



# Annual Crime Report 2024



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## Cambridge Police Department 2024 Annual Crime Report



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Winner, Best Statistical Report & Analytical Product 2012, International Association of Crime Analysts



# Cambridge at a Glance

## Cambridge Police Department

Organized:	1859
Sworn Officers:	288
Civilian Personnel:	47
Commissioner:	Christine Elow
Budget (FY 2024):	\$80,945,830
2024 Calls for Service:	105,691
2024 Total Index Crimes:	3,585

## City of Cambridge Top Employers

1. Harvard University	13,630
2. MIT	9,301
3. Cambridge Innovation Center	5,011
4. City of Cambridge	3,851
5. Takeda Pharmaceuticals	3,378
6. Broad Institute	3,316
7. Sanofi	2,294
7. Novartis	2,184
8. Google	2,100
10. Cambridge Health Alliance	1,962

## Crime Analysis Foreword

**Crime Analysis** is the process of turning crime data into information and then turning that information into knowledge about crime and safety in a particular community. While it is a growing field across this country and internationally, Cambridge has had a Crime Analysis Unit in operation for over 40 years.

The function of the Crime Analysis Unit (CAU) is to support the daily operations of the Police Department by collecting, managing, and analyzing crime, calls for service, and other data. The CAU also works together with analysts from neighboring departments to address cross-jurisdictional patterns. By making timely observations of emerging crime patterns, hot spots, and other crime problems, the CAU ultimately aims to assist the Department in its criminal apprehension and crime reduction strategies.

The Cambridge Police Department's 2024 Annual Crime Report is an attempt to provide detailed information so that citizens can make informed decisions about crime and safety in their neighborhoods.

The Annual Report offers a comprehensive analysis of the crimes reported by the Cambridge Police Department to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. The UCR Program has been collecting national crime statistics from local police departments since 1930. Based on seriousness and frequency, police departments are required to report their statistics on seven crimes which comprise the UCR Crime Index: murder, rape, aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, larceny, and auto theft. In 2007, the Cambridge Police Department initiated the submission of crimes into the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). The general concepts, such as jurisdictional rules, of collecting and reporting UCR data are the same in NIBRS. The difference in the programs is that NIBRS captures much greater detail on each crime than the summary-based UCR program.

The true picture of crime and disorder in a city is seldom conveyed to the public through simple statistics. Crimes are complex events, and these complexities encompass many dimensions. It is our endeavor in this report to unravel the web of factors that comprise the crime rate. The publication of detailed neighborhood crime statistics, patterns, and trends gives Cantabrigians a realistic view of their risks of victimization and helps residents, business owners, and visitors have a fuller understanding of crime problems in their areas.

This report outlines two distinctions that make up criminal incidents: (1) whether offenses are committed against strangers or against relatives and acquaintances; and (2) when and where crimes occur, focusing on where the hotspots are and the best time frames for the majority of the incidents. Outlining these factors is imperative to understanding the anatomy of crime in Cambridge, and to developing appropriate responses.

# Conventions Used in this Report

This report uses several common crime analysis conventions for the reporting of statistical information. These conventions are consistent with general crime analysis practice, standards issued by the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program and National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS), past Cambridge Police Annual Crime Reports, and monthly "BridgeStat" crime reports available on the Cambridge Police web site.

## Part I and Part II Crimes

The FBI UCR program standardizes the way in which law enforcement agencies report crime statistics. The program classifies crimes as "Part I" and "Part II." The "Part I" crimes are a list of seven common crimes that together form an "index" of criminal activity, much like the Dow Jones Industrial Average provides a general assessment of the stock market based on an index of 30 stocks. These seven crimes are murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and auto theft. All other crimes—including fraud and forgery, vandalism, drug offenses, and other sex offenses—are "Part II Crimes." Definitions of each of these crimes are included at the beginnings of their respective sections.

## The Hierarchy Rule

The Hierarchy Rule states that if multiple offenses are committed in the same incident, it is classified (and reported) as the most serious of the offenses. Thus, although almost all robberies involve both an assault and a theft, such incidents are included only under the "robbery" category. Similarly, the statistics for "larceny" only include incidents in which larceny is the primary crime; thefts from houses and businesses that involve illegal entry are "burglaries" and are reported there.

Using the hierarchy rule helps both police and community members understand crime. If you see that larcenies have increased 10% in your area, you don't have to worry that those thefts involve threats or violence. If they did, they would be reported as robberies instead of larcenies.

## Best Data at the Time

All statistics, including yearly totals and weighted averages, are calculated using the best available data at the time. Occasionally, after our reports are published, factors determined during investigation will cause us to reclassify a crime to a higher or lower category, and thus you may see slight discrepancies

between current and past reports. In all cases, the more recent data is the more correct data.

## Weighted Averages

Because crime can fluctuate significantly from year to year, the Crime Analysis Unit makes most of its comparisons based on averages rather than individual years. If shoplifting increased by 88% from 2023 to 2024, there's no way to tell from that figure alone whether 2023 was unusually low or 2024 was unusually high. But comparing 2024 to an average helps us better assess whether the crime truly went up or down in the most recent year.

We specifically use a five-year weighted average in which the earliest year (2019 in this report) is weighted once and the most recent year in the average (2023) is weighted five times, with the years in between weighted twice, three times, and four times. This common statistical convention helps produce a figure that best represents the "expected" value for the current year (2024), and to thus determine how unusual 2024's deviation is from that average. We also provide graphs for most crimes to help assess long-term trends.

## Rates

In a few places, we offer crime statistics in terms of rates rather than raw numbers. Using rates is important when comparing geographic areas of very different populations, so that we can better assess each resident's individual risk. For instance, in 2023, Cambridge had 315 aggravated assaults, 51% more than Revere, which reported 208. However, Cambridge has more than double the number of residents that Revere has. When we look at it on the basis of rates, Cambridge had 265 assaults per 100,000 residents, while Revere had 364 assaults per 100,000 residents, which means that a Revere resident's risk of aggravated assault was actually higher than a Cantabrigian's. We only provide rates for certain crimes, however, as not all crimes are best compared in terms of residential population.

# 2024 Crime Index

The Crime Index is composed of selected offenses used to gauge fluctuations in the overall volume and rate of crime reported to police. The offenses included are the violent crimes of murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault; and the property crimes of burglary, larceny, and auto theft. The Crime Index was developed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting program to standardize the way in which law enforcement agencies report crime statistics.

Crime	2021	2022	2023	2024	2023-2024 Change	5-Year Wtd. Avg.	Avg.-2024 Change
<b>Murder</b>	1	0	1	0	n/a	1	-100%
<b>Rape</b>	36	42	44	42	-5%	39	8%
Stranger	7	8	9	12	33%	7	71%
Non-Stranger	29	34	35	30	-14%	31	-3%
<b>Robbery</b>	68	96	128	109	-15%	96	14%
Commercial	11	18	34	25	-26%	21	19%
Street	57	78	94	84	-11%	75	12%
<b>Aggravated Assault</b>	209	258	315	313	-1%	254	23%
<b>Total Violent Crime</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>-5%</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>19%</b>
<b>Burglary</b>	196	258	272	271	0%	234	16%
Commercial	72	53	78	95	22%	65	46%
Residential	124	205	194	176	-9%	169	4%
<b>Larceny</b>	1,958	2,088	2,331	2,755	18%	2,090	32%
from Building	146	216	199	209	5%	184	14%
from Vehicle	446	465	319	290	-9%	382	-24%
From Person	106	122	96	84	-13%	110	-24%
from Residence	350	381	415	443	7%	378	17%
of Bicycle	623	481	579	499	-14%	554	-10%
of License Plate	27	23	39	25	-36%	27	-7%
of Services	6	15	26	20	-23%	16	25%
Miscellaneous	62	87	81	98	21%	71	38%
Shoplifting	192	298	577	1,087	88%	369	195%
<b>Auto Theft</b>	129	152	140	95	-32%	131	-27%
<b>Total Property Crime</b>	<b>2,283</b>	<b>2,498</b>	<b>2,743</b>	<b>3,121</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>2,455</b>	<b>27%</b>
<b>Crime Index Total</b>	<b>2,597</b>	<b>2,894</b>	<b>3,231</b>	<b>3,585</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>2,844</b>	<b>26%</b>

# Cambridge Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics, 2005-2024

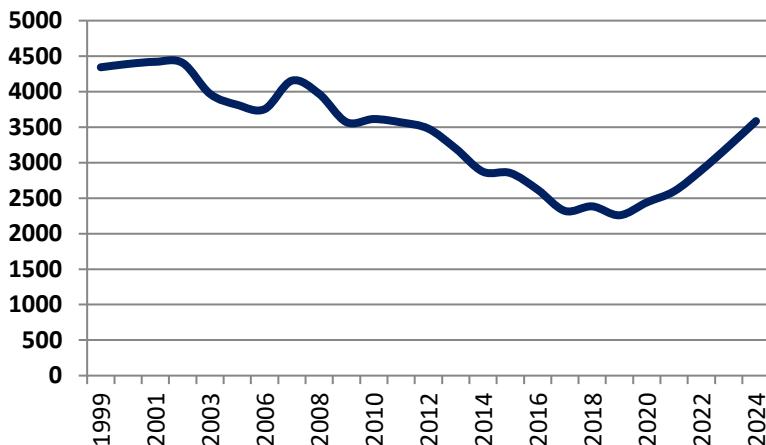
Crime	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Avg. 2005-2014	Avg. 2015-2024	Avg. 2005-2024	Change 2023-2024**	Change 2005-2024**
Murder	3	2	0	1	2	0	5	1	3	2	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	2	1	2	-100%	-100%
Rape	14	11	16	17	20	23	23	23	17	24	25	27	19	29	28	27	36	42	44	42	19	32	25	-5%	200%
Robbery	239	208	161	177	172	163	147	128	118	81	77	81	104	99	73	67	68	96	128	109	159	90	125	-15%	-54%
Aggravated Assault	244	237	243	274	256	251	258	262	189	184	186	161	173	188	189	191	209	258	315	313	240	218	229	-1%	28%
Burglary	623	685	653	467	429	453	520	499	390	286	438	308	252	252	155	186	196	258	272	271	501	259	380	0%	-57%
Larceny	2,396	2,377	2,838	2,788	2,497	2,555	2,458	2,448	2,376	2,159	2,000	1,931	1,679	1,704	1,704	1,884	1,958	2,088	2,331	2,755	2,489	2,003	2,246	18%	15%
Auto Theft	295	233	244	244	196	169	159	117	106	136	125	110	91	111	109	84	129	152	140	95	190	115	152	-32%	-68%
Total Violent	500	458	420	469	450	437	433	414	327	291	291	271	298	317	291	286	314	396	488	464	420	342	381	-5%	-7%
Total Property	3,314	3,295	3,735	3,499	3,122	3,177	3,137	3,064	2,872	2,581	2,563	2,349	2,022	2,067	1,968	2,154	2,283	2,498	2,743	3,121	3,180	2,377	2,778	14%	-6%
Total	3,814	3,753	4,155	3,968	3,572	3,614	3,570	3,478	3,199	2,872	2,854	2,620	2,320	2,384	2,259	2,440	2,597	2,894	3,231	3,585	3,600	2,718	3,159	11%	-6%

\*\*Percent changes are rounded to the nearest whole number.

N/A = % change cannot be calculated when the 2005 or 2023 total is zero.

# 25-Year Statistical Trends

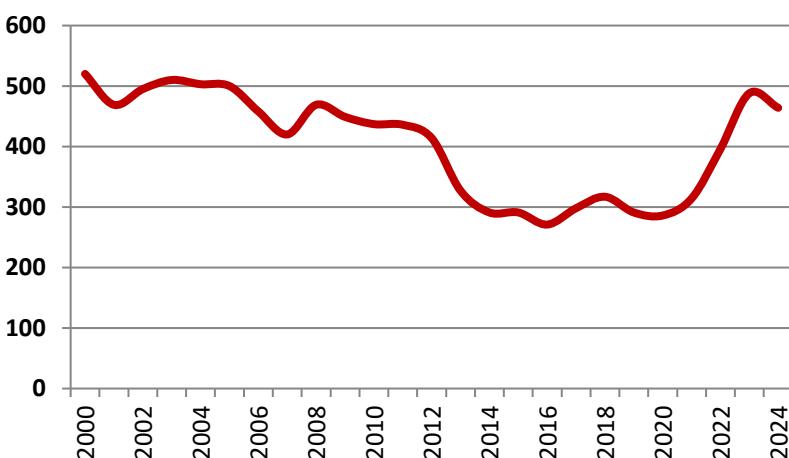
## Total Part I (Index Crimes)



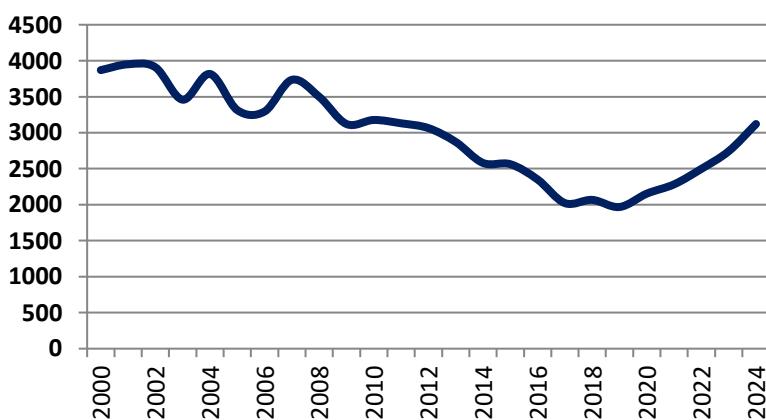
Despite some bumps in the early 1980s, 1990s, and early 2000s, crime had been decreasing steadily since it peaked in 1974 at more than 10,000 Part I crimes. Crime fluctuated around the 3,700 mark for about a decade before dropping below 3,000 for the first time in 2014 and below 2,500 for the first time in 2017. After reaching a record low of 2,259 in 2019, the crime index reversed direction and has been climbing each year since, registering the highest number of incidents since 2010 with 3,585 crimes in 2024.

Violent crimes (murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) hit their peak in 1990, amidst a nationwide gang and drug epidemic, but then fell dramatically, dropping to 450-500 per year throughout the early 2000s and into the 200s in the 2010s, bottoming out in 2016 at 271 incidents, the lowest total recorded since the late 1960s. In 2023, violent crime reversed direction and spiked to 488 reported incidents, the highest recorded violent crime total since 2005. This total dropped slightly (24 incidents, or 1%) to 464 in 2024.

## Total Part I Violent Crimes



## Total Part I Property Crimes



Property crime (burglary, larceny, and auto theft) makes up about 85-90% of the total Part I crime index each year, and its graph therefore looks almost identical to the total crime graph above. The 50-year low for property crime was recorded in 2019 with 1,968 incidents. Numbers have been on the rise since then, with 3,121 reported in 2024, the highest recorded total since 2011. These increases over the past few years have mostly been due to upsurges in bicycle thefts, commercial burglaries, package thefts, and shoplifting.

# 2024 Executive Summary

With the pandemic-related shutdowns and social distancing effectively in the rearview in 2024, the City of Cambridge experienced another increase in total Part 1 Crimes this year. For the first time since 2011, the crime index total registered back above 3,500 incidents in Cambridge.

Further analysis of the crime breakdown indicates that there were 3,121 property crimes recorded in 2024, 378 more than the number reported in 2023, equaling an increase of 14%. Conversely, there were 464 violent crimes reported in 2024, 24 fewer than in 2023, which translates to a decrease of 1%. Overall, the total of 3,585 serious crimes reported in 2024 was 11% above the 2023 total of 3,231 incidents and 26% above the five-year weighted average of 2,844 incidents.

## Murder

- There were no murders reported in Cambridge in 2024.
- In the last recorded homicide, on November 23, 2023, officers responded to the area of 10 Magazine Street in Central Square. Two individuals with gunshot wounds were located and transported to a Boston hospital. One victim, 27-year-old Danasia Greene of Cambridge, was pronounced deceased at the hospital. The second victim, a 26-year-old male from Boston, was treated for non - life threatening injuries. The incident remains under active investigation at this time.
- Since 1990, Cambridge has averaged two murders per year, which is a decrease from the 30-year period between 1960 and 1989 when the average was slightly less than five per year.
- Trend analysis for the past 30 years points to two recurring murder scenarios in Cambridge: a domestic murder in which one family member is killed by another, and the murder of young individuals by a handgun or knife, typically in acts of retaliatory street violence.
- Handguns have been used in 22 of the 39 murders in Cambridge since 2000. Seven have involved knives.
- Twenty-seven of the 39 murders in Cambridge since 2000 (69%) have been cleared by an arrest/suicide of the perpetrator. For comparison, the 2020 clearance rate for murder was approximately 50% nationally.

## Rape

- The total number of reported rapes in Cambridge dropped from 44 in 2023 to 42 in 2024.
- Twelve of the rapes in 2024 involved acquaintances, eleven were domestic, ten were classified as contact rapes, and nine were classified as blitz assaults.
- The number of stranger-to-stranger rapes each year, usually between five and 15, remains extremely low. Patterns of reported rape are very rare in Cambridge.

## Robbery

- In 2024, there were 109 total robberies reported, translating to a 15% decrease below the 2023 total. When measured against the five-year weighted average of 96 incidents, a 14% incline was recorded.

## 2024 Executive Summary

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- Street robberies dropped from 94 incidents in 2023 to 84 in 2024. Despite the drop, the 2024 street robbery total was still nine incidents (12%) above the five-year average of 75 incidents. No established street robbery patterns emerged anywhere in Cambridge in 2024. The Central Square area saw the most activity citywide with 46 incidents (or 55% of the citywide total) this year.
- A 26% decrease in commercial robberies was reported in 2024. Incidents dropped from 34 robberies in 2023 to 25 this year. However, commercial robberies in 2024 were still 19% above the five-year weighted average of 21. A large number of these incidents over the past two years involved shoplifting that escalated to robberies when suspects used force to flee with their stolen merchandise.
- After seeing a spike in bank robberies in 2022 with five reported, this location type saw only one incident in 2023 and two in 2024.

## Aggravated Assault

- The total of 313 aggravated assaults reported in Cambridge in 2024 was 1% below the 2023 total of 315 incidents and 23% above the five-year average of 254 assaults.
- Domestic assaults, which typically constitute 30-40% of the assault total each year, rose from 65 in 2023 to 81 in 2024, making up 26% of the assault total this year. Meanwhile, traffic & parking (road rage) assaults dropped from 38 in 2023 to 22 in 2024.
- Only eight of the aggravated assaults in 2024 (3%) resulted in serious or life-threatening injuries.
- The most common weapons used in aggravated assaults in 2024 were knives (15%), followed by shod feet (feet with shoes) in 12% of the incidents, and household items in 8%. There were 17 aggravated assaults that involved the use of a firearm in 2024, up one from the previous year.
- Approximately 33% of aggravated assaults resulted in an arrest in 2024 (up 6% from 2023), compared to only 25% of simple assaults.

## Burglary

- Total burglary, the combination of residential and commercial breaks, registered a decline of just one incident in 2024 when compared to the 2023 total of 272 breaks and a 16% rise above the five-year weighted average of 234 for this crime. The citywide total for 2024 was 271 incidents.
- After a 26% reduction in commercial burglaries was registered in Cambridge in 2022, this crime type reversed direction and rose 47% in 2023 and another 22% in 2024. The 2024 total of 95 was also 46% above the five-year weighted average of 65. Part of the incline in 2024 can be attributed to a crime categorization change, in which we now count shoplifting incidents involving suspects who were previously trespassed from the victimized store as commercial burglaries. This was the case in at least 13 incidents in 2024.
- No major commercial burglary patterns emerged in Cambridge in 2024, except for a sporadic series of breaks into construction sites targeting copper and tools in North Cambridge throughout the year.
- Housebreaks saw a moderate decline of 9% this year, dropping from 194 in 2023 to 176 in 2024. Despite the decline, this crime type was still up by 4% over the five-year weighted average of 169. During the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2023, housebreak activity increased along the Somerville border, with multiple reports of breaks involving entry by way of unlocked doors/windows and targeting electronics, jewelry, handbags, and cash. This series continued into the first few months of 2024 before incidents cooled off.

## **Larceny**

- In 2024, the property crime of larceny rose 18% (or 424 incidents) when measured against the 2023 total of 2,331 incidents and increased 32% when compared to the five-year weighted average of 2,090. There were 2,755 total larcenies reported this year.
- Larceny is always the most prevalent of the Part One crimes in Cambridge. In 2024, it accounted for 77% of the total Part I crime and 88% of the total property crime.
- Larcenies from motor vehicles (LMVs) this year were down 9% from the 2023 figures, mostly due to an absence of catalytic converter thefts this year. The 2024 total of 290 LMVs was also down 24% when compared with the five-year weighted average of 382.
- Larceny from the person dropped by 13% in 2024, down 12 incidents (13%) from the 96 reported in 2023 and down 26 incidents (24%) from the five-year weighted average of 110.
- Larceny of bicycles experienced a moderate decrease in 2024, dropping 14% from 579 incidents in 2023 to 499 in 2024. This property crime was also 10% below the five-year weighted average of 554.
- Larceny from residences saw an increase in 2024, rising 7% from 415 incidents in 2023 to 443 this year. Due to the surge in online shopping and deliveries that began during the pandemic, by far the most prevalent scenario for this crime type in recent years has involved the theft of packages from the front steps or vestibules of residences. There were 315 package thefts reported in 2024, up 8% from the 293 reported in 2023. This scenario accounted for 71% of the larcenies from residences in 2024.
- Shoplifting saw the largest increase of any crime type in 2024, rising 510 incidents (or 88%) from 577 crimes in 2023 to 1,087 in 2024. This total was also 195% above the five-year weighted average of 369. Central Square saw the largest numerical increase in incidents in 2024 with a rise of 218 shopliftings from 304 in 2023 to 522 this year.

## **Auto Theft**

- In 2024, auto thefts in Cambridge decreased by 32%, down 45 incidents from the 2023 total of 140 thefts. The total of 95 incidents reported in 2024 was also 27% below the five-year average of 131. These totals are remarkably low for a city that used to see staggering auto theft numbers—in 1974, there were 5,203 cars reported stolen.
- The Port recorded the largest number of auto thefts in 2024 with 19 reported incidents.
- A trend that began in 2021 and has continued through 2024 is a rise in incidents targeting delivery drivers that leave their cars unlocked and sometimes running while they deliver packages or food. In 2024, Cambridge experienced 15 thefts of cars that had been left running while the driver ran into an establishment.
- Approximately 34% of the auto thefts reported in 2024 involved the theft of a motorcycle, scooter, or moped.
- Roughly 56% of the cars reported stolen in Cambridge in 2024 have been recovered to date. Just under half (or 49%) of the recovered cars in 2024 were located in Cambridge.

# Regional Crime Comparison

The following table compares Cambridge to other selected Massachusetts cities and towns across the region. The data is from 2023, as this is the most recent year for which data is available from the FBI NIBRS program. Data is presented in terms of rates per 100,000 residents, rather than raw totals, so that we can validly compare cities and towns of very different population sizes.

