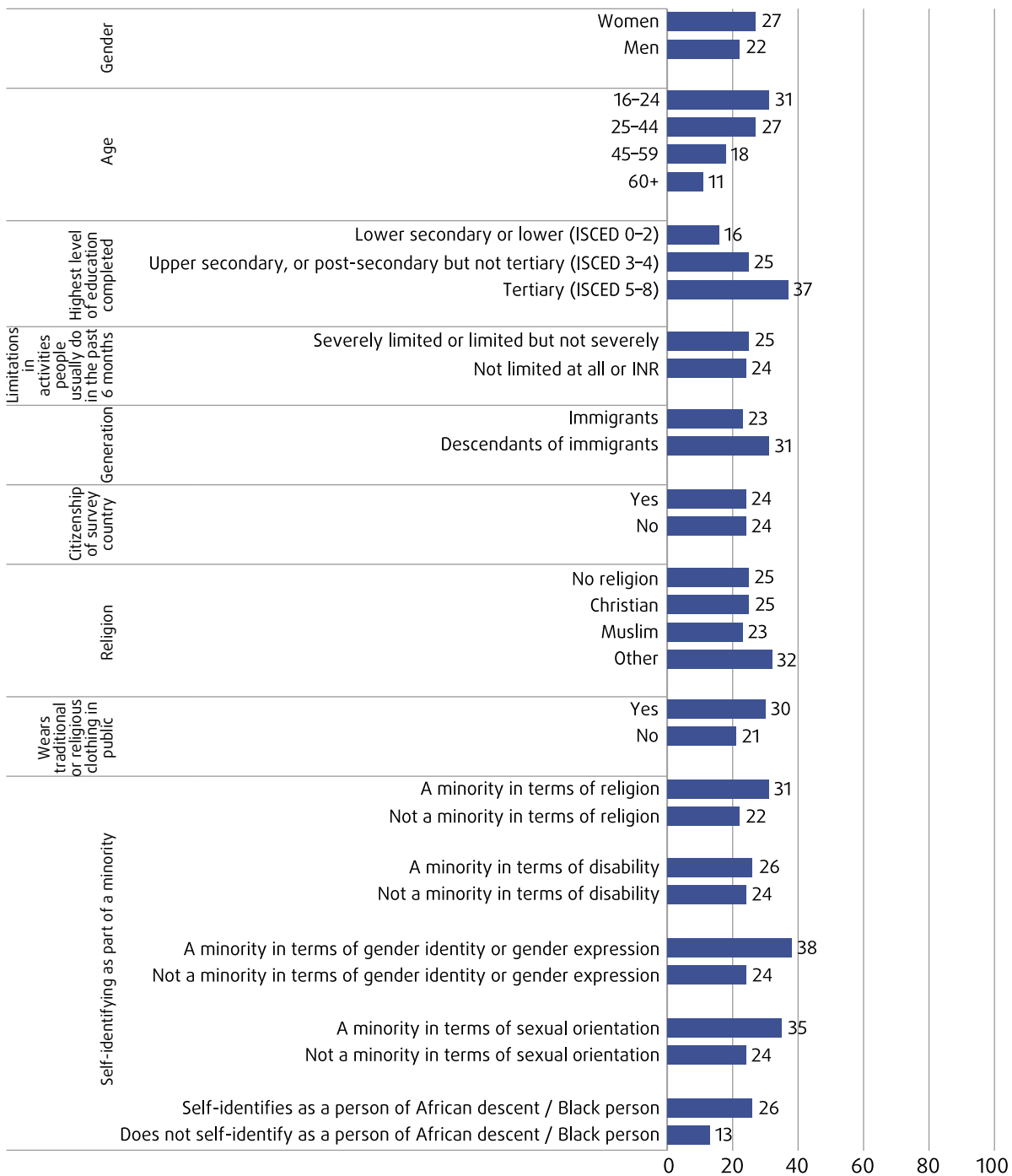
Differences in the 12-month prevalence of racist harassment are observed between respondents who wear traditional or religious clothing in public (including women who wear headscarves, hijabs or niqabs) and those who do not (30 % compared with 21 %) (Figure 25). The prevalence of racist harassment is higher for women who wear traditional or religious clothing in public than for men who do so (33 % compared with 26 %) (Figure 26).

Although the overall prevalence of racist harassment for respondents who identify as Christian (25 %) is similar to those who identify as Muslim (23 %), the prevalence is slightly higher for men who self-identify as Christian (35 %) than for those men who self-identify as Muslim (22 %). By contrast, the rate is the same for women who self-identify as Christian and as Muslim (33 % for both).

Results for sociodemographic characteristics show that the prevalence of racist harassment is higher for descendants of immigrants than for immigrants (31 % and 23 %, respectively) (Figure 25). However, the rate is higher among women who are descendants of immigrants than among men who are descendants of immigrants (38 % compared with 21 %) (Figure 26).

With respect to education, rates of racist harassment are higher among respondents who have completed more than upper secondary education: 37 % among respondents with tertiary education, compared with 25 % for those with upper secondary or post-secondary but not tertiary education and 16 % for those with no formal education or only primary education (Figure 25).

FIGURE 25: PREVALENCE OF RACIST HARASSMENT IN THE 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY SELECTED SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS (%)^{a,b,c,d}

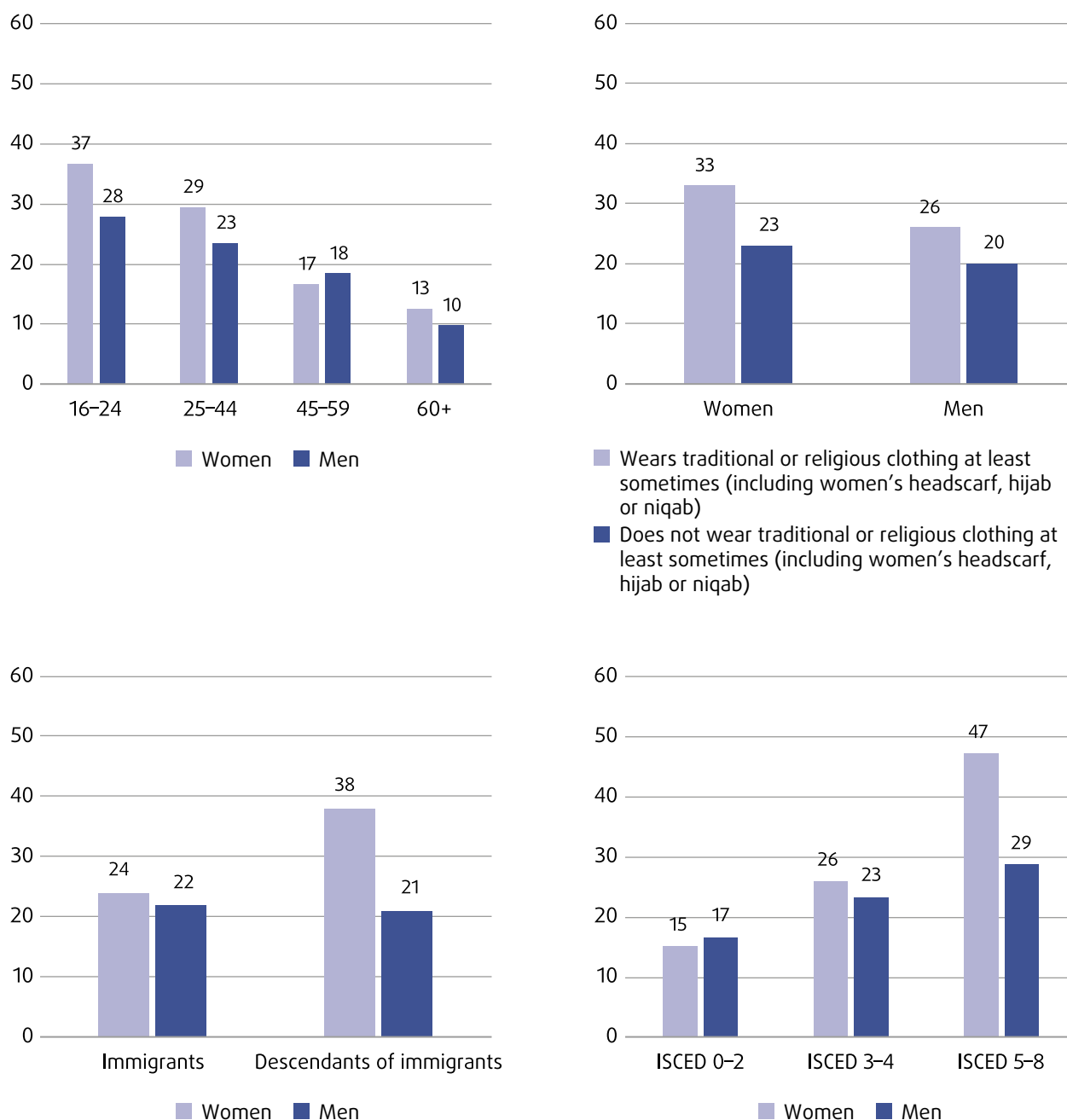


Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 752); weighted results.
- ^b ISCED 0-2 includes those who have never been in formal education or who did not complete primary education, those in primary education and those in lower secondary education. ISCED 3-4 includes those in upper secondary education, vocational training, post-secondary non-tertiary education, and all types of vocational training completed abroad corresponding to ISCED 35, 45 and 55 (hence, the proportion of respondents in ISCED 3-4 among respondents of African descent may be slightly overestimated compared with the general population). ISCED 5-8 includes short-cycle tertiary education, bachelor's level or equivalent education, master's level or equivalent education and doctorate or equivalent education.
- ^c Questions: 'In the past 12 months or since you have been in [survey country], has somebody done the following things [that is, each of the five types of harassment asked about in the survey] to you?' and 'Did this ever happen to you because of your ethnic or immigrant background?'
- ^d INR, item non-response.

FIGURE 26: PREVALENCE OF RACIST HARASSMENT AGAINST WOMEN AND MEN IN THE 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY AGE, WEARING OF TRADITIONAL OR RELIGIOUS CLOTHING, IMMIGRANT GENERATION AND EDUCATION (%)^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (women, n = 2 998; men, n = 3 741); weighted results.
- ^b ISCED 0-2 includes those who have never been in formal education or who did not complete primary education, those in primary education and those in lower secondary education. ISCED 3-4 includes those in upper secondary education, vocational training, post-secondary non-tertiary education, and all types of vocational training completed abroad corresponding to ISCED 35, 45 and 55 (hence, the proportion of respondents in ISCED 3-4 among respondents of African descent may be slightly overestimated compared with the general population). ISCED 5-8 includes short-cycle tertiary education, bachelor's level or equivalent education, master's level or equivalent education and doctorate or equivalent education.
- ^c Questions: 'In the past 12 months or since you have been in [survey country], has somebody done the following things [that is, each of the five types of harassment asked about in the survey] to you?' and 'Did this ever happen to you because of your ethnic or immigrant background?'

2.1.4. Perpetrators of racist harassment

Most of those who say that they experienced racist harassment (68 %) do not know the perpetrator, especially the younger age groups. Respondents could give details of the perpetrator, such as their perceived ethnic background. Respondents most often identified people from work or in their educational setting as perpetrators (i.e. someone at work/college or at university / in training) (16 %). Women more often than men (15 % compared with 7 %) identified neighbours as perpetrators. Some 5 % of respondents identified members of right-wing extremist / racist groups as perpetrators, while 4 % identified public officials and 3 % mentioned police officers or border guards.

In most instances (65 %), perpetrators of the most recent incident of racist harassment were described as not having an ethnic minority background. More than one in four victims (29 %) say that the perpetrators of the most recent incident had an ethnic minority background other than their own. Some 6 % of victims identified the perpetrators as having the same ethnic or immigrant background as theirs.

In most instances (59 %), a man or men were identified as the perpetrator or perpetrators of the most recent incident of racist harassment. In the remaining incidents, either a woman (or women) (19 %) or both a man and a woman (20 %) were involved. 49 % of women and 69 % of men identified a man (or men) as the perpetrator or perpetrators of the most recent racist incident. 26 % of women and 12 % of men identified a woman (or women) as the perpetrator or perpetrators of the most recent incident of racist harassment.

The survey also asked respondents whether the most recent incident of racist harassment was of a sexual nature. Every 10th woman who experienced racist harassment (11 %) characterised the most recent incident as sexual, in contrast to men, of whom only 1 % did.

Respondents say that more than half (53 %) of the most recent incidents of racist harassment took place in the street, on a square, or in a park, car park or another public place. Some 15 % of the incidents happened at respondents' work; 9 % in a shop, cafe, restaurant, pub or club; and 13 % at some other place.

2.1.5. Reporting racist harassment and reasons for not reporting

Competent authorities can only provide adequate support to victims, investigate incidents or refer victims to appropriate organisations when incidents are reported. Respondents who experienced racist harassment were asked if they had reported the incident, either to the police or to some other organisation. If not, respondents could indicate why not.

The majority of those who say that they experienced racist harassment (87 %) did not report the most recent incident to any authority or service. Nearly half of those who reported the most recent incident of racist harassment did so to the police (44 %), and 34 % mentioned reporting the incident to somebody at the place where it happened.

Among those who reported a racist harassment incident to the police, more were rather dissatisfied (76 %) than satisfied (24 %) with how the police handled the complaint.

Differences in the reporting rates between women (14 %) and men (10 %) are small, and the reasons for not reporting tend not to vary between women and men. There are differences in the levels of reporting racist harassment depending on the respondent's age: older respondents were more likely to report incidents than younger respondents. For example, 3 % of respondents

who were 16–24 years old, 15 % of respondents who were 25–44 years old and 22 % of respondents who were 60 years old or older reported the most recent incident of racist harassment to any institution.

Respondents who self-identify as Muslims tend to refrain from reporting more often than those of other religions or those without a religion (8 % compared with 14 %).

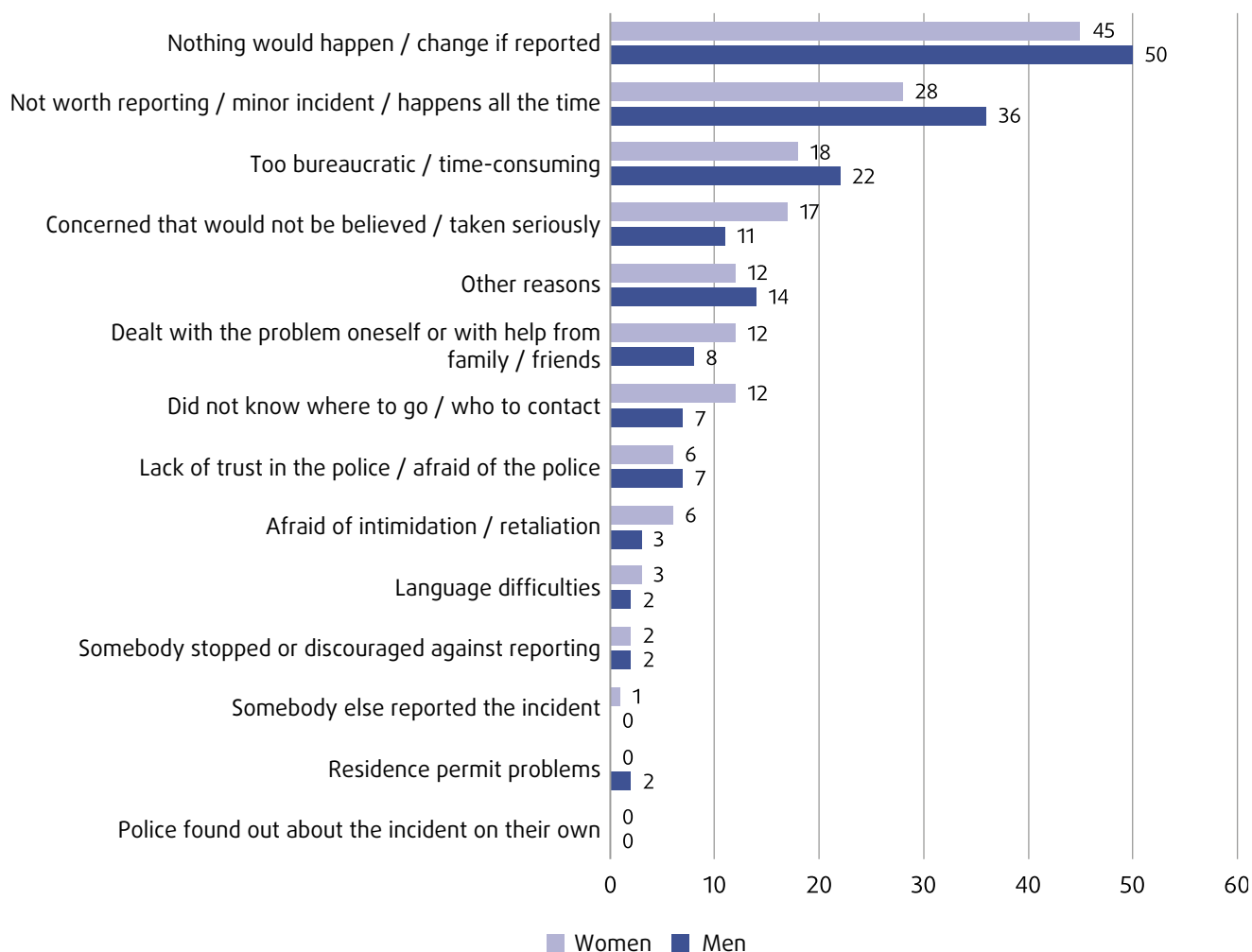
Figure 27 shows the differences in the reasons for not reporting racist harassment between women and men. Nearly half (47 %) of respondents who did not report racist harassment most often felt that nothing would change if they reported the incident. Slightly more men (50 %) than women (45 %) and more younger people (16–24 years old) (56 %) than older people were of this opinion. Close to one third (32 %) of respondents say that they did not report the incident because it was too minor to report or because it was something that happened all the time. Again, more men (36 %) than women (28 %) were of these opinions. One fifth (20 %) of respondents found reporting too bureaucratic or time-consuming. Again, more men (36 %) than women (28 %) were of these opinions. One fifth (20 %) of respondents found reporting too bureaucratic or time-consuming.

Notes:

^a Out of all respondents of African descent who experienced racist harassment in the 5 years before the survey and did not report it anywhere (women, n = 882; men, n = 953); weighted results, sorted by the category 'women'.

^b Question: 'Why did you not report the incident [that is, racist harassment experienced in the 5 years before the survey (or since you have been in [country])] or make a complaint to the police or any other organisation?'

FIGURE 27: REASONS FOR NOT REPORTING THE MOST RECENT INCIDENT OF RACIST HARASSMENT TO AUTHORITIES OR SERVICES IN THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY GENDER (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

Like previous surveys, the 2022 survey findings confirm that rates of reporting racist harassment remain low.

2.2. EXPERIENCES OF RACIST VIOLENCE

What did the survey ask?

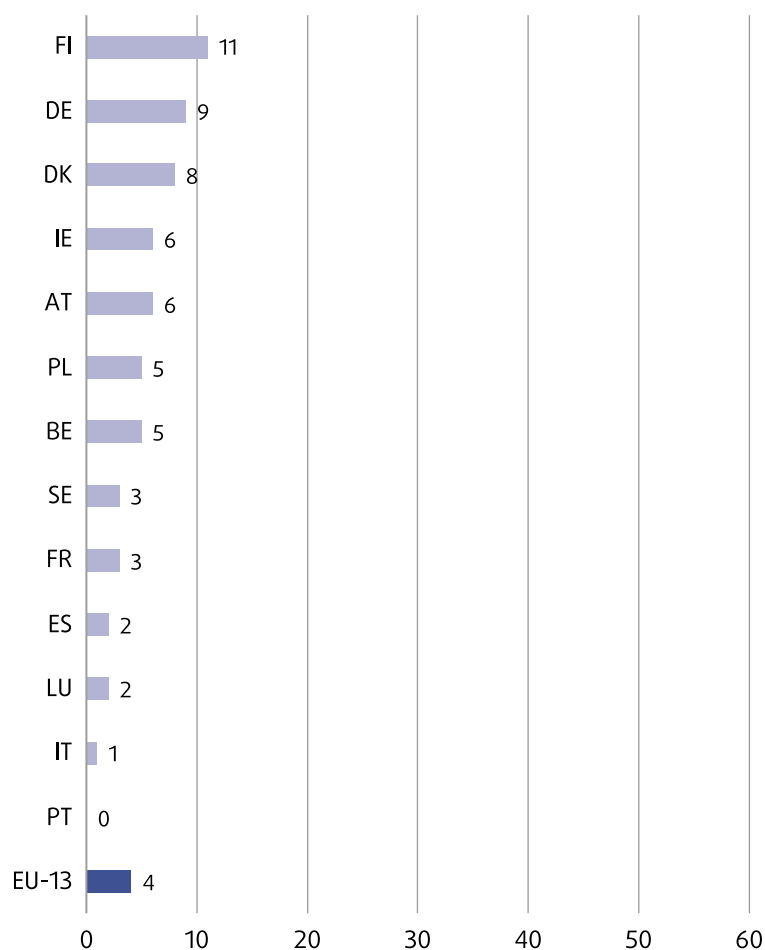
The survey asked respondents about their experiences of physical violence that they perceived as having been racially motivated. This includes incidents where the perpetrator hit, pushed, kicked or grabbed the respondent. The survey also gave respondents an opportunity to provide information to place the hate-motivated incidents into context. It asked about the characteristics of perpetrators, whether the incidents were reported and reasons for not reporting to the police or any other organisation.

