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MAPPING POLICE MILITARIZATION

DATA CODEBOOK

MPM PROJECT
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Project Description

The Mapping Police Militarization (MPM) project is an effort to better understand the issues connected to the militarization of U.S. law enforcement. To do this, the project examines the connections between the military and local police departments in the U.S. by tracking the geographic location of surplus military equipment distributed to police departments under the federal government's Law Enforcement Support Program, also referred to as the 1033 Program.

The 1033 program allows police to acquire surplus military equipment at no direct cost to use in counter-drug and counter-terrorism activities. Available equipment includes general law enforcement supplies (e.g., handcuffs, riot shields, holsters, binoculars, and digital cameras), and general office materials (e.g., office furniture, kitchen appliances, exercise equipment) as well as specialized military equipment including armored vehicles, aircraft, and weapons.

The MPM data cover equipment transfers to law enforcement agencies under the 1033 program from 2006 through 2013. The MPM data are geocoded to U.S. counties or county equivalents. Each equipment transfer records the equipment details (type, amount), the date the equipment was provided, and the government's estimated value of the equipment. To streamline analysis, the data are also coded into one of six broad equipment types (Weapons, Protective Equipment, Communications/Surveillance, Non-armored Vehicles, Armored Vehicles, and Miscellaneous).

Citation

The MPM data are publicly available. Users of the data are asked to cite the data as follows:

Radil, S.M., Dezzani, R.J. and McAden, L.D., 2017. Geographies of US Police Militarization and the Role of the 1033 Program. *The Professional Geographer*, 69(2), pp.203-213.

Article available at: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00330124.2016.1212666>.

Funding Information

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Common Abbreviations

DOD – Department of Defense

FIPS – Federal Information Processing Standard

LESO – Law Enforcement Support Office

DLA – Defense Logistics Agency

LEA – Law Enforcement Agency

nsn – national stock number

FSC – Federal Supply Category

Summary Data Description

Time Period: 2006 - 2013

Date(s) of Collection: May 2015 – January 2017

Geographic Coverage: United States

Geographic Unit: County

Standard Dataset

General Description

The standard dataset contains a detail record of military surplus equipment transfers between the DOD and LEAs. This dataset is available in a .csv format with each row in the .csv representing a single transfer event. Single events are defined as either single items or groupings of the same items transferred to a LEA on a distinct date. Identical items transferred to the same LEA on different dates are considered different transfer events. The data is aggregated at the county level with no distinction available between LEAs operating within a given county.

Data Format: .csv

Number of Variables: 16

Variable Description

Variable	Description	Page
state	state postal abbreviation	5
county	county name	5
fips	FIPS code	5
nsn	national stock number	5
item_name	item name	5
quantity	quantity	6
ui	unit of issue	6
acquisition_cost	acquisition cost	6
total_cost	total cost	6
ship_date	shipment date	6
federal_supply_category	Federal Supply Classification group	7
federal_supply_category_name	Federal Supply Classification group name	7
federal_supply_class	Federal Supply Classification class	7
federal_supply_class_name	Federal Supply Classification class name	7
fips2	modified FIPS code	7
recode	equipment classification code	8

state – state postal abbreviation

Description: Standard two character state postal abbreviation.

Variable type: character

Range: N/A

county – county name

Description: County or census area name as listed in the 2010 U.S. Census.

Variable type: character

Range: N/A

fips – FIPS code

Description: Unique 5 digit code maintained by the U.S. Census Bureau representing individual counties or their equivalent. The first two digits represent the state while the last three digits represent the individual county. (Example: 48 (Texas) + 113 (Dallas County) = 48113)

Variable type: character

Range: 01001- 56045

nsn – national stock number

Description: The national stock number is a unique 13 digit number used by the DOD to identify individual pieces or sets of equipment that are regularly procured and issued through the federal supply system.

Variable type: character

Range: N/A

Item_name – item name

Description: A descriptive title for transferred items. In cases where there is an nsn associated with the transferred the name matches the one use in the federal supply system.

Variable type: character

Range: N/A

quantity – quantity

Description: quantity of items transferred between the DOD and LEAs for each transfer event.

