

Leading Causes of Death^{1,2} Among San Diego County Residents by Sex, 2024

<i>San Diego County</i>				<i>Male</i>				<i>Female</i>			
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	Diseases Of The Heart	2,685	22.3%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	2,421	22.2%
2	Diseases Of The Heart	4,706	20.5%	2	Malignant Neoplasms	2,625	21.8%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	2,021	18.5%
3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	1,589	6.9%	3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	1,055	8.8%	3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	917	8.4%
4	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	1,521	6.6%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	672	5.6%	4	Alzheimer's Disease	774	7.1%
5	Alzheimer's Disease	1,150	5.0%	5	Diabetes Mellitus	530	4.4%	5	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	466	4.3%
6	Diabetes Mellitus	948	4.1%	6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	423	3.5%	6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	422	3.9%
7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	845	3.7%	7	Alzheimer's Disease	376	3.1%	7	Diabetes Mellitus	418	3.8%
8	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	506	2.2%	8	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	288	2.4%	8	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	274	2.5%
9	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	424	1.8%	9	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	259	2.2%	9	Parkinson's Disease	166	1.5%
10	Parkinson's Disease	413	1.8%	10	Parkinson's Disease	247	2.1%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	165	1.5%
11	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	377	1.6%	11	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	232	1.9%	11	Nutritional Deficiencies	120	1.1%
12	Influenza And Pneumonia	257	1.1%	12	COVID-19	151	1.3%	12	Influenza And Pneumonia	111	1.0%
13	COVID-19	255	1.1%	13	Influenza And Pneumonia	146	1.2%	13	COVID-19	104	1.0%
14	Nutritional Deficiencies	190	0.8%	14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	96	0.8%	14	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	89	0.8%
15	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	172	0.7%	15	Assault (Homicide)	80	0.7%	15	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	76	0.7%
16	All other causes (not rankable)	4,561	19.9%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	2,177	18.1%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	2,373	21.7%
Total Deaths³		22,960	100.0%	Total Deaths³		12,042	100.0%	Total Deaths³		10,917	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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<i>San Diego County</i>				<i>Male</i>				<i>Female</i>			
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	Diseases Of The Heart	2,707	21.9%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	2,436	22.1%
2	Diseases Of The Heart	4,785	20.4%	2	Malignant Neoplasms	2,662	21.5%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	2,078	18.8%
3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	1,756	7.5%	3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	1,248	10.1%	3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	884	8.0%
4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	1,552	6.6%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	668	5.4%	4	Alzheimer's Disease	774	7.0%
5	Alzheimer's Disease	1,177	5.0%	5	Diabetes Mellitus	501	4.0%	5	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	507	4.6%
6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	923	3.9%	6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	417	3.4%	6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	506	4.6%
7	Diabetes Mellitus	911	3.9%	7	Alzheimer's Disease	403	3.3%	7	Diabetes Mellitus	410	3.7%
8	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	538	2.3%	8	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	289	2.3%	8	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	276	2.5%
9	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	452	1.9%	9	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	278	2.2%	9	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	163	1.5%
10	Parkinson's Disease	401	1.7%	10	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	262	2.1%	10	Parkinson's Disease	159	1.4%
11	COVID-19	376	1.6%	11	Parkinson's Disease	242	2.0%	11	COVID-19	143	1.3%
12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	363	1.6%	12	COVID-19	233	1.9%	12	Influenza And Pneumonia	107	1.0%
13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	212	0.9%	13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	130	1.1%	13	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	85	0.8%
14	Influenza And Pneumonia	212	0.9%	14	Influenza And Pneumonia	105	0.8%	14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	82	0.7%
15	Nutritional Deficiencies	133	0.6%	15	Assault (Homicide)	70	0.6%	15	Nutritional Deficiencies	78	0.7%
16	All other causes (not rankable)	4,520	19.3%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	2,163	17.5%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	2,342	21.2%
Total Deaths³		23,409	100.0%	Total Deaths³		12,378	100.0%	Total Deaths³		11,030	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 2023.

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, 2023, created on September 16, 2024.

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

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Leading Causes of Death ^{1,2} Among San Diego County Residents by Sex, 2022											
San Diego County				Male				Female			
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	2,775	21.0%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	2,477	21.1%
2	Diseases Of The Heart	4,928	19.8%	2	Malignant Neoplasms	2,702	20.5%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	2,153	18.3%
3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	1,796	7.2%	3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	1,293	9.8%	3	Cerebrovascular Diseases	930	7.9%
4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	1,561	6.3%	4	COVID-19	762	5.8%	4	Alzheimer's Disease	894	7.6%
5	COVID-19	1,325	5.3%	5	Cerebrovascular Diseases	631	4.8%	5	COVID-19	563	4.8%
6	Alzheimer's Disease	1,320	5.3%	6	Diabetes Mellitus	519	3.9%	6	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	503	4.3%
7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	913	3.7%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	449	3.4%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	464	4.0%
8	Diabetes Mellitus	907	3.6%	8	Alzheimer's Disease	426	3.2%	8	Diabetes Mellitus	388	3.3%
9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	576	2.3%	9	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	292	2.2%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	295	2.5%
10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	458	1.8%	10	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	281	2.1%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	166	1.4%
11	Parkinson's Disease	413	1.7%	11	Parkinson's Disease	264	2.0%	11	Parkinson's Disease	149	1.3%
12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	359	1.4%	12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	257	1.9%	12	Influenza And Pneumonia	116	1.0%
13	Influenza And Pneumonia	237	1.0%	13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	123	0.9%	13	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	102	0.9%
14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	197	0.8%	14	Influenza And Pneumonia	121	0.9%	14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	74	0.6%
15	Nutritional Deficiencies	131	0.5%	15	Assault (Homicide)	89	0.7%	15	Nutritional Deficiencies	74	0.6%
16	All other causes (not rankable)	4,630	18.6%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	2,211	16.8%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	2,386	20.3%
Total Deaths³		24,930	100.0%	Total Deaths³		13,195	100.0%	Total Deaths³		11,734	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 2022.

