



Transgender  
Equality  
Network  
Ireland

# STAD: Stop Transphobia and Discrimination Report



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[www.teni.ie](http://www.teni.ie).

## Acknowledgements

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this report by completing the online forms and sharing their experiences of hate crimes and incidents. TENI acknowledges that the reporting process can be extremely difficult and we are grateful to each and every individual who helped us record these experiences in an effort to end transphobia.

This report was compiled by TENI's Chief Executive Broden Giambrone with support from TENI staff and Board: Vanessa Lacey, Aoife O'Driscoll, Ben Power, Clodagh Leonard and Simon Stewart. We'd like to extend our gratitude to Aoife Mallon for copy editing assistance and to Alison McDonnell for the use of her photographs from the Transpose project.

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The STAD campaign was made possible through the generous funding of ILGA-Europe's Documentation and Advocacy Fund. This report was also supported by the Irish Trans Student Alliance.

## Alison McDonnell: A Word on Transpose

The series *Transpose* is the result of collaboration with transgender people in Ireland that set out to make environmental portraits in 'safe spaces' for trans\* people around the country. Many of the portraits have been made at the wonderful space Outhouse on Capel Street. The work has grown over the last two years to become an appreciation of key trans activists and allies in Ireland at a particular moment. It is important to me to have a record of the people who are currently denied rights in our country as well as the people who are fighting for equality and advocating on behalf of trans\* people. This is important to me not only because I identify as a bisexual woman and an activist but because the trans\* community is one of the most marginalised groups in society. Therefore I turn my camera to my life and the lives of the people and issues I care about in an attempt to highlight LGBT rights in Ireland. Is it fair to be denied rights, respect and dignity just because of your gender identity? A question the viewer might consider is how could anyone deny this person any right?

Alison McDonnell (2014).

[www.alisonmcdonnell.com](http://www.alisonmcdonnell.com)

Alison McDonnell is a Dublin based photographer/artist. She holds a Master of Fine Art in photography from the University of Ulster, 2014. Prior to this she studied the Photography and Digital Imaging course at the National College of Art and Design and graduated in 2011.

## Foreword

In 2013, the Trans Murder Monitoring project<sup>1</sup> documented 238 murders of trans and gender variant people in twenty-six countries worldwide. These individuals were killed because of their gender identity or gender expression. While there has been no recorded murder of a trans person in Ireland, trans and gender variant people regularly experience harassment, abuse, violence and discrimination because of their gender identity or gender expression.

This is the manifestation of **transphobia**, which Transgender Equality Network Ireland (TENI) defines as **the fear, dislike or hatred of people who are trans or are perceived to challenge conventional gender categories or 'norms' of male or female**. Transphobia comes in many forms and can result in individual and institutional discrimination, prejudice and violence. It is at work when a trans person is chased down the street and called 'tranny' or when they're fired from their job when they come out. It happens on the streets, in the workplace, at school and in the home.

In 2013, TENI gathered 32 reports of incidents and crimes that were motivated by hatred or prejudice against a trans or gender variant person. Fifteen of these reports were categorised as hate crimes. These included rape, assault and damage to property. There is no doubt that this is just the tip of the iceberg as research indicates that transphobic crimes and incidents generally go unreported. Despite this fact, this report shows us that transphobia is widespread in Irish society and largely goes unchallenged.

Trans people, like all Irish people, are striving to live authentic lives and to thrive in society. Over the past few years there has been increased positive representation of trans experiences and heightened visibility of trans lives. There is no doubt that Irish society is changing but the violence and discrimination the trans community faces must stop. To change the way that trans people are treated we need to understand the full extent of the problem and look for viable solutions.

This is what the STAD campaign is about. By monitoring and recording hate incidents and crimes we are developing a clearer picture of the dangers and barriers that many trans and gender variant people face in their everyday lives. We are gathering robust evidence and documenting these experiences in an effort to change the way that society understands transphobia.

This campaign is about awareness, education and change. We need our lawmakers and legal institutions to understand the realities of our lives and we need our police services to respect and protect us. This will include changes in policy and law and delivery of training to the Gardaí and PSNI. We're optimistic that the STAD campaign will hold a mirror up to Irish society and show us we must be better.

**Broden Giambrone**  
Chief Executive

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<sup>1</sup> For more information: <http://www.transrespect-transphobia.org/>

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## Introduction to Key Terms

**Cisgender:** A non-trans person (i.e. a person whose gender identity and gender expression is aligned with the sex assigned at birth).

**Coming out:** The process of accepting and telling others about one's gender identity, gender expression or sexual orientation. Many trans people will come out as a different gender to the sex assigned at birth and may begin a social or physical transition (see definition of Transition).

**Gender Identity:** Refers to a person's deeply-felt identification as male, female, or some other gender. This may or may not correspond to the sex they were assigned at birth.

**Gender Expression:** The external manifestation of a person's gender identity. Gender can be expressed through mannerisms, grooming, physical characteristics, social interactions and speech patterns.

**Sexual Orientation:** Refers to a person's physical, emotional or romantic attraction to another person. Sexual orientation is distinct from sex, gender identity and gender expression. Transgender people may identify as lesbian, gay, heterosexual, bisexual, pansexual, queer or asexual (see definition of Transgender).

**Transgender:** A person whose gender identity and/or gender expression differs from the sex assigned to them at birth. This term can include diverse gender identities such as: transsexual, transgender, crossdresser, drag performer, androgynous, genderqueer, gender variant or differently gendered people.

**Trans or trans\*:** Commonly used shorthand for transgender.

**Transphobia:** The fear, dislike or hatred of people who are trans or are perceived to challenge conventional gender categories or 'norms' of male or female. Transphobia can result in individual and institutional discrimination, prejudice and violence against trans or gender variant people.

**Transition:** A process through which some transgender people begin to live as the gender with which they identify, rather than the one assigned at birth. Transition might include social, physical or legal changes such as coming out to family, friends, co-workers and others; changing one's appearance; changing one's name, pronoun and sex designation on legal documents (e.g. driving licence or passport); and medical intervention (e.g. through hormones or surgery).

## Main Glossary

**Androgynous or androgyne:** A person whose gender identity is both male and female, or neither male nor female. They might present as a combination of male and female or as sometimes male and sometimes female.

**Crossdresser:** A person who wears clothing, accessories, jewellery or make-up not traditionally or stereotypically associated with their assigned sex.

**FTM:** A female-to-male trans person (see definition of Trans man).

**Genderqueer:** A person whose gender varies from the traditional 'norm'; or who feels their gender identity is neither female nor male, both female and male, or a different gender identity altogether.

**Gender variant:** People whose gender identity and/or gender expression is different from traditional or stereotypical expectations of how a man or woman 'should' appear or behave.

**Intersex:** An umbrella term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is born with a reproductive or sexual anatomy that doesn't fit the typical definitions of female or male.

**LGB:** Acronym for lesbian, gay and bisexual.

**LGBT:** Acronym for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender.

**LGBTI:** Acronym for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex.

**MTF:** Male-to-female trans person (see definition of Trans woman).

**Surgery:** A set of surgical procedures that alter a person's physical appearance or the functioning of their existing sexual characteristics. Other terms include Gender Confirmation Surgery, Gender Reassignment Surgery, Sex Reassignment Surgery, Genital Reconstruction Surgery, Sex Affirmation Surgery and so on.

**Tranny:** A slang term for many different trans identities. Many trans people find this term highly offensive and dehumanising.

**Transsexual:** A person whose gender identity is 'opposite' to the sex assigned to them at birth. The term connotes a binary view of gender, moving from one polar identity to the other. Transsexual people may or may not take hormones or have surgery.

**Trans man:** A person who was assigned female at birth but who lives as a man or identifies as male. Some trans men make physical changes through hormones or surgery; others do not.

**Trans woman:** A person who was assigned male at birth but who lives as a woman or identifies as female. Some trans women make physical changes through hormones or surgery; others do not.

**Transvestite:** See definition of 'Crossdresser.'







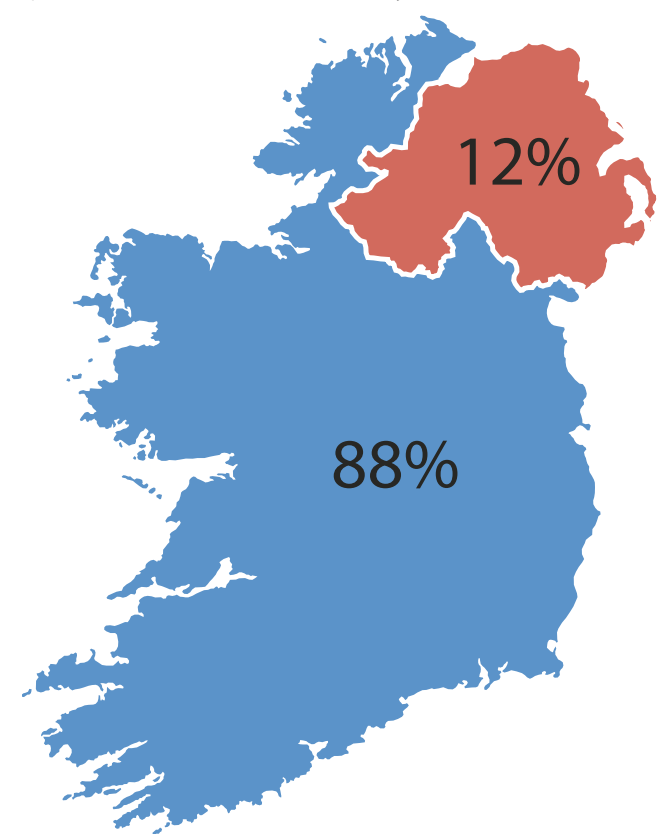


## Executive Summary

The STAD campaign was launched in February 2013 to raise awareness about transphobic violence in Ireland and enable the trans community to report hate crimes and incidents in a safe environment and without fear of ridicule or discrimination.

The reporting period began on 1st of March 2013 and closed on 31st of October 2013. There were thirty-two reported incidents. The vast majority of reported incidents took place in the Republic of Ireland (88%). Just 12% were reported from Northern Ireland.

Figure 1: Reported Incidents by Jurisdiction



There were fifteen reported incidents that can be categorised as hate crimes: one incident of extreme physical violence, six assaults, three incidents of damage against property and five incidents of threats and physical violence. There were no reports of homicides or arson. There were also seventeen incidents that were reported that were categorised as ‘other incidents with a bias motivation’.

