Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	VAR Length	Range of Values	Value Description	Notes
PUBLICID	NHIS public use ID	Char	14	ID		Public use identifier assigned by NCHS. Researchers linking the NHIS to the public-use LMF should use PUBLICID. To merge the NHIS public-use with the public-use LMF please see section 5.10 in the methods and analytic considerations: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/datalinkage/LMF2015_ Methodology_Analytic_Considerations.pdf
ELIGSTAT	Eligibility Status for Mortality Follow-up	Num	8	1	1: Eligible	Survey participants are defined as ineligible for mortality linkage if they had insufficient identifying data. Please note that all survey participants from the survey files are included on the linked mortality files regardless of linkage eligibility.
				2	2: Under age 18, not available for public release	
				3	3: Ineligible	
MORTSTAT	Final Mortality Status	Num	8	0	0: Assumed alive	The MORTSTAT variable is the final determination of vital status and should be used as an outcome variable to calculate survival. Each survey participant who is eligible for mortality follow-up is assigned a vital statuse code (0=Assumed alive, 1=Assumed deceased)
				1	1: Assumed deceased	
					.: Ineligible or under age 18	
UCOD_LEADING	Underlying Leading Cause of Death: Recode	Char	3	001	Diseases of heart (100-109, 111, 113, 120-151)	UCOD_LEADING is derived from UCOD_113, which is available on the Restricted-use Linked Mortality File. UCOD_113 was created to assist researchers conducting mortality analyses that span across years using ICD-9 and ICD-10 coding. In UCOD_113, all underlying causes of death were recoded into comparable ICD-10 based groups.
				002	Malignant neoplasms (C00-C97)	
				003	Chronic lower respiratory diseases (J40-J47)	

Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	VAR Length	Range of Values	Value Description	Notes
				004	Accidents (unintentional injuries) (V01-X59, Y85-Y86)	
				005	Cerebrovascular diseases (160-169)	
				006	Alzheimer's disease (G30)	
				007	Diabetes mellitus (E10-E14)	
				008	Influenza and pneumonia (J09-J18)	
				009	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis (N00-N07, N17-N19, N25-N27)	
				010	All other causes (residual)	
					:Ineligible, under age 18, assumed alive, or no cause of death data	
DIABETES	Diabetes Flag from Multiple Cause of Death (MCOD)	Num	8	0	0: No - Condition not listed as a multiple cause of death	Certain contributing causes of death are only coded in the multiple causes of death codes according to ICD coding rules. The current public-use LMF do not include the 20 entity-axis multiple causes of death codes. The multiple causes of death codes are only available on the restricted-use versions of the LMF. However, diabetes is included on the public-use versions of the LMF. The flag variable was coded a 1 if specific ICD codes were found in any one of the 20 contributing or multiple causes of death fields.
				1	1: Yes – Condition listed as a multiple cause of death	
					.: Assumed alive, under age 18, ineligible for mortality follow-up, or MCOD not available	

Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	VAR Length	Range of Values	Value Description	Notes
HYPERTEN	Hypertension Flag from Multiple Cause of Death (MCOD)	Num	8	0	0: No - Condition not listed as a multiple cause of death	Certain contributing causes of death are only coded in the multiple causes of death codes according to ICD coding rules. The current public-use LMF do not include the 20 entity-axis multiple causes of death codes. The multiple causes of death codesare only available on the restricted-use versions of the LMF. However, hypertension is included on the public-use versions of the LMF. The flag variable was coded a 1 if specific ICD codes were found in any one of the 20 contributing or multiple causes of death fields.
				1	1: Yes – Condition listed as a multiple cause of death	
					.: Assumed alive, under age 18, ineligible for mortality follow-up, or MCOD not available	
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DODQTR	Quarter of Death: NHIS only	Num	8	1	1: January-March	Quarter of death. Only applicable for NHIS (1986-2014).
				2	2: April-June	
				3	3: July-September	
				4	4: October-December	
					.: Ineligible, under age 18, or assumed alive	
DODYEAR	Year of Death: NHIS only	Num	8	1986-2015	Year	Year of death. Only applicable for NHIS (1986-2014).
					Ineligible, under age 18, or assumed alive	
WGT_NEW	Weight Adjusted for Ineligible Respondents - Person-level Sample Weight	Num	8	55-50599		Only for 1987-2015 NHIS: Values for WGT_NEW reflect the eligibility adjusted Person-level Sample Weights created to account for those ineligible for linkage to the NDI. For the 1986 NHIS public-use LMF, there are no eligibility adjusted sample weights and WGT_NEW is left blank. For NHIS 1986 NCHS recommends using WTFA from the public-use files.
					.: Missing	

Variable Name	Variable (VAR) Label	VAR Type	VAR Length	Range of Values	Value Description	Notes
SA_WGT_NEW	Weight Adjusted for Ineligible Respondents - Sample Adult Sample Weight	Num	8	62-239765		Only for 1997-2015 NHIS: Values for SA_WGT_NEW reflect the eligibility adjusted Sample Adult Sample Weight created to account for those ineligible for linkage to the NDI. Blank values represent those ineligible or not a sample adult. The Sample Adult Sample Weight is not applicable for the 1987-1996 NHIS analyses and is therefore left blank. NCHS initiated a redesign of the NHIS questionnaire that was implemented in 1997. The Sample Adult File does not exist prior to the 1997 NHIS.
					.: Missing	