

NCIS FACT SHEET

Intentional self-harm deaths in New Zealand in 2015

522

intentional self-harm deaths in 2015

10 deaths

per week on average

15.7%

of all reportable deaths in 2015

Intentional-self harm refers to a death that occurred due to purposefully self-inflicted poisoning or injury.

Intentional self-harm deaths occurred in a higher proportion of males than females. The majority of male deaths occurred in those aged 25 - 34 years, and females in those aged under 25 years. More than one third (39.8%) of all intentional self-harm deaths occurred in people aged between under 35 years.

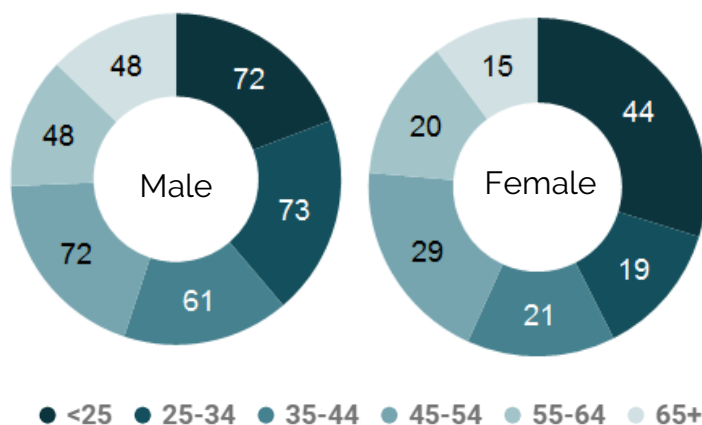


Figure 1. Frequency of intentional self-harm deaths by age group and sex, 2015



intentional self-harm deaths increased by 0.4 deaths per 100,000 from 2014 to 2015

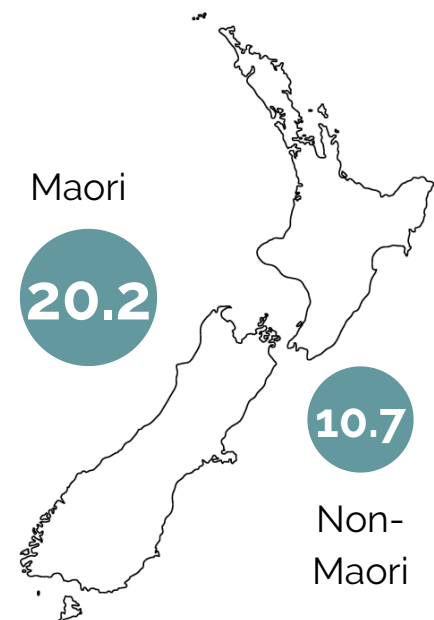


Figure 2. Rates of intentional self-harm deaths per 100,000 by ethnicity, 2015

The national rate of intentional self-harm deaths was 12.0 deaths per 100,000 population. Intentional self-harm deaths of Maori people was higher than the national rate, at 20.2 deaths per 100,000 (Figure 2).

The most common mechanism of injury in intentional self-harm deaths in 2015 was asphyxiation by hanging (Figure 3). This is consistent with 2014 data.

The percentage of hanging deaths decreased in the older age groups, while remaining the most common mechanism across all age groups. The percentage of firearm-related deaths increased in the older age groups while pharmaceutical drug toxicity peaked in those aged 55 - 64 years.

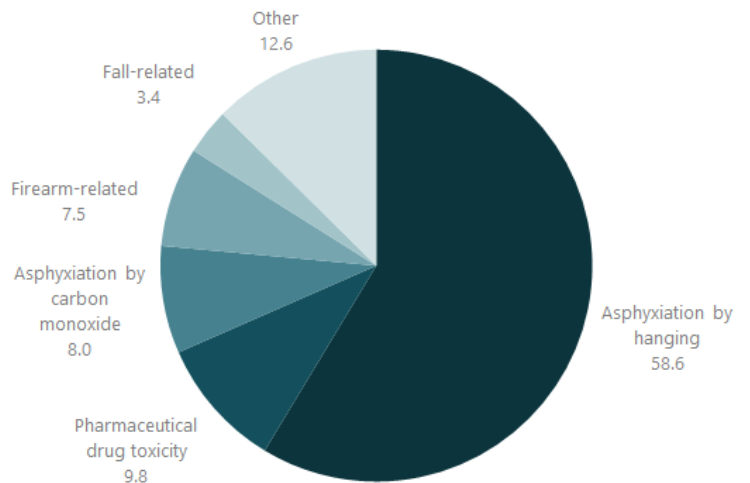
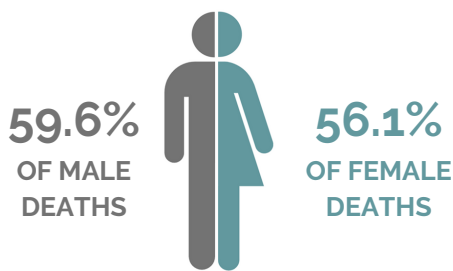


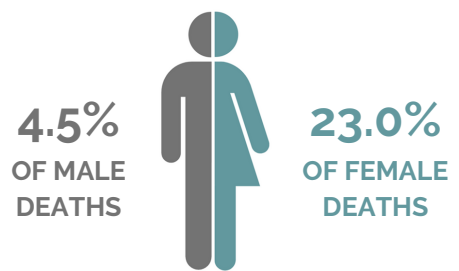
Figure 3. Percentage of intentional self-harm deaths by mechanism of death, 2015

Mechanism of injury by sex

HANGING



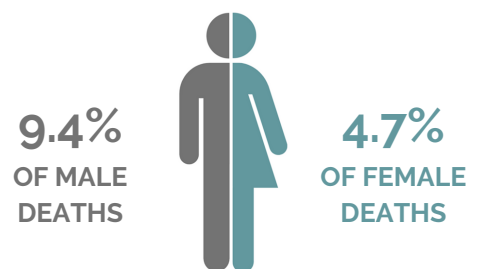
PHARMACEUTICAL DRUG TOXICITY



FIREARM-RELATED



CARBON MONOXIDE ASPHYXIA



The data presented in this fact sheet was extracted from the National Coronal Information System (NCIS) in May 2021. The dataset extracted contained every fatality reported to a New Zealand coroner between 1 January 2015 and 31 December 2015 that was coded as intentional self-harm, and where the coronial investigation had concluded and the case was closed on the NCIS. Population data was sourced from [Stats New Zealand](#). Visit the NCIS website for information on [data sources and limitations](#). To request a comprehensive data report, contact the NCIS or visit [www.ncis.org.au](#).

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