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Summary

Third report on **racism, anti-Semitism,** and **right-wing extremist violence in the Netherlands**

Incidents, reports, offenders
and settlements in 2013

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1 – Overall picture of the incidents

Below, we will provide the statistics of the incidents retrieved from police databases. For every category (anti-Semitism, racism, and anti-Semitic and racist abuse) we will list the number of incidents over 2013 and compare these figures to those recorded in previous years. In addition, we will discuss the regional distribution of the incidents, their nature (type of offence), the number of alleged offenders, the number of reports, the number of out-of-court settlements and the background characteristics of the alleged offenders.

1.1 Incidents by category

In all, the search queries yielded a total number of 4,283 incidents that occurred in 2013.
Table 1 shows how these incidents were distributed over the categories for the years 2010 – 2013.

Table 1
Incidents by category 2010 – 2013

	2010	2011	2012	2013
Intentional anti-Semitism	19	30	58	61
Racism	1302	1262	2077	2189
Discrimination	468	444*		
Anti-Semitic verbal abuse	1173	1098	931	872
Racist verbal abuse	1440	1433	1352	1346
Total**	4273	4107	4274	4283

* In 2010 and 2011, we listed discrimination as a separate category. In 2012, discriminatory incidents based on race were added to the racist incidents, and the incidents of anti-Semitic discrimination were added to the anti-Semitic incidents. In 2012 and 2013, we did not look for discriminatory incidents as such, but added discrimination against Jews to the search query for anti-Semitism, and discrimination based on race to the search query for racism. Due to the specific nature of incidents of right-wing extremist violence, these incidents have not been included in this table either.
** Since incidents may be listed under more than one category, the total number of incidents is lower than the sum of the incidents by category.

Over the years, the total number of racist and anti-Semitic incidents has been fairly constant. We do see, however, significant trends within the separate categories. The number of racist incidents, for instance, has been increasing every year. The number of incidents of racist verbal abuse is fairly stable, while the number of incidents of anti-Semitic verbal abuse is slowly decreasing. The marked increase of the number of incidents of intentional anti-Semitism between 2011 and 2012 can be explained by improvements in the search query. The approach taken in 2012 was repeated in 2013. [NOTE 1]

1.2 Incidents by type

This section deals with the types of incidents (including criminal offences) involving racism, anti-Semitism, racist verbal abuse and anti-Semitic verbal abuse in 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 (see Table 2). We will start with the explanation required to interpret the figures in Table 2.
The police register all incidents with a tag that describes the offence as specifically and accurately as possible. When labelling the incidents, we use these tags. Usually, every incident logged by the police gets one tag, even though one incident may involve several criminal offences committed by several individuals. As such, the choice of the tag is at the discretion of the police officer involved. [NOTE 2] As a result, incident tags can only be general indicators of the criminal offences committed

in the course of incidents, and do not present the full picture. The incident tags used by the police are linked to Dutch laws, for instance to articles from the Criminal Code, the Civil Code or the Road Traffic Act.

The categories presented in this report have to be viewed separately from the incident tags used by the police. If a native Dutch person, for instance, insults a Dutch person of Polish descent by saying that he is 'a dirty Pole', who 'should look for work in his own country', shoves him and threatens to beat him up, the police is most likely to log this incident as a threat (or insult). These tags correspond with Section 285 or Section 266, sub-section 1, of the Dutch Criminal Code. The threat is racist by nature, which is why it turned up in our query to begin with. The same applies to racist graffiti on the front door of a house. Applying graffiti is an offence (Section 350, sub-section 1, of the Dutch Criminal Code), regardless of the nature of the graffiti.

However, police officers may define a threat, insult or graffiti as discrimination, [NOTE 3] in one of two ways. They may tag the incident with F50 Discrimination (Sections 137c – 137g and 429quater, Dutch Criminal Code), or alternatively treat it as an offence under general criminal law ('insult', 'threat', 'assault') and add information on the discriminatory nature of the incident, or add F50 as a secondary tag. The Public Prosecution Service has drawn up an Instruction for Discrimination prescribing rules concerning the investigation and prosecution of discrimination.

Table 2
Type of offence (incident tags) 2010-2013

Type of offence	2010		2011		2012		2013	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Threat	588	13.8	550	13.4	665	15.6	629	14.7
Insult	1190	27.8	1223	29.8	1248	29.2	1304	30.4
Theft	98	2.3	110	2.7	135	3.2	159	3.7
Discrimination	318	7.4	268	6.5	211	4.9	211	4.9
Violence	995	23.3	1011	24.6	1063	24.9	925	21.6
Activities and warning signs	72	1.7	63	1.5	72	1.7	72	1.7
Nuisance	176	4.1	159	3.9	193	4.5	181	4.2
Vandalism (including graffiti)	337	7.8	263	6.5	263	6.2	243	5.7
Possession of weapons	50	1.2	40	1.0	8	0.2	16	0.4
Other offences	449	10.5	420	10.2	413	9.7	536	12.5
Unknown	0	0	0	0	3	0.0	7	0.2
Total	4273	100.0	4107	100.0	4274	100.0	4283	100.0

Over the years, *insult* has remained the largest category, followed by *violence*; these two categories make up over 50 per cent of all incidents.

