

Data Brief 456. Mortality in the United States, 2021

Data table for Figure 1. Life expectancy at birth and age 65, by sex: United States, 2020 and 2021

Year	At birth			At age 65		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
2020.	77.0	74.2	79.9	18.5	17.0	19.8
2021.	76.4	73.5	79.3	18.4	17.0	19.7

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

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Data table for Figure 2. Number of deaths and age-adjusted death rate, by race and Hispanic origin and sex: United States, 2020 and 2021

Race and Hispanic origin and sex	2020			2021		
	Number	Age-adjusted rate uncorrected for misclassification ^{1,2}	Age-adjusted rate corrected for misclassification ^{1,3}	Number	Age-adjusted rate uncorrected for misclassification ^{1,2}	Age-adjusted rate corrected for misclassification ^{1,3}
Total ⁴	3,383,729	835.4	835.4	3,464,231	879.7	879.7
Hispanic:						
Male	175,585	903.8	934.8	181,195	884.9	915.6
Female	130,123	570.1	586.6	134,469	582.7	599.8
Non-Hispanic:						
American Indian or Alaska Native male	13,431	1,205.9	1,618.9	14,724	1,282.7	1,717.5
American Indian or Alaska Native female	11,294	881.5	1,152.9	12,248	946.6	1,236.6
Asian male	47,699	557.4	581.0	48,386	554.9	578.1
Asian female	43,476	378.5	383.0	44,046	386.3	391.1
Black male	237,703	1,399.0	1,405.6	238,599	1,374.0	1,380.2
Black female	211,510	905.2	910.0	211,165	917.2	921.9
White male	1,278,612	985.0	984.6	1,337,385	1,055.6	1,055.3
White female	1,205,460	703.1	702.3	1,211,424	751.4	750.6

¹Deaths per 100,000 U.S. standard population.

²Not adjusted for race and Hispanic-origin misclassification on death certificates.

³Adjusted for race and Hispanic-origin misclassification on death certificates. Adjusted data may differ from data shown in other reports that have not been adjusted for misclassification.

⁴Includes races and origins not shown separately.

NOTE: Race groups are single race.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

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Data table for Figure 3. Number of deaths and death rate for ages 1 year and over: United States, 2020 and 2021

Age group (years)	2020		2021	
	Number	Rate ¹	Number	Rate ¹
1-4.	3,529	22.7	3,816	25.0
5-14.	5,623	13.7	5,975	14.3
15-24.	35,816	84.2	38,307	88.9
25-34.	73,486	159.5	82,274	180.8
35-44.	104,490	248.0	124,939	287.9
45-54.	191,142	473.5	216,037	531.0
55-64.	440,549	1,038.9	478,171	1,117.1
65-74.	674,507	2,072.3	724,266	2,151.3
75-84.	822,084	4,997.0	829,653	5,119.4
85 and over	1,012,805	15,210.9	940,780	15,743.3

¹Deaths per 100,000 U.S. population.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

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Data table for Figure 4. Number of deaths, percentage of total deaths, and age-adjusted death rate for the 10 leading causes of death in 2021: United States, 2020 and 2021

Rank ¹	Cause of death (based on <i>International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision</i>)	2020			2021		
		Number	Percent	Rate ²	Number	Percent	Rate ²
...	All causes	3,383,729	100.0	835.4	3,464,231	100.0	879.7
1	Diseases of heart. (I00–I09,I11,I13,I20–I51)	696,962	20.6	168.2	695,547	20.1	173.8
2	Malignant neoplasms (cancer) (C00–C97)	602,350	17.8	144.1	605,213	17.5	146.6
3	COVID-19 (U07.1)	350,831	10.4	85.0	416,893	12.0	104.1
4	Accidents (unintentional injuries) (V01–X59,Y85–Y86)	200,955	5.9	57.6	224,935	6.5	64.7
5	Cerebrovascular diseases (stroke) (I60–I69)	160,264	4.7	38.8	162,890	4.7	41.1
6	Chronic lower respiratory diseases (J40–J47)	152,657	4.5	36.4	142,342	4.1	34.7
7	Alzheimer disease (G30)	134,242	4.0	32.4	119,399	3.4	31.0
8	Diabetes mellitus (E10–E14)	102,188	3.0	24.8	103,294	3.0	25.4
9	Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis (K70,K73–K74)	51,642	1.5	13.3	56,585	1.6	14.5
10	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis (kidney disease). (N00–N07,N17–N19,N25–N27)	52,547	1.6	12.7	54,358	1.6	13.6
...	All other causes (residual)	879,091	26.0	...	882,775	25.5	...

... Category not applicable.
¹Based on number of deaths.
²Deaths per 100,000 U.S. standard population.

NOTES: Numbers showing percentage by cause are rounded, so these numbers may not add to 100.0%. The 10 leading causes of death accounted for 74.5% of all U.S. deaths in 2021. Causes of deaths are ranked according to number of death. Rankings for 2020 data are not shown.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

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Data table for Figure 5. Number of infant deaths, percentage of total infant deaths, and infant mortality rate for the 10 leading causes of infant death in 2021: United States, 2020 and 2021

Rank ¹	Cause of death (based on <i>International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision</i>)	2020			2021		
		Number	Percent	Rate ²	Number	Percent	Rate ²
...	All causes	19,582	100.0	541.9	19,920	100.0	543.6
1	Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities (Q00–Q99)	4,043	20.6	111.9	3,963	19.9	108.2
2	Disorders related to short gestation and low birth weight, not elsewhere classified (P07)	3,141	16.0	86.9	2,946	14.8	80.4
3	Sudden infant death syndrome (R95)	1,389	7.1	38.4	1,459	7.3	39.8
4	Accidents (unintentional injuries) (V01–X59)	1,194	6.1	33.0	1,306	6.6	35.6
5	Newborn affected by maternal complications of pregnancy (P01)	1,116	5.7	30.9	1,113	5.6	30.4
6	Newborn affected by complications of placenta, cord and membranes (P02)	700	3.6	19.4	672	3.4	18.3
7	Bacterial sepsis of newborn (P36)	542	2.8	15.0	557	2.8	15.2
8	Respiratory distress of newborn (P22)	388	2.0	10.7	414	2.1	11.3
9	Diseases of the circulatory system (I00–I99)	386	2.0	10.7	402	2.0	11.0
10	Intrauterine hypoxia and birth asphyxia (P20–P21)	307	1.6	8.5	358	1.8	9.8
...	All other causes (residual)	6,376	32.5	...	6,730	33.8	...

... Category not applicable.
¹Based on number of deaths.
²Infant deaths per 100,000 live births.

NOTES: Numbers showing percentage by cause are rounded, so these numbers may not add to 100.0%. The 10 leading causes of infant death in 2021 accounted for 66.2% of all U.S. infant deaths. Causes of death are ranked according to number of deaths. Rankings for 2020 data are not shown.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.