



# Cambridge Police Department BridgeStat

December 2016

Produced by the Crime Analysis Unit

***\*Preliminary 2016 Year-to-Date numbers are subject to change as data are finalized in the coming weeks.***



# Part I Total Crime

The preliminary end-of-the-year figures for 2016 through December 26<sup>th</sup> indicate a significant decline of 8% recorded, with 224 fewer serious crimes in Cambridge reported to the FBI, when compared with the same time period last year. When measured against the five-year average, a notable 14% drop in the crime index has been registered. This downturn in criminal activity comes on the heels of the 2015 crime statistics, which were at their lowest level since 1963. Over the past six years, there has been a consistent trend of dwindling crime numbers in Cambridge.

Further analysis of crime totals five days from the end of 2016 reveals that the property crimes of burglary & auto theft continue to be the key indicators and the main reasons behind the overall descent of serious crime. **The index crime of burglary has plunged a remarkable 30%, and a 10% dip in the auto theft total has been reported.** Commercial burglary (-55%), housebreaks (-22%), and larceny from buildings (-14%) are the categories of incident types driving the dwindling crime numbers.

There was but a modicum of movement in crime fluctuations when measuring the totals of November to December of 2016 with one less serious incident reported in the last month of the year, a combination which consisted of two fewer violent crimes and one additional theft of property

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	11/1 - 11/28	11/29 - 12/26	Change	2015	2016	Change	Avg	Change
Total Violent Crime	15	13	-13%	299	280	-6%	331	-15%
Total Property Crime	169	170	1%	2563	2358	-8%	2735	-14%
Total Part I Crime	184	183	-1%	2862	2638	-8%	3066	-14%



# Part I Property Crime

An analysis of property crime totals for the first 51 weeks of 2016 reveals an 8% descent when measured against the 2015 totals and a 14% dive below the five-year average. The 55 fewer commercial breaks and a decline of 32 larceny from motor vehicles through December 26<sup>th</sup> of 2016 are two of the major factors fueling the decline in property crimes.

Housebreaks, which surged during the first quarter of 2016, have been on the decline over the past nine months and are now down 22%, with 75 fewer breaks than the same time frame in 2015. There has not been a significant housebreak pattern identified in the City in over six months, which is a very unusual occurrence for the third & fourth quarters of the year in this City. When comparing the property crime totals for November to December of 2016, major decreases in larceny from person (-18%) and larceny of bicycles (-21%) were recorded.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	11/1 - 11/28	11/29 - 12/26	Change	2015	2016	Change	Avg	Change
<b>Burglary</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>-30%</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>-23%</b>
Commercial Break	3	5	67%	100	45	-55%	76	-41%
Housebreak	17	19	12%	338	263	-22%	326	-19%
<b>Larceny</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>-3%</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1938</b>	<b>-3%</b>	<b>2208</b>	<b>-12%</b>
Larceny (Misc)	0	3	IN-CALC	45	33	-27%	40	-18%
Larceny from Building	21	25	19%	345	297	-14%	375	-21%
Larceny from MV	27	26	-4%	404	372	-8%	529	-30%
Larceny from Person	17	14	-18%	181	224	24%	258	-13%
Larceny from Residence	22	22	0%	289	273	-6%	240	14%
Larceny of Bicycle	24	19	-21%	362	375	4%	357	5%
Larceny of Plate	1	2	100%	25	22	-12%	28	-21%
Larceny of Services	2	1	-50%	16	17	6%	18	-6%
Shoplifting	29	26	-10%	333	325	-2%	363	-10%
<b>Auto Theft</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>-10%</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>-10%</b>
<b>Total Property Crime</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>2563</b>	<b>2358</b>	<b>-8%</b>	<b>2735</b>	<b>-14%</b>



# Part I Violent Crime

The projected five-year weighted average for violent crime in Cambridge for the first 51 weeks of the year was 331 incidents. Through December 26<sup>th</sup> of 2016, there were 280 violent crimes recorded in the City, **19 crimes below last year (- 6%)** and **51 serious crimes under the number forecasted for this time frame (-15%)**.

There have been 25 fewer aggravated assaults counted through December 26<sup>th</sup> of 2016 (-13%) than in the same time period of 2015 and 40 incidents (-20%) below the projected 5-year average of 201 crimes for the first 361 days of the year. The rape total of 36 so far in 2016 is three incidents above the total of 33 through December of 2015. A complete synopsis and analysis of this increase can be found in the Rape section of this report.

There have been four additional street robberies reported in Cambridge this year when compared with the same time frame in 2015, which translates to an 7% increase. After nine street robberies were reported in July, there have been only 21 scattered and unrelated events counted over the past five months, with zero incidents recorded in December.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	11/1 - 11/28	11/29 - 12/26	Change	2015	2016	Change	Avg	Change
Homicide	0	0	IN-CALC	3	2	-33%	3	-33%
Rape	2	3	50%	33	36	9%	30	20%
Robbery	5	3	-40%	77	81	5%	98	-17%
Commercial Robbery	2	3	50%	23	23	0%	26	-12%
Street Robbery	3	0	-100%	54	58	7%	72	-19%
Aggravated Assault	8	7	-13%	186	161	-13%	201	-20%
Total Violent Crime	15	13	-13%	299	280	-6%	331	-15%



# MURDER

No Patterns

- The first murder of 2016 in Cambridge occurred on the night of March 22<sup>nd</sup> when Armando Hernandez Jr., 30, of Belmont was killed by gunfire on Mt. Auburn St. just before 10 PM. Area residents said they heard 10 or 11 gunshots. A second victim was hospitalized with a leg wound. This case remains under investigation.
- The Cambridge Police responded to a report of a shooting outside of 140 Harvard Street on 6/25/16. Arriving officers discovered the victim, Anthony Clay, 49, of Cambridge suffering from a gunshot wound. The victim was transported to Massachusetts General Hospital where he was pronounced dead. This was the second homicide recorded in the City in 2016. This case remains under investigation.

## There were three murders in Cambridge in 2015:

- On April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Carlos D. Colina was arraigned in Middlesex District Court and was charged with the April 4<sup>th</sup> murder of Jonathan Camilien, 26, of Somerville, in an apartment on Binney St.
- On August 24<sup>th</sup>, Roosselin Altidor, 25, of Medford was arraigned in Cambridge District Court on a charge of murder in connection with a homicide in Cambridge on Wednesday, August 12. Rasaun Nichols, 31, of Cambridge, was killed by gunshots while in a vehicle in the area of Newtowne Court.
- Antwan Gonsalves, 33, of Cambridge was arrested on September 24<sup>th</sup> and charged with murder in connection with a homicide that involved a stabbing in Central Square on the night of September 12, 2015. Killed was Tywann Jones, 35, of Roxbury.

## Percent Change\*

Last 4 Weeks

Previous Year

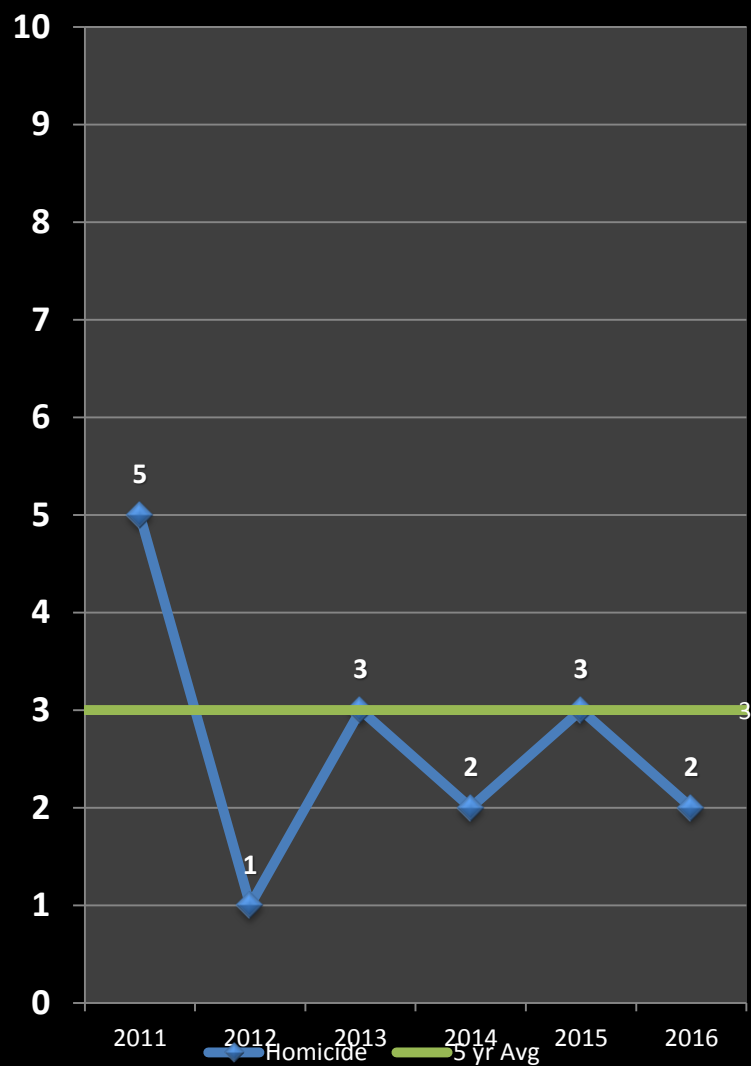
5-Year Average

In-Cal

In-Cal

In-Cal

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







# 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, 1990-2015

- 56 people murdered in 51 incidents (in 4 of the incidents, 2 or more people were killed)
- 37 victims were male (average age of 34)
- 19 victims were female (average age of 41)
- Most common weapons: handguns (25 incidents) and knives (14 incidents)
- 15 of the 48 cases are still under investigation or remain unsolved
- 24 of the 30 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.



# Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2015

Cambridge Police BridgeStat

**Colin Burton**, 30, of Dorchester, was shot and killed outside of Hi - Fi Pizza on Mass Ave in Central Square on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 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 17<sup>th</sup>, 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 2015

Cambridge Police BridgeStat

**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 16<sup>th</sup>, 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 12<sup>th</sup>, 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012, **Charlene Holmes**, 16, of Cambridge, was shot while sitting on a porch on Willow St. 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



July 3, 2014, Windsor Street.

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014, at 10:00 PM, **Kensley David**, 22, suffered a single gunshot wound to the head while on Windsor Street. Investigators believe that the incident was not random. This case remains under investigation

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





# RAPE

## No Patterns

- The rape total of 36 through December 26<sup>th</sup> 2016 reveals an increase of three incidents above the 2015 number for the same time period. Fifteen of the incidents this year have been classified as acquaintance rapes, eight as domestic scenarios, nine as contact crimes, and the final four have yet to be classified and remain under investigation. There have been no stranger-to-stranger rapes recorded in Cambridge through the first 51 weeks of 2016.
- An unusually high total of 18 rapes were recorded in Cambridge over the past four months. In some of these incidents, the crime occurred months prior to the date it was reported. The categorical breakdown for these 18 crimes was: seven acquaintance, seven contact, and four domestic scenarios.
- The final count of rape in Cambridge for 2015 that was submitted to the FBI was 25 crimes, one more (+4%) than in 2014.
- The FBI's Uniform Crime Report for 2015 reports that: there were an estimated 90,185 forcible rapes reported to law enforcement nationally a 6.3 % increase over 2014.

