

Homeland Security 2005

The *Homeland Security* surveys were mailed in spring and summer 2005 to the Chief Administrative Officers of municipalities with populations 2,500 and over and to the Chief Administrative Officers of counties with the council-administrator or council-elected executive form of government. Of the 7,968 municipalities and counties that received surveys, 2,786 local governments responded (35.0%)

For more information on the ICMA's *Homeland Security* survey, please contact [Survey Research](#).



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Following is the survey text with the aggregate results shown next to each answer. Each answer represents the percentage reporting for that question, except where noted.

MANAGEMENT

1. Since September 11th 2001, has your local government undertaken any of the following homeland-security-related initiatives?
 - a. Conducted a homeland security-related risk assessment? **78.6** Yes **18.0** No **3.5** Don't know
 1. If "yes," did it include an inventory of potential targets in your local government?
95.9 Yes **2.5** No **1.5** Don't know
 - b. Conducted a homeland-security related drill or exercise? **53.9** Yes **42.6** No **3.5** Don't know
 - c. Conducted disaster or emergency training for non-first responders, such as administrative staff?
54.9 Yes **41.3** No **3.9** Don't know
 - d. Included mutual aid partners in emergency planning and preparedness activities?
82.6 Yes **14.3** No **3.1** Don't know
 - e. Developed a comprehensive homeland-security-related plan or amended your existing emergency management plan?
 1. If "yes," are you willing to share your plan?
55.3 Yes **44.7** No (If "yes," please send it to ICMA with this survey.)
 - f. Developed local response plans based on changes to the Homeland Security Advisory System (color-codes based on threat assessment)?
35.9 Yes **58.3** No **5.8** Don't know
 - g. Hired/appointed a homeland security/emergency management manager to help coordinate federal/state/local security functions for your local government?
32.0 Yes **65.7** No **2.2** Don't know
 - h. Participated in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Exercise Program?
23.9 Yes **66.8** No **9.3** Don't know
The National Exercise Program establishes the framework for exercise scheduling, design and evaluation for the exercises that are designed to test the response capabilities of the federal government and its state, local and tribal partners.
 - i. Adopted the National Incident Management System (NIMS)? **61.2** Yes **30.6** No **8.2** Don't know
NIMS is significant because it ensures that all of our nation's first responders are working under the same plan, using the same nomenclature, and are receiving consistent training.

2. Which of the following agencies/organizations does your local government collaborate with on homeland security issues? (Check all applicable.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 91.1 a. Other local governments | 53.6 g. DHS/FEMA |
| 60.4 b. A regional organization, such as a regional Planning agency | 30.0 h. HHS (Health and Human Services) |
| 21.5 c. Local military installations | 12.9 i. DoD (Department of Defense) |
| 74.8 d. Your state government | 36.2 j. Non-governmental organizations |
| 11.8 e. Other state governments | 10.5 k. Other |
| 41.8 f. FBI/DOJ | |

3. Which do you consider to be the greatest potential threat to your local government? (*Check only one.*)

- 89.2** a. Terrorist threat to government buildings or installations
8.0 b. Terrorist threat to critical infrastructure
1.9 c. Terrorist threat to public health
0.8 d. Natural disasters
0.1 e. Other
0.0 f. None

BUDGET

4. Has your council (or other legislative body) requested and/or received federal or state funding for any of the following homeland-security-related programs and needs?

Program/need	Requested state funding		Been awarded state funding		Requested federal funding		Been awarded federal funding	
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
a. Information security	11.3	88.7	8.5	91.5	12.5	87.5	11.4	88.6
b. Disaster response	39.6	60.4	39.5	60.5	40.7	59.3	40.6	59.4
c. Disaster mitigation/preparedness	43.2	56.8	38.2	61.8	37.7	62.3	35.7	64.3
d. Physical surveillance/security systems	23.3	76.7	19.5	80.5	25.0	75.0	22.5	77.5
e. Medical/public health surveillance systems	10.0	90.0	10.2	89.8	10.0	90.0	11.5	88.5
f. Drills and training exercises	35.6	64.4	37.7	62.3	32.1	67.9	33.5	66.5
g. Staffing	12.5	87.5	9.1	90.9	15.1	84.9	10.7	89.3
h. Equipment	60.0	40.0	55.5	44.5	61.9	38.1	58.6	41.4
i. Public education	17.6	82.4	18.3	81.7	18.9	81.1	19.5	80.5
j. Cyber security	4.9	95.1	3.3	96.7	5.7	94.3	5.0	95.0
k. Other	5.8	94.2	4.8	95.2	7.9	92.1	6.9	93.1

5. If your local government has been awarded funding from the state or federal government, what was the total amount for FY2004?

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| A. Amount awarded from state government | \$167,819 Average |
| B. Amount awarded from federal government | \$433,721 Average |

6. Has your local government used its own funds (not from state or federal government) to pay for homeland security activities in any of the following areas? *(Check all applicable.)*

Program/need	Used own funds	
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
a. Information security	42.7	57.3
b. Disaster response	59.9	40.1
c. Disaster mitigation/preparedness	64.0	36.0
d. Physical surveillance/security systems	43.0	57.0
e. Medical/public health surveillance systems	14.4	85.6
f. Drills and training exercises	62.8	37.2
g. Staffing	46.0	54.0
h. Equipment	66.1	33.9
i. Public education	44.6	55.4
j. Cyber security	26.0	74.0
k. Other	7.7	92.3

7. Has your municipality experienced budget shortfalls as a result of Homeland Security activities during the past two fiscal years (2002-2004)? **19.2** Yes **64.4** No **16.5** Don't know

8. Has your municipality experienced personnel reductions or layoffs in the following critical areas during the past two fiscal years? (2002-2004)?

Critical area	Personnel reductions/layoffs	
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
a. Police	20.4	79.6
b. Fire	10.6	89.4
c. Emergency management/response	5.5	94.5
d. Emergency medical service	5.4	94.6
e. Public health	4.3	95.7
f. Public works	16.4	83.6
g. Public utilities	6.9	93.1
h. Other reductions relating to homeland security	2.4	97.6

SECURITY EDUCATION/AWARENESS AND TRAINING

9. Place a check in the box below that best describes the quality of the homeland security information you receive from the state and federal governments.

Quality of information	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neutral	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
a. The information I receive from the state government is easily understood	17.9	47.3	22.8	8.5	3.5
b. The information I receive from the state government is timely	13.6	41.3	26.1	13.6	5.5
c. The information I receive from the federal government is easily understood	11.3	40.5	28.9	14.4	4.9
d. The information I receive from the federal government is timely	10.1	34.7	32.5	15.4	7.3

10. Does your local government need training or technical assistance in the following areas?

Training/technical assistance content	Needed by the local government	
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
a. Emergency planning, preparedness, response	71.2	28.8
b. Biohazard awareness/identification	70.5	29.5
c. Chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, high-yield explosives attacks/responses	69.7	30.3
d. Critical Infrastructure Protection	72.7	27.3
e. Grant development and writing	66.9	33.1
f. Cyber security	65.5	34.5
g. Media communications	51.5	48.5
h. Coordination of volunteer efforts/donations	59.2	40.8
i. Other	34.7	65.3

11. What types of training methods does your local government staff prefer? *(Check all applicable.)*

- 84.2 a. Onsite training designed for your local government
- 34.8 b. Webcast/online training
- 61.5 c. Workshops held at several locations within the state so that staff from other local governments can attend
- 32.7 d. Regional training, so that staff in neighboring states can attend
- 50.2 e. Table top exercises
- 3.3 f. Other