



Cambridge Police Department BridgeStat

June 2023

Produced by the Crime Analysis Unit



Part I Total Crime

An analysis of serious crime statistics for the first half of 2023 points to a sizable increase of 22% in the Part One index total for Cambridge when compared with the same time frame in 2022. During the first six months of this year, there were 1,533 serious crimes reported in the City. For the same time period in 2022, the combined total for Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny & Auto theft was 1,253 incidents. When measured against the five-year average, a 29% rise in the crime index has been registered.

Further analysis of the crime totals for the first six months of 2023 indicates that violent crimes recorded a 27% increase when compared with last year. Similarly, property crimes rose 21% with 228 additional crimes reported when compared with the first six months of 2022. There were zero homicides, 27 rapes, 63 robberies, and 152 aggravated assaults recorded in the first 184 days of 2023.

The 94% increase in shoplifting, the 41% rise in larcenies from residences, and the 64% increase in bicycle larcenies when compared with 2022 are the key trend indicators observed so far in 2023 that have driven the upward curve in the crime index for June. Conversely, larceny from the person decreased by 26% from 61 to 45 incidents and larcenies from motor vehicles dropped 21% from 217 thefts to 172 when comparing the first six months of 2023 with that of 2022.

When analyzing the serious crime totals of June of 2023 versus the previous month of May 2023, there has been a slight dip of 1% in the number of index incidents with 4 less crimes reported.

	<u>4 Week Snapshot</u>			<u>Year to Date</u>			<u>Five Year</u>	
	5/9/23 - 6/5/23	6/6/23 - 7/3/23	Change	2022	2023	Change	Avg	Change
Total Violent Crime	61	43	-30%	190	242	27%	156	55%
Total Property Crime	217	231	6%	1063	1291	21%	1032	25%
Total Part I Crime	278	274	-1%	1253	1533	22%	1187	29%

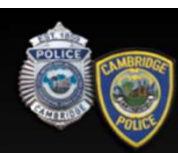


Part I Property Crime

Analysis of property crime totals through June of 2023 reveals a 21% increase when measured against the 2022 totals and a 25% rise above the five-year average of 1,032.

A majority of the property crime categories below recorded inclines when measured against the first six months of 2022, most notably a 94% jump in shopliftings (up 120 incidents), a 64% surge in bike thefts (up 103 incidents), and a 41% increase in thefts from residences (up 57). Meanwhile, larcenies from motor vehicles dropped 21% (down 45 thefts) and larceny from the person decreased by 26% (down 16 incidents).

	<u>4 Week Snapshot</u>			<u>Year to Date</u>			<u>Five Year</u>	
	5/9/23 - 6/5/23	6/6/23 - 7/3/23	Change	2022	2023	Change	Avg	Change
Burglary	15	35	133%	113	125	11%	102	23%
Commercial Break	5	13	160%	22	35	59%	29	21%
Housebreak	10	22	120%	91	90	-1%	73	23%
Larceny	186	183	-2%	884	1097	24%	876	25%
Larceny (Misc)	5	3	-40%	38	31	-18%	25	24%
Larceny from Building	11	20	82%	116	104	-10%	97	7%
Larceny from MV	31	17	-45%	217	172	-21%	190	-9%
Larceny from Person	6	7	17%	61	45	-26%	56	-20%
Larceny from Residence	38	31	-18%	138	195	41%	161	21%
Larceny of Bicycle	59	60	2%	162	265	64%	201	32%
Larceny of Plate	2	4	100%	14	24	71%	11	118%
Larceny of Services	1	0	-100%	10	13	30%	6	117%
Shoplifting	33	41	24%	128	248	94%	128	94%
Auto Theft	16	13	-19%	66	69	5%	53	30%
Total Property Crime	217	231	6%	1063	1291	21%	1032	25%



Part I Violent Crime

From January 1st to July 3rd of 2023, there were 242 violent crimes recorded in Cambridge, 52 incidents (+27%) above last year's total of 190 incidents through the same time and 86 incidents above the 156 crimes forecasted for the first six months of the year.

There have been 27 rapes reported in Cambridge thus far in 2023, up by seven incidents compared to the same time in 2022. The rapes reported in 2023 have been categorized as seven domestic incidents, ten acquaintance incidents, eight contact scenarios, and two blitz assaults.

The trend observed during the past couple years of a high percentage of aggravated assaults and street robberies occurring in Central Square and on peripheral side streets may slowly be returning with the warm weather, after a first-quarter lull in activity in that area. So far, six months into the year, 45 of the 152 aggravated assaults and nearly 40% of the street robberies have been reported in the Central Square area.

For only the fourth time in 20 years, no murders were reported in Cambridge in 2022 and this trend has continued through June of 2023. The last murder in Cambridge took place on March 27th, 2021, on Pemberton St. It remains under investigation.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	5/9/23 - 6/5/23	6/6/23 - 7/3/23	Change	2022	2023	Change	Avg	Change
Homicide	0	0	IN-CALC	0	0	IN-CALC	1	-100%
Rape	5	6	20%	20	27	35%	14	93%
Robbery	18	13	-28%	51	63	24%	38	66%
Commercial Robbery	4	1	-75%	11	20	82%	9	122%
Street Robbery	14	12	-14%	40	43	8%	29	48%
Aggravated Assault	38	24	-37%	119	152	28%	103	48%
Total Violent Crime	61	43	-30%	190	242	27%	156	55%



MURDER

No Patterns

- No murders have been reported in Cambridge in 2023 through July 3, 2023.*
- There were no murders recorded in Cambridge in 2022. This has happened only three other times in the past 20 years—in 2004, 2007, and 2010.
- In the last reported homicide in Cambridge, on Saturday 3/27/21, there was a fatal shooting that occurred at approximately 12:40 a.m. on Pemberton Street. The victim was reportedly located unconscious outside his vehicle by a passerby who called 911. The victim was transported to Mount Auburn Hospital where he later died. The victim has been identified as Xavier Louis-Jacques, 19, of Cambridge. The investigation is ongoing.
- On April 23, 2020, Jose Bermudez was arrested for the fatal daylight stabbing of 33-year-old Danilo Perez in Central Square on April 14. Bermudez and Perez were both part of the homeless community and were known to each other. Bermudez is being held without bail. This was the only homicide recorded in 2020.
- There was one murder in Cambridge in 2019. The Middlesex DA's Office and the Cambridge Police are asking for public assistance regarding the ongoing investigation into the fatal incident that occurred in the New Street area of Danehy Park around 6:30PM on the night of January 2nd, 2019. This incident is being investigated as a homicide. The preliminary investigation suggests that the victim, 60-year-old Paul Wilson, died as a result of blunt force trauma and that robbery does not appear to have been the motive.

* Please note: These figures exclude the fatal Cambridge Police officer-involved shooting of Sayed Faisal on January 4, 2023.

Percent Change*

Last 4 Weeks

0%

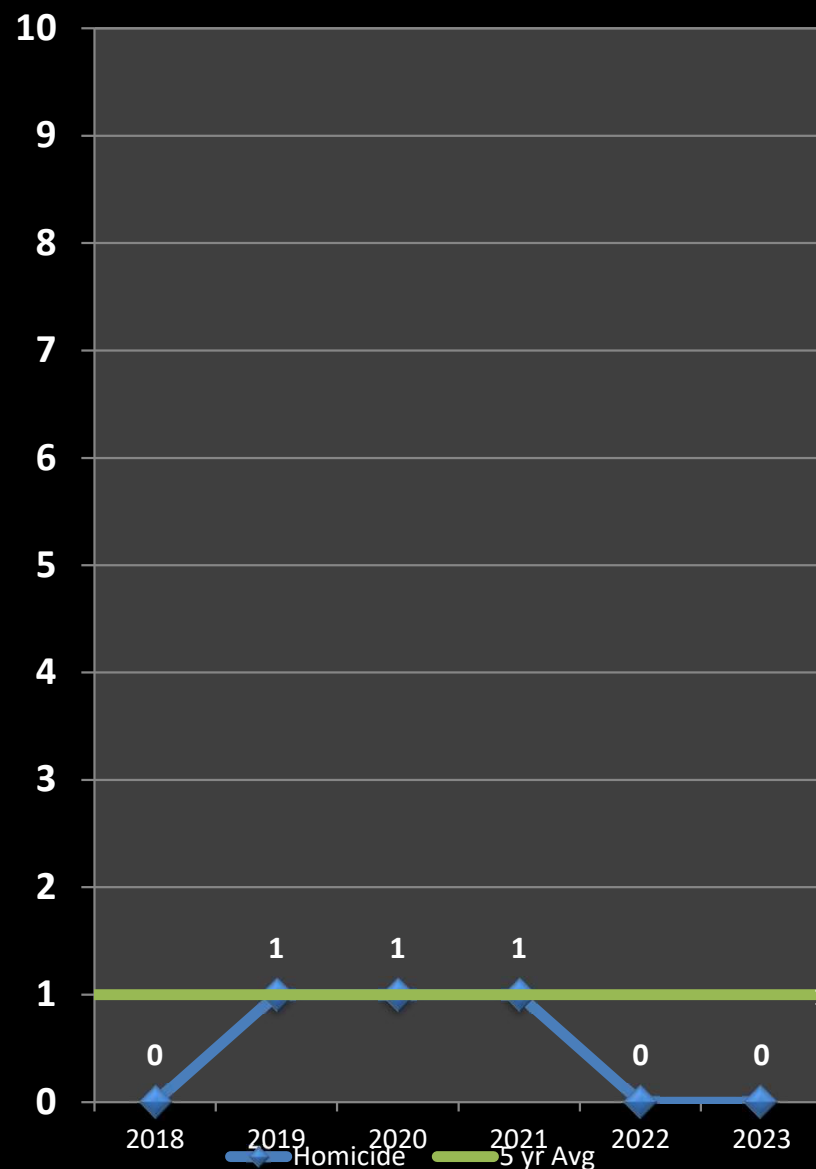
Previous Year

0%

5-Year Average

-100%

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





RAPE

No Patterns

- There were 27 rapes reported in Cambridge during the first half of 2023, which is up seven incidents (35%) compared to the number reported through the same time frame in 2022.
- The rapes reported thus far in 2023 have been categorized as seven domestic incidents, ten acquaintance incidents, eight contact scenarios, and two blitz assaults.
- One of the domestic assaults resulted in the arrest of the suspect at the time.
- The total number of reported rapes tends to fluctuate from year to year, but the number of stranger-to-stranger rapes reported each year in Cambridge—typically between one and five—remains extremely low.

