

# Cambridge Police Department BridgeStat

February 2016

Produced by the Crime Analysis Unit

\*Preliminary 2015 Year-to-Date numbers are subject to change as data are finalized in the coming weeks.



#### Part I Total Crime

An 8% increase in serious crime has been registered over the first two months of 2016. From January 1<sup>st</sup> to February 29<sup>th</sup> of this year, there were 381 serious index crimes reported in Cambridge. For the same time period in 2015, the combined total for Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny & Auto theft was 352 incidents, 29 fewer than this year.

Further analysis of the crime totals for the first two months of 2016 indicates that violent crime recorded a 3% decline to start the year, while property crime rose 10% with 30 additional crimes reported when compared with 2015. The majority of the reduction in violent crime can be attributed to a substantial drop in aggravated assaults (-27%) from 26 incidents in 2015 down to 19 over the first eight weeks of 2016.

When measuring the serious crime totals for February of 2016 versus the previous month of January of this year, there has been a significant drop of 20% in the number of index incidents with 40 fewer incidents counted in February of 2016.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	1/5 - 2/1	2/2 - 2/29	Change	2015	2016	Change	Avg	Change
Total Violent Crime	14	21	50%	38	37	-3%	44	-16%
Total Property Crime	188	141	-25%	314	344	10%	337	2%
Total Part I Crime	202	162	-20%	352	381	8%	381	0%



### Part I Property Crime

Analysis of property crime totals for the first two months of 2016 indicates a 10% surge when measured against the 2015 totals and a 2% rise over the five-year average. The most prominent statistic for this time period was a 58% increase in the overall Burglary category. However, when comparing the last four weeks to the previous four weeks, all property crime categories, with the exception of commercial Burglary, recorded substantial declines despite the mild temperatures and a practically snowless month of February.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			<u>Five</u>	Five Year	
	1/5 - 2/1	2/2 - 2/29	Change	2015	2016	Change	Avg	Change	
Burglary	29	28	-3%	38	60	58%	51	18%	
Commercial Break	2	5	150%	5	7	40%	7	0%	
Housebreak	27	23	-15%		53	61%	44	20%	
Larceny	148	106	-28%	262	266	2%	273	-3%	
Larceny (Misc)	3	2	-33%	9	5	-44%	5	0%	
Larceny from Building	30	21	-30%	63	54	-14%	62	-13%	
Larceny from MV	34	27	-21%		63	-10%	74	-15%	
Larceny from Person	17	12	-29%	26	32	23%	35	-9%	
Larceny from Residence	20	19	-5%	37	42	14%	31	35%	
Larceny of Bicycle	11	4	-64%	8	15	88%	11	36%	
Larceny of Plate	1	2	100%	2	3	50%	3	0%	
Larceny of Services	1	0	-100%	1	1	0%	2	-50%	
Shoplifting	31	19	-39%	46	51	11%	51	0%	
Auto Theft	11	7	-36%	14	18	29%	13	38%	
Total Property Crime	188	141	-25%	314	344	10%	337	2%	



#### Part I Violent Crime

The projected 5-year weighted average for violent crime in Cambridge for the first two months of the year is 44 incidents. Through February 29<sup>th</sup> of this year, there were 37 violent crimes recorded in the City, 1 incident below last year (-3%) and 7 serious crimes under the total of 44 forecasted for this period (-16%).

The street robbery total of ten incidents is up 150% when compared with last year and is 25% above the five-year average of eight crimes. The 2015 total of robberies was exceptionally low (fewest for the first two months of the year in recent memory) and was most likely a byproduct of the below-average temperatures and historical snow cover that curtailed pedestrian activity. Aggravated assault fell 27% over the first eight weeks of the year, while commercial robbery slipped from five incidents in 2015 down to two in 2016.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five	Five Year	
	1/5 - 2/1	2/2 - 2/29	Change	2015	2016	Change	Avg	Change	
Homicide	0	0	IN-CALC	0	0	IN-CALC	0	<b>IN-CALC</b>	
Rape	2	4	100%	3	6	100%	4	50%	
Robbery	4	7	75%	9	12	33%	12	0%	
Commercial Robbery	2	0	-100%	5	2	-60%	4	-50%	
Street Robbery	2	7	250%	4	10	150%	8	25%	
Aggravated Assault	8	10	25%	26	19	-27%	28	-32%	
Total Violent Crime	14	21	50%	38	37	-3%	44	-16%	



#### MURDER

No Patterns

• There have been no murders committed in Cambridge during the first two months of 2016.

#### 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.
- All three murders in Cambridge during 2015 were cleared by an arrest. Twenty-four of the thirty murders in Cambridge since 2000 (80%) have been cleared by an arrest / suicide of the perpetrator. Since 1990, Cambridge has averaged two murders per year, which is a decrease from the 30-year period between 1960 to 1990 when the average was slightly less than five per year.

#### **Percent Change\***

Last 4 Weeks Previous Year

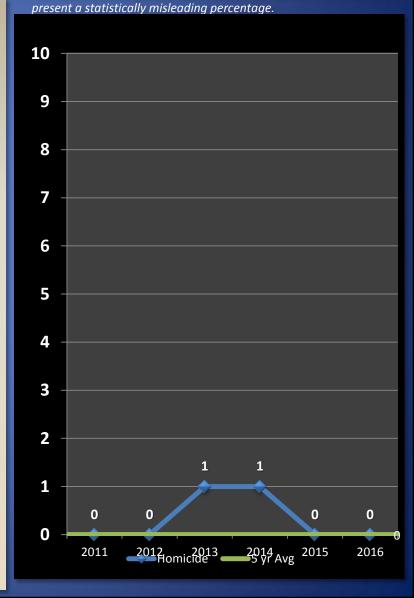
InCalc

5 Year Average

InCalc

InCalc

\*IN -CAL: Percentages are not calculated for numbers so small as to





#### Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2016

**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



lan 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.



