

Motivation

There are 1644 distinct offence types in Delius, MOJ's main Probation Caseload Dataset. This document sets out an analytical definition based on these offence types for the term "**homicide**" that will be used throughout the "HMPPS Homicide Predictor Project". This definition was agreed after (a) thorough investigation of different options based on Delius and Home Office offence codes and relevant categorisations, (b) thorough comparisons of options against the RSR (risk of serious recidivism) non-sexual offences, the "homicide" definition of the College of Policing, and the "homicide" definition of Greater Manchester Police's data flags, and (c) a working group discussion with operational staff (representatives from both Greater Manchester Probation and Police), policy staff (representatives from Serious Violence and Analysis at Home Office and Public Protection at HMPPS HQ) and analysts (lead data scientists at MOJ). The definition uses the offence identifiers in Delius (offence_id) and respective Specialization group codes from the standard Home Office definitions.

The criteria for choosing offences that qualify as "homicide" are:

- Offences that result in deaths or near-misses with a bigger focus on the outcome and less focus on the intent
- The exceptions being offences where we believe the typical offenders present different traits and characteristics and would introduce worse accuracy in any future data science model. These are:
 - Death by drink driving (offence_id = 19)
 - Death by dangerous/ careless/unauthorised driving (offence_id = 17/21/22/332)
 - Causing serious injury or bodily harm by dangerous/furious driving (offence_id = 1500001116/73)
 - Endangering railway passengers
 - Endangering life at sea
 - Endangering life within aircraft

Formal analytical definition

A "Homicide" is defined as an offence that satisfies one of the following conditions:

- Specialization group = "Murder"
(No exceptions)
- Specialization group = "Attempts and conspiracies to murder"
(Exception: offence_id = 6, which we believe contains mostly offences similar to threats to kill, which we exclude in the definition)
- Specialization group = "Manslaughter (excl nontheft driving)"
(No exceptions)
- Specialization group = "GBH with intent"
(Exceptions offence_id = 50/51/54/55/66 which relate to railway passengers or life at sea)
- Specialization group = "GBH without intent"
(Exceptions offence_id = 47/52/53/60/61/62/63/64/68 which relate to railway passengers or life at sea or aviation)
- Specialization group = "Firearms (major)"
(Exceptions offence_id = 79/80/81/82/83/84/88/89/90/119 which relate to possession of firearms rather than possession with intent to endanger life or injure)
- Specialization group = "Racially aggravated assault"
(Exceptions offence_id = 99/100/106/107/112/113/122/124/125 which are the set of milder offences within this specialization group. The offences that fall within the definition are the more severe offences, which are similar to GBH with a racial motivation.)

- Specialization group = “Criminal damage (inc arson) endangering life”
(Exceptions offence_id = 433 which we believe contains mostly arson offences that do not endanger life, which we exclude in the definition)

The 58 offences that fall within this definition are:

offence_id	Home Office Code	description	Home Office Specialization group
2	100	Murder - 00100	Murder
3	101	Murder (incl abroad) of persons aged 1 year or over/Genocide - 00101	Murder
4	102	Murder (incl abroad) of infants under 1 year of age - 00102	Murder
5	200	Attempted murder (incl abroad)/genocide - 00200	Attempts and conspiracies to murder
8	302	Conspiring or soliciting etc, to commit murder (incl abroad)/genocide - 00302	Attempts and conspiracies to murder
9	303	Assisting offender by impeding his apprehension or prosecution in a case of murder/Concealing commission of genocide - 00303	Attempts and conspiracies to murder
10	304	Intentionally encouraging or assisting commission of murder - 00304	Attempts and conspiracies to murder
11	305	Encouraging or assisting in the commission of murder believing it will be committed - 00305	Attempts and conspiracies to murder
12	306	Encouraging or assisting in the commission of one or more offences of murder believing one or more will be committed - 00306	Attempts and conspiracies to murder
13	400	Manslaughter (Category) - 00400	Manslaughter (excl nontheft driving)
14	401	Manslaughter (incl abroad) - 00401	Manslaughter (excl nontheft driving)
15	402	Infanticide - 00402	Manslaughter (excl nontheft driving)
16	403	Child destruction - 00403	Manslaughter (excl nontheft driving)
18	405	Manslaughter on grounds of diminished responsibility - 00405	Manslaughter (excl nontheft driving)
20	407	Causing or allowing the death of a child or vulnerable person (Dom Viol, Crime & Victims Act 2004) - 00407	Manslaughter (excl nontheft driving)
23	410	Management of an organisation whose activities cause death by gross breach of duty of care - 00410	Manslaughter (excl nontheft driving)
1500 0145 08	411	Cause/allow a child/vulnerable adult to suffer serious physical harm (Dom Viol, Crime & Victims Act 2004) 00411	GBH with intent
24	500	Wounding and other acts endangering life - 00500	GBH with intent
25	501	Shooting, wounding, etc, with intent to do grievous bodily harm etc, or to resist apprehension (S18) - 00501	GBH with intent
26	502	Shooting at naval or revenue vessels - 00502	GBH with intent
27	504	Attempting to choke, suffocate, etc, with intent to commit an indictable offence (garrotting) - 00504	GBH with intent
28	505	Using chloroform, etc, to commit or assist in committing an indictable offence - 00505	GBH with intent
29	506	Burning, maiming, etc, by explosion - 00506	GBH with intent
30	507	Causing explosions or casting corrosive fluids with intent to do grievous bodily harm - 00507	GBH with intent
32	509	Placing, etc, explosives in or near ships or buildings with intent to do bodily harm, etc - 00509	GBH with intent
33	510	Endangering life or causing harm by administering poison - 00510	GBH with intent
34	511	Causing danger by causing anything to be on the road, interfering with a vehicle or traffic equipment - 00511	GBH with intent
35	513	Possession etc of explosives with intent to endanger life - 00513	GBH with intent
36	514	Possession of firearms etc with intent to endanger life or injure property etc (Group I) - 00514	Firearms offences (major)
37	515	Possession of firearms etc with intent to endanger life or injure property etc (Group II) - 00515	Firearms offences (major)
38	516	Possession of firearms etc with intent to endanger life or injure property etc (Group III) - 00516	Firearms offences (major)
39	517	Using etc firearms or imitation firearms with intent to resist arrest etc (Group I) - 00517	Firearms offences (major)

