

CAMBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT



2009

THIRD QUARTER CRIME REPORT

JANUARY 1- SEPTEMBER 30, 2009

Statistics, Descriptions and Analysis
Covering Part I and II Crimes

Crime Statistics for Cambridge
Neighborhoods and Business Districts

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Crime reports are now available online at www.cambridgepolice.org

CAMBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT 2009 THIRD QUARTER CRIME REPORT

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2009 THIRD QUARTER SUMMARY

MURDER:

- ◆ The first homicide of the year occurred on January 28, 2009. A 65-year-old Brookline man was arrested after he allegedly shot and killed his 33-year-old co-worker from Malden. The suspect and victim both worked for a Smith Place business, where the incident took place.
- ◆ The second homicide of 2009 took place on June 16, 2009. A 33-year-old Cambridge native was found with multiple gunshot wounds in front of the driveway to the Fresh Pond Apartments located at 362/364 Rindge Ave. He was pronounced dead at the scene. This incident remains under investigation at the present time.
- ◆ No homicides were reported during the third quarter of 2009.
- ◆ The most recent homicide conviction was that of Chelsea resident Remel Ahart, who was found guilty of first degree murder on June 3, 2009. The conviction stemmed from a March 2006 incident in which a Boston teen was shot and killed on Hamilton St in Cambridge. Also convicted in this murder was Dorchester resident Ahmad Bright, who was found guilty of second degree murder on March 13, 2009. One other suspect is currently awaiting trial for this homicide.

RAPE:

- ◆ Nine rapes were reported in the first nine months of 2009. Eight of the rapes were non-stranger incidents (five acquaintance rapes and three domestic rapes) and one was classified as a stranger rape (blitz). None of the incidents were related.
 - **Acquaintance Rapes** are non-domestic rapes committed by someone who knows the victim. They include rapes of co-workers, schoolmates, friends, and other acquaintances. This category includes “date rapes.”
 - **Blitz Rapes** are stranger rapes in which the rapist assaults the victim on the street with no prior contact. Generally, the suspect “comes out of nowhere.”
 - **Contact Rapes** are stranger rapes in which the suspect contacts the victim and tries to gain his/her confidence before assaulting him/her. Contact rapists typically pick up their victims in bars, lure them into their cars or houses, or otherwise try to coerce the victim into a situation in which they can begin their assault.
 - **Domestic Rapes** involve rapes between spouses, romantic partners, and family members.

ROBBERY:

FIRST QUARTER SYNOPSIS

- ◆ Street robberies were up by five incidents (17%) over last year’s first quarter.
- ◆ Commercial robberies dropped from eight incidents in each of the first quarters of 2007 and 2008 down to six incidents in 2009.
- ◆ There were a few scattered street robberies targeting cell phones in the area of the Cambridge Galleria, and a brief pattern of robberies in the Walden Sq area, but otherwise no definite patterns emerged during the first quarter.
- ◆ The only commercial robbery pattern to exist in Cambridge during the first quarter was a sporadic pattern of convenience store robberies in Cambridge and Somerville.

SECOND QUARTER SYNOPSIS

- ◆ Street robberies during the first half of 2009 were up by 14 incidents (23%) over the same time period in 2008. Arrests were made in eight of the street robberies during the second quarter.
- ◆ Two one-night street robbery sprees and a cross-jurisdictional street robbery pattern between Cambridge and Somerville took place during the second quarter.
- ◆ Fourteen commercial robberies were reported during the first half of 2009, representing an 18% decrease from the 2008 first-half total of 17. Two resulted in arrests during the second quarter.
- ◆ Unlike in 2008 when nearly three-quarters of the commercial robberies in the first half of the year were bank robberies, only four banks (29%) have been robbed thus far in 2009.
- ◆ A regional pattern of armed commercial robberies emerged in Boston, Cambridge & Somerville in May.

THIRD QUARTER SYNOPSIS

- ◆ There were 45 street robberies reported in the third quarter of 2009, bringing the nine month total to 120. This is 33% higher than the same time frame in 2008. Eleven street robberies during the third quarter resulted in arrests. Portable electronics, particularly high-end cell phones, were the main targets.
- ◆ Two brief patterns of street robberies developed in Cambridgeport, Area 4 and Mid-Cambridge over the course of the third quarter.
- ◆ Only one commercial robbery was reported during the third quarter of 2009, bringing the nine-month total to fifteen. This total is 35% lower than the same time frame in 2008. The lone third quarter incident resulted in the arrest of a New Hampshire man.

See the Pattern Analysis section for more information on robbery trends.

BURGLARY:

FIRST QUARTER SYNOPSIS

- ◆ Commercial breaks in the first quarter rose by 60% from 15 incidents in 2008 to 24 in 2009. This substantial increase was the result of a pattern of breaks that took place in Central Sq, which resulted in an arrest in March.
- ◆ Residential burglary dropped by just one incident from the first quarter of 2008 to the first quarter of 2009. Nineteen of the housebreaks in 2009 were attempts where entry into the victims' homes was not gained.
- ◆ Only two definite housebreak patterns emerged in the first three months of 2009, compared to the four that were reported in the same time frame of 2008. The affected neighborhoods in 2009 were Agassiz, Peabody, and North Cambridge in the first pattern, and Mid-Cambridge and Riverside in the second pattern.
- ◆ Laptops, jewelry, MP3 players, televisions, digital cameras, and cash were targeted most often in the housebreaks of the first quarter.
- ◆ Four people were arrested for residential burglaries during the first quarter, two of which were for domestic-related incidents.

SECOND QUARTER SYNOPSIS

- ◆ After initially seeing an increase in commercial burglaries during the first quarter of 2009, burglaries are now down 10% compared to 2008 for the first half of the year.

