

# CAMBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Crime Report 2017



## CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT

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Cambridge Police Department  
*2017 Annual Crime Report*  
Including Neighborhood and  
Business District Profiles

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# Cambridge at a Glance

## Cambridge Police Department

<b>Organized:</b>	1859
<b>Sworn Officers:</b>	278
<b>Civilian Personnel:</b>	38
<b>Commissioner:</b>	Branville G. Bard, Jr.
<b>Budget (FY 2018):</b>	\$55,191,025
<b>Marked Patrol Vehicles:</b>	37
<b>Unmarked Patrol Vehicles:</b>	36 (plus 8 narcotics vehicles)
<b>Motorcycles:</b>	14
<b>Fleet Bicycles:</b>	22
<b>Special Vehicles:</b>	9 Tactical vehicles, 3 Tactical ATV's, 6 Trailers
<b>2017 Calls for Service:</b>	102,885
<b>2017 Total Index Crimes:</b>	2,320

## City of Cambridge Top Employers

1. Harvard University	12,287
2. MIT	9,043
3. City of Cambridge	3,098
4. Novartis	2,326
5. Mt. Auburn Hospital	2,109
6. Biogen Idec	2,100
7. Cambridge Innovation Center	1,872
8. Akamai Technologies	1,845
9. Cambridge Health Alliance	1,824
10. Draper Laboratory	1,557

# Crime Analysis Foreword

**Crime Analysis** is the process of turning crime data into information, and then turning that information into knowledge about crime and safety in a particular community. While it is a growing field across this country and internationally, Cambridge has had a Crime Analysis Unit in operation for over 30 years.

The function of the Crime Analysis Unit (CAU) is to support the daily operations of the Police Department by collecting, managing, and analyzing crime, calls for service, and other data. The CAU also works together with analysts from neighboring departments to address cross-jurisdictional patterns. By making timely observations of emerging crime patterns, hot spots, and other crime problems, the CAU ultimately aims to assist the Department in its criminal apprehension and crime reduction strategies.

The Cambridge Police Department's 2017 Annual Crime Report is an attempt to provide detailed information so that citizens can make informed decisions about crime and safety in their neighborhoods.

The Annual Report offers a comprehensive analysis of the crimes reported by the Cambridge Police Department to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. The UCR Program has been collecting national crime statistics from local police departments since 1930. Based on seriousness and frequency, police departments are required to report their statistics on seven crimes which comprise the UCR Crime Index: murder, forcible rape, aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, larceny, and auto theft. In 2007, the Cambridge Police Department initiated the submission of crimes into the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). The general concepts, such as jurisdictional rules, of collecting and reporting UCR data are the same in NIBRS. The difference in the programs is that NIBRS captures much greater detail on each crime than the summary-based UCR program.

The true picture of crime and disorder in a city is seldom conveyed to the public through simple statistics. Crimes are complex events, and these complexities encompass many dimensions. It is our endeavor in this report to unravel the web of factors that comprise the crime rate. The publication of detailed neighborhood crime statistics, patterns, and trends gives Cantabrigians a realistic view of their risks of victimization and helps residents, business owners, and visitors have a fuller understanding of crime problems in their areas.

This report outlines two distinctions that make up criminal incidents: (1) whether offenses are committed against strangers or against relatives and acquaintances; and (2) when and where crimes occur, focusing on where the hotspots are and the best time frames for the majority of the incidents. Outlining these factors is imperative to understanding the anatomy of crime in Cambridge, and to developing appropriate responses.

# Conventions Used in this Report

This report uses several common crime analysis conventions for the reporting of statistical information. These conventions are consistent with general crime analysis practice, standards issued by the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program (where applicable), past Cambridge Police Annual Crime Reports, and monthly “BridgeStat” crime reports available on the Cambridge Police web site.

## Part I and Part II Crimes

The FBI UCR program standardizes the way in which law enforcement agencies report crime statistics. The program classifies crimes as “Part I” and “Part II.” The “Part I” crimes are a list of seven common crimes that together form an “index” of criminal activity, much like the Dow Jones Industrial Average provides a general assessment of the stock market based on an index of 30 stocks. These seven crimes are murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and auto theft. All other crimes—including fraud and forgery, vandalism, drug offenses, and other sex offenses—are “Part II Crimes.” Definitions of each of these crimes are included at the beginnings of their respective sections.

## The Hierarchy Rule

The Hierarchy Rule states that if multiple offenses are committed in the same incident, it is classified (and reported) as the most serious of the offenses. Thus, although almost all robberies involve both an assault and a theft, such incidents are included only under the “robbery” category. Similarly, the statistics for “larceny” only include incidents in which larceny is the primary crime; thefts from houses and businesses that involve illegal entry are “burglaries” and are reported there.

Using the hierarchy rule helps both police and community members understand crime. If you see that larcenies have increased 10% in your area, you don’t have to worry that those thefts involve threats or violence. If they did, they would be reported as robberies instead of larcenies.

## Best Data at the Time

All statistics, including yearly totals and weighted averages, are calculated using the best available data at the time. Occasionally, after our reports are published, factors determined during investigation will cause us to reclassify a crime to a higher or lower category, and thus you may see slight discrepancies

between current and past reports. In all cases, the more recent data is the more correct data.

## Weighted Averages

Because crime can fluctuate significantly from year to year, the Crime Analysis Unit makes most of its comparisons based on averages rather than individual years. If robbery increases by 28% from 2016 to 2017, there’s no way to tell from that figure whether 2016 was unusually low or 2017 was unusually high. But comparing 2017 to an average helps us better assess whether the crime truly went up or down in the most recent year.

We specifically use a five-year weighted average in which the earliest year (2012 in this report) is weighted once and the most recent year in the average (2016) is weighted five times, with the years in between weighted twice, three times, and four times. This common statistical convention helps produce a figure that best represents the “expected” value for the current year (2017), and to thus determine how unusual 2017’s deviation is from that average. We also provide graphs for most crimes to help assess long-term trends.

## Rates

In a few places, we offer crime statistics in terms of rates rather than raw numbers. Using rates is important when comparing geographic areas of very different populations, so that we can better assess each resident’s individual risk. For instance, in 2016 (regional numbers are not yet available for 2017), Cambridge had 161 aggravated assaults, about 38% more than Malden, which reported 117. However, Cambridge also has about 82% more residents than Malden. When we look at it on the basis of rates, Cambridge had 145 robberies per 100,000 residents, and Malden had 191 robberies per 100,000 residents, which means that a Malden resident’s *risk* of robbery was actually higher than a Cambridgean’s. We only provide rates for certain crimes, however, as not all crimes are best compared in terms of residential population.

# 2017 Crime Index

The Crime Index is composed of selected offenses used to gauge fluctuations in the overall volume and rate of crime reported to police. The offenses included are the violent crimes of murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault; and the property crimes of burglary, larceny, and auto theft. The Crime Index was developed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting program to standardize the way in which law enforcement agencies report crime statistics.

Crime	2014	2015	2016	2017	2016-2017 Change	5-Year Wtd. Avg.	Avg.-2017 Change
<b>Murder</b>	2	3	2	2	0%	2	0%
<b>Rape</b>	24	25	27	19	-30%	24	-21%
Stranger	2	1	2	0	-100%	2	-100%
Non-Stranger	22	24	25	19	-24%	23	-17%
<b>Robbery</b>	81	77	81	104	28%	88	18%
Commercial	28	23	23	39	70%	24	63%
Street	53	54	58	65	12%	64	2%
<b>Aggravated Assault</b>	184	186	161	173	7%	183	-5%
<b>Total Violent Crime</b>	291	291	271	298	10%	297	0%
<b>Burglary</b>	286	438	308	252	-18%	362	-30%
Commercial	51	100	45	49	9%	66	-26%
Residential	235	338	263	203	-23%	296	-31%
<b>Larceny</b>	2,159	2,000	1,931	1,679	-13%	2,089	-20%
from Building	385	345	297	273	-8%	345	-21%
from Vehicle	515	404	371	289	-22%	462	-37%
From Person	220	181	221	158	-29%	236	-33%
of Bicycle	328	362	375	303	-19%	362	-16%
Shoplifting	391	333	326	370	13%	351	5%
from Residence	226	289	270	187	-31%	252	-26%
of License Plate	28	25	22	28	27%	25	12%
of Services	17	16	17	31	82%	17	82%
Miscellaneous	49	45	32	40	25%	38	5%
<b>Auto Theft</b>	136	125	110	91	-17%	119	-24%
<b>Total Property Crime</b>	2,581	2,563	2,349	2,022	-14%	2,570	-21%
<b>Crime Index Total</b>	2,872	2,854	2,620	2,320	-11%	2,867	-19%

# Cambridge Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics, 1998-2017\*

Crime	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Avg. 1998-2007	Avg. 2008-2017	Avg. 1998-2017	Change 2016-2017**	Change 1998-2017**
<b>Murder</b>	2	2	1	1	6	3	0	3	2	0	1	2	0	5	1	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	0%	0%
<b>Rape</b>	25	15	11	15	10	7	10	14	11	16	17	20	23	23	23	17	24	25	27	19	13	22	18	-30%	-24%
<b>Robbery</b>	208	165	186	181	195	229	245	239	208	161	177	172	163	147	128	118	81	77	81	104	202	125	163	28%	-50%
<b>Aggravated Assault</b>	369	348	322	272	284	271	248	244	237	243	274	256	251	258	262	189	184	186	161	173	284	219	252	7%	-53%
<b>Burglary</b>	695	567	552	688	720	651	724	623	685	653	467	429	453	520	499	390	286	438	308	252	656	404	530	-18%	-64%
<b>Larceny</b>	2,753	2,819	2,820	2,740	2,764	2,389	2,654	2,396	2,377	2,838	2,788	2,497	2,555	2,458	2,448	2,376	2,159	2,000	1,931	1,679	2,655	2,289	2,472	-13%	-39%
<b>Auto Theft</b>	397	431	498	523	425	419	438	295	233	244	244	196	169	159	117	106	136	125	110	91	390	145	268	-17%	-77%
<b>Total Violent</b>	604	530	520	469	495	510	503	500	458	420	469	450	437	433	414	327	291	291	271	298	501	368	435	10%	-51%
<b>Total Property</b>	3,845	3,817	3,870	3,951	3,909	3,459	3,816	3,314	3,295	3,735	3,499	3,122	3,177	3,137	3,064	2,872	2,581	2,563	2,349	2,022	3,701	2,839	3,270	-14%	-47%
<b>Total</b>	4,449	4,347	4,390	4,420	4,404	3,969	4,319	3,814	3,753	4,155	3,968	3,572	3,614	3,570	3,478	3,199	2,872	2,854	2,620	2,320	4,202	3,207	3,704	-11%	-48%

\*The Cambridge Police Department voluntarily submits Uniform Crime Reporting statistics to the FBI for national comparison. See <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm> for more information.

\*\*Percent changes are rounded to the nearest whole number. A 0% change indicates there was less than a 0.5% increase or decrease.

# 25-Year Statistical Trends

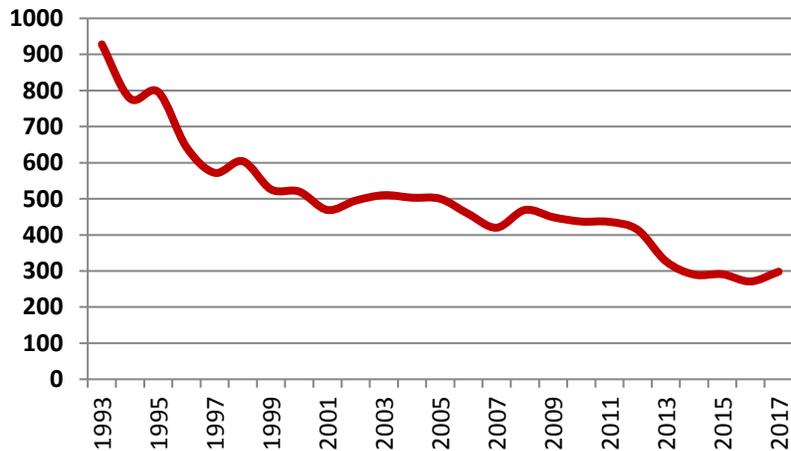
**Total Part I (Index Crimes)**



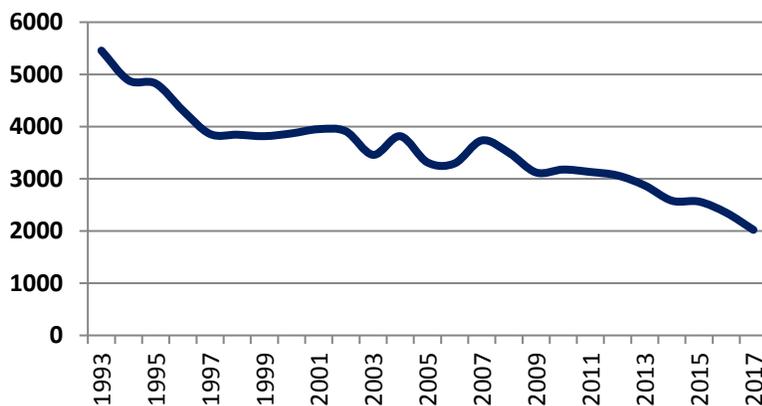
The 2,320 Part I crimes reported in Cambridge in 2017 represent the lowest level in the crime index since 1963. Over the past seven years, there has been a consistent drop in recorded crimes. Despite some bumps in the early 1980s and early 1990s, crime has decreased steadily since it peaked in 1974 at more than 10,000 Part I crimes. The last big decrease was between 1990 and 1998. Crime fluctuated around the 3,700 mark for about a decade before dropping below 3,000 for the first time in 2014 and ending below 2,500 for the first time this year.

Violent crimes (murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) hit their peak in 1990, amidst a nationwide gang and drug epidemic, but then fell dramatically in the following decade and remained around 450-500 per year throughout the 2000s. The 2016 violent crime number was the lowest since the late 1960s. There was a 10% uptick in violent crimes in 2017 to reach a total of 298 incidents, but this is still well below the 25-year high of 928 shown on the chart in 1993.

**Total Part I Violent Crimes**



**Total Part I Property Crimes**



Property crime (burglary, larceny, and auto theft) makes up about 90% of the total Part I crime index each year, and its graph therefore looks almost identical to the total crime graph above. The 50-year low for property crimes recorded in 2017 was due to reductions in almost all categories, leading to an astounding 14% drop below the previous record low registered in 2016. One category that has seen a consistent decline since its peak of 1,234 incidents in 2007 is larceny from motor vehicles (LMVs), which has dropped 77% since that year. Only 289 LMVs were reported in 2017.

# 2017 Executive Summary

Crime continued its downward slide in 2017, once again dropping to unprecedented levels. For the seventh consecutive year, a decrease in crime was recorded in the City of Cambridge. In 2017, serious crime in the City declined by 11% to 2,320 crimes, down from the previous low of 2,620 crimes recorded in 2016. The number reported in 2017 represents the lowest total of index crimes reported to the FBI since Congress enacted the Omnibus Crime Control Act in 1968. Looking closer at the crime breakdown, there was a 14% drop in property crime when compared with 2016 and a 21% reduction below the five-year weighted average. Conversely, there were 298 violent crimes reported in 2017, 27 incidents above 2016. Compared to the five-year weighted average for violent crime in Cambridge, these types of incidents registered an increase of just one incident in 2017.

## Murder

- Two murders were reported in Cambridge in 2017. On October 14, Ednilson DaCosta, 28, of Dorchester, was shot in a motor vehicle in the area of Windsor Street & Evereteze Way. He was pronounced deceased at a local hospital. This homicide remains under investigation. In the second homicide of 2017, 28-year-old Malachi Mims of Cambridge was shot and killed outside a vehicle in the area of Tremont Street and Hampshire Street on November 16. On December 31, Kevin Reddick, 17, of Cambridge, was arrested in Boston in connection with this homicide.
- There was no change in the number of homicides reported from 2016 to 2017. Armando Hernandez, Jr., 30, of Belmont, was killed by gunfire while walking on Mount Auburn Street on the evening of March 22. In the second homicide of the year, Anthony Clay, 49, of Cambridge, was shot and killed while standing outside of 140 Harvard Street early on June 25. Both homicides remain under investigation.
- Since 1990, Cambridge has averaged two murders per year, which is a decrease from the 30-year period between 1960 and 1989 when the average was slightly less than five per year.
- Trend analysis for the past twenty years points to two recurring murder scenarios in Cambridge: a domestic murder in which one family member is killed by another, and the murder of young males by a handgun or knife in acts of retaliatory street violence.
- Twenty-five of the 34 murders in Cambridge since 2000 (74%) have been cleared by an arrest/suicide of the perpetrator, including all three murders in both 2013 and 2015, and one of the two in 2014 and 2017. For comparison, the 2010 clearance rate for murder was 65% nationally and 50% in New England.
- Handguns have been used in 20 of the 34 murders in Cambridge since 2000. Six have involved knives.

## Rape

- The total number of rapes in Cambridge dropped in 2017 to 19 incidents, after having registered at 27 incidents the previous year.
- Seven of the rapes in 2017 involved acquaintances, six involved a contact scenario with the offender being someone the victim had met in a public place, and six were domestic situations.
- The number of stranger-to-stranger rapes each year—between one and five—remains extremely low. Patterns of reported rape are very rare in Cambridge. There were no stranger-to-stranger rapes reported in Cambridge in 2017.

### Robbery

- In 2017, there were 104 total robberies reported, translating to a 28% increase over the 2016 total. When measured against the five-year weighted average of 88 incidents, an 18% incline is reported.
- Street robberies increased by seven incidents in 2017, translating to a 12% rise over 2016's total of 58 incidents. The 2017 street robbery total of 65 incidents was also one incident (2%) above the five-year average of 64 incidents. No notable street robbery patterns emerged anywhere in Cambridge in 2017.
- Commercial robbery increased by an astonishing 70% in 2017, up 16 incidents from 23 in 2016 to 39 this year. The 2017 total is also 63% above the five-year weighted average of 24. Banks and miscellaneous retail outlets were the most common locations of commercial robberies in 2017. Eight of the 11 bank robberies ultimately resulted in arrests this year.

### Aggravated Assault

- The total of 173 aggravated assaults reported in Cambridge in 2017 is 7% above the 2016 total of 161 incidents and 5% below the five-year average of 183 assaults.
- Domestic assaults, which typically constitute 30-40% of the assault total each year, dropped from 49 incidents in 2016 to 43 in 2017, which is only 25% of the assault total this year. Meanwhile, aggravated assaults between acquaintances rose from 30 in 2016 to 40 in 2017.
- Seven of the aggravated assaults in 2017 (4%) resulted in serious injury, including three shooting incidents that resulted in five victims (all non-fatal; the fatal shootings are in the Murder section).
- The most common weapons used in aggravated assaults in 2017 were knives (24%), followed by shod feet (14%). Hands and/or feet (without shoes) were used in 8%. There were six aggravated assaults that involved the use of a firearm in 2017, down one from the previous two years.
- 43% of aggravated assaults resulted in an arrest in 2017, compared to 25% of simple assaults.

### Burglary

- Total burglary, the combination of residential and commercial breaks, registered a 30% decline in 2017 when compared with the five-year weighted average for this crime and is down 18% when compared with the 2016 total.
- Housebreaks saw a notable decrease of 23% from 263 in 2016 to 203 in 2017. This crime type also dropped 31% below the five-year weighted average of 296. Similar to 2016, the effects of housebreak patterns were felt mainly in the lower half of Cambridge this year.
- There was a slight increase in commercial burglaries in Cambridge in 2017, rising 9% from 45 incidents in 2016 to 49 in 2017. This total was 26% below the five-year weighted average of 66. No notable patterns emerged anywhere in Cambridge in 2016.

### Larceny

- In 2017, the property crime of larceny fell 13% (or 252 incidents) when measured against the 2016 total and 20% when compared to the five-year weighted average.
- Larceny is always the most prevalent of the Part One crimes in Cambridge. In 2017, it accounted for 72% of the total Part I crime and 83% of the total property crime. Three categories of larceny that

produce some of the highest numbers each year (larceny from motor vehicles, buildings, and persons) are often fueled by advances in technology.

- Larcenies from motor vehicles (LMVs) this year were down a substantial 22% from the 2016 figures. The 2017 total of 289 LMVs was also down 37% when compared with the five-year weighted average. The most common method of entry in recent years has been through unlocked car doors.
- Larceny from the person decreased by 29% in 2017, down 63 incidents from the 221 reported in 2016. The 2017 total of 158 incidents is also 33% below the five-year weighted average.
- Larceny of bicycles also saw a decrease this year, dropping 19% from 375 incidents in 2016 to 303 in 2017. This property crime was also 16% below the five-year weighted average of 362.
- Larceny from residences decreased by 31% in 2017. By far the most prevalent scenario for this crime type in recent years has involved the theft of packages from the front steps or vestibules of residences. This scenario dropped off somewhat from 144 in 2016 to 109 in 2017.

### Auto Theft

- In 2017, auto thefts in Cambridge slipped 17% below the number reported in 2016, dropping under 100 recorded thefts for the first time. The 91 reported incidents in 2017 and the five-year average of 119 thefts are remarkably low totals for a city that used to see staggering auto theft numbers—in 1974, there were 5,203 cars reported stolen.
- East Cambridge recorded the largest number of auto thefts in 2017 with 16 incidents reported, followed by West Cambridge with 13 and Mid-Cambridge with 10.
- Very few auto theft patterns have been identified over the past decade. An unusual trend of motorcycle and scooter thefts emerged in 2012 and continued through 2015 but dropped off in 2016. This trend re-emerged in 2017 with 24% of all auto thefts in Cambridge involving motorcycles or scooters in 2017, but no specific patterns were detected.
- Approximately 55% of the cars reported stolen in Cambridge this year have been recovered to date, which is below the percent recovered in both 2016 (64%) and 2015 (60%) and represents an even more substantial decline below the average of around 70% seen in previous years. The majority of the recovered cars this year were located throughout Cambridge.

# Regional Crime Comparison

The following table compares Cambridge to other Massachusetts cities and towns with populations greater than 50,000 residents. The data is from 2016, as this is the most recent year for which data is available from the FBI UCR program. Data is presented in terms of rates per 100,000 residents, rather than raw totals, so that we can validly compare cities and towns of very different population sizes.

## 2016 Rates per 100,000 residents for selected Massachusetts Cities and Towns

City	Population	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Violent Total	Burglary	Larceny	Auto Theft	Property Total	Total
Brockton	95,189	3	87	178	813	1,081	538	1,574	294	2,406	3,487
Brookline*	59,033	0	3	20	N/A	N/A	130	886	17	1,033	N/A
Chicopee	56,887	4	79	88	295	466	596	1,550	167	2,313	2,779
Fall River	88,371	1	76	215	801	1,093	549	1,068	268	1,885	2,978
Framingham	71,422	0	11	25	259	295	171	917	76	1,164	1,459
Haverhill	62,851	2	32	59	501	593	393	1,039	130	1,562	2,156
Lawrence	80,622	6	37	251	447	740	346	805	721	1,872	2,612
Lowell	111,027	0	19	114	209	342	367	1,253	361	1,981	2,323
Lynn	92,443	4	47	189	532	772	395	1,445	239	2,079	2,851
Malden	61,102	2	16	67	191	277	157	851	165	1,173	1,450
Medford	57,367	0	7	38	110	155	152	933	84	1,168	1,323
New Bedford	94,524	3	33	252	579	866	651	2,153	290	3,093	3,960
Newton	89,116	0	3	12	36	52	90	610	20	720	772
Peabody	52,501	2	30	42	318	392	107	1,116	82	1,305	1,697
Plymouth	59,088	2	12	22	122	157	125	481	32	638	795
Quincy	93,437	0	32	64	340	437	316	1,191	105	1,612	2,048
Revere	53,514	0	39	82	368	490	363	1,560	211	2,134	2,624
Somerville	80,899	0	17	59	178	255	256	1,109	126	1,491	1,745
Springfield	154,102	8	53	339	631	1,030	964	1,947	381	3,292	4,322
Taunton	56,720	9	23	63	263	358	462	700	159	1,321	1,678
Waltham	63,613	2	19	13	123	156	171	865	46	1,082	1,237
Weymouth	56,149	0	20	50	217	287	155	732	52	939	1,225
Worcester	184,595	4	34	213	638	890	740	1,881	281	2,903	3,792
<b>Average**</b>	<b>81,503</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>1,265</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>1,899</b>	<b>2,538</b>
<b>Cambridge</b>	<b>111,030</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>1,740</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>2,117</b>	<b>2,361</b>

\*Brookline's assault data was not available for 2016.

\*\* Cambridge figures are not included in the average so as to allow a better comparison between Cambridge and the average.

Statistics from the rest of the state shows that Cambridge had less per-capita crime in six categories (murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, and auto theft), while conversely registering more larcenies than the average, which also affected the property crime total. The rate for the overall crime total in 2016 in Cambridge was slightly below the average for the region.

The high larceny figure for Cambridge is consistent with past data. Cambridge's high entertainment, business, and education populations create opportunities for thefts from vehicles, pocket-picking, shoplifting, thefts from buildings, and bicycle thefts — opportunities not present in many less trafficked cities and towns.

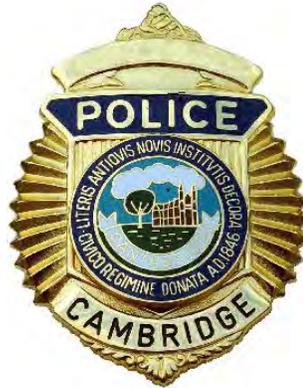
# National Crime Comparison

The table on this page compares Cambridge to other cities across the nation with a comparable population (and because the populations *are* comparable, we use the actual figures for crimes, not rates). Again, the data is from the most recent year available: 2016.

City	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Larceny	Auto Theft	Total
Ann Arbor, MI	1	44	43	125	242	1,697	112	2,264
Antioch, CA	9	55	293	403	762	2,012	916	4,450
Billings, MT	0	61	81	372	723	3,698	795	5,730
Boulder, CO	0	52	30	176	559	2,497	219	3,533
Burbank, CA	0	24	50	136	392	2,269	266	3,137
Carlsbad, CA	0	37	49	123	369	1,652	167	2,397
Clearwater, FL	5	89	145	397	555	2,968	232	4,391
Daly City, CA	1	22	90	131	246	1,152	233	1,875
Davenport, IA	7	88	155	500	1,155	3,436	410	5,751
Edison Township, NJ	0	7	37	60	165	844	79	1,192
El Cajon, CA	1	46	146	202	429	1,584	433	2,841
Elgin, IL	2	34	63	137	218	1,279	68	1,801
Erie, PA	10	46	115	182	567	1,607	104	2,631
Fairfield, CA	7	56	147	266	420	1,888	537	3,321
Green Bay, WI	4	77	73	351	424	1,795	87	2,811
Gresham, OR	5	71	113	235	415	1,837	813	3,489
High Point, NC	7	36	220	458	781	2,292	210	4,004
Independence, MO	9	49	140	403	891	4,542	956	6,990
Lansing, MI	9	142	260	930	897	2,053	375	4,666
Las Cruces, NM	5	41	51	154	830	3,697	261	5,039
Lowell, MA	0	21	127	232	407	1,391	401	2,579
Manchester, NH	5	69	205	463	456	2,408	146	3,752
Norwalk, CA	7	18	139	255	372	1,125	466	2,382
Palm Bay, FL	4	57	47	408	454	1,252	135	2,357
Peoria, IL	10	70	305	490	1,089	3,116	224	5,304
Pueblo, CO	9	171	224	677	1,797	4,505	1,171	8,554
Richardson, TX	5	16	71	64	389	1,874	210	2,629
Richmond, CA	21	72	364	562	645	1,907	1,233	4,804
Round Rock, TX	0	31	44	98	303	2,270	80	2,826
South Bend, IN	14	70	388	565	1,241	3,359	566	6,203
Temecula, CA	2	4	55	84	341	1,940	306	2,732
Ventura, CA	8	53	109	198	628	2,838	284	4,118
Waterbury, CT	10	29	216	295	755	2,711	733	4,749
West Palm Beach, FL	10	71	333	540	946	4,100	553	6,553
Westminster, CO	4	50	71	144	377	2,890	737	4,273
Wichita Falls, TX	9	124	123	189	825	2,646	263	4,179
Wilmington, NC	15	44	204	496	1,277	3,219	275	5,530
<b>Average*</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>2,388</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>3,942</b>
<b>Cambridge</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>1,931</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>2,620</b>

\*Cambridge figures are not included in the average so as to allow a better comparison between Cambridge and the average.





