



MAKING THE GRADE: How Do “CAP Scores” Measure Up Against Actual Crimes?



For more than 35 years, security professionals have relied on our data to better protect their businesses. CAP Index's best-in-class Scoring System employs advanced forecasting techniques, merging demographic and business statistics with historical crime and loss data to assess crime risk. The resulting CAP Scores provide an accurate measure of the likelihood that crime and loss will occur at a given address.

But don't just take our word for it. We don't just score locations – we grade ourselves, too. At the end of each year, we compare our predictive model with the actual crime incidents from the previous year to validate the ability of CAP Scores to forecast where crime will occur.

From the tables included in this report, the correlation is clear.

The higher the CAP Index Risk Category, the greater the average number of crimes.

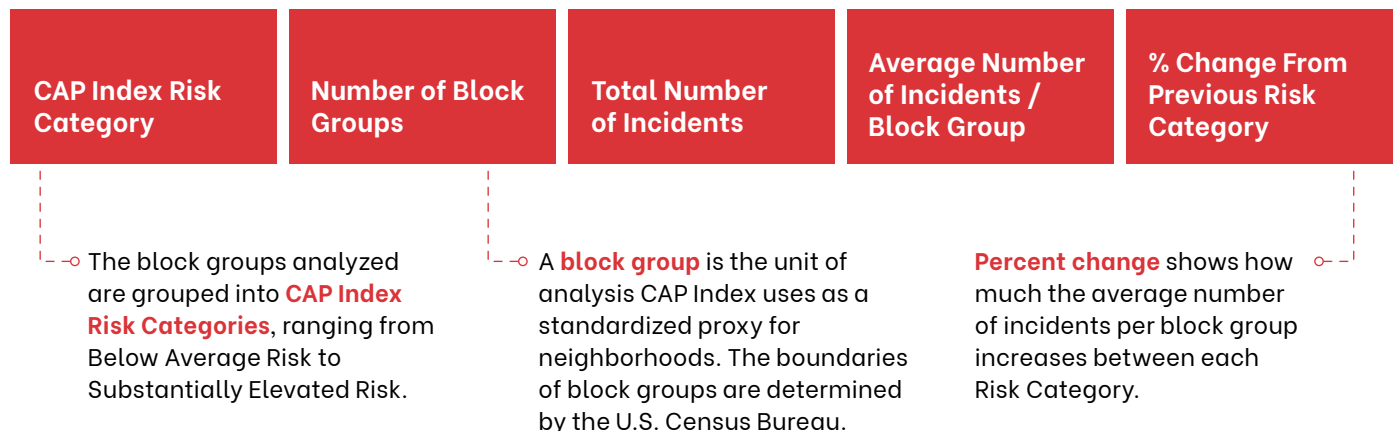
Methodology

For our 2023 study, we assessed just over 3.5 million incidents. These crimes occurred in 74,553 different block groups (more on this below) across the country, with a population equal to about one-third of the US population.

Our analysis focused on incidents in the 11 defined CAP Index crime categories:

- Homicide
- Rape
- Robbery
- Aggravated Assault
- Burglary
- Larceny
- Motor Vehicle Theft
- Simple Assault
- Vandalism
- Drug Offenses
- Arson

Decoding the Data



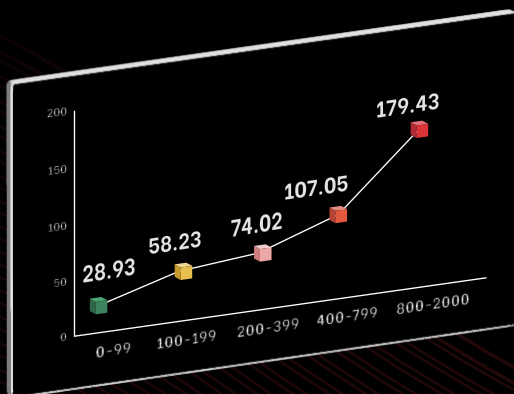
Adding It Up: The Higher the Score, the Higher the Crime Counts

Total Number of Incidents

While it appears the **number of crimes** goes down in higher categories, it's important to keep in mind the number of block groups also decreases, as there are fewer high risk block groups than low risk.

