

Statistical bulletin

# Quarterly suicide death registrations in England: 2001 to 2023 registrations and Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) to Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 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 3 (July to Sept) 2024. These are official statistics in development.

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Next release:  
To be announced

## Notice

### 9 January 2025

Following the [Health and Social Care Statistical Outputs consultation](#) commissioned by the [Health and Social Care Statistics Leadership Forum](#), we are improving some of our statistical products, so they are more coherent and efficient. Additionally, we are ensuring that our resources are deployed in producing statistics for maximum possible benefit.

Full details of changes to this product, and our other health and social care products, are available in the [Health and Social Care Statistical Outputs Consultation Response](#). We welcome user feedback on our releases. Please use the contact details on individual publication web pages to share feedback.

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# 1 . Main points

- There were 1,449 suicides registered in Quarter 3 (July to Sept) 2024 in England, equivalent to a rate of 11.2 suicide deaths per 100,000 people, shown in provisional analysis; this rate was the highest seen in any previous Quarter 3, but slightly lower compared with Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2024.
- In Quarter 3 2024, there were 16.9 suicide deaths per 100,000 males (1,064 deaths registered) and 5.8 suicide deaths per 100,000 females (385 deaths registered).
- The South East had the lowest suicide rate of any region of England (9.0 suicide deaths per 100,000), while the highest rate was in the North East (15.9 suicide deaths per 100,000).
- For suicides in England, the median registration delay decreased from 198 days in Quarter 3 2023 to 191 days in Quarter 3 2024.

Suicide rates are based on the year of death registration. Because of registration delays, 29.5% of deaths registered in 2024 had a date of death in the same year (1,260 of 4,269 deaths), 58.2% occurred in 2023 (2,483 of 4,269 deaths), and the remaining deaths occurred in 2022 or earlier (12.3%; 526 of 4,269 deaths).

If you are a journalist covering a suicide-related issue, please consider following the [Samaritans' media guidelines on the reporting of suicide](#) 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 webpage](#). 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 12 December 2024

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 3 (July to Sept) 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 \(opens in a new tab\)](#).

These statistics are based on information from 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 [health.data@ons.gov.uk](mailto:health.data@ons.gov.uk).

## 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 [Suicide rates in the UK Quality and Methodology Information \(QMI\) report](#).

## 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 [Deaths caused by suicide by quarter in England dataset](#).

## 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 [Mortality statistics in England and Wales Quality and Methodology Information](#), our [Suicide rates in the UK Quality and Methodology Information](#) and our [User guide to mortality statistics](#).

## 4 . Related links

[Suicides in England and Wales: 2023 registrations](#)

Bulletin | Released 29 August 2024

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

## 5 . Cite this statistical bulletin

Office for National Statistics (ONS), released 12 December 2024, ONS website, statistical bulletin, [Quarterly suicide death registrations in England: 2001 to 2023 registrations and Quarter 1 \(Jan to Mar\) to Quarter 3 \(July to Sept\) 2024 provisional data](#)

