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**CAMBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT
 2010 ANNUAL CRIME REPORT
 INCLUDING NEIGHBORHOOD
 AND BUSINESS DISTRICT PROFILES**



**Produced by the
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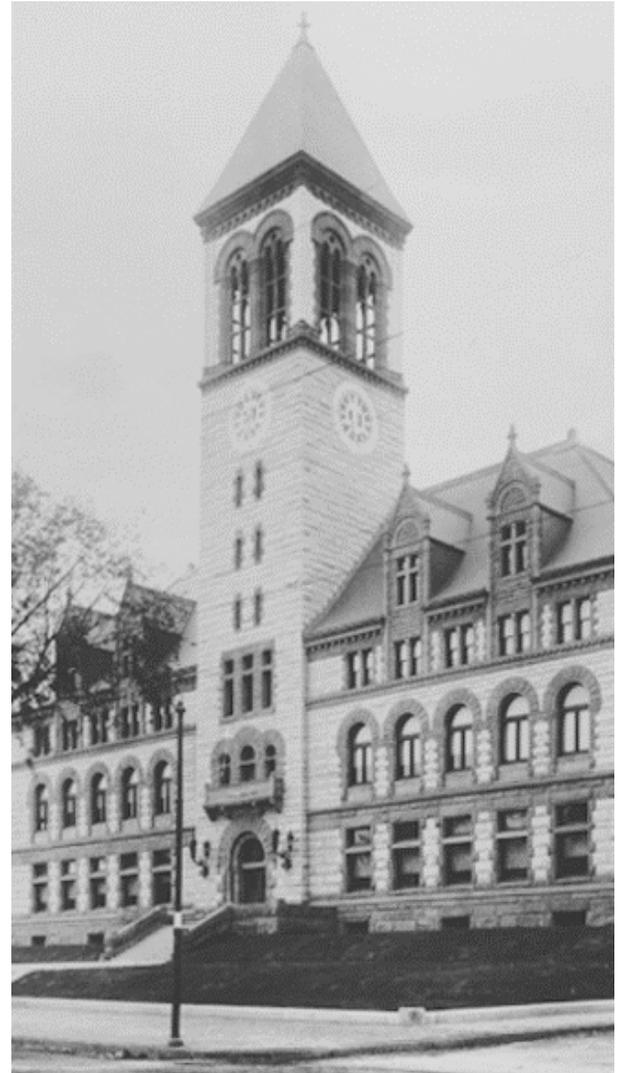
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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE AT A GLANCE

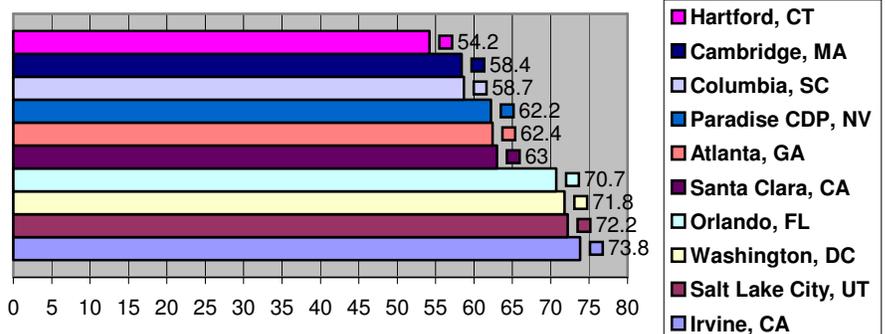


Established:	1636 (town); 1846 (city)
Government:	Council-Manager
City Manager:	Robert W. Healy
City Budget:	\$459,705,025 (FY 2011)
City Employees:	2,922 (including schools)
Area:	7.13 square miles total 6.43 square miles land
Population:	105,162 (2010)
Households:	41,800 (2008)
Police Officer/Population Ratio:	1:394 (2010)
Population Density:	16,355 per sq mile (2010)
Registered Voters:	59,256 (2009)
Total Registered Auto Mobiles:	47,413 (2010)
Total Residential Housing Units:	45,148 (2008)
Ownership Rate:	38% (2008)
Median Household Income:	\$71,140 (2008)
Median Family Income:	\$94,228 (2008)
Average Family Income:	\$106,069 (2008)
Unemployment Rate:	5.3% (January 2011)
Median Single-Family Home:	\$685,000 (2009)
Median Condominium:	\$415,000 (2009)
Property Tax Rate per Thousand:	\$7.72 residential (FY 2010) \$18.75 commercial (FY 2010)
School Enrollment:	6,137 (FY 2010)
Colleges and Universities:	9
Hospitals:	5

Top Ten Employers: (2010)

- 1) Harvard (10,718)
- 2) MIT (7,604)
- 3) City of Cambridge (2,922)
- 4) Novartis (2,095)
- 5) Mt. Auburn Hospital (1665)
- 6) Vertex Pharmaceuticals (1,600)
- 7) Genzyme (1,504)
- 8) Biogen (1,350)
- 9) Federal Government (1,316)
- 10) Pfizer (1,300)

**Top 10 Cities for % Increase of Daytime Population from Commuting
For Cities over 100,000 in Population**



In a publication by the U.S. Census Department, Cambridge was reported to rank 9th, with a 58.4% increase of daytime commuters in 2007.

