

List of data file variables at a glance by data year

Variables	Data year					
	2005-	2003-04	1999-2002	1989-98	1979-88	1968-78 ¹
Data year	X	X	X	X	X	X
Residence of decedent: ²		X	X	X	X	X
State ³		X	X	X	X	X
County ⁴		X	X	X	X	X
City ⁵		X	X	X	X	X
Population size		X	X	X	X	X
Standard metropolitan statistical area ^{3,4}		X	X	X	X	X
Metropolitan and nonmetropolitan counties	X	X	X	X	X	X
Age at death:	X	X	X	X	X	X
Infants under 1 year (hours, days, months)	X	X	X	X	X	
Infants ages 1 year and over (single years)	X	X	X	X	X	
Day of week	X	X	X	X		
Education ^{6,7}	X	X	X	X		
Hispanic origin ^{6,8}	X	X	X	X	X	
Hospital (including status of decedent) and other type of place of death	X	X	X	X	X	
Injury at work ⁹	X	X	X	X		
Month of death	X	X	X	X	X	X
Day of death ¹⁰					X	X
Marital status	X	X	X	X	X	
Industry or business ^{6,11}			X	X	X	
Occupation (usual) ^{6,11}			X	X	X	
Place of birth (State and selected categories outside of the United States)	X	X	X	X	X	
Place of death (State, ³ county ^{3,4})	X	X	X	X	X	X
Race ¹²	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sex	X	X	X	X	X	X
Manner of death	X	X	X			
Autopsy ^{6,13}	X	X		X	X	X
Whether autopsy findings used						X
Method of disposition	X	X				
Activity code	X	X	X			
Place of injury	X	X	X	X	X	
Underlying cause of death: ¹⁴	X	X	X	X	X	X
Each cause ¹⁴	X	X	X	X	X	X
Multiple condition codes: ¹⁴	X	X	X	X	X	X
Entity axis	X	X	X	X	X	X
Record axis	X	X	X	X	X	X

¹All data items in the detail file are in EBCDIC code. The stub portion of all summary records consists of EBCDIC codes, and the spread portion consists of a series of full-word binary fields containing numbers of deaths.

²Beginning in 1970, the place of residence for decedents who were nonresidents of the United States has been coded to the country of residence. Formerly these deaths were considered resident deaths of the place of occurrence.

³FIPS codes as well as NCHS codes between 1982 and 2002.

⁴Includes data for areas with a population of 100,000 persons or more between 1979 and 2004.

⁵Includes data for areas with a population of 100,000 persons or more between 1979 and 2004 and 250,000 persons or more between 1968-78.

⁶Applicable only for those states transmitting information to NCHS.

⁷Item format changes for some states beginning in 2003.

⁸Item introduced in 1984 and format changes over time.

⁹Item included on file beginning in 1993.

¹⁰Item on file between 1972 and 1978.

¹¹Item on file between 1985 and 1999.

¹²Categories available for specific years may vary. Beginning 1992, additional categories are available for some States.

¹³Item not on file for 1995 to 2002.

¹⁴Causes of death for 1968-78 were coded according to the Eighth Revision, International Classification of Diseases, Adapted for Use in the United States; causes of death for 1979-98 were coded according to the Ninth Revision, International Classification of Diseases; causes of death for 1999 forward were coded according to the Tenth Revision, International Classification of Diseases.