



Cambridge Police Department

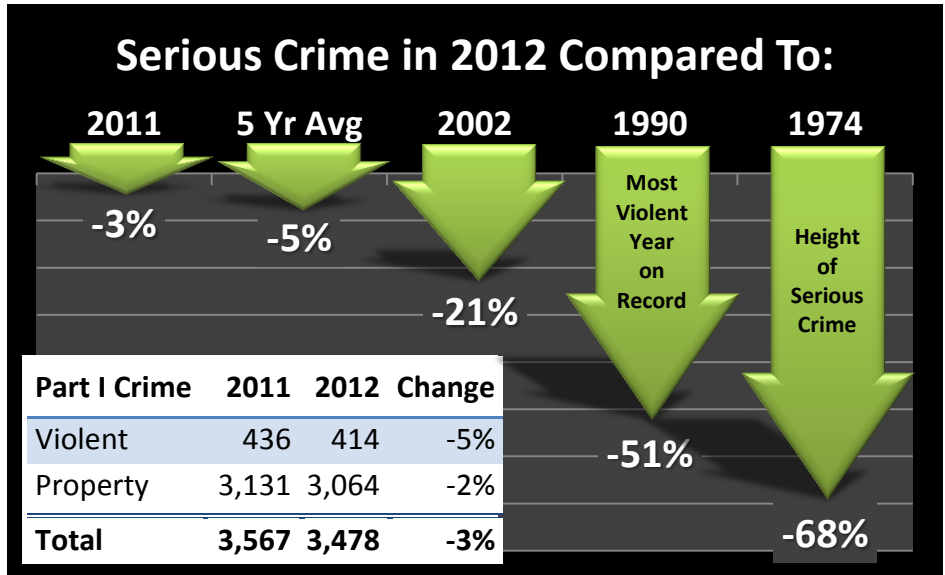
125 Sixth Street, Cambridge, MA 02142 | (617) 349-3300

January 2013

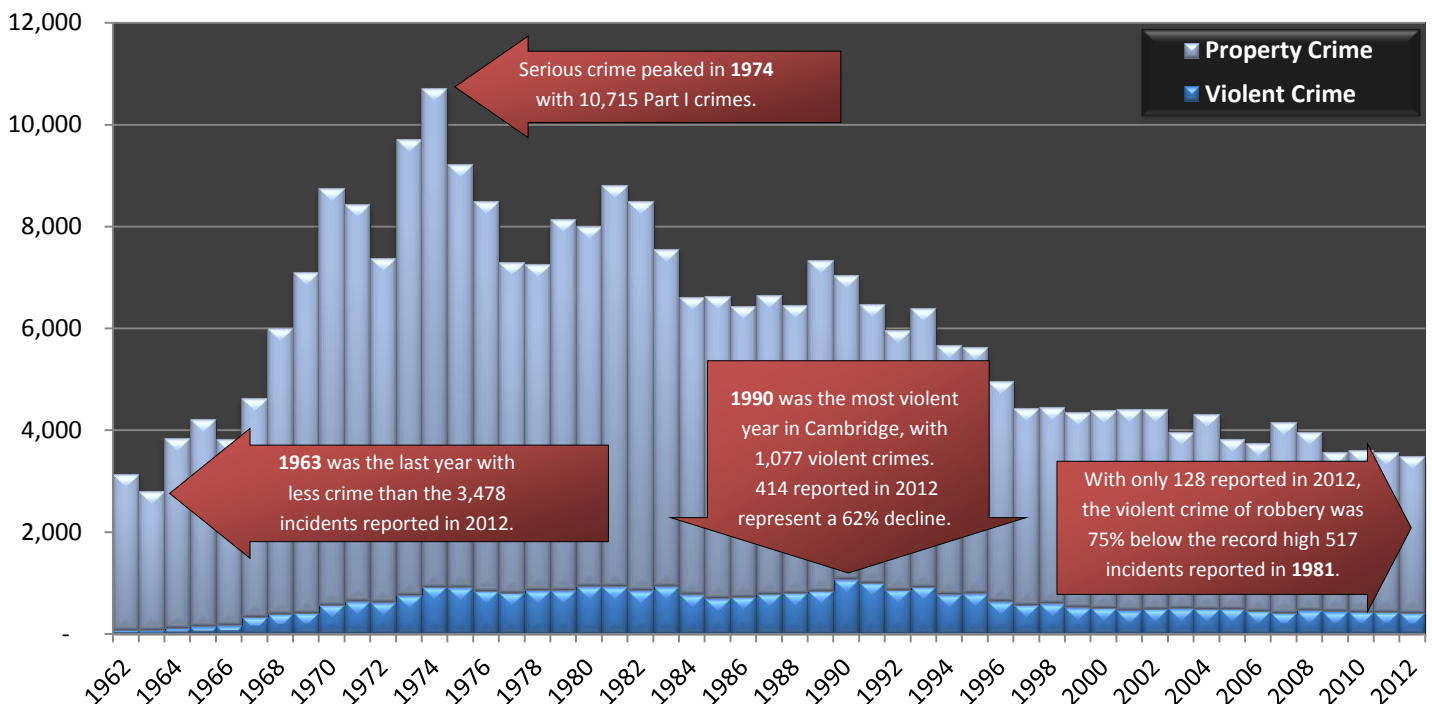
Cambridge 2012 Serious Crime* Review

Crime in Cambridge Continues Historic Decline with 3,478 Part I Index Crimes Reported

Again this year, the Cambridge Police Department is proud to report another historic drop in crime across the city. The 3,478 serious crimes recorded in Cambridge during 2012 represented the lowest total of index crimes reported to the FBI since Congress enacted the Omnibus Crime Control Act in 1968. **The 3% decrease in Part 1 offenses in Cambridge in 2012 translates to 89 fewer people being victimized by crime.** 2012 marks the fourth year in a row that Cambridge saw a drop in violent crime, resulting in 22 less victims of these most traumatic crimes.



50 Years of Crime in Cambridge



*Serious crime refers to Part I "Index" crimes; the seven serious crimes which the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program collects statistics on.



Analysis of 2012 Serious Crime in Cambridge

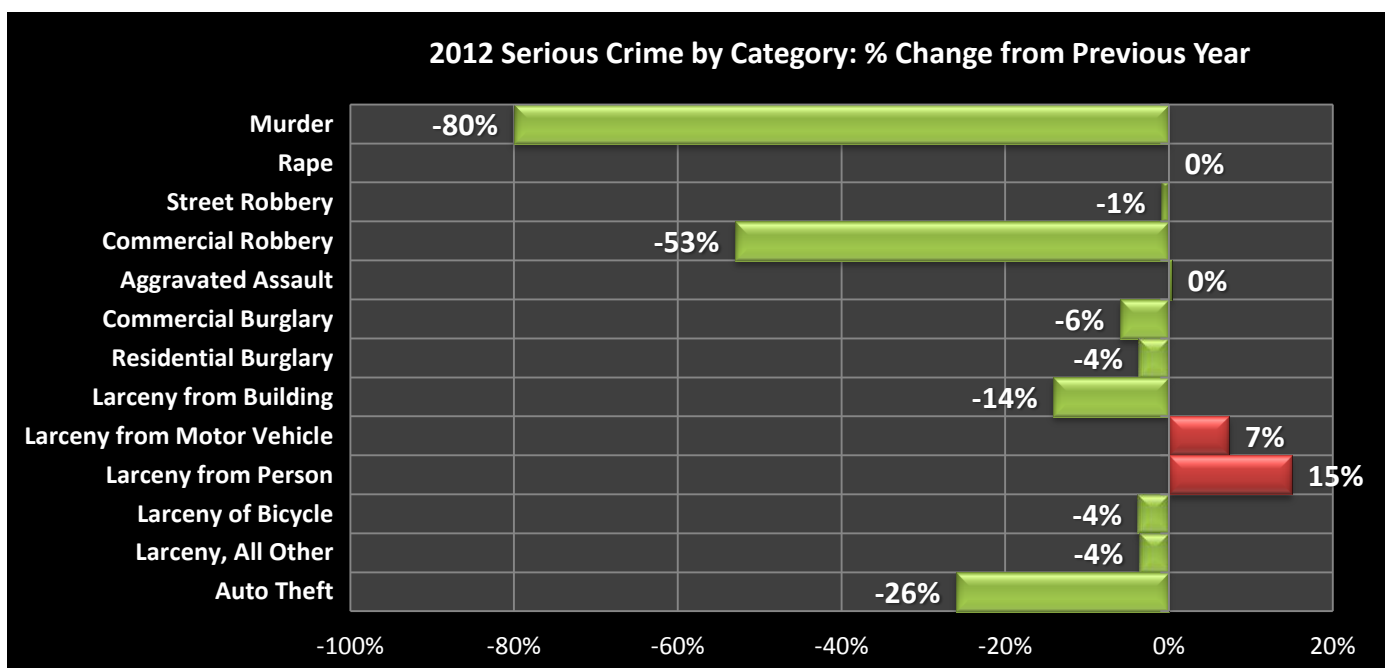
A detailed analysis of all statistics indicates there were 67 fewer property crimes counted in Cambridge during 2012, to register a 2% decrease when compared with 2011. When measured against the 5-year weighted average**, the 2012 property crime total was down 2%. Violent crime in Cambridge was down 5% in 2012, with twenty two fewer incidents than 2011. Compared to the 5-year weighted average for violent crime in this city, violent crime fell 6%.

