

# Cops, Prisoners and Covid

[www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/mar/03/covid-police-top-line-of-duty-death-usa-2022](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/mar/03/covid-police-top-line-of-duty-death-usa-2022)

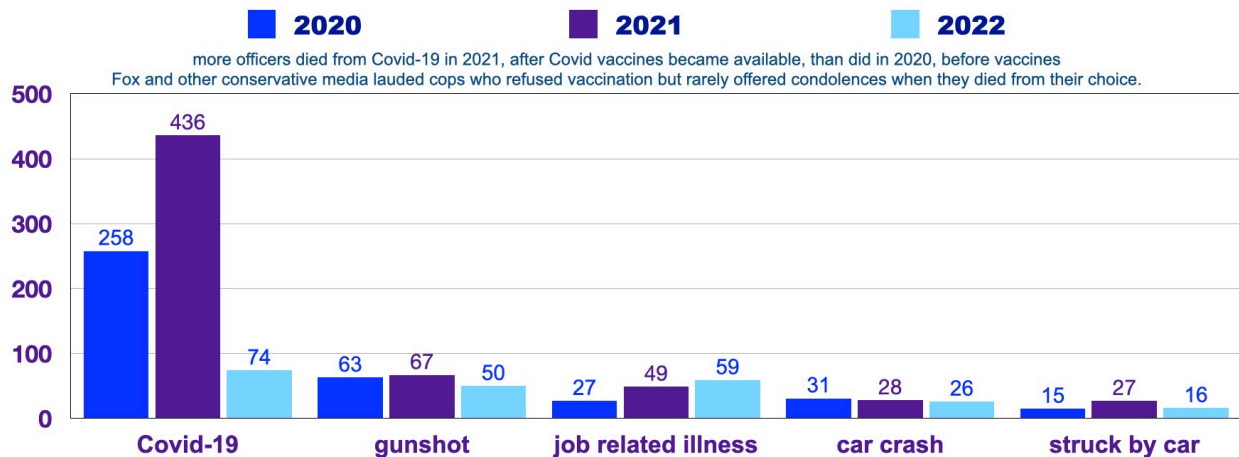
The actual mortality rate from Covid among law enforcement is assuredly higher, due to undercounting when tests were scarce and because reports like these only include line-of-duty deaths.

The total number of Covid deaths in 2022 was significantly lower than the previous two years, with 70 deaths in the line of duty, but it still **outpaced all other causes of mortality** on the job, according to a report from the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF).

## Causes of Law Enforcement Deaths 2020-2022

source: National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund

<https://nleomf.org/memorial/facts-figures/officer-fatality-data/causes-of-law-enforcement-deaths/>