Figure 2: Category of Incident

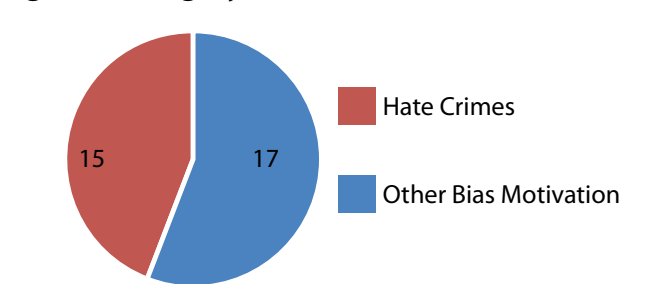
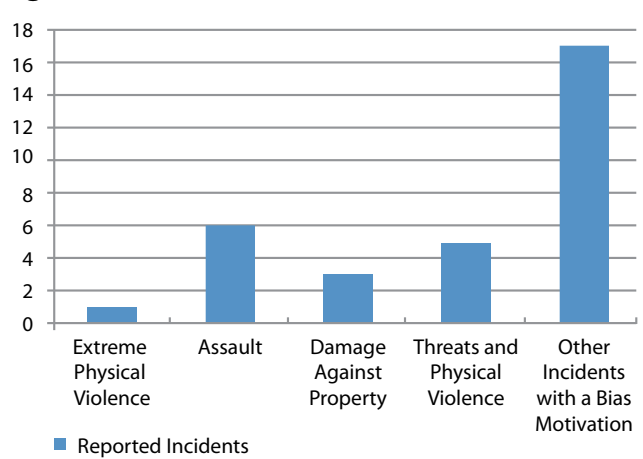
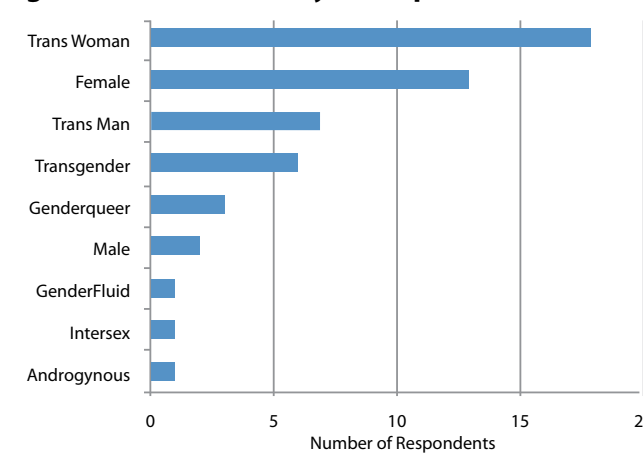


Figure 3: Nature of Incident



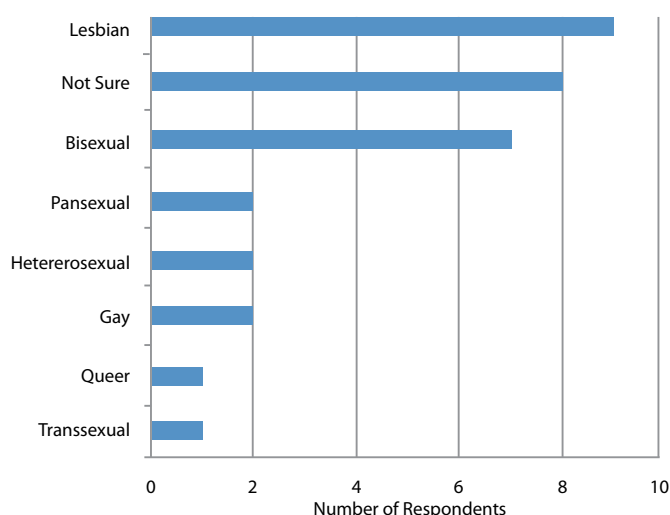
The respondent’s gender identities were diverse. Individuals were able to select multiple terms to describe their gender identities or were able to select ‘other’ and write in how they identified. Over half of the respondents identified as trans women (56%). Forty-one percent identified as female, which included trans and cisgender identified individuals. On the masculine spectrum, 22% percent identified as trans men and 6% as male. Nineteen percent identified as transgender, a commonly used umbrella term. Thirteen percent identified as ‘other’, such as genderqueer or gender fluid. Only one participant identified as intersex.

Figure 4: Gender Identity of Respondents



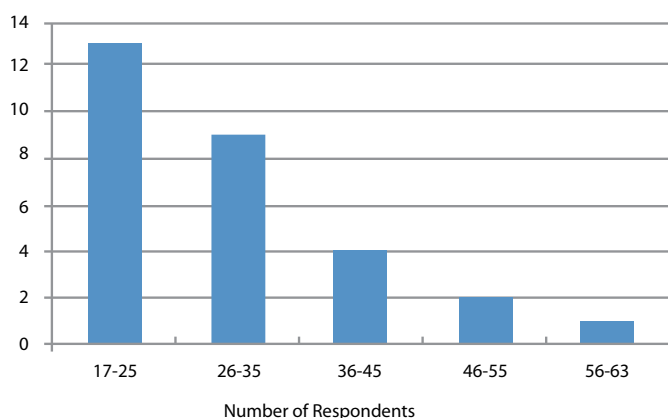
The most commonly listed sexual orientation was lesbian (28%). One quarter of respondents said they were not sure of their sexual orientation. Twenty-two percent identified as bisexual. Two respondents identified as gay (6%) and two respondents identified as heterosexual (6%). Thirteen percent identified as ‘other’, such as pansexual or queer.

**Figure 5: Sexual Orientation of Respondents**



Respondents were between the ages of 17 and 63. Three-quarters were between the ages of 18-44 at the time of the incident, with the average age of 31. Three individuals did not list their age.

**Figure 6: Age of Respondent**



Ninety-four percent of respondents had some involvement with the trans or LGB community in Ireland. All respondents were 'out' in at least one area of their lives. The term 'out' refers to the process of accepting and telling others about one's true gender identity, gender expression or sexual orientation.

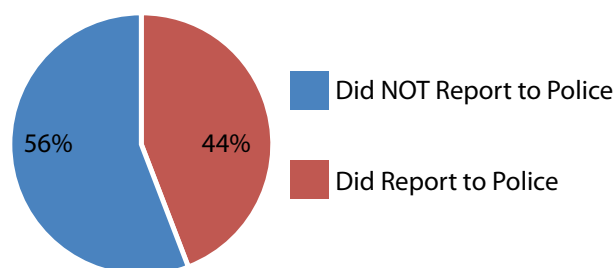
Respondents were asked to indicate if they thought a personal characteristic, either real or perceived, acted as a motivation for the incident. The most widely reported motives were: Gender identity (78%), sexual orientation (75%) and gender expression (72%). The vast majority of respondents felt that incidents occurred because of multiple motives occurring simultaneously (e.g. gender identity and sexual orientation).

Seventy-eight percent of respondents said the bias indicator (the reason an individual thought the incident was motivated by a personal characteristic) was the language and words used during the incident. This included the usage of words like 'tranny', 'faggot' or other pejorative terms such as 'it' or 'that thing'.

Over half of the respondents said it was because the perpetrator perceived them as trans or LGB. Nineteen percent said it was due to the fact that they had experienced previous threats or other incidents and 13% said it was the location of the attack (e.g. near or inside a trans or LGB venue).

Respondents were asked if they had reported the incident or crime to the police.<sup>2</sup> More than half said they had not (56%). The reasons for not reporting included: fear, not being out, doubting the severity of the incident, feeling the incident was commonplace and not believing that anything would be done by the police. Of those who did report the incident to the police, the response was mixed: three respondents said the police were dismissive, two found the police to be neutral, two found the police to be supportive and one respondent did not answer. When asked if the police considered the incident to be a hate crime, four respondents said no, only one respondent stated that the police considered the incident to be a hate crime. However it is worth noting that this respondent was located in Northern Ireland where the PSNI have received more training on recording transphobic hate crimes.

**Figure 7: Incidents Reported to Police**



<sup>2</sup> In this report, the term 'police' refers to both the Gardai (Republic of Ireland) and the PSNI (Northern Ireland). If an incident is specifically related to either the Gardai or the PSNI, this will be noted.

## Personal Experiences

*"I was walking with 2 friends when a man started asking if I was a guy or a girl. When I didn't answer and walked on he started shouting louder threatening to hit me. He then decided I was a girl and started singing a song about how he was going to rape me. He followed us down the road singing this song till he got bored of us not replying." – 22 year old bisexual trans man.*

*"Was walking down the street when I heard loudly behind me, 'ya fuckin' tranny queer'. Ignored it and walked on, held my head high. 'Tranny queer!' This continued for a good bit before eventually, 'watch your back next time I see you' ". – 18 year old bisexual trans woman.*

*"Just abusive phone calls making very violent threats and intentions. Such as, when they see me they will hang me from a tree with a live electric cable...yet I don't know who the phone call was made by." – 20 year old lesbian trans man/female.*

*"This incident is not a one off incident as the person sits outside his house with a group of neighbours verbal abusing and intimating me almost on a daily basis. They are also linked with physical cruelty to my two dogs." – 43 year old lesbian trans woman.*

*"I'm used to getting verbal abuse every day and have been attacked before but I'm feeling a bit more fearful." – 35 year old trans woman.*

*"It has gotten me exceedingly down. I have been met with this sort of behaviour before – but it's made me fearful of strangers and has really stayed in my mind for longer than I should really grant it. It's just...tiring. So, so tiring to feel like you have to explain yourself to people you don't know/ don't care about." - 24 year old genderqueer lesbian.*

*"I just wanted to, and sometimes still do, want to end it all. I think everybody would be better off if they didn't have my problems to deal with, and I just think I would be at rest if I um, well, if I ended my life...I have tried, and failed...obviously...the medical care I sought was for advice mainly. I never admitted to receiving threatening phone calls though." – 20 year old lesbian trans man/female.*









Introduction

This report is an outcome of *Step up reporting on homophobic and transphobic violence*, a project supported by ILGA-Europe, the European region of the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association. The objective of the project was to empower European LGBTI civil society organisations to monitor and report homophobic and transphobic hate crimes and incidents.

This project was launched in 2013 through ILGA-Europe's Documentation and Advocacy Fund, with the support of the Government of the Netherlands. The project provided dedicated resources to twelve national and local NGOs in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and Ukraine. These NGOs were trained on the methodology previously developed by ILGA-Europe, and committed to apply it in order to produce comparable data.

In February 2013, TENI launched the STAD Campaign, which aimed to enable the trans community to report crimes in a confidential and safe environment and without fear of ridicule or discrimination. STAD is an abbreviation for Stop Transphobia and Discrimination and is also the word for 'stop' in the Irish language.

This project also addressed the lack of legislation and policy protecting trans people by providing robust evidence to be used to advocate for penalty enhancing legislation and increased trans awareness and service provision by the Gardaí. The outcomes of this project will provide important learning opportunities and a good practice example for other trans organisations interested in third party hate crime monitoring.



Stop Transphobia and Discrimination

Log on to [www.teni.ie](http://www.teni.ie)

**Have you suffered abuse because of how you express your gender?**

Inside your home, in your office, on the street — if someone calls you names, threatens or physically assaults you because of your gender expression or gender identity, it is a Hate Crime. **It matters.**

**Help us to map Hate Crime in Ireland.** It's safe and anonymous. You can do it online, by phone or complete a paper form.

**And together, we can help change our society.**

*You don't have to be trans to experience transphobia.*

**RECOGNISE + REPORT = REFORM**





Reporting Transphobic Hate Crime

Trans people face some of the highest rates of stigmatisation, discrimination and marginalisation in Ireland. In a recent survey<sup>3</sup>, trans people reported high levels of discrimination, hate crimes and hate incidents due to being trans.