Percent Change*

Last 4 Weeks

+20%

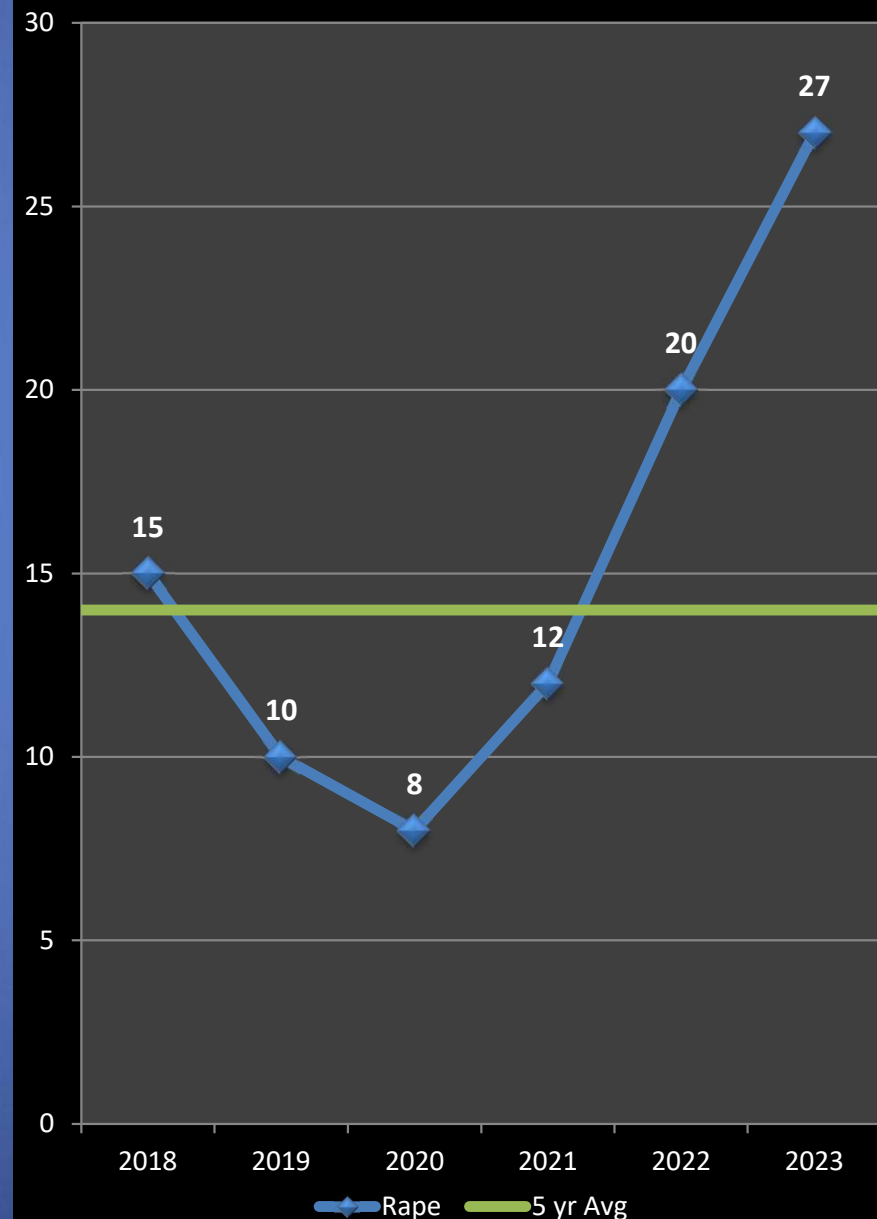
Previous Year

+35%

5-Year Average

+93%

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

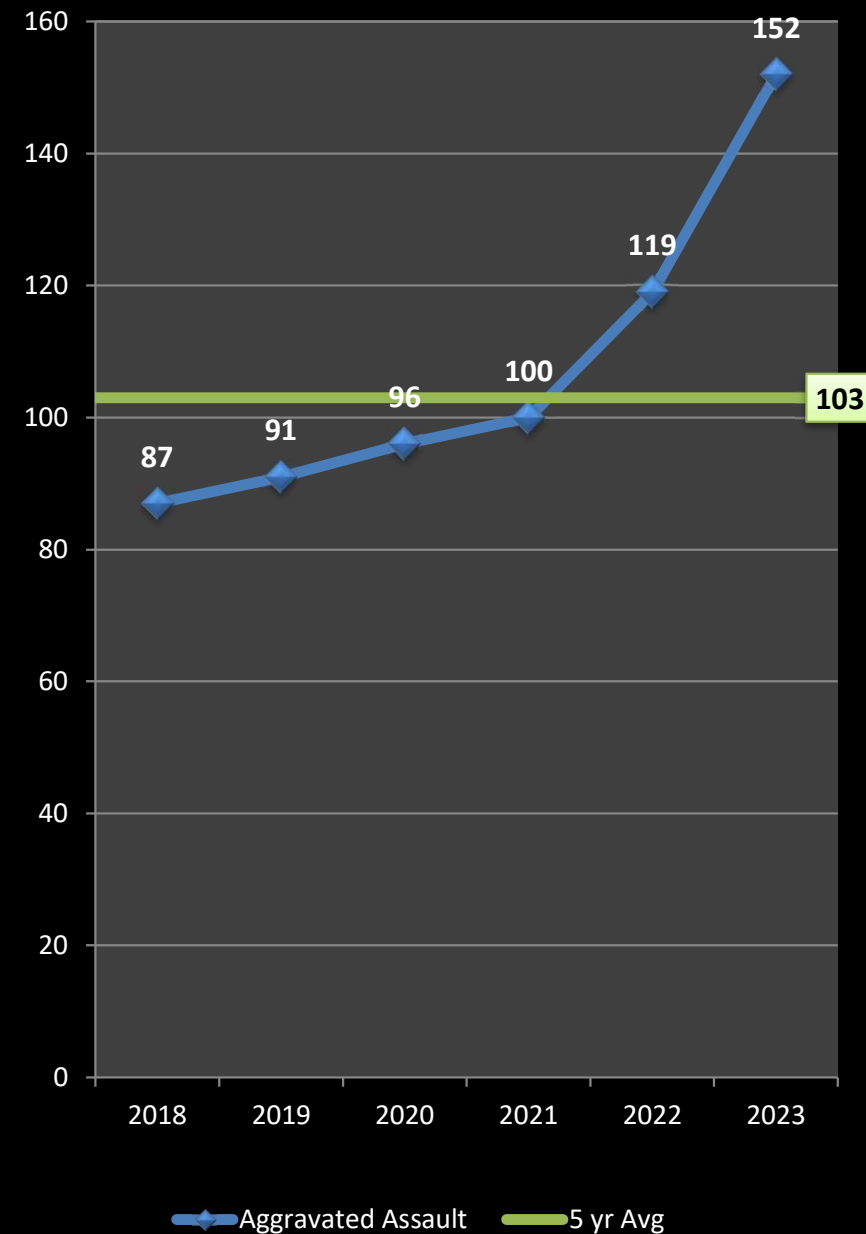




No Patterns

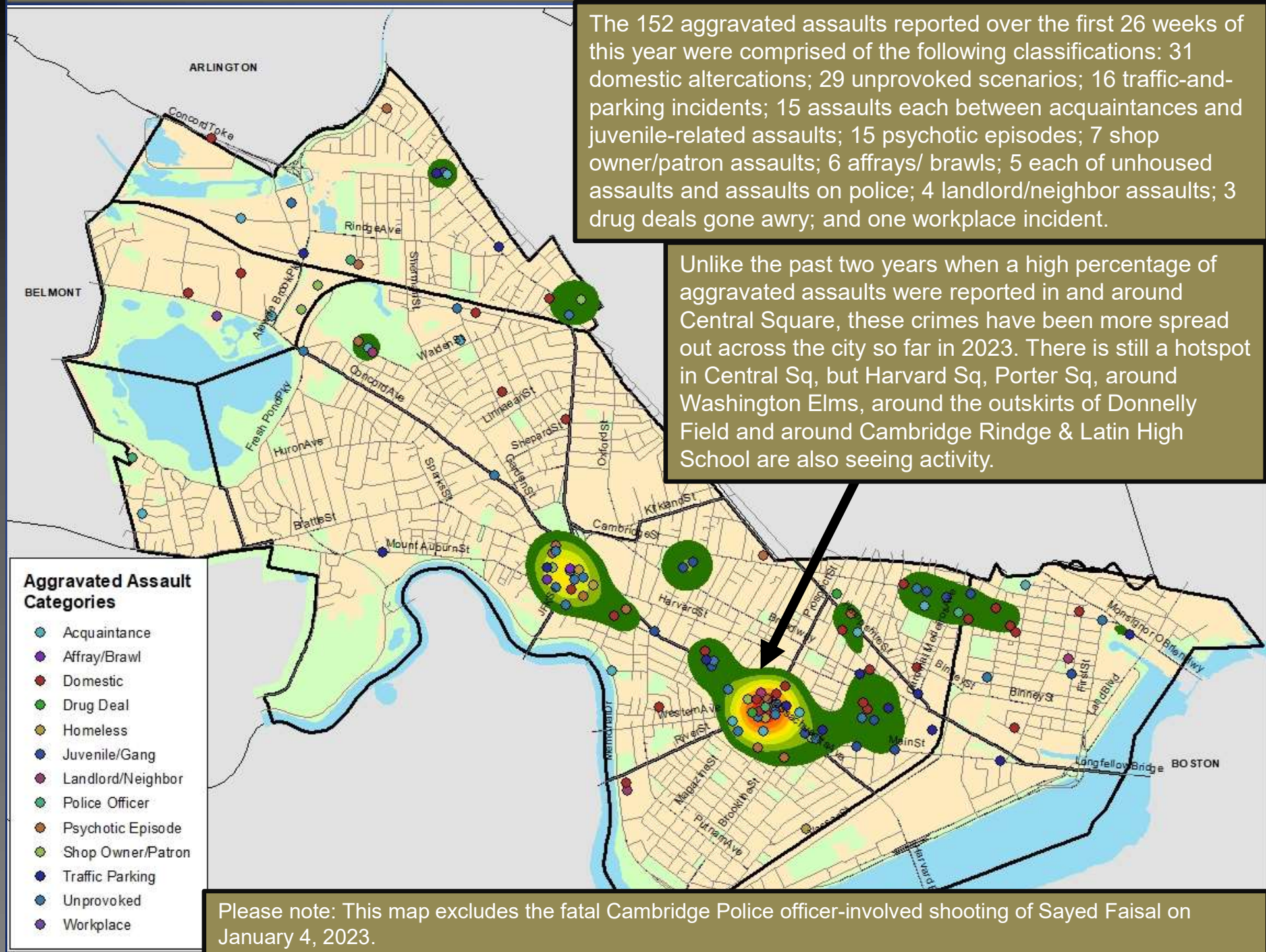
- * Please note: This figure excludes the fatal Cambridge Police officer-involved shooting of Sayed Faisal on January 4, 2023.

+48%





Geographic Breakdown of Aggravated Assaults: 1.1.23 – 7.3.23





Confirmed Shots Fired and Shootings in Cambridge: 1.1.23 – 7.3.23

There have been three confirmed shots fired incidents in Cambridge through July 3, 2023*, one of which resulted in the non-fatal shooting of two victims on Washington St. Through the same time period in 2022, there were six shots fired incidents, none of which resulted in gunshot wounds.

Shots Fired on 5/7 at 11:23pm
Green Rose Heritage Park area
(Harvard St)
ShotSpotter alert. Shell casings
recovered. No injuries reported.

Shots Fired on 7/2 at 1:00am
100 block of Harvard St
ShotSpotter alert. Shell casings
recovered and ballistic damage
discovered on multiple vehicles.
No injuries reported.

Shooting on 1.09 at 8:20pm
100 block of Washington St
ShotSpotter alert. 19-year-old male
from Boston and 20-year-old female
from Cambridge non-fatally shot.

Shooting Type

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

*Please note: This figure/map excludes the fatal Cambridge Police officer-involved shooting of Sayed Faisal on January 4, 2023.

