

National Office for Suicide Prevention

Briefing on CSO Provisional Suicide Figures for 2016

6th June 2017 (revised 7th July 2017)

Notes on Suicide Data

The [Central Statistics Office](#) (CSO) provides mortality data in two forms;

- (i) *Year of registration* data (provisional)
- (ii) *Year of occurrence* data (official).

The *year of occurrence* data is more comprehensive and allows for year-on-year comparison. Currently, 2014 is the most recent year in which we have *year of occurrence* data available. The data for 2015 and 2016 is *year of registration* data and this will be subject to change.

The CSO also publishes data relating to undetermined deaths. It is likely that a proportion of these deaths classified as undetermined are also deaths by suicide, but it is not possible to estimate this at present.

Year of Registration Suicide Data

On 31st May 2017, the CSO published provisional suicide figures for 2016. Some of the findings, when comparing 2016 data with 2015 data (which is also provisional) include:

- In 2016 there were 399 suicides (318 male & 81 female). This number is a decrease of 11.5% on 2015 numbers (total 451 suicides)
- The number of male suicides decreased by 15.2% (375 to 318)
- The number of female suicides increased by 6.5% (76 to 81)

Males

The suicide rate per 100,000 of the population:

- Increased by 16% (18.1 to 21.0) in the age-group 55-64 years
- Decreased in all other age groups
- Decreased by 31.6% (21.5 to 14.7) in the age-group 15-24 years
- Decreased by 29.8% (24.2 to 17.0) in the age-group 25-34 years
- Decreased by 18.6% (23.6 to 19.2) in the age-group 35-44 years

Females

The suicide rate per 100,000 of the population:

- Decreased amongst those aged: 15-24 years by 22% (3.6 to 2.8), 25-34 years by 2% (5.0 to 4.9), 55-64 years by 3.5% (5.7 to 5.5)
- Increased amongst those aged: 35-44 years by 37% (3.5 to 4.8), 45-54 years by 3.8% (5.2 to 5.4) and 65+ years by 22.7% (2.2 to 2.7)

Year of Occurrence Suicide Data

There were 486 deaths by suicide in Ireland in 2014, representing a rate of 10.5 per 100,000 of the population. 82% of these deaths were amongst men. This high male-to-female ratio is a constant feature of deaths by suicide over the years, as can be seen in the tables to follow.

Since 2007, particularly since the onset of the economic recession in Ireland in 2008, there has been an increase in the suicide rate in Ireland. The increase observed between 2007 and 2012 can be wholly attributed to an increase in the male rate of suicide. More recent data from 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 suggests a levelling off of this rise, though the data for 2015 and 2016 is still provisional.

Based on the most recent *year of occurrence* data (2014):

- Amongst males and females together, the suicide rate per 100,000 is highest amongst those aged 45-54 at 17.5 per 100,000. This trend is the case since 2010.
- Amongst males, the highest rate was in those aged 45-54, at 28.2 per 100,000. This trend is the case since 2010.
- Amongst females, the highest rate was in those aged 45-54, at 6.9 per 100,000. This trend is the case since 2012.

Numbers and rates of suicide and other causes of death, 2005-2016*

	Suicide		Undetermined		External Causes		All	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
2016*								
Males	318	13.8	21	0.9	921	39.9	15499	670.8
Females	81	3.4	9	0.4	423	17.9	14891	630.1
Total	399	8.5	30	0.6	1344	28.8	30390	650.2
2015*								
Males	375	16.4	51	2.2	1020	44.6	15150	661.7
Females	76	3.2	17	0.7	419	17.9	14802	631.0
Total	451	9.7	68	1.5	1439	31.0	29952	646.2
2014								
Males	399	17.5	40	1.75	1097	48.1	14897	653.4
Females	87	3.7	13	0.6	433	18.6	14355	616.1
Total	486	10.5	53	1.2	1530	33.2	29252	634.5
2013								
Males	391	17.2	41	1.8	1064	46.8	14958	657.8
Females	96	4.1	15	0.6	427	18.4	14546	627.2
Total	487	10.6	56	1.2	1491	32.5	29504	642.4
2012								
Males	445	19.6	36	1.6	1142	50.3	14945	658.5
Females	96	4.1	18	0.8	435	18.8	14241	614.9
Total	541	11.8	54	1.2	1577	34.4	29186	636.5
2011								
Males	458	20.2	40	1.8	1211	53.3	14492	637.7
Females	96	4.1	27	1.2	482	20.8	13964	603.1
Total	554	12.1	67	1.5	1693	36.9	28456	620.2
2010								
Males	405	17.9	54	2.4	1198	54.1	14334	646.8
Females	90	3.9	29	1.3	462	20.5	13627	604.4
Total	495	11.1	83	1.9	1600	37.1	27961	625.4
2009								
Males	443	20.0	52	2.3	1236	55.7	14727	664.1
Females	109	4.9	22	1.0	490	21.9	13653	609.1
Total	552	12.4	74	1.7	1726	38.7	28380	636.4
2008								
Males	386	17.5	64	2.9	1215	55.1	14457	655.3
Females	120	5.4	19	0.9	506	22.8	13817	623.6
Total	506	11.4	83	1.9	1721	38.9	28274	639.8
2007								
Males	362	16.7	87	4.0	1252	57.7	14391	662.8
Females	96	4.4	32	1.5	507	23.4	13726	633.1
Total	458	10.6	119	2.7	1759	40.5	28117	648.0
2006								
Males	379	17.9	68	3.2	1180	55.6	14065	688.5
Females	81	3.8	16	0.8	484	22.8	13883	655.3
Total	460	10.9	84	1.9	1664	39.2	27948	671.9
2005								
Males	382	18.5	93	4.5	1239	60.1	14412	699.0
Females	99	4.8	41	2.0	506	24.4	13848	668.3
Total	481	11.6	134	3.2	1745	42.2	28260	683.6

