

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; [FOI Team](#); [Parliamentary Unit](#); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: UUK Suicide Prevention Roundtable
Date: 08 October 2024 14:08:27
Attachments: [Minister Donelan letter to Sir Ian Diamond 15.07.2021 .pdf](#)

FYI

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@education.gov.uk>
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2021 2:28 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@education.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: UUK Suicide Prevention Roundtable

Hi [REDACTED],

Please find a copy of the letter attached.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>
Sent: 15 July 2021 09:34
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@education.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@education.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: UUK Suicide Prevention Roundtable

Good morning [REDACTED],

Sorry for the delay, the email is: national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk

Yes, would be great if you could please send us a copy of the letter too.

Best wishes, [REDACTED].

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@education.gov.uk>
Sent: 14 July 2021 12:06
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@education.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: UUK Suicide Prevention Roundtable

Hi [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Many thanks for your contribution to the roundtable, it was immensely helpful.

As discussed, Minister Donelan is writing to Sir Ian Diamond on this subject – could you please

provide an email address for his office? We can share a copy of the letter separately with you if helpful?

Thanks

█

█

█

Tel: █

Email: █@education.gov.uk

Working days: Tuesday – Friday

From: █@ons.gov.uk>

Sent: 25 June 2021 14:38

To: █ <█@education.gov.uk>; █@universitiesuk.ac.uk

Subject: UUK Suicide Prevention Roundtable

Hi █,

As requested here is the link to the write-up of the work:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/articles/estimating-suicide-among-higher-education-students-england-and-wales-experimental-statistics/2018-06-25>

I have also attached the resulting paper that has a little more analysis.

Best wishes, █.

█ | █
| Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol
█ | █@ons.gov.uk |
www.ons.gov.uk | @ONS

█

From: [Parliamentary Unit](#)
To: [National Statistician](#)
Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan
Date: 15 July 2021 14:41:00

Great, see link to SharePoint entry below:

- Ministerial Correspondence from [Minister Michelle Donelan](#) (for record purposes)

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED], [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk> **On Behalf Of** National Statistician
Sent: 15 July 2021 14:32
To: Parliamentary Unit <Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk>
Cc: National Statistician <national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan
Yes please.

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] | Private Office
Office for National Statistics | Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol
[REDACTED] | Drummond Gate,
London, SW1V 2QQ
[REDACTED] [@ons.gov.uk](#) | [www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk](#) | [@ONS](#)
We work flexibly at ONS. I sent this email at a time that suited me, I don't expect you to read it or reply outside of your working hours.

From: Parliamentary Unit <[Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk](#)>
Sent: 15 July 2021 14:28
To: National Statistician <[national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk](#)>
Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan

Thanks, [REDACTED].

Although this is ministerial and not parliamentary correspondence, I'm happy to log it on our database to gather any relevant documents to this case in one place. Let me know if you want me to do this.

Best,

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED]
UK Statistics Authority | Awdurdod Ystadegau'r Deyrnas Unedig
[REDACTED] [@statistics.gov.uk](#) | [www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk](#)

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk> **On Behalf Of** National Statistician
Sent: 15 July 2021 13:47
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; National Statistician <[national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk](#)>; Parliamentary Unit <[Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk](#)>
Subject: FW: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan

Dear [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
I hope you are well.

As we were expecting, please find attached the letter from Minister Donelan. Can we ask you to draft a response for Ian?

Parli – FYI. We will run the draft letter past you.

Best wishes

From: [redacted] on behalf of [National Statistician](#)
To: [redacted]; [National Statistician](#)
Cc: [redacted] [Parliamentary Unit](#) [redacted]
Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan
Date: 19 July 2021 13:56:04

Hi [redacted]
Of course.
Best wishes
[redacted]

[redacted] | [redacted]
[redacted] | Private Office
Office for National Statistics | Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol
[redacted] | Drummond Gate,
London, SW1V 2QQ

[redacted] [@ons.gov.uk](#) | [www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk](#) | [@ONS](#)

We work flexibly at ONS. I sent this email at a time that suited me, I don't expect you to read it or reply outside of your working hours.

From: [redacted] [redacted] [@ons.gov.uk](#)>

Sent: 19 July 2021 13:49

To: National Statistician <national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk>

Cc: [redacted] [redacted] [@ons.gov.uk](#)>; Parliamentary Unit

<Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted] [@ons.gov.uk](#)>

Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan

Hi [redacted]

Is it ok with we come back with a response on Thursday this week?