The survey also asked victims of hate crime about the impact on them of the latest racist physical attack, including emotional reactions, psychological consequences and socioeconomic effects.

2.2.1. Prevalence and frequency of racist violence incidents

Like the results of EU-MIDIS II from 2016, the findings of the 2022 survey show that on average 4 % of all respondents indicate that they experienced racist violence – that is, one or more physical attacks – in the 5 years before the survey. The results vary greatly across Member States, with the highest 5-year rate of racist physical violence recorded for respondents in Finland (11 %), Germany (9 %) and Denmark (8 %). The victimisation rates are lowest in Portugal and Italy (**Figure 28**).

FIGURE 28: PREVALENCE OF RACIST VIOLENCE EXPERIENCED IN THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 752); weighted results.
- ^b Question: 'In the past 5 years in [country] (or since you have been in [country]), [has somebody physically attacked you] because of your ethnic or immigrant background?'

2 % of all respondents indicate that they experienced racist violence in the 12 months preceding the survey, with the highest rate for respondents in Finland (6 %), followed by Germany and Austria (both 5 %).

The results show that racist violence is a recurring experience for almost a third of victims, with the share twice as high for men as for women (38 % compared with 19 %). Among those respondents who say that they experienced racist violence in the 12 months before the survey, most (70 %) mention one such incident. More women (81 %) than men (62 %) experienced one incident. More than a quarter of respondents (26 %) say that they experienced two to five violent incidents (14 % of women compared with 34 % of men) and 4 % say that they were physically attacked six or more times in the year before the survey.

More respondents who wear traditional or religious clothing in public say that they experienced racist violence in the 5 years before the survey than those who do not (6 % compared with 3 %). The rate for the 5 years before the survey is also twice as high for younger as for older respondents (5 % for 16- to 44-year-olds and 2 % for those over 45 years old).

2.2.2. Reporting racist violence and reasons for not reporting

Overall, 36 % of those who say that they experienced racist violence reported the most recent incident to the police. Almost none of these respondents said that they contacted a victims' support organisation (1 %).

Among those who reported the incident to the police, the majority were satisfied (58 %) with how the police handled the complaint.

As in earlier FRA surveys, the most cited reason for non-reporting is the lack of belief in its effectiveness: over a third (36 %) said that nothing would happen or change if they reported the incident. In EU-MIDIS II, in 2016, 41 % of respondents selected this reason. 19 % say that 'reporting would have been too bureaucratic or time-consuming' (in 2016, the figure was 13 %). 16 % of victims noted the reason 'lack of trust in the police or being afraid of the police' (in 2016, this figure was 5 %). Some 15 % of victims of racist violence did not know where to go or whom to contact to report an incident (in 2016, this figure was 7 %).

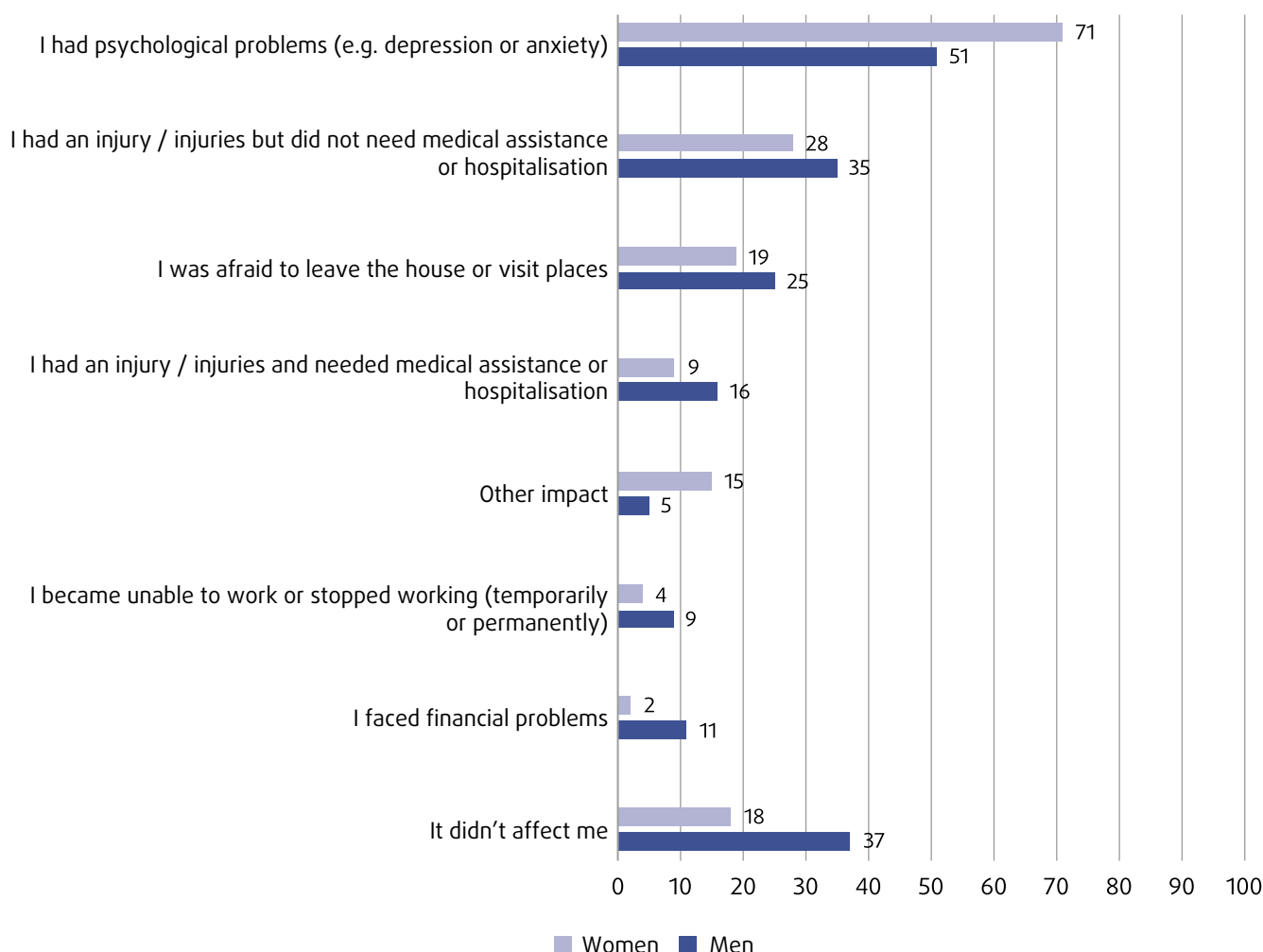
2.2.3. Impact of racist harassment and violence

A violent incident can have a profound and long-term negative impact on the victim. Experiences of violence and harassment can affect people's sense of safety and their physical and mental health, as well as their behaviour, prompting them to take steps to reduce the risk of repeated victimisation.

The survey asked respondents who say that they experienced racist violence about the consequences of the most recent incident, ranging from psychological problems and injuries to being unable to work and facing financial problems. The majority (61 %) mention experiencing negative psychological consequences (e.g. depression or anxiety). More than one in five (22 %) were afraid to leave the house or visit places (see **Figure 29**).

Nearly one third of those who experienced racist violence (31 %) say that they were injured but did not need medical assistance or hospitalisation. 12 % say that they did need medical assistance or hospitalisation.

FIGURE 29: CONSEQUENCES OF THE MOST RECENT INCIDENT OF RACIST VIOLENCE, BY GENDER (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

More women (71 %) than men (51 %) who say that they experienced racist violence report having psychological problems (e.g. depression or anxiety) as a result.

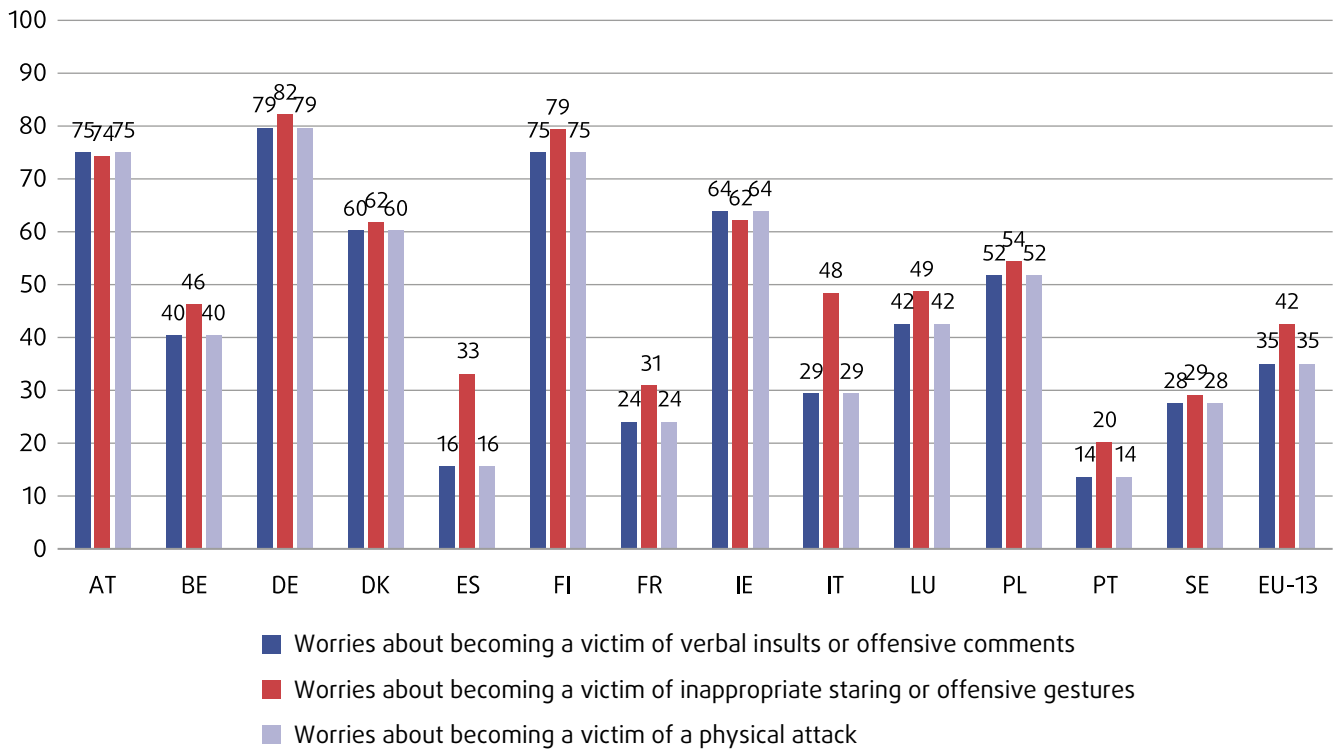
The survey also asked respondents how often they were worried about getting harassed, offended or physically attacked because of their ethnic or immigrant background when out in public. Over one third (35 %) say that they were worried at least sometimes about both being confronted with racist verbal insults or harassment and being physically attacked. Close to half of respondents (42 %) shared their worry about becoming a victim of inappropriate staring or offensive gestures in public.

The highest shares of people worried at least sometimes about potentially experiencing racist harassment or violence in public are in Germany, Finland and Austria (over 70 % for each category) (Figure 30). These are also the countries in which the prevalence of racist harassment is highest, as Section 2.1.1 of this report shows.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who experienced racist physical violence in the 5 years before the survey (women, n = 126; men, n = 205); weighted results.
- ^b Question: 'How did this last incident [where somebody physically attacked you because of your ethnic or immigrant background] affect you?'

FIGURE 30: RESPONDENTS WORRYING SOMETIMES, OFTEN OR ALL THE TIME ABOUT BECOMING A VICTIM OF VERBAL INSULTS OR OFFENSIVE COMMENTS, INAPPROPRIATE STARING OR OFFENSIVE GESTURES, AND PHYSICAL ATTACKS BECAUSE OF THEIR ETHNIC OR IMMIGRANT BACKGROUND, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 752); weighted results.
- ^b Question: 'When in public, how often are you worried that the following things might occur because of your ethnic or immigrant background [verbal insults or offensive comments; inappropriate staring, offensive gestures; a physical attack]?' Response categories: 'never', 'sometimes', 'often' and 'all the time'.
- ^c Figures represented by the bars include the response categories 'sometimes', 'often' and 'all the time'.

14 % of respondents avoid certain places, such as shops or cafes, or taking public transport. The highest proportions were in Germany (30 %), Finland (29 %), Ireland (29 %) and Austria (27 %), and the lowest proportions in Spain (7 %), France (10 %) and Italy (12 %).



Endnote

- (¹) Results for Sweden should be interpreted with caution. See the section 'Survey in a nutshell' for information on the potential impact of measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 on data collection and people's everyday experiences.

3

POLICE STOPS

KEY FINDINGS

- One in four (26 %) respondents of African descent were stopped by the police in the 5 years before the survey and 12 % were stopped in the year preceding the survey.
- Men were more likely to be stopped by the police than women.
- Fewer respondents of African descent say that the police stopped them in 2022 in the 12 months preceding the survey than in 2016.
- Among those stopped in the 12 months before the survey, more than half (58 %) perceived the most recent stop as racially motivated. The highest rates were in Germany (69 %), Spain (66 %) and Sweden (58 %), with the lowest rates in Luxembourg (22 %), Poland (32 %) and Finland (34 %).
- Overall, more women than men perceived the most recent stop as a result of ethnic profiling (65 % compared with 56 %).
- Overall, more younger respondents than older respondents perceived the most recent stop to be a result of ethnic profiling.
- More than half (58 %) of the respondents whom the police stopped in the 5 years before the survey say that they were treated respectfully and 19 % say that they were treated disrespectfully.
- Respondents who perceived the most recent police stop as a result of racial profiling have a much lower average level of trust in the police (with a score of 3.9 on a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 stands for 'no trust at all' and 10 signifies 'complete trust') than those who were stopped but did not perceive the stop as resulting from discriminatory racial profiling (with a score of 6.1).

According to Article 11 of Directive (EU) 2016/680, profiling that is based solely or mainly on one or more protected characteristics and results in discrimination is prohibited under EU law.

The police commonly and legitimately use profiling in the context of law enforcement based on credible intelligence. It involves categorising individuals according to their inferred ‘changeable’ or ‘unchangeable’ characteristics, such as gender, race, skin colour, ethnic or social origin, language, religion or belief. While police officers can lawfully resort to profiling for stops or search operations, they cannot single out individuals solely or mainly based on personal characteristics (*). Doing so without any other objective or reasonable justification amounts to discriminatory ethnic profiling, which is illegal and undermines trust in the police.

The evidence shows persistent and widespread discriminatory ethnic profiling in the EU. Despite this, official data on the prevalence and outcome of this practice are almost non-existent, as outlined in FRA’s forthcoming report on addressing racism in policing. FRA’s survey data can provide relevant information needed to develop targeted policies and measures.

(*) FRA (2018), *Preventing Unlawful Profiling Today and in the Future: A guide*, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

Racism and policing

The EU anti-racism action plan 2020–2025 invited FRA to ‘collect and disseminate good practices promoting fair policing, building on their existing training manual and guide on preventing unlawful profiling’.

FRA’s forthcoming report on addressing racism in policing provides data relating to racism in policing. The research for the report documented racist misconduct by the police, including disrespectful and hostile behaviour, the use of racist language, the use of excessive force and physical attacks. Misconduct also includes institutionalised practices such as racial profiling and the overpolicing of certain communities. Based on a comprehensive mapping of EU-27 legislation, policies, data and accountability mechanisms, the report recommends:

- the effective enforcement of the existing legal framework to ensure that all rights and obligations are respected in practice;
- the improvement of national collection of reliable data on racism and racial discrimination in policing, effective whistleblowing protection and the enhancement of accountability mechanisms, including a strong independent oversight mechanism;
- embedding measures to address racism in policing in a broader national strategy or action plan against racism, with monitored implementation and measured outcomes.

What did the survey ask?

The 2022 survey asked respondents about police stops. Respondents could provide additional context about whether they felt that they were stopped, searched or questioned based on their ethnic or immigrant background.

3.1. ENCOUNTERS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT

The results show substantial variation between EU Member States regarding rates of police stops. A quarter (26 %) of respondents were stopped at least once by the police in the 5 years before the survey (see **Figure 31**), and 12 % in the 12 months before the survey.

Respondents in Austria were stopped at the highest rates (40 % in the 5 years before the survey and 21 % in the 12 months before the survey). Germany (33 %) had the highest rate of stops in the 5 years before the survey and Ireland (15 %) had the highest rate for the 12 months before the survey.

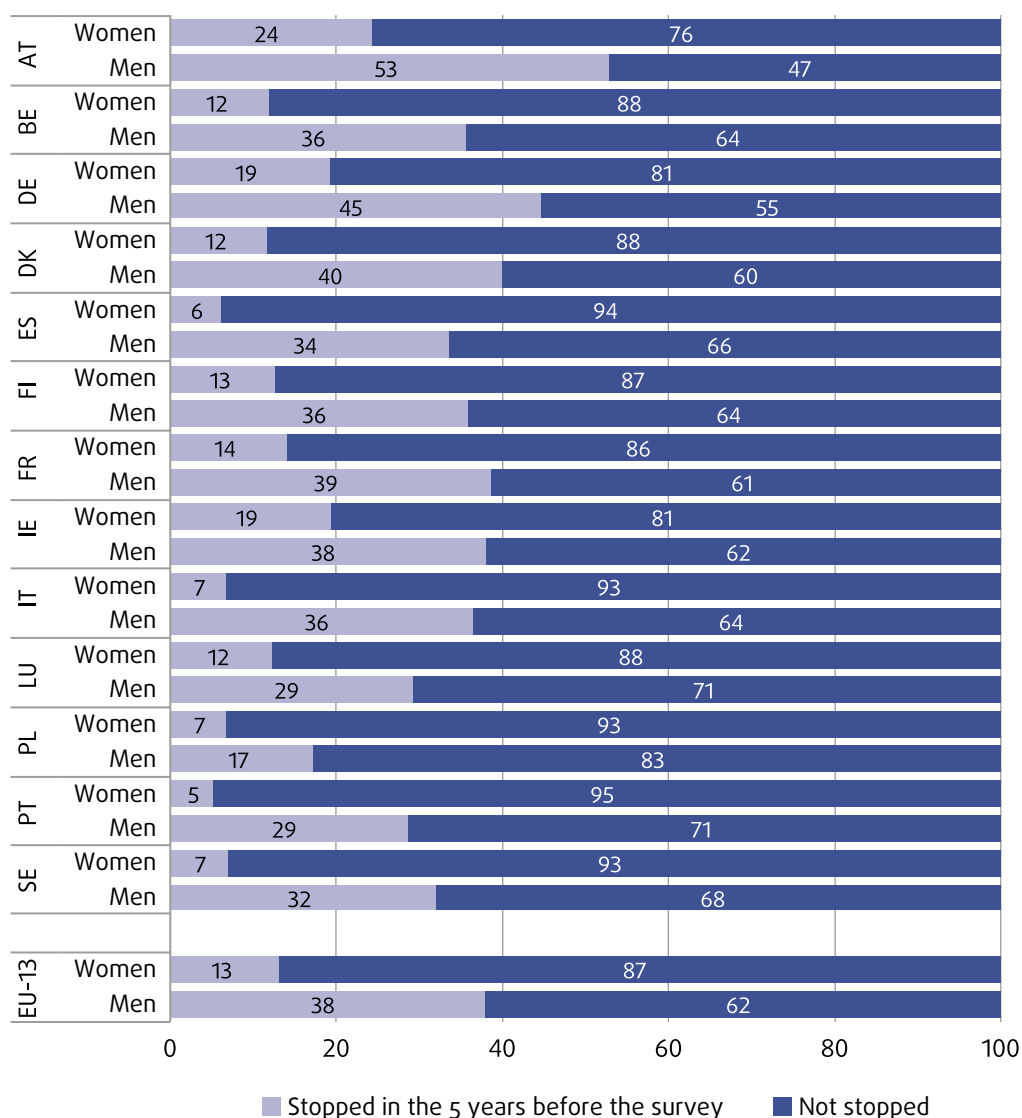
Over the 5 years before the survey, men of African descent were almost three times as likely to be stopped as women (38 % compared with 13 %). When looking at the 12 months before the survey, the difference is almost fivefold (19 % compared with 4 %). The prevalence of police stops was considerably higher for men than for women in all countries the survey covers during both periods.

The police were more likely to stop younger respondents than older respondents. This holds true for the 5 years before the survey: the police stopped 34 % of those aged 16–24 years, 29 % of those aged 25–44 years, 22 % of those aged 45–59 years and 11 % of those aged 60 years and over. It also applies to the 12 months before the survey: the police stopped 22 % of those aged 16–24 years, 11 % of those aged 25–44 years, 9 % of those aged 45–59 years and 5 % of those aged 60 years and over.

