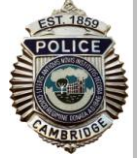


# CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT

125 Sixth Street • Cambridge, MA 02142  
617-349-3390 • www.cambridgepolice.org



# CAMBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT 2011 Annual Crime Report



**Profile**  
City and Police  
Department

**Highlights**

**Historical  
Statistics**

**Comparisons**  
National & Regional

**Crime Factors**

**Part I Crimes**  
Statistical  
Breakdown

**Part II Crimes**  
Statistical  
Breakdown

**Neighborhood  
Reports**

**Business District  
Profiles**

**Special Reports**



Cambridge Police Awards Program



**Robert C. Haas**  
*Police Commissioner*

**Robert W. Healy**  
*City Manager*



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**CAMBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
 2011 ANNUAL CRIME REPORT  
 INCLUDING NEIGHBORHOOD  
 AND BUSINESS DISTRICT PROFILES**



**Produced by the  
 Cambridge Police  
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 Deputy Superintendent of Investigations

**Superintendent Christopher Burke**  
 Superintendent of Support Services

# CITY OF CAMBRIDGE AT A GLANCE

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## Top Ten Employers: (2011)

**Established:** 1636 (town); 1846 (city)  
**Government:** Council-Manager  
**City Manager:** Robert W. Healy  
**City Budget:** \$472,196,095 (FY 2012)  
**City Employees:** 2,947 (including schools)  
**Area:** 7.13 square miles total  
           6.43 square miles land

- 1) Harvard (10,906)
- 2) MIT (7,640)
- 3) City of Cambridge (2,947)
- 4) Novartis (2,271)
- 5) Vertex Pharmaceuticals (1,600)
- 6) Mt Auburn Hospital (1,558)
- 7) Draper Labs (1,281)
- 8) Biogen Idec (1,272)
- 9) Genzyme (1,259)
- 10) CHA (1,172)

**Population:** 105,162 (2010)  
**Households:** 44,032 (2010)  
**Police Officer/Population Ratio:** 1:394 (2010)  
**Population Density:** 16,355 per sq mile (2010)  
**Registered Voters:** 59,256 (2009)  
**Total Registered Auto Mobiles:** 43,724 (2007-2009)  
**Total Residential Housing Units:** 47,291 (2010)  
**Ownership Rate:** 34.6% (2010)  
**Median Household Income:** \$67,297 (2007-2009)  
**Median Family Income:** \$88,574 (2007-2009)  
**Resident Unemployment Rate:** 5.6% (2010)  
**Median Single-Family Home:** \$760,000 (2010)  
**Median Condominium:** \$424,000 (2010)  
**Property Tax Rate per Thousand:** \$8.48 residential (FY 2012)  
   \$20.76 commercial (FY 2012)  
**School Enrollment:** 6,019 (2010-2011)  
**Colleges and Universities:** 9  
**Hospitals:** 5

Population by Race			
	1990	2000	2010
White	71.6%	68%	66.6%
Black	12.7%	12%	11.7%
Asian	8.4%	12%	15.1%
Native American	.3%	-	.2%
Other, or 2+ races	.4%	1%	6.4%
Ethnicity			
Hispanic	6.8%	7%	7.6%

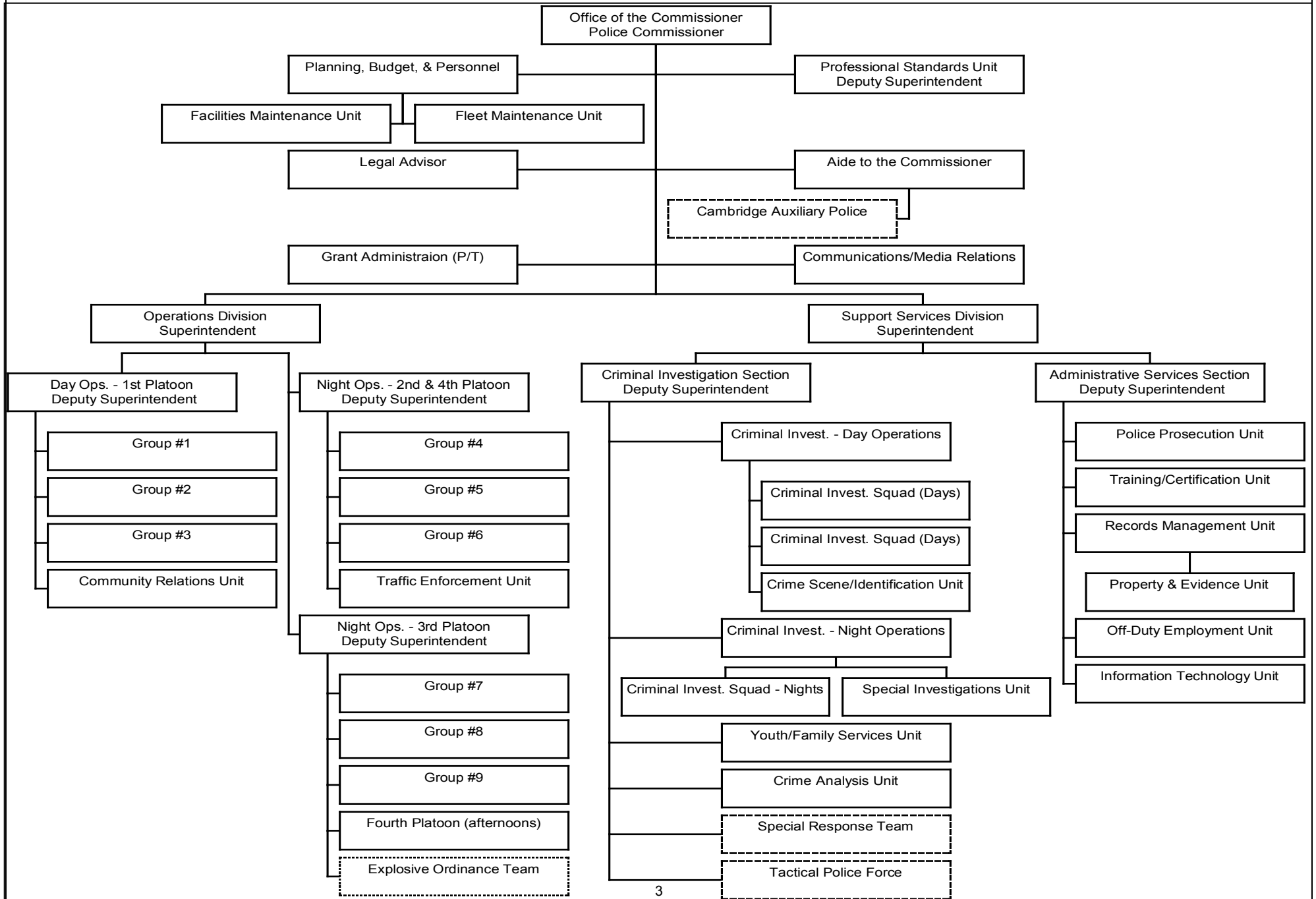
Cambridge Age Structure		
Age	2010 Population	Percentage
0-4	4,526	4.3%
5-14	5,798	5.5%
15-19	6,983	6.6%
20-29	34,562	32.9%
30-39	19,487	18.5%
40-65	23,818	22.7%
65+	9,988	9.6%

## CAMBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT AT A GLANCE

**Organized:** 1859  
**Sworn Officers:** 273  
**Civilian Personnel:** 38  
**Commissioner:** Robert C. Haas  
  
**Headquarters:** 125 Sixth Street  
                           Cambridge, MA 02142  
**Budget (FY 12):** \$43,496,275  
**Rank Structure:** Commissioner  
                           Superintendent  
                           Deputy Superintendent  
                           Lieutenant  
                           Sergeant  
                           Patrol Officer

**Marked Patrol Vehicles:** 28  
**Unmarked Patrol Vehicles:** 39 (13 hybrid vehicles)  
**Motorcycles:** 14  
**Special Vehicles:** 20  
**Fleet Bicycles:** 22  
**Surplus Bicycles:** 12  
  
**2011 Total Calls for Service:** 117,882  
**2011 Total Index Crimes:** 3,567

# CAMBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





# CRIME ANALYSIS IN CAMBRIDGE

*Crime Analysis* is the process of turning crime data into information, and then turning that information into knowledge about crime and safety in a particular community. While it is a growing field across this country and internationally, Cambridge has had a Crime Analysis Unit in operation for over 30 years.

The function of the Crime Analysis Unit (CAU) is to support the daily operations of the Police Department by collecting, managing, and analyzing crime, calls for service, and other data. The CAU also works together with analysts from neighboring departments to address cross-jurisdictional patterns.

By making timely observations of emerging crime patterns, hot spots, and other crime problems, the Cambridge Crime Analysis Unit ultimately aims to assist the Department in its criminal apprehension and crime reduction strategies.

## FOREWORD

The Cambridge Police Department's 2011 Annual Crime Report is an attempt to provide detailed information so that citizens can make informed decisions about crime and safety in their neighborhoods. The more information made available to the public, the better the input will be in aiding the Police response to crime.

The Annual Report offers a comprehensive analysis of the crimes reported by the Cambridge Police Department to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. The UCR Program has been collecting national crime statistics from local police departments since 1930. Based on seriousness and frequency, police departments are required to report their statistics on seven crimes which comprise the UCR Crime Index: murder, forcible rape, aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, larceny, and auto theft. In 2007, the Cambridge Police Department initiated the submission of crimes into the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). The general concepts, such as jurisdictional rules, of collecting and reporting UCR data are the same in NIBRS. The difference in the programs is that NIBRS captures much greater detail on each crime than the summary-based UCR program. Another difference in the programs is that agencies submit UCR data in written documents, whereas NIBRS data are submitted electronically.

The problem for the public, as well as for the police, is that UCR statistics alone are of little use to patrol deployment and offer little to citizens interested in reducing their risks. The true picture of crime and disorder in a city is seldom conveyed to the public through simple statistics. Crimes are complex events, and these complexities encompass many dimensions. It is our endeavor in this report to unravel the web of factors that comprise the crime rate.

The publication of detailed neighborhood crime statistics, patterns, and trends gives Cantabridgians a realistic view of their risks of victimization. The Neighborhood and Business District sections within the Annual Crime Report are designed to help residents, business owners, and visitors have a fuller understanding of crime problems in their areas.

This report outlines three distinctions that make up criminal incidents: (1) whether offenses are committed against strangers or against relatives and acquaintances; (2) the motivation of the criminals—drugs, revenge, or intimidation are but a few of the factors that motivate both novice and career criminals; and (3) when and where crimes occur, focusing on where the hotspots are and the best time frames for the majority of the incidents. Outlining these factors is imperative to understanding the anatomy of crime in Cambridge, and to developing appropriate responses.

The rise and fall of the crime rate will always be with us. To hold that tide in check, it will take a partnership comprised of not just the police and citizens, but also every city agency, the business community, public service providers, and church leaders. The goal of the Annual Report is to provide this partnership with the knowledge to ensure the desired quality of life in all the neighborhoods of the City.

*Cambridge Police Department Crime Analysis Unit*

# 2011 CRIME INDEX

The Crime Index is composed of selected offenses used to gauge fluctuations in the overall volume and rate of crime reported to police. The offenses included are the violent crimes of murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault; and the property crimes of burglary, larceny, and auto theft. The Crime Index was developed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting program to standardize the way in which law enforcement agencies report crime statistics.

Crime	2008	2009	2010	2011	2010-2011 % Change
<b>Murder</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Inc</b>
<b>Rape</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>0%</b>
Stranger	2	3	4	2	-50%
Non-Stranger	15	17	19	21	11%
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>-10%</b>
Commercial	36	21	22	34	55%
Street	141	151	141	113	-20%
<b>Aggravated Assault</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>Total Violent Crime</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Burglary</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>15%</b>
Commercial	76	86	87	84	-3%
Residential	391	343	366	436	19%
<b>Larceny</b>	<b>2,788</b>	<b>2,496</b>	<b>2,555</b>	<b>2,453</b>	<b>-4%</b>
from Building	417	321	393	433	10%
from Motor Vehicle	1,053	913	784	639	-18%
from Person	357	331	342	320	-6%
of Bicycle	277	284	380	370	-3%
Shoplifting	352	369	365	352	-4%
from Residence	214	185	192	234	22%
of License Plate	65	39	43	43	0%
of Services	26	28	31	25	-19%
Miscellaneous	27	26	25	37	48%
<b>Auto Theft</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>-7%</b>
<b>Total Property Crime</b>	<b>3,499</b>	<b>3,121</b>	<b>3,177</b>	<b>3,131</b>	<b>-1%</b>
<b>Crime Index Total</b>	<b>3,968</b>	<b>3,570</b>	<b>3,614</b>	<b>3,567</b>	<b>-1%</b>

\* Note: Inc = percentages are not calculated for numbers so small so as to prevent a statistically misleading percentage

## CAMBRIDGE UNIFORM CRIME REPORT STATISTICS 1992-2011\*

Crime	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Avg. 1992-2001	Avg. 2002-2011	Avg. 1992-2011	% Change 2010-2011**	% Change 2002-2011**
<b>Murder</b>	2	2	1	3	1	2	2	2	1	1	6	3	0	3	2	0	1	2	0	5	2	2	2	Inc	-17%
<b>Rape</b>	33	30	28	35	34	24	25	15	11	15	10	7	10	14	11	16	17	20	23	23	25	15	20	0%	+130%
<b>Robbery</b>	286	253	276	295	227	176	208	165	186	181	195	229	245	239	208	161	177	172	163	147	225	194	209	-10%	-25%
<b>Aggravated Assault</b>	551	643	473	463	381	370	369	348	322	272	284	271	248	244	237	243	274	255	251	261	419	257	338	+4%	-8%
<b>Burglary</b>	866	929	774	953	791	596	695	567	552	688	720	651	724	623	685	653	467	429	453	520	741	593	667	+15%	-28%
<b>Larceny/Theft</b>	3,326	3,563	3,351	3,313	2,973	2,779	2,753	2,819	2,820	2,740	2,764	2,389	2,654	2,396	2,377	2,838	2,788	2,496	2,555	2,453	3044	2571	2807	-4%	-11%
<b>Auto Theft</b>	887	964	761	558	544	483	397	431	498	523	425	419	438	295	233	244	244	196	169	158	605	282	443	-7%	-63%
<b>Total Violent</b>	872	928	778	796	643	572	604	530	520	469	495	510	503	500	458	420	469	449	437	436	671	468	569	0%	-12%
<b>Total Property</b>	5,079	5,456	5,086	4,824	4,308	3,858	3,845	3,817	3,870	3,951	3,909	3,459	3,816	3,314	3,295	3,735	3,499	3,121	3,177	3,131	4409	3446	3928	-1%	-20%
<b>Total</b>	5,951	6,384	5,664	5,620	4,951	4,430	4,449	4,347	4,390	4,420	4,404	3,969	4,319	3,814	3,753	4,155	3,968	3,570	3,614	3,567	5061	3913	4487	-1%	-19%

Note: Inc = percentages are not calculated for numbers so small so as to prevent a statistically misleading percentage.

\*The Cambridge Police Department voluntarily submits Uniform Crime Report statistics to the FBI for national comparison. See <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm> for more information.

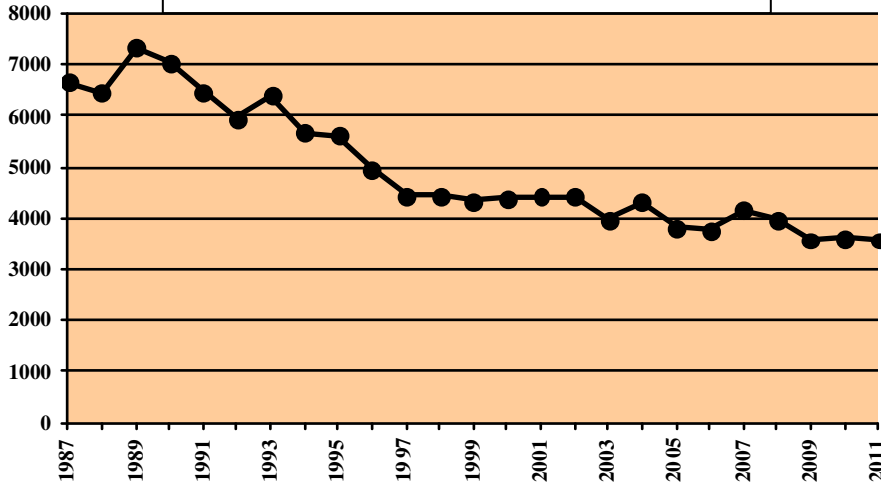
\*\*Percent changes are rounded to the nearest whole number. A 0% change means that there was less than a .5% increase or decrease.

**Please Note: Due to reclassification year to year, final numbers are subject to change.**



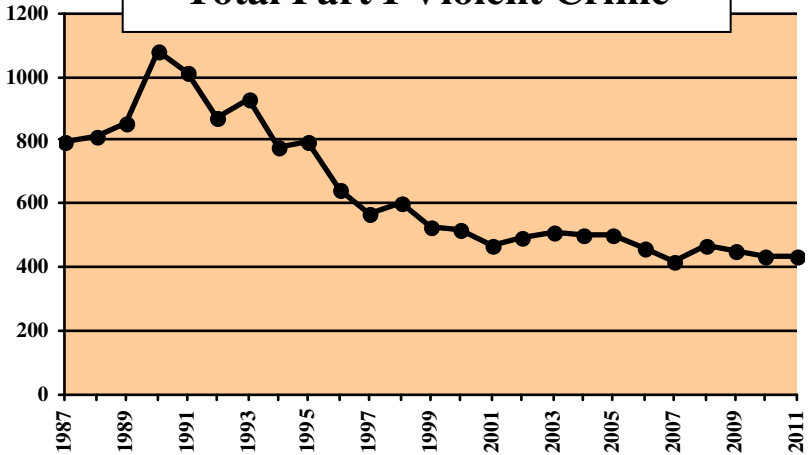
# 25-YEAR STATISTICAL TRENDS

## Total Part I (Index) Crime



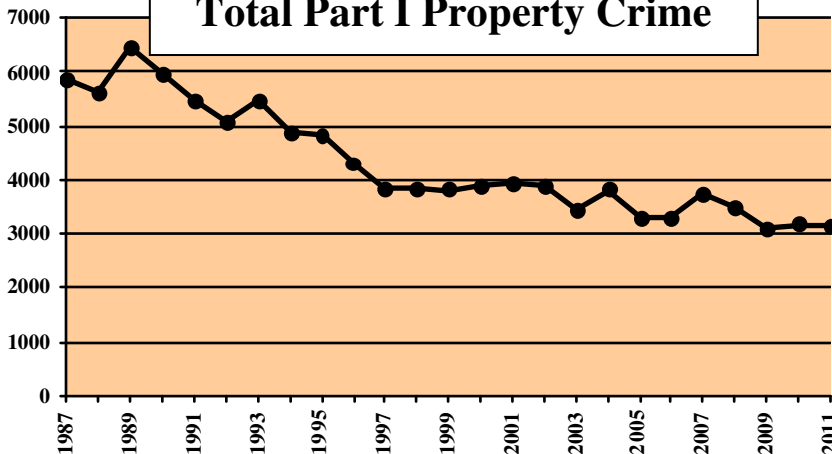
Cambridge reported the lowest crime total in 2011 in over 40 years. The total crime index has fallen more than 46% since 1987. Serious crime numbers have been on a steady decline since the late 1970s, with the exception of spikes at the turn of two decades. These spikes were caused by a sharp increase in property crimes in 1980 and a sharp increase in violent crimes in 1990. After 1997, the crime rate leveled off for approximately six years, until it dropped by 10% in 2003. Since 2003, crime totals have averaged just under 3,900 crimes a year, with fluctuations of about 400 crimes above and below the average.

## Total Part I Violent Crime



Violent crime totals include the crimes of murder, rape, robbery, and assault. Totals were fairly unsteady in the 1980s. The late years of the decade were marked by a great increase in incidents—reflective of the nation’s epidemic of gang and drug violence combined with greater reporting of domestic assaults. Since 1990, violent crime totals have been steadily declining, but were marked by small spikes every other year or so in the 1990’s. There were 436 violent crimes reported in Cambridge in 2011, which is the second lowest violent crime total reported in the past 25 years. This drop can be attributed to a 20% reduction in street robberies.

## Total Part I Property Crime



Property crime totals include burglary, larceny, and auto theft. Property crime usually accounts for 80-90% of the Part I total in Cambridge, which explains why the graph to the left mirrors the graph at the top so closely. Totals have fallen 47% since 1987. Auto thefts have experienced significant decreases over the past two decades, reaching their lowest level in 50 years in 2011, but larceny (common theft) has remained fairly steady. Since 1997, property crime numbers have fluctuated between 3,000 and 4,000 incidents. The spike in property crime in 2007 was attributed to an increase in both larcenies from motor vehicles and auto thefts. In 2011, there was a slight decrease of 1%, leading to the second lowest property crime total in over 20 years (only 2009 was lower).

# 2011 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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## **IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT THE 2011 INDEX TOTAL**

*The Crime Index is composed of selected offenses used to gauge fluctuations in the overall volume and rate of crime reported to police. The offenses included are the violent crimes of murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, and the property crimes of burglary, larceny, and auto theft. The Crime Index was developed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting program to standardize the way in which law enforcement agencies report crime statistics. In 2007, the Cambridge Police converted from UCR submission to entering crime data electronically in to the National Incident Based Reporting System.*

Serious crime decreased by 1% in Cambridge in 2011. There were 47 fewer Part One crimes reported in 2011 than in the previous year. This decline of crime was small, but historic. The 3,567 serious crimes recorded in the City in 2011 represents the lowest total of index crimes reported to the FBI since Congress enacted the Omnibus Crime Control Act in 1968. Prior to 2011, serious crime in Cambridge was at its lowest ebb in 2009 when 3,570 incidents were registered.

When compared with the 2007 total of serious crimes, which was the highest reported in the past 5 years, there were 588 fewer incidents counted in 2011. A detailed analysis of all statistics reveals that there were 46 fewer property crimes reported in 2011 to register a 1% decline when compared with 2010. When measured against the five-year weighted average, property crime was down 5% in 2011. There were 436 violent crimes in the City in 2011, one less incident than in 2010. Compared to the five-year weighted average for violent crime in Cambridge, these types of incidents dropped 2%.

## **MURDER:**

- The first murder in the City in over 20 months was the shooting of a 30-year old Cambridge resident near Central Square on March 12<sup>th</sup> of 2011. Over the final six weeks of 2011, there were four domestic homicides committed in the City. With the suicide of one assailant (triple domestic murder) and the subsequent arrest of the daughter in another domestic homicide, only the March 12<sup>th</sup> shooting remains unsolved.
- Prior to the 2011 incidents, the last homicide to occur in Cambridge took place on June 16, 2009. A 33-year-old Cambridge native was shot down at the Fresh Pond Apartments located at 362/364 Rindge Ave. This incident remains under investigation at the present time. Before this 20-month hiatus between murders in the City, the longest interval between murders in Cambridge since 1960 was the 26 months from March of 2006 to June of 2008.
- Trend analysis for the past twenty years points to two recurring murder scenarios in Cambridge: a domestic murder in which the female spouse is killed by her partner and the murder of young minority males by a handgun or knife in acts of retaliatory street violence.
- Twenty-seven of the thirty-three murders in Cambridge since 1995 (82%) have been cleared by an arrest / suicide of the perpetrator. For comparison, the 2010 clearance rate for murder was 65% nationally and 50% in New England.
- Since 1990, Cambridge has averaged two murders per year, which is a decrease from the 30-year period between 1960 and 1989 when the average was slightly less than five per year.
- Five of the six unsolved murders since 1995 were classified as retaliatory / gang street shootings involving minority males between 19 and 30 years of age.
- Handguns have been used in 16 of the 25 murders in Cambridge since 2000. Eleven were categorized as retaliatory/gang and five were domestic in nature.
- For only the fourth time in the past 50 years, there were no murders recorded in Cambridge in 2010. The three prior years since 1960 without a homicide being reported in Cambridge were 1985, 2004, and 2007.

## **RAPE**

- The total number of rapes for Cambridge in 2011 did not change from the 2010 count, with 23 incidents reported in both years. Eight of the twenty-three sexual assaults reported in 2011 occurred on a calendar date prior to that year. This is a trend that we have been observing over the past few years with 25-33% of the crimes involving domestic or supervisory positioned assailants as suspects being reported long after the original date of the incident.
- Fourteen of the rapes in 2011 involved acquaintances, five were domestic situations, two involved a contact scenario with the offender being someone the victim had met in a public place, and two were stranger-to-stranger rapes, both of which resulted in an arrest

- There were two stranger-to-stranger rapes in Cambridge in 2011. Both incidents were females followed and blitzed in high pedestrian activity areas late at night with the subsequent arrest of the rapist. Timothy Gayhart was arrested on the morning of July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011, and charged with assault with intent to rape and robbery of a Harvard student on JFK Street. On March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012, Gayhart pled guilty to these charges and was sentenced to four to six years in state prison. On March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012, a security guard from Hyde Park was indicted by a Middlesex Grand Jury for assault with intent to rape for an alleged sexual assault that was captured by a surveillance camera on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011, in Canal Park.
- Given the tendency for rape statistics to fluctuate each year, projecting future totals is a risky business at best. The actual number of stranger-to-stranger rapes each year—between two and five—remains extremely low, but for two summers in a row, there have been regional patterns along the Charles River. Rapes will most likely continue to be acquaintance rapes as well as reports of homeless-on-homeless rapes in the area between 240 Albany Street and Central Sq. Patterns of reported rape are very rare in Cambridge.
- Cambridge reported 23 rapes in 2010, up three incidents from the 20 in 2009 and up 35% above the previous five-year weighted average of 17 incidents. The increase in rapes over the past three years can be partly attributed to a surge in domestic and acquaintance sexual assaults where a minor has been involved.

## **ROBBERY**

- In 2011, there were 147 robberies reported, which translates to a 10% decrease when compared with the 2010 total. When measured versus the five-year weighted average of 171 incidents for this crime, it indicates a 14% decline. Further analysis reveals that the most positive trend related to crime indicators for Cambridge in 2011 was that street robbery declined by 20% and that the 113 reported incidents was the lowest total for this crime in over 50 years.
- Robbery has been on a downward spiral since the mid-1980s. The 2011 total is the lowest number recorded since we started measuring crime in the 1960s. This is one crime that is approaching its minimum threshold. New developments in East Cambridge, Kendall Square, and Cambridgeport are likely to increase the residential and commercial population of those areas, possibly counteracting the downward trend in robbery.
- A trend that was identified in 2008 involving the theft of iPods and smart phones by juveniles from their peers at schools, and professional robbers targeting college-age victims walking alone, continued in 2011 and has become the driving factor and motivator of street robberies in this region.
- For the third consecutive year, distinct patterns of street robberies have been identified on the border of Harvard and Central Squares. The majority of the victims were males, between 25 and 30 years of age, walking alone late at night, and using a cell phone or listening to an MP3 player.
- The statistic denoting that commercial robberies rose from 22 incidents in 2010 to 34 crimes in 2011 should be tempered with the knowledge that 2010's total was the second lowest total for this crime reported in Cambridge in decades. Another perspective to examine is that from 1970 to 1990, Cambridge averaged over 100 commercial robberies annually.

## **AGGRAVATED ASSAULT**

- When measuring aggravated assault in 2011 against the five-year weighted average, there has been a small increase of 2%, with six additional incidents registered. When comparing to the previous year for this violent crime type, aggravated assaults have increased by 4%, or 10 incidents above the 2010 total, rising from 251 to 261 assaults.
- Analysis of the past 20 years reveals that aggravated assault reached its peak in the early 1990s. Between 1984 and 1989, Cambridge recorded about 350 incidents per year. In 1990, it jumped an unprecedented 41% to 614 incidents. Domestic assaults, accounting for 25 to 35%, tends to drive the assault total. The late 1980s' spike was a result of the efforts of domestic violence activists in getting victims to report assaults to the police. From its zenith in 1993 of 643 assaults, this target crime fell into a steady decline for the next ten years. Over the past five years, aggravated assaults have leveled off at roughly 250 incidents per year.
- Thirty percent of the aggravated assaults in 2011 were domestic incidents. Over the past seven years, the rate of domestic assaults has ranged from 25-40% of all assaults annually.
- Harvard Square was the top area for bar and alcohol-related assaults in 2011. Assaults at bar closings on weekends in both Harvard and Central Square were a major issue over the first six months of 2011 that were eventually curtailed with extensive saturation patrols applied through the COMPSTAT process.

## **BURGLARY**

- Total burglary, the combination of residential and commercial breaks, registered a 6% incline when compared with the five-year weighted average for this crime with 28 additional incidents recorded, and is up 15% when compared with the 2010 total with 67 more breaks reported.
- One of the more significant trends that were identified in analyzing the crime totals in Cambridge in 2011 was that housebreaks registered a problematic increase of 19% when compared with 2010 and was 11% above the five-year weighted average. Further analysis reveals that part of this incline should be tempered by the fact that 2009's and 2010's totals were historically low – between 50 and 130 fewer housebreaks than the previous three years.
- Construction site/industrial area thieves are a special breed of burglars who know how to select, steal, and sell expensive power tools, building supplies, and heavy equipment. They are often in the construction trade themselves. Construction site and industrial area burglaries increased by 450% from 2005 to 2006, due mainly to increases in thefts of copper products. Over the past few years, this crime has dropped dramatically in Cambridge. A few sporadic patterns were identified in Cambridge in 2011 and this crime type remains a severe national and regional problem.
- In a typical year, 5-10% of all housebreaks in Cambridge are perpetrated by family, friends, common tenants, houseguests, and other acquaintances. In 2011, this accounted for only about 4% of the incidents.

## **LARCENY**

- The property crime of larceny fell by 4% when measured versus the 2010 total and 6% as compared to the five-year weighted average. There were 102 fewer larcenies in Cambridge in 2011 than the previous year.
- Larceny is always the most prevalent of the Part One crimes in Cambridge. In 2011, it accounted for 69% of the serious crime reported and 78% of the property crime. Three categories of larceny that produce some of the highest numbers each year (larceny from motor vehicles, buildings, and persons) are often fueled by changes in technology. As electronic equipment such as laptops, GPS units, and portable music players become more popular and evolve, they become easier targets, easier to conceal, and thus easier to sell.
- Larcenies from motor vehicles were down 18% when compared with the 2010 figures. The 2011 total of 639 larcenies from motor vehicles was down 31% when compared with the five-year weighted average for this target crime. There were 291 fewer LMVs in Cambridge in 2011 when measured against the average over the past five years.
- It should be noted that larcenies from persons citywide were down 6% in 2011 and are registering a 6% decline when measured against the five-year weighted average for this target crime. Directed patrol strategies instituted through COMPSTAT produced positive results.
- The proliferation of laptop computers—a product easily identified, easily stolen, easily concealed, and easily sold—guarantees further thefts of this hot property from businesses and cars, and a strong market for cellular telephones and car stereos—despite the decline of fencing operations for other merchandise—drives our high larceny from motor vehicle rate.
- Larceny of bicycles was down 3% in 2011 when compared with the previous year, with ten fewer thefts reported. For the second year in a row, this property crime rose significantly (23%) above the five-year year weighted average for this type of larceny, reflecting the escalation observed on regional and national levels.

## **AUTO THEFT**

- The number of vehicles stolen in Cambridge dropped by 11 incidents, or 7%, to 158 incidents in 2011. This is the lowest auto theft total the City has seen in 50 years. This is a record low for a city that used to see staggering auto theft numbers—in 1974 there were 5,203 cars reported stolen, nearly 1.5 times the total of all crimes reported in 2011.
- The neighborhood of Cambridgeport recorded the highest number of auto thefts in 2011 with 29 reported stolen, followed by East Cambridge and Mid-Cambridge, each with 22 incidents.
- Very few auto theft patterns have been identified over the past decade. Hot spot clusters have been observed in and around the neighborhoods of Central Square (Area 4, Cambridgeport, and Riverside), but no determinant spatial or temporal trend has been noted.
- In 2011, 64% of the cars reported stolen in Cambridge have been recovered to date, which represents a decline from the average of around 70% for previous years. The majority of the recovered cars were located throughout Cambridge and Boston, and the majority of the damage to the recovered vehicles was to the ignition and car body.

## CITYWIDE SHOOTING VICTIMS IN 2011

- There were four shootings in 2011 producing seven victims with gunshot wounds. Two of the shooting incidents were in Area 4, one was in Cambridgeport, and one was in Strawberry Hill.
- The shooting incident in Cambridgeport resulted in the first homicide in Cambridge in over 20 months when a 30-year-old Cambridge male was shot and killed in a vehicle in Central Square in March. The homicide victim's cousin was also shot during the incident, but he survived.
- The shooting in Strawberry Hill was a domestic incident in which three family members were shot and killed. The suspect then turned the gun on himself in Brighton that night.
- The gunshot victims this year were comprised of five males between the ages of 21 and 63 and two females ages 54 and 91. Only three of the victims were Cambridge residents; the others were from Arlington, Brookline, Lexington, and Somerville.
- The number of shootings reported in 2011 (four) is the same as what was reported in 2010, but the shooting characteristics were notably different. In 2010, only four victims resulted from those four shootings and no one died. In 2011, the four shootings produced seven victims, four of whom succumbed to fatal wounds.
- No arrests have been made in any of the shootings this year. However, the suspect in the domestic homicide shot and killed himself following the incident, so that case has been closed. The other incidents remain under investigation.

## REGIONAL/NATIONAL CRIME COMPARISON

\*Note that the following tables are based on information from the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports and the latest available data available for comparison was from 2010.\*

### 2010\* TOTAL NUMBER AND RATE OF CRIMES IN SELECT MASSACHUSETTS CITIES AND TOWNS

	<i>Population</i>	<i>Murder</i>	<i>Rape</i>	<i>Robbery</i>	<i>Assault</i>	<i>Burglary</i>	<i>Larceny</i>	<i>Auto Theft</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total Rate**</i>
Brookline	55,751	0	3	30	128	149	656	23	989	1,774
Everett	37,897	3	13	70	134	320	767	109	1,416	3,736
Framingham	66,493	0	5	25	159	313	1,025	71	1,598	2,403
Haverhill	61,179	2	24	26	298	822	682	121	1,975	3,228
Lawrence	69,679	10	12	161	448	662	956	769	3,018	4,331
Lowell	103,065	1	51	190	949	893	2,285	406	4,775	4,633
Lynn	86,340	3	41	208	512	595	1,595	306	3,260	3,776
Malden	55,540	2	11	85	184	405	961	121	1,769	3,185
New Bedford	89,613	3	69	272	816	1,237	1,974	388	4,759	5,311
Newton	83,781	0	6	15	65	170	1,016	26	1,298	1,549
Quincy	90,304	11	22	112	269	505	1,152	125	2,196	2,432
Somerville	75,585	0	12	71	155	486	1,274	165	2,163	2,862
Waltham	60,106	2	13	24	112	200	759	73	1,183	1,968
Average <sup>1</sup>	71,949	3	22	99	325	520	1,162	208	2,338	3,168
<b>Cambridge</b>	<b>105,162</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>2,555</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>3,614</b>	<b>3,437</b>

<sup>1</sup>This average does not include Cambridge, in order to accurately compare the average to the numbers reported in Cambridge.

\*Statistics for 2010 for select Massachusetts cities are the latest available for comparative analysis with Cambridge.

\*\*Rate is calculated per 100,000 residents.

There were approximately 3,437 crimes per 100,000 residents in Cambridge in 2010. Note that this number does not reflect the increased daytime population, which exceeds 150,000 people on any given day.

# NATIONAL/REGIONAL CRIME COMPARISON

\*Note that the following tables are based on information from the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports and the latest available data available for comparison was from 2010.\*

## 2010 CRIMES IN CITIES OF 100,000-110,000 RESIDENTS, NATIONWIDE

<i>City</i>	<i>Murder</i>	<i>Rape</i>	<i>Robbery</i>	<i>Assault</i>	<i>Burglary</i>	<i>Larceny</i>	<i>Auto Theft</i>	<i>Total</i>
Allentown, PA	9	67	460	196	1,327	3,345	417	5,821
Amherst Town, NY	2	8	33	76	218	1,801	47	2,185
Arvada, CO	1	30	28	76	386	2,123	207	2,851
Beaumont, TX	10	65	312	513	1,611	4,041	289	6,841
Berkeley, CA	5	23	365	140	1,088	4,240	615	6,476
Burbank, CA	0	13	98	110	478	1,933	276	2,908
Carlsbad, CA	0	20	41	134	399	1,313	108	2,015
Clearwater, FL	5	35	245	490	777	3,360	201	5,113
Daly City, CA	2	9	105	134	332	1,152	320	2,054
Davenport, IA	2	59	209	595	1,148	3,521	225	5,759
Edison Township, NJ	2	5	52	82	334	1,220	155	1,850
Elgin, IL	4	86	99	166	425	1,653	108	2,541
Erie, PA	12	78	173	228	1,106	2,245	139	3,981
Fairfield, CA	8	18	185	291	757	2,169	469	3,897
Flint, MI	53	92	670	1597	3,648	1,936	653	8,649
Green Bay, WI	2	54	67	247	568	1,917	110	2,965
Gresham, OR	7	42	176	245	674	2,714	667	4,525
High Point, NC	2	28	220	358	1,313	3,346	220	5,487
Lowell, MA	1	51	190	949	893	2,285	406	4,775
Manchester, NH	1	62	154	327	907	2,687	160	4,298
Midland, TX	2	44	65	296	893	2,558	148	4,006
Murfreesboro, TN	5	37	151	410	1,310	3,144	156	5,213
Norwalk, CA	4	14	159	272	438	1,040	594	2,521
Odessa, TX	3	36	96	591	824	2,508	191	4,249
Palm Bay, FL	4	19	60	438	740	1,622	98	2,981
Pueblo, CO	1	30	157	697	1,622	2,899	451	5,857
Richmond, CA	21	44	405	706	1,521	1,506	1,596	5,799
South Bend, IN	6	52	339	349	2,216	3,411	302	6,675
Temecula, CA	2	3	42	27	535	1,642	174	2,425
Ventura, CA	3	16	108	136	652	2,654	152	3,721
Waterbury, CT	5	6	176	179	781	3,441	424	5,012
West Jordan, UT	1	37	54	165	469	2,410	224	3,360
West Palm Beach, FL	19	49	264	457	1,246	3,415	391	5,841
Westminster, CO	1	34	48	148	529	2,395	326	3,481
Wichita Falls, TX	7	44	133	279	1,317	3,710	287	5,777
Wilmington, NC	5	47	282	390	1,447	3,781	478	6,430
<b>Average*</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>2,532</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>4,399</b>
<b>Cambridge, MA</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>2,555</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>3,614</b>

\* This average does not include Cambridge, in order to accurately compare the averages to the numbers reported in Cambridge.



Among similarly sized cities in 2010, Cambridge ranked below the nationwide *average* for all of the index crimes, with the exception of Larcenies. Overall, the total number of serious crimes in Cambridge registered roughly 18% below the national average of similarly sized cities listed in the chart above. Again, statistics for 2010 are the latest available from cities of similar size to Cambridge for comparative analysis.

**How Cambridge compared nationally in 2010 (to similarly-sized cities selected in chart above):**

- ↓ **Murder:** 100% lower than the national average.
- ↓ **Rape:** 39% lower than the national average.
- ↓ **Robbery:** 8% lower than the national average.
- ↓ **Assault:** 28% below the national average.
- ↓ **Burglary:** 53% below the national average, continuing the downward trend, which began in the early 1980s.
- ↑ **Larceny:** 1% above the national average. Larceny typically accounts for the highest percentage of index crimes in Cambridge.
- ↓ **Auto Theft:** 48% below the national average.

# FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO CRIME

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Throughout the 2011 Annual Report, the Department tries to place statistics in context—to explain *why* crime occurs in a particular area, instead of just where and how often. It is impossible, however, to analyze every crime factor within the pages of this report. As a general rule, readers should consider the following factors when gauging the relative safety of any city, neighborhood, or business district. The FBI, in its Uniform Crime Reports, provides most of these factors:

<b>Factor</b>	<b>General Effect</b>	<b>Status in Cambridge</b>	<b>Effects in Cambridge</b>
<b>Residential Population &amp; Population Density</b>	High population leads to a higher residential crime rate (residential burglaries, larcenies from motor vehicles, domestic assaults, auto theft). High population <i>density</i> also leads to a higher residential crime rate.	Population of about 105,000; Very high density (about 16,000 per square mile).	Higher residential crime rate than cities of fewer than 100,000. Higher residential crime rate in densely populated neighborhoods of Mid-Cambridge, North Cambridge, Cambridgeport. Low residential crime rate in sparsely populated areas of Cambridge Highlands, Strawberry Hill, Agassiz.
<b>Commerical &amp; Educational Population, number &amp; type of commercial establishments and educational institutions</b>	High commercial population leads to more “business” crimes (commercial burglaries, shoplifting, larcenies from buildings, forgery) and to more crimes against the person often committed in commercial areas (larcenies from the person, larcenies from motor vehicles, larcenies of bicycles, street robbery, auto theft).	Very high commercial population (many large businesses, shopping areas in Cambridge) and very high educational population (M.I.T. and Harvard).	High overall larceny rate. High larceny rate in highly-populated commercial areas of East Cambridge, Harvard Square, Central Square, Porter Square, Fresh Pond Mall. High auto theft rate in East Cambridge, MIT Area. Low larceny, auto theft rate in Agassiz, Strawberry Hill, West Cambridge.
<b>Age composition of population</b>	A higher population in the “at risk” age of 15–24 leads to a higher crime rate.	23% of the citizens of Cambridge are in the “at risk” population. This number is influenced by the high student population.	Agassiz, MIT, and Riverside have the largest percentage of people in the “at risk” ages, but most of them are college students, which somewhat decreases their chances of involvement in criminal activity. Consequently, Agassiz, MIT, and Riverside do not have higher than average crime rates. However, neighborhoods with the lowest numbers of “at risk” ages—West Cambridge, Cambridge Highlands, and Strawberry Hill— <i>do</i> experience smaller amounts of crime.
<b>Stability of Population</b>	Stable, close-knit populations have a lower overall crime rate than transient populations. Neighborhoods with more houses and condominiums (generally signifying a more stable population) have a lower crime rate than neighborhoods with mostly apartments (generally a more transient population).	Historically, more stable population west of Harvard Square; more transient population east of Harvard Square. This is changing rapidly with gentrification taking place in neighborhoods adjacent to Central Square.	Lower comparative crime rate in neighborhoods of West Cambridge, Highlands, Peabody, Agassiz, Strawberry Hill. Higher comparative crime rate in Mid-Cambridge, Area 4, Cambridgeport. This, however, is changing with the stabilization and gentrification of housing in these areas.
<b>Street Layout</b>	Areas with major streets offering fast getaways and mass transportation show more crime clusters than neighborhoods with primarily residential streets.	A mix of major and minor streets.	Higher auto theft rates in MIT, East Cambridge, Cambridgeport, where thieves can make a quick escape over the bridges into Boston. Higher commercial burglary rate in North Cambridge, with multiple avenues of escape into nearby towns.

<b>Proximity to Public Transportation</b>	Criminals are often indigent and cannot afford cars or other expensive forms of transportation. Areas near public transportation, particularly subways, witness a higher crime rate—particularly robbery and larceny—than more inaccessible areas.	Major public transportation system offering high-speed rapid transit throughout most of the city.	Contributes to clusters of crime around Central Square, Harvard Square, Porter Square, and Alewife, though not much around Lechmere and Kendall Square. Neighborhoods distant from rapid transit—West Cambridge, Highlands, and Strawberry Hill—show lower crime rates with few clusters.
<b>Economic conditions, including poverty level and unemployment rate</b>	Again, criminals are often indigent. Areas afflicted by poverty show higher burglary, robbery, and larceny rates than middle-class or wealthy neighborhoods.	Little abject poverty in Cambridge. This factor probably contributes little to the picture of crime in Cambridge.	Possibly some effect on Area 4—the neighborhood with the lowest mean income—though Strawberry Hill, which has the second lowest mean income, also has one of the lowest crime rates in the city. Other factors on this list probably have a much greater role than economic conditions.
<b>Family conditions with respect to divorce and family cohesiveness</b>	Larry J. Siegel, author of <i>Criminology</i> , says: “Family relationships have for some time been considered a major determinant of behavior. Youths who grow up in a household characterized by conflict and tension, where parents are absent or separated, or where there is a lack of familial love and support, will be susceptible to the crime-promoting forces in the environment.”	According to census data, about one third of the families in Cambridge with children are single-parent families. In the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a whole, this percentage is slightly less—about one quarter.	The neighborhoods with the highest percentage of single-parent families are Area 4, Cambridgeport, Riverside, and North Cambridge. With the exception of Riverside, these neighborhoods also have a higher than mean crime rate. However, there are a far greater number of factors influencing “conflict and tension” and “familial love and support” than just the number of parents in the household. In the end, no conclusions can be drawn without more data.
<b>Climate</b>	Warmer climates and seasons tend to report a higher rate of larceny, auto theft, and juvenile-related crime, while cold seasons and climates report more robberies and murder.	A varied climate; warm and moist summers, cool autums, long cold winters.	High overall larceny, auto theft rate in the summer. Higher overall robbery rate in the winter. Burglary rate less tied to climate than to specific weather conditions; rain and snow produce fewer burglaries.
<b>Operational and investigative emphasis of the police department</b>	Problem-oriented, informed police departments have more success controlling certain aspects of crime than other departments.	A problem-oriented department with an emphasis on directed patrol and investigation, and on crime analysis, including quick identification of crime patterns and rapid intervention to curtail them.	Lower overall crime rate across the city than would be expected for a city of our size and characteristics.
<b>Attitude of the citizenry toward crime, including its reporting practices</b>	Populations that have “given up” on crime and the police experience an exacerbation of the crime problem.	A population that works closely with the police, creates numerous neighborhood crime watches, and is likely to report crimes.	Lower overall crime rate across the city than would be expected for a city of our size and characteristics.



# SECTION I

## PART I CRIMES

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- **MURDER**
- **RAPE**
- **ROBBERY**
- **ASSAULT**
- **BURGLARY**
- **LARCENY**
- **AUTO THEFT**



THE FOLLOWING IS AN OVERVIEW  
OF ALL PART I CRIMES IN THE  
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE



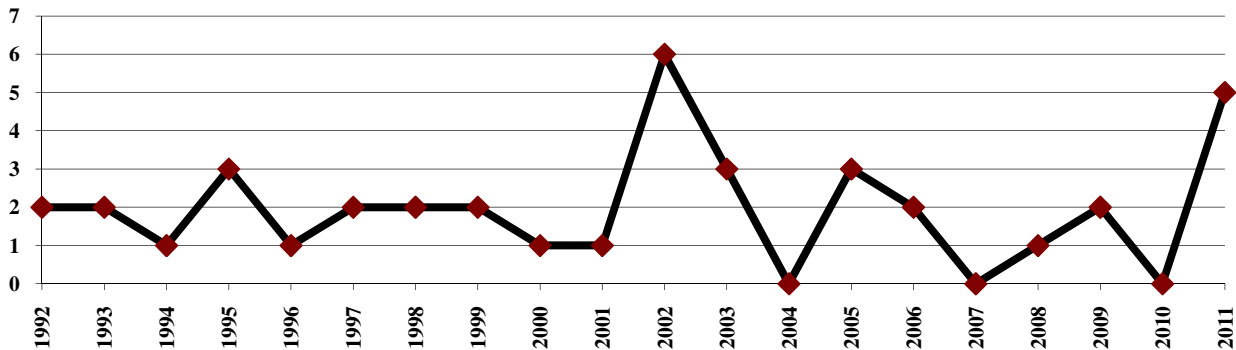


# MURDER

## OR NON-NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER

Murder and non-negligent manslaughter are defined in the Uniform Crime Reporting Program as the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. The classification of this offense, as for all other Crime Index Offenses, is based solely on police investigation as opposed to the determination of a court, medical examiner, coroner, jury, or other judicial body. Not included in the count for this offense classification are deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident; justifiable homicides; and attempts to murder or assaults with the intent to murder, which are scored as aggravated assaults.

Twenty Year Review:  
Murder in Cambridge, 1992-2011



\*Note that this graph represents the total number of individuals murdered in Cambridge, rather than the total number of incidents. (One incident can have multiple victims).

**0 reported in 2010 • 5 reported in 2011**

The first murder in the City in over 20 months was the shooting of a 30-year old Cambridge resident James Lauture near Central Square on March 12, 2011. The city then remained homicide-free for most of the year, until the final six weeks of 2011 when four individuals were killed in two separate domestic homicide incidents. Cambridge resident Gylene Verna, 29, was arrested after she allegedly strangled her 62-year-old father, Guy Verna, to death in her Elm St apartment on November 20, 2011. Then on December 9, 2011, retired Bedford police officer John Brosnahan reportedly shot three family members, ages 52 to 91, during a disagreement at his Grove St home. Brosnahan died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound later that day. Only the March 12<sup>th</sup> shooting remains unsolved.

Prior to the 2011 incidents, the last homicide to occur in Cambridge took place on June 16, 2009. A 33-year-old Cambridge native, Jason Ellcock, was shot down at the Fresh Pond Apartments located at 362/364 Rindge Ave. This incident remains under investigation at the present time. This interval between murders is the second longest Cambridge has seen in 50 years.

### 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. Nationally, cities of 100,000 residents average 10 murders each year. Trend analysis over the past few years points to three recurring murder scenarios in Cambridge: domestic murder, in which one spouse is brutally killed by the other in a homicidal rage; arguments among the homeless that, often fueled by drugs or alcohol, escalate into deadly violence; and the murder of young males by a handgun or knife in acts of retaliatory street violence.

### CAMBRIDGE MURDER STATISTICS, 1990-2011

- 47 people murdered in 42 incidents (in 4 of the incidents, 2 or more people were killed)
- 30 victims were male (average age of 33)
- 17 victims were female (average age of 45)
- Most common weapons: handguns (21 incidents) and knives (11 incidents)
- 13 of the 42 cases are still under investigation or remain unsolved.
- 16 of the 21 murders since 2000 have been cleared by arrest.

# Murder in Cambridge, 1990 – 2011

Date & Time	Location	Victim(s)	Offender(s)/ Suspect(s)	Story	Status
1/25/90 01:00	Windsor St. & School St. (Area 4)	Jessie McKie, 21 and Rigoberto Carrion, 30, of Cambridge	Ventrey Gordon, 20, and Sean Lee, 21, of Mattapan.	McKie and Carrion were walking on the street when a group of men approached them. The men tried to steal McKie's leather jacket and stabbed both victims to death.	Gordon and Lee both convicted of murder. One other man convicted of accessory to murder. A fourth man tried and acquitted.
4/3/90 00:00 to 06:00	100 Pacific St. (Cambridgeport)	Jacqueline W. Blenman, 39, of Cambridge	Unknown	The victim was found strangled and dumped on the street.	Unsolved
3/15/91 23:00	97 Hampshire St. (Inman/Harrington)	Uri Woods, 29, of Cambridge	Unknown	The victim was shot to death on the street.	Unsolved
4/4/91 20:58	Sparks St. & Brewster St. (West Cambridge)	Mary Joe Frug, 49, of Cambridge	A white male in his 20's in a black leather jacket	Frug was walking a few blocks from her residence when an unknown assailant stabbed her to death.	Unsolved
5/7/91	Porter Square (North Cambridge)	Derrick Chance, 24, of Cambridge	Courtney Lewis, 24, of Cambridge	The victim was slashed to death with a razor during an argument in a fast food restaurant.	Lewis was convicted of manslaughter.
9/29/91 03:30	16 Mildred Hamilton Pl. (Riverside)	Bobbie Schley, 45, of Cambridge	Morris King, 48, of Barbados	Schley was stabbed to death in an argument with King, her boyfriend.	King was convicted of murder.
12/5/91 15:00	162 Hampshire St. (Area 4)	Esther Olofson, 49, of Cambridge	Unknown	Olofson was reported missing by her friends and family. Her body was later found in her bed. She had apparently been strangled.	Unsolved
9/19/92 20:30	Massachusetts Av. & Memorial Dr. (MIT)	Yngye Raustein, 21, an MIT student	Shon McHugh, 16; Joseph Donovan, 17; and Alfredo Velez, 18, all of Cambridge	Raustein was stabbed to death in a robbery gone sour.	All three suspects were convicted of murder
11/28/92 00:30	Cambridge St. & Columbia St. (Inman/Harrington)	Tyrone Phoenix, 18, of Dorchester	Shawn Carter, 21, of Cambridge	Phoenix and other youths were driving in Cambridge. When they came to a stoplight, Carter came over and tapped on the window. After being told to get away from the car, he pulled out a pistol and started shooting.	Carter was convicted of murder
9/22/93 21:30	324 Rindge Ave. (North Cambridge)	Michael Garner, 23, of Cambridge	Three young black males	Michael Garner was walking home when three young black males confronted him and tried to rob him of his gold chains. The robbery went astray, and Garner was shot twice and killed.	Unsolved
9/25/93 19:30	160 Elm St. (Inman/Harrington)	Rosalie Whalen, 54, of Cambridge	Dennis Whalen, 54, of Cambridge	Whalen bludgeoned his wife to death with a hammer.	Whalen was convicted of murder
3/31/94 16:00	Rear of CASPAR shelter, 240 Albany St. (Cambridgeport)	Edward Semino	Unknown	The victim was beaten to death in a fight between homeless people.	Unsolved
1/24/95	700 Huron Ave. (Strawberry Hill)	Claire Downing, 60, of Cambridge	Ken Downing, 62, of Cambridge	Downing beat his wheelchair-bound wife to death with a blunt object.	Downing was tried and convicted of murder
5/30/95 08:00	Harvard University Dunster House (Riverside)	Trang Phuong Ho, 22, Harvard student	Sinedu Tadesse, Harvard student	After Ho told Tadesse she did not want to room with her the following year, Tadesse stabbed Ho to death and then hung herself.	Tadesse committed suicide.
8/9/95 15:30	304 Prospect St. (Inman/Harrington)	Lilia Fagundes, 42, owner of market	Black male, 15-16 years old, with a thin build	Fagundes was shot to death in her store, possibly in a robbery gone awry	Unsolved
11/22/96 18:40	1033 Massachusetts Ave. (Mid-Cambridge)	Laurence Cooper, 50s, a homeless veteran	Richard Kachadorian, 50, of Cambridge	Kachadorian stabbed Cooper in the throat and chest during a street argument.	Kachadorian was tried and convicted of murder
3/26/97 01:25	East Street trailer yards (East Cambridge)	Helena Gardner, 19, homeless	Nicole Fernandes, 19, homeless; Randy Williams, homeless; Mark McCray, homeless	Fernandes lured Gardner, with the promise of a drink, to an abandoned trailer. Fernandes bound Gardner to a chair, whipped her with a metal rod and rose thorns, and then bludgeoned her to death with a sledgehammer before setting the trailer on fire. The two men watched.	All three suspects were convicted of murder.
8/19/97 20:55	Hoyt Field (Riverside)	Benny Rosa, 19, of Cambridge	Anthony Cole, 20, and Craig Joseph, 25, of Boston	Cole and Joseph encountered each other in Hoyt Field and fired on each other. Rosa was caught in the crossfire. Two others were wounded.	Cole was convicted of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder and Joseph was convicted of 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder.

Date & Time	Location	Victim(s)	Offender(s)/ Suspect(s)	Story	Status
10/16/98 10:56	157 Fifth St. (East Cambridge)	Joseph Beranger, 64, and Mary Beranger, 64, of California	John J. Hinds, 56, of Cambridge	Hinds and his half-brother, Joseph, and sister were involved in an on-going dispute over their mother and her residence. At the time of the incident, Joseph and his wife Mary were on their way to see their mother. Hinds got there first, an argument ensued, and Hinds shot his sister in the head. Then he fatally shot Joseph and Mary Beranger.	Hinds was convicted of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder.
9/18/99 03:15	496 Massachusetts Ave. (Cambridgeport)	Colin Burton, 30, of Dorchester	2 or more black males in a Ford Explorer	Burton and two friends stopped at Hi-Fi Pizza in Central Square. A green Ford Explorer pulled up outside the restaurant. While Burton was talking with the occupants, he banged on the hood of the vehicle. The man in the passenger seat fired through the open window, striking Burton once in the chest. Burton died the following Monday.	Under active investigation
12/23/99 17:10	CambridgeSide Galleria parking garage (East Cambridge)	Gary M. Chatelain, 20, of Roslindale	Jose N. Correia, 20, of Roxbury	Chatelain and Correia, known to each other, were part of two groups involved in a fight in the garage. Corria shot Chatelain in the chest.	Correia was convicted of manslaughter.
7/6/2000 02:06	101 Hampshire St. (Inman/ Harrington)	Jeffrey Williams, 33, of Cambridge	Frederick J. Howard, 22, of Cambridge	Police responded to a call that someone had been shot in the leg at 101 Hampshire St. Once on scene Williams was found shot in the chest and died later at Mass General Hospital. A suspect identified as Howard was seen running away from the scene. The victim had called a friend stating that the man and woman he was out with were arguing and that he had escorted the woman back to her residence.	Howard pled guilty to voluntary manslaughter.
1/7/2001 14:30	Jefferson Park (North Cambridge)	11-month old female	John Forbes, 30, of Roxbury	Cambridge police and fire units responded to an apartment in Jefferson Park. When officers arrived, they found an eleven-month-old baby lying on the bed unresponsive and not breathing. The baby was transported to the hospital, but later died. The baby's father, John Forbes of Roxbury stated that the baby had choked on an orange peel. The medical examiner determined that the infant had died from massive trauma to her head, consistent with "shaken baby" syndrome.	Forbes was convicted of 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder.
2/11/2002 02:30	522 Massachusetts Ave. (Cambridgeport)	Azedine Lachhab, 42, of East Boston	Jason Girouard, 32, of Waltham	Lachhab died after 11 days in the hospital from severe head trauma that resulted from a fight at the Hi-Fi in Central Square.	Girouard was found not guilty at trial.
4/5/2002 01:48	315 Massachusetts Ave. (Area 4)	Ian Gray, 19, of Mattapan	Black male	An argument that transpired inside the Rhythm & Spice restaurant spilled out onto Mass Ave. One person left the scene of the argument and then returned with 7-8 more people when a fight ensued. A knife was produced during the fight, and four gunshots were fired, fatally wounding Gray.	Under Active Investigation
4/17/2002 22:43	16 Worcester St. (Area 4)	Desiree Saunders, 36, of Cambridge	Scott Saunders, 37, of Cambridge	Police arrived to the scene to find the victim lying on her back in her bed with gunshot wounds. Her assailant and husband was found at the foot of the bed with one gunshot wound to his head after he had committed suicide.	Scott Saunders committed suicide.
6/17/2002 19:04	167 Windsor St. (Area 4)	Ricardo Williams, 27, of Malden	Unknown	Police responded to possible gunshots to find Williams in the driver's seat of a 2002 Infiniti with gunshot wounds to the left side of his face. Williams was taken to Cambridge City Hospital where he was pronounced dead.	Under Active Investigation
6/18/2002 17:55	Aberdeen Ave. & Huron Ave. (Strawberry Hill)	Sean A. Howard, 19, of Dorchester	Andrew Power-Koch, 20, of Cambridge	Power-Koch confessed to accidentally shooting his best friend, Howard, in the chest at the railroad track area of Aberdeen Ave.	Power-Koch was found guilty of manslaughter.
10/21/2002 02:40	29 Newtowne Ct. (Area 4)	Gregory Robinson of Boston	Anthony Jakes, 23, of Milton	Robinson and Jakes got into an altercation in front of the victim's apartment. Jakes then stabbed Robinson and fled. Jakes later turned himself into police custody. Robinson was taken to Mass General Hospital where he died the following day.	Jakes was found not guilty at trial.
4/12/2003 01:52	Western Ave. & Jay St. (Riverside)	Michael Colono, 18, of Cambridge	Alexander Pring-Wilson, 25, of Cambridge	Colono and Pring-Wilson were outside of the Pizza Ring when they got into a verbal altercation. The altercation escalated and Pring-Wilson stabbed Colono to death.	In a retrial, Pring-Wilson pled guilty to involuntary manslaughter and was sentenced to 2 years in prison.
6/8/2003 15:55	2067 Mass. Ave. (North Cambridge)	Robert Scott, 26, of Cambridge	Markendy Jean, 26, of Malden	Scott was waiting for the bus with his girlfriend when Jean started shooting at him. Scott ran into the parking lot of the Kentucky Fried Chicken while Jean continued to shoot, striking him and killing him on scene. Jean fled to Florida but later turned himself in to authorities.	Jean was convicted of 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder and sentenced to life in prison.

Date & Time	Location	Victim(s)	Offender(s)/ Suspect(s)	Story	Status
11/24/2003 00:30	124 Berkshire St. (Inman/Harrington)	Mary Toomey, 75, of Cambridge	Anthony DiBenedetto, 47, of Cambridge	DiBenedetto had been living with Toomey for about seven years when they got into an argument and DiBenedetto stabbed Toomey in the neck. Toomey fell to the ground and DiBenedetto then stabbed her in the back two times and put her body in a duffle bag. Police later found the duffle bag in Toomey's apartment and arrested DiBenedetto.	DiBenedetto was sentenced to life in prison.
2/24/2005 14:15	152 Berkshire St. (Inman/ Harrington)	Andrea Harvey, 27, of Cambridge	Damion Linton, of Cambridge	Linton was charged with strangling his wife of one year. Her body was found by her parents in her apartment in Inman Square.	Linton was sentenced to life in prison without parole.
8/6/2005 12:14	17 Warren St. (Inman/ Harrington)	Regina Antoine, 8 & Benita Antoine, 76, both of Cambridge	Kevin Robinson, of Cambridge	Robinson was charged with murder and arson after using gasoline to light a building on fire, causing the deaths of a grandmother and her young granddaughter.	Robinson was found guilty of two counts of 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder.
3/18/2006 23:53	144 Hamilton St. (Cambridgeport)	Corey Davis, 19, of Cambridge	Ahmad Bright, 17, of Dorchester, Sherrod Bright, 22, of Dorchester, and Remele Ahart, 21, of Chelsea	Davis and his cousin were walking down Hamilton St. when a car drove past and someone opened fire on them, striking and killing Davis. Ahart and Ahmad Bright were arrested in connection with this shooting in June 2006. Sherrod Bright was arrested in Nov. 2008.	Ahart was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder. A. Bright was found guilty of 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder. S. Bright pled guilty to manslaughter.
3/28/2006 01:13	512 Mass Ave (Cambridgeport)	Doowensky Nazaire, 22, of Somerville	Elysee Bresilla, 28, of Roslindale	Nazaire died from two gunshot wounds to the upper torso after Bresilla allegedly shot him while he was standing in front of the <i>Phoenix Landing</i> .	Bresilla was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder and sentenced to life in prison without parole.
6/26/2008 22:49	211 Elm St E. (Inman/Harrington)	Steven Raftery, 42, of Cambridge	James Foley, 39, of Cambridge	Foley allegedly stabbed Raftery two times in the chest during an argument in the basement at this address. Raftery was pronounced dead at the scene and Foley was arrested the next day.	Foley was found guilty of 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder and sentenced to life in prison.
1/28/2009 10:15	26 Smith Pl. (Highlands)	Maurice Ricketts, 33, of Malden	Clyde Howard, 65, of Brookline	Howard and Ricketts were in a verbal dispute when Howard pulled out a handgun and shot Ricketts in the head. Ricketts was transported to the hospital and pronounced dead shortly thereafter.	Howard was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder.
5/18/2009 16:45	Dunster St & Mt. Auburn St <b>(HARVARD UNIV. CRIME)</b>	Justin Cosby, 21, of Cambridge	Jabrai Jordan Copney, 20, Blayn Jiggetts, 19, and Jason Aquino, 23, all from New York	Cosby was shot and killed inside Kirkland House (a Harvard University dormitory) during a drug-related robbery perpetrated by Copney, Jiggetts, and Aquino. Copney was the alleged shooter.	Copney was found guilty of 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder. Jiggetts and Aquino both pled guilty to manslaughter.
6/16/2009 03:05	341 Rindge Ave (North Cambridge)	Jason Ellcock, 33, formerly of Cambridge	Unknown	Jason Ellcock was found with multiple gunshot wounds in front of the driveway to 362/364 Rindge Ave. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Incident remains under investigation.	Ongoing investigation
3/12/2011 00:15	Watson St & Brookline St (Cambridgeport)	James Lauture, 30, of Cambridge	Unknown	Lauture was shot and killed while sitting in the driver's seat of a vehicle parked at Watson & Brookline St.	Ongoing investigation
11/20/2011 10:30	77 Elm St (Area 4)	Guy Verna, 62, of Cambridge	Gylene Verna, 29, of Cambridge	Gylene Verna allegedly strangled and killed her father, Guy Verna, during a verbal altercation at her apartment.	Verna is awaiting trial.
12/9/2011 18:35	161 Grove St (Strawberry Hill)	Mary Pizzuto, 91, of Cambridge, Patrick Pizzuto, 63, of Lexington, & Robert Pizzuto, 52, of Arlington	John Brosnahan, 68, of Cambridge	John Brosnahan, a retired Bedford police officer, allegedly shot and killed his mother-in-law and two of his brothers-in-law during a disagreement at his residence. Brosnahan fled the scene and was found later that evening in Brighton where he died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.	John Brosnahan committed suicide.

### **MURDER ACROSS THE STATE & NATION IN 2010\***

In 2010, the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports recorded an estimated 14,748 murders nationwide, representing a decrease of 4.2% from the 15,399 homicides reported in 2009. When population is taken into account, the murder rate experienced a decrease of 4.8% from the previous year. Over the past 10 years (from 2001 to 2010), the national murder rate has dropped 15%.

The murder rate in Massachusetts is well below that for the nation as a whole. In 2010, Massachusetts reported 3.2 murders per 100,000 residents, while the national rate in 2010 was 4.8 per 100,000. Boston experiences the majority of the state's homicides, as it did in 2010 with 73 homicides, which is up 46% over 2009. None of the towns surrounding Cambridge (Arlington, Belmont, Brookline, Somerville, and Watertown) reported any homicides in 2010. Only a few Massachusetts cities and towns reported more than two murders in 2010. Those reporting four or more were Boston (73), Springfield (16), Quincy (11), Lawrence (10), Brockton (9), Chelsea (8), Worcester (7), Fall River (5), Holyoke (4), and Winchester (4).

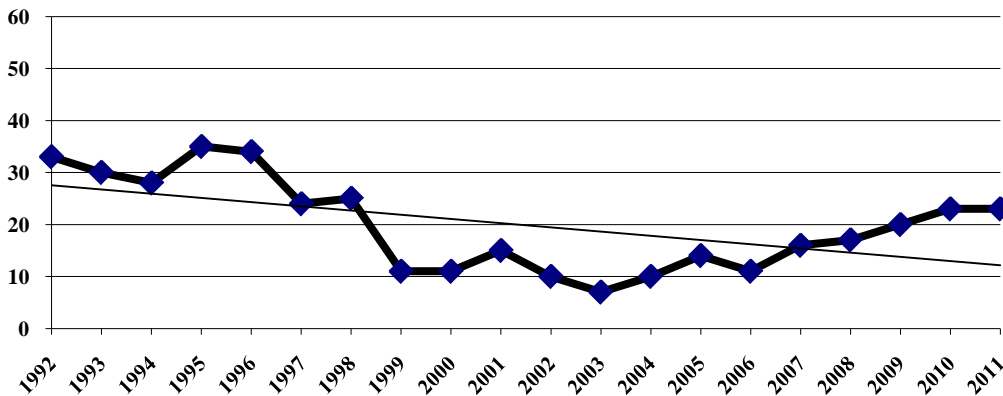
\*Statistics for 2011 are not yet available.

# R A P E

The Uniform Crime Reporting Program defines rape as “the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will.”\* Attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force, and assaults with the intent to commit rape, are also included; however, statutory rape (without force) and other sex offenses are excluded.

\* In addition, by definition, “sexual attacks on males are excluded from the rape category and must be classified as assaults or other sex offenses depending on the nature of the crime and the extent of injury.” However, in NIBRS, which Cambridge began using to submit crime data in 2007, “a sexual assault on a male by a female could be classified as a forcible rape, depending on the nature of the attack and the extent of the injury.”

**Twenty Year Review:  
Rape in Cambridge, 1992-2011**



**23 reported in 2010 • 23 reported in 2011**

The Cambridge Police Department’s Sexual Assault Unit reports that there were 23 rapes in 2011, a number that remains unchanged from the previous

	Acquaintance	Contact	Blitz	Domestic	Total
<b>Completed</b>	10	2	2	4	18
<b>Attempt</b>	4	0	0	1	5
<b>Total</b>	14	2	2	5	23

year. Eighteen of the rapes were categorized as completed sexual assaults, and five attempted rapes were recorded. Eight of the twenty–three sexual assaults reported in 2011 occurred on a calendar date prior to that year. This is a trend that we have been observing over the past few years with 25% – 33% of the crimes involving domestic or supervisory-positioned assailants as suspects being reported long after the original date of the incident.

Fourteen of the rapes in 2011 involved acquaintances, five were domestic situations, two involved a contact scenario with the offender being someone the victim had met in a public place, and two were stranger-to-stranger rapes, both of which resulted in an arrest.

There were two stranger–to–stranger rapes in Cambridge in 2011. Both incidents involved females that were followed and blitzed in high pedestrian activity areas late at night with the subsequent arrest of the rapist. Timothy Gayhart was arrested on the morning of July 18<sup>th</sup> and charged with assault with intent to rape and robbery of a Harvard student on JFK Street. On March 7, 2012, Gayhart pled guilty to these charges and was sentenced to 4 – 6 years in state prison. On March 13, 2012, a security guard from Hyde Park was indicted by a Middlesex Grand Jury for assault with intent to rape in connection with an alleged sexual assault that was captured by a surveillance camera on November 11, 2011, in Canal Park.

Given the tendency for rape statistics to fluctuate each year, projecting future totals is a risky business at best. The actual number of stranger-to-stranger rapes each year—between two and five—remains extremely low, but for two summers in a row, there have been regional patterns along the Charles River.

## ***CATEGORIES OF RAPE***

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- ***Acquaintance Rapes*** are non-domestic rapes committed by someone who knows the victim. They include rapes of co-workers, schoolmates, friends, and other acquaintances, including “date rapes.” Fourteen of the twenty-three incidents in 2011 were perpetrated by acquaintances.
- ***Blitz Rapes*** are rapes in which the suspect “comes out of nowhere.” Usually, the attacker is a stranger but this is not necessarily the case. Among all of the categorizations of rape, the blitz rape, or “street rape,” tends to invoke the most fear in the average citizen. There were two blitz rapes recorded in Cambridge in 2011. In one of these incidents, the suspect has already been sentenced to state prison. A suspect charged with the second crime is awaiting trial.
- ***Contact Rapes*** are rapes in which the suspect contacts the victim and tries to gain his/her confidence before assaulting him/her. Contact rapists typically pick up their victims in bars and lure them into their cars or houses, or otherwise try to coerce the victim into a situation in which they can begin their assault. There were two incidents in Cambridge in 2011 that fit into this category.
- ***Domestic Rapes*** involve rapes between spouses, romantic partners, or family members. Five domestic rapes were reported in 2011. Family members committed all of these incidents.

### **2010\* NATIONAL AND REGIONAL RAPE STATISTICS**

The FBI’s Uniform Crime Report for 2010 reports that:

- In 2010, the number of forcible rapes nationwide was estimated at 84,767. By comparison, this estimated volume was 5% lower than the 2009 estimate and 10.3% lower than the 2006 number.
- Rapes by force comprised 93% of the reported rape offenses in 2010, and attempts accounted for 7% of reported rapes.
- The national rate of forcible rapes in 2010 was estimated at 54.2 per 100,000 female inhabitants.

With a population of approximately 105,162 Cambridge’s rate (approx. 20-23 per 100,000 persons) falls far below that of cities of comparable size.

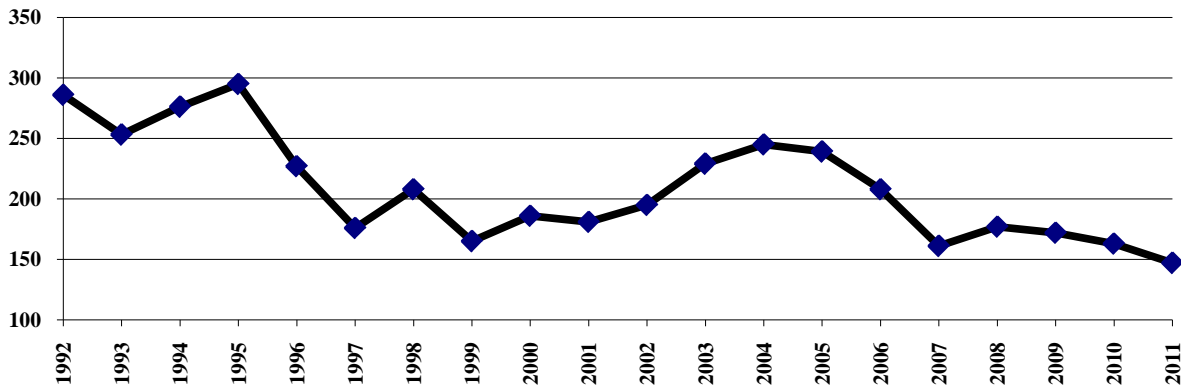
*\*Statistics for 2011 are not yet available.*



# ROBBERY

Robbery is the taking or attempted taking of anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear. This crime includes muggings, purse snatchings, and bank hold-ups.

**Twenty Year Review:  
Robbery in Cambridge, 1992-2011**



**163 reported in 2010 • 147 reported in 2011**

Over a four-year span from 2001 to 2004, robberies in the City slowly increased. This trend ended in 2005, and robberies continued to decrease until 2007, at which point robberies reached a 20-year low. This downward trend ended in 2008 with a reported overall increase of 10%. In 2009, robberies saw a small decline, which continued through 2010. In 2011, overall robberies dropped an additional 10% to 147 incidents, which is 14 incidents below the 20-year low reported in 2007. Although total robberies dropped this year, it should be noted that commercial robberies did experience an increase of 12 incidents.

	2010	2011	% Change
Commercial Robbery	22	34	55%
Street Robbery	141	113	-20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>-10%</b>

Due to its violent nature, robbery is one of the most feared crimes. For this reason, it is one of the crimes most often considered by a citizen when he or she gauges the general “safety” of an area. Not only is robbery on the minds of local citizens but it is also one of the main concerns of business owners. Often, suspects approach their target, threatening to cause harm if the victim does not relinquish money or property. Weapons are brandished in some incidents, but a suspect may simply rely on the victim’s perceived fear of harm. Most incidents involve little physical contact between the suspect and victim, and often result in no harm to the victim, especially when they comply with the suspect’s demands.

## COMMERCIAL ROBBERY

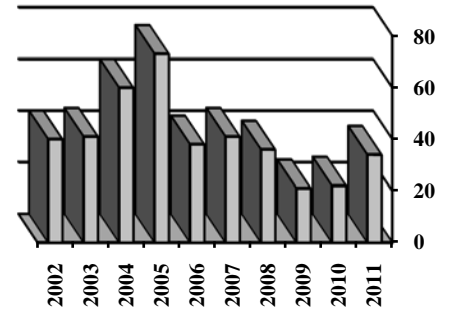
From 1970-1990, Cambridge averaged 100 commercial robberies annually. Throughout the 1990’s, the number of robberies decreased dramatically to an average of 45 a year (with a high in 1990 of 102 and a low in 1999 of 18). From 2000 to 2005, the number of commercial robberies slowly increased, until 2006 when a decrease of nearly 50% was reported. Commercial robberies remained low in 2007 and 2008. In 2009, Cambridge experienced a 10-year low with only 21 commercial robberies reported across the city, and it stayed at this level in 2010 with 22 incidents. In 2011, commercial robberies rose over 50% to 34.

Commercial robbery is described as the taking by force or threat of force anything of value from the care or custody of a commercial or financial establishment. Examples of this crime include a bank heist, a cab stick-up, and a convenience store hold-up. Commercial incidents tend to occur early in the morning or late into the night.

As was mentioned above, commercial robberies rose by 12 incidents in 2011, yielding a 55% increase over 2010. The business district that experienced the most commercial robberies this year was Central Square with 12 incidents, followed by Harvard Square with 7 incidents. These two districts accounted for 56% of all commercial robberies that occurred in 2011.

Banks were one of the most common targets of commercial robberies in 2011, accounting for 12 incidents, or 35% of the total. Two bank robberies occurred in May, July, September, October, and December, and one each occurred in June and November. Nine of the twelve resulted in arrests or suspects being identified. All took place on weekdays between 12:35 p.m. and 7:15 p.m., with the exception of two Saturday robberies that occurred before noon. The December robbery, which took place at the *Cambridge Trust Company* in West Cambridge, was perpetrated by John Curtin from Arlington; he was arrested in Portsmouth, NH by Cambridge Police in collaboration with the US Marshalls, Somerville Police, and Portsmouth Police.

**Commercial Robbery 2002-2011**



<b>COMMERCIAL ROBBERIES BY LOCATION TYPE</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Bank/Armored Car	8	5	12
Convenience/Grocery	7	5	9
Misc. Retail	2	3	5
Cab	1	0	4
Café/Restaurant	0	2	2
Gas Station	0	3	2
Drug Store	1	1	0
Jewelry Store	0	1	0
Electronics/Computers	1	2	0
Hotel/Motel	1	0	0
Fast Food	0	0	0
Liquor Store	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>34</b>

Convenience and grocery store robberies also accounted for nine of the commercial robberies in 2011. Most of these robberies occurred from the early evening to the early morning. A firearm was shown in three incidents and a knife was displayed in two of the robberies. No patterns emerged out of these convenience store robberies and no address was targeted more than once.

There were two gas station robberies reported in 2011, both of which occurred in mid-June on consecutive days. The first occurred at the Shell station on Cambridge St and the second at the Sunoco on Massachusetts Ave. These breaks were committed in the morning and early evening by male with a firearm; detectives later arrested a Lynn resident in connection with these two robberies.

The following incidents are some of the other more notable commercial robberies this year. In June, a suspect entered the Whole Foods store on River St and attempted to conceal items on his person. An employee approached the suspect and attempted to take his picture, at which point an altercation arose. The suspect then fled the area on a bicycle. In November, the Pu Pu Hot Pot restaurant on Main St was robbed by an unknown male suspect with a box cutter. The victims could not provide identification of the suspect. In December, an unknown suspect entered a Third St laundromat and demanded money from the cash drawer. The clerk refused to hand over any money, so the suspect struck the clerk and fled.

**Protect yourself and your business!! Please see the “Learn to Protect Yourself” section of this Annual Report for tips on how you can protect yourself against becoming a robbery victim, and how to handle the situation if you do find yourself in dangerous circumstances.**

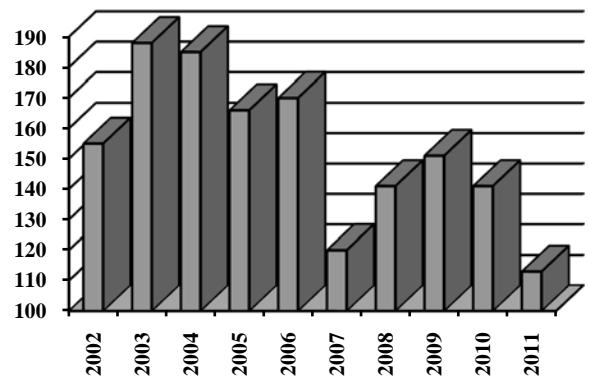
## STREET ROBBERY

Street robberies historically take place during the evening hours, particularly after drinking establishments close, and in dark areas.

Street robbery involves all robberies committed against individuals, as opposed to commercial establishments. Despite the name, a “street” robbery does not necessarily have to occur on the street, although

the majority of them do. Examples of street robberies are “muggings,” “carjackings,” and “purse snatchings.” The number of street robberies reported in 2011 decreased by 28 incidents, translating to a 20% drop compared to 2010. In fact, the number of street robberies reported over the previous three years were all at least 20% higher than the number reported in 2011, when street robberies were at their lowest level in over twenty years.