Threat refers to the incidents logged by the police under the incident tag for threats. The same applies to *insult*: these incidents are tagged with the incident tag for insults. The incidents under *theft* may concern robberies or burglaries without violence. *Discrimination* concerns incidents tagged *F50 Discrimination*. This incident tag is used relatively sparingly, as can be seen in the table above. Incidents tagged as *violence* may involve common assault or aggravated assault, as well as incidents registered as violent robberies. *Activities* and *warning signs* include incidents that are tagged as rallies, general entries or warning signs. The police logs matters that are of interest, but in which an offence has not (yet) been committed under these two incident tags. *Nuisance* usually involves the incident tag for nuisance caused by teenagers. *Vandalism* covers incidents from graffiti to vandalism. *Possession of weapons* is relevant to the present report since weapons may be
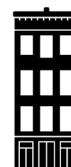
decorated with right-wing extremist or anti-Semitic symbols, such as German weapons from the Second World War with swastikas on them. *Other offences* include all incidents that do not fall into any of the other categories.

Types of incidents by category

The types of incidents involving anti-Semitism, racism, anti-Semitic verbal abuse and racist verbal abuse differ (see Table 3). First of all, we have noticed a difference between the incidents of anti-Semitic verbal abuse and incidents of racist verbal abuse. Racist verbal abuse is far more common in violent incidents (40 percent of the incidents of racist verbal abuse, compared to 12 percent of the incidents of anti-Semitic verbal abuse). The police often tag anti-Semitic incidents as *insults* (41%). Secondly, a far larger part of the anti-Semitic incidents have been logged as *discrimination* than the racist incidents. This may be explained by the fact that the discriminatory nature of anti-Semitic incidents is often much more obvious than in the racist incidents.

	Intentional anti-Semitism N=61				Racism N=2189			
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013
Threat	5%	13%	9%	13%	13%	13%	15%	14%
Insult	32%	20%	9%	26%	33%	35%	29%	31%
Theft	0%	3%	2%	0%	2%	3%	4%	4%
Discrimination (F50)	16%	30%	53%	21%	5%	5%	8%	8%
Violence	5%	7%	6%	5%	11%	14%	20%	16%
Activities and warning signs	0%	0%	4%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%
Nuisance	5%	3%	2%	0%	7%	6%	6%	6%
Other offences	5%	13%	4%	7%	10%	10%	9%	12%
Vandalism (including graffiti)	32%	7%	13%	13%	14%	11%	8%	7%
Possession of weapons	0%	3%	0%	0%	2%	1%	0%	0%
Unknown	0%	0%	0%	11%	0%	0%	0%	0%

	Anti-Semitic verbal abuse N=872				Racist verbal abuse N=1346			
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013
Threat	12%	14%	13%	12%	19%	16%	20%	17%
Insult	39%	42%	42%	41%	17%	19%	20%	22%
Theft	3%	2%	2%	3%	2%	3%	3%	3%
Discrimination (F50)	1%	1%	1%	2%	4%	3%	2%	2%
Violence	14%	15%	15%	16%	41%	42%	40%	39%
Activities and warning signs	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Nuisance	5%	5%	6%	4%	1%	2%	2%	2%
Other offences	16%	15%	15%	18%	8%	7%	7%	8%
Vandalism (including graffiti)	5%	4%	4%	4%	6%	5%	5%	4%
Possession of weapons	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%
Unknown	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Table 3 tallies with previous years. Only the data regarding anti-Semitic incidents differ greatly throughout the years. On account of the number of incidents being fairly small, these deviations are most likely coincidental.

1.3 Regional distribution of incidents

Anti-Semitic and racist incidents occur throughout the Netherlands. We have, however, observed that these types of incidents occur more often in some regions than in others. Table 4 reflects the regional distribution of incidents, while Map 1 shows the relative number of incidents for every region. [NOTE 4] The relative number of incidents is the number of incidents for every 1,000 inhabitants of 12 years and over, for any region.

