

## Coronavirus: Half million deaths

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### The story

More than half a million people worldwide have now lost their lives as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. By far the worst affected country is the United States, with more than 125,000 deaths.

### Vocabulary

#### death toll

number of people who have died because of a particular event

- **The final death toll from the hurricane was 3,000.**
- **The real death toll is thought to be much higher than the official figure.**

#### milestones

important events in the development of something

- **Starting school is an important milestone in a young child's life.**
- **Any successful career will contain many milestones.**

#### grim

unpleasant

- **The latest economic forecast is grim. A recession is expected.**
- **Graduates are facing the grim prospect of unemployment.**