



Cambridge Police Department BridgeStat

December 2014

Produced by the Crime Analysis Unit

****Preliminary 2014 YTD numbers are subject to change as data are finalized in the coming weeks.***



Part I Total Crime

Preliminary end-of-the-year figures for 2014 through December 29th indicate that a significant reduction of 11% has been recorded for serious crime in Cambridge. There have been 351 fewer Part One crimes reported in the first 363 days of the year when compared with the same time frame in 2013. When measured against the five-year average, a notable 17% decline in serious crime has been registered.

Further analysis of crime totals so far in 2014 reveals that the property crimes of burglary & larceny continue to be the key indicators and the driving forces behind the overall descending decline of serious crime. **The index crime of burglary has dropped 27% and a 10% dip in the total of larcenies has been reported.** Larceny from the person (-36%), larceny from motor vehicles (-18%), and housebreaks (-29%) are the categories of incident types fueling the plunging crime numbers.

The large increase in violent crime from November to December of 2014 was tempered by the fact that the numbers for robbery (1) and aggravated assault (10) were uncharacteristically low over the previous four weeks.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	11/4 - 12/1	12/2 - 12/29	Change	2013	2014	Change	Avg	Change
Total Violent Crime	13	28	115%	332	296	-11%	398	-26%
Total Property Crime	195	214	10%	2862	2547	-11%	3023	-16%
Total Part I Crime	208	242	16%	3194	2843	-11%	3421	-17%



Part I Property Crime

Analysis of property crime totals for the first 363 days of 2014 indicates an 11% decrease when measured against the 2013 totals and a 16% decline below the five-year average. The only property crime categories to register increases so far this year are auto theft, larcenies from residences, and larcenies of license plates. Eight of the twelve indexes associated with property crimes are in the green (on the wane) so far in 2014.

Cambridge Police BridgeStat

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	11/4 - 12/1	12/2 - 12/29	Change	2013	2014	Change	Avg	Change
Burglary	30	18	-40%	388	284	-27%	454	-37%
Commercial Break	5	3	-40%	62	51	-18%	76	-33%
Housebreak	25	15	-40%	326	233	-29%	378	-38%
Larceny	157	184	17%	2368	2127	-10%	2435	-13%
Larceny (Misc)	4	5	25%	23	47	104%	31	52%
Larceny from Building	32	42	31%	391	378	-3%	389	-3%
Larceny from MV	37	49	32%	613	504	-18%	680	-26%
Larceny from Person	14	14	0%	340	219	-36%	342	-36%
Larceny from Residence	12	25	108%	186	222	19%	206	8%
Larceny of Bicycle	14	8	-43%	382	328	-14%	366	-10%
Larceny of Plate	1	4	300%	20	28	40%	34	-18%
Larceny of Services	2	0	-100%	21	15	-29%	23	-35%
Shoplifting	41	37	-10%	392	386	-2%	365	6%
Auto Theft	8	12	50%	106	136	28%	133	2%
Total Property Crime	195	214	10%	2862	2547	-11%	3023	-16%



Part I Violent Crime

From January 1st to December 29th of 2014, there were 296 violent crimes recorded in the City, 36 incidents below last year (-11%) and 102 violent crimes (-26%) under the total of 398 incidents for the five-year weighted average forecast for 2014.

Street robbery has dropped a stunning 42% when compared with 2013 and a phenomenal 54% when measured against the five-year weighted average, with no spatial or temporal patterns identified at all in 2014. There was but one robbery recorded in Cambridge in November - a number that represents the lowest monthly count for this target crime in our City in 40 years. That number jumped up to the typical monthly average of 11 incidents in December.

	<u>4 Week Snapshot</u>			<u>Year to Date</u>			<u>Five Year</u>	
	11/4 - 12/1	12/2 - 12/29	Change	2013	2014	Change	Avg	Change
Homicide	0	0	IN-CALC	3	2	-33%	2	0%
Rape	2	1	-50%	24	31	29%	27	15%
Robbery	1	11	1000%	117	79	-32%	135	-41%
Commercial Robbery	0	3	IN-CALC	29	28	-3%	25	12%
Street Robbery	1	8	700%	88	51	-42%	110	-54%
Aggravated Assault	10	16	60%	188	184	-2%	234	-21%
Total Violent Crime	13	28	115%	332	296	-11%	398	-26%



MURDER

No Patterns

- Kensley David, 22, suffered a single gunshot wound to the head after a shooting on Windsor Street in Cambridge around 10 p.m. on July 3rd. It was the second homicide of 2014 in Cambridge. Investigators believe that the incident was not random. Cambridge police, State Police, and the District Attorney's office urge anyone with information about the shooting to contact authorities.
- The first murder of 2014 involved Malia Gomez, 40, of 396 Putnam Ave, who has been charged in the death of Dana Robinson. Gomez admitted to stabbing Robinson following an argument on February 2nd. Robinson died at Beth Israel Hospital and Gomez was charged with armed assault with the intent to murder, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon causing serious bodily injury. On April 1st, 2014, Malia Gomez was indicted on First Degree Murder.
- Trend analysis for the past 20 years points to two recurring murder scenarios in Cambridge: a domestic murder and the murder of young males by a handgun or knife in acts of retaliatory street violence.

Percent Change*

Last 4 Weeks

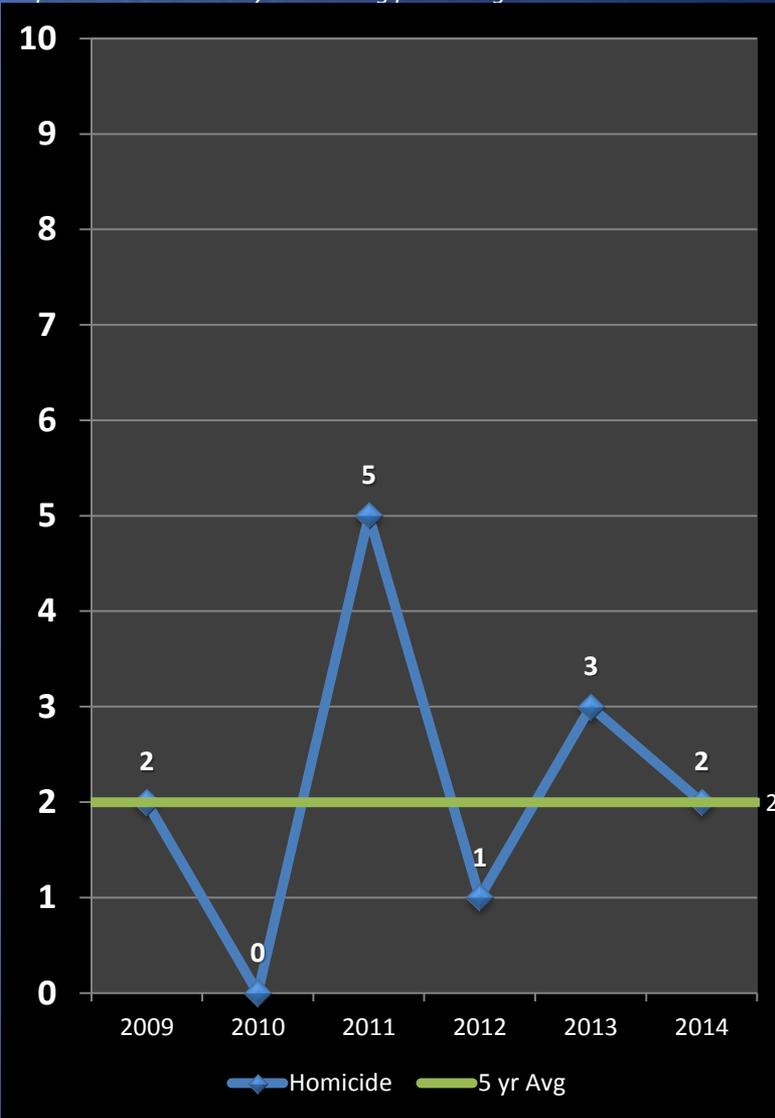
Previous Year

In-calc

-33%

0%

*IN -CAL: Percentages are not calculated for numbers so small as to present a statistically misleading percentage.





Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2013

Colin Burton, 30, of Dorchester, was shot and killed outside of Hi - Fi Pizza on Mass Ave in Central Square on September 18th, 1999. Burton was talking with the occupants of a Ford Explorer when the subject in the passenger seat fired through the window. Two suspects fled the scene. The case remains under active investigation.



September 18, 1999, Mass Ave



April 5, 2002, Mass Ave

Ian Gray, 19, of Mattapan, was in an argument outside of the Rhythm & Spice restaurant that spilled out onto Mass Ave. 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. This case remains open.

On June 17th, 2002 at 7:00PM, **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. This case remains open.



June 17, 2002, Windsor St.

Anyone with information about these crimes is asked to contact CPD at 617-349-3370.



Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2013

Jason Ellcock, 33, of Malden, formerly of Cambridge and father of three, was found with multiple gunshot wounds in front of the driveway to 364 Rindge Ave at 3:05 AM on the night of June 16th, 2009. He was pronounced dead at the scene. This incident remains under investigation.



June 16, 2009, Rindge Ave



March 12, 2011, Brookline St.

James Lauture, 30, of Cambridge, was sitting in a vehicle near Brookline and Watson Streets just after midnight on Saturday, March 12th, 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. This case remains open.

On June 3rd, 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.



June 3, 2012, Willow St

Anyone with information about these crimes is asked to contact CPD at 617-349-3370.



RAPE

No Patterns

- The violent index crime of Rape has increased from 24 incidents in the first 363 days of 2013 to 31 reported sexual assaults over the same time frame for 2014.
- The second stranger-to-stranger rape of 2014 was reported in December, resulting in the arrest of Alejandro Done, 46, of Boston, who was charged with assault to rape, kidnapping, and assault and battery. It is alleged that on December 6, at approx. 7:30pm, the defendant pulled up to a residence on Tremont St in Boston where a young woman was waiting for a pre-arranged ride-sharing driver. The defendant then drove to a location that the passenger was not familiar with, pulled over in a secluded area and jumped in the backseat where she was sitting. During an ensuing physical struggle, the defendant allegedly sexually assaulted the woman.
- The following is the breakdown of rape classifications in Cambridge so far in 2014: two stranger-to-stranger, fourteen involving acquaintances, six contact situations, five domestic sexual assaults, two blitz scenarios, and two incidents that are still under investigation and have yet to be classified.

Percent Change*

Last 4 Weeks

Previous Year

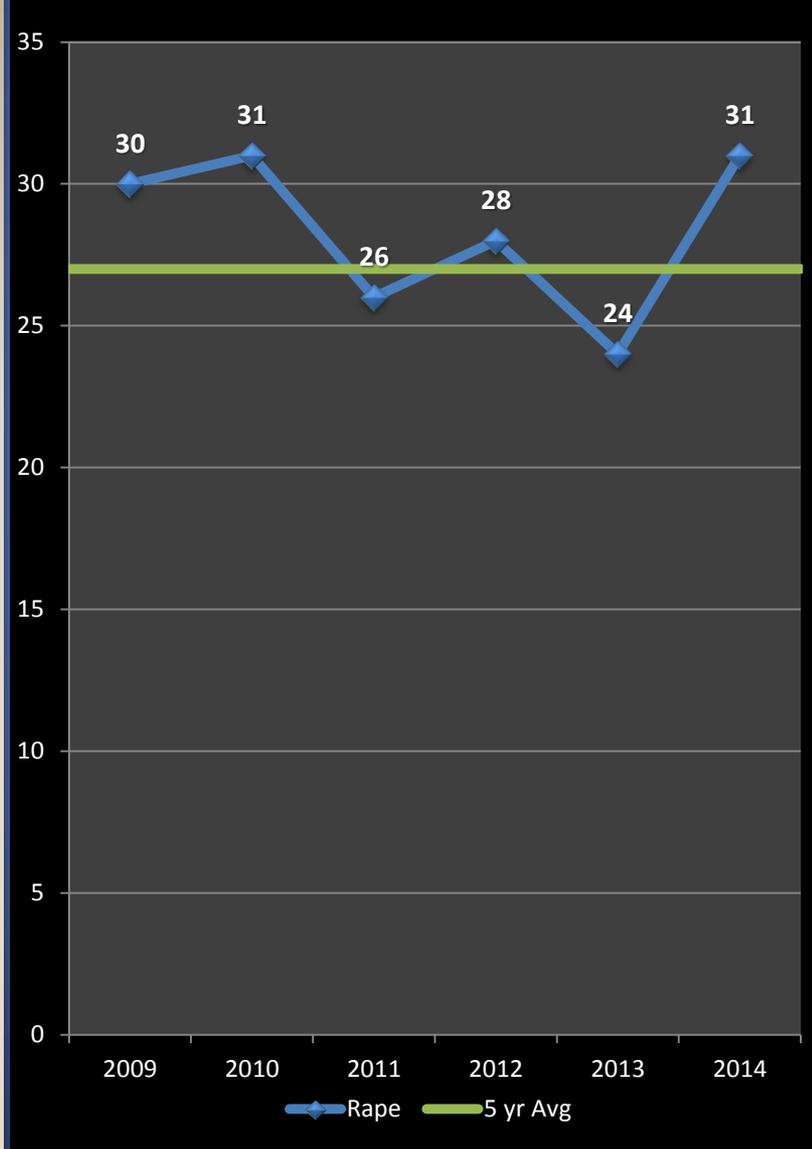
5 Year Average

In-calc

+29%

+15%

*IN -CAL: Percentages are not calculated for numbers so small as to present a statistically misleading percentage.





AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

No Patterns

- When compared with the first 363 days of 2013, aggravated assaults registered a slight 2% dip with four fewer incidents reported for the same time period in 2014. When measuring this violent index crime against the five-year average for the time period between January and the 29th of December, there has been a decline of 21%, with 50 fewer crimes below the projected average of 234 aggravated assaults.
- Each year, domestics account for a high percentage, between 40 to 45 percent of all aggravated assaults. That trend continues so far in 2014 with domestic incidents accounting for 40% of the total. Extra patrols in the area appear to have assuaged the problem of fights at the time of bar closings on weekend nights in Central Square that we were experiencing in the Autumn.
- **Classification Breakdown for 2014**

Type	Number	% of Total
Domestic	73	40%
Unprovoked	31	17%
Alcohol /Bar	31	17%
Homeless	19	10%
Road Rage	17	9%
A&B on Police	16	9%

