Section 4 Death Certificate Main Elements

Death Certificate number: DthCrtNum

Name	Definition
DthCrtNum	Victim's death certificate number

Uses

The death certificate number is used only for data linkage and tracking purposes. See the Introduction section of this manual for a discussion about handling variables that can identify individual persons or agencies.

Discussion

None.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
DthCrtNum	Death Certificate number:	Person	Text	50	ER	DC

Response Options:

DthCrtNum

Birth place: BthPlc
Birth place text: BthTxt

Name	Definition
BthPlc	Person's state of birth
BthTxt	Person's country of birth, if not U.S.

Uses

Used for identifying immigrants.

Discussion

The state of birth is indicated on the death certificate and is coded by the vital statistics registry using the code list below. Note: the code list used for place of birth is not a FIPS code list, it is the National Center for Health Statistics code list. If the victim was not born in the United States, please enter the victim's country of birth and refer to code list for Countr.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
BthPlc	Birth place:	Person	Number	2	LR/LR	DC/CME
BthTxt	Birth place text:	Person	Text	30	O/O	DC/CME

Response Options:

BthPlc
- 1 Alabama
- 2 Alaska
- 3 Arizona
- 4 Arkansas
- 5 California
- 6 Colorado
- 7 Connecticut
- 8 Delaware
- 9 District of Columbia
- 10 Florida
- 11 Georgia
- 12 Hawaii
- 13 Idaho
- 14 Illinois
- 15 Indiana
- 16 Iowa
- 17 Kansas
- 18 Kentucky
- 19 Louisiana
- 20 Maine

21 Maryland
22 Massachusetts
23 Michigan
24 Minnesota
25 Mississippi
26 Missouri
27 Montana
28 Nebraska
29 Nevada
30 New Hampshire
31 New Jersey
32 New Mexico
33 New York
34 North Carolina
35 North Dakota
36 Ohio
37 Oklahoma
38 Oregon
39 Pennsylvania
40 Rhode Island
41 South Carolina
42 South Dakota
43 Tennessee
44 Texas
45 Utah
46 Vermont
47 Virginia
48 Washington
49 West Virginia
50 Wisconsin
51 Wyoming
52 Puerto Rico
53 Virgin Island
54 Guam
55 Canada
56 Cuba
57 Mexico
59 Remainder of the world (specify in birthplace text)
61 American Samoa
62 Northern Marianas
99 Unknown

BthTxt

Refer to Countr

Data Standards or Guidelines

Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS); National Institute of Standards and Technologies; U.S. Postal Service

Veteran status: Vetran

Name	Definition
Vetran	Has the person ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces?

Uses
Used to examine violent injury deaths among veterans.

Discussion
Veteran status is indicated on the death certificate in section "Ever in U.S. Armed Forces".

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
Vetran	Veteran status:	Person	Number	1	LR	DC

Response Options:
Vetran
  0 No
  1 Yes
  9 Unknown

Data Standards or Guidelines
U.S. standard death certificate

Marital status: MarStat

Name	Definition
MarStat	Person's marital status

Uses
The victim's marital status is standard demographic information used in epidemiologic analyses. It can be used to explore whether certain types of marital status are a risk factor for violent death (such as widowhood as a risk for suicide).

Discussion
Marital status is regularly completed on the death certificate and often noted in law enforcement or medical examiner records. Marital status should be completed for persons of all ages, including children. If the marital status is not explicitly noted, code as 9, "unknown". In an incident in which a person kills their spouse, their marital status should be coded as "married," not "widowed".

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
MarStat	Marital status:	Person	Number	1	LR/LR	DC/CME

Response Options:
MarStat
- 1 Married
- 2 Never Married
- 3 Widowed
- 4 Divorced
- 5 Married, but separated
- 9 Unknown

Data Standards or Guidelines
U.S. standard death certificate

Place of death: Dthplace
Place of death if other: PDthTx

Name	Definition
Dthplace	Victim's place of death
PDthTx	Text if place of death is "other"

Uses
The place of death may be useful for emergency response planning and to assist in evaluating hospital or EMS services.

Discussion
The code list for Place of Death is the list used on the new standard U.S. death certificate. The older standard certificate uses slightly different codes (e.g., there is no separate code for "hospice," and "residence" is used rather than "decedent's home".) If your state uses the older code list, "residence" is comparable to "decedent's home" (although this may sometimes be incorrect). Some deaths will be coded on the death certificate as "other" for place of death. This will usually refer to "scene" deaths (e.g., a homicide victim who dies on the street). If "other" is coded on the death certificate, enter the place of death in the free text field if the place is specified on the death certificate. If it is not, leave the text field blank. Do not enter the information supplied in the death certificate's item, "place of injury," as this may be a different location than the place where the victim actually died.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
Dthplace	Place of death:	Person	Number	1	ER/LR	DC/CME
PDthTx	Place of death if other:	Person	Text	30	O/O	DC/CME

Response Options:
Dthplace
    1   Hospital inpatient
    2   ED/outpatient
    3   Dead on arrival
    4   Hospice facility
    5   Nursing home, long-term care facility
    6   Decedent's home
    7   Other (specify)
    9   Undetermined
PDthTx

Data Standards or Guidelines
U.S. standard death certificate

Date of death: DthDt

Name	Definition
DthDt	Date of victim's death

Uses

Date of death determines the data year in which the victim will be counted in conjunction with date and time of the incident and with survival time. It can be used for emergency response planning and to assist in evaluating the effectiveness of EMS services and hospital care. See the Introduction section of this manual for a discussion about handling variables that can identify individual persons or agencies.

