Street Sweeping Survey Results for Medium U.S. Cities

Cities invited to participate in this analysis ranged from Charlotte, NC (population @810,000) to Albuquerque, NM, (population @560,000).

Ultimately participating in the survey were the sweeping departments of: Albuquerque, Detroit, Seattle, Washington DC, Baltimore, Oklahoma City, Portland (Oregon) and Las Vegas.

Declining to participate was Milwaukee and neglecting to participate were Charlotte, El Paso, Memphis, Boston and Louisville-Jefferson County.

Denver participated but that city’s data was corrupted by the software employed.

The respective sweeping management teams were asked the following questions, for which their answers are correlated as a group. Each of the questions is shown on the following pages, along with the answers given and a graph showing the results following each of the questions and answers.

1. What percentage of your sweeping do you do in-house vs. the percentage done by private contractors? (Choose closest answer.)

A: 100% in-house  7  
B: 100% contracted out  1  
C: around 80% vs 20% contracted  0  
D: around 60% vs 40% contracted  0  
E: around 40% vs 60% contracted  0  
F: around 20% vs 80% contracted  0  
F: around 20% vs 80% contracted

![Graph showing the results following each of the questions and answers.](image-url)
2. How do you give notice to the public about the date and time that sweeping will occur in their neighborhoods? (Please check all that apply.)

A: permanent signs 2
B: temporary signs 2
C: social media 1
D: city webpage 4
E: press releases 1
F: paid for ads in papers, etc. 0
G: notify neighborhood associations 1
H: U.S. mail 0
I: other 3 (Seattle, Oklahoma City and Albuquerque)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notice Method</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>permanent signs</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>temporary signs</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>social media</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>city webpage</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>press releases</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>paid for ads in papers, etc.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>notify neighborhood associations</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. mail</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>37.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. If you use temporary signs how many days in advance of a sweep do you put them up?

A: 3 or less 3
B: 3–5 0
C: 6-10 1
D: 11-14 0
E: more than 14 0
F: more than 30 0
G: Not applicable 4
4. Can residents sign up to receive e-mail or text alerts of when sweeping will occur in their neighborhoods?

A: Yes  0
B: No   8

5. Are your sweeping program procedures — including notifying the residents of upcoming sweeping times — written in a policy/administrative procedures manual or are they just guidelines?

A: Policy and/or Admin. Procedures Manual   1
B: Guidelines only   3
C: Neither   4
D: Don’t know   0

6. Does your sweeping program mandate vehicle parking restrictions on sweeping days?

A: Yes  3
B: No   5
C: We issue tickets   2
D: We ticket and also have vehicles towed   1
E: We do not have parking restrictions   5
8. If you have parking restrictions for sweeping, about how much of your sweeping program includes restrictions?

A: 100% of sweeping has parking restrictions  1
B: 80% has restrictions; 20% does not   0
C: 60% has restrictions; 40% does not   1
D: 40% has restrictions; 60% does not   1
E: 80% has restrictions; 20% does not   0
F: We do not have parking restrictions   5

A: Voluntary; no enforcement   1 (One of the cities that answered 'No' above)

9. If you have parking restrictions, how long have you had them in place?

A: Under 5 years   0
B: 10 years or under   0
C: 20 years or under   0
D: More than 20 years   3
E: We do not have parking restrictions   5

10. If you tow vehicles, about how much is the cost of recovery?

A: under $30   0
B: $30 to $50   1
C: $51 to $70   0
D: $71 to $100   0
E: $101 to $125   1
F: $126 to $150   0
G: over $150   1
H: We do not have vehicles towed   5

11. If you issue tickets, what is the fine amount?

A: $25 or under   0
B: $26 to $40   0
C: $41 to $65   2
D: $66 to $75   0
E: $76 to $100   0
F: over $100   0
G: Don't know   1
H: We do not issue tickets   5
12. If your city tickets and/or tows, how are residents able to appeal?

A: Traffic/police court 3
B: Public works 0
C: General court system 0
D: We do not have parking restrictions 4
E: We do have parking restrictions but do not ticket or tow vehicles 1

13. How many times per year do you sweep neighborhoods?

A: one 2
B: 2 to 4 3
C: 5 to 8 0
D: 9 to 12
E: 13 to 20 1
F: More than 20
G: Don't know 1

17. What is your approximate mix of sweeper types between Air Sweepers (regenerative air or vacuum-type) and Mechanical Sweepers (mechanical broom-type)?

A: 100% Air Sweepers 2
B: 90% Air/10% Mechanical Broom 1
C: 80% Air/20% Mechanical Broom 1
D: 70% Air/30% Mechanical Broom 0
E: 60% Air/40% Mechanical Broom 0
F: 50% Air/50% Mechanical Broom 0
G: 40% Air/60% Mechanical Broom 1
H: 30% Air/70% Mechanical Broom 0
I: 20% Air/80% Mechanical Broom 1
J: 10% Air/90% Mechanical Broom 0
K: 100% Mechanical Broom Sweepers 2

18. What is your approximate budget for street sweeping in the current fiscal year?

Unknown
$2.5 million
Street Sweeping is part of an overall budget for street maintenance of ~ $11 million per year
$3,250,000 includes Arterial, Business, Residential & Leaf Removal Sweeping
$5 million
$3.5M (Sweeping operations plus program management)
$650,000