



## CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT

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# CAMBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT 2012 ANNUAL CRIME REPORT



**ROBERT C. HAAS**  
Police Commissioner

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City Manager

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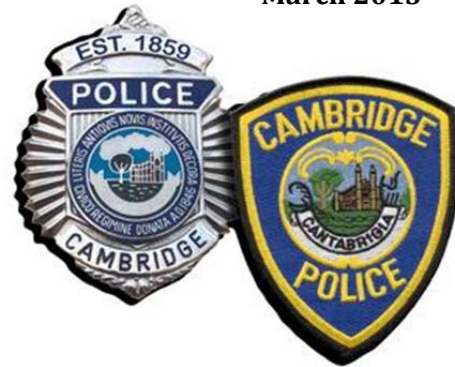
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Cambridge Police Department  
2012 Annual Crime Report  
Including Neighborhood and  
Business District Profiles

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# Cambridge at a Glance

Established:	1636 (town); 1846 (city)
Government:	Council-Manager
City Manager:	Robert W. Healy
City Budget:	\$472,196,095
City Employees:	2,925 (including schools)
Area	7.13 square miles total 6.43 square miles land
Population:	106,038 (July 2011)
Households:	44,032 (2010)
Police Officer/Population Ratio:	1:391 (2012)
Population Density:	16,469 per square mile (2010)
Registered Voters:	69,559 (February 2013)
Registered Automobiles:	47,199 (2012)
Residential Housing Units:	47,291 (2010)
Ownership Rate:	34.6% (2010)
Median Household Income:	\$69,259 (2008-2010)
Median Family Income:	\$92,965 (2009-2011)
Resident Unemployment Rate:	3.8% (2012)
Median Single-Family Home	\$740,000 (2011)
Median Condominium:	\$422,250 (2011)
Property Tax Rate per 1,000	\$8.66 residential (FY 2013) \$21.50 commercial (FY 2013)
School Enrollment:	6,047 (2011-2012)
Colleges and Universities:	8
Hospitals:	3

## Population by Race

Race	1990	2000	2010
White	71.6%	68.0%	66.6%
Black	12.7%	12.0%	11.7%
Asian	8.4%	12.0%	15.1%
Native Amer.	0.3%	0.0%	0.2%
Other or Mixed	0.4%	1.0%	6.4%

## Ethnicity

	1990	2000	2010
Hispanic	6.8%	7.0%	7.6%

## Population by Age

Age Range	2010 Total	Percentage
0-4	4,526	4.3%
5-14	5,798	5.5%
15-19	6,983	6.6%
20-29	34,562	32.9%
30-39	19,487	18.5%
40-65	23,818	22.7%
65+	9,998	9.6%

## Top Employers:

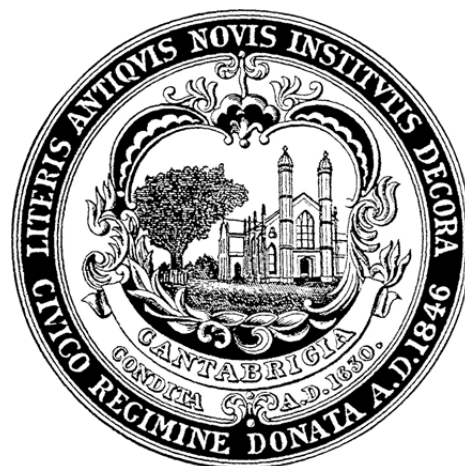
1. Harvard University	11,167
2. MIT	7,824
3. City of Cambridge	2,925
4. Novartis	2,276
5. Mt. Auburn Hospital	1,731
6. Biogen Idec	1,530
7. Cambridge Innovation Center	1,453
8. Vertex Pharmaceuticals	1,420
9. U.S. Government	1,226
10. Draper Labs	1,214

## Cambridge Police Department

Organized:	1859
Sworn Officers:	271
Civilian Personnel:	41
Commissioner:	Robert C. Haas
Headquarters:	125 Sixth St, Cambridge, MA, 02142
Budget (FY 2013):	\$45,643,095
Rank Structure:	Commissioner

Superintendent  
Deputy Superintendent  
Lieutenant  
Sergeant  
Patrol Officer

Marked Patrol Vehicles:	37
Unmarked Patrol Vehicles:	39 (plus 8 narcotics vehicles)
Motorcycles:	14
Special Vehicles:	6 Trailers + 1 Gator
Fleet Bicycles:	22
2012 Calls for Service:	118,774
2012 Total Index Crimes:	3,478





# 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 30 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 Cambridge Crime Analysis Unit ultimately aims to assist the Department in its criminal apprehension and crime reduction strategies.

The Cambridge Police Department's 2012 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 more information made available to the public, the better the input will be in aiding the Police response to crime.

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, forcible 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. Another difference in the programs is that agencies submit UCR data in written documents, whereas NIBRS data are submitted electronically.

The problem for the public, as well as for the police, is that UCR statistics alone are of little use to patrol deployment and offer little to citizens interested in reducing their risks. 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. The Neighborhood and Business District sections within the Annual Crime Report are designed to help residents, business owners, and visitors have a fuller understanding of crime problems in their areas.

This report outlines three distinctions that make up criminal incidents: (1) whether offenses are committed against strangers or against relatives and acquaintances; (2) the motivation of the criminals—drugs, revenge, or intimidation are but a few of the factors that motivate both novice and career criminals; and (3) 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 Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program (where applicable), 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 burglary increases 15% from 2011 to 2012, there’s no way to tell from that figure whether 2012 was unusually high or 2011 was unusually low. But comparing 2012 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 (2007 in this report) is weighted once and the most recent year (2011) 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 2012, and to thus determine how unusual 2012’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 2011, Cambridge had 539 burglaries, about 30% more than Somerville, which reported 415. However, Cambridge also has about 39% more residents than Somerville. When we look at it on the basis of rates, Cambridge had 509 burglaries per 100,000 residents, and Somerville had 545 burglaries per 100,000 residents, which means that a Somerville resident’s *risk* of burglary was higher than a Cambridgean’s. We only provide rates for certain crimes, however, as not all crimes are best compared in terms of residential population.

# 2012 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	2009	2010	2011	2012	2011-2012 Change	5-Year Wtd. Avg.	Avg.-2012 Change
<b>Murder</b>	2	0	5	<b>1</b>	-80%	2	-50%
<b>Rape</b>	20	23	23	<b>23</b>	0%	21	+10%
Stranger	3	4	2	<b>1</b>	-50%	3	-67%
Non-Stranger	17	19	21	<b>22</b>	+5%	18	+22%
<b>Robbery</b>	172	163	147	<b>128</b>	-13%	161	-21%
Commercial	21	22	34	<b>16</b>	-53%	29	-45%
Street	151	141	113	<b>112</b>	-1%	132	-15%
<b>Aggravated Assault</b>	255	251	261	<b>262</b>	0%	258	+2%
<b>Total Violent Crime</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>414</b>	-5%	<b>442</b>	-6%
<b>Burglary</b>	429	453	520	<b>499</b>	-4%	486	+3%
Commercial	86	87	84	<b>79</b>	-6%	87	-10%
Residential	343	366	436	<b>420</b>	-4%	398	+5%
<b>Larceny</b>	2,496	2,555	2,453	<b>2,448</b>	0%	2,559	-4%
from Building	321	393	433	<b>372</b>	-14%	397	-6%
from Vehicle	913	784	639	<b>686</b>	+7%	827	-17%
From Person	331	342	320	<b>368</b>	+15%	335	+10%
of Bicycle	284	380	370	<b>356</b>	-4%	334	+7%
Shoplifting	369	365	352	<b>344</b>	-2%	359	-4%
from Residence	185	192	234	<b>225</b>	-4%	206	+9%
of License Plate	39	43	43	<b>40</b>	-7%	45	-11%
of Services	28	31	25	<b>17</b>	-32%	27	-37%
Miscellaneous	26	25	37	<b>40</b>	+8%	31	+30%
<b>Auto Theft</b>	196	169	158	<b>117</b>	-26%	192	-39%
<b>Total Property Crime</b>	<b>3,121</b>	<b>3,177</b>	<b>3,131</b>	<b>3,064</b>	-2%	<b>3,231</b>	-5%
<b>Crime Index Total</b>	<b>3,570</b>	<b>3,614</b>	<b>3,567</b>	<b>3,478</b>	-3%	<b>3,673</b>	-5%

# Cambridge Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics, 1993-2012\*

Crime	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Avg. 1993-2002	Avg. 1993-2012	Avg. 1993-2012	Chang 2011-2012**	Change 1993-2012**
Murder	2	1	3	1	2	2	2	1	1	6	3	0	3	2	0	1	2	0	5	1	2	2	2	-80%	-50%
Rape	30	28	35	34	24	25	15	11	15	10	7	10	14	11	16	17	20	23	23	23	23	16	20	0%	-23%
Robbery	253	276	295	227	176	208	165	186	181	195	229	245	239	208	161	177	172	163	147	128	216	187	202	-13%	-49%
Aggravated Assault	643	473	463	381	370	369	348	322	272	284	271	248	244	237	243	274	255	251	261	262	393	255	324	0%	-59%
Burglary	929	774	953	791	596	695	567	552	688	720	651	724	623	685	653	467	429	453	520	499	727	570	648	-4%	-46%
Larceny	3,563	3,351	3,313	2,973	2,779	2,753	2,819	2,820	2,740	2,764	2,389	2,654	2,396	2,377	2,838	2,788	2,496	2,555	2,453	2,448	2,988	2,539	2,763	0%	-31%
Auto Theft	964	761	558	544	483	397	431	498	523	425	419	438	295	233	244	244	196	169	158	117	558	251	405	-26%	-88%
Total Violent	928	778	796	643	572	604	530	520	469	495	510	503	500	458	420	469	449	437	436	414	634	460	547	-5%	-55%
Total Property	5,456	5,086	4,824	4,308	3,858	3,845	3,817	3,870	3,951	3,909	3,459	3,816	3,314	3,295	3,735	3,499	3,121	3,177	3,131	3,064	4292	3,361	3,827	-2%	-44%
Total	6,384	5,664	5,620	4,951	4,430	4,449	4,347	4,390	4,420	4,404	3,969	4,319	3,814	3,753	4,155	3,968	3,570	3,614	3,567	3,478	4,906	3,821	4,363	-3%	-46%

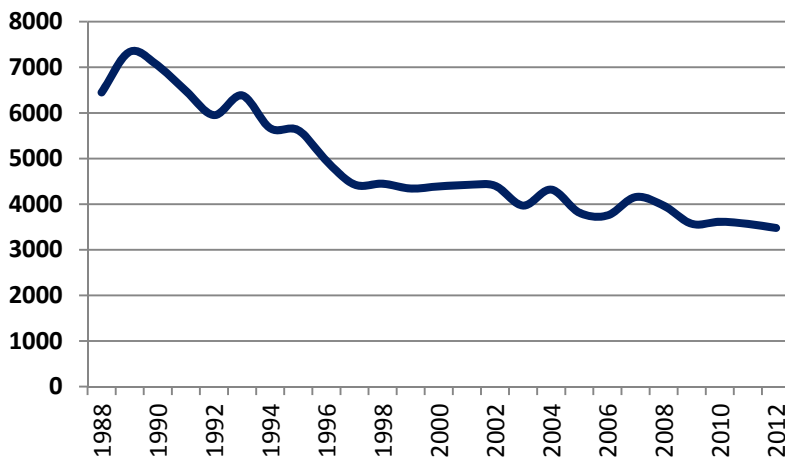
\*The Cambridge Police Department voluntarily submits Uniform Crime Reporting statistics to the FBI for national comparison. See <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm> for more information.

\*\*Percent changes are rounded to the nearest whole number. A 0% change indicates there was less than a 0.5% increase or decrease.



# 25-Year Statistical Trends

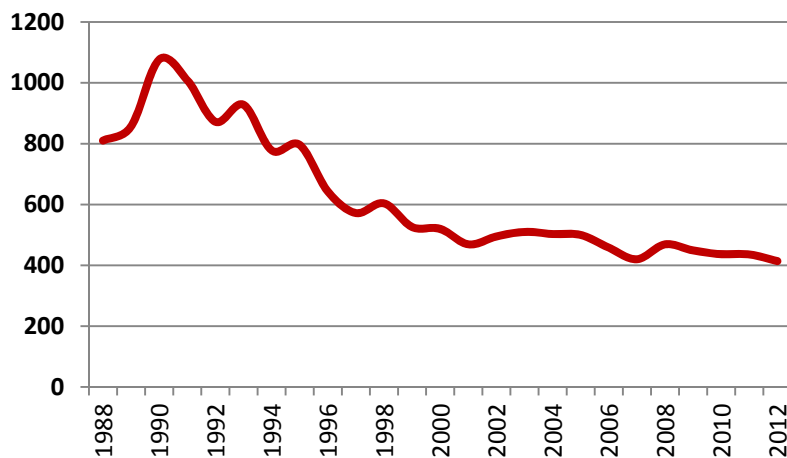
**Total Part I (Index Crimes)**



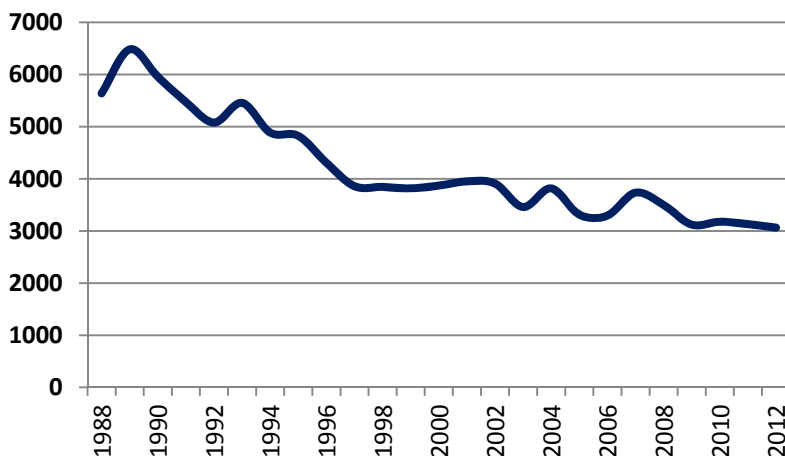
The 3,478 Part I crimes reported in Cambridge in 2012 represent the lowest level in the crime index since 1963. The figure was slightly lower than in 2011, which was also a record. Despite some bumps in the early 1980s and early 1990s, crime has decreased steadily since it peaked in 1974 at more than 10,000 Part I crimes. The last big decrease was between 1990 and 1998; crime has fluctuated around the 4,000 mark for the past decade.

Violent crimes (murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) hit their peak in Cambridge in 1990, amidst a nationwide gang and drug epidemic but fell dramatically in the following decade and remained around 450-500 per year throughout the 2000s. The 2012 figure is the lowest since the late 1960s, with robbery showing the most significant decreases during this period.

**Total Part I Violent Crimes**



**Total Part I Property Crimes**



Property crimes (burglary, larceny, and auto theft) makes up about 90% of the total Part I crime index, and its graph therefore looks almost identical to the total crime graph. The 48-year low for property crimes in 2012 is primarily due to auto theft, which has dropped 84% in 20 years. Burglary and larceny were near their averages in both 2011 and 2012.

# 2012 Executive Summary

For the second year in a row, crime has dropped to historic levels in the City of Cambridge. In 2012, serious crime in Cambridge decreased by 3% to 3,478 crimes, down 89 from the previous low of 3,567 crimes recorded in 2011. The number reported in 2012 represents the lowest total of index crimes reported to the FBI since Congress enacted the Omnibus Crime Control Act in 1968. Looking closer at the crime breakdown, there were 67 fewer property crimes reported in 2012 to register a 2% decline when compared with 2011. When gauged against the five-year weighted average, property crime was down 5% in 2012. There were 414 violent crimes in the City in 2012, 22 fewer incidents than in 2011. Compared to the five-year weighted average for violent crime in Cambridge, these types of incidents dropped 6%.

## Murder

- Cambridge experienced one murder in 2012. On June 3, 2012, a 16-year-old female from Cambridge was shot while on Willow St and later succumbed to her wounds at the hospital. This incident remains under investigation.
- The single homicide in Cambridge in 2012 represents a notable drop from the five deaths recorded in 2011. In that year, an unsolved shooting death occurred near Central Square in March and two domestic homicide incidents resulting in the deaths of four victims and one of the perpetrators took place during the final six weeks of the year.
- Trend analysis for the past twenty years points to two recurring murder scenarios in Cambridge: a domestic murder in which the female spouse is killed by her partner, and the murder of young males by a handgun or knife in acts of retaliatory street violence.
- Twenty-seven of the thirty-four murders in Cambridge since 1995 (79%) have been cleared by an arrest / suicide of the perpetrator. For comparison, the 2010 clearance rate for murder was 65% nationally and 50% in New England.
- 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.
- Handguns have been used in 16 of the 26 murders in Cambridge since 2000. Four involved knives.

## Rape

- The total number of rapes in Cambridge has stayed the same for three straight years, with 23 incidents reported each year since 2010. Three of the twenty-three sexual assaults reported in 2012 occurred on a calendar date prior to this year.
- Ten of the rapes in 2012 involved acquaintances, seven involved a contact scenario with the offender being someone the victim had met in a public place, five were domestic situations, and one was a stranger-to-stranger rape.
- The one stranger-to-stranger rape in 2012 involved a female that was followed and blitzed in a high pedestrian activity area late at night. No suspect has been identified in this crime to date, but it remains under investigation.
- The number of stranger-to-stranger rapes each year—between one and five—remains extremely low. Patterns of reported rape are very rare in Cambridge.
- The increase in rapes in recent years compared to earlier in the 2000's can be partly attributed to a surge in domestic and acquaintance sexual assaults where a minor has been involved.

## Robbery

- In 2012, there were 128 robberies reported, which translates to a 13% decrease when compared with the 2011 total. When measured against the five-year weighted average of 161 incidents for this crime, a 21% decline is reported. The 2012 total is the lowest number recorded since we started measuring crime in the 1960s. This is one crime that is approaching its minimum threshold.
- Street robbery declined by 1% in 2012. The 112 reported incidents is the lowest total for this crime in over 50 years.
- Few street robbery patterns developed in 2012. Instead, a general trend of violent robberies targeting victims walking alone at night emerged across the city, particularly during the first half of the year. Cell phones and cash were stolen most often.
- Commercial robbery dropped by 18 incidents, or 53%, to 16 incidents in 2012. This total is 45% below the five-year weighted average of 29.

## Aggravated Assault

- Aggravated assaults in Cambridge remained essentially unchanged from last year to this year, rising just one incident from 261 in 2011 to 262 in 2012. Furthermore, this year's total is only four incidents above the five-year weighted average of 258 assaults.
- Thirty-three percent of the aggravated assaults in 2012 were domestic incidents. Over the past seven years, the rate of domestic assaults has ranged from 25-40% of all assaults annually.
- Ten of the sixteen bar-related aggravated assaults in 2012 took place within one block of Massachusetts Ave between MIT and Central Square. Most were after midnight.
- The most common weapon used in aggravated assaults this year was hands/feet (38%), followed by knives (13%) and bottles or glass (10%). Only three assaults in 2012 involved the use of a firearm. In none of the aggravated assault incidents involving a firearm was a shot fired.

## Burglary

- Total burglary, the combination of residential and commercial breaks, registered a 3% incline when compared with the five-year weighted average for this crime with 13 additional incidents recorded, and is down 4% when compared with the 2011 total with 21 fewer breaks reported.
- In 2012, Cambridge saw its first drop in housebreaks in three years. Housebreaks decreased by 4% from 436 in 2011 to 420 in 2012. Despite this reduction, this crime type is still 5% above the five-year weighted average of 398.
- The effects of housebreak patterns were felt in almost every neighborhood in Cambridge this year, but particularly in Area 4, Cambridgeport, Peabody, and West Cambridge. At least two of these patterns were connected to juvenile crews out of Cambridge and Boston.
- There were 79 commercial burglaries reported in Cambridge in 2012. This is five incidents (6%) below the number reported in 2011 and eight incidents (10%) below the five-year weighted average. No patterns emerged this year.



### Larceny

- In 2012, the property crime of larceny fell by five incidents when measured versus the 2011 total and 4% when compared to the five-year weighted average.
- Larceny is always the most prevalent of the Part One crimes in Cambridge. In 2012, it accounted for 70% of the serious crime reported and 80% of the property crime. Three categories of larceny that produce some of the highest numbers each year (larceny from motor vehicles, buildings, and persons) are often fueled by advances in technology.
- Larcenies from motor vehicles this year were up 7% over the 2011 figures. Despite this increase, the 2012 total of 686 larcenies from motor vehicles was still down 17% when compared with the five-year weighted average for this crime.
- Larcenies from persons citywide were up 15% in 2012 and registered a 10% incline when measured against the five-year weighted average for this target crime. The increase in 2012 was fueled in part by an upsurge in dipper activity in the Harvard Square area.
- Larceny of bicycles was down 4% in 2012 when compared with the previous year, with 14 fewer thefts reported. This property crime was 7% above the five-year year weighted average for this type of larceny.

### Auto Theft

- The number of vehicles stolen in Cambridge dropped by 41 incidents, or 26%, to 117 incidents in 2012. This is the lowest auto theft total the City has seen in 50 years. This is a record low for a city that used to see staggering auto theft numbers—in 1974 there were 5,203 cars reported stolen, nearly 1.5 times the total of all crimes reported in 2012.
- The neighborhood of Mid-Cambridge recorded the highest number of auto thefts in 2012 with 18 reported stolen, followed by Area 4 and Peabody, each with 17 incidents.
- Very few auto theft patterns have been identified over the past decade. However, an unusual trend of motorcycle and scooter thefts emerged in 2012, especially during the summer months. These vehicles made up over one-third of the auto theft incidents this year.
- In 2012, 55% of the cars reported stolen in Cambridge this year have been recovered to date, which represents a decline from the average of around 70% for previous years. The majority of the recovered cars were located throughout Cambridge and Boston, and the majority of the damage to the recovered vehicles was to the ignition and car body.

# Regional Crime Comparison

The following table compares Cambridge to other Massachusetts cities and towns with populations greater than 50,000 residents. The data is from 2011, as this is the most recent year for which data is available from the FBI UCR 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.

**2011 Rates per 100,000 for Selected Massachusetts Cities and Towns**

City	Population	Rates per 100,000 residents									Total
		Murder	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Violent Total	Burglary	Larceny	Auto Theft	Property Total	
Brockton	94,380	10	65	246	909	1229	1099	1912	410	3421	4650
Brookline	59,090	0	2	49	159	210	301	1073	34	1408	1618
Chicopee	55,635	2	45	79	336	462	784	1880	262	2926	3388
Fall River	89,399	2	58	306	851	1218	965	2267	332	3565	4783
Framingham	68,734	0	9	31	233	272	308	1208	122	1638	1910
Haverhill	61,250	0	29	90	472	591	754	1393	238	2385	2976
Lawrence	76,843	13	16	318	648	994	888	1006	1335	3229	4223
Lowell	107,167	3	34	157	549	742	853	1811	230	2894	3635
Lynn	90,880	3	32	199	650	885	790	1715	377	2883	3768
Malden	59,812	3	23	134	257	418	530	1458	197	2185	2603
New Bedford	95,649	4	62	307	769	1143	1013	2110	358	3480	4623
Newton	85,665	0	2	22	69	93	247	1100	32	1379	1472
Peabody	51,563	4	17	25	194	240	411	1932	144	2486	2727
Plymouth	56,812	4	16	28	227	275	345	938	30	1313	1588
Quincy	92,834	1	33	98	292	424	594	1171	149	1913	2338
Revere	52,070	6	6	94	242	348	501	1738	334	2573	2921
Somerville	76,216	0	22	118	230	370	545	1546	195	2286	2656
Springfield	153,993	13	20	345	648	1027	1623	2644	516	4783	5809
Taunton	56,215	0	23	123	384	530	802	941	53	1797	2327
Waltham	61,002	0	25	39	221	285	313	1048	62	1423	1708
Weymouth	54,071	7	24	65	242	338	307	1365	80	1751	2090
Worcester	182,145	6	20	226	737	988	1134	1911	291	3336	4325
<b>Average*</b>	<b>80,974</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>1553</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>2502</b>	<b>3097</b>
<b>Cambridge</b>	<b>105,803</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>2318</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>2959</b>	<b>3371</b>

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

Statistics from the rest of the state shows that Cambridge had significantly less per-capita crime in four categories (aggravated assault, total violent crimes, burglary, and auto theft), slightly less per-capita crime in two categories (rape and robbery), slightly more in one (murder), and significantly more larcenies, which also affected the property crime and total crime figures.

The five murders in Cambridge in 2011 were an unusual high (inflated by one triple-murder incident), and in a normal year, Cambridge is lower than the regional average in this category. The high larceny figure for Cambridge is consistent with past data, however. Cambridge's high entertainment, business, and education populations create opportunities for thefts from vehicles, pocket-picking, shoplifting, thefts from buildings, and particularly bicycle theft—opportunities not present in many less trafficked cities and towns.

# National Crime Comparison

The table on this page compares Cambridge to other cities across the nation with a comparable population (and because the populations *are* comparable, we use the actual figures for crimes, not rates). Again, the data is from the most recent year available: 2011.

City	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Larceny	Auto Theft	Total
Antioch, CA	5	21	290	502	1,335	1,571	967	4,691
Arvada, CO	1	25	34	102	304	2,053	189	2,708
Burbank, CA	1	17	68	105	395	1,926	234	2,746
Carlsbad, CA	4	11	35	160	468	1,375	127	2,180
Centennial, CO	0	27	23	112	325	957	71	1,515
Clearwater, FL	10	40	182	569	719	3,252	158	4,930
Daly City, CA	1	14	59	110	322	1,308	250	2,064
Davenport, IA	5	53	113	481	1,140	3,529	239	5,560
Edison Township, NJ	2	9	65	66	343	1,279	210	1,974
El Cajon, CA	2	28	187	312	603	1,443	422	2,997
Elgin, IL	5	78	82	122	555	1,425	88	2,355
Erie, PA	6	77	150	198	1,233	2,404	101	4,169
Fairfield, CA	5	21	148	251	572	2,055	347	3,399
Flint, MI	52	85	607	1,648	3,628	2,220	770	9,010
Green Bay, WI	2	54	48	269	467	1,852	101	2,793
Gresham, OR	1	31	172	212	751	2,943	617	4,727
High Point, NC	3	25	200	372	1,266	3,550	241	5,657
Lowell, MA	3	36	168	588	914	1,941	246	3,896
Manchester, NH	2	69	181	366	902	3,136	156	4,812
Murfreesboro, TN	3	30	131	490	1,383	3,283	185	5,505
Norwalk, CA	5	10	138	218	476	1,156	642	2,645
Odessa, TX	6	37	73	632	617	2,336	181	3,882
Palm Bay, FL	2	22	97	480	808	1,786	145	3,340
Pueblo, CO	12	40	173	606	1,590	3,434	470	6,325
Richardson, TX	0	9	76	88	680	1,934	194	2,981
Richmond, CA	26	39	303	667	1,651	1,533	1,362	5,581
Round Rock, TX	2	25	39	49	394	2,001	51	2,561
South Bend, IN	9	60	406	269	2,335	3,437	324	6,840
Temecula, CA	0	7	54	34	547	1,700	159	2,501
Ventura, CA	1	20	135	170	657	2,468	195	3,646
Waterbury, CT	7	9	183	160	818	3,326	427	4,930
West Jordan, UT	0	31	25	154	405	2,314	220	3,149
West Palm Beach, FL	14	48	235	472	1,354	3,685	344	6,152
Westminster, CO	4	34	48	159	397	2,077	329	3,048
Wichita Falls, TX	1	30	147	281	1,241	3,398	237	5,335
Wilmington, NC	10	32	254	366	1,454	3,843	411	6,370
<b>Average*</b>	6	33	148	329	918	2,331	317	4,083
<b>Cambridge</b>	5	23	147	261	520	2,453	158	3,567

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



# Factors Contributing to Crime

Factor	General Effect	Status in Cambridge	Effects in Cambridge
<b>Residential Population &amp; Population Density</b>	High population leads to a higher residential crime rate (residential burglaries, larcenies from motor vehicles, domestic assaults, auto theft). High population <i>density</i> also leads to a higher residential crime rate.	Population of about 106,000; Very high density (about 16,000 per square mile).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher residential crime rate than cities of fewer than 100,000.</li> <li>• Higher residential crime rate in densely populated neighborhoods of Mid-Cambridge, North Cambridge, Cambridgeport.</li> <li>• Low residential crime rate in sparsely populated areas of Cambridge Highlands, Strawberry Hill, Agassiz.</li> </ul>
<b>Commerical &amp; Educational Population, number &amp; type of commercial establishments and educational institutions</b>	High commercial population leads to more “business” crimes (commercial burglaries, shoplifting, larcenies from buildings, forgery) and to more crimes against the person often (larcenies from the person, larcenies from motor vehicles, larcenies of bicycles, street robbery, auto theft).	Very high commercial population (many large businesses, shopping areas in Cambridge) and very high educational population (M.I.T. and Harvard).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High overall larceny rate.</li> <li>• High larceny rate in highly-populated commercial areas of East Cambridge, Harvard Square, Central Square, Porter Square, Fresh Pond Mall.</li> <li>• Low larceny, auto theft rate in Agassiz, Strawberry Hill, West Cambridge.</li> </ul>
<b>Age composition of population</b>	A higher population in the “at risk” age of 15–29 leads to a higher crime rate.	Almost 40% of the citizens of Cambridge are in the “at risk” population. This number is influenced by the high student population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agassiz, MIT, and Riverside have the largest percentage of people in the “at risk” ages, but most of them are college students, which somewhat decreases their chances of involvement in criminal activity. Consequently, Agassiz, MIT, and Riverside do not have higher than average crime rates.</li> <li>• However, neighborhoods with the lowest numbers of “at risk” ages—Highlands and Strawberry Hill—do experience smaller amounts of crime.</li> </ul>
<b>Stability of Population</b>	Stable, close-knit populations have a lower overall crime rate than transient populations. Neighborhoods with more houses and condominiums (generally signifying a more stable population) have a lower crime rate than neighborhoods with mostly apartments (generally a more transient population).	Historically, more stable population west of Harvard Square; more transient population east of Harvard Square. This is changing rapidly with gentrification taking place in neighborhoods adjacent to Central Square.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lower comparative crime rate in neighborhoods of Highlands, Peabody, Agassiz, Strawberry Hill.</li> <li>• Higher comparative crime rate in Mid-Cambridge, Area 4, Cambridgeport. This, however, is changing with the stabilization and gentrification of housing in these areas. Notably, West Cambridge has seen a higher crime rate in recent years, despite a relatively stable population.</li> </ul>
<b>Street Layout</b>	Areas with major streets offering fast getaways and mass transportation show more crime clusters than neighborhoods with primarily residential streets.	A mix of major and minor streets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher larceny rates in MIT, East Cambridge, Cambridgeport, where thieves can make a quick escape over the bridges into Boston.</li> <li>• Higher commercial burglary rate in North Cambridge, with multiple avenues of escape into nearby towns.</li> </ul>

## Factors Contributing to Crime

Factor	General Effect	Status in Cambridge	Effects in Cambridge
<b>Proximity to Public Transportation</b>	Criminals are often indigent and cannot afford cars or other expensive forms of transportation. Areas near public transportation, particularly subways, witness a higher crime rate—particularly robbery and larceny—than more inaccessible areas.	Major public transportation system offering high-speed rapid transit throughout most of the city.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contributes to clusters of crime around Central Square, Harvard Square, Porter Square, and Alewife, though not much around Lechmere and Kendall Square.</li> <li>• Neighborhoods distant from rapid transit—North Cambridge, Highlands, and Strawberry Hill—show lower crime rates with few clusters.</li> </ul>
<b>Economic conditions, including poverty level and unemployment rate</b>	Again, criminals are often indigent. Areas afflicted by poverty show higher burglary, robbery, and larceny rates than middle-class or wealthy neighborhoods.	Little abject poverty in Cambridge. This factor probably contributes little to the picture of crime in Cambridge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possibly some effect on Area 4—the neighborhood with the lowest mean income. Other factors on this list probably have a much greater role than economic conditions.</li> </ul>
<b>Family conditions with respect to divorce and family cohesiveness</b>	Larry J. Siegel, author of <i>Criminology</i> , says: “Family relationships have for some time been considered a major determinant of behavior. Youths who grow up in a household characterized by conflict and tension, where parents are absent or separated, or where there is a lack of familial love and support, will be susceptible to the crime-promoting forces in the environment.”	According to census data, about 15% of the families in Cambridge with children are single-parent families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The neighborhoods with the highest percentage of single-parent families are Inman/Harrington, Area 4, Cambridgeport, and North Cambridge. However, there are a far greater number of factors influencing “conflict and tension” and “familial love and support” than just the number of parents in the household. In the end, no conclusions on how this affects crime can be drawn without more data.</li> </ul>
<b>Climate</b>	Warmer climates and seasons tend to report a higher rate of larceny, auto theft, and juvenile-related crime, while cold seasons and climates report more robberies and murder.	A varied climate; warm and moist summers, cool autums, long cold winters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High overall larceny, auto theft rate in the summer.</li> <li>• Higher overall robbery rate in the winter.</li> <li>• Burglary rate less tied to climate than to specific weather conditions; rain and snow produce fewer burglaries.</li> </ul>
<b>Operational and investigative emphasis of the police department</b>	Problem-oriented, informed police departments have more success controlling certain aspects of crime than other departments.	A problem-oriented department with an emphasis on directed patrol and investigation, and on crime analysis, including quick identification of crime patterns and rapid intervention to curtail them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lower overall crime rate across the city than would be expected for a city of our size and characteristics.</li> </ul>
<b>Attitude of the citizenry toward crime, including its reporting practices</b>	Populations that have “given up” on crime and the police experience an exacerbation of the crime problem.	A population that works closely with the police, creates numerous neighborhood crime watches, and is likely to report crimes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lower overall crime rate across the city than would be expected for a city of our size and characteristics.</li> </ul>



## Section II

# Part I Crimes

Murder  
Rape  
Robbery  
Aggravated Assault  
Burglary  
Larceny  
Auto Theft





# Murder

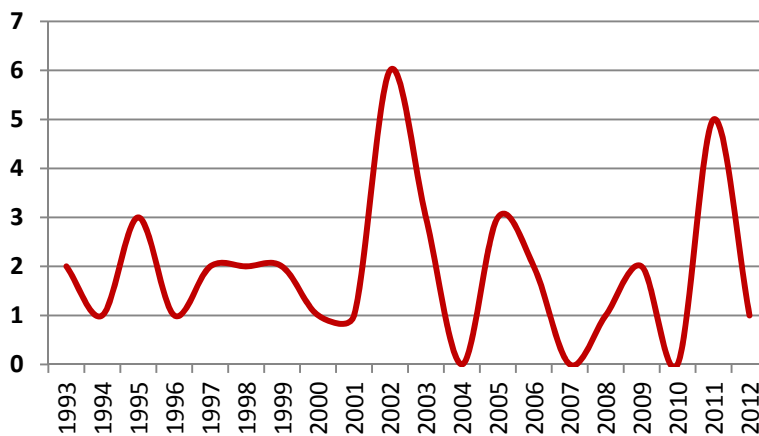
## Definition

*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	2
2011	5
2012	1
Change from 2011	-80%
Change from Average	-50%

## Murders reported in Cambridge\*



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

individuals were killed in two separate domestic homicide incidents. Cambridge resident Gylene Verna, 29, was arrested after she allegedly strangled her 62-year-old father, Guy Verna, to death in her Elm St apartment on November 20, 2011. Then on December 9, 2011, retired Bedford police officer John Brosnahan reportedly shot three family members, ages 52 to 91, during a disagreement at his Grove St home. Brosnahan died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound later that day.