## Section II

# Part I Crimes

Murder  
Rape  
Robbery  
Aggravated Assault  
Burglary  
Larceny  
Auto Theft



# Murder

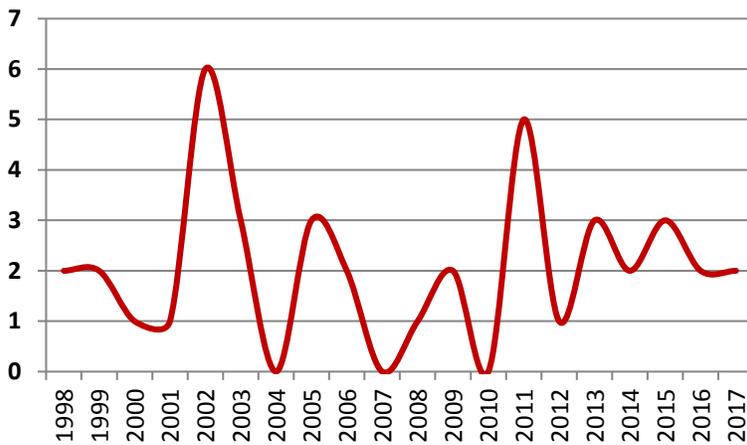
## Definition

Murder and non-negligent manslaughter encompasses the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. The classification of this offense, as for all other Crime Index Offenses, is based solely on police investigation as opposed to the determination of a court, medical examiner, coroner, jury, or other judicial body. Not included in the count for this offense classification are deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident; justifiable homicides; and attempts to murder or assaults with the intent to murder, which are counted as aggravated assaults.

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	2
2016	2
2017	2
Change from 2016	0%
Change from Average	0%

## Murders reported in Cambridge\*



\*Murders are counted by victim rather than incidents; one incident can have multiple victims.

In the first homicide of 2017, 28-year-old Ednilson DaCosta of Cambridge was shot and killed in the area of Tremont Street and Hampshire Street at approximately 7:30 p.m. on November 3. On December 31, Kevin Reddick, 17, of Cambridge, was arrested in Boston in connection with this homicide.

Two murders were reported in Cambridge in 2017. At 3:40 a.m. on October 14, Ednilson DaCosta, 28, of Dorchester, was shot in a motor vehicle in the area of Windsor Street & Evereteze Way. He was pronounced deceased at a local hospital. Minutes later, another male was shot and killed in Somerville. On November 3, Tony Harris, 28, of Everett, was arrested for the Somerville homicide. The murder of Ednilson DaCosta remains under investigation.

In the second homicide of 2017, 28-year-old Malachi Mims of Cambridge was shot and killed outside a vehicle in the area of Tremont Street and Hampshire Street at approximately 7:30 p.m. on November 16. On December 31, Kevin Reddick, 17, of Cambridge, was arrested in Boston in connection with this homicide.

There was no change in the number of homicides reported from 2016 to 2017. On March 22, 2016, Armando Hernandez, Jr., 30, of Belmont, was killed by gunfire while walking on Mount Auburn Street just before 10:00 p.m. A second victim was hospitalized with a leg wound. In the second homicide of the year, Anthony Clay, 49, of Cambridge, was shot and killed while standing outside of 140 Harvard Street shortly after midnight on June 25. Both homicides from 2016 remain under investigation at this time.

## Characteristics of murder in Cambridge

For the 30-year period between 1960 and 1989, the City of Cambridge averaged slightly less than five murders per year. The annual average since 1990 has fallen to approximately two per year. Trend analysis over recent years points to two recurring murder scenarios in Cambridge: domestic murder, in which one family member is brutally killed by another in a homicidal rage, and the murder of young males by a handgun or knife in acts of retaliatory street violence.

## Cambridge murder statistics, 1990-2017

- 60 people murdered in 55 incidents (in four of the incidents, two or more people were killed)
- 41 victims were male (average age of 34)
- 19 victims were female (average age of 41)

## Part I Crimes: Murder

- Most common weapons: handguns (29 incidents) and knives (13 incidents)
- 18 of the 55 cases are still under investigation or remain unsolved.
- 25 of the 34 cases since 2000 have been cleared by arrest or by the death of the suspect, including all three murders in both 2013 and 2015, and one of the two murders in 2014 and 2017.

### Murder in Cambridge, 2005–2017

(See 2010 Annual Report for information on murders committed during the 1990s and early 2000s.)

Date & Time	Location	Victim(s)	Offender(s)	Story	Status
2/24/2005 14:15	152 Berkshire St. (Inman/ Harrington)	Andrea Harvey, 27, of Cambridge	Damion Linton, of Cambridge	Linton was charged with strangling his wife of one year. Her body was found by her parents in her apartment in Inman Square.	Linton was sentenced to life in prison without parole.
8/6/2005 12:14	17 Warren St. (Inman/ Harrington)	Regina Antoine, 8, & Benita Antoine, 76, both of Cambridge	Kevin Robinson, of Cambridge	Robinson was charged with murder and arson after using gasoline to light a building on fire, causing the deaths of a grandmother and her young granddaughter.	Robinson was found guilty of two counts of 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder.
3/18/2006 23:53	144 Hamilton St. (Cambridgeport)	Corey Davis, 19, of Cambridge	Ahmad Bright, 17, of Dorchester, Sherrod Bright, 22, of Dorchester, and Remele Ahart, 21, of Chelsea	Davis and his cousin were walking down Hamilton St. when a car drove past and someone opened fire on them, striking and killing Davis. Ahart and Ahmad Bright were arrested in connection with this shooting in June 2006. Sherrod Bright was arrested in Nov. 2008.	Ahart was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder. A. Bright was found guilty of 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder. S. Bright pled guilty to manslaughter.
3/28/2006 01:13	512 Mass Ave (Cambridgeport)	Doowensky Nazaire, 22, of Somerville	Elysee Bresilla, 28, of Roslindale	Nazaire died from two gunshot wounds to the upper torso after Bresilla allegedly shot him while he was standing in front of the <i>Phoenix Landing</i> .	Bresilla was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder and sentenced to life in prison w/o parole.
6/26/2008 22:49	211 Elm St E. (Inman/Harrington)	Steven Raftery, 42, of Cambridge	James Foley, 39, of Cambridge	Foley allegedly stabbed Raftery two times in the chest during an argument in the basement at this address. Raftery was pronounced dead at the scene and Foley was arrested the next day.	Foley was found guilty of 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder and sentenced to life in prison.
1/28/2009 10:15	26 Smith Pl. (Highlands)	Maurice Ricketts, 33, of Malden	Clyde Howard, 65, of Brookline	Howard and Ricketts were in a verbal dispute when Howard pulled out a handgun and shot Ricketts in the head. Ricketts was transported to the hospital and pronounced dead shortly thereafter.	Howard was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder.
5/18/2009 16:45	Dunster St & Mt. Auburn St <b>(HARVARD UNIV. CRIME)</b>	Justin Cosby, 21, of Cambridge	Jabrai Jordan Copney, 20, Blayn Jiggetts, 19, and Jason Aquino, 23, all from New York	Cosby was shot and killed inside Kirkland House (a Harvard University dormitory) during a drug-related robbery perpetrated by Copney, Jiggetts, and Aquino. Copney was the alleged shooter.	Copney was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder. Jiggetts and Aquino both pled guilty to manslaughter.
6/16/2009 03:05	341 Rindge Ave (North Cambridge)	Jason Ellcock, 33, formerly of Cambridge	Unknown	Ellcock was found with multiple gunshot wounds in front of the driveway to 362/364 Rindge Ave. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Incident remains under investigation.	Ongoing investigation.
3/12/2011 00:15	Watson St & Brookline St (Cambridgeport)	James Lauture, 30, of Cambridge	Unknown	Lauture was shot and killed while sitting in the driver's seat of a vehicle parked at Watson & Brookline St.	Ongoing investigation.
11/20/2011 10:30	77 Elm St (The Port)	Guy Verna, 62, of Cambridge	Gylene Verna, 29, of Cambridge	Gylene Verna allegedly strangled and killed her father, Guy Verna, during a verbal altercation at her apartment.	Verna was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter and

Date & Time	Location	Victim(s)	Offender(s)	Story	Status
					sentenced to 8-10 years in prison.
12/9/2011 18:35	161 Grove St (Strawberry Hill)	Mary Pizzuto, 91, of Cambridge, Patrick Pizzuto, 63, of Lexington, & Robert Pizzuto, 52, of Arlington	John Brosnahan, 68, of Cambridge	Brosnahan, a retired Bedford police officer, allegedly shot and killed his mother-in-law and two of his brothers-in-law during a disagreement at his residence. Brosnahan fled the scene and was found later that evening in Brighton where he died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.	John Brosnahan committed suicide.
6/3/2012 20:00	34 Willow St (Inman/Harrington)	Charlene Holmes, 16, of Cambridge	Unknown	Holmes was shot while standing outside a residence on Willow Street. She was transported to the hospital with gunshot wounds where she succumbed to her injuries.	Ongoing investigation.
1/16/2013	34 Ash St (West Cambridge)	Rehma Sabir, 1, of Cambridge	Aisling Brady McCarthy, 34, of Quincy	On April 12, 2013, nanny Aisling Brady McCarthy, of Quincy, was charged with murder in the death of 1-year-old Rehma Sabir of Cambridge, who died on January 16, 2013, from injuries sustained on January 14, 2013.	Charges were dropped against Aisling McCarthy in August 2015 after the medical examiner amended the manner of death to "undetermined."
4/18/2013 22:30	Vassar St & Main St (M.I.T.)	Sean Collier, 27, of Somerville	Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 19, of Cambridge	M.I.T. Officer Sean Collier was found shot in his vehicle on the M.I.T. campus. He was transported to Mass General Hospital and pronounced deceased. The Middlesex Attorney's Office obtained a default warrant against Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev for this incident on 10/7/13.	Tsarnaev was found guilty of Officer Collier's murder on 4/8/15.
11/25/2013 23:50	243 Broadway (The Port)	Jesse Maxwell Jr, 73, of Cambridge	Harold Antoine Maxwell, 33, of Cambridge	The body of Jesse Maxwell was found in his apartment at 243 Broadway, where he died as a result of injuries to the head and neck. The victim's nephew, Harold Maxwell, was arrested and charged with his uncle's murder.	Harold Maxwell is awaiting trial.
2/2/2014 06:00	396 Putnam Ave (Cambridgeport)	Dana Robinson, 46, of Brockton	Malia Gomez, 40, of Cambridge	Gomez admitted to stabbing Robinson, an acquaintance, in her apartment building following an argument. Robinson later died at Beth Israel Hospital.	Gomez is awaiting trial.
7/3/2014 21:57	119 Windsor St (The Port)	Kensley David, 22, of Roxbury	Unknown	David suffered a single fatal gunshot wound to the head during a shooting on Windsor Street. The incident is not believed to be random.	Ongoing investigation.
4/4/2015 07:53	157 Sixth St (East Cambridge)	Jonathan Camilien, 26, of Somerville	Carlos Colina, 32, of Cambridge	Camilien's dismembered body was found inside a duffel bag on a walkway off of Binney Street. A crime scene was later located inside Colina's apartment on Sixth Street and he was arrested. The two were acquaintances.	Colina was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder and sentenced to life in prison w/o parole.
8/12/2015 20:40	Washington St & Windsor St (The Port)	Rasaun Nichols, 31, of Cambridge	Roosselin Altidor, 25, of Medford	Nichols was struck by gunshots while in a vehicle that was departing Newtowne Court. Altidor was arrested 9 days later. Nichols and Altidor were known to each other.	Altidor is awaiting trial.
9/12/2015 01:40	750 Mass Ave (Riverside)	Tywann Jones, 35, of Roxbury	Antwan Gonsalves, 33, of Cambridge	Jones was stabbed while standing outside the 7-Eleven in Central Square. He later died at MGH. Gonsalves was arrested on September 24 on a warrant for Jones's murder.	Gonsalves was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder and sentenced to life in prison w/o parole.
3/22/16 21:57	321 Mount Auburn St (West Cambridge)	Armando Hernandez, 30, of Belmont	Unknown	Hernandez was shot and killed while walking on Mount Auburn St. A second male was non-fatally shot in the leg.	Ongoing Investigation.
6/25/16 00:18	140 Harvard St (The Port)	Anthony Clay, 49, of Cambridge	Unknown	Clay was shot while standing outside of 140 Harvard St. He was pronounced deceased at Mass General Hospital.	Ongoing Investigation.

## Part I Crimes: Murder

Date & Time	Location	Victim(s)	Offender(s)	Story	Status
10/14/17 03:40	Windsor St & Evereteze Way (Inman)	Ednilson DaCosta, 28, of Dorchester	Unknown	DaCosta was shot while sitting in a vehicle at Windsor St & Evereteze Way. He was pronounced deceased at Cambridge City Hospital.	Ongoing investigation.
11/16/17 19:30	Tremont St & Hampshire St (The Port)	Malachi Mims, 28, of Cambridge	Kevin Reddick, 17, of Cambridge	Mims was shot outside a vehicle in the area of Tremont St & Hampshire St. He was pronounced deceased at Cambridge City Hospital. On December 31, Reddick was arrested in Boston in connection with this homicide.	Reddick is awaiting arraignment.

### Breakdown of Unsolved Murders in Cambridge, 2000–2015

*(Anyone with information about these crimes is asked to contact the Cambridge Police at 617-349-3370.)*

On April 5, 2002, Ian Gray, 19, of Mattapan, was in an argument outside of the Rhythm & Spice restaurant that spilled out onto Massachusetts Avenue. A suspect that had left the scene returned with a group of people and a fight ensued. A knife was produced during the altercation and four gunshots were fired, fatally wounding Gray.

On June 17, 2002, Ricardo Williams, 27, of Malden, was found in the driver's seat of a motor vehicle suffering from a gunshot wound to his face. Williams was taken to CCH where he was pronounced dead.

Jason Ellcock, 33, of Malden, formerly of Cambridge, was found with multiple gunshot wounds in front of the driveway to 364 Rindge Avenue on the night of June 16, 2009. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

James Lauture, 30, of Cambridge, was sitting in a vehicle near Brookline and Watson Streets just after midnight on Saturday, March 12, 2011, when an unknown gunman opened fire. The occupants in the car were able to drive to Central Square. Lauture died from multiple gunshot wounds. The other man in the vehicle survived.

On June 3, 2012, Charlene Holmes, 16, of Cambridge was shot while sitting on a porch on Willow Street. She later succumbed to her wounds at the hospital. The investigation into this incident remains active, but no arrests have been made to date.

On July 3, 2014, at 10:00 PM, Kensley David, 22, of Boston but formerly of Cambridge, suffered a single gunshot wound to the head while on Windsor Street. Investigators believe that the incident was not random.

### Murder across the state and nation in 2016\*

In 2016, the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports recorded an estimated 17,250 murders nationwide, representing an increase of 8.6% from the 15,883 homicides reported in 2015. When population is taken into account, the murder rate experienced an increase of 7.9% from the previous year, rising to 5.3 murders per 100,000 people. Over the past 10 years (from 2007 to 2016), the national murder rate has fallen 6.0%.

The murder rate in Massachusetts is well below that for the nation as a whole. In 2016, Massachusetts reported 2.0 murders per 100,000 residents, while the national rate in 2016 was 5.3 per 100,000. Boston experiences the majority of the state's homicides, as it did in 2016 with 49 homicides, which is 29% above the 38 homicides reported to the FBI in 2015. None of the other towns surrounding Cambridge (Arlington, Belmont, Brookline, Somerville, and Watertown) reported homicides in 2016. Only a few Massachusetts cities and towns reported more than two murders in 2016. Those reporting four or more were Boston (49), Springfield (12), Worcester (8), Lawrence (5), Taunton (5), and Lynn (4).

\*This source of this data is the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports. Statistics for 2017 are not yet available.

# Rape

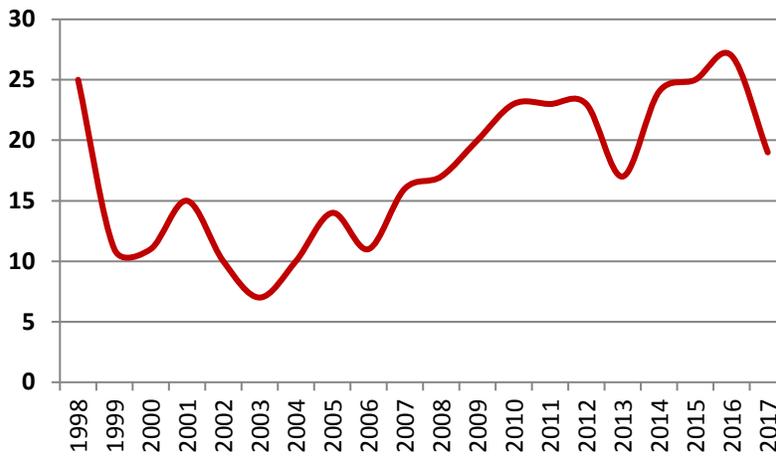
## Definition

*Sexual intercourse with a male or female, either forcibly and against that person's will, or non-forcibly but when the victim is incapable of giving consent because of temporary mental or physical incapacity, or because of youth. Assaults with intent to commit rape are included. Statutory rape (without force), incest, molestation, and other sex offenses are excluded.*

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	24
2016	27
2017	19
Change from 2016	-30%
Change from Average	-21%

## Rapes reported in Cambridge



There were 19 rapes reported in Cambridge in 2017, down from the 27 incidents reported in 2016, which indicates a 30% decrease. When the 2017 total is measured against the five-year average for rapes annually in the city, a 21% dip was recorded.

Seven of the rapes in 2017 involved acquaintances, six were categorized as contact scenarios with the offender being someone the victim had met in a public place, and six were domestic situations.

Given the tendency for rape statistics to fluctuate each year, projecting future totals is a risky business at best. The actual number of stranger-to-stranger rapes each year in Cambridge—between one and five—remains extremely low.

## Categories of rape

- **Acquaintance Rapes** are non-domestic rapes committed by someone who knows the victim. They include rapes of co-workers, schoolmates, friends, and other acquaintances, including “date rapes.” Seven of the 19 incidents in 2017 were perpetrated by acquaintances.

Rapes by Category

Year	Acquaintance	Contact	Blitz	Domestic	Total
2015	11	9	2	3	25
2016	13	8	2	4	27
2017	7	6	0	6	19

- **Blitz Rapes** are rapes in which the suspect “comes out of nowhere.” Usually, the attacker is a stranger but this is not necessarily the case. Among all of the categorizations of rape, the blitz rape, or “street rape,” tends to invoke the most fear in the average citizen. There were zero blitz rapes recorded in Cambridge in 2017.
- **Contact Rapes** are rapes in which the suspect contacts the victim and tries to gain his/her confidence before assaulting him/her. Contact rapists typically pick up their victims in bars and lure them into their cars or houses, or otherwise try to coerce the victim into a situation in which they can begin their assault. There were six incidents in Cambridge in 2017 that fit into this category.
- **Domestic Rapes** involve rapes between spouses, romantic partners, or family members. Six domestic rapes were reported in 2017.

## Part I Crimes: Rape

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In 2013, the FBI UCR Program began collecting rape data under a revised definition within the Summary Reporting System. Previously, offense data for forcible rape were collected under the legacy UCR definition: the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Beginning with the 2013 data year, the term “forcible” was removed from the offense title and the definition was changed. The revised UCR definition of rape is: penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim. Attempts or assaults to commit rape are also included in the statistics presented here; however, statutory rape and incest are excluded.

### Rape across the nation in 2016\*

The FBI’s Uniform Crime Report for 2016 reports that:

- There were an estimated 95,730 forcible rapes reported to law enforcement nationally in 2016. This estimate was 4.9% higher than the 2015 estimate, 12.4% higher than the 2012 estimate, and 3.9% higher than the 2007 estimate.
- The rate of forcible rapes in 2016 was estimated at 29.6 per 100,000 inhabitants.

\*Statistics for 2017 are not yet available.

# Robbery

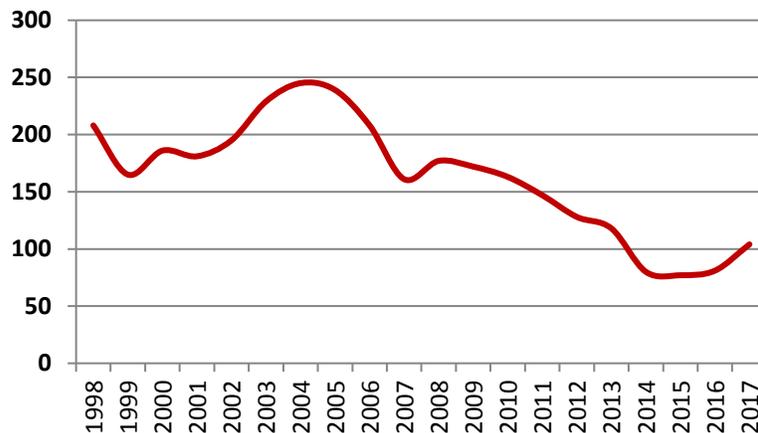
## Definition

Robbery is the taking or attempted taking of anything of value from another person by violence, threat of violence, or putting the victim in fear. Unlike larceny or theft, it involves a direct confrontation between the offender and victim. Incidents described as “muggings,” “purse snatchings,” and “hold-ups” are usually robberies.

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	88
2016	81
2017	104
Change from 2016	+28%
Change from Average	+18%

## Robberies reported in Cambridge



Over a four-year span from 2001 to 2004, robberies in the City slowly increased. This trend ended in 2005, and robberies continued to decrease until 2007, when robberies reached a 20-year low. After a single-year spike in 2008, robberies steadily decreased again. A 30-year low was recorded in 2015, followed by a slight increase of 5% in 2016 and a larger 28% rise in 2017, thanks to a moderate increase in street robberies and a more robust surge in commercial robberies.

## Robberies by category

Category	2016	2017	Change
Commercial Robbery	23	39	70%
Street Robbery	58	65	12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>28%</b>

Due to its violent nature, robbery is one of the most feared crimes. For this reason, it is often considered by a citizen when he or she gauges the general “safety” of an area. Not only is robbery on the minds of local citizens but it is also one of the main concerns of business owners. Often, suspects approach their target, threatening to cause harm if the victim does not relinquish money or property. Weapons are

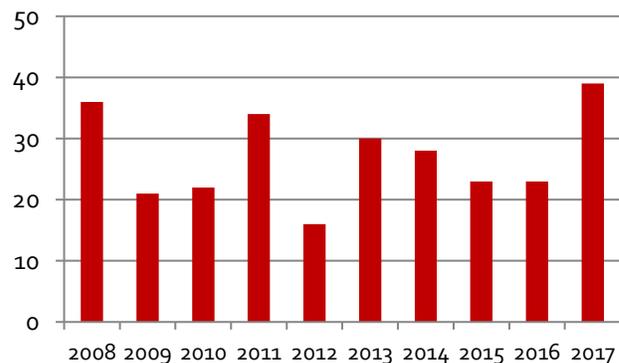
brandished in some incidents, but a suspect may simply rely on the victim’s perceived fear of harm. Most incidents involve little physical contact between the suspect and victim, and often result in no harm to the victim, especially when they comply with the suspect’s demands.

## Commercial robbery

Commercial robbery is described as the taking by force or threat of force anything of value from the care or custody of a commercial or financial establishment. Examples of this crime include a bank heist, a cab stick-up, and a convenience store hold-up. Commercial incidents tend to occur early in the morning or late into the night.

From 1970 to 1990, Cambridge averaged 100 commercial robberies annually. Throughout the 1990s, the number of robberies decreased dramatically to an average of 45 a year (with a high

## Commercial robbery, 2008-2017



## Part I Crimes: Robbery

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in 1990 of 102 and a low in 1999 of 18). From 2000 to 2005, the number of commercial robberies slowly increased until 2006 when a decrease of nearly 50% was reported. Commercial robberies have remained low ever since, ranging from a high of 41 in 2007 to a 20-year low of 16 in 2012.

Commercial robberies in 2015 and 2016 remained steady with 23 recorded crimes each year, but the situation changed in 2017 when this crime type rose an astounding 70%, or 16 incidents, from 23 in 2016 to 39 this year. This total represents the largest number of commercial robberies reported in Cambridge in more than a decade. The business district that experienced the most commercial robberies this year was Central Square with 16 incidents, followed by Porter Square with six incidents. These two districts accounted for over half of all commercial robberies that occurred in 2017.

In 2017, banks and miscellaneous retail locations were the most common establishments to experience commercial robberies, with 11 and nine incidents, respectively. Together these two premise types accounted for 50% of all commercial robbery locations in 2017. Only three of the 11 bank robberies did not result in an arrest. Of those three, two were thought to have been committed by the same suspect, one in Alewife and one in Porter Square, but there was not enough solid evidence to tie them to any suspects. The times of the bank robberies this year were split relatively evenly between mid-morning (9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.) and late afternoon (3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.). There was one notable regional bank robbery pattern that spanned the months of August and September. The suspect in this pattern targeted Cambridge four times, three of which were attempted robberies and one of which was a completed bank robbery in Harvard Square. Other cities involved in this pattern included Boston and Malden, and the suspect was ultimately taken into custody in Everett.

One of the main reasons behind the rise in miscellaneous retail robberies in 2017 was the increase in simple shopliftings that escalated into robberies when the perpetrator threatened violence or pulled a weapon on store employees in order to make off with stolen goods. Another contributor to the overall increase in commercial robberies in 2017 was a regional pattern of armed robberies that persisted throughout the first half of the year. The pattern involved a lone suspect who was believed to be responsible for as many as 10 commercial robberies across Cambridge, Boston, and Arlington during that time frame. The suspect was known to enter establishments (such as cafes, grocery stores, ice cream stores, and drug stores), demand money, and present as if he had a firearm. A homeless male that was arrested in Somerville on unrelated charges in early July has since been connected to this pattern; he is currently awaiting trial. In total, 18 of the 39 commercial robberies in 2017 resulted in an arrest and a possible suspect was established in another 10.

### Street robbery

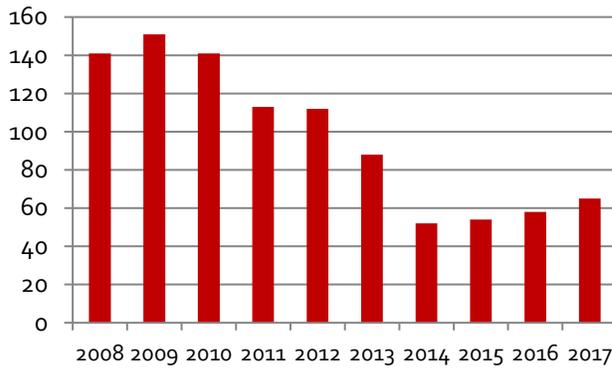
Street robbery involves all robberies committed against individuals, as opposed to commercial establishments. Despite the name, a “street” robbery does not necessarily have to occur on the street, although the majority of them do. Examples of street robberies are “muggings,” “carjackings,” and “purse snatchings.” The number of street robberies reported in 2017 increased by seven incidents over 2016, translating to a 12% rise.

