

WHAT COVID-19 IS DOING TO PERFORMERS

A canary in the coal mine

Performers are at particularly high-risk for damage from repeat COVID-19 infections due to travel, lifestyle, and contact with the public at large events. This is a continually-updated list of actors, musicians, athletes and public figures who have been adversely affected by COVID/Long COVID. This ranges from canceled events, to quitting performing due to chronic illnesses, to sudden deaths.

NOTE: For a variety of reasons, including stigma, insurance not covering canceled events due to COVID-19, or the failure of public health authorities to correlate new-onset chronic illness and sudden death with COVID-19 infections, sometimes it is not mentioned as the cause, so COVID-19 is speculative. **Where this is the case, there are links to peer-reviewed studies on the connection between the illness and COVID-19 infections.**

Some basic facts:

- The damage from COVID-19 infections is cumulative.
- COVID-19 is a vascular infection masquerading as an upper respiratory infection. It attacks the DNA in the heart, along with all of the body's systems.
- Up to 60% of COVID-19 transmissions are asymptomatic.
- Long COVID occurs after 1/10-1/3 of all COVID-19 infections.
- Reinfections increase the risk of severe outcomes.
- COVID-19 damage can manifest months or years after an infection as heart attacks, strokes, organ failure, new-onset autoimmune disease, cancer and other adverse health events.

A large repository of research on COVID-19:

<https://www.panaccindex.info/p/what-covid-does-to-the-body>

<https://www.panaccindex.info/p/what-sars-cov-2-does-to-the-body>

YELLOW: Canceled Events

ORANGE: Severe or New-Onset Chronic Illness

RED: Death

Performer	Date	Description	Link
Lorde singer and songwriter	21 September, 2023	"My body is really inflamed...I'm trying to support it but nothing seems to help. My gut isn't working properly, my skin is worse than ever, I've gotten sick half a dozen times."	https://www.eonline.com/news/1386052/lorde-shares-hard-life-update-on-mystery-illness-and-heartbreak New onset autoimmune disease following COVID-19 diagnosis: https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34944099/

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Harry Styles singer and actor	6 November, 2022	canceled shows; supplemental oxygen while performing	https://www.billboard.com/music/music-news/harry-styles-flu-concerts-canceled-1235166951/
Billie Eilish singer and songwriter	3 September, 2023	"really sick and honestly, really suffering."	https://www.nzherald.co.nz/entertainment/billie-eilish-warns-fans-she-is-really-sick-and-suffering-ahead-of-ireland-show/IJTDIQLQMNBSZI7IZQ3KYQTLNI/
Michael Sheen actor	30 June, 2021	"struggled to breathe, had a high fever and described 'shaking in pain.'"	https://www.walesonline.co.uk/lifestyle/tv/good-omens-michael-sheen-coronavirus-201935368
Jimmy Kimmel television host	21 September, 2023	canceled shows	https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/business/digital/live-strike-force-show-canceled-jimmy-kimmel-covid-1235595403/
Cary Elwes actor	21 September, 2023	postponed show	https://archive.ph/2023.09.22-001204/https://www.newsday.com/entertainment/celebrities/cary-elwes-cancels-patchogue-show-kj0v9rc9
Steve Martin actor	21 September, 2023	postponed show due to "rampant Covid in our crew"	https://twitter.com/SteveMartinToGo/status/1704660923548393719?s=20
Sherri Shepherd broadcaster	20 September, 2023	"putting her talk show on pause after testing positive for COVID less than a week into its new season. "	https://ew.com/tv/sherri-shepherd-tests-positive-covid-new-season/
Chita Rivera actress	18 September, 2023	canceled live events due to positive COVID-19 test	https://people.com/chita-rivera-cancels-performance-after-testing

