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# The United States Conference of Mayors Homeland Security Monitoring Center

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*2006 SURVEY ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND  
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS*

## **Five Years Post 9/11, One Year Post Katrina: The state of America's readiness**

**A 183-City Survey**

**July 26, 2006**



**The United States Conference of Mayors**

**Michael A. Guido, Mayor of Dearborn, President**

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# **The United States Conference of Mayors**

**Michael A. Guido, Mayor of Dearborn**  
**President**

**Douglas H. Palmer, Mayor of Trenton**  
**Vice President**

**Manuel A. Diaz, Mayor of Miami**  
**Chair, Advisory Board**

**Tom Cochran**  
**Executive Director**

Additional copies of the survey are available from The U.S. Conference of Mayors, 1620 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20006, (202) 293-7330, or at [www.usmayors.org](http://www.usmayors.org).

## FOREWORD

As our nation approaches the one-year anniversary of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma, and the five-year anniversary of the attacks of September 11, the nation's mayors continue to focus on the need to strengthen emergency preparedness and homeland security. For five years, The United States Conference of Mayors and its members have dedicated themselves to making America's cities safer by both preventing possible acts of terrorism, and being ready to respond if a disaster – either terrorist or natural – should strike.

Mayors have never waited for assistance from others to act. Mayors and cities continue to focus on protecting their citizens from possible events, including the new threat of avian flu. At the same time, our new survey shows that we must further strengthen our partnership with the federal government to make sure that our domestic “first preventers” and “first responders” have the resources and training they need to succeed, and that all necessary federal support is ready in the event of a catastrophic event.

One month after September 11, the leadership of the Conference of Mayors called an emergency homeland security summit in Washington, DC. Hundreds of mayors and police, fire and emergency management officials came to that summit and drafted a sweeping “National Action Plan for Safety and Security in America's Cities.” That National Action Plan was updated in October of 2005 following the hurricanes focusing on: 1) Fixing FEMA; 2) Military Involvement in Disaster Response and Recovery; 3) Communications Interoperability; 4) Enhanced Transportation Security; and 5) First Responder Funding. The 2005 National Action Plan was presented directly to Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff and his top officials, and was sent to Congress.

In addition, since September 11, we have conducted two surveys on the costs of homeland security to cities, three surveys tracking the delay of federal funding sent through the states, and a survey on the need for major investment in interoperable communications. All of these surveys and reports are available at [usmayors.org](http://usmayors.org).

The ultimate goal of any survey conducted by the Conference of Mayors is to assemble information that can be used to improve the program or process being examined. That is certainly the case with this survey. Mayors have been working with the federal government on many key homeland security issues. And mayors have been working with each other to share best practices, develop innovative response systems, and implement city-to-city mutual aid agreements. But more must be done at every level of government to make sure that our cities, and the nation, are able to respond to the growing challenges of homeland security and emergency response.



Tom Cochran  
Executive Director  
July 26, 2006

## SURVEY OVERVIEW

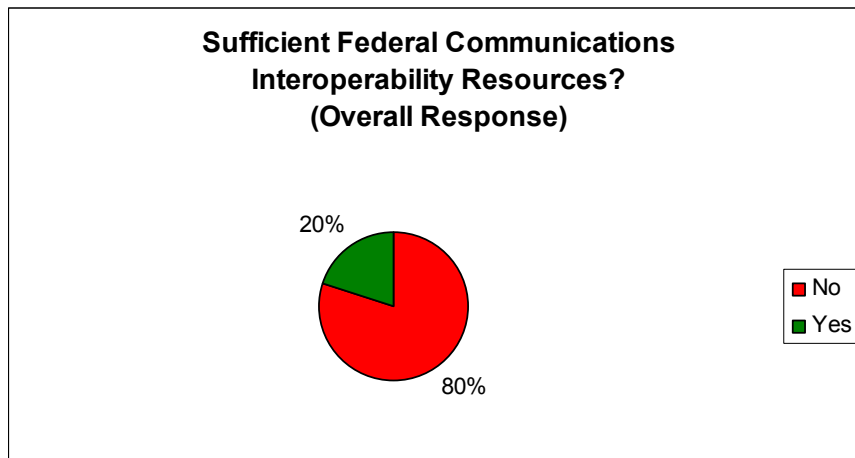
Survey responses were received from 183 cities representing 38 states in the nation, and the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Information was submitted by cities as small as Bothell, WA, population 30,150, to the nation's largest population center – New York City, population 8,008,278.