[redacted], Health
Analysis and Life Events, Public Policy Analysis

Office for National Statistics | Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol

[redacted] | [redacted] [@ons.gov.uk](#) | [www.ons.gov.uk](#) |
[@ONS](#)

From: [redacted] <[redacted] [@ons.gov.uk](#)> On Behalf Of National Statistician

Sent: 15 July 2021 13:47

To: [redacted] [redacted] [@ons.gov.uk](#)>

Cc: [redacted] <[redacted] [@ons.gov.uk](#)>; National Statistician

<national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk>; Parliamentary Unit <Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk>

Subject: FW: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan

Dear [redacted] and [redacted]

I hope you are well.

As we were expecting, please find attached the letter from Minister Donelan. Can we ask you to draft a response for Ian?

Parli – FYI. We will run the draft letter past you.

Best wishes
[redacted]

[redacted] | [redacted]

From: [Parliamentary Unit](#)
To: [National Statistician](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan
Date: 22 July 2021 09:59:00
Attachments: [Draft_Michelle Donelan_HE student suicide_JH.docx](#)

Thank you [REDACTED],
Parli Unit thinks the content is very good, attached is a draft with a few minor edits.
Just a reminder that all correspondence should be issued in Arial font size 12.
I have uploaded this draft to the sharepoint entry for [Minister Donelan](#).

Best,

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]
UK Statistics Authority | Awdurdod Ystadegau'r Deyrnas Unedig
[REDACTED] [@statistics.gov.uk](#) | [www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk](#)

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk> **On Behalf Of** National Statistician
Sent: 22 July 2021 09:07
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; National Statistician
<national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; Parliamentary Unit
<Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan

Hi [REDACTED]

Excellent – thank you.
[REDACTED] – Can I ask you to review the draft letter and let me know if there are any changes you would like to make.
Best wishes
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] | Private Office
Office for National Statistics | Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol
[REDACTED] | Drummond Gate,
London, SW1V 2QQ
[REDACTED] [@ons.gov.uk](#) | [www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk](#) | [@ONS](#)
We work flexibly at ONS. I sent this email at a time that suited me, I don't expect you to read it or reply outside of your working hours.

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>
Sent: 22 July 2021 09:04
To: National Statistician <national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; Parliamentary Unit
<Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan

Hi [REDACTED]
Please find our response attached. Happy to discuss.
Bw
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [National Statistician](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [National Statistician](#); [Parliamentary Unit](#)
Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan
Date: 23 July 2021 13:55:19
Attachments: [Michelle Donelan_HE_student_suicide.pdf](#)

Dear [REDACTED]
I hope you are well.
On behalf of Sir Ian, please find attached his response to Minister Donelan's letter dated the 15th July.
Best wishes
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] | Private Office
Office for National Statistics | Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol
[REDACTED] | Drummond Gate,
London, SW1V 2QQ

[REDACTED] [@ons.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk) | www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk | [@ONS](#)

We work flexibly at ONS. I sent this email at a time that suited me, I don't expect you to read it or reply outside of your working hours.

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@education.gov.uk>
Sent: 15 July 2021 13:36
To: National Statistician <national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk>
Subject: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan

Dear Sir Ian,
I hope this finds you well. Please see attached a letter from Michelle Donelan MP, Minister of State for Universities, on the subject of publishing the linked data analysis of deaths by suicide for HE students on an annual basis.
The Minister is thankful for your time, and looks forward to working with you on this most important of matters.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Minister of State for Universities
Department for Education, 7th Floor, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BT

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [National Statistician](#)
To: [Parliamentary Unit](#); [REDACTED]; [National Statistician](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan
Date: 09 September 2021 13:15:50

Hi [REDACTED]
Yes that is correct.
Best wishes
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Private Office
Office for National Statistics | Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol
[REDACTED] | Drummond Gate,
London, SW1V 2QQ

[REDACTED] [@ons.gov.uk](#) | [www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk](#) | [@ONS](#)

We work flexibly at ONS. I sent this email at a time that suited me, I don't expect you to read it or reply outside of your working hours.