**Street Robbery 2002 - 2011**



<b>STREET ROBBERIES BY NEIGHBORHOOD</b>			
<b>AREA</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Cambridgeport	32	22	19
East Cambridge	14	13	18
Mid-Cambridge	16	14	17
Inman / Harrington	8	8	14
Riverside	11	8	12
Area 4	23	27	11
West Cambridge	14	14	9
North Cambridge	12	14	6
Peabody	11	10	3
Agassiz	7	5	2
M.I.T.	3	2	2
Cambridge Highlands	5	2	0
Strawberry Hill	2	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>113</b>

The number of street robberies across each neighborhood varied widely, which is a reflection of the residential and commercial mixture in each area. For example, Cambridgeport, East Cambridge, and Area 4 are more densely populated than other neighborhoods and are closer to train stations and drinking establishments. These are factors that contribute to higher numbers of potential targets for street robbers. Individuals can become targets when they are walking alone late at night, distracted or intoxicated. The neighborhood that experienced the most robberies in 2011 was Cambridgeport, accounting for 17%, or 19 of the total 113 incidents. East Cambridge had the next highest number with 18 incidents, or 16% of the total.

Of the 2011 incidents, 73% involved the use or threat of a weapon. The most commonly used weapons this year were hands and/or feet (48 incidents), knives (18 incidents), and handguns (16 incidents).

During the first quarter of 2011, there were two street robbery patterns. The first brief pattern involved two robberies by similarly described male suspects in the area of Harvard Square in February and March. The suspects operated with a similar M.O. and stole wallets in both robberies. No further related incidents were reported after these. The second pattern also took place in February and involved two separate incidents in which a suspect approached female victims from behind after dark and stole their purses. Both of these incidents occurred on Western Ave.

There were several patterns during the second quarter, including one regional pattern. In late March and early April, there were three robberies (two completed in Somerville and Boston, and one attempted in Cambridge) where two male suspects asked victims if they had ever been robbed and proceeded to take their wallets while brandishing knives. A Somerville male turned himself in on a warrant after being identified by local police. There were two street robbery patterns in April of 2011, including a Harvard Square robbery pattern and an East Cambridge pattern. The Harvard Square pattern consisted of two incidents with two male suspects who approached male victims from behind late at night and demanded their belongings without showing a weapon. The East Cambridge incidents occurred four days apart and involved two suspects stealing purses. Three more similar unarmed street robberies were reported in East Cambridge in late May and late June, this time targeting cell phones and iPods from males walking alone late at night. A suspect was identified after pawning a stolen iPod, but the victim could not locate a serial number to provide to officers. There were five incidents (four robberies and an assault) in early June in the area of Donnelly Field involving juvenile suspects known to the department and juvenile victims.

No defined street robberies emerged anywhere in the city during the third quarter of 2011.

During the fourth quarter, the most prominent pattern of street robberies in 2011 emerged in the Harvard Square area and spread to include incidents in many of the neighborhoods in lower Cambridge (East Cambridge, MIT, Inman, Area 4, Mid-Cambridge, and Agassiz) and possibly a few incidents in Boston. The incidents began in mid-October and eventually cooled off in mid-November following the arrest of three Boston males, two of whom were taken into custody during an unarmed robbery in the MIT neighborhood. A second pattern arose in the fourth quarter when a suspect committed two armed street robberies and a commercial robbery in and around the Central Square area over the course of one night in early November. Officers located the suspect, a homeless Cambridge male, nearby and he was arrested after one victim was able to positively identify him. A box cutter was located in some bushes not far from where the suspect was arrested.

As stated earlier, street robberies can take place in many different locations, including shopping malls, MBTA stations, and parking lots. Still, about 84% of all street robberies in 2011 occurred on a street or sidewalk. As for some of the other notable premise types, four of the robberies this year took place in parks, and two each were reported in restaurants, grocery stores, and apartment buildings. Victims knew the suspects in six of the robberies, and three incidents involved the robbery of a delivery person. About 31% of the street robberies throughout the city happened between 7:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m. This is a common timeframe for robberies to occur because people are walking home after work or are out when the bars close.

## **FIVE HISTORICAL STREET ROBBERY HOT SPOTS**

1. **CENTRAL SQUARE**, specifically the area of Massachusetts Avenue between Washington and Franklin Streets, down Pearl Street. This is a prime location for homeless-on-homeless robberies. Mostly predatory, but also purse snatchings concentrated here in the late afternoon and late evening.
2. **CAMBRIDGESIDE GALLERIA**, including the Lechmere MBTA Station area. These usually involve juveniles robbing each other between 3:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
3. **HARVARD SQUARE**, around Church Street, Brattle Street and Harvard Yard. Predatory robberies in the late evening mixed with early evening pack robberies.
4. **RUSSELL FIELD AND THE ALEWIFE MBTA STATION**. The 300-400 blocks of Rindge Avenue hold the major concentration for these incidents. Pack robberies target people leaving the station and “bullyboy” robberies target schoolmates crossing through the field.
5. **UPPER CAMBRIDGEPORT**, the area surrounded by Franklin and Erie Streets, between Brookline and Pleasant Streets. These incidents are predatory in nature and are concentrated during the late night and predawn hours of the weekend.

Our Crime Analysis Unit breaks down street robbery incidents into categorizations of similar types for further and more accurate analysis. Approximately 59% of the street robberies were “predatory,” where the victim was approached by one or two suspects, threatened, and robbed. The second most common type of street robberies were pack robberies involving three or more suspects, which accounted for 10% of the total. Purse snatchings accounted for 7% of the robberies this year, while robberies by acquaintances and between homeless individuals each represented 5% of the total.

## **Frequently Occurring Scenarios in Cambridge**

A long-term trend analysis of street robberies in Cambridge reveals a number of frequently recurring scenarios. The number in parenthesis after the category indicates how frequently that categorization occurred in Cambridge this past year:

**Acquaintance Robberies (6):** Related to domestic robbery and homeless robbery (read below), acquaintance robberies are committed by someone the victim knows. Common scenarios include drinking buddies robbing each other after a night at the bar, friends turning on each other, and robberies between co-workers.

**ATM Robberies (0):** In this type of robbery, the suspect may approach the victim immediately after the victim withdraws money from an ATM and demand that he or she hand over the cash, or the suspect may wait behind the victim as they make a transaction, then take the money directly from the ATM and run. An ATM robbery can also occur when suspects approach a victim on the street, threaten the victim by displaying or implying a weapon, and demand the victim go to an ATM and withdraw money for them.

**Bikejackers (1):** Juvenile robberies of intimidation where the primary property targets are bicycles.

**Bully Boys (5):** Juvenile robberies of intimidation. In most occurrences, the victim knows the perpetrators. Committed by and against school-aged youths, they occur on the way home from school, or at playgrounds, malls, parks, or skating rinks. These robberies usually involve two to four juveniles strong-arming their victims, stealing such things as cell phones, MP3 players, or lunch money.

**Carjacking (2):** In this scenario, a predator approaches a victim entering or exiting his or her car, or when stopped at a traffic light. The robber orders the victim out of the vehicle and demands the keys.

**Dial-A-Victim (3):** These robberies target delivery service personnel. In these situations, suspects usually brandish a knife or gun to intercept a delivery person.

**Domestic (3):** This type of scenario occurs when someone close to the victim, like a family member, romantic partner, or roommate, takes money or property from them by the use or threat of violence.

**Drug Deal (1):** Typically drug deals gone awry.

**Home Invasion (0):** One of the most serious robbery types. Home invasions involve robbers entering their victims' homes, subduing the residents, and robbing the home. Fortunately this type of robbery is rare in Cambridge, and when it occurs, the victim generally knows the perpetrator.

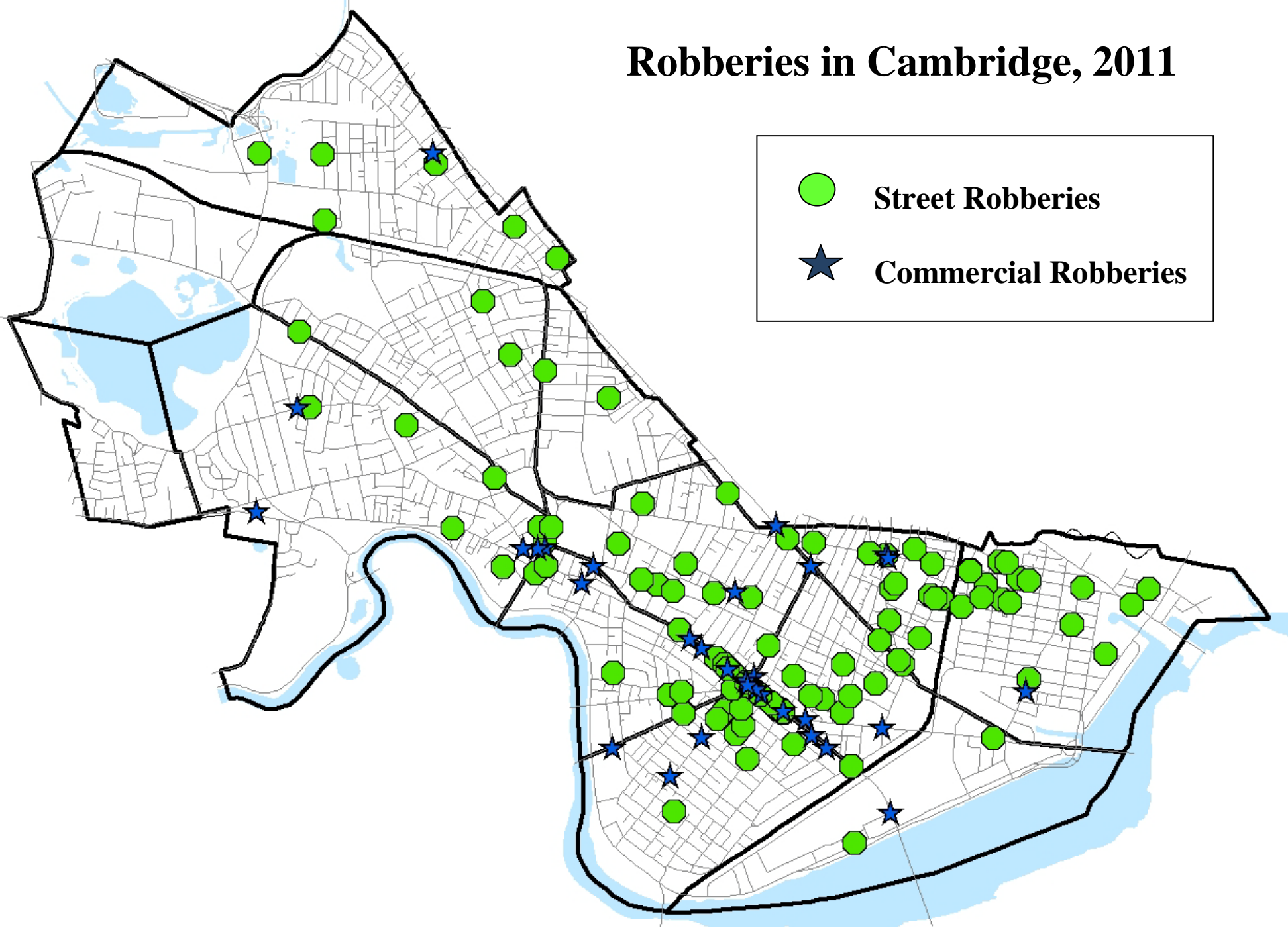
**Homeless Robberies (6):** These are incidents of homeless people robbing each other. The majority of these robberies occur in the vicinity of Central and Harvard Squares, or at various shelters. The victim is usually acquainted with the perpetrator, and in many cases, both are intoxicated. Property stolen ranges from a bottle of wine to a blanket or a pair of shoes.

**Pack Robberies (11):** In this situation, a group of three or more individuals will target victims around shopping malls, MBTA stations, streets, or recreational areas. The robberies are not always premeditated and the typical victim is often a male between the ages of 15-25, walking alone.

**Predatory Robberies (67):** This type of street robbery has the most pronounced effect on a citizen's perception of safety. Predatory robberies are synonymous with "muggings." In the typical scenario, one or two men approach the victim with a knife or gun and demand cash. Cambridge typically experiences more two-person predatory robberies than any other type.

**Purse Snatch (8):** The purse-snatcher is generally unarmed, and has little intent to cause injury. After "casing" a victim—usually a female carrying a purse, bag, or wallet—this robber approaches quickly—on foot or on a bicycle—and snatches the item out of the victim's hands or off her shoulder before she has a chance to react, often effecting a "body check" in the process.

# Robberies in Cambridge, 2011

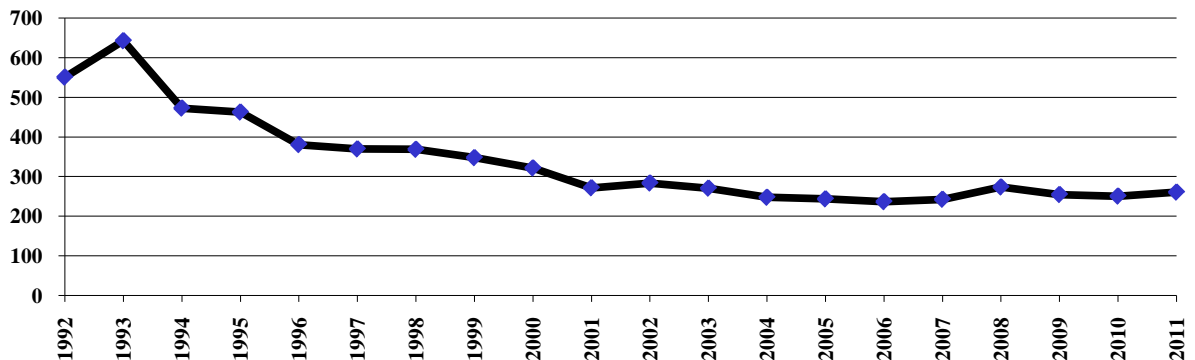




# AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

Aggravated assault describes an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Attempts are included since it is not necessary that injury result when a gun, knife, or other weapon is used that could result in serious personal injury if the crime were successfully completed.

**Twenty Year Review:  
Aggravated Assault in Cambridge, 1992-2011**



**251 reported in 2010 • 261 reported in 2011**

Analysis of the past twenty years shows that aggravated assault reached its peak in the early 1990's. Between 1984 and 1989, Cambridge registered about 350 incidents per year; in 1990, it suddenly jumped by 41% to an unprecedented 614 reports. It peaked at 643 in 1993 and then steadily declined for the next 10 years. Within the last 10 years, aggravated assaults have leveled off to an average of 258, a 43% decrease from the previous 10 years.

Assault is a violent crime that typically arises in "the heat of the moment." Unlike the crime of robbery, assault seldom involves a motivation of personal gain. Offenders in aggravated assaults will often regret the incident subsequent to its occurrence, as the offender typically knows his or her victim.

## GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS FROM 2009 TO 2011

NEIGHBORHOOD	2009	2010	2011	CHANGE 2010 - 2011
Cambridgeport	38	43	46	7%
Inman/Harrington	33	29	39	34%
Riverside	21	25	35	40%
Area 4	32	46	32	-30%
North Cambridge	29	23	24	4%
East Cambridge	32	24	20	-17%
West Cambridge	15	21	20	-5%
Mid-Cambridge	21	19	16	-16%
Peabody	13	8	9	13%
Agassiz	8	5	7	40%
Strawberry Hill	7	4	6	50%
M.I.T. Area	4	3	4	33%
Cambridge Highlands	2	1	3	200%
<b>Total</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>4%</b>

Aggravated assault is a very serious crime and is not taken lightly by the Cambridge Police. The severity of aggravated assault lies in the serious injury caused to victims, which can range from bruises to knife or gun wounds. Approximately 5% of the aggravated assaults in 2011 resulted in serious to life-threatening injuries, most of which involved a stabbing or shooting. Roughly 48% of the 261 incidents resulted in no injury, as the victim showed no sign or complaint of injury or was merely threatened with the use of a weapon (gun, knife, shod foot, household item, baseball bat, etc).

## **IN FOCUS: DOMESTIC ASSAULTS**

A good portion of the fluctuation in the rate of incidents can be attributed to the frequency in which the crime is *reported* rather than the frequency of its actual occurrence. One area with a historically low reporting rate is domestic assault. As domestic violence awareness has increased over the last decade, so has the willingness of domestic violence victims to report abuse to the police. Roughly a third of the aggravated assaults in 2011 were domestic incidents. Over the past five years, the rate of domestic incidents has ranged from a quarter to just over a third of all reported incidents.

Despite advances made by domestic violence victim advocates in recent years, experts estimate that between 60% and 80% of domestic assaults are never reported to the police. However, lack of reporting is not unique to domestic incidents. It is very likely that factors including apathy, fear of police contact, embarrassment, and other issues lead to underreporting of various assaults involving acquaintances, gangs, and conflicts among the homeless. Due to the estimated high rate of underreporting, *assault statistics must be viewed with extreme care.*

Since domestic assaults and assaults among acquaintances dominate the percentages (aside from stranger assaults), it should be noted that the crime naturally registers higher in areas that have a high residential population. These neighborhoods include East Cambridge, Inman, Area 4, Cambridgeport, and North Cambridge. Domestic assaults and other domestic crimes are reviewed in the *Domestic Crimes* section of this report.

## **Relationships**

Another way to look at aggravated assaults is to classify the relationship between the offender and the victim. Many, but not all, of the assault categorizations are based on this relationship. This list shows the relationship between the offender and the victim in the 261 aggravated assaults in 2011:

<b>Relationship</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%*</b>
Stranger	94	36%
Acquaintance	58	22%
Romantic Partner	30	11%
Client / Patron	19	7%
Child / Parent	13	5%
Spouse	12	5%
Sibling	10	4%
Ex-Romantic Partner / Ex-Spouse	9	3%
Neighbor	5	2%
Co-Worker / Employee	3	1%
Roommate	3	1%
Other Family	2	1%
Schoolmate	2	1%
Teacher / Coach	1	0%
Landlord/Tenant	0	0%
Third Lover	0	0%

\*Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD PATTERNS AND TRENDS OBSERVED IN 2011**

The following is a synopsis of neighborhoods with concentrations of particular aggravated assault categories as well as detailed accounts of some of the most serious incidents of the year (not including domestic incidents).

- **NEIGHBORHOODS:**

- After experiencing the most substantial increase in 2010, **Area 4** fell back to its 2009 level in 2011, decreasing by 30% from 46 incidents in 2010 to 32 incidents in 2011. **East Cambridge, Mid-Cambridge, and West Cambridge** also observed decreases in 2011, dropping 17%, 16% and 5%, respectively.
- In most years, **Cambridgeport** is the top area for bar and alcohol related incidents due to the high density of foot traffic around restaurants, bars, and nightclubs in the Mass Ave area of Central Square. In 2011, there were four bar/alcohol related aggravated assaults reported in both Cambridgeport and Area 4. These were the top two individual neighborhoods for bar-related assaults this year. Bars in **Harvard Square** also experienced four incidents in 2011.
- **Area 4** and **Inman/Harrington** experienced the most juvenile/gang-related assaults in 2011 with four incidents each. Similar to previous years, many of the juvenile incidents citywide in 2011 involved the use of a knife or handgun.
- Aggravated assault incidents involving homeless individuals in Cambridge rose from 11 incidents in 2010 to 14 in 2011. The vast majority of the 2011 incidents took place in **Central Square**, where there is

a large homeless population. The typical homeless incident usually involves homeless-on-homeless assaults, often among acquainted individuals.

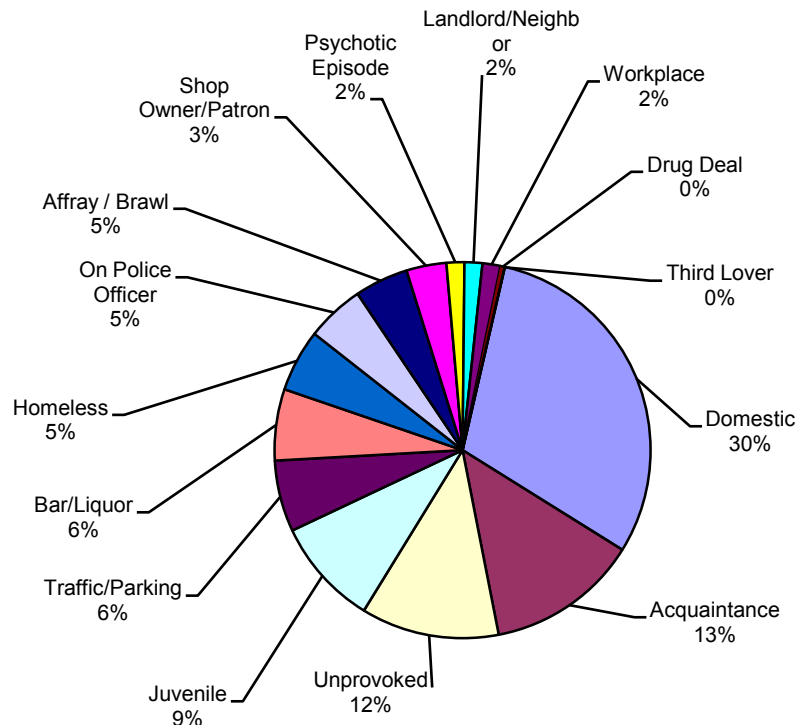
- Unprovoked incidents were highest in **Riverside** (12 incidents) and **Cambridgeport** (5 incidents). No established patterns of unprovoked assaults emerged anywhere in the City this year.
- Two of the aggravated assaults in 2011 were non-fatal shooting incidents resulting in two victims with gunshot wounds. There were also two fatal shooting incidents that resulted in the deaths of four people (see Murder section for more information). Following are the two non-fatal shootings from 2011:
  - A Somerville resident was shot in the forearm while she was sitting in her vehicle parked in a lot on Bishop Allen Dr.
  - Officers responded to a call for gunshots and found a Cambridge resident with a large laceration on his head due to a gunshot wound. He was transported to the hospital.
- Twenty-one people were arrested for various firearm offenses in 2011 (two on warrants), including possession of a large capacity firearm, carrying a loaded firearm, carrying a dangerous weapon, and carrying a firearm or ammunition without an FID card. Comparatively, only eleven arrests were made for firearm offenses in 2010. The notable increase from 2010 to 2011 can be partially explained by an increase in the number of incidents in which multiple people were arrested in one incident (such as multiple people arrested after being stopped in a vehicle where weapons were located).
- A map of all aggravated assaults in 2010 and 2011 in which a handgun was used or threatened can be found at the end of this section.

**Protect yourself!! Please see the “Learn to Protect Yourself” section of this Annual Report for tips on how you can protect against becoming a victim of assault, and what do in case of an assault or abuse.**

## AGGRAVATED ASSAULT CLASSIFICATIONS

TYPE	2010	2011	% of total*
Domestic	90	79	30%
Acquaintance	39	34	13%
Unprovoked	40	31	12%
Juvenile	15	24	9%
Traffic/Parking	14	16	6%
Bar/Liquor	12	16	6%
Homeless	11	14	5%
On a Police Officer	4	13	5%
Affray / Brawl	12	12	5%
Shop Owner/Patron	1	9	3%
Psychotic Episode	6	4	2%
Landlord/Neighbor	0	4	2%
Workplace	5	4	2%
Drug Deal	2	1	0%
Third Lover	0	0	0%
*Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.			

**Classification Percent of Aggravated Assaults, 2011**



# SIMPLE ASSAULT

**415 reported in 2010 • 426 reported in 2011**

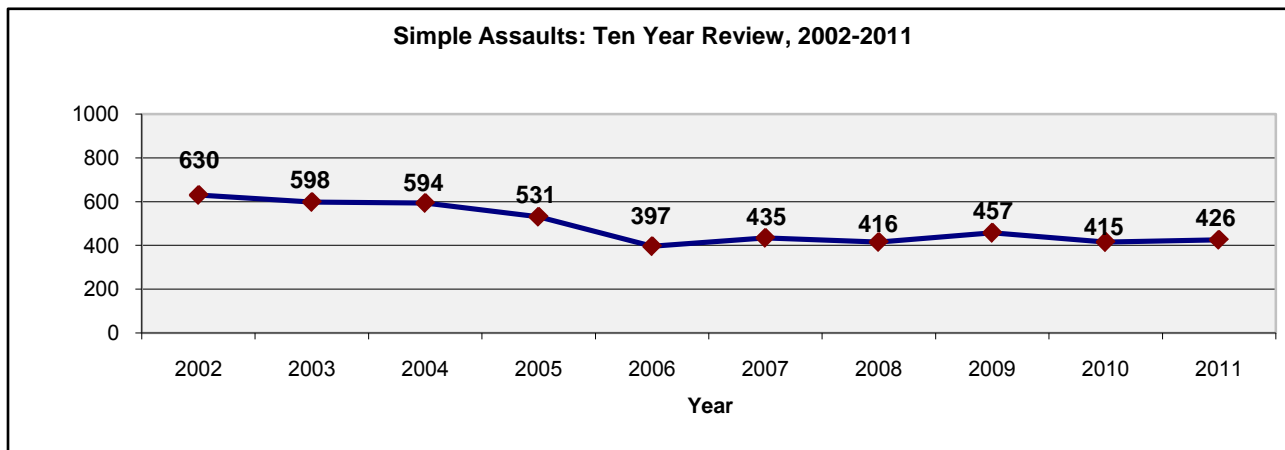
SIMPLE ASSAULT CATEGORIZATION			
Categorization	2010	2011	% Change 10-11
Domestic	167	186	11%
Acquaintance	69	67	-3%
Unprovoked	61	39	-36%
Bar / Alcohol	31	33	6%
Traffic / Parking	27	28	4%
Juvenile / Gang	9	17	89%
Workplace	16	16	No Change
Homeless	6	12	100%
Shop Owner / Patron	8	10	25%
On Police Officer	12	10	-17%
Landlord / Tenant	5	6	20%
Psychotic Episode	4	2	-50%
Third Lover	0	0	No Change
Blitz	0	0	No Change
<b>Total</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>3%</b>

Simple assaults, unlike aggravated assaults, are not scored among the Part I Crimes (Index Crimes). They do not involve the use of a dangerous weapon and do not cause serious injury. Examples of simple assault include a shove, a punch in the stomach, or a slap in the face.

Over the past five years, Cambridge has reported between roughly 400 and 500 simple assault incidents annually. During the past year, 426 simple assaults were reported to the Cambridge Police Department. This number represents a 3% increase from the 415 incidents reported in 2010. However, because most simple assaults result in minimal or no injury, the victims and offenders may sometimes dismiss them as inconsequential. Therefore, lack of reporting is a problem in calculating exact numbers of simple assaults.

Similar to aggravated assaults, domestic incidents typically make up the highest percent of reported simple assaults. In 2011, domestic incidents accounted for 44% of the simple assaults. Assaults among acquaintances and unprovoked incidents accounted for approximately 16% and 9% of the assaults, respectively.

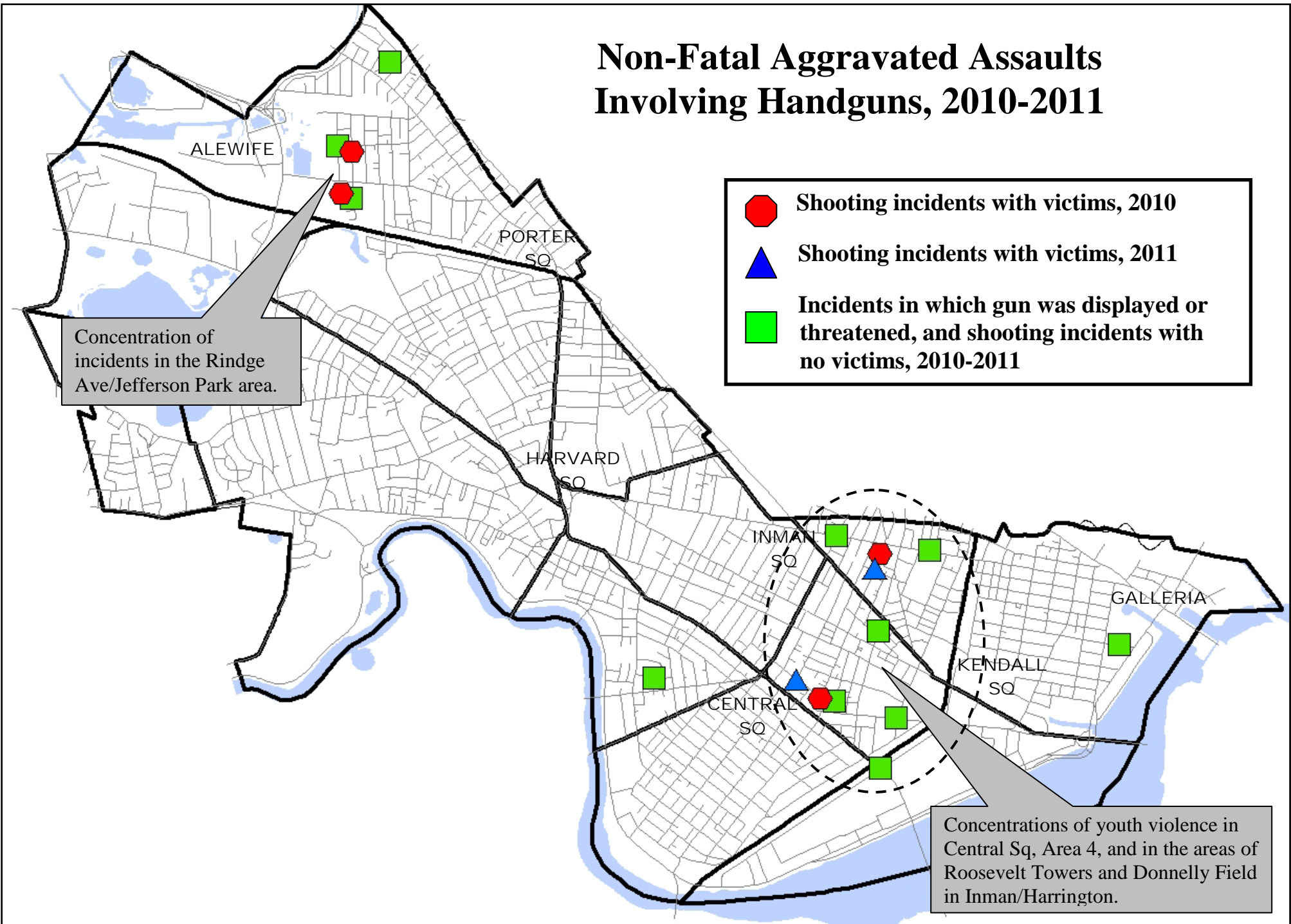
Area 4 reported the most simple assault activity in 2011 with 64 incidents, followed by East Cambridge and Cambridgeport, each with 60. Bar/alcohol related incidents and homeless assaults were mainly concentrated in the Central and Harvard Square areas. The other simple assault categories typically break down more evenly across neighborhoods.



## WHERE ASSAULTS TAKE PLACE...

Many assaults take place in the home, particularly family, roommate, or acquaintance-related incidents. Assaults taking place on the street are typically the most common, as these involve domestic disputes as well as arguments that may begin in a commercial establishment and spill onto the street. Restaurant/Bar incidents are also frequent and can be the result of intoxicated parties becoming disorderly and sometimes violent. Aggravated assaults on school grounds have not significantly increased over the past five years, basically making up between 1 and 2% of all aggravated assaults. While many juvenile simple assaults take place on school grounds, the more violent aggravated assaults take place on the street in the proximity of residential housing and parks.

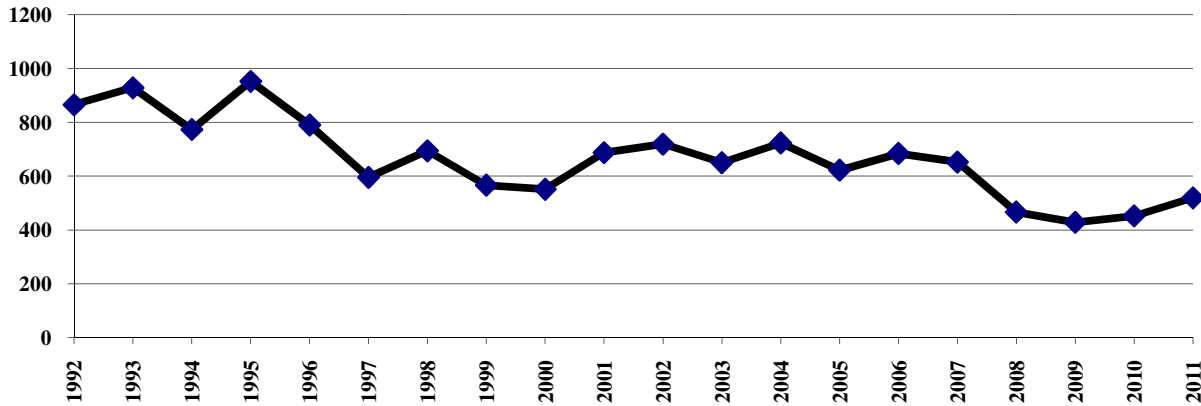
# Non-Fatal Aggravated Assaults Involving Handguns, 2010-2011



# BURGLARY

Burglary is described as the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. The use of force to gain entry is not required to classify an offense as burglary. Burglary attempts are included in the total.

**Twenty Year Review:  
Burglary in Cambridge, 1992-2011**



**453 reported in 2010 • 520 reported in 2011**

Burglary is categorized as a more serious crime than larceny because it involves the use of force and unlawful entry into a business or residence. Perpetrators employ various techniques to enter residences or businesses. Since burglars need to pull off their heist quickly, break-ins are occasionally only unsuccessful “attempts,” in which no entry is made, but damage is caused to the structure.

	2010	2011	% Change 2010-2011
<b>Commercial Burglary</b>	87	84	-3%
<b>Residential Burglary</b>	366	436	19%
<b>Total</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>15%</b>

Over the past 20 years, burglary in Cambridge has decreased by approximately 40%. Burglary crimes peaked in the late 1980’s, decreased dramatically in the early 1990’s, and remained relatively stable in the 2000’s until 2009, when Cambridge recorded its lowest burglary total in 50 years.

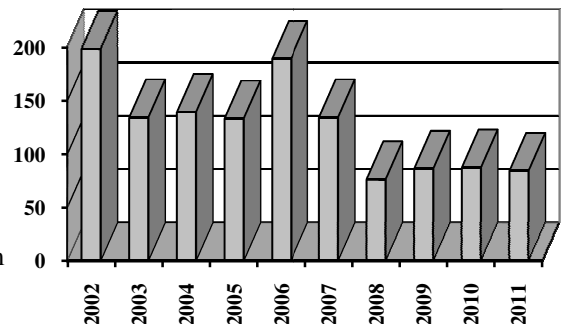
Burglars often fall into two types: the “amateur” and the “professional.” Amateurs are likely to smash windows or kick in doors to enter unoccupied buildings. These burglars will often take lightweight, visible property, such as a purse left on a table, loose change, a laptop, or other less costly items. “Professional” burglars, alternatively, are more sophisticated in their methods and tend to steal higher-priced items. They often pry open a door, disable alarms, and even occasionally enter occupied establishments.

For the purposes of analysis, burglary is divided into two main categories: *commercial* and *residential*.

## COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

A commercial burglary, more commonly referred to as a *commercial break*, is the unlawful entry into a commercial establishment, including business, government, religious, or retail establishments. Between 2010 and 2011, there was a 3% decrease in commercial breaks in Cambridge. Three years ago in 2008, Cambridge saw the lowest report of commercial breaks in the past fifty years. Over the past five years, commercial breaks have averaged approximately 93 incidents a year, a 42% decrease from the previous five-year average.

**Commercial Burglary 2002-2011**





A wide variety of establishments are targeted in commercial burglary using an array of methods. Most breaks can be categorized as one of the following:

- ◆ **Smash & Grab** burglaries target display windows along major routes. The burglar runs or drives up, smashes the window, steals valuables from the immediate window area, and runs off. The entire endeavor may take less than a minute.
- ◆ **Retail** burglars pry or smash their way into stores or other locations with cash registers on the premises. They hope to steal cash left in the register/safe and may grab cigarettes or lottery tickets on the way out.
- ◆ **Restaurant/Bar** burglars often cross multiple jurisdictions, breaking into similar franchises, looking for safes.
- ◆ **Business** burglars enter real-estate offices, law firms, technology companies, and other offices, looking for laptop computers and other expensive equipment.
- ◆ **Construction Site/Industrial Area** thieves are a special breed of burglars who know how to select, steal, and sell expensive power tools, building supplies, and heavy equipment. They are often in the business themselves and may have done sub-contract work on the sites that they target. Construction site and industrial area burglaries increased by 450% from 2005 to 2006 due to increases in thefts of copper. This pattern seemed to be eradicated in 2007.
- ◆ **Safe Crackers** are a more professional type of burglar. In these incidents, perpetrators enter businesses with high cash intake, such as restaurants and bars, and usually take that cash.
- ◆ **Church** burglars are usually homeless individuals with substance abuse problems. They enter lightly secured houses of worship, looking for petty cash and easily fenced items.
- ◆ **School** burglars are generally juveniles, breaking into their own schools to vandalize or steal computers and other expensive everyday goods. Youth centers/daycares are included.

**IN FOCUS: PROFESSIONAL COMMERCIAL BURGLARY PATTERNS**

In 2011, there was a decrease of 3% in commercial burglaries. About 17% of the breaks in 2011 were attempts in which no entry was gained, and only one was considered an “inside job” in which an employee or known associate was believed to be responsible. Together these two categories accounted for almost a fifth of the commercial breaks in 2011. Business districts varied this year with the Bay Square/Upper Broadway district seeing a significant increase of 700% (up seven incidents), while the

TYPE OF PREMISE	2010	2011
Bar/Restaurant/Social	19	21
Business Offices	18	17
Convenience/Gas	6	11
Other: (hair salons, health clubs, auto etc)	14	9
Retail Establishments	12	9
Church	4	7
Industrial/Construction	5	5
School/Youth Center	4	4
Government Building	5	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>84</b>

Harvard Square district saw a drop of 69% or nine incidents.

There were no significant patterns during 2011, but there were a few breaks that possibly fit into larger regional patterns. There were three consecutive Saturday breaks in January that targeted registers in commercial establishments in Central Sq. A convenience store on Mass Ave was broken into in May and again almost exactly a month later in June. The gas station window was broken in the first incident and the suspect reached in and stole lottery tickets. In the incident in June, the front window was pried and the suspect stole lottery tickets, cash, and cigarettes. A suspect from the second break was caught on surveillance camera but was never identified. There were three commercial breaks in August, two of which were at the same store in Mid-Cambridge. This store was also broken into in October. The suspect was caught on tape smashing the window and stealing large quantities of lottery tickets each time. At the end of October, Medford Police arrested Paul Silva of Somerville for a similar break and Silva later confessed to two of the Cambridge ones as well. At the end of August into September, there was a break to a bakery on Mass Ave that also has two stores in Boston. Multiple people were caught on camera and were believed to be part of a regional crew. Cambridge had another break at a café later in September that may have been related to these suspects. An arrest was made by Boston Police in March of 2012 of some of those believed to be responsible and part of the regional crew.

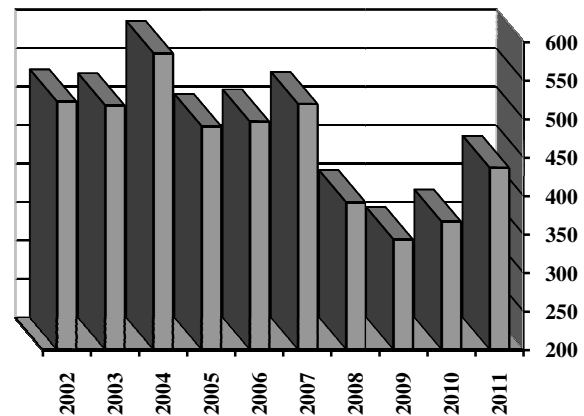
GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF COMMERCIAL BURGLARIES					
Business District	2009	2010	2011	% Change 10-11	% of Total
Central Square	21	19	16	-16%	19%
Porter Square/North Cambridge	13	18	12	-33%	14%
Alewife/West Cambridge	8	17	12	-29%	14%
Massachusetts Avenue 1500-1900	9	5	12	140%	14%
East Cambridge/Galleria	4	3	8	167%	10%
Bay Square/Upper Broadway	6	1	8	700%	10%
Inman Square/Harrington	14	7	5	-29%	6%
Harvard Square	8	13	4	-69%	5%
Cambridgeport/Riverside	1	2	4	100%	5%
Kendall Square/M.I.T.	2	2	3	50%	4%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>-3%</b>	

## RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

Residential burglaries, or “housebreaks,” are of particular concern to local police and communities because of the loss of personal security felt when one’s home is invaded and possessions are stolen.

