

**The Form of Government  
in  
288 American Cities**

*A Summary of a Questionnaire  
Sent Cities Over 30,000 Population  
August, 1929*

By the  
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## FOREWORD

In the fall election of 1929, a referendum was presented to the electors of Detroit which, if approved, would have made basic changes in the existing form of government. This proposal prompted an enquiry into the form of government in American cities. A questionnaire was sent to all cities having a population of 30,000 or more at that time, and the results are summarized herewith.

The form of American municipal government appears to be in constant flux. These trends can be found by comparison of this report with reference to the tables carried in the Financial Statistics of Cities (U.S. Census Bureau) in the volume for the odd numbered years, terminating with the 1923 volume.

The work of summarizing and classifying this information was done by Mr. Charlton F. Chute, formerly of the staff of the Detroit Bureau of Governmental Research, and now research Assistant, President Hoover's Commission on Social Trends, The University of Chicago.

## DISCUSSION

The tables following this discussion, indicate trends of the five population groups into which the charts are divided. These tables are mostly self-explanatory, but the following information augments them in some cases.

The four general types of government reported are:

1. Bicameral
2. Mayor-council type
3. Commission
4. City manager

### Bicameral Type

This type of government is found to be no longer popular decreasing from 24 cities reported in 1917 to 13 retaining this form in 1929. It is said that about one-third of all cities over 25,000 population in 1903 had this form of government. The cities now operating under this government are:

<u>Massachusetts</u>	<u>Rhode Island</u>	<u>Connecticut</u>
Worcester	Providence	New Britain
Springfield	Pawtucket	
New Bedford	Woonsocket	<u>Virginia</u>
Brockton	Newport	Richmond
Everett		
		<u>Georgia</u>
		Atlanta

### Mayor-Council Type

This form is usually divided into the strong-mayor and weak-mayor type, depending upon the powers delegated to the mayor. It was impossible in this study to make this distinction.

The party system of municipal elections is still popular in cities reporting this type of government. Two-thirds of the cities vote under the party system, and the balance, non-partisan, although in many cases this only means that the party emblem is not shown on the ballot.

The two-year term for councilmen is most popular, being reported by approximately two-thirds of the cities. The four-year term is reported by the remaining one-third.

The staggered or overlapping term of office is not usual. Of the 129 mayor-council cities reporting, only 32% have overlapping terms of office for councilmen.

### Commission Plan

This was the original form of government which was offered as an improvement on the mayor-council type. However, it is now being supplanted by the city-manager type. In 1917, 36% of the cities reported the commission type, but this was decreased to 29% in 1929, a loss of 7% in twelve years.

Under this plan, the non-partisan election is most popular being reported by 78% of the cities.

The term of office has been increased under the commission plan, over that of mayor-council type. Two-thirds of the cities elect the commissioners for four-year terms, and approximately one-third use the two-year term.

The commission plan is of such a nature, that election at large is most practical. Only 5% of the cities elect their commissioners from wards or districts.

The overlapping term is used about evenly among the cities reporting, 46% elect for overlapping terms, and 59% do not.

Of the 81 cities under the commission plan, only one does not pay a salary to the commissioners. The range of salaries is shown in table 7.

### The Manager Plan

This plan is the most recent change in government, and is an outgrowth of the commission type. It has grown rapidly from its inception in 1913 to about 21% of the cities reported.

The councils under this type range from 3 to 25 members, but the most usual is 5 members reported by 47% of the cities. Other significant sizes are: 9 members reported by 18% of the cities, 7 members reported by 17%.

Non-partisan elections predominate, being reported by 85% as contrasted to 78% of the commission plan and 67% of the mayor-council. The partisan elections are confined to four states as shown below:

West Virginia	3 cities
New York	3 cities
Virginia	3 cities
Texas	1 city.

The four-year term is most popular, which is used by 52% of the cities. 35% elect for two-year terms, and the balance of 13% is distributed among three, five, and six-year terms.

Election at large is reported by 77%, while 15% elect by wards. The remaining 8% use a combination of the two methods.

Overlapping terms for councilmen are reported by two-thirds of the cities. This is an outstanding feature of this plan. Only one-third of the mayor-council cities reported staggered terms, and the commission plan reports 41%.

SUMMARY TABLES

Table I.

Comparative Forms of Government in 288 American  
Cities of Over 30,000 Population.

<u>Type of Government</u>	<u>No. of Cities</u>		<u>Percentage of Total</u>		<u>Percentages Gain Loss</u>	
	<u>1929</u>	<u>1917</u>	<u>1929</u>	<u>1917</u>		
Mayor and Bicameral Council.	13	24	4%	11%		7%
Mayor-Council	129	104	45	48		3
Commission	82	78	29	36		7
Manager	60	12	21	5	16%	
Towns & Villages	3	1	1	—	1	
Unclassified	1					
Total	288	219				

Table II.

Distribution of Mayor-Council Form of Government.

<u>Population Group</u>	<u>No. Cities Under Mayor-Council Plan</u>	<u>Percentage Cities in Group</u>
I	12	86%
II	5	42
III	25	40
IV	37	38
V	50	50
Total	129	

Table III.

Salary and Term of Office of MAYOR in Mayor-Council Cities.

<u>Population Group</u>	<u>Term of Office in Years:</u>				<u>Range</u>	<u>Mode*</u>	<u>Arithmetic Average</u>
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>			
I	1	11			\$ 40,000 to	\$6,000	\$10,000
II	3	2			11,000 to	5,000	7,500
III	17	8			10,000 to	4,000	—
IV	1	23	1	11	10,000 to	1,800	—
V	1	38		11	10,000 to	300	3,500
Total	2	82	1	44			\$15,275

Table IV.

