

## Registered Suicides of Croydon Residents

### Sources and definitions of data

ONS. UK suicides registered in 2021. Published in September 2022.

[LINK TO DATA](#)

OHID. Suicide Prevention Profile. Updated in September 2022.

[LINK TO DATA](#)

In England and Wales when somebody dies unexpectedly, a Coroner investigates the circumstances to establish the cause of death. The investigation, referred to as an 'inquest', is a process that can take months and, in some cases, years. When an inquest has concluded the death is officially registered. For suicides that occurred in England and Wales, the Office for National Statistics then assigns each death with an 'underlying cause' based on the information provided to the Coroner.

In England and Wales data on suicide concern all deaths that were assigned underlying cause of intentional self-harm (for those aged 10 years and above). Deaths caused by injury or poisoning of undetermined intent (for those aged 15 years and above) are also included, based on the assumption that the majority of these deaths will be suicides.

### Suicides of Croydon residents

Suicide is a significant cause of death in young adults, and is seen as an indicator of underlying rates of mental ill-health. Suicide is a major issue for society and a leading cause of years of life lost. Suicide is often the end point of a complex history of risk factors and distressing events, but there are many ways in which services, communities, individuals and society as a whole can help to prevent suicides.

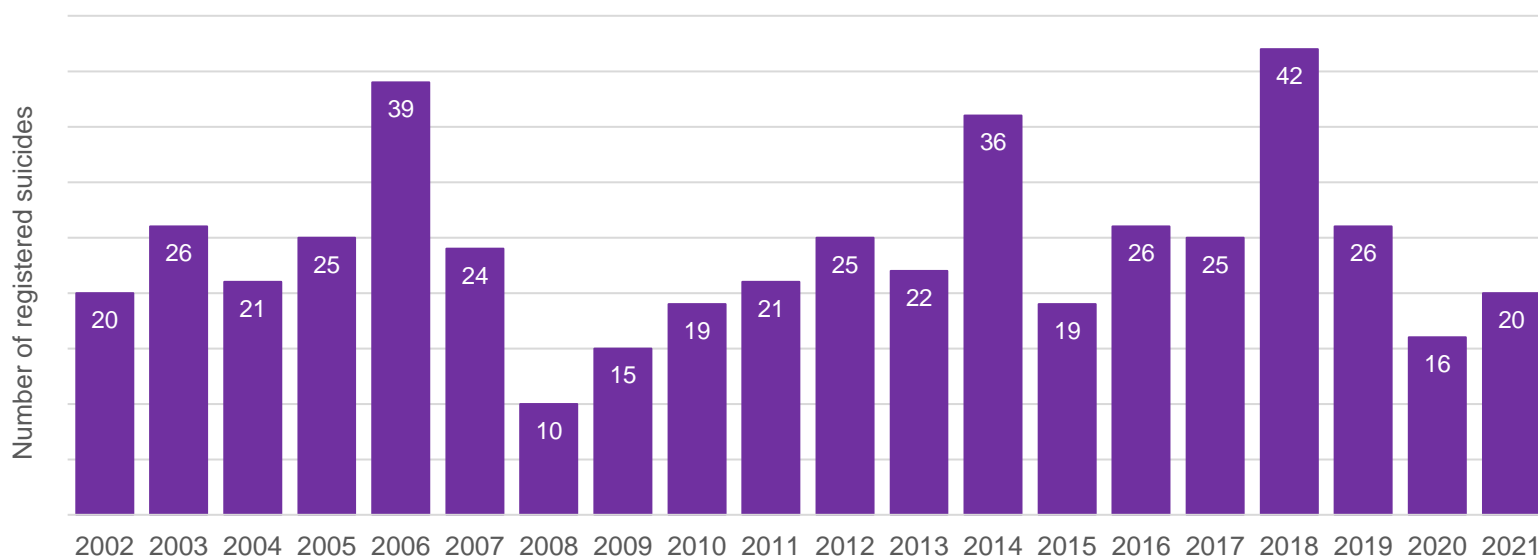
Since 2002, an average of 24 deaths due to suicide have been registered each year in Croydon.

This number varies by year, with 2018 having the largest number of suicides registered.

Numbers fell considerably in 2020 in-line with regional and national trends. Nationally the ONS have stated that this decrease was likely to be driven by two factors; a decrease in male suicides at the start of the covid-19 pandemic and delays in death registrations because of the pandemic.