Cities with populations up to 100,000 comprise the largest group of respondents (104); cities in 100,001 – 300,000 population range comprise the next largest group (49). Thirty (30) respondents are in the 300,001 and up range.

For each of the findings reported in this document, calculations are based on the number of cities responding to individual survey questions. Within individual survey items, percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

## SURVEY RESULTS

1. Have you received sufficient federal resources to achieve full communications interoperability so that your first responders can communicate with each other, and can talk to neighboring cities, counties, state agencies, key critical infrastructure (mass transit, freight rail, chemical plants), and federal responders in the event of an emergency?



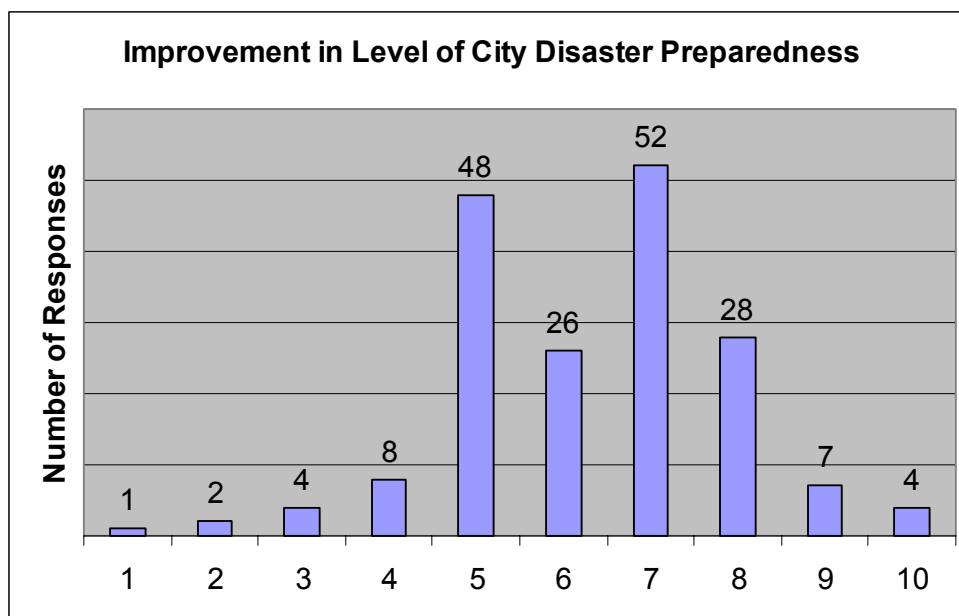
- For cities with populations up to 100,000, 20% responded yes, and 80% responded no.
- For cities with populations from 100,001-300,000, 16% responded yes, and 84% responded no.
- For cities with populations of 300,001 or greater, 23% responded yes, and 77% responded no.

2. How many years are you away from achieving full communications interoperability?

- **For the 40 percent of cities able to respond, the average response was 4 years.**
- **60 percent of the responding cities were either unable to respond or said unknown.**

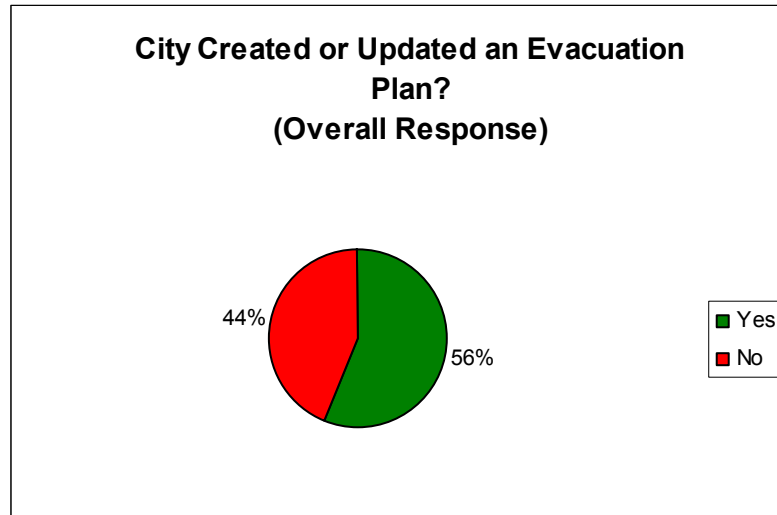
*{Note: As highlighted in The United States Conference of Mayors 192-City Interoperability 2004 Survey, aging communications systems and lack of funding to purchase modern systems is a major obstacle for a city to achieve full communications interoperability.}*

3. How much has your city's level of disaster preparedness improved in the five years since September 11, 2001? (1 being the lowest, and 10 being the highest amount of improvement.)