Size and Method of Election of COUNCILMEN in Mayor-Council Cities.

<u>Population Group</u>	<u>No. of Members Composing Council.</u>		<u>Methods of Electing Councilmen</u>				
	<u>Range</u>	<u>Mode*</u>	<u>Number of Cities</u>		<u>% of Cities in Group</u>		
			<u>Wards At Large</u>	<u>Combination</u>	<u>Wards At Large</u>	<u>Combination</u>	
I	71 — 9	22	5	4	3	42%	33%
II	26 — 9	—	3	2	—	60	40
III	33 — 4	13	12	3	10	48	12
IV	21 — 4	12	15	8	14	40	22
V	36 — 4	9	21	5	24	42	10
							25%

\* Mode — The most frequently appearing number — when there is no common number this item omitted.



Table V.

Yearly Salaries of Councilmen in Mayor-Council Cities.

<u>Population</u>				
<u>Group</u>	<u>Salary Range</u>		<u>Mode</u>	<u>Average</u>
I	\$8,000 to \$1,500		\$2,500	\$ 3,408
II	3,000 to 600		—	1,452
III	3,000 to None		500	826
IV	4,000 to None		1,000	919
V	3,000 to None		150	457

Table VI.

Salaries of Councilmen in Manager Cities

<u>Population</u>				<u>No. Cities</u>	
<u>Group</u>	<u>Salary Range</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>No Pay</u>
I	\$1,800 to	\$1,800	\$1,800	—	—
II	5,000 to \$1,500	—	2,966	—	—
III	2,000 to 1	1,200	954	4	—
IV	3,000 to 100	500	655	7	1
V	1,200 to 100	—	516	3	6

Table VII.

Salaries of Commissioners in Commission Cities.

<u>Population</u>				
<u>Group</u>	<u>Salary Range</u>		<u>Mode</u>	<u>Average</u>
I	\$9,000		\$9,000	\$9,000
II	7,500 to \$5,000		7,500	6,500
III	7,000 to 3,000		—	4,447
IV	7,000 to 1,000		3,000	3,490
V	6,000 to 250		—	2,502

Table VIII.

Number of Members Composing City Commission  
in Commission Governed Cities

<u>Population</u>	<u>Number of Commissioners</u>					
<u>Group</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>10</u>
I		1				
II				4		
III		1	2	4	2	
IV		3	10	19	1	
V	1	9	4	10	0	1
Total	1	14	16	47	3	1

Notes to the Chart of the  
Government in 288 American Cities

The cities are arranged according to the population rank as shown by the 1930 Federal census. It includes all cities above 30,000 population, with the exception of 21 cities which the 1930 census includes in this group, but the population estimates in 1928, of the U.S. Bureau of the Census, did not indicate as above 30,000. Appended to the end of the chart are five cities which the 1928 estimates showed to be above 30,000 but the 1930 census showed of lesser size.

In the city-manager and commission plan cities, the number of members of the council, shown in column 6, includes the mayor, who usually acts as chairman of the legislative body. However, in the mayor-council cities, the mayor is an additional officer.

The type of election, partisan or non-partisan, as shown in column 4 of the chart, is reported as the official type of election. Actually, in many cities reported as non-partisan the elections are conducted on partisan lines – although there are no party designations on the ballots.

There are special conditions reported in many cities, which do not respond to tabular treatment. These are covered by the notes following the charts. As all information was acquired by questionnaire the notes resulted from data in addition to the form questions. Thus the absence of notes does not necessarily indicate that the government of a city conforms to the usually accepted standards.

## FORM OF GOVERNMENT IN 288 AMERICAN CITIES

(Reported in August 1929)

