

# Cambridge Police Department BridgeStat

October 2024

Produced by the Crime Analysis Unit



# Part I Total Crime

An analysis of the serious crime statistics for the first ten months of 2024 points to a 9% increase in the Part One index total for Cambridge when compared with the same time frame in 2023. Through October 28<sup>th</sup> of 2024, there were 2,926 serious crimes reported in the City. For the same time period in 2023, the combined total for Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny & Auto theft was 2,688 incidents, 238 fewer than 2024. A 25% rise in the crime index has also been registered when measured against the five-year weighted average.

Further analysis of the crime totals for the first ten months of 2024 indicates that violent crimes recorded a 9% decrease when compared to last year. There were zero homicides, 38 rapes, 88 robberies, and 257 aggravated assaults recorded through October 28<sup>th</sup> of this year.

Conversely, the numbers indicate that property crimes saw a rise, increasing 12% above the 2023 total for the first ten months, with 277 more crimes reported in 2024. Despite a 78% rise in shoplifting incidents, a 3% increase in housebreaks, and an 11% rise in larcenies from residences, sizeable reductions in larceny from motor vehicles (-15%) and larceny of bicycles (-13%) were key to keeping the property crime increase relatively moderate.

When analyzing the serious crime totals of October 2024 versus the previous month of September 2024, there was an increase of 8% in the number of index incidents, with 28 more crimes reported in October.

	4 Week Snapshot		<u>Y</u>	ear to	<u>Date</u>	<u>Five Year</u>		
	9/3/24 - 9/30/24	10/1/24 - 10/28/24	Change	2023	2024	Change	Avg	Change
Total Violent Crime	35	57	63%	422	383	-9%	325	18%
Total Property Crime	297	303	2%	2266	2543	12%	2011	26%
Total Part I Crime	332	360	8%	2688	2926	9%	2336	25%



# Part I Property Crime

Analysis of property crime totals for the first ten months of 2024 reveals a 12% increase when measured against the same time frame in 2023 and a 26% rise above the five-year average of 2,011.

Half of the property crime categories are recording decreases when measured against the first ten months of 2023. Notable reductions in larceny from motor vehicles (-15%), larceny of bicycles (-13%), and auto thefts (-18%) have been able to mildly counter the rising increase in shopliftings (+78%), which is driving property crime. The increase of 360 shoplifting incidents thus far in 2024 when compared with 2023 is the major factor causing Cambridge to see an increase in overall crime this year, despite reductions in so many other crime types.

	4 Week Snapshot		Year to Date			<u>Five Year</u>		
	9/3/24 - 9/30/24	10/1/24 - 10/28/24	Change	2023	2024	Change	Avg	Change
Burglary	17	27	59%	213	220	3%	185	19%
Commercial Break	4	9	125%	63	60	-5%	53	13%
Housebreak	13	18	38%	150	160	7%	132	21%
Larceny	265	267	1%	<b>1936</b>	2227	15%	1714	30%
Larceny (Misc)	4	6	50%	66	83	26%	58	43%
Larceny from Building	16	23	44%	172	180	5%	155	16%
Larceny from MV	27	34	26%	281	240	-15%	313	-23%
Larceny from Person	10	6	-40%	82	75	-9%	89	-16%
Larceny from Residence	39	52	33%	322	359	11%	294	22%
Larceny of Bicycle	67	52	-22%	497	433	-13%	476	-9%
Larceny of Plate	3	1	-67%	37	18	-51%	25	-28%
Larceny of Services	0	3	IN-CALC	19	19	0%	11	73%
Shoplifting	99	90	-9%	460	820	78%	293	180%
Auto Theft	15	9	-40%	117	96	-18%	112	-14%
Total Property Crime	297	303	<b>2</b> %	2266	2543	12%	2011	26%



# Part I Violent Crime

From January 1<sup>st</sup> to October 28<sup>th</sup> of 2024, there were 383 violent crimes recorded in Cambridge, 39 incidents (-9%) below last year's total of 422 incidents for the first ten months of the year and 58 incidents (18%) above the 325 crimes forecasted through October 28<sup>th</sup>.

There have been 38 rapes reported in Cambridge through October 28<sup>th</sup> of 2024, which is down three incidents from 2023. The 38 rapes reported thus far in 2024 have been categorized as 12 acquaintance assaults, ten domestic assaults, ten contact rapes, and six blitz incidents.

The trend observed during the past couple years of a high percentage of aggravated assaults and street robberies occurring in Central Square and on peripheral side streets began to reemerge in the spring, after a lull in activity in that area during the beginning of 2024. So far, ten months into the year, 86 (or 33%) of the 257 aggravated assaults and 37 (or 54%) of the 68 street robberies have been reported in the Central Square area.

The last homicide reported in Cambridge occurred shortly after midnight on November 23, 2023, in the area of 10 Magazine Street in Central Square. Two individuals with gunshot wounds were located and transported to a Boston hospital. One victim, 27-year-old Danasia Greene of Cambridge, was pronounced deceased at the hospital. The second victim, a 26-year-old male from Boston, was treated for non-life-threatening injuries. The incident remains under investigation at this time.

	4 Week Snapshot		Year to Date			Five Year		
	9/3/24 - 9/30/24	10/1/24 - 10/28/24	Change	2023	2024	Change	Avg	Change
Homicide	0	0	IN-CALC	0	0	IN-CALC	0	IN-CALC
Rape	3	8	167%	41	38	-7%	32	19%
Robbery	10	11	10%	116	88	-24%	83	6%
Commercial Robbery	2	5	150%	32	20	-38%	19	5%
Street Robbery	8	6	-25%	84	68	-19%	65	5%
Aggravated Assault	22	38	73%	265	257	-3%	210	<b>22</b> %
Total Violent Crime	35	57	63%	422	383	-9%	325	18%



#### MURDER

No Patterns

- No murders have been reported in Cambridge in 2024 through October 28th.
- Shortly after midnight on November 23, 2023, officers responded to the area of 10 Magazine Street in Central Square. Two individuals with gunshot wounds were located and transported to a Boston hospital. One victim, 27-year-old Danasia Greene of Cambridge, was pronounced deceased at the hospital. The second victim, a 26-year-old male from Boston, was treated for non-lifethreatening injuries. This incident marked the first homicide reported in Cambridge in over two years and was the only homicide reported in the City in 2023.\* It remains under active investigation at this time.
- There were no murders recorded in Cambridge in all of 2022. This has happened only three other times in the past 20 years—in 2004, 2007, and 2010.
- In the last reported homicide in Cambridge prior to the November 2023 incident, on Saturday 3/27/21, there was a fatal shooting that occurred at approximately 12:40 a.m. on Pemberton Street. The victim was reportedly located unconscious outside his vehicle by a passerby who called 911. The victim was transported to Mount Auburn Hospital where he later died. The victim has been identified as Xavier Louis-Jacques, 19, of Cambridge. The investigation is ongoing.

