

NVMS: Key Definitions

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Violent Incident

Violence

Violence has a broad meaning and may occur in many forms. Physical violence against individuals and property may happen by way of assault, rape, riot, fight and so forth, restriction on movements by way of abduction, blockade. Psychological violence such as intimidation and terror are also common forms. The methodology used to construct the NVMS database defines violence as actions, both between individuals as well as groups that cause or may cause physical impact on humans or property. The criteria to determine violence include:

- **Actions that cause or may cause physical impacts on humans or property:** Actions that cause physical impacts such as injury, bruising, death, rape/sexual harassment, damage to buildings, broken windows, burned houses etc. fall under the NVMS definition of violence. This definition applies when the quantitative information about the impact of violence from a given incident is clearly known but also in cases where a number, for example, deaths etc., is not clearly known.
- **Actions that restrict physical freedom of individuals or groups:** Certain actions may not directly cause physical impact, but limit the freedom of movement by force. For example, abductions, where a person is kidnapped and released only after payment of ransom. It may be that the abduction victim does not suffer any injury, but such an incident would still be counted as violence.
- **The violent actions must be intentional and committed consciously:** According to NVMS methodology, an action constitutes violence only when it is committed intentionally and consciously. The physical impact caused by an accident (unintentionally) or by the actions of a

Incident

Two or more separate events can be counted as one 'violent incident' as long as the event fulfills all three requirements described below:

- **Temporal requirement:** Two events must take place on the same date. If the two events are related, but took place on different dates, then they shall be considered as two different incidents. Example: two villages clashing over border issues on two different dates will be counted as two incidents. However, if the two fought twice on the same day, they will be counted as one incident.
- **Contextual requirement:** The issue contested by two sides must be the same. If the same group of people stage demonstrations twice in front of the same parliament building but on different issues, for example, in the morning about the Anti-Pornography Draft Bill, then in the afternoon about oil palm concessions, then they will be considered as two different incidents. However, if two different groups demonstrate regarding the same issue, but express different or opposing stances, that would be considered the same incident.
- **Involvement requirement:** At least one of the actors in two events must be the same actor, where 'actor' refers to certain individuals, not to their group or organization affiliation. Newspaper reports may say that the actor in the two events is a group or an organization. However, to be able to say that the two events are one incident it has to be known whether the individuals involved in both events are the same. For example: if different people from a certain village clash with a number of people over the same issue on two occasions in one day with different victims in the two events, then that would be considered as one incident. If a certain organization holds a *long march* to demonstrate in front of the

<p>person who is mentally disturbed (not consciously) would not fall under the NVMS definition of violence.</p>	<p>Parliament in the morning, and then they vandalize a government building in a different location in the afternoon, that event would be considered as one incident if it involves the same issue.</p>
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Location

The location of the incident is the location where the incident was reported to occur, including the province, district (*kabupaten*) or city, using BPS (Central Statistics Agency) location code. To standardize the collected data, the province and *kabupaten* location is recorded in line with the administrative boundaries as per 2008. The *kecamatan* (sub-district) and village locations of the violent incident are also recorded if specified. However, the *kecamatan* and village locations are not adjusted for ongoing splitting or changes in administrative boundaries.

Date

The incident date is the date when the incident took place, and not the date the news appeared in the newspaper. For example, if a newspaper published on 29/03/1998 specifies that an incident took place 'last night', then the date of the incident is 28/03/1998.

Source

Information about the source used, both media and non-media, and the date of publication are recorded for every violent incident. If more than one newspaper reports the same incident, then all sources and dates of publication are recorded in the database

Violence Types and Triggers

Violent Conflict

Conflict has wide-ranging connotations and different users of the data may have diverse understanding of how to define conflict. However, the NVMS definition of conflict is based on that developed by Coser (1956). Following this definition, NVMS specifies violent conflict as an event where violence is committed against specific targets to settle or respond to pre-existing disputes. The NVMS definition of violent conflict includes small-scale incidents involving only a few individuals and/or larger incidents involving groups.