**Commercial robberies by location type**

Type	2015	2016	2017	Change
Bank/Armored Car	9	7	11	57%
Misc. Retail	3	4	9	125%
Convenience/Grocery	6	9	8	-11%
Drug Store	0	0	4	n/a
Gas Station	0	2	3	50%
Café/Restaurant	2	1	3	200%
Electronics/Computer	1	0	1	n/a
Other	2	0	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>70%</b>

\*N/A = % change cannot be calculated when the 2016 total is zero.

Street robbery, 2008-2017



Street robberies historically take place during the evening hours, particularly after drinking establishments close, and in dark areas. The number of street robberies across each neighborhood varies widely, which is a reflection of the residential and commercial mixture in each area. For example, Cambridgeport, East Cambridge, and The Port are more densely populated than other neighborhoods and are closer to train stations and drinking establishments. These are factors that contribute to higher numbers of potential targets for street robbers. Individuals can become targets when they are walking alone late at night, distracted or intoxicated. The neighborhood that experienced the

most robberies in 2017 (and is typically always near the top in robbery numbers) was Cambridgeport, with 16 incidents. This one neighborhood accounted for a quarter of all street robberies reported in 2017. Interestingly, Cambridgeport was also the neighborhood to see the most notable decrease in activity in 2017 with four fewer street robberies reported than in 2016. Meanwhile, West Cambridge reported the largest numerical increase in 2017 with an additional seven robberies reported over 2016.

In 2017, 39 (60%) of the street robberies were unarmed, involving either no weapon at all or just the use of hands and/or feet without shoes. The remaining 26 robberies (40%) involved the use or threat of a weapon. Firearms were used in eight incidents, knives were used in six incidents, the implied threat of a firearm was used in three incidents, and shod feet (feet with shoes) were also used in three incidents. Other weapons that were said to be used in at least one incident included scissors, a Taser, a club/stick, and a wall/floor.

When looking at a breakdown of street robberies, we often expect that the warmer weather months will account for

a larger number of incidents with more potential victims out and about in the city. However, in 2017, over half of the street robberies took place between August and December. In fact, October and November were the only months in 2017 to record double-digit robberies (11 and 10 incidents, respectively). From January to July, no single month saw more than four incidents. Despite the general increase in street robbery activity across the city in the fall/winter, no patterns emerged anywhere in the city at any time in 2017. Looking closer at days and times of incidents, it is often expected that the weekends, with people frequenting restaurants and bars in the Squares, would see the most activity. While weekends did see their fair share of incidents, Wednesdays actually registered the largest number of street robbery incidents in 2017 with 13.

Arrests were made in 12 of the 65 robberies in 2017 at the time of the incident, although upon follow-up investigation more parties may have been linked to the crimes, as possible suspects were also listed in 17 additional incidents.

Street robberies by neighborhood

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2016	2017	Change from Avg.
East Cambridge	6	7	7	17%
MIT	1	2	1	0%
Inman/Harrington	3	1	4	33%
The Port	10	9	7	-30%
Cambridgeport	17	20	16	-6%
Mid-Cambridge	4	5	4	0%
Riverside	7	5	4	-43%
Agassiz	0	0	0	n/a
Peabody	2	1	4	100%
West Cambridge	6	2	9	350%
North Cambridge	6	5	7	17%
Cambridge Highlands	1	1	2	100%
Strawberry Hill	0	0	0	n/a
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>3%</b>

### Five historical street robbery hot spots

1. **Central Square**, specifically the area of Massachusetts Avenue between Washington and Franklin Streets, and down Pearl Street is a prime location for homeless-on-homeless robberies. These are mostly predatory, but also purse snatchings can be concentrated here in the late afternoon/evening.
2. **CambridgeSide Galleria**, including the Lechmere MBTA Station area. These usually involve juveniles robbing each other between 3:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
3. **Harvard Square**, around Church Street, Brattle Street and Harvard Yard. Predatory robberies in the late evening mixed with early evening pack robberies.
4. **Russell Field and the Alewife MBTA Station**. The 300-400 blocks of Rindge Avenue hold the major concentration for these incidents. Pack robberies target people leaving the station and “bullyboy” robberies target schoolmates crossing through the field. These incidents have dropped off dramatically in recent years.
5. **Upper Cambridgeport**, specifically the area surrounded by Franklin and Erie Streets, between Brookline and Pleasant Streets. These incidents are predatory in nature and are concentrated during the late night and predawn hours of the weekend.

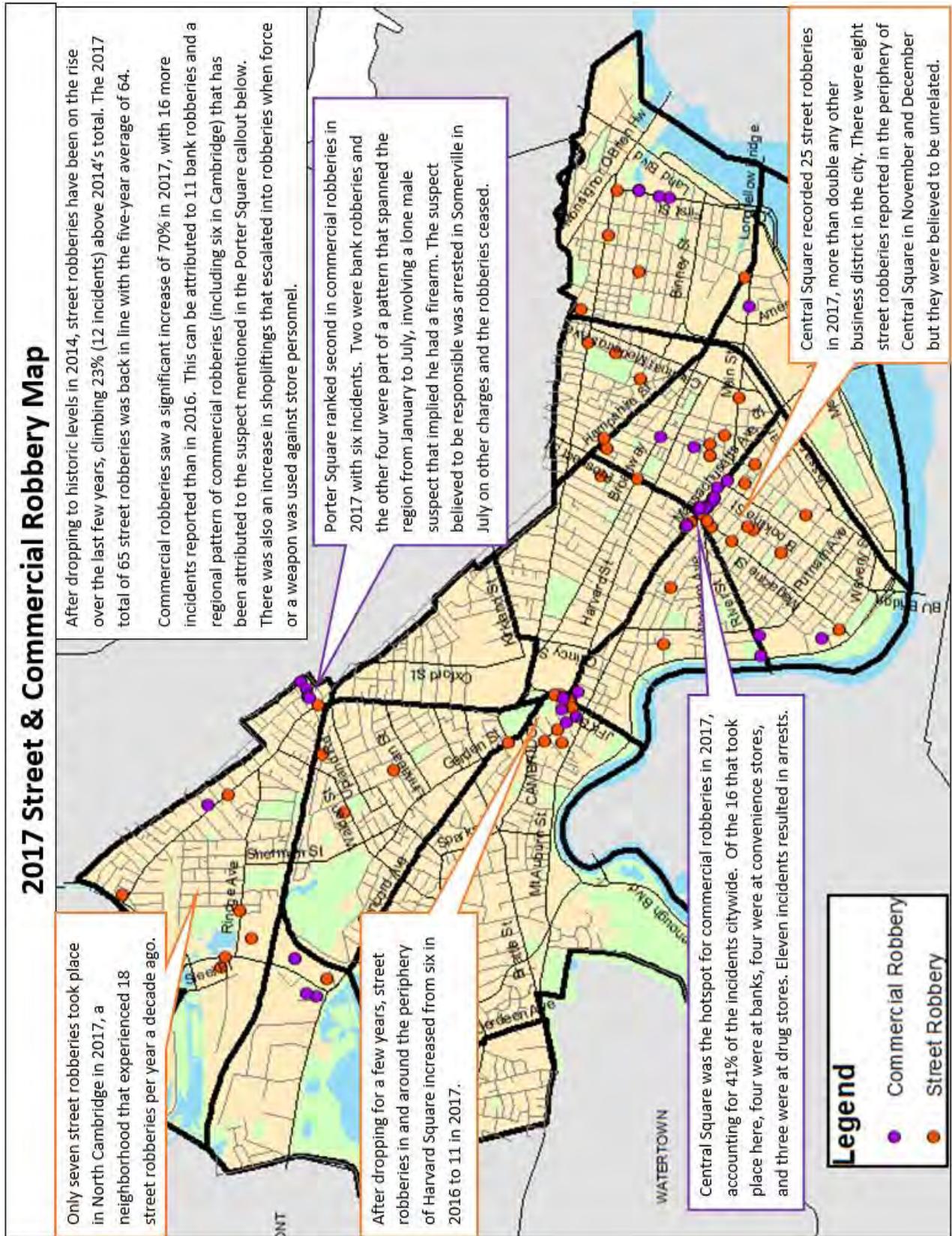
As stated, street robberies can take place in many different locations, including shopping malls, MBTA stations, and parking lots. Still, 74% of all street robberies in 2017 occurred on a street or sidewalk. As for the other notable premise types, 13 took place in buildings such as residences, malls, hotels, and cafés. About 54% of the street robberies throughout the city in 2017 occurred between 6:00 p.m. and 3:00 a.m. This is a common timeframe for robberies to occur because people are walking home after work or are out when the bars close. Our Crime Analysis Unit breaks down street robbery incidents into categorizations of similar types for more accurate analysis. Approximately 42% of the street robberies were “predatory,” where the victim was approached by one or two suspects, threatened, and robbed. The second most common type of street robberies were pack robberies involving three or more suspects, which accounted for 12% of the total.

### Frequently occurring street robbery scenarios

A long-term trend analysis of street robberies in Cambridge reveals a number of frequently recurring scenarios. The number in parenthesis after the category indicates how frequently that categorization occurred in Cambridge during the past year:

- **Acquaintance Robberies (5)**: Related to domestic robbery and homeless robbery, acquaintance robberies are committed by someone the victim knows. Common scenarios include drinking buddies robbing each other after a night at the bar, friends turning on each other, and robberies between co-workers.
- **ATM Robberies (1)**: In this type of robbery, the suspect may approach the victim immediately after the victim withdraws money from an ATM and demand that he or she hand over the cash, or the suspect may wait behind the victim as they make a transaction, then take the money directly from the ATM and run. An ATM robbery can also occur when suspects approach a victim on the street, threaten the victim by displaying or implying a weapon, and demand the victim go to an ATM and withdraw money for them.
- **Bikejacking (1)**: Juvenile robberies where the primary property targets are bicycles.
- **Bully Boys (0)**: Juvenile robberies of intimidation. In most occurrences, the victim knows the perpetrators. Committed by and against school-aged youths, they occur on the way home from school, or at playgrounds, malls, parks, or skating rinks. They usually involve two to four juveniles strong-arming their victims, stealing such things as cell phones, MP3 players, or lunch money.

- **Carjacking** (1): In this scenario, a predator confronts a victim entering or exiting his or her car, or when stopped at a traffic light. The robber orders the victim out of the car and demands the keys.
- **Dial-A-Victim** (3): In these situations, suspects usually brandish a knife or gun to rob a delivery person.
- **Domestic** (3): A scenario in which someone close to the victim, like a family member, romantic partner, or roommate, takes money or property from them by the use or threat of violence.
- **Drug Deal** (1): Typically drug deals gone awry.
- **Home Invasion** (3): One of the most serious robbery types. Home invasions involve robbers entering their victims' homes, subduing the residents, and robbing the home. Fortunately this type of robbery is rare in Cambridge, and when it occurs, the victim generally knows the perpetrator.
- **Homeless Robberies** (5): These are incidents of homeless people robbing each other. The majority of these robberies occur in the vicinity of Central and Harvard Squares, or at various shelters. The victim is usually acquainted with the perpetrator, and in many cases, both are intoxicated. Property stolen ranges from a bottle of wine to a blanket or a pair of shoes to prescription drugs.
- **Pack Robberies** (8): In this situation, a group of three or more individuals will target victims around shopping malls, MBTA stations, streets, or recreational areas. The robberies are not always premeditated and the typical victim is often a male between the ages of 15-25, walking alone.
- **Predatory Robberies** (27): This type of street robbery has the most pronounced effect on a citizen's perception of safety. Predatory robberies are synonymous with "muggings." In the typical scenario, one or two men approach the victim with a weapon or otherwise threaten violence and demand cash. Cambridge typically experiences more two-person predatory robberies than any other type.
- **Purse Snatch** (7): The purse-snatcher is generally unarmed and has little intent to cause injury. After "casing" a victim—usually a female carrying a purse or bag—this robber approaches quickly on foot or on a bicycle and snatches the item out of the victim's hands or off her shoulder before she has a chance to react, often effecting a "body check" in the process.



# Aggravated Assault

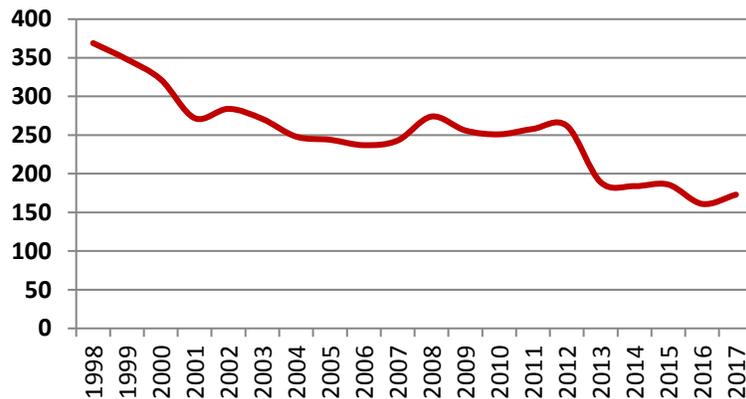
## Definition

An attack by one person on another for the purpose of inflicting severe bodily injury. To be an “aggravated assault” as opposed to a “simple assault,” the crime must involve one of the following: 1) a weapon capable of causing death or severe injury (e.g., a gun, knife, or blunt object); 2) a method of assault capable of causing death or severe injury (e.g., pushing someone down the stairs); or 3) actual severe bodily injury (e.g., a punch that fractures the victim’s nose).

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	183
2016	161
2017	173
Change from 2016	7%
Change from Average	-5%

## Aggravated assaults reported in Cambridge



Aggravated assaults rise from the “heat of the moment,” and unlike robberies, rarely involve personal gain (assaults that do involve thefts are coded in the “Robbery” section). Although a serious and dangerous crime, the average citizen has little to fear from a random aggravated assault: two-thirds of assault victims know their attackers personally. Although we provide statistics by neighborhood, the risk of aggravated assaults derives more from dangerous relationships than dangerous areas.

## Aggravated assaults by neighborhood

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2016	2017	Change from Avg.	% of Total (2017)
East Cambridge	18	19	21	17%	12%
M.I.T.	3	0	4	33%	2%
Inman/Harrington	18	13	8	-56%	5%
The Port	27	24	14	-48%	8%
Cambridgeport	34	23	31	-9%	18%
Mid-Cambridge	15	14	20	33%	12%
Riverside	18	16	19	6%	11%
Agassiz	1	2	2	100%	1%
Peabody	10	11	12	20%	7%
West Cambridge	15	16	14	-7%	8%
North Cambridge	17	15	19	12%	11%
Cambridge Highlands	4	6	3	-25%	2%
Strawberry Hill	2	2	6	200%	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>-5%</b>	

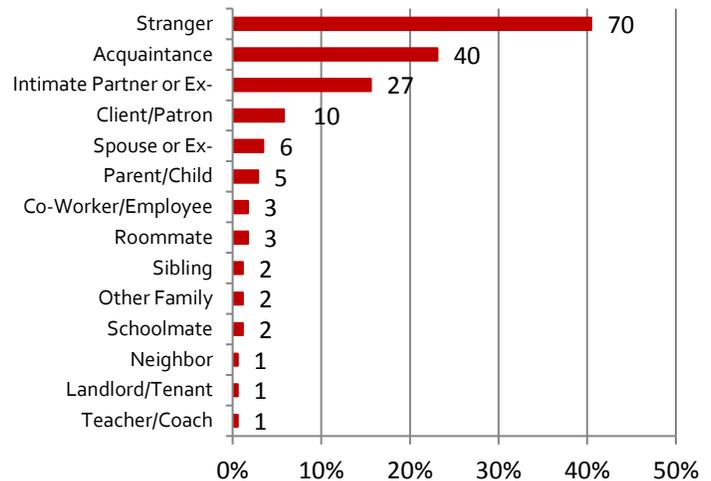
Aggravated assaults in Cambridge peaked in the early 1990s at a time when violent crime was very high throughout the country and fell significantly between 1993 and 2001. For the next decade, it remained static with some small year-to-year fluctuations but no overall significant increase or decrease, until 2013 when aggravated assaults decreased by 28%. Following the large drop in 2013, the number of aggravated assaults in Cambridge leveled off and has remained under 190 for the past five years. In 2017, there was a slight uptick over 2016 with an additional 12 incidents for a total of 173 aggravated assaults.

## Part I Crimes: Aggravated Assault

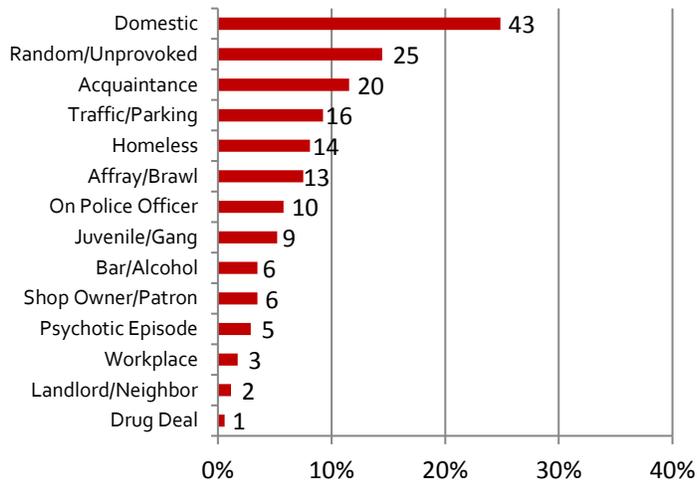
The large drop in aggravated assaults from 2012 to 2013 was at least in part because fewer domestic-related incidents were reported. Domestic assaults dropped most significantly in 2013 from 87 in 2012 to 62 in 2013. Incidents then rose slightly to 71 in 2014 but dropped again to 54 in 2015 and 49 in 2016. This slide continued in 2017 with only 43 domestic assaults reported, accounting for 25% of the assault total. However, when considering assault statistics, one must keep in mind that this crime exhibits variable reporting rates. Many assault victims, particularly if they are not seriously injured, are reluctant to report the crimes.

### Aggravated assault by relationship

Although making up only 40% of all assaults, “stranger” is the largest single category, comprised of most of the cases in the “random,” “traffic/parking,” “bar/alcohol,” and “on police officer” categories. But the other categories combined outweigh “strangers” by about three-to-two. For the majority of aggravated assault victims, violence comes from a familiar place: intimate partners, spouses, parents, children, friends, customers, co-workers, and other relationships. Simple assaults, disputes, and other incidents between the offender and victim often precede an aggravated assault.



### Aggravated assault by categorization



In any year, domestic assaults typically make up 30-40% of the total. In 2017, this percentage was down slightly, coming in at only 25%. These incidents involve a number of relationships, but as the chart above shows, most common are among intimate partners/ex-intimate partners, spouses/ex-spouses, and parents/children. These unique circumstances are covered in the “Domestic Crimes” section of this report, as aggravated assault is only one of many crimes that may be the result of an abusive relationship. Traffic and parking assaults saw a sizable increase of six incidents over last year. They are usually the result of road rage incidents, which tend to be high in Cambridge because vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians share the road. Homeless is another category that typically accounts for a large portion of assaults, due to the sizeable homeless population and numerous shelters in Central and Harvard Squares.

**Notable findings on aggravated assault in 2017**

- Seven of the aggravated assaults in 2017 (4%) resulted in serious injury (not all from a firearm).
- There were five victims of non-fatal gunfire in 2017 from three separate incidents. The first took place in March during which a victim self-applied to Cambridge City Hospital with a gunshot wound to the leg. It is unknown where the shooting took place but the victim admitted it happened somewhere in Cambridge during a drug deal gone bad. The two other non-fatal shootings took place in early September and both resulted in an arrest. The first occurred during the first week of the month in the area of River and Auburn Streets where two parties were shot, one in the hand and the other in the knee. A Boston male was arrested in October in connection with this shooting. The third and final shooting took place during the Caribbean Festival in Kendall Square, with one victim believed to be the intended target and the other an innocent bystander. All five of these victims in 2017 suffered non-life-threatening injuries. For information on the two fatal shootings in Cambridge in 2017, see the Murder section of this report.
- Weekends typically account for a large majority of the reported aggravated assaults in Cambridge. However, incidents were more spread out in 2017, with every day of the week registering 20-30 incidents.
- The most common weapons used in aggravated assaults in 2017 were knives (24%), followed by shod feet (14%). Hands and/or feet (without shoes) were used in 8%. There were six aggravated assaults that involved the use of a firearm in 2017, down one from the previous two years.
- 43% of aggravated assaults resulted in an arrest in 2017, compared to 25% of simple assaults.

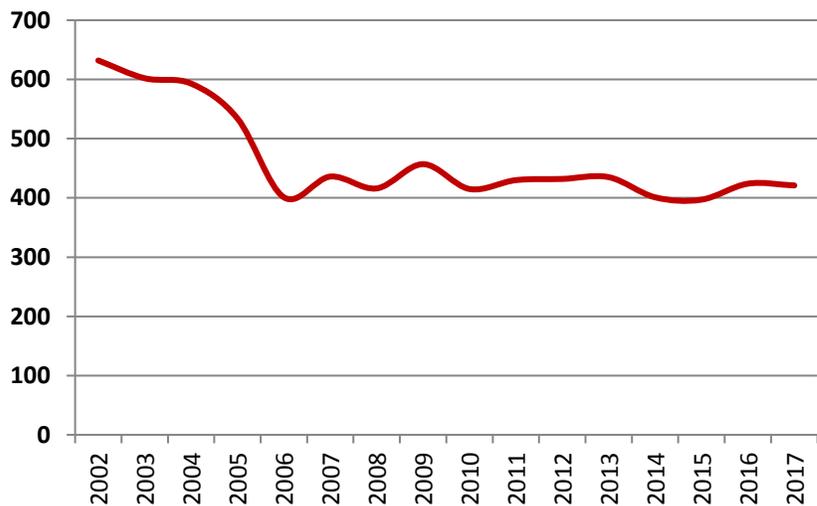
**Simple assault**

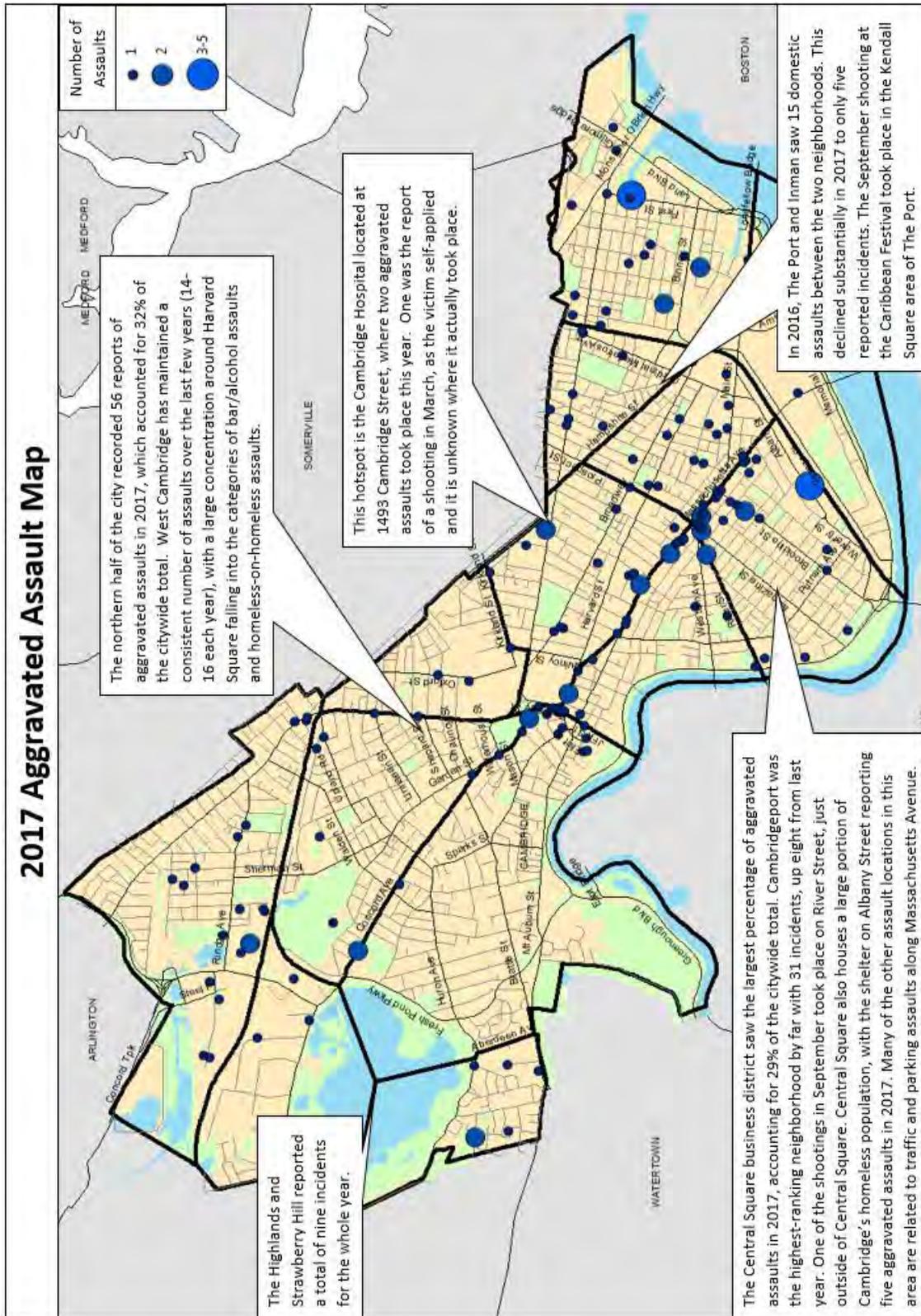
When analyzing aggravated assault, it is important to keep tabs on simple assault as well. (The difference between the two is often a matter of luck rather than intent.) Because simple assaults do not result in serious injury and do not involve the use of a deadly weapon, the underreporting rate is probably even higher than for aggravated assault.

Looking back at the past 15 years, simple assaults peaked in the early 2000s, dropped off in the mid-2000s, and have remained essentially flat since. This is

somewhat different from aggravated assault, which experienced a peak and subsequent decline about a decade earlier than simple assault. Simple assaults have changed very little in recent years, fluctuating between 400 and 460 incidents since 2006. In 2017, three fewer simple assaults were reported when compared with 2016 (421 in 2017 versus 424 in 2016). Simple assaults do mirror aggravated assaults in categories and relationships.

**Simple assaults reported in Cambridge**





# Burglary

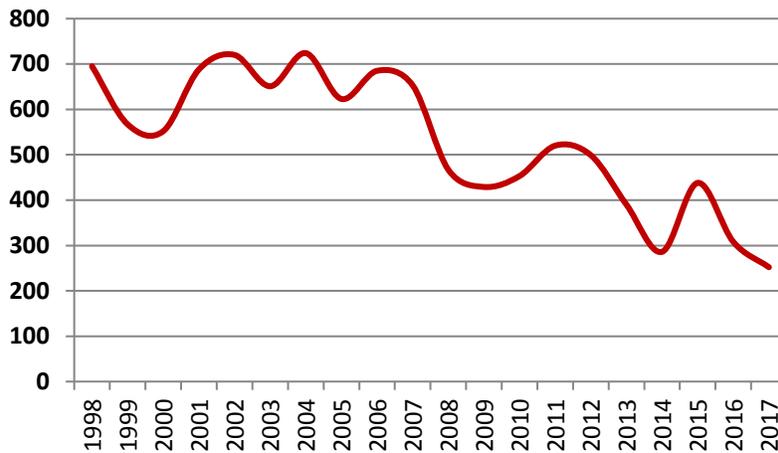
## Definition

Burglary is the unlawful entry of a structure (residence, business, or other building) to commit a theft or another crime. Force (e.g., prying a door, breaking a window) is not required, but the entry itself must be illegal. (Lawful entry to commit a theft would be coded as a larceny.) Automobile “burglaries” are also excluded (this crime has a larceny category). Attempts are included in the total.