February 2016

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



#### Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2016

**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.





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.





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

- There have been six rapes reported in Cambridge over the first two months of 2015, a number that is three higher than the same time period last year. Two of the incidents this year have been classified as acquaintance rapes, one as a domestic, another as a contact crime, and the final two have yet to be classified and remain under investigation.
- The final count of Rapes in Cambridge for 2015 that was submitted to the FBI was 25 crimes, one more (+4%) than in 2014.
- The following is the breakdown of Rape classifications in Cambridge in 2015: one stranger-to-stranger, eleven involving acquaintances, nine contact situations, two domestic sexual assault, and two blitz scenarios.
- The only stranger-to-stranger incident reported in 2015 involved the following case: there was a blitz attack reported in the early morning hours of 7/24/15. A woman reported that she was the victim of an attempted sexual assault in West Cambridge. The victim was walking home from a friend's house alone. The victim was able to fend off the attacker and the suspect fled the area. Cambridge Police Department detectives are actively investigating this incident. A citywide alert was issued in response to this incident.

#### **Percent Change\***

Last 4 Weeks Previous Year

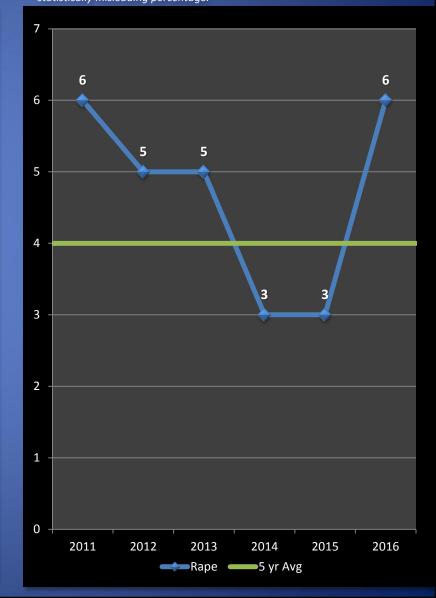
+50%

5 Year Average

+100%

+100%

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







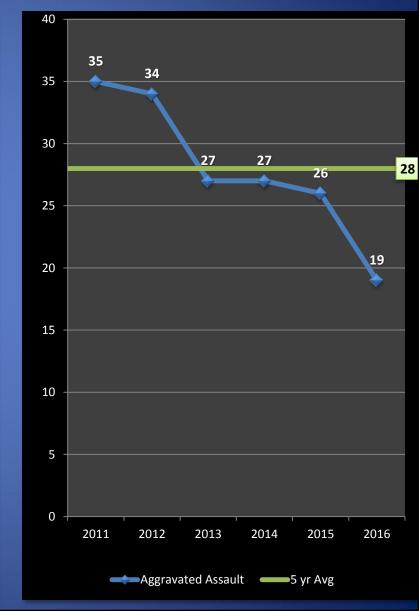
#### AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

No Patterns

- The aggravated assault total for the first two months of 2016 points to a decrease of 27% below last year with seven fewer crimes reported. The projected five –year average for assaults for January and February is 28 incidents; this year's total represents a 32% decline below that forecast. When compared to the previous four weeks, there has been a slight rise from eight incidents to ten assaults.
- The 19 aggravated assaults over the first two months of 2016 were composed of the following classifications: two fights among acquaintances; eight domestic situations; two juvenile assaults; three unprovoked scenarios; a psychotic episode; confrontations between a shop owner and a patron; and a misunderstanding at a workplace.
- The final calculations for 2015 indicate that there
  were 186 aggravated assaults reported, two
  incidents more than in 2014. When measuring this
  violent index crime against the 5-year average for
  the final annual total, there has been a decline of
  13%, with 28 crimes below the projected average of
  214 aggravated assaults.