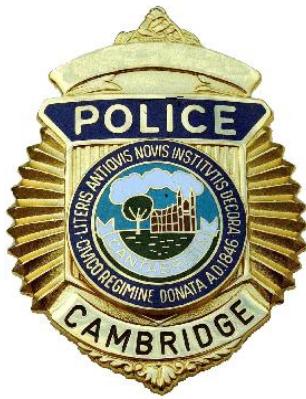
## 2023 Rates per 100,000 residents for selected Massachusetts Cities and Towns

City	Population	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Violent Total	Burglary	Larceny	Auto Theft	Property Total	Total
Arlington	45,365	0	0	7	90	97	53	362	46	461	558
Belmont	26,556	0	8	4	49	60	200	595	49	844	904
Boston	642,823	5	33	137	453	627	181	1,589	174	1,944	2,571
Brockton	108,938	6	75	71	487	640	357	1,099	532	1,988	2,628
Brookline	62,639	0	6	14	45	65	48	699	42	789	854
Everett	49,740	0	44	30	310	384	135	1,037	179	1,351	1,735
Fall River	93,879	4	66	86	753	910	211	1,026	191	1,427	2,337
Framingham	70,624	0	16	21	252	289	388	572	140	1,100	1,389
Haverhill	67,133	0	12	16	483	511	98	684	48	830	1,341
Lawrence	87,806	8	25	55	392	479	112	842	113	1,066	1,545
Lynn	101,144	4	29	54	374	461	148	668	171	988	1,448
Malden	64,291	0	8	34	224	266	145	1,104	162	1,411	1,677
Medford	68,280	3	23	22	142	190	57	807	145	1,009	1,199
Methuen	53,558	2	4	13	190	209	37	760	41	838	1,047
New Bedford	100,876	4	54	98	348	504	255	964	334	1,552	2,056
Newton	86,996	2	6	8	43	59	51	476	30	556	615
Peabody	53,841	0	19	20	238	277	71	680	89	840	1,116
Plymouth	68,771	1	12	7	289	310	103	571	60	734	1,044
Quincy	102,465	0	25	31	286	343	168	863	83	1,114	1,456
Revere	57,132	0	9	30	364	403	166	1,069	217	1,453	1,855
Somerville	79,513	0	16	28	202	247	215	1,001	206	1,422	1,669
Springfield	154,218	19	49	187	626	881	337	1,781	868	2,986	3,867
Taunton	60,356	2	25	23	424	474	88	702	88	878	1,352
Waltham	63,797	2	27	19	204	251	141	641	55	837	1,088
Watertown	34,988	0	34	29	74	137	83	1,180	54	1,318	1,455
Weymouth	57,725	0	45	31	248	324	85	861	114	1,060	1,384
<b>Average*</b>	<b>94,748</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>1,077</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>1,452</b>	<b>1,917</b>
<b>Cambridge</b>	<b>118,960</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>1,959</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>2,306</b>	<b>2,716</b>

\* Cambridge figures are not included in the average so as to allow a better comparison between Cambridge and the average.

The statistics for these selected cities above show that Cambridge had less per-capita crime in three categories (murder, aggravated assault, and auto theft) in 2023, while conversely registering above the average in rapes, robberies, burglaries, and larcenies. The rate for the overall crime total in 2023 in Cambridge was also consequently above the average for these selected jurisdictions across the region.

The high larceny figure for Cambridge is consistent with past data. Cambridge's large business and education populations create opportunities for thefts from vehicles, pocket-picking, shoplifting, thefts from buildings, and bicycle thefts —opportunities that are not present in many less trafficked cities and towns.



## Section II

# Part I Crimes

Murder  
Rape  
Robbery  
Aggravated Assault  
Burglary  
Larceny  
Auto Theft

# Murder

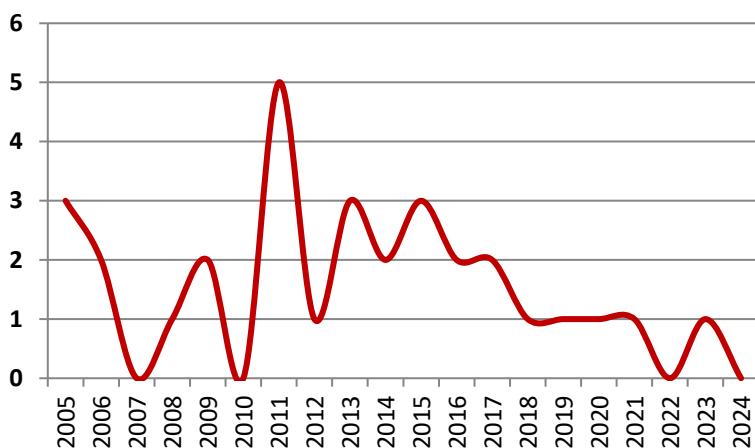
## Definition

*Murder and non-negligent manslaughter encompasses the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. The classification of this offense, as for all other Crime Index Offenses, is based solely on police investigation as opposed to the determination of a court, medical examiner, coroner, jury, or other judicial body. Not included in the count for this offense classification are deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident; justifiable homicides; and attempts to murder or assaults with the intent to murder, which are counted as aggravated assaults.*

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	1
2023	1
2024	0
Change from 2023	-100%
Change from Average	-100%

## Murders reported in Cambridge\*



\*Murders are counted by victim rather than incidents; one incident can have multiple victims.

The second victim, a 26-year-old male from Boston, was treated for non-life-threatening injuries. It remains under investigation at this time.

In the last reported homicide in Cambridge before 2023, 19-year-old Xavier Louis-Jacques of Cambridge was found unconscious outside his vehicle on Pemberton Street on March 27, 2021. Louis-Jacques was transported to a nearby hospital, where he was later pronounced deceased as a result of multiple gunshot wounds. No suspects have been identified and the incident remains under investigation.

## Cambridge murder statistics, 1990-2024

- 65 people murdered in 60 incidents (in four of the incidents, two or more people were killed)
- 44 victims were male (average age of 34)
- 21 victims were female (average age of 39)
- Most common weapons: handguns (31 incidents) and knives (14 incidents)
- 21 of the 60 cases are still under investigation or remain unsolved.
- 27 of the 39 cases since 2000 have been cleared by arrest or by the death of the suspect.

There were no murders reported anywhere in Cambridge in 2024. This is the second time in three years that Cambridge did not record a single homicide in a year but is only the fifth time in the past 20 years that this occurred—the other years being 2004, 2007, 2010, and 2022.

In the last reported homicide, officers responded to the area of 10 Magazine Street in Central Square shortly after midnight on November 23, 2023. Two individuals with gunshot wounds were located and transported to a Boston hospital. One victim, 27-year-old Danasia Greene of Cambridge, was pronounced deceased at the hospital.

**Murder in Cambridge, 2010–2024**

(See 2010 Annual Report for information on murders committed during the 1990s and early 2000s.)

Date & Time	Location	Victim(s)	Offender(s)	Story	Status
3/12/2011 00:15	Watson St & Brookline St (Cambridgeport)	James Lauture, 30, of Cambridge	Unknown	Lauture was shot and killed while sitting in the driver's seat of a vehicle parked at Watson & Brookline St.	Ongoing investigation.
11/20/2011 10:30	77 Elm St (The Port)	Guy Verna, 62, of Cambridge	Gylene Verna, 29, of Cambridge	Gylene Verna allegedly strangled and killed her father, Guy Verna, during a verbal altercation at her apartment.	Verna was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter and sentenced to 8-10 years in prison.
12/9/2011 18:35	161 Grove St (Strawberry Hill)	Mary Pizzuto, 91, of Cambridge, Patrick Pizzuto, 63, of Lexington, & Robert Pizzuto, 52, of Arlington	John Brosnahan, 68, of Cambridge	Brosnahan, a retired Bedford police officer, shot and killed his mother-in-law and two of his brothers-in-law during a disagreement at his residence. Brosnahan fled the scene and was found later that evening in Brighton where he died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.	John Brosnahan committed suicide.
6/3/2012 20:00	34 Willow St (Inman/Harrington)	Charlene Holmes, 16, of Cambridge	Unknown	Holmes was shot while standing outside a residence on Willow Street. She was transported to the hospital with gunshot wounds where she succumbed to her injuries.	Ongoing investigation.
1/16/2013	34 Ash St (West Cambridge)	Rehma Sabir, 1, of Cambridge	Aisling Brady McCarthy, 34, of Quincy	On April 12, 2013, nanny Aisling Brady McCarthy, of Quincy, was charged with murder in the death of 1-year-old Rehma Sabir of Cambridge, who died on January 16, 2013, from injuries sustained on January 14, 2013.	Charges were dropped against Aisling McCarthy in August 2015 after the medical examiner amended the manner of death to "undetermined."
4/18/2013 22:30	Vassar St & Main St (M.I.T.)	Sean Collier, 27, of Somerville	Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 19, of Cambridge	M.I.T. Officer Sean Collier was found shot in his vehicle on the M.I.T. campus. He was transported to Mass General Hospital and pronounced deceased. The Middlesex Attorney's Office obtained a default warrant against Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev for this incident on 10/7/13.	Tsarnaev was found guilty of Officer Collier's murder on 4/8/15.
11/25/2013 23:50	243 Broadway (The Port)	Jesse Maxwell Jr, 73, of Cambridge	Harold Antoine Maxwell, 33, of Cambridge	The body of Jesse Maxwell was found in his apartment at 243 Broadway, where he died as a result of injuries to the head and neck. The victim's nephew, Harold Maxwell, was arrested and charged with his uncle's murder.	Harold Maxwell is awaiting trial.
2/2/2014 06:00	396 Putnam Ave (Cambridgeport)	Dana Robinson, 46, of Brockton	Malia Gomez, 40, of Cambridge	Gomez admitted to stabbing Robinson, an acquaintance, in her apartment building following an argument. Robinson later died at Beth Israel Hospital.	Gomez is awaiting trial.
7/3/2014 21:57	119 Windsor St (The Port)	Kensley David, 22, of Roxbury	Unknown	David suffered a single fatal gunshot wound to the head during a shooting on Windsor Street. The incident is not believed to be random.	Ongoing investigation.
4/4/2015 07:53	157 Sixth St (East Cambridge)	Jonathan Camilien, 26, of Somerville	Carlos Colina, 32, of Cambridge	Camilien's dismembered body was found inside a duffel bag on a walkway off of Binney Street. A crime scene was later located inside Colina's apartment on Sixth Street and he was arrested. The two were acquaintances.	Colina was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder and sentenced to life in prison w/o parole.
8/12/2015 20:40	Washington St & Windsor St (The Port)	Rasaun Nichols, 31, of Cambridge	Roosselin Altidor, 25, of Medford	Nichols was struck by gunshots while in a vehicle that was departing Newtowne Court. Altidor was arrested 9 days later. Nichols and Altidor were known to each other.	Altidor pled guilty to 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder and was sentenced to life in prison w/ possibility of parole after 15 yrs

## Part I Crimes: Murder

Date & Time	Location	Victim(s)	Offender(s)	Story	Status
9/12/2015 01:40	750 Mass Ave (Riverside)	Tywann Jones, 35, of Roxbury	Antwan Gonsalves, 33, of Cambridge	Jones was stabbed while standing outside the 7-Eleven in Central Square. He later died at MGH. Gonsalves was arrested on September 24 on a warrant for Jones's murder.	Gonsalves was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder and sentenced to life in prison w/o parole.
3/22/16 21:57	321 Mount Auburn St (West Cambridge)	Armando Hernandez, 30, of Belmont	Unknown	Hernandez was shot and killed while walking on Mount Auburn St. A second male was non-fatally shot in the leg.	Ongoing Investigation.
6/25/16 00:18	140 Harvard St (The Port)	Anthony Clay, 49, of Cambridge	Unknown	Clay was shot while standing outside of 140 Harvard St. He was pronounced deceased at Mass General Hospital.	Ongoing Investigation.
10/14/17 03:40	Windsor St & Evereteze Way (Inman)	Ednilson DaCosta, 28, of Dorchester	Unknown	DaCosta was shot while sitting in a vehicle at Windsor St & Evereteze Way. He was pronounced deceased at Cambridge City Hospital.	Ongoing investigation.
11/16/17 19:30	Tremont St & Hampshire St (The Port)	Malachi Mims, 28, of Cambridge	Kevin Reddick, 17, and Osiris Chambers, 16, both of Cambridge	Mims was shot outside a vehicle in the area of Tremont & Hampshire St. He was pronounced deceased at Cambridge City Hospital. On December 31, 2017, Reddick was arrested in Boston in connection with this homicide. On November 29, 2018, Chambers was also arraigned in connection with Mims' death.	Reddick and Chambers pled guilty to voluntary manslaughter and were sentenced to 11 to 13 years in prison.
7/22/18 18:43	Cambridge St & Warren St (Inman)	Richelle Robinson, 15, of Cambridge	Isaias Plaza, 18, unhoused	Robinson died following an assault in which she was shoved to the ground on Cambridge Street. Cause of death was determined to be blunt force trauma. Plaza was arraigned in July 2019 on charges of manslaughter and A&B causing serious bodily injury in connection with Robinson's death.	Plaza pled guilty to manslaughter and was sentenced to 2.5 years in the House of Corrections.
1/2/19 18:48	Danehy Park, New St side (North Cambridge)	Paul Wilson, 60, of Cambridge	Unknown	Wilson was assaulted and sustained fatal blunt force injuries to the head while walking through Danehy Park.	Ongoing Investigation.
4/14/20 17:18	Green Street & Sidney Place (Cambridgeport)	Danilo Gonzalez (aka Danilo Perez), 35, unhoused	Jose Bermudez, 55, unhoused	A verbal altercation between Gonzalez and Bermudez escalated and Bermudez allegedly stabbed Perez multiple times. Perez was pronounced deceased at a local hospital, and Bermudez was arrested on 4/23/20 in Allston.	Bermudez passed away while awaiting trial.
3/27/21 00:36	144 Pemberton St (North Cambridge)	Xavier Louis-Jacques, 19, of Cambridge	Unknown	Louis-Jacques was located with apparent gunshot wounds outside his vehicle on Pemberton St. He was pronounced deceased at a local hospital.	Ongoing investigation.
11/23/23 00:31	10 Magazine St (Cambridgeport)	Danasia Greene, 27, of Cambridge	Unknown	Greene and a male victim were located with gunshot wounds on Magazine St. Both were transported to local hospitals where Greene was pronounced deceased and the male was treated and released.	Ongoing investigation.

### Murder across the state and nation in 2023\*

In 2023, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recorded 22,830 murders nationwide. With population taken into consideration, 6.8 murders per 100,000 people were recorded in 2023. The murder rate in Massachusetts is well below that for the nation as a whole. In 2023, Massachusetts reported approximately 2.7 murders per 100,000 residents, while the national rate in 2023 was approximately 6.8 per 100,000. There were 135 homicides reported in Massachusetts in 2023. Boston typically experiences the most homicides in the state, as it did in 2023 with 34 homicides, followed by Springfield with 29 in 2023. Of the five towns surrounding Cambridge (Arlington, Belmont, Brookline, Somerville, and Watertown), only Cambridge (1) reported a homicide in 2023.

\*The source of this data is the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) National Center for Health Statistics and the FBI's Crime Data Explorer (CDE). Statistics for 2024 are not yet available.

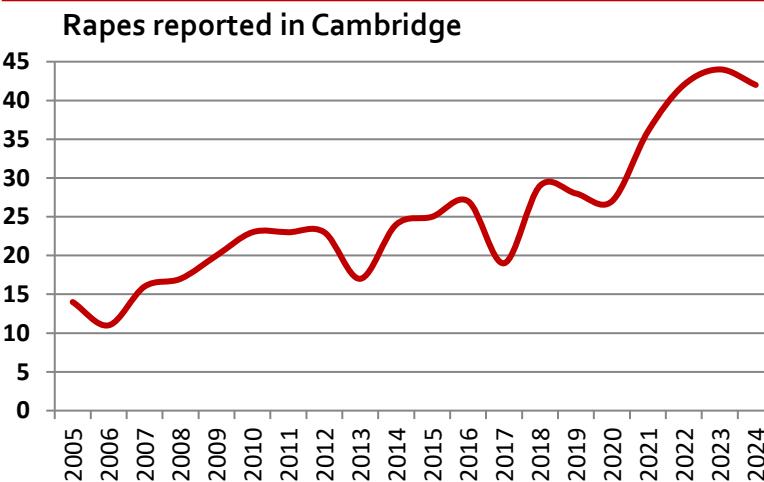
# Rape

## Definition

*Sexual intercourse with a male or female, either forcibly and against that person's will, or non-forcibly but when the victim is incapable of giving consent because of temporary mental or physical incapacity, or because of youth. Assaults with intent to commit rape are included. Statutory rape (without force), incest, molestation, and other sex offenses are excluded.*

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	39
2023	44
2024	42
Change from 2023	-5%
Change from Average	+8%



to fluctuate each year, projecting future totals is a risky business at best. The actual number of stranger-to-stranger rapes each year in Cambridge, usually between five and 15, remains extremely low.

## Categories of rape

- **Acquaintance Rapes** are non-domestic rapes committed by someone who knows the victim. They include rapes of co-workers, schoolmates, friends, and other acquaintances. Twelve of the 42 incidents in 2024 were perpetrated by acquaintances.
- **Blitz Rapes** are rapes in which the suspect "comes out of nowhere." Usually, the attacker is a stranger, but this is not necessarily the case. Among all of the categorizations of rape, the blitz rape, or "street rape," tends to invoke the most fear in the average citizen. There were nine blitz rapes recorded in Cambridge in 2024.
- **Contact Rapes** are 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 and lure them into their cars or houses, or otherwise try to coerce the victim into a situation in which they can begin their assault. There were ten rapes in Cambridge in 2024 that fit into this category.
- **Domestic Rapes** involve rapes between spouses, romantic partners, or family members. Eleven domestic rapes were reported in 2024.

Rapes by Category					
Year	Acquaintance	Contact	Blitz	Domestic	Total
2022	22	4	6	10	42
2023	20	10	4	10	44
2024	12	10	9	11	42

# Robbery

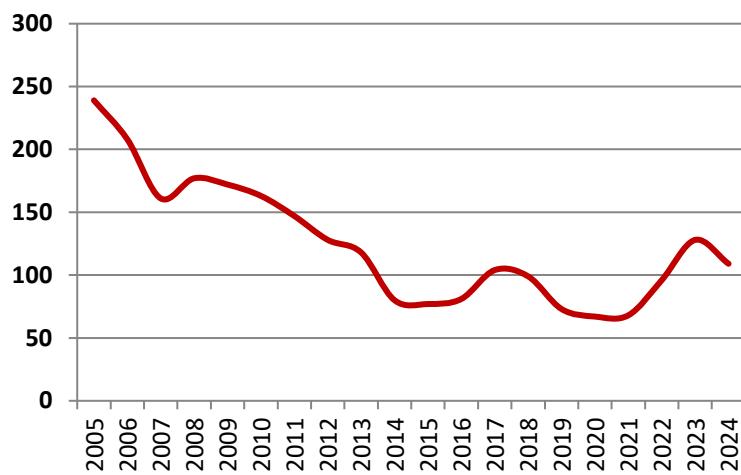
## Definition

*Robbery is the taking or attempted taking of anything of value from another person by violence, threat of violence, or putting the victim in fear. Unlike larceny or theft, it involves a direct confrontation between the offender and victim. Incidents described as "muggings," "purse snatchings," and "hold-ups" are usually robberies.*

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	96
2023	128
2024	109
Change from 2023	-15%
Change from Average	14%

## Robberies reported in Cambridge



Due to its violent nature, robbery is one of the most feared crimes. For this reason, it is often considered by a citizen when he or she gauges the general "safety" of an area. It is also one of the main concerns of business owners.

Often, suspects approach their target, threatening to cause harm if the victim does not relinquish money or property. Weapons are brandished in some incidents, but a suspect may simply rely on the victim's perceived fear of harm. Most incidents involve little physical contact, especially when victims comply with the suspect's demands.

## Robberies by category

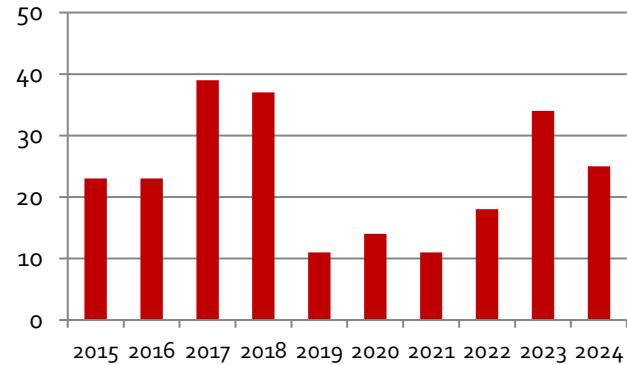
Category	2023	2024	Change
Commercial Robbery	34	25	-26%
Street Robbery	94	84	-11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>-15%</b>

## Commercial robbery

Commercial robbery is described as the taking by force or threat of force anything of value from the care or custody of a commercial or financial establishment. Examples of this crime include a bank heist, a cab stick-up, and a convenience store hold-up. Commercial incidents tend to occur early in the morning or late into the night.

Commercial robberies dropped an incredible 70% from 37 robberies in 2018 to just 11 in 2019. These low numbers continued in 2020 and 2021, due to the pandemic and subsequent closure of many businesses. There was a slight increase in incidents in 2022 compared to the previous three years, followed by

## Commercial robbery, 2015-2024



a significant increase in 2023. The 2023 total was the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest total in the past ten years. There was a drop of 26% when looking at the 2024 total of 25 commercial robberies compared to the 34 reported in 2023. Although there was a decline in 2024, it was still the fourth highest in the past ten years. One of the reasons for the increase in commercial robberies in 2023 and 2024 compared to prior years was the large increase in situations that began as shoplifting but escalated to robberies. This took place when suspects were confronted by store employees and proceeded to use force or threats towards those employees in order to flee with stolen merchandise. The business district that experienced the most commercial robberies in 2024 was Central Square with seven incidents, followed by Porter Square and Harvard Square, each with five incidents.

#### Commercial robberies by location type

Type	2022	2023	2024	Change 2023-2024
Misc. Retail	3	8	8	0%
Convenience/Grocery	3	8	7	-13%
Drug Store	1	7	4	-43%
Liquor Store	2	3	3	0%
Bank/Armored Car	5	1	2	100%
Gas Station	2	1	1	0%
Café/Restaurant	1	3	0	-100%
Eyeglass/Optician	0	1	0	-100%
Hair/Beauty	0	1	0	-100%
Other	0	1	0	-100%
Electronics/Computer	1	0	0	N/A*
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>-26%</b>

\*N/A = % change cannot be calculated when the total is zero.

In 2024, there were only six different types of locations that experienced robberies. The most common establishments to experience commercial robberies were those that sell a variety of goods, such as department and convenience stores. Meanwhile only two bank robberies were reported in 2024.

No defined commercial robbery patterns emerged anywhere in Cambridge in 2024.

