

Murder Accountability Project

Data Dictionary for amplified Supplementary Homicide Report

ID – Unique record identifier generated by MAP based upon the YEAR, MONTH, INCIDENT and ORI code in the report. Alphanumeric 16-character format (A16).

CNTYFIPS – The Census Bureau’s Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) code designating the state and county of the reporting law enforcement agency. When using the SPSS format file (extension=.sav), the label name of the county is associated with a five-digit string variable. When using the Comma Separated Values format file (file extension=.csv) the original FIPS coding is replaced with the label indicating the county and state. (A15).

ORI – The alphanumeric variable describing the Originating Agency making the report. The first two digits describe the state of the Originating Agency, the next three digits usually represent the county in which the agency is located (according to an FBI numbering scheme) and the last two digits describe the agency’s number within the state. (A7).

STATE – The alphanumeric variable describing the state of the Originating Agency making the report. In most cases, the state was coded in a two-digit naming scheme. In the SPSS version of the file, the full name of the state is associated as a label so that “AK” = “Alaska” or “AL” = “Alabama.” (A6).

AGENCY – The alphanumeric variable describing the name of the law enforcement agency making the report. (A450).

AGENTYPE – The one-digit numeric code describing the type of law enforcement agency making the report so that 1=Sheriff, 2=County Police, 3=Municipality, 5=Primary State Law Enforcement usually meaning the State Police, 6=Special Police, 7=Constable, 8=Tribal Police, 9=Regional Police. When using the Comma Separated Values format file (file extension=.csv) the original FBI numbering scheme is replaced with the alphanumeric label. (F1.0).

SOURCE – MAP-generated identifier if record provided by FBI (SOURCE=1) or was obtained by MAP under the Freedom of Information Act from an Agency not participating in SHR reporting to the FBI (SOURCE=0). Numeric single digit format (F1.0).

SOLVED – MAP-generated indicator whether Offender was identified at time report was made (SOLVED=1) or not identified (SOLVED=0). Numeric single digit format (F1.0).

YEAR – Year of homicide (or when victim’s body was recovered.) Numeric four digit (F4.0).

STATENAME = Alphanumeric variable describing the original FBI naming and abbreviating scheme for the state of the reporting agency. (A6).

MONTH – The month of homicide occurrence or when the victim’s body was recovered. Numeric two digit (F2.0). (01=January, 02=February ... 12=December).

INCIDENT – A three-digit number describing the case number within the month in which a homicide occurred. This does not necessarily correspond to the actual case number used in-house by police agencies. It is used to assist in building a unique record number for each case and to differentiate each case reported within the same month. (F3.0).

ACTIONTYPE – A numeric variable describing the nature of the report received. Whether it was: 0=Normal Update or 1=Adjustment to a previous report. F1.0)

HOMICIDE – An alphanumeric variable defining whether the report was “A” = “Murder or Non-negligent manslaughter” or “B” = “Manslaughter by Negligence.” (A1).

SITUATION – An alphanumeric variable defining whether the crime had a single victim or multiple victims and whether there was a single offender, multiple offenders or the number of offenders was unknown. So that “A” = “Single Victim/Single Offender” and “B” = “Single Victim/Unknown Offender” and so forth. (A1).

VICAGE – A three-digit numeric variable describing the age in years of the victim. To allow for simpler mathematical calculations, MAP has changed the original alphanumeric coding of “NB” for new born and “BB” for infant to a numeric value of zero to indicate the victim had not achieved a full year of life. A value of 99, as in the original numbering scheme, represents all victims 99 or older. A value of 999 represents victims whose age was not reported, usually because the victim was unidentified and the age was unknown. (F3.0)

VICSEX – An alphanumeric variable representing whether the victim was “M” = “Male” or “F” = “Female” or “U” indicating “Unknown” gender, usually for conditions in which incomplete remains were recovered. (A1).

VICRACE – An alphanumeric variable representing whether the victim was “A” = “Asian or Pacific Islander” or “B” = “Black” or “I” = “American Indian or Alaskan Native” or “W” = “White” or “U” victim was of “Unknown” race. (A1).

VICETHNIC – An alphanumeric variable representing whether the victim was “H” = “Hispanic Origin” or “N” = “Not of Hispanic Origin” or “U” = “Unknown or Not Reported.” It should be noted that many agencies decline reporting the ethnicity of victims and offenders. A1.

OFFAGE – A three-digit numeric variable describing the age in years of the offender. When the offender was not identified at the time of the report, age was reported as 999. A value of 99 represents all offenders 99 or older. (F3.0)

OFFSEX – An alphanumeric variable representing whether the offender was “M”=“Male” or “F”=“Female” or “U” indicating “Unknown” gender, usually in conditions in which the offender had not been identified at the time of the report. (A1).

