

19 December 2022

Deaths according to cause of death

Year 2021 (definitive data) and first half 2022 (provisional data)

In 2021, 39,444 people died from the COVID-19 virus, 34.6% less than in 2020

A total of 26.4% of deaths in 2021 were due to diseases of the circulatory system, 25.2% to tumors and 10.2% to infectious diseases¹

In the first half of 2022, deaths from the identified COVID-19 virus fell by 28.6%

Final results for 2021

In 2021, the number of deaths recorded in Spain was 450,744, which is 43,032 less than the previous year (8.7% less). By sex, 231,410 men died (7.3% less than in 2020) and 219,334 women died (10.2% less).

The crude mortality rate stood at 952.3 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants, a decrease of 8.7% per cent over the previous year. The male rate was 997.8 deaths per 100,000 men (with a decrease of 7.3%) and the female rate was 908.6 per 100,000 women (10.1% less than in 2020).

A total of 96.3% of deaths were due to natural causes (*diseases*). In 2021, 433,913 people died from these causes, 9.2% less than in 2020.

Compared to 2019 (the year prior to the pandemic), in 2021 in Spain there were 32,041 more deaths (an increase of 7.7%). By sex, the increase was 8.8% in the case of men, and 6.5% among women.

Main causes of death by disease group

The group known as *diseases of the circulatory system* remained the leading cause of death in 2021, with 26.4% of the total (and a rate of 251.8 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants), followed by *tumours*, with 25.2% of the total (and a rate of 240.1).

Infectious diseases, which include *COVID-19*, were the third leading cause of death, with 10.2% of the total (and a rate of 97.2). On the other hand, *Respiratory diseases* ranked as the fourth cause of death, with 7.9% of the total and a rate of 75.1 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants.

¹ Covid-19 is included in the group of infectious diseases.

Compared to the previous year, deaths due to *tumours* increased by 0.8%.

On the contrary, those due to *infectious diseases, diseases of the respiratory system and diseases of the circulatory system* decreased by 43.1%, 16.3% and 0.6%, respectively.

Deaths by ICD-10 chapters. Year 2021

Absolute values and percentages

ICD-10 Chapters	Deaths	%
Total Deaths	450,744	100.0
Diseases of the circulatory system	119,196	26.4
Neoplasm	113,662	25.2
Infectious and parasitic diseases	46,001	10.2
Diseases of respiratory system	35,534	7.9
Diseases of nervous system	25,014	5.5
Diseases of digestive system	22,563	5.0
Mental and behavioural disorders	20,512	4.6
External causes	16,831	3.7
Diseases of the genitourinary system	16,458	3.7
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	15,124	3.4
Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings	9,129	2.0
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system	5,113	1.1
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism	2,205	0.5
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	2,021	0.4
Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities	833	0.2
Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period	528	0.1
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	11	0.0

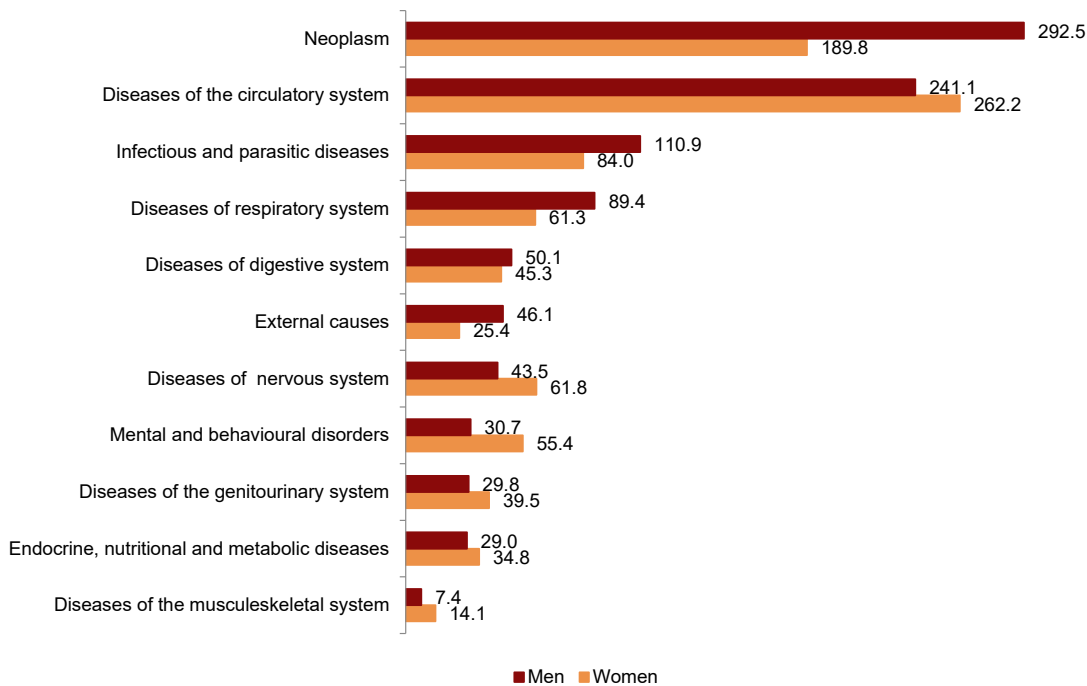
¹ Covid-19 is included in the group of infectious and parasitic diseases

By sex, *tumours* were the leading cause of death in men (with a rate of 292.5 deaths per 100,000 men) and the second in women (with 189.8 for every 100,00 women). Compared to 2020, the number of deaths from this cause increased by 0.9% among men and 0.7% among women.

On the other hand, *diseases of the circulatory system* were the first cause of female mortality (262.2 deaths per 100,000) and the second among males (241.1). Deaths from these causes decreased 1.0% in women and 0.1% in men.

