Jacob Kaplan

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Current Position

2021-Present   Professional Specialist   Princeton School of Public and International Affairs
Princeton University

Education

2021   Postdoctoral Fellow
University of Pennsylvania
2020   Ph.D. in Criminology
University of Pennsylvania
Dissertation: T*he Effect of Lighting and Building Security on Crime*
2016   M.S. in Criminology
University of Pennsylvania
2015   B.S. in Criminal Justice
California State University, Sacramento

Journal Articles

2022   Block, K, & **Kaplan, J.** (2022). An analysis of National Hockey League playoff games and city-level crime   counts. *Crime & Delinquency.*
https://doi.org/10.1177/00111287221118879

Block, K, & **Kaplan, J.** (2022). Testing the Cinderella effect: Measuring victim injury in child abuse cases. *Journal of Criminal Justice.*
https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2022.101987

Beck, B, Holder, E, Novak, A, & **Kaplan, J**. (2022) "The Material of Policing: Budgets, Personnel, and the United States' Misdemeanour Arrest Decline" *The British Journal of Criminology* https://doi.org/10.1093/bjc/azac005

2021   Chalfin, A. & **Kaplan J**. (2021) "How Many Complaints Against Police Officers Can Be Abated by Incapacitating A Few "Bad Apples?" *Criminology & Public Policy* https://doi.org/10.1111/1745-9133.12542

Chalfin, A, **Kaplan, J**, & LaForest, M. (2021) "Street Light Outages, Public Safety and Crime Displacement: Evidence from Chicago" *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* https://doi.org/10.1007/s10940-021-09519-4

Chalfin, A, LaForest, M & **Kaplan, J**. (2021) "Can Precision Policing Reduce Gun Violent? Evidence from 'Gang Takedowns' in New York City" *Journal of Policy Analysis & Management* https://doi.org/10.1002/pam.22323

Kaplan, J. & Chalfin, A. (2021) "Ambient Lighting and Perceptions of Public Safety: Evidence from a Survey Experiment" *Security Journal.* https://doi.org/10.1057/s41284-021-00296-0

Chalfin, A, **Kaplan, J** & Cuellar, M. (2021) "Measuring Marginal Crime Concentration: A New Solution to an Old Problem" *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency.* https://doi.org/10.1177/0022427820984213

Kaplan, J. (2021) "The (In)Effectiveness of Campus Smart Locks for Reducing Crime" *Journal of Applied Security Research.* https://doi.org/10.1080/19361610.2021.1915054

2020   **Kaplan, J**, Ling, S & Cuellar, M. (2020). "Public Beliefs About the Accuracy and Importance of Forensic Evidence in the United States" *Science & Justice.* https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scijus.2020.01.001

Kaplan, J & Goh, L.S. (2020) "Harm Reduction in Family Violence: Does Marijuana Make Assaults Safer?" *Journal of Interpersonal Violence.* https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260520961876

Ling, S, **Kaplan, J** & Berryessa, C. (2020) "The Importance of Forensic Evidence on Decisions of Criminal Guilt" *Science & Justice.* https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scijus.2020.11.004

2019   **Kaplan, J** & Chalfin, A. (2019). More Cops, Fewer Prisoners? *Criminology & Public Policy.* https://doi.org/10.1111/1745-9133.12424

Books
A Criminologist's Guide to R: Crime by the Numbers. *Chapman & Hall/CRC The R Series*
This book introduces the programming language R and is meant for undergrads or graduate students studying criminology. R is a programming language that is well-suited to the type of work frequently done in criminology - taking messy data and turning it into useful information. While R is a useful tool for many fields of study, this book focuses on the skills criminologists should know and uses crime data for the example data sets.
Online version available at: https://crimebythenumbers.com/
Print version available to purchase: https://www.routledge.com/A-Criminologists-Guide-to-R-Crime-by-the-Numbers/Kaplan/p/book/9781032244075

Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: A Practitioner's Guide
This book provides a guide to UCR data for people who want to use it for research or reporting. It covers basic details such as how many years of data are available and which variables are included, as well as goes into the reliability of the data and how to avoid common pitfalls when using the data. It tries to explain to readers both how to use the data, and how to *use it well.*
Available at https://ucrbook.com/

National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) Data: A Practitioner's Guide
This book provides a guide to NIBRS data for people who want to use it for research or reporting. It covers basic details such as how many years of data are available and which variables are included, as well as goes into the reliability of the data and how to avoid common pitfalls when using the data. It tries to explain to readers both how to use the data, and how to *use it well.*
Available at https://nibrsbook.com/