OFFRACE – An alphanumeric variable representing whether the offender was “A” = “Asian or Pacific Islander” or “B” = “Black” or “I” = “American Indian or Alaskan Native” or “W” = “White” or “U” = “Unknown” race, usually in conditions in which the offender had not been identified at the time of the report. (A1).

OFFETHNIC – An alphanumeric variable representing whether the offender was “H” = “Hispanic Origin” or “N” = “Not of Hispanic Origin” or “U” = “Unknown or Not Reported.” It should be noted that many agencies decline reporting the ethnicity of victims and offenders. (A1).

WEAPON – A two-digit numeric variable representing the weapon used in the crime. (F2.0)
Under this system, weapons are coded as:

- 11 = Firearm, type not stated
- 12 = Handgun – pistol, revolver, etc.
- 13 = Rifle
- 14 = Shotgun
- 15 = Other gun
- 20 = Knife or cutting instrument
- 30 = Blunt object – hammer, club, etc.
- 40 = Personal weapons, including beating
- 50 = Poison, does not include gas
- 55 = Pushed or thrown out of window
- 60 = Explosives
- 65 = Fire
- 70 = Narcotics or drugs, sleeping pills
- 75 = Drowning
- 80 = Strangulation or hanging
- 85 = Asphyxiation – includes death by gas
- 90 = Other or type unknown weapon

RELATIONSHIP – An alphanumeric variable describing the relationship between the victim and the offender, if any. (A2). Under the original FBI criteria, relationship is coded as:

- “AQ” = “Acquaintance”
- “BF” = “Boyfriend”
- “BR” = “Brother”
- “CH” = “Common-law husband”
- “CW” = “Common-law wife”
- “DA” = “Daughter”
- “EE” = “Employee”
- “ER” = “Employer”
- “FA” = “Father”

"FR" = "Friend"
"GF" = "Girlfriend"
"HO" = "Homosexual relationship"
"HU" = "Husband"
"IL" = "In-law"
"MO" = "Mother"
"NE" = "Neighbor"
"OF" = "Other family"
"OK" = "Other - known to victim"
"SD" = "Stepdaughter"
"SF" = "Stepfather"
"SI" = "Sister"
"SM" = "Stepmother"
"SO" = "Son"
"SS" = "Stepson"
"ST" = "Stranger"
"UN" = "Relationship not determined"
"WI" = "Wife"
"XH" = "Ex-husband"
"XW" = "Ex-wife"

CIRCUMSTANCES – A two-digit numeric variable representing the circumstances (or theory) for the crime. (F2.0). The circumstances under the original FBI coding scheme are represented as:

2 = Rape
3 = Robbery
5 = Burglary
6 = Larceny
7 = Motor vehicle theft
9 = Arson
10 = Prostitution and commercialized vice
17 = Other sex offense
18 = Narcotic drug laws
19 = Gambling
26 = Other - not specified
32 = Abortion
40 = Lovers triangle
41 = Child killed by babysitter
42 = Brawl due to influence of alcohol
43 = Brawl due to influence of narcotics
44 = Argument over money or property
45 = Other arguments
46 = Gangland killings
47 = Juvenile gang killings
48 = Institutional killings

49 = Sniper attack
50 = Victim shot in hunting accident
51 = Gun-cleaning death - other than self
52 = Children playing with gun
53 = Other negligent handling of gun
59 = All other manslaughter by negligence
60 = Other
70 = All suspected felony type
80 = Felon killed by private citizen
81 = Felon killed by police
99 = Circumstances undetermined

SUBCIRCUM – A single-digit alphanumeric variable describing several conditions in which the victim is reported to have been a criminal offender. (A2). Under the original FBI coding, these conditions are described as:

“A” = “Felon attacked police officer”
“B” = “Felon attacked fellow police officer”
“C” = “Felon attacked a civilian”
“D” = “Felon attempted flight from a crime”
“E” = “Felon killed in commission of a crime”
“F” = “Felon resisted arrest”

FILEDATE – A six-digit alphanumeric variable describing the date a record was reported, not the date of the occurrence of the crime. Note, in some cases, date was not reported and has been estimated. In some cases, the date indicates when local or state police provided the record to MAP. A value of “030180” means the record was reported on March 1, 1980. (A6).

FSTATE – A two-digit alphanumeric variable representing the state in which a homicide was reported. A value of “01” = “Alabama” and “02” = “Alaska” and so forth.

MSA – An eight-digit numeric variable representing the Census Bureau’s Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) code for the Metropolitan Statistical Area from which a record was reported. When using the Comma Separated Values format file (file extension=.csv) the original FIPS coding is replaced with the label indicating the metropolitan area. (F8.0).