Nationally, the rate of suicides in 2021 is consistent with pre-pandemic rates. In Croydon, the number is still slightly lower than those seen before the pandemic in 2018 and 2019.

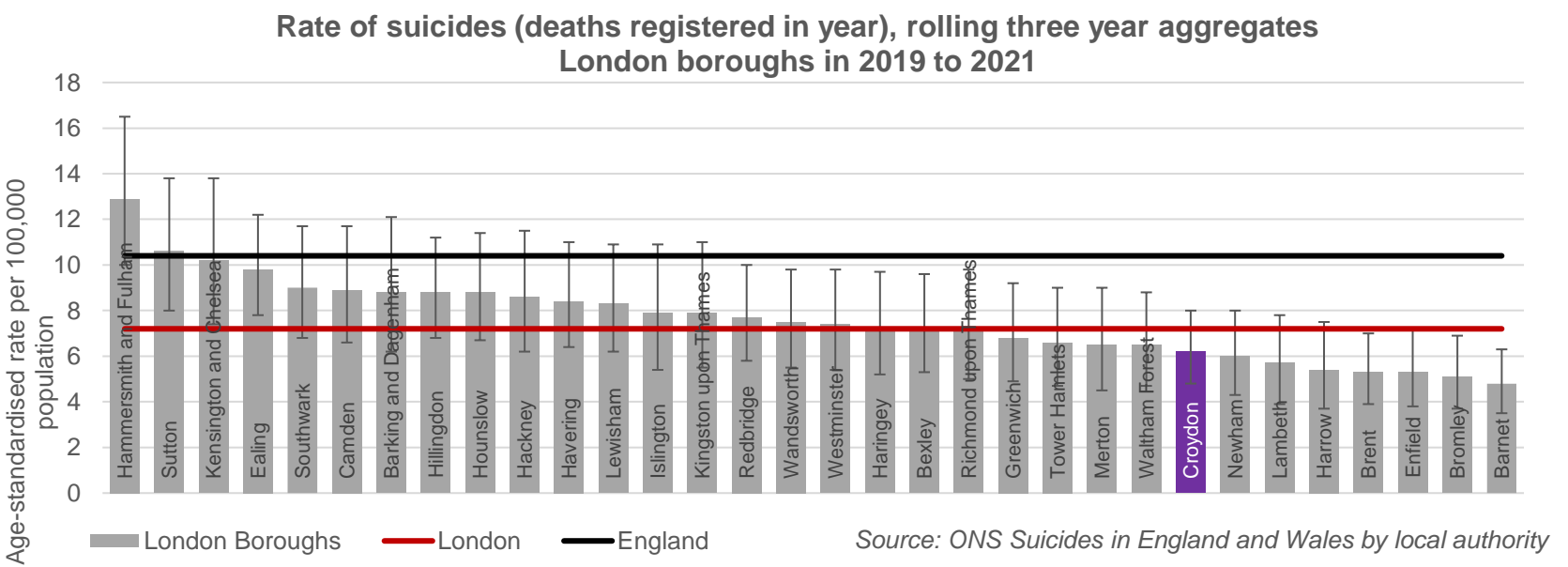
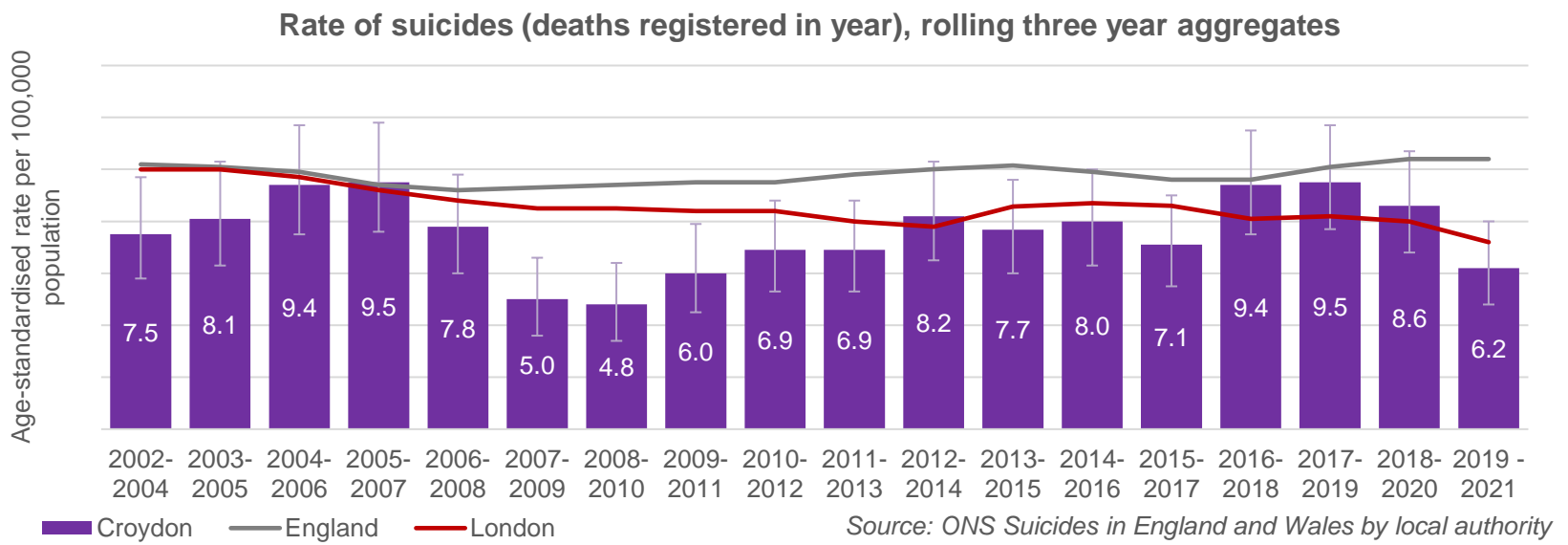
Number of suicides (deaths registered in year) in Croydon