Housebreaks were up 19% in Cambridge in 2011 compared to 2010. This total includes 70 housebreak incidents (or 16%) that were attempted but not completed. Both East Cambridge and West Cambridge recorded increases of over 50%. Inman Harrington saw the most significant decline in 2011, dropping 29% or 12 incidents.

Residential Burglary, 2002-2011



GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY					
AREA	2009	2010	2011	% Change 10-11	% of Total
Mid-Cambridge	36	65	68	5%	16%
Cambridgeport	38	44	66	50%	15%
Area 4	30	47	53	13%	12%
West Cambridge	23	24	43	79%	10%
East Cambridge	40	23	43	87%	10%
Riverside	32	29	39	34%	9%
North Cambridge	54	40	37	-8%	8%
Peabody	43	27	35	30%	8%
Inman/Harrington	27	41	29	-29%	7%
Agassiz	14	21	17	-19%	4%
Strawberry Hill	4	5	6	20%	1%
Cambridge Highlands	2	0	0	No change	0%
M.I.T. Area	0	0	0	No change	0%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>19%</b>	



Housebreaks most commonly occur during the daytime while victims are not home, or while the homeowners are away on vacation. Suspects are often long gone by the time the victim returns home and calls police. A large number of housebreaks are simply attempts in which a suspect tries but is unable to gain entry to a residence. The victim later discovers signs that someone tried to enter. Unknown suspects are typically the perpetrators in Cambridge housebreaks, although a small percentage of incidents involve acquaintances or family members. For example, 3% of all reported housebreak victims in 2011 named an acquaintance (friend, roommate, or neighbor) or landlord as a suspect. An additional 1% of incidents were categorized as domestic (perpetrated by family members, ex-boyfriends, etc).

Entry is gained into a residence by various methods. The most common point of entry is through a door, whether it is a front door, rear door, or unknown. This point of entry accounted for 54% of housebreaks in 2011. However, entry is also often made via windows, especially during the summer months. This point of entry accounted for 35% of the incidents in 2011. The front doors of a residence were pried/forced/broken in 20% of the housebreaks in 2011. Window entry was significant regarding two different methods: open or unlocked windows accounted for 10% of the incidents, and cut or removed window screens accounted for another 10%. However, unlocked windows and doors *combined* enabled suspects to enter without force in at least 17% of all housebreaks in 2011. Historically, the property targeted in housebreaks typically includes cash and jewelry, but in a society where many own valuable electronics, common targets of theft now include laptops, iPods, digital cameras, TVs, DVD players, and video gaming systems.

Compared to previous years, there were very few noteworthy housebreak patterns that occurred in Cambridge in 2011. In 2007 and part of 2008, there was an on-again off-again pattern that accounted for nearly 50% of the housebreaks citywide and involved over 100 stolen laptops. In 30 plus years of observing housebreak patterns in Cambridge, this series was the first in which a group of juvenile suspects was identified and appeared to be working in consort over an extended period of time in a concentrated area of the City. Although housebreaks rose in 2011 by 19%, patterns as substantial as the one in 2007 and 2008 did not emerge. However, there were a few smaller patterns of note, some that were eradicated by arrests:

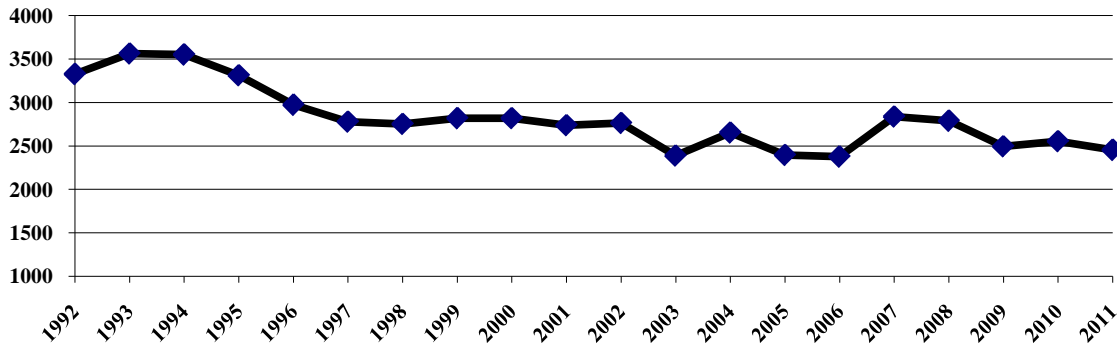
- In January of 2011, there was a significant uptick of weekday breaks that emerged on the border of the Riverside/Cambridgeport line, involving about 13 breaks. One strong suspect developed but no definite connections were made.
- In April, there was a pattern of breaks in Cambridgeport that were taking place on Fridays and Saturdays during the early afternoon hours. There was an arrest made on 5/3/11 in the area, however a break was reported the next day as well.
- At the end of July through August, there were a number of breaks in the Inman Harrington/ East Cambridge area with various methods of entry. A few witnesses reported seeing suspects and as the pieces came together, our Identification unit was able to identify suspects through fingerprints left at the scenes. At least four people were arrested in connection with these breaks, eradicating the pattern.
- Throughout the summer, there were multiple breaks (upwards of 20) in the Cambridgeport and Riverside neighborhoods. Due to regional information sharing and one apartment building having very good surveillance cameras, three suspects were identified. They were also responsible for regional breaks in Boston and Brookline. Multiple arrests were made, clearing numerous breaks in all three cities.
- In the middle of July through the beginning of August, there were about a dozen breaks in the West Cambridge neighborhood, mostly through forced or unlocked doors. There were three different suspect descriptions given, including a male on a bike who was seen at a few breaks. The pattern was never solved and it picked back up again in mid-October.
- A pattern popped up in Area 4 in the beginning of September that turned out to be long running with over 20 breaks involved. The breaks were tightly clustered between Bishop Allen Dr and Broadway from Norfolk to Windsor St. No arrests were made, although two suspects were seen at different times in early November.
- Over the last few weeks of November, there were eight completed breaks and one attempt with window entry targeting electronics and jewelry. An arrest was made in the first week of December during a housebreak in progress and surveillance video from a store also showed the same suspect using a stolen credit card from another break. This arrest eliminated the pattern.

<b>Top Five Items Stolen/Targeted in 2011</b>		
	<b>Housebreaks:</b>	<b>Commercial Burglaries:</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Laptop</b>	<b>Cash</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Jewelry</b>	<b>Laptop</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Camera</b>	<b>Cigarettes</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>Precious Metals</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>MP3 Player</b>	<b>Lottery Tickets</b>

# L A R C E N Y

Larceny is the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession of another. It includes crimes such as shoplifting, pocket picking, thefts from motor vehicles, thefts of auto parts and accessories, horse thefts, and bicycle thefts, in which no use of force, violence, fraud, or trespass occurs. In the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, this crime category does not include embezzlement, “con” games, forgery, or worthless checks. Motor vehicle theft is also excluded from this category, as it is a separate crime index offense.

**Twenty Year Review:  
Larceny in Cambridge, 1992-2011**



**2,555 reported in 2010 • 2,453 reported in 2011**

Larceny is always the most common of the Part I crimes in Cambridge. This year it accounted for 69% of the total Part I crime and 78% of the total property crime. Larceny often produces the most patterns. The three categories that produce some of the highest numbers – larcenies from motor vehicles, buildings, and persons – are often fueled by changes in technology. As electronics such as laptops, GPS navigation systems, and portable music players become more popular and evolve, they become easier targets, easier to conceal, and ultimately easier to sell. This year’s larceny total represents a 4% decrease from last year. The majority of the increase can be attributed to an 18% drop in larcenies from motor vehicles, a 6% reduction in larcenies from persons, and a 3% decrease in bicycle thefts.

Larceny is further broken down into the nine categories listed in the table below. As can be seen from the total, there was an overall decrease in larcenies this year in comparison to 2010. However, there were increases reported in larcenies from buildings, larcenies from residences, and miscellaneous larcenies.

<b>Categorization</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Larcenies from Buildings	393	433	10%
Larcenies from MV	784	639	-18%
Larcenies from Persons	342	320	-6%
Larcenies of Bicycles	380	370	-3%
Shoplifting	365	352	-4%
Larcenies from Residences	192	234	22%
Larcenies of License Plates	43	43	No Change
Larcenies of Services	31	25	-19%
Other (Unclassifiable) Larcenies	25	37	48%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,555</b>	<b>2,453</b>	<b>-4%</b>

# LARCENY FROM BUILDINGS

Larcenies from Buildings are non-burglary thefts from commercial establishments. “Non-burglary” means that either the offender had a specific right to be on the premises, or that the building was open to the general public, and that no force was used to gain entry to the building where the theft was committed.

<b>GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN BY BUSINESS DISTRICT</b>		
<b>Area</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Central Square	77	89
Harvard Square	69	75
Galleria/East Cambridge	43	49
Alewife/West Cambridge	34	43
Kendall Square/MIT	34	43
Bay Square/Upper Broadway	37	36
1500–1900 Mass. Ave.	28	35
Porter Square	31	28
Inman Square	23	25
Cambridgeport/Riverside	17	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>433</b>

There were 433 larcenies from buildings reported this year. This total represents an increase of 40 incidents from the previous year and is 14% above the five-year weighted average of 381 incidents.

## **TOP 5 HOT SPOTS OF 2011**

1. Cambridgeside Galleria Mall  
100 Cambridgeside Place – 34 incidents
2. Cambridge Rindge and Latin School  
459 Broadway – 12 incidents
3. Bally’s Health Club  
1815 Massachusetts Avenue – 12 incidents
4. 820 Massachusetts Ave  
YMCA – 9 incidents
5. Planet Fitness  
820 Somerville Ave – 8 incidents

## **The following are the most common larceny from building scenarios in Cambridge in 2011:**

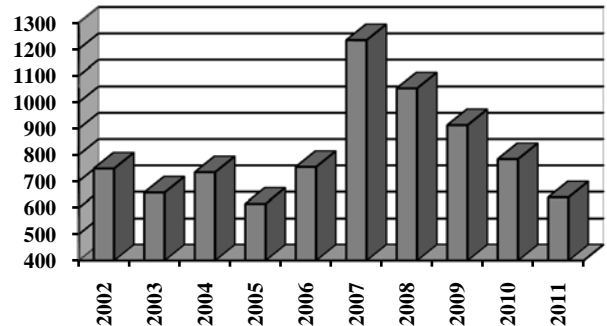
1. A thief walks into an office building during open business hours, posing as a delivery person or claiming to be looking for an employee that does not exist. The thief moves unnoticed into an empty office and takes personal or company property. Laptops and purses were the favorite target this year. This scenario accounted for 16% of the total reported larcenies from buildings this year.
2. Someone leaves his or her belongings unattended for a short time and then comes back to find the property missing. Examples include leaving a coat in a public coat closet at a bar or leaving purses/bags at the back of a church during service. This scenario accounted for 13% of the incidents in 2011.
3. A thief pries open a locker at a fitness club, commonly targeting wallets and cash. In 2011, 11% of larceny from building incidents occurred in this manner.
4. An employee of a commercial establishment leaves his or her personal property in a “back room” where he or she thinks it will be safe. Later, the employee notices that the property is missing. The most common targets in this crime include purses, bags, and cell phones. Approximately 11% of incidents reported in 2011 occurred in this manner.
5. A thief waits for or finds the opportunity to steal property left unattended on a store counter. Examples include when an employee leaves a cell phone on the counter while helping a customer or a shopper places their wallet down while buying an item and forgets the wallet when they leave, only to return and find it missing. This scenario accounted for 11% of the total reported in 2011. Cell phones, wallets and cash were the most common targets.

# LARCENY FROM MOTOR VEHICLES

Larcenies from Motor Vehicles (LMVs) involve an offender either breaking into a car and stealing valuables from within or stealing an exterior accessory (such as tires or hubcaps) from an automobile.

Larcenies from motor vehicles have consistently averaged between 16-26% of the total serious crime index in Cambridge for over 20 years. This year's car break total accounted for 18% of the Crime Index Total. Since the peak in 2007 when GPS navigation units became a hot commodity, this crime type has steadily decreased by 13-15% each year. An even larger drop was recorded in 2011 when 639 LMVs were reported citywide, which is 18% less than the 2010 total of 784 and 31% less than the five-year weighted average of 930. The East Cambridge neighborhood reported the most LMVs in 2010 with 93 incidents, followed by Cambridgeport with 77 and Mid-Cambridge with 71. East Cambridge also experienced the largest numerical increase over last year, with 35 more LMVs reported this year than in 2010, equaling a 60% rise. Numerically, Mid-Cambridge saw the largest decrease this year (-46 incidents), followed by West Cambridge (-37 incidents) and Cambridgeport (-25 incidents).

Larceny from Motor Vehicles, 2002-2011



GPS navigation systems continued to be the main target in LMVs this year. Nearly 32% of all the LMVs in 2011, or 203 incidents, involved the theft of GPS systems. This is a slight reduction from 2010 when 263 GPS thefts were reported, accounting for 34% of the LMVs citywide, and from 2009 when 333 GPS thefts were reported, accounting for roughly 36% of the LMVs citywide.

Neighborhood	2010	2011	% Change
East Cambridge	58	93	60%
Cambridgeport	102	77	-25%
Mid-Cambridge	117	71	-39%
West Cambridge	101	64	-37%
Riverside	75	64	-15%
Peabody	59	62	5%
Area 4	73	51	-30%
North Cambridge	67	50	-25%
Inman/Harrington	42	47	12%
Agassiz	50	31	-38%
MIT	11	11	No Change
Cambridge Highlands	11	11	No Change
Strawberry Hill	18	7	-61%
<b>Total</b>	<b>784</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>-18%</b>

## Top Ten Stolen Items of 2011

1. GPS Navigation Systems – 203 reported stolen
2. Backpacks/purses/wallets – 78 reported stolen
3. Laptop Computers – 76 reported stolen
4. Cash – 68 incidents
5. Various Automobile Parts – 57 reported stolen
6. MP3 Player – 48 reported stolen
7. Car Stereos/CD players – 41 reported stolen
8. Miscellaneous Electronics – 38 reported stolen
9. Cellular Telephones – 34 reported stolen
10. Glasses (sun or eye) – 30 items reported stolen

## Top Three Methods of Entry

1. The most common method of entry into motor vehicles in 2011 was by breaking one or more windows of the vehicle. This method was reported in 42% of the larcenies.
2. The second most common method of entry into motor vehicles was by unknown means. That is, there were no signs of forced entry into the vehicle. This method was reported in 22% of the incidents.
3. The third most common larceny from motor vehicle MO was through unlocked doors. This entry point accounted for 19% of the LMVs in 2011.

Considering how widespread and pervasive this type of crime is in Cambridge, it is often difficult to determine when a pattern is emerging. However, this activity tends to be concentrated in a few specific areas each year. See the next page for an LMV hotspot map containing more information on these concentrations in 2011.

# 2011 Larceny from Motor Vehicle Hotspot Map

Weekend overnight LMVs were reported in Peabody and Agassiz during May-June, and again in September-October. This tends to be a chronic problem area.

Pattern of overnight incidents along the periphery of Harvard Sq during July & August.

Incidents emerged in the area of Franklin and Green St during the first two weeks in March on weekdays after midnight. Similar incidents were seen in May and June.

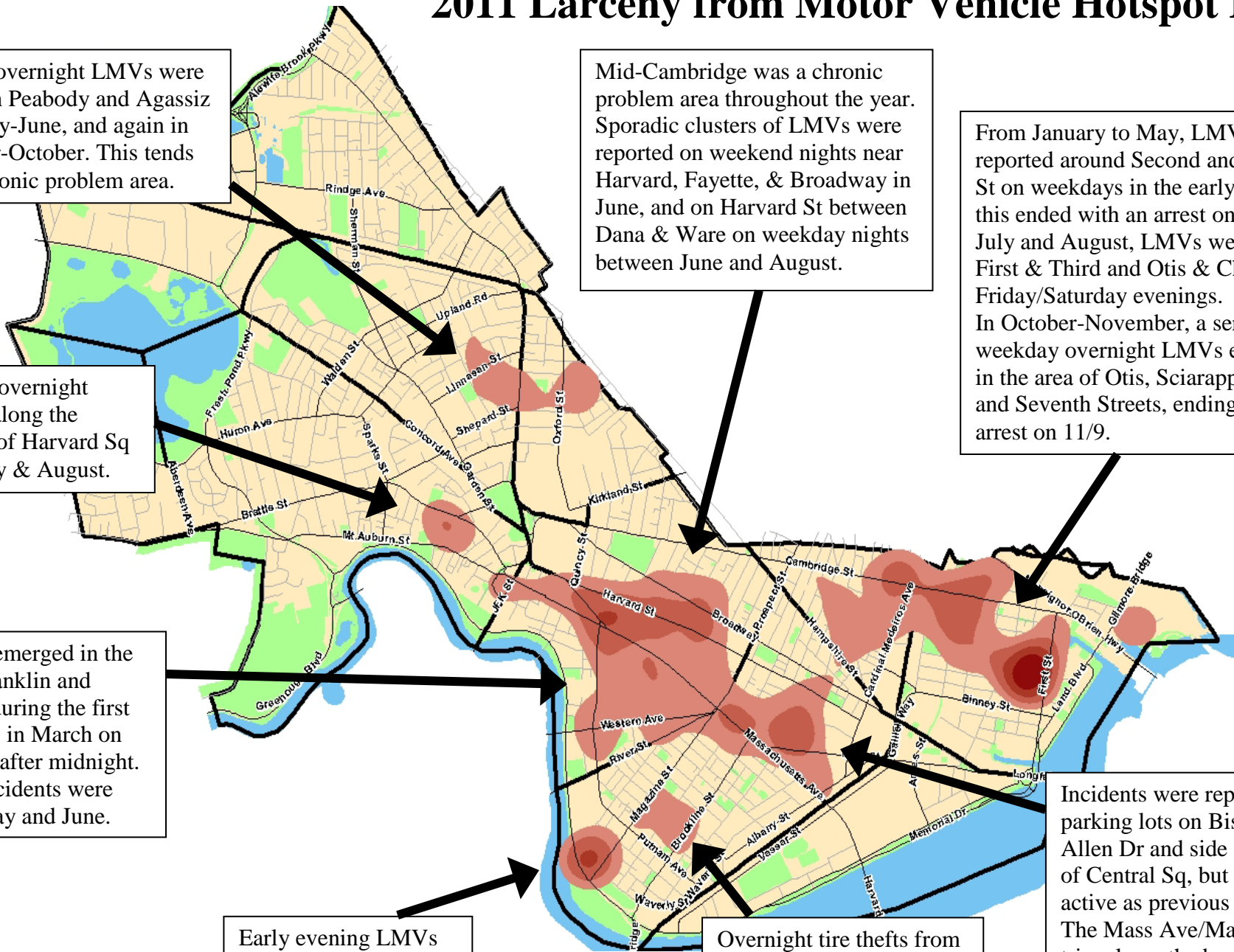
Early evening LMVs were reported at MicroCenter in May and again in October.

Mid-Cambridge was a chronic problem area throughout the year. Sporadic clusters of LMVs were reported on weekend nights near Harvard, Fayette, & Broadway in June, and on Harvard St between Dana & Ware on weekday nights between June and August.

From January to May, LMVs were reported around Second and Charles St on weekdays in the early evening; this ended with an arrest on 5/23. In July and August, LMVs were seen on First & Third and Otis & Charles on Friday/Saturday evenings. In October-November, a series of weekday overnight LMVs emerged in the area of Otis, Sciarappa, Hurley, and Seventh Streets, ending with an arrest on 11/9.

Overnight tire thefts from Hondas were reported in Cambridgeport in late June through late Sept.

Incidents were reported in parking lots on Bishop Allen Dr and side streets off of Central Sq, but not as active as previous years. The Mass Ave/Main St triangle on the border of Central Sq was hot in early October.





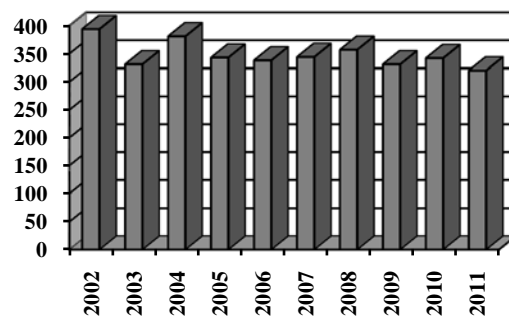
## LARCENY FROM PERSONS

Larceny from person describes pocket picking or any theft that occurs within the victim's area of control. The thefts are non-confrontational, and often the victim is not aware of the theft until after it has occurred. If any physical confrontation between offender and victim takes place, the crime is recorded as a robbery.

Larcenies from persons in 2011 were 6% lower than the number reported in 2010. Periodic dipper activity in Central Square and Harvard Square drove this total. However, unlike in previous years when specific patterns of activity emerged in Harvard and Central Square, no defined patterns of this type emerged in 2011. Incidents were reported more sporadically throughout the year as opposed to in patterns. There were also 14 arrests made over the course of the year. It appears that selected enforcement strategies established during the second half of 2010 and continued throughout 2011 may have effectively contributed to the reduction in this chronic problem in 2011. See the scenarios below for more information on dipper activity in the city.

BUSINESS DISTRICT	2010	2011
Harvard Square	127	107
Central Square	86	82
Galleria/East Cambridge	39	44
Alewife/West Cambridge	19	17
Porter Square/North Cambridge	18	16
Inman Square/Harrington	7	15
Kendall Square/MIT	13	12
1500–1900 Mass. Ave.	15	9
Cambridgeport/Riverside	10	9
Bay Square/Upper Broadway	8	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>320</b>

Larceny from Persons, 2002-2011



The following represents three recurring scenarios that typically dominate larcenies from persons in Cambridge:

- One of the most common larceny scenarios in Cambridge is when a diner places his or her jacket over the back of a chair, or places her purse under a chair. Someone sitting behind the victim either goes through the coat or purse and takes the valuables from within, or takes the coat or purse entirely. This scenario, also known as dipper activity, accounted for 34% of the larcenies from persons in 2011. Incidents at restaurants and cafes located in Central Square (29 incidents) and Harvard Square (58 incidents) dominated this categorization. In Central Square, establishments on Massachusetts Ave such as the *Middle East*, *Tavern in the Square*, *Starbucks*, the *Harvest Co-op*, and the *1369 Coffee House* saw the majority of the incidents. In Harvard Square, concentrations were reported at and around local restaurants, specifically between the 1200 and 1400 blocks of Massachusetts Ave (*Hong Kong*, *Au Bon Pain*, *Harvard Coop Café*, and *Starbucks*), 30-50 Church St (*Border Café*, *Fire & Ice*, and *Dado Tea*), 27 Brattle St (*Crema Café*), 36 JFK St (*Starbucks*), and the 90 block of Winthrop St (*OM Restaurant* and *Tommy Doyle's*). Incidents of this type at the Cambridgeside Galleria have been dropping in recent years, with only five reported in 2011. These types of larcenies from persons are generally easy to prevent. Remember to always keep your belongings within your control. Do not leave purses on the floor, on the back of your chair, or otherwise unattended. Do not leave wallets or cell phones in the pockets of hanging coats.
- Almost 28% of the larcenies from persons in 2011 were thefts of items left unattended by their owners. This includes purses and wallets left briefly unattended in restaurants, churches, schools, bus stops, parks, etc. In one typical scenario of this type, a student enters a café and places all of his possessions at a table. When he leaves his belongings behind to quickly purchase food, his valuables may be missing when he returns to the table.
- Similar to the category of thefts of unattended property is the thefts of items from victims as they shop in local commercial establishments. In this situation, a shopper leaves her purse in a shopping cart while looking at items on a shelf; when she returns to the cart, the purse is gone. This category accounted for 17% of the larcenies from persons in 2011.
- Yet another popular scenario is pocket-picking. While a victim is walking through a public place, a pickpocket stealthily reaches into the victim's coat, purse, or backpack and removes valuables. This scenario accounted for about 13% of the larceny from person reports in 2011. Harvard Square and Central Square reported the highest pocket-picking numbers in 2011 with 15 and 13, respectively. Concentrations were most prevalent from noon through the late afternoon.

# LARCENY OF BICYCLES

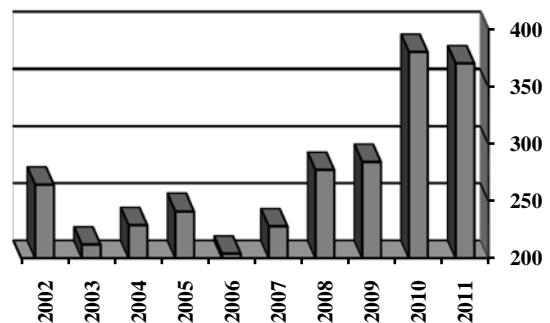
Note: The Cambridge Police Department's bicycle theft statistics do not include thefts reported to the MIT or Harvard University Police Departments. These additional thefts could add several hundred to the theft total.

This year saw 370 incidents of stolen bicycles, a decrease of 3% from 2010. Not surprisingly, the largest numbers of bicycle thefts in 2011 occurred in the summer months of June, July and August (65, 70, and 59 incidents, respectively), when bicycles typically pack the streets and sidewalks because of warmer weather. September, October, November, and December also experienced higher numbers of bike thefts (between 21 and 41 each). This is not surprising, as the fall and early winter of 2011 were warmer than normal and people were able to use their bicycles further into the season. The business districts with the most incidents were Central Sq (73), Harvard Sq (46), Cambridgeport/Riverside (45), and Inman Sq (42).

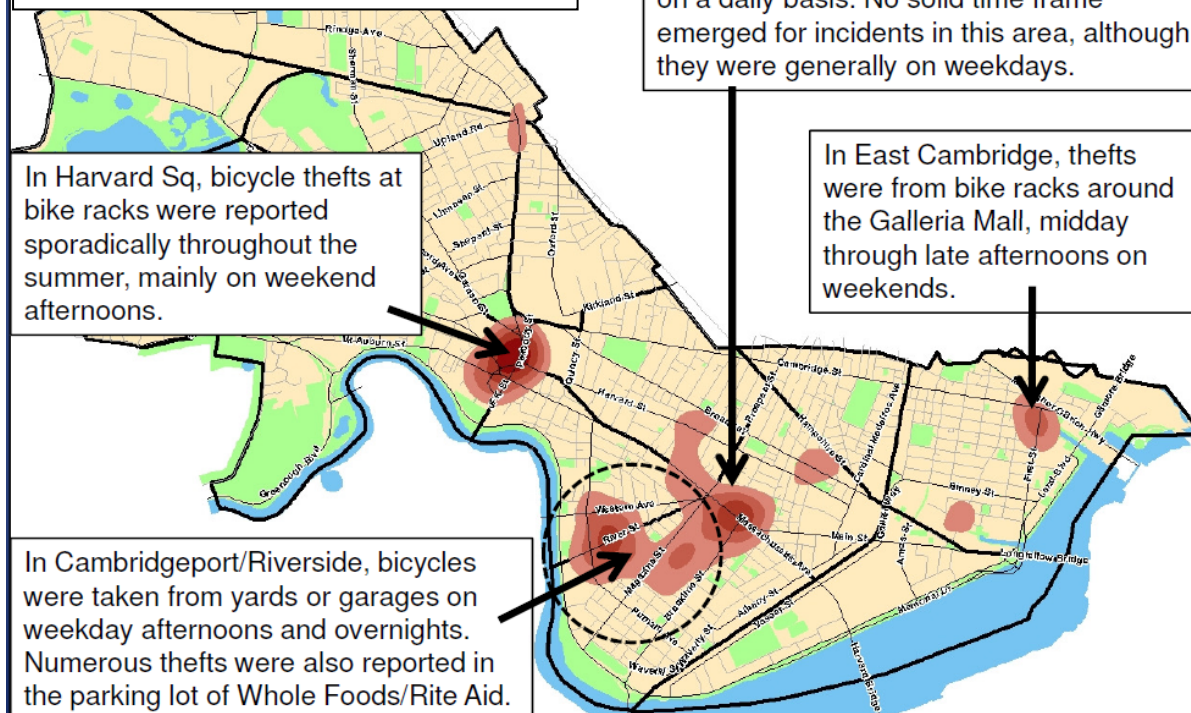
Locks present little difficulty to bicycle thieves, who often bring bolt cutters or pry bars with them. Nearly 44% of all reported bicycle thefts this year involved locked and unattended bicycles on a street, sidewalk, or rack. A little over 22% of thefts involved locked bicycles on private property, such as in private back yards or in apartment building hallways. Another 21% percent of the larcenies involved bicycles that were left unlocked and unprotected. Unlocked bicycles that were on private property followed, making up the remaining 13% of reported incidents.

NEIGHBORHOOD	2010	2011
Cambridgeport	60	62
Mid-Cambridge	42	37
Riverside	41	42
East Cambridge	40	42
Area 4	33	37
North Cambridge	33	33
Peabody	33	18
West Cambridge	32	48
Inman/Harrington	28	23
Agassiz	17	9
MIT	15	12
Strawberry Hill	4	0
Highlands	2	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>370</b>

Bicycle Larceny, 2002-2011



## 2011 Larceny of Bicycle Hotspot Map



# SHOPLIFTING

Shoplifting decreased by 4% in 2011, dropping from 365 incidents to 352. The Cambridgeside Galleria reported more than twice as many incidents as any other area in Cambridge this year; Harvard Square, Central Square, and the Alewife/West Cambridge area reported the next highest amounts. It is important to note that since shoplifting incidents are often only reported when an arrest is made, underreporting can be a serious problem. The actual shoplifting total may be six to ten times greater than the statistic given. However, more than a third of the reported incidents in 2011 did *not* result in an arrest, which may indicate an increase in the tendency to report incidents regardless of whether an arrest was made or not. Some stores may also choose to trespass the shoplifter instead of pressing charges.

BUSINESS DISTRICT	2010	2011
Galleria/East Cambridge	179	141
Harvard Square	57	61
Central Square	31	47
Alewife/West Cambridge	34	46
Porter Square/North Cambridge	25	23
Cambridgeport/Riverside	20	12
Inman Square/Harrington	8	10
Kendall Square/MIT	3	10
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	7	2
Bay Square/Upper Broadway	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>352</b>

Top Shoplifter Residences	
Boston	36
Dorchester	36
Cambridge	23
Somerville	9
Mattapan	8
Roxbury	7
Chelsea	5
Brighton	4
East Boston	4
Medford	4
Revere	4

Shoplifters usually fall into one of five categories:

1. **Juvenile Shoplifters**, who steal on a dare to impress their peers, to get an “adrenaline rush,” or to compensate for lack of money.
2. **Impulse Shoplifters**, who seize a sudden chance, such as an unattended dressing room or a blind aisle. Sometimes, the “impulse” is a long line or sudden lack of money.
3. **Alcoholics, vagrants, and drug addicts**, who steal erratically and clumsily. When caught, this type of shoplifter is more likely than others to get violent (see “Shop Owner/Patron” assaults in the Assault section).
4. **Kleptomaniacs**, who steal to satisfy a psychological need.
5. **Professionals**, who steal expensive items and resell them to fences or “flea markets.”

The chart to the left provides a breakdown of the top residences of persons arrested for shoplifting in Cambridge in 2011.

# LARCENY FROM RESIDENCES

Larcenies from Residences are non-burglary thefts from apartments, hallways, garages, or yards. “Non-burglary” means that no force or trespass was involved in the theft. A majority of these thefts are committed by people who have the right to be on the property. They include thefts committed by guests, roommates, family members, workers, and home health care providers. They also include thefts committed in common areas of apartment buildings, and thefts committed in property surrounding a house, such as the front yard, walkway, or tool shed.

Since larcenies from residences are usually committed by someone known to the victim, pattern identification and intervention by the police department is difficult. There were 234 of these larcenies reported in 2010, a 22% increase over 2010. The substantial increase in this crime type in 2011 can be attributed to a 47% increase in reported package thefts from the front steps or vestibules of residences across the city. The vast majority (over 60%) of these package thefts in 2011 took place in November and December. In fact, there were almost more package thefts reported during those two months alone in 2011 (44 thefts) than there were during the entire year in 2010 (49 thefts). See the next page for a hotspot map of the package theft concentrations in 2011.

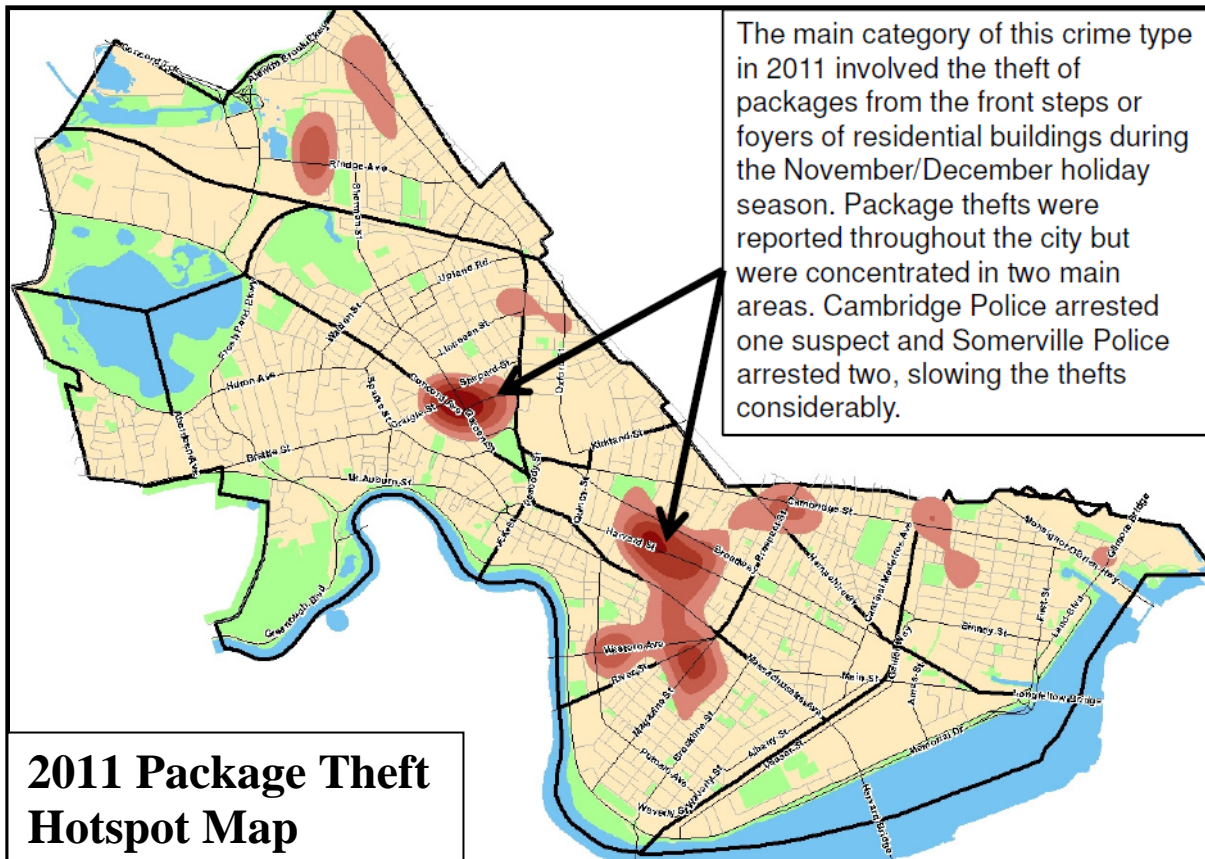
The most common larceny from residence scenarios are:

- *Thefts of mail/packages delivered by a parcel service: 31%*
- *Thefts committed by visitors or guests of a residence: 26%*
- *Thefts from a yard, porch, or other area surrounding a residence: 11%*

NEIGHBORHOOD	2010	2011
Mid-Cambridge	40	39
North Cambridge	20	35
Peabody	18	27
East Cambridge	15	25
West Cambridge	10	25
Cambridgeport	24	23
Riverside	17	18
Inman/Harrington	16	15
Area 4	21	12
Agassiz	6	9
Strawberry Hill	3	3
MIT	0	2
Cambridge Highlands	2	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>234</b>



- *Thefts committed by someone working in the residence, such as a painter, plumber, contractor, or maintenance worker: 11%*
- *Thefts from a common hallway, foyer, or common area of an apartment building: 10%*
- *Thefts committed by a family member, spouse, or romantic partner (i.e., “domestic thefts”): 6%*
- *Thefts committed while victims are in the process of moving: 4%*
- *Thefts from a storage area of an apartment building or complex: 2%*



## LARCENY OF SERVICES

This crime includes taxicab fare evasion, “dining and ditching,” “gassing and going,” and other failures to pay for services already rendered.

There were 25 of these crimes reported in 2011. Gasoline thefts and “dining and ditching” incidents were reported most often this year (ten and nine incidents, respectively), followed by taxi fare evasion (six incidents). The final incident consisted of an auto repair/service theft.

## LARCENY (MISCELLANEOUS)

Larceny miscellaneous includes all other unclassifiable larcenies.

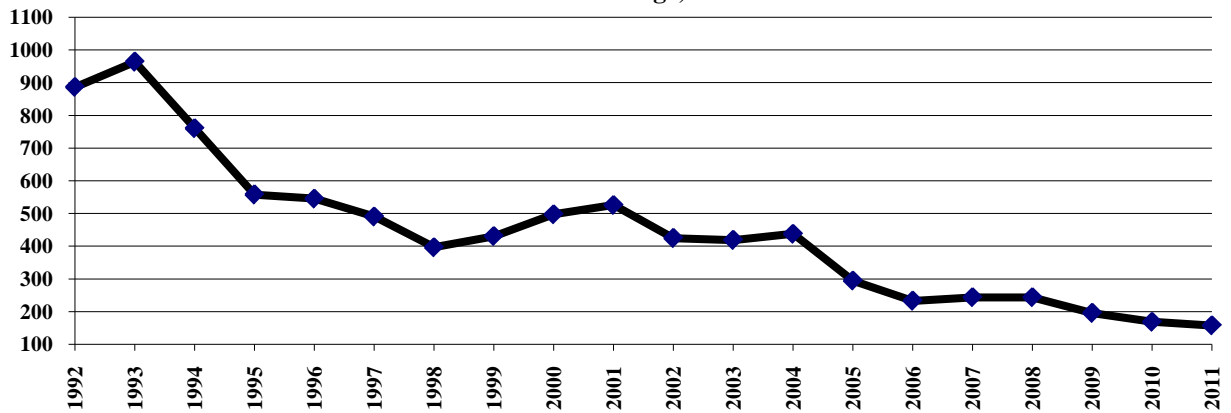
There were no patterns of any miscellaneous types of larceny in 2011. Miscellaneous larcenies increased by 48% this year, rising from 25 to 37 incidents.

Please see the “Learn to Protect Yourself” section of this Annual Report for ways to protect yourself from larceny.

# AUTO THEFT

Auto theft is defined as the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. This offense category includes the theft of automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, and snowmobiles. This definition excludes the taking of a motor vehicle for temporary use by persons having lawful access.

**Twenty Year Review:  
Auto Theft in Cambridge, 1992 to 2011**



**169 reported in 2010 • 158 reported in 2011**

In the mid-1970's there were nearly 3,000 cars reported stolen yearly in Cambridge. These figures declined to approximately 1,700 thefts in the 1980's, and to less than 1,000 thefts yearly in the 1990's. Today's figures represent one of the most dramatic reported decreases in a single crime type. In 2011, Cambridge reported a 50-year low in auto thefts. This decline can be attributed to the virtual elimination of "chop shops" and interstate auto theft rings, crackdowns on insurance fraud, advances in automobile security, and new technology that enables patrol officers to quickly check a vehicle's registry listing and determine if it is stolen.

## GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF AUTO THEFT

Neighborhood				CHANGE	% OF TOTAL
	2009	2010	2011	10-11	
Cambridgeport	28	26	29	12%	18%
Mid-Cambridge	20	18	22	22%	14%
East Cambridge	20	15	22	47%	14%
Inman/Harrington	13	16	15	-6%	9%
Area 4	17	21	14	-33%	9%
West Cambridge	25	20	13	-35%	8%
North Cambridge	20	20	12	-40%	8%
Riverside	10	10	11	10%	7%
Peabody	20	14	9	-36%	6%
Agassiz	12	4	5	25%	3%
Strawberry Hill	4	3	2	-33%	1%
Cambridge Highlands	4	1	2	100%	1%
M.I.T. Area	3	1	2	100%	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>-7%</b>	

As mentioned, Cambridge reported a 50-year low in auto thefts in 2011 with only 158 incidents. The Cambridgeport neighborhood reported the city's highest number of thefts for the third year in a row with 29. The neighborhoods with the next highest numbers were Mid-Cambridge and East Cambridge, both with 22 incidents. All three of the top ranking neighborhoods for auto thefts experienced increases from the previous year. The

neighborhood that experienced the largest increase over 2010 was East Cambridge, where auto thefts rose by seven incidents, or 47%. North Cambridge experienced the largest decrease in auto thefts this year, showing a 40% drop from 20 incidents in 2010 to 12 in 2011. Area 4, Peabody, and West Cambridge also reported large decreases of over 30%.

Cambridge experienced 24 auto theft incidents in the first quarter of 2011. The second quarter (April, May, and June) resulted in a total of 44 incidents, and the third quarter (July, August, and September) reported the most auto thefts in 2011 with 54 incidents. Auto thefts dropped down to 36 in the fourth quarter. The month of July reported the highest number of stolen vehicles in a single month with 24 incidents (15% of the total). Incidentally, August, the month that experienced the most auto thefts in 2010, had 52% fewer auto thefts this year, dropping from 27 incidents in 2010 to 13 in 2011.

## **MAKES AND MODELS**

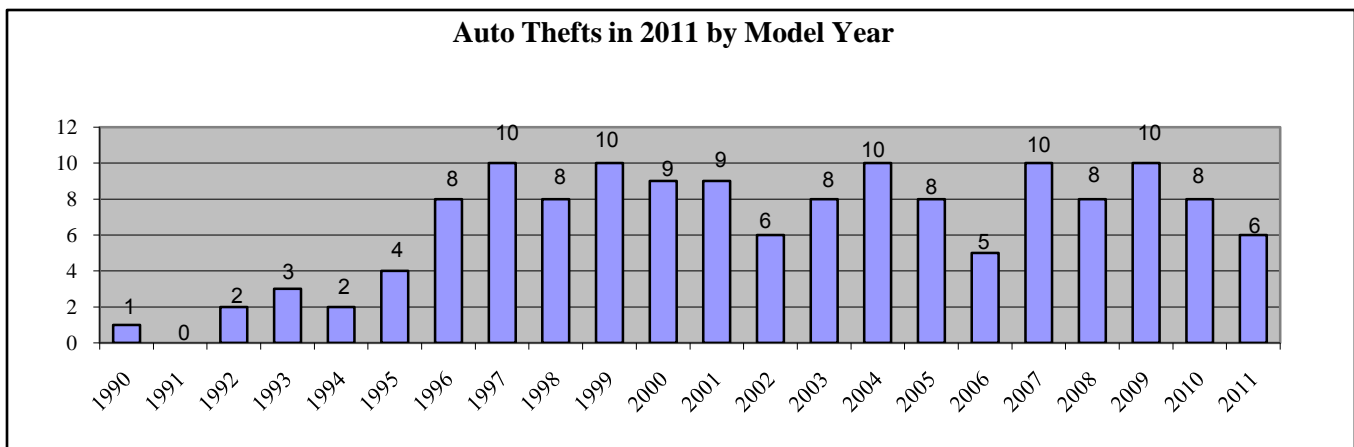
Hondas continue to be by far the most commonly stolen automobiles in 2011, constituting 29% of all reports, or 46 incidents. Toyotas came in second with 16 incidents and Ford came in third with 11 incidents. This information is consistent with historical and national trends, as Hondas are typically the most commonly stolen vehicles nationwide. As is clear in the table below, the top five vehicle model types stolen in Cambridge also fall in the top ten stolen vehicles nationally and statewide.

By far the most targeted model this year was the Honda Civic, followed by the Honda Accord, Toyota Camry, and Dodge Caravan. These particular models are stolen more than any other due to several factors. These cars are some of the most commonly *owned* models in the nation, making them more widely available. Statistical probability alone would place them near the top of the theft list. Car thieves tend to look for average-cost, commonly owned, inconspicuous cars. High-priced luxury cars are not stolen very often because they are too easy for someone to spot and are more likely to be equipped with expensive alarm systems.

<b>TOP FIVE STOLEN MAKES &amp; MODELS</b>			
<b>Makes</b>		<b>Model type</b>	
Honda	46	Honda Civic*+	24
Toyota	16	Honda Accord*+	10
Ford	11	Toyota Camry*+	6
Dodge	10	Dodge Caravan*+	6
Chevy	8	Acura Integra*+	5

\*Also in the National Top Ten (for 2010)  
 +Also in the Massachusetts Top Ten (for 2010)  
 (2011 National/MA Top Ten data is not yet available)

The table below shows the incidence of auto theft by model year (six vehicles did not report the model year and six models were from prior to 1990 and did not fit on the graph; therefore these twelve are not included below). Analysis of the age of stolen vehicles shows that the highest demand is for cars less than 14 years old. Thieves looking for transportation steal cars 5-10 years old because they are inconspicuous. Thieves looking to make a profit target these years because parts for these cars are in higher demand. Normally the other high cluster of cars stolen are those that are only a few years old. This represents “joyriders,” looking for newer models to increase their sense of status, and thieves intending to sell the entire car for profit.



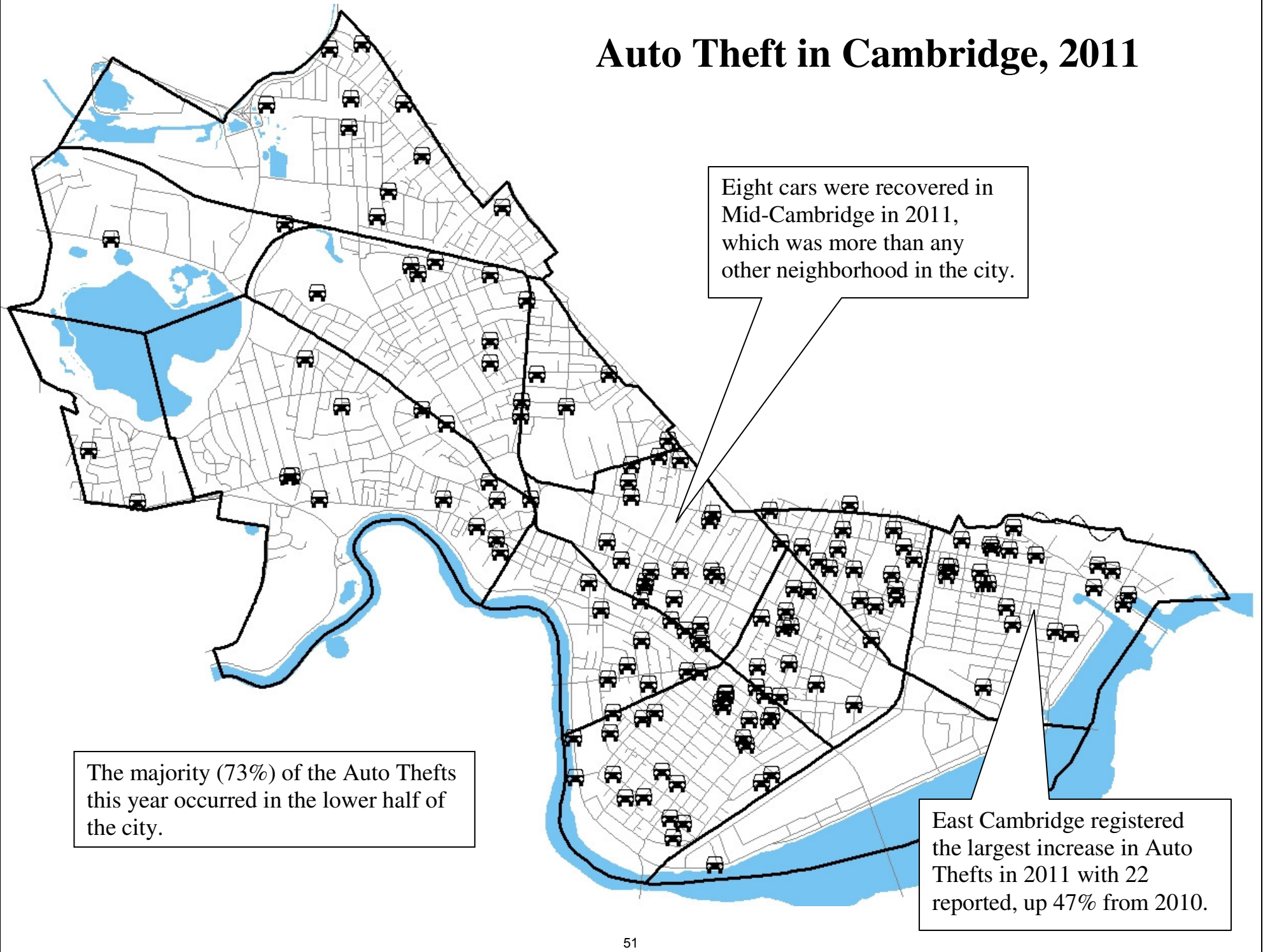
## **AUTO THEFT RECOVERIES**

Approximately 64% of the cars reported stolen in 2011 have been recovered to date. The majority of the recovered cars were located throughout Cambridge and Boston. When damage was reported on recovered vehicles, it was most commonly body damage (26 vehicles) and ignition (21 vehicles). Radios were missing from three vehicles, tires were missing from five, and miscellaneous parts were missing from five. Seven cars were found either partially or completely stripped. One vehicle was found totaled. Note that additional information regarding parts stolen from vehicles where the vehicles themselves were not stolen can be found in the Larceny section of this report. The following table shows a breakdown of recovery locations.

<b>Boston</b>	<b>23</b>
Boston (general)	15
Jamaica Plain	2
East Boston	1
Dorchester	1
Hyde Park	1
Mattapan	1
Roslindale	1
Roxbury	1
<b>Cambridge</b>	<b>49</b>
Mid-Cambridge	8
East Cambridge	6
Inman/Harrington	5
Cambridgeport	5
West Cambridge	4
North Cambridge	4
Peabody	4
Riverside	3
Agassiz	3
Area 4	3
Unknown	3
MIT Area	1
Cambridge Highlands	0
Strawberry Hill	0
<b>Other Cities</b>	<b>29</b>
Somerville	9
Out of State	4
Lynn	2
Malden	2
Medford	2
Arlington	1
Bedford	1
Brookline	1
Billerica	1
Everett	1
Lancaster	1
Mass Pike	1
Revere	1
Quincy	1
Worcester	1

Please see the “Learn to Protect Yourself” section of this Annual Report for tips on how you can protect your car from auto theft.

# Auto Theft in Cambridge, 2011







# SECTION II

## PART II CRIMES

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- **DRUG OFFENSES**
- **SEX CRIMES**
- **VANDALISM**
- **FRAUD**
- **OTHER PART II CRIMES**

THE FOLLOWING IS AN OVERVIEW  
OF SELECTED PART II CRIMES IN  
THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE







# NARCOTICS

Narcotics includes all incidents in which the police made an arrest, complaint, or warrant for the possession or distribution of illegal narcotics. Narcotics statistics do not include all instances of narcotics use or distribution; they only reflect those cases that are known to the police.

**89 reported in 2010 • 96 reported in 2011**

The Cambridge Police Department's Special Investigations Unit (SIU) is a specialized group of officers who deal with vice activity throughout the city on a daily basis. Targeting drug activity remains the top goal of the unit. Through strategic planning methods, the members of this unit attempt to alleviate the burdens bestowed upon society by the culture of drug use and sales. By aggressively pursuing low-level street dealers, the SIU, along with patrol officers, are able to climb the drug network and annually arrest top drug suppliers across Cambridge.

Below is a geographic breakdown of drug incidents across the 13 neighborhoods in Cambridge. Cambridgeport, which includes part of Central Square, has accounted for the most drug activity over the past three years.

**In total, 96 drug incidents were reported in 2011 and 92 arrests were made in 69 of these incidents.**

## DRUG ARREST SCENARIOS

There are seven common ways that the police learn about drug activity in the city. They are listed below.

1. The Cambridge Police Department Special Investigation Unit initiates an investigation or conducts surveillance resulting in an arrest. Many of these investigations are due to information supplied by confidential sources: **42 cases**
2. A police officer on patrol observes suspicious street activity and upon further investigation discovers narcotics: **20 cases**
3. A Cambridge school official or court officer observes drug use: **11 cases**
4. During a routine motor vehicle stop, a police officer observes or smells narcotics inside the vehicle: **11 cases**
5. A citizen witnesses a person or persons using drugs and notifies the police: **7 cases**
6. During an arrest for another crime such as disorderly conduct, the arresting officer or booking officer finds narcotics on the arrested person: **4 cases**
7. Pharmacists discover patrons attempting to fill fake prescriptions: **1 case**

Drug Incidents By Neighborhood				
Area	2009	2010	2011	% of total
Cambridgeport	32	21	22	23%
Mid-Cambridge	10	13	16	17%
East Cambridge	7	3	13	14%
Area 4	20	21	12	13%
North Cambridge	11	4	9	9%
West Cambridge	5	4	8	8%
Inman/Harrington	10	11	6	6%
Riverside	7	5	4	4%
Peabody	2	0	4	4%
M.I.T. Area	3	2	1	1%
Strawberry Hill	0	2	1	1%
Agassiz	1	2	0	0%
Cambridge Highlands	0	1	0	0%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Drug Related Activities for Which Persons are Arrested

Activity	2011
Possession	44
Possession with intent to distribute (the carrying of a significant amount of narcotics not for personal use)	38
Drug Sale (observed)	8
Trafficking (the selling, possessing or transporting of copious amounts of narcotics)	6

## DRUG TIP HOTLINE

*The Special Investigations Unit employs an anonymous 24 hour Drug Tip Hotline to gain intelligence information from the community. The Unit can be reached by calling 617-349-3359. Generally, you will be greeted by a taped message instructing you to leave very detailed information.*

***You do not have to provide any personal information and all information is held in confidence.***

*Also, you may send crime tips to the Cambridge Police Department's Anonymous Crime Tip E-Mail address by accessing [www.Cambridgepolice.org](http://www.Cambridgepolice.org) and clicking on Anonymous Crime Tip E-Mail.*

*Or you can send an anonymous text message to TIP411 (847411). Begin your text with Tip650 and then type your message.*

## Types of Drugs Found On Arrested Persons

Drug	2011
Marijuana	34
Heroin	25
Crack / Cocaine	21
Prescription Drugs	13
Hallucinogens	3

The statistics in these two tables reflect only one arrest charge and one type of drug per arrested individual. A few individuals had multiple charges or more than one type of drug on them, but only the most serious was chosen in each arrest.

## Summary of Overdose Incidents

Officers responded to several calls for drug-induced overdoses in 2011. While these types of incidents are generally medical in nature, police often respond to assist Fire and EMS agencies.

In 2011, although every neighborhood except MIT and Agassiz had at least one reported overdose, the majority of the overdoses known to the Cambridge Police were reported in Cambridgeport, Riverside, and North Cambridge. Utilizing witness statements as well as evidence at the scene, such as used needles and medication bottles, officers were able to determine that either prescription medications or heroin were used in almost all of the overdose incidents in 2011. Those incidents involving prescription medications were often intentionally administered overdoses. Most of the medications were anti-depressants or pain medications.

### Massachusetts Drug Classifications

**Drug types are classified under 5 different substance categories in Massachusetts: Class A, B, C, D, and E:**

- A. Class A Substances include Heroin and other opiates such as Morphine; some designer drugs such as GHB; and Ketamine (Special K).
- B. Class B Substances include Cocaine; prescription opiates such as Oxycotin/Oxycodone; LSD; Ecstasy (XTC); Amphetamine (speed); and Methamphetamine (meth).
- C. Class C Substances include prescription tranquilizers, mescaline, psilocybin/mushrooms, peyote, and some medium doses of prescription narcotics.
- D. Class D Substances include Marijuana (pot), choryl hydrate, and some lesser doses of prescription drugs.
- E. Class E Substance charges are typically for lighter doses of prescription narcotics.

# SEX OFFENSES

Sex Offenses include six crimes of a sexual nature: annoying and accosting, indecent assault, indecent exposure, obscene telephone calls, peeping & spying, and prostitution & solicitation. Rape is not included because it is a Part I crime.

**88 reported in 2010 • 87 reported in 2011**

### Annoying & Accosting

Annoying and accosting a member of the opposite sex is a form of criminal harassment. (Note: Incidents involving phone call harassment are not considered annoying and accosting. Phone calls are a separate category.) Often, annoying and accosting involves a man repeatedly following, shouting, making off-color suggestions, hooting, repeatedly asking for a date, or otherwise harassing a woman. It happens most often on the street and in the workplace. All nine of the incidents in 2011 were perpetrated by strangers, and they were reported throughout the year (no temporal hotspots).

Crime	2010	2011
Indecent Assault	32	35
Indecent Exposure	28	31
Annoying & Accosting	21	9
Obscene Telephone Calls	5	9
Peeping & Spying	1	3
Prostitution and Soliciting	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>87</b>

### Indecent Assault

Indecent assault is the unwanted touching of a person by another in a private area or with sexual overtones. Any incident where force or injury occurs would be considered an aggravated assault rather than an indecent assault. In 2010, the victim knew the offender in slightly under half of the incidents.

There were no patterns of indecent assaults in Cambridge in 2011. The third quarter (July, August, and September) saw the most incidents with 11. Both arrests were of strangers to the victim and these incidents most often occurred in the streets.

### Indecent Exposure

Indecent exposure is the offensive, often suggestive display of one's body (usually the genitals) in public. The main offenders are typically vagrants or inebriated individuals. Twelve (39%) of the thirty-one indecent exposure incidents in 2011

involved suspects masturbating or engaging in sexual acts in public. Eight incidents (26%) involved individuals seen urinating in public. There were also eleven flashing incidents. Arrests were made in 17 (55%) of the 31 incidents.

**Obscene Telephone Calls**

Obscene telephone calls are unwanted phone calls of an offensive or repulsive nature. Often the caller uses sexual or vulgar language to cause discomfort and possibly fear to the victim receiving the calls. In five of the nine incidents during 2011, the caller was unknown to the victim.

**Peeping & Spying**

Peeping and spying occurs most often when offenders peer through windows of houses or apartments, generally at night. There were two incidents of this nature reported in Cambridge in 2011. Another typical peeping scenario in Cambridge involves the videotaping of unsuspecting victims during situations in which privacy is expected. This type of incident did not occur in 2011, but normally would take place in a dressing room at the Cambridgeside Galleria.

**Prostitution & Soliciting Sex for a Fee**

Prostitution is commonly associated with “streetwalking,” (prostitutes working the streets) but also includes escort services, where a “john” (client) will call and a prostitute will be sent to the “john’s” location. In the 1990’s, the Cambridge Police Special Investigations Unit (SIU) had proactively fought the visible “streetwalking” problem, nearly eradicating it in Cambridge. The last undercover sting set up to combat this problem was in November 2009 after complaints of alleged prostitution activity resurfaced, particularly in and around Cambridge hotels. The undercover sting resulted in seven arrests for prostitution-related charges. No prostitution incidents were reported in the city in 2011.

# MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION

Malicious destruction, or vandalism of property, includes tire-slashing, window-smashing, spray-painting, and a myriad of other crimes in which someone’s property is willfully and maliciously damaged. It is the most commonly reported crime in Cambridge, yet we suspect that vandalism is one of the most underreported crimes; residents and businesses frequently ignore “minor” incidents of vandalism and graffiti.

**544 reported in 2010 • 542 reported in 2011**

<b>VANDALISM BY CATEGORY</b>		
Category	2010	2011
Dents/other damage to car	104	108
Car window smashed	114	83
Tires slashed or punctured	61	76
Scratches, “pinstripes”	48	33
Attempted theft	15	10
<b>Total Damage to Autos</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>310</b>
Window of residence smashed	12	26
Misc. damage at residences	30	25
<b>Total Damage to Residences</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>51</b>
Window of business smashed	35	50
Misc. damage to businesses	30	39
<b>Total Damage to Businesses</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Graffiti</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>Miscellaneous damage</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>

<b>Vandalism By Neighborhood</b>			
Area	2010	2011	% Change
Cambridgeport	73	89	<b>22%</b>
East Cambridge	59	77	<b>31%</b>
Area 4	47	58	<b>23%</b>
Riverside	52	52	<b>No Change</b>
North Cambridge	73	51	<b>-30%</b>
West Cambridge	47	47	<b>No Change</b>
Inman/Harrington	56	46	<b>-18%</b>
Mid-Cambridge	34	42	<b>24%</b>
Peabody	50	27	<b>-46%</b>
Agassiz	21	14	<b>-33%</b>
Cambridge Highlands	7	14	<b>100%</b>
Strawberry Hill	21	13	<b>-38%</b>
M.I.T. Area	5	12	<b>140%</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>Less than 1% Decrease</b>

There were 542 incidents of malicious destruction, or “vandalism,” reported in 2011. Malicious Destruction in Cambridge dropped by less than 1% from 2010 to 2011. The M.I.T. neighborhood saw the biggest increase with a 140% jump in vandalism reports, following by the Highlands, which rose by 100%. The neighborhood with one of the most noticeable decreases in 2011 was Peabody.

# F R A U D

Fraud, larceny under false pretenses, forgery, embezzlement, and confidence games are not included among types of larceny in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting System. Yet in many cases, fraud is a much more serious crime than theft. Victims of check forgery and "con" games stand to lose thousands of dollars. Often added to this loss is the personal humiliation that accompanies being "duped" by a "con man." The confidence game crook, a particularly crafty breed of criminal who has no problem deceiving his victims face-to-face, expects (often correctly) that his victim's embarrassment will deter him or her from reporting the crime to the police.

## 413 reported in 2010 • 416 reported in 2011

Across the nation, police departments are seeing fraud become an increasingly popular crime. In 2011, this crime type rose 1% in Cambridge.

### Counterfeiting

In 2011, there were 21 incidents of counterfeiting. Almost all of these incidents involved counterfeit bills. In Cambridge, these incidents tend to occur most often at the Galleria Mall and at grocery stores, convenient stores, and gas stations.

### Application

There was one incident of a forged application in 2011, which involved a domestic situation between a father and daughter.

### Bad Check

This is defined as the writing of checks on insufficient funds or closed accounts. The Cambridge Police took 14 reports for this crime in 2011.

### ATM/Credit Card Fraud

The most common fraud reported in Cambridge involves the use of credit and ATM cards. There were 142 reports of ATM/credit card fraud in 2011. Major commercial areas such as Harvard/Central Squares and the Galleria Mall are hotspots for this activity. There are two main ways that victims become aware of this type of crime; either victims are informed by their credit card companies of unusual activity on their charge or debit cards or a victim finds unauthorized charges on his or her credit card account after the card is lost or stolen.

### Forged Check

Writing a forged check includes any incident in which a suspect forges the signature of the victim, or changes the amount written on the check. There were 41 forged checks reported in 2011.

### Identity Theft

This scenario is when an unknown or known person opens accounts in the victim's name with their social security number. This can include utilities, credit cards or even filing tax returns. In this electronic age, this sort of forgery is very high and on the rise, with a 16% increase over 2010.

### Embezzlement

This occurs when employees take advantage of their position for financial gain, diverting company funds to their own account. There were 12 reports of embezzlement in 2011. Historically, retail stores in Harvard Square and the Galleria are most affected by this crime. Often, incidents of this type involve employees stealing several thousand dollars from the companies for which they work.

### "Con" Games

There were 63 swindles, con games, or flimflams in 2011. Many of these incidents involved a suspect using a scam in order to swindle money out of unsuspecting victims. Internet-related incidents continue to account for the highest number of con games.

FRAUD TYPE	2010	2011
<b>Counterfeiting</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Forgery/Uttering</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>320</b>
Credit/ATM Card	141	142
Identity Theft	98	114
Forged Check	45	41
Bad Check	13	14
Other/Misc.	10	8
Application	1	1
<b>Con Games</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>63</b>
Internet-Related	37	39
Miscellaneous	24	14
Charity Impostor	3	4
Housework/Utilities	4	2
Cash Shuffle	1	2
Big Carrot	8	1
Psychic Swindle	0	1
Pigeon Drop	0	0
<b>Embezzlement</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>416</b>

# OTHER PART II CRIMES

Under the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, any actual crime not recorded as a Part I Crime (Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny and Auto Theft) is a Part II Crime. The relative infrequency of patterns and trends among these crimes discourages detailed analysis.

**1,172 reported in 2010 • 1,184 reported in 2011**

Crime	2010	2011
Hit & Run Accidents	557	659
Threats	238	231
Traffic Arrests	96	78
OUI	61	60
Disorderly Conduct	49	54
Trespassing	57	36
Weapons Violations	21	34
Drinking in Public	80	17
Kidnapping	6	7
Liquor Violations	4	7
Extortion/Blackmail	3	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,172</b>	<b>1,184</b>

## Disorderly Conduct

Police make an arrest for this crime when a person disrupts the peace enough to pose a danger. Examples include bar disputes, homeless altercations, and public shouting of profanity and threats. Arrests were made in 48 of the 54 disorderly conduct incidents in 2011. Sixteen (33%) of these arrests took place in Harvard Square and fourteen (29%) occurred in Central Square, due to the large vagrant population and prevalence of bars and restaurants in both Squares.

## Drinking in Public

This crime type decreased dramatically by 79% in 2011. The number of arrests for drinking in public was much higher in 2010 due to increased enforcement in the Central Square area that year following complaints from businesses and patrons of the Square. This increased enforcement could not be maintained at the same level in 2011, leading to the reduction in arrests. Despite the decrease, the majority of these incidents still occurred in Central Square, with most offenders being homeless.

## Extortion/Blackmail

This is a rare crime, involving an offender taking money from a victim by threatening him or her with a nonviolent act. There was only one incident of this nature reported in 2011.

## Hit and Run Accidents

The majority of the hit and run incidents this year (approximately 72%) involved parked cars. Alewife/West Cambridge, Central Square, Porter Square, and Inman Square reported the highest numbers (each reporting more than 70 incidents in 2011).

## Kidnapping

There were seven reports of kidnapping in 2011. Two of the seven incidents involved parental custody issues and four incidents involved males holding significant others against their will. Only one incident involved an attempted stranger abduction.

## Liquor Violations

Liquor violations generally involve minors drinking, though it can also include the sale of liquor to a minor, or the unlicensed sale of liquor. Three of the seven incidents in 2011 yielded arrests.

## Operating Under the Influence (OUI)

In 2011, all but one of the 60 OUIs resulted in arrests. More than half of the activity occurred between midnight and 3:00 a.m., typically around the time that bars close (approximately 2:00 a.m.). Central Square had the highest concentration of OUI's (20%).

## Threats

Threats often arise in domestic disputes, arguments between acquaintances and co-workers, and school fights. There were 231 reports of threats in 2011. The vast majority of the specifically classified incidents were related to domestic issues.

## Traffic Arrests

Most traffic offenses are minor in nature and result in a warning or citation. Other crimes, like driving to endanger, driving with a suspended or revoked license, or attaching false license plates, may result in an arrest. These arrests decreased significantly after 2003 because the courts requested that summonses be issued for license suspension/revocation offenses, as opposed to arrests being made. There were 78 traffic arrests in 2011.

## Trespassing

Arrests for trespassing occur only after an individual has been warned not to return to a given location. Central Square, Harvard Square, Inman Square, and the Galleria Mall are locations where this activity is particularly monitored. Arrests were made in 20 of the 36 incidents of trespassing in 2011.

## Weapons Violations

Weapons violations include the illegal possession of a firearm or other weapon, as well as reports of gunshots where evidence was found. In 2011, there were 34 weapon/gun violations resulting in 16 arrests.





# SECTION III

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILES

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1. EAST CAMBRIDGE
2. M.I.T./ KENDALL
3. INMAN/ HARRINGTON
4. AREA 4
5. CAMBRIDGEPORT
6. MID-CAMBRIDGE
7. RIVERSIDE
8. AGASSIZ
9. PEABODY
10. WEST CAMBRIDGE
11. NORTH CAMBRIDGE
12. CAMBRIDGE HIGHLANDS
13. STRAWBERRY HILL

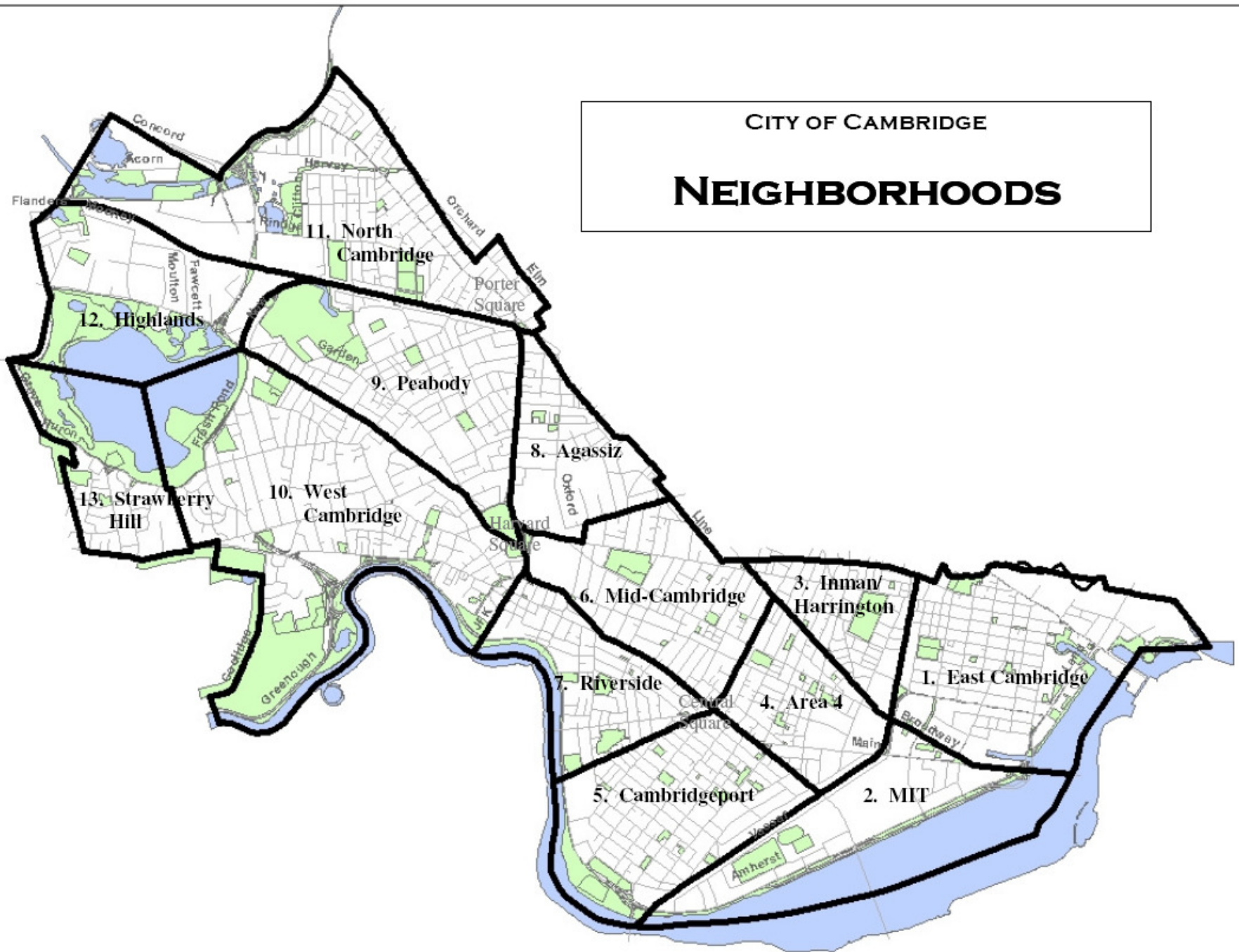


THE FOLLOWING IS AN OVERVIEW  
OF TARGET CRIMES IN  
CAMBRIDGE NEIGHBORHOODS





CITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
**NEIGHBORHOODS**



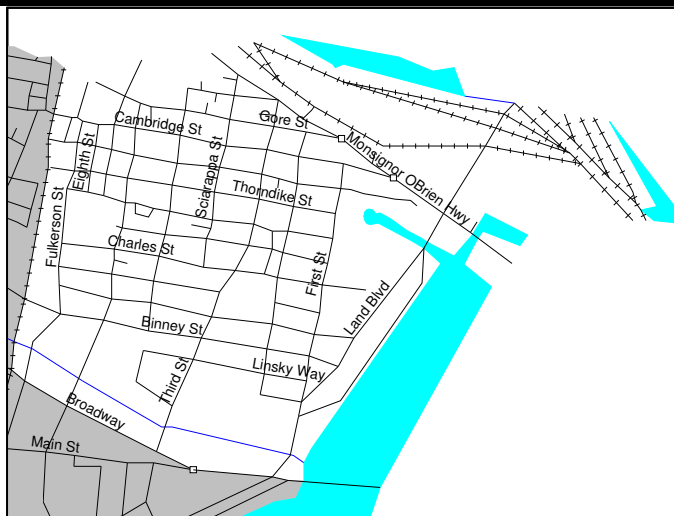
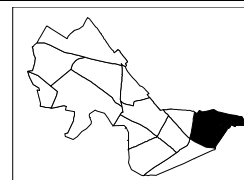
## NEIGHBORHOOD BREAKDOWN OF INDEX CRIMES IN 2011

<b>CRIME</b>	East Camb	MIT	Inman/ Harrington	Area 4	Camb. Port	Mid- Camb	Riverside	Agassiz	Peabody	W. Camb	N. Camb	Camb Highlands	Strw. Hill	Total
Aggravated Assault	20	4	39	32	46	16	35	7	9	20	24	3	6	261
Arson	0	0	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	8
Auto Theft	22	2	15	14	29	22	11	5	9	13	12	2	2	158
Commercial Break	9	2	3	7	9	8	10	6	6	5	14	5	0	84
Commercial Rob.	2	1	3	7	7	2	6	0	0	5	1	0	0	34
Drugs	13	1	6	12	22	16	4	0	4	8	9	0	1	96
Flim Flam	6	0	7	9	6	3	7	2	7	7	9	0	0	63
Forgery	49	3	22	33	35	36	42	7	22	23	38	4	6	320
Homicide	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Housebreak	43	0	29	53	66	68	39	17	35	43	37	0	6	436
Indecent Assault	1	1	4	7	4	1	4	0	1	5	5	0	1	34
Indecent Exposure	2	0	1	5	5	3	6	0	1	4	2	1	0	30
Larceny (Misc)	7	1	3	2	3	1	4	0	4	8	3	1	0	37
Larceny from Building	68	19	22	35	41	48	53	22	21	57	31	14	2	433
Larceny from MV	93	11	47	51	78	71	64	31	61	64	50	11	7	639
Larceny from Person	48	6	13	24	50	20	57	4	8	63	18	9	0	320
Larceny from Residence	25	2	15	12	23	39	18	9	27	25	35	1	3	234
Larceny of Bicycle	42	12	23	37	63	37	42	9	18	48	32	7	0	370
Larceny of Plate	2	1	3	6	11	4	4	0	8	2	1	1	0	43
Larceny of Services	0	1	2	1	3	0	3	1	2	8	4	0	0	25
Mal. Dest. Property	76	12	46	58	89	41	52	14	27	47	51	14	13	540
Peeping & Spying	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Shoplifting	141	8	5	17	34	10	13	1	1	53	23	40	6	352
Simple Assault	60	7	46	64	60	24	42	6	21	41	43	7	5	426
Street Robbery	18	2	14	11	19	17	12	2	3	9	6	0	0	113

The following neighborhood slides contain census data pertaining to population and estimated median incomes by neighborhood. The population data (number of residents & households) was provided by the Cambridge Community Development Department and is based on 2010 Census data. The estimated median incomes are from the 2006-2010 American Community Survey data set, as analyzed by the Cambridge Community Development Department.

# NEIGHBORHOOD 1

## EAST CAMBRIDGE



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by the Charles River, Main Street, Broadway, the B&A Railroad, and the Somerville border

**POPULATION AS OF 2010:**  
9,234 residents  
5,050 households

**ESTIMATED MEDIAN INCOME (2006-2010):**  
\$63,915

Neighborhood #1 lies within the patrol boundaries of Car 1 (2 officers) and Car 1R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 1A, 1B, and 1C.

### COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2007-2011

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Housebreaks	26	28	40	23	43
Street Robbery	15	19	14	13	18
Auto Theft	24	15	20	15	22
Larceny from MVs	171	140	86	58	93
Malicious Destruction	107	90	67	58	76
Drug Incidents	20	14	7	3	13

East Cambridge was moderately active in 2011, especially compared to 2010 when no significant patterns emerged in this neighborhood. In April, two similar purse snatchings involving two male suspects were reported four days apart on Spring St and Thorndike St. Another three street robberies with two male suspects were reported along Cambridge St in May and June. It is unknown if these two groupings of incidents were related, but aside from one separate incident, no additional robberies were reported again in this neighborhood until the fall. During the fourth quarter, a pattern of street robberies (both armed and unarmed) emerged in the Harvard Square area and spread to include incidents in many of the neighborhoods in lower Cambridge (East Cambridge, MIT, Inman, Area 4, Mid-Cambridge, and Agassiz) and possibly a few incidents in Boston. The incidents cooled off in mid-November following the arrest of three Boston males, although those males were not believed to have been responsible for all of the incidents in the pattern. (See Robbery section of this Annual Report for more information on these various street robbery patterns).

East Cambridge also experienced a couple of series and patterns involving other crime types. In April and May, there was an increase in laptop thefts from businesses in the Broadway, Cambridge Center, and Kendall Square areas. The incidents were not all believed to be related (suspect descriptions varied), but the thefts cooled off as May progressed. During July and August, a pattern of mostly daytime and early evening housebreaks emerged in East Cambridge and Inman/Harrington. The breaks involved entry through unlocked or forced doors and windows and targeted laptops and other electronics. As many as 18 housebreaks in the area may be related to this pattern, which came to an end when four individuals were arrested in early and mid-August (See Burglary section of this Annual Report for more information). Larcenies from motor vehicles were also a persistent problem throughout the year in East Cambridge; see the Larceny section of this Annual Report for more specific information on this hotspot.

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR EAST CAMBRIDGE TARGET CRIMES			
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010
Housebreaks	38	36	37
Street Robbery	10	19	16
Auto Theft	156	86	34
Larceny from MVs	121	106	101
Malicious Destruction	118	110	93

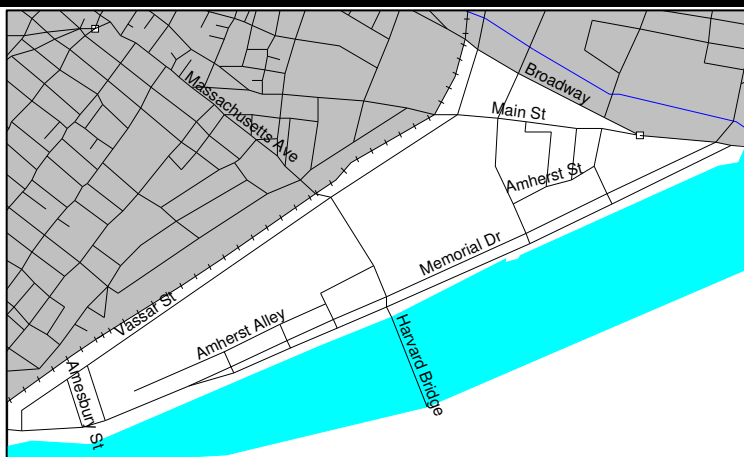
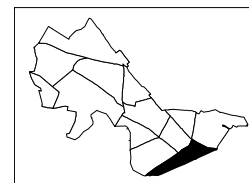
## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

With the booming Cambridgeside Galleria and the fringe of Cambridge Center as its most prominent features, East Cambridge may be the most heavily trafficked commercial region in the city. It has an average residential population. Other features of the neighborhood include the Lechmere MBTA station, the Kennedy-Longfellow Elementary School, and the Cambridge Jail.