Respondents who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex were stopped by police at higher rates than respondents who do not identify as such (35 % for the 5 years before the survey and 23 % for the 12 months before the survey compared with 26 % for the 5 years before the survey and 12 % for the 12 months before the survey).

The prevalence of police stops does not substantially differ between respondents who at least sometimes wear traditional or religious clothing in public (25 % for the 5 years before the survey and 11 % for the 12 months before the survey) and those who never do so (27 % for the 5 years before the survey and 12 % for the 12 months before the survey). This is the case for both women and men.

FIGURE 31: PREVALENCE OF POLICE STOPS IN THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY COUNTRY AND GENDER (%)^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA’s EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

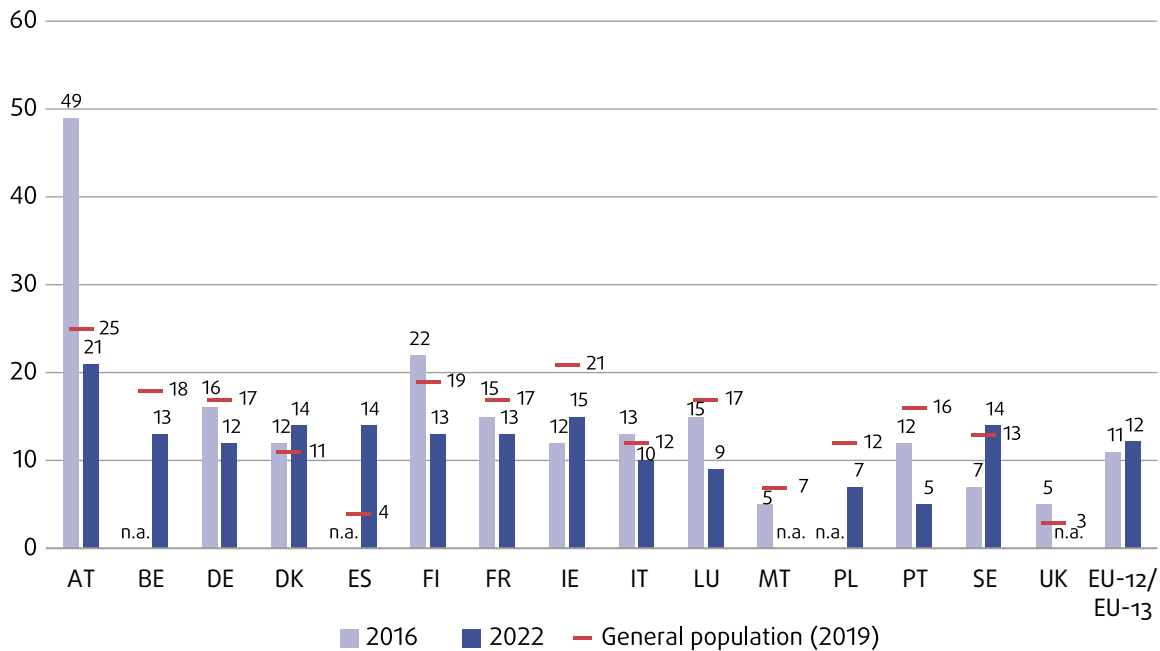
Figure 32 compares rates of police stops in the 12 months before the survey between the general population, based on data collected in 2019 for the Fundamental Rights Survey (1), and people of African descent, based on EU-MIDIS II data from 2016 and data from the 2022 survey.

In most EU countries for which data are available, respondents of African descent experienced fewer police stops in 2022 than the general population in 2019. Exceptions were Denmark and Spain. The rates of police stops among people of African descent were also lower in 2022 than in 2016 in all countries for which data were available, except Denmark, Ireland and Sweden. The implementation of measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, including stay-at-home orders, may have influenced rates of police stops for the survey conducted in 2022.

Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (women, n = 2 998; men, n = 3 741); weighted results.
- ^b Question: ‘In the past 5 years in [country] (or since you have been in [country]), have you ever been stopped, searched or questioned by the police?’
- ^c Some bars do not add up to 100 %; this is due to rounding.

FIGURE 32: PREVALENCE OF POLICE STOPS IN THE 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE SURVEY FOR RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT AND THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}



Sources: FRA's EU-MIDIS II, 2016; Fundamental Rights Survey, 2019; FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

^a For the Fundamental Rights Survey, the percentage is out of all respondents (n = 17 603). For EU-MIDIS II and the EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, the percentage is out of all respondents of African descent (n₂₀₁₆ = 5 803; n₂₀₂₂ = 6 752).

^b EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants questions: 'In the past 5 years in [country] (or since you have been in [country]), have you ever been stopped, searched or questioned by the police?' and 'And has this happened to you in the past 12 months?' The results for EU-MIDIS II and the Fundamental Rights Survey are based on similar questions.

3.2. CIRCUMSTANCES AND NATURE OF THE MOST RECENT POLICE STOP

A total of 4 in 10 respondents of African descent who say that they were stopped in the 5 years before the survey were in a car (41 %) or on the street (38 %). Much fewer (8 %) were stopped on public transport (bus, tram, train, underground, etc.).

There are noticeable country variations. The share of respondents of African descent stopped in a car is highest in Finland (66 %) and Portugal (61 %). Spain (58 %) and Belgium (41 %) have the highest rates of respondents who were stopped on the street. Germany (17 %) and Austria (11 %) had the highest shares of respondents stopped on public transport.

Young respondents are more likely than older respondents to be stopped by police on the street (56 % of those aged 16–24 years, 38 % of those aged 25–44 years, 20 % of those aged 45–59 years and 4 % of those aged 60 years or over) or on public transport (10 % of those aged 16–24 years, 8 % of those aged 25–44 years, 7 % of those aged 45–59 years and 4 % of those aged 60 years or over). The opposite applies to stops where respondents were in a car (23 % for those aged 16–24 years, 41 % of those aged 25–44 years, 57 % of those aged 45–59 years and 84 % of those aged 60 years and over).

Most respondents of African descent were asked for their identity papers (72 %) or were asked various questions (59 %) when the police stopped them. 37 % of all respondents stopped were asked for their driving licence or vehicle documents, 21 % were searched or had their car/vehicle searched and 11 % were given advice or warned about their behaviour. 11 % were fined, 10 % did an alcohol or drug test and 7 % were arrested or taken to a police station. Fewer than 1 % of respondents mentioned that police took money or something from them in the form of a bribe.

Men were more likely than women to be asked for their identity papers (77 % compared with 58 %), to have their car/vehicle searched (23 % compared with 13 %) and to be arrested or taken to a police station (9 % compared with 4 %). Women were more likely than men to be asked questions (64 % compared with 58 %), to be asked for their driving licence or vehicle documents (41 % compared with 35 %) and to be given advice or warned about their behaviour (17 % compared with 10 %).

3.3. TREATMENT BY THE POLICE DURING STOPS

Respondents who say that the police stopped them in the 5 years preceding the survey were asked how the police treated them. 58 % say that they were treated either very or fairly respectfully during the stop. One in four (23 %) considered that the police were neither respectful nor disrespectful. One in five (19 %) say that the police treated them very or fairly disrespectfully (**Figure 33**).

Respondents in Belgium tend to evaluate the conduct of the police during the most recent stop less favourably, with almost a third (31 %) saying that the police treated them very or fairly disrespectfully during the most recent stop. By contrast, over three quarters of respondents from Poland (81 %) and Portugal (76 %) say that the police treated them very or fairly respectfully.

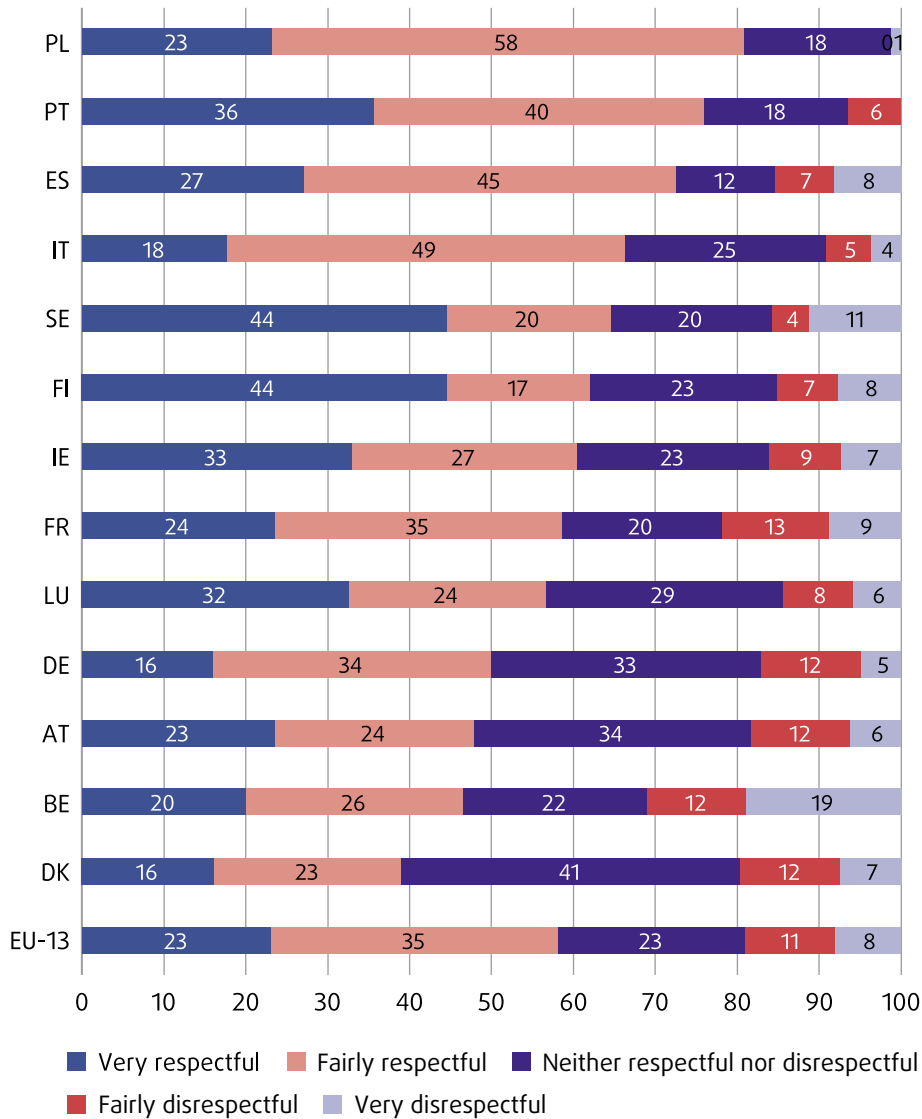
There was little difference between the proportions of women (21 %) and men (18 %) who perceived the police treatment to be fairly or very disrespectful during the most recent stop.

Young respondents aged 16–24 years who the police stopped in the 5 years before the survey (30 %) were more likely to perceive their treatment by the police as fairly or very disrespectful than older respondents (15 % for those aged 25–44 years, 16 % for those aged 45–59 years and 14 % for those aged 60 years or over).

A higher share of respondents who are (severely) limited in their daily activities (27 %) mentioned that the police treated them very or fairly disrespectfully during the most recent stop than respondents who are not limited in their daily activities (17 %).



FIGURE 33: TREATMENT BY THE POLICE DURING THE MOST RECENT POLICE STOP IN THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who were stopped by the police in the 5 years before the survey (n = 1 689); weighted results, sorted by the rate of respondents who answered 'very respectful' or 'fairly respectful'.
- ^b Question: 'THE LAST TIME you were stopped, how respectful [were] the police when dealing with you?'
- ^c Some bars do not add up to 100 %; this is due to rounding and because item non-response categories (answers 'don't know', 'don't understand the question' and 'prefer not to say') are not displayed in the figure. The total share of item non-responses did not exceed 1 % in any of the surveyed countries.

Of respondents who indicated that a police officer was (very) disrespectful during the most recent stop, 6 % say that they reported the incident.

3.3.1. Perceived discriminatory ethnic profiling

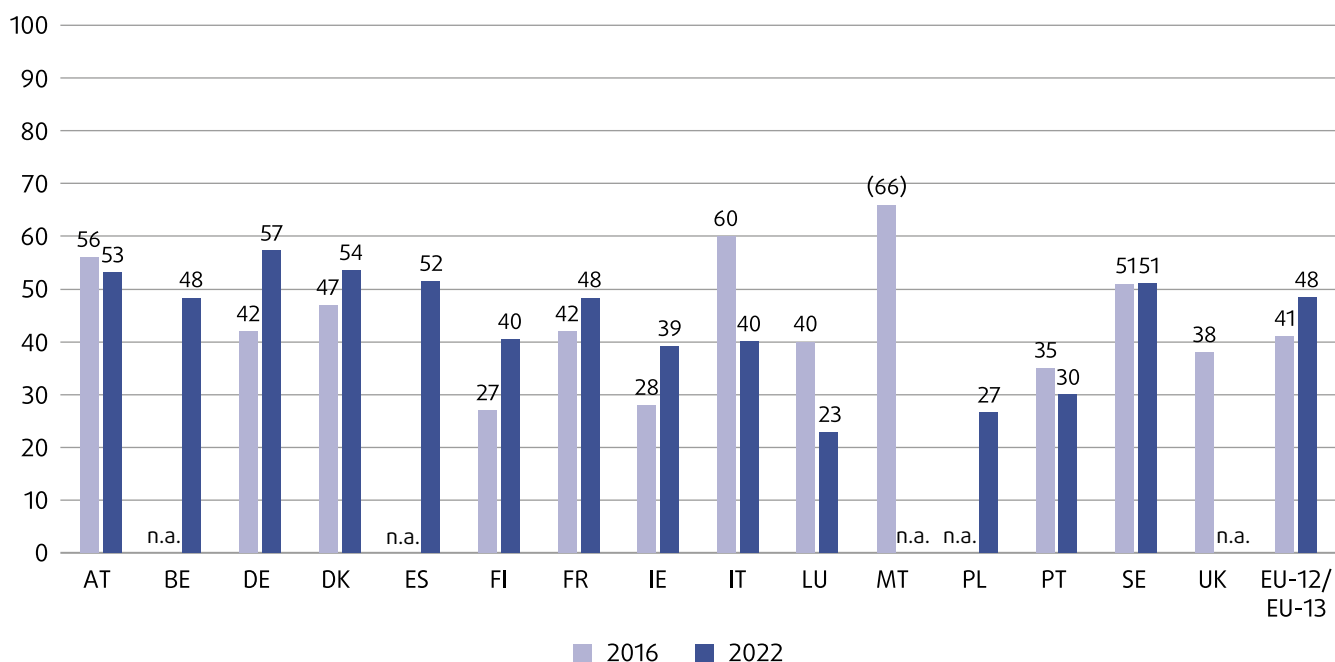
Consistently with the results of the EU-MIDIS II in 2016, nearly half (48 %) of respondents whom the police stopped in the 5 years before the survey believe that this was because of their immigrant or ethnic minority background, including their skin colour or their religion. The rate is even higher (58 %) among those stopped in the 12 months before the survey. The highest rates are found among respondents in Germany (57 % for the 5 years before the survey and 69 % for the 12 months before the survey). These rates are about two to three times higher than in Luxembourg.

Luxembourg is the survey country with the lowest percentage of respondents who perceived their police stop to be motivated by their ethnic or immigrant background (23 % for the 5 years before the survey and 22 % for the 12 months before the survey).

Women were more likely than men to perceive the most recent stop as discriminatory (65 % compared with 56 %). Younger people were more likely than older people to perceive the most recent stop as discriminatory (69 % of those aged 16–24 years, 59 % of those aged 25–44 years, 39 % of those aged 45–59 years and 34 % of those aged 60 years or over), including in the 5 years before the survey (63 % of those aged 16–24 years, 49 % of those aged 25–44 years, 33 % of those aged 45–59 years and 24 % of those aged 60 years or over).

Between 2016 and 2022, the rate of perceived discriminatory ethnic profiling among respondents whom the police stopped in the 5 years before the survey increased in five countries (Denmark, Finland, France, Germany and Ireland). The rate remained about the same in Austria and Sweden (see **Figure 34**). Italy and Luxembourg saw the largest decreases (of up to 20 percentage points), while Germany and Finland saw the largest increases (of up to 15 percentage points).

FIGURE 34: MOST RECENT POLICE STOP PERCEIVED TO BE DUE TO DISCRIMINATORY ETHNIC PROFILING AMONG THOSE STOPPED IN THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY, BY COUNTRY AND SURVEY YEAR (2016 AND 2022) (%)^{a,b,c,d}



Sources: FRA’s EU-MIDIS II, 2016; FRA’s EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

3.3.2. Police stops and trust in the police

Overall, respondents of African descent have higher levels of trust in the police and the legal system than the general population (see Section 1.4.1 of this report). However, discrimination, harassment or violence can undermine that trust (see Section 1.4.2).

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent whom the police stopped in the 5 years before the survey ($n_{2016} = 1\,620$, $n_{2022} = 1\,689$); weighted results.
- ^b Question: ‘Do you think that the last time you were stopped was because of your ethnic or immigrant background?’
- ^c Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Therefore, results based on 20 to 49 unweighted observations in a group total are noted in parentheses.
- ^d n.a., not available.

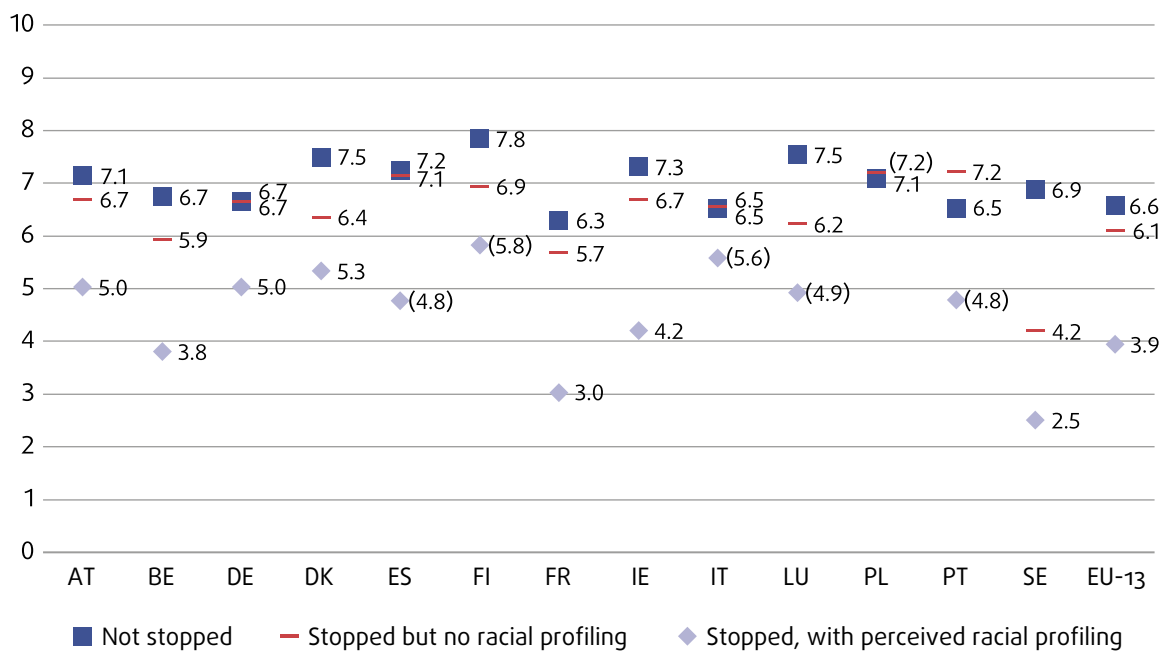
When victims report hate crime and harassment, they do so mainly to the police, a recent FRA report (*) shows. However, victims across different minority groups consistently state that lack of trust in the police is a prominent reason for not reporting.

(*) FRA (2021), *Encouraging Hate Crime Reporting – The role of law enforcement and other authorities*, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

Like EU-MIDIS II in 2016, this survey suggests that perceiving police stops as discriminatory reduces respondents' level of trust in the police. Across all countries surveyed, respondents who perceive the most recent police stop as involving discriminatory racial profiling have a much lower average level of trust in the police (with a score of 3.9 on a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 stands for 'no trust at all' and 10 signifies 'complete trust') than those who were not stopped (with a score of 6.6). They also have a lower level of trust than those who were stopped but did not perceive the stop as involving discriminatory racial profiling (with a score of 6.1) (Figure 35).

A similar effect on trust in the police is observed in relation to experiences of racial discrimination, as Section 1.4.2 of this report shows.

