

## Appendix V: 2025 CPA Traffic Data User Guide

The data published here consists of all subject records used in the 2024 Traffic Stop CPA report and analysis. See page 23 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 5.3).

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, some records initially had the same NewRecordID value due to the fact that some stops involved multiple subjects. These records were reviewed to determine if separate individuals were involved or if there was a duplication. Multiple individuals involved in the same stop are denoted by an additional digit or letter at the end of the RECORD\_ID.
- 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 P of the 2025 Traffic Stop Report.
- The Locality\_Type variable denotes which jurisdictional category the record’s agency belongs to (City/County, Town, Statewide, Other). For example, all Locality\_Type records with the “Other” value are included with their corresponding agency in Appendix E (Other Agency Tables).
- Agency\_Type 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.
- The recently mandatory “RESIDENCY” variable denotes whether the subject was a resident living in the jurisdiction of the LEA making the stop, a resident of Virginia, residency unknown, or resident of another state or country.

- 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==&qr=0#m>.
- Jurisdiction 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. Jurisdiction 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 Jurisdiction 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.