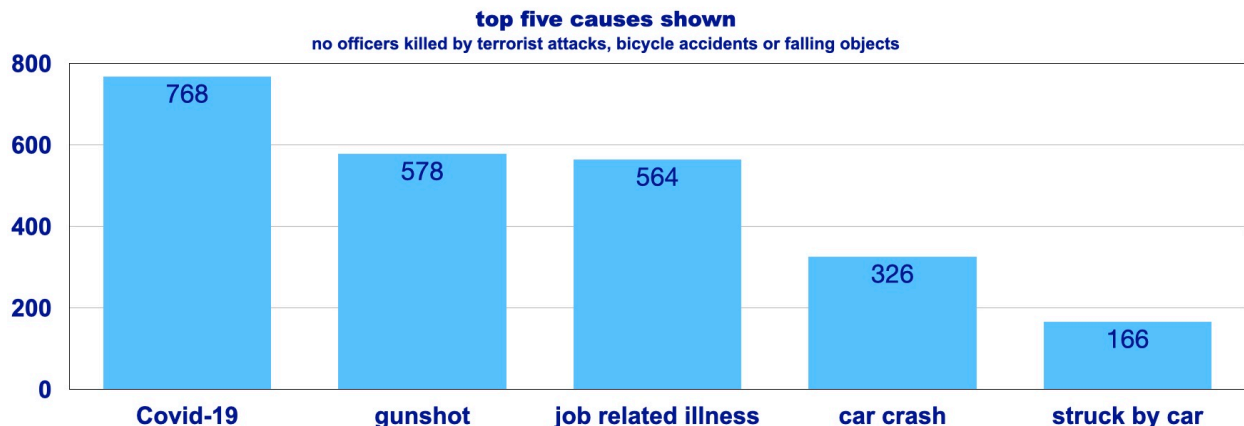


## Causes of Law Enforcement Deaths 2012-2022

data: National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund

chart: PeakChoice.org

<https://nleomf.org/memorial/facts-figures/officer-fatality-data/causes-of-law-enforcement-deaths/>



Causes of Law Enforcement Deaths	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	TOTAL
AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT	3	1	0	3	1	2	0	0	1	0	6	17
AUTOMOBILE CRASH	27	29	34	36	28	32	30	25	26	28	31	326
BEATEN	2	0	0	1	1	6	3	2	1	4	0	20
BOATING ACCIDENT	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	3
BICYCLE ACCIDENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOMB-RELATED INCIDENT	0	1	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
CRUSH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
FIRE-RELATED INCIDENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
FLOOD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
DROWNED	1	2	2	1	2	5	4	1	3	4	0	25
ELECTROCUTED	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
FALL	4	6	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	16
HORSE-RELATED INCIDENT	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
JOB RELATED ILLNESS	28	37	52	55	49	75	74	59	59	49	27	564
COVID-19 RELATED DEATHS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	258	436	74	768
MOTORCYCLE CRASH	8	6	6	6	10	7	5	2	3	3	5	61
POISONED	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
SHOT	50	35	51	43	67	46	53	53	50	67	63	578
STABBED	5	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	11
STRANGLED	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
STRUCK BY FALLING OBJECT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
STRUCK BY TRAIN	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	3
STRUCK BY VEHICLE	14	12	10	11	16	10	16	19	16	27	15	166
TERRORIST ATTACK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>2579</b>

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	TOTAL
MALE OFFICERS KILLED	131	124	150	150	172	170	171	150	384	572	206	2380
FEMALE OFFICERS KILLED	13	8	7	15	9	16	16	13	33	51	18	199



Frank I Stano With Ukraine

Georgia cop who pushed people to take horse dewormer instead of vaccine dies from COVID-19



Twitter Web App

9,134 Retweets 1,986 Quote Tweets

47.5K Likes

Middle aged African American, he thought he was strong and healthy and didn't need vaccination. He had a rough time with infection, but survived and now urges everyone to get immunized to reduce the severity of the disease. And he's far more aware of the ethical legacy of the Tuskegee experiment than any of the leading anti-vaxxers. As with Palestine, past traumas don't justify current stupidity. Alabama has had among the worst death rates of the 50 states (along with Mississippi and Arizona). Red Covid.

Some downplayers note that Republican communities tend to have lower health care indices, poverty, food deserts, rural hospitals closed and that's true, but police officers tend to have good health care coverage with their jobs, as did Republican Christian radio hosts who spread lies about Covid and then Covid sent them on an early trip to heaven.

<https://www.cbc.ca/radio/asithappens/as-it-happens-the-friday-edition-1.6238718/why-this-alabama-sheriff-changed-his-tune-about-getting-vaccinated-against-covid-19-1.6241288>

### **Why this Alabama sheriff changed his tune about getting vaccinated against COVID-19**

**A county sheriff in Alabama thought he was strong enough to fight COVID-19 without a vaccine. Then he contracted the disease. Now he's trying to convince others to get their shots.**

**Andre Brunson lives in Tuskegee — the site of the infamous syphilis experiments on Black Americans**

CBC Radio · Posted: Nov 08, 2021 6:05 PM EST | Last Updated: November 9, 2021



Andre Brunson is the sheriff of Macon County in Alabama — home to the infamous Tuskegee syphilis experiments. (Submitted by Andre Brunson)

<https://www.politico.com/news/2024/03/21/rfk-jr-s-latino-outreach-mariachi-catholicism-and-a-trumpian-ex-la-sheriff-00148391>

Villanueva was a vocal opponent of Covid-19 vaccine mandates, aligning him with Kennedy's longstanding critique of vaccination requirements like the one California passed in 2015.