- ◆ No commercial burglary arrests were made during the second quarter of 2009 and only one brief pattern of smash-and-grab incidents emerged.
- ◆ Residential burglaries during the first half of 2009 dropped by 13% from the number of incidents reported in the first half of 2008. There have been 158 housebreaks reported thus far in 2009, while there were 182 reporting during this time frame in 2008.
- ◆ Very few housebreak patterns have emerged in Cambridge during the first six months of this year. In the second quarter, only Cambridgeport and Area 4 experienced noteworthy patterns. Arrests were made in three housebreaks during the second quarter.

THIRD QUARTER SYNOPSIS

- ◆ Commercial breaks are up 11% in comparison to 2008. There were 60 breaks reported during the first nine months of 2009, while only 54 were reported during this time in 2008 (representing an 11% increase). However, both totals are still far below the 134 and 111 reported in 2006 and 2007, respectively.
- ◆ Despite the increase, very few commercial burglary patterns were reported. There were two brief multi-jurisdictional patterns and two breaks at the Benjamin Banneker School. One incident resulted in an arrest.
- ◆ Residential burglaries are down 10% thus far in 2009, dropping from 295 in the first three quarters of 2008 to 266 in 2009. Seven housebreaks resulted in arrests during the third quarter.
- ◆ The only housebreak problem in the city during the third quarter was a weekend housebreak spree in September in East Cambridge.

See the Pattern Analysis section for more information on burglary trends.

LARCENY:

FIRST QUARTER SYNOPSIS

- ◆ Increases were seen in larcenies from motor vehicles, larcenies of bicycles, and shoplifting incidents, while some of the most noteworthy decreases were reported in larcenies from buildings and residences.
- ◆ Larceny from motor vehicle patterns developed along the Mass Ave corridor between Peabody and Agassiz, along the border between Agassiz and Mid-Cambridge, and in West Cambridge along the periphery of Harvard Square.
- ◆ A pattern of tire thefts from Hondas and Acuras emerged in upper Cambridge in January.
- ◆ A Dorchester man was arrested in connection with a pattern of larcenies from persons that affected cafés, bars, and restaurants in Harvard Sq in January and February.

SECOND QUARTER SYNOPSIS

- ◆ Larcenies in the first half of 2009 dropped by 55 incidents compared to the first half of 2008, registering a 4% decrease. The most notable decreases in this category were seen in larcenies from buildings (-27%) and larcenies from residences (-29%).
- ◆ The most substantial increases were reported in larcenies of bicycles (+33%) and shoplifting incidents (+11%). Cambridgeport and Area 4 reported the most bicycle thefts during the second quarter of the year, with 13 and 12 incidents, respectively. An Allston man was arrested in late April in possession of multiple stolen bikes.
- ◆ One established pattern of larcenies from motor vehicles emerged in the Cambridgeport neighborhood in May. A Cambridge man and a Boston teen were arrested in unrelated larceny from motor vehicle incidents during this quarter.

- ◆ Sporadic tire thefts from Hondas and Acuras sprang up between March and May and again in late June.

THIRD QUARTER SYNOPSIS

- ◆ Larcenies during the first nine months of 2009 are down by 10% (211 incidents) compared to the same time frame in 2008. The most notable decreases were in larcenies from buildings (down 27%), residences (down 18%), and motor vehicles (down 11%). Increases were reported in bicycle thefts and shoplifting.
- ◆ Despite the drop in larcenies from motor vehicles, this crime still represents the largest percent of the larceny total (37%). Patterns of this crime emerged in East Cambridge and Cambridgeport during the third quarter.
- ◆ The thefts of parts from Hondas and Acuras continued to appear occasionally during July and August in Agassiz, Peabody, and North Cambridge, but no pattern was established.

For more details, see the Pattern Analysis section.

AUTO THEFT:

FIRST QUARTER SYNOPSIS

- ◆ Auto thefts increased by six incidents in 2009 after dropping to their lowest first quarter level in years in 2008. North Cambridge reported the most auto thefts in this time period with seven incidents, while Cambridgeport and Peabody followed close behind with six.
- ◆ At least 60% of the stolen cars have been recovered to date, with about half of the vehicles recovered outside of Cambridge.
- ◆ No definite patterns could be distinguished during the first quarter.

SECOND QUARTER SYNOPSIS

- ◆ During the second quarter of 2009, 57 auto thefts were reported in Cambridge, bringing the total number of auto thefts thus far in 2009 to 102. This represents a 14% drop from the total number of 119 reported during the first half of 2008.
- ◆ Every neighborhood except Strawberry Hill reported at least one auto theft during the second quarter, but the largest number of incidents were reported in West Cambridge (8 incidents), Peabody (7 incidents), and Cambridgeport (7 incidents).
- ◆ Between February and early April, 18 Hondas were reported stolen in the upper half of Cambridge. Ten of the vehicles have been recovered to date.

THIRD QUARTER SYNOPSIS

- ◆ Through the first three quarters of 2009, 164 auto thefts have been reported throughout Cambridge. This is the lowest third quarter total reported in at least 15 years.
- ◆ Cambridgeport experienced the most auto thefts during the third quarter with 12 incidents, followed by Area 4 and Mid-Cambridge with 10 each.
- ◆ Just over 64% of the vehicles stolen thus far in 2009 have been recovered.

