

Cambridge Police Department BridgeStat

May 2016

Produced by the Crime Analysis Unit



Part I Total Crime

Major declines in larcenies from motor vehicles and buildings in the month of May reversed the slight increase in crime for the first four months of the year to a 4% decrease through May 30th of 2016. This modest downturn in serious crimes in Cambridge was incurred with 45 fewer index crimes recorded over the first five months of the year. When measured against the five-year average, a moderate 6% reduction in Part One crime has been recorded.

Further analysis of the crime totals for the first five months of 2016 indicates that while violent crimes registered a 4% incline with four additional incidents so far in 2016, property crimes fell 5% with 49 fewer crimes counted when compared with the same time period in 2015.

Both violent and property crimes registered significant declines when compared with the totals for the previous month. The 50 fewer property crimes during May of 2016 than in April of this year translates to a 25% decline, while violent crime, fueled by a 59% plunge of aggravated assaults, fell 32%.

	4 Week Snapshot		Year to Date			Five Year		
	4/5 - 5/2	5/3 - 5/30	Change	2015	2016	Change	Avg	Change
Total Violent Crime	31	21	-32%	108	112	4%	125	-10%
Total Property Crime	200	150	-25%	958	909	-5%	958	-5%
Total Part I Crime	231	171	-26%	1066	1021	-4%	1083	-6%



Part I Property Crime

Analysis of property crime totals for the first five months of 2016 reveals a 5% decline when measured against the 2015 totals and a 5% contraction below the five-year average. One of the more significant statistics for the first five months of the year was the 26% upturn in housebreaks. However, at the present time there are no operational patterns of this crime type that have been identified.

When comparing the April totals with those of May, the property crime categories of larceny from motor vehicles (-76%), larceny from buildings (-46%) and shoplifting (-32%) were the prime contributors to the 25% reduction when comparing April and May and the 5% downturn year to date.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	4/5 - 5/2	5/3 - 5/30	Change	2015	2016	Change	Avg	Change
Burglary	23	26	13%	154	150	-3%	144	4%
Commercial Break	6	4	-33%	54	24	-56%	34	-29%
Housebreak	17	22	29%	100	126	26%	110	15%
Larceny	159	115	-28%	767	709	-8%	775	-9%
Larceny (Misc)	3	3	0%	22	13	-41%	15	-13%
Larceny from Building	26	14		158	124	-22%	160	-23%
Larceny from MV	46	11	-76%	198	147	-26%	195	-25%
Larceny from Person	12	14	17%	69	77	12%	98	-21%
Larceny from Residence	24	10		101	109	8%	83	31%
Larceny of Bicycle	20	44	120%	65	96	48%	67	43%
Larceny of Plate	1	1	0%	9	8	-11%	12	-33%
Larceny of Services	2	1		5	4	-20%	6	-33%
Shoplifting	25	17	-32%	140	131	-6%	140	-6%
Auto Theft	18	9	-50%	37	50	35%	39	28%
Total Property Crime	200	150	-25%	958	909	-5%	958	-5%

May 2016



Part I Violent Crime

The projected five-year weighted average for violent crime in Cambridge for the first five months of the year is 125 incidents. Through May 30th of this year, there were 112 violent crimes recorded in the City, 4 crimes above last year (+4%) and 13 serious crimes under the total forecasted for the first 20 weeks of the year (-10%).

The first murder of 2016 in Cambridge occurred on the night of March 22nd when Armando Hernandez Jr., 30, of Belmont was killed by gunfire on Mt. Auburn St. just before 10 PM. Another victim, who was also shot, received serious injuries. Cambridge Police believe this shooting was not random and the victim was likely targeted.

The street robbery total of 24 incidents shot up 33% when compared with last year. A Community Alert was issued for the first street robbery pattern to be identified in over 18 months for a series of late night incidents south and east of Central Square during the last week of April. There has not been another crime in this series since April 24th.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five	Five Year	
	4/5 - 5/2	5/3 - 5/30	Change	2015	2016	Change	Avg	Change	
Homicide	0	0	IN-CALC	1	1	0%	1	0%	
Rape	2	3	50%	11	13	18%	// 11	18%	
Robbery	7	9	29%	27	32	19%	36	-11%	
Commercial Robbery	1	3	200%	9	8	-11%	9	-11%	
Street Robbery	6	6	0%	18	24	33%	26	-8%	
Aggravated Assault	22	9	-59%	69	66	-4%	78	-15%	
Total Violent Crime	31	21	-32%	108	112	4%	125	-10%	



MURDER

No Patterns

 The first murder of 2016 in Cambridge occurred on the night of March 22nd 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.

Cambridge Police believe that this shooting was not random and the victim was likely targeted. This case remains under investigation as detectives check surveillance video and interview witnesses. This murder was the first in Cambridge since last September.

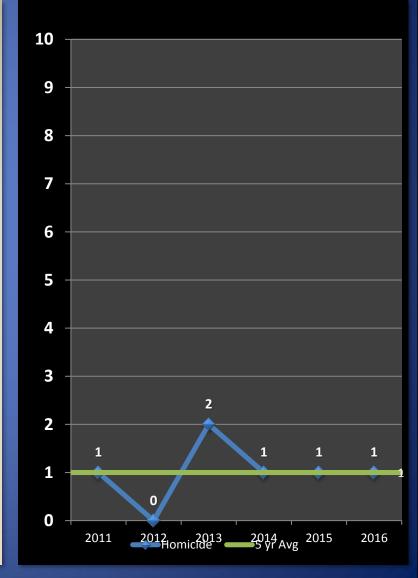
There were three murders in Cambridge in 2015.

