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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Elgin 2014 Statistics Reflect a 2% Overall Increase in Crime

Last year, Elgin experienced a 2% increase in Part I crimes from 2013, though crime still hovers at a 40 year low with only 2013's number reflecting a lower total than 2014's. The Part I crime rate encompasses a standardized federal measurement of serious crimes that are committed against people and property. To illustrate a comparison, in 1972 Elgin's population was approximately 55,000 people. During that year the city experienced 2,659 Part I crimes. In 2014, 42 years later with a population of nearly double that of 1972, the city experienced 2,200 Part I crimes, a 17% decrease in comparison.

	1972	1989	2014
<i>Part I Crimes Reported</i>	2,659	4,905	2,200

Homicides:

Three homicides occurred in Elgin last year, the same number of homicides Elgin has experienced each year since 2012:

- William Donald was arrested for the murder of Anthony Nunez.
- Alberto Prado, believed to be a gang-motivated homicide victim, currently unsolved.
- Carmelo Maldonado, who succumbed to injuries sustained during a home invasion, currently unsolved.

Statistical Highlights:

When comparing year ending 2014 to 2013,

- Elgin's violent crime is at a twenty-year low with an 11% decrease.
- Elgin's residential and commercial burglaries are at a twenty-year low with a reduction of 14%.
- Gang-motivated felonies decreased 20%.

- Theft experienced an 11% increase, due to a rise in Elgin’s retail establishments apprehending more shoplifters.
- Shots-fired incidents increased 7%, an area the department closely monitors and actively investigates:
 - Gang-motivated shots-fired up 9%
 - Non-gang / motivation-unknown shots-fired up 5%
- Overall gang crime increased 12%, attributed to an increase in gang-motivated graffiti.
- Vehicle burglaries experienced a 3% uptick over the prior year.

Chief Jeffrey Swoboda stated, “While the fact that crime is up 2% and we have increase in shots-fired that is troubling, when you look at the other specific crimes you see there are many more positives than negatives. Violent crime and burglaries sitting at record lows are great indications that we are on the right path. The hard work of the officers and civilians within the Elgin police department, coupled with an engaged community, are the ingredients for sustained decreases in crime.”

