Death Certificate and NDI Match Variables
Date Created: 30JUN2025
Number of Variables: 72

Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	Notes [1,2]
SURVEY	Survey Name	Char	The value for this variable is: 'NHCS 2019' or 'NHCS 2020'
PATIENT_ID	Patient Identification Number	Char	Public use identifier assigned by NCHS. Researchers linking to the NHCS analytic file should use PATIENT_ID as the common key.
DVS_AUTOPSY_FLAG	Autopsy Performed	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_BIRTH_COUNTRY	Country of Birth	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_BIRTH_COUNTRY_REC	State/Country of Birth recode Hispanic Origin	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_BIRTH_DAY	Day of Birth	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_BIRTH_MONTH	Month of Birth	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_BIRTH_YEAR	Year of Birth	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_BIRTH_STATE	State of Birth	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_BRIDGED_RACE_FLAG	Bridged Race	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_CERTIFIER	Certifier	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)

[1]**Annual Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout Files: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/mortality_public_use_data.htm (accessed on June 2025)**

[2]**Linkage Methodology and Analytic Considerations: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/datalinkage/nhcs19-20-ndi-19-21-methodology-analytic-consider.pdf (accessed on June 2025)**

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Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	Notes[1,2]
DVS_CERTIFIER_LITERAL	Certifier Literal	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_DEATH_ACTIVITY	Activity Code	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_DEATH_AGE	Age at Death	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_DEATH_AGE_UNIT	Age at Death Unit	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_DEATH_AGE_CLASS_1	Age Recode 1	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_DEATH_AGE_CLASS_2	Age Recode 2	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_DEATH_AGE_CLASS_3	Age Recode 3	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_DEATH_AGE_INFANT	Age Infant Recode	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_DEATH_AGE_SUB_FLAG	Age Substitution Flag	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_DEATH_COUNTY_POPULATION	County Population size	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_DEATH_FIPS_COUNTY	County (FIPS)	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)

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Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	Notes[1,2]
DVS_DEATH_FIPS_STATE	State or Territory (FIPS)	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_DEATH_MANNER	Manner of death	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_DEATH_PLACE	Place of Death-Hospital and Status/Decedent Status	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_DEATH_STATE	Expanded State (includes NYC)	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_DEATH_WEEK_DAY	Day of Week of Death	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_EDUCATION	Education	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_EDUCATION_REC	Education Recode	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_EDUCATION_RPT_FLAG	Education Reporting Flag	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_INJURY_PLACE	Place of Accident/Injury for Specified Causes	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_MANNER_DISPOSITION	Method of Disposition	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_MARITAL_STAT	Marital Status	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)

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[2]Linkage Methodology and Analytic Considerations: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/datalinkage/nhcs19-20-ndi-19-21-methodology-analytic-consider.pdf (accessed on June 2025)

Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	Notes[1,2]
DVS_ORIGIN_CHECK_BOX	Hispanic Origin Checkbox Items	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_ORIGIN_DESCENT	Origin or Descent/Hispanic Origin	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_ORIGIN_LITERAL	Hispanic Origin Literal	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_ORIGIN_LITERAL_CODE	Hispanic Origin Literal Code	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_ORIGIN_RECODE	Hispanic Origin/Race Recode	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_PREGNANCY_STATUS	Pregnancy Status	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_RACE	Race (Detail)	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_RACE_IMPUTE_FLAG	Race Imputation Flag	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_RACE_MULTIPLE	Multiple Race Fields	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_RACE_RECODE_1	Recode 1	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_RACE_RECODE_2	Recode 2	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)

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Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	Notes[1,2]
DVS_RECORD_TYPE	Record Type	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_REPORT_AREA	Reporting Area	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_RES_COUNTY_POPULATION	County Population Size	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_RES_FIPS_CITY	City (FIPS)	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_RES_FIPS_COUNTRY	Country of Residence	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_RES_FIPS_COUNTY	County (FIPS)	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_RES_FIPS_STATE	State (FIPS)	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_RES_POPULATION	City Population Size	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_RES_STATE	Expanded State (includes NYC)	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_RES_STATE_COUNTRY_REC	State/Country Recode	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_RESIDENT_STATUS	Resident Status	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)