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

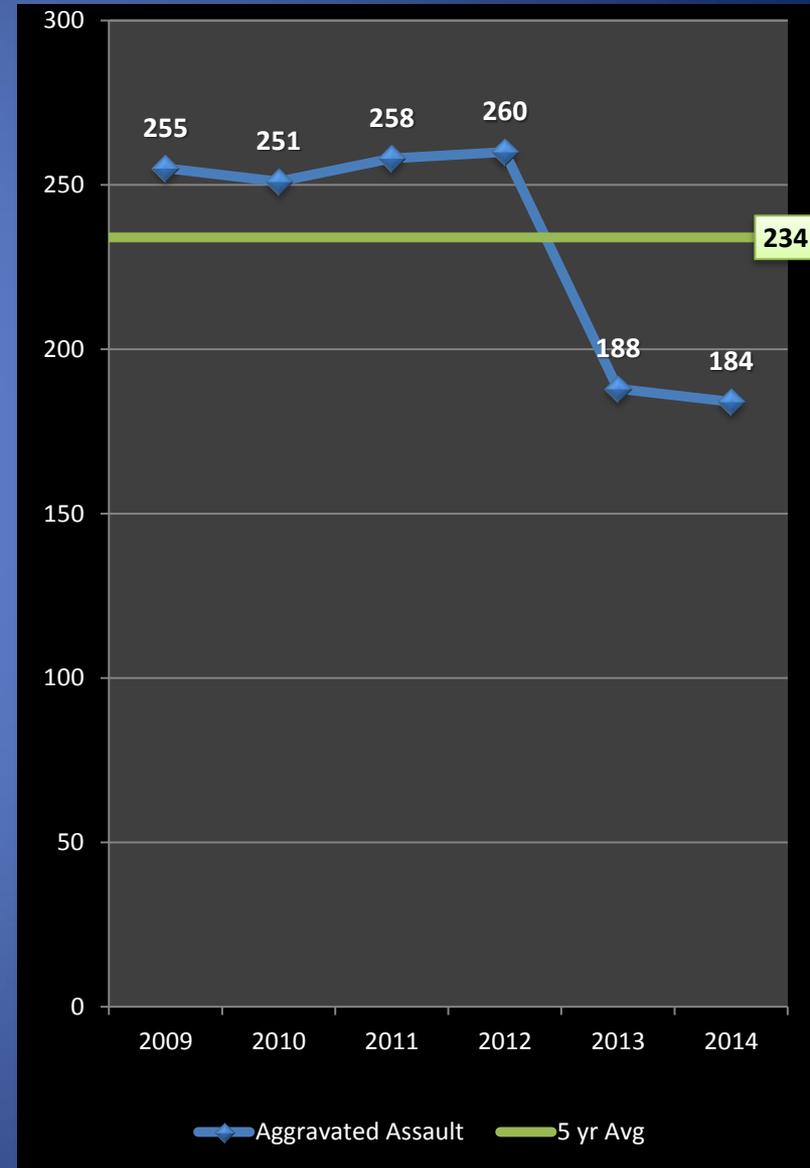
+60%

Previous Year

-2%

5 Year Average

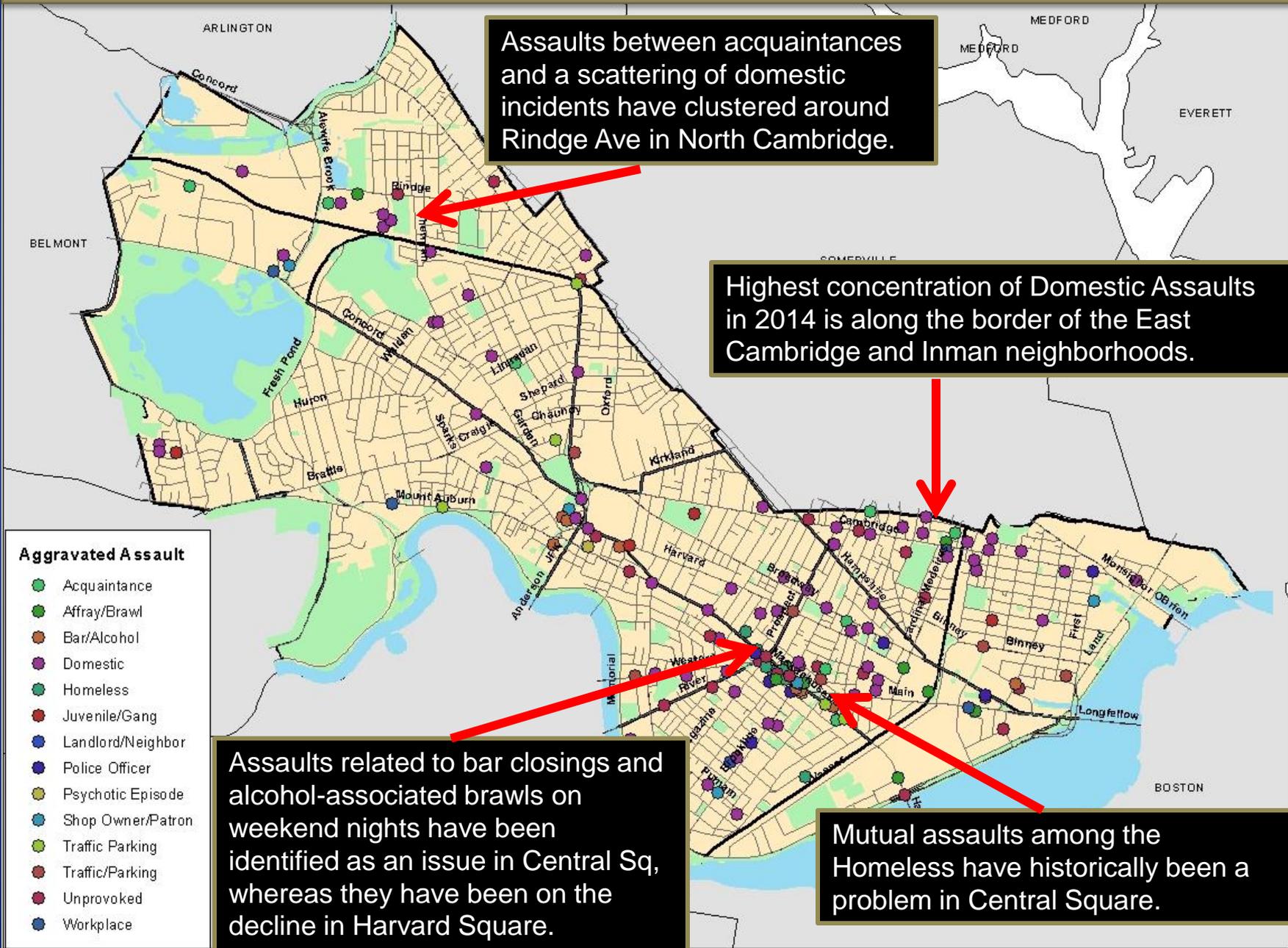
-21%





Aggravated Assault in Cambridge by Category: 1.1.14 to 12.29.14

Cambridge Police BridgeStat





ROBBERY

No Patterns

- The five-year average for overall robbery in Cambridge for the first 363 days of the year is 135 incidents. Between January and December 29th of 2014, 79 robberies were recorded, which indicates a 41% decline below the projected total.
- There were six commercial robberies in the first five weeks of 2014. That spree stopped on February 8th, with only 22 incidents recorded over the next 11 months. The last four commercial robberies in Cambridge were all part of an emerging trend of incidents involving shopliftings that escalate into violent confrontations. Arrests have been made in 14 of the 28 commercial robberies so far in 2014.
- Street robberies declined 21% in Cambridge in 2013 to the lowest total in 40 years and that unflinching slide has continued over the first 363 days of 2014, with a remarkable drop of 42% recorded when compared with last year's total for the same time period. The total of 51 street robberies just 3 days from the end of the year is an exceptionally low number for Cambridge. Reference the chart on the right and compare this year with 2009 when there were 151 street robberies in Cambridge between January and the end of that year.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

