



Impact of COVID-19 on Vulnerable Populations in Texas

COVID-19 Fatalities Dashboard Notes

Note: The COVID-19 Fatalities dashboard is no longer being updated. You can find more recent data on the [DSHS COVID-19 Dashboard](#) and [COVID-19 Cases and Deaths by Vaccination Status Dashboard](#).

Data source and Acknowledgements

Texas Department of State Health Services, Center for Health Statistics (CHS) and Emerging & Acute Infectious Disease Unit (EAIDU).

Data description

COVID-19 associated fatality data are derived from the information collected on death certificates for Texas residents who died in Texas and out-of-state. The COVID-19 associated fatalities on this dashboard may not match other dashboards because:

- The data are provisional and subject to errors/amendments.
- The data on this dashboard are updated quarterly (with a two-month lag) while the COVID-19 death data on the [DSHS COVID-19 Dashboard](#) are updated daily. When the data are updated, the previous months may change too (complete refresh not just data for a new quarter).
- There are delays and differences in reporting among various entities.
- Epidemiological investigations have not been completed on all COVID-19 fatalities.

Graphs reflect the date of death, and the totals for previous months may change as death certificates are filed or amended. By law, death certificates must be filed within 10 days of death and may be amended later.

Decedents were included if COVID-19 was listed as a direct or contributing cause of death on the death certificate. A medical certifier, usually a doctor, determines the cause(s) of death. Decedents who had COVID-19 but died of an unrelated cause were excluded.

Measure information

The death data subset in the COVID-19 Fatalities dashboard includes decedents' age group, race/ethnicity, sex, and month/year of death. COVID-19 deaths are aggregated on these categories for the visualizations. Data are suppressed if the number of COVID-19 fatalities was 5 or less.

Race/ethnicity of fatalities

For this analysis, race and ethnicity are coded as a combination as outlined below:

- Hispanic includes people of any race who identify as Hispanic ethnicity.
- Those who identify as non-Hispanic or whose ethnicity is unknown are reported by their race.
- "Other" includes races that are not White, Black or African American, Hispanic, or Asian, and those who identify as multiple races.

Race/ethnicity is mutually exclusive. In other words, each decedent is counted in only one race/ethnicity group in this analysis.

Age adjustment

Age-adjusted death rates provide unbiased comparisons that are not influenced by differences in age distribution in subject populations. The standard used is the US 2000 standard population. Population data for Texas are based on 2020 projections from the [Texas Demographic Center, UT San Antonio](#).

For more information on age adjustment, please see the [CHS Vital Statistics Annual Report website](#).