“A struggle over values and claims to secure status, power and resources, in which the main aims of opponents are to neutralize, injure or eliminate rivals.”

(Coser 1956)

As is commonly known, underlying causes of violence may be complex and involve a range of social, psychological, and structural factors. However, the NVMS database is unable to delve deep into every single incident of violence that is recorded. Instead, the NVMS database records information regarding the proximate triggers of violent conflict incidents through the variables listed below:

Code in Raw Data	Types of Violence (Triggers)	Description
88881	Resource Conflict	Violence triggered by resource disputes (land, mining, access to employment, salary, pollution, etc.)
1102	Other resources	Violence triggered other resource disputes.
1103	Land	Violence triggered by land disputes. (public or private)
1104	Natural resource	Violence triggered by natural resources such as mining, water etc. (public or private)
1105	Man-made resource	Violence triggered by man-made resources. (public or private)
1106	Access	Violence triggered by access to employment, markets route, customers, etc.
1107	Environment	Violence triggered by environmental damage, air pollution, noise pollution, etc.

1108	Salary/labor issues	Violence triggered by complaints over pay, labor condition, industrial relations between laborers and the management, etc.
88882	Governance Conflict	Violence is triggered by government policies or programs (public services, corruption, subsidy, region splitting, etc.)
2202	Other governance conflicts	Violence triggered by other governance issues.
2203	Tender process	Violence triggered by problems related to government tenders, including corruption in the tender process
2204	Corruption	Violence triggered by corruption or misuse of government funds unrelated to tender process
2205	Public services	Violence triggered by issues related to the quality of public services, such as education, healthcare, and other services provided by the government
2206	Commodity prices/subsidy	Violence triggered by changes in commodity prices or subsidy allocation/distribution
2207	Government programs	Violence triggered by problems pertaining to government programs OUTSIDE OF TENDER, CORRUPTION, PUBLIC SERVICES, AS WELL AS COMMODITY PRICES AND SUBSIDY. This includes execution of government programs, funding priorities and complaints regarding implementation or unmet needs, salary issues and government employment.
2211	Region splitting	Violence triggered by regional splitting or re-districting
2212	Law enforcement	Violence triggered by disputed arrests, problems pertaining to actions by security forces, or dissatisfaction with court proceedings/decisions
88883	Elections and Appointments	Violence triggered by electoral competition or bureaucratic appointments.
3302	Other election and public office conflicts	Violence triggered by other competition for position and power
3303	National election/appointment	Violence triggered by electoral competition or bureaucratic appointments at the national level (e.g.: national parliament members, ministers, President or Vice President etc.)
3304	Provincial election/appointment	Violence triggered by electoral competition or bureaucratic appointments at the provincial level (e.g. provincial parliament members, provincial govt. positions, Governor and Vice Governor etc.)
3305	District/municipality election/appointment	Violence triggered by electoral competition or bureaucratic appointments at the district/municipal level (e.g. district parliament, district govt. positions, district head and mayor etc.)
3306	Sub-district appointment	Violence triggered by sub-district level government appointment (e.g. dispute over the office of head of sub-district (<i>camat</i>))

