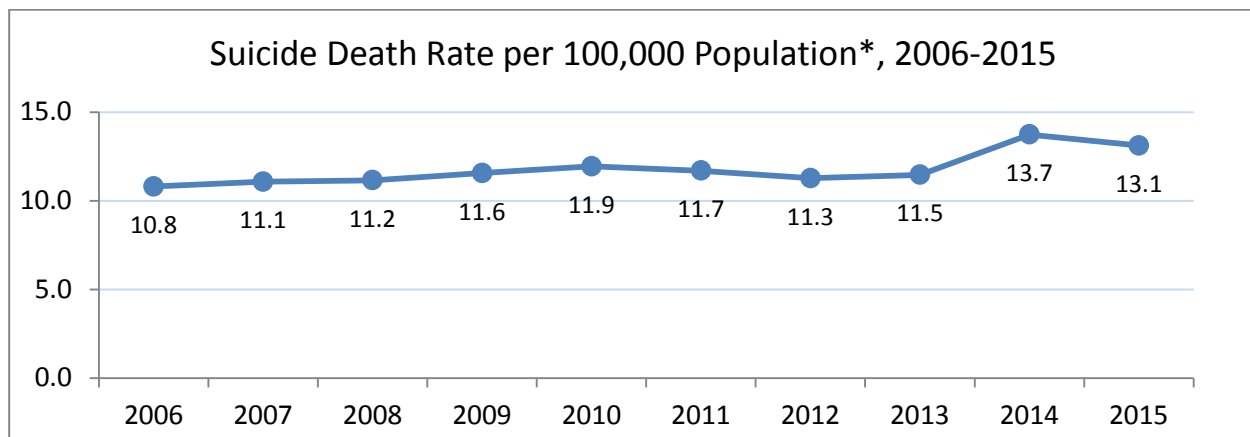


This report summarizes all deaths classified as suicide between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2015. Suicide is defined as death resulting from self-inflicted injury, with the intent to cause death.

The BCCS operates in a live database environment. The data are considered preliminary until all investigations have been completed. Data are subject to change, and are not directly comparable to published counts from previous years. See p. 6 for policy changes that may have impacted the 2014/15 rates.



* Population estimates obtained from BCStats, www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca

Total Suicide Deaths in BC by Gender, 2006 – 2015 year of death											
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Average
Female	106	129	126	113	110	133	128	143	154	147	128.9
Male	352	346	359	397	423	393	384	382	483	467	398.6
Total	458	475	485	510	533	526	512	525	637	614	527.5

Suicide Deaths in BC by Age Group, 2006 – 2015 year of death											
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Average
10-19	18	17	19	19	36	25	22	14	33	26	22.9
20-29	60	79	65	66	81	70	64	68	72	88	71.3
30-39	55	71	61	91	89	80	73	84	81	75	76.0
40-49	107	107	129	108	95	91	108	97	120	88	105.0
50-59	100	103	86	107	115	125	105	112	140	162	115.5
60-69	56	48	63	64	50	67	66	74	93	88	66.9
70-79	35	33	29	34	39	38	35	38	54	45	38.0
80+	27	17	33	21	28	30	39	38	43	42	31.8
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	-
Total	458	475	485	510	533	526	512	525	637	614	527.5

Suicide Deaths in BC, Child & Youth, 2006 – 2015 year of death											
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Average
Child (<19)	15	11	14	11	31	18	17	12	25	19	17.3
Adult (19+)	443	464	471	499	502	508	495	513	612	595	510.2
Total	458	475	485	510	533	526	512	525	637	614	527.5