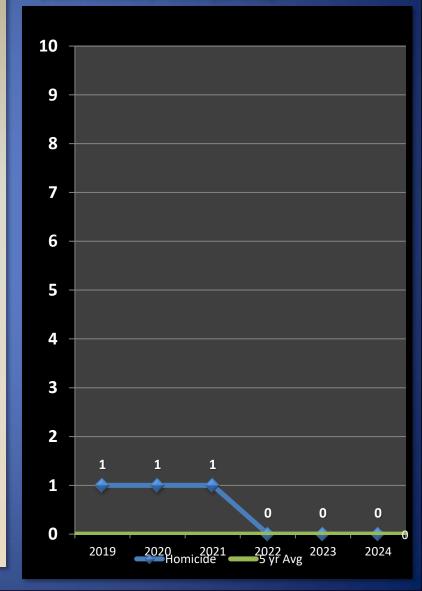
Please note: The 2023 figure excludes the fatal Cambridge Police officer-involved shooting of Sayed Faisal on January 4, 2023.

#### Percent Change\*



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

0%





#### RAPE

#### No Patterns

- There have been 38 rapes reported in Cambridge through the first ten months of 2024.
   This is down three incidents (-7%) from the 41 rapes reported during the same time frame in 2023.
- The 38 rapes reported thus far in 2024 have been categorized as 12 acquaintance assaults, ten domestic assaults, ten contact rapes, and six blitz incidents.
- On Friday, May 17, 2024, at approximately 9:18pm, police responded to the Cambridgepark Drive area for an assault in progress. The victim told officers the assailant was a masked man with a knife. Detectives processed a crime scene in a restroom of a commercial building and are working with Massachusetts State Police and the Middlesex District Attorney's Office. The investigation is ongoing.
- The total number of reported rapes tends to fluctuate from year to year, but the number of stranger-to-stranger rapes reported each year in Cambridge—typically between one and ten remains extremely low.

#### **Percent Change\***

Last 4 Weeks Previous Year

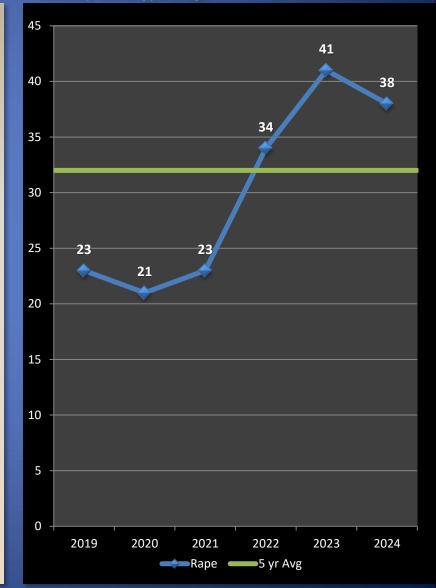
+167%

-7%

+19%

5-Year Average

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





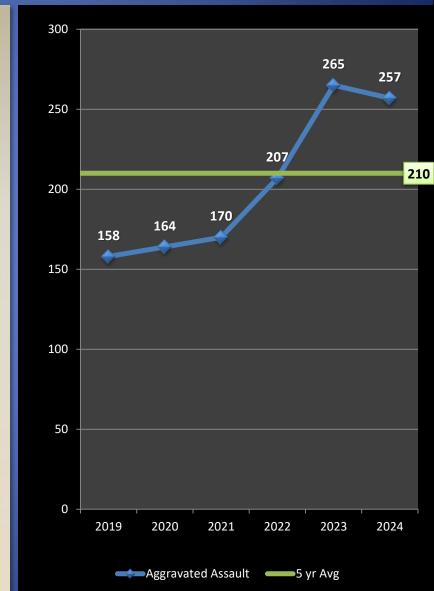
#### AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

No Patterns

- The total of 257 aggravated assaults reported through October 28, 2024, is eight crimes (-3%) below the first ten months of 2023, and 47 incidents (22%) above the five-year average of 210 crimes. October saw an increase of 73% above September, with 16 more incidents reported in the past four weeks.
- The 257 aggravated assaults reported so far in 2024 have been comprised of the following classifications: 67 domestic assaults; 58 unprovoked scenarios; 31 acquaintance assaults; 18 psychotic episodes; 16 each of juvenile-related assaults and traffic/parking-related assaults; 12 between shop owners/patrons; 11 between unhoused individuals; nine assaults on police; seven workplace incidents; five affrays/brawls; four landlord/neighbor assaults; and three bar/alcohol-related incidents.
- The trend observed during the past couple years of a high percentage of aggravated assaults occurring in Central Sq and on peripheral side streets resurfaced over the last few months, but incidents are still generally spread across the city. Eighty-six of the 257 aggravated assaults (or 33%) year-todate were reported in Central Sq. Five were reported in Central Sq in the month of September, while 14 were reported there in October. Of the 86 year-to-date, 31 of those were of the unprovoked category, which is more than double any other category in this area.
- There have been 12 confirmed shots fired incidents in Cambridge through October 28, 2024. Nine of the 12 resulted in no injuries, while the shootings on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, July 16<sup>th</sup>, and October 27<sup>th</sup> resulted in non-fatal injuries to four total victims. Through the same time period in 2023, there were five confirmed shots fired incidents: three non-fatal shootings with four total victims and two shots fired incidents with no injuries.

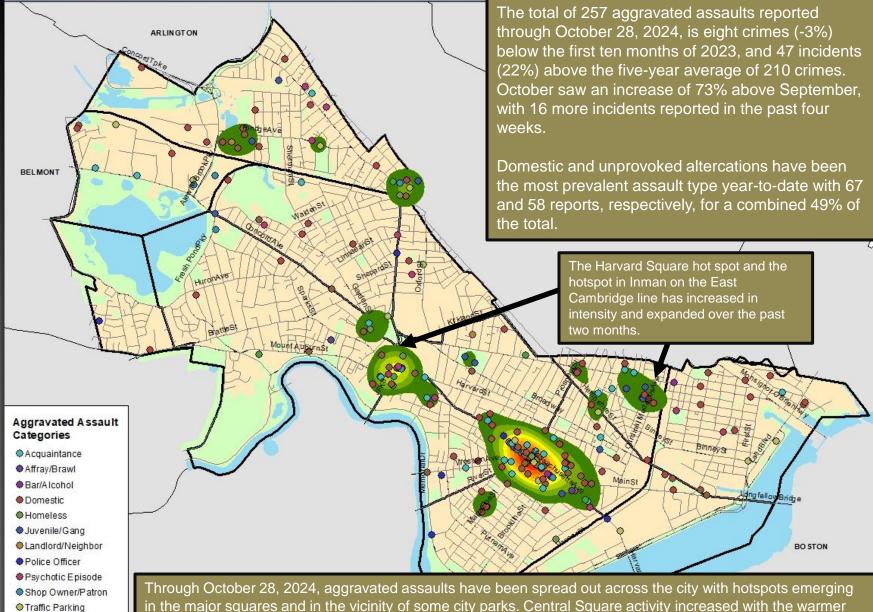
#### **Percent Change**







#### Geographic Breakdown of Aggravated Assaults: 1.1.24 – 10.28.24



weather, with 33% of citywide aggravated assaults occurring in this business district. Fourteen incidents were

reported in this business area of the city in October.

October 2024

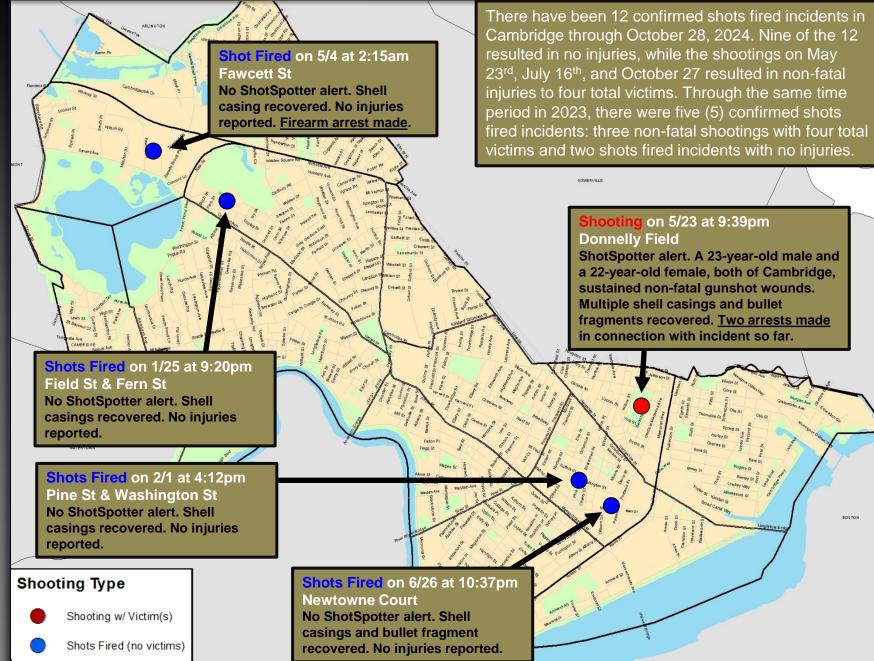
UnprovokedWorkplace

October

2024



#### Shootings & Shots Fired in Cambridge: 1.1.24 – 6.30.24 (First Half of 2024)

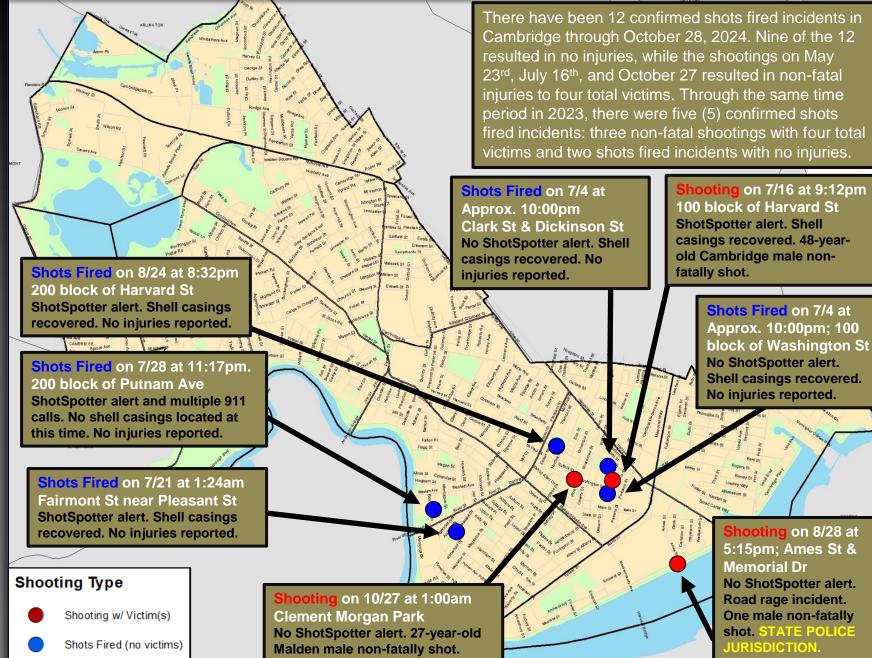


October

2024



#### Shootings & Shots Fired in Cambridge: 7.1.24 - 10.28.24 (Second Half of 2024)





# Robbery

No Patterns

- The five-year average for overall robbery in Cambridge for the first ten months of the year is 83 incidents. Through 10/28 of 2024, 88 robberies were recorded, which translates to a 6% rise above the projected total and a 24% decline below the 116 robberies counted for the first ten months of 2023.
- There have been 20 commercial robberies reported year-to-date in 2024. This total is down 12 incidents (-38%) from the 32 robberies reported through 10/28 in 2023 and is up one incident (5%) from the five-year average of 19. All 20 robberies reported year-to-date have been unrelated, but 15 of the 20 have involved shoplifting incidents across the city that escalated into robberies.
- Street robberies year-to-date in 2024 are down 16 incidents (19%) from the 84 reported through this time in 2023 and are up
  three incidents (5%) above the five-year average of 65. Twelve
  incidents citywide so far in 2024 have resulted in an arrest, and
  suspects have been identified in at least 20 others.
- There have been no active street robbery patterns reported in Cambridge thus far in 2024, but multiple incidents in the Central Square area have involved unhoused individuals as victims and/or suspects. There were also a few reports of robberies involving juvenile suspects over the summer months, but it is unknown if any were related.
- After seeing a relatively quiet start to the year in Central Square, robbery activity began to pick up in this area in March. Twenty-eight of the 49 street robberies reported since May 1 have taken place in Central Square, bringing the total reported in and around the Square this year to 37, which is 54% of the 68 street robberies reported citywide. This is similar to a trend seen in this area that began in 2021 and continued throughout all of 2022 and much of 2023.