Robbery

No Patterns

- The five-year average for overall robbery in Cambridge for the first half of the year is 38 incidents. Through July 3rd of 2023, 63 robberies were recorded, which translates to a 66% increase above the projected total and a 24% incline above the 51 robberies counted through July 3rd of 2022.
- Commercial robberies in 2023 increased by only one incident in June, bringing the year-to-date total to 20. This total is 82% above the 11 reported through 7/3 of last year and 122% above the five-year average of nine. Part of the increase in 2023 can be attributed to a regional pattern of armed commercial robberies involving a lone male suspect with a firearm that affected both Cambridge and Boston during the first quarter. This pattern came to an end in late March with the arrest of a Cambridge male. Many of the remaining commercial robberies this year have involved escalated shoplifting incidents at retail and drug stores across the city.
- The 43 street robberies reported year-to-date in 2023 are up 8% over the 40 reported through this time in 2022 and are up 48% over the five-year average of 29. Despite the increase, no defined street robbery patterns have emerged anywhere in Cambridge year-to-date.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

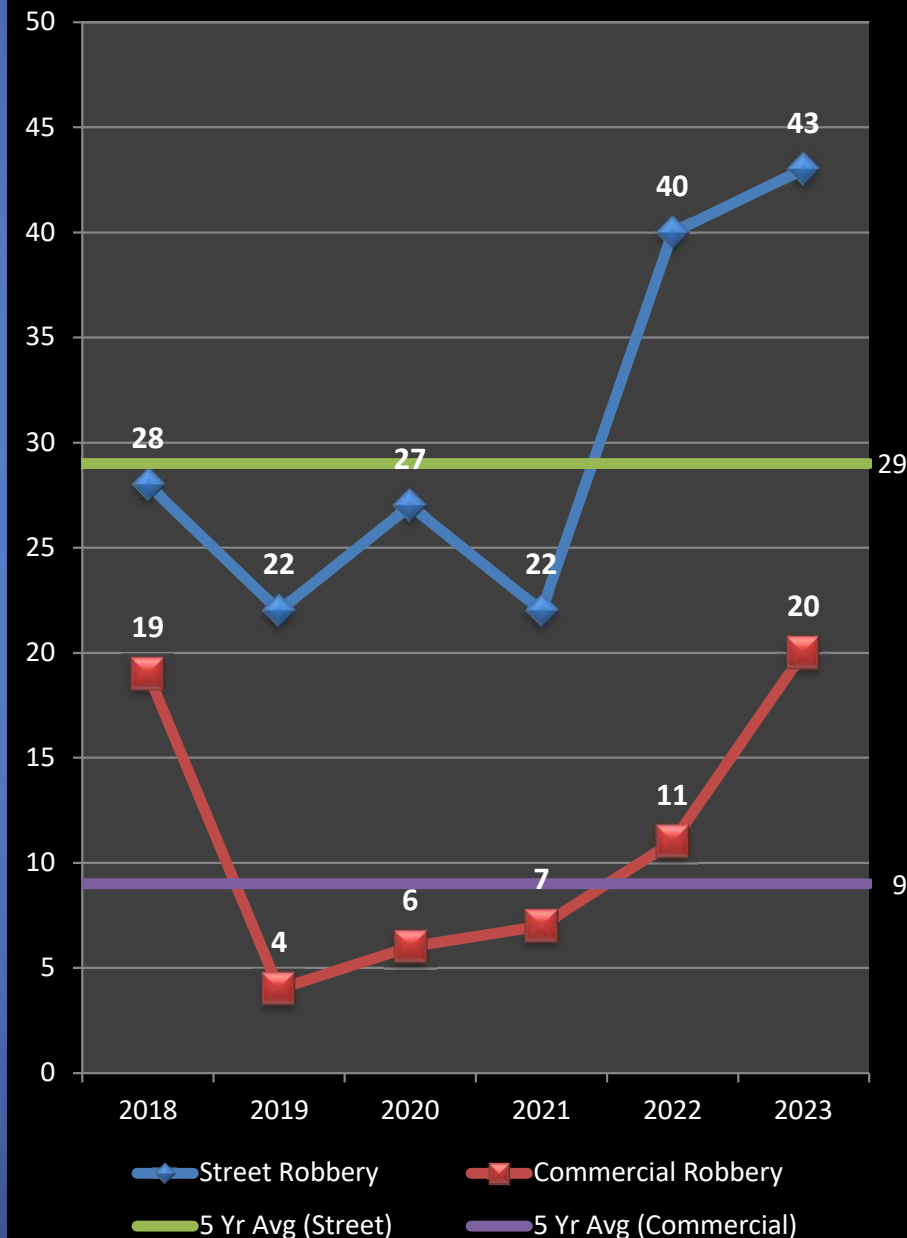
-28%

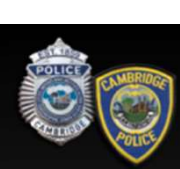
Previous Year

+24%

5-Year Average

+66%





Geographic Breakdown of Street Robberies: 1.1.23 – 7.3.23

The 43 street robberies reported year-to-date in 2023 are up 8% over the 40 reported through this time in 2022 and are up 48% over the five-year average of 29.

There are no active street robbery patterns in Cambridge at the present time, but May and June saw an increase in pack robberies involving groups of juveniles and acquaintance robberies between unhoused individuals.

On 6/2 at 9:30pm, a delivery driver was robbed at gunpoint on Theriault Court; the suspect stole the food order and cash.

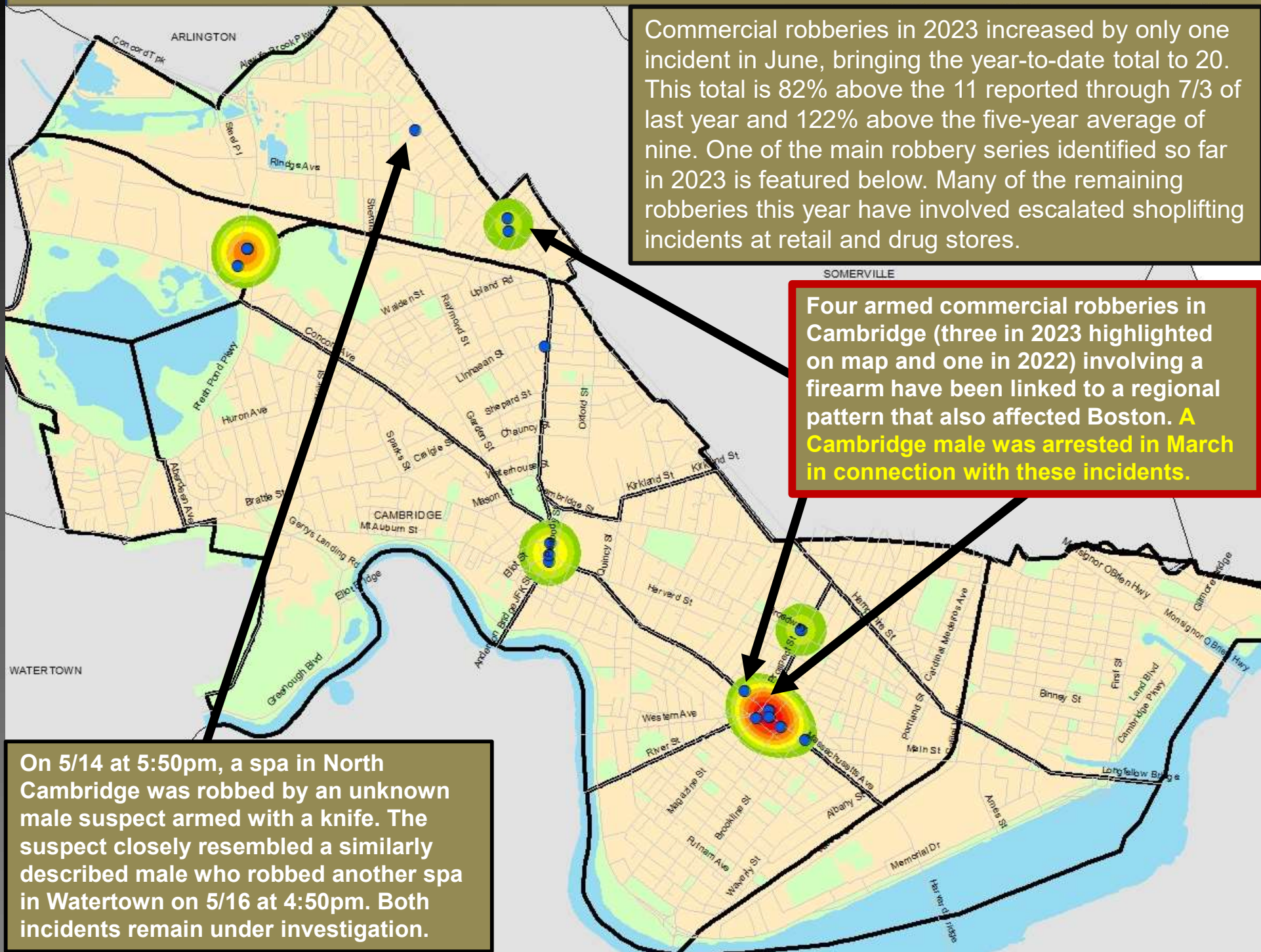
There have been 9 street robberies reported in this hotspot in Harvard Square in 2023. Most of the incidents have involved unhoused individuals.

After seeing a relatively quiet start to the year in Central Sq, robbery activity began to pick up in this area in April with three incidents and continued with five in May and seven in June. Nearly 40% of the robberies citywide in 2023 have now taken place in the Central Sq area. This is similar to a trend seen in this area that began in 2021 and continued throughout all of 2022.

June
2023



Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Robberies: 1.1.23 – 7.3.23





Burglary

Interdicted Pattern

- The property index crime of burglary, the combination of residential and commercial breaks, has recorded an increase of 23% through July 3rd of 2023 when compared to the five-year average, with 23 additional incidents reported above the projected total of 102 breaks. When compared with last year's total of 113 incidents for the first six months of the year, an 11% increase has been registered (up 12 incidents in 2023).
- Housebreaks year-to-date in 2023 are down by one incident when compared to 2022 (dropping 1% from 91 to 90). June saw the largest number of housebreaks to date in 2023 with 21 reported.
 - Suspects have been arrested or otherwise identified in 19 of the housebreaks so far this year.
 - In June, two suspects were connected to an apartment building in The Port that has experienced the largest number of breaks at one location citywide in 2023. An arrest was made in connection with one of the breaks and property linking the suspects to numerous other crimes was recovered.
- Commercial breaks for the first six months of 2023 have risen by 13 crimes (+59%), from 22 in 2022 to 35 in 2023.
 - There were five commercial breaks in June that are believed to be related based on method of entry (forced/broken windows) and the time committed (early morning). Warrants have been issued for a Cambridge resident in connection with two of these breaks in North Cambridge and one in Harvard Square (see map on slide 15).

