

# Dog park rankings for the 100 largest U. S. cities, 2018



## Introduction / Executive Summary

Based on research undertaken by The Trust for Public Land through our annual city parks survey, the Center for City Park Excellence has determined that dog parks, also known as “off-leash dog areas,” are among the fastest growing park amenities in the combined parks systems of the 100 largest US cities.<sup>1</sup> There are currently 774 dedicated dog parks in the 100 largest cities, an increase of 38 over last year. Many public park agencies now have ordinances and sets of design standards that govern the creation, ongoing maintenance, and operation of dog parks. However, most important, we find that what makes dog parks successful is strong collaboration between the public parks agency, the surrounding community, and a local dog advocacy group – primarily volunteers that have a strong ownership stake in the dog park.

## Current dog park numbers

2017 saw continued growth in dog parks in the 100 largest U. S. cities, with 774 dog parks in operation. Since 2009, we’ve seen a 40 percent increase in dog parks.

Year	Number of Dog Parks	Change in numbers	Change in percentage from prior year	Overall increase since 2009
2018	774	38	4.9%	+ 308
2017	736	55	7.5%	+ 270
2016	681	37	5.4%	+ 215
2015	644	26	4.0%	+ 178
2009	466			

Dog parks are among the fastest growing amenities in the 100 largest U.S. cities’ park systems – and the top cities may be surprising. We calculate rank based on the number of dog parks for every 100,000 residents in a given city. For information on our work and findings from our annual city parