



Self-harm data, 2017 CHO Area 8

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

		Persons	Age-standardised rate per 100,000
Louth	Male	121	202
	Female	129	208
Meath	Male	123	142
	Female	172	187
Laois/ Offaly	Male	120	159
	Female	176	238
Longford/ Westmeath	Male	90	148
	Female	125	206
CHO Area 8	Male	454	160
	Female	602	209

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, 454 male and 602 female residents of CHO Area 8 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 160 and 209 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.





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Table 2: Presentations by age and gender

	<20yrs	20-24yrs	25-34yrs	35-44yrs	45-54yrs	55+yrs	Total
Male	81	89	178	89	101	43	581
Female	197	97	136	118	131	65	744

In 2017, there were 581 male and 744 female presentations of self-harm. Over half (53%) of all presentation were made by those aged 20-44 years.

Table 3: Method of self-harm

Drug overdose	Alcohol*	Poisoning	Attempted Hanging	Attempted drowning	Self-cutting
920 (69%)	544 (41%)	28 (2%)	78 (6%)	34 (3%)	331 (25%)

*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=920). Alcohol was involved in 41% of presentations (n=544). Self-cutting was the only other common method, involved in 25% of presentations (n=331). There were 78 (6%) presentations involving attempted hanging while 34 (3%) involved attempted drowning, and 28 (2%) presentations involved poisoning.

Table 4: Repeat presentations by residents

	Male	Female	Total
Number of persons	454	602	1056
Number who repeated	60	92	152
% repeating	13%	15%	14%

There were 1056 individuals treated for 1325 self-harm presentations in 2017. This implies that 20% (n=269) of the presentations in 2017 were due to repeat presentations. Based on persons, the rate of repetition was relatively similar for men and women (13% and 15%, respectively).



Table 5: Repeat presentations by method

	Drug overdose	Alcohol*	Poisoning	Attempted Hanging	Attempted drowning	Self-cutting
Number of individuals treated	752	439	21	69	29	233
Number repeating	101	66	<10	<10	<10	36
Percentage repeating	13%	15%	-	-	-	15%

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, self-cutting and drug overdose were associated with a 13%,15% and 15% rate of repetition, respectively.

Table 6: Presentations to hospital in region

	Residents	Non-residents	Total
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda	436	54	490
Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar	202	20	222
Our Lady's Hospital Navan	162	17	179
Midland Regional Hospital, Portlaoise	207	58	265
Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore	120	13	133

The five main hospital residents from this area presented to were Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda, Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar, Our Lady's Hospital, Navan, Midland Regional Hospital, Portlaoise and Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore. For all patients in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda due to self-harm (n=490) 436 were residents of this area, while 202 residents presented to Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar. For all self-harm patients presenting to Our Lady's Hospital, Navan (n=179) 162 were residents, while 207 and 120 residents presented to Midland Regional Hospital, Portlaoise and Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore, respectively.

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

	Number	Percentage
General admission	497	38%
Psychiatric admission	42	3%
Left without being seen/ against medical advice	200	15%
Not admitted	586	44%
Total	1325	100%

Overall, 15% of presentations left the emergency department before a next care recommendation could be made. Of all self-harm presentations, 38% resulted in admission to a ward of the treating hospital and 3% were admitted for psychiatric inpatient treatment from the emergency department. Most commonly, 44% of presentations were discharged following treatment in the emergency department.

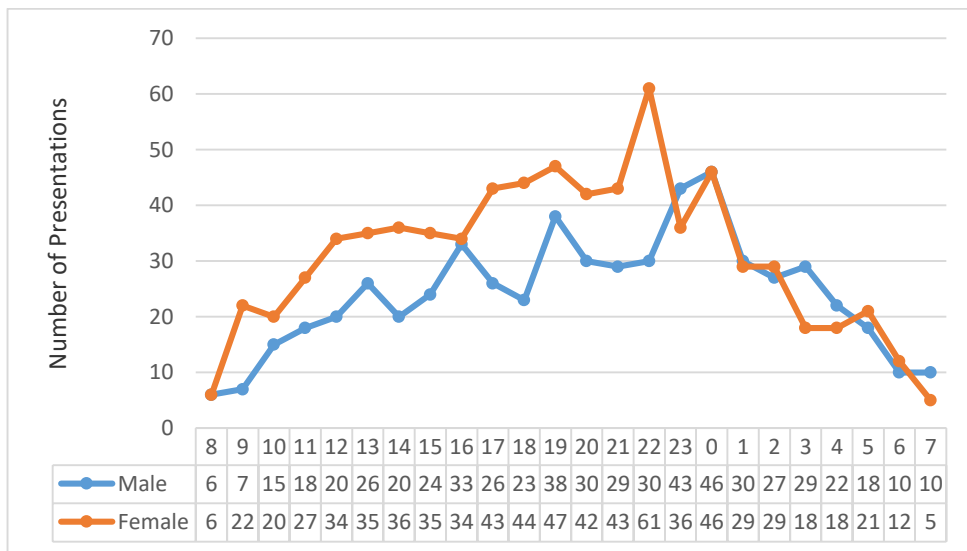


Figure 1: Self-harm presentations by time of attendance

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 time for men was midnight and the peak time for women was 10pm.



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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	115	114	132	108	116	107	113	99	111	108	101	101	1325

Table 8 presents number of presentations in each calendar month. The monthly average number of self-harm presentations to hospitals in 2017 was 110. In 2017, March saw more self-harm presentations than any other month while August 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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