- On April 14th, 2015, Carlos D. Colina was arraigned in Middlesex District Court and was charged with the April 4th murder of Jonathan Camilien, 26, of Somerville, in an apartment on Binney St.
- On August 24th, Roosselin Altidor, 25, of Medford was arraigned in Cambridge District Court on a charge of murder in connection with a homicide in Cambridge on Wednesday, August 12. Rasaun Nichols, 31, of Cambridge, was killed by gunshots while in a vehicle in the area of Newtowne Court.
- Antwan Gonsalves, 33, of Cambridge was arrested on September 24th and charged with murder in connection with a homicide that involved a stabbing in Central Square on the night of September 12, 2015. Killed was Tywann Jones, 35, of Roxbury.

Percent Change*



*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, 1990-2015

- 56 people murdered in 51 incidents (in 4 of the incidents, 2 or more people were killed)
- 37 victims were male (average age of 34)
- 19 victims were female (average age of 41)
- Most common weapons: handguns (25 incidents) and knives (14 incidents)
- 15 of the 48 cases are still under investigation or remain unsolved
- 24 of the 30 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.



Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2015

Colin Burton, 30, of Dorchester, was shot and killed outside of Hi - Fi Pizza on Mass Ave in Central Square on September 18th, 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



lan 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 17th, 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.



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



Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2015

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 16th, 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 12th, 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 3rd, 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 3rd, 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.



RAPE No Patterns

- There have been 13 rapes reported in Cambridge during the first five months of 2016, two more than the 11 that were recorded in this time period last year. Seven of the incidents this year have been classified as acquaintance rapes, one as a domestic, two as contact crimes, and the final three have yet to be classified and remain under investigation. There were no stranger-to-stranger rapes recorded in Cambridge during the first five months of 2016.
- The final count of rape in Cambridge for 2015 that was submitted to the FBI was 25 crimes, one more (+4%) than in 2014.
- The following is the breakdown of Rape classifications in Cambridge in 2015: one stranger-to-stranger, eleven involving acquaintances, nine contact situations, two domestic sexual assault, and two blitz scenarios.
- The FBI's Uniform Crime Report for 2014 reports that: there were an estimated 84,041 forcible rapes reported to law enforcement nationally in 2014. This estimate was 2.4% higher than the 2013 estimate, and 1.8% and 10.9% lower than the 2010 and 2005 estimates, respectively. The rate of forcible rapes in 2014 was estimated at 26.4 per 100,000 inhabitants.

Percent Change*

Last 4 Weeks Previous Year

4

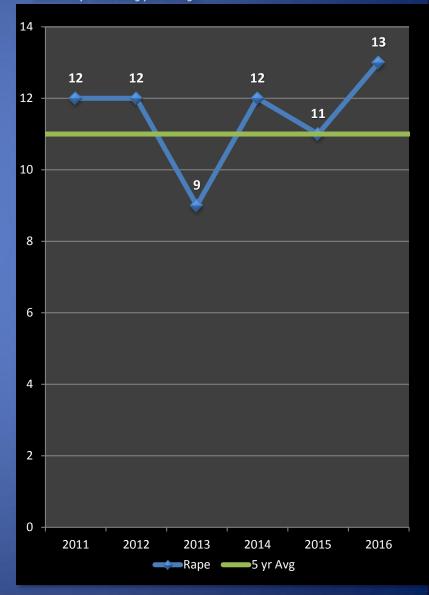
+50%

+18%

+18%

5-Year Average

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





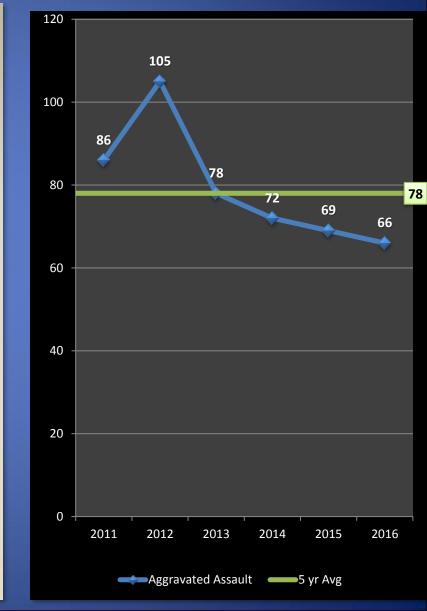
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

No Patterns

- When comparing the total of aggravated assaults for the first five months of 2016 with the same time frame last year, the numbers remain relatively unchanged with 69 incidents in 2015 and three less, 66, recorded so far this year. The total of 66 aggravated assaults was 12 incidents (-15%) under the projected five-year average of 78 crimes for the first five months of the year.
- From April to May, there was a significant decline in reports of aggravated assaults, which produced a 59% decrease (-13 incidents). Domestic assault reports dropped from eight incidents in April to three in May.
- The 66 aggravated assaults over the first five months of 2016 were composed of the following classifications: 8 fights among acquaintances; 23 domestic situations; 4 juvenile assaults; 7 unprovoked scenarios; 6 bar brawls; a psychotic episode; 5 homeless scenarios; a confrontation between a shop owner and a patron; 2 workplace assaults, a third lover scenario, 2 traffic and parking situations, 3 assaults on a police officer, and 2 miscellaneous brawls.
- Past trends indicate that invariably 30 to 40 percent of aggravated assaults are domestic related. That statistic has held over the first five months of 2016 with 23 of the 66 assaults classified as domestic.

