

San Francisco Safe House

San Francisco is the nation's leader in property crime including burglary, larceny, shoplifting, and vandalism. The rate of car break-ins is particularly striking: in 2017 over 30,000 reports were filed, and the last year average is 51 per day. Other offenses, including drug dealing, street harassment, encampments, indecent exposure, simple assault, and disorderly conduct are also rampant unsettling the community of the city. The FBI data released in 2018 showed the city had the highest per-capita rate of property crimes among the 20 most populous U.S. cities in 2017, tallying 6,168 crimes per 100,000 people. That's about 148 burglaries, larcenies, car thefts and arsons per day SF Chronicle reported in 2018. The increasing crime rates put higher toll on SF police department every year and effective distribution of human resources becomes more vital. Regular citizens are concerned with crime rates as well, often making their decisions of where to live and invest based on safety ratings. The density of the city requires a careful analysis of neighborhoods in order for the safety to be evaluated.

A team of UC Berkeley students led by Industrial Engineering faculty invested their knowledge in modern machine learning technologies into creation of a simple but effective forecasting tool, called Safe House, that both, individual citizens and law enforcement, are able to use to make their decisions more effectively.