

National Confidential Inquiry

into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health

**Annual Report 2026:
Additional online data tables
Wales patient data 2013-2023**

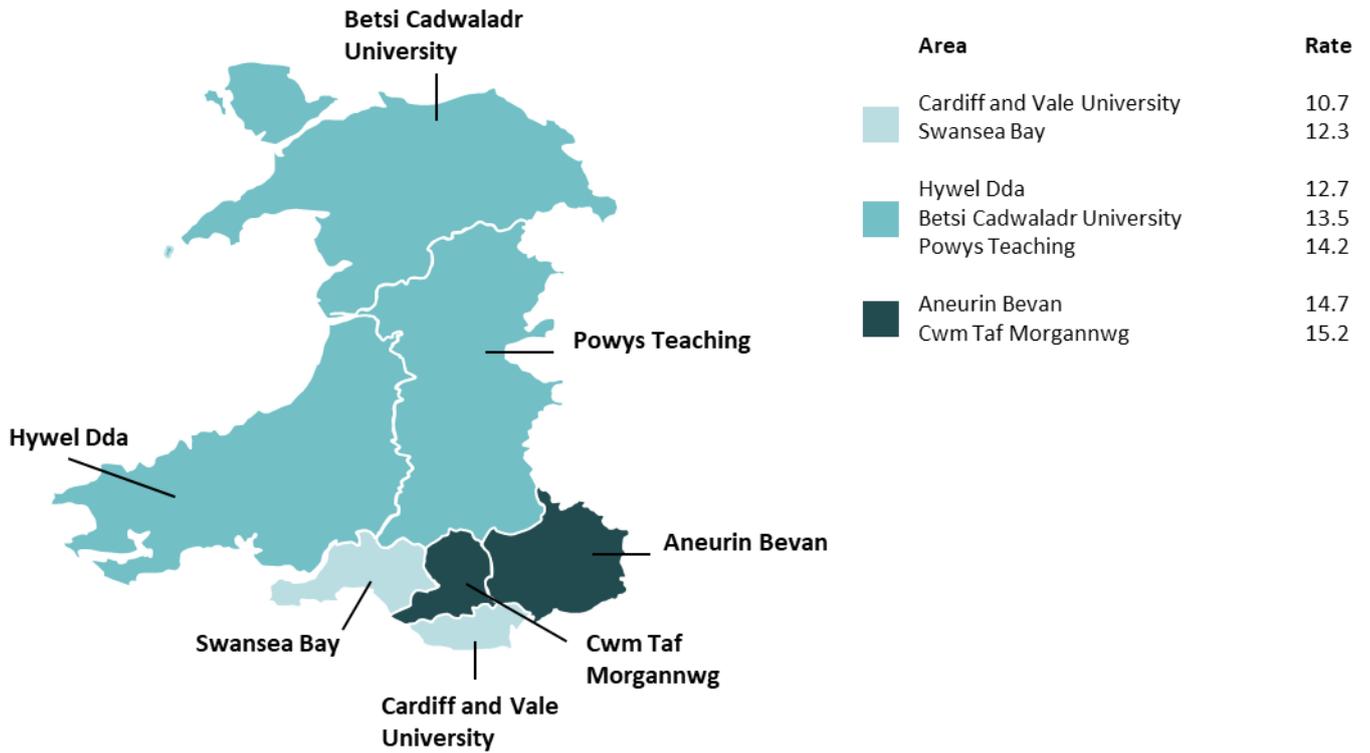
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SUICIDE IN THE GENERAL POPULATION IN WALES

1. GENERAL POPULATION SUICIDE RATES, BY AREA OF RESIDENCE

Figure 1: Rates of suicide per 100,000 population, by Health Board of residence (average rate 2021-2023)



PATIENTS WHO DIED BY SUICIDE IN WALES

2. NUMBER OF PATIENT SUICIDES

Figure 2: Number of confirmed and estimated patient suicides in Wales (2013-2023)