Cambridge experienced one murder in 2012. On June 3, 2012, 16-year-old Charlene Holmes of Cambridge was shot while on Willow St and later succumbed to her wounds at the hospital. The investigation into this incident remains active, but no arrests have been made to date.

The single homicide in Cambridge in 2012 represents a notable drop from the five deaths recorded in 2011. On March 12, 2011, 30-year old Cambridge resident James Lauture was shot and killed near Central Square. This shooting remains unsolved. Then during the final six weeks of the year, four

## Characteristics of murder in Cambridge

For the 30-year period between 1960 and 1989, the City of Cambridge averaged slightly less than five murders per year. The annual average since 1990 has fallen to approximately two per year. Trend analysis over recent years points to two recurring murder scenarios in Cambridge: domestic murder, in which one spouse is brutally killed by the other in a homicidal rage, and the murder of young males by a handgun or knife in acts of retaliatory street violence.

## Cambridge murder statistics, 1990-2012

- 48 people murdered in 43 incidents (in 4 of the incidents, 2 or more people were killed)
- 30 victims were male (average age of 33)
- 18 victims were female (average age of 43)
- Most common weapons: handguns (22 incidents) and knives (11 incidents)
- 14 of the 43 cases are still under investigation or remain unsolved
- 18 of the 22 cases since 2000 have been cleared by arrest or by the death of the suspect

## Part I Crimes: Murder

### Murder in Cambridge, 2000–2012

(See previous annual reports for information on murders committed during the 1990s.)

Date & Time	Location	Victim(s)	Offender(s)	Story	Status
7/6/2000 02:06	101 Hampshire St. (Inman/ Harrington)	Jeffrey Williams, 33, of Cambridge	Frederick J. Howard, 22, of Cambridge	Police responded to a call that someone had been shot in the leg at 101 Hampshire St. Once on scene Williams was found shot in the chest and died later at Mass General Hospital. A suspect identified as Howard was seen running away from the scene. The victim had called a friend stating that the man and woman he was out with were arguing and that he had escorted the woman back to her residence.	Howard pled guilty to voluntary manslaughter.
1/7/2001 14:30	Jefferson Park (North Cambridge)	11-month old female	John Forbes, 30, of Roxbury	Cambridge police and fire units responded to an apartment in Jefferson Park. When officers arrived, they found an eleven-month-old baby lying on the bed unresponsive and not breathing. The baby was transported to the hospital, but later died. The baby's father, John Forbes of Roxbury stated that the baby had choked on an orange peel. The medical examiner determined that the infant had died from massive trauma to her head, consistent with "shaken baby" syndrome.	Forbes was convicted of 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder.
2/11/2002 02:30	522 Massachusetts Ave. (Cambridgeport)	Azedine Lachhab, 42, of E. Boston	Jason Girouard, 32, of Waltham	Lachhab died after 11 days in the hospital from severe head trauma that resulted from a fight at the Hi-Fi in Central Square.	Girouard was found not guilty at trial.
4/5/2002 01:48	315 Massachusetts Ave. (Area 4)	Ian Gray, 19, of Mattapan	Black male	An argument that transpired inside the Rhythm & Spice restaurant spilled out onto Mass Ave. One person left the scene of the argument and then returned with 7-8 more people when a fight ensued. A knife was produced during the fight, and four gunshots were fired, fatally wounding Gray.	Ongoing investigation.
4/17/2002 22:43	16 Worcester St. (Area 4)	Desiree Saunders, 36, of Cambridge	Scott Saunders, 37, of Cambridge	Police arrived to the scene to find the victim lying on her back in her bed with gunshot wounds. Her assailant and husband was found at the foot of the bed with one gunshot wound to his head after he had committed suicide.	Scott Saunders committed suicide.
6/17/2002 19:04	167 Windsor St. (Area 4)	Ricardo Williams, 27, of Malden	Unknown	Police responded to possible gunshots to find Williams in the driver's seat of a 2002 Infiniti with gunshot wounds to the left side of his face. Williams was taken to Cambridge City Hospital where he was pronounced dead.	Ongoing investigation.
6/18/2002 17:55	Aberdeen Ave. & Huron Ave. (Strawberry Hill)	Sean A. Howard, 19, of Dorchester	Andrew Power- Koch, 20, of Cambridge	Power-Koch confessed to accidentally shooting his best friend, Howard, in the chest at in the area of the railroad tracks.	Power-Koch was found guilty of manslaughter.
10/21/2002 02:40	29 Newtowne Ct. (Area 4)	Gregory Robinson of Boston	Anthony Jakes, 23, of Milton	Robinson and Jakes got into an altercation in front of the victim's apartment. Jakes then stabbed Robinson and fled. Jakes later turned himself into police custody. Robinson was taken to Mass General Hospital where he died the following day.	Jakes was found not guilty at trial.
4/12/2003 01:52	Western Ave. & Jay St. (Riverside)	Michael Colono, 18, of Cambridge	Alexander Pring-Wilson, 25, of Cambridge	Colono and Pring-Wilson were outside of the Pizza Ring when they got into a verbal altercation. The altercation escalated and Pring-Wilson stabbed Colono to death.	In a retrial, Pring-Wilson pled guilty to involuntary manslaughter and was sentenced to 2 years in prison.

Date & Time	Location	Victim(s)	Offender(s)	Story	Status
6/8/2003 15:55	2067 Mass. Ave. (North Cambridge)	Robert Scott, 26, of Cambridge	Markendy Jean, 26, of Malden	Scott was waiting for the bus with his girlfriend when Jean started shooting at him. Scott ran into the parking lot of the Kentucky Fried Chicken while Jean continued to shoot, striking him and killing him on scene. Jean fled to Florida but later turned himself in to authorities.	Jean was convicted of 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder and sentenced to life in prison.
11/24/2003 00:30	124 Berkshire St. (Inman/Harrington)	Mary Toomey, 75, of Cambridge	Anthony DiBenedetto, 47, of Cambridge	DiBenedetto had been living with Toomey for about seven years when they got into an argument and DiBenedetto stabbed Toomey in the neck. Toomey fell to the ground and DiBenedetto then stabbed her in the back two times and put her body in a duffle bag. Police later found the duffle bag in Toomey's apartment and arrested DiBenedetto.	DiBenedetto was sentenced to life in prison.
2/24/2005 14:15	152 Berkshire St. (Inman/ Harrington)	Andrea Harvey, 27, of Cambridge	Damion Linton, of Cambridge	Linton was charged with strangling his wife of one year. Her body was found by her parents in her apartment in Inman Square.	Linton was sentenced to life in prison without parole.
8/6/2005 12:14	17 Warren St. (Inman/ Harrington)	Regina Antoine, 8 & Benita Antoine, 76, both of Cambridge	Kevin Robinson, of Cambridge	Robinson was charged with murder and arson after using gasoline to light a building on fire, causing the deaths of a grandmother and her young granddaughter.	Robinson was found guilty of two counts of 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder.
3/18/2006 23:53	144 Hamilton St. (Cambridgeport)	Corey Davis, 19, of Cambridge	Ahmad Bright, 17, of Dorchester, Sherrod Bright, 22, of Dorchester, and Remele Ahart, 21, of Chelsea	Davis and his cousin were walking down Hamilton St. when a car drove past and someone opened fire on them, striking and killing Davis. Ahart and Ahmad Bright were arrested in connection with this shooting in June 2006. Sherrod Bright was arrested in Nov. 2008.	Ahart was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder. A. Bright was found guilty of 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder. S. Bright pled guilty to manslaughter.
3/28/2006 01:13	512 Mass Ave (Cambridgeport)	Doowensky Nazaire, 22, of Somerville	Elysee Bresilla, 28, of Roslindale	Nazaire died from two gunshot wounds to the upper torso after Bresilla allegedly shot him while he was standing in front of the <i>Phoenix Landing</i> .	Bresilla was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder and sentenced to life in prison w/o parole.
6/26/2008 22:49	211 Elm St E. (Inman/Harrington)	Steven Raftery, 42, of Cambridge	James Foley, 39, of Cambridge	Foley allegedly stabbed Raftery two times in the chest during an argument in the basement at this address. Raftery was pronounced dead at the scene and Foley was arrested the next day.	Foley was found guilty of 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder and sentenced to life in prison.
1/28/2009 10:15	26 Smith Pl. (Highlands)	Maurice Ricketts, 33, of Malden	Clyde Howard, 65, of Brookline	Howard and Ricketts were in a verbal dispute when Howard pulled out a handgun and shot Ricketts in the head. Ricketts was transported to the hospital and pronounced dead shortly thereafter.	Howard was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder.
5/18/2009 16:45	Dunster St & Mt. Auburn St (HARVARD UNIV. CRIME)	Justin Cosby, 21, of Cambridge	Jabrai Jordan Copney, 20, Blayn Jiggetts, 19, and Jason Aquino, 23, all from New York	Cosby was shot and killed inside Kirkland House (a Harvard University dormitory) during a drug-related robbery perpetrated by Copney, Jiggetts, and Aquino. Copney was the alleged shooter.	Copney was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder. Jiggetts and Aquino both pled guilty to manslaughter.
6/16/2009 03:05	341 Rindge Ave (North Cambridge)	Jason Ellcock, 33, formerly of Cambridge	Unknown	Jason Ellcock was found with multiple gunshot wounds in front of the driveway to 362/364 Rindge Ave. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Incident remains under investigation.	Ongoing investigation.



## Part I Crimes: Murder

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 (Area 4)	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 is awaiting trial.
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	John Brosnahan, a retired Bedford police officer, allegedly 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	Charlene Holmes was shot while standing outside a residence on Willow Street. She was transported to the hospital with apparent gunshot wounds where she succumbed to her injuries.	Ongoing investigation.

### Murder across the state and nation in 2011\*

In 2011, the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports recorded an estimated 14,612 murders nationwide, representing a decrease of 0.7% from the 14,722 homicides reported in 2010. When population is taken into account, the murder rate experienced a decrease of 1.5% from the previous year. Over the past 10 years (from 2002 to 2011), the national murder rate has dropped 16.8%.

The murder rate in Massachusetts is well below that for the nation as a whole. In 2011, Massachusetts reported 2.8 murders per 100,000 residents, while the national rate in 2011 was 4.7 per 100,000. Boston experiences the majority of the state's homicides, as it did in 2011 with 63 homicides, which is 14% below the 73 homicides the city saw in 2010. None of the towns surrounding Cambridge (Arlington, Belmont, Brookline, Somerville, and Watertown) reported any homicides in 2011. Only a few Massachusetts cities and towns reported more than two murders in 2011. Those reporting four or more were Boston (63), Springfield (20), Worcester (11), Lawrence (10), Brockton (9), Holyoke (4), New Bedford (4), Pittsfield (4), and Weymouth (4).

\*Statistics for 2012 are not yet available.

# Rape

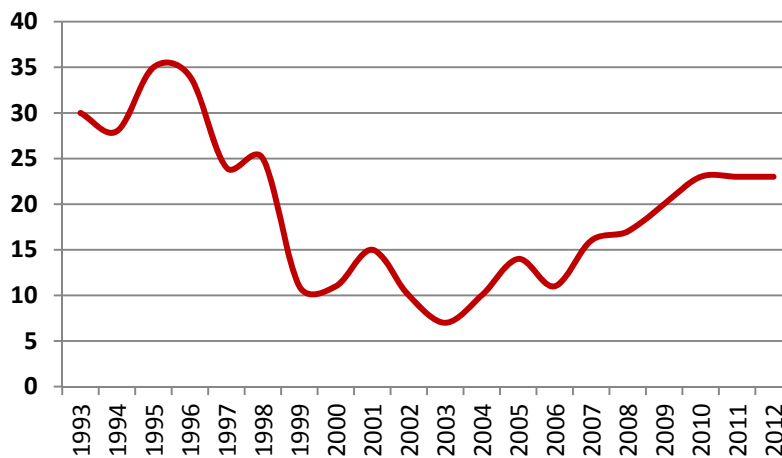
## Definition

*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	21
2011	23
2012	23
Change from 2011	0%
Change from Average	+10%

## Rapes reported in Cambridge



The Cambridge Police Department Sexual Assault Unit reports that there were 23 rapes in 2012, a number that remains unchanged from the previous year. Three of the twenty-three sexual assaults reported in 2012 occurred on a calendar date prior to that year. This is a trend that we have been observing over the past few years with 10%–25% of the crimes involving domestic or supervisory-positioned assailants as suspects being reported long after the original date of the incident.

Ten of the rapes in 2012 involved acquaintances, five were domestic situations, seven involved a contact scenario with the offender being someone the victim had met in a public place, and one was a stranger-to-stranger rape.

The one stranger-to-stranger rape in Cambridge in 2012 involved a female that was followed and blitzed in a high pedestrian activity area late at night. No one has been identified in this crime, but it remains under investigation.

Given the tendency for rape statistics to fluctuate each year, projecting future totals is a risky business at best. The actual number of stranger-to-stranger rapes each year—between one and five—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, including “date rapes.” Ten of the twenty-three incidents in 2012 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

Rapes by Category

Year	Acquaintance	Contact	Blitz	Domestic	Total
2010	9	1	5	8	23
2011	14	2	2	5	23
2012	20	7	1	5	23

blitz rape, or “street rape,” tends to invoke the most fear in the average citizen. There was one blitz rape recorded in Cambridge in 2012.

- **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 seven incidents in Cambridge in 2012 that fit into this category.
- **Domestic Rapes** involve rapes between spouses, romantic partners, or family members. Five domestic rapes were reported in 2012.

### Rape across the state and nation in 2011\*

- The FBI’s Uniform Crime Report for 2011 reports that:
- There were an estimated 83,425 forcible rapes reported to law enforcement in 2011. This estimate was 2.5% lower than the 2010 estimate and 9.5% and 12.4% lower than the 2007 and 2002 estimates, respectively.
- Rapes by force comprised 93% of the reported rape offenses in 2011, and attempts accounted for 7% of reported rapes.
- The rate of forcible rapes in 2011 was estimated at 52.7 per 100,000 female inhabitants.

\*Statistics for 2012 are not yet available.

# Robbery

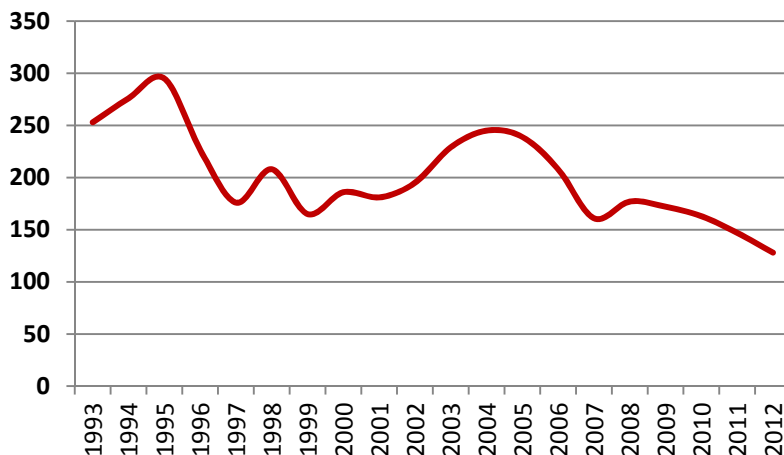
## Definition

*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	161
2011	147
2012	128
Change from 2011	-13%
Change from Average	-21%

## Robberies reported in Cambridge



Over a four-year span from 2001 to 2004, robberies in the City slowly increased. This trend ended in 2005, and robberies continued to decrease until 2007, at which point robberies reached a 20-year low. This downward trend ended in 2008 with a reported overall increase of 10%. Following the increase in 2008, robberies have again been steadily dropping, and in 2012, overall robberies decreased by an additional 13% to 128 incidents, the lowest total reported in at least 30 years.

Due to its violent nature, robbery is one of the most feared crimes. For this reason, it is one of the crimes most often considered by a citizen when he or she gauges the general “safety” of an area. Not only is robbery on the minds of local citizens but 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 between the suspect and victim, and often result in no harm to the victim, especially when they comply with the suspect’s demands.

## Robberies by category

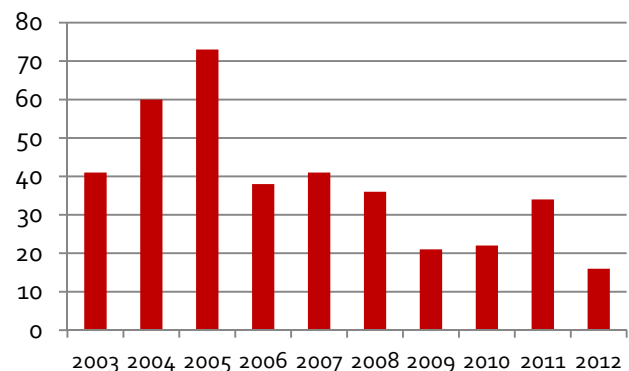
Category	2011	2012	Change
Commercial Robbery	34	16	-53%
Street Robbery	113	112	-1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>-13%</b>

## 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.

From 1970 to 1990, Cambridge averaged 100 commercial robberies annually. Throughout the 1990s, the number of robberies decreased

## Commercial robbery, 2003-2012



dramatically to an average of 45 a year (with a high in 1990 of 102 and a low in 1999 of 18). From 2000 to 2005, the number of commercial robberies slowly increased, until 2006 when a decrease of nearly 50% was reported. Commercial robberies have remained low ever since, ranging from a high of 41 in 2007 to a 20-year low of 16 in 2012.

Commercial robberies fell by 18 incidents in 2012, yielding a 53% decrease from 2011. The business district that experienced the most commercial robberies this year was Harvard Square with four incidents, followed by Porter Square with three incidents. These two districts accounted for 44% of all commercial robberies that occurred in 2012.

Banks were the most common target for commercial robberies in 2012 for the third consecutive year. Banks accounted for six incidents, or 38% of the total. Two bank robberies occurred in January, while March, May, June, and August each had one. All six bank robberies resulted in arrests or suspects being identified. All took place on weekdays, with the majority occurring between 1:50 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. The May robbery, which took place at the Cambridge Savings Bank in Inman Square, was perpetrated by Scott Kellerer of South Boston; he was arrested after he was tracked with a GPS device as he attempted to flee on an MBTA bus in Somerville.

Drug store robberies accounted for five of the commercial robberies in 2012. Most of these robberies occurred during the early evening and all took place before midnight. A firearm was shown in three incidents and a knife was displayed in one of the robberies. One suspect claimed to have a bomb, which was later found to be false. No location was targeted more than once, but two separate pharmacies on Cambridge St (one in East Cambridge and one in Inman Square) were robbed by the same armed suspect in April and November.

**Commercial robberies by location type**

Type	2010	2011	2012	Change
Bank/Armored Car	5	12	6	-50%
Drug Store	1	0	5	Incalc.
Gas Station	3	2	2	0%
Misc. Retail	3	5	2	-60%
Convenience/Grocery	5	9	1	-89%
Café/Restaurant	2	2	0	-100%
Taxi Cab	0	4	0	-100%
Jewelry Store	1	0	0	0%
Electronics/Computer	2	0	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>-53%</b>

There were two gas station robberies reported in 2012, one in June and one in September. The first occurred at the Sunoco station on Massachusetts Ave and the second was at the Fresh Pond Gas Station on Concord Ave. These robberies were committed in the early mornings. No arrests were made, but the suspect in the September robbery was unable to acquire any cash.

The following incidents are some of the other more notable commercial robberies this year:

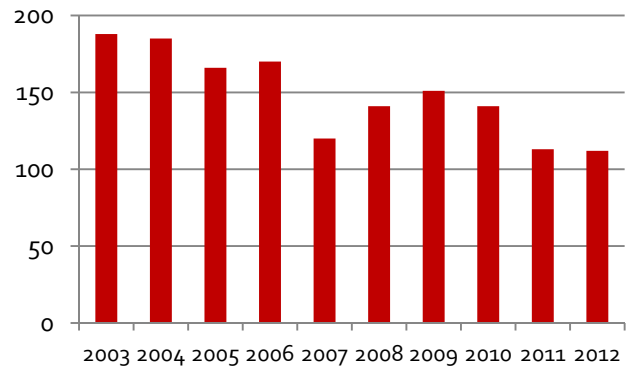
- In June, a suspect entered the Whole Foods store on River St and attempted to conceal items on her person. Loss prevention approached the suspect and attempted to stop her and an altercation arose. The suspect pushed the employee down a stairwell and attempted to flee the area. Officers were able to catch and arrest the suspect.
- In November, an unknown suspect hid inside a retail store at the Galleria. This suspect remained hidden in a closet until after closing time, then brandished a firearm and tied up the employees that were still inside the store. The suspect fled with an unspecified amount of cash.



## Street robbery

Street robbery involves all robberies committed against individuals, as opposed to commercial establishments. Despite the name, a “street” robbery does not necessarily have to occur on the street, although the majority of them do. Examples of street robberies are “muggings,” “carjackings,” and “purse snatchings.” The number of street robberies reported in 2012 decreased by one incident compared to 2011, translating to a 1% drop. This marks the third consecutive year in which street robbery has shown a decline. This translates to a 26% decline since the last recorded increase in 2009.

Street robbery, 2003-2012



Street robberies by neighborhood

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2011	2012	Change from Avg.
East Cambridge	16	18	10	-38%
MIT	2	2	1	-50%
Inman/Harrington	11	14	9	-18%
Area 4	20	11	14	-30%
Cambridgeport	22	19	14	-36%
Mid-Cambridge	15	17	11	-27%
Riverside	10	12	10	0%
Agassiz	4	2	0	-100%
Peabody	8	3	10	+25%
West Cambridge	12	9	13	+8%
North Cambridge	12	6	9	-25%
Cambridge Highlands	2	0	1	-50%
Strawberry Hill	1	0	0	-100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>-24%</b>

Street robberies historically take place during the evening hours, particularly after drinking establishments close, and in dark areas. 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, East Cambridge, and Area 4 are more densely populated than 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. Individuals can become targets when they are walking alone late at night, distracted or intoxicated. The neighborhood that

experienced the most robberies in 2012 was Area 4, accounting for 21%, or 24 of the total 112 incidents. Cambridgeport had the next highest number with 14 incidents, or 13% of the total.

Of the 2012 incidents, 80% involved the use or threat of a weapon. The most commonly used weapons were hands and/or feet (54 incidents), knives (15 incidents), and handguns/ implied guns (13 incidents).

During the first quarter of 2012, there was only one street robbery pattern. This pattern involved a violent but unarmed offender who was robbing females walking alone late at night. The first two incidents occurred on consecutive nights in late March in Mid-Cambridge and Agassiz. Both victims were wearing headphones at the time of the robberies. This pattern continued into the second quarter with as many as five other similar incidents throughout Cambridge and Brookline targeting cell phones and purses. This series subsided in April.

There was one other notable robbery pattern during the second quarter. In mid-June, a late night/early morning pattern emerged involving multiple youths as suspects. These youths would approach a victim, ask a question, then assault and rob the victim, typically targeting cell phones. Four robberies in

Cambridge (in East Cambridge, Inman, and Area 4) and one in Somerville were believed to be committed by these suspects, two of whom were arrested after they were linked to the pattern by way of fingerprints. The pattern ceased after these arrests in late June.

No defined street robberies emerged anywhere in the city during the third quarter of 2012.

During the fourth quarter, two unrelated, brief series of robberies were reported. In late October, two female victims walking alone on separate nights in the periphery of Harvard Square were robbed by an unknown male suspect riding a bicycle. No suspects were located and no additional incidents were reported. Then in early December, four incidents were reported all within a week of each other in neighborhoods bordering Harvard Square (Mid-Cambridge, Riverside, Agassiz, and Peabody), but they did not unanimously share the same characteristics besides all occurring in December. Although each incident involved only a single offender, the suspect descriptions varied. Three of the four street robbery incidents in this pattern involved the suspect striking the victim in the face and stealing his or her cell phone before fleeing the area. The suspect in the fourth incident displayed a knife and attempted to steal money.

### Five historical street robbery hot spots

1. **Central Square**, specifically the area of Massachusetts Avenue between Washington and Franklin Streets, down Pearl Street. This is a prime location for homeless-on-homeless robberies. These are mostly predatory, but also purse snatchings can be concentrated here in the late afternoon and late evening.
2. **CambridgeSide Galleria**, including the Lechmere MBTA Station area. These usually involve juveniles robbing each other between 3:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
3. **Harvard Square**, around Church Street, Brattle Street and Harvard Yard. Predatory robberies in the late evening mixed with early evening pack robberies.
4. **Russell Field and the Alewife MBTA Station**. The 300-400 blocks of Rindge Avenue hold the major concentration for these incidents. Pack robberies target people leaving the station and “bullyboy” robberies target schoolmates crossing through the field.
5. **Upper Cambridgeport**, specifically the area surrounded by Franklin and Erie Streets, between Brookline and Pleasant Streets. These incidents are predatory in nature and are concentrated during the late night and predawn hours of the weekend.

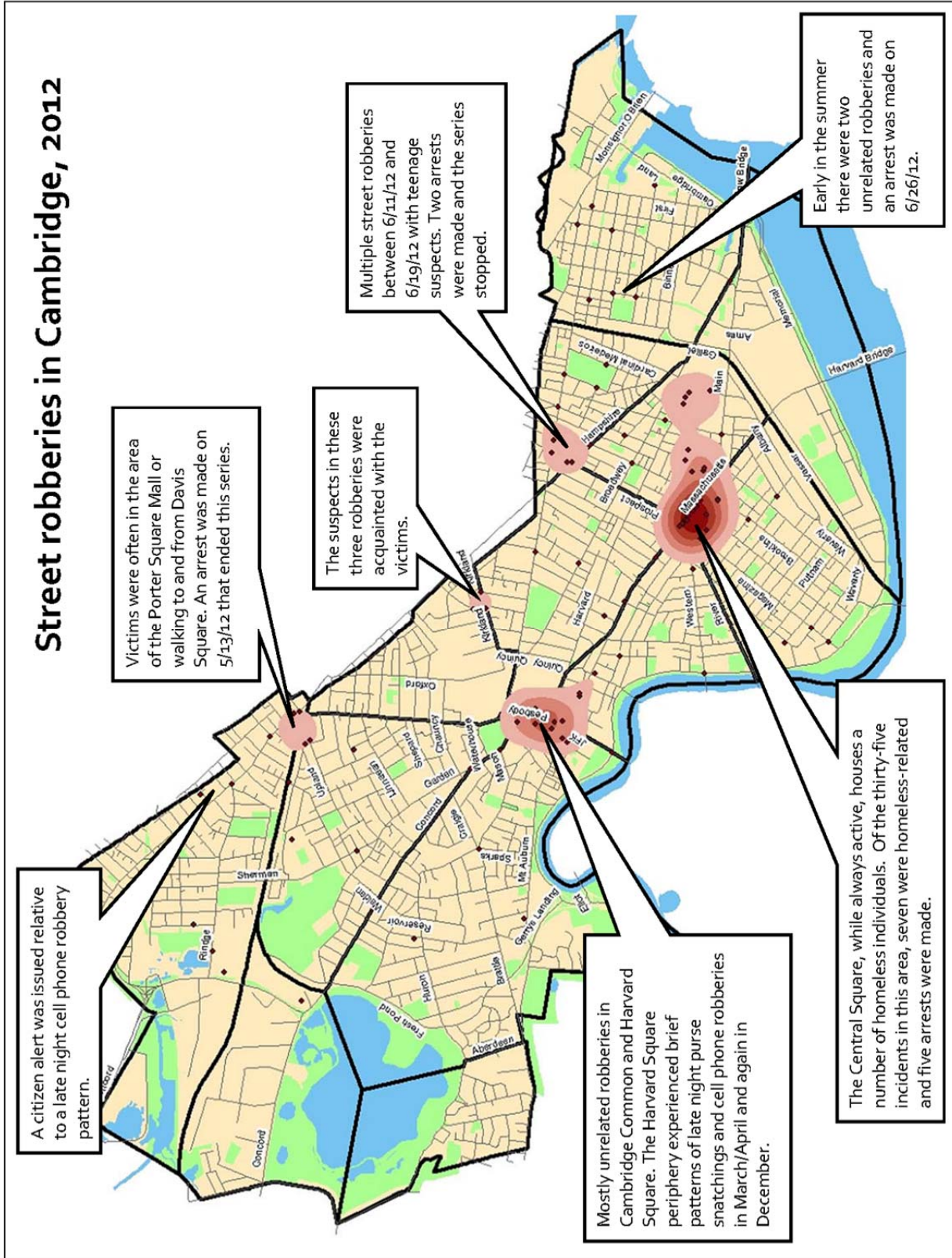
As stated, street robberies can take place in many different locations, including shopping malls, MBTA stations, and parking lots. Still, about 79% of all street robberies in 2012 occurred on a street, sidewalk, or in a parking lot. As for some of the other notable premise types, eight of the robberies this year took place in residences or apartment buildings, and three each were reported in ATMs and parks. About 49% of the street robberies throughout the city happened between 7:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m. This is a common timeframe for robberies to occur because people are walking home after work or are out when the bars close.

Our Crime Analysis Unit breaks down street robbery incidents into categorizations of similar types for more accurate analysis. Approximately 46% of the street robberies were “predatory,” where the victim was approached by one or two suspects, threatened, and robbed. The second most common type of street robberies were pack robberies involving three or more suspects, which accounted for 14% of the total. Homeless robberies accounted for 10% of the robberies this year, while domestic robberies and robberies by acquaintances accounted for 8% of the total.

