SUICIDE AMONG OLDER ADULTS IN IRELAND: A NATIONAL STUDY

FINDINGS FROM 2015-2020 IRISH PROBABLE SUICIDE DEATHS STUDY (IPSDS)



USING NATIONAL DATA, WE STUDIED SUICIDE* IN OLDER ADULTS AGED 60 YEARS AND OLDER

12.0

PER 100,000

SUICIDE RATES FROM 2015-2020



*The IPSDS refers to probable suicides, which are referred to as suicides for the purposes of this study

74%
MALES

51%
MARRIED OR CO-HABITING

52%
LIVING ALONE

654

older adults died by suicide in 2015-2020

60-69

AGE GROUP

Had the highest suicide rates: 21.8 per 100,000

ON AVERAGE, EVERY

3-4 DAYS

1 OLDER ADULT DIES BY SUICIDE IN IRELAND

27%

DECREASE

IN SUICIDES AMONGST OLDER MALES WAS OBSERVED IN 2020 WHEN COMPARED TO 2015. DECREASE NOT OBSERVED IN FEMALES

DEATH BY HANGING MOST COMMON METHOD IN MALES, WHILE POISONING IN FEMALES

39% EXPERIENCED MENTAL HEALTH SYMPTOMS



36% HAD A PHYSICAL HEALTH CONDITION

Troya MI, Corcoran P, Doherty A, Kavalidou K, Lonergan C, Mughal F, Norton M, Arensman, E and the Lived Experience Advisory Group. Suicide among older adults in Ireland: A national case series of coronial data, 2015–2020. BMJ Mental Health

HRB Health Research Board

UCC University College Cork, Ireland Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

NSRF National Suicide Research Foundation