

COVID-19 Mortality Overview

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

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In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, NCHS is releasing provisional death data from the National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) on a [daily](#) and [weekly](#) basis. These data come directly from death certificates filed at the state and local level, and feature counts of COVID-19-related deaths by age, gender, race and Hispanic origin, place of death, and include information on other health conditions and comorbidities involved in these deaths. Estimates on excess deaths – the number of deaths exceeding the normal average total of deaths in recent years – are also included. The statistical summary below is updated weekly (usually on Wednesday), and includes links to corresponding data tables on the NCHS COVID-19 data page.

Weekly Summary on COVID-19 Deaths

NOTE: Due to delayed reporting of death certificates, this count is incomplete and less than counts from other sources besides NCHS. The result is a lag in the count totals of a few weeks, and as more data are received, these totals will likely equal or exceed counts reported by other sources through the same week.

Deaths Attributed to COVID-19 on Death Certificates

Data as of 9/15/2021

Total

2021

2020

Deaths through week ending 9/11/2021

658,754

In at least 90% of these deaths, COVID-19 was listed as the underlying cause of death. For the remaining deaths, COVID-19 was listed as a contributing cause of death.

Weekly Highs and Lows of COVID-19 Deaths

Data as of 9/15/2021

Most Current (Incomplete) Weekly Total,
week ending 9/11/2021

2,691

Highest Weekly Number of Deaths, week
ending 1/9/2021

25,936

Lowest Weekly Number of Deaths, week
ending 7/3/2021

1,490

Note: Lowest weekly number is selected based on weeks after the initial first wave peak (4/1/2020) and not within the last 5 weeks. Data for the most recent 5 weeks are typically less than 90% complete, with lower levels of completeness in more recent weeks.

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Place of Death

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Death by Age Group

Data as of 9/15/2021

65-and-over age group

77.7% (511,673 deaths)

45-64 age group

19.0% (125,298
deaths)

3.3%

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Percentage of COVID-19 Deaths by Race & Hispanic Origin

Data as of 9/15/2021

Non-Hispanic White

61% (403,522 deaths)

Hispanic

18% (118,718 deaths)

15%

Non-Hispanic Asian

4% (24,037 deaths)

NH American Indian/Alaskan Native

1% (7,305 deaths)

NH Nat

0.2%

NOTE: This is the distribution of all COVID-19 deaths according to race and Hispanic origin. The non-Hispanic white population disproportionately affect Hispanic, non-Hispanic black, and non-Hispanic American Indian/Alaskan Native populations. Please see the following link for more information.

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Most Frequently Listed Comorbidities with COVID-19 Deaths

Data as of 9/12/2021

Influenza & Pneumonia	Hypertension	15.8%
47.0% (306,957 deaths)	19.3% (126,286 deaths)	
Alzheimer disease and other Dementias	Sepsis	
12.5% (81,805 deaths)	9.7% (63,217 deaths)	

NOTE: There were co-morbidities or other conditions listed on the death certificate for as many as 95% of all COVID-19 deaths. Of the 10% of death certificates in which COVID-19 was the only condition listed, a lack of detail listed about other conditions was likely related to a lack of detail listed about other conditions.

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Total Excess Deaths

Total Excess Deaths from
2/1/2020 to 9/4/2021

743,452

This number reflects the mid-point between the estimated
830,443 excess deaths

Refer to ["Number of Excess Deaths"](#) dashboard

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