FIGURE 35: LEVELS OF TRUST IN THE POLICE, BY COUNTRY AND EXPERIENCES WITH POLICE STOPS IN THE 5 YEARS BEFORE THE SURVEY (AVERAGE VALUES ON A SCALE OF 0 TO 10)^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent who provided a valid answer to the question on trust in police (n = 6 440); weighted results.
- ^b Questions: 'Please tell me on a scale of 0–10 how much you personally trust each of the [country's] institutions I read out. 0 means you do not trust an institution at all, and 10 means you have complete trust.' Sub-question: [country]'s police. 'In the past 5 years in [country] (or since you have been in [country]), have you ever been stopped, searched or questioned by the police?' and 'Do you think that the last time you were stopped was because of your ethnic or immigrant background?'
- ^c Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Therefore, 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.

Endnote

(¹) FRA (2021), *Your Rights Matter: Police stops*, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, pp. 8–9.

4

SOCIOECONOMIC SITUATION AND LIVING CONDITIONS



KEY FINDINGS

Education

- More than a third (36 %) of respondents aged 16 to 64 have completed at most lower secondary education or have not completed any educational level (ISCED 0–2). The corresponding rate among the general population in the same age group is 25 %. Some 42 % of respondents, close to the percentage in the general population (46 %), have completed upper secondary or post-secondary education (ISCED 3–4). About one in five respondents of African descent (22 %) have completed tertiary education (ISCED 5–8), compared with 30 % of the general population in the EU-27.
- On average, young people (18- to 24-year-olds) of African descent in the 13 EU Member States are three times more likely to be early school-leavers (not continuing education or training after obtaining lower secondary education) than young people of the general population in the same age group (36 % in the EU-13 compared with 10 % in the EU-27).

Employment

- About a third (32 %) of the respondents work in elementary occupations, compared with 8 % of the general population across all 27 EU Member States.

- Every third (30 %) employed respondent has a temporary contract, which is about three times the percentage in the general population (11 %).
- Respondents are more often overqualified for the job they do than the general population regardless of their citizenship. Around every third EU citizen of African descent with tertiary education works in an occupation below their level of education (35 % compared with 21 % in the general population) and more than half of non-EU citizens of African descent do so (57 % compared with 40 % in the general population).

Housing and poverty

- Every third respondent (32 %) faces difficulties or great difficulties in making ends meet, while on average 18 % of the general population in the EU indicate that they have faced financial difficulties.
- Every third respondent (31 %) faced a loss of income during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Energy poverty affects people of African descent disproportionately. 14 % say that they cannot afford to keep their home warm, compared with 7 % of the general population.
- Nearly one in two (45 %) respondents live in overcrowded housing, a percentage that is 2.5 times higher than in the general population in the EU-27 (17 % in 2021).

Health

- Overall, 81 % of respondents aged 16 to 64 years assess their general health condition as very good or good. This is a similar percentage to that in the general population of the same age group in the EU-27 (79 %). The percentage of respondents stating that they have long-standing limitations (some or severe) in their usual activities due to health problems is similar between people of African descent and the general population aged 16 to 64 years (20 % and 17 %, respectively).
- Compared with the general population, people of African descent are nearly twice as likely to have had unmet medical needs in the 12 months before the survey (9 % compared with 5 %).

4.1. EDUCATION

Respondents were asked about the highest level of education they had achieved either in the survey country or elsewhere and about their participation in education or training at the time of the interview.

42 % of respondents aged 16–64 had completed upper secondary or post-secondary education (ISCED 3–4) (**Figure 36**). 36 % had completed secondary education at most or had not completed any educational level (ISCED 0–2). About one in five respondents of African descent (22 %) had completed tertiary education (ISCED 5–8). In 2016, the rates for ISCED 0–2, ISCED 3–4 and ISCED 5–8 were 33 %, 36 % and 30 %, respectively, for respondents of African descent.

The results are comparable to findings presented in the third edition of the joint OECD and European Commission publication, *Indicators of Immigrant Integration 2023: Settling in* (*).

Legal corner

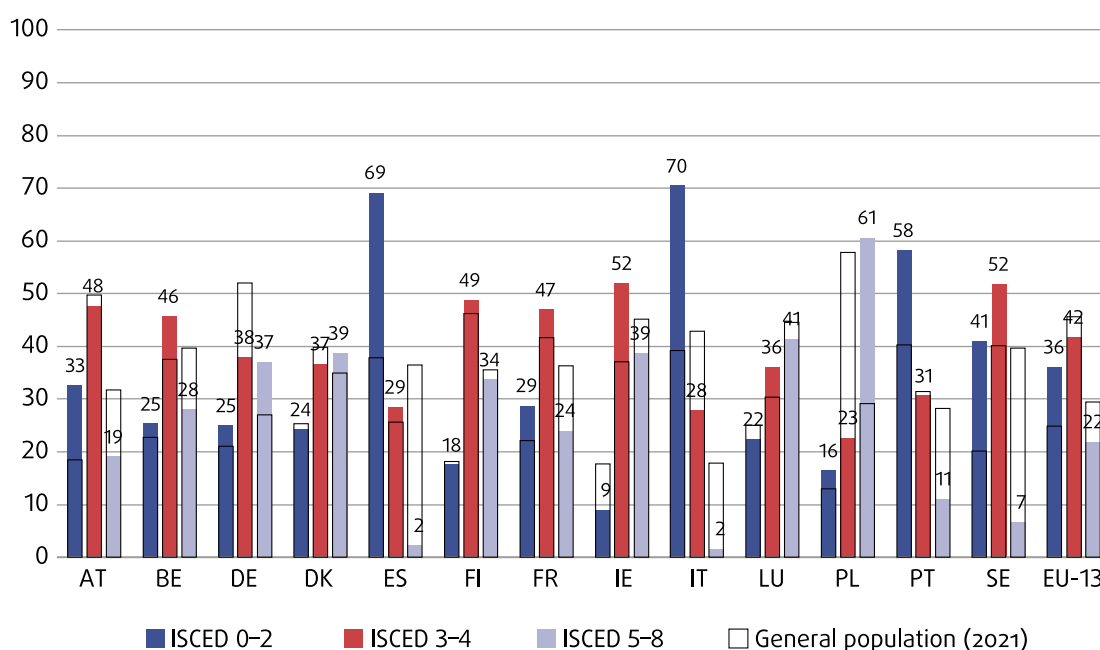
Article 14 of the **EU Charter of Fundamental Rights** provides that everyone has the right to education and to have access to vocational and continuing training. This right includes the opportunity to receive free compulsory education. The **European Pillar of Social Rights action plan** states that everyone has the right to high-quality and inclusive education, training and lifelong learning.

The right to education is also protected under international human rights law, including Article 28 of the **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child** and Article 13 of the **International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**.

No major differences exist in educational attainment between women and men of African descent. Most younger respondents (16–24 years old) had completed at most an educational level of ISCED 3 or 4 (52 %). Almost every second respondent aged 45–59 years had not completed any educational level or had completed lower secondary education at most (48 %).

Respondents who are citizens of the survey country or EU / European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries tend to have completed higher educational levels (55 % and 54 % have completed ISCED 3 and 4, respectively) than respondents who are citizens of other countries (outside EU/EFTA countries) (31 % and 30 %, respectively).

FIGURE 36: HIGHEST COMPLETED LEVEL OF EDUCATION AMONG RESPONDENTS AGED 16 TO 64 YEARS, COMPARED WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c,d,e}



Sources: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (2021) are from Eurostat (edat_lfse_03) (downloaded 15 February 2023).

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 462); weighted results.
- ^b The overall average for the general population is the EU-27 value, while the average for the survey respondents includes only the countries presented in the graph.
- ^c Results have limited comparability with the Eurostat statistics for the general population. Eurostat data refer to the population aged 15–64 years; FRA survey data refer to respondents of African descent aged 16–64 years.
- ^d ISCED 0–2 includes those who have never been in formal education or who did not complete primary education, those in primary education and those in lower secondary education. ISCED 3–4 includes those in upper secondary education, vocational training, post-secondary non-tertiary education, and all types of vocational training completed abroad corresponding to ISCED 35, 45 and 55 (hence, the proportion of respondents in ISCED 3–4 among respondents of African descent may be slightly overestimated compared with the general population). ISCED 5–8 includes short-cycle tertiary education, bachelor's level or equivalent education, master's level or equivalent education and doctorate or equivalent education.
- ^e Questions: 'What is the highest level of education you have completed?', 'What is the highest level of education you have completed in [country]?' and 'And what is the highest level of education you completed in another country?'

Young people aged 18 to 24 years who are not in education or training after completing only lower secondary education are defined as early school-leavers. Overall, more than a third of 18- to 24-year-olds (36 %) are early school-leavers. This rate is more than three times higher than the average for the general population in the EU-27 (10 %).

A higher proportion of men of African descent (45 %) than women of African descent (23 %) are early school-leavers. Moreover, those who are proficient in the national language are less likely to be early school-leavers (30 %) than those with poor language proficiency (82 %).

Age is a key factor: while 86 % of respondents aged 16–24 years have a good level of proficiency in the national language, the proportion is 60 % among those aged 45–59 years. This is consistent with differences observed between immigrants and descendants of immigrants (born in EU Member States, EFTA countries or the United Kingdom with at least one parent born in a country of sub-Saharan Africa). 97 % of descendants of immigrants have a high level of proficiency in the national language, compared with 63 % of immigrants.

The longer respondents reside in the survey country, the higher their proficiency in the national language. While 59 % of respondents of African descent who have stayed in the country for less than 5 years have a good level of proficiency in the national language, the proportion increases to 72 % for those who have resided in the survey country for more than 20 years. Settled immigrants are almost twice as likely as recent arrivals to report being proficient in the language of their host country (40 % for recent (fewer than 5 years) compared with 70 % for settled (10 years or more) migrants) ⁽²⁾.

Respondents living with children aged 15 years or younger in their household provided information on children's education. Nearly all children (99 %) between three years of age and the starting age for compulsory primary education attend early childhood education, with no differences between girls and boys. Similarly, almost all children aged 6–15 years attend education (97 %), with no difference between girls and boys and only a small difference between those aged 6–9 years (94 %) and those aged 10–15 years (99 %).

4.2. ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT AND QUALITY OF WORK

Measuring main activity status in the EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants

Respondents were asked to indicate their main activity status based on a predefined list of categories that included 'in paid work', 'self-employed' and 'unemployed'. The respondent's main activity status reflects their own assessment, which may differ from the definition and method of measurement used to produce official statistics such as the employment, activity and unemployment rates.

Legal corner

Article 15 of the **EU Charter of Fundamental Rights** provides that everyone has the right to engage in work and to pursue a freely chosen or accepted occupation. It also states that every citizen of the EU has the freedom to seek employment, to work, to exercise the right of establishment and to provide services in any Member State. Nationals of non-EU countries who are authorised to work in the territories of the Member States are entitled to working conditions equivalent to those of citizens of the EU.

The **European Pillar of Social Rights action plan** aims to ensure equal opportunities and access to the labour market, fair working conditions, and social protection and inclusion, including through implementing non-discrimination measures.

4.2.1. Employment status

The paid work rate indicates the proportion of respondents aged 20 to 64 years who were engaged in any paid work in the 4 weeks before the survey. This includes those who indicated 'in paid work' as their main activity status. This indicator is a good approximation of the Eurostat employment rate for the general population.

Overall, most respondents of African descent are in paid work (71 %). This is similar to the employment rate for the general population (73 %) (Figure 37) and there was almost no change from the rate (69 %) in 2016. The highest paid work rates are seen in Poland (83 %), Portugal (81 %) and Italy (79 %). These are also the countries where the paid work rate for respondents of African descent exceeds the employment rate for the general population.

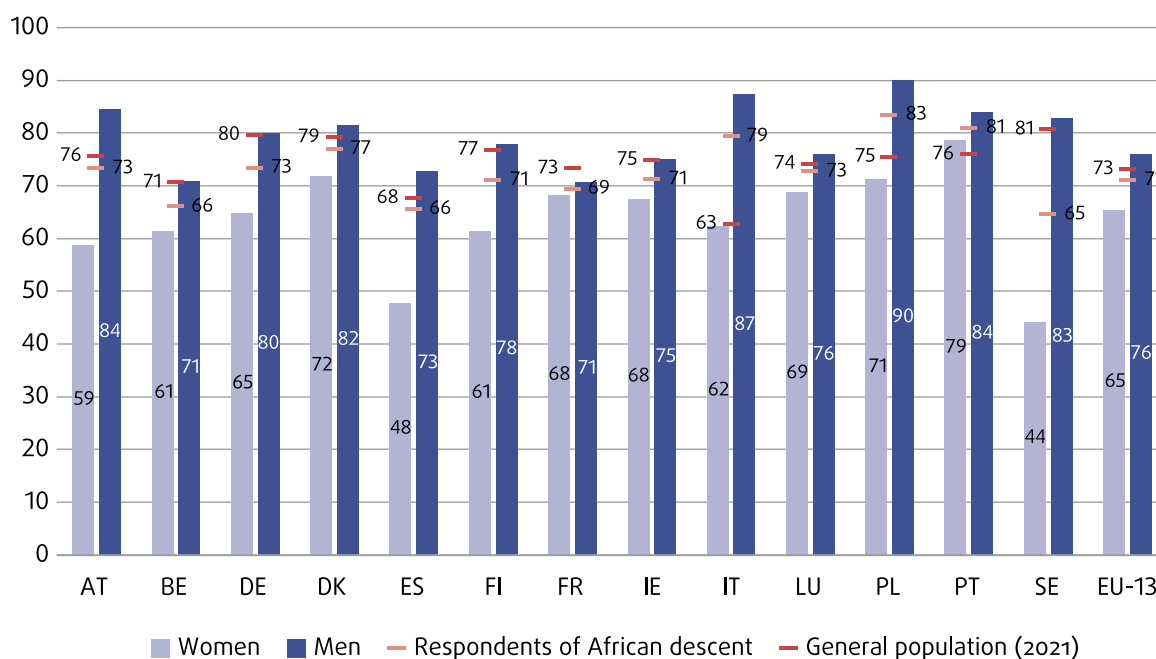
On average, the lowest in-paid-work rates are in Sweden (65 %), Spain (66 %) and Belgium (66 %). The biggest gap in the paid work rate between people of African descent and the general population is in Sweden (16 percentage points).

Like the findings of EU-MIDIS II, the paid work rate is substantially higher among men of African descent (76 %, compared with 79 % in the general population in the EU-27) than among women of African descent (65 %, compared with 68 % in the general population in the EU-27). In several countries, the gap in the paid work rate between women and men exceeds 20 percentage points: in Sweden, it is 39 percentage points⁽³⁾, and in Austria, Italy and Spain it is 25 percentage points.

The paid work rate increases with age: 56 % of respondents of African descent aged 16–24 are in paid work, compared with 80 % of those aged 45–59. Differences also exist between the respondents who face limitations in their daily activities due to health conditions (58 %) and those without such limitations (75 %). The paid work rate also increases with the educational level of respondents. Proficiency in the national language is associated with an increase in the paid work rate in Germany (9 percentage points), Sweden (8 percentage points) and Austria (7 percentage points).

Respondents who are citizens of the survey country are more often in paid work than those who are not, most notably in Sweden (74 % of citizens and 40 % of non-nationals) and Poland (94 % of citizens and 73 % of non-nationals). Considerable differences between citizens and non-nationals are also found in Austria (14 percentage points), Belgium (13 percentage points) and Germany (13 percentage points).

FIGURE 37: PAID WORK RATE AMONG RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT AGED 20 TO 64 YEARS WHO WERE ENGAGED IN ANY PAID WORK IN THE 4 WEEKS BEFORE THE SURVEY (INCLUDING SELF-EMPLOYMENT AND OCCASIONAL WORK OR WORK IN THE 4 WEEKS BEFORE THE SURVEY), COMPARED WITH THE EMPLOYMENT RATE IN THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (2021) are from Eurostat (lfsa_ergaed) (downloaded 5 April 2023).

A large proportion of young respondents who are neither in employment nor in education is commonly seen to reflect potential structural problems in the education system and employment opportunities. **Figure 38** shows the rate of young respondents (aged 16 to 24) who are neither in employment nor in education or training (NEET). Overall, 14 % of young respondents of African descent are NEET. On average, the rate is similar to that for the general population (11 % in EU-27) and to that found in EU-MIDIS II (18 %).

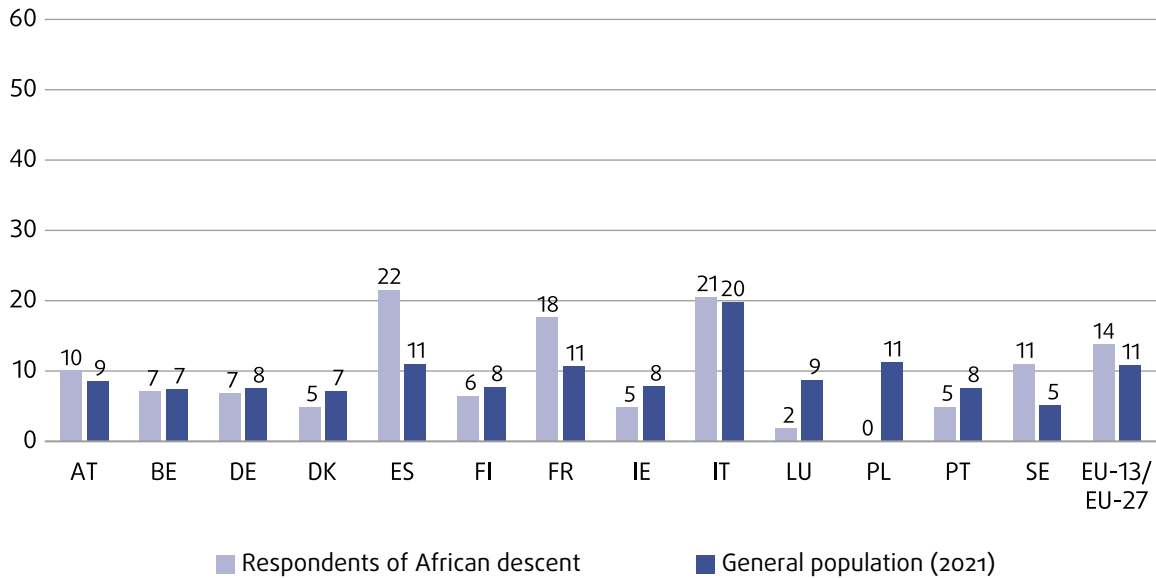
Spain and Sweden ⁽⁴⁾ are exceptions. In these countries, about twice as many young respondents (aged 16 to 24) of African descent are NEET as in the general population. In France, the rate is 1.7 times as high as that for the general population in the same age group. In Italy, one in five 16- to 24-year-olds are NEET, and no differences are observed between young respondents of African descent (21 %) and young respondents in the general population (20 %).

On average, slightly more young men of African descent are NEET (16 %) than young women of African descent (10 %). Moreover, proficiency in the language of the survey country substantially decreases the risk of young people being NEET. More young respondents with poor skills in reading, writing or speaking the national language are NEET (28 %) than those who are proficient in all three areas (11 %). While citizenship of the residence country does not influence the NEET rate, the rate is over two times higher among immigrants of African descent than among descendants of immigrants of African descent (17 % compared with 8 %).

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent aged between 20 and 64 years (women, n = 1 604; men, n = 2 599); weighted results.
- ^b The overall average for the general population is the EU-27 value, while the average for the survey respondents includes only the countries presented in the graph.
- ^c Questions: 'Which of these categories describes your current situation best?'; 'Did you do any work in the last 4 weeks to earn some money?' and 'You said before that you are currently [insert answer to the question related to the respondent's current employment situation]. In what year was the last time you were in work?'

FIGURE 38: RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT AGED 16 TO 24 YEARS WHO ARE NEITHER IN WORK NOR IN EDUCATION OR TRAINING, COMPARED WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (2021) are from Eurostat (edat_lfse_20) (downloaded 5 April 2023).

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent aged 16–24 years ($n = 1\,520$); weighted results.
- ^b The overall average for the general population is the EU-27 value, while the average for the survey respondents includes only the countries presented in the graph.
- ^c The results have limited 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 International Labour Organization's definition. EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants data are for respondents of African descent aged 16–24 years.