Infectious diseases ranked as the third cause of death in both sexes.

Deaths by cause of death by ICD-10 chapters and sex. Year 2021
Crude rates per 100,000 inhabitants



Main causes of death by age

In 2021, mortality decreased among children under one year of age and those over 40. The greatest decrease was registered among persons aged 80 and over (11.6% less). In turn, the greatest increase occurred in the age group from one to 14 years (11.2%).

Deaths by age groups. Year 2021

Absolute values and percentage change

	Year 2021	Year 2020	Variation 2021/2020
Total Deaths	450,744	493,776	-8.7%
Less than 1 year	861	890	-3.3%
From 1 to 14 years	574	516	11.2%
From 15 to 39 years	5,045	4,970	1.5%
From 40 to 49 years	9,261	9,601	-3.5%
From 50 to 59 years	25,447	26,236	-3.0%
From 60 to 69 years	49,459	49,503	-0.1%
From 70 to 79 years	85,202	91,191	-6.6%
From 80 years and more	274,895	310,869	-11.6%

As for causes of death, *perinatal conditions* (57.3% of the total) and *congenital malformations* (21.0%) were the main causes of death among children under one year of age. Compared to 2020, deaths in this age group due to *perinatal conditions* increased by 0.6%, while those due to *congenital malformations* decreased by 13.8%.

Tumours were the main cause of death in the age group between one and 14 years (32.2% of the total) followed by *external causes* (23.2%), with increases of 10.8% and 24.3 %, respectively, compared to 2020.

For their part, the main causes of death among people aged 15 to 39 were *external causes* (43.3% of the total), with an increase of 8.5% compared to 2020. Second most common in this age group were *tumour* (21.0%), which decreased by 4.6%.

Tumours (40.2% of the total) and *diseases of the circulatory system* (20.4%) were the main causes in the 40 to 79-year-old group, with increases of 0.9% and 1.0% compared to the last year.

Finally, among those over 80 years of age, the main reasons were *diseases of the circulatory system* (30.6% of the total), with a decrease of 1.2% compared to 2020, and *tumours* (16.1%), with an increase of 0.8%.

Most frequent diseases as cause of death

At a more detailed level, the *identified COVID-19 virus* was the most frequent cause of death in 2021, with 39,444 deaths and a rate of 83.3 per 100,000 inhabitants.

The second most common cause was *ischemic heart disease*, with 28,852 deaths and a rate of 61.0. The third was *cerebrovascular diseases*, with 24,858 deaths.

Among the 15 most frequent causes, four increased compared to 2020. The greatest increases occurred among those who died from *heart failure* (4.2% more), *pancreatic cancer* (3.2%) and *renal failure* (2.9%).

For its part, the greatest decreases occurred in deaths from *COVID-19 virus identified* (-34.6%), *pneumonia* (-22.5%) and *Alzheimer's disease* (-16.2%).

Deaths according to the most frequent causes of death. Year 2021

Absolute values and percentage change

	Total	Men	Women	Total variation 2021/2020	Men variation 2021/2020	Women variation 2021/2020
All diseases	450,744	231,410	219,334	-8.7%	-7.3%	-10.2%
Covid-19 virus identify	39,444	22,449	16,995	-34.6%	-30.9%	-39.0%
Ischaemic heart disease	28,852	17,747	11,105	-2.7%	-2.1%	-3.7%
Cerebrovascular disease	24,858	11,004	13,854	-3.7%	-2.3%	-4.8%
Cancer of lung and bronchus	22,413	16,754	5,659	2.4%	0.9%	6.9%
Cardiac insufficiency	20,173	7,739	12,434	4.2%	1.9%	5.7%
Dementia	19,650	6,606	13,044	-5.6%	-0.2%	-8.1%
Hypertensive disease	14,149	4,678	9,471	-0.9%	-0.3%	-1.1%
Alzheimer disease	13,045	3,835	9,210	-16.2%	-15.1%	-16.7%
Acute lower respiratory infections	11,295	8,100	3,195	-11.3%	-10.4%	-13.4%
Colon cancer	11,021	6,419	4,602	-1.0%	0.4%	-2.8%
Diabetes mellitus	10,748	4,848	5,900	-4.9%	-4.6%	-5.0%
Cancer of pancreas	7,663	3,921	3,742	3.2%	2.5%	3.9%
Renal insufficiency	7,561	3,350	4,211	2.9%	0.2%	5.0%
Pneumonia	6,799	3,831	2,968	-22.5%	-18.6%	-27.0%
Breast cancer	6,614	86	6,528	-0.6%	8.9%	-0.7%

COVID-19, virus identified was the leading cause of death in both sexes, with 96.8 deaths per 100,000 men and 70.4 deaths per 100,000 women.

Ischemic heart disease was the second most common cause of death among men (with a rate of 76.5), followed by *bronchial and lung cancer* (72.2).

In women, the second most common cause was *cerebrovascular disease* (57.4 per 100,000 women), and the third most common cause was *dementia* (54.0).

