

Leading Causes of Death ^{1,2} Among San Diego County Residents by Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) Regions, 2024																											
San Diego County				Central Region				East Region				North Central Region				North Coastal Region				North Inland Region				South Region			
Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%
1	Malignant Neoplasms	5,046	22.0%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	664	22.1%	1	Diseases Of The Heart	884	20.9%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	915	22.9%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	829	21.8%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	1,008	22.1%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	749	23.3%
2	Diseases Of The Heart	4,706	20.5%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	611	20.4%	2	Malignant Neoplasms	862	20.4%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	810	20.3%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	771	20.3%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	944	20.7%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	661	20.6%
3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	1,589	6.9%	3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	259	8.6%	3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	282	6.7%	3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	287	7.2%	3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	277	7.3%	3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	322	7.0%	3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	242	7.5%
4	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	1,521	6.6%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	184	6.1%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	273	6.5%	4	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	236	5.9%	4	Alzheimer's Disease	220	5.8%	4	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	272	6.0%	4	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	207	6.5%
5	Alzheimer's Disease	1,150	5.0%	5	Diabetes Mellitus	157	5.2%	5	Diabetes Mellitus	219	5.2%	5	Alzheimer's Disease	230	5.8%	5	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	215	5.7%	5	Alzheimer's Disease	268	5.9%	5	Diabetes Mellitus	198	6.2%
6	Diabetes Mellitus	948	4.1%	6	Alzheimer's Disease	108	3.6%	6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	212	5.0%	6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	139	3.5%	6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	132	3.5%	6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	161	3.5%	6	Alzheimer's Disease	144	4.5%
7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	845	3.7%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	93	3.1%	7	Alzheimer's Disease	177	4.2%	7	Diabetes Mellitus	126	3.2%	7	Diabetes Mellitus	111	2.9%	7	Diabetes Mellitus	132	2.9%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	103	3.2%
8	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	506	2.2%	8	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	65	2.2%	8	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	110	2.6%	8	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	96	2.4%	8	Parkinson's Disease	94	2.5%	8	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	99	2.2%	8	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	73	2.3%
9	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	424	1.8%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	60	2.0%	9	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	81	1.9%	9	Parkinson's Disease	85	2.1%	9	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	74	1.9%	9	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	90	2.0%	9	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	60	1.9%
10	Parkinson's Disease	413	1.8%	10	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	54	1.8%	10	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	74	1.7%	10	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	78	2.0%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	72	1.9%	10	Parkinson's Disease	89	1.9%	10	Parkinson's Disease	49	1.5%
11	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	377	1.6%	11	COVID-19	37	1.2%	11	Parkinson's Disease	64	1.5%	11	Nutritional Deficiencies	48	1.2%	11	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	66	1.7%	11	Influenza And Pneumonia	75	1.6%	11	Influenza And Pneumonia	40	1.2%
12	Influenza And Pneumonia	257	1.1%	12	Parkinson's Disease	32	1.1%	12	COVID-19	56	1.3%	12	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	47	1.2%	12	COVID-19	38	1.0%	12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	61	1.3%	12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	34	1.1%
13	COVID-19	255	1.1%	13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	31	1.0%	13	Influenza And Pneumonia	35	0.8%	13	COVID-19	44	1.1%	13	Influenza And Pneumonia	37	1.0%	13	COVID-19	53	1.2%	13	COVID-19	27	0.8%
14	Nutritional Deficiencies	190	0.8%	14	Influenza And Pneumonia	30	1.0%	14	Nutritional Deficiencies	29	0.7%	14	Influenza And Pneumonia	37	0.9%	14	Nutritional Deficiencies	30	0.8%	14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	38	0.8%	14	Nutritional Deficiencies	22	0.7%
15	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	172	0.7%	15	Nutritional Deficiencies	29	1.0%	15	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	27	0.6%	15	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	32	0.8%	15	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	29	0.8%	15	Nutritional Deficiencies	32	0.7%	15	In Situ Neoplasms, Benign Neoplasms And Neoplasms Of Uncertain Or Unknown Behavior	17	0.5%
16	All other causes (not rankable)	4,561	19.9%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	584	19.5%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	845	20.0%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	780	19.5%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	810	21.3%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	925	20.2%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	583	18.2%
Total Deaths³		22,960	100.0%	Total Deaths³		2,998	100.0%	Total Deaths³		4,230	100.0%	Total Deaths³		3,990	100.0%	Total Deaths³		3,805	100.0%	Total Deaths³		4,569	100.0%	Total Deaths³		3,209	100.0%

¹ Rank is based on total number of deaths in each of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) "rankable" categories. The top 15 leading causes of death presented here are for San Diego County residents for 2024.