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

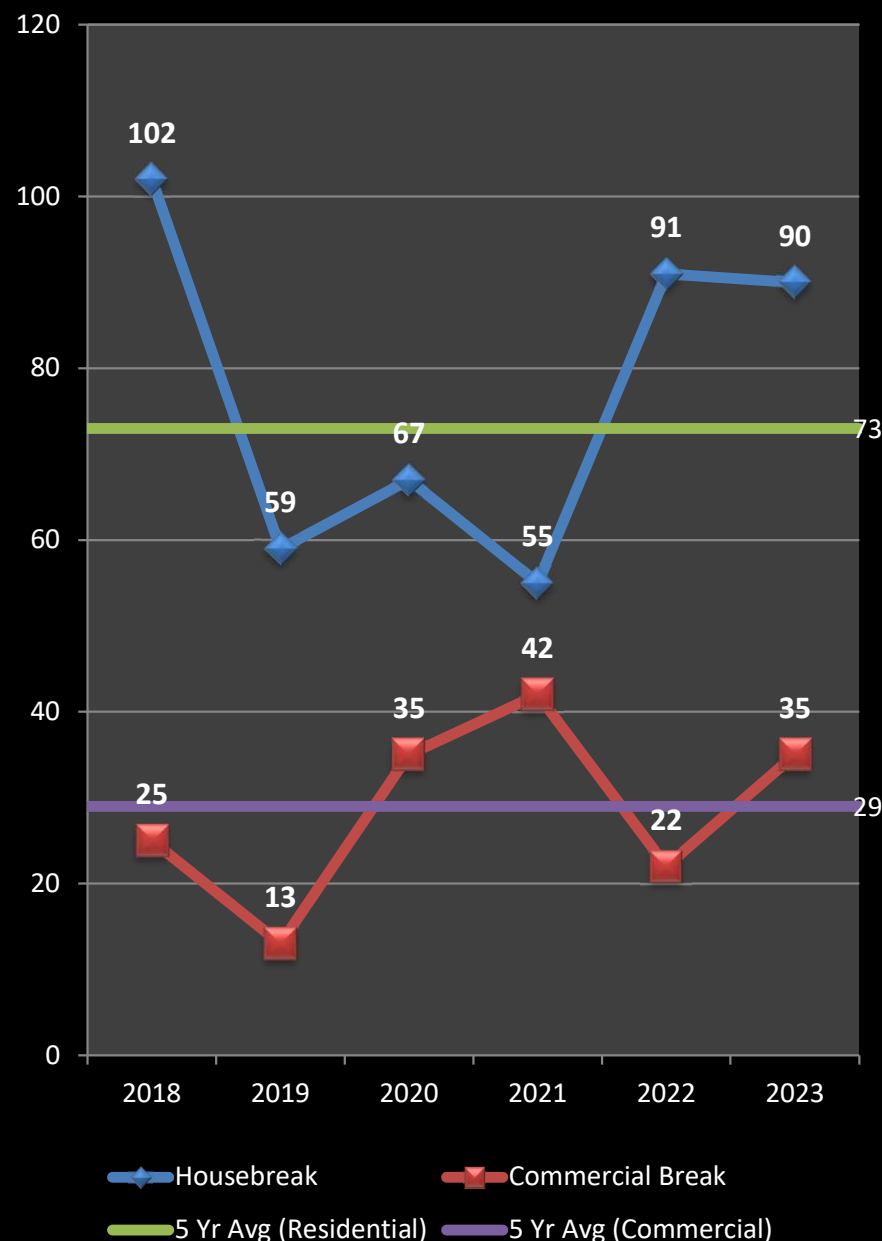
+133%

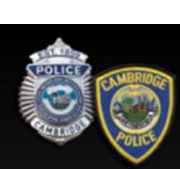
Previous Year

+11%

5-Year Average

+23%





Geographic Breakdown of Housebreaks: 1.1.23 – 7.3.23

Housebreaks year-to-date in 2023 are down by one incident when compared to 2022 (dropping 1% from 91 to 90).

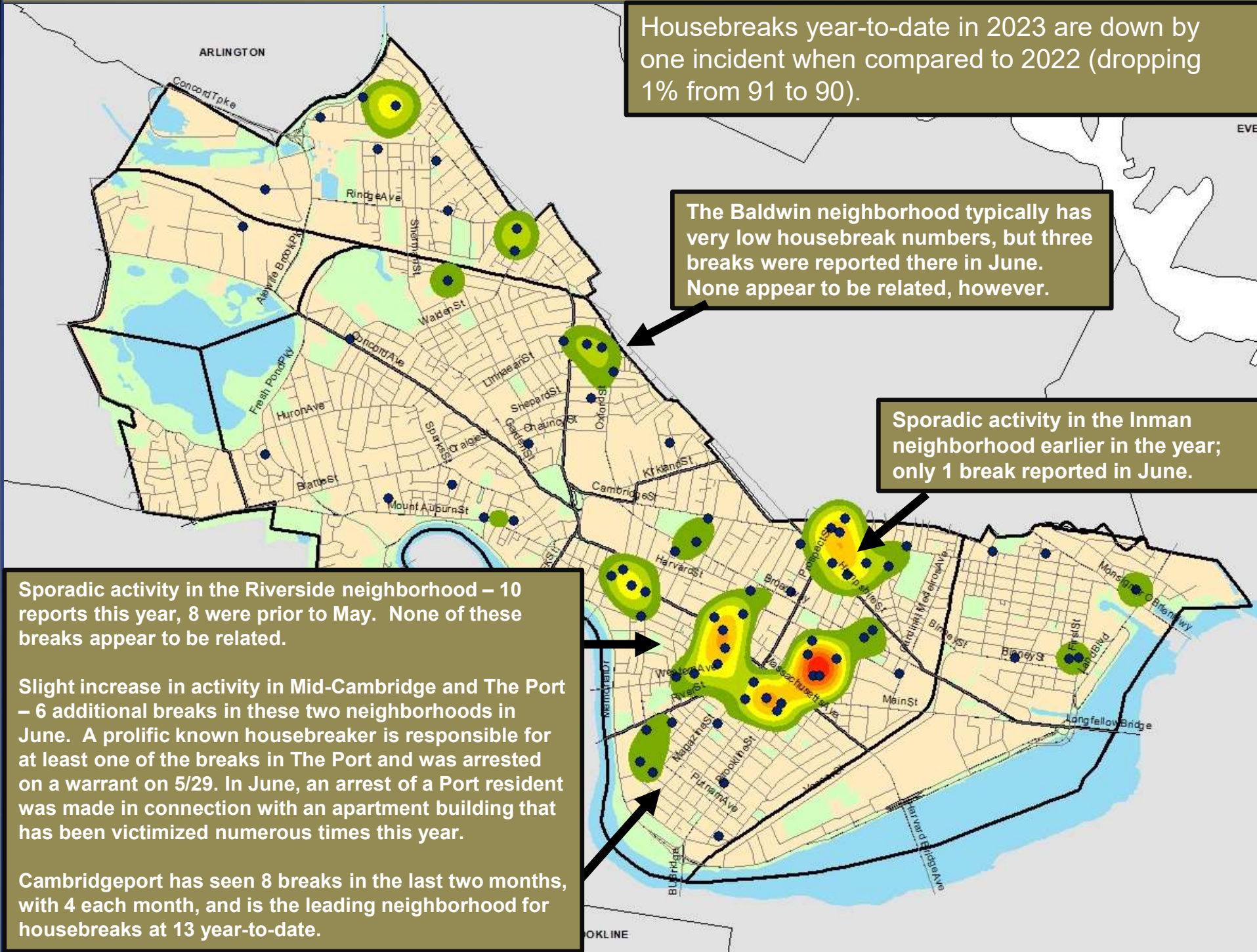
The Baldwin neighborhood typically has very low housebreak numbers, but three breaks were reported there in June. None appear to be related, however.

Sporadic activity in the Inman neighborhood earlier in the year; only 1 break reported in June.

Sporadic activity in the Riverside neighborhood – 10 reports this year, 8 were prior to May. None of these breaks appear to be related.

Slight increase in activity in Mid-Cambridge and The Port – 6 additional breaks in these two neighborhoods in June. A prolific known housebreaker is responsible for at least one of the breaks in The Port and was arrested on a warrant on 5/29. In June, an arrest of a Port resident was made in connection with an apartment building that has been victimized numerous times this year.

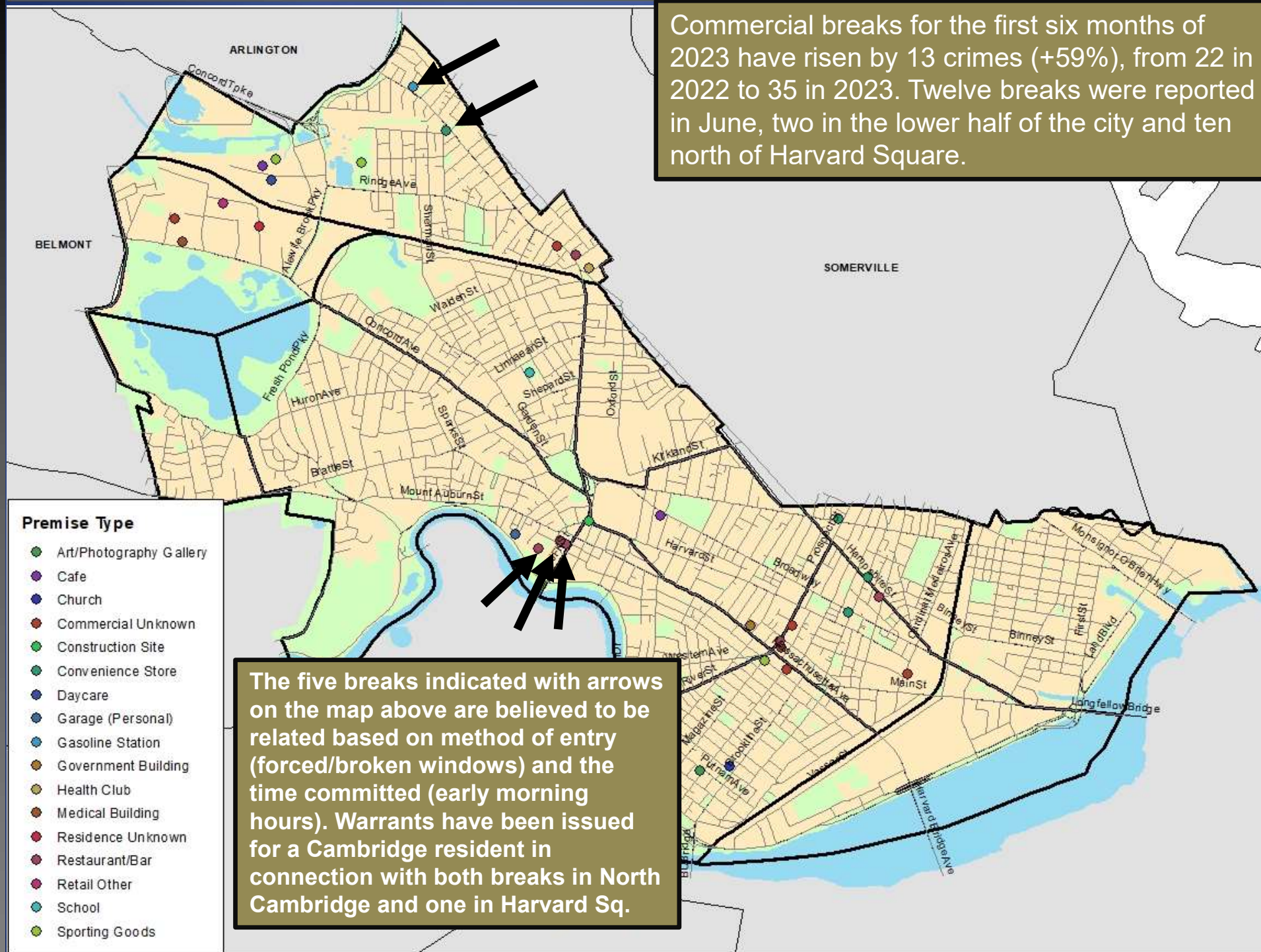
Cambridgeport has seen 8 breaks in the last two months, with 4 each month, and is the leading neighborhood for housebreaks at 13 year-to-date.





Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Breaks: 1.1.23 – 7.3.23

Commercial breaks for the first six months of 2023 have risen by 13 crimes (+59%), from 22 in 2022 to 35 in 2023. Twelve breaks were reported in June, two in the lower half of the city and ten north of Harvard Square.





