**Codebook for the NHTSA Fatality Analysis Reporting System**

***2018 Census***

**Introduction**

In 2018, 36,560 lives were lost on U.Ss roads according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The NHTSA is a part of the Federal Government’s Department of Transportation and studies vehicle safety and driver behavior to reduce vehicle crashes. In order to measure overall highway safety, the NHTSA created the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). FARS is a nationwide census of police-reported fatal traffic collisions. FARS provides data to the NHTSA and the government to help reduce fatalities on U.S highways and aid in legislation and regulation of traffic safety programs. FARS data is available from 1975 to 2018 and covers multiples files and variables. This specific subset of the data is from the 2018 FARS census. This data is collected on a voluntary basis from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. This data set only includes police report crashes in which a fatality occurred.

**Codebook**

A brief description of the variables in the data is below. The descriptions are drawn from the codebook from the original dataset. All of the variables in the original codebook do not appear in the data that was provided to you. Note that no NA values appear in the dataset, missing values are represented as 999.

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| **Variable Name** | **Description** |
| ST\_CASE | This element identifies the unique case number assigned by the data entry system. |
| AGE | This element identifies the persons age, in years, with respect to the person's last birthday. (Note that 0 denotes Blank or Less than One year) |
| SEX | This element identifies the sex of the person involved in the crash |
| “Male”  “Female” |
| RACE | This element indicates the race of this person from the death certificate. |
| 00 – Not a fatality  01 – White  02 – Black  03 – American Indian  04 – Hispanic  05 – Multiple Races  06 – Other |
| DR\_WGT | This element identifies a driver's weight in pounds (lbs). |
| PER\_TYP | This element describes the role of this person involved in the crash. |
| 1 – Driver of a Motor Vehicle In-Transport  2 – Passenger of a Motor Vehicle In-Transport  3 – Occupant of a Motor Vehicle Not In-Transport |
| DRINKING | This data element reflects only the judgment of law enforcement as to whether alcohol was involved or not for this person. |
| “No (Alcohol Not Involved)”  “Yes (Alcohol Involved)”  “Not Reported”  “Unknown (Police Reported)” |
| DRUGS | This data element reflects only the judgment of law enforcement as to whether drugs were involved or not for this person. |
| “No (Drugs Not Involved)”  “Yes (Drugs Involved)”  “Not Reported”  “Unknown (Police Reported)” |
| INJ\_SEV | This element describes the severity of the injury to this person in the crash. |
| 0 – No Apparent Injury  1 – Possible Injury  2 – Suspected Minor Injury  3 – Suspected Serious Injury  4 – Fatal Injury  5 – Injured, Severity Unknown  6 – Died Prior to Crash |
| TRAV\_SP | This element records the speed the vehicle was traveling prior to the occurrence of the crash as reported by the investigating officer in miles per hour (mph). |
| SPEEDREL | This element identifies if the driver's speed was related to the crash as identified by law enforcement. |
| 0 – No  2 – Yes, Racing  3 – Yes, Exceeded Speed Limit  4 – Yes, Too Fast for Conditions  5 – Yes, Specifics Unknown |
| DOA | This element identifies if this person died at the scene of the crash or en route to a hospital or treatment facility. |
| 0 – Not Applicable  7 – Died at Scene  8 – Died En Route |
| PREV\_ACC | This element records any previous crashes for this driver. Count only events occurring within five years from the crash date. |
| PREV\_DWI | This element records any previous DWI convictions for this driver. Count only the events occurring within five years from the crash date |
| PREV\_SPD | This element records any previous Speeding convictions for this driver. Count only the events occurring within five years from the crash date. |
| HIT\_RUN | This element refers to cases where a vehicle is a contact vehicle in the crash and does not stop to render aid (this can include drivers who flee the scene on foot). |
| 0 – No  1 – Yes |
| VE\_TOTAL | This element records all contact motor vehicles which the officer has reported on the Police Accident Report (PAR) as a unit involved in the crash. |
| PERSONS | This element records the number of Person Forms (Motor Vehicle Occupant) that are applicable to this case (i.e. all persons involved in the crash). |