



Cambridge Police Department BridgeStat

November 2020

(Abridged Version)

Produced by the Crime Analysis Unit



Part I Total Crime

An analysis of serious crime statistics for the first 11 months of 2020 indicates a moderate increase of 6% in the Part One index total for Cambridge when compared with 2019. For the time period between January 1st and November 30th of this year, there were 2,227 serious crimes reported in the City. For the same time frame in 2019, the combined total for Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny & Auto theft was 2,104 incidents, 123 fewer than this year. When measured against the five-year average, relatively no change has been registered, with but nine additional crimes recorded so far this year than the projected total of 2,218 incidents.

Further review for the crime totals through the end of November of 2020 reveals that violent crime dropped 4% so far this year, with 11 fewer incidents reported, while property crimes registered a measured 7% upward trend, with 134 additional crimes reported when compared with the same time frame in 2019. There were 57 robberies counted over the first 11 months of 2020, 11 categorized as commercial and 46 classified as street incidents, revealing a decrease of 13 total robberies (-19%) when compared with 2019. The remarkable streak of 27 months without a bank robbery came to an abrupt conclusion when a serial robber hit twice shortly before Thanksgiving.

On April 23rd, Jose Bermudez was arrested for the fatal daylight stabbing of a homeless man in Central Square on April 14th. Bermudez is being held without bail. This has been the only murder in Cambridge since January of 2019.

When monitoring the serious crime totals of November versus the previous month of October, relatively no change was recorded with only one less crime counted through November 30th. The increase of 45% in larcenies from residences and the 24% downturn in thefts of bicycles in November, compared to October, were the key trends that surfaced.

After eight months of comparative data to analyze the effect that COVID-19 and social distancing are having on the crime rate in our City, the following trends have been identified and remain as persistent problems: larcenies of bicycles (up 67% over the 5-year average), thefts of packages, psychiatric-related calls, a once hot, but recently on the wane wave of commercial burglaries (up 83% above 2019), and the surge of unemployment fraud reports that peaked in June, abated during the summer months, and has exploded over the past two months. (Note, unemployment fraud is considered a Part Two Crime. It is not one of the seven Part One crime types—murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and auto theft—that departments are required to report to the FBI each year as part of the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Index. Therefore, it is not counted in, nor does it affect, our reported serious crime.



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November
2020

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	10/6/20 - 11/2/20	11/3/20 - 11/30/20	Change	2019	2020	Change	Avg	Change
Homicide	0	0	IN-CALC	1	1	0%	1	0%
Rape	1	3	200%	25	25	0%	26	-4%
Robbery	3	5	67%	70	57	-19%	82	-30%
Commercial Robbery	0	2	IN-CALC	11	11	0%	25	-56%
Street Robbery	3	3	0%	59	46	-22%	58	-21%
Aggravated Assault	15	12	-20%	175	177	1%	169	5%
Total Violent Crime	19	20	5%	271	260	-4%	279	-7%

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	10/6/20 - 11/2/20	11/3/20 - 11/30/20	Change	2019	2020	Change	Avg	Change
Burglary	11	7	-36%	138	172	25%	222	-23%
Commercial Break	3	2	-33%	30	55	83%	46	20%
Housebreak	8	5	-38%	108	117	8%	176	-34%
Larceny	156	156	0%	1593	1717	8%	1616	6%
Larceny (Misc)	4	2	-50%	36	39	8%	37	5%
Larceny from Building	5	13	160%	205	118	-42%	243	-51%
Larceny from MV	29	32	10%	224	304	36%	267	14%
Larceny from Person	7	12	71%	147	93	-37%	159	-42%
Larceny from Residence	20	29	45%	221	326	48%	210	55%
Larceny of Bicycle	67	51	-24%	418	576	38%	345	67%
Larceny of Plate	2	0	-100%	18	9	-50%	21	-57%
Larceny of Services	0	2	IN-CALC	13	5	-62%	21	-76%
Shoplifting	22	15	-32%	311	247	-21%	313	-21%
Auto Theft	4	6	50%	102	78	-24%	101	-23%
Total Property Crime	171	169	-1%	1833	1967	7%	1939	1%

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Total Violent Crime	19	20	5%	271	260	-4%	279	-7%
Total Property Crime	171	169	-1%	1833	1967	7%	1939	1%
Total Part I Crime	190	189	-1%	2104	2227	6%	2218	0%



Shootings & Shots Fired in Cambridge: 1.1.20 – 11.30.20

There were six shots fired incidents in Cambridge through 11/30 of 2020, none of which resulted in any injuries. Through the same timeframe in 2019, there were ten shots fired incidents with no victims and one shooting with a non-fatal injury.

Shots fired on 5.18 at 5:53pm
Jackson Circle
No ShotSpotter alert. Multiple reports of shots fired. Several shell casings were recovered and two vehicles sustained ballistic damage, but no injuries were reported.

Shots fired on 7.2 at 9:41pm
110 Harvard St
ShotSpotter alert. Over 40 shell casings recovered. No injuries reported. Unknown at this time if related to a shooting in Somerville an hour later.