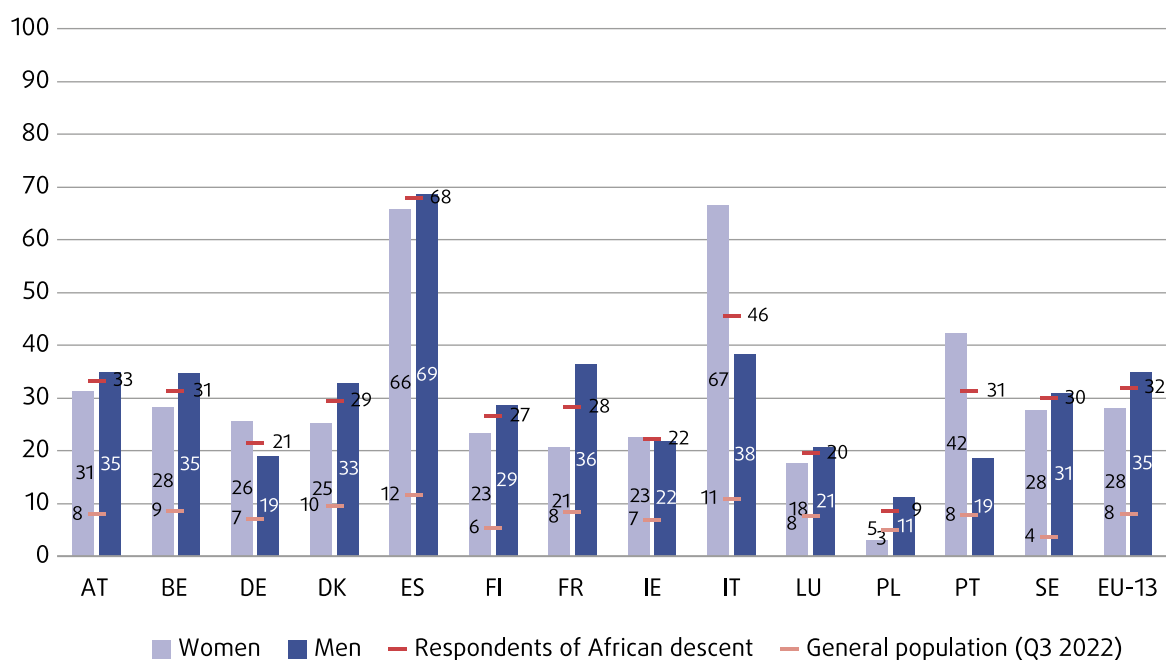
4.2.2. Types and quality of jobs

Looking only at the labour market situation of people of African descent through self-declared activity status and paid work rates does not account for the quality of work people are engaged in. The quality of respondents' work may significantly affect their well-being and risk of living in poverty.

Almost a third of respondents of African descent who are in employment (32 %) work in elementary occupations, compared with 8 % of the general population. In 2016, 26 % of respondents worked in elementary occupations. Elementary occupations usually consist of work involving physical work and menial tasks⁽⁵⁾. The proportions are highest in Spain (68 %) and Italy (46 %) and lowest in Poland (9 %) (Figure 39).



FIGURE 39: SHARE OF RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT IN ELEMENTARY OCCUPATIONS, COMPARED WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY GENDER AND COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (Q3 2022) are author's calculations based on Eurostat (LFSQ_EISN2) (downloaded on 5 April 2023).

On average, a smaller proportion of women (28 %) than men (35 %) work in elementary occupations, with the opposite in Italy (67 % of women and 38 % of men) and Germany (26 % of women and 19 % of men). Work in elementary occupations increases with age (24 % of 16- to 24-year-olds and 37 % of 45- to 59-year-olds are in such occupations). While 22 % of employed survey country citizens of African descent work in elementary occupations, the value is almost double (42 %) for non-EU nationals. Respondents who have stayed in the country for less than 5 years are more likely to work in elementary occupations (39 %) than those who were born in the survey country (12 %).

Most respondents with a poor level of proficiency in reading, writing and speaking in the national language work in elementary occupations (54 %), compared with 22 % of respondents who are proficient in all three aspects.

The rate of employment in elementary occupations decreases at higher education levels. More than half (52 %) of employed respondents with a low level of education (ISCED 0–2) work in elementary occupations, but 1 in 10 (10 %) respondents who have completed tertiary education do so. This points to overqualification among people of African descent and possible difficulties with qualifications obtained abroad being recognised in respondents' countries of residence.

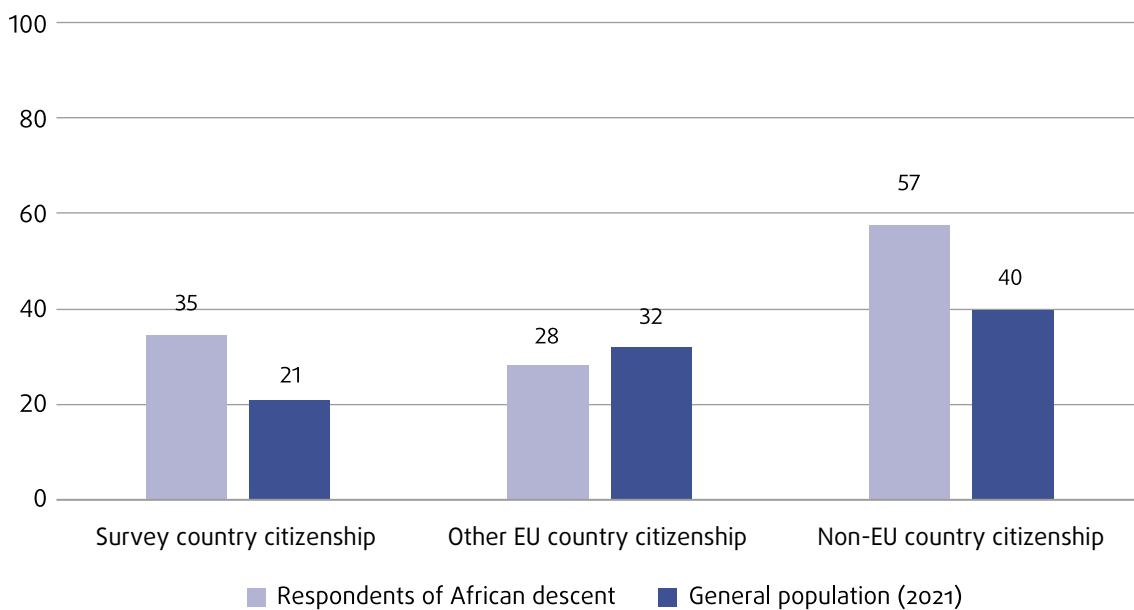
The **EU overqualification rate** is calculated for employed people with tertiary education (ISCED 5–8). The overqualification rate is the proportion of people with tertiary education who are employed in a low- or medium-skilled occupation (International Standard Classification of Occupations major groups 4–9). The data suggest that a higher proportion of people of African descent than the general population work in jobs requiring qualifications below their educational level. The over qualification rate, regardless of citizenship, is 46 % for people of African descent and 22 % for the general population in the EU-27.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent aged 20–64 who indicated that they were employed (n = 3 960; women, n = 1 522; men, n = 2 432); weighted results.
- ^b The overall average for the general population is the EU-27 value, while the average for the survey respondents includes only the countries presented in the graph.
- ^c Question: 'What is your current job or occupation?'

Figure 40 shows that the risk of overqualification is lower for respondents who are citizens of the country in which they currently reside, among both people of African descent (35 %) and the general population (21 %), than for those who are not citizens of any EU country (57 % for people of African descent and 40 % for the general population in the EU-27). If the respondent is a citizen of an EU country other than that where they reside, the overqualification rate is similar for respondents of African descent (28 %) and for the general population (32 %). Respondents of African descent are at higher risk of overqualification than the general population across the EU-27, regardless of whether or not they are citizens of the survey country. Owing to small sample sizes, the results cannot be broken down by country.

FIGURE 40: EU OVERQUALIFICATION RATE FOR RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT, COMPARED WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY CITIZENSHIP (%)^a



Sources: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (2021) are from Eurostat (2023), 'Non-nationals more likely over-qualified than nationals' (downloaded 5 April 2023).

▲ Notes:

^a Out of all respondents of African descent aged 20–64 who are employed and have attained a tertiary level of education (n = 1 269); weighted results.

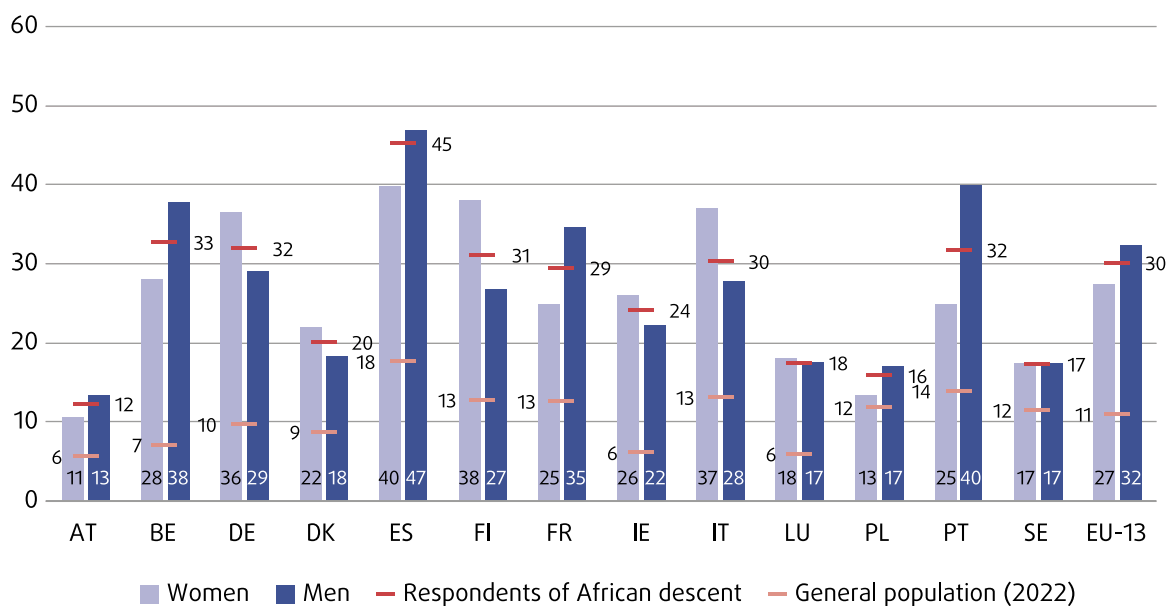
Job security is an important factor influencing well-being and risk of being in poverty. Almost a third of employed respondents of African descent (30 %) have only a temporary contract (Figure 41). This includes those working with contracts of limited duration (shorter than 1 year or longer than 1 year) and those in ad hoc (daily or weekly) work. This percentage is almost three times that for the general population across the 27 EU Member States (11 %).

The highest proportion of employed respondents of African descent with temporary contracts is in Spain (45 %), which also displays the biggest differences between the general population and people of African descent (27 percentage points). Large differences are also observed in Belgium (26 percentage points) and Germany (22 percentage points). The smallest differences are in Poland (4 percentage points), Sweden (5 percentage points) and Austria (6 percentage points).

A higher proportion of women than men have temporary contracts in Finland (38 % compared with 27 %), Italy (37 % compared with 28 %) and Germany (36 % compared with 29 %). The opposite is observed in Portugal (40 % for men and 25 % for women), Belgium (38 % compared with 28 %), France (35 % compared with 25 %) and Spain (47 % compared with 40 %).

The higher the age of the respondents, the lower the proportion of those with temporary contracts. No differences due to health, education level or language proficiency, or country of birth are discernible. Respondents being citizens of their country of residence has a substantial effect: 20 % of country nationals have temporary contracts, and the rate is almost double for non-nationals (39 %).

FIGURE 41: SHARE OF RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT EMPLOYED AND WITH TEMPORARY CONTRACTS, COMPARED WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (2022) are from Eurostat (TPS00073) (downloaded 5 April 2023).

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent aged 20–64 who indicated that they were working (n = 3 736; women, n = 1 457; men, n = 2 274); weighted results.
- ^b The overall average for the general population is the EU-27 value, while the average for the survey respondents includes only the countries presented in the graph.
- ^c Question: 'What kind of employment contract do you have in your current main job?'

4.3. ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND POVERTY

Legal corner

Article 34 of the **EU Charter of Fundamental Rights** recognises and respects the right to social and housing assistance so as to ensure a decent existence for all those who lack sufficient resources.

While the provision of affordable and adequate housing and housing policy in general are the responsibility of the Member States, the **European Pillar of Social Rights** highlights the importance of access to social housing and housing assistance of good quality for those in need and the right to access essential services of good quality, including water, sanitation, energy, transport, financial services and digital communications.

Combating poverty and social exclusion is a headline target of the **European Pillar of Social Rights action plan** to be reached by 2030. This target is embodied in goal 1 of the UN sustainable development goals. The goal 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.



4.3.1. Access to adequate housing

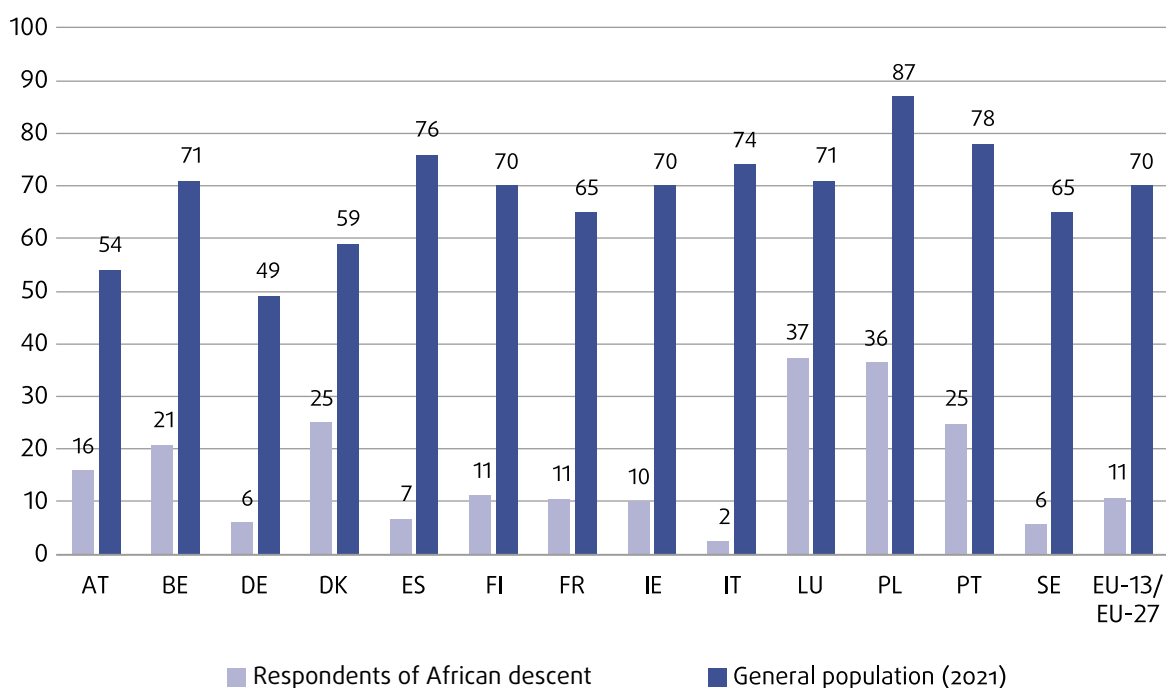
Access to affordable and decent housing is a key aspect of social inclusion. In 2021, 70 % of the EU population lived in owner-occupied dwellings, 20 % were renting accommodation at market rates and 10 % were tenants in reduced-rent or free accommodation. Only 11 % of respondents of African descent lived in owner-occupied dwellings and 36 % lived in accommodation rented from private landlords. Some 45 % lived in municipal or social housing. These numbers indicate that the monthly housing cost burden for people of African descent is much higher than for the general population (Figure 42).

The rate of ownership among people of African descent between countries varies from 2 % in Italy to 37 % in Luxembourg and is mostly higher in countries with a higher rate of ownership among the general population. However, the gap between people of African descent and the general population living in owner-occupied dwellings is largest in Italy and smallest in Denmark and Luxembourg.

Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent ($n = 6\,682$); weighted results.
- ^b The overall average for the general population is the EU-27 value, while the average for the survey respondents includes only the countries presented in the graph.
- ^c Question: 'Do you own or rent your accommodation?'

FIGURE 42: RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT WHO LIVE IN ACCOMMODATION THEY OWN, COMPARED WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (2021) are from Eurostat (I ILC_LVH002_custom_5614546) (downloaded 31 March 2023).

Living in low-quality housing can have long-term negative impacts on the well-being and physical and mental health of adults and children. Overcrowded households and unhealthy housing conditions such as mould or damp walls can increase the risk of illness. For example, the risk of COVID-19 infections was disproportionately high among ethnic minorities and immigrants, as the regular FRA reports on the fundamental rights implications of the pandemic show (6). Growing up in low-quality and overcrowded housing puts children at higher risk of experiencing physical and mental problems and affects their overall development (7).

According to Eurostat:

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:

one room for the household;

one room per couple in the household;

one room for each single person aged 18 or more;

one room per pair of single people of the same gender between 12 and 17 years of age;

one room for each single person between 12 and 17 years of age and not included in the previous category;

one room per pair of children under 12 years of age.

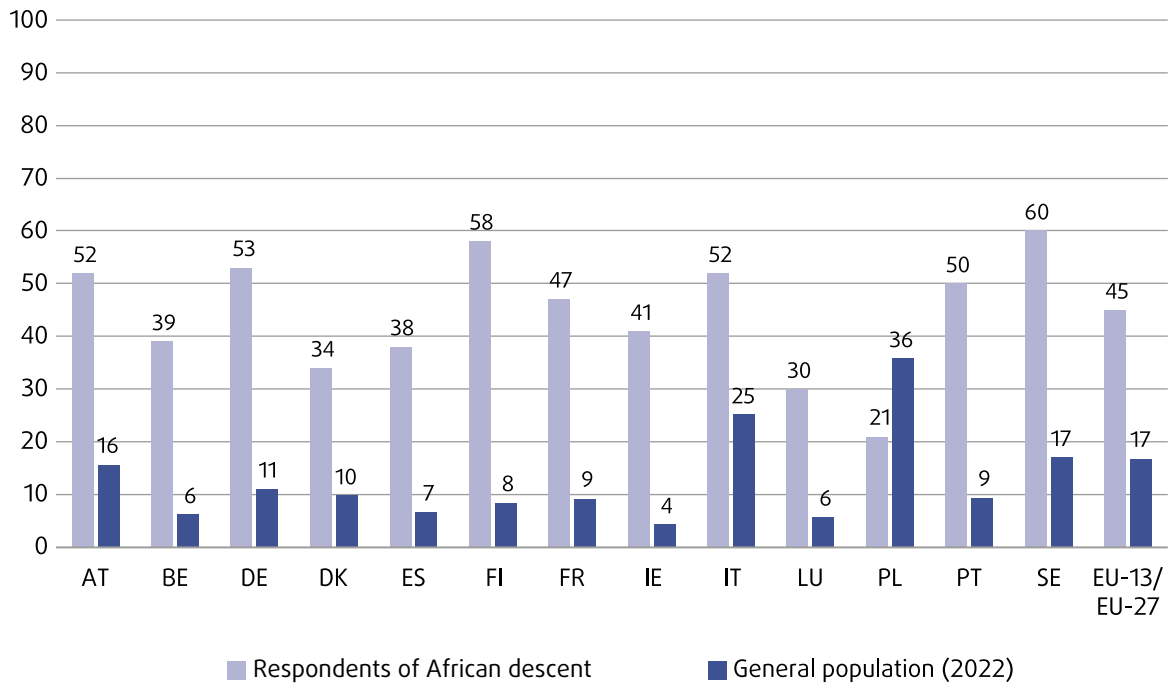
Source: Eurostat (n.d.), '**Glossary: overcrowding rate**'.

Nearly one in two (45 %) respondents of African descent in the 13 countries surveyed live in overcrowded housing – a share that is over 2.5 times as high as that for the general population in the EU-27 (17 % in 2022) (**Figure 43**). Overcrowding rates vary, ranging from 60 % in Sweden (8) and 58 % in Finland to 21 % in Poland and 30 % in Luxembourg. In all countries surveyed, except Poland, respondents of African descent are more likely to live in overcrowded housing than the general population.

The biggest gaps in rates are seen in Finland (50 percentage points), Sweden (43 percentage points), Germany (42 percentage points) and Portugal (41 percentage points). By contrast, in Poland the share for the general population is higher than that for respondents of African descent by 15 percentage points.

The overall proportion of people of African descent living in overcrowded housing based on EU-MIDIS II was the same as the rate based on the 2022 survey, at 45 %.

FIGURE 43: PROPORTION OF PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT LIVING IN OVERCROWDED HOUSING COMPARED WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (2022) are from Eurostat (TESS170) (downloaded 15 June 2023).

