What the Surge in COVID-19 Related Racism Looks Like

A white fisherman harassed Hmong fishermen at the public fishing park [saying] that all Asian Covid19 fishermen must go back to Minnesota and never come back to South Dakota. He said that he forgot his pistol otherwise he will shoot everyone. He came really close to a Hmong fisherman’s face and said out loud that he’s going to kick a covid19’s a**.

“My elderly parents were walking with my two-year-old and some 20-30-year-olds drove by and screamed “F--k China!!” at the stop light. They felt very unsafe, especially with a child.”

“Two young boys blurted out ‘Hey, Corona!’ to my son and I as we were leaving a playground after a quick one-on-one basketball practice. Both of them appeared to be middle school children.” (Iowa)

“My middle school child was physically attacked and verbally assaulted on the schoolyard. A bully accused him of having COVID-19 and told the child to go back to China. When the child responded that he was not Chinese, he was punched in the head twenty times.” (Los Angeles, CA)

“In a diner, there was an Asian woman and her teenage son and when her son went to the restroom, there were hundreds of racist comments but also sexual comments on her body. Guys said things like “You guys started Corona and ruined our lives, just die already!” And “You’re very beautiful, how old r u”, “Slide the snap and send some nudes.” (Riverside, California)

“White male struck me as I was walking through the aisle of a hardware store and verbally attacked me, saying “Shut up, you monkey”; “F--k you, Chinaman”; “Go back to China”; and “... bringing that Chinese virus over here.”
3,795 incident reports were filed in 49 weeks.

Most involved hate incidents, not hate crimes.

Incidents were reported from 50 states and the District of Columbia.

56 percent of incidents took place in either California or New York State.

Women were attacked twice as often as men.

Six percent of respondents are seniors (60+).
Types of Bias & Discrimination

Bar chart showing the distribution of bias and discrimination types in the US and Central US.
Site of Reported Incidents

- Business
- Street
- Online
- Park
- Transit
- Residence
- School
- Other
- University
- Worship
Targeted Ethnicities

Source: 2021 American Experiences with Discrimination Survey, AAPI Dat