

14.9 million excess deaths associated with the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021



PUBLISHED MAY 5, 2022
BY [WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION](#)

New estimates from the World Health Organization (WHO) show that the full death toll associated directly or indirectly with the COVID-19 pandemic (described as “excess mortality”) between 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2021 was approximately 14.9 million (range 13.3 million to 16.6 million).

“These sobering data not only point to the impact of the pandemic but also to the need for all countries to invest in more resilient health systems that can sustain essential health services during crises, including stronger health information systems,” said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General. “WHO is committed to working with all countries to strengthen their health information systems to generate better data for better decisions and better outcomes.”

Press release distributed by Wire Association on behalf of World Health Organization, on May 5, 2022. For more information subscribe and [follow us](#).

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