



# Cambridge Police Department BridgeStat

December 2018

Produced by the Crime Analysis Unit

***\*Preliminary 2018 Year-to-Date numbers are subject to change as data are finalized in the coming weeks.***



# Part I Total Crime

The preliminary end-of-the-year figures for 2018 reveals a moderate increase of 3% recorded, with 81 additional serious crimes in Cambridge reported to the FBI, when compared with the final numbers counted for last year. When measured against the five-year average, a significant 9% drop in the crime index has been registered. This slight upturn in criminal activity comes on the heels of the 2017 crime statistic totals in the City, which were at their lowest level since 1960.

**The unofficial final breakdown of Part One crime statistics for the time period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> illuminates** that there were 2,402 serious crimes reported in the City over the 52 weeks of 2018. For the same time period in 2017, the combined total for Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny & Auto Theft was 2,321 incidents.

Further analysis of the crime totals for 2018 indicates that **violent crimes have recorded a 7% increase** with 21 additional incidents above the same time period in 2017. When measuring the property crime totals for all of 2018 against those of the same time period last year, the numbers reflect a nominal rise with 2,022 counted in 2017 and 60 more crimes counted through December 31<sup>st</sup> of 2018, resulting in a 3% increase this year.

|                      | <u>4 Week Snapshot</u> |                       |        | <u>Year to Date</u> |      |        | <u>Five Year</u> |        |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------|---------------------|------|--------|------------------|--------|
|                      | 11/6/18 -<br>12/3/18   | 12/4/18 -<br>12/31/18 | Change | 2017                | 2018 | Change | Avg              | Change |
| Total Violent Crime  | 28                     | 17                    | -39%   | 299                 | 320  | 7%     | 296              | 8%     |
| Total Property Crime | 160                    | 144                   | -10%   | 2022                | 2082 | 3%     | 2349             | -11%   |
| Total Part I Crime   | 188                    | 161                   | -14%   | 2321                | 2402 | 3%     | 2644             | -9%    |



# Part I Property Crime

The preliminary end-of-the-year property crime figures for 2018 points to a 3% increase when measured against the 2017 totals and an 11% reversal below the five-year average, with 267 incidents under the 2,349 crimes forecasted for this time period.

Eight of the 14 property crime categories recorded slender increases this year when measured against 2017. A 40% surge in larceny from residences represented the major property crime trend identified in 2018. Property crimes registering downturns when compared with their five-year averages include: larceny from building (-13%); larceny from person (-16%), and larceny of bikes (-10%). The year-end totals for housebreaks and larcenies from motor vehicles were the lowest numbers recorded for these crimes in the City since the 1950s.

|                             | 4 Week Snapshot      |                       |             |  | Year to Date |             |            | Five Year   |             |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|--|--------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
|                             | 11/6/18 -<br>12/3/18 | 12/4/18 -<br>12/31/18 | Change      |  | 2017         | 2018        | Change     | Avg         | Change      |
| <b>Burglary</b>             | <b>14</b>            | <b>5</b>              | <b>-64%</b> |  | <b>252</b>   | <b>253</b>  | <b>0%</b>  | <b>318</b>  | <b>-20%</b> |
| Commercial Break            | 3                    | 1                     | -67%        |  | 49           | 56          | 14%        | 59          | -5%         |
| Housebreak                  | 11                   | 4                     | -64%        |  | 203          | 197         | -3%        | 259         | -24%        |
| <b>Larceny</b>              | <b>138</b>           | <b>135</b>            | <b>-2%</b>  |  | <b>1679</b>  | <b>1718</b> | <b>2%</b>  | <b>1921</b> | <b>-11%</b> |
| Larceny (Misc)              | 2                    | 4                     | 100%        |  | 40           | 47          | 18%        | 39          | 21%         |
| Larceny from Building       | 22                   | 23                    | 5%          |  | 273          | 277         | 1%         | 317         | -13%        |
| Larceny from MV             | 26                   | 21                    | -19%        |  | 289          | 271         | -6%        | 386         | -30%        |
| Larceny from Person         | 11                   | 10                    | -9%         |  | 158          | 168         | 6%         | 200         | -16%        |
| Larceny from Residence      | 26                   | 42                    | 62%         |  | 187          | 261         | 40%        | 235         | 11%         |
| Larceny of Bicycle          | 17                   | 13                    | -24%        |  | 303          | 307         | 1%         | 343         | -10%        |
| Larceny of Plate            | 2                    | 2                     | 0%          |  | 28           | 23          | -18%       | 25          | -8%         |
| Larceny of Services         | 4                    | 0                     | -100%       |  | 31           | 26          | -16%       | 22          | 18%         |
| Shoplifting                 | 28                   | 20                    | -29%        |  | 370          | 338         | -9%        | 355         | -5%         |
| <b>Auto Theft</b>           | <b>8</b>             | <b>4</b>              | <b>-50%</b> |  | <b>91</b>    | <b>111</b>  | <b>22%</b> | <b>110</b>  | <b>1%</b>   |
| <b>Total Property Crime</b> | <b>160</b>           | <b>144</b>            | <b>-10%</b> |  | <b>2022</b>  | <b>2082</b> | <b>3%</b>  | <b>2349</b> | <b>-11%</b> |



# Part I Violent Crime

The preliminary end-of-the-year figures for 2018 indicate a 7% ascent for violent crimes in Cambridge with 21 additional incidents reported. The projected five-year weighted average for violent crime in Cambridge for the year was 296 incidents. Through December 31<sup>st</sup> of this year, there were 320 violent crimes registered in the City, **which indicates an 8% rise above the number forecasted.**

A conservative decrease in robberies has been measured this year with six fewer crimes reported in 2018, driving a 6% dip in this category of criminal activity over last year, and eight incidents (+9%) recorded above the 90 robberies forecasted for the year. Thirty-seven of the 98 robberies in 2018 were classified as commercial in nature.

Eleven additional rapes (+55%) above the same time period last year have been recorded through December 31<sup>st</sup> of 2018. Due to a number of factors and vagaries in the National Incident Based Reporting System, the final count in rapes for 2018 should be considered a preliminary number at the present time. **The 10% increase in Aggravated Assault with 18 additional incidents drove the measured rise in violent crime this year.**

|                     | 4 Week Snapshot      |                       |         | Year to Date |      |         | Five Year |        |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------|--------------|------|---------|-----------|--------|
|                     | 11/6/18 -<br>12/3/18 | 12/4/18 -<br>12/31/18 | Change  | 2017         | 2018 | Change  | Avg       | Change |
| Homicide            | 0                    | 0                     | IN-CALC | 2            | 0    | IN-CALC | 2         | -100%  |
| Rape                | 2                    | 2                     | 0%      | 20           | 31   | 55%     | 28        | 11%    |
| Robbery             | 13                   | 2                     | -85%    | 104          | 98   | -6%     | 90        | 9%     |
| Commercial Robbery  | 6                    | 0                     | -100%   | 39           | 37   | -5%     | 29        | 28%    |
| Street Robbery      | 7                    | 2                     | -71%    | 65           | 61   | -6%     | 61        | 0%     |
| Aggravated Assault  | 13                   | 13                    | 0%      | 173          | 191  | 10%     | 175       | 9%     |
| Total Violent Crime | 28                   | 17                    | -39%    | 299          | 320  | 7%      | 296       | 8%     |



# MURDER

*No Patterns*

- **No murders have been recorded in 2018 in Cambridge\*.**

The July 22<sup>nd</sup> fatality of a 15-year-old Cambridge female is being investigated as a possible homicide.

- **There were two murders reported in Cambridge in 2017.**
- On October 14, Ednilson DaCosta, 28, of Dorchester, was shot in a vehicle on Windsor Street. He was transported to an area hospital where he was pronounced. Shortly after, a second fatal shooting occurred in Somerville. Kevin Raymond, 20, of Somerville, was shot in a parking lot. On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Tony Harris, 28, of Everett was arrested for Raymond's murder. The murder of Ednilson DaCosta remains under investigation.
- The second homicide of 2017 involved a fatal shooting on the night of November 16<sup>th</sup> in the area of Tremont Street and Hampshire Street. Malachi Mims, 28, of Cambridge, was taken to a local hospital where he was later pronounced dead. On December 31<sup>st</sup>, a Cambridge 17-year-old, Kevin Reddick, was arrested in Boston and charged in connection to the shooting death.
  - **UPDATE:** The Middlesex District Attorney's Office announced that Osiris Chambers, 17, of Cambridge, was arraigned on November 29, 2018, in Middlesex Superior Court in connection with the November 16, 2017, shooting death of Malachi Mims. Video surveillance had captured two males fleeing the scene of the shooting, one wearing a teal jacket. The jacket was located during a search warrant and tested positive for gunshot residue. A DNA analysis of the jacket eventually resulted in a match to Chambers.

## Percent Change\*

Last 4 Weeks

Previous Year

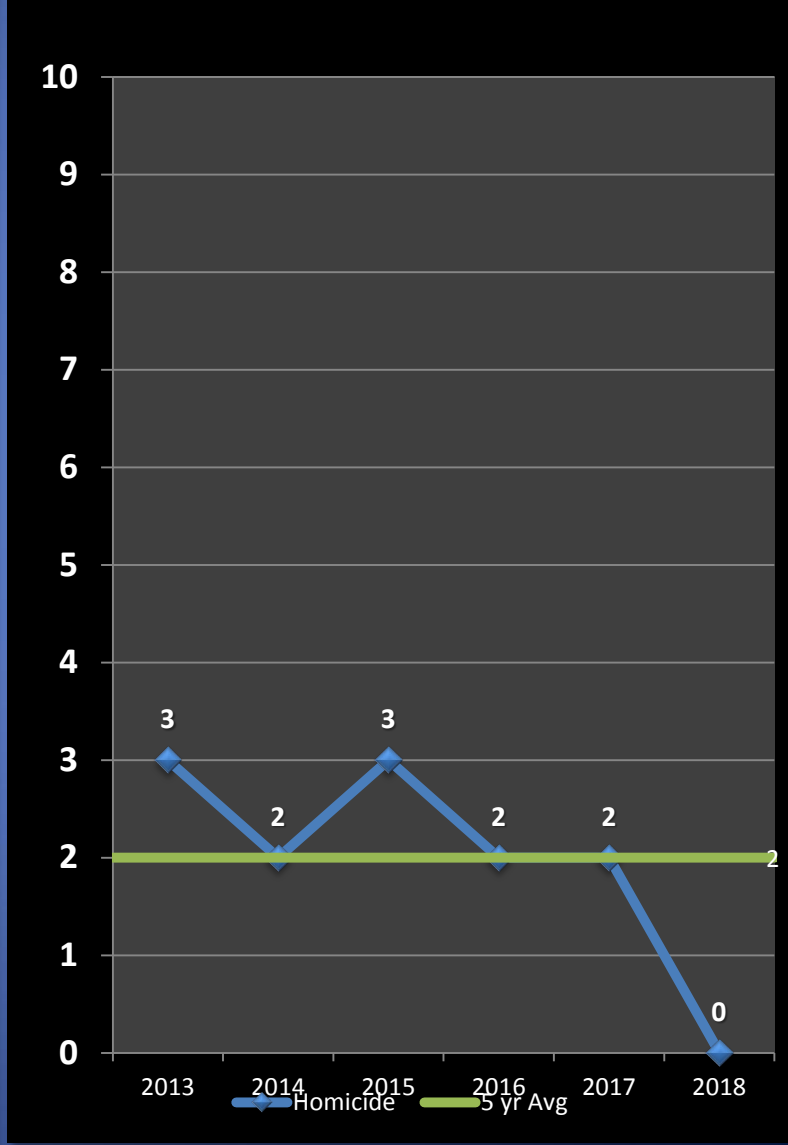
5-Year Average

**In-Calc**

**In-Calc**

**In-Calc**

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





# Characteristics of Murder in Cambridge

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

## Cambridge Murder Statistics, 1990-2017

- 60 people murdered in 55 incidents (in 4 of the incidents, 2 or more people were killed)
- 41 victims were male (average age of 34)
- 19 victims were female (average age of 41)
- Most common weapons: handguns (29 incidents) and knives (13 incidents)
- 18 of the 55 cases are still under investigation or remain unsolved
- 25 of the 34 cases since 2000 have been cleared by arrest or by the death of the suspect, including all three murders in both 2013 and 2015, and one of the two murders in 2014 and 2017. There have been no arrests in the two murders in 2016.



# Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2017

**Colin Burton**, 30, of Dorchester, was shot and killed outside of Hi - Fi Pizza on Mass Ave in Central Square on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 1999. Burton was talking with the occupants of a Ford Explorer when the subject in the passenger seat fired through the window. Two suspects fled the scene. The case remains under active investigation.



September 18, 1999, Mass Ave



April 5, 2002, Mass Ave

**Ian Gray**, 19, of Mattapan, was in an argument outside of the Rhythm & Spice restaurant that spilled out onto Mass Ave. A suspect that had left the scene returned with a group of people and a fight ensued. A knife was produced during the altercation and four gunshots were fired, fatally wounding Gray. This case remains open.

On June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2002 at 7:00PM, **Ricardo Williams**, 27, of Malden, was found in the driver's seat of a motor vehicle suffering from a gunshot wound to his face. Williams was taken to CCH where he was pronounced dead. This case remains open.



June 17, 2002, Windsor St.

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



# Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2017

Cambridge Police BridgeStat

**Jason Ellcock**, 33, of Malden, formerly of Cambridge and father of three, was found with multiple gunshot wounds in front of the driveway to 364 Rindge Ave at 3:05 AM on the night of June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009. He was pronounced dead at the scene. This incident remains under investigation.



June 16, 2009, Rindge Ave



March 12, 2011, Brookline St.

**James Lauture**, 30, of Cambridge, was sitting in a vehicle near Brookline and Watson Streets just after midnight on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011, when an unknown gunman opened fire. The occupants in the car were able to drive to Central Square. Lauture died from multiple gunshot wounds. The other man in the vehicle survived. This case remains open.

