



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

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 19, 2021

 Note: Provisional death counts are based on death certificate data received and coded by the National Center for Health Statistics as of March 19, 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:
3/19/2021

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]
3/13/2021	2,166	23,491	41	2,017	1,122	3	3,062
3/6/2021	3,888	36,020	63	3,531	2,082	12	5,343
2/27/2021	5,873	44,505	77	4,878	3,129	10	7,629
2/20/2021	8,425	54,739	93	6,901	4,610	10	10,725
2/13/2021	11,411	61,344	103	8,627	6,165	20	13,886
2/6/2021	15,073	68,324	115	10,900	8,185	26	17,804
1/30/2021	18,392	72,267	121	12,570	9,803	30	21,175
1/23/2021	21,537	76,811	126	14,481	11,534	27	24,498
1/16/2021	23,728	81,100	130	15,747	12,639	33	26,858
1/9/2021	24,386	81,891	133	15,960	12,804	32	27,557
1/2/2021	23,523	82,795	141	15,274	12,031	44	26,785
12/26/2020	22,315	80,740	138	14,282	11,107	28	25,503
12/19/2020	21,414	79,777	138	13,760	10,593	31	24,593
12/12/2020	20,171	79,149	138	12,852	9,728	30	23,310
12/5/2020	18,044	75,142	133	11,780	8,696	33	21,148
Total	520,325	4,014,672		449,862	252,710	9,151	725,394

Weekly
Monthly
Yearly

NOTE: Empty data cells represent death counts between 1-9 that have been suppressed in accordance with NCHS confidentiality standards. Number of deaths reported in this table are the total number of deaths received and coded as of the date of analysis and may not represent all deaths that occurred in that period. Counts of deaths occurring before or after the reporting period are not included in the table. Data during recent periods are incomplete because of the lag in time between when the death occurred and when the death certificate is completed, submitted to NCHS and processed for reporting purposes. This delay can range from 1 week to 8 weeks or more, depending on the jurisdiction and cause of death. The United States population, based on 2019 postcensal estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau, is 328,239,523. United States death counts include the 50 states, plus the District of Columbia and New York City. New York state estimates exclude New York City.

[1] Deaths with confirmed or presumed COVID-19, coded to ICD-10 code U07.1.

[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.

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