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			-positive-covid-7971430
Kangana Ranaut actress and filmmaker	19 September, 2023	"I have been perpetually ill."	https://indianexpress.com/article/entertainment/bollywood/kangana-ranaut-i-have-been-perpetually-ill-8946327/
Paul Simon singer and songwriter	19 September, 2023	"Paul Simon unlikely to perform live again due to sudden hearing loss Simon, who performed one of his last live shows in 2019, added that he survived a severe bout of COVID-19, which has been linked to sudden irreversible hearing loss in some patients."	https://datebook.sfchronicle.com/music/paul-simon-hearing-loss-covid-seven-psalms-18117021
Deryck Whibley Sum 41 lead singer	16 September, 2023	"hospitalized for pneumonia as wife mentions risk of heart failure"	https://www.rollingstone.com/music/music-news/sum-41-deryck-whibley-hospitalized-pneumonia-heart-concerns-1234826917/
Adele singer and songwriter	16 September, 2023	'I'm hanging on for dear f**king life' "She has now decided to ditch mingling with her fans over her fears of catching coronavirus"	https://www.mirror.co.uk/3am/celebrity-news/petrified-adele-makes-huge-change-30948899
Jennie Gow TV presenter and journalist	16 September, 2023	"suffered a stroke brought on by a cough, as she struggles with fatigue nine months on "	https://www.telegraph.co.uk/formula-1/2023/09/14/jennie-gow-i-wonder-if-the-bbc-will-want-me-back-presenting/

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<p>Dinosaur Jr. alt-rock band</p>	<p>15 September, 2023</p>	<p>"Dinosaur Jr., a founding band of the '80s American alt-rock scene, postponed its Wednesday, Sept. 13 concert at the Stone Pony in Asbury Park hours before showtime due to COVID-19.</p>	<p>https://eu.app.com/story/entertainment/music/2023/09/13/stone-pony-asbury-park-dinosaur-jr-show-postponed-sept-13-2023/70844590007/</p>
<p>Kenley Jansen Red Sox Closer</p>	<p>14 September, 2023</p>	<p>On COVID-19 injured list</p>	<p>https://www.espn.co.uk/mlb/story/_/id/38394439/red-sox-place-closer-kenley-jansen-covid-19-injured-list</p>
<p>Steve Tyler Aerosmith lead singer</p>	<p>12 September, 2023</p>	<p>Aerosmith postpones multiple concerts as Steven Tyler suffers vocal cord damage</p>	<p>https://www.latimes.com/entertainment-arts/music/story/2022-12-08/steven-tyler-illness-aerosmith-cancels-las-vegas-residency</p>
<p>SKID ROW Rock band</p>	<p>11 September, 2023</p>	<p>SKID ROW Cancels Lynn, Massachusetts Concert Due To Illness</p>	<p>https://blabbermouth.net/news/skid-row-postpones-tour-due-to-utmost-concern-for-singer-erik-gronwalls-health-and-well-being</p>
<p>Pearl Jam Rock band</p>	<p>10 September, 2023</p>	<p>Pearl Jam's concert at Ruoff Music Center for Sunday, Sept. 10 has been postponed due to illness.</p>	<p>https://eu.usatoday.com/story/entertainment/music/2023/09/10/pearl-jam-concert-postponement-illness-in-dianapolis-ruoff-music-center/7081761007/</p>
<p>Bruce Springsteen Singer and songwriter</p>	<p>9 September, 2023</p>	<p>"Bruce Springsteen has had a rough couple of years...He's had COVID several times and even had to pull the plug on shows in August due to getting the latest strain."</p>	<p>https://variety.com/2023/music/news/bruce-springsteen-ill-postpones-tour-dates-sick-philadelphia-1235698536/</p>

