



Self-harm data, 2017 CHO Area 7

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 City	Male	99	123
	Female	129	170
Dublin South West	Male	175	226
	Female	229	297
Kildare/ West Wicklow	Male	163	145
	Female	246	211
Dublin West	Male	157	208
	Female	188	246
CHO Area 7	Male	594	169
	Female	792	228

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, 594 male and 792 female residents of CHO Area 7 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 169 and 228 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

	<15yrs	15-19yrs	20-24yrs	25-34yrs	35-44yrs	45-54yrs	55+yrs	Total
Male	<15	99	144	194	144	94	70	751
Female	46	208	136	179	181	126	106	982

In 2017, there were 751 male and 982 female presentations of self-harm. Almost three-quarters (74%) 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
1197 (69%)	572 (33%)	25 (1%)	153 (9%)	34 (2%)	463 (27%)

*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=1197). Alcohol was involved in 33% of presentations (n=572). Self-cutting was the only other common method, involved in 27% of presentations (n=463). There were 153 (9%) presentations involving attempted hanging while 34 (2%) involved attempted drowning and 25 (1%) presentations involved poisoning.

Table 4: Repeat presentations by residents

	Male	Female	Total
Number of persons	594	792	1386
Number who repeated	87	122	209
% repeating	15%	15%	15%

There were 1386 individuals treated for 1733 self-harm presentations in 2017. This implies that almost one in five (347, 20%) of the presentations in 2017 were due to repeat presentations. Based on persons, the rate of repetition was the same for both men than women (15%).

Table 5: Repeat presentations by method

	Drug overdose	Alcohol*	Poisoning	Attempted Hanging	Attempted drowning	Self-cutting
Number of individuals treated	970	452	20	134	29	345
Number repeating	140	72	<10	13	<10	61
Percentage repeating	14%	16%	-	10%	-	18%

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, alcohol, drug overdose and attempting hanging were associated with a 16%, 14%, and 10% rate of repetition, respectively. However, self-cutting was associated with a slightly higher rate of repetition (18%).

Table 6: Presentations to hospital in region

	Residents	Non-residents	Total
Adelaide and Meath National Children's Hospital, Tallaght	529	51	580
St. James Hospital	468	230	698
Naas General Hospital	364	25	389
James Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown	119	393	512
National Children's Hospital at Tallaght Hospital	56	29	85
Other	71	704	775

The six main hospital residents from this area presented to were Adelaide and Meath National Children's Hospital, Tallaght, St James Hospital, Naas General Hospital, James Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown, 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 Adelaide and Meath National Children's Hospital, Tallaght due to self-harm (n=580) 529 were residents of the area, while 468 and 364 residents presented to St. James Hospital and Naas General Hospital, respectively. For all self-harm patients presenting to James Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown (n=512) 119 were



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residents, while 56 and 71 residents presented to the National Children's Hospital at Tallaght Hospital and Other, respectively.

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

	Number	Percentage
General admission	404	23%
Psychiatric admission	107	6%
Left without being seen/ against medical advice	221	13%
Not admitted	1001	58%
Total	1733	100%

Overall, 13% 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 6% were admitted for psychiatric inpatient treatment from the EDs. Most commonly, 58% of presentations were discharged following treatment in the emergency department.

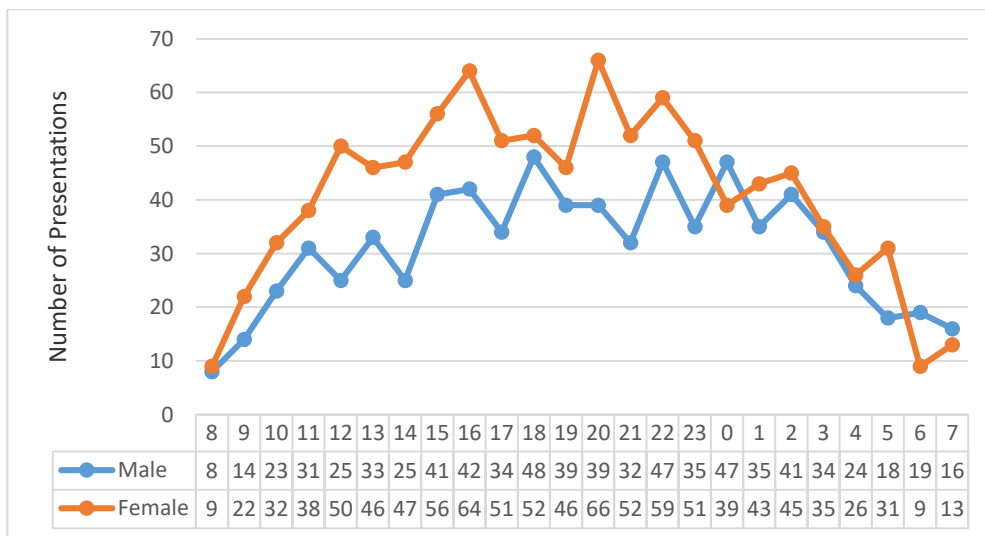


Figure 1: Self-harm presentations by time of attendance





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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 6pm and the peak for women was 8pm.

Table 8: Self-harm presentations by month of attendance

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Number	146	146	146	124	158	160	150	140	127	142	147	147	1733

Table 8 presents number of presentations in each calendar month. The monthly average number of self-harm presentations to hospitals in 2017 was 144. In 2017, May and June saw more self-harm presentations than any other month while April and September 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: evgriffin@ucc.ie +353 21 420 5551 | www.nsrif.ie



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