Discussion

When recording the information from the death certificate, enter the date of death exactly as it appears in the "date of death" field, even if the word "found" or "pronounced" precedes it on the hard copy. If the date on the CME report is referred to as an actual date of death, record it. If the date is referred to as the date on which the body was found or the death was pronounced, and it is unknown on which date the death actually occurred, enter only that portion of the date that is known. For example, if a person was last seen on a Friday and their body was discovered on a Monday and it is unknown when they died, enter the actual month and year, but enter "99" for the day.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
DthDt	Date of death:	Person	Text	10	ER/LR	DC/CME

Response Options:
DthDt

Data Standards or Guidelines
NVISS

State of death: DthState

Name	Definition
DthState	State in which the death occurred

Uses
Identifies the state in which the death certificate was filed. This variable will be used to facilitate data sharing across states when state of injury and state of death differ.

Discussion
State of death will usually be the same as state of injury; however, on occasion the two will differ. This is true for victims who are injured in one state and transported to another state for emergency medical care. If the state of death is unknown, enter the state in which the person was pronounced dead, i.e., the state that issued the death certificate. If the person was pronounced dead in a U.S. territory, enter the FIPS code for that territory. If the person was not pronounced dead in any U.S. state or territory, enter 88, for "Not applicable". Native American reservations should be coded as the state where it is located.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
DthState	State of death:	Person	Number	2	ER/ER/ER	DC/CME/PR

Response Options:
DthState

1	Alabama
2	Alaska
4	Arizona
5	Arkansas
6	California
8	Colorado
9	Connecticut
10	Delaware
11	District of Columbia
12	Florida
13	Georgia
15	Hawaii
16	Idaho
17	Illinois
18	Indiana
19	Iowa
20	Kansas
21	Kentucky
22	Louisiana
23	Maine
24	Maryland
25	Massachusetts
26	Michigan

27   Minnesota
28   Mississippi
29   Missouri
30   Montana
31   Nebraska
32   Nevada
33   New Hampshire
34   New Jersey
35   New Mexico
36   New York
37   North Carolina
38   North Dakota
39   Ohio
40   Oklahoma
41   Oregon
42   Pennsylvania
43   Puerto Rico
44   Rhode Island
45   South Carolina
46   South Dakota
47   Tennessee
48   Texas
49   Utah
50   Vermont
51   Virginia
53   Washington
54   West Virginia
55   Wisconsin
56   Wyoming
60   American Samoa
64   Federated States of Micronesia
66   Guam
68   Marshall Islands
69   Northern Mariana Islands
70   Palau
72   Puerto Rico
74   U.S. Minor Outlying Islands
78   Virgin Islands of the U.S.

Data Standards or Guidelines
Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS); National Institute of Standards and Technologies; U.S. Postal Service

CAUSE OF DEATH

Immediate cause of death text: CausIA
Cause leading to immediate cause text: CausIB
Next antecedent cause of death text: CausIC
Underlying cause of death text: CausID

Name	Definition
CausIA	Immediate cause of death (text)
CausIB	Cause leading to immediate cause of death (text)
CausIC	Next antecedent cause of death (text)
CausID	Underlying cause of death (text)

Uses
The text that the death certifier supplies on the death certificate regarding the causes of death can be used to identify reportable cases in a timely manner. While coded data that captures the underlying cause of death using ICD codes is an efficient means of identifying confirmed cases, these coded data will not be available in some states for many months.

Discussion
Enter the text exactly as it appears on the death certificate. The letters in the variable names correspond to the lettered lines appearing on the death certificate. Some death certificates will not have an entry on all four lines, so not all four variables need to be completed.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
CausIA	Immediate cause of death text	Person	Text	100	ER	DC
CausIB	Cause leading to immediate cause text	Person	Text	100	ER	DC
CausIC	Next antecedent cause of death text	Person	Text	100	ER	DC
CausID	Underlying cause of death text	Person	Text	100	ER	DC

Response Options:
CausIA
CausIB
CausIC
CausID

Data Standards or Guidelines
U.S. standard death certificate

Underlying cause of death code: ICD_10

Name	Definition
ICD_10	Underlying cause-of-death code (ICD-10)

Uses

The underlying cause of death assigned on the death certificate is the basis for the nation's official count of deaths due to homicide, suicide, and other causes. A comparison of this variable and the CME variable "Manner", and the abstractor variable "Type of Death", will indicate the degree to which data sources vary in classifying deaths.