## 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 this past year:

- **Acquaintance Robberies** (5): Related to domestic robbery and homeless robbery (read below), 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** (3): 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** (3): Juvenile robberies where the primary property targets are bicycles.
- **Bully Boys** (2): 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, MP3 players, or lunch money.
- **Carjacking** (0): 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** (1): These robberies target delivery service personnel. In these situations, suspects usually brandish a knife or gun to intercept a delivery person.
- **Domestic** (4): 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** (4): 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.
- **Homeless Robberies** (11): These are incidents of homeless people 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 many cases, both are intoxicated. Property stolen ranges from a bottle of wine to a blanket or a pair of shoes.
- **Pack Robberies** (16): 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** (52): 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 knife or gun and demand cash. Cambridge typically experiences more two-person predatory robberies than any other type.
- **Purse Snatch** (9): 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

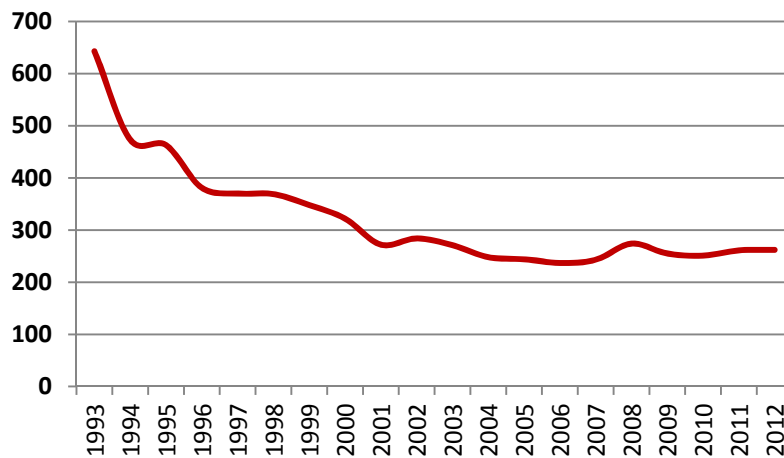
## Definition

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	258
2011	261
2012	262
Change from 2011	0%
Change from Average	+2%

## 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: 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 in Cambridge peaked in the early 1990s (violent crime was very high throughout the country during that period) and fell significantly between 1993 and 2001. For the past decade, it has remained static, with some small year-by-year fluctuations but no overall trend. Incidents in 2012 were within a single number of both the 5-year average and the 2011 total. But in considering a assault statistics, we must keep in mind that the crime exhibits variable reporting rates. Many assault victims, particularly if they are not seriously injured, are reluctant to report the crimes.

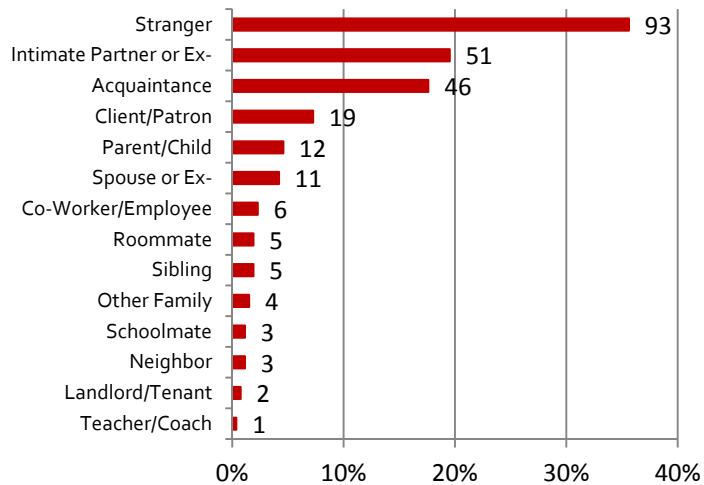
## Aggravated assaults by neighborhood

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2011	2012	Change from Avg.	Population	2012 Rate/10000
East Cambridge	27	20	28	+4%	9234	30
MIT	4	4	3	-25%	5057	6
Inman/Harrington	32	39	26	-19%	6516	40
Area 4	40	32	32	-20%	6792	47
Cambridgeport	41	46	47	+15%	12220	39
Mid-Cambridge	19	16	30	+58%	12991	23
Riverside	25	35	25	0%	12695	20
Agassiz	6	7	1	-83%	4977	2
Peabody	11	9	11	0%	11399	10
West Cambridge	17	20	20	+18%	8023	25
North Cambridge	28	24	30	+7%	11908	25
Cambridge Highlands	3	3	4	+33%	832	48
Strawberry Hill	6	6	5	-17%	2518	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>+2%</b>	<b>105,162</b>	<b>25</b>

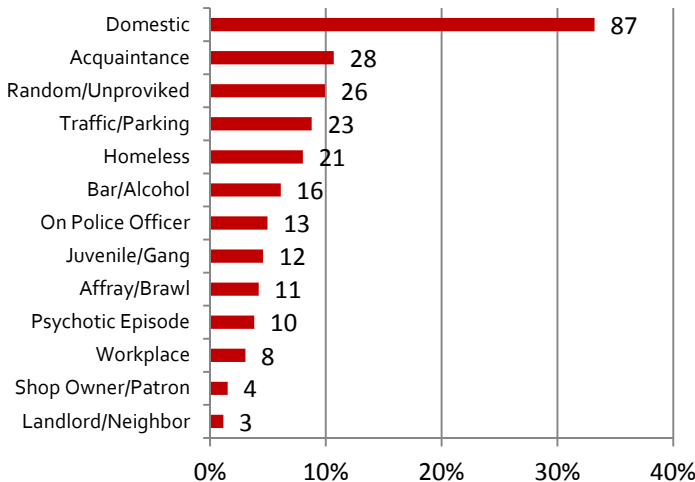


### Aggravated assault by relationship

Although making up only 35% of all assaults, “stranger” is the largest single category, comprised of most of the cases in the “random,” “traffic/parking,” “bar/alcohol,” and “on police officer” categories. But the other categories combined outweigh “strangers” by two to one; for the majority of aggravated 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 any year, domestic assaults typically account for between 30 and 40 percent of the total. These involve a number of relationships, but as the chart above shows, are most common among intimate partners and ex-intimate partners, spouses and ex-spouses, and parents and children. These unique circumstances are covered in the “Domestic Crimes” section of this report, as aggravated assault is only one of many crimes that such abusive relationships might generate.

### Notable findings on aggravated assault in 2012

- 11, or 4%, of the aggravated assaults in 2012 resulted in serious injury. These included three domestic incidents; three bar fights; an incident in which an angry customer broke a retail employee’s finger; an assault on a police officer attempting to remove a disoriented man from the street; and an incident in which one homeless person hit another in the face with a blunt object while he was sleeping.
- 10 of the 16 bar-related aggravated assaults took place within one block of Massachusetts Avenue between MIT and Central Square. Most were after midnight.
- The most common weapon used in aggravated assaults was hands and feet (38%), followed by knives (13%) and bottles or glass (10%). Only three assaults in 2012 involved the use of a

firearm, though there were also 20 robberies and one homicide involving guns. In none of the aggravated assault incidents involving a firearm was a shot fired.

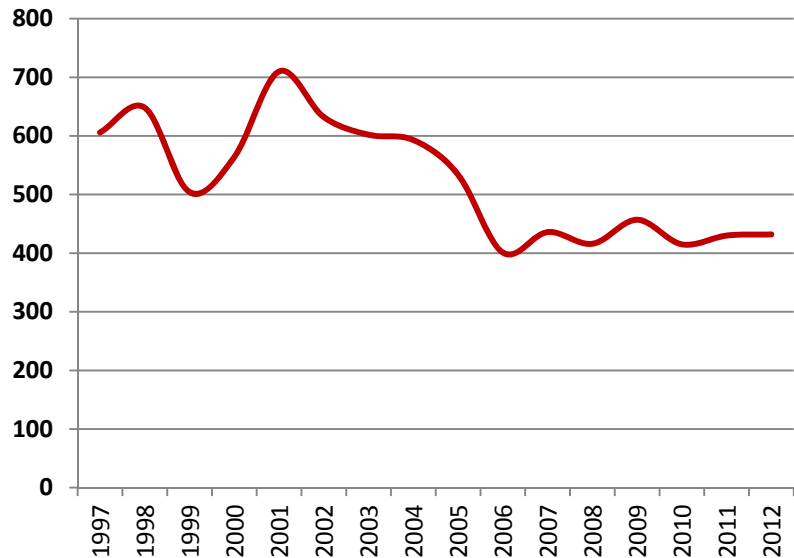
- 46% of incidents resulted in an arrest on scene, compared to 26% of simple assaults.

## Simple assault

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

In the past decade, simple assault has shown a similar trend as aggravated assault, bottoming out in the mid-2000s and remaining essentially flat since then. Simple assaults mirror aggravated assaults in categories and relationships.

Simple assaults reported in Cambridge

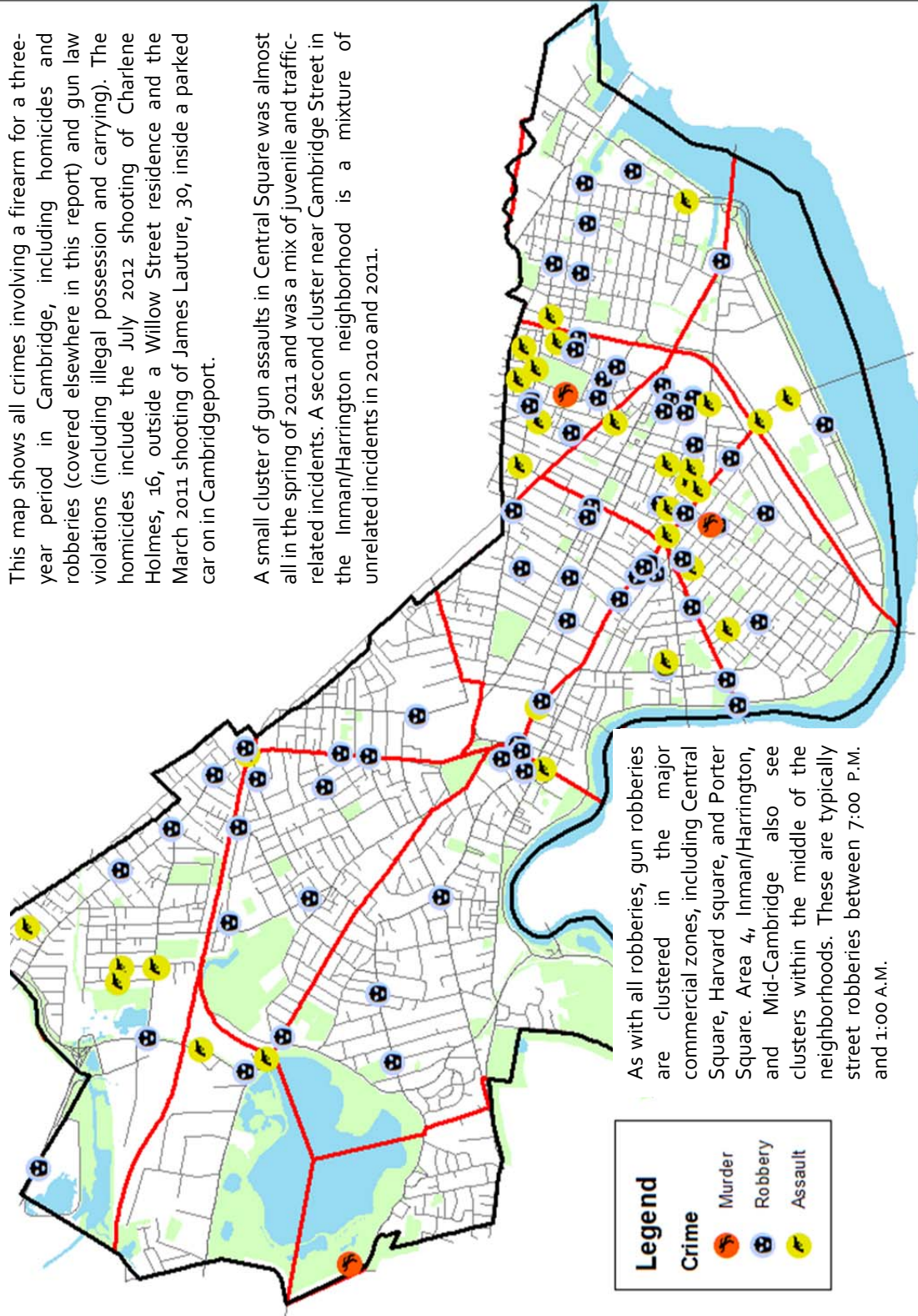


## Assault victims and offenders by age

Age Range	% of Population (2010)	% Agg. Assault Victims	% Agg. Assault Offenders	% Simple Assault Victims	% Simple Assault Offenders
0-9	7	0	0	1	1
10-14	3	1	1	4	3
15-19	7	9	9	7	10
20-24	16	18	20	13	15
25-29	17	12	15	18	16
30-34	12	14	10	12	12
35-39	7	10	11	10	10
40-49	9	19	18	18	16
50-59	9	12	12	13	13
60-69	8	4	4	4	3
70-79	4	1	1	1	1
80+	3	0	0	0	1

Bucking expectations of assaults primarily being a juvenile phenomenon, the data shows that as both victims and offenders, the most statistically significant outliers are individuals in their late 30s, 40s, and 50s. These are the populations most likely to suffer in the domestic, acquaintance, homeless, and bar categories. There is a small increase for juveniles in their late teens. Reported assaults among individuals over the age of 60 or under the age of 15 (elder abuse and child abuse) are both very rare.

## Gun Crimes in Cambridge, 2010-2012



# Burglary

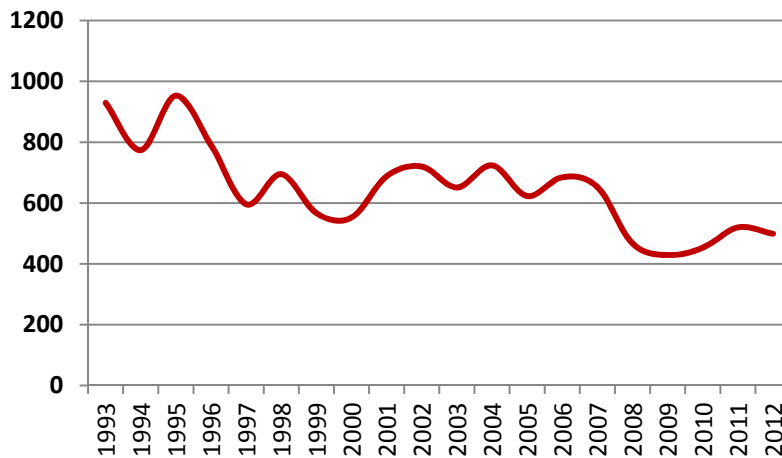
## Definition

*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	486
2011	520
2012	499
Change from 2011	-4%
Change from Average	+3%

## 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 heist 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	2011	2012	Change
Commercial Burglary	84	79	-6%
Residential Burglary	436	420	-4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>-4%</b>

## Top items targeted in 2012

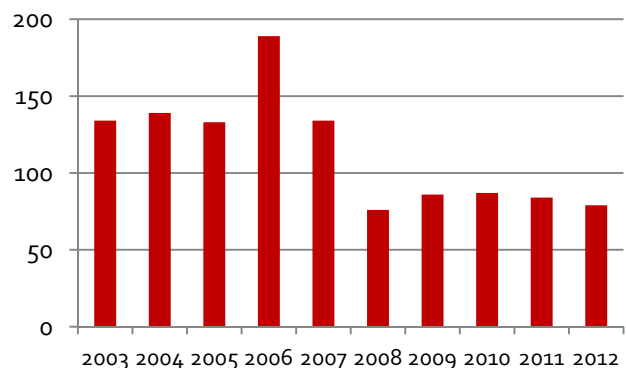
Rank	Residential	Commercial
1	Laptops	Cash
2	Jewelry	Laptops
3	Cameras	Precious Metals
4	Cash	Tools
5	Cell phones	Cameras

Burglars often fall into two types: the "amateur" and the "professional." Amateurs are likely to smash windows or kick in doors to enter unoccupied buildings. These burglars will often take lightweight, visible property, such as a purse left on a table, loose change, or a laptop. "Professional" burglars, alternatively, are more sophisticated in their methods and tend to steal higher-priced items. They often pry open a door, disable alarms, and even occasionally enter occupied establishments.

## Commercial burglary

A commercial burglary, more commonly referred to as a *commercial break*, is the unlawful entry into a commercial

## Commercial burglary, 2003-2012



## Part I Crimes: Burglary

establishment, including business, government, religious, or retail establishments. From 2011 to 2012, there was a 6% decrease in commercial breaks in Cambridge. Over the past ten years, commercial breaks have dropped by over 40%, from 134 in 2003 to 79 in 2012.

Business districts varied in 2012, with Harvard Square seeing the most substantial increase of 88% (up 7 incidents from the average and 11 from 2011), while the most notable decreases were in the Porter Square/North Cambridge district (down 10 incidents from average, or 77%) and in Central Square (down 11 incidents, or 61%). Approximately 16% of the breaks in 2012 were attempts in which no entry was gained, and another 14% were considered “inside jobs” in which an employee or known associate was believed to be responsible. Together these two categories accounted for almost a third of the commercial breaks this year.

### Commercial burglaries by business district

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2011	2012	Change from Avg.	% of Total (2012)
Galleria/East Cambridge	8	8	14	+75%	18%
Kendall/MIT	3	3	4	+33%	5%
Inman Square	9	5	7	-22%	9%
Central Square	18	16	7	-61%	9%
Cambridgeport/Riverside	2	4	1	-50%	1%
Bay Square/Upper Broadway	5	8	9	+80%	11%
Harvard Square	8	4	15	+88%	19%
1500-1900 Massachusetts Avenue	9	12	10	+11%	13%
Porter Square/North Cambridge	13	12	3	-77%	4%
Alewife/West Cambridge	13	12	9	-31%	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>-10%</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. They are often in the business themselves and may have done work on the sites that they target.
- **Church burglars** are usually homeless individuals with substance abuse problems. They enter lightly secured houses of worship, looking for petty cash and easily fenced items.
- **School burglars** are often juveniles, breaking into their own schools to vandalize or steal computers and other expensive everyday goods. Youth centers/daycares are included.



## Commercial burglary patterns

No significant commercial break patterns emerged in Cambridge in 2012. There were a few locations that experienced multiple incidents during the year (a restaurant on Dunster Street in Harvard Square, a shelter on Green Street, a church on Mt. Auburn Street, and a business on Cambridge Street), but none of these repeat locations became part of long term patterns. During the fourth quarter, a trend did emerge in which copper and high-end tools were being stolen from buildings and construction sites across Cambridge. Incidents spanned from early October to late November and did not have a central time frame or location, but the increase in this type of commercial break was notable and cooled off in December.

Commercial burglaries by location type

Type	2011	2012
Retail establishments	5	12
Industrial/construction	5	19
Bar/restaurant/social	21	16
Business offices	17	6
Convenience/gas	11	4
Church	7	3
Government building	1	3
School/youth center	4	0
Other	9	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>79</b>

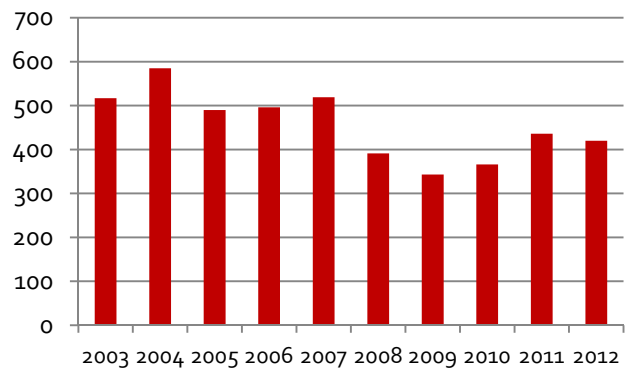
Fourteen people were arrested in ten separate incidents throughout the year. This includes three homeless males who were arrested after they broke into a closed movie theater in Harvard Square in August and one of the males fell through a ceiling inside, and a Dorchester male who was arrested on warrants after he dropped his license while breaking into two businesses on Mass Ave in September.

## Residential burglary

After reaching its lowest level in more than 30 years in 2009, residential burglary increased slightly in 2010 and 2011 but dropped slightly in 2012. Because 2008-2010 were so low, the 2012 figure is slightly higher (+6%) than the average of the last 5 years, but lower (-4%) than 2011.

West Cambridge had both the highest per capita rate in 2012 (77 per 10,000) and the biggest increase from the average (+94%). The nearby Peabody neighborhood saw a 21% increase. Both neighborhoods experienced patterns recounted on the map on Page 39. Cambridgeport was higher than its average (+24%), but down from the peak it experienced in 2011. Similarly, although Mid-Cambridge did not change from the average, it saw a decrease from peak activity in 2011. North Cambridge (-36%), Agassiz (-22%), and Area 4 (-17%) saw the largest decreases from the average in 2012.

Residential burglary, 2003-2012



Housebreaks most commonly occur during the daytime while victims are not home, or while the homeowners are away on vacation. Suspects are often long gone by the time the victim returns home and calls police. A large number of housebreaks are simply attempts in which a suspect tries but is unable to gain entry to a residence. The victim later discovers signs that someone tried to enter. Unknown suspects are typically the perpetrators in Cambridge housebreaks, although a small percentage of incidents involve acquaintances or family members. For example, 2% of all reported housebreak victims in 2012 named an acquaintance (friend, roommate, or neighbor) or landlord as a suspect. An additional 1% of incidents were categorized as domestic (perpetrated by family members, ex-boyfriends, etc).



## Part I Crimes: Burglary

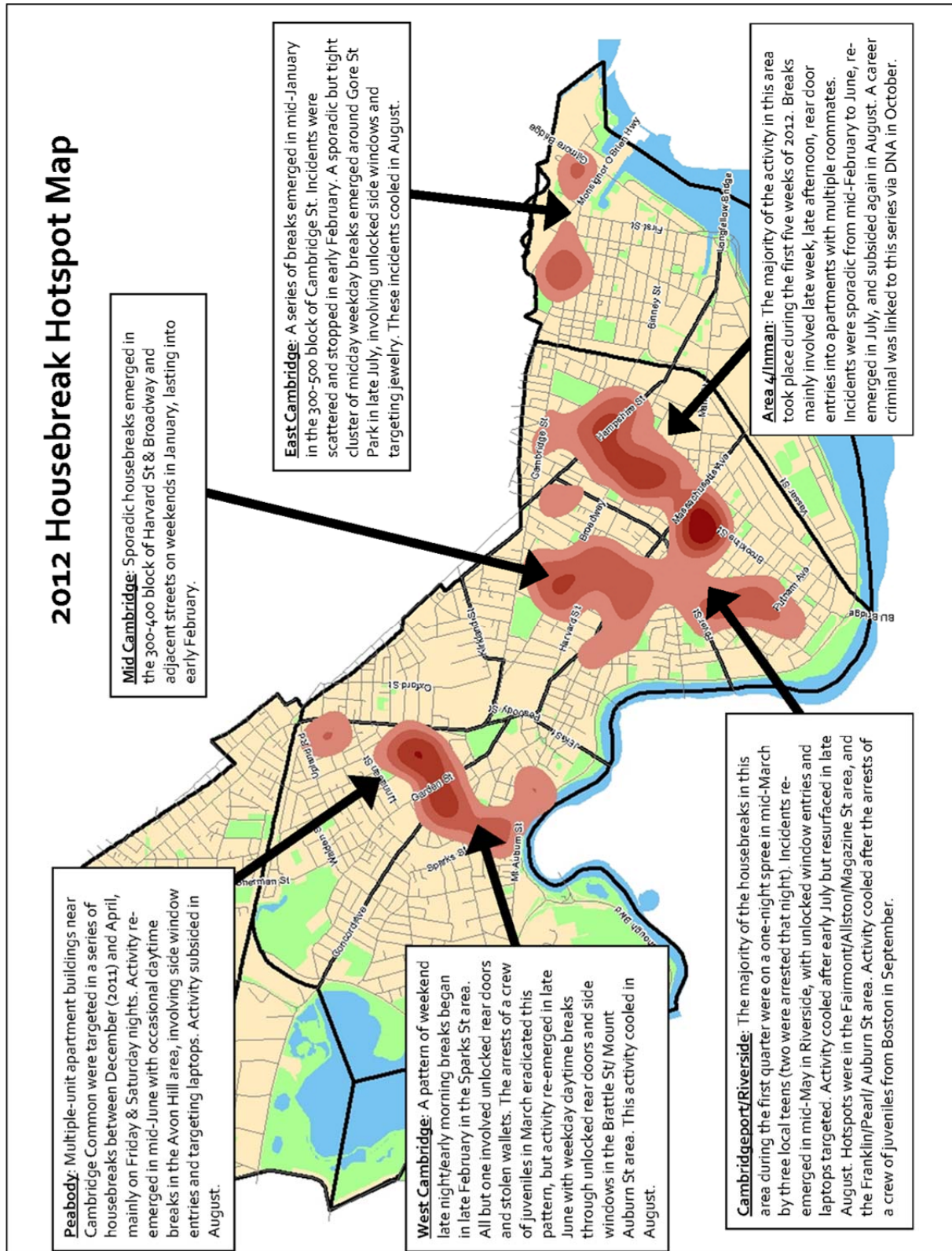
Entry is gained into a residence by various methods. The most common point of entry is through a door, whether it is a front door, rear door, basement door, or unknown. This point of entry accounted for 48% of housebreaks in 2012. Residence doors were pried/forced/broken in 19% of the housebreaks. Unlocked doors also accounted for 19%. Entry is also often made via windows, especially during the summer months. This point of entry accounted for 42% of the incidents in 2012. Window entry was significant regarding three different methods: cut/removed window screens accounted for 13% of the housebreaks, pried/forced/broken windows accounted for 13%, and open/unlocked windows accounted for 11%.

### Residential burglaries by neighborhood

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2011	2012	Change from Avg.	Population	2012 Rate/10000
East Cambridge	34	43	35	+3%	9234	38
MIT	0	0	0	0%	5057	0
Inman/Harrington	39	29	35	-10%	6516	54
Area 4	48	53	40	-17%	6792	59
Cambridgeport	50	66	62	+24%	12220	51
Mid-Cambridge	59	68	59	0%	12991	45
Riverside	33	39	32	-3%	12695	25
Agassiz	18	17	14	-22%	4977	28
Peabody	38	35	46	+21%	11399	40
West Cambridge	32	43	62	+94%	8023	77
North Cambridge	42	37	27	-36%	11908	23
Cambridge Highlands	1	0	1	0%	832	12
Strawberry Hill	6	6	7	+17%	2518	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>+6%</b>	<b>105,162</b>	<b>40</b>

Housebreak activity tends to be concentrated in a few specific areas each year. See the next page for a hotspot map containing information on the housebreak concentrations and pattern areas in 2012.

## 2012 Housebreak Hotspot Map



# Larceny

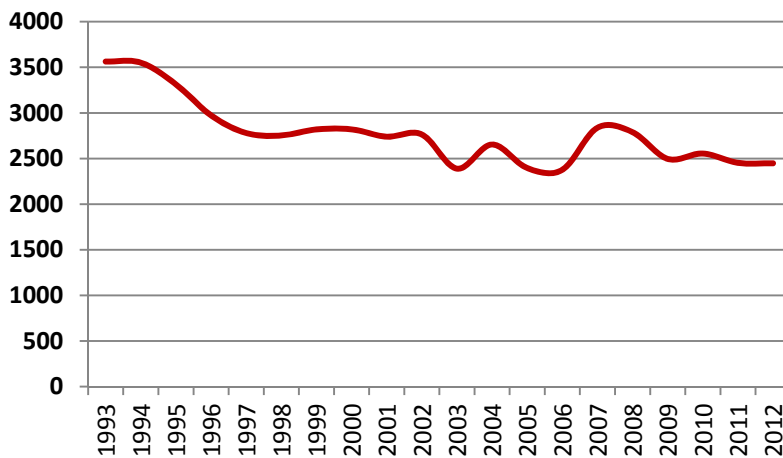
## Definition

*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	2,559
2011	2,453
2012	2,448
Change from 2011	0%
Change from Average	-4%

## Larcenies reported in Cambridge



Larceny is always the most common of the Part I crimes in Cambridge. This year it accounted for 70% of the total Part I crime and 80% of the total property crime. Larceny often produces the most patterns. The three categories that produce some of the highest numbers—larcenies from motor vehicles, buildings, and persons—are often fueled by changes in technology. As electronics such as laptops, GPS navigation systems, and portable music players become more popular and evolve, they become easier targets, easier to

conceal, and ultimately easier to sell. This year's larceny total remained relatively unchanged from last year, dropping by only five incidents. Although most of the larceny categories experienced reductions in 2012, two of the major categories (larcenies from motor vehicles and larcenies from persons) experienced notable increases, leading to the consistent overall total from last year to this year.

Larceny is further broken down into the nine categories listed in the table below. Larcenies from persons showed a significant increase from the average while larcenies from vehicles and larcenies of services were both down significantly.

## Larcenies by type

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2011	2012	Change from Avg.	% of Total (2012)
Larcenies from buildings	397	433	372	-6%	15%
Larcenies from motor vehicles	827	639	686	-17%	28%
Larcenies from persons	335	320	368	+10%	15%
Larcenies of bicycles	334	370	356	+7%	15%
Shoplifting	359	352	344	-4%	14%
Larcenies from residences	206	234	225	+9%	9%
Larcenies of license plates	45	43	40	-11%	2%
Larcenies of services	27	25	17	-37%	1%
Other (unclassifiable) larcenies	31	37	40	+29%	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2559</b>	<b>2453</b>	<b>2448</b>	<b>-4%</b>	

## 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.

### Larcenies from buildings by business district

Category	2011	2012	Change
Galleria/East Cambridge	89	83	-7%
Kendall/MIT	43	15	-65%
Inman Square	25	18	-28%
Central Square	89	83	-7%
Cambridgeport/Riverside	10	13	+30%
Bay Sq./Upper Broadway	36	36	0%
Harvard Square	75	56	-25%
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	35	21	-40%
Porter Sq./N. Cambridge	28	27	-4%
Alewife/West Cambridge	43	47	+9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>-14%</b>

There were 372 larcenies from buildings reported in 2012. This total represents a decrease of 14% from 2011 and 6% from the average.

### Top hot spots of 2012

1. CambridgeSide Galleria  
100 CambridgeSide Place  
31 incidents
2. Cambridge Rindge & Latin School  
459 Broadway  
12 incidents
3. Mount Auburn Hospital  
330 Mount Auburn Street  
10 incidents
4. Boston Sports Club  
625 Massachusetts Avenue  
9 incidents
5. Planet Fitness  
820 Somerville Avenue  
8 incidents

### Larceny from building scenarios

The following are the most common larceny from building scenarios in Cambridge in 2012:

1. Someone leaves his or her belongings unattended for a short time and then comes back to find the property missing. Examples include leaving a coat in a public coat closet at a bar or leaving purses/bags at the back of a church during service. This scenario accounted for 23% of the incidents in 2012.
2. A thief waits for or finds the opportunity to steal property left unattended in classrooms or left unlocked on school desks or in lockers. This scenario accounted for 14% of the incidents in 2012. Cell phones, school laptops, and teachers' wallets were often the common targets.
3. A thief pries open a locker at a fitness club, commonly targeting wallets and cash. In 2012, 11% of larceny from building incidents occurred in this manner.
4. A thief finds the opportunity to steal property left unattended on a store counter. Examples include when an employee leaves a cell phone on the counter while helping a customer or a shopper places their wallet down while buying an item and forgets the wallet when they leave, only to return and find it missing. This scenario accounted for 11% of the total reported in 2012. Cell phones, wallets, and cash were the most common targets.
5. An employee of a commercial establishment leaves his or her personal property in a “back room” where he or she thinks it will be safe. Later, the employee notices that the property is missing. The most common targets in this crime include purses, bags, and cell phones. Approximately 9% of the larcenies from buildings reported in 2012 occurred in this manner.