² Cause of death is based on the underlying cause of death reported on death certificates as classified by ICD-10 codes.

³ Deaths for specific demographics or geographic area may not equal the total deaths for San Diego County due to missing data.

Starting in data year 2023, San Diego County resident deaths that occurred out of state are now included.

Source: State of California, California Department of Public Health, Vital Records Business Intelligence System (VRBIS), California Comprehensive Death File, 2024, created on September 15, 2025.

Prepared by County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services, Community Health Statistics Unit, 2025.

Contact 619.692.6667. https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/hhsa/programs/phs/community_health_statistics/

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Leading Causes of Death ^{1,2} Among San Diego County Residents by Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) Regions, 2023																											
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Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%				
1	Malignant Neoplasms	5,098	21.8%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	651	20.8%	1	Diseases Of The Heart	852	20.8%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	914	22.9%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	915	23.0%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	1,024	21.7%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	745	22.2%
2	Diseases Of The Heart	4,785	20.4%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	632	20.2%	2	Malignant Neoplasms	837	20.4%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	793	19.9%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	852	21.4%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	959	20.3%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	688	20.5%
3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	1,756	7.5%	3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	346	11.0%	3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	280	6.8%	3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	260	6.5%	3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	259	6.5%	3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	355	7.5%	3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	254	7.6%
4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	1,552	6.6%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	191	6.1%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	270	6.6%	4	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	256	6.4%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	254	6.4%	4	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	307	6.5%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	215	6.4%
5	Alzheimer's Disease	1,177	5.0%	5	Diabetes Mellitus	146	4.7%	5	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	225	5.5%	5	Alzheimer's Disease	220	5.5%	5	Alzheimer's Disease	211	5.3%	5	Alzheimer's Disease	264	5.6%	5	Diabetes Mellitus	202	6.0%
6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	923	3.9%	6	Alzheimer's Disease	124	4.0%	6	Alzheimer's Disease	198	4.8%	6	Diabetes Mellitus	138	3.5%	6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	155	3.9%	6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	199	4.2%	6	Alzheimer's Disease	157	4.7%
7	Diabetes Mellitus	911	3.9%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	93	3.0%	7	Diabetes Mellitus	174	4.2%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	137	3.4%	7	Diabetes Mellitus	105	2.6%	7	Diabetes Mellitus	145	3.1%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	111	3.3%
8	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	538	2.3%	8	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	74	2.4%	8	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	109	2.7%	8	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	93	2.3%	8	Parkinson's Disease	97	2.4%	8	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	96	2.0%	8	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	95	2.8%
9	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	452	1.9%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	71	2.3%	9	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	93	2.3%	9	Parkinson's Disease	78	2.0%	9	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	83	2.1%	9	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	83	1.8%	9	COVID-19	71	2.1%
10	Parkinson's Disease	401	1.7%	10	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	52	1.7%	10	Parkinson's Disease	74	1.8%	10	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	76	1.9%	10	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	73	1.8%	10	COVID-19	72	1.5%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	50	1.5%
11	COVID-19	376	1.6%	11	Parkinson's Disease	36	1.1%	11	COVID-19	72	1.8%	11	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	63	1.6%	11	COVID-19	63	1.6%	11	Parkinson's Disease	71	1.5%	11	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	46	1.4%
12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	363	1.6%	12	COVID-19	34	1.1%	12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	63	1.5%	12	COVID-19	62	1.6%	12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	58	1.5%	12	Influenza And Pneumonia	69	1.5%	12	Parkinson's Disease	45	1.3%
13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	212	0.9%	13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	26	0.8%	13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	29	0.7%	13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	43	1.1%	13	Influenza And Pneumonia	40	1.0%	13	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	64	1.4%	13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	26	0.8%
14	Influenza And Pneumonia	212	0.9%	14	Influenza And Pneumonia	25	0.8%	14	Congenital Malformations, Deformations And Chromosomal Abnormalities	26	0.6%	14	Influenza And Pneumonia	33	0.8%	14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	29	0.7%	14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	58	1.2%	14	Influenza And Pneumonia	18	0.5%
15	Nutritional Deficiencies	133	0.6%	15	Nutritional Deficiencies	24	0.8%	15	Influenza And Pneumonia	25	0.6%	15	Nutritional Deficiencies	27	0.7%	15	In Situ Neoplasms, Benign Neoplasms And Neoplasms Of Uncertain Or Unknown Behavior	29	0.7%	15	Septicemia	31	0.7%	15	In Situ Neoplasms, Benign Neoplasms And Neoplasms Of Uncertain Or Unknown Behavior	18	0.5%
				15	Assault (Homicide)	24	0.8%																				
16	All other causes (not rankable)	4,520	19.3%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	586	18.7%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	776	18.9%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	800	20.0%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	758	19.0%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	917	19.5%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	609	18.2%
Total Deaths³		23,409	100.0%	Total Deaths³		3,135	100.0%	Total Deaths³		4,103	100.0%	Total Deaths³		3,993	100.0%	Total Deaths³		3,981	100.0%	Total Deaths³		4,714	100.0%	Total Deaths³		3,350	100.0%