Discussion

Cause of death is coded using the system established by the World Health Organization's International Classification of Disease (ICD). A variable should be coded exactly as it appears in the underlying cause of death field in death certificate data. If death certificate data are not available at the time that the reporting site is gathering data on the case, code as unknown. These data may be reported at a later update. Use the decimal point following the second digit. Do not use trailing zeros after the decimal point (unless a true zero is part of the actual code). The code options listed below indicate codes in the reportable range.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
ICD_10	Underlying cause of death code:	Person	Text	6	LR	DC

Response Options:

ICD_10

    Format: L##.## (the first character must be a letter, followed by at least two and up to four digits)

    ICD-10 coding of first 3 to 4 characters (cause of injury):

U01	Assault by terrorism
U01.0	Assault by terrorism by explosion of marine weapons
U01.1	Assault by terrorism involving destruction of aircraft
U01.2	Assault by terrorism involving other explosions and fragments
U01.3	Assault by terrorism involving fires, conflagration, hot substances
U01.4	Assault by terrorism involving firearms
U01.5	Assault by terrorism involving nuclear weapons
U01.6	Assault by terrorism involving biological weapons
U01.7	Assault by terrorism involving chemical weapons
U01.8	Assault by terrorism, other specified
U01.9	Assault by terrorism, unspecified
U02	Sequelae of terrorism
U03	Intentional self-harm by terrorism
U03.0	Intentional self-harm by terrorism involving explosions and fragments
U03.9	Intentional self-harm by terrorism by other and unspecified means
W32	Accidental handgun discharge

W33	Accidental rifle, shotgun, and larger firearm discharge
W34	Accidental discharge from other and unspecified firearms (this code does not discriminate between firearms and nonpowder guns)
X60-X69	Intentional self-poisoning
X70	Intentional self-harm by hanging, strangulation, and suffocation
X71	Intentional self-harm by drowning and submersion
X72	Intentional self-harm by handgun discharge
X73	Intentional self-harm by rifle, shotgun, and larger firearm discharge
X74	Intentional self-harm by other and unspecified firearm discharge
X75	Intentional self-harm by explosive material
X76	Intentional self-harm by smoke, fire, and flames
X77	Intentional self-harm by steam, hot vapors, and hot objects
X78	Intentional self-harm by sharp object
X79	Intentional self-harm by blunt object
X80	Intentional self-harm by jumping from a high place
X81	Intentional self-harm by jumping or lying before moving object
X82	Intentional self-harm by crashing a motor vehicle
X83	Intentional self-harm by other specified means
X84	Intentional self-harm by unspecified means
X85	Assault by drugs, medicaments, and biological substances
X86	Assault by corrosive substance
X87	Assault by pesticides
X88	Assault by gases and vapors
X89	Assault by other specified chemicals and noxious substances
X90	Assault by other unspecified chemicals and noxious substances
X91	Assault by hanging, strangulation, and suffocation
X92	Assault by drowning and submersion
X93	Assault by handgun discharge
X94	Assault by rifle, shotgun, and larger firearm discharge
X95	Assault by other and unspecified firearm discharge
X96	Assault by explosive material
X97	Assault by smoke, fire, and flames
X98	Assault by steam, hot vapors, and hot objects
X99	Assault by sharp object
Y00	Assault by blunt object
Y01	Assault by pushing from high place
Y02	Assault by pushing or placing victim before moving object
Y03	Assault by crashing a motor vehicle
Y04	Assault by bodily force (unarmed brawl or fight)
Y05	Sexual assault by bodily force
Y06	Neglect and abandonment
Y07	Other maltreatment syndromes (physical or sexual abuse, torture)
Y08	Assault by other specified means
Y09	Assault by unspecified means
Y22	Handgun discharge, undetermined intent
Y23	Rifle, shotgun, and larger firearm discharge, undetermined intent
Y24	Other and unspecified firearm discharge, undetermined intent
Y35.0	Legal intervention involving firearm discharge
Y35.1	Legal intervention involving explosives

Y35.2   Legal intervention involving gas
Y35.3   Legal intervention involving blunt objects
Y35.4   Legal intervention involving sharp objects
Y35.6   Legal intervention involving other specified means
Y35.7   Legal intervention, means unspecified
Y87.0   Sequelae of intentional self-harm
Y87.1   Sequelae of assault
Y89.0   Sequelae of legal intervention
L88.88   Not applicable*
L99.99   Unknown or missing*
* Not an ICD-10 code, added codes.

ICD-10 coding of 4th character (type of place of occurrence) – applies only to codes in the W32 to Y24 range above.
0   Home
1   Residential institution
2   School, institution, public administrative area (e.g., courthouse, hospital, daycare center)
3   Sports and athletic area
4   Street and highway
5   Trade and service area
6   Industrial and construction (e.g., factory, shipyard)
7   Farm
8   Other
9   Unspecified

ICD-10 Coding of 5th character (type of activity when injured) – applies only to codes in the W32 to Y24 range above.
0   While engaged in sports activity
1   While engaged in leisure activity
2   While working for income
3   While engaged in other types of work (e.g., chores, school)
4   While resting, sleeping, eating, or engaging in other vital activities
5   While engaged in other specified activities
6   While engaged in unspecified activities

Data Standards or Guidelines
(ICD-10) International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems: 10th Revision: Geneva: World Health Organization 1992.