### Larcenies from motor vehicles

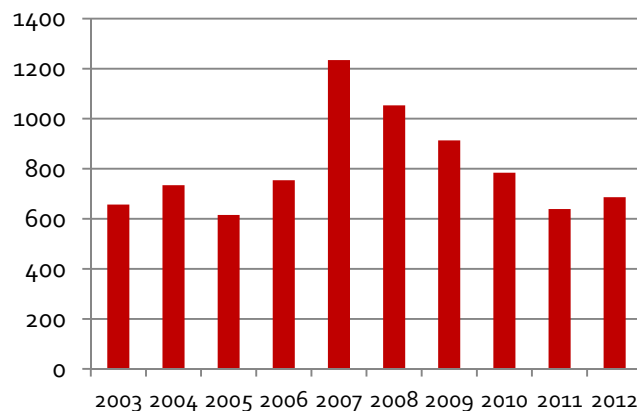
Larcenies from motor vehicles involve an offender either breaking into a car and stealing valuables from within or stealing an accessory, such as tires or hubcaps.

Larcenies from motor vehicles have consistently averaged between 16-26% of the total serious crime index in Cambridge for over 20 years. This year's car break total accounted for 20% of the Crime Index Total. Since the peak in 2007 when GPS navigation units became a hot commodity, this crime type had steadily decreased by 13-18% each year, until 2012 when these incidents switched direction and rose by 47 crimes (a 7% increase). Despite the increase in 2012, however, the total of 686 larcenies from motor vehicles reported this year is still 17% below the five-year weighted average of 827. The West Cambridge neighborhood reported the most LMVs in 2012 with 114 incidents, followed by Cambridgeport with 86. West Cambridge also experienced the largest numerical increase over last year, with 50 more LMVs reported this year than in 2011, equaling a 78% rise. East Cambridge saw the largest decrease this year (down 45%, or 42 incidents), followed by Inman/Harrington (down 36%, or 17 incidents).

In 2012, the main target in LMVs was cash or coins, accounting for 20% of the LMVs citywide. This means that for the first time in years, GPS navigation systems were not the main target in 2012. After having accounted for over 30% of LMVs every year since 2007, GPS thefts dropped to 19% of all the LMVs in 2012, making it the second most stolen item. This drop may be due at least in part to advances in technology. Specifically, many vehicles and cell phones now contain built-in GPS capabilities and reduce the need for a separate unit left in one's car.

Considering how widespread and pervasive this type of crime is in Cambridge, it is often difficult to determine when a pattern is emerging. However, this activity tends to be concentrated in a few specific areas each year. See the next page for an LMV hotspot map containing more information on these concentrations in 2012.

Larcenies from motor vehicles, 2003-2012



Larcenies from vehicles by neighborhood

Category	2011	2012	Change
East Cambridge	93	51	-45%
MIT	11	12	+9%
Inman/Harrington	47	30	-36%
Area 4	51	56	+10%
Cambridgeport	77	86	+12%
Mid-Cambridge	71	78	+10%
Riverside	64	63	-2%
Agassiz	31	30	-3%
Peabody	62	74	+19%
West Cambridge	64	114	+78%
North Cambridge	50	79	+58%
Cambridge Highlands	11	10	-9%
Strawberry Hill	7	3	-57%
<b>Total</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>+7%</b>

#### Top stolen items of 2012

1. Cash/Coins	135
2. GPS systems	129
3. Backpacks/purses	
Wallets	115
4. Laptop computers	78
5. Cellular phones	47
6. MP3 players	41
7. Misc. electronics	38
8. Car stereos	29
9. Automobile parts	28
10. Credit/ATM cards	23

#### Top methods of entry

1. Breaking one or more windows. This accounts for 42% of larcenies in 2012.
2. Opening an unlocked door, accounting for 28%.
3. In 20% of cases, the means of entry was unknown, with no sign of force.



## 2012 Larceny from Motor Vehicle Hotspot Map

Nighttime car breaks targeting unlocked vehicles were seen along Walden St, Rindge Ave, and south of Porter Sq on weekends during the First Quarter. Multiple arrests in March and increased citizen awareness slowed this pattern.

Concentrations of LMV activity were reported between Hancock St, Trowbridge St, and the 300 block of Harvard St during the Third Quarter, and in the area of Dana St and Centre St on weekend nights in October. Saturation patrols and the arrest of local juveniles in the area effectively decreased this activity.

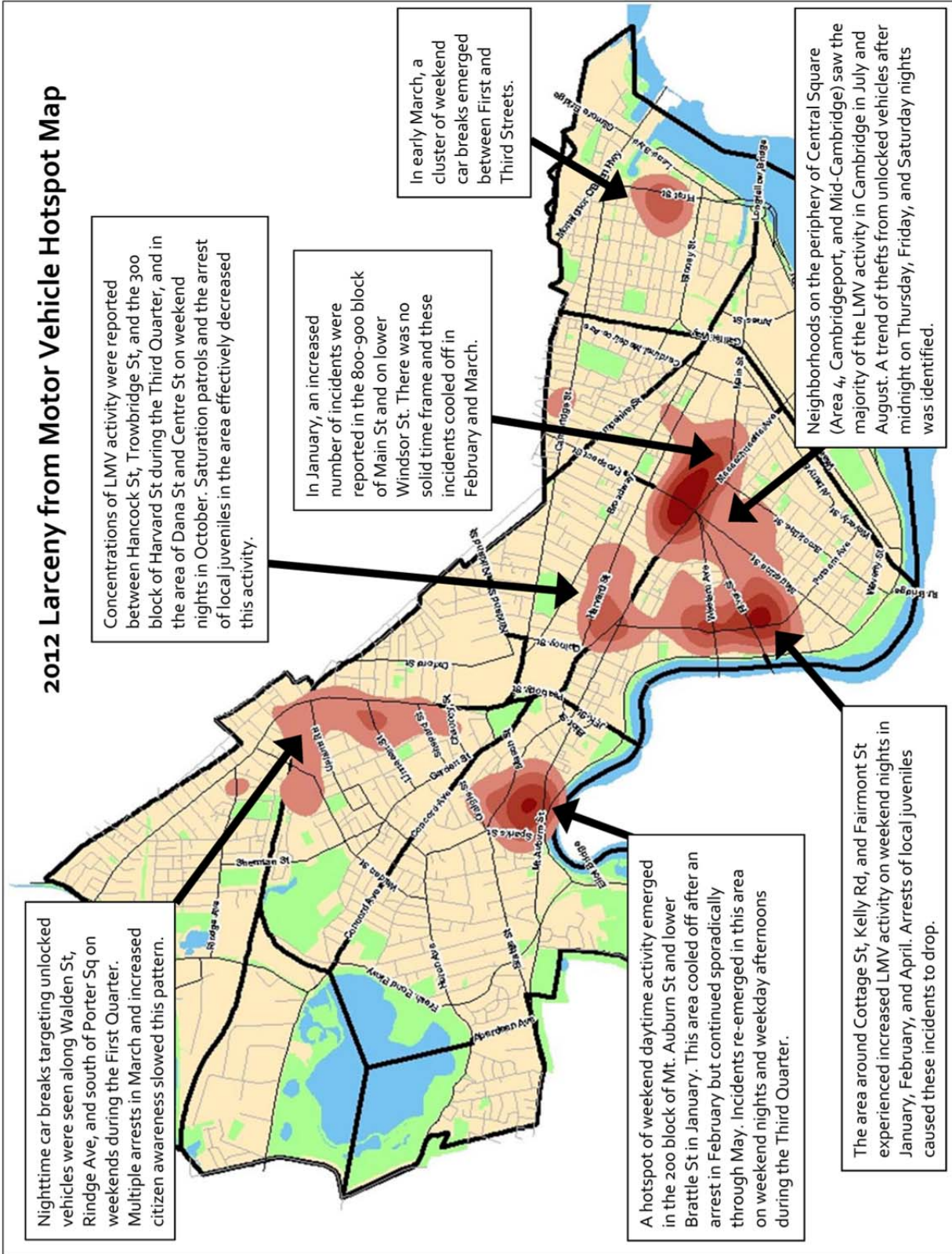
In January, an increased number of incidents were reported in the 800-900 block of Main St and on lower Windsor St. There was no solid time frame and these incidents cooled off in February and March.

In early March, a cluster of weekend car breaks emerged between First and Third Streets.

A hotspot of weekend daytime activity emerged in the 200 block of Mt. Auburn St and lower Brattle St in January. This area cooled off after an arrest in February but continued sporadically through May. Incidents re-emerged in this area on weekend nights and weekday afternoons during the Third Quarter.

The area around Cottage St, Kelly Rd, and Fairmont St experienced increased LMV activity on weekend nights in January, February, and April. Arrests of local juveniles caused these incidents to drop.

Neighborhoods on the periphery of Central Square (Area 4, Cambridgeport, and Mid-Cambridge) saw the majority of the LMV activity in Cambridge in July and August. A trend of thefts from unlocked vehicles after midnight on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights was identified.





### Larcenies from persons

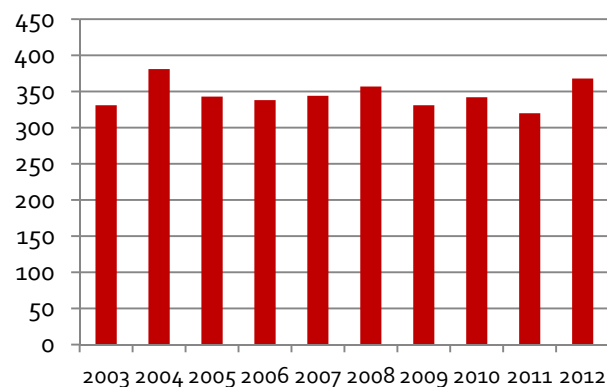
Larceny from person describes pocket picking or any theft that occurs within the victim's area of control. The thefts are non-confrontational, and often the victim is not aware of the theft until after it has occurred. If any physical confrontation between offender and victim takes place, the crime is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

Larcenies from persons in 2012 were 15% higher than the number reported in 2011. This increase is sizeable but should be tempered somewhat by the fact that 2011's total was the lowest the city has seen in over ten years. The increase in 2012 was driven mainly by dipper activity in Harvard and Central Squares. There were also ten arrests made over the course of the year. See the scenarios below for more information on dipper activity in the city.

#### Larcenies from persons by business district

Category	2011	2012	Change
Galleria/East Cambridge	44	35	-20%
Kendall/MIT	12	11	-8%
Inman Square	15	10	-33%
Central Square	82	101	+23%
Cambridgeport/Riverside	9	14	+56%
Bay Sq./Upper Broadway	9	9	0%
Harvard Square	107	144	+35%
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	9	7	-22%
Porter Sq./N. Cambridge	16	16	0%
Alewife/West Cambridge	17	21	+24%
<b>Total</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>+15%</b>

Larcenies from persons, 2003-2012



The following represents a few of the recurring scenarios that typically dominate larcenies from persons in Cambridge:

1. One of the most common larceny scenarios in Cambridge is when a diner places his or her jacket over the back of a chair, or places her purse under a chair. Someone sitting behind the victim either goes through the coat or purse and takes the valuables from within, or takes the coat or purse entirely. This scenario, also known as dipper activity, accounted for 49% of the larcenies from persons in 2012. Incidents at restaurants and cafes located in Central Square (51 incidents) and Harvard Square (106 incidents) dominated this categorization. In Central Square, establishments on Massachusetts Ave such as the McDonalds, Starbucks, the Harvest Co-op, Clear Conscience Café, and the Flour Bakery saw the majority of the incidents. In Harvard Square, concentrations were reported at and around local restaurants, specifically between the 1200 and 1400 blocks of Massachusetts Ave (Starbucks, Panera Bread, Hong Kong, and Au Bon Pain), 100 Mount Auburn St (Peet's Coffee & Tea), 27 Brattle St (Crema Café), 36 JFK St (Starbucks), 50 Church St (Dado Tea and Fire & Ice), and the 90 block of Winthrop St (OM Restaurant and Tommy Doyle's). Crema Café in particular was a major hotspot for this type of activity in 2012 but was also the site of three separate arrests throughout the year. Incidents of this type at the CambridgeSide Galleria have been dropping in recent years, with only eight reported in 2012. These types of larcenies from persons are generally easy to prevent. Remember to always keep your belongings within your control. Do not leave purses on the floor, on the back of your chair, or otherwise unattended. Do not leave wallets or cell phones in the pockets of hanging coats.

2. Approximately 24% of the larcenies from persons in 2012 were thefts of items left unattended by their owners. This includes purses and wallets left briefly unattended in restaurants, churches, schools,

bus stops, parks, etc. In one typical scenario of this type, a student leaves his or her cell phone in a backpack near a basketball court while playing with friends and returns to find that the phone is missing.

3. Similar to the category of thefts of unattended property is the thefts of items from victims as they shop in local commercial establishments. In this situation, a shopper leaves her purse in a shopping cart while looking at items on a shelf; when she returns to the cart, the purse is gone. This category accounted for 14% of the larcenies from persons in 2012.

4. Yet another popular scenario is pocket-picking. While a victim is walking through a public place, a pickpocket stealthily reaches into the victim's coat, purse, or backpack and removes valuables. This scenario accounted for about 8% of the larceny from person reports in 2012. Harvard Square and Central Square reported the highest pocket-picking numbers in 2012 with eight incidents each.

## 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. A majority of these thefts are committed by people who have the right to be on the property.

Since larcenies from residences are usually committed by someone known to the victim, pattern identification and intervention by the police department is difficult. There were 225 of these larcenies reported in 2012, a 4% decrease from 2011. The drop in this crime type in 2012 can be attributed mostly to an 18% reduction in reported package thefts from the front steps or vestibules of residences across the city. In 2011, over 60% of the package thefts for the year took place in November and December, while in 2012, January saw the highest percentage of thefts for the year (likely a continuation of the trend begun in late 2011).

The most common larceny from residence scenarios are:

- Thefts committed by visitors or guests of a residence: 28%
- Thefts of mail/packages delivered by a parcel service: 26%
- Thefts committed by someone working in the residence, such as a painter, plumber, contractor, or maintenance worker: 12%
- Thefts from a yard, porch, or other area surrounding a residence: 10%
- Thefts from a common area or foyer of an apartment building: 6%
- Thefts committed by a family member, spouse, or romantic partner (i.e., "domestic thefts"): 6%
- Thefts from a storage area of an apartment building or complex: 6%
- Thefts committed while victims are in the process of moving: 5%

### Larcenies from residences by neighborhood

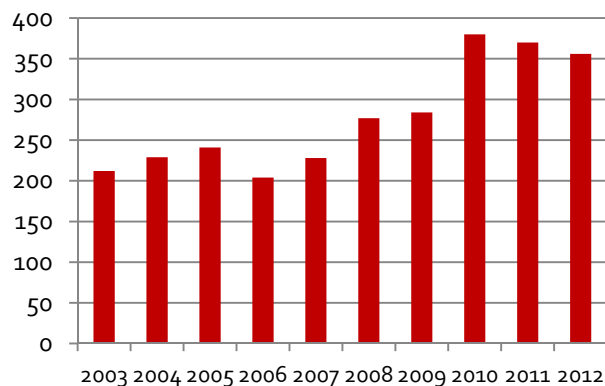
Category	2011	2012	Change
East Cambridge	25	21	-16%
MIT	2	2	0%
Inman/Harrington	15	18	+20%
Area 4	12	28	+133%
Cambridgeport	23	28	+22%
Mid-Cambridge	39	33	-15%
Riverside	18	19	+6%
Agassiz	9	8	-11%
Peabody	27	26	-4%
West Cambridge	25	17	-32%
North Cambridge	35	17	-51%
Cambridge Highlands	1	3	+200%
Strawberry Hill	3	5	+67%
<b>Total</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>-4%</b>

### Larcenies of bicycles\*

Larcenies of bicycles by neighborhood

Category	2011	2012	Change
East Cambridge	42	41	-2%
MIT	12	13	+8%
Inman/Harrington	23	18	-22%
Area 4	37	30	-19%
Cambridgeport	62	63	+2%
Mid-Cambridge	37	41	+11%
Riverside	42	38	-10%
Agassiz	9	17	+89%
Peabody	18	25	+39%
West Cambridge	48	33	-31%
North Cambridge	33	34	+3%
Cambridge Highlands	7	1	-86%
Strawberry Hill	0	2	Incalc.
<b>Total</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>-4%</b>

Larcenies of bicycles, 2003-2012



This year saw 356 incidents of stolen bicycles, a decrease of 4% from 2011 but an increase of 7% from the average. Not surprisingly, the largest numbers of bicycle thefts in 2012 occurred in the summer months of July and August (54 and 74 incidents, respectively), when bicycles typically pack the streets and sidewalks because of warmer weather. May, June, September, and October also experienced higher rates of these incidents (between 24 and 44 incidents each). The business districts with the most incidents were Central Square (64), Cambridgeport/Riverside (38), and Inman Square (38).

Locks present little difficulty to bicycle thieves, who often bring bolt cutters or pry bars with them. Approximately 55% of all reported bicycle thefts this year involved locked and unattended bicycles on a street, sidewalk, or rack. A little over 16% of thefts involved locked bicycles on private property, such as in private back yards or in apartment building hallways. Another 15% percent of the larcenies involved bicycles that were left unlocked and unprotected. Unlocked bicycles that were on private property followed, making up the remaining 13% of reported incidents. See the next page for the 2012 Larceny of Bicycle hotspot map.

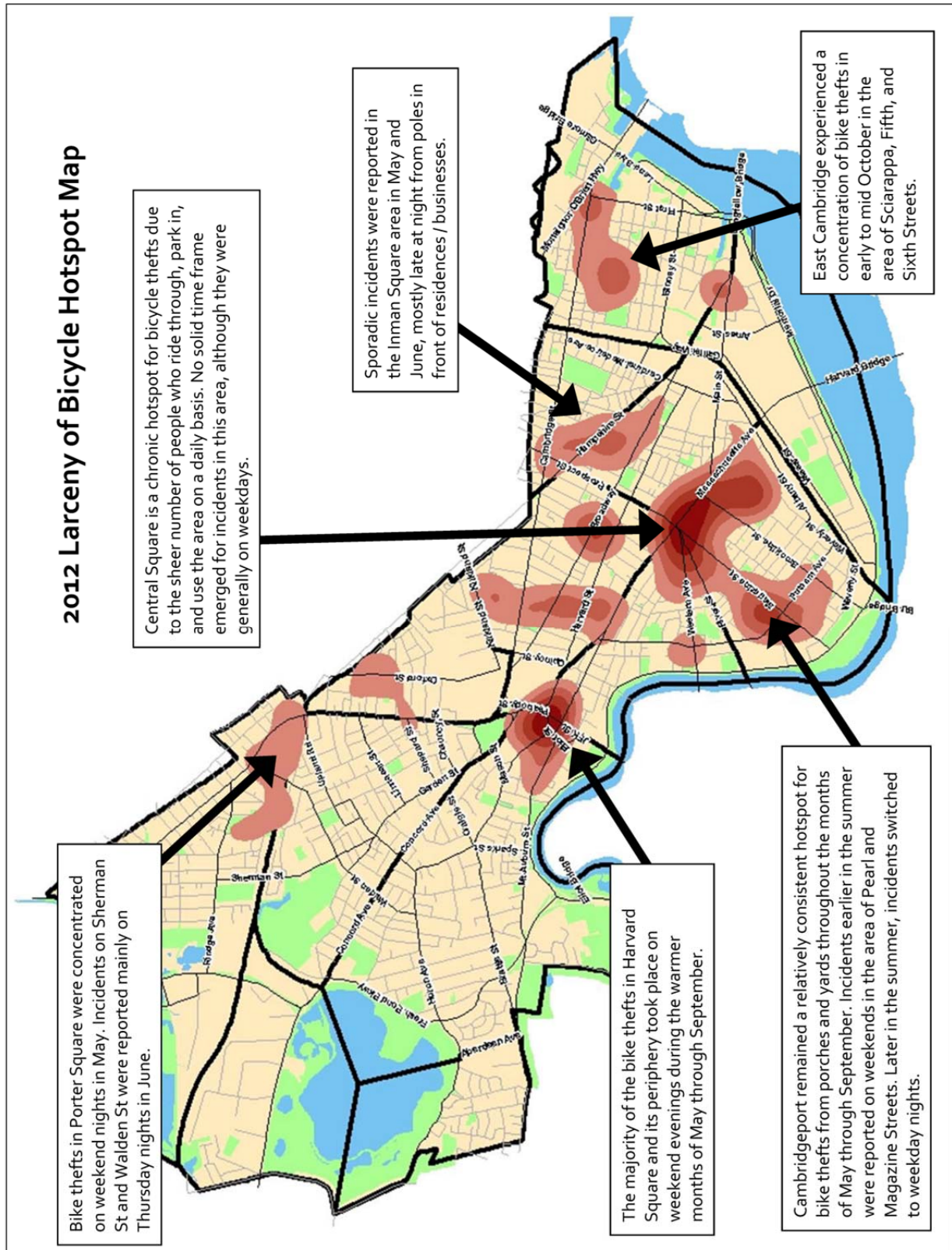
### Larcenies of services

This crime includes taxicab fare evasion, “dining and ditching,” “gassing and going,” and other failures to pay for services already rendered. There were 17 of these crimes reported in 2012. Gasoline thefts and “dining and ditching” incidents were reported most often this year (eight and seven incidents, respectively), followed by taxi fare evasion (two incidents).

### Miscellaneous larceny

This category includes all other unclassifiable larcenies. There were no patterns of any miscellaneous types of larceny in 2012. Miscellaneous larcenies increased by 29% from the average in 2012 and 8% from 2011.

\* 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

Shoplifting decreased by 2% in 2012, dropping from 352 incidents to 344. The CambridgeSide Galleria reported more than twice as many incidents as any other area in Cambridge this year; Harvard Square, Central Square, and the Alewife/West Cambridge area reported the next highest amounts. It is important to note that since shoplifting incidents are often only reported when an arrest is made, underreporting can be a serious problem. The actual shoplifting total may be six to ten times greater than the statistic given. However, more than 55% of the reported incidents in 2012 did not result in an arrest, which may indicate an increase in the tendency to report incidents regardless of whether an arrest was made or not. Some stores may also choose to trespass the shoplifter instead of pressing charges.

Shoplifting by business district

Category	2011	2012	Change
Galleria/East Cambridge	141	144	+2%
Kendall/MIT	10	2	-80%
Inman Square	10	10	0%
Central Square	47	45	-4%
Cambridgeport/Riverside	12	19	+58%
Bay Sq./Upper Broadway	0	2	Incalc.
Harvard Square	61	66	+8%
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	2	2	0%
Porter Sq./N. Cambridge	23	15	-35%
Alewife/West Cambridge	46	39	-15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>-2%</b>

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 sudden lack of money.
3. **Alcoholics, vagrants, and drug addicts**, who steal erratically and clumsily. When caught, this type of shoplifter is more likely than others to get violent (see “Shop Owner/Patron” assaults in the Assault section).
4. **Kleptomaniacs**, who steal to satisfy a psychological need.
5. **Professionals**, who steal expensive items and resell them to fences or “flea markets.”

Top towns of residence for arrested shoplifters

Category	2012
Boston	82
Cambridge	26
Medford	6
Belmont	5
Somerville	4
Malden	3
Quincy	3



# Auto Theft

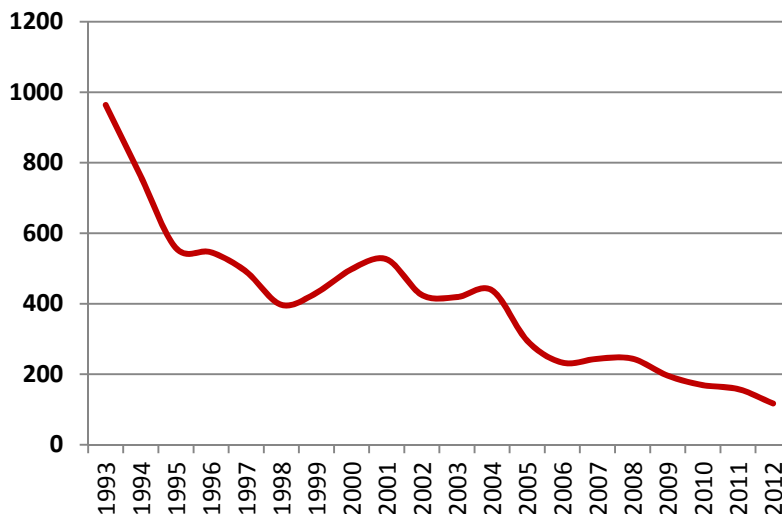
## Definition

*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. The definition excludes the taking of a vehicle for temporary use by individuals with lawful access (e.g., a son taking his mother's car for the night).*

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	192
2011	158
2012	117
Change from 2011	-26%
Change from Average	-39%

## 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 yearly in the 1990's and today's figures represent one of the most dramatic reported decreases in a single crime type. In 2012, Cambridge reported a 50-year low in auto thefts. This decline can be attributed to the virtual elimination of "chop shops" and interstate auto theft rings, crackdowns on insurance fraud, advances in automobile security, and new technology that enables patrol officers to quickly check a vehicle's registry listing and determine if it is stolen.

As mentioned, Cambridge reported a 50-year low in auto thefts in 2012 with only 117 incidents, a significant 26% decrease compared to 2011 and down 37% compared to the average. Mid-Cambridge reported the largest number of auto thefts in 2012, yet that number was still under 20 thefts, which has never been the case for the top ranking neighborhood before. The neighborhoods with the next highest totals were Area 4 and Peabody, both with 17 incidents. The Cambridgeport neighborhood, which for the previous three years reported

## Auto thefts by neighborhood

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2011	2012	Change from Avg.	% of Total (2012)
East Cambridge	19	22	12	-37%	10%
MIT	3	2	2	-33%	2%
Inman/Harrington	16	15	8	-50%	7%
Area 4	20	14	17	-15%	15%
Cambridgeport	28	29	14	-50%	12%
Mid-Cambridge	22	22	18	-18%	15%
Riverside	12	11	12	0%	10%
Agassiz	7	5	0	-100%	0%
Peabody	15	9	17	+13%	15%
West Cambridge	20	13	3	-85%	3%
North Cambridge	18	12	13	-28%	11%
Cambridge Highlands	3	2	0	-100%	0%
Strawberry Hill	4	2	1	-75%	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>-37%</b>	

the largest number of thefts, saw a 52% decrease with only 14 thefts reported in 2012. The neighborhood that experienced the largest increase over 2011 was Peabody, where auto thefts rose by eight incidents, or 13% from the average. West Cambridge and Cambridgeport experienced the largest

decreases in auto thefts this year, showing a 85% drop and a 50% drop, respectively. Cambridge experienced 32 to 34 reports of auto theft incidents in each of the first three quarter of 2012. Auto thefts dropped down to 19 reports in the fourth quarter.

### Makes and models

Hondas continue to be by far the most commonly stolen automobiles in 2012, constituting 27% of all reports, or 32 incidents. Toyotas came in second with 12 incidents and Yamaha came in third with 8 incidents. This information, while typically consistent with historical and national trends, changed drastically this year when Yamahas appears on the list. Hondas, however, are typically the most commonly stolen vehicles nationwide and continued to be. As is clear in the table below, the top five vehicle model types stolen in Cambridge varied from the national and statewide, with motorcycles and scooters added to the mix.

**Top 5 stolen makes and models in 2012**

Makes		Models	
Honda	32	Honda Civic*+	14
Toyota	12	Honda Ruckus	5
Yamaha	8	Toyota Camry*+	4
Dodge	5	Dodge Caravan*	4
Chevrolet	5	Honda CBR	4

\*Also in the national top 10 (for 2011)

+Also in the Massachusetts top 10 (for 2011)

(2012 national/MA top 10 data not yet available)

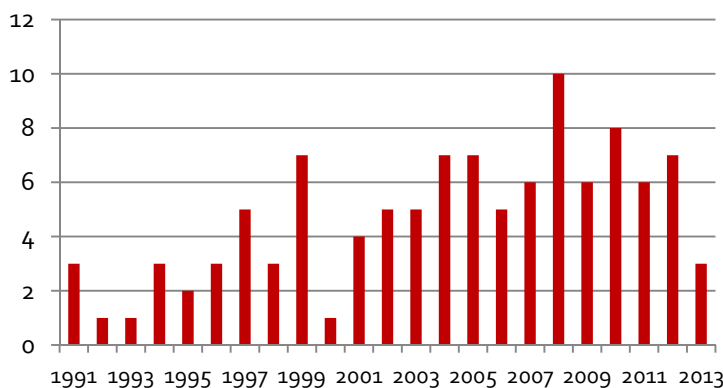
By far the most targeted model this year was the Honda Civic. Toyota Camry and Dodge Caravan were also in the top five most stolen models this year. These particular models are stolen more than any other due to several factors. These cars are some of the most commonly owned models in the nation, making them more widely available. Statistical probability alone would place them near the top of the theft list. 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 someone to spot and are more likely to be equipped with expensive alarm systems.

Surprisingly, two different types of motorcycles made the top model list for Cambridge in 2012: the Honda Ruckus and the Honda CBR. This is very unusual, yet motorcycle and scooter thefts accounted for 34% of all auto thefts in Cambridge this year. An arrest of two teens from Boston took place in March for a scooter theft in Cambridgeport. In April, there was a report of two males checking out a Vespa scooter on Thorndike St. The suspects had a U-Haul truck nearby and it was believed they were trying to steal the scooter. They were interrupted before a theft could take place. Over a five-day span in June, there were four scooters/motorcycles stolen throughout Cambridge. In fact, in June, Cambridge, Boston, and Somerville all reported five or more thefts of such vehicles, a trend that continued over the summer months.

It was believed that scooters and motorcycles were being stolen for parts as they are easier to disguise than motor vehicles and often scooters do not have license plates. A few arrests were made, but the thefts continued regionally.

The table below shows the incidence of auto theft by model year (five vehicles did not report the model year and four models were from prior to 1990 and did not fit on the graph; therefore, these nine are not included below). Analysis of the age of stolen vehicles shows that the highest demand is for cars less than

**Auto thefts in 2012 by model year**





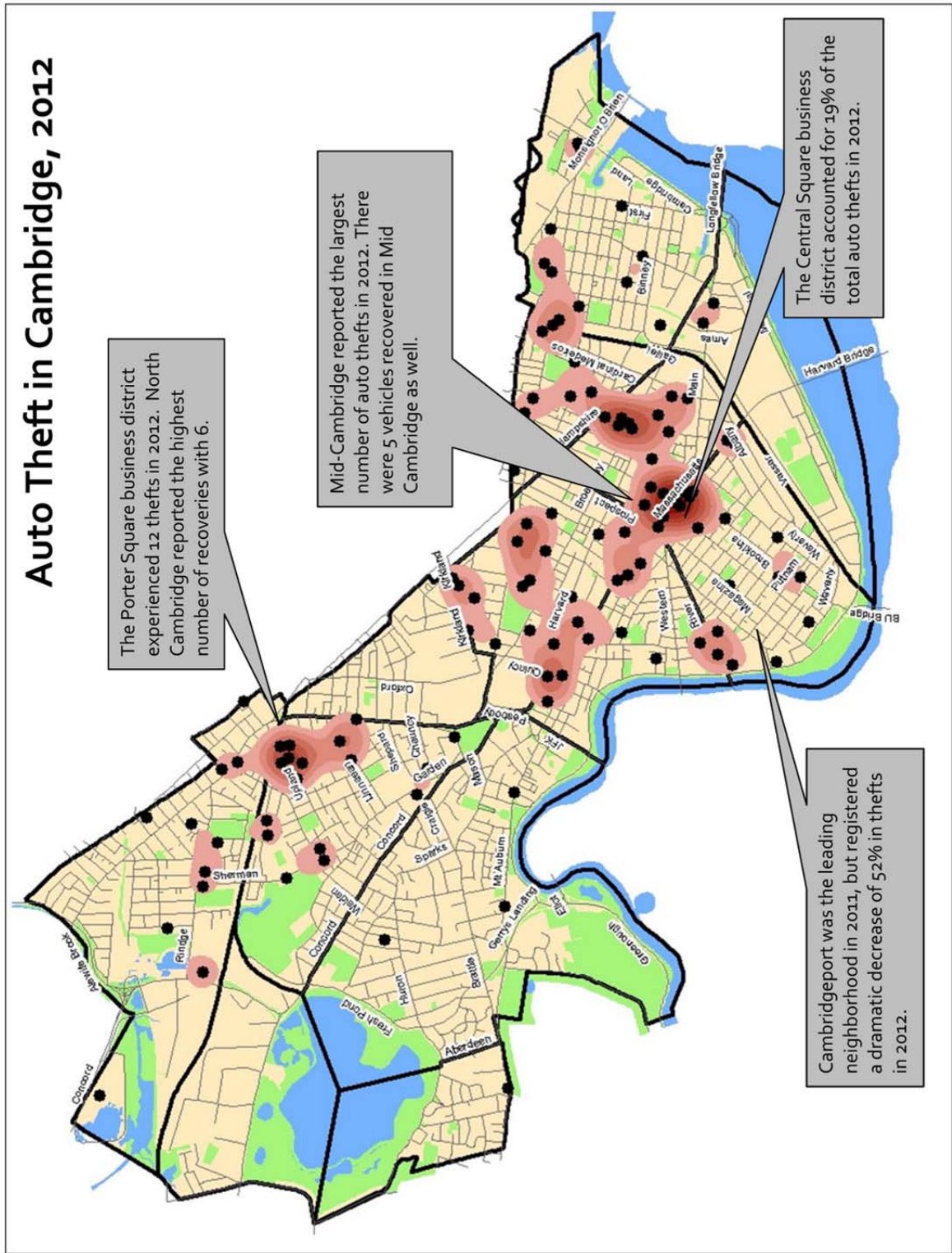
10 years old. Thieves looking for transportation steal cars 5-10 years old because they are inconspicuous. Thieves looking to make a profit target these years because parts for these cars are in higher demand. Normally the other high cluster of cars stolen are those that are only a few years old. This represents “joyriders,” looking for newer models to increase their sense of status, and thieves intending to sell the entire car for profit.