Census Rank 1930	City	Type of Govt. (1)	Type of Elect. (2)	No. Councilmen & Election by:		Term of Council (Years)	Do Terms Overlap?	Salary of Councilmen (3)	Term of MAYOR (Years)	Term of MAYOR (3)
				Wards	At Large					
GROUP I - Population 500,000 and over:										
1	New York, N.Y.	MC*	P	65	6	2	No	\$ 5,000	4	\$ 40,000
2	Chicago, Ill.	MC	NP	50		2	No	3,000	4	18,000
3	Philadelphia, Pa.	MC	P	22		4	No	5,000	4	18,000
4	Detroit, Mich.	MC	NP		9	2	No	5,000	2	15,000
5	Los Angeles, Cal.	MC	NP	15		2	No	4,800	4	10,000
6	Cleveland, Ohio	Mgr	NP	25*		2	No	1,800	2	4,200
7	St. Louis, Mo.	MC	P		29*	4	Yes	1,800	4	10,000
8	Baltimore, Md.	MC	P	18	1	4	No	2,500*	4	12,000
9	Boston, Mass.	MC	NP	22		2	No	1,500	4	20,000
10	Pittsburgh, Pa.	MC	P		9	4	Yes	8,000	4	10,000
11	San Francisco, Cal.	MC	NP		18	4	Yes	2,400	4	6,000
12	Buffalo, N.Y.	MC	P	9	5	—*	—*	2,500	4	12,000
13	Milwaukee, Wis.	MC	NP	25		4	No	2,400	4	12,300
GROUP II - Population 300,000 to 500,000:										
14	Washington, D.C.	Com*	NP			3		9,000		
15	Minneapolis, Minn.	MC	NP	26		4	Yes	1,800	2	11,000*
16	New Orleans, La.	Com	NP		5	4	No	6,000	4	10,000*
17	Cincinnati, Ohio	Mgr	NP		9	2	No	5,000	2	6,000
18	Newark, N.J.	Com	NP		5	4	No	7,500	4	8,250
19	Kansas City, Mo.	Mgr	NP		5	4	No	2,400	4	5,000
20	Seattle, Wash.	MC	NP	4	9	3	Yes	3,000	2	7,500
21	Indianapolis, Ind.	MC	P			4	No	600	4	7,500
22	Atlanta, Ga.	MC	NP	9*	13*	—*	No	600	4	6,000
23	Rochester, N.Y.	Mgr	NP	26	5	4	Yes	1,500	2	6,000
24	Jersey City, N.J.	Com	P	4	5	4	No	7,500	4	8,000
25	Louisville, Ky.	MC	P		12*	2	No	1,200	4	5,000
26	Portland, Ore.	Com	NP		5	4	Yes	5,000	4	6,000
GROUP III - Population 100,000 to 300,000:										
27	Houston, Texas	Com	NP		4	2	No	3,600	2	7,500
28	Toledo, Ohio	MC	NP	20		2	No	660	2	7,500
29	Columbus, Ohio	MC	NP		7	4	Yes	1,000	4	6,000
30	Denver, Colo.	MC	NP	9		2	No	1,200	4	6,000
31	Oakland, Cal.	Com	NP		5	4	Yes	3,600	4	4,200
32	St. Paul, Minn.	Com	NP		7	2	No	4,500	2	5,000
33	Dallas, Texas	Com	NP		5	2	No	4,000	2	7,500
34	Birmingham, Ala.	Com	NP		3	4	No	7,000	4	8,000
35	San Antonio, Texas	Com	NP		5	2	No	6,000	2	8,000
36	Akron, Ohio	MC	NP	10	3	2	No	1,000	2	7,000
37	Memphis, Tenn.	Com	NP		5	4	No	7,000	4	12,000
38	Providence, R.I.	MC	P	50*		2	No	—*	2	7,500
39	Omaha, Nebr.	Com	NP		7	3	No	4,500	3	5,000
40	Syracuse, N.Y.	MC	P	19		2	No	1,200	2	10,000
41	Dayton, Ohio	Mgr	NP		5	4	Yes	1,500	4	1,800
42	Worcester, Mass.	MC	P	40*	1	2	No	NONE	2	7,500

Census Rank 1930	City	Type of Govt. (1)	Type of Elect. (2)	No. Councilmen & Election by:		Term of Council (Years)	Do Terms Overlap?	Salary of Councilmen (3)	Term of MAYOR (Years)	Term of MAYOR (3)
				Wards	At Large					
43	Oklahoma City, Okla.	Mgr	NP	8		4	Yes	10#	4	\$ 1,000
44	Richmond, Va.	MC	P	32*			Yes	NONE	4	8,000
45	Youngstown, Ohio	MC	NP	7		2	No	—*	4	7,200
46	Grand Rapids, Mich.	Mgr	NP	6	1	2	Yes	1,200	2	1,500
47	Hartford, Conn.	MC	P	15	5	2	Yes	NONE	2	7,500
48	New Haven, Conn.	MC	P	33		2	No	NONE	2	7,500
49	Fort Worth, Texas	Mgr	NP		9	4	No	1#	4	10#
50	Flint, Mich.	Mgr	NP		9	3	Yes	10#	1	10#
51	Nashville, Tenn.	MC	P	27		4	No	20#	4	10,000
52	Springfield, Mass.	MC	P	—*	—*	2	No	NONE	2	8,000
53	San Diego, Cal.	Mgr*	NP		5	4	Yes	2,000	2	8,000
54	Bridgeport, Conn.	MC	P	24		2	Yes	NONE	2	7,500
55	Scranton, Pa.	MC	P		5	4	Yes	3,000	4	5,500
56	Des Moines, Ia.	Com	NP		5	2	No	3,000	2	3,500
57	Long Beach, Cal.	Mgr	NP		9*	3	No	10#*	3	10#*
58	Tulsa, Okla.	Com	P		5	2	No	3,600	2	7,500
59	Salt Lake City, Utah	Com	NP		5	4	Yes	3,600	4	4,200
60	Paterson, N.J.	MC	P	11*		2	Yes	400	2	4,200
61	Yonkers, N.Y.	MC	P	12		2	No	2,200	2	1,000
62	Jacksonville, Fla.	—*	P							
63	Norfolk, Va.	Mgr	NP		5	4	Yes	1,200	4	1,800
64	Albany, N.Y.	Com	P	19		4	No	750	4	6,500
65	Trenton, N.J.	Com	NP		5	4	No	4,500	4	5,000
66	Kansas City, Kan.	Com	NP		4*	4	Yes	4,000	2	4,500
67	Chattanooga, Tenn.	Com	NP		5	4	No	4,000	4	7,500
68	Camden, N.J.	Com	NP		5	4	No	4,500	4	5,250
69	Spokane, Wash.	Com	NP		5	4	Yes	3,600	4	3,600
70	Erie, Pa.	Com	P		5	4	Yes	4,500	4	5,250
71	Fall River, Mass.	Mgr	NP		5	2	No	500	2	2,000
72	Fort Wayne, Ind.	MC	P	11	5	4	No	900	4	6,500
73	Elizabeth, N.J.	MC	P	12		2	No	1#	2	6,500
74	Cambridge, Mass.	MC	NP	11	4	2	No	500	2	5,000
75	New Bedford, Mass.	MC	NP	24*	6*	2	No	—*	2	7,500
76	Wichita, Kan.	Mgr	NP		5	4	Yes	100	1	100
77	Miami, Fla.	Mgr	NP		5	2	Yes	1#	2	1#
78	Reading, Pa.	Com	P		5	4	Yes	4,200	4	4,800
79	Tacoma, Wash.	Com	NP		5	4	Yes	4,800	4	5,000
80	Wilmington, Del.	MC	P	12	1	2	No	—*	2	4,000
81	Knoxville, Tenn.	Mgr	NP	6	5	2	No	300	2	300
82	Canton, Ohio	MC	P	10	3	2	No	—*	2	6,000
83	Peoria, Ill.	MC	P	20*		2	Yes	10#	2	6,000
84	South Bend, Ind.	MC	P	8	4	4	No	1,000	4	7,500
85	Somerville, Mass.	MC	P	14	7	2	No	300	2	7,000
86	Evansville, Ind.	MC	P	8	4	4	No	1,000	4	7,500
87	Utica, N.Y.	MC	P	17		2	No	750	2	6,500
88	Lynn, Mass.	MC	NP	7	4	2	No	500	2	5,000
89	El Paso, Texas	MC	P		4	2	No	2,400	2	4,800
90	Deluth, Minn.	Com	NP		5	4	Yes	4,000	4	4,000
91	Tampa, Fla.	MC	NP	12		4	Yes	—*	4	10,000
92	Waterbury, Conn.	MC	P		15	2	No	750	2	7,500
93	Gary, Ind.	MC	P	10	5	4	No	1,000	4	7,500
94	Lowell, Mass.	MC	P	11	4	2	No	500	2	5,000
GROUP IV - Population 50,000 to 100,000:										
95	Schenectady, N.Y.	MC	P	14	1*	2	No	—*	2	6,500
96	Scranton, Cal.	Mgr	NP		9	2	No	5#	2	5#
97	Allentown, Pa.	Com	P		5	4	Yes	4,500	4	5,250
98	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.	Com	NP		5	4	Yes	4,500	4	5,000
99	Bayonne, N.J.	Com	NP		5	4	No	3,000	4	3,500
100	Rockford, Ill.	MC	NP	16*		2	Yes	10#	2	4,500
101	Savannah, Ga.	MC	P		12	2	Yes	10#	3	6,000
102	Lawrence, Mass.	Com	NP		5	2	Yes	2,500	2	3,500
103	Charlotte, N.C.	Mgr	NP		5	2	No	200	2	500
104	Little Rock, Ark.	MC	P	18*		2	Yes	480	2	5,000