On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012, **Charlene Holmes**, 16, of Cambridge, was shot while sitting on a porch on Willow St. She later succumbed to her wounds at the hospital. The investigation into this incident remains active, but no arrests have been made to date.



June 3, 2012, Willow St



July 3, 2014, Windsor Street.

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

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



## Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2017

The first murder of 2016 in Cambridge occurred on the night of March 22<sup>nd</sup> when **Armando Hernandez Jr**, 30, of Belmont was killed by gunfire on Mt. Auburn St just before 10 PM. Area residents said they heard 10 or 11 gunshots. A second victim was hospitalized with a leg wound. This case remains under investigation.



March 22, 2016, Mt Auburn St



June 25, 2016, 140 Harvard St.

On June 25<sup>th</sup> of 2016, Cambridge Police responded to a report of a shooting outside of 140 Harvard Street. Arriving officers discovered the victim, **Anthony Clay**, 49, of Cambridge suffering from a gunshot wound. The victim was transported to Massachusetts General Hospital where he was pronounced dead. This case remains under investigation.

At 3:40 a.m. on October 14, 2017, **Ednilson DaCosta**, 28, of Dorchester, was shot in a motor vehicle in the area of Windsor Street & Evereteze Way. He was pronounced deceased at a local hospital. Minutes later, another male was shot and killed in Somerville. On November 3, 2017, Tony Harris, 28, of Everett, was arrested for the Somerville homicide, but the murder of Ednilson DaCosta remains under investigation.



October 14, 2017, Windsor St.

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



# RAPE

*No Patterns*

- Preliminary counts indicate that there were 31 rapes reported in Cambridge through December 31<sup>st</sup> of 2018, which is 11 incidents (+55%) above the final total recorded for 2017. Preliminary analysis of the sudden surge for this crime in 2018 points to the long-standing trend that rape numbers can fluctuate erratically from month-to-month and year-to-year.
- There were two rapes recorded in December, one classified as an acquaintance incident, the other as a blitz scenario. Both of the rapes counted in November were categorized as acquaintance situations. There were six rapes reported during October of 2018 in Cambridge. One of the incidents was categorized as a blitz sexual assault and the other five were classified as acquaintance scenarios.
- Summary of Rapes reported in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2018 in Cambridge: There were three reports in July, two involving acquaintances and one involving a domestic situation. The one rape recorded in August was domestic. There were three rapes reported during September of 2018 in Cambridge. One of the incidents was categorized as a domestic-related sexual assault and the other two were classified as acquaintance scenarios.
- The following is the categorical breakdown for rapes in Cambridge through December 31<sup>st</sup> : 18 were acquaintance incidents; 7 were domestic scenarios; 4 were classified as blitz assaults & two were categorized as contact crime.
- The FBI reported that there were an estimated 135,755 rapes reported to United States law enforcement in 2017. This estimate was 2.5 percent higher than the 2016 estimate and 19.4 percent higher than the 2013 estimate

## Percent Change\*

Last 4 Weeks

**0%**

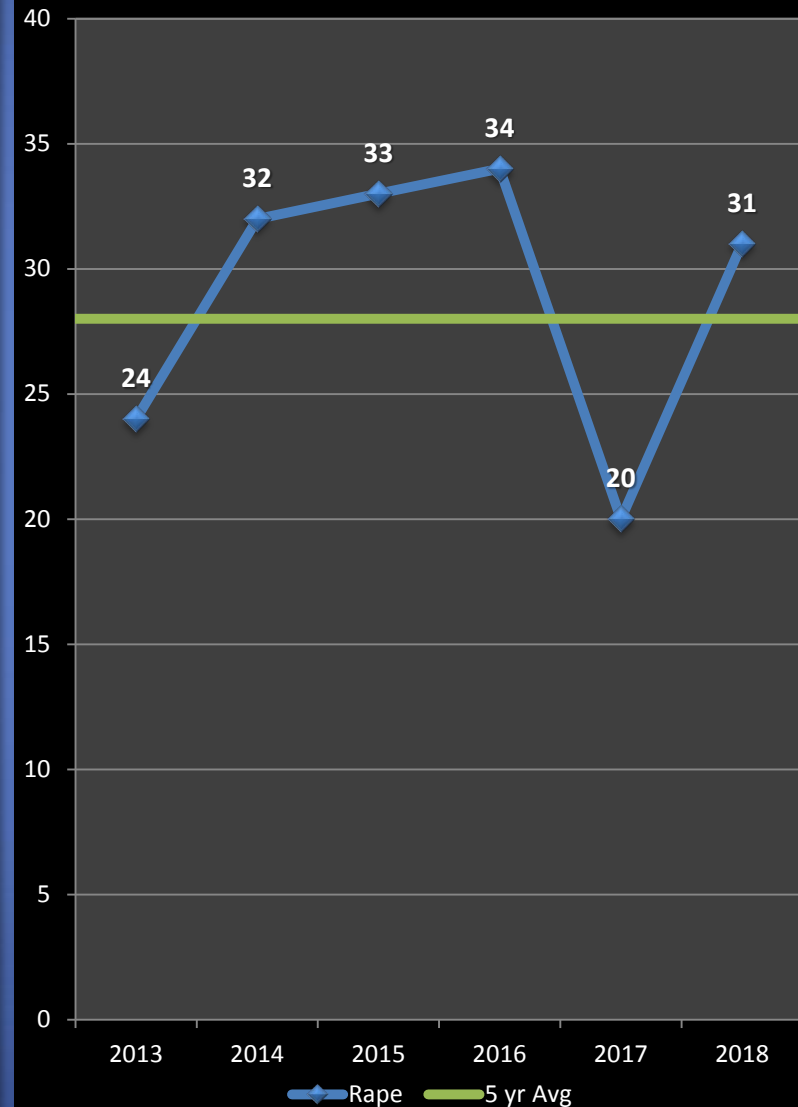
Previous Year

**+55%**

5-Year Average

**+11%**

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





# AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

No Patterns

- When comparing the preliminary number total for aggravated assaults for 2018 with the same time frame last year, there has been a notable increase of 10% in this violent crime category with 18 additional incidents counted. The total of 191 aggravated assaults reported this year was 16 crimes (+9%) above the projected five-year average of 175 assaults through December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- The 191 aggravated assaults reported in 2018 were composed of the following classifications: 64 domestic altercations; 38 unprovoked scenarios; 19 fights among acquaintances; 14 juvenile related; 13 road rage incidents; 12 homeless disputes; 9 escalated brawls; 5 assaults between shop owners and patrons; 5 assaults on a police officer; 3 bar/alcohol fights; 3 escalated psychotic episodes, 3 landlord/neighbor disputes; and one each of the following: a drug deal gone awry, a workplace incident, and one involving a third romantic partner. Major aggravated assault trends identified in 2018: domestic assaults and unprovoked assaults around Central & Harvard Squares.
- There were 22 incidents between January and December 31<sup>st</sup> of 2018 where shots were confirmed / suspected in Cambridge, with more than half of the incidents involving ShotSpotter activations.

**Review of shootings in Cambridge during Nov / Dec 2018:**

- On 11.29 at 2:40PM, shots fired from one vehicle at another at Sidney & Chestnut; driver of one vehicle non-fatally grazed in head. Both cars then drove to Sidney St Ext and Columbia St, exchanged gunfire (ShotSpotter alert). One car stopped by police on Land Blvd, 2 males arrested. Second vehicle fled.**
- On 12.3 at 9:45PM, one shot was fired in the area of Pine & School St. One shell casing recovered. No injuries.**

## Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

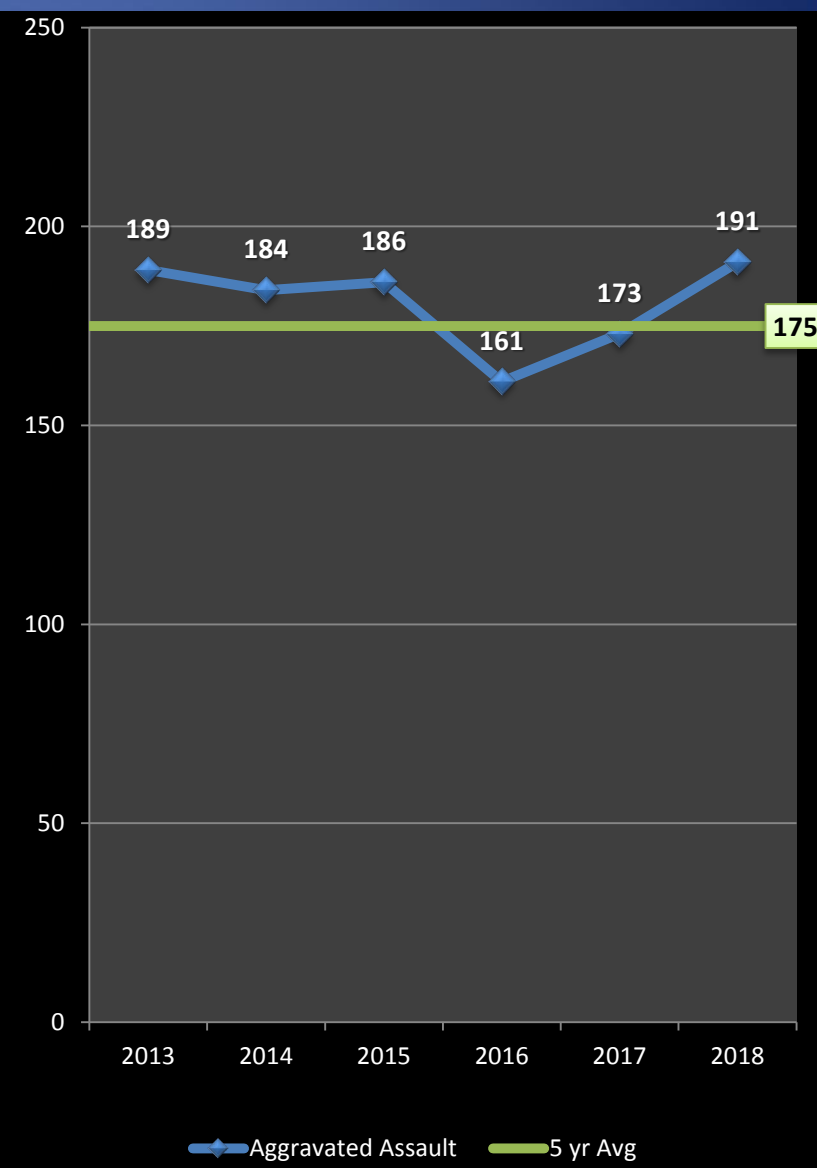
0%

Previous Year

+10%

5-Year Average

+9%





# Geographic Breakdown of Aggravated Assaults: 1.1.18 to 12.31.18

Cambridge Police BridgeStat

**Assault total for North Cambridge in 2018: 13 incidents – 45% were domestic**

**Domestic assaults, which accounted for 45% of all incidents in this category during the first quarter, has been reduced to the long-standing percentage of around 34% of the incidents at the end of 2018.**

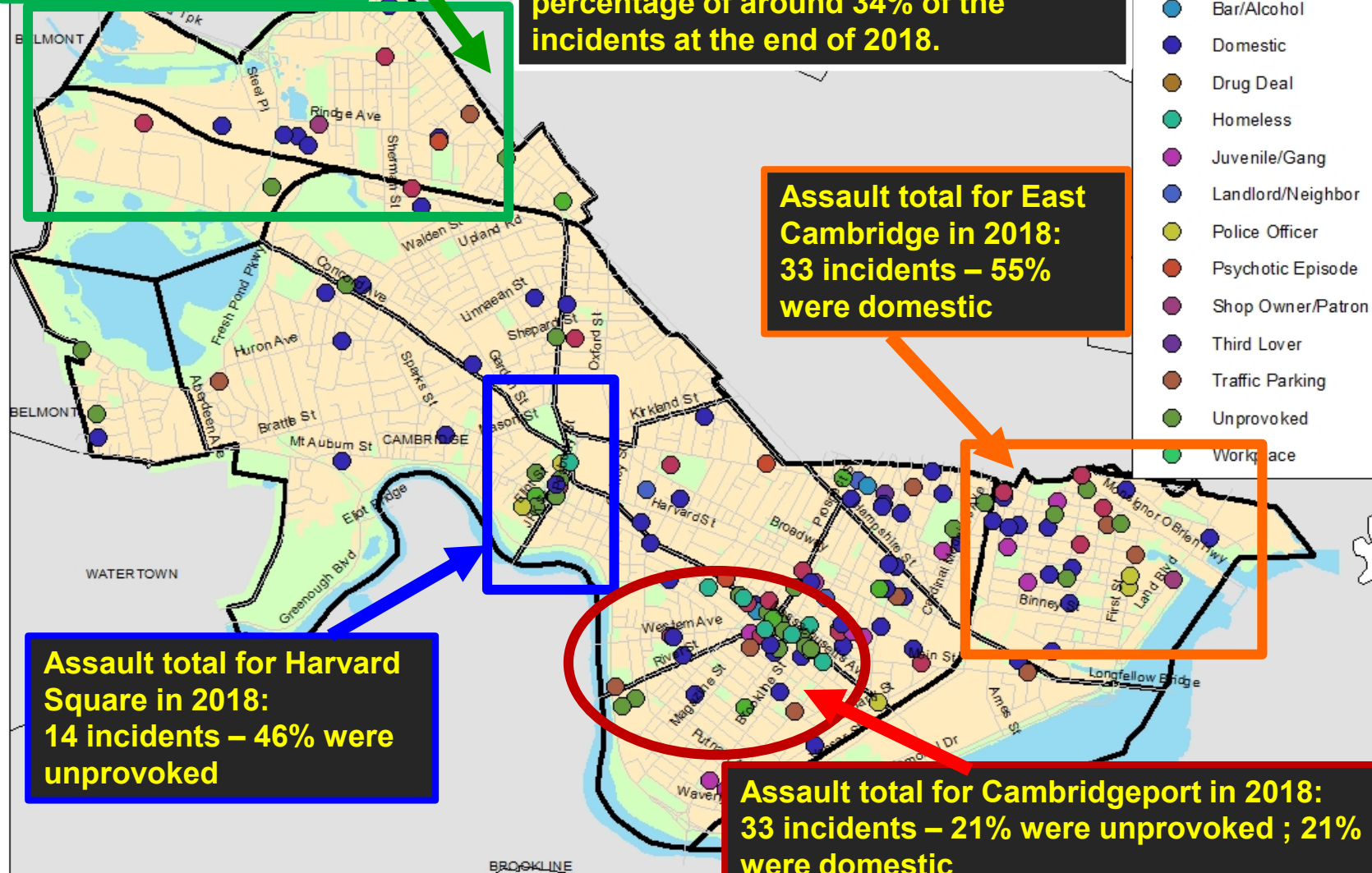
## Aggravated Assault Category

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

**Assault total for East Cambridge in 2018: 33 incidents – 55% were domestic**

**Assault total for Harvard Square in 2018: 14 incidents – 46% were unprovoked**

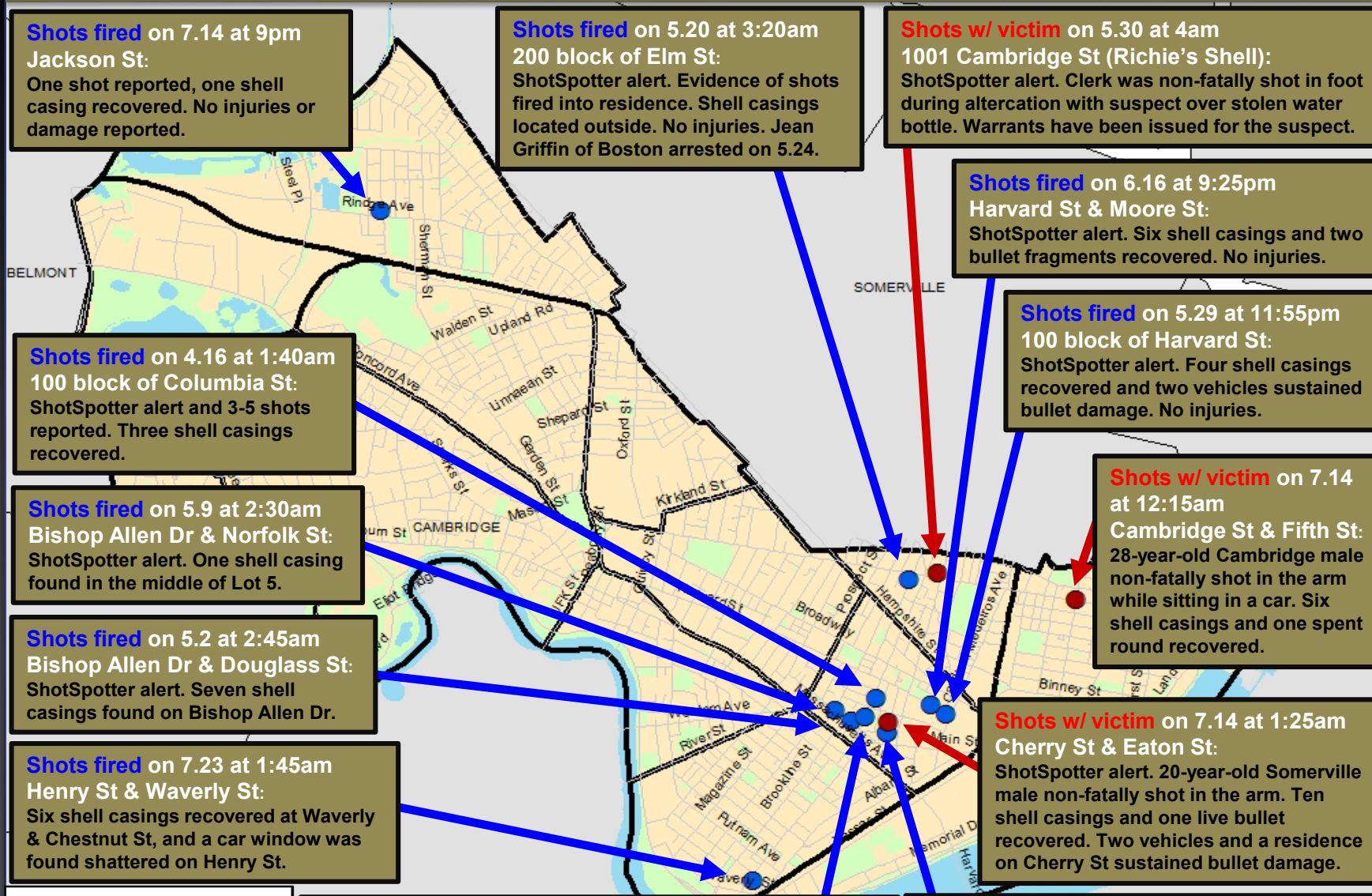
**Assault total for Cambridgeport in 2018: 33 incidents – 21% were unprovoked ; 21% were domestic**





# Shootings & Shots Fired in Cambridge: 1.1.18 - 7.31.18

Cambridge Police BridgeStat



## Shooting Type

- Shooting w/ Victim(s)
- Shots Fired (no victims)

**Shots fired on 6.6 at 4:40pm**  
Columbia St @ Columbia Ter.:

Two parties exchanged words and then fired at each other. No injuries reported. Several shell casings of 2 different calibers found. Shawndell Johnson of Cambridge arrested on 6.8.

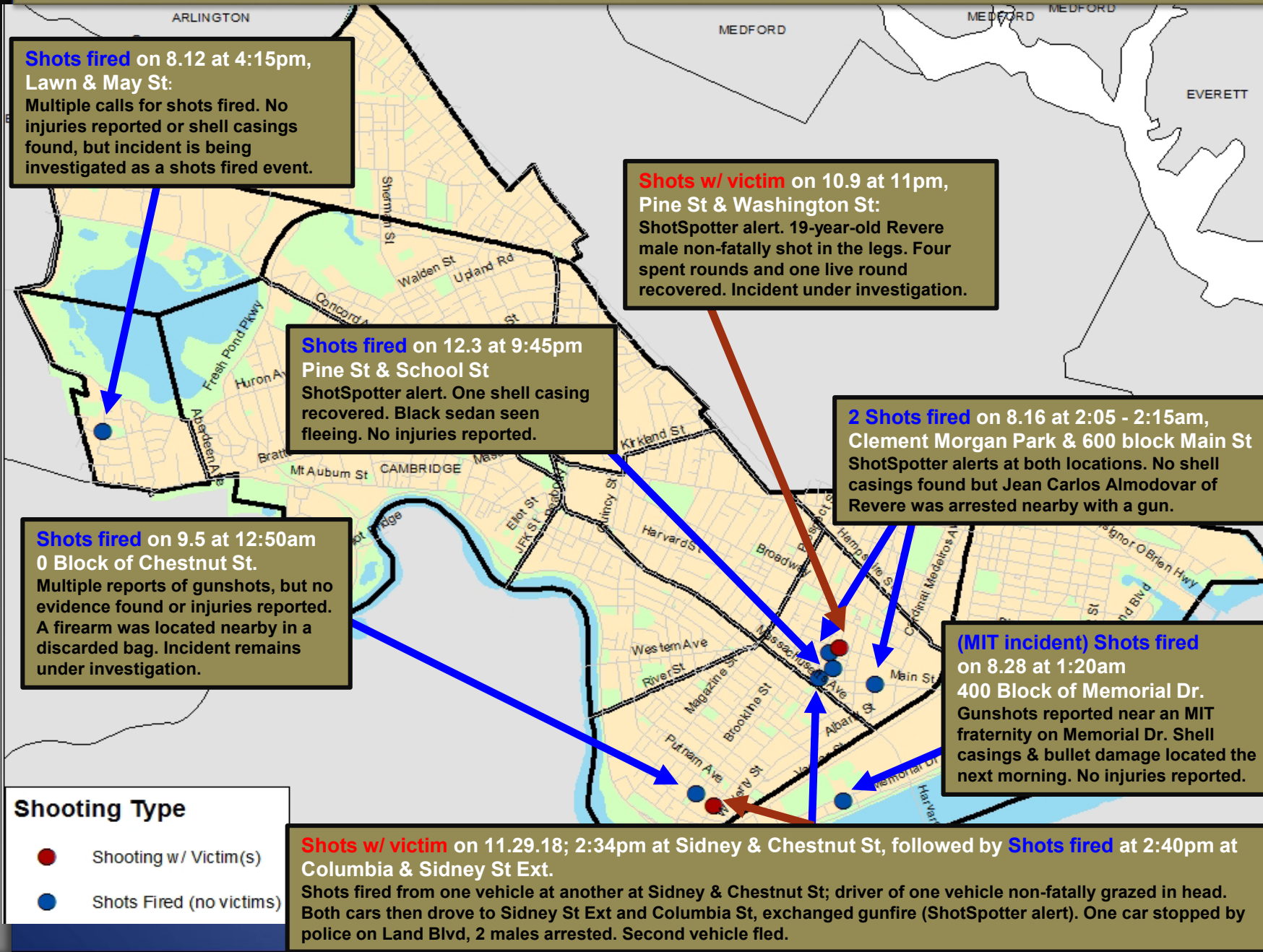
**Shots fired on 1.31 at 6pm and 3.31 at 4am**  
Cherry St & School St:

Two separate incidents. ShotSpotter alerts in both. Four casings found on 1.31. Four casings of a different caliber found on 3.31. No injuries.



# Shootings & Shots Fired in Cambridge: 8.1.18 - 12.31.18

Cambridge Police BridgeStat





# Robbery

*No Patterns*

- Unofficial statistics for 2018 indicate that the five-year average for overall robbery in Cambridge for the year was 90 incidents. Through December 31<sup>st</sup> of 2018, 98 robberies were registered, which translates to a 9% increase above the projected total and a 6% decrease of six robberies when measured against the same time frame in 2017.
- After only 13 scattered and unrelated street robberies were recorded over the first five months of 2018, a surge of 26 incidents was reported during June and July, fueling a 111% increase for the first seven months of 2018.
- The early Summer upsurge in street robberies was ameliorated when a 60% decrease for this crime was recorded between July and August. That downturn continued over the final four months of 2018 with only 18 street robberies counted over the final 16 weeks of the year. The majority of these incidents were scattered geographically and unrelated by method of operation. The Crime Analysis Unit has not identified a street robbery pattern in the City in over 18 months.
- Preliminary numbers for 2018 indicate 37 commercial robberies recorded through December 31<sup>st</sup> of 2018. All six of the commercial robberies in November were shopliftings that escalated into violent confrontations. There were two of these types of incidents each in Harvard Square, Central Square and at the Galleria Mall. Commercial robbery was down two crimes, or 5%, when compared with 2017.
- After recording 13 overall robberies in November, the total for this violent index crime nosedived downward 85% to a count of only two crimes for the month of December.

## Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

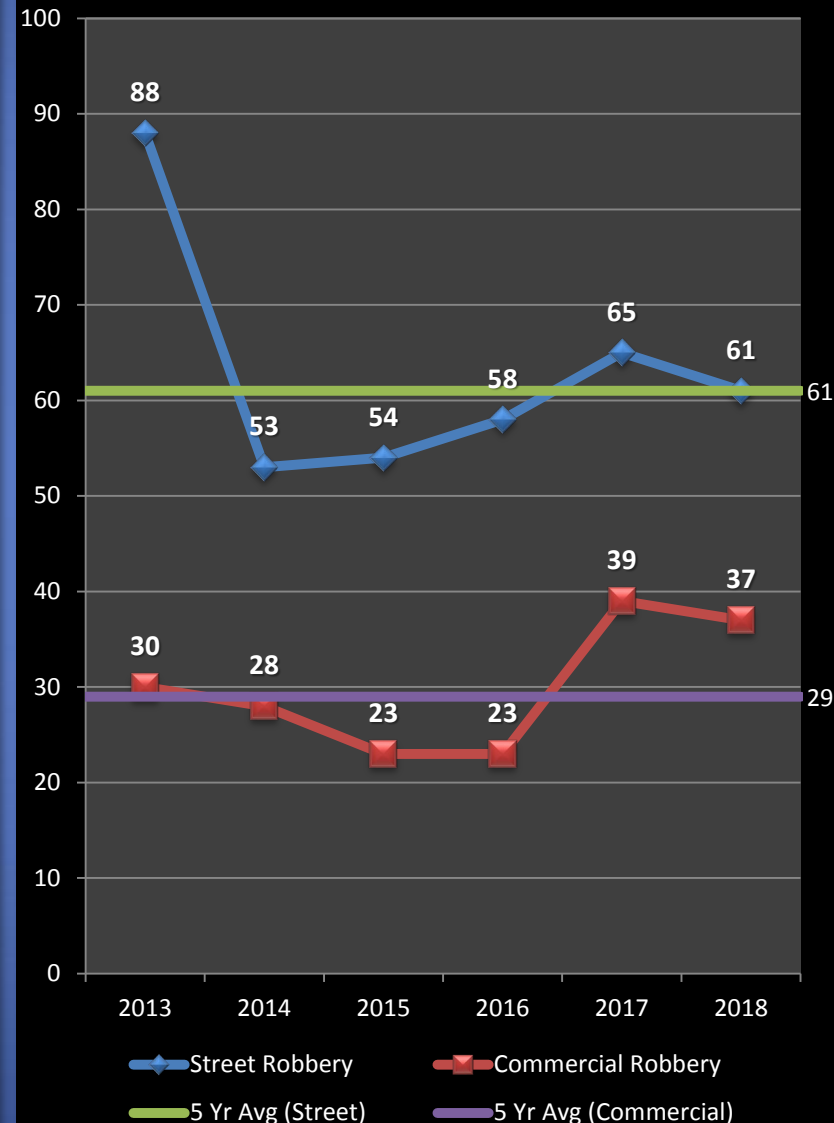
**-85%**

Previous Year

**-6%**

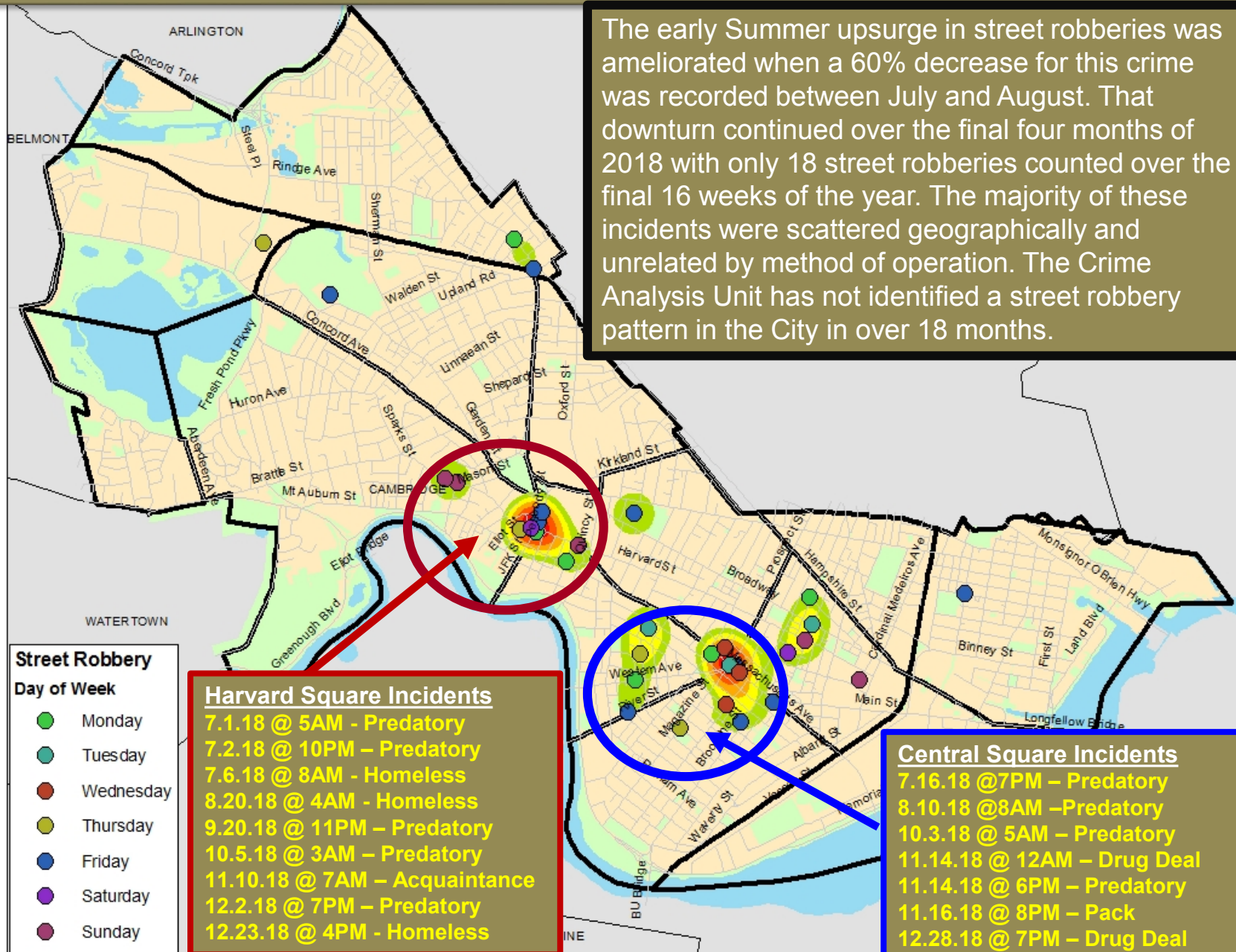
5-Year Average

**+9%**





# Geographic Breakdown of Street Robberies: 7.1.18 to 12.31.18





# Burglary

## Patterns Cooling

- Preliminary end-of-the year numbers for the property index crime of burglary, the combination of residential and commercial breaks, point to a rock-solid drop of 20% below the five-year average, with 65 fewer incidents reported below the projected total of 318 breaks. Burglary for 2018 has edged upward fractionally by one incident when measured with last years total through December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- A minimal dip in housebreaks was recorded from 203 incidents in 2017 to 197 (-3%) in 2018. When measured against the five-year average for housebreaks, there has been a considerable decrease of 24% with 62 fewer incidents recorded than the 259 forecasted for 2018.
- At the end of April, the Crime Analysis Unit was monitoring two emerging series of housebreaks that materialized at that time. Patrol units in and around the neighborhoods of Central Square gave extra attention to a clustering of smashed window entries between 3AM and 5AM with laptops the target of the thieves. These patterns appeared to be on the wane with very sporadic activity recorded and a 50% reduction in housebreaks confirmed when the July totals were measured versus the June total. However, activity in this area increased in August until the arrest of the same known offender who has been a bane to this area for a number of years.
- Housebreaks fell from 20 incidents in October down to 10 forced entries to residences in November of 2018 and continued the nosedive with only four breaks counted in December. Last month, the CPD was monitoring a regional series of housebreaks in Watertown, Arlington and Belmont with three related incidents in Cambridge. No additional crimes were reported in December.

### Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

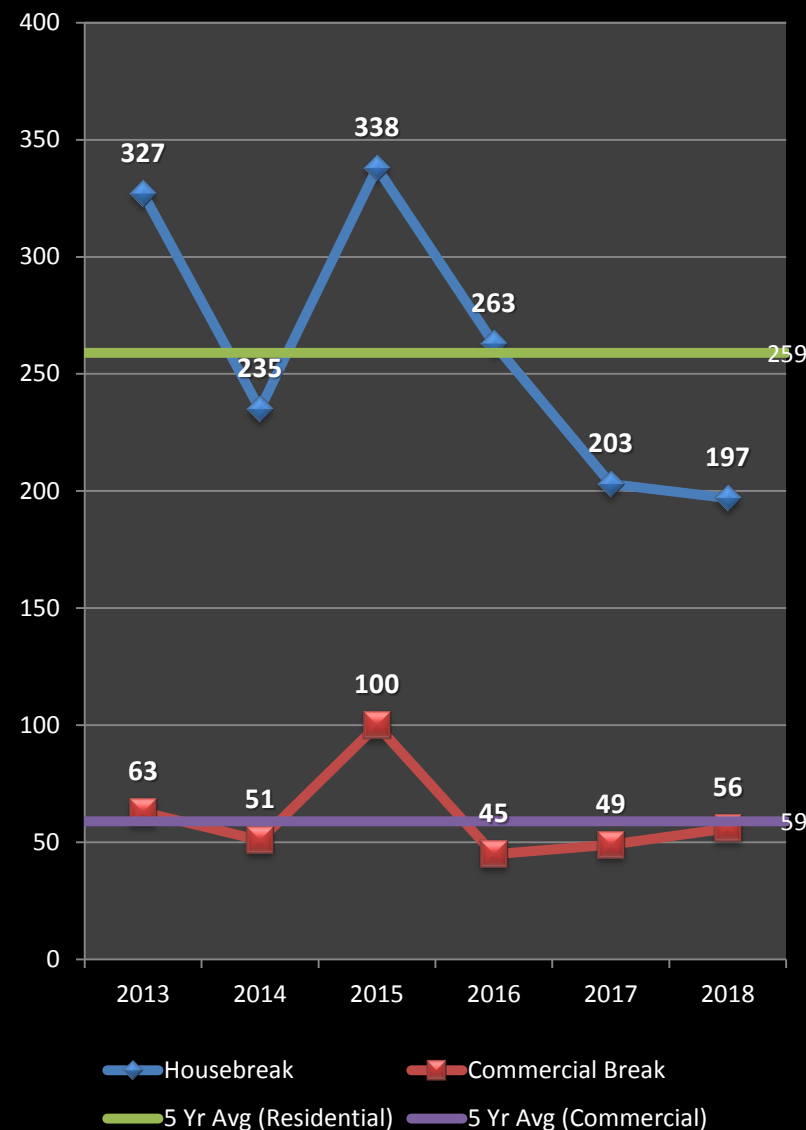
-64%

Previous Year

0%

5-Year Average

-20%





# Geographic Breakdown of Housebreaks: 1.1.18 – 6.30.18

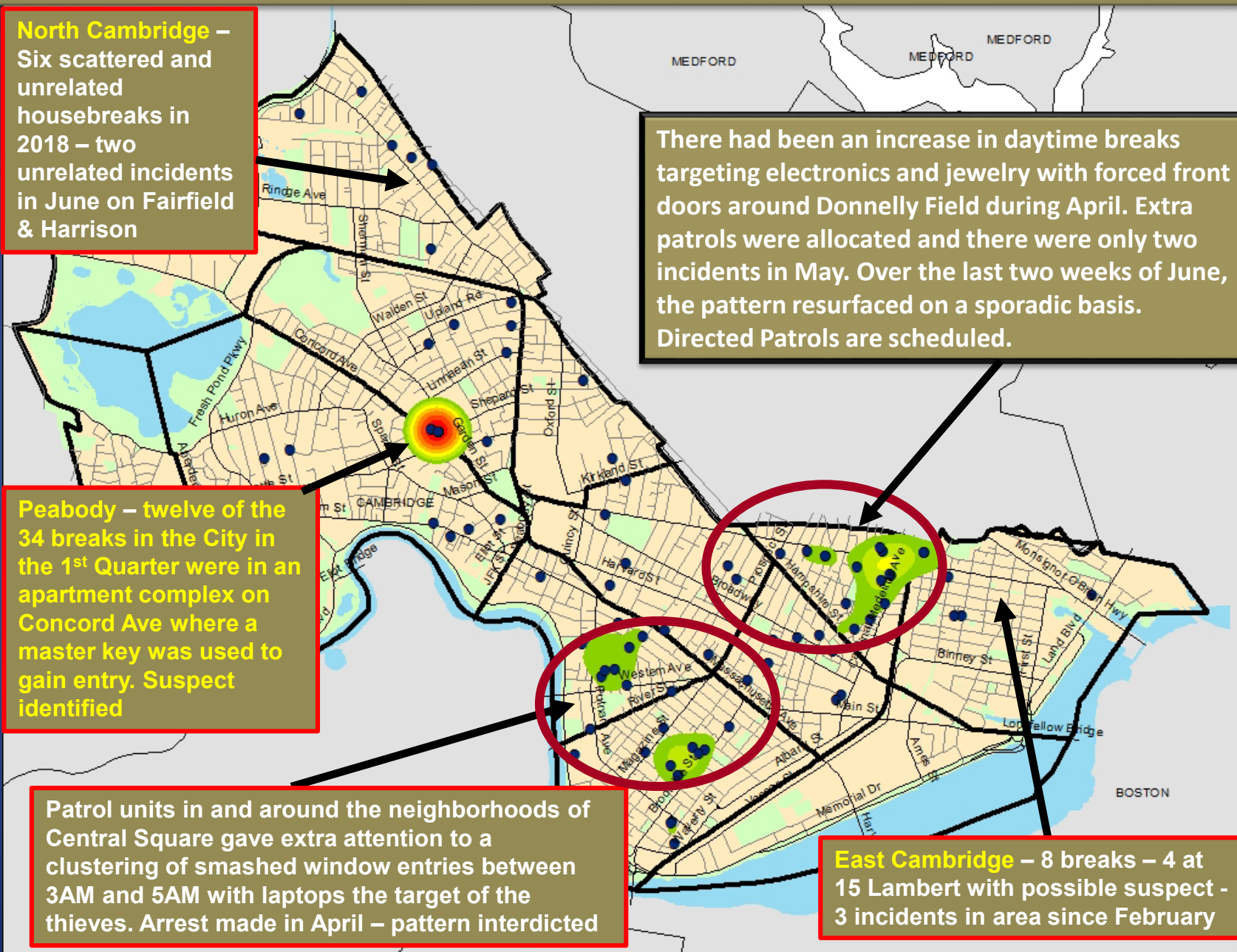
**North Cambridge** – Six scattered and unrelated housebreaks in 2018 – two unrelated incidents in June on Fairfield & Harrison

There had been an increase in daytime breaks targeting electronics and jewelry with forced front doors around Donnelly Field during April. Extra patrols were allocated and there were only two incidents in May. Over the last two weeks of June, the pattern resurfaced on a sporadic basis. Directed Patrols are scheduled.