From: Parliamentary Unit <Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk>

Sent: 08 September 2021 14:07

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; National Statistician <national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan

Hello [REDACTED]

I made a note on Sharepoint that the attached letter was issued by NatStat on 23 July. [@National Statistician](#) can you confirm this is the case?

Best,

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]
UK Statistics Authority | Awdurdod Ystadegau'r Deyrnas Unedig
[REDACTED] [@statistics.gov.uk](#) | [www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk](#)

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>

Sent: 08 September 2021 14:03

To: Parliamentary Unit <Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan

Good afternoon,

Can I please check if this response was sent? I just had an email from DfE saying they haven't seen the response, though they also said this might be because it hasn't made its way onto their systems.

Best wishes, [REDACTED]

From: Parliamentary Unit <Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk>

Sent: 22 July 2021 10:00

To: National Statistician <national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>

From: [Parliamentary Unit](#)
To: [REDACTED]; [National Statistician](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan
Date: 08 September 2021 14:06:00
Attachments: [Michelle Donelan HE student suicide.pdf](#)

Hello [REDACTED],
I made a note on Sharepoint that the attached letter was issued by NatStat on 23 July. [@National Statistician](#) can you confirm this is the case?

Best,

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]
UK Statistics Authority | Awdurdod Ystadegau'r Deyrnas Unedig
[REDACTED] [@statistics.gov.uk](#) | [www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk](#)

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>

Sent: 08 September 2021 14:03

To: Parliamentary Unit <Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]
<[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan

Good afternoon,

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Best wishes, [REDACTED]

From: Parliamentary Unit <[Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk](#)>

Sent: 22 July 2021 10:00

To: National Statistician <[national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk](#)>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ons.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
[REDACTED] <[@ons.gov.uk](#)>; [REDACTED] <[@ons.gov.uk](#)>

Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan

Thank you [REDACTED]

Parli Unit thinks the content is very good, attached is a draft with a few minor edits.

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I have uploaded this draft to the sharepoint entry for [Minister Donelan](#).

Best,

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]
UK Statistics Authority | Awdurdod Ystadegau'r Deyrnas Unedig
[REDACTED] [@statistics.gov.uk](#) | [www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk](#)

From: [REDACTED] <[@ons.gov.uk](#)> **On Behalf Of** National Statistician

Sent: 22 July 2021 09:07

To: [REDACTED] <[@ons.gov.uk](#)>; National Statistician
<[national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk](#)>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[@ons.gov.uk](#)>; Parliamentary Unit
<[Parliamentary.Unit@ons.gov.uk](#)>; [REDACTED] <[@ons.gov.uk](#)>

Subject: RE: FAO Sir Ian Diamond. Letter from Minister Donelan

Hi [REDACTED]

Excellent – thank you.

[REDACTED] – Can I ask you to review the draft letter and let me know if there are any