- **The overall average response was 6.3.**
- **For cities with populations up to 100,000, the average response was 6.0.**
- **For cities with populations from 100,001-300,000, the average response was 6.8.**
- **For cities with populations of 300,001 or greater, the average response was 6.8.**

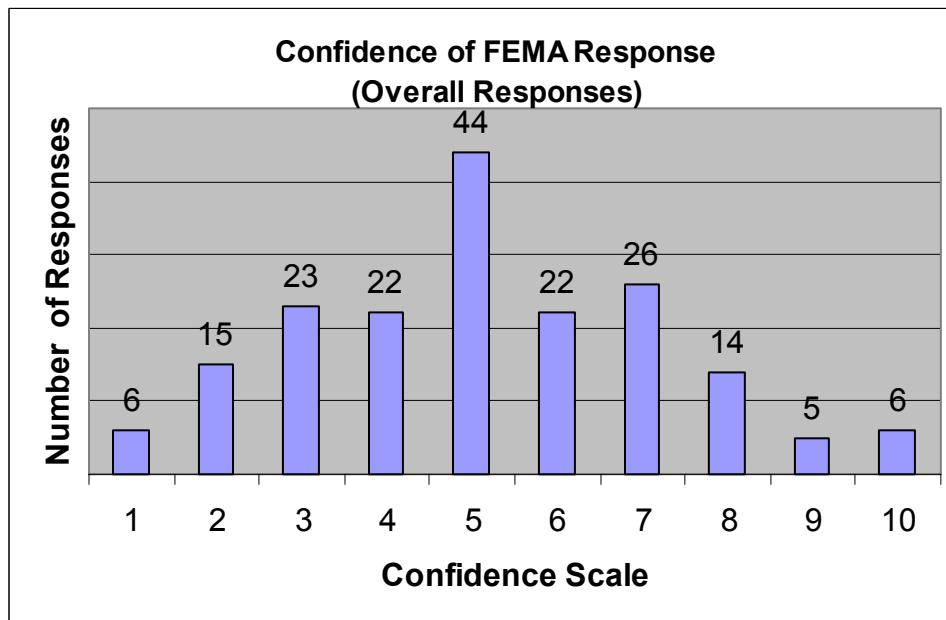
4. In light of Hurricanes last year, did your city create or update an evacuation plan?



- For cities with populations up to 100,000, 52% responded yes, and 48% responded no.
- For cities with populations from 100,001-300,000, 53% responded yes, and 47% responded no.
- For cities with populations of 300,001 or greater, 73% responded yes, and 27% responded no.

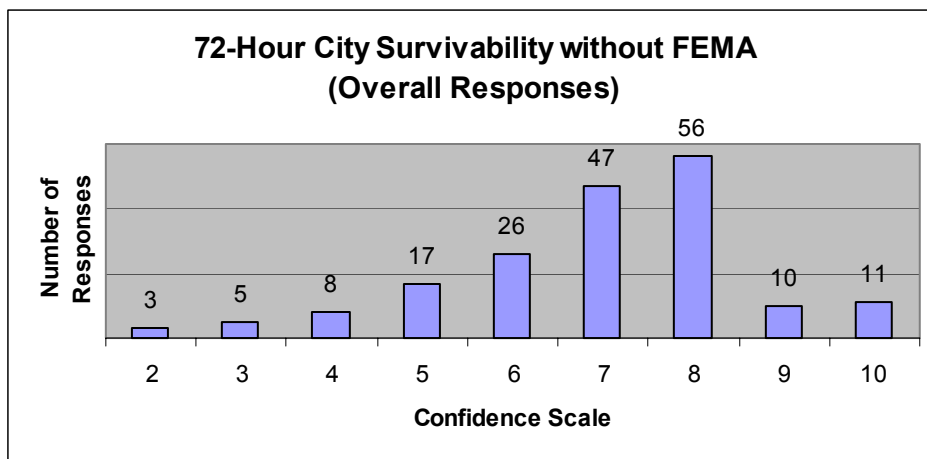
*{Note: This question includes responses from cities both in and out of hurricane zones. It also anticipates that evacuations may be necessary for events other than hurricanes.}*

5. What is your level of confidence that FEMA will respond quickly in the event of a major disaster affecting your city? (1 being the lowest, and 10 being the highest level of confidence.)



