



**Releasing Authority:**

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**NEWS RELEASE**

**February 8, 2019**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Elgin 2018 statistics reflect a 5% increase in Part I crimes with a 4% decrease in total crimes**

The Federal Bureau of Investigation maintains the country’s Uniform Crime Reporting program. This program collects nationwide statistics on what are categorized as Part I crimes. These are crimes that are committed against people and property, are serious in nature, occur with regularity in all areas of the country, and they are likely to be reported to the police. For a list of Part I crimes, [click here](#). Part II crimes can still be serious, but the information is not collected by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for nationwide comparison purposes. For the first time in several years, the Elgin Police Department is providing a five-year compilation of both Part I and II crimes to provide a more complete picture of Elgin’s crime.

In 2018, Elgin experienced a 4% decrease in total crime; in fact, the lowest total crime in five years with violent crime experiencing a 4% decrease from 2017. However, Elgin did experience a 5% increase in Part I crimes from the year prior. When reflecting on Elgin’s history, in 1972 Elgin’s population was approximately 55,000 people. During that year the city experienced 2,659 Part I crimes. In 2018, 47 years later with a population double that of 1972, the city experienced 1,954 Part I crimes; a 27% decrease in comparison.

	1972	1989*	2018
<i>Part I Crimes Reported</i>	2,659	4,905	1,954

***\*Highest year on record***

**Homicides:**

Three homicides occurred in Elgin last year, which is one more than in 2017. In one 2018 case there were two victims and that investigation was cleared by arrests. The second case involved a victim in which a suspect has been identified and an arrest warrant has been issued.

- Travaris Stevenson and Lee Spain were arrested and charged with the shooting deaths of Raymond Dyson and Mark McDaniel, who were killed April 29, 2018 in the 0-100 block of Longwood Pl. in Elgin.
- At the time of this press release, Shannon Smith is being sought for the shooting death of Shaprie Smith in the 500 block of S. McLean Blvd. on September 9, 2018. An arrest warrant has been issued in Kane County for his arrest. The department is working with outside agencies in an effort to locate and take Mr. Smith into custody. The public is reminded a [reward](#) is available for information leading to his capture.

## Statistical Highlights:

- As defined in the first paragraph above, in 2018 Elgin had 1,954 Part I crimes, a 5% increase and 98 more than the 1,856 reported in 2017. Elgin also had a 6% decrease in Part II crimes; from 9,300 in 2017 to 8,763 in 2018. When totaling both Part I and II crimes, 2017 had 11,156 total crimes and 2018 had 10,717; a decrease from last year of 4%.
- Shooting victims were up 50%, from 8 in 2017 to 12 in 2018. In the past five years, 2015 had the most shooting victims with 21.
- Shots-fired incidents increased slightly by 21%. This is the second lowest year in the past five years, with the highest being in 2016 with a total of 64 compared to 34 in 2018.
- There were 59 robberies in 2018, a 5% increase over 2017 when 56 were reported. Since 1999, 2017 had the lowest total recorded, followed by 2018 with the second lowest.
- In 2018, burglaries to dwellings decreased by 12% from 2017, but burglaries to motor vehicles increased by 18% and also presented as the highest total in the past five years.
- Stolen vehicles totaled 82 in 2018, an increase of 11% when compared to 2017's total of 74.

A challenge that remains on the forefront of Elgin's crime rate is how to convey the importance of locking personal belongings. "The 'If you like it – lock it' campaign continues, though 82% of vehicle break-ins were attributed to unlocked doors," stated Chief Ana Lalley. "Additionally 84% of stolen vehicles were related to leaving them unlocked and running, or keys left inside unlocked/unattended vehicles. We are working to expand our Public Service Announcements in the new year and we are exploring additional venues to help get the message out. We need to work together on this issue; it's a prime example as to how the community and the police department need to team up to drive crime down."

