creditsafe Creditsafe Belgium Generic Scorecard

Companies

Executive Summary

Group Analytics

Version January 2022



1. Executive Summary

1.1. Creditsafe Belgium Generic Scorecard Overview

In order to improve and increase Creditsafe's presence in the Belgian marketplace a new generic suite of scorecards have been developed internally by Creditsafe Group Analytics.

Creditsafe is continuously working on improving its credit scores, using the latest knowledge in the field of statistical scoring methods and optimizing and maximizing the deployment of the ever-expanding database. This enables more and more relevant data from different processes and ensures that Creditsafe is utilising the most up to date and relevant information available for the Belgian market. By this, the way companies are scored is improved making better and more predictive assessments about a growing number of companies, even in cases where less information is available.

1.2. Scorecards and Segmentation

The essential concept behind Creditsafe's scoring approach is to accurately predict business behaviour (in terms of their good/bad performance over the next 12 months) using a set of characteristics that clearly identify why a business is considered to be high or low risk.

To increase the discriminative power of the scorecard solution, segmentation was conducted. The aim of the segmentation was to define a set of sub-populations that, when modelled individually and combined, rank risk more effectively than a single model on the overall population. The main base for the segmentation has been the size of the company in terms of the total assets level. Except this, three scorecards where financial accounts do not exist has been developed (either the company is newly established, or do not need to publish accounts and finally a specific scorecard for sole traders). For these the relevant data to be included in the development sample is very limited.

Companies with financial accounts

- 1. Micro
- 2. Small
- 3. Medium
- 4. Large

Companies without financial accounts

- 1. New companies who have not yet filed their accounts
- 2. Other
- 3. Sole trader



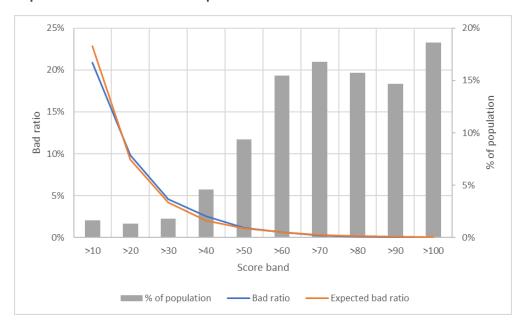
1.3. Individual PD or PoD (probability of default) versus score 1-100 Creditsafe's scorecard provide a score between 1 and 100 representing the highest and lowest risk respectively. This scale was produced using the probability of default (PoD) output from development and is a simple representative way for customers to accept or decline credit applications. With the launch of the new scorecard the Creditsafe score will be accompanied with a PoD which is produced for each company based on individual combination of characteristics. The conversion will still be created from the PoD but since the PoD will be kept at a company level, instead of matching the scores, there will be a range of PoD per score.

1.4. Summary of Results

Population matrix for companies with filed accounts

Score band	Min PD	Max PD	Min Score	Max score	Bad ratio	% of the population
Α	0,01%	0,24%	71	100	0,05%	49%
В	0,24%	0,83%	51	70	0,44%	32%
С	0,83%	3,02%	30	50	1,67%	14%
D	3,02%	99,99%	1	29	12,07%	5%

Population distribution for companies with filed accounts

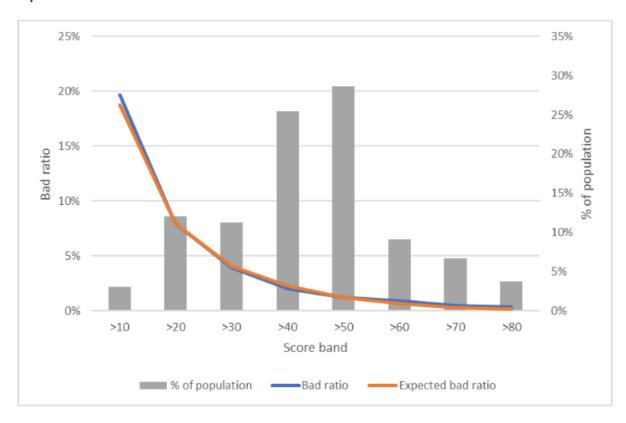




Population matrix for sole trader

Score band	Min PD	Max PD	Min Score	Max score	Bad ratio	% of the population
Α	0,01%	0,24%	71	100	0,06%	4%
В	0,24%	0,83%	51	70	0,69%	16%
С	0,83%	3,02%	30	50	1,62%	55%
D	3,02%	99,99%	1	29	7,77%	25%