### Auto theft recoveries

Approximately 55% of the cars reported stolen in 2012 have been recovered to date. The majority of the recovered cars were located throughout Cambridge and Boston. When damage was reported on recovered vehicles, it was most commonly ignition damage (12 vehicles), followed by body damage (11 vehicles). Radios were missing from one vehicle; other damage was reported for three and miscellaneous parts were missing from four. Only one car was found completely stripped. Note that additional information regarding parts stolen from vehicles where the vehicles themselves were not stolen can be found in the “Larceny section” of this report.

Auto thefts by recovery location

<b>Boston</b>	<b>18</b>
Boston (general)	12
Dorchester	2
Jamaica Plain	1
East Boston	1
Mattapan	1
Roxbury	1
<b>Cambridge</b>	<b>30</b>
North Cambridge	6
Mid-Cambridge	5
East Cambridge	4
Cambridgeport	4
Agassiz	2
Area 4	2
Riverside	2
Cambridge Highlands	1
Inman/Harrington	1
MIT Area	1
Peabody	1
Unknown	1
<b>Other Cities</b>	<b>16</b>
Somerville	6
Medford	3
Braintree	2
Lowell	1
Lynnfield	1
Revere	1
Taunton	1
Unknown	1





### Section III

# Part II Crimes

Drug Offenses

Sex Crimes

Vandalism

Fraud

Other Part II Crimes



# Drug Offenses

## Definition

*Drug offenses include all incidents in which the police made an arrest, complaint, or warrant 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. As such, statistics are highly influenced by police activity and do not necessarily reflect changes in actual drug activity. The totals here represent the number of incidents involving drugs and are not weighted by the quantity of drugs, number of types of drugs seized, or number of arrests in each incident.*

## Statistics

Five-Year Average	88
2011	78
2012	113
Change from 2011	+45%
Change from Average	+28%

The Cambridge Police Department's Special Investigations Unit (SIU) is a specialized group of officers who deal with vice activity throughout the city on a daily basis. Targeting drug activity remains the top goal of the unit. Through strategic planning methods, the members of this unit attempt to alleviate the burdens bestowed upon society by the culture of drug use and sales. By aggressively pursuing low-level street dealers, the SIU, along with patrol officers, are able to climb the drug network and annually arrest top drug suppliers across Cambridge.

Below is a geographic breakdown of drug incidents across the 13 neighborhoods in Cambridge. Area 4 and Cambridgeport, which include parts of Central Square, have accounted for the most drug activity in the city over the past three years. In 2012, the Cambridge Police SIU launched a special investigation titled "Operation Booting Heroin," which focused on drug dealing in the Central Square area. A lot of undercover work was involved, leading to 17 arrests by April. This focus continued throughout the year and these efforts by the SIU accounted for a large portion of the increase in drug incidents.

In total, 133 drug incidents were reported in 2012 and 158 arrests were made in 103 of these incidents

### Drug Tip Hotline

The Special Investigations Unit employs an anonymous 24 hour Drug Tip Hotline to gain intelligence information from the community. The Unit can be reached by calling **617-349-3359**. Generally, you will be greeted by a taped message instructing you to leave very detailed information. **You do not have to provide any personal information and all information is held in confidence.**

Also, you may send crime tips to the Cambridge Police Department's Anonymous Crime Tip E-Mail address by accessing [www.CambridgePolice.org](http://www.CambridgePolice.org) and clicking on **Anonymous Crime Tip E-Mail**.

Or you can send an anonymous text message to **TIP411 (847411)**. Begin your text with Tip650 and then type your message.

### Drug incidents by neighborhood

Neighborhood	5-Yr. Avg.	2011	2012	% of Total (2012)
East Cambridge	10	13	14	6%
MIT	2	1	1	0%
Inman/Harrington	10	6	13	5%
Area 4	19	12	23	9%
Cambridgeport	23	22	18	7%
Mid-Cambridge	14	16	17	7%
Riverside	7	4	15	6%
Agassiz	1	0	0	0%
Peabody	3	4	12	5%
West Cambridge	6	8	11	4%
North Cambridge	8	9	4	2%
Cambridge Highlands	0	0	2	1%
Strawberry Hill	1	1	3	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>117</b>	

## Drug offense scenarios

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

1. The Cambridge Police Department Special Investigation Unit initiates an investigation or conducts surveillance resulting in an arrest. Many of these investigations are due to information supplied by confidential sources: 56 cases in 2012
2. A police officer on patrol observes suspicious street activity and upon further investigation discovers narcotics: 43 cases
3. A Cambridge school official or court officer observes drug use: 0 cases
4. During a routine motor vehicle stop, a police officer observes narcotics inside the vehicle: 22 cases
5. A citizen witnesses a person or persons using drugs and notifies the police: 2 cases
6. During an arrest for another crime, the arresting officer or booking officer finds narcotics on the arrested person: 10 cases
7. Pharmacists discover patrons attempting to fill fake prescriptions: 0 cases

### Massachusetts drug classifications

Drug types are classified under 5 different substance categories in Massachusetts: Class A, B, C, D, and E:

**A** Class A Substances include Heroin and other opiates such as Morphine; some designer drugs such as GHB; and Ketamine (Special K).

**B** Class B Substances include Cocaine; prescription opiates such as Oxycotin/Oxycodone; LSD; Ecstasy (XTC); Amphetamine (speed); and Methamphetamine (meth).

**C** Class C Substances include prescription tranquilizers, mescaline, psilocybin/mushrooms, peyote, and some medium doses of prescription narcotics.

**D** Class D Substances include Marijuana (pot), choryl hydrate, and some lesser doses of prescription drugs.

**E** Class E Substance charges are typically for lighter doses of prescription narcotics.

### Drug related activities for which persons are arrested

Category	2012
Possession	59
Possession with intent to distribute*	55
Drug sale (observed)	16
Trafficking**	3

\*Carrying a significant amount of drugs not for personal use

\*\*Selling, possessing, or transporting of copious amounts of drugs

### Types of drugs found on arrested persons

Category	2012
Heroin	41
Marijuana	34
Prescription drugs	32
Cocaine or crack cocaine	23
Hallucinogens	3

### Summary of overdose incidents

Officers responded to several calls for drug-induced overdoses in 2012. While these types of incidents are generally medical in nature, police often respond to assist Fire and EMS agencies.

In 2012, every neighborhood reported a least one overdose, however, the majority of the overdoses known to the Cambridge Police were reported in Cambridgeport, West Cambridge, and East Cambridge. These three neighborhoods accounted for half of the city's reported Overdoses. Utilizing witness statements as well as evidence at the scene, such as used needles and medication bottles, officers were able to determine that either prescription medications or heroin were used in almost all of the overdose incidents in 2012. Those incidents involving prescription medications were often intentionally administered overdoses. Most of the medications were anti-depressants or pain medications.



# 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	92
2011	87
2012	90
Change from 2011	+3%
Change from Average	-2%

## 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 2012, the victim knew the offender in slightly less than half of the incidents. The second quarter (April, May, & June) saw the most incidents with 16. Of the 14 arrests that occurred in 2012, ten were of strangers, and four were known to the victims.

There was one pattern of indecent assaults in Cambridge in 2012. In early January, a Cambridge juvenile was arrested in connection with four indecent assaults that took place over two evenings in Inman/Harrington and Mid-Cambridge.

### Sex offenses by type

Category	5-Yr. Avg.	2011	2012	Change from Avg.
Indecent assault	34	35	41	+21%
Indecent exposure	30	31	26	-13%
Annoying & accosting	13	9	12	-8%
Obscene phone calls	8	9	6	-25%
Peeping & spying	5	3	3	-40%
Prostitution & solicitation	2	0	2	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>-2%</b>

## Indecent exposure

Indecent exposure is the offensive, often suggestive display of one's body (usually the genitals) in public. The main offenders are typically vagrants or inebriated individuals. Twelve (46%) of the twenty-six indecent exposure incidents in 2012 involved suspects masturbating or engaging in sexual acts in public. Six incidents (23%) involved individuals seen urinating in public. There were also seven flashing incidents. Arrests were made in 17 (65%) of the 26 incidents.

## Annoying & accosting

Annoying and accosting a member of the opposite sex 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, or otherwise harassing a woman. It happens most often on the street and in the workplace. Eleven of the twelve incidents in 2012 were perpetrated by strangers, and they were reported throughout the year (no temporal hotspots).

## Obscene telephone calls

Obscene telephone calls are unwanted phone calls 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. In four of the six incidents during 2012, the caller was unknown to the victim.

## Peeping and spying

Peeping and spying occurs most often when offenders peer through windows of houses or apartments, generally at night. There were three incidents of this nature reported in Cambridge in 2012. Another

typical peeping scenario in Cambridge involves the videotaping of unsuspecting victims during situations in which privacy is expected. This type of incident did not occur in 2012, but normally would take place in a dressing room at the CambridgeSide Galleria.

### 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. The last undercover sting set up to combat this problem was in November 2009 after complaints of prostitution resurfaced, particularly in and around Cambridge hotels. The undercover sting resulted in seven arrests for prostitution-related charges. Of the two prostitution incidents in 2012, one involved SIU undercover work and the second involved an victim alerting Cambridge Police that a suspect had propositioned her in Central Square.

# 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	565
2011	542
2012	507
Change from 2011	-6%
Change from Average	-10%

There were 507 incidents of malicious destruction, or “vandalism,” reported in 2012. Malicious Destruction in Cambridge dropped by approximately 6% from 2011 to 2012. The Area 4 neighborhood saw the biggest increase with a 31% jump in vandalism reports, followed by Inman/Harrington, which rose by 26%. The neighborhoods with the most noticeable decreases in 2012 were the Highlands, which saw the largest percentage drop (down 57%), and West Cambridge and Cambridgeport, which each saw the largest numerical drop (down 28 incidents each).

### Vandalism by neighborhood

Neighborhood	2011	2012	% of Total (2012)
East Cambridge	45	45	-2%
MIT	14	8	-43%
Inman/Harrington	47	59	+26%
Area 4	58	76	+31%
Cambridgeport	89	61	-31%
Mid-Cambridge	42	37	-12%
Riverside	52	51	-2%
Agassiz	14	12	-14%
Peabody	27	27	0%
West Cambridge	77	49	-36%
North Cambridge	51	61	+20%
Cambridge Highlands	14	6	-57%
Strawberry Hill	13	15	+15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>-6%</b>

### Vandalism by category

Category	2011	2012	% of Total (2012)
Dents/damage to car	108	105	-3%
Car window smashed	83	74	-11%
Scratches, “pinstripes”	33	40	+21%
Tires slashed or punctured	76	38	-50%
Attempted theft	10	7	-30%
<b>Total damage to autos</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>-15%</b>
Misc. damage to residences	25	37	+48%
Residence window smashed	26	26	0%
<b>Total damage to residences</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>+24%</b>
Business window smashed	50	46	-8%
Misc. damage to businesses	39	38	-3%
<b>Total damage to businesses</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>-6%</b>
Graffiti	80	89	+11%
Miscellaneous damage	12	7	-42%
<b>Total</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>-6%</b>

# 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	417
2011	416
2012	413
Change from 2011	-1%
Change from Average	-1%

Across the nation, police departments are seeing fraud become an increasingly popular crime. In 2012, this crime type fell about 1% in Cambridge.

## Counterfeiting

In 2012, there were eight incidents of counterfeiting. Almost all of these incidents involved counterfeit bills. In Cambridge, these incidents tend to occur most often at the Galleria Mall and at grocery stores, convenient stores, and gas stations.

## Application

There were no application forgery incidents in 2012.

## Bad Check

This is defined as the writing of checks on insufficient funds or closed accounts. The Cambridge Police took 17 reports in 2012.

## ATM/Credit Card Fraud

The most common fraud reported in Cambridge involves the use of credit and ATM cards. There were 148 reports of ATM/credit card fraud in 2012. Major commercial areas such as Harvard/Central Squares and the Galleria Mall are hotspots for this activity. 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 or stolen.

## 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. There were 45 forged checks reported in 2012.

## Identity Theft

### Fraud by type

Category	2011	2012	Change
Counterfeiting	21	8	-62%
Forgery/Uttering	320	314	-2%
Credit/ATM cards	142	148	+4%
Identity theft	114	100	-12%
Forged check	41	45	10%
Bad check	14	17	+21%
Prescription	2	3	+50%
Other/miscellaneous	6	1	-83%
Application	1	0	-100%
Con Games	63	79	+25%
Miscellaneous	14	33	+136%
Internet-related	39	31	-21%
Big carrot	1	6	+500%
Housework/utilities	2	4	+100%
Cash shuffle	2	4	+100%
Charity	4	1	-75%
Psychic swindle	1	0	-100%
Pigeon drop	0	0	0%
Embezzlement	12	12	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>-1%</b>

This scenario is when an unknown or known person opens accounts in the victim's name with their social security number. This can include utilities, credit cards or even filing tax returns. In this electronic age, this sort of forgery is normally high. However, Cambridge saw a decline in this type of crime in 2012 by about 12%.

### **Embezzlement**

This occurs when employees take advantage of their position for financial gain, diverting company funds to their own account. There were 12 reports of embezzlement in 2012. Historically, retail stores in Harvard Square and the Galleria are most affected by this crime. Often, incidents of this type involve employees stealing several thousand dollars from the companies for which they work. This crime showed no change from 2011 staying at 12 reports of embezzlement in 2012.

### **"Con" Games**

There were 79 swindles, con games, or flimflams in 2012. Many of these incidents involved a suspect using a scam in order to swindle money out of unsuspecting victims. Internet-related incidents continue to account for a high number of con games.

# 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	1171
2011	1184
2012	962
Change from 2011	-19%
Change from Average	-18%

## Disorderly conduct

Police make an arrest for this crime when a person disrupts the peace enough to pose a danger. Examples include bar disputes, public shouting of profanity, homeless altercations, and threats. Arrests were made in 26 of the 30 disorderly conduct incidents in 2012. Twelve (40%) of these arrests took place in Central Square and five (17%) occurred in Harvard Square, due to the large vagrant population and prevalence of bars and restaurants in both Squares.

## Drinking in public

This crime type increased by 71% in 2012. All but two of the incidents yielded arrests. This is a result of increased enforcement in the Central and Harvard Square areas, which stemmed from complaints from business owners and patrons. The large majority of these incidents involved homeless individuals in these two squares.

## Extortion/blackmail

This is a rare crime, involving an offender taking money from a victim by threatening him or her with a nonviolent act. There were only four incidents of this nature reported in 2012.

Category	2011	2012	Change
Hit & run accidents	659	512	-22%
Threats	231	200	-13%
Traffic arrests	78	64	-18%
Trespassing	36	49	+36%
OUI	60	40	-33%
Disorderly conduct	54	30	-44%
Drinking in public	17	29	+71%
Weapons violations	34	21	-38%
Liquor violations	7	8	+14%
Kidnapping	7	5	-29%
Extortion/blackmail	1	4	+300%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1184</b>	<b>962</b>	<b>-19%</b>

## Hit and run accidents

The majority of the hit and run incidents this year (approximately 71%) involved parked cars. Alewife/West Cambridge, Central Square, and Porter Square reported the highest numbers (each reporting more than 70 incidents in 2012).

## Kidnapping

There were five reports of kidnapping in 2012. One of the five incidents involved parental custody issues and three incidents involved males holding significant others against their will. Only one incident involved an attempted stranger abduction.

## Liquor violations

Liquor violations generally involve minors drinking, though it can also include the sale of liquor to a minor, or the unlicensed sale of liquor. Only one of the eight incidents in 2012 yielded an arrest; this arrest involved a minor who was caught drinking.

### Operating under the influence (OUI)

In 2012, all 40 OUIs resulted in arrests. More than half of the activity occurred between midnight and 3:00 a.m., typically around the time that bars close (approximately 2:00 a.m.). Central Square had the highest concentration of OUIs (33%).

### Threats

Threats often arise in domestic disputes, arguments between acquaintances and co-workers, and school fights. There were 200 reports of threats in 2012. The vast majority of the specifically classified incidents were related to domestic issues.

### Traffic arrests

Most traffic offenses are minor in nature and result in a warning or citation. Other crimes, like driving to endanger, driving with a suspended or revoked license, or attaching false license plates, may result in an arrest. These arrests decreased significantly after 2003 because the courts requested that summonses be issued for license suspension/revocation offenses, as opposed to arrests being made. There were 64 traffic arrests in 2012.

### Trespassing

Arrests for trespassing occur only after an individual has been warned not to return to a given location. Central Square, Harvard Square, Inman Square, and the Galleria Mall are locations where this activity is particularly monitored. Arrests were made in 35 of the 49 incidents of trespassing in 2012.

### Weapons violations

Weapons violations include the illegal possession of a firearm or other weapon, as well as reports of gunshots where evidence was found. In 2012, there were 21 weapon/gun violations resulting in 4 arrests.





## Section IV

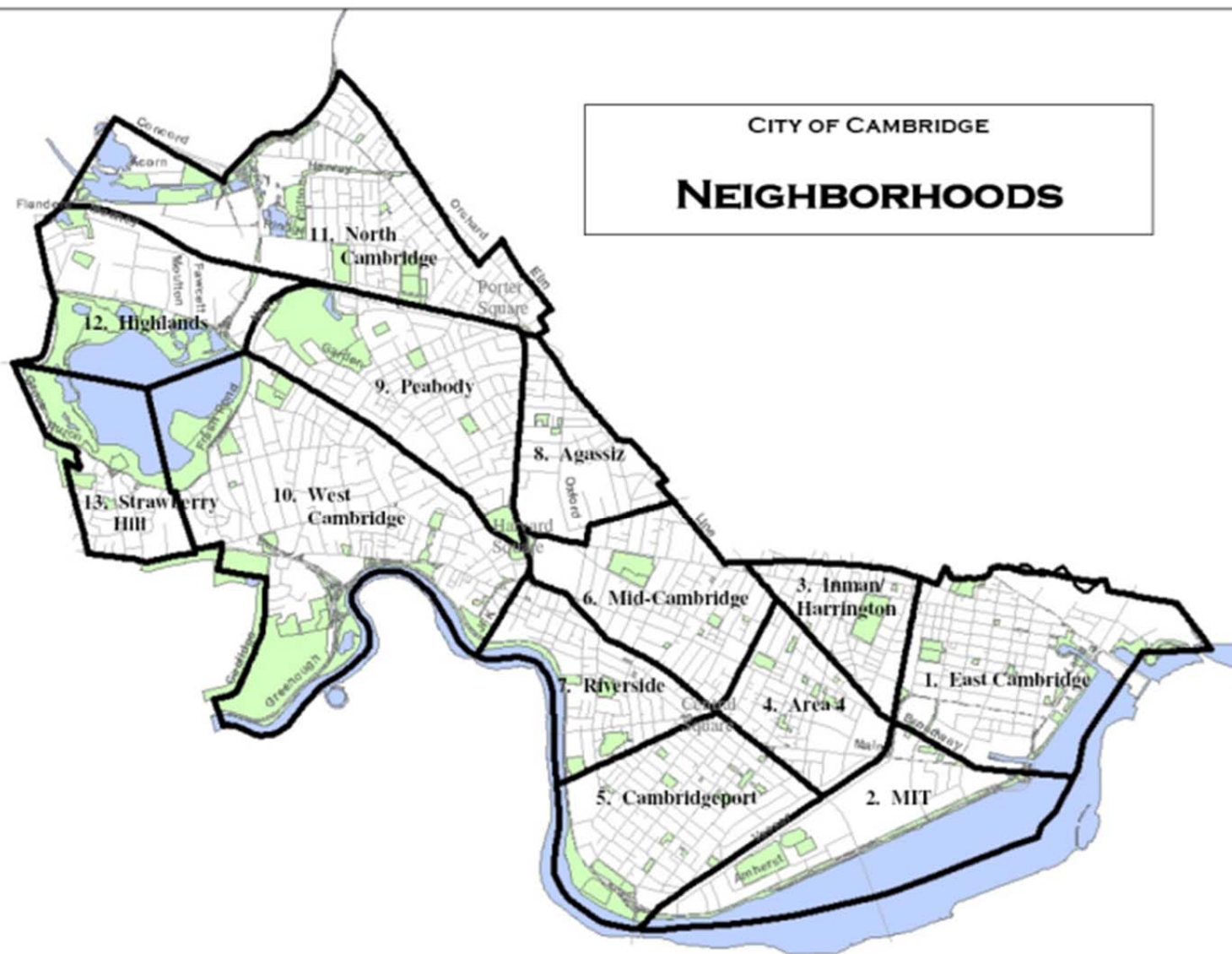
# Neighborhood Profiles

East Cambridge  
M.I.T./Kendall  
Inman/Harrington  
Area 4  
Cambridgeport  
Mid-Cambridge  
Riverside  
Agassiz  
Peabody  
West Cambridge  
North Cambridge  
Cambridge Highlands  
Strawberry Hill



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

## NEIGHBORHOODS

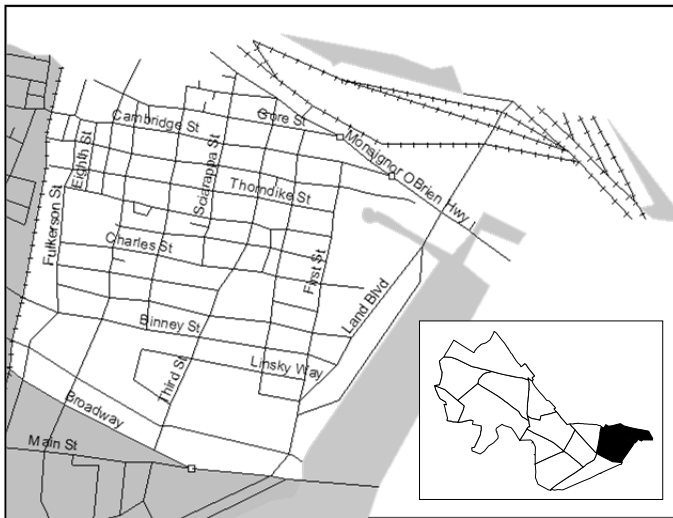


## Neighborhood breakdown of index crimes in 2012

Crime	East Camb	MIT	Inman/Harr.	Area 4	Camb Port	Mid-Camb	River-side	Agassiz	Pea-body	W. N. Camb Camb	Camb H'lands	Strw. Hill	Total	
Aggravated Assault	28	3	26	32	47	30	25	1	11	20	30	4	5	262
Auto Theft	12	2	8	17	14	18	12	0	17	3	13	0	1	117
Commercial Break	16	1	3	5	6	12	10	4	7	7	5	2	1	79
Commercial Robbery	2	0	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	4	3	0	0	16
Drugs	14	1	13	23	18	17	15	0	12	11	4	2	3	133
Flim Flam	17	1	3	4	10	3	10	1	7	12	7	2	2	79
Forgery	36	3	20	27	36	36	40	12	31	34	25	7	7	314
Homicide	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Housebreak	35	0	35	40	62	59	32	14	46	62	27	1	7	420
Indecent Assault	5	1	3	5	6	4	5	1	2	5	2	0	2	41
Indecent Exposure	5	0	1	1	8	3	3	0	0	2	1	2	0	26
Larceny from Building	60	13	11	35	33	42	58	13	9	55	30	10	3	372
Larceny from MV	51	12	30	56	86	78	63	30	74	114	79	10	3	686
Larceny from Person	37	10	7	40	52	20	82	4	6	80	17	13	0	368
Larceny from Residence	21	2	18	28	28	33	19	8	26	17	17	3	5	225
Larceny of Bicycle	41	13	18	30	63	41	38	17	25	33	34	1	2	356
Mal. Dest. Property	45	8	59	76	61	37	51	12	27	49	61	6	15	507
Shoplifting	144	1	7	14	48	6	14	2	0	54	15	29	10	344
Simple Assault	52	5	32	55	77	41	49	3	18	38	46	7	9	432
Street Robbery	10	1	9	24	14	11	10	0	10	13	9	1	0	112

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 2010 Census data. The estimated median incomes are from the 2006-2010 American Community Survey data set, as analyzed by the Cambridge Community Development Department.

# Neighborhood 1: East Cambridge



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

**Population as of 2010:**

9,234 residents

5,050 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$63,915

Neighborhood 1 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, 2008-2012

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Housebreaks	28	40	23	43	35
Street Robbery	19	14	13	18	10
Auto Theft	15	20	15	22	12
Larceny from MVs	140	86	58	93	51
Malicious Destruction	90	67	58	76	45
Drug Incidents	14	7	3	13	14

East Cambridge saw a little bit of everything in 2012, from housebreaks to larcenies to robberies. In mid-January, a series of housebreaks emerged in the 300-500 blocks of Cambridge St; incidents were scattered in nature and subsided in early February. In early March, a series of weekend larcenies from motor vehicles emerged between First and Third Streets, with seven incidents reported throughout the month. No arrests were made and incidents dropped off by April. In mid-June, a brief pattern of late night and early morning street robberies involving a group of juvenile suspects surfaced in the area. A total of four incidents were reported in East Cambridge, Inman/Harrington, Area 4, and across the border in Somerville before two of the juveniles were arrested in late June, effectively ending the pattern. In late July, a cluster of midday, weekday housebreaks was detected in the Gore St Park area of East Cambridge. The breaks involved unlocked side windows and targeted jewelry. No arrests were made but incidents cooled off in August. In early to mid-October, East Cambridge experienced a concentration of bicycle thefts in the area of Sciarappa St, Fifth St, and Sixth St. Last but not least, an armed and masked male robbed Ciampa Pharmacy on Cambridge St in November, which was the second of two armed pharmacy robberies committed by the same suspect in 2012 (the first took place in April at the Inman Square Pharmacy).

### Annual Average for East Cambridge Target Crimes

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2012
Housebreaks	38	36	37	39
Street Robbery	10	19	16	14
Auto Theft	156	86	34	17
Larceny from MVs	121	106	101	72
Malicious Destruction	118	110	93	61

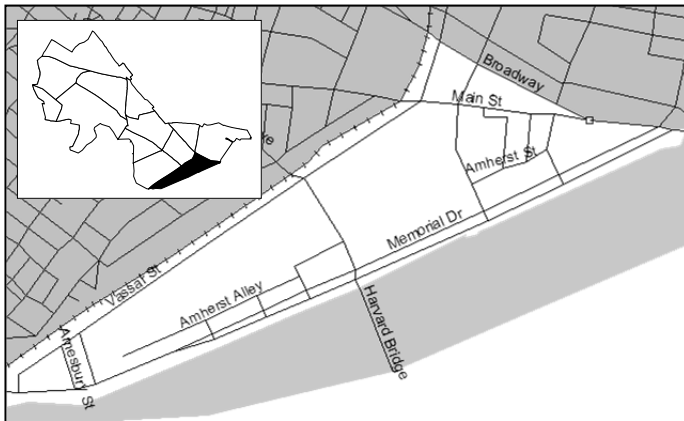


### Neighborhood profile and historical synopsis

With the booming CambridgeSide Galleria and the fringe of Cambridge Center as its most prominent features, East Cambridge may be the most heavily trafficked commercial region in the city. It has an average residential population. Other features of the neighborhood include the Lechmere MBTA station, the Kennedy-Longfellow Elementary School, the Cambridge Jail, and the Cambridge Police Department.

- **Street robberies** increased to 25 incidents with the opening of the CambridgeSide Galleria in 1991, but they dropped in 1997 and have remained at or below 20 incidents ever since. Many of these are pack or bullyboy robberies committed by and against juveniles. Other robbery patterns—predatory in nature—sometimes appear on Cambridge Street near the train tracks.
- The motor vehicle-related crimes of **auto theft, larceny from motor vehicles, and malicious destruction of property** have, in the past, occurred at the highest rates here of anywhere in Cambridge due to the level of commercial parking around the CambridgeSide Galleria, along Cambridge Street, and in the vicinity of Cambridge Center. After ranking first or second for all three of these vehicle-related crime types in 2011, all three dropped considerably in the rankings in 2012.
- **Assaults, threats**, and related crimes between plaintiffs, victims, complainants, and defendants used to occur in the area of the Middlesex County Courthouse. In 2008, divisions of the court began to relocate to other jurisdictions to allow for renovations at the Cambridge Courthouse, leading to a drop in some of these crime types.

# Neighborhood 2: M.I.T. Area



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

**Population as of 2010:**

5,057 residents  
322 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$56,713

Neighborhood #2 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.

COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2008-2012					
CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Housebreaks	0	0	0	0	0
Street Robbery	4	3	2	2	1
Auto Theft	5	3	1	2	2
Larceny from MVs	33	36	11	11	12
Malicious Destruction	5	6	5	12	8
Drug Incidents	1	3	2	1	1

The majority of the crime in the MIT area is reported to the MIT police, contributing to the low numbers tallied by the Cambridge Police Department. These low numbers make it difficult to pinpoint information significant to pattern identification. With that being said, the MIT area was not involved in any notable Cambridge patterns in 2012.

Annual Average for M.I.T. Area Target Crimes				
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2012
Housebreaks	19	4	1	0
Street Robbery	11	5	3	2
Auto Theft	102	55	8	2
Larceny from MVs	56	49	24	12
Malicious Destruction	47	28	8	10

## Neighborhood profile and historical synopsis

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology is the dominant venue in the MIT neighborhood given that MIT property envelops most of the area. Its large student population—a large proportion of which is foreign—is alluring to local criminals, who often consider students to be unsuspecting prey.

*The Massachusetts Institute of Technology has its own police force, which reports its own crime statistics to the Uniform Crime Reporting system. Statistics contained in this profile—and in the rest of the report—do not include crimes on M.I.T. property except for arrests and incidents in which Cambridge Police officers participated.*

## Neighborhood 2: M.I.T. Area

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- The large number of automobiles parked each day on Vassar Street, Ames Street, Amherst Street, and at the Hyatt Regency Hotel have traditionally accounted for high numbers of **auto thefts and larcenies from motor vehicles** (LMVs). In 2012, however, the M.I.T. neighborhood had the fourth lowest numbers of the city for auto theft and third lowest for LMVs.
- **Street robbery** patterns have sometimes emerged at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Vassar Street, and outside the Bank of America ATM on Main Street. These are often predatory, targeting college students that are walking in the areas late at night. Over the course of 20 years, however, M.I.T. has maintained a street robbery level well below most other neighborhoods.
- Bicycles parked at racks on sidewalks all around M.I.T. have been targeted by thieves in large numbers. M.I.T. and Cambridge Police make several arrests per year for **larcenies of bicycles**.

# Neighborhood 3: Inman/Harrington



**Boundaries:** Bounded by the B&A Railroad, Hampshire Street, and the Somerville line.

**Population as of 2010:**

6,516 residents

2,882 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$48,470

Neighborhood #3 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, 2008-2012

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Housebreaks	55	27	41	29	35
Street Robbery	10	8	8	14	9
Auto Theft	25	13	16	15	8
Larceny from MVs	35	19	42	47	30
Malicious Destruction	60	86	56	46	59
Drug Incidents	12	10	11	6	13

A few notable patterns emerged in the Inman/Harrington neighborhood in 2012. In early January, a juvenile male was arrested in connection with a series of indecent assaults on females walking in Inman and Mid-Cambridge over two separate evenings. During the first five weeks of the year, a pattern of late week, late afternoon housebreaks targeting apartments with multiple roommates emerged in the Inman and Area 4 neighborhoods. These breaks were seen in waves throughout the first nine months of the year before subsiding in August. A career criminal was linked to this series via DNA in October. In mid-February, an unknown suspect slashed the tires of six vehicles parked in the area of Webster Ave. In May and June, sporadic thefts of bicycles were reported in the Inman Square area, most occurring late at night from poles in front of businesses and residences. In early June, the only homicide of the year took place on Willow St in Inman/Harrington (see the Murder section of this Annual Report for more information). In mid-June, a series of late night/early morning street robberies involving a group of youths emerged in lower Cambridge and Somerville. Four related robberies were reported in Inman/Harrington, East Cambridge, Area 4, and across the border in Somerville before the arrests of two juveniles in late June brought the brief pattern to a close.