Autopsy performed: Autpsy

Name	Definition
Autpsy	Autopsy performed on the victim?

Uses

Decedents who have been autopsied are likely to have more reliable cause of death codes and pregnancy findings.

Discussion

A yes/no item appears on the death certificate to indicate if an autopsy was performed. Autopsies are not always performed on every case that comes to the attention of a CME. For example, a witnessed suicide may not be autopsied. In some cases, a partial autopsy may be performed. For example, a person who kills him or herself with a gunshot wound to the head may receive a head-only autopsy. A "visual-only autopsy" (that is, the body was visually inspected, but not physically examined) does not qualify as an autopsy here.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
Autpsy	Autopsy performed:	Person	Number	1	LR/ER	CME/DC

Response Options:

Autpsy

    0   Not autopsied
    1   Autopsied (full or partial)
    9   Unknown

Data Standards or Guidelines

U.S. standard death certificate

Person was pregnant: Preg

Name	Definition
Preg	Person was pregnant or recently pregnant at the time of death

Uses

This variable is used to identify pregnant or recently pregnant victims and to document types of violence against pregnant and postpartum women. It is also useful in documenting a potentially precipitating circumstance in suicide cases.

Discussion

Victim's pregnancy status is often noted on the death certificate and in the CME report. Findings are more likely to be authoritative if a full autopsy has been performed. This variable should be coded for all female victims regardless of age. The variable will not apply to males. It is based on the codes used on the new U.S. standard death certificate. As such, it collects pregnancy status at the time of death, not at the time of injury. So, for example, if a pregnant woman was assaulted, miscarried, and died a month later, she would be coded in the CME version of the variable as "not pregnant but pregnant within 42 days of death," not as "pregnant at time of death". Code "unknown", regardless of the victim's age, if the victim's pregnancy status is not mentioned on the record for the CME version of the variable or for states that have added their own pregnancy variable to their death certificate. If the victim is noted by the CME or death certificate as "not pregnant", but there is no mention as to whether she was pregnant in the year preceding her death, code the variable as "unknown". If your state's death certificate does not yet have the 2003 pregnancy variable, or if its own pregnancy variable does not match the 2003 variable, code the variable as "unknown".

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
Preg	Person was pregnant:	Person	Number	1	LR/LR	CME/DC

Response Options:

Preg
- 0   Not pregnant within last year
- 1   Pregnant at time of death
- 2   Not pregnant but pregnant w/in 42 days of death
- 3   Not pregnant but pregnant 43 days to 1 year before death
- 9   Unknown if pregnant within past year

Data Standards or Guidelines

U.S. standard death certificate

Manner of death: Manner

Name	Definition
Manner	Manner of death (e.g., suicide, homicide, undetermined)

Uses

Manner of death is a broad classification of the cause of death as natural, accidental, suicide, homicide, pending investigation, or not determined. Manner is determined by the coroner or medical examiner and, when considered in conjunction with the narrative cause of death statements on the death certificate, is the basis for how the official underlying cause of death is coded in vital statistics data. Data describing the manner of death are useful for public health surveillance, for health care planning and administration, and for clinical and health services, and epidemiologic research. Because the CME's manner of death sometimes contradicts the manner implied by the death certificate's underlying cause-of-death code, the police designation of the death, or the death type assigned to the victim by the abstractor, it is useful to document manner by source.

Discussion

CMEs investigate suspicious injury deaths and determine the likely manner of death using a check box on the death certificate. Record the manner of death exactly as it appears on the death certificate and CME report. If a manner is noted as "pending investigation," check back on the case later to update the manner. "Pending" is considered a temporary designation. Since states' death certificates may have a state-added code to indicate "legal intervention" as the manner of death, code "legal intervention" only if it is presented on the death certificate.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
Manner	Manner of death, (e.g., suicide, homicide, undetermined):	Person	Number	1	ER/LR	CME/DC

Response Options:

Manner

1. Natural
2. Accident
3. Suicide
4. Homicide
5. Pending investigation
6. Could not be determined
7. Legal intervention
9. Record not available or blank

Data Standards or Guidelines

U.S. standard death certificate

Date of injury: Idate
Time of injury: Itime

Name	Definition
IDate	Date of injury
ITime	Time of Injury

Uses

Date of injury can be used to examine trends over time in violent deaths, to detect epidemics, and to test for seasonal effects on violent death. Time of injury can be used to identify times of day incidents may be more likely to occur. Date and time of injury can also be used to interpret toxicology test results. See the Introduction section of this manual for a discussion about handling variables that can identify individual persons or agencies.