Census Rank 1930	City	Type of Govt. (1)	Type of Elect. (2)	No. Councilmen & Election by:		Term of Council (Years)	Do Terms Overlap?	Salary of Councilmen (3)	Term of MAYOR (Years)	Term of MAYOR (3)
				Wards	At Large					
105	Berkeley, Cal.	Mgr	NP		9	4	Yes	\$ 240	4	\$ 480
106	Altoona, Pa.	Com	P		4	4	Yes	3,000	4	3,000
107	St. Joseph, Mo.	MC	P		5	4	Yes	300	2	3,600
108	Saginaw, Mich.	Com	NP		5	4	Yes	3,000	4	3,500
109	Harrisburg, Pa.	Com	P		5	4	Yes	4,500	4	5,250
110	Sioux City, Iowa	Com	NP		4	2	No	3,000	2	3,500
111	Lansing, Mich.	MC	NP	16		2	Yes	400	2	3,600
112	Pawtucket, R.I.	MC	P	24*		2	No	—*	2	2,000
113	Manchester, N.H.	MC	P	13		2	No	200	2	3,000
114	Shreveport, La.	Com	P		5	4	No	5,000	4	6,000
115	Binghamton, N.Y.	MC	P	13		4	No	1,000	4	5,500
116	Lincoln, Neb.	Com	NP		4	2	No	2,000	2	2,500
117	Pasadena, Cal.	Mgr	NP	7*		4	Yes	10#*		
118	Huntington, W. Va.	Com	P		3	3	No	5,000	3	6,000
119	Niagara Falls, N.Y.	Mgr	P		4	4	No	3,000	4	4,000
120	Winston-Salem, N.C.	MC	NP	8*		2	No	NONE	2	2,000
121	East St. Louis, Ill.	Com	NP		5	4	No	4,000	4	4,500
122	Troy, N.Y.	MC	P	17		1	Yes	500	2	5,500
123	Quincy, Mass.	MC	NP	6	3	2	No	500	2	5,000
124	Springfield, Ill.	Com	NP		4	4	Yes	3,500	4	4,000
125	Portland, Me.	Mgr	NP		5*	5	No	500		
126	Lakewood, Ohio	MC	NP		5	2	Yes	600	2	6,000
127	Roanoke, Va.	Mgr	P		5	4	Yes	1,000	1	1,200
128	Springfield, Ohio	Mgr	NP		5	4	Yes	500	2	500
129	Mobile, Ala.	Com	P	3		6	Yes	7,000	—*	7,000
130	East Orange, N.J.	MC	P	10		2	Yes	1,000	2	6,500
131	New Britain, Conn.	MC	P	30*		2	Yes	NONE	2	3,000
132	Racine, Wis.	MC	NP	15		2	Yes	300	2	3,000
133	Johnstown, Pa.	Com	P		5	4	Yes	3,000	4	3,500
134	Montgomery, Ala.	Com	P		3	4	No	5,500	4	7,500
135	Cicero, Ill.	Town*	P			4	Yes	3#		—*
136	Atlantic City, N.J.	Com	NP		5	4	No	5,200	4	7,200
137	Newton, Mass.	MC	NP	7*	14*	—*		NONE	2	3,000
138	Covington, Ky.	Com	NP		4	2	No	3,600	4	4,000
139	Pontiac, Mich.	Mgr	NP		7	3	Yes	5#	1	5#
140	Hammond, Ind.	MC	P	13	5	4	No	600	4	6,000
141	Topeka, Kan.	Com	NP		4	2	No	2,500	2	3,000
142	Oak Park, Ill.	Village*	NP			2	Yes	NONE	2	NONE
143	Brockton, Mass.	MC	P	28*		2	No	NONE	2	4,000
144	Evanston, Ill.	MC	NP	14		2	Yes	10#	2	8,400
145	Passiac, N.J.	Com	NP		5	4	No	3,000	4	3,500
147	Terre Haute, Ind.	MC	P	7	3	4	No	1,000	4	7,000
148	Charleston, S.C.	MC	P	12	12	4	No	5#	4	6,000
149	Wheeling, W. Va.	Mgr*	P	12		2	No	10#	2	8,000
150	Mount Vernon, N.Y.	MC	P		5	4	No	1,500	4	10,000
151	Davenport, Iowa	MC	P	6	2	2	No	600	2	2,500
152	Lancaster, Pa.	MC	P		5	4	No	4,000	4	5,000
153	Charleston, W. Va.	Mgr	P	17	5	4	No	2.50#	4	5,000
154	Augusta, Cal.	MC	P	21		3	No	300	3	5,000
155	Medford, Mass.	MC	NP	14*	7*	2	No	300	2	3,500
156	Chester, Pa.	Com	P		4	4	Yes	3,000	4	3,500
157	Union City, N.J.	MC	P	10	1	2	No	500	2	2,000
158	Malden, Mass.	MC	NP	21*		1	No	NONE	1	3,500
159	Madison, Wis.	MC	NP	20		2	Yes	300	2	4,800
160	Bethlehem, Pa.	MC	P		4	4	No	3,600	4	5,000
161	San Jose, Calif.	Mgr	NP		7	6	Yes	5*#	2	5#
162	Decatur, Ill.	Com	NP		5	4	No	3,500	4	4,000
163	Springfield, Mo.	Com	NP		5	4	Yes	3,000	4	3,600
164	Beaumont, Texas	Mgr	NP	15		2	Yes	NONE	2	—*
165	Irvington, N.J.	Com	NP		5	4	No	2,250	4	2,700
166	Holyoke, Mass.	MC	NP	7*	14*	—*		NONE	1	5,200
167	Hoboken, N.J.	Com	NP		5	4	No	4,500	4	5,000
168	Hamtramck, Mich.	MC	NP		5	2	No	3,500	2	5,000
169	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	Com	NP		5	2	No	2,500	2	3,000
170	York, Pa.	MC	P		4	4	Yes	2,500	4	3,500