### Annual Average for Inman/Harrington Target Crimes

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2012
Housebreaks	57	38	46	32
Street Robbery	14	15	11	12
Auto Theft	89	48	30	12
Larceny from MVs	66	45	45	39
Malicious Destruction	94	79	67	53

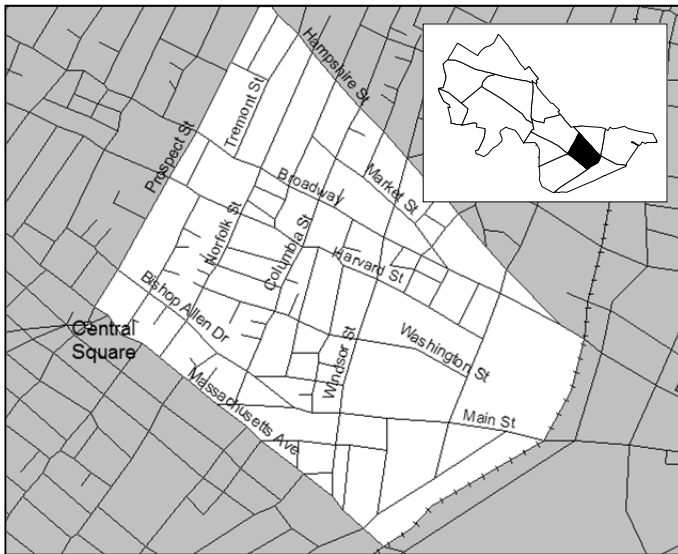
### Neighborhood profile and historical synopsis

The Inman/Harrington neighborhood's population ranks slightly less than the median for the city; consequently, so do many of its crimes. Inman/Harrington is also marked by a number of commercial establishments along Cambridge Street, in Inman Square, and around One Kendall Square.

- Inman/Harrington typically has an average number of **housebreaks**, given its population. Cambridge St, Marney St, Cardinal Medeiros Ave, Columbia St, and Plymouth St have been "hotspots" for this crime. The density of housebreaks generally increases in the lower half of the neighborhood, nearing the Area 4 border.
- **Auto theft** and **malicious destruction** have remained at median levels over the past decade. The related crime of larceny from motor vehicles (LMVs), on the other hand, was lower than Inman in only three other neighborhoods in 2012. This is consistent with the past, as LMVs tend to be lower in Inman than in most other neighborhoods in Cambridge.
- The King Open School and Donnelly Field guarantee a certain share of **juvenile-related crime**, such as vandalism, fights, and petty larcenies.
- **Drug sales** are sometimes a problem between the stretch of Roosevelt Towers and Inman Sq.



# Neighborhood 4: Area 4



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

**Population as of 2010:**

6,792 residents  
2,653 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$55,857

Neighborhood #4 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, 2008-2012

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Housebreaks	47	30	47	53	40
Street Robbery	20	23	27	11	24
Auto Theft	31	17	21	14	17
Larceny from MVs	73	69	73	51	56
Malicious Destruction	90	52	47	58	76
Drug Incidents	21	20	21	12	23

Area 4 experienced a moderate amount of criminal activity in 2012. In January, an increased number of larcenies from motor vehicles (LMVs) were reported in the 800-900 block of Main St and on lower Windsor St. There was no solid time frame and these incidents cooled off in February and March. Also during the first five weeks of the year, a pattern of weekday, late afternoon housebreaks targeting apartments with multiple roommates emerged in Area 4 and Inman/Harrington. These breaks were seen on and off throughout the first nine months of the year before subsiding in August. A career criminal was linked to this series via DNA in October.

One morning in early May, the tires of nine vehicles were found slashed in the Newtowne Court parking lot; no suspects were seen. In mid-June, a series of late night and early morning street robberies involving a group of juveniles emerged in lower Cambridge and Somerville. Four similar robberies were reported in Area 4, East Cambridge, Inman/ Harrington, and across the border in Somerville before the pattern was brought to a close with the arrests of two juveniles in late June.

Larcenies from motor vehicles reappeared in this neighborhood in July, this time closer to the Central Square area. This increase in LMV activity was also seen in the Cambridgeport and Mid-Cambridge neighborhoods (all part of Central Square) and involved thefts from unlocked vehicles after midnight on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights through August. Area 4 also saw increased bicycle theft activity in the Central Square and Inman Square areas during the warmer months, but no notable patterns emerged.

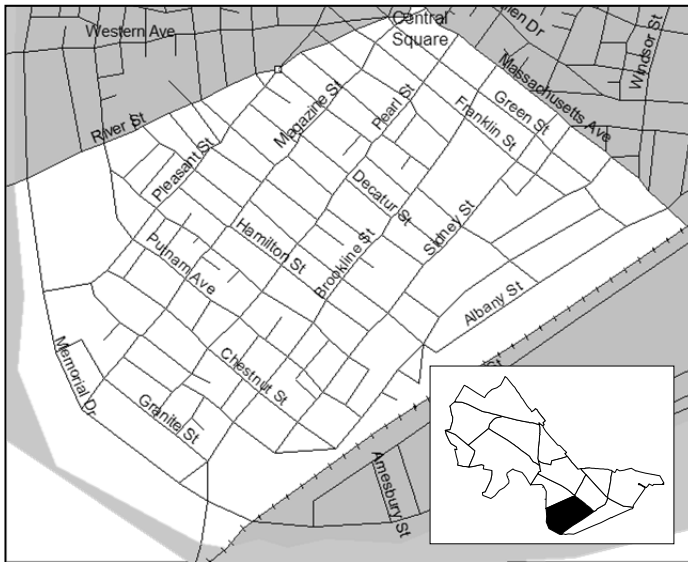
Annual Average for Area 4 Target Crimes				
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2012
Housebreaks	101	62	53	47
Street Robbery	75	47	28	18
Auto Theft	147	78	39	16
Larceny from MVs	134	77	78	54
Malicious Destruction	131	109	80	67

### Neighborhood profile and historical synopsis

Area 4 has a slightly less-than-average residential population among Cambridge neighborhoods, but it has a higher population density than most due to the smaller size of the neighborhood. Coupled with a series of commercial establishments lining Massachusetts Avenue (particularly in Central Square), multi-family homes, as well as large apartment buildings and two public housing developments (Newtowne Court and Washington Elms), Area 4 is different from all other neighborhoods.

- Area 4 **housebreaks** have increasingly rated higher than average. Area 4 is often a prime target for this type of crime due to its high population density in residential areas.
- **Larceny from motor vehicles** is often a problem in Area 4. However, in both 2011 and 2012, Area 4 saw fewer incidents of this nature than normal and dropped to seventh in the City both years.
- Historically, Area 4 has ranked among the top neighborhoods for **drug incidents** in Cambridge. In 2012, Area 4 had the most drug incidents in the city. This is likely due to the existence of Central Square in this neighborhood, which tends to be a hotspot of drug activity and was the location of a focused operation conducted by the Special Investigations Unit in 2012.

# Neighborhood 5: Cambridgeport



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

**Population as of 2010:**

12,220 residents

5,049 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$63,830

Neighborhood #5 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.

## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2008-2012

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Housebreaks	32	38	44	66	62
Street Robbery	16	32	22	19	14
Auto Theft	28	28	26	29	14
Larceny from MVs	120	160	102	78	86
Malicious Destruction	77	53	73	89	61
Drug Incidents	13	32	21	22	18

Cambridgeport was an active neighborhood for crime patterns in 2012. In January, February, and April, the areas around Cottage St, Kelly Rd, and Fairmont St experienced increased larceny from motor vehicle (LMV) activity on weekend nights. Arrests of local juveniles caused these incidents to subside. In mid-March, a one-night spree of housebreaks took place in Cambridgeport, resulting in the arrests of two local teens.

In late March through mid-April, a series of incidents emerged in Cambridge and Brookline involving a violent but unarmed offender robbing female victims walking alone late at night. The suspect assaulted his victims and took purses and cell phones. In total, five similar robberies in Cambridge (one each in Cambridgeport, Mid-Cambridge, Riverside, Agassiz, and Peabody) and two in Brookline were believed to be related to this series. Housebreak activity re-emerged in the Cambridgeport and Riverside neighborhoods in mid-May, targeting laptops and involving entries through unlocked windows. This activity subsided in early July, but resurfaced in August with hotspots in the areas of Fairmont, Allston, and Magazine Streets, and Franklin, Pearl, and Auburn Streets. This re-emergence of housebreak activity cooled after the arrests of a crew of juveniles from Boston in September.

Similar to housebreaks, larcenies from motor vehicles also reappeared in this neighborhood and in others in the Central Square area in July and August, involving thefts from unlocked vehicles after midnight on Thursday through Saturday nights. Also during the warmer months of the year, Cambridgeport was a hotspot for bicycle theft activity, both in the Central Square area on weekdays and in the area of Pearl St and Magazine St on weekends and weekday nights.

## Neighborhood 5: Cambridgeport

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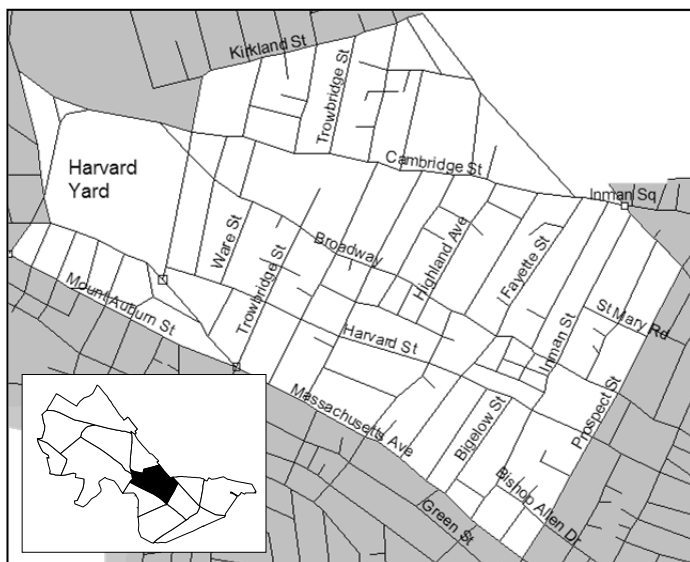
Annual Average for Cambridgeport Target Crimes				
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2012
Housebreaks	156	66	57	64
Street Robbery	57	31	26	17
Auto Theft	165	85	44	22
Larceny from MVs	126	92	103	82
Malicious Destruction	106	106	99	75

### Neighborhood profile and historical synopsis

Cambridgeport has the third highest residential population of the city's neighborhoods. It is characterized by several large apartment buildings as well as many one-, two-, and three-family houses. The neighborhood is bordered by a string of retail stores, hotels, and restaurants on Memorial Drive, River Street, and Massachusetts Avenue.

- **Street robberies** had been the most serious crime problem in Cambridgeport until recent years when they began to decline. However, in 2009, street robberies doubled in this neighborhood due to an increase in incidents involving groups of juveniles robbing victims of high-end cell phones. This number dropped off in 2010 and even more so in 2011 and 2012. Despite the drop, Cambridgeport still registered the second largest number of street robberies citywide in 2012. Similar to Area 4, Cambridgeport's street robberies tend to be concentrated near Massachusetts Avenue and Central Square.
- **Housebreaks**, usually higher than average in Cambridgeport, have declined significantly since the 1980s. The average number of housebreaks since 1991 is less than half of the 1980s' average. Cambridgeport's housebreak rate can be attributed to its large, densely packed residential population.
- **Larceny from motor vehicles** usually registers high in Cambridgeport. In 2012, this neighborhood reported the second largest number of incidents in the City.
- The homeless shelter located on Albany St is often a scene for **street robberies** and **aggravated assaults** between its patrons.

# Neighborhood 6: Mid-Cambridge



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

**Population as of 2010:**

12,991 residents

6,195 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$99,585

Neighborhood #6 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, 2008-2012					
CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Housebreaks	61	36	65	68	59
Street Robbery	13	16	14	17	11
Auto Theft	28	20	18	22	18
Larceny from MVs	115	115	117	71	78
Malicious Destruction	44	47	34	41	37
Drug Incidents	15	10	13	16	17

Every major target crime except for larcenies from motor vehicles registered a drop in Mid-Cambridge in 2012. However, a number of patterns of all different crime types still emerged in this neighborhood. In early January, a juvenile male was arrested in connection with a series of indecent assaults on females walking alone in Inman and Mid-Cambridge over two separate evenings. In January and lasting into early February, sporadic housebreaks were reported on weekends in the area of the 300-400 block of Harvard St, Broadway, and adjacent streets.

In late March through mid-April, a series of robberies emerged in Cambridge and Brookline involving a violent male suspect assaulting female victims late at night and taking their purses and cell phones. In total, five similar robberies were reported in Cambridge (one each in Cambridgeport, Mid-Cambridge, Riverside, Agassiz, and Peabody) and two in Brookline. In April, an armed and masked male robbed the Inman Square Pharmacy on Cambridge St, which was the first of two armed pharmacy robberies committed by the same suspect in 2012 (the second took place in November at Ciampa Apothecary in East Cambridge).

An increase in weekend, overnight larcenies from motor vehicles (LMVs) was reported in this neighborhood and in others in the Central Square area in July and August, involving thefts from unlocked vehicles. Over the course of two weeks in August, eight daytime housebreaks were reported mainly in the area of Highland Ave, Ellsworth Ave, and Broadway; a known Somerville man was arrested in late August on warrants in connection with one of these breaks. Also during the warmer months of the year, Mid-Cambridge was a hotspot for bicycle theft activity in the Central Square area on weekdays. During the third quarter of the year, concentrations of LMV activity were reported between Hancock St, Trowbridge St, and the 300 block of Harvard St, while in October, the LMV activity shifted to weekend



## Neighborhood 6: Mid-Cambridge

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nights in the area of Dana St and Centre St. This activity decreased following an increase in saturation patrols in the area as well as the arrests of local juveniles. In December, three similar street robberies were reported in neighborhoods bordering Harvard Square (Mid-Cambridge, Agassiz, and Peabody). The incidents all involved a lone male suspect striking each victim in the face and stealing his or her cell phone. No arrests were made, but no additional incidents were reported after the first week of the month.

Annual Average for Mid-Cambridge Target Crimes				
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2012
Housebreaks	226	103	77	64
Street Robbery	49	18	15	14
Auto Theft	147	69	31	20
Larceny from MVs	198	103	104	75
Malicious Destruction	149	102	71	39

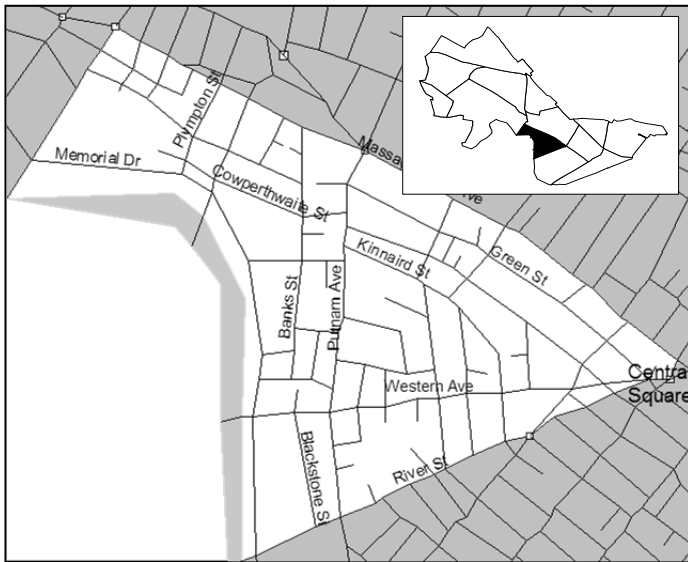
### Neighborhood profile and historical synopsis

Mid-Cambridge is a busy neighborhood. In addition to the highest population of any neighborhood in Cambridge, Mid-Cambridge also has the city's largest high school (Cambridge Rindge & Latin), the Jackson Gardens residential complex, a good portion of Harvard University, and our own City Hall. It is bordered by the major thoroughways of Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Cambridge Street, and three of the city's five busiest squares (Central, Harvard, and Inman) occupy its corners. Because of the enormous number of people living, working, shopping, and going to school within its borders, Mid-Cambridge tends to have a higher-than-average rate for several crimes.

*Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the western part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- **Residential burglary** is naturally higher in a neighborhood with the largest number of residences. Though the rate of this crime has been cut by more than half since the 1980s, it still remains a problem. Mid-Cambridge reported the third largest number of housebreaks in the City in 2012.
- Mid-Cambridge also typically ranks high in **larceny from motor vehicles** and the related crime of auto theft.
- For the population size of Mid-Cambridge, **street robbery** is usually comparably low. However, in 2012, Mid-Cambridge reported the fourth highest number of street robberies citywide. Typically, most of the incidents that do occur happen on Massachusetts Avenue and Cambridge St, and in Inman Square.
- The high amount of pedestrian traffic on Massachusetts Avenue leads to a large number of **bicycle thefts** each year, particularly in or near Harvard Square.

# Neighborhood 7: Riverside



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

**Population as of 2010:**

12,695 residents

4,069 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$50,928

Neighborhood #7 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, 2008-2012

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Housebreaks	23	32	29	39	32
Street Robbery	9	14	8	12	10
Auto Theft	21	10	10	11	12
Larceny from MVs	75	48	75	64	63
Malicious Destruction	59	45	52	52	51
Drug Incidents	14	7	5	4	15

Many of the crime patterns in Riverside this year took place either in the Central Square area or along the border of Cambridgeport. In late March through mid-April, a series of incidents emerged in Cambridge and Brookline involving a violent offender robbing female victims walking alone late at night. The unarmed suspect assaulted his victims and took purses and cell phones. In total, five similar robberies in Cambridge (including one in Riverside) and two in Brookline were believed to be related to this series.

Housebreak activity emerged in the Riverside and Cambridgeport neighborhoods in mid-May, with unlocked window entries and laptops targeted. This activity cooled in early July, resurfaced in August, and finally subsided after the arrests of a crew of juveniles from Boston in September. Larcenies from motor vehicles surfaced in the Central Square area of Riverside in July and August, targeting unlocked vehicles on Thursday through Saturday nights after midnight. This area of Riverside was also a hotspot for bicycle theft activity during the warmer months of 2012, particularly on weekdays due to the large number of people riding through and visiting the Central Square area on a daily basis. Meanwhile, the Harvard Square area of Riverside saw an increase in bicycle thefts on weekend evenings during the summer months.

It should be noted that drug activity increased substantially in Riverside in 2012 due to an undercover operation conducted by the Special Investigations Unit in the Central Square area, specifically targeting street level heroin use and distribution.

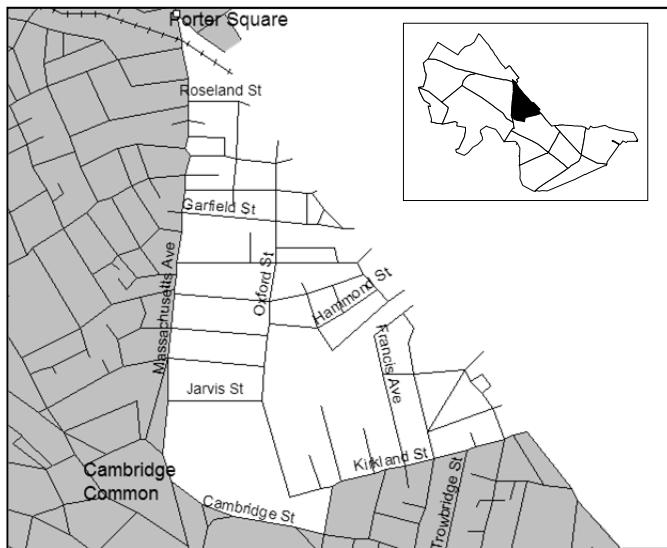
Annual Average for Riverside Target Crimes				
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2012
Housebreaks	83	43	37	36
Street Robbery	34	17	14	11
Auto Theft	92	41	21	12
Larceny from MVs	87	47	49	64
Malicious Destruction	78	75	64	52

### Neighborhood profile and historical synopsis

As of the 2010 census, Riverside has the second highest population in the city, but it typically ranks well below the average for almost all index crimes. Along with its 12,000+ residents, Riverside has two housing developments (Putnam Gardens and the River-Howard homes), two major parks (Hoyt Field and Riverside Press Park), and many commercial establishments along Massachusetts Avenue, River Street, and Western Avenue. Several Harvard University dormitories and other properties occupy the northwestern quarter. Riverside's borders also encompass the United States Post Office located in Central Square. Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the northwestern part of this neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on university property.

- **Malicious destruction** has not shown a significant average decline in Riverside since the 1980s, though it is typically low compared to the rest of the city. Most of this vandalism targets motor vehicles. Occasional patterns of this crime over long holiday weekends have been a problem in the past.
- **Street robberies** are low for a neighborhood of Riverside's population, but they remain a pressing problem. Riverside also has an exceptionally low number of housebreaks reported for its size.
- The only neighborhoods that usually have lower **auto theft** and **larceny from motor vehicles** totals have less than half of Riverside's population. However, larcenies from motor vehicles in Riverside in 2012 were higher than usual, possibly due to heightened larceny activity in the Central and Harvard Square areas.

# Neighborhood 8: Agassiz



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

**Population as of 2010:**

4,977 residents

1,755 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$62,117

Neighborhood #8 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, 2008-2012

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Housebreaks	20	14	21	17	14
Street Robbery	1	7	5	2	0
Auto Theft	8	12	4	5	0
Larceny from MVs	76	58	50	31	30
Malicious Destruction	9	7	21	14	12
Drug Incidents	0	1	2	0	0

This year was another quiet one for crime in the Agassiz neighborhood. Only a concentration of car breaks and two brief street robbery patterns affected the neighborhood in 2012.

During the first quarter, nighttime larcenies from motor vehicles targeting unlocked vehicles were seen along the border between Agassiz and Peabody and up into North Cambridge. This border area tends to be a chronic problem area for car breaks every year.

In late March through mid-April, a violent but unarmed suspect committed a series of street robberies against female victims walking alone at night in Cambridge and Brookline. Five of these street robberies, which targeted cell phones and purses, were reported in Cambridge (one each in Agassiz, Cambridgeport, Mid-Cambridge, Riverside, and Peabody) and two in Brookline. In December, three street robberies were reported in neighborhoods on the periphery of Harvard Square (Agassiz, Mid-Cambridge, and Peabody). The robberies all involved a single male suspect striking victims in the face and stealing cell phones.

Annual Average for Agassiz Target Crimes				
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2012
Housebreaks	67	26	25	16
Street Robbery	11	7	4	1
Auto Theft	45	19	11	3
Larceny from MVs	47	30	49	31
Malicious Destruction	45	28	18	13

### Neighborhood profile and historical synopsis

Over half of the Agassiz neighborhood is occupied by Harvard University and Lesley University. The rest of the residential population is concentrated primarily in a triangle in the northern section of the neighborhood, capped by bustling Porter Square. A number of businesses line Massachusetts Avenue on Agassiz's west border.

*Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the southern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- Agassiz has a lower-than-average rate for almost every measured crime. Unlike some other neighborhoods, only one of its borders is defined by a major, heavily trafficked avenue. On average, only three other neighborhoods have lower average totals of **housebreaks**, **auto thefts** and **street robberies**, and only one or two neighborhoods have fewer **malicious destruction** incidents.
- Juveniles entering the neighborhood from Somerville were suspected in a pattern of **street robberies** in 1996 and 1997; such patterns arise occasionally, usually clustered at the intersections of Massachusetts Avenue and Wendell Street or Oxford Avenue and Sacramento Street. These occasional patterns generally occur in the late night on weekends.
- Somerville juveniles have also been associated with occasional tire-slashings on Forest Street and Massachusetts Avenue. The **malicious destruction** statistics have also reflected incidents of spray-painting at the Baldwin School in the past.

# Neighborhood 9: Peabody



**Boundaries:** Bounded by the B&M Railroad, Concord Avenue, Garden Street, and Massachusetts Avenue.

**Population as of 2010:**

11,399 residents  
5,427 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$70,704

Neighborhood #9 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, 2008-2012

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Housebreaks	50	43	27	35	46
Street Robbery	13	11	10	3	10
Auto Theft	24	20	14	9	17
Larceny from MVs	105	104	59	61	74
Malicious Destruction	52	45	50	27	27
Drug Incidents	3	2	0	4	12

The Peabody neighborhood was moderately active in 2012, with pattern-related increases recorded in housebreaks, street robberies, and larcenies from motor vehicles (LMVs). All of the street robbery and LMV patterns that took place in Peabody this year also affected the Agassiz neighborhood; see the Agassiz section above for information on those patterns. The only other patterns that emerged in Peabody in 2012 were two separate series of housebreaks. Between December 2011 and April 2012, multiple-unit apartment buildings near the Cambridge Common were targeted on Friday and Saturday nights. A second series emerged in mid-June with occasional daytime housebreaks in the Avon Hill area involving side window entries and targeting laptops. This second series subsided in August.

### Annual Average for Peabody Target Crimes

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2012
Housebreaks	150	53	49	41
Street Robbery	21	14	10	7
Auto Theft	94	42	30	13
Larceny from MVs	74	60	80	68
Malicious Destruction	135	72	74	27

## Neighborhood profile and historical synopsis

Peabody has the fifth highest population in the city, yet most of its crimes are at or below the city's average. The neighborhood's residences include several large apartment complexes, a public housing development (Lincoln Way), and hundreds of single- and double-family houses. Peabody boasts two of



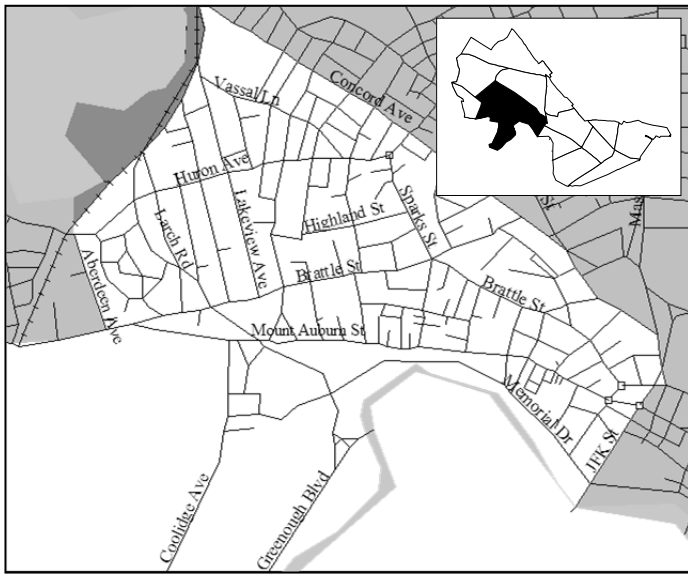
## Neighborhood 9: Peabody

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the biggest public parks in the city: Cambridge Common and Danehy Park. Large commercial establishments mark Massachusetts Avenue and Walden Square Road.

- Cambridge Common has traditionally experienced after-dark crimes ranging from **public drinking** and **drug use** to **robbery** and **sexual assault**. Increased preventive patrol has diminished occurrences in recent years.
- Summer **housebreak** patterns sometimes plague Richdale Ave and Upland Rd.
- **Auto theft** and **larceny from motor vehicles** typically rank high in Peabody compared to most other neighborhoods in Cambridge. In 2011, Peabody ranked fifth in larcenies from motor vehicles and second in auto thefts.

# Neighborhood 10: West Cambridge



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

**Population as of 2010:**

11,908 residents

5,359 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$62,650

Neighborhood #10 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, 2008-2012

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Housebreaks	33	23	24	43	62
Street Robbery	13	4	14	9	13
Auto Theft	26	25	20	13	3
Larceny from MVs	139	116	101	64	114
Malicious Destruction	50	40	47	47	49
Drug Incidents	7	5	4	8	11

Similar to 2010 and 2011, most of the crime in West Cambridge in 2012 took place in and around Harvard Square. In January, a hotspot of weekend daytime larceny from motor vehicle (LMV) activity emerged in the periphery of Harvard Square, specifically in the 200 block of Mount Auburn St and lower Brattle St. This area cooled off after an arrest in February, but incidents continued sporadically through May. LMVs surfaced again in this area on weekday afternoons and weekend nights during the third quarter.

In late February, a pattern of late night and early morning housebreaks involving unlocked rear doors and stolen wallets began in the Sparks St area of West Cambridge. The arrests of a crew of juveniles in March temporarily eradicated this pattern, but activity re-emerged in late June with weekday, daytime housebreaks through unlocked rear doors and side windows in the area of Brattle St and Mount Auburn St. This housebreak activity subsided in August. During the summer months, an increase in bicycle thefts in Harvard Square was reported, mainly on weekend evenings. In October, two female victims walking alone on separate nights in the periphery of Harvard Square in West Cambridge were robbed by an unknown male riding a bicycle.

One of the most persistent problems in this area over the past few years has involved dipper activity (larcenies from persons) at cafés and restaurants in the Square. This year, Crema Café on Brattle St in West Cambridge emerged as the hotspot in the city for this type of crime and was also the location of three separate arrests throughout the year (see Larceny section of this Annual Report for more information on this crime).

## Neighborhood 10: West Cambridge

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Annual Average for West Cambridge Target Crimes				
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2012
Housebreaks	105	38	37	53
Street Robbery	18	11	9	11
Auto Theft	105	41	25	8
Larceny from MVs	134	72	81	89
Malicious Destruction	92	76	58	48

### Neighborhood profile and historical synopsis

West Cambridge is geographically the largest neighborhood in the City. Its east end contains a good portion of Harvard Square, bustling with commercial traffic. Its western border is marked by Fresh Pond and Kingsley Park. In between are the beautiful homes of Brattle Street, the expansive Cambridge Cemetery, Mount Auburn Hospital, and half a dozen elementary schools. Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the eastern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.

- Although West Cambridge's population is roughly average for Cambridge, almost all of its target crimes are typically lower than average. **Larceny from motor vehicles** is often one of the exceptions, however. Larcenies in this neighborhood tend to be concentrated in the area bordered by Sparks St, Concord Ave, and Mt. Auburn St.
- **Housebreaks**, once a pressing problem, have been reduced substantially since the 1980s. Summertime residential burglary patterns, once the scourge of West Cambridge, only emerge occasionally now.
- **Bicycle theft** patterns strike the Harvard Square area each spring and summer. The large number of bicycles used by college students and Harvard Square visitors and parked in the area lead to high levels of theft.
- **Larcenies from persons** become a problem every spring and summer around Harvard Square and in its many commercial establishments. In 2012, this problem existed throughout the year, resulting in multiple arrests.

# Neighborhood 11: North Cambridge



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

**Population as of 2010:**

8,023 residents  
3,760 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$100,946

Neighborhood #10 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, 2008-2012

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Housebreaks	34	54	40	37	27
Street Robbery	22	12	14	6	9
Auto Theft	21	20	20	12	13
Larceny from MVs	90	74	67	50	79
Malicious Destruction	88	54	73	51	61
Drug Incidents	8	11	4	9	4

Similar to 2011, very few patterns affected North Cambridge this year. During the first quarter, nighttime larcenies from motor vehicles were seen along Rindge Ave and west of Porter Square on weekends. Multiple arrests in March and increased citizen awareness slowed this pattern. In May, a concentration of bicycle thefts was seen in Porter Square on weekend nights. In August, multiple housebreaks occurred in the area of Newman St and Foch St, an area that rarely sees this type of criminal activity. A female from Somerville was arrested in connection with these housebreaks in September.