#### **Percent Change**

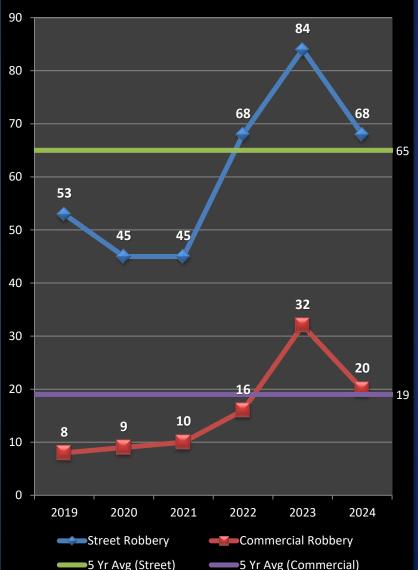
Last 4 Weeks Previous Year

-24%

+6%

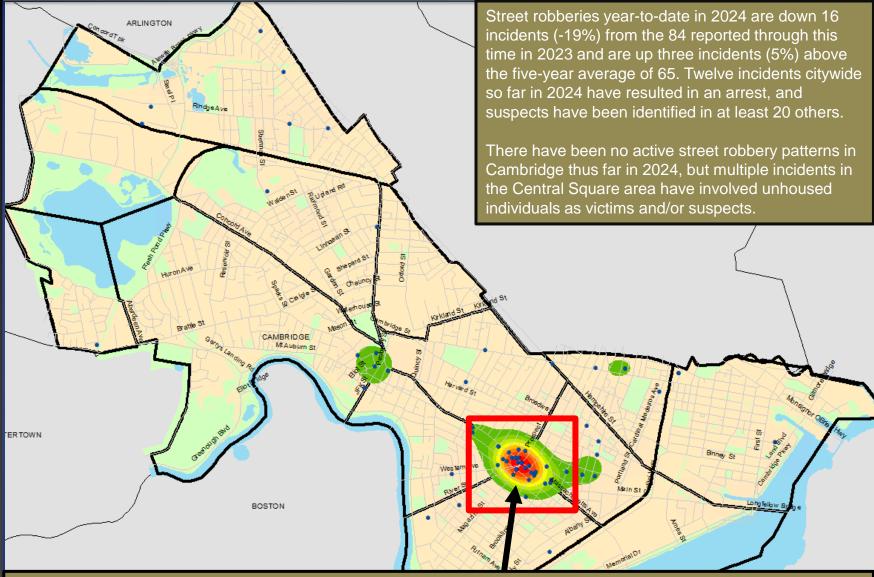
5-Year Average







#### Geographic Breakdown of Street Robberies: 1.1.24 – 10.28.24

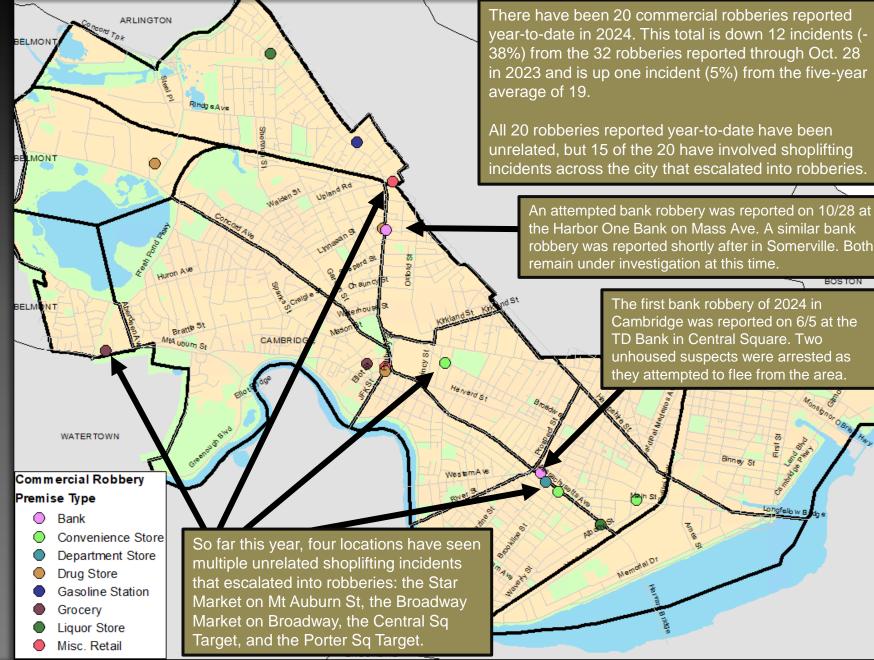


After seeing a relatively quiet start to the year in Central Square, robbery activity began to pick up in this area in March. Four of the six robberies reported in October took place in Central Square, bringing the total reported in and around the Square this year to 37, which is 54% of the 68 street robberies reported citywide. This is similar to a trend seen in this area that began in 2021 and continued throughout all of 2022 and much of 2023.





#### Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Robberies: 1.1.24 – 10.28.24





### Burglary

No Pattern

- The property index crime of burglary, the combination of residential and commercial breaks, has recorded an increase of 3% through October 28<sup>th</sup> of 2024 when compared to the 213 reported through the same time in 2023. The total of 220 incidents reported year-to-date is also up 19% when compared with the five-year average of 185.
- Housebreaks have risen by ten incidents (7%) from 150 breaks during the first ten months of 2023 to 160 this year. Activity spiked in January with 27, dropped off for the next four months, spiked again in June with 23 incidents, and has remained under 20 incidents again for the past four months.
- Of the 18 housebreaks that occurred in October, 10 were in The Port, West Cambridge, and Inman/Harrington.
- Conversely, commercial breaks are down by three incidents (-5%), dropping from 63 incidents through the first ten months of 2023 to 60 year-to-date in 2024. There were two related commercial breaks overnight from 1/24-1/25 in North Cambridge, where two females broke into a Dunkin Donuts and an office. One of the parties was arrested in Boston and has been connected to other regional breaks. There were also two related commercial breaks that occurred overnight from 4/11-4/12 in two neighboring businesses in East Cambridge.
- There was a sporadic series of commercial breaks targeting copper at construction sites in North Cambridge earlier this year. One street in this neighborhood experienced four breaks between January and May, with the most recent two occurring at the end of May. Two parties have possibly been identified in connection with the two May breaks. It is unknown if the previous incidents are related.