Discussion

Exact date and time of injury are sometimes unknown, as in an unwitnessed suicide or homicide. Do not enter date that the victim was last seen if actual date of injury is unknown. The software allows for partially known date information to be entered. For example, if a suicide victim was last seen July 6th and the body was discovered July 7th, but the day the victim was injured was unknown, date of injury can be coded as 07/99/2003. If month and day are unknown, but the year is known, code the date as 99/99/2003. If no information is known about when the incident occurred (as in when skeletal remains are found), it is acceptable to code date of injury as 99/99/9999. If a range of greater than one hour is noted for the time of injury (e.g., "sometime between 9:30 a.m. and noon"), treat time as unknown. If a range of less than an hour is given (e.g., "around 9:30 a.m." or "between 9:30 and 10:30"), code that as the lowest time in the range (0930 in both cases). Time of injury is coded using the 24-hour military format. Midnight is 0000.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
IDate	Date of injury:	Person	Text	10	ER/LR/LR	DC/CME/PR
ITime	Time of injury:	Person	Text	5	ER/LR/LR	DC/CME/PR

Response Options:
IDate
> Mm\dd\yyyy

ITime
> ####

Data Standards or Guidelines
NVISS

Type of location where injured: LocTyp

Name	Definition
LocTyp	Type of place at which the injury occurred

Uses
Data on the type of place at which an injury occurred help to describe the injury-producing event and are valuable for planning and evaluating prevention programs.

Discussion
Code the location at which the victim was injured. Designations of specific buildings (such as "house, apartment" or "bar, nightclub") include both the building itself and the area directly outside, such as a driveway, porch, or front walk. If a victim was injured in a variety of locations (e.g., the victim was stabbed on a bus and was pursued by the attacker off the bus and into a store and stabbed a second time), code the location at which the victim was first injured. Events that occur on public sidewalks should be coded as "street," with the exception of those occurring on sidewalks that are the private property of an adjacent building. Those should be coded to the building. For example, an incident that occurs on a walkway on the front lawn of a home should be coded as "house, apartment". If an incident occurs in a garage at a private home, code "house, apartment". If an incident occurs in a commercial parking garage, parking lot, or a garage used by four or more different households (e.g., a garage serving a large apartment building), code the location as "12 – parking lot/public parking garage". If an incident occurs while the victim is in a motor vehicle, please code "4 – motor vehicle" rather than the location of the motor vehicle.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
LocTyp	Type of location where injured:	Person	Number	2	ER/LR/LR	DC/PR/CME

Response Options:
LocTyp
1   House, apartment
2   Street/road, sidewalk, alley
3   Highway, freeway
4   Motor vehicle (excluding school bus, 15, and public transportation, 21)
5   Bar, nightclub
6   Service station
7   Bank, credit union, ATM location
8   Liquor store
9   Other commercial establishment (e.g., grocery store, retail outlet, laundromat)
10   Industrial or construction areas (e.g., factory, warehouse)
11   Office building
12   Parking lot/public parking garage
13   Abandoned house, building, or warehouse
14   Sports or athletic area (e.g., stadium, baseball field, gymnasium, recreation center)
15   School bus

16   Child care center, daycare, pre-school
17   Elementary school, middle school (i.e., K-8)
18   High school
19   College/University, including dormitory, fraternity/sorority
20   Unspecified school
21   Public transportation or station (e.g., bus, train, plane, airport, depot, taxi)
22   Synagogue, church, temple
23   Hospital or medical facility
24   Supervised residential facility (e.g., shelter, halfway house, group home)
25   Farm
26   Jail, prison, detention facility
27   Park, playground, public use area
28   Natural area (e.g., field, river, beaches, woods)
29   Hotel/motel
66   Other
99   Unknown

Data Standards or Guidelines
U.S. standard death certificate

Injured at work: AtWork

Name	Definition
AtWork	Injury occurred at work or while the person was working

Uses
Knowing the relationship of the incident to a person's work can help determine the impact of violence and suicide in the workplace and can be used to plan and develop work-related violence prevention programs.

Discussion
"AtWork" includes those incidents that occur while the person is at work or working. These injuries could occur at the person's place of work or off-site during the course of work-related activities. For example, a person who is murdered while driving a truck to deliver produce should be coded as a work-related injury. However, a person who is shot while commuting between work and home would not be considered to have suffered a work-related injury. The AtWork definition applies only to current jobs. The "Injured at work" item on the death certificate is supposed to be filled out for all injury victims with the exception of those less than age 14 (unless warranted for a younger child injured at work). "Not applicable" can therefore be coded for victims ages 13 years and younger. An injury at work can occur:
- on employer premises while engaged in work activity, apprenticing, or in vocational training (regardless of the relationship between the victim and suspect);
- on employer premises while on break, in hallways, rest room, cafeteria, or storage area;
- on employer parking lots while working, arriving or leaving;
- while working for pay or compensation, including at home;
- while working as a volunteer EMS, firefighter, or law enforcement officer;
- while working in a family business, including family farm (activity should be clearly related to a profit-oriented business);
- while traveling on business, including to and from customer/business contacts;
- while engaged in work activity where a vehicle is considered the work environment.

