

Subject: Request for information on causes of death 2001-2019

FOI reference: 202000086478

Date received: 16 August 2020

Date responded: 30 October & 25 November 2020

Information requested:

“How many times the following mechanisms were individually listed as cause of death on death certificates, within the period of (2001 – 2019). The mechanisms of death are as follows:

1. Fracture of the cervical vertebrae,
2. Subarachnoid Haemorrhage,
3. Cardiac Arrhythmia and
4. Compression of the neck (i.e. manual strangulation).”

NRS Response:

The table below details the information requested. This covers deaths registered between 2001 and 2019. We did not publish cause of death breakdowns for 2019 until 24 November 2020.

The supplementary excel table attached also provides a more detailed breakdown of number of mentions by year.

Deaths where the following causes were mentioned on the death certificate

ICD-10 code	ICD text	Number of mentions
S12	Fracture of neck	673
I60	Subarachnoid haemorrhage	4227
I49	Other cardiac arrhythmia	4937
X91	Assault by hanging, strangulation and suffocation	73

Please note that more than one of these causes may have appeared on a single death certificate. Deaths are counted on the basis of the number of mentions, rather than the number of deaths.