

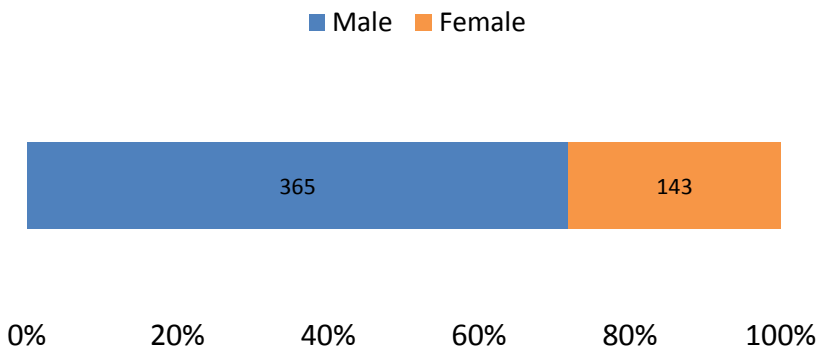
An overview of suicide statistics

This document summarises information about suicide deaths in New Zealand covering up to 2013. It does not attempt to explain causes of suicidal behaviour or causes of changes to suicide rates.

508 the number of suicide deaths in 2013

11.0 deaths per 100,000 people was the suicide rate in 2013

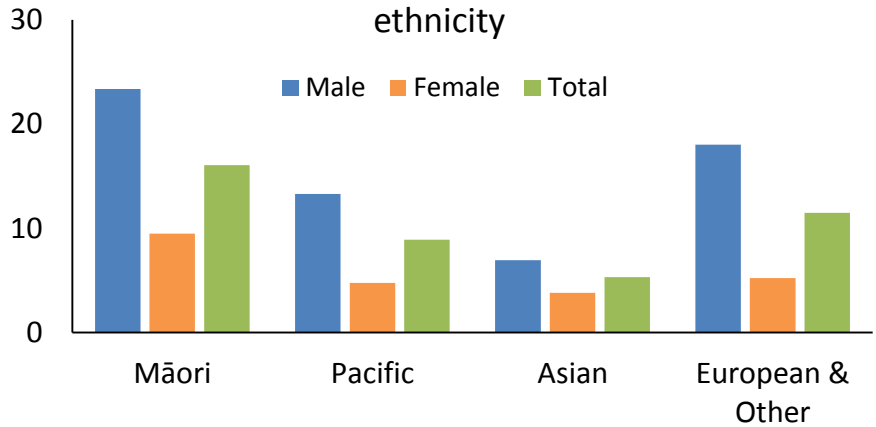
Suicide deaths in 2013 by gender



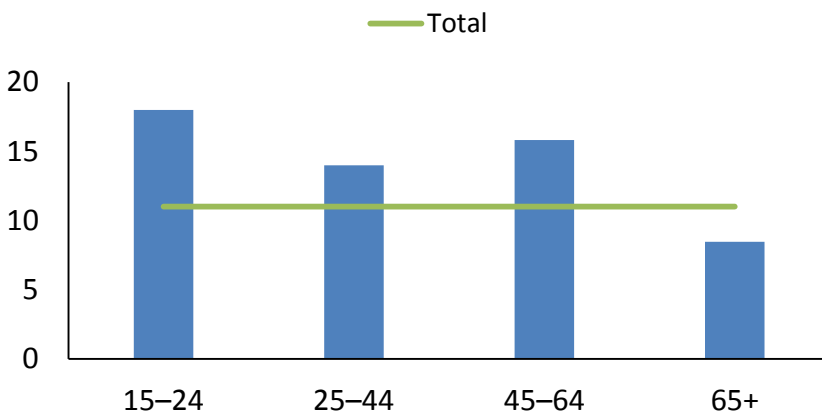
2.5 times more men died by suicide than women in 2013

