



Cartography M.Sc.



# Analysis and mapping of the crime perception gap

A quantitative approach of sketch maps

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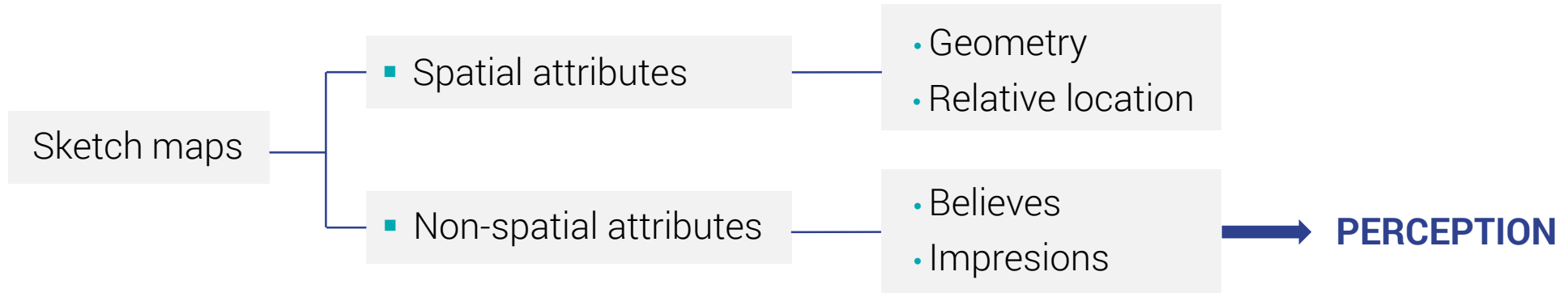
MARIANA VALLEJO VELÁZQUEZ

Supervisors

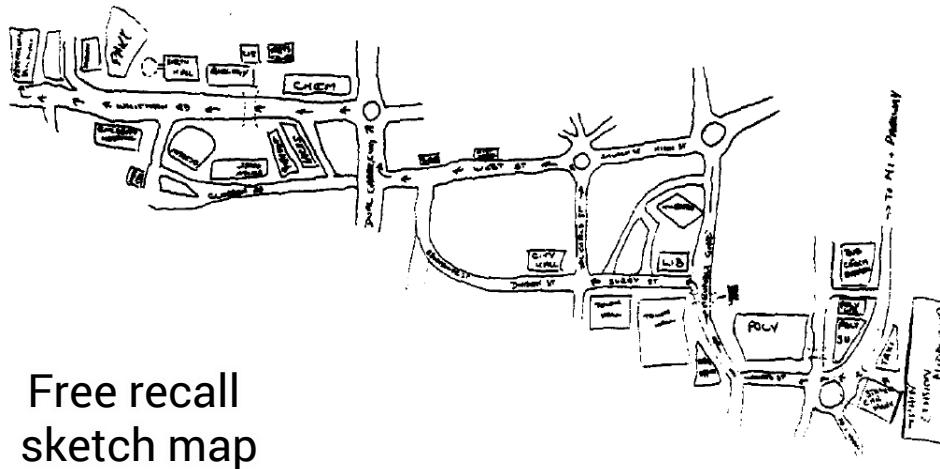
Dr. Rania Kounadi  
Dr. Corné van Elzakker

External reviewer

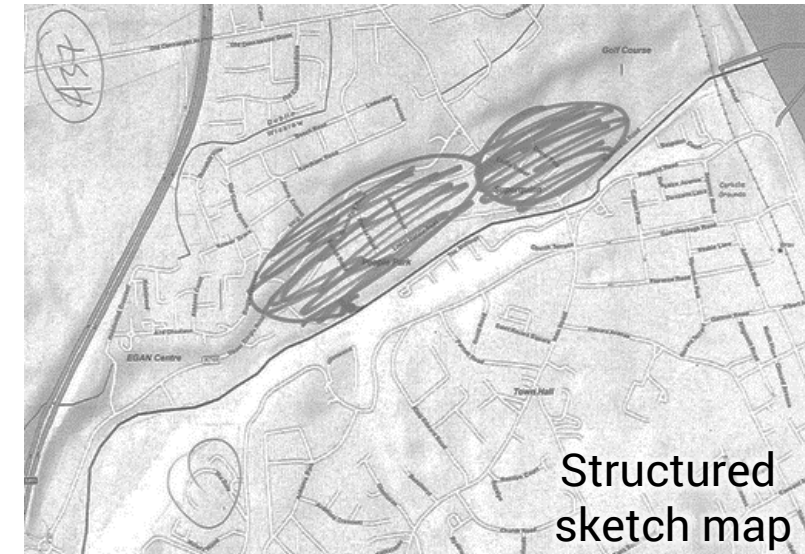
Dr. Ekaterina Chuprikova



## Types of sketch maps



Blades, M. (1990). The reliability of data collected from sketch maps. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 10(4), 327-339.



O'Neill, E., Brennan, M., Brereton, F., & Shahumyan, H. (2015). Exploring a spatial statistical approach to quantify flood risk perception using cognitive maps. *Natural Hazards*, 76(3), 1573-1601.

Perception data  $\neq$  Real/Reference data  $\rightarrow$  Crime perception gap

The misperception of crime can have repercussion on:

- people's lifestyle
- affect social behaviour
- spatial and economic dynamics



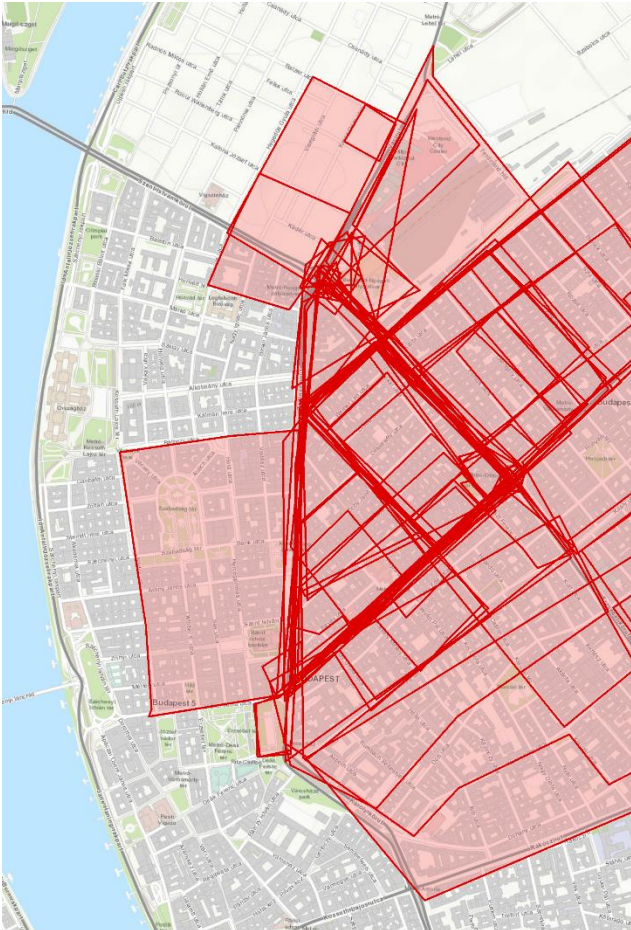
It is relevant that police agencies develop strategies directed to narrow the perception gap

**General objective** → To quantitatively examine structured sketch maps to analyse and map crime perception. Moreover, to design a GeoVisual Analytics environment that eases the decision-making in the development of strategies to amend the perception of crime

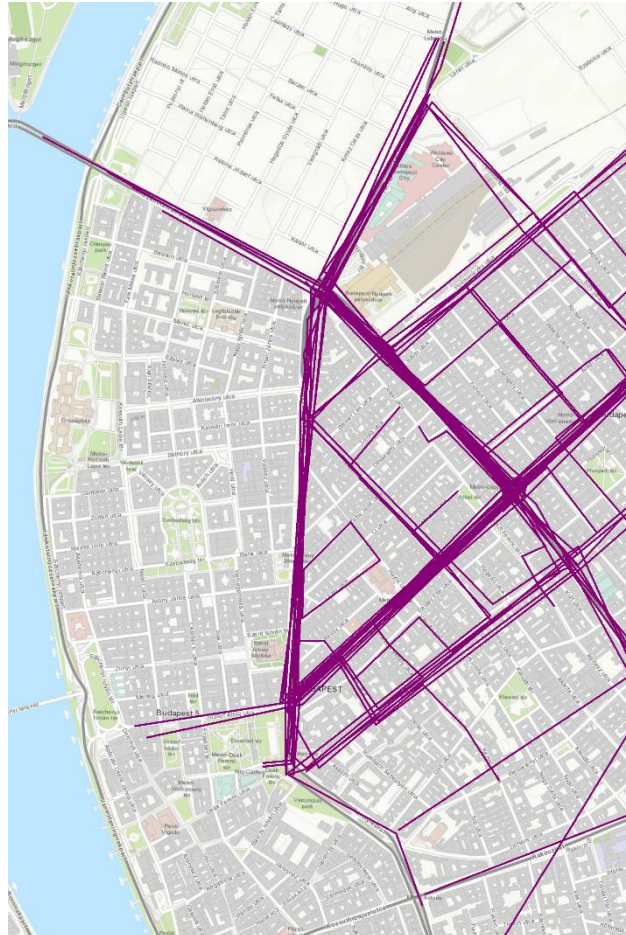
Principles of Geography	Stages of research	Specific objectives
Causality	Exploratory modelling	To analyse the location of perceived unsafe areas in relation to a) the distribution of crime incidents and b) people's activity spaces.
Location	Spatial delineation of the perception accuracy	To determine and explore the accuracy of people's crime perception and to map its spatial distribution.
Relation	Development of a GeoVisual Analytics environment	To conceptually design a GeoVisual Analytic environment for the exploration and reasoning of perceptions of crime.