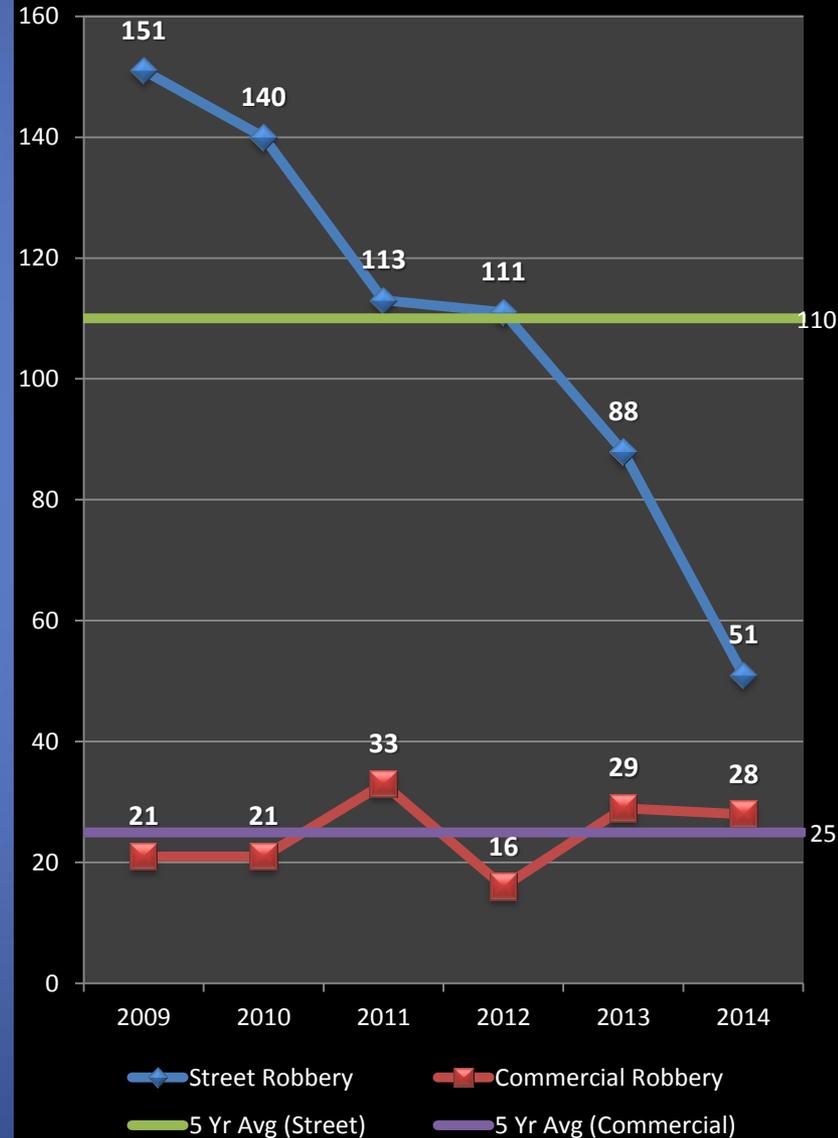
Previous Year

5 Year Average

In-Calc

-32%

-41%



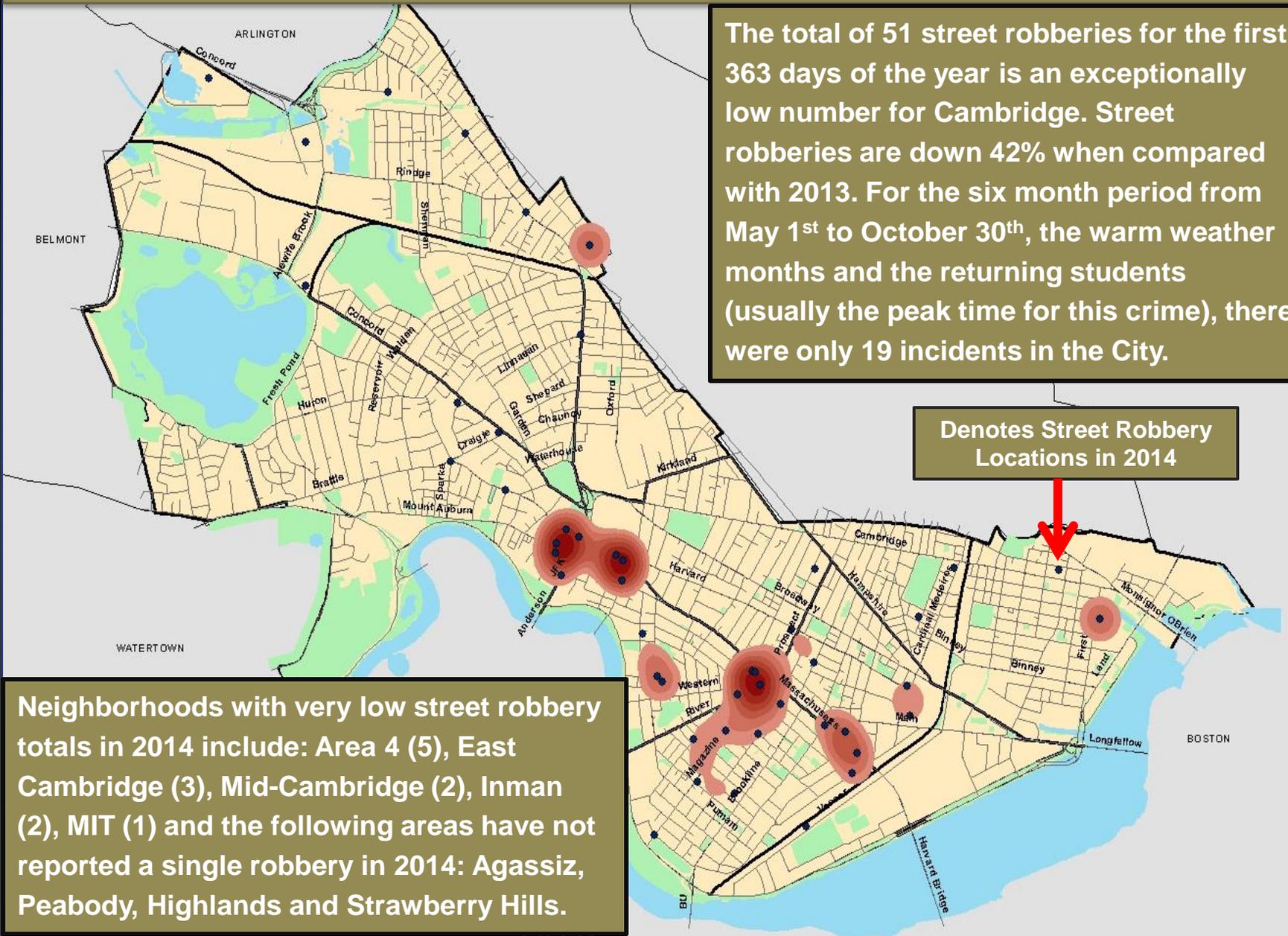


Street Robberies: 1.1.14 to 12.29.14

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The total of 51 street robberies for the first 363 days of the year is an exceptionally low number for Cambridge. Street robberies are down 42% when compared with 2013. For the six month period from May 1st to October 30th, the warm weather months and the returning students (usually the peak time for this crime), there were only 19 incidents in the City.

Denotes Street Robbery Locations in 2014



Neighborhoods with very low street robbery totals in 2014 include: Area 4 (5), East Cambridge (3), Mid-Cambridge (2), Inman (2), MIT (1) and the following areas have not reported a single robbery in 2014: Agassiz, Peabody, Highlands and Strawberry Hills.

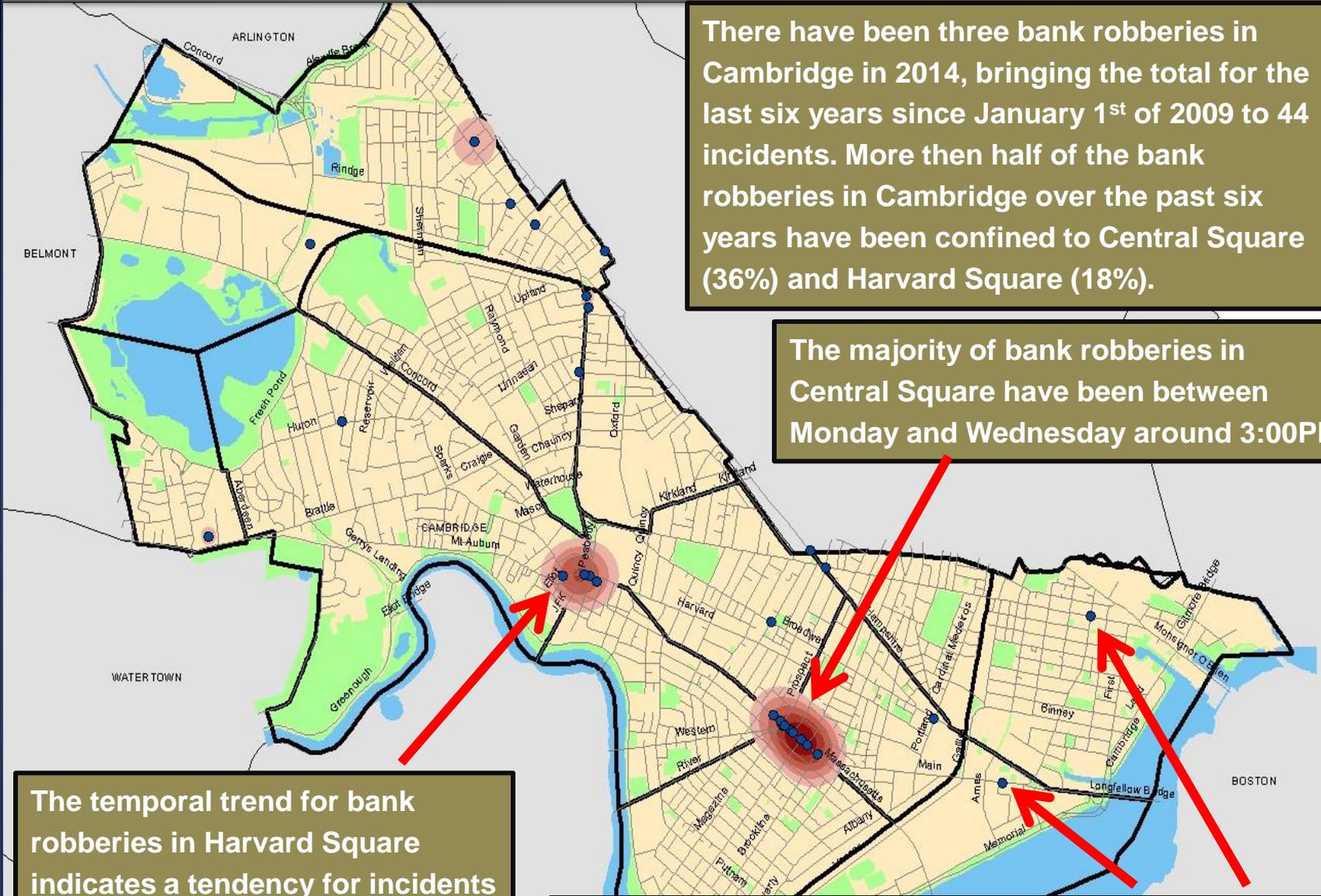


Bank Robberies in Cambridge: 1.1.09 to 12.29.14

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There have been three bank robberies in Cambridge in 2014, bringing the total for the last six years since January 1st of 2009 to 44 incidents. More than half of the bank robberies in Cambridge over the past six years have been confined to Central Square (36%) and Harvard Square (18%).

The majority of bank robberies in Central Square have been between Monday and Wednesday around 3:00PM



The temporal trend for bank robberies in Harvard Square indicates a tendency for incidents to occur around noon or 4:00PM on Wednesday or Thursday.

There has been only one bank robbery in Kendall Square and one in East Cambridge since 2009.