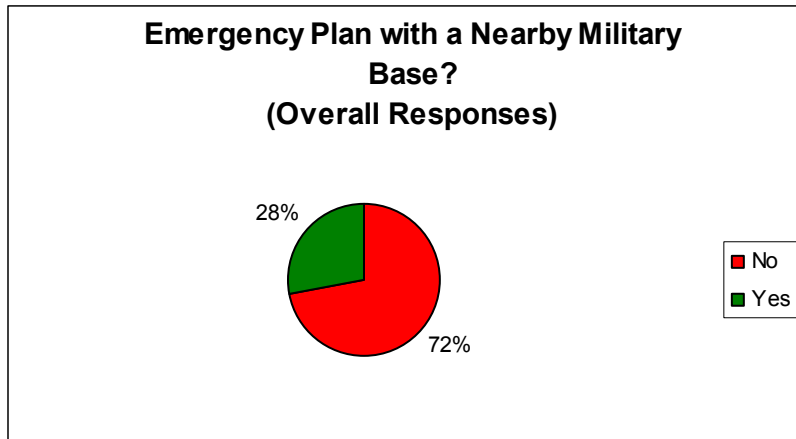
- The average response was 5.2.
- For cities with populations up to 100,000, the average response was 5.0.
- For cities with populations from 100,001-300,000, the average response was 5.1.
- For cities with populations of 300,001 or greater, the average response was 5.7.

6. What is your level of confidence that your city is prepared to survive on its own for up to 72 hours immediately following a disaster - natural or manmade? (1 being the lowest, and 10 being the highest level of confidence.)



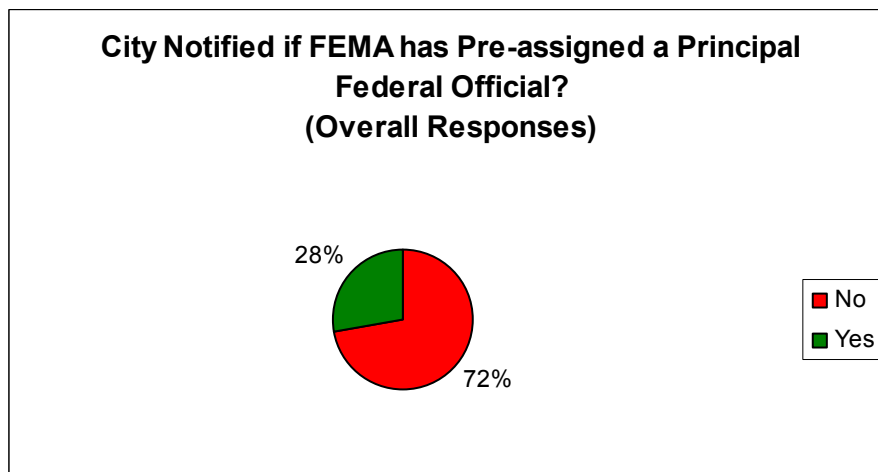
- The average response was 6.9.
- For cities with populations up to 100,000, the average response was 6.8.
- For cities with populations from 100,001-300,000, the average response was 7.4.
- For cities with populations of 300,001 or greater, the average response was 6.7.

7. Has the federal government, or have you, established a plan with a nearby military base to provide a quick response of military personnel to provide your first responders the personnel and equipment to stabilize your city in the event of an emergency event?



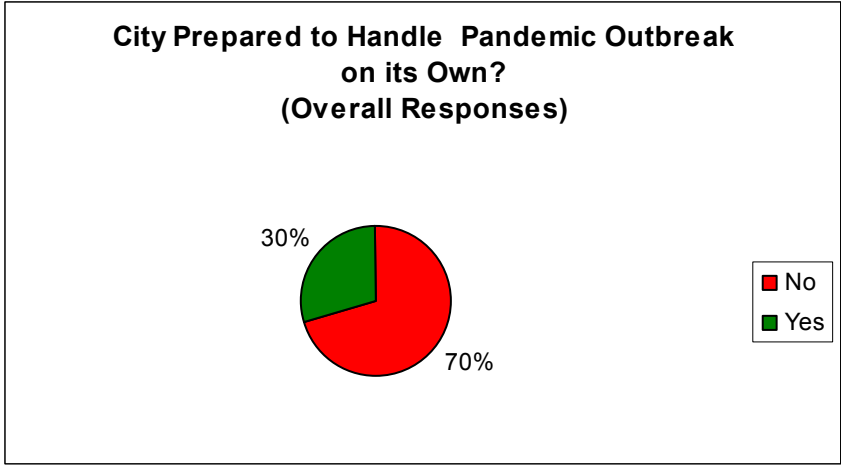
- For cities with populations up to 100,000, 24% responded yes, and 76% responded no.
- For cities with populations from 100,001-300,000, 37% responded yes, and 63% responded no.
- For cities with populations of 300,001 or greater, 30% responded yes, and 70% responded no.

