



Cambridge Police Department BridgeStat

November 2013

Produced by the Crime Analysis Unit



Part I Total Crime

Over the first eleven months of 2013, serious crime in Cambridge has **decreased 6%** when measured against the same time period in 2012. Compared against the five-year weighted average for this same time frame, a **9% decline (286 fewer Part 1 crimes than the projected average)** has been recorded. The majority of this decrease can be attributed to the overall drop in Burglary (**-19%**), with 85 fewer breaks recorded when contrasted with the same time period in 2012. The **24% decline** in the violent index crime of aggravated assault has also been a driving force in the drop in crime so far in 2013.

- A detailed analysis of all statistics indicates that there were **142 fewer property crimes recorded through the first eleven months** of 2013, which translates to a **5% decrease** when measured against the 2012 statistics. **Violent crime has abated 17% between January 1st and December 2nd of 2013** when compared with the same time period in 2012.
- When measuring the serious crime totals versus the previous month of October, there was a substantial **25% decrease** in the number of index crimes, with 77 fewer incidents recorded during November of 2013.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	10/8-11/4	11/5-12/2	Change	2012	2013	Change	Avg	Change
Total Violent Crime	25	16	-36%	380	314	-17%	405	-22%
Total Property Crime	277	209	-25%	2848	2706	-5%	2901	-7%
Total Part I Crime	302	225	-25%	3228	3020	-6%	3306	-9%



Part I Property Crime

- Totals for property crime point to a 5% dip** below the number reported during the first eleven months of 2012, and a **7% drop** below the five-year average. The only larceny category to register a notable increase over the past four weeks was a **rise of 11%** for shoplifting. **Burglary is down a striking 19% from 2012, and 16% below the five-year weighted average.** Three major housebreak patterns were resolved with arrests during November.

	<u>4 Week Snapshot</u>				<u>Year to Date</u>				<u>Five Year</u>	
	10/8-11/4	11/5-12/2	Change		2012	2013	Change		Avg	Change
Burglary	46	36	-22%		459	374	-19%		446	-16%
Commercial Break	8	8	0%		71	59	-17%		75	-21%
Housebreak	38	28	-26%		388	315	-19%		371	-15%
Larceny	218	165	-24%		2275	2227	-2%		2307	-3%
Larceny (Misc)	2	3	50%		39	21	-46%		31	-32%
Larceny from Building	35	29	-17%		343	358	4%		353	1%
Larceny from MV	74	36	-51%		644	594	-8%		699	-15%
Larceny from Person	19	21	11%		334	312	-7%		312	0%
Larceny from Residence	20	10	-50%		206	167	-19%		188	-11%
Larceny of Bicycle	29	22	-24%		351	370	5%		341	9%
Larceny of Plate	2	1	-50%		34	20	-41%		39	-49%
Larceny of Services	0	2	IN-CALC		15	20	33%		22	-9%
Shoplifting	37	41	11%		309	365	18%		323	13%
Auto Theft	13	8	-38%		114	105	-8%		149	-30%
Total Property Crime	277	209	-25%		2848	2706	-5%		2901	-7%



Part I Violent Crime

- The violent index crimes of aggravated assault **(-24%)** and robbery **(-8%)** have registered notable declines when compared to 2012. Spurred on by these reductions, the overall total of violent crime is **down 17%** compared to the first eleven months of 2012 and has dropped 22% when measured against the five-year average (91 fewer incidents) below the projected total of 405 violent crimes.
- During the month of November of 2013, there were only sixteen (16) violent crimes reported in Cambridge, nine (9) fewer than in October, which translates to a **36% decrease**.

	<u>4 Week Snapshot</u>				<u>Year to Date</u>				<u>Five Year</u>	
	10/8-11/4	11/5-12/2	Change		2012	2013	Change		Avg	Change
Homicide	0	1	IN-CALC		1	3	200%		1	200%
Rape	2	2	0%		26	23	-12%		27	-15%
Robbery	9	4	-56%		117	108	-8%		135	-20%
Commercial Robbery	3	2	-33%		16	26	63%		21	24%
Street Robbery	6	2	-67%		101	82	-19%		114	-28%
Aggravated Assault	14	9	-36%		236	180	-24%		241	-25%
Total Violent Crime	25	16	-36%		380	314	-17%		405	-22%



MURDER

No Patterns

- There have been three murders reported in Cambridge over the first eleven months of 2013. Two of these incidents were recorded in April. The 3rd murder of the year occurred on November 25th.
- On April 10th, Aisling Brady McCarthy was charged with murder in the death of a Cambridge child who died in January. Aisling is awaiting trial.
- On April 18th, Cambridge Police received reports of shots fired on the MIT campus. At 10:30 p.m., an MIT police officer was found shot in his vehicle in the area of Vassar and Main Streets. Officer Sean Collier, 27, was found with multiple gunshot wounds. He was transported to Massachusetts General Hospital and pronounced deceased. On October 7th, 2013, the Middlesex Attorney's Office obtained a default warrant against Cambridge resident and Boston Marathon bombing suspect, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev.
- On November 25th, Jesse Maxwell's body was found in his apartment at 243 Broadway. An autopsy determined that the 73-year-old died as a result of injuries to the head and compression of the neck. His death has been ruled a homicide. Harold Antoine Maxwell, 34, of Cambridge, the victim's nephew, was arrested for this crime on November 26th. He was held without bail and will appear in court on Dec. 19th for a probable cause hearing.

Change*

Last 4 Weeks

*IN -CAL

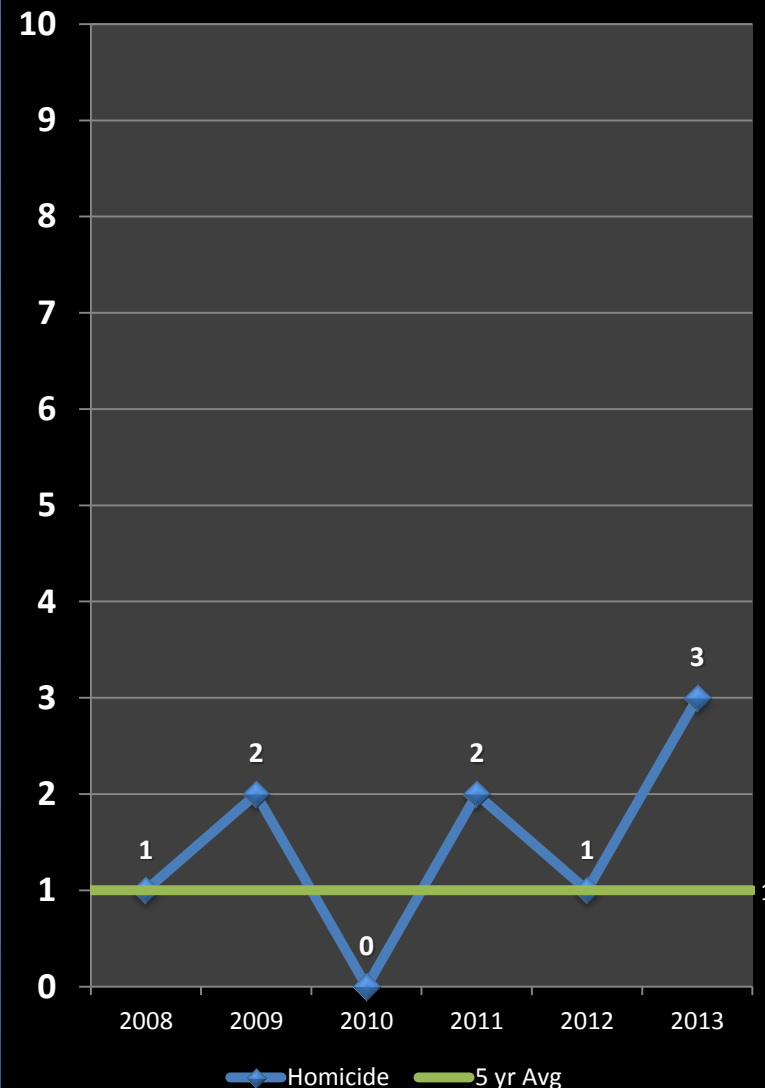
Previous Year

*IN -CAL

5 Year Average

*IN -CAL

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





Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2013

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



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 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.



June 17, 2002, Windsor St.

