Vital Statistics Deaths

populationdata BC

Date range: January 1, 1986 onward

An extract of the deaths registration file provided by the British Columbia Vital Statistics Agency. Includes all deaths registered in the province of BC. Note: ICD-9 codes were used form 1985 to 1999, and ICD-10 codes are used from 2000 onwards.

Core vs. Non-Core Data

Core Data: Some BC Ministry of Health data sets available through PopData and HDPBC are called 'Core Data'. A Core Data set is a standardized 'bundle' of commonly requested variables. A Core Data set may not include ALL the variables available in the data set. For example, some Core Data variables, such as geography or organisational codes, are suppressed to meet privacy legislation requirements.

Non-Core Data: Non-Core Data are variables that are **NOT** included in the standardized Core Data set. Non-Core Data is available for request **as an addition** to the Core Data set.

For the majority of DARs, requesting access to Core Data ONLY may make the data access approval process quicker and may expedite data provision. Data requests that include Non-Core Data will be subject to regular rather than expedited processes, both for application review and data provisioning.

ALL AVAILABLE VARIABLES

Name	Core vs Non-Core	Description
Registration date	Core	Registration Date. Date the event was registered - set to the date that the registration document was signed by the Registrar.
Year of death	Core	Year of Death. Year portion of event date.
Month of death	Core	Month of Death. Month portion of event date.
Day of death	Non-Core	Day of Death. Day portion of event date.
Time of death	Core	Time of Death (Event time).
Place of death - city	Non-Core	Place of Death - City. City (or town or other place) by name where death occurred.
Location of death	Non-Core	Location of Death. Name of hospital or institution where death occurred. Where death occurred outside of hospital or institution, the address location is included.
Place of death - first 3 characters of postal code	Core	Place of Death - First 3 Characters of Postal Code (Canadian Postal Code).
Place of death - 6-digit postal code.	Non-Core	Place of Death - 6-digit Postal Code (Canadian Postal Code).
Place of death type code (includes place type version)	Core	Version number of place type. Indicates the version number for the corresponding Place of Death Type Code. Place type version 9 was used up to Dec 31, 1999 while Place type version 10 was effective starting Jan 1, 2000.
Hospital code *	Core	Hospital ID. Indicates the hospital where death occurred. HOSPITAL CODES IN THIS FIELD HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY PROJECT-SPECIFIC ENCRYPTED ID NUMBERS ASSIGNED BY POPDATA.
Hospital code	Non-Core	Hospital ID. Indicates the hospital where death occurred. UNENCRYPTED.
Sex	Core	Sex. Code indicating sex of deceased.
Marital status	Core	Marital Status of deceased.
Status Aboriginal flag	Non-Core	Status Aboriginal Flag. Indicator that deceased was Aboriginal.
Live on reserve	Non-Core	Live on Reserve. Code indicating if deceased lived on a Reserve or not.
Deceased's year of birth	Core	Deceased's Year of Birth. Year portion of the date of birth of deceased.
Deceased's month of birth	Core	Deceased's Month of Birth. Month portion of the date of birth of the deceased.
Deceased's day of birth	Non-Core	Deceased's Day of Birth. Day portion of the date of birth of the deceased.
Deceased's age at death (includes age units)	Core	Age Units. Time units of the reported death age value (i.e., minutes, hours, days, months, or years).
Birthplace of deceased - city	Non-Core	Birthplace of deceased (City, town or other place).
Birthplace of deceased - province/territory	Core	Birthplace of deceased (province, or territory or state).
Birthplace of deceased - country	Core	Birthplace of deceased (country).
Deceased's occupation	Core	Deceased Occupation.
Deceased's work years	Core	Deceased Work Years. Number of years deceased worked in occupation.
Deceased's industry	Core	Deceased Industry. Kind of business or industry in which the deceased worked.
Usual residence of deceased - city	Non-Core	Deceased - City. The city of the usual residence of the deceased.
Usual residence of deceased - province/territory	Core	Usual Residence of Deceased - Province/territory. Province (or territory or state) of the usual address of the deceased.
Usual residence of deceased - country	Core	Usual Residence of Deceased - Country. Country of the usual address of the deceased.
Usual residence of deceased - first 3 characters of Canadian postal code	Core	Usual residence of deceased - First 3 characters of the Canadian Postal Code. Canadian postal code (3-digit) of the usual address of the deceased.
Usual residence of deceased : 6-digit Canadian postal code.	Non-Core	Usual residence of deceased - 6-digit Canadian Postal Code. Canadian postal code (6-digit) of the usual address of the deceased.