Table 4
Number of anti-Semitic and racist incidents by regional unit 2010-2013

Regional unit	2010	2011	2012	2013	Incidents for every 1000 inh. 2013
Noord-Nederland	231	237	285	323	0.22
Oost-Nederland	528	519	542	563	0.21
Midden-Nederland	392	438	466	458	0.29
Noord-Holland	324	335	330	305	0.24
Amsterdam	535	517	477	500	0.59
The Hague	751	721	770	770	0.49
Rotterdam	834	689	665	685	0.45
Zeeland-West-Brabant	261	264	295	245	0.19
Oost-Brabant	242	222	255	238	0.20
Limburg	169	162	173	180	0.18
No known crime location in the Netherlands	6	3	16	16	
Total	4273	4107	4274	4283	0.30

As in 2010, 2011 and 2012, the regional differences with regard to the total number of anti-Semitic and racist incidents are large. In the urban regions of Amsterdam, Rotterdam and The Hague, for instance, these incidents occurred far more often than in regions with smaller cities (see Table 4). The number of incidents for every 1,000 inhabitants (of 12 years and over) was decidedly higher in the three urban regions as well (Map 1). There were 0.59 (Amsterdam), 0.49 (The Hague) and 0.45 (Rotterdam) incidents for every 1,000 inhabitants, with a national average of 0.30 incidents for every 1,000 inhabitants. Fourth place was taken by the Utrecht region (Midden-Nederland), with 0.29 anti-Semitic and racist incidents for every 1,000 inhabitants. In the other regions, the number of racist and anti-Semitic incidents for every thousand inhabitants was markedly lower. The southern regions of Limburg, Zeeland-West-Brabant and Oost-Brabant reported the fewest incidents of the type for every thousand inhabitants.

Throughout the years, the number of anti-Semitic and racist incidents has been fairly constant in most police regions (see Table 4), except for the Noord-Nederland region, where the number of incidents is clearly on the increase. In the Zeeland-West-Brabant region, on the other hand, the numbers are dropping. In the Rotterdam region, the numbers of anti-Semitic and racist incidents decreased significantly in 2011, but have remained stable since that year. As in 2012, for sixteen incidents no location in the Netherlands was logged. Four of these incidents took place in Germany, one in Belgium and one in Thailand. The location of the other ten incidents is unknown.
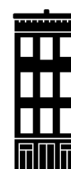
Map 1
Total number of anti-Semitic and racist incidents for every 1,000 inhabitants by regional unit in 2013

Incidents for every 1,000 inhabitants of 12 years and over

- 0.49 to 0.59 (2)
- 0.39 to 0.49 (1)
- 0.29 to 0.39 (1)
- 0.19 to 0.29 (5)
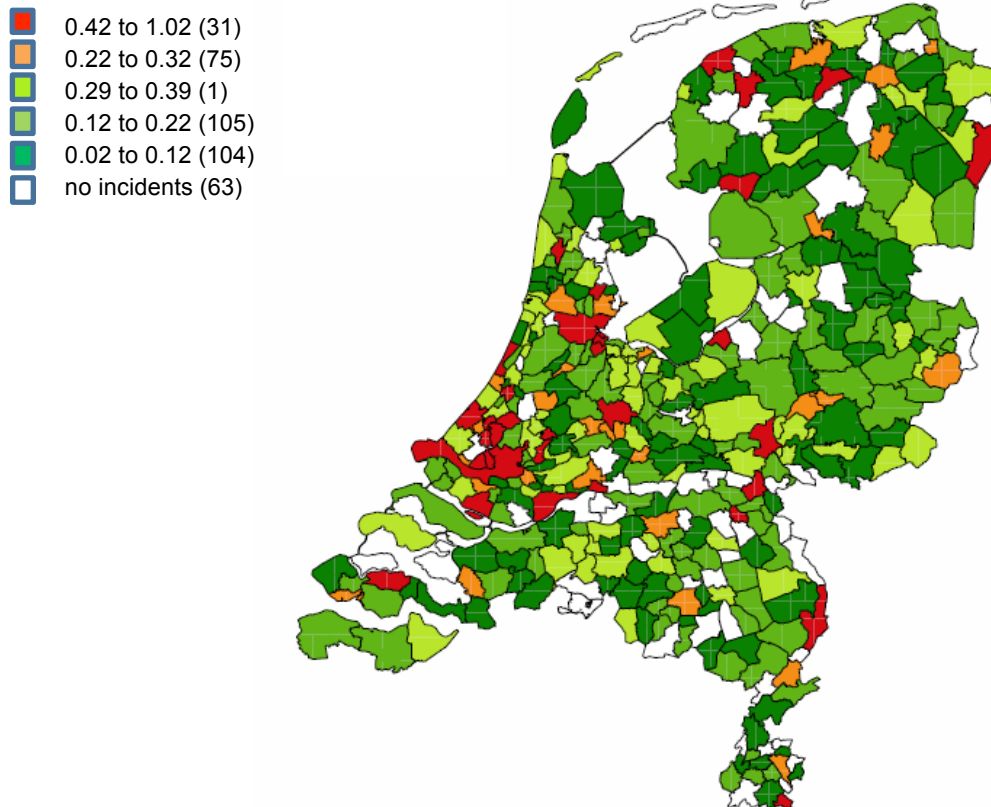- 0.09 to 0.19 (1)
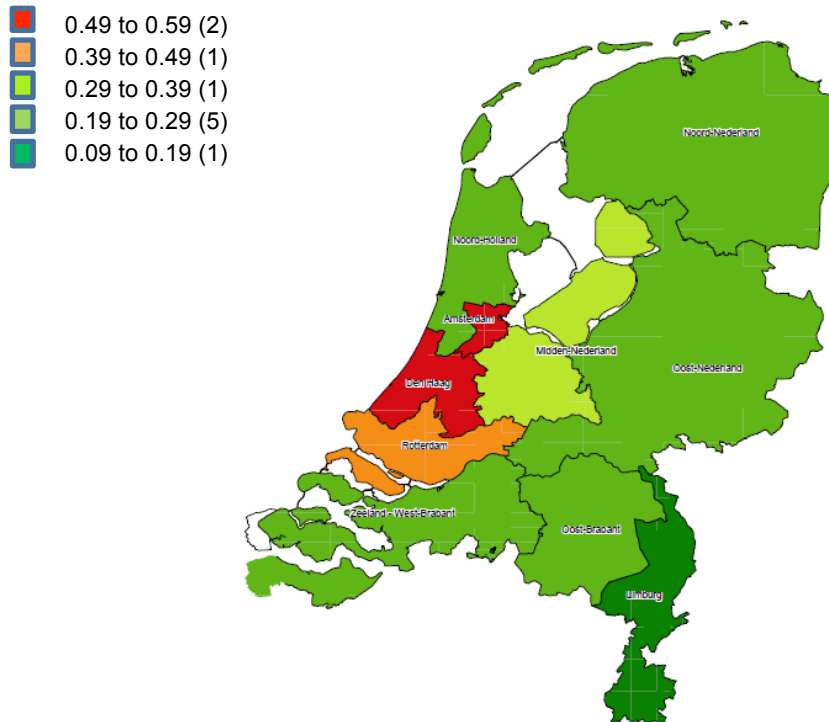
1.3.1   Distribution by municipality