### Percent Change\*

Last 4 Weeks

**+50%**

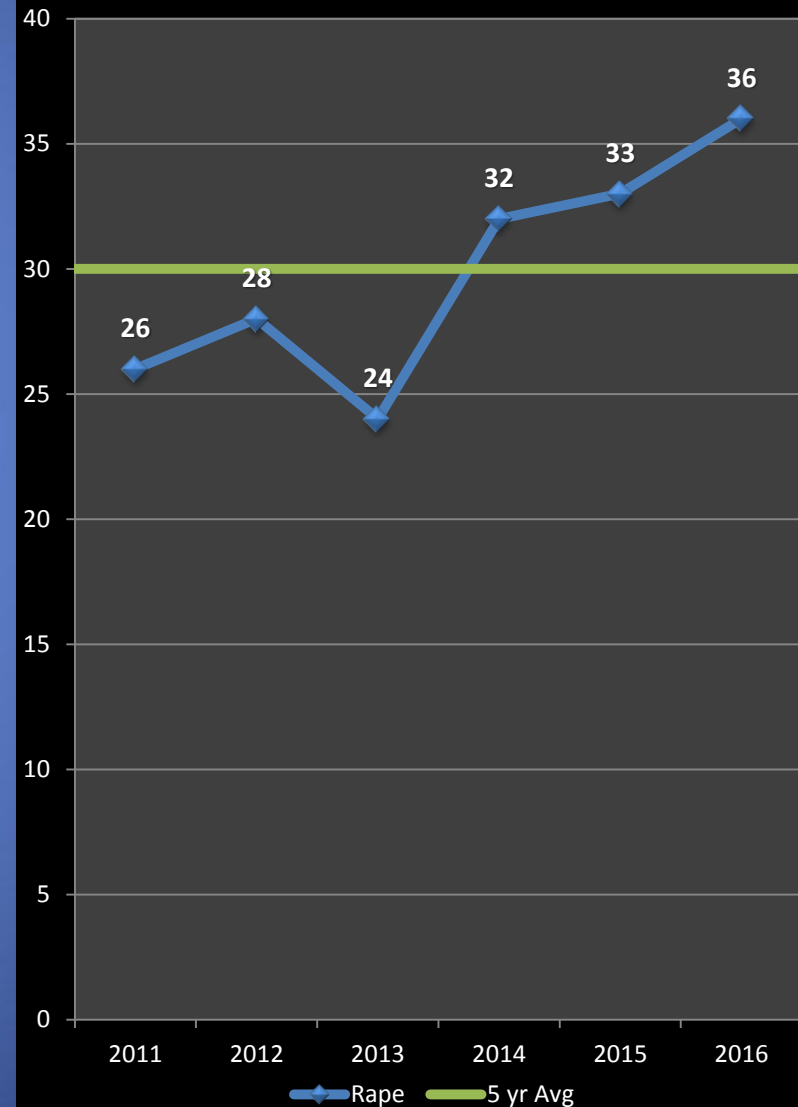
Previous Year

**+9%**

5-Year Average

**+20%**

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





# AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

## No Patterns

- When measuring the total of aggravated assaults for the first 51 weeks of 2016 with the same time frame last year, there has been a decline of 25 incidents (-13%) registered. The total of 161 aggravated assaults reported so far in 2016 translates to a 40-incident reduction (-20%) under the 5-year average of 201 crimes for the time period between January 1<sup>st</sup> and December 26<sup>th</sup> of 2016.
- The 161 aggravated assaults reported through December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016, were composed of the following classifications: 18 fights among acquaintances; 48 domestic situations; 6 juvenile assaults; 20 unprovoked scenarios; 23 bar brawls; 4 psychotic episodes; 14 homeless scenarios; 2 confrontations between a shop owner and a patron; 7 workplace assaults, a third lover scenario, 9 traffic and parking situations, 6 assaults on a police officer, 2 assaults between neighbors, and one drug deal.
- On an annual basis, past trends indicate that invariably 30 to 40 percent of aggravated assaults are domestic-related. With the rate of domestic assaults on the decline, that statistic has held tenuously true over the first 361 days of 2016 with 48 (29.8%) of the 161 assaults classified as domestic in nature.

### Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

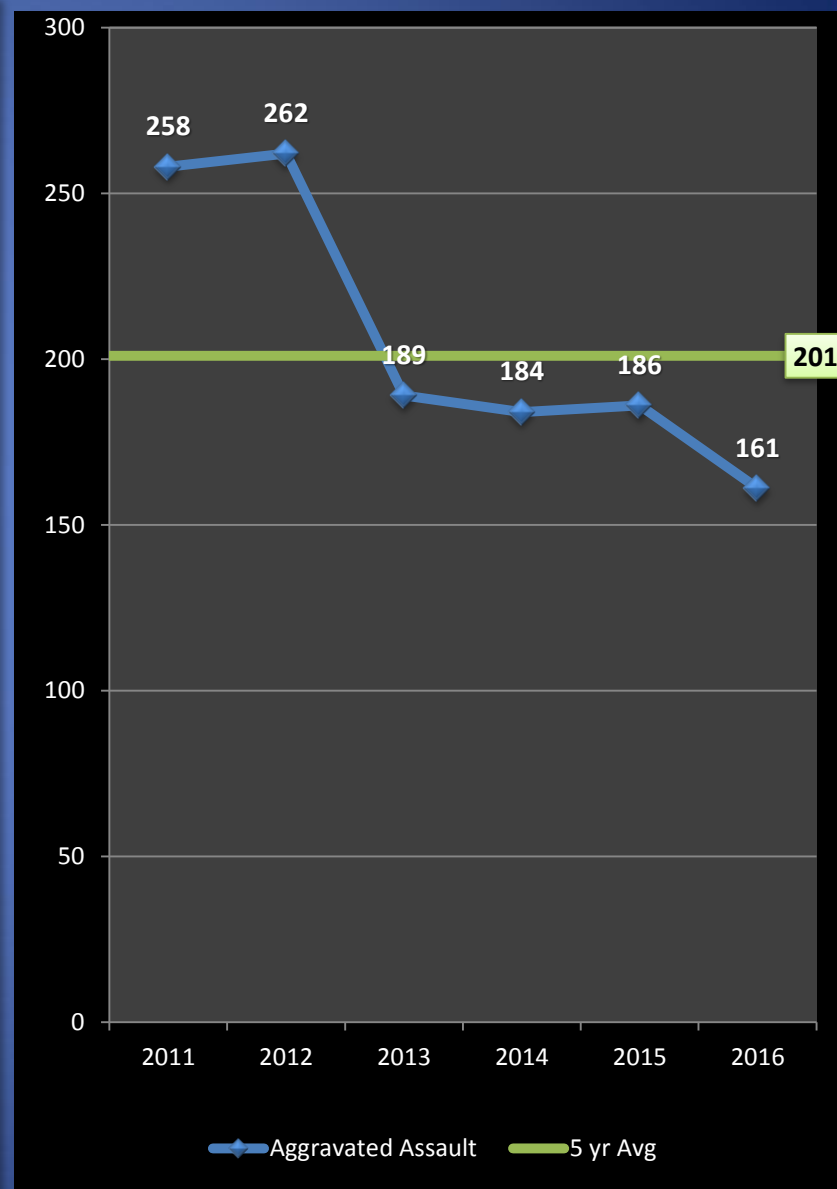
**-13%**

Previous Year

**-13%**

5-Year Average

**-20%**





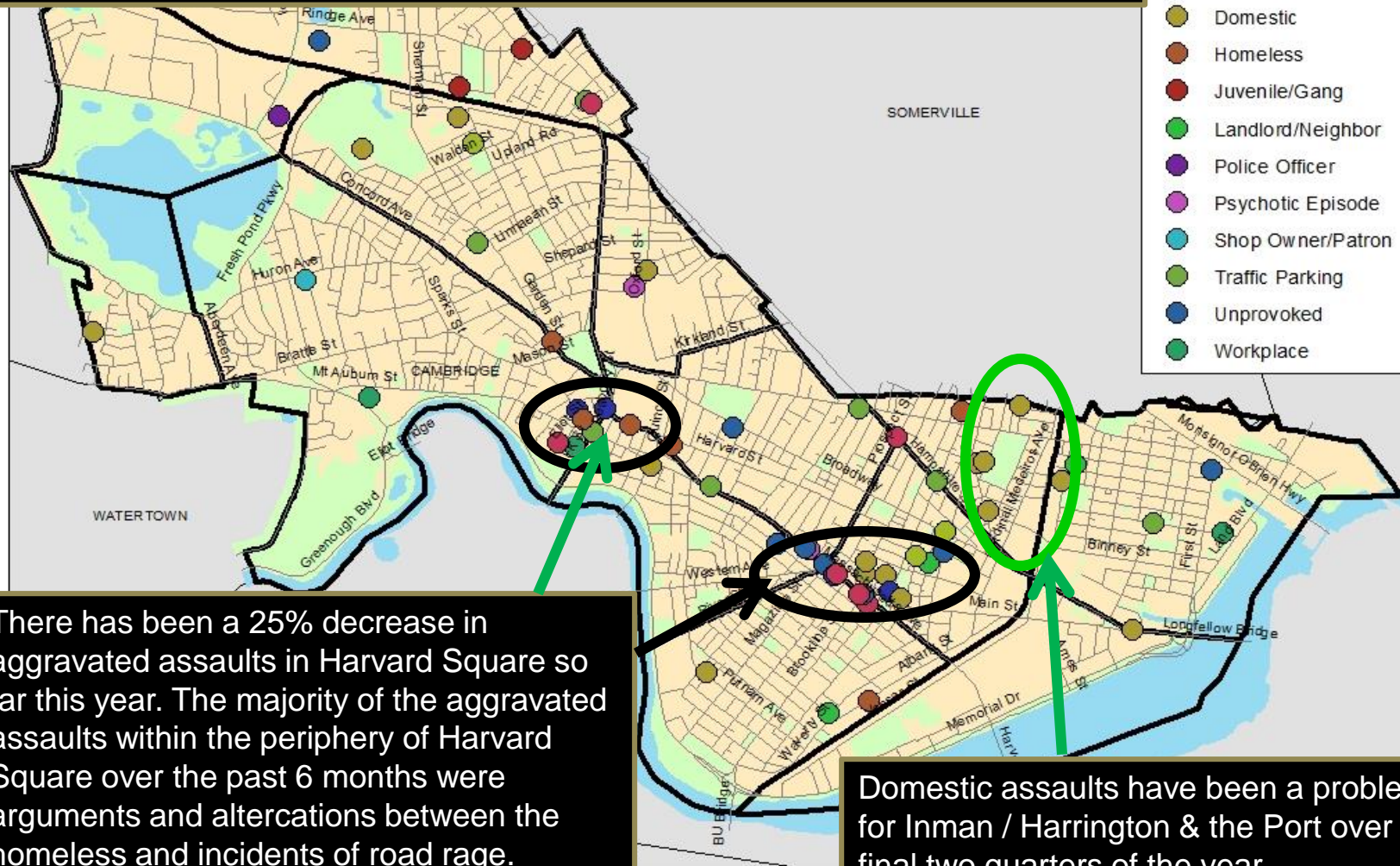
## Geographic Breakdown of Aggravated Assaults by Categorization: 7.1.16 to 12.26.16

Aggravated assaults are down over 45% in Central Square when comparing the July through December 26<sup>th</sup> time period of last year with the same time period of 2016. The breakdown of aggravated assaults in the Square for the past 6 months includes: 6 bar / alcohol related; 6 domestic; 3 homeless; 2 psychotic episodes and 5 unprovoked incidents.