Burglary

Identified Patterns

- The property index crime of burglary, the combination of residential and commercial breaks, has declined 37% when compared to the five-year average, with 170 fewer incidents than the projected total of 454 breaks, and is down 27% when compared with last year's total for the first 363 days of the year, with 104 fewer burglaries reported.
- There has been an 18% reduction in commercial burglary through December 29th of 2014. When measured against the five-year average, a 33% decline is revealed with 25 fewer incidents than the 76 projected for the period between January and the end of December. There has not been a commercial burglary pattern identified yet in 2014.
- Analysis of housebreak activity in Cambridge for the first 363 days of 2014 indicates a 29% decline (93 fewer breaks) below 2013 and a 38% decline below the five-year projected average of 378 housebreaks.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

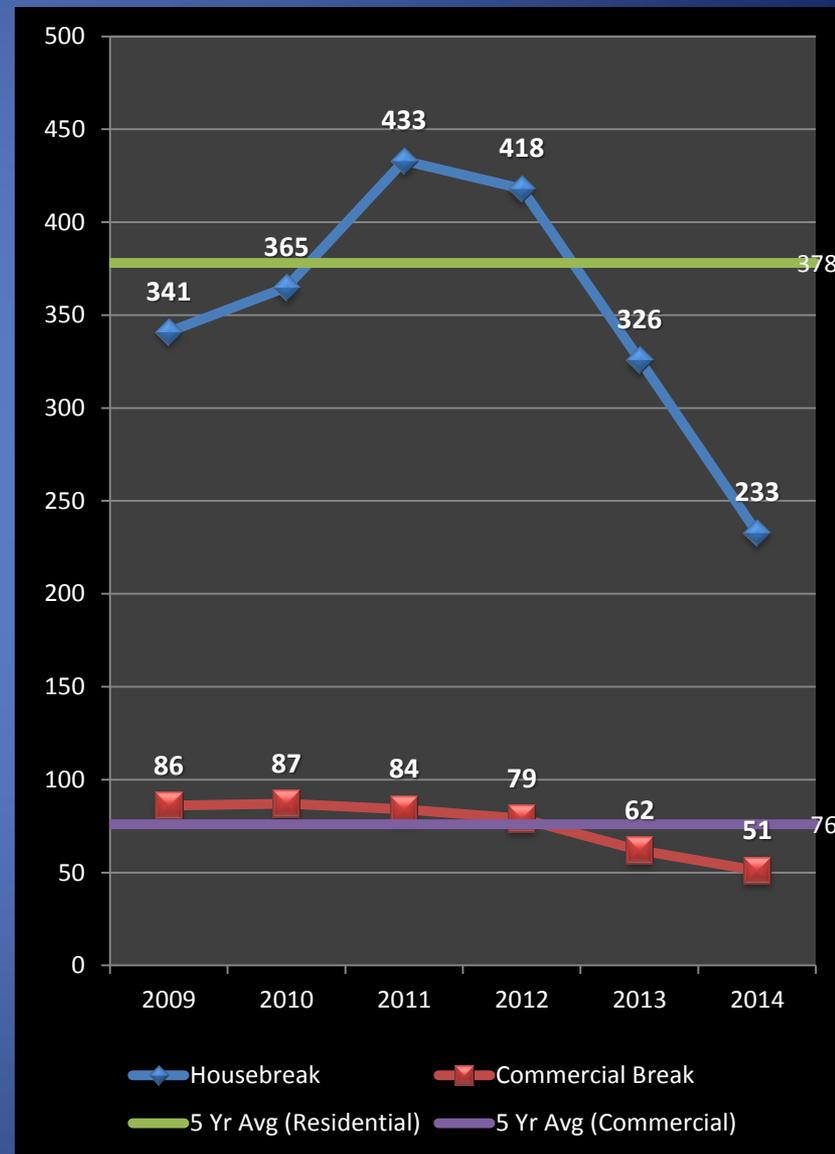
Previous Year

5 Year Average

-40%

-27%

-37%





Housebreaks: 9.1.14 to 12.29.14

Cambridge Police BridgeStat

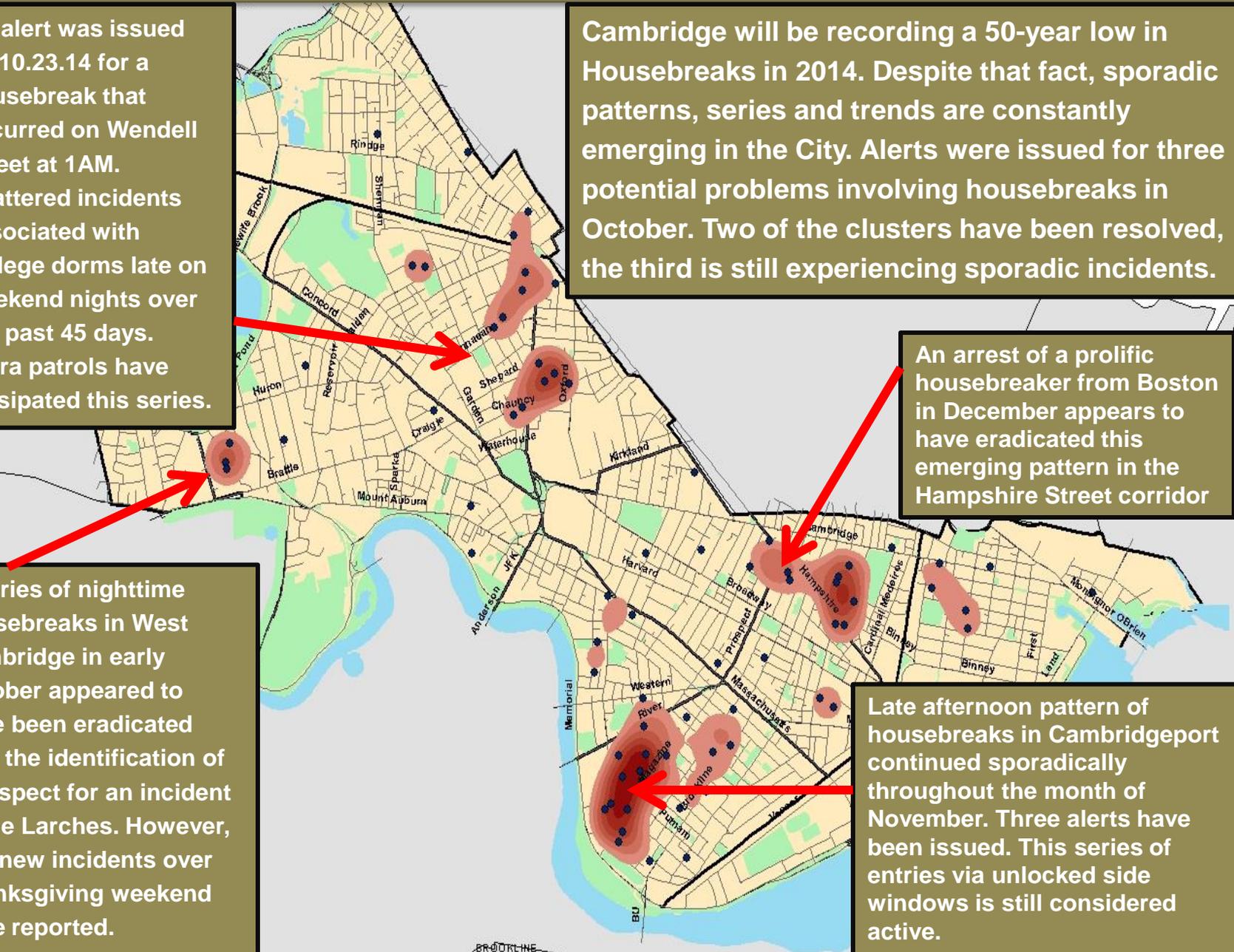
An alert was issued on 10.23.14 for a housebreak that occurred on Wendell Street at 1AM. Scattered incidents associated with college dorms late on weekend nights over the past 45 days. Extra patrols have dissipated this series.

Cambridge will be recording a 50-year low in Housebreaks in 2014. Despite that fact, sporadic patterns, series and trends are constantly emerging in the City. Alerts were issued for three potential problems involving housebreaks in October. Two of the clusters have been resolved, the third is still experiencing sporadic incidents.

An arrest of a prolific housebreaker from Boston in December appears to have eradicated this emerging pattern in the Hampshire Street corridor

A series of nighttime housebreaks in West Cambridge in early October appeared to have been eradicated with the identification of a suspect for an incident in the Larches. However, two new incidents over Thanksgiving weekend were reported.

Late afternoon pattern of housebreaks in Cambridgeport continued sporadically throughout the month of November. Three alerts have been issued. This series of entries via unlocked side windows is still considered active.





LARCENY

Possible Emerging Pattern

- **Overall larceny through December 29, 2014, has decreased by 10%** when compared with the same time frame in 2013 and is 13% below the five-year weighted average of 2,435 incidents.
- **Larcenies from motor vehicles in 2014 have decreased by 109 crimes, or 18%, from the number reported during the same time frame in 2013.** However, LMVs increased by 12 incidents from November to December of this year. A possible pattern emerged in North Cambridge near the end of the month.
- **We continue to see a substantial decline in larcenies from persons. They have declined a remarkable 121 incidents (36%) through Dec. 29, 2014,** when compared with the same time frame for last year. The total of 219 incidents reported thus far in 2014 is also 123 incidents below the five-year average of 342. Harvard Sq saw the most activity citywide in December with six incidents.
- **There have been 378 larcenies from buildings reported through December 29, 2014.** This is 3% below both the number reported in 2013 and the five-year average. In November, we had a number of larcenies from a social club in Harvard Sq. An arrest was made during which a Cambridge juvenile was in possession of items stolen from the club. No patterns of this type emerged in December.
- **Larcenies from residences are one of the few crimes to see an increase this year. This crime type has risen 19%** when compared to 2013, due largely to an increase in package thefts from residences. Package thefts accounted for 47% of all larcenies from residences in 2014. During the month of December, 17 package thefts were reported citywide but no clear patterns emerged and no arrests were made.
- Through December 29, 2014, there were 328 **bikes reported stolen** in Cambridge. This is 14% (54 incidents) below the number reported during this time frame in 2013 and 10% (38 incidents) below the average. Only eight thefts were reported in December, and only Mid-Cambridge experienced more than one theft (with two incidents).