**Table 1: Experiences Due to Being Trans (N=129)**

	%
Experienced silent harassment	72
Been made fun of or called names because of trans identity	64
Been objectified or fetishized sexually because of trans identity	50
Experienced physical intimidation and threats because of trans identity	36
Experienced sexual harassment because of trans identity	36
Suspected they have been turned down for a job because of trans identity	29
Experienced domestic abuse because of trans identity	20
Been hit or beaten up because of trans identity	16
Been sexually assaulted because of trans identity	12
Experienced some form of police harassment because of trans identity	12
Been raped because of trans identity	6

Despite these experiences, trans people are not expressly protected under any equality or hate crime legislation in the Republic of Ireland. In part this is due to the fact that Ireland has limited hate crime legislation in general. The only exception to this lack of legislation is the underutilised Incitement to Hatred Act, 1989. This statute makes it an offence to incite hatred against a group of persons on the basis of race, colour, religion, nationality, ethnic or national origin, membership of the Traveller community or sexual orientation. Unfortunately, gender identity, gender expression or transgender status are not covered.

At present prejudice or bias related crimes, with the exception of Incitement to Hatred, do not attract any special attention from the criminal law system in Ireland. Offences against the person, property offences and public order offences motivated by hate are not treated any differently from such offences where a prejudicial motive is absent. Where criminal assaults are committed from a prejudicial motive they are simply prosecuted as generic assaults or assaults causing harm and so forth. It is at the discretion of the individual

sentencing to judge whether to attach significance to the fact that the offence was prejudicially motivated. In these circumstances, this is done post-conviction, and the prejudicial motivation may form no part of the original trial. Where an individual pleads guilty to the offence, the fact that the crime was prejudicially motivated may never be revealed.

Furthermore, the Gardaí do not collect or publish data on transphobic incidents. There is no monitoring or recording mechanism in the PULSE system (how crime is recorded) to document transphobic incidences. This means the full extent of the problem in the Republic is not known because the lack of data makes it difficult to assess whether crimes are actually reported and what responses there are to them by the Gardaí.

In Northern Ireland the legal protections for trans people are stronger given the legal recognition they enjoy. Section 75 of The Northern Ireland Act 1998 places a statutory duty on all public authorities to promote equality of opportunity for all groups including: "Men and Women generally. Men (including boys); women (including girls); transgender people; transsexual people."

The PSNI actively engage with the transgender community through the 'Trans Forum', a quarterly gathering of statutory and community/voluntary agencies from across the north. The PSNI therefore have been active in anti-hate crime promotion encouraging the community to report incidents of transphobic hate crime. The PSNI records all transphobic hate incidents and crimes as 'Transphobic'. These recorded incidents can be used to build evidence in the case of ongoing hate crime occurrences and are fed into hate crime statistics. Officers are given training and written guidance on how to respond to members of minority communities to ensure they fulfil their statutory obligations under Section 75.

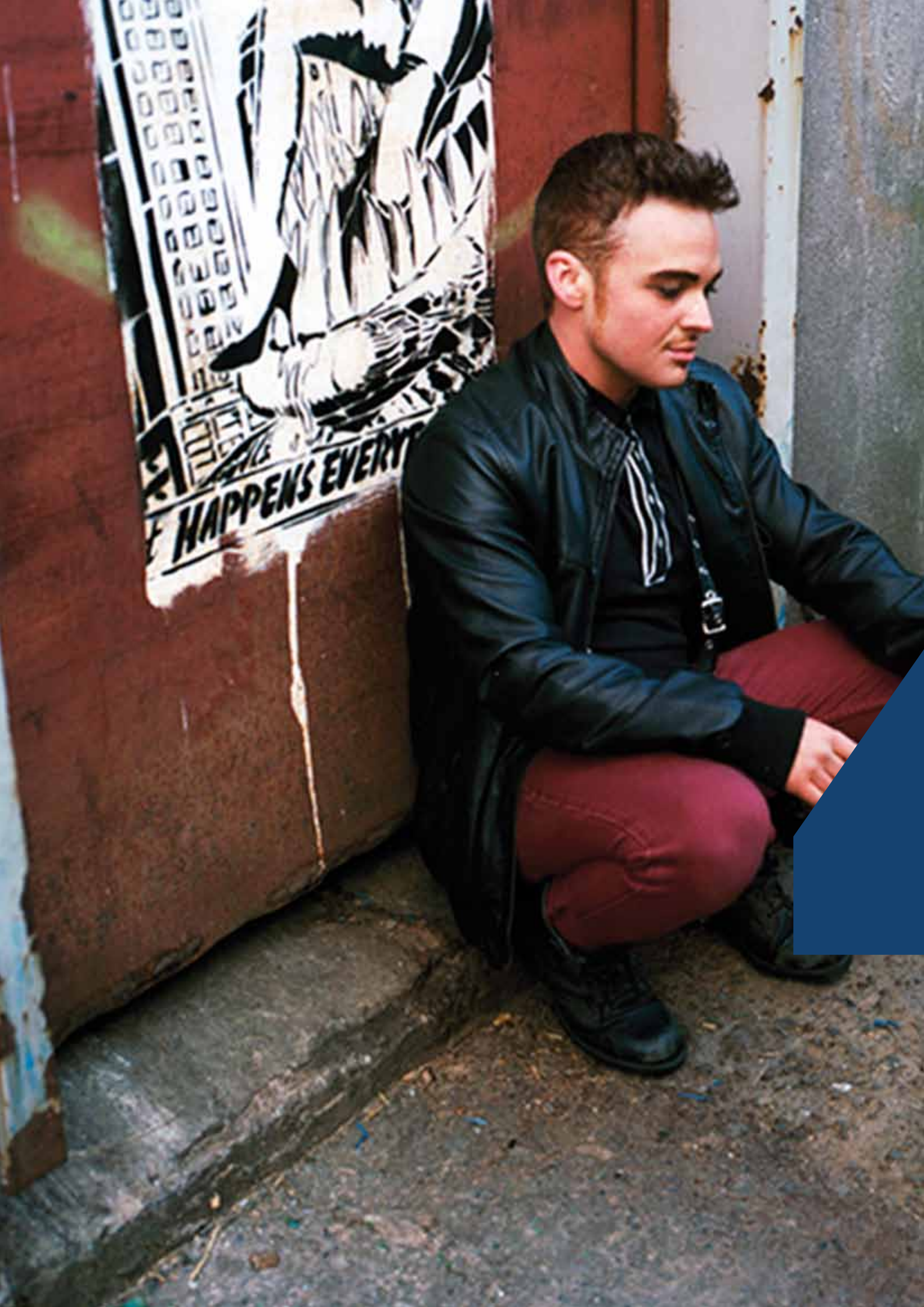
TENI has worked with the Public Interest Law Alliance (PILA) in an effort to gauge what legislative options would be the most effective in the Irish context. In particular, TENI have undertaken research into penalty enhancing legislation for crimes involving bias against trans people. There is some evidence that this may function as a deterrent to transphobic crimes, however more research is necessary. TENI is also actively advocating for Ireland's Equality Legislation to be expanded to explicitly protect individuals on the basis of 'gender identity and/or gender expression'.

<sup>3</sup> Transgender Equality Network Ireland (2013), *Speaking from the Margins: Trans Mental Health and Wellbeing in Ireland*.











Methodology



TENI utilised a robust methodological approach to ensure reporting was accurate, confidential and anonymous. ILGA-Europe developed a harmonised data collection methodology in 2012. The methodology builds on international standards and on the expertise gained through past monitoring activities, such as the elaboration of European-wide submissions to the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) in view of its Annual Report on Hate Crime<sup>4</sup> and ILGA-Europe's participation to the *Facing Facts! Making hate crime visible* project<sup>5</sup>.

#### 4.1. Data Collection

TENI collected information about hate incidents experienced by individuals due to their gender identity, gender expression or transgender status. The campaign allowed individuals who were victims or witnesses of hate crimes and incidences to submit these experiences through an online reporting form or phone-based interviews. Face-to-face personal interviews were considered but were not conducted due to limited capacity and resources.

Despite the fact that the option of phone based interviews was provided it was not utilised. Instead, all reports were submitted online through two separate 'Victim' and 'Witness' forms. These forms were developed based on a set of survey questions designed in collaboration with ILGA-Europe to facilitate comparable data across nation specific projects. The online reporting forms were hosted by Wufoo, a web-based platform that was managed by TENI staff and which allowed for the anonymous collection and categorisation of data. Wufoo is a secure online platform which ensures privacy and confidentiality through password protection. IP numbers were recorded in the submission process but were stripped of any personal identifying data to ensure no individual could be linked to a report.

#### 4.2. Outreach

TENI works directly with trans people and their families at local and national levels. Through this work, TENI has built extensive links with individuals and organisations which facilitated the reporting of incidents. To ensure that incidents would be reported it was necessary that the trans community was made aware of the STAD campaign. To effectively reach out to diverse members of the trans community TENI created a Communications Strategy. This was developed by TENI staff during a brainstorming session in January 2013 and was used as a framework for all outreach. A key element to this strategy was clear communication in relation to the confidentiality of reporting, and also in relation to how collected data would be used.

TENI launched the STAD campaign in late February and unveiled the logo - a red stop sign with the word STAD. This was used to signify that transphobic violence must be stopped. TENI also developed a postcard that was distributed at trans peer support groups, LGBT Community Centres, LGBT organisations, including student societies, and among select health services. The STAD postcards were also distributed at TENI events and trainings throughout the year. TENI's 2013 publication *Equality & Identity: Trans and Intersex Experience in Ireland*, which had a print run of 500 copies, was also used as a platform to publicise the STAD campaign and provided a forum for articles about hate crimes against trans people.

TENI used a variety of internet-based strategies to ensure that the campaign was widely disseminated. The campaign was announced through TENI's e-newsletter list which has a subscription level of 600 people. The campaign was shared widely on social media, including through TENI's twitter account which has over 2,000 'followers' and TENI's Facebook page which has over 4,000 'likes'.

**Figure 8: Facebook Outreach for STAD Campaign**



To raise awareness about the campaign, TENI set up the project-specific Facebook page called STAD- Stop Transphobia and Discrimination, which was specifically used to deliver information about the project and make regular calls for individuals to report their experiences. The STAD Facebook page has accumulated 263 'likes' since March 2013.

#### 4.3. Reporting Period

The reporting period began on 1st of March 2013 and closed on 31st of October 2013. During this time there were 80 forms submitted with 66 categorised as 'Victim' and 14 as 'Witness'. Unfortunately, many of the submissions were excluded due to incomplete information, irrelevant incidences, for example an assault which the respondent did not feel was trans or

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.osce.org/odihr/108395>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.ceji.org/facingfacts/>

LGB related, or incidences that occurred in other years. The witness reports were all excluded from the final report as the data was considered too subjective and details were limited. The data set that is analysed in this report pertains to 32 reports from individuals who directly experienced hate crimes or incidents.

#### 4.4. Limitations

Despite a communications strategy and extensive outreach, TENI received less reports than initially expected. This is likely due to a variety of factors. As in many countries in Europe, there is not a culture of reporting transphobic or homophobic crimes in Ireland. While this relates specifically to the police, there are ramifications for this project as trans people will often choose not to report the incident and instead seek support from friends or family. Despite this being a third party reporting project, which was clearly separated from the police or legal process, it may be that trans people are still uncomfortable sharing personal information even when assured of their anonymity. Furthermore, they may feel shame and stigma related to their identities and/or the incident that prevents them from reporting. Finally, through discussions with trans community members we heard anecdotally that some individuals felt that reporting was pointless as “nothing would change”. For some, there was a lack of confidence that the information would be utilised effectively to make positive change related to hate crimes.

