

COVID-19 Data from NCHS

COVID-19 Death Data and Resources

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Daily Updates of Totals by Week and State

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

Contents: 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, Health Disparities: Race and Hispanic Origin, Technical Notes

Updated: December 17, 2020

Note: Provisional death counts are based on death certificate data received and coded by the National Center for Health Statistics as of December 17, 2020. Death counts are delayed and may differ from other published sources (see Technical Notes). Counts will be updated periodically.

The provisional counts for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) deaths are based on a current flow of mortality data in the National Vital Statistics System. National provisional counts include deaths occurring within the 50 states and the District of Columbia that have been received and coded as of the date specified.

The provisional data presented on this page include the weekly provisional count of deaths in the United States due to COVID-19, deaths from all causes and percent of expected deaths (i.e., number of deaths received over number of deaths expected based on data from previous years), pneumonia deaths (excluding pneumonia deaths involving influenza), pneumonia deaths involving COVID-19, influenza deaths, and deaths involving pneumonia, influenza, or COVID-19; (a) by week ending date and (b) by specific jurisdictions.

For the Index of Provisional COVID-19 Mortality Surveillance and Ad-hoc Data Files, click here.

Table 1 has counts of death involving COVID-19 and select causes of death by the week ending date in which the death occurred. For deaths involving COVID-19 by week ending date at the state level, click here to download.

Table 1. Deaths involving coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), pneumonia, and influenza reported to NCHS by week ending date, United States, Week ending 2/1/2020 to 12/12/2020.*

Updated December 17, 2020

Table with 7 columns: Week ending date, All Deaths involving COVID-19 (U07.1)†, Deaths from All Causes ‡, Percent of Expected Deaths², Deaths involving Pneumonia, with or without COVID-19, excluding Influenza deaths (J12.0–J18.9)⁴, Deaths involving COVID-19 and Pneumonia, excluding Influenza (U07.1 and J12.0–J18.9)⁵, All Deaths involving Influenza, with or without COVID-19 or Pneumonia (J09–J11, includes COVID-19 or Pneumonia)⁶, Deaths involving Pneumonia, Influenza, or COVID-19 (U07.1 or J09–J18.9)⁷

NOTE: Number of deaths reported in this table are the total number of deaths received and coded as of the date of analysis and do not represent all deaths that occurred in that period. Counts of deaths occurring before or after the reporting period are not included in the table.

*Data during this period are incomplete because of the lag in time between when the death occurred and when the death certificate is completed, submitted to NCHS and processed for reporting purposes. This delay can range from 1 week to 8 weeks or more, depending on the jurisdiction and cause of death.

†Deaths with confirmed or presumed COVID-19, coded to ICD-10 code U07.1.

²Percent of expected deaths is the number of deaths for all causes for this week in 2020 compared to the average number across the same week in 2017–2019. Previous analyses of 2015–2016 provisional data completeness have found that completeness is lower in the first few weeks following the date of death (<25%), and then increases over time such that data are generally at least 75% complete within 8 weeks of when the death occurred (3).

³Counts of deaths involving pneumonia include pneumonia deaths that also involve COVID-19 and exclude pneumonia deaths involving influenza.

⁴Counts of deaths involving influenza include deaths with pneumonia or COVID-19 also listed as a cause of death.

⁵Deaths with confirmed or presumed COVID-19, pneumonia, or influenza, coded to ICD-10 codes U07.1 or J09–J18.9.

⁶Deaths with confirmed or presumed COVID-19, pneumonia, or influenza, coded to ICD-10 codes U07.1 or J09–J18.9.

⁷Deaths with confirmed or presumed COVID-19, pneumonia, or influenza, coded to ICD-10 codes U07.1 or J09–J18.9.

Table 2. Deaths involving coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), pneumonia, and influenza reported to NCHS by jurisdiction of occurrence, United States, Week ending 2/1/2020 to 12/12/2020.*

Updated December 17, 2020

Table with 7 columns: Jurisdiction of Occurrence, All Deaths involving COVID-19 (U07.1)†, Deaths from All Causes ‡, Percent of Expected Deaths², Deaths involving Pneumonia, with or without COVID-19, excluding Influenza deaths (J12.0–J18.9)⁴, Deaths involving COVID-19 and Pneumonia, excluding Influenza (U07.1 and J12.0–J18.9)⁵, All Deaths involving Influenza, with or without COVID-19 or Pneumonia (J09–J11)⁶, Deaths involving Pneumonia, Influenza, or COVID-19 (U07.1 or J09–J18.9)⁷

NOTE: Number of deaths reported in this table are the total number of deaths received and coded as of the date of analysis and do not represent all deaths that occurred in that period. Counts of deaths occurring before or after the reporting period are not included in the table.

*Data during this period are incomplete because of the lag in time between when the death occurred and when the death certificate is completed, submitted to NCHS and processed for reporting purposes. This delay can range from 1 week to 8 weeks or more, depending on the jurisdiction and cause of death.

†Deaths with confirmed or presumed COVID-19, coded to ICD-10 code U07.1.

²Percent of expected deaths is the number of deaths for all causes for this week in 2020 compared to the average number across the same week in 2017–2019.

³Counts of deaths involving pneumonia include pneumonia deaths that also involve COVID-19 and exclude pneumonia deaths involving influenza.

⁴Counts of deaths involving influenza include deaths with pneumonia or COVID-19 also listed as a cause of death.

⁵Deaths with confirmed or presumed COVID-19, pneumonia, or influenza, coded to ICD-10 codes U07.1 or J09–J18.9.

⁶United States death count includes the 50 states, plus the District of Columbia and New York City.

⁷Excludes New York City.

Understanding the Numbers: Provisional Death Counts and COVID-19

Provisional death counts deliver the most complete and accurate picture of lives lost to COVID-19. They are based on death certificates, which are the most reliable source of data and contain information not available anywhere else, including comorbid conditions, race and ethnicity, and place of death.

How it Works: The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) uses incoming data from death certificates to produce provisional COVID-19 death counts. NCHS also provides summaries that examine deaths in specific categories and in greater geographic detail.

COVID-19 deaths are identified using a new ICD-10 code. When COVID-19 is coded as a cause of death – or when it is listed as a “probable” or “presumed” cause – the death is reported as U07.1. This can include cases with or without laboratory confirmation.

Why These Numbers are Different: Provisional counts may not match counts from other sources, such as media reports or numbers from county health departments. Counts by NCHS often track 1–2 weeks behind other data.

- Death certificates take time to be completed.
States report at different rates.
It takes extra time to code COVID-19 deaths.
Other reporting systems use different definitions or methods for counting deaths.

Things to know about the data: Provisional counts are not final and are subject to change. Provisional data are not yet complete. Death counts should not be compared across states.

For more detailed technical information, visit the Provisional Death Counts for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Technical Notes page.

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