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

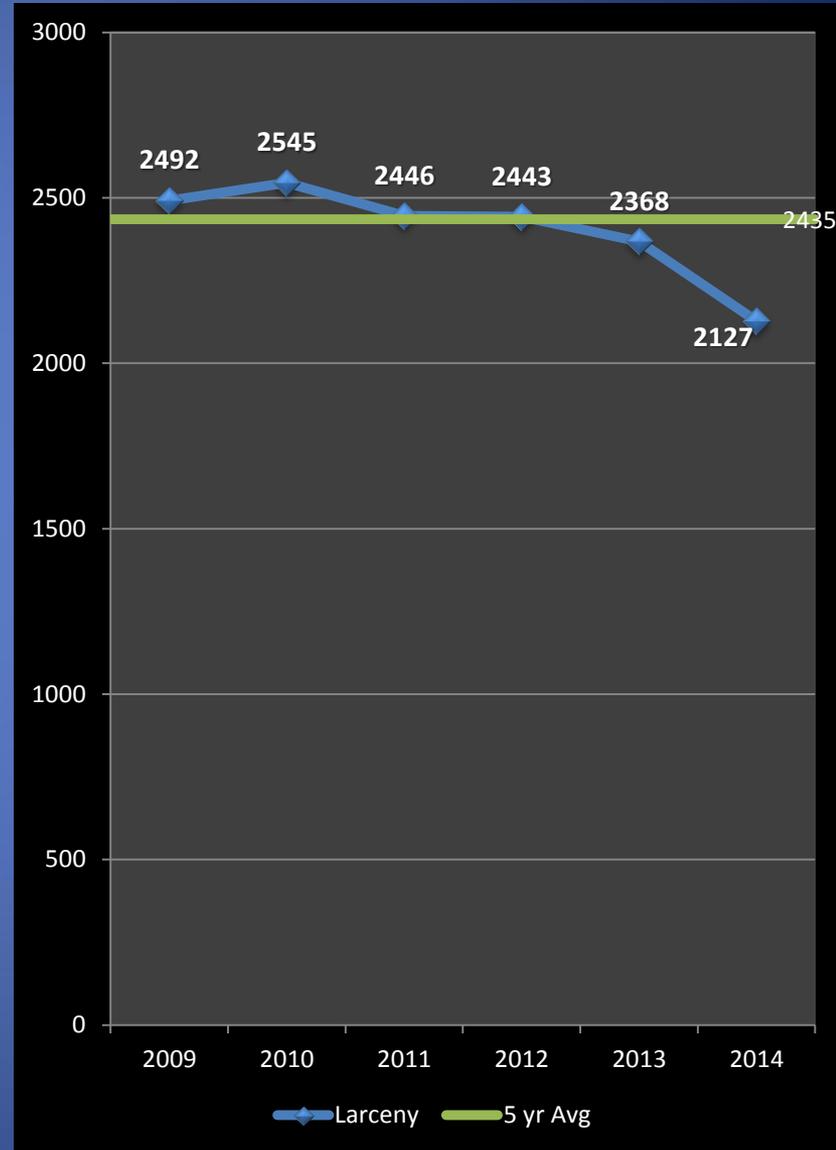
+17%

Previous Year

-10%

5 Year Average

-13%





LARCENY: From MVs

Possible Emerging Pattern

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

+32%

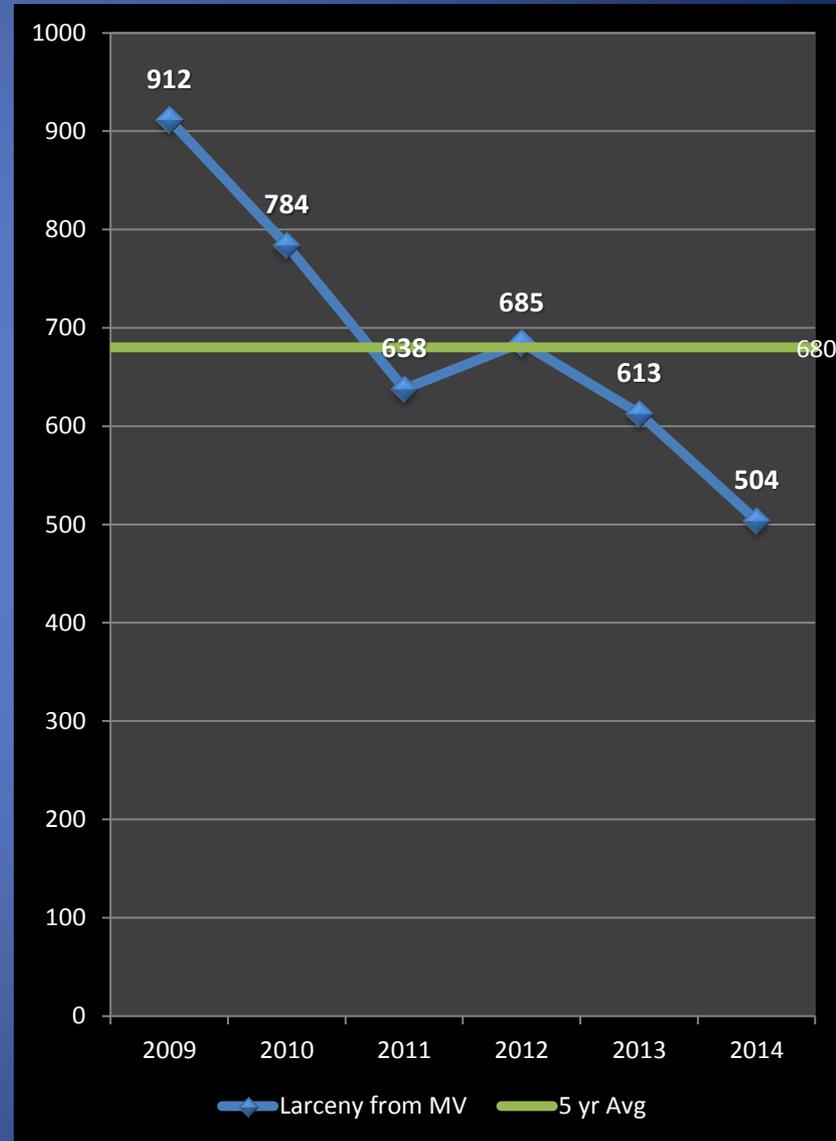
Previous Year

-18%

5 Year Average

-26%

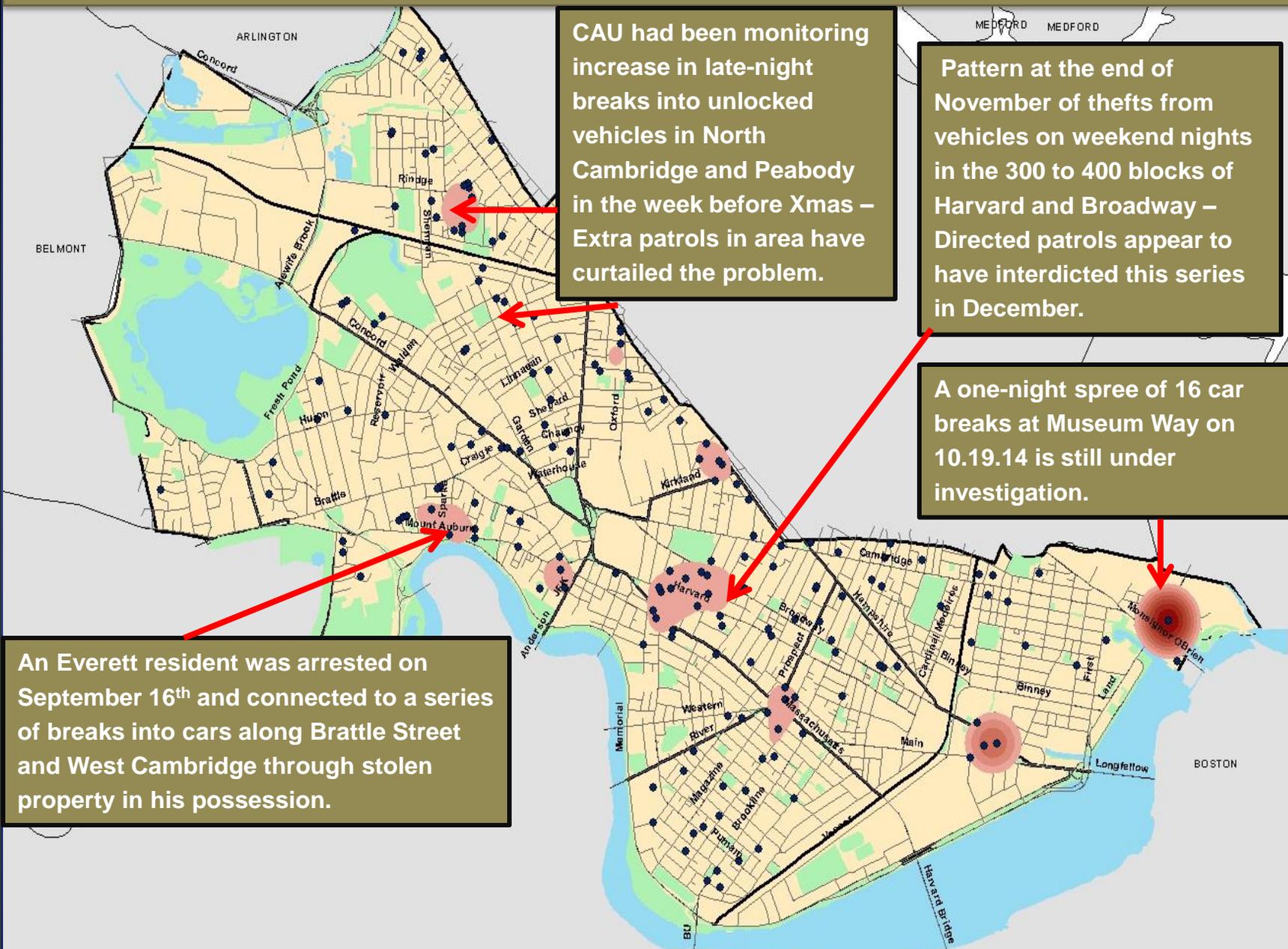
- Larcenies from MVs have declined 18% through the first 363 days of 2014 when compared with the same time frame in 2013. There have been 109 fewer thefts reported so far this year. This crime has also dropped 26% when measured against the five-year average, with 176 fewer incidents than the projected total of 680 thefts.
- When comparing the last four weeks to the previous four weeks, this property index crime jumped by 32% with 12 additional thefts reported.
- The major larceny from motor vehicle pattern for the summer of 2014 was identified during the third week of August. Over a 10-day period, there were 16 reported motor vehicle breaks in and around the Peabody neighborhood. This pattern was interdicted in mid-September when two arrests were made of a homeless subject and a Somerville resident.
- Since the first week in October, there has been a subtle shift to thefts from motor vehicles parked in garages, with the major cluster identified in and around Kendall Square. A prolific offender who previously had been active breaking into cars in Boston Hospital garages early this autumn was linked to this series and arrested.
- The Crime Analysis Unit was monitoring an increase in late-night breaks into unlocked vehicles in North Cambridge and Peabody in the week before Christmas. Extra patrols in the area appear to have curtailed the problem.





Larceny from MVs: 9.1.14 to 12.29.14

Cambridge Police BridgeStat



CAU had been monitoring increase in late-night breaks into unlocked vehicles in North Cambridge and Peabody in the week before Xmas – Extra patrols in area have curtailed the problem.

Pattern at the end of November of thefts from vehicles on weekend nights in the 300 to 400 blocks of Harvard and Broadway – Directed patrols appear to have interdicted this series in December.

A one-night spree of 16 car breaks at Museum Way on 10.19.14 is still under investigation.

An Everett resident was arrested on September 16th and connected to a series of breaks into cars along Brattle Street and West Cambridge through stolen property in his possession.



