

NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

# GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH DEATH INDEX

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## **DETAILED RECORD FORMAT**



## **KEY TO FORMAT**

A = Alpha format only  
N = Numeric format only  
A/N = Alpha Numeric  
MM = Month  
DD = Day  
YYYY = Year

229 Character file

<b>Description/ Field Name</b>	<b>Field Size</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Critical?</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Year of Death	4	N	Yes	Four digits mandatory
State File Number	6	N	Yes	Include leading zeros
Decedent First Name	40	A/N	Yes	
Decedent Middle Name	40	A/N	Yes	
Decedent Last Name	40	A/N	Yes	
Decedent Age	3	N	Yes	Include leading zeros
Decedent Age Unit	3	A	YES	"YRS" for Years, "DAY" for Days, "Mon" for Months, "HRS" for Hours, "MIN" for Minutes, "UNK" for Unknown
Decedent Gender	1	A	YES	"M" for Male, "F" for Female, "U" for Undetermined, " " for Missing
Date of Death	8	N	YES	MMDDYYYY
Residence Code	4	N	YES	A 4-digit County District/locality code that defines place of residence of the decedent.  <i>* The NYS Gazetteer which is also on the METRIX will serve as a useful reference</i>

Description/ Field Name	Field Size	Format	Critical?	Comment
				<p><i>document to aid researchers in locating death certificates for deaths that occurred in New York State specific counties, towns, cities and villages. A state code listing has been provided for residents of other states and regions that died within New York State jurisdiction. The first 2 digits of the residence code identify the county and the remaining digits will further identify entities within the county. Information in the death indexes have been manually coded and keyed over many years; therefore the Department of Health cannot guarantee 100% accuracy.</i></p>

