

Less educated, poor sense discrimination

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Those from minority groups who feel racially discriminated against at work are more likely to be less educated and from a lower income bracket, according to a recent study.

But on the whole, perceived workplace discrimination remains low, noted research fellow Mathew Mathews of the Institute of Policy Studies, which did the study with racial harmony advocacy group OnePeople.sg.

It surveyed 4,131 Singaporeans. Of the 1,736 Indians and Malays polled, only one in 10 reported feeling discriminated against at work often or very often. Of these, 14 per cent lived in one- and two-room flats, against 5 per cent in five-room flats or larger dwellings.

Some 13 per cent earned below \$1,500 a month; 3 per cent earned \$4,500 a month or more. Twelve per cent did not complete secondary education; 9 per cent have degrees.

Dr Mathews suggested that the perception of discrimination may be "heightened" if in a particular occupation, workers tend to be from one race while supervisors are from another.