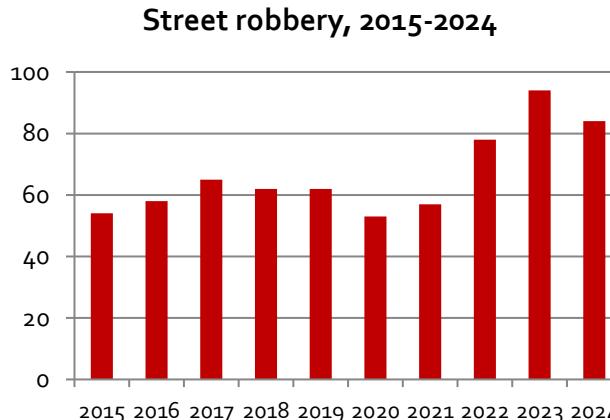
In total, 12 of the 25 commercial robberies in 2024 resulted in the identification of and/or charges against named suspects.

## Street robbery

Street robbery involves all robberies committed against individuals, as opposed to commercial establishments. Examples of street robberies are “muggings,” “carjackings,” and “purse snatchings.” The number of street robberies this year decreased by 10 incidents (or 11%), from 94 in 2023 to 84 in 2024.

Despite the name, a “street” robbery does not necessarily have to occur on the street, although the majority of them do. In 2024, 76% of all street robberies occurred on a street, alleyway, bus stop or sidewalk. The remaining premise types in 2024 included residences, retail establishments, automobiles, and a restaurant (where the targets were not the stores or establishments themselves).

In 2024, 55 (65%) of the street robberies were unarmed, involving either no weapon at all or just the use of hands and/or feet without shoes. The remaining 29 robberies (35%) involved the use or threat of a weapon. Knives were used in six incidents, while a firearm was used in nine incidents and implied in another two. Stab feet (feet with shoes) were reportedly used in three incidents, and the following weapons were each reported in one incident: brass knuckles, chemical spray, club/stick, stone/rock, and wall/floor. The remaining three were classified as unknown as the victim stated a weapon was used but was unable to articulate what it was.



## Part I Crimes: Robbery

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### Street robberies by neighborhood

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2023	2024	Change from Avg.
East Cambridge	5	6	3	-40%
MIT	1	0	0	-100%
Inman/Harrington	2	2	5	150%
The Port	11	17	14	27%
Cambridgeport	19	28	19	0%
Mid-Cambridge	9	11	9	0%
Riverside	12	8	18	50%
Baldwin	1	1	0	-100%
Peabody	2	2	3	50%
West Cambridge	6	12	4	-33%
North Cambridge	6	7	8	33%
Cambridge Highlands	1	0	0	-100%
Strawberry Hill	1	0	1	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>-12%</b>

The number of street robberies across each neighborhood varies widely, which is a reflection of the residential and commercial mixture in each area. For example, Cambridgeport and The Port are more densely populated than many other neighborhoods and are closer to train stations and drinking establishments. These are factors that contribute to higher numbers of potential targets for street robbers, as individuals can become targets when they are walking alone late at night, distracted or intoxicated. The neighborhood that experienced the most robberies in 2024 was Cambridgeport with 19 incidents. Cambridgeport and Riverside together accounted for 44% of the citywide street robberies this year. This can be attributed to a trend of increased robbery activity in Central Square (an area that includes sections of both Cambridgeport and Riverside) that began in 2022 and has continued ever since.

People were more cautious about going out in public during the pandemic, but as that came to an end in 2022, street robbery numbers surged in 2023 with the highest total reported since 2013. Thankfully, street robbery numbers did decline moderately in 2024 with an 11% decrease, and no defined, long-term street robbery patterns emerged anywhere in the city this year. In total, arrests were made in only 14 of the 84 robberies in 2024 at the time of the incident. However, upon follow-up investigation, more individuals were linked to their crimes, as possible suspects were developed in an additional 26 incidents.

### Frequently occurring street robbery scenarios

A long-term trend analysis of street robberies in Cambridge reveals a number of frequently recurring scenarios. The number in parenthesis after the category indicates how frequently that categorization occurred in Cambridge during the past year:

- **Acquaintance Robberies** (5): Related to domestic robbery and unhoused robbery, acquaintance robberies are committed by someone the victim knows. Common scenarios include drinking buddies robbing each other after a night at the bar, friends turning on each other, and robberies between co-workers.
- **ATM Robberies** (1): In this type of robbery, the suspect may approach the victim immediately after the victim withdraws money from an ATM and demand that he or she hand over the cash, or the suspect may wait behind the victim as they make a transaction, then take the money directly from the ATM and run. An ATM robbery can also occur when suspects approach a victim on the street, threaten the victim by displaying or implying a weapon, and demand the victim go to an ATM and withdraw money for them.
- **Bikejackers** (4): Juvenile robberies where the primary property targets are bicycles.
- **Bully Boys** (3): Juvenile robberies of intimidation. In most occurrences, the victim knows the perpetrators. Committed by and against school-aged youths, they occur on the way home from school, or at playgrounds, malls, parks, or skating rinks. They usually involve two to four juveniles strong-arming their victims, stealing such things as cell phones, other electronics, or lunch money.

- **Carjacking** (2): In this scenario, a predator confronts a victim entering or exiting his or her car, or when stopped at a traffic light. The robber orders the victim out of the car and demands the keys.
- **Dial-A-Victim** (4): In these situations, suspects usually brandish a knife or gun to rob a delivery person.
- **Domestic** (5): A scenario in which someone close to the victim, like a family member, romantic partner, or roommate, takes money or property from them by the use or threat of violence.
- **Drug Deal** (1): Typically drug deals gone awry.
- **Home Invasion** (2): One of the most serious robbery types. Home invasions involve robbers entering their victims' homes, subduing the residents, and robbing the home. Fortunately, this type of robbery is rare in Cambridge, and when it occurs, the victim generally knows the perpetrator.
- **Robberies Involving Unhoused Individuals** (12): These are incidents of people who are unhoused robbing each other. The majority of these robberies occur in the vicinity of Central and Harvard Squares, or at various shelters. The victim is usually acquainted with the perpetrator, and in some cases, both are intoxicated. Property stolen ranges from a blanket or a pair of shoes to a cell phone to prescription drugs.
- **Pack Robberies** (6): In this situation, a group of three or more individuals will target victims around shopping malls, MBTA stations, streets, or recreational areas. The robberies are not always premeditated, and the typical victim is often a male between the ages of 15-25, walking alone.
- **Predatory Robberies** (34): This type of street robbery has the most pronounced effect on a citizen's perception of safety. Predatory robberies are synonymous with "muggings." In the typical scenario, one or two men approach the victim with a weapon or otherwise threaten violence and demand cash. Cambridge typically experiences more two-person predatory robberies than any other type.
- **Purse Snatch** (5): The purse-snatcher is generally unarmed and has little intent to cause injury. After "casing" a victim—usually a female carrying a purse or bag—this robber approaches quickly on foot or on a bicycle and snatches the item out of the victim's hands or off her shoulder before she has a chance to react, often effecting a "body check" in the process.

# Aggravated Assault

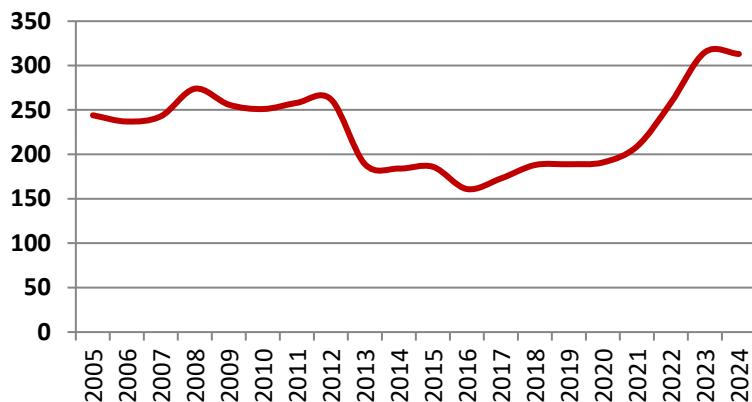
## Definition

An attack by one person on another for the purpose of inflicting severe bodily injury. To be an “aggravated assault” as opposed to a “simple assault,” the crime must involve one of the following: 1) a weapon capable of causing death or severe injury (e.g., a gun, knife, or blunt object); 2) a method of assault capable of causing death or severe injury (e.g., pushing someone down the stairs); or 3) actual severe bodily injury (e.g., a punch that fractures the victim’s nose).

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	254
2023	315
2024	313
Change from 2023	-1%
Change from Average	23%

## Aggravated assaults reported in Cambridge



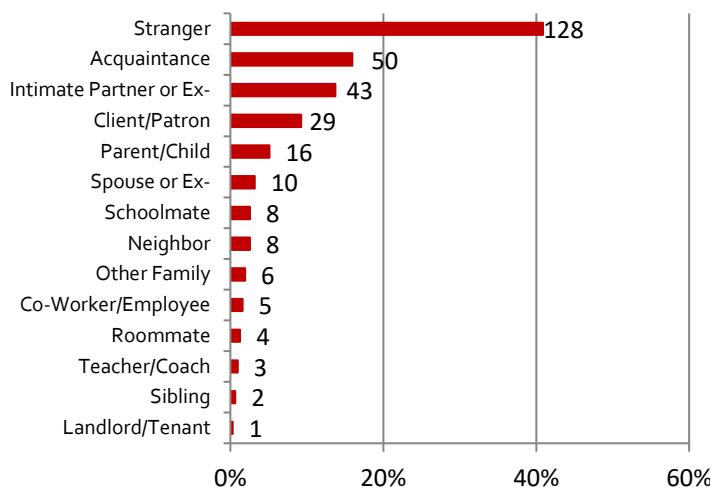
Aggravated assaults rise from the “heat of the moment,” and unlike robberies, rarely involve personal gain (assaults that do involve thefts are coded in the “Robbery” section). Although a serious and dangerous crime, the average citizen has little to fear from a random aggravated assault: typically, two-thirds of assault victims know their attackers personally. Although we provide statistics by neighborhood, the risk of aggravated assaults derives more from dangerous *relationships* than dangerous areas.

## Aggravated assaults by neighborhood

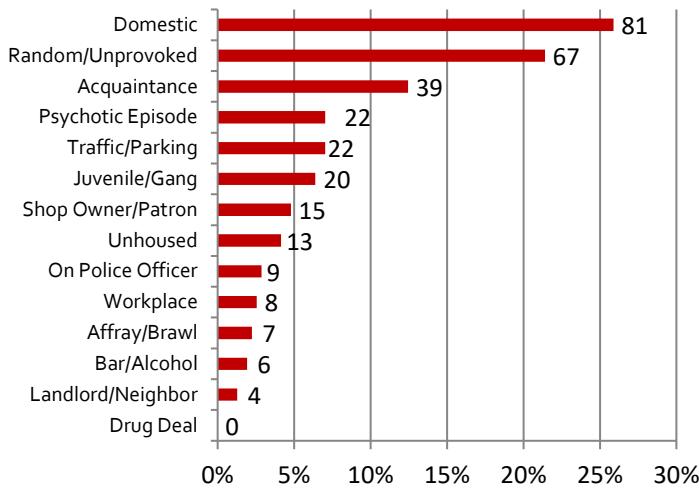
Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2023	2024	Change from Avg.	% of Total (2024)
East Cambridge	23	33	21	-9%	7%
M.I.T.	2	2	8	300%	3%
Inman/Harrington	17	20	22	29%	7%
The Port	38	46	41	8%	13%
Cambridgeport	43	52	52	21%	17%
Mid-Cambridge	30	35	32	7%	10%
Riverside	31	40	38	23%	12%
Baldwin	4	3	5	25%	2%
Peabody	11	15	21	91%	7%
West Cambridge	17	24	25	47%	8%
North Cambridge	25	29	35	40%	11%
Cambridge Highlands	8	9	11	38%	4%
Strawberry Hill	5	7	2	-60%	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>23%</b>	

### Aggravated assault by relationship

Typically, the single largest relationship category in aggravated assault is “stranger,” which made up 41% of all aggravated assaults in 2024. This comprises most of the cases in the “random,” “traffic/parking,” “bar/alcohol,” and “on police officer” categories below. However, for many assault victims, violence comes from a familiar place: intimate partners, spouses, parents, children, friends, customers, co-workers, and other relationships. Simple assaults, disputes, and other incidents between the offender and victim often precede an aggravated assault.



### Aggravated assault by categorization

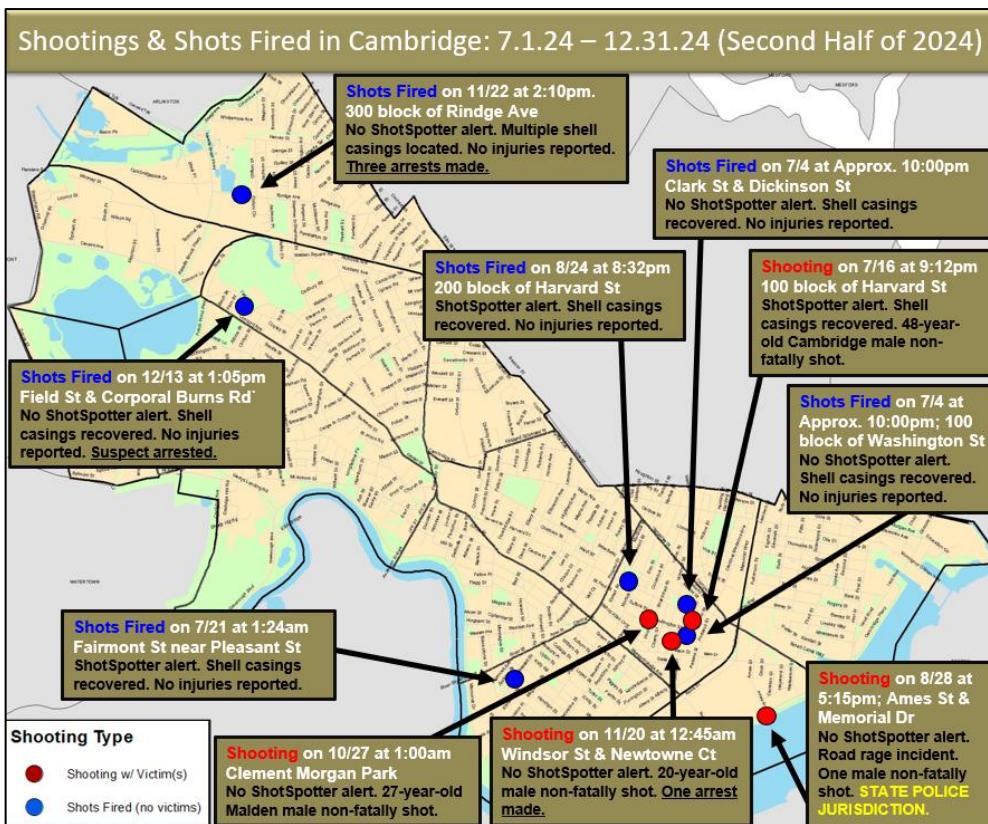
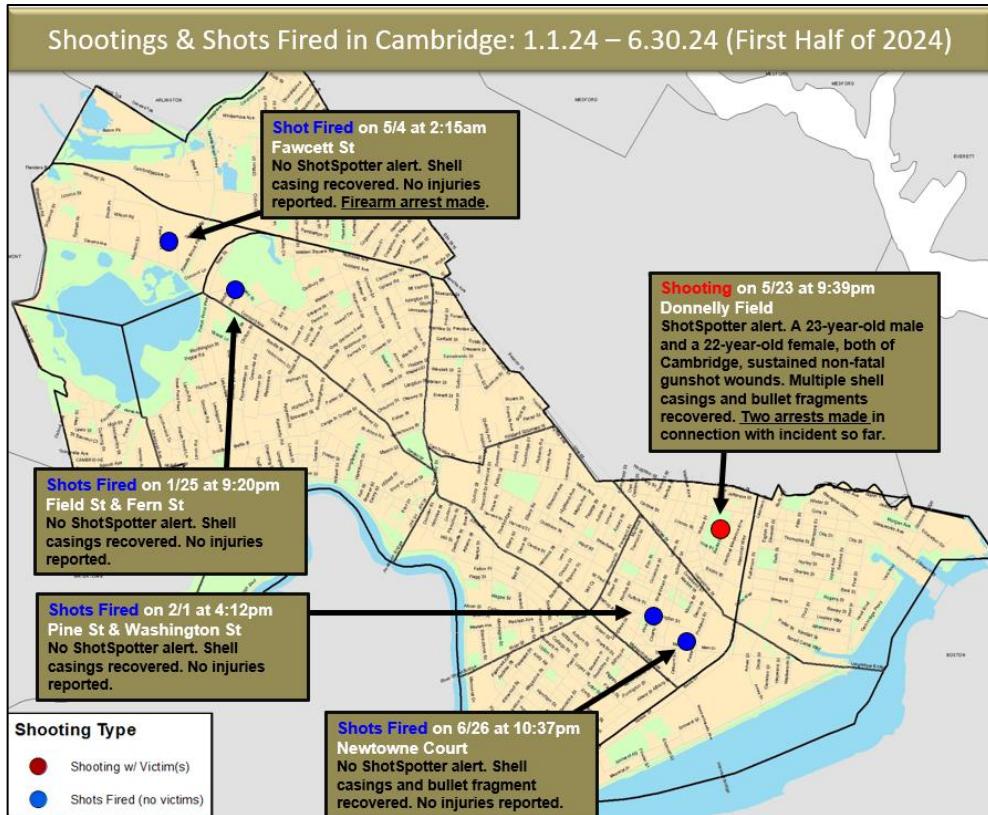


In most years, domestic assaults typically make up 30-40% of the total. In 2024, this category rose slightly compared to the previous two years and registered at 26% of the aggravated assault total. Domestic incidents involve a variety of relationships, but as the chart above shows, some of the most common are among intimate / ex-intimate partners, and parents / children. These unique circumstances are covered in the “Domestic Incidents” section of this report, as aggravated assault is only one of many crimes that may be the result of an abusive relationship. Categories that saw notable changes this year were domestic incidents (up 16 incidents above 2023) and traffic & parking incidents (down 16 from 2023).

### Notable findings on aggravated assault in 2024

- Only eight of the aggravated assaults (3%) in 2024 resulted in serious or life-threatening injuries.
- There were 14 confirmed shots fired incidents in 2024, four of which resulted in five total victims with non-fatal injuries. There were no fatal shootings in 2024. In comparison, in 2023, there were six shots fired incidents, three of which resulted in four victims with non-fatal injuries. There was one fatal shooting in November of 2023. See the maps on the next page for more information on the shooting incidents reported in 2024.
- The most common weapons used in aggravated assaults in 2023 were knives (15%), followed by shod feet (feet with shoes) in 12% of the incidents, and household items in 8%. There were 17 aggravated assaults that involved the use of a firearm in 2024, up one incident from the previous year.

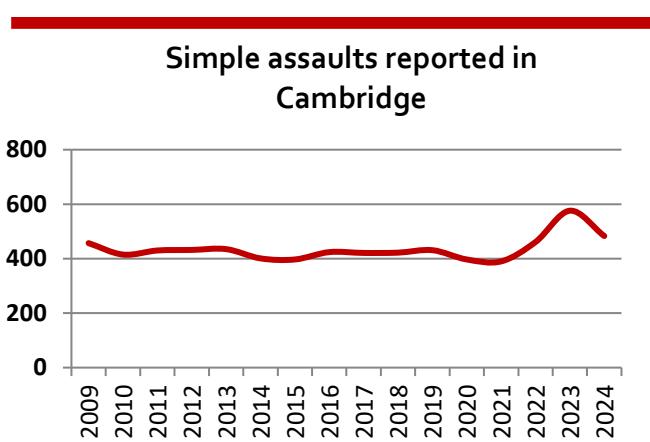
## Part I Crimes: Aggravated Assault



### Simple assault

When analyzing aggravated assault, it is important to keep tabs on simple assault as well. (The difference between the two is often a matter of luck rather than intent.) Unlike aggravated assaults, simple assaults do not result in serious injury and do not involve the use of a deadly weapon, so the underreporting rate is likely even higher than for aggravated assault.

Simple assaults changed very little for many years, fluctuating between 390 and 460 incidents from 2006 to 2022. In 2021, the lowest number in 15 years was reported with 390 incidents, a drop that was likely due to the pandemic. The numbers then increased substantially for two years, hitting a high in 2023 with 576 assaults before dropping by almost 100 incidents in 2024. There were 483 simple assaults reported in 2024, which is a 16% decline below 2023. Assaults tend to mirror aggravated assaults in categories and relationships, although aggravated assaults did not experience the decrease in 2020 and 2021 that simple assaults did.



# Burglary

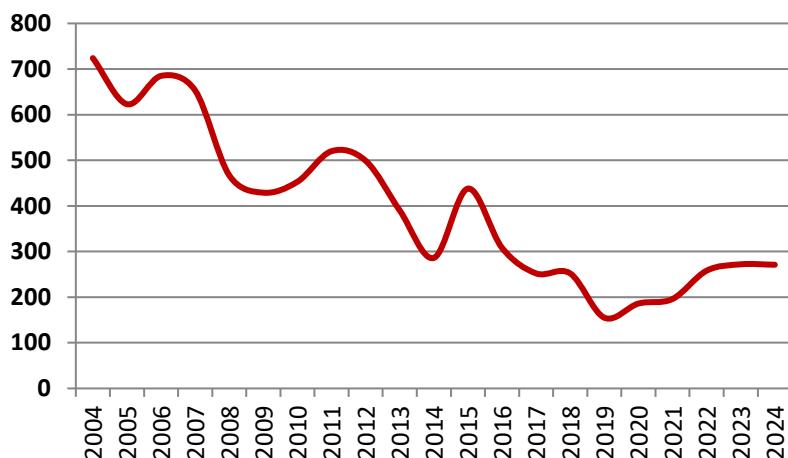
## Definition

*Burglary is the unlawful entry of a structure (residence, business, or other building) to commit a theft or another crime. Force (e.g., prying a door, breaking a window) is not required, but the entry itself must be illegal. (Lawful entry to commit a theft would be coded as a larceny.) Automobile "burglaries" are also excluded (this crime has a larceny category). Attempts are included in the total.*

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	234
2023	272
2024	271
Change from 2023	0%
Change from Average	16%

## Burglaries reported in Cambridge



Burglary is categorized as a more serious crime than larceny because it involves the use of force and unlawful entry into a business or residence. Perpetrators employ various techniques to enter residences or businesses. Since burglars need to pull off their heists quickly, break-ins are occasionally only unsuccessful "attempts," in which no entry is made, but damage is caused to the structure. For the purposes of analysis, burglary is divided into two main categories: commercial and residential (also known as "housebreaks").

## Burglaries by category

Category	2023	2024	Change
Commercial Burglary	78	95	22%
Residential Burglary	194	176	-9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>0%</b>

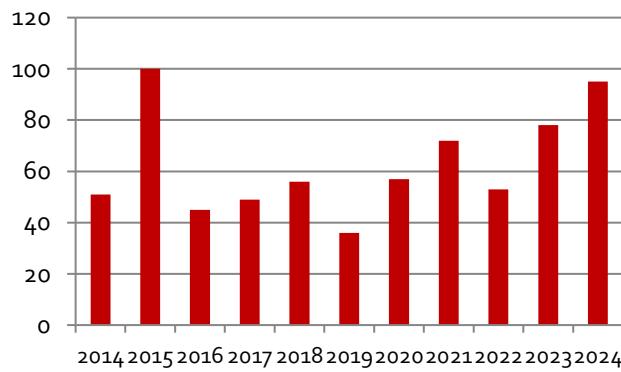
## Top items targeted in 2024

Rank	Residential	Commercial
1	Cash/Credit Cards	Cash/Credit Cards
2	Bicycles	Tools
3	Jewelry	Food/Groceries
4	Clothing	Precious metals
5	Laptop/Computer	Alcohol

## Commercial burglary

A commercial burglary, more commonly referred to as a *commercial break*, is the unlawful entry into a commercial establishment, including business, government, religious, or retail establishments. From 2023 to 2024, there was a 22% increase in commercial breaks in Cambridge. The 2024 total of 95 incidents was also up 46% over the five-year average of 65 incidents.