Part I Crimes

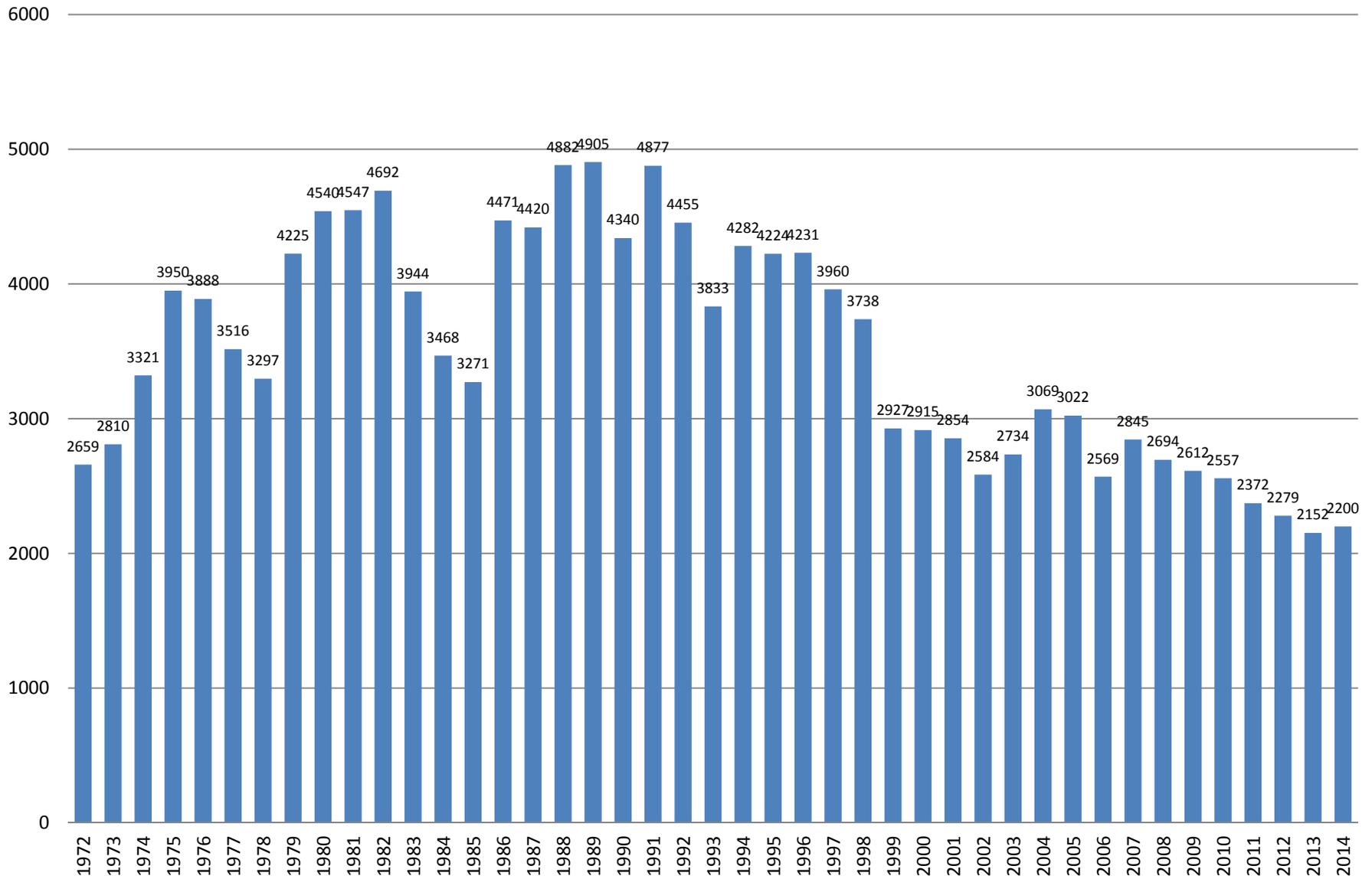
2013 - 2014 Comparison

Part I Crimes	Jan-Dec 2013 Crimes	Jan-Dec 2014 Crimes	% of Change
Homicide	3	3	0
Forcible Rape/Criminal Sexual Assault	62	45	-27
Robbery	62	64	3
*Battery	77	77	0
*Assault	42	29	-31
Burglary	348	299	-14
Burglary to Motor Vehicle	346	357	3
Theft	1111	1233	11
Motor Vehicle Theft	87	80	-8
*Arson	14	13	-7
Total Part I Crimes	2152	2200	2

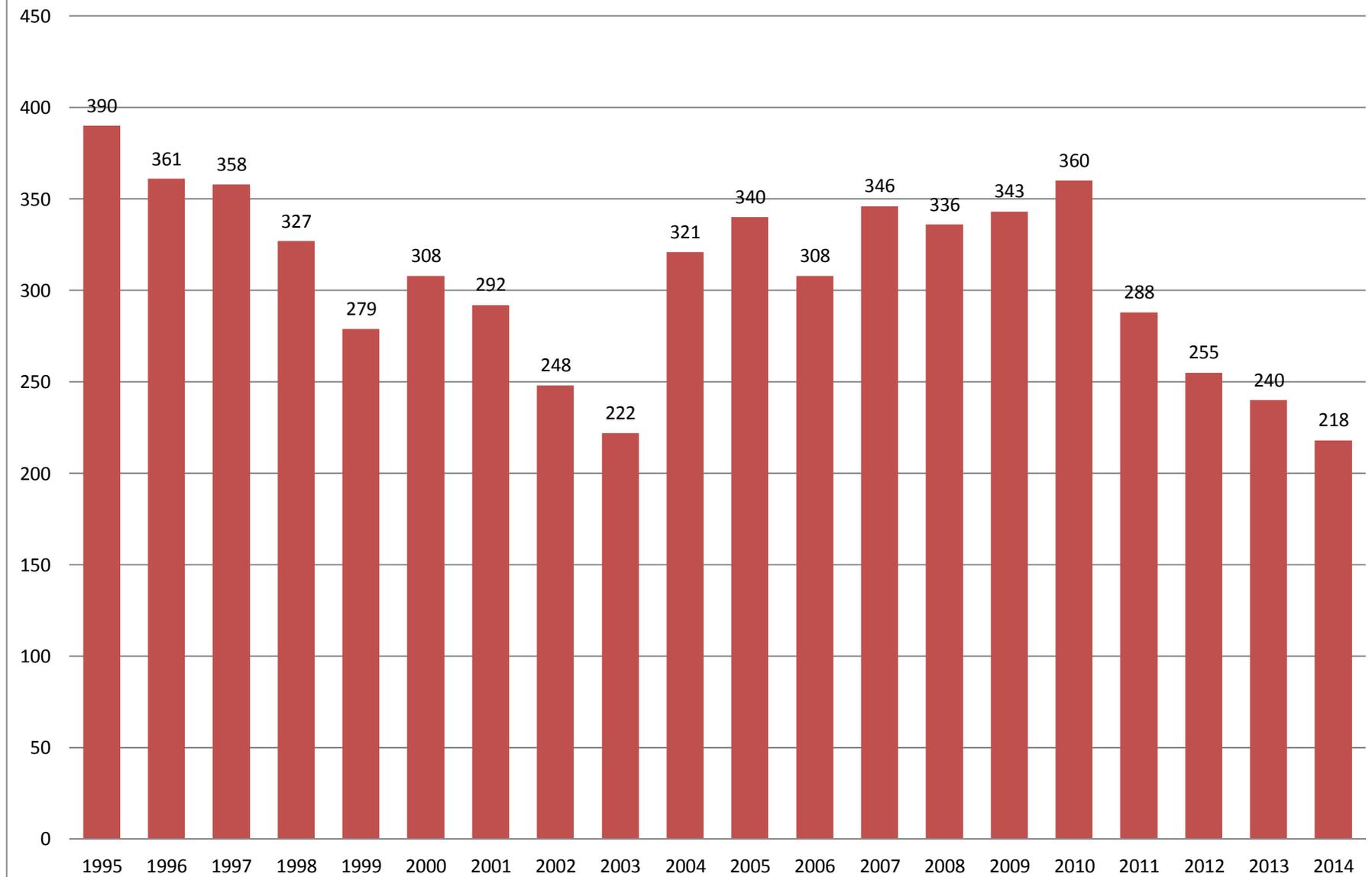
*Incidents are categorized as Part I & Part II depending on the severity of the crime