Usual residence of deceased - foreign postal code	Non-Core	Usual Residence of Deceased - Foreign Postal Code. Foreign Postal Code of the usual address of the deceased.
Birthplace of father/parent - city	Non-Core	Birthplace of Father/Parent (City). Name of the city, town or other place (by name) in which the father/parent was born.
Birthplace of father/parent - province/territory	Core	Birthplace of Father/Parent (Province/Territory). Name of the province or territory in which the father/parent was born.
Birthplace of father/parent - country	Core	Birthplace of Father/Parent (Country). Name of the country in which the father/parent was born.
Birthplace of mother - city	Non-Core	Birthplace of Mother (City). Name of the city, town or other place (by name) in which the mother was born.
Birthplace of mother - province/territory	Core	Birthplace of Mother (Province/Territory). Name of the province or territory in which the mother was born.
Birthplace of mother - country	Core	Name of the country in which the mother was born
Informant relationship to deceased	Non-Core	Informant Relationship to Deceased. Indicates the relationship of the informant to the deceased (e.g., daughter or executor).
Disposition type	Core	Disposition Type. A code indicating the manner in which the body was disposed.
Disposition date	Non-Core	Disposition Date - Month. Month Portion of the disposition date (calendar date).
Disposition place	Non-Core	Disposition Place. Name of cemetery, crematorium or place of disposition.
Place of accident or violence	Non-Core	Place of Accident or Violence. The site where the accident or violence occurred (if the cause of death indicates that an accident or violence occurred).
Place of accident or violence type code	Core	Place of Accident or Violence. A code representing the site where the accident or violence occurred (if the cause of death indicates that an accident or violence occurred).
Date of accident or violence - year	Core	Date of accident or violence (year). Year portion of date of injury.
Date of accident or violence - month	Core	Date of accident or violence (month). Month portion of date of injury.
Date of accident or violence - day	Non-Core	Date of Accident or Violence (Day). Day portion of date of injury.
Recent surgery flag	Core	Recent Surgery Flag. Indicates whether or not a recent surgery had been performed.
Date of Surgery - year	Core	Date of Surgery (Year).
Date of Surgery - month	Core	Date of Surgery (Month).
Date of Surgery - day	Core	Date of Surgery (Day). Day portion of date of surgery.
Coronary bypass flag	Core	Coronary Bypass Flag. Indicates whether or not a coronary bypass was performed.
Heart valve replaced flag	Core	Heart Valve Replaced Flag. Indicates whether or not heart valve was replaced.
Organ transplant recipient flag	Core	Organ Transplant Recipient Flag. Indicates whether or not the deceased was an organ recipient.
Autopsy being held flag	Core	Autopsy Being Held Flag. Indicates whether or not an autopsy was held.
Cause from autopsy flag	Core	Cause from Autopsy Flag. Indicates if the autopsy finding is used in the stated Underlying Cause of Death?
Further information expected on underlying cause of death flag	Core	Further Information Expected on Cause of Death Flag. Flag indicating whether, at the time of completion of the death certificate, it was expected that there would be further information forthcoming on the Underlying Cause of Death.
Environmental or lifestyle factor flag	Core	Environmental or Lifestyle Factor. Indicates whether environment or occupation were a factor in the cause of death.
Death during pregnancy flag	Core	Death During Pregnancy. A flag indicating death during pregnancy.
Death up to 42 days postpartum flag	Core	Death up to 42 Days Postpartum. Flag indicating whether or not death occurred within 42 days postpartum.
Death from 42 days to one year postpartum flag	Core	Death from 42 days to one year postpartum. Flag indicating whether or not death occurred between 43 days and 1 year postpartum.
Manner of death code	Core	Manner of Death Code. Code indicating the manner of death.
Activity code	Core	Activity Code. Indicates accidental death activity (e.g., sports activity).
Date of final illness - year	Core	Date of Final Illness (Year). Physician attended the deceased for final illness on this date.
Date of final illness - month	Core	Date of Final Illness (Month). Physician attended the deceased for final illness on this date.
Date of final illness - day	Core	Date of Final Illness (Day). Physician attended the deceased for final illness on this date.
Coroner notified flag	Core	Coroner Notified Flag. Flag Indicating if coroner notified.
Viewed body flag	Core	Viewed Body Flag. Indicates if body was viewed by the certifier.
Coroner waived case flag	Core	Coroner Waived Case Flag. Indicates whether or not coroner waived the case.
Certifier type code	Core	Certifier Type Code. Code describing the designation of the person who certified the death.

Diagnostic ICD-related codes (1985 onward)

Name	Core vs Non-Core	Description
Nature of injury code	Core	Nature of Injury Code. The International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD) code for the nature of injury. Only applicable to deaths prior to January 1st, 2000.
Underlying cause of death	Core	underlying cause of death ICD version
ICD codes	Core	ICD code may be 9 or 10

last updated: January 23rd 2024