## Commercial burglary, 2014-2024



### Commercial burglaries by business district

Business District	5-Yr. Avg.	2023	2024	Change from Avg.	% of Total (2024)
CambridgeSide/East Cambridge	8	9	10	+25%	11%
Kendall/M.I.T.	3	2	2	-33%	2%
Inman Square	4	4	1	-75%	1%
Central Square	10	12	26	+160%	27%
Cambridgeport/Riverside	3	4	7	+133%	7%
Bay Square/Upper Broadway	6	2	7	+17%	7%
Harvard Square	12	13	14	+17%	15%
1500-1900 Massachusetts Avenue	3	3	4	+33%	4%
Porter Square/North Cambridge	7	15	17	+143%	18%
Alewife/West Cambridge	9	14	7	-22%	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>+46%</b>	

A wide variety of establishments are targeted in commercial burglary using an array of methods. Breaks can often be categorized as one of the following:

- **Smash & grab** burglaries involve quick entry and exit through windows/glass doors of businesses, often at convenience stores or gas stations. The entire endeavor may take less than a minute.
- **Retail burglars** usually force their way into stores or other locations with the intent to steal merchandise or money from cash registers.
- **Restaurant/bar** burglars often cross multiple jurisdictions, breaking into similar franchises looking for safes or easily fenced items.
- **Business burglars** enter real-estate / law offices, technology companies, etc., looking for laptop computers and other expensive equipment.
- **Construction site/industrial area** thieves are a special breed of burglars who know how to select, steal, and sell expensive power tools, building supplies, heavy equipment, and precious metals.
- **Church burglars** are historically individuals who are unhoused with substance abuse problems. They enter lightly secured houses of worship, looking for petty cash and easily fenced items.
- **School burglars** are usually juveniles, breaking into their own schools to vandalize or steal computers and other expensive everyday goods. Youth centers/daycares are included.

### Commercial burglaries by location type

Type	2023	2024
Retail establishments	10	18
Industrial/construction	6	16
Bar/restaurant/social	16	15
Convenience/gas	8	7
School/youth center	5	5
Government/Medical building	8	5
Business offices	3	4
Parking Structure	2	4
Hotel/Shelter	2	1
Church	2	1
Other	16	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>95</b>

### Commercial burglary patterns

The 2024 total of 95 commercial breaks was the largest number reported in Cambridge since 2015. Part of this increase can be attributed to a change in the way we categorize certain crimes. Beginning in 2024, any incident in which a suspect was stopped for shoplifting after having been previously trespassed from the store was counted as a commercial break instead of a shoplifting. There were at least 13 of these incidents in 2024. Eight other commercial breaks (8%) in 2024 were attempts in which no entry was gained, and one incident was considered an “inside job”. No major patterns emerged in Cambridge in 2024, except for a sporadic series of breaks into construction sites targeting copper and tools in North Cambridge throughout the year. Overall, ten incidents this year resulted in an arrest and suspects were developed or summonsed in an additional 29.

## Part I Crimes: Burglary

### Residential burglary

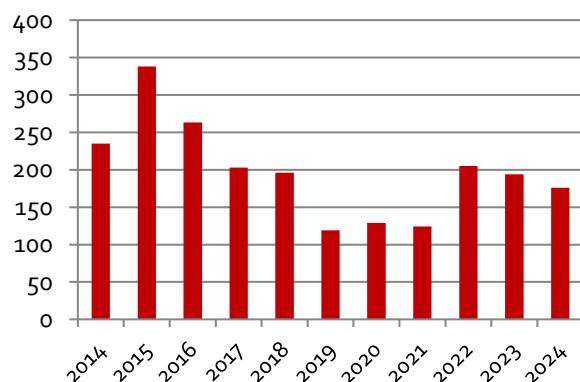
From 2019 - 2021, residential burglaries, also known as housebreaks, dropped to levels not seen in over 30 years in Cambridge. In 2022, as the world emerged from the pandemic, that trend reversed directions and incidents returned to more typical levels. Since the rebound in 2022, residential burglaries citywide have again registered slight declines for the past two years, with a 5% decrease in 2023 and a 9% reduction in 2024. The 2024 total of 176 housebreaks was 18 incidents below the 194 reported in 2023 and seven incidents (4%) above the five-year average of 169.

Very few discernable patterns have emerged in the past three years. During the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2023, housebreak activity increased along the Somerville border, with multiple reports of breaks involving entry by way of unlocked doors/windows and targeting electronics, jewelry, handbags, and cash. This series continued into the first few months of 2024 before incidents cooled off. Meanwhile, in October of 2024, a male suspect was arrested in connection with three housebreaks that were similar to the series from late 2023 into early 2024. However, it is currently unknown whether he was responsible for any of the previous activity.

#### Relation of Offender to Victim in Residential Burglaries

Type	2023	2024
Stranger/Unknown	174	151
Domestic (family member, romantic partner, etc.)	6	14
Acquaintance (friend, landlord, etc.)	14	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>176</b>

#### Residential burglary, 2014-2024



#### Point/Method of Entry into Homes

Category	2022	2023	2024
<b>Door Entry</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>117</b>
Pried/forced/broken	58	44	39
Other/unknown	50	45	33
Unlocked/open	41	50	45
<b>Window Entry</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>42</b>
Unlocked/open	15	15	24
Pried/forced/broken	10	9	9
Cut/removed screens	8	10	7
Other/unknown	2	5	2
<b>Other/Unknown entry</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>176</b>

#### Residential burglaries by neighborhood

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2023	2024	Change from Avg.	Population (2020)	2024 Rate/10,000
East Cambridge	18	21	16	-11%	13,246	12
M.I.T.	1	2	0	-100%	6,238	0
Inman/Harrington	10	13	19	90%	6,718	28
The Port	20	32	26	30%	7,280	36
Cambridgeport	27	30	19	-30%	13,083	15
Mid-Cambridge	23	25	22	-4%	13,974	16
Riverside	15	19	28	87%	12,114	23
Baldwin	6	9	6	0%	5,146	12
Peabody	14	10	10	-29%	12,471	8
West Cambridge	8	5	7	-13%	8,450	8
North Cambridge	22	26	18	-18%	15,372	12
Cambridge Highlands	3	1	1	-67%	1,646	6
Strawberry Hill	3	1	4	33%	2,665	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>118,403</b>	

# Larceny

## Definition

*Larceny is the illegal taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of someone else's property. It includes crimes such as shoplifting, pocket-picking, thefts from vehicles, thefts of auto parts and accessories, bicycle thefts, and all other thefts in which no force, violence, fraud, or burglary occurs. The crime does not include embezzlement, "con" games, forgery, or bad checks, nor does it include auto theft, which is a separate offense.*

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	2,090
2023	2,331
2024	2,755
Change from 2023	18%
Change from Average	32%

## Larcenies reported in Cambridge



Larceny is always the most common of the Part I crimes in Cambridge. This year it accounted for 77% of the total Part I crime and 88% of the total property crime. Larceny often produces the most patterns. Many of the categories can be fueled by changes in technology. As electronics such as laptops, cell phones, and portable music players become more popular and evolve, they become easier targets, easier to conceal, and ultimately easier to sell.

Larceny is broken down into the nine categories listed in the table below. Larceny categories were very much affected by the pandemic in 2020. More than half of the larceny categories experienced substantial reductions from 2019 to 2020, mostly because of the lack of people venturing out in the city for work, dining, shopping, and recreation. As businesses and restaurants slowly began to reopen in 2021, there was a moderate rebound in the some of the affected larceny types, but it was not until 2022 and 2023 that larcenies fully returned to their pre-pandemic levels—and beyond.

Larcenies by Type	5-Yr. Avg.	2023	2024	Change from Avg.	% of Total (2024)
Larcenies from buildings	184	199	209	14%	8%
Larcenies from motor vehicles	382	319	290	-24%	11%
Larcenies from persons	110	96	84	-24%	3%
Larcenies from residences	378	415	443	17%	16%
Larcenies of bicycles	554	579	499	-10%	18%
Larcenies of license plates	27	39	25	-7%	1%
Larcenies of services	16	26	20	25%	1%
Shoplifting	369	577	1,087	195%	39%
Other (unclassifiable) larcenies	71	81	98	38%	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,090</b>	<b>2,331</b>	<b>2,755</b>	<b>32%</b>	

## Part I Crimes: Larceny

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### Larcenies from buildings

Larcenies from buildings are non-burglary thefts from commercial establishments. “Non-burglary” means that either the offender had a specific right to be on the premises, or that the building was open to the general public, and that no force was used to gain entry to the building where the theft was committed.

There were 209 larcenies from buildings reported in 2024. This total represents an increase of 10 incidents (5%) above 2023 and a 14% rise over the five-year average of 184.

**Larcenies from buildings by business district**

Business District	2023	2024	Change
CambridgeSide/East Cambridge	15	21	40%
Kendall/M.I.T.	11	12	9%
Inman Square	9	15	67%
Central Square	72	54	-25%
Cambridgeport/Riverside	8	3	-63%
Bay Sq./Upper Broadway	9	13	44%
Harvard Square	19	32	68%
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	28	17	-39%
Porter Sq./N. Cambridge	9	19	111%
Alewife/West Cambridge	19	23	21%
<b>Total</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>5%</b>

### Larceny from building scenarios

The following are the most common larceny from building scenarios in Cambridge in 2024:

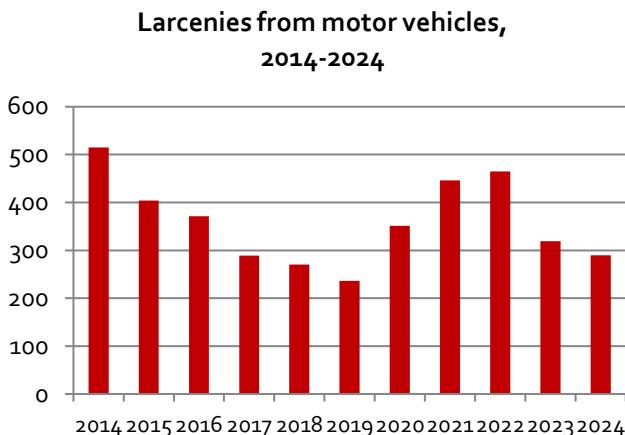
1. Thefts of property intentionally left unattended for a short time: **63 incidents**
2. Thefts of property left unattended on a store counter: **28 incidents**
3. Thefts from a health club: **22 incidents**
4. Thefts of property accidentally left behind at a location: **22 incidents**
5. Thefts of personal/company property from an office building during business hours: **21 incidents**
6. Thefts from a school: **11 incidents**
7. Thefts of employee property from the “back room” of a commercial establishment: **10 incidents**
8. Thefts from a safe/depository: **9 incidents**
9. Thefts from a hotel room: **7 incidents**
10. Thefts from a construction site: **6 incidents**
11. Thefts from the area immediately surrounding a building: **6 incidents**
12. Thefts of company property by an employee (“inside job”): **4 incidents**

## Larcenies from motor vehicles

Larcenies from motor vehicles (LMVs) involve an offender either breaking into a car and stealing valuables from within or stealing an accessory, such as tires or hubcaps.

This crime type hit its peak in 2007—when GPS units became a hot target—and had been steadily decreasing almost every year until a series of increases were reported from 2020 through 2022. However, the decline returned in 2023 and 2024. The total of 290 car breaks reported in 2024 was 9% below the 2023 total of 319 and 24% below the five-year weighted average of 382.

The rise in 2021 and 2022 was attributed to a new hot target in Cambridge: the catalytic converter. Catalytic converters are part of the exhaust systems of motor vehicles and are stolen because of the expensive metals they contain. In 2021 and again in 2022, catalytic converter thefts were reported throughout the city. These thefts accounted for at least 128 (or 28%) of the 465 LMVs reported in Cambridge in 2022 alone. However, thanks to a regional catalytic converter theft task force run by the State Police that resulted in multiple arrests during the first quarter of 2023, not a single theft of this type was reported after March 2023 in Cambridge. No catalytic converter thefts were reported at all in 2024, leading to an even lower total for this crime type.



### Larcenies from vehicles by neighborhood

Neighborhood	2023	2024	Change
East Cambridge	20	23	15%
M.I.T.	1	0	-100%
Inman/Harrington	16	43	169%
The Port	14	35	150%
Cambridgeport	43	43	0%
Mid-Cambridge	25	38	52%
Riverside	37	31	-16%
Baldwin	15	6	-60%
Peabody	42	11	-74%
West Cambridge	32	21	-34%
North Cambridge	62	35	-44%
Cambridge Highlands	11	1	-91%
Strawberry Hill	1	3	200%
<b>Total</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>-9%</b>

<b>Top stolen items of 2024</b>	
1. Cash/Coins	57
2. Backpacks/Bags/ Purses/Wallets	50
3. Misc. Electronics (Phones, MP3 Players, GPS Units, etc.)	36
4. Clothing/Coats/ Shoes	32
5. Auto Parts/ Registration	26
6. Glasses	26
7. Credit/ATM Card	23
8. Laptop	15
9. ID/ Personal Papers	15
10. Keys	14

<b>Top methods of entry</b>	
1. In 49% of cases, means of entry were unknown, with no signs of force.	
2. In 42% of the incidents in 2024, entry was gained through unlocked doors or open windows.	
3. Items taken from the exterior of the vehicle accounted for 4% of the 2024 total.	

## Part I Crimes: Larceny

### Larcenies from persons

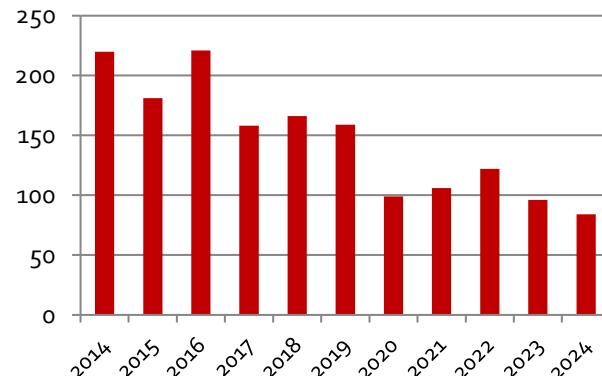
Larceny from the person describes pocket-picking or any theft that occurs within the victim's area of control. The thefts are non-confrontational, and often the victim is not aware of the theft until after it has occurred. If any physical confrontation between offender and victim takes place, the crime is recorded as a robbery.

Due to the numerous pandemic-related closures of and restrictions at restaurants and shops across the city that began in 2020 and continued into 2021, larcenies from the person dropped considerably during those two years. This crime type experienced a slight increase in 2022 but has decreased again over the past two years. The total of 84 thefts in 2024 was 12 incidents (-13%) below the 2023 total and 24% below the five-year weighted average of 110. One larceny from the person in 2024 resulted in an arrest at the time of the incident, and a suspect was developed in an additional 19 incidents. See the scenarios below for more on larcenies from the person in 2024.

**Larcenies from persons by business district**

Business District	2023	2024	Change
CambridgeSide/ East Cambridge	9	4	-56%
Kendall/M.I.T.	2	3	50%
Inman Square	2	3	50%
Central Square	42	39	-7%
Cambridgeport/Riverside	3	1	-67%
Bay Sq./Upper Broadway	2	3	50%
Harvard Square	27	15	-44%
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	0	5	N/A
Porter Sq./N. Cambridge	6	8	33%
Alewife/West Cambridge	3	3	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>-13%</b>

**Larcenies from persons, 2014-2024**



The following represents a few of the recurring larceny from person scenarios in Cambridge:

1. The most common larceny from person scenario in Cambridge in 2024 involved the theft of items after they were left unattended by their owners. This scenario accounted for approximately 33% of the larcenies from persons in 2024. In the years prior to 2020, this would include thefts of purses, wallets, and other belongings left briefly unattended in bars, restaurants, churches, schools, bus stops, parks, etc. There is still some of this activity reported, but the most typical scenario over the past three years has involved the theft of property from unhoused individuals while they were asleep or away from their property, particularly in the Central Square area.
2. Another frequent scenario in 2024 was the grab-and-run incident. An example of this scenario is when a commuter is sitting at a bus stop with his backpack on the bench next to him and someone takes the backpack and flees. Another scenario involves when two people meet in person to make an exchange for property that was arranged online, but during the trade, the suspect manages to escape with both the property and the money. Grab-and-run incidents accounted for 27% of the larceny from person reports citywide in 2024.
3. The third most frequent larceny scenario in Cambridge this year involved pocket-picking, in which items are stolen from a victim's pocket, purse, or backpack without his or her knowledge. This scenario accounted for 23% of the larcenies from persons in 2024. Again, pocket-picking incidents were most common in Central Square this year, which makes sense given that 46% of larcenies from the person were reported in Central Square in 2024.

4. The fourth most common larceny from person scenario in Cambridge in 2024 involved the theft of items from victims as they dined in local establishments. This is one scenario that we used to see very frequently in Cambridge, particularly in Central and Harvard Squares, but it was noticeably reduced in both 2020 and 2021 because of pandemic closures. Despite the reopening of most restaurants by 2022, there were still only 12 dining incidents reported citywide in 2022, 14 in 2023, and nine in 2024, which is down substantially from the 38 dining thefts reported citywide in 2019 prior to Covid.

5. The most infrequent larceny from person scenario in Cambridge in 2024 involved the theft of items from victims as they shopped in local commercial establishments. In this situation, a shopper might leave a purse or bag in a cart while looking at items on a shelf; upon returning to the cart, the belongings are gone. This category accounted for only 6% of the larcenies from persons in 2024.

### Larcenies from residences

Larcenies from residences are non-burglary thefts from apartments, hallways, garages, or yards. “Non-burglary” means that no force or trespass was involved in the theft. Typically, around a quarter of these thefts are committed by someone known to the victim or by people who have a right to be on the property.

There were 443 larcenies from residences reported in Cambridge in 2024, a 7% increase over 2023. Similar to recent years, the thefts of packages from the front steps or vestibules of residences continued to dominate this crime category in 2024, with 315 incidents reported (up 8% from the 293 reported in 2023). Although package theft totals have been substantially higher over the past five years due to the upsurge in online shopping and deliveries that began during the pandemic, the 315 thefts reported in 2024 is the largest package theft total ever reported in Cambridge. Prior to 2020, the most package thefts reported in a year was 159, and prior to 2014, it was less than 100. It should also be noted that even with the higher totals in 2020 - 2024, these incidents are believed to be vastly underreported, so the actual number of packages stolen is likely even greater.

#### The most common larceny from residence scenarios are:

- Thefts of mail/packages delivered by a parcel service: **71%**
- Thefts committed by visitors or guests of a residence: **6%**
- Thefts from a common area of an apartment building: **5%**
- Thefts from a yard, porch, or other area surrounding a residence: **5%**
- Thefts committed by someone working in the residence, such as a painter, plumber, contractor, or maintenance worker: **5%**
- Thefts committed by a family member, spouse, or romantic partner (i.e., “domestic thefts”): **4%**
- Thefts from a storage area of an apartment building or complex: **3%**
- Thefts committed while victims are in the process of moving: **1%**
- Thefts from a mailbox of an apartment or house: **less than 1%**

#### Larcenies from residences by neighborhood

Neighborhood	2023	2024	Change
East Cambridge	37	47	27%
MIT	1	2	100%
Inman/Harrington	28	21	-25%
The Port	35	19	-46%
Cambridgeport	64	51	-20%
Mid-Cambridge	75	89	19%
Riverside	49	49	0%
Baldwin	20	19	-5%
Peabody	25	39	56%
West Cambridge	9	7	-22%
North Cambridge	53	80	51%
Cambridge Highlands	14	11	-21%
Strawberry Hill	5	9	80%
<b>Total</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>7%</b>

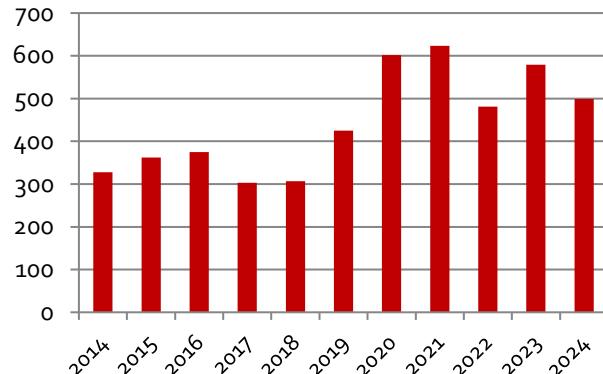
## Part I Crimes: Larceny

### Larcenies of bicycles\*

#### Larcenies of bicycles by neighborhood

Neighborhood	2023	2024	Change
East Cambridge	61	46	-25%
M.I.T.	14	17	21%
Inman/Harrington	31	22	-29%
The Port	57	70	23%
Cambridgeport	97	59	-39%
Mid-Cambridge	83	78	-6%
Riverside	53	59	11%
Baldwin	16	13	-19%
Peabody	29	24	-17%
West Cambridge	38	33	-13%
North Cambridge	87	61	-30%
Cambridge Highlands	11	14	27%
Strawberry Hill	2	3	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>-14%</b>

#### Larcenies of bicycles, 2014-2024



There were 499 reported thefts of bicycles in 2024, a decrease of 80 incidents (-14%) below 2023 and a 10% decrease below the five-year weighted average of 554 thefts. Unlike in past years when the largest numbers of bicycle thefts occurred during the warm summer months and then dropped off with the arrival of colder weather, bike thefts in 2024 were moderately high during the summer and then spiked during the fall months of September and October before declining with the cooler temperatures.

Locks present little difficulty to bicycle thieves, who often bring bolt cutters or pry bars with them. A little over 76% of all reported bicycle thefts this year involved locked bicycles.

The majority of bicycle thefts tend to occur on the street or sidewalk, accounting for 61% of reported incidents in 2024. Another frequent location for bike thefts in recent years has been building parking garages and bicycle storage areas, which accounted for at least 12% of the thefts in 2024. The third most common location for thefts this year was residential yards, with 7%.

Similar to recent years, one of the hardest hit areas for bicycle thefts in 2024 was Central Square, with 138 incidents, the majority of which involved thefts of bicycles from streets and sidewalks in the Square and peripheral side streets. Another area that has seen an increase over the past few years is the Bay Square business district, where bike thefts rose from 46 incidents in 2022 to 72 in 2023 but declined slightly in 2024 to 68. Of the 68 bike thefts in Bay Square in 2024, 65% occurred on streets and sidewalks in the area.

One bicycle theft in 2024 resulted in an arrest at the time of the incident, and a suspect was developed in at least 24 additional incidents.