Teaching Experience

2021-2022	**Guest Lecturer,** Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Sam Houston State University "Advanced Research Methods" (Graduate) "Introduction to Methods of Research" (Undergraduate)
2016-2019	**Guest Lecturer,** Department of Criminology, University of Pennsylvania. "Pro-seminar in Criminal Justice" (Graduate) "Research Methods and Crime Analysis (Master's Thesis Course)" (Graduate) "Statistics for the Social Sciences" (Undergraduate)
2016 - 2019	**Teaching Assistant,** Department of Criminology, University of Pennsylvania. "Research Methods and Crime Analysis (Master's Thesis Course)" (Graduate) "Statistics for the Social Sciences" (Undergraduate)
2016	**Teaching Assistant,** Fels Institute of Government, University of Pennsylvania. "Program Evaluation and Data Analysis" (Graduate)
2014 - 2015	**Teaching Assistant,** Department of Biology, California State University, Sacramento. "Biology: A Human Perspective" (Undergraduate)

Other Experience

2018 - 2020	**Data Scientist,** Private Consultant Wrote and tested code to efficiently convert millions of pages of PDFs into a machine-readable format. Designed, implemented, and maintained a website that allows users to visualize this data at various levels of aggregation.
2018	**Data Scientist,** Fels Institute of Government, University of Pennsylvania. Produced and tested code to convert voting records into a machine-readable data and built a prototype website to display this data.
2017 - 2018	**Research Scientist,** National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD).

Wrote the Justice Data Learning Guide: No. 2, "[Using the Law Enforcement Agency Identifiers Crosswalk (LEAIC).](#)" This guide explains how to use the LEAIC dataset through an example incorporating both National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) data and US Census data. This guide includes code to use in both R and SPSS.

2016   **Research Assistant,** Dr. Emily Owens, University of Pennsylvania.
            Collected, cleaned, and prepared US Census data for analysis and visualization.

Student Advising

2019-2020   Alec Bardey. Senior Honors Criminology Thesis (co-winner, J. Francis Finnegan Award). *The Effect of Localized LED Streetlight Replacements on Adjacent Crime: Evidence from Philadelphia*

Presentations

"Street Light Outages, Public Safety and Crime Displacement: Evidence from Chicago"
2020   Panel Paper, American Society of Criminology (Canceled due to COVID-19)

"Making UCR Data Accessible to Researchers"
2019   Panel Paper, American Society of Criminology

"More Cops, Fewer Prisoners?"
2019   Panel Paper, Western Society of Criminology
2018   Panel Paper, Associations for Public Policy Analysis & Management

"The Effect of Card Reader Locks on Theft on a University Campus"
2018   Poster, Associations for Public Policy Analysis & Management
2017   Poster, American Society of Criminology

Software

fastDummies: R package for quickly and efficiently making binary columns out of categorical columns. It also fills in "dummy rows" for data sets missing rows of data based on all combinations of categorical and date columns. Available at https://jacobkap.github.io/fastDummies/

caesar: R package to encrypt and decrypt strings using a simple Caesar cipher or a pseudorandom number generation. Available at https://jacobkap.github.io/caesar/

asciiSetupReader: R package for reading fixed-width ASCII files that have an .sps or.sas setup file. It also allows users to quickly generate setup files. Available at https://jacobkap.github.io/asciiSetupReader/

meditations: R package that returns a random quote from Marcus Aurelius from his book Meditations. Available at https://jacobkap.github.io/meditations/

predictrace: R package to predict the race of a surname using U.S. Census data which

says how many people of each race has a certain surname.
Available at https://jacobkap.github.io/predictrace/

crimeutils: R package to provide a set of helper functions to make common data tasks in criminology research - clean, explore, analyze, visualize – a bit easier.
Available at https://jacobkap.github.io/crimeutils/

List of data collected, cleaned, and made publicly available

Annual Survey of Public Employment & Payroll (ASPEP), 1992-2016
Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E101399V6

Annual Survey of State Government Finances, 1992-2018
Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E101880V4

Apparent Per Capita Alcohol Consumption: National, State, and Regional Trends 1977-2018
Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E105583V5

California Department of Corrections Data
Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E108602V2

California Jail Profile Survey, 1995-2020
Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E104560V7

Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Prisons in the United States, April – June 2020
Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E119901V1

Texas Commission on Jail Standards 1992-2017
Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E104643V1

U.S. Customs and Border Protection Statistics and Summaries
Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E109522V5

Jacob Kaplan's Concatenated Files: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) Data, 1991-2021
Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E118281V7

Jacob Kaplan's Concatenated Files: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Arrests by Age, Sex, and Race, 1974-2021
Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E102263V15

Jacob Kaplan's Concatenated Files: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Arson, 1979-2021
Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E103540V11

Jacob Kaplan's Concatenated Files: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Hate Crime Data, 1991-2021
Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E103500V9

Jacob Kaplan's Concatenated Files: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Human Trafficking, 2013-2019
Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E117974V3

Jacob Kaplan's Concatenated Files: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA), 1960-2021
Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E102180V12

Jacob Kaplan's Concatenated Files: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Offenses Known and Clearances by Arrest, 1960-2021
Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E100707V19

Jacob Kaplan's Concatenated Files: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Property Stolen and Recovered (Supplement to Return A), 1960-2021

Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E105403V9

Jacob Kaplan's Concatenated Files: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2021

Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E100699V12

United States Governors, 1775-2020

Available at https://doi.org/10.3886/E102000V3