A further limitation to the project was related to the demographics of individuals who submitted forms. Eighty-one percent of the individuals who completed the victim form were under 44 years old. There were only three people over the age of 44 who submitted a report and no one over the age of 65 completed a form (three people did not state their age) (see Table 4, p29). This may be due to the fact that younger people are more likely to utilise the internet and social media and may be more connected to trans or LGB communities and therefore aware of the STAD campaign.

Another limitation was that the vast majority of individuals who reported incidents were already involved in the trans or LGB community to varying degrees (see Table 5, p29). Only one respondent said they were not involved at all with the trans or LGB community and another respondent said this question was not applicable to them. This, in conjunction with the fact that all respondents reported being out in at least one area of their lives (see Table 6, p29), may indicate a heightened level of empowerment and involvement in the LGBT community which facilitated the reporting of hate incidents. This also suggests that the STAD campaign did not reach the most vulnerable trans or gender variant people in the country such as individuals who may be living in rural areas, who are

isolated and are unable to access a computer, who lack literacy skills or who are not out.

It must be noted that, although important, the report represents individual reports from a relatively small number of people. Given the limited sample size and the subjective nature of the reports, powerful statistical analyses, firm conclusions and statements about causality (i.e. this thing definitely causes this outcome) cannot be robustly made. However, the data does represent the real and genuine experiences of trans people which is politically and socially meaningful and greatly contributes to our understanding of hate crimes and transphobia.







Transphobic Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents

This section begins with respondent profiles, which provides a snapshot of the characteristics of the individuals who submitted a report. The next section looks at the incidents that were reported and provides an overview that contextualises the incidents. The final section classifies the incidents as hate crimes or other incidents with a bias motivation through the utilisation of a framework provided by ILGA-Europe. This ensures that the data is comparable across national contexts and is uniformly understandable.

In the following sections, those who submitted reports are referred to as ‘respondents’, ‘individuals’ and ‘victims’ interchangeably. This language was deliberately selected to offset the negative connotation associated with the term ‘victim’, which can be viewed as disempowering.

5.1 Respondent Profiles  
Gender Identity

Respondents were asked to list their gender identity when completing the form. They were provided with a list of commonly used labels and could select all that applied. In an effort to recognise the diversity of individuals completing the form, there was also an option to select an ‘other’ category which provided room for respondents to self-identify their gender identity. Among the 32 respondents there were 51 terms selected, indicating that many individuals identified with more than one gender identity.

Over half of the respondents identified as trans women (56%). Forty-one percent identified as female, which may include trans and cisgender identified individuals. On the masculine spectrum, 22% identified as trans men and 6% as male. Nineteen percent identified with transgender, a commonly used umbrella term. Of those who identified as other (13%), these participants listed their gender identity as ‘androgynous’, ‘genderqueer’ and ‘gender fluid’. Only one participant (3%) identified as intersex. As indicated above, many respondents selected multiple gender identities which is why the percentages do not equal 100% in Table 2.

Table 2: Gender Identity of Victims

	N	%
Trans woman	18	56
Female	13	41
Trans man	7	22
Transgender	6	19
Other	4	13
Male	2	6
Intersex	1	3

Sexual Orientation

Respondents were asked to list their sexual orientation when completing the form. Despite the fact that the STAD campaign was specifically aimed at recording hate crimes and incidents against trans and gender variant individuals, it was acknowledged that for many individuals there is a fluidity between their gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation which should not be ignored. For instance, a trans man may also identify as genderqueer and pansexual. Furthermore, anecdotal evidence suggests that transphobia and homophobia are linked. Individuals who are trans may face transphobia due to their gender identity and gender expression in conjunction with homophobia due to their sexual orientation. Furthermore, cisgender individuals who identify as gay, lesbian or bisexual may experience transphobia due to their gender expression. Perpetrators who attack or target trans people may also conflate gender identity with sexual orientation, making the motive for the attack or incident difficult to clearly ascertain in certain situations.

Respondents were provided with a list of commonly used labels for sexual orientation and could select any that applied. In an effort to recognise the diversity of individuals completing the form, there was also an option to select an ‘other’ category which provided space for respondents to self-identify their sexual orientation.

The most commonly listed sexual orientation was lesbian (28%). One quarter of respondents said they were not sure of their sexual orientation. Twenty-two percent identified as bisexual. Only two respondents identified as gay (6%) and two respondents identified as heterosexual (6%). Of those who identified as other (13%), these respondents identified their sexual orientation as ‘transsexual’, ‘pansexual’ and ‘queer’.

Table 3: Sexual Orientation of Victims

	N	%
Lesbian	9	28
Not sure	8	25
Bisexual	7	22
Other	4	13
Gay	2	6
Heterosexual	2	6
Total	32	100

## Age

Respondents were asked the age they were at the time of the incident. The youngest was 17 and the oldest was 63. Three-quarters of the respondents were between the ages of 18-44 at the time of the incident, with the average age of 31. The percentages in Table 4 were rounded up or down and therefore do not equal 100%.

**Table 4: Age at Time of Incident**

	N	%
Under 18	2	6
18-25	11	34
26-44	13	41
45-64	3	9
65+	0	0
Not Stated	3	9
Total	32	99

## Involvement with Trans or LGB Community

Respondents were asked about their level of involvement with the trans or LGB community. They were permitted to select multiple answers to fully capture the extent of their involvement and most respondents agreed with multiple statements, which means the percentages do not add up to 100% in Table 5.

The majority of respondents had regular involvement with the trans or LGB community with 50% reporting regularly participation in trans or LGB events or regularly going to trans or LGB venues. Forty-one percent participated in some events and another 41% percent said they went to at least one pride event or trans or LGB venue. Nine percent said they were an activist working in a trans or LGB NGO. Only one respondent said they were not involved at all with the trans or LGB community and another respondent said this question was not applicable to them.

**Table 5: Involvement with Trans or LGB Community**

	N	%
I regularly participate in Trans or LGB events	16	50
I regularly go to Trans or LGB venues	16	50
I participate at some events	13	41
I went at least once to a Pride event or to a Trans or LGB venue	13	41
I'm an activist or working in a Trans or LGB NGO	3	9
I'm not involved at all with the Trans or LGB community	1	3
Not applicable	1	3

## Being Out

Respondents were asked the extent to which they were out and to who they were out to. The concept of 'being out' was left to the interpretation of each respondent and may have been in reference to their gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation or a combination of the above. All respondents reported that they were out in at least one area or facet of their lives. Three quarters of respondents reported being out in the trans or LGB community, 72% reported being out to all family and 72% reported being out to friends. Forty-four percent were out to one or both parents and 22% were out to their siblings. Thirty-eight percent reported being out in the workplace. One participant reported 'other' but did not elaborate as to where or who else they were out to.

The vast majority of respondents were out in more than one area of their lives: 41% percent were out in two to three areas, 19% were out in three to four areas and 22% were out in more than five areas of their lives. Only 19% were out in just one area of their life.

**Table 6: Extent of 'Being Out'**

	N	%
Out in the Trans or LGB community	24	75
Out to all family	23	72
Out to friends	23	72
Out to one or both parents	14	44
Out in workplace	12	38
Out to brothers/sisters	7	22
Other	1	3

## 5.2 Motive for Incident

Respondents were asked to indicate if they thought a personal characteristic, either real or perceived, acted as a motivation for the incident. Reports that were submitted that had no identifiable bias or prejudice as part of the motive were removed from the sample as this project aimed to collect data on hate crimes and incidences that were committed specifically against trans or gender variant people.

The most widely reported motives were: gender identity (78%), sexual orientation (75%) and gender expression (72%).

**Table 7: Motive for Incident**

	N	%
Gender identity	25	78
Sexual orientation	24	75
Gender expression	23	72
Gender	11	34
Race/Ethnicity	1	3
Nationality	1	3
Age	1	3
Not stated	3	9

The vast majority of respondents felt that incidents occurred because of multiple motives occurring simultaneously (e.g. gender identity and sexual orientation). Fifty-three percent felt that the incident was due to two to three motives and 28% reported more than three motives, with one individual reporting five separate motives for the incident. Only 9% felt that there was just one motive for the incident and in each of these cases this was listed as gender identity.

**Table 8: Multiple Motives for Incident**

	N	%
Gender identity	3	9
Gender identity & gender expression	4	13
Gender expression & sexual orientation	3	9
Gender identity & sexual orientation	2	6
Gender identity & gender orientation	1	3
Gender identity, gender expression & sexual orientation	4	13
Gender identity, gender expression & gender	2	6
Sexual orientation, gender expression and gender	1	3
Gender identity, gender expression & sexual orientation and gender	7	22
Gender identity, gender expression & sexual orientation and age	1	3
Gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, race/ethnicity & nationality	1	3
Not stated	3	9
Total	32	99

## 5.3 Bias Indicators

Respondents were asked why they believed the incident was motivated by certain perceived characteristics, such as gender identity, gender expression or sexual orientation. This information was categorised as a bias indicator which means the information that clarifies a particular motive as being based in bias or prejudice.

Seventy-eight percent of respondents said the bias indicator was the language and words used during an incident. This included words like 'tranny', 'faggot' or other pejorative terms such as 'it' or 'that thing'. Over half of the respondents said it was because the perpetrator perceived or read them as trans or LGB. Nineteen percent said it was due to the fact that they had experienced previous threats or other incidents and 13% said it was the location of the attack (e.g. near or inside a Trans or LGB venue). Half of the respondents listed two to three bias indicators while 34% listed just one. Six percent listed four or more and the remaining did not elaborate on the bias indicator.

**Table 9: Bias Indicators**

	N	%
Language and words used	25	78
The perpetrator knew (or thought) I was Trans or LGB or had a trans history	17	53
Previous threats or other incidents	6	19
Place of attack	4	13
Not stated	3	9
Signs left at the place of the incident	1	3
I don't know	1	3
Not stated	3	9

#### 5.4 Perpetrators

Respondents were asked about the individuals who perpetrated the attack or incident. In 38% of the cases, there was only one perpetrator. Twenty-two percent said there were between two and three perpetrators and 19% said there were more than four perpetrators. In nearly one fifth of the incidents, the number of perpetrators was unknown. This was true for the anonymous incidents, for instance in many of the damage to property cases and incidents involving threats and psychological abuse. The percentages were rounded up or down and may not always equal 100%.

**Table 10: Number of Perpetrators**

	N	%
1	12	38
2-3	7	22
4+	6	19
Unknown	7	22
Total	32	101

Respondents were also asked if they knew the perpetrator(s) prior to the incident. The vast majority (78%) reported not knowing the perpetrator(s). Just 19% reported knowing the perpetrators, which in these cases included members of the LGBT community, neighbours and a family member.

**Table 11: Knowledge of Perpetrator**

	N	%
Unknown	25	78
Known	6	19
Not stated	1	3
Total	32	100









Incidents

This section looks at the reported incidents based on the information given in the victim forms. The intent is to provide an overview that contextualises the incidents. In the following section, the data will be analysed according to ILGA-Europe’s measures of hate crimes and other incidents with a bias motivation.