Census Rank 1930	City	Type of Govt. (1)	Type of Elect. (2)	No. Councilmen & Election by:		Term of Council (Years)	Do Terms Overlap?	Salary of Councilmen (3)	Term of MAYOR (Years)	Term of MAYOR (3)
				Wards	At Large					
171	Jackson, Mich.	Mgr	NP		5		Yes	\$ 500	2	\$ 750
172	East Chicago, Ind.	MC	P	7	3		No	1,000	4	6,000
173	McKeesport, Pa.	Com	P	5			Yes	3,000	4	3,500
174	Kalamazoo, Mich.	Mgr	NP		7		No	360	2	500*
175	New Rochelle, N.Y.	MC*	P	8			No	2,000	2	10,000
176	Macon, Ga.	MC	NP	12			No	300	2	7,500
177	Galveston, Texas	Com	P		4		No	2,400	2	3,000
178	Greensboro, N.C.	Mgr	NP		7		No	200	2	1,200
179	Austin, Texas	Mgr	NP		5		No	NONE	2	NONE
180	Highland Park, Mich.	Com	NP		4		Yes	1,000	2	2,000
181	Waco, Texas	Mgr	NP		5		Yes	NONE	1	NONE
182	Fresno, Calif.	Com	NP		5		Yes	—*	4	6,000
183	Hamilton, Ohio	Mgr	NP		7*		No	300	2	900
184	Durham, N.C.	Mgr	NP	12			No	200	2	1,000
185	Kenosha, Wis.	Mgr	NP		5		No	NONE		—*
186	Columbia, S.C.	Com	NP		4		Yes	2,000	4	2,500
187	Asheville, N.C.	Com	NP		3		No	6,000	4	7,500
189	Pueblo, Colo.	Com	NP		3		Yes	2,700		—*
190	Port Arthur, Texas	Com	NP		3		No	250	2	4,000

GROUP IV - Population 50,000 to 100,000:

192	Pittsfield, Mass.	MC	P	21			2	No	NONE	2	1,800
193	Woonsocket, R.I.	MC	P	20*			2	No	—*	2	3,500
194	New Castle, Pa.	MC	P		4		4	Yes	3,000	4	3,600
195	Haverill, Mass.	Com	NP		4		2	Yes	1,800	2	2,500
196	Everett, Mass.	MC	NP	24*	1*		2	Yes	200	2	3,000
197	Stockton, Calif.	Mgr	NP		9		4	No	5*#	4	5*#
198	Phoenix, Ariz.	Mgr	NP		5		2	Yes	5#	2	5#
200	Brookline, Mass.	Town*									
201	Elmira, N.Y.	MC	P	12			4	Yes	800	2	7,500
202	Bay City, Mich.	Mgr	NP	5			4	No	500	2	750
204	Aurora, Ill.	Com	NP		5		2	No	3,500	4	4,000
205	Muncie, Ind.	MC	P	9	4		2	No	192	4	3,000
206	Stamford, Conn.	MC	P	8	1		2	No	—*	2	2,500
207	Waterloo, Iowa	MC	NP	4	2		4	No	250	2	4,200
208	Lexington, Ky.	Com	NP		5		2	No	3,600	4	4,000
209	Williamsport, Pa.	Com	P		5		4	Yes	2,000	4	2,550
210	Clifton, N.J.	MC	P	10			2	Yes	600	4	2,400
211	Portsmouth, Va.	Mgr	P		7		2	Yes	600	2	600
212	Jamestown, N.Y.	MC	NP	6	6		2	No	300	2	3,500
213	Chelsea, Mass.	MC	NP	5	4		4	No	500	2	3,500
214	Lorain, Ohio	MC	P	6	3		—*	No	—*	2	3,000
215	Perth Amboy, N.J.	Com	NP		5		2	No	2,000	4	2,500
216	Chicopee, Mass.	MC	NP	7	10		2	No	NONE	2	2,500
217	Cranston, R.I.	MC	P	16			2	No	250	2	3,500
218	Wichita Falls, Texas	Mgr	NP		5		2	Yes		2	300
219	Battle Creek, Mich.	Com	NP		4		2	Yes	250	2	500
220	Salem, Mass.	MC	NP	6	5		2	No	500	2	3,000
221	Columbus, Calif.	Mgr	NP		5		2	No	1,200	1	1,200
222	Amarillo, Texas	Mgr	P		3		2	No	5#	2	5#
223	Portsmouth, Ohio	Mgr	NP		5		4	Yes	600	4	1,000
224	Lima, Ohio	Mgr	NP		5		4	Yes	600	2	600
225	Council Bluffs, Iowa	MC	P	6	2		2	No	250	2	2,400
226	Montclair, N.J.	Com	NP		5		4	No	2,250	4	2,700
227	Joliet, Ill.	Com	NP		5		4	No	3,500	4	4,000
228	Dubuque, Iowa	Mgr	NP		5		3	Yes	NONE	3	NONE
229	Muskegon, Mich.	Mgr	NP		7		4	Yes	360	1	500
230	Warren, Ohio	MC	P	6	3		2	No	150	2	3,500
231	Kearney, N.J.	MC	P	8			2	Yes	500	2	3,000
232	Fitchburg, Mass.	MC	NP	6	5		2	No	400	2	3,500
233	Lynchburg, Va.	Mgr	NP		7		4	Yes	500	4	750
234	East Cleveland, Ohio	Mgr	NP		5		4	Yes	100	2	150
235	Ogden, Utah	Com	NP		3		4	Yes	3,600	2	4,200
236	Poughkeepsie, N.Y.	MC	P	16	1		2	No	—*	2	4,000
237	Oshkosh, Wis.	Com	P		2		6	No	3,500	6	4,000
238	Anderson, Ind.	MC	P	3	2		4	No	200	4	4,000