NC - Not Calculable / Att. - Attempt

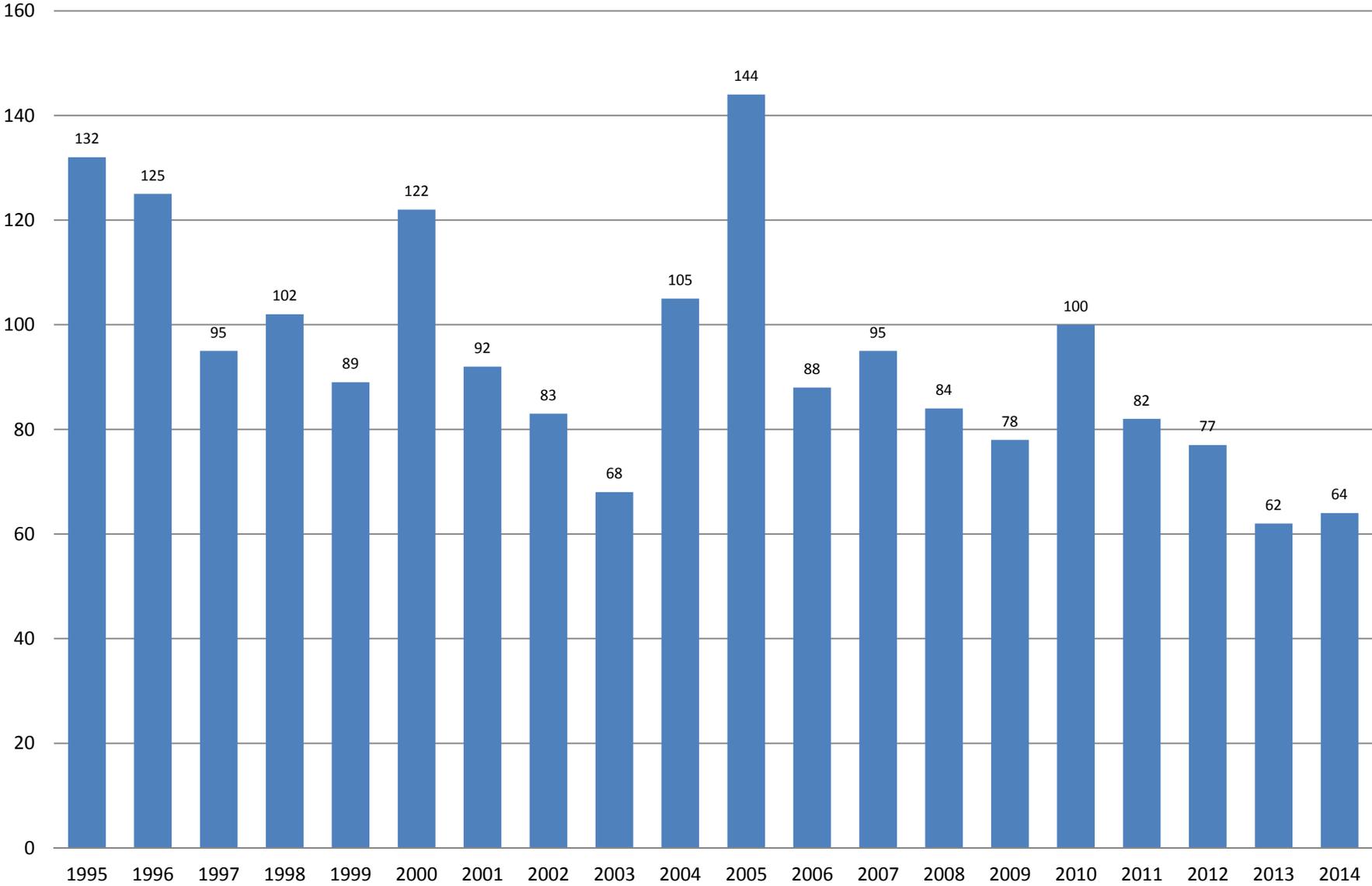
Elgin 40 + Year Low - Part I Crime 1972 - 2014