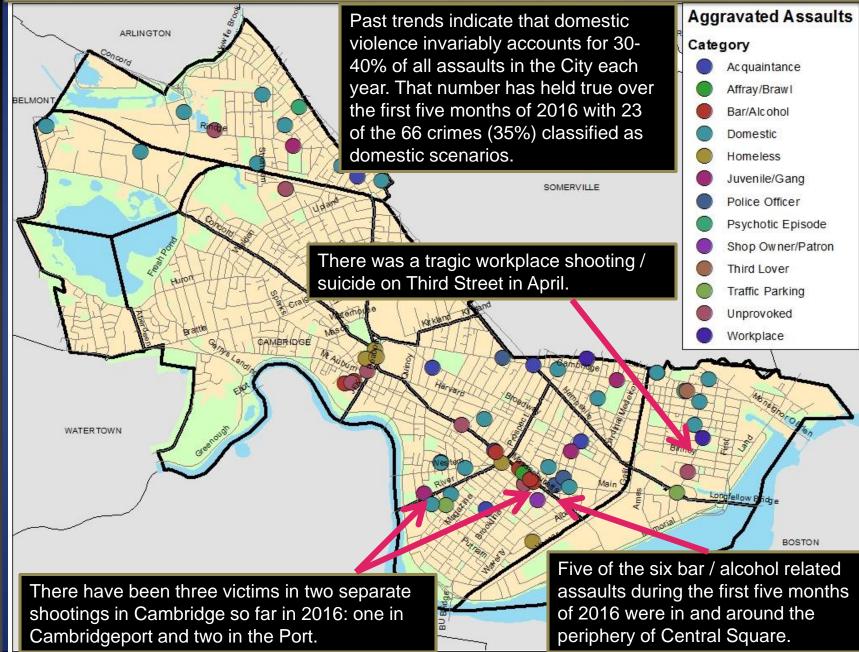
Percent Change







Geographic Breakdown of Aggravated Assaults: Jan – May 2016





Notable findings on aggravated assault in 2015:

- Six of the aggravated assaults in 2015 (3%) resulted in serious injury. These included a stabbing between known acquaintances in an apartment on Mount Auburn Street (an arrest was made), an incident at a homeless shelter in which one resident was severely assaulted, an incident in which a male was shot in the shoulder while sitting in his vehicle at an unknown location, a stabbing on Massachusetts Ave in which the victim received life threatening injuries and an arrest resulted, an incident in which a party self-applied to Cambridge City Hospital following a fight that resulted in a stabbing, and a shooting during a major city event that left a victim with a gunshot wound to the ankle.
- Weekends, specifically Friday through Sunday, accounted for 52% of the reported aggravated assaults.
- The most common weapons used in aggravated assaults in 2015 were shod feet (16%), followed by knives (15%). Hands and/or feet (without shoes) were used in 12%.
- There were seven aggravated assaults in 2015 that involved the use of a firearm, compared to zero in 2014 and seven in 2013.
- 43% of aggravated assaults resulted in an arrest in 2015, compared to 27% of simple assaults

A complete and thorough analysis of aggravated assaults in Cambridge for 2015 can be found in the 2015 Annual Crime Report to be released in May.

May 2016



ROBBERY

No Patterns

- The 5-year average for overall robbery in Cambridge for the first five months of the year is 36 incidents. For the first 20 weeks of 2016, 32 robberies were recorded, which translates to an 11% decline below the forecasted total and is five above the 27 incidents (+19%) reported over the first five months of 2015.
- The street robbery total for the first five months of 2016 (24 incidents) is up 33% when compared with last year, but is down 8% below the five-year average of 26 crimes. The first street robbery pattern alert to be identified in the City over the past 18 months was issued during the last week of April. There were 5 street robberies in the Cambridgeport/Port neighborhoods reported over the course of 6 days to the Cambridge Police Department. The majority of the victims were males between 20 and 30 years of age. The robberies were committed between midnight and 2 AM with the suspects being juvenile males on bikes. A knife was brandished in two of the incidents. Since extra patrols have been allocated to the area, there has not been a new incident since April 24th.
- Commercial robberies have dropped from 9 incidents during the first five months of 2015 to 8 (-11%) so far in 2016.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks Prev