Suicide Deaths in BC by Month of Death, 2006 – 2015											
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Average
January	36	47	33	41	45	35	37	47	60	56	43.7
February	36	27	38	31	42	46	44	43	49	45	40.1
March	38	34	45	45	49	38	44	41	56	45	43.5
April	29	45	40	28	38	44	36	35	60	51	40.6
May	35	40	42	50	57	40	49	54	45	60	47.2
June	48	34	47	40	36	43	37	47	47	53	43.2
July	42	55	37	59	45	42	42	49	45	56	47.2
August	35	38	35	37	45	50	52	39	56	58	44.5
September	41	44	49	44	53	48	48	48	55	49	47.9
October	50	36	40	49	52	47	42	39	58	60	47.3
November	25	46	36	39	36	46	36	43	56	33	39.6
December	43	29	43	47	35	47	45	40	50	48	42.7
Total	458	475	485	510	533	526	512	525	637	614	527.5

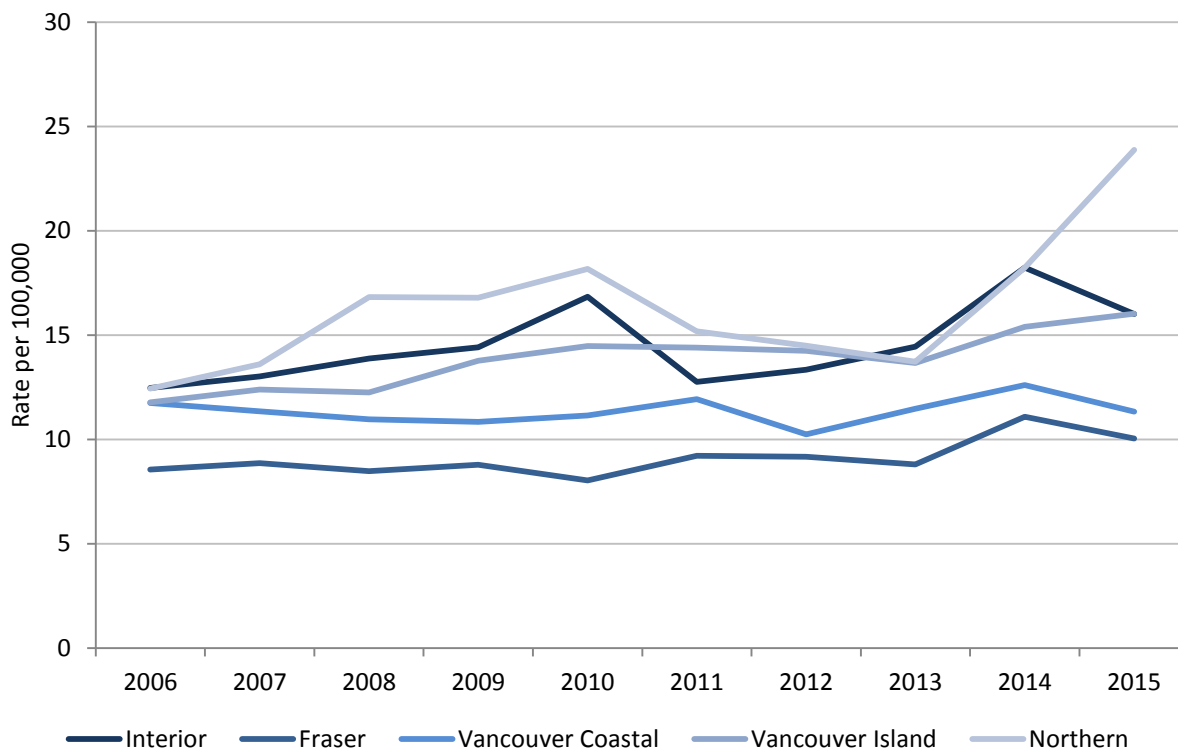
Means of Suicide Deaths in BC, 2006-2014											
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Average*
Hanging	155	154	162	203	207	196	192	186	250	177	189.4
Poisoning: Alcohol/ Drugs/Other	96	110	99	103	98	101	98	91	118	95	101.6
Fire Arms	78	69	78	70	79	67	78	86	80	103	76.1
Fall/Jump	39	42	54	37	47	36	56	48	50	50	45.4
CO Poisoning	38	33	38	28	28	26	15	20	37	21	29.2
Suffocation/Smothering	8	12	12	16	22	29	31	24	19	25	19.2
Stabbing/Cutting	11	12	11	19	14	28	11	29	27	18	18
Drowning	13	21	13	9	12	15	9	8	15	15	12.8
MVI	8	8	8	7	5	11	8	9	6	5	7.8
Railway	6	5	1	1	4	5	3	3	5	4	3.7
Fire	1	2	1	5	5	2	4	5	5	2	3.3
SkyTrain	0	5	3	3	3	2	1	3	4	3	2.7
Exposure: Cold	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1.2
Electrical	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.6
Other	3	0	2	5	8	7	2	4	6	3	4.1
Under investigation	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	7	13	92	2.8
Total	458	475	485	510	533	526	512	525	637	614	