In Map 2 we zoom in on regional differences by presenting the number of anti-Semitic and racist incidents (for every thousand inhabitants) for every municipality. As with the division by police regions, more incidents occurred for every thousand inhabitants in the urban municipalities than in the other municipalities. The four larger cities (Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague and Utrecht) are in the top 7 of anti-Semitic and racist incidents for every thousand inhabitants. In addition, this type of incidents was relatively common in the municipalities of Gouda and Leiden (Zuid-Holland). In some of the other larger cities, such as Amersfoort, Almere, Haarlem, Breda and Tilburg, 2013 saw relatively few anti-Semitic and racist incidents. Finally, the relatively large number of these type of incidents in small municipalities such as Vlagtwedde (Groningen), Lemsterland (Friesland) and Goes (Zeeland) is remarkable. The municipalities that did not register any incidents in 2013 are without exception smaller municipalities. The largest municipality without incidents was Landgraaf (Limburg) with 33,000 inhabitants of 12 years and over.

Map 2
Total number of anti-Semitic and racist incidents for every 1,000 inhabitants by municipality in 2013

Incidents for every 1,000 inhabitants in 2013

- 0.42 to 1.02 (31)
- 0.22 to 0.32 (75)
- 0.29 to 0.39 (1)
- 0.12 to 0.22 (105)
- 0.02 to 0.12 (104)
- no incidents (63)

1.4   Characteristics of the alleged offenders

The police entries contain information on the alleged offenders of these incidents as well. This information will be discussed in this section. For 2013, data on the age and sex of the alleged offenders was not available to us, which means that we cannot discuss these factors as extensively as in previous years. On the other hand, for 2013, data on the background of the alleged offenders were made available to us. This allowed us to describe the ethnic background of the individuals involved in the anti-Semitic and racist incidents. We will start by listing the total number of alleged offenders for the various incidents. It is important to realise that more than one offender may be registered for one incident. In 59 percent of the incidents, at least one alleged offender was identified. This percentage has remained the same since 2012.

In total, 2813 alleged offenders were registered in connection with anti-Semitic and racist incidents in 2013. This number is decidedly lower than in 2012. This may be because fewer alleged offenders were identified in connection with the 2013 incidents than in previous years. In 2013, 0.66 alleged offenders were identified in every incident, whereas in 2012, this number was 0.8. In Table 5, the developments in the number of alleged offenders identified over time are presented. Additionally, for 2013, the average numbers of alleged offenders for every type of incident are shown, as well as the percentage of incidents with at least one alleged offender.

