

St. Petersburg Leads Russia's Coronavirus Mortality – Analysis

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In May, St. Petersburg saw 6,427 deaths, about 28% more than the average May total of 5,027 over the past decade. **Peter Kovalev / TASS**

Russia's second-largest city St. Petersburg had the highest coronavirus mortality rate among all Russian cities in the month of April, according to a new analysis of official data.

St. Petersburg recorded 200 deaths where Covid-19 was a direct cause or “had a significant impact” on the person’s death in April, state statistics agency Rosstat [said](#) Saturday.

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St. Petersburg's Covid-19 mortality rate of 4.7% that month was double those of both Moscow and Russia overall, making it the highest in the country, the Open Media news website [reported](#) Monday.

It was also 6.5 times higher than the city's officially reported mortality for April.

"St. Petersburg's increased mortality rate may be due to a lack of strict self-isolation measures relative to the Moscow mayor's office, or failure to register cases," Open Media reported, citing experts.

St. Petersburg has 10 times fewer Covid-19 infections than the Russian capital with around half of its population.

In May, St. Petersburg saw 6,427 deaths, about 28% more than the average May total of 5,027 over the past decade, official data [said](#) earlier this month. The figures suggest that more people may have died from Covid-19 last month than the city's 171 officially reported deaths.

Russia has reported more than 537,000 coronavirus cases, the world's third-highest number of infections, since the global pandemic reached the country in March.

Rosstat's figures also [doubled](#) Russia's official coronavirus death toll for April to 2,712 after changing how it classifies fatalities.

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