

Maine (2019-)

Assisted suicide became legal in Maine from 17 September 2019.

The [Maine Death With Dignity Act](#) is essentially modelled on the Oregon and Washington laws and creates the same risks of wrongful deaths. It passed the House by just one vote (73-72) and the Senate by just two votes (19-16) before being signed by the Governor on 12 June 2019.

Minimal reporting

Section 17 of the Act requires an annual statistical report to be issued based on reports from attending physicians. The Department of Health and Human Services issued an [emergency rule](#) for reporting requirements on 19 September 2019.

The [End-of-Life Closure Form](#), mandated by the rule, unlike Oregon or Washington, does not provide for any detailed information whatsoever.

In Maine we will not know why people request assisted suicide, how long they take to lose consciousness and die after ingesting the prescribed poison, if there were any complications and so forth.

No demographic data apart from age and sex is recorded and the only medical information is the underlying condition.

Numbers

A total of 117 people have died after ingesting a lethal substance prescribed under the Act – 1 in [2019](#); 30 in [2020](#); 46 in [2021](#) (0.26% of all deaths) and 40 in [2022](#).