

Geographic Area	Population Rank	2021 Population Estimate	City Council Size		Population per Council Member	Mayoral Veto?	
			Data	Source		(Yes/No)	Source
New York city, New York	1	8,467,513	51	https://coc	166,030	yes	https://coc
Los Angeles city, California	2	3,849,297	15	https://coc	256,620	yes	https://coc
Chicago city, Illinois	3	2,696,555	50	https://wvs	53,931	yes	https://wvs
Houston city, Texas	4	2,288,250	14	https://lba	163,446	no	https://lba
Phoenix city, Arizona	5	1,624,569	8	https://wvs	203,071	no	https://wvs
Philadelphia city, Pennsylvania	6	1,576,251	17	https://coc	92,721	yes	https://coc
San Antonio city, Texas	7	1,451,853	11	https://wvs	131,987	no*	https://wvs
San Diego city, California	8	1,381,611	9	https://coc	153,512	yes	https://coc
Dallas city, Texas	9	1,288,457	15	https://coc	85,897	no	https://coc
San Jose city, California	10	983,489	11	https://wvs	89,408	no	https://wvs
Austin city, Texas	11	964,177	11	https://lba	87,652	no	https://lba
Jacksonville city, Florida	12	954,614	19	https://lba	50,243	yes	https://lba
Fort Worth city, Texas	13	935,508	11	https://coc	85,046	no	https://coc
Columbus city, Ohio	14	906,526	9	https://lba	100,725	yes	https://lba
Indianapolis city (balance), Indiana	15	882,039	25	https://lba	35,282	yes	https://lba
Charlotte city, North Carolina	16	879,709	11	https://lba	79,974	yes	https://lba
San Francisco city, California	17	815,201	11	https://coc	74,109	yes	https://coc
Seattle city, Washington	18	733,919	9	https://lba	81,547	yes	https://lba
Denver city, Colorado	19	711,463	13	https://lba	54,728	yes	https://lba
Oklahoma City city, Oklahoma	20	687,725	8	https://lba	85,966	no*	https://lba
Nashville-Davidson metropolitan government (ba)	21	678,851	40	https://lba	16,971	yes	https://lba
El Paso city, Texas	22	678,415	9	https://lba	75,379	yes	https://lba
Washington city, District of Columbia	23	670,050	13	https://coc	51,542	yes	https://coc
Boston city, Massachusetts	24	654,776	13	https://wvs	50,367	yes	https://wvs
Las Vegas city, Nevada	25	646,790	7	https://lba	92,399	no	https://lba
Portland city, Oregon	26	641,162	5	https://wvs	128,232	no*	https://wvs
Detroit city, Michigan	27	632,464	9	https://coc	70,274	yes	https://coc
Louisville/Jefferson County metro government (b)	28	628,594	26	https://coc	24,177	yes	https://coc
Memphis city, Tennessee	29	628,127	13	https://lba	48,317	yes	https://lba
Baltimore city, Maryland	30	576,498	15	https://lba	38,433	yes	https://lba
Milwaukee city, Wisconsin	31	569,330	15	https://city	37,955	yes	https://city
Albuquerque city, New Mexico	32	562,599	9	https://coc	62,511	yes	https://coc
Fresno city, California	33	544,510	7	https://lba	77,787	yes	https://lba
Tucson city, Arizona	34	543,242	7	https://coc	77,606	no	https://coc
Sacramento city, California	35	525,041	9	https://lba	58,338	no	https://lba
Mesa city, Arizona	36	509,475	7	https://lba	72,782	no	https://lba
Kansas City city, Missouri	37	508,394	13	https://lba	39,107	yes	https://lba
Atlanta city, Georgia	38	496,461	15	https://lba	33,097	yes	https://lba
Omaha city, Nebraska	39	487,300	7	https://lba	69,614	yes	https://lba
Colorado Springs city, Colorado	40	483,956	9	https://coc	53,773	yes	https://coc
Raleigh city, North Carolina	41	469,124	8	https://lba	58,641	no	https://lba
Virginia Beach city, Virginia	42	457,672	11	https://lba	41,607	no	https://lba
Long Beach city, California	43	456,062	9	https://lba	50,674	yes	https://lba
Miami city, Florida	44	439,890	5	https://lba	87,978	yes	https://lba
Oakland city, California	45	433,823	8	https://lba	54,228	yes	https://lba
Minneapolis city, Minnesota	46	425,336	13	https://lba	32,718	yes	https://lba
Tulsa city, Oklahoma	47	411,401	9	https://lba	45,711	yes	https://lba
Bakersfield city, California	48	407,615	7	https://lba	58,231	no	https://lba
Wichita city, Kansas	49	395,699	7	https://lba	56,528	no	https://lba
Arlington city, Texas	50	392,786	9	https://coc	43,643	yes	https://coc
Aurora city, Colorado	51	389,347	11	https://lba	35,395	no	https://lba
Tampa city, Florida	52	387,050	7	https://lba	55,293	yes	https://lba
New Orleans city, Louisiana	53	376,971	7	https://lba	53,853	yes	https://lba
Cleveland city, Ohio	54	367,991	17	https://wvs	21,647	yes	https://wvs
Anaheim city, California	55	345,940	7	https://coc	49,420	no	https://coc
Urban Honolulu CDP, Hawaii	56	345,510	9	https://wvs	38,390	yes	https://wvs