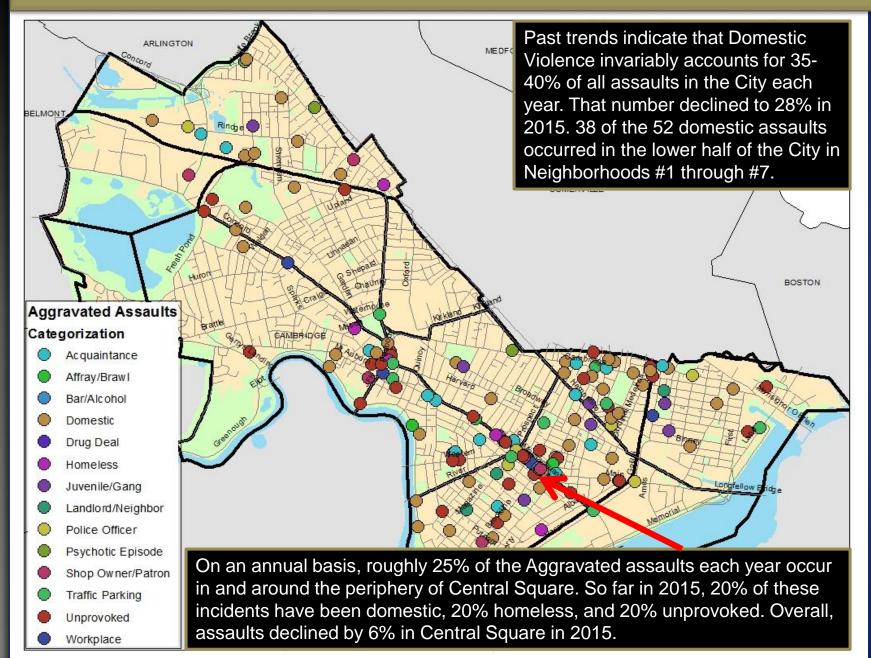
#### **Percent Change**

+25% Previous Year 5 Year Average -32%





#### Geographic Breakdown of Aggravated Assaults in 2015





#### ROBBERY

No Patterns

- The 5-year average for overall robbery in Cambridge for the first two months of the year is 12 incidents. For the first eight weeks of 2016, 12 robberies were recorded, which is equal to the forecast total. However, this number is 3 incidents (33%) above the number reported during this time in 2015.
- The street robbery total of ten incidents is up 150% when compared with last year and 25% above the five-year average of 8 crimes. The 2015 total of robberies was exceptionally low (fewest for the first two months of the year in recent memory) and were most likely a byproduct of the below-average temperatures and historical snow cover that curtailed pedestrian activity.
- After going nearly two months in the city without a commercial robbery being recorded, two shoplifting incidents escalated into violent crimes on the last weekend in January. There were no commercial robberies reported during February.
- Official submissions for 2015 indicate that commercial robbery slipped 18% with five fewer incidents recorded than in 2014. The robbery on 6/1/15 at the East Cambridge Savings Bank in Porter Square was the first bank heist in Cambridge in 363 days. Since that incident, there were eight additional bank robberies recorded in the City. The suspects in seven of these crimes were note-passing robbers. Arrests or warrants were issued in six of the bank robberies in 2015.