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



Unsolved Murders: 1999 to 2013

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 Street. 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

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



RAPE

No Patterns

- Over the first eleven months of 2013, there have been 23 rapes reported in Cambridge. During the same period in 2012, there were 26 incidents, which indicates a **12% reduction** from 2012 and a **15% decline** when compared to the five-year average of 27 sexual assaults for the time period between January 1st and December 2nd.
- A breakdown of the rape classifications for the first eleven months of 2011 follows: there were three (3) reports of rapes classified as domestic, ten(10) involving acquaintances known to the victim, and five (5) incidents categorized as contact scenarios. Four (4) of the sexual assaults have yet to be classified.
- The first and only stranger-to-stranger rape of the year was recorded in March. This incident involved a blitz type scenario late at night in Central Square. A Cambridge male has since been charged in this incident.
- Statistics released in October by the FBI reveal that rape decreased by .2% in the U.S. in 2012. The rate of forcible rapes in the U.S. in 2012 was estimated at 52.9 per 100,000 female inhabitants. The five-year average of rapes in Cambridge, a city of 106,000, is 30 incidents per year.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

0%

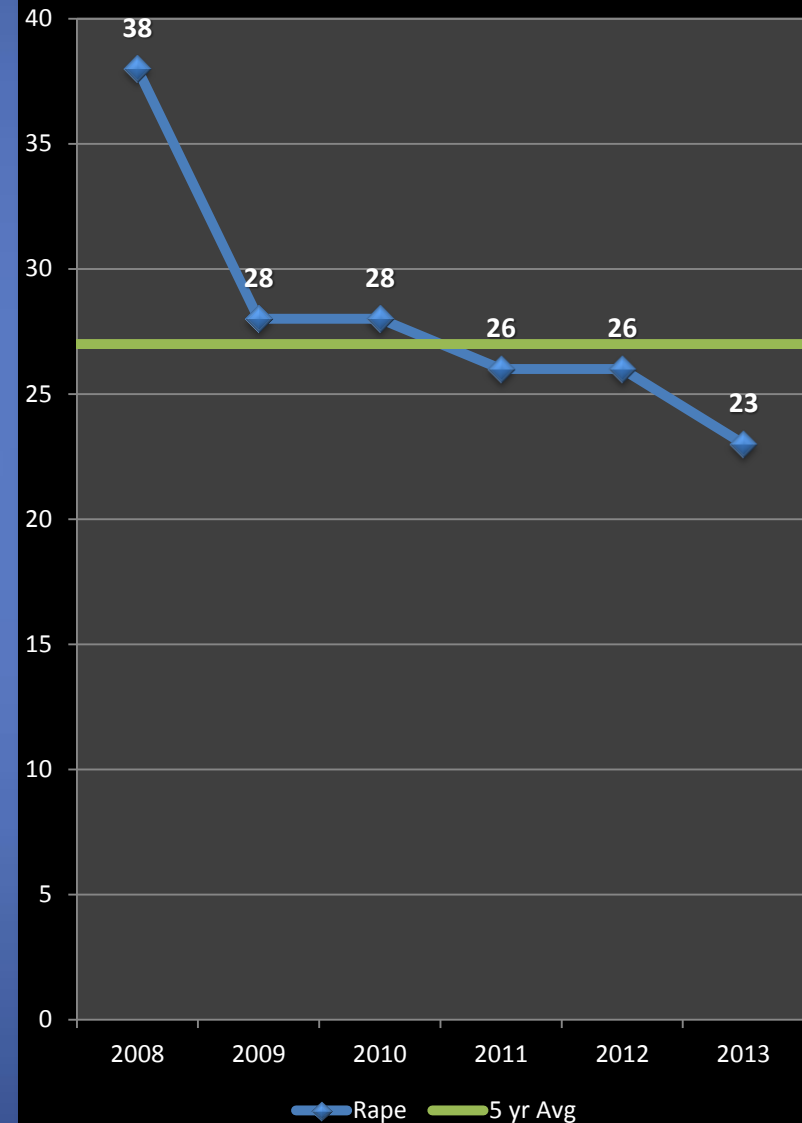
Previous Year

-12%

5 Year Average

-15%

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





ROBBERY

No Patterns

- The five-year average for overall robbery in Cambridge for the first eleven months of the year is 135 incidents. From January 1st to December 2nd of 2013, 108 robberies were registered, which translates to a **20% decline** below the projected total.
- There was a **56% decrease** in robberies from October to November with only four robberies reported, an exceptionally low total for that month in our City.
- Street robberies have **plunged 28%** when measured against the five-year average, down 32 crimes from the projected total of 114 incidents. When compared with the first eleven months of 2012, there has been a **19% decrease** from 101 to 82 street robberies.
- There have been 26 commercial robberies at: (9) banks, (8) convenience stores, (3) drug stores, (2) gas stations, a liquor store, a parking garage, a fast food chain, and a retail establishment so far in 2013.
- A regional commercial robbery pattern involving the same suspect was identified in late October. (see next slide)