A dramatic 53% reduction in commercial robbery, a 4% drop in residential burglary, and 26% fewer auto thefts contributed significantly to the 3% drop in crime in 2012 when compared to 2011.

Some of the more significant trends identified when analyzing the crime totals in Cambridge for 2012 were that housebreaks registered a decrease of 4% when compared with 2011. The drop in larceny of motor vehicles, at 39% below the 5-year weighted average, was a major factor in the falling property crime rate. The final significant contributing factor to the 3% crime reduction in 2012 was the dramatic drop in commercial robbery. With only 16 incidents reported all year, this 53% reduction accounts for most of the 5% drop in violent crime.

The crime of larceny from a person (more commonly referred to as pickpocketing) was the crime with the most significant increase in reported incidents in Cambridge during 2012. Despite numerous arrests of professional pick-pockets, including several successful undercover operations by detectives, this crime increased by 15% and accounted for 48 more incidents than were seen in 2011.

Although thefts from motor vehicles increased by 7% this year, the 686 incidents reported were still 17% below the 5-year average, and nearly half of the 1,234 reported in 2007.





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Detailed 2012 Part I Crime Statistics & 5 Year Comparison

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Change from 2011	5 Year Average**	Change from 5 Year
Part I Violent Crime									
Murder	0	1	2	0	5	1	-80%	2	-50%
Rape	16	17	20	23	23	23	0%	21	+10%
Robbery	161	177	172	163	147	128	-13%	161	-21%
Commercial Robbery	41	36	21	22	34	16	-53%	29	-45%
Street Robbery	120	141	151	141	113	112	-1%	132	-15%
Aggravated Assault	243	274	255	251	261	262	0%	258	+2%
Total Violent Crime	420	469	449	437	436	414	-5%	442	-6%
Part I Property Crime									
Burglary	653	467	429	453	520	499	-4%	486	+3%
Commercial Break	134	76	86	87	84	79	-6%	87	-10%
Housebreak	519	391	343	366	436	420	-4%	398	+5%
Larceny	2,838	2,788	2,496	2,555	2,453	2,448	0%	2,559	-4%
Larceny (Misc)	44	27	26	25	37	40	+8%	31	+30%
Larceny from Building	418	417	321	393	433	372	-14%	397	-6%
Larceny from MV	1234	1053	913	784	639	686	+7%	827	-17%
Larceny from Person	344	357	331	342	320	368	+15%	335	+10%
Larceny from Residence	162	214	185	192	234	225	-4%	206	+9%
Larceny of Bicycle	228	277	284	380	370	356	-4%	334	+7%
Larceny of Plate	37	65	39	43	43	40	-7%	45	-11%
Larceny of Services	22	26	28	31	25	17	-32%	27	-37%
Shoplifting	349	352	369	365	352	344	-2%	359	-4%
Auto Theft	344	244	196	169	158	117	-26%	192	-39%
Total Property Crime	3,735	3,499	3,121	3,177	3,131	3,064	-2%	3,231	-5%
Total Part I Crime	4,155	3,968	3,570	3,614	3,567	3,478	-3%	3,673	-5%

**The 5-year average is a weighted average developed using a method where more recent crimes carry more significance.

A more detailed analysis of the patterns and trends associated with the Part I Index Crime statistics in Cambridge for 2012 will be furnished in a comprehensive Annual Crime Report to be released this spring. This report will be available on our website at www.CambridgePolice.org.