Cambridge Age Structure		
Age	2000 Population	Percentage
0-4	4,125	4.1%
5-17	9,322	9.2%
18- 24	21,472	21.1%
25-34	25,202	24.9%
35-44	13,942	13.8%
45-64	18,010	17.8%
65+	9282	9.1%

Population by race			
	1980	1990	2000
White	79.5%	71.6%	68%
Black	10.6%	12.7%	12%
Asian	3.8%	8.4%	12%
Hispanic	4.8%	6.8%	7%
Native American	.2%	.3%	-
Other	1.2%	.4%	1%

CAMBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT AT A GLANCE

Organized: 1859
Sworn Officers: 267
Civilian Personnel: 42
Commissioner: Robert C. Haas
Headquarters: 125 Sixth Street
 Cambridge, MA 02142
Budget (FY 10/11): \$42,148,010
Rank Structure: Commissioner
 Superintendent
 Deputy Superintendent
 Lieutenant
 Sergeant
 Patrol Officer
Marked Patrol Vehicles: 35
Unmarked Patrol Vehicles: 39
Motorcycles: 14
Fleet Bicycles: 22
Surplus Bicycles: 22
Special Vehicles: 12
2010 Total Calls for Service: 111,864
2010 Total Index Crimes: 3,614



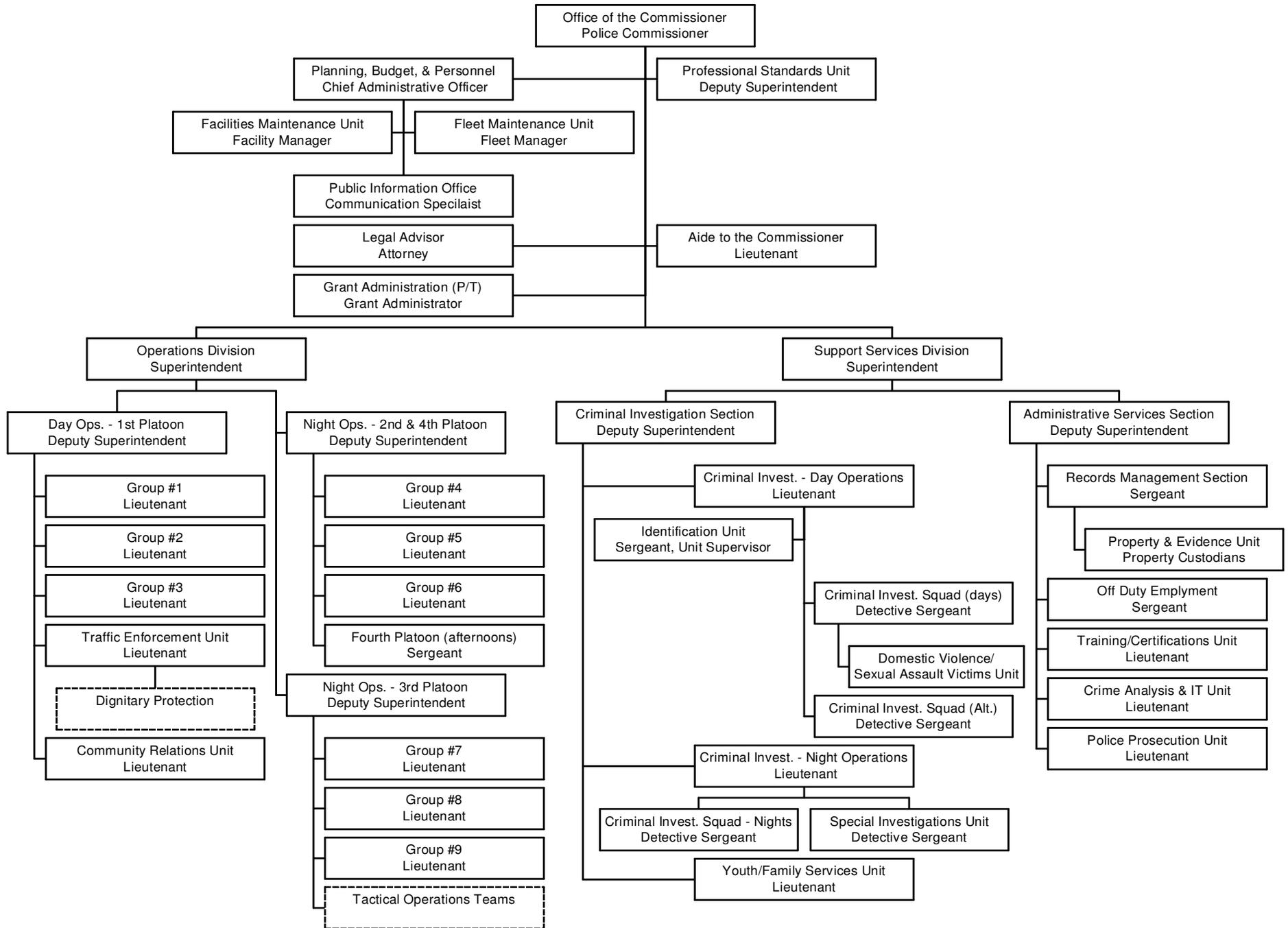
CRIME ANALYSIS IN CAMBRIDGE

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.

CAMBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



A MESSAGE FROM POLICE COMMISSIONER ROBERT C. HAAS

I am pleased to present the Cambridge Police Department's 2010 Annual Crime Report. For nearly two decades, our detailed annual crime report has provided an easy-to-digest account of crime in Cambridge. Crime is dissected across several dimensions, including crime type, scenario, time, and place, while helping the reader understand the data in context by providing a history of crime in Cambridge, along with regional and national comparisons. This report presents sophisticated analysis and insight into decades of crime provided by our Crime Analysis Unit. It is a must-read for residents who wish to understand crime and victimization, dispel unwarranted fear of crime, and better appreciate the significant role of the public in our partnership to prevent, solve, and reduce crime and disorder and to maintain a sense of safety and community in our city.

The last year has been marked by continued budget crises facing many cities and towns across the state and country. There are jurisdictions that have been faced with the frightening reality of having to lay off half, or more, of their police officers. Fortunately, that was not the case here. The financial stability of the City of Cambridge allowed the department to hire eleven new police officers last year and promote eight Sergeants, eight Lieutenants, and six Deputy Superintendents. The ability to maintain staffing levels and promote a remarkably innovative and enthusiastic group of diverse men and women to leadership positions has undoubtedly played an important role in our ability to reduce violent crime by 3% from 2009 and to maintain crime rates that are near 50-year lows. Crime has dropped nearly 20% from where it stood a decade ago and has been reduced by half over the last 20 years, including an extraordinary reduction in violent crime of almost 60%.