- **Street robberies** increased to 25 incidents with the opening of the Cambridgeside Galleria in 1991, but they dropped in 1997 and have remained at or below 20 incidents ever since. Many of these are pack or bullyboy robberies committed by and against juveniles. Other robbery patterns—predatory in nature—sometimes appear on Cambridge Street near the B&A Railroad.
- The motor vehicle-related crimes of **auto theft**, **larceny from motor vehicles**, and **malicious destruction of property** have, in the past, occurred at the highest rates here of anywhere in Cambridge due to the level of commercial parking around the Cambridgeside Galleria, along Cambridge Street, and in the vicinity of Cambridge Center. This was certainly the case in 2011, when East Cambridge ranked either first or second for all three of these vehicle-related crime types.
- **Assaults**, **threats** and related crimes between plaintiffs, victims, complainants, and defendants used to occur in the area of the Middlesex County Courthouse. In 2008, divisions of the court began to relocate to other jurisdictions to allow for renovations at the Cambridge Courthouse, leading to a drop in some of these crime types.

## NEIGHBORHOOD 2

## M.I.T. AREA



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by Main Street, Broadway, the B&A Railroad, and the Charles River

**POPULATION AS OF 2010:**

5,057 residents

322 households

**ESTIMATED MEDIAN INCOME (2006-2010):** \$56,713

Neighborhood #2 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 1 and Car 3 (2 officer cars). M.I.T. has its own police force that patrols this area.

## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2007-2011

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Housebreaks	1	0	0	0	0
Street Robbery	2	4	3	2	2
Auto Theft	5	5	3	1	2
Larceny from MVs	29	33	36	11	11
Malicious Destruction	5	5	6	5	12
Drug Incidents	3	1	3	2	1

The majority of the crime in the MIT area is reported to the MIT police, contributing to the low numbers tallied by the Cambridge Police Department. These low numbers make it difficult to pinpoint information significant to pattern identification. MIT was minimally involved in only two patterns in 2011. In April and May, a rise in laptop thefts from business officers was seen in the Cambridge Center and Kendall Square areas. The incidents were not all believed to be related, but the thefts cooled off as May progressed. During the fourth quarter, a pattern of street robberies emerged in mid-October across lower Cambridge and ultimately came to an end following the arrests of three males from Boston, two of whom were taken into custody during an unarmed robbery in the MIT neighborhood in mid-November. (See Robbery section of this Annual Report for more information on these various street robbery patterns).

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR M.I.T. AREA TARGET CRIMES			
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010
Housebreaks	19	4	1
Street Robbery	11	5	3
Auto Theft	102	55	8
Larceny from MVs	56	49	24
Malicious Destruction	47	28	8

### NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

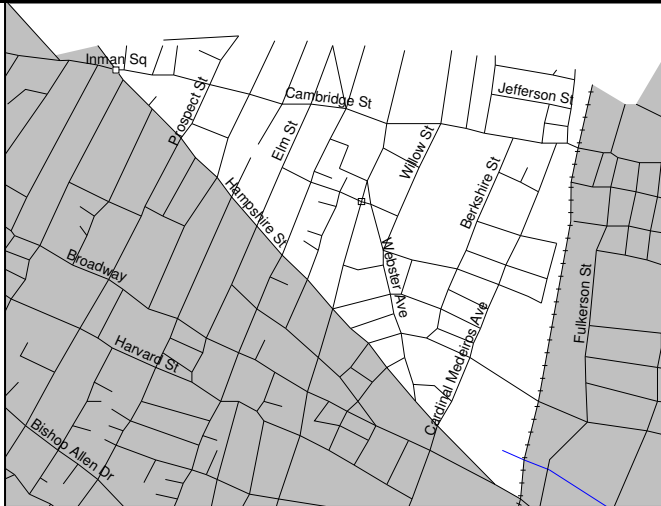
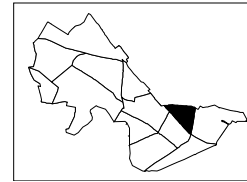
The Massachusetts Institute of Technology is the dominant venue in the MIT neighborhood given that MIT property envelops most of the area. Its large student population—a large proportion of which is foreign—is alluring to local criminals, who often consider students to be unsuspecting prey.

*The Massachusetts Institute of Technology has its own police force, which reports its own crime statistics to the Uniform Crime Reporting system. Statistics contained in this profile—and in the rest of the report—do not include crimes on M.I.T. property except for arrests and incidents in which Cambridge Police officers participated.*

- The large number of automobiles parked each day on Vassar Street, Ames Street, Amherst Street, and at the Hyatt Regency Hotel have traditionally accounted for high numbers of **auto thefts** and **larcenies from motor vehicles (LMVs)**. In 2011, however, the M.I.T. neighborhood had the lowest numbers of the city for auto theft and second lowest for LMVs.
- **Street robbery** patterns have sometimes emerged at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Vassar Street, and outside the Bank of America ATM on Main Street. These are often predatory, targeting college students that are walking in the areas late at night. Over the course of 20 years, however, M.I.T. has maintained a street robbery level well below most other neighborhoods.
- Bicycles parked at racks on sidewalks all around M.I.T. have been targeted by thieves in large numbers. M.I.T. and Cambridge Police make several arrests per year for **larcenies of bicycles**.

# NEIGHBORHOOD 3

# INMAN/HARRINGTON



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by the B&A Railroad, Hampshire Street, and the Somerville line.

**POPULATION AS OF 2010:**  
6,516 residents  
2,882 households

**ESTIMATED MEDIAN INCOME (2006-2010):**  
\$48,470

Neighborhood #3 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 1 (2 officers) and Car 3R (1 officer). Also included within this area are walking routes 3A, 3B, and 3C.

## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2007-2011

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Housebreaks	80	55	27	41	29
Street Robbery	12	10	8	8	14
Auto Theft	18	25	13	16	15
Larceny from MVs	89	35	19	42	47
Malicious Destruction	73	60	86	56	46
Drug Incidents	23	12	10	11	6

Only a few notable patterns emerged in the Inman/Harrington neighborhood in 2011. In June, a series of five assaults and street robberies involving school-aged males as both the suspects and victims were reported in and around Donnelly Field. In late July, a pattern of daytime and early evening housebreaks emerged in Inman/Harrington and East Cambridge. The pattern, which involved up to 18 housebreaks in the area, came to an end with four arrests in early and mid-August. In August, detectives arrested a Lynn man in connection with two armed commercial robberies that took place in June at the Shell gas station on Cambridge St in Inman and the Sunoco on Mass Ave in Cambridgeport. There was also a street robbery pattern that emerged during the fourth quarter across lower Cambridge; at least two of the involved incidents took place in Inman during late October. This series of robberies dissipated in mid-November following the arrests of three Boston males (see Robbery section of this Annual Report for more information on both commercial and street robberies in this area and citywide).

### ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR INMAN/HARRINGTON TARGET CRIMES

Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010
Housebreaks	57	38	46
Street Robbery	14	15	11
Auto Theft	89	48	30
Larceny from MVs	66	45	45
Malicious Destruction	94	79	67



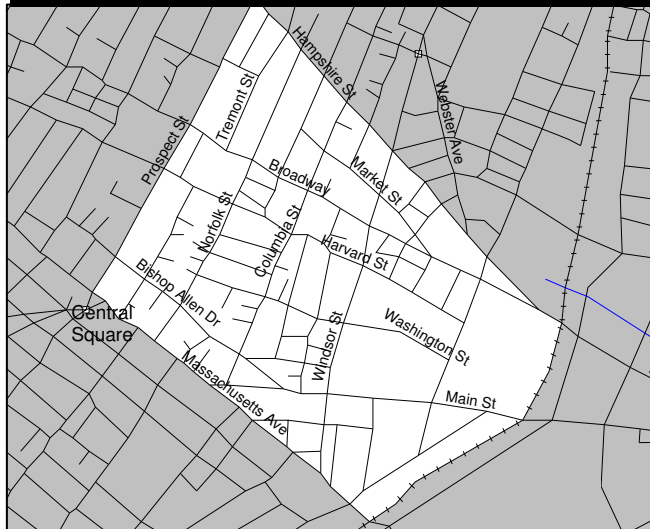
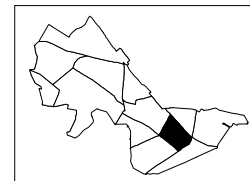
## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

The Inman/Harrington neighborhood's population ranks slightly less than the median for the city; consequently, so do many of its crimes. Inman/Harrington is also marked by a number of commercial establishments along Cambridge Street, in Inman Square, and around One Kendall Square.

- Inman/Harrington typically has an average number of **housebreaks**, given its population. Cambridge St, Marney St, Cardinal Medeiros Ave, Columbia St, and Plymouth St have been “hotspots” for this crime. The density of housebreaks generally increases in the lower half of the neighborhood, nearing the Area 4 border.
- **Auto theft** and **malicious destruction** have remained at median levels over the past decade. The related crime of **larceny from motor vehicles (LMVs)**, on the other hand, was lower than Inman in only three other neighborhoods in 2011. This is consistent with the past, as LMVs tend to be lower in Inman than in most other neighborhoods in Cambridge.
- The King Open School and Donnelly Field guarantee a certain share of juvenile-related crime, such as vandalism, fights, and petty larcenies.
- **Drug** sales are sometimes a problem between the stretch of Roosevelt Towers and Inman Sq.

### NEIGHBORHOOD 4

### AREA 4



**BOUNDARIES:** the B&A Railroad, Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Hampshire Street

**POPULATION AS OF 2010:**

6,792 residents  
2,653 households

**ESTIMATED MEDIAN INCOME (2006-2010):**

\$55,857

Neighborhood #4 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers), and Car 4R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 4A, 4B, and 4C, and Central 10.

### COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2007-2011

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Housebreaks	86	47	30	47	53
Street Robbery	21	20	23	27	11
Auto Theft	35	31	17	21	14
Larceny from MVs	140	73	69	73	51
Malicious Destruction	54	90	52	47	58
Drug Incidents	37	21	20	21	12



As shown in the chart above, almost all of the major crime types dropped considerably in Area 4 in 2011. The notable exceptions were housebreaks and malicious destruction, both of which were part of patterns this year in Area 4. A pattern of weekday, daytime housebreaks at multi-unit apartment buildings emerged in this neighborhood in April. Entry in these incidents was typically gained through forced doors or unlocked side windows, and the main targets were laptops and jewelry. Although no arrests were made in this neighborhood, added patrols in the area led to a drastic reduction in housebreaks in mid-May. In fact, not a single housebreak was reported in Area 4 from mid-May through early July, which is an unusually long stretch to go without a housebreak in this neighborhood. A similar but somewhat less frequent series of daytime housebreaks emerged again in Area 4 in September and continued sporadically into November. Extra patrols again appeared to contribute to a reduction in this pattern, with no new incidents reported during the entire month of December (see the Burglary section of this Annual Report for more information on housebreak patterns throughout the city).

The increase in malicious destruction incidents can be at least partly attributed to a series of tire slashings in the area of Columbia St & Worcester St in early May and a spate of smashed car windows in the areas of Norfolk St, Pine St, and Bishop Allen Dr over the final few nights of October. No arrests were made in either of these series, but they were very brief in nature.

Finally, Area 4 experienced a few street robberies that were part of a pattern that emerged during the fourth quarter across lower Cambridge; at least three possibly related incidents were reported in Area 4 during the months of October and November. This series of robberies dissipated in mid-November following the arrests of three Boston males (see Robbery section of this Annual Report for more information on both commercial and street robberies in this area and citywide).

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR AREA 4 TARGET CRIMES			
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010
Housebreaks	101	62	53
Street Robbery	75	47	28
Auto Theft	147	78	39
Larceny from MVs	134	77	78
Malicious Destruction	131	109	80

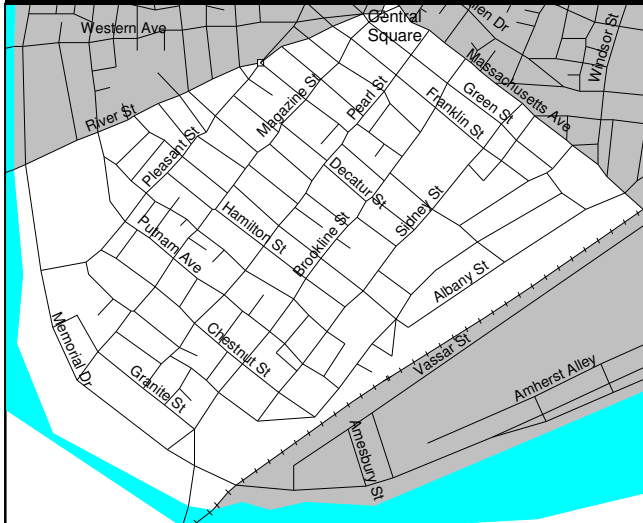
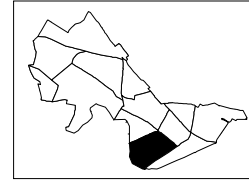
## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Area 4 has a slightly less-than-average residential population among Cambridge neighborhoods, but it has a higher population density than most due to the smaller size of the neighborhood. Coupled with a series of commercial establishments lining Massachusetts Avenue (particularly in Central Square), multi-family homes, as well as large apartment buildings and two public housing developments (Newtowne Court and Washington Elms), Area 4 is different from all other neighborhoods.

- Area 4 **housebreaks** have increasingly rated higher than average. Area 4 is often a prime target for this type of crime due to its high population density in residential areas.
- **Larceny from motor vehicles** is often a problem in Area 4. However, in 2011, Area 4 saw fewer incidents of this nature than normal and dropped to seventh in the City. The theft of GPS units from vehicles is still a considerable problem both in Area 4 and citywide.
- Historically, Area 4 has ranked among the top neighborhoods for **drug incidents** in Cambridge. In 2011, Area 4 had the fourth most drug incidents in the city. This is likely due to the existence of Central Square in this neighborhood, which tends to be a hotspot of drug activity.

# NEIGHBORHOOD 5

## CAMBRIDGEPORT



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, the B&A railroad, the Charles River, and River Street

**POPULATION AS OF 2010:**  
12,220 residents  
5,049 households

**ESTIMATED MEDIAN INCOME (2006-2010):**  
\$63,830

Neighborhood #5 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 3 (2 officers) and Car 5R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 5A, 5B, and Central 12.

### COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2007-2011

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Housebreaks	59	32	38	44	66
Street Robbery	19	16	32	22	19
Auto Theft	30	28	28	26	29
Larceny from MVs	140	120	160	102	78
Malicious Destruction	85	77	53	73	89
Drug Incidents	28	13	32	21	22

Cambridgeport experienced multiple crime patterns over the course of 2011. In late January and early February, a pattern of daytime and early evening housebreaks emerged along the border between Cambridgeport and Riverside. At least 13 similar housebreaks were reported during this time frame, mostly on weekdays, with the majority involving pried front door entry and the thefts of electronics and jewelry. Although no arrests were made, the pattern cooled off in mid-February. A similar series of housebreaks re-emerged in late April and continued sporadically throughout May and June, despite added patrols in the area. These housebreaks spiked in July and August and did not come to an end until September 1<sup>st</sup>, when a regional effort between Cambridge, Brookline, and Boston resulted in the arrests of three individuals tied to housebreaks across all three jurisdictions, including multiple incidents in Cambridgeport and Riverside.

In late April and early May, more than two dozen tire slashings were reported along the Cambridgeport/Riverside border, specifically on such streets as Kelly Rd, River St, Pleasant St, and Magazine St. No arrests were made, but no similar incidents were reported in this series after May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Despite a substantial decrease in larcenies from motor vehicles in Cambridgeport in 2011, there were still a few notable series worth mentioning. The Micro Center parking lot on Memorial Dr saw increases in car break activity during the daytime and early evening hours in May and again in October. There was also a series of overnight tire thefts reported in Cambridgeport in late June through early September, occurring over just a couple nights each month. No arrests were made, but these incidents stopped after September. Larceny of bicycles was also a persistent problem in Cambridgeport and Riverside over the course of the year. Bicycles tended to be taken from yards or garages in this neighborhood on weekday afternoons and overnights. Numerous thefts were also reported in the parking lot of Whole Foods/Rite Aid (see Larceny section of this Annual Report for more information on patterns of larcenies from motor vehicles and larcenies of bicycles throughout the city).

Finally, in August, detectives arrested a Lynn man in connection with two armed commercial robberies that took place in June at the Shell gas station on Cambridge St in Inman and the Sunoco on Mass Ave in Cambridgeport (see Robbery section of this Annual Report for more information).

<b>ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR CAMBRIDGEPORT TARGET CRIMES</b>			
<b>Crime</b>	<b>1981-1990</b>	<b>1991-2000</b>	<b>2001-2010</b>
Housebreaks	156	66	57
Street Robbery	57	31	26
Auto Theft	165	85	44
Larceny from MVs	126	92	103
Malicious Destruction	106	106	99

## **NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS**

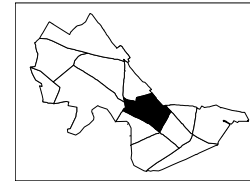
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Cambridgeport has the third highest residential population of the city's neighborhoods. It is characterized by several large apartment buildings as well as many one-, two-, and three-family houses. The neighborhood is bordered by a string of retail stores, hotels, and restaurants on Memorial Drive, River Street, and Massachusetts Avenue.

- **Street robberies** had been the most serious crime problem in Cambridgeport until recent years when they began to decline. However, in 2009, street robberies doubled in this neighborhood, due to an increase in incidents involving groups of juveniles robbing victims of high-end cell phones. This number dropped off in 2010 and even more so in 2011, but it still remains a concern in the neighborhood. In fact, despite the drop, Cambridgeport still registered the largest number of street robberies citywide in 2011. Similar to Area 4, Cambridgeport's street robberies tend to be concentrated near Massachusetts Avenue and Central Square.
- **Housebreaks**, usually higher than average in Cambridgeport, have declined significantly since the 1980s. The average number of housebreaks since 1991 is less than half of the 1980s' average. Cambridgeport's housebreak rate can be attributed to its large, densely packed residential population.
- **Larceny from motor vehicles** usually registers high in Cambridgeport. In 2011, this neighborhood reported the second highest number of incidents in the City, due in part to an increase in overnight tire thefts during the summer and two patterns of thefts from vehicles parked at Micro Center in May and October.
- The homeless shelter located on Albany St is often a scene for **street robberies** and **aggravated assaults** between its patrons.

# NEIGHBORHOOD 6

## MID-CAMBRIDGE



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, Hampshire Street, the Somerville border, Kirkland Street, Quincy Street, and Cambridge Street

**POPULATION AS OF 2010:**  
12,991 residents  
6,195 households

**ESTIMATED MEDIAN INCOME (2006-2010):**  
\$99,585

Neighborhood #6 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers) and 6R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 6A, 6B, 6C, and Harvard 15

### COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2007-2011

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Housebreaks	56	61	36	65	68
Street Robbery	10	13	16	14	17
Auto Theft	31	28	20	18	22
Larceny from MVs	144	115	115	117	71
Malicious Destruction	76	44	47	34	41
Drug Incidents	16	15	10	13	16

Housebreaks were one of the most notable crime types in Mid-Cambridge this year. In March and April, a brief series of overnight and early morning housebreaks involving entry through unlocked doors were reported in this neighborhood. An arrest was made in mid-March, but incidents continued for a couple more weeks before cooling off. A pattern of weekday daytime breaks involving pried front doors and stolen laptops and jewelry then emerged in early May. This pattern lasted for about a month before extra patrols in the area contributed to its decline. Finally, a series of daytime housebreaks appeared in Mid-Cambridge in November, most involving entry by way of unlocked or forced windows. A homeless male was arrested for a housebreak in this area in early December, effectively bringing the pattern to a close (see Burglary section of this Annual Report for more information on these patterns).

Street robbery was another crime type experienced multiple times over the course of the year in Mid-Cambridge. Between February and April, a total of three similar street robberies were reported in which two male suspects robbed lone victims of their property in the areas of Prescott St, Harvard St, and Ellery St. Two of the three incidents involved a knife. No arrests were made. During the fourth quarter, a more prominent pattern of street robberies (both armed and unarmed) emerged in the Harvard Square area and spread to include incidents in many of the neighborhoods in lower Cambridge (East Cambridge, MIT, Inman, Area 4, Mid-Cambridge, and Agassiz) and possibly a few incidents in Boston. The incidents cooled off in mid-November following the arrest of three Boston males, although those males were not believed to have been responsible for all of the incidents in the pattern.

A crime pattern that involved just one location in Mid-Cambridge took place at the *Kirkland Convenience Store*. This location was broken into three times by the same perpetrator between August and October. Each time, the suspect stole lottery tickets. A Somerville man was arrested in late October for a similar crime in Medford, and he subsequently admitted to the breaks in Cambridge as well.

There was also an increase in thefts of packages from the front steps and foyers of residences in Mid-Cambridge this year, particularly during the end-of-the-year holiday season (see Larceny section of this Annual Report for more information).

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR MID-CAMBRIDGE TARGET CRIMES			
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010
Housebreaks	226	103	77
Street Robbery	49	18	15
Auto Theft	147	69	31
Larceny from MVs	198	103	104
Malicious Destruction	149	102	71

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

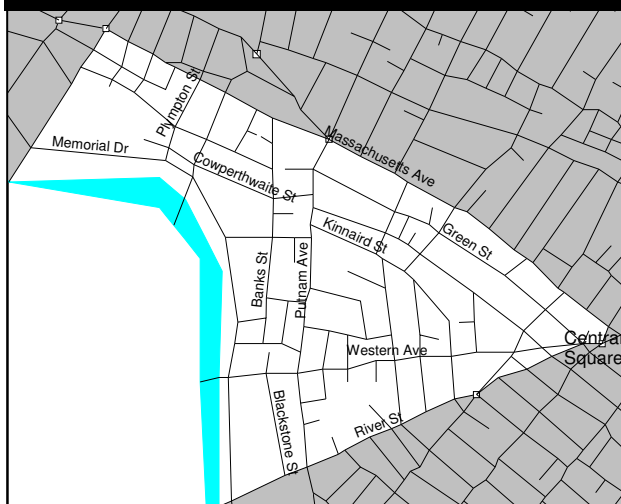
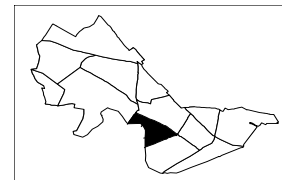
Mid-Cambridge is a busy neighborhood. In addition to the highest population of any neighborhood in Cambridge, Mid-Cambridge also has the city's largest high school (Cambridge Rindge & Latin), the Jackson Gardens residential complex, a good portion of Harvard University, and our own City Hall. It is bordered by the major thoroughways of Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Cambridge Street, and three of the city's five busiest squares (Central, Harvard, and Inman) occupy its corners. Because of the enormous number of people living, working, shopping, and going to school within its borders, Mid-Cambridge tends to have a higher-than-average rate for several crimes.

*Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the western part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- **Residential burglary** is naturally higher in a neighborhood with the largest number of residences. Though the rate of this crime has been cut by more than half since the 1980s, it still remains a problem. Mid-Cambridge reported the largest number of housebreaks in the City in 2011.
- Mid-Cambridge also typically ranks high in **larceny from motor vehicles** and the related crime of **auto theft**.
- For the population size of Mid-Cambridge, **street robbery** is usually comparably low. However, in 2011, Mid-Cambridge reported the third highest number of street robberies citywide, due in part to the fourth quarter pattern that affected much of lower Cambridge. Typically, most of the incidents that do occur happen on Massachusetts Avenue and Cambridge St, and in Inman Square.
- The high amount of pedestrian traffic on Massachusetts Avenue leads to a large number of **bicycle thefts** each year, particularly in or near Harvard Square.

## NEIGHBORHOOD 7

## RIVERSIDE



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, River Street, the Charles River, and JFK Street

**POPULATION AS OF 2010:**  
12,695 residents  
4,069 households

**ESTIMATED MEDIAN INCOME (2006-2010):**  
\$50,928

Neighborhood #7 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 3 (2 officer cars) and Cars 6R and 10R (1 officer cars). Also included within its boundaries are walking routes 7A and 7B.

## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2007-2011

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Housebreaks	36	23	32	29	39
Street Robbery	11	9	14	8	12
Auto Theft	11	21	10	10	11
Larceny from MVs	63	75	48	75	64
Malicious Destruction	48	59	45	52	52
Drug Incidents	14	14	7	5	4

Many of the patterns experienced in Riverside this year took place along the border of Cambridgeport. Therefore, these two neighborhoods shared much of the same crime, particularly housebreaks and car vandalism. See the Cambridgeport neighborhood section above for information on those patterns.

Other patterns and series in this neighborhood in 2011 included two similar purse snatchings reported over a week in February; both incidents took place at night on Western Ave and involved a similarly described male suspect with a knife (see Robbery section of this Annual Report for more information on street robberies citywide). Over one night in mid-May, five larcenies from motor vehicles were reported along Putnam Ave. The areas of Franklin St and Green St also saw an increase in larceny from motor vehicle activity during March, May, and June (see Larceny section of this Annual Report for more information).

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR RIVERSIDE TARGET CRIMES			
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010
Housebreaks	83	43	37
Street Robbery	34	17	14
Auto Theft	92	41	21
Larceny from MVs	87	47	49
Malicious Destruction	78	75	64

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

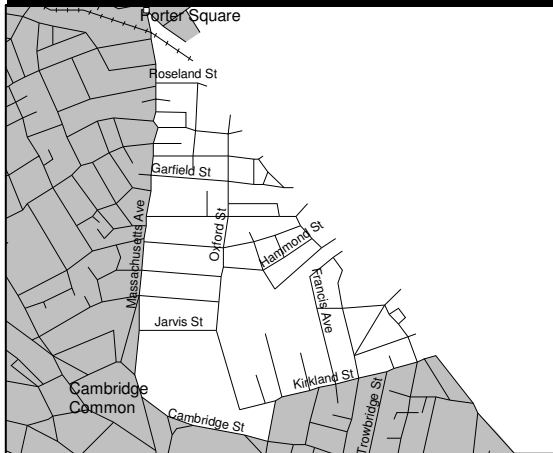
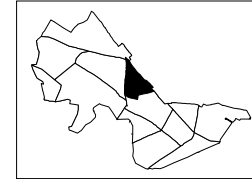
As of the 2010 census, Riverside has the second highest population in the city, but it typically ranks well below the average for almost all index crimes. Along with its 12,000+ residents, Riverside has two housing developments (Putnam Gardens and the River-Howard homes), two major parks (Hoyt Field and Riverside Press Park), and many commercial establishments along Massachusetts Avenue, River Street, and Western Avenue. Several Harvard University dormitories and other properties occupy the northwestern quarter. Riverside's borders also encompass the United States Post Office located in Central Square.

*Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the northwestern part of this neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on university property.*

- **Malicious destruction** is the only crime that has not shown a significant average decline in Riverside since the 1980s, though it is typically low compared to the rest of the city. Most of this vandalism targets motor vehicles. Occasional patterns of this crime over long holiday weekends have been a problem in the past.
- **Street robberies** are low for a neighborhood of Riverside's population, but they remain a pressing problem. Riverside also has an exceptionally low number of **housebreaks** reported for its size.
- The only neighborhoods that usually have lower **auto theft** and **larceny from motor vehicles** totals have less than half of Riverside's population. However, larcenies from motor vehicles in Riverside in 2011 were higher than usual, possibly due to heightened larceny activity in the Harvard Sq area this year, as well as an increase in thefts in the areas of Franklin St and Green St in March, May, and June.

# NEIGHBORHOOD 8

# AGASSIZ



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge Street, Quincy Street, Kirkland Street, and the Somerville border

**POPULATION AS OF 2010:**  
4,977 residents  
1,755 households

**ESTIMATED MEDIAN INCOME (2006-2010):**  
\$62,117

Neighborhood #8 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 9R (1 officer). It is also covered by walking routes 8A, 8B, and 8C.

## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2007-2011

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Housebreaks	17	20	14	21	17
Street Robbery	4	1	7	5	2
Auto Theft	11	8	12	4	5
Larceny from MVs	89	76	58	50	31
Malicious Destruction	17	9	7	21	14
Drug Incidents	0	0	1	2	0

Overall, the Agassiz neighborhood was exceptionally quiet in 2011 when it came to crime. Over one weekend in April, four car windows were smashed in this neighborhood, which was part of a larger one-night spree of window-smashings across Agassiz, Mid-Cambridge, Peabody, and West Cambridge. These incidents involved only vehicle damage; no items were stolen from any of the cars. However, car breaks did affect Agassiz along the border of Peabody on weekend overnights in May and June and again in September and October. This tends to be a chronic problem area for car breaks every year. This year was at a much lower level, however, as can be seen by the notable drop in larcenies from motor vehicles in this neighborhood in 2011. (See Larceny section of this Annual Report for more information on larceny from motor vehicle hotspots citywide.)

The only other notable crime problem in Agassiz in 2011 was the minor part it played in a series of robberies that plagued lower Cambridge during October and November. The very first incident in this series took place in Agassiz and involved the unarmed robbery of a female walking alone at 2:00 a.m. on Wendell St. This series of robberies dissipated in mid-November following the arrests of three Boston males (see Robbery section of this Annual Report for more information).

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR AGASSIZ TARGET CRIMES			
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010
Housebreaks	67	26	25
Street Robbery	11	7	4
Auto Theft	45	19	11
Larceny from MVs	47	30	49
Malicious Destruction	45	28	18



## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

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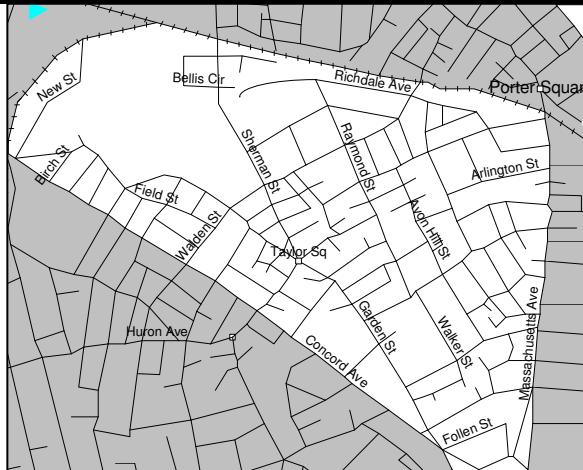
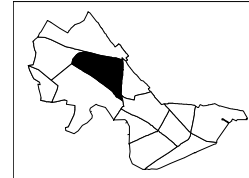
Over half of the Agassiz neighborhood is occupied by Harvard University and Lesley University. The rest of the residential population is concentrated primarily in a triangle in the northern section of the neighborhood, capped by bustling Porter Square. A number of businesses line Massachusetts Avenue on Agassiz's west border.

*Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the southern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- Agassiz has a lower-than-average rate for almost every measured crime. Unlike some other neighborhoods, only one of its borders is defined by a major, heavily trafficked avenue. On average, only three other neighborhoods have lower average totals of **housebreaks**, **auto thefts** and **street robberies**, and only one or two neighborhoods have fewer **malicious destruction incidents**.
- Juveniles entering the neighborhood from Somerville were suspected in a pattern of **street robberies** in 1996 and 1997; such patterns arise occasionally, usually clustered at the intersections of Massachusetts Avenue and Wendell Street or Oxford Avenue and Sacramento Street. These occasional patterns generally occur in the late night on weekends.
- Somerville juveniles have also been associated with occasional tire-slashings on Forest Street and Massachusetts Avenue. The **malicious destruction** statistics have also reflected incidents of spray-painting at the Baldwin School in the past.

# NEIGHBORHOOD 9

# PEABODY



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by the B&M Railroad, Concord Avenue, Garden Street, and Massachusetts Avenue

**POPULATION AS OF 2010:**

11,399 residents  
5,427 households

**ESTIMATED MEDIAN INCOME (2006-2010):**

\$70,704

Neighborhood #9 is encompassed by Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 9R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 9A, 9B, 9C, and 9D.

## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2007-2011

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Housebreaks	59	50	43	27	35
Street Robbery	7	13	11	10	3
Auto Theft	18	24	20	14	9
Larceny from MVs	125	105	104	59	61
Malicious Destruction	83	52	45	50	27
Drug Incidents	8	3	2	0	4

Similar to Agassiz, the Peabody neighborhood was also relatively quiet in terms of crime in 2011. Over one week in mid-March, license plates were stolen from six vehicles on Walker St, Raymond St, and Chauncy St. There were also two reports of tire thefts from this area at the same time. Larcenies from motor vehicles were reported in the chronic problem area along the Peabody/Agassiz border in May and June and again in September and October. Larcenies of bicycles were problematic in the Harvard Square area on weekend afternoons during the summer, affecting parts of lower Peabody. There was also a notable increase in thefts of packages from the front steps and foyers of residences in lower Peabody this year, particularly during the end-of-the-year holiday season (see Larceny section of this Annual Report for more information on larcenies from motor vehicles, larcenies from persons, and larcenies of bicycles in this neighborhood and across the city).

### ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR PEABODY TARGET CRIMES

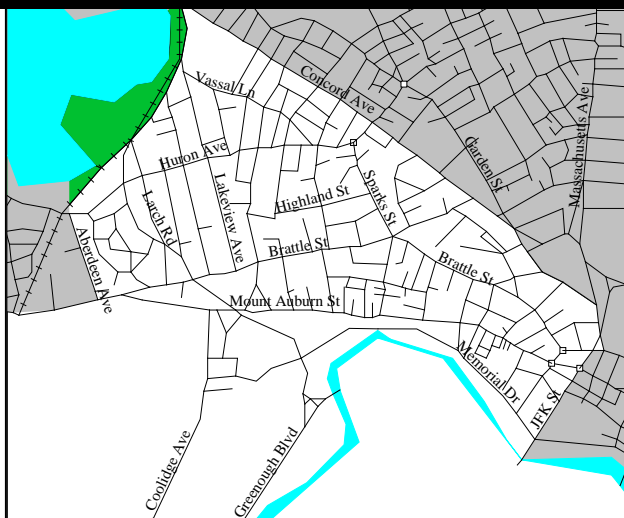
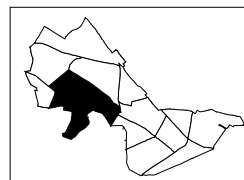
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010
Housebreaks	150	53	49
Street Robbery	21	14	10
Auto Theft	94	42	30
Larceny from MVs	74	60	80
Malicious Destruction	135	72	74

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Peabody has the fifth highest population in the city, yet most of its crimes are at or below the city's average. The neighborhood's residences include several large apartment complexes, a public housing development (Lincoln Way), and hundreds of single- and double-family houses. Peabody boasts two of the biggest public parks in the city: Cambridge Common and Danehy Park. Large commercial establishments mark Massachusetts Avenue and Walden Square Road.

- Cambridge Common has traditionally experienced after-dark crimes ranging from **public drinking** and **drug use** to **robbery** and **sexual assault**. Increased preventive patrol has diminished occurrences in recent years.
- Summer **housebreak** patterns sometimes plague Richdale Ave and Upland Rd.
- **Auto theft** and **larceny from motor vehicles** typically rank high in Peabody compared to most other neighborhoods in Cambridge. In 2011, Peabody ranked sixth in larcenies from motor vehicles and ninth in auto thefts, which is low for this neighborhood.

# NEIGHBORHOOD 10 WEST CAMBRIDGE



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by the Charles River, JFK Street, Garden Street, Concord Avenue, Fresh Pond, Aberdeen Avenue, and the Watertown line

**POPULATION AS OF 2010:**  
8,023 residents  
3,760 households

**ESTIMATED MEDIAN INCOME (2006-2010):**  
\$100,946

Neighborhood #10 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Cars 10R and 13R (1-officer cars). It also includes walking routes 10A, 10B, 10C, and Harvard 16.

### COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2007-2011

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Housebreaks	31	33	23	24	43
Street Robbery	6	13	4	14	9
Auto Theft	24	26	25	20	13
Larceny from MVs	105	139	116	101	64
Malicious Destruction	52	50	40	47	47
Drug Incidents	3	7	5	4	8

Similar to 2010, most of the crime in West Cambridge in 2011 took place in and around Harvard Square. One of the most persistent problems in this area over the past few years has involved dipper activity (larcenies from persons) at cafés and restaurants in the Square. This year, no defined patterns of this activity emerged, but three arrests were made in the area (see Larceny section of this Annual Report for more information on this crime). Another crime that plagued West Cambridge in 2011 was larceny from motor vehicles (LMVs). Patterns of LMVs developed along Brattle St and its sides streets in June, and

along the western periphery of Harvard Square in July and August (see Larceny section for additional information on LMV hotspots in this neighborhood and citywide). There was also a pattern of mostly daytime and early evening housebreaks in West Cambridge in July and early August involving entry through unlocked or forced front doors and the thefts of electronic items, and a sporadic pattern of daytime housebreaks between Concord Ave and Mt. Auburn St in October and November involving window entry and targeting electronics and jewelry (see Burglary section for more information). An increase in bicycle thefts from bike racks in Harvard Square was also reported in 2011, mainly on weekend afternoons during the summer.

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR WEST CAMBRIDGE TARGET CRIMES			
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010
Housebreaks	105	38	37
Street Robbery	18	11	9
Auto Theft	105	41	25
Larceny from MVs	134	72	81
Malicious Destruction	92	76	58

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

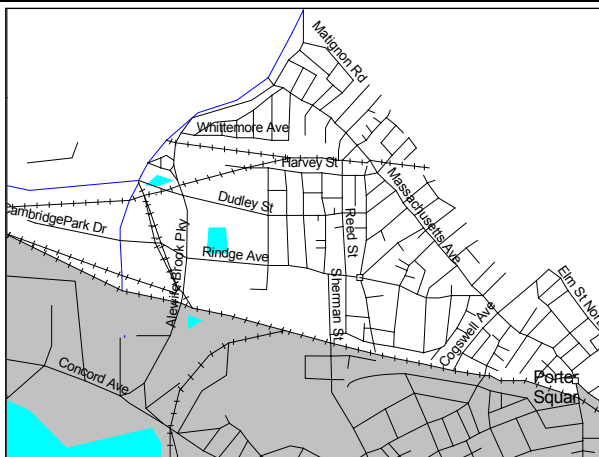
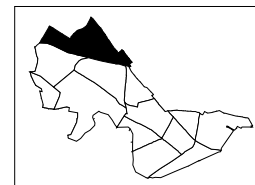
West Cambridge is geographically the largest neighborhood in the City. Its east end contains a good portion of Harvard Square, bustling with commercial traffic. Its western border is marked by Fresh Pond and Kingsley Park. In between are the beautiful homes of Brattle Street, the expansive Cambridge Cemetery, Mount Auburn Hospital, and half a dozen elementary schools.

*Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the eastern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- Although West Cambridge’s population is roughly average for Cambridge, almost all of its target crimes are typically lower than average. **Larceny from motor vehicles** is often one of the exceptions, however. Larcenies in this neighborhood tend to be concentrated in the area bordered by Sparks St, Concord Ave, and Mt. Auburn St.
- **Housebreaks**, once a pressing problem, have been reduced substantially since the 1980s. Summertime residential burglary patterns, once the scourge of West Cambridge, only emerge occasionally now.
- **Bicycle theft** patterns strike the Harvard Square area each spring and summer. The large number of bicycles used by college students and Harvard Square visitors and parked in the area lead to high levels of theft. **Larcenies from persons** become a problem every spring and summer around Harvard Square and in its many commercial establishments. In 2011, this problem continued sporadically throughout the year, resulting in multiple arrests.

