

## U.S. City Vital Statistics, 1915 – 1923 (Annual)

**File Name(s):** city\_vital\_15\_23.xlsx [Excel], city\_vital\_15\_23.dta [Stata]

**Supporting File(s):** disease\_codebook.xlsx

**Description.** This file contains a city-level panel dataset of deaths-by-cause from the Census Bureau for the years 1915 to 1923, annually, as reported in the publication “Mortality Statistics.”

**Notes.**

- Total observations: 4,677
  - 1915: 491
  - 1916: 489
  - 1917: 502
  - 1918: 527
  - 1919: 527
  - 1920: 530
  - 1921: 529
  - 1922: 538
  - 1923: 544

**Definitions.**

This data is based on transcripts of death certificates received by the Census Bureau from certain areas of the country called “registration areas.” In 1918, the data covers an estimated population of 82,091,523, or 77.8% total estimated population of the United States, and includes 30 states, the District of Columbia, and 27 cities in nonregistration states. States and cities are added over time so the panel is not complete. When data is reported based on white and non-white deaths, the majority (95%+) are Blacks (1918, page 11).

**Variables.**

1. county\_name, county\_fips, state\_fips, state\_name, state\_abbrev, city, lat\_d, long\_d:  
city, county, state identifiers, latitude/longitude in decimal form
2. state\_icpsr: State ICPSR code
3. place\_fips: 2016 Census FIPS Place code
4. place\_fips\_old: Place code to be used when merging with City Data Book data files from ICPSR
5. pop\_n\_, white\_n\_, black\_n\_, indian\_n\_, asian\_n\_, hisp\_n\_, white\_not\_hisp\_n\_, other\_n\_:  
Population counts, linearly interpolated between decennial Census years, for total, White, Black, Indian, non-Indian Asian, Hispanic, White not Hispanic, and all other populations.

Diseases (reproduced from the supporting file – labels appear in the Stata file)

Code	Cause	Code	Cause
DT	Total	D18	Diseases of the heart
D1	Typhoid and paratyphoid fever	D19	Bronchitis
D2	Malaria	D20	Pneumonia (all forms)
D3	Smallpox	D21_A	Diarrhea and enteritis (under 2)
D4	Measles	D21_B	Diarrhea and enteritis (over 2)
D5	Scarlet fever	D22	Appendicitis and typhlitis
D6	Whooping cough	D23	Hernia, intestinal obstruction
D7	Diphtheria	D24	Cirrhosis of the liver
D8	Influenza	D25	Nephritis
D9	Erysipelas	D26	Puerperal septicemia
D10	Meningococcus meningitis	D27	Other puerperal causes
			Congenital malformations and disease of early infancy
D11	Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	D28	
D12	Tuberculosis of the meninges, etc	D29	Suicide
D13	Other forms of tuberculosis	D30	Homicide
D14	Cancer and other malignant tumors	D31	Automobile accidents
D15	Rheumatism	D32	Other external causes
D16	Diabetes mellitus	D33	Unknown or ill-defined
D17	Cerebral hemorrhage and softening	D34	All other
		D40	Other respiratory diseases
		D41	Violent Deaths (Except Suicide)
		D42	Accidental and unspecified external causes

### Sources.

#### For all years:

United States. Bureau of the Census. *Mortality Statistics*. Table 5. PDF obtained from National Center for Health Statistics. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/vsus.htm>

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