6.1 Location of Incident

The vast majority of reported incidents took place in the Republic of Ireland (88%). Just twelve percent were reported from Northern Ireland. This was likely a reflective of the outreach techniques employed by TENI, which works mainly in the Republic. Furthermore, the PSNI has a more extensive and effective reporting system that specifically records bias in crimes and incidents. Northern Ireland also has more robust hate crime legislation which might account for individuals not feeling the need to report incidences to a third party.

The reported incidents took place in a variety of settings, with the majority occurring in public spaces. One quarter were recorded as ‘other public spaces’ which were not further clarified by respondents. The remaining incidences that took place in public occurred near home (19%), commercial store (9%), club/bar (9%), and public transportation (3%). Nine percent of incidents took place either at work (6%) or school (3%). Thirteen percent of incidents took place inside the home and 9% took place near or inside a Trans or LGB venue. The percentages were rounded up or down which means the percentages do not add up to 100% in Table 12.

Table 12: Place of Incident

	N	%
Other public place	8	25
Near home	6	19
Home	4	13
Commercial store	3	9
Club/Bar	3	9
Near or inside a Trans or LGB venue	3	9
Work	2	6
School	1	3
Public transportation	1	3
Over the phone	1	3
Total	32	99

6.2. Type of Incident

Respondents were asked to indicate what type of incident they had experienced. They were provided with a list of possible types of incidents (e.g. verbal abuse or insults, physical violence, etc.) and asked to select all that applied. These categories were chosen to aid the respondent to accurately describe the incident while simultaneously making the form easy to complete.

The most common type of incident was verbal abuse or insults, which were reported by 88% of respondents. In many cases, verbal abuse or insults accompanied other incidences such as physical violence and refusal of commercial services. Twenty-eight percent said they experienced threats of violence, 19% reported physical violence and 9% were chased. Sixteen percent reported being refused commercial services and 6% were refused a job or fired. Property damage accounted for 13% of incidents. Two individuals reported being sexually harassed (6%) and one reported being raped. Of those who reported other incidences these included refusal of access to public toilets and transphobic interrogation.

Table 13: Type of Incident

	N	%
Verbal abuse or insults	28	88
Threats of violence	9	28
Physical violence	6	19
Refusal of access to commercial services	5	16
Property damaged	4	13
Chased	3	9
Sexually harassed (without assault)	2	6
Refused a job/fired	2	6
Rape	1	3
Other	2	6

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Incidents as Hate Crimes



The previous section provides a detailed outline of the incidents that were reported. In an effort to ensure that the data is comparable across national contexts and uniformly understandable, this section will further classify the data according to a framework provided by ILGA-Europe.

Each incident is classified in one of six broad categories of hate crimes. In certain cases, while an incident may have occurred due to bias or prejudice it may not be an actual hate crime. These incidents are recorded as 'other incidents with a bias motivation' (See Annex 1 for more information).

The following sections will report on these seven categories:

- Homicide
- Extreme physical violence
- Assault
- Damage against property
- Arson
- Threats and psychological violence
- Other incidents with a bias motivation

### 7.1 Homicide

There was no recorded incident of homicide in the witness reports. Furthermore, TENI monitors media sources and there were no reported incidences of LGBTI-phobic murders in Ireland in 2013. Please note that this does not mean that this type of hate crime did not occur only that there is no record.

### 7.2. Extreme Physical Violence

Extreme physical violence is defined as any attack on a person that potentially causes serious physical harm. This includes an attack by weapon or other objects that can be used to harm. This category also includes rape, sexual assault and sexual harassment, including unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

There was one recorded incident of extreme physical violence. An eighteen year old trans man was physically attacked, chased and raped. He experienced broken ribs and his face, legs and back were bruised. The attack took place near his home by one perpetrator who was unknown to the victim. The motives for the incident were recorded as the victim's gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation which he identified due to the language the perpetrator used and his knowledge of his victim being trans. The victim did seek medical care but did not report the incident to the Gardaí.

### 7.3. Assault

Assault is defined as any physical attack against a person which does not pose a threat to their life. This includes the throwing of objects at a person. It also includes an attempted assault which fails, due to self-defence, or if the victim runs away.

There were six recorded incidents of assault. Due to the small number of recorded incidents it is not possible to make generalisations or statistical claims about assault facing the trans community in Ireland.

#### Gender Identity

The victims identified their gender identities along a spectrum, four identified with just one identity (i.e. female, genderfluid, trans woman and trans man) while two individuals identified with three gender identities (i.e. male/trans man/transgender and female/trans woman/intersex). In one instance, the respondent selected 'female' but it is unclear whether they were cisgender or transgender.

**Table 14: Gender Identity (Incidents of Assault)**

	N
Trans woman	2
Female	2
Trans man	2
Transgender	1
Other	1
Male	1
Intersex	1

#### Sexual Orientation

The sexual orientations of the respondents were also diverse, with lesbian identity accounting for two cases.

**Table 15: Sexual Orientation (Incidents of Assault)**

	N
Lesbian	2
Not sure	1
Bisexual	1
Other	1
Heterosexual	1
Total	6

## Age

The age profile of the respondents shows that three quarters of the victims were under the age of 25. The oldest victim was 35 and one individual did not provide a specific age but said they were in their twenties. Due to the limited number of cases, it is hard to ascertain why assaults appear to disproportionately affect younger people. This may be due to the fact that younger people are more likely to be targeted for this type of hate crime or they may be more likely to report these incidents on an online form.

**Table 16: Age at Time of Incident (Incidents of Assault)**

	N
Under 18	1
18-25	3
26-44	1
45-64	0
65+	0
Not stated	1
Total	6

## Being Out

All respondents were out in some capacity in their lives. All but one respondent was out to all of their family. Being out may be linked to heightened visibility and being perceived as trans or gender variant which may increase the risk of being attacked.

**Table 17: Extent of Being Out (Incidents of Assault)**

	N
Out to all family	5
Out in the Trans or LGB community	4
Out to friends	4
Out in workplace	3

## Type of Assault

The assaults varied in terms of severity but all included insults and verbal abuse. Four individuals were physically assaulted and two had objects thrown at them from which they ran away. See below for additional information on three of the assaults.

*"It was a bank holiday, I opened my wallet and noticed I had no money, after I had ordered food. I decided to go across the street I live to withdraw money at the ATM. When I crossed back I bumped in a group of five (not nice) guys, I heard one of them shout to the other 'let's kick some trannies'. I tried to cross back to the other side of the street when I felt a punch in my face, I felt stoned for 5 seconds, when I noticed the other one was coming towards me to kick me, so I ran into a Thai restaurant that was open. They*

*stayed outside shouting at me, saying I was either a tranny or a faggot and they would give me what I deserve. Once they noticed I had my phone in hand and was trying to call the Gardaí (they never came) they left and got into a bus. I went home shaking."* – 23 year old trans man.

*"While cycling just near to where I lived, I passed three teenage boys, one of which went 'lads, lads, oh my god, that THING is a woman'. I passed them, without saying anything (which made me feel even more like hell, for not standing up for myself, but since it was three against one, I didn't fancy my chances) and they threw stones after me (which, thankfully I dodged)." – 24 year old genderqueer lesbian.*

*"I was walking down the street and talking in my phone. These boys started by throwing stones after me, and when I ignored them they took my wig and ran off. Got my hair back after I threatened them to go to the police (was near a Garda station)." – 24 year old trans woman.*

## Motive & Bias Indicator

When respondents were asked about the motive for the assault, all responded that it was combination of their gender identity or gender expression and sexual orientation. This illustrates that with these assaults, the motive is rooted in both transphobia and homophobia. In addition, two individuals believed there were additional motivations. One listed their race/ethnicity and nationality while another included their gender.

**Table 18: Motive for Incident (Incidents of Assault)**

	N
Gender Expression	6
Sexual Orientation	6
Gender Identity	5
Gender	1
Race/Ethnicity	1
Nationality	1

Respondents were asked why they believed that the assault was motivated by one of the above characteristics. Five of the six victims said it was due to the language or words used. For instance, one trans woman said: "They yelled I was a fucking fag and I shouldn't be allowed to walk on the streets." Two individuals said it was due to the fact that the perpetrator perceived them as trans or LGB. One trans man explained: "I present myself quite masculinely [sic] and I had a very feminine looking school bag with me." Two individuals said it was because they had experienced previous threats or other incidents. One trans woman said: "I got a lot of homophobic verbal abuse before and after the incident."



**Table 19: Bias Indicators (Incidents of Assault)**

	N
Language and words used	5
The perpetrator knew (or thought) I was Trans or LGB or had a trans history	2
Previous threats or other incidents	2
I don't know	1
Heterosexual	1
Total	6

### Perpetrators

All assaults were perpetrated by individuals who were unknown to the victims. In all but one case the assault was perpetrated by two or more assailants.

**Table 20: Number of Perpetrators (Incidents of Assault)**

	N
1	1
2-3	2
4+	3
Total	6

### Reporting

Under reporting of crimes is an issue in LGBTI communities and anecdotal evidence has shown that this is particularly true in trans communities. Two thirds of the victims did not report the assaults to the police. Of the two individuals who did, one found the police to be supportive while the other found them to be dismissive.

### Medical & Psychological Support

Three of the victims reported physical injuries; however, only one individual sought medical care. For this individual, care was sought because: "They punched me in the ear. I felt deaf for a while and had to go to a GP. I had blood inside my ear and am still feeling quite deaf."

In addition to physical injuries, the assaults also took a psychological toll on the victims. Five respondents said that the assault had an impact on their personal or social life. However, none sought psychological support from professionals. Instead, these individuals turned to their friends and family for support. See below for more detail on the psychological effects of the assault.

*"I'm used to getting verbal abuse every day and have been attacked before but I'm feeling a bit more fearful." – 35 year old trans woman.*

*"It made me feel bad about who I am." – 17 year old trans man.*

*"Considering it was at my door, every time I leave to work I have to go downstairs three minutes before the bus time and run to get it and every time I get back home I have to phone one of my flatmates to have them pick me up at the bus stop, I'm scared of walking on my own street. Am thinking of moving place." – 23 year old trans man.*

*"It has gotten me exceedingly down. I have been met with this sort of behaviour before – but it's made me fearful of strangers and has really stayed in my mind for longer than I should really grant it. It's just... tiring. So, so tiring to feel like you have to explain yourself to people you don't know/ don't care about." – 24 year old genderqueer lesbian.*

## 7.4 Damage Against Property

Damage against property includes any physical attack directed against property, which is not life-threatening and it appears that the property has been specifically targeted because of the fact that there is a perceived connection between the owner and the LGBTI community.

There were three recorded incidents of damage against property. Due to the small number of recorded incidents it is not possible to make generalisations or statistical claims about the situation of hate crime facing the trans community in Ireland.

### Gender Identity

Two of the victims identified as trans woman and one identified as female. However, it is unclear whether this individual was cisgender or transgender.

### Sexual Orientation

The two trans women identified as lesbians while the individual who identified as female said she was not sure of her sexual orientation.

### Age

The age profile of the respondent's show that all victims were between 43-51 years of age. These victims were significantly older than the ones who experienced assault.

### Being Out

All respondents were out in some capacity in their lives. All respondents were out in the Trans or LGB community, out to one or both parents and out to friends. Being out may be linked to heightened visibility and being perceived as trans or gender variant which may increase the risk of being targeted.