COVID-19 Mortality

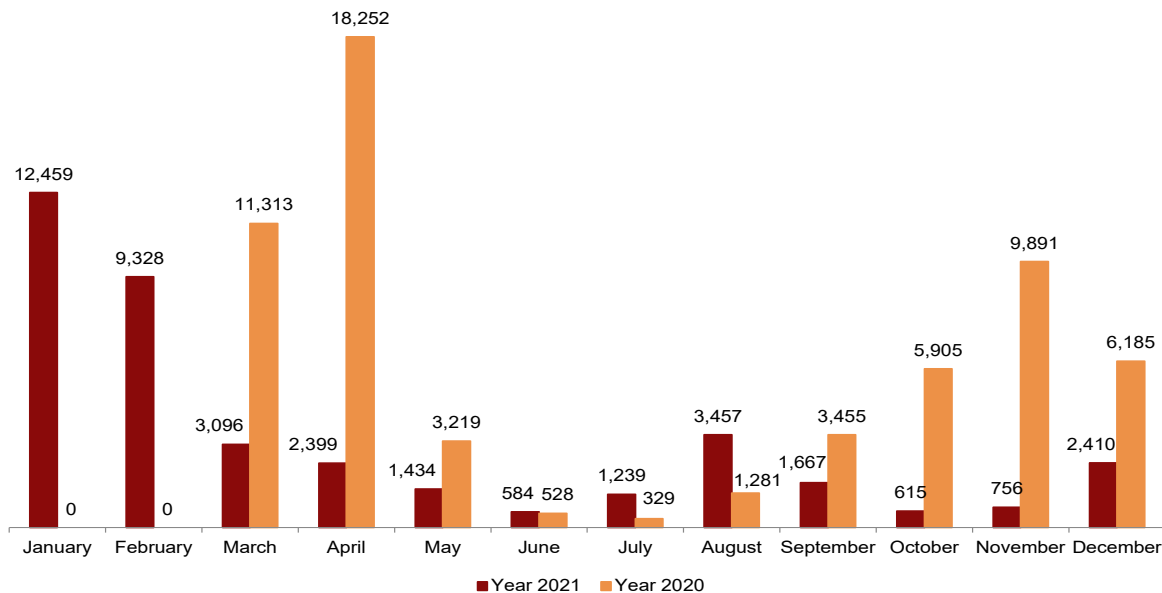
In 2021 there were 39,444 deaths whose cause was *identified COVID-19 virus* (34.6% less than in 2020). In addition, another 595 people died from *unidentified COVID-19 virus*². This figure was much lower than the 14,418 deaths from this cause in 2020, which were concentrated in the first months of the pandemic.

In addition, doctors certified 3,818 deaths in which the cause of death was from other causes, but where *COVID-19* contributed to the death as a comorbidity. In 2,732 cases the doctors identified the presence of *COVID-19*, and in 1,086 cases its presence was suspected because of symptoms compatible with the disease.

The months with the highest number of deaths from *Identified COVID-19 virus* were January, with 12,459 deaths (23.9% of the total for that month), February (with 9,328 deaths, 23.0% of the total) and August (with 3,457 deaths, 9.1% of the total).

Deaths due to *identified COVID-19 virus* by months. Years 2020 and 2021.

Absolute Values



Deaths due to *identified COVID-19 virus* by sex and age

In 2021, 22,449 men and 16,995 women died from *identified COVID-19 virus*. Of these, 82.2% of those who died were 70 or over.

Mortality from this cause decreased in all age groups compared to the previous year, except in the group from 0 to 49 years, in which it grew by 2.9%.

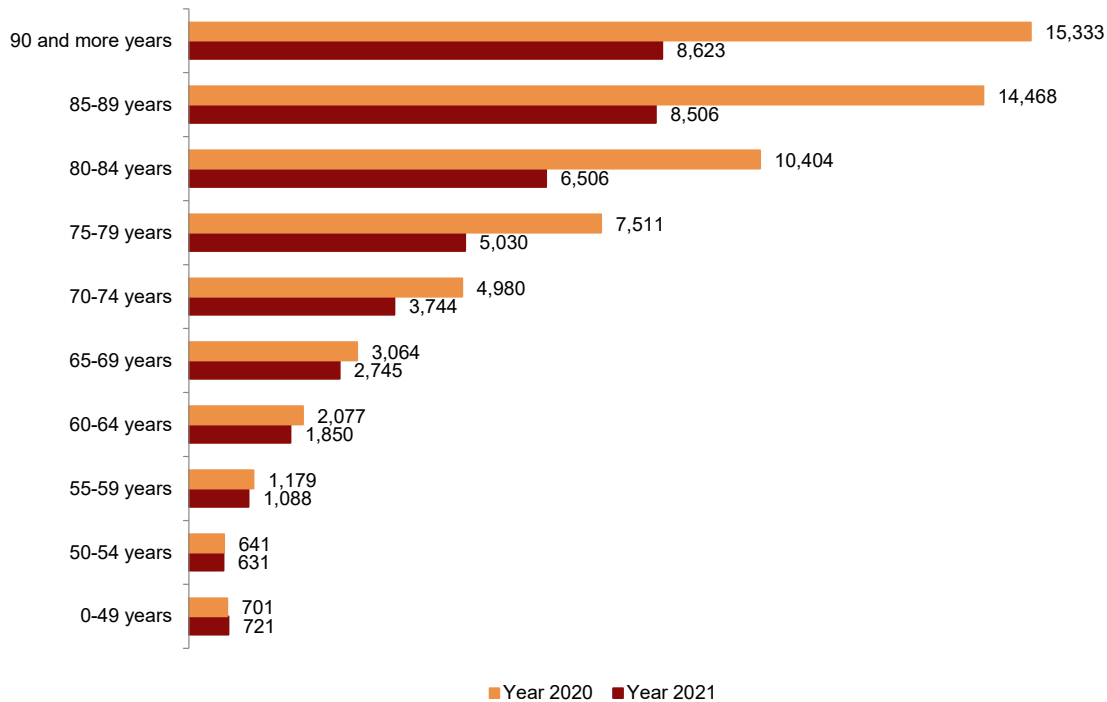
The risk of dying from *COVID-19, virus identified*, measured by age-specific rates, was less than 100 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants up to age 65. From that age onwards, the rates

² Covid-19 unidentified virus was a cause of death incorporated by the World Health Organization (WHO) into the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10) in March 2020 to refer to deaths in which the virus could not be identified in the deceased due to the absence of tests; but in which the doctor suspected its presence due to symptoms compatible with the disease.

progressively increased until reaching 1,846.5 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants in the group of those 95 years and over.