8. Since the Hurricanes of last year, have you been notified if FEMA has pre-assigned a Principal Federal Official to work with you in the event a disaster takes place in your city or region?



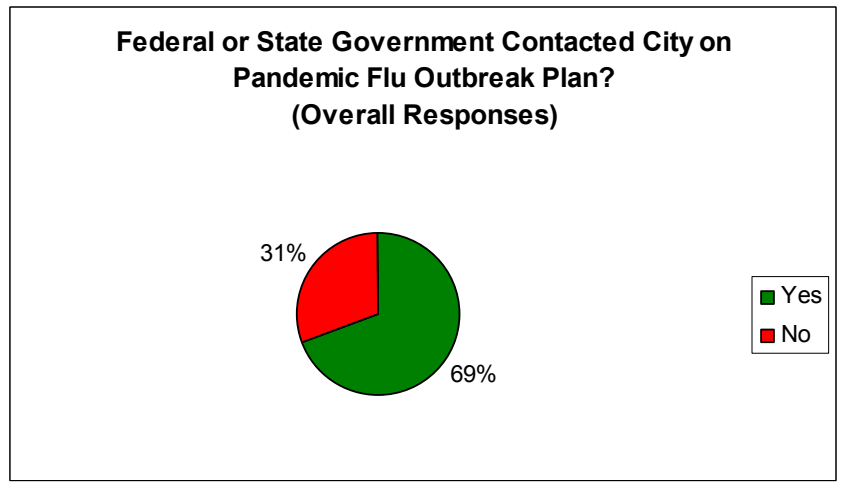
- For cities with populations up to 100,000, 14% responded yes, and 86% responded no.
- For cities with populations from 100,001-300,000, 37% responded yes, and 63% responded no.
- For cities with populations of 300,001 or greater, 60% responded yes, and 40% responded no.

9. The federal government has already stated that local governments would be largely on their own during the first days and possibly weeks of a pandemic (bird or other) flu outbreak. Is your city prepared to handle such a crisis on its own?



- For cities with populations up to 100,000, 30% responded yes, and 70% responded no.
- For cities with populations from 100,001-300,000, 31% responded yes, and 69% responded no.
- For cities with populations of 300,001 or greater, 30% responded yes, and 70% responded no.

10. Has the federal government or your state contacted your city to discuss preparedness and response to a possible pandemic flu outbreak, including issues related to the distribution of vaccines or medical treatments?



- For cities with populations up to 100,000, 59% responded yes, and 41% responded no.
- For cities with populations from 100,001-300,000, 80% responded yes, and 20% responded no.
- For cities with populations of 300,001 or greater, 87% responded yes, and 13% responded no.

## *Survey Cities - July 2006*

<i>State</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Population</i>
<i>Alabama</i>	Huntsville	158,216
	Montgomery	201,568
	Tuscaloosa	77,906
<i>Alaska</i>	Anchorage	275,000
<i>Arizona</i>	Avondale	35,883
	Tucson	486,699
	Yuma	86,070
<i>Arkansas</i>	Little Rock	183,133
	North Little Rock	60,433
<i>California</i>	Bellflower	72,878
	Berkeley	102,743
	Campbell	38,138
	Dublin	34,500
	Fremont	203,413
	Hemet	58,812
	Irvine	143,072
	Long Beach	487,100
	Lynwood	69,845
	Merced	63,893
	Modesto	188,856
	Palm Springs	42,807
	Porterville	39,615
	Sacramento	452,959
	San Bernardino	185,401
	San Diego	1,223,400
	San Leandro	79,452
	San Rafael	56,063
	Santa Ana	347,000
	Santa Barbara	92,325
	Santa Cruz	54,593
	Stockton	243,771
	Sunnyvale	128,549
	Vista	89,857
	Whittier	83,680

***Connecticut***

Bridgeport	139,529
Hartford	121,578
New Haven	123,626
Stamford	117,083
West Haven	52,360

***Delaware***

Dover	32,135
Wilmington	72,664

***District of Columbia***

Washington	572,059
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***Florida***