40	518	Using etc firearms or imitation firearms with intent to resist arrest etc (Group II) - 00518	Firearms offences (major)
41	519	Using etc firearms or imitation firearms with intent to resist arrest etc (Group III) - 00519	Firearms offences (major)
42	520	Use etc. of chemical weapons - 00520	GBH with intent
45	523	Weapons related acts overseas - 00523	GBH with intent
46	524	Use of noxious substances or things to cause harm or intimidate - 00524	GBH with intent
48	526	Endangering safety at aerodromes - 00526	GBH with intent
49	527	Torture (CJA 1988) - 00527	GBH with intent
70	801	Wounding or inflicting grievous bodily harm (inflicting bodily injury with or without weapon) (S20) - 00801	GBH without intent
71	802	Administering poison with intent to injure or annoy - 00802	GBH without intent
72	803	Setting spring guns, &c, to injure trespassers - 00803	GBH without intent
74	805	Assaults on persons preserving wreck - 00805	GBH without intent
1500 0175 09	877	Intentional Strangulation (Serious Crime Act 2015) - 00877	GBH without intent
332	3701	Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking - 03701	Manslaughter (excl nontheft driving)
434	5601	Arson endangering life - 05601	Criminal damage (inc arson) endangering life
436	5700	Criminal damage (including causing explosion) endangering life (excluding arson) - 05700	Criminal damage (inc arson) endangering life
439	5712	(Criminal damage endangering life (excluding arson) - railway - 05712)	Criminal damage (inc arson) endangering life
440	5713	(Criminal damage endangering life (excluding arson) - aircraft - 05713)	Criminal damage (inc arson) endangering life
441	5714	(Criminal damage endangering life (excluding arson) - motor vehicle - 05714)	Criminal damage (inc arson) endangering life
442	5715	(Criminal damage endangering life (excluding arson) - dwelling - 05715)	Criminal damage (inc arson) endangering life
443	5716	(Criminal damage endangering life (excluding arson) - other building - 05716)	Criminal damage (inc arson) endangering life
444	5717	(Criminal damage endangering life (excluding arson) - other - 05717)	Criminal damage (inc arson) endangering life
445	5722	(*Crim Dam endangering life (excluding arson) - railway - 05722)	Criminal damage (inc arson) endangering life
446	5728	(Criminal damage endangering life (excluding arson) - telegraph - 05728)	Criminal damage (inc arson) endangering life
98	833	Racially aggravated malicious wounding or GBH (s.29(1)(a),(2) of Crime and Disorder Act 1998) - 00833	Racially aggravated assault
105	840	Religiously aggravated malicious wounding or GBH (s.29(1)(a),(2) of Crime and Disorder Act 1998) - 00840	Racially aggravated assault
111	846	Racially or religiously aggravated malicious wounding or GBH (s.29(1)(a),(2) of Crime and Disorder Act 1998) - 00846	Racially aggravated assault