An injury at work does not include:
- commuting to or from work;
- engaging in criminal activity as a means of economic support;
- engaging in recreational activities on employer controlled facilities (e.g., games) for personal enjoyment on employer premises;
- on employer premises while victim was visiting for non-work purposes (i.e., not on official business);
- working as a homemaker at homemaking activities;
- engaging in school activities while enrolled as a student;
- working for self or for no profit (e.g., mowing yard, repairing own roof, hobby, recreational activities)
- operating a vehicle (personal or commercial) for non-work purposes

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
AtWork	Injured at work:	Person	Number	1	ER/LR/LR	DC/PR/CME

Response Options:
AtWork

    0 No, injury did not occur at work or while the victim was working

    1 Yes, injury occurred at work or while the victim was working

    8 Not applicable (e.g., child, unemployed, retiree)

    9 Unknown

Data Standards or Guidelines
U.S. standard death certificate

INJURY ADDRESS

Street and number of injury site: InjAddres
City of injury FIPS code: InjPlace
State of injury FIPS code: InjState
US Census block group of injury: CnsBlk
US Census tract of injury: CnsTrt

Name	Definition
InjAddres	Street address at which injury was inflicted
InjPlace	City/town in which injury was inflicted
InjState	State in which injury was inflicted
CnsBlk	Census block in which injury was inflicted
CnsTrt	Census tract in which injury was inflicted

Uses
The address of the incident is used to determine the agency responsible for potential public health interventions; to gain information about the socioeconomic status (SES) of the neighborhoods where injuries occur (via U.S. Census data); to map incidents; and to conduct analyses of the distribution of cases by SES and geographic area. See the Introduction section of this manual for a discussion about handling variables that can identify individual persons or agencies.

Discussion
If the incident covers more than one address, code the address where the first injury was inflicted. In some cases, there will not be an explicit address for the injury incident (e.g., in a field or park). In these cases, record the nearest address or cross streets. If the nearest street address or intersection is not available from the records, enter the place name, e.g., the name of the park or beach. The address information should be collected at the local level in a format that meets the local standards for geocoding. Reporting sites planning to geocode their data at the local level can generate the census block group and tract where the incident occurred from a geocoding program. In some states, the vital statistics registry or police department will have already geocoded the address and will have census tract and block group information available.

The person's city/town ("place") is coded using standard Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) codes. An update of the NVDRS software will provide these codes in drop-down menus with a convenient user interface. In the meantime, states are being provided with a hard-copy code list of county codes and place codes for their state. For out-of-state addresses, or as an alternative to manually searching for codes, the following website will supply FIPS place codes: http://geonames.usgs.gov/fips55.html. FIPS place codes are frequently more specific than standard city/town designations. For example, they frequently supply codes for neighborhoods of cities. CDC will provide states with a

crosswalk that maps FIPS place codes that fall within a recognized city or town to that larger political entity.

If the state of injury or country of injury is unknown, enter 99. If the place of injury is a U.S. territory, enter the FIPS code for that territory. If the place of injury was known to be outside of the U.S. and its territories, enter 88 for "Not applicable". Native American reservations should be coded as the state in which it is located.

Note: Vital Statistics data use two coding systems for states: FIPS and their own system. Please use the FIPS version here.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
InjAddres	Street and number of injury site:	Person	Text	50	ER/LR/LR	DC/CME/PR
InjPlace	City of injury FIPS code:	Person	Number	5	ER/LR/LR	
InjState	State of injury FIPS code:	Person	Number	2	ER/LR/LR	
CnsBlk	US Census block group of injury:	Person	Text	1	O	DC
CnsTrt	US Census tract of injury:	Person	Text	7	O	DC

Response Options:
InjAddres
    9 Unknown
InjPlace
InjState
    1 Alabama
    2 Alaska
    4 Arizona
    5 Arkansas
    6 California
    8 Colorado
    9 Connecticut
    10 Delaware
    11 District of Columbia
    12 Florida
    13 Georgia
    15 Hawaii
    16 Idaho
    17 Illinois
    18 Indiana
    19 Iowa
    20 Kansas
    21 Kentucky
    22 Louisiana
    23 Maine

24	Maryland
25	Massachusetts
26	Michigan
27	Minnesota
28	Mississippi
29	Missouri
30	Montana
31	Nebraska
32	Nevada
33	New Hampshire
34	New Jersey
35	New Mexico
36	New York
37	North Carolina
38	North Dakota
39	Ohio
40	Oklahoma
41	Oregon
42	Pennsylvania
43	Puerto Rico
44	Rhode Island
45	South Carolina
46	South Dakota
47	Tennessee
48	Texas
49	Utah
50	Vermont
51	Virginia
53	Washington
54	West Virginia
55	Wisconsin
56	Wyoming
60	American Samoa
64	Federated States of Micronesia
66	Guam
68	Marshall Islands
69	Northern Mariana Islands
70	Palau
72	Puerto Rico
74	U.S. Minor Outlying Islands
78	Virgin Islands of the U.S.