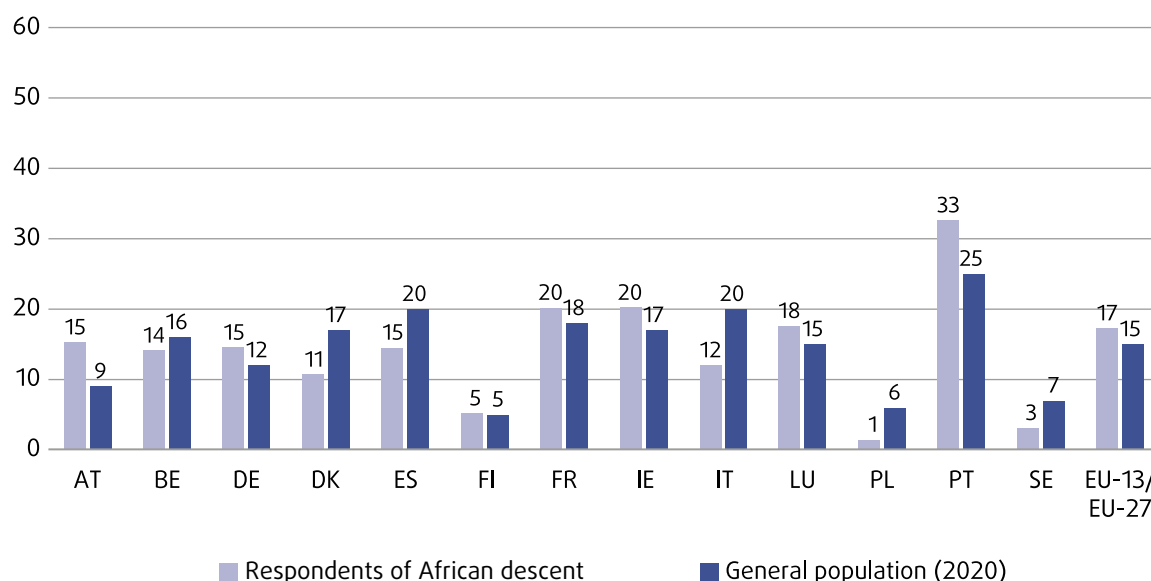
▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 752); weighted results.
- ^b The overall average for the general population is the EU-27 value, while the average for the survey respondents includes only the countries presented in the graph.
- ^c 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 one room per household, plus one room per couple in the household, one room for each single person aged 18 or above, one room per pair of single people of the same gender between 12 and 17 years of age, one room for each single person between 12 and 17 years of age and not included in the previous category, and one room per pair of children under 12 years of age.

On average, 17 % of respondents of African descent live in dwellings with a leaking roof; mould or damp walls, floors or foundations; or rot in window frames or floors (Figure 44). This is just above the rate for the general population in the EU-27 (15 %). Such bad housing conditions are particularly prevalent among people of African descent in Portugal and are less prevalent in Sweden (3 %) (⁹) and Poland (1 %). This can be linked to the very high percentage of people of African descent in social or public housing in Sweden (64 %) and the high rate of respondents living in a property they own in Poland (36 %), mostly without a mortgage.

In Denmark, Italy and Spain, the general population faces worse housing conditions than survey respondents of African descent. This could be related to the higher proportion of respondents in public housing, which highlights the need to provide affordable and decent-quality housing in all sectors and to offer sufficient public housing to all in need.

FIGURE 44: RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT WHO LIVE IN ACCOMMODATION WITH A LEAKING ROOF, MOULD OR DAMP WALLS/FLOORS/FOUNDATIONS, OR ROT IN WINDOW FRAMES OR FLOORS, COMPARED WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (2020) are from Eurostat (ILC_MDHO01__custom_6337220) (downloaded 25 May 2023).

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 752); weighted results.
- ^b The overall average for the general population is the EU-27 value, while the average for the survey respondents includes only the countries presented in the graph.
- ^c Question: 'Does your accommodation have any of the following problems? Leaking roof, mould or damp walls/floors/foundation or rot in window frames or floor.'

Living in accommodation with a leaking roof, mould or damp walls/floors/foundations, or rot in window frames or floors can be associated with higher health risks, such as respiratory conditions⁽¹⁰⁾. It also has an impact on the energy efficiency of the housing and the ability of residents to keep the accommodation warm and the affordability of heating.

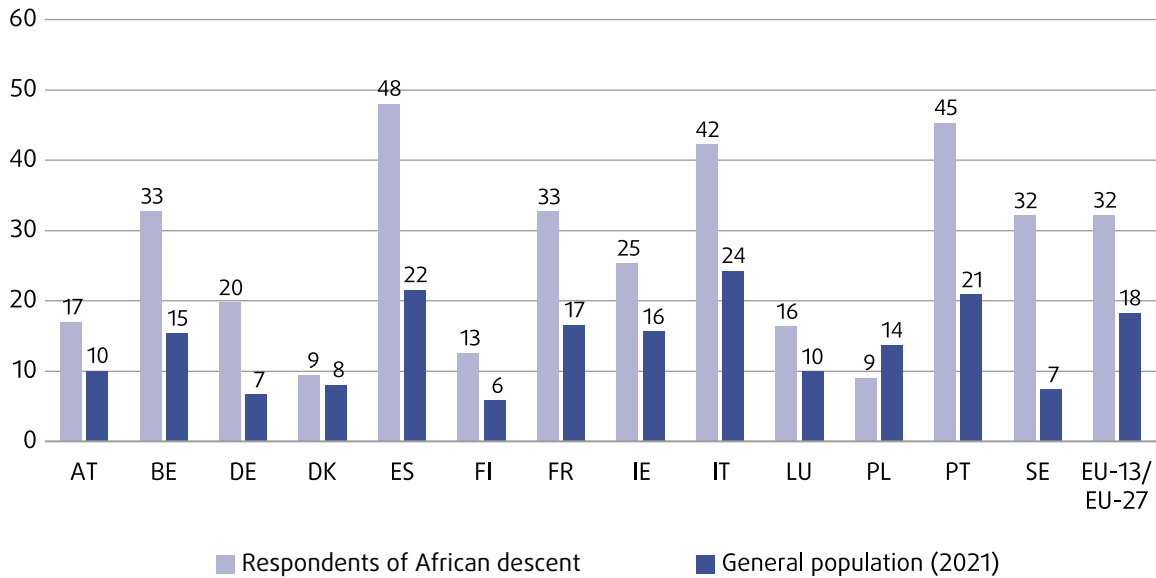
4.3.2. Financial situation and access to affordable housing and energy

The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated existing social vulnerabilities and inequalities. It hit the most vulnerable hardest⁽¹¹⁾ and affected people of African descent disproportionately.

Every third respondent of African descent (31 %) faced a loss of income during the pandemic. Only a few (6 %) say that their income increased during this time, with substantial variations across Member States. Whereas in Poland 1 in 10 respondents (10 %) experienced a decrease in income during the pandemic, in Italy every second respondent (49 %) saw their income decrease during the pandemic. The survey findings show that, whereas on average 18 % of the general population in the EU faced difficulty or great difficulty in making ends meet in 2021, every third respondent of African descent (32 %) in the 13 Member States surveyed encountered the same level of difficulty, with substantial variations among Member States (Figure 45).

In Spain and Portugal, almost every second respondent of African descent had (great) difficulty in making ends meet (48 % and 45 %, respectively). Around a third or more of respondents indicated that they struggled financially in Italy (42 %), Belgium and France (both 33 %), and Sweden (32 %). The lowest proportions among people of African descent having (great) difficulty making ends meet are seen in Poland and Denmark (both 9 %), and in Finland (13 %).

FIGURE 45: RESPONDENTS' HOUSEHOLDS MAKING ENDS MEET WITH (GREAT) DIFFICULTY, COMPARED WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (2021) are from Eurostat (ILC_MDES09__custom_5615252) (downloaded 31 March 2023).

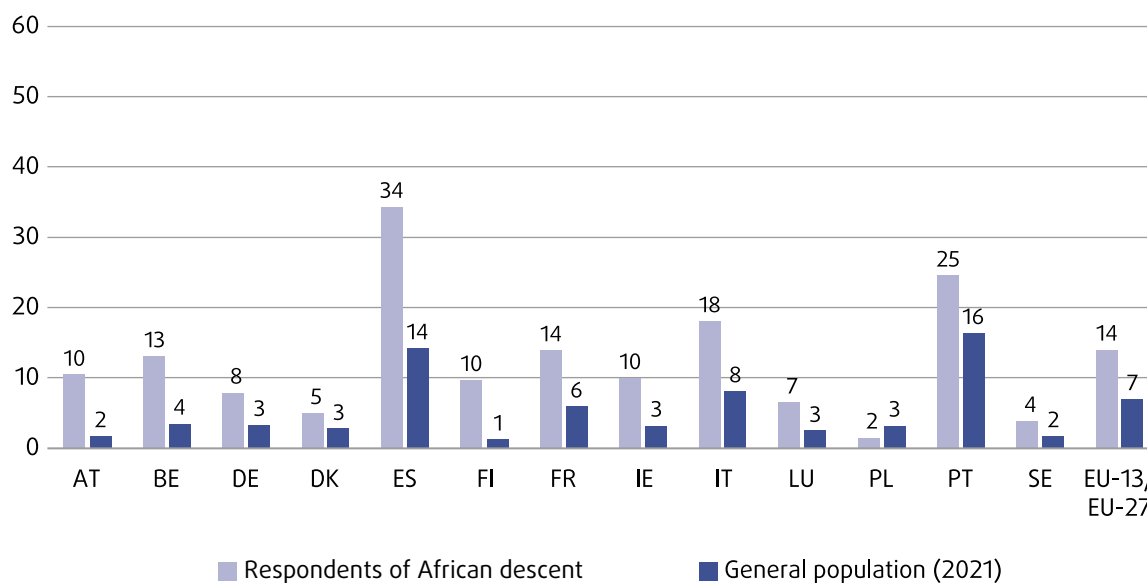
▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 752); weighted results.
- ^b The overall average for the general population is the EU-27 value, while the average for the survey respondents includes only the countries presented in the graph.
- ^c Question: 'Thinking of your household's total income, is your household able to make ends meet? With great difficulty, with difficulty, with some difficulty, fairly easily, easily, very easily.'

Rising energy prices and the increasing cost of living have increased the levels of energy poverty in Europe. In 2022, the number of Europeans who could not afford to keep their homes adequately warm rose to more than 40 million (9.3 % of the population) ⁽¹²⁾.

Overall, people of African descent are twice as likely (14 %) as the general population (7 %) to say that they cannot afford to keep their homes warm, with some variations across the countries surveyed (Figure 46). The highest proportions were in Spain (34 %), Portugal (25 %) and Italy (18 %). The lowest were in Poland (2 %), Sweden (4 %) and Denmark (5 %). However, Austria and Finland had the biggest relative gaps between people of African descent and the general population. In Finland, people of African descent are ten times more likely not to be able to afford to keep their homes warm than with the general population (10 % compared with 1 %; in Austria, they are five times more likely (10 % compared with 2 %).

FIGURE 46: RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT WHO CANNOT AFFORD TO KEEP THEIR HOME WARM, COMPARED WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



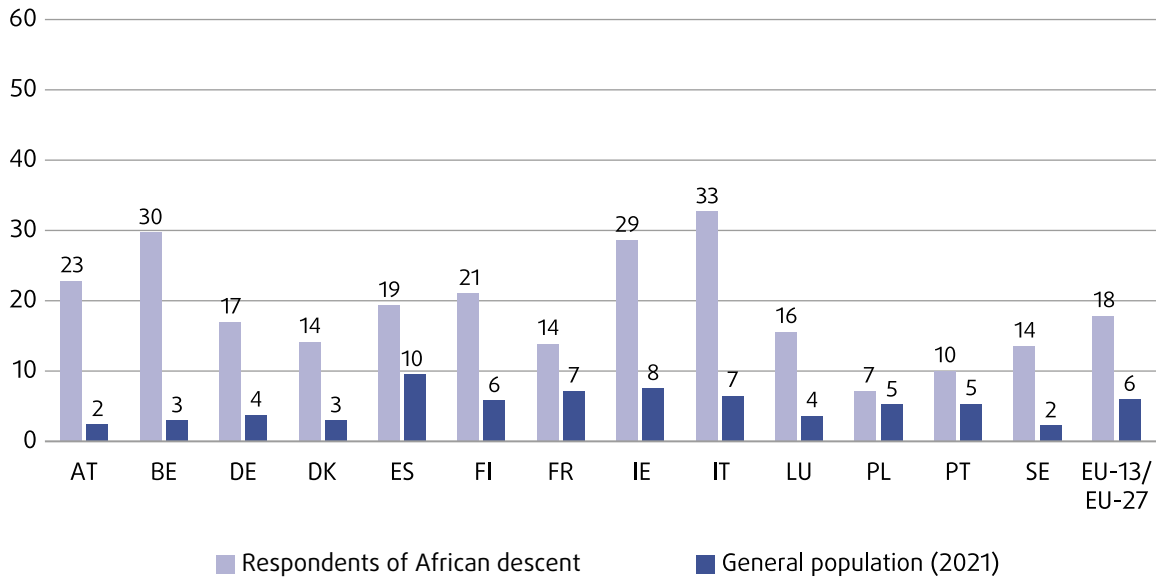
Sources: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (2021) are from Eurostat (ILC_MDESo1__custom_5608083) (downloaded 30 March 2023).

In 2021, 6 % of the general population indicated that they had been in arrears with their utility bills at least once in the 12 months before the survey (Figure 47). Households with people of African descent are three times more likely to be in arrears (18 %). The rates are particularly high in Italy (33 %), Belgium (30 %) and Ireland (29 %), where almost every third respondent stated that their household had been in arrears with their utility bills in the 12 months before the survey. In all countries, the proportion of people of African descent in arrears was higher than the proportion for the general population, reflecting the dependency of people of African descent on the private rental market.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 752); weighted results.
- ^b The overall average for the general population is the EU-27 value, while the average for the survey respondents includes only the countries presented in the graph.
- ^c Question: 'Can your household afford to keep its home adequately warm?'

FIGURE 47: RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT WHO WERE IN ARREARS IN UTILITY BILLS IN THE 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE SURVEY, COMPARED WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (2021) are from Eurostat (ILC_MDES07) (downloaded 16 May 2023).

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 752); weighted results.
- ^b The overall average for the general population is the EU-27 value, while the average for the survey respondents includes only the countries presented in the graph.
- ^c Questions: 'In the last 12 months, how often has your household been unable to pay the following costs on time due to financial difficulties? Utility bills, such as heating, electricity, water, gas' and 'Does your accommodation have any of the following problems? Leaking roof, mould or damp walls/floors/foundation or rot in window frames or floor.'

4.4. HEALTH



Legal corner

Article 35 of the **EU Charter of Fundamental Rights** provides that everyone has the right to access preventive healthcare and the right to benefit from medical treatment under the conditions that national laws and practices establish. The **European Pillar of Social Rights action plan** states that everyone has the right to timely access to affordable, preventive and curative healthcare of good quality.

The survey asked respondents about the following aspects of their health or healthcare:

- self-perceived health, to obtain a subjective assessment of the respondent's general health;
- self-perceived long-standing limitations in usual activities due to disability or health problems in the 6 months preceding the survey;
- health insurance coverage;
- self-reported (unmet) needs for medical examination or treatment in the year preceding the survey and the main reason for the needs being unmet;
- self-reported long-standing illnesses or health problems.

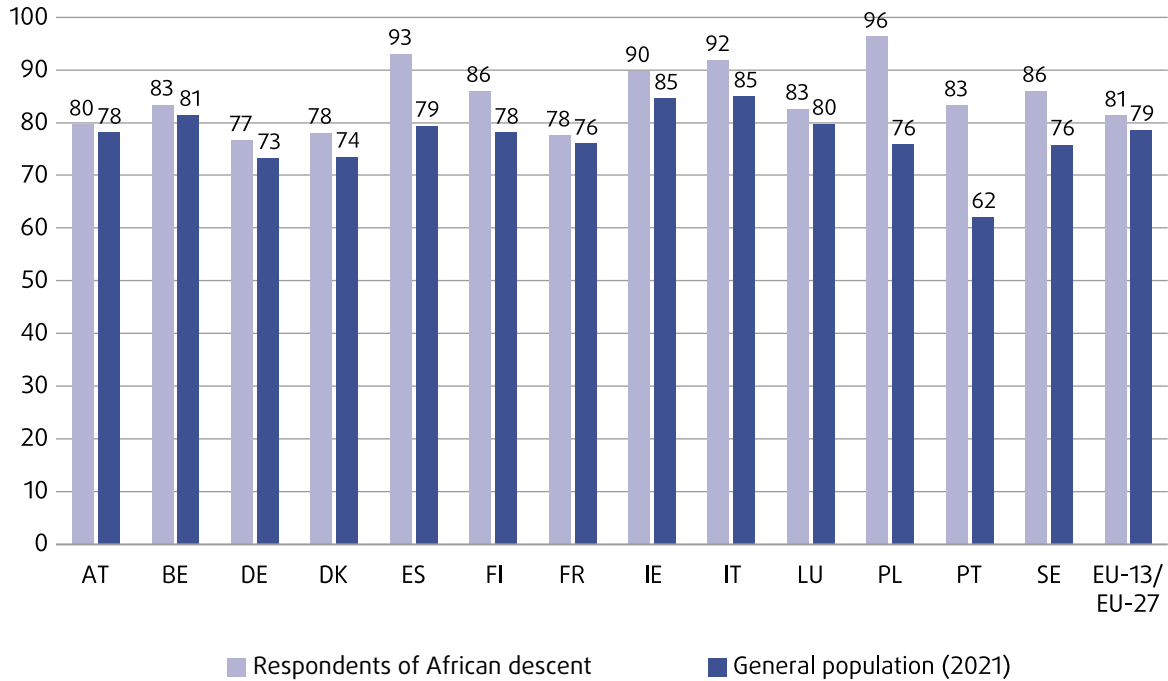
Immigrants and descendants of immigrants of African descent in the EU are on average considerably younger than the general population in most of the countries surveyed (see Annex II). To allow for more reliable comparisons between people of African descent and the general population, the analysis of some health indicators presented in this section is limited to respondents aged 16–64 years.

Overall, 81 % of respondents of African descent aged 16–64 years perceive their general health as 'good' or 'very good', which is about the same as the share among the general population of the same age in the EU-27 (79 %) (Figure 48). The survey results vary across Member States. For example, in Portugal, Poland and Spain, the proportion of those reporting very good or good health is higher among people of African descent than among the general population (in Portugal, 83 % compared with 62 %; in Poland, 96 % compared with 76 %; in Spain, 93 % compared with 79 %).

Men of African descent tend to assess their general health more positively than women of African descent (86 % compared with 77 %), which is in line with findings for the general population. The positive subjective assessment of general health tends to decrease as the age of respondents increases. While 92 % of the youngest respondents (16–24 years old) assess their health as 'good' or 'very good', the proportion is slightly higher than every second respondent (55 %) among those aged 60 years or over. The proportion is 85 % among 25- to 44-year-olds and 67 % among 45- to 59-year-olds.

Respondents with a level of education higher than upper secondary assess their health more positively. The proportion of respondents assessing their health as 'good' or 'very good' is 76 % among respondents without a formal education or with only a primary education, 85 % among those with upper secondary education and 83 % among respondents with tertiary education.

FIGURE 48: SUBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT OF OWN HEALTH CONDITION AS 'VERY GOOD' OR 'GOOD' AMONG RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT AGED 16 TO 64 YEARS, COMPARED WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (2021) are from Eurostat (HLTH_SILC_01) (downloaded 31 May 2023).

▲ Notes:

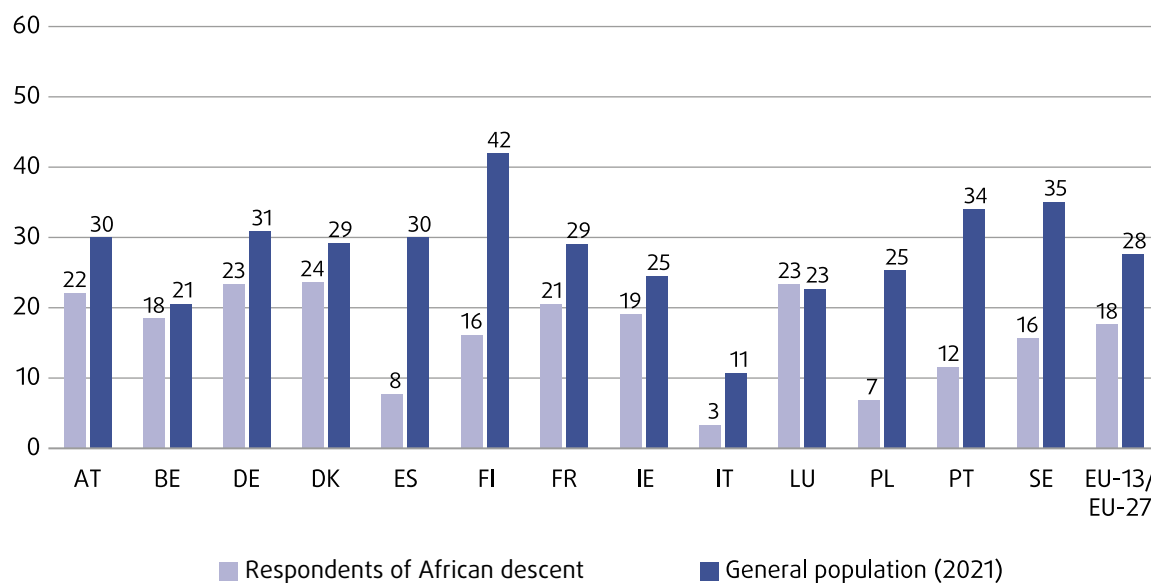
- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 462); weighted results.
- ^b The overall average for the general population is the EU-27 value, while the average for the survey respondents includes only the countries presented in the graph.
- ^c Question: 'How is your health in general? Very good; good; fair; bad; very bad.'