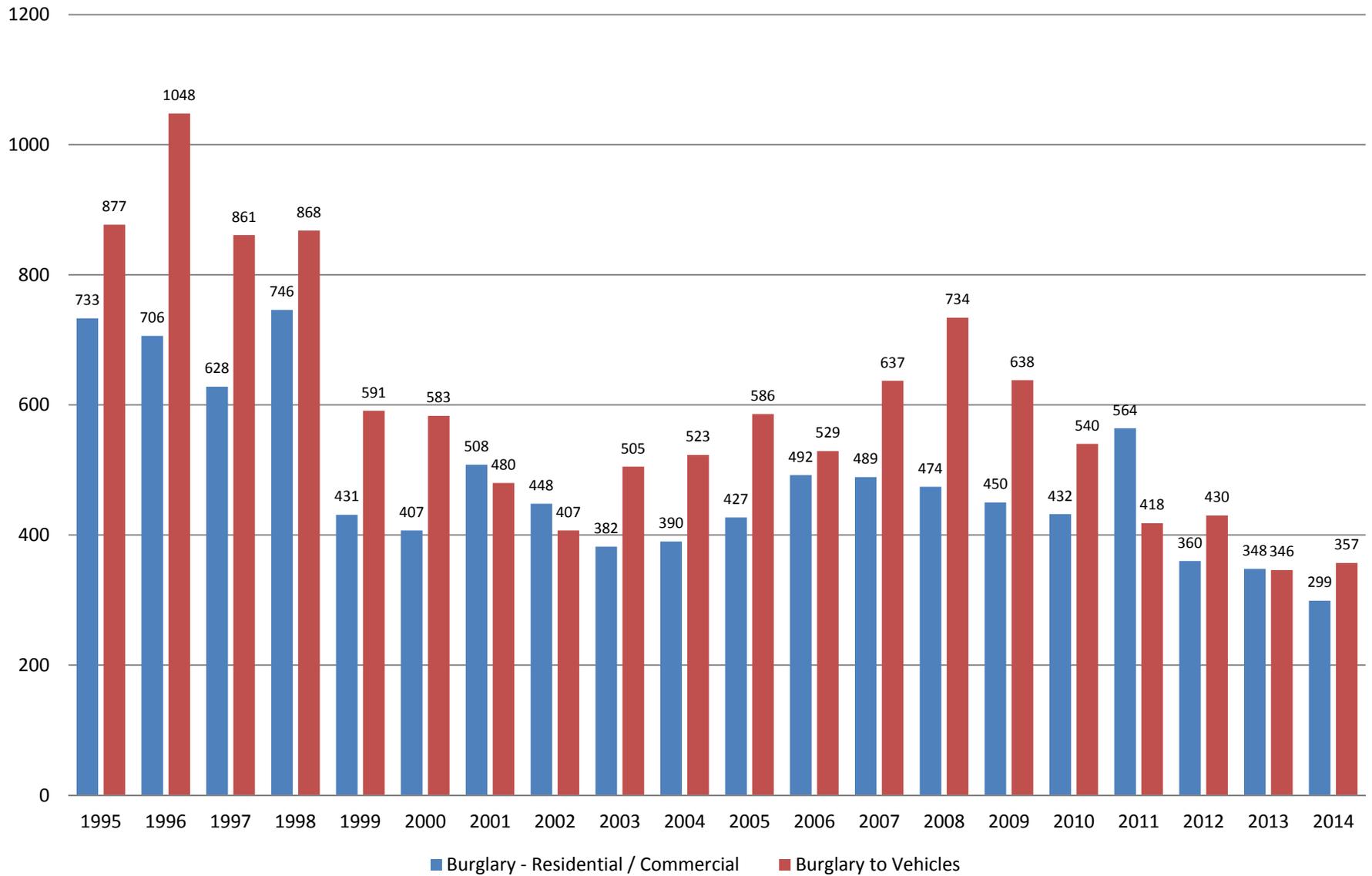
Elgin Violent Crime 1995 - 2014



Elgin Robbery 1995 - 2014



Elgin Burglary and Burglary to Vehicle 1995 - 2014



Elgin's Shooting / Shots-Fired Events