CnsBlk

9	Unknown

CnsTrt

9999.99	Unknown

Data Standards or Guidelines

Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS); National Institute of Standards and Technologies; U.S. Bureau of the Census; U.S. Postal Service

Survival time no. of units: Surviv
Unit of time used in survival time: Sunit

Name	Definition
Surviv	Interval between injury and death
Sunit	Unit used to report interval between injury and death

Uses

Survival time can be used to evaluate health outcome data and EMS system needs. It can also be useful in interpreting toxicology test results.

Discussion

Survival time is noted on the death certificate in the section called "Approximate interval between onset and death" to the right of the cause of death text. It is often either explicitly mentioned in the CME's report or it can be calculated based on date and time of injury and death. If date and time of injury or death are not known, do not calculate survival based on the interval between the time the person was last seen and the body found (unless that was under two hours). Indicate the length of survival interval in Surviv and the units of measurement for the interval (e.g., minutes, hours, days) in Sunit. For under two hours, use minutes; for two hours through 47 hours, use hours; for 48 hours and over, use days. For 365 or more days, use years. Round to the nearest unit. If survival time was noted as a range, use the high end of the range (e.g., 15-30 minutes, use 30). If survival time is not precisely noted, indicate 999 in Surviv and the applicable unit in Sunit (e.g., "patient survived a few minutes" would be 999 in Surviv and 1 [minutes] in Sunit). If death is described as "immediate," indicate 0 in Surviv and 1 [minutes] in Sunit.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
Surviv	Survival time no. of units:	Person	Number	3	O/O	DC/CME
Sunit	Unit of time used in survival time:	Person	Number	1	O/O	DC/CME

Response Options:

Surviv
  999 Unknown
Sunit
    1 Minutes
    2 Hours
    3 Days
    4 Years
    8 Not applicable

Data Standards or Guidelines

NVISS

Education: Educ
Number years education: OldEduc

Name	Definition
Educ	Person's education level
OldEduc	Number of years of education

Uses

The victim's educational level is an important indicator of socioeconomic status and is used in epidemiologic and other scientific analyses. For very young children who are not in school, code as 0.

Discussion

The options for the "Education" variable are those on the 2003 death certificate. Since not all states will have moved to the new format by 2003, the pre-2003 education format is provided in the "Number years education" variable. Only one of the two options has to be completed on the DC Main Elements screen.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
Educ	Education:	Person	Number	2	LR/LR	DC/CME
OldEduc	Number years education:	Person	Number	2	ER	DC

Response Options:

Educ
- 0 8th grade or less
- 1 9th to 12th grade; no diploma
- 2 High school graduate or GED completed
- 3 Some college credit, but no degree
- 4 Associate's degree (e.g., AA, AS)
- 5 Bachelor's degree (e.g., BA, AB, BS)
- 6 Master's degree (e.g., MA, MS, Mend, Med, MSW, MBA)
- 7 Doctorate (e.g., PhD, EdD) or Professional degree (e.g., MD, DDS, DVM, LLB, JD)
- 9 Unknown

OldEduc
- 0 None
- 1 1 year
- 2 2 years
- 3 3 years
- 4 4 years
- 5 5 years
- 6 6 years
- 7 7 years

8   8 years
9   9 years
10   10 years
11   11 years
12   12 years
13   13 years or one year of college
14   14 years or two years of college
15   15 years or three years of college
16   16 years or four years of college
17   Post-graduate education or 5+ years of college
99   Unknown

Data Standards or Guidelines
U.S. standard death certificate

USUAL OCCUPATION

Usual occupation code: UsuOcc
Usual occupation text: UsOcTx
Kind of business/industry code: Indust
Usual industry text: IndTxt

Name	Definition
UsuOcc	Usual occupation of the victim as recorded on the death certificate
UsOcTx	Victim's usual occupation text
Indust	Victim's usual business or industry code
IndTxt	Victim's usual business/industry text

Uses

The victim's usual occupation is an indicator of socioeconomic status and may be associated with an increased risk of intentional injury. "Usual industry" is the kind of business or industry to which the victim's occupation is related, such as insurance, farming, or government.

Discussion

Most states' registry of vital records encodes the decedent's usual occupation and industry on the death certificate. Usual occupation/industry is not necessarily the victim's current occupation/industry. Provide information exactly as it appears in the death certificate data. If the text descriptor is recorded on the death certificate, and a numeric code is not provided, report only the text information and use the code "080" to indicate that the actual code is unavailable. The codes 999 for occupation and 090 for industry are assigned by the Occupation and Industry coder to indicate "blank, unknown, or NA". These codes should only be used if they appear in the death certificate data. If text is provided describing the occupation and industry, but no code is provided, sites should not code the information themselves, as industry and occupation coding requires special training. If the death cerificate is blank, use the code "080" to indicate unavailable and use the text field to indicate blank, unknown, or not available.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
UsuOcc	Usual occupation code:	Person	Number	3	LR	DC
UsOcTx	Usual occupation text:	Person	Text	50	O	DC
Indust	Kind of business/ industry code:	Person	Number	3	LR	DC
IndTxt	Usual industry text:	Person	Text	50	O	DC

Response Options:
UsuOcc UsOcTx Indust IndTxt

Data Standards or Guidelines
For occupation and industry codes: U.S. Bureau of the Census; Classified index of industries and occupations; 1990 Census of Population and Housing; First Edition; U.S. Government Printing Office, April 1992. For codes designating those without occupations (such as "student"): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Public use data file Documentation: Multiple Cause of Death for ICD-9 1997 Data.