Māori have higher suicide rates than other ethnic groups

NZ suicide death rate (per 100,000) by ethnicity



Suicide rate in 2013 by life-stage age group



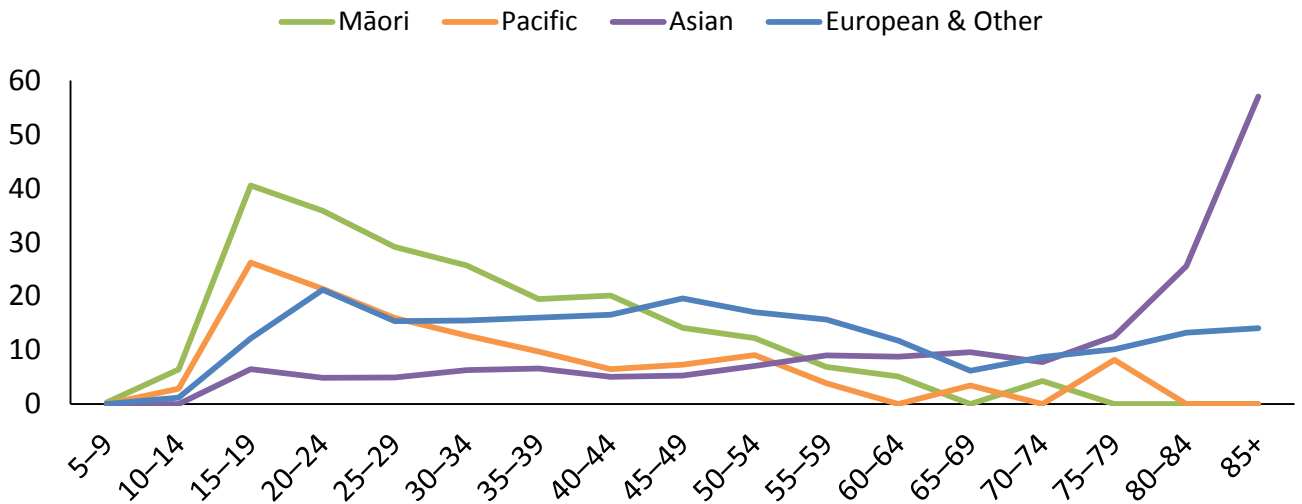
Youth (15–24 years) have higher suicide rates than other life stage age groups

Ethnicity and Deprivation

Suicide rates among Māori and Pacific peoples decrease with age whereas suicide rates among European and Other people do not.

Māori youth have higher suicide rates than youth from other ethnic groups.

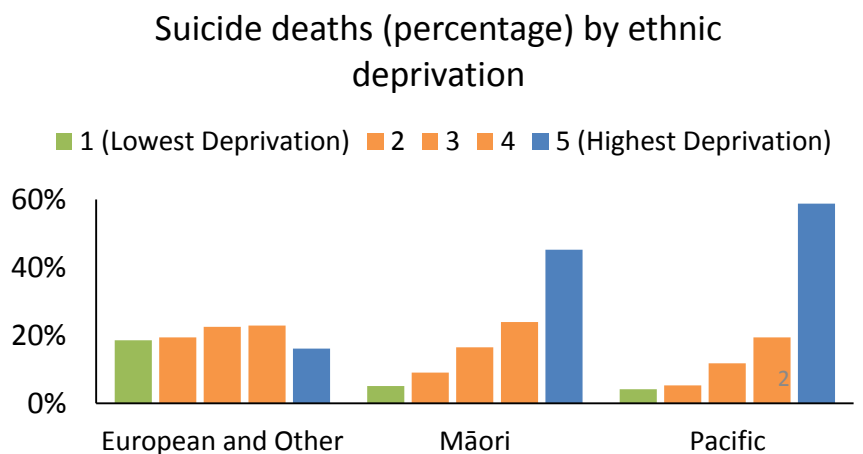
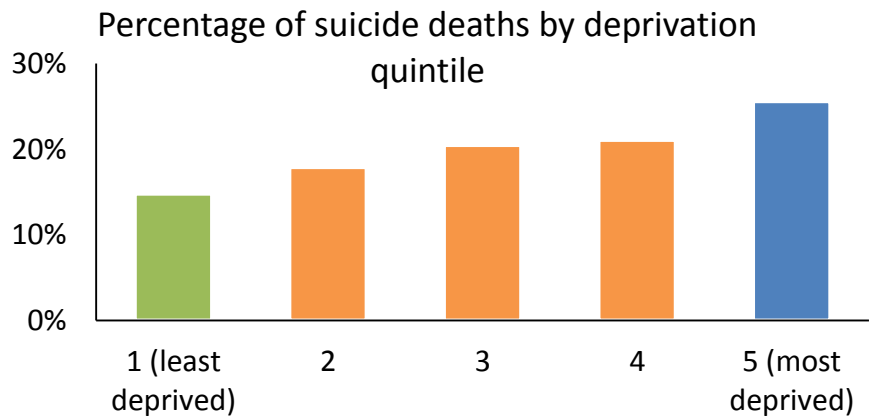
Suicide rates by ethnicity and five-year age group (from 5 years of age), 2009-2013



In 2013 suicide rates increased with level of deprivation.