#### **Percent Change**

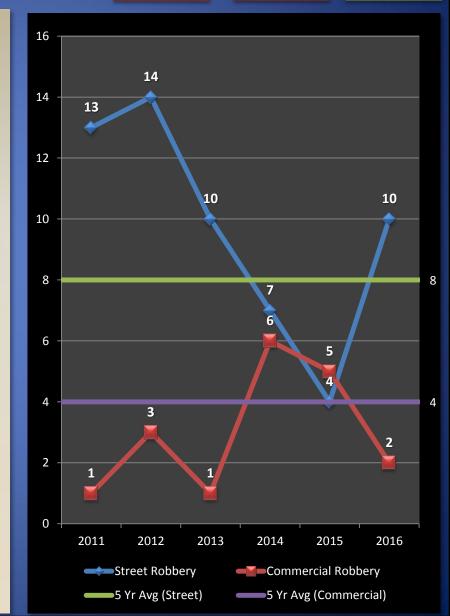
**Previous Year** Last 4 Weeks

5 Year Average

+75%

+33%

0%

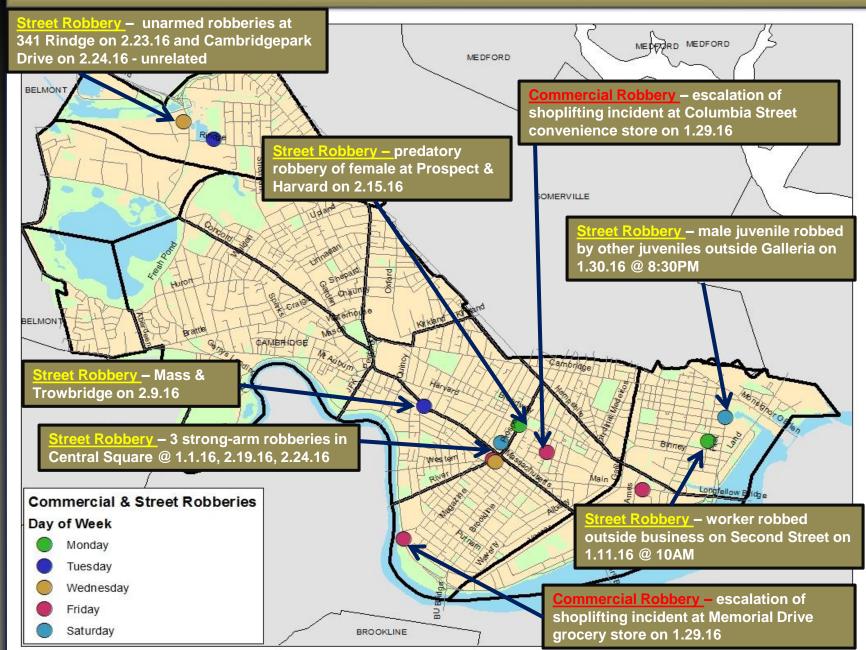


**February** 

2016



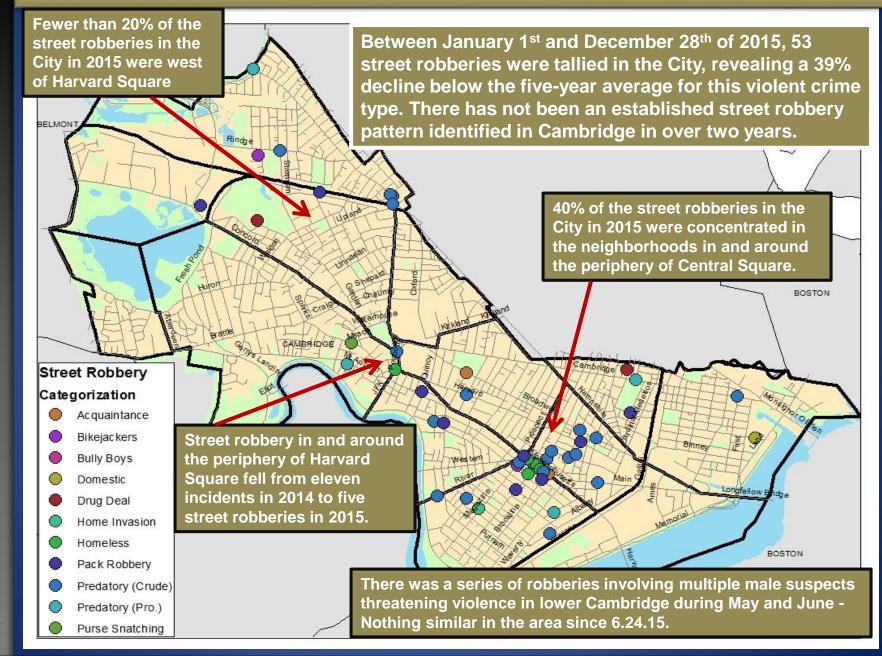
#### Geographic Breakdown of **Commercial & Street** Robberies in January & February of 2016







#### Geographic Breakdown of Street Robberies in 2015





Burglary

No Patterns

-3% +58%

Last 4 Weeks

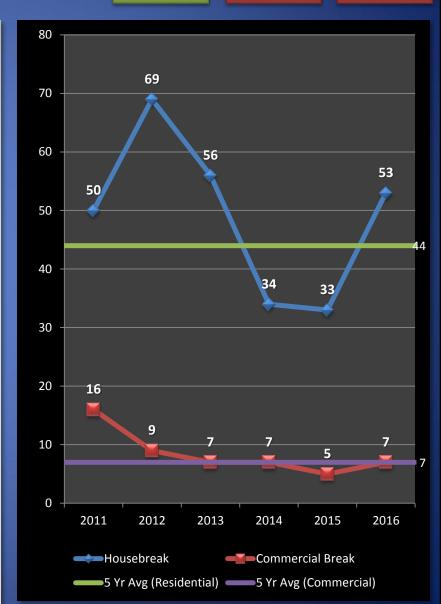
**Percent Change** 

**Previous Year** 

+18%

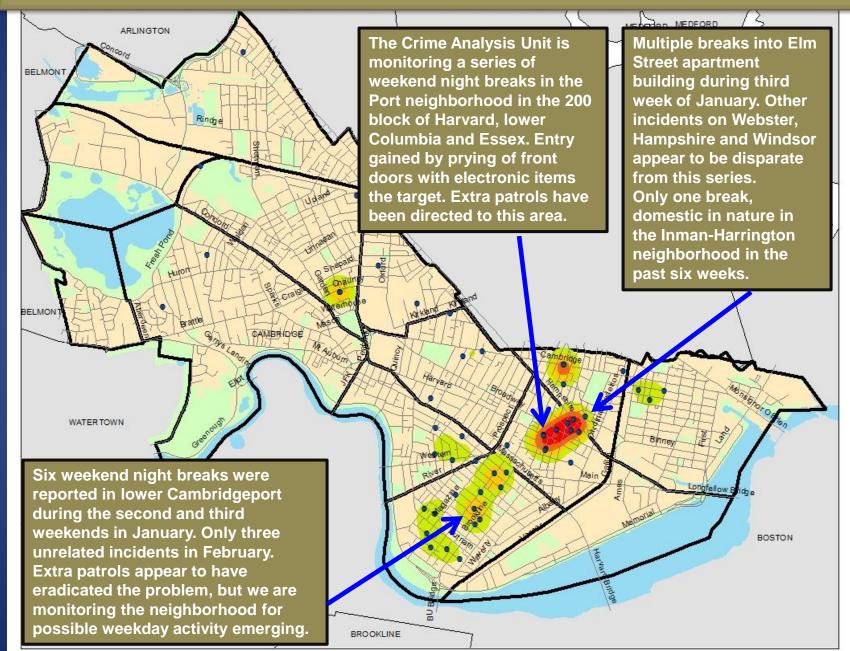
5 Year Average

- The property index crime of burglary, the combination of residential and commercial breaks, has shot up 18% in 2016 when compared to the five-year average, with nine additional incident reported over the projected total of 44 breaks, and has climbed 58% when compared with last year's total for the first two months of the year, with twenty-two more burglaries registered.
- Housebreaks increased from 33 incidents in the first two months of 2015 to 53 in 2016, up 61%. At the present time, there are no operational patterns, or identified series in Cambridge at the present time. The Crime Analysis Unit is closely monitoring sporadic weekend night activity in the neighborhoods surrounding Central Square.
- There have been seven commercial breaks in Cambridge over the first two months of 2016 as compared to 5 during the same time frame last year. During February, there were 4 commercial breaks in North Cambridge, 3 of which were right next door to each other in the 2300-2400 range of Mass Ave and appear to have been committed by the same suspect.
- Final analysis of overall burglary activity in Cambridge for 2015 reveals a significant 53% increase (152 additional breaks) above the 2014 total.