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Starting in data year 2023, San Diego County resident deaths that occurred out of state are now included.

Source: State of California, California Department of Public Health, Vital Records Business Intelligence System (VRBIS), California Comprehensive Death File, 2023, created on September 16, 2024.

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Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%
1	Malignant Neoplasms	5,179	20.8%	1	Diseases Of The Heart	708	21.4%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	962	21.0%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	942	22.5%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	851	20.9%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	995	20.4%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	763	20.4%
2	Diseases Of The Heart	4,928	19.8%	2	Malignant Neoplasms	652	19.7%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	897	19.6%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	825	19.7%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	801	19.7%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	988	20.2%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	693	18.5%
3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	1,796	7.2%	3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	300	9.1%	3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	315	6.9%	3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	280	6.7%	3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	290	7.1%	3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	335	6.9%	3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	260	6.9%
4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	1,561	6.3%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	195	5.9%	4	COVID-19	296	6.5%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	242	5.8%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	261	6.4%	4	Alzheimer's Disease	329	6.7%	4	COVID-19	250	6.7%
5	COVID-19	1,325	5.3%	5	COVID-19	173	5.2%	5	Cerebrovascular Diseases	267	5.8%	5	Alzheimer's Disease	221	5.3%	5	Alzheimer's Disease	259	6.4%	5	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	300	6.1%	5	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	233	6.2%
6	Alzheimer's Disease	1,320	5.3%	6	Diabetes Mellitus	156	4.7%	6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	212	4.6%	6	COVID-19	186	4.4%	6	COVID-19	193	4.7%	6	COVID-19	226	4.6%	6	Diabetes Mellitus	204	5.4%
7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	913	3.7%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	114	3.5%	7	Alzheimer's Disease	203	4.4%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	147	3.5%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	153	3.8%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	176	3.6%	7	Alzheimer's Disease	199	5.3%
8	Diabetes Mellitus	907	3.6%	8	Alzheimer's Disease	106	3.2%	8	Diabetes Mellitus	178	3.9%	8	Diabetes Mellitus	114	2.7%	8	Diabetes Mellitus	116	2.9%	8	Diabetes Mellitus	135	2.8%	8	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	108	2.9%
9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	576	2.3%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	84	2.5%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	123	2.7%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	99	2.4%	9	Parkinson's Disease	88	2.2%	9	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	95	1.9%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	104	2.8%
10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	458	1.8%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	61	1.8%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	83	1.8%	10	Parkinson's Disease	82	2.0%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	80	2.0%	10	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	91	1.9%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	77	2.1%
11	Parkinson's Disease	413	1.7%	11	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	55	1.7%	11	Parkinson's Disease	68	1.5%	11	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	77	1.8%	11	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	73	1.8%	11	Parkinson's Disease	88	1.8%	11	Parkinson's Disease	57	1.5%
12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	359	1.4%	12	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	36	1.1%	12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	50	1.1%	12	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	59	1.4%	12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	67	1.6%	12	Influenza And Pneumonia	79	1.6%	12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	47	1.3%
13	Influenza And Pneumonia	237	1.0%	13	Parkinson's Disease	30	0.9%	13	Influenza And Pneumonia	39	0.9%	13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	35	0.8%	13	Nutritional Deficiencies	36	0.9%	13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	62	1.3%	13	Influenza And Pneumonia	32	0.9%
14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	197	0.8%	14	Influenza And Pneumonia	27	0.8%	14	Assault (Homicide)	23	0.5%	14	Influenza And Pneumonia	29	0.7%	14	Influenza And Pneumonia	30	0.7%	14	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	59	1.2%	14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	26	0.7%
15	Nutritional Deficiencies	131	0.5%	15	Assault (Homicide)	26	0.8%	15	In Situ Neoplasms, Benign Neoplasms And Neoplasms Of Uncertain Or Unknown Behavior	18	0.4%	15	In Situ Neoplasms, Benign Neoplasms And Neoplasms Of Uncertain Or Unknown Behavior	26	0.6%	15	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	23	0.6%	15	Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome And Nephrosis	36	0.7%	15	Assault (Homicide)	22	0.6%
								15	Congenital Malformations, Deformations And Chromosomal Abnormalities	18	0.4%																
16	All other causes (not rankable)	4,630	18.6%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	579	17.5%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	834	18.2%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	826	19.7%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	747	18.4%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	891	18.2%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	674	18.0%
Total Deaths³		24,930	100.0%	Total Deaths³		3,302	100.0%	Total Deaths³		4,586	100.0%	Total Deaths³		4,190	100.0%	Total Deaths³		4,068	100.0%	Total Deaths³		4,885	100.0%	Total Deaths³		3,749	100.0%

