

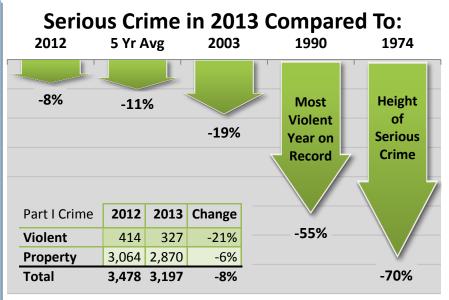
125 Sixth Street, Cambridge, MA 02142 | (617) 349-3300

## **Cambridge 2013 Serious Crime\* Review**

Crime in Cambridge Hits Historic 50-Year Low with 3,197 Part I Index Crimes Reported

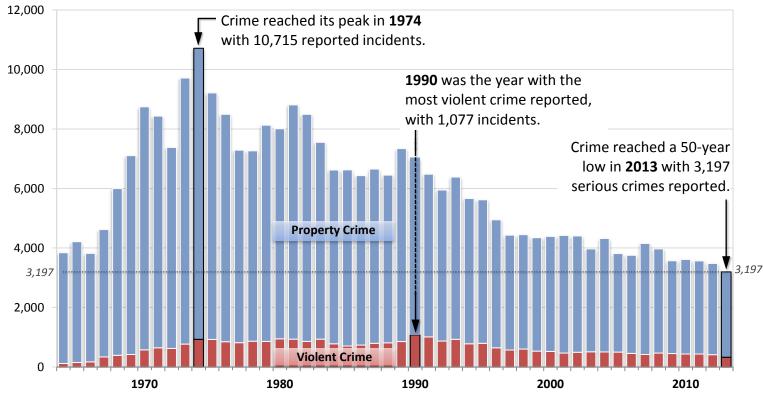
For the third year in a row, there has been a historic drop in serious crime in the City of Cambridge. The total of 3,197 Part 1 offenses recorded in 2013 represents an 8% decline from the 2012 total of 3,478 and is **the lowest number seen in the city in over 50 years**. When compared with the peak index crime total measured in Cambridge—10,715 incidents in 1974—crime in 2013 has fallen more than 70%.

There were 327 violent crimes (Murder, Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault) reported in Cambridge in 2013. This equates to a 21% reduction from 2012, **resulting in at least 87 fewer people victimized by violent crime**. Property crimes (Burglary, Larceny, and Auto Theft) decreased by 194 incidents in 2013, dropping 6% to 2,870 crimes.



## 50 Years of Crime in Cambridge

Part 1 Index Crimes\* Reported to the Police Annually



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



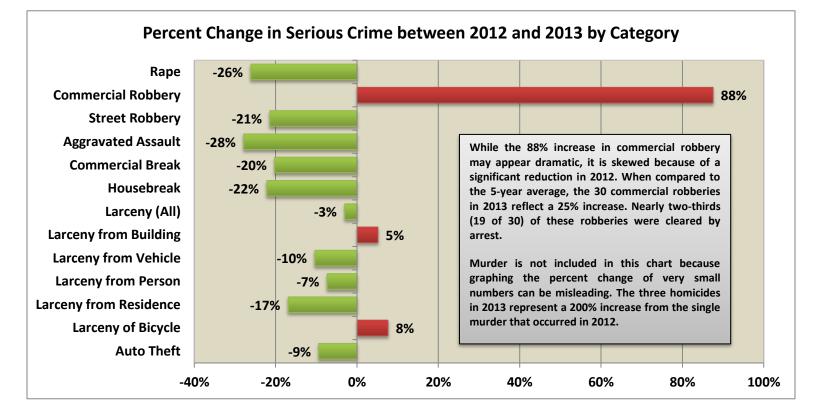
125 Sixth Street, Cambridge, MA 02142 | (617) 349-3300

## Analysis of 2013 Serious Crime in Cambridge

Serious crime in Cambridge dropped 8% in 2013 when compared with 2012 and fell 11% below the five-year weighted average.\*\* Violent crime decreased by a staggering 21% in the year-to-year comparison with 2012 while a 24% decline was recorded against the five-year average. Meanwhile, property crime saw a 6% reduction from last year and a 9% drop from the average.

Not only did overall crime drop to historic levels this year, but so did five of the seven index crime types. Overall robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and auto theft all dropped to their lowest point in over 25 years. A comprehensive look at the statistics reveals that a majority of the index crime categories in 2013 (listed in the chart below) registered sizeable declines when compared with 2012. Some of the more notable reductions this year were the 28% decrease in aggravated assault, much of which was attributable to a drop in the number of serious domestic assaults reported to the police; the 21% drop in street robberies, with no notable patterns reported anywhere in the city in 2013; and the 22% decline in housebreaks, despite the emergence of three burglary patterns in Cambridgeport, Mid-Cambridge, and Peabody during the fourth quarter.

One of the more substantial increases in 2013 was the 88% rise in commercial robberies. However, this increase should be tempered by the fact that this crime type dropped 53% the previous year to a 20-year low of 16 robberies. When analyzing commercial robberies in the context of the past few years, 2013's total of 30 incidents is 25% above the five-year average of 24 incidents.





Detailed 2013 Part I Crime Statistics & 5 Year Comparison

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Change from 2012	5 Year Average**	Change from 5 Year
Part I Violent Crime									
Murder	1	2	0	5	1	3	200%	2	50%
Rape	17	20	23	23	23	17	-26%	22	-23%
Robbery	177	172	163	147	128	118	-8%	149	-21%
Commercial Robbery	36	21	22	34	16	30	88%	24	25%
Street Robbery	141	151	141	113	112	88	-21%	125	-30%
Aggravated Assault	274	255	251	261	262	189	-28%	259	-27%
Total Violent Crime	469	449	437	436	414	327	-21%	433	-24%
Part I Property Crime									
Burglary	468	429	453	520	499	390	-22%	484	-19%
Commercial Break	76	86	87	84	79	63	-20%	83	-24%
Housebreak	392	343	366	436	420	327	-22%	401	-18%
Larceny	2,790	2,496	2,555	2,453	2,448	2,374	-3%	2,500	-5%
Larceny (Misc)	27	26	25	37	40	23	<b>-</b> 43%	33	-30%
Larceny from Building	415	321	393	433	372	391	5%	389	1%
Larceny from MV	1053	913	784	639	686	615	-10%	748	-18%
Larceny from Person	357	331	342	320	368	341	-7%	344	-1%
Larceny from Residence	214	185	192	234	225	187	-17%	215	-13%
Larceny of Bicycle	277	284	380	370	356	383	8%	350	9%
Larceny of License Plate	66	39	43	43	40	20	-50%	43	-53%
Larceny of Services	26	28	31	25	17	22	29%	24	-8%
Shoplifting	355	369	365	352	344	392	14%	354	11%
Auto Theft	243	196	169	158	117	106	-9%	157	-32%
Total Property Crime	3,501	3,121	3,177	3,131	3,064	2,870	-6%	3,141	-9%
Total Part I Crime	3,970	3,570	3,614	3,567	3,478	3,197	-8%	3,574	-11%

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

A more detailed analysis of the patterns and trends associated with the Part I Index Crime statistics in Cambridge for 2013 will be furnished in a comprehensive Annual Crime Report to be released this spring. This report will be available on our website at <u>www.CambridgePolice.org</u>.