CRIMES REPORTED IN CAMBRIDGE

January 1 to September 30, 2009

Part I Crime	2006 1/1-9/30	2007 1/1-9/30	2008 1/1-9/30	2009 1/1-9/30	% Change 08- 09
Murder	2	0	1	2	Inc.
Rape	6	20	11	9	-18%
Stranger	0	3	2	1	Inc.
Non-Stranger	6	17	9	8	-11%
Robbery	144	110	113	135	+19%
Commercial	28	26	23	15	-35%
Street	116	84	90	120	+33%
Aggravated Assault	174	182	206	196	-5%
Burglary	479	484	349	326	-7%
Commercial	134	111	54	60	+11%
Residential	345	373	295	266	-10%
Larceny	1760	2067	2108	1897	-10%
Building	279	325	323	237	-27%
From Motor Vehicle	566	850	786	703	-11%
Person	235	245	260	235	-10%
Bicycle	168	184	214	232	+8%
Shoplifting	251	271	264	284	+8%
Residence	191	112	163	134	-18%
MV Plate	25	30	52	28	-46%
Services	12	13	21	21	No Change
Misc.	33	37	25	23	-8%
Auto Theft	194	188	189	164	-13%
Total Violent	326	312	331	342	+3%
Total Prop.	2463	2739	2646	2387	-10%
Index Total	2789	3051	2977	2729	-8%

*Note: percentages are not calculated for numbers so small as to lead to a statistically misleading percentage

Highlights: First Nine Months in Review

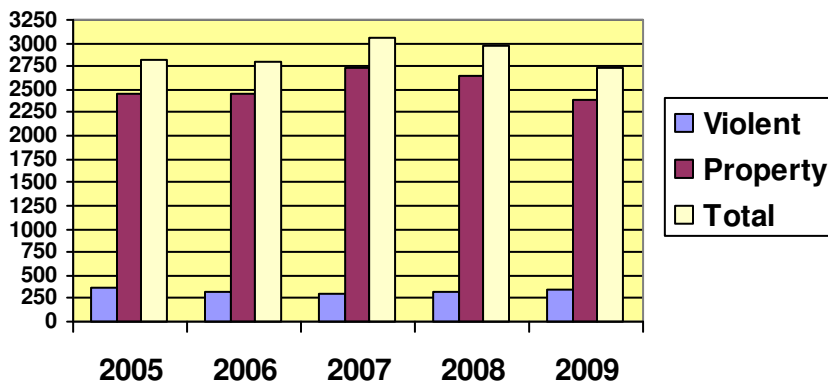
The index crime total for the first three quarters has decreased steadily over the last two years.

Overall, index crimes in 2009 have decreased by 8% compared to last year. The most dramatic increases have been in street robberies, commercial burglaries, bicycle thefts and shoplifting. On the other hand, there have been notable decreases in aggravated assaults, residential burglaries and most categories of larceny. Currently, the total number of index crimes is the lowest it has been since 2005, as seen in the chart below.

Violent crime totals have increased by 3% when compared to the first nine months of 2008. This increase can be attributed to the rise in street robberies. Please see the pattern review section for more information.

Property crime totals are down 10% compared to the same time frame in 2008. Larceny has decreased by 10% overall, with significant drops in larcenies from buildings, residences, motor vehicles and persons. Of the 703 larcenies from motor vehicles, 258 (37%) involved GPS thefts. These items have been a major target citywide over the past few years. With the current state of the economy, larcenies driven by shoplifting are likely to continue to rise as well.

5 Year Crime Comparison
January - September



CRIMES REPORTED IN CAMBRIDGE

Part II Crime	2007 1/1-9/30	2008 1/1-9/30	2009 1/1-9/30	% Change 08-09
Narcotics **	127	86	92	+7%
Malicious Destruction Total	525	503	390	-22%
Attempted Theft	20	13	13	0%
Business (Other)	19	25	25	0%
Business Window	35	27	28	+4%
Car (Other)	107	83	72	-13%
Car Window	152	108	86	-20%
Graffiti	52	87	38	-56%
House Window	23	18	13	-28%
Pinstripping	29	33	33	0%
Residence (Other)	28	43	28	-35%
Revenge	12	8	7	-13%
Tire Slashing	48	58	47	-19%
Fraud Total	291	352	310	-12%
Embezzlement	7	8	11	+38%
Counterfeiting	1	12	13	+8%
Identity Theft	62	88	70	-20%
Forgery/ Uttering Total	182	201	173	-14%
Application	13	22	0	-100%
Bad Check	19	16	22	+38%
Forged Check	23	23	23	0%
ATM/Credit Card	116	127	124	-2%
Miscellaneous Forgery	11	13	4	-69%
Con Game Total	39	43	43	0%
Big Carrot Con	0	4	4	0%
Utility Impostor Con	1	1	1	0%
Pigeon Drop Con	1	0	0	0%
Charity	1	3	3	0%
Other/Internet Related	26	29	33	+14%
Miscellaneous Con games	10	6	2	-67%
Sex Offenses Total	59	87	62	-29%
Annoying & Accosting	9	9	6	-33%
Indecent Assault	22	33	26	-21%
Indecent Exposure	20	39	21	-46%
Peeping & Spying	8	3	8	+167%
Prostitution and Soliciting	0	3	1	Inc.*
Disorderly Conduct	34	35	42	+20%
Drinking in Public	18	24	7	-71%
Extortion/Blackmail	1	1	4	Inc.
Hit & Run Accidents	481	440	431	-2%
Kidnapping	5	6	6	0%
Liquor Violations	4	2	4	Inc.
OUI	46	46	54	+17%
Simple Assault	326	326	341	+5%
Threats	200	191	172	-10%
Trespassing	40	23	26	+13%
Weapons/Gun Violations	21	9	11	+22%
TOTAL Part II Crimes	2197	2152	1962	-9%

Highlights: First Nine Months in Review

Malicious destruction incidents decreased by a considerable 22% when compared to the first nine months of 2008. This can be attributed to a sharp decline in malicious destruction to motor vehicles, residences, and graffiti incidents. The top three neighborhoods for malicious destruction incidents were Inman Harrington, East Cambridge and North Cambridge.