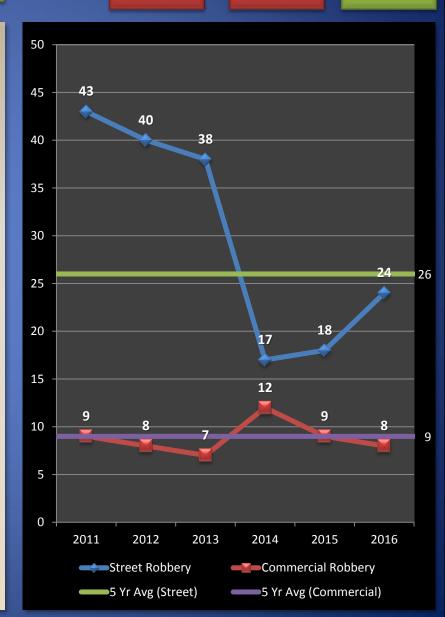
Previous Year

5-Year Average

+29%

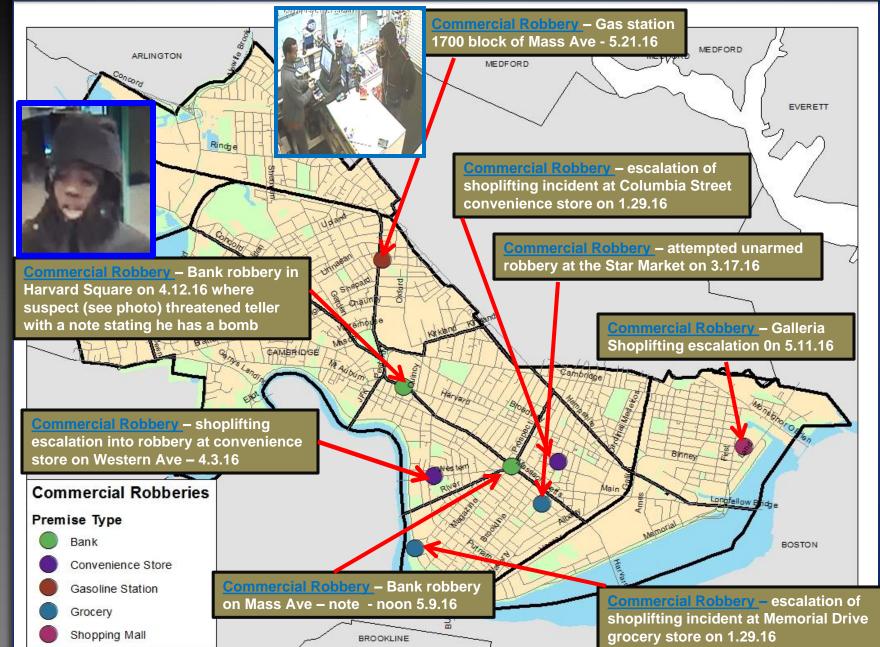
+19%

-11%



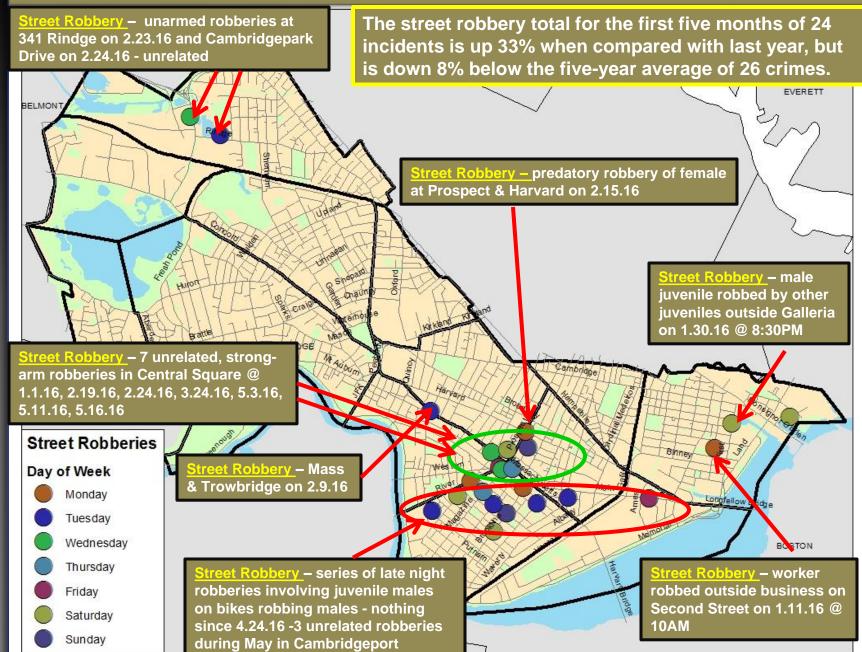


Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Robbery: January – May 2016





Geographic Breakdown of Street Robbery: January – May 2016





Burglary

No Pattern

• The property index crime of burglary, the combination of residential and commercial breaks, has risen 4% in 2016 when compared to the five-year average, with 6 additional incidents reported over the projected total of 144 breaks, and has fallen 3% when compared with last year's total for the first five months of the year, with 4 fewer burglaries recorded.

- Housebreaks have inflated from 100 incidents during the first 20 weeks of 2015 to 126 in 2016, which translates to a 26% increase. The Crime Analysis Unit has been closely monitoring sporadic on-gain, offagain housebreak series in the neighborhoods surrounding Central Square throughout 2016. Extra patrols have been allocated and alerts have been issued and at the present time no identifiable patterns or clusters are operational in these areas.
- There have been 24 commercial breaks in Cambridge over the first five months of 2016 as compared to 54 during the same time period last year, which converts to a 56% reduction. The only identifiable series of related commercial breaks in the City were between the 2100 and 2500 blocks of Mass Ave in North Cambridge in the middle of February. Sporadic breaks into offices in Harvard and Central Square surfaced as a potential problem in March.