Deaths due to *identified COVID-19 virus* by age groups Years 2021 and 2020.

Absolute Values



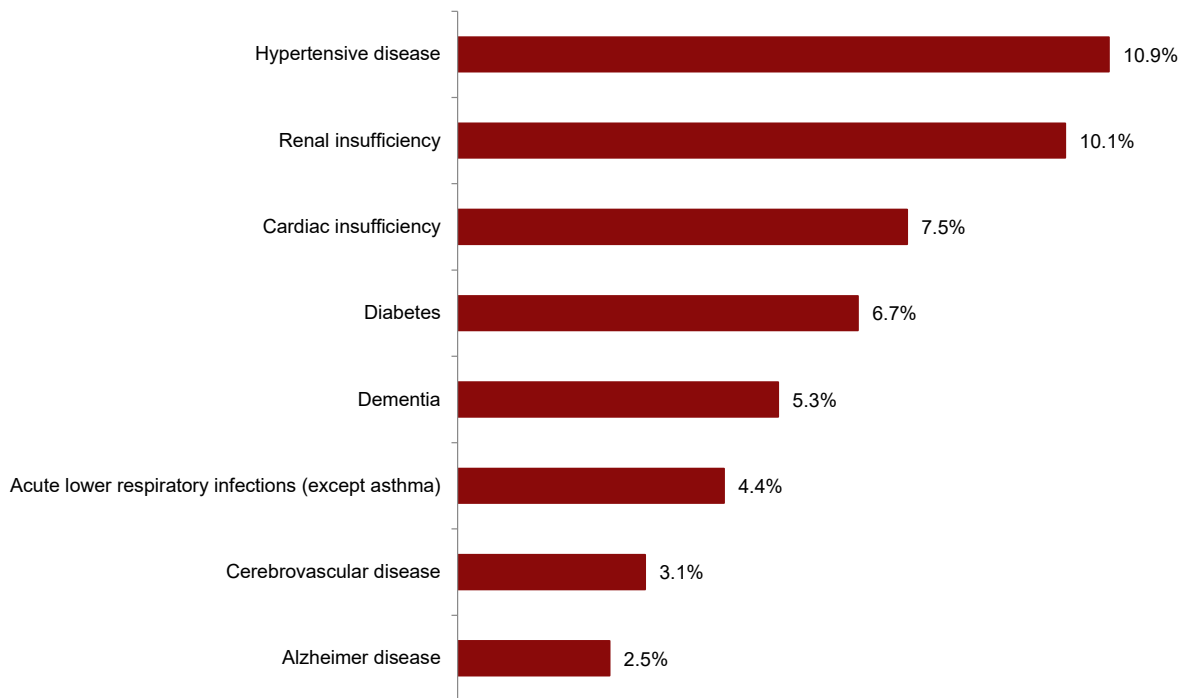
Most frequent complications and comorbidities in deaths from *identified COVID-19 virus*

In deaths in 2021, an average of 3.6 illnesses were reported in each certificate. This information allows us to know, in addition to the cause triggering the death, the complications derived from it, as well as the comorbidities of the person who died.

In those who died from *identified COVID-19 virus*, *respiratory failure* and *pneumonia* were the most frequent complications. Specifically, for 57.5% and 29.9%, respectively, of deaths from *identified COVID-19 virus*.

On the other hand, the primary comorbidity of individuals who died from *identified COVID-19 virus* as reported by doctors in the medical death certificate were *hypertensive disease* (10.9% in deaths) and *renal failure*.

Most frequent comorbidities in deaths from *Identified COVID-19 virus*. Year 2021
Percentages



Most frequent causes of death with *identified COVID-19 virus* as a comorbidity

Information from death certificates also allows us to analyse the most frequent causes of death in which *COVID-19* was not the trigger for death, but was a contributing factor (listed among the comorbidities of the person who died).

The disease was thus present as a comorbidity in another 2,732 deaths. The main direct causes of death in these deaths were *bronchial and lung cancer* (217 deaths), *ischemic heart disease* (199) and *cerebrovascular disease* (150).

For its part, the *unidentified (suspected) COVID-19 virus* contributed as comorbidity in 1,086 deaths. Among the main causes of death in deaths from this cause as comorbidity were *dementia* (75 deaths), *bronchial and lung cancer* (73) and *heart failure* (67).

Deaths due to *identified COVID-19 virus* by Autonomous Communities and Cities

The highest gross rates of deaths from *COVID-19 virus identified* per 100,000 inhabitants during 2021 corresponded to Castilla y León (111.2), Aragón (106.3) and Castilla-La Mancha (106.0).

In turn, Canarias (27.3), Cantabria (41.0) and Illes Balears (47.3) presented the lowest rates.

The highest percentages of deaths from *identified COVID-19 virus* out of the total occurred in the Autonomous city of Melilla (13.4% of deaths), Comunidad de Madrid (11.9%) and Comunitat Valenciana (10, 6%).

The lowest percentages occurred in the Canaruas (3.5%), Cantabria (3.9%) and Galicia (4.7%).

Deaths due to *identified COVID-19 virus* by Autonomous Communities and Cities Año 2021

Absolute data, rates per 100,000 inhabitants

	Total deaths	Covid-19 virus identified		
		Deaths	Crude rate	% of total deaths
TOTAL	450,744	39,444	83.3	8.8
Andalucía	80,050	6,647	78.2	8.3
Aragón	14,557	1,396	106.3	9.6
Asturias, Principado de	13,397	935	92.7	7.0
Balears, Illes	8,843	577	47.3	6.5
Canarias	17,410	614	27.3	3.5
Cantabria	6,144	239	41.0	3.9
Castilla y León	29,636	2,645	111.2	8.9
Castilla-La Mancha	20,664	2,171	106.0	10.5
Cataluña	69,264	7,017	91.6	10.1
Comunitat Valenciana	50,333	5,331	105.5	10.6
Extremadura	12,268	1,067	101.2	8.7
Galicia	32,924	1,541	57.3	4.7
Madrid, Comunidad de	49,299	5,855	86.9	11.9
Murcia, Región de	12,670	1,035	68.3	8.2
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	5,842	353	53.7	6.0
País Vasco	22,893	1,640	75.3	7.2
Rioja, La	3,394	252	79.8	7.4
Ceuta	649	61	73.6	9.4
Melilla	507	68	81.4	13.4

(*) Deaths by Community and Autonomous City where the death occurred.