"Last year saw many changes within the police department," continued Chief Lalley. "Leadership transitioned, but the goals and initiatives that have been at the core of this department continue and grow. We maintain our focus on reducing crime, increasing traffic safety and engaging with the community. "

Elgin did experience an officer-involved shooting in 2018, its first since 1999. "The investigation surrounding the March 12, 2018 death of DeCynthia Clements had not reached a conclusion by the end of the year," stated Chief Lalley. "We anticipate it will finalize in 2019 and we will keep communication lines open, provide updates, and work to strengthen the relationship we have with our community."

The two-way communication venues were numerous throughout 2018 with Community Conversations, monthly Chief's Meetings, Coffee, Cocoa and Cone with a Cop events, Walk and Talks in neighborhoods and business districts, clergy and neighborhood meetings, special events at locations throughout Elgin, along with several other methods of engagement throughout the year.

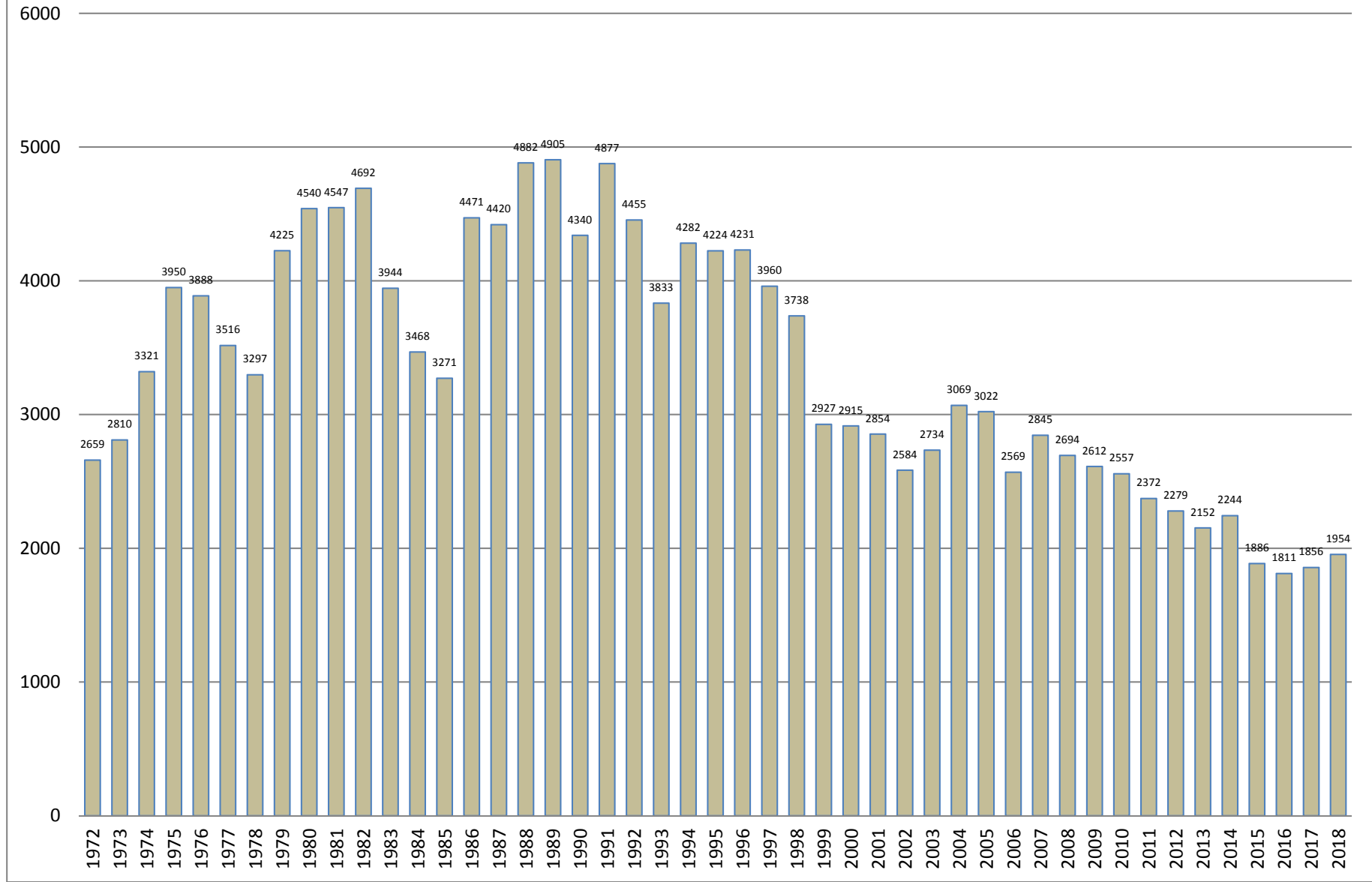
The department partnered with organizations, such as School District U-46, the Gail Borden Library, Boys and Girls Club and many others, to provide opportunities for teens and children to be involved with the police in a positive manner. Elgin Teen Life, Kids United, ROPE Camp, field trips, and many other opportunities were created to help build a more solid foundation with youth in the community. "We also plan to expand our outreach with Elgin's youth in 2019, as this relationship plays a pivotal role in a community's experience with crime," stated Chief Lalley.

