

The Victims of ETA dataset, 1960-2006.

CODEBOOK

The *Victims of ETA* dataset contains information about all fatalities caused by Basque nationalist terrorist organizations for the period 1960-2006 (834 people killed in the whole period). It does not include killings in the context of street violence. To be included, the killing must be imputed to some organization.

This dataset is more precise and offers more information than other existing lists and datasets.

The unit of observation is the fatality. Yet, data can be aggregated through attacks, in which case the resulting unit of analysis is the attack.

To quote the dataset, please use this reference:

**Luis de la Calle and Ignacio Sánchez-Cuenca, *The Victims of ETA Dataset*. 2007.
<http://www.march.es/ceacs/proyectos/dtv>**

VARIABLES

ID: An identification number attached to each victim, in chronological order.

ATTACK: number of attack. If more than one victim was killed in a single attack, the number of attack is the same for all these victims. This variable can be used to aggregate the data by attack.

YEAR: year of the attack, regardless of when the victim died.

MONTH: month of the attack, regardless of when the victim died.

DAY: day of the attack, regardless of when the victim died.

NAME: name of the victim

AGE: Age of the victim

GENDER: Gender of the victim

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 0 | Male |
| 1 | Female |

STATUS: Status of the victim

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Non-officer Military [Militar baja graduación] |
| 2 | Military Officer [Militar alta graduación] |

- 3 Civil Guard (Military police)
- 4 Spanish police
- 5 Basque police (“Ertzaintza”)
- 6 Local police
- 7 Civilian
- 8 Politician / State official
- 9 Member or former member of ETA

TOWN: String variable. Urban center closer to the attack.

PROVINCE: String variable. Province of the attack.

REGION: Region (*Comunidad Autónoma*) of the attack (or country if the attack occurred out of Spain).

- 1 Andalucía
- 2 Aragón
- 6 Cantabria
- 8 Castilla León
- 9 Cataluña
- 10 Comunidad Valenciana
- 13 Madrid
- 14 Murcia
- 15 Navarra
- 16 País Vasco (Basque Country)
- 17 La Rioja
- 60 France

AUTHORSHIP: ETA split at the end of 1974 in military ETA (ETAm) and political-military ETA (ETApM). It is considered that there is historical continuity between the original ETA and ETAm. Thus, pre-1975 ETA killings and those corresponding to ETAm have the same value. Apart from ETAm and ETApM, there is a third relevant split: the Anticapitalist Autonomous Commandoes (CAA). The “Other” category refers to three killings by minor organizations: ETApM VIII Assembly (a split of ETApM), Iraultza and Gatazka (a split of the CAA).

- 1 ETA/ETAm
- 2 ETApM
- 3 CAA
- 4 Other

SELECTIVITY: Following the codification scheme of De la Calle and Sánchez-Cuenca (2007), each killing has been classified according to the degree of selectivity. Individual killings refer to killings motivated by the behaviour of the individual (not her adscriptive traits). State killings refer to the killing of any person working for the State (security forces, bureaucrats, politicians in the administration, etc.) Society killing are

killings against any member of society (in the context of such a society, they are indiscriminate killings). Collateral killings refer to the killing of people who were not the target of the attack (for example, civilians killed when a car bomb is exploded to kill members of security forces.) Mistakes refer to the killing of the wrong person, due to defective intelligence (the terrorists are wrong about the identity of the victim).

- 1 Individual killing (behaviour based)
- 2 State killing (security forces and State officials)
- 3 Social group killing
- 4 Society killing
- 5 Collateral killing
- 6 Mistake

STRATEGY: Following the codification scheme of De la Calle and Sánchez-Cuenca (2007), each killing has been classified according to its strategic aim. This variable is not defined for collateral killings and mistakes in the SELECTIVITY variable (see above), since in these cases the victim was not killed according to a plan. Three strategic aims are considered: influence, security and sectarianism. Influence killings try to provoke an answer in the audience (be it society, a part of society, or the State.) Security killings are those related to the reproduction and survival of the organization (killing of informers, internal feuds, extortion, etc.) Sectarian killings are those that were codified as “Social group killing” in the SELECTIVITY variable.

- 1 Influence
- 2 Sectarian
- 3 Security

CLAIMED: ETA and its various splits claim their attacks most of the time. Sometimes, the issue of claiming is not relevant (if the attack was preceded by a warning, or if just after the attack the perpetrators are arrested). When the attack was claimed, or when claim was unnecessary, the variable has value 0. When the attack was not claimed, or ETA explicitly denied its involvement in the attack, the variable has value 1.

TYPEOFATTACK:

- 1 Shooting
- 2 Bomb
- 3 Car bomb
- 4 Booby trap
- 5 Parcel bomb
- 6 Others

OPPOSITIONTOETA: Value 1 if the victim was killed in the campaign started by ETA in the mid nineties against those who publicly opposed terrorism. Value 0 otherwise.

EXTORTION: Value 1 if the victim was killed in the campaign against those entrepreneurs who refused to pay the extortion (the so-called “revolutionary tax”) or

who were kidnapped and eventually killed due to non payment of ransom. Value 0 otherwise.

PRISONOFFICERS: Value 1 if the victim was killed because he or she was a prison officer. Value 0 otherwise.

DIRTYWAR: Value 1 if the victim was killed because of his or her (alleged by ETA) participation in the “dirty war” against ETA. Value 0 otherwise.

EXTREMERIGHT: Value 1 if the victim was killed because of allegations of having extreme right ideology. Value 0 otherwise.

LEMONIZ: Value 1 if the person was killed in ETA’s campaign against the nuclear power station of Lemoniz. Value 0 otherwise.

INFORMERS: Value 1 if the person was killed under the allegation that he or she was an informer. Value 0 otherwise.

DRUGS: Value 1 if the person was killed under the allegation that he or she was involved in drug trafficking. Value 0 otherwise.

SOURCES

A full description of all the sources that have been checked can be found in Calleja and Sánchez-Cuenca (2006: 167-84). Moreover, the authors explain why they have excluded some cases that are included in the list of victims in other sources and why they have included some cases that are not usually included.

Basically, the information comes from newspapers (*ABC* and *El País*), the on-line list of the *Asociación de Víctimas del Terrorismo* (www.avt.org), the on-line list of the Basque Government (interior.euskadi.net/datvt), the list prepared by the Ministry of Interior (reproduced in Pulgar 2004), and information prepared by ETA and its civil and political associations (for instance, ETA’s internal document in Basque with a very complete relation of attacks, see Agencia Vasco Press 2004).

REFERENCES

Agencia Vasco Press. 2004. *Crónica de documentación y actualidad* (# 1176). Bilbao.

Calleja, José María and Ignacio Sánchez-Cuenca. 2006. *La derrota de ETA. De la primera víctima a la última*. Madrid: Adhara.

De la Calle, Luis and Ignacio Sánchez-Cuenca. 2007. “Killing for Something? A New Approach to the Analysis of Target Selection in Terrorist Organizations.” Madrid: Juan March Institute. [accessible at the “papers” section of the website].

Pulgar, Belén. 2004. *Víctimas del Terrorismo, 1968-2004*. Madrid: Dykinson.