Table 5
Number of alleged offenders for every category in 2010-2013

	2010	2011	2012	2013	On average per incident	Percentage with alleged offenders
Intentional anti-Semitism	5	26	15	19	0.3	33%
Racism	610	592	1201	1125	0.5	48%
anti-Semitic verbal abuse	1257	1108	877	705	0.8	74%
racist verbal abuse	1735	1551	1403	1115	0.8	70%
total number of alleged offenders	3866	3442	3367	2813	0.7	59%

[NOTE 5]

There is a decrease in the number of registered alleged offenders for all types of incidents (see Table 5). For the verbal abuse incidents, the number of registered alleged offenders is higher than for the incidents of intentional anti-Semitism and racism. This is also true for the number of incidents with at least one alleged offender. In three quarters of the incidents of intentional anti-Semitism, the alleged offender is known. The lowest number of alleged offenders – both in relative and absolute terms – is found for incidents of intentional anti-Semitism. In 2011, the number of alleged offenders in incidents of intentional anti-Semitism was much higher. Because of the limited number of this type of incidents, this high number seems to have been a coincidence.

Origin of the alleged offenders
Table 6 shows that nearly 65 percent of the alleged offenders in anti-Semitic and racist incidents is of Dutch origin. Third-generation immigrants were listed as native Dutch. The alleged offenders in incidents of intentional anti-Semitism come from only three groups. This small number is a result of the fact that only nineteen alleged offenders in total were involved.
In the other categories, we see slight differences between the groups, but no significant deviation related to country of origin.

Table 6
Origin of alleged offenders in anti-Semitic and racist incidents in 2013

Origin	Intentional anti-Semitism number	%	Racism verbal abuse number	%	Racist verbal abuse number	%	Anti-Semitic number	%	Total number	%
Dutch	13	68.4%	762	67.7%	692	62.1%	454	64.4%	1826	64.9%
Surinam	-	0.0%	11	1.0%	13	1.2%	3	0.4%	23	0.8%
Turkish	2	10.5%	59	5.2%	83	7.4%	42	6.0%	179	6.4%
Moroccan	-	0.0%	71	6.3%	82	7.4%	54	7.7%	201	7.1%
Indonesian	-	0.0%	1	0.1%	2	0.2%	1	0.1%	4	0.1%
Asian	-	0.0%	25	2.2%	30	2.7%	12	1.7%	63	2.2%
African	-	0.0%	45	4.0%	54	4.8%	24	3.4%	116	4.1%
South- and Middle-American	-	0.0%	11	1.0%	12	1.1%	14	2.0%	36	1.3%
East-European	-	0.0%	46	4.1%	37	3.3%	23	3.3%	101	3.6%
West-European	4	21.1%	84	7.5%	93	8.3%	66	9.4%	226	8.0%
Western (other)	-	0.0%	10	0.9%	17	1.6%	12	1.7%	38	1.3%

## 1.5   Complaints, police reports and alleged offenders

Cases handled by the police follow a prescribed procedure, as shown in the flow chart below (Figure 1). Once a case has been registered by the police, a police report may or may not be drawn up. Every incident for which a police report has been drawn up, is handled by the Public Prosecution Office or dismissed by the police. The Public Prosecution Office may handle a case in one of four ways: by sending a writ of summons, with a fine/penalty order, a transfer or a decision not to prosecute. If the fine imposed is not paid, the Dutch PPS may send out a writ of summons after all. When cases are transferred or joined, the decision not to prosecute, the fine, punishment or writ of summons may still follow in appeal.

Figure 1
Flow chart criminal justice system
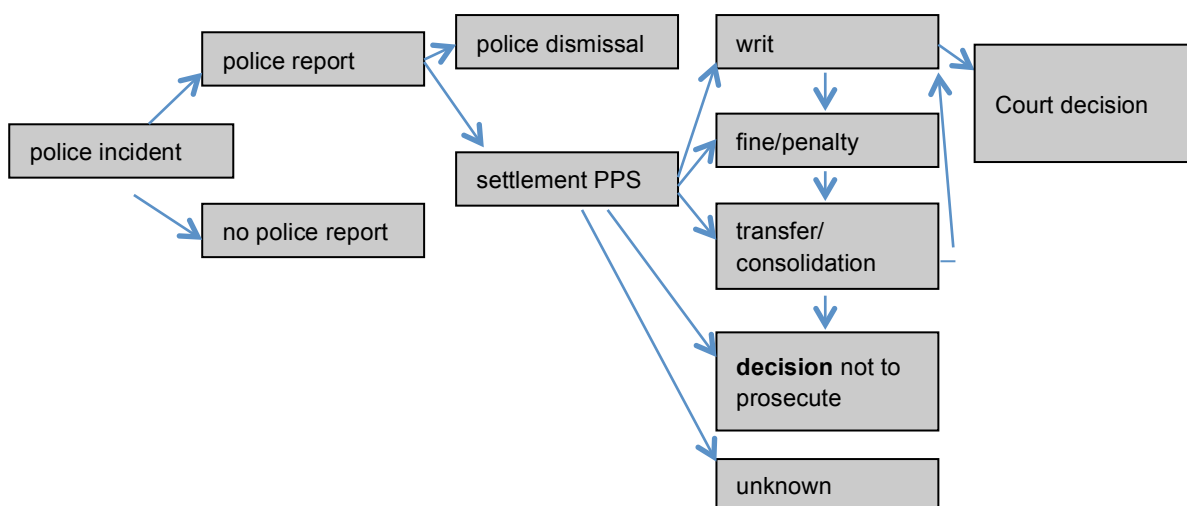
This section deals with the 'police part' of the steps in the procedure for cases filed with the police. For the anti-Semitic and racist incidents we retrieved, we will discuss the number of complaints filed with the police, the number of police reports drawn up and the number of alleged offenders identified. This was made possible by the extensive data made available by the police and the Dutch PPS.

