

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 10/6/2021 | Total | 2021 | 2020 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|------|--|
| Deaths through week ending 10/2/2021 | | | |
| 700,952 | | | 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. |

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Weekly Highs and Lows of COVID-19 Deaths

Data as of 10/6/2021

Most Current (Incomplete) Weekly Total,
week ending 10/2/2021

2,374

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

25,959

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

1,503

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

Data as of 10/6/2021

Total

2021

2020

Hospital or Other Inpatient Health-Care Setting

67.1% (470,216 deaths)

Nursing Home or Long-Term Care Facilities

16.8% (117,901 deaths)

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Death by Age Group

Data as of 10/6/2021

Total

2021

2020

65-and-over age group

76.5% (536,170 deaths)

45-64 age group

19.9% (139,275 deaths)

Under 45 age group

3.6% (25,507 deaths)

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Percentage of COVID-19 Deaths by Race & Hispanic Origin

Data as of 10/6/2021

Total

2021

2020

Non-Hispanic White

62% (432,012 deaths)

Hispanic

18% (124,814 deaths)

Non-Hispanic Black

15% (105,661 deaths)

Non-Hispanic Asian

4% (24,722 deaths)

NH American Indian/Alaskan Native

1% (7,683 deaths)

NH Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders

0.2% (1,501 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.

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Most Frequently Listed Comorbidities with COVID-19 Deaths

| Data as of 10/3/2021 | | Total | 2021 | 2020 |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Influenza & Pneumonia | | | Hypertension | Diabetes |
| 47.7% (331,859 deaths) | | | 19.1% (133,101 deaths) | 15.7% (109,003 deaths) |
| Alzheimer disease and other Dementias | | | Sepsis | |
| 12.1% (83,817 deaths) | | | 9.7% (67,546 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.

Total Excess Deaths

Total Excess Deaths from
2/1/2020 to 9/25/2021

805,305

This number reflects the mid-point between the estimated range of 720,150 to 890,460 excess deaths.

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