Higher Education student suicide in England and Wales



Lifestyle and Risk Factors Branch
Health Analysis and Life Event Division

14 October 2024

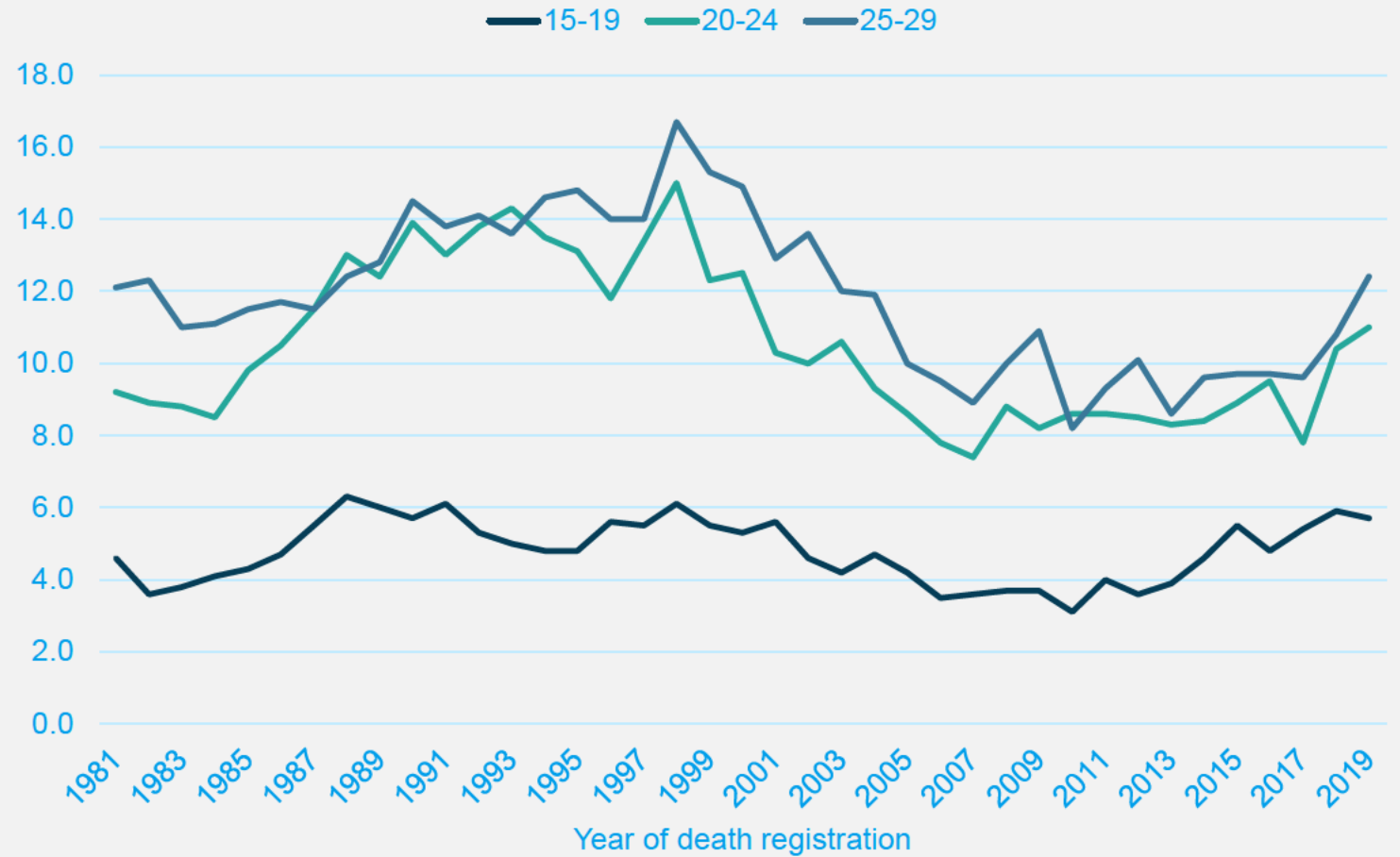
Background

Rationale

There are growing concerns about the mental health and risk of suicide among university students in the UK and worldwide.

Age-specific rates have been increasing in recent years among young people

Age-specific suicide rates for people aged under 30, England and Wales, registered between 1981 and 2019



The research: how we did it

Unique linkage of Office for National Statistics mortality records and Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) data on university students in England and Wales. The study covered academic years from 2000/01 to 2016/17.



Students

Those registered at any Higher Education provider which reports data to HESA and who follow a course that leads to the award of a qualification or HE credit.

Includes undergraduates and postgraduates. Those aged 18 years and above.

Suicide

A death coded as suicide or injury/poisoning of undetermined intent that occurred before or on the end date of student's course and where the death was registered in England and Wales.



Key findings of the research

The research: what we found

1,330

The number of identified students in higher education who died by suicide between 2000/01 and 2016/17.

66%

Two thirds (878 deaths) of the total number of deaths were among men, and 34% were among women (452 deaths).