### Aggravated Assault

#### Category

- Acquaintance
- Affray/Brawl
- Bar/Alcohol
- Domestic
- Homeless
- Juvenile/Gang
- Landlord/Neighbor
- Police Officer
- Psychotic Episode
- Shop Owner/Patron
- Traffic Parking
- Unprovoked
- Workplace



There has been a 25% decrease in aggravated assaults in Harvard Square so far this year. The majority of the aggravated assaults within the periphery of Harvard Square over the past 6 months were arguments and altercations between the homeless and incidents of road rage.

Domestic assaults have been a problem for Inman / Harrington & the Port over the final two quarters of the year





# ROBBERY

*No Patterns*

- The 5-year average for overall robbery in Cambridge for the first 51 weeks of the year is 98 incidents. Through December 26<sup>th</sup> of 2016, 81 robberies were recorded, which reveals a 17% decrease below the 5-year forecasted average, and 4 robberies (+5%) above the 2015 total for the same time period.
- The street robbery total for the first 51 weeks of 2016 (58 incidents) indicates a moderate increase of 7% when compared with last year, though down a significant 19% below the projected five-year average of 72, with 14 fewer crimes. There was a sharp decline registered from July to August with only three street robberies recorded for the month, down from nine in July. There have been only 21 scattered and unrelated events counted over the past five months, with zero incidents recorded through Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>.
- An alert was issued during the last week of April. There were 5 street robberies in the neighborhoods on the periphery of Central Square reported over the course of 6 days to the Cambridge Police Department. Since extra patrols have been allocated to the area, there have been only a few sporadic and unrelated incidents.
- There has been no change in the Commercial robbery totals over the first 51 weeks in Cambridge, with 23 recorded in both 2015 and 2016. Six of the seven bank robberies in Cambridge during 2016 have been cleared by arrest. The 5-year average for Commercial Robbery in Cambridge for the first 51 weeks of the year is 26 incidents, 3 more than 2016, which represent a 12% decline this year for this crime.

## Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

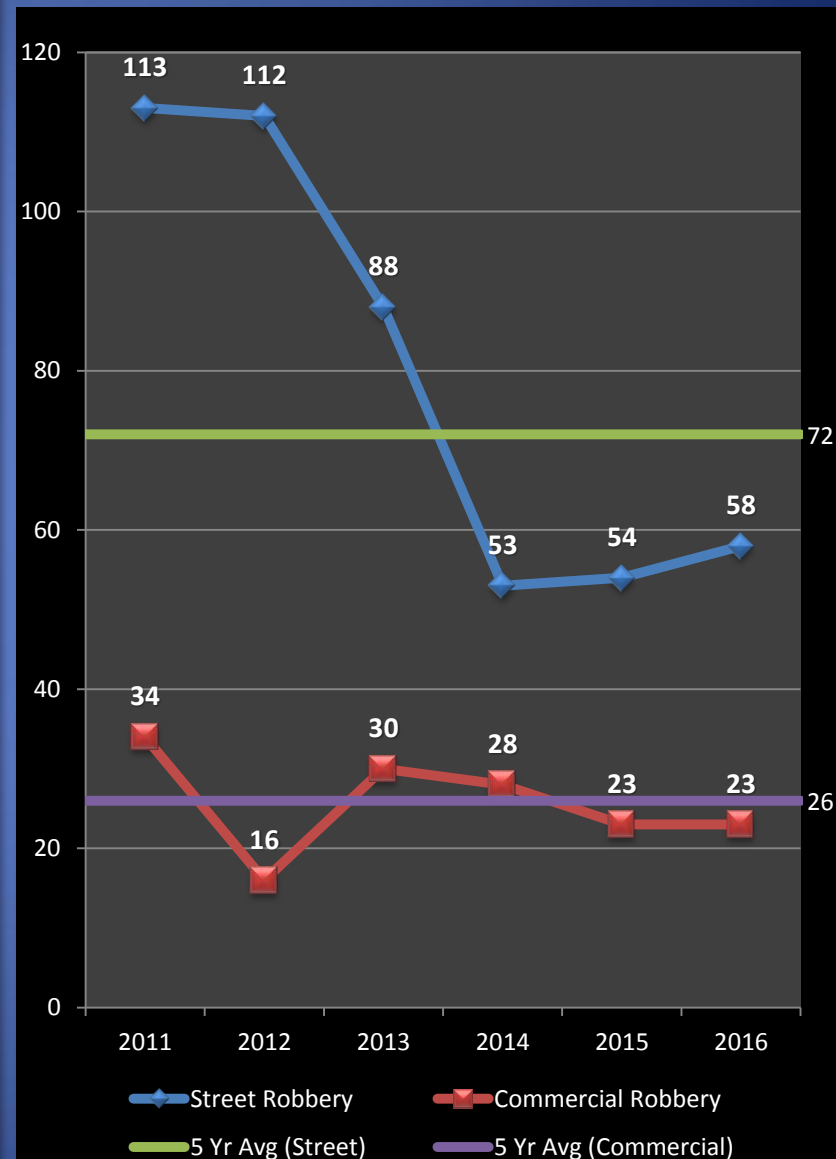
**-40%**

Previous Year

**+5%**

5-Year Average

**-17%**







# Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Robbery: 1.1.16 to 12.26.16

**Past 3 months** – Three convenience store robberies on Prospect, Hampshire & Magazine, two bank robberies: one in Central Square, one in Harvard Square, two retail robberies one in Harvard, one in Central Square

**Commercial Robbery** – Gas station 1700 block of Mass Ave - 5.21.16 **Arrest**

**Commercial Robbery** – convenience store 2400 block of Mass Ave - 8.21.16

**Commercial Robbery** – Pink Berry on Mass Ave on 7.13.16 – **Commercial Robbery** on 12.16.16 – bank

**Commercial Robbery** – attempted unarmed robbery at the Star Market on 3.17.16 – & convenience store on 8.11.16

**Commercial Robbery** – Bank robbery in Harvard Square on 4.12.16 where suspect (see photo) threatened teller with a note stating he has a bomb **Arrest**

**Commercial Robbery** – Galleria Shoplifting escalation On 5.11.16 – Bank robbery on First on 11.22.16 - **Arrest**

**Commercial Robbery** – shoplifting escalation into robbery at convenience store on Western Ave – 4.3.16

## Commercial Robbery

### Premise Type

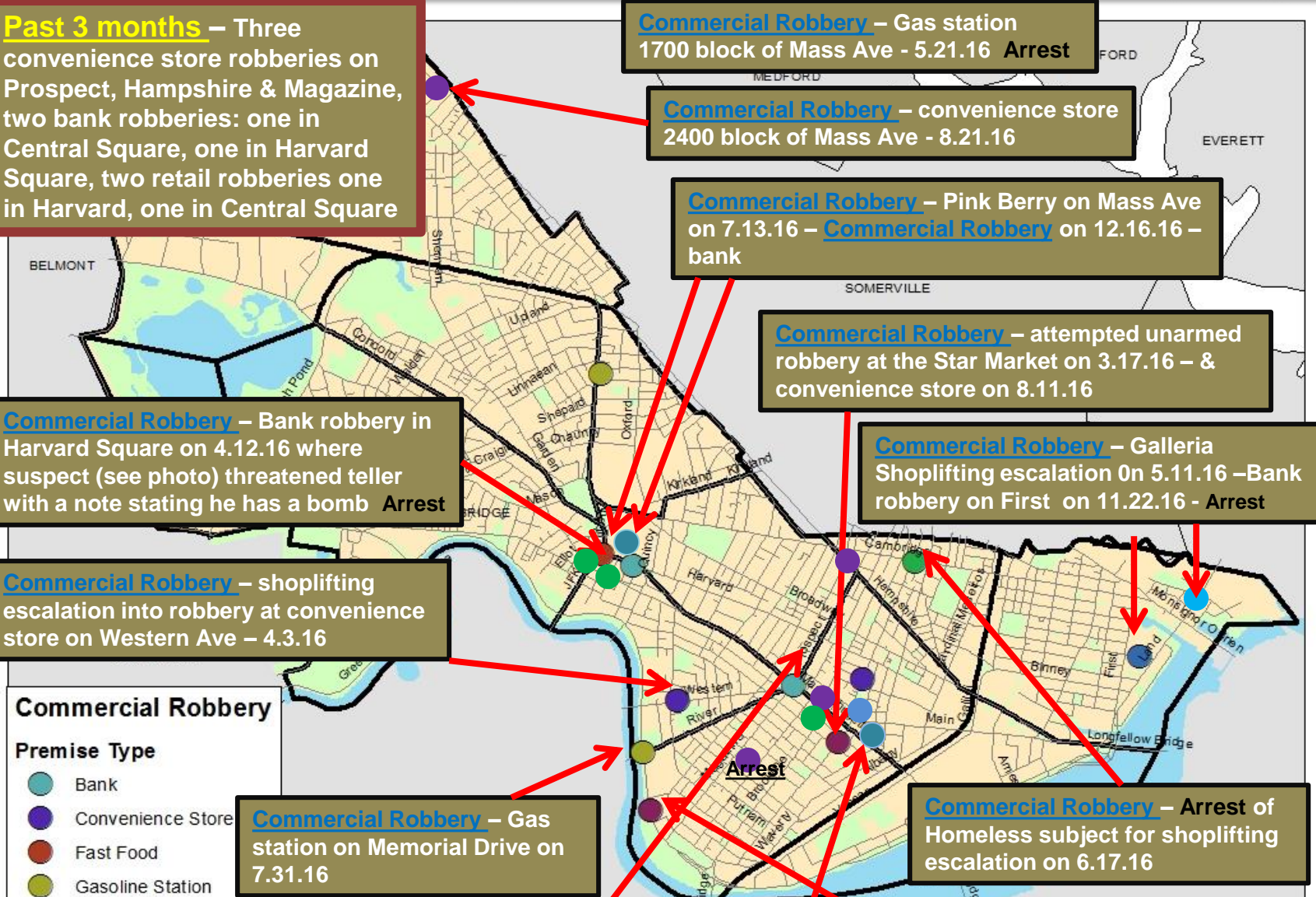
- Bank
- Convenience Store
- Fast Food
- Gasoline Station
- Grocery
- Retail Other
- Shopping Mall

**Commercial Robbery** – Gas station on Memorial Drive on 7.31.16

**Commercial Robbery** – 2 Bank robberies on Mass Ave – note - noon 5.9.16 & 9.26.16 implied gun - **Arrest**

**Commercial Robbery** – Arrest of Homeless subject for shoplifting escalation on 6.17.16

**Commercial Robbery** – escalation of shoplifting incident at Memorial Drive grocery store on 1.29.16





# Geographic Breakdown of Street Robbery by Day of Week: 7.1.16 to 12.26.16

Cambridge Police BridgeStat

10.8.16- college student robbed at knife point on Rindge Ave  
11.5.16 – Cambridge Park Drive