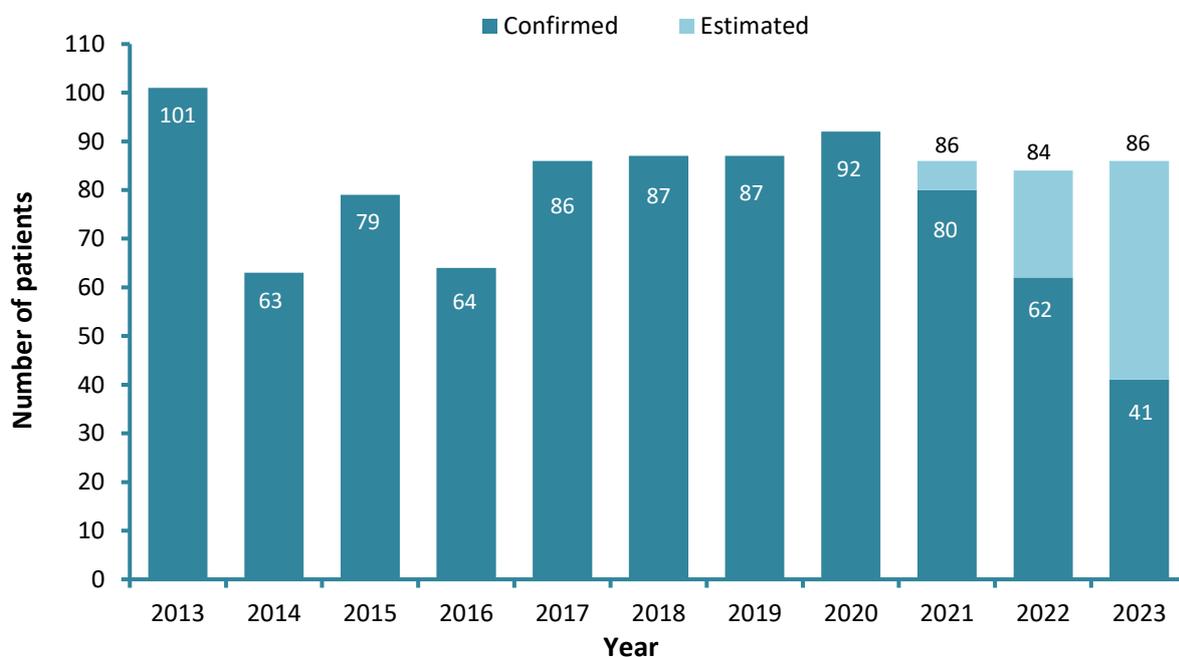
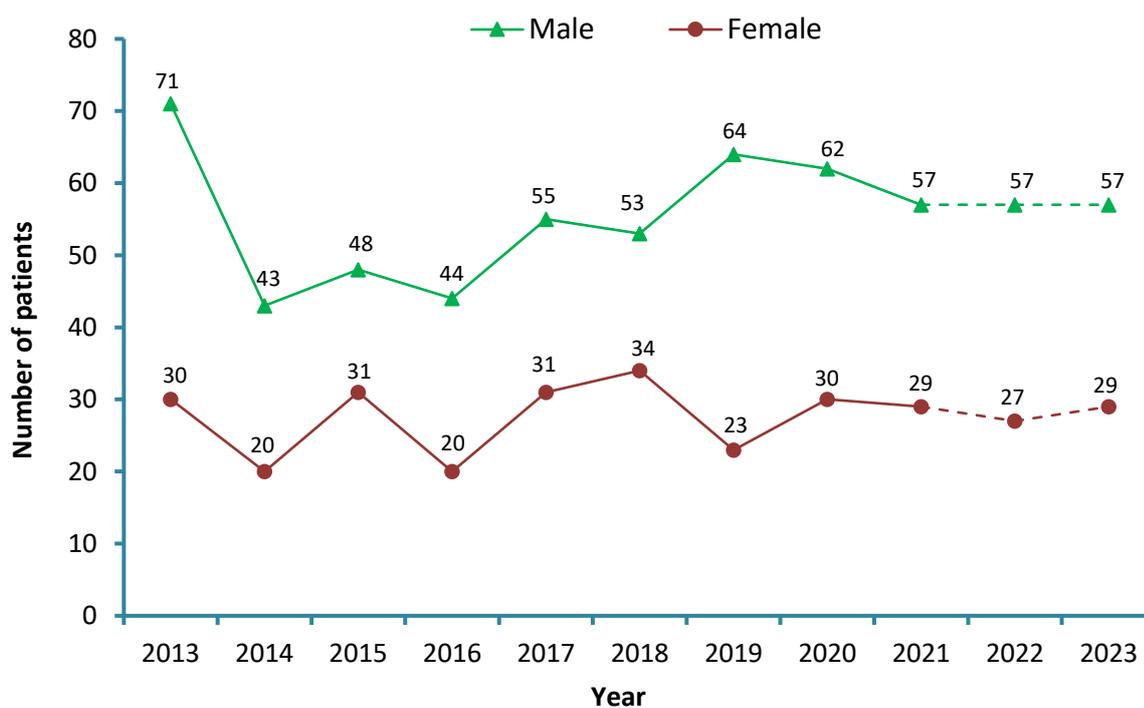


