



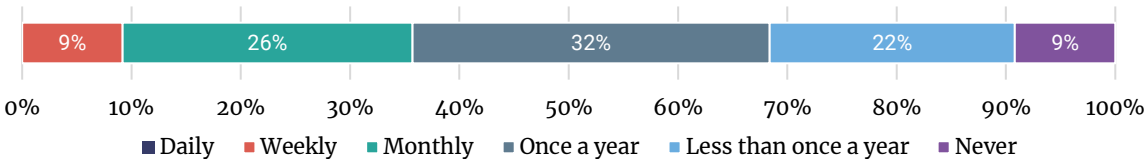
# Aggression and intimidation towards photographers and cameramen

2025

## Forms and effects

91%

of cameramen and photographers have encountered some form of aggression and intimidation in their work.



85%

of cameramen have encountered some form of aggression or intimidation in the past 12 months.

71%

of photographers have experienced some form of aggression or intimidation in the past 12 months.

75%

of photographers and cameramen most frequently encounter aggression and intimidation during personal contact.

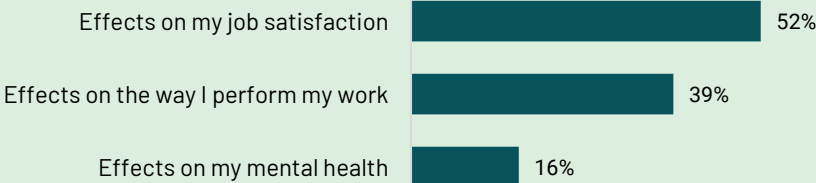
*"A while ago, I went to a house fire. During the installation of a new roof, something went wrong. I took photos and videos. The homeowner approached me and started swearing."*

*"I've had a situation where someone was waiting for me at my car, threatened me by saying he would come after me, and then that person left."*

### Frequency of different forms of aggression and intimidation faced by visual media professionals in the past year

	Photographers (n=164)	Cameramen (n=54)	Both (n=49)
Verbal aggression	66%	81%	92%
Threat or intimidation	46%	54%	80%
Physical aggression	43%	41%	57%
Legal threat	7%	4%	22%

### Effects of aggression and intimidation on photographers and cameramen



*"You become tougher, you develop a thick skin. You can shut yourself off from things you really shouldn't have to shut yourself off from. It becomes normal, while it shouldn't be normal."*

55%

consider quitting their job at times (rarely, sometimes, regularly, and often).

78%

think that photographers and cameramen have become more cautious in recent years due to aggression and intimidation.

91%

believe that the threat and intimidation of photographers and cameramen is a current and real danger to press freedom.

Ipsos I&O conducted this research among 267 photographers and cameramen on behalf of PersVeilig. The questionnaire was distributed by email to NVJ members (Dutch Association of Journalists) and via an open link on social media. The fieldwork was conducted between May 26 and June 9, 2025. In addition, eight in-depth interviews were held with photographers and cameramen who have personally experienced some form of aggression or intimidation.

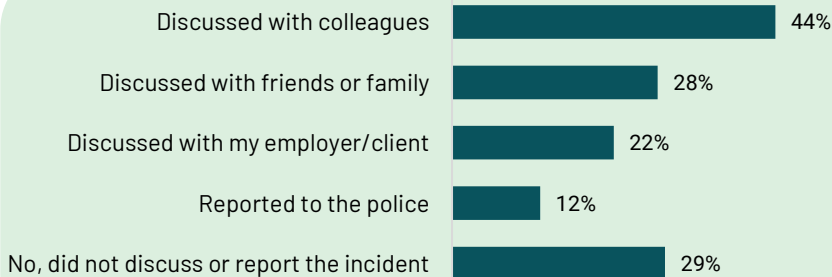


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## Discussing and reporting incidents

Discussed the most recent incident with others and reported an incident to the police? (n=209)

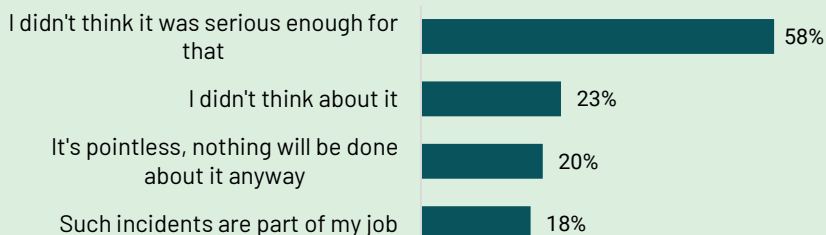


*"I only discuss the incidents that truly impact me, not every incident. I predominantly discuss them with colleagues."*

3-5%

discussed the most recent incident with someone else, the Dutch Association of Journalists (NVJ), or reported an incident to the police.

Reasons for not discussing or reporting incidents (n=60)



82%

of photographers and cameramen who have experienced a **serious incident** have discussed or reported it.

## PersVeilig

29%

have used PersVeilig before.

Reasons for not using PersVeilig

- 1) Because it was not necessary.
- 2) Not known, or only by name, but not familiar with the service.

Photographers and cameramen rate their contact with PersVeilig with a :

7,9

## After the incident

There is sufficient support to protect me as a photographer or cameraman (n=267)

27% agree (completely or somewhat)  
34% disagree (completely or somewhat)

37%

of photographers and cameramen who have experienced aggression, threats, or intimidation are not satisfied with the support.

48%

of photographers and cameramen who have experienced a **serious incident** are not satisfied with the support.

What kind of measures should your employer or clients offer for protection?

- 1) Physical security, through personnel and equipment
- 2) Prevention
- 3) Feeling supported by the client or employer

*"Body camera, a walkie-talkie, even a stab-resistant vest."*

*"Guidance and briefings, training, and experience sharing."*

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