**Table 21: Extent of Being Out (Incidents of Damage Against Property)**

	N
Out in the Trans or LGB community	3
Out to one or both parents	3
Out to friends	3
Out to all family	1
Out to brothers/sisters	1
Out in workplace	1

### Type of Damage to Property

The damage to property varied in terms of severity. See below for additional information on three incidents of damage to property.

*"Ongoing attacks on my property (car), eggs being thrown and wiped on my car, wipers broken and laid on top of my car, mirrors being broken [...]. I am also hearing jeering and shouting, which seems to be aimed at me, however I cannot identify the perpetrators." - 51 year old female.*

*"A neighbour which I regularly have difficulty with approached my house after been asked to leave the property grounds because of trespassing and verbal abuse, armed himself with a sledge hammer and damaged the front gate and fencing in a threatening behaviour." - 43 year old lesbian trans woman.*

*"A neighbour drunk and verbally abusive used a sledge hammer to damage my property. It was related to a radio programme I appeared on that morning in relation to abuse although no names were mentioned. That morning before I went to the studio I discovered two of my tyres had been deflated." - 43 year old lesbian trans woman.*

### Motive & Bias Indicator

When respondents were asked about the motive for the damage against property, one responded that it was solely her gender identity. One said it was a combination of her gender identity and sexual orientation and one did not complete that part of the form.

**Table 22: Motive for Incident (Incidents of Damage Against Property)**

	N
Gender identity	2
Sexual orientation	1
Not stated	1

Respondents were asked why they believed the incident was motivated by one of the above characteristics. Two said it was due to the fact that they were perceived as Trans or LGB, one of whom also said the incident was linked to the language and words used. This trans woman, who also identifies as a lesbian, said, "this incident is not a one off incident as the person sits outside his house with a group of neighbours verbally abusing and intimidating me on a daily basis." The trans woman who did not state a motivation or bias indicator did explain that the individual took a sledgehammer to her car while being verbally abusive.

**Table 23: Bias Indicators (Incidents of Damage Against Property)**

	N
Language and words used	1
The perpetrator knew (or thought) I was Trans or LGB or had a trans history	2
Not stated	1

### Perpetrators

In two incidents the damage to property was perpetrated by individuals who were unknown to the victims. In one incident, the damage was done by a neighbour. In two of the three incidents there was only one perpetrator while in one incident the victim was not sure how many perpetrators there were.

### Reporting

Two victims reported the crimes to the police, while one did not complete that part of the form. One victim found the police to be supportive while the other listed "I don't know". None of the victims knew if their reports were classified as hate crimes.

### Medical & Psychological Support

Given the nature of the crimes, there were no physical injuries. However, these attacks did have a psychological impact on the victims. Two respondents said that the incident had an impact on their personal or social life. While one also said it had an impact on their job conditions. One respondent did not complete this part of the form. As a result of the incident, one individual sought psychological support from a professional while the other individual turned to Trans/ LGB NGOs and friends for support.

See overleaf for more detail on the psychological effects of these incidents.

*“This incident is not a one off incident as the person sits outside his house with a group of neighbours verbal abusing and intimidating me almost on a daily basis. They are also linked with physical cruelty to my two dogs.”*  
– 43 year old lesbian trans woman.

*“I already suffer from depression and have been hospitalised due to a number of suicide attempts due to my situation of coming out as Transgender. I attend a self-harm clinic also. Since the attack I have been suffering from sleepless nights, paranoia, hypersensitivity, my depression has got worse. I feel that it is hard enough with my personal situation, but to have to endure this form of abuse from invisible perpetrators, is very distressing.”*  
– 51 year old female.

7.5 Arson

Arson is defined as an attack on property where there is no threat to life, for instance if the building is uninhabited at the time of the attack. This also includes failed attempts, for instance attempted arson where the fire fails to catch or the arsonist is disturbed.

There was no recorded incident of arson in the reports. Furthermore, TENI monitors media sources and there were no reported incidences of LGBTI-phobic arson in Ireland in 2013. Please note that this does not mean that this type of hate crime did not occur only that there is no record.

7.6 Threats and Psychological Violence

Threats and psychological violence is defined as a specific threat which can be either verbal or written. This can also include stalking, repeated undesired contact, following or lying in wait for the individual or making threats to the individual or her/his family.

There were five incidents of threats and psychological violence. Due to the small number of recorded incidents it is not possible to make generalisations or statistical claims about the situation of hate crime facing the trans community in Ireland.

Gender Identity

The victims identified with diverse gender identities. One identified with just one identity (i.e. trans man) while four individuals identified with two or more gender identities (i.e. female/trans woman, trans woman/transgender/genderqueer, female/trans man and female/trans woman/transgender).

Table 24: Gender Identity (Incidents of Threats and Psychological Violence)

	N
Trans woman	3
Female	3
Trans man	2
Transgender	2
Other	1

Sexual Orientation

The sexual orientations of the victims were also diverse, with lesbian and bisexual identities accounting for two cases each.

Table 25: Sexual Orientation (Incidents of Threats and Psychological Violence)

	N
Lesbian	2
Bisexual	2
Other	1
Total	5

Age

The age profile of the respondents shows that four of the five victims were under the age of 25. The oldest victim was 33. Due to the limited number of cases, it is hard to ascertain whether this is due to the fact that younger people are targeted more for this type of hate crime or if it is more likely that younger people will report these incidents on an online form.

Table 26: Age at time of Incident (Incidents of Threats and Psychological Violence)

	N
Under 18	0
18-25	4
26-44	1
45-64	0
65+	0
Not Stated	0
Total	5

Being Out

All respondents were out in some capacity in their lives. Being out may be linked to heightened visibility and being perceived as trans or gender variant which may increase the risk of being attacked.

**Table 27: Extent of Being Out (Incidents of Threats and Psychological Violence)**

	N
Out in the Trans or LGB community	2
Out to one or both parents	3
Out to brothers/sisters	1
Out to all family	1
Out to friends	3

### Types of Threats and Psychological Abuse

The victims experienced a range of threats and psychological violence. In most cases, these were also specific threats of physical violence. See below for additional information on four of the incidents.

*"I was walking with 2 friends when a man started asking if I was a guy or a girl. When I didn't answer and walked on he started shouting louder threatening to hit me. He then decided I was a girl and started singing a song about how he was going to rape me. He followed us down the road singing this song till he got bored of us not replying." – 22 year old bisexual trans man.*

*"just abusive phone calls making very violent threats and intentions. Such as, when they see me they will hang me from a tree with a live electric cable... yet I don't know who the phone call was made by." – 20 year old lesbian trans man/female.*

*"I was essentially forced by an awkward conversation-with/interrogation-by an acquaintance to admit my trans status at which point she began to scream at me that I was 'a freak' for some time and she threatened violence whilst cornering me. When I made a (feigned) motion to defend myself I was violently grabbed by a staff member and forced to leave." – 24 year old pansexual genderqueer/trans woman.*

*"Was walking down the street when I heard loudly behind me "Ya fuckin' tranny queer." Ignored it and walked on, held my head high. "Tranny queer." This continued for a good bit before eventually "Watch your back next time I see you." – 18 year old bisexual trans woman.*

### Motive & Bias Indicators

In all cases the motive for the incident was recorded by the victim as being a combination of their gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation. This illustrates that with these incidents, the motive is rooted in both transphobia and homophobia.

**Table 28: Motive for Incident (Incidents of Threats and Psychological Violence)**

	N
Gender Identity	5
Sexual Orientation	4
Gender Expression	4
Gender	4

Respondents were asked why they believed that the threats and psychological abuse was motivated by one of the above characteristics. All five victims said it was the language and words used. One bisexual trans woman wrote, "Tranny queer" is definitely language. Along with 'watch your back.' A lesbian trans woman, who also cited her being perceived as trans as a motivation for the incident elaborated, "I've been screamed at about how I'm disgusting for being transsexual, the idea of anyone being with me, asking me out, fancying me [...] was elaborated as disgusting [...] [she stated] we aren't real women, we're trannies [...]."

**Table 29: Bias Indicators (Incidents of Threats and Psychological Violence)**

	N
Language and words used	5
The perpetrator knew (or thought) I was Trans or LGB or had a trans history	3
Previous threats or other incidents	2
Place of attack	1

### Perpetrators

Three of the incidents were perpetrated by individuals who were known to the victims. In two cases the incident was perpetrated by one individual while two incidents were committed by two or more assailants. In one anonymous call, the victim was unsure how many perpetrators there were.

**Table 30: Number of Perpetrators (Incidents of Threats and Psychological Violence)**

	N
1	2
2-3	2
Unknown	1
Total	5

## Reporting

As discussed previously, under reporting of crimes is an issue in trans communities. Three of the victims did not report the incidents to the police. Of the two individuals who did, one found the police to be neutral while the other found them to be dismissive.

## Medical & Psychological Support

Given the nature of the incidents, there were no physical injuries. However, these attacks did have a psychological impact on the victims. All five respondents said that the incident had an impact on their personal or social life. In addition, two individuals said it also had an impact on their family and one individual said it had an impact on the Trans or LGB community.

However, only one individual sought psychological support from a professional psychologist. The majority of individuals turned to their friends, family or Trans/ LGB NGO for support. See below for more detail on the psychological effects of the threats and psychological abuse.

*"I'm afraid to go down the town by myself out of fear of someone jumping me. I tend to not go out much anymore." – 18 year old bisexual trans woman.*

*"I just wanted to, and sometimes still do, want to end it all. I think everybody would be better off if they didn't have my problems to deal with, and I just think I would be at rest if I um, well, if I ended my life... I have tried, and failed... obviously... the medical care I sought was for advice mainly. I never admitted to receiving threatening phone calls though..." – 20 year old lesbian trans man/female.*

*"It made me scared, it made me feel like a weirdo, It made me embarrassed and it made me feel uncomfortable given what he was saying. He was much bigger than me and making comments about rape made me very uncomfortable. I found it very hard to let my guard down for a few days after." – 22 bisexual trans man.*

## 7.7 Other Incidents with a Bias Motivation

The majority of the incidents that were reported would not qualify as crimes under Irish law and cannot be accurately identified as hate crimes. However, the incidents do reflect transphobic and homophobic bias, prejudice and/or discrimination and as such provide important information on the current context in Ireland. This section will detail incidents that have been categorised as (A) Abusive Behaviour and (B) Discriminatory Incidents.

## A. Abusive Behaviour

Abusive behaviour can include different types of hate speech or transphobic language that is delivered face-to-face or via other mediums such as telephone calls. However, it is usually more general and/or less severe which is why it is categorised separately from threats or psychological abuse (Annex 1).

There were nine incidents of abusive behaviour. Due to the small number of recorded incidents it is not possible to make generalisations or statistical claims.

## Gender Identity

The victims identified their gender identities along a spectrum; however, three quarters identified as trans women. Seven identified with just one gender identity (e.g. trans man) and two individuals identified with two or more gender identities (i.e. Female/trans woman and female/trans woman/transgender).

**Table 31: Gender Identity (Incidents of Abusive Behaviour)**

	N
Trans woman	6
Female	4
Trans man	1
Transgender	1

## Sexual Orientation

The sexual orientations of the victims were also diverse.

**Table 32: Sexual Orientation (Incidents of Abusive Behaviour)**

	N
Bisexual	3
Not sure	3
Lesbian	2
Other	1
Total	9

## Age

The age profile of the respondents shows that five of the nine victims were between the ages of 26-55. The youngest victim was 17 and the oldest victim was 63.