**Peabody** – twelve of the 34 breaks in the City in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter were in an apartment complex on Concord Ave where a master key was used to gain entry. Suspect identified

Patrol units in and around the neighborhoods of Central Square gave extra attention to a clustering of smashed window entries between 3AM and 5AM with laptops the target of the thieves. Arrest made in April – pattern interdicted

**East Cambridge** – 8 breaks – 4 at 15 Lambert with possible suspect - 3 incidents in area since February





# Geographic Breakdown of Housebreaks: 7.1.18 – 12.31.18

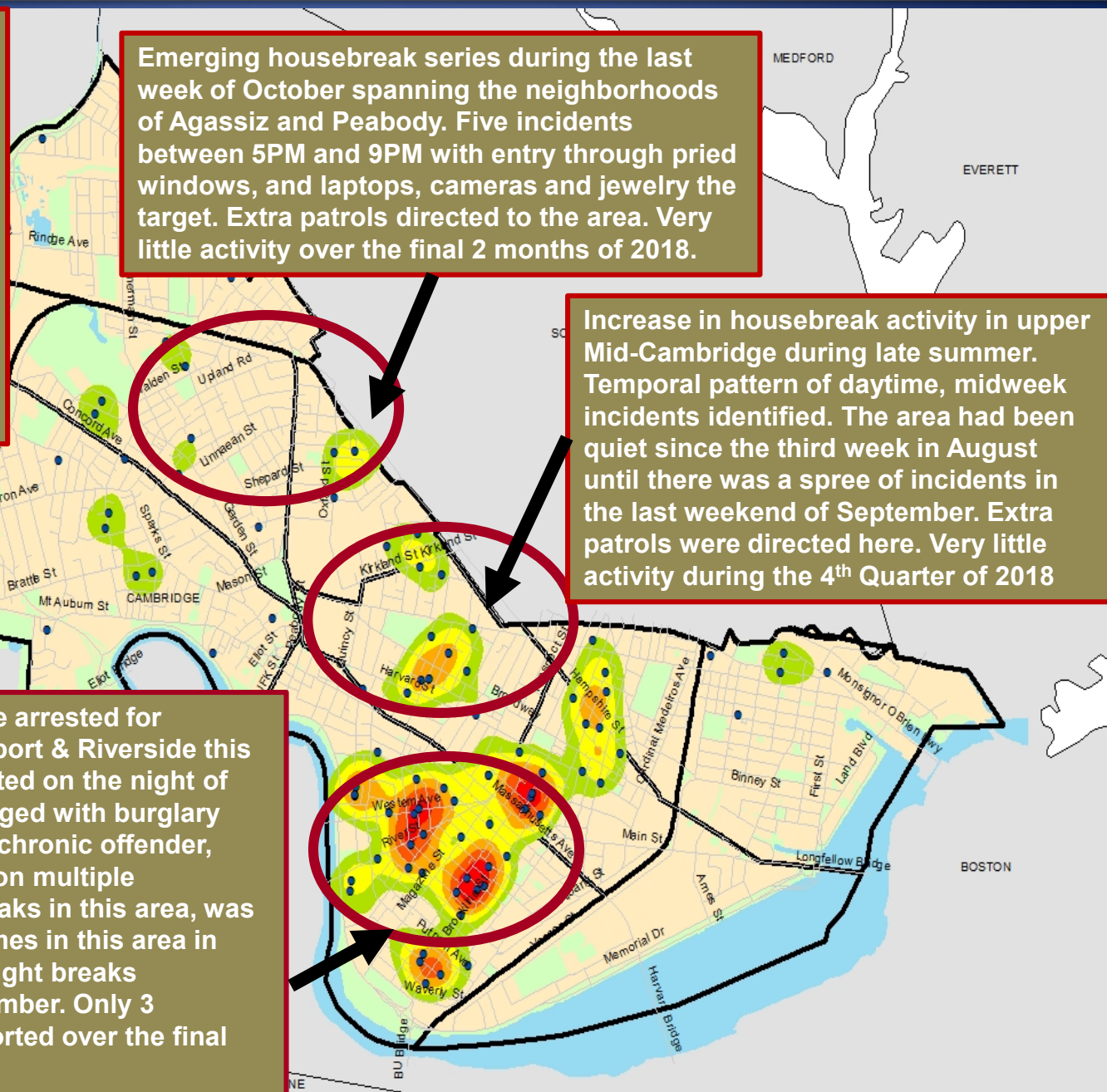
## Cambridge Police BridgeStat

At the end of November, the CPD was monitoring a regional series of housebreaks in Watertown, Arlington and Belmont with three possibly related incidents in Cambridge. Pro-crew moved operation to South Shore in December.

Emerging housebreak series during the last week of October spanning the neighborhoods of Agassiz and Peabody. Five incidents between 5PM and 9PM with entry through pried windows, and laptops, cameras and jewelry the target. Extra patrols directed to the area. Very little activity over the final 2 months of 2018.

Increase in housebreak activity in upper Mid-Cambridge during late summer. Temporal pattern of daytime, midweek incidents identified. The area had been quiet since the third week in August until there was a spree of incidents in the last weekend of September. Extra patrols were directed here. Very little activity during the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2018

Two serial burglars were arrested for incidents in Cambridgeport & Riverside this summer. One was arrested on the night of 7.28.18 at 5AM and charged with burglary and auto theft. Another chronic offender, who has been arrested on multiple occasions for housebreaks in this area, was linked to a series of crimes in this area in August. Sporadic late night breaks continued during September. Only 3 scattered incidents reported over the final two months of 2018.



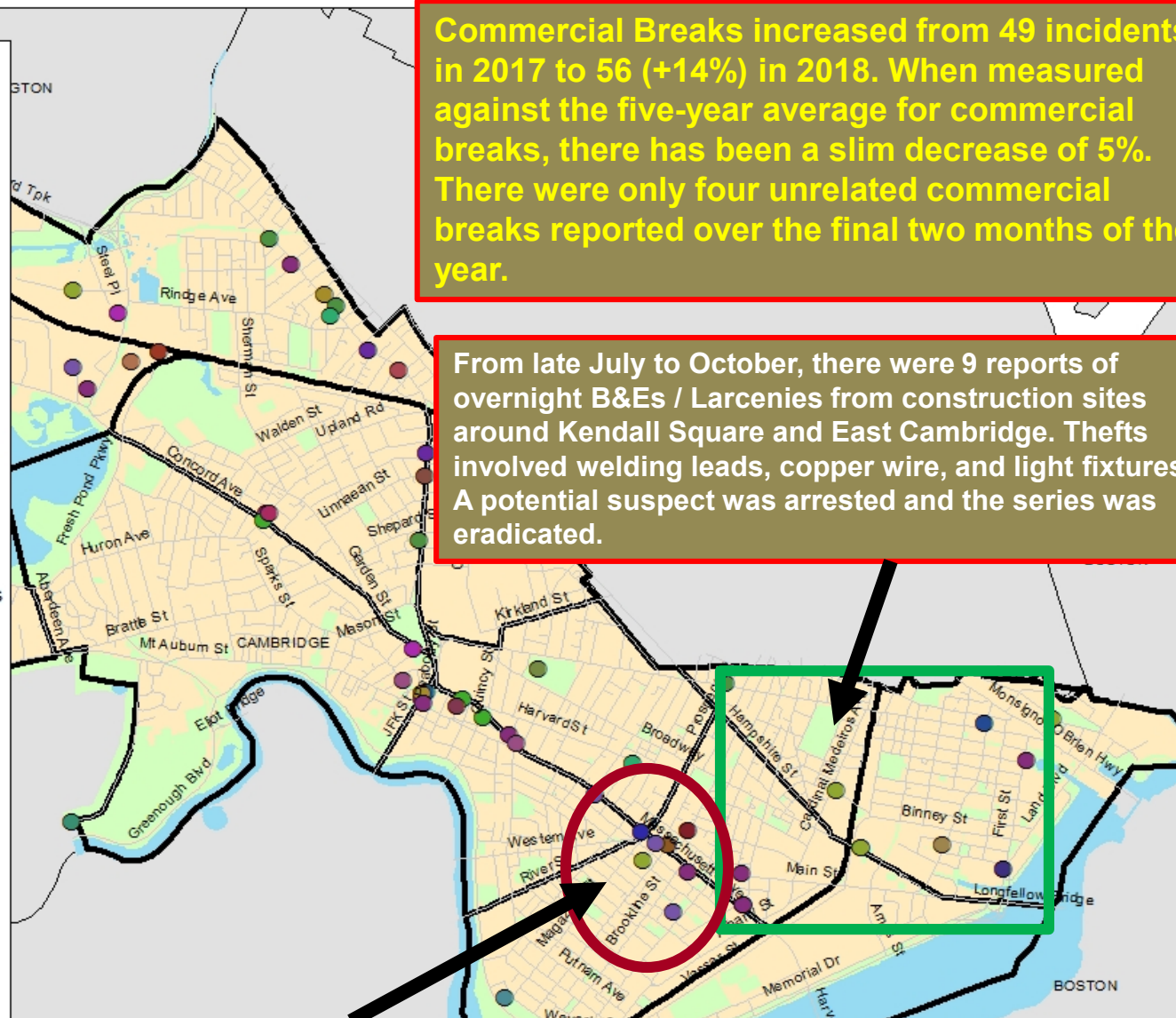


# Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Breaks: 1.1.18 to 12.31.18

### Commercial Break

#### Premise Type

- ATM
- Accounting Firm
- Antique
- Bank
- Café
- Cemetery
- Church
- Cinema
- Commercial Unknown
- Construction Site
- Convenience Store
- Drug Store
- Electronics/Computers
- Eyeglass/Optician
- Gasoline Station
- Hair/Beauty
- Hotel/Motel
- Liquor Store
- Office Park
- Parking Garage
- Restaurant/Bar
- Retail Other
- School
- Social Club
- Sporting Goods
- Youth Center



Commercial Breaks increased from 49 incidents in 2017 to 56 (+14%) in 2018. When measured against the five-year average for commercial breaks, there has been a slim decrease of 5%. There were only four unrelated commercial breaks reported over the final two months of the year.

From late July to October, there were 9 reports of overnight B&Es / Larcenies from construction sites around Kendall Square and East Cambridge. Thefts involved welding leads, copper wire, and light fixtures. A potential suspect was arrested and the series was eradicated.

Restaurants were the targets of six of the nine commercial breaks in Central Square over the past five months. The temporal trend identified pointed to activity late on weekend nights.



# LARCENY

*No Patterns*

- Preliminary totals indicate that overall larceny in 2018 registered at 39 incidents (+2%) above the same time frame in 2017. The total of 1,718 larcenies reported in 2018 is also 11% below the five-year average of 1,921 incidents through 12/31.
- Larcenies from MVs recorded a minor decrease of 6% below 2017, with 18 fewer incidents reported through Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>. This property crime has declined a substantial 30% when measured against the five-year average, with 115 fewer incidents below the projected total of 386 thefts.
- Larcenies from the person were on the rise in 2018 and finished the year at 168 incidents. This is 6% above this time in 2017 (+10 incidents) and 16% below the five-year average of 200. Central Square saw the most activity in 2018 with 63 incidents, followed by Harvard Square with 49 and East Cambridge/Galleria with 21.
- There were 277 larcenies from buildings reported preliminarily in 2018. This represents a 1% incline (+4 incidents) above the 273 reported in 2017 and a 13% decrease below the five-year average of 317. There are no patterns of this crime type currently.
- Larcenies from residences saw a decline of 41% in 2017 but this trend reversed in 2018 with a 40% rise (+74 incidents) over last year's final total. Package thefts from doorsteps and lobbies represented 63% of the thefts from residences in 2018 (164 of the 261). Citywide, Inman saw the most in 2018 with 34 package thefts, followed by The Port with 29.
- Larceny of bicycle numbers in 2018 finished roughly on par with the totals reported in 2017. There were 307 thefts reported this year, just four above the 303 reported in 2017. West Cambridge saw the most with 46 (mostly in Harvard Sq).

## Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

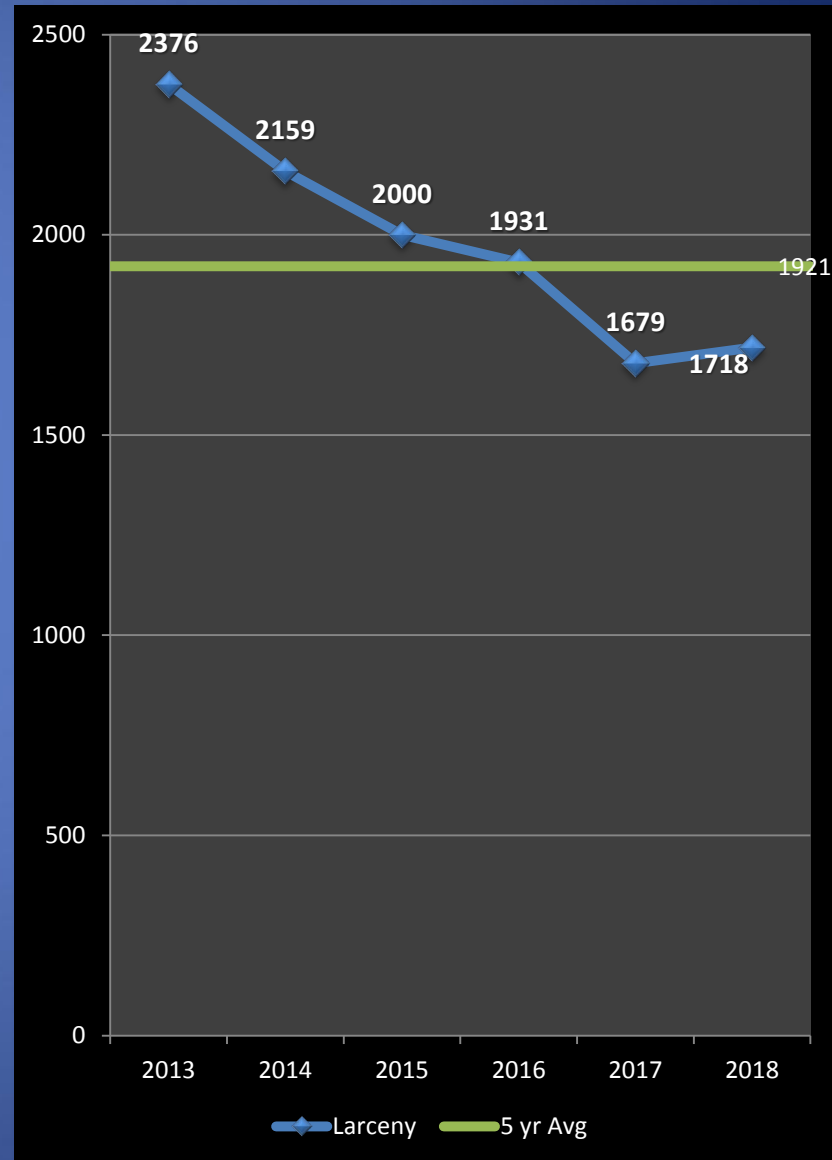
-2%

Previous Year

+2%

5-Year Average

-11%





# LARCENY From MV

*No Patterns*

- Preliminary end-of-year numbers for larcenies from motor vehicles indicate a slight decrease of 6% for 2018 when compared with the same time period last year, with 18 fewer incidents reported through December 31<sup>st</sup>. This property crime has declined a prodigious 30% when measured against the five-year average, with 115 fewer incidents than the projected total of 386 thefts.
- Sporadic clustering of incidents in Cambridgeport and North Cambridge during March fueled the 12% increase for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter. Meanwhile, April saw a decline of one incident when compared with March. After recording a 44% surge in the crime during May, a 22% dip was noted in June, and another 11% drop in July.
- Historically, the month of August is one of the busiest for this property crime. That trend did not surface in 2018. Thefts from cars also slipped downward during November with a 28% drop from the previous month reported.
- During the last week of October, there were six thefts of catalytic converters from cars in parking lots in North Cambridge and the Peabody neighborhoods. Despite the fact that Boston has been reporting sporadic similar type crimes, these thefts are highly unusual for Cambridge with only one catalytic converter stolen since 2015. There were no catalytic converter thefts reported in the City over the final two months of 2018
- Two homeless males were arrested at the end of September and in October for larcenies from vehicles near Central Square.
- A known offender is believed to be the suspect in numerous car breaks, bike thefts, package thefts, etc. from properties in the Sector 4 (Highlands) and Sector 5 (North Cambridge) area over the past month. Investigation into these incidents is ongoing.

## Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

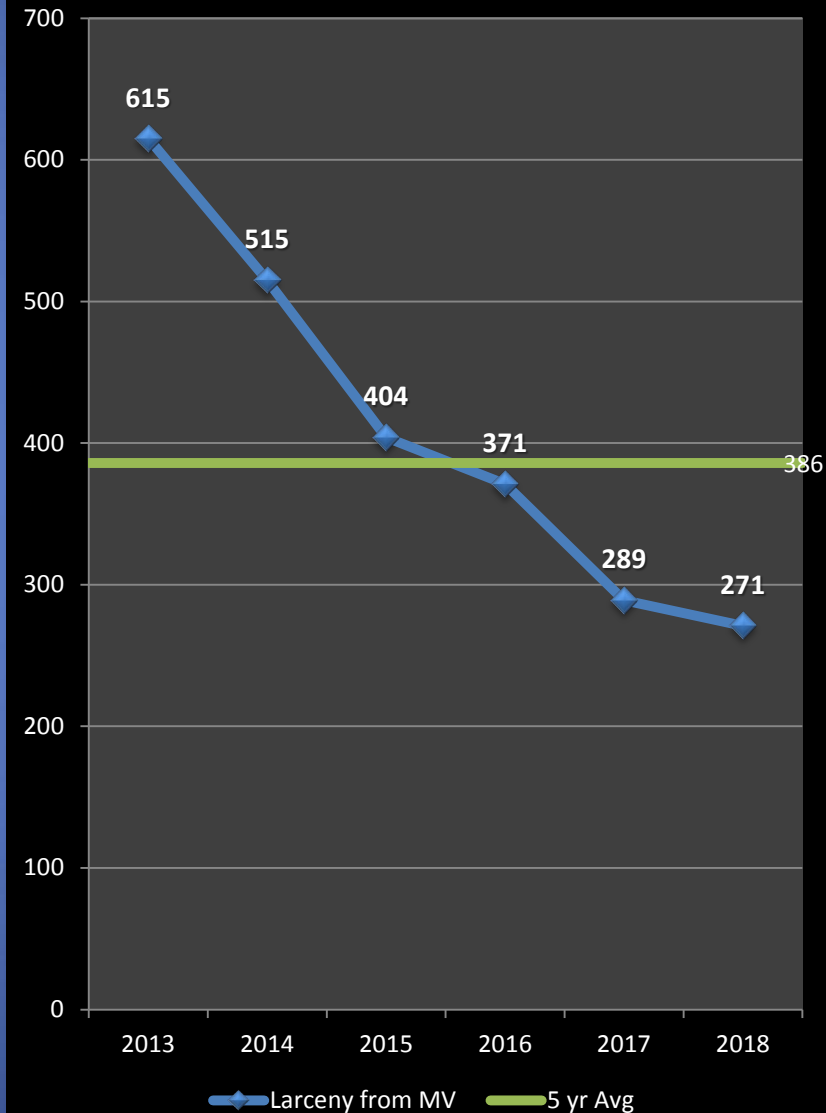
**-19%**

Previous Year

**-6%**

5-Year Average

**-30%**





# Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from Motor Vehicles: 1.1.18 – 12.31.18

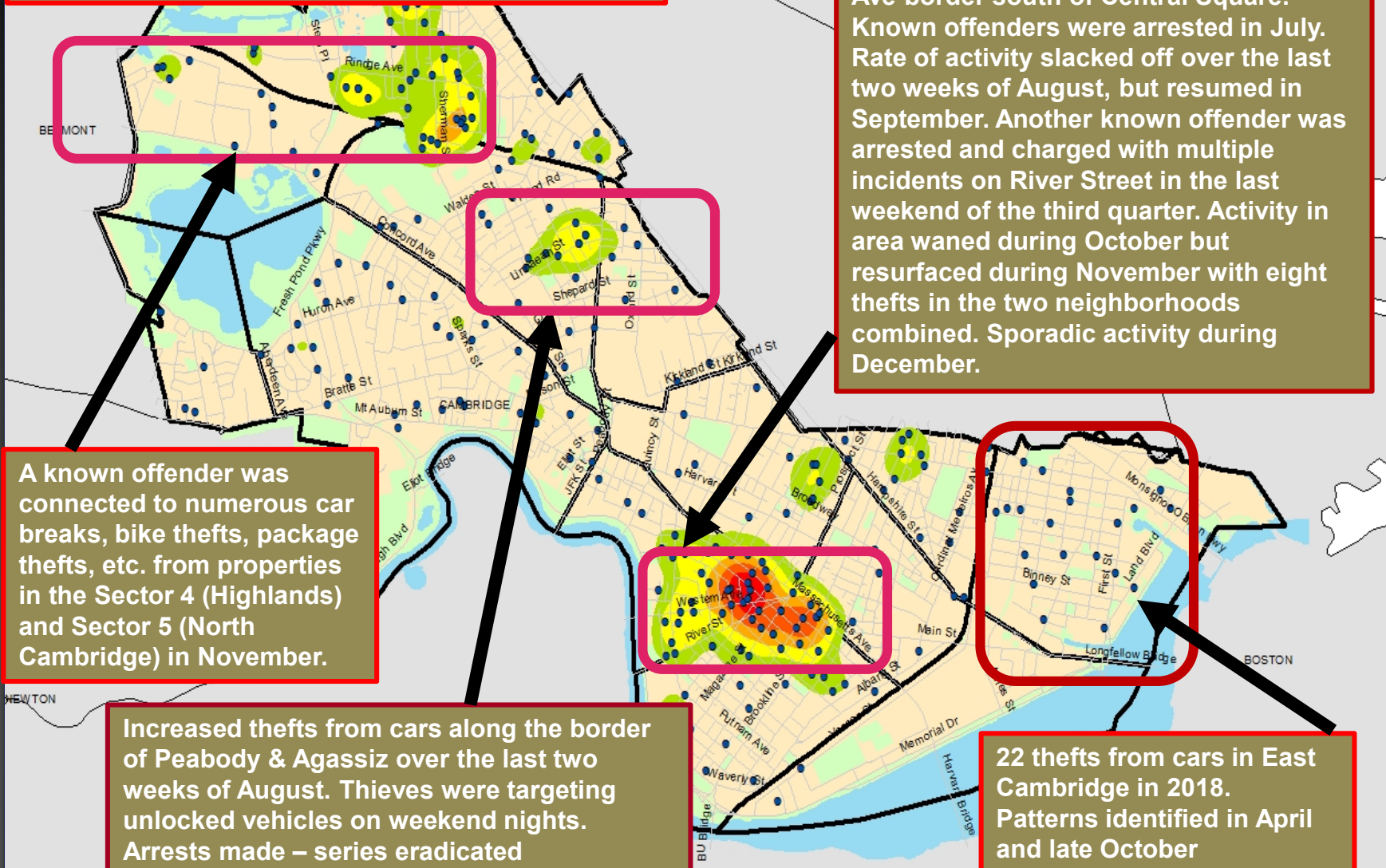
During the last week of October, there were six thefts of catalytic converters from cars in parking lots in North Cambridge. Zero reports over the final 2 months of 2018.

Sixty-five incidents combined in Riverside and Cambridgport in 2018 (25% of citywide total). Majority of incidents clustered along the River St / Western Ave border south of Central Square. Known offenders were arrested in July. Rate of activity slacked off over the last two weeks of August, but resumed in September. Another known offender was arrested and charged with multiple incidents on River Street in the last weekend of the third quarter. Activity in area waned during October but resurfaced during November with eight thefts in the two neighborhoods combined. Sporadic activity during December.

A known offender was connected to numerous car breaks, bike thefts, package thefts, etc. from properties in the Sector 4 (Highlands) and Sector 5 (North Cambridge) in November.

Increased thefts from cars along the border of Peabody & Agassiz over the last two weeks of August. Thieves were targeting unlocked vehicles on weekend nights. Arrests made – series eradicated

22 thefts from cars in East Cambridge in 2018. Patterns identified in April and late October





# LARCENY: *from Person*

## No Patterns

- Preliminary year-end totals for larcenies from the person in 2018 reveal a minor increase of 6% percent above 2017, with ten additional incidents through December 31<sup>st</sup>. Historically, this property crime continued on a downward curve when measured versus the five-year average by recording a 16% decline with 32 fewer incidents than the 200 that were projected for the year.
- Central Square saw the most activity in 2018 with 63 incidents, followed by Harvard Square with 49 and East Cambridge/Galleria with 21 incidents. Harvard Square activity had been picking up at the start of the school year but cooled off with zero reports in December.
- A majority of the incidents have spanned all categories: thefts from patrons while dining, grab and runs, pocket-picking incidents, and the theft of unattended items that victims left behind. The most common scenarios for the incidents in Central Square have been thefts of nearby but unattended items (22) or pocket pickings (17). In Harvard Square, the dominant category is larcenies from the person while dining (20).
- There are currently no established patterns of this activity anywhere in Cambridge, but 22 locations throughout the city have reported more than one larceny from the person so far this year. The Galleria Mall has seen the most with 16.
- Although no arrests have been made, suspects have been identified in 19 incidents, ten of which took place in Central Square, four in Harvard Square, two in Porter Square, and one each in the 1500 to 1900 block of Mass Ave, in Kendall/MIT, and in the Galleria/East Cambridge business areas.

### Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

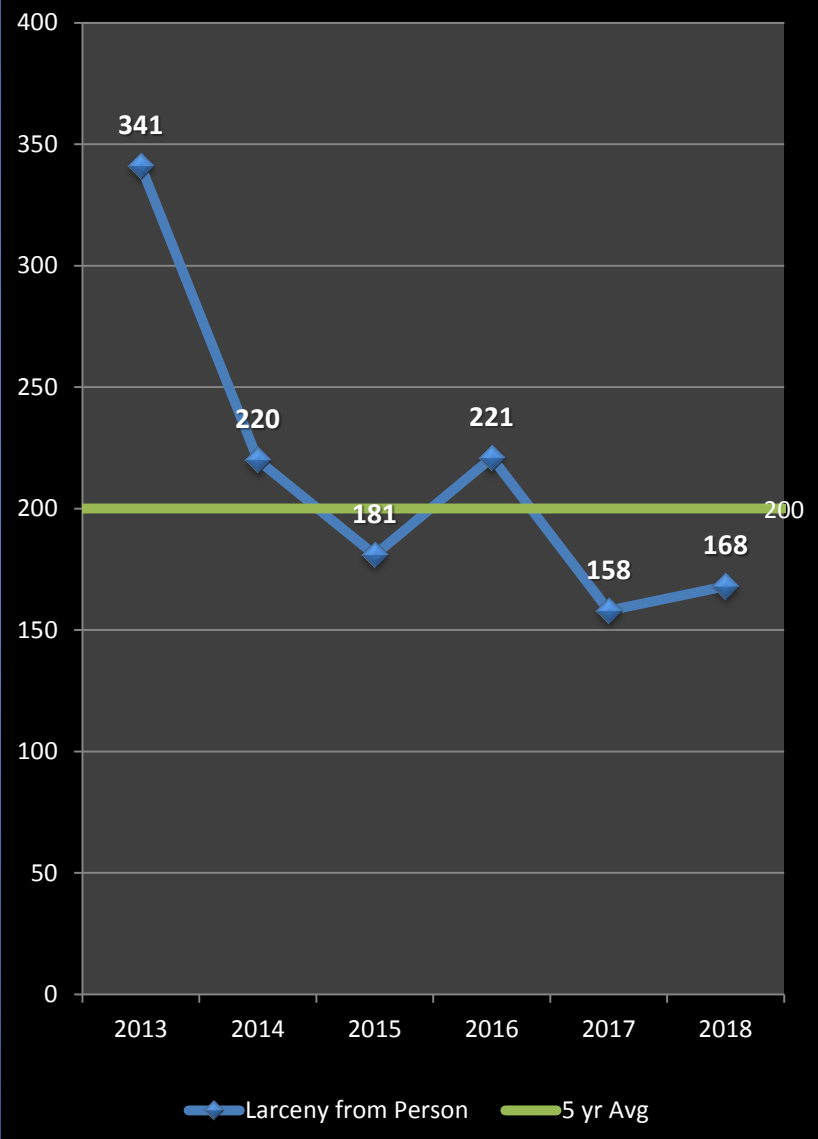
**-9%**

Previous Year

**+6%**

5-Year Average

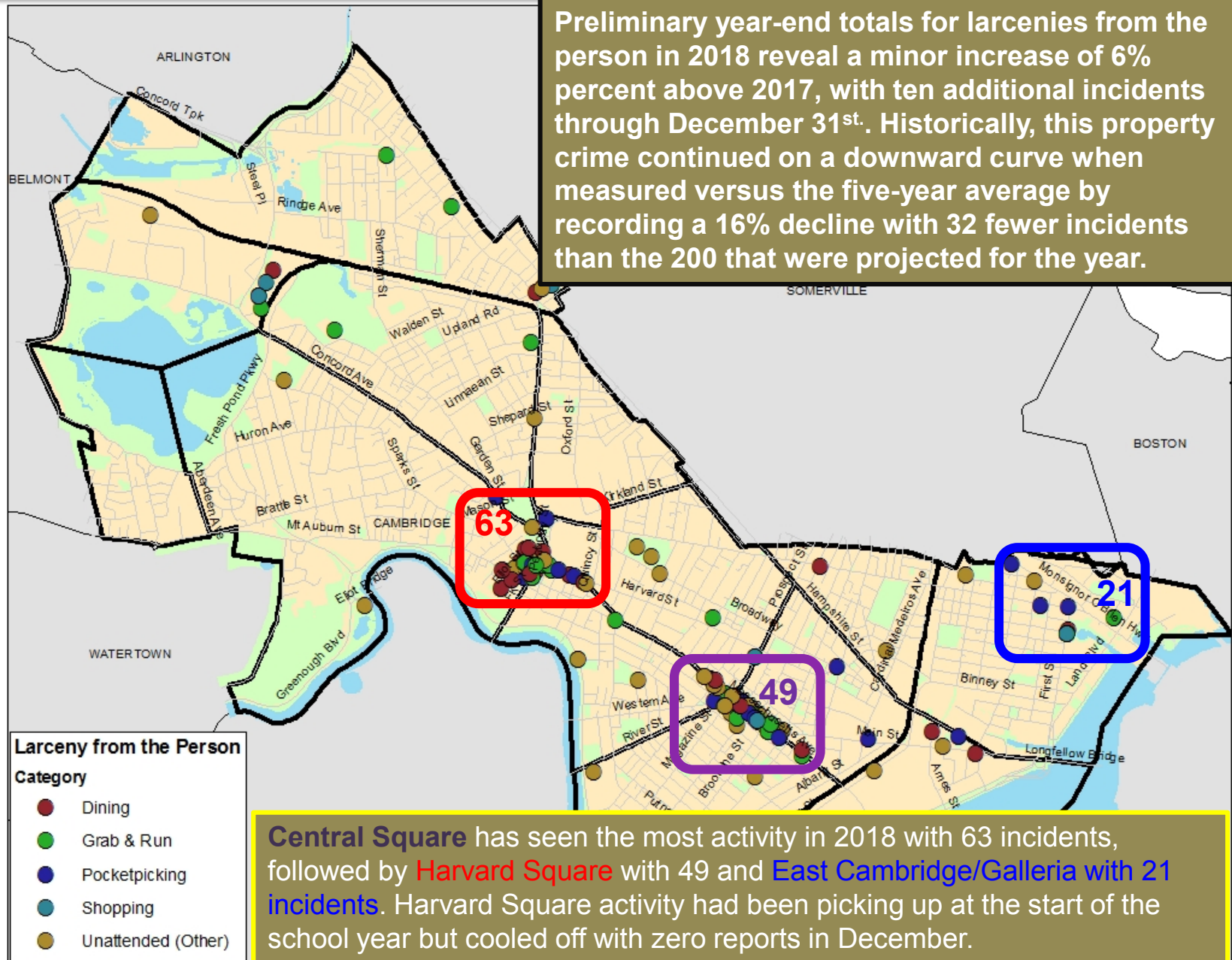
**-16%**





# Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from Person: 1.1.18 – 12.31.18

Preliminary year-end totals for larcenies from the person in 2018 reveal a minor increase of 6% percent above 2017, with ten additional incidents through December 31<sup>st</sup>. Historically, this property crime continued on a downward curve when measured versus the five-year average by recording a 16% decline with 32 fewer incidents than the 200 that were projected for the year.





# LARCENY: of Bicycle

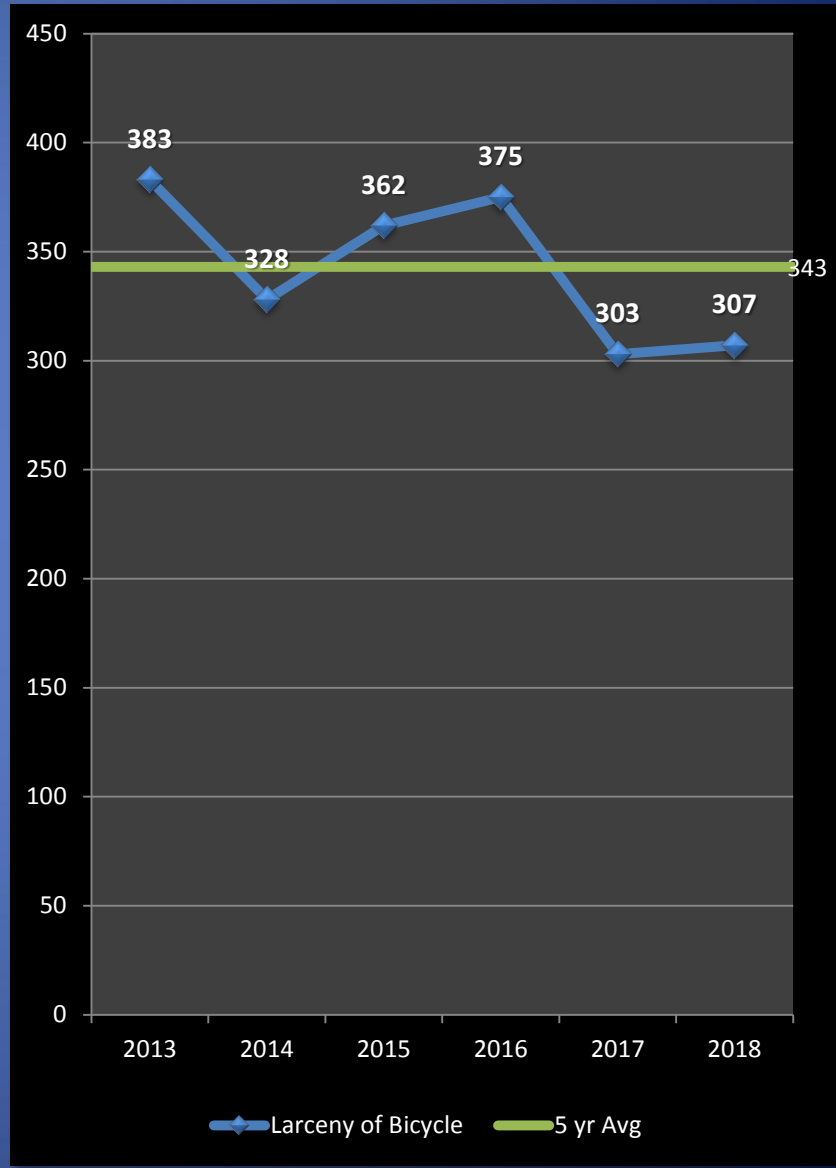
## No Patterns

- Typically, very few bike thefts are reported in Cambridge during the cold winter months. This was true in 2018, with only 16 reported from January through March. As warmer weather returned, 12 thefts were recorded in April, 23 in May, 35 in June, 45 in July, 53 in August, 38 in September, and 50 in October. And as the mercury fell on the thermometer, so did bike thefts with 19 reported in November and 16 reported in December.
- The total of 307 thefts reported in 2018 is only four incidents above the number reported in 2017 and is 36 incidents (-10%) below the five-year average of 343. Cambridgeport, Riverside, and West Cambridge saw the most in December with three thefts each.
- Of the 307 bike thefts reported so far this year, 224 were reportedly locked at the time of the theft.
- Although there are the typical hotspots for bike thefts in the major squares (Central & Harvard), there are no defined patterns anywhere else in the city at this time.
- Top Neighborhoods for Bike Theft Year-to-Date:**

| Neighborhood   | YTD Total | % Citywide |
|----------------|-----------|------------|
| West Cambridge | 46        | 15%        |
| Cambridgeport  | 44        | 14%        |
| Riverside      | 38        | 12%        |
| East Cambridge | 36        | 12%        |
| The Port       | 33        | 11%        |

### Percent Change

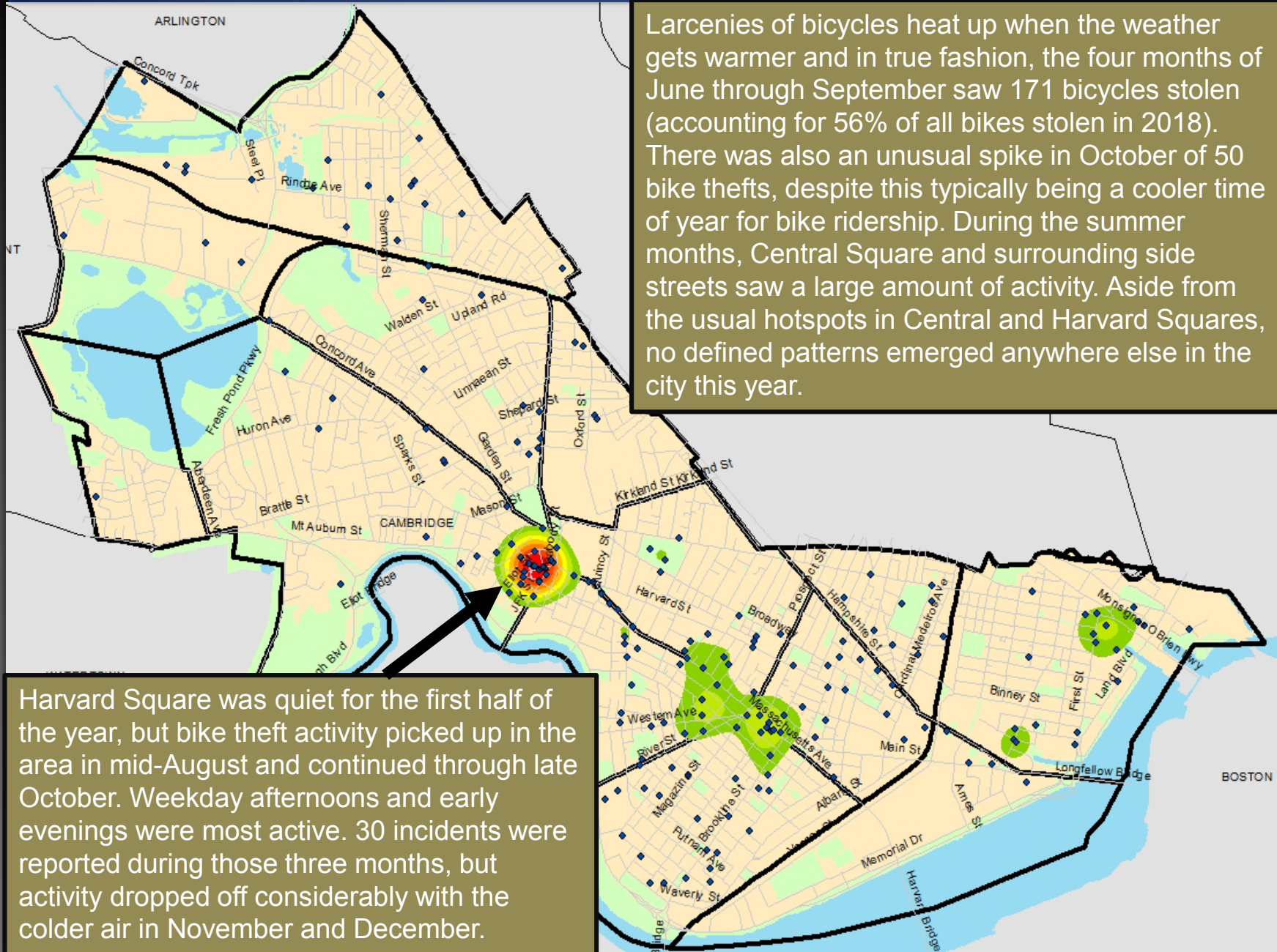
|              |               |                |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| Last 4 Weeks | Previous Year | 5-Year Average |
| -24%         | +1%           | -10%           |





