

State Death Data Background

The State of North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics provides a data file containing data on all deaths that have occurred in the State of North Carolina.

ISD also told us about a field, EXTERNAL_DEATH_DATE, in the PATIENT_4 table and after meeting with Shaun McDonald and Emil Usinger, we have determined that this field is not viable for IDSci to use at this time (10/13/23). ISD started to populate this field some time after June 2022 but they currently do not have any plans to retroactively match the previous state death files. EPIC recommended that ISD use the Patient Load Utility (PLU), a probabilistic match, which requires that the incoming data match all of the fields for Name, Sex, DOB and one of the following: Address, Phone, or SSN. If the incoming data does not match on these, the line does not update the external death date. However, ISD team does not evaluate the confidence of the match (no validation done/ didn't calculate sensitivity or specificity) and they also had not thought of keeping false positives or false negatives low. Additionally, no one is on the healthcare side reviewing the matches with the purpose of updating the patient status field (PAT_LIVING_STAT_C) to deceased (2).

How to Access State Death Data?

State Death Data Policy

Documentation Required

The State of North Carolina requires that we report usage of State Death Data we are provided. While there is no actual 'approval' process with the state, there is a 'record-keeping' form that must be completed by the investigator and returned to the State Center for Health Statistics.

The F14 form will need to be completed by the investigator and returned to Kellie Walters. Kellie will submit the form to Matt Avery <matt.avery@dhhs.nc.gov> at NC DHHS.

[Access the Form Here](#)

Available Information in matched State Death Table: