

MOVCAC – Hampshire County Excess Death Analysis

Date: August 8, 2024

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Based on population numbers provided by [West Virginia Demographics](#), Hampshire County ranks twenty-fifth in the state with 23,649 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.

As you can see from the two tables below, Hampshire County’s total death in 2020 and 2021, like the state as a whole, were easily the two highest death total years in the 11-year span under analysis:

Year	Total WV Death	Percent 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%

Year	Total Hampshire County Death	Percent Change
2011	254	
2012	250	-1.57%
2013	271	8.40%
2014	238	-12.18%
2015	279	17.23%
2016	254	-8.96%
2017	289	13.78%
2018	246	-14.88%
2019	292	18.70%
2020	312	6.85%
2021	346	18.49%

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.

The first thing one should notice from this table is that Hampshire County’s total death reached 312 in 2020. This was not as bad an increase as the state overall, but still eclipsed 300 deaths for the first time.

The 346 deaths experienced in 2021 represent an 18.49% increase over the pre-pandemic year of 2019. What happened in 2021 to so drastically increase total death in Hampshire County?

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 are the tables for age ranges with the most alarming trends culminating in 2021. Please note, many of these deaths are occurring in our working age citizens. Shouldn’t this be investigated by our elected officials?

(*)Note – For each of the age ranges 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.

Age Range 55-64			Age Range 65-74			Age Range 75-84		
Year	Total Death	Percent Change	Year	Total Death	Percent Change	Year	Total Death	Percent Change
2011	36		2011	48		2011	73	
2012	41	13.89%	2012	54	12.50%	2012	59	-19.18%
2013	49	19.51%	2013	64	18.52%	2013	63	6.78%
2014	29	-40.82%	2014	75	17.19%	2014	50	-20.63%
2015	37	27.59%	2015	68	-9.33%	2015	62	24.00%
2016	29	-21.62%	2016	53	-22.06%	2016	67	8.06%
2017	36	24.14%	2017	67	26.42%	2017	76	13.43%
2018	27	-25.00%	2018	65	-2.99%	2018	59	-22.37%
2019	35	29.63%	2019	62	-4.62%	2019	67	13.56%
2020	46	31.43%	2020	65	4.84%	2020	88	31.34%
2021 *	52	6.12%	2021 *	91	21.33%	2021 *	90	2.27%

For the 55-64 age range, 2020 experienced a significant increase in death. The 46 deaths recorded in 2020 were second only to the anomalous high set in 2013 at 49 deaths. After 2013, deaths in this age range were fairly steady running anywhere from 27 to 37 deaths per year. Then in 2021, the record high in 2013 was broken with 52 deaths.

The pandemic of 2020 had absolutely no impact on death in the 65-74 age range. The 65 deaths recorded in this age range fell comfortably in line with the historical trend. However, the 91 deaths recorded in 2021 shattered the record set in 2014 by 21.33% and were 40% higher than the pandemic year of 2020.

The 75-84 age range saw its record set with a 31.34% increase in 2020 to arrive at 88 deaths in Hampshire County. That record was then broken with 90 deaths recorded in 2021.

Why are we seeing so many death records set in 2021?

If you are concerned about this catastrophic rise in Hampshire County death (as documented by your state), please consider sharing this information with state leaders responsible for representing your population.

Delegates –

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Senators –

- CRAIG P. BLAIR (R - BERKELEY) - craig.blair@wvsenate.gov
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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>