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<p>Guns N' Roses Rock band</p>	<p>9 September, 2023</p>	<p>Guns N' Roses concert at Busch Stadium postponed</p> <p>BJC Skycams pointed at Busch Stadium Friday afternoon appear to show the stage being taken down. In an email sent by the Cardinals organization, "illness" was the reason for the postponement.</p>	<p>https://loudwire.com/guns-n-roses-officially-cancel-st-louis-show-axl-rose-comment/</p>
<p>Mark Bavaro Giants NFL legend</p>	<p>8 September, 2023</p>	<p>Giants NFL legend Mark Bavaro reveals he contemplated suicide as he fought debilitating case of Long Covid... and admits he was 'praying' he would have a heart attack</p>	<p>https://www.si.com/nfl/cowboys/news/dallas-cowboys-rival-mark-bavaro-new-york-giants-legend-reveals-suicide-covid-fight</p>
<p>Whoopi Goldberg Comedian and TV presenter</p>	<p>5 September, 2023</p>	<p>Whoopi Goldberg misses 'View' season premiere after testing positive for COVID</p>	<p>https://eu.usatoday.com/story/entertainment/tv/2023/09/07/whoopi-goldberg-covid-absent-from-the-view-premiere/70783872007/</p>
<p>U.S. Open tennis players</p>	<p>5 September, 2023</p>	<p>With no testing or masking requirements, the US Open tournament has effectively become a COVID-19 superspreader event, and the tournament organizers are covering it up by brushing aside the cases as "food poisoning" or a "flu"</p>	<p>https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2023/09/05/gsjw-s05.html</p>
<p>Brandon</p>	<p>3 September 2023</p>	<p>Cincinnati Reds' Brandon Williamson</p>	<p>https://www.espn.com/mlb/story/_/id/3831</p>

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Williamson Cincinnati Reds		to miss start as team's COVID-19 outbreak worsens	5054/reds-brandon-williamson-miss-start-a-mid-covid-outbreak
Metallica Rock band	3 September, 2023	Metallica reschedules 2nd Phoenix concert. James Hetfield has COVID-19	https://people.com/metallica-postpone-arizona-concert-james-hetfield-covid-positive-7965335
Hunter Greene Cincinnati Reds	22 September, 2023	Hunter Greene among three Cincinnati Reds pitchers to go to COVID-19 list	https://apnews.com/article/cincinnati-reds-hunter-greene-covid-19-26fe9040e92580ef77d13ef8d5ad3036
John McEnroe Former professional tennis player	30 August, 2023	John McEnroe, ESPN's lead tennis analyst, will miss some of US Open after positive Covid-19 test	https://apnews.com/article/john-mcenroe-espn-covid-us-open-117400d44fc9e3eb1130090eb7920946
Bray Wyatt WWE Star	29 August, 2023	New Details Reportedly Emerge About Tragic Death Of WWE Star Bray Wyatt « Rotunda had been suffering from heart issues after he contracted COVID earlier this year and his doctor had reportedly recommended the defibrillator »	https://wrestlingheadlines.com/bray-wyatt-reportedly-passes-away-from-heart-attack-following-covid-19-related-issues/
Avery Henry Former Ohio State Buckeyes offensive lineman	27 August, 2023	Former Ohio State Buckeyes offensive lineman Avery Henry was hospitalized and in critical condition Tuesday with COVID-19 and the flu	https://www.si.com/college/ohio-state/football/ohio-state-buckeyes-avery-henry-hospitalized-covid-19-flu-low-white-blood-cell-count-anc-beat-cancer-free-survivor
Savannah	25 August, 2023	'Today' Savannah Guthrie Still Out, No	https://www.latimes.com/entertainment-art

