Supplementary Table 1 Comparison of the sociodemographic characteristics of patients who died by suicide in England in (i) pre-recession (2004–2008), (ii) recession (2009–2011) and (iii) economic ‘recovery’ (2012–2016) periods

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|   | Male: *N* = 10 446 (66%) | Female: *N* = 5330 (34%) |
| 2004–2008 | 2009–2011 | 2012–2016 | 2009–2011 *v.* 2004–2008: OR (95% CI)a | 2012–2016 *v.* 2008–2011: OR (95% CI)b | 2004–2008 | 2009–2011 | 2012–2016 | 2009–2011 *v.* 2004–2008: OR (95% CI)a | 2012–2016 *v.* 2009–2011: OR (95% CI)b |
| Age Groups |
|  16–24 | 274 (7%) | 166 (7%) | 311 (8%) | 0.95 (0.77–1.16) | **1.22 (1.00–1.48)** | 123 (6%) | 89 (7%) | 168 (8%) | 1.25 (0.94–1.66) | 1.18 (0.90–1.54) |
|  25–34 | 726 (18%) | 405 (16%) | 607 (15%) | **0.85 (0.74–0.97)** | 0.95 (0.83–1.09) | 307 (15%) | 163 (13%) | 259 (13%) | 0.89 (0.73–1.09) | 0.98 (0.79–1.20) |
|  35–44 | 1092 (28%) | 654 (26%) | 861 (22%) | 0.92 (0.82–1.03) | **0.80 (0.71–0.90)** | 449 (21%) | 249 (20%) | 392 (20%) | 0.93 (0.78–1.11) | 0.96 (0.81–1.15) |
|  45–54 | 835 (21%) | 635 (25%) | 1021 (26%) | **1.26 (1.12–1.41)** | 1.04 (0.93–1.17) | 501 (24%) | 310 (25%) | 527 (26%) | 1.07 (0.91–1.26) | 1.06 (0.90–1.25) |
| 55–64 | 587 (14%) | 392 (15%) | 578 (15%) | 1.06 (0.92–1.21) | 0.93 (0.81–1.07) | 377 (18%) | 221 (18%) | 314 (16%) | 1.00 (0.83–1.20) | 0.85 (0.71–1.03) |
|  65 or over | 452 (11%) | 278 (11%) | 572 (14%) | 0.96 (0.82–1.12) | **1.37 (1.18–1.60)** | 343 (16%) | 199 (16%) | 339 (17%) | 0.99 (0.82–1.20) | 1.06 (0.87–1.28) |
|  | *χ2 (df), P* | *85.6* (*10), P < 0.001* |  |  | *χ2 (df), P* | *19.9* (*10), P = 0.03* |  |  |
| Civil Status |
|  Divorced/separated | 1073 (28%) | 657 (27%) | 942 (25%) | 0.95 (0.85–1.06) | 0.91 (0.81–1.03) | 572 (28%) | 317 (26%) | 476 (25%) | 0.93 (0.79–1.10) | 0.93 (0.79–1.10) |
|  Married/cohabiting | 1049 (27%) | 680 (28%) | 1028 (27%) | 1.03 (0.92–1.15) | 0.98 (0.88–1.10) | 712 (34%) | 383 (33%) | 584 (31%) | 0.89 (0.76–1.03) | 0.95 (0.81–1.11) |
|  Single | 1580 (41%) | 1018 (41%) | 1642 (44%) | 1.03 (0.92–1.13) | 1.09 (0.99–1.21) | 558 (27%) | 385 (32%) | 690 (36%) | **1.27 (1.09**–**1.48)** | **1.21 (1.04**–**1.41)** |
|  Widowed | 162 (4%) | 102 (4%) | 151 (4%) | 0.99 (0.77–1.27) | 0.97 (0.75–1.25) | 223 (11%) | 119 (10%) | 153 (8%) | 0.91 (0.72–1.15) | 0.80 (0.62–1.02) |
|  | *χ2 (df), P* | *9.48* (*6), P = 0.15* |  |  | *χ2 (df), P* | *42.2* (*6), P < 0.001* |  |  |
| Employment Status |
|  In paid employment | 836 (22%) | 548 (23%) | 846 (23%) | 1.03 (0.91–1.17) | 1.02 (0.90–1.15) | 320 (16%) | 201 (17%) | 317 (17%) | 1.09 (0.90–1.32) | 0.99 (0.82–1.20) |
|  Unemployed | 1738 (46%) | 1197 (49%) | 1764 (48%) | **1.15 (1.04**–**1.27)** | 0.94 (0.85–1.04) | 672 (33%) | 455 (39%) | 777 (41%) | **1.26 (1.08**–**1.46)** | 1.13 (0.97–1.31) |
|  Full-time student | 34 (1%) | 35 (1%) | 57 (2%) | 1.62 (1.01–2.60) | 1.07 (0.70–1.64) | 37 (2%) | 25 (2%) | 52 (3%) | 1.11 (0.66–1.87) | 1.37 (0.84–2.24) |
|  Long-term sick | 655 (17%) | 317 (13%) | 358 (10%) | **0.72 (0.62**–**0.83)** | **0.72 (0.61**–**0.84)** | 352 (17%) | 166 (14%) | 239 (13%) | **0.78 (0.63**–**0.95)** | 0.89 (0.72–1.10) |
|  Retired | 514 (14%) | 314 (13%) | 586 (16%) | 0.95 (0.82–1.10) | **1.27 (1.10**–**1.47)** | 343 (17%) | 212 (18%) | 315 (17%) | 1.07 (0.89–1.29) | 0.92 (0.76–1.12) |
| Other status | 19 (1%) | 19 (1%) | 81 (2%) | 1.57 (0.83–2.96) | **2.85 (1.72**–**4.70)** | 297 (15%) | 123 (10%) | 177 (9%) | **0.67 (0.54**–**0.84)** | 0.90 (0.70–1.14) |
|   | *χ2 (df), P* | *152.2* (*10), P < 0.001* |  |  | *χ2 (df), P* | *63.7* (*10), P < 0.001* |   |   |

Figures in bold indicate statistically significant results.

a. multinomial logistic regression models: pre-recession as baseline group.

b. multinomial logistic regression models: recession onset as baseline group.