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

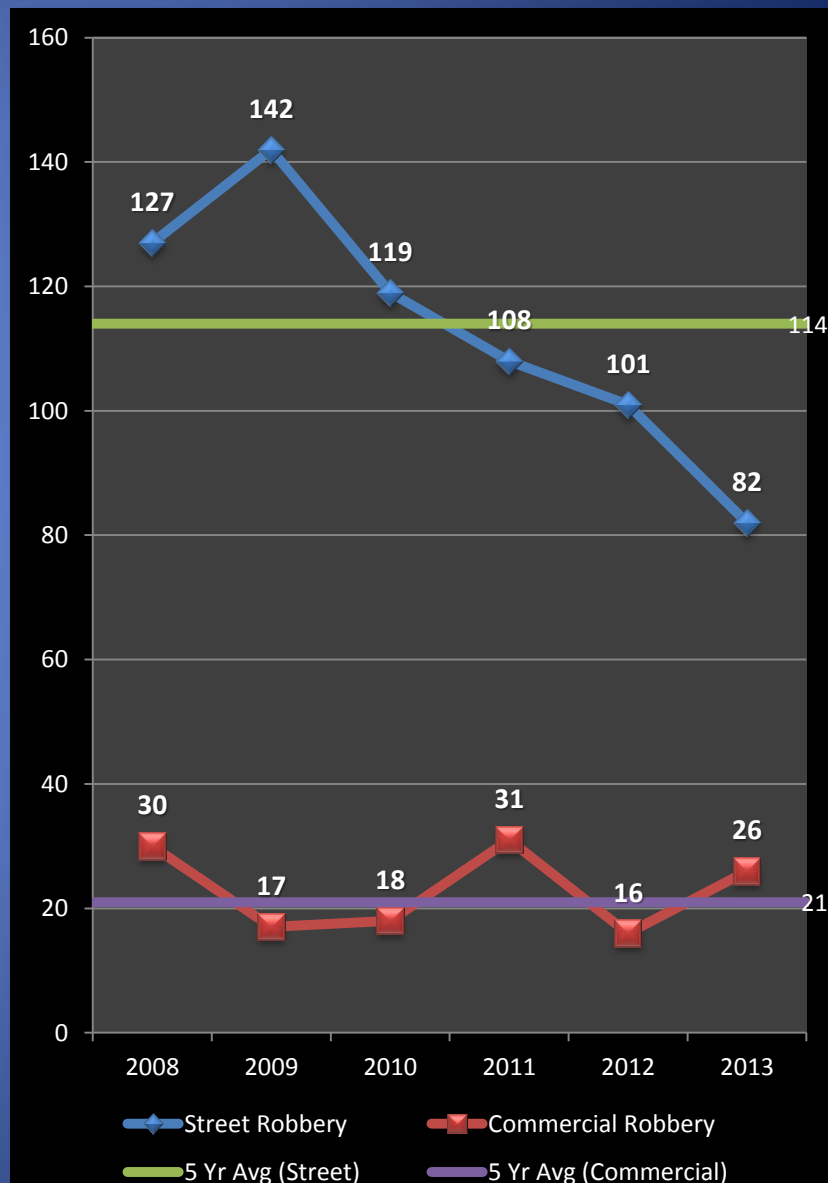
-56%

Previous Year

-8%

5 Year Average

-20%





Regional Commercial Robbery Pattern Arrest

Cambridge Police BridgeStat



7.27.13 – Walden St



10.28.31 – Cambridge St

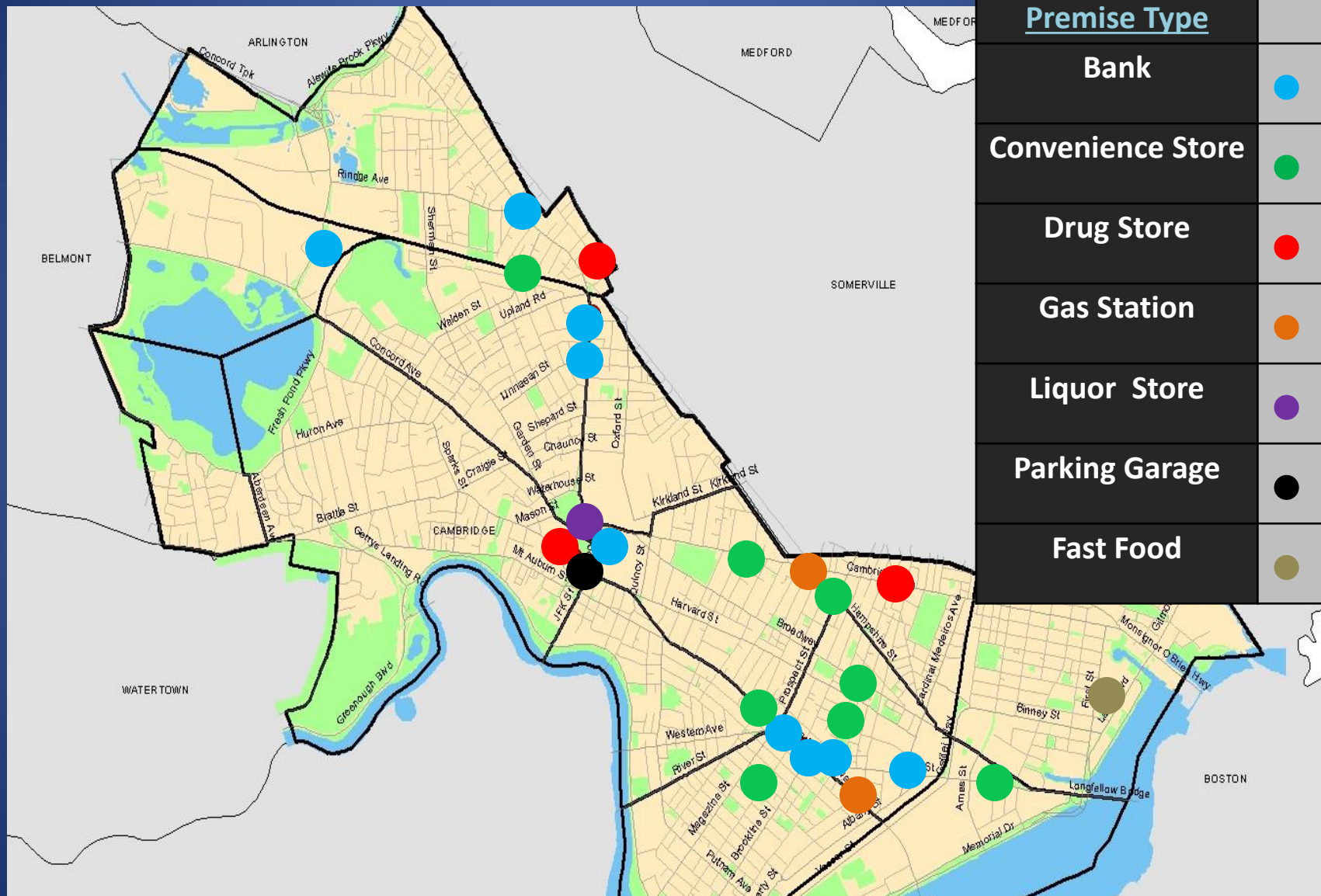


11.11.13 – Cambridge St

Although not yet charged in the three commercial robberies (**above photos**) in Cambridge over the past four months, a strong suspect in these incidents, as well as 19 other robberies of gas stations and convenience stores throughout Greater Boston, was arrested by the Lynn Police Department on 11.26.13. These cases remain under investigation. There have been no reports of similar incidents since this suspect's arrest.



Commercial Robberies: 1/1/13 to 12/2/13



There have been 26 commercial robberies at: (9) banks, (8) convenience stores, (3) drug stores, (2) gas stations, a liquor store, a parking garage, a fast food chain, and a retail establishment so far in 2013.



Street Robberies: 1/1/13 to 12/2/13

Cambridge Police BridgeStat

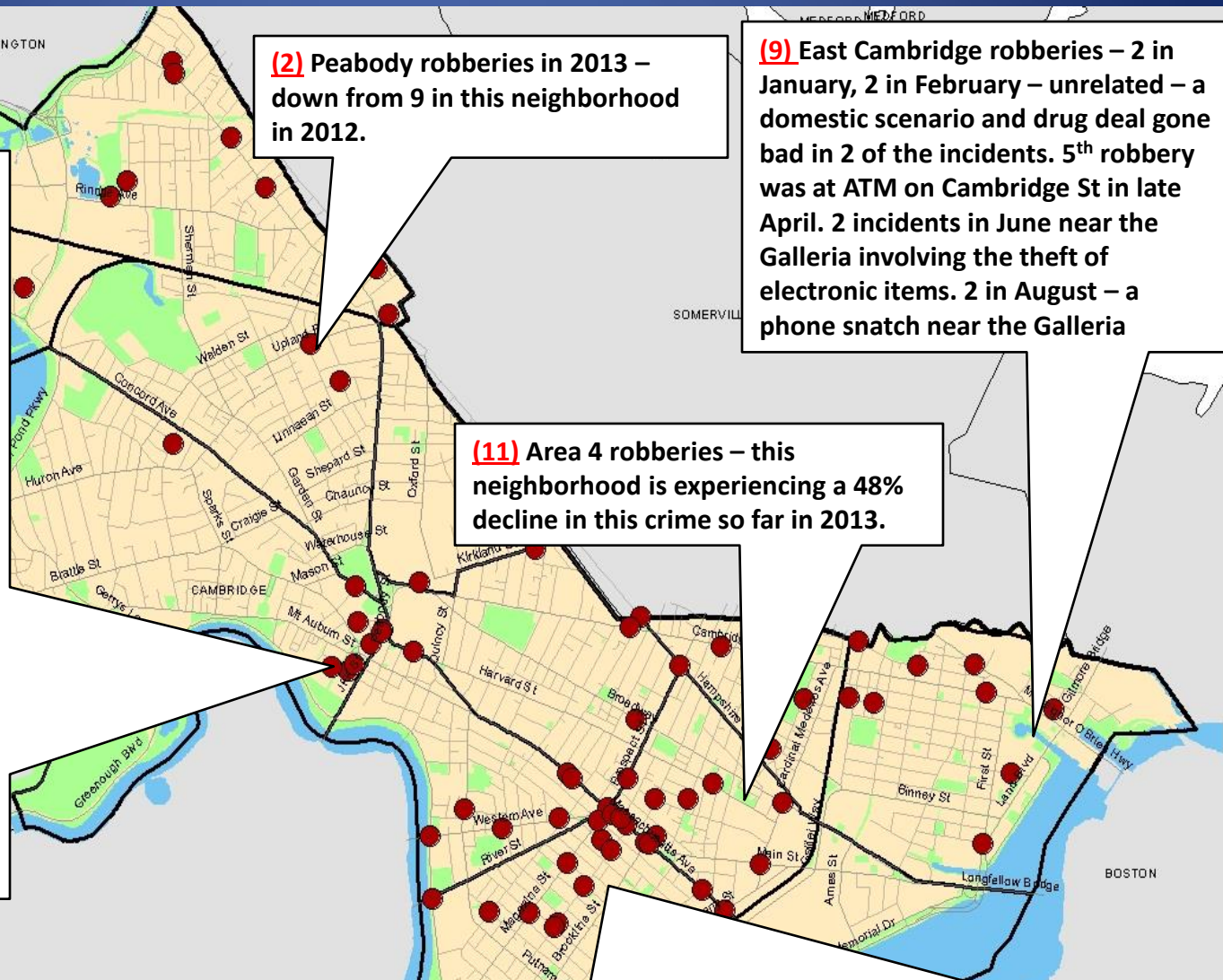
(10) street robberies in Harvard Square in 2013 - 3 unrelated robberies in the Square were 3 weeks apart in March. In two incidents, the victims were males who were targeted for their laptops. Disparate robbery of hotel guest in mid-April. Robbery on 6/28/13 at bar closing time. During the Summer of 2012, there were 11 street robberies in and around the periphery of Harvard Square. That number was reduced to 2 incidents in 2013.

(2) Peabody robberies in 2013 – down from 9 in this neighborhood in 2012.

(9) East Cambridge robberies – 2 in January, 2 in February – unrelated – a domestic scenario and drug deal gone bad in 2 of the incidents. 5th robbery was at ATM on Cambridge St in late April. 2 incidents in June near the Galleria involving the theft of electronic items. 2 in August – a phone snatch near the Galleria

(11) Area 4 robberies – this neighborhood is experiencing a 48% decline in this crime so far in 2013.

(18) street robberies were reported in Cambridgeport in 2013. 4 in July, 4 in August, 2 in September, and 1 in the past two months. Nearly 70% of the robberies were between 10:00PM and 2:00AM. Eight of the incidents took place within the confines of Central Square and involved the homeless. There were no patterns identified in this area so far this year.





AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

No Patterns

- When compared to the first eleven months of 2012, aggravated assaults recorded a notable decline of 24%, with 56 fewer crimes recorded in 2013. When measuring this violent index crime against the five-year average for the time period between January 1st and December 2nd, there has been a reduction of 25%, with 61 incidents below the projected average of 241 assaults.
- The majority of the decline in aggravated assaults can be attributed to a drop of nearly 25% in violent crimes of a domestic nature in Cambridge over the first eleven months of 2013.
- Other assault classifications such as homeless, bar /alcohol, and road rage have remained relatively unchanged so far in 2013.
- Breakdown of Assault Classification types in 2013:

Type	Number	% of Total
Domestic	59	33%
Homeless	25	14%
Bar /Alcohol	21	12%
Acquaintance	20	11%
Road Rage	13	7%

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

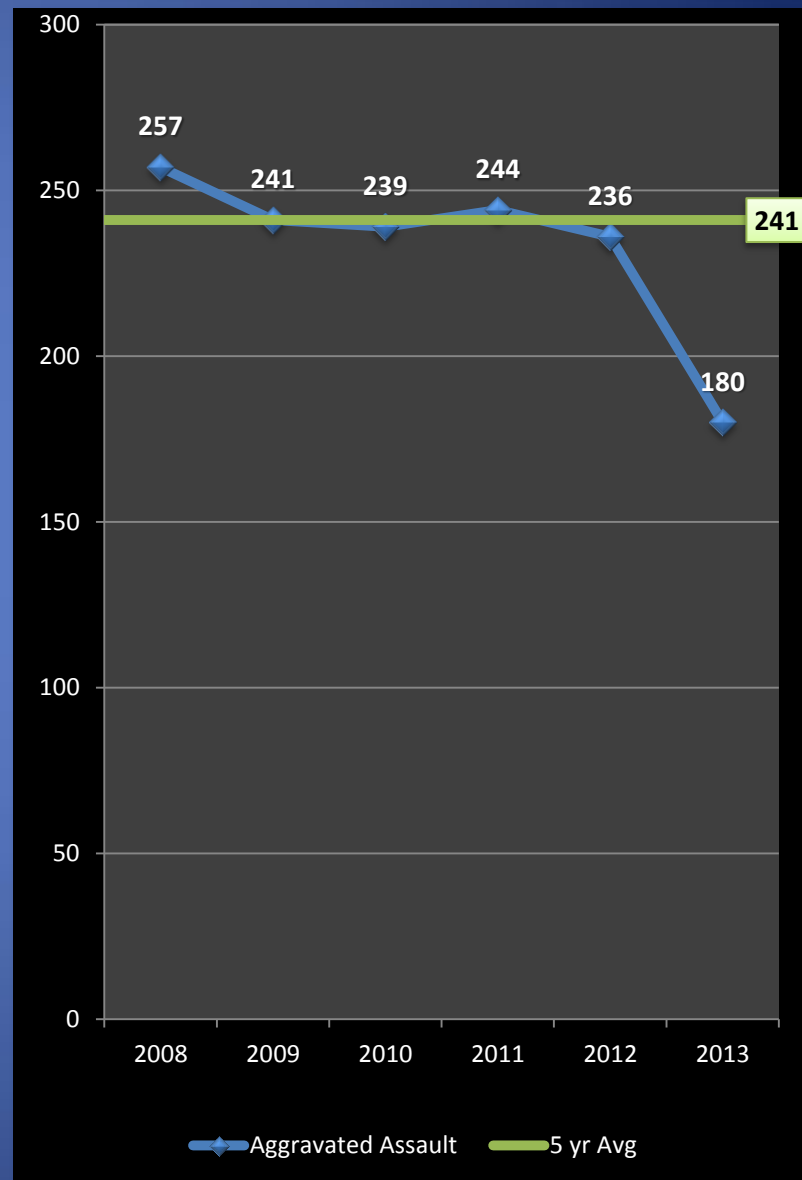
-36%

Previous Year

-24%

5 Year Average

-25%





Burglary

No Patterns

- During the first eleven months of 2013, there were 374 total burglaries (the combination of residential and commercial burglaries) reported in Cambridge. This number has fallen **19%** when compared to last year during this time period and is **16% lower than the five-year average** of 446 incidents.
- Commercial burglary has **dropped 17%** when compared with 2012, with 12 fewer incidents reported, and has **slipped 21%** when measured against the five-year average of 75.
- Residential burglaries ("housebreaks") are **down 19%** from the first eleven months of 2012 with 73 fewer incidents reported and have **slid down 15%** when measured against the five-year average.
- **Three potential housebreak patterns were resolved during November:**
 - Series of side window entries into apartments in lower Cambridgeport;
 - Breaks into multi-unit apartment buildings in the Peabody/Agassiz corridor;
 - Entry into 1st floor units in the 300 to 400 blocks of Broadway & Harvard St in Mid – Cambridge between 6:00 PM & 11:00 PM.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

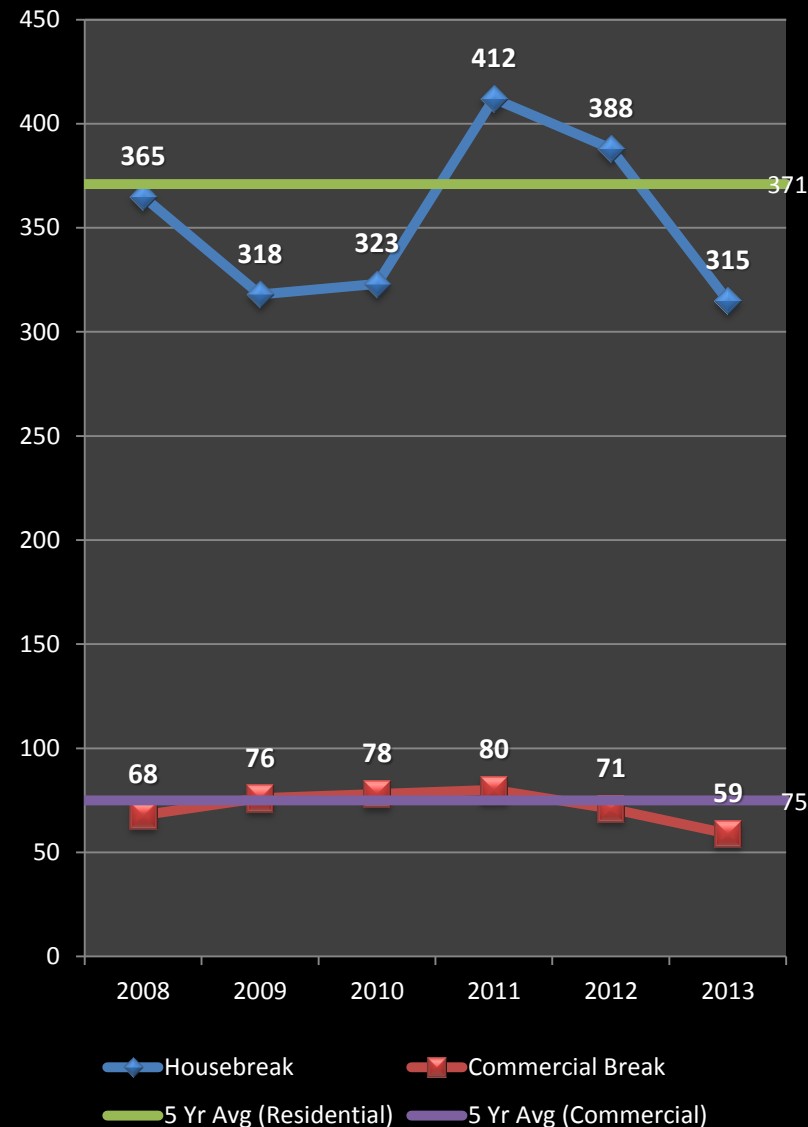
Previous Year

5 Year Average

-22%

-19%

-16%





Three Housebreak Patterns Resolved in November

This pattern was identified in late September in the Mass Ave Corridor (1500 to 1800 Mass) and adjacent side streets. The series has grown to 25 incidents with the majority of the breaks to first floor apartments in multi-unit buildings. In a high percentage of the incidents the point of entry has been through an unlocked window between the hours of 7:00PM and 11:00PM. **This pattern was resolved in late November when Detectives linked a male/female team to the series through stolen credit cards. No activity in this area since that arrest.**

Series of apartment breaks in the 300 to 400 blocks of Harvard and Broadway since the middle of October. Moved to the 900 to 1100 blocks of Mass Ave in November. Burglars were targeting 1st floor units and gaining entry through side windows between the hours of 6:00PM and 11:00PM. **There are strong indications that the male/female team that was operating in the Peabody area was also responsible for this series. No activity in this area since that arrest.**

This pattern was identified in lower Cambridgeport around Putnam Ave and Allston St during the first week of October. A suspect was identified and warrants have been issued. **The suspect, a former Port resident, was connected to this series via fingerprints and video surveillance. There has been no activity in this area since his arrest.**