External causes

In 2021 there were 16,831 deaths due to *external causes*, 753 more than in the previous year (4.7%). By sex, 10,689 men died from these causes (4.2% more than in 2020) and 6,142 women (5.5% more).

Suicide remained as the leading cause of external death, with 4,003 deaths, 1.6% more than in 2020.

It was followed by *accidental falls* (with 3,655 deaths and an increase of 1.4%) and *accidental drowning, submersion and suffocation* (with 3,504 and 20.3% more than in 2020).

By sex, the main causes of death in men were *suicide* (2,982 deaths and an increase of 1.8% compared to 2020), *accidental falls* (1,946, 2.5% more) and *drowning, submersion and suffocation* (1,855, 26.4% more).

On the other hand, *accidental falls* (1,709 deaths), *drowning, submersion and suffocation* (1,649) and *suicides* (1,021) were the main causes of external death among women, with increases of 0.1%, 14.0% and 1.0%, respectively.

A total of 1,599 people (1,283 men and 316 women) died due to *traffic accidents*, which is 9.3% more than in 2020.

Main causes of external death. 2017-2021 Series.

Absolute data and percentage change

	Year 2017	Year 2018	Year 2019	Year 2020	Year 2021	Variation 2021/2020
Suicide	3,679	3,539	3,671	3,941	4,003	1.6%
Accidental falls	3,057	3,143	3,297	3,605	3,655	1.4%
Drowning, submersion and suffocation	3,116	3,090	3,248	2,913	3,504	20.3%
Traffic accidents	1,943	1,896	1,842	1,463	1,599	9.3%

Mortality rates of the main causes by Autonomous Communities and Cities

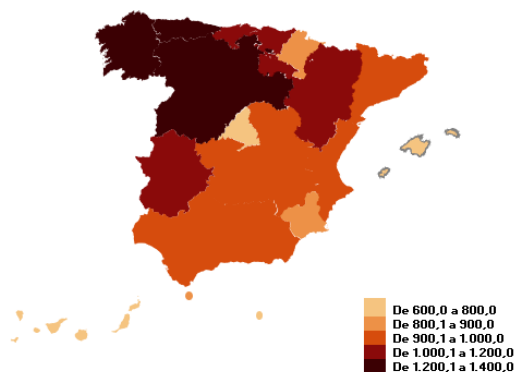
The highest crude death rates per 100,000 inhabitants in 2021 corresponded to Principado de Asturias (1,324.9), Castilla y León (1,231.5) and Galicia (1,221.0). On the other hand, the autonomous cities of Melilla (676.3), Illes Balears (721.8) and Canarias (763.5) presented the lowest rates.

Crude death rates were higher in the territories with a greater elderly population, since there are usually more deaths due to the effect of the age structure of the population. To correct this, the standardised mortality rates³ are calculated which represent mortality by Autonomous Community if all of them had the same age composition.

In this case, the regions with the highest standardised rates were the Autonomous Cities of Ceuta y Melilla (1,135.3, respectively) and Andalucía (972.1). In turn, the lowest rates were recorded in Comunidad de Madrid (696.7), Comunidad Foral de Navarra (724.6) and Castilla y León (748.9).

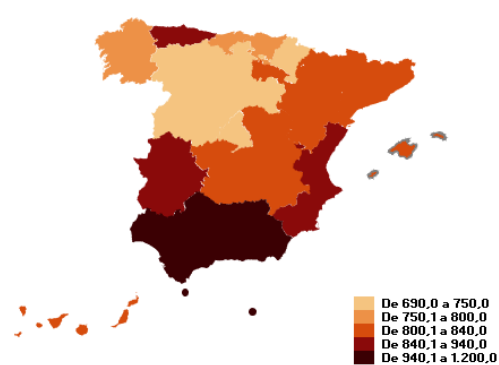
Raw death rates

Deaths per 100,000 inhabitants



Standardised death rates

Deaths per 100,000 inhabitants



³ As of 2015, the European standard population is considered as the standard population.

In terms of the main causes of death, the highest raw mortality rates from *diseases of the circulatory system* were recorded in Principado de Asturias (365.5 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants), Galicia (356.1) and Extremadura (335.5).

Considering standardised rates, the Autonomous City of Ceuta registered the highest mortality rate due to *diseases of the circulatory system* (314.3), followed by Andalucía (275.6) and the autonomous city of Murcia (262.4).

