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Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	Notes[1, 2]
SURVEY	Survey Name	Char	The values for this variable are: 'NHCS 2014' or 'NHCS 2016'
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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes below)

[1] **2014 Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/dvs/Record_Layout_2014.pdf (accessed on August 06, 2019)**

[2] **2016 Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/dvs/Multiple_Cause_Record_Layout_2016.pdf (accessed on August 06, 2019)**

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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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes below)
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 links in footnotes below)

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[2]**2016 Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/dvs/Multiple_Cause_Record_Layout_2016.pdf (accessed on August 06, 2019)**

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Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	Notes[1, 2]
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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes below)
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 links in footnotes below)

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[2] **2016 Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/dvs/Multiple_Cause_Record_Layout_2016.pdf (accessed on August 06, 2019)**

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Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	Notes[1, 2]
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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes below)
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 links in footnotes below)

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[2] **2016 Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/dvs/Multiple_Cause_Record_Layout_2016.pdf (accessed on August 06, 2019)**

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Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	Notes[1, 2]
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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes below)
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 links in footnotes below)

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[2]**2016 Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/dvs/Multiple_Cause_Record_Layout_2016.pdf (accessed on August 06, 2019)**

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Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	Notes[1], [2]
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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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 links in footnotes 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.
PAIRWGT1	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. More information is in the methods/analytic guidelines report (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-linkage/nhcs-ndi.htm, accessed on August 06, 2019).
PAIRWGT2	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. More information is in the methods/analytic guidelines report (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-linkage/nhcs-ndi.htm, accessed on August 06, 2019).
PAIRWGT3	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. More information is in the methods/analytic guidelines report (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-linkage/nhcs-ndi.htm, accessed on August 06, 2019).
PAIRWGT4	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. More information is in the methods/analytic guidelines report (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-linkage/nhcs-ndi.htm, accessed on August 06, 2019).
PAIRWGT5	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. More information is in the methods/analytic guidelines report (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-linkage/nhcs-ndi.htm, accessed on August 06, 2019).
PAIRWGT6	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. More information is in the methods/analytic guidelines report (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-linkage/nhcs-ndi.htm, accessed on August 06, 2019).

[1]**2014 Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/dvs/Record_Layout_2014.pdf (accessed on August 06, 2019)**

[2]**2016 Mortality Multiple Cause-of-Death Record Layout: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/dvs/Multiple_Cause_Record_Layout_2016.pdf (accessed on August 06, 2019)**

Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	Notes[1, 2]
PAIRWGT7	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. More information is in the methods/analytic guidelines report (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-linkage/nhcs-ndi.htm, accessed on August 06, 2019).
PAIRWGT8	Surname match 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. More information is in the methods/analytic guidelines report (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-linkage/nhcs-ndi.htm, accessed on August 06, 2019).
PAIRWGT9	Discharge match DOD (NDI) Weight (DS 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. More information is in the methods/analytic guidelines report (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-linkage/nhcs-ndi.htm, accessed on August 06, 2019).
PAIRWGT10	Sex 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. More information is in the methods/analytic guidelines report (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-linkage/nhcs-ndi.htm, accessed on August 06, 2019).
PAIRWGT	Total Weight	Num	Total of the component pair weights and represents a logarithmic scale of the probability ratio of being a match compared to being a non-match.
PROBVALID	Probabilty Match is Valid	Num	Model-derived estimate of the probability that a given pair is a match. Threshold for probvalid differed between 2014 and 2016 linkages, see methods/analytic guidelines report (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-linkage/nhcs-ndi.htm, accessed on August 06, 2019).

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