



Excess Deaths by Cause, New Jersey, 2020

Between 2010 and 2019, there were 70,000-75,000 deaths of New Jersey residents each year. The trend was slowly increasing and about 76,400 deaths were expected in 2020. The first death of a New Jersey resident due to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) occurred on March 10, 2020. By the end of 2020, a total of 95,994 New Jersey residents had died (from all causes of death) or about 19,500 more than expected prior to the pandemic. Those 19,500 are referred to as *excess deaths*.

While 16,495 of the excess deaths were directly due to COVID-19, about 3,000 were due to other causes which may have been impacted indirectly by the pandemic.

Underlying cause of death (ICD-10 code)	Expected (estimate)	Observed (actual)	Excess
COVID-19 (U07.1)	0	16,495	16,495
Diseases of heart (I00-I09, I11, I13, I20-I51)	18,857	19,716	859
Diabetes (E10-E14)	1,836	2,442	606
Essential hypertension and hypertensive renal disease (I10, I12, I15)	806	1,063	257
Influenza and pneumonia (J09-J18)	1,377	1,632	255
Stroke (I60-I69)	3,495	3,726	231
Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis (K70, K73-K74)	869	991	122
Parkinson's disease (G20-G21)	891	1,002	111
Homicide (X85-Y09, Y87.1)	277	365	88
Anemias (D50-D64)	174	209	35
Infections of kidney (N10-N12, N13.6, N15.1)	13	32	19
Other causes	47,851	48,321	470
Total	76,446	95,994	19,548

The observed (actual) death counts for these eleven underlying causes were statistically significantly higher than expected. The expected 2020 values were based on 2010-2019 annual death counts using the Exponential Triple Smoothing (ETS) algorithm with no seasonality in Excel. Statistical significance is at 95%.

Data Source: New Jersey Resident Death Certificate Database. Retrieved on May 5, 2022, from New Jersey Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data website: <https://www.doh.state.nj.us/doh-shad/query/builder/mort/MortStateICD10/Count.html>.