8.9.16– Juveniles on bikes rob male on Community Path at 1AM

7.17.16– Male robbed at knifepoint near St Peter's Field at 2AM

10.23.16 – cell phone grab from female in Porter Square  
11.2.16 - Prescott – Juveniles - Known

7.19.16 – Hotel guest robbed at 10PM on Broadway with implied gun

7.26.16 – homeless robbery of male and female in Gore St Park, late afternoon  
11.15.16 – phone snatch on E. Kendall

7.21.16 – armed robbery on Concord Ave while victim was driving

There have been **two** street robberies in Harvard Square over the past 4 months and only 3 incidents for all of 2016

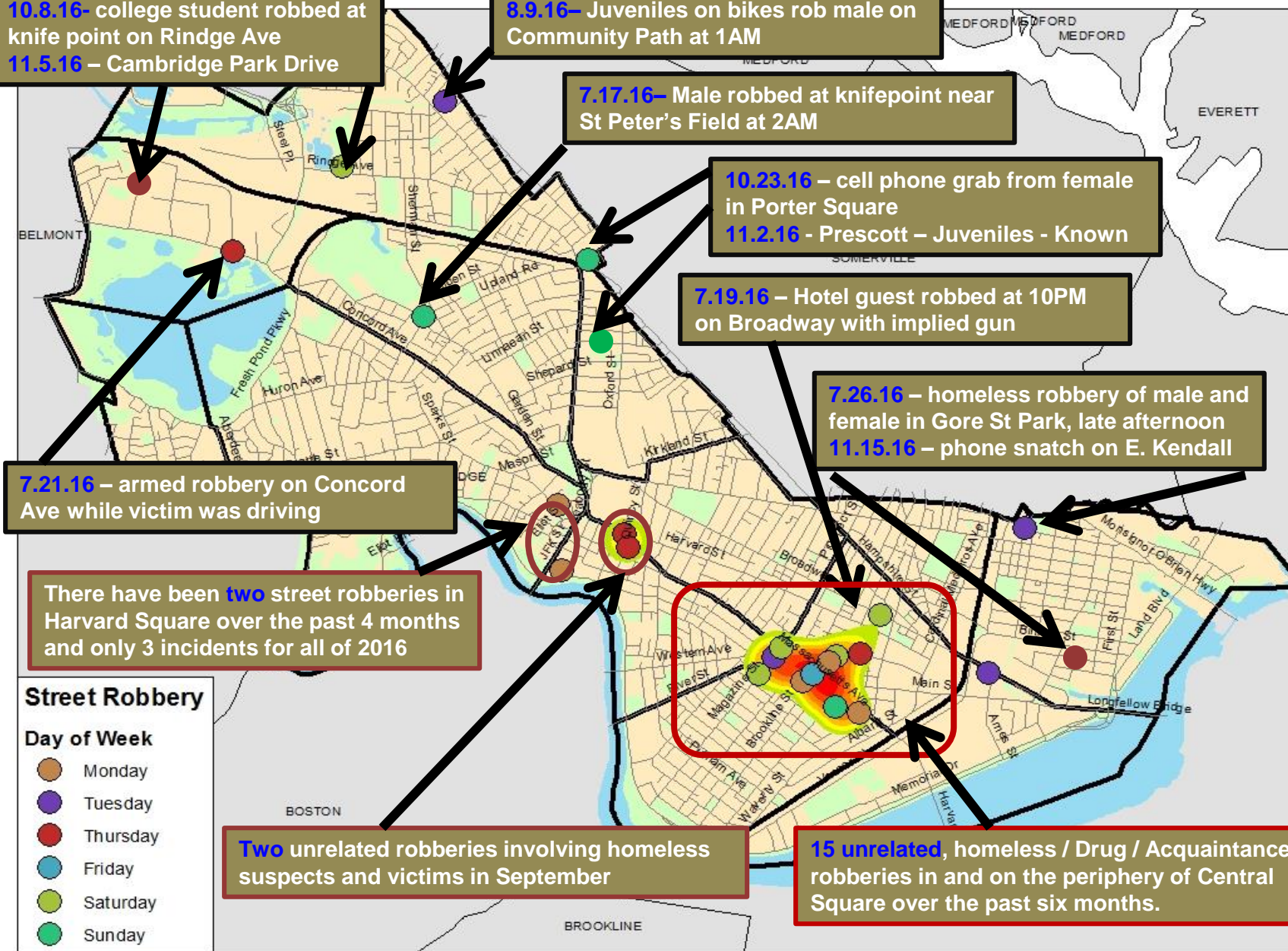
## Street Robbery

### Day of Week

- Monday
- Tuesday
- Thursday
- Friday
- Saturday
- Sunday

**Two** unrelated robberies involving homeless suspects and victims in September

**15 unrelated**, homeless / Drug / Acquaintance robberies in and on the periphery of Central Square over the past six months.







# Burglary

*No Pattern*

- The property index crime of burglary, the combination of residential and commercial breaks, has recorded a substantial drop of 23% in 2016 when compared to the five-year average, with 93 fewer incidents reported below the projected total of 401 breaks, and has plunged a stunning 30% when compared with last year's total for the first 51 weeks of the year, with 130 fewer burglaries recorded.
- Housebreaks continue a downward climb from 338 incidents during the first 51 weeks of 2015 to 263 in 2016, which converts to a 22% decline. The total of 103 housebreaks over the final six months of the year is the lowest total for this crime for this 6-month period in decades.
- There have been 45 commercial breaks in Cambridge over the first 51 weeks of 2016 as compared to 100 during the same time period last year, which indicates a remarkable 55% decline. There have been only fourteen commercial breaks recorded in Cambridge in the past six months, an astonishing low number when compared with previous years.
- The only identifiable series of related commercial breaks in the City were between the 2100 and 2500 blocks of Mass Ave in North Cambridge in the middle of February.

## Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

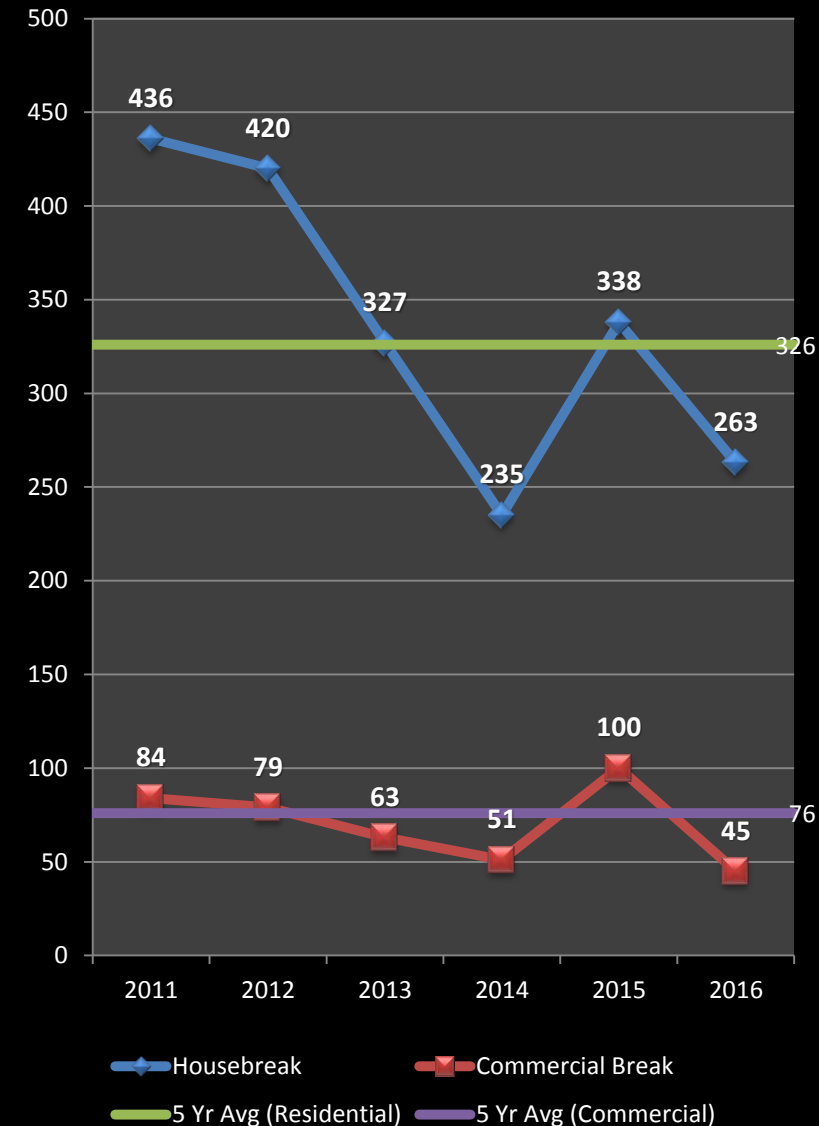
**+20%**

Previous Year

**-30%**

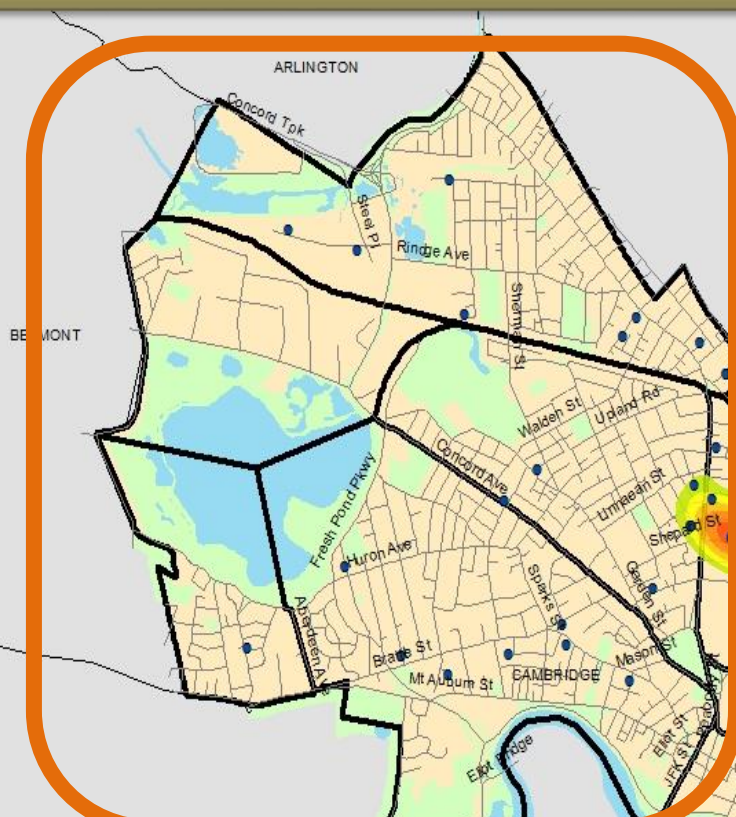
5-Year Average

**-23%**





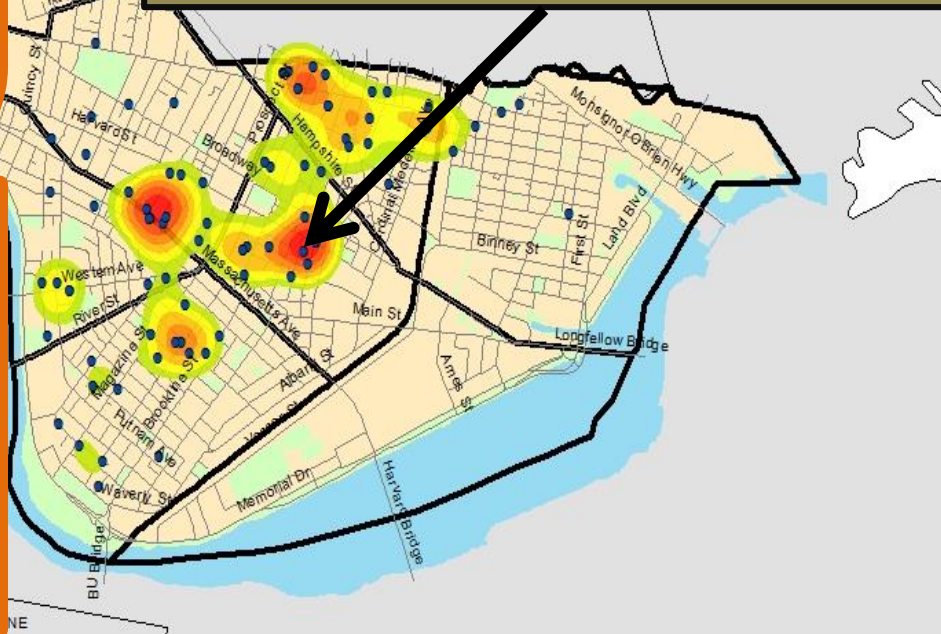
# Geographic Breakdown of Housebreaks: 7.1.16 to 12.26.16



Despite a slight uptick in housebreak activity on the border of Peabody in November, only 18% of the housebreaks citywide occurred in the following neighborhoods north/west of Harvard Square, (Peabody, North Cambridge, West Cambridge, Strawberry Hill and Highlands). This geographic area usually accounts for 30 to 35 percent of this crime type annually. These neighborhoods were exceptionally quiet over the final two quarters of 2016.

A series of nighttime housebreaks were committed during the end of October and early November on the border of the Agassiz and Peabody neighborhoods. Extra patrols in area and arrests linked through crime scene evidence appear and to have eradicated this problem.

During the last week of August & September, the Crime Analysis Unit had been monitoring a series of nighttime breaks zig-zagging the neighborhoods of Central Square. Through the diligent work of the Crime Scene Services Unit, a Malden resident has been connected to a number of these incidents through fingerprint matches. Only a few scattered incidents in these neighborhoods since that arrest.







# Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Breaks: 1.1.16 to 12.26.16

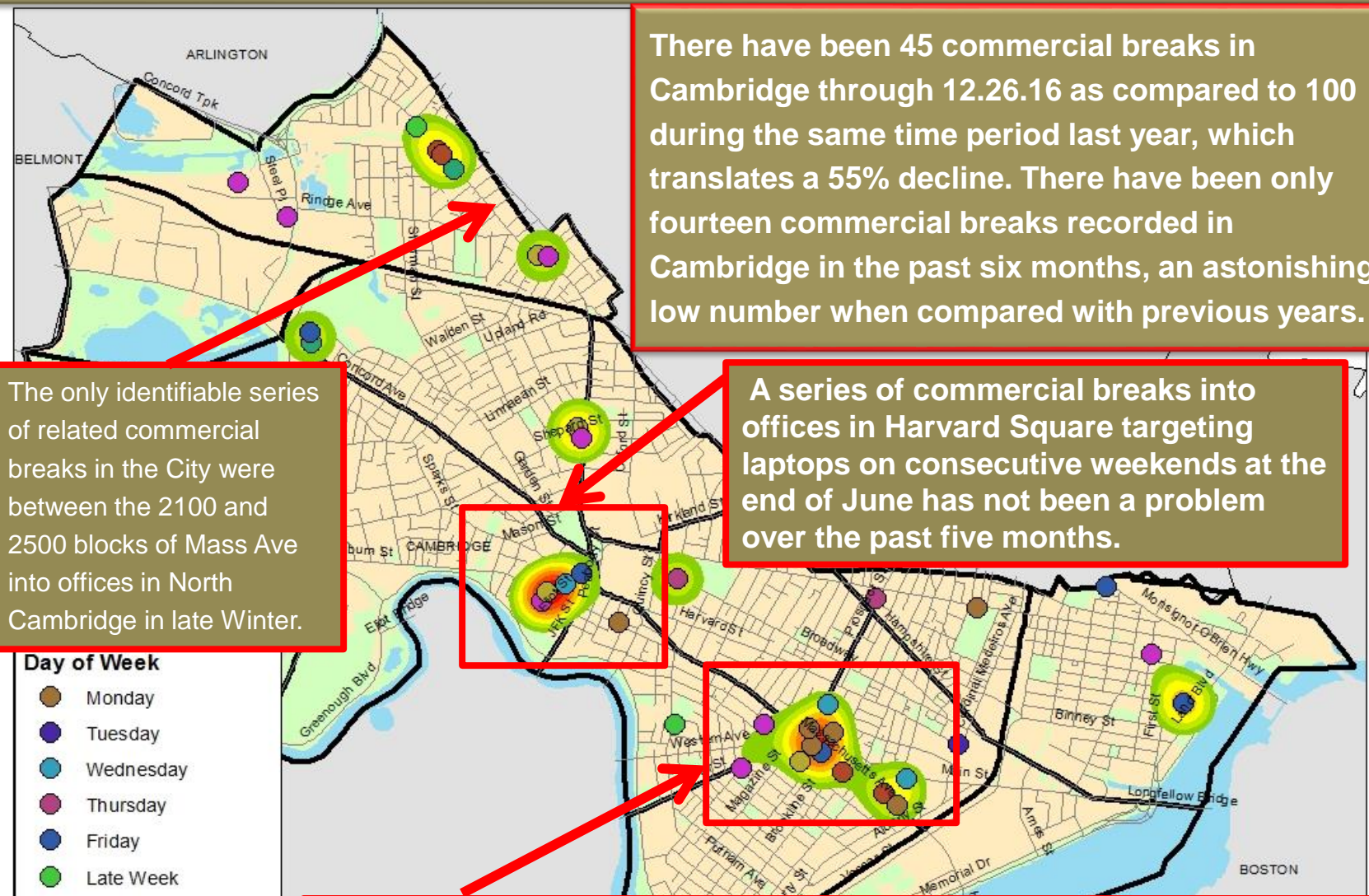
There have been 45 commercial breaks in Cambridge through 12.26.16 as compared to 100 during the same time period last year, which translates a 55% decline. There have been only fourteen commercial breaks recorded in Cambridge in the past six months, an astonishing low number when compared with previous years.

The only identifiable series of related commercial breaks in the City were between the 2100 and 2500 blocks of Mass Ave into offices in North Cambridge in late Winter.

A series of commercial breaks into offices in Harvard Square targeting laptops on consecutive weekends at the end of June has not been a problem over the past five months.

- Day of Week**
- Monday
  - Tuesday
  - Wednesday
  - Thursday
  - Friday
  - Late Week
  - Saturday
  - Sunday
  - Weekend
  - Unknown

Twelve scattered, unrelated commercial breaks in and around the periphery of Central Square over the past six months. Locations have been an eclectic grouping of construction sites, offices, and retail establishments. No spatial or temporal patterns have been identified.





# LARCENY

*No Patterns*

- Overall larceny has slowly evened out with the number reported in 2015. Through December 26<sup>th</sup>, larceny in 2016 is down only 3% (or 62 incidents) below the same time frame in 2015. The preliminary total of 1,938 larcenies reported year-to-date is also 12% below the 5-year weighted average of 2,208 incidents through this time frame.
- Larcenies from motor vehicles (LMVs) through December 26<sup>th</sup> have dropped by 32 crimes, or 8%, from the number reported during the same time frame in 2015. Currently, there are no operational patterns or series involving larceny from motor vehicles in Cambridge. A Somerville male was arrested for an attempted LMV on Webster Ave in December.
- Larcenies from the person have been on the rise during 2016, after two years of very little activity and few patterns in 2014 and 2015. There have been 43 additional incidents (+24%) reported this year above the number seen through December 26<sup>th</sup> of 2015. The most active area of the city in the past four weeks was Harvard Square with 6 incidents, followed by Central Square with 4. Surprisingly, none were reported at the Mall this month.
- There have been 297 larcenies from buildings reported thus far in 2016. This represents a 14% drop (-48 incidents) below the 345 incidents reported in 2015 and a 21% slide below the 5-year average of 375. There are no patterns or trends of this crime in the city at the present time.
- Larcenies from residences are up slightly through December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016, with 16 more incidents (+6%) reported this year than during this time frame in 2015. This crime type remained unchanged from November to December, with 22 thefts each. Package thefts from doorsteps and lobbies represent 51% of the thefts from residences year-to-date. This crime is most prevalent during the holiday season. See next slide for package theft map.
- Through December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016, there have been 375 bikes reported stolen in Cambridge, up 13 from the 362 thefts reported through the same time in 2015 and up 18 from the 5-year average of 357. Bike thefts dropped only 5 incidents from 24 in November to 19 in December.

## Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

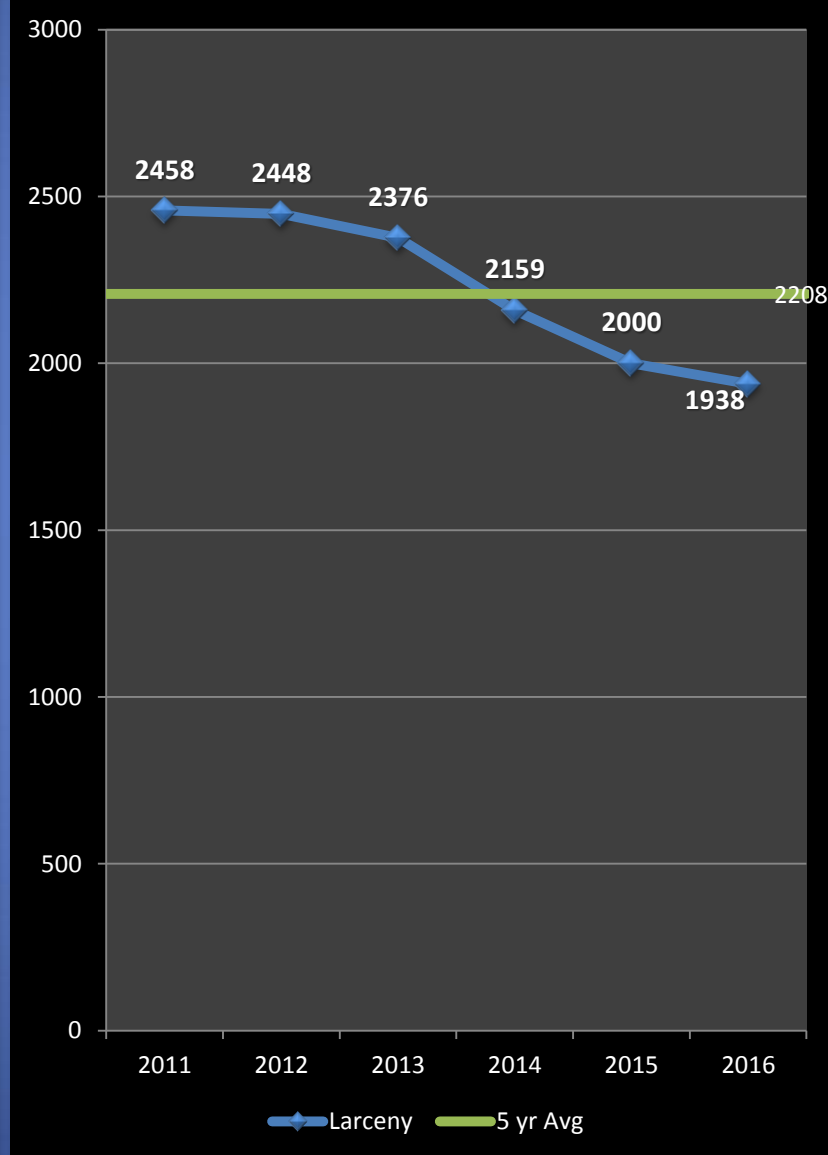
**-3%**

Previous Year

**-3%**

5-Year Average

**-12%**







The typical hotspots along Harvard St and Trowbridge St in Mid-Cambridge have not materialized to the same degree this year, but the Franklin St area of Riverside has seen multiple incidents in recent months.

