

Form of Government in Tennessee Cities of 4,400 + Population*
Compiled by MTAS
January 2000
Updated March 2001

City	Population	Form of Government	Private Act/ General Law	W/D =Wards/ District AL = At- Large	Election Date	Local Planning Contract
Memphis	626,603	Mayor/Council Strong Mayor	Private Act (home rule)	W/D		
Nashville	370,469	Metro	TCA 7-1-101	W/D		
Knoxville	167,854	Mayor/Council Strong Mayor	Private Act (home rule)	W/D		
Chattanooga	152,393	Mayor/Council Strong Mayor	Private Act (home rule)	W/D		
Clarksville	91,899	Mayor/Council Strong Mayor	Private Act	W/D		
Murfreesboro	59,506	Council/Manager	Private Act	W/D		
Johnson City	53,233	Council/Manager	Private Act (home rule)	AL		
Jackson	51,376	Mayor/Council Strong Mayor	Private Act	W/D		
Kingsport	41,414	Council/Manager	Private Act	AL		
Hendersonville	38,085	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	TCA 6-1-101	W/D		
Germantown	37,130	Mayor/Alderman City Admin.	Private Act	AL		
Bartlett	35,951	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	AL		
Cleveland	33,755	Council/Manager	Private Act	W/D		
Columbia	32,043	Council/Manager	Private Act	W/D		
Collierville	29,295	Mayor/Alderman City Admin.	Private Act	AL		

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Franklin	29,259	Mayor/Alderman City Admin.	Private Act	W/D		
Oak Ridge	27,310	Council/Manager (modified)	TCA 6-30-101	AL		
Smyrna	24,077	City Commission Weak Mayor	Private Act	AL		
Bristol	23,953	Council/Manager	Private Act	W/D		
Brentwood	22,255	Council/Manager (commission)	TCA 6-18-101	AL		
Morristown	22,229	Mayor/Alderman City Admin.	Private Act	W/D		
Cookeville	22,160	Council/Manager	Private Act	AL		
East Ridge	21,101	Council/Manager	Private Act (home rule)	AL		
Maryville	21,113	Council/Manager	Private Act	AL		
Gallatin	20,551	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	W/D		
Dyersburg	18,514	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	W/D		
Lebanon	18,159	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	W/D		
Millington	17,866	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	AL		
Tullahoma	17,357	Mayor/Alderman City Admin.	Private Act	AL		
Farragut	16,654	Mayor/Alderman City Admin.	TCA 6-1-101	W/D		
LaVergne	16,001	Mayor/Alderman City Admin.	TCA 6-1-101	AL		

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Greeneville	14,606	Mayor/Alderman Weak Mayor	Private Act	W/D		
Shelbyville	14,049	Council/Manager	Private Act	AL		
Elizabethton	13,139	Council/Manager (modified)	TCA 6-30-101	W/D		
Springfield	13,019	Council/Manager	Private Act	W/D		
Athens	12,729	Council/Manager	Private Act	AL		
Goodlettsville	12,526	Council/Manager (commission)	TCA 6-18-101	W/D		
Red Bank	12,320	Council/Manager (commission)	TCA 6-18-101 (home rule)	AL		
McMinnville	11,706	Mayor/Alderman City Admin.	TCA 6-1-101	W/D		
Mount Juliet	10,953	Council/Manager (commission)	TCA 6-18-101	W/D		
Lawrenceburg	10,766	City Commission	Private Act	AL		
Union City	10,764	Council/Manager (modified)	TCA 6-30-101	W/D		
Brownsville	10,728	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	W/D		
Soddy Daisy	10,585	Council/Manager (commission)	TCA 6-18-101	AL		
Dickson	10,567	Mayor/Council City Admin.	Private Act	W/D		
Lewisburg	10,161	Council/Manager	Private Act	W/D		
Sevierville	10,070	Mayor/Alderman City Admin.	Private Act (home rule)	AL		
Martin	10,022	Mayor/Alderman City Admin.	Private Act	W/D		

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Humboldt	9,917	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	W/D		
Paris	9,815	Council/Manager (commission)	TCA 6-18-101	W/D		
Clinton	9,478	Council/Manager	Private Act (home rule)	AL		
Crossville	8,575	Council/Manager	Private Act	AL		
Pulaski	7,916	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	AL		
Manchester	7,781	Mayor/Alderman City Admin.	Private Act	AL		
Milan	7,651	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	W/D		
Covington	7,487	Mayor/Alderman Weak Mayor	Private Act	W/D		
Signal Mountain	7,446	Council/Manager	Private Act	AL		
Lafollette	7,382	Mayor/Council City Admin.	Private Act	AL		
Fayetteville	7,349	Mayor/Alderman City Admin.	Private Act	AL		
Alcoa	7,237	Council/Manager (commission)	Private Act	AL		
Ripley	7,228	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	W/D		
Newport	7,123	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	AL		
Harriman	7,119	Mayor/Alderman Weak Mayor	Private Act	AL		
Lexington	7,048	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	W/D		

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Savannah	6,939	Council/Manager (commission)	Private Act	AL		
Winchester	6,687	Mayor/Council City Admin.	Private Act	AL		
Lenoir City	6,214	Mayor/Alderman City Admin.	Private Act (home rule)	AL		
Jefferson City	6,106	Council/Manager	Private Act	AL		
Bolivar	5,969	Mayor/Council City Admin.	Private Act	W/D		
Spring Hill	5,939	Mayor/Alderman City Admin.	TCA 6-1-101	AL		
Dayton	5,928	Council/Manager	Private Act	AL		
White House	5,770	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	TCA 6-1-101	W/D		
Portland	5,728	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	AL		
Church Hill	5,683	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	TCA 6-1-101	W/D		
Erwin	5,611	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	AL		
Henderson	5,558	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	AL		
Lakeland	5,429	Council/Manager (commission)	TCA 6-18-101	AL		
Rockwood	5,404	Mayor/Council Weak Mayor	Private Act	AL		
Collegedale	5,302	Council/Manager (commission)	TCA 6-18-101	AL		
McKenzie	5,197	Mayor/Council Strong Mayor	Private Act	W/D		

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Sweetwater	5,105	City Commission	Private Act (home rule)	AL		
Fairview	4,886	Council/Manager (commission)	TCA 6-18-101	AL		
Trenton	4,836	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	W/D		
Sparta	4,681	Mayor/Alderman City Admin.	Private Act	AL		
Kingston	4,660	Council/Manager	Private Act	AL		
Selmer	4,454	Mayor/Alderman Strong Mayor	Private Act	AL		
Pigeon Forge	3,987	Council/Manager (commission)	TCA 6-18-101	W/D		
Gatlinburg	3,417	Council/Manager	Private Act	AL		

*Includes Tennessee's two major resort cities.

fn:g/mt/tablegov.pop

**Number of Forms of Government
of Cities Listed on Table**

City Commission - 2
City Commission - Weak Mayor - 1

Council/Manager - 20
Council/Manager (commission) - 12
Council/Manager (modified) - 3

Mayor/Alderman - Strong Mayor - 20
Mayor/Alderman - Weak Mayor - 3
Mayor/Alderman - City Administrator - 15

Mayor/Council - Strong Mayor - 6
Mayor/Council - Weak Mayor - 1
Mayor/Council - City Administrator - 4

Metro - 1

Total Number of Cities -- 88