SAMARITANS

Suicides in Wales

347 suicides were registered in 2021

The suicide rate in 2021 was **12.7** per 100,000

265 Male
76% | 19.7 per 100,000

82 Female
24% | 5.9 per 100,000

The overall, male, and female suicide rates in Wales have increased in 2021, with delayed inquests from 2020 being held. Rates in 2021 are similar to those seen in 2019.

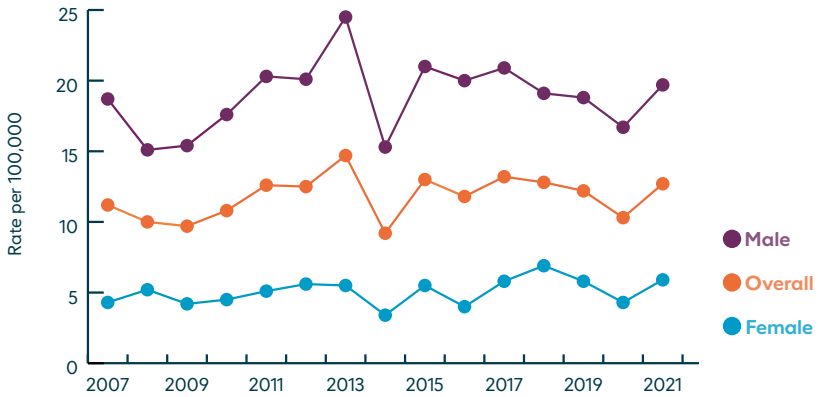
Males are **3.3 times more likely** to die by suicide in Wales than females.

Age group with highest suicide rate per 100,000

33.5 Male 45–49 years

Many age-specific suicide rates are considered unreliable by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) when they are based on fewer than 20 deaths in an age group. Female age-specific rates are not included here for this reason.

Suicide rate per 100,000 in Wales 2007–2021



Notes about data: Data source – Office for National Statistics (ONS). Suicide refers to deaths where the underlying cause is **intentional self-harm** and **events of undetermined intent**. Data represents suicide registrations. Increases/decreases are based on one year of data. These may not indicate longer term trends and may not be statistically significant. Overall rates for male, female and all persons are age standardised. Rates broken down by age group are crude.

Note about fluctuations shown in graph: Smaller populations often produce rates that are less reliable, therefore differences in the number of suicides may have a bigger impact on the rate than in larger populations. The male and female suicide rates for Wales show a volatile pattern due to the relatively smaller number of deaths.

A registered charity

Appendices

Wales suicide numbers for all persons, males and females and by age group, 2019–2021

Table 1

Wales	2019			2020			2021		
Number of deaths for persons aged 10+	Overall 330	Male 248	Female 82	Overall 285	Male 225	Female 60	Overall 347	Male 265	Female 82
Number of deaths by age group (years)	Overall	Male	Female	Overall	Male	Female	Overall	Male	Female
10-14	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15-19	6	2	4	12	8	4	17	16	1
20-24	22	15	7	24	21	3	22	16	6
25-29	31	23	8	24	19	5	29	23	6
30-34	28	22	6	20	18	2	26	23	3
35-39	33	25	8	23	16	7	36	23	13
40-44	39	34	5	24	19	5	34	29	5
45-49	34	26	8	32	25	7	40	30	10
50-54	32	26	6	35	28	7	40	26	14
55-59	32	19	13	21	16	5	24	18	6
60-64	19	16	3	22	16	6	15	10	5
65-69	11	8	3	14	13	1	12	10	2
70-74	18	12	6	11	9	2	21	15	6
75-79	8	7	1	6	5	1	16	13	3
80-84	9	7	2	6	3	3	12	10	2
85-89	3	3	0	5	4	1	3	3	0
90+	4	2	2	6	5	1	0	0	0

Source: Office for National Statistics

Wales suicide rates for all persons, males and females and by age group, 2019–2021

Table 2

Wales	2019			2020			2021		
Rate per 100,000 for persons aged 10+	Overall 12.2	Male 18.8	Female 5.8	Overall 10.3	Male 16.7	Female 4.3	Overall 12.7	Male 19.7	Female 5.9
Rate per 100,000 by age group (years)	Overall	Male	Female	Overall	Male	Female	Overall	Male	Female
10-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19	3.5*	-	4.8*	6.9*	8.9*	4.8*	9.8*	17.8*	-
20-24	10.9	14.1*	7.3*	11.6	19.4	3.1*	11.0	15.2*	6.3*
25-29	14.9	21.6	7.9*	11.5	17.8*	4.9*	14.3	22.0	6.1*
30-34	14.5	22.9	6.2*	10.2	18.3*	-	12.9	22.8	-
35-39	17.8	27.3	8.6*	12.4	17.4*	7.4*	19.3	24.9	13.8*
40-44	23.0	40.6	5.8*	13.9	22.3*	5.7*	19.1	33.1	5.6*
45-49	17.1	26.8	7.8*	16.6	26.6	7.1*	21.8	33.5	10.7*
50-54	14.5	24.2	5.3*	16.1	26.6	6.3*	18.5	24.8	12.6*
55-59	14.7	17.9*	11.6*	9.5	14.8*	4.4*	10.7	16.6*	5.2*
60-64	9.9*	17.0*	3*	11.1	16.7*	5.9*	7.4*	10.2*	4.8*
65-69	6.0*	9.0*	3.2*	7.8*	14.9*	-	6.7*	11.4*	-
70-74	10.0*	13.9*	6.5*	6*	10.2*	-	11.4	16.9*	6.3*
75-79	6.3*	11.8*	-	4.6*	8.1*	-	11.8*	20.4*	-
80-84	10.0*	17.6*	-	6.6*	7.4*	6.0*	13.1*	24.4*	-
85-89	5.6*	14.0*	-	9.2*	18.4*	-	-	-	-
90+	13.1*	-	-	19.5*	50.4*	-	-	-	-

Source: Office for National Statistics.

Age-specific rates were not calculated where there were fewer than 3 deaths and these are marked with "-". It is ONS best practice not to calculate rates based on such small numbers, as they are imprecise and susceptible to inaccurate interpretation. Age-specific rates based on less than 20 deaths are marked with a "*" to warn users that their reliability is low.