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The COVID-19 pandemic was associated with increases in all-cause mortality. COVID-19 deaths have affected the patterns of mortality including those of Leading Causes of Death.

Source: State of California, California Department of Public Health, Vital Records Business Intelligence System (VRBIS), California Comprehensive Death File, 2022, created on September 15, 2023.

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2	Diseases Of The Heart	4,961	19.0%	2	Malignant Neoplasms	657	17.4%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	930	19.2%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	817	19.6%	2	Malignant Neoplasms	798	18.9%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	925	18.4%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	725	18.1%
3	COVID-19	2,825	10.8%	3	COVID-19	466	12.3%	3	COVID-19	477	9.9%	3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	312	7.5%	3	COVID-19	419	9.9%	3	COVID-19	537	10.7%	3	COVID-19	650	16.2%
4	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	1,795	6.9%	4	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	338	9.0%	4	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	307	6.3%	4	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	283	6.8%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	310	7.3%	4	Alzheimer's Disease	359	7.1%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	242	6.0%
5	Cerebrovascular Diseases	1,710	6.5%	5	Cerebrovascular Diseases	234	6.2%	5	Cerebrovascular Diseases	253	5.2%	5	COVID-19	267	6.4%	5	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	306	7.2%	5	Cerebrovascular Diseases	357	7.1%	5	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	233	5.8%
6	Alzheimer's Disease	1,391	5.3%	6	Diabetes Mellitus	164	4.3%	6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	214	4.4%	6	Alzheimer's Disease	224	5.4%	6	Alzheimer's Disease	261	6.2%	6	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	297	5.9%	6	Alzheimer's Disease	194	4.8%
7	Diabetes Mellitus	895	3.4%	7	Alzheimer's Disease	139	3.7%	7	Alzheimer's Disease	212	4.4%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	139	3.3%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	144	3.4%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	165	3.3%	7	Diabetes Mellitus	163	4.1%
8	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	887	3.4%	8	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	106	2.8%	8	Diabetes Mellitus	198	4.1%	8	Diabetes Mellitus	116	2.8%	8	Parkinson's Disease	100	2.4%	8	Diabetes Mellitus	150	3.0%	8	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	117	2.9%
9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	501	1.9%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	74	2.0%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	124	2.6%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	81	1.9%	9	Diabetes Mellitus	98	2.3%	9	Parkinson's Disease	87	1.7%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	93	2.3%
10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	472	1.8%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	68	1.8%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	109	2.3%	10	Parkinson's Disease	73	1.8%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	71	1.7%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	82	1.6%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	68	1.7%