#### Larcenies of bicycles by month in 2024

Month	Number of thefts
January	12
February	17
March	22
April	42
May	56
June	45
July	57
August	57
September	71
October	60
November	38
December	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>499</b>

\* The Cambridge Police Department's bicycle theft statistics do not include thefts reported to the MIT or Harvard University Police Departments. These additional thefts could add several hundred to the theft total.

## Shoplifting

Mostly due to the pandemic-related closures of many stores across Cambridge in 2020 and 2021, shoplifting decreased by 23% in 2020 and 28% in 2021, dropping a total of 155 incidents from 2019 to 2021. However, this trend reversed directions in 2022 with a 55% increase over the previous year, and that increase was even more dramatic in 2024 with a surge of 88% over 2023. The total of 1,087 incidents reported in 2024 was also 195% above the five-year weighted average of 369 incidents, far surpassing pre-pandemic levels.

One characteristic of this crime in Cambridge that will likely not return to levels seen prior to 2020 is the hotspot in the CambridgeSide/East Cambridge area, where much of the shoplifting in the city used to take place. Over the past five years, shoplifting in this business district has dropped a staggering 76%, from 146 incidents in 2019 to only 35 in 2024. This decrease can be attributed to both permanent pandemic-related store closures and the construction and redevelopment currently taking place at the CambridgeSide Shopping Center.

Business District	Shoplifting by business district		
	2023	2024	Change
CambridgeSide/ East Cambridge	23	35	52%
Kendall/MIT	8	21	163%
Inman Square	1	13	1200%
Central Square	304	522	72%
Cambridgeport/Riverside	56	92	64%
Bay Sq./Upper Broadway	3	6	100%
Harvard Square	53	94	77%
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	2	5	150%
Porter Sq./N. Cambridge	94	186	98%
Alewife/West Cambridge	33	113	242%
<b>Total</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>1,087</b>	<b>88%</b>

It is important to note that because shoplifting incidents are sometimes only reported when an arrest is made, underreporting can be a serious problem. However, 88% of the reported incidents in 2024 did *not* result in an arrest at the time of the incident, which indicates an increase in the tendency to report incidents regardless of whether an arrest was made. Some stores may also choose to trespass the shoplifter instead of pressing charges.

Shoplifters usually fall into one of five categories:

1. **Juvenile shoplifters**, who steal on a dare to impress their peers, to get an “adrenaline rush,” or to compensate for lack of money.
2. **Impulse shoplifters**, who seize a sudden chance, such as an unattended dressing room or a blind aisle. Sometimes, the “impulse” is a long line or lack of money.
3. **Unhoused persons and/or individuals with substance abuse disorders**, who steal items for personal use due to a lack of money or who shoplift in order to resell stolen items for the cash.
4. Shoplifters who steal to **satisfy a psychological need**.
5. **Professionals**, who steal expensive items and resell them to fences or “flea markets.”

## Larcenies of services

This crime includes taxicab fare evasion, “dining and ditching,” “gassing and going,” and other failures to pay for services already rendered. There were 20 of these crimes reported in 2024, which is down 23% below the 26 reported in 2023. “Dining and ditching” incidents were reported most often this year (eight incidents), followed by five incidents of evading taxi fare, three incidents of failure to pay for hotel accommodations, three incidents of failure to pay for parking, and one incident of failure to pay for auto repair services.

## Miscellaneous larceny

This category includes all other unclassifiable larcenies. Miscellaneous larcenies in 2024 increased by 21% from 81 in 2023 to 98 in 2024. There were no notable patterns of any miscellaneous types of larceny this year.

# Auto Theft

## Definition

*Auto theft is the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. The offense category includes theft of automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, and snowmobiles.*

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	131
2023	140
2024	95
Change from 2023	-32%
Change from Average	-27%

## Auto thefts reported in Cambridge



Forty years ago, there were nearly 3,000 cars reported stolen yearly in Cambridge. These figures declined to less than 1,000 thefts per year in the 1990's and today's figures represent one of the most dramatic reported decreases in a single crime type. The overall decrease can be attributed to the virtual elimination of "chop shops" and interstate auto theft rings, crackdowns on insurance fraud, advances in automobile security, and technology that enables patrol officers to quickly check a vehicle's registry listing to determine if it is stolen.

In 2020, auto thefts dropped to a record low of 84 incidents. The dramatic decrease in 2020 may have, at least in part, been due to the pandemic, as significantly fewer people were traveling about, eliminating some of the opportunity for auto thefts. Just two years later in 2022, Cambridge recorded the largest auto theft total in at least ten years with 152 thefts. However, over the past two years, that number has again dropped to 140 in 2023 and 95 in 2024.

In 2024, Cambridge neighborhoods saw more decreases than increases in auto thefts when compared to 2023. The most notable rise occurred in The Port, where thefts rose by five incidents this year. Meanwhile, the most notable decrease took place in the Highlands, where thefts had risen dramatically to 10 incidents in 2023 but returned to normal levels with only one reported in 2024.

A notable trend that emerged in 2023 was an increase in thefts of older model Hyundais and Kias citywide, which stemmed from a Tik Tok trend targeting these vehicles.

## Auto thefts by neighborhood

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2023	2024	Change from Avg.	% of Total (2024)
East Cambridge	15	17	9	-40%	9%
MIT	2	0	1	-50%	1%
Inman/Harrington	8	12	2	-75%	2%
The Port	14	14	19	36%	20%
Cambridgeport	19	20	16	-16%	17%
Mid-Cambridge	9	9	7	-22%	7%
Riverside	18	13	7	-61%	7%
Baldwin	4	6	2	-50%	2%
Peabody	8	4	9	13%	9%
West Cambridge	13	12	6	-54%	6%
North Cambridge	17	20	14	-18%	15%
Cambridge Highlands	4	10	1	-75%	1%
Strawberry Hill	1	3	2	100%	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>-27%</b>	

This trend continued sporadically in 2024 but not at the same level as 2023. Another trend that began in 2021 and has continued through 2024 is a rise in incidents targeting delivery drivers that leave their cars unlocked and sometimes running while they deliver packages or food. In 2024, Cambridge experienced 15 thefts of cars that had been left running while the driver ran into an establishment.

### Makes and models

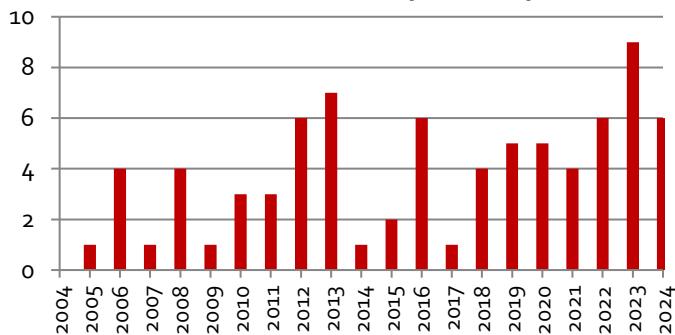
For the last three years, Toyota has been the most stolen automobile make in Cambridge. In 2024, there were 20 thefts of Toyotas, accounting for 21% of the citywide total. Honda came in second with 14 thefts. Coming in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> were Hyundai and Ford with six and five thefts, respectively. This information, while typically consistent with historical and national trends, can change from year to year with different targeted models rising in the ranks. Typically, Toyotas and Hondas are stolen more than other cars due to the following factors. First, these cars are some of the most commonly owned makes/models in the nation, making them more widely available. Statistical probability alone would place them near the top of the theft list. Second, car thieves tend to look for average-cost, commonly owned, inconspicuous cars. High-priced luxury cars are not stolen very often because they are too easy for police to spot and are more likely to be equipped with expensive GPS and alarm systems.

### Top stolen makes and models in Cambridge in 2024

Makes	Models	
Toyota	20	Toyota Corolla
Honda	14	Toyota Rav4
Hyundai	6	Toyota Camry
Ford	5	Honda Civic

Thefts of motorcycles, scooters, and mopeds have also become more common throughout the region over the past few years. In 2024, this vehicle type accounted for 34% of all auto thefts in Cambridge, which is up 7% from 2023.

### Auto thefts in 2024 by model year



The table to the left shows the incidence of auto thefts by model year (nine vehicles did not report the model year, as a lot of scooter and moped owners are not aware of this information, and seven thefts involved a model year prior to 2004). Analysis of the age of stolen vehicles shows that the highest demand is typically for cars less than 10 years old.

### Auto theft recoveries by location

Approximately 56% of the cars reported stolen in 2024 have been recovered to date. Just under half (or 49%) of the recovered cars this year were located within Cambridge.

Recoveries	53
Cambridge	26
Boston	12
Somerville	3
Out of State	3
Medford	2
Belmont	1
Brookline	1
Chelsea	1
Dedham	1
Lexington	1
Newton	1
Saugus	1



### Section III

## Part II Crimes

Drug Offenses

Sex Crimes

Fraud

Vandalism

Other Part II Crimes

# Drug Offenses

## Definition

Drug offenses include all incidents in which the police made an arrest, or complaint for the possession or distribution of illegal narcotics. Drug statistics do not include all instances of drug use or distribution; they only reflect those cases that are known to the police. The totals here represent only one arrest charge and one type of drug per incident. A few individuals were arrested for multiple charges or had more than one type of drug on them, but only the most serious was chosen in each incident. Note: These incidents are ones in which the highest offense is drug-related. Incidents that also involve a more serious Part 1 offense (such as Larceny, Burglary, etc.) are not counted in this section.

To the right is a geographic breakdown of drug incidents across the 13 neighborhoods in Cambridge. Cambridgeport accounted for the most drug activity in the city in 2024, with 34 incidents.

In total, 82 drug incidents were reported in 2024 and 75 people were arrested in 62 of these incidents.

## Drug offense scenarios

There are five common ways that the police learn about drug activity in the city.

1. A police officer on patrol observes suspicious street activity and upon further investigation discovers narcotics: **59 cases in 2024**
2. During a routine motor vehicle stop, a police officer observes narcotics inside the vehicle: **7 cases in 2024**
3. During an arrest for another crime, the arresting officer or booking officer finds narcotics on the arrested person: **11 cases in 2024**
4. A citizen witnesses a person or persons using drugs and notifies the police: **2 cases in 2024**
5. A Cambridge school official or court officer observes drug use: **3 cases in 2024**

Type of drug involved in incidents	
Category	2024
Cocaine or crack cocaine	50
Heroin/Opioids	16
Methamphetamine	10
Marijuana	3
Prescription drugs	3
Hallucinogens	0
Other (inhalants, etc.)	0

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	40
2023	34
2024	82
Change from 2023	141%
Change from Average	105%

## Drug incidents by neighborhood

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2023	2024	% of Total (2024)
East Cambridge	2	3	1	1%
MIT	1	0	0	0%
Inman/Harrington	2	0	0	0%
The Port	4	3	4	5%
Cambridgeport	9	13	34	41%
Mid-Cambridge	5	1	11	13%
Riverside	9	7	23	28%
Baldwin	0	0	0	0%
Peabody	1	2	0	0%
West Cambridge	2	1	1	1%
North Cambridge	3	3	6	7%
Cambridge Highlands	2	1	1	1%
Strawberry Hill	0	0	1	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Drug-related activities for which persons are arrested

Category	2024
Possession	47
Possession with intent to distribute*	21
Drug sale (observed)	6
Trafficking**	8

\*Carrying a significant amount of drugs not for personal use, or any amount indicative of distribution

\*\*Selling, possessing, or transporting an amount of drugs in excess of the amount established by statute, which carries enhanced penalties

# Sex Offenses

## Definition

*Sex Offenses include six crimes of a sexual nature: annoying and accosting, indecent assault, indecent exposure, obscene telephone calls, peeping & spying, and prostitution & solicitation. Rape is not included because it is a Part I crime.*

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	90
2023	113
2024	95
Change from 2023	-16%
Change from Average	6%

### Sex offenses by type

Category	5-Yr. Avg.	2023	2024	Change from Avg.
Indecent assault	36	35	29	-19%
Indecent exposure	27	29	37	37%
Peeping & Spying	5	7	2	-60%
Annoying & accosting	10	11	18	80%
Obscene phone calls	1	1	2	100%
Prostitution & solicitation	10	30	7	-30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>6%</b>

15 others. The Riverside neighborhood experienced the most indecent assaults in 2024 with six incidents, or 21% of the citywide total. There were no defined patterns anywhere in Cambridge this year.

## Indecent Assault

Indecent assault is the unwanted touching of a person by another in a private area or with sexual overtones. Any incident where force or injury occurs is an aggravated assault rather than an indecent assault. In 2024, the offender was a stranger to the victim in 48% of the reported assaults. Six of the incidents in 2024 resulted in an arrest at the time of the incident and a suspect was identified in the incident and a suspect was identified in an additional 16.

## Peeping and Spying

Both instances of peeping and spying reported in Cambridge in 2024 involved an offender peering at victims through the windows of their residences at night. In one of these incidents, a suspect also used a cell phone to record his victim.

## Annoying & Accosting

Annoying and accosting is a form of criminal harassment. (Note: Incidents involving phone call harassment are not considered annoying and accosting. Phone calls are a separate category.) Often, annoying and accosting involves a man repeatedly following, shouting, making off-color suggestions, hooting, repeatedly asking for a date, following, or otherwise harassing a woman. It happens most often on the street. There were 18 incidents in 2024, with one committed by an employee of a hotel towards someone in upper management, one committed by a roommate, three (17%) by an acquaintance, and 13 (72%) by a stranger. One of the incidents resulted in an arrest, and suspects were developed in nine others.

## Obscene Telephone Calls

Obscene telephone calls are unwanted phone calls or electronic communications of an offensive or repulsive nature. Often the caller uses sexual or vulgar language to cause discomfort and possibly fear to the victim receiving the calls. There were two incidents of this nature in 2024, both involving calls from strangers.

### **Prostitution and Soliciting Sex for a Fee**

Prostitution is commonly associated with “streetwalking,” (prostitutes working the streets) but also includes escort services, where a “john” (client) will call and a prostitute will be sent to the “john’s” location. In the 1990’s, the Cambridge Police Special Investigations Unit (SIU) had proactively fought the visible “streetwalking” problem, nearly eradicating it in Cambridge. In recent years, the problem has re-emerged in Cambridge in a less public fashion, particularly through internet advertisements. In 2023, the Cambridge Police, in collaboration with Homeland Security Investigations and the United States Attorney’s Office, investigated a high-end brothel network with a location in Cambridge, which led to the prosecution of 28 cases of prostitution and the arrest of three individuals in charge of the brothel. There were also two separate and unrelated incidents of prostitution reported in Cambridge in 2023.

In 2024, six additional cases were brought against individuals involved in the high-end brothel case from the previous year, bringing the total to 34 cases. There was also one unrelated prostitution incident reported in Cambridge in 2024, but it did not result in any charges.

# Fraud

## Definition

*Fraud, larceny under false pretenses, forgery, embezzlement, and confidence games are not included among types of larceny in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting System. Yet in many cases, fraud is a much more serious crime than theft. Victims of check forgery and "con" games stand to lose thousands of dollars. Often added to this loss is the personal humiliation that accompanies being "duped" by a "con man." The confidence game crook, a particularly crafty breed of criminal who has no problem deceiving his victims face-to-face, expects (often correctly) that his victim's embarrassment will deter him or her from reporting the crime to the police.*

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	756
2023	744
2024	580
Change from 2023	-22%
Change from Average	-23%

Across the nation, police departments are seeing fraud become an increasingly popular crime. In 2023, this crime rose 24% in Cambridge from 600 incidents in 2022 to 744 in 2023. However, fraud reversed directions in 2024 and dropped 22% to 580 incidents.

## Counterfeiting

This crime category almost always involves counterfeit bills. In Cambridge, these incidents tend to occur most often at grocery stores, convenience stores, gas stations, and specialty stores.

## Bad Check

This is defined as the writing of checks on insufficient funds or closed accounts.

## Forged Check

Writing a forged check includes any incident in which a suspect forges the signature of the victim, or changes the amount written on the check.

## ATM/Credit Card Fraud

One of the most common types of fraud reported in Cambridge typically involves the use of credit and ATM cards. There are two main ways that victims become aware of this type of crime; either victims are informed by their credit card companies of unusual activity on their charge or debit cards, or a victim finds unauthorized charges on his or her credit card account after the card is lost/stolen/skinned. Victims may also report fraudulent activity while they are still in possession of their card. This type of fraud decreased by 4% in 2024 with four fewer incidents reported this year than in 2023. Under-reporting can be an issue with ATM/credit card fraud due to the tendency for fewer victims to report fraudulent charges on their credit or debit cards when their credit card companies take care of the charges without requiring a police report.

Category	2023	2024	Change from 2023*
Counterfeiting	11	11	0%
Forgery/Uttering	506	415	-18%
Identity theft	346	257	-26%
Credit/ATM cards	107	103	-4%
Forged check	32	36	13%
Application	3	15	400%
Bad check	10	4	-60%
Prescription	3	0	-100%
Other/miscellaneous	5	0	-100%
Con Games	222	150	-32%
Internet-related	94	72	-23%
Housing Scam	31	23	-26%
Government	38	23	-39%
Housework/Utilities	32	10	-69%
Travel	3	4	33%
Extortion/Kidnap	3	2	-33%
Cash shuffle	1	2	100%
Lottery	4	1	-75%
Charity	8	1	-88%
Big Carrot	3	0	-100%
Miscellaneous	5	12	140%
Embezzlement	5	4	-20%
Total	744	580	-22%

\*N/A = % change cannot be calculated when the 2022 total is zero.

### Identity Theft

This scenario is when a known or unknown person opens accounts in the victim's name with his or her social security number. This can include utilities, credit cards, and even filing tax returns. Reported false unemployment claims skyrocketed in 2020 during the pandemic (with 807 reported incidents) followed by a large drop in 2021 (down to 76 incidents) and 2022 (40 incidents), a rise in 2023 (120 incidents), and a decline again in 2024 (39 incidents), contributing to the overall 26% decrease in identity fraud reports in 2024.

### Embezzlement

This occurs when employees take advantage of their position for financial gain, often diverting company funds to their own account. Retail stores in Harvard, Central, and Porter Squares are typically most affected by this crime. Often, incidents of this type involve employees stealing several thousand dollars from the companies for which they work.

### "Con" Games

Internet-related incidents continue to account for a high number of con games. In recent years, there has also been a large increase in new scam scenarios, contributing to our need to create new categories in our data collection process. These categories include "Lottery", "Travel", "Housing Scam", "Government," and "Extortion/Kidnap.". These were previously listed as miscellaneous con games when they were less prevalent or non-existent prior to 2014. The call-out box below details some of the more prevalent phone/internet scams reported in Cambridge recently.

The Cambridge Police issued several alerts in recent years about on-going scams affecting residents and businesses in the area.

The following is a list of some of the recent scams:

- Online rental scams in which a victim sends money and later discovers that there is no apartment to rent. ("Housing Scam" category)
- A caller claims to be from the IRS and says that the victim has been audited and owes money. This scam is often prevalent throughout tax season.
- A caller claims to work for the government and states that there is a warrant out for the victim's arrest unless s/he pays a fee to clear it up. Another variant is when the victim receives a call from someone posing as a court official and states a relative has been arrested and needs bail money. ("Government" scam category)
- A caller claims to be from a utility company and demands payment on an outstanding bill.
- A caller claims to have either kidnapped or been in an accident with a victim's relative and states that the relative is being held for ransom. ("Extortion/Kidnap" scam category)
- A caller claims to be offering computer services/anti-virus software and needs access to a victim's computer where they are able to remotely gain access to personal information. ("Internet" scam category)
- Someone approaches a victim on the street stating they need money for gas. ("Travel" scam category)

The following tips can help falling victim to one of these scams:

- Be suspicious of callers who demand immediate payment for any reason, and never give out personal or financial information to anyone who emails or calls you unsolicited.
- Never wire money or provide debit or credit card numbers or gift card numbers to someone you do not know. Also, keep in mind that utility companies and government agencies will NOT contact you demanding immediate payment by gift card.
- If you have doubts about a phone call or communication you received, contact the company or organization who allegedly contacted you.
- If you experience this type of activity, please report it to the Cambridge Police at 617-349-3300.

