# README file

**Due to the nature/subject matter of this research, to gain access we ask that you email**

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3. **What you intend to use it for**

**Thank you**

**About the data set**

Investigative and Forensic Themes in U.S. Transgender Homicides (2013- 2023)

Dataset creator and rights holder: Dr. Heather Panter (LJMU)

Project owner ORCID : orcid.org/0000-0002-1512-7085

Year of Publication: 2023

**Description**

This multi-year dataset (2013-2023) is a collection of data collected from open-source information (i.e., government reports, police reports, post-mortem reports, prison records, etc.) alongside published online media reports regarding victimological circumstances, location(s) of body recovery, circumstances surrounding body recovery, method of homicide, geographic considerations, arrest information of suspect(s) if applicable, conviction(s) if applicable, antemortem injuries, post-mortem injuries, and post-mortem actions of suspect(s) was examined to provide a descriptive account of these cases. The dataset was constructed over the course of several years to identify forensic and investigative themes in homicides involving transgender and gender non-conforming victims.

The dataset is the first of its kind regarding data surrounding transgender and gender non-conforming homicides as there exist no such dataset record in the United States. Notably victim data surrounding this group specifically is not collected in official reports in the US [i.e. FBI’s Supplementary Homicide Report (SHR) and Uniformed Crime Reports (UCR)].

**The dataset should be cited:**

Panter, Heather (2025) Investigative and Forensic Themes in U.S. Transgender Homicides (2013- 2023). [Data Collection] <https://doi.org/10.24377/LJMU.d.00000218>

**Related sources:**

**Publications which have used the dataset to date:**

Panter, H. and Dwyer, A. eds. (2023). *Transgender People and Criminal Justice: An Examination of Issues in Victimology, Policing, Sentencing, and Prisons*. Springer Nature.

Panter H. (2023). US Transgender Homicides (2013-2020): Exploring Homicide Characteristics and Police Disclosure During Criminal Investigations. In Panter H, Dwyer A. *Transgender People and Criminal Justice An Examining Issues in Victimology, Policing, Sentencing, and Prisons.* Palgrave Macmillan.

Panter, H. and Farrell, A. (2025- accepted manuscript *Journal of Investigative Psychology and Offender Profiling*). Overkill and Antemortem Facial Injuries in U.S. Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Homicides (2013-2023).

Panter, H. and Farrell, A. (2025- in preparation). Body disposal Methods in Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Homicides: Forensic and Geomorphology Considerations for Investigators.

**Contact details**

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**Contents**

Excel Spreadsheet with the data descriptors captured:

Victim’s occupation; victimological concerns; case points/ concerns; victim’s ethnicity; victim’s age; date reporting missing; date of murder; location of murder; rural or urban murder location; body recovery location; post mortem trauma; body dump location; date of body recovery; mechanism of death; type of homicide; weapon usage; number of suspect(s); arrest(s) made; hate crime motive? and conviction(s).

**Methods**

For this study I examined (n=27,151) published online open-source media reports of US transgender homicides alongside official data sources (i.e., government reports, police reports, post-mortem reports, prison records, etc.) over the course of several years. Official homicide victimisation data came from the FBI’s Supplementary Homicide Report (SHR), the most used official data source for homicide data in the US, alongside yearly Uniformed Crime Reports (UCR). Initial online open-media reports were identified through using LexisNexis and NewsBank databases while also searching for all news items published by online and print mainstream news outlets. Further relevant open-source material was initially identified by using a search string that contained the terms “homicide”, “murder”, “LGBT” and “transgender” alongside the state name/ jurisdiction where the reported homicide occurred. This included information on transgender and gender non-conforming victims from print, news magazines, news, alongside other open-source data from LGBTQ+ research agencies (e.g. Transgender Europe’s (TGEU) “Transgender Respect Versus Transgenderphobia Worldwide” Project and “Transgender Murder Monitoring Project”; Human Right’s Campaign’s (HRC) “Annual Reports of Anti-Transgender Violence” projects) and other advocacy information agencies (e.g. Transgender Center for Transgender Equality, GLAAD; Trans Lives Matter “Remember Our Dead Project”). This open-source information searching provided crucial missing details about the victims, the offenders, and case specific information not currently recorded in official FBI crime reports, local police reports, prison reports (if a homicide conviction), court reports (if a homicide sentence), or coroner reports where injuries and causes of death were outlined. Yet, relying solely upon non-profit or trans rights activists’ information regarding victimology and case specific details was limiting at times due to noticeable data inconsistencies. Therefore, I used official police, prison, court, and coroner reports to collaborate and cross-reference any case specific information form said non-profits.

References

Web pages used to generate this data :

* <https://transdoetaskforce.org/>
* <https://tdor.translivesmatter.info/>
* <https://transrespect.org/en/research/tmm/>
* <https://transrespect.org/en/trans-murder-monitoring/>
* <https://www.advocate.com/transgender?utm_campaign=SmartLinks>
* <https://www.hrc.org/resources/research?topic=transgender>
* <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/statistical-briefing-book/data-analysis-tools/ezashr/victim-crosstabs>
* <https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/home>