



Self-harm data, 2017 CHO Area 6

Table 1: Number of residents and person-based European age-standardised rates (EASR) per 100,000

		Persons	Age-standardised rate per 100,000
Dublin South East	Male	74	120
	Female	110	169
Dun Laoghaire	Male	73	118
	Female	127	194
Wicklow	Male	83	155
	Female	141	246
CHO Area 6	Male	230	124
	Female	378	200

For the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017, the Registry recorded 11,600 self-harm presentations to hospital that were made by 9,103 individuals nationally. In 2017, 230 male and 378 female residents of CHO Area 6 presented to EDs with an act of self-harm. Taking into account the population, the rate of persons presenting to hospital following self-harm was 124 and 200 per 100,000 for males and females respectively. Nationally, the rate of self-harm for males and females was 181 and 218 per 100,000 respectively.

Table 2: Presentations by age and gender

	<20yrs	20-24yrs	25-34yrs	35-44yrs	45-54yrs	55+yrs	Total
Male	50	54	72	50	32	22	280
Female	156	56	95	63	77	66	513

In 2017, there were 280 male and 513 female presentations of self-harm. Almost three-quarters (75%) of all presentation were made by those aged 15-44 years.

Table 3: Method of self-harm

Drug overdose	Alcohol*	Poisoning	Attempted Hanging	Attempted drowning	Self-cutting
546 (69%)	260 (33%)	17 (2%)	31 (4%)	18 (2%)	218 (28%)

*This includes presentations where alcohol was involved (not just as the main method of self-harm)

Drug overdose was the most common method of self-harm, involved in 69% of presentations (n=546). Alcohol was involved in 33% of presentations (n=260). Self-cutting was the only other common method, involved in 28% of presentations (n=218). There were 31 (4%) presentations involving attempted hanging while 18 (2%) involved attempted drowning.

Table 4: Repeat presentations by residents

	Male	Female	Total
Number of persons	230	378	608
Number who repeated	28	61	89
% repeating	12%	16%	15%

There were 608 individuals treated for 793 self-harm presentations in 2017. This implies that 23% (n=185) of the presentations in 2017 were due to repeat presentations. Based on persons, the rate of repetition was higher among women than men (16% and 12%, respectively).

Table 5: Repeat presentations by method

	Drug overdose	Alcohol*	Poisoning	Attempted Hanging	Attempted drowning	Self-cutting
Number of individuals treated	433	201	13	26	15	140
Number repeating	63	26	<10	<10	<10	31
Percentage repeating	15%	13%	-	-	-	22%

The rate of repetition varied with the method of self-harm involved in the self-harm act (Table 5). Of the commonly used methods of self-harm, drug overdose and alcohol were associated with a 15% and 13% rate of repetition, respectively. However, self-cutting was associated with a much higher rate of repetition (22%).

Table 6: Presentations to hospital in region

	Residents	Non-residents	Total
Other	631	144	775
St. James's Hospital	37	661	698
St. Michael's Hospital Dun Laoghaire	36	7	43
National Children's Hospital at Tallaght Hospital	27	58	85

The four main hospital residents from this area presented to were St. James's Hospital, St. Michael's Hospital Dun Laoghaire, National Children's Hospital at Tallaght Hospital, and another hospital whose ethics committee have requested the hospital is not named. For all patients seen in St. James's Hospital due to self-harm (n=698) 37 were residents of this area, while 631 residents presented to hospital 'Other'. For all self-harm patients seen in St. Michael's Hospital Dun Laoghaire (n=43) 36 were residents while 27 residents presented to the National Children's Hospital at Tallaght Hospital.

Table 7: Recommended next care for hospital-treated self-harm by residents of area

	Number	Percentage
General admission	182	23%
Psychiatric admission	14	2%
Left without being seen/ against medical advice	46	6%
Not admitted	551	70%
Total	793	100%

Overall, 6% of presentations left the emergency department before a next care recommendation could be made. Of all self-harm presentations, 23% resulted in admission to a ward of the treating hospital and 2% were admitted for psychiatric inpatient treatment from the emergency department. Most commonly, 70% of presentations were discharged following treatment in the emergency department.

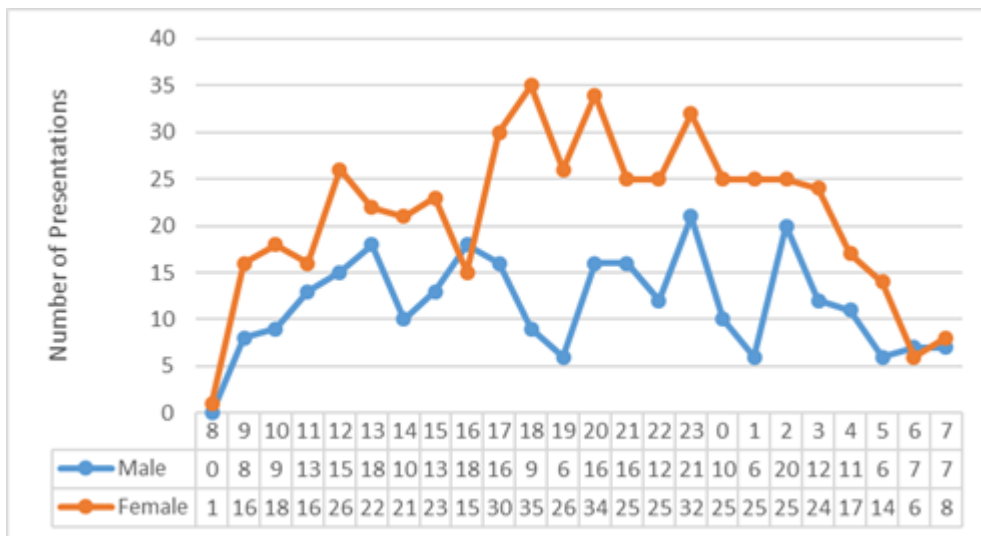


Figure 1: Self-harm presentations by time of attendance

There was a pattern in the number of self-harm presentations seen over the course of the day in 2017. The numbers for both men and women gradually increased during the day. The peak for men was 11pm and 2am, and the peak for women was 6pm and 8pm.



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Table 8: Self-harm presentations by month of attendance

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Number	65	75	72	60	91	47	67	54	57	82	56	67	793

Table 8 presents number of presentations in each calendar month. The monthly average number of self-harm presentations to hospitals in 2017 was 66. In 2017, May saw more self-harm presentations than any other month while June saw the fewest presentations for the year.

*To reference this data, please use the following citation: Griffin, E, Dillon, CB, McTernan, N, Arensman, E, Williamson, E, Perry, JJ, Corcoran, P, (2018). National Self-Harm Registry Ireland Annual Report 2017. Cork: National Suicide Research Foundation. For further information, please contact Eve or Niall: evegriffin@ucc.ie +353 21 420 5551 | www.nsrif.ie



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