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PQ Ref 58064/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons who have died by suicide aged 60-69, 70-79 and 80+ years by county in each of the years 2018 to 2021 and to date in 2022, in tabular form.

Dear Deputy,

The HSE National Office for Suicide Prevention (NOSP) has been requested to respond to your question above.

In Ireland, the Central Statistics Office (CSO) provides mortality data including deaths by suicide, not the HSE. The CSO is Ireland's national statistical office and its purpose is to impartially collect, analyse and make available statistics about Ireland's people, society and economy. It is attached to the Department of the Taoiseach.

Information is publicly available from the CSO (www.cso.ie) and in their main data dissemination service (<https://data.cso.ie/#>).

You can contact the CSO (<https://www.cso.ie/en/aboutus/contactus/>) or their Vital Statistics department directly (<https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-vsar/vitalstatisticsannualreport2020/contactdetails/>).

Information requested

The information you have requested is not consistently available across the CSO tables, and you may like to contact the CSO with your specific enquiry.

However, the following three tables extracted from various CSO sources may assist you.

- Table 1) Number of suicide deaths by county, 2018–2022
- Table 2) Number of suicide deaths by age category, 2018–2022
- Table 3) Number of suicide deaths by age category and county, 2018

Caveats

Death due to intentional self-harm is classified as an unnatural death and therefore, must be referred to the Coroner for investigation. This investigation can take a protracted length of time to complete for various reasons (such as getting medical reports, health and safety reports, engineer's report, and involvement of the Director of Public Prosecutions etc.) and this delays the registration of such deaths.

Data from the CSO is published in different stages:

- Numbers of deaths are provided firstly based on year of registration – 'provisional'
- They are revised later, by year of occurrence – 'official'
- Finally they are revised later again, to include 'late registrations'.

Note: These numbers are not easily comparable across different years – at any given time, data for different years is at different stages. Therefore the information in each table, may not be like-for-like in another table. Additionally, all the figures in the following tables *exclude* late registration data. A summary of information that includes late registration data (to 2019) is available from the CSO at <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-ss/suicidestatistics2019/>.

Table 1) Number of suicide deaths by county, 2018–2022

County	2018*	2019*	2020*	2021*	2022 Q1**	2022 Q2**	Total
Carlow	5	5	13	8	-	-	31
Cavan	14	12	16	14	-	-	56
Clare	16	14	14	14	-	-	58
Cork City	16	18	13	7	-	-	54
Cork County	40	35	35	30	-	-	140
Donegal	9	12	13	13	-	-	47
Dublin City	15	31	51	31	-	-	128
Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown	6	7	7	6	-	-	26
Fingal	14	12	16	10	-	-	52
Galway City	11	8	5	7	-	-	31
Galway County	17	13	23	25	-	-	78
Kerry	25	14	16	17	-	-	72
Kildare	21	20	21	24	-	-	86
Kilkenny	10	1	2	1	-	-	14
Laois	6	1	18	15	-	-	40
Leitrim	4	3	2	1	-	-	10
Limerick City	9	19	5	5	-	-	38
Limerick County	21	16	9	8	-	-	54
Longford	2		6	1	-	-	9
Louth	10	8	15	16	-	-	49
Mayo	15	12	15	15	-	-	57
Meath	21	18	16	12	-	-	67
Monaghan	9	1	11	12	-	-	33
North Tipperary		0			-	-	0
Offaly	11	9	8	8	-	-	36
Roscommon	9	6	8	11	-	-	34
Sligo	6	9	13	8	-	-	36
South Dublin	12	19	24	15	-	-	70
South Tipperary		0			-	-	0
Tipperary	26	22	25	25	-	-	98
Waterford City	4	4	4	1	-	-	13
Waterford County	10	4	7	11	-	-	32
Westmeath	10	7	6	3	-	-	26
Wexford	25	23	13	17	-	-	78
Wicklow	8	7	15	8	-	-	38
Total	437	390	465	399	73	118	1882

*Figures from <https://data.cso.ie/> CSO table VSD30

**Figures from <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-vs/vitalstatisticsfirstquarter2022/> and <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-vs/vitalstatisticssecondquarter2022/> respectively

Table 2) Number of suicide deaths by age category, 2018–2022

Age	2018*	2019*	2020**	2021***	2022 Q1****	2022 Q2****	Total
5-14yrs	3	2	2	2	–	–	9
15-24yrs	56	56	63	56	11	12	254
25-34yrs	64	62	72	63	13	29	303
35-44yrs	98	72	111	89	12	25	407
45-54yrs	85	97	96	85	12	16	391
55-64yrs	77	56	69	59	15	26	302
65-74yrs	41	33	39	32	6	6	157
75-84yrs	11	11	12	12	4	4	54
85yrs+	2	1	1	1	–	–	5
Total	437	390	465	399	73	118	1882

*Figures from CSO Vital Statistics Annual Reports

<https://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/birthsdeathsandmarriages/vitalstatisticsannualreport/>

**Figures from <https://data.cso.ie/> CSO table VSA29

*** Figures from CSO Vital Statistics Yearly Summary <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-vs/vitalstatisticsyearlysummary2021/>

****Figures from <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-vs/vitalstatisticsfirstquarter2022/> and <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-vs/vitalstatisticssecondquarter2022/> respectively

Table 3) Number of suicide deaths by age category and county, 2018

County	0 - 64 years	65 years and over	Total
Carlow	7	0	7
Cavan	13	1	14
Clare	16	1	17
Cork	38	4	42
Donegal	12	2	14
Dublin City and County	38	3	41
Galway	16	0	16
Kerry	11	2	13
Kildare	16	1	17
Kilkenny	8	0	8
Laois	4	0	4
Leitrim	1	1	2
Limerick	24	4	28
Longford			
Louth	8	1	9
Mayo	10	0	10
Meath	10	0	10
Monaghan	8	0	8
North Tipperary	11	3	14
Offaly	8	1	9
Roscommon	4	0	4
Sligo	2	0	2
South Tipperary	4	0	4
Waterford	15	1	16
Westmeath	10	1	11
Wexford	19	2	21
Wicklow	9	2	11
Total	322	30	352

*Figures from <https://data.cso.ie/> CSO table DHA14. This table only provides information for 2018.

I trust this information is useful for you. Please do revert if you require anything further.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Meehan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Mr John Meehan

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& Head of National Office for Suicide Prevention (NOSP)
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