LARCENY

No Patterns

- Preliminary stats indicate that overall larceny through July 3rd, 2023, is registering at 1,097 incidents, 24% above the same time frame in 2022. The total of 1,097 larcenies reported year-to-date in 2023 is also 25% above the 5-year average of 876 incidents.
- The larceny from motor vehicles total through 7/3 in 2023 is 172 incidents, 21% below the same time frame in 2022. The 172 thefts reported are 18 less than the number forecasted for 2023. The decrease in 2023 compared to last year can be attributed to a drop in catalytic converter thefts so far in 2023—in 2022, 83 were reported through 7/3/22, while only 21 have been reported so far this year.
- Through July 3, 2023, there were 45 larcenies from the person reported in Cambridge, down 16 incidents (-26%) compared to the same time period in 2022. The 2023 total is 20% (11 incidents) below than the five-year average of 56. Central Square has seen the most activity so far this year with 21 incidents.
- There were 104 larcenies from buildings reported through July 3rd, 2023. This total is down slightly from last year with 12 fewer thefts (-10%) reported in 2023, but is up seven incidents (+7%) above the 5-year average. The increase in incidents over the last two years can be attributed to a continued trend of thefts from lockers at a local gym in Porter Sq.
- Larcenies from residences are up 57 incidents (41%) in 2023 when compared with 2022. Package thefts have made up the majority of this crime type in recent years and registered even higher than average in 2020-2022, likely due to the increased volume of deliveries during the pandemic. Package thefts have accounted for 128 (or 66%) of the 195 larcenies from residences thus far in 2023.
- There were 265 larcenies of bicycles reported through July 3rd of 2023. This total is 103 incidents (+64%) above last year's total and 64 incidents (+32%) above the five-year average of 201. The warmer and less snowy weather this year when compared to 2022 may partly be a cause for the increase in 2023, as overall ridership may have remained higher this year, even in the winter months.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

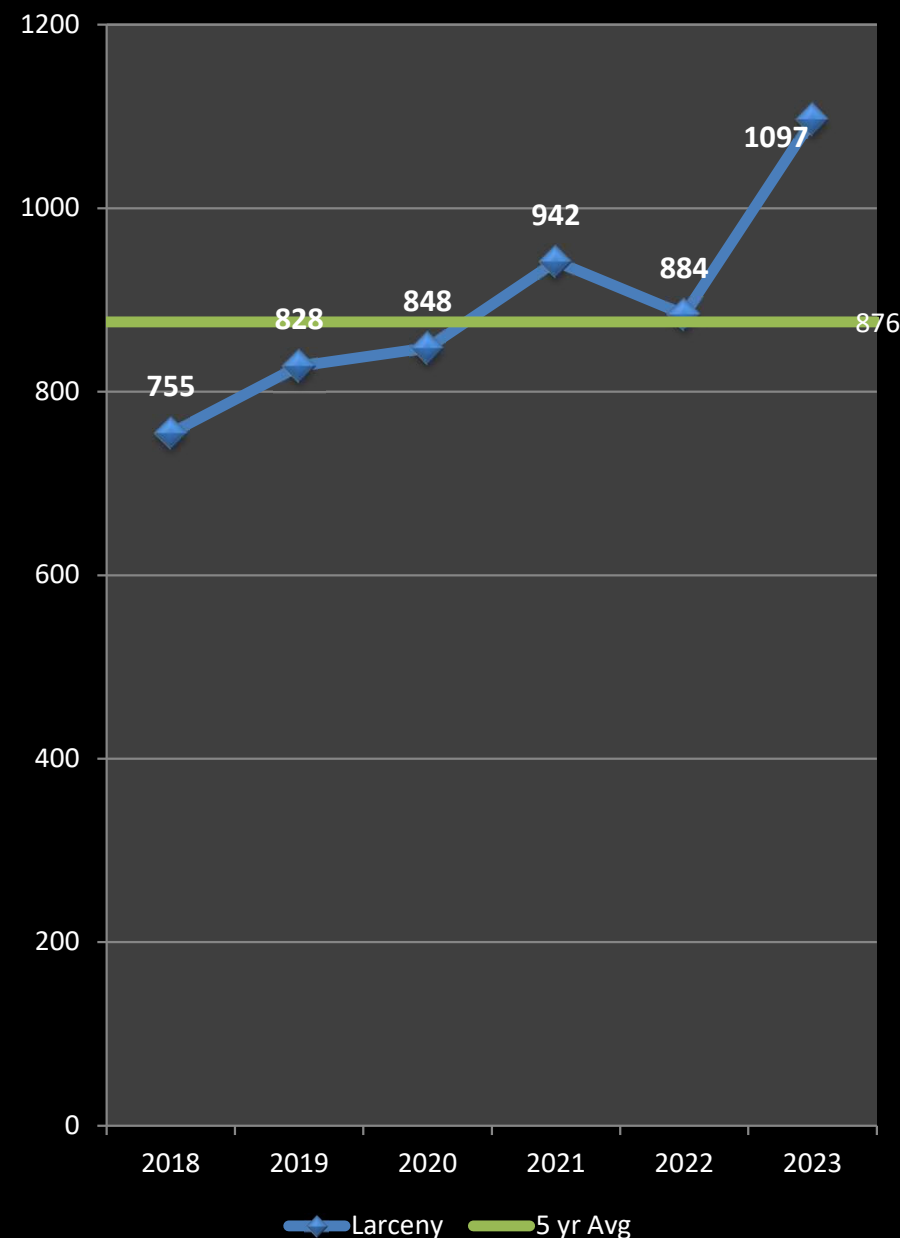
-2%

Previous Year

+24%

5-Year Average

+25%





LARCENY From MV

No Patterns

- The larceny from motor vehicle total for the first six months of 2023 is 172 incidents, which is 21% below the total for the same time period in 2022. The 172 thefts from cars reported thus far in 2023 is 18 incidents below the number forecasted through the first 26 weeks of 2023.
- The neighborhoods with the highest larceny from motor vehicle totals so far in 2023 are: North Cambridge (34), Peabody (24), Riverside (20), and Cambridgeport (20).
- Comparing the last four weeks (June) to the previous four (May), there was a 45% decrease in larcenies from motor vehicles, with 14 fewer crimes reported.
- There have been multiple larcenies from motor vehicles this year where suspects have also tampered with the ignition in an unsuccessful attempt to steal the vehicle. This can be attributed to a recent TikTok trend targeting Kia and Hyundai vehicles.
- Catalytic converter thefts became a problem in Cambridge in January of 2021. Surges continued sporadically throughout 2021 and 2022, with at least 128 reported in 2022 alone. This activity has not been as prolific in 2023, with only 21 incidents reported so far this year compared to the 83 thefts reported during the same time frame in 2022. In fact, not a single catalytic converter theft was reported stolen anywhere in Cambridge in April, May, or June. However, it remains to be seen whether this crime type will re-emerge as the year progresses.
 - The majority of the catalytic converter thefts in Cambridge have involved 2004-2009 Toyota Priuses.
 - Thus far in 2023, the majority of the catalytic converter theft activity has been reported overnight in the upper half of Cambridge, north and west of Harvard Square.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