The most typical type of fraud in Cambridge tends to be credit and debit card forgery. In a majority of the cases this year, victims reported unauthorized charges made to their credit or bank accounts. Often this occurred after their wallets were stolen or credit cards misplaced, but it was also reported by some victims who were still in possession of their cards and had no knowledge of how someone acquired their information. Another category that tends to be high is identity theft. This occurs when a victim discovers that an unknown suspect has opened accounts in his/her name and is being charged for purchases he/she did not make. It is likely that the actual incidence of fraud crimes is higher than the number reported to the police, due to victims either not knowing it has occurred or victims dealing with the banking institutions on their own.

Sex offenses have seen a decline of 29% and are more comparable to the numbers reported in 2007. All categories have decreased except peeping and spying, which is up by five incidents over last year.

Simple assaults increased by 5% in 2009, which is slightly higher than recent years. Other crimes that saw notable increases were disorderly conduct, OUIs, trespassing and weapons violations. Despite these increases, the overall Part II crime index is down by 9% when compared to the same 2008 timeframe.

*Note: Inc. = percentages are not calculated for numbers so small, so as to prevent a statistically misleading percentage.
 **Numbers for narcotics represent all drug incidents that result in police reports in Cambridge, the majority of which involve arrests.

THIRD QUARTER 2009 PATTERN ANALYSIS AND POLICE RESPONSE STRATEGIES

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES CONTINUE TO DROP:

Residential burglaries in 2009 continue to register below last year's level. There were 108 housebreaks reported in the third quarter of 2009, bringing the current total to 266. This total is 10% below the number reported during the first three quarters of 2008. Electronics (particularly laptops, MP3 players, digital cameras, and televisions), jewelry, and cash have been stolen most frequently in 2009. Only one problem area developed in Cambridge during the third quarter.

The sole housebreak problem during this quarter took place in East Cambridge. Between late August and mid-September, six housebreaks were reported in the area bordered by Third & Sixth St and Gore & Charles St. Five of the six incidents took place over the weekend between Sept. 10 and Sept. 15. Most of the incidents occurred during the early afternoon hours and involved entry through pried front doors or smashed windows. No arrests were made and no similar incidents were reported after Sept. 15.

Seven housebreaks resulted in arrests during the third quarter, four of which were domestic. In the other three incidents, an Arlington man was arrested for breaking into a house on Fayerweather St in July, a homeless male was arrested after he was caught leaving an unoccupied apartment with multiple items on Columbia St in August, and a Dorchester male was arrested after he allegedly broke into a residence on Western Ave in September.

COMMERCIAL BURGLARIES FLUCTUATE IN 2009:

After rising during the first quarter and dropping during the second, commercial burglaries are now back up 11% after the third quarter of 2009. Two brief cross-jurisdictional patterns of burglaries emerged during the third quarter.

In the first pattern, Watertown, Belmont, and Cambridge experienced similar overnight commercial breaks at sub/pizza shops, laundry mats, and markets in July. Entry was gained in all of the incidents through forced rear doors, and cash registers were the main targets. The two Cambridge incidents took place at adjacent businesses in the 2300 block of Mass Ave. No arrests were made.

In the second pattern, Somerville Police arrested two men in September who admitted to over 30 commercial burglaries in Somerville, Cambridge, Medford, and other jurisdictions in the area. Two of the Cambridge breaks that were linked to these suspects took place on Cambridge St and Oxford St.

Also of note was a regional pattern of burglaries at local golf pro-shops. Only one incident was reported in Cambridge, but the two arrests that were made in this pattern resulted from an investigation initiated by a Cambridge Detective.

STREET ROBBERY NUMBERS ON THE RISE:

Street robberies have increased by 33% thus far in 2009, rising from 90 incidents in the first nine months of 2008 to 120 incidents this year. In the third quarter of 2009, cell phones were stolen most often, followed by purses and cash. Unlike the previous quarter, MP3 players were rarely ever taken in these robberies. Arrests were made in 11 of the third quarter incidents.

There were two areas of concern for street robberies during the third quarter. The first problem area emerged in Sector 3, specifically in Cambridgeport. In early and mid-August, this neighborhood experienced seven street robberies, mostly between 11:30 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. These robberies were not determined to be part of an identifiable pattern, but rather a geographic clustering of crimes with varying suspect descriptions and modus operandi. Patrols were increased in the area and the incidents decreased.

A more defined street robbery pattern emerged in Area 4 and Mid-Cambridge during late September and early October. During this time frame, six street robberies took place in the area between Hampshire St, Harvard St, and Inman St. The incidents occurred generally after 9:00 p.m. on weekdays, and the main targets were high-end cell phones, specifically iPhones. A knife was shown in one robbery and victims were assaulted in at least three others. Similar to the action taken by police in response to the Cambridgeport robberies, patrols were increased in the area and the incidents dropped off in October.

COMMERCIAL ROBBERIES DOWN CONSIDERABLY IN 2009:

Only one commercial robbery was reported during the third quarter of 2009, bringing the total this year to fifteen. This is 35% lower than the total reported during the same time frame in 2008. In the lone third quarter incident, a New Hampshire man attempted to rob a clerk at the Dudley Street Market at knifepoint in August. Officers near the scene were able to apprehend the suspect without incident.

LARCENIES FROM MOTOR VEHICLES DROP FROM 2008:

Both the second quarter and third quarter of 2009 experienced nearly equal numbers of larcenies from motor vehicles (LMVs), with 227 and 226 reported, respectively. This brings the total for the first nine months of 2009 to 703, which is 11% lower than in 2008. Roughly 37% of the larcenies through the end of September this year targeted GPS Navigation systems. One of the main concerns is that people continue to leave their GPS systems unattended in plain view on car dashboards, making them easy targets for thieves that may be casing the area.