3307	Village/ <i>kelurahan</i> elections/appointment	Violence triggered by village/ <i>kelurahan</i> level election or appointment (e.g. village head and village council elections, village level appointments)
3308	Other government office	Violence triggered by election or appointment at other level of government
3309	Office/influence/power in political parties	Violence triggered by election/appointment within political parties
88889	Separatist Conflict	Violence triggered by efforts to secede from the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia (NKRI)
9903	Separatism	Violence triggered by independence/separatist struggle to secede from Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia (NKRI)
88884	Identity-based Conflict	Violence triggered by group identity (religion, ethnicity, tribe, etc)
4402	Other identity	Violence triggered by identity of other groups
4403	Inter-ethnic/tribal	Violence triggered by ethnic/tribal dispute (regarding cultural attributes or symbols of diaspora, language and so forth)
4404	Inter-religious	Violence triggered by disputes between members of different religious groups
4405	Intra-religious	Violence triggered by disputes over interpretation within a religion (e.g. between sects)
4406	Between migrants/refugees and locals	Violence triggered by issues pertaining to migration/diaspora/refugees
4407	Between migrants/refugees and locals and certain ethnicity	Violence triggered by issues pertaining to migration/diaspora/refugees as well as ethnicity/tribalism
4408	Geographical	Violence triggered by long-standing enmity between residents of particular villages/neighborhoods
4409	Gender	Violence triggered by gender related issues (including LGBT)
4410	Supporters of sports clubs	Violence triggered by issues between supporters of different sports clubs/teams
4411	School/university identity	Violence triggered by issues between students of different schools/faculties/universities (e.g. mob fights between schools)
88885	Popular Justice	Violence perpetrated to respond to/punish actual or perceived wrong (group violence only)
5502	Other issue	Violence perpetrated to retaliate over other issues
5503	Retaliation over insult	Violence perpetrated to respond to/punish insults/embarrassment/loss of face
5504	Retaliation over accident	Violence perpetrated to respond to/punish traffic accidents

5505	Retaliation over debt	Violence perpetrated to resolve/punish debt disputes
5506	Retaliation over theft	Violence perpetrated to recover /punish theft/fraud or other financial damage
5507	Retaliation over vandalism	Violence perpetrated to respond to/punish vandalism
5508	Retaliation over sexual indiscretion	Violence perpetrated to respond to/punish sexual indiscretion for example fornication/adultery/affairs
5509	Retaliation over assault	Violence perpetrated to respond to/punish a previous murder/assault/beating/rape
5510	Attack on places of vice	Violence perpetrated to stop gambling/drinking/narcotics/prostitution
5511	Retaliation for sorcery	Violence perpetrated to respond to/punish sorcery/black magic
88880	Other Conflicts	Violence triggered by other issues
1	Unclear	Trigger of violence is not clear
2	Other types of violence	Violence triggered by issues other than those listed in the coding key
<p>Violence during Law-enforcement:</p> <p>Violence during Law Enforcement includes all acts of violence committed by formal security forces such as the police, Indonesian Armed Forces (TNI), and Brimob (Police Paramilitary Force) in the conduct of their duties. These include shootings committed during a chase/capture/interrogation of suspects of crime. There are several important points to note regarding this type of violence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a security agent acts on behalf of other government institutions in the context of conflict and violence takes place, then the incident will be coded as ‘conflict’, not as violence during law enforcement. • This type of violence only records incidents where violent action is taken by the formal security forces while on duty. When violence is perpetrated by a member of the security forces in personal capacity the incident will not fall under this type of violence. Also, violence perpetrated by informal security actors such as <i>Hansip</i> or <i>Satpam</i> are not recorded here. • The NVMS system cannot systematically differentiate between acts of legitimate violence by security forces and those that are excessive or beyond the legal mandate and it is up to the user to distinguish between the two. 		
88886	Violence during law-enforcement	Violent action taken by members of formal security forces to perform law-enforcement functions (includes use of violence mandated by law as well as violence that exceeds mandate for example torture or extrajudicial-shooting).
6603	Violence during law-enforcement	
Violent Crime:		

<p>According to NVMS system, violent crime comprises acts of violence that occur without any prior dispute between parties. The motivation behind a criminal act can be monetary, for example, robbery or abduction; or personal pleasure, for example, rape or serial killings. In contrast, violence in the context of conflict occurs due to pre-existing disputes between those involved such as dispute over land, election, religion or other such matters. As such, in the NVMS system, an act of killing can be coded as 'Conflict' if there is a dispute behind it, e.g., in a killing of a certain group figure by other groups, or can be coded as 'Crime' if there is no pre-existing dispute between parties, for example, serial killings.</p>		
88887	Violent Crime	Criminal violence not triggered by prior dispute or directed towards specific targets.
7703	Violent Crime	
<p>Domestic Violence:</p> <p>Domestic violence comprises of acts of violence committed by a family member against other family member(s), where the family members live under one roof/same household. These include violence committed by a family member against domestic workers and violence between cohabitating couples. In a case where an uncle hits his nephew and the nephew lives with the uncle, the incident will be categorized as domestic violence. However, if they do not live under one roof the incident will then be categorized as a different type of violence. Cases of parents not sending their children to school, not caring for them and/or abandoning them are not counted as cases of domestic violence in the NVMS database unless there are reports of physical violence.</p>		
88888	Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence: violence perpetrated by family member against another family member living under one roof/same house, including against domestic workers and violence between cohabitating couples.
8803	Domestic Violence	