## Sketch maps

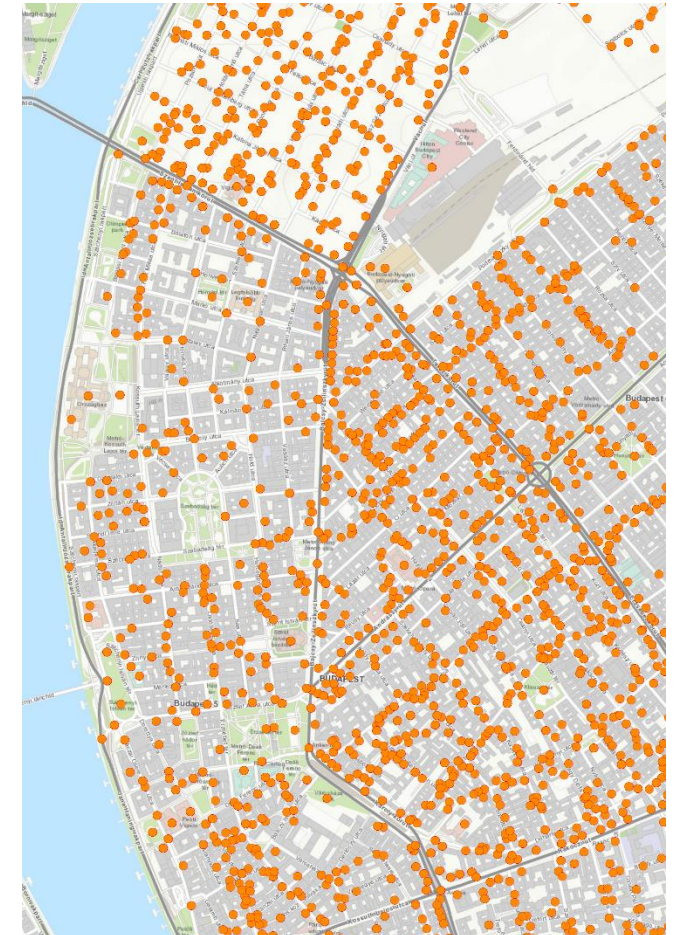


Perceived safe/unsafe areas



Daily routes

## Actual incidences



Crime events

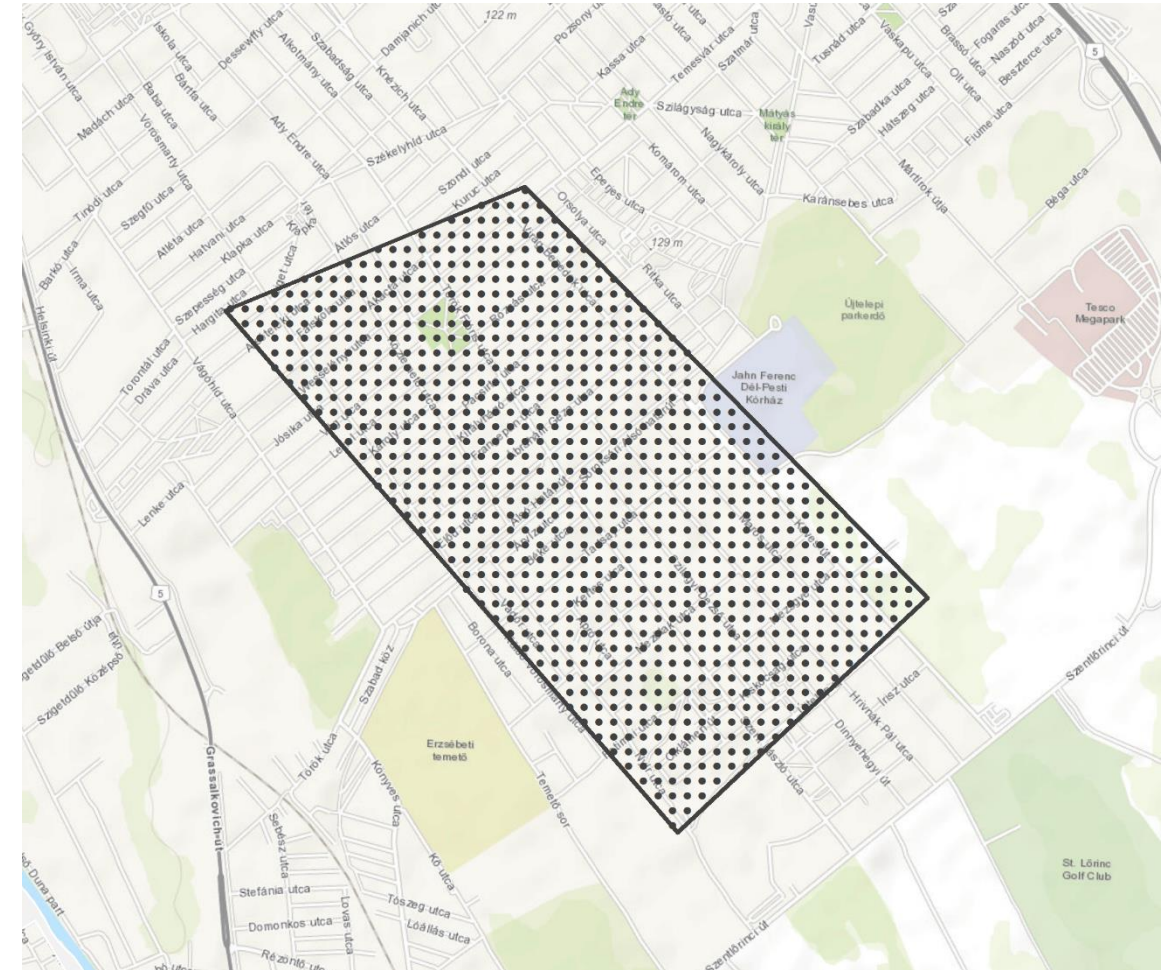
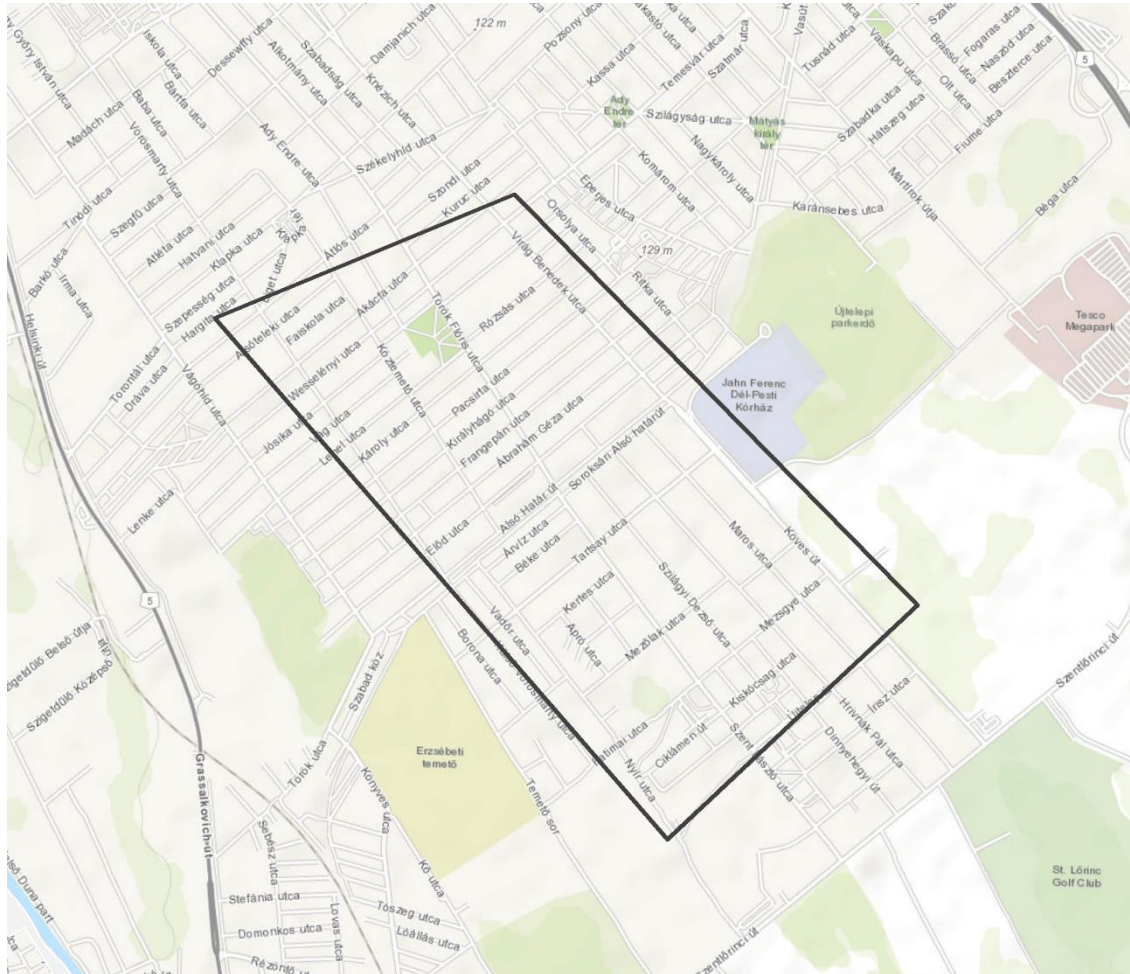
# EXPLORATORY MODELING

## Causality

- What is the relationship between the people's daily **activity spaces** (neighbourhood and daily routes) and the location of the areas they perceive as unsafe?
- What is the relationship between the location of the **crime incidents** and the perceived unsafe areas?



## Segmentation of the sketch polygons

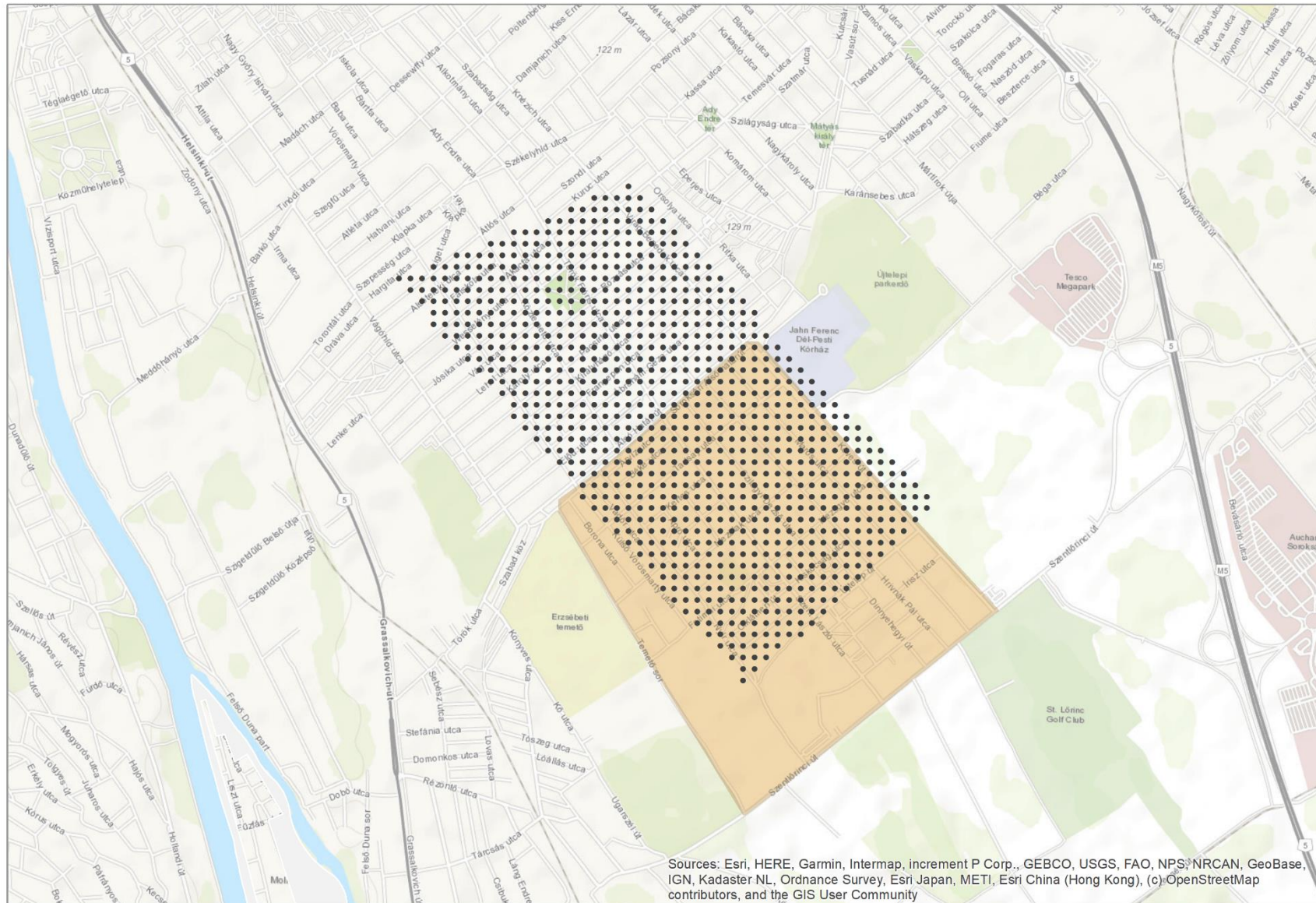




## Exploratory variables

Distance from the cells' centroid within a sketched polygon to:

- Participant's neighbourhood

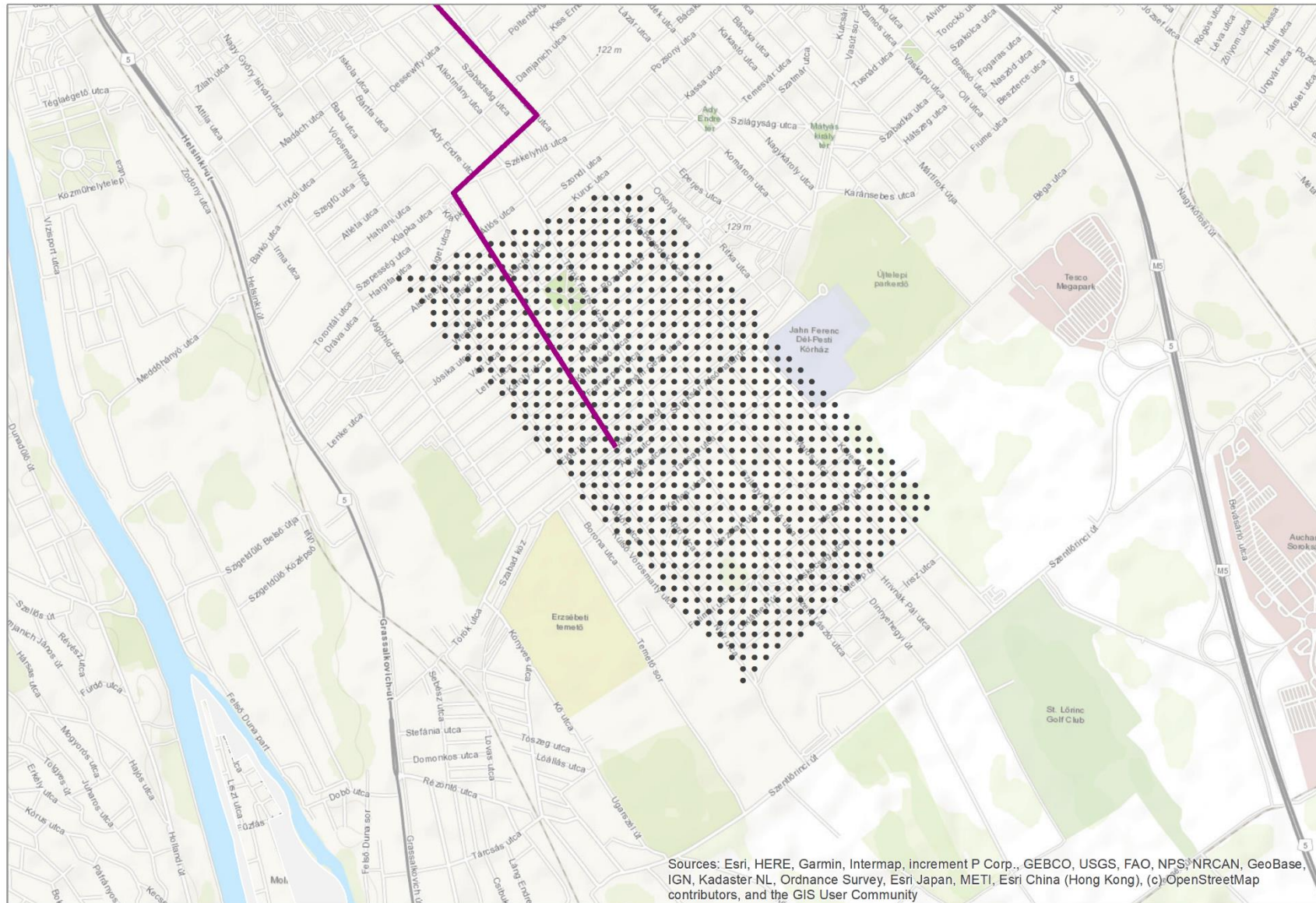




## Exploratory variables

Distance from the cells' centroid within a sketched polygon to:

- Participant's neighbourhood
- Participant's daily route

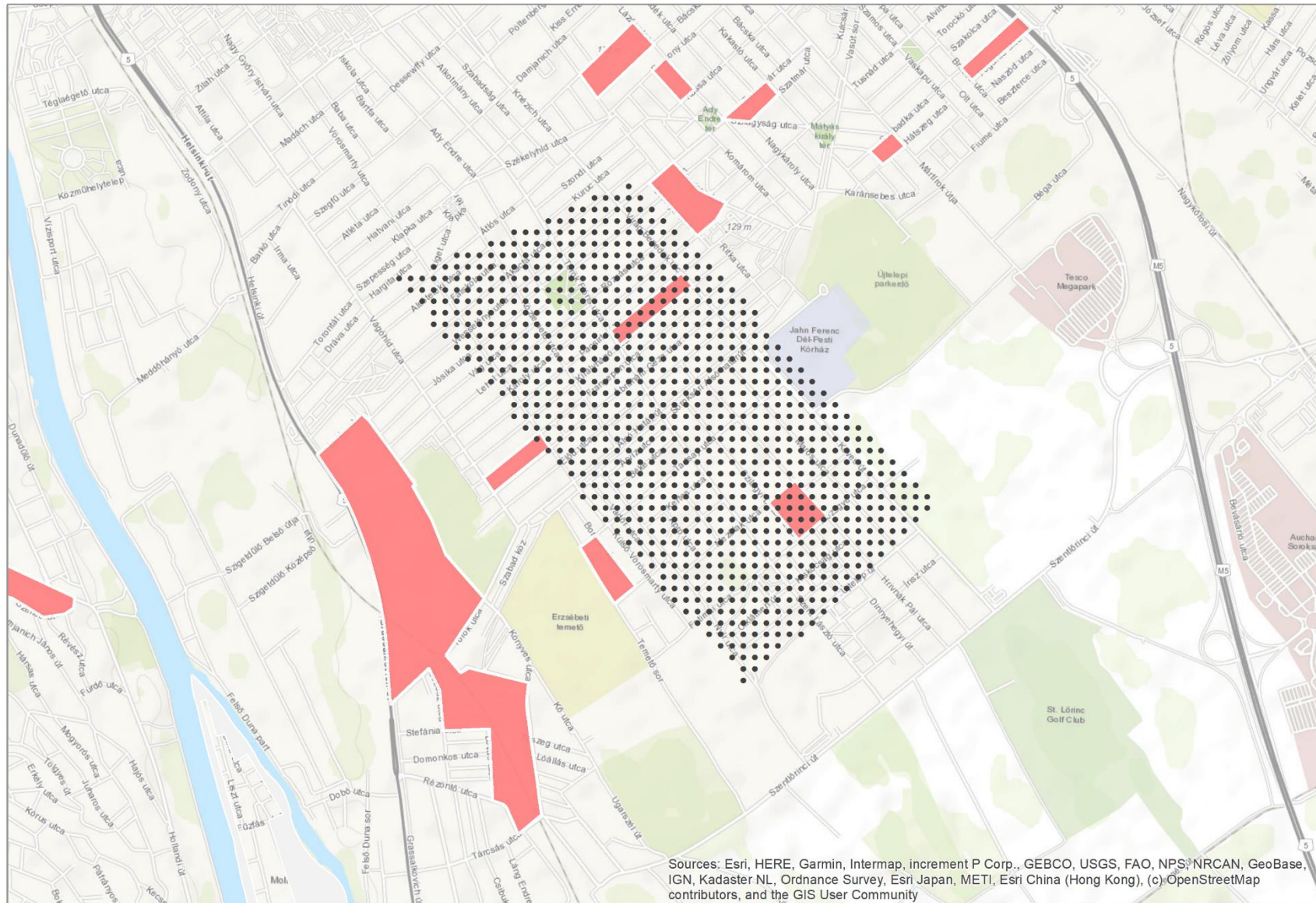




## Exploratory variables

Distance from the cells' centroid within a sketched polygon to:

- Participant's neighbourhood
- Participant's daily route
- Crime hotspots

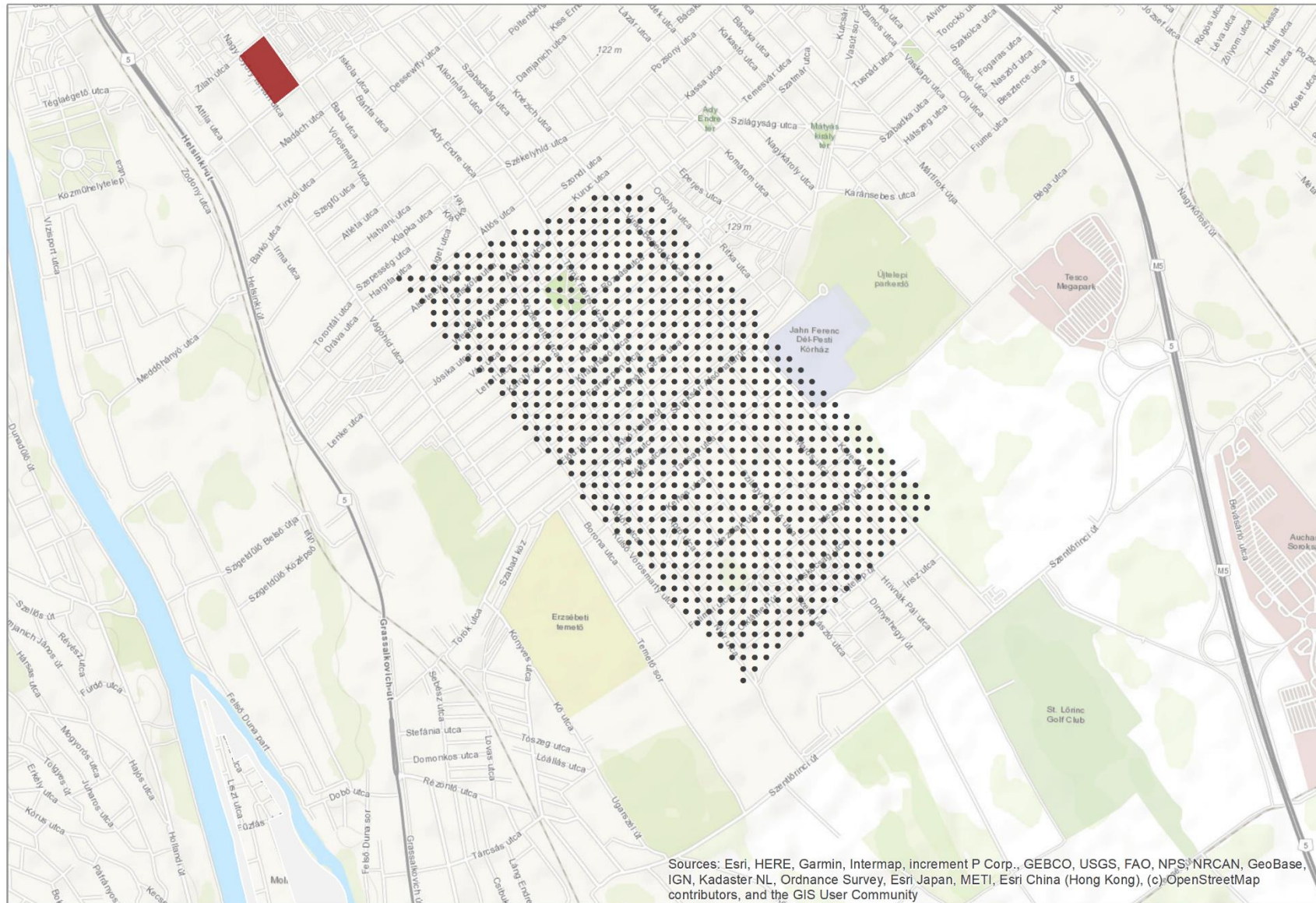




## Exploratory variables

Distance from the cells' centroid within a sketched polygon to:

- Participant's neighbourhood
- Participant's daily route
- Crime hotspots
- High crime intensity areas

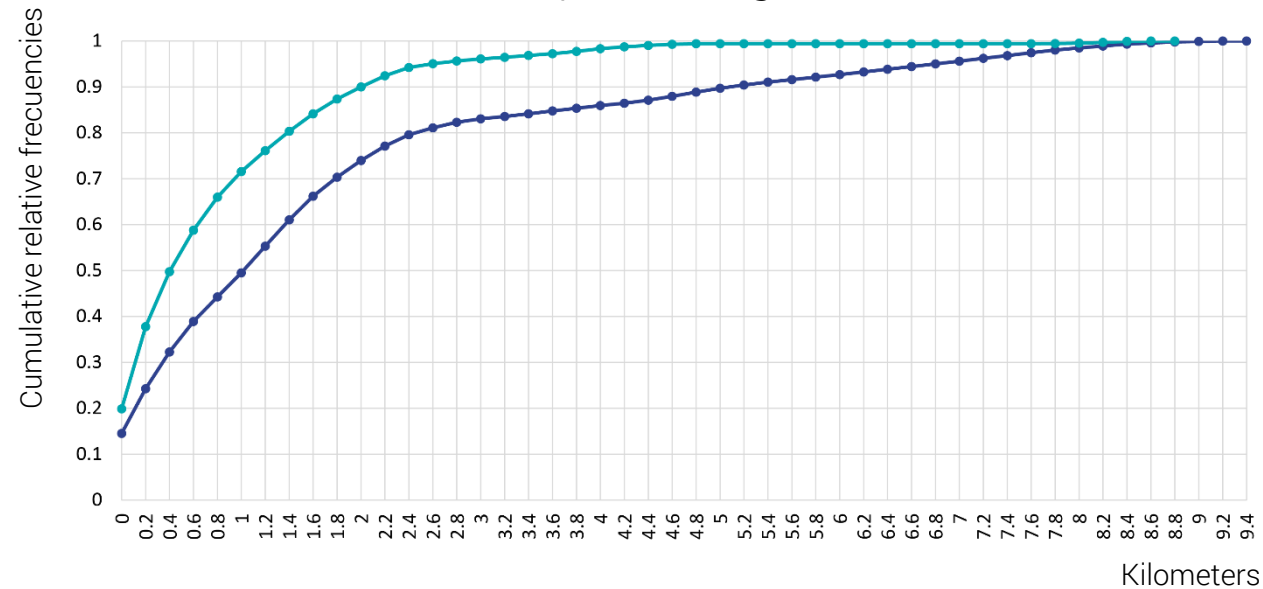




## Exploratory variables

Distance from the cells' centroid within a sketched polygon to:

Participant's neighbourhood

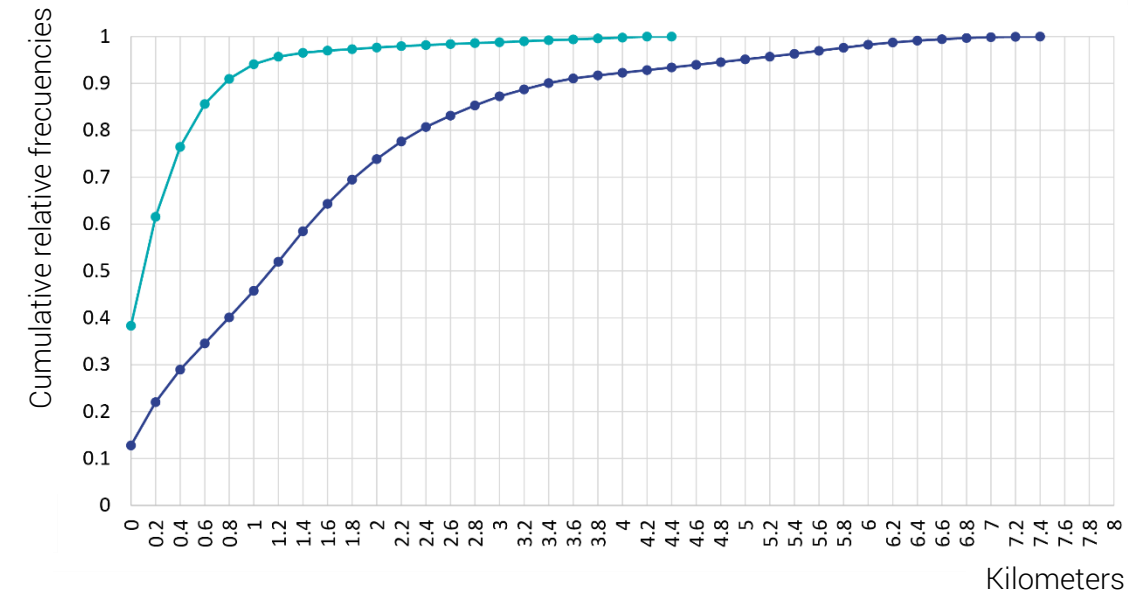


— To perceived unsafe areas

— To perceived safe areas

The participants identified safe areas  
near to their neighbourhood

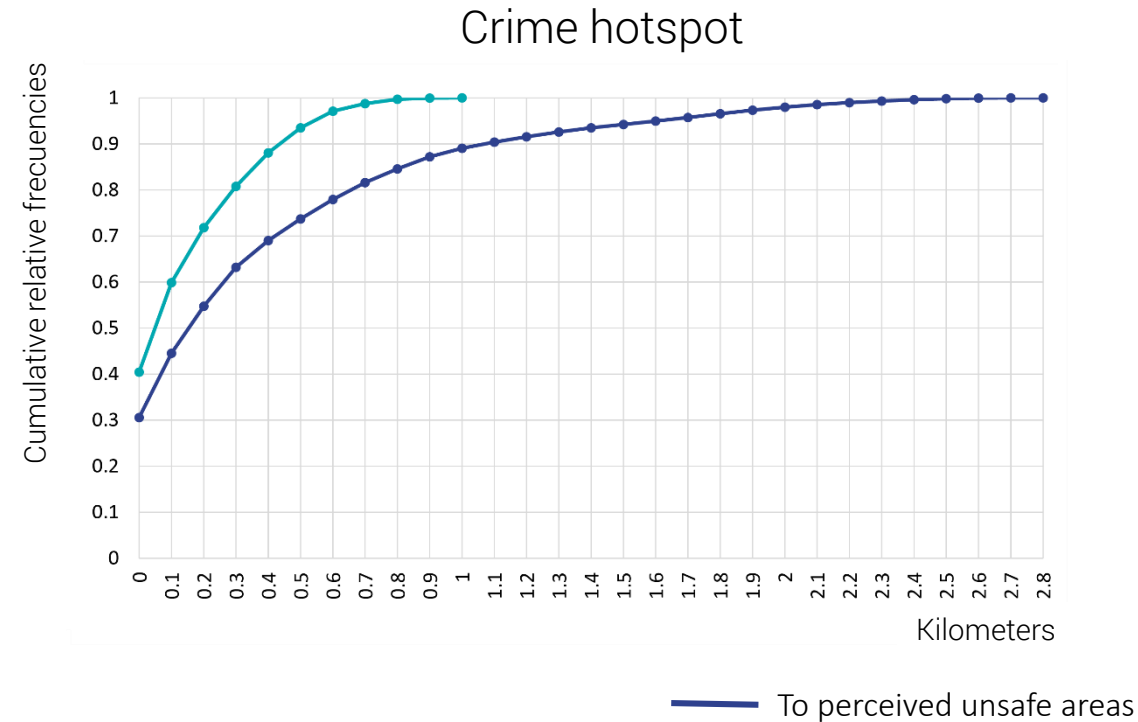
Participant's daily route



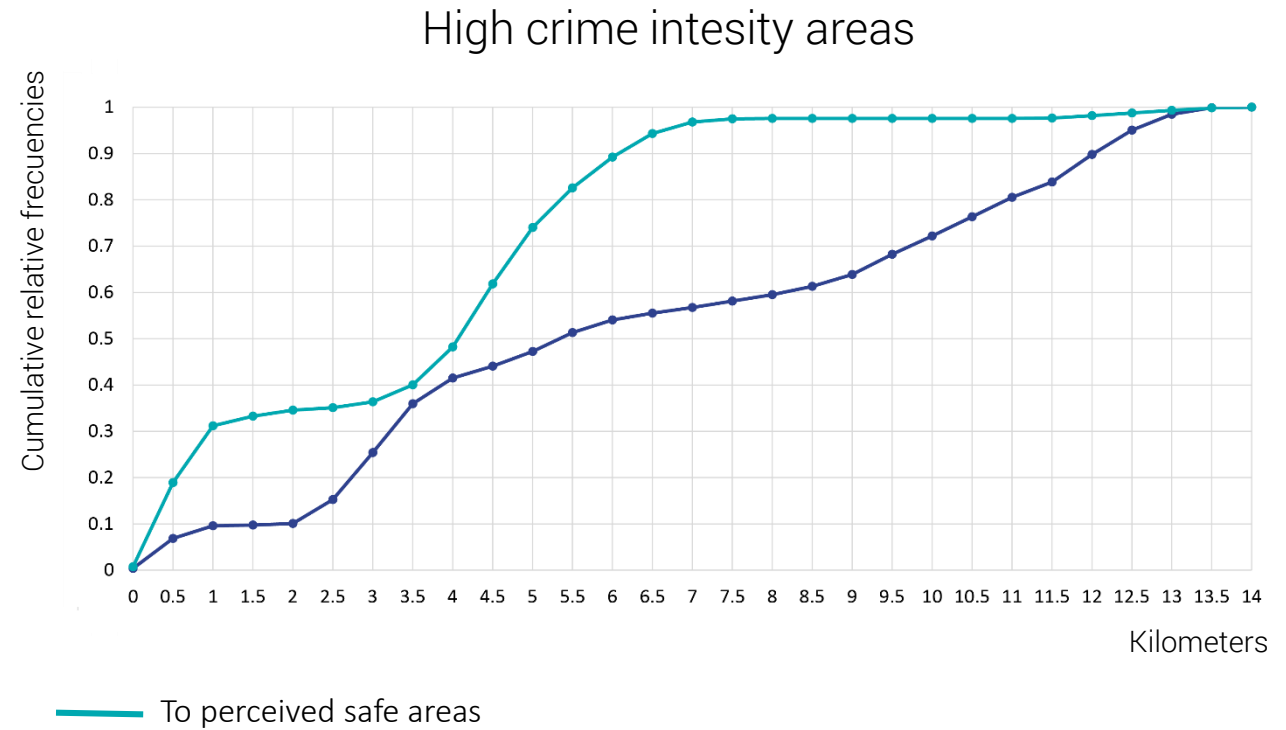
The participants identified unsafe areas  
further away from their daily routes