Larceny from Motor Vehicles

What can we do?

Police Response Strategy:

- Cambridge Police are focused on prevention of these crimes by increasing officer visibility in targeted areas.
- Citizens are encouraged to take the proper precautions to protect their vehicles and their belongings by doing everything possible to not make their vehicles easy targets.



Citizen Response Strategy:

- Citizens are asked to take the following precautions to protect themselves, their vehicles, and their belongings from theft:
 - **Make sure all of your car doors are locked when you leave your vehicle.**
 - **Take extra care when out doing your shopping.**
 - **If you are approached by a suspicious person while you are in your vehicle, sound your horn to attract attention.**
 - **NEVER LEAVE VALUABLES EXPOSED IN YOUR CAR.**
 - If you must leave packages or valuables in your car, **place them in the trunk or under a blanket to conceal them**
 - Visit our website for more tips to keep your vehicles and belongings at www.CambridgePolice.org/SafetyTips



LARCENY: *from Person*

No Patterns

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

Previous Year

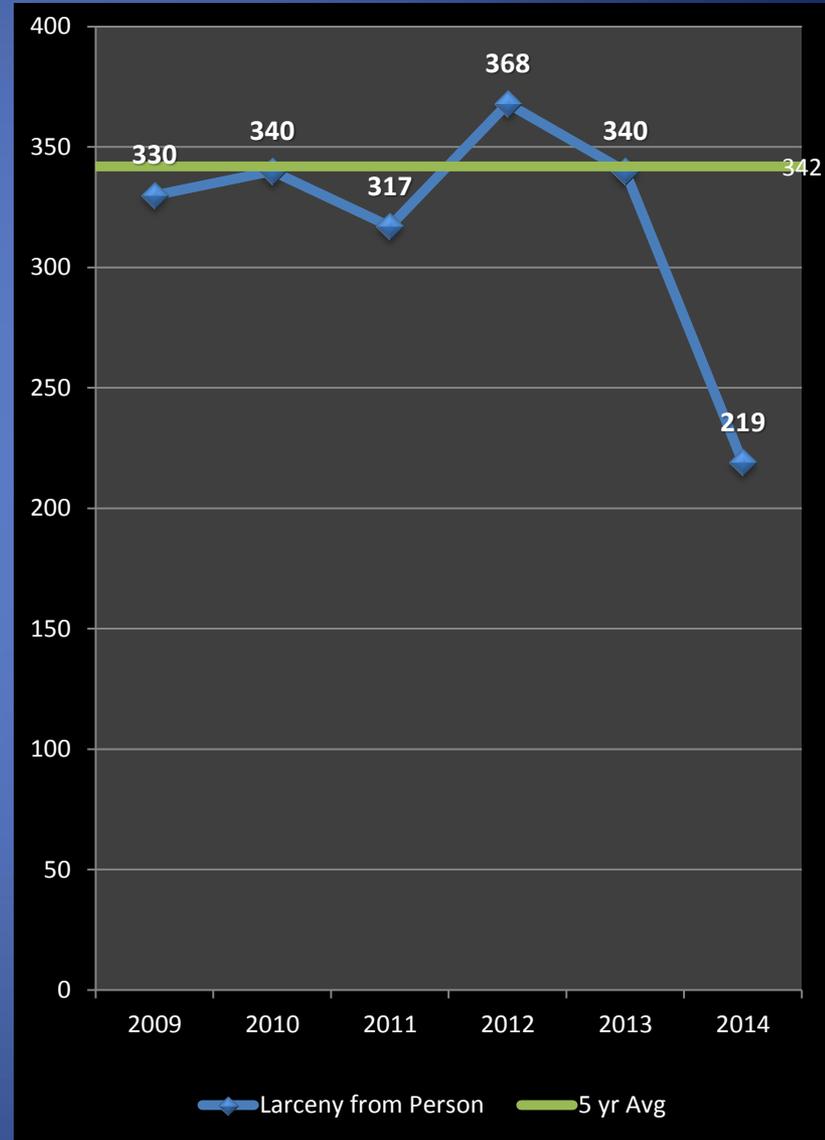
5 Year Average

0%

-36%

-36%

- **Larcenies from the person have declined a remarkable 121 incidents (36%) through December 29 of 2014** when compared with the same time frame in 2013. The total of 219 incidents reported thus far in 2014 is also 123 incidents below the five-year average of 342. There are no patterns of this crime type anywhere in the city at the present time, which was the case for almost all of 2014.
- Often, much of the larceny from person activity is reported at bars and restaurants in the Squares (known as "dipper" activity). In December, Harvard Sq and Porter Sq each saw three incidents of this nature. Two of the incidents in Porter Sq took place during the afternoon of 12/11 at the same café.
- Part of the explanation for the large reduction in this crime type may be that a number of the more prolific thieves, particularly ones that that tend to target the Harvard Square area, are currently incarcerated. Notably, the hotspot for these thieves in Harvard Sq (a café on Brattle St) experienced its first larceny of 2014 in November. In contrast, 16 larcenies from the person were reported at this same café in 2013.