11	Parkinson's Disease	399	1.5%	11	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	52	1.4%	11	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	62	1.3%	11	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	71	1.7%	11	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	71	1.7%	11	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	67	1.3%	11	Parkinson's Disease	57	1.4%
12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	344	1.3%	12	Assault (Homicide)	45	1.2%	12	Parkinson's Disease	49	1.0%	12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	58	1.4%	12	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	60	1.4%	12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	66	1.3%	12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	33	0.8%
13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	179	0.7%	13	Parkinson's Disease	32	0.8%	13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	31	0.6%	13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	34	0.8%	13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	38	0.9%	13	Influenza And Pneumonia	45	0.9%	13	Influenza And Pneumonia	27	0.7%
14	Influenza And Pneumonia	164	0.6%	14	Septicemia	27	0.7%	14	In Situ Neoplasms, Benign Neoplasms And Neoplasms Of Uncertain Or Unknown Behavior	24	0.5%	14	In Situ Neoplasms, Benign Neoplasms And Neoplasms Of Uncertain Or Unknown Behavior	26	0.6%	14	Influenza And Pneumonia	35	0.8%	14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	38	0.8%	14	Nutritional Deficiencies	27	0.7%
15	Nutritional Deficiencies	132	0.5%	15	Influenza And Pneumonia	21	0.6%	15	Assault (Homicide)	22	0.5%	15	Nutritional Deficiencies	23	0.6%	15	In Situ Neoplasms, Benign Neoplasms And Neoplasms Of Uncertain Or Unknown Behavior	23	0.5%	15	Nutritional Deficiencies	30	0.6%	15	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	21	0.5%
16	All other causes (not rankable)	4,463	17.1%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	611	16.2%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	858	17.7%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	776	18.6%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	684	16.2%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	812	16.2%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	571	14.2%
Total Deaths³		26,168	100.0%	Total Deaths³		3,774	100.0%	Total Deaths³		4,835	100.0%	Total Deaths³		4,171	100.0%	Total Deaths³		4,223	100.0%	Total Deaths³		5,024	100.0%	Total Deaths³		4,011	100.0%

¹ Rank is based on total number of deaths in each of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) "rankable" categories. The top 15 leading causes of death presented here are for San Diego County residents for 2021.

² Cause of death is based on the underlying cause of death reported on death certificates as classified by ICD-10 codes.

³ Deaths for specific demographics or geographic area may not equal the total deaths for San Diego County due to missing data.

The COVID-19 pandemic was associated with increases in all-cause mortality. COVID-19 deaths have affected the patterns of mortality including those of Leading Causes of Death.

Source: State of California, California Department of Public Health, Vital Records Business Intelligence System (VRBIS), California Comprehensive Death File, 2021, created on September 15, 2022.

Prepared by County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services, Community Health Statistics Unit, 2022.

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LivWellSD.org.

