Vital Statistics Database Death Event

Codebook
For Years 2000-2017

Compiled by Paramdeep Singh

How to Obtain More Information

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- visit our website at go.unb.ca/fr-nbirdt
- email us at nb-irdt@unb.ca
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About this Codebook

This reference guide is intended for users of the Vital Statistics database. This guide provides an overview of the data, the general methodology used in its creation, and relevant technical information. It also contains a description of the data variables.

The development of this document is an ongoing process that will be updated with changes that occur in the Vital Statistics database.

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Overview

The Vital Statistics database (Death Event) is a digital document which contains a summary of death events that occurred in the province of New Brunswick to residents and non-residents.

Data Range

2000-2017

Data Source

New Brunswick Department of Health

How to Cite this Codebook

New Brunswick Institute for Research, Data and Training. (2020). Vital Statistics Database Death Event Codebook for Years 2000-2017. Fredericton, NB: New Brunswick Institute for Research, Data and Training.

Acknowledgements

The Vital Statistics database is used with the permission of the Government of New Brunswick, Department of Health.

About this Product

Purpose of the Product

The purpose of the Vital Statistics database is to provide information on the linkable New Brunswick Vital Statistics data held at the New Brunswick Institute for Research, Data and Training (NB-IRDT). This data is accessible to researchers for public health research, as well as for the development of population estimates and projections.

Definitions and Concepts

Birth, death, and ICD-10 are defined in the glossary (Appendix A).

Content

This version of the Vital Statistics database contains seven (7) fields (variables).

General Methodology

Information from the Department of Health on death and birth registrations is pseudonymized (i.e., direct identifiers such as Medicare numbers are removed or scrambled) to keep personal information protected under the *Personal Health Information Privacy and Access Act* (PHIPAA). This data, which is linkable to other data sets, is accessible to researchers through NB-IRDT.

Limitations

Since the registration of deaths and births is a legal requirement in each Canadian province and territory, the Vital Statistics database contains information on nearly all deaths that occurred in New Brunswick. Under-coverage is thought to be minimal but may occur because of late registration. Deaths that occurred outside New Brunswick are not included in this database.

Reference Date

2000-2017

Record Layouts and Data Descriptions

CODE # / NAME	DESCRIPTION
SCRAM_ID	Individual unique identity code
DeathEventYear	Death year
ICD10Code	ICD-10 cause of death code
ICD10Description	ICD-10 cause of death description
DOB	Birth date (YYYYMMDD)
DOD	Death date (YYYYMMDD)
Sex	Gender code

SCRAM_ID
Code which uniquely identifies an individual whose death record is in the Vital Statistics database. This code is created by the Department of Health through an internal de-identification process.

DeathEventYear
Year in which the individual died

ICD10Code
Code which indicates the ICD-10 underlying cause of an individual's death. The underlying/primary cause of death is the disease or injury which initiated the chain of events leading directly to death, or the circumstances of the accident or violence which produced the fatal injury (World Health Organization). For specifics, refer to the International Classification of Disease specifications.

ICD10Description
Brief description of ICD-10 cause of individual's death

DOB
Date (YYYYMMDD) on which the individual was born

DOD
Date (YYYYMMDD) on which the individual died/expired

SEX
Code which indicates the biological sex of the individual

Sex	Description
1	Male
2	Female

Appendix A – Glossary

ICD-10 codes. The International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD) codes (10th Revision) were established by the World Health Organization in 1992. The ICD-10 manual assigns codes to specific diseases, injuries, and causes of death.

Birth. The complete expulsion or extraction from its mother, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy, of a fetus in which, after such expulsion or extraction, there is breathing, beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or unmistakable movement of voluntary muscle, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

Unless otherwise indicated, birth refers to infants born alive.

Stillbirths. Unless otherwise indicated, fetal deaths of at least 500 grams in weight or at least 20 weeks of gestation.

Death. The permanent disappearance of all evidence of life at any time after a live birth has taken place. Stillbirths are excluded from death statistics unless otherwise indicated. The death data recorded in the Vital Statistics database is the underlying/primary cause of death.

Document History

Version	Author	Nature of Change		Date
2.0	Paramdeep Singh	More years of data have been added		February 24, 2020
Approved by		Approval Date	Effective Date	Review Date
Eva Christensen		March 2, 2020	March 2, 2020	