The overall picture of the number of complaints, police reports and alleged offenders in anti-Semitic and racist incidents has remained fairly stable over the years (see Table 7). In 2011 and 2012, there was a strong increase in the number of police reports. We have not succeeded in finding an explanation for this phenomenon yet. With regard to the percentage of the number of complaints filed and the total number of incidents in which alleged offenders were identified, the 2013 data do not deviate significantly from 2012.

Table 7
Percentage of police reports, complaints filed with the police and alleged offenders involved in anti-Semitic and racist incidents in 2013

	2010	2011	2012	2013
Police reports drawn up	51.0%	50.4%	70.8%	69.3%
Complaints filed with the police	56.6%	58.4%	61.7%	59.4%
Offenders identified	60.8%	59.0%	58.2%	58.7%

1.5.1 Police reports

The number of incidents for which a police report was filed, remained the same in 2013, compared to 2012 (see Table 8). Most of the police reports were drawn up for incidents of anti-Semitic and racist verbal abuse. A possible explanation is the fact that these incidents often involve police officers or other public officers. It is relatively easy for them to draw up a police report.

Table 8
Percentage of police reports (PR) drawn up for anti-Semitic and racist incidents

	2010	2011	2012	2013
	% PR	% PR	% PR	% PR
Intentional anti-Semitism	36.%	53.3%	63.6%	63.0%
Racism	34.3%	34.3%	62.9%	61.9%
Anti-Semitic verbal abuse	62.5%	60.6%	78.3%	76.4%
Racist verbal abuse	59.2%	59.1%	80.2%	79.5%

1.5.2 Complaints

Table 9 shows the percentage of incidents that were officially reported to the police in 2013. In cases of racist verbal abuse, complaints were filed in over 71 percent of the incidents. In anti-Semitic verbal abuse, too, the picture has also remained fairly constant over the years. Between 2010 and 2013, complaints were filed approximately around half of the incidents of this type. The percentage of complaints filed is almost 58 percent for racist incidents, and 65 percent for anti-Semitic incidents. We have not observed marked changes compared to 2012.

Table 9
Percentage of complaints filed with the police after anti-Semitic and racist incidents in 2010-2013

	2010	2011	2012	2013
	% complaint	% complaint	% complaint	% complaint
Intentional anti-Semitism	52.6%	66.7%	60.0%	64.8%
Racism	47.5%	49.8%	61.2%	57.6%
Anti-Semitic verbal abuse	42.2%	47.1%	52.1%	49.8%
Racist verbal abuse	76.0%	74.5%	71.7%	71.3%

1.5.3 Alleged offenders

Table 12 shows the change over the past few years of the percentage of anti-Semitic and racist incidents in which at least one offender was identified. In 2012 and 2013 there were no significant changes in the number of incidents in which an offender was identified. Most of the offenders were identified in incidents involving anti-Semitic and racist verbal abuse. The explanation for the large increase in the number of anti-Semitic incidents where the offender was identified, compared to the other categories, is that due to the small number of incidents, minor changes in absolute numbers have a large impact on the percentage. This increase in the number of identified offenders in racist incidents observed in 2012, continued to a limited extent in 2013.

The number of alleged offenders correlates with the expected detection rate: if no offender has been identified, the chances of solving the case are close to zero. Once an offender has been identified, there is at least a fair chance that the case may be solved.

