The Urban Overload Hypothesis and Policing

Creator: DataSF Open Data Portal

As the dataset is too large to load into github, it can be downloaded from the City and County of San Francisco. The data included in the study ranged from midnight on January 1st, 2022, to the dataset's most recent update at the time of this document's creation, February 29th, 2025. For full information on specific police codes and other documentation, visit San Francisco's explanation page.

The codebook below illustrates the variables created, and modified. Variables present in the codebook represent those used in analysis.

Variable Codebook

Variable Name	Type	Description
cad_number	Integer	Unique identifier for the call for service
received_datetime	Datetime (str)	Timestamp when the call was received
entry_datetime	Datetime (str)	Timestamp when the call was entered into the system
dispatch_datetime	Datetime (str)	Timestamp when officers were dispatched
enroute_datetime	Datetime	Timestamp when officers were en route
onscene_datetime	Datetime	Timestamp when officers arrived on scene
close_datetime	Datetime	Timestamp when the call was closed
call_type_original	String	Initial classification of the call
call_type_original_desc	String	Description of the original call type
call_type_final	String	Final classification of the call
call_type_final_desc	String	Description of the final call type
priority_original	String	Original priority level assigned
priority_final	String	Final adjusted priority level

agency	String	Responding agency
disposition	String	Final outcome or disposition of the call
onview_flag	Boolean (str)	Whether the incident was self-initiated/on view
sensitive_call	Boolean	Whether the call is marked as sensitive
data_as_of	Datetime (str)	Timestamp indicating the dataset's update time
mins_onscene_to_close	Numeric	Time in minutes from arrival on scene to call closure
incident_cat	String	Categorical label assigned to the incident
call_volume	Numeric	Number of calls received during the same hour/time block
night_flag	Binary	1 if the call occurred at night; 0 otherwise
punitive_action	Binary	Indicates whether punitive action was taken (1 = yes)