* Figures for 2015 & 2016 are provisional and subject to change

Male suicide rates by age group, per 100,000 population (2001-2016)*

	All	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
2001	22.4	27.7	37.2	29.9	28.6	26.5	17.2
2002	19.9	27.6	34.4	22.2	22.8	23.1	16.9
2003	19.5	29.5	22.7	30.6	23.3	24.3	14.0
2004	20.2	27.1	28.0	28.5	29.4	22.9	13.2
2005	18.5	25.6	26.8	24.9	25.8	21.6	10.4
2006	17.9	27.5	23.5	21.4	24.1	21.1	14.2
2007	16.7	23.7	23.5	19.5	20.9	16.6	16.3
2008	17.5	22.2	25.3	22.7	24.6	21.2	12.1
2009	20.0	24.4	26.6	31.5	26.6	26.9	12.6
2010	17.9	24.0	20.5	28.8	28.9	23.3	7.3
2011	20.2	26.7	27.0	28.2	32.3	25.1	12.8
2012	19.6	21.1	25.1	27.7	32.3	28.3	14.7
2013	17.2	16.1	19.9	21.6	31.4	27.1	16.8
2014	17.5	23.4	24.4	22.6	28.2	18.0	17.0
2015*	16.4	21.5	24.2	23.6	24.2	18.1	14.3
2016*	13.8	14.7	17.0	19.2	22.8	21.0	11.4

* Figures for 2015 & 2016 are provisional and subject to change

Female suicide rates by age group, per 100,000 population (2001-2016)*

	All	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
2001	4.7	5.1	4.4	6.8	8.5	10.7	1.6
2002	4.6	4.7	6.8	5.3	8.0	6.3	3.2
2003	5.5	5.0	6.0	7.0	9.5	9.9	5.2
2004	4.3	2.9	5.2	6.5	7.7	7.4	3.5
2005	4.8	6.4	6.8	4.3	7.5	6.2	4.3
2006	3.8	5.1	3.6	4.6	6.2	6.5	2.7
2007	4.4	4.8	5.1	6.4	9.4	5.3	1.9
2008	5.4	8.1	4.6	6.5	9.2	8.4	4.9
2009	4.9	4.1	5.3	7.9	7.2	6.8	4.4
2010	3.9	3.6	4.7	5.3	6.0	8.4	2.1
2011	4.2	5.6	7.0	6.1	5.9	5.2	1.0
2012	4.1	5.8	5.3	6.0	7.1	5.6	1.3
2013	4.1	3.5	6.6	5.4	7.7	4.2	3.6
2014	3.7	4.3	5.6	5.0	6.9	4.1	2.2
2015*	3.2	3.6	5.0	3.5	5.2	5.7	2.2
2016*	3.4	2.8	4.9	4.8	5.4	5.5	2.7

* Figures for 2015 & 2016 are provisional and subject to change

Total suicide rates by age group, per 100,000 population (2001-2016)*

	All	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
2001	13.5	16.6	20.9	18.3	18.6	18.7	8.4
2002	12.2	16.4	20.6	13.7	15.4	14.8	9.2
2003	12.5	17.4	14.4	18.7	16.4	17.2	9.0
2004	12.2	15.2	16.6	17.5	18.6	15.2	7.8
2005	11.6	16.1	16.9	14.7	16.7	14.0	7.0
2006	10.9	16.4	13.7	13.1	15.2	13.9	7.8
2007	10.6	14.4	14.4	13.0	15.2	11.0	8.3
2008	11.4	15.2	15.1	14.7	16.9	14.8	8.1
2009	12.4	14.2	15.9	19.8	16.9	16.9	8.1
2010	11.1	12.8	12.5	16.0	16.7	16.5	6.0
2011	12.1	16.2	16.8	17.2	19.0	15.2	6.4
2012	11.8	13.6	14.9	16.9	19.6	16.9	7.5
2013	10.6	9.9	13.0	13.4	19.5	15.6	9.7
2014	10.5	14.1	14.6	13.7	17.5	11.0	9.0
2015*	9.7	12.8	14.2	13.4	14.6	11.8	7.8
2016*	8.5	8.9	10.7	11.9	14.1	13.2	6.7

* Figures for 2015 & 2016 are provisional and subject to change

Three-year moving average rate of suicide per 100,000 population, by county of residence of deceased (2004-2016)*

