

TOP 10 LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH FOR PEOPLE AGES 18 TO 45 IN THE U.S.

2021 Rank*	Cause Category	2021 Deaths*	2020 Deaths (provisional)	2019 Deaths	2020 Rank (provisional)	2019 rank
1	Fentanyl Poisoning	40,010	37,087	23,556	1	1
2	Motor Vehicle Accidents	22,442	20,642	17,325	3	3
3	Suicide	21,678	21,441	21,195	2	2
4	Coronavirus (Covid-19)	21,335	9,861	0	8	--
5	Heart Disease	19,465	18,911	16,435	4	5
6	Homicide	18,422	17,348	13,084	5	7
7	Malignant Cancer	17,114	17,170	17,143	6	4
8	Other Drug Overdose	15,669	16,064	15,584	7	6
9	Liver Disease	8,124	7,224	5,050	9	8
10	Diabetes	4,925	4,786	3,714	10	9

*2021 fatality data is provisional CDC data for the year ending in May 2021 (latest available for all cause categories) except for COVID-19 deaths, which are 2021 "year-to-date " deaths through November 20, 2021 as reported by 12/5/21. "Year-to-date" was used for COVID-19, because data for COVID-19 is much more up to date through November 2021, and provides a closer approximation of final 2021 deaths than using the "year-end" May 2021 deaths, which are significantly lower than year-to-date deaths. By year end 2021, COVID-19 deaths may outnumber suicide or motor vehicle deaths, however they are not on track to approach fentanyl deaths.

Fentanyl Deaths denotes drug overdose deaths involving synthetic opioids excluding methadone, found using ICD-10 Code T40.4.

Some deaths involving synthetic opioids excluding methadone may be counted in multiple categories, including fewer than 300 suicides per year and fewer than 70 homicides per year.

REFERENCES

<https://wonder.cdc.gov/controller/saved/D176/D260F906>
<https://wonder.cdc.gov/controller/saved/D176/D260F900>
<https://wonder.cdc.gov/controller/saved/D176/D260F903>
<https://wonder.cdc.gov/controller/saved/D176/D260F927>
<https://wonder.cdc.gov/controller/saved/D176/D260F910>



<https://familiesagainstfentanyl.org/>