

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**  
**Question on notice**

**Wednesday, 17 September 2014**

1667. Hon Stephen Dawson to the Attorney General.

I refer to suspected deaths by suicide reported to the State Coroner and the response provided by the Attorney General to question without notice No. 971, and I ask for each of the suspected suicides for periods listed what is the breakdown by gender and by the following age brackets:

- (a) 10-14 years of age;
- (b) 15-19 years of age;
- (c) 20-24 years of age;
- (d) 25-29 years of age;
- (e) 30-34 years of age;
- (f) 35-39 years of age;
- (g) 40-44 years of age;
- (h) 45-49 years of age;
- (i) 50-54 years of age;
- (j) 55-59 years of age;
- (k) 60-64 years of age;
- (l) 65-69 years of age;
- (m) 70-74 years of age;
- (n) 75-79 years of age;
- (o) 80-84 years of age; and
- (p) 85 years of age and over?

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**Answer**

I am advised that the Coroner's Court is unable to provide the data requested. The Coroner's Court case management system is case specific and cannot run data sets. Furthermore, gender is not provided for risk of identifying individual cases in remote areas. Data is provided for persons under and over 25 years of age in the tabled paper. Please see Table No.

**Legislative Council Parliamentary Question No: 1667**  
**[Table Paper No: \_\_\_\_\_]**

**Suicide cases of persons under the age of 25 years**

|               | <b>2011</b>  | <b>2012</b>  | <b>2013</b>   | <b>2014</b>   |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Perth         | 35(4)        | 44(2)        | 36(16)        | 18(17)        |
| Albany        | 1            | 1            | 2             | 0             |
| Broome        | 12           | 5            | 3             | 2(2)          |
| Bunbury       | 6            | 3            | 6(1)          | 5(3)          |
| Carnarvon     | 2            | 1            | 1(1)          | 0             |
| Geraldton     | 0            | 0            | 2             | 0             |
| Islands       | 0            | 0            | 0             | 1(1)          |
| Kalgoorlie    | 5(1)         | 1(1)         | 3(1)          | 1(1)          |
| Kununurra     | 3            | 4(1)         | 3(3)          | 4(4)          |
| Northam       | 1            | 3            | 1             | 0             |
| South Hedland | 0            | 4            | 3(2)          | 1(1)          |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>65(5)</b> | <b>66(4)</b> | <b>60(24)</b> | <b>32(29)</b> |

**Footnote:**

*The final determination of a finding of suicide can only be made by a coroner after consideration of a detailed investigation report, which may include the deceased's medical history. The numbers in brackets indicate the coronial investigations which are ongoing and a final determination by a Coroner has not been made. An initial assessment has been made in relation to the case, which indicates that it is a possible suicide case, however, that assessment may or may not be confirmed by the completion of the coroners' finding.*

*For example; in the table above there are 18 reported cases of suicide in Perth in 2014, of which 17 are pending a final determination.*

**Suicide cases of persons over the age of 25 years**

|               | <b>2011</b>   | <b>2012</b>    | <b>2013</b>     | <b>2014</b>     |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Perth         | 181(2)        | 224(11)        | 214(106)        | 111(109)        |
| Albany        | 11            | 8              | 5(2)            | 10(9)           |
| Broome        | 5             | 11             | 7               | 2(1)            |
| Bunbury       | 27            | 17             | 19(1)           | 8(7)            |
| Carnarvon     | 2             | 2              | 5(3)            | 3(3)            |
| Geraldton     | 8(1)          | 8              | 7(2)            | 7(5)            |
| Islands       | 0             | 0              | 0               | 1(1)            |
| Kalgoorlie    | 9(1)          | 8              | 8(2)            | 4(4)            |
| Kununurra     | 2             | 2              | 2(1)            | 1(1)            |
| Northam       | 5             | 8(2)           | 10(3)           | 1(1)            |
| South Hedland | 4             | 8(1)           | 5(3)            | 1(1)            |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>254(4)</b> | <b>296(14)</b> | <b>282(123)</b> | <b>149(142)</b> |

**Footnote:**

*The final determination of a finding of suicide can only be made by a coroner after consideration of a detailed investigation report, which may include the deceased's medical history. The numbers in brackets indicate the coronial investigations which are ongoing and a final determination by a Coroner has not been made. An initial assessment has been made in relation to the case, which indicates that it is a possible suicide case, however, that assessment may or may not be confirmed by the completion of the coroners' finding.*

*For example: in the table above there are 214 reported cases of suicide in Perth in 2013, of which 106 are pending a final determination.*