

NCISH Annual Report

UK patient data (2011-2021)



1,597

suicides by people under recent (within 12 months) mental health care in 2021

26%

of all people who died by **suicide** in 2011-2021 had **recent** contact with **mental health services**

Clinical care



48% lived alone



47% had alcohol misuse



54% had more than one mental health diagnosis

Clinical prevention should target these common risk factors

Acute mental health care settings



deaths per year



In-patients died under enhanced nursing observation



Highest risk 1-2 weeks after discharge

Prevention should focus on ward environment and careful transition to community

Autistic people or those with ADHD



deaths per year



Younger and more likely to identify as LGBT



Suiciderelated internet use common

Services should be aware of risks of online experience



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In-patients under 25





deaths per year

Mostly **female**; almost half had experienced **childhood abuse**



More **died on the ward** than in-patients aged 25+

Attention is needed to potential ligatures and ligature points



deaths per year

Fewer students under mental health care





More **depression** than other young patients

A clear pathway to NHS services is needed

Patients with a one-off assessment





deaths per year

Recent adverse life events common





Many had **no further follow-up**

Awareness of risk needed after single assessments



deaths per year

Younger, more acutely unwell





Increased use of parks/woodland

Local suicide prevention plans should address high risk locations