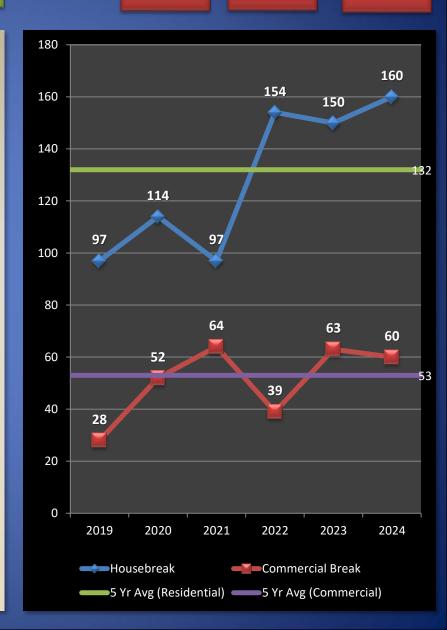
#### **Percent Change**

Previous Year Last 4 Weeks

+59% +3%

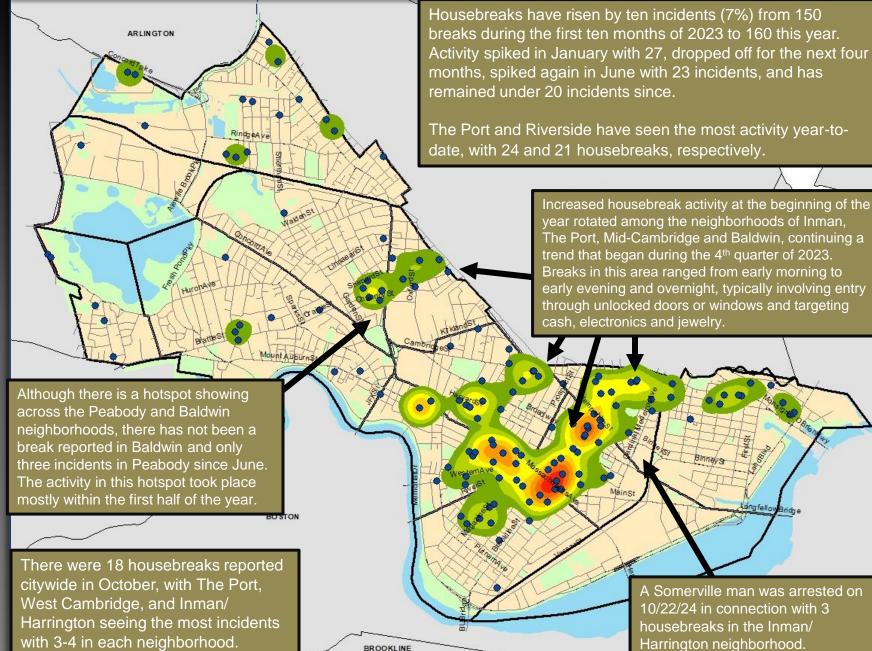
+19%

5-Year Average





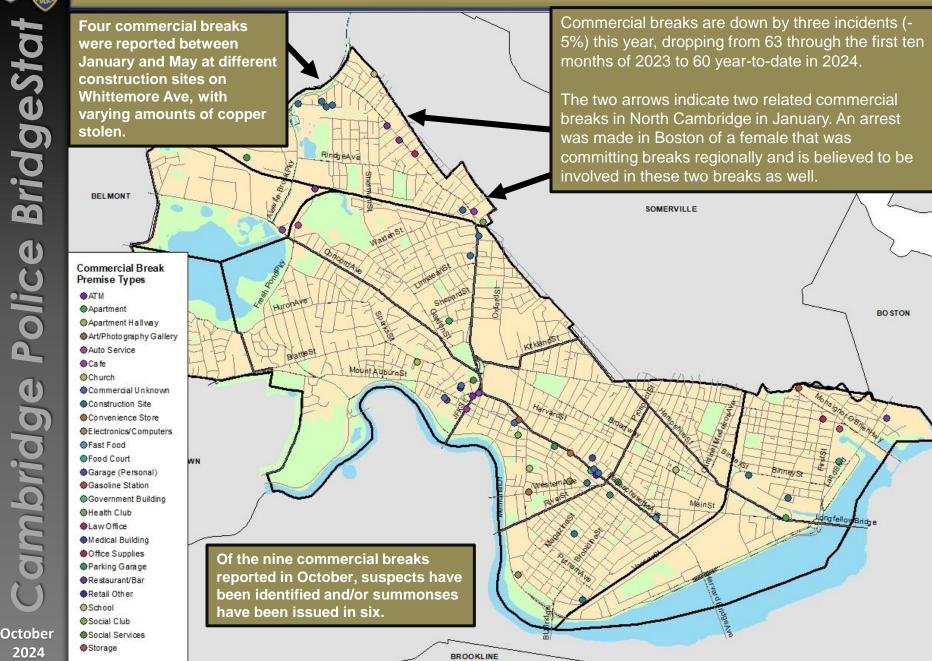
#### Geographic Breakdown of Housebreaks: 1.1.24 – 10.28.24



October 2024



#### Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Breaks: 1.1.24 – 10.28.24





#### LARCENY

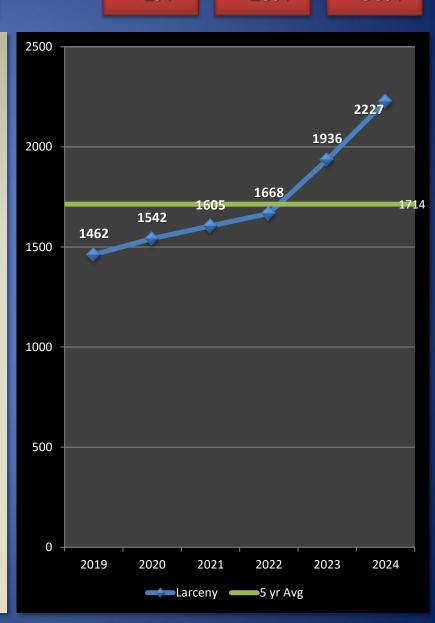
No Patterns

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks Previous Year 5-Year Average

+1% +15% +30%

- Preliminary stats indicate that overall larceny year-to-date in 2024 is registering at 2,227 incidents, 15% above this time in 2023. The total of 2,227 larcenies reported in 2024 is also 30% above the 5-year average of 1,714 incidents.
- The larceny from motor vehicle total through October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, is 240 incidents, 15% below the same time frame in 2023. The decrease in 2024 compared to last year can be partly attributed to a drop in catalytic converter thefts. Through October in 2023, there had been 21 catalytic converter thefts reported, while so far in 2024, there have been none.
- Through October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, there were 75 larcenies from the person reported in Cambridge, down 9% (7 incidents) when compared to the same number in 2023. Central Square has had the largest number of thefts with 35 incidents so far this year.
- There have been 180 larcenies from buildings reported through October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024. This total is 8 incidents (5%) above the same time period last year and is 25 incidents (16%) more than the five-year average. There are no defined patterns of this crime type in the city at this time.
- Larcenies from residences are up 37 incidents (11%) in 2024 when compared with 2023. Package thefts have made up the majority of this crime type in recent years and registered even higher than average in 2020-2022 due to the increased volume of deliveries during the pandemic. Package thefts have accounted for 247 (or 69%) of the 359 larcenies from residences thus far in 2024.
- There have been 433 larcenies of bicycles reported through
   October 28<sup>th,</sup> 2024. This total is 64 incidents (13%) below the
   total through the same time period in 2023 and 43 incidents
   (9%) below the five-year average of 476. The top neighborhood
   for bike thefts so far this year is Mid-Cambridge.