Supplementary Table 2 Comparison of clinical characteristics of patients who died by suicide in England in (i) pre-recession (2004–2008), (ii) recession (2009–2011) and (iii) economic ‘recovery’ (2012–2016) periods

| Clinical characteristics | Male: *N* = 10 446 (66%) | Female: *N* = 5330 (34%) |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2004–2008 | 2009–2011 | 2012–2016 | 2009–2011 *v.* 2004–2008: OR (95% CI)a | 2012–2016 *v.* 2008–2011: OR (95% CI)b | 2004–2008 | 2009–2011 | 2012–2016 | 2009–2011 *v.* 2004–2008: OR (95% CI)a | 2012–2016 *v.* 2009–2011: OR (95% CI)b |
| In-patient at time of death | 437 (11%) | 186 (7%) | 224 (6%) | **0.64 (0.54**–**0.77)** | **0.76 (0.62**–**0.93)** | 247 (12%) | 107 (9%) | 145 (7%) | **0.71 (0.56**–**0.91)** | 0.83 (0.64–1.07) |
| Outpatients | 3529 (89%) | 2344 (93%) | 3708 (94%) | **1.56 (1.30**–**1.87)** | **1.31 (1.07**–**1.61)** | 1853 (88%) | 1123 (91%) | 1844 (93%) | **1.40 (1.10**–**1.78)** | 1.21 (0.93–1.57) |
|  | *χ2 (df), P* | *77.6* (*2), P < 0.001* |  |  | *χ2 (df), P* | *24.9* (*2), P < 0.001* |  |  |
| Primary Diagnosis |
|  Schizophrenia & other delusional disorders | 822 (25%) | 466 (23%) | 726 (24%) | 0.90 (0.79–1.02) | 1.12 (0.98–1.27) | 276 (15%) | 153 (15%) | 235 (14%) | 0.97 (0.79–1.21) | 0.98 (0.78–1.22) |
|  Affective disorders | 1660 (50%) | 1040 (50%) | 1581 (52%) | 1.03 (0.93–1.15) | 1.06 (0.94–1.18) | 1138 (62) | 620 (60) | 953 (58%) | 0.91 (0.77–1.06) | 0.95 (0.81–1.12) |
|  Alcohol dependence/misuse | 404 (12%) | 240 (12%) | 296 (10%) | 0.96 (0.81–1.14) | 0.82 (0.68–1.00) | 115 (6%) | 67 (7%) | 72 (4%) | 1.03 (0.75–1.41) | **0.67 (0.48**–**0.95)** |
|  Drug dependence/misuse | 180 (5%) | 137 (7%) | 197 (6%) | **1.25 (**1.00–**1.57)** | 0.97 (0.77–1.21) | 47 (3%) | 37 (4%) | 46 (3%) | **1.40 (0.91**–**2.18)** | 0.79 (0.51–1.22) |
|  Personality disorder | 279 (8%) | 179 (9%) | 252 (8%) | 1.04 (0.86–1.27) | 0.95 (0.77–1.16) | 260 (14%) | 163 (16%) | 324 (20%) | 1.13 (0.91–1.39) | 1.33 (1.09–1.64) |
|  | *χ2 (df), P* | *17.2* (*8), P = 0.001* |  |  | *χ2 (df), P* | *28.9* (*8), P = 0.001* |  |  |
| Method of suicide (excl. other methods) |
|  Self-poisoning | 828 (24%) | 550 (25%) | 703 (20%) | 1.05 (0.93–1.19) | **0.77 (0.68**–**0.87)** | 725 (38%) | 437 (40%) | 645 (36%) | 1.05 (0.90–1.22) | **0.85 (0.72**–**0.99)** |
|  Hanging/strangulation | 1796 (52%) | 1197 (54%) | 1979 (57%) | 1.10 (0.99–1.22) | **1.13 (1.01**–**1.25)** | 668 (35%) | 390 (35%) | 781 (43%) | 1.00 (0.85–1.16) | **1.39 (1.19**–**1.62)** |
|  Jumping/multiple injuries | 645 (19%) | 374 (17%) | 613 (18%) | 0.89 (0.77–1.02) | 1.05 (0.92–1.21) | 330 (17%) | 182 (16%) | 269 (15%) | 0.93 (0.76–1.14) | 0.89 (0.72–1.09) |
|  Drowning | 191 (6%) | 87 (4%) | 169 (5%) | **0.70 (0.54**–**0.91)** | 1.25 (0.96–1.63) | 164 (9%) | 95 (9%) | 114 (6%) | 0.99 (0.76–1.29) | **0.71 (0.54**–**0.95)** |
|  | *χ2 (df), P* | *33.7* (*6), P < 0.001* |  |  | *χ2 (df), P* | *33.2* (*6), P < 0.001* |  |  |

Figures in bold indicate statistically significant results.

a. Multinomial logistic regression models: pre-recession as baseline group.

b. multinomial logistic regression models: recession onset as baseline group.