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<p>Guthrie ‘Today’ host</p>		<p>Set Return Date</p> <p>“She was gone for a couple of days to attend a Taylor Swift. Then, she returned, it wasn’t more than a couple of days before she disappeared again. Her co-hosts informed viewers that she was sick”</p>	<p>s/tv/story/2023-02-28/savannah-guthrie-covid-19-today-show-nbc</p>
<p>Travis Barker Blink-182 drummer</p>	<p>23 September, 2023</p>	<p>Travis Barker Shares Image of Positive COVID Test 2 Weeks After Rejoining Blink-182 Tour</p>	<p>https://people.com/travis-barker-posts-image-of-positive-covid-test-on-instagram-7973873</p>
<p>Hugh Jackman actor</p>	<p>14 June, 2022</p>	<p>Hugh Jackman tests positive for COVID for second time in six months, pulls out of ‘Music Man’ shows</p>	<p>https://www.reuters.com/lifestyle/hugh-jackman-tests-positive-covid-pulls-out-music-man-shows-2022-06-14/</p>
<p>Sutton Foster actress, singer and dancer</p>	<p>27 June 2022</p>	<p>Tests positive for COVID-19 for the second time. Misses Music Man previews.</p>	<p>https://deadline.com/2022/06/sutton-foster-music-man-covid-broadway-hugh-jackman-1235052599/</p>
<p>Josh Groban singer and actor</p>	<p>23 August, 2023</p>	<p>Tested positive for COVID-19. Canceled Sweeney Todd performances.</p>	<p>https://deadline.com/2023/08/josh-groban-annaleigh-ashford-covid-sweeney-todd-1235525933/</p>
<p>Annaleigh Ashford actress, singer and dancer</p>	<p>23 August, 2023</p>	<p>Tested positive for COVID-19. Canceled Sweeney Todd performances.</p>	<p>https://deadline.com/2023/08/josh-groban-annaleigh-ashford-covid-sweeney-todd-1235525933/</p>
<p>Sufjan Stevens singer and songwriter</p>	<p>21 September, 2023</p>	<p>Singer Sufjan Stevens developed Guillain-Barre</p>	<p>https://www.huffpost.com/entry/sufjan-stevens-guillain-barre-syn</p>

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		syndrome and can no longer walk. GBS is "the most common neuromuscular complication reported with Covid-19."	drome_n_650c36e7e4b01f47d4fded40 COVID-19-associated Guillain-Barre syndrome: Postinfectious alone or neuroinvasive too?: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8426929/
Steve Harwell Smash Mouth lead singer	5 September, 2023	Liver failure possibly exacerbated by COVID-19 infections.	https://twitter.com/LazarusLong13/status/1698560214868664343 Study: Acute Liver Failure in COVID-19 era: https://www.mdpi.com/2077-0383/11/14/4249/htm
LA Knight WWE Wrestler	23 September, 2023	LA Knight Missed Main Event Spot On WWE SmackDown After Testing Positive For COVID-19	https://www.wrestlinginc.com/1402253/la-knight-missed-main-event-spot-wwe-smackdown-testing-positive-covid-19/
Joseph Kamal Rodrigues Bangladeshi singer	February 2021	Joseph Kamal Rodrigues, 68, one of Bangladesh's most celebrated singers, died from covid in February 2021. He allegedly suffered from kidney disease, which may have aggravated his covid	https://www.asianews.it/news-en/Catholic-singer-Joseph-Kamal-Rodrigues-dies-from-COVID-19-52236.htm
Mirco "Zagor" Bertuccioli Italian singer,	April 2020	Italian singer Mirco "Zagor" Bertuccioli, founder of the Camillis band, died	https://www.rollingstone.it/musica/news-musica/coronavirus-e-morto-mirco-bertuccioli-