"In 2019 the police department will create the Collaborative Crisis Services Unit (CCSU), a unit that will help respond to incidents involving, and subjects in, a mental health crisis, continue to explore technology, community partnerships, and youth initiatives," said Chief Lalley. "In a year of transition and challenges not faced before, I'm very proud of both the police department and the community. We all want what is best for Elgin and together we will continue to work jointly to build that vision."

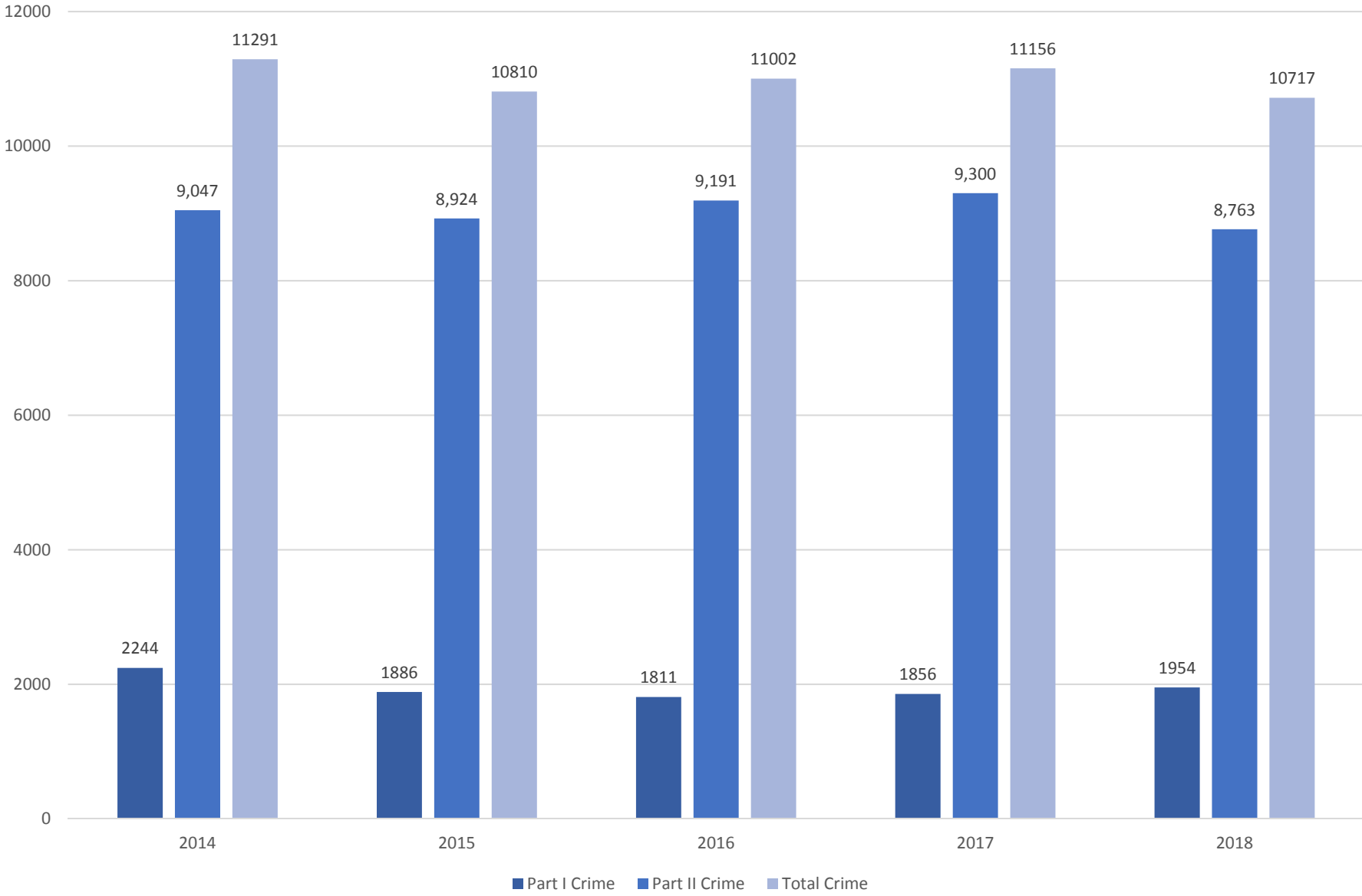
# Part I and II Crimes 2017 - 2018

	January - December		
<b>Part I Crimes</b>	2017 Crimes	2018 Crimes	% of Change
Homicide	2	3	50
Forcible Rape/Criminal Sexual Assault	40	47	18
Robbery	56	59	5
*Battery	77	85	10
*Assault	55	42	-24
Burglary	195	172	-12
Burglary to Motor Vehicle	306	361	18
Theft	1043	1096	5
Motor Vehicle Theft	74	82	11
*Arson	8	7	-13
<b>Total Part I Crimes</b>	<b>1856</b>	<b>1954</b>	<b>5</b>
<small>*Incidents are categorized as Part I &amp; Part II depending on the severity of the crime</small>			
<small>NC - Not Calculable / Att. - Attempt</small>			
<b>Part II Crimes</b>			
Reckless Homicide	0	0	0
*Battery	1689	1809	7
*Assault	52	56	8
Deception	348	359	3
Criminal Damage & Trespass	1163	902	-22
Deadly Weapons	89	107	20
Sex Offenses	146	92	-37
Gambling	0	0	0
Offenses Involving Children	136	128	-6
Cannabis Control Act	65	85	31
Methamphetamine Offenses	8	0	-100
Controlled Substance Act	168	154	-8
Hypodermic Needle/Syringe Act	4	0	-100
Drug Paraphernalia Act	61	37	-39
Liquor Control Act	38	31	-18
Motor Vehicle Offenses	2590	2427	-6
Disorderly Conduct	578	518	-10
Interference w/Public Officers	284	237	-17
Intimidation	15	15	0
Kidnaping	30	34	13
Total Other Offenses	1836	1772	-3
<b>Total Part II Crimes</b>	<b>9300</b>	<b>8763</b>	<b>-6</b>
<b>Total Crimes</b>	<b>11,156</b>	<b>10,717</b>	<b>-4</b>