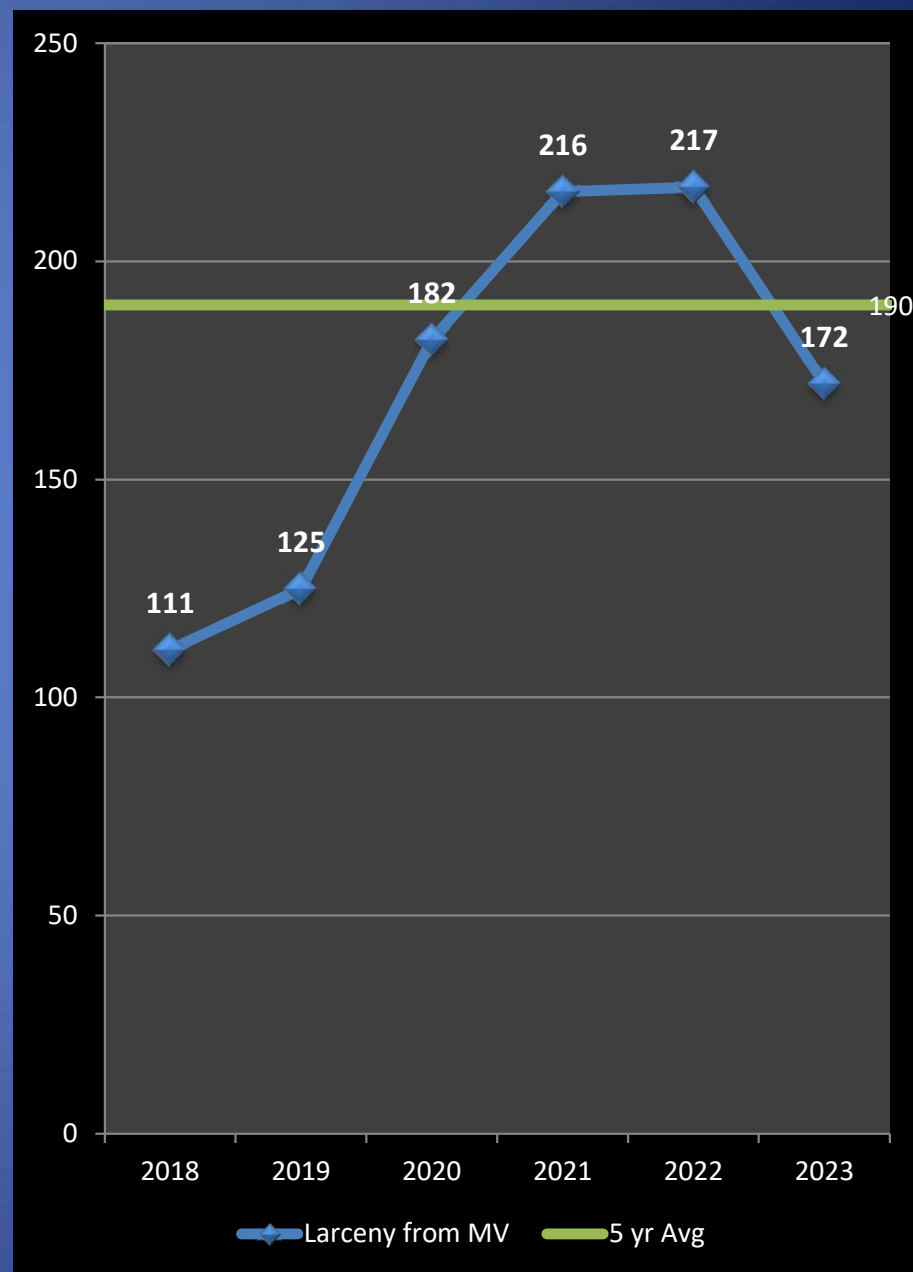
-45%

Previous Year

-21%

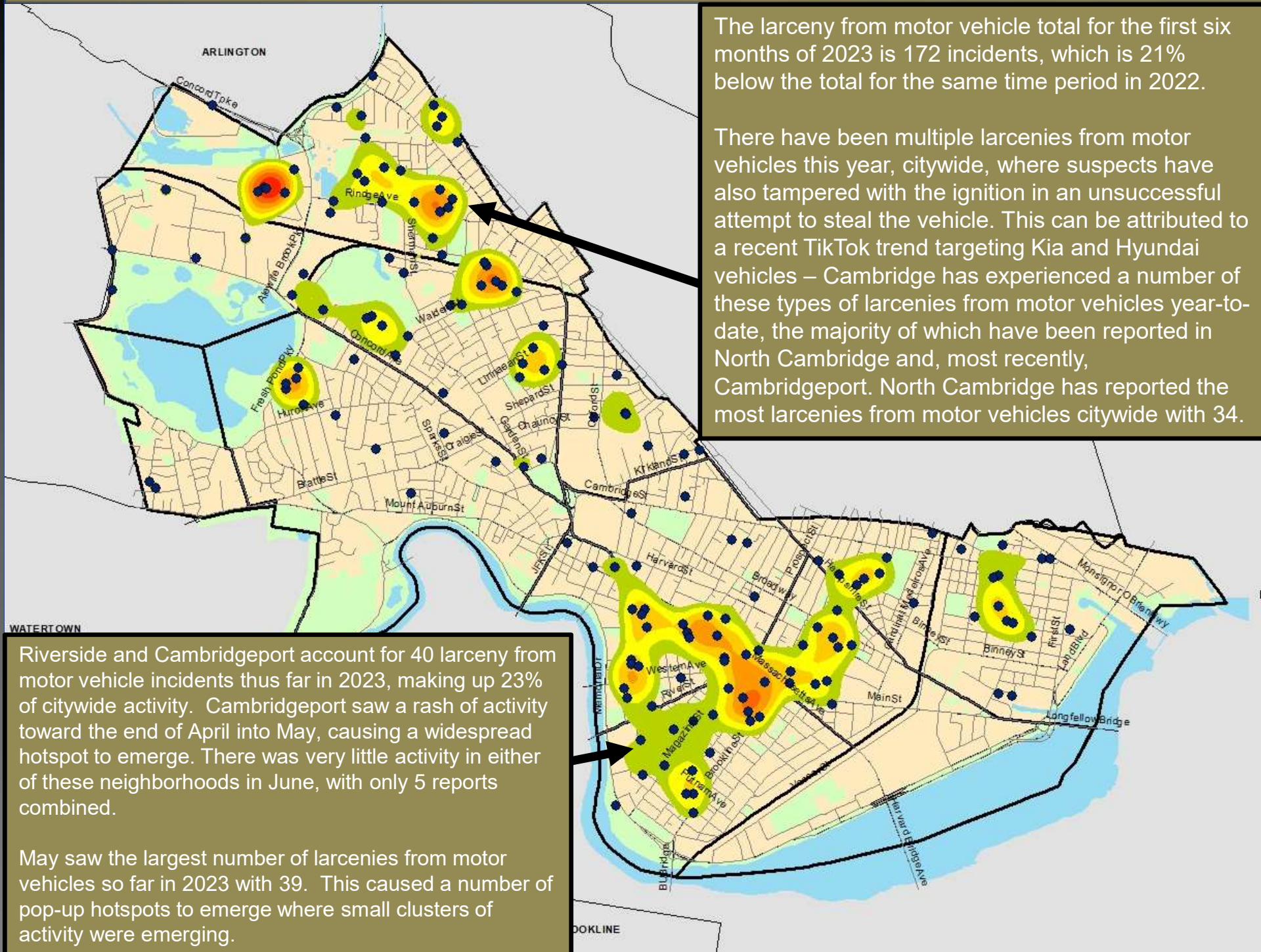
5-Year Average

-9%





Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from Motor Vehicles: 1.1.23 – 7.3.23





LARCENY *from Person*

No Patterns

- Larcenies from the person during the first half of 2023 decreased by 16 incidents (-26%) below the same time period in 2022 and dropped 11 incidents (20%) when comparing 2023 to the five-year average of 56. Seven thefts were reported in the past four weeks (June), up one from the previous four weeks (May).
- Twenty-one of the 45 incidents year-to-date in 2023 took place in Central Square. The other incidents took place throughout the city, with Harvard Square registering the next largest amount with ten thefts, followed by four in the East Cambridge/CambridgeSide area, three in the Cambridgeport/Riverside area, two each in the Porter Square area, the Alewife/West Cambridge area, and the Kendall Square/MIT area, and one in the Bay Square area. This crime type still has not fully returned to pre-COVID levels; in 2018 and 2019, numbers for the first half of the year were registering in the high 70s.
- In recent years, higher numbers in Central Square have mainly been due to grab-and-run situations and/or incidents that involved individuals who are unhoused whose property may have been stolen while they were asleep or otherwise distracted. Fifteen of the 21 thefts in Central Square thus far in 2023 have fallen into these categories.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

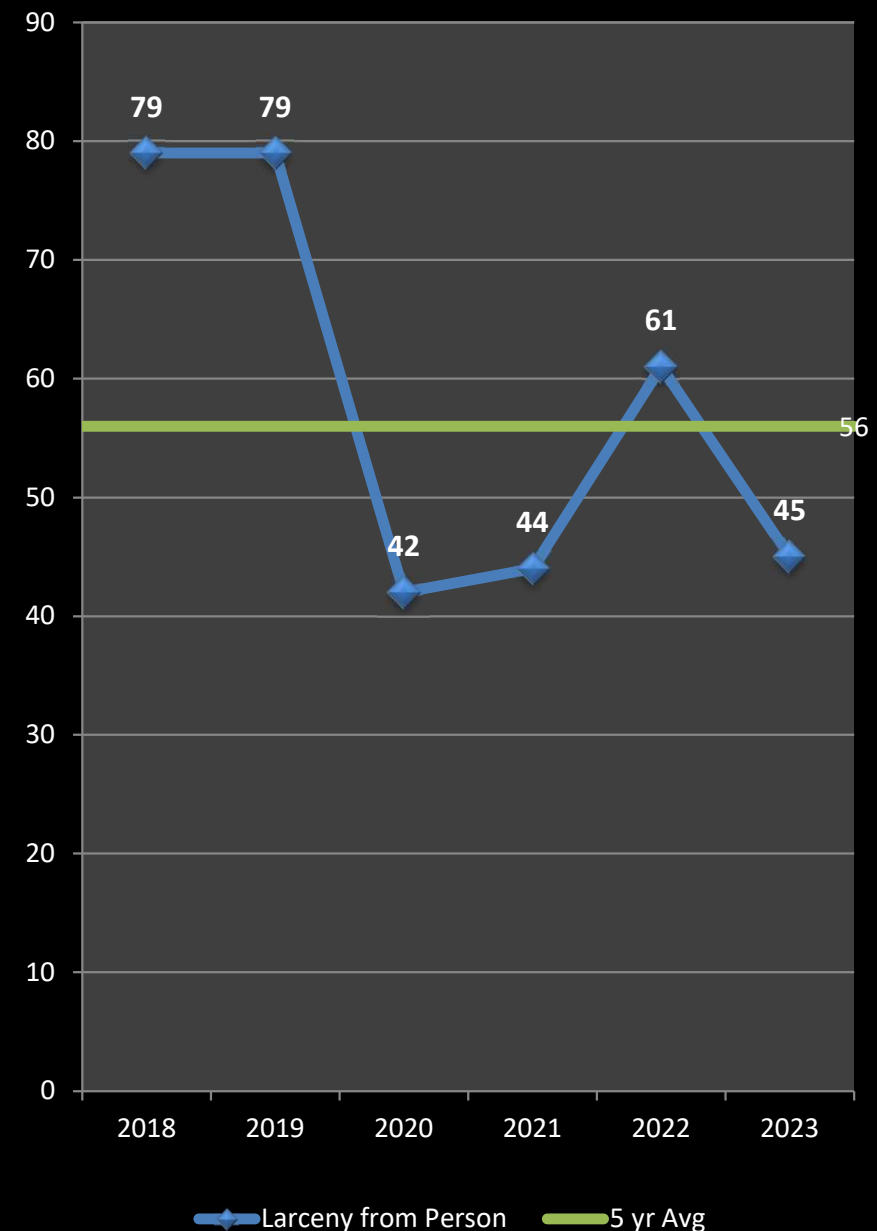
+17%

Previous Year

-26%

5-Year Average

-20%



LARCENY of Bicycle

No Patterns

- Likely due at least in part to the warmer weather and limited snow earlier this year, 2023 has seen a substantial increase in bike thefts when compared to 2022. There were 265 thefts reported citywide through July 3rd, 2023, compared to 162 through the same time in 2022, equaling a 64% increase this year. Additionally, the 2023 total is 32% (64 incidents) above the five-year average of 201.
- May reported the largest number of bike thefts so far this year with 75, followed by June with 64.
- Only 81 bike thefts (31% of all citywide thefts) have occurred North of Harvard Square this year.
- Of the 265 bike thefts reported so far in 2023, 182 (69%) were reportedly locked at the time of the theft.

Top Neighborhoods for Bike Theft in 2023:

Neighborhood	YTD Total	% Citywide
Cambridgeport	55	21%
N. Cambridge	39	15%
Mid-Cambridge	38	14%
East Cambridge	27	10%
Riverside	25	9%