Form of Violence: The dynamics of any given incident of violence may be different from another other. Violence involving masses, for example, in clashes, riots or mobbing is very different from violence involving only individuals or several individuals, such as in assaults, fights or abductions. Other forms of violence include bombings. So that the specific dynamics of violence may be differentiated the NVMS data codes the form of each incident of violence from the following list.

Code in Raw Data	Forms of Violence	Remarks
3	Demonstration	Demonstration where violence is perpetrated (peaceful demonstrations are not included)
4	Blockade	Blocking certain roads/routes to prevent people from passing through
5	Riot	One-way violence where a group of people (more than 15 or referred to as 'group/masses') moving through several locations to attack people and/or destroy property
6	Group Clash	Two-way violence between large groups (more than 10 people or referred to as 'group/masses')
7	Fight	Two-way violence between small groups or individual(s) (smaller in scale than a group clash)
8	Lynching	One-way violence where many people (referred to as 'group/masses') gather suddenly to attack an individual or a small group
9	Terror attack	Terrorist style attack, such as bombing or grenade attack
10	Vandalism	Violence is committed mainly to target property
11	Assault	One-way physical attack by individual(s) or small groups against other individual(s), e.g., beating/chasing/killing/molestation/rape
2	Sweeping	Forced entry in order to search for certain individuals/groups
13	Kidnapping	Deprivation of liberty
14	Robbery	Robbery (where perpetrator subjects the victim to intimidation and or physical violence)
1	Unclear	The form of violence is unclear
2	Other	Other forms

Actor Affiliation: Actors are individuals or groups involved in violent incidents, not just perpetrators but also victims. In every violent incident there must be at least two sides and affiliations of actors involved. Information about both Side 1 and Side 2 are recorded. An actor's affiliation is the general identity of the actor based on his role in the incident. An individual may have more than one identity or affiliation: someone who is affiliated with a labor union can also be affiliated with a certain political party, have a certain ethnicity, and follow a certain religion. However, during the coding of a given incident, the affiliations of actors involved are based on the capacity of those actors in that incident. For instance, if the incident is about a labor demonstration, then the labor union affiliation will be used. To

record the actor's affiliation in a standardized manner from the following list.		
Code in Raw Data	Actors	Remarks
3	Militia	Affiliated is with militias or other armed groups (including gangs)
4	<i>Warga</i>	Residents of a particular area with no specific institutional or organizational affiliation
5	Government	Affiliated with the government (institution or individual) with the exception of security forces and electoral bodies
6	Electoral Body	Affiliated with electoral bodies at the national or local level
7	Foreign NGO	Affiliated with foreign humanitarian organizations/international NGOs
8	Indonesian NGO	Affiliated with local humanitarian organizations/local NGOs
9	Private Sector	Affiliated with private companies, contractors, shops, private school teacher, etc.
10	Political Party	Affiliated with political parties as supporter, member, candidate or leader
11	Religion	Affiliated with particular religious groups including religious mass organizations
12	Labor groups	Affiliated with labor unions/worker groups (formal as well as informal)
13	Mass Organization (Secular)	Affiliated with mass organizations (other than religious or labor/worker unions)
14	TNI	Members of the Indonesian Armed Forces
15	Police	Members of the police force both at the national as well as local levels (excluding Brimob)
16	Brimob	Members of Brimob (Police paramilitary brigade)
17	Separatist Groups	Affiliated with separatist groups seeking to secede from Indonesia
18	Students	Students (affiliated with schools or universities)
19	Security Forces (unspecified)	Members of formal security forces but types not specified
1	Unclear	Unclear or unknown actor affiliation
2	Other	Other affiliations