## Exploratory variables

Distance from the cells' centroid within a sketched polygon to:



Participants perceived safe areas near to the hotspots



More participants identified safe areas closer to the HCIAs than unsafe areas

**Hypothesis 1:** *the likelihood of people perceiving an area as unsafe increases when the target area is far away from their neighbourhood and their daily routes.*

**Hypothesis 2:** *People's misconception of crime reality involves both the overestimation of safe areas (inaccurate perception of safe areas- IS) and the underestimation of unsafe areas (inaccurate perception of safe areas- IU).*

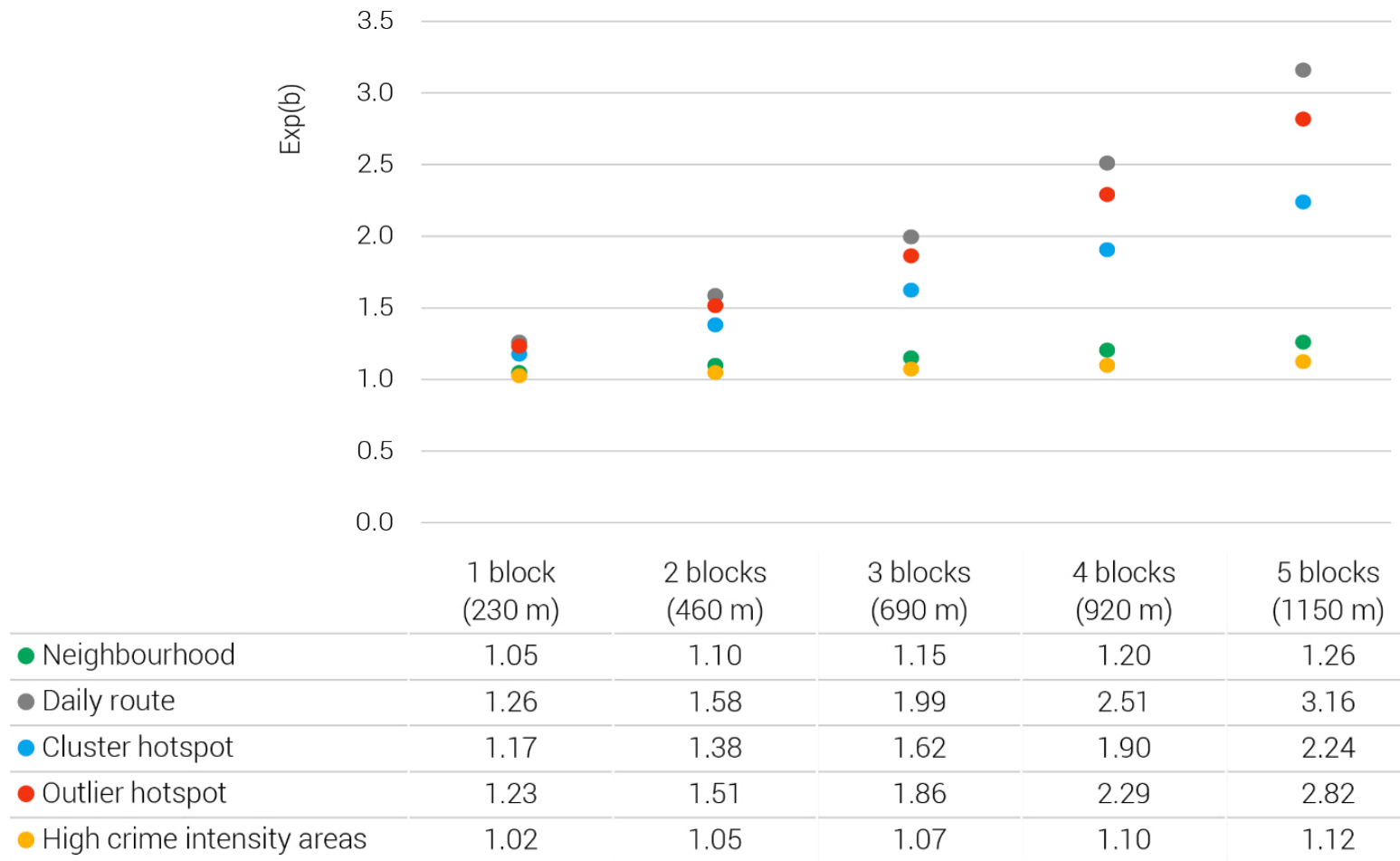


## Resultant logistic regression model

$$Xb = -3.1573 + 0.0002X_1 + 0.001X_2 + 0.0007X_3 + 0.0009X_4 + 0.0002X_5$$

## Coefficients' odds ratio

Explanatory variable	Coefficient	$e^b$
Distance to:		
Neighbourhood	0.0002	1.0002
Daily route	0.0010	1.0010
Cluster hotspot	0.0007	1.0007
Outlier hotspot	0.0009	1.0009
High crime intensity areas (HCIA)	0.0001	1.0001



✓ **Hypothesis 1:** *the likelihood of people perceiving an area as unsafe increases when the target area is far away from their neighbourhood and their daily routes*

# CRIME PERCEPTION ACCURACY: SPATIAL DELINEATION

## Location

- How to measure the accuracy of people's crime perception?
- How can the location of inaccurately perceived unsafe areas be explained by the spatial distribution of another explanatory variable?



		REFERENCE	
PERCEPTION		SAFE	UNSAFE
	SAFE	Accurate perception of safe area (AS)	Inaccurate perception of safe area (IS)
	UNSAFE	Inaccurate perception of unsafe area (IU)	Accurate perception of unsafe area (AU)

Block ID	Hotspot	Participants who classified the block by type		Total	% of participants who classified the block by type		Classification of the block		Accuracy type	Level of accuracy
		Safe	Unsafe		Safe	Unsafe	Reference	Perceived		
1	yes	4	7	11	36.4	63.6	unsafe	unsafe	AU	Low
2	no	7	1	8	87.5	12.5	safe	safe	AS	High
3	yes	13	4	17	76.5	23.5	unsafe	safe	IS	Medium
4	no	3	19	7	13.6	86.4	safe	unsafe	IU	High

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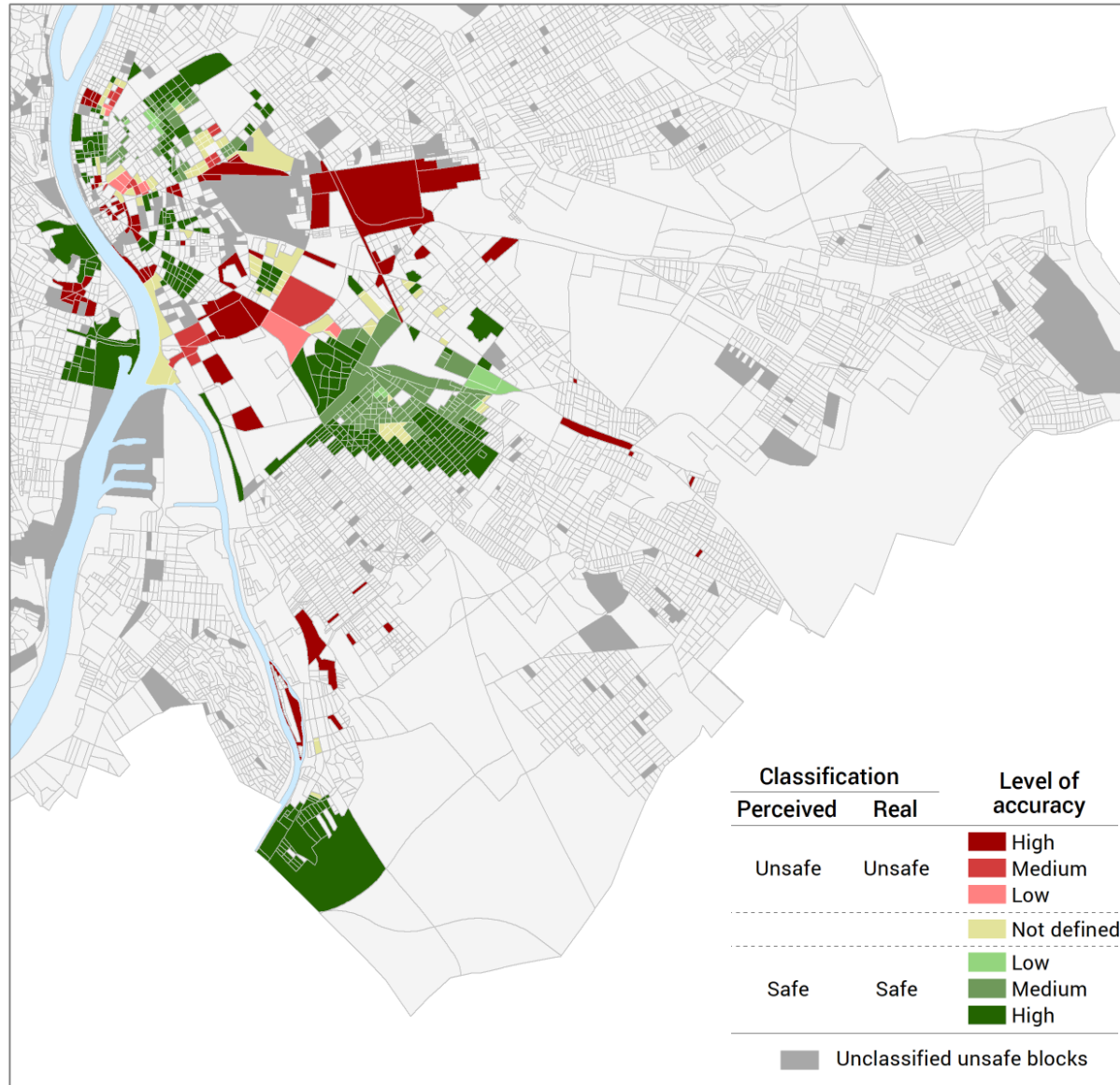
Percentage of participants	Level of accuracy
> 50% - 65%	Low
> 65% - 85%	Medium
> 85% - 100%	High