Census Rank 1930	City	Type of Govt.	Type of Elect.	No. Councilmen & Election by:		Term of Council (Years)	Do Terms Overlap?	Salary of Councilmen (3)	Term of MAYOR (Years)	Term of MAYOR (3)
		(1)	(2)	Wards	At Large					
239	LaCrosse, Wis.	MC	NP	21		2	Yes	\$ 300	2	\$ 2,400
240	Butte, Mont.	MC	P	16		2	Yes	5#	2	4,000
241	St. Petersburg, Fla.	Com	NP		7	2	Yes	20*#	1	3,000
242	Waltham, Mass.	MC	NP	7	4	2	No	500	2	5,000
243	Sheboygan, Wis.	MC	NP	16		2	Yes	450	2	900
244	Quincy, Ill.	MC	P	14		2	Yes	5#	2	3,000
245	Rock Island, Ill.	MC	P	14		2	Yes	5#	2	3,000
246	Hazleton, Pa.	MC	P	4		4	No	1,200	4	1,800
247	Meriden, Conn.	MC	P	20		4	Yes	NONE	2	2,500
249	Cumberland, Md.	Com	NP		4	2	No	1,200	2	1,500
251	Raleigh, N.C.	Com	NP		3	2	No	4,200	2	4,500
252	Green Bay, Wis.	MC	NP	20		2	No	420	2	3,000
253	Taunton, Mass.	MC	NP		9	2	Yes	500	2	3,500
255	West New York, N.J.	Com	P	2	1	2	No	500	2	1,000
256	Auburn, N.Y.	Mgr	P		5	4	Yes	750	4	750
258	Danville, Ill.	Com	NP		5	4	No	3,000	4	3,500
259	Zanesville, Ohio	MC	NP		7	4	Yes	150	4	2,000
260	Superior, Wis.	Com	NP	10		2	Yes	600	2	3,000
261	Norwalk, Conn.	MC	P	8		2	No	300	2	2,500
262	Elgin, Ill.	Com	NP		5	4	No	3,000	4	3,500
263	Norristown, Pa.	MC	P	36		—*	Yes	NONE	4	1,200
264	Revere, Mass.	MC	P	5	4	2	No	300	2	3,500
266	Orange, N.J.	Com	NP		5	4	No	2,250	4	2,700
267	Steubenville, Ohio	MC	P	6	4	2	No	150	2	2,800
268	Lewiston, Me.	MC	P	7		1	No	NONE	1	2,200
269	Amsterdam, N.Y.	MC	P	8		2	No	600	2	3,000
270	Plainfield, N.J.	MC	P	8	3	2	Yes	NONE	2	300
271	Alameda, Calif.	Mgr	NP		5	4	Yes	NONE	2	—*
272	Easton, Pa.	MC	P		4	4	Yes	3,000	4	3,500
273	Newport News, Va.	Mgr	NP		5	4	Yes	1,200	2	1,500
274	New Brunswick, N.J.	Com	NP		5	4	No	2,200	4	2,750
278	Mansfield, Ohio	MC	P	6	3	2	No	150	2	4,000
280	Norwood, Ohio	MC	P	4	3	2	No	150	2	3,500
281	Sioux Falls, S.D.	Com	NP		3	5	Yes	2,000	5	3,000
282	Colorado Springs, Colo.	Mgr	NP		9	6	Yes	NONE	1	NONE
284	Kokomo, Ind.	MC	P	7	3	4	No	150	4	2,000
285	Richmond, Ind.	MC	P	8	4	4	No	150	4	2,000
287	Rome, N.Y.	MC	P	7		2	No	300	2	3,500
288	Molina, Ill.	MC	P	14		2	Yes	5#	2	2,500
289	Wilmington, N.C.	Com	NP		3	4	No	4,500	4	5,000
290	Watertown, N.Y.	Mgr	NP		4	4	Yes	750	4	750
291	Muskogee, Okla.	Mgr	NP	16		4	Yes	NONE	4	NONE
294	Nashua, N.H.	MC	NP	9	6	—*		NONE	2	2,000
295	Fort Smith, Ark.	Com	NP		3	4	Yes	2,700	4	3,000
296	Newburgh, N.Y.	Mgr	P		5	4	Yes	750	4	750
297	Port Huron, Mich.	Com	NP		4	2	Yes	1,200	2	2,000
298	Marion, Ohio	MC	P	6	3	2	No	150	2	2,400
299	Bloomington, Ill.	MC	P		14	2	No	10#	2	3,600
300	Hagerstown, Md.	MC	P	5		4	No	600	4	1,500
302	Newark, Ohio	MC	P	6	3	2	No	150	2	2,100
	Petersburg, Va.	Mgr	NP		5	4	No	400	4	600
	Newport, R.I.	MC	P	—*		2	No	—*	2	2,500
	Middletown, Ohio	Mgr	NP		5	4	Yes	500*	4	500
	Clarksburg, W. Va.	Mgr	P	9		2	No	150		6,000
	Great Falls, Mont.	MC	P	10		2	Yes	5*#	2	1,800

NOTES:

\* — An Asterick refers to Notes starting on pages 16 et seq. explaining special conditions concerning this item.

(1) Type of Government: MC Mayor - Council; Mgr - City Manager Plan; Com - Commission Plan

(2) Type of Election: P - Partisan; NP - Non-Partisan

(3) Salaries: # - Amount paid per Meeting, Others, Annual Salaries



1. New York, N.Y. – See “The Board of Estimate and Apportionment of New York City”, by Joseph McGoldrick, National Municipal Review, Vol. 18, page 125.
6. Cleveland, Ohio – The mayor is appointed by the council. The 25 councilmen are elected from 4 districts using proportional representation.
7. St. Louis, Mo. – Of the 29 councilmen, 28 must reside in the ward they represent, but are elected at large.
8. Baltimore, Md. – The president of the council, elected at large, receives \$5,000 a year.
12. Buffalo, N.Y. – The 2-year term of the 9 district councilmen overlap, but the 4 year terms of the councilmen-at-large do not overlap.
14. Washington, D.C. – The governing board of the District is composed of 3 members, 2 of whom are civilians appointed by the President with confirmation by the Senate and 1 army engineer detailed for a period of 4 years.
15. Minneapolis, Minn. – The mayor receives a salary of \$6,000 and an allowance of \$5,000 from the contingent fund.
16. New Orleans, La. – The mayor has an allowance of \$2,500 in addition to his salary.
21. Indianapolis, Ind. –The candidates for council are nominated by districts, the voter casting his ballot for 6 candidates – one from each district.
22. Atlanta, Ga. – A bicameral council of 26 councilmen with 3-year terms; and 13 aldermen with 4-year terms, who must live in the ward they represent, but are elected at large.
25. Louisville, Ky. – Councilmen are elected at large but must reside in the ward they represent.
30. Providence, R.I. – A bicameral council of 40 councilmen receiving \$500 a year, and 10 aldermen receiving \$750 a year.
42. Worcester, Mass. – A bicameral council of 30 councilmen and 10 aldermen elected at large.
43. Oklahoma City, Okla. – Councilmen’s fees limited to \$50 a month.