Leading Causes of Death ^{1,2} Among San Diego County Residents by Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) Regions, 2020																											
San Diego County				Central Region				East Region				North Central Region				North Coastal Region				North Inland Region				South Region			
Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%
1	Malignant Neoplasms	4,939	20.1%	1	Diseases Of The Heart	673	19.6%	1	Diseases Of The Heart	904	20.1%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	829	21.2%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	814	20.5%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	1,038	21.6%	1	Diseases Of The Heart	765	19.8%
2	Diseases Of The Heart	4,853	19.8%	2	Malignant Neoplasms	639	18.7%	2	Malignant Neoplasms	874	19.5%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	774	19.8%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	814	20.5%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	909	18.9%	2	Malignant Neoplasms	736	19.1%
3	COVID-19	1,728	7.0%	3	COVID-19	305	8.9%	3	COVID-19	348	7.7%	3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	294	7.5%	3	Alzheimer's Disease	315	7.9%	3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	380	7.9%	3	COVID-19	478	12.4%
4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	1,722	7.0%	4	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	276	8.1%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	283	6.3%	4	Alzheimer's Disease	269	6.9%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	309	7.8%	4	Alzheimer's Disease	374	7.8%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	247	6.4%
5	Alzheimer's Disease	1,521	6.2%	5	Cerebrovascular Diseases	200	5.8%	5	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	255	5.7%	5	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	225	5.8%	5	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	253	6.4%	5	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	303	6.3%	5	Alzheimer's Disease	211	5.5%
6	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	1,513	6.2%	6	Diabetes Mellitus	159	4.6%	6	Alzheimer's Disease	214	4.8%	6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	145	3.7%	6	COVID-19	198	5.0%	6	COVID-19	249	5.2%	6	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	182	4.7%
7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	930	3.8%	7	Alzheimer's Disease	137	4.0%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	210	4.7%	7	COVID-19	144	3.7%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	143	3.6%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	196	4.1%	7	Diabetes Mellitus	173	4.5%
8	Diabetes Mellitus	852	3.5%	8	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	117	3.4%	8	Diabetes Mellitus	175	3.9%	8	Diabetes Mellitus	120	3.1%	8	Diabetes Mellitus	91	2.3%	8	Diabetes Mellitus	131	2.7%	8	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	118	3.1%
9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	453	1.8%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	71	2.1%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	94	2.1%	9	Parkinson's Disease	89	2.3%	9	Parkinson's Disease	76	1.9%	9	Parkinson's Disease	113	2.4%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	76	2.0%
10	Parkinson's Disease	429	1.7%	10	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	66	1.9%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	87	1.9%	10	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	79	2.0%	10	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	76	1.9%	10	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	80	1.7%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	67	1.7%
11	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	411	1.7%	11	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	60	1.8%	11	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	75	1.7%	11	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	64	1.6%	11	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	68	1.7%	11	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	76	1.6%	11	Parkinson's Disease	57	1.5%
12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	391	1.6%	12	Influenza And Pneumonia	38	1.1%	12	Parkinson's Disease	62	1.4%	12	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	52	1.3%	12	Influenza And Pneumonia	54	1.4%	12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	65	1.4%	12	Influenza And Pneumonia	50	1.3%
13	Influenza And Pneumonia	297	1.2%	13	Parkinson's Disease	30	0.9%	13	Influenza And Pneumonia	49	1.1%	13	Influenza And Pneumonia	46	1.2%	13	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	53	1.3%	13	Influenza And Pneumonia	59	1.2%	13	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	41	1.1%
14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	163	0.7%	14	Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome And Nephrosis	30	0.9%	14	Nutritional Deficiencies	27	0.6%	14	Nutritional Deficiencies	35	0.9%	14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	33	0.8%	14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	42	0.9%	14	Assault (Homicide)	26	0.7%
15	Nutritional Deficiencies	138	0.6%	15	Assault (Homicide)	29	0.8%	15	In Situ Neoplasms, Benign Neoplasms And Neoplasms Of Uncertain Or Unknown Behavior	25	0.6%	15	Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome And Nephrosis	24	0.6%	15	Nutritional Deficiencies	26	0.7%	15	Atherosclerosis	37	0.8%	15	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	19	0.5%
16	All other causes (not rankable)	4,209	17.1%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	595	17.4%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	810	18.0%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	722	18.5%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	647	16.3%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	749	15.6%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	612	15.9%
Total Deaths³		24,549	100.0%	Total Deaths³		3,425	100.0%	Total Deaths³		4,492	100.0%	Total Deaths³		3,911	100.0%	Total Deaths³		3,970	100.0%	Total Deaths³		4,801	100.0%	Total Deaths³		3,858	100.0%

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The COVID-19 pandemic was associated with increases in all-cause mortality. COVID-19 deaths have affected the patterns of mortality including those of Leading Causes of Death.

Source: State of California, California Department of Public Health, Vital Records Business Intelligence System (VRBIS), California Compendium Death File, 2020, created on October 14, 2021.

Prepared by County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services, Community Health Statistics Unit, 2021.

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