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	362
2016	308
2017	252
Change from 2016	-18%
Change from Average	-30%

## Burglaries reported in Cambridge



Burglary is categorized as a more serious crime than larceny because it involves the use of force and unlawful entry into a business or residence. Perpetrators employ various techniques to enter residences or businesses. Since burglars need to pull off their heists quickly, break-ins are occasionally only unsuccessful “attempts,” in which no entry is made, but damage is caused to the structure. For the purposes of analysis, burglary is divided into two main categories: commercial and residential (also known as “housebreaks”).

### Burglaries by category

Category	2016	2017	Change
Commercial Burglary	45	49	+9%
Residential Burglary	263	203	-23%
<b>Total</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>-18%</b>

### Top items targeted in 2017

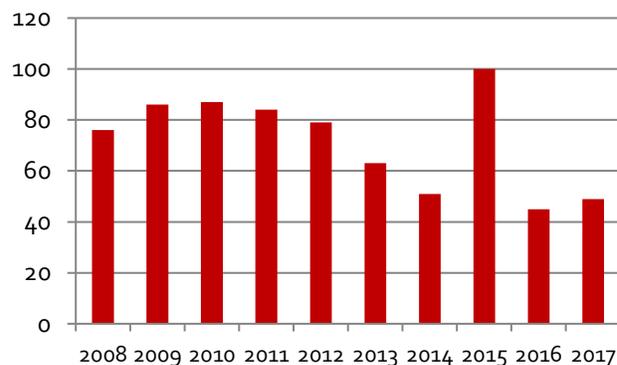
Rank	Residential	Commercial
1	Computers	Cash
2	Jewelry	Computers
3	Cash	Misc. Electronics
4	Purses/Wallets	Tools
5	Cell Phones	Jewelry

## Commercial burglary

A commercial burglary, more commonly referred to as a *commercial break*, is the unlawful entry into a commercial establishment, including business, government, religious, or retail establishments. From 2016 to 2017, there was a 9% increase in commercial breaks in Cambridge.

Approximately 16% of the breaks in 2017 were attempts in which no entry was gained, and three incidents (6%) were considered an “inside job” in which an employee or known associate was believed to be responsible.

## Commercial burglary, 2008-2017



## Part I Crimes: Burglary

A majority of the business districts in Cambridge experienced a decrease or no change in commercial break activity from 2016 to 2017. The only districts that experienced increases in 2017 were Inman Square (four additional incidents) and Harvard Square (five additional incidents).

### Commercial burglaries by business district

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2016	2017	Change from Avg.	% of Total (2017)
Galleria/East Cambridge	6	5	4	-33%	8%
Kendall/M.I.T.	1	0	0	-100%	0%
Inman Square	5	2	6	20%	12%
Central Square	11	12	11	0%	22%
Cambridgeport/Riverside	3	1	1	-67%	2%
Bay Square/Upper Broadway	6	3	2	-67%	4%
Harvard Square	10	7	12	20%	24%
1500-1900 Massachusetts Avenue	5	3	2	-60%	4%
Porter Square/North Cambridge	9	6	6	-33%	12%
Alewife/West Cambridge	9	6	5	-44%	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>-26%</b>	

A wide variety of establishments are targeted in commercial burglary using an array of methods. Breaks can often be categorized as one of the following:

- **Smash & grab** burglaries involve quick entry and exit through windows/glass doors of businesses, often at convenience stores or gas stations. The entire endeavor may take less than a minute.
- **Retail burglars** usually force their way into stores or other locations with the intent to steal merchandise or money from cash registers.
- **Restaurant/bar** burglars often cross multiple jurisdictions, breaking into similar franchises looking for safes or easily fenced items.
- **Business burglars** enter real-estate/law offices, technology companies, etc., looking for laptop computers and other expensive equipment.
- **Construction site/industrial area** thieves are a special breed of burglars who know how to select, steal, and sell expensive power tools, building supplies, heavy equipment, and precious metals.
- **Church burglars** are historically homeless individuals with substance abuse problems. They enter lightly secured houses of worship, looking for petty cash and easily fenced items.
- **School burglars** are usually juveniles, breaking into their own schools to vandalize or steal computers and other expensive everyday goods. Youth centers/daycares are included.

### Commercial burglaries by location type

Type	2016	2017
Bar/restaurant/social	8	13
Retail establishments	7	4
Business offices	5	2
Convenience/gas	4	3
Industrial/construction	4	8
School/youth center	3	4
Government building	2	2
Church	1	3
Other	11	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>49</b>

### Commercial burglary patterns

Similar to 2016, no notable commercial burglary patterns arose in Cambridge in 2017. Although there were four additional commercial burglaries in 2017 when compared with 2016, the 2017 total of 49 incidents was still 26% below the five-year weighted average. Although there were no established patterns, there were a few noteworthy incidents. One of those incidents was a break at a *Speedway* gas station on Massachusetts Avenue

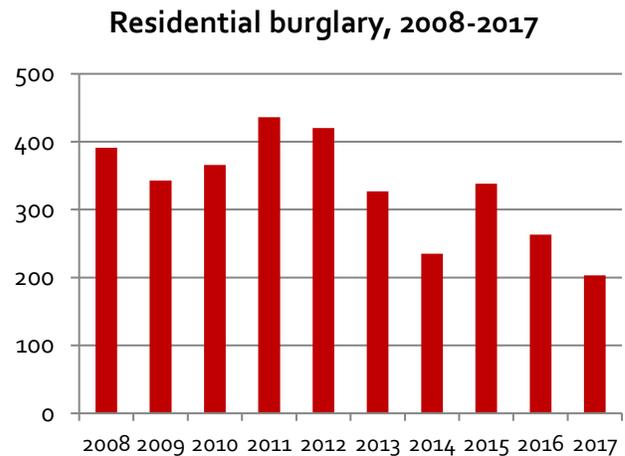
in North Cambridge in mid-May. Nothing was stolen in this incident, but it was discovered that the Cambridge break was part of a larger two-day spree that spanned across the region from Woburn down to Braintree and Hingham. The suspects were eventually caught trying to leave the state. In another notable incident later in May, an unknown suspect broke into *Raspberry Beret* on Massachusetts Avenue in the Peabody neighborhood, stole jewelry and cash, then broke through a wall in the basement to gain access to the neighboring *Harvard House of Pizza*. Once there, the suspect stole more cash and an Apple iPad before fleeing. No arrests were made in this incident.

A few businesses also experienced more than one incident during the year. Three breaks were reported at the *Galleria Mall*, one in February and two in September. *St. Paul's Church* on Mount Auburn Street was broken into in April and again in July. *Nacho Taco* on Massachusetts Ave was broken into and the safe stolen in January and again in July. The *Night Market* on Winthrop Street was broken into in September and again in October, with the latter incident resulting in an arrest. And the construction site at 850 Cambridge Street was entered illegally three times in October.

### Residential burglary

Residential burglaries citywide have registered notable drops for two years in a row, with a 22% decrease in 2016 and a 23% reduction in 2017. The 2017 total of 203 housebreaks was 60 incidents below the 263 reported in 2016 and 96 incidents (31%) below the five-year average of 296.

Housebreaks most commonly occur during the daytime or early evening while victims are not home, or while the homeowners are away on vacation. Suspects are often long gone by the time the victim returns home and calls police.



#### Relation of Offender to Victim in Residential Burglaries

Type	2016	2017
Stranger/Unknown	245	187
Domestic (family member, romantic partner, etc.)	13	5
Acquaintance (friend, landlord, etc.)	5	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>203</b>

#### Point/Method of Entry into Homes

Category	2016	2017
<b>Door Entry</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>127</b>
Pried/forced/broken	60	47
Unlocked/open	40	46
Other/unknown	28	34
<b>Window Entry</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>53</b>
Pried/forced/broken	20	17
Cut/removed screens	26	17
Unlocked/open	47	15
Other/unknown	15	4
<b>Other/Unknown entry</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>203</b>

## Part I Crimes: Burglary

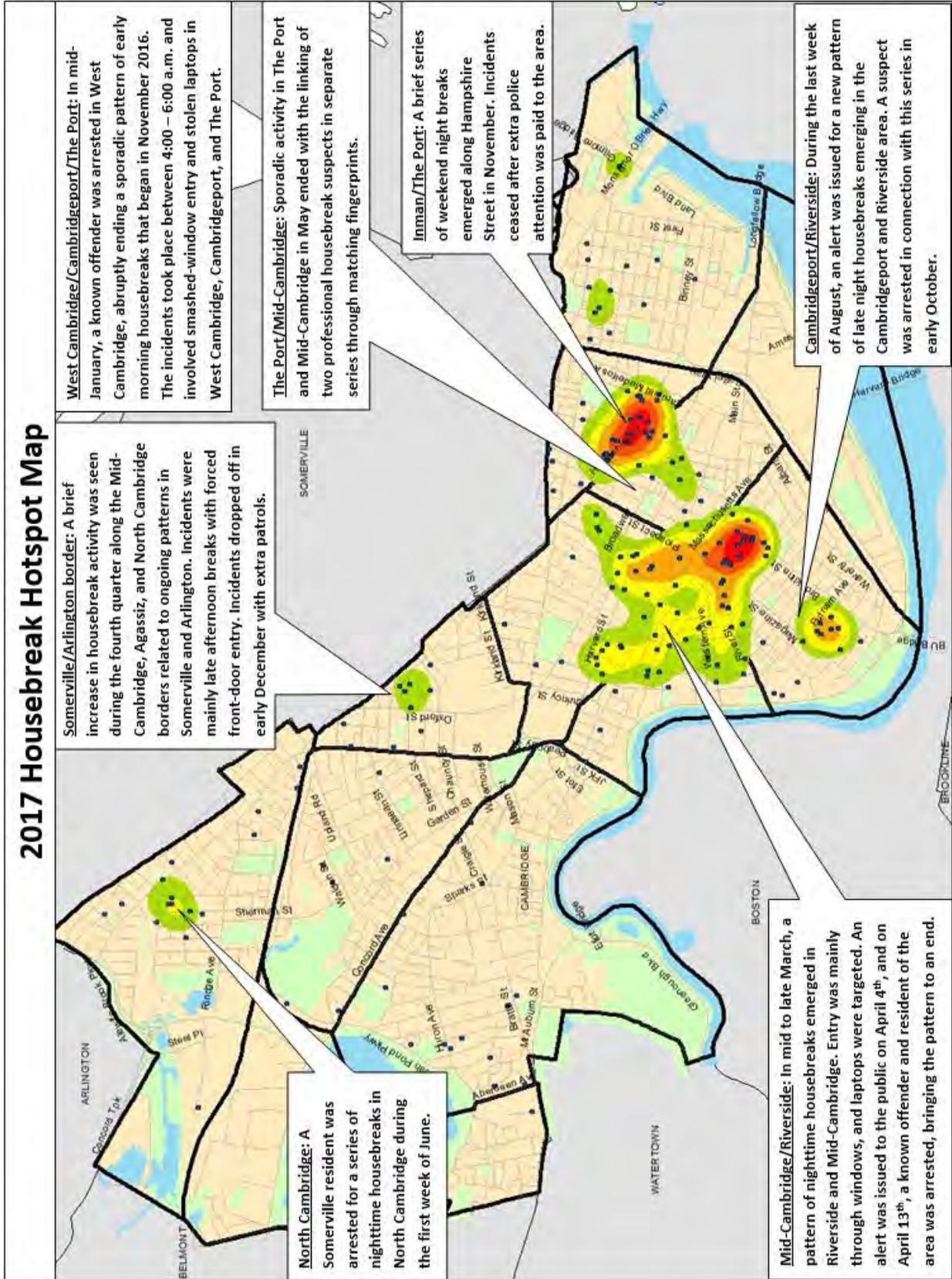
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Housebreak activity also tends to be concentrated in a few specific areas each year. See the next page for a hotspot map containing information on the housebreak concentrations and pattern areas in 2017.

### Residential burglaries by neighborhood

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2016	2017	Change from Avg.	Population (2010)	2017 Rate/10,000
East Cambridge	23	19	16	-30%	9,234	17
M.I.T.	0	0	0	0%	5,057	0
Inman/Harrington	30	30	27	-10%	6,516	41
The Port	34	43	12	-65%	6,792	18
Cambridgeport	54	50	40	-26%	12,220	33
Mid-Cambridge	42	33	34	-19%	12,991	26
Riverside	27	22	25	-7%	12,695	20
Agassiz	13	16	10	-23%	4,977	20
Peabody	23	17	6	-74%	11,399	5
West Cambridge	25	16	13	-48%	8,023	16
North Cambridge	21	15	17	-19%	11,908	14
Cambridge Highlands	1	0	1	0%	832	12
Strawberry Hill	4	2	2	-50%	2,518	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>-31%</b>	<b>105,162</b>	

## 2017 Housebreak Hotspot Map



# Larceny

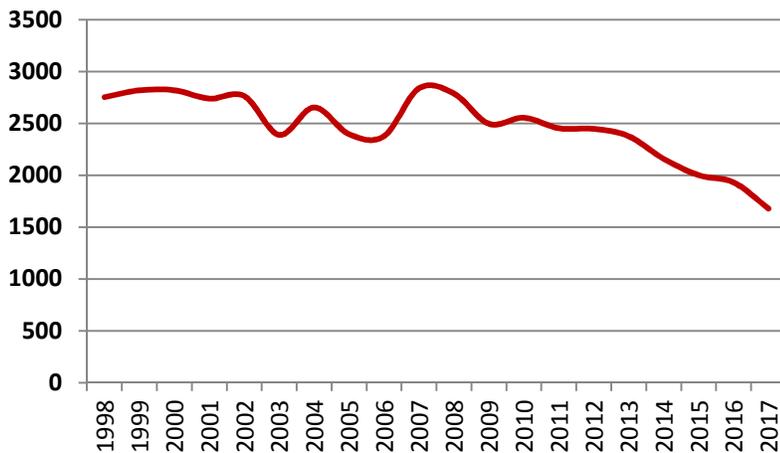
## Definition

Larceny is the illegal taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of someone else's property. It includes crimes such as shoplifting, pocket-picking, thefts from vehicles, thefts of auto parts and accessories, bicycle thefts, and all other thefts in which no force, violence, fraud, or burglary occurs. The crime does not include embezzlement, "con" games, forgery, or bad checks, nor does it include auto theft, which is a separate offense.

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	2,089
2016	1,931
2017	1,679
Change from 2016	-13%
Change from Average	-20%

## Larcenies reported in Cambridge



Larceny is always the most common of the Part I crimes in Cambridge. This year it accounted for 72% of the total Part I crime and 83% of the total property crime. Larceny often produces the most patterns. Three categories that produce some of the highest numbers—larcenies from motor vehicles, buildings, and persons—are often fueled by changes in technology. As electronics, such as laptops, cell phones, and portable music players become more popular and evolve, they become easier targets, easier to conceal, and ultimately easier to sell.

Larceny is broken down into the nine categories listed in the table below. The larceny categories that experienced the most substantial reductions from 2016 to 2017 were larcenies from residences (-31%), larcenies from the person (-29%), larcenies from motor vehicles (-22%), and larcenies of bicycles (-19%). Meanwhile, the larceny types that experienced notable increases in 2017 over 2016 were larcenies of services (+82%), larcenies of license plates (+27%), miscellaneous larcenies (+25%), and shoplifting (+13%).

## Larcenies by type

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2016	2017	Change from Avg.	% of Total (2017)
Larcenies from buildings	345	297	273	-21%	16%
Larcenies from motor vehicles	462	371	289	-37%	17%
Larcenies from persons	236	221	158	-33%	9%
Larcenies from residences	252	270	187	-26%	11%
Larcenies of bicycles	362	375	303	-16%	18%
Larcenies of license plates	25	22	28	12%	2%
Larcenies of services	17	17	31	82%	2%
Shoplifting	351	326	370	5%	22%
Other (unclassifiable) larcenies	38	32	40	5%	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,089</b>	<b>1,931</b>	<b>1,679</b>	<b>-20%</b>	

## Larcenies from buildings

Larcenies from buildings are non-burglary thefts from commercial establishments. “Non-burglary” means that either the offender had a specific right to be on the premises, or that the building was open to the general public, and that no force was used to gain entry to the building where the theft was committed.

### Larcenies from buildings by business district

Business District	2016	2017	Change
Galleria/East Cambridge	40	36	-10%
Kendall/M.I.T.	17	15	-12%
Inman Square	10	11	10%
Central Square	71	70	-1%
Cambridgeport/Riverside	18	20	11%
Bay Sq./Upper Broadway	24	12	-50%
Harvard Square	56	58	4%
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	9	12	33%
Porter Sq./N. Cambridge	17	12	-29%
Alewife/West Cambridge	35	27	-23%
<b>Total</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>-8%</b>

There were 273 larcenies from buildings reported in 2017. This total represents a decrease of 8% from 2016 and 21% from the five-year average of 345.

### Larceny from building scenarios

The following are the most common larceny from building scenarios in Cambridge in 2017:

1. Thefts of property intentionally left unattended for a short time:  
**68 incidents**
2. Thefts of property accidentally left behind at a location:  
**38 incidents**
3. Thefts of property left unattended on a store counter:  
**36 incidents**
4. Thefts of employee property from the “back room” of a commercial establishment:  
**25 incidents**
5. Thefts of company property by an employee (“inside job”):  
**23 incidents**
6. Thefts of personal/company property from an office building during business hours:  
**20 incidents**
7. Thefts from a construction site: **13 incidents**
8. Thefts from a hotel room: **13 incidents**

### Top hot spots of 2017

1. **CambridgeSide Galleria**  
100 CambridgeSide Place  
17 incidents
2. **Hyatt Regency Hotel**  
575 Memorial Drive  
11 incidents
3. **The Garage shopping center**  
36 JFK Street  
6 incidents
4. **Le Meridien Hotel**  
20 Sidney Street  
6 incidents
5. **Marriott Hotel**  
50 Broadway  
4 incidents
6. **Whole Foods Market**  
340 River Street  
4 incidents

## Larcenies from motor vehicles

Larcenies from motor vehicles (LMVs) involve an offender either breaking into a car and stealing valuables from within or stealing an accessory, such as tires or hubcaps.

Larcenies from motor vehicles had consistently averaged between 16-26% of the total serious crime index in Cambridge for over 20 years. However, LMVs in 2015 and 2016 accounted for only 14% each year, and this dropped even further to only 12% in 2017.

This crime type hit its peak in 2007—when GPS units became a hot target—and has been steadily decreasing each year since then, with only one slight increase in 2012. The total of 289 car breaks reported in 2017 was 22% below the 2016 total of 371 and 37% below the five-year weighted average of 462.

In 2017, the main target in LMVs was cash and loose change, followed by bags, purses, and wallets. These items were often stolen from unlocked vehicles, which has been the most common method of entry for the past five years. Prior to 2013, the top method of entry typically involved breaking windows.

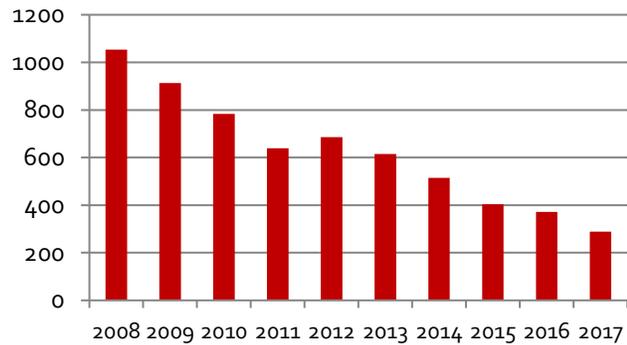
### Top stolen items of 2017

- 1. Cash/Coins 84
- 2. Backpacks/Bags/Purses/Wallets 52
- 3. Laptops/Computers 32
- 4. Glasses/Sunglasses 19
- 5. Cell Phones 18
- 6. Auto Parts 15
- 7. Credit/ATM cards 14
- 8. Clothing 13
- 9. Jewelry/Watches 10
- 10. Identification 8

### Top methods of entry

- 1. Entry through unlocked door or open window, accounting for 44% in 2017.
- 2. In 34% of cases, means of entry were unknown, with no signs of force.
- 3. Breaking a window; this accounted for only 12% of larcenies in 2017.

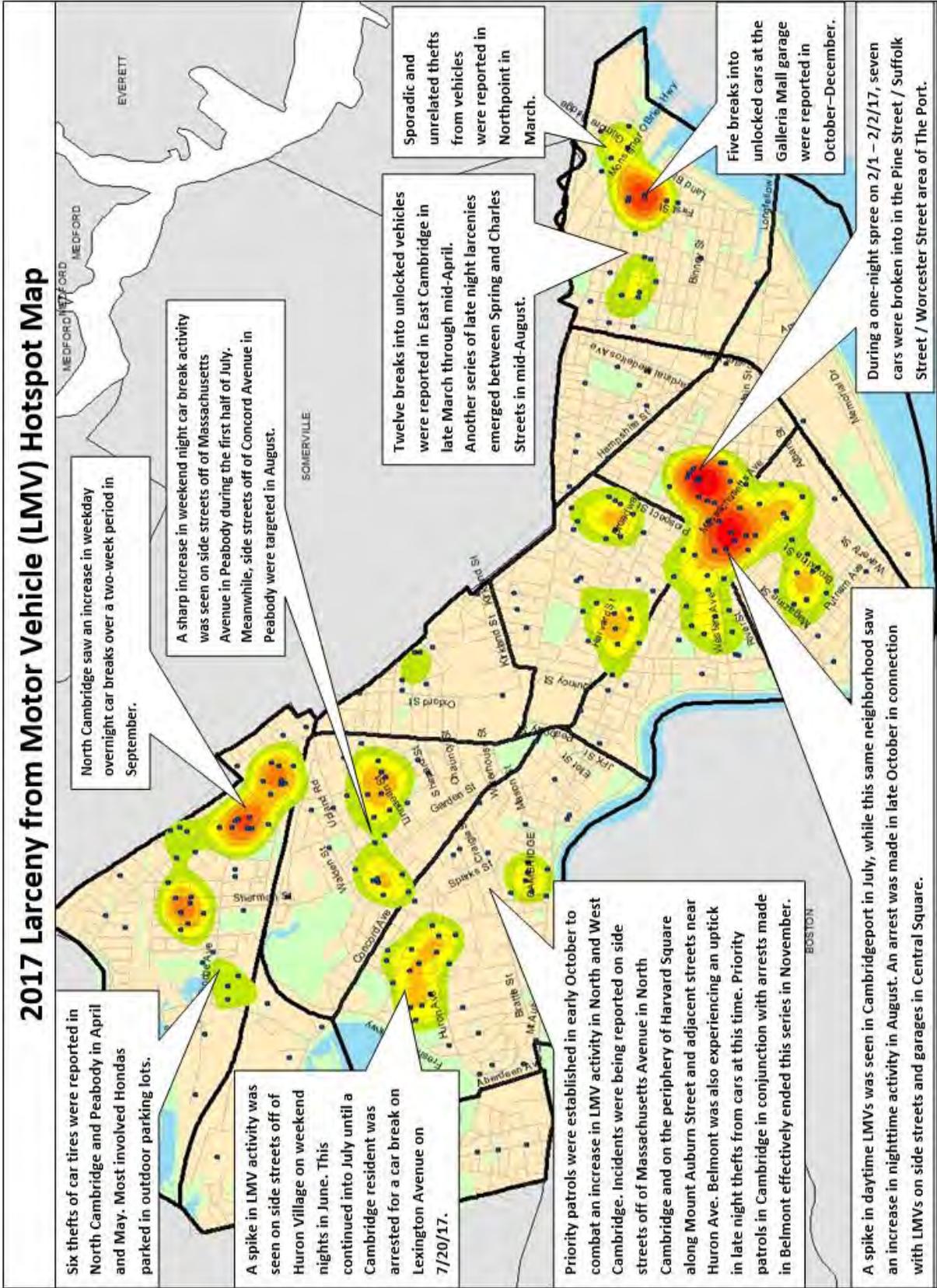
Larcenies from motor vehicles, 2008-2017



Larcenies from vehicles by neighborhood

Neighborhood	2016	2017	Change
East Cambridge	36	29	-19%
M.I.T.	7	3	-57%
Inman/Harrington	19	9	-53%
The Port	41	19	-54%
Cambridgeport	59	38	-36%
Mid-Cambridge	33	30	-9%
Riverside	34	20	-41%
Agassiz	11	9	-18%
Peabody	32	28	-13%
West Cambridge	50	43	-14%
North Cambridge	37	53	43%
Cambridge Highlands	1	5	400%
Strawberry Hill	11	3	-73%
<b>Total</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>-22%</b>

LMV activity tends to be concentrated in a few specific areas each year. See the next page for a hotspot map containing more information on these focus areas in 2017.



## Larcenies from persons

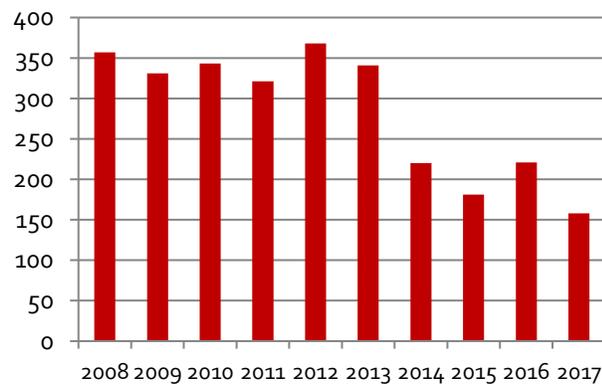
Larceny from the person describes pocket-picking or any theft that occurs within the victim’s area of control. The thefts are non-confrontational, and often the victim is not aware of the theft until after it has occurred. If any physical confrontation between offender and victim takes place, the crime is recorded as a robbery.

After an increase of 22% was reported in 2016, larcenies from the person reversed direction in 2017 and dropped 29% to 158 incidents, which is the lowest total seen in over 20 years in Cambridge. Although the number of incidents dropped this year, arrests for this crime type have been on the rise for the past few years, climbing from one arrest in 2015 to three in 2016 to four in 2017. See the scenarios below for more on larcenies from the person in 2017.

