

COVID Tabulations – Monthly Progression of Disparities in COVID Deaths by Race and Age Cohort and COVID Deaths Attributable to Nursing Home Residents

5 Slide Series, Volume 88-c

August 21, 2020

The Menges Group

Strategic Health Policy & Care Coordination Consulting

Key Findings

- This edition provides a monthly summary of new COVID-attributed deaths by race and age cohort.
 - The Black population's rate of new COVID deaths per 100,000 population in the US has remained *at least double* the death rate for Asian, LatinX, and White subgroups *every month*.
 - Looking at age cohorts, individuals aged 75 and older have consistently accounted for approximately 50% of all new COVID deaths in the US since the beginning of April.
- We also provide an assessment of COVID deaths among nursing home residents. Through the end of July, 29.5% of all COVID deaths in the US are attributable to nursing home residents.

COVID Deaths by Race During Each Month

New COVID Deaths by Race as a Percent of All New COVID Deaths, by Month				
Race	April	May	June	July
White	50.1%	51.6%	52.7%	51.7%
Black	27.3%	24.4%	23.4%	22.5%
LatinX	14.4%	14.9%	15.0%	17.1%
Asian	4.4%	4.4%	4.3%	4.1%
Other/Multiracial	3.8%	4.7%	4.6%	4.6%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

New COVID Deaths per 100,000 Population, by Month				
Race	April	May	June	July
White	14.6	10.7	6.0	6.7
Black	39.7	25.2	13.4	14.7
LatinX	14.0	10.2	5.7	7.4
Asian	12.8	9.1	4.9	5.3
Other/Multiracial	21.9	19.4	10.5	12.0
Total	17.4	12.4	6.9	7.8

- The Black population's rate of new COVID deaths per 100,000 population has remained *at least double* the death rate for Asian, LatinX, and White subgroups *every month*. The Black population's share of overall USA COVID deaths has decreased a few percentage points between April and July.
- The LatinX population is the only racial group whose proportion of new deaths has increased each month.
- Every racial group's COVID death rate per 100,000 population increased in July versus June.

Source: The COVID Tracking Project. Unknown race figures were reallocated to other groups based on each group's relative share of COVID deaths in a given month where race was reported.

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New Monthly COVID Deaths by Age Cohort, April through July

Age Cohort	New COVID Deaths in Each Age Cohort as Percent of All New COVID Deaths			
	April	May	June	July
0 - 44	3%	2%	3%	4%
45 - 54	5%	4%	6%	6%
55 - 64	13%	11%	13%	14%
65 - 74	21%	20%	21%	23%
75 - 84	27%	26%	25%	26%
85+	31%	36%	31%	27%
All Ages	100%	100%	100%	100%

Age Cohort	New COVID Deaths in Each Age Cohort per 100,000 Population			
	April	May	June	July
0 - 44	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.5
45 - 54	6.9	4.1	3.3	3.7
55 - 64	16.9	10.6	6.9	8.4
65 - 74	41.4	27.7	15.8	19.6
75 - 84	118.0	80.2	43.2	51.3
85+	271.7	223.9	107.1	105.8
All Ages	17.4	12.4	6.9	7.8

- Every month, the COVID death rate per population has been **far more than 100 times higher** among persons 75+ than among persons under age 45. The under-45 cohort is yet to experience a month with a new COVID death rate reaching 1.0 per 100,000 persons.
- Individuals aged 75+ accounted for more than 50% of all new COVID deaths in each of the past four months despite constituting only 6% of the US population.
- Despite only being 2% of the entire US population, the 85+ age cohort has consistently accounted for more than 30% of all COVID deaths in the US.
- The number of new deaths per 100,000 population has fallen by more than half in July versus April in all but one age cohort (under 45). In July relative to June, the number of new deaths per 100,000 increased in all age groups except the 85+ cohort.

Source: CDC COVID-19 Provisional Death Counts. Deaths without a reported age were reallocated among age cohorts based on each age group's relative share of COVID deaths in a given month (where age was reported).

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Progression of COVID Deaths Among Nursing Home Residents

Timeframe	New COVID-19 Deaths, Nursing Home Residents	All Deaths, Nursing Home Residents	COVID Deaths as a Percentage of All Nursing Home Deaths	New COVID Deaths, Total USA	Nursing Home COVID Deaths as a Percentage of All COVID Deaths
Feb - May	27,976	80,838	35%	104,682	27%
June	8,392	37,627	22%	21,589	39%
July	9,590	45,447	21%	29,438	33%

- Since the beginning of the COVID pandemic, persons residing in nursing homes have accounted for 29.5% of all COVID deaths in the US. This proportion was highest during June (39%).
- Overall nursing home deaths increased 21% in July versus June, whereas COVID deaths among nursing home residents increased by “only” 14 percent (see note below regarding how these months were categorized). This differential raises a question as to whether COVID deaths among nursing home residents might have been undercounted during July.

Note that the February – May timeframe includes all COVID deaths through the week ending in May 3; “June” includes deaths that occurred during the weeks ending on June 7, 14, 21, and 28; and “July” includes deaths that occurred during the weeks ending on July 5, 12, 19, 26, and August 2. The fact that the above July figures encompass 5 weeks and the June figures encompass four weeks explains the differences in COVID deaths between these two months among nursing home residents.

5 Slide Series Overview

Our 5 Slide Series is a monthly publication whereby we briefly discuss/address a selected topic outside the confines of our client engagements. The Menges Group has a variety of datasets that we use to support our 5 Slide Series and client projects.

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