

SECURITY OVERVIEW

SAO PAULO

April 2026

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS



↓ CRIME

Reduction in homicides and high-impact crimes.

VS

↑ PERCEPTION

Persistence of the perception of insecurity.

Gap between crime indicators and public perception.



Organized crime (PCC)

Maintains territorial influence



+40,000 cameras (Smart Sampa)

Expansion of surveillance



Challenges and concerns

- Use of data and privacy.
- Operational errors and wrongful detentions.
- Debate over legitimacy.

CRIME STATISTICS

Overall, records from the São Paulo State Public Security Secretariat show a downward trend in crime indicators, particularly in crimes against life, which remain at historically low levels considering the city's urban complexity and high population density.

However, this trend coexists with an increase in opportunistic crimes, particularly theft, as well as the persistence of extortion, micro-trafficking, and organized crime dynamics in specific areas, consolidating an environment of low lethal violence but high exposure to everyday risk, especially in areas with high mobility, economic activity, and population concentration.



+243.000

Thefts recorded in
2025



+501

Homicides in 2025
+4.15% increase



+40%

Express kidnapping
(2025)



RISK-GENERATING ACTORS AND FACTORS

Criminal Participation

CRIMINAL GROUP	ACTIVE MEMBERS
PRIMEIRO COMANDO DA CAPITAL (PCC)	40.000
COMANDO VERMELHO (CV)	30.000
TOTAL	70.000

With territorial control in the heart of São Paulo and **90%** infiltration within the prison system, the PCC consolidates a criminal network that moves billions across illicit economies.

Micro trafficking

Articulating axis of territorial control and urban illicit economies, with mobile dynamics of consumption and distribution that impact operational environments.

Criminal structure

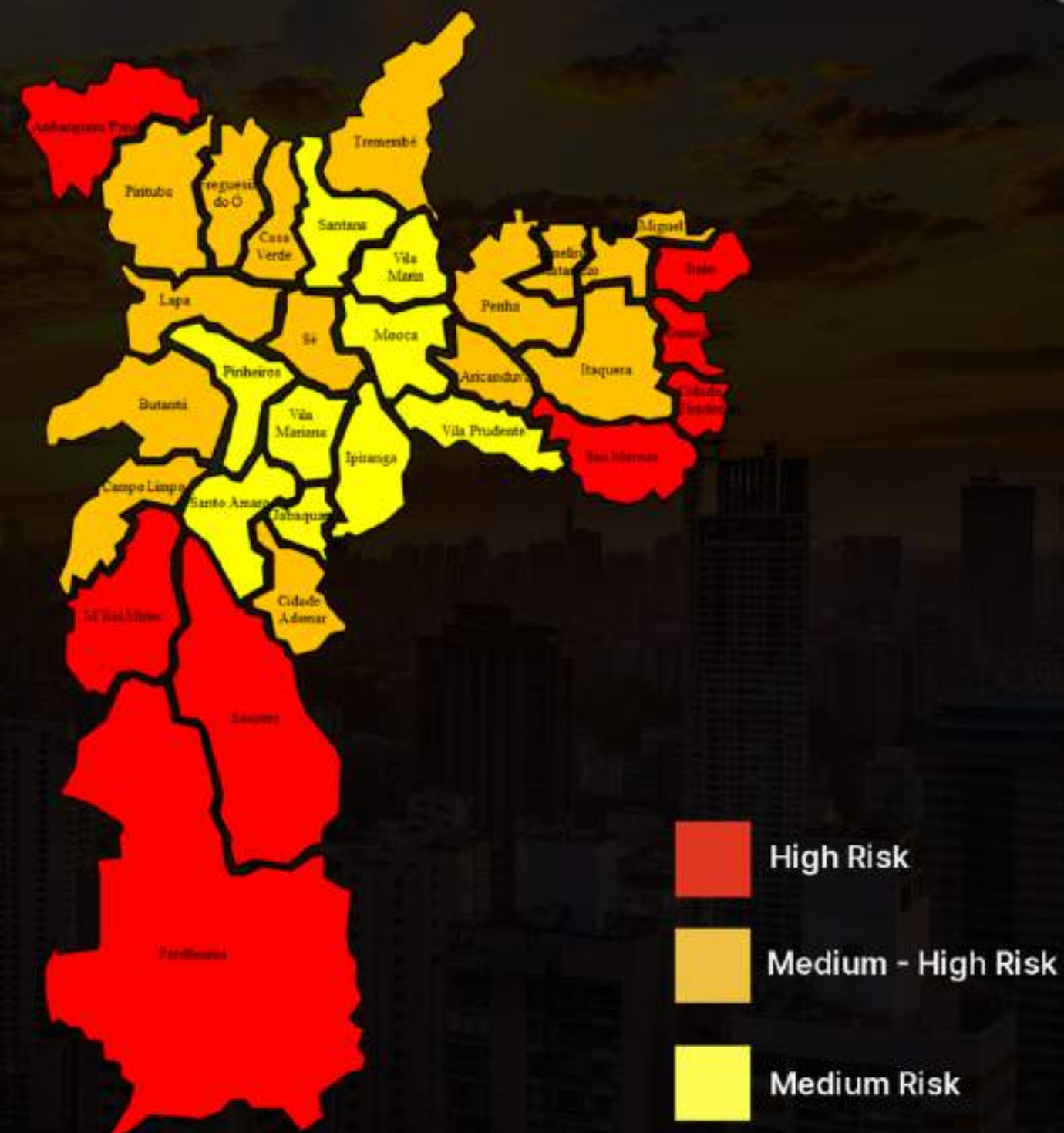
PCC vs. CV dispute → localized violence and territorial expansion