Source: ONS Suicides in England and Wales by local authority

# Registered Suicides of Croydon Residents

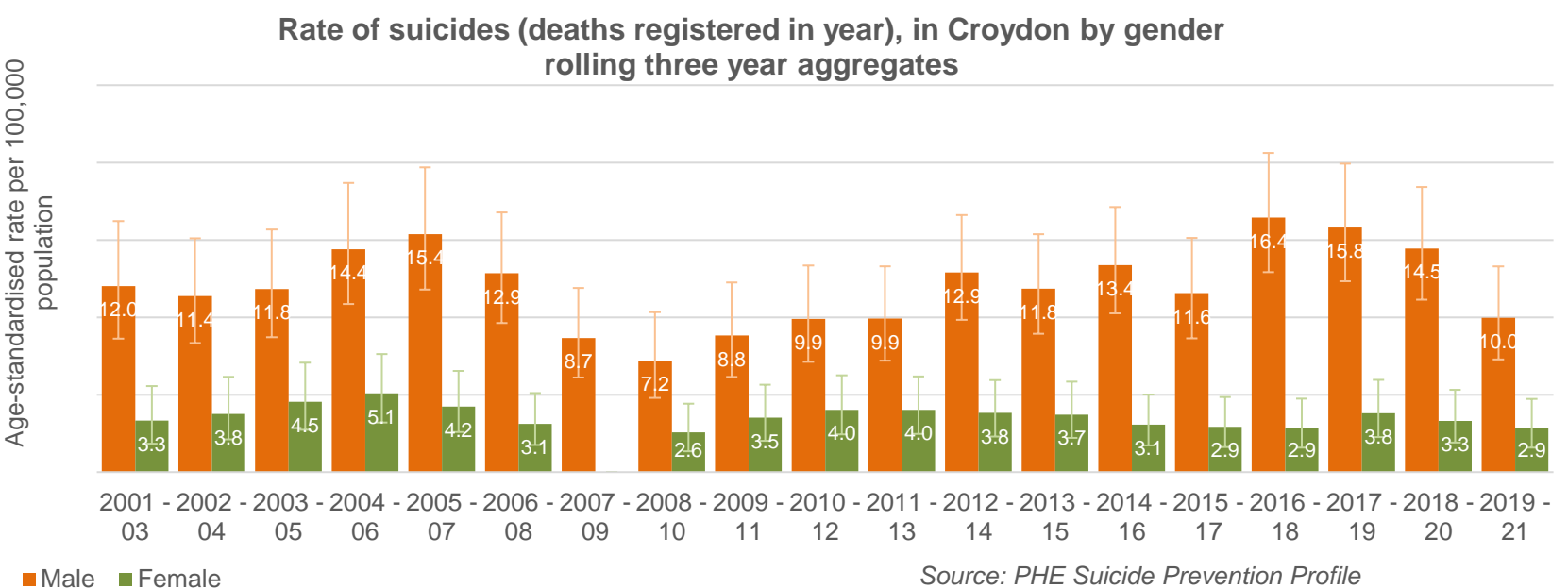
In the latest 3-year data (2019-2021), Croydon had the 8th lowest rate of suicides in London, this is statistically similar to the overall London rate.