Henderson city, Nevada	57	322,178	5	https://lba	64,436	no	https://lba
Stockton city, California	58	322,120	7	https://lba	46,017	no	https://lba
Lexington-Fayette urban county, Kentucky	59	321,793	15	https://lba	21,453	yes	https://lba
Corpus Christi city, Texas	60	317,773	9	https://lba	35,308	yes	https://lba
Riverside city, California	61	317,261	7	https://lba	45,323	yes	https://lba
Santa Ana city, California	62	309,441	7	https://lba	44,206	no	https://lba
Orlando city, Florida	63	309,154	7	https://lba	44,165	yes	https://lba
Irvine city, California	64	309,031	5	https://lba	61,806	no	https://lba
Cincinnati city, Ohio	65	308,935	9	https://lba	34,326	yes	https://lba
Newark city, New Jersey	66	307,220	5	https://coc	61,444	yes	https://coc
St. Paul city, Minnesota	67	307,193	7	https://lba	43,885	yes	https://lba
Pittsburgh city, Pennsylvania	68	300,431	9	https://agg	33,381	yes	https://agg
Greensboro city, North Carolina	69	298,263	8	https://lba	37,283	no	https://lba
St. Louis city, Missouri	70	293,310	29	https://lba	10,114	yes	https://lba
Lincoln city, Nebraska	71	292,657	7	https://coc	41,808	yes	https://coc
Piano city, Texas	72	288,253	8	https://lba	36,032	no	https://lba
Anchorage municipality, Alaska	73	288,121	12	https://lba	24,010	yes	https://lba
Durham city, North Carolina	74	285,527	6	https://lba	47,588	no	https://lba
Jersey City city, New Jersey	75	283,927	9	https://wvs	31,547	yes	https://wvs
Chandler city, Arizona	76	279,458	7	https://lba	39,923	no	https://lba
Chula Vista city, California	77	277,220	5	https://lba	55,444	no	https://lba
Buffalo city, New York	78	276,807	9	https://coc	30,756	yes	https://coc
North Las Vegas city, Nevada	79	274,133	5	https://wvs	54,827	no*	https://wvs
Gilbert town, Arizona	80	273,136	6	https://lba	45,523	no	https://lba
Madison city, Wisconsin	81	269,196	20	https://lba	13,460	yes	https://lba
Reno city, Nevada	82	268,851	7	https://lba	38,407	no*	https://lba
Toledo city, Ohio	83	268,508	12	https://coc	22,376	yes	https://coc
Fort Wayne city, Indiana	84	265,974	9	https://lba	29,553	yes	https://lba
Lubbock city, Texas	85	260,993	7	https://lba	37,285	no*	https://lba
St. Petersburg city, Florida	86	258,201	8	https://lba	32,275	yes	https://lba
Laredo city, Texas	87	256,153	9	https://wvs	28,461	yes	https://wvs
Irving city, Texas	88	254,198	9	https://lba	28,244	no	https://lba
Chesapeake city, Virginia	89	251,269	9	https://lba	27,919	no*	https://lba
Winston-Salem city, North Carolina	90	250,320	8	https://lba	31,290	no	https://lba
Glendale city, Arizona	91	249,630	7	https://lba	35,661	no*	https://lba
Scottsdale city, Arizona	92	242,753	7	https://wvs	34,679	no*	https://wvs
Garland city, Texas	93	242,035	9	https://lba	26,893	no	https://lba
Boise City city, Idaho	94	237,446	6	https://wvs	39,574	yes	https://wvs
Norfolk city, Virginia	95	235,089	7	https://lba	33,584	no	https://lba
Spokane city, Washington	96	229,071	7	https://lba	32,724	yes	https://lba
Fremont city, California	97	227,514	7	https://wvs	32,502	no*	https://wvs
Richmond city, Virginia	98	226,604	9	https://lba	25,178	yes	https://lba
Santa Clarita city, California	99	224,593	7	https://wvs	32,085	no	https://wvs
San Bernardino city, California	100	222,203	7	https://coc	31,743	yes	https://coc

Note: The above table was put together by the research team at North Star Civic Foundation (Jasmine Gloden, Lillian Nikiforova, Marina Kaminsky, and Nikki Martinez).
- Municipal population estimates come from the U.S. Census Bureau's Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Incorporated Places in the United States: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021 (SUB-IP-ES12021-900)
- Data on city council size and mayoral veto power come primarily from city charters and official government webpages. The source for each data point is linked in the cell to its right.
- (*) In some cases, city codes and charters did not explicitly state whether or not the mayor has veto power. In these cases, the North Star team has sought confirmation from the cities directly.
Unconfirmed answers to the question of mayoral veto power are marked with an (*) and represent our best understanding based on interpretation of the city code and/or charter.
- Estimates of municipal population per council member are calculated directly in this spreadsheet.