Intervention: Intervention is defined as an attempt made by a third party to stop the violence during incident. For example, the police breaking up a clash between two villages and arresting people would constitute an intervention. Here the incident is the clash and police action to stop the violence constitutes an intervention

within that incident. The NVMS system can record information of up to two intervention attempts in a single incident. This information includes:

- a. **Interveners (affiliation):** The affiliation of the intervener (individuals or groups) attempting to stop the violence in an incident.
- b. **Intervention Outcome:** Outcome of an intervention is the result of efforts to stop the violence by the intervener.

It is important to note that there are often mediation efforts by the police, civilian figures or the government after or in between incidents of violence such as group meetings and dialogue etc. At present, such mediation efforts cannot be recorded in the NVMS system.

Code in the raw data	Intervening Parties	Remarks
3	Civilian	Efforts to stop the violence were made by civilian figures/members of the public
4	TNI	Efforts to stop the violence were made by members of the Indonesian Armed Forces (TNI)
5	Police	Efforts to stop the violence were made by members of the police (national or local level but excluding Brimob)
6	Brimob	Effort to stop the violence was made by members of the Brimob (Police paramilitary brigade)
7	Security Forces (unspecified)	Efforts to stop violence were made by members of formal security forces but type not specified
0	None	No efforts to stop violence
1	Unclear	Efforts to stop violence were made but unclear by whom
2	Others	Efforts to stop the violence were made by others
Code in Raw Data	Intervention Outcome	Remarks
3	Unsuccessful: did not arrive	Contacted but did not arrive
4	Unsuccessful: late	Contacted but arrived late
5	Unsuccessful: no action	Contacted and arrived but did not intervene
6	Unsuccessful: but intervention attempted	Arrived, tried to intervene, but was unsuccessful
7	Successful: but no arrest	Arrived, managed to intervene to stop the violence, but did not make any arrests

8	Successful: and arrested the perpetrator	Arrived, managed to intervene to stop the violence, and arrested perpetrators of violence
9	Successful: and secured victims	Arrived, managed to intervene to stop the violence and took the victims in custody
10	Unsuccessful: violence escalated	Arrived and intervened but violence escalated further
0	None	No effort to stop the violence
1	Unclear	Efforts were made to stop violence but outcome is unclear
2	Others	Efforts were made to stop violence but the outcome was other

Weapon: Weapons used to commit violence in an incident.		
Code in Raw Data	Weapons	Remarks
3	Blunt weapon	Sticks/stones/other blunt objects. Example: bottle, wooden bar, iron bar, chair, crowbar or screwdriver used to hit, etc.

4	Sharp weapon	Knife/lance/other sharp weapons. Example: broken bottle used to stab, screwdriver used to stab, etc.
5	Manufactured firearm	Manufactured firearm
6	Explosive	Molotov/grenade/bomb
7	Homemade firearm	Homemade firearm
8	Fire	Fire used to burn
0	None	No weapons used
1	Unclear	Unclear type of weapon used
2	Other	Other weapons used

Impact: The impact of violence recorded in NVMS database is the physical impact occurring as a result of every violent incident.

Impact	Description	Information Recorded (per incident)
Deaths	Number of fatalities due to the violence.	Sum of total fatalities per incident and female fatalities (out of total) if reported.
Injured (persons)	Number of people gravely injured due to violence causing bruises, loss of consciousness, broken bones or requiring hospital treatment.	Sum of total number of people injured and number women injured (out of total) if reported.
Rapes	Number of people (including women, men and children) raped/molested in one incident.	Sum of total people raped and female rape victims (out of total) if reported.
Kidnappings	Number of people abducted or taken hostage.	Sum of total victims of kidnapping and female kidnapping victims (out of total) if reported.
Property Damage	Number of damaged building due to violence from fires, vandalism, broken glasses and doors.	Sum of buildings destroyed and sum of those in a way that these are no longer usable (out of total buildings damaged).