Crude death rates and standardised rates of the main causes of death, by Autonomous Community and city of residence. Year 2021

Rates per 100,000 inhabitants

	Diseases of circulatory system		Neoplasm		Infectious and parasitic diseases	
	Crude Rate	Standardised Rate	Crude Rate	Standardised Rate	Crude Rate	Standardised Rate
TOTAL	251.8	213.8	240.1	221.7	97.2	85.6
Andalucía	263.4	275.6	223.6	231.4	91.8	95.6
Aragón	293.7	202.7	277.7	230.9	123.7	92.4
Asturias, Principado de	365.5	221.0	351.4	248.6	116.1	74.2
Balears, Illes	197.2	221.6	192.6	214.6	57.8	65.6
Canarias	212.9	232.4	204.4	216.0	39.1	42.2
Cantabria	278.5	196.0	287.2	234.1	59.6	44.1
Castilla y León	330.6	184.8	312.7	219.7	128.9	78.1
Castilla-La Mancha	253.6	204.1	236.6	218.7	115.6	97.6
Cataluña	223.4	192.7	226.7	215.0	103.6	92.7
Comunitat Valenciana	256.8	233.2	243.4	227.6	118.8	109.0
Extremadura	335.5	257.2	284.1	241.5	117.1	93.5
Galicia	356.1	215.2	314.6	228.0	72.6	46.1
Madrid, Comunidad de	172.4	157.7	193.3	191.8	98.9	95.0
Murcia, Región de	229.4	256.8	209.0	233.1	78.9	87.9
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	209.3	165.9	258.7	230.5	65.2	53.4
País Vasco	271.3	190.6	286.7	228.6	91.5	68.0
Rioja, La	299.9	214.0	263.5	221.5	94.0	72.2
Ceuta	222.1	314.3	170.2	229.6	100.2	140.3
Melilla	159.2	262.4	143.6	207.6	95.8	154.8

The highest death rates from *tumours* occurred in Principado de Asturias (351.4), Galicia (314.6) and Castilla y León (312.7).

On the other hand, the highest standardised mortality rates due to *tumours* were registered in Principado de Asturias (248.6), Extremadura (241.5) and Cantabria (234.1).

Results for the first half of 2022. Provisional Data⁴

During the first semester of 2022 period, there were 235,248 deaths in Spain, 4,690 more than in the same period of the previous year (2.0% more).

By sex, 119,410 men (a 0.1% increase) died, and 115,838 women (a 4.1% increase).

By month, in January and February the number of deaths decreased by 10.0% and 4.0%, respectively, compared to the same months in 2021. On the contrary, from March to June the number of deaths increased. The largest increase was registered in June, of 13.8%.

Main causes of death by disease group

The group of *diseases of the circulatory system*, *tumours* and *infectious diseases* were the main causes of death during the first semester, with 26.1%, 24.0% and 10.3% of the total deaths, respectively.

This was followed by *respiratory diseases* (8.7% of the total) and *diseases of the nervous system* (5.5%).

Compared to the first half of 2021, the largest increase among the main causes of death occurred in the group of *respiratory diseases* (24.3% more). May was the month with the greatest increase (33.3% more).

Deaths due to diseases of *the nervous system*, *tumours* and *diseases of the circulatory system* grew by 7.9%, 1.7% and 1.6%, respectively.

In contrast, deaths from *infectious diseases* fell by 25.8%. This decrease was observed in the first four months of the year: in May and June, deaths from this cause increased compared to the same months of 2021.

Main causes of death by disease group. First Semester 2022

Percentage change by month compared to the same period of 2021

	Total Deaths	Diseases of the circulatory system	Neoplasm	Infectious and parasitic diseases	Diseases of respiratory system	Diseases of nervous system
TOTAL	2.0%	1.6%	1.7%	-25.8%	24.3%	7.9%
January	-10.0%	-5.5%	1.6%	-40.7%	15.2%	-1.9%
February	-4.0%	6.3%	4.1%	-45.6%	15.6%	14.4%
March	3.1%	2.1%	3.7%	-35.0%	26.4%	9.4%
April	6.4%	3.9%	2.3%	-15.1%	31.5%	3.5%
May	10.8%	2.5%	-0.7%	69.1%	33.3%	14.2%
June	13.8%	2.8%	-0.5%	179.1%	26.6%	11.3%

⁴ This publication begins the dissemination of provisional data on causes of death on a semi-annual basis. The availability of definitive data from the Death Statistics by cause of death requires a complex process of coding the causes reported by the doctor on the death certificate. In some cases, the time required to obtain the autopsy results determining the definitive cause of death must be added. This is in addition to the time necessary to consult medical records when the information on the certificate is not accurately detailed. This process yields the quality of the information necessary for research studies. The provisional data do not allow for a detailed study; however, it does allow for an analysis of the variation of the main causes of death, which explains the increase in mortality.

By sex, the main causes of death among men were *tumours* (33,384 deaths), *diseases of the circulatory system* (28,980) and *infectious diseases* (12,868).

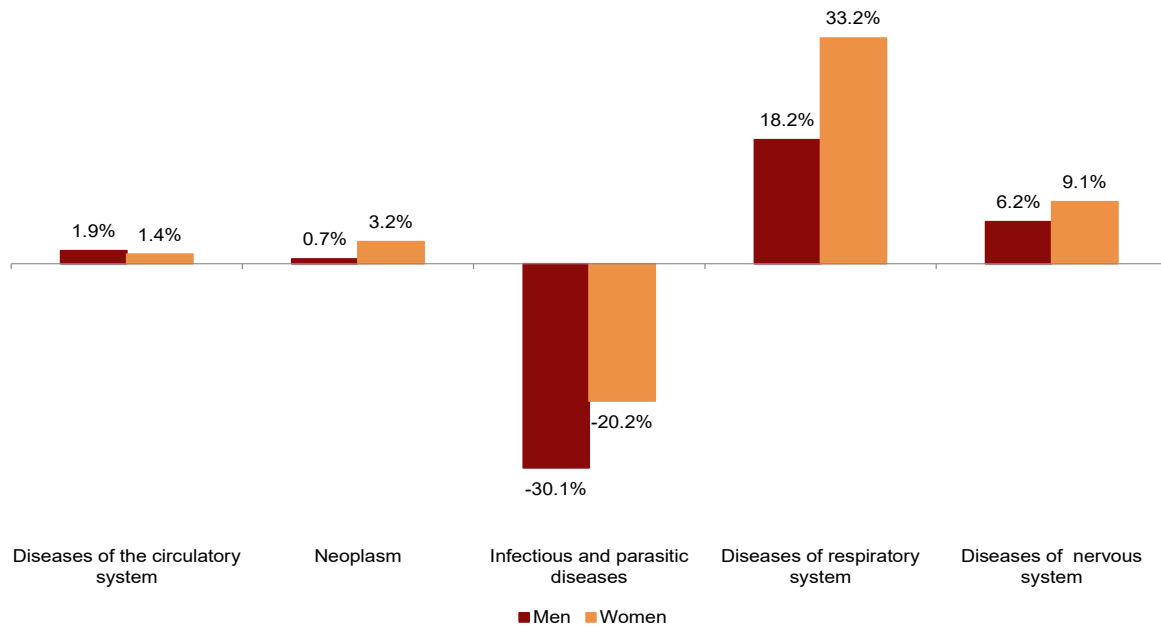
In women, it was *diseases of the circulatory system* (32,347), *tumours* (23,070) and *infectious diseases* (11,331).