As we continuously seek to improve our analytical expertise and ensure that resources are allocated most efficiently, we have implemented a program to manage our performance, foster teamwork and creative problem solving, and improve transparency. This strategic management approach consists of all middle and upper supervisors meeting bi-weekly for an extensive problem-solving session where strategies are developed to address crime and disorder issues in Cambridge. These meetings result in rapid responses to emerging and predicted crime problems, ensure that tactics are effective by performing follow-up discussions, and involve implementation of evidence-based policing. Perhaps most notably, the decisions and strategies that result from these meetings are made available to the public in our monthly "BridgeStat" report. This report, released on our website on the first Friday of every month, identifies current police priorities and contains an unprecedented level of detail and transparency into crime and police operations. The police and the community together are responsible for deterring and preventing crime. We attempt to illustrate this joint ownership by clearly outlining the police response to crime, traffic, and disorder issues, while also providing recommended citizen response plans where appropriate.

One of the ways in which we continue to expand our view of crime and disorder in Cambridge is by fostering partnerships and information sharing. An example that illustrates this effort is our response to a series of armed street robberies that were committed in four different jurisdictions over the course of two and a half weeks this fall. Crime analysts in Cambridge were able to quickly identify the series in part because they have ready access to data from other jurisdictions and they routinely analyze this data. Representatives from Somerville, Boston, Brookline, Harvard, MIT, and Boston University Police Departments were invited to attend a Cambridge Police Department CompStat meeting where a comprehensive response strategy was developed and implemented. Within 12 hours of this meeting, a suspect was arrested in Medford by Cambridge & Brookline Police after he committed six additional robberies across three cities. This level of rapid response and cooperation across multiple jurisdictions is truly an extraordinary success story, one that I expect will become increasingly common as our ability to analyze and share data and collaborate with other police and city departments continues to rapidly evolve and change our operational model.

As we improve information sharing with other law enforcement agencies, we also continue to increase efforts to expand information sharing with the public. Last year, we hired a communications specialist who has helped us focus on this initiative. In addition to BridgeStat, we launched a social media presence through Twitter and Facebook, and we continue to expand the use of our Citizen Observer Alert Network. You will also find more frequent and timely information available on our website.