**Table 33: Age at time of Incident (Incidents of Abusive Behaviour)**

	N
Under 18	1
18-25	1
26-44	5
45-64	1
65+	0
Not Stated	1
Total	9

### Being Out

All respondents were out in some capacity in their lives. Eight out of the nine respondents were out to their families. Being out may be linked to heightened visibility and being perceived as trans or gender variant which may increase the risk of being targeted.

**Table 34: Extent of Being Out (Incidents of Abusive Behaviour)**

	N
Out in the Trans or LGB community	6
Out to one or both parents	4
Out to brothers/sisters	4
Out to all family	8
Out to friends	5
Out in workplace	4

### Types of Abusive Behaviour

The victims experienced a range of abusive behaviour. See below for additional information on five of the incidents.

*"Went to pride for the first time, and then I went to the village area at Merrion square. There were outdoor separate toilets so I queued and went into one of the toilets. The door was repeatedly kicked and the toilet rocked violently by a woman calling out 'gay man,' 'tranny.' When I left there was lots of people there, no one said anything or did anything to help." – 35 year old bisexual trans woman.*

*"Had faggot screamed at me a number of times on shop floor by teenage boys." – 34 year old trans woman.*

*"[...] I became aware of someone walking far to close behind me. When I passed a shop window I caught a reflection of a man in his late 30's early 40's who had his*

*hand ready to grab my bum. I turned and asked him to back up and leave my personal space [...]. He did for a few seconds, and then put his hand on my shoulder and forced me to turn. He asked what I was listening to, and when I replied he asked in a very loud voice (where as previously he had spoken relatively softly), 'Are you a fucking man, or a fucking woman?' I said, 'I'm a woman.' He responded to this by following me the length of the Main Street from the courthouse to the start of the Youghal Road, shouting as loudly as he could, 'It's a fucking man,' 'tranny-freak,' 'fucking faggot' and so on." – 43 year old lesbian trans woman.*

*"Every day called 'tranny,' 'lezzie,' 'lesbian,' 'it's a man,' ten to twenty times a day every day in Dublin." – Female (no age stated).*

*"I left the bar with my friends for a smoke, on the way back in the bouncer let all my friends and blocked my re-entry, when one of my friends asked: 'Why is she not allowed back in?' The bouncer replied: 'She? HA! IT is not allowed back in, and I don't have to give a reason.' It took 20 min for me to get the head door man to come out, I threatened to call the police and write letters to GCN, and other publications, the bars owner and the manager of the bar. I was allowed back in only if I promised not to send letters." – 27 year old bisexual trans woman.*

### Motive and Bias Indicator

In most cases the motive for the incident was recorded by the victim as being a combination of their gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation. This illustrates that with these incidents, the motive is rooted in both transphobia and homophobia.

**Table 35: Motive for Incident (Incidents of Abusive Behaviour)**

	N
Gender Identity	7
Sexual Orientation	4
Gender Expression	7
Gender	2

Respondents were asked why they believed that the abusive behaviour was motivated by one of the above characteristics. All nine victims said it was the language and words used. One trans woman wrote: "Faggot says it all, it's a derogatory term." Over half of the victims also said that the motive was based in part on being read as trans or LGB. One bisexual trans woman wrote: "He referred to me as 'it' and refused me entry into the club because of my gender." Another trans woman, who said the motive was based on her sexual orientation and gender expression said: "They shouted

homophobic language at us. They didn't know we were Trans and were shouting lesbians, faggots, dykes at us." Two victims said the incident was motivated by their location. One trans woman elaborated: "The place that I was on my way into is known as a gay/trans bar in the part of the city that is known as the gay/trans part of the city."

**Table 36: Bias Indicators (Incidents of Abusive Behaviour)**

	N
Language and words used	9
The perpetrator knew (or thought) I was Trans or LGB or had a trans history	5
Previous threats or other incidents	1
Place of attack	2

### Perpetrators

Seven of the incidents were perpetrated by individuals who were unknown to the victims. Two incidents were perpetrated by individuals who were known by the victim, including one who was victimised by a family member.

In five cases the incidents were perpetrated by one individual while in two other cases the incidents were committed by two or more perpetrators. In one anonymous call, the victim was unsure how many perpetrators there were and in another case the number of perpetrators was listed as unknown.

**Table 37: Number of Perpetrators (Incidents of Abusive Behaviour)**

	N
1	5
2-3	1
4+	1
Unknown	2
Total	9

### Reporting

None of the victims reported the incidents to the police. Despite the fact that the incidents were clearly motivated by bias and prejudice, for many of the events reported in this section, there were no crimes committed according to Irish law.

### Medical & Psychological Support

Given the nature of the incidents, there were no physical injuries. However, they did have a psychological impact on the victims. Five respondents said that the incident had an impact on their personal or social life.

However, only two individuals sought psychological support from a professional psychologist. The majority of individuals turned to their friends, family or Trans or LGB NGO for support. See below for more detail on the psychological effects of the abusive behaviour.

*"Constantly on edge, feeling suicidal and a lot of that's, to do with the Irish public reaction to people like me." – 34 year old bisexual trans woman.*

*"I was very upset, it is the first time I received any transphobic abuse/ discrimination... I cried many times afterwards. It was a horrific situation. He refused me entry in front of 20 to 30 people, then proceeded to out me publicly, and my bag/coat wallet were all in the bar, so I could go nowhere, because of the rain, and because he outed me I started getting hassle of lads in the smoking area." -27 year old bisexual trans woman.*

*"Because of all this I am on antidepressants I intend to increase my dose until I can emigrate from this country, can't afford to go to a councillor or therapist." – Female (age not stated).*

*"A marked increase in number and severity of panic attacks. I already suffer from PTSD due to childhood sexual abuse and this unwanted physical contact as well as the verbal abuse has brought that PTSD to a new more difficult to manage level." – 34 year old lesbian trans woman.*

*"I don't want to hide away, but it just reminded me of the terrible ignorance out there." – 34 year old trans woman.*

### (B) Discriminatory Incidents

Discriminatory incidents are any incidents that have a discriminatory element and may be the result of bias. In this reporting cycle, there were eight discriminatory incidents. Due to the small number of reports it is not possible to make generalisations or statistical claims.

### Gender Identity

The respondents identified their gender identities along a spectrum, however, the majority identified as trans women. Four identified with just one identity (e.g. trans man) while three individuals identified with two or more gender identities (i.e. Trans woman/transgender/genderqueer, female/trans woman and male/androgynous).



**Table 38: Gender Identity (Discriminatory Incidents)**

	N
Trans woman	5
Female	3
Trans man	1
Transgender	2
Male	1
Other	2

### Sexual Orientation

The sexual orientations of the victims were also diverse.

**Table 39: Sexual Orientation (Discriminatory Incidents)**

	N
Gay	2
Not sure	2
Lesbian	1
Bisexual	1
Heterosexual	1
Other	1
Total	8

### Age

The age profile of the respondent's show that half of the victims were between the ages of 26-55. The youngest victim was 19 and the oldest victim was 53.

**Table 40: Age at Time of Incident (Discriminatory Incidents)**

	N
Under 18	0
18-25	2
26-44	4
45-64	1
65+	0
Not Stated	1
Total	8

### Being Out

All respondents were out in some capacity in their lives. Seven of the eight respondents were out in the Trans or LGB community. Being out may be linked to heightened visibility and being perceived as trans or gender variant which may increase the risk of being targeted.

**Table 41: Extent of Being Out (Discriminatory Incidents)**

	N
Out in the Trans or LGB community	7
Out to all family	6
Out to friends	5
Out to one or both parents	2
Out to brothers/sisters	1
Out in workplace	2

### Types of Discriminatory Incidents

The victims experienced a range of discriminatory incidents. The majority of these incidents were related to denial of commercial services or denial of access to appropriate restrooms. See below for additional information on four of the incidents.

*"After management were informed I was trans and planned to transition, I was suspended from employment for two weeks, while they discussed the issue." – 53 year old bisexual trans woman.*

*"I was in a shopping centre in Limerick. I looked towards the female toilets. I was immediately stopped by a lady in charge of the toilets and told that I couldn't use them, that I could either use the disabled or the men's. This had been decided by centre security, who had harassed me in the past. I was mortified, hurt and felt violated. I went to see this same bullying security team, who addressed me using male pronouns throughout and told me to speak to the centre manager. I was told by the Gardaí that no crime had been committed, that it was a civil matter, and it appeared that they felt I should be happy to be allowed to use the disabled toilets. I cried for hours, and writing these lines is bringing it back. Tears are not far away now as I relive it." – 34 year old trans woman.*

*"A group of us were in a club, four trans girls and one cis[gender] guy. We were all called lads by door staff on our way into the club. Then, when we were in the club about twenty minutes, a manager and doorman approached our table and told us there had been complaints about us using the ladies, because of this we had to show ID to prove we were female to use the toilets. One of us had ID the rest including me didn't. I asked: 'What happens if we don't have ID and use the ladies toilets?' The doorman loomed over me and said: 'Then we will have a problem.' I asked him if he wanted me to strip naked as I haven't carried ID when going to a club in over twenty years, I also told them this was discrimination. They allowed us to use the ladies in the end. I have never felt so embarrassed or humiliated in my life as this was done in a small area where there were loads of other people." – 39 year old lesbian trans woman.*

*“Not being particularly confident with my appearance I attempted to use the male toilets in a bar and was redirected by a customer. Fearfully I obeyed, and was told I was in the wrong place again when attempting to enter the female toilets. On the second attempt to enter the males, I was aggressively, vocally refused entry by another customer and immediately asked to leave by a bouncer.” – 23 year old pansexual trans woman/genderqueer.*

### Motive and Bias Indicators

In most cases the motive for the incident was recorded by the victim as being a combination of their gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation. This illustrates that with these incidents, the motive is rooted in both transphobia and homophobia.

**Table 42: Motive for Incident (Discriminatory Incidents)**

	N
Gender Identity	5
Gender Expression	5
Sexual Orientation	4
Gender	2
Age	1
Not stated	1

Respondents were asked why they believed that the incident was motivated by one of the above characteristics. Six of the eight victims said it was due to the language or words used during the incident. For instance, one trans woman said: “I was on my own and they were saying, ‘is that a man or a woman? It’s a woman, no oh it’s a man, oh it’s a man. He scares me.” Five individuals said it was due to the fact that the perpetrator read them as trans or LGB. One trans woman explained: “They knew my history, I’m from here. They had known me for 20 years. Once a man, always a man in their eyes.” The bisexual trans woman who did not state a motive did note a bias indicator in another part of the form explaining: “After management were informed I was trans and planned to transition, I was suspended from employment for two weeks.”

**Table 43: Bias Indicators (Discriminatory Incidents)**

	N
Language and words used	6
The perpetrator knew (or thought) I was Trans or LGB or had a trans history	5
Previous threats or other incidents	1
Place of attack	1
Particular signs left at the place of the incident	1
Not stated	1

### Perpetrators

In all cases the perpetrators were unknown to the victims. The number of perpetrators ranged from one perpetrator (1), two to three perpetrators (1) and more than four perpetrators (3). In three cases it is unknown how many perpetrators there were as they were either unlisted in that section or the form was not completed.