## NEIGHBORHOOD 11

## NORTH CAMBRIDGE



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by the Belmont line, the Arlington Line, the Somerville Line, Porter Square, and the B&M Railroad

**POPULATION AS OF 2010:**  
 11,908 residents  
 5,359 households

**ESTIMATED MEDIAN INCOME (2006-2010):**  
 \$62,650

Neighborhood #11 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 11R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 11A, 11B, 11C, and 11D.

## COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2007-2011

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Housebreaks	55	34	54	40	37
Street Robbery	11	22	12	14	6
Auto Theft	24	21	20	20	12
Larceny from MVs	100	90	74	67	50
Malicious Destruction	68	88	54	73	51
Drug Incidents	12	8	11	4	9

Very few patterns affected North Cambridge this year. During the second quarter, two similar commercial breaks were reported in May and June at the Mobil Gas Station on Mass Ave; both incidents occurred very early in the morning and targeted cash and lottery tickets. No arrests were made. A brief series of housebreaks was reported over one weekend in early August along Mass Ave and the border of Somerville. These incidents involved both window and forced door entry and targeted electronics (see Burglary section of this Annual Report for information on both commercial and residential breaks). There was also a notable increase in thefts of packages from the front steps and foyers of residences across North Cambridge this year, particularly during the end-of-the-year holiday season. Arrests were made in both Cambridge and Somerville at the end of the year, leading to a reduction in this crime.

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR NORTH CAMBRIDGE TARGET CRIMES			
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010
Housebreaks	100	64	49
Street Robbery	30	21	16
Auto Theft	130	68	32
Larceny from MVs	105	62	71
Malicious Destruction	125	112	89

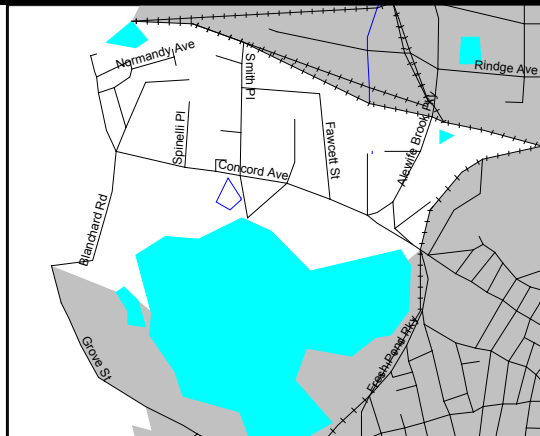
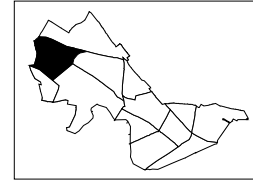
### NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

North Cambridge has the fourth highest population in the city. It includes a public housing development (Jefferson Park/Jackson Place) and the towering Fresh Pond Apartments. Within its confines are three major public parks (Rindge Field, Russell Field, and Linear Park), the bustling Porter Square, and the Alewife MBTA Station. Dozens of commercial establishments line Massachusetts Avenue. As with Mid-Cambridge, its elevated crime rate reflects its high residential and commercial population.

- **Housebreak** patterns tend to occur during the summer months. Incidents are scattered quite liberally throughout the neighborhood's residential population. North Cambridge's housebreak average has been cut in half since the 1980s.
- **Street robberies** have traditionally been problematic in Russell Field, Linear Park, and around the Alewife MBTA Station. In the most common scenario, local (Cambridge or Somerville) youths will form packs and strong-arm victims walking in these areas late at night. No defined street robbery patterns emerged in North Cambridge in 2011.

# NEIGHBORHOOD 12

## HIGHLANDS



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by the B&M Railroad, the Belmont line, and Fresh Pond.

**POPULATION AS OF 2010:**

832 residents  
371 households

**ESTIMATED MEDIAN INCOME (2006-2010):**

\$62,499

Neighborhood #12 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Car 13R (1 officer). Also included is walking route 12C.

### COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2007-2011

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Housebreaks	2	2	2	0	0
Street Robbery	2	1	5	2	0
Auto Theft	6	3	4	1	2
Larceny from MVs	21	20	9	11	11
Malicious Destruction	8	11	10	7	14
Drug Incidents	1	0	0	1	0

No notable patterns were reported in the Cambridge Highlands in 2011.

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR CAMBRIDGE HIGHLANDS TARGET CRIMES			
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010
Housebreaks	6	2	2
Street Robbery	8	2	2
Auto Theft	54	16	5
Larceny from MVs	38	23	16
Malicious Destruction	28	26	19

### NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

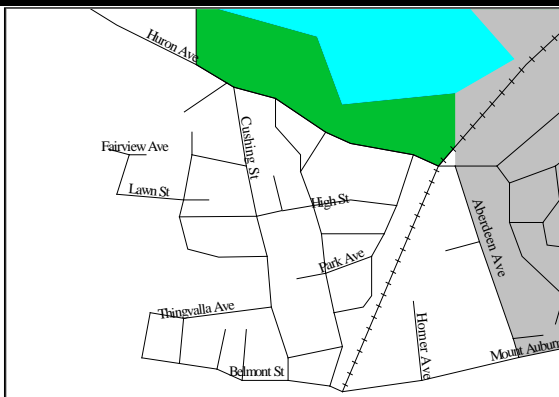
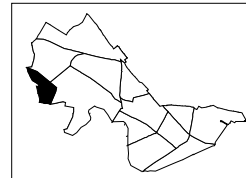
Cambridge Highlands' minuscule population makes for very little residential criminal activity in the neighborhood. The Highlands' border encompasses the Fresh Pond Mall, the northern part of Fresh Pond, and a number of warehouses. Most crime here is commercial and is covered in the business district profiles.

- Cambridge Highlands typically vies with Strawberry Hill for the lowest index crime totals in the city. For almost all index crimes this decade, it has ranked twelfth or thirteenth out of the thirteen neighborhoods.
- **Auto theft, larceny from motor vehicle, and malicious destruction** have occasionally become a problem in the Fresh Pond Mall and Fresh Pond Cinema parking lot. Mall security, however, has drastically reduced such incidents in recent years—almost to the point of statistical insignificance. Small patterns of automobile-related crimes have been known to emerge on Smith Place and Mooney Street.

- **Larceny from persons** occasionally exhibits some patterns around the Fresh Pond Mall and the Fresh Pond Cinema, where pocket-pickers use the darkness of the theater to conceal their crimes.

# NEIGHBORHOOD 13

## STRAWBERRY HILL



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by Fresh Pond, Aberdeen Avenue, the Watertown line, and the Belmont line.

**POPULATION AS OF 2010:**

2,518 residents  
1,140 households

**ESTIMATED MEDIAN INCOME (2006-2010):**

\$69,941

Neighborhood #13 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Car 13R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 13A and 13B.

### COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2007-2011

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Housebreaks	11	6	4	5	6
Street Robbery	0	0	2	2	0
Auto Theft	5	9	4	3	2
Larceny from MVs	18	32	19	18	7
Malicious Destruction	23	14	18	21	13
Drug Incidents	1	3	0	2	1

No notable patterns were reported in the Strawberry Hill neighborhood in 2011.

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR STRAWBERRY HILL TARGET CRIMES			
Crime	1981-1990	1991-2000	2001-2010
Housebreaks	17	10	9
Street Robbery	4	3	2
Auto Theft	17	8	7
Larceny from MVs	22	12	18
Malicious Destruction	25	23	21

### NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

With its small population, Strawberry Hill challenges Cambridge Highlands for the lowest crime rates in the City. The neighborhood's citizenry includes the residents of the Corcoran Park housing development and the large apartment building at 700 Huron Avenue. Its primary commercial establishment is Shaw's Supermarket.

- Overall, Strawberry Hill can be considered one of the safest areas in the City. In 1995, 1996, 2001, 2007, 2008, and 2011, there were no **street robberies** reported, and only one reported in 1999 and 2004.
- Corcoran Park has historically been a "hot spot" for the occasional **housebreak**, and for some juvenile crime. Frequent "Park and Walks" address these problems.
- For **auto theft**, **larceny from motor vehicles**, and **malicious destruction**, Strawberry Hill continually ranks as one of the lowest in the City. The "hot" spots for these crimes tend to be centered in the area of 700 Huron Ave or the Shaw's parking lot.





# SECTION IV

## BUSINESS DISTRICT PROFILES

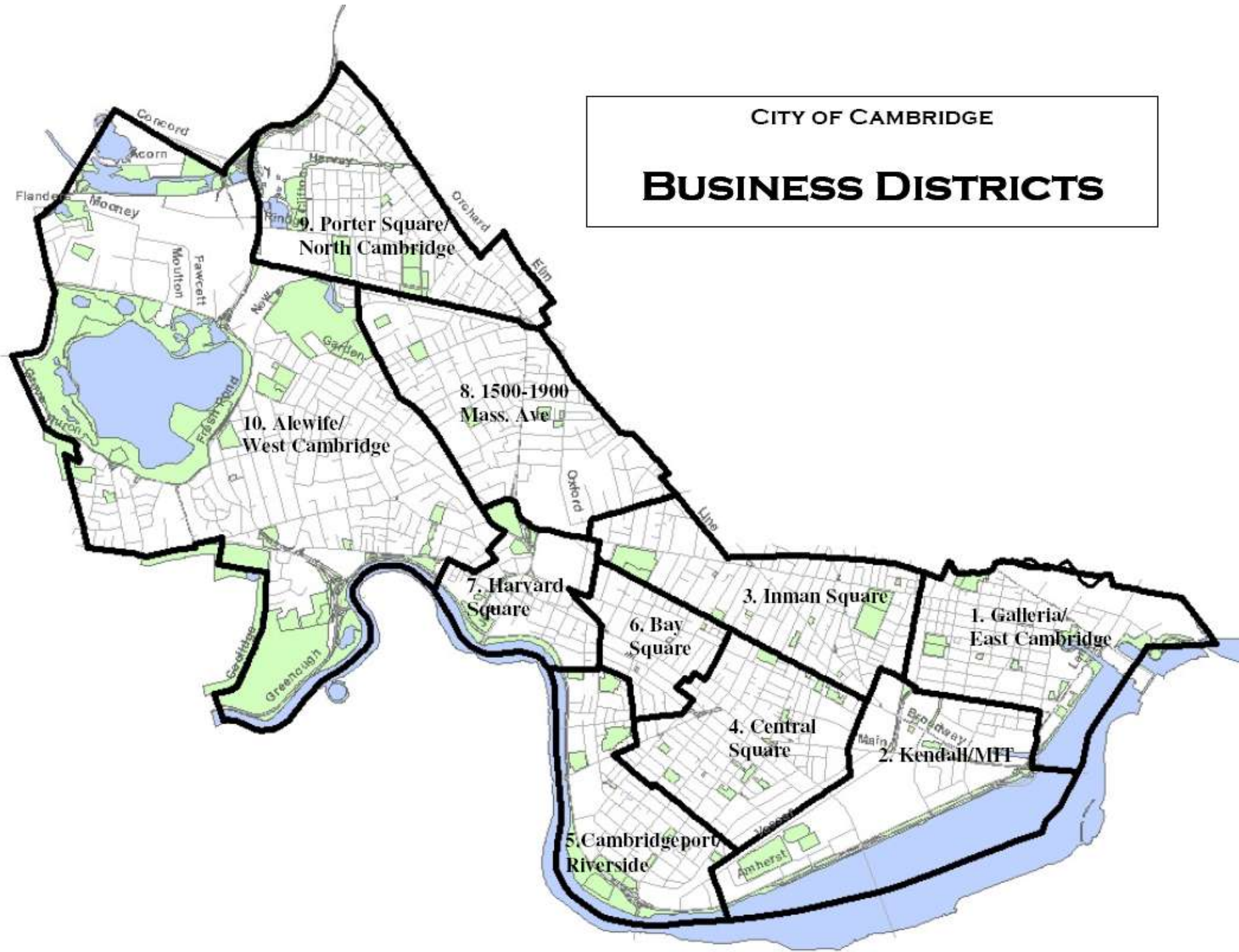
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1. **GALLERIA / EAST  
CAMBRIDGE**
2. **KENDALL / MIT**
3. **INMAN SQUARE**
4. **CENTRAL SQUARE**
5. **CAMBRIDGEPORT/  
RIVERSIDE**
6. **BAY SQUARE**
7. **HARVARD SQUARE**
8. **1500-1900 MASS AVE**
9. **PORTER SQUARE**
10. **ALEWIFE / WEST  
CAMBRIDGE**



THE FOLLOWING IS AN OVERVIEW  
OF SPECIFIC CRIMES FOR  
CAMBRIDGE BUSINESS DISTRICTS

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
**BUSINESS DISTRICTS**



***Business Area # 1:  
East Cambridge/Galleria***

***Boundaries:*** bordered by Somerville, the Charles River, Binney Street, and the Conrail Railroad line

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: The Galleria, Restaurants and retail shops on First Street, restaurants and retail shops on Cambridge Street between #1 and #700, industrial and retail establishments on Bent, Binney, Hurley, and Thorndike Streets.

***CambridgeSide Galleria***

Despite rising from 3 to 8 **commercial breaks** in 2011, this target crime is not close to generating the numbers that plagued this area six or seven years ago when “smash & grab” burglaries were prevalent in the 200 to 700 block of Cambridge Street. There were no spatial or temporal patterns identified in 2011 in this business district. There were four unrelated breaks into restaurants on weekends that were scattered throughout the year. • **Larceny from buildings** recorded a 14% rise in this business district in 2011. Further analysis reveals that thefts of this type are waning dramatically when compared with the totals of over 100 incidents per year at the start of the decade. Larceny from building falls into four distinct scenarios in this business district: the theft of employee property at the rear of stores at the mall (7 incidents); employees stealing property at retail establishments in the mall (13 incidents); laptops taken from research firm offices (12 incidents); and the pilfering of cash and credit cards from lockers at health clubs. As with commercial burglary, target hardening and heightened crime prevention by local security staffs have been extremely effective in curtailing these incidents. • A major decrease of 21% for **shoplifting** was registered in the East Cambridge Business District in 2011. Ninety-five percent of the shoplifting in this business district is at the Galleria Mall. Prime time for shoplifters is between the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays. • **Larceny from the person** rose for the first time in three years in this business district in 2011. Over 65% of these types of crimes involved the thefts of wallets or purses from victims who were shopping. The number of thefts from people dining in the food court at the Mall continues to decline. The temporal trend for this theft type is on weekend afternoons.

<b>CRIME</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>Larceny from Building</b>	60	51	50	43	49
<b>Larceny from Person</b>	46	54	45	39	44
<b>Commercial Burglary</b>	26	12	4	3	8
<b>Commercial Robbery</b>	0	6	2	1	0
<b>Shoplifting</b>	121	167	165	179	141
<b>Fraud/Flim</b>	41	66	53	46	56
<b>Flam/Counterfeiting</b>					

**Business Area # 2:  
MIT/Kendall Square/Lower  
Broadway**

**Boundaries:** bordered by Binney Street, the Charles River, Amesbury Street, and the Conrail Railroad

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: Offices, shops, restaurants in Kendall Square, Cambridge Center, Offices and shops on Broadway between #1 and #200, Tech. Square, M.I.T., and the Hyatt Regency.



*Kendall Square*

**Larceny from the person** has never been considered a major problem for Kendall Square. Incidents are very sporadic in nature and usually average less than 13 crimes per year. This trend continued in 2011 with 12 thefts reported. Laptops and cell phones are the prime target of thieves targeting diners in Kendall Square restaurants and coffee shops. • **Shoplifting**, which is usually rare in this business district with an average slightly above two per year since 2006, jumped up to 10 crimes in 2011. • After recording only one **commercial robbery** in nearly 30 months, this crime type jumped to five incidents in 2011. The robberies were scattered throughout the year; three were unrelated convenience stores robberies, and the other two crimes were a taxi cab stickup and a bank heist. • There has not been a **commercial burglary** pattern in this area since 2006 when there was a series of thefts of tools from construction sites. Thirteen breaks were reported that year, while there have been only twelve total incidents reported in the five years since that spike. • **Larceny from buildings** accounted for nearly 55% of the business-related crimes in this area in 2011. For years, the city's hi-tech business district had been plagued by varied instances of this crime type, claiming an average of 250 larcenies from buildings per year between 1980 and 1990. That number has been reduced dramatically over the past few years with substantial technological advances for internal security of office buildings. Larcenies from buildings in this area had averaged less than 30 incidents per year between 2006 and 2010. The majority of the increase of nine incidents in 2011 can be traced to sporadic thefts of cell phones, laptops, and personal items from offices.

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Larceny from Building</b>	27	33	23	34	43
<b>Larceny from Person</b>	12	18	8	13	12
<b>Commercial Burglary</b>	2	3	2	2	3
<b>Commercial Robbery</b>	2	2	0	1	5
<b>Shoplifting</b>	2	3	2	3	10
<b>Fraud/Flim</b>	12	20	26	16	8
<b>Flam/Counterfeiting</b>					

***Business Area # 3:  
Inman Square/Harrington***

**Boundaries:** by the Conrail Railroad, the Somerville line, Leonard Avenue, Cambridge Street, Dana Street, and Broadway

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: the offices, shops, restaurants of Inman Square, all business establishments between 700 and 1400 Cambridge Street, offices, industries and restaurants on Hampshire Street and between 100 to 380 Prospect Street and 100 to 300 Broadway.

***Inman Square***

**Commercial breaks** continued to decline in this business district in 2011. There has been no repeat of the weekend night breaks into convenience stores and other retail outlets along Hampshire Street that plagued the Square in the middle of the decade. ● **Commercial robberies** rose by two incidents in Business District #3 in 2011, up from two violent crimes to four in 2011. The incidents took place at a convenience store, gas station, barber shop, and credit union. ● **Larceny from buildings** rose by two incidents in Inman Square in 2011 when compared with last year's total. The majority of these incidents involved either thefts from construction sites along the 1200 block of Cambridge Street or the stealing of unattended property in schools and hospitals. ● A high percentage of the **shoplifting** incidents in this area can be attributed to the theft of fast food items from local convenience stores by juveniles and homeless individuals. ● After recording two consecutive years of declining **larcenies from persons** in restaurants and bars (pickpockets targeting diners) around Inman Square, the number skipped up to 15 incidents in 2011 from 7 last year. There was no clear spatial or temporal pattern to these thefts, with unattended items being the main motive behind the crime.

<b>CRIME</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>Larceny from Building</b>	20	31	13	23	25
<b>Larceny from Person</b>	25	27	15	7	15
<b>Commercial Burglary</b>	17	9	14	7	5
<b>Commercial Robbery</b>	5	6	3	2	4
<b>Shoplifting</b>	5	5	2	8	10
<b>Fraud/Flim</b>	44	52	36	37	45
<b>Flam/Counterfeiting</b>					

**Business Area #4:  
Central Square**

**Boundaries:** the Conrail Railroad, Erie Street, Fairmont Street, River Street, Howard Street, Western Avenue, Pleasant Street, Green Street, Sellers Street, Bigelow Street, Doyle Way, Inman Street, and Broadway

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: shops, offices, restaurants between 200 and 830 Massachusetts Avenue, offices on Bishop Allen Drive, restaurants on Green Street, establishments between 770 and 910 Main Street, and City Hall

*Central Square*

The major business-related crime story to emerge in Central Square in 2011 was the surge in **commercial robberies** from three incidents to twelve. There were five bank robberies in this business district in 2011; all five were cleared with arrests. The remaining robberies were an eclectic grouping of unrelated incidents that included two taxi cabs, two convenience stores, a beauty shop, and a gas station. • **Larceny from the person** declined 3% in Central Square when compared with the 2010 figures. However, this target crime remains a primary concern in this area, ranking only behind Harvard Square as a dipper “hot spot.” Pickpockets target diners in cafes, restaurants, and coffee shops between 400 and 700 Mass Ave. Professional thieves prey upon females’ purses on the backs of chairs during the afternoon, then turn their attention to coats, cell phones, and wallets in the bars, late on weekend nights. The trend identified in 2010 of a decrease in the thefts at coffee shops and an increase at fast food establishments did not hold in 2011. Females dining at cafes and coffee shops remain a target of these thieves. • After recording two consecutive declines in this business district, **shoplifting** rose by 16 incidents in 2011. This rise should be tempered by the fact that shoplifting in Central Square has taken a dramatic surge downward from over 100 incidents five years ago. A high percentage of shoplifting arrests were in drug stores in the 600 block of Mass Ave. • **Commercial breaks** remained flat with a slight decrease of three incidents. • There were twelve additional **larcenies from the building** recorded in Central Square in 2011. Part of this increase can be linked to a series of thefts from health clubs along Mass Ave and from dormitory rooms at the YMCA.

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Larceny from Building</b>	100	72	69	77	89
<b>Larceny from Person</b>	89	98	91	86	83
<b>Commercial Burglary</b>	16	17	21	19	16
<b>Commercial Robbery</b>	4	3	7	3	12
<b>Shoplifting</b>	102	63	54	31	47
<b>Fraud/Flim</b>	75	74	70	68	81
<b>Flam/Counterfeiting</b>					



***Business Area #5:  
Cambridgeport/Riverside***

***Boundaries:*** bordered by the Charles River, Amesbury Street, the Conrail Railroad, Erie Street, Fairmont Street, River Street, Howard Street, Kinnaird Street, and Flagg Street.

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: all businesses between 550 and 900 Memorial Drive, all industrial, retail and restaurants on Brookline, Pearl, Magazine, River and Western to the south of Erie Street.



***Memorial Drive/Lower  
Cambridgeport***

Historically, there are fewer business-related target crimes recorded in the Cambridgeport/Riverside business district than in any of the other nine areas citywide. There was no reversal in that trend in 2011. • Thirty-nine of the fifty-two **shoplifting** incidents in this business area over the past three years were at Microcenter, with the other incidents credited to Whole Foods and Trader Joes. • When compared to the previous year, **larceny from buildings** dropped by over 40% in 2011. Historically, the numbers of this crime type here are very low in comparison to other areas • **Larceny from the person** has never been identified as a serious crime problem in this business district, with an average slightly above ten crimes per year. The majority of the nine recorded thefts in 2011 involved the thefts of women's purses while shopping at a local grocery store. This type of criminal scenario has been on the increase in the Greater Boston region over the past two years with a crew of professional pick pockets as possible suspects. • After recording only one **commercial robbery** between 2007 and 2009, three gas stations were victimized in this area in 2010. Between 2006 and 2010, all six commercial robberies in this business district were late night heists at gas stations. That trend changed in 2011; there were no gas station hits and both incidents were unarmed heists at local convenience stores. • **Commercial burglary** is another business-related crime that produces amazingly low numbers in this district, with only ten breaks reported over the past five years. All of the commercial breaks in 2011 were late night entries on lower Magazine, Memorial, and River Streets.

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Larceny from Building</b>	14	18	7	17	10
<b>Larceny from Person</b>	10	14	8	10	9
<b>Commercial Burglary</b>	1	2	1	2	4
<b>Commercial Robbery</b>	0	0	1	3	2
<b>Shoplifting</b>	16	7	20	20	12
<b>Fraud/Flim</b>	20	27	34	26	33
<b>Flam/Counterfeiting</b>					

**Business Area # 6:**  
**Bay Square/Upper Broadway**

**Boundaries:** bordered by Inman St, Doyle Way, Bigelow St, Sellers St, Green St, Pleasant St, Western Avenue, Howard St, Kinnaird St, Putnam Avenue, Massachusetts Avenue, Prescott St, Kirkland St, the Somerville Line, Leonard Avenue, Cambridge St, Dana St, and Broadway

Major area of Business/Retail/Industrial concentration include: all offices, restaurants and establishments between 830 and 1050 Massachusetts Avenue, all retail industrial and offices on Cambridge Street between Dana Street and Trowbridge Street and on Harvard Street and Broadway between Inman and Trowbridge.



*Bay Square*

**Commercial robberies** occur very infrequently in the Bay Square business district. Between 2007 and 2010, there were only three commercial robberies recorded here. The two robberies in this area in 2011 were in the 800 block of Mass Ave on Thursday afternoons. No weapon was shown in either incident. • In 2010, **larceny from the building** increased by 13 incidents (54%) when compared with the 2009 figures. In 2011, there was one fewer larceny from building than in 2010. This larceny type accounts for the majority of the business related crime in the Bay Square/Upper Broadway area. Thefts of cell phones from lockers and classrooms at CRLS still remain a problem, with 14 incidents reported in 2011. There were 15 similar crimes in 2011. Sporadic thefts from offices in the 900 to 1200 block of Mass Ave also reappeared for the second year in a row. • There was not one **shoplifting** incident in the Bay Square district in 2011. Over the past five years, there have been only three shoplifting incidents at the shops in this business district. • **Larceny from the person**, never a major problem for this business district, counted eight reports for the second year in a row. The majority of these thefts were by pickpockets targeting diners in the bars and restaurants along Mass Ave and public buildings on Broadway. • **Commercial burglary** jumped up from the unusually low number of one incident in 2010 to eight incidents in 2011. Three of the crimes were smash and grabs at a Kirkland Street convenience store; a career criminal has been linked to these incidents for prosecution.

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Larceny from Building	23	39	24	37	36
Larceny from Person	14	12	9	8	8
Commercial Burglary	6	3	6	1	8
Commercial Robbery	1	1	1	0	2
Shoplifting	1	1	0	1	0
Fraud/Flim	38	42	27	39	29
Flam/Counterfeiting					

**Business Area #7:  
Harvard Square**

**Boundaries:** bordered by Prescott Street, Massachusetts Avenue, Putnam Avenue, Flagg Street, the Charles River, Ash Street, Mason Street, Garden Street, Waterhouse Street, Massachusetts Avenue, and Cambridge Street

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial concentration include: establishments and business offices on Massachusetts Avenue between 1050 and 1540, Mt. Auburn Street between 1 and 168, and the numerous restaurants, shops, and offices on Holyoke, Dunster, and Winthrop Streets, as well as, the Charles Square and University Place complexes.

*Harvard Square*

**Commercial Burglary** fell by nearly 70% in Harvard Square in 2011, down nine incidents from last year's total of thirteen breaks. The four commercial breaks in this business district, one of the lowest counts in decades, were at a church, café, and two Harvard social clubs. • **Shoplifting** increased for the second year in a row (up 7%) in Harvard Square. The majority of shoplifting incidents in the Square are at clothing stores such as Urban Outfitters, Anthropologie, the Coop, and other retail outlets. Nearly two out of every three thefts occurred between 3:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. • **Commercial robbery**, which had jumped up from one incident in 2009 to eight reported crimes in 2010, recorded seven incidents in 2011. Between early May and October, there were three bank robberies in the Square. All of these incidents were unarmed and were cleared with the arrest of the offenders. • **Larceny from the person** is the major business-related crime concern for Harvard Square. Professional pickpockets tend to use public transportation and Harvard Square has been a hotspot for this activity. A dipper's favorite target is someone who is preoccupied, such as a person who leaves a purse unattended in a coffee shop, a tourist overloaded with packages, or someone totally engaged on their cell phone. A high percentage of these crimes in 2011 were in coffee shops on weekends between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m and in bars on weekend nights.

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Larceny from Building</b>	63	67	41	69	75
<b>Larceny from Person</b>	73	74	102	127	107
<b>Commercial Burglary</b>	13	8	8	13	4
<b>Commercial Robbery</b>	10	4	1	8	7
<b>Shoplifting</b>	48	61	46	57	61
<b>Fraud/Flim</b>	34	38	33	39	34
<b>Flam/Counterfeiting</b>					

# MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE

(1500-1900 block)

***Business Area #8:  
Massachusetts Avenue  
Corridor***

***Boundaries:*** bordered by Kirkland Street, the Somerville Line, the B&M Railroad, Sherman Street, Garden Street, Waterhouse Street, Massachusetts Avenue, and Cambridge Street

Major areas of Business, Retail, and Industrial concentration include: retail shops, restaurants and offices between 1540 to 1880 Massachusetts Avenue, businesses and offices on Garden, Sherman and Oxford Streets.



*1500-1900 Massachusetts Avenue*

**Larceny from the person** was down six incidents (40%) in 2011. Patterns are identified in this business area much less frequently than in Harvard and Central Squares. The trend identified back in 2009 of pickpockets preying on patrons in bars confined to the 1600 and 1700 blocks of Mass Ave has been on the wane over the past two years. • The total number of **larcenies from buildings** rose from 28 thefts in 2010 to 35 in 2011. Thefts from health club lockers remains a problem, with 14 incidents reported from facilities in the 1800 block of Mass Ave. The thefts of laptops and cell phones from Lesley College and other schools in the area is also an ongoing problem. • Since 2007, there have been only 10 **commercial robberies** in this business district. This is an exceptionally low number for this busy retail area. There were no commercial robberies in this area in 2011. • For an area with such a high concentration of retail establishments and pedestrian activity, the total of only 17 **shoplifting** incidents in the corridor over the past five years is another impressive statistic to the overall safety of this area. • There has not been a **commercial burglary** pattern identified in this area in the past three years. Commercial breaks rose from five incidents in 2010 to twelve in 2011. The trend of the majority of the breaks being into restaurants and bars in the 1800 to 1900 block of Mass Ave on weekday nights held true in 2011.

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Larceny from Building</b>	29	26	35	28	35
<b>Larceny from Person</b>	19	22	20	15	9
<b>Commercial Burglary</b>	15	5	9	5	12
<b>Commercial Robbery</b>	3	4	1	2	0
<b>Shoplifting</b>	5	2	1	7	2
<b>Fraud/Flim</b>	48	37	46	40	35
<b>Flam/Counterfeiting</b>					

**Business Area # 9:  
Porter Square/ North  
Cambridge**

**Boundaries:** bordered by the B&M Railroad, Alewife Brook Parkway, and the Somerville Line

Major areas of Business/Retail/ Industrial concentrations include: all retail and commercial establishments between 1840 Massachusetts Avenue and the Arlington line, including Porter Square Mall. All commercial properties along Rindge and Sherman to the border of the RR tracks.



*Porter Square*

**Larcenies from persons**, seldom a problem in Porter Square, decreased by two incidents (11%) in Business District #9 in 2011. Historically, these incidents involve the thefts of purses from female victims in grocery stores. There were six of these crimes in 2011, all on Saturday afternoons. • **Larceny from buildings** decreased by 10% in Porter Square in 2011. Nearly 50% of these incidents were the thefts of wallets and cell phones from lockers at local health clubs on weekday afternoons. • **Shoplifting** remained relatively unchanged (two fewer incidents) in 2011 after recording a 49% reduction in 2010. Historically, close to 80% of these incidents are at CVS and Shaw’s Supermarket. The temporal trend identified for the shoplifting incidents is on weekdays between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. • For the second consecutive year, there was but one **commercial robbery** recorded in Porter Square. This violent crime dropped for the fourth consecutive year in 2010. Commercial robberies continue on a downward spiral in this area, down from thirteen in 2006 to nine in 2007, to four in 2008, to two in 2009, and to but one incident the last two years. Further analysis of robberies in Porter Square over the past six years reveals that eleven were bank robberies (one in 2011), fourteen were convenience stores, three were gas stations, and three were other retail establishments. Temporal analysis indicates a high percentage of the incidents were mid-week between noon and 4:00 p.m. • **Commercial burglary** fell 33% in Porter Square in 2011. There have been no patterns observed in this area in over four years.

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Larceny from Building</b>	23	32	18	31	28
<b>Larceny from Person</b>	25	19	21	18	16
<b>Commercial Burglary</b>	16	7	13	18	12
<b>Commercial Robbery</b>	9	4	2	1	1
<b>Shoplifting</b>	32	13	49	25	23
<b>Fraud/Flim</b>	35	42	41	44	50
<b>Flam/Counterfeiting</b>					

***Business Area #10:  
West Cambridge/Alewife***

***Boundaries:*** bordered by the Charles River, the Watertown, Belmont, and Arlington Lines, Alewife Brook Parkway, the B&M Railroad, Sherman Street, Garden Street, Mason Street, and Ash Street

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial concentration include: businesses and offices on Mt. Auburn Street between 180 and 700 including the Shaw's Supermarket, the Fresh Pond Mall, industrial and research complexes on Smith, Fawcett, Mooney and Cambridge Park Drive, the Huron Village area, shops and restaurants on Concord and Garden Street.



*Alewife/West Cambridge*

After registering a 113% increase in West Cambridge/Alewife in 2010, **commercial burglary** dropped by five incidents (-29%) in 2011. There were no geospatial or temporal trends identified. There has not been a commercial burglary pattern identified in this area since a smash-and-grab series that previously plagued businesses on Huron Ave in 2007. • **Commercial robbery** had become a concern in the Alewife/West Cambridge District and was averaging nine robberies per year between 2004 and 2008. In 2009, there were only three commercial robberies in this district, and only one incident was recorded in both 2010 and 2011. The lone commercial robbery in this business district in 2011 was at a Huron Ave bank the week before Christmas. • **Shoplifting** increased by 12 incidents in 2011. The previously identified trend involving a large percentage of Boston residents being arrested for shoplifting at the Fresh Pond Mall held true in 2011. These shoplifters tended to be older in age and more professional than arrestees in other business districts. • **Larcenies from buildings** increased by 26% in this business district when compared with the figures for 2010. The majority of these thefts were either of laptops from local research companies or involved the pilfering of personal property at health clubs, hotels, and schools. • There was a decrease of two reports of **larceny from the person** in Business District #10 in 2011. As in previous years, a high percentage of these incidents can be attributed to the thefts of wallets from the purses of distracted shoppers in supermarkets.

CRIME	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Larceny from Building	59	48	41	34	43
Larceny from Person	31	19	12	19	17
Commercial Burglary	23	10	8	17	12
Commercial Robbery	7	6	3	1	1
Shoplifting	17	30	30	34	46
Fraud/Flim	43	48	41	46	33
Flam/Counterfeiting					

# SECTION V

## SPECIAL REPORTS

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- **DOMESTIC CRIMES**
- **HOMELESS CRIMES**
- **JUVENILE CRIMES**
- **SCHOOL CRIMES**
- **CHA CRIMES**
- **LEARN TO PROTECT YOURSELF**

THE FOLLOWING IS AN OVERVIEW  
OF SPECIAL CRIME CATEGORIES  
FOR THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE





# DOMESTIC CRIME

Domestic crimes include all offenses committed against family members, spouses and ex-spouses, roommates, and romantic partners and ex-romantic partners. Underreporting is a serious problem when it comes to domestic crimes (domestic violence experts estimate that the police department receives a report for only a third of domestic crimes), so the reliability of these figures is uncertain.

In 2011, there were a total of 937 incidents between individuals with a domestic relationship. For a breakdown of domestic crimes by relationship, see the next page. As stated earlier, domestic crime is often underreported. One of the most common reasons is that the police are **not** always the first to be called in domestic cases, as is typically the case with other crime types. Victims of abuse often seek assistance from a local battered women's shelter, a court, a hospital, or a friend before calling the police.

The majority of domestic calls that Cambridge officers do respond to involve loud arguments, classified as "**domestic disputes.**" In 2011, these calls made up 52% of all domestic reports. While not technically a crime, these domestic disturbances can still be a form of abuse, and they may escalate into more serious offenses if they go unaddressed.

**Domestic violence** is the most serious type of domestic crime. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, these crimes take many shapes and "...may include emotional abuse, economic abuse, sexual abuse, using children, threats, using male privilege, intimidation, isolation, and a variety of other behaviors used to maintain fear, intimidation and power" (<http://www.ncadv.org/problem/what.htm>).

While domestic violence is commonly thought of as violence against women, men and children also commonly fall victim. Domestic violence crosses all socio-economic, racial, ethnic, religious, sexual orientation, and age boundaries. What analysis has identified, however, is that the police respond to more calls in communities where individuals live in close quarters, and where neighbors contact the police for assistance.

The most common type of violent domestic incidents reported in Cambridge involves **simple assaults**—assaults without a weapon and with no serious injuries. This category accounted for 20% of all domestic incidents in 2011.

CATEGORICAL BREAKDOWN OF DOMESTIC INCIDENTS*	Total Reports* 2011	% of Total Domestic Reports
Dispute/Disturbance with No Physical Abuse	490	52%
Simple Assault	187	20%
Aggravated Assault	80	9%
Violation of a Restraining Order	61	7%
Threats to Commit a Crime	47	5%
Harassment	12	1%
Larceny	12	1%
Other Misc	9	1%
Housebreak	6	.6%
Indecent Assault	5	.5%
Homicide	4	.4%
Harassing or Obscene Telephone Calls	4	.4%
Malicious Destruction of Property	4	.4%
Forgery	3	.3%
Rape/Attempted Rape	3	.3%
Stalking	3	.3%
Street Robbery	3	.3%
Homicide	2	.2%
Violation of Harassment Order	2	.2%
Arson	1	.1%
Kidnapping	1	.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>937</b>	

\*Due to classification changes and submission of NIBRS data to the FBI, the totals for index crimes and domestic crimes may vary slightly.  
 \*\*Due to rounding, the total % is slightly above 100%.

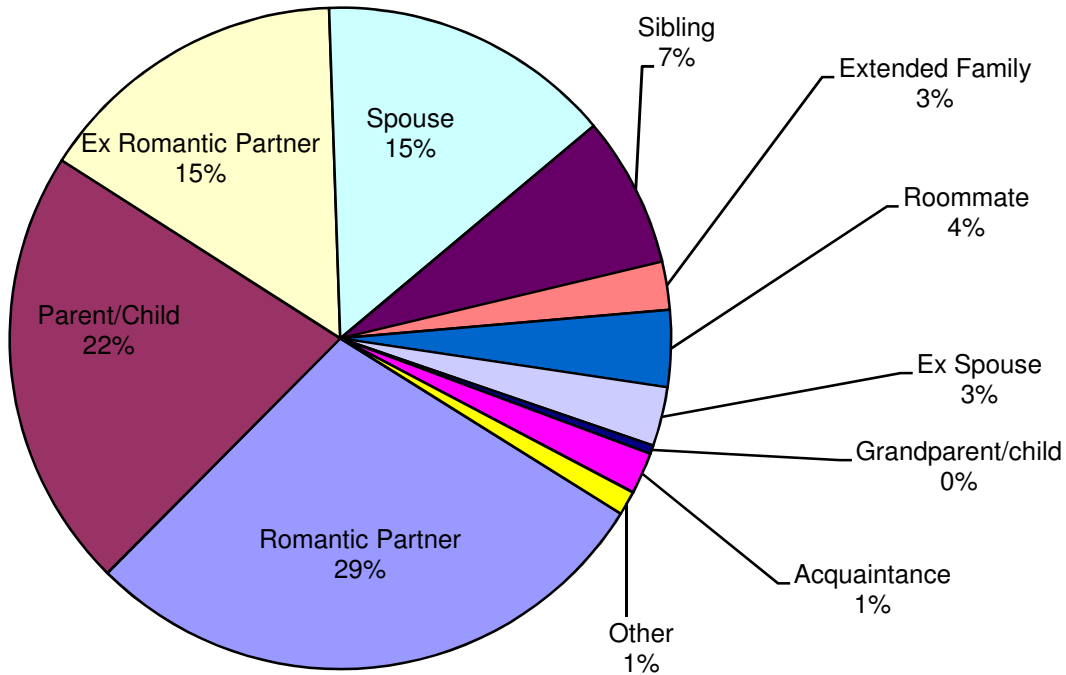
## DID YOU KNOW?

In 2010, the Cambridge Police joined arms with the Arlington and Belmont Police Departments, alongside numerous community service providers to victims of domestic violence and formed the Cambridge, Arlington, Belmont High Risk Assessment and Response Team (CAB HART). Every officer in each jurisdiction has been formally trained in conducting on scene risk assessments for domestic violence cases. Those cases that are deemed to have the factors present to indicate a high risk of re-assault or lethality are brought before CAB HART. The team works closely with shelter organizations, trauma and crisis intervention, housing stabilization, batterer's intervention, probation, and the district attorney's office to keep victims of domestic violence safe and offenders closely monitored and/or contained.

For more information regarding domestic violence, please go to <http://www.cambridgepolice.org>.

Aggravated assaults made up an additional 9%.