In addition to the many neighborhood associations and community and business groups with whom we meet regularly, one of the ways the new Command Staff members have immersed themselves in their jobs is through participation in many of the Boards and Commissions in Cambridge, including the Commission on the Status of Women, the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Commission, the Human Rights Commission, the Peace Commission, and the Police Review and Advisory Board. Participation in these groups has significantly improved the public's ability to provide us with important feedback, which in turn has improved our ability to better understand the needs of the community.

We continue to focus on our key role in identifying and providing services to those in our community who are most at-risk for involvement in crime or are otherwise in need of social and human services. Specialized programs and some entire units are committed to these efforts, including the Homeless Outreach Officer program, the Community Relations Unit, which works closely with the elderly and mentally ill, the Cambridge Arlington Belmont High-Risk Assessment and Response Team (CAB HART), which was recently awarded a \$380,000 grant to focus on domestic violence, and the Safety Net and youth diversion programs developed by the Youth and Family Services Unit.

This past year, we began providing essential training to our officers to help them better understand the importance of their use of discretionary police authority and of procedural justice and legitimacy. The new term "police legitimacy" is used to describe the concept that the police should be viewed by the public as trustworthy, honest, and concerned about the well-being of all people they interact with. It is based fundamentally on the quality of our decision making (police action must be fair, neutral,

and unbiased) and the quality of treatment (police conduct must be fair, respectful, and courteous). We establish our legitimacy by applying our discretion in ways that are consistent with the goals and principals set by the community. Key to this is our understanding of community needs and explaining our actions to the public, which is accomplished in part by the many programs and initiatives being undertaken by members of the police department. I believe the concept of police legitimacy will be a defining pillar in the next era of the policing profession, and one that your police department is playing a leading role in implementing and a potentially fundamental role in helping to define.

None of the significant accomplishments I have just touched upon would be possible without the countless partnerships that we continue to cultivate – especially those with our community. The hard work and commitment to community and policing of the fine men and woman serving your city as police officers would not be enough were it not for the dedication to community that we see demonstrated every day by residents of this unique and exceptional city.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert C. Haas
Police Commissioner

F O R E W O R D

The Cambridge Police Department’s 2010 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, where as 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

2010 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	2007	2008	2009	2010	2009-2010 % Change
Murder	0	1	2	0	Inc
Rape	16	17	20	23	+15%
Stranger	1	2	3	4	
Non-Stranger	15	15	17	19	
Robbery	161	177	172	163	-5%
Commercial	41	36	21	22	+5%
Street	120	141	151	141	-7%
Aggravated Assault	243	274	255	251	-2%
Total Violent Crime	420	469	449	437	-3%
Burglary	653	467	429	453	+6%
Commercial	134	76	86	87	+1%
Residential	519	391	343	366	+7%
Larceny	2,838	2,788	2,496	2,555	+2%
from Building	418	417	321	393	+22%
from Motor Vehicle	1,234	1,053	913	784	-14%
from Person	344	357	331	342	+3%
of Bicycle	228	277	284	380	+34%
Shoplifting	349	352	369	365	-1%
from Residence	162	214	185	192	+4%
of License Plate	37	65	39	43	+10%
of Services	22	26	28	31	+11%
Miscellaneous	44	27	26	25	-4%
Auto Theft	244	244	196	169	-14%
Total Property Crime	3,735	3,499	3,121	3,177	+2%
Crime Index Total	4,155	3,968	3,570	3,614	+1%

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

CAMBRIDGE UNIFORM CRIME REPORT STATISTICS 1991-2010*

Crime	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Avg. 1991-2000	Avg. 2001-2010	Avg. 1991-2010	% Change 2009-2010**	% Change 2001-2010**
Murder	5	2	2	1	3	1	2	2	2	1	1	6	3	0	3	2	0	1	2	0	2	2	2	Inc	Inc
Rape	38	33	30	28	35	34	24	25	15	11	15	10	7	10	14	11	16	17	20	23	27	14	21	15%	53%
Robbery	399	286	253	276	295	227	176	208	165	186	181	195	229	245	239	208	161	177	172	163	247	197	222	-5%	-10%
Aggravated Assault	567	551	643	473	463	381	370	369	348	322	272	284	271	248	244	237	243	274	255	251	449	258	353	-2%	-8%
Burglary	1,098	866	929	774	953	791	596	695	567	552	688	720	651	724	623	685	653	467	429	453	782	609	696	6%	-34%
Larceny/Theft	3,363	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	3106	2600	2853	2%	-7%
Auto Theft	1,012	887	964	761	558	544	483	397	431	498	523	425	419	438	295	233	244	244	196	169	654	319	486	-14%	-68%
Total Violent	1,009	872	928	778	796	643	572	604	530	520	469	495	510	503	500	458	420	469	449	437	725	471	598	-3%	-7%
Total Property	5,473	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	4562	3528	4045	2%	-20%
Total	6,482	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	5,267	3999	4633	1%	-18%