# Malicious Destruction

## Definition

*Malicious destruction, or vandalism of property, includes tire-slashing, window-smashing, spray-painting, and a myriad of other crimes in which someone's property is willfully and maliciously damaged. It is the most commonly reported crime in Cambridge, yet we suspect that vandalism is one of the most underreported crimes; residents and businesses frequently ignore "minor" incidents of vandalism and graffiti.*

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	355
2023	383
2024	321
Change from 2023	-16%
Change from Average	-10%

## Vandalism by neighborhood

Neighborhood	2023	2024	% of Total (2024)
East Cambridge	38	33	10%
M.I.T.	2	9	3%
Inman/Harrington	31	25	8%
The Port	42	43	13%
Cambridgeport	52	49	15%
Mid-Cambridge	44	37	12%
Riverside	41	27	8%
Baldwin	5	5	2%
Peabody	23	20	6%
West Cambridge	36	32	10%
North Cambridge	50	28	9%
Cambridge Highlands	9	9	3%
Strawberry Hill	10	4	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>321</b>	

## Vandalism by category

Category	2023	2024	Change from 2023
<b>Total auto damage</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>-15%</b>
Dents/damage to car	49	58	18%
Car window broken	47	27	-43%
Scratches, "pinstripes"	25	19	-24%
Tires slashed or punctured	17	19	12%
Attempted theft	29	19	-34%
<b>Total residence damage</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>-34%</b>
Misc. damage to residences	45	27	-40%
Residence window broken	14	12	-14%
<b>Total business damage</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>1%</b>
Misc. damage to businesses	42	64	52%
Business window broken	41	20	-51%
<b>Graffiti</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>-21%</b>
<b>Miscellaneous damage</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>-29%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>-16%</b>

# Other Part II Crimes

## Definition

*Under the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, any actual crime not recorded as a Part I Crime (Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny, and Auto Theft) is a Part II Crime. The relative infrequency of patterns and trends among these crimes discourages detailed analysis.*

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	1,029
2023	1,176
2024	1,313
Change from 2023	12%
Change from Average	28%

Category	2023	2024	Change from 2023
Hit & Run Crashes	698	692	-1%
Threats	272	320	18%
Trespassing	69	95	38%
Drinking in Public	4	8	100%
Disorderly Conduct	21	44	110%
Traffic Arrests	21	25	19%
Weapons Violations	24	43	79%
OUI	23	30	30%
Extortion/Blackmail	36	48	33%
Liquor Violations	3	5	67%
Kidnapping	5	3	-40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,176</b>	<b>1,313</b>	<b>12%</b>

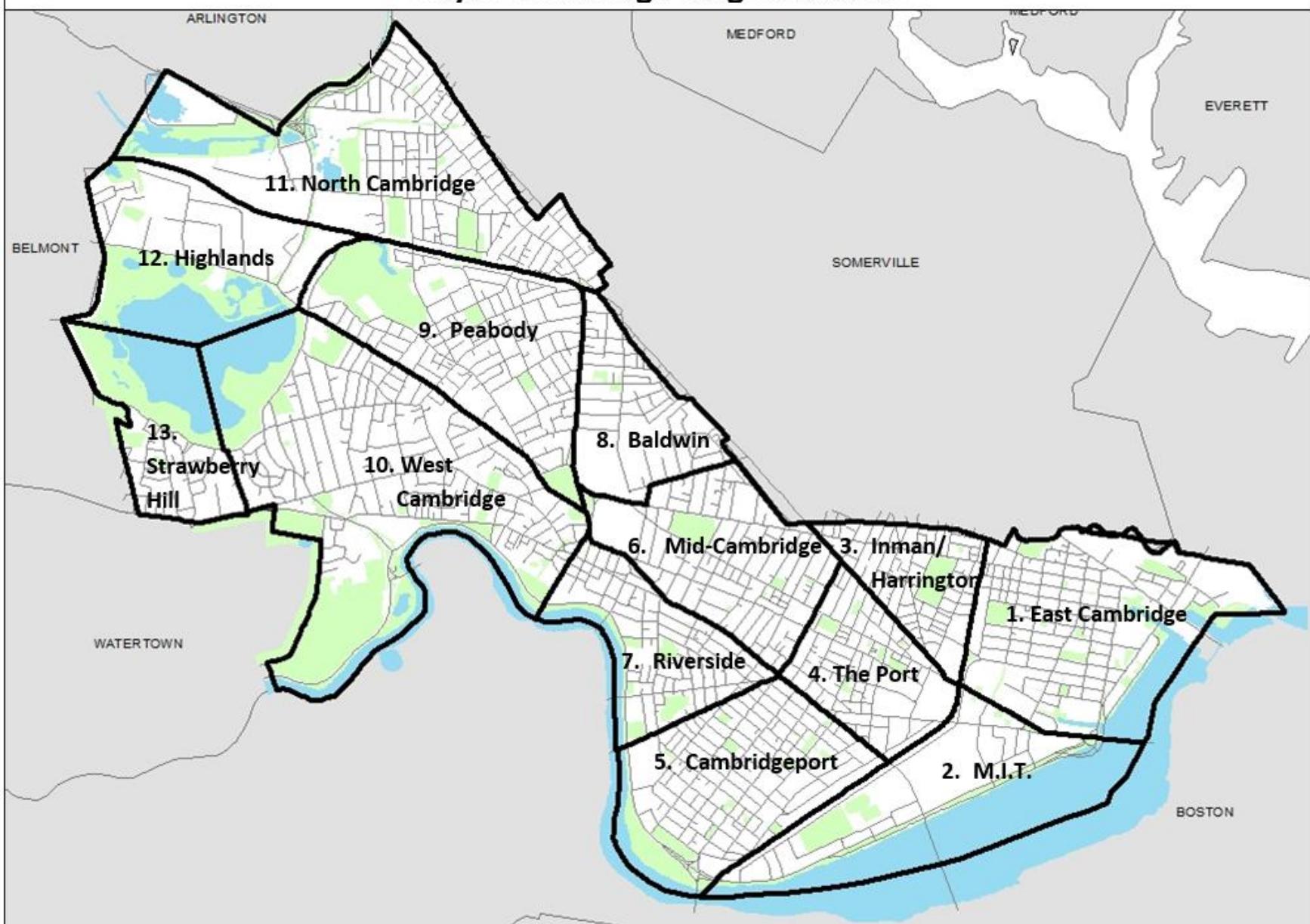


Section IV

# Neighborhood Profiles

East Cambridge  
M.I.T./Kendall  
Inman/Harrington  
The Port  
Cambridgeport  
Mid-Cambridge  
Riverside  
Baldwin  
Peabody  
West Cambridge  
North Cambridge  
Cambridge Highlands  
Strawberry Hill

## City of Cambridge Neighborhoods

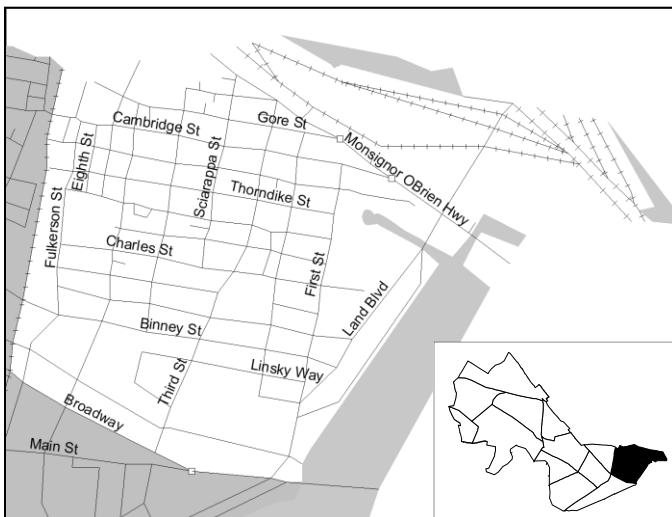


## Neighborhood breakdown of index crimes in 2024

Crime	East Camb.	M.I.T.	Inman/ Harr.	The Port	Camb. Port	Mid- Camb.	River- side	Bald- win	Pea- body	W. Camb.	N. Camb.	Camb. H'lands	Strw. Hill	Total
Aggravated Assault	22	8	22	40	51	31	36	5	21	29	35	11	2	313
Auto Theft	9	1	2	19	16	7	7	2	9	6	14	1	2	95
Commercial Break	12	0	1	7	18	3	18	1	4	10	18	3	0	95
Commercial Robbery	0	0	0	1	4	2	4	1	1	2	6	2	2	25
Drugs	1	0	0	4	34	12	23	0	0	1	6	1	1	83
Flim Flam	18	2	6	16	21	16	11	3	22	15	14	3	3	150
Forgery	49	4	25	48	44	48	40	7	27	37	62	14	10	415
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Housebreak	16	0	19	26	19	22	28	6	10	7	18	1	4	176
Indecent Assault	3	0	1	4	5	5	6	0	1	1	3	0	0	29
Indecent Exposure	3	0	3	7	6	0	4	1	5	4	1	3	0	37
Larceny from Building	29	4	5	22	18	31	24	12	8	23	23	8	2	209
Larceny from MV	23	0	43	35	43	38	31	6	11	21	35	1	3	290
Larceny from Person	4	3	2	10	18	6	15	3	3	11	8	1	0	84
Larceny from Residence	47	2	21	19	51	89	49	19	39	7	80	11	9	443
Larceny of Bicycle	46	17	22	70	59	78	59	13	24	33	61	14	3	499
Mal. Dest. Property	33	9	25	43	49	37	27	5	20	32	28	9	4	321
Shoplifting	36	19	8	83	512	18	40	2	3	68	186	107	5	1,087
Simple Assault	59	4	32	46	70	68	62	7	27	38	44	17	9	483
Street Robbery	3	0	6	14	19	8	18	0	3	4	8	0	1	84

The following neighborhood slides contain census data pertaining to population and estimated median incomes by neighborhood. The population data (number of residents & households) was provided by the Cambridge Community Development Department and is based on 2020 Census data. The estimated median incomes are from the 2006-2010 American Community Survey data set, as analyzed by the Cambridge Community Development Department.

# East Cambridge



**Boundaries:** Bordered by the Charles River, Main Street, Broadway, the B&A Railroad, and the Somerville border.

## Population as of 2020:

13,246 residents  
7,471 households

## Median Household Income (2013-2017)

\$89,818

The East Cambridge Neighborhood lies within the patrol boundaries of Car 1 (2 officers) and Car 1R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 1A, 1B, and 1C.

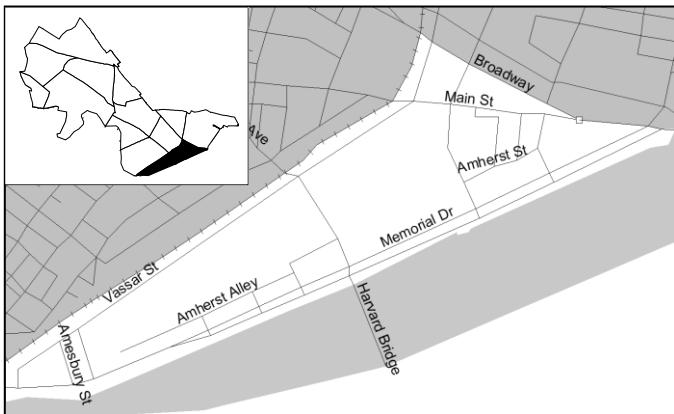
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2020-2024

Crime	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Housebreaks	13	20	15	21	16
Street Robbery	4	8	3	6	3
Auto Theft	11	13	18	17	9
Larceny from MVs	41	35	37	20	23
Package Thefts	19	16	15	26	35
Larceny of Bicycle	78	67	40	61	46
Malicious Destruction	38	51	36	38	33

## Annual Average for East Cambridge Target Crimes by Decade

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2020	2021-2030
Housebreaks	38	36	37	22	18
Street Robbery	10	19	16	7	5
Auto Theft	156	86	34	15	14
Larceny from MVs	121	106	101	40	29
Malicious Destruction	118	110	93	48	40

# M.I.T.



**Boundaries:** Bounded by Main Street, Broadway, the B&A Railroad, and the Charles River.

**Population as of 2020:**

6,238 residents  
1,046 households

**Median Household Income (2013-2017)**  
\$104,101

The MIT Neighborhood is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 1 and Car 3 (2 officer cars). M.I.T. has its own police force that patrols this area as well. The Cambridge Police Department's crime statistics do not include incidents that are reported to the M.I.T. Police Department.

COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2020-2024					
Crime	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Housebreaks	0	1	0	2	0
Street Robbery	1	0	1	0	0
Auto Theft	1	1	3	0	1
Larceny from MVs	3	2	4	1	0
Package Thefts	0	8	4	1	2
Larceny of Bicycle	11	13	11	14	17
Malicious Destruction	5	2	4	2	9

Annual Average for M.I.T. Area Target Crimes by Decade					
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2020	2021-2030
Housebreaks	19	4	1	0	1
Street Robbery	11	5	3	1	0
Auto Theft	102	55	8	3	1
Larceny from MVs	56	49	24	6	2
Malicious Destruction	47	28	8	7	4

# Inman/Harrington



**Boundaries:** Bounded by the CSX Railroad, Hampshire Street, and the Somerville line.

**Population as of 2020:**

6,718 residents  
3,131 households

**Median Household Income (2013-2017)**

\$78,490

The Inman/Harrington Neighborhood is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 1 (2 officers) and Car 3R (1 officer). Also included within this area are walking routes 3A, 3B, and 3C.

## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2020-2024

Crime	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Housebreaks	10	8	10	13	19
Street Robbery	1	1	4	2	6
Auto Theft	3	4	8	12	2
Larceny from MVs	14	31	15	16	43
Package Thefts	21	8	18	22	13
Larceny of Bicycle	19	33	20	31	22
Malicious Destruction	20	30	30	31	25

## Annual Average for Inman/Harrington Target Crimes by Decade

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2020	2021-2030
Housebreaks	57	38	46	24	13
Street Robbery	14	15	11	4	3
Auto Theft	89	48	30	9	7
Larceny from MVs	66	45	45	23	26
Malicious Destruction	94	79	67	36	29

# The Port



**Boundaries:** Bounded by the B&A Railroad, Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Hampshire Street.

**Population as of 2020:**

7,280 residents  
3,267 households

**Median Household Income (2013-2017)**

\$83,700

The Port Neighborhood is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers), and Car 4R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 4A, 4B, and 4C, and Central 10.

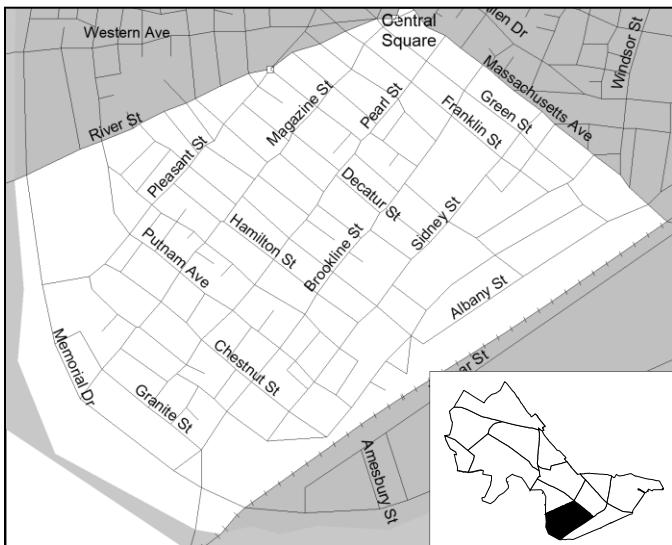
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2020-2024

Crime	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Housebreaks	17	11	15	32	26
Street Robbery	10	3	12	17	14
Auto Theft	10	7	20	14	19
Larceny from MVs	49	33	39	14	35
Package Thefts	29	19	42	24	13
Larceny of Bicycle	57	42	65	57	70
Malicious Destruction	41	50	45	42	43

## Annual Average for The Port Target Crimes by Decade

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2020	2021-2030
Housebreaks	101	62	53	28	21
Street Robbery	75	47	28	11	12
Auto Theft	147	78	39	13	15
Larceny from MVs	134	77	78	37	30
Malicious Destruction	131	109	80	52	45

# Cambridgeport



**Boundaries:** Bounded by Massachusetts Avenue, the B&A railroad, the Charles River, and River Street.

## Population as of 2020:

13,083 residents  
5,688 households

## Median Household Income (2013-2017)

\$99,377

The Cambridgeport Neighborhood is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 3 (2 officers) and Car 5R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 5A, 5B, and Central 12. The new Cambridge Police Central Square Substation opened in this neighborhood in 2018, located at Carl Barron Plaza on Massachusetts Avenue.

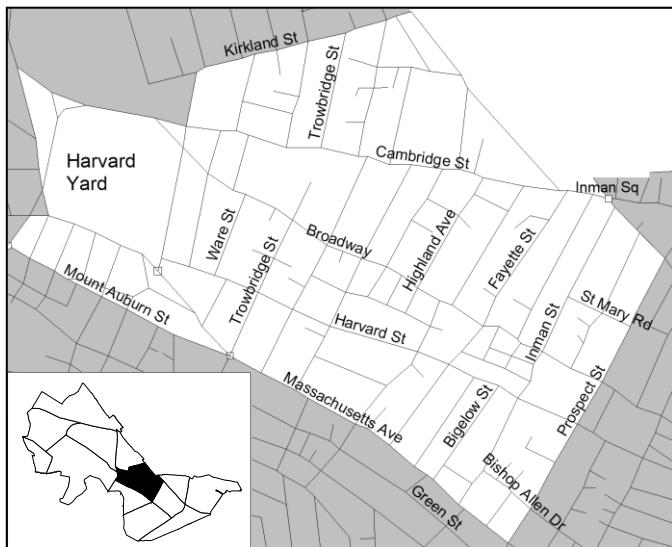
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2020-2024

Crime	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Housebreaks	24	23	30	30	19
Street Robbery	13	8	21	28	19
Auto Theft	16	18	21	20	16
Larceny from MVs	42	74	63	43	43
Package Thefts	45	46	38	47	31
Larceny of Bicycle	122	103	76	97	59
Malicious Destruction	32	31	27	52	49

## Annual Average for Cambridgeport Target Crimes by Decade

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2020	2021-2030
Housebreaks	156	66	57	45	26
Street Robbery	57	31	26	15	19
Auto Theft	165	85	44	18	19
Larceny from MVs	126	92	103	62	56
Malicious Destruction	106	106	99	53	40

# Mid-Cambridge



**Boundaries:** Bounded by Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, Hampshire Street, the Somerville border, Kirkland Street, Quincy Street, and Cambridge Street.

**Population as of 2020:**

13,974 residents  
6,863 households

**Estimated median income (2013-2017)**

\$86,585

The Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers) and 6R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 6A, 6B, 6C, and Harvard 15.

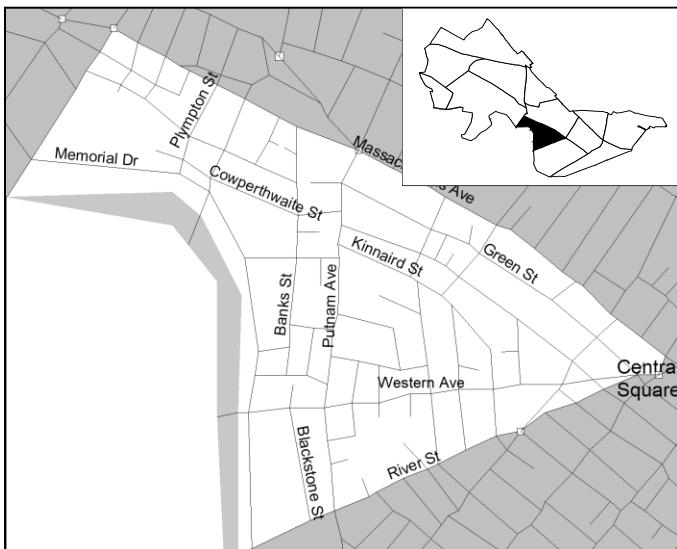
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2020-2024

Crime	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Housebreaks	15	21	29	25	22
Street Robbery	8	6	8	11	8
Auto Theft	4	11	10	9	7
Larceny from MVs	46	77	62	25	38
Package Thefts	52	29	40	59	68
Larceny of Bicycle	64	75	51	83	78
Malicious Destruction	30	31	30	44	37

## Annual Average for Mid-Cambridge Target Crimes by Decade

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2020	2021-2030
Housebreaks	226	103	77	38	24
Street Robbery	49	18	15	7	8
Auto Theft	147	69	31	12	9
Larceny from MVs	198	103	104	50	51
Malicious Destruction	149	102	71	33	36

# Riverside



**Boundaries:** Bounded by Massachusetts Avenue, River Street, the Charles River, and JFK Street.

**Population as of 2020:**

12,114 residents  
4,364 households

**Median Household Income (2013-2017)**

\$67,700

The Riverside Neighborhood is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 3 (2 officer cars) and Cars 6R and 10R (1 officer cars). Also included within its boundaries are walking routes 7A and 7B.

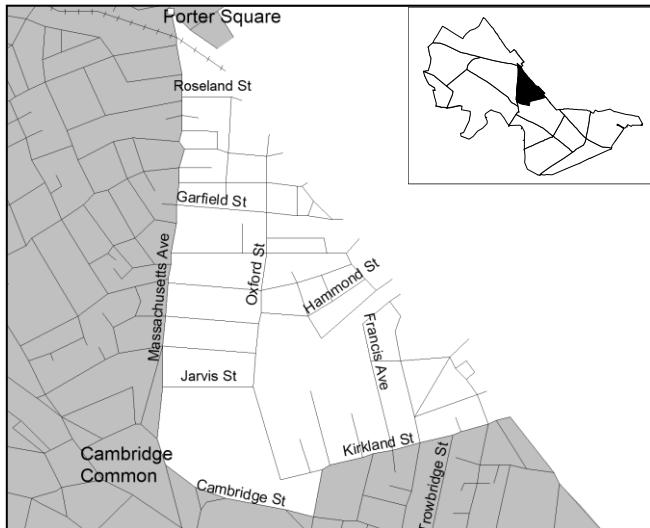
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2020-2024

Crime	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Housebreaks	10	8	19	19	28
Street Robbery	6	16	16	8	18
Auto Theft	11	27	21	13	7
Larceny from MVs	33	54	47	37	31
Package Thefts	38	36	21	31	30
Larceny of Bicycle	58	68	48	53	59
Malicious Destruction	32	24	31	41	27

## Annual Average for Riverside Target Crimes by Decade

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2020	2021-2030
Housebreaks	83	43	37	25	19
Street Robbery	34	17	14	9	15
Auto Theft	92	41	21	10	17
Larceny from MVs	87	47	49	39	42
Malicious Destruction	78	75	64	39	31

# Baldwin (formerly Agassiz)



**Boundaries:** Bounded by Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge Street, Quincy Street, Kirkland Street, and the Somerville border

**Population as of 2020:**

5,146 residents  
1,987 households

**Median Household Income (2013-2017)**

\$96,858

The Baldwin Neighborhood is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 9R (1 officer). It is also covered by walking routes 8A, 8B, and 8C.

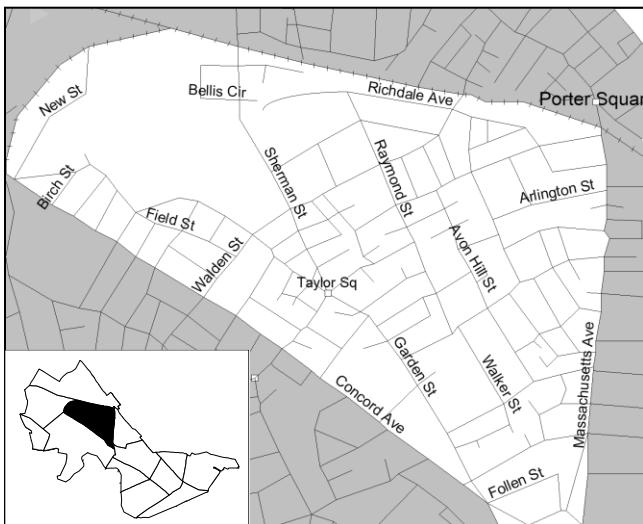
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2020-2024

Crime	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Housebreaks	2	3	7	9	6
Street Robbery	1	1	0	1	0
Auto Theft	0	5	3	6	2
Larceny from MVs	9	10	20	15	6
Package Thefts	8	4	6	12	15
Larceny of Bicycle	11	25	18	16	13
Malicious Destruction	3	9	6	5	5

## Annual Average for Baldwin Target Crimes by Decade

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2020	2021-2030
Housebreaks	67	26	25	11	6
Street Robbery	11	7	4	0	1
Auto Theft	45	19	11	4	4
Larceny from MVs	47	30	49	17	13
Malicious Destruction	45	28	18	8	6

# Neighborhood Nine/Peabody



**Boundaries:** Bounded by the MBTA Fitchburg commuter railway, Concord Avenue, Garden Street, and Massachusetts Avenue.

**Population as of 2020:**

12,471 residents  
6,123 households

**Median Household Income (2013-2017)**

\$86,013

The Peabody Neighborhood is encompassed by Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 9R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 9A, 9B, 9C, and 9D.

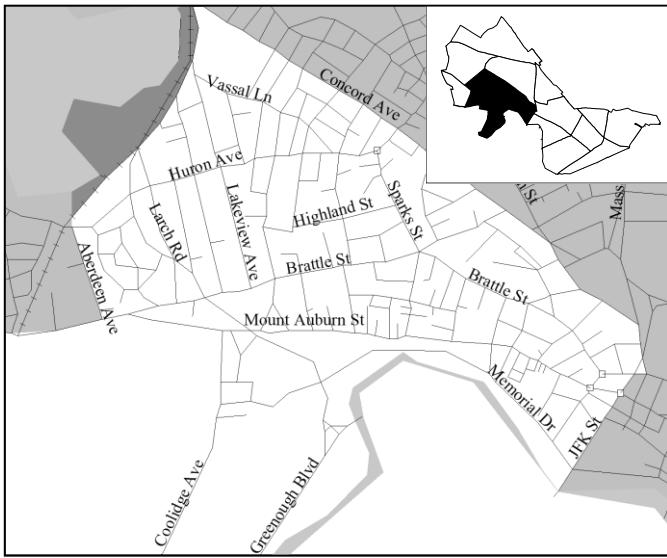
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2020-2024

Crime	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Housebreaks	9	9	24	10	10
Street Robbery	2	2	2	2	3
Auto Theft	7	8	14	4	9
Larceny from MVs	24	43	55	42	11
Package Thefts	35	25	22	17	31
Larceny of Bicycle	52	47	58	29	24
Malicious Destruction	24	18	22	23	20

## Annual Average for Peabody Target Crimes by Decade

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2020	2021-2030
Housebreaks	150	53	49	23	13
Street Robbery	21	14	10	3	2
Auto Theft	94	42	30	8	9
Larceny from MVs	74	60	80	42	38
Malicious Destruction	135	72	74	28	21

# West Cambridge



**Boundaries:** Bounded by the Charles River, JFK Street, Garden Street, Concord Avenue, Fresh Pond, Aberdeen Avenue, and the Watertown line.