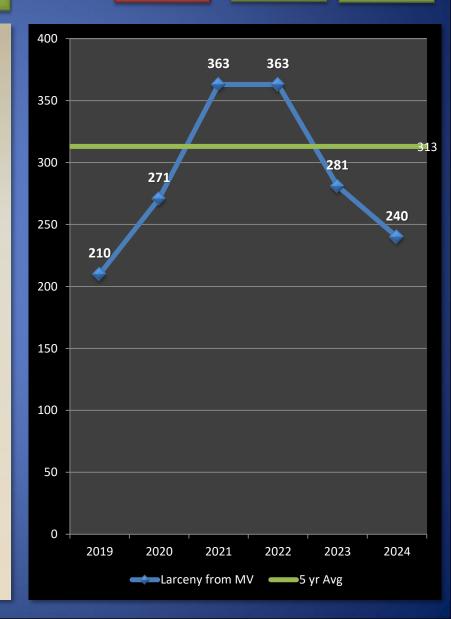
#### LARCENY From MV

No Patterns

- The larceny from motor vehicle total for the first ten months of 2024 is 240 incidents, which is 15% (41 incidents) below the total for the same time period in 2023. The 240 thefts from vehicles reported through October 28<sup>th</sup> also indicates a decrease of 73 incidents (-23%) below the 313 car breaks forecasted for the first ten months of the year.
- The neighborhoods with the highest larceny from motor vehicle totals through October of 2024 are: Inman/Harrington (36), Cambridgeport (36), and The Port (34).
- Comparing the last four weeks (October) to the previous four (September), there was a 26% increase in larcenies from motor vehicles, with seven more incidents reported.
- Of the 240 incidents reported thus far in 2024, 113
   vehicles (47%) were entered via unknown means and
   100 vehicles (42%) were left unlocked at the time of
   the theft.
- A Somerville man was arrested on 4/8 and is believed to be responsible for numerous larcenies from motor vehicles in the Mid-Cambridge area. The same Somerville man was arrested on 5/30 in Somerville and once again is believed to be responsible for a number of car breaks in the Cambridgeport area around the time of his arrest.

#### **Percent Change**

+26% Previous Year 5-Year Average

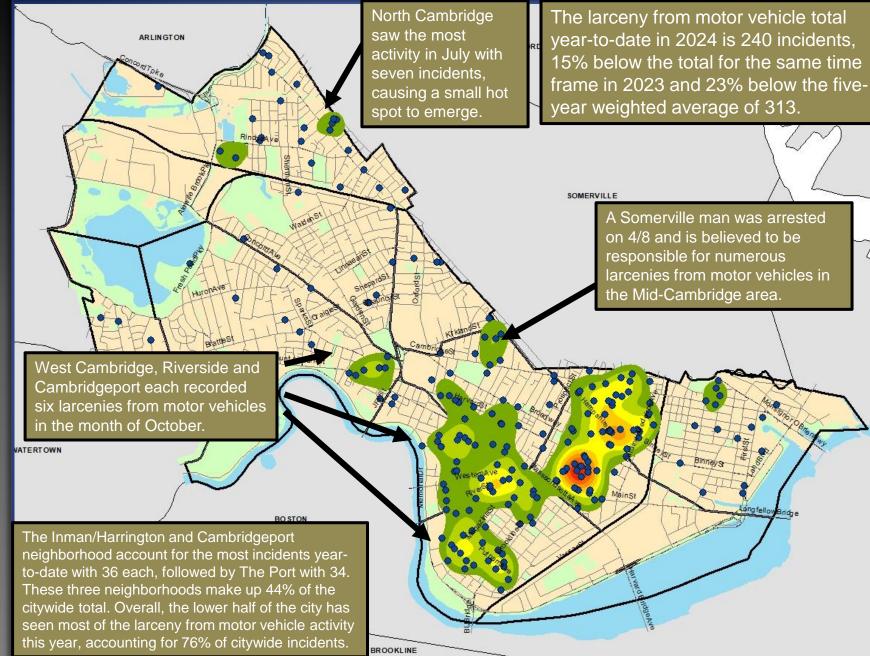


October

2024



#### Geographic Breakdown of Larceny from Motor Vehicles: 1.1.24 – 10.28.24





# LARCENY from Person No Patterns

# Last 4 Weeks

Percent Change
Previous Year 5

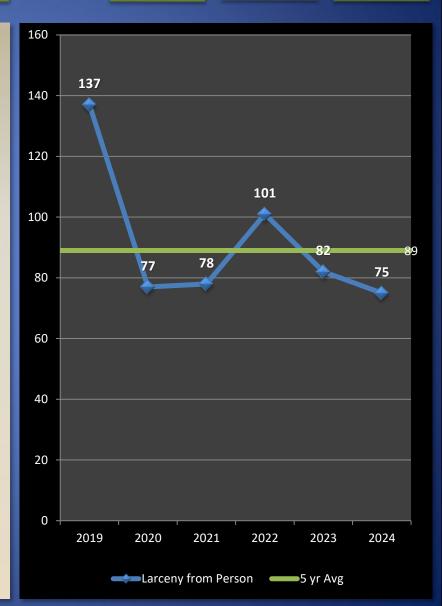
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5-Year Average

-40% -9%

-16%

- Larceny from the person through October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, declined by seven incidents (9%) when compared to the same time period in 2023 and was 14 incidents (16%) below the five-year average of 89 incidents. Six thefts were reported in the past four weeks (October), which was four incidents less than the previous four weeks (September).
- Thirty-five of the 75 incidents year-to-date in 2024 took place in Central Square. The other incidents took place throughout the city, with Harvard Square registering 15 incidents, followed by Porter Square with seven, 1500-1900 Mass Ave with four, East Cambridge, Inman Square and Bay Square with three each, two each for Kendall/MIT and Alewife/ West Cambridge, and one for Cambridgeport/Riverside.
- In recent years, higher numbers in Central Square have mainly been due to grab-and-run situations. There have been 13 incidents of this nature in Central Square year-todate. Another common situation involves individuals who are unhoused whose property may have been stolen while they were asleep or otherwise distracted; this has accounted for 11 incidents in this area so far this year. Pocket-picking situations have also accounted for six incidents in Central Square this year.





