

COVID-19 Mortality Overview

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

Contents	
COVID-19 Mortality Overview	Health Disparities
Daily Updates of Totals by Week and State	Excess Deaths Associated with COVID-19
Weekly Updates by Select Demographic and Geographic Characteristics	Index of Available Data Files
	Technical Notes

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 9/29/2021

Total

2021

2020

Deaths through week ending 9/25/2021

687,172

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 9/29/2021

Most Current (Incomplete) Weekly Total,
week ending 9/25/2021

2,530

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

25,953

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

1,500

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.

Microsoft Power BI

Place of Death

Data as of 9/29/2021

Total

2021

2020

Hospital or Other Inpatient Health-Care Setting

Nursing Home or Long-Term Care Facilities

66.9% (459,483 deaths)

17.1% (117,255 deaths)

Microsoft Power BI

Death by Age Group

Data as of 9/29/2021

Total

2021

2020

65-and-over age group

45-64 age group

Under 45 age group

76.9% (528,246 deaths)

**19.6% (134,647
deaths)**

3.5% (24,279 deaths)

Microsoft Power BI

Percentage of COVID-19 Deaths by Race & Hispanic Origin

Data as of 9/29/2021

Total

2021

2020

Non-Hispanic White

Hispanic

Non-Hispanic Black

62% (422,531 deaths)

18% (122,940 deaths)

15% (103,727 deaths)

Non-Hispanic Asian

NH American Indian/Alaskan Native

NH Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders

4% (24,511 deaths)

1% (7,545 deaths)

0.2% (1,446 deaths)

NOTE: This is the distribution of all COVID-19 deaths according to race and Hispanic origin. The non-Hispanic white population accounts for the majority of deaths overall which is reflected in this percentage distribution. When compared to their own race and Hispanic sub-population, COVID-19 deaths disproportionately affect Hispanic, non-Hispanic black, and non-Hispanic American Indian/Alaskan Native populations. Please see the [Health Disparities page](#) for more information.

Microsoft Power BI



Most Frequently Listed Comorbidities with COVID-19 Deaths

Data as of 9/26/2021

Total

2021

2020

Influenza & Pneumonia

Hypertension

Diabetes

47.5% (323,962 deaths)

19.2% (131,037 deaths)

15.7% (107,171 deaths)

Alzheimer disease and other Dementias

Sepsis

12.2% (83,241 deaths)

9.7% (66,114 deaths)

NOTE: There were co-morbidities or other conditions listed on the death certificate for as many as 95% of all COVID-19 deaths ([Table 3, Weekly](#)). The other 5% of death certificates in which COVID-19 was the only condition listed was likely related to a lack of detail listed about other conditions present at the time of death.

Microsoft Power BI



Total Excess Deaths

Total Excess Deaths from
2/1/2020 to 9/18/2021

785,160

This number reflects the mid-point between the estimated range of 699,447 to 870,872 excess deaths.

Refer to "[Number of Excess Deaths](#)" dashboard listed under "Options."

Microsoft Power BI

Page last reviewed: April 23, 2021