More Māori and Pacific people living in the most deprived areas died by suicide than Māori and Pacific people living in less deprived areas.

European and Other people suicide rates do not increase with level of deprivation.

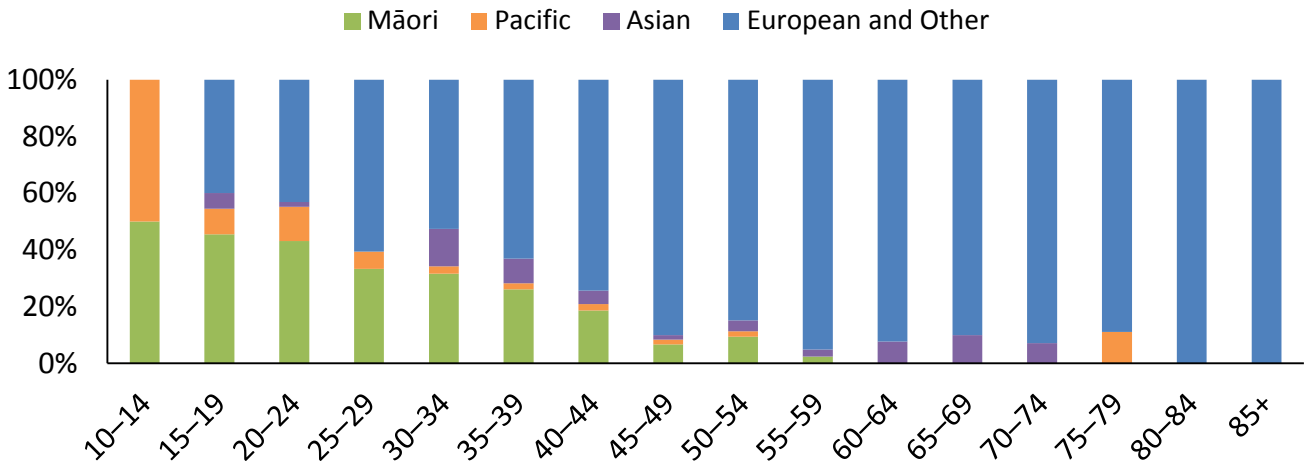


Age and trends over time

Suicide rates among Māori and Pacific peoples decrease with age whereas suicide rates among European and Other people do not.

Māori youth have higher suicide rates than youth from other ethnic groups.