The survey asked respondents if they had a long-standing illness or health problem. Overall, in 13 survey countries, nearly every fifth (18 %) respondent of African descent aged 16 to 64 years says that they have a long-standing illness or health problem. Variations among the countries surveyed were considerable, with proportions ranging from 24 % in Denmark and 23 % in Germany and Luxembourg to 3 % in Italy, 7 % in Poland and 8 % in Spain (Figure 49). The overall rate of self-reported long-standing illnesses or health problems among the general population of the same age in the EU-27 is higher (28 %) and varies considerably across Member States.

Fewer men than women report having a long-standing illness or health problem (14 % compared with 21 %).

Age and disability affect the prevalence of long-standing illnesses or health problems. 40 % of those aged 60 years or over compared with 14 % of those aged 16–24 years face these issues. 57 % of those who experience limitations in daily activities, compared with 8 % of those who do not experience limitations, have a long-standing illness or health problem. In addition, 44 % of those who self-identify as belonging to a minority in terms of disability, compared with 16 % of those who do not, are dealing with such an illness or health problem.

FIGURE 49: SELF-REPORTED LONG-STANDING ILLNESS OR HEALTH PROBLEM AMONG RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT AGED 16 TO 64 YEARS, COMPARED WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA’s EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (2021) are from Eurostat (HLTH_SILC_o4) (downloaded 25 May 2023).

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 462); weighted results.
- ^b The overall average for the general population is the EU-27 value, while the average for the survey respondents includes only the countries presented in the graph.
- ^c Question: ‘Do you have any longstanding illness or health problem?’

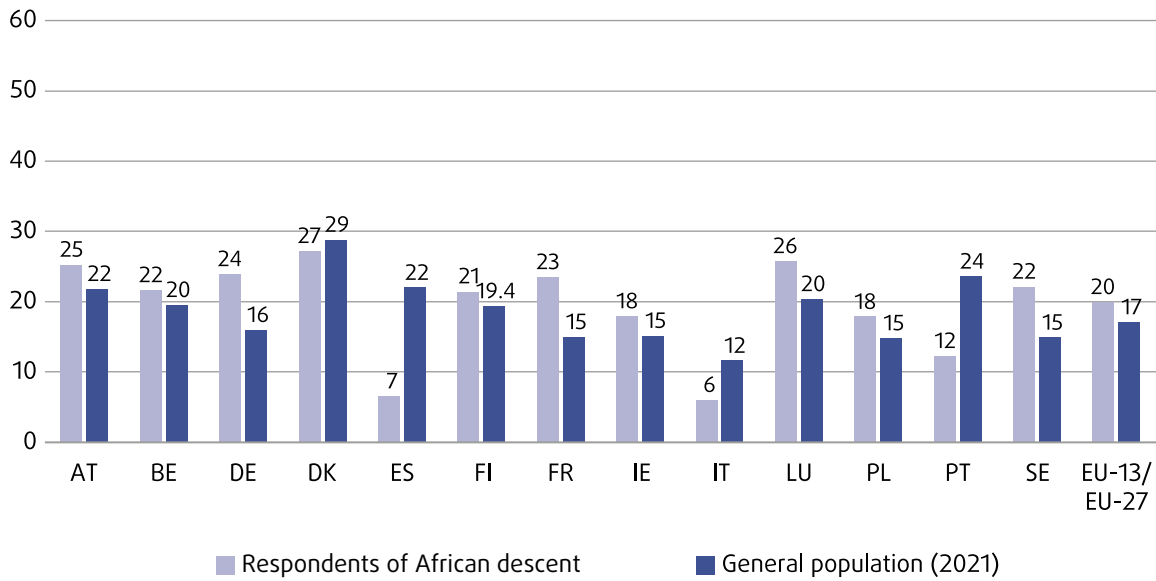
The survey asked respondents about activity limitation. This is a dimension of health/disability capturing long-standing limitations in performing usual activities (due to health problems) by applying the Global Activity Limitation Instrument ⁽¹³⁾.

Overall, 20 % of respondents of African descent aged 16–64 years indicated (some or severe) long-standing limitations in their usual activities due to health problems. This is close to the rate among the general population of the same age in the EU-27 (17 %) (Figure 50).

However, in some countries the rates are higher among people of African descent than among the general population, such as in Germany (24 % compared with 16 %), France (23 % compared with 15 %) and Sweden (22 % compared with 15 %). In contrast, the shares of people of African descent who reported some or severe long-standing limitations are lower than among the general population in Italy (6 % compared with 12 %), Portugal (12 % compared with 24 %) and Spain (7 % compared with 22 %).

Long-standing limitations are more often observed among women (24 %) than men (16 %), and among older respondents than younger respondents (32 % of those aged 45–59 years, compared with 13 % of those aged 16–24 years and 16 % of those aged 25–44 years). They are also more frequent among those who self-identify as belonging to a minority in terms of disability (42 %) than among those who do not identify as such (19 %).

FIGURE 50: SELF-PERCEIVED LONG-STANDING LIMITATIONS IN USUAL ACTIVITIES DUE TO HEALTH PROBLEMS AMONG RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT AGED 16 TO 64 YEARS, COMPARED WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (2021) are from Eurostat (HLTH_SILC_20) (downloaded 31 May 2023).

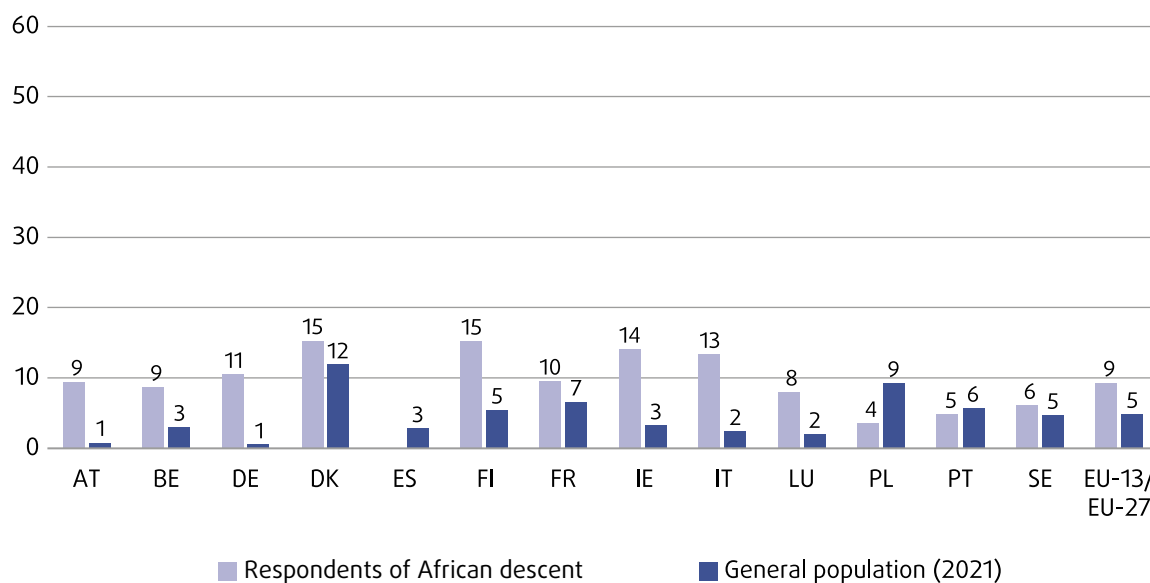
▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 462); weighted results.
- ^b The overall average for the general population is the EU-27 value, while the average for the survey respondents includes only the countries presented in the graph.
- ^c Question: 'For at least the past six months, to what extent have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do? Would you say you have been severely limited; limited but not severely; not limited at all?'

People of African descent are more likely to report having unmet medical needs in most of the EU Member States the survey covers.

Overall, around every 10th respondent (9 %) reported that they had an unmet need for a medical examination or treatment in the year before the survey. This is nearly two times the rate in the general population in the EU-27 (5 %) (Figure 51). The proportion of respondents with an unmet need for a medical examination or treatment in the year before the survey ranges from 4 % in Poland, 5 % in Portugal and 6 % in Sweden to 15 % in Denmark and Finland and 14 % in Ireland. In Spain, Poland and Portugal, the share of the general population with an unmet need for medical care is higher than that of people of African descent (in Spain, 3 % compared with 0 %; in Poland, 9 % compared with 4 %; in Portugal, 6 % compared with 5 %).

FIGURE 51: SELF-REPORTED UNMET NEEDS FOR MEDICAL EXAMINATION AND CARE AMONG RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT, COMPARED WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b,c}



Sources: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022; results for the general population (2021) are from Eurostat (2022), 'Unmet health care needs statistics'.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of respondents of African descent who needed a medical examination or treatment in the 12 months before the survey (n = 3 263); weighted results.
- ^b The overall average for the general population is the EU-27 value, while the average for the survey respondents includes only the countries presented in the graph.
- ^c Questions: 'Was there any time during the past 12 months when you really needed a medical examination or treatment for yourself?' and 'Did you have a medical examination or treatment each time you really needed it during the past 12 months?'

Most respondents of African descent mentioned affordability as the reason for their unmet healthcare need: 41 % said the service was too expensive and/or that their health insurance did not cover the service. 17 % of respondents mentioned long waiting lists. Some 15 % of respondents said that they were waiting to see if the problem got better, and another 8 % did not know of any good doctor or specialist. 32 % had no health insurance in their country of residence.

Most respondents (90 %) had national health insurance or another type. There were substantial variations across countries, with proportions ranging from 53 % in Finland and 58 % in Ireland to 95 % in Portugal and Spain. Around 74 % of people of African descent have health insurance in Sweden, compared with 82 % in Austria, 86 % in Poland and Italy, 85 % in Denmark, 86 % in Germany, 90 % in Luxembourg, 92 % in Belgium and 94 % in France.

Every 10th respondent (10 %) of African descent across the countries surveyed had neither national health insurance nor another type. The shares are the highest in Finland (46 %), Ireland (41 %) and Sweden (23 %).

Endnotes

- (¹) OECD and European Commission (2023), *Indicators of Immigrant Integration 2023: Settling in*, OECD Publishing, Paris.
- (²) OECD and European Commission (2023), *Indicators of Immigrant Integration 2023: Settling in*, OECD Publishing, Paris, p. 74.
- (³) Results for Sweden should be interpreted with caution; see the section 'Survey in a nutshell' for information on the potential impact of measures implemented to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on data collection and people's everyday experiences.
- (⁴) Results for Sweden should be interpreted with caution; see the section 'Survey in a nutshell' for information on the potential impact of measures implemented to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on data collection and people's everyday experiences.
- (⁵) For more details on elementary occupations, see International Labour Organization (n.d.), '**Major group 9: elementary occupations**'.
- (⁶) See, for example, FRA (2020), *Coronavirus Pandemic in the EU – Fundamental rights implications: Focus on social rights*, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.
- (⁷) European Commission (2020), *Understanding the housing conditions experienced by children in the EU*, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.
- (⁸) Results for Sweden should be interpreted with caution; see the section 'Survey in a nutshell' for information on the potential impact of measures implemented to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on data collection and people's everyday experiences.
- (⁹) Results for Sweden should be interpreted with caution; see the section 'Survey in a nutshell' for information on the potential impact of measures implemented to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on data collection and people's everyday experiences.
- (¹⁰) European Commission (2020), *Understanding the housing conditions experienced by children in the EU*, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.
- (¹¹) See, for example, Eurofound (2022), *The cost-of-living crisis and energy poverty in the EU: Social impact and policy responses – Background paper*, Dublin.
- (¹²) Eurostat (2023), '**Inability to keep home adequately warm – EU-SILC survey**'.
- (¹³) Eurostat (n.d.), '**Glossary: activity limitation**'.

Annexes

ANNEX I: METHODOLOGY OF THE EU SURVEY ON IMMIGRANTS AND DESCENDANTS OF IMMIGRANTS

FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants (*) collected comparable data in 15 EU Member States: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain and Sweden. It collected data from people originating from or with at least one parent from North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, Syria and Türkiye.

Immigrants and descendants of immigrants were identified by asking potential respondents about their country of birth or their parents' country of birth. In each Member State selected for the survey, target groups were defined to correspond to specific countries and regions of origin (listed below). To be considered a member of one of the target groups of immigrants and descendants of immigrants, respondents had to be born in one of the selected countries of origin or one or both of their parents had to be from one of these countries (making the respondents descendants of immigrants).

Groups to be surveyed in each of the countries were selected based on multiple criteria. These included the size of the target population, the feasibility of carrying out a survey with the target population, the group's risk of experiencing racially, ethnically or religiously motivated discrimination or victimisation, its vulnerability to social exclusion and its comparability with those from previous FRA surveys and across countries. People originating from Syria formed a target group that was not included in FRA's earlier EU-MIDIS II survey.

For the purposes of the survey, immigrants and descendants of immigrants include people living in private households in the following categories.

- **'Immigrants'** include people who were not born in an EU Member State, a European Economic Area (EEA) country or an EFTA country (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland), or the United Kingdom, whose usual place of residence was 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 survey.
- **'Descendants of immigrants'** are people who were born in an EU Member State or EEA/EFTA country or the United Kingdom, 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 or the United Kingdom.

The EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants collected data about immigrants and descendants of immigrants originating from:

- North Africa in five EU Member States – Belgium, France, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain;
- sub-Saharan Africa in 13 EU Member States – Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal, Spain and Sweden;

- Syria in six EU Member States – Austria, Denmark, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands and Sweden;
- Türkiye in four EU Member States – Austria, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands.

The detailed list of countries of origin of immigrants and parents of descendants of immigrants used for sampling are listed in the technical and quality report of the EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants (not yet publicly available). The countries included in the survey cover most immigrants in the target groups.

Questionnaire

The questionnaire, which FRA developed, was translated into 17 languages. These include Arabic, Kurdish, Somali, Tamazight, Tigrinya and Turkish, along with the national languages of the survey countries. The language version used depended on the needs of the target group.

Interviewers were specially trained to conduct face-to-face interviews. The training included cultural and ethical components.

The survey included questions on experiences of discrimination in different areas of life and on experiences of police stops and criminal victimisation, including hate crime. It also included questions on awareness of rights and redress mechanisms and on participation and integration in society. The survey collected information on basic sociodemographic characteristics of all household members, including respondents.

Data collection

Ipsos NV, an international survey company based in Belgium, undertook the fieldwork for the EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants under the supervision of FRA staff. FRA staff monitored the fieldwork's compliance with strict quality control procedures. FRA's Scientific Committee also oversaw the work.

Data were collected through face-to-face interviews using a computerised questionnaire (computer-assisted personal interviewing) in nine survey countries (Belgium, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Spain and Sweden). The interviews took place from October 2021 to late September 2022.

Online data collection was carried out in countries where access to the population register, containing information on a person's country of birth or their parents' country of birth, was available for sampling (Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany and Luxembourg). The sampled respondents were contacted through a postal invitation to complete the questionnaire online. In the Netherlands, where Statistics Netherlands did not provide access to a direct sample for the survey, the data were collected online through social media channels.

Sampling

The target groups in the EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants can be considered 'hard to reach' for survey research, being relatively small and/or dispersed and with no sampling frames for the target groups. Where population registers containing information about a person's country of birth and their parents' country of birth were available for use in the survey sampling, the sample was drawn from the register.

However, the opportunities to sample the target population differed greatly across the EU Member States covered. The survey built significantly on the sampling methodologies developed and employed in the EU-MIDIS II survey, conducted in 2016, in most countries. The best possible design was chosen for each target group in each of the countries.

In some countries, a combination of methods were used to ensure better coverage of the target population. Detailed descriptions of the sampling methods used are published in the survey's technical and quality report.

The survey aspired to achieve national coverage of the target groups in each country, but in some cases this was not feasible. In multistage sampling, areas where the density of the target population was low were excluded because the target population could not be screened efficiently.

For the current survey, individual registers for drawing a representative probability sample could be accessed in Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany and Luxembourg. This approach significantly improved the quality of the sample compared with EU-MIDIS II, in which location sampling (in Austria), quota sampling (in Luxembourg) and random route sampling were applied. In the Netherlands, the data were collected online through social media channels and are therefore not representative.

In France, Italy, Portugal and Spain, a multistage probability sampling design was applied, and after being selected through the random route method respondents were interviewed face-to-face. In Belgium and Ireland, respondents were selected using a quota sampling. Therefore, the survey findings are not representative in these two countries.

The sample sizes were determined based on an optimal allocation with respect to the estimated total size of the target population covered, in addition to practical considerations. In addition, in some countries the sample sizes were reduced given the difficulties of collecting data during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Weighting

The survey results presented in this report are based on weighted data to reflect the selection probabilities for 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 stratified after selection, by the regional distribution and population characteristics of the target population covered. External information and data sources for post-stratification are limited. Therefore, in most countries only the region and urbanity were used for post-stratification, based on the areas where the survey interviews took place.

To produce the statistics that summarise the survey results for all immigrants and descendants of immigrants of African descent in the 13 EU Member States, the samples were weighted by the groups' estimated sizes. Therefore, country and group comparisons take the estimated total size of the target groups in countries into account and do not (directly) reflect the sample sizes. Consequently, the results influence the average statistics for groups (namely statistics reflecting respondents' experiences in the 13 survey countries overall) to a higher degree in countries where the sizes of the target groups are larger (most notably in France) (see also the survey's technical and quality report).

Sampling error and confidence intervals

All sample surveys involve sampling error, given that surveys involve only a fraction of the total population. Therefore, all results based on surveys are point

estimates with underlying statistical variation. Differences between groups of respondents have to be interpreted with respect to the statistical variation of the estimates. Only more substantial differences between population groups should be considered as reflecting actual differences in the whole population.

Results based on small sample sizes are statistically less reliable and are flagged in figures and tables, for example by placing numbers in brackets. These results are not interpreted substantially in the text. They include statistics that are based on samples of between 20 and 49 respondents. Results based on samples with fewer than 20 respondents are not shown.

Impact of COVID-19 restrictions on the survey

The fieldwork for the EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants was carried out between October 2021 and October 2022. During this time, a variety of measures were in place to limit the spread of COVID-19 (depending on the country and the phase of the pandemic).

The measures resulted in data collection being stopped, restarted and adapted in the countries where face-to-face interviewing was implemented. The duration of the fieldwork lengthened, the sample sizes changed and in selected EU Member States the sampling strategies were adapted. The details can be found in the survey's technical and quality report (not yet published).

The measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 impacted the application of location sampling or centre-based sampling in selected countries. These measures changed the number of visits to the locations and how people congregate in the location centres. From the start of the data collection process, the survey team knew that access to some centres selected for the survey might be denied, and that some might prove less productive than expected.

Some centres were not active during the fieldwork period, or smaller numbers of the target population frequented the centres than had been expected. In some cases, this resulted in replacing unproductive location centres with centres of the same type. If this was not possible and there was another centre of the same type in the municipality, the interviews were reallocated to that centre. Otherwise, unproductive location centres were replaced by centres of a different type.

Consultations with stakeholders

In January and June 2023, FRA discussed the preliminary findings of the survey with civil society organisations of people of African descent and with experts in anti-racism from national and international organisations and EU institutions. Its aim was to present and reflect on the structure and content of the report and investigate effective ways of communicating and using the data and results in policy and advocacy work following the report's publication. FRA would like to thank all the stakeholders and experts consulted for their valuable insights and contributions, which were beneficial in finalising the report.

ANNEX II: RESPONDENTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT IN THE EU SURVEY ON IMMIGRANTS AND DESCENDANTS OF IMMIGRANTS

The respondents to the EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants are diverse in their demographic and socioeconomic characteristics, as well as their migration histories. The size of the population also varies across the countries (?). The survey collected information from 6 752 immigrants and descendants of immigrants of African descent in 13 Member States. The

number of respondents in the countries ranged from 419 in Italy to 579 in Germany, with an average of 519 per country (Table 1).

Based on country of birth with respect to immigrants from sub-Saharan Africa, the 13 Member States selected for this survey cover 90 % of the population originating from the countries, departments and overseas territories considered for surveying and residing in the EU (3). The following countries, departments or overseas territories of origin were selected for the survey with respect to immigrants of African descent: Angola; Benin; Botswana; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cabo Verde; Cameroon; the Central African Republic; Chad; Comoros; Congo; Côte d'Ivoire; the 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. In particular, this list includes a French overseas department and a British overseas territory, as well as countries in the Caribbean, which were taken into account as possible places of origin of survey respondents in France.

Overall, 84 % of survey respondents were born outside the EU, EFTA countries and the United Kingdom, in a country in sub-Saharan Africa selected for the survey. They are referred to as immigrants (Table 1). Some 16 % of respondents of African descent were born in the EU, EFTA countries or the United Kingdom, to at least one parent who was born in a country in sub-Saharan Africa selected for the survey. They are referred to as descendants of immigrants. Immigrants in the sample have 54 different countries of origin, and are most often from Angola, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal and Somalia (Table 2).

On average, 87 % of the respondents self-identify as 'a person of African descent or a Black person' and 13 % do not, with some differences across the 13 countries surveyed. Several factors may have affected this outcome. These include respondents being of mixed origin, being born in countries in sub-Saharan Africa but to at least one parent who is white or to parents originating from other regions of the world / ethnic groups, and self-identifying as a member of another ethnic group.