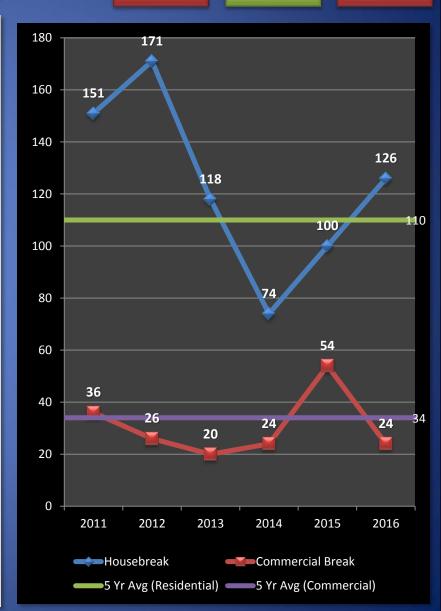
Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks Previous Year 5-Year Average

+13%

-3%

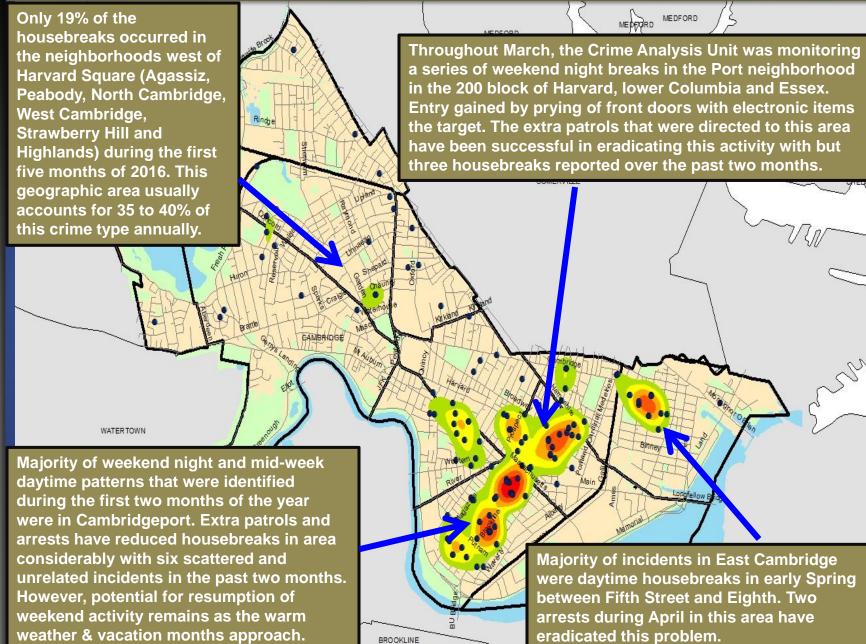
+4%



May 2016



Geographic Breakdown of Housebreaks: January – May 2016

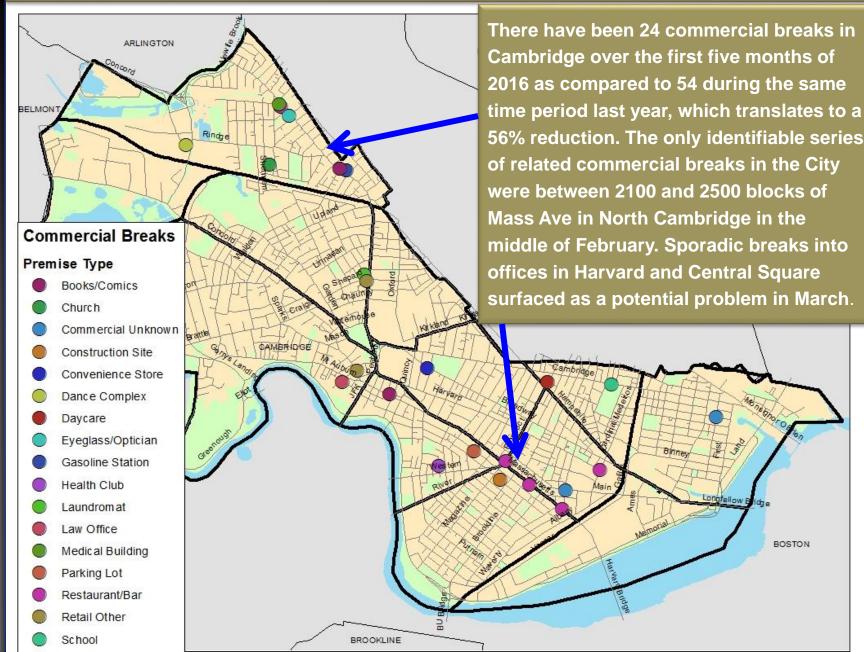


May

2016



Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Breaks: January – May 2016





LARCENY

No Patterns

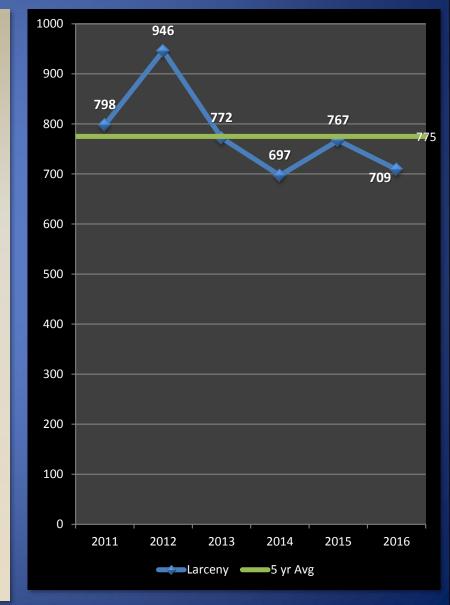
- Overall larceny through the first five months of 2016
 registered at 8% (or 58 incidents) below the same time frame in
 2015. The preliminary total of 709 larcenies reported year-to-date
 is 9% below the 5-year weighted average of 775 incidents for the
 first five months of the year.
- Larcenies from motor vehicles through May 2nd have decreased by 51 crimes, or 26%, from the number reported during the same time frame in 2015. After a large uptick in activity in April, this crime type dropped to astonishingly low numbers in May, with only 11 reported (down 76% from April).
- Larcenies from the person in 2015 remained well below the 2014 totals throughout the entire year. This trend has reversed slightly during 2016, with 8 additional incidents (+12%) reported this year above the number seen through the first five months of 2015. The most active area of the city in the past four weeks was Harvard Square, which experienced 4 incidents.
- There have been 124 larcenies from buildings reported thus far in 2016. This is 22% (34 incidents) below the 158 incidents reported in 2015 and 23% below the 5-year average of 160. There are no patterns or trends of this crime in the city at the present time.
- Larcenies from residences have registered a slight incline through May 2016, with 8 more incidents (+8%) reported this year than during this time frame in 2015. Despite the increase over 2015, there was a substantial drop in this crime type from April to May of 2016, likely due to a reduction in reported package thefts. Through April, package thefts were the most prevalent category of larceny from residences, but in May, only 4 of the 10 incidents involved package thefts.
- Through May 30th, 2016, there have been 96 bikes reported stolen in Cambridge, up 31 incidents from the 65 thefts reported through the same time in 2015 and up 29 from the 5-year average of 67. With the warmer weather earlier this year compared to previous years, it is no surprise that bike thefts have increased and will likely remain high over the upcoming months.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks Previous Year 5-Year Average









