

Normal Forms (NF)

- E. F. Codd introduced the concept of normalization and the first normal form (1NF) in 1970
- Informally, a relational database relation is often described as "normalized" if it meets 3NF

	UNF (1970)	1NF (1970)	2NF (1971)	3NF (1971)	EKNF (1982)	BCNF (1974)	4NF (1977)	ETNF (2012)	5NF (1979)	DKNF (1981)	6NF (2003)
Primary key (no duplicate tuples) ^[4]	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Atomic columns (cells cannot have tables as values) ^[5]	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Every non-trivial functional dependency either does not begin with a proper subset of a candidate key or ends with a prime attribute (no partial functional dependencies of non-prime attributes on candidate keys) ^[5]	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Every non-trivial functional dependency either begins with a superkey or ends with a prime attribute (no transitive functional dependencies of non-prime attributes on candidate keys) ^[5]	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Every non-trivial functional dependency either begins with a superkey or ends with an elementary prime attribute	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	—
Every non-trivial functional dependency begins with a superkey	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	—
Every non-trivial multivalued dependency begins with a superkey	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	—
Every join dependency has a superkey component ^[8]	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	—
Every join dependency has only superkey components	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	—
Every constraint is a consequence of domain constraints and key constraints	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗
Every join dependency is trivial	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