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

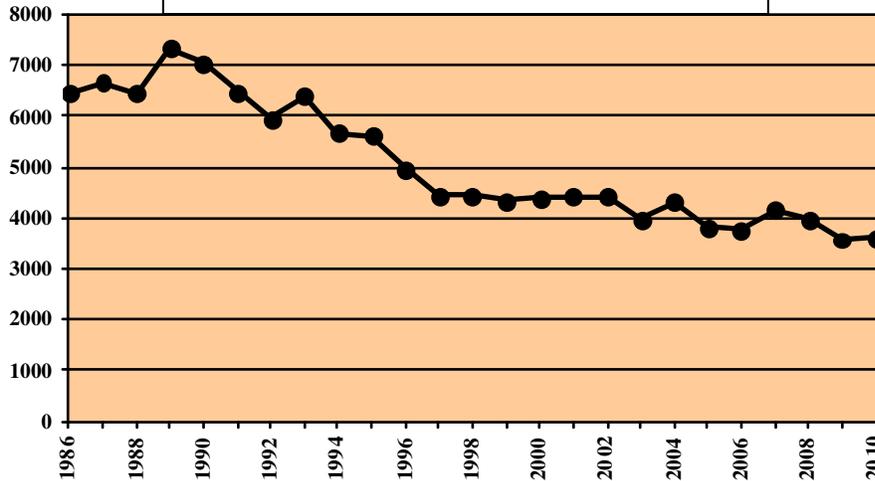
*The Cambridge Police Department voluntarily submits Uniform Crime Report statistics to the FBI for national comparison. See <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm> for more information.

**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.

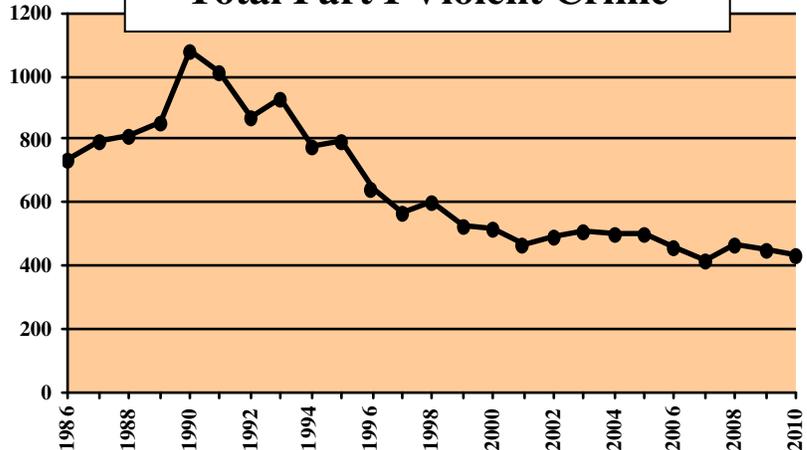
25-YEAR STATISTICAL TRENDS

Total Part I (Index) Crime



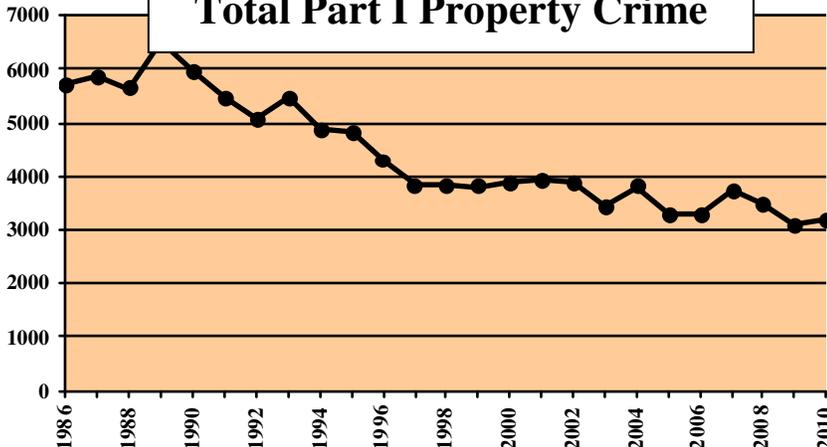
Cambridge reported a slight uptick in the crime total in 2010 after reporting the lowest total in over 40 years in 2009. The total crime index has fallen more than 43% since 1986. Serious crime numbers have been on a steady decline since the late 1970s, with the exception of spikes at the turn of two 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 437 violent crimes reported in Cambridge in 2010, which is the second lowest violent crime total reported in the past 25 years. This drop can be attributed to reductions in street robberies and homicides.

