

Community Policing Act:

DCJS 2022 Pedestrian Stop Analysis Dataset User Guide

The data published here consists of all subject records used in the 2022 Pedestrian Stop Data Supplement and analysis. See page 10 of the report for details on Virginia stop records which were excluded from this dataset. Many of the data tables in the report aggregate stop level data statewide. For the agency tables (Appendices A-E), this data was aggregated by agency using the Agency ORI variable.

For details on Virginia State Police definitions for Community Policing Act data elements, see Appendix H of the report (Community Policing Act Technical Instructions and Specifications, Version 4).

The following notes provide context on specific variables contained in this dataset:

- Because Record IDs were generated on an individual agency level, many ID conventions were duplicated among several agencies (sequential patterns such as “9 digit stop date+N daily count” were common). To eliminate cross-agency duplicates and ensure each record had a unique identifier, DCJS concatenated Record ID with Agency ORI to create a NEWRECORDID variable for use in the analysis dataset. The original Record ID is included in this dataset for reference purposes only and should not be used in cross-agency analysis.
- While NEWRECORDID is a unique identifier for each stop in the dataset, SubjectID is a unique identifier for each subject stopped. Some records will have the same NEWRECORDID value, because some stops involved multiple subjects. However, no SubjectID value is repeated.
- All report analyses used the RACE RECODE variable to represent subject race, in which any individuals with the ethnicity value Hispanic were coded as “Hispanic” under this variable. The original RACE variable is included for reference—any analysis using RACE instead of RACE RECODE may produce different results from those in the report.
- The AdjJurisPop- and AdjJurisRate- variables display the census-derived population estimates for each stop’s agency jurisdiction by race. For more information on the baseline population estimates and how they were used to derive disparity indices, see Appendix I of the 2022 Traffic Stop Report.
- The Pop Type variable denotes which jurisdictional category the record’s agency belongs to (City/County, Town, Statewide, Other). For example, all Pop Type records with the “Other” value are included with their corresponding agency in Appendix E (Other Agency Tables).
- Sheriff PD notes whether the stop agency was a sheriff’s office or a police department. While this variable was not used in the report analyses, it can provide helpful context given that these agency types may have differing enforcement functions and administrative models.
- Although it is not yet a mandatory data element for CPA collection, the Residency variable is included in this dataset for exploratory use. Note that these variables may be especially prone to inaccurate or missing values as they were not the focus of DCJS record audits and data cleaning.
- Virginia Crime Codes (VCCs) and Specific Violation statute codes report the most serious offense warned, cited, or arrested as a result of the stop, based on severity type (infraction, misdemeanor or felony) and degree. These fields may reflect the initial reason for stop, a subsequent offense alleged to have occurred during the stop, or alleged criminal activity discovered in the course of the stop investigation. Quality control for statute codes is especially

difficult given the hundreds of criminal code sections involved and the variety of officer input conventions and abbreviations. Additionally, VCCs are not a mandated field. For these reasons, DCJS has not incorporated these data elements for analysis. A searchable index of VCCs and criminal statute codes administered by the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission is available at <http://bycell.mobi/wap/default/index.jsp?entryid=ECMjc5Nw==&q=0#m>.

- Jurisdiction_Code reflects the code of the City or County jurisdiction in which the pedestrian stop occurred. Note that these codes are separate from the federal FIPS codes commonly used in geographic datasets. DeptJurisdiction uses the same code system to represent the City or County jurisdiction associated with the agency performing the stop, when applicable (Virginia State Police, for instance, has statewide jurisdiction and therefore no associated locality). The “synthetic York-Poquoson” Jurisdiction Code value for DeptJurisdiction reflects the unique combined area which the York-Poquoson Sheriff’s Office (YPSO) serves; both York County and the city of Poquoson fall under the agency’s jurisdiction. To create a representative population benchmark for YPSO, population estimates by race were for York County and Poquoson were added together to calculate the racial rate estimates for the full jurisdiction of YPSO.