44. Richmond, Va. – A bicameral council of 20 councilmen and 12 aldermen, all elected by wards, and none receives remuneration.
45. Youngstown, Ohio – The president of the council receives \$900 a year the other members \$600.
52. Springfield, Mass. – A bicameral council of 18 councilmen and 8 aldermen.
53. San Diego, Calif. – Listed in Public Management for March, 1930, as an “unofficial” manager plan because its government does not embrace all essential details of the city-manager plan.
57. Long Beach, Calif. – The councilmen are nominated by districts, but election is at large. Limit of councilmen’s fees is \$50 a month. The mayor receives \$50 a month additional for entertainment.
66. Kansas City, Kan. – legally 5 members compose the commission although there are only 4 members at present.
75. New Bedford, Mass. — A bicameral council of 24 councilmen, 4 from each of 6 wards, receiving no pay, and 6 aldermen elected at large but must live one each in a ward. They receive \$100 a year.
80. Wilmington, Del. – The president of the council (elected at large) and the chairman of the Finance Committee each receive \$800 a year – the other councilmen receive \$500.
82. Canton, Ohio – The president of the council receives \$700 a year, the other members \$600.
83. Peoria, Ill. – There are 10 wards, 2 councilmen to a ward.
91. Tampa, Fla. – The council is called the Board of Representatives; the chairman receives \$900 a year, the others \$600.
95. Schenectady, N.Y. – The president of the council, elected at large, receives \$1000 a year. The others \$750.
96. Sacramento, Calif. – Mayor and councilmen’s fees limited to \$25 a month.
100. Rockford, Ill. – There are 8 wards, with 2 councilmen to a ward.
104. Little Rock, Ark. – There are 9 wards, with 2 councilmen to a ward.

112. Pawtucket, R.I. – A bicameral council of 6 aldermen at \$300 a year and 18 councilmen at \$200 a year.
113. Manchester, N.H. – The mayor receives \$600 additional for expenses.
117. Pasadena, Calif. – The 7 “directors” are elected at large, one from each district with fees limited to \$50 a month.
120. Winston-Salem, N.C. – There are 4 wards, with 2 councilmen to a ward.
125. Portland, Me. – One councilman is elected each year. One councilman is selected chairman each year at no increase in salary. There is no mayor.
129. Mobile, Ala. – The mayor is selected each year, at no increase in salary.
131. New Britain, Conn. – A bicameral council of 6 aldermen and 24 councilmen – each elected for 2 years, with overlapping terms. They receive no salary.
135. Cicero, Ill. – A town governed by a president, 3 trustees, the collector, treasurer and assessor. All elected at large, with overlapping terms. The president receives \$2,000 a year.
137. Newton, Mass. – A bicameral council of 7 aldermen elected by wards for one year, and 14 aldermen elected at large for two-year terms.
142. Oak Park, Ill. – A village governed by a Board of Trustees of 7 members.
143. Brockton, Mass. – A bicameral council of 7 aldermen and 21 councilmen, all without salary.
149. Wheeling, W. Va. – Listed in Public Management for March, 1930 as an “unofficial” manager plan city because its government does not embrace all essential details of the city-manager plan.
155. Medford, Mass. – A bicameral council composed of 2 aldermen from each ward, and 1 alderman representing the ward but elected at large. The councilmen are nominated by districts and elected at large.
158. Malden, Mass. – A bicameral council of 14 councilmen – 7 elected by wards for one-year terms.

161. San Jose, Calif. – Mayor and councilmen’s fees limited to \$25 a month.
164. Beaumont, Texas – Nine councilmen elected one year, and 6 the following. Mayor received \$25 a month and \$10 for each meeting as councilmen.
166. Holyoke, Mass. – A bicameral council of 7 ward aldermen of one-year terms, and 14 councilmen with 2-year terms overlapping. The aldermen are unpaid.
174. Kalamazoo, Mich. – The commissioner receiving the highest number of votes is mayor.
175. New Rochelle, N.Y. – The city-manager plan scheduled to be put in effect in January, 1932.
182. Fresno, Calif. – The mayor, as commissioner of public safety and welfare, receives \$6,000; the commissioners of public works and finance each receive \$5,000 – the other 2 legislative commissioners receive \$1,200 each.
183. Hamilton, Ohio – Elections held under proportional representation.
185. Kenosha, Wis. – Reported as having no mayor.
189. Pueblo, Colo. – There is no mayor.
193. Woonsocket, R.I. – A bicameral council of 5 aldermen at \$300 a year and 15 councilmen at \$200 a year.
196. Everett, Mass. – A bicameral council of 18 councilmen, 3 to a ward, receiving \$200 each, and 7 aldermen, one to each of 6 wards, and one at large, receiving \$400 a year. Elected for 2 years, overlapping terms.
197. Stockton, Calif. – Mayor and councilmen’s fees limited to \$25 a month.
200. Brookline, Mass. – Has a “limited” form of town meeting government.
206. Stamford, Conn. – Ward councilmen receive \$500 a year. The councilman-at-large receives \$750.
214. Lorain, Ohio – The salary of the councilmen is reported to average about \$1,000 a year.
216. Chicopee, Mass. – The aldermen from wards serve for one year, those elected at large, for 2 years.

236. Poughkeepsie, N.Y. – The ward aldermen receive \$750 a year, the aldermen at large receive \$2,000.
241. St. Petersburg, Fla. – Commissioners are not paid for more than 5 meetings a month.
263. Norristown, Pa. – One-half the council serve for 4 years, the other half for 2-year terms.
271. Alameda, Calif. – The mayor has an allowance of \$600 a year.
- Newport, R.I. – A bicameral council. The councilmen are not paid, the aldermen receive \$1,000 a year.
- Middletown, Ohio – The commissioners receive \$500 a year, but are fine \$10 for each meeting not attended.
- Great Falls, Mont. – Councilmen's fees limited to \$25 a month.
- Nashua, N.H. – The ward aldermen serve for 2 years, the aldermen-at-large for 4 years.