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To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons that died by suicide in each of the years 2017 to 2022, by CHO area; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

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 tables extracted from various CSO sources may assist you.

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'.

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.

Table 1) Number of suicide deaths by county, 2017–2022

(Excluding late registered deaths)

County	2017*	2018*	2019*	2020*	2021*	2022 Q1**	2022 Q3**	Total
Carlow	8	5	5	13	8	-	-	39
Cavan	11	14	12	16	14	-	-	67
Clare	20	16	14	14	14	-	-	78
Cork City	11	16	18	13	7	-	-	65
Cork County	40	40	35	35	30	-	-	180
Donegal	14	9	12	13	13	-	-	61
Dublin City	24	15	31	51	31	-	-	152
Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown	5	6	7	7	6	-	-	31
Fingal	7	14	12	16	10	-	-	59
Galway City	10	11	8	5	7	-	-	41
Galway County	16	17	13	23	25	-	-	94
Kerry	11	25	14	16	17	-	-	83
Kildare	17	21	20	21	24	-	-	103
Kilkenny	9	10	1	2	1	-	-	23
Laois	9	6	1	18	15	-	-	49
Leitrim	2	4	3	2	1	-	-	12
Limerick City	7	9	19	5	5	-	-	45
Limerick County	20	21	16	9	8	-	-	74
Longford	2	2		6	1	-	-	11
Louth	11	10	8	15	16	-	-	60
Mayo	8	15	12	15	15	-	-	65
Meath	17	21	18	16	12	-	-	84
Monaghan	9	9	1	11	12	-	-	42
Offaly	8	11	9	8	8	-	-	44
Roscommon	4	9	6	8	11	-	-	38
Sligo	6	6	9	13	8	-	-	42
South Dublin	8	12	19	24	15	-	-	78
Tipperary	19	26	22	25	25	-	-	117
Waterford City	4	4	4	4	1	-	-	17
Waterford County	11	10	4	7	11	-	-	43
Westmeath	6	10	7	6	3	-	-	32
Wexford	14	25	23	13	17	-	-	92
Wicklow	15	8	7	15	8	-	-	53
Total	383	437	390	465	399	73	124	2271

*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) Deaths by suicide classified by region, 2017–2019

(Including late registered deaths)

Region	2017*	2018*	2019*
State	510	540	524
Border	47	48	43
Midlands	31	39	30
West	39	52	45
Dublin	128	105	136
Mid-East	65	70	66
Mid-West	71	73	75
South-East	52	59	41
South-West	71	86	83
Outside the State	6	8	5

* Figures from <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-ss/suicidestatistics2019/> Table 5. They have been revised from time of each Annual Report – to include late registered deaths.

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

Yours sincerely,



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