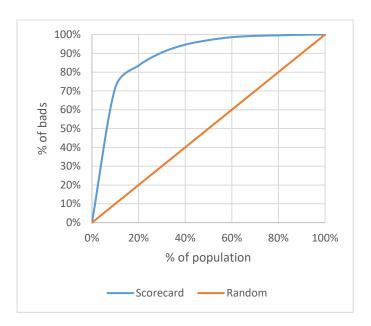
Population distribution for sole trader





Predictive power – Gini coefficient

The Gini coefficients represent good discrimination across all segments of the Belgian company population. To provide further comfort around the robustness of the scorecard, Creditsafe validated the scorecards using an out of time validation technique. The results showed that all attributes were within tolerance with and acceptable level of accuracy. Creditsafe continuously monitor and validate the scorecards to keep them robust. The overall gini coefficient for the companies with financial accounts is 81%, see the graph below.



2. Data Preparation & Population Design

2.1. Sample Design

The scorecards were developed from a generic sample of Belgian data extracted from the Creditsafe data pool. The selection of the sample definition satisfied the following:

- The generic sample was created to recognise economically active companies. There are sufficient businesses to develop a robust scorecard.
- Each business had a 12 months' exposure period, this is sufficient for business performance to be reliably assigned.
- The window covers a full year to avoid seasonality.
- The sample window is recent enough to be representative of the future Belgian population.

The scorecard development sample was created taking business information from 1st September 2016 to 1st September 2018, giving 24 months of information. A 12-month outcome period was then used from 1st September 2018 to 1st September 2019 to assign the good/bad population.



2.2. CS Belgium Default Definition

The performance definition defined for the Belgian scorecard development as below. The performance definition is designed to clearly identify why a business is considered to be high or low risk.

Bad	Initiation of bankruptcy proceedings with excusability Initiation of bankruptcy proceedings with inexcusability Initiation of bankruptcy proceedings Completion of bankruptcy proceedings with excusability Completion of bankruptcy proceedings with inexcusability Completion of bankruptcy proceedings Stay of proceedings (judicial reorganisation) Judicial winding-up or nullity
Good	None of the above status definitions

3. Scorecard Development

Modelling Methodology

Stepwise Logistic Regression has been used to develop the scorecard. This is the preferred methodology within Creditsafe. Logistic Regression has the benefit of outputting a predicted probability of good; this enables the creation of an accurate score to bad rate prediction.

Checking Business Logic

Even if a variable has predictive power, it is still necessary to check that its relationship with the outcome is logical and as expected. The first check on business logic therefore will be performed during the univariate analysis, discarding the variables that are not suitable from a business.

It is necessary however to perform another overall check the model resulting from the regression. If the analysis had been performed correctly the model should be predictive and correct from a mathematical point of view. It is still necessary to check its validity from the business point of view.

In particular, it is necessary to check that the score points given to the characteristic attributes are assigned in a way that is consistent with the corresponding bad rate of all the characteristic attributes defined for a given characteristic. Particular attention is given to the sign of the score point i.e. minus sign appears where a plus sign is expected and vice versa.

Scorecard Calibration

The output from the logistic model produces individual PoDs for each of the companies and each of the models, respectively. These PoDs have been transformed into a 1-100 Creditsafe score using points double the odds principles. This value was chosen to allow the score and PoD to match at the point required, as well as matching the score distribution expected by the Belgian market. This score is a direct representation of the underlying PoD.



