

Statistical bulletin

# Quarterly suicide death registrations in England: 2001 to 2023 registrations and Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) to Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2024 provisional data

Provisional rate and number of suicide deaths registered in England per quarter. Includes 2001 to 2023 registrations and provisional data for Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) to Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2024. These are official statistics in development.

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Next release: To be announced

## Table of contents

- 1. Main points
- 2. Data on quarterly suicides
- 3. Data sources and quality
- 4. Related links
- 5. Cite this statistical bulletin

# 1. Main points

- There were 1,421 suicides registered in Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2024 in England, equivalent to a provisional rate of 11.0 suicide deaths per 100,000 people; this rate is slightly lower compared with the previous quarter of 2024 and that of Quarter 4 in the previous year.
- In 2024, 5,690 suicides were registered in England, equivalent to a provisional rate of 11.1 suicide deaths per 100,000 people; this was slightly lower compared with 2023.
- In the provisional death registration data for Quarter 4 2024, there were 17.0 suicide deaths per 100,000 males (1,061 deaths registered) and 5.4 suicide deaths per 100,000 females (360 deaths registered).
- In Quarter 4 2024, London had the lowest rate of suicide deaths registered of any region of England (7.4 suicide deaths per 100,000), while the highest rate was in the North West (14.9 suicide deaths per 100,000).
- For suicides, the median registration delay decreased from 201 days in Quarter 4 2023 to 196 days in Quarter 4 2024.

Suicide rates are based on the year of death registration. Because of registration delays, 40.1% of deaths registered in 2024 had a date of death in the same year (2,281 of 5,690 deaths), 48.9% occurred in 2023 (2,782 of 5,690 deaths), and the remaining deaths occurred in 2022 or earlier (11.0%; 627 of 5,690 deaths).

If you are a journalist covering a suicide-related issue, please consider following the <u>Samaritans' media guidelines</u> on the reporting of <u>suicide</u> because of the potentially damaging consequences of irresponsible reporting. In particular, the guidelines advise on terminology and include links to sources of support for anyone affected by the themes in the bulletin.

If you are struggling to cope, please call Samaritans for free on 116 123 (UK and the Republic of Ireland) or contact other sources of support, such as those listed on the NHS Help for suicidal thoughts web page. Support is available 24 hours a day, every day of the year, providing a safe place for you, whoever you are and however you are feeling.

# 2. Data on quarterly suicides

Deaths caused by suicide by quarter in England

Dataset | Released 9 April 2025

Provisional rate and number of suicide deaths registered in England per quarter. Includes 2001 to 2023 registrations and provisional data for Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) to Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2024. These are official statistics in development.

# 3. Data sources and quality

## Official statistics in development

These statistics are labelled as "official statistics in development". Until September 2023, these were called "experimental statistics". Read more about the change in the Guide to official statistics in development.

These statistics are based on mortality statistics, derived from information provided when deaths are certified and registered. We are developing how we collect and produce the data to improve the quality of these statistics.

Once the developments are complete, we will review the statistics with the Statistics Head of Profession. We will decide whether the statistics are of sufficient quality and value to be published as official statistics, or whether further development is needed. Production may be stopped if they are not of sufficient quality or value. Users will be informed of the outcome and any changes.

We value your feedback on these statistics. Contact us at <a href="mailto:health.data@ons.gov.uk">health.data@ons.gov.uk</a>.

#### Data source

Statistics on mortality come from the information provided when deaths are certified and registered. This release uses the accredited official statistics definition of suicide, which is consistently used by government departments, agencies, and the devolved administrations across the UK.

For deaths caused by suicide, around half of the deaths registered each year will have occurred in the previous year, or earlier, because of the length of time it takes to hold a coroner's inquest. For further information on registration delays and their impact, see our <u>Suicide rates in the UK Quality and Methodology Information (QMI) report</u>.

### **Quarterly rates**

Calculation of mortality rates for quarterly deaths requires adjustments to be made to annual population estimates, to calculate rates that are comparable with annual rates. Further information is in our accompanying <a href="Deaths caused by suicide by quarter in England dataset">Deaths caused by suicide by quarter in England dataset</a>.

## More quality and methodology information

More quality and methodology information on strengths, limitations, appropriate uses, and how the data were created is available in our <u>Mortality statistics in England and Wales QMI</u>, our <u>Suicide rates in the UK QMI</u> and our <u>User guide to mortality statistics</u>.

## 4. Related links

Suicides in England and Wales: 2023 registrations

Bulletin | Released 29 August 2024

Registered deaths from suicide in England and Wales, analysed by sex, age, area of usual residence of the deceased, and suicide method.

## 5. Cite this statistical bulletin

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