WOUND LOCATION

Number of wounds: NumWou
Number of bullets that hit victim: NumBul
Wound to the head: Head
Wound to the face: Face
Wound to the neck: Neck
Wound to the upper extremity: UpExt
Wound to the spine: Spine
Wound to the thorax: Thorax
Wound to the abdomen: Abdomn
Wound to the lower extremity: LowExt

Name	Definition
NumWou	Number of wounds to the victim
NumBul	Number of bullets that hit the victim
Head	Presence of wound to the head
Face	Presence of wound to the face (e.g., mouth, nose, eyes, ears)
Neck	Presence of wound to the neck
UpExt	Presence of wound in the upper extremities (shoulders, arms, hands)
Spine	Presence of wound to the spine
Thorax	Presence of wound to the thorax, chest, or upper back
Abdomn	Presence of wound to the abdomen, pelvic contents (including genital area), or lower back
LowExt	Presence of wound to the lower extremities (feet, hips, legs)

Uses
These codes help describe the relationship between incident circumstance and wound location.

Discussion
These data elements apply to firearm injuries and sharp instrument wounds only. For "NumWou," code the total number of penetrating wounds on the victim. For "NumBul" (for gunshot wound victims only), code the total number of bullets that hit the victim. (See figure on next page for body regions.) For example, if one bullet entered the cheek and exited the back of the head, code "NumWou" as 2, "NumBul" as 1, "Head" as

"present," and "Face" as "present". Code the wound locations of penetrating wounds only; do not code the locations of superficial grazing wounds or blunt trauma wounds. Code only the location of the external entrance or exit wound. When determining the number of wounds and bullets for shotgun injuries, treat each shotgun blast as one injury and each shotgun shell as one bullet. For victims injured by both a gun and a knife, count all wounds from both weapon types and code all wound locations.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
NumWou	Number of wounds:	Person	Number	2	O/O/O	CME/DC/PR
NumBul	Number of bullets that hit victim:	Person	Number	2	O/O/O	CME/DC/PR
Head	Wound to the head:	Person	Number	1	O/O/O	CME/DC/PR
Face	Wound to the face:	Person	Number	1	O/O/O	CME/DC/PR
Neck	Wound to the neck:	Person	Number	1	O/O/O	CME/DC/PR
UpExt	Wound to the upper extremity:	Person	Number	1	O/O/O	CME/DC/PR
Spine	Wound to the spine:	Person	Number	1	O/O/O	CME/DC/PR
Thorax	Wound to the thorax:	Person	Number	1	O/O/O	CME/DC/PR
Abdomn	Wound to the abdomen:	Person	Number	1	O/O/O	CME/DC/PR
LowExt	Wound to the lower extremity:	Person	Number	1	O/O/O	CME/DC/PR

Response Options:
NumWou
and
NumBul
   75   75 or more
   76   Multiple, unspecified
   88   Not applicable
   99   Unknown
Head through LowExt
   0   Absent (not wounded)
   1   Present (wounded)
   9   Unknown

Data Standards and Guidelines
NVISS

Multiple conditions on death certificate 1-20 (Mult1001 through Mult1020)

Name	Definition
Mult1001 Mult1002 through Mult 1020	Describes the nature of the injury and other conditions leading to death. Up to 20 multiple condition codes can be entered.

Uses

The "nature of injury" (or "multiple condition") codes assigned to the death certificate specify the anatomic location and nature of the injuries. This information may assist in evaluating emergency medical response.

Discussion

Multiple condition codes are assigned by the registry of vital records to death certificate records to indicate the nature of injuries and diseases leading to death. Codes are based on the International Classification of Disease 10th edition coding protocols, thus "Mult 10". The underlying cause of death code is captured in a separate variable on the DC Main Elements screen. The Mult10 elements should be coded exactly as they are coded in the multiple cause of death fields in death certificate data. These codes can include both diagnosis codes (nature of injury and disease) and external cause of injury codes. Codes should be entered with decimal points in the fourth position. No more than 20 codes can be entered.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field length	Priority	Primacy
Mult1001	Multiple conditions on death certificate 1:	Person	Text	6	O	DC
Mult1002	Multiple conditions on death certificate 2:	Person	Text	6	O	DC
…through						
Mult1020	Multiple conditions on death certificate 20:	Person	Text	6	O	DC

Response Options:

Mult1001 through Mult1020

> Format: L##.## (the first character must be a letter, followed by at least two and up to four digits)

Data Standards or Guidelines

ICD-10: International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems: 10th Revision.