Percentage of suicide deaths by age and ethnicity 2013



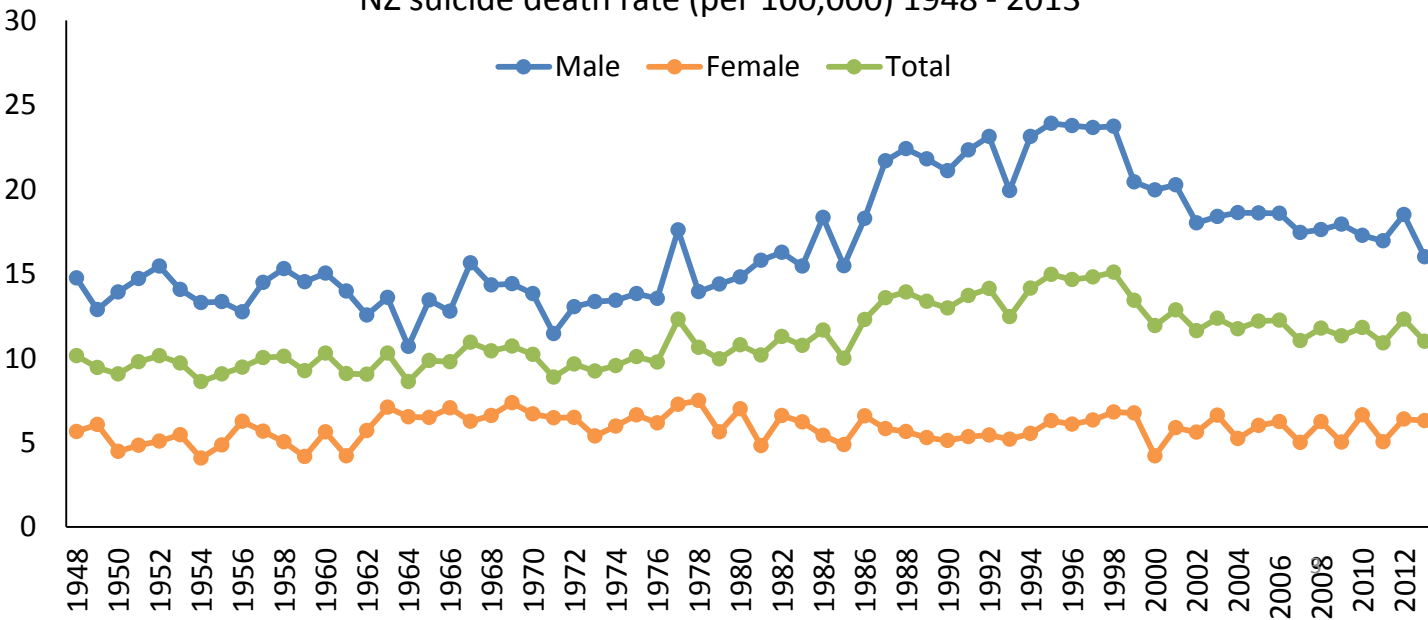
15.1 deaths per 100,000 in 1998 – the highest suicide rate since records began.

Approximately **27% decrease** in suicide rates since 1998.

Almost **10% decrease** in suicide rates between 2006 and 2013.

Suicide rates for **males** have **changed more** over time than suicide rates for females.

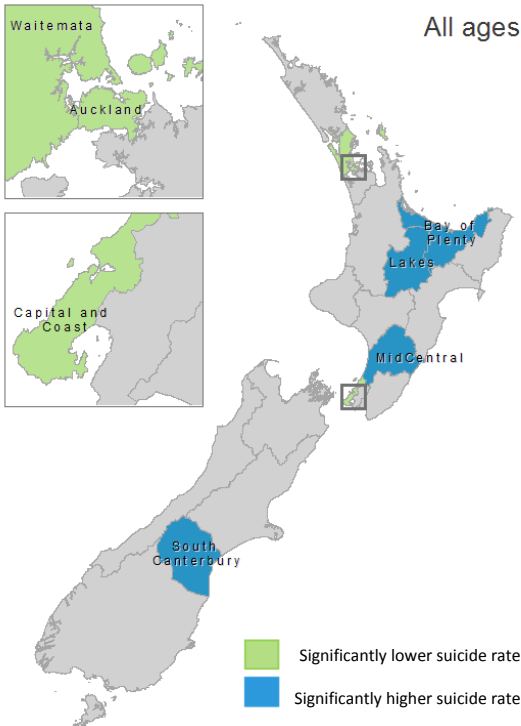
NZ suicide death rate (per 100,000) 1948 - 2013



Geographical location

Bay of Plenty, Lakes, MidCentral and South Canterbury DHB regions have significantly higher suicide rates than the national average.

