



Suicide is a preventable public health issue and a leading cause of death across the UK. Suicide takes a heavy toll on individuals, families and communities. Every suicide is a tragedy. The causes of suicide are complex and often represent the end point of a multifaceted history of risk factors as well as distressing external events. Hammersmith & Fulham has one of the highest suicide rates in London. This factsheet highlights some of the key indicators and risk factors of death by suicide in the London borough of Hammersmith & Fulham (LBHF).

Note: Suicide refers to all deaths from intentional self-harm for persons aged 10 years or over and deaths caused by injury or poisoning where the intent was undetermined for those aged 15 years and over.

KEY INDICATORS

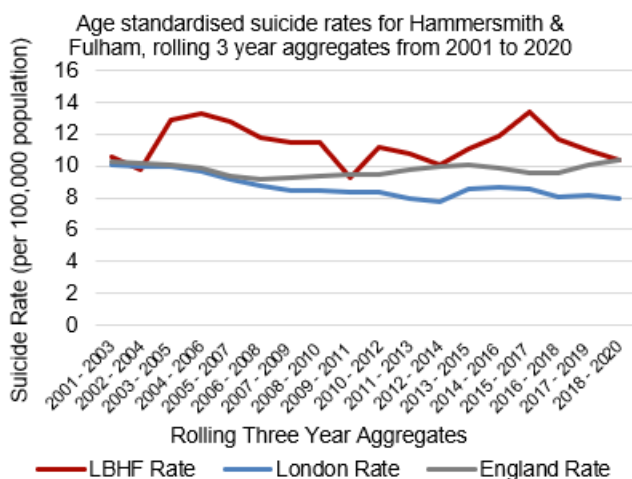
<p>Suicide Rate¹ (2018 – 20, per 100,000 population)</p> <p>10.4 ●</p>	<p>Hospital Admissions for Self-Harm² (per 100,000 population)</p> <p>73.9 ↓</p>	<p>Male-to-female suicide rate ratio¹</p> <p>2.75 : 1</p>
---	---	--

Suicide Rate & Demographics

Between 2001 and 2020, 339 deaths by suicide occurred among LBHF residents.

Suicide rate (Persons) ¹ per 100,000	10.4 ● London 8.0
Suicide rate (Male) ¹ per 100,000	15.4 ● London 12.1
Suicide rate (Female) ¹ per 100,000	5.6 ● London 4.0

Since 2001, the suicide rate in LBHF has not changed significantly. LBHF has had a consistently higher suicide rate than both London and England¹.

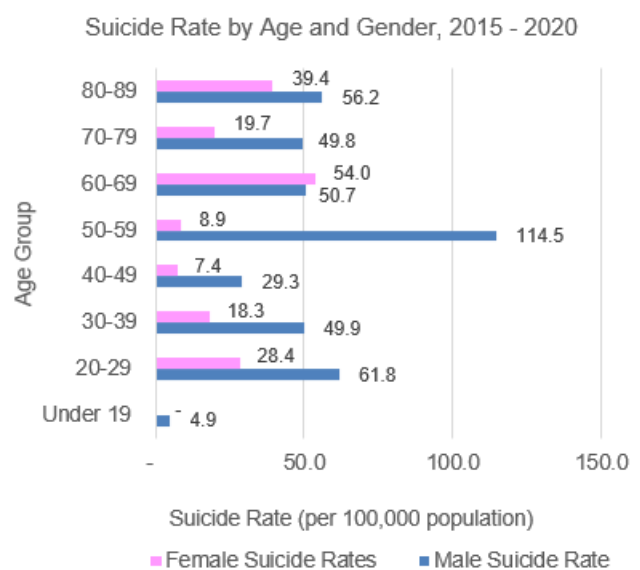


Age & Gender

In LBHF, 72% of deaths by suicide occurred among males and 28% occurred among females³.

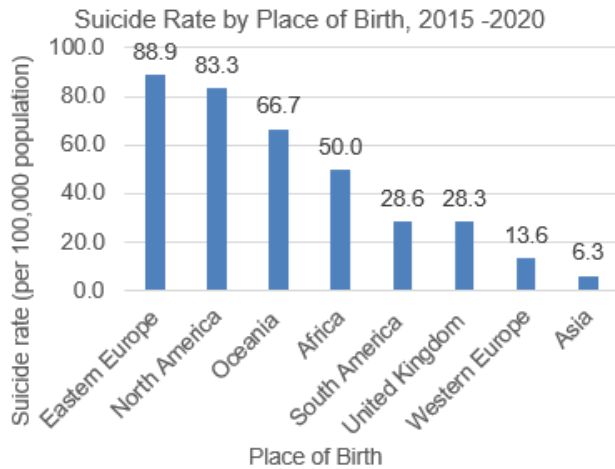


Irrespective of gender, the highest number of suicides occurs among residents aged 20-29. The highest suicide rate however is among males aged 50-59. Among females, the highest suicide rate is among those aged 60-69³.



Place of Birth

There is limited data collected regarding ethnicity of residents who have died by suicide. Suicide rate is highest among residents born in Eastern Europe³.



Occupation

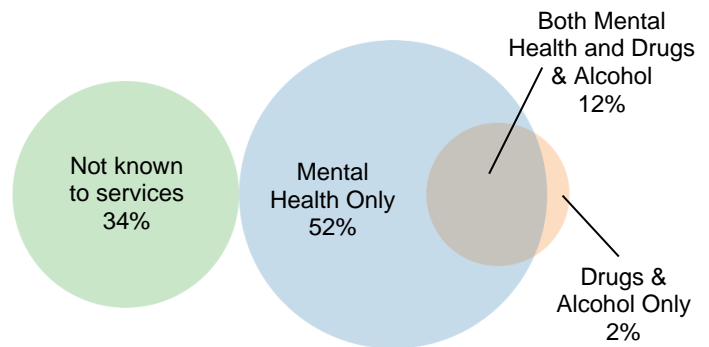
In LBHF, the highest rate of suicide is among residents working in Elementary Occupations, including cleaning and security, Skilled Trade Occupations, including those in construction, and Prisoners³.



Occupation	Suicide Rate (per 100,000)
1 Elementary Occupations	138.9
2 Skilled Trade Occupations	100.0
3 Prisoners	83.3

Service Interaction

In LBHF, the majority of residents (66%) who died by suicide between 2015 and 2020 were known either to Mental Health Services or Drug and Alcohol Services³.



Risk Factors

Certain known factors increase an individual's risk of suicide.



Depression Prevalence⁴ **6.6%** ↑
London 8.2%

Social Isolation² **74.2%** ●
Proportion of carers London 66.8%

Self-Harm Hospital Admissions² **73.9** ↓
per 100,000 population London 81.6

Crime Rate⁶ **222** ●
per 1,000 population London 181

Drug Misuse Treatment⁵ **6.2** ●
per 1,000 population London 4.2

Unemployment Rate⁷ **6.3%** ●
London 6.1%

Data sources:

- Office for National Statistics. (2021). Suicides in England and Wales by local authority.
- Public Health England. (2021). Fingertips - Public Health Profiles
- West London Coroner's Court. (2021). Deaths by Suicide.
- NHS Digital. (2019-20). Quality Outcomes Framework.
- National Drug Treatment Monitoring System. (2021). Adults in Treatment.
- Metropolitan Police. (2021). Crime Data Dashboard.
- Nomis. (2021). Labour Market Profile - Hammersmith and Fulham.

Data trends shown by: Increase/ negative: ↑
Updated: November 2021

Decrease, positive: ↓
Review Date: November 2022

No significant change: ●