



How the toll has risen: The Netherlands has seen deaths double in just six years

His native Netherlands, where euthanasia has been legal since 2002, has seen deaths double in just six years and this year's total may reach a record 6,000.

Professor Boer's intervention comes as peers prepare to debate the Assisted Dying Bill, promoted by Lord Falconer, a Labour former Lord Chancellor.

The bill, which has its second reading next week, would allow doctors to prescribe poison to terminally ill and mentally alert people who wish to kill themselves.

Professor Boer, who is an academic in the field of ethics, had argued seven years ago that a 'good euthanasia law' would produce relatively low numbers of deaths.

NETHERLANDS

	Year	AS/E Deaths	Total AS/E Deaths
Trial Judge Numbers (para. 475)			
	1990	204	204
	1995	346	550
	2001	377	927
Source: Netherlands Annual reports*			
	2002	1,882	2,809
	2003	1,815	4,624
	2004	1,886	6,510
	2005	1,933	8,443
	2006	1,923	10,366
	2007	2,120	12,486
	2008	2,331	14,817
	2009	2,636	17,453
	2010	3,136	20,589
	2011	3,695	24,284
	2012	4,118	28,402
	Total	28,402	

	Percent Increase (%)
Netherlands Annual Reports Only	11.88
Not including First Year	64.13

* As cited in Parliament of Canada, "Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide: International Experiences" at s. 4.3 - <http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/lop/researchpublications/2011-67-e.htm>
 2002 numbers directly from Annual Report available at <http://www.afm.nl/en/professionals/afm-actueel/jaarverslagen/2002.aspx>

OREGON

Year	AS/E Deaths	Total AS/E Deaths
Trial Judge Numbers (para. 398)		
1998	16	16
1999	27	43
2000	27	70
2001	21	91
2002	38	129
2003	42	171
2004	37	208
2005	38	246
2006	46	292
2007	49	341
2008	60	401
2009	59	460
2010	65	525

Source: Death with Dignity Act Annual Reports*

2011	71	596
2012	77	673
Total	673	

	Percent Increase (%)
Not including First Year	14.25
Trial Judge Numbers Only	25.52

* As cited in Parliament of Canada, "Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide: International Experiences" at s. 2.2.3 - <http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/lop/researchpublications/2011-67-e.htm>

BELGIUM

Year	AS/E Deaths	Total AS/E Deaths
Trial Judge Numbers (para. 518)		
2002	24	24
2003	235	259
2004	347	606
2005	388	994
2006	428	1,422
2007	495	1,917
2008	705	2,622
Source: Belgium Biannual Reports*		
2009	822	3,444
2010	953	4,397
2011	1,133	5,530
Total	5,530	

	Percent Increase (%)
Not including First Year	47.77
Trial Judge Numbers Only	472.92
Trial Judge Numbers Only (Not including First Year)	40.00

* As cited in Parliament of Canada, "Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide: International Experiences" at s. 6 - <http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/lop/researchpublications/2011-67-e.htm>