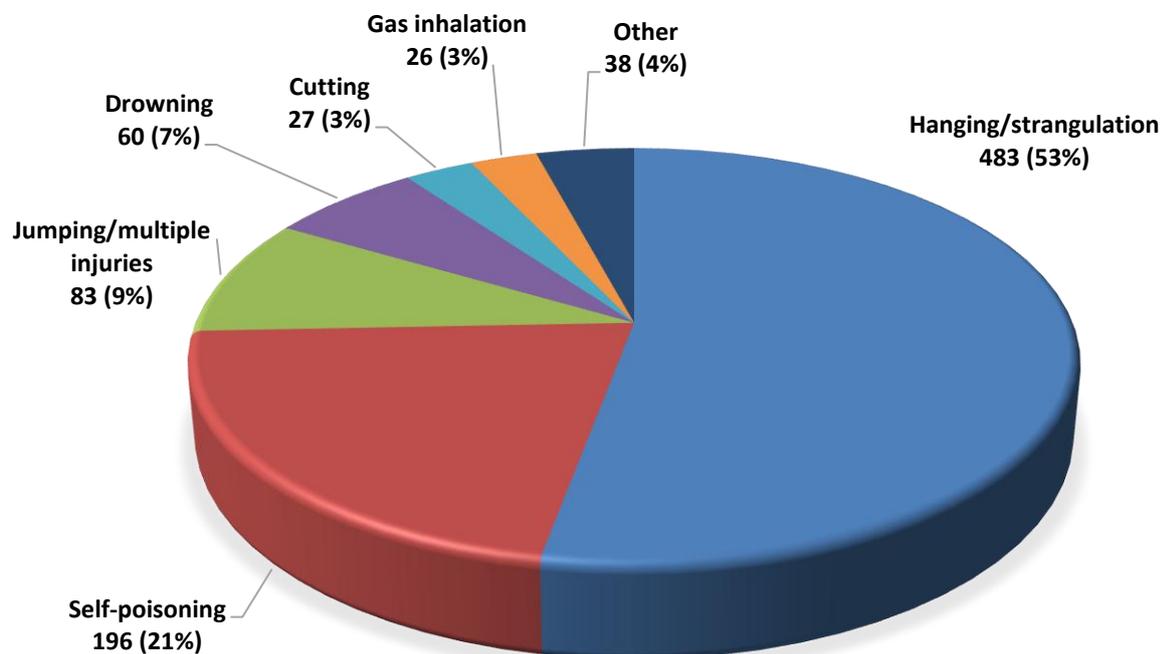
Figure 3: Number of patient suicides in Wales, by sex (2013-2023)



Note: Dashed lines represent estimated numbers in 2021-2023

3. METHOD OF SUICIDE

Figure 4: Patient suicide in Wales: main suicide methods (2013-2023)



4. SOCIAL AND CLINICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Table 1: Sociodemographic characteristics of patients who died by suicide in Wales (2013-2023)

Characteristic	Total=915 [†]	
	Number	%
Age: median (range)	46 (15-96)	
Aged under 18	9	1
Aged under 25 [†]	75	8
Male [†]	611	67
Not currently married/cohabiting	557	72
Living alone	351	44
Unemployed	370	49
On long-term sick leave	88	12
Ethnic minority group	19	2
LGBT+*	17	4
Homeless	22	3
In the lowest 20% deprivation score [^]	209	25

[†] includes estimated figures in 2021-2023

*data from 2016 onwards

[^]based on the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) 2019

Table 2: Clinical characteristics of patients who died by suicide in Wales (2013-2023)

Characteristic	Total=915 [†]	
	Number	%
Duration of illness (<12 months)	159	21
Any comorbid (i.e. additional) mental illness	493	60
Any comorbid physical illness	206	27
First contact with mental health services:		
<12 months	181	23
>5 years	434	54
Last admission was a re-admission	73	17