Shooting Type

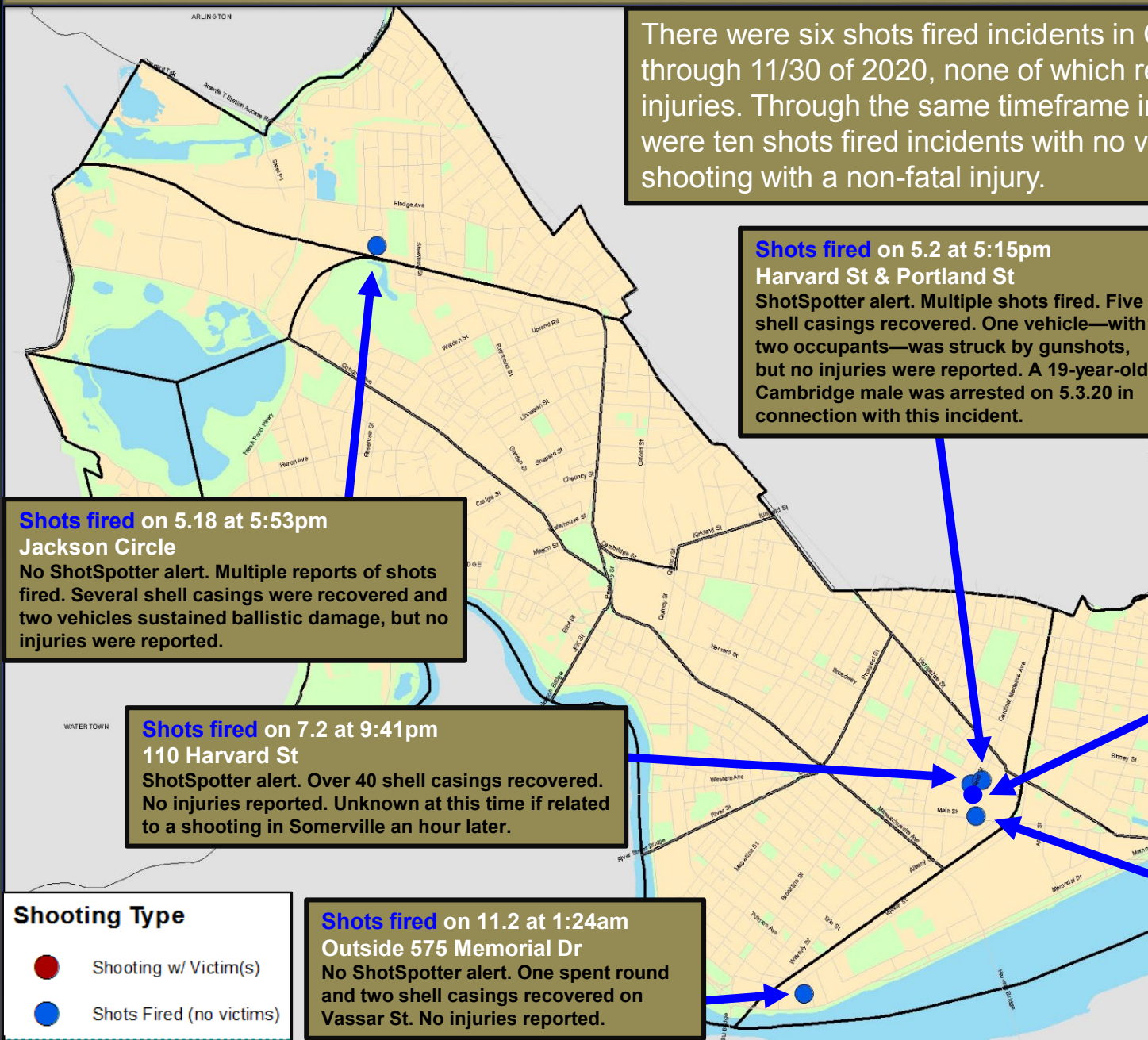
- Shooting w/ Victim(s)
- Shots Fired (no victims)

Shots fired on 11.2 at 1:24am
Outside 575 Memorial Dr
No ShotSpotter alert. One spent round and two shell casings recovered on Vassar St. No injuries reported.

Shots fired on 5.2 at 5:15pm
Harvard St & Portland St
ShotSpotter alert. Multiple shots fired. Five shell casings recovered. One vehicle—with two occupants—was struck by gunshots, but no injuries were reported. A 19-year-old Cambridge male was arrested on 5.3.20 in connection with this incident.

Shots fired on 8.3 at 12:51pm
Washington Elms / Portland St
No ShotSpotter alert. 8 shell casings recovered. No injuries reported. Black SUV seen fleeing the scene.

Shots fired on 10.8 at 9:39pm
600 Tech Sq
No ShotSpotter alert. ATM glass found shattered. 1 bullet fragment and 1 shell casing recovered. No injuries reported.





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



Questions?

- 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.