

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_99_21

You asked:

- 1. I would like to know how many people within the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Health Board have died of covid-19 alone - meaning it is only Covid-19 that is the reason for death, and not that they died within 28 days of a test. From 1st March 2020 to now.**

For the date period 01/03/2020 – 25/02/2021

There have been 104 resident deaths in the Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board area, with no comorbidities.

Please note, the source of the data used for this response is the Office of National Statistics (ONS) data Registered Deaths, supplied to us via NHS Wales Informatics Service (NWIS). As such, there will be a time lag on the reporting of deaths, as ONS data awaits the official clinical determination of death.

This is the only source of data that we have to be able to determine whether somebody died directly of Covid-19 without any co-morbidities (the figures most commonly cited in the media are the deaths within 28 days of a positive pathology test which is a different metric taken from the Welsh Patient Administrative System (WPAS) /Office of National Statistics (ONS) / Master Patient Index (MPI) systems and combined with Welsh Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) data. MPI is the Master Patient Index. It is a national system used to help multiple national and local systems update their demographics with changes from other systems. (E.g. if a death is recorded in one Health Board's WPAS system then another can be automatically updated with that change). Please note that our WPAS doesn't accept these changes automatically like some other Health Boards.

There were unfortunately other deaths where COVID-19 was listed as a cause of death, but all of these had other causes of death listed as well and so are not applicable to this response.

- 2. I would also like to know how many have died of suicide during the same time period of time**

The Health Board are only able to source this information from the Office of National Statistics data Registered Deaths, which is provided to the Health Board via NWIS. A search on text Code suicide was run and for the date period 01/03/2020 – 25/02/2021 the search conclusion returned 5 suicide deaths within Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board resident area.

Please note that this data is a conclusion of the Coroner description text of 'suicide'.

As stated in response to question 1, this data is subject to a time lag.