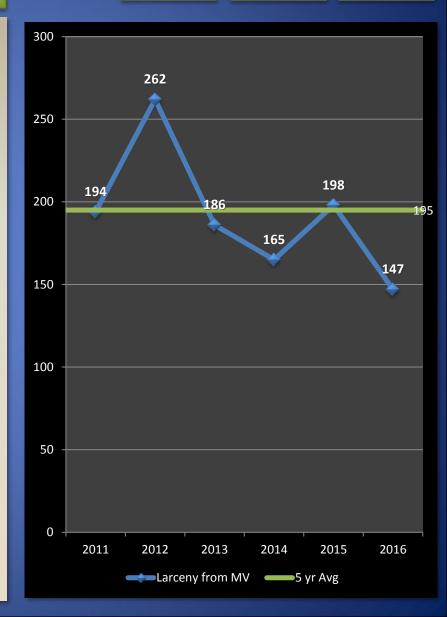
LARCENY From MV

No Patterns

- A significant decline of 26% has been recorded for larceny from motor vehicles when comparing the first five months of this year with that of 2015. There have been 51 fewer thefts reported so far this year. This property crime has slipped 25% when measured against the 5-year average, with 48 fewer incidents than the projected total of 195 thefts.
- A significant decline in larceny from motor vehicles
 was registered over the past four weeks with incidents
 plunging from 46 during April to 11 in May (-76%). The
 11 thefts from cars in May represents one of the
 lowest monthly totals for this crime type in Cambridge
 in a number of years.
- A loosely knit group of thieves originating in Fort Lauderdale, FL, called the Felony Lane Gang, has been operational throughout the New England states for the past two months. The team concentrates on breaking into cars in parks, fitness centers, and daycares, where women have left their purses in plain view. The team then takes personal items and quickly forges checks and makes fraudulent credit card purchases. During April, two thefts at a school parking lot in Cambridge may be connected to this group, with no additional incidents in the city during May.
- Professional thieves have been targeting tires from Hondas throughout Greater Boston over the first five months of 2016. Very limited activity in Cambridge, until a car dealership was hit on the last weekend in April.

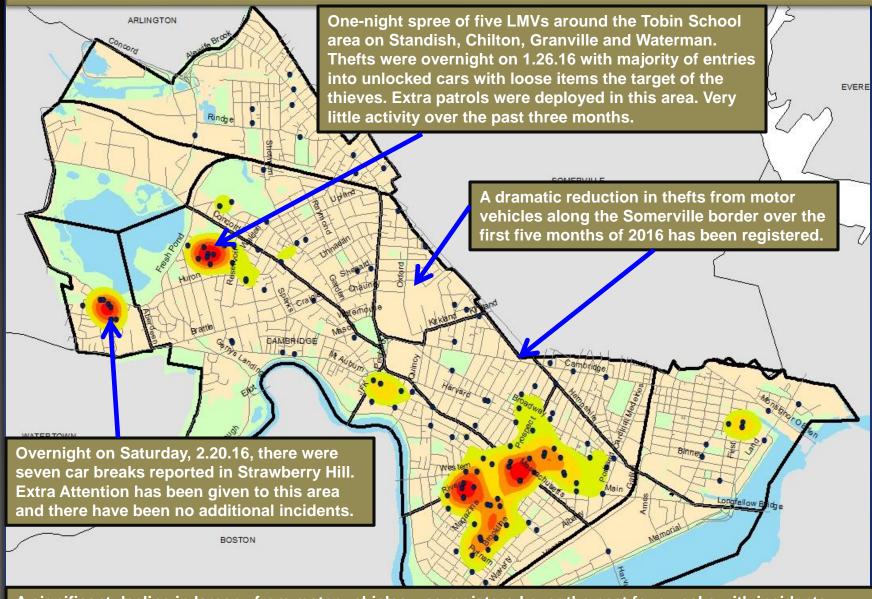
Percent Change

-76% Previous Year 5-Year Average





Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from MVs: January – May 2016



A significant decline in larceny from motor vehicles was registered over the past four weeks with incidents plunging from 46 during April to 11 in May (-76%). The 11 thefts from cars in May represents one of the lowest monthly totals for this crime type in Cambridge in a number of years.