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

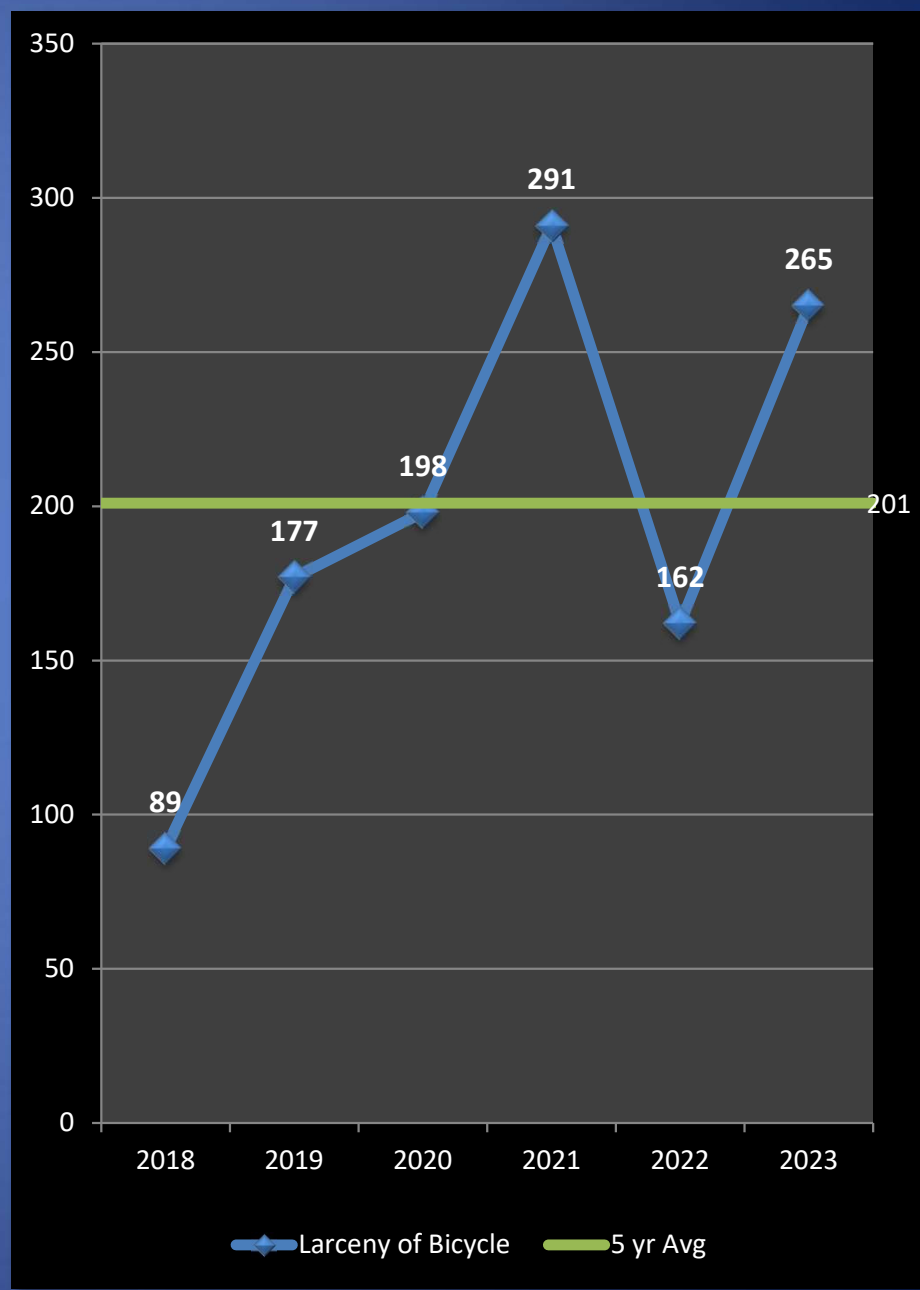
Previous Year

5-Year Average

+2%

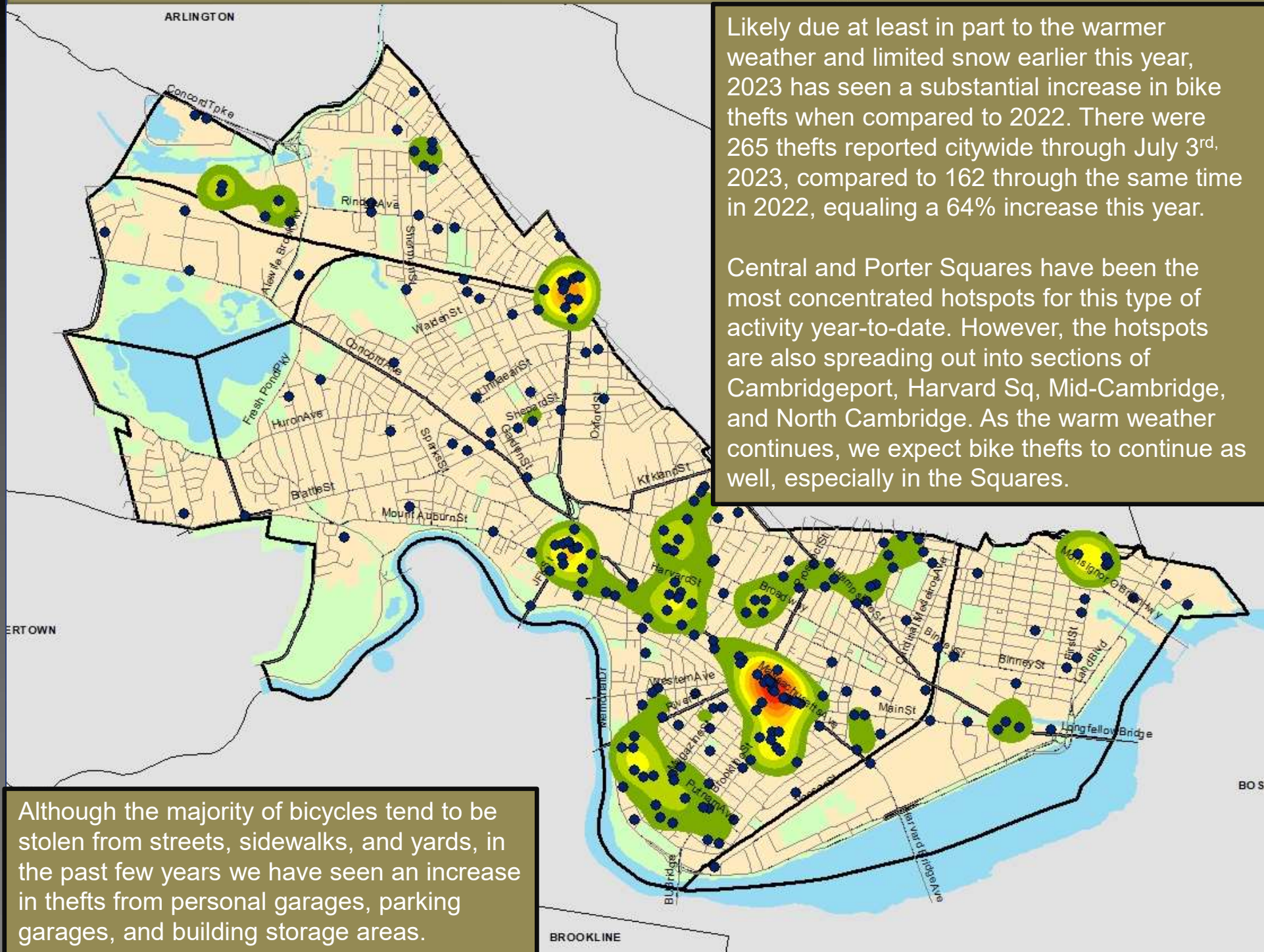
+64%

+32%



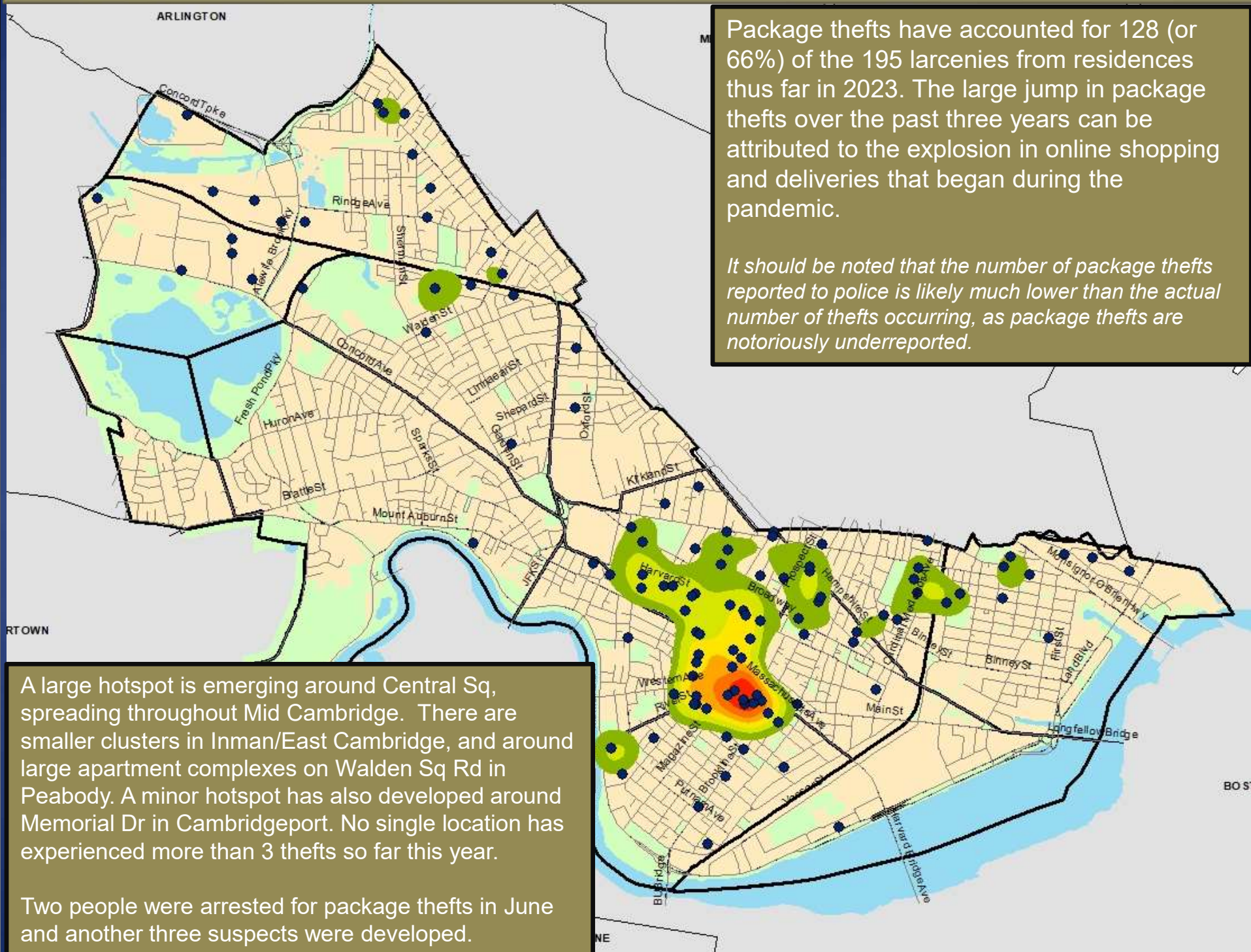


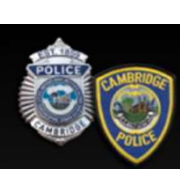
Geographic Breakdown of Larceny of Bicycles: 1.1.23 – 7.3.23





Geographic Breakdown of Package Thefts: 1.1.23 – 7.3.23

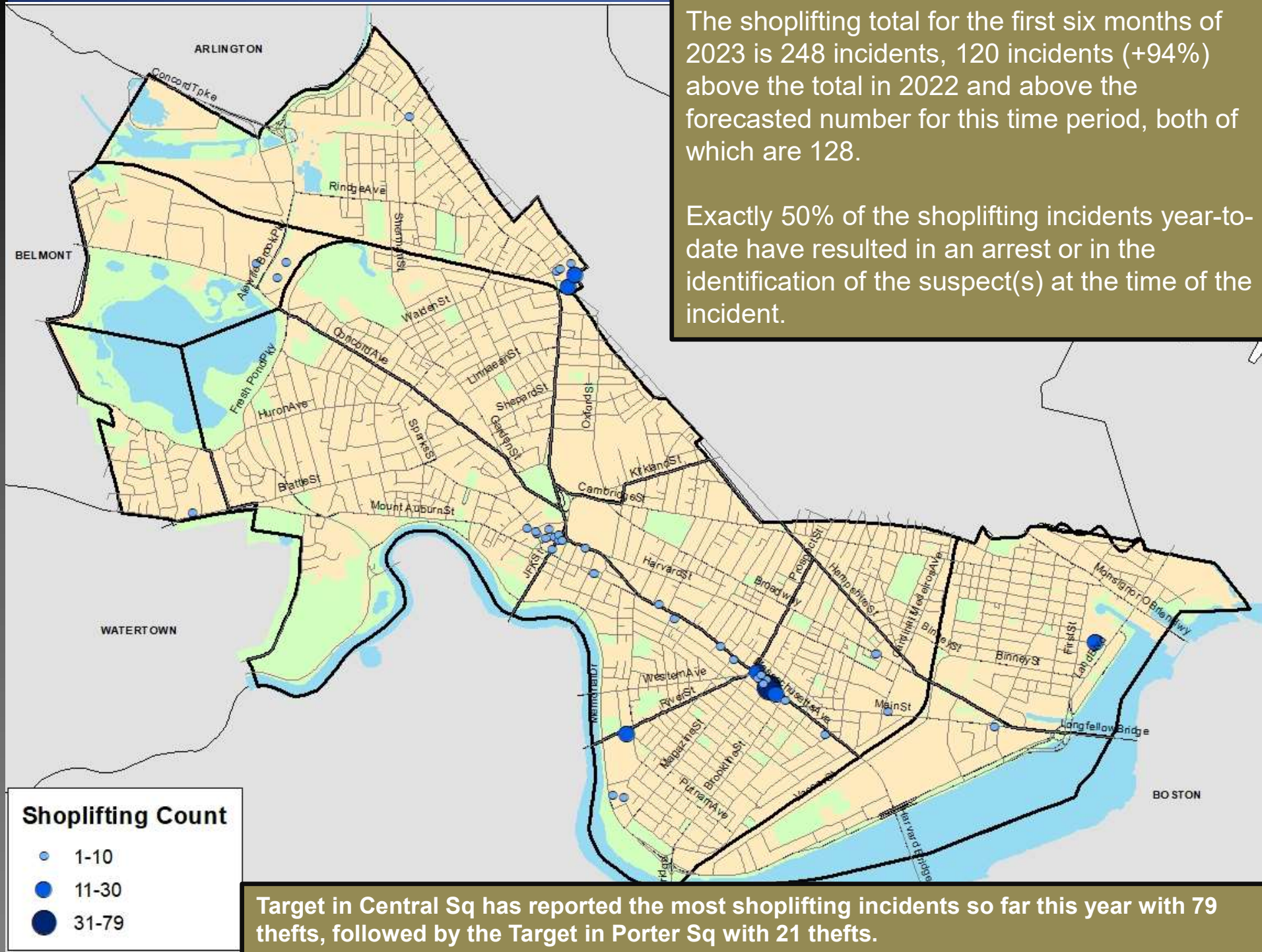




Geographic Breakdown of Shoplifting: 1.1.23 – 7.3.23

The shoplifting total for the first six months of 2023 is 248 incidents, 120 incidents (+94%) above the total in 2022 and above the forecasted number for this time period, both of which are 128.