Larcenies from persons by business district

Business District	2016	2017	Change
Galleria/East Cambridge	28	25	-11%
Kendall/M.I.T.	6	4	-33%
Inman Square	7	6	-14%
Central Square	64	36	-44%
Cambridgeport/Riverside	4	8	100%
Bay Sq./Upper Broadway	7	3	-57%
Harvard Square	77	55	-29%
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	5	1	-80%
Porter Sq./N. Cambridge	13	10	-23%
Alewife/West Cambridge	10	10	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>-29%</b>

Larcenies from persons, 2008-2017



The following represents a few of the recurring larceny from person scenarios in Cambridge:

1. The most common larceny from person scenario in Cambridge in both 2016 and 2017 involved the theft of items from patrons of local restaurants and bars in the city. An example is when a diner hangs a purse over the back of a chair and someone takes valuables from within. This scenario, also known as dipper activity, accounted for 30% of the larcenies from persons in 2017. Harvard and Central Squares are almost always the city hotspots for this type of activity. In 2017, 26 incidents were reported in Harvard Square and 12 were seen in Central Square, with four establishments in Harvard Square and two in Central Square reporting multiple incidents.
2. One of the other most common larceny from person scenarios in Cambridge is when items are stolen after they are left unattended by their owners. This scenario accounted for approximately 21% of the larcenies from persons in 2017. This includes purses and wallets left briefly unattended in bars, restaurants, churches, schools, bus stops, parks, etc. In one typical scenario of this type, a student leaves his or her cell phone in a backpack near a basketball court and returns to find that the phone is missing. Another repeat scenario is the theft of belongings from residents of local homeless shelters while those residents are asleep.
3. Yet another popular scenario is pocket-picking. While a victim is walking through a public place, a pickpocket stealthily reaches into the victim’s coat, purse, or backpack and removes valuables. This scenario accounted for about 20% of the larceny from person reports in 2017. Harvard Square and Central Square reported the highest pocket-picking numbers in 2017 with 11 and 10 incidents, respectively.
4. Another typical scenario is the theft of items from victims as they shop in local commercial establishments. In this situation, a shopper might leave a purse or bag in a cart while looking at items on a shelf; upon returning to the cart, the belongings are gone. This category accounted for 13% of the larcenies from persons in 2017.

## Larcenies from residences

Larcenies from Residences are non-burglary thefts from apartments, hallways, garages, or yards. “Non-burglary” means that no force or trespass was involved in the theft. Typically, around a quarter of these thefts are committed by someone known to the victim or by people who have a right to be on the property.

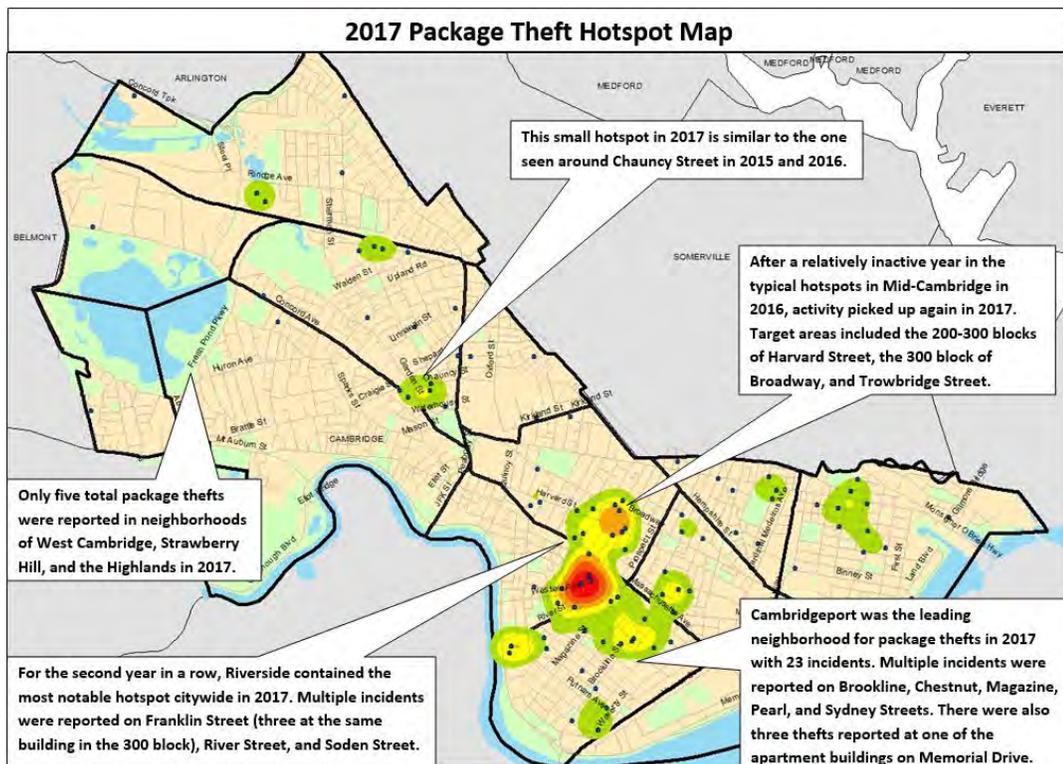
There were 187 of these larcenies reported in Cambridge in 2017, a 31% decrease from 2016. The most prevalent scenario for this crime type in 2017 was again the theft of packages from the front steps or vestibules of residences, although this scenario has begun to drop off over the past two years, dipping from 158 thefts in 2015 to 144 in 2016 to 109 in 2017. These numbers are believed to be underreported, however.

### The most common larceny from residence scenarios are:

- Thefts of mail/packages delivered by a parcel service: 58%
- Thefts committed by visitors or guests of a residence: 9%
- Thefts committed by someone working in the residence, such as a painter, plumber, contractor, or maintenance worker: 9%
- Thefts from a yard, porch, or other area surrounding a residence: 7%
- Thefts from a common area of an apartment building: 7%
- Thefts committed by a family member, spouse, or romantic partner (i.e., “domestic thefts”): 6%
- Thefts from a storage area of an apartment building or complex: 2%
- Thefts committed while victims are in the process of moving: 1%

### Larcenies from residences by neighborhood

Neighborhood	2016	2017	Change
East Cambridge	31	19	-39%
MIT	1	1	0%
Inman/Harrington	21	12	-43%
The Port	30	15	-50%
Cambridgeport	36	36	0%
Mid-Cambridge	38	24	-37%
Riverside	26	18	-31%
Agassiz	3	4	33%
Peabody	36	20	-44%
West Cambridge	10	8	-20%
North Cambridge	30	25	-17%
Cambridge Highlands	2	2	0%
Strawberry Hill	6	3	-50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>-31%</b>

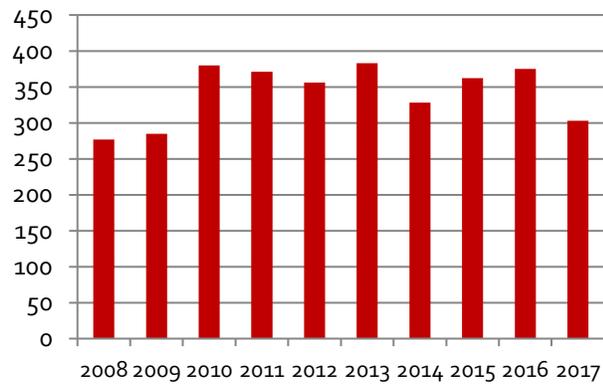


Larcenies of bicycles\*

Larcenies of bicycles by neighborhood

Neighborhood	2016	2017	Change
East Cambridge	47	40	-15%
M.I.T.	8	8	0%
Inman/Harrington	19	19	0%
The Port	33	25	-24%
Cambridgeport	60	56	-7%
Mid-Cambridge	63	43	-32%
Riverside	40	26	-35%
Agassiz	7	6	-14%
Peabody	23	25	9%
West Cambridge	36	25	-31%
North Cambridge	31	26	-16%
Cambridge Highlands	7	3	-57%
Strawberry Hill	1	1	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>-19%</b>

Larcenies of bicycles, 2008-2017

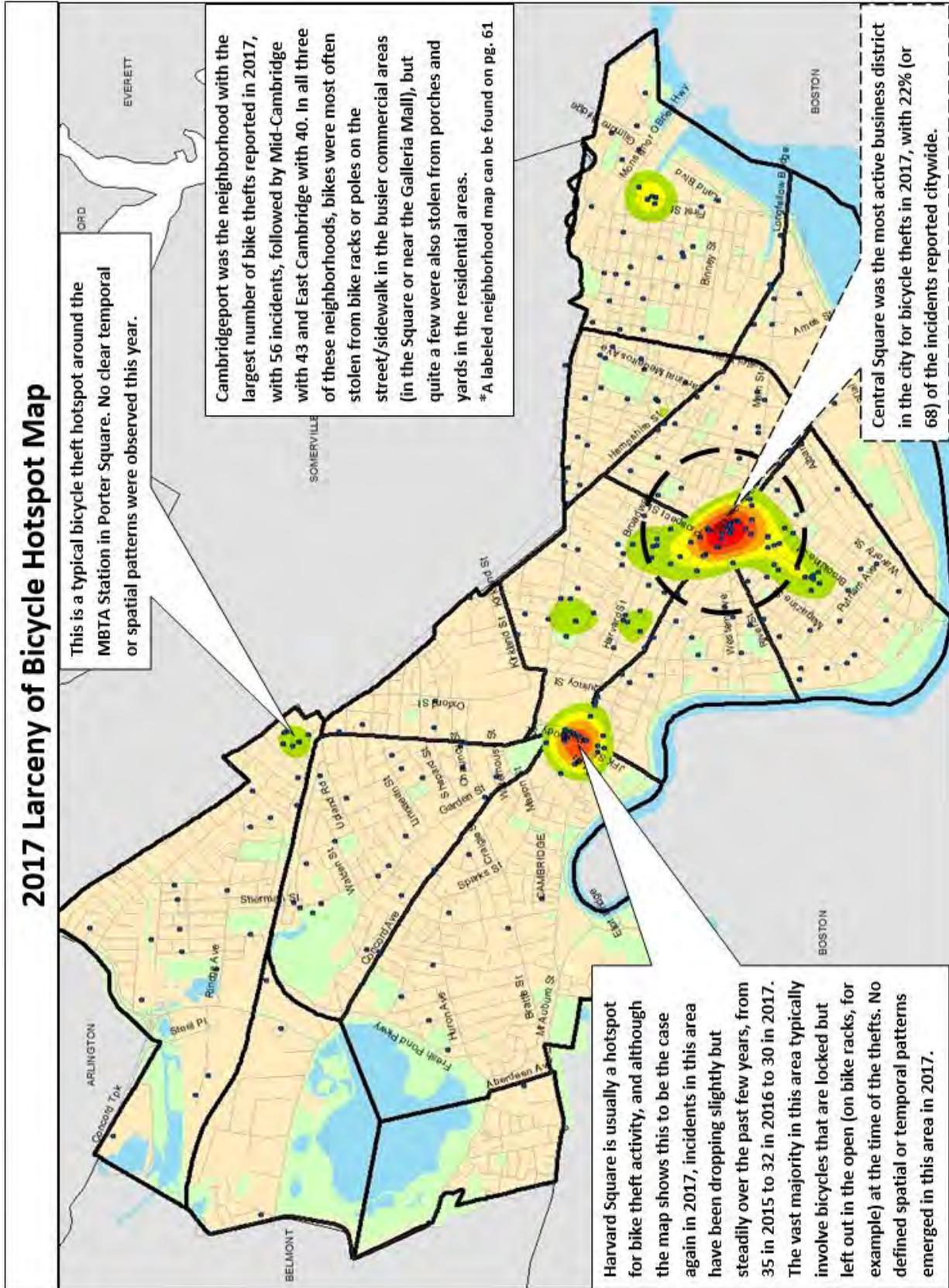


This year saw 303 incidents of stolen bicycles, a decrease of 19% below 2016 and 16% below the five-year weighted average. Bicycle thefts were very slow to pick up in intensity this year, with fewer than 10 bike thefts reported each month from January through April. In May, incidents jumped to 33, a level that is more typical for a spring month in Cambridge. And not surprisingly, the largest numbers of bicycle thefts in 2017 occurred during the months of June, July, and August (44, 52, and 58 incidents, respectively), when bicycles typically pack the streets and sidewalks because of the warmer weather. The business district with the most incidents in 2017 was Central Square (68), followed by the Galleria/East Cambridge area (35), and Bay Square (34). For the third year in a row, fewer bicycle thefts than usual were reported in the typical hotspot area of Harvard Square (30).

Locks present little difficulty to bicycle thieves, who often bring bolt cutters or pry bars with them. Approximately 61% of all reported bicycle thefts this year involved locked and unattended bicycles on a street, sidewalk, or rack. Only 6% of thefts involved locked bicycles on private property, such as in private back yards or in apartment building hallways. Another 19% percent of the larcenies involved bicycles that were left unlocked and unprotected. Unlocked bicycles that were on private property followed, making up the remaining 14% of reported incidents.

See the next page for a hotspot map containing information on the larceny of bicycle concentrations in 2017.

\* The Cambridge Police Department’s bicycle theft statistics do not include thefts reported to the MIT or Harvard University Police Departments. These additional thefts could add several hundred to the theft total.



## Shoplifting

Shoplifting increased by 13% in 2017, rising from 326 incidents in 2016 to 370 this year. As is typical, the CambridgeSide Galleria / East Cambridge area experienced the majority of the shopliftings this year with 38% of the incidents. Harvard Square, Central Square, and the Alewife/West Cambridge area reported the next highest amounts. It is important to note that since shoplifting incidents are often only reported when an arrest is made, underreporting can be a serious problem. The actual shoplifting total may be six to ten times greater than the statistic given. However, 70% of the reported incidents in 2017 did *not* result in an arrest, which may indicate an increase in the tendency to report incidents regardless of whether an arrest was made. Some stores may also choose to trespass the shoplifter instead of pressing charges.

Shoplifters usually fall into one of five categories:

1. **Juvenile shoplifters**, who steal on a dare to impress their peers, to get an “adrenaline rush,” or to compensate for lack of money.
2. **Impulse shoplifters**, who seize a sudden chance, such as an unattended dressing room or a blind aisle. Sometimes, the “impulse” is a long line or sudden lack of money.
3. **Alcoholic, vagrant, and drug-addicted people**, who steal erratically and clumsily, are more likely than other shoplifters to get violent when caught (see “Shop Owner/Patron” assaults in the Assault section).
4. **Kleptomaniacs**, who steal to satisfy a psychological need.
5. **Professionals**, who steal expensive items and resell them to fences or “flea markets.”

Shoplifting by business district

Business District	2016	2017	Change
Galleria/East Cambridge	107	141	32%
Kendall/MIT	3	3	0%
Inman Square	9	3	-67%
Central Square	55	56	2%
Cambridgeport/Riverside	7	11	57%
Bay Sq./Upper Broadway	3	0	-100%
Harvard Square	72	81	13%
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	2	2	0%
Porter Sq./N. Cambridge	37	32	-14%
Alewife/West Cambridge	31	41	32%
<b>Total</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>13%</b>

Top city/town of residence for arrested shoplifters

City/Town	2017
Boston	60
Cambridge	21
Malden	5
Chelsea	4
Lynn	3
Revere	3
Somerville	3

## Larcenies of services

This crime includes taxicab fare evasion, “dining and ditching,” “gassing and going,” and other failures to pay for services already rendered. There were 31 of these crimes reported in 2017, which is up 82% over 2016. “Dining and ditching” incidents were reported most often this year (15 incidents), followed by taxi fare evasions (six incidents), failure to pay for auto repair or tow services (four incidents), gasoline thefts (4 incidents), one incident in which a guest failed to pay for a rented hotel room, and one failure to pay for parking.

## Miscellaneous larceny

This category includes all other unclassifiable larcenies. Miscellaneous larcenies in 2017 rose by 25% from 32 in 2016 to 40 in 2017 and was also 5% above the five-year weighted average. There were no notable patterns of any miscellaneous types of larceny this year.

# Auto Theft

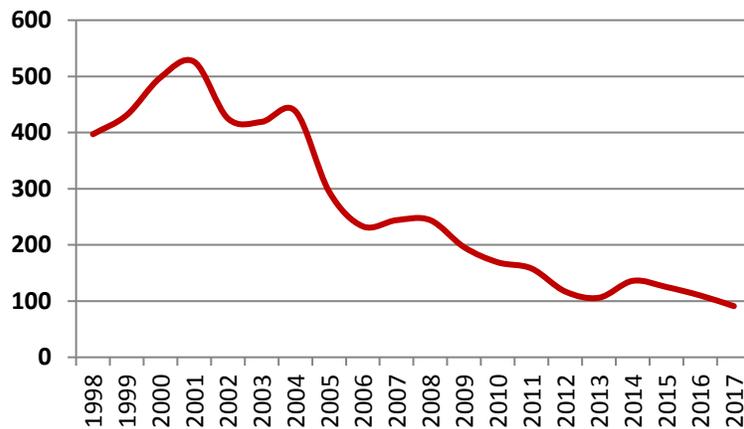
## Definition

Auto theft is the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. The offense category includes theft of automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, and snowmobiles. The definition excludes the taking of a vehicle for temporary use by individuals with lawful access (e.g., a son taking his mother's car for the night).

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	119
2016	110
2017	91
Change from 2016	-17%
Change from Average	-24%

Auto thefts reported in Cambridge



Forty years ago, there were nearly 3,000 cars reported stolen yearly in Cambridge. These figures declined to less than 1,000 thefts yearly in the 1990's and today's figures represent one of the most dramatic reported decreases in a single crime type. In 2013, Cambridge reported a 50-year low in auto thefts with 106. However, in 2014, auto thefts turned out to be one of the few Part I crimes to show an increase, up 28% from 2013. As is evident from the chart, the slight blip in 2014 was still low in comparison to years past, and auto theft has been on a downward trend ever since, with

fewer than 100 reported in 2017. The 91 auto thefts reported in 2017 marks the lowest total ever recorded for auto thefts. The overall major decline can be attributed to the virtual elimination of "chop shops" and interstate auto theft rings, crackdowns on insurance fraud, advances in automobile security, and new technology that enables patrol officers to quickly check a vehicle's registry listing to determine if it is stolen.

Although auto thefts tend to stay relatively consistent in each neighborhood, there were a few notable drops recorded in 2017. Cambridgeport saw auto thefts decrease by 12 incidents from 2016, registering 55% below the five-year average of 20. The Port also recorded a drop of 10 incidents from 2016. These two neighborhoods combined accounted for 22 fewer auto thefts in 2017. The rest of the neighborhoods recorded numbers that were relatively consistent with those seen in 2016, with only minor fluctuations above or below last

Auto thefts by neighborhood

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2016	2017	Change from Avg.	% of Total (2017)
East Cambridge	14	12	16	14%	18%
MIT	2	1	2	0%	2%
Inman/Harrington	9	7	9	0%	10%
The Port	15	17	7	-53%	8%
Cambridgeport	20	21	9	-55%	10%
Mid-Cambridge	15	15	10	-33%	11%
Riverside	8	6	5	-38%	5%
Agassiz	5	4	1	-80%	1%
Peabody	9	10	9	0%	10%
West Cambridge	10	7	13	30%	14%
North Cambridge	11	8	8	-27%	9%
Cambridge Highlands	1	0	1	0%	1%
Strawberry Hill	1	2	1	0%	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>-12%</b>	

year's numbers. Seven of the 13 neighborhoods saw reductions in auto thefts in 2017, leading to the overall decrease of 19 incidents this year compared to 2016. The majority of auto thefts this year (57%) took place

## Part I Crimes: Auto Theft

during the warmer months of April through September, with April recording the highest total of the year with 13.

### Makes and models

Hondas continue to be the most commonly stolen automobiles in Cambridge, constituting 12% of all reports in 2017, or 11 incidents. They are also typically the most commonly stolen vehicles nationwide and continued to be this year. Toyota stayed in second place again in 2017 with nine and Nissan jumped into third place with eight thefts. Ford came in 4<sup>th</sup> with seven incidents. In the 5<sup>th</sup> spot is Genuine (a scooter company), which might be atypical for auto thefts in most places, but is not unusual in a city like Cambridge where many people travel by scooter. This information, while typically consistent with historical and national trends, can change from year to year with different targeted models. However, three of the top five vehicle model types stolen in Cambridge in 2017 also made the national and statewide top listings.

**Top 5 stolen makes and models in 2017**

Makes		Models	
Honda	11	Honda Civic*+	6
Toyota	9	Toyota Camry*+	6
Nissan	8	Nissan Altima*+	4
Ford	7	Ford Edge	3
Genuine	5	Genuine Buddy	3

\*Also in the national top 10 (for 2016)

+Also in the Massachusetts top 10 (for 2016)

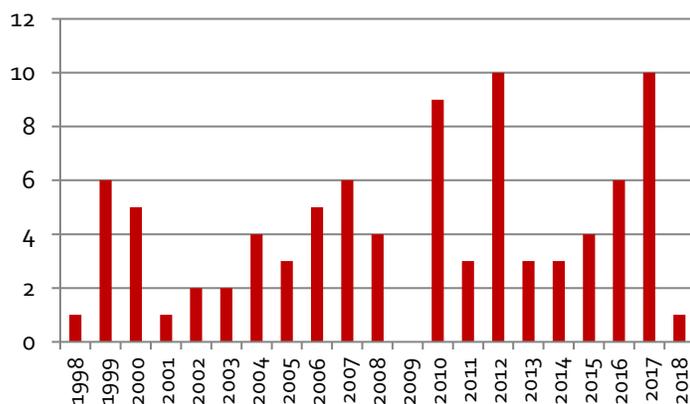
(2017 national/MA top 10 data not yet available)

In 2017, Cambridge kept in line with the state and national trends that report that Hondas and Toyotas are most heavily targeted. The most targeted model for the 6<sup>th</sup> year in a row in Cambridge was the Honda Civic. Typically, Hondas and Toyotas are stolen more than others due to the following factors. First, these cars are some of the most commonly owned models in the nation, making them more widely available. Statistical probability alone would place them near the top of the theft list. Second, car thieves tend to look for average-cost, commonly owned, inconspicuous cars. High-priced luxury cars are not stolen very often because they are too easy for police to spot and are more likely to be equipped with expensive alarm systems.

Thefts of motorcycles and other brands of scooters have been common throughout the city and region over the past few years. This has been an emerging trend and accounted for 24% of all auto thefts in Cambridge in 2017, which is up 5% from last year. There were no known patterns that emerged anywhere in Cambridge in 2017, due to the declining number of overall auto thefts reported throughout the city.

The table to the right shows the incidence of auto theft by model year (two vehicles did not report the model year, as a lot of scooter and moped owners are not aware of this information). One model was prior to 1998 and did not fit, therefore there are 3 model years of cars stolen in 2017 that are not depicted. Analysis of the age of stolen vehicles shows that the highest demand is typically for cars less than 10 years old. The years with the most targeted vehicles were 2017 and 2012, which accounted for 22% of all known motor vehicle years stolen in 2017. Thieves that target newer models are often “joyriders” who steal vehicles to increase their sense of status or intend to sell the entire car for profit. Another scenario that seems to be emerging involves people who rent cars, often newer models, and fail to return them in a timely manner, resulting in the rental company reporting them stolen. This could account for the large number of 2017 models reported stolen this year. Thieves that are looking for transportation steal cars 5-10 years old because they are inconspicuous.

**Auto thefts in 2017 by model year**



Thieves looking to make a profit target the older model year vehicles as well because parts for these cars are in higher demand.

**Auto theft recoveries by location**

Approximately 55% of the cars reported stolen in 2017 have been reported as recovered to date. The majority of recovered cars in 2017 were located throughout Cambridge, with Riverside as the leading neighborhood for recoveries with five. The rest of the recovered vehicles were found in surrounding cities and towns. Typically, we have twice as many automobiles recovered outside of the city as we did in 2017. The decrease in overall auto thefts may be one reason for the drop in recoveries outside of Cambridge, but another possible explanation is that we are not receiving notifications from outside departments as consistently as we did in previous years.

Cambridge	30
Riverside	5
Mid-Cambridge	4
East Cambridge	3
Inman/Harrington	3
North Cambridge	3
Peabody	3
The Port	3
Agassiz	2
Cambridgeport	2
West Cambridge	1
Unknown (street cleaning)	1

Other cities/towns	20
Boston	9
Somerville	4
Quincy	2
Arlington	1
Brockton	1
Brookline	1
Everett	1

## 2017 Auto Theft Hotspot Map

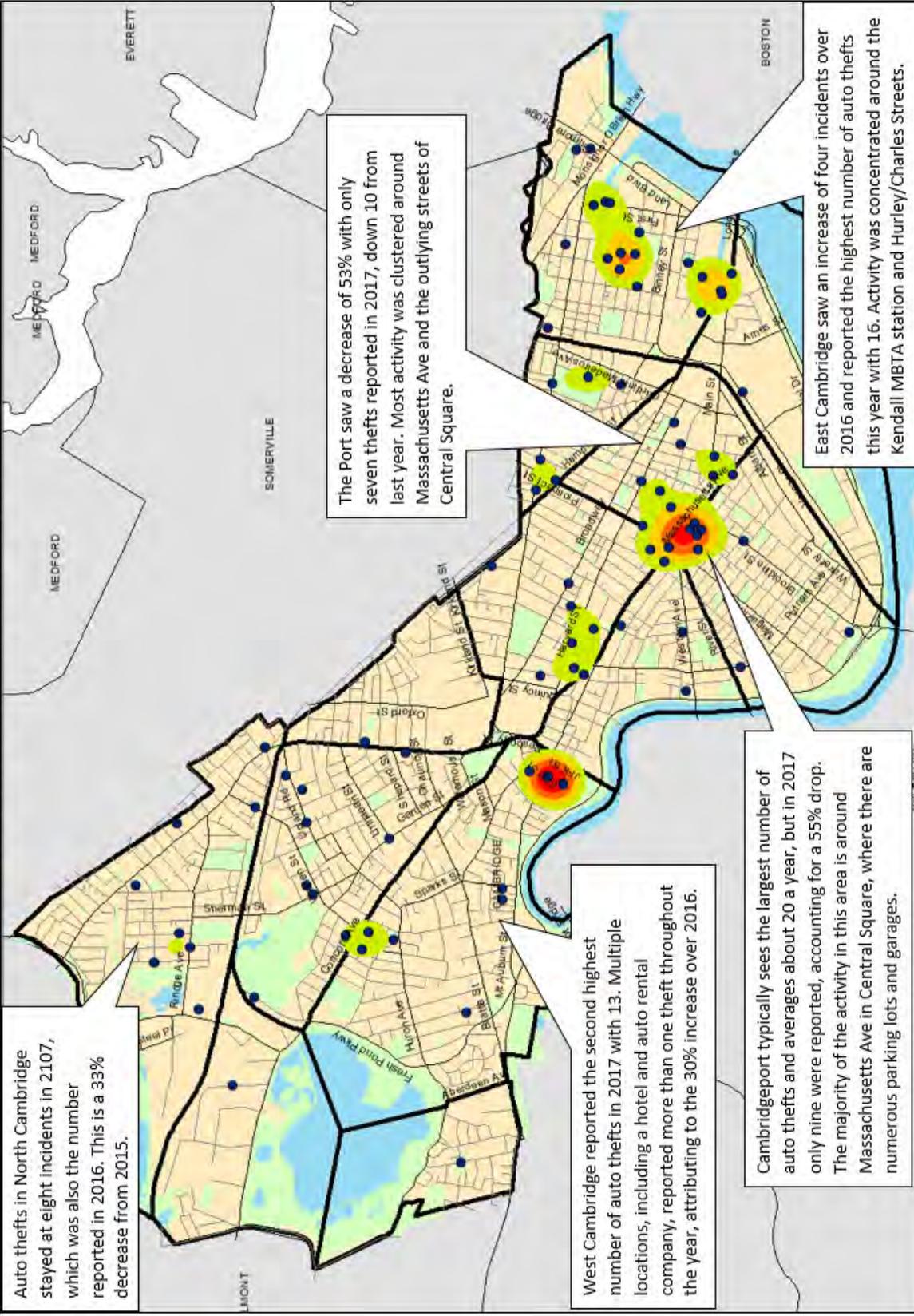
Auto thefts in North Cambridge stayed at eight incidents in 2107, which was also the number reported in 2016. This is a 33% decrease from 2015.

The Port saw a decrease of 53% with only seven thefts reported in 2017, down 10 from last year. Most activity was clustered around Massachusetts Ave and the outlying streets of Central Square.

West Cambridge reported the second highest number of auto thefts in 2017 with 13. Multiple locations, including a hotel and auto rental company, reported more than one theft throughout the year, attributing to the 30% increase over 2016.

