

EXPERIENCES OF

Racism on PEI



To fill a gap in data on experiences of racism, BIPOC USHR carried out a survey to gauge racialized peoples' experiences of racism on PEI. Here is what we found.

First, some definitions

Racialized person



Someone who is seen as being non-white, and therefore experiences racial discrimination

Overt racism



A purposeful action of deliberate hatred directed at a specific person or group

Covert racism

A subtle act that undermines or discriminates against another person or group of people; often done unconsciously by the aggressor but harmful nonetheless

Who responded?

#	Breakdown	Breakdown
120 people	<p>Nearly 50% respondents were Black, African, Afro-Caribbean, African Canadian descent</p> <p>17% East/Southeast Asian</p> <p>11% South Asian</p> <p>9% Indigenous</p> <p>9% Latinx</p> <p>8% Southwest Asian & North African</p>	<p>Most were Canadian citizens between the ages of 25-34.</p>

What did we find? A Snapshot



People expressed feelings of **vulnerability, humiliation, anger, frustration** and **sadness** related to their experiences of racism. Most people were not surprised that they keep encountering different forms of racism.



The emotional toll on participants demonstrated in the survey's findings reveals **high levels of stress** (40% of respondents find experiences very stressful; somewhat stressful 29.11% and quite stressful 25.32%).



The qualitative data showed that folks feel **invisibilized**, lost to themselves, and to the white world that they inhabit and have to try to navigate.

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Unfair treatment due to race

In general...

36% responded they sometimes feel treated unfairly at work or on the job, or by other people on the street, at shopping centers, etc., due to their race

Anti-Black racism

40% of Black people reported that they sometimes feel treated unfairly at work or on the job, and by other people for simply existing

35% had similar experience from staff in restaurants, bars, and other services

Feeling disrespected due to race



WORKPLACE

32% of respondents said that **once a week or more** they experienced being **interrupted**, being **watched more closely**, and feeling they had to **work twice as hard** as others



WORKPLACE

Between **21% and 25%** of respondents indicated that they have been **unfairly humiliated** in front of others, and **unfairly given the jobs that no one else wants to do**



SCHOOL

Once a week or more, **43%** felt they have to **work twice as hard** as others work (just to be seen as equal)

Recommendations from participants

Psychosocial supports for BIPOC

Supports and opportunities to connect and network with other BIPOC communities, and community members

Public Education & Supports

for International and Immigrant Students

Judicial/Legal Supports

Address the backlog of the Human Rights Commission; publish information for individuals experiencing discrimination; offer pro bono and free basic legal advice

Representation/Employment

Increase representation of racialized minorities in PEI in key institutions

VOICES

“I was trying to be something different because I didn't know who I was.”

“Your culture is like a little atom going up against everything, everywhere all at once.”

“My kids want to connect with their culture – they face resistance and ignorance from other people in rural areas – it's worse for my kids than me – I have that sense of self because I got to live in my own culture. They didn't – it's harder for the next generation.”

“When we hold diversity events most of the time we're not talking about white people, it tells us that we are the diversity – they're the normal, and we're the diversity”

“People will support you Monday-Friday, 8-4, and then after that they go their way”

We acknowledge the support of the Canadian Race Relations Foundation with funding provided by the Government of Canada.



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