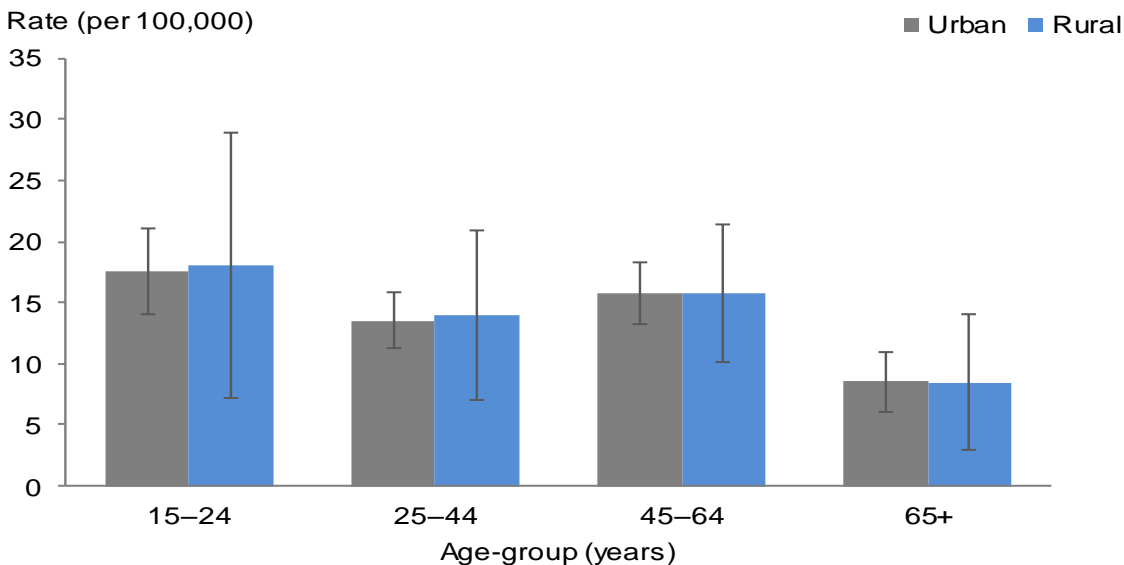
Waitemata, Auckland and Capital & Coast DHB regions have significantly lower suicide rates than the national average.



There is **little difference** in rates of **urban and rural suicide**, for each life-stage group.

The differences are **not statistically significant**.