Cambridgeport typically sees the largest number of auto thefts and averages about 20 a year, but in 2017 only nine were reported, accounting for a 55% drop. The majority of the activity in this area is around Massachusetts Ave in Central Square, where there are numerous parking lots and garages.

East Cambridge saw an increase of four incidents over 2016 and reported the highest number of auto thefts this year with 16. Activity was concentrated around the Kendall MBTA station and Hurley/Charles Streets.





### Section III

# Part II Crimes

Drug Offenses

Sex Crimes

Fraud

Vandalism

Other Part II Crimes



# Drug Offenses

## Definition

Drug offenses include all incidents in which the police made an arrest, or complaint for the possession or distribution of illegal narcotics. Drug statistics do not include all instances of drug use or distribution; they only reflect those cases that are known to the police. The totals here represent only one arrest charge and one type of drug per incident. A few individuals were arrested for multiple charges or had more than one type of drug on them, but only the most serious was chosen in each incident. Note: These incidents are ones in which the highest offense is drug-related. Incidents that also involve a more serious Part 1 offense (such as Larceny, Burglary, etc.) are not counted in this section.

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	68
2016	61
2017	64
Change from 2016	+5%
Change from Average	-6%

The Cambridge Police Department's Special Investigations Unit (SIU) is a specialized group of officers who deal with vice activity throughout the city on a daily basis. Targeting drug activity remains the top goal of the unit. Through strategic planning methods, the members of this unit attempt to alleviate the burdens bestowed upon society by the culture of drug use and sales. By aggressively pursuing low-level street dealers, the SIU, along with patrol officers, are able to climb the drug network and annually arrest top drug suppliers across Cambridge.

To the right is a geographic breakdown of drug incidents across the 13 neighborhoods in Cambridge. Cambridgeport and The Port accounted for the most drug activity in the City in 2017, registering 22 and 16 incidents, respectively.

In total, 64 drug incidents were reported in 2017 and 63 people were arrested in 45 of these incidents.

Drug incidents by neighborhood

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2016	2017	% of Total (2017)*
East Cambridge	7	5	2	3%
MIT	1	0	0	0%
Inman/Harrington	4	5	1	2%
The Port	9	4	16	25%
Cambridgeport	16	20	22	34%
Mid-Cambridge	6	3	6	9%
Riverside	10	15	9	14%
Agassiz	0	0	0	0%
Peabody	4	2	2	3%
West Cambridge	6	4	3	5%
North Cambridge	3	2	2	3%
Cambridge Highlands	0	0	1	2%
Strawberry Hill	1	1	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>64</b>	

## Drug offense scenarios

There are seven common ways that the police learn about drug activity in the city.

1. The Cambridge Police Department's Special Investigation Unit initiates an investigation or conducts surveillance resulting in an arrest. Many of these investigations are due to information supplied by confidential sources: 25 cases in 2017
2. A police officer on patrol observes suspicious street activity and upon further investigation discovers narcotics: 22 cases in 2017
3. A Cambridge school official or court officer observes drug use: 2 cases in 2017
4. During a routine motor vehicle stop, a police officer observes narcotics inside the vehicle: 2 cases in 2017
5. A citizen witnesses a person or persons using drugs and notifies the police: 4 cases in 2016
6. During an arrest for another crime, the arresting officer or booking officer finds narcotics on the arrested person: 9 cases in 2017
7. Pharmacists discover patrons attempting to fill fake prescriptions: 0 cases in 2017

## Part II Crimes: Drug Offenses

Type of drug found in incidents	
Category	2017
Cocaine or crack cocaine	23
Prescription drugs	19
Heroin/Opioids	9
Marijuana	8
Methamphetamine	4
Hallucinogens	1

### Drug related activities for which persons are arrested

Category	2017
Possession	34
Possession with intent to distribute*	21
Drug sale (observed)	7
Trafficking**	2

\*Carrying a significant amount of drugs not for personal use

\*\*Selling, possessing, or transporting of copious amounts of drugs

### Summary of overdose incidents

Although overdose incidents are generally medical in nature, police often respond to assist Fire and EMS agencies. In 2017, 251 total overdose incidents of all types (with 15 fatalities) were reported to the Cambridge Police, which is down 15% from the 295 overdoses (with 29 fatalities) reported to the police in 2016. A substantial surge was seen in 2016 in reports of opioid/heroin overdoses across the city, particularly involving overdoses that were fatal. This trend has been seen statewide and across the nation. A public health emergency was declared in March 2014 in Massachusetts due to the growing number of opioid overdoses and deaths. Although reported overdoses dropped in Cambridge in 2017, the concern remains and an intensive effort is being put forth both within the police department and citywide to fight this epidemic.

When a victim cannot or will not report what substance was involved in an overdose, officers must often rely on witness statements, medical personnel evaluations, and/or evidence at the scene to make a determination. The chart provides a breakdown of the suspected drug type involved in each overdose report for 2015, 2016, and 2017.\*

\*This data is only what is available through police reports. Additional overdoses are reported to EMS/Fire agencies in Cambridge, but police are not always alerted to respond as the call is often considered medical, not criminal in nature.

The following provides a breakdown of the fatal overdoses for the past three years:

In 2015, there were 16 fatal overdoses:

- 11 likely/confirmed heroin overdoses
- 2 possible heroin overdoses (or other opioids)
- 2 possible overdoses by way of pills
- 1 overdose involving alcohol and an unknown drug

In 2016, there were 29 fatal overdoses:

- 20 likely/confirmed heroin overdoses
- 3 possible heroin overdoses (cause of death is unknown but victims had history of opioid use)
- 2 overdoses involving other opioids (fentanyl)
- 1 prescription medication overdose
- 3 possible overdoses with unknown causes

In 2017, there were 15 fatal overdoses:

- 6 likely/confirmed heroin overdoses
- 1 likely/confirmed fentanyl overdose
- 3 overdoses involving other opioids
- 1 overdose from a suspected mix of cocaine and prescription pills
- 4 possible overdoses with unknown causes

### Suspected drug ingested

Drug	2015	2016	2017
Heroin	95	149	104
Other Opioids	10	50	44
Prescription/OTC Meds	53	56	61
Alcohol (often w/ other drug)	3	4	0
Cocaine	1	1	4
Marijuana/THC	0	3	9
Crystal Meth	3	1	1
K2	1	2	1
Other (Designer Drugs, Hallucinogens, Mix, etc.)	8	10	9
Unknown	14	19	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>251</b>

**Opioid Overdose Details and Demographics Breakdown:**

**Time and Day of Week of Suspected Opioid Overdoses**

Opioid overdoses were reported most frequently between 12:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

**Victim Profile (counting all reported overdoses as separate victims\*)**

- o **Median Age**

The median age for overall victims this year was 36 (average age 40). Median age for males was just slightly higher at 37 (average age 40), while median age for females was 35 (average age 39).

- o **Sex**

Males outnumbered females a little less than 2 to 1 (94 males, 54 females)

- o **Resident**

Residents made up 32% of overdose victims this year (47 victims) – not including homeless/shelters

- o **Non-Resident**

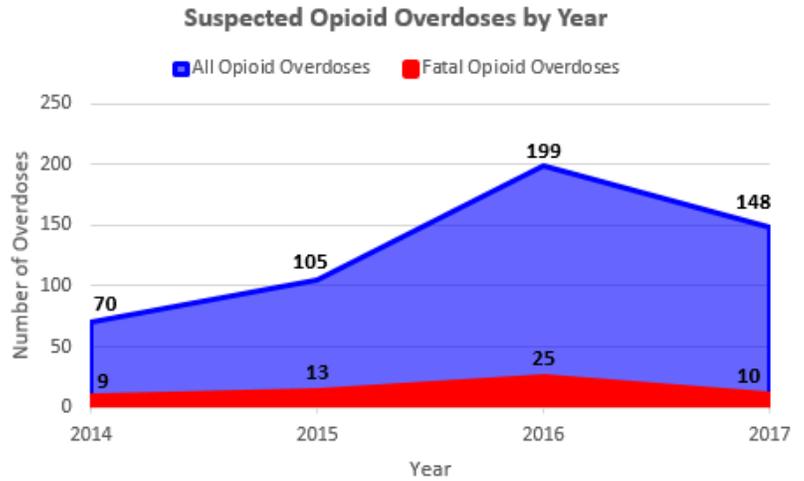
Non-residents also made up 32% of overdose victims this year (48 victims) – Boston residents overdosed 8x

- o **Transient**

Transient/homeless individuals made up 27% of overdose victims this year (40 victims)

- o **Unknown Residence**

The residency of 9% of overdose victims this year could not be determined (13 victims)



(\*The data above does not take into account that some victims overdose multiple times. Each overdose incident was counted as a separate victim. However, 13 people experienced more than one suspected opioid overdose in 2017. Of those 13, one person overdosed 11 times, one overdosed five times, two overdosed three times, and nine overdosed two times. This does skew the statistics above.)

In response to the opioid epidemic that is affecting our community, detectives from the Special Investigations Unit continue to address the underlying problem of addiction with a total investment with intervention and coaching services. There is both a proactive and reactive outreach approach employed to address the seeking and craving stage and again at the time of overdose. Detectives respond along with patrol, fire and EMS to every reported overdose in the city. They provide educational resources to the individuals and their families and conduct follow-up visits to listen and assess their needs. The Special Investigations Unit is assisted in their efforts by a social worker and a newly hired recovery coach to provide assistance to the individuals with after-care placement, transportation, treatment options and coaching services. Additionally, they work to identify individuals who are at high risk of overdose and provide them with safety assessments, treatment options and coordination of care.

# Sex Offenses

## Definition

Sex Offenses include six crimes of a sexual nature: annoying and accosting, indecent assault, indecent exposure, obscene telephone calls, peeping & spying, and prostitution & solicitation. Rape is not included because it is a Part I crime.

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	87
2016	86
2017	79
Change from 2016	-8%
Change from Average	-9%

Sex offenses by type

Category	5-Yr. Avg.	2016	2017	Change from Avg.
Indecent assault	40	39	30	-25%
Indecent exposure	25	19	17	-32%
Annoying & accosting	8	11	10	25%
Peeping & Spying	6	6	7	17%
Prostitution & solicitation	3	6	10	233%
Obscene phone calls	5	5	5	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>-9%</b>

## Indecent Assault

Indecent assault is the unwanted touching of a person by another in a private area or with sexual overtones. Any incident where force or injury occurs is an aggravated assault rather than an indecent assault. In 2017, the offender was a stranger to the victim in 40% of the reported incidents. Five of the incidents in 2017 resulted in arrest and a suspect was identified in 17 others.

## Indecent Exposure

Indecent exposure is the offensive, often suggestive display of one's body (usually the genitals) in public. The main offenders are typically vagrants or inebriated individuals. Six (35%) of the 17 indecent exposure incidents in 2017 involved suspects masturbating or engaging in sexual acts in public, seven individuals (41%) were seen urinating/defecating in public, and four incidents (24%) were flashing incidents. Arrests were made in five incidents and suspects were identified in an additional six.

## Annoying & Accosting

Annoying and accosting a member of the opposite sex is a form of criminal harassment. (Note: Incidents involving phone call harassment are not considered annoying and accosting. Phone calls are a separate category.) Often, annoying and accosting involves a man repeatedly following, shouting, making off-color suggestions, hooting, repeatedly asking for a date, or otherwise harassing a woman. It happens most often on the street. All ten of the incidents in 2017 were perpetrated by strangers and none resulted in arrest, although six suspects were potentially identified.

## Peeping and Spying

Peeping and spying occurs most often in Cambridge when offenders peer through windows of houses or apartments, generally at night. Two of the seven incidents reported in Cambridge in 2017 involved this situation. The other five incidents reported this year involved the videotaping and/or photographing of unsuspecting victims during situations in which privacy is expected. Five suspects were identified in relation to these incidents, four of which were related to unauthorized filming, and one related to peering through a window.

### **Obscene Telephone Calls**

Obscene telephone calls are unwanted phone calls of an offensive or repulsive nature. Often the caller uses sexual or vulgar language to cause discomfort and possibly fear to the victim receiving the calls. The caller was unknown to the victim in all five incidents in 2017.

### **Prostitution and Soliciting Sex for a Fee**

Prostitution is commonly associated with “streetwalking,” (prostitutes working the streets) but also includes escort services, where a “john” (client) will call and a prostitute will be sent to the “john’s” location. In the 1990’s, the Cambridge Police Special Investigations Unit (SIU) had proactively fought the visible “streetwalking” problem, nearly eradicating it in Cambridge. In recent years, the problem has re-emerged in Cambridge in a less public fashion, particularly through internet advertisements. In March of 2017, the SIU set up an undercover sting to combat this problem after complaints of prostitution resurfaced, particularly in and around Cambridge hotels. The undercover sting targeted “johns” that responded to salacious online ads. Seven arrests took place during a one-night operation, with the offenders then charged with Sexual Conduct for a Fee. Two other incidents in 2017 resulted in arrests at hotels in February and May. Another incident that occurred in May took place at an apartment and involved a multi-jurisdictional operation based on intelligence that led to a warrant; no parties were arrested during this incident.

# Fraud

## Definition

*Fraud, larceny under false pretenses, forgery, embezzlement, and confidence games are not included among types of larceny in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting System. Yet in many cases, fraud is a much more serious crime than theft. Victims of check forgery and "con" games stand to lose thousands of dollars. Often added to this loss is the personal humiliation that accompanies being "duped" by a "con man." The confidence game crook, a particularly crafty breed of criminal who has no problem deceiving his victims face-to-face, expects (often correctly) that his victim's embarrassment will deter him or her from reporting the crime to the police.*

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	569
2016	603
2017	573
Change from 2016	-5%
Change from Average	+1%

Across the nation, police departments are seeing fraud become an increasingly popular crime. Meanwhile, in 2017, this crime type in Cambridge decreased by 5% from the previous year.

## Counterfeiting

This crime category almost always involves counterfeit bills. In Cambridge, these incidents tend to occur most often at grocery stores, convenience stores, and gas stations, and at the Galleria Mall.

## Bad Check

This is defined as the writing of checks on insufficient funds or closed accounts.

## Forged Check

Writing a forged check includes any incident in which a suspect forges the signature of the victim, or changes the amount written on the check.

## ATM/Credit Card Fraud

One of the most common types of fraud reported in Cambridge typically involves the use of credit and ATM cards. Major commercial areas such as Harvard/Central Squares and the Galleria Mall are typical hotspots for this activity. Incidents in Harvard Square increased from 10 in 2016 to 27 incidents in 2017. This is similar to the East Cambridge/Galleria area, which had 25 incidents in 2016 and 41 in 2017. There are two main ways that victims become aware of this type of crime; either victims are informed by their credit card companies of unusual activity on their charge or debit cards, or a victim finds unauthorized charges on his or her credit card account after the card is lost/stolen/skimmed.

Increasingly, victims are also reporting fraudulent activity while they are still in possession of their card. Credit card fraud is the main type of forgery that is expected to consistently increase, as many criminal enterprises have taken to electronic methods due to the complexity of solving such cases.

Fraud by type

Category	2016	2017	Change from 2016*
Counterfeiting	16	24	50%
Forgery/Uttering	360	352	-2%
Identity theft	143	160	12%
Credit/ATM cards	123	129	5%
Forged check	40	43	8%
Bad check	44	17	-61%
Prescription	2	2	0%
Application	2	1	-50%
Other/miscellaneous	6	0	-100%
Con Games	208	184	-12%
Internet-related	63	69	10%
Housing Scam	34	36	6%
Government	37	21	-43%
Miscellaneous	23	20	-13%
Extortion/Kidnap	16	14	-13%
Housework/Utilities	15	10	-33%
Travel	0	5	N/A
Lottery	0	5	N/A
Charity	5	2	-60%
Big Carrot	8	1	-88%
Cash shuffle	5	1	-80%
Psychic	2	0	-100%
Embezzlement	19	13	-32%
<b>Total</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>-5%</b>

\*N/A = % change cannot be calculated when the 2016 total is zero.

### Identity Theft

This scenario is when a known or unknown person opens accounts in the victim's name with his or her social security number. This can include utilities, credit cards, or even filing tax returns.

### Embezzlement

This occurs when employees take advantage of their position for financial gain, often diverting company funds to their own account. Historically, retail stores in Harvard/Central Squares and the Galleria Mall are most affected by this crime. Often, incidents of this type involve employees stealing several thousand dollars from the companies for which they work.

### "Con" Games

Internet-related incidents continue to account for a high number of con games. In recent years, there has also been a large increase in new scam scenarios, contributing to our need to create new categories in our data collection process. These new categories include "Lottery", "Travel", "Housing Scam", "Government," and "Extortion/Kidnap." These categories were previously listed as miscellaneous con games when they were less prevalent or non-existent prior to 2014. The Housing Scam category refers to online rental scams in which a victim sends money and later discovers there is no apartment to rent. The call-out box below details some of the more prevalent phone/internet scams reported in Cambridge recently.

The Cambridge Police issued several alerts in recent years about on-going phone scams affecting residents and businesses in the area. Many of the scams involved victims transferring money via Western Union or "Green Dot MoneyPak" cards, which are reloadable prepaid cards.

The following is a list of some of the recent scams:

- A caller claims to be from the IRS and says that the victim has been audited and owes money. This scam is often prevalent throughout tax season.
- A caller claims to work for the government and states that there is a warrant out for the victim's arrest unless s/he pays a fee to clear it up. ("Government" scam category)
- A caller claims to be from a utility company and demands payment on an outstanding bill.
- A caller claims to have either kidnapped or been in an accident with a victim's relative and states that the relative is being held for ransom. ("Extortion/Kidnap" scam category)
- A caller claims to be offering computer services/anti-virus software and needs access to a victim's computer where they are able to remotely gain personal information.
- Someone approaches a victim on the street stating they need money for gas ("Travel" scam category)

The following tips can help you avoid falling victim to one of these scams:

- Be suspicious of callers who demand immediate payment for any reason, and never give out personal or financial information to anyone who emails or calls you unsolicited.
- Never wire money or provide debit or credit card numbers or Green Dot MoneyPak card numbers to someone you do not know. Also, keep in mind that utility companies and government agencies will NOT contact you demanding immediate payment by MoneyPak.
- If you experience this type of activity, please report it to the Cambridge Police at 617-349-3300.

# Malicious Destruction

## Definition

Malicious destruction, or vandalism of property, includes tire-slashing, window-smashing, spray-painting, and a myriad of other crimes in which someone's property is willfully and maliciously damaged. It is the most commonly reported crime in Cambridge, yet we suspect that vandalism is one of the most underreported crimes; residents and businesses frequently ignore "minor" incidents of vandalism and graffiti.

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	410
2016	364
2017	358
Change from 2016	-2%
Change from Average	-13%

### Vandalism by neighborhood

Neighborhood	2016	2017	% of Total (2017)
East Cambridge	44	33	9%
M.I.T.	7	7	2%
Inman/Harrington	34	24	7%
The Port	40	40	11%
Cambridgeport	58	47	13%
Mid-Cambridge	31	31	9%
Riverside	33	30	8%
Agassiz	7	8	2%
Peabody	22	55	15%
West Cambridge	31	32	9%
North Cambridge	35	41	11%
Cambridge Highlands	13	7	2%
Strawberry Hill	9	3	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>358</b>	

### Vandalism by category

Category	2016	2017	Change from 2016
<b>Total auto damage</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>8%</b>
Dents/damage to car	65	78	20%
Car window broken	64	65	2%
Scratches, "pinstripes"	35	26	-26%
Tires slashed or punctured	15	21	40%
Attempted theft	6	10	67%
<b>Total residence damage</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>-21%</b>
Misc. damage to residences	29	21	-28%
Residence window broken	18	16	-11%
<b>Total business damage</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>-14%</b>
Misc. damage to businesses	39	31	-21%
Business window broken	27	26	-4%
<b>Graffiti</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>-19%</b>
<b>Miscellaneous damage</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>57%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>-2%</b>

# Other Part II Crimes

## Definition

Under the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, any actual crime not recorded as a Part I Crime (Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny, and Auto Theft) is a Part II Crime. The relative infrequency of patterns and trends among these crimes discourages detailed analysis.

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	1,029
2016	966
2017	960
Change from 2016	-1%
Change from Average	-7%

Category	2016	2017	Change from 2016
<b>Hit &amp; run accidents</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>Threats</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>-12%</b>
<b>Trespassing</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>-9%</b>
<b>OUI</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>-9%</b>
<b>Traffic arrests</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>Disorderly Conduct</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>-21%</b>
<b>Weapons violations</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>Drinking in Public</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>250%</b>
<b>Extortion/Blackmail</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>200%</b>
<b>Liquor Violations</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-33%</b>
<b>Kidnapping</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-100%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>966</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>-1%</b>



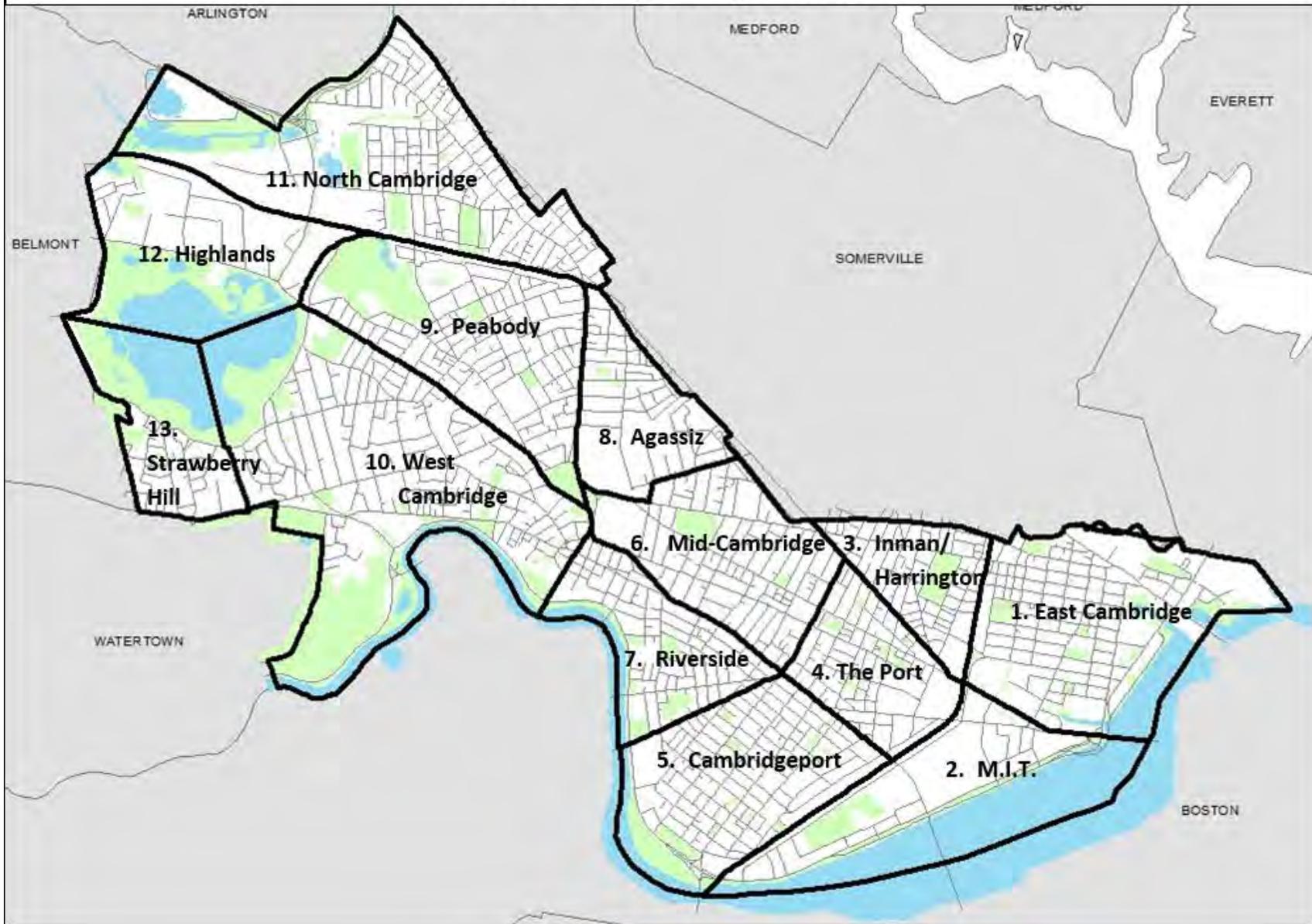
## Section IV

# Neighborhood Profiles

East Cambridge  
M.I.T./Kendall  
Inman/Harrington  
The Port  
Cambridgeport  
Mid-Cambridge  
Riverside  
Agassiz  
Peabody  
West Cambridge  
North Cambridge  
Cambridge Highlands  
Strawberry Hill



# City of Cambridge Neighborhoods

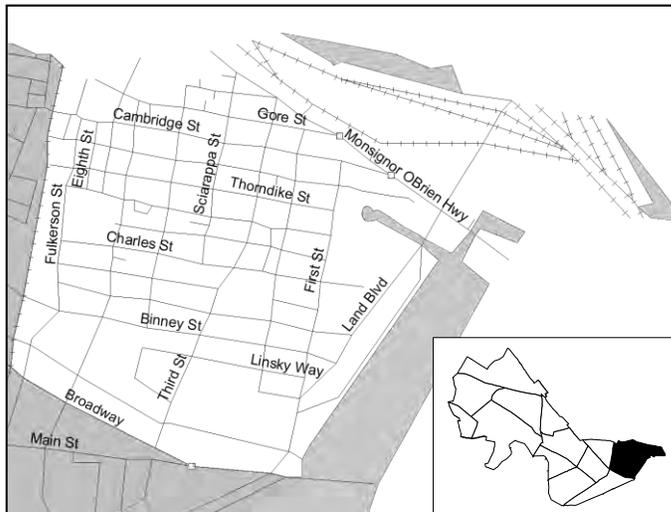


## Neighborhood breakdown of index crimes in 2017

Crime	East Camb	M.I.T.	Inman/Harr.	The Port	Camb Port	Mid-Camb	River-side	Agassiz	Pea-body	W. Camb	N. Camb	Camb H'lands	Strw. Hill	Total
Aggravated Assault	21	4	8	14	31	20	19	2	12	14	19	3	6	173
Auto Theft	16	2	9	7	9	10	5	1	9	13	8	1	1	91
Commercial Break	4	0	5	6	4	1	11	1	1	6	8	0	2	49
Commercial Robbery	5	1	0	9	7	2	2	0	0	4	6	3	0	39
Drugs	2	0	1	16	22	6	9	0	2	3	2	1	0	64
Flim Flam	29	4	8	14	24	20	17	6	21	19	16	3	3	184
Forgery	47	5	22	32	43	37	28	9	26	40	50	8	5	352
Homicide	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Housebreak	16	0	27	12	40	34	25	10	6	13	17	1	2	203
Indecent Assault	6	0	1	3	2	2	2	1	3	5	2	3	0	30
Indecent Exposure	1	1	0	1	4	1	2	2	2	3	0	0	0	17
Larceny from Building	43	18	4	24	43	19	42	4	15	35	18	7	1	273
Larceny from MV	29	3	9	19	38	30	20	9	28	43	53	5	3	289
Larceny from Person	26	3	3	13	23	9	25	0	4	34	10	7	1	158
Larceny from Residence	19	1	12	15	36	24	18	4	20	8	25	2	3	187
Larceny of Bicycle	40	8	19	25	56	43	26	6	25	25	26	3	1	303
Mal. Dest. Property	33	7	24	40	47	31	30	8	55	32	41	7	3	358
Shoplifting	141	3	2	9	54	4	38	1	1	44	32	26	15	370
Simple Assault	44	5	32	47	88	39	44	7	17	34	51	7	6	421
Street Robbery	7	1	4	7	16	4	4	0	4	9	7	2	0	65

The following neighborhood slides contain census data pertaining to population and estimated median incomes by neighborhood. The population data (number of residents & households) was provided by the Cambridge Community Development Department and is based on 2010 Census data. The estimated median incomes are from the 2006-2010 American Community Survey data set, as analyzed by the Cambridge Community Development Department.