[Veteran LA County Sheriff's sergeant dies of illness related to COVID-19](#)

[20-year veteran deputy with LA County Sheriff's Department dies of COVID-19](#)

[LA County Sheriff's deputy dies of COVID-19 at valley hospital; Police procession held from Rancho Mirage through I-10](#)

[Santiago Carrillo, LASD Deputy Assigned To Twin Towers Correctional Facility, Dies From COVID-19](#)

[14-Year Veteran LA County Sheriff's Deputy Dies of COVID-19](#)

[COVID-19 surge keeps over 2,000 LAPD, sheriff's office personnel at home](#)

[COVID was the leading cause of law enforcement deaths in 2022 for 3rd year in a row: Report](#)

[Across the 36 states for which a total vaccination rate could be calculated by race/ethnicity as of July 11, 2022: 67% of Hispanic](#)



<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/dec/03/us-prison-deaths-covid-19-study>

## US prison deaths soared by 77% during height of Covid-19 crisis, study finds

Analysis of in-custody deaths show mortality rates were more than three times the increase in general population in 2020

**Edward Helmore**

Sun 3 Dec 2023 17.01 EST

Last modified on Sun 3 Dec 2023 17.03 EST



People hold up a banner while listening to a news conference outside the San Quentin state prison in San Quentin, California, in July 2020. Photograph: Eric Risberg/AP

A study of US prison deaths at the height of the Covid-19 crisis in 2020 has found that mortality rates soared by 77% relative to 2019, or more than three times the increase in the general population.

The **study**, published by Science Advances last week, is the most comprehensive analysis of in-custody deaths since 2020. The report found that "Covid-19 was the primary driver for increases in mortality due to natural causes; some states also experienced substantial increases due to unnatural causes."

The report was compiled using data from record requests and some publicly available data, when necessary, from 49 state and federal departments of corrections.

Lead author Naomi Sugie, an associate professor of criminology, law and society at the University of California at Irvine, **told Courthouse News** that the actual toll of Covid-19 in the prison system had been little understood.

"We staffed a hotline and started this archival project hearing what people were going through in California prisons," Sugie told the outlet. "And the conditions that people were

describing were so dire and upsetting and really just violations of their health and, some may argue, human rights.”

Sugie began studying the effect of Covid-19 in California prisons after they imposed containment lockdowns in 2020. The **PrisonPandemic** project found that the institutions reduced facility communication and transparency down to zero with some facilities not recording causes of death that year at all.

The authors write that there has been no publicly available information about mortality in US prisons since 2019 despite the **Death in Custody Reporting Act** passed in 2000 and reauthorized in 2014 that requires the collection of information regarding the death of any person who is under arrest, en route to be incarcerated, incarcerated at a municipal or county jail, state prison, or other local or state correctional facility.

The 2022 Bureau of Justice statistics, **found** that roughly 2,500 prisoners died of Covid-related causes between March 2020 and February 2021, but the number didn’t include a rise in mortality rates of natural deaths or unnatural deaths.

“These steep increases suggest systemic failures that simultaneously increased risk of illness and limited access to medical care,” the authors of the study wrote.

The study also found that pandemic-related lockdowns and restrictions on movement, including isolation, visitor prohibitions, and solitary confinement in place of medical isolation, designed to mitigate infection had “increased stress, mental health challenges, and violence exacerbating the risk of deaths due to unnatural causes, such as drug overdoses, suicide, and violence”.

Sugie told the outlet that “for all of those deaths that are related to the pandemic, for various ways, we don’t know about them because they’re not officially coded as Covid-related”. Just like in the general population, she added, a lot of states did not test systemically, “so even if someone died of Covid, their death may not have been recorded as Covid-related”.