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Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	Notes[1,2]
DVS_SEX	Sex	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_TOBACCO_LITERAL	Tobacco Use Contributed to Death	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_UCOD_130_INFANT	Underlying Cause Of Death 130 Infant Groups Recode (ICD-10)	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
DVS_WORK_INJURY	Injury at Work	Char	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, assumed alive, or cause of death information unavailable. Please refer to the 'Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout' for additional detailed variable descriptions. (See link in footnote below)
NDI_RECORD	NDI Record Returned	Num	Blank values imply linkage ineligibility, or assumed alive. Indicator represents if a NHCS record linked to a NDI record.
WGT_FIRST_NAME	First Name Weight	Num	Positive values indicate agreement on the values of the identifier on both records of the pair (NHCS and NDI). Negative values indicate non-agreement. Please refer to the linkage methodology and analytic considerations report for additional information (See link in footnote below).
WGT_MIDDLE_NAME	Middle Name Weight	Num	Positive values indicate agreement on the values of the identifier on both records of the pair (NHCS and NDI). Negative values indicate non-agreement. Please refer to the linkage methodology and analytic considerations report for additional information (See link in footnote below).
WGT_LAST_NAME	Last Name Weight	Num	Positive values indicate agreement on the values of the identifier on both records of the pair (NHCS and NDI). Negative values indicate non-agreement. Please refer to the linkage methodology and analytic considerations report for additional information (See link in footnote below).
WGT_STATE_RES	State of Residence Weight	Num	Positive values indicate agreement on the values of the identifier on both records of the pair (NHCS and NDI). Negative values indicate non-agreement. Please refer to the linkage methodology and analytic considerations report for additional information (See link in footnote below).
WGT_DOB_YEAR	Birth Year Weight	Num	Positive values indicate agreement on the values of the identifier on both records of the pair (NHCS and NDI). Negative values indicate non-agreement. Please refer to the linkage methodology and analytic considerations report for additional information (See link in footnote below).

Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	Notes[1,2]
WGT_DOB_MONTH	Birth Month Weight	Num	Positive values indicate agreement on the values of the identifier on both records of the pair (NHCS and NDI). Negative values indicate non-agreement. Please refer to the linkage methodology and analytic considerations report for additional information (See link in footnote below).
WGT_DOB_DAY	Birth Day Weight	Num	Positive values indicate agreement on the values of the identifier on both records of the pair (NHCS and NDI). Negative values indicate non-agreement. Please refer to the linkage methodology and analytic considerations report for additional information (See link in footnote below).
WGT_HOSP_DEATH	Discharge match DOD (NDI) Weight (NHCS Discharge Status Dead=1)	Num	Positive values indicate agreement on the values of the identifier on both records of the pair (NHCS and NDI). Negative values indicate non-agreement. Please refer to the linkage methodology and analytic considerations report for additional information (See link in footnote below).
WGT_SSN4	Last 4-Digits of SSN Weight	Num	Positive values indicate agreement on the values of the identifier on both records of the pair (NHCS and NDI). Negative values indicate non-agreement. Please refer to the linkage methodology and analytic considerations report for additional information (See link in footnote below).
PAIRWGT_ADJ_FACTOR	Parital E-M Weight Adjustment	Num	Adjustment to the total component pair weight based on partial EM-algorithm. Please refer to the linkage methodology and analytic considerations report for additional information (See link in footnote below).
PAIRWGT	Total Weight (Sum of Individual Components and Adjustment)	Num	The PAIRWGT represents a logarithmic scale of the probability ratio of being a match compared to being a non-match. It is computed as the sum of the component pair weights and adjustment factor. Please refer to the linkage methodology and analytic considerations report for additional information (See link in footnote below).
PROBVALID	Probabilty Match is Valid	Num	Model-derived estimate of the probability that a given pair is a match. Please refer to the linkage methodology and analytic considerations report for additional information (See link in footnote below).