# Neighborhood 1: East Cambridge



**Boundaries:** Bordered by the Charles River, Main Street, Broadway, the B&A Railroad, and the Somerville border.

**Population as of 2010:**  
9,234 residents  
5,050 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**  
\$63,915

Neighborhood 1 lies within the patrol boundaries of Car 1 (2 officers) and Car 1R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 1A, 1B, and 1C.

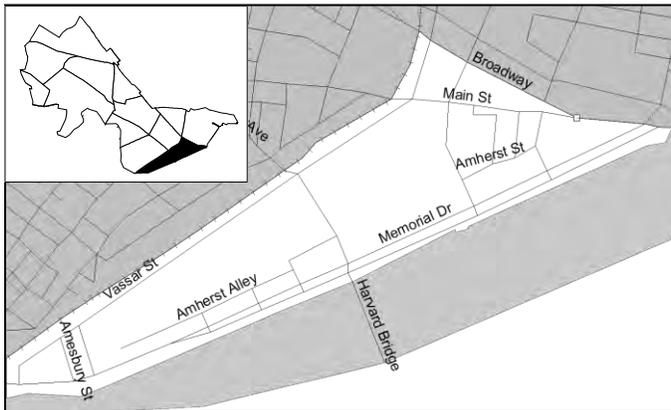
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2013-2017

Crime	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Housebreaks	15	16	34	19	16
Street Robbery	10	3	3	7	7
Auto Theft	16	17	15	12	16
Larceny from MVs	40	49	19	36	29
Malicious Destruction	49	56	49	44	33
Drug Incidents	19	5	5	5	2

## Annual Average for East Cambridge Target Crimes

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2017
Housebreaks	38	36	37	25
Street Robbery	10	19	16	8
Auto Theft	156	86	34	16
Larceny from MVs	121	106	101	45
Malicious Destruction	118	110	93	50

# Neighborhood 2: M.I.T. Area



**Boundaries:** Bounded by Main Street, Broadway, the B&A Railroad, and the Charles River.

**Population as of 2010:**

5,057 residents  
322 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

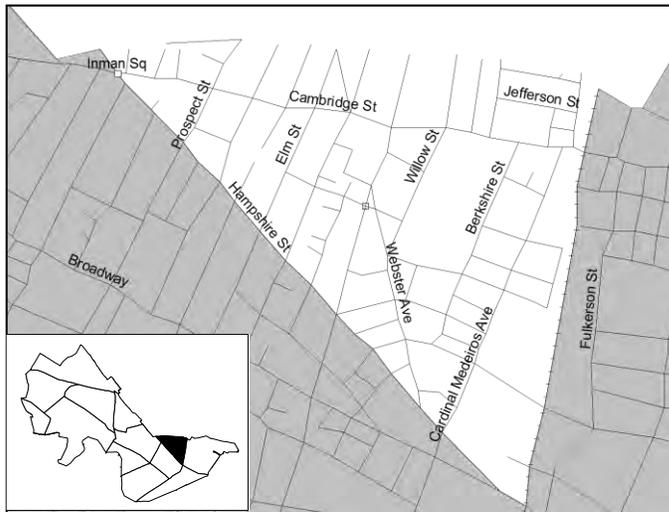
\$56,713

Neighborhood #2 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 1 and Car 3 (2 officer cars). M.I.T. has its own police force that patrols this area.

COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2013-2017					
Crime	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Housebreaks	0	0	0	0	0
Street Robbery	1	1	0	2	1
Auto Theft	4	3	3	1	2
Larceny from MVs	5	13	1	7	3
Malicious Destruction	6	5	8	7	7
Drug Incidents	1	1	1	0	0

Annual Average for M.I.T. Area Target Crimes				
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2017
Housebreaks	19	4	1	0
Street Robbery	11	5	3	1
Auto Theft	102	55	8	2
Larceny from MVs	56	49	24	7
Malicious Destruction	47	28	8	8

# Neighborhood 3: Inman/Harrington



**Boundaries:** Bounded by the B&A Railroad, Hampshire Street, and the Somerville line.

**Population as of 2010:**

6,516 residents  
2,882 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$48,470

Neighborhood #3 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 1 (2 officers) and Car 3R (1 officer). Also included within this area are walking routes 3A, 3B, and 3C.

## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2013-2017

Crime	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Housebreaks	32	20	34	30	27
Street Robbery	4	2	4	1	4
Auto Theft	3	12	13	7	9
Larceny from MVs	24	32	18	19	9
Malicious Destruction	49	45	40	34	24
Drug Incidents	3	2	4	5	1

## Annual Average for Inman/Harrington Target Crimes

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2017
Housebreaks	57	38	46	30
Street Robbery	14	15	11	5
Auto Theft	89	48	30	10
Larceny from MVs	66	45	45	26
Malicious Destruction	94	79	67	42

# Neighborhood 4: The Port (formerly known as Area 4)



**Boundaries:** Bounded by the B&A Railroad, Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Hampshire Street.

**Population as of 2010:**

6,792 residents  
2,653 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$55,857

Neighborhood #4 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers), and Car 4R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 4A, 4B, and 4C, and Central 10.

## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2013-2017

Crime	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Housebreaks	30	24	32	43	12
Street Robbery	12	6	11	9	7
Auto Theft	3	21	13	17	7
Larceny from MVs	58	33	42	41	19
Malicious Destruction	66	54	65	40	40
Drug Incidents	14	7	10	4	16

## Annual Average for The Port Target Crimes

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2017
Housebreaks	101	62	53	33
Street Robbery	75	47	28	11
Auto Theft	147	78	39	13
Larceny from MVs	134	77	78	43
Malicious Destruction	131	109	80	57

# Neighborhood 5: Cambridgeport



**Boundaries:** Bounded by Massachusetts Avenue, the B&A railroad, the Charles River, and River Street.

**Population as of 2010:**  
12,220 residents  
5,049 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**  
\$63,830

Neighborhood #5 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 3 (2 officers) and Car 5R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 5A, 5B, and Central 12.

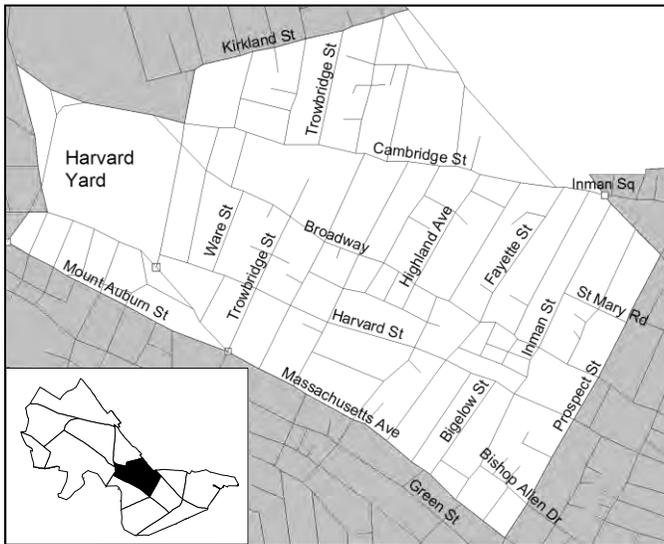
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2013-2017

Crime	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Housebreaks	40	46	70	50	40
Street Robbery	21	10	16	20	16
Auto Theft	22	23	18	21	9
Larceny from MVs	118	61	70	60	38
Malicious Destruction	54	47	54	58	47
Drug Incidents	19	9	13	20	22

## Annual Average for Cambridgeport Target Crimes

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2017
Housebreaks	156	66	57	53
Street Robbery	57	31	26	17
Auto Theft	165	85	44	19
Larceny from MVs	126	92	103	73
Malicious Destruction	106	106	99	59

# Neighborhood 6: Mid-Cambridge



**Boundaries:** Bounded by Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, Hampshire Street, the Somerville border, Kirkland Street, Quincy Street, and Cambridge Street.

**Population as of 2010:**  
12,991 residents  
6,195 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**  
\$99,585

Neighborhood #6 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers) and 6R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 6A, 6B, 6C, and Harvard 15.

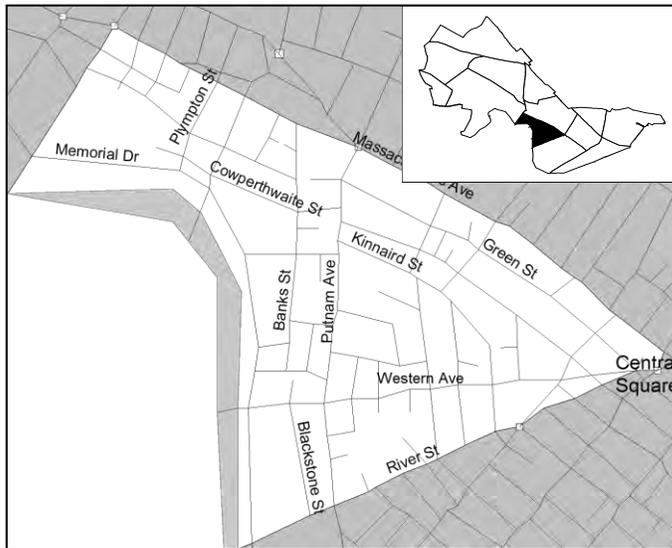
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2013-2017

Crime	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Housebreaks	56	34	49	33	34
Street Robbery	6	2	2	5	4
Auto Theft	19	14	12	15	10
Larceny from MVs	101	68	44	33	30
Malicious Destruction	32	31	34	31	31
Drug Incidents	7	8	6	3	6

## Annual Average for Mid-Cambridge Target Crimes

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2017
Housebreaks	226	103	77	48
Street Robbery	49	18	15	7
Auto Theft	147	69	31	16
Larceny from MVs	198	103	104	61
Malicious Destruction	149	102	71	34

# Neighborhood 7: Riverside



**Boundaries:** Bounded by Massachusetts Avenue, River Street, the Charles River, and JFK Street.

**Population as of 2010:**  
12,695 residents  
4,069 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**  
\$50,928

Neighborhood #7 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 3 (2 officer cars) and Cars 6R and 10R (1 officer cars). Also included within its boundaries are walking routes 7A and 7B.

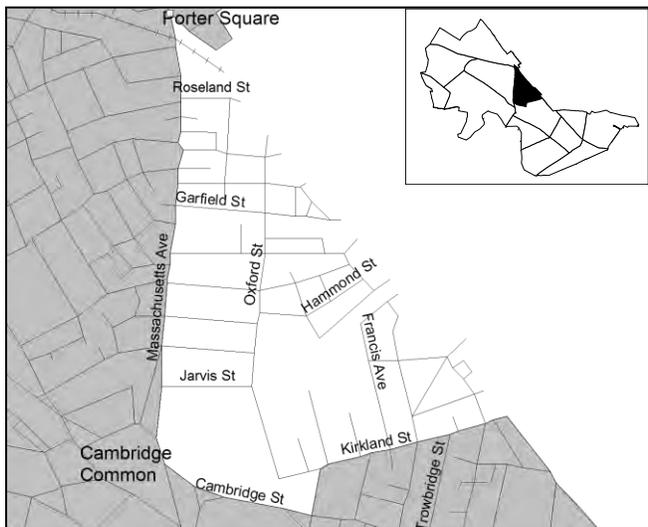
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2013-2017

Crime	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Housebreaks	32	21	34	22	25
Street Robbery	8	10	6	5	4
Auto Theft	11	10	6	6	5
Larceny from MVs	62	34	27	34	20
Malicious Destruction	52	41	37	33	30
Drug Incidents	4	6	6	15	9

## Annual Average for Riverside Target Crimes

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2017
Housebreaks	83	43	37	29
Street Robbery	34	17	14	8
Auto Theft	92	41	21	9
Larceny from MVs	87	47	49	43
Malicious Destruction	78	75	64	42

# Neighborhood 8: Agassiz



**Boundaries:** Bounded by Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge Street, Quincy Street, Kirkland Street, and the Somerville border

**Population as of 2010:**

4,977 residents  
1,755 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$62,117

Neighborhood #8 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 9R (1 officer). It is also covered by walking routes 8A, 8B, and 8C.

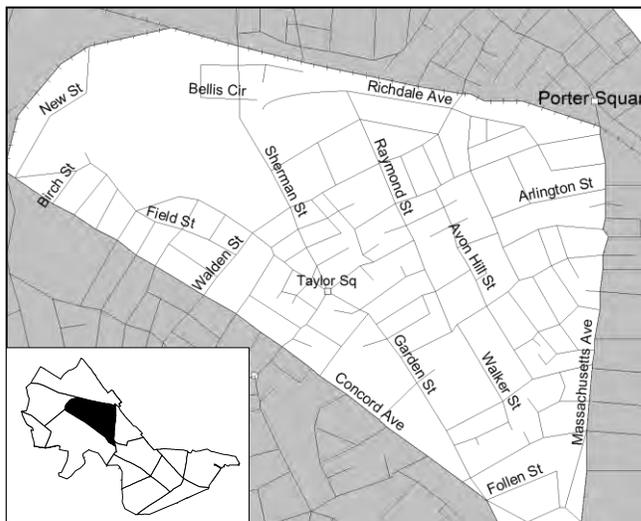
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2013-2017

Crime	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Housebreaks	14	9	12	16	10
Street Robbery	1	0	0	0	0
Auto Theft	5	6	6	4	1
Larceny from MVs	31	22	11	11	9
Malicious Destruction	11	6	7	7	8
Drug Incidents	1	1	0	0	0

## Annual Average for Agassiz Target Crimes

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2017
Housebreaks	67	26	25	13
Street Robbery	11	7	4	0
Auto Theft	45	19	11	4
Larceny from MVs	47	30	49	21
Malicious Destruction	45	28	18	9

# Neighborhood 9: Peabody



**Boundaries:** Bounded by the B&M Railroad, Concord Avenue, Garden Street, and Massachusetts Avenue.

**Population as of 2010:**  
11,399 residents  
5,427 households

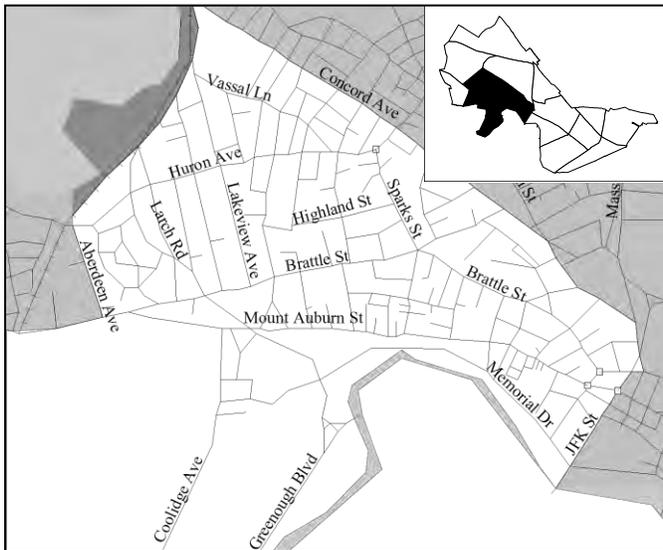
**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**  
\$70,704

Neighborhood #9 is encompassed by Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 9R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 9A, 9B, 9C, and 9D.

COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2013-2017					
Crime	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Housebreaks	53	16	14	17	6
Street Robbery	3	1	2	1	4
Auto Theft	2	10	7	10	9
Larceny from MVs	33	60	58	32	28
Malicious Destruction	30	30	33	22	55
Drug Incidents	7	3	2	2	2

Annual Average for Peabody Target Crimes				
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2017
Housebreaks	150	53	49	27
Street Robbery	21	14	10	3
Auto Theft	94	42	30	9
Larceny from MVs	74	60	80	49
Malicious Destruction	135	72	74	32

# Neighborhood 10: West Cambridge



**Boundaries:** Bounded by the Charles River, JFK Street, Garden Street, Concord Avenue, Fresh Pond, Aberdeen Avenue, and the Watertown line.

**Population as of 2010:**

8,023 residents  
3,760 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$100,946

Neighborhood #10 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Cars 10R and 13R (1-officer cars). It also includes walking routes 10A, 10B, 10C, and Harvard 16.

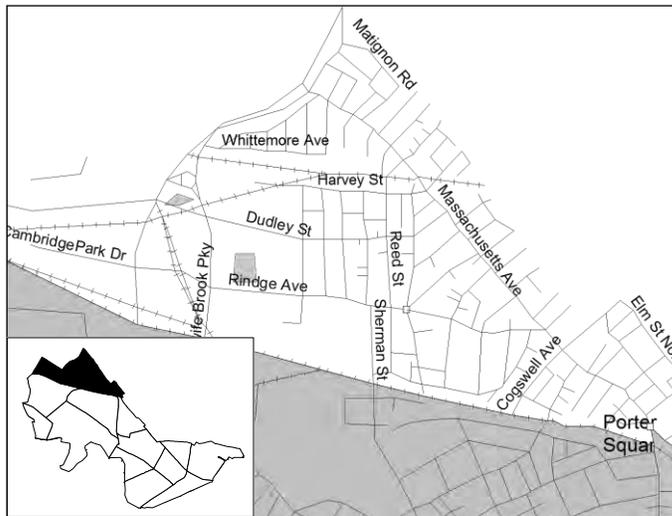
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2013-2017

Crime	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Housebreaks	28	26	26	16	13
Street Robbery	9	10	3	2	9
Auto Theft	9	13	12	7	13
Larceny from MVs	73	80	47	50	43
Malicious Destruction	27	39	36	31	32
Drug Incidents	9	6	6	4	3

## Annual Average for West Cambridge Target Crimes

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2017
Housebreaks	105	38	37	31
Street Robbery	18	11	9	8
Auto Theft	105	41	25	10
Larceny from MVs	134	72	81	67
Malicious Destruction	92	76	58	37

# Neighborhood 11: North Cambridge



**Boundaries:** Bounded by the Belmont line, the Arlington Line, the Somerville Line, Porter Square, and the B&M Railroad.

**Population as of 2010:**  
 11,908 residents  
 5,359 households

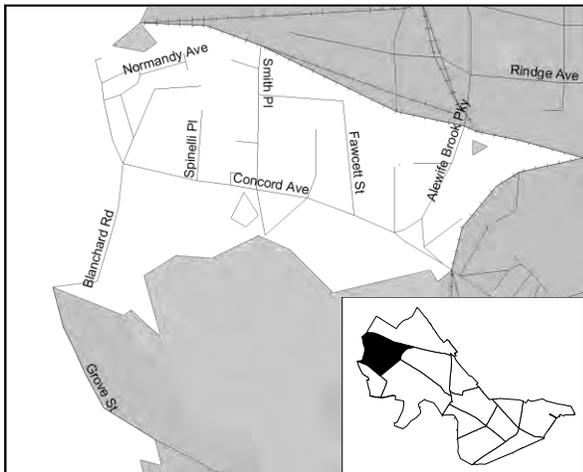
**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**  
 \$62,650

Neighborhood #11 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 11R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 11A, 11B, 11C, and 11D.

COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2013-2017					
Crime	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Housebreaks	22	18	27	15	17
Street Robbery	9	7	6	5	7
Auto Theft	10	6	17	8	8
Larceny from MVs	34	53	49	37	53
Malicious Destruction	45	48	40	35	41
Drug Incidents	3	5	3	2	2

Annual Average for North Cambridge Target Crimes				
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2017
Housebreaks	100	64	49	23
Street Robbery	30	21	16	7
Auto Theft	130	68	32	11
Larceny from MVs	105	62	71	51
Malicious Destruction	125	112	89	46

# Neighborhood 12: Cambridge Highlands



**Boundaries:** Bounded by the B&M Railroad, the Belmont line, and Fresh Pond.

**Population as of 2010:**

832 residents  
371 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$62,499

Neighborhood #12 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Car 13R (1 officer). Also included is walking route 12C.

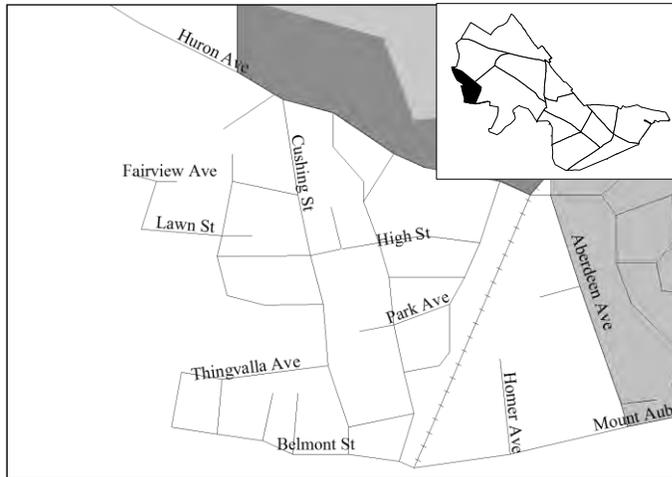
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2013-2017

Crime	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Housebreaks	0	1	2	0	1
Street Robbery	1	0	1	1	2
Auto Theft	2	1	3	0	1
Larceny from MVs	7	4	3	1	5
Malicious Destruction	11	6	11	13	7
Drug Incidents	0	0	1	0	1

## Annual Average for Cambridge Highlands Target Crimes

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2017
Housebreaks	6	2	2	1
Street Robbery	8	2	2	1
Auto Theft	54	16	5	1
Larceny from MVs	38	23	16	6
Malicious Destruction	28	26	19	10

# Neighborhood 13: Strawberry Hill



**Boundaries:** Bounded by Fresh Pond, Aberdeen Avenue, the Watertown line, and the Belmont line.

**Population as of 2010:**  
2,518 residents  
1,140 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**  
\$69,941

Neighborhood #13 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Car 13R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 13A and 13B.

COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2013-2017					
Crime	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Housebreaks	5	4	4	2	2
Street Robbery	3	0	0	0	0
Auto Theft	0	0	0	2	1
Larceny from MVs	29	5	15	11	3
Malicious Destruction	6	12	8	9	3
Drug Incidents	2	1	1	1	0

Annual Average for Strawberry Hill Target Crimes				
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2017
Housebreaks	17	10	9	4
Street Robbery	4	3	2	0
Auto Theft	17	8	7	1
Larceny from MVs	22	12	18	10
Malicious Destruction	25	23	21	9





Section V

# Traffic Analysis



# Traffic Analysis

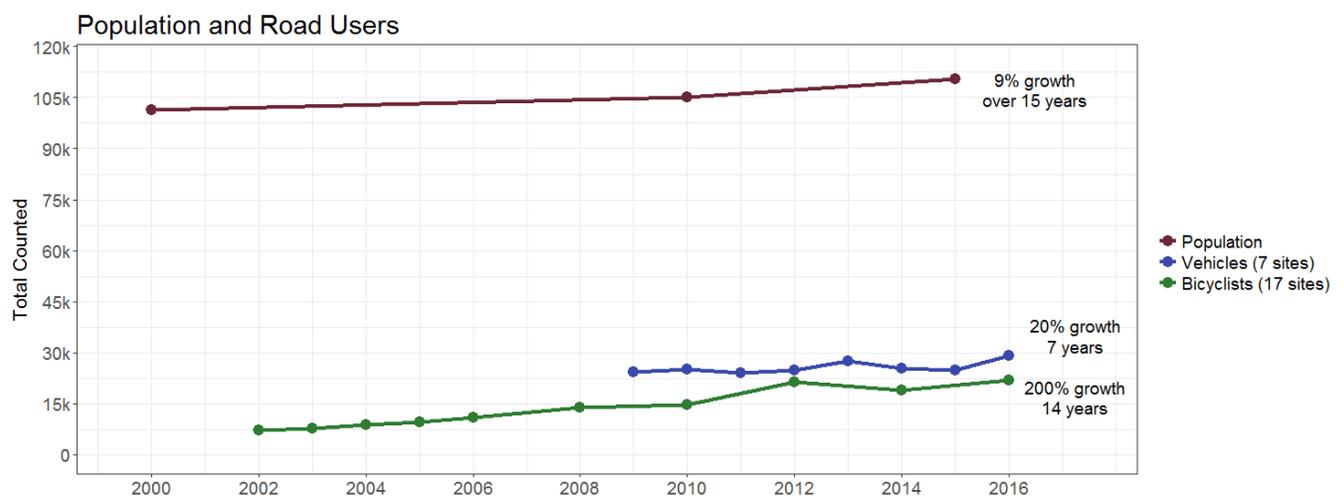
## Traffic Safety

As the first full calendar year after the City's implementation of Vision Zero, understanding changes in crash trends in 2017 is particularly important. Notably, one of the first major actions taken under the Vision Zero initiative – the reduction of the speed limit to 25 miles per hour citywide – was implemented in December 2016. Following this action, the long-term decline in the number of crashes and injuries in Cambridge accelerated in 2017. While it is unlikely that a reduction in number of crashes and crash-related injuries can be attributed to a singular cause, this indicates that the policy, infrastructure, education, and enforcement changes implemented under the Vision Zero strategy are likely having a positive impact on traffic safety in Cambridge. The number of crashes reported in Cambridge in 2016 and 2017 are summarized in the table below.

Categories of Motor Vehicle Crashes	2016	2017	% Change from 2016
Crash Calls for Service	2,750	2,666	-3%
Crash CFS with EMS Transport	334	276	-17%
Total Crash Reports	1,588	1,525	-4%
Bicycle Crash Reports	189	159	-16%
Pedestrian Crash Reports	110	102	-7%

## POPULATION AND TRAFFIC TRENDS

The population of Cambridge has grown 9% in the 15 years between the 2000 Census and the 2015 Estimated Census. Over that timeframe, the number of users on the roads in Cambridge have also grown substantially. Notably, bicycle ridership in the city (summing peak hour counts across 17 locations) has increased by a factor of three in 14 years of cyclist counts. Motor vehicle traffic (summing counts across seven consistently recorded sites) has increased 20% in seven years of traffic counts.



Population, Motor Vehicle Counts (totalled from 7 locations), and Bicycle Counts (totalled from 17 locations).

## Part V: Traffic Analysis

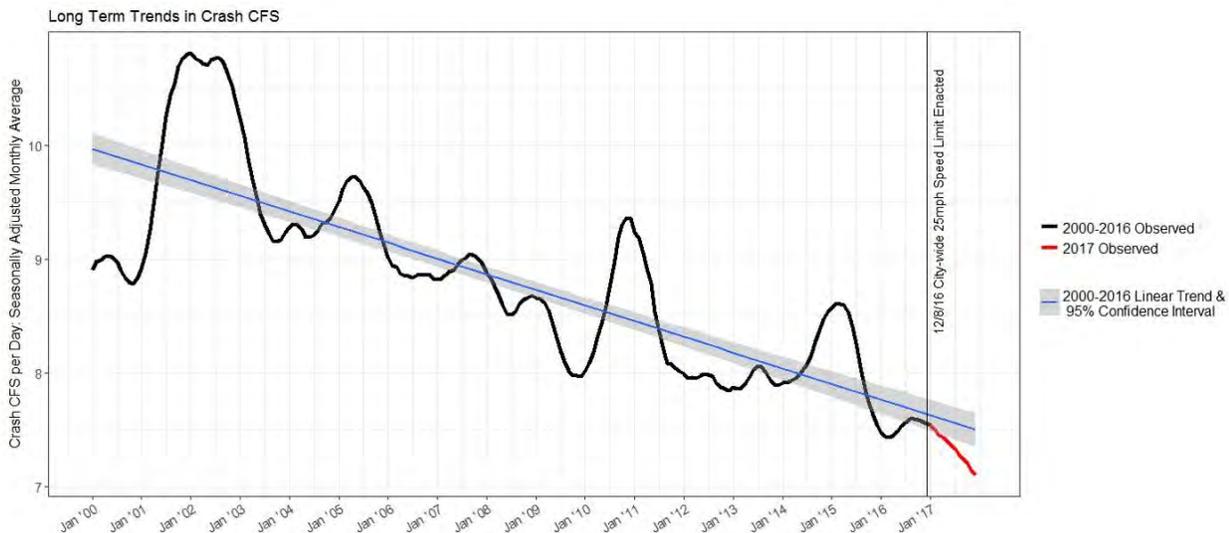
The increasing population and ridership across the city provides important context for traffic safety in Cambridge. While the number of residents and road users has increased in recent decades, the number of traffic crashes reported to the police department has generally fallen over the same time frame. This indicates that the *crash rate* – the number of crashes per capita or per road user – is falling.