**Table 44: Number of Perpetrators (Discriminatory Incidents)**

	N
1	1
2-3	1
4+	3
Unknown	3
Total	8

### Reporting

Three quarters of the victims did not report the incidents to the police. For many of the incidents reported in this section, there were no official crimes. However, two individuals did report the incidents. One individual reported what she felt was harassment by a group of young people in her place of work. She found the Gardaí to be neutral but the incident was not taken seriously and not treated as a hate crime. Another women reported being refused the use of the appropriate toilet in a shopping centre to the Gardaí; however, she reported being treated dismissively and told that, “no crime had been committed.”

### Medical & Psychological Support

Given the nature of the incidents, there were no physical injuries. However, these incidents did have a psychological impact on the victims. Six respondents said that the incident had an impact on their personal or social life and two did not complete that section of the form.

However, only one individual sought psychological support from a professional psychiatrist. The majority of individuals turned to their friends, family or Trans/ LGB NGO for support. See below for more detail on the psychological effects of the discriminatory incidents.

*“Crying for hours, which my mother had to witness. It’s made me nervous elsewhere, I’m wondering whether similar problems will emerge elsewhere, either toilets or changing rooms, melancholy, sadness at the state of my native city, not being able to use these facilities which I often had frequented.” – 34 year old trans woman.*

*"Mental scars, nervousness and anxiety about future work, doubts about my ability to go on living in this area, doubts that spread to concerns over housing. Am I unsafe living here, could I ever live in a housing estate, etc." -34 year old trans woman.*

*"It made me feel like there was something wrong with me, but women regularly look at me like I am in the wrong place." – Gay female (age not stated).*

*"I was left shaken and on edge. I was shocked and surprised at how I was treated. I took time in the changing room to think things over and to relax. I felt like a freak for wanting to try on these short shorts. I would have suffered worse had I been transgender because I would have become paranoid about my success at passing and posing as my preferred gender. I would have become overly and obsessively self-aware and self-conscious about my appearance. I now fear buying female items of clothing again in apprehension of the same thing happening to me." – 19 year old gay androgynous male.*

## 7.8. Police and Law Enforcement

In this report, the term police refers to the Gardaí (Republic of Ireland) and the PSNI (Northern Ireland). Respondents were asked if they reported the incident to the police. More than half said they had not (56%) (see Table 45). In some cases, this was due to the fact that the incident would not be considered a crime. However, in many instances, there was a clear criminal element. For instance, one individual was "receiving abusive phone calls making very violent threats [...] such as when they see me they will hang me from a tree with an electric cable". In another instance, a young trans man was on his way home from school and was physically assaulted while being called "tranny". Furthermore, the respondent who reported being raped did not report the incident to the police.

**Table 45: Reported Incident to Police**

	N	%
No	18	56
Yes	8	25
Not applicable	2	6
Not stated	4	13

Respondents that did not report the incident were asked why they did not report the incident as a hate crime. The reasons that were reported included fear, not being out, doubting the severity of the incident, feeling the incident was commonplace and not believing that anything would be done by the police. In one case, the respondent believed the attack would be "laughed off" by police.

*"I was scared. I don't want the police involved." – Respondent who had received abusive phone calls.*

*"I did not see it as serious enough, the boys were underage." – Respondent who had experienced insults and verbal abuse.*

*"I didn't feel anything would or could be done." – Respondent who had experienced verbal abuse and stone throwing.*

*"Only out to other trans friends and did not wish to become involved with the police at that time." – Respondent who was sexually harassed and verbally abused.*

*"Why? No one cares." – Respondent who had experienced threats of violence and verbal abuse.*

*"Happens nearly every day here." – Respondent who experienced verbal abuse.*

*"I didn't think it was worth it." – Respondent who was physically assaulted and verbally abused.*

*"At first I was too shaken, later I realised that in Middleton such an attack would be simply laughed off." – Respondent who was chased and verbally abused.*

One quarter of respondents did report the incident to the police. When asked about the reaction of the police, three respondents said the police were dismissive, two found the police to be neutral, two found the police to be supportive and one did not answer. When asked if the police considered the incident to be a hate crime four said no. Three respondents were not sure if the police considered the incident to be a hate crime. Only one respondent said that the police considered the incident a hate crime. This respondent was located in Northern Ireland, where there is more robust hate crime legislation than in the Republic of Ireland.





Overview & Recommendations



## Overview

**Transphobia must be challenged.** This research illustrates that transphobia is widespread in Irish society and largely goes unchallenged. This has serious implications for the safety and well-being of trans people in Ireland.

**Visibility Matters.** There is a need to increase positive representation of trans experiences and visibility of trans lives.

**Data must be gathered.** To change the way that trans people are treated we need to understand the full extent of the problem and look for viable solutions. We must gather robust evidence and document people's experiences. Currently the Gardaí do not collect or publish data on transphobic incidents. There is no monitoring or recording mechanism in the PULSE system to document transphobic incidents. We would recommend that this is remedied and that incidents of transphobia are explicitly logged.

**Training.** Delivery of training to police services is of utmost importance. This will enable members of the Gardaí and the PSNI to deal appropriately and sensitively with transphobic incidents.

**Build relationships between police services and the trans community.** More than half of respondents had not reported the crimes to police, as they did not believe that anything would be done. This is extremely serious. Trust must be built between the police services and the trans community.

**Recognise the value of trans and LGB communities nationwide.** Access to the trans or LGB community is crucial. Ninety-four per cent of respondents had involvement with these communities, and all were 'out' in at least one area of their lives. This suggests that community is important as a means of contact to supports. However, this also points to the fact that our research failed to reach the more vulnerable members of the trans community. It is important that people are cognisant to the isolation experienced by members of the trans community, and deal with people in a sensitive and appropriate manner.

**Need for robust hate crime legislation.** Trans people are not expressly protected under any hate crime legislation in the Republic of Ireland. The only exception to this is an underutilised Incitement to Hatred Act 1989, which does not include gender identity or gender expression.

**Equality Legislation.** Trans people are not expressly protected under equality legislation. The Equality grounds need to be expanded to explicitly protect individuals on the basis of gender identity and/or expression.

**Research.** Further research needs to be conducted into penalty enhancing legislation for crimes involving bias against trans people. There is some evidence that this may function as a deterrent to transphobic crimes.

## Recommendations & Actions

- Include 'transphobic incidents' as a category within the PULSE system.
- Deliver training to police services to combat transphobia and support the safety of the trans community.
- Build relationships between police services and the trans community.
- Conduct further research and collect data.
- Advocate for changes in equality legislation to explicitly protect trans individuals.
- Empower and educate people to recognise (and end) transphobia.









## Group 1: Incidents of a Criminal Nature

Category	Subcategory	Description
<b>1. Homicide</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any attack on a person that causes loss of life.</li> </ul>
<b>2. Extreme physical violence</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any attack on a person that potentially causes serious physical harm.</li> <li>Any attack on property, for example by arson or petrol bombs, where there is the potential for people in the property to be killed, for instance if the building is inhabited or occupied at the time of the attack.</li> <li>Bombs, including letter bombs. This includes any viable device that either detonates or is defused, and therefore was life threatening. It also includes any device which is assessed to have been intended by its sender to be viable, even if after analysis it is found that it was incorrectly constructed and therefore would not have gone off.</li> <li>Kidnapping.</li> <li>Shooting.</li> <li>Attack by weapon or any other object that can be used to harm.</li> </ul>
	<b>Sexual assault</b>	<p>An act of sexual violence can be committed by the victim's partner (married or not), previous partner, family member or co-habitant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rape<sup>7</sup>.</li> <li>Sexual assault<sup>8</sup>.</li> <li>Sexual exploitation by a helping professional, i.e. sexual contact of any kind between a helping professional (doctor, therapist, carers, teacher, priest, professor, police officer, lawyer, etc.) and a client/patient.</li> </ul> <p>Sexual harassment, including unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.</p>
<b>3. Assault</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any physical attack against a person or people, which does not pose a threat to their life and is not serious. This would include lower level assaults.</li> <li>Attempted assault which fails, due to self-defence, or if the victim runs away.</li> <li>Throwing of objects at a person or people, including where the object misses its target.</li> </ul>
<b>4. Damage of property</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any physical attack directed against property, which is not life-threatening. This includes also the daubing of abusive slogans or symbols, or placing stickers or posters on property, including graffiti, or damage caused to property, where it appears that the property has been specifically targeted because of the fact that there is a perceived connection between the owner and the LGBTI communities.</li> <li>Damage to cars or other personal property belonging to members of LGBTI communities, where it is apparent that they have been targeted for this reason.</li> </ul>
<b>5. Arson</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arson attacks on property where there is no threat to life, for instance if the building is uninhabited at the time of the attack.</li> <li>Failed attempts, for instance attempted arson where the fire fails to catch or the arsonist is disturbed</li> </ul>

<sup>7</sup> Rape can be defined as forced sexual intercourse, including vaginal, anal, or oral penetration. Penetration may be by a body part or an object. Rape victims may be forced through threats or physical means. Anyone may be a victim of rape: women, men or children, straight or gay.

<sup>8</sup> Sexual assaults can be defined as unwanted sexual contact that stops short of rape or attempted rape. This includes sexual touching and fondling.



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**6. Threats and psychological violence**

- Any clear and specific threat, whether verbal or written. If the threat is not clear and specific then the incident should be recorded as Abusive Behaviour.
- Any 'bomb' which is assessed to be a hoax. This would include something that was designed to look like a real device but not intended to be viable, for instance if it does not contain any explosive material.
- Stalking, including repeated undesired contact (phone calls, emails, letters, show up unexpectedly, etc.), following or lying in wait for the individual, making threats to the individual or their family.
- Blackmailing to divulge publicly, or to family members or at work, that a person belongs to the LGBTI community.
- Restriction of freedom (e.g. locking up a person).
- Defamation, such as outing the LGBTI identity.
- Bullying (e.g. at school, at work place).

**Group 2: Other incidents with a Bias Motivation (category 7)****Abusive behaviour****Hate speech**

- Individually targeted verbal abuse, whether face-to-face or via telephone or answer phone messages. This includes abuse that is mistakenly directed at, or overheard by, people who are not members of the LGBTI communities.
- Individually targeted written abuse (including emails, mobile phone text messages, and social media (facebook, twitter, etc.) as well as targeted letters (that is, those written for and sent to or about a specific individual). This includes written abusive comments about LGBTI communities or persons that are sent to individual people, regardless if they are members of the LGBTI communities. This is different from a mass mailing of abusive leaflets, emails or other publications, which is dealt with by the separate Literature category.
- Not individually targeted verbal or written abuse (e.g. general homophobic and transphobic comments not addressed to anyone in particular), including those channelled via the internet and social media.
- Public hate speech e.g. by politicians.

**Literature and music**

- Mass-produced abusive literature or music that is sent to more than one recipient. This covers mass mailings rather than individual cases of hate mail, which would come under the category of Abusive Behaviour or Threats (depending on content).
- Literature that is abusive in itself, irrespective of whether or not the recipient is from the LGBTI communities.

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**Discriminatory incidents**

- Any form of discriminatory incidents which is not considered a crime.







TENI, Unit 2, 4 Ellis Quay  
Dublin 7, Ireland

[www.teni.ie](http://www.teni.ie) | [info@teni.ie](mailto:info@teni.ie)  
(01) 873 3575



Transequality



@TENI\_tweets



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