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, 2022, created on September 15, 2023.

Prepared by County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services, Community Health Statistics Unit, 2023.

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Leading Causes of Death^{1,2} Among San Diego County Residents by Sex, 2021

<i>San Diego County</i>				<i>Male</i>				<i>Female</i>			
Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%	Rank	Underlying Cause of Death	Count	%
1	Malignant Neoplasms	5,050	19.3%	1	Diseases of the Heart	2,880	20.4%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	2,349	19.5%
2	Diseases Of The Heart	4,961	19.0%	2	Malignant Neoplasms	2,701	19.1%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	2,081	17.3%
3	COVID-19	2,825	10.8%	3	COVID-19	1,729	12.2%	3	COVID-19	1,096	9.1%
4	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	1,795	6.9%	4	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	1,275	9.0%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	1,018	8.5%
5	Cerebrovascular Diseases	1,710	6.5%	5	Cerebrovascular Diseases	692	4.9%	5	Alzheimer's Disease	940	7.8%
6	Alzheimer's Disease	1,391	5.3%	6	Diabetes Mellitus	492	3.5%	6	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	520	4.3%
7	Diabetes Mellitus	895	3.4%	7	Alzheimer's Disease	451	3.2%	7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	472	3.9%
8	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	887	3.4%	8	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	415	2.9%	8	Diabetes Mellitus	403	3.4%
9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	501	1.9%	9	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	288	2.0%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	269	2.2%
10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	472	1.8%	10	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	261	1.8%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	184	1.5%
11	Parkinson's Disease	399	1.5%	11	Parkinson's Disease	255	1.8%	11	Parkinson's Disease	144	1.2%
12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	344	1.3%	12	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	232	1.6%	12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	83	0.7%
13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	179	0.7%	13	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	108	0.8%	13	Nutritional Deficiencies	74	0.6%
14	Influenza and Pneumonia	164	0.6%	14	Assault (Homicide)	97	0.7%	14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids and Liquids	71	0.6%
15	Nutritional Deficiencies	132	0.5%	15	Influenza and Pneumonia	96	0.7%	15	Influenza and Pneumonia	68	0.6%
16	All other causes (not rankable)	4,463	17.1%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	2,178	15.4%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	2,246	18.7%
Total Deaths³		26,168	100.0%	Total Deaths³		14,150	100.0%	Total Deaths³		12,018	100.0%

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Leading Causes of Death ^{1,2} Among San Diego County Residents by Sex, 2020											
San Diego County				Male				Female			
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	2,772	21.3%	1	Malignant Neoplasms	2,356	20.4%
2	Diseases Of The Heart	4,853	19.8%	2	Malignant Neoplasms	2,583	19.9%	2	Diseases Of The Heart	2,081	18.0%
3	COVID-19	1,728	7.0%	3	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	1,067	8.2%	3	Alzheimer's Disease	1,027	8.9%
4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	1,722	7.0%	4	COVID-19	1,020	7.9%	4	Cerebrovascular Diseases	980	8.5%
5	Alzheimer's Disease	1,521	6.2%	5	Cerebrovascular Diseases	742	5.7%	5	COVID-19	708	6.1%
6	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	1,513	6.2%	6	Alzheimer's Disease	494	3.8%	6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	492	4.3%
7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	930	3.8%	7	Diabetes Mellitus	452	3.5%	7	Accidents/Unintentional Injuries	445	3.8%
8	Diabetes Mellitus	852	3.5%	8	Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	438	3.4%	8	Diabetes Mellitus	400	3.5%
9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	453	1.8%	9	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	301	2.3%	9	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	234	2.0%
10	Parkinson's Disease	429	1.7%	10	Parkinson's Disease	285	2.2%	10	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	181	1.6%
11	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	411	1.7%	11	Chronic Liver Disease And Cirrhosis	230	1.8%	11	Parkinson's Disease	144	1.2%
12	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	391	1.6%	12	Essential Hypertension And Hypertensive Renal Disease	219	1.7%	12	Influenza and Pneumonia	137	1.2%
13	Influenza And Pneumonia	297	1.2%	13	Influenza And Pneumonia	160	1.2%	13	Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide)	90	0.8%
14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	163	0.7%	14	Pneumonitis Due To Solids And Liquids	95	0.7%	14	Nutritional Deficiencies	82	0.7%
15	Nutritional Deficiencies	138	0.6%	15	Assault (Homicide)	88	0.7%	15	Pneumonitis Due To Solids and Liquids	68	0.6%
16	All other causes (not rankable)	4,209	17.1%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	2,041	15.7%	16	All other causes (not rankable)	2,136	18.5%
Total Deaths³		24,549	100.0%	Total Deaths³		12,987	100.0%	Total Deaths³		11,561	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 2020.

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

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