# LARCENY of Bicycle No Patterns

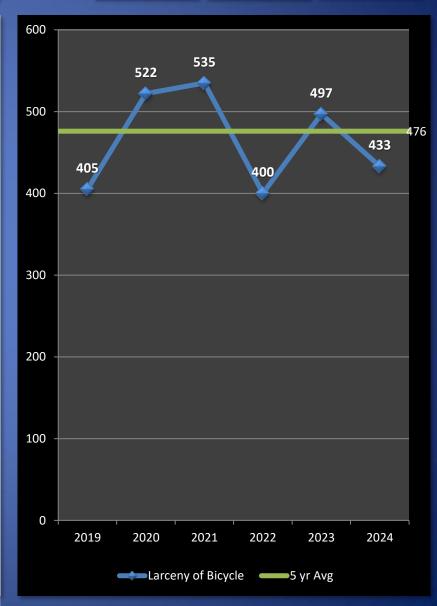
Last 4 Weeks Previous Year 5-Year Average
-22% -13% -9%

**Percent Change** 

- There have been 433 bicycle thefts reported citywide in the first ten months of 2024, down 13% from the 497 reported during the same time period in 2023. Additionally, the 2024 total year-to-date is registering at 9% below the five-year average of 476.
- The most recent four weeks (October) saw a 22% decrease in bike thefts when compared with the previous four weeks (September), with 15 fewer thefts reported in October. We expect bike thefts to continue to drop off as the cooler weather moves in and ridership decreases.
- Only 127 bike thefts (29% of all citywide thefts) have occurred North of Harvard Square.
- Of the 433 bike thefts reported in 2024, 331 (76%) were reportedly locked at the time of the theft.

#### Top Neighborhoods for Bike Thefts in 2024:

Neighborhood	YTD Total	% Citywide
Mid-Cambridge	63	15%
The Port	62	14%
Riverside	52	12%
Cambridgeport	52	12%