Diseases of the respiratory system were the fourth leading cause of death in both sexes. This group registered the greatest increase among the main causes, both in men (18.2% more) and in women (33.2% more).

In turn, deaths from *infectious diseases* decreased in both sexes (30.1% in men and 20.2% in women).

Main causes of death by ICD-10 chapters by sex

Percentage variation January-June 2022/2021



Main causes of death by age

Mortality grew during the first six months of 2022 among those under 40 years of age and in the age group of 80 and over. The greatest increase occurred among those between one and 14 years of age, of 16.8%. In turn, the greatest decrease was registered in the age group from one to 70 years (1.6%).

As for causes of death, *perinatal conditions* (52.3% of the total) and *congenital malformations* (20.2%) were the main causes of death among children under one year of age. Compared to the first semester of 2019, deaths in this age group due to *perinatal conditions* decreased by 0.4%, while those due to *congenital malformations* increased by 15.8%.

Tumours were the main cause of death in the age group between one and 14 years, although it reduced by 7.0% compared to 2021. This was followed by *External causes*, although they increased by 13.3%.

For their part, the main causes of death among people aged 15 to 39 were *external causes*, with an increase of 8.5%. The second reason was *tumours*, which decreased by 9.9%.

Tumours (38.2% of the total) and *diseases of the circulatory system* (19.4%) were the main causes of death in the group aged 40 to 79 years, with increases of 1.9% and 2.1%, respectively, compared to the first semester of 2021.

Among those over 80 years of age, the main reasons were *diseases of the circulatory system* and *tumours*, which increased by 1.5% and 1.7%, respectively.

Most frequent diseases as cause of death

At a more detailed level, *identified COVID-19 virus* was the most frequent cause of death in the first six months of 2022, with 20,915 deaths; 28.6% less than the same period in 2021.

This was followed by *ischemic heart diseases* (with 14,529 deaths, 1.5% less) and *cerebrovascular diseases* (with 12,333, 1.0% less).

Among the most frequent diseases, the causes of death that increased the most were *pneumonia* (31.1%), *renal failure* (12.6%) and *chronic diseases of the lower respiratory tract* (11.8%).

Deaths according to the most frequent causes of death. January to June 2018-2022

Absolute values and percentage change

	Year 2018	Year 2019	Year 2020	Year 2021	Year 2022	Variation 2022/2021
All diseases	227,786	219,350	264,773	230,558	235,233	2.0%
Covid-19						
- Covid-19 virus identify	0	0	33,312	29,300	20,915	-28.6%
- Covid-19 virus non-identify (1)	0	0	13,350	501	64	-87.2%
Ischaemic heart disease	16,890	15,742	15,394	14,755	14,529	-1.5%
Cerebrovascular disease	14,008	13,284	13,306	12,452	12,333	-1.0%
Cancer of lung and bronchus	11,076	10,980	10,854	10,837	11,266	4.0%
Cardiac insufficiency	10,670	10,441	10,276	10,134	10,948	8.0%
Dementia	11,322	11,517	10,775	9,337	10,345	10.8%
Hypertensive disease	6,775	6,392	7,446	7,367	7,415	0.7%
Alzheimer disease	7,811	7,540	8,382	6,269	6,779	8.1%
Acute lower respiratory infections	8,722	8,094	7,465	5,366	6,001	11.8%
Diabetes mellitus	5,287	5,070	5,884	5,492	5,587	1.7%
Colon cancer	5,673	5,714	5,549	5,369	5,391	0.4%
Renal insufficiency	3,885	3,847	3,874	3,778	4,254	12.6%
Pneumonia	6,547	5,579	5,399	3,153	4,135	31.1%
Cancer of pancreas	3,507	3,591	3,658	3,714	3,907	5.2%
Breast cancer	3,392	3,167	3,401	3,256	3,304	1.5%

(1) Unidentified COVID-19 virus is not among the most frequent causes in the first half of 2022. However, it is included in order to facilitate comparability of deaths from COVID-19.

Identified COVID-19 virus was the leading cause of death in both sexes, with 11,248 deaths among men and 9,667 among women.

Ischemic heart disease was the second most common cause of death among men (9,016 deaths), followed by *bronchial and lung cancer* (8,319).

Among women, the second most common cause was *demencia* (7,006 per 100,000 women), followed by *cerebrovascular diseases* (6,886).

External causes

From January to June 2022 there were 8,829 deaths from *external causes*, 11.8% more than in the same period in 2021. By sex, 5,541 men (10.7% more) and 3,288 women (13.6% more) died from these causes.

Suicide remained as the leading cause of external death, with 2,015 deaths, 5.1% more than the previous year.

It was followed by *drowning, submersion and accidental suffocation* (with 1,863 deaths and an increase of 20.7%) and *accidental falls* (with 1,722 deaths, a 3.2% less).

A total of 761 people died due to *traffic accidents*, 3.3% more than in the first half of 2021.