Table 10
Percentage of anti-Semitic and racist incidents in which offenders have been identified 2010-2013

	2010	2011	2012	2013
	% alleged offender	% alleged offender	% alleged offender	% alleged offender
Intentional anti-Semitism	26.3%	56.7%	25.5%	33.3%
Racism	38.1%	38.2%	46.3%	47.8%
Anti-Semitic verbal abuse	75.8%	72.5%	74.1%	73.5%
Racist verbal abuse	74.2%	70.6%	68.4%	69.7%

2 – Anti-Semitism

The number of incidents of intentional anti-Semitism rose slightly from 58 to 61 compared to 2012. The incidents that were registered with the police can be divided into three subcategories. The first category involves insults and threats against Jews, in cases in which it has been ascertained that the offender was aware of the Jewish background of the victim (48 incidents). The second category involves painting or scratching anti-Semitic symbols or slurs on Jewish locations, such as synagogues or Jewish schools, or on sites with a link to the Second World War (eleven incidents). The third category involves the shouting or singing of anti-Semitic chants and/or provocations on Jewish holidays, in the vicinity of synagogues or gathering and meetings in synagogues, or on 4 or 5 May during memorial services for the Second World War (two incidents).
If we focus on these incidents of intentional anti-Semitism, we will see that in the first category, the offender threatening or insulting the victim is often known to the victim, for instance because they are neighbours. Incidents of intentional anti-Semitism usually involve verbal abuse, insults and threats. Only in a few of these cases have the victims suffered material damage or sustained physical violence.
Compared to 2012, the number of incidents in the first category increased. In 2012, 35 incidents involving insults and threats against Jews were logged; this number increased with an additional 13 incidents in 2013. The incident count in the second category, on the other hand, dropped from twenty incidents of daubing and/or vandalism in 2012 to 'merely' eleven in 2013.

3 – Racism

For 2013, we retrieved a total of 2189 racially inspired incidents from the National Law Enforcement Database (BHV). This is an increase of more than five percent compared to 2012, when we found 2077 incidents.
Out of these 2189 incidents, we took a sample of 152 incidents, which we studied and analysed. The major part of the incidents in this sample consists of incidents involving unequal treatment or perceived unequal treatment. Sometimes, the inequality of the treatment is evident, such as the case that spread in the media, of a job applicant who was rejected on account of his skin colour. Other cases may be less obvious, for instance when people are refused access to a club or bar. In some cases, it may not be entirely clear whether the incident constituted unequal treatment at all, or whether this label was used to discredit the other party. One such example is that of a shoplifter calling the arresting officer a racist.

In addition, we found 25 incidents of racist violence and 33 incidents of racist verbal abuse. About half of these verbal abuse incidents involved insults or threats. In the other half, the insult or threat lead to a physical altercation, a fight or an assault.

The BVH register shows that discrimination against Muslims occurs frequently. In 2013, 150 such incidents were registered. These incidents mainly concerned verbal abuse incidents, as well a number of incidents of intentional discrimination against Muslims. Among these incidents were cases of arson, vandalism and painting slurs on or near mosques.

4 – Anti-Semitic and racist verbal abuse

The numbers of incidents of anti-Semitic verbal abuse and racist verbal abuse have developed differently over the years. The number of incidents of anti-Semitic verbal abuse decreased slightly, to 872 incidents in 2013. This continues the decreasing trend that set in after 2010. According to the BVH, Racist verbal abuse was as common in 2013 as it was in 2012: 1346 cases. Anti-Semitic verbal abuse occurs primarily in the Rotterdam and The Hague regions. There seems to be a connection to football hooliganism in these regions. [NOTE 6] Racist verbal abuse did not reflect the same regional differences. By far the most incidents of anti-Semitism and racism are verbal. The incidents of anti-Semitic verbal abuse studied in the sample show that although these verbal abuse incidents have anti-Semitic undertones, they are often not specifically directed against Jewish people. This is different for racist verbal abuse. Most incidents of racist verbal abuse are directed against people from a different racial, cultural or ethnic background.

Incidents of anti-Semitic and racist verbal abuse are relatively common. This suggests that anti-Semitic or racial slurs are used lightly and casually in verbal abuse, which indicates a general coarsening of modern language usage. The observation that terms of abuse are often based on ethnicity and religion is confirmed by research carried out by the National Academy for Media and Society (NAMM) and the Child Consumer Foundation ('Stichting Kinderconsument'). Their so-called bully thermometer shows that 'Moroccan' and 'Jew' are among the terms of abuse used most often by pupils of 8 years and older, next to 'whore' and 'homo'. (Press release NAMM 17-09-2014).

5 – Right-wing extremism

Although classic right-wing extremism in the Netherlands is limited in scope and of marginal importance, some developments were noticeable in 2013. We observed a slight increase in the active participation in and general resolve of several right-wing extremist parties, also indicated by an increase in the number of right-wing extremist demonstrations. The provocative and mediagenic actions organised by Identitair Verzet ('Identitarian Resistance') particularly stood out.

Violence motivated by right-wing extremism showed an increase (from thirteen to seventeen incidents). This was primarily caused by the increased number of targeted graffiti incidents. More often than before, the offenders were identified after complaints were filed and arrests were made. In cases with known offenders, these usually were activists from right-wing extremist groups.