26 yrs

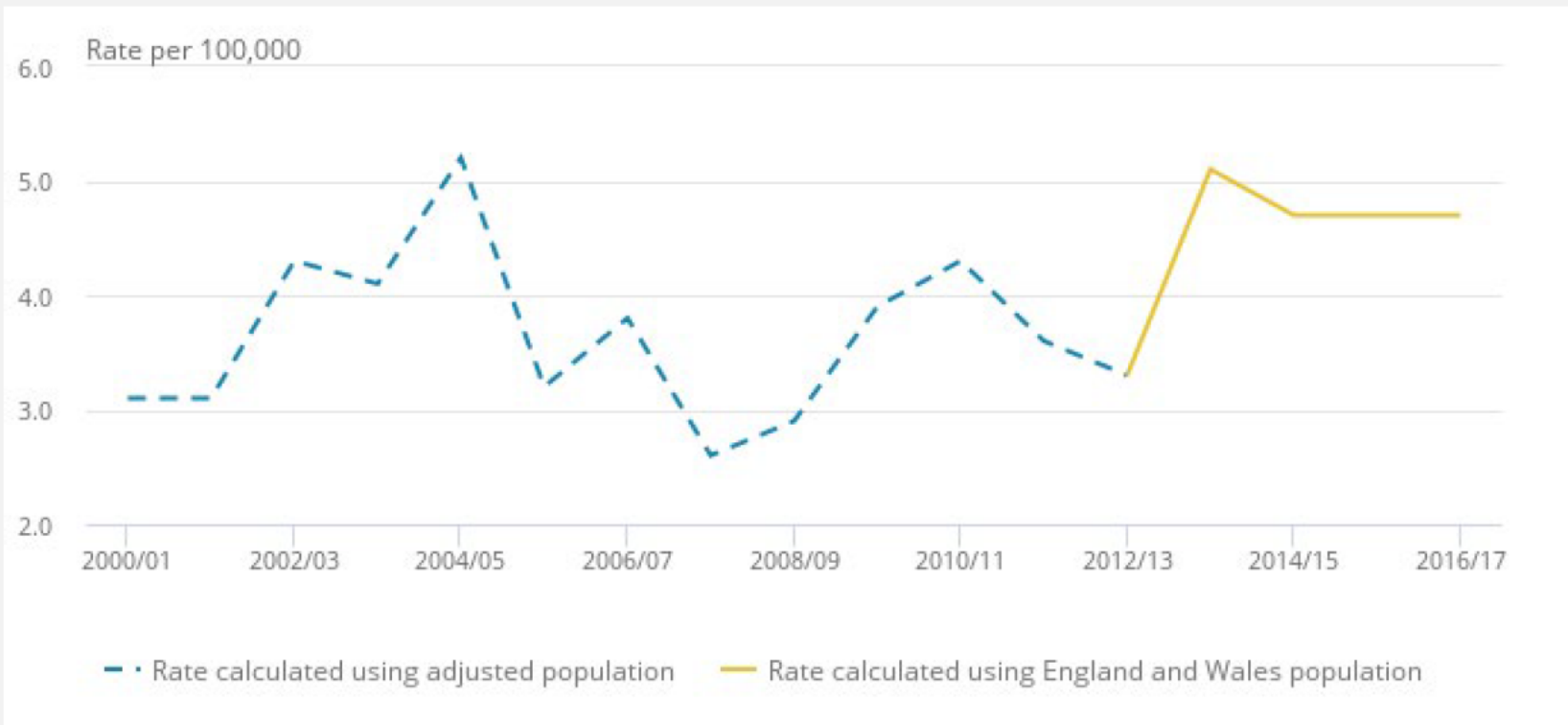
The median age at death (range of 18 to 82 years); 766 deaths (58%) were among those aged below 30 years.

83%

Most deaths (1,109 or 83%) were among undergraduates and the remaining (221 or 17%) were among postgraduates.

