



COVID-19

Risk for COVID-19 Infection, Hospitalization, and Death By Race/Ethnicity

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Rate ratios compared to White, Non-Hispanic persons	American Indian or Alaska Native, Non-Hispanic persons	Asian, Non-Hispanic persons	Black or African American, Non-Hispanic persons	Hispanic or Latino persons
Cases¹	1.6x	0.7x	1.1x	2.0x
Hospitalization²	3.3x	1.0x	2.9x	2.8x
Death³	2.4x	1.0x	1.9x	2.3x

Race and ethnicity are risk markers for other underlying conditions that affect health, including socioeconomic status, access to health care, and exposure to the virus related to occupation, e.g., frontline, essential, and critical infrastructure workers.

References

¹ Data Source: Data reported by state and territorial jurisdictions (accessed May 7, 2021). Numbers are ratios of age-adjusted rates standardized to the 2019 U.S. intercensal population estimate. Calculations use only the 61% of case reports that have race and ethnicity; this can result in inaccurate estimates of the relative risk among groups.

² Data source: COVID-NET (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/covid-net/purpose-methods.html>, March 1, 2020 through May 1, 2021). Numbers are ratios of age-adjusted rates standardized to the 2019 US standard COVID-NET catchment population.

³ Data source: National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) provisional death counts (<https://data.cdc.gov/NCHS/Provisional-Death-Counts-for-Coronavirus-Disease-C/pj7m-y5uh>, data through May 8, 2021). Numbers are ratios of age-adjusted rates standardized to the 2019 U.S. intercensal population estimate.

Note: Adjusting by age is important because risk of infection, hospitalization, and death is different by age, and age distribution differs by racial and ethnic group. If the effect of age is not accounted for, racial and ethnic disparities can be underestimated or overestimated.

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Content source: [National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases \(NCIRD\), Division of Viral Diseases](#)