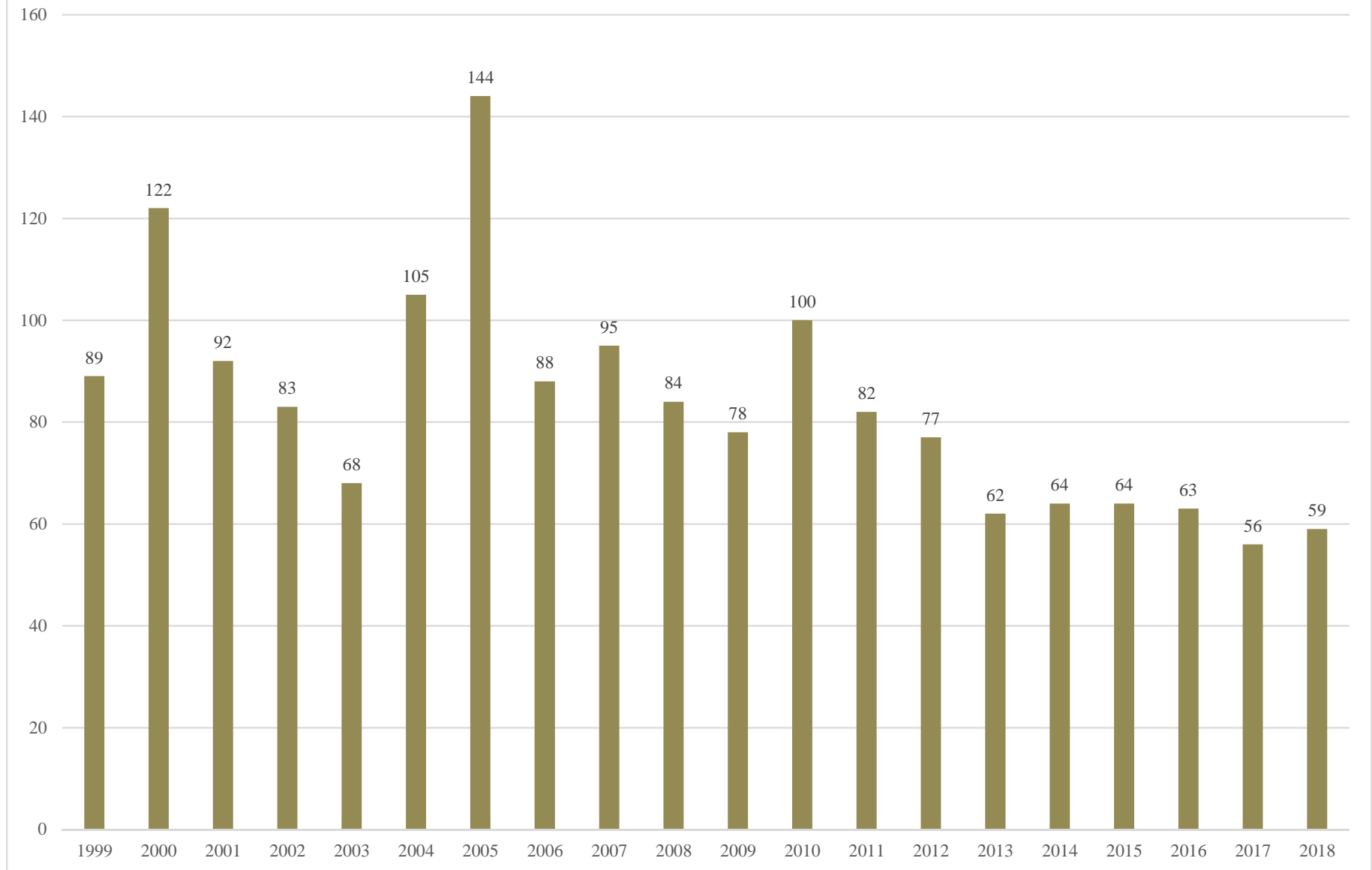
# Part I Crime 1972 - 2018



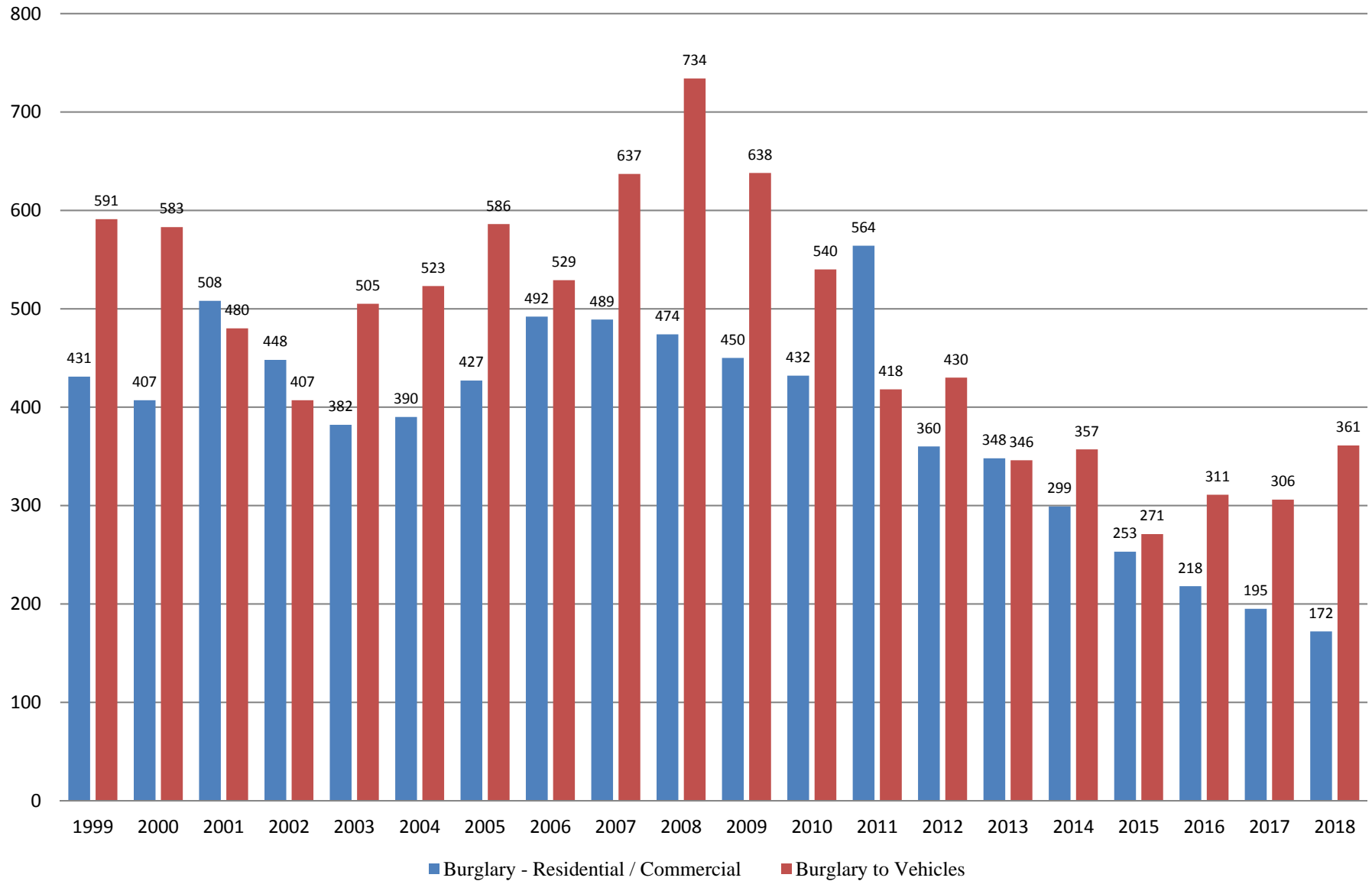
### Part I / Part II / Total Crime 2014 - 2018



# Robbery 1999 - 2018



## Elgin Burglary and Burglary to Vehicle 1999 - 2018



# Elgin Homicides 1999 - 2018