The research: what we found

1. Rates of HE student suicide by year, deaths registered in England and Wales 2000/01 to 2016/17



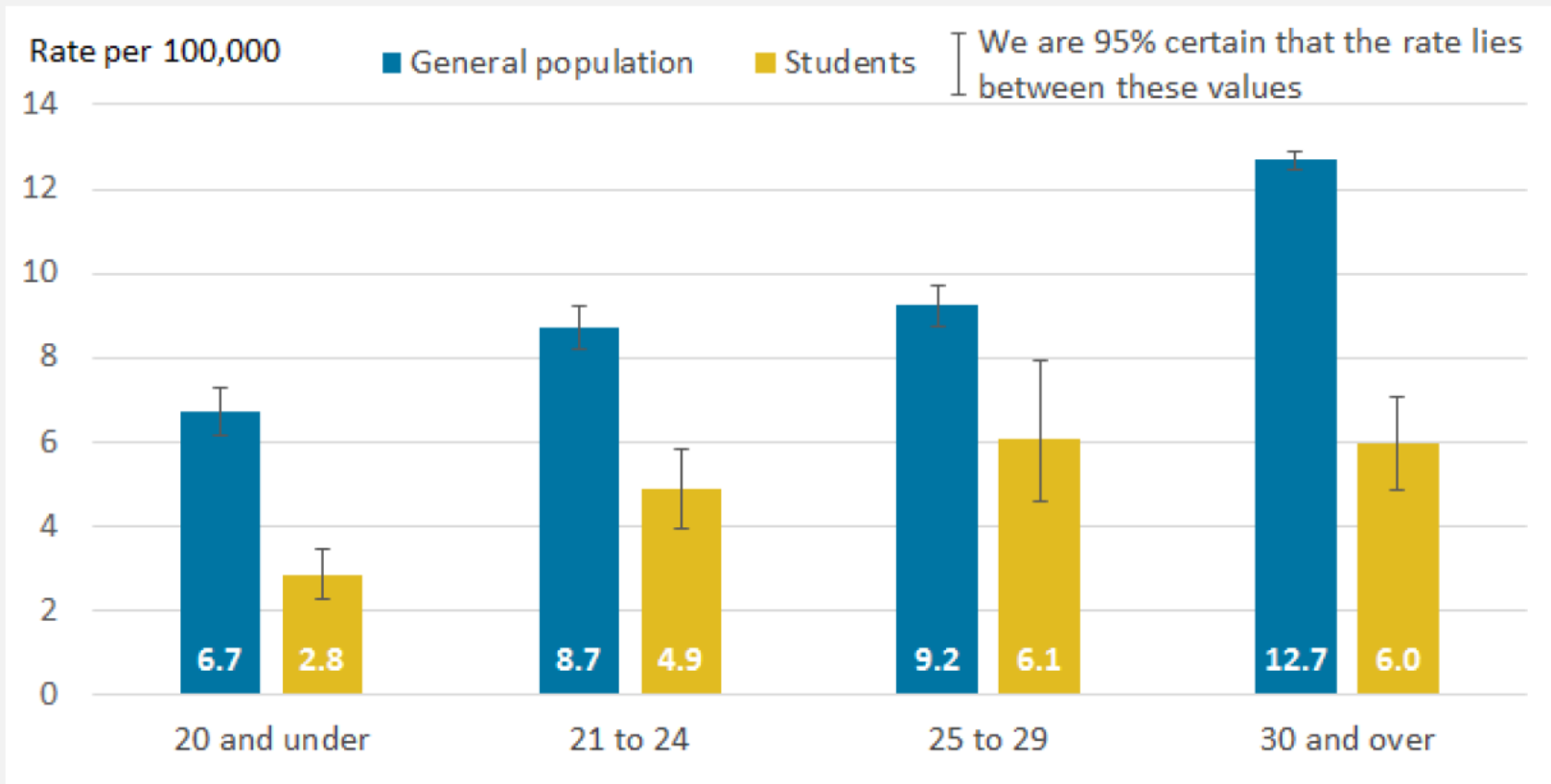
4.7 deaths

per 100,000 students in the 2016/17 academic year.

Higher than most of the earlier years studied, though small numbers make it difficult to interpret statistically significant differences.

The research: what we found

2. Rates of suicide by age, deaths registered in England and Wales, 2012/13 to 2016/17



Incidence of suicide among students increased with age

As also seen in the general population.

Higher education students have lower rates than those in the general population of the same age

Also true when you exclude HE students from the general population.

The research: what we found

3. Rates of suicide by sex, mode of study, under/post grad, year of study, deaths registered in England and Wales, 2012/13 to 2016/17



6.7 deaths
per 100,000 male students in
the most recent 5 year period.

2.8 deaths
per 100,000 female students in
the most recent 5 year period.

The research: what we found

3. Rates of suicide by sex, mode of study, under/post grad, year of study, deaths registered in England and Wales, 2012/13 to 2016/17