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founds of the Camillis band		from covid in mid April 2020. He was hospitalized in ICU since 4 March. He was 46.	fondatore-dei-camillas/512290/
Hailey Bieber Singer and songwriter	December, 2022	Hailey Bieber has a 'mini stroke' potentially linked to COVID infection	https://www.marca.com/en/lifestyle/celebrities/2022/03/12/622cf97822601d361d8b45af.html
Adam Schlesinger Fountains of Wayne co-founder	April, 2020	Schlesinger was hospitalized in March and tested positive for the coronavirus. At the time, he was placed on a ventilator and heavily sedated.	https://www.rollingstone.com/music/music-news/fountains-of-waynes-adam-schlesinger-dead-obituary-coronavirus-975786/
Ringo Starr Singer and songwriter	October, 2022	Ringo Starr cancels tour after second COVID infection	https://www.rollingstone.com/music/music-news/ringo-starr-postpones-two-shows-sick-1234603903/
Billy Joel Singer and songwriter	December, 2022	Cancels show at Madison Square Garden following COVID infection	https://variety.com/2022/music/news/billy-joe-postponed-msg-show-viral-infection-1235464582/
Justin Bieber singer and songwriter	March, 2023	Cancels tour dates, Ramsay Hunt Syndrome possibly from reactivation of VZV following COVID infections	https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-64808389# Reactivation of Varicella Zoster Virus: Consequence of COVID-19?: https://n.neurology.org/content/100/17_Supplement_2/4798
Sam Smith singer and songwriter	May 25, 2023	Canceled tour dates due to "mystery virus" and vocal cord injury.	https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-65706663 Laryngeal sensory neuropathy caused

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			by COVID-19: findings using laryngeal electromyography: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10022564/#:~:text=The%20most%20commonly%20reported%20complaints,to%20axonal%20degeneration%20and%20synkinesis
John Prine singer and songwriter	April, 2020	Died after hospitalization and being on a ventilator with a COVID-19 infection	https://www.npr.org/2020/04/07/750894794/john-prine-obituary
Joe Diffie singer and songwriter	March, 2020	Died from a COVID-19 infection.	https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/30/arts/music/joe-diffie-dead-coronavirus.html
Nick Cordero actor, singer, dancer	July 6, 2020	Died from a COVID-19 infection.	https://www.npr.org/s/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/07/06/887583569/never-known-a-kinder-person-actor-nick-cordero-dies-of-covid-19-at-41
Kate Snow and Chris Snow NBC anchor and husband	May 11, 2020	Severe course of COVID-19 infection	https://www.today.com/health/nbc-s-kate-snow-husband-chris-bro-his-recovery-coronavirus-t181102
Rod Stewart singer and songwriter	March, 2023	Canceled shows due to illness	https://7news.com.au/news/vic/sir-rod-stewart-cancels-australian-show-due-to-illness-c-10082176
Alyssa Milano	April, 2022	"COVID-19 long hauler dealing with	https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/corona

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actress		debilitating symptoms, two years after recovering from the acute coronavirus infection.”	virus/alyssa-milano-detailed-long-covid-battle-every-symptom-imaginable/3658305/
Tim Brooke-Taylor comedian	April, 2020	Died after COVID-19 infection.	https://www.nbcnews.com/news/coronavirus/alyssa-milano-detailed-long-covid-battle-every-symptom-imaginable/3658305/
Bruce Springsteen singer and songwriter	September, 2023	Cancels tour dates as a result of peptic ulcer disease.	https://edition.cnn.com/2023/09/27/entertainment/bruce-springsteen-cancels-shows-illness/index.html Long-term Gastrointestinal Outcomes of COVID-19 https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-023-36223-7
Aisling Bea comedian, actress and writer	March, 2022	'Bea got Covid just before filming, which made singing more of a challenge. "They trained my Covid lungs back," she says.'	https://www.irishtimes.com/culture/film/2023/06/10/aisling-bea-when-i-am-ovulating-there-is-no-limit-to-how-funny-i-can-be/
Christine Bottomley actress	March, 2020	'Covid ripped through me it didn't like me very much and tried to see me off in March. I now have a cousin in ICU I urge everyone to really think what they are doing this Xmas it doesn't stop for Santa protect your love ones please please stay safe x' + 'I rem [...]	https://twitter.com/ChrissyBotto/status/1339603629389406213 + https://twitter.com/ChrissyBotto/status/1350186303174762496

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		in March when I was gasping for breath about to encounter the toughest challenge of my life covid'	
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