

# Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.4.4–Mortality due to suicide, 2019

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Indicator
<b>Indicator type:</b>	Indicator
<b>Short name:</b>	AHPF PI 3.4.4–Mortality due to suicide, 2019
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	715334
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Health</a>, Standard 09/04/2020</li></ul>

**Description:** The number of suicides per 100,000 Australians.

**Rationale:**

- Suicide is a leading cause of death among the general population, and people with mental illness are at even greater risk. Suicide rates are a commonly used global indicator of community mental health.
- All governments are committed to working together to achieve a decrease in the rate of suicide. Suicide prevention through access and maintained support is a key early intervention goal of current and future programs.
- Suicide is a complex problem that requires a whole of government response. Numerous factors, including age, gender, other health problems, social or geographic isolation and drug or alcohol problems, can influence an individual's risk of suicide. This complex interaction of biological, psychological and social factors can influence the outcomes of programs intended to reduce suicide rates.

**Indicator set:** [Australian Health Performance Framework, 2019](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 09/04/2020

## Collection and usage attributes

**Computation description:** The registration of deaths in Australia is the responsibility of state and territory Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages. As part of the registration process, information about the cause of death is supplied by the medical practitioner certifying the death or by a coroner. The information is provided to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) by individual Registrars for coding and compilation into aggregate statistics. In addition, the ABS supplements this data with information from the National Coronial Information System (NCIS).

Deaths that are referred to a coroner can take time to be fully investigated. To account for this, the ABS undertakes a revisions process for those deaths where coronial investigations remained open at the time an initial cause of death was assigned. Data are deemed preliminary when first published, revised when published the following year and final when published after a second year.

**Computation:** (Numerator ÷ Denominator) × 100,000

Rates are directly age-standardised to the 2001 Australian population. Presented per 100,000 population.

**Numerator:** Number of deaths

**Numerator data elements:**

**Data Element / Data Set**

**Data Element**

Person—underlying cause of death, code (ICD-10), ANN-ANN

**Data Source**

[AIHW National Mortality Database](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data  
Death by suicide is defined as ICD-10 codes X60–X84 and Y87.0

**Denominator:** Total Australian population

**Denominator data elements:**

**Data Element / Data Set**

**Data Element**

Person—projected Indigenous population of Australia, total people N[N(7)]

**Data Source**

[ABS Indigenous estimates and projections \(2016 Census-based\)](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Census-base data plus administrative by-product data

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—estimated resident population of Australia, total people N\[N\(7\)\]](#)

**Data Source**

[ABS Estimated resident population \(2016 Census-based\)](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Census-base data plus administrative by-product data

**Disaggregation:** 2008 to 2017—Nationally, by sex.

2017—State and territory, by sex.

2017—Primary Health Network (PHN), by sex.

2013–2017—Nationally by Indigenous status and sex.

Some disaggregations may result in numbers too small for publication.

Disaggregation by Indigenous status will be based on data only from jurisdictions for which the quality of Indigenous identification is considered acceptable—New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Northern Territory.

Due to the small number of Indigenous deaths reported each year, 5-year combined data will be reported for Indigenous status disaggregations.

**Disaggregation data elements:**

**Data Element / Data Set**

**Data Element**

Person—sex

**Data Source**

[AIHW National Mortality Database](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—Indigenous status, code N](#)

**Data Source**

[AIHW National Mortality Database](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—area of usual residence, statistical area level 2 \(SA2\) code \(ASGS 2016\) N\(9\)](#)

**Data Source**

[AIHW National Mortality Database](#)

**Guide for use**

Data source type: Administrative by-product data  
Used for disaggregations by state/territory and Primary Health Network

**Comments:** Most recent data available for 2019 Australian Health Performance Framework reporting:

- 2017
- Aggregated data 2013–2017 (Indigenous status)

Deaths registered in 2015 and earlier are based on the final version of cause of death data; deaths registered in 2016 are based on the revised version; and deaths registered in 2017 are based on the preliminary version. Revised and preliminary versions are subject to further revision by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

A number of updates to the ICD-10 were applied to the 2013 causes of death data. Details of the impact of these changes on the mortality data are described in [ABS Implementation of the Iris Software: Understanding Coding and Process Improvements](#).

2012 data are coded using ICD-10 (2006 version). 2013 data are coded using ICD-10 (2013 version). 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 data are coded using ICD-10 (2015 version).

Single year data will be reported for time series analysis.

Denominators used in the calculation of rates for the Indigenous population are ABS estimates (Series B, 2016 Census-based). Non-Indigenous estimates are only available for Census years; in the intervening years the population is calculated by subtracting the estimated Indigenous population from the total population Estimated Resident Population (ERP).

Indigenous and non-Indigenous analysis excludes records where Indigenous status was 'not stated'.

Due to the small number of Indigenous deaths reported each year, 5-year combined data will be reported for the current reporting period. For rate calculations, the average of the numerator is divided by the mid-point Indigenous population for the time period.

Data by remoteness and Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (IRSD) may be available, pending assessment of data quality.

## Representational attributes

**Representation class:** Rate  
**Data type:** Real  
**Unit of measure:** Person  
**Format:** N[NNN].N

## Indicator conceptual framework

**Framework and dimensions:** [4. Deaths](#)

## Data source attributes

**Data sources:****Data Source**

[ABS Indigenous estimates and projections \(2016 Census-based\)](#)

**Frequency**

Periodic

**Data custodian**

Australian Bureau of Statistics

**Data Source**

[AIHW National Mortality Database](#)

**Frequency**

Annual

**Data custodian**

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

**Data Source**

[ABS Estimated resident population \(2016 Census-based\)](#)

**Frequency**

Quarterly

**Data custodian**

Australian Bureau of Statistics

## Accountability attributes

**Reporting requirements:** Australian Health Performance Framework

**Organisation responsible for providing data:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:**

Has been superseded by [Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.4.4–Mortality due to suicide, 2020](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 13/10/2021

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