Block ID	Hotspot	Participants who classified the block by type		Total	% of participants who classified the block by type		Classification of the block		Accuracy type	Level of accuracy
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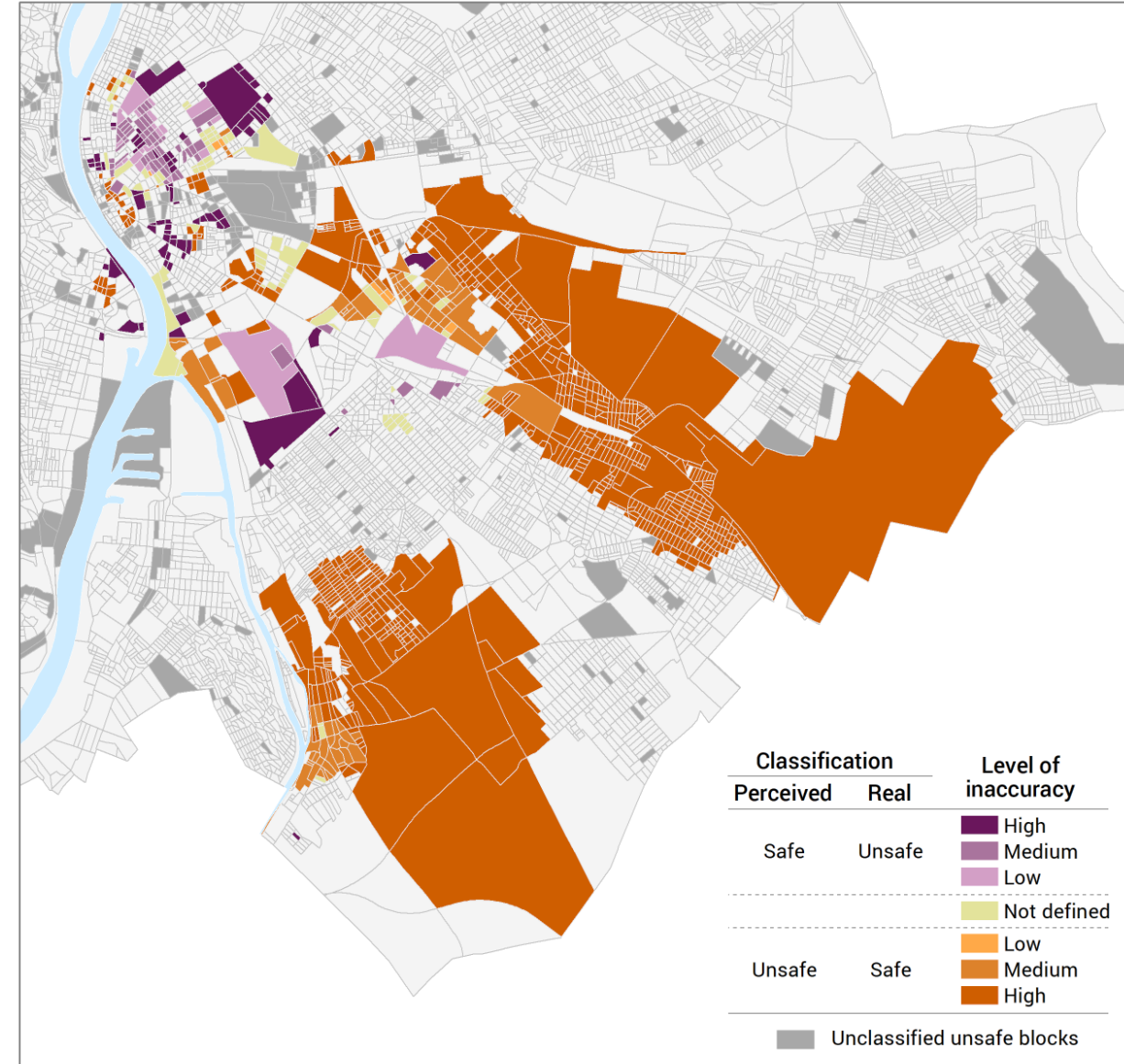
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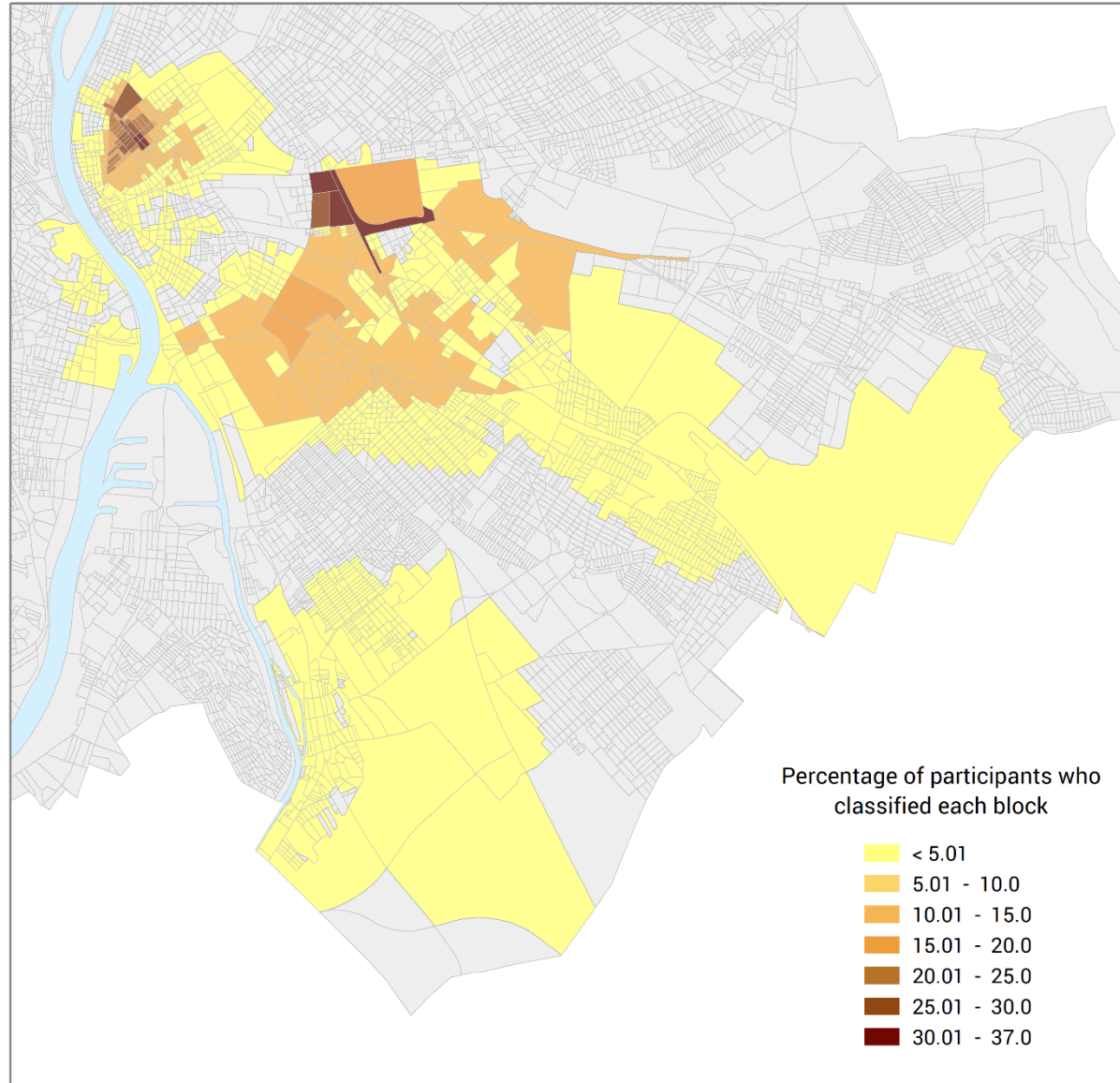
## ACCURATE PERCEPTION