Rate of suicide, by urban/rural profile and life-stage age group, 2013



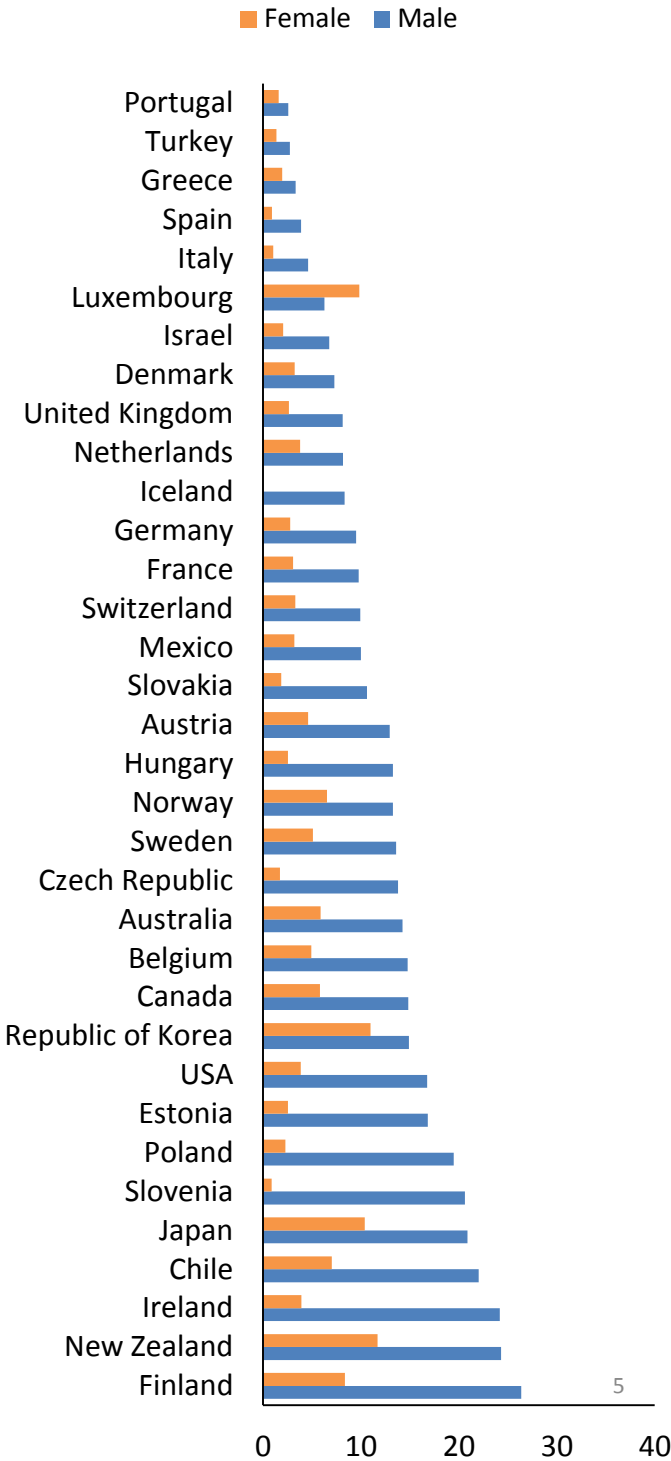
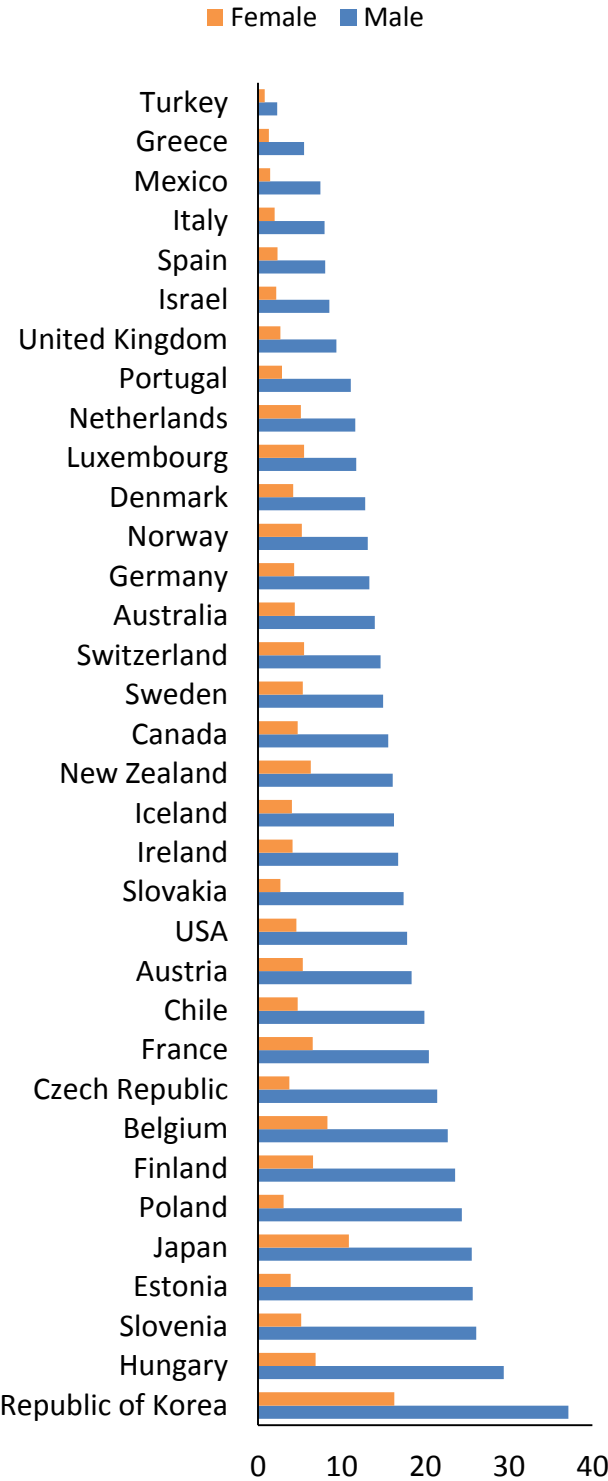
International comparisons

Compared with other countries in the OECD, **New Zealand's suicide rates** (males and females) are towards the middle of the range.

New Zealand's male youth suicide rate was the **third highest** and **New Zealand's female youth suicide rate** was the **highest**.

Total suicide rates per 100,000 in the OECD for males and females

Total youth suicide rates per 100,000 in the OECD for males and females

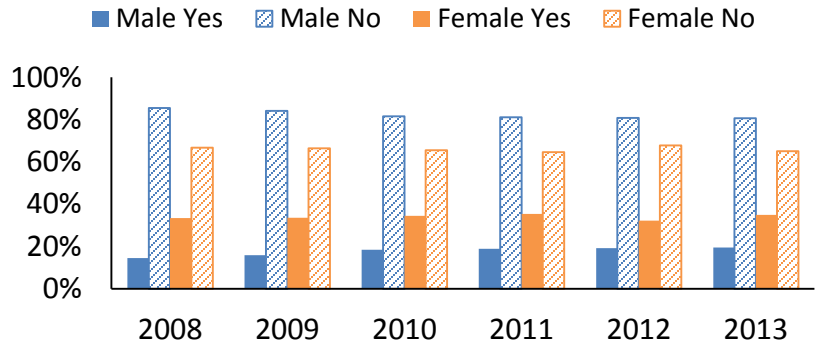


Health service use

Around **30%** of people who died by suicide **were hospitalised for self harm** in the year before they died.