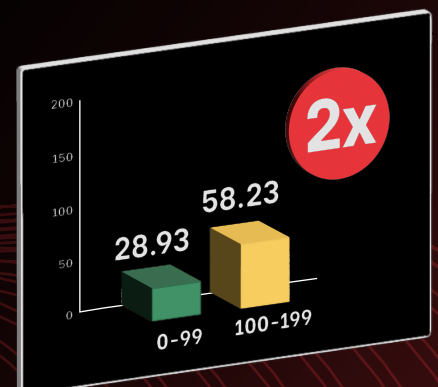
All Crimes

CAP Index Risk Category	Number of Block Groups	Total Number of Incidents	Average Number of Incidents / Block Group	% Change From Previous Risk Category
0-99 (Below Average)	45,385	1,312,810	28.93	
100-199 (Moderate)	12,833	747,320	58.23	101.3%
200-399 (Mildly Elevated)	9,799	725,370	74.02	27.1%
400-799 (Moderately Elevated)	5,620	601,631	107.05	44.6%
800-2000 (Substantially Elevated)	916	164,359	179.43	67.6%
Total	74,553	3,551,490		



As the CAP Index Risk Category increases, so does the **average number of incidents**, showing a positive correlation.

The average number of crimes **more than doubles** from block groups with below average risk to moderate risk.

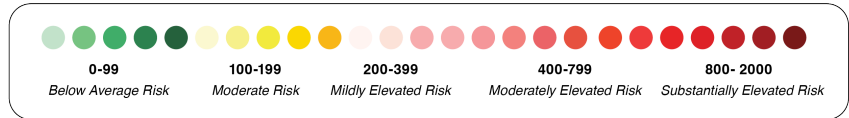


From the lowest CAP Risk Category to the highest, the average incident count **increases by over 6x**.

Getting Personal: CAP Score Correlation With Crimes Against Persons

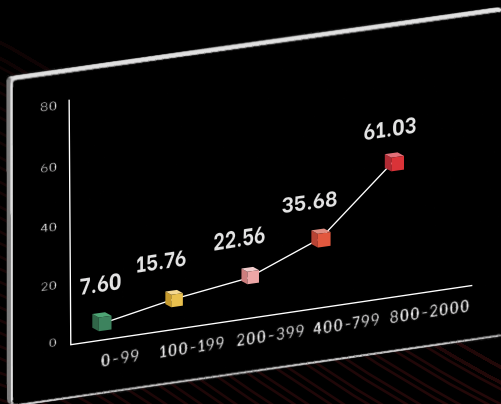
Of the 3.5 million crimes we analyzed, about 25% were crimes against persons. These include:

- Simple Assault
- Aggravated Assault
- Rape
- Homicide
- Robbery*



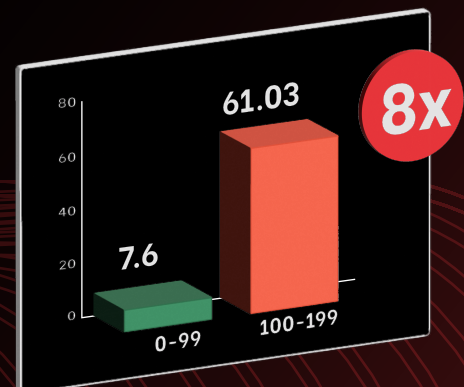
Crimes Against Persons

CAP Index Risk Category	Number of Block Groups	Total Number of Incidents	Average Number of Incidents / Block Group	% Change From Previous Risk Category
0-99 (Below Average)	35,375	268,861	7.60	
100-199 (Moderate)	11,708	184,540	15.76	107.4
200-399 (Mildly Elevated)	9,200	207,522	22.56	43.1%
400-799 (Moderately Elevated)	5,366	191,468	35.68	58.2%
800-2000 (Substantially Elevated)	891	54,377	61.03	71.0%
Total	62,540	906,768		



As the CAP Index Risk Category increases, so does the **average number of incidents**, showing a positive correlation.

From block groups with below average risk to substantial risk, the average incident count **increases almost 8x from 7.6 to 61.03**.



