



**Response:**

As part of their investigations, the Coroner gathers information from various departments, including Justice, Family Services, and Health. This includes medical records, travel medical history, and RCMP reports. The Coroner also conducts interviews with key individuals connected to those who have died by suicide. This information is securely stored in paper files at the Coroner's office. This information is gathered by the Coroner to determine cause of death.

Health has established a data-sharing agreement with the Coroner (Department of Justice) to access, collect, and store the data collected. Under this agreement, the Departments can share aggregated information that has been gathered.

1. a. Between 2010 and March 2024 broken down by calendar year and month:

- I. There were 451 deaths by suicide among Inuit in Nunavut. Table 1 presents the number of suicide deaths among Inuit tabulated on an annual basis from January 1 to December 31 of 2010 through 2023. For the year 2024, data is provided from January 1 to March 26.

**Table 1. Annual Suicide Mortality Rates among Inuit in Nunavut.**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total Suicide Deaths</b>
2010	30
2011	33
2012	26
2013	45
2014	28
2015	30
2016	32
2017	24
2018	31
2019	39
2020	27
2021	36
2022	27
2023	37
2024	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>451</b>

Table 2 presents the monthly distribution of deaths by suicide among Inuit in Nunavut, aggregated over five-year intervals from 2010 to 2023. Data for 2024 is included up to March 26. To comply with data disclosure protocols, instances

where the number of deaths is less than 5 are suppressed, and counts are presented over a five-year period.

**Table 2. Monthly Suicide Mortality Rates among Inuit in Nunavut, per Five-Year Period.**

Month	5-year Count		
	2010-2014	2015-2019	2020-2024
January	10	14	21
February	10	11	13
March	17	17	6
April	16	17	13
May	18	15	8
June	12	16	16
July	8	15	8
August	23	10	12
September	12	9	8
October	11	10	11
November	14	13	9
December	11	9	8
<b>Total Suicide Death(s)</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>133</b>

II. In the reporting period from 2010 to March 26, 2024, the total number of suicide deaths among non-Inuit individuals is 7. Due to data disclosure protocols, which require suppression of counts less than 5, only the aggregate total for this period can be provided without annual breakdowns.

b. With respect to death by suicides among Inuit in Nunavut:

I. There were 112 deaths by suicide among females and 309 deaths by suicide among males between 2010 and 2024. Table 3 presents the number of deaths by suicide among Inuit by sex tabulated on an annual basis from January 1 to December 31 of 2010 through 2023. For the year 2024, data is provided from January 1 to March 26. Due to data disclosure protocols data for the years 2017 and 2024 are suppressed.

**Table 3. Annual Suicide Mortality Rates among Inuit in Nunavut by Sex.**

Year	Total	Female	Male
2010	30	7	23
2011	33	7	26
2012	26	6	20
2013	45	11	34
2014	28	7	21
2015	30	5	25
2016	32	8	24
2017	24	<5	>15
2018	31	5	26
2019	39	10	29
2020	27	5	22
2021	36	6	30
2022	27	11	16
2023	37	13	24
2024	6	<5	<5
<b>Total</b>	<b>451*</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>342</b>

*\* The overall total is the sum from 2010 to the mentioned date. However, the aggregate figures for males and females do not include the data from 2024 for privacy reasons, which explains why the totals for females and males do not equal 451.*

- II. Table 4 presents the number of deaths by suicide categorized by 10-year age groups, aggregated over five-year intervals from 2010 to 2023. For the year 2024, data is provided from January 1 to March 26. Counts are presented over five-year periods, rather than annually or monthly, to adhere to data disclosure protocols. To comply with data disclosure protocols, data for the age group 0 to 10 years for the period 2020-2024 are suppressed.

**Table 4. Inuit Suicide Mortality Rates by 10-Year Age Groups, Aggregated Over Five-Year Periods.**

Age (Year)	5-Year Count		
	2010-2014	2015-2019	2020-2024*
0 to 10	0	0	<5
11 to 20	64	53	30
21 to 30	60	56	57
31 to 40	20	22	30
41 to 50	10	16	12
51+	8	9	<5
<b>Total</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>133</b>

- III. Table 5 presents the methods of deaths by suicide, from 2010 to 2024. For the year 2024, data is provided from January 1 to March 26.

**Table 5. Methods of Suicide among Inuit from 2010 to 2024.**

Method	Years
	2010 – 2024*
Hanging	297
Firearm	142
Other	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>451</b>

Regarding items IV – VII, validated data is currently only available from 2014 through 2022. To validate the data, Health must extract the individual data from Coroners’ files and cross reference those findings with individual health records. When data extraction from Coroners’ files began, 2014 was the chosen starting point to reflect the current infrastructure, protocols and available resources. Data from 2022 onwards is in the process of being validated and is not yet available.

***Disclaimers on the Data***

This does not include information in paper records. The information pulled from Meditech relies on coding and search terms. If someone initially presented for a different reason than accessing mental health services or outside of an appointment with a mental health nurse the visit may not be included in the data.

Access to counselling numbers do not include visits outside of the health centre or hospital setting (e.g., crisis response teams, healing by talking, visits with paraprofessionals traditional counselling, counselling run via wellness funding).

- IV. Table 6 details toxicology test outcomes associated with deaths by suicide through 2014 to 2022. The “Toxicology Test Completed” row enumerates the total number of toxicological examinations performed, which are conducted at the discretion of the Coroner, depending on the specifics of each case and the condition of the body. The “Positive Toxicology Results” row reports the count of tests that detected the presence of alcohol, cannabis, and/or other controlled substances.

**Table 6. Toxicology Findings in Inuit Suicide Deaths. 2014-2022.**

	2014 - 2022
<b>Total Number of Suicides</b>	274
<b>Toxicology Test Completed</b>	202
<b>Positive Toxicology Results</b>	126

- V. Table 7 presents data on the history of substance or alcohol misuse among Inuit who died by suicide from 2014 to 2022. Information regarding substance use or alcohol misuse is derived from patient medical records, RCMP records and/or Coroner interviews. If the medical records show a history of cannabis use or

frequent severe intoxication, or if interviews with family and friends reveal a similar pattern, this information is noted in the table.

This information is not selective to only medical information. The data is dependent on the availability and reliability of the information.

**Table 7. History of Substance or Alcohol Misuse Among Inuit Who Died by Suicide, 2014-2022.**

	2014 - 2022
<b>Total Number of Suicide</b>	274
<b>History of Substance Use or Alcohol Use</b>	147

- VI. Table 8 presents data on the engagement with mental health counselors or other mental health professionals (e.g. mental health nurses) within the 12 months preceding death by suicide, from 2014 to 2022. This number reflects the number of individuals who accessed these services at least once.

**Table 8. Engagement with Mental Health Counsellors or Professionals in the 12 Months Prior to Suicide Deaths Among Inuit, 2014-2022.**

	2014 - 2022
<b>Total Number of Suicide</b>	274
<b>Mental health professional/counsellor visit, 12 months</b>	80

- VII. Table 9 presents the number of Inuit who had previously attempted suicide and subsequently died by suicide between 2014 to 2022. Data on prior suicide attempts are obtained from patient medical records and/or coroner interviews with friends and family.

**Table 9. Previous Suicide Attempts Among Inuit in Nunavut Who Died by Suicide, 2014-2022.**

	2014 - 2022
<b>Total Number of Suicide</b>	274
<b>Suicide Attempts in Lifetime</b>	108













