Known Offenders

Offender data in the NIBRS include characteristics (age, sex, and race, etc.) of each offender (up to 99) involved in a crime incident whether or not an arrest has been made. The data are reported by law enforcement agencies (LEAs) via an “Offender Segment.” The object of an offender segment is to capture any information known to law enforcement concerning the offenders even though they may not have been identified. There are, of course, instances where no information about perpetrators is known (which is when a LEA designates an “unknown offender”).

Each NIBRS incident must have at least one Offender Segment.