**Population as of 2020:**

8,450 residents  
4,251 households

**Median Household Income (2013-2017)**

\$108,695

The West Cambridge Neighborhood is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Cars 10R and 13R (1-officer cars). It also includes walking routes 10A, 10B, 10C, and Harvard 16.

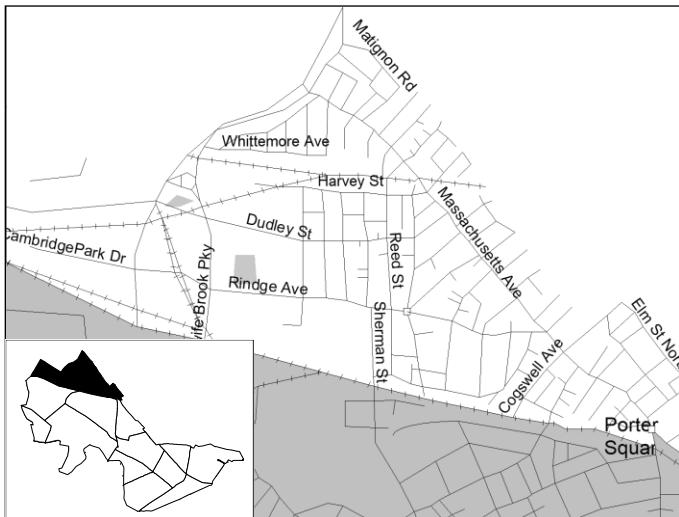
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2020-2024

Crime	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Housebreaks	8	5	13	5	7
Street Robbery	3	3	2	12	4
Auto Theft	10	13	15	12	6
Larceny from MVs	27	28	48	32	21
Package Thefts	12	5	12	3	5
Larceny of Bicycle	40	26	20	38	33
Malicious Destruction	32	21	25	36	32

## Annual Average for West Cambridge Target Crimes by Decade

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2020	2021-2030
Housebreaks	105	38	37	24	8
Street Robbery	18	11	9	7	5
Auto Theft	105	41	25	11	12
Larceny from MVs	134	72	81	57	32
Malicious Destruction	92	76	58	36	29

# North Cambridge



**Boundaries:** Bounded by the Belmont line, the Arlington Line, the Somerville Line, Porter Square, and the B&M Railroad.

**Population as of 2020:**

15,372 residents

7,544 households

**Median Household Income (2013-2017)**

\$87,882

The North Cambridge Neighborhood is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 11R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 11A, 11B, 11C, and 11D.

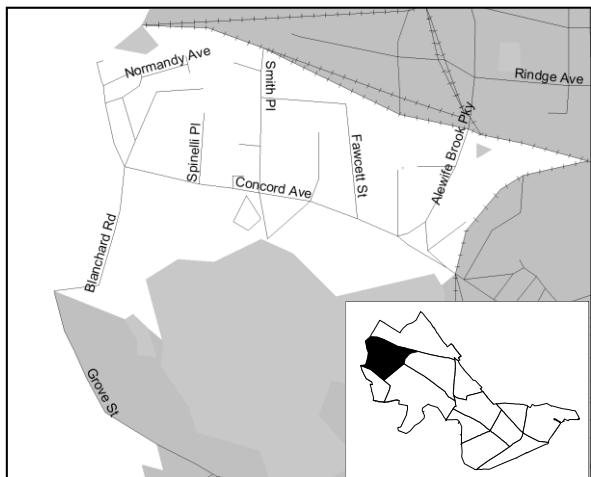
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2020-2024

Crime	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Housebreaks	17	11	30	26	18
Street Robbery	2	7	5	7	8
Auto Theft	10	17	18	20	14
Larceny from MVs	40	47	60	62	35
Package Thefts	17	25	24	36	57
Larceny of Bicycle	71	101	63	87	61
Malicious Destruction	49	77	66	50	28

## Annual Average for North Cambridge Target Crimes by Decade

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2020	2021-2030
Housebreaks	100	64	49	21	21
Street Robbery	30	21	16	6	7
Auto Theft	130	68	32	11	17
Larceny from MVs	105	62	71	48	51
Malicious Destruction	125	112	89	43	55

# Cambridge Highlands



**Boundaries:** Bounded by the B&M Railroad, the Belmont line, and Fresh Pond.

## Population as of 2020:

1,646 residents

950 households

## Median Household Income (2013-2017)

\$82,364

The Cambridge Highlands Neighborhood is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Car 13R (1 officer). Also included is walking route 12C.

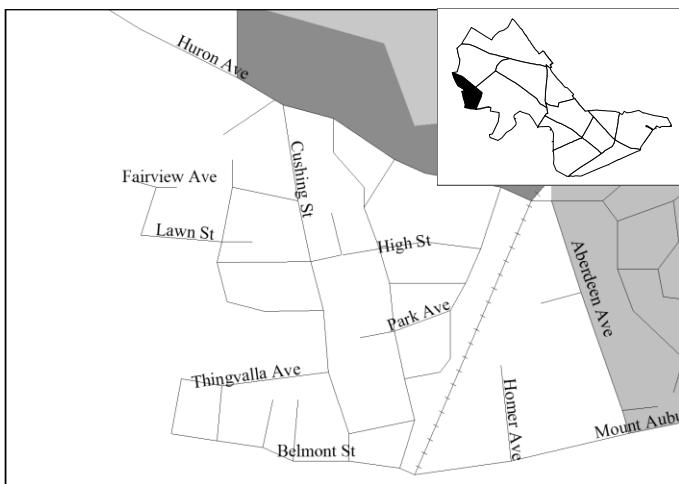
## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2020-2024

Crime	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Housebreaks	0	2	9	1	1
Street Robbery	2	0	2	0	0
Auto Theft	1	4	0	10	1
Larceny from MVs	9	3	8	11	1
Package Thefts	3	6	6	13	10
Larceny of Bicycle	15	20	9	11	14
Malicious Destruction	10	9	6	9	9

## Annual Average for Cambridge Highlands Target Crimes by Decade

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2020	2021-2030
Housebreaks	6	2	2	1	3
Street Robbery	8	2	2	1	1
Auto Theft	54	16	5	1	4
Larceny from MVs	38	23	16	7	6
Malicious Destruction	28	26	19	9	8

# Cambridge Highlands



**Boundaries:** Bounded by Fresh Pond, Aberdeen Avenue, the Watertown line, and the Belmont line.

**Population as of 2020:**

2,665 residents  
1,222 households

**Median Household Income (2013-2017)**

\$71,065

The Strawberry Hill Neighborhood is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Car 13R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 13A and 13B.

## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2020-2024

Crime	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Housebreaks	4	2	4	1	4
Street Robbery	0	1	1	0	1
Auto Theft	0	1	1	3	2
Larceny from MVs	13	8	5	1	3
Package Thefts	4	5	0	2	5
Larceny of Bicycle	3	3	3	2	3
Malicious Destruction	9	10	6	10	4

## Annual Average for Strawberry Hill Target Crimes by Decade

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2020	2021-2030
Housebreaks	17	10	9	4	3
Street Robbery	4	3	2	1	1
Auto Theft	17	8	7	1	2
Larceny from MVs	22	12	18	10	4
Malicious Destruction	25	23	21	9	8



Section V

# Traffic Analysis

### TRAFFIC SAFETY & THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic radically affected the lives of those living and working in the City of Cambridge. These changes were particularly pronounced in traffic patterns in 2020. Workers, students, and residents were forced to perform many tasks remotely that were once done in person. These wide-ranging changes in behavior resulted in sharp decreases in crashes citywide that year. Conversely, in 2021, as people started to re-emerge from their homes, crash numbers began to rise again. This return to normalcy was even more pronounced in 2023 and 2024, when crash totals exceeded what one would see in a pre-pandemic year (1,450). The number of crashes reported in Cambridge in recent years is summarized in the table below.

Categories of Motor Vehicle Crashes	10-Year Average	2020 Total	2021 Total	2022 Total	2023 Total	2024 Total	% Change from 2023
Crash Calls for Service	2,527	1,528	2,069	2,360	2,655	<b>2,739</b>	3%
Crash CFS with EMS Transport	257	119	233	265	247	<b>272</b>	10%
Total Crash Reports*	1,432	833	1,172	1,372	1,626	<b>1,667</b>	3%
Auto Crash Reports	1,206	732	1,038	1,161	1,355	<b>1,386</b>	2%
Bicycle Crash Reports	141	66	76	131	175	<b>197</b>	13%
Pedestrian Crash Reports	86	35	58	80	96	<b>84</b>	-13%

\*NOTE: Police crash reports are only required for crashes involving at least one motor vehicle (and either resulting in an injury and/or at least \$1000 in property damage or involving a crime such as Leaving the Scene of Property Damage, regardless of injury or damage). If a crash does not involve a vehicle—such as those involving a bicycle versus a pedestrian—a crash report is not required, although the crash may be covered by a police incident report. Because of this, crashes not involving at least one vehicle are not included in the crash numbers analyzed in this section of the Annual Report. Over the past 20 years, between one and five non-vehicle crashes per year have been documented via a police crash report, the majority involving either a bicycle versus another bicycle or a bicycle versus a pedestrian.

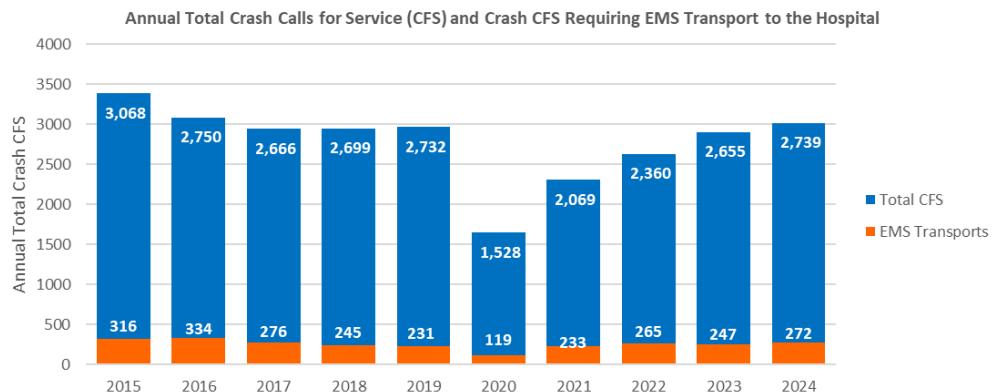
### CALLS FOR SERVICE

A Crash Call for Service is any instance in which a person in Cambridge calls to request police assistance for a traffic collision. The Police Department responded to a total of 2,739 calls for service (CFS) relating to traffic crashes in 2024, which is up 3% when compared with the 2,655 calls recorded during 2023 and is now running even with pre-pandemic levels (there were 2,732 crash calls in 2019).

A useful metric for understanding crash severity is whether an involved party required transport to the hospital by Emergency Medical Services (EMS Transport). There were 272 CFS involving EMS transport in 2024, representing an increase of 10% above 2023 and 6% above the ten-year average of 257.

## Traffic Analysis

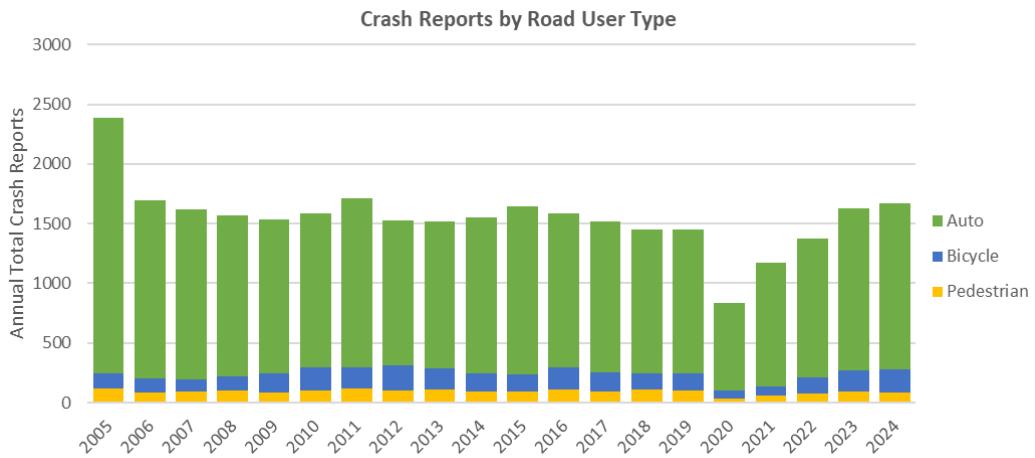
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## CRASH REPORTS

### CRASH REPORTS BY ROAD USER TYPE

Massachusetts General Law requires that a police crash report be filed for any motor vehicle crash resulting in any degree of injury or at least \$1,000 of property damage, or a crash in which another person unlawfully left the scene. On average, approximately half of crash calls for service result in the filing of a police crash report. In 2024, there were 1,667 crashes reported, up 3% over the 1,626 crashes reported in 2023 and up 16% over the ten-year average of 1,432 crash reports.

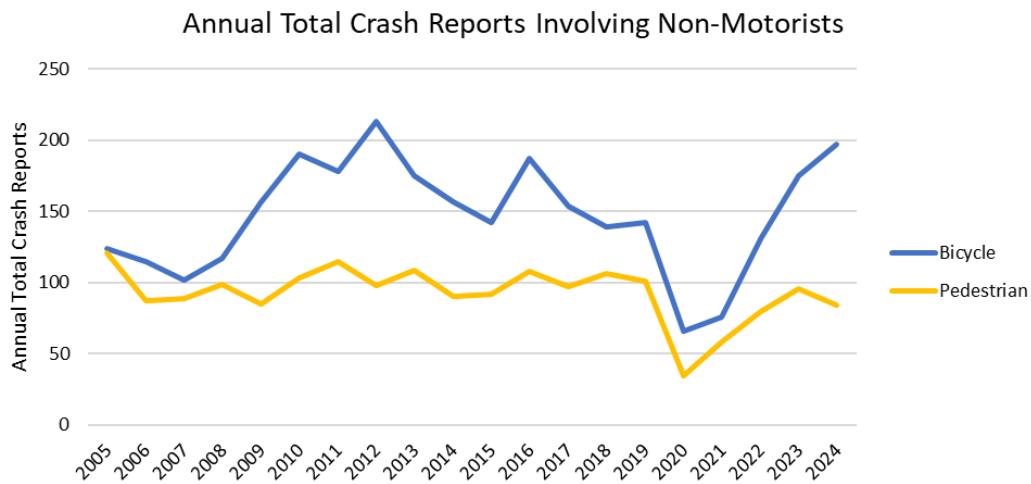


Annual Total Police Crash Reports by Type of Road User Involved. Bicycle and Pedestrian Crashes involve one or more motor vehicles and a cyclist or pedestrian, while Auto Only crashes involve only motor vehicles.

When a crash report is filed, the responding officer records detailed information about the circumstances of the crash, including crash location and the type of road users involved. Of the 1,667 crash reports in 2024, 17% (281 crashes) involved a non-motorist. This represents an increase of 4% compared to the 271 non-motorist crashes in 2023 and an increase of 24% compared to the 10-year average (227 non-motorist crashes). Motor-vehicle-only crashes accounted for 83% of crashes in 2024, followed by vehicle-versus-cyclist crashes at 12%, and vehicle-versus-pedestrian crashes at 5%.

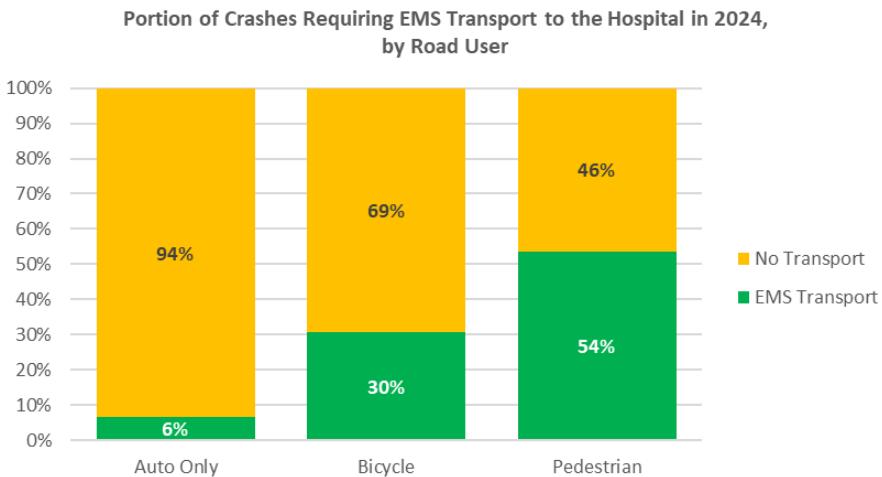
## Traffic Analysis

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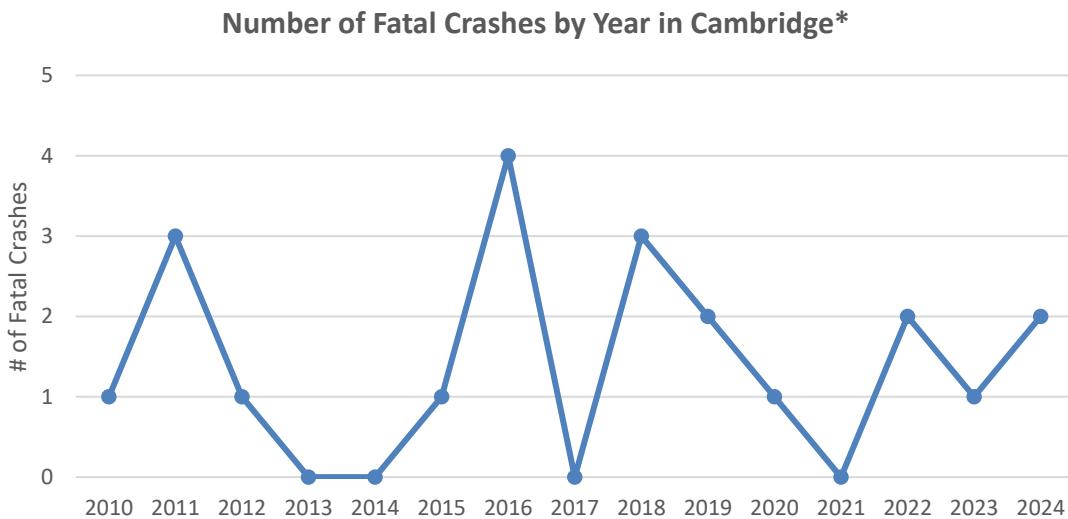
### EMS TRANSPORTS BY ROAD USER TYPE

Non-motorists are the road users most vulnerable to injury. Pedestrian-involved crashes had the highest percentage of EMS transports at 54% in 2024, which is up from 52% in 2023. Cyclist-involved crashes had the next highest percentage of EMS transports at 30% in 2024, up from 29% in 2023. Motor-vehicle-only crashes experienced the lowest proportion of EMS transports at 6% in 2024, which was a 1% decrease below the previous year.



### VISION ZERO & TRAFFIC FATALITIES

The city continued its Vision Zero efforts throughout 2024, working to reduce the number of crash-related fatalities and serious injuries to zero. Vision Zero actions have included infrastructure improvements, enforcement strategies, and education efforts. After seeing a drop in fatal crashes during the pandemic years of 2020 and 2021, two fatal incidents were reported in 2022, one was reported in 2023, and two were reported in 2024. Both incidents in 2024 involved a truck versus a bicyclist. While these metrics for traffic safety experience variability from year to year, the City continues to work hard to keep crashes and crash-related injuries trending downward.