LARCENY

No Patterns

- Overall, **larceny year-to-date has decreased by 2%** when compared with the first eleven months of 2012 and is down 3% when measured against the five-year weighted average for this time frame.
- **Larcenies from motor vehicles are down 8% year-to-date** when compared with the same time frame in 2012. LMVs dropped 51% from 74 in October to 36 in November. The patterns that plagued Mid-Cambridge and Cambridgeport in September and October dropped off substantially in November.
- **Larcenies from persons citywide in 2013 registered below the level reported through November in 2012** with 22 fewer incidents (-7%) this year, while the 2013 year-to-date total is now even with the five-year average of 312 incidents. Citywide, thefts rose 2 incidents from 19 in October to 21 in November.
- **There have been 358 larcenies from buildings reported during the first eleven months of 2013.** This total is 15 crimes above the number reported during this time frame in 2012 and 5 above the five-year average. There were no notable patterns of this crime type in November.
- In 2013, there have been **370 bike thefts to date.** This total is 19 incidents (5%) above the 351 reported during the first eleven months of 2012. Bike thefts dropped by 24% (7 incidents) in November when compared with October. Area 4 saw the most bike thefts in November with 5, followed by Mid-Cambridge and West Cambridge, each with 4.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

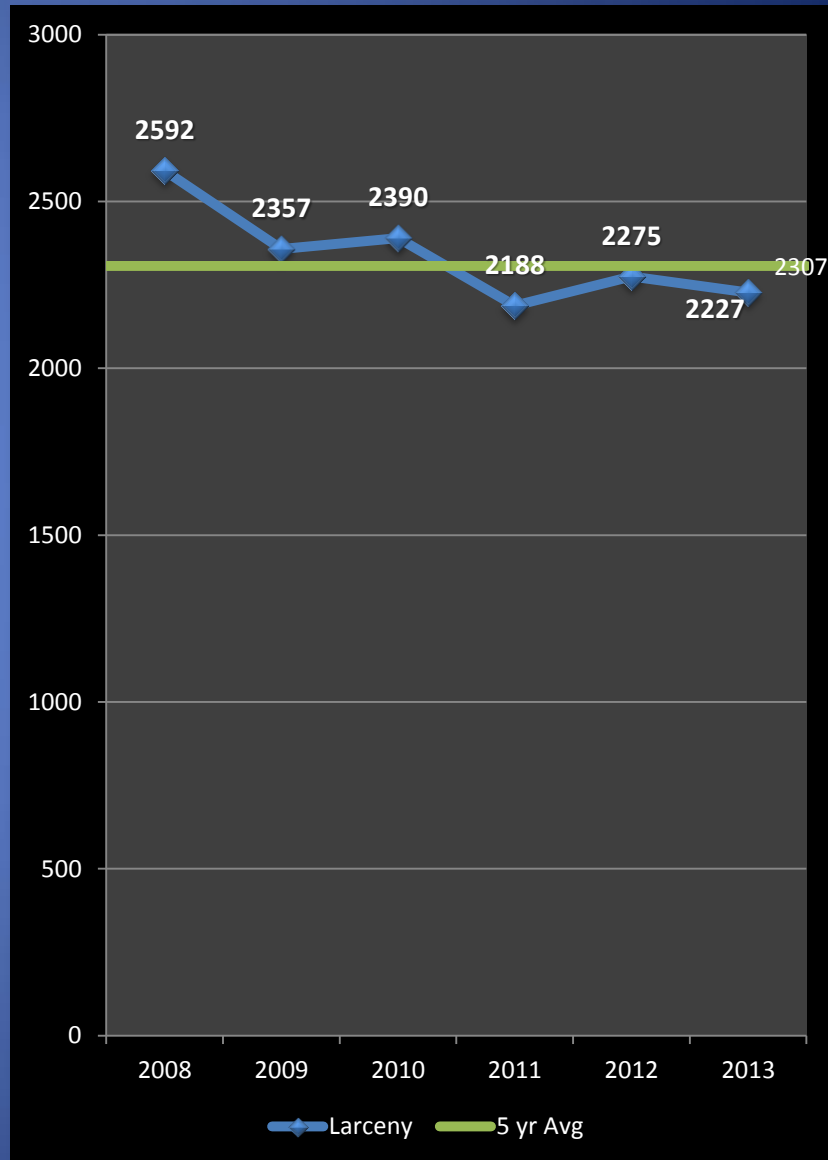
-24%

Previous Year

-2%

5 Year Average

-3%





LARCENY: *From MVs*

No Patterns

- Larcenies from MVs **are down 8% for the first eleven months of 2013** when compared with the same time frame in 2012. There have been 50 fewer thefts reported this year. This index-target crime has **fallen 15%** when measured against the five-year average, with **105 fewer incidents than** the projected total of 699 thefts.
- This crime **surged upward by 26% from September to October**. Monitoring of activity in our neighboring communities of Arlington, Somerville, and Allston indicates that a regional pattern of increased thefts from vehicles was emerging. A Citizen Alert was issued to the neighborhoods of Central Square: Area 4, MidCambridge, Riverside, and Cambridgeport on October 25th.
- Since the alert was issued, thefts from motor vehicles nosedived by 51% from October to November with 38 fewer incidents recorded.
- Sporadic thefts from unlocked vehicles are still occurring in Cambridgeport / Riverside but at a much slower rate. Extra patrols and citizens' locking of vehicles appears to be an effective deterrent.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