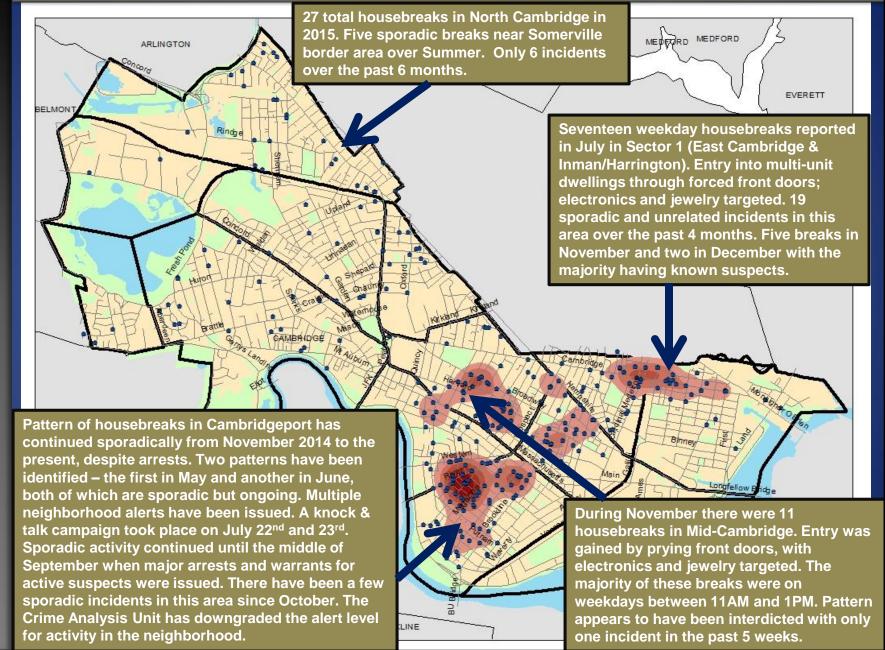


#### Geographic Breakdown of Housebreaks for January & February of 2016





#### Geographic Breakdown of Housebreaks in 2015





#### LARCENY

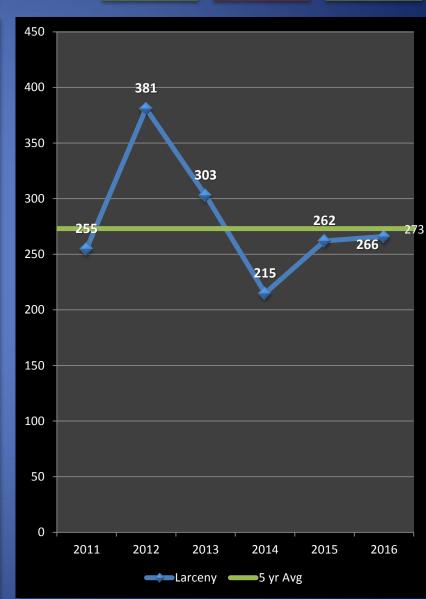
No Patterns

**Previous Year** Last 4 Weeks 5 Year Average +2% -28%

**Percent Change** 

-3%

- Overall larceny through the first two months of 2016 registered at 2% (or 4 incidents) above the same time frame in 2015. The preliminary total of 266 larcenies reported year-to-date is 3% below the 5-year weighted average of 273 incidents for January.
- Larcenies from motor vehicles through February 29th have decreased by 7 crimes, or 10%, from the number reported during the same time frame in 2015. There was a one-night spree of car breaks in the Holworthy St / Fountain Terrace area of Strawberry Hill on 2/20-2/21/16.
- Larcenies from the person in 2015 remained well below the 2014 totals throughout the entire year. This trend has at least temporarily reversed during the first 2 months of 2016, with 6 additional incidents (+23%) reported this year above the number seen in through February 2015. Harvard Sq saw the most incidents in February with 5, followed by Central Sq with 4.
- There have been 54 larcenies from buildings reported thus far in 2016. This is 14% (9 incidents) below the 63 incidents reported in 2015 and 13% below the 5-year average of 62. There are no patterns or trends of this crime type in the city at the present time.
- Larcenies from residences have registered a slight incline through February 2016, with 5 more incidents reported this year than during this time frame in 2015. Unlike recent months around the holiday season when this crime type was fueled by package thefts from residential porches and lobbies, less than half of the 21 incidents reported in February involved this type of activity.
- Through February 29, 2016, there have been 15 bikes reported stolen in Cambridge, up 7 incidents from the 8 thefts reported through the same time in 2015 and up 4 from the 5-year average of 11. Only 4 thefts were reported in February, one each in East Cambridge, Cambridgeport, Mid-Cambridge, and Peabody. Bike thefts are expected to remain relatively low throughout the colder weather months.





LARCENY From MV

No Patterns

 Larcenies from MVs have declined 10% for the first two months of 2016 when compared with the same time period of of 2015. There have been 7 fewer thefts reported so far this year. This property crime has also dropped 15% when measured against the 5-year average, with 11 fewer incidents than the projected total of 74 thefts.

- When comparing the most recent four weeks to the previous four weeks, this index crime slipped downward by 21% with 7 fewer thefts reported.
- At the present time, there are no operational patterns, series or hot spot concentrations involving larceny from motor vehicles in Cambridge. There were nine LMVs over the MLK weekend. Three of the incidents were overnight thefts in Cambridgeport on Putnam, Newton and Cottage Streets, with an alarm heard at 5AM on Newton St. Over the first two weeks of January, there was a modest increase in thefts from garages in Central and Kendal Squares.
- There was a one-night spree of car breaks in the Holworthy St / Fountain Terrace area of Strawberry Hill on 2/20-2/21/16.
- The final submission of data for 2015 indicates that larcenies from vehicles declined 21% when compared with 2014. There were 110 fewer thefts reported. This property crime also dropped 33% when measured against the five-year average, with 201 fewer incidents than the projected total of 605 thefts.

