

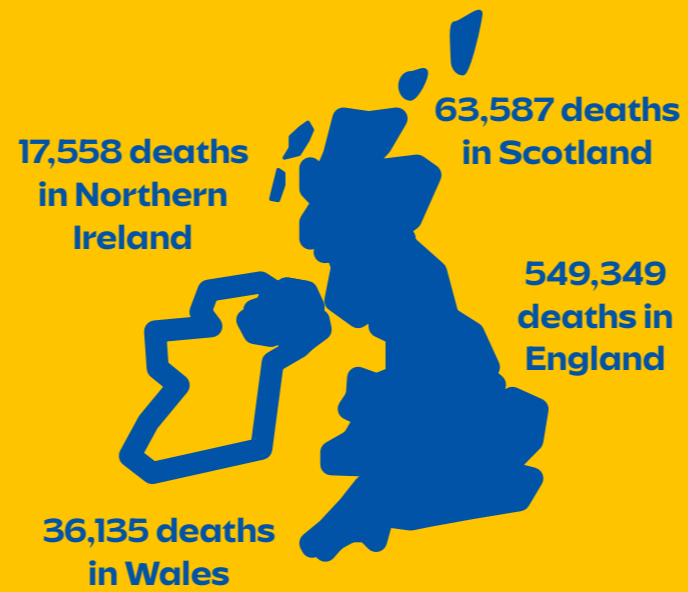


Key facts and statistics

2023



Every 5 minutes,
6 people die in the UK¹



666,629 people died
in the UK in 2021¹



9 in 10 people
dying in the UK today
need palliative care²



90,000 people die
in poverty every
year in the UK³



10 people die in poverty
in the UK every hour³

Number of deaths that
would benefit from palliative
care by nation²:



Note: includes those that do receive palliative care (not a figure for unmet need).



Half a million people in the UK are caring for someone with a terminal illness⁴



Over 40% of UK adults bereaved between 2016 and 2022 couldn't get the expert bereavement support they wanted⁵



Marie Curie is the UK's largest charitable funder of palliative care research⁶



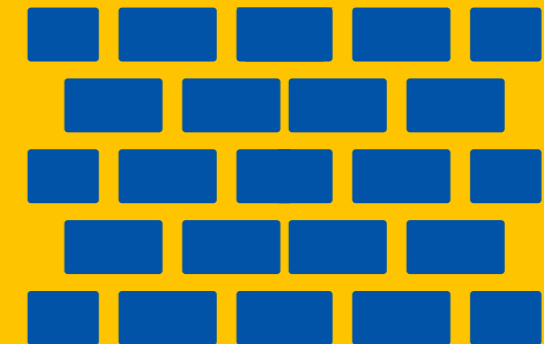
Marie Curie is the largest charitable employer of palliative care nurses and professionals in the UK⁷



1 in 4 people don't get the end of life care and support they need.² That's 150,000 people every year⁸



Every 5 minutes someone in the UK dies without the care and support they need⁸



Certain groups face significant barriers in accessing palliative care

including people from minoritised ethnic groups⁹, LGBTQ+ communities, travellers, and those living in poverty, poor housing, alone, in prison, with dementia or a learning disability

Looking to the future

The need for palliative care is growing in the UK. Our ageing society means more people will be living for longer, with multiple complex health conditions. So more people will need palliative care as they are dying.



**By 2045, 8 people
will die every 5 minutes.
That's 135,000 more
people dying every year
compared to today¹⁰**



**Two thirds of people
over 65 will be living
with multiple health
conditions by 2035¹¹**



By 2048 the need for end of life care will rise by up to 25% compared to today. Over 730,00 people will need care every year¹²

730,000+

By 2048 the number of people needing palliative and end of life care in the UK will rise by more than 147,000 to over 730,000¹²

1. Marie Curie calculation using figures for England and Wales: [Deaths registered summary statistics, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics](#) (ons.gov.uk); Scotland: [List of Data Tables | National Records of Scotland](#) (nrscotland.gov.uk); [Northern Ireland: Registrar General Annual Report | Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency](#) (nisra.gov.uk)
2. Estimates of Population-level Palliative Care Needs in the UK: Pre-Pandemic and During the Pandemic. Fantoni, Wynne & Finucane, 2023 (awaiting publication).
3. Centre for Research in Social Policy, [Poverty at End of Life Report](#)
4. Grande, G., Stajduhar, K., Aoun, S., Toye, C., Funk, L., Addington-Hall, J., Todd, C. (2009). [Supporting lay carers in end of life care: current gaps and future](#)
5. [UK Bereavement Commission Summary Report, 2022](#)
6. [UK Health Research Analysis 2018 - HRCS](#)
7. Marie Curie Annual Report and Accounts 2022-23, p6; Sue Ryder Annual Report and Accounts 2021-22, p95. NB. Macmillan does not directly employ staff, Annual Report and Accounts 2022, p52. The NHS is a publicly funded healthcare system, not a charity. NHS Charities Together is a national independent charity caring for the NHS.
8. Marie Curie calculation using Funding the right care and support for everyone - [Palliative Care Funding review](#)
9. Tobin J, Rogers A, Winterburn I, et al. (2021) Hospice care access inequalities: a systematic review and narrative synthesis. *BMJ Supportive & Palliative Care* Published Online First: 19 February 2021. doi: 10.1136/bmjspcare-2020-002719; Calanzani N, Koffman J, Higginson I J. (2013) Palliative and end of life care for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups in the UK: Demographic profile and the current state of palliative and end of life care provision. London: Marie Curie
10. Marie Curie calculation using [National population projections - Office for National Statistics](#)
11. Institute for Health and Care Research, [Multi-morbidity predicted to increase in the UK over the next 20 years](#)
12. [How many people need palliative care, Marie Curie, July 2023.](#)

Brand guidance

[Brand guidelines](#)

[Story Hub](#)

For more information about things mentioned in this document

[Hospices](#)

[Marie Curie Support Line](#)

[Nursing Services](#)

[Policy and campaigning](#)

[Research](#)

[Volunteering](#)

[Blog](#)

For volunteers

If you would like information from any of these links, please contact your Volunteer Manager or email volunteeringcommunications@mariecurie.org.uk so we can send the relevant resources and support you in accessing the information you need.