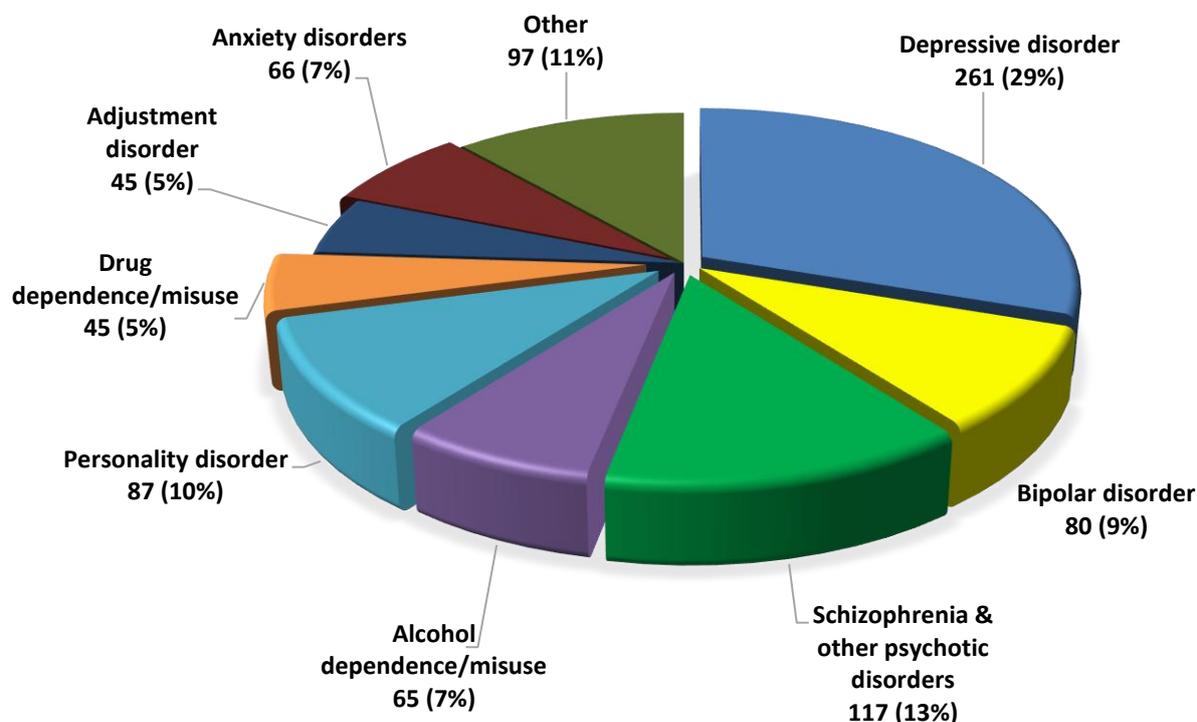
[†] includes estimated figures in 2021-2023

Table 3: Behavioural characteristics of patients who died by suicide in Wales (2013-2023)

Characteristic	Total=915 [†]	
	Number	%
History of self-harm	490	61
History of violence	159	21
History of alcohol misuse [†]	420	48
History of drug misuse [†]	359	41
Suicide-related internet use	34	7

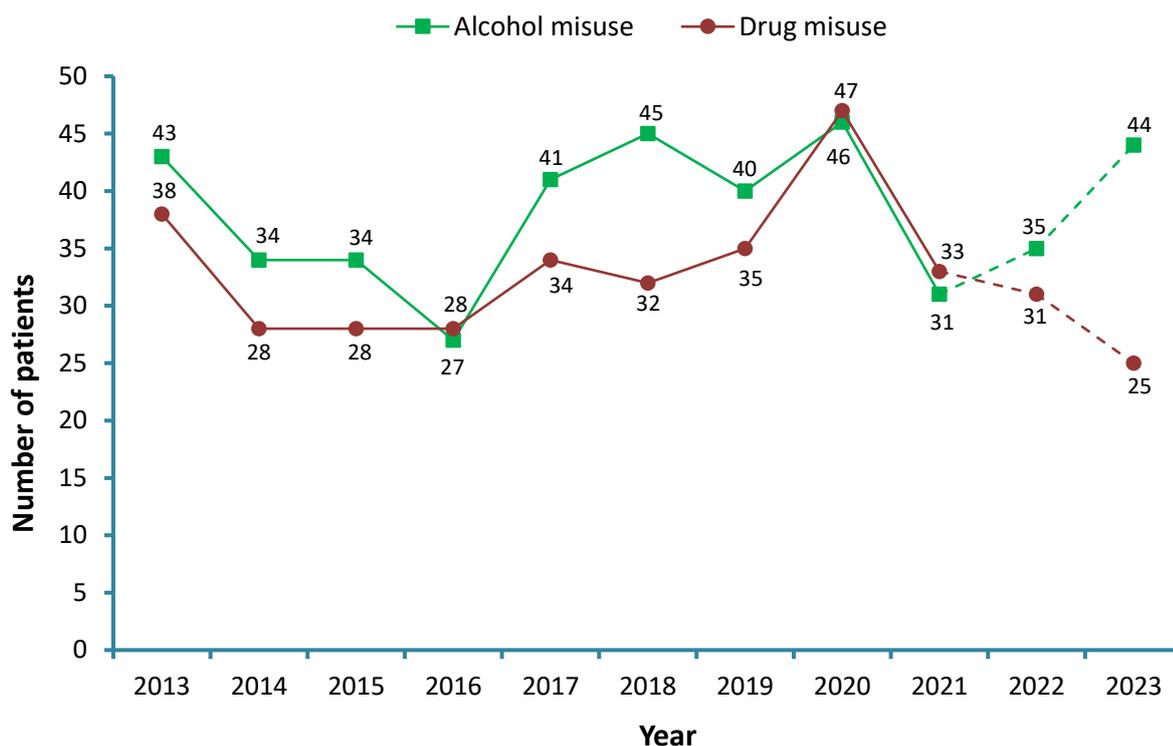
[†] includes estimated figures in 2021-2023

