

Crime Patterns in Mexico City

Carlos Adolfo Piña García

Centro de Estudios de Opinión y Análisis

Universidad Veracruzana

Xalapa, Ver.

Life in the city generates data on human behavior in many different ways. Measuring human behavior in terms of crime plays a critical role in identifying the most common crime type in each urban area. A primary concern for the population of certain cities such as Mexico City is to avoid specific city zones that could show a significant risk. Recently, the Mexico City Police Department (SSP-CDMX) released the approximate locations and category of all crime reports in Mexico City since January 2013 to September 2016. However, the official crime data release was suspended due to the refusal of the SSP-CDMX to provide updated crime information. This lack of substantive data have taken us to collect and analyze similar data provided by the Twitter platform and Google Trends with the aim to fill the gap of missing data. In this research, we get quicker measurements of what is happening in Mexico City in terms of crimes e.g., burglary, murder, rape, property crime, motor vehicle theft, aggravated assault. We analyze the official crime dataset and our collected data with the aim to gain insights about different crimes suffered by the residents there. Moreover, we systematically examined the obtained data to locate high-crime areas. The study also offers some important insights to get a better understanding of how Big Data can help to solve problems in largest cities such as Mexico City.