

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 12/30/2021

Deaths through week ending 12/25/2021

816,823

Total

2021

2020

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 12/29/2021

Most Current (Incomplete) Weekly Total,
week ending 12/25/2021

1,646

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

25,992

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

1,535

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 12/29/2021

Total

2021

2020

Hospital or Other Inpatient Health-Care Setting

Nursing Home or Long-Term Care Facilities

68.2% (555,551 deaths)

15.4% (125,452 deaths)

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Death by Age Group

Data as of 12/29/2021

Total

2021

2020

65-and-over age group

45-64 age group

Under 45 age group

74.6% (607,972 deaths)

21.2% (172,925
deaths)

4.2% (33,909 deaths)

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Percentage of COVID-19 Deaths by Race & Hispanic Origin

Data as of 12/29/2021

Non-Hispanic White

Hispanic

I

63% (513,877 deaths)

17% (139,076 deaths)

15%

Non-Hispanic Asian

NH American Indian/Alaskan Native

NH Nat

3% (26,715 deaths)

1% (9,207 deaths)

0.2%

NOTE: This is the distribution of all COVID-19 deaths according to race and Hispanic origin. The non-Hispanic white population deaths overall which is reflected in this percentage distribution. When compared to their own race and Hispanic sub-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 12/26/2021

Influenza & Pneumonia	Hypertension	15.4%
48.9% (396,382 deaths)	18.6% (150,706 deaths)	
Alzheimer disease and other Dementias	Sepsis	
11.1% (90,034 deaths)	9.8% (79,749 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 5% 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 12/18/2021

936,377

This number reflects the total estimated number of excess deaths occurring since February 1, 2020.

Refer to ["Number of Excess Deaths"](#) dashboard for more details.

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