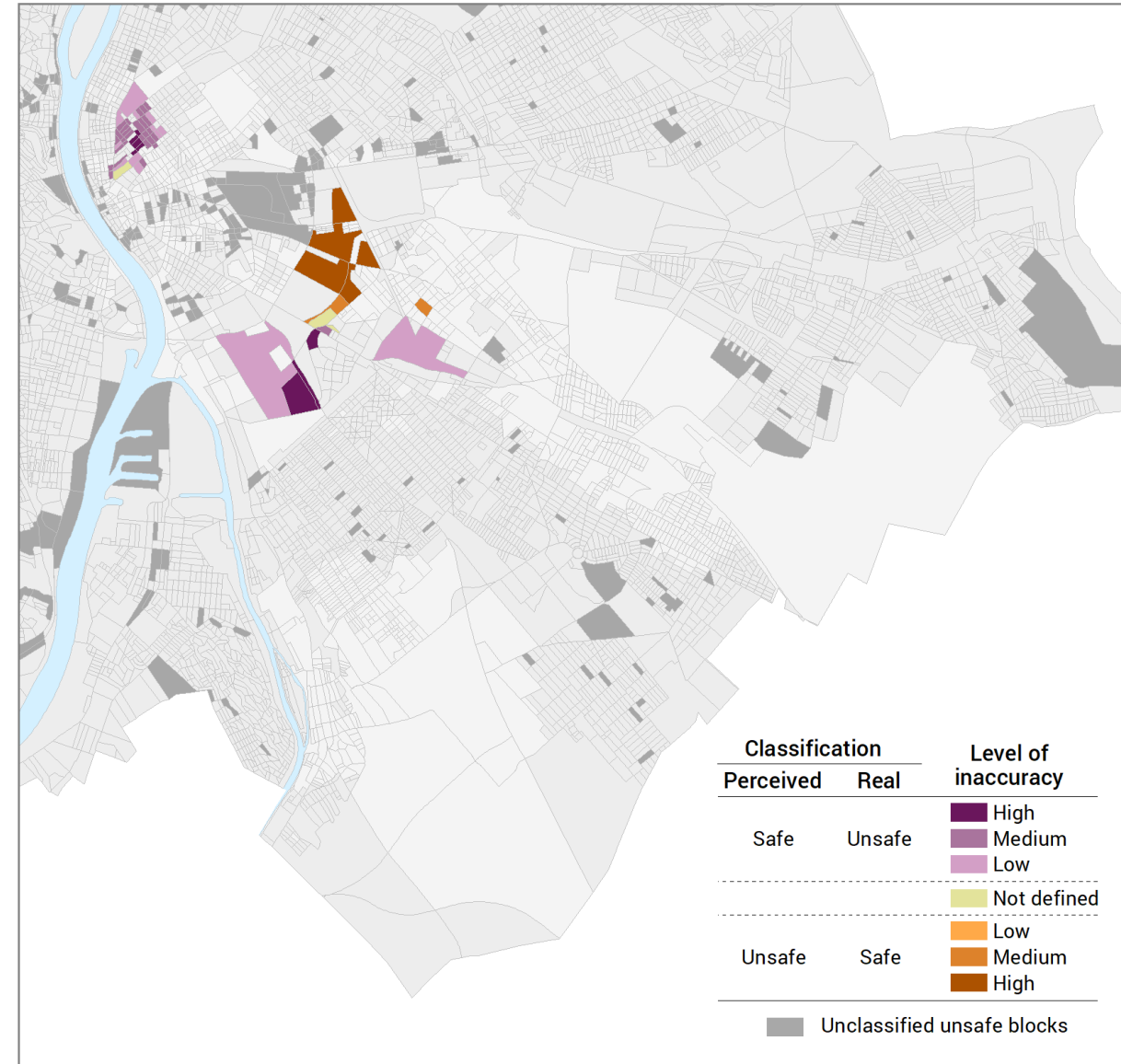
## INACCURATE PERCEPTION



## PERCENTAGE OF PARTICIPANTS WHO CLASSIFIED EACH BLOCK

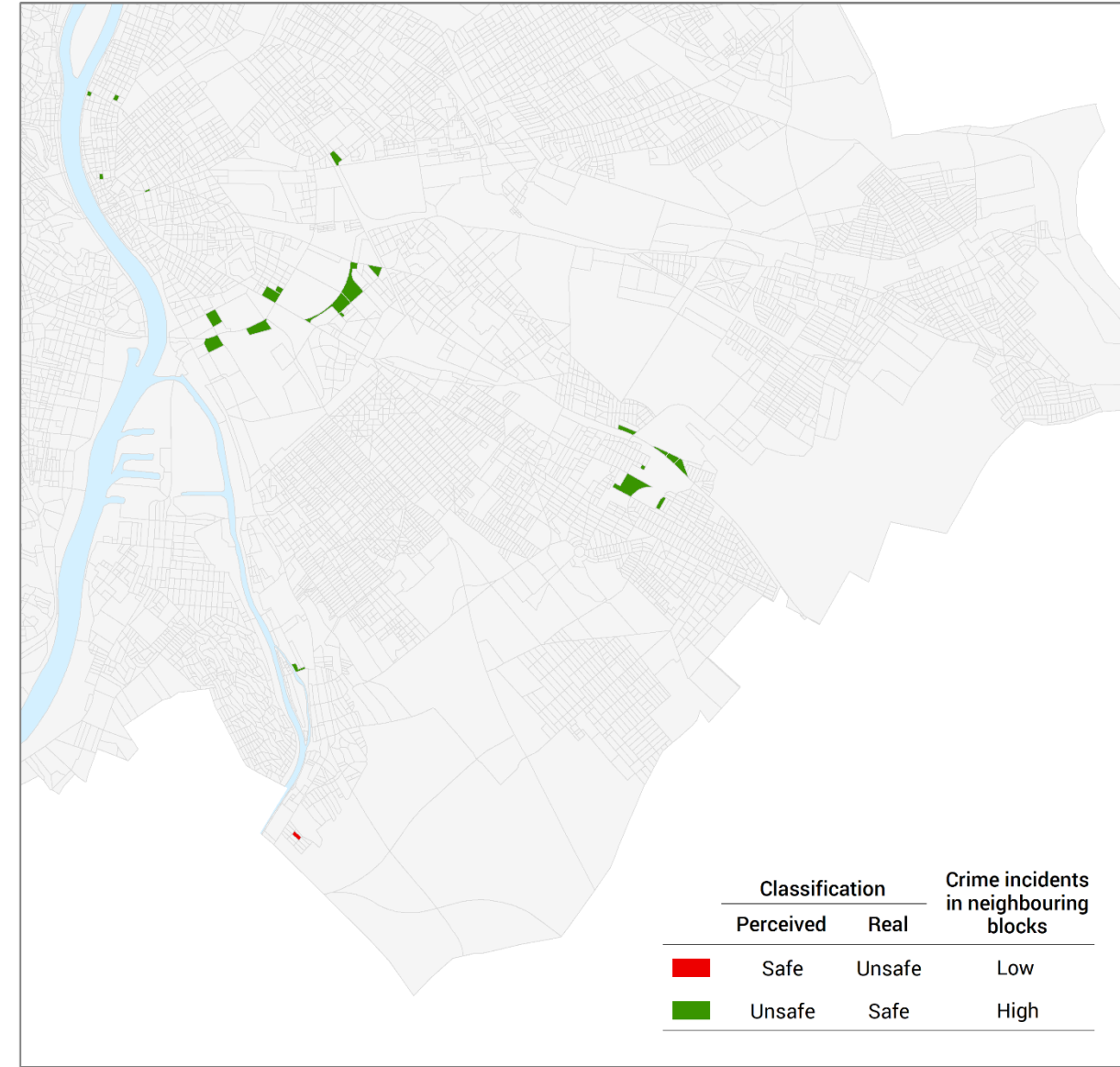
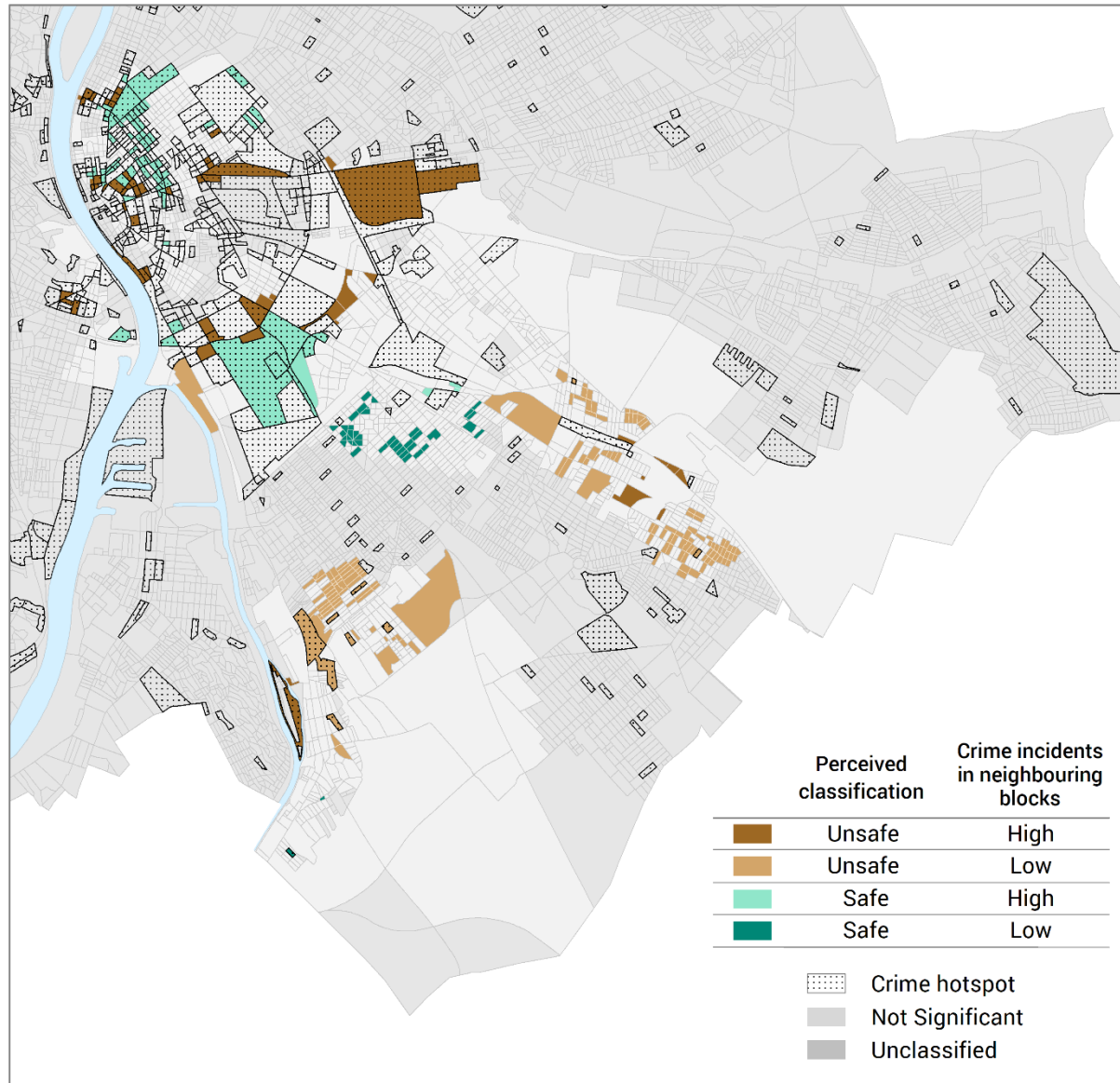


