

**Data Brief 456. Mortality in the United States, 2021**

**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 <sup>1</sup>	Cause of death (based on <i>International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision</i> )	2020			2021		
		Number	Percent	Rate <sup>2</sup>	Number	Percent	Rate <sup>2</sup>
...	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.

<sup>1</sup>Based on number of deaths.

<sup>2</sup>Deaths 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.