### [recipientData](recipientData.docx) (Reference to Inclusion/Exclusion Data for Data Source)

This element shall specify a reference to the part which contains data about whether the set of records in the associated data source have been explicitly included or excluded from the specified mail merge. Only those records which shall not be used to generate merged WordprocessingML documents must be stored within the referenced part, as all records shall be merged by default as part of the mail merge operation. [Guidance: Applications may choose to store only those records which are excluded for efficiency, or a list of all records in order to determine which set of records were added/removed [between](between.docx) mail merge operations. end guidance]

[Rationale: When defining a mail merge, it is possible that a user wishes to connect to a specified data source, but specify only a subset of the records returned by the [query](query.docx) specified by the [query](query.docx) element (§) which shall be merged as part of the mail merge operation. This element allows applications to utilize a separate part to store this information, either the shared part defined by this Office Open [XML](XML.docx) Standard, or an application-specific part as needed. end rationale]

If the relationship [type](type.docx) of the relationship specified by this element is not http://schemas.openxmlformats.org/officeDocument/2006/mailMergeRecipientData, is not present, or does not have a TargetMode attribute value of Internal, then the document shall be considered non-conformant. If an application cannot process external content of the content [type](type.docx) specified by the targeted part, then it may be ignored.

This Office Open [XML](XML.docx) Standard defines one shared mechanism for storing this data: using the Mail Merge Recipient Data part. This mechanism shall be used if the associated data source has a column which may be used as the unique key. However, when using data sources which do not have a unique key, applications may store their own part (of an application-defined content type) using this relationship.

[Example: Consider a WordprocessingML document which is a mail merge source document, containing inclusion/exclusion data for the data source. The document settings part would contain the mail merge data:

<w:[settings](settings.docx)>  
 …  
 <w:[mailMerge](mailMerge.docx)>  
 …

<w:[odso](odso.docx)>  
 …  
 <w:[recipientData](recipientData.docx) r:id="recipient1" />  
 </w:[odso](odso.docx)>  
 </w:[mailMerge](mailMerge.docx)>  
</w:settings>

The [recipientData](recipientData.docx) element specifies that the external content targeted by the relationship with an ID of recipient1 contains the recipient inclusion/exclusion data for the mail merge operation. Examining the contents of the corresponding relationship part item, we can see the targets for that relationship:

<Relationships … >  
 …  
 <Relationship Id="recipient1" TargetMode="Internal" Type="http://schemas.openxmlformats.org/officeDocument/2006/relationships/mailMergeRecipientData" Target="recipientData.xml" />  
 …  
</Relationships>

The corresponding relationship part item shows that the file containing this data is located [next](next.docx) to the main document and is named recipientData.xml. end example]

|  |
| --- |
| Parent Elements |
| [odso](odso.docx) (§) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Attributes | Description |
| [id](id.docx) (Relationship to Part)  Namespace: .../officeDocument/2006/relationships | Specifies the relationship ID to a specified part.  The specified relationship shall match the [type](type.docx) required by the parent element:   * http://schemas.openxmlformats.org/officeDocument/2006/relationships/footer for the [footerReference](footerReference.docx) element * http://schemas.openxmlformats.org/officeDocument/2006/relationships/header for the [headerReference](headerReference.docx) element * http://schemas.openxmlformats.org/officeDocument/2006/relationships/font for the [embedBold](embedBold.docx), [embedBoldItalic](embedBoldItalic.docx), [embedItalic](embedItalic.docx), or [embedRegular](embedRegular.docx) elements * http://schemas.openxmlformats.org/officeDocument/2006/relationships/[printerSettings](printerSettings.docx) for the [printerSettings](printerSettings.docx) element   [Example: Consider an [XML](XML.docx) element which has the following [id](id.docx) attribute:  <… r:id="rId10" />  The markup specifies the associated relationship part with relationship ID rId1 contains the corresponding relationship information for the parent [XML](XML.docx) element. end example]  The possible values for this attribute are defined by the ST\_RelationshipId simple [type](type.docx) (§). |

The following [XML](XML.docx) Schema fragment defines the contents of this element:

<complexType [name](name.docx)="CT\_Rel">

<attribute ref="r:id" use="required"/>

</complexType>