Variable type: numeric

Range: 1 – ∞

ui – unit of issue

Description: A descriptor that identifies the how the transferred item is issued. For example individual items often have a ui of “each” while a combination of items that make up a kit will often have a ui of “kit” or “set”. (Example: “Tool Kit, Aircraft Repair” will have a ui of “kit”)

Variable type: character

Range: N/A

acquisition_cost – acquisition cost

Description: Is the cost of an item when it was originally procured by the DOD. This value was the original contract price at the time of procurement and does not represent the current value or commercial market price.

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0.00 – ∞

total_cost – total cost

Description: Is the product of the acquisition cost and quantity of items for each transfer event.

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0.00 – ∞

ship_date – shipment date

Description: The date in which transferred items where either picked up by or shipped to the receiving LEA. This date represent the date in which items left DOD care and may not represent the date in which LEAs received the equipment.

Variable type: character

Range: N/A

federal_supply_category – Federal Supply Classification group

Description: A two digit identifier used to group similar items within the Federal supply system. A classification group listing can be found in the Department of the Army Supply Bulletin H2 SB 708-21 (<http://bit.ly/2FNT3fu>)

Variable type: numeric

Range: 10-99

federal_supply_category_name – Federal Supply Classification group name

Description: Federal supply category titles.

Variable type: character

Range: N/A

federal_supply_class – Federal Supply Classification class

Description: A four digit identifier used to further subdivide the Federal supply categories down into more descriptive groupings within the Federal supply system. The first two numbers represent the Federal supply category while the second two represent the class. The numbers also make the first four digits of the nsn. A class listing can be found in the Department of the Army Supply Bulletin H2 SB 708-21 (<http://bit.ly/2FNT3fu>)

Variable type: numeric

Range: 1005 – 9999

federal_supply_class_name – Federal Supply Classification class name

Description: Federal supply class titles.

Variable type: character

Range: N/A

fips2 – modified FIPS code

Description: A modification of the county FIPS codes in which the leading zeros were removed from the state FIPS codes for Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, and Connecticut.

Variable type: character

Range: 1001- 56045

recode – equipment classification code

Description: A unique single digit identifier developed by the MPM-Project to streamline analysis of the data.

Category	Category Title	Equipment Description
1	Weapons	All weapons caliber below 30mm to include; M16, M14, and the associated maintenance equipment and parts
2	Personal Protective Equipment	Equipment used to protect the individual soldier to include; protective vests and helmets
3	Communication and Surveillance	Equipment and maintenance material for electronic communications and surveillance such as; UHF/VHF Radios and Nigh Vision Equipment
4	Vehicles	All Non-Armored vehicles to include; HMMWVs (humvee)
5	Armored Vehicles	All Armored vehicles to include; MRAPs, Up-armored HMMWVs, and Armored Personnel Vehicles.
6	Miscellaneous	For all equipment not contained in other categories.

Variable type: character

Range: 1 - 6

Spatial Data

General Description

The spatial data was derived from the standard dataset and aggregates the transfer events at the county level. Aggregated totals for value and quantities of acquisitions were developed from the six categories of military surplus equipment developed by the MPM-Project. Equipment transfers are evaluated basic on cost and frequency of acquisitions. Since LEAs receive equipment through the 1033 program at no cost, here cost refers to the value of equipment. Frequency in the spatial data represents the number of items acquired by the LEAs who are located within a county.

Data Format: Shapefile

Projected Coordinate System: *Un-Projected*

Geographic Coordinate System: *WGS 1984*

Number of Variables: 21

Variable Description

Variable	Description	Page
FID	ESRI unique object identifier	11
FIPS	FIPS code	11
Mod_FIPS	modified FIPS code	11
Name	County name	11
Fname	Full County name	11
ST	state postal abbreviation	12
Total_Pop	Total population	12
AllCatFreq	All category acquisition frequency	12
AllCatCost	All category acquisition cost	12
Cat1Freq	Category 1 acquisition frequency	12
Cat1Cost	Category 1 acquisition cost	13
Cat2Freq	Category 2 acquisition frequency	13
Cat2Cost	Category 2 acquisition cost	13
Cat3Freq	Category 3 acquisition frequency	13
Cat3Cost	Category 3 acquisition cost	13
Cat4Freq	Category 4 acquisition frequency	14
Cat4Cost	Category 4 acquisition cost	14
Cat5Freq	Category 5 acquisition frequency	14
Cat5Cost	Category 5 acquisition cost	14
Cat6Freq	Category 6 acquisition frequency	14
Cat6Cost	Category 6 acquisition cost	15

FID – ESRI unique object identifier

Description: ESRI produced unique identifier for spatial objects.

