

2017 suicide-related contacts to Kids Helpline from children and young people in NSW:

Brief summary of key points

Type of help sought

- A total of 45,187 contacts from NSW, of which 18,180 were seeking counselling
- Of the counselling contacts, 3,445 (18.8%) were related to suicide (an average of 66 per week)

Nature of the concern about suicide

- 2140 contacts were about the young person's own suicidal thoughts or fears
- 227 contacts were with young people in crisis (expressing an immediate intent or engaged in an attempt at the time of contact)
- 327 involved concern about someone else
- 755 contacts were with young people who were seeking support for another issue, but disclosed current thoughts of suicide during the contact.

Duty of Care responses

A duty of care response is initiated when a child or young person is assessed to be experiencing significant harm or at imminent risk of significant harm.

- 163 duty of care responses related to suicide (an average of 3 each week) in NSW

In addition counsellors initiated numerous duty of care responses in relation to other concerns, particularly:

- 199 duty of care responses in response to child abuse
- 28 in response to escalation of mental illness
- 24 in response to drug overdose
- 24 in response to sexual assault
- 19 in response to non-suicidal self-injury
- 17 in response to harm to another
- 16 in response to domestic violence
- 12 in response to child exploitation.