*Average based on 2006-2014 data as there are 2015 cases under investigation.

Suicide Deaths in BC by Health Authority, 2006 - 2015 year of death											
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Average
Interior	86	91	99	104	121	92	96	104	133	118	104.4
Fraser	127	134	131	139	130	151	153	149	190	175	147.9
Vancouver Coastal	125	122	118	118	123	132	115	130	145	131	125.9
Vancouver Island	85	90	90	102	108	108	107	103	117	123	103.3
Northern	35	38	47	47	51	43	41	39	52	67	46.0
Total	458	475	485	510	533	526	512	525	637	614	527.5

Rate of Suicide Deaths in BC by Health Authority per 100,000 persons, 2006 - 2015											
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
Interior	12.5	13.0	13.9	14.4	16.8	12.8	13.3	14.5	18.2	16.0	
Fraser	8.6	8.9	8.5	8.8	8.0	9.2	9.2	8.8	11.1	10.0	
Vancouver Coastal	11.7	11.4	11.0	10.8	11.2	11.9	10.2	11.5	12.6	11.3	
Vancouver Island	11.8	12.4	12.2	13.8	14.5	14.4	14.3	13.7	15.4	16.0	
Northern	12.4	13.6	16.8	16.8	18.2	15.2	14.5	13.7	18.2	23.9	
Total	10.8	11.1	11.2	11.6	11.9	11.7	11.3	11.5	13.7	13.1	

Rate of Suicide Deaths in BC by Health Authority, 2006-2015



Suicide Deaths in BC by Health Services Delivery Area, 2006 - 2015

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Average
East Kootenay	12	11	14	15	17	14	11	10	17	15	13.6
Kootenay Boundary	8	10	7	12	12	8	13	7	19	11	10.7
Okanagan	40	39	53	42	53	42	40	47	61	57	47.4
Thompson Cariboo	26	31	25	35	39	28	32	40	36	35	32.7
Fraser East	24	35	29	31	25	36	31	41	36	50	33.8
Fraser North	52	57	48	54	41	58	57	50	66	59	54.2
Fraser South	51	42	54	54	64	57	65	58	88	66	59.9
Richmond	18	11	15	9	9	8	10	15	10	12	11.7
Vancouver	79	85	69	72	81	71	74	85	92	74	78.2
North Shore/Coast Garibaldi	28	26	34	37	33	53	31	30	43	45	36
South Vancouver Island	32	43	37	42	50	53	53	41	50	46	44.7
Central Vancouver Island	33	35	30	42	36	31	41	43	48	49	38.8
North Vancouver Island	20	12	23	18	22	24	13	19	19	28	19.8
Northwest	11	15	14	15	17	16	8	11	16	21	14.4
Northern Interior	18	13	22	21	25	18	18	15	18	33	20.1
Northeast	6	10	11	11	9	9	15	13	18	13	11.5
Total	458	475	485	510	533	526	512	525	637	614	527.5