May 2016



LARCENY: from Person No Patterns

Percent Change

Previous Year

5-Year Average

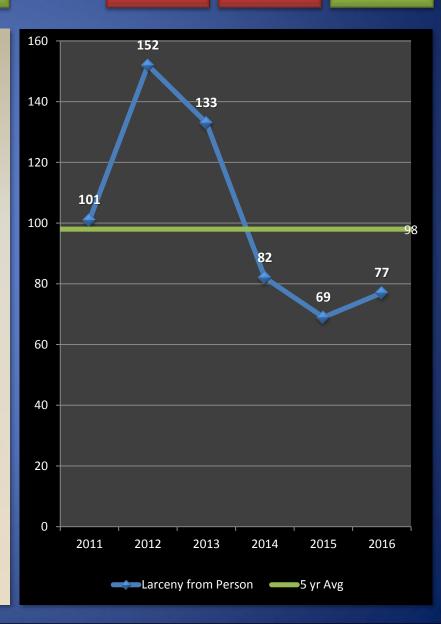
+17%

Last 4 Weeks

+12%

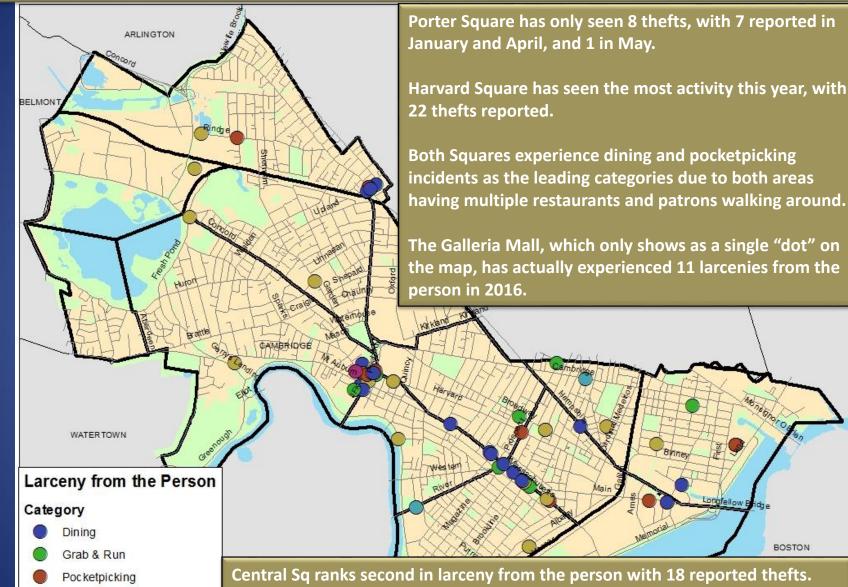
-21%

- Larcenies from the person have been on the rise during 2016, after two years of very little activity and few patterns in 2014 and 2015. This crime type is up 8 incidents (12%) through the first five months of 2016, when compared with the same time frame in 2015. The total of 77 incidents reported thus far in 2016 is 21 incidents, or 21%, below the five-year average of 98 for the first five months of the year. Incidents have increased slightly when comparing the most recent four weeks (May) to the previous four weeks (April), with two more thefts reported this month.
- Harvard Square has seen the most activity thus far in 2016, with 22 incidents reported. The most active areas of the city in the past four weeks were Harvard Square with four incidents, followed by Central Sq and East Cambridge, each with three incidents. Incidents evenly spanned from thefts while dining to pickpocketing incidents to thefts of unattended property. Never leave your personal belongings unattended while you go up to a counter or run to the restroom in a restaurant or cafe; this is the perfect opportunity to have items stolen. Other than the Galleria Mall, no single address experienced more than once incident in May.
- Now that the warmer weather has picked back up, we have seen a few reports where people have left items unattended at parks or playgrounds and the items have been stolen. There were three such reports taken in May throughout the city.





Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from Persons: January – May of 2016



This area, however, is a mix of thefts from dining patrons and of unattended

has been stolen. Only three such thefts were reported here in May.

property where people turn their back or walk away and upon return the item

May 2016 Shopping

Theater

Unattended (Other)



LARCENY: of Bicycle

No Patterns

Last 4 Weeks

Previous Year

Percent Change

5-Year Average

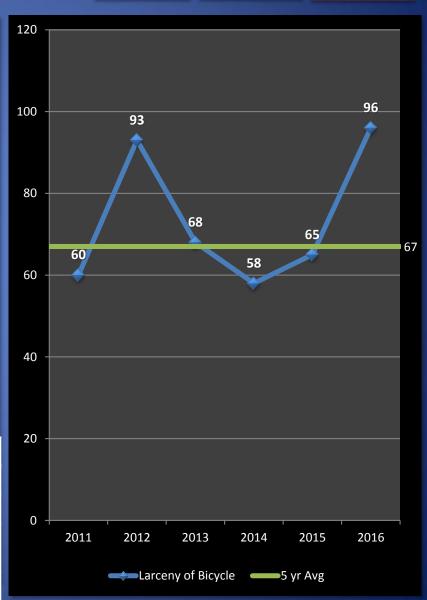
+120%

+48%

+43%

- As we would expect with warming temperatures and little snow, bike thefts through May are up substantially (48%) compared to last year. There have been 96 bike thefts reported through the first five months of 2016. This number is 31 incidents above the total reported during the same time frame last year (+48%) and also 29 incidents above the 5-year average of 67 (+43%). Bike thefts more than doubled from April (20 thefts) to May (44 thefts) of this year. We expect this to continue over the summer months.
- Neighborhoods that have seen the most bike thefts in 2016 are East Cambridge with 20, followed by West Cambridge with 13, and Mid-Cambridge and Inman. each with 10. Similarly, East Cambridge has been most active for bike thefts in the past month with 10 thefts, followed by West Cambridge with 8.
- 66% (63) of the 96 bicycles stolen year-to-date in 2016 were locked at the time of the thefts.
- **Top Neighborhoods for Bike Thefts Year-To-Date:**