The government response to right-wing extremism in 2013 was restrained. Some criminal cases were heard, and in one case, restrictive measures were imposed in order to maintain the peace in the vicinity of a demonstration. As far as we know, no government initiatives were taken to counter radicalisation or to compel radicalised individuals to leave a movement. Due to the recently increased attention for the radicalisation of young people, it seems to be a matter of time before such initiatives are relaunched.

2013 did not see a problematic increase or growing risk in this respect. The overall picture is one of fragmentation and marginalisation.

6 – Settlement by a criminal court

Only in a remarkably small percentage (0.8%) of the anti-Semitic and racist incidents we retrieved from the police data, were the offenders charged with discrimination as a criminal offence. The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) has pointed this out before, and advised the Dutch government to adopt legal provisions under which racially motivated offences would incur heavier penalties. Since such motives would have to be proven, the Dutch authorities have informed the ECRI that they would oppose the introduction of such a section of law. The aggravating circumstances mentioned in the Instruction for Discrimination of the Public Prosecution Office are still the only way to bring racist and anti-Semitic motives in committing criminal offences to the attention of the court. Since the application of this Instruction for Discrimination is not enforced systematically, it is not possible (without reading every public prosecutor's closing speech) to comment or to count the use of the Instruction for Discrimination in criminal court cases. In order to come to a better understanding of the application of the Instruction for Discrimination, proper registration of its application is advisable.
Of course, adopting the proposal made by ECRI before is still a possibility. In order to report on the issue with substantiated data, an option would be to introduce racist and anti-Semitic motives into the Criminal Code as aggravating factors, in part because of the preventative effect of such a measure, and also because it would set a clear legal framework for all actors in the criminal justice system. Moreover, it would help in counting these cases in the Netherlands, which in turn would give an insight into the occurrence of such cases and how they are currently dealt with.

7 – Conclusion

In 2013, no noteworthy events or developments took place that might have strongly influenced quantitative data. Even the anticipated 'Black Pete' effect [NOTE 7] was not apparent, at least not in incidents logged in the BVH. The 2014 developments in the Gaza Strip did not, of course, affect the number of anti-Semitic incidents in 2013. It is, however, expected that this conflict resulted in an increase in 2014. The Dutch Complaints Bureau for Discrimination on the Internet (MDI) observed a sudden increase of anti-Semitic utterances on the internet which amounted to thousands a day, mainly in social media. The reported cases of anti-Semitism on the internet rose from an average of four to five a week to 122 reports regarding 412 anti-Semitic utterances in two weeks (news report MDI 29 July 2014). The National Academy for Media & Society (NAMM) also observed that anti-Semitic verbal abuse is on the rise since the Gaza Strip conflict flared up again (nieuws.nl, 17 September 2014). It is expected that the next monitor will also reflect an increase in the number of racist incidents as a result of the statements about Moroccans made by Dutch politician Geert Wilders in a speech during the his party's election campaign on 19 March 2013. The police registered thousands of complaints via the Discrimination on the Internet online report form after he had held his speech. The current and former Complaints Bureau for Discrimination on the Internet (MiND and MDI, respectively) have likewise received many reports on his speech. They refer people reporting on Wilders to a regional anti-discrimination agency or to the police.
This report paints a clear and urgent picture of the situation in the Netherlands, with largely stable number of incidents with racist or anti-Semitic traits. By contrast, the number of criminal court cases

in which the anti-discrimination principles of the Dutch Criminal Code are applied, is remarkably small.

NOTES

1   These improvements were prompted by the data collection process for the 2010 and 2011 reports and the Poldis report, which allowed us to elaborate on discrimination motivated by anti-Semitism (see Tierolf, Hermens, Drost & Van der Vos, 2013).

2   Although the option to enter more than one incident tag exists, it is rarely used (87 out of 4283 incidents, 2%, in 2013).

3   https://www.om.nl/onderwerpen/discriminatie/@86289/aanwijzing/ (website in Dutch).

4   Our maps and tables are based on the police regions introduced on 1 January 2013. The data from previous years have been made to agree with the new set-up.

5   When de numbers of alleged offenders for every type of incident are combined, the total is higher (2964) than the number of alleged offenders who have been identified (2813). This is caused by the fact that some of the incidents came up for various incidents. A large part of the incidents of intentional anti-Semitism, for instance, came up under anti-Semitic verbal abuse as well.

6   This 'football-related context' refers to conflicts between football fans of the Amsterdam football club Ajax and fans of rivalling clubs. A large part of the Ajax fanbase tend to identify themselves as 'Jews', referring to the Jewish history of Amsterdam. Fans of rivalling clubs seek to insult Ajax supporters by making anti-Semitic remarks, for example by using 'Jew' as a term of abuse or chanting 'Jews to the gas'.

7   2012 and 2013 saw heated social debate and demonstrations about the alleged racist nature of 'Black Pete' in the Dutch Saint Nicholas festival. Researchers expected the unrest to influence the number of registered racist incidents, but such an effect was not observed.