Boynton Beach	60,389
Cape Coral	102,286
Delray Beach	60,020
Fort Myers	48,208
Hialeah	226,419
Hollywood	146,734
Largo	69,371
Miami	362,470
Orlando	185,951
Pembroke Pines	151,613
Pinellas Park	45,658
Sarasota	52,715
Tallahassee	150,624
Tamarac	57,726
Tampa	303,447

***Georgia***

Athens	101,489
Columbus	186,291

***Hawaii***

Maui	97,100
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***Illinois***

Addison	35,914
Arlington Heights	76,943
Bartlett	39,377
Berwyn	54,016
Chicago	2,896,016
Granite City	31,301
Lombard	42,322
Naperville	128,358
Normal	50,500
North Chicago	35,918
Palatine	65,479
Park Ridge	37,775
Romeoville	34,000

	Schaumburg	75,386
	Springfield	111,454
	Waukegan	87,901
	Wheaton	55,416
<b><i>Indiana</i></b>		
	Carmel	50,948
	East Chicago	32,414
	Fort Wayne	205,727
	Indianapolis	791,926
	Michigan City	32,900
<b><i>Iowa</i></b>		
	Des Moines	198,682
<b><i>Kentucky</i></b>		
	Louisville Metro	694,000
<b><i>Louisiana</i></b>		
	Baton Rouge	227,818
	Monroe	53,107
	New Orleans	484,674
<b><i>Maine</i></b>		
	Bangor	31,473
<b><i>Maryland</i></b>		
	Baltimore	651,154
<b><i>Massachusetts</i></b>		
	Boston	589,141
	Brockton	94,304
	Malden	56,340
<b><i>Michigan</i></b>		
	Dearborn	99,573
	Kalamazoo	77,145
	Livonia	100,545
	Rochester Hills	68,825
	Southfield	78,296
	Westland	86,602
<b><i>Mississippi</i></b>		
	Greenville	41,633
	Hattiesburg	44,779
	Meridian	39,968
<b><i>Missouri</i></b>		
	Columbia	90,967
	Independence	113,288
	Kansas City	441,545
	O'Fallon	46,169
	St. Louis	348,189

*Nebraska*

Omaha 390,007

*Nevada*

Las Vegas 478,434

Reno 180,480

*New Jersey*

Bayonne 61,842

Camden 79,904

Elizabeth 120,568

Irvington 60,695

Jackson Township 42,816

Lakewood 60,352

North Bergen 58,092

Paterson 149,222

Piscataway 50,482

Trenton 85,403

*New Mexico*

Las Cruces 74,267

Santa Fe 62,203

*New York*

Albany 95,658

Huntington 195,289

Mount Vernon 68,381

New York 8,008,278

Rochester 219,773

*North Carolina*

Chapel Hill 48,715

Charlotte 540,828

Greensboro 223,891

Winston-Salem 193,973

*Ohio*

Cincinnati 331,285

Cleveland 478,403

Columbus 730,000

Dayton 166,179

Garfield Heights 30,734

Mansfield 51,600

North Olmsted 34,113

*Pennsylvania*

Harrisburg 48,950

Philadelphia 1,517,550

Warminster 31,383

Wilkes-Barre 43,123

York 40,862

***Puerto Rico***

Aguadilla	64,685
Cidra	42,753
Lares	34,415
San Germán	37,105
San Juan	434,374
San Sebastián	44,204
Trujillo Alto	75,728
Vega Baja	61,929

***Rhode Island***

Providence	173,618
Woonsocket	43,224

***South Carolina***

Charleston	96,650
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***Tennessee***

Bartlett	40,543
Chattanooga	155,554
Germantown	37,348
Kingsport	44,905
Nashville	569,891

***Texas***

Beaumont	113,866
Burleson	30,300
College Station	67,890
Corpus Christi	277,454
Dallas	1,188,580
Deer Park	32,000
El Paso	563,662
Eules	52,895
Grand Prairie	127,427
Houston	1,953,631
McKinney	54,369
Richardson	95,267
Sugar Land	70,758
Tyler	83,650

***Utah***

Salt Lake City	181,743
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***Vermont***

Burlington	38,889
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***Virginia***

Alexandria	128,283
Newport News	185,000
Norfolk	234,403

*Washington*

Bellevue	109,569
Bothell	30,150
Tacoma	193,556

*Wisconsin*

Beloit	35,918
Milwaukee	596,974
New Berlin	38,220

<i><b>Total Cities:</b></i>	<b>183</b>
<i><b>District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Total States Represented</b></i>	<b>40</b>



## **The United States Conference of Mayors**

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