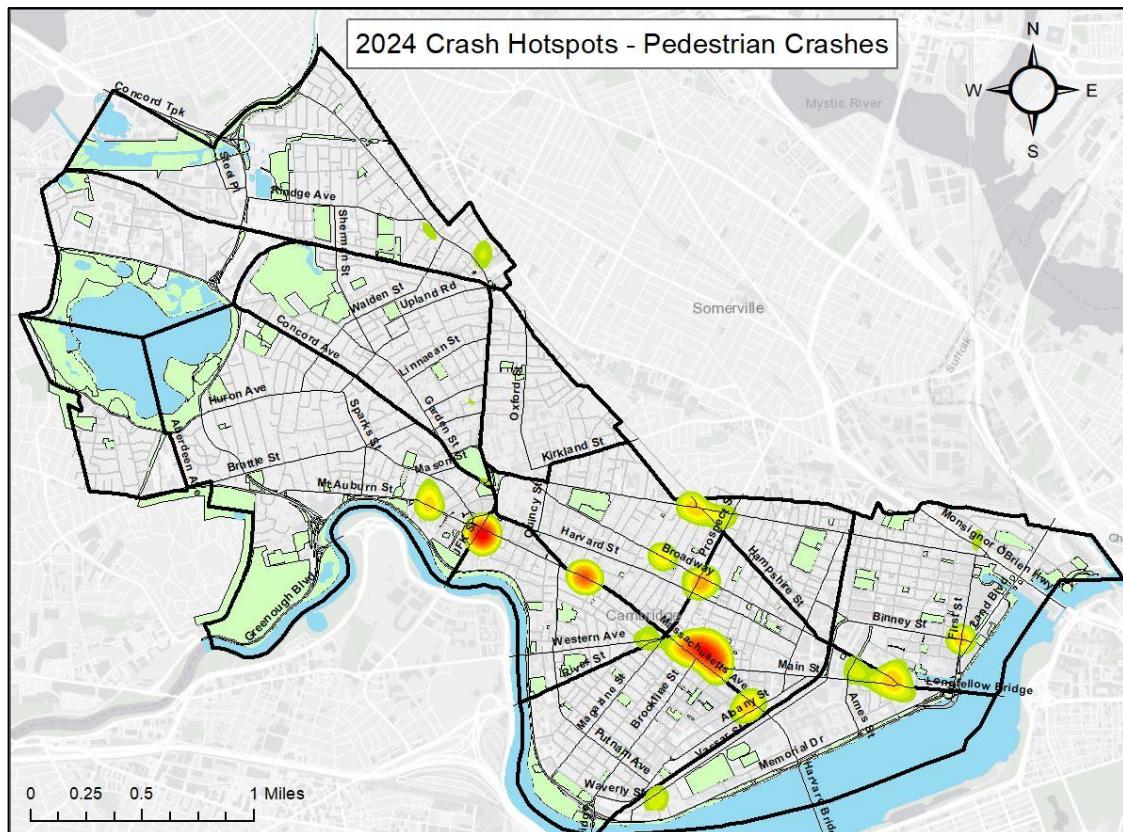
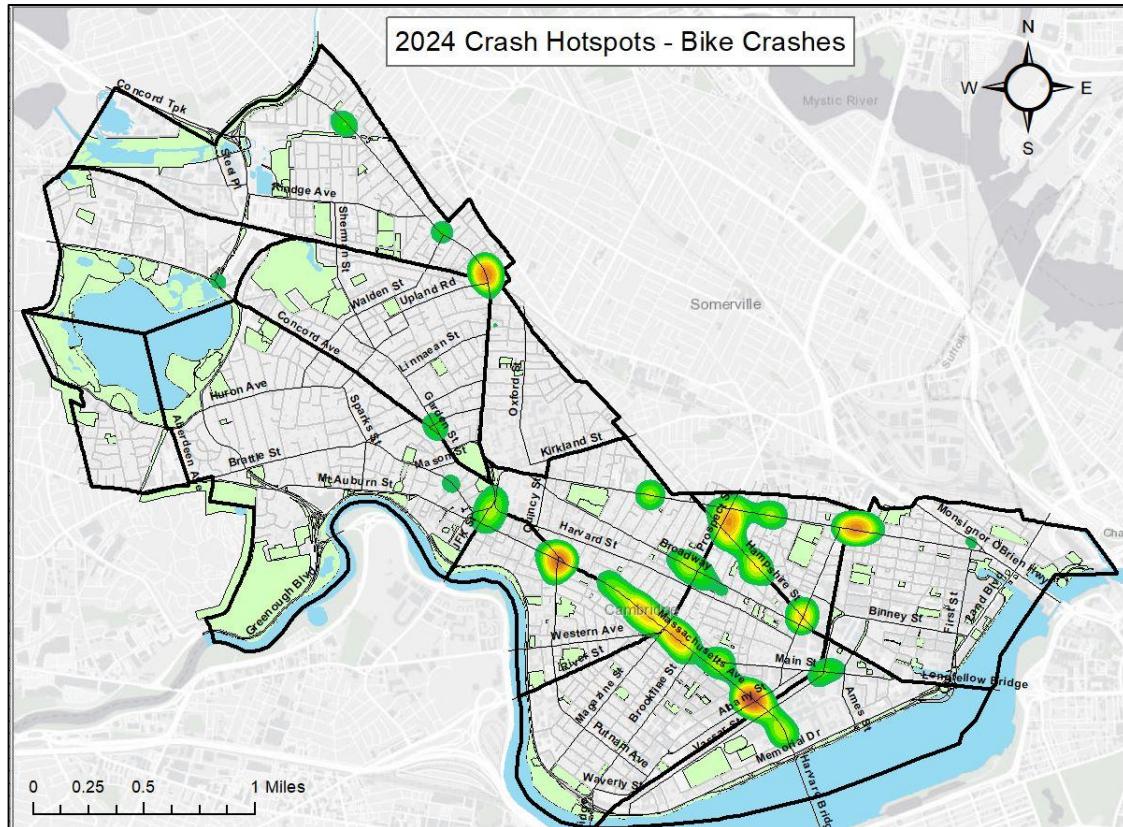


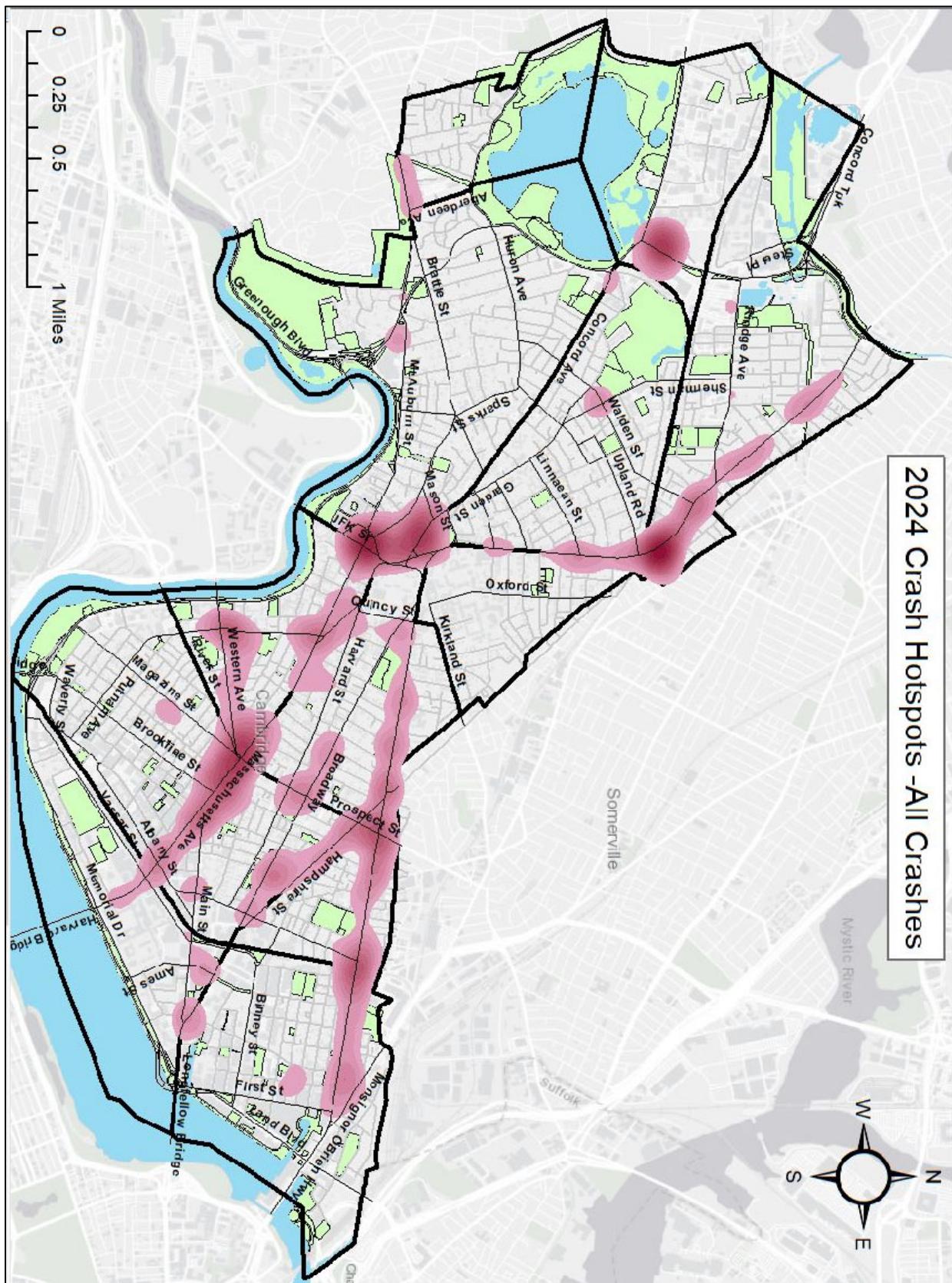
\*NOTE: Not all roads in Cambridge fall under City jurisdiction. Some of the larger roadways, including Memorial Drive, Fresh Pond Parkway, and Alewife Brook Parkway, are monitored and maintained by the State. Traffic crashes and fatalities that occur on roadways under State jurisdiction are investigated by the Massachusetts State Police and are not counted in the crash numbers for Cambridge.

### CRASH LOCATIONS

In general, crashes in Cambridge occur most frequently along major corridors (Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge Street, Hampshire Street) and in the squares (Central Square, Inman Square, Porter Square, Harvard Square). Bicycle crashes are more tightly clustered along the Massachusetts Avenue, Hampshire Street, and Broadway corridors, while pedestrian crashes are more tightly clustered in Harvard Square and in pockets along lower Massachusetts Avenue between Central Square and Memorial Drive. **The maps on the following pages depict the locations of crash reports involving 1) vehicles versus bicycles, 2) vehicles versus pedestrians, and 3) all road user types in the year 2024.**

## Traffic Analysis







Section VI

# Special Reports

Domestic Incidents  
Hate Crimes

# Domestic Incidents

*Domestic incidents include all offenses committed against family members, spouses and ex-spouses, romantic partners and ex-romantic partners, and roommates. Underreporting is a serious problem when it comes to domestic incidents (domestic violence experts estimate that the police department receives a report for only a third of domestic crimes), so the actual figures are likely quite a bit greater than what is reported to police.*

Over the past two years, domestic incident reports have risen back to pre-pandemic levels. In 2024, 894 domestic incidents were reported, up 2% (or 19 incidents) above the total reported in 2023. Aggravated assaults and threats saw the largest numerical increases in 2024, leading to the overall minor increase this year. Incidents categorized as other or miscellaneous typically involved a dispute that occurred during or prior to an incident such as a missing person report, a mental health interaction, or a warrant arrest. In these cases, officers were not usually called specifically for a domestic situation, but upon further investigating, it was discovered that elements of a domestic dispute were present or had contributed to the main situation.

Categorical Breakdown of Domestic Incidents*	2022 Total	2023 Total	2024 Total	% change from 2023*
Dispute/Disturbance - No Physical Abuse	389	425	414	-3%
Simple Assault	157	175	155	-11%
Aggravated Assault	54	72	83	15%
Violation of a Restraining Order/HPO	46	55	48	-13%
Threats to Commit a Crime	28	23	43	87%
Other Miscellaneous	46	29	34	17%
Larceny	25	22	24	9%
Harassment	20	19	23	21%
Malicious Destruction of Property	14	18	17	-6%
Housebreak	16	6	13	117%
Rape/Attempted Rape	10	10	12	20%
Forgery	3	4	11	175%
Street Robbery	2	7	7	0%
Kidnapping	1	4	2	-50%
Auto Theft	2	3	2	-33%
Indecent Assault	5	1	2	100%
Harassing or Obscene Telephone Calls	1	0	2	n/a
Stalking	1	1	1	0%
Disorderly	0	0	1	n/a
Peeping & Spying	0	1	0	-100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>2%</b>

\*N/A = % change cannot be calculated when the 2023 total is zero.

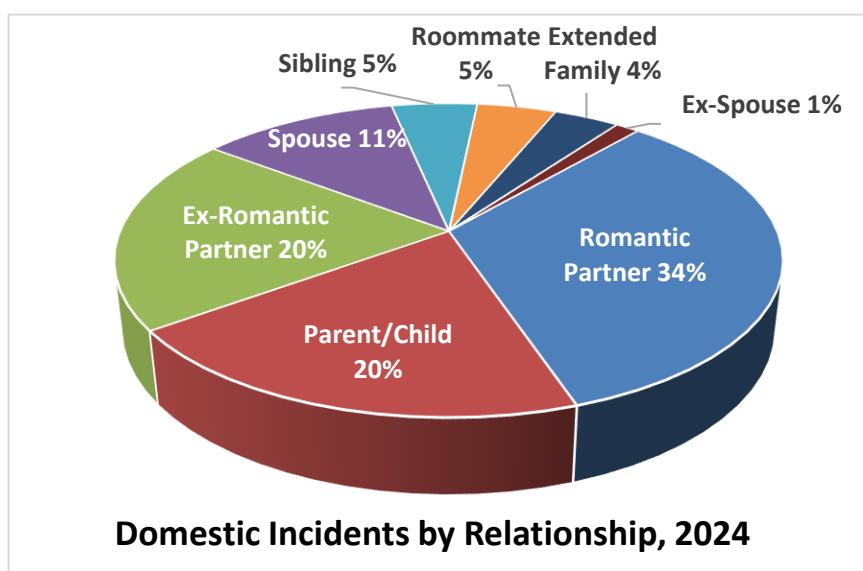
Often domestic crime is underreported. One of the most common reasons is that the police are not always the first to be called in domestic cases, as is typically the case with other crime types. Individuals who survive abuse often seek assistance from a local domestic violence agency, a court, a hospital, a family member, or a friend before calling the police.

The majority of domestic calls that Cambridge officers do respond to involve loud arguments, classified as “domestic disputes.” In 2024, these calls made up 46% of all domestic incident reports. While not technically a crime, these domestic disturbances can still be a form of abuse, and they may escalate into more serious offenses if they go unaddressed.

Domestic violence is the most serious type of domestic crime. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, these crimes take many shapes and may include physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse or coercion, financial abuse, digital (technology-facilitated) abuse, reproductive coercion, stalking, spiritual abuse, and a variety of other behaviors used to maintain power and control over a partner. ([www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)). While domestic violence is commonly thought of as violence against women, men and children also commonly fall victim. Domestic violence crosses all socio-economic, racial, ethnic, religious, sexual

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orientation, and age boundaries. What analysis has identified, however, is that the police respond to more calls in communities where individuals live in close quarters, and where neighbors contact the police for assistance. The most common type of violent domestic incident reported in Cambridge involves simple assaults—assaults without a weapon and with no serious injuries. This category accounted for 17% of all domestic incidents in 2024. Aggravated assault made up an additional 9% and was the 3rd largest domestic category this year. For the last five years, aggravated assaults have accounted for 5-9% of the overall domestic crime totals reported.

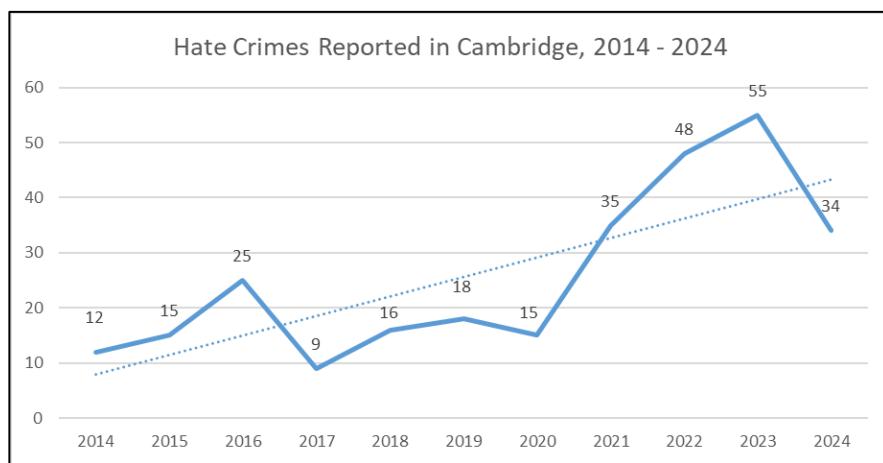


When looking at the relationship breakdown in domestic incidents, there is no surprise that the highest percentage is between parties that spend the most time together. Although the percentages vary from year to year, the top four relationships typically remain consistent: romantic partner, ex-romantic partner, parent/child, and spouse.

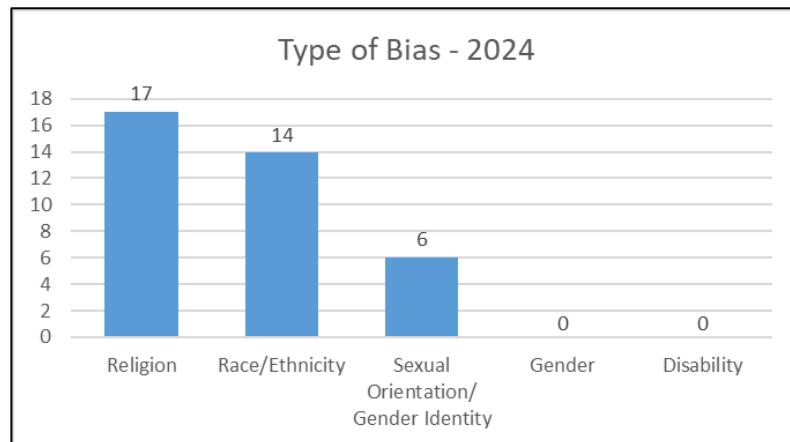
# Hate Crimes

The Hate Crimes Statistics Act of 1990 (28 U.S.C. § 534) was enacted by Congress on April 23rd, 1990, and amendments added in 2009, requiring the Attorney General to collect data “about crimes that manifest evidence of prejudice based on race, gender and gender identity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or ethnicity.” “Hate Crime” is the common term for federal and state Civil Rights Violations. Hate crimes include any crimes principally or partially motivated by bias toward the victim’s actual or perceived race, gender or gender identity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, nationality, or ethnicity. All hate crimes would still be crimes even if the bias motivation were absent; therefore, each hate crime listed below is also tallied elsewhere in this report.

The total of 34 hate crime incidents reported in 2024 is 38% below the 55 reported in 2023 and 36% above the 10-year average of 25 (from 2014 – 2023). In recent years, we have ranged from a low of 9 in 2017 to a high of 55 in 2023. The only related incidents this year involved a series of malicious destruction reports in which anti-Israel stickers were discovered around Harvard Square in mid-October.

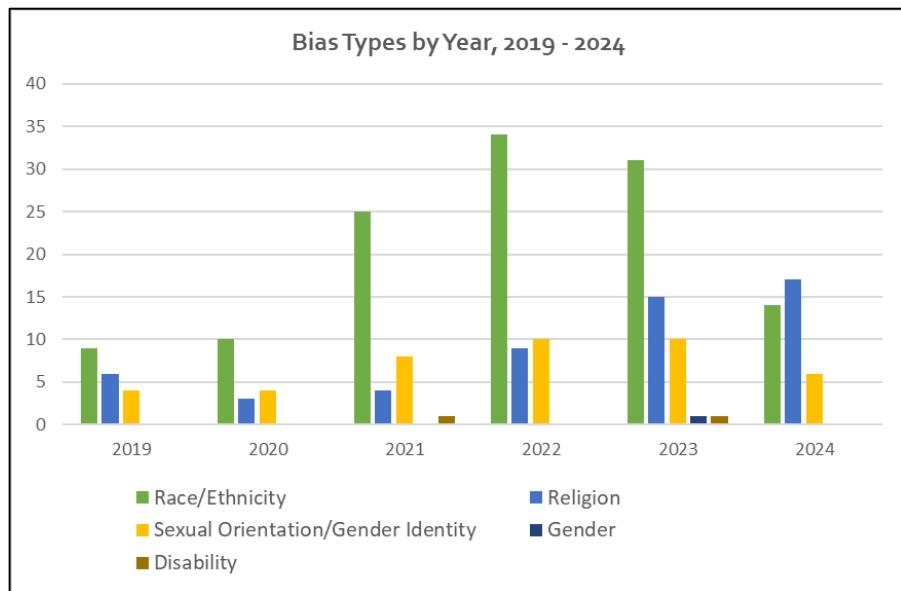


The bar graph below features the breakdown of each hate crime in 2024 by bias type. The graph actually features 37 types of bias because three incidents this year involved more than one bias type, so both categories were counted for each. The 34 incidents (with 37 bias types) in 2024 break down into the following categories: religious biases (46%), racial/ethnic biases (38%), and biases based on sexual orientation/gender identity (16%). There were no gender biases or disability biases reported in 2024.

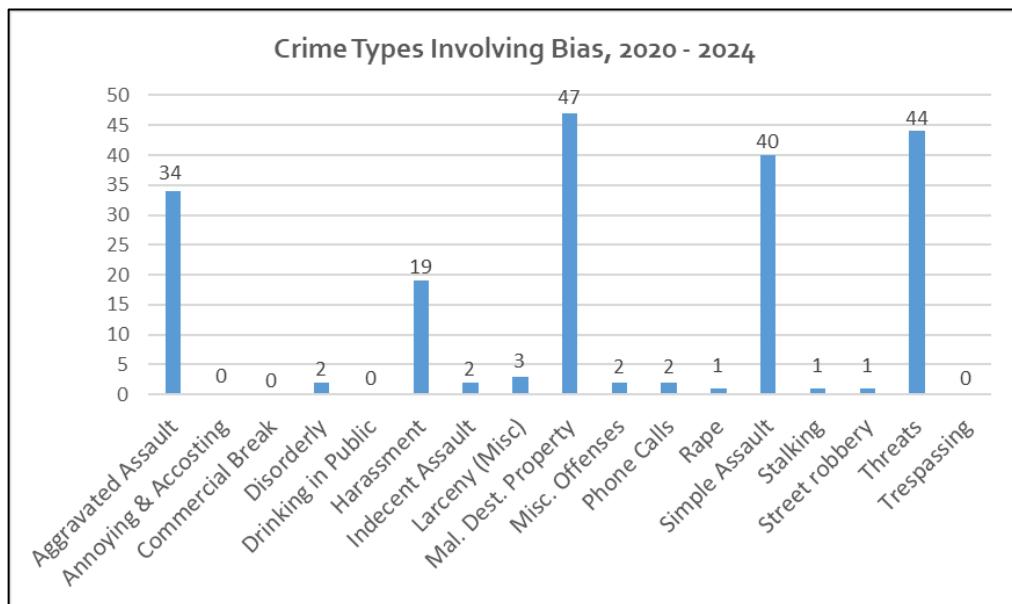


## Special Reports: Hate Crimes

The next chart provides a breakdown of bias type by year for 2024 and the five years prior. Race, religion, and sexual orientation/gender identity (not necessarily in that order) are consistently the bias types that tend to be most prevalent in Cambridge.



What types of crime are typically involved when hate crimes are reported? During 2024 and the previous five years, as many as 13 different crime types were reported to involve a bias of some sort. But there are some crimes that lend themselves much more to motivated biases. Those crimes include assaults (both aggravated and simple), malicious destruction of property, threats, and harassment. Of the 198 hate crimes reported since 2020, 184 (or 93%) involved one of these five crime types. And 2024 was no different. The main crime types involving bias this year were malicious destruction of property (11), threats (10), aggravated assaults (5), and simple assaults (4).



# Cambridge Police Directory

## EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Office of the Commissioner ....(617) 349-9397

Professional Standards ..... (617) 349-3384

## KEY OPERATIONAL SERVICES:

Personnel Department.....(617) 349-3374

Traffic Department ..... (617) 349-4365

Crime Analysis Unit.....(617) 349-3390

Public Information Office .....(617) 349-3237

Records Unit .....(617) 349-3336

Family & Social Justice Section (formerly the Community Services Unit) .....(617) 349-3236

Clinical Support Unit ..... (617) 349-9320

Crime Scene Services Unit .....(617) 349-3347

Police Academy .....(617) 349-3343

Property Office .....(617) 349-3380



## Cambridge Police Department

125 Sixth St.

Cambridge, MA 02142

(617) 349-3300 – 24 hours a day

[www.cambridgepolice.org](http://www.cambridgepolice.org)

## KEY INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES

Criminal Investigations Section (617) 349-3370

Domestic Violence Unit .....(617) 349-3371

Sexual Assault Hotline ..... (617) 349-3381

Drug Tip Hotline ..... (617) 349-3359

Accident Investigations ..... (617) 349-3307

## MISCELLANEOUS:

License Commission .....(617) 349-6140

Criminal History Board ..... (617) 660-4600

Medical Examiner's Office ..... (617) 267-6767

Sex Offender Registry ..... (978) 740-6400

Dispute Settlement Center ..... (617) 876-5376

### Cambridge Police Department "Alert Network" Text-A-Tip Function

To send an anonymous tip via text message to the Cambridge Police Department, text the keyword Tip650 and your tip to 847411 (TIP411).

### Cambridge Police Anonymous Crime Tip E-Mail

Submit crime tips or suspicious behavior by accessing [www.cambridgepolice.org/Tips](http://www.cambridgepolice.org/Tips).