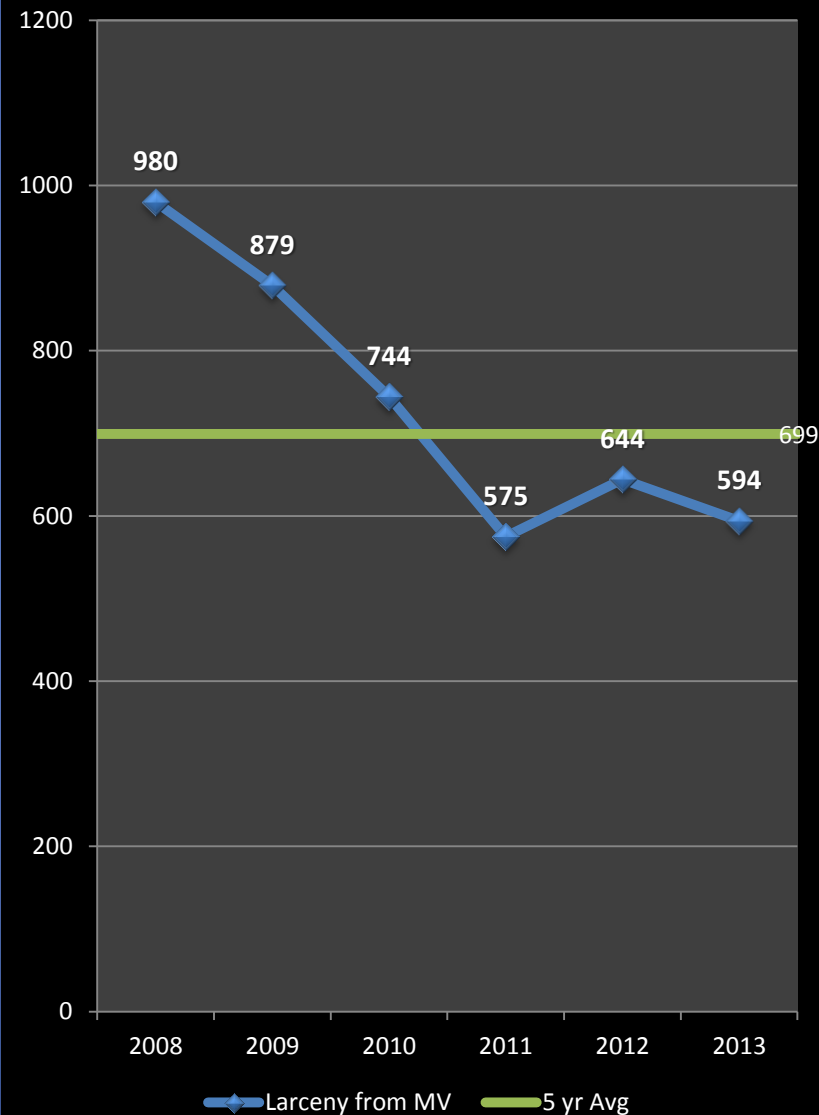
-51%

Previous Year

-8%

5 Year Average

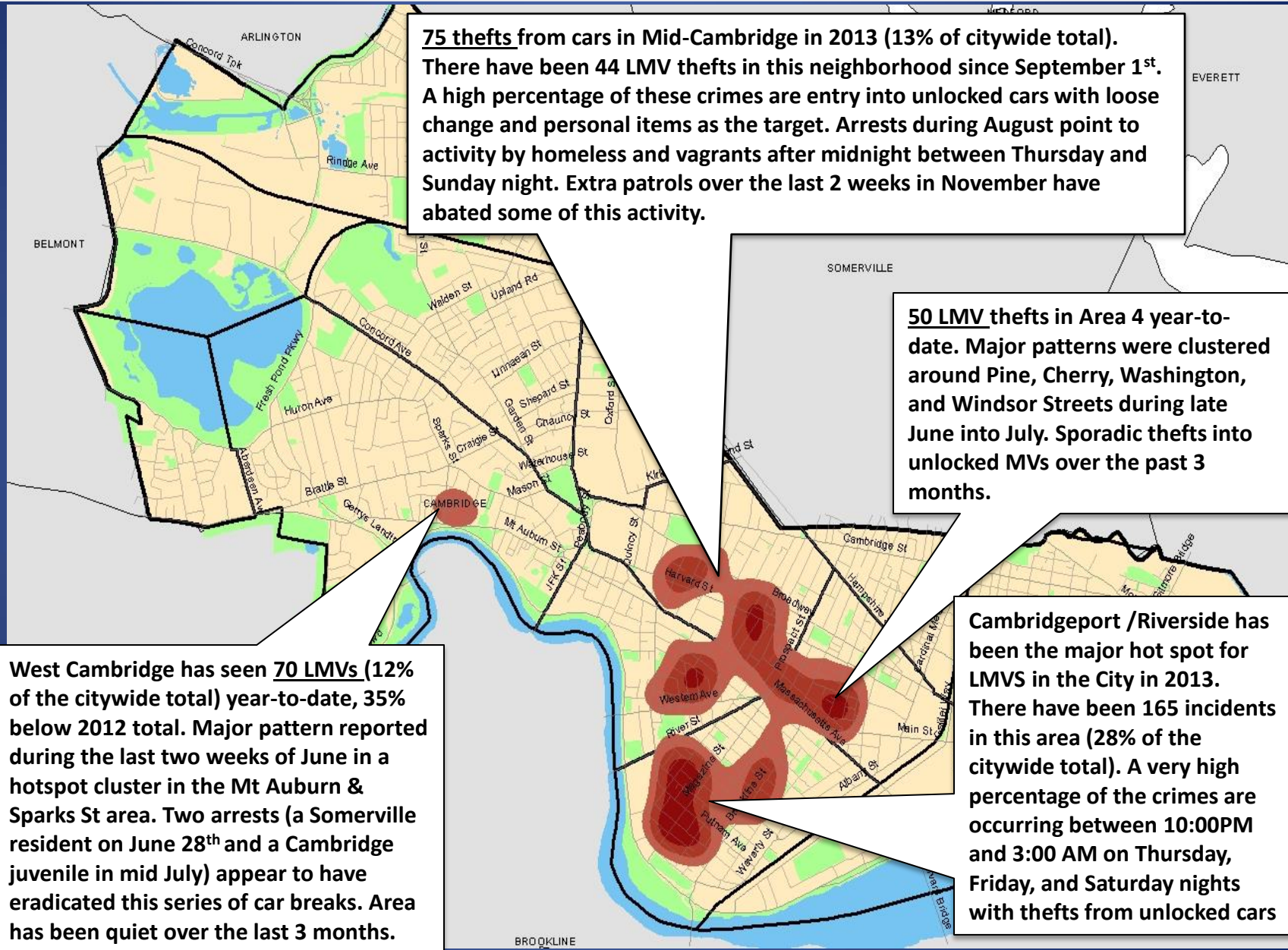
-15%





Larceny from MVs: 1/1/13 to 12/2/13

Cambridge Police BridgeStat





Larceny from Motor Vehicles

What can we do?

Police Response Strategy:

- Cambridge Police are focused on prevention of these crimes by increasing officer visibility in targeted areas.
- Citizens are encouraged to take the proper precautions to protect their vehicles and their belongings by doing everything possible to not make their vehicles easy targets.



Citizen Response Strategy:

- Citizens are asked to take the following precautions to protect themselves, their vehicles, and their belongings from theft:
 - Make sure all of your car doors are locked when you leave your vehicle.
 - Take extra care when out doing your shopping.
 - If you are **approached by a suspicious person** while you are in your vehicle, **sound your horn to attract attention.**
 - **NEVER LEAVE VALUABLES EXPOSED IN YOUR CAR.**
 - If you must leave packages or valuables in your car, **place them in the trunk of under a blanket to conceal them**
 - Visit our website for more tips to keep your vehicles and belongings at www.CambridgePolice.org/SafetyTips



LARCENY: *from Person*

No Patterns

- **Larcenies from the person are down 22 incidents (3%)** in 2013 when compared with the first eleven months of 2012. The total of 312 incidents reported thus far in 2013 is even with the five-year average of 312.
- Larcenies from the person citywide rose by two incidents from October (19 thefts) to November (21 thefts). Unlike in recent months when many of the incidents were reported at the many bars and restaurants in Harvard Square (known as "dipper" activity), only two incidents were reported in this area in October and again in November. Notably, there were four thefts reported from shoppers/diners at the Galleria Mall over the month.
- One arrest was made for larceny from the person in November. A young Cambridge male was arrested after he stole a cell phone from a victim at the Marriott Hotel in Kendall Sq on November 11th.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

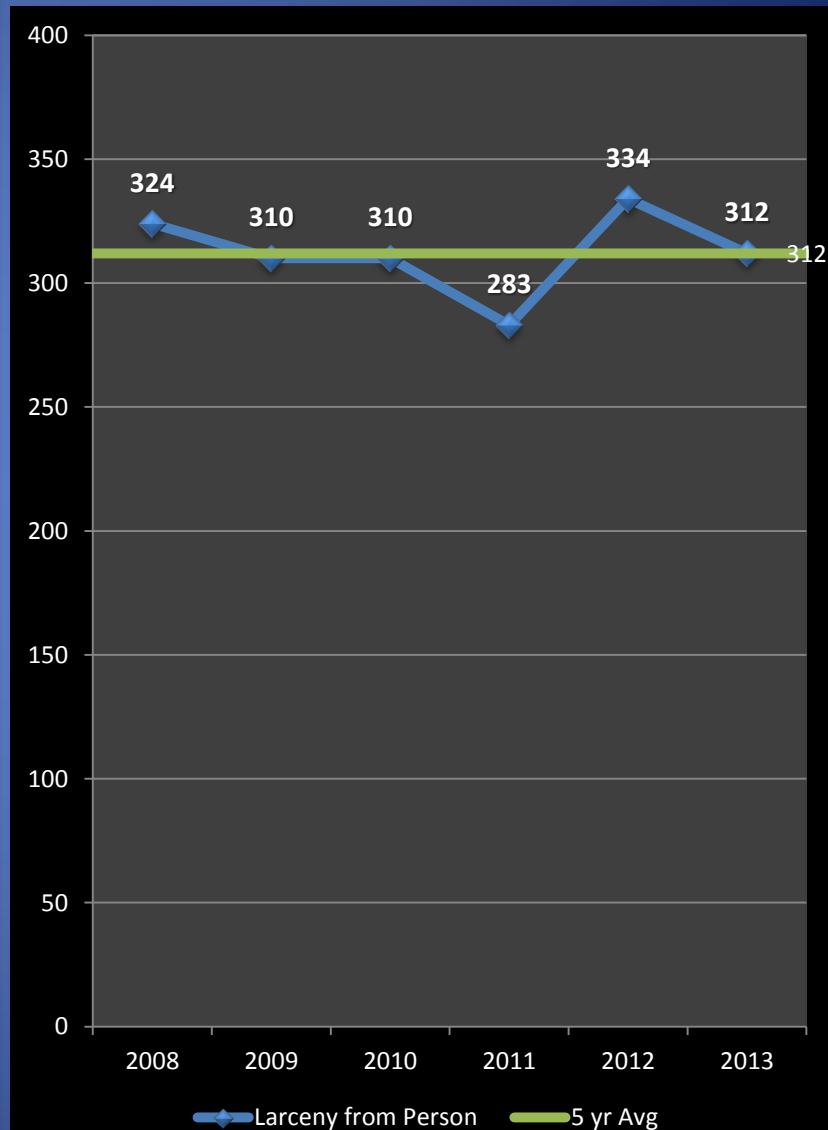
+11%

Previous Year

-7%

5 Year Average

0%





LARCENY: of Bicycle

No Patterns

- In 2013, there have been 370 bike thefts to-date, which is 19 incidents (5%) above the 351 reported during the first 11 months of 2012 and 29 (9%) above the 5-year average of 341 thefts.
- Bike thefts **dropped by 24%** (7 incidents) from October to November. Incidents were spread throughout the city this month, in contrast to previous months when the majority took place in Harvard & Central Squares. In fact, no bike thefts were reported in Harvard Sq this month.
- The majority of thefts this year (**56%**) have involved bikes that were locked but left out in the open (locked to public bike racks, for example).
- The highest % of thefts from yards and porches this year have occurred in Mid-Cambridge, North Cambridge, and Area 4.