### Domestic Crime by Relationship Type, 2011



### WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

You are not alone, but please understand that domestic abuse generally gets worse and occurs more frequently when victims do not seek help. There is help available, either through the Cambridge Police Department’s Domestic Violence Unit or through a local battered women’s shelter. At the very least, seek help from a family member or friend, and create a safety plan for you and your children.

**IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS:**

**Cambridge Police Department’s Domestic Violence Unit**.....617-349-3371

**Shelters:**

- Transition House (*shelter in Cambridge*).....617-661-7203
- Renewal House (*shelter in Boston*).....617-566-6881

**Counseling:**

- Respond (*shelter in Somerville*).....617-623-5900
- Dating Violence Intervention Program(*teen dating violence*)...617-868-1650

**Legal Services:**

- Community Legal Services Center.....617-661-1010
- Cambridge/Somerville Legal Services.....617-603-2700

**Children who have witnessed domestic violence and/or victims:**

- The Guidance Center.....617-354-2275

**Elder Abuse Services and reporting**.....800-922-2275

**The Network/La Red**.....617-742-4911

**Gay Men’s Domestic Violence Project**.....800-832-1901

### WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE AN ABUSER

Learn to recognize your behavior for what it is. If you assault your spouse, romantic partner, children, or other family members, you need to seek help.

Likewise, if you insult, threaten, blame, feel you need to control your spouse or romantic partner, or destroy things during arguments, you should seek assistance. Your behavior may escalate into violence.

**THERE IS HELP FOR MEN WHO ABUSE:**

- Emerge ..... 617-547-9879
- Common Purpose ..... 617-522-6500

Both of these services provide counseling and treatment for abusers.

**Remember:**

- You are responsible for what you say or do.
- Your spouse or partner did not make you hit her or him.
- You can change the way you act.
- There is no excuse for abuse.

# UNDERSTANDING THE SYSTEM

## POLICE RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CALLS

An incident occurs



911 (police) are called



A police/incident report is taken



↓→If the victim is assaulted and the batterer is at the scene, s/he is arrested.



The case is assigned to the Detective Unit

\*\*If the report is taken during the day, a night detective is assigned and if the report is taken during the night, a day detective is assigned.



## APPLYING FOR A RESTRAINING ORDER

### Between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.:

During these times, a restraining order must be applied for at the Third District Court in Medford, Ma. This type of restraining order is called a Temporary Restraining Order and is good for ten days.

### After 5:00 p.m. on a Friday night, on the weekend, or on a holiday:

During these times, a restraining order must be applied for at the Cambridge Police Department. This type of restraining order is called an Emergency Restraining Order and is good until the next court business day, usually a Monday or the day after a holiday.

## ONCE THE RESTRAINING ORDER IS ISSUED

In order for the restraining order to be in effect, it has to be served in hand to the defendant. If the Temporary Restraining Order is not served it can be continued for another ten days.



Once one appears in court for the Temporary Restraining Order, the order can be granted for a year.



Once the year is up, one may have the restraining order granted for another year or ask to be granted a Permanent Restraining Order that will remain in effect indefinitely.

## GOING TO COURT

Once a detective is assigned to the case, s/he will file for a hearing or for a complaint in court:

\*During a hearing, the defendant and the victim will be in the presence of a clerk magistrate. The detective assigned to the case will start the hearing by reading the police report that was taken and disclose any crucial information that was given to them in reference to the case. The victim will give their story, followed by the defendant. The clerk magistrate will decide whether there is enough to go forward with the complaint. This step is only for misdemeanor crimes; if it is a felony charge, it will automatically go to the next step.

\*When a complaint is made, the defendant will appear in front of the judge. The judge will hear the victim's story and the defendant's before deciding if there is enough to go forward with an arraignment.

\*During the arraignment, the judge will determine whether there is enough to charge the defendant with any crime(s). The defendant will have a 58A hearing that will determine whether s/he is a threat to society. If not, s/he will be released, but if so, s/he will be held until the trial date.

\*The trial will be either by jury or bench and if the defendant is found guilty, s/he will have a sentencing hearing and then be sentenced. Once s/he is in jail, the victim in the case can be asked to be notified of a release date or other information they would want to know regarding the defendant, such as programs they are participating in.

# ANALYSIS OF HOMELESS CRIME: 2011

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Though accounting for less than .5% of the population in Cambridge, homeless individuals make up 10% to 15% of the total arrests each year. Many of the arrestees have been habitual, chronic offenders in Cambridge for nearly two decades. High pedestrian traffic areas such as Central Square, Harvard Square, Porter Square, and Inman Square, as well as the periphery of shelters, are where the majority of the arrests occur. Crimes influenced heavily by vagrant activity include simple assault (usually homeless fighting each other), shoplifting, larcenies from businesses and automobiles, disorderly conduct, drinking in public, indecent exposure (“flashing” or public urination), and trespassing. Analytical highlights follow:

- Homeless arrests accounted for 11.5% of the citywide total in 2011, down from 14% of the overall number in 2010.

## *Violent Crime*

### *Murder:*

Between 1985 and 1997, a murder involving the homeless was one of the three recurring murder categorizations in Cambridge. These incidents, often fueled by drugs and alcohol, escalated into deadly violence. That trend is no longer active. There has not been a murder scenario in the City involving a homeless individual since 1997. The last three murders associated with homeless victims or offenders were:

- On March 31, 1994, a homeless man was beaten to death in a fight with multiple offenders. This case remains unsolved.
- On November 22, 1996, a 50-year-old homeless veteran was stabbed to death on Mass Ave after a brief argument with another man. The offender was convicted of murder.
- On March 26, 1997, three homeless suspects lured a 19-year-old homeless female to an abandoned trailer in the East Street yards. They tortured her, then bludgeoned her to death and set her on fire. All three suspects were convicted of murder.

### *Rape:*

Rapes involving the homeless have declined significantly over the past few years. Throughout the 1990s, the City of Cambridge consistently averaged four to five rapes per year with a suspect or victim classified as homeless. Between 2006 and 2010, there have been but eight reported rapes involving homeless victims or suspects, including one in 2011. There have been four incidents where homeless males were either suspected of or arrested for rape. Homeless females have been victimized in four separate sexual assaults. One of the rapes was perpetrated by three homeless males on a homeless female. Note that the number of rapes that go unreported each year is uncertain.

### *Robbery:*

It is a very rare occurrence when a homeless person robs a stranger. The typical homeless robbery is a sad reflection of urban life: the destitute robbing each other. The majority of these robberies occur in the vicinity of Central and Harvard Squares or at various shelters. The victim is usually acquainted with the perpetrator, and in many cases, both are intoxicated. Property stolen ranges from a bottle of wine to a blanket or a pair of shoes. Homeless robberies are sometimes precipitated by past debts, real or imaginary. There is a possibility they are under reported

Homeless reporting and involvement as actors in robberies has declined significantly over the past ten years. Throughout the decade of the 1990s, there were 10 to 12 street robberies per year classified as homeless scenarios. That number has fallen to an average of two incidents per year since 2006, and none were reported in

2010. A series of street robberies in Central Square was the major contributor to the rise in homeless robberies from zero in 2010 to six incidents in 2011.

### Street Robberies – Homeless Scenarios – 2001 to 2011:

TYPE	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Homeless	8	5	5	3	9	2	3	3	3	0	6

- There have been fifteen (15) homeless scenario street robberies reported in the past five years. Eleven of the crimes were in the confines of Central Square, three were on the periphery of Harvard Square, and the other robbery was near Inman Square.

- Arrests were made in nine of the fifteen street robberies.

- The victim knew his or her assailant in eleven of the incidents.

### Aggravated Assault:

Homeless-related aggravated assaults usually occur as a result of arguments that escalate to altercations. They fluctuate each year in number from a low of 3 incidents in 2006 to 20 altercations in 2007. The annual average for the past decade has been 10 incidents. There were 14 aggravated assaults involving the homeless in 2011.

A high percentage of these incidents are fueled by liquor and drugs. A majority of these arrests take place within the confines of Central Square. Also, police officers are frequently victims of simple assaults when dispersing disruptive homeless or attempting to arrest the subjects. Homeless assaults are also precipitated by domestic altercations or when service is denied at retail establishments. Further analysis reveals the following data on aggravated assaults involving homeless over the past three years:

- 43% of the aggravated assaults involving the homeless in 2011 happened on Thursday and Friday.
- The overwhelming majority of aggravated assaults involving homeless people were within the confines of Central Square between the 400 and 700 blocks of Mass Ave.
- Over 80% of the homeless-related aggravated assaults in 2011 were male vs. male altercations.
- Two out of three of the suspects involved in aggravated assaults with homeless people were over 40 years of age. The same statistic held true for the victims of these incidents.
- The scenario in nearly half of these incidents is two homeless males who are known to each other and are in an inebriated state, fighting each other over property, debts, or a romantic partner.

### Homeless-Related Aggravated Assaults – 2001 to 2011:

TYPE	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Homeless	7	13	8	9	10	3	20	15	7	11	14

### Breakdown of other crimes associated with the Homeless:

- ▶ **Shoplifting** was the most frequent homeless-related crime in 2011, with 18 out of 169 incidents. The majority of these arrests were made in local convenience and drug stores around Harvard and Central Squares.
- ▶ **Trespassing** arrests are usually the result of homeless individuals sleeping in ATMs, attempting to enter commercial locations that these persons have been denied access to, or entering campuses/buildings where

they do not belong at M.I.T. and Harvard. Trespassing arrests citywide fell from 20 incidents in 2010 to 7 in 2011.

- ▶ **Disorderly** arrests involving homeless individuals dropped from seven in 2010 to five in 2011. These incidents typically involved situations that ranged from homeless not cooperating with the police to individuals acting belligerently or yelling obscenities due to intoxication. Most of these incidents took place in Central Square, at least partly due to the availability of liquor.
- ▶ **Simple Assaults** often occur for similar reasons as aggravated assaults. One of the more typical scenarios is when arguments develop as the result of domestic situations between two homeless people.

### **A Profile: The Prolific Homeless Offender**

A 50-year-old, white, homeless male has been arrested 21 times in Cambridge in the past two years. The subject has an extensive record with the CPD that spans over 20 years. Almost all of the crimes have taken place within the confines of Central Square.

He has been either the suspect or defendant in six aggravated assaults and the victim twice. Five times in the past two years, he has been charged with disorderly conduct as a result of disturbances at shelters.

He has run up a tab of fourteen drinking in public arrests, six of which were in a two-month period in 2010. Add to these, six indecent exposure arrest since 2009.

He has also been a suspect or was arrested in nine simple assaults, along with two street robbery and six trespassing collars. His reputation is that of an aggressive panhandler who flies off the handle quite easily. A number of assaults have involved women.

### **Breakdown of homeless offenders as registered sex offenders in Cambridge:**

	<b>Total Offenders</b>	<b>Homeless Offenders</b>	<b>Percentage of Level</b>
<b>Level 1 – low risk</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Level 2 - moderate</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>Level 3 – high risk</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>37%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>17%</b>

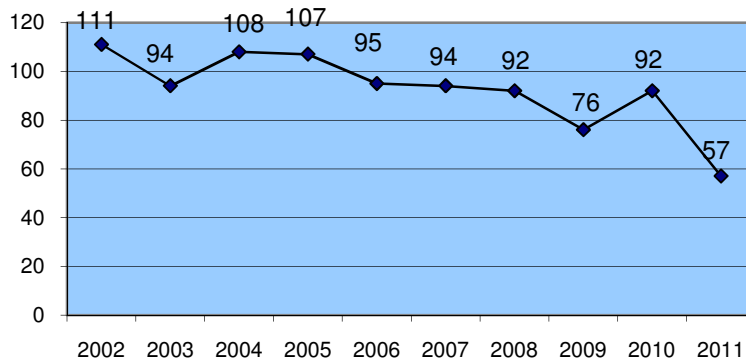


# JUVENILE CRIME

Juveniles, *offenders aged 16 and under*, made up approximately 6% of the total arrests in Cambridge between 2002 and 2011 (ranging from 5% to 7% each year). The number of juvenile arrests for all offenses during this time frame peaked in 2002 at 111 arrests and bottomed out at 57 arrests in 2011. The reduction in juvenile arrests this year can be attributed at least in part to the Diversion Program instituted within the Family Services Unit.

On average, shoplifting tends to be the crime for which the most juveniles are arrested each year, as the chart below depicts. This year was no different with 30 juvenile shoplifting arrests, which was more than double the number of any other type of crime. Other crimes that consistently have high juvenile arrest numbers are street robberies, assaults, and larcenies.

**Number of Juvenile Arrests by Year (2002-2011)**

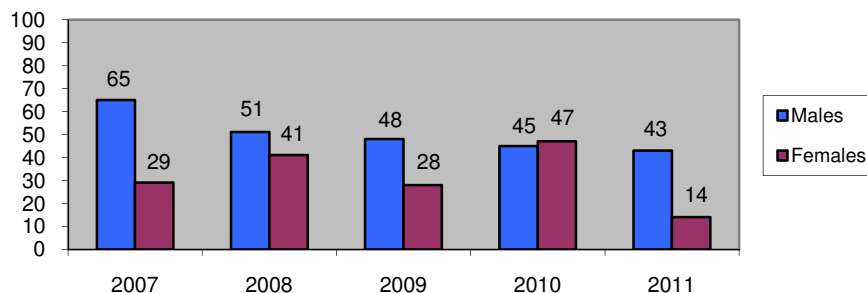


Part One Crime Totals 5-Year Review (2007-2011)	Juvenile Arrests
<b>Violent Crimes</b>	
Street Robbery	49
Aggravated Assault	39
Commercial Robbery	3
Rape	1
Homicide	0
<b>Total Violent</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>Property Crimes</b>	
Shoplifting	108
All Larceny Offenses*	33
Housebreak	13
Commercial Break	4
Auto Theft	2
<b>Total Property</b>	<b>160</b>

\*Larceny types include larceny from building, from motor vehicle, from person, of bicycle, from residence, of license plate, of services, and miscellaneous larcenies.

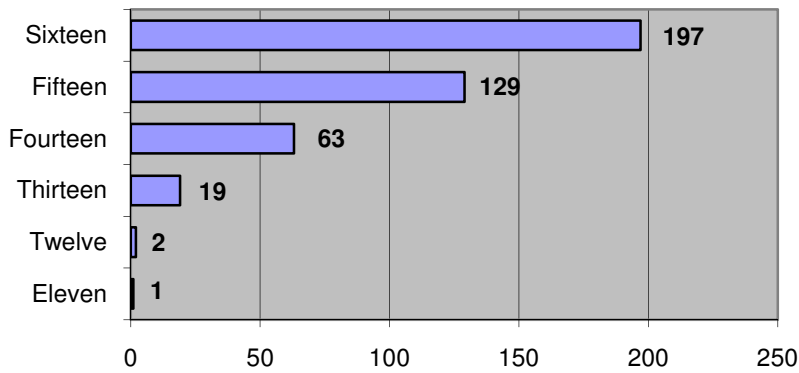
Other Offenses, 2007-2011	
Child in Need of Services	43
Simple Assault	35
Drugs	15
Misc. Offenses	13
Disorderly	11
Malicious Destruction	10
Weapon Violations	8
Receiving Stolen Prop.	7
Trespassing	7
Driving Offenses	6
Liquor Possession/Sale	2
Indecent Assault	1
Domestic Dispute	1
Threats	0
Drinking in Public	0
Indecent Exposure	0
Arson	0
Peeping & Spying	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>159</b>

**Number of Arrestees by Sex and Year  
5-Year Review, 2007-2011**



Approximately 75% of the juveniles arrested in Cambridge in 2011 were male, compared to 80% of adult arrestees. These numbers for 2011 are close to national totals, as roughly 70% of juvenile arrestees nationally each year are male. The graph to the left breaks down the numbers of juvenile arrestees per year by sex between 2007 and 2011.

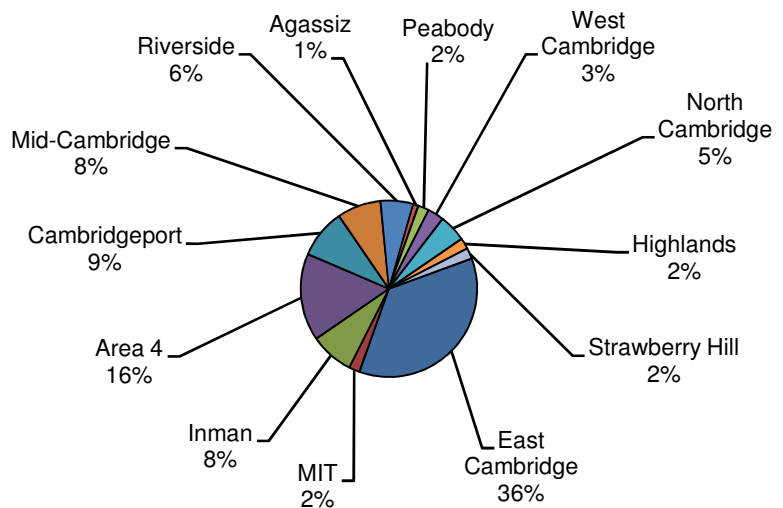
### Number of Juvenile Arrestees by Age at Arrest 5-Year Review, 2007-2011



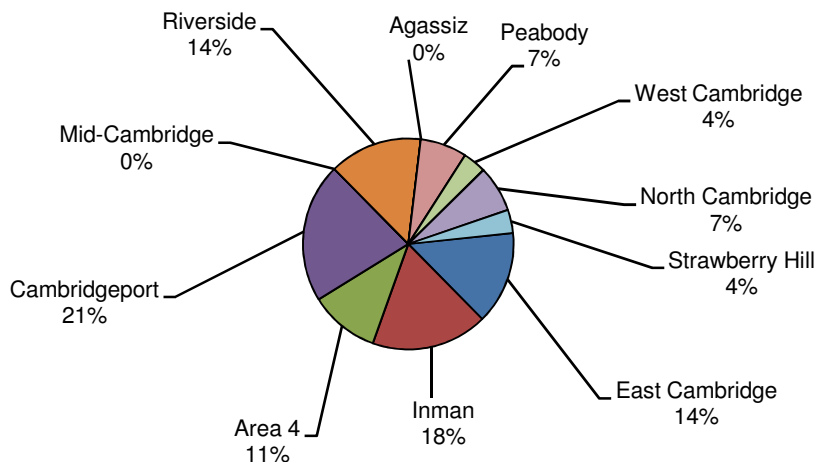
Forty-eight percent (48%) of the juveniles arrested between 2007 and 2011 were 16 years old at the time of their arrest, making it the most common age of an arrested juvenile. Juveniles at 15 years of age were not far behind with 31% of the arrests. No arrests of children under the age of 11 were made in the past five years, and in 2011, no one under the age of 12 was arrested.

The majority of arrests took place in East Cambridge, which logically follows given that the CambridgeSide Galleria accounts for a high number of shoplifting arrests. The graph to the right breaks down the percentages of arrests of juveniles per neighborhood of offense over the past five years.

### Juvenile Arrests by Neighborhood of Offense 5-Year Review (2007-2011)



### Cambridge Juvenile Arrestees in 2011 by Neighborhood of Residence



A little less than half (44%) of the juveniles arrested in 2011 were Cambridge residents. Of these, Cambridgeport and Inman/Harrington were the most common neighborhoods of residence, followed by East Cambridge and Riverside.

## GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF “SCHOOL\*” CRIMES IN 2011

School	Larc. from Build.	Larc. from Person	Vandalism	Simple Assault	Harass./ Threats	Street Rob.	Drugs	Agg. Assault	Larc. Of Bike	Larc. from MV	Comm. Break	Total
<b>Baldwin School</b> <i>28 Sacramento St.</i>	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Cambridgeport School</b> <i>89 Elm St.</i>	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	4
<b>Andrew Peabody School</b> (Formerly the M.E. Fitzgerald School) <i>70 Rindge Ave.</i>	2	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	7
<b>Fletcher-Maynard Academy</b> <i>225 Windsor St.</i>	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
<b>Graham &amp; Parks School</b> <i>44 Linnaean St.</i>	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Haggerty School</b> <i>110 Cushing St.</i>	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
<b>King Open School</b> (Formerly the Harrington School) <i>850 Cambridge St.</i>	1	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	7
<b>Kennedy - Longfellow School</b> <i>158 Spring St.</i>	0	2	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	9
<b>MLK, Jr. School</b> <i>100 Putnam Ave.</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
<b>Morse School</b> <i>40 Granite St.</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Tobin School</b> <i>197 Vassal Ln.</i>	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
<b>CRLS High School</b> <i>459 Broadway</i>	12	2	2	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	1	23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>66</b>

\*Please note that these numbers indicate crimes that have taken place on Cambridge Public School property.

# INCIDENTS REPORTED ON CAMBRIDGE HOUSING AUTHORITY PROPERTY

## JANUARY 1, 2011 TO DECEMBER 31, 2011

Property	Agg. Assault	Simple Assault	Robbery	Drugs	Burg.	Auto Theft	Larc. Res.	Vandal.	Threats/Harass.	Trespass	Indecent Assault	Domest. Disp.	R.O. Viol.	Arson	Total
15 Ware St	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2 Chestnut	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20 Chestnut	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8-10 Lancaster	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	8
87 Amory St.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
116 Norfolk St	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
118 Trowbridge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
12 Prince St.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
120 Pleasant St.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2353 Mass. Ave	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
226 Norfolk St	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45 Linnaean	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
88 Hancock St.	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Aberdeen House	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burns Apts.	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	6
Corcoran Pk	2	3	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	10	1	0	21
Fairmont Apts.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Hingham St.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jackson Gardens	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jackson St.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Jefferson Park	4	10	1	0	1	0	4	3	7	0	0	17	0	0	47
JFK Apts.	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
LBJ Apts.	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Lincoln Way	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	5
Lopez St.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Manning Apts.	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	8
Miller's River	0	2	0	0	3	0	4	0	2	0	0	5	0	0	16
Newtowne Ct	0	6	1	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	8	6	0	26
Putnam Gardens	0	6	0	0	3	0	1	1	4	0	0	10	0	0	25
Putnam School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
River Howard	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	3
Roosevelt Towers	2	8	0	0	1	0	1	2	5	1	0	2	0	0	22
Russell Apt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
St. Paul's	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Truman Apts.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washington Elms	2	6	0	0	0	0	2	5	3	0	0	9	0	0	27
Weaver Apts.	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Willow St.	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	5
Woodrow Wilson Ct.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>244</b>

# LEARN TO PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST CRIME

Cambridge prides itself in being a safe place to raise a family, participate in the workforce and attend school. Compared to cities of similar size and population nationwide, the crime rate in Cambridge consistently ranks below average in the majority of serious crime categories. (See the National and Regional Crime Comparison for more information, page 13-14). However, crime is a presence and a concern in all large cities and the safety of residents and visitors is of the utmost importance to the Cambridge Police Department. The following tips are provided to help residents, visitors, and business owners learn to protect themselves and their property.

## VIOLENT CRIME

### PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST RAPE

- **Be aware of your surroundings when walking down the street.** Walk briskly and confidently.
- **At night, try to avoid walking alone, particularly after 9:00 p.m.** Stick to main streets with as much car and foot traffic as possible. Avoid public parks, areas with excessive trees and bushes, dark streets and alleys, and other “shortcuts.”
- **Keep an arm’s length away from strangers.** If you think someone suspicious is approaching you or following you, cross to the other side of the street and head for the nearest public place.
- **Know which stores and other public places are open along your route.** Whether walking home, to work, or jogging, try to vary your route frequently.
- **When streets are sparsely populated,** make brief eye contact with people as you pass them.
- **When parking at night, try to park in well-lit spots.** Lock your car door and, when returning to your car, have your keys ready.
- **Never hitchhike or pick up hitchhikers.**
- **Know the full name of each person you date,** his/her occupation, and where s/he lives.
- **Never invite a person whom you have met on the street,** in a bar, or in another public place to be alone with you.
- **If you are a victim of rape, report the crime.** Counseling, shelters, and other services are available for you, and you may prevent another person from being victimized.
- **The Boston Area Rape Crisis Center is available (617) 492-8306 or (800) 841-8371.** The Rape Crisis Center supports a 24-hour hotline, support groups, one-on-one counseling, and community education programs. All its services are free.

- **The Cambridge Police Department offers a Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) course** for women seeking to learn how to physically protect themselves against rape and other forms of violence. The course is free and is taught by a certified R.A.D. instructor. For more information, call the Cambridge Police Department’s Community Relations Department at (617) 349-3236.

### PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST STREET ROBBERY

- **Try to avoid walking alone on the street after dark.** If you must walk alone at night, use well-lit roads, with as much car traffic as possible, and walk near the curb.
- **When streets are relatively empty,** make eye contact with everyone you pass, and keep yourself an arm’s length away from them. Walk briskly and confidently.
- **At night, avoid public parks,** vacant lots, and areas with excessive trees and bushes.
- **When waiting for a bus or subway, if the station is deserted,** keep your back against a wall in a well-lit section.
- **When walking to your car at night,** have your keys in your hand and be ready to open the door.
- **Try to avoid using ATMs late at night.** If you must, try to pick an ATM in an attended location, such as a supermarket or mall. At the very least, make sure the ATM is well lit, and be aware of any people “loitering” in the area. Try to avoid going by yourself.
- **At home, before answering the door,** check the peephole or side window to make sure you know your visitor.

- **Keep your doors locked when driving your car.** If someone approaches your car while stopped, be prepared to step on the gas.
- **Don't carry your purse loosely around your shoulder.** Clutch it tightly under your arm or, better yet, avoid carrying a purse and keep a wallet in your pocket instead.
- **Avoid walking with headphones on,** as you may not be able to hear someone approaching.
- **If you *are* robbed, obey the robber's instructions.** Keeping your cash in a separate money clip or pouch will allow you to hand it over without sacrificing your credit cards, identification, and personal papers.
- **Try to memorize your robber's physical features, clothing, motor vehicle, and direction of flight.** Call the police from the nearest available telephone.

## PROTECTING BUSINESSES AGAINST ROBBERY

(This information was found at [http://crime.about.com/od/prevent/qt/prevent\\_robbery.htm](http://crime.about.com/od/prevent/qt/prevent_robbery.htm))

- Have at least **two employees** open and close the business.
- Keep purses and personal valuables locked in desks or lockers.
- Install a robbery alarm.
- **Place a surveillance camera** behind the cash register facing the front counter. Replace videotapes regularly.
- **Vary times** and routes of travel for bank deposits.
- **Don't use marked "moneybags"** that make it obvious to would-be robbers you are carrying money for deposit.
- **Keep a low balance** in the cash register.
- Place **excess money** in a safe or deposit it as soon as possible.
- **Cooperate with the robber** for your own safety and the safety of others. Comply with a robber's demands. Remain calm and think clearly. **Make mental notes of the robber's physical description and other observations important to law enforcement officers.**
- **If you have a silent alarm** and can reach it without being noticed, use it. Otherwise, wait until the robber leaves.
- Be careful, most robbers are just as nervous as you are.
- **Stay alert!** Know who is in your business and where they are. Watch for people who hang around without buying anything. Also, be aware of suspicious activity outside your place of business. Write down license numbers of

suspicious vehicles if visible from the inside of your business.

- **Make sure the sales counter can be seen clearly.** Don't put up advertisements, flyers, displays, signs, posters or other items on windows or doors that might obstruct the view of the register from inside or outside your business. The police cruising by your store need to see in.
- **Try to greet customers as they enter your business.** Look them in the eye, and ask them if they need help. Your attention can discourage a robber.
- **Keep your business well-lit,** inside and outside. Employees should report any burned-out lights to the business owner or manager. Keep trees and bushes trimmed, so they don't block any outdoor lights. Encourage the police to stop by your business.
- Learn the names of the officers who patrol your business.
- **Use care after dark.** Be cautious when cleaning the parking lot or taking out the trash at night. Make sure another employee inside the business keeps you within eye contact while you are involved in work details outside of your building.
- **If you see something suspicious, call the police.** Never try to handle it yourself. It could cost you your life.
- **Handle cash carefully.** Avoid making your business a tempting target for robbers. Keep the amount of cash in registers low. Drop all large bills right away. If a customer tries to pay with a large bill, politely ask if he or she has a smaller one. Explain that you keep very little cash on hand.
- **Use only one register at night.** Leave other registers empty and open. Tilt the register drawer to show there is no money in it.
- **Leave blinds and drapes partially open** during closing hours.
- **Make sure important signs stay posted.** For example, the front door should bear signs that say, "Clerk Cannot Open the Time Lock Safe."
- **If your business is robbed, put your safety first.** Your personal safety is more important than money or merchandise.
- **Don't talk** except to answer the robber's questions.
- Don't stare directly at the robber.
- Prevent surprises; keep your hands in sight at all times. Don't make any sudden moves.
- Don't chase or follow the robber out of your place of business. **Leave the job of catching the robber to the police.**

## PREVENTING ASSAULT

- Check out the tips for preventing rape and street robbery to prevent unprovoked “street” assaults.
- If you have been abused by, or are in fear of, your domestic partner or spouse, get help. The problem usually becomes worse if it is not addressed. The “domestic crimes” section of this report lists telephone numbers that you or your partner can call to seek assistance.
- Report assault when it happens, even if you do not believe it to be “serious.” Assaults that are not reported cannot be considered by police administrators when they make decisions about how to allocate manpower and funds. If there is a problem with a bar, a household, a school, or

any other place where assaults are likely to happen, *the police need to know about it.*

- Do *not* allow yourself to be drawn into arguments about traffic or parking incidents. Keep calm when behind the wheel of your car. If another driver commits a violation or threatens you, take down his registration information and report it to the police. Hundreds of people are killed each year because of “road rage.”
- Unless they have security forces for that purpose, shop managers and clerks should not attempt to physically detain shoplifters. Most of the “Shop Owner/Patron” assaults began as shoplifting incidents. Instead, get a full description of the shoplifter and call the police. If he refuses to stay, let him go.

## PROPERTY CRIME

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### PREVENTING AUTO THEFT

*(This list is provided courtesy of [Autotheftinfo.com](http://Autotheftinfo.com))*

- **Always take your keys.** Never leave them in the car.
- **Always lock your car.**
- **Never hide a second set of keys in your car.** Extra keys can easily be found if a car thief takes time to look.
- **Park in well-lit areas.** Over half of all vehicle thefts occur at night.
- **Park in attended lots.** Auto thieves tend to avoid potential witnesses and prefer unattended parking lots.
- **If you park in an attended lot, leave only the ignition/door key.** If your trunk and glove box use the same key as the door, have one of them changed. Don't give the attendant easy access to your glove box and trunk. Upon returning, check the tires, spare, and battery to insure they are the same as those you had when you parked.
- **Never leave your car running, even if you will only be gone for a minute.** Vehicles are commonly stolen at convenience stores, gas stations, ATM's, etc. Many vehicles are also stolen on cold days when the owner leaves it running to warm up.
- **Don't leave valuables in plain view.** Don't make your car a more desirable target by leaving valuables in plain sight.
- **When parking in a garage, lock the garage door and your vehicle.** By locking both the garage and vehicle doors, the chances of deterring a thief greatly improve.

- **Don't leave the registration or title in your car.** A car thief will use these to sell your stolen car. File the title at your home or office, and carry the registration in your purse or wallet.
- **Vehicle Identification Number (VIN).** Stolen cars/parts are more easily traced when vehicle VIN numbers have been etched on car windows and major parts. ID stickers (<http://www.IDsticker.com>) include VINs and can assist police in identifying your vehicle in the event that it is stolen.
- **Alarms.** Loud warnings sound when doors/hoods/trunks are opened. Optional sensors include glass breakage, motion, tampering and towing. Panic buttons, back-up batteries, flashing parking lights or headlights, and automatic engine disable features are also recommended.

### PREVENTING COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

- **Light all entrances,** including alleys, with vandal-proof fixtures. Leave inside lights on overnight and on weekends.
- **Glass doors** should be made from burglar-resistant glass and should be well lit.
- **Keep weeds, shrubbery, and debris away from doors and windows.** Lock up tools and ladders that could invite a break or make a burglar's job easier.
- **Install an alarm system,** check it regularly, and investigate reasons behind any false alarms. Post a conspicuous notice that you have an alarm system.



- **Leave empty cash drawers open after hours.** Use a burglar-resistant safe; don't trust a fire safe to keep burglars out.
- **Request a Cambridge Police Department Commercial Security Survey**, which provides a general assessment of the vulnerability of your business. For more information, call (617) 349-3236.

### PREVENTING RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

- **Try "casing" your own home, at night and during the day.** Attempt to gain access to your home when the doors and windows are locked and "secure." Make sure you have some identification on you in case your neighbors call the police.
- **Doors should be made from strong wood or metal and should be locked with a deadbolt.** Install guards on windows that prevent them from being raised more than a few inches.
- If you live in an apartment building that has a main entryway, make sure that security is enforced at the main door. **Never prop open the door or let someone in behind you.** Report residents who do this to your landlord.
- **When you go away**, even for the evening, leave a light or two on (perhaps on a timer) as well as the television or radio.
- Keep a small amount of cash on a table near your main door. If the money is gone when you come home, you will know immediately that someone has been in your residence.
- **Consider buying motion sensor** lights outside your home and out of reach so the burglars cannot unscrew the light. Also, buy variable light timers to activate lights in your home.
- **Request a Cambridge Police Department Residential Security Survey**, which provides a general assessment of the vulnerability of your residence. For more information, call (617) 349-3236.

### PREVENTING LARCENIES FROM BUILDINGS

- **Office buildings should develop a comprehensive security policy involving all employees.** The policy should include a prohibition against leaving expensive equipment—particularly laptop computers—unattended. Employees should be encouraged to question suspicious or unfamiliar people, or to report them to the security department.
- **Don't leave expensive personal property in health club lockers.** A better solution is a "fanny

pack" or other strap-on carrier that you can keep with you at all times.

- **Retail establishments should provide individual lockers, with locks, for employee property.** Leaving it behind the counter or in a "back room" is an invitation for theft.
- **Take extreme care of your personal property while shopping and dining.** Keep it in sight and never leave it unattended, not even for a minute.
- **Do not hang purses on the back of your chair**, especially when dining alone, as you will not be able to see someone lift it off.
- **Report all thefts, no matter how minor, to the police department.** Greater reporting will allow us to identify and attack patterns and series of crime.

### PREVENTING LARCENIES FROM MOTOR VEHICLES

- Use common sense when leaving your vehicle unattended.
- Make sure all valuables are out of sight. If you cannot bring valuables with you when you leave the car, at least move them to the trunk or under the seat where they will not be seen. Leaving expensive items out in the open creates an easy target, attracting thieves that may be casing the area. **This is particularly important with GPS systems, laptops, iPods, and cell phones.**
- **Always remove detachable GPS systems from dashboards and windshields. Make sure to remove the bases as well. And if possible, clean the dashboard or windshield to remove any indication that a GPS system was there.**
- Preventing the theft of car radios is more difficult; some car stereo manufacturers make detachable faceplates or stereos that pull easily from the dashboard, allowing you to take it with you or lock it in the trunk.
- **Parking your car in a driveway or lot** rather than on the street provides some minimal deterrence.

### PREVENTING BICYCLE THEFT

- The facts are grim: **no lock will stop a determined bicycle thief.** However, using a lock is better than not using a lock, and you can maximize the protection a lock provides by: 1) using a steel "U" lock rather than a cable lock; 2) locking the *frame* of the bicycle rather than the tire; and 3) locking your bike at a bicycle rack.
- **Register your bicycle with the Cambridge Police Department.** If your bike is stolen and recovered, it will be easier to find you and return your bicycle. Registration cards are available at

the Cambridge Police Department and bicycle shops across the city. Call Community Relations, 617-349-3236, for more information.

- **Removing an essential part of the bicycle, such as the seat or one of the wheels, and taking it with you provides some protection against theft.** *Don't* assume your bicycle is safe because it is in your yard, on your porch, or in your apartment hallway. Bikes should be locked in a secured area, such as a garage or shed.

### **PREVENTING SHOPLIFTING**

- **Greet and serve customers** promptly. Shoplifters do not want your attention.
- **If you suspect someone has “pocketed” merchandise**, engage them in conversation for a few minutes. They may “ditch” the merchandise as soon as you leave them alone.
- **Sales personnel should have a full view of the sales floor area.** Rearrange displays, shelving, and lighting to eliminate blind spots.
- Keep displays neat and tidy.
- Be aware of people wearing loose, baggy clothing, carrying shopping bags or large handbags, or customers under the influence of drugs and alcohol.
- **Request a commercial survey** from one of the Cambridge Police Department’s certified Crime Prevention Officers at 617-349-3236.

### **PREVENTING FRAUD**

- Banks are swiftly replacing standard ATM Cards with “Check Cards”—credit cards that deduct directly from your checking account. These check cards, while convenient, present a security problem. Thieves no longer need your Personal Identification Number (PIN) to use the card; if a thief uses it like a credit card, he can drain your entire account by just forging your signature on credit card slips. If your ATM card has a credit card logo (such as Visa or MasterCard) on it, it can be used like a credit card. If you do not want this feature, notify your bank and have them send you an ATM-only card.
- Keep your credit card numbers and the telephone numbers of your credit card companies at home and work. If your cards are stolen, call these numbers immediately and report the theft.
- Try to avoid carrying more credit cards than you need at one time.
- Never write your ATM card PIN number on the card or on a slip of paper in your wallet or purse.
- Protect your cards against theft in the first place; see the prevention tips under this “Property Crime” section.

- Merchants should implement and enforce a policy of requiring a photographic identification when using a check or credit card.

### **Learn to recognize potential fraud scenarios. Any of the following activities almost certainly involves a scam:**

- Someone approaches you on the street claiming to have found money.
- Any circumstance in which you have to pay money in order to get money.
- Someone comes to your door without notification, claiming to work for the gas company, electric company, water company, or cable company. Always ask for official identification and call the utility company to make sure the identification is valid. Do not let “utility impostors” into your home.
- You receive an unsolicited telephone call from someone offering a great deal on some piece of merchandise.
- You’re notified via mail that you’ve won a prize, but you have to pay money in order to claim it.

### **PREVENT LAPTOP THEFT**

- If a stranger approaches you and offers you a laptop for less than face value, alert the police – the laptop is almost certainly stolen.
- Register the laptop with the company and keep receipts with information, such as serial numbers. If your laptop is stolen and recovered, this information will be essential to reclaim the item.
- **Do not leave your laptop visible inside your motor vehicle.**
- If you run a business, do not give keys out to individuals who do not absolutely need them. As previously mentioned, employees are often the suspects when laptops are stolen from businesses. Also, use cables or other protective measures to keep the machines more secure.

# DIRECTORY

## EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Office of the Commissioner.....  
(617) 349-3377  
Professional Standards.....  
(617) 349-3384

## KEY OPERATIONAL SERVICES:

Personnel Department.....  
(617) 349-3374  
Traffic Department.....  
(617) 349-4365  
Crime Analysis Unit.....  
(617) 349-3390  
Public Information.....  
(617) 349-3237  
Records Unit.....  
(617) 349-3336  
Community Relations.....  
(617) 349-3236  
Or (617) 349-6009  
Identification Unit.....  
(617) 349-3347  
Police Academy.....  
(617) 349-3343  
Property Office.....  
(617) 349-3380

## KEY INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES

Narcotics Unit.....  
(617) 349-3360  
Drug Tip Hotline.....  
(617) 349-3359  
Domestic Violence Unit.....  
(617) 349-3371  
Accident Investigations.....  
(617) 349-3307

Investigations Section.....  
(617) 349-3370

## MISCELLANEOUS

License Commission.....  
(617) 349-6140  
Criminal History Board.....  
(617) 660-4600  
Medical Examiner's Office.....  
(617) 267-6767  
Sex Offender Registry.....  
(978)-740-6400  
Dispute Settlement Center.....  
(617) 876-5376

### **Cambridge Police Department "Alert Network" Text-A-Tip Function**

To send an anonymous tip via text message to the Cambridge Police Department, text the keyword Tip650 and your tip to 847411 (TIP411).

### **Cambridge Police Anonymous Crime Tip E-Mail**

Submit crime tips or suspicious behavior by accessing [www.CambridgePolice.org](http://www.CambridgePolice.org), and clicking Anonymous Crime Tip E-mail

**CAMBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
125 SIXTH ST.  
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142  
(617) 349-3300 – 24 HOURS A DAY**