## Gender differences

In Croydon, as across the country, males have a much higher suicide rate than females.

In the latest 3-year data (2019-2021), Croydon had the 11th lowest rate of male suicides and the 7th lowest rate of female suicides in London.



# Registered Suicides of Croydon Residents

## Average time taken to register a death

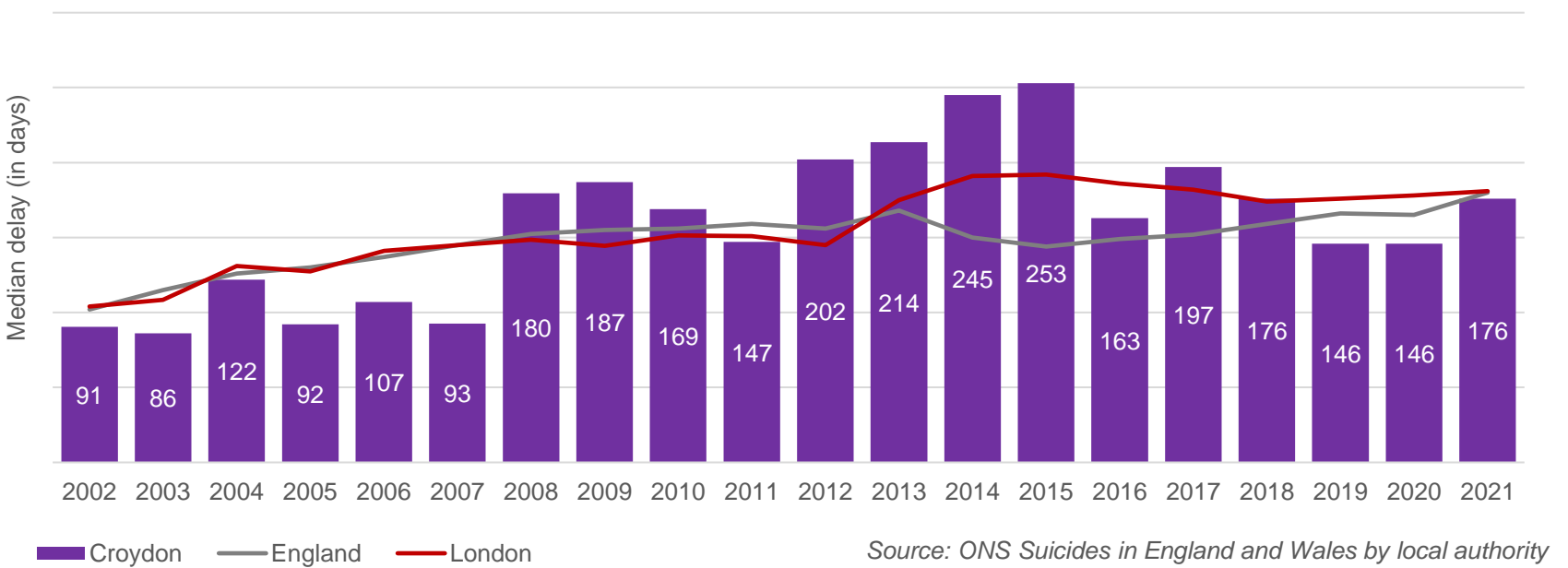
In England, all deaths by suicide are certified by a coroner and cannot be registered until an inquest is completed. This results in a delay between the date the death occurred and the date of registration. Around half of the deaths reported in England and Wales for 2021 will have occurred in the previous year.

In England, the median registration delay increased to 180 days, its highest level since 2001 and likely explained by the continuing disruption to inquests caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

In Croydon, the average time taken to register a death in Croydon peaked in 2015 when it was, on average, 253 days (36 weeks). In 2021, this average delay was 176 days, around 25 weeks.

In 2021, Croydon had the 16th longest registration delay for suicides across all London boroughs.

Median registration delay (in days) for suicides



Median registration delay (in days) for suicides  
London boroughs in 2021