Breakdown by Neighborhood, year-to-date:

Neighborhood	Total	% Citywide
Mid-Cambridge	58	16 %
Cambridgeport	53	14 %
West Cambridge	47	13 %
Riverside	45	12 %

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

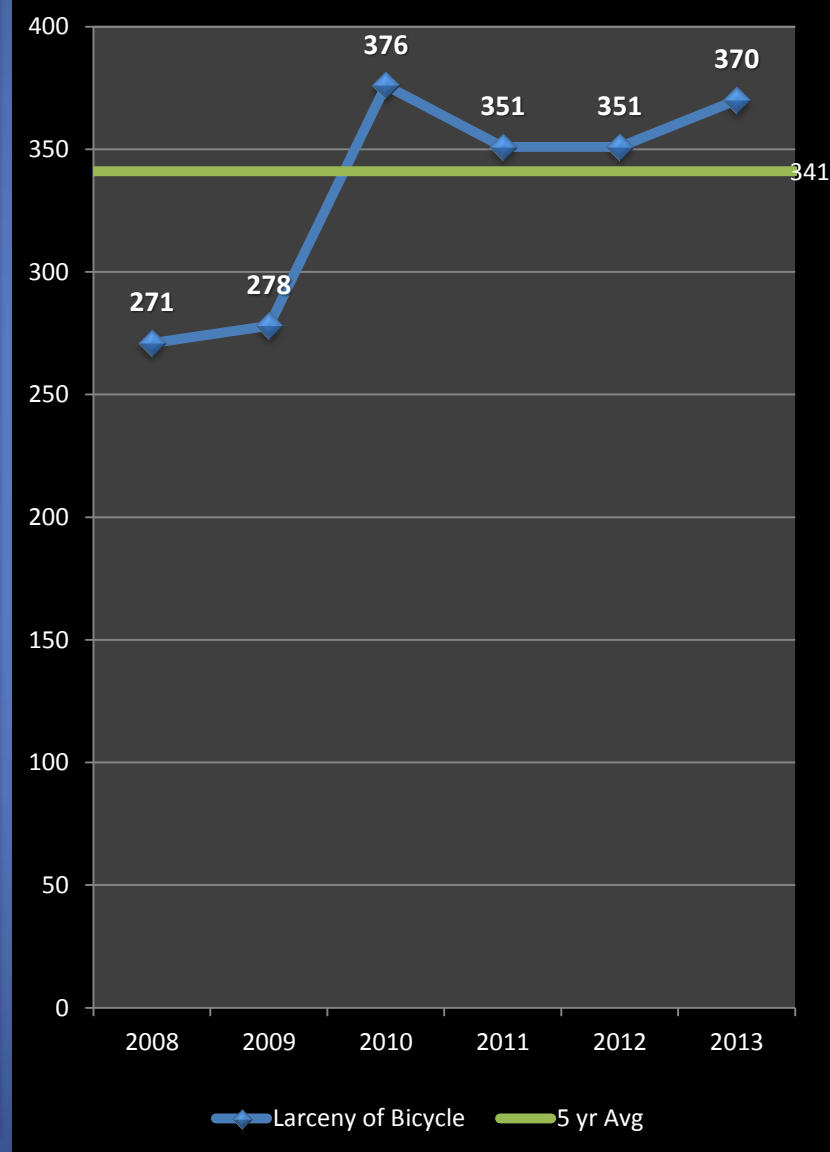
-24%

Previous Year

+5%

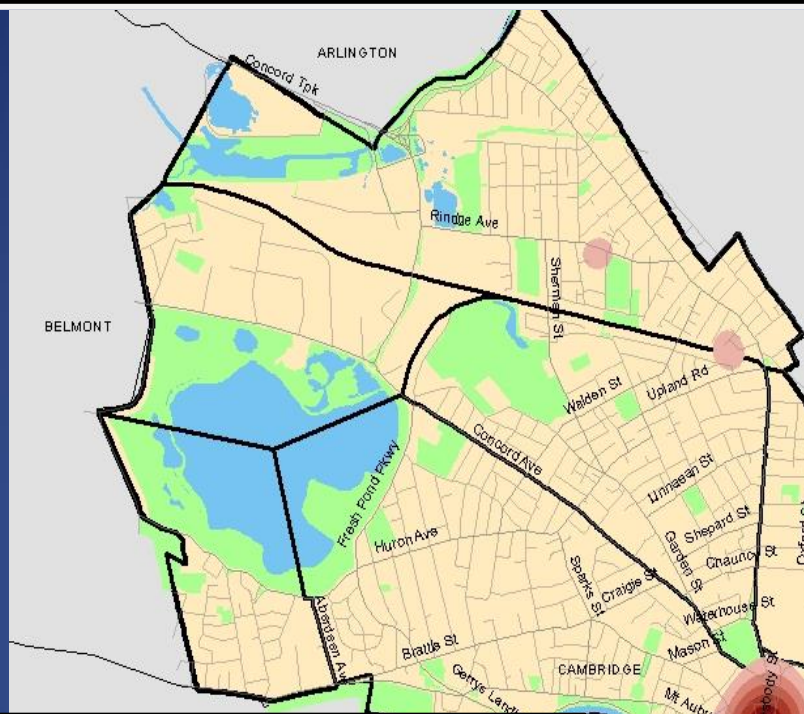
5 Year Average

+9%





Larceny of Bicycles: 6/1/13 to 12/2/13

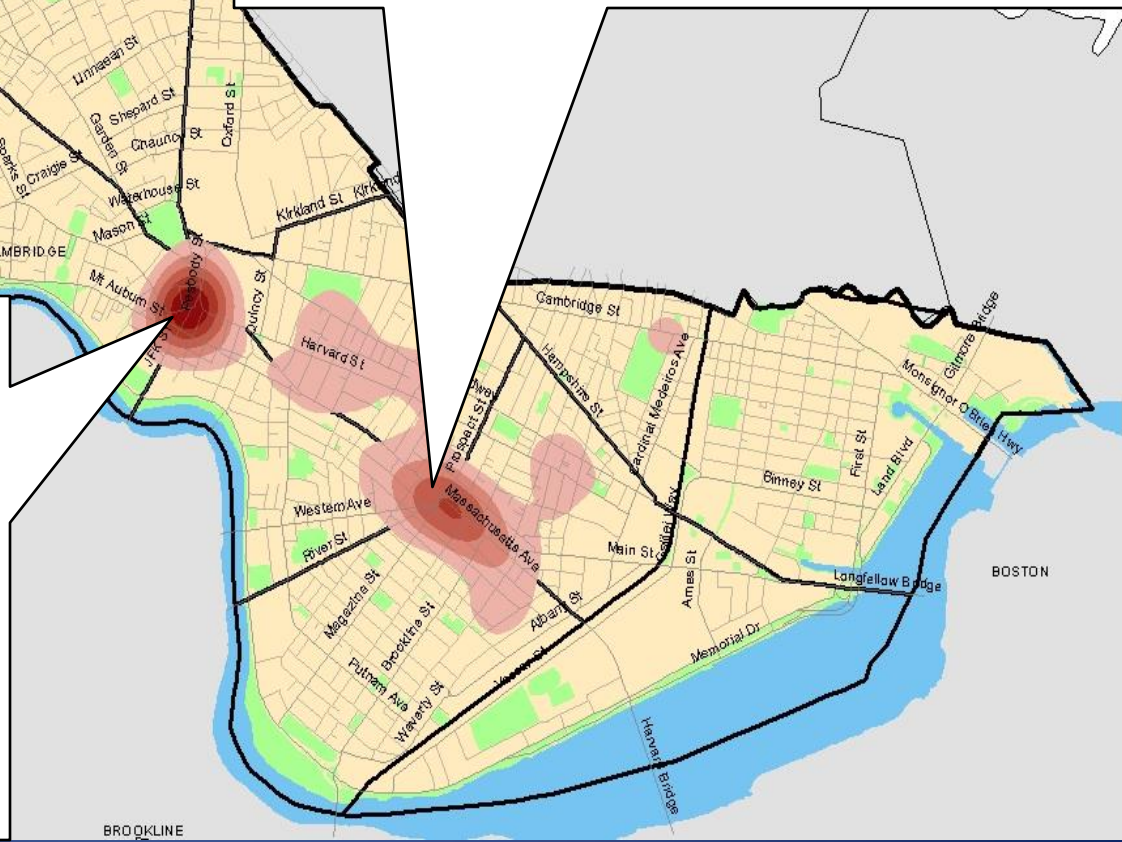


Central Square

Central Square has been the hotspot for bike theft activity in 2013, with 87 of the 370 thefts (24%) reported citywide year-to-date. However, only 7 were reported in October and 6 in November, as the colder weather has led to fewer bikes left out to steal. The 400–700 blocks of Mass Ave have seen the brunt of the Central Square activity this year. A majority of the bikes in this area had been locked to bike racks on weekdays when they were stolen.