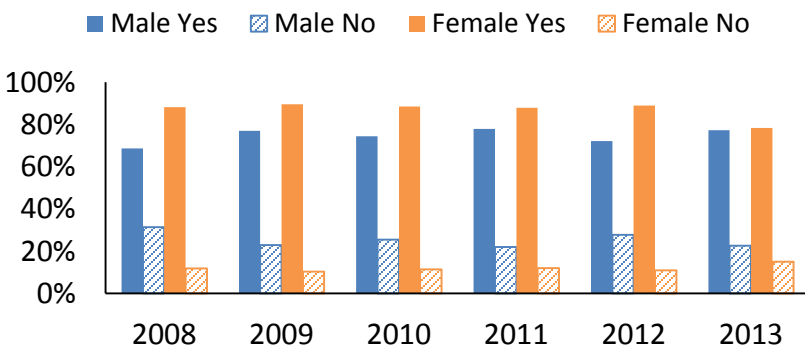
More **women** who died by suicide **were hospitalised for self harm** before they died.

Suicide deaths 2008-2013 by self harm hospitalisation*



*in the year preceding death

Suicide deaths 2008-2013 by GP service use*



*in the year preceding death

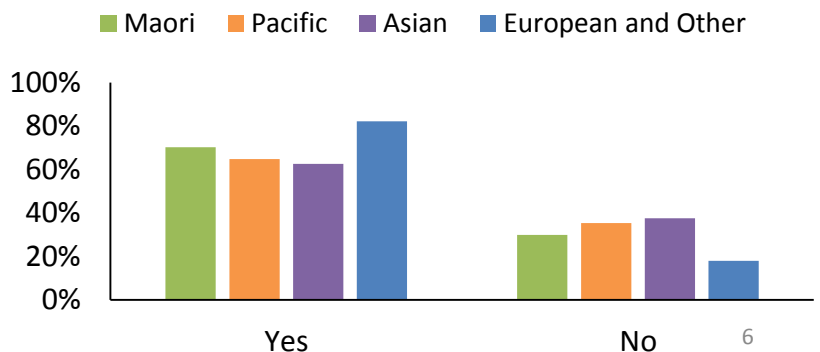
Around **20%** of people who died by suicide **did not use a GP service** in the year before they died.

More **men** who died by suicide **did not use a GP service** in the year before they died

Around **82%** of European and Other people who died by suicide **used a GP service** in the year before they died.

Asian, Māori and Pacific people who died by suicide were **less likely to use a GP service** in the year before they died

Suicide deaths and GP service use* by ethnicity

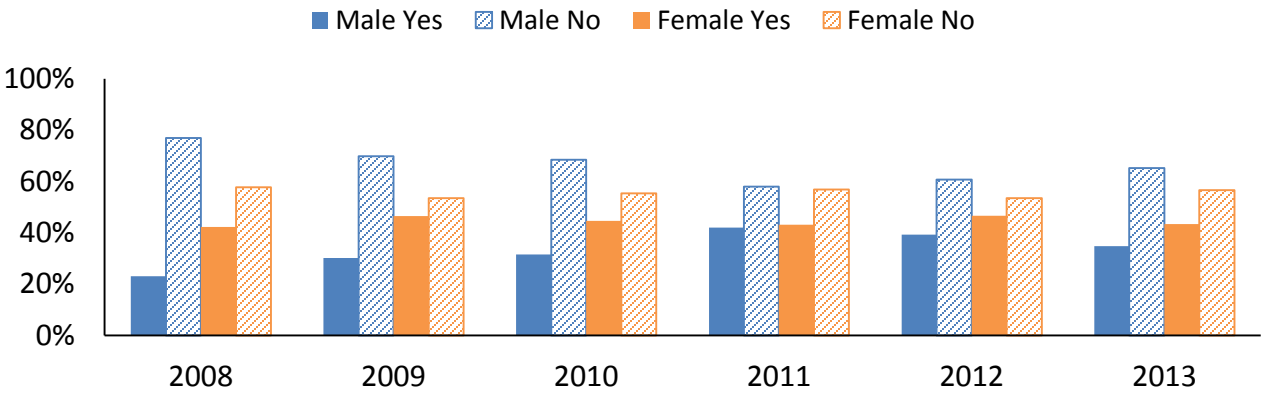


*in the year preceding death

Mental health service use

On average **40%** of people who died by suicide **accessed mental health services** in the year before they died.