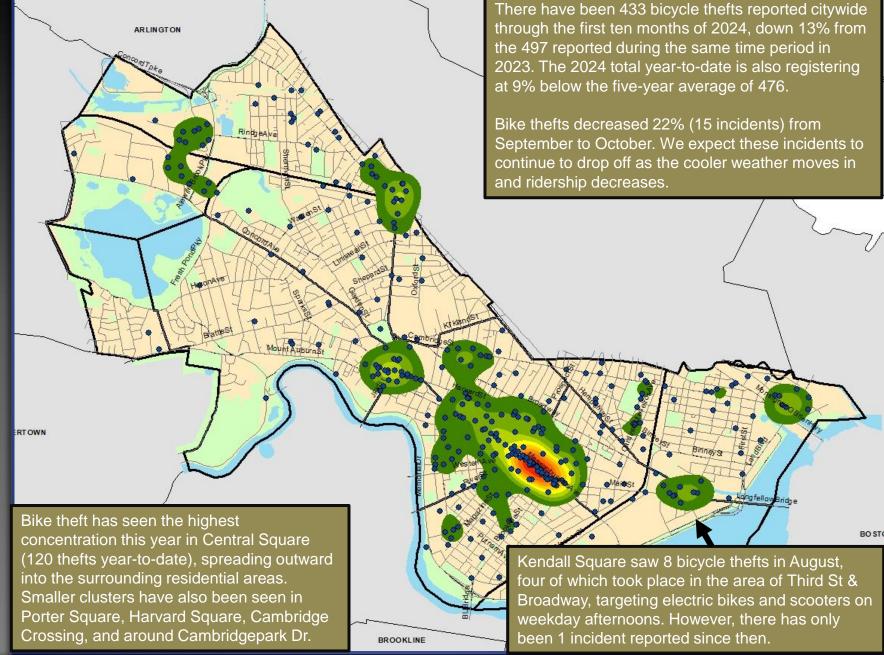
October 2024

October

2024

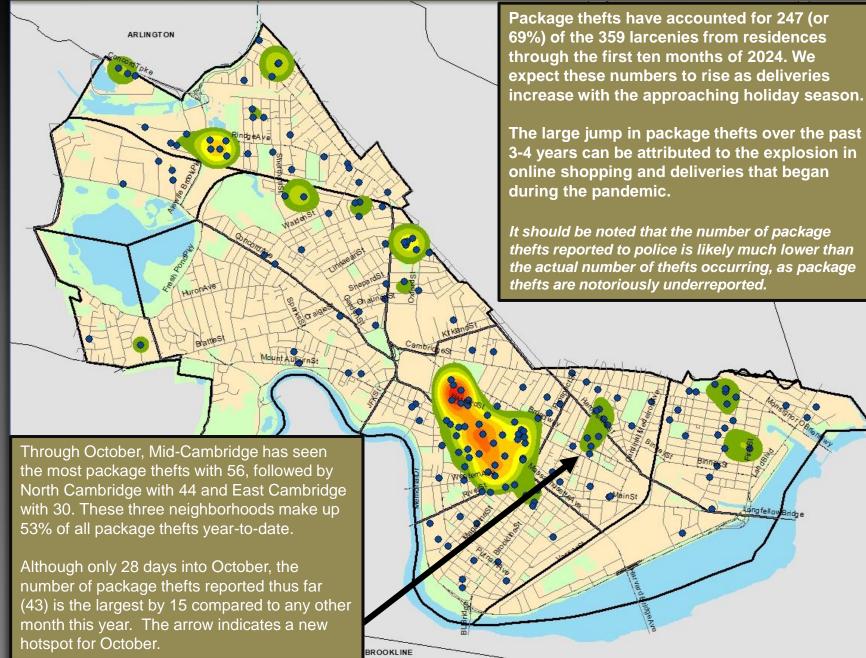


#### Geographic Breakdown of Bicycle Thefts: 1.1.24 – 10.28.24



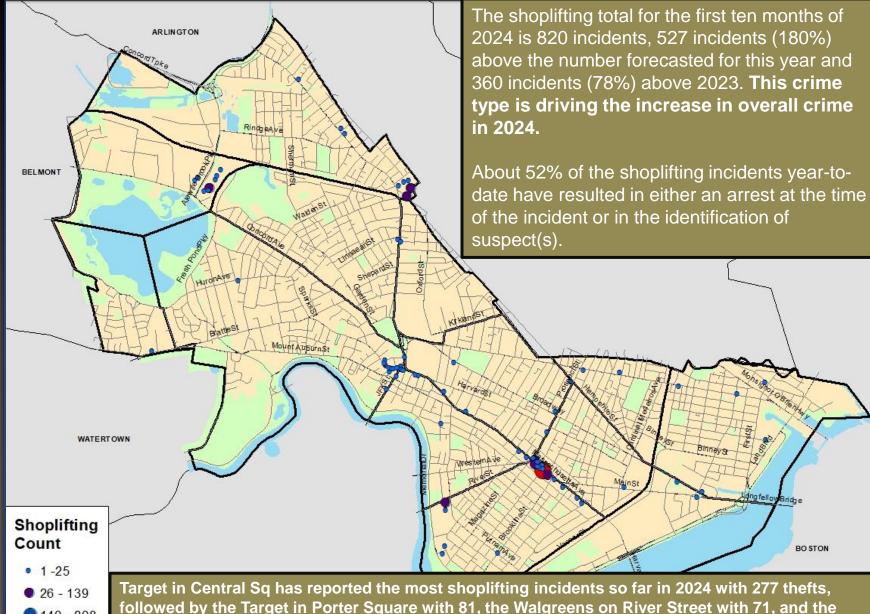


#### Geographic Breakdown of Package Thefts: 1.1.24 – 10.28.24





#### Geographic Breakdown of Shoplifting: 1.1.24 – 10.28.24



Whole Foods in Alewife/West Cambridge with 43. Overall, 14 different locations throughout the

city have reported more than 10 instances of shoplifting in 2024.

October 2024

140 - 208

209 - 277



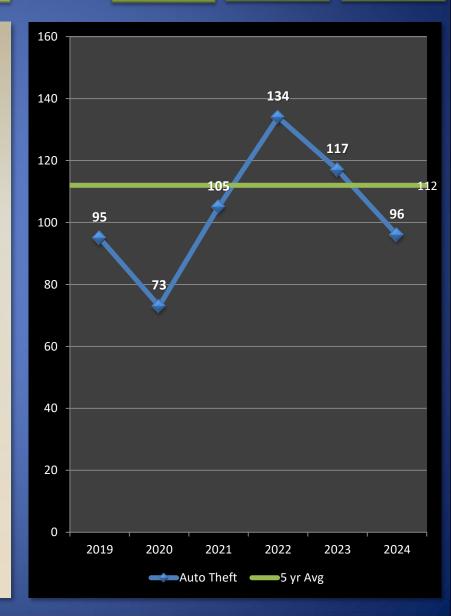
#### **AUTO THEFT**

No Patterns

- The five-year weighted average for auto thefts through the first ten months of the year is 112, and with 96 reported so far in 2024, Cambridge has experienced a decrease of 14% below the expected total. Auto thefts are also down 18% (21 incidents) when compared to the first ten months of 2023.
- When comparing the most recent four weeks (October) to the previous four weeks (September), auto thefts have decreased by 6 incidents (40%).
- The neighborhood breakdown for auto theft totals so far in 2024 is as follows: Cambridgeport 19; The Port 15; North Cambridge 11; Peabody 11; East Cambridge 9; Riverside 9; West Cambridge 8; Mid-Cambridge 7; Strawberry Hill 2; Inman/Harrington 2; Baldwin 1; Highlands 1; and MIT 1.
- As to be expected during the warmer weather, there
  was an increase in the thefts of two-wheeled vehicles
  during the summer months. This is slowly dropping off
  as fall progresses, with three thefts reported in
  September and only one in October.
- There have been a few thefts reported so far in 2024 where the operator left the vehicle unlocked and/or running in order to deliver a package or grab food.
   When the victim returned, the vehicle was gone.
- 32 of the 96 motor vehicles stolen in 2024 have been recovered to date.

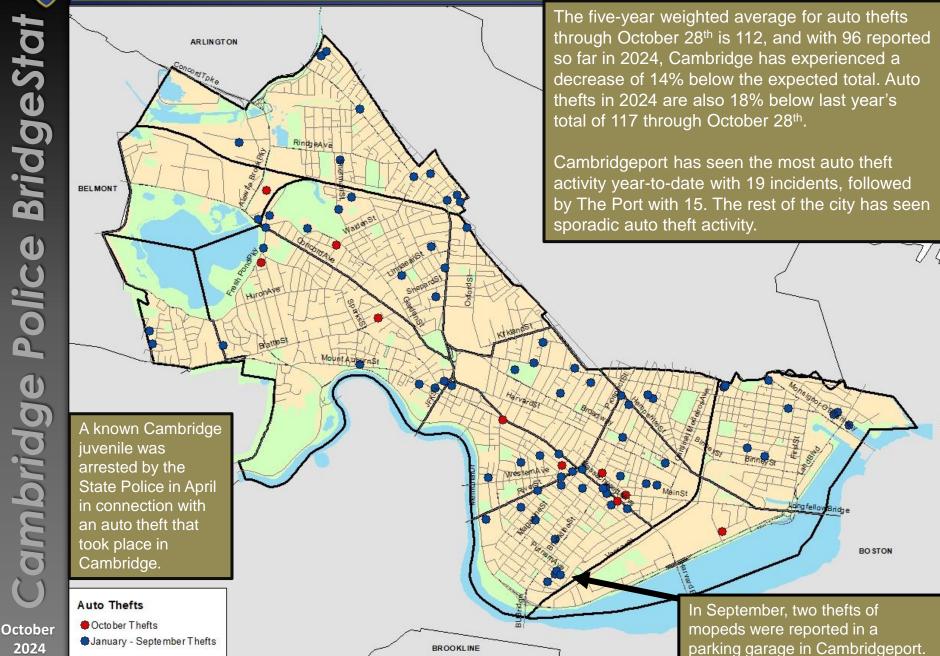
#### **Percent Change**

Last 4 Weeks Previous Year 5-Year Average
-40% -18% -14%





#### Geographic Breakdown of Auto Thefts: 1.1.24 – 10.28.24





# **Help Prevent Crime**

And keep yourself informed!

#### To receive information from the CPD:

- Sign up with for the Cambridge Alert
  Network, to receive alerts about
  emerging crime patterns, neighborhood
  meetings, and crime prevention tips, by
  visiting
- "Like" the Cambridge Police Department on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CambridgePolice

www.CambridgeMa.gov/AlertNetwork.

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

#### To Share Information with the CPD:

- Call our Non-Emergency Telephone Number at 617-349-3300.
  - Every call for service generates a police response, so help drive our resources by reporting things that seem suspicious or out of the ordinary.
- Send an Anonymous TEXT-A-TIP:
  - Send an ANONYMOUS text message to Tip411 (847411). Begin your message with Tip650 and then type your message. You will receive a response from the Cambridge Police with the option to continue communicating. Please remember that this is not a replacement for 9-1-1. If you witness an emergency situation, please call 9-1-1 immediately.
- Send an Anonymous Crime Tip E-Mail at www.CambridgePolice.org/Tips

October 2024