Rate of Suicide Deaths in BC by Health Services Delivery Area per 100,000 persons, 2006 - 2015										
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
East Kootenay	16.0	14.6	18.2	19.4	22.1	18.2	14.4	13.1	22.1	19.5
Kootenay Boundary	10.6	13.1	9.0	15.4	15.4	10.2	16.7	9.1	24.5	14.2
Okanagan	12.3	11.7	15.5	12.1	15.3	12.1	11.5	13.5	17.2	15.7
Thompson Cariboo	12.2	14.5	11.5	16.0	17.9	12.8	14.7	18.3	16.3	15.9
Fraser East	9.0	13.0	10.6	11.1	8.8	12.7	10.9	14.3	12.4	16.9
Fraser North	9.2	9.9	8.2	9.0	6.7	9.4	9.1	7.9	10.2	9.0
Fraser South	7.8	6.3	7.9	7.7	8.8	7.7	8.6	7.6	11.3	8.3
Richmond	9.9	5.9	8.0	4.7	4.6	4.1	5.0	7.5	4.9	5.8
Vancouver	12.9	13.7	11.1	11.5	12.8	11.2	11.5	13.0	13.9	11.1
North Shore/Coast Garibaldi	10.4	9.7	12.7	13.6	12.0	19.2	11.1	10.8	15.2	16.0
South Vancouver Island	9.0	12.0	10.3	11.6	13.6	14.4	14.3	11.0	13.4	12.2
Central Vancouver Island	13.1	13.9	11.7	16.3	13.8	11.8	15.7	16.4	18.1	18.3
North Vancouver Island	17.4	10.3	19.5	15.1	18.4	20.0	10.9	15.9	15.8	23.1
Northwest	14.6	20.3	18.9	20.4	23.1	21.7	10.9	15.0	21.8	29.0
Northern Interior	12.8	9.3	15.7	15.0	17.8	12.7	12.8	10.6	12.7	23.8
Northeast	9.2	15.3	16.9	16.7	13.6	13.3	21.9	18.7	25.5	18.7
Total	10.8	11.1	11.2	11.6	11.9	11.7	11.3	11.5	13.7	13.1

Suicide Deaths by Top Townships of Injury, 2006-2015 *Top 10 townships displayed										
Township	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Vancouver	79	85	69	72	81	71	74	85	92	74
Surrey	30	29	30	32	38	39	37	32	64	47
Victoria	24	36	25	36	39	37	36	25	36	27
Burnaby	18	23	12	21	13	25	21	17	26	17
Kelowna	9	16	23	16	21	15	17	20	22	21
North Vancouver	6	10	11	14	17	19	12	13	15	11
Langley	13	9	15	17	13	9	11	15	15	18
Abbotsford	9	9	12	15	5	13	6	12	13	19
Prince George	12	7	10	16	15	11	9	8	10	18
Richmond	18	11	15	9	9	8	10	15	10	12
Other Townships	240	240	263	262	282	279	279	283	334	350
Total	458	475	485	510	533	526	512	525	637	614

Notes:

1. In September 2014, a policy change resulted in the determination of suicide being made on a balance of probabilities rather than the requirements of the *Beckon Test*. The Beckon Test had been implemented as a result of the 1992 Ontario Court of Appeal decision in *Beckon v Young* which required that a higher degree of probability was required to classify a death as a suicide.

In October, 2008, the Supreme Court of Canada's decision in *F.H. v. Hugh McDougall* determined that the only civil standard of proof is proof on the **balance of probabilities**. This decision resulted in a BC Coroners Service policy change in 2014 to the criteria for suicide classification. A coroner or jury now applies the standard of balance of probabilities in classifying a death as suicide.

The 2014/2015 suicide numbers may have been impacted by this policy change.

2. Population estimates were taken from:
<http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/StatisticsBySubject/Demography/PopulationEstimates.aspx>
3. Health Region breakdowns can be found at:
<http://www.bcstats.gov.ca/statisticsbysubject/geography/referencemaps/health.aspx>