LARCENY: of Bicycle

No Patterns

- Through December 29 of 2014, there were 328 bikes reported stolen citywide in Cambridge. This is 14% (54 incidents) below the number reported during this time frame in 2013 and 10% (38 incidents) below the average.
- As would be expected, the summer months tend to see the largest number of bike thefts due to increased ridership during warmer weather. Thefts this summer registered as follows: 61 in June, 50 in July, 48 in August, and 41 in September, dropping significantly in the colder months of October and November, with only 40 combined. Only 8 were reported in December, and of those 8, the only neighborhood to report more than one theft was Mid-Cambridge, with two incidents.
- 60% of the thefts reported this year have involved bikes that were locked but left out in the open (locked to public bike racks, for example).
- No defined bike theft patterns have emerged, but two arrests were made in September: a Boston male was arrested in Harvard Sq on 9/12 and a Cambridge juvenile was arrested in Area 4 on 9/22.
- **Breakdown by Neighborhood, year-to-date:**

Neighborhood	Total	% Citywide
Mid-Cambridge	57	17%
Area 4	36	11%
Cambridgeport	34	10%
Riverside	33	10%

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

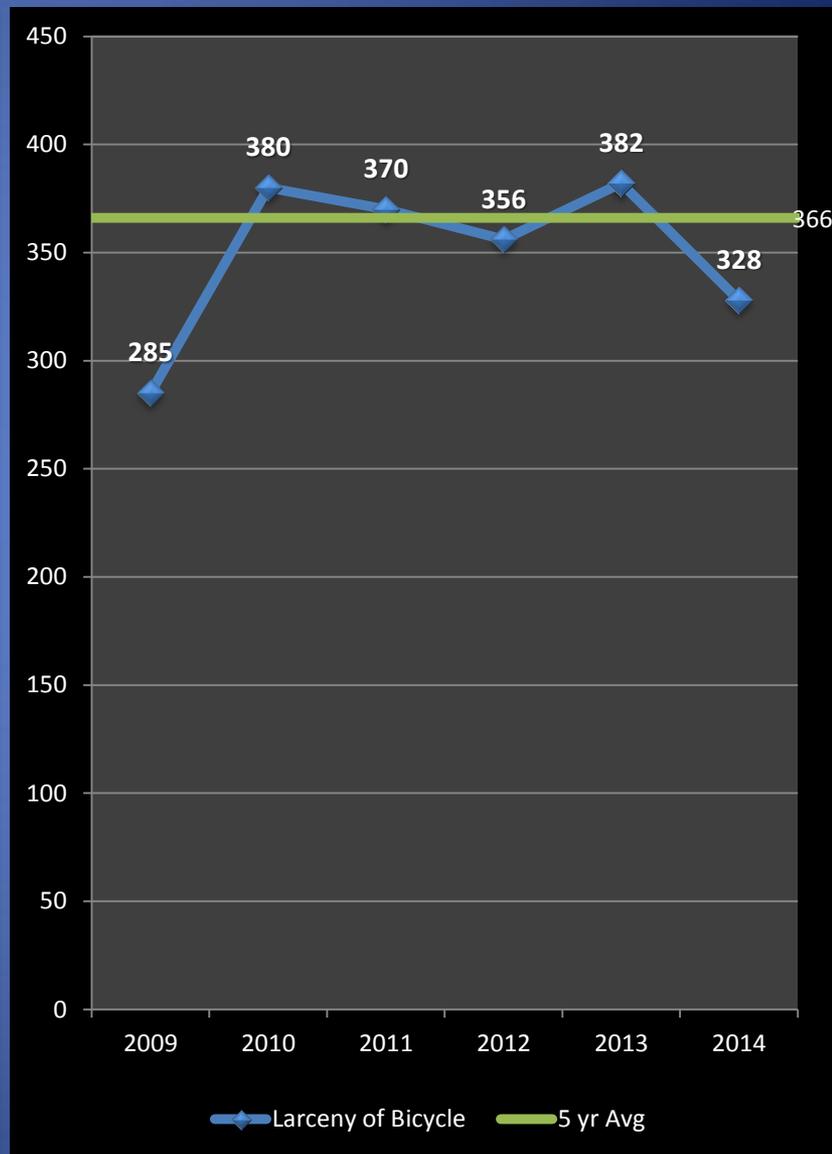
-43%

Previous Year

-14%

5 Year Average

-10%





AUTO THEFT

No Patterns

- The projected five-year weighted average for auto thefts through December 29 of 2014 is 133. With 136 thefts reported through this time frame, we finished with three incidents above the average (+2%) and 30 incidents (+28%) above the 106 thefts reported in 2013.
- There were 12 auto thefts reported in the past four weeks, which equals a 50% increase over November (four more incidents). Since August, activity surrounding the theft of motorcycles and mopeds has tapered off, which is typical for the changing of the seasons.
- Since the beginning of the year, the neighborhoods that have reported the largest numbers of auto thefts have been: Cambridgeport (23), Area 4 (20), East Cambridge (17), and Mid-Cambridge (15). All other neighborhoods except Strawberry Hill have reported at least one auto theft.
- Through December 29th, 64 (or 47%) of the stolen motor vehicles had been recovered.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

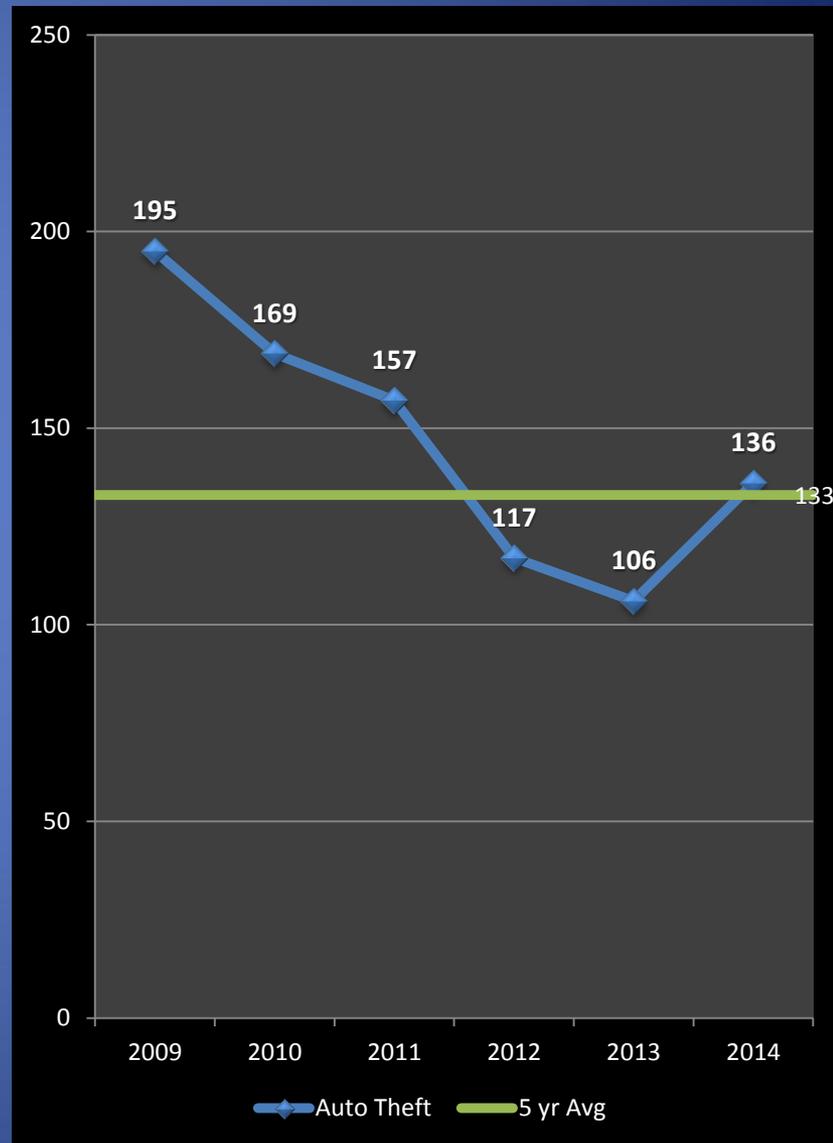
+50%

Previous Year

+28%

5 Year Average

+2%





Help Prevent Crime

And keep yourself informed!

To receive information from the CPD:

- Sign up with for the **Cambridge Alert Network**, to receive alerts about emerging crime patterns, neighborhood meetings, and crime prevention tips, by visiting www.CambridgeMa.gov/AlertNetwork.
- “Like” the Cambridge Police Department on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CambridgePolice
- Follow [@CambridgePolice](https://twitter.com/CambridgePolice) on Twitter.
- Visit our website at www.CambridgePolice.org for valuable information and reports including the Daily Log and BridgeStat, which is published on the first Friday of every month.
- Download our new “MyPD” smartphone app at www.CambridgePolice.org/MyPD.

To Share Information with the CPD:

- Call our Non-Emergency Telephone Number at **617-349-3300**.
 - Every call for service generates a police response, so help drive our resources by reporting things that seem suspicious or out of the ordinary.
- Send an Anonymous TEXT-A-TIP:
 - Send an ANONYMOUS text message to **Tip411 (847411)**. Begin your message with Tip650 and then type your message. You will receive a response from the Cambridge Police with the option to continue communicating. Please remember that this is not a replacement for 9-1-1. **If you witness an emergency situation, please call 9-1-1 immediately.**
- Send an Anonymous Crime Tip E-Mail at www.CambridgePolice.org/Tips