Two LMV patterns emerged in Cambridge during the third quarter. The first pattern developed in East Cambridge during late August and continued into September. The incidents took place in the area of Bent St, Rogers St, First St, and Second St during the early evening hours on weekdays. In all of the incidents, entry was gained into the vehicle by way of smashed front passenger windows, and items such as iPods and GPS units were stolen. No arrests were made and the pattern cooled off in mid-September.

The second pattern took place in Cambridgeport during the month of September. Ten daytime LMVs were reported in parking lots at commercial establishments on Memorial Drive and River St. Officers arrested two suspects in late September, which effectively halted the pattern.

CAMBRIDGE POLICE RESPONSE STRATEGIES

The Cambridge Police Department utilizes a number of different strategies and tactics to identify and interdict crime patterns and trends. *Problem Oriented Policing* is a technique that is employed to combat long-standing crime problems. With POP, the Department analyzes situations, responds employing an array of suitable strategies, and then assesses the outcome of these actions. The community is kept abreast of emerging hotspots in their neighborhoods through scheduled monthly meetings. In more serious cases, a crime alert is dispatched to the affected area.

If ongoing target crime patterns arise, various patrol responses are deployed. Some officers are used as decoys, surveillance units cover potential suspects, and patrol cruisers are directed to specific locations for deterrence and suppression of criminal activity. Regardless of the response strategy, the safety of all citizens remains paramount to the Cambridge Police Department.

SOME TIPS FOR PROTECTING YOUR PROPERTY

PREVENTING RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

- **Try “casing” your own home, at night and during the day.** Attempt to gain access to your home when the doors and windows are locked and “secure.” Make sure you have some identification on you in case your neighbors call the police.

- **Doors should be made from strong wood or metal and should be locked with a deadbolt.** Install guards on windows that prevent them from being raised more than a few inches.
- If you live in an apartment building that has a main entryway, make sure that security is enforced at the main door. **Never prop open the door or let someone in behind you.** Report residents who do this to your landlord.
- **When you go away**, even for the evening, **leave a light or two on** (perhaps on a timer) as well as the television or radio.
- **Consider buying motion sensor** lights outside your home and out of reach so the burglars cannot unscrew the light. Also, buy variable light timers to activate lights in your home.
- **Request a Cambridge Police Department Residential Security Survey**, which provides a general assessment of the vulnerability of your residence. For more information, call (617) 349-6009.

