

## SUICIDES IN BELGRADE, 2018 - 2022

*Momčilo Vujetić, Svetlana Miltenović, Mira Vučević, Nataša Rosić*

*City Institute of Public Health Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia*

DOI: 10.5937/BatutPHCO24189V

**Background:** Every year more than 700.000 people globally take their own life and many more attempt suicide. These events affect families, communities and society, with long-lasting effects on the people left behind. Adequate surveillance and monitoring of suicide and suicide attempts is required for effective prevention strategies.

Analysis of suicides in Belgrade can also raise awareness of mental disorders within population.

**Methods and Objectives:** In this article we analyzed mortality data – suicides from the database of deceased persons that belongs to the Institute of public health of Belgrade. The following features are included: number of suicides - total, by gender, average age, method of execution, month and day of violent event. Also, mortality rates are shown – total and by gender in a period of time 2018 – 2022.

**Results:** In observed period of time, 69% of suicides was among male. Intentional self-harm by hanging, strangulation and suffocation was presented 42,8%. The highest number and frequency of suicides observing the days of the week were on Tuesday (14,4%) and Thursday (14,2%). When it comes to the months of the year, 10,5% suicides registered in July and 10% in October. The average age of victims among man was 56,9 years, 61,4 among women. Highest standardized incidence rate of suicides was in 2018 (7,1/100.000 semi-European population), while ordinary standardized rate had highest value in 2019 (8,6/100.000 population of Belgrade).

**Conclusions:** Man perform suicide more often than women, hanging, strangulation and suffocation is the most common method. July and Tuesday are most critical for these violent deaths, female victims are older. Regular and semi-European standardized rates have decreasing trend in a five years period.

**Keywords:** suicides, monitoring, population, Belgrade, rates