In the analysis of the survey, results were disaggregated for respondents who self-identify as 'a person of African descent or a Black person' and compared with results for those who do not self-identify as such. The overall prevalence of racist experiences does not vary substantially between the two groups. For example, the overall 5-year prevalence rates of racial discrimination are alike when compared among all respondents with a sub-Saharan African background (45 %) and those who self-identify as a person of African descent or a Black person (47 %).

No substantial differences are observed in most countries surveyed, except Denmark and Luxembourg, and to a lesser extent Austria. For example, in Luxembourg the average prevalence of racial discrimination in the 5 years preceding the survey is 47 % when based on all respondents. It increases to 57 % when based solely on those who self-identify as people of African descent or as Black people. Similarly, a higher average prevalence of racial discrimination is observed for self-identifying respondents than among all respondents in Denmark (by 9 percentage points) and Austria (by 6 percentage points).

Similarly, the prevalence of racist harassment or police stops perceived as involving discriminatory ethnic profiling is 10 percentage points higher among those who self-identify as a person of African descent or a Black person than

among those who do not. For example, the prevalence of racist harassment among those who self-identify as a person of African descent or a Black person is twice as high as among those who do not identify as such (26 % and 13 %, respectively). Some 60 % of respondents who self-identify as a person of African descent or a Black person perceived the most recent police stop to involve discriminatory ethnic profiling, compared with 39 % of those who do not self-identify as such.

When comparing the ages of the respondents of African descent with those of the general population in the 13 EU Member States the survey covered, the respondents of African descent are concentrated in the younger age groups. Overall, 19 % of respondents of African descent are 16–24 years old, 49 % are 25–44 years old, 22 % are 45–64 years old and 10 % are 65 years old or older. Among the general population, the distribution is as follows: 12 % are 15–24 years old, 29 % are 25–44 years old, 32 % are 45–64 years old and 28 % are 65 years old or older. Some 68 % of respondents of African descent are aged 16–44 years (e.g. 91 % in Poland and 83 % in Finland), while among the entire survey population the share is 40 % ⁽⁴⁾.

In terms of gender, in four survey countries there are on average slightly more women of African descent than men of African descent (Belgium, France, Ireland and Portugal). In others, there are considerably more men than women, most notably in Italy, Poland and Spain.

In terms of citizenship, overall, 46 % of respondents are citizens of their country of residence, with substantial variations across the 13 Member States. For example, in Sweden 75 % of respondents are country nationals, compared with 14 % in Italy (Table 1).

Reasons for migration differ across the 13 EU Member States in which immigrants of African descent reside ⁽⁵⁾. Overall, most of the immigrants came to their country of residence for employment or work (33 %). The second most frequently mentioned explanation was for family reasons (23 %).

Some 18 % came to the country to study and 16 % came to seek protection or asylum. In addition, 12 % indicated that they came to the EU as a child with their parents, and 7 % mentioned other reasons for coming to the EU.

Employment was the most important reason for respondents of African descent migrating to Italy (68 %), Spain (67 %), Portugal (52 %), Luxembourg (44 %) and France (28 %). Family reasons were the most commonly mentioned motivation for migration among respondents living in Denmark (37 %), Austria (34 %), Finland and Belgium (both 30 %), and Germany (28 %). Seeking international protection was the most important reason given by respondents living in Sweden (47 %) and Ireland (39 %), and it was one of the most important reasons mentioned by those living in Austria (30 %), Belgium (29 %), Finland (27 %), Germany (25 %) and Denmark (24 %). Studies and employment are the main reasons for the migration of people of African descent to Poland (mentioned by 36 % and 32 %, respectively).

TABLE 1: OVERVIEW OF SELECTED SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS, BY EU MEMBER STATE^a

Country	Median age (years)	Women (%)	Citizenship of country of residence (%)	Immigrants (foreign born) (%)	Average stay (years)	Self-identification as a person of African descent or a Black person (%) ^b	Religion (%)		Number of respondents
							Christian	Muslim	
Austria (AT)	37	43	36	98	14	84	56	21	454
Belgium (BE)	35	52	60	82	15	97	67	21	459
Denmark (DK)	34	48	65	70	20	77	49	25	505
Finland (FI)	33	43	48	91	11	92	58	32	507
France (FR)	37	51	54	80	19	81	53	35	544
Germany (DE)	32	45	36	78	12	91	65	19	579
Ireland (IE)	36	52	64	87	14	99	82	12	524
Italy (IT)	35	33	14	96	12	93	42	47	419
Luxembourg (LU)	39	46	32	77	13	66	62	15	565
Poland (PL)	30	36	49	95	14	94	55	3	561
Portugal (PT)	44	54	46	95	22	95	78	7	518
Spain (ES)	37	29	19	94	13	91	32	67	562
Sweden (SE)	34	48	75	97	13	91	14	79	555
EU-13	36	47	46	84	16	87	54	34	6 752

Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

^a Out of all respondents of African descent; weighted results for all except the number of respondents.

^b Question: 'Would you describe yourself as a person of African descent / a Black person? Yes/No.'

TABLE 2: MOST COMMON COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN OF FOREIGN-BORN IMMIGRANTS OF AFRICAN DESCENT, BY EU MEMBER STATE^a

Member State	Country of birth	Number of respondents	% of target group
Austria (AT)	Other	144	32
Austria (AT)	Nigeria	139	31
Austria (AT)	Somalia	50	11
Austria (AT)	Kenya	31	7
Austria (AT)	Ethiopia	30	7
Austria (AT)	Ghana	28	6
Austria (AT)	Cameroon	23	5
Belgium (BE)	Other	141	38
Belgium (BE)	Democratic Republic of the Congo	85	24
Belgium (BE)	Cameroon	51	15
Belgium (BE)	Guinea	30	7
Belgium (BE)	Rwanda	24	7
Belgium (BE)	Congo	20	5
Belgium (BE)	Ghana	20	5
Denmark (DK)	Other	123	41

Member State	Country of birth	Number of respondents	% of target group
Denmark (DK)	Somalia	64	22
Denmark (DK)	Eritrea	26	8
Denmark (DK)	Ghana	23	8
Denmark (DK)	Ethiopia	21	7
Denmark (DK)	Kenya	21	7
Denmark (DK)	Nigeria	21	7
Finland (FI)	Other	101	25
Finland (FI)	Nigeria	88	21
Finland (FI)	Somalia	79	19
Finland (FI)	Ghana	45	11
Finland (FI)	Kenya	39	10
Finland (FI)	Ethiopia	36	9
Finland (FI)	Cameroon	22	5
France (FR)	Other	138	30
France (FR)	Comoros	40	9
France (FR)	Senegal	38	8
France (FR)	Congo	33	7
France (FR)	Mali	31	7
France (FR)	Cameroon	28	6
France (FR)	Martinique	27	6
France (FR)	Guadeloupe	26	6
France (FR)	Côte d'Ivoire	25	6
France (FR)	Guinea	25	6
France (FR)	Democratic Republic of the Congo	23	5
France (FR)	Mayotte	20	4
Germany (DE)	Other	128	31
Germany (DE)	Nigeria	91	22
Germany (DE)	Ghana	68	17
Germany (DE)	Cameroon	48	12
Germany (DE)	Eritrea	30	7
Germany (DE)	Ethiopia	25	6
Germany (DE)	Togo	20	5
Ireland (IE)	Nigeria	236	55
Ireland (IE)	Other	132	31
Ireland (IE)	Zimbabwe	42	10
Ireland (IE)	Democratic Republic of the Congo	21	5
Italy (IT)	Other	145	36

Member State	Country of birth	Number of respondents	% of target group
Italy (IT)	Senegal	129	32
Italy (IT)	Nigeria	88	22
Italy (IT)	Côte d'Ivoire	21	5
Italy (IT)	Eritrea	20	5
Luxembourg (LU)	Other	149	34
Luxembourg (LU)	Democratic Republic of the Congo	53	12
Luxembourg (LU)	Senegal	46	11
Luxembourg (LU)	Guinea-Bissau	41	9
Luxembourg (LU)	Mauritius	33	8
Luxembourg (LU)	Mozambique	32	7
Luxembourg (LU)	Côte d'Ivoire	27	6
Luxembourg (LU)	Nigeria	27	6
Luxembourg (LU)	Togo	27	6
Poland (PL)	Other	108	20
Poland (PL)	Somalia	81	15
Poland (PL)	Angola	73	13
Poland (PL)	Mozambique	73	13
Poland (PL)	Cameroon	45	8
Poland (PL)	Nigeria	42	8
Poland (PL)	Ghana	28	5
Poland (PL)	Zambia	28	5
Poland (PL)	Botswana	24	4
Poland (PL)	Namibia	22	4
Poland (PL)	Ethiopia	20	4
Portugal (PT)	Angola	162	33
Portugal (PT)	Cabo Verde	158	32
Portugal (PT)	Guinea-Bissau	84	17
Portugal (PT)	São Tomé and Príncipe	66	13
Portugal (PT)	Other	26	5
Spain (ES)	Senegal	197	36
Spain (ES)	Mali	96	18
Spain (ES)	Ghana	79	13
Spain (ES)	Nigeria	58	12
Spain (ES)	Other	52	10
Spain (ES)	Gambia	38	6
Spain (ES)	Guinea	23	6
Sweden (SE)	Somalia	405	75

Member State	Country of birth	Number of respondents	% of target group
Sweden (SE)	Eritrea	60	11
Sweden (SE)	Other	50	9
Sweden (SE)	Ethiopia	23	4

Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

- ^a Out of all foreign-born respondents of African descent (n = 5 779). The category 'Other' includes all countries of birth with fewer than 20 respondents. Values for some countries do not add up to 100 %; this is due to rounding.

ANNEX III: TERMINOLOGY

This annex lists the main concepts and terms used, drawing on definitions anchored in EU law or adopted by international treaty and expert bodies.

Bias-motivated harassment

Bias-motivated harassment includes a range of harmful behaviours, some of which may not amount to a criminal offence. The racial equality directive states:

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 ⁽⁶⁾.

Descent

'[D]escent' 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 ⁽⁷⁾.

Equal treatment

The racial equality directive states: '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' ⁽⁸⁾.

Ethnic or immigrant background

Some findings presented in this report use 'ethnic or immigrant background' as a generic term to describe results for the 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 1.1.2 'Grounds of discrimination'.

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 ⁽⁹⁾.

Intersectionality

Intersectionality is a theoretical framework that facilitates the comprehension of how social identities overlap and create compounding experiences of discrimination based on two or more grounds ⁽¹⁰⁾.

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 ... (11).

[T]he term 'people of African descent' may also be used with 'Afro-European', 'African European', 'Black European', 'Afro-Caribbean' or 'Black-Caribbean', and refers to people of African ancestry or descent who are born in, citizens of, or living in Europe (12).

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 more protected characteristics amounts to direct discrimination, and therefore violates the individual's rights and freedoms and is unlawful (13).

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, [or] cultural [fields] or any other field of public life (14).

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 (15).

The notions of race/racial origin and/or ethnic origin are socially constructed: individuals may self-identify as white or Black, but how society categorises individuals in racial terms often shapes racism and racial or ethnic discrimination. In line with the applicable EU legislation (16) and the **Guidance note on the collection and use of equality data based on racial or ethnic origin**, the phrase 'racial or ethnic origin' refers to a cause of discrimination. Some EU Member States use the category 'racial or ethnic origin' for statistical purposes. This report refers to 'racial or ethnic origin' as (1) a generic statistical (analytical) category that allows the disaggregation of any data and (2) an aspect of a person's self-identification and ethnic attachment (i.e. as a personal characteristic).

Racial profiling

Racial profiling is '[t]he 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' (17).

Racialisation

Racialisation is 'the process of ascribing characteristics and attributes that are presented as innate to a group of concern to it and of constructing false social hierarchies in racial terms and associated exclusion and hostility' ⁽¹⁸⁾.

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 ⁽¹⁹⁾.

Structural discrimination

Structural discrimination involves 'rules, norms, routines, patterns of attitudes and behaviour in institutions and other societal structures that, consciously or unconsciously, present obstacles to groups or individuals in accessing the same rights and opportunities as others and that contribute to less favourable outcomes for them than for the majority of the population' ⁽²⁰⁾.

The Council of the European Union refers to systemic or structural discrimination 'as being evident in the inequalities that result from legislation, policy and practice, not by intent but resulting from a range of institutional factors in the elaboration, implementation and review of legislation, policy and practice' ⁽²¹⁾.

As a European Parliament resolution of 10 November 2022 states:

[T]he EU Anti-racism Action Plan refers to structural racism as discriminatory behaviours which can be embedded in social, financial and political institutions, thereby having an impact on different layers of power and policymaking; whereas structural discrimination can be seen as obstacles to groups or individuals achieving the same rights and opportunities that are available to the majority of the population ⁽²²⁾.

Systemic discrimination

Systemic discrimination occurs where the procedures, routines and organisational culture of any organisation contribute to unequal outcomes for minority groups compared to the general population. Systemic discrimination can be rooted in the way organisations go about their day-to-day business as policymakers, employers, or service providers, and can also feature in automated decision making. It tends not to be a matter of intent or deliberate action. It only becomes visible in the unequal outcomes for particular groups from the policymaking, programme and service delivery, and employment functions of an organisation. Unequal outcomes are thus the markers of systemic discrimination at play ⁽²³⁾.

[T]he concept of systemic racism against Africans and people of African descent, including as it relates to structural and institutional racism, is understood to be the operation of a complex, interrelated system of laws, policies, practices and attitudes in State institutions, the private sector and societal structures that, combined, result in direct or indirect, intentional or unintentional, de jure or de facto discrimination, distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference on the basis of race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin ⁽²⁴⁾.

ANNEX IV: SURVEY RESPONDENTS' AWARENESS OF EQUALITY BODIES

TABLE 3: RESPONDENTS' AWARENESS OF EQUALITY BODIES IN THEIR COUNTRIES (%)^{a,b}

EU Member State		'Have you ever heard of the following?'	Yes	No	Don't know
Austria	1	Gleichbehandlungskommission	31	68	1
	2	Gleichbehandlungsanwaltschaft	27	72	0
	3	Anwalt für Gleichbehandlungsfragen für Menschen mit Behinderungen	31	68	0
	4	ZARA – Zivilcourage & Anti-Rassismus Arbeit	35	64	0
Belgium	1	Interfederal Centre for Equal Opportunities (UNIA)	14	85	1
	2	Institut pour l'égalité des femmes et des hommes (French) / Instituut voor de gelijkheid van vrouwen en mannen (Dutch)	29	70	1
Denmark	1	Institut for Menneskerettigheder	62	38	0
	2	Ligebehandlingsnævnet	37	62	1
Finland	1	Yhdenvertaisuusvaltuutettu (Finnish) / Diskrimineringsombudsmannen (Swedish)	28	71	2
	2	Tasa-arvovaltuutettu (Finnish) / Jämställdhetsombudsmannen (Swedish)	34	64	2
France	1	Défenseur des droits	57	42	1
Germany	1	Antidiskriminierungsstelle des Bundes (ADS)	17	83	0
	2	Landesstelle für Gleichbehandlung – gegen Diskriminierung (Berlin only)	13	87	1
	3	Amt für multikulturelle Angelegenheiten (AmkA) (Frankfurt am Main only)	9	90	2
	4	Antidiskriminierungsstelle für Menschen mit Migrationshintergrund (AMIGRA) (Munich only)	8	90	2
Ireland	1	Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (English) / Coimisiún na hÉireann um Chearta an Duine agus Comhionannas (Irish)	46	54	1
Italy	1	Ufficio Nazionale Antidiscriminazioni Razziali	23	74	3
Luxembourg	1	Centre pour l'égalité de traitement (CET) (French) / Das Zentrum für Gleichbehandlung (CET) (German)	19	81	0
Poland	1	Rzecznik Praw Obywatelskich	64	27	9
Portugal	1	Alto Comissariado para as Migrações	32	68	0
	2	Comissão para a Cidadania e a Igualdade de Género	32	68	0
	3	Comissão para a Igualdade no Trabalho e no Emprego	37	63	0
Spain	1	Consejo para la Eliminación de la Discriminación Racial o Étnica	9	90	1
	2	Instituto de la Mujer y para la Igualdad de Oportunidades	18	81	1
Sweden	1	Diskrimineringsombudsmannen	52	46	2

Source: FRA's EU Survey on Immigrants and Descendants of Immigrants, 2022.

▲ Notes:

^a Out of all respondents of African descent (n = 6 752); weighted results.

^b In Germany, all respondents were asked about two equality bodies: body 1 and then body 2, 3 or 4 depending on where they lived.

Endnotes

- (¹) FRA (2022), **'EU survey on immigrants and descendants of immigrants'**.
- (²) The target population counts by target group and country are outlined in the survey's technical and quality report (not yet publicly available).
- (³) Eurostat (2023), **'Population on 1 January by age group, sex and country of birth'**.
- (⁴) Eurostat (2023), **'Population on 1 January by age group and sex'**.
- (⁵) Multiple responses to the relevant survey question were allowed.
- (⁶) **Council Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial and ethnic origin** (OJ L 180, 19.7.2000, p. 22), Article 2(3).
- (⁷) **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** (OJ L 328, 6.12.2008, p. 55).
- (⁸) **Council Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin** (OJ L 180, 19.7.2000, p. 22), Article 2(1).
- (⁹) FRA and European Court of Human Rights (2018), **Handbook on European Non-discrimination Law – 2018 edition**, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, p. 81.
- (¹⁰) UN Women (2021), **Intersectionality Resource Guide and Toolkit – An intersectional approach to leave no one behind**. See European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) (n.d.), **'Intersectionality'**. See also United Nations Network on Racial Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and OHCHR (2022), **Guidance note on intersectionality, racial discrimination & protection of minorities**, p. 11; FRA and European Court of Human Rights (2018), **Handbook on European Non-discrimination Law – 2018 edition**, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, p. 59.
- (¹¹) UN, 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.
- (¹²) **European Parliament resolution of 26 March 2019 on fundamental rights of people of African descent in Europe (2018/2899(RSP))**.
- (¹³) FRA (2018), **Preventing Unlawful Profiling Today and in the Future: A guide**, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg. See also European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) (2007), **ECRI General Policy Recommendation No 11 on combating racism and racial discrimination in policing**, CRI(2007)39.
- (¹⁴) **International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination**, Article 1(1).
- (¹⁵) **Council Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin** (OJ L 180, 19.7.2000, p. 22), recital 6. See also European Commission (2020), **Commission communication – A Union of equality: EU anti-racism action plan 2020–2025**, COM(2020) 565 final, p. 1.
- (¹⁶) **Council Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin** (OJ L 180, 19.7.2000, p. 22) and Articles 10 and 19 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.
- (¹⁷) ECRI (2007), **ECRI General Policy Recommendation No 11 on combating racism and racial discrimination in policing**, CRI(2007)39, p. 4.
- (¹⁸) ECRI (2021), **ECRI's opinion on the concept of 'racialisation'**.
- (¹⁹) ECRI (2017), **ECRI General Policy Recommendation No 7 on national legislation to combat racism and racial discrimination**, CRI(2003)8, p. 5.
- (²⁰) ECRI (2018), **ECRI General Policy Recommendation No 2 on equality bodies to combat racism and intolerance at national level**, CRI(2018)06, paragraph 20; see also **European Parliament resolution of 10 November 2022 on racial justice, non-discrimination and anti-racism in the EU (2022/2005(INI))**, recital D.
- (²¹) **Council Recommendation of 12 March 2021 on Roma equality, inclusion and participation** (OJ C 93, 19.3.2021, p. 1), p. 6.
- (²²) **European Parliament resolution of 10 November 2022 on racial justice, non-discrimination and anti-racism in the EU (2022/2005(INI))**.
- (²³) Council of Europe (2020), **Identifying and preventing systemic discrimination at the local level- Policy study**.
- (²⁴) United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (2021), **Promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Africans and of people of African descent against excessive use of force and other human rights violations by law enforcement officers**, p. 5.

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Anonymised EU-MIDIS II microdata published through the GESIS archive (2020): **Data File ZA6703**, Version 1.0.0, GESIS Data Archive, Cologne

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PROMOTING AND PROTECTING YOUR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS ACROSS THE EU —

FRA's first *Being Black in the EU* report exposed widespread and entrenched racism against people of African descent in Europe. Now updated with new data, this report revisits the situation revealing persistent racial discrimination, harassment and violence. Overall, experiences of racial discrimination increased in the EU countries since 2016, reaching as high as 77%. The lack of progress is alarming despite binding anti-discrimination law in the EU since 2000 and significant EU policy developments since then.

FRA's third large-scale survey on immigrants and the descendants of immigrants offers crucial insights into experiences of discrimination and racism. This report examines the experiences of almost 6,800 people of African descent in 13 EU Member States.

Without this much needed data, racial discrimination remains invisible. FRA's findings support developing a better understanding of the experiences of people of African descent in the EU and promote action on equality and inclusion.



Equality



Non-discrimination



Racism

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