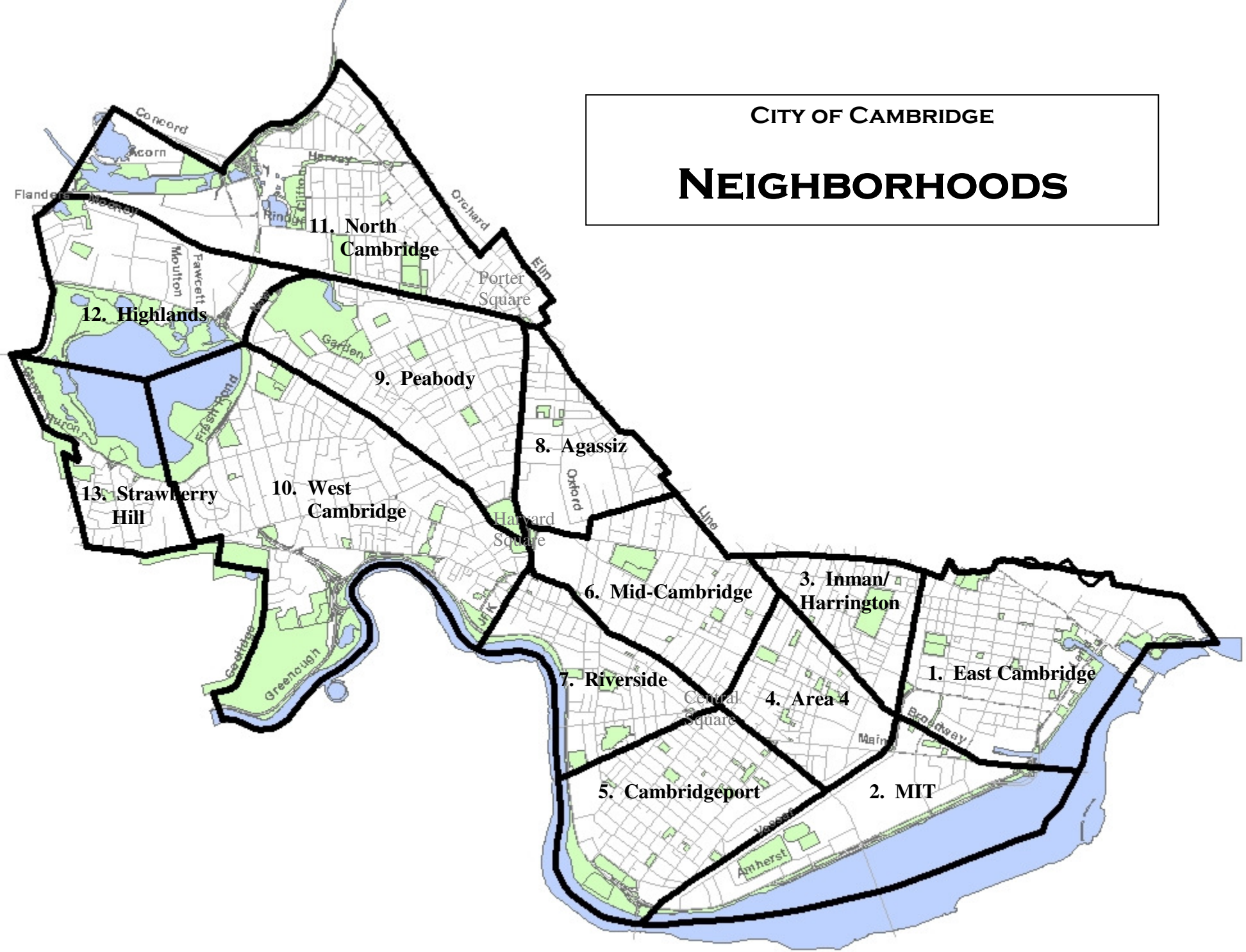
PREVENTING LARCENIES FROM MOTOR VEHICLES

- **Use common sense when leaving your vehicle unattended.**
- **Make sure all valuables are out of sight.** If you cannot bring valuables with you when you leave the car, at least move them to the trunk or under the seat where they will not be seen. Leaving expensive items out in the open creates an easy target, attracting thieves that may be casing the area.
 - ★ *This is particularly important with GPS systems, laptops, and iPods.* ALWAYS remove detachable GPS systems from dashboards and windshields. Make sure to remove all bases, cords, and chargers as well, and if possible, clean the dashboard or windshield to remove any indication that a GPS system was there.
- **Lock all doors when leaving the vehicle.** Thieves often pull door handles looking for unlocked cars.
- Larcenies from motor vehicles are crimes of opportunity and can be easily prevented. **Always hide or remove your belongings, lock your car, and take your keys.**
- **If your vehicle is broken into, please report it to the police**, even if nothing significant was taken or no serious damage resulted from the incident. The more information we have about these crimes (including locations, damage, and items stolen), the more likely it will be that we can stop the people who are committing them.

PROTECTING YOURSELF AGAINST STREET ROBBERIES

- **Try to avoid walking alone on the street after dark.** If you must walk alone at night, use well-lit roads with as much car traffic as possible. Always be aware of your surroundings.
- **Avoid using MP3 players or talking on cell phones when walking, especially at night**, as these activities can distract victims and make them easy targets.
- **Don't carry your purse loosely around your shoulder.** Clutch it tightly under your arm.
- **When walking to your car at night**, have your keys in your hand and be ready to open the door.
- **Try to avoid using ATMs late at night.** If you must, try to pick an ATM in a populated area and make sure the ATM is well-lit. Be aware of any people "loitering" nearby.
- **Keep all doors locked when driving your car.** If someone approaches your car while stopped, be prepared to step on the gas.
- **If you are robbed, obey the robber's instructions.** Try to memorize the robber's physical features, clothing, motor vehicle, and direction of flight. Call police from the nearest available telephone.

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
NEIGHBORHOODS



FIVE-YEAR NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME COMPARISON

NEIGHBORHOOD 1: East Cambridge

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Housebreaks	57	29	17	23	27
Street Robbery	13	12	10	12	14
Auto Theft	19	19	19	12	15
Larceny from MVs	40	73	109	114	73
Malicious Destruction	64	45	77	64	49
Drug Incidents	13	5	14	12	5

NEIGHBORHOOD 2: M.I.T. Area

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Housebreaks	2	1	1	0	0
Street Robbery	2	1	1	4	3
Auto Theft	3	6	4	4	2
Larceny from MVs	10	16	21	29	28
Malicious Destruction	10	4	3	4	6
Drug Incidents	1	1	2	0	3

NEIGHBORHOOD 3: Inman/Harrington

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Housebreaks	26	35	45	45	23
Street Robbery	12	17	10	4	6
Auto Theft	16	20	11	20	11
Larceny from MVs	22	39	70	26	15
Malicious Destruction	53	45	60	51	56
Drug Incidents	9	13	15	11	8

NEIGHBORHOOD 4: Area 4

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Housebreaks	28	40	64	34	22
Street Robbery	19	27	16	15	16
Auto Theft	19	19	25	21	16
Larceny from MVs	31	50	87	52	50
Malicious Destruction	60	49	46	75	41
Drug Incidents	29	38	31	18	18

NEIGHBORHOOD 5: Cambridgeport

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Housebreaks	52	49	51	20	36
Street Robbery	23	11	13	8	27
Auto Theft	29	21	24	23	26
Larceny from MVs	62	54	87	96	120
Malicious Destruction	64	62	62	62	36
Drug Incidents	22	18	23	8	29

NEIGHBORHOOD 6: Mid-Cambridge

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Housebreaks	64	59	42	41	28
Street Robbery	13	8	6	5	13
Auto Theft	24	22	23	28	16
Larceny from MVs	49	67	103	81	101
Malicious Destruction	72	38	48	30	33
Drug Incidents	15	10	13	9	7

NEIGHBORHOOD 7: Riverside

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Housebreaks	26	20	23	13	26
Street Robbery	12	4	8	5	11
Auto Theft	14	9	5	16	8
Larceny from MVs	31	30	44	50	37
Malicious Destruction	51	44	40	42	37
Drug Incidents	8	8	9	11	5

NEIGHBORHOOD 8: Agassiz

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Housebreaks	12	23	14	15	8
Street Robbery	3	2	3	1	4
Auto Theft	10	10	9	6	11
Larceny from MVs	19	34	72	55	51
Malicious Destruction	14	18	14	9	5
Drug Incidents	2	1	0	0	1

NEIGHBORHOOD 9: Peabody

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Housebreaks	40	29	45	42	36
Street Robbery	8	11	5	6	8
Auto Theft	19	35	16	18	16
Larceny from MVs	45	84	88	70	68
Malicious Destruction	56	55	59	39	34
Drug Incidents	2	3	7	2	2