Harvard Square

Nearly 14% of the bike thefts citywide in 2013 were reported in Harvard Square. 48 thefts have been reported in the past six months. However, incidents in this area have been on the decline since the summer, dropping from 20 in August, to 6 in September, to 4 in October, with none reported in November. This is due largely to the reduction in bike ridership that occurs annually with the cooler fall weather.





Larceny of Bicycles:

What Can We Do?

Police Response Strategy:

- Bicyclists stopped for infractions will be reminded to use lights when biking at night, wear helmets under the age of 16, and other safety tips to promote safer biking in the city.

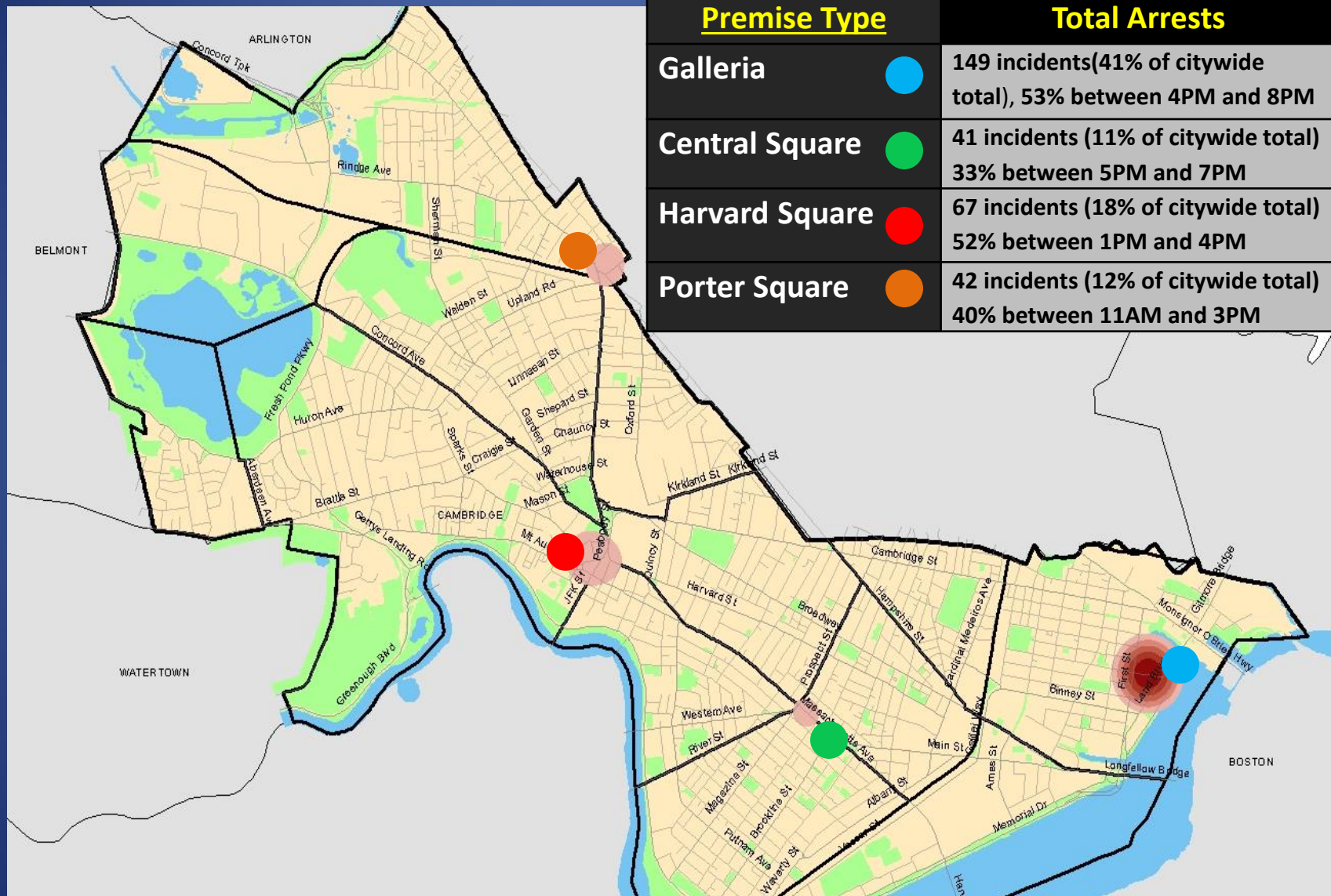


Citizen Response Strategy:

- Bicyclist are encouraged to record their bike's serial number as well as take a picture of their bike to provide to police in the event that it is lost or stolen.
- For information on bicycle safety, visit: www.CambridgePolice.org/CommunityResources.
 - Click on the "Bicycle Safety and Registration" link.
- Stores should be vigilant in recording serial numbers and customer information on sales.
- Universities should encourage students to register their bikes and distribute information on the correct locking procedures.



Shoplifting: 1/1/13 to 12/2/13



Shoplifting has increased 18% in Cambridge over the first eleven months of 2013. This index crime is also 13% above the projected five-year average. Arrests for shoplifting have risen 21% at the Galleria Mall in 2013.



AUTO THEFT

No Patterns

- The projected five-year weighted average for auto thefts for the first eleven months of the year is 149 incidents. In 2013, auto thefts continue to register well below this level with only 105 reported year-to-date, translating to a **30% decline**. This number is also 9 thefts below the total of 114 reported through the first eleven months of 2012, equaling an **8% drop**.
- Eight vehicles have been reported stolen in the past four weeks, **down 38%** from the previous four-week total. East Cambridge and Cambridgeport had the most in November with two each.
- Since the beginning of the year, Cambridgeport (21) and Mid-Cambridge (19) have experienced the most auto thefts citywide.
- Year-to-date, **53%** (or 56) of the stolen motor vehicles have been recovered.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

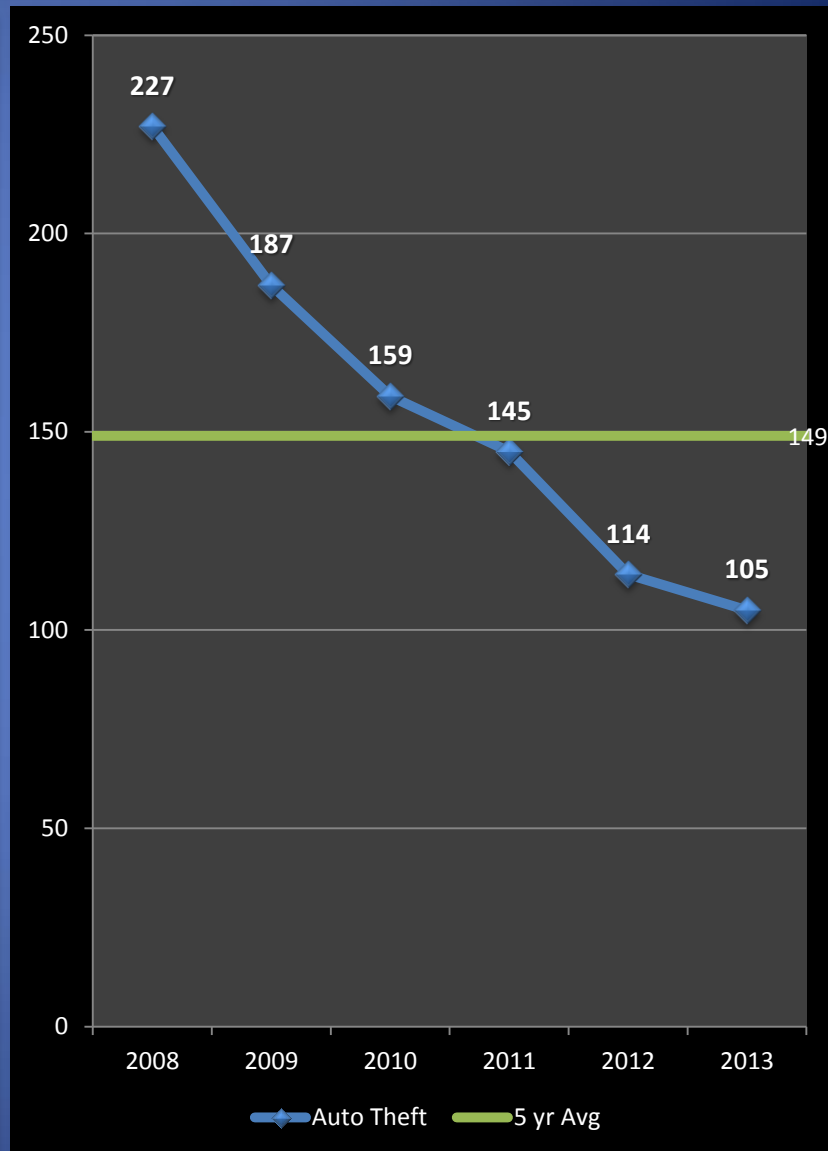
-38%

Previous Year

-8%

5 Year Average

-30%





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 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 2012 Cambridge Police Annual Crime Report is 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.