Annual Average for North Cambridge Target Crimes				
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2012
Housebreaks	100	64	49	32
Street Robbery	30	21	16	8
Auto Theft	130	68	32	13
Larceny from MVs	105	62	71	65
Malicious Destruction	125	112	89	56

## Neighborhood profile and historical synopsis

North Cambridge has the fourth highest population in the city. It includes a public housing development (Jefferson Park/Jackson Place) and the towering Fresh Pond Apartments. Within its confines are three major public parks (Rindge Field, Russell Field, and Linear Park), the bustling Porter Square, and the

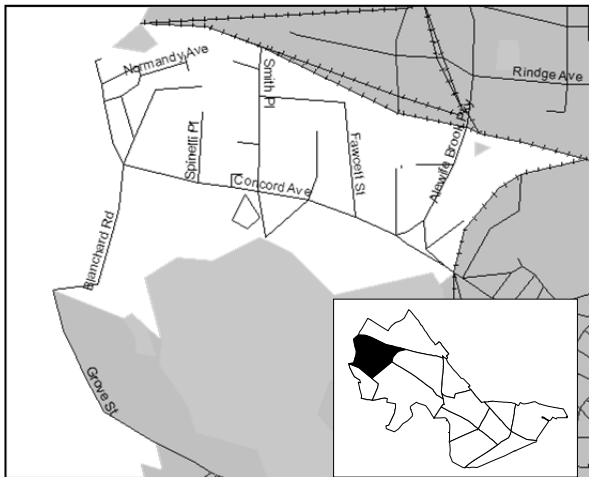
## Neighborhood 11: North Cambridge

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Alewife MBTA Station. Dozens of commercial establishments line Massachusetts Avenue. As with Mid-Cambridge, its elevated crime rate reflects its high residential and commercial population.

- **Housebreak** patterns tend to occur during the summer months. Incidents are scattered quite liberally throughout the neighborhood's residential population. North Cambridge's housebreak average has dropped by two-thirds since the 1980s.
- **Street robberies** have traditionally been problematic in Russell Field, Linear Park, and around the Alewife MBTA Station. In the most common scenario, local (Cambridge or Somerville) youths will form packs and strong-arm victims walking in these areas late at night. No defined street robbery patterns emerged in North Cambridge in 2012.

# Neighborhood 12: Cambridge Highlands



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

**Population as of 2010:**

832 residents  
371 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$62,499

Neighborhood #12 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, 2008-2012

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Housebreaks	2	2	0	0	1
Street Robbery	1	5	2	0	1
Auto Theft	3	4	1	2	0
Larceny from MVs	20	9	11	11	10
Malicious Destruction	11	10	7	14	6
Drug Incidents	0	0	1	0	2

No notable patterns were reported in the Cambridge Highlands in 2012.

### Annual Average for Cambridge Highlands Target Crimes

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2012
Housebreaks	6	2	2	1
Street Robbery	8	2	2	1
Auto Theft	54	16	5	1
Larceny from MVs	38	23	16	11
Malicious Destruction	28	26	19	10

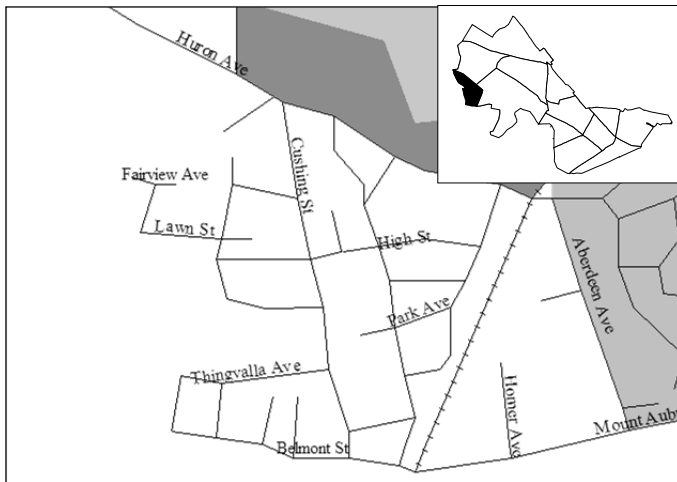
## Neighborhood profile and historical synopsis

Cambridge Highlands' tiny population makes for very little residential criminal activity in the area. The Highlands' border encompasses the Fresh Pond Mall, the northern part of Fresh Pond, and a number of warehouses. Most crime here is commercial and is covered in the business district profiles.

- Cambridge Highlands typically vies with Strawberry Hill for the lowest index crime totals in the city. For almost all index crimes this decade, it has ranked 12th or 13th out of the neighborhoods.
- **Auto theft, larceny from motor vehicles, and malicious destruction** have occasionally become a problem in the Fresh Pond Mall and Fresh Pond Cinema parking lot. Mall security, however, has reduced such incidents in recent years—almost to the point of statistical insignificance. Small patterns of auto-related crimes have been known to emerge on Smith Place and Mooney Street.
- **Larceny from persons** occasionally exhibits some patterns around the Fresh Pond Mall and the Fresh Pond Cinema, where pocket-pickers use the darkness of the theater to conceal their crimes.



# Neighborhood 13: Strawberry Hill



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

**Population as of 2010:**

2,518 residents  
1,140 households

**Estimated median income (2006-2010)**

\$69,941

Neighborhood #13 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, 2008-2012

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Housebreaks	6	4	5	6	7
Street Robbery	0	2	2	0	0
Auto Theft	9	4	3	2	1
Larceny from MVs	32	19	18	7	3
Malicious Destruction	14	18	21	13	15
Drug Incidents	3	0	2	1	3

No notable patterns were reported in the Strawberry Hill neighborhood in 2012.

Annual Average for Strawberry Hill Target Crimes				
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010	2011-2012
Housebreaks	17	10	9	7
Street Robbery	4	3	2	0
Auto Theft	17	8	7	2
Larceny from MVs	22	12	18	5
Malicious Destruction	25	23	21	14

## Neighborhood profile and historical synopsis

With its small population, Strawberry Hill challenges Cambridge Highlands for the lowest crime rates in the city. Neighborhood citizens include the residents of the Corcoran Park housing development and the apartment building at 700 Huron Avenue. Its primary commercial establishment is Shaw's Supermarket.

- Strawberry Hill can be considered one of the safest areas in the City with very few, if any, **street robberies** reported each year.
- Corcoran Park has historically been a "hotspot" for the occasional **housebreak**, and for some juvenile crime. Frequent "Park and Walks" address these problems.
- For **auto theft**, **larceny from motor vehicles**, and **malicious destruction**, Strawberry Hill continually ranks as one of the lowest in the City. The "hot" spots for these crimes tend to be centered in the area of 700 Huron Ave or the Shaw's parking lot.



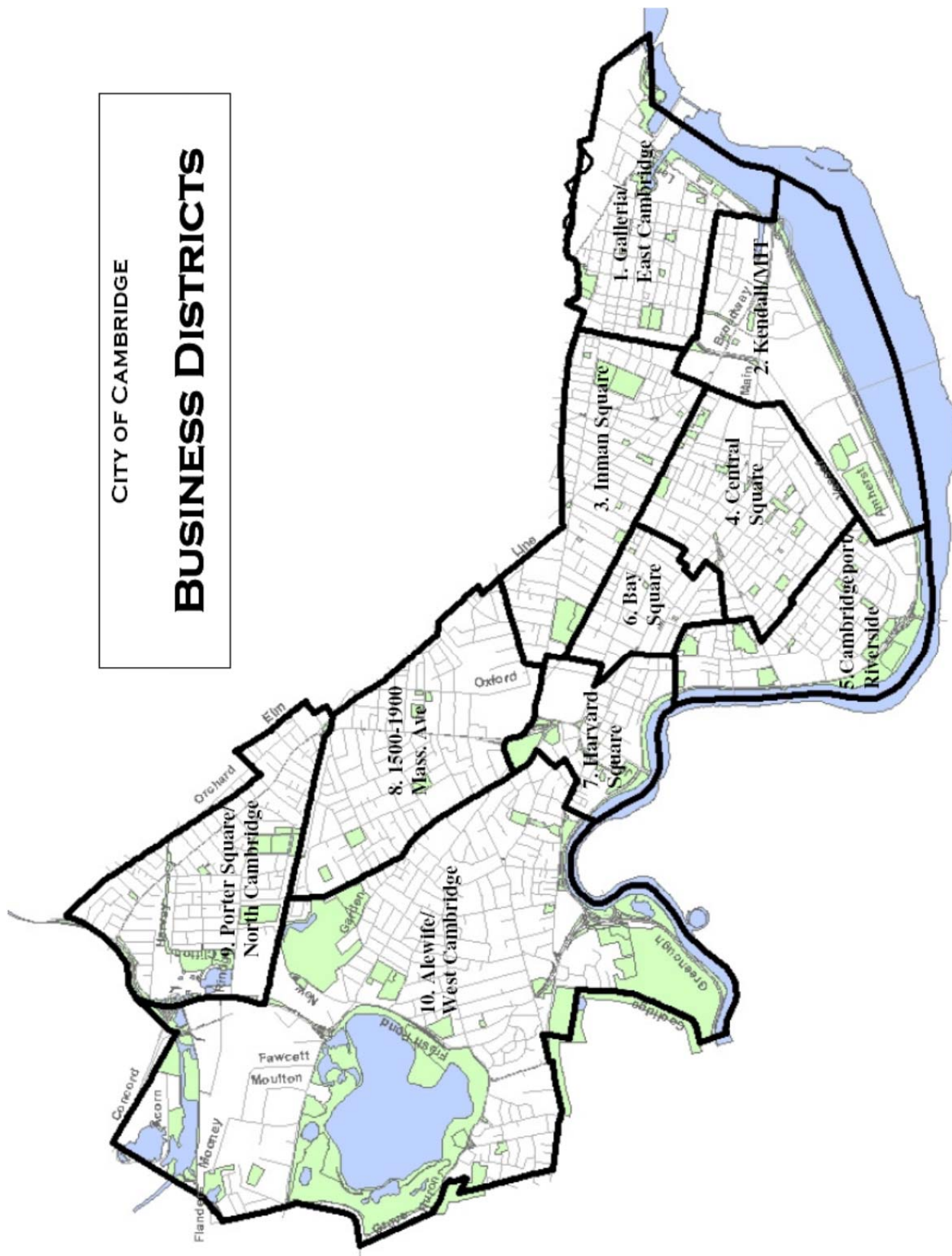
## Section V

# Business District Profiles

Galleria/East Cambridge  
Kendall/MIT  
Inman Square  
Central Square  
Cambridgeport/Riverside  
Bay Square  
Harvard Square  
1500–1900 Massachusetts Avenue  
Porter Square  
Alewife/West Cambridge

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

## BUSINESS DISTRICTS



# District 1: East Cambridge/Galleria

**Boundaries:** Bordered by Somerville, the Charles River, Binney Street, and the Conrail Railroad line

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: The Galleria, Restaurants and retail shops on First Street, restaurants and retail shops on Cambridge Street between #1 and #700, industrial and retail establishments on Bent, Binney, Hurley, and Thorndike Streets.



**Larceny from buildings** recorded a 14% increase in this business district in 2012. Nearly 60% of this type of theft occurred in and around the Galleria Mall. Half of these incidents were committed when thieves stole unattended items in backroom storage areas, a public setting, or a place of employment. Close to 40% of the larceny of buildings in Business District #1 involvd the theft of a wallet, cell phone, or an employee's property near the register of a retail outlet at the Mall. • Thirty-one of the thirty-five **larcenies from the person** in this area in 2012 were at the Galleria Mall. The 20% decrease (9 incidents) in thefts from an individual represents the lowest total for this business area in a decade. The predominant scenario for this theft (60%) involved victims who were distracted while shopping at the Mall. Thefts around the food court accounted for 23% of the total. Over 80% of these pickpocket crimes occur between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. • Two **commercial robberies** in November of 2012, one at a pharmacy on Cambridge Street and the other at a shoe store at the Mall, were the first crimes of this type in this business district in over 20 months. • After recording exceptionally low numbers in 2009 and 2010, **commercial breaks** increased in this area for the second year in a row. Six of the fourteen commercial breaks were in the 200 to 600 blocks of Cambridge Street, with restaurants and food stores the predominant target. Thirty-five percent of these breaks occurred on weekend nights between the hours of midnight and 3:00 a.m.

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Larceny from Building	51	50	43	49	56
Larceny from Person	54	45	39	44	35
Commercial Burglary	12	4	3	8	14
Commercial Robbery	6	2	1	0	2
Shoplifting	167	165	179	141	144
Fraud/Flim Flam/Counterfeiting	66	53	46	56	48

# District 2: Kendall Square

**Boundaries:** Bordered by Binney Street, the Charles River, Amesbury Street, and the Conrail Railroad

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: Offices, shops, restaurants in Kendall Square, Cambridge Center, Offices and shops on Broadway between #1 and #200, Tech. Square, M.I.T., and the Hyatt Regency.



Despite the fact that it is one of the fastest growing commercial areas in the country, the majority of business related crimes in Kendall Square are remarkably few in number. For years, Kendall, the city's hi-tech business district, had been plagued by **larceny from buildings**, producing an average of 250 larcenies from buildings per year between 1980 and 1990. That number has been reduced dramatically over the past few years with substantial technological advances for internal security of office buildings. Larcenies from buildings in this area had averaged less than 30 incidents per year between 2006 and 2010. The total of larceny from buildings continued to nosedive (down 65%), to a 30-year low of 15 incidents in 2012. • After reporting the abnormally high number of five **commercial robberies** in 2011, (the first crimes of this type in Kendall in over 30 months), there was nary a robbery in this area in 2012. • **Larceny from the person** has never been a major problem in this business area. The influx of a number of restaurants has not altered that trend. These types of thefts remain very sporadic in nature and the average of between 10 and 15 crimes annually continued with but 11 registered in 2012. • Three of the four **commercial breaks** in the Kendall area in 2012 were sporadic and unrelated incidents at construction sites. The last **commercial break** pattern identified in this business district was a series of construction breaks in 2006. There have been only 17 commercial breaks reported here in Kendall Square in the past six years. • The two **shoplifting** arrests (another exceptionally low number) involved homeless subjects at the MIT Coop and a convenience store.

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Larceny from Building	33	23	34	43	15
Larceny from Person	18	8	13	12	11
Commercial Burglary	3	2	2	3	4
Commercial Robbery	2	0	1	5	0
Shoplifting	3	2	3	10	2
Fraud/Flim Flam/ Counterfeiting	20	26	16	8	12



# District 3: Inman Square

**Boundaries:** Bordered by the Conrail Railroad, the Somerville line, Leonard Avenue, Cambridge Street, Dana Street, and Broadway

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: the offices, shops, restaurants of Inman Square, all business establishments between 700 and 1400 Cambridge Street, offices, industries and restaurants on Hampshire Street and between 100 to 380 Prospect Street and 100 to 300 Broadway.



**Larceny from buildings** decreased by seven incidents (28%) in the Inman Square business district in 2012 when compared with last year's total. The majority of this decrease can be attributed to increased security and personal awareness in public buildings. Past trends of thieves targeting hospitals, schools, and city offices are on the wane. The three construction site breaks in 2012 were sporadic and unrelated. • After nearly doubling its total in 2011, **larceny from person** dipped 33% in this area in 2012. Larceny from person and shoplifting are infrequent in and around Inman Square. This is especially true when compared to other nightlife areas such as Harvard and Central Square, where the crimes are ten times in numbers. • **Commercial burglary** rose from five to seven incidents in the area in 2012. Four of these crimes were during the fourth quarter of the year and were at a restaurant, construction site, and two private offices. There has been no repeat of the weekend pattern of breaks into convenience stores and retail outlets along Hampshire St during the middle of the decade. • There were two **commercial robberies** in Business District #3 in 2012, down from four the previous year. A Cambridge Street pharmacy was robbed by a subject with a handgun in April. This suspect was subsequently linked to other similar robberies in the Greater Boston area. A South Boston resident was arrested for attempting to rob a Cambridge Street bank in September. • **Shoplifting** totals for this business area are inconsequential with the majority of the thefts involving juveniles attempting to steal food items from the counter of gas/convenience stores.

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Larceny from Building	31	13	23	25	18
Larceny from Person	27	15	7	15	10
Commercial Burglary	9	14	7	5	7
Commercial Robbery	6	3	2	4	2
Shoplifting	5	2	8	10	10
Fraud/Flim Flam/ Counterfeiting	52	36	37	45	35



# District 4: Central Square

**Boundaries:** Bordered by the Conrail Railroad, Erie Street, Fairmont Street, River Street, Howard Street, Western Avenue, Pleasant Street, Green Street, Sellers Street, Bigelow Street, Doyle Way, Inman Street, and Broadway

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: shops, offices, restaurants between 200 and 830 Massachusetts Avenue, offices on Bishop Allen Drive, restaurants on Green Street, establishments between 770 and 910 Main Street, and City Hall



There were 18 additional **larcenies from the person** in Central Square in 2012, which translates to a 22% increase. This target crime remains a primary concern in this area, ranking only behind Harvard Square as a dipper “hot spot.” Pickpockets target diners in cafes, restaurants, and coffee shops between 400 and 700 Mass Ave. Professional thieves prey upon females’ purses on the backs of chairs during the afternoon, then turn their attention to coats, cell phones, and wallets in the bars late on weekend nights. The major trend identified for this crime type in 2012 was the increase in thefts on weekend nights at bars in the 300 to 400 block of Mass Ave. • **Commercial robberies** plummeted from 12 incidents in 2011 to 2 incidents in 2012, the lowest total for this area in over a decade. Bank robberies fell from five heists in 2011 to one in 2012. The other robbery in this business district was at a Mass Ave gas station in September. • **Commercial burglary** totals declined for the third consecutive year to a 15-year low of seven incidents. The seven breaks were sporadic and unrelated. There was not one break into a bar, restaurant, café, or clothing store in Central Square in 2012. • **Larceny from the buildings** dropped by 7% in Business District #4 in 2012. The major pattern to emerge for this type of larceny was the theft of wallets from health clubs on Mass Ave during the summer months. The temporal trend identified for this series of incidents was on weekdays between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Larceny from Building	72	69	77	89	83
Larceny from Person	98	91	86	83	101
Commercial Burglary	17	21	19	16	7
Commercial Robbery	3	7	3	12	2
Shoplifting	63	54	31	47	45
Fraud/Flim Flam/ Counterfeiting	74	70	68	81	69

# District 5: Cambridgeport/Riverside

**Boundaries:** Bordered by the Charles River, Amesbury Street, the Conrail Railroad, Erie Street, Fairmont Street, River Street, Howard Street, Kinnaird Street, and Flagg Street.

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: all businesses between 550 and 900 Memorial Drive, all industrial, retail and restaurants on Brookline, Pearl, Magazine, River and Western to the south of Erie Street.



Historically, there are fewer business-related target crimes recorded in the Cambridgeport/Riverside business district than in any of the other nine areas citywide. There was no reversal of that trend in 2012. • The **commercial burglary** and **commercial robbery** totals for the business area are remarkably low. The lone commercial robbery in this area in 2012 was a shoplifting that escalated into a violent incident at a grocery store in June. • Over the past five years, there have been only seven commercial breaks recorded in the Memorial Drive business district. The forced entry into a Magazine Street convenience store in March was the only commercial break in this area in 2012. • **Larceny from the person** has never been identified as a serious crime problem in this business district, with an average slightly above ten crimes per year. There was an increase from nine to fourteen incidents in 2012. The majority of the fourteen recorded thefts in 2012 involved the thefts of women's purses while shopping at a local grocery store. This type of criminal scenario has been on the increase in the Greater Boston region over the past three years with a crew of professional pick pockets as possible suspects. • About 50% of the **shoplifting** incidents in this business district were at Whole Foods, with the majority of the remaining incidents occurring at Trader Joes and Microcenter. • **Larceny from building** rose by three crimes in this area in 2012. There were four thefts from hotel rooms, three thefts from construction sites, and two from health clubs in the Memorial Dr Business district in 2012.

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Larceny from Building	18	7	17	10	13
Larceny from Person	14	8	10	9	14
Commercial Burglary	2	1	2	4	1
Commercial Robbery	0	1	3	2	1
Shoplifting	7	20	20	12	19
Fraud/Flim Flam/ Counterfeiting	27	34	26	33	33

# District 6: Bay Square/Upper Broadway

**Boundaries:** Bordered by Inman St, Doyle Way, Bigelow St, Sellers St, Green St, Pleasant St, Western Avenue, Howard St, Kinnaird St, Putnam Avenue, Massachusetts Avenue, Prescott St, Kirkland St, the Somerville Line, Leonard Avenue, Cambridge St, Dana St, and Broadway

Major area of Business/Retail/Industrial concentration include: all offices, restaurants and establishments between 830 and 1050 Massachusetts Avenue, all retail industrial and offices on Cambridge Street between Dana Street and Trowbridge Street and on Harvard Street and Broadway between Inman and Trowbridge.



There were no **commercial robberies** in this business district in 2012. Commercial robberies occur very infrequently in the Bay Square business district, with only four reported in the past seven years. Between 2007 and 2010, there were three commercial robberies recorded here. The two robberies in this area in 2011 were in the 800 block of Mass Ave on Thursday afternoons. • **Commercial burglary** increased from eight to nine incidents in this area in 2012. Five of the nine breaks were at construction sites off of Mass Ave. These incidents were spread throughout the year and were not related. • There have been only four **shoplifting** incidents in the Bay Square business district in the past five years. • **Larceny from the person**, which has never been a major problem for this business district, has remained relatively unchanged over the past four years, with between eight and nine incidents annually. • For the third straight year, **larceny from building** produced similar numbers for Bay Square. Over 45% of these larcenies were characterized by the scenario of laptops or cell phones stolen from students' lockers and teachers' desks at CRLS.

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Larceny from Building	39	24	37	36	36
Larceny from Person	12	9	8	8	9
Commercial Burglary	3	6	1	8	9
Commercial Robbery	1	1	0	2	0
Shoplifting	1	0	1	0	2
Fraud/Flim Flam/ Counterfeiting	42	27	39	29	28

# District 7: Harvard Square

**Boundaries:** Bordered by Prescott Street, Massachusetts Avenue, Putnam Avenue, Flagg Street, the Charles River, Ash Street, Mason Street, Garden Street, Waterhouse Street, Massachusetts Avenue, and Cambridge Street

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial concentration include: establishments and business offices on Massachusetts Avenue between 1050 and 1540, Mt. Auburn Street between 1 and 168, and the numerous restaurants, shops, and offices on Holyoke, Dunster, and Winthrop Streets, as well as, the Charles Square and University Place complexes.



**Larceny from the person** increased by 37 crimes in Business District #7 in 2012, translating to a 35% increase. This is the major business-related crime concern for Harvard Square. Professional pickpockets tend to use public transportation causing Harvard Square to be a hotspot for this activity. A dipper's favorite target is someone who is preoccupied, such as a person who leaves a purse unattended in a coffee shop, a tourist overloaded with packages, or someone totally engaged on their cell phone. A high percentage of these crimes in 2012 were in coffee shops midweek between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. and in bars on weekend nights. A number of arrests of professional dippers were made through undercover stakeouts in the summer and fall and the trend subsided over the final quarter of the year. • There were four **commercial robberies** in this business district in 2012, down three heists from the previous year. Two of the robberies were at banks, one at a drug store, and the other at a clothing retailer. Arrests were forthcoming in three of the crimes. • **Commercial burglary** jumped from four incidents in 2011 to fifteen breaks in 2012. This increase should be tempered by the fact that the 2011 total reflected a 70% decrease. Four of the incidents involved homeless subjects breaking into local churches. Five of the breaks were unrelated, forced entries into fast food establishments and cafes. • **Larceny from building** fell 25% in Harvard Square in 2012. The theft of employee property from the rear of retail stores was the number one scenario for this crime type in Business District #7 in 2012. • Prime time for the 66 **shoplifting** incidents in Harvard Square in 2012 was between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Larceny from Building	67	41	69	75	56
Larceny from Person	74	102	127	107	144
Commercial Burglary	8	8	13	4	15
Commercial Robbery	4	1	8	7	4
Shoplifting	61	46	57	61	66
Fraud/Flim Flam/ Counterfeiting	38	33	39	34	48

# District 8: 1500–1900 Mass. Ave.

**Boundaries:** Bordered by Kirkland Street, the Somerville Line, the B&M Railroad, Sherman Street, Garden Street, Waterhouse Street, Massachusetts Avenue, and Cambridge Street

Major areas of Business, Retail, and Industrial concentration include: retail shops, restaurants and offices between 1540 to 1880 Massachusetts Avenue, businesses and offices on Garden, Sherman and Oxford Streets.



Over the past five years, there have been only eight **commercial robberies** in this business district. This is an exceptionally low number for this busy retail area. The only commercial robbery in this area in 2012 was an incident involving a hold up with a gun at a Mass Ave drug store in June. This case remains under investigation. • For an area with such a high concentration of retail establishments and pedestrian activity, the total of only 14 **shoplifting** incidents in the corridor over the past five years is another impressive statistic to the overall safety of this area. • There has not been a **commercial burglary** pattern identified in this area in the past four years. Commercial breaks fell from twelve incidents in 2011 to ten in 2012. The trend of the majority of the breaks (30%) being into restaurants and bars in the 1800 to 1900 block of Mass Ave on weekday nights held true in 2012. • **Larceny from person** slid from nine to seven incidents in this business district in 2012. The trend identified in 2008 and 2009 of pickpockets targeting patrons of bars in the 1600 to 1700 blocks of Mass Ave on weekend nights has not materialized over the past three years. • A 40% decline in **larceny from buildings** was registered for the Mass Ave corridor in 2012. Thefts from health club locker rooms were much more sporadic in nature than in past years.

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Larceny from Building	26	35	28	35	21
Larceny from Person	22	20	15	9	7
Commercial Burglary	5	9	5	12	10
Commercial Robbery	4	1	2	0	1
Shoplifting	2	1	7	2	2
Fraud/Flim Flam/ Counterfeiting	37	46	40	35	39



# District 9: Porter Square

**Boundaries:** Bordered by the B&M Railroad, Alewife Brook Parkway, and the Somerville Line

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial concentrations include: all retail and commercial establishments between 1840 Massachusetts Avenue and the Arlington line, including Porter Square Mall. All commercial properties along Rindge and Sherman to the border of the RR tracks.



**Larcenies from person**, a crime that is usually an infrequent problem in Porter Square, accounted for 16 incidents in both 2011 and 2012. Historically, these incidents involve the thefts of purses from female victims in grocery stores. There were eight of these crimes in 2012. No temporal trend could be identified from this series of incidents. • **Commercial burglary** declined significantly (-75%) in Porter Square in 2012, dropping to only three incidents, which is its lowest total in decades. There have been no patterns observed in this area in over four years. Porter Square was hit with a series of professional burglaries in 2005 and 2006. Thieves were targeting safes in restaurants and bars along Mass Ave. This pattern has not repeated in the past seven years. • After recording a single **commercial robbery** the past two years, three were reported in 2012. The same Mass Ave bank was robbed twice in January and a drug store at the Mall was victimized in April. • **Shoplifting** fell 35% in this business district in 2012 with eight fewer crimes counted. Ninety-five percent of these thefts were at the Porter Square Mall. The time frame between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. was identified as the predominant temporal trend for the light-fingered to ply their trade. • **Larceny from building** numbers remained relatively unchanged in Porter Square for 2012. Forty percent of the thefts from health club locker rooms took place late in the afternoon on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Larceny from Building	32	18	31	28	27
Larceny from Person	19	21	18	16	16
Commercial Burglary	7	13	18	12	3
Commercial Robbery	4	2	1	1	3
Shoplifting	13	49	25	23	15
Fraud/Flim Flam/ Counterfeiting	42	41	44	50	27



# District 10: Alewife/West Cambridge

**Boundaries:** Bordered by the Charles River, the Watertown, Belmont, and Arlington Lines, Alewife Brook Parkway, the B&M Railroad, Sherman Street, Garden Street, Mason Street, and Ash Street

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial concentration include: businesses and offices on Mt. Auburn Street between 180 and 700 including the Shaw's Supermarket, the Fresh Pond Mall, industrial and research complexes on Smith, Fawcett, Mooney and Cambridge Park Drive, the Huron Village area, shops and restaurants on Concord and Garden Street.



**Commercial robbery** had become a concern in the Alewife/West Cambridge District and was averaging nine robberies per year between 2004 and 2008. In 2009, there were only three commercial robberies in this district and for the past three years there has been one robbery annually. The lone incident here in 2012 was an attempted armed robbery at gunpoint at a Concord Ave gas station in September. • **Shoplifting** fell by seven crimes (-15%) in the Alewife District in 2012. The previously identified trend involving a large percentage of Boston residents being arrested for shoplifting at the Fresh Pond Mall held true in 2012. These shoplifters tended to be older in age and more professional than arrestees in other business districts. • **Larcenies from buildings** increased 9% in this business district when compared with the figures for 2011. These thefts were an eclectic mix of thefts from locker rooms, hotels, schools, and offices of hi-tech companies. • **Commercial burglary** recorded a 25% decrease in Alewife in 2012. The last commercial break pattern in this area was a series of smash and grab thefts to businesses on Huron Ave in the summer of 2008. • Sixty percent of the **larcenies from persons** in Business District #10 in 2012 involved the theft of wallets and purses from distracted shoppers in supermarkets.

CRIME	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Larceny from Building	48	41	34	43	47
Larceny from Person	19	12	19	17	21
Commercial Burglary	10	8	17	12	9
Commercial Robbery	6	3	1	1	1
Shoplifting	30	30	34	46	39
Fraud/Flim Flam/ Counterfeiting	48	41	46	33	62



## Section VI

# Special Reports

Domestic Crimes

Homeless Crimes

Juvenile Crimes

School Crimes

Cambridge Housing Authority Incidents

Learn to Protect Yourself



# Domestic Crimes

*Domestic crimes include all offenses committed against family members, spouses and ex-spouses, roommates, and romantic partners and ex-romantic partners. Underreporting is a serious problem when it comes to domestic crimes (domestic violence experts estimate that the police department receives a report for only a third of domestic crimes), so the reliability of these figures is uncertain.*

In 2012, there were a total of 951 incidents between individuals in a domestic relationship. As stated earlier, domestic crime is often 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. Victims of abuse often seek assistance from a local battered women's shelter, a court, a hospital, 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 2012, these calls made up 59% of all domestic reports. Domestic disputes in 2012

are up 14% over 2011, which may indicate that people are calling the police more frequently when engaged in arguments. 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 emotional abuse, economic abuse, sexual abuse, using children, threats, using male privilege, intimidation, isolation, and a variety of other behaviors used to maintain fear, intimidation and power" (<http://www.ncadv.org/problem/what.htm>). 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 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 incidents 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 2012. Aggravated assaults made up an additional 9%.

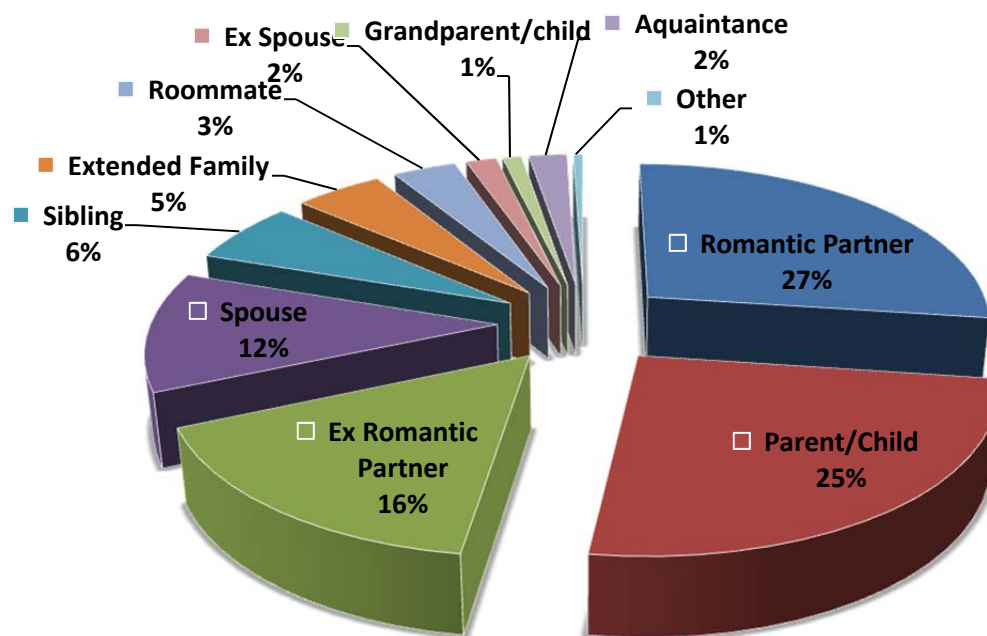
Categorical Breakdown of Domestic Incidents*	2011 Total*	2012 Total*	% change from 2011
Dispute/Disturbance - No Physical Abuse	490	560	14%
Simple Assault	187	160	-14%
Aggravated Assault	80	86	8%
Violation of a Restraining Order	61	44	-28%
Threats to Commit a Crime	47	32	-32%
Harassment	12	20	67%
Larceny	12	17	42%
Indecent Assault	5	5	0%
Rape/Attempted Rape	3	5	67%
Housebreak	6	4	-33%
Malicious Destruction of Property	4	4	0%
Harassing or Obscene Telephone Calls	4	4	0%
Street Robbery	3	4	33%
Kidnapping	1	2	100%
Stalking	3	1	-67%
Violation of Harassment Order	2	1	-50%
Arson	1	1	0%
Other Misc	9	1	-89%
Homicide	4	0	-100%
Forgery	3	0	-100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>951</b>	<b>+1.5%</b>

\*Due to classification changes and submission of NIBRS data to the FBI, the totals for index crimes and domestic crimes may vary slightly.