#### **Percent Change**

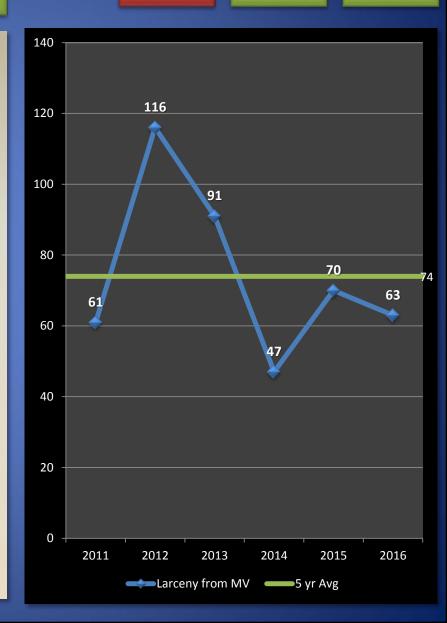
Last 4 Weeks Previous Year

-21%

-10%

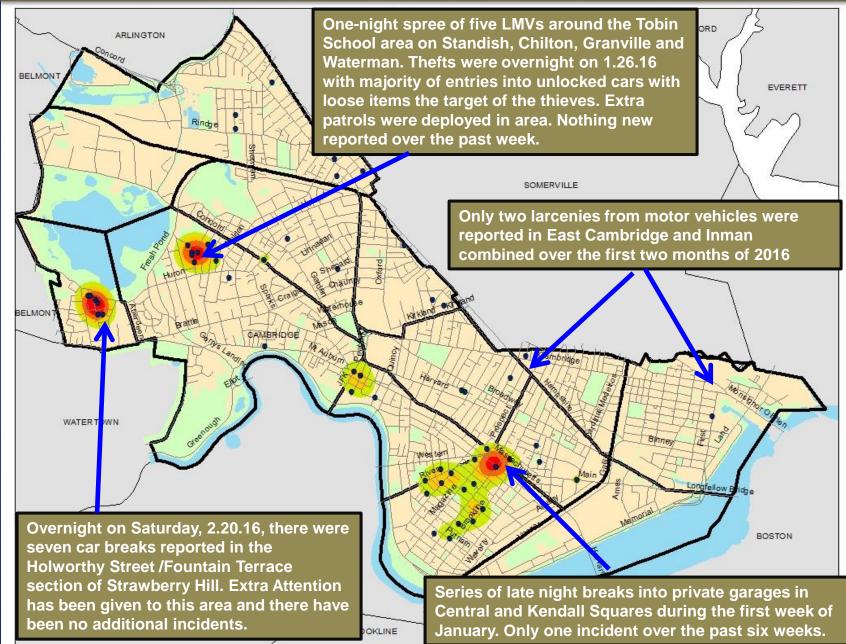
-15%

5 Year Average



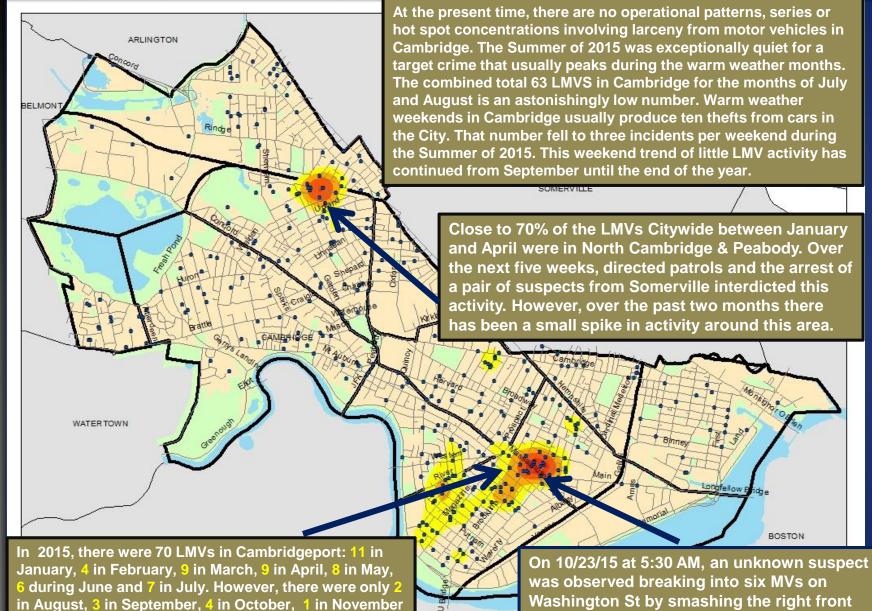


#### Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from MVs for January & February of 2016





#### Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from MVs for 2015



windows, rummaging through MV contents,

and fleeing on a bike.

February 2016

& 6 in December. The majority of incidents have been

on weekend nights with unlocked cars targeted.