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 1986. Auto theft has experienced significant decreases over the past two decades, reaching their lowest level in 50 years in 2010, but larceny (common theft) has remained fairly steady. Since 2002, 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 2010, there was a slight increase of 2%, leading to the second lowest property crime total in over 20 years (only 2009 was lower).

2010 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT THE 2010 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 increased by 1% in Cambridge in 2010. There were 44 additional Part One crimes reported in 2010 than in the previous year. The slight rise in crime comes on the heels of the 2009 total, which represented a 40-year low in reported offenses. Point in fact; the 3,614 serious crimes recorded in Cambridge in 2010 represents the City's second lowest Uniform Crime Reporting Index number since 1970.

After recording two consecutive yearly declines of 5% in 2008 and 10% in 2009, a certain leveling off of the crime descent could have been expected. Cambridge had not recorded three consecutive years of declining crime since the Eisenhower Administration. When compared with the 2007 total of serious crimes, there were 541 fewer incidents registered in 2010. Further analysis reveals that property crime recorded a slight uptick of 2% while violent crime fell 3% in 2010. The violent crime of robbery is slightly above a 50-year low and the property crime of auto theft recorded its smallest number since the 1950s.

MURDER:

- 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.
- The last homicide to occur in Cambridge took place on June 16, 2009. A 33-year-old Cambridge native was found with multiple gunshot wounds in front of the driveway to the Fresh Pond Apartments located at 362/364 Rindge Ave. He was pronounced dead at the scene. This incident remains under investigation at the present time. Before this 18-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.
- Nationally, cities of 100,000 people average 10 murders per year. 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
- Fifteen of the eighteen murders in Cambridge since 2000 have been cleared by an arrest of the perpetrator.

RAPE

- Cambridge reported 23 rapes in 2010, up three incidents from the 20 in 2009 and 35% above the 5-year weighted average of 17 incidents.
- All 23 rapes were completed; none of the rapes were classified as attempts this year.
- There were four stranger-to-stranger rapes reported in Cambridge in 2010. Three of these incidents were categorized as blitzes, two of which were home invasion scenarios. Three of the incidents were committed on the periphery of Central Square. An arrest was made in one of the crimes.
- 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 2010, there were 163 robberies reported, which translates to a 5% decrease when compared with the 2009 total. When measured versus the five-year weighted average of 180 incidents for this crime, it indicates a 9% decline. Further analysis reveals that street robbery fell 7% and commercial robbery reported a 5% increase.
- The periphery of Harvard and Central Squares, the Hampshire Street corridor between Area 4 and Harrington, and the Somerville border of the Agassiz neighborhood were considered "hot spots" for street robberies in 2010.

- A distinct pattern of street robberies was identified on the border of Harvard Square during the fourth quarter of 2010. 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. There were sixteen incidents in this series until it was interdicted with the arrest of a career criminal from Malden.
- Approximately 40% of the street robberies were predatory in nature where the victim was approached by one of two suspects, threatened with a shown or implied weapon, and then robbed.
- The statistic denoting that commercial robberies rose from 21 incidents in 2009 to 22 crimes in 2010 should be tempered with the knowledge that last year's total was the lowest 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.
- Close to 60% of the street robberies citywide occurred between 8:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m. These are common times for street robberies to be reported because people can become targets when they are walking alone late at night, distracted or intoxicated.
- A trend that was identified in 2008 involving the theft of iPods and Sidekick/iPhones by juveniles from their peers at schools, on public transportation, and at area Malls continued in 2010.

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

- Aggravated assaults decreased by 2% in Cambridge in 2010. This violent crime was also 2% below the 5-year weighted average of 255 incidents per annum when 251 were recorded this year.
- 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. 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-five percent of the aggravated assaults in 2010 were domestic incidents. Over the past five years, the rate of domestic assaults has ranged from 25% to 40% of all assaults in a given year. The neighborhoods of Area 4 (21%), Cambridgeport (13%), and Inman/Harrington (16%) together accounted for 50% of domestic assaults citywide in 2010.
- There were 14 incidents of road rage in Cambridge in 2010 that escalated into aggravated assaults. Many of these assaults started as minor traffic accidents and disputes over parking spaces or what one of the subjects perceived as erratic driving and behavior. Scenarios included arguments between pedestrians in crosswalks, bicyclist and vehicle confrontations, and mutual assaults by cab drivers.

