



New Time! VSCP Annual Meeting June 10, 2:15-3:15 EDT!

Please mark your calendars for June 10 from 2:15-3:15 EDT for our virtual VSCP annual meeting. Attendance at this online meeting fulfills the VSCP contractual requirement for an annual meeting. Attendance is required and will be recorded when you log on with your name and organization. If your jurisdiction is not able to be represented, please contact your assigned Vital Statistics Specialist stating why you are unable to attend.

The primary topic for the meeting will be a review of the changes planned for the 2022 VSCP contract. In addition, there will be time for updates on the COVID-19 response.

You will receive an invitation from NAPHSIS and will need to register through the link provided as for other VSCP Project Directors’ meetings.

Cooperative Agreement Corner

Our Cooperative Agreement with the National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems (NAPHSIS) supports a virtual training series related to Public Health Accreditation for Vital Records and Health Statistics. The next session has been rescheduled for July 8, 2020. This virtual training is a required step in the accreditation process.

The training will consist of two 90-minute online sessions with a 30-minute break, so that the total workshop time will be 3½ hours. A syllabus with detailed information about the training will be made available through NAPHSIS by early June. Jurisdictions may register at the following link until July 1, 2020: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WKWQ7GN>. Note that attendance is limited to 25 participants.

Did you know?

- NCHS uses both STEVE and SAMS for returning coded files to jurisdictions. When files are missing on either platform, please contact the help

desk: STEVE help desk at support@steve2.org , SAMS help desk at samshelp@cdc.gov.

- If data files are not named correctly, our automated system cannot process your data files. You should follow the naming conventions found on the VSCP website <http://www2a.cdc.gov/nchs/vscp/>
- NCHS can provide YTD multi-race files as needed; you should contact your assigned Vital Statistics Specialist if you need a YTD multi-race file. NCHS can also provide YTD Inter-Jurisdictional Exchange files for your jurisdiction; submit your request to your assigned Vital Statistics Specialist.

2019 Data Year Close-out Dates

Thanks to all of your efforts during a challenging time; we were able to close the 2019 natality file a few days early this year. The remaining closeout dates are included in the table below. Note that to include a jurisdiction’s most current information in the file release, all corrections and final file deliverables are due no later than the target dates listed. The target dates are highlighted in red, as are the contract closeout dates and the dates for final updates. The dates for final updates are subject to change and may be earlier, depending on the quality of the national file.

2019 Death File

(States) Contract closeout for 2019 deaths	May 1, 2020
(States) Last date 2019 death file updates accepted	June 15, 2020
(DACEB) Release final 2019 death file to Hyattsville	October 1, 2020

2019 Fetal Death File

(States) Contract closeout for 2019 fetal deaths	May 1, 2020
(States) Last date 2019 fetal death file updates accepted	June 26, 2020
(DACEB) Release final 2019 fetal death file to Hyattsville	August 27, 2020

As the 2019 files are closed, jurisdictions are encouraged to contact their assigned Data Acquisition, Classification and Evaluation Branch (DACEB) staff with any questions or feedback on the file closeout process.

[New York Breaks Down Barriers for Death Data](#)



In an average year, about 100,000 people die in the state of New York, not including deaths that occur within New York City. The momentous task of reporting these deaths falls to the state's 3,000 funeral directors, 57 county coroner and medical examiners' offices, 1,400+ local registrars, and approximately 70,000 licensed medical certifiers.

Sharing fast, accurate death information among all these data providers is essential, especially when faced with an evolving crisis. This is why New York was one of the first six states to join a nationwide "Implementers' Community" working to modernize vital records systems and make data more interoperable, specifically around drug overdose deaths.

Led by the National Center for Health Statistics, the community inspired New York to find new ways to unify resources and systems to improve the flow of drug death data. As a result, the state is now poised to better handle not only the crisis of deaths from drug overdoses, but also other future threats to public health.

[Read the full story](#) to find out how New York broke down the barriers between data providers in their state, and visit our website to see [how states are working together](#) to modernize our nation's death data.

[Latest COVID-19 Resources from NCHS](#)

Death certificates continue to be a critical *source of data for COVID-19 mortality surveillance*. We have been responding to the pandemic by producing new resources

to help with certification, coding, and surveillance of deaths due to COVID-19.

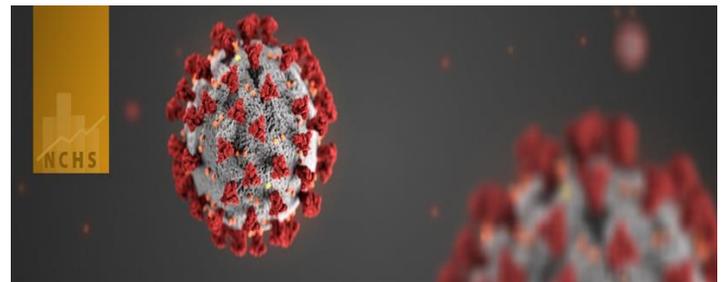
NCHS has [released a new website](#) to connect you with these resources and other important information related to COVID-19 death reporting. *We encourage you to use and share this information widely in your communities.*

You can link directly to the most recent NVSS death data, resources, and alerts here:

- [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Death Data and Resources](#)

Guidance to help certifiers understand how to report deaths due to COVID-19 on death certificates (including a new 3-minute video) can be found here:

- [COVID-19 Coding and Reporting Guidance](#)



[State and Jurisdiction Input Goes Here!!](#)

Have a topic to share with the monthly newsletter audience? We want to hear from you and feature your segments! Please send us your initiatives from the broader community, questions, or lessons learned. Send it to George Tolson at gct1@cdc.gov today!

[Vitals Staff Spotlights](#)

Jurisdictions may add as many names as they would like to our NCHS Newsletter mailing list! Just send a note to George Tolson at gct1@cdc.gov today.

Jim Greene retired from his position as State Registrar in California.

Tony Agurto was appointed State Registrar in California.

Caron Peper was appointed VSCP Project Director in Indiana.

Click [here](#) for previous newsletter issues!