### No Patterns

### LARCENY: from Person

- Larcenies from the person are at least temporarily on the rise during the first two months of 2016, after two years of very little activity and few patterns in 2014 and 2015. This crime type is up 6 incidents (23%) through the first two months of 2016, when compared with the same time frame in 2015. The total of 32 incidents reported thus far in 2016 is 3 incidents, or 9%, below than the five-year average of 35 for the first two months of the year. Incidents have decreased when comparing the most recent four weeks (February) to the previous four weeks (January), with five fewer thefts reported this month.
- Harvard Square saw the most activity in February with 5 incidents, followed by Central Square with 4 and the Galleria Mall/East Cambridge area with 2.
- Very little pattern activity was seen in 2014 and 2015. In past years, much of the larceny from person activity was reported at bars and restaurants in the Squares (known as "dipper" activity). In February of 2016, there were 4 dipper incidents reported across the city, 2 of which took place at restaurants in Harvard Square. There have also been 3 grab-and-run situations in Harvard and Central Sq.
- No arrests have been made yet this year.
- Final stats indicate that there were 181 larcenies from persons reported in Cambridge in 2015. This is 18% lower than the 220 incidents reported in 2014.

#### **Percent Change**

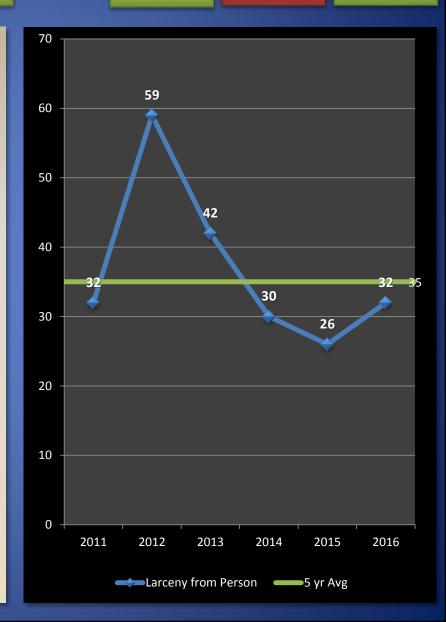
**Previous Year** Last 4 Weeks

5 Year Average

-29%

+23%

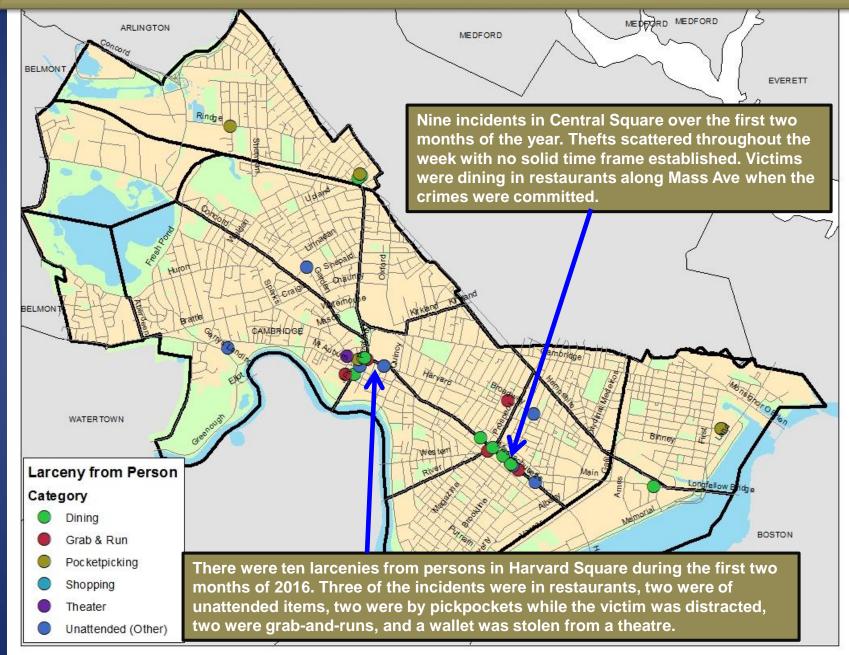
-9%



February 2016

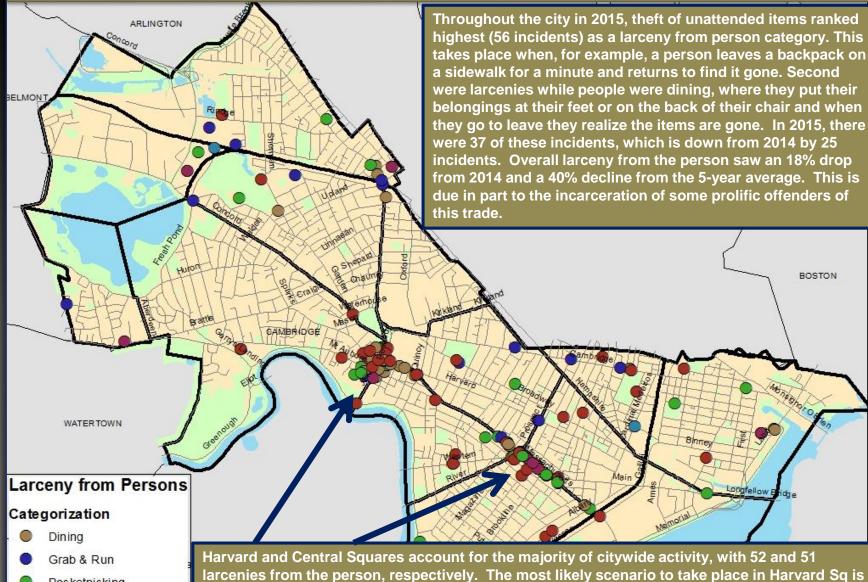


#### Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from Persons – January & February of 2016





#### Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from Persons for 2015



a larceny while the person is dining, followed by thefts of unattended items. For Central Sq, the