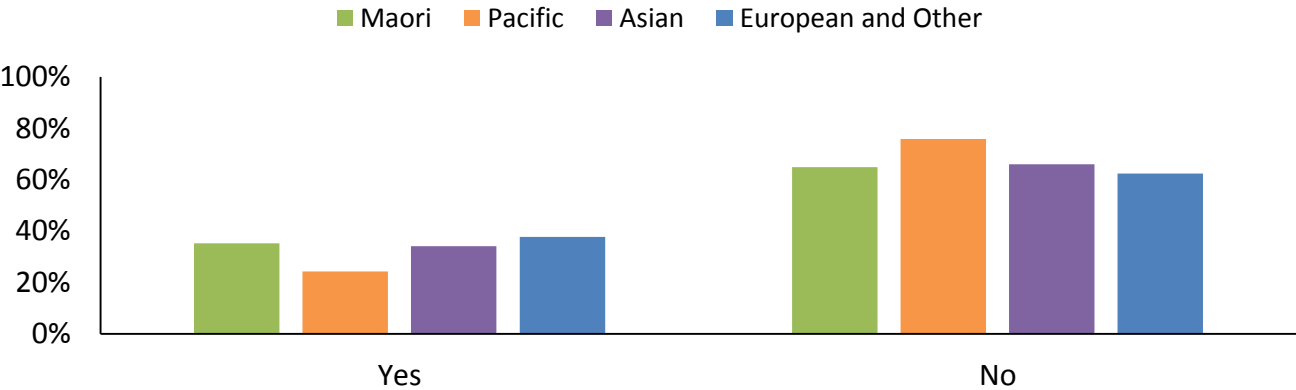
Suicide deaths 2008-2013 by acute mental health service use*



*in the year preceding death

Pacific people were less likely to have accessed mental health services than people from other ethnic groups in the year before they died by suicide.

Suicide deaths and acute mental health service use* by ethnicity



*in the year preceding death

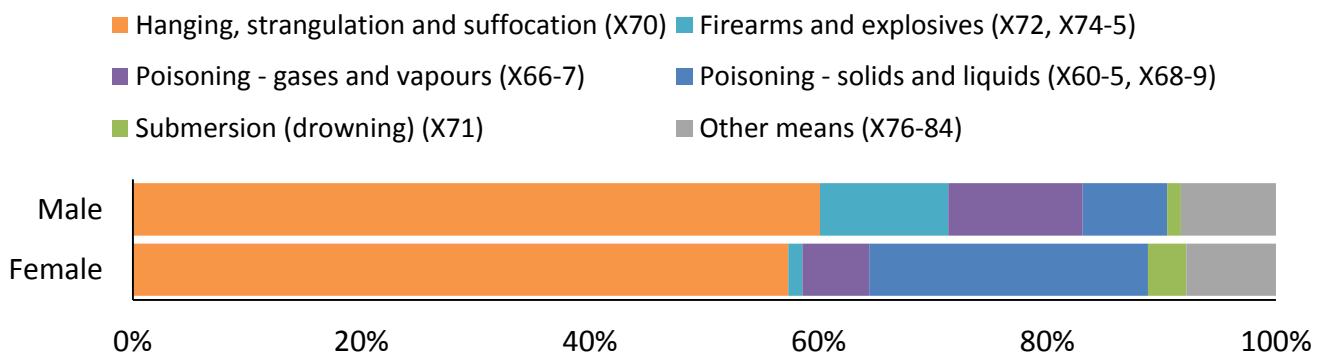
Method

Hanging, strangulation and suffocation is the most common method.

More females use poisoning by solids and liquids as a method than males.

More males use firearms and explosives as a method than females.

Method of suicide death



Māori, Pacific and Asian people use hanging, strangulation and suffocation as a method more than European and Other people

More European and Other people use firearms and explosives, and poisoning as a method than people from other ethnic groups

Method of suicide death by ethnicity