## Geographic Breakdown of Bicycle Thefts: 7.1.18 – 12.31.18

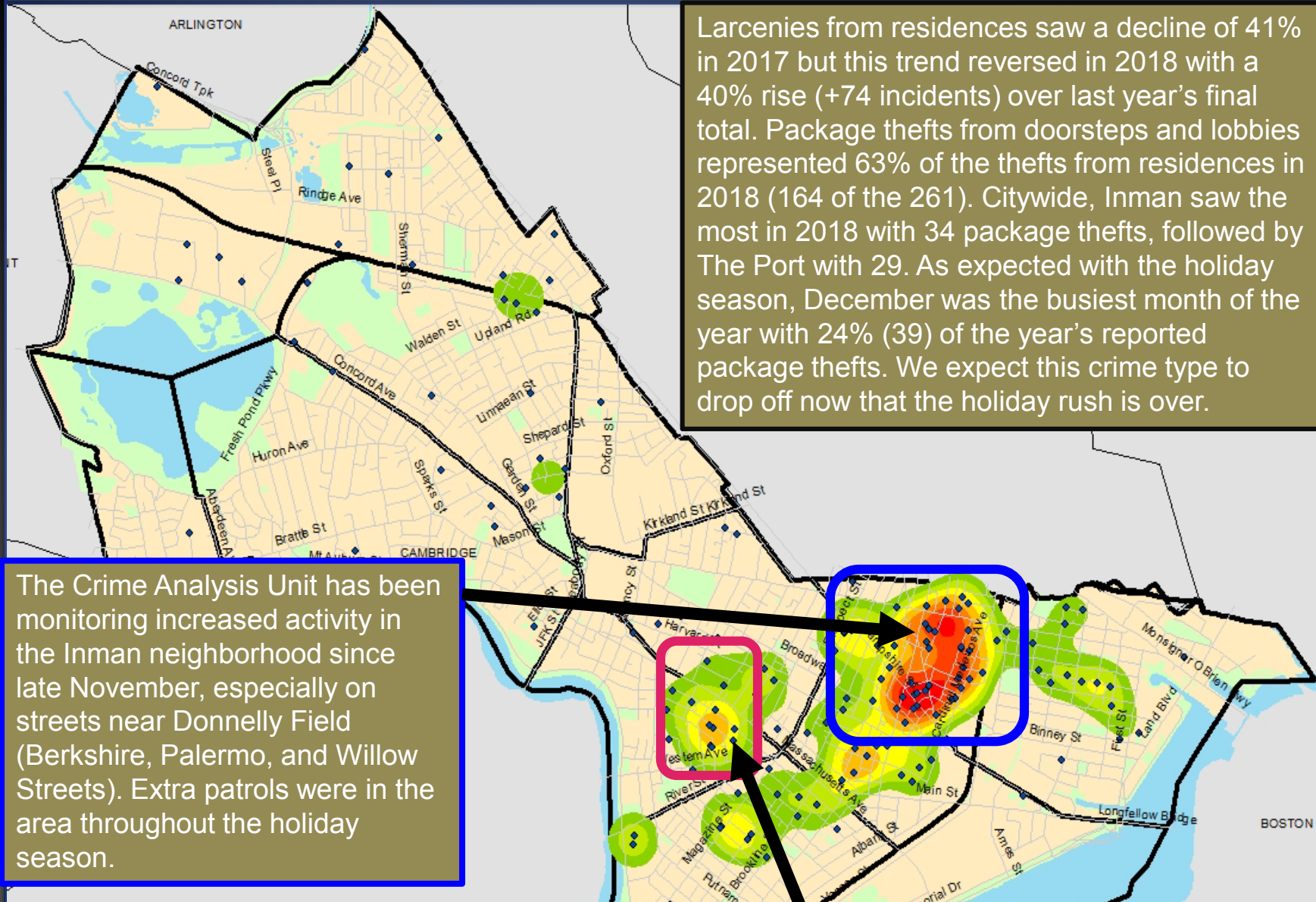
Cambridge Police BridgeStat



December  
2018



## Geographic Breakdown of Package Thefts: 1.1.18 to 12.31.18



Larcenies from residences saw a decline of 41% in 2017 but this trend reversed in 2018 with a 40% rise (+74 incidents) over last year's final total. Package thefts from doorsteps and lobbies represented 63% of the thefts from residences in 2018 (164 of the 261). Citywide, Inman saw the most in 2018 with 34 package thefts, followed by The Port with 29. As expected with the holiday season, December was the busiest month of the year with 24% (39) of the year's reported package thefts. We expect this crime type to drop off now that the holiday rush is over.

The Crime Analysis Unit has been monitoring increased activity in the Inman neighborhood since late November, especially on streets near Donnelly Field (Berkshire, Palermo, and Willow Streets). Extra patrols were in the area throughout the holiday season.

Sporadic activity was reported in the area of Franklin, Kinnaird, and Green Streets during October (hotspot area in 2017) – 0 reported here in Nov. and only 2 in Dec.



# AUTO THEFT

## No Patterns

- The projected five-year weighted average for auto thefts for 2018 is 110 incidents. With 111 thefts reported in 2018, we are 1% above the average of 110 and 22% (20 incidents) above the 91 reported during this time frame in 2017.
- Notably, 5 of the 6 auto thefts reported in January 2018 involved vehicles that were rented from Hertz or Thrifty Rental Cars in West Cambridge and were never returned. This trend was expected to continue, but it seems to have ended as no similar incidents have been reported in Cambridge since January.
- Typically, we expect to see an increase in thefts of motorcycle/moped thefts during the warmer summer months. Oddly enough, when the weather started to cool in the fall is when the increase occurred this year.
- The highest monthly total of auto thefts was in October with 20, and as the weather cooled so did reported auto thefts with 10 in November and only 6 in December.
- The 111 auto thefts reported year-to-date in 2018 took place in: Cambridgeport (17), Inman/Harrington (15), East Cambridge (14), West Cambridge & The Port (13 each), North Cambridge (10), Riverside (8), Peabody & Mid-Cambridge (6 each), Agassiz & MIT (4 each), and the Highlands (1).
- Currently, 51 of the 111 reported stolen vehicles, or 46%, have been recovered to date.

### Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

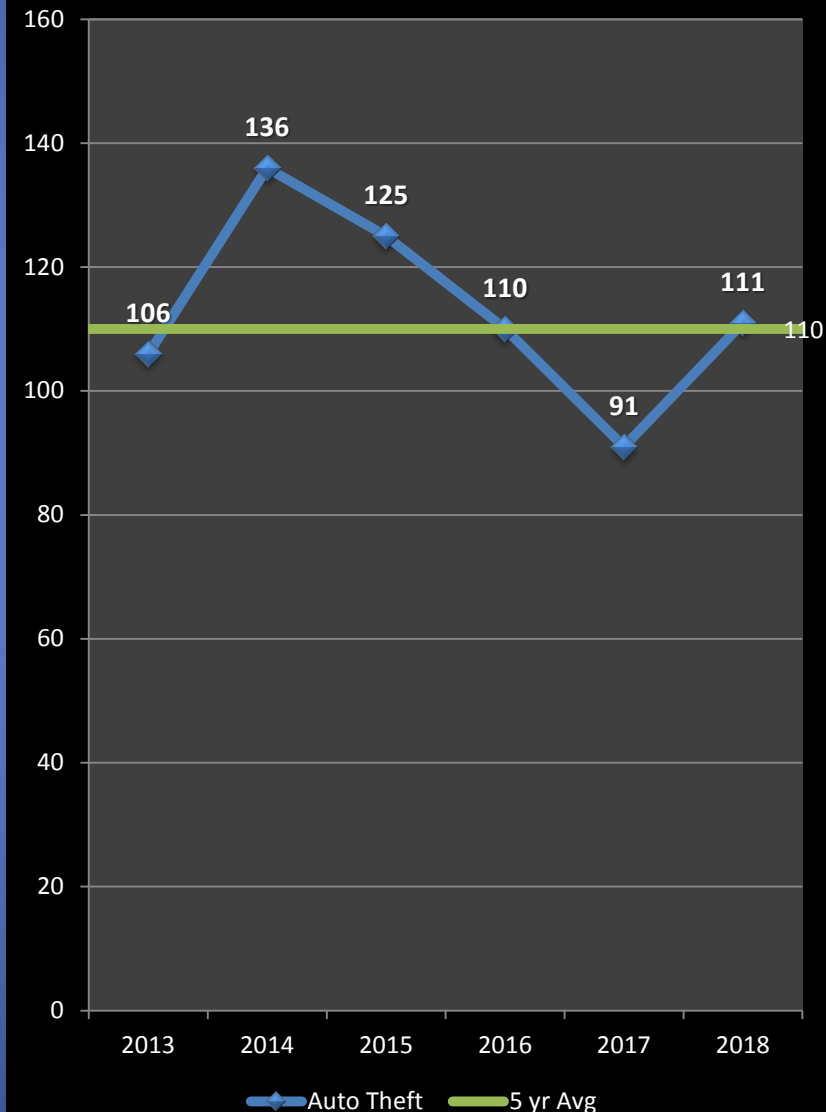
**-50%**

Previous Year

**+22%**

5-Year Average

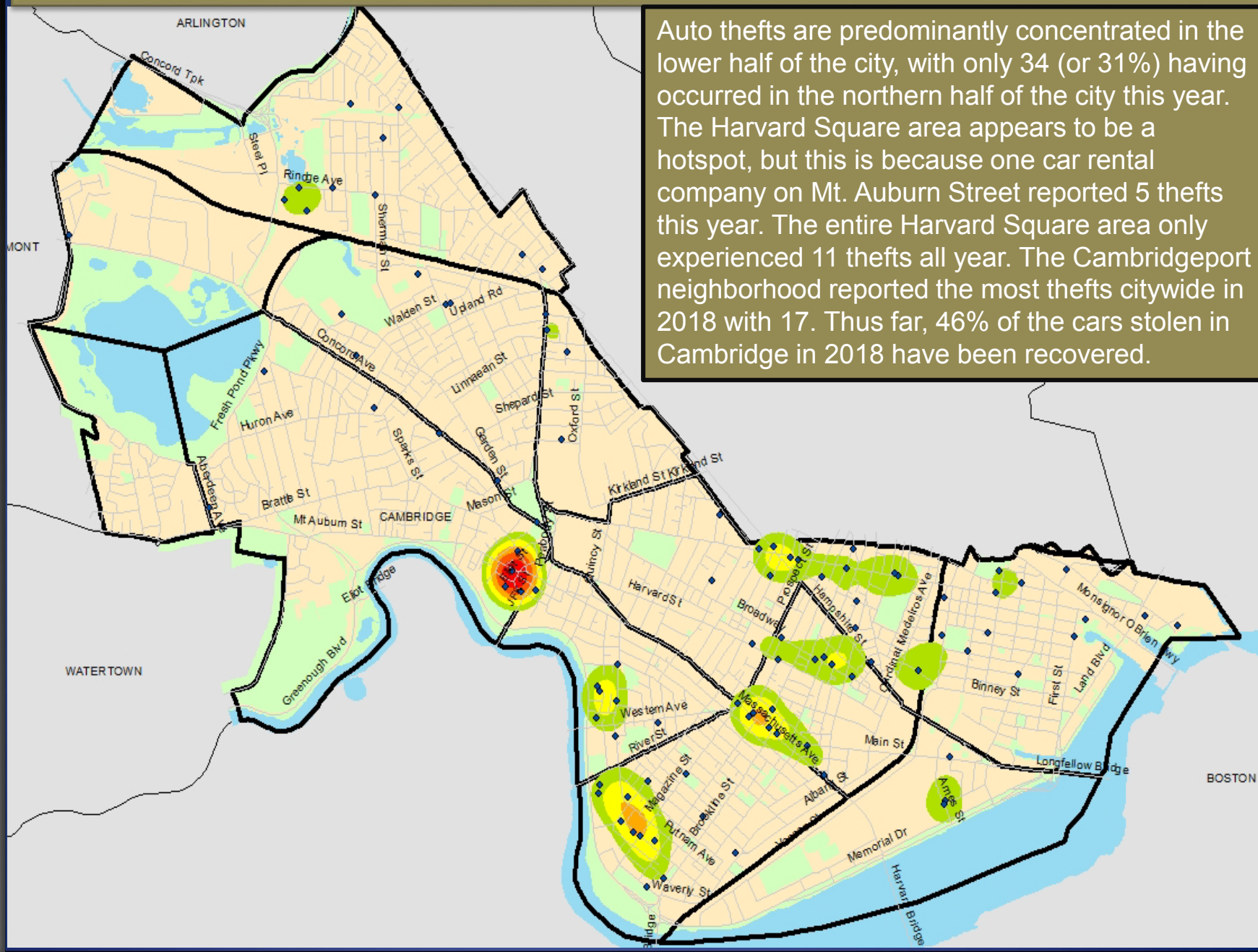
**+1%**





## Geographic Breakdown of Auto Thefts: 1.1.18 to 12.31.18

Auto thefts are predominantly concentrated in the lower half of the city, with only 34 (or 31%) having occurred in the northern half of the city this year. The Harvard Square area appears to be a hotspot, but this is because one car rental company on Mt. Auburn Street reported 5 thefts this year. The entire Harvard Square area only experienced 11 thefts all year. The Cambridgeport neighborhood reported the most thefts citywide in 2018 with 17. Thus far, 46% of the cars stolen in Cambridge in 2018 have been recovered.





# Help Prevent Crime

*And keep yourself informed!*

## To receive information from the CPD:

- Sign up with for the **Cambridge Alert Network**, to receive alerts about emerging crime patterns, neighborhood meetings, and crime prevention tips, by visiting [www.CambridgeMa.gov/AlertNetwork](http://www.CambridgeMa.gov/AlertNetwork).
- “Like” the Cambridge Police Department on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CambridgePolice](http://www.facebook.com/CambridgePolice)
- Follow [@CambridgePolice](https://twitter.com/CambridgePolice) on Twitter.
- Visit our website at [www.CambridgePolice.org](http://www.CambridgePolice.org) for valuable information and reports including the Daily Log and BridgeStat, which is published on the first Friday of every month.
- Download our “MyPD” smartphone app at [www.CambridgePolice.org/MyPD](http://www.CambridgePolice.org/MyPD).

## To Share Information with the CPD:

- Call our Non-Emergency Telephone Number at **617-349-3300**.
  - Every call for service generates a police response, so help drive our resources by reporting things that seem suspicious or out of the ordinary.
- Send an Anonymous TEXT-A-TIP:
  - Send an ANONYMOUS text message to **Tip411 (847411)**. Begin your message with Tip650 and then type your message. You will receive a response from the Cambridge Police with the option to continue communicating. Please remember that this is not a replacement for 9-1-1. **If you witness an emergency situation, please call 9-1-1 immediately.**
- Send an Anonymous Crime Tip E-Mail at [www.CambridgePolice.org/Tips](http://www.CambridgePolice.org/Tips)



# Questions?

- The complete 2017 Cambridge Police Annual Crime Report is available on our website at [www.CambridgePolice.org](http://www.CambridgePolice.org).
- The 2018 Annual Crime Report will be released later this winter.
- We welcome all questions, comments, and suggestions.
- Please direct your feedback to: [BridgeStat@CambridgePolice.org](mailto:BridgeStat@CambridgePolice.org).
- To review previous editions of BridgeStat, visit our website at [www.CambridgePolice.org/BridgeStat](http://www.CambridgePolice.org/BridgeStat).