Squares saw a significant decrease in numbers compared to the last five years. In fact, in the

past 2-3 years, the total number of larcenies from the person has been cut in half in these two

top scenario is the theft of unattended items, followed by pocket pickings. Both of these

February 2016 Poc ketpicking

Unattended (Other)

Shopping

Theater



LARCENY: of Bicycle
No Patterns

**Percent Change** 

Weeks Previous Year

5 Year Average

-64%

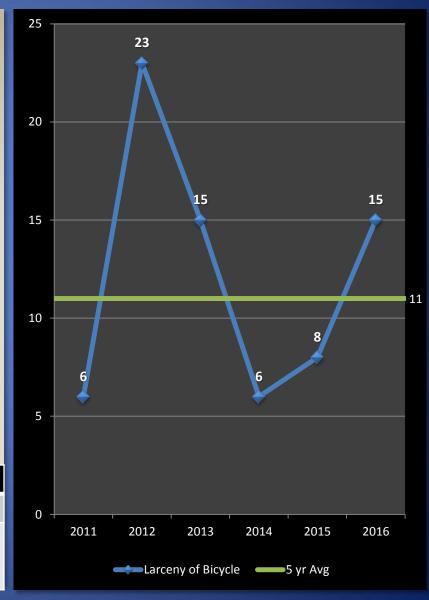
Last 4 Weeks

+88%

+36%

- As we would expect for this time of year, very few bike thefts have been reported in Cambridge so far in 2016. There have only been 15 bike thefts reported through February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016. This number is 7 incidents above the total reported during the same time frame last year and also 4 incidents above the 5-year average of 11. The slight increase this year may be due, at least in part, to the warmer weather this winter compared to recent years.
- Neighborhoods that have seen the most bike thefts in 2016 are Cambridgeport with 4, followed by the Port, East Cambridge, Mid-Cambridge and North Cambridge, each with 2.
- 53% (8) of the 15 bicycles stolen year-to-date in 2016 were locked at the time of the thefts.
- As for final 2015 stats, there were 362 bicycles reported stolen citywide in Cambridge last year. This is 10% (34 incidents) above the 328 thefts reported during this time frame in 2014. 71% (258) of the 362 bicycles stolen in 2015 were locked at the time of the thefts.
- Top Neighborhoods for Bike Thefts Year-To-Date:

Neighborhood	YTD Total	% Citywide
Cambridgeport	4	27%
Port, East Cambridge, Mid Cambridge & North Cambridge	2 each	13% each





**AUTO THEFT** 

No Patterns

**Percent Change** 

Last 4 Weeks

Previous Year

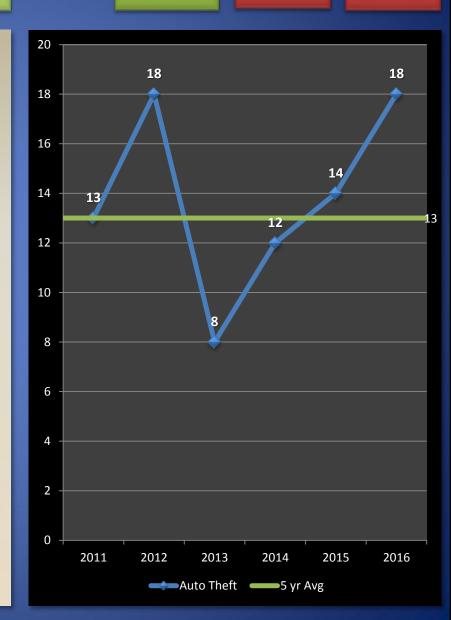
5 Year Average

-36%

+29%

+38%

- The projected 5-year weighted average for auto thefts for the first two months of the year is 13 incidents.
   With 18 thefts reported in 2016, we are 38% (5 incidents) above the average and 29% (4 incidents) above the number reported during this time frame in 2015.
- There were 7 auto thefts reported in the past four weeks, which is down slightly from January (4 incidents, or 36%).
- Since the beginning of the year, the following neighborhoods have recorded auto thefts:
   Cambridgeport (5), West Cambridge (4), Port (3), Mid-Cambridge (3), Peabody (1), Strawberry Hill (1), and East Cambridge (1). The three thefts in Mid-Cambridge all occurred in February within a week's timespan.
- One of the vehicles that was stolen in January was taken from the same residence twice within two days, resulting in two theft reports. A suspect was developed in this case and, since the last publication of Bridgestat, he was arrested after Somerville police caught him in a stolen motor vehicle and a chase/man hunt ensued. This suspect is likely responsible for more than those two auto thefts, potentially accounting for part of the spike in January.
- Of the 18 cars stolen thus far in 2016, 13 (72%) have been recovered to date.





### **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
- "Like" the Cambridge Police Department on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CambridgePolice

www.CambridgeMa.gov/AlertNetwork.

- Follow @CambridgePolice on Twitter.
- Visit our website at <u>www.CambridgePolice.org</u> 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 <a href="https://www.CambridgePolice.org/MyPD">www.CambridgePolice.org/MyPD</a>.

#### 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



### **Questions?**

- The complete 2014 Cambridge Police Annual Crime Report is available on our website at <a href="https://www.CambridgePolice.org">www.CambridgePolice.org</a>. The 2015 Annual Crime Report will be released later this winter.
- We welcome all questions, comments, and suggestions.
- Please direct your feedback to: <u>BridgeStat@CambridgePolice.org</u>.
- To review previous editions of BridgeStat, visit our website at <a href="https://www.cambridgePolice.org/BridgeStat">www.CambridgePolice.org/BridgeStat</a>.