## INACCURATE PERCEPTION – MORE THAN 10 PARTICIPANTS





## BIVARIATE ANALYSIS

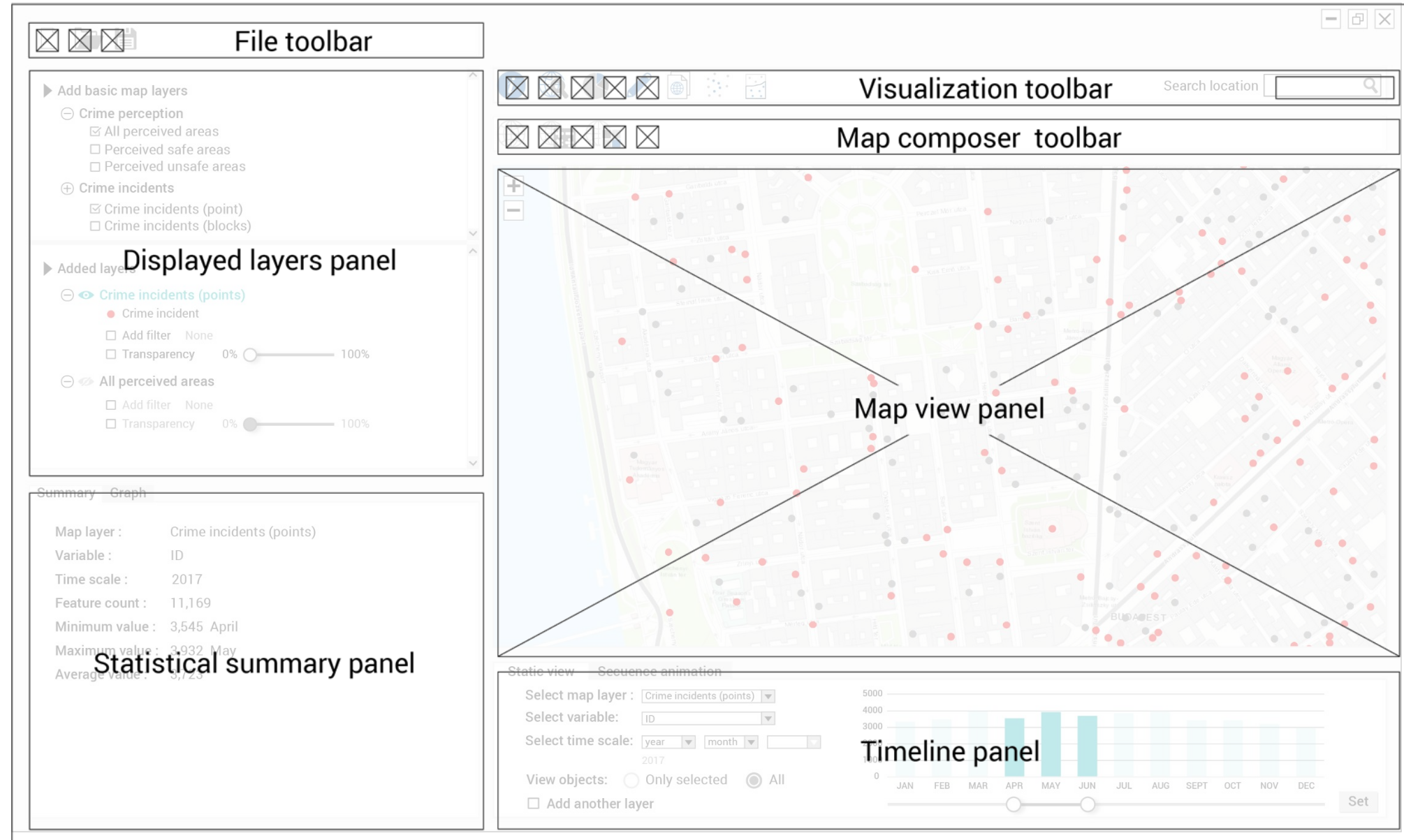


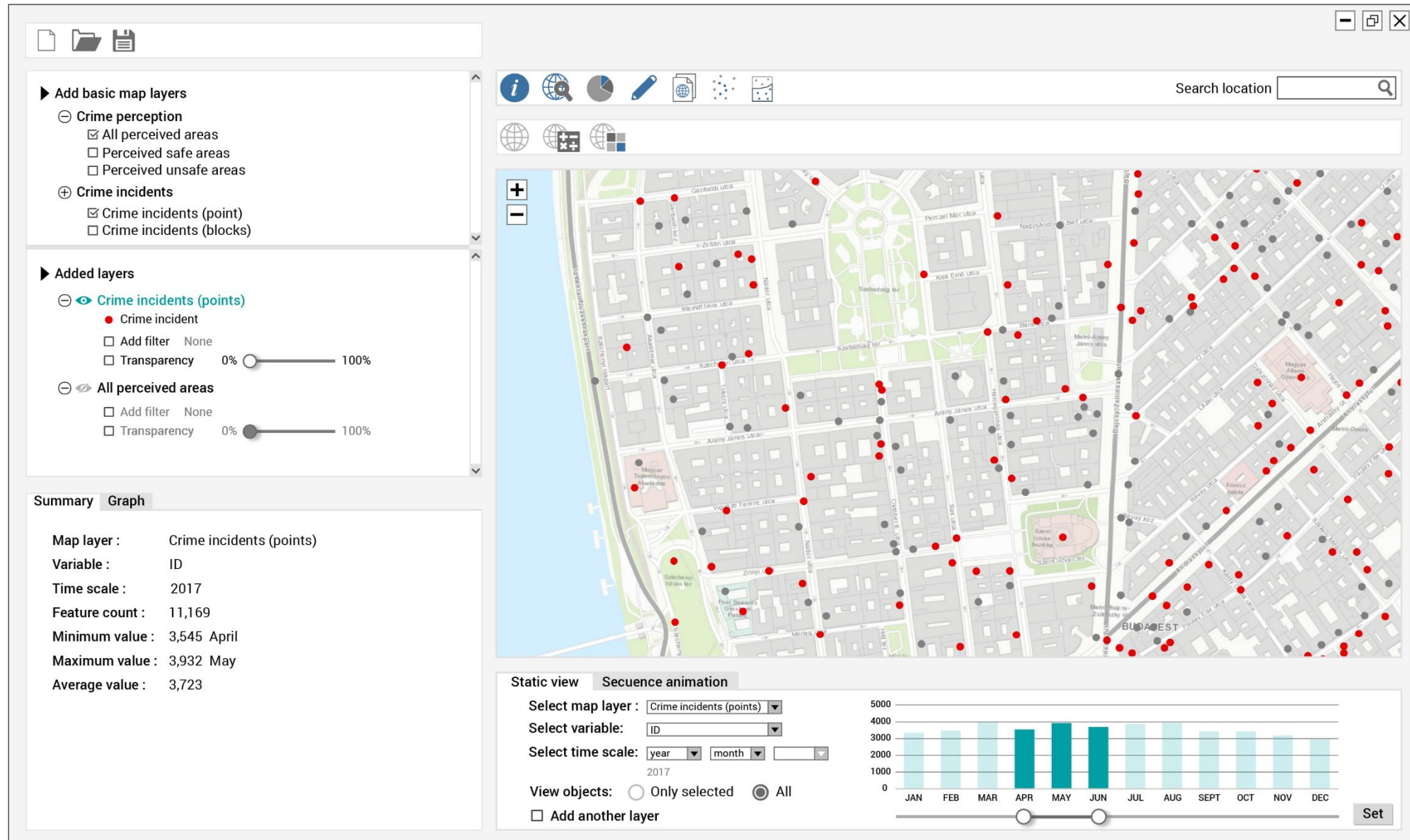


# DEVELOPMENT OF A GEOVISUAL ANALYTICS ENVIRONMENT

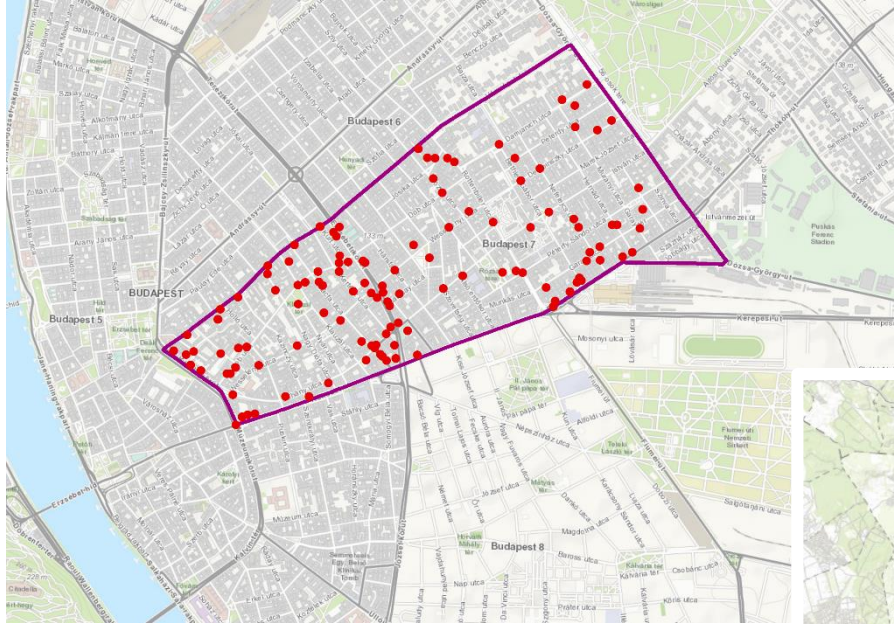
## Relation

- Which tools and representations could be integrated in a GeoVisual Analytic interface to explore and analyse crime perception?

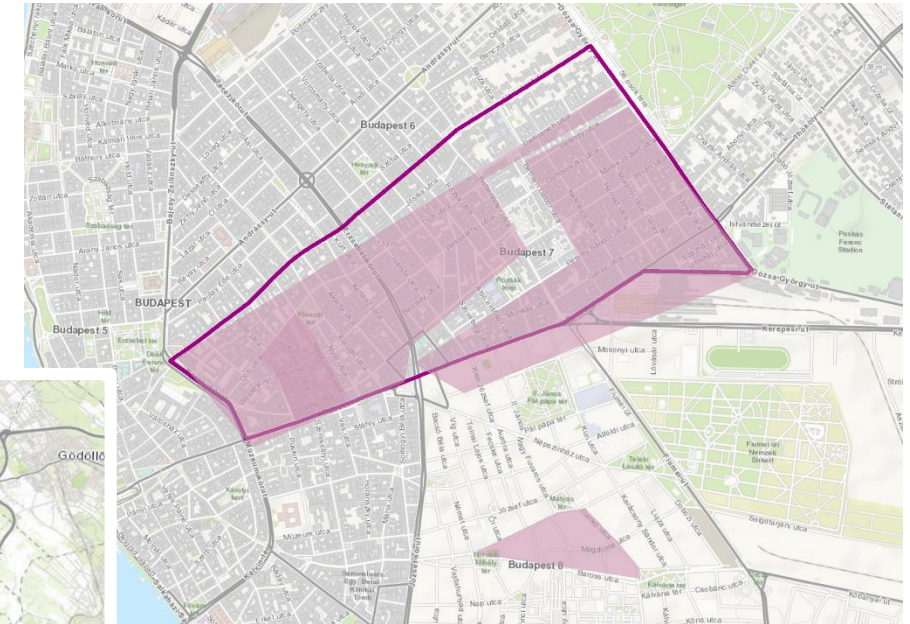




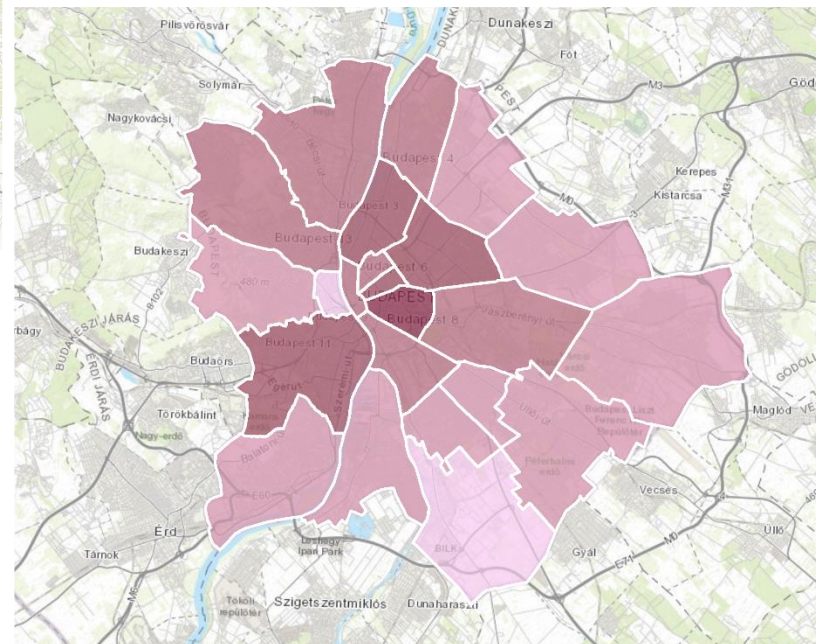




selection by intersection



linked selection



univariate map

# Conclusions and final remarks



## Conclusions

- This thesis intended to contribute to the spatial studies of perception by the [data extraction and analysis of sketch maps](#).
- An integral interpretation of sketch maps can be done by incorporating the [use of GIS, spatial analysis, and statistics](#).
- This research gave a general idea of how incorporating quantitative and spatial analysis methods for the [study of spatial perception from structured sketch maps](#) can result in a more complete and [objective interpretation](#).

## Recommendations

- The perception data collection by sketch maps must include a [questionnaire or a think-aloud process](#) that can provide more information to the interpretation of the map.
- The logistic regression model can be improved by [exploring additional contextual variables](#) to get a more precise overview of the context.
- The [requirement analysis](#) should be improved to enhance the GVA prototype presented, which could be used as a reference to develop a high-fidelity prototype that can go through interaction and usability studies.



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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

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