Social protest

Social mobilizations generate disruptions in mobility, operations, and security, maintaining in the first quarter of 2026 the capacity for urban disruption with lower levels of violence.

RISK LEVEL

The administration of Mayor Ricardo Nunes has achieved progress in reducing homicides and other high-impact crimes, partially improving public trust. In this context, the urban risk analysis identifies the areas of São Paulo with the highest probability of violence, based on official statistics. For the 2026 Urban Security Assessment, indicators of intentional homicide and theft from persons are used, with data from SSP-SP and the Military Police. The following **areas are classified as high risk**: Perus, São Mateus, Cidade Tiradentes, M'Boi Mirim, Capela do Socorro, Guaianases, Itaim Paulista, and Parelheiros.



Source: Prepared by the authors.



IMPACT OF CRIME

Organized crime in São Paulo impacts the political, economic, social, and technological spheres, affecting governance, supply chains, the business environment, and operational security, shaping a structural risk scenario for the private sector.

Political



PCC as a structural actor

Infiltration in strategic sectors and pressure on governance and corporate regulation

Economic



43%–46% cargo theft

- Losses exceeding 1.2 billion reais annually
- Direct impact on logistics, insurance, and final prices

Social



Expansion of organized crime

- Increase in extortion, express kidnapping, and threats
- Impact on workforce mobility and talent

Technological



Digital and financial crime

- Use of fintechs and platforms for money laundering, extortion, and fraud
- Technology as a critical mitigation factor

RECOMMENDATIONS

-  1 Avoid travel during nighttime hours or periods of low activity, especially in sub-prefectures with high crime incidence or known criminal-actor presence, such as Cidade Tiradentes, Perus, and Grajaú, among others identified in the risk map.
-  2 Always maintain a high level of situational awareness, paying close attention to your immediate surroundings, changes in others' behavior, and unusual situations in the areas you transit.
-  3 In situations of high vulnerability—such as attempted robbery, fleteo, or express kidnapping—do not resist. Prioritize the preservation of your physical integrity and that of your family.

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Andrea Mojica
Senior Consultant
(UAPSC)



Camilo Jácome
Junior Consultant
(UAPSC)



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