The following table details the relevant PoD in relation to the Creditsafe 1-100 score:

Score		Min PD		Max PD	Band	Score		min PD		Max PD	Rand
100	>	0,00%	<=	0,00%	A	50	>	0,83%	<=	0,88%	С
99	>	0,00%		0,00%	A	49	>	0,83%	<=	0,94%	С
							_		_		С
98	>	0,04%		0,04%	A	48	>	0,94%		1,00%	
97	>	0,04%		0,05%	A	47	>	1,00%	<=	1,07%	С
96	>	0,05%		0,05%	A	46	>	1,07%	<=	1,13%	С
95	>	0,05%		0,05%	Α	45	>	1,13%	<=	1,21%	С
94	>	0,05%		0,06%	Α	44	>	1,21%		1,28%	С
93	>	0,06%		0,06%	Α	43	>	1,28%		1,36%	С
92	>	0,06%		0,06%	Α	42	>	1,36%	<=	1,45%	С
91	>	0,06%		0,07%	Α	41	>	1,45%	<=	1,54%	С
90	>	0,07%		0,07%	Α	40	>	1,54%		1,64%	С
89	>	0,07%		0,08%	Α	39	>	1,64%	<=	1,74%	С
88	>	0,08%	<=	0,08%	Α	38	>	1,74%	<=	1,85%	С
87	>	0,08%	<=	0,09%	Α	37	>	1,85%	<=	1,97%	С
86	>	0,09%	<=	0,09%	Α	36	>	1,97%	<=	2,10%	С
85	>	0,09%	<=	0,10%	Α	35	>	2,10%	<=	2,23%	С
84	>	0,10%	<=	0,11%	Α	34	>	2,23%	<=	2,37%	С
83	>	0,11%	<=	0,11%	Α	33	>	2,37%	<=	2,52%	С
82	>	0,11%	<=	0,12%	Α	32	>	2,52%	<=	2,67%	С
81	>	0,12%	<=	0,13%	Α	31	>	2,67%	<=	2,84%	С
80	>	0,13%	<=	0,14%	Α	30	>	2,84%	<=	3,02%	С
79	>	0,14%	<=	0,15%	Α	29	>	3,02%	<=	3,03%	D
78	>	0,15%		0,16%	Α	28	>	3,03%	<=	3,27%	D
77	>	0,16%		0,17%	Α	27	>	3,27%		3,53%	D
76	>	0,17%		0,18%	Α	26	>	3,53%		3,82%	D
75	>	0,18%		0,19%	Α	25	>	3,82%	<=	4,12%	D
74	>	0,19%		0,20%	Α	24	>	4,12%	<=	4,45%	D
73	>	0,20%		0,21%	Α	23	>	4,45%		4,80%	D
72	>	0,21%		0,23%	Α	22	>	4,80%	<=	5,18%	D
71	>	0,23%		0,24%	Α	21	>	5,18%	<=	5,59%	D
70	>	0,24%		0,26%	В	20	>	5,59%	<=	6,03%	D
69	>	0,26%		0,27%	В	19	>	6,03%	<=	6,50%	D
68	>	0,27%		0,29%	В	18	>	6,50%		7,00%	D
67		0,29%		0,31%	В	17		7,00%		7,54%	D
66	>	0,23%		0,31%	В	16	>	7,54%		8,12%	D
65	>	0,31%			В	15	>	8,12%		8,74%	D
64	_			0,35%			_				
	>	0,35%		0,37%	В	14	>	8,74%		9,40%	D
63	>	0,37%		0,39%	В	13	>	9,40%		10,10%	D
62	>	0,39%		0,42%	В	12	>	10,10%		10,85%	D
61	>	0,42%		0,45%	В	11	>	10,85%		11,65%	D
60	>	0,45%		0,48%	В	10	>	11,65%		12,50%	D
59	>	0,48%		0,51%	В	9	>	12,50%		13,40%	D
58	>	0,51%		0,54%	В	8	>	13,40%		14,36%	D
57	>	0,54%		0,57%	В	7	>	14,36%		15,37%	D
56	>	0,57%		0,61%	В	6	>	15,37%		16,44%	D
55	>	0,61%		0,65%	В	5	>	16,44%	<=	17,57%	D
54	>	0,65%	<=	0,69%	В	4	>	17,57%	<=	18,76%	D
53	>	0,69%		0,73%	В	3	>	18,76%		20,01%	D
52	>	0,73%	<=	0,78%	В	2	>	20,01%	<=	21,32%	D
51	>	0,78%	<=	0,83%	В	1	>	21,32%	<=	99,99%	D