BURGLARY

- Total burglary, the combination of residential and commercial breaks, increased by 6% in Cambridge in 2010
- Commercial burglary increased by 1% when compared with the 2010 total. Eighteen percent of the commercial breaks were attempts where no entry was gained. During the fourth quarter of 2010, a regional pattern of pharmacy breaks emerged in Greater Boston. Except for a one-night spree of breaks, Cambridge was relatively unscathed by this series driven by the theft of prescription drugs.
- The most pernicious housebreak pattern identified in 2010 took place in Agassiz and Mid-Cambridge from July through September, during which about 30 breaks were reported. The best time frame was over the weekend, entry was through forced windows or cut screens, and laptops and electronics were targets. This was the most significant pattern due not only to the number of breaks involved but because Somerville also reported a significant increase in breaks right over the border during this time. A few suspects were arrested in October for selling stolen property from a housebreak in Somerville and were thought to be prime suspects in the Cambridge breaks as well.
- In a typical year, 5% to 10% of all housebreaks in Cambridge are perpetrated by family, friends, common tenants, houseguests, and other acquaintances. In 2010, this accounted for 7% of the incidents.

LARCENY

- There was a slight increase in larcenies this year, climbing 2% from 2,496 incidents in 2009 to 2,555 in 2010.
- Larceny is always the most prevalent of the Part One Crimes in Cambridge. In 2010, it accounted for 71% of the serious crime reported and 80% of the property crime. The three categories of larceny that produce 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 systems, and portable music players, become more popular and evolve, they become easier targets, easier to conceal, thus easier to sell.
- Larcenies from motor vehicles fell 14% when compared with the 2009 figures. The 2010 total of 784 larcenies from motor vehicles was down 19% when compared with the five-year weighted average for this target crime.
- Larceny from motor vehicles increased along the periphery of Harvard Square during the fourth quarter of the year but cooled off with the arrest of a chronic offender around Christmas.

- Larcenies from the person finished the year at 3% higher than 2009 and exactly even with the 5-year weighted average for this target crime. Brief upticks were recorded over the final six months of 2010, but no defined pattern emerged.
- Larcenies from residences and shoplifting arrests remained relatively unchanged from the 2009 totals.

AUTO THEFT

- The number of vehicles stolen in Cambridge dropped by 27 incidents, or 14%, to 169 incidents in 2010. 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 2010.
- Hondas continued to be the most commonly stolen automobiles, constituting 30% of the auto thefts in 2010. Toyotas and Dodges came in second and third, respectively. This information is consistent with historical and national trends. Honda Civics and Accords and Toyota Corollas were the highest targeted vehicles.
- The neighborhood of Cambridgeport recorded the highest number of auto thefts with 26 reported stolen, followed by Area 4 with 21 incidents in 2010.
- Approximately 69% of the cars reported stolen in 2010 have been recovered to date. 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 2010

- There were four shootings in 2010 producing four victims with gunshot wounds. Two of the shootings were in North Cambridge and one each in Area 4 and Inman /Harrington.
- All four of the gunshot victims were males between the ages of 22 and 34. Three of the four males were Cambridge residents; the fourth victim was from Dorchester.
- The four shootings in 2010 represent a significant decrease from the number reported in 2009 (eight shootings with eight victims), and the lowest number of shootings reported in the last five years.
- Arrests were made in two of the shootings this year; the other incidents remain under investigation.

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 2009.

2009 CRIMES IN CITIES OF 94,000-106,000 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>
Albany, NY	9	49	327	622	876	3,149	239	5,271
Arvada, CO	2	30	36	122	402	2,057	237	2,886
Berkeley, CA	6	27	444	138	1,079	4,661	727	7,082
Burbank, CA	1	22	93	137	499	1,829	335	2,916
Boulder, CO	5	32	51	157	564	2,093	119	3,021
Cambridge, MA	2	20	172	255	429	2,496	196	3,570
Carlsbad, CA	5	26	53	203	446	1,327	135	2,195
Cary, NC	0	12	48	72	469	1,454	82	2,137
Clearwater, FL	3	43	275	603	802	3,617	301	5,644
Compton, CA	36	36	509	876	768	1,355	928	4,508
Daly City, CA	1	18	102	119	317	1,126	310	1,993
Davenport, IA	3	47	221	468	1,097	3,866	192	5,894
Erie, PA	4	83	121	264	1,013	1,853	152	3,490
Everett, WA	2	51	263	294	1,099	5,070	779	7,558
Fairfield, CA	6	23	193	215	779	2,077	390	3,683
Frisco, TX	2	15	13	78	357	1,627	74	2,166
Gary, IN	49	47	289	276	1,493	1,069	846	4,069
Green Bay, WI	1	66	87	319	637	1,980	125	3,215
Gresham, OR	0	37	153	192	572	2,747	669	4,370
Livonia, MI	3	16	40	117	341	1,580	311	2,408
Macon, GA	18	28	342	316	1,814	4,679	625	7,822
Mission Viejo, CA	0	5	38	52	221	899	44	1,259
North Charleston, SC	10	55	376	552	1,024	4,510	606	7,133
Odessa, TX	5	36	189	557	1,084	2,834	191	4,896
Portsmouth, VA	17	20	351	319	1,184	4,163	296	6,350
Pueblo, CO	13	31	165	688	1,311	1,736	345	4,289
Quincy, MA	5	20	96	263	478	1,145	136	2,143
Richardson, TX	0	12	109	109	919	2,372	284	3,805
Richmond, CA	47	44	407	597	1,486	1,533	1,421	5,535
Sandy, UT	2	22	23	120	565	2,685	206	3,623
South Gate, CA	10	19	360	177	377	1,070	1,124	3,137
Surprise, AZ	1	9	37	64	532	1,706	167	2,516
Ventura, CA	5	18	125	220	615	2,276	177	3,436
West Palm Beach, FL	19	42	376	468	1,291	3,645	429	6,270
Wichita Falls, TX	11	46	157	306	1,277	4,011	330	6,138
Wilmington, NC	4	50	306	454	1,626	4,119	491	7,050
Woodbridge Township, NJ	1	7	61	70	278	1,919	180	2,516
Average*	9	32	190	295	825	2,496	389	4,234
Cambridge, MA	2	20	172	255	429	2,496	196	3,570

