MOVCAC – Tyler County Excess Death Analysis

Date: August 13, 2024

MOVCAC Contributor: Sean P. Keefe

Based on population numbers provided by West Virginia Demographics, Tyler County ranks forty-sixth in the state with 7,919 total residents. MOVCAC has performed numerous detailed analyses on Wood County excess death. Via that analysis, we confirmed that 2021 saw the highest levels of death experienced in recent history. Based on that analysis and the publication of the 2021 vital statistics by the WV DHHR, we are finally able to provide an analysis of this excess death phenomenon for each county in West Virginia.

Tyler County navigated the pandemic year very successfully. Death declined in 2020 by 14.78% when compared to 2019. However, 2021 saw an increase of 25.22% in total death to mirror the statewide experience:

	Total WV	Percent
Year	Death	Change
2011	21,870	
2012	21,651	-1.00%
2013	21,846	0.90%
2014	22,164	1.46%
2015	22,643	2.16%
2016	22,721	0.34%
2017	23,290	2.50%
2018	23,462	0.74%
2019	23,291	-0.73%
2020	26,108	12.09%
2021	29,402	26.24%

	Total Tyler	
	County	Percent
Year	Death	Change
2011	152	
2012	116	-23.68%
2013	110	-5.17%
2014	117	6.36%
2015	114	-2.56%
2016	123	7.89%
2017	105	-14.63%
2018	117	11.43%
2019	115	-1.71%
2020	98	-14.78%
2021	144	25.22%

Data source - https://dhhr.wv.gov/HSC/SS/Vital Statistics/Pages/Vital Statistics.aspx

Note – While each of the other years in the tables above are compared to the prior year, 2021 is compared to the pre-pandemic year of 2019. It makes no sense to compare 2021 to an already pandemic-effected elevated death total in 2020.

Like fifty-five out of fifty-five West Virginia counties, 2021 was one of the two highest death total years in Tyler County. However, Tyler County is only one of two West Virginia counties (Roane is the other) where their highest death total in the 11-year span under analysis was a year other than 2020 or 2021. The record for total death in Tyler County was set in 2011.

Tyler County is the only county in the state to record its lowest death total in 2020.

The age-ranged tables that follow were created by compiling each year's age-ranged data provided on the "Age at Death by County of Residence" table in the appendix section of each year's Vital Statistics Report published by DHHR from 2011 to 2020. The 2021 report no longer contains these detailed schedules. We contacted the DHHR for the 2021 details and were provided a spreadsheet containing the county level detail.

Age Ranges of Concern

The following age-ranged tables show the most alarming growth for Tyler County.

(*)Note – For the tables below, the two highest years in regards to total death are identified by the bold boxes. The percent change column is comparing totals for each year to the prior year for years 2011 through 2020. For the 2021 percent change calculation, the next highest death total is identified and used as the comparison year.

2018

2019

2020

2021 *

Age Range 65-74

		Percent
Year	Total Death	Change
2011	30	
2012	31	3.33%
2013	26	-16.13%
2014	29	11.54%
2015	23	-20.69%
2016	27	17.39%
2017	19	-29.63%

26

24

20

43

36.84%

-7.69%

-16.67%

38.71%

Age Range 75-84

Percent

Year	Total Death	Change
2011	53	
2012	34	-35.85%
2013	28	-17.65%
2014	27	-3.57%
2015	43	59.26%
2016	31	-27.91%
2017	33	6.45%
2018	34	3.03%
2019	27	-20.59%
2020	24	-11.11%
2021 *	48	-9.43%

The record death total for the 65-74 age range in Tyler County was set in 2012. The new record was set in 2021 when death in this age category soared by 38.71% over that record set in 2012.

In the 75-84 age range, death had been declining since the record was set in 2011. Isn't it just a little odd that the 48 deaths recorded in 2021 is the second highest?

If you are concerned about this alarming rise in total death for Tyler County and West Virginia as a whole (as documented by your state), please consider sharing this information with state leaders responsible for representing your population.

Delegates –

DAVID KELLY (R) - TYLER - david.kelly@wvhouse.gov

Senators -

MICHAEL J. MARONEY (R) – MARSHALL - mike.maroney@wvsenate.gov CHARLES H. CLEMENTS (R) – WETZEL - charles.clements@wvsenate.gov

Please note – After the election, your delegate or senator may change. After November 5, 2024, please refer to the new rosters as published on the legislature's website -

House Roster - https://www.wvlegislature.gov/house/roster.cfm Senate Roster - https://www.wvlegislature.gov/Senate1/roster.cfm