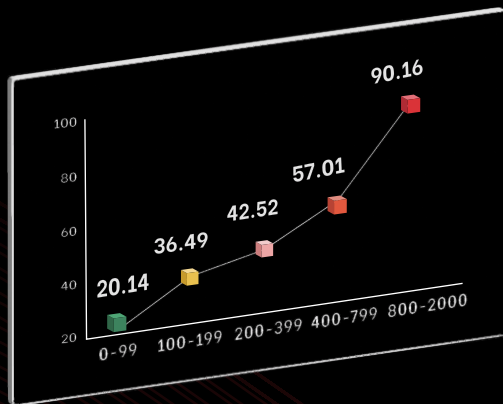
*The FBI classifies Robbery as a property offense, but it is often considered a crime against persons by practitioners, so we include it here. Excluding Robbery would not significantly alter any of the findings.

Guarding Your Goods: CAP Scores Predict Property Crimes

Crimes against property, which include larceny, motor vehicle theft, and burglary, accounted for more than 2 million of the crimes we analyzed, affecting over 100 million people.

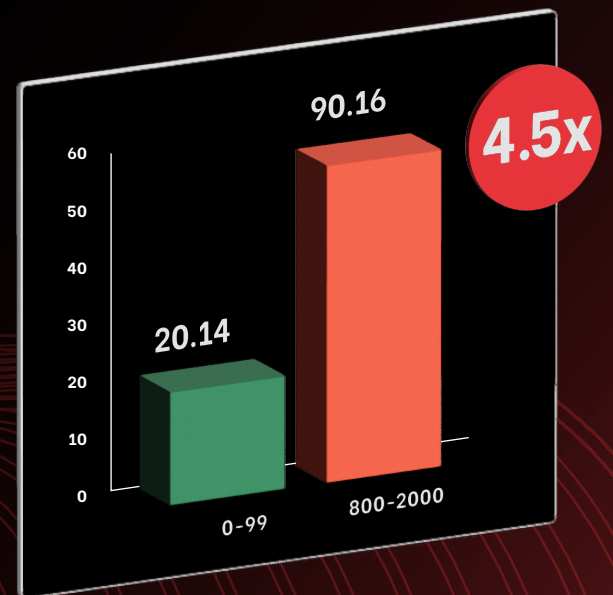
Crimes Against Property

CAP Index Risk Category	Number of Block Groups	Total Number of Incidents	Average Number of Incidents / Block Group	% Change From Previous Risk Category
0-99 (Below Average)	42,054	846,940	20.14	
100-199 (Moderate)	12,235	446,439	36.49	81.2%
200-399 (Mildly Elevated)	9,392	399,338	42.52	16.55
400-799 (Moderately Elevated)	5,419	308,933	57.01	34.1%
800-2000 (Substantially Elevated)	884	79,703	90.16	58.2%
Total	69,984	2,081,353		



As the CAP Index Risk Category increases, **the average number of incidents also increases.**

In block groups with substantially elevated risk, 90 property crimes per neighborhood on average – a 58% increase from those with moderately elevated risk and **4.5x higher than block groups with below average risk.**



Proven, Trusted, Leaders

Why CAP Index? With more than 35 years of data science, criminology, and risk consulting expertise, CAP Index empowers businesses with actionable intelligence to make critical security decisions and outsmart crime.

80%+ of Fortune 100 Companies

23 of the top 25 retailers

23 of the top 25 financial institutions

Connect the Dots From Data to Decision-Making

CAP Index CRIMECAST Data and Reports provide all the data you need to assess the risks of crime and loss across your locations and make key security decisions.



Safer customers, employees, and assets



Optimized security resource allocation



Defense against litigation and liability



Reduced crime, loss, and claims



Compliance with industry standards



Brand protection

Calculating Your CAP Score

Developed by CAP Index's team of criminologists over decades of research, the CAP Index Scoring System predicts crime risk using sophisticated forecasting techniques that combine actual crime and loss statistics with more than 100 socio-economic risk factors. Rather than just relying on police data, our system is based on Social Disorganization Theory, a criminological perspective that correlates higher rates of crime with increased levels of social issues in an area.



Find Your Risk Score

Visit CAPIndex.com or contact us at:
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