	2004-2006	2005-2007	2006-2008	2007-2009	2008-2010	2009-2011	2010-2012	2011-2013	2012-2014	2013-2015*	2014-2016*
Ireland	11.6	11.0	10.9	11.3	11.4	11.7	11.6	11.5	11.0	10.3	9.6
Leinster	10.4	9.9	9.9	10.2	10.3	10.5	10.5	10.2	9.4	8.5	7.8
Munster	13.4	12.4	12.6	13.7	13.9	14.4	13.8	13.7	12.9	12.3	11.7
Connacht	11.9	11.8	10.7	10.7	11.4	12.5	13.2	12.7	12.9	12.8	12.1
Ulster (part of)	12.5	11.9	11.6	12.0	10.7	9.1	8.7	11.0	12.5	12.8	12.5
Carlow	17.0	19.9	17.4	14.5	11.7	12.3	11.6	15.2	16.3	16.3	15.0
South Dublin	10.2	8.4	8.6	8.2	8.2	9.5	8.8	9.4	7.5	8.4	6.6
Dublin C.B.	11.3	11.0	10.3	10.4	10.4	10.8	11.0	10.5	9.4	7.9	6.9
Fingal	6.1	4.7	5.2	6.3	6.7	6.0	5.6	5.2	5.3	4.9	3.9
Dun Lgh Rdown	5.6	5.9	6.5	7.3	7.9	7.3	7.1	7.0	6.5	4.8	2.2
Kildare	10.6	11.4	11.4	11.4	10.3	10.5	10.9	11.8	11.9	11.6	11.0
Kilkenny	10.1	11.4	11.5	10.9	9.6	11.2	11.8	11.8	11.1	11.7	12.3
Laois	8.8	10.4	11.6	10.9	13.5	16.5	16.9	12.3	8.2	6.1	7.2
Longford	15.2	12.6	10.5	9.2	7.9	8.7	7.6	9.3	10.9	10.8	9.9
Louth	9.3	8.6	11.1	11.6	12.8	12.9	14.0	12.7	11.9	8.2	8.4
Meath	11.1	7.5	9.3	10.8	10.9	8.3	7.5	8.8	9.2	9.1	8.5
Offaly	12.8	11.8	13.7	14.7	17.6	16.1	16.0	12.5	11.6	8.9	9.2
Westmeath	12.7	13.6	12.1	14.4	14.9	14.0	13.2	11.6	9.6	9.1	8.6
Wexford	13.6	15.7	13.5	13.9	12.5	14.8	17.8	17.8	17.0	12.7	13.1
Wicklow	13.4	11.7	10.3	9.3	10.6	11.5	10.2	8.3	7.2	8.8	9.7
Clare	12.6	12.2	12.8	14.3	11.6	11.1	10.3	14.2	15.4	15.6	14.0
Cork C.B.	17.9	18.6	19.3	19.3	19.2	17.7	18.6	15.9	15.9	11.3	12.4
Cork Co.	12.8	12.5	13.1	13.3	13.5	13.5	11.9	11.8	10.1	10.7	10.4
Kerry	11.3	9.9	9.5	12.6	15.4	18.1	19.1	16.7	16.1	13.3	15.1
Limerick C.B.	16.4	14.1	12.4	10.8	11.9	16.6	21.4	26.0	27.2	23.7	17.2
Limerick Co.	10.7	10.1	8.6	10.8	11.4	13.3	14.0	12.4	10.2	9.7	8.5
Tipperary N.R.	19.1	14.7	14.8	14.8	14.7	14.6	9.9	14.0	12.6	14.5	11.3
Tipperary S.R.	10.5	11.1	12.0	14.1	14.3	14.6	14.2	13.4	13.4	13.0	11.4
Waterford C.B.	11.5	9.3	9.2	13.1	11.1	14.1	10.8	9.3	5.0	2.1	2.8
Waterford Co.	16.6	11.9	13.0	13.2	15.1	12.4	11.4	9.9	12.3	15.1	15.1
Galway C.B.	8.7	5.5	7.5	8.7	8.8	11.0	9.8	12.1	11.2	14.0	12.2
Galway Co.	11.3	12.1	10.6	10.9	12.5	13.1	13.6	13.3	13.4	14.4	12.9
Leitrim	23.4	13.1	8.9	10.9	14.9	16.8	15.6	12.5	9.4	9.5	9.7
Mayo	11.1	13.8	12.8	12.8	11.5	13.3	15.4	14.6	15.1	11.1	11.1
Roscommon	12.7	17.6	15.5	11.9	11.1	10.5	11.4	10.9	14.5	17.2	16.2
Sligo	13.2	8.7	6.9	7.3	10.3	11.3	11.8	9.8	9.3	7.3	8.5
Cavan	19.3	18.5	16.7	14.9	12.0	10.2	10.0	14.0	16.0	17.1	15.5
Donegal	10.4	9.7	10.1	10.9	9.6	8.0	6.4	8.9	9.4	10.4	10.9
Monaghan	10.9	10.0	9.8	11.3	12.2	10.5	13.1	13.1	16.5	13.9	13.0

* Figures for 2015 & 2016 are provisional and subject to change