

Addendum to Rural Suicide and its Prevention: a CRRMH Position Paper

Note to reader:

Some of the data presented in this *Rural Suicide and its Prevention* position paper reflects 2016 data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) (2017)¹.

In October 2020, the ABS released **2019** data which showed that:

- The overall suicide rate for the whole of Australia was 12.9 per 100,000
- The rate of suicide in all of Australia's **Greater Capital Cities** combined was 10.8 per 100,000
- The rate of suicide for combined areas **outside the Greater Capital Cities** was 67% higher at 17.5 per 100,000
- The number of deaths **outside the Greater Capital Cities** comprised 42% of suicide deaths in Australia

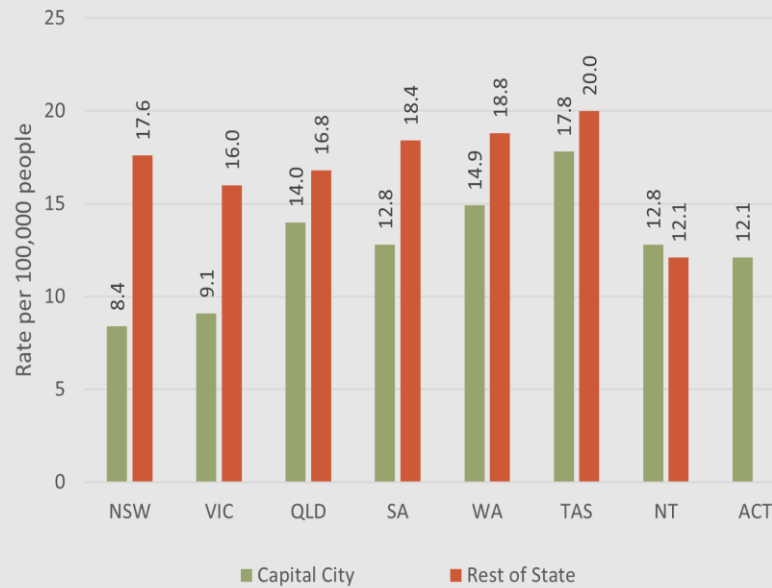
Comorbidity

Where suicide is listed as the primary cause of death, a comorbidity is the presence of one or more diseases or disorders in an individual, as noted by a coroner on a death certificate.

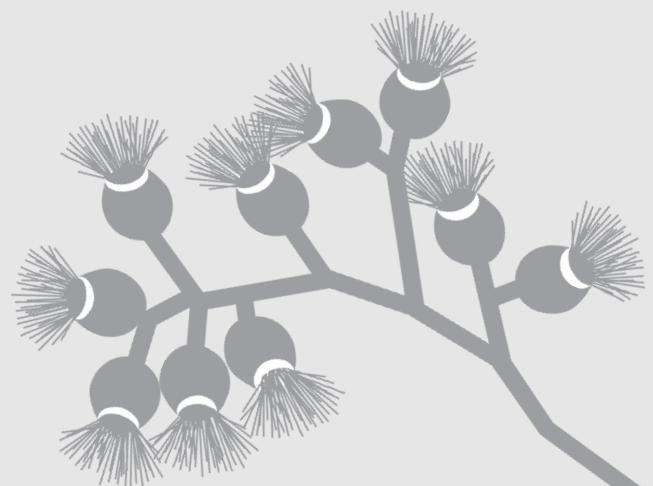
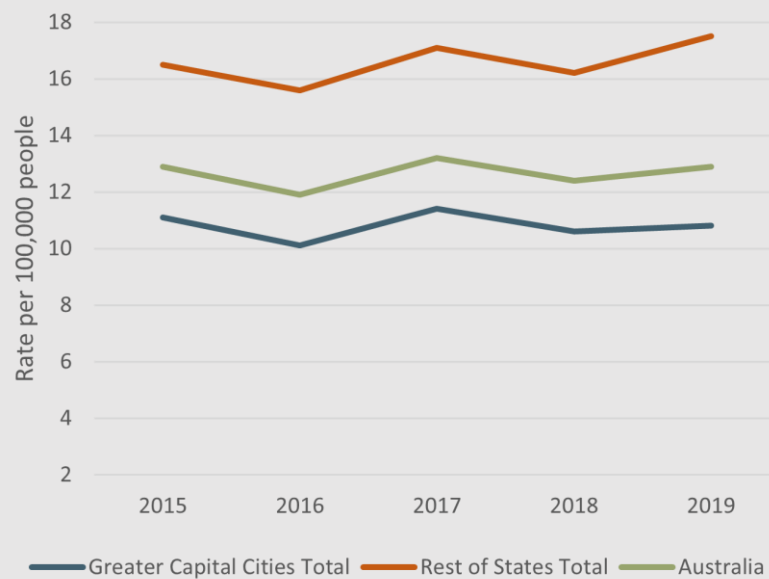
In 2019, rates of suicide deaths having mental health, drug and alcohol related comorbidities as co-occurring factors, were as follows:

- 40.6% Mood disorder, incl. depression
- 28.7% Drug & alcohol use disorders
- 18.4% Anxiety & stress related disorders
- 20.9% Alcohol and other drugs in the blood

Suicide rate, by region of usual residence, Australia, 2019 (update to Figure 6 therein)



Suicide rates by region, 2015-2019, Australia, 2019 (update to Figure 8 therein)



¹Australian Bureau of Statistics, (2020), 3303.0 Causes of Death, Australia, 2019