Variable type: character

Range: 0.00 – ∞

FIPS – FIPS code

Description: Unique 5 digit code maintained by the U.S. Census Bureau representing individual counties or their equivalent. The first two digits represent the state while the last three digits represent the individual county. (Example: 48 (Texas) + 113 (Dallas County) = 48113)

Variable type: character

Range: 01001- 56045

Mod_FIPS – modified FIPS code

Description: A modification of the county FIPS codes in which the leading zeros were removed from the state FIPS codes for Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, and Connecticut.

Variable type: character

Range: 1001- 56045

Name – County name

Description: County or census area name as listed in the 2010 U.S. Census.

Variable type: character

Range: N/A

Fname – Full County name

Description: County or census area name to include any associated descriptors such as city or census area, as listed in the 2010 U.S. Census.

Variable type: character

Range: N/A

ST – state postal abbreviation

Description: Standard two character state postal abbreviation.

Variable type: character

Range: N/A

Total_Pop – Total population

Description: Population of the county as reported in the 2010 U.S. Census.

Variable type: numeric

Range: 82 – 9,818,605

AllCatFreq – All category acquisition frequency

Description: The total number items in all categories acquired by LEAs for each county

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0 – ∞

AllCatCost – All category acquisition cost

Description: The total value of items in all categories acquired by LEAs for each county

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0.00 – ∞

Cat1Freq – Category 1 acquisition frequency

Description: The number items in Category 1 (Weapons) acquired by LEAs for each county

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0 – ∞

Cat1Cost – Category 1 acquisition cost

Description: The total value of items in Category 1 (Weapons) acquired by LEAs for each county

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0.00 – ∞

Cat2Freq – Category 2 acquisition frequency

Description: The number items in Category 2 (Personal Protective Equipment) acquired by LEAs for each county

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0 – ∞

Cat2Cost – Category 2 acquisition cost

Description: The total value of items in Category 2 (Personal Protective Equipment) acquired by LEAs for each county

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0.00 – ∞

Cat3Freq – Category 3 acquisition frequency

Description: The number items in Category 3 (Communication and Surveillance) acquired by LEAs for each county

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0 – ∞

Cat3Cost – Category 3 acquisition cost

Description: The total value of items in Category 3 (Communication and Surveillance) acquired by LEAs for each county

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0.00 – ∞

Cat4Freq – Category 4 acquisition frequency

Description: The number items in Category 4 (Vehicles) acquired by LEAs for each county

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0 – ∞

Cat4Cost – Category 4 acquisition cost

Description: The total value of items in Category 4 (Vehicles) acquired by LEAs for each county

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0.00 – ∞

Cat5Freq – Category 5 acquisition frequency

Description: The number items in Category 5 (Armored Vehicles) acquired by LEAs for each county

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0 – ∞

Cat5Cost – Category 5 acquisition cost

Description: The total value of items in Category 5 (Armored Vehicles) acquired by LEAs for each county

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0.00 – ∞

Cat6Freq – Category 6 acquisition frequency

Description: The number items in Category 6 (Miscellaneous) acquired by LEAs for each county

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0 – ∞

Cat6Cost – Category 6 acquisition cost

Description: The total value of items in Category 6 (Miscellaneous) acquired by LEAs for each county

Variable type: numeric

Range: 0.00 – ∞

Data Limitations and Assumptions

The creation of datasets associated with the participation by LEAs in the 1033 program are hampered by the inconsistent reporting made public by the DOD through the LESO. Currently the data is limited to the years 2006 to 2013 due in part to inconsistent reporting practices of the DLA. Furthermore, the DLA does not track transfers of equipment between LEAs nor do they track returns of equipment to the DOD from LEAs. Without access to this information, it is assumed that equipment is still located within the county listed in the current datasets produced by the DLA.