**Citizens are strongly encouraged to report all thefts of packages so that adequate police attention can be deployed to the area.**

**This hotspot in 2016 is similar to the one seen around Chauncy St last holiday season.**

**Side streets near Donnelly Field were most active in late Sept. to Mid-Oct, while The Port saw the most activity citywide in December with incidents on Suffolk St, Columbia St, Pine St, and Newtowne Ct.**

**The most recent incidents in Cambridgeport were on Fairmont, Pilgrim, Chestnut, and Magazine St. A female suspect was seen on video in the Chestnut St theft on 11/11.**



# LARCENY From MV

*No Patterns*

- A measured decline of 9% has been recorded for larceny from motor vehicles when comparing the first 51 weeks of this year with those of 2015. There have been 32 fewer thefts from cars reported so far this year. This property crime has tumbled downward 30% when measured against the 5-year average, with 157 fewer incidents than the projected total of 529 thefts.
- The monthly statistical numbers for larceny from motor vehicles were on a roller coaster ride in 2016. A significant decline in larceny from motor vehicles was reported in May, with incidents plunging 76% from 46 during April to 11 in May (with the 11 thefts from cars representing one of the lowest monthly totals for this crime type in Cambridge in many years). There was a substantial decline from September to October with 15 fewer thefts reported to incur another 34% decrease. There was another 10% decline recorded from October to November and a slight drop with one fewer theft in December than the previous month.
- Historically, the temporal trend of numerous thefts from cars on weekends across the City has not been a major issue in 2016 with very few spatial and temporal concentrations, clusters or trends identified.
- During the Fall there was an increase in LMVs in West Cambridge. The majority of these breaks were between Friday and Monday between the hours of 1 AM & 7 AM, with the center of activity in and around Hawthorne Park. Extra patrols appear to have dispersed this activity with only two incidents in December.

## Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

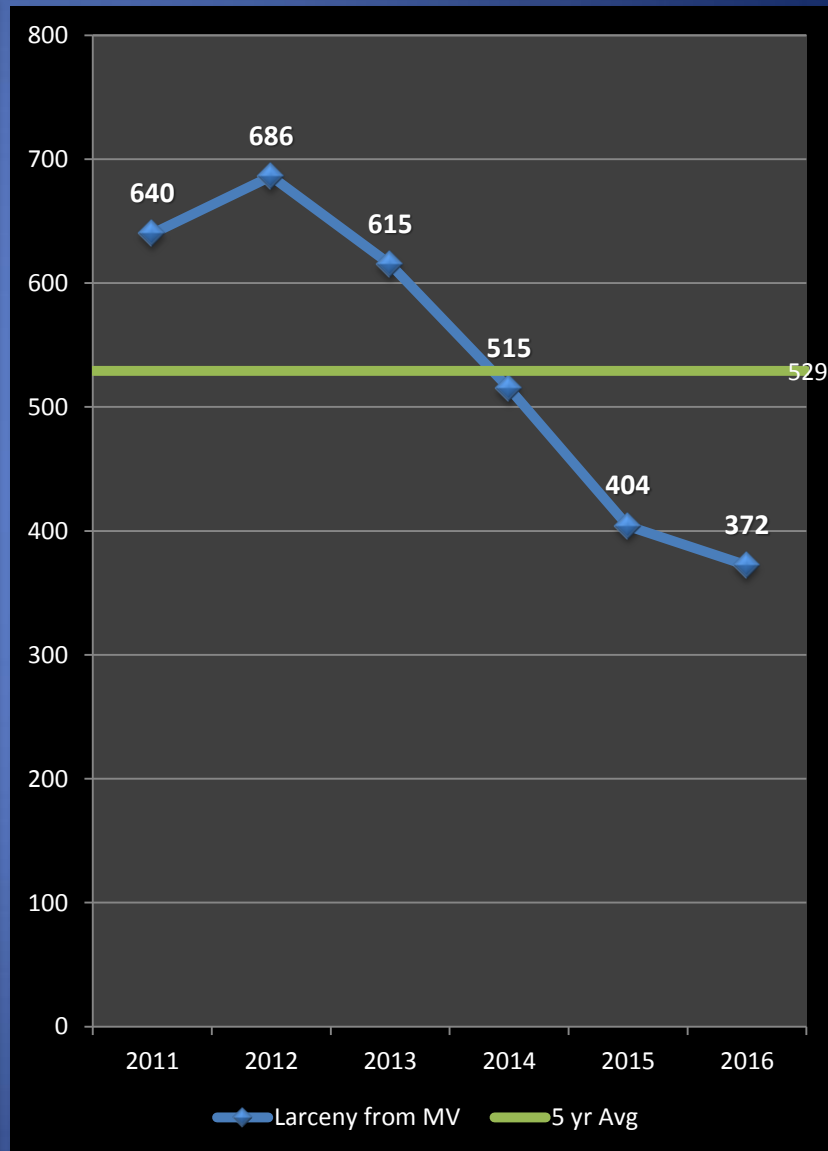
**-4%**

Previous Year

**-8%**

5-Year Average

**-30%**

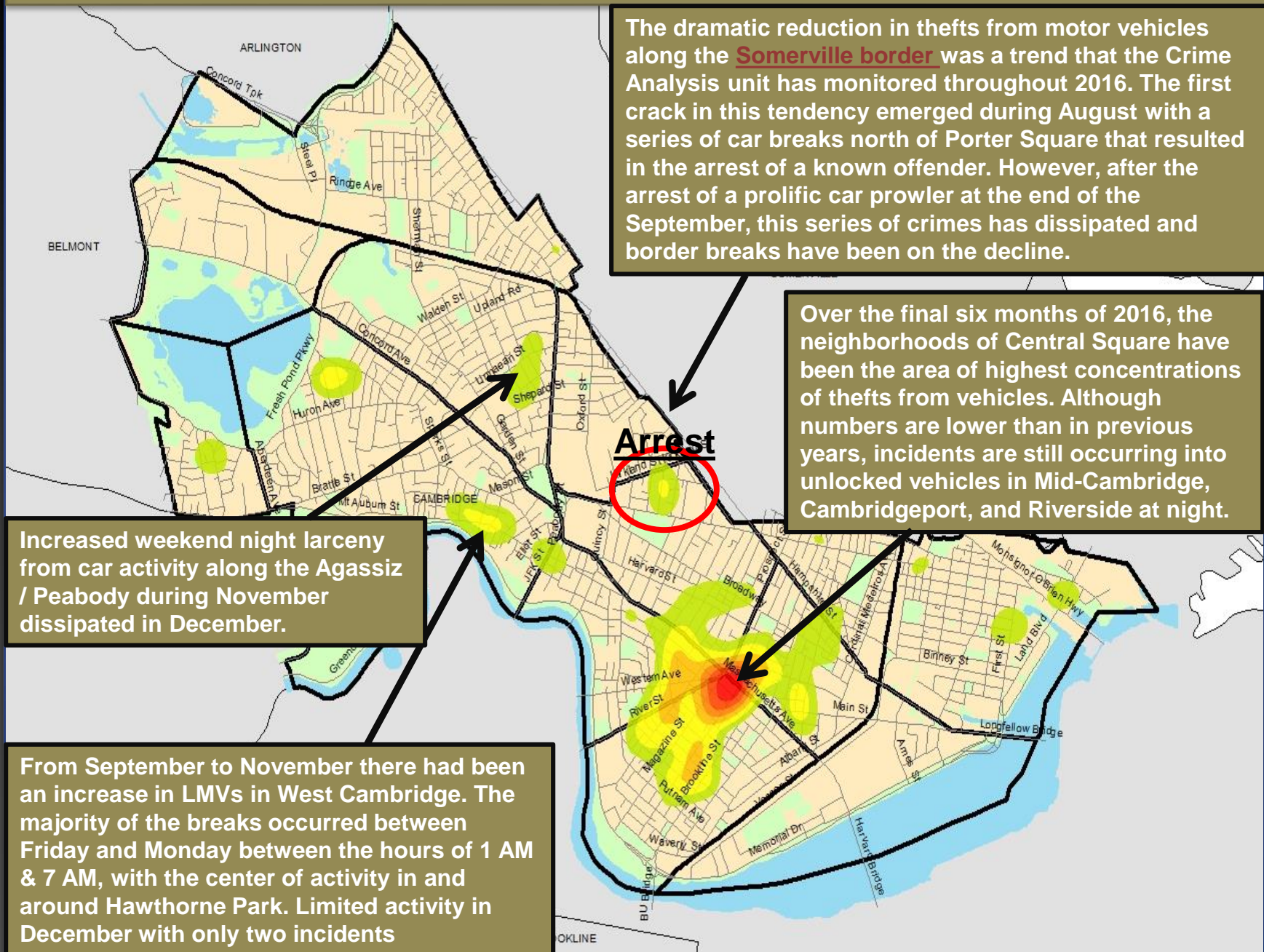






# Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from MVs: 7.1.16 to 12.26.16

Cambridge Police BridgeStat





# LARCENY: *from Person*

## No Patterns

- Larcenies from the person have been on the rise during 2016, after two years of very little activity and few patterns in 2014 and 2015. This crime type is up 43 incidents (24%) through the first 51 weeks of 2016 when compared with the same time frame in 2015. However, the total of 208 incidents reported thus far in 2016 is still 34 incidents (13%) below the five-year average of 258 thefts through December 26<sup>th</sup>. There has been a moderate decline in incidents when comparing the most recent four weeks (14 in December) to the previous four weeks (17 in November).
- Harvard Square has seen the most activity thus far in 2016 with 78 incidents reported, followed by Central Square with 64. No other business district comes close to these two (the district with the third largest total is the Galleria/East Cambridge area with 28 thefts).
- The most active area in the city in December was Harvard Square with six incidents. The majority of this activity (3 of the 6 incidents) involved thefts of property from patrons at bars, restaurants, and cafes in the Square, also called “dipper activity.” No temporal trends were identified over the past four weeks, and there were no arrests for larceny from person in December.
- The Galleria/East Cambridge area was the second highest area for larcenies from persons in November with three thefts. All three took place at the Galleria Mall. Two of these took place while victims were shopping and the third involved a purse stolen while the victim was in the rest room. Surprisingly, there were no similar incidents reported at the Mall during the busy Holiday season through December 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Never leave your personal belongings unattended while you go to a counter or run to the restroom in a restaurant or cafe; this is the perfect opportunity for items to be stolen.

### Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

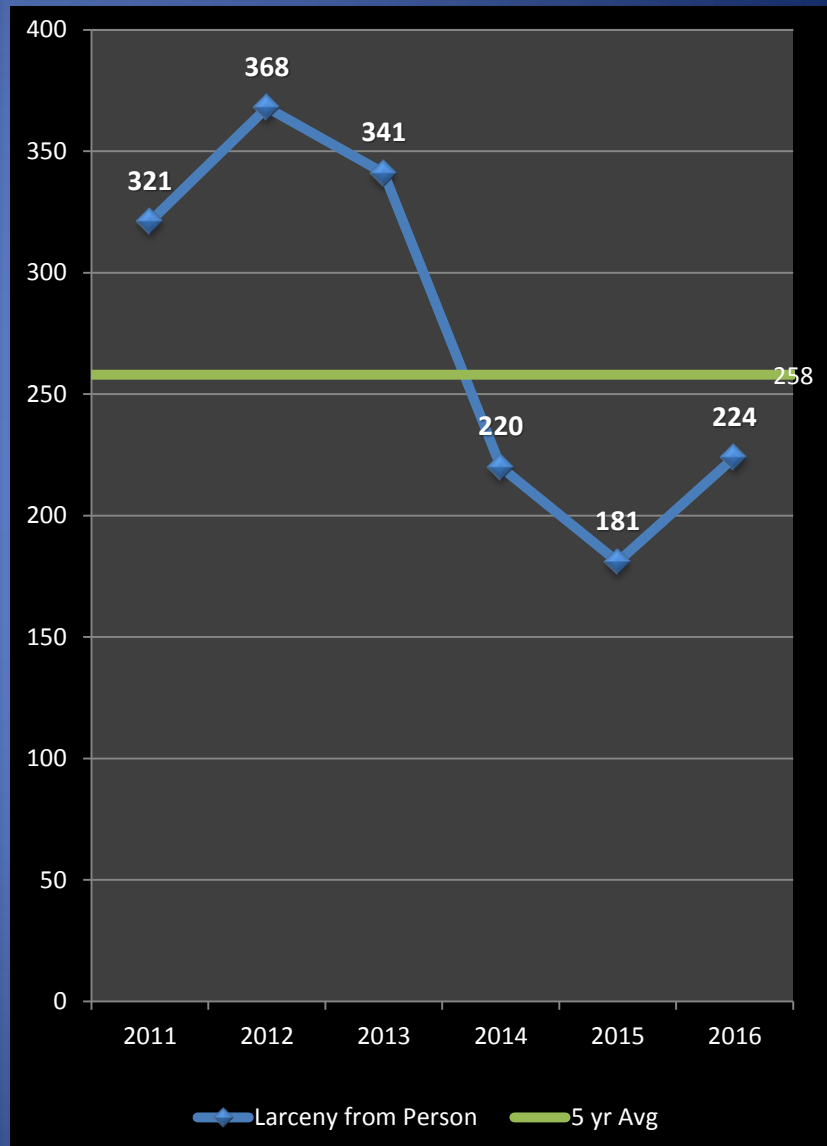
Previous Year

5-Year Average

**-18%**

**+24%**

**-13%**



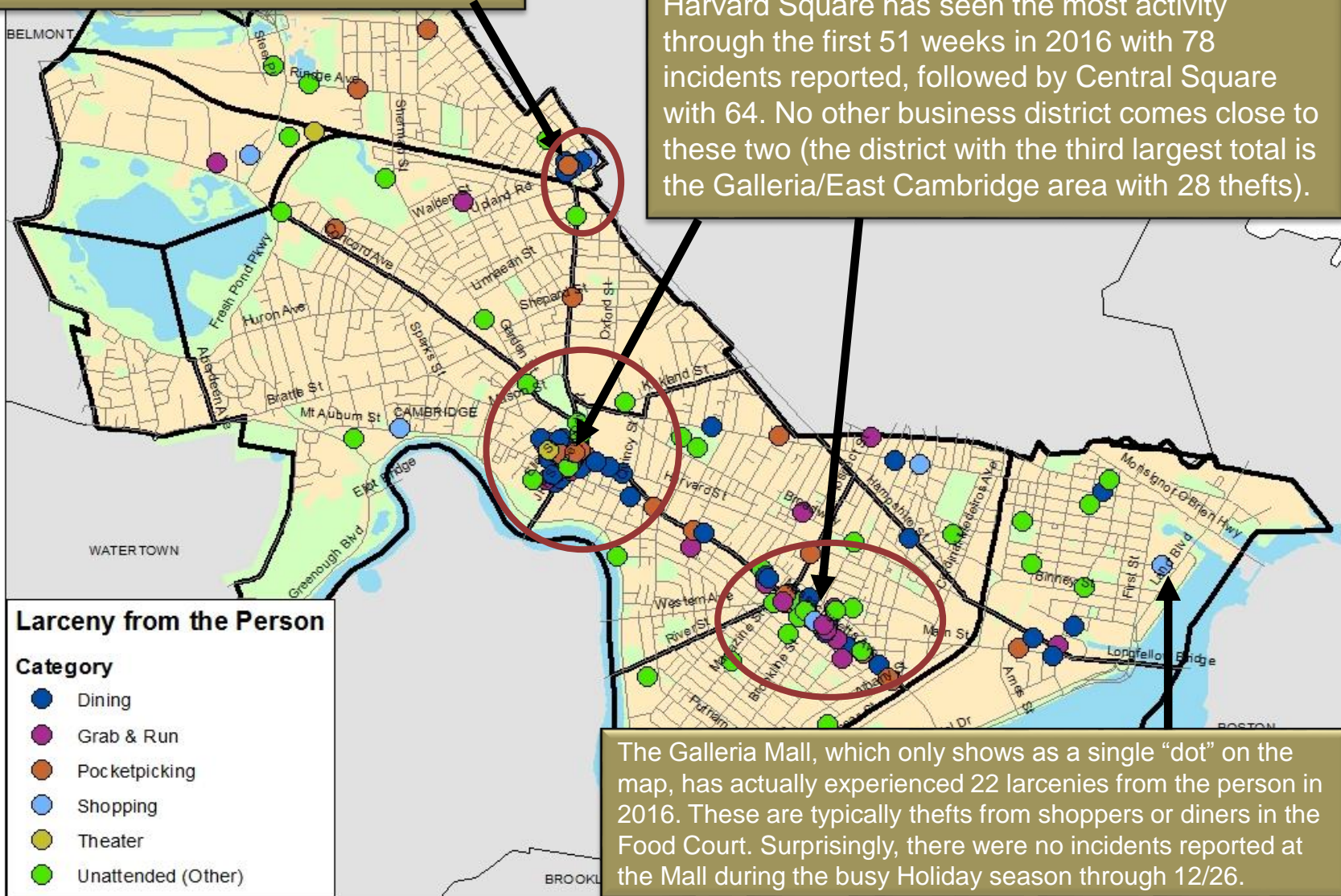




# Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from Persons: 1.1.16 to 12.26.16

The Porter Sq business district has only seen 13 thefts this year (9 in the first six months of the year and 4 since July.)

Harvard Square has seen the most activity through the first 51 weeks in 2016 with 78 incidents reported, followed by Central Square with 64. No other business district comes close to these two (the district with the third largest total is the Galleria/East Cambridge area with 28 thefts).



The Galleria Mall, which only shows as a single "dot" on the map, has actually experienced 22 larcenies from the person in 2016. These are typically thefts from shoppers or diners in the Food Court. Surprisingly, there were no incidents reported at the Mall during the busy Holiday season through 12/26.



# LARCENY: of Bicycle

## No Patterns

- There have been 375 bike thefts reported over the first 51 weeks of 2016. This number is 13 incidents above the total reported during the same time frame last year (+4%) and 18 incidents above the 5-year average of 357 (+5%). There was a decrease of 5 bike thefts over the past four weeks, dropping from 24 incidents in November to 19 in December (-21%).
- Neighborhoods that have seen the most bike thefts year-to-date in 2016 are Mid-Cambridge with 63 and Cambridgeport with 60, followed by East Cambridge with 47 and Riverside with 40. Cambridgeport and the Port have been most active neighborhoods for bike thefts in the past month, with 6 bikes stolen in Cambridgeport and 5 in The Port in December.
- 67% (251) of the 375 bicycles stolen year-to-date in 2016 were locked at the time of the thefts.
- There were 17 bikes reported stolen from apartment basements, hallways, and storage areas in September, October, November, and December.
- Top Neighborhoods for Bike Theft Year-To-Date:**

Neighborhood	YTD Total	% Citywide
Mid-Cambridge	63	17%
Cambridgeport	60	16%
East Cambridge	47	13%
Riverside	40	11%
West Cambridge	36	10%

### Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

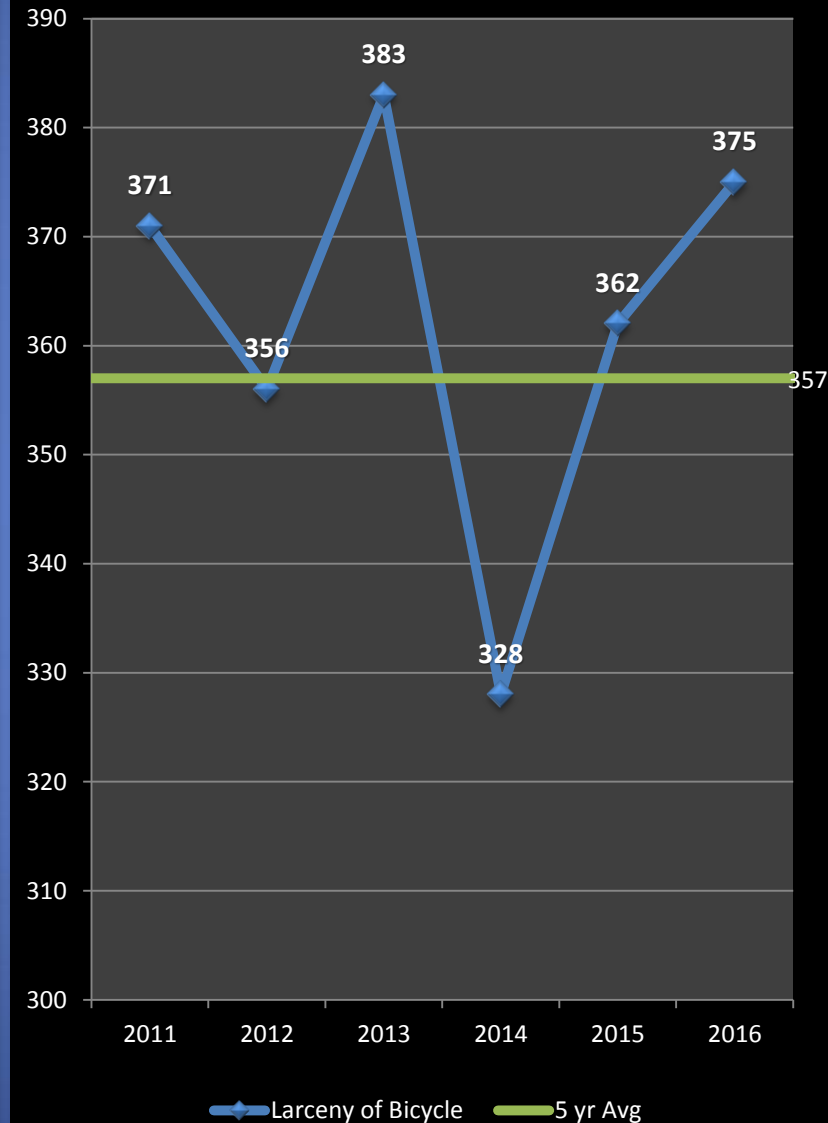
-21%

Previous Year

+4%

5-Year Average

+5%







# Geographic Breakdown of Larceny of Bikes: 1.1.16 to 12.26.16

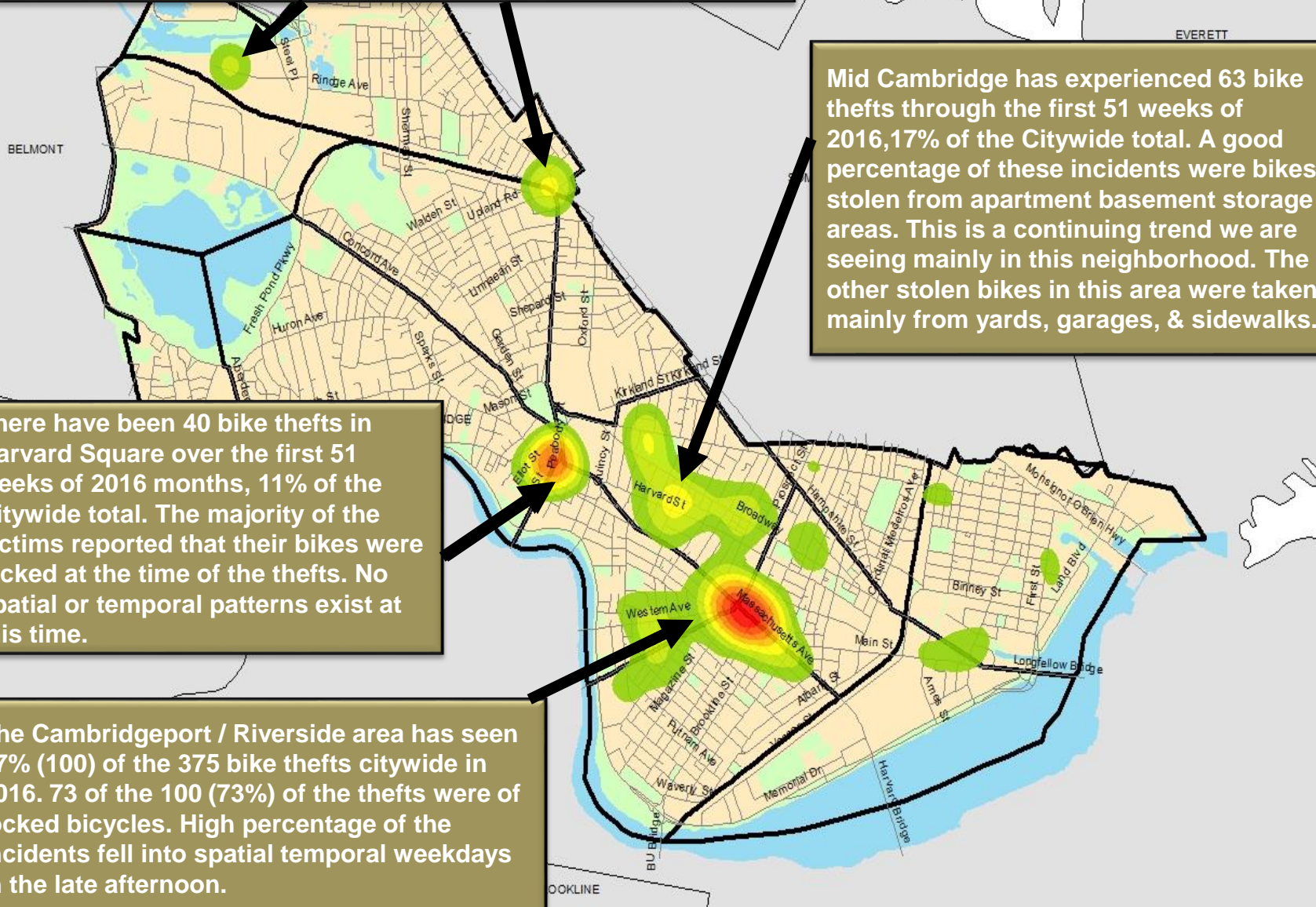
Cambridge Police BridgeStat

Two bike thefts hot spots identified in North Cambridge during 2016 - in and around the MBTA station in Porter Square and in residential areas along Cambridgepark Drive

Mid Cambridge has experienced 63 bike thefts through the first 51 weeks of 2016, 17% of the Citywide total. A good percentage of these incidents were bikes stolen from apartment basement storage areas. This is a continuing trend we are seeing mainly in this neighborhood. The other stolen bikes in this area were taken mainly from yards, garages, & sidewalks.

There have been 40 bike thefts in Harvard Square over the first 51 weeks of 2016 months, 11% of the Citywide total. The majority of the victims reported that their bikes were locked at the time of the thefts. No spatial or temporal patterns exist at this time.

The Cambridgeport / Riverside area has seen 27% (100) of the 375 bike thefts citywide in 2016. 73 of the 100 (73%) of the thefts were of locked bicycles. High percentage of the incidents fell into spatial temporal weekdays in the late afternoon.





# AUTO THEFT

*No Patterns*

- The projected 5-year weighted average for auto thefts for the first 51 weeks of the year is 125 incidents. With 112 thefts reported thus far in 2016, we are 10% (13 incidents) below both the average and the number reporting during this time frame in 2015.
- There were eight auto thefts reported in December, up two from November. For the entire fourth quarter, there have been but 17 auto thefts reported in the City
- Since the beginning of the year, the following neighborhoods have recorded auto thefts: Cambridgeport (21), The Port (19), Mid-Cambridge (15), East Cambridge (12), Peabody (10), North Cambridge (8), West Cambridge (7), Inman (7), Riverside (6), Agassiz (4), Strawberry Hill (2), and MIT (1).
- During the month of December there were (2) auto thefts in Mid-Cambridge and (2) in Peabody. Cambridgeport, The Port, Riverside, and North Cambridge each saw (1).
- Of the 112 cars stolen thus far in 2016, at least 57 (51%) have been recovered to date.

## Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

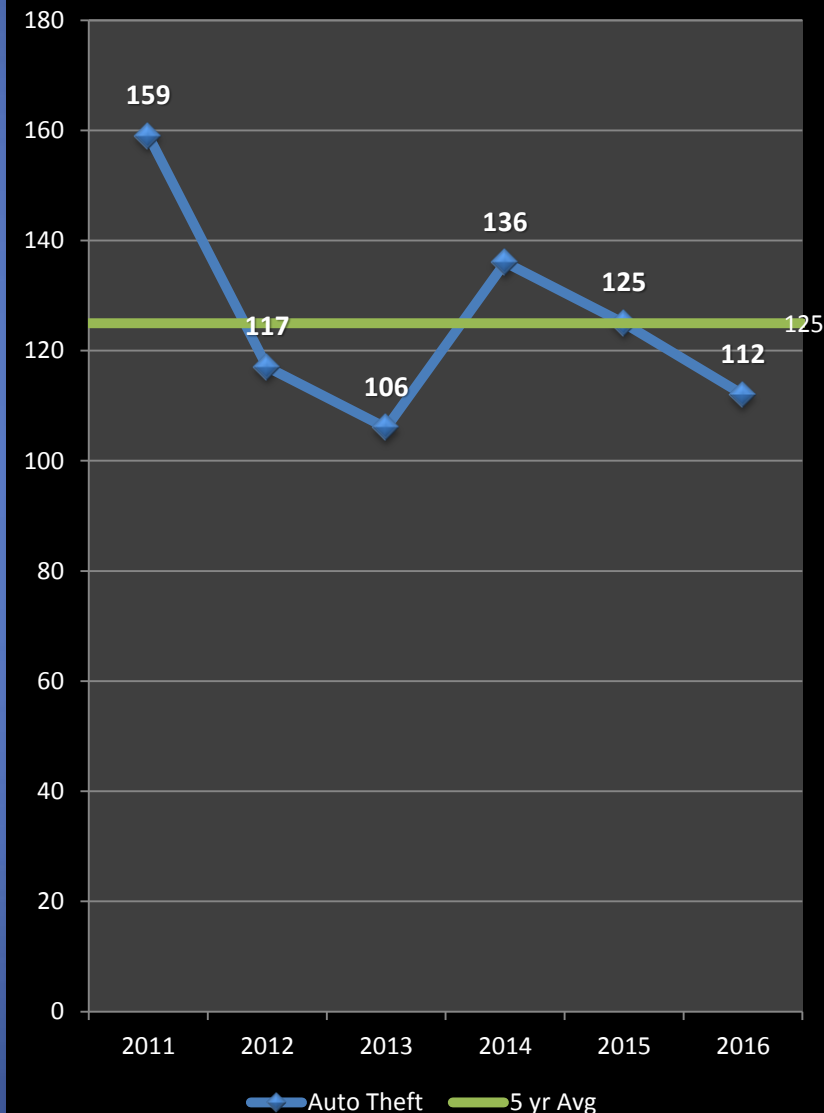
**+33%**

Previous Year

**-10%**

5-Year Average

**-10%**





# 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](http://www.CambridgeMa.gov/AlertNetwork).
- “Like” the Cambridge Police Department on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CambridgePolice](http://www.facebook.com/CambridgePolice)
- Follow [@CambridgePolice](https://twitter.com/CambridgePolice) on Twitter.
- Visit our website at [www.CambridgePolice.org](http://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 “MyPD” smartphone app at [www.CambridgePolice.org/MyPD](http://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](http://www.CambridgePolice.org/Tips)





# Questions?

- The complete 2015 Cambridge Police Annual Crime Report is available on our website at [www.CambridgePolice.org](http://www.CambridgePolice.org).
- The 2016 Annual Crime Report will be released later this winter.
- We welcome all questions, comments, and suggestions.
- Please direct your feedback to: [BridgeStat@CambridgePolice.org](mailto:BridgeStat@CambridgePolice.org).
- To review previous editions of BridgeStat, visit our website at [www.CambridgePolice.org/BridgeStat](http://www.CambridgePolice.org/BridgeStat).