



City of Cambridge Police Department

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Police Commissioner

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Cambridge Crime Hits Historic 50-Year Low

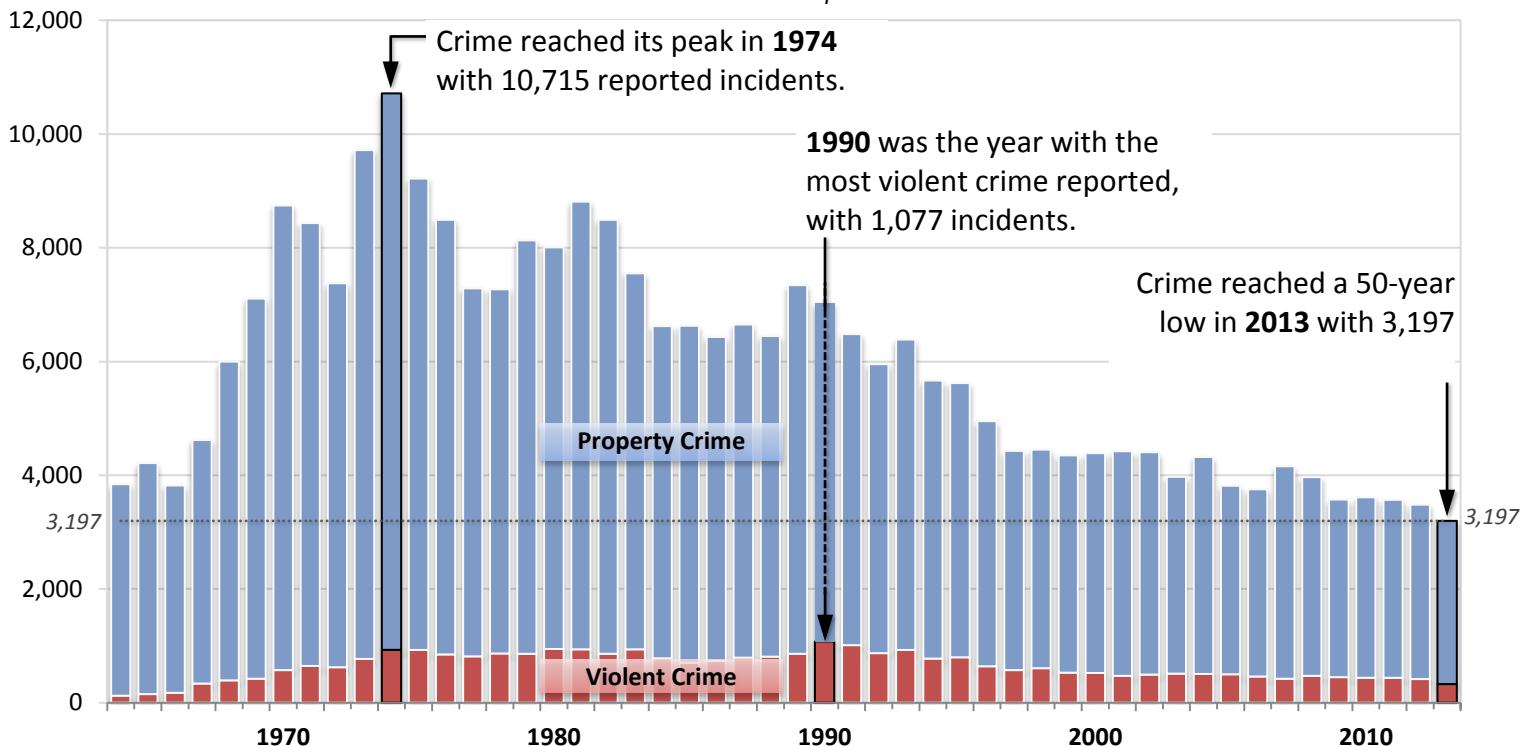
Cambridge Police 2013 Crime Review shows lowest crime in 50 years, violent crime drops 21%

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – January 31, 2014 – Cambridge Police report a historic drop in crime across the city, with serious crime declining by 8% in 2013 and reaching a 50-year low.

“The reduction of serious crime in Cambridge to a 50-year low is a significant milestone. The men and women of the Cambridge Police Department, our public and private partners, and the citizens of our city should take great pride in their individual and collective efforts to make our city a safe and healthy community.” said Cambridge Police Commissioner Robert C. Haas. “While the FBI Part I Crime Index is an important measure of crime -- and represents nearly 300 fewer victims of serious crime in Cambridge this year -- we continue to focus on a much broader range of social harm issues to prevent the victimization of people in Cambridge and improve the overall quality-of-life in this community.”

50 Years of Crime in Cambridge

Annual Part 1 Index Crimes Reported to the Police*



PLEASE ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO:

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A detailed analysis of statistics by the Cambridge Police Crime Analysis Unit shows declines in both property (-6%) and violent crime (-21%). In the last ten years, total crime has dropped 19% across the city.

The most significant trend identified when analyzing crime in Cambridge in 2013 is the substantial reduction in violent crime of 21% when compared to 2012. The drop in violent crime is attributable to a 28% decrease in aggravated assault and a 21% reduction in street robberies. Much of the reduction in aggravated assaults is the result of a reduction in the number of serious domestic assaults reported to the police.

A substantial drop in residential burglary was the driving factor in an 8% reduction of property crime in 2013. This 22% reduction represents nearly 100 fewer homes burglarized last year.

Commissioner Haas said the department's commitment to social harm prevention, partnerships, innovation, and data-driven strategies were key factors in reducing crime. "The Cambridge Police Department continues to develop innovative partnerships and strategies focused on at-risk populations. We have developed the capacity, and in many cases specialized units, to regularly engage with domestic violence victims, juveniles, homeless, substance abusers, mentally ill, elderly, and recently released felons and serious offenders before they commit, or are victimized by, crime. The police officers of this department continue to demonstrate, on a daily basis, their remarkable courage and commitment to serving this community and preventing crime and social harm in Cambridge."

The complete Cambridge Police 2013 Serious Crime Review is available on the department's website.

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