Neighborhood	YTD Total	% Citywide
East Cambridge	20	21%
West Cambridge	13	14%
Inman/Harrington & Mid-Cambridge	10 each	10% each
Cambridgeport	9	9%



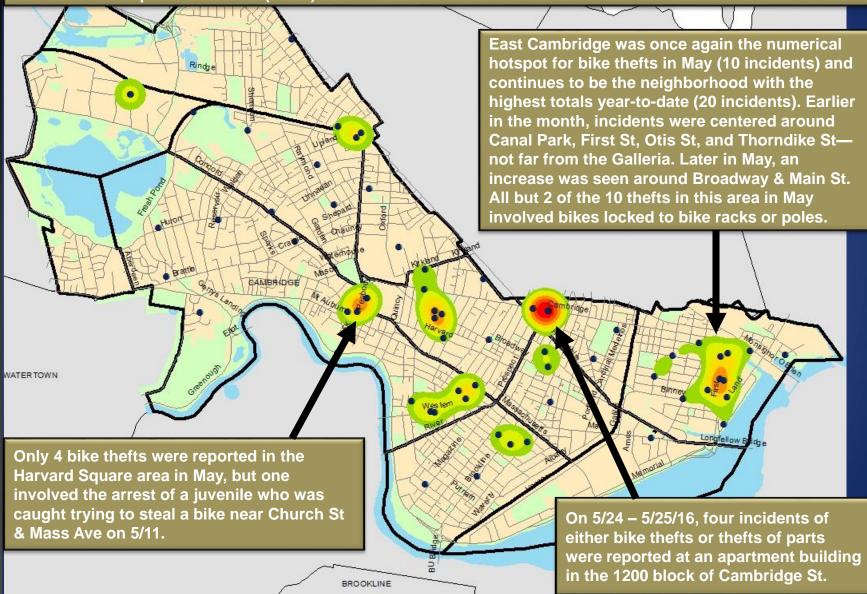
May

2016



Geographic Breakdown of Larceny of Bikes: April – May 2016

As expected with the warmer weather, another large increase in bike thefts was seen in the most recent month, with a 120% rise from April (20 thefts) to May (44 thefts). This continues the trend of an overall increase in bike thefts when compared with 2015 (+48%).





AUTO THEFT

-50% No Patterns

Percent Change

Previous Year

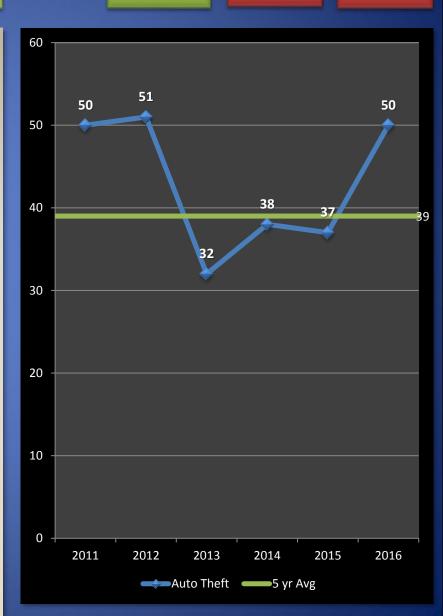
Last 4 Weeks

+35%

+28%

5-Year Average

- The projected 5-year weighted average for auto thefts for the first five months of the year is 39 incidents. With 50 thefts reported thus far in 2016, we are 28% (11 incidents) above the average and 35% (13 incidents) above the number reported during this time frame in 2015.
- There were 9 auto thefts reported in May, which is down 50% from the surge of 18 auto thefts reported in April.
- · Since the beginning of the year, the following neighborhoods have recorded auto thefts: Cambridgeport (11), Mid-Cambridge (7), The Port (6), East Cambridge (6), West Cambridge (4), Peabody (4), Riverside (4), North Cambridge (3), Agassiz (2), Inman (2), and Strawberry Hill (1).
- · Three thefts were reported in Riverside in May. However, two were businesses in which employees did not return vehicles and the other was the sale of a vehicle that went awry and the buyer removed the vehicle without permission.
- Over the past few years, warmer weather has led to increases in thefts of mopeds and scooters. This trend began again as expected in April, with 6 such thefts reported. But surprisingly, there were no scooter thefts reported anywhere in Cambridge in May. Despite this hiatus in activity, we do expect these numbers to rise again over the upcoming summer months.
- Of the 50 cars stolen thus far in 2016, 31 (62%) have been recovered to date.





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 on Twitter.
- Visit our website at <u>www.CambridgePolice.org</u> for valuable information and reports including the Daily Log and BridgeStat, which is published on the first Friday of every month.
- Download our new "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



Questions?

- The complete 2015 Cambridge Police Annual Crime Report is now available on our website at www.CambridgePolice.org.
- We welcome all questions, comments, and suggestions.
- Please direct your feedback to: BridgeStat@CambridgePolice.org.
- To review previous editions of BridgeStat, visit our website at www.CambridgePolice.org/BridgeStat.