Exactly 50% of the shoplifting incidents year-to-date have resulted in an arrest or in the identification of the suspect(s) at the time of the incident.





AUTO THEFT

No Patterns

- The five-year weighted average for auto thefts through July 3rd is 53, and with 69 reported so far in 2023, Cambridge has experienced an increase of 30% above the expected total. Auto thefts in 2023 are also up 5% above last year's total of 66 through July 3rd.
- When comparing the most recent four weeks (June) to the previous four weeks (May), auto thefts decreased by 19%, with three fewer incidents reported in June than in May.
- The neighborhood breakdown for auto theft totals so far in 2023 is as follows: Cambridgeport – 10; East Cambridge – 9; North Cambridge and Inman/Harrington – 8 each; Highlands and The Port – 6 each; Mid-Cambridge, Riverside and West Cambridge – 5 each; Baldwin and Peabody – 3 each; and Strawberry Hill – 1.
- There have been multiple thefts reported so far in 2023 where the operator left the vehicle unlocked and running in order to warm up the vehicle, deliver a package, or grab food. When the victim returned, the vehicle was gone.
- Seven of the 13 incidents in June involved thefts of a two - wheeled vehicle.
- There is an emerging trend in Cambridge and regionally of Kia and Hyundai thefts due to a recent TikTok trend targeting these vehicles. There have been at least nine of these thefts so far in 2023, as well as multiple breaks into these model cars, as mentioned on the Larceny from Motor Vehicle map on slide 18.
- Thirty-five of the 69 vehicles reported stolen so far in 2023 have been recovered to date.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

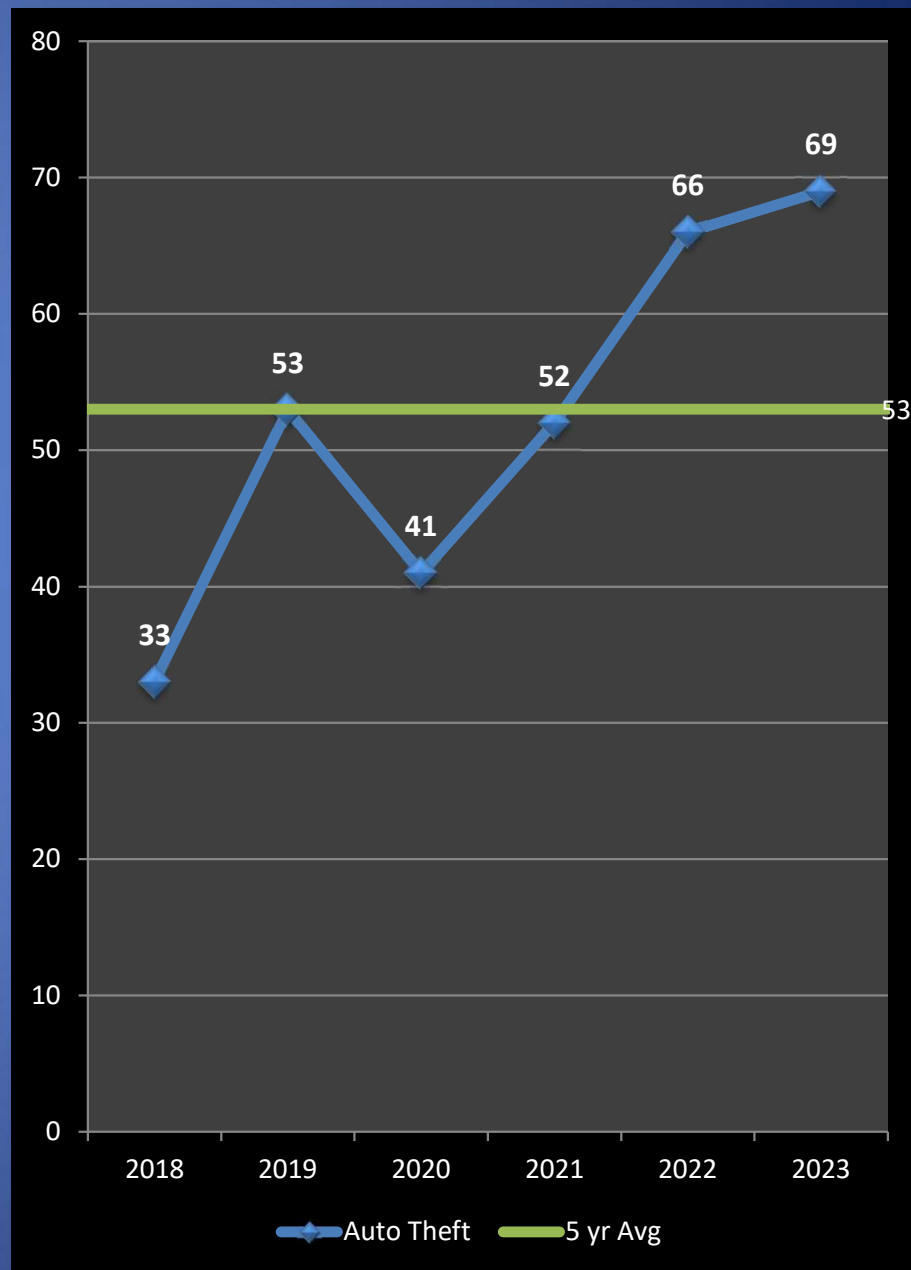
-19%

Previous Year

+5%

5-Year Average

+30%

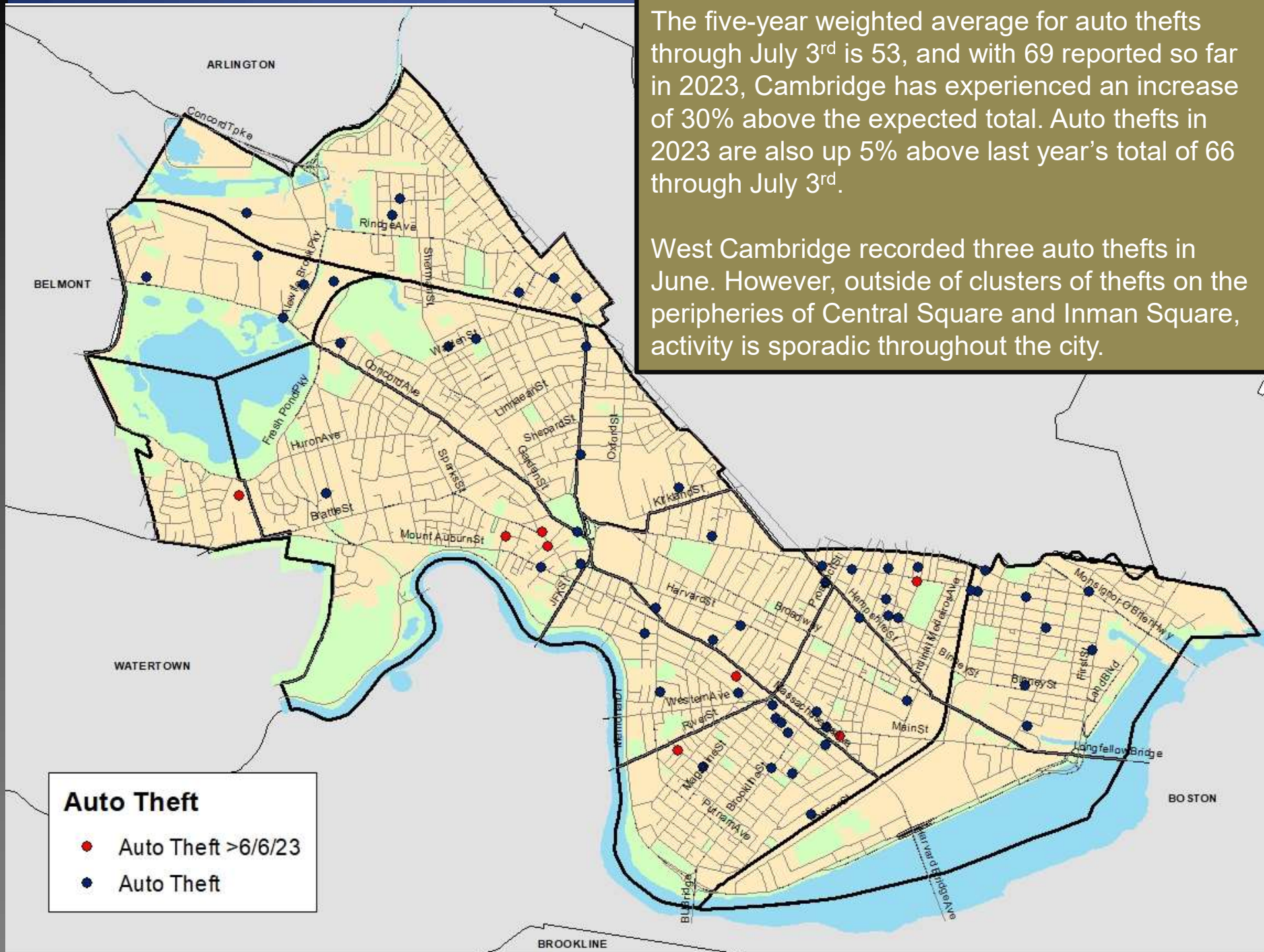




Geographic Breakdown of Auto Theft: 1.1.23 – 7.3.23

The five-year weighted average for auto thefts through July 3rd is 53, and with 69 reported so far in 2023, Cambridge has experienced an increase of 30% above the expected total. Auto thefts in 2023 are also up 5% above last year's total of 66 through July 3rd.

West Cambridge recorded three auto thefts in June. However, outside of clusters of thefts on the peripheries of Central Square and Inman Square, activity is sporadic throughout the city.





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.
- “Like” the Cambridge Police Department on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CambridgePolice
- Follow [@CambridgePolice](https://twitter.com/CambridgePolice) on Twitter.
- Visit our website at 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.

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