By sex, the main causes of external death in men were *suicide* (1,481 deaths) and *a drowning, submersion and suffocation* (950). In women they were *drowning, submersion and suffocation* (913) and *accidental falls* (775 deaths).

Main causes of external death. January to June 2018-2022

Absolute values and percentage change

	January- June 2018	January- June 2019	January- June 2020	January- June 2021	January- June 2022	Variation January- June 2022/2021
Suicide	1,872	1,821	1,935	1,918	2,015	5.1%
Drowning, submersion and suffocation	1,486	1,586	1,431	1,543	1,863	20.7%
Accidental falls	1,526	1,604	1,665	1,779	1,722	-3.2%
Traffic accidents	872	863	599	737	761	3.3%

Results by Autonomous Communities and Cities

Cantabria, the Canarias and Comunidad Foral de Navarra were the communities with the highest mortality increases in the first six months of 2022, with increases of 15.8%, 14.2% and 10.1%, respectively, compared to the same period in 2021.

In turn, the greatest decreases were registered in the Autonomous Cities of Ceuta y Melilla (17.6%) and 14.1% less deaths) and Comunitat Valenciana (-4.5%).

Looking at the main causes of death, the greatest increases in deaths from *diseases of the circulatory system* were registered in the autonomous city of Melilla (18.2%), in Comunidad Foral de Navarra (8.7%) and in Cantabria and Aragón (6.6% in both). The greatest decreases were recorded in the autonomous cities of Ceuta (-4.5%) and Comunidad de Madrid (-1.1%).

The greatest increases in deaths from *tumors* occurred in the Canarias, Extremadura and Castilla y León (6.8%, 5.5% and 4.2% more, respectively).

Canarias presented the greatest increase in deaths from *infectious diseases* (127.3%), followed by Comunidad Foral de Navarra (54.4%) and Cantabria (32.6%). The greatest decreases due to these diseases occurred in Comunitat Valenciana (-56.0%), the autonomous city of Ceuta (-46.8%) and Castilla-La Mancha (-45.1%).

Deaths according to the main causes of death, by autonomous communities and cities. January to June 2021-2022

Percentage change

	Total deaths	Diseases of circulatory system	Neoplasm	Infectious and parasitic diseases	Diseases of respiratory system	Diseases of nervous system
TOTAL	2.0%	1.6%	1.7%	-25.8%	24.3%	7.9%
Andalucía	0.4%	1.1%	2.0%	-32.9%	27.3%	8.1%
Aragón	5.3%	6.6%	-1.1%	2.1%	26.6%	19.3%
Asturias, Principado de	3.0%	1.0%	-1.0%	12.6%	25.5%	6.2%
Balears, Illes	9.9%	0.5%	0.8%	29.5%	22.2%	9.4%
Canarias	14.2%	6.4%	6.8%	127.3%	17.0%	0.3%
Cantabria	15.8%	6.6%	3.6%	32.6%	58.8%	15.4%
Castilla y León	4.8%	0.6%	4.2%	-7.7%	32.4%	6.9%
Castilla-La Mancha	-1.3%	3.5%	2.1%	-45.1%	26.6%	5.5%
Cataluña	1.0%	-0.6%	0.0%	-23.7%	19.9%	8.4%
Comunitat Valenciana	-4.5%	3.0%	1.6%	-56.0%	31.8%	2.2%
Extremadura	1.7%	-0.8%	5.5%	-30.9%	15.4%	10.5%
Galicia	4.7%	-4.5%	1.4%	1.7%	24.4%	1.7%
Madrid, Comunidad de	-2.3%	-1.1%	1.7%	-43.1%	16.7%	13.7%
Murcia, Región de	3.2%	6.1%	0.5%	-19.3%	17.3%	6.4%
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	10.1%	8.7%	-7.1%	54.4%	51.7%	-7.0%
País Vasco	7.2%	4.1%	2.8%	2.3%	22.7%	22.7%
Rioja, La	0.3%	2.8%	1.0%	-39.9%	17.2%	12.5%
Ceuta	-17.6%	-5.1%	-17.9%	-46.8%	25.9%	-12.5%
Melilla	-14.1%	18.2%	-33.9%	-22.6%	-35.7%	-31.6%

Data Review and Update

The 2021 data published today are final. The data for the first semester of 2018 are provisional and will be disseminated as final in the year 2023. All results are available on INEBase.

Methodological note

The Death Statistics according to Cause of Death provides annual information on deaths occurring within the national territory according to the underlying cause, based on the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) of the World Health Organization (WHO). As of 1999, the 10th revision of this classification is used.

This is a harmonised European statistic which is supported by Commission Regulation (EU) No. 328/2011 of 5 April 2011 on statistics on causes of death.

The methodology followed by the INE in the Statistics of deaths by cause of death is based on the detailed analysis of the medical death certificates (CMD). In the case of those who died in the first 24 hours of life, the information from the CMD is complemented by that of the Statistical Birth Bulletin (SBB). The source of information for deaths with legal intervention is the Statistical Legal Death Bulletin completed by the courts or the information directly provided by the Institutes of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences (IMLCF). In both cases, the information is provided through a web application designed by the INE.

Type of operation: annual continuous statistics.

Population scope: deaths occurring in the national territory.

Geographical scope: the entire national territory.

Reference period for the results: the calendar year and the semester.

Reference period for the information: date on which death occurs.

Collection method: statistical form based on an administrative act.

For more information the methodology can be accessed at:

https://www.ine.es/en/daco/daco42/sanitarias/metodologia_00_en.pdf

The standardized methodological report is at:

<https://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/en/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30417>

INE statistics are produced in accordance with the Code of Good Practice for European Statistics, which is the basis for the institution's quality policy and strategy. For more information, please see the [Quality at INE and the Code of Good Practices](#) on the INE website.

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