

## US Fire Department Staffing and Resource Allocation Survey

Spring 2011

**Table 1 Firefighters per Population 2009/2010**

Source: US Census 2009 data and Individual Fire Department Data

Agency	Rank	# of Residents per FF	FF per 1,000 Residents
Washington, DC	1	273	3.67
Memphis	2	366	2.73
Cincinnati	3	414	2.41
Rochester	4	419	2.39
Baltimore	5	425	2.35
Boston	6	451	2.22
Cleveland	7	498	2.01
Pittsburgh	8	499	2.01
Columbus	9	529	1.89
Nashville-Davidson	10	536	1.86
Newark	11	553	1.81
Houston	12	579	1.73
Seattle	13	605	1.65
Milwaukee	14	614	1.63
Chicago	15	655	1.53
San Francisco	16	663	1.51
Denver	17	668	1.50
Charlotte	18	675	1.48
Oklahoma	19	695	1.44
Austin	20	729	1.37
<b>New York City</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>1.33</b>
Dallas	22	749	1.33
Portland	23	750	1.33
Atlanta	24	751	1.33
Philadelphia	25	771	1.30
Indianapolis	26	773	1.29
Miami	27	795	1.26
Detroit	28	798	1.25
Fort Worth	29	805	1.24
San Antonio	30	839	1.19
Tucson	31	861	1.16
Jacksonville	32	899	1.11
Minneapolis	33	918	1.09
El Paso	34	949	1.05
Boise	35	952	1.05
Phoenix	36	978	1.02
Los Angeles	37	1100	0.91
Miami-Dade	38	1191	0.84
San Diego	39	1291	0.77
San Jose	40	1805	0.55

This is a survey of the Fire Departments of the 40 largest cities in the United States (by population). Each city in the sample was surveyed for its most recent staffing and infrastructure levels at the time of the survey (Spring 2011). Data was collected from Fire Department Annual reports or by the staffing levels as reported on official Fire Department websites or by the Departments themselves. City population data is taken from the US Census of population for 2009. Cities are ranked based on their level of resource or staffing allocation along each of the metrics.

The tables in this survey provide a current picture of how the largest cities in the US are currently staffing their fire departments on a per-population basis. All staffing estimates are based on the number of uniformed firefighters and do not include staffing levels of paramedics and EMT's assigned to working ambulances *only*. The results here are therefore specific to uniformed firefighters and officers.

It is recommended that these tables are used in conjunction with each other in order to get the best picture of staffing and resource commitments across cities. The last table in this document, Table 5, provides such a summary of resources by adding up all the ranks from Tables 1-4 to get a final ranking for each city.

**Table 2 Engines per Population, 2009/2010**

Source: US Census 2009 data and Individual Fire Department Data

Agency	Engine Rank	Engines/10,000 Residents
Pittsburgh	1	1.09
Memphis	2	0.84
Cincinnati	3	0.78
Boise	4	0.68
Oklahoma	5	0.64
Nashville-Davidson	6	0.64
Jacksonville	7	0.63
Newark	8	0.61
Milwaukee	9	0.60
Charlotte	10	0.58
Rochester	11	0.58
Baltimore	12	0.56
Cleveland	13	0.56
Washington, DC	14	0.55
Atlanta	15	0.54
Seattle	16	0.54
Indianapolis	17	0.53
Portland	18	0.53
San Francisco	19	0.52
Boston	20	0.51
Austin	21	0.51
Fort Worth	22	0.51
Minneapolis	23	0.50
San Antonio	24	0.49
El Paso	25	0.48
Denver	26	0.44
Columbus	27	0.43
Dallas	28	0.42
Detroit	29	0.42
Phoenix	30	0.41
Tucson	31	0.40
Houston	32	0.39
Philadelphia	33	0.36
San Diego	34	0.35
Chicago	35	0.34
San Jose	36	0.30
Los Angeles	37	0.25
<b>New York City</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>0.23</b>
Miami	39	0.23
Miami-Dade	40	0.13

**Table 3 Ladders per Population, 2009/2010**

Source: US Census 2009 data and Individual Fire Department Data

Agency	Truck Rank	Trucks/10,000 Residents
Memphis	1	0.43
Cincinnati	2	0.36
Pittsburgh	3	0.35
Rochester	4	0.34
Newark	5	0.32
Cleveland	6	0.30
Baltimore	7	0.30
Indianapolis	8	0.28
Boston	9	0.28
Washington, DC	10	0.27
Milwaukee	11	0.26
Atlanta	12	0.26
Detroit	13	0.24
San Francisco	14	0.23
Oklahoma	15	0.23
Denver	16	0.23
Chicago	17	0.22
Charlotte	18	0.21
Nashville-Davidson	19	0.20
Seattle	20	0.19
Columbus	21	0.19
Tucson	22	0.18
San Antonio	23	0.17
Philadelphia	24	0.17
Houston	25	0.16
Dallas	26	0.16
<b>New York City</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>0.16</b>
Portland	28	0.16
Minneapolis	29	0.16
Jacksonville	30	0.15
Boise	31	0.15
Miami	32	0.14
Austin	33	0.13
Los Angeles	34	0.12
San Diego	35	0.09
Phoenix	36	0.09
El Paso	37	0.08
San Jose	38	0.08
Miami-Dade	39	0.06
Fort Worth	40	0.05

**Table 4 Firehouses per Population, 2009/2010**

Source: US Census 2009 data and Individual Fire Department Data

Agency	Station Rank	Stations/50,000 Residents
Pittsburgh	1	4.65
Memphis	2	4.21
Cincinnati	3	3.90
Boise	4	3.65
Rochester	5	3.62
Jacksonville	6	3.32
Atlanta	7	3.24
Nashville-Davidson	8	3.19
Baltimore	9	3.14
Cleveland	10	3.13
Oklahoma	11	3.12
Milwaukee	12	3.06
Newark	13	3.06
Charlotte	14	2.98
Fort Worth	15	2.89
San Francisco	16	2.82
Washington, DC	17	2.75
Austin	18	2.73
Indianapolis	19	2.72
Boston	20	2.71
Denver	21	2.70
Seattle	22	2.68
Portland	23	2.65
El Paso	24	2.62
Detroit	25	2.52
Minneapolis	26	2.48
Dallas	27	2.15
Philadelphia	28	2.07
Houston	29	2.04
Columbus	30	2.02
Tucson	31	1.93
San Antonio	32	1.86
Phoenix	33	1.79
San Diego	34	1.76
Chicago	35	1.63
Miami	36	1.62
San Jose	37	1.38
Los Angeles	38	1.30
Miami-Dade	39	1.28
<b>New York City</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>1.25</b>

**Table 5 Overall Summary of Fire Department Coverage Across Cities 2010: Calculated as the Sum of Apparatus, Stations and FF per Resident Rankings**

Agency	Overall Ranking
Memphis	1
Cincinnati	2
Pittsburgh	3
Rochester	4
Baltimore	5
Cleveland	6
Newark	7
Washington, DC	8
Nashville-Davidson	9
Milwaukee	10
Oklahoma	11
Boston	12
Atlanta	13
Charlotte	14
San Francisco	15
Indianapolis	16
Seattle	17
Boise	18
Jacksonville	19
Denver	20
Columbus	21
Portland	22
Austin	23
Detroit	24
Houston	25
Chicago	26
Dallas	27
Fort Worth	28
San Antonio	29
Philadelphia	30
Minneapolis	31
Tucson	32
El Paso	33
<b>New York City</b>	<b>34</b>
Miami	35
Phoenix	36
San Diego	37
Los Angeles	38
San Jose	39
Miami-Dade	40