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

Among similarly sized cities in 2009, 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 ranked roughly 16% below the national average of similarly sized cities (see chart above). Again, statistics for 2009 are the latest available from cities of similar size to Cambridge for comparative analysis.

How Cambridge compared nationally in 2009 (to similarly-sized cities selected in chart above):

- ↓ **Murder:** 78% lower than the national average.
- ↓ **Rape:** 38% lower than the national average.
- ↓ **Robbery:** 9% lower than the national average.
- ↓ **Assault:** 14% below the national average.
- ↓ **Burglary:** 48% below the national average, continuing the downward trend, which began in the early 1980s.
- ▬ **Larceny:** The number of larcenies reported in Cambridge in 2009 was equal to the national average. Larceny typically accounts for the highest percentage of index crimes in Cambridge.
- ↓ **Auto Theft:** 50% below the national average.

2009* 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 ¹	55,400	0	4	30	N/A	103	636	24	797	1,439
Cambridge	102,866	2	20	172	255	429	2,496	196	3,570	3,471
Chicopee	54,589	0	23	50	210	450	1,119	115	1,967	3,603
Framingham	65,478	2	8	33	161	253	1,058	132	1,647	2,515
Haverhill	60,738	1	19	50	259	700	632	143	1,804	2,970
Lawrence	70,670	9	15	175	304	566	1,173	418	2,660	3,764
Lowell	104,390	4	46	200	767	910	2,884	504	5,315	5,091
Lynn	91,149	4	31	178	606	771	1,687	426	3,703	4,063
Medford	56,380	0	2	43	14	232	879	87	1,257	2,230
New Bedford	92,621	9	66	340	769	1,144	1,806	285	4,419	4,771
Newton	84,427	1	9	18	66	187	753	31	1,065	1,261
Quincy	96,580	5	20	96	263	478	1,145	136	2,143	2,219
Somerville	75,112	3	7	104	198	494	1,301	160	2,267	3,018
Waltham	61,357	0	8	24	83	166	653	59	993	1,618

Average ²	74,413	3	20	103	308	496	1210	194	2,311	2,966
Cambridge	102,866	2	20	172	255	429	2,496	196	3,570	3,471

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

*Statistics for 2009 for select Massachusetts cities are the latest available for comparative analysis with Cambridge.

**Rate is calculated per 100,000 residents.

¹ Note that the 2009 assault statistic for the Town of Brookline was unavailable.

² This average does not include Cambridge, in order to accurately compare the average to the numbers reported in Cambridge.

There were approximately 3,471 crimes per 100,000 residents in Cambridge in 2009. Note that this number does not reflect the increased daytime population, which exceeds 150,000 people on any given day.

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO CRIME

Throughout the 2010 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:

Factor	General Effect	Status in Cambridge	Effects in Cambridge
Residential Population & Population Density	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.
Commerical & Educational Population, number & type of commercial establishments and educational institutions	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.
Age composition of population	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.
Stability of Population	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.
Street Layout	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.

Proximity to Public Transportation	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.
Economic conditions, including poverty level and unemployment rate	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.
Family conditions with respect to divorce and family cohesiveness	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.
Climate	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.
Operational and investigative emphasis of the police department	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.
Attitude of the citizenry toward crime, including its reporting practices	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.