Figure 5: Patient suicide in Wales: primary psychiatric diagnosis (2013-2023)



*"other" diagnoses include: eating disorders, learning disability, conduct disorder, autism spectrum disorder, somatisation disorder, ADHD, organic disorder, drug induced psychosis, dementia and other specified

Figure 6: Patient suicide in Wales: number with a history of alcohol or drug misuse (2013-2023)



Note: dashed lines represent estimated numbers in 2021-2023

5. MENTAL HEALTH CARE

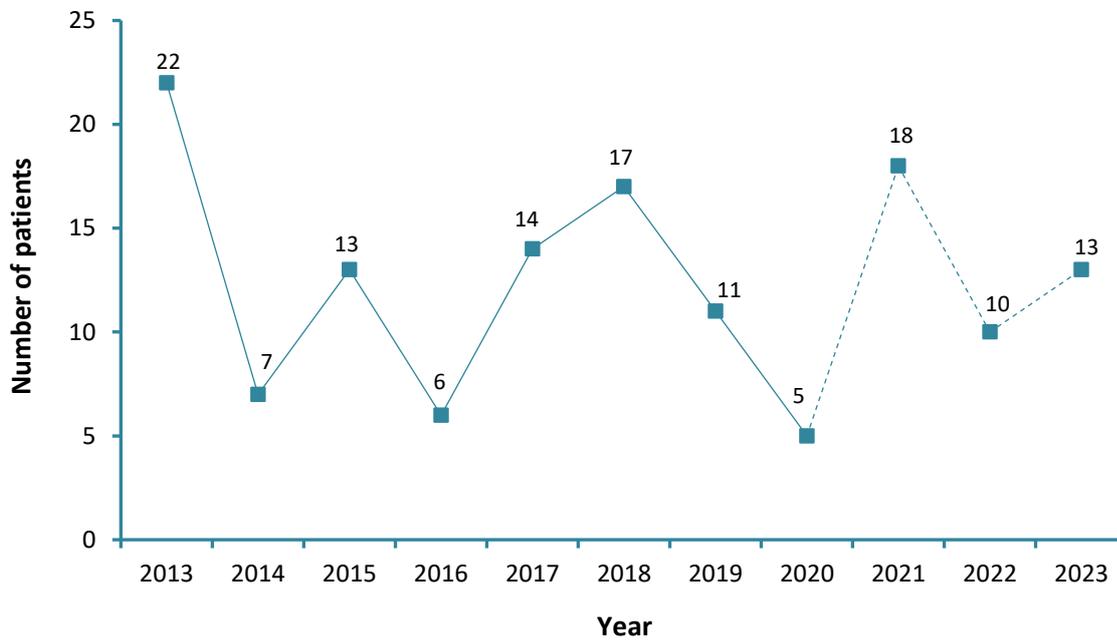
Table 4: Service characteristics of patients who died by suicide in Wales (2013-2023)

Characteristic	Total=915 [†]	
	Number	%
In-patient [†]	48	5
Recent (<3 months) discharge [†]	136	15
Under crisis resolution/home treatment services [†]	86	9
Missed last contact with services	152	20
Non-adherence with medication	105	14
Contact with services		
Last contact within 7 days of death	366	44
Short-term suicide risk: low or none	637	89
Long-term suicide risk: low or none	426	64

[†] includes estimated figures in 2021-2023

5.1 PATIENTS RECENTLY DISCHARGED FROM IN-PATIENT CARE

Figure 7: Patient suicide in Wales: number who died within 3 months of in-patient discharge (2013-2023)



Note: dashed lines represent estimated numbers in 2021-2023.