

# Pittsfield Police Department CityStat

March 2014

*Produced by the Crime Analysis Unit*



# Part I Total Crime

March 2014 may not seem, at first glance, to be the best of months for Pittsfield. But let's take a closer look.

Historically, March tends to see more crime than February year after year. In fact, this rising trend month to month is something we might expect to see through summer. As the weather gets warmer, the crime rate tends to go up. This phenomenon is not specific to our city; it's been verified through multiple studies worldwide.

Compared to other years, though, the number of Violent Crimes committed in Pittsfield have decreased significantly. While Property Crime rates are higher than usual, fortunately it is only a small margin.

## 4 Weeks

## Year to Date

## 5 Year

	Feb-2014	Mar-2014	% Change	2013	2014	% Change	Average	% Change
Total Violent Crime	6	9	50%	39	25	-36%	19	-53%
Total Property Crime	75	100	33%	257	283	10%	86	16%
Total Part I Crime	81	109	35%	296	308	4%	105	4%

# Part I Property Crime

Property Crimes still seem to be on an upward trend in Pittsfield this year.

One point that sticks out immediately on the table below is the huge spike in Larceny from Motor Vehicles. It is true, the rash of car break-ins we had this month certainly affected the numbers. However, even if we only had the average number of motor vehicle breaks (5), our Larceny offenses would still be 23% higher than they were the same time last year, and our overall Property Crime rate would be 4% higher.

To see how you can protect yourself from being a victim of Property Crime, please see the end of this report for tips!

	4 Week			Year to Date			5 Year	
	Feb-2014	Mar-2014	% Change	2013	2014	% Change	Average	% Change
Burglary (B&E)	19	21	11%	94	66	-30%	30	-30%
Larceny (Total)	53	73	38%	155	206	33%	52	40%
Larceny from Building	6	13	117%	20	33	65%	7	86%
Larceny from Motor Vehicle	1	20	1900%	17	28	65%	5	300%
Larceny from Person	2	1	-50%	7	5	-29%	2	-50%
Shoplifting	16	16	0%	39	49	26%	11	45%
Larceny Misc.	28	23	-18%	72	91	26%	27	-15%
Motor Vehicle Theft	3	6	100%	8	11	38%	4	50%
<b>Total Property Crime</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>16%</b>

# Part I Violent Crime

Although our Property Offenses may be on the rise, the good news is that Pittsfield has been showing, overall, drastic improvement this year when it comes to Violent Crime.

The real improvement is coming from how few cases of Aggravated Assault we are seeing this year. The average number of Aggravated Assault offenses for March in Pittsfield is 16, and we have only seen 2 this month. In fact, this entire year so far, we have only had a total of 5.

Unfortunately, though, Robbery crimes are rising along with other theft-related crimes in this city.

	4 Week			Year to Date			5 Year	
	Feb-2014	Mar-2014	% Change	2013	2014	% Change	Average	% Change
Homicide	0	0	IN CALC	0	0	IN CALC	0	IN CALC
Rape	1	3	200%	4	8	100%	1	200%
Robbery	4	4	0%	8	12	50%	2	100%
Aggravated Assault	1	2	100%	27	5	-81%	16	-88%
Arson	0	0	IN CALC	0	0	IN CALC	0	IN CALC
Total Violent Crime	6	9	50%	39	25	-36%	19	-53%

# A Closer Look: Part I Property Crime

## Stat Recap:

Since Last Month:

↑ 33%

Compared to Last Year:

↑ 10%

Compared to 5 Year Avg:

↑ 16%



# A Closer Look: Part I Violent Crime

## Stat Recap:

Since Last Month:

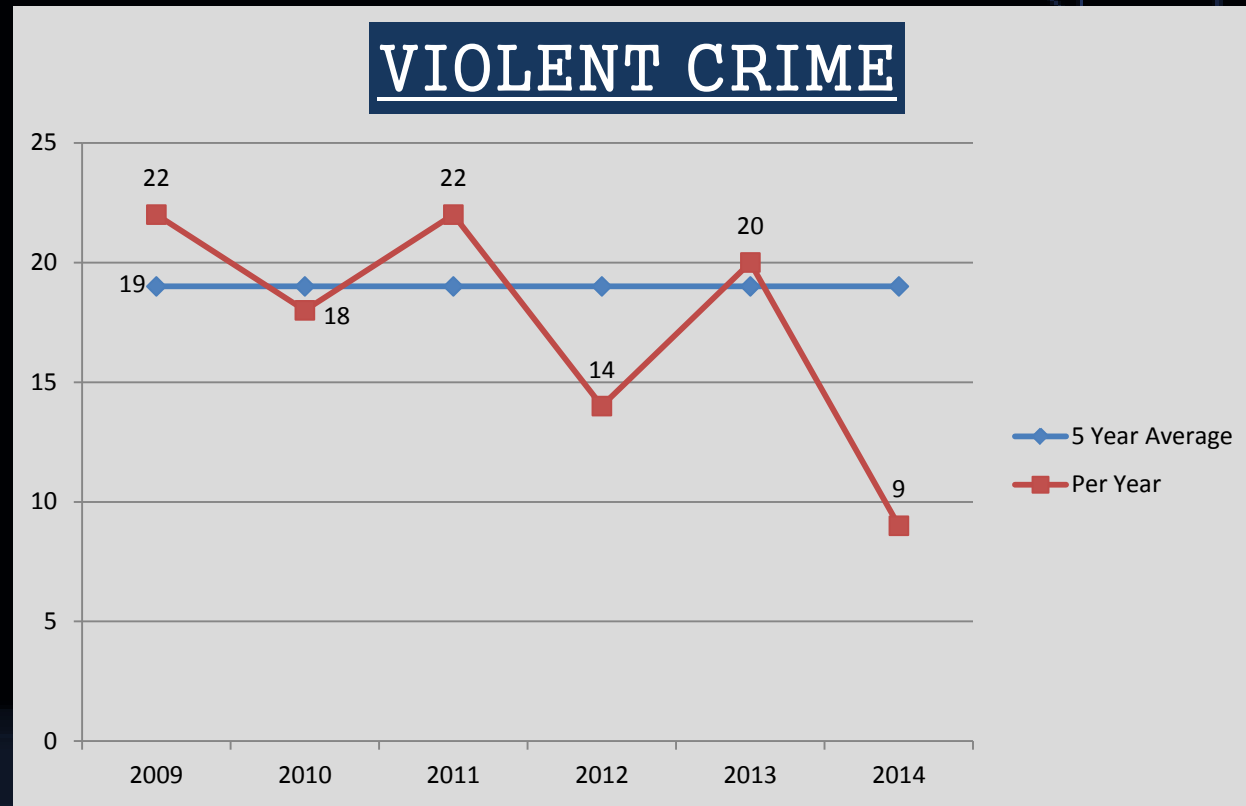
↑ 50%

Compared to Last Year:

↓ 36%

Compared to 5 Year Avg:

↓ 53%



# A Closer Look: LARCENY

## Stat Recap:

Since Last Month:

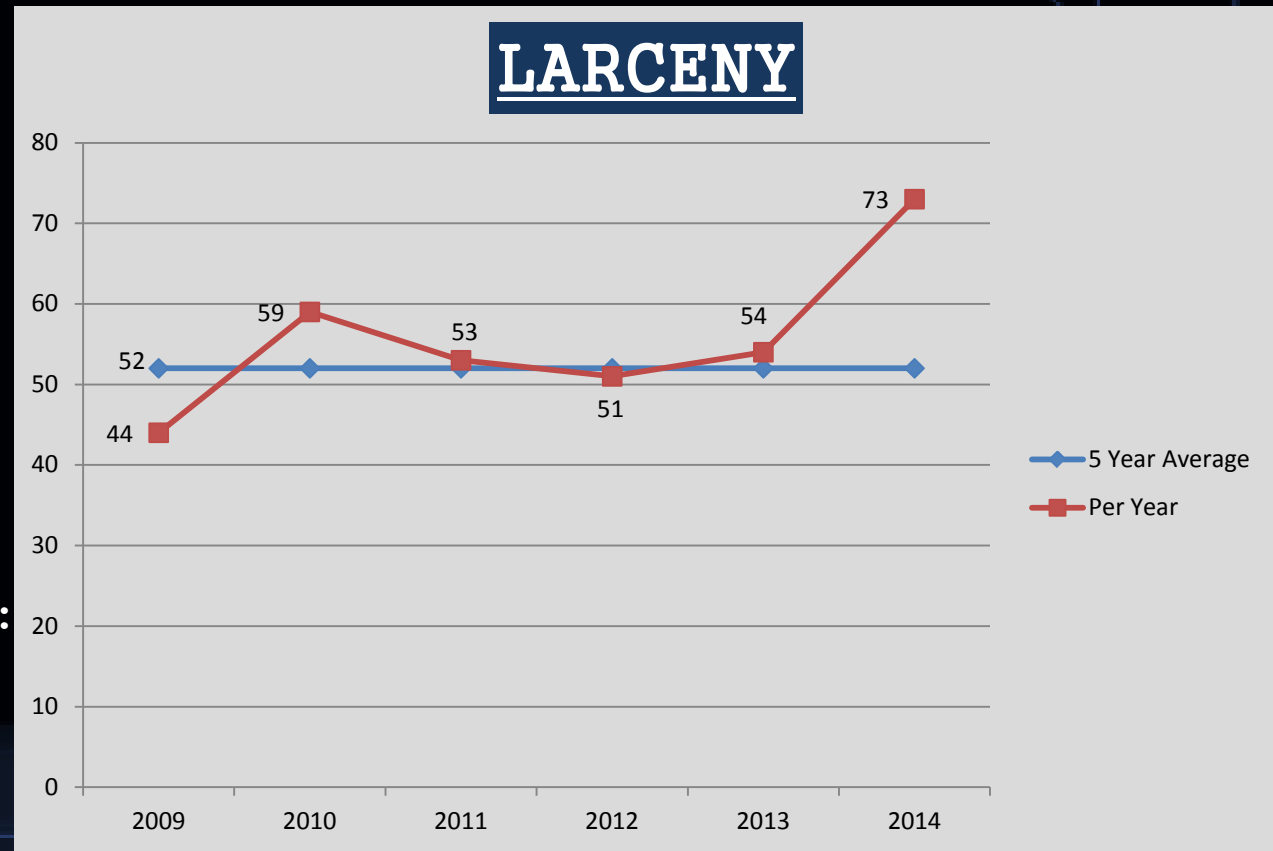
↑ 38%

Compared to Last Year:

↑ 33%

Compared to 5 Year Avg:

↑ 40%



# What You Can Do

*With Larceny and Robbery rates increasing in Pittsfield, it is important to know how to protect yourself. Here are a few suggestions on how you can help prevent theft from happening to you.*

- Cars**— Make sure to always lock your vehicle and park in well-lit areas when possible. Remove wallets, cell phones, GPS units, and other potentially valuable items from your vehicle. Even small items, like chargers and loose change should be removed or kept out of sight.
- Home**— Keep valuable items out of sight from your windows, and make sure basement and garage entrances are secured. Avoid inviting people you don't know well into your home. If you do, put valuable items like electronics, money, and checks out of sight or in a locked room beforehand.
- Purses, Wallets, etc**— When carrying only a wallet, avoid putting it in your back pocket. Most pickpocket strategies can be foiled simply by putting your wallet in a different pocket. Purses should be tucked securely under your arm when worn on the shoulder, and should be zipped close to avoid anyone from reaching inside.