

**The demography of COVID-19 deaths (<https://dc-covid.site.ined.fr/fr/>)**  
**Metadata information for the United States**  
**(Last revised 19/05/2020)**

**Data source**

National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control (NCHS)

Web Page: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/COVID19/>

**Coverage**

All confirmed (and, in many states suspected) COVID-19 deaths, whether the death took place in a hospital, in an institution or at home. Include laboratory confirmed COVID-19 deaths and clinically confirmed deaths where COVID-19 is listed as a “presumed” or “probable” cause (underlying or contributing), i.e. for which the certifier suspected COVID-19 was likely even without laboratory confirmation. However, some local and state health departments only report laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 deaths. The NCHS data include all deaths occurring in the United States. (<https://data.cdc.gov/NCHS/Provisional-Death-Counts-for-Coronavirus-Disease-C/hc4f-j6nb>).

**Data collection**

When a death occurs, a certifier (e.g. physician, medical examiner or coroner) completes the death certificate with the underlying cause of death and any contributing causes of death. In some cases, laboratory tests or autopsy results may be required to determine the cause of death. Completed death certificates are sent to the state vital records office and then to NCHS for cause of death coding. As of mid-April 2020, approximately 25% of COVID-19 related deaths were coded automatically and the remaining 75% were coded manually. Currently, 63% of US deaths are reported to NCHS within 10 days of the date of death, but there is variation among states (from 0% to over 90%). In general, provisional counts of COVID-19 deaths reported in the US track approximately 1–2 weeks behind other published data sources.

**Information collected**

Age

Sex

Race and ethnicity

State of occurrence

Week of occurrence

Place of death

Comorbidities

**Time of death count**

Weekly death counts from Covid-19 by age, sex and week of occurrence as well as those by place of death and week of occurrence are updated 3-5 times a week.