



Daily Updates of Totals by Week and State

Provisional Death Counts for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Contents

[COVID-19 Mortality Overview](#)

[Daily Updates of Totals by Week and State](#)

[Weekly Updates by Select Demographic and Geographic Characteristics](#)

[Health Disparities: Race and Hispanic Origin](#)

[Excess Deaths Associated with COVID-19](#)

[Index of Available Data Files](#)

[Technical Notes](#)

Updated: March 8, 2021

i Note: Provisional death counts are based on death certificate data received and coded by the National Center for Health Statistics as of March 8, 2021. Death counts are delayed and may differ from other published sources (see Technical Notes). Counts will be updated periodically. Additional information will be added to this site as available.

The provisional counts for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) deaths are based on a current flow of mortality data in the National Vital Statistics System. National provisional counts include deaths occurring within the 50 states and the District of Columbia that have been received and coded as of the date specified. It is important to note that it can take several weeks for death records to be submitted to National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), processed, coded, and tabulated. Therefore, the data shown on this page may be incomplete, and will likely not include all deaths that occurred during a given time period, especially for the more recent time periods. Death counts for earlier weeks are continually revised and may increase or decrease as new and updated death certificate data are received from the states by NCHS. COVID-19 death counts shown here may differ from other published sources, as data currently are lagged by an average of 1–2 weeks.

The provisional data presented on this page include the provisional counts of deaths in the United States due to COVID-19, deaths from all causes and percent of expected deaths (i.e., number of deaths received over number of deaths expected based on data from previous years), pneumonia deaths (excluding pneumonia deaths involving influenza), pneumonia deaths involving COVID-19, influenza deaths, and deaths involving pneumonia, influenza, or COVID-19; by week ending date, month, and year, and specific jurisdictions.

For the Index of Provisional COVID-19 Mortality Surveillance and Ad-hoc Data Files, [click here](#).

Table 1 has counts of deaths involving COVID-19 and other select causes of death by time-period in which the death occurred. For data on deaths involving COVID-19 by time-period and jurisdiction, [Click here to download](#).

Table 1. Deaths involving coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), pneumonia, and influenza reported to NCHS by time-period and jurisdiction of occurrence.

Data as of:
3/8/2021

State
United States

Week ending date in which the death occurred	All Deaths involving COVID-19 [1]	Deaths from All Causes	Percent of Expected Deaths [2]	Deaths involving Pneumonia [3]	Deaths involving COVID-19 and Pneumonia [3]	All Deaths involving Influenza [4]	Deaths involving Pneumonia, Influenza, or COVID-19 [5]
3/6/2021	825	7,694	13	719	420	2	1,124
2/27/2021	3,803	29,947	51	3,105	1,955	7	4,957
2/20/2021	6,337	40,664	69	5,072	3,462	8	7,954
2/13/2021	9,019	46,886	79	6,519	4,809	13	10,738
2/6/2021	13,187	58,739	99	9,333	7,088	20	15,444
1/30/2021	17,239	67,362	113	11,679	9,138	30	19,796
1/23/2021	20,754	73,999	122	13,908	11,086	27	23,590
1/16/2021	23,159	79,068	127	15,335	12,326	31	26,189
1/9/2021	24,061	80,583	131	15,717	12,629	31	27,163
1/2/2021	23,351	82,238	140	15,158	11,942	44	26,586
12/26/2020	22,230	80,427	137	14,227	11,069	28	25,401
12/19/2020	21,346	79,505	137	13,715	10,566	31	24,507
12/12/2020	20,123	78,899	138	12,812	9,706	30	23,244
12/5/2020	17,997	74,830	133	11,743	8,672	33	21,088
Total	503,052	3,894,727		435,075	243,207	9,116	702,814

WeeklyMonthlyYearly

[2] Percent of expected deaths is the number of deaths for all causes for these time-periods in 2020 or 2021 compared to the average number across the same time-period in 2017–2019. Previous analyses of 2015–2016 provisional data completeness have found that completeness is lower in the first few weeks following the date of death (<25%), and then increases over time such that data are generally at least 75% complete within 8 weeks of when the death occurred (8).

[3] Counts of deaths involving pneumonia (J12.0-J18.9) include pneumonia deaths that also involve COVID-19 and exclude pneumonia deaths involving influenza.

[4] Counts of deaths involving influenza (J09-J11) include deaths with pneumonia or COVID-19 also listed as a cause of death.

[5] Deaths with confirmed or presumed COVID-19, pneumonia, or influenza, coded to ICD–10 codes U07.1 or J09–J18.9.

Understanding the Numbers: Provisional Death Counts and COVID-19

Provisional death counts deliver the most complete and accurate picture of lives lost to COVID-19. They are based on death certificates, which are the most reliable source of data and contain information not available anywhere else, including comorbid conditions, race and ethnicity, and place of death.

How it Works

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) uses incoming data from death certificates to produce provisional COVID-19 death counts. These include deaths occurring within the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

NCHS also provides summaries that examine deaths in specific categories and in greater geographic detail, such as deaths by county and by race and Hispanic origin.

COVID-19 deaths are identified using a new ICD-10 code. When COVID-19 is reported as a cause of death – or when it is listed as a “probable” or “presumed” cause — the death is coded as **U07.1**. This can include cases with or without laboratory confirmation.

Why These Numbers are Different

Provisional death counts may not match counts from other sources, such as media reports or numbers from county health departments. Counts by NCHS often track 1–2 weeks behind other data.

- **Death certificates take time to be completed.** There are many steps to filling out and submitting a death certificate. Waiting for test results can create additional delays.
- **States report at different rates.** Currently, 63% of all U.S. deaths are reported within 10 days of the date of death, but there is significant variation between states.
- **It takes extra time to code COVID-19 deaths.** While 80% of deaths are electronically processed and coded by NCHS within minutes, most deaths from COVID-19 must be coded by a person, which takes an average of 7 days.
- **Other reporting systems use different definitions or methods for counting deaths.**

Things to know about the data

Provisional counts are not final and are subject to change. Counts from previous weeks are continually revised as more records are received and processed.

Provisional data are not yet complete. Counts will not include all deaths that occurred during a given time period, especially for more recent periods. However, we can estimate how complete our numbers are by looking at the average number of deaths reported in previous years.

Death counts should not be compared across states. Some states report deaths on a daily basis, while other states report deaths weekly or monthly. State vital record reporting may also be affected or delayed by COVID-19 related response activities.

For more detailed technical information, visit the [Provisional Death Counts for Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Technical Notes](#) page.