### Did You Know?

In 2010, the Cambridge Police joined arms with the Arlington and Belmont Police Departments, alongside numerous community service providers to victims of domestic violence and formed the Cambridge, Arlington, Belmont High Risk Assessment and Response Team (CAB HART). Every officer in each jurisdiction has been formally trained in conducting on scene risk assessments for domestic violence cases. Those cases that are deemed to have the factors present to indicate a high risk of re-assault or lethality are brought before CAB HART. The team works closely with shelter organizations, trauma and crisis intervention, housing stabilization, batterer's intervention, probation, and the district attorney's office to keep victims of domestic violence safe and offenders closely monitored and/or contained.

For more information regarding domestic violence, please go to <http://www.cambridgepolice.org>.



**Domestic Crime by Relationship, 2012**

### Police Response to Domestic Violence Calls

1. An incident occurs
2. 911 (police) are called
3. A police/incident report is taken
4. If the victim is assaulted and the batterer is at the scene, s/he is arrested.
5. The case is assigned to the Detective Unit
  - If the report is taken during the day, a night detective is assigned and if the report is taken during the night, a day detective is assigned.
6. The detective will then take the case to court or get a warrant issued depending on the seriousness and history of the incident (for instance if it is an ongoing problem).



### What to Do If You Are a Victim of Domestic Violence

You are not alone, but please understand that domestic abuse generally gets worse and occurs more frequently when victims do not seek help. There is help available, either through the Cambridge Police Department's Domestic Violence Unit or through a local battered women's shelter. At the very least, seek help from a family member or friend, and create a safety plan for you and your children.

#### IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

**Cambridge Police Department's Domestic Violence Unit** ..... 617-349-3371  
**Shelters:**

- Transition House (*shelter in Cambridge*) ..... 617-661-7203
- Renewal House (*shelter in Boston*) ..... 617-566-6881

#### Counseling:

- Respond (*shelter in Somerville*) ..... 617-623-5900
- Dating Violence Intervention Program(*teen dating violence*). 617-868-1650

#### Legal Services:

- Community Legal Services Center ..... 617-661-1010
- Cambridge/Somerville Legal Services ..... 617-603-2700

#### Children who have witnessed domestic violence and/or victims:

- The Guidance Center ..... 617-354-2275

**Elder Abuse Services and reporting**..... 800-922-2275

**The Network/La Red**..... 617-742-4911

**Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project**..... 800-832-1901

### What to Do If You Are an Abuser

Learn to recognize your behavior for what it is. If you assault your spouse, romantic partner, children, or other family members, you need to seek help. Likewise, if you insult, threaten, blame, feel you need to control your spouse or romantic partner, or destroy things during arguments, you should seek assistance. Your behavior may escalate into violence.

#### There is Help for Men Who Abuse:

- Emerge ..... 617-547-9879
- Common Purpose ..... 617-522-6500

Both of these services provide counseling and treatment for abusers.

#### Remember:

- You are responsible for what you say or do.
- Your spouse or partner did not make you hit her or him.
- You can change the way you act.
- There is no excuse for abuse.

### Applying for a Restraining Order

#### Between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.:

During these times, a restraining order must be applied for at the Third District Court in Medford, MA. This type of restraining order is called a Temporary Restraining Order and is good for ten days.

#### After 5:00 p.m. on a Friday, or on a weekend or holiday

During these times, a restraining order must be applied for at the Cambridge Police Department. This type of restraining order is called an Emergency Restraining Order and is good until the next court business day, usually a Monday or the day after a holiday.

#### Once the order is issued

For the restraining order to take effect, it has to be served in hand to the defendant. If the temporary restraining order is not served, it can be continued for another ten days.

Once you appear in court for a temporary restraining order, the order can be granted for a year. Once the year is up, you may have the restraining order granted for another year or ask to be granted a Permanent Restraining Order, which will remain in effect indefinitely.

### Going to Court

Once a detective is assigned to the case, s/he will file for a hearing or for a complaint in court.

- During a hearing, the defendant and the victim will be in the presence of a clerk magistrate. The detective assigned to the case will start the hearing by reading the police report and disclosing any crucial information that was given to them in reference to the case. The victim will give their story, followed by the defendant. The clerk magistrate will decide whether there is enough to go forward with the complaint. This step is only for misdemeanor crimes; if it is a felony charge, it will automatically go to the next step.
- When a complaint is made, the defendant will appear in front of the judge. The judge will hear the victim's story and the defendant's before deciding if there is enough to go forward with an arraignment.
- During the arraignment, the judge will determine whether there is enough to charge the defendant with a crime. The defendant will have a 58A hearing that will determine whether s/he is a threat to society. If not, s/he will be released, but if so, s/he will be held until the trial.
- The trial will be either by jury or bench and if the defendant is found guilty, s/he will have a sentencing hearing and then be sentenced. Once s/he is in jail, the victim in the case can be asked to be notified of a release date or other information they would want to know regarding the defendant, such as programs they are participating in.



# Homeless Crimes

Though accounting for less than .5% of the population in Cambridge, homeless individuals make up 10% to 15% of the total arrests each year. Many of the arrestees have been habitual, chronic offenders in Cambridge for nearly two decades. High pedestrian traffic areas such as Central Square, Harvard Square, Porter Square, and Inman Square, as well as the periphery of shelters, are where the majority of the arrests occur. Crimes influenced heavily by vagrant activity include simple assault (usually homeless fighting each other), shoplifting, larcenies from businesses and automobiles, disorderly conduct, drinking in public, indecent exposure (“flashing” or public urination), and trespassing. Analytical highlights follow.

Homeless arrests accounted for 14.5% of the citywide arrest total in 2012, which is up over the past two years.

## Violent crime

### Murder

Between 1985 and 1997, a murder involving the homeless was one of the three recurring murder categorizations in Cambridge. These incidents, often fueled by drugs and alcohol, escalated into deadly violence. That trend is no longer active. There has not been a murder scenario in the city involving a homeless individual since 1997. The last three murders associated with homeless victims or offenders were:

- On March 31, 1994, a homeless man was beaten to death in a fight with multiple offenders. This case remains unsolved.
- On November 22, 1996, a 50-year-old homeless veteran was stabbed to death on Mass Ave after a brief argument with another man. The offender was convicted of murder.
- On March 26, 1997, three homeless suspects lured a 19-year-old homeless female to an abandoned trailer in the East Street yards. They tortured her, then bludgeoned her to death and set her on fire. All three suspects were convicted of murder.

### Rape

Rapes involving the homeless have declined significantly over the past few years. Throughout the 1990s, the City of Cambridge consistently averaged four to five rapes per year with a suspect or victim classified as homeless. Between 2006 and 2011, there were but eight reported rapes involving homeless victims or suspects, including one last year in 2011. In 2012, there were five reports of homeless being the victim or perpetrator of rape. Three were between acquaintances, one was considered a “contact” rape in which the homeless victim and suspect had been engaged in conversation prior, and the lone blitz rape also involved a homeless victim. Note that the number of rapes that go unreported each year is uncertain.

### Robbery

It is a very rare occurrence when a homeless person robs a stranger. The typical homeless robbery is a sad reflection of urban life: the destitute 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 many cases, both are intoxicated. Property stolen ranges from a bottle of wine to a

blanket or a pair of shoes. Homeless robberies are sometimes precipitated by past debts, real or imaginary. There is a possibility they are under reported.

Throughout the decade of the 1990s, there were 10 to 12 street robberies per year classified as homeless scenarios. That number had fallen to an average of two incidents per year from 2006 to 2009; none were reported in 2010. A series of street robberies in Central Square was the major contributor to the rise in homeless robberies from zero in 2010 to six incidents in 2011. This scenario continued to rise in 2012 with 11 homeless on homeless robberies reported. Seven of these occurred in September and October during the mid-afternoon to late evening hours. Since people are often acquaintances or involved in relationships, arrests and suspects are typically known at the time of reporting; in only five reports was this not the case.

Crime	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Street Robbery	5	5	3	9	2	3	2	3	0	6	11
Aggravated Assaults	13	8	9	10	3	20	15	7	11	14	21

- There have been twenty-two (22) homeless scenario street robberies reported in the past five years. Fifteen of the crimes were in the confines of Central Square, four were in the area of Harvard Square, and the three remaining robberies were near Inman Square.
- Arrests were made in seven of the twenty-two street robberies.
- The victim knew his or her assailant in half (11) of the incidents.

### Aggravated assault

Homeless-related aggravated assaults usually occur as a result of arguments that escalate to altercations. They fluctuate each year in number from a low of 3 incidents in 2006 to a high of 21 altercations this year. The annual average for the past decade has been 13 incidents. As stated, there were 21 aggravated assaults involving the homeless in 2012.

A high percentage of these incidents are fueled by liquor and drugs. A majority of these arrests take place within the confines of Central Square. Also, police officers are frequently victims of simple assaults when dispersing disruptive homeless or attempting to arrest the subjects. Homeless assaults are also precipitated by domestic altercations or when service is denied at retail establishments. Further analysis reveals the following data on aggravated assaults involving homeless over the past three years:

- 86% of the aggravated assaults involving the homeless in 2012 happened on weekdays.
- The majority (62%) of aggravated assaults involving homeless people were within the confines of Central Square between the 400 and 700 blocks of Mass Ave.
- Assaults in 2012 were very evenly distributed across male vs. male, female vs. female, and male vs. female. In 2011, over 80% of the homeless-related aggravated assaults were male vs. male altercations.
- The scenario in the majority of these incidents is two homeless individuals who are known to each other and are in an inebriated state, fighting each other over property, debts, or a romantic partner.

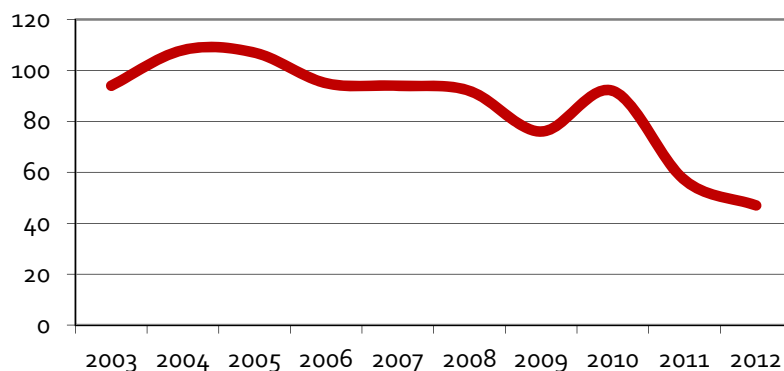
### Other crimes associated with the homeless

- **Shoplifting** was the second most frequent homeless-related crime in 2012, with 18 incidents. The majority of these arrests were made in local convenience and drug stores around Harvard and Central Squares.
- **Trespassing** arrests are usually the result of homeless individuals sleeping in ATMs, attempting to enter commercial locations that these persons have been denied access to, or entering campuses/buildings where they do not belong at M.I.T. and Harvard. Trespassing arrests citywide rose slightly from 7 in 2011 to 11 in 2012.
- **Disorderly** arrests involving homeless individuals rose from 5 in 2011 to 7 in 2012. These incidents typically involved situations that ranged from homeless not cooperating with the police to individuals acting belligerently or yelling obscenities due to intoxication. Most of these incidents took place in Central Square, at least partly due to the availability of liquor.
- **Drug and drinking in public** arrests account for the majority of homeless arrests (outside of warrants). In 2012, these two crimes accounted for 37 homeless arrests throughout the year, concentrated around the Central Square area.
- **Simple assaults** often occur for similar reasons as aggravated assaults. One of the more typical scenarios is when arguments develop as the result of domestic situations between two homeless people. This took place in six homeless related incidents in 2012.

# Juvenile Crimes

Juveniles, **offenders aged 16 and under**, made up approximately 5.5% of the total arrests in Cambridge between 2003 and 2012 (ranging from 3.5% to 7.5% each year). The number of juvenile arrests for all offenses during this time frame peaked in 2004 at 108 arrests and bottomed out at 47 arrests in 2012. The reduction in juvenile arrests over the past two years can be attributed at least in part to the Diversion Program instituted within the Family Services Unit.

**Number of Juvenile Arrests by Year  
(2003-2012)**



On average, shoplifting tends to be the crime for which the most juveniles are arrested each year, as the chart below depicts. This year was no different with 14 juvenile shoplifting arrests, followed by 10 arrests for larceny. Other crimes that consistently have high juvenile arrest numbers are street robberies and assaults.

**Juvenile Arrests by Crime, 2008-2012**

Violent Crimes	
Street Robbery	38
Aggravated Assault	30
Commercial Robbery	3
Rape	1
Homicide	0
<b>Total Violent</b>	<b>72</b>
Property Crimes	
Shoplifting	110
All Larceny Offenses*	33
Housebreak	6
Commercial Break	2
Auto Theft	2
<b>Total Property</b>	<b>153</b>

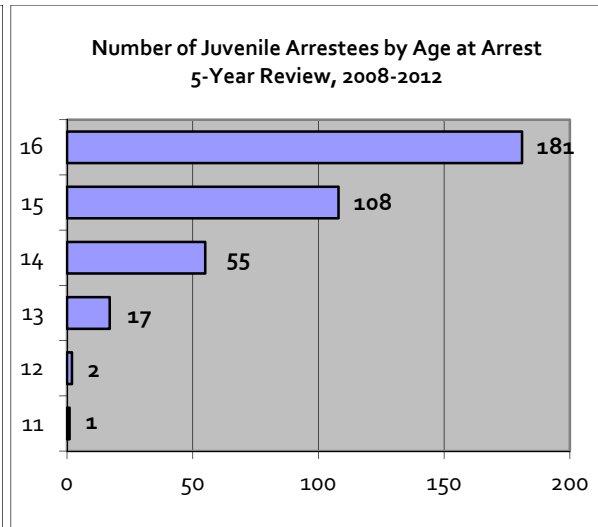
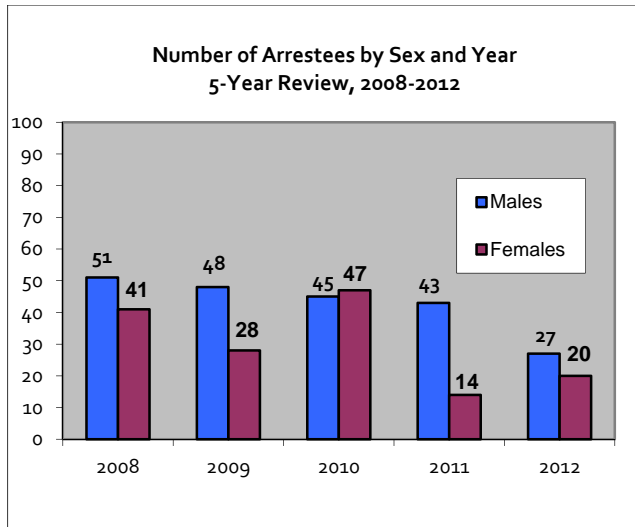
\*Larceny types include larceny from building, from motor vehicle, from person, of bicycle, from residence, of license plate, of services, and miscellaneous larcenies.

**Other Offenses, 2008-2012**

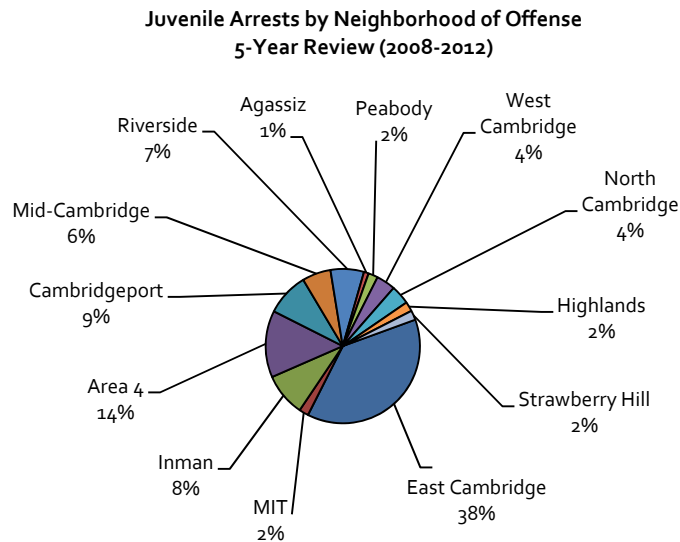
Child in Need of Services	40
Simple Assault	30
Misc. Offenses	13
Disorderly	10
Drugs	9
Receiving Stolen Prop.	9
Malicious Destruction	8
Weapon Violations	7
Trespassing	5
Driving Offenses	3
Liquor Possession/Sale	2
Indecent Assault	2
Domestic Dispute	1
Arson	0
Drinking in Public	0
Indecent Exposure	0
Peeping & Spying	0
Threats	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>139</b>

Approximately 57% of the juveniles arrested in Cambridge in 2012 were male, compared to 72% of adult arrestees. These numbers for 2012 are below national totals, as roughly 70% of juvenile arrestees nationally each year are male. The graph to the left breaks down the numbers of juvenile arrestees per year by sex between 2008 and 2012.

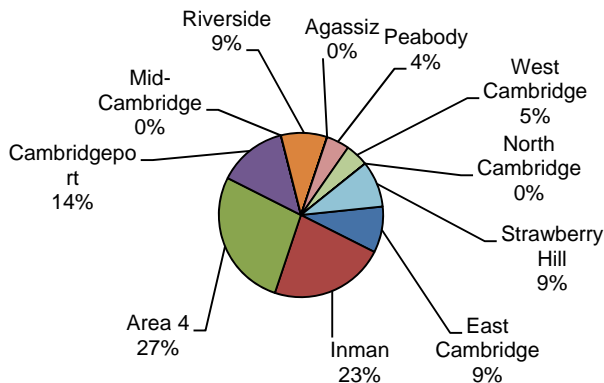
Fifty percent (50%) of the juveniles arrested between 2008 and 2012 were 16 years old at the time of their arrest, making it the most common age of an arrested juvenile. Juveniles at 15 years of age were not far behind with 30% of the arrests. No arrests of children under the age of 11 were made in the past 10 years, and in 2012, no one under the age of 13 was arrested.



The majority of arrests took place in East Cambridge, which logically follows given that the CambridgeSide Galleria accounts for a high number of shoplifting arrests. The graph to the right breaks down the percentages of arrests of juveniles per neighborhood of offense over the past five years.



**Cambridge Juvenile Arrestees in 2012 by Neighborhood of Residence**



A little less than half (47%) of the juveniles arrested in 2012 were Cambridge residents. Of these, Area 4 and Inman/ Harrington were the most common neighborhoods of residence, followed by Cambridgeport.

## Crimes on Cambridge school property in 2012

School	Larc. from Build.	Larc. from Person	Vandalism	Simple Assault	Harass./ Threats	Street Rob.	Drugs	Agg. Assault	Larc. Of Bike	Larc. from MV	Comm. Break	Misc.	Total
<b>Baldwin School</b> 28 Sacramento St.	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	4
<b>Cambridgeport School</b> 89 Elm St.	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
<b>Andrew Peabody School</b> (Formerly the M.E. Fitzgerald School) 70 Rindge Ave.	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	7	11
<b>Fletcher-Maynard Academy</b> 225 Windsor St.	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	4
<b>Graham &amp; Parks School</b> 44 Linnaean St.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	3
<b>Haggerty School</b> 110 Cushing St.	2	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	8
<b>King Open School</b> (Formerly the Harrington School) 850 Cambridge St.	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	7
<b>Kennedy - Longfellow School</b> 158 Spring St.	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6
<b>MLK, Jr. School</b> 100 Putnam Ave.	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	4
<b>Morse School</b> 40 Granite St.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Tobin School</b> 197 Vassal Ln.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	5
<b>CRLS High School</b> 459 Broadway	12	1	0	4	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	2	24
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>82</b>



## Incidents on Cambridge Housing Authority property in 2012\*

Property	Agg. Assault	Simple Assault	Robbery	Drugs	Burg.	Auto Theft	Larc. Res.	Larc. MV	Vandal.	Threats/ Harass.	Trespass	Indecent Assault	Domest. Disp.	R.O. Viol.	Total
2 Chestnut	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
8-10 Lancaster	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
87 Amory St.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
116 Norfolk St	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
2353 Mass Ave	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
226 Norfolk St	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Inman St.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Burns Apts.	1	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	10
Corcoran Pk	1	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	5	1	15
Hingham St.	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Jackson St.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Jefferson Park	5	10	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	11	0	0	17	4	49
JFK Apts.	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	3
LBJ Apts.	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	8
Lincoln Way	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Manning Apts.	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	7
Miller's River	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	5
Newtowne Ct	5	8	1	0	1	1	2	0	14	3	0	0	16	3	54
Putnam Gardens	4	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	3	5	0	1	11	1	30
Putnam School	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Roosevelt Towers	1	6	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	8	0	0	3	0	22
Russell Apt.	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
St. Paul's	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	7
Truman Apts.	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	3
Washington Elms	1	2	2	0	3	2	1	0	1	4	0	0	19	1	36
Weaver Apts.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Willow St.	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	3
Woodrow Wilson Ct.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	3	0	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>278</b>

\*Only CHA properties that reported activity are listed; there are more properties not depicted in this chart.

# Protect Yourself Against Crime

Cambridge prides itself in being a safe place to raise a family, participate in the workforce and attend school. Compared to cities of similar size and population nationwide, the crime rate in Cambridge consistently ranks below average in the majority of serious crime categories. (See the National and Regional Crime Comparison near the beginning of this Annual Report for more information). However, crime is a presence and a concern in all large cities and the safety of residents and visitors is of the utmost importance to the Cambridge Police Department. The following tips are provided to help residents, visitors, and business owners learn to protect themselves and their property

## Protect yourself against violent crime

- Be aware of your surroundings.
  - Try to avoid walking alone after dark. If you must walk alone at night, use well-lit roads with as much car traffic as possible.
  - Keep an arm's length away from strangers and make eye contact with everyone you pass. If you think someone suspicious is approaching or following you, cross to the other side of the street and head for the nearest public place.
  - Avoid walking with headphones on, as you may not be able to hear someone approach.
  - Know which stores and other public places are open along your route and try to vary your route frequently.
  - When parking at night, try to park in well-lit spots. When returning to your car, have your keys ready, and keep your doors locked when driving.
  - At night, avoid public parks, vacant lots, and areas with excessive trees and bushes.
  - When waiting for a bus or subway, if the station is deserted, keep your back against a wall in a well-lit section.
  - Try to avoid using ATMs late at night.
  - Don't carry your purse loosely around your shoulder. Clutch it tightly under your arm or avoid carrying a purse and keep a wallet in your pocket instead.
  - If you are robbed, obey the robber's demands. Keeping your cash in a separate money clip or pouch will allow you to hand it over without sacrificing your credit cards, identification, and personal papers.
  - Try to memorize your robber's physical features, clothing, motor vehicle, and direction of flight. Call the police from the nearest available telephone.
  - Know the full name of each person you date, his/her occupation, and where s/he lives.
- Never invite a person whom you have met on the street, in a bar, or in another public place to be alone with you.
- If you are a victim of rape, report the crime. Counseling, shelters, and other services are available for you, and you may prevent another person from being victimized.
  - The Boston Area Rape Crisis Center is available at (800) 841-8371. The Center supports a 24-hour hotline, support groups, one-on-one counseling, and education programs. All its services are free.
  - The Cambridge Police Department offers a Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) course for women seeking to learn how to physically protect themselves against rape and other forms of violence. The course is free and is taught by a certified R.A.D. instructor. For more information, call the Cambridge Police Department's Community Services Unit at (617) 349-3236.
  - If you have been abused by, or are in fear of, your partner or spouse, get help. The problem usually becomes worse if it is not addressed. The "Domestic Crime" section of this report lists telephone numbers that you or your partner can call to seek assistance.
  - Report assault when it happens, even if you do not believe it to be "serious." Assaults that are not reported cannot be considered by police administrators when they make decisions about how to allocate manpower and funds. If there is a problem with a bar, a household, a school, or any other place where assaults are likely to happen, the police need to know about it.
  - Do not allow yourself to be drawn into arguments about traffic or parking incidents. If another driver commits a violation or threatens you, take down his registration and report it to the police.

### Protect yourself against property crime

#### Preventing auto theft and larcenies from motor vehicles

- Always take your keys and lock your car.
- Park in well-lit areas or in attended lots. If you park in an attended lot, leave only the ignition/door key.
- Never leave your car running, even if you will only be gone for a minute.
- Take valuables with you when leaving your vehicle unattended. If you cannot, at least move them to the trunk or under the seat where they will not be seen. Leaving expensive items out in the open creates an easy target, attracting thieves that may be casing the area. This is particularly important with GPS units, laptops, iPods, and cell phones.
- Always remove detachable GPS systems and their bases from dashboards and windshields.

#### Preventing residential burglary

- Try “casing” your own home. Attempt to gain access when the doors and windows are locked and “secure.” Have identification on you in case your neighbors call the police.
- Doors should be made from strong wood or metal and should be locked with a deadbolt. Install guards on windows that prevent them from being raised more than a few inches.
- If you live in an apartment building, make sure that security is enforced at the main door. Never prop open the door or let someone in behind you. When you go away, even for the evening, leave a light or two on (perhaps on a timer).
- Install motion sensor lights outside your home.
- Request a Cambridge Police Department Residential Security Survey at (617) 349-3236, which provides a general assessment of the vulnerability of your residence.

#### Preventing larcenies from buildings or persons

- Employees should be encouraged to question suspicious/unfamiliar people in office buildings, or to report them to the security department.
- Don’t leave expensive personal property in health club lockers.
- Retail establishments should provide individual lockers, with locks, for employee property. Leaving it behind the counter or in a “back room” is an invitation for theft.
- Take care of your personal property while shopping and dining. Never leave it unattended.
- Do not hang purses on the back of your chair, as you will not be able to see someone lift it off.
- Report all thefts, no matter how minor, to the police department. Reporting will allow us to identify and attack patterns and series of crime.

#### Preventing bicycle theft

- No lock will stop a determined bicycle thief, but using a lock is better than not using one, and you can maximize the protection a lock provides by: 1) using a steel “U” lock rather than a cable lock; 2) locking the *frame* of the bicycle rather than the tire; and 3) locking your bike at a bicycle rack.
- Register your bicycle with the Cambridge Police Department. If your bike is stolen and recovered, it will be easier to find you and return your bicycle. Registration cards are available at the Cambridge Police Department and local bicycle shops. Call Community Services, (617) 349-3236, for more info.
- Removing an essential part of the bicycle, such as the seat or one of the wheels, and taking it with you provides some protection against theft. Don’t assume your bicycle is safe because it is in your yard, porch, or in your apartment hallway. Bikes should be locked in a secured area, such as a garage or shed.

### Preventing fraud

- Keep your credit card numbers and the telephone numbers of your credit card companies at home and work. If your cards are stolen, call these numbers immediately and report the theft.
- Never write your ATM card PIN number on the card or on a slip of paper in your wallet or purse.
- When someone comes to your door claiming to work for a utility company,

always ask for official identification and call the company to make sure it is valid. Do not let “utility impostors” into your home.

- Learn to recognize potential fraud scenarios. Any of the following activities could involve a scam:
- Someone approaches you on the street claiming to have found money.
- Any circumstance in which you have to pay money in order to get money or a prize.
- You receive an unsolicited telephone call from someone offering a great deal on a piece of merchandise.

### More crime prevention resources

For more tips and resources to prevent crime, visit the Cambridge Police Department’s web site at:

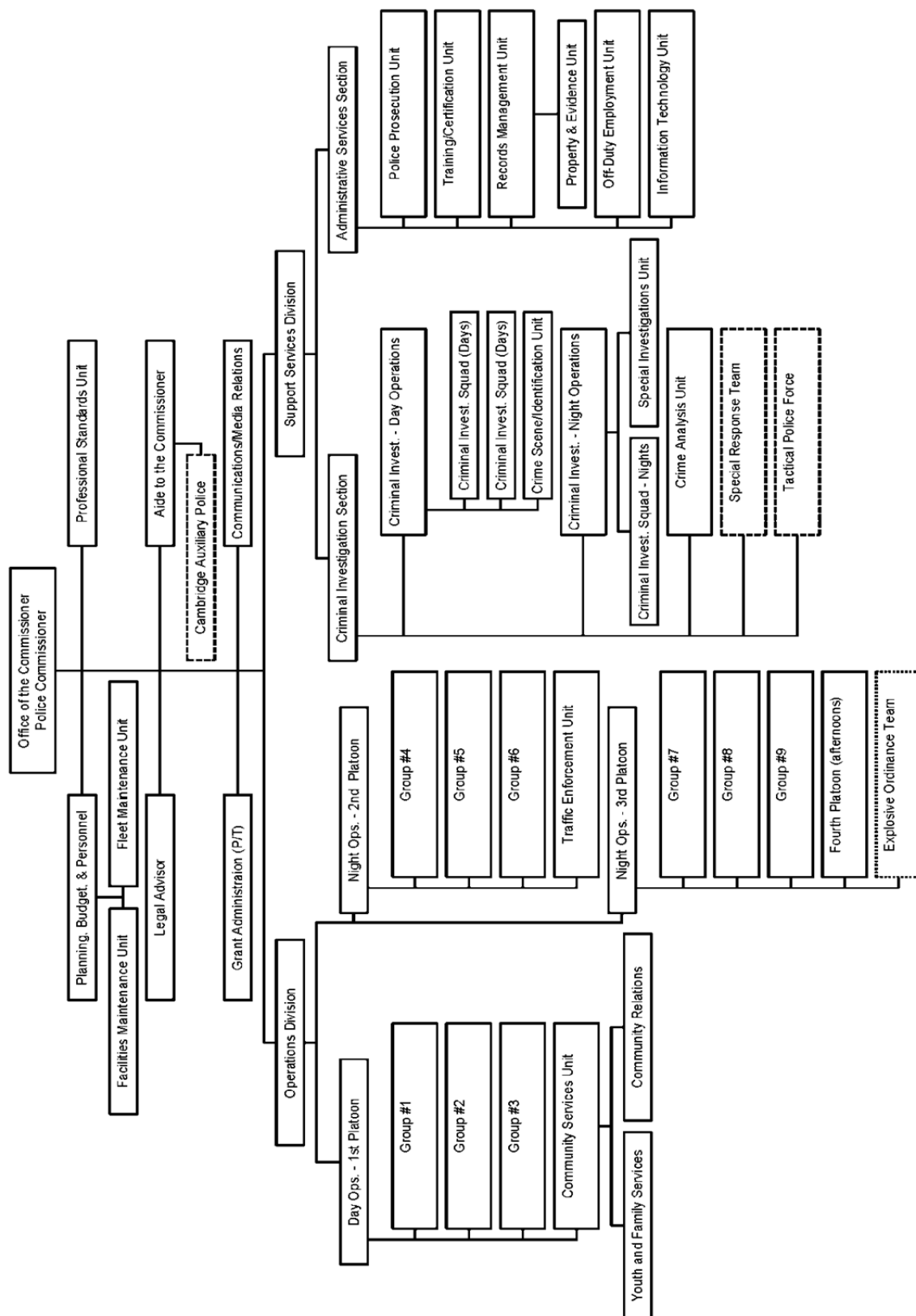
<http://www.cambridgema.gov/cpd/communityresources/CrimePrevention.aspx>

Or visit the National Crime Prevention Council at:

<http://www.ncpc.org/>



# CPD Organizational Chart



# 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 ..... (617) 349-3237  
Records Unit.....(617) 349-3336  
Community Services Unit .....(617) 349-3236  
Identification Unit.....(617) 349-3347  
Police Academy .....(617) 349-3343  
Property Office.....(617) 349-3380

## KEY INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES

Narcotics Unit ..... (617) 349-3360  
Drug Tip Hotline..... (617) 349-3359  
Domestic Violence Unit.....(617) 349-3371  
Accident Investigations ..... (617) 349-3307  
Investigations Section ..... (617) 349-3370

## 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**

125 Sixth St.  
Cambridge, MA 02142  
(617) 349-3300 – 24 hours a day

### **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](http://www.CambridgePolice.org), and clicking Anonymous Crime Tip E-mail