NEIGHBORHOOD 10: West Cambridge

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Housebreaks	34	29	20	30	15
Street Robbery	4	3	6	8	3
Auto Theft	20	9	22	17	20
Larceny from MVs	40	84	78	96	85
Malicious Destruction	43	47	42	43	29
Drug Incidents	4	3	3	7	3

NEIGHBORHOOD 11: North Cambridge

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Housebreaks	44	22	42	23	42
Street Robbery	9	13	5	20	12
Auto Theft	32	17	19	15	18
Larceny from MVs	42	42	64	66	53
Malicious Destruction	76	75	46	59	43
Drug Incidents	9	13	7	6	11

NEIGHBORHOOD 12: Cambridge Highlands

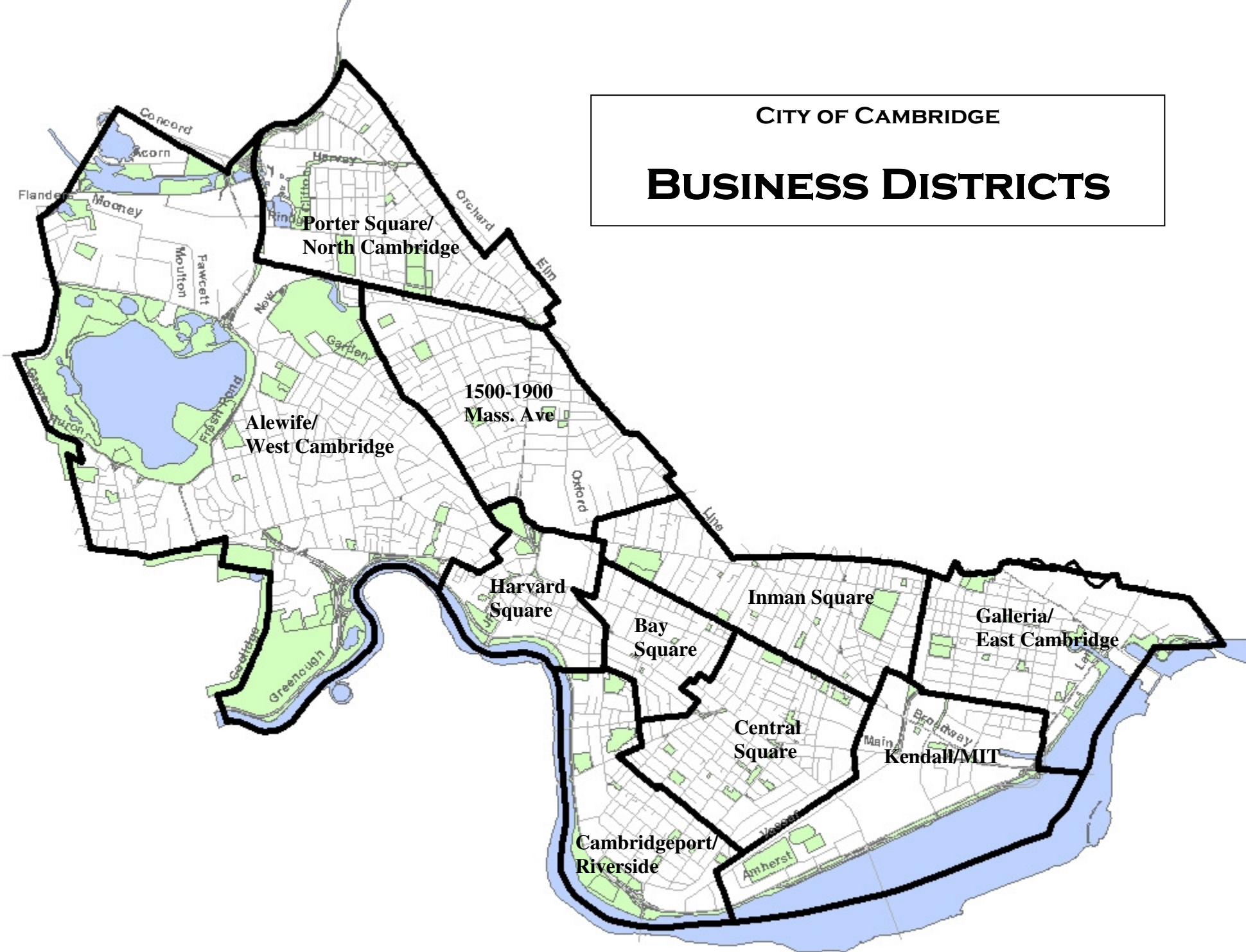
CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Housebreaks	1	3	2	1	2
Street Robbery	3	3	1	1	2
Auto Theft	3	3	5	3	3
Larceny from MVs	14	14	17	17	6
Malicious Destruction	16	12	4	10	6
Drug Incidents	1	1	1	0	0

NEIGHBORHOOD 13: Strawberry Hill

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Housebreaks	6	6	7	6	1
Street Robbery	1	4	0	0	1
Auto Theft	4	4	5	5	2
Larceny from MVs	11	15	12	27	16
Malicious Destruction	14	14	18	10	15
Drug Incidents	0	1	1	2	0