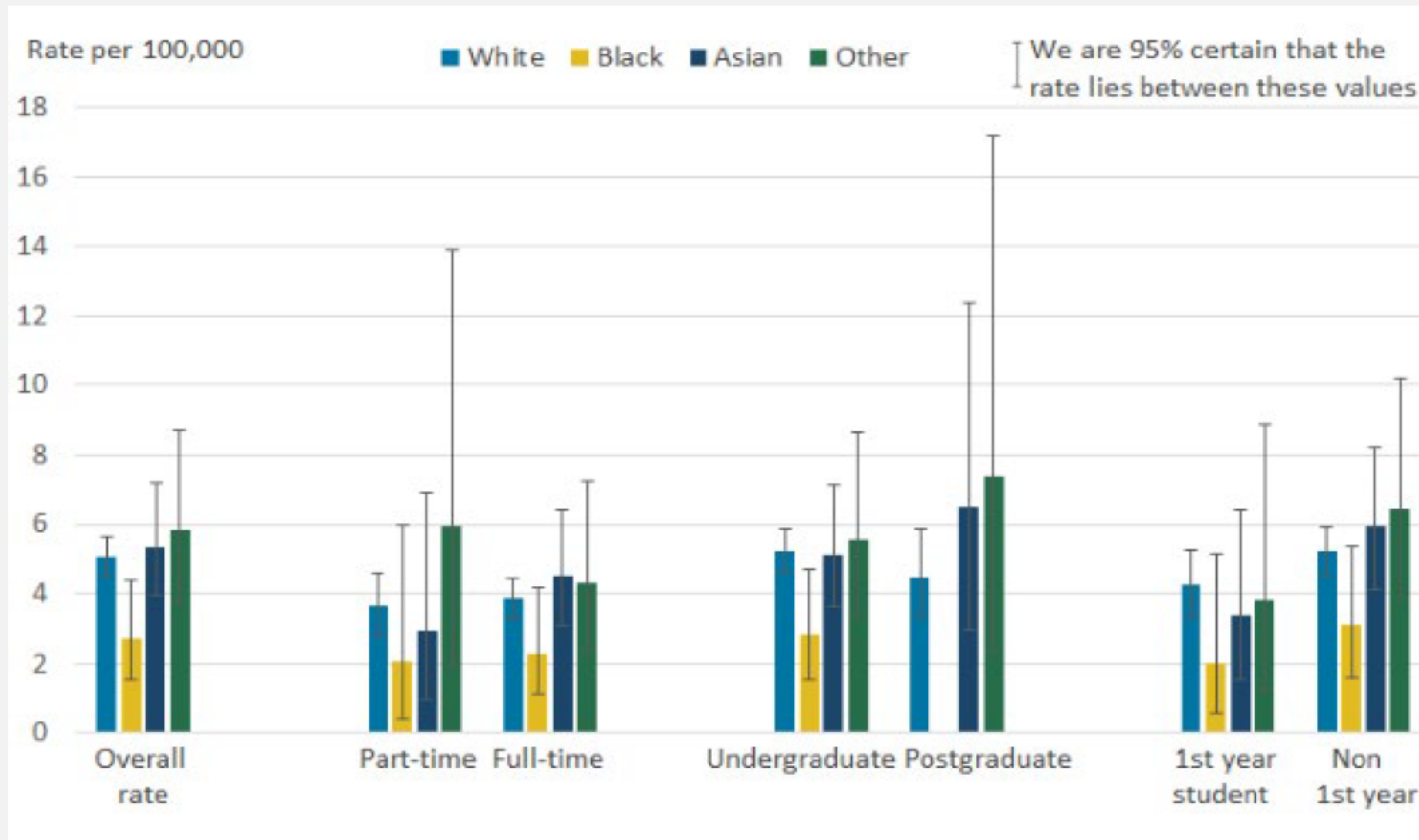


For each category, males had statistically higher rates of suicide compared with females.

No statistically significant differences when comparing across the categories.

The research: what we found

4. Rates of suicide by ethnicity, mode of study, under/post grad, year of study, deaths registered in England and Wales, 2012/13 to 2016/17



The number of suicides when analysed by ethnicity are small, and therefore need to be interpreted with caution.

5.1 deaths
per 100,000 students recorded
as White.

2.7 deaths
per 100,000 students recorded
as Black.

The research: summary of findings

- The latest rate of student suicide (2016/17) is higher than most previous years studied.
- However, the rate of student suicide is lower than that seen in the general population among people of a similar age.
- Characteristics of student suicide (age/sex) are like those seen in the general population.
- Statistically higher rate of suicide among students recorded as White when compared to those recorded as Black.

Future work

Next steps

- More linkage, to also include data on Further Education students.

This work will involve linking data from three sources:

The logo for HESA (Higher Education Statistics Agency) features the letters 'HESA' in a large, black, sans-serif font. Below the text is a horizontal bar composed of several colored segments: blue, green, white, and grey.

This will bring new unique challenges.