### CALLS FOR SERVICE

#### LONG-TERM TRENDS IN CRASH CFS

A Crash Call for Service is any instance when a person in Cambridge calls to request police assistance for a traffic collision. The Police Department responded to 2,666 calls for service (CFS) relating to traffic crashes in 2017. This was the lowest number of Crash CFS in nearly two decades. Total Crash CFS fell 3% compared to 2,749 in 2016, and 13% compared to 3,068 in 2015.

The following figure shows the monthly average Crash CFS per day, adjusted for seasonal variability. This accounts for the expected seasonal changes in Crash CFS each year, leaving only the long-term trends in Crash CFS (shown in black). The linear trend (shown in blue) demonstrates the rate of the long-term decline in Crash CFS from 2000 to 2016. Even accounting for inter-annual variability in Crash CFS, the number of Crash CFS in 2017 (shown in red) fell well below expectations based on this linear trend.

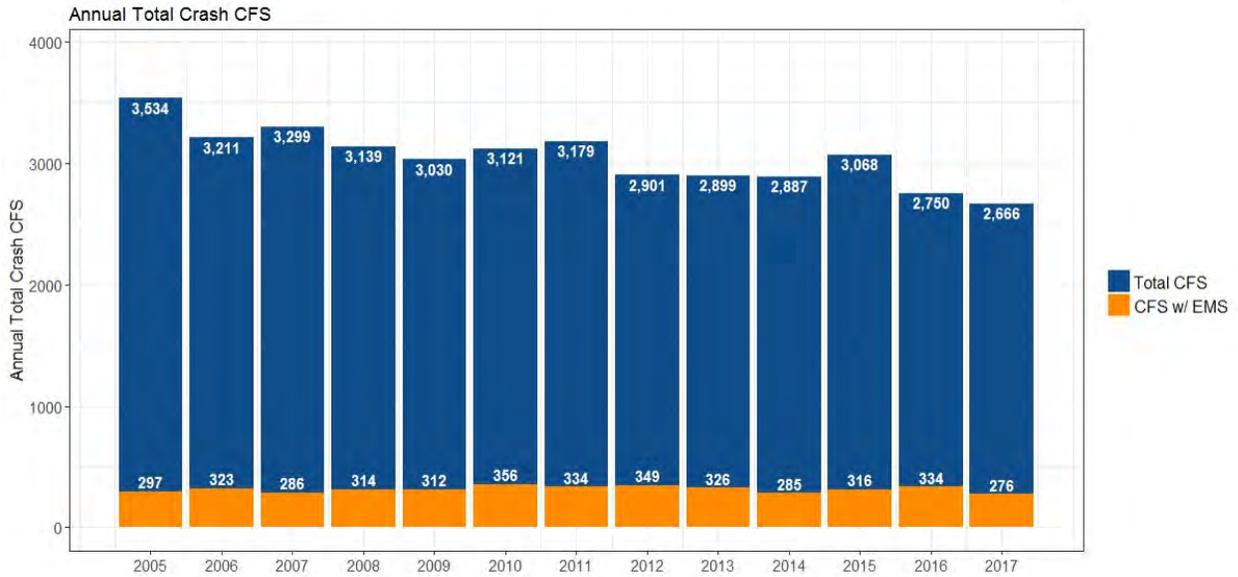


**Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Average Crash CFS per Day. The number of Crash CFS in 2017 is the lowest in nearly 20 years of modern records, and falls below expectations based on the 2000-2016 linear trend.**

#### CRASH CFS WITH EMS TRANSPORT REQUIRED

A useful metric for understanding crashes resulting in injury is whether an involved party required transport to the hospital by Emergency Medical Services (EMS Transport). Of the 2,666 Crash CFS in 2017, 276 resulted in an EMS Transport. This is the lowest number of EMS Transports reported since consistent reporting began in 2005. EMS Transports in 2017 decreased 17% compared to 2016, and 13% compared to 2015.

The annual total Crash CFS and the annual total crash-related EMS Transports for the past three years are shown in the following figure. In 2017, 10% of Crash CFS required EMS transport to the hospital, compared to 12% in 2016 and an average of 11% during the 5-year period from 2012 to 2016. This demonstrates a downward trend in the absolute number of EMS Transports, as well as the proportion of Crash CFS requiring EMS transport to the hospital.

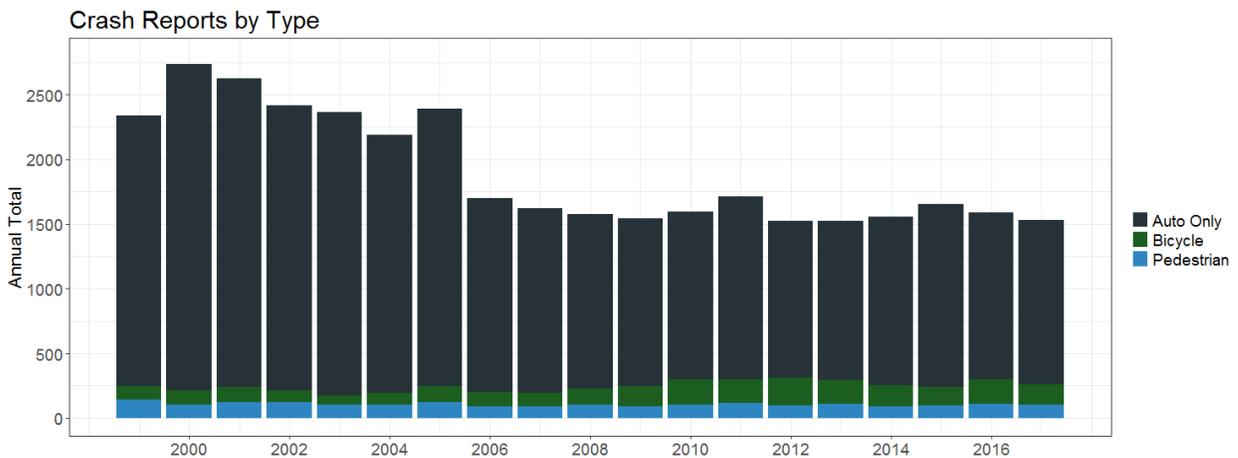


Annual Total Crash CFS and Crash CFS requiring EMS Transport to the Hospital.

## CRASH REPORTS

### CRASH REPORTS BY ROAD USER TYPE

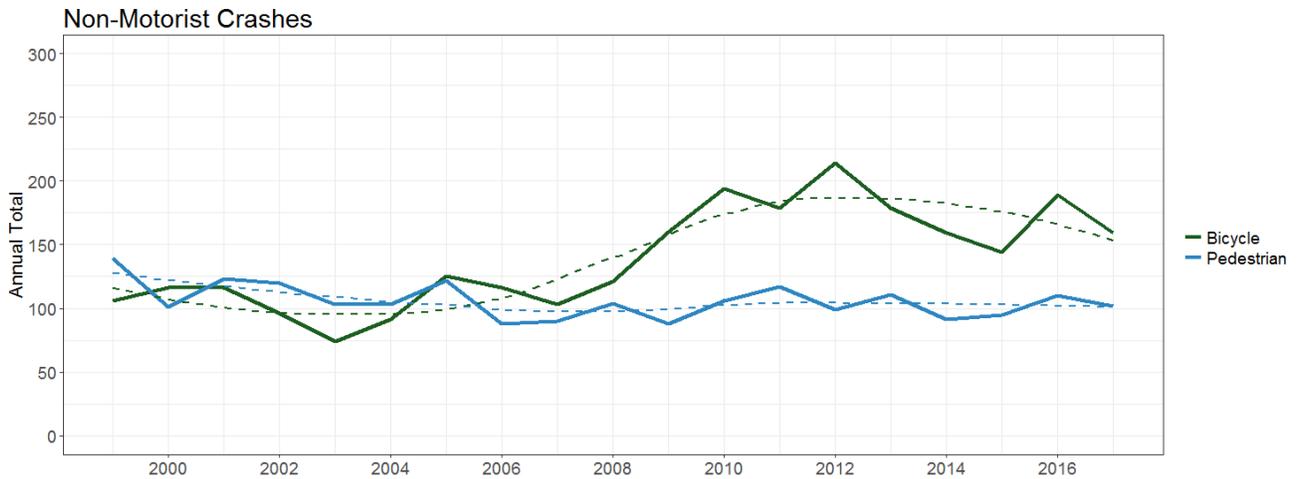
Massachusetts General Law requires that a police crash report be filed for any motor vehicle crash resulting in any degree of injury or at least \$1,000 of property damage. On average, approximately half of the Crash CFS result in the filing of a police crash report. In 2017, there were 1,525 crash reports, down 4% versus 2016.



Annual total police crash reports by type of road user involved. Bicycle and pedestrian crashes involve one or more motor vehicles and a cyclist or pedestrian, while auto only crashes involve only motor vehicles. Crashes involving only non-motorists (i.e., cyclist-only or cyclist-pedestrian) do not fall under the law for police crash reports.

## Part V: Traffic Analysis

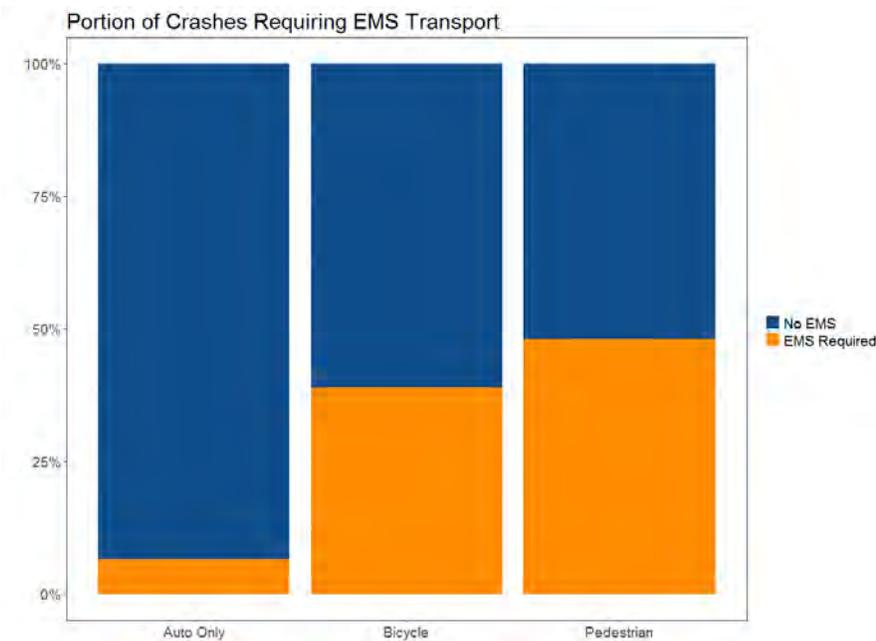
When a crash report is filed, the responding officer records detailed information about the circumstances of the crash, including detailed crash location and the type of road users involved. Of the 1,525 crash reports in 2017, 17% (261 crashes) involved a non-motorist. This represents a decrease of nearly 13% compared to 299 non-motorist crashes in 2016.



**Annual Total Crashes involving Non-Motorists.**

### EMS TRANSPORTS BY ROAD USER TYPE

Non-motorists are the road users most vulnerable to injury. In the past three years, 11% of all crashes required EMS transport to the hospital, but nearly 36% of crashes involving non-motorists required EMS Transport. In 2017, while the total number of non-motorist crashes fell substantially, the portion of those crashes requiring EMS Transport climbed from 32.3% in 2016 to 42.5% in 2017.



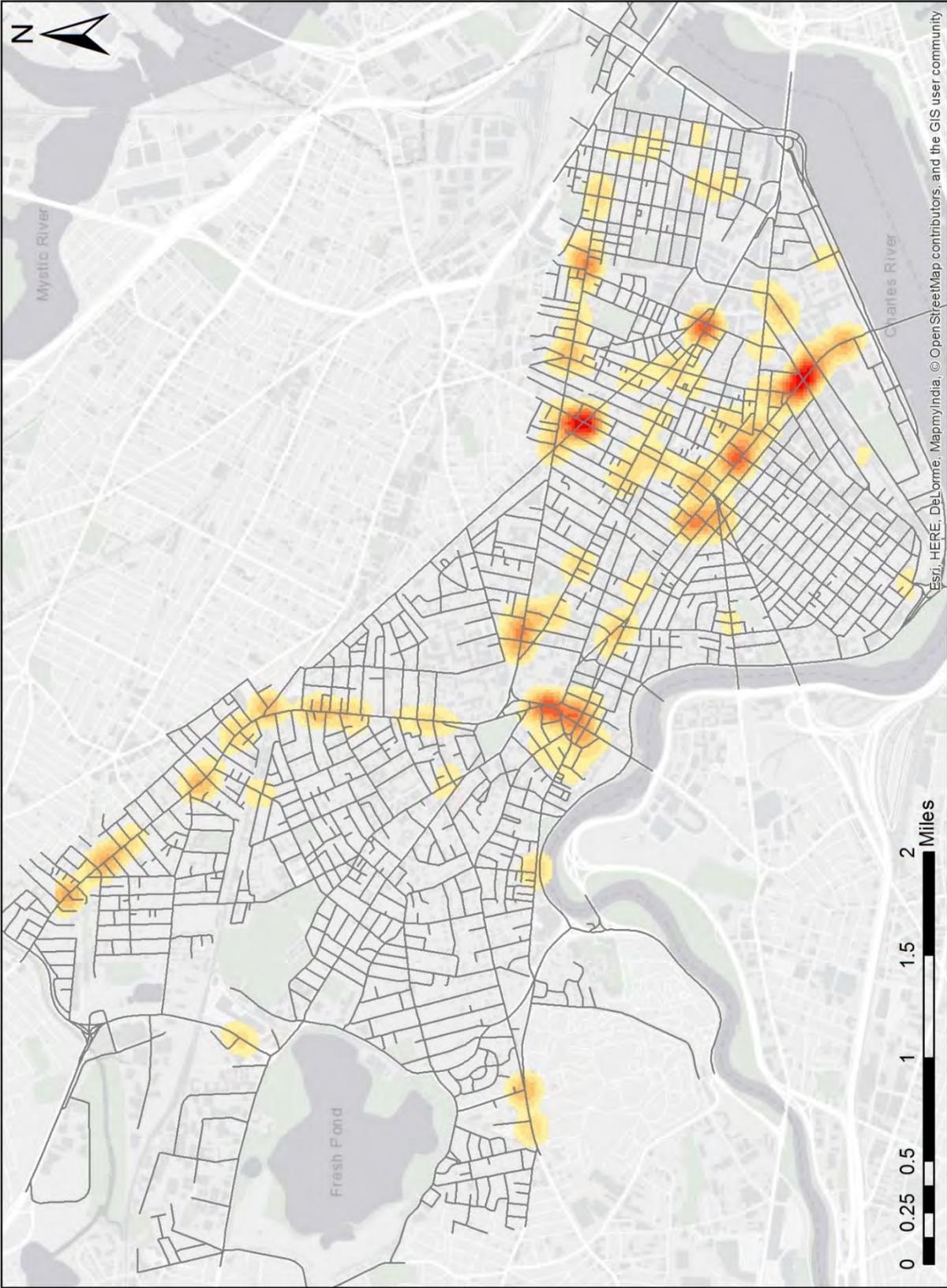
**Portion of Crashes of Each Type Requiring EMS Transport to the Hospital in 2017.**

### **CRASH LOCATIONS**

In general, crashes in Cambridge occur most frequently along major corridors (Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge Street, Hampshire Street) and in the squares (Central Square, Inman Square, Porter Square, Harvard Square). Bicycle crashes are more tightly clustered along the Massachusetts Avenue, Hampshire Street, and Broadway corridors, while pedestrian crashes are more tightly clustered in Porter Square, Harvard Square, and in pockets along lower Massachusetts Avenue between Central Square and Memorial Drive. Crashes requiring EMS Transport are indicative of areas with higher risk of crash-related injury, including areas along Massachusetts Avenue and Cambridge Street, especially near Harvard Square, Central Square, MIT, and Inman Square.

The figure on the following page depicts Crash Reports (all road user types) with EMS Transport for the period of 2015 through 2017.

All Crashes with EMS Transport: 2015 - 2017





Section VI

# Special Reports

Domestic Crimes  
Hate Crimes



# Domestic Crimes

Domestic crimes include all offenses committed against family members, spouses and ex-spouses, roommates, and romantic partners and ex-romantic partners. Underreporting is a serious problem when it comes to domestic crimes (domestic violence experts estimate that the police department receives a report for only a third of domestic crimes), so the reliability of these figures is uncertain.

In 2017, there were a total of 803 incidents between individuals in a domestic relationship, down 5% from 2016. Often domestic crime is underreported. One of the most common reasons is that the police are not always the first to be called in domestic cases, as is typically the case with other crime types. Individuals who survive abuse often seek assistance from a local domestic violence agency, a court, a hospital, or a friend before calling the police.

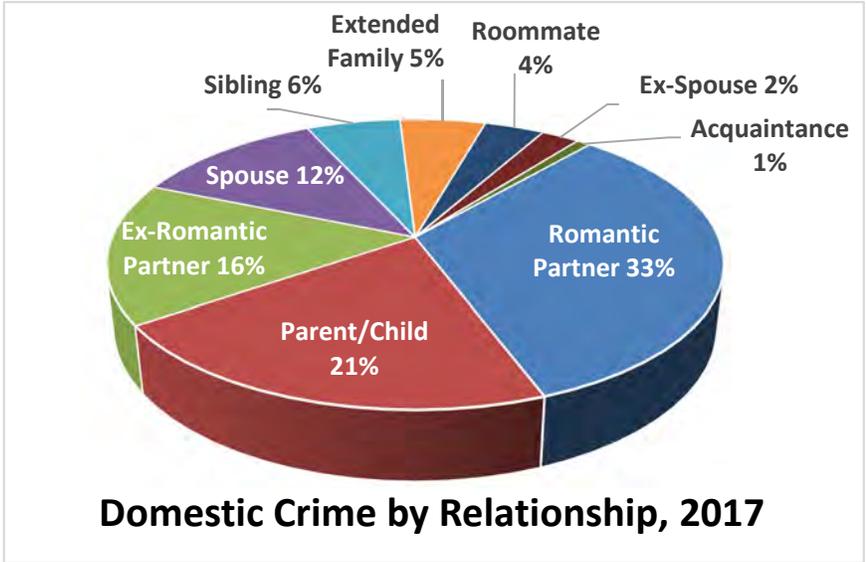
The majority of domestic calls that Cambridge officers do respond to involve loud arguments, classified as “domestic disputes.” In 2017, these calls made up 58% of all domestic incident reports. Domestic disputes in 2017 were down 3% from 2016 and, while not technically a crime, these domestic disturbances can still be a form of abuse, and they may escalate into more serious offenses if they go unaddressed.

Categorical Breakdown of Domestic Incidents*	2016 Total	2017 Total	% change from 2016
Dispute/Disturbance - No Physical Abuse	474	462	-3%
Simple Assault	156	147	-6%
Aggravated Assault	49	46	-6%
Violation of a Restraining Order	31	44	+42%
Threats to Commit a Crime	35	27	-23%
Larceny	24	14	-42%
Malicious Destruction of Property	8	11	+38%
Other Misc.	4	9	+125%
Harassment	17	8	-53%
Rape/Attempted Rape	5	6	+20%
Housebreak	13	5	-62%
Harassing or Obscene Telephone Calls	5	5	0%
Indecent Assault	3	4	+33%
Auto Theft	4	4	0%
Forgery	10	4	-60%
Street Robbery	2	4	+100%
Trespassing	1	3	+200%
Gun Violations	1	0	-100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>842</b>	<b>803</b>	<b>-5%</b>

\*Due to classification changes and submission of NIBRS data to the FBI, the totals for index crimes and domestic crimes may vary slightly.

Domestic violence is the most serious type of domestic crime. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, these crimes take many shapes and “...may include emotional abuse, economic abuse, sexual abuse, using children, threats, using male privilege, intimidation, isolation, and a variety of other behaviors used to maintain fear, intimidation and power” (<http://www.ncadv.org/problem/what.htm>). While domestic violence is commonly thought of as violence against women, men and children also commonly fall victim. Domestic violence crosses all socio-economic, racial, ethnic, religious, sexual orientation, and age boundaries. What analysis has identified, however, is that the police respond to more calls in communities where individuals live in close quarters, and where neighbors contact the police for assistance.

The most common type of violent domestic incidents reported in Cambridge involves simple assaults—assaults without a weapon and with no serious injuries. This category accounted for 18% of all domestic incidents in 2017. Aggravated assaults made up an additional 6% and accounted for the third largest domestic category. This was the same percentage as 2016 but down 11% from 2015.



When looking at the relationship breakdown in domestic crime, there is no surprise that the highest percentage is between parties that spend the most time together. Although the percentages vary from year to year, the top four relationships remain consistent: romantic partner, parent/child, ex-romantic partner, and spouse.

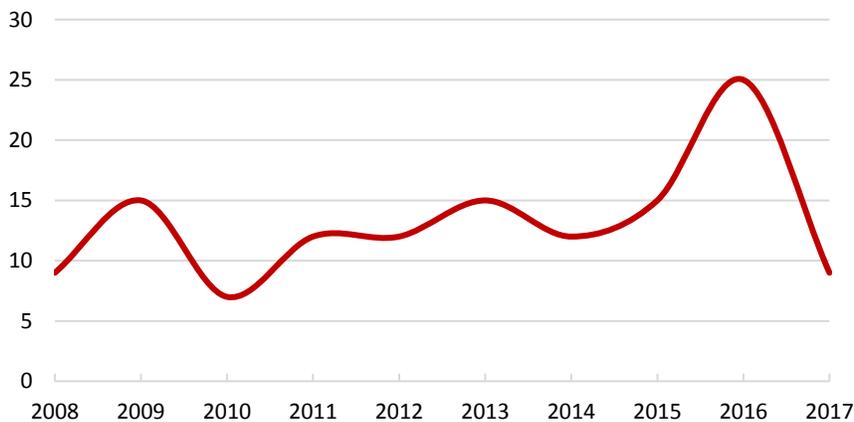
# Hate Crimes

The Hate Crimes Statistics Act of 1990 was enacted on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1990, requiring the Attorney General to collect data on crimes exhibiting racial, ethnic, religious, or sexual prejudice. "Hate Crime" is the common term for federal and state Civil Rights Violations. Hate crimes include any crimes principally motivated by hatred of another because of race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, handicap status, or gender. All hate crimes would still be crimes even if the bias motivation were absent; therefore, each hate crime listed below is also tallied elsewhere in this report.

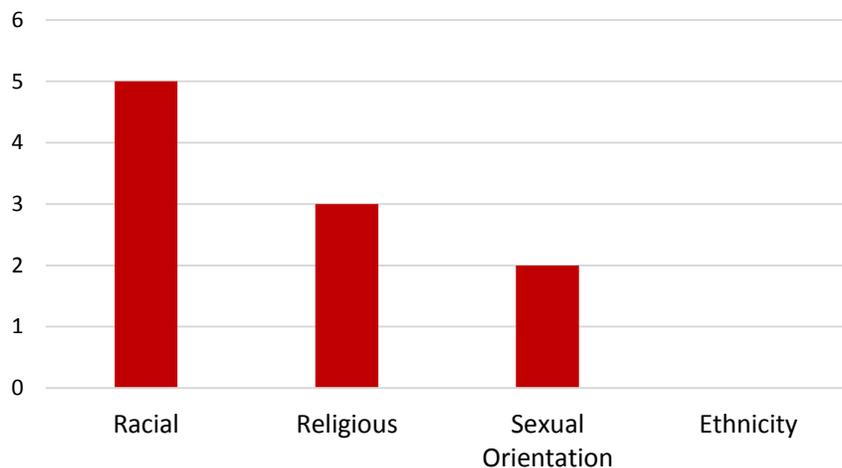
There were nine hate crimes reported in Cambridge in 2017, which is a return closer to average after seeing a large spike in 2016. There have been fluctuations in recent years, ranging from a low of seven in 2010 to a high of 25 in 2016, with the average across the past ten years being 13. Even though there were nine reported incidents involving a hate crime, the bar graph below features 10 types of bias because one incident involved both racially motivated and sexually motivated speech directed at two different victims. The nine incidents in 2017 break down into the following categories: racially motivated (56%), religiously motivated (33%), and sexually motivated (22%). Although there was no clear explanation for the large increase in hate crimes in 2016, it could be speculated that part may have stemmed from the many differing political opinions and overall emphasis on inequality that emerged throughout the country over the course of the year.



### Hate Crimes Reported in Cambridge



### Type of Bias in 2017



# Cambridge Police Directory

## EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Office of the Commissioner..... (617) 349-9397  
Professional Standards..... (617) 349-3384

## KEY OPERATIONAL SERVICES:

Personnel Department .....(617) 349-3374  
Traffic Department..... (617) 349-4365  
Crime Analysis Unit ..... (617) 349-3390  
Focused Deterrence Unit..... (617) 349-9352  
Public Information Office .....(617) 349-3237  
Records Unit..... (617) 349-3336  
Community Services Unit ..... (617) 349-3236  
Crime Scene Services Unit.....(617) 349-3347  
Police Academy..... (617) 349-3343  
Property Office..... (617) 349-3380

## KEY INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES

Narcotics Unit.....(617) 349-3360  
Drug Tip Hotline ..... (617) 349-3359  
Domestic Violence Unit ..... (617) 349-3371  
Sexual Assault Hotline ..... (617) 349-3381  
Accident Investigations..... (617) 349-3307  
Investigations Section..... (617) 349-3370

## MISCELLANEOUS:

License Commission ..... (617) 349-6140  
Criminal History Board..... (617) 660-4600  
Medical Examiner’s Office ..... (617) 267-6767  
Sex Offender Registry..... (978) 740-6400  
Dispute Settlement Center ..... (617) 876-5376



## Cambridge Police Department

125 Sixth St.  
Cambridge, MA 02142  
(617) 349-3300 – 24 hours a day  
[www.cambridgepolice.org](http://www.cambridgepolice.org)

### Cambridge Police Department “Alert Network” Text-A-Tip Function

To send an anonymous tip via text message to the Cambridge Police Department, text the keyword Tip650 and your tip to 847411 (TIP411).

### Cambridge Police Anonymous Crime Tip E-Mail

Submit crime tips or suspicious behavior by accessing [www.cambridgepolice.org/Tips](http://www.cambridgepolice.org/Tips).

### MyPD Smartphone App

Download the free MyPD smartphone app to send anonymous crime tips.