Neighborhood Crime Comparison Table January-September 2009													
Crime	East Camb	MIT	Inman	Area 4	Camb-port	Mid-Camb	River-side	Agassiz	Peabody	West Camb	North Camb	Camb Highlands	Straw-berry Hill
Auto Theft	15	2	11	16	26	16	8	11	16	20	18	3	2
Drug Incidents	5	3	8	18	29	7	5	1	2	3	11	0	0
Housebreak	27	0	23	22	36	28	26	8	36	15	42	2	1
Larceny from Building	38	10	7	26	32	20	17	20	9	28	12	16	2
Larceny from MV	73	28	15	50	120	101	37	51	68	85	53	6	16
Larceny from Person	33	7	9	24	27	13	35	9	6	50	17	4	1
Larceny from Residence	19	0	10	7	22	26	4	4	19	8	12	0	3
Larceny of Bicycle	16	7	19	33	35	30	18	6	19	22	22	3	2
Larceny of Plate	4	0	5	4	2	5	2	0	2	1	1	1	1
Larceny of Services	2	1	1	3	1	0	0	1	0	5	4	3	0
Mal. Dest. Property	49	6	56	41	36	33	37	5	34	29	43	6	15
Street Robbery	14	3	6	16	27	13	11	4	8	3	12	2	1

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
BUSINESS DISTRICTS



FIVE-YEAR BUSINESS DISTRICTS CRIME COMPARISON

BUSINESS DISTRICT 1: East Cambridge/Galleria

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Larceny from Buildings	67	62	49	38	35
Larceny from Person	34	30	27	37	33
Commercial Burglary	14	22	23	9	3
Commercial Robbery	8	2	0	4	1
Shoplifting	106	69	94	127	134
Fraud/Flim Flam/Counterfeiting	40	58	31	50	39

BUSINESS DISTRICT 2: M.I.T./Kendall Sq./Lower Broadway

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Larceny from Buildings	28	23	22	29	16
Larceny from Person	5	8	11	13	8
Commercial Burglary	6	12	1	3	2
Commercial Robbery	1	0	1	2	0
Shoplifting	3	3	2	2	2
Fraud/Flim Flam/Counterfeiting	15	5	9	16	19

BUSINESS DISTRICT 3: Inman Square/Harrington

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Larceny from Buildings	26	20	16	22	12
Larceny from Person	9	19	19	17	11
Commercial Burglary	11	15	16	7	9
Commercial Robbery	17	3	3	4	3
Shoplifting	3	2	5	3	1
Fraud/Flim Flam/Counterfeiting	24	31	31	40	28

BUSINESS DISTRICT 4: Central Square Area

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Larceny from Buildings	72	47	79	59	57
Larceny from Person	70	70	59	78	62
Commercial Burglary	11	21	14	13	19
Commercial Robbery	11	3	1	3	6
Shoplifting	78	82	80	52	43
Fraud/Flim Flam/Counterfeiting	59	59	54	56	46

BUSINESS DISTRICT 5: Cambridgeport/Riverside

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Larceny from Buildings	18	8	11	11	6
Larceny from Person	3	6	9	10	4
Commercial Burglary	3	5	0	1	0
Commercial Robbery	4	2	0	0	1
Shoplifting	12	15	11	6	14
Fraud/Flim Flam/Counterfeiting	19	27	15	20	26

BUSINESS DISTRICT 6: Bay Square/Upper Broadway

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Larceny from Buildings	32	16	12	25	16
Larceny from Person	8	6	12	10	5
Commercial Burglary	15	6	5	2	3
Commercial Robbery	0	0	0	0	0
Shoplifting	3	1	1	1	0
Fraud/Flim Flam/Counterfeiting	22	19	25	36	22

BUSINESS DISTRICT 7: Harvard Square

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Larceny from Buildings	63	31	50	48	24
Larceny from Person	96	62	55	53	74
Commercial Burglary	11	13	11	5	6
Commercial Robbery	2	0	8	2	0
Shoplifting	39	41	40	41	34
Fraud/Flim Flam/Counterfeiting	26	24	28	29	20

BUSINESS DISTRICT 8: Massachusetts Avenue (1500-1900 block)

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Larceny from Buildings	41	16	22	25	29
Larceny from Person	8	14	14	18	14
Commercial Burglary	14	7	10	3	6
Commercial Robbery	1	2	3	1	1
Shoplifting	3	4	5	2	1
Fraud/Flim Flam/Counterfeiting	25	25	32	26	34

BUSINESS DISTRICT 9: Porter Square/North Cambridge

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Larceny from Buildings	23	27	18	25	11
Larceny from Person	8	13	18	9	17
Commercial Burglary	13	20	13	6	7
Commercial Robbery	6	9	5	4	1
Shoplifting	19	16	21	7	37
Fraud/Flim Flam/Counterfeiting	27	25	25	30	31

BUSINESS DISTRICT 10: Alewife/West Cambridge

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2005	Jan-Sept 2006	Jan-Sept 2007	Jan-Sept 2008	Jan-Sept 2009
Larceny from Buildings	38	29	46	40	31
Larceny from Person	16	7	21	15	7
Commercial Burglary	13	13	18	5	5
Commercial Robbery	6	7	5	3	2
Shoplifting	19	18	12	22	18
Fraud/Flim Flam/Counterfeiting	27	36	31	36	34

Business District Crime Comparison Table January-September 2009

Crime	East Cambridge/ Galleria	Mit/Kendal Sq./ Lower Broadway	Inman Sq./ Harrington	Central Sq.	Cambridge port/ Riverside	Bay Sq./ Upper Broadway	Harvard Sq.	Mass Ave.	Porter Sq./North Camb.	Alewife/ West Camb.
Larceny from Buildings	35	16	12	57	6	16	24	29	11	31
Larceny from Person	33	8	11	62	4	5	74	14	17	7
Commercial Burglary	3	2	9	19	0	3	6	6	7	5
Commercial Robbery	1	0	3	6	1	0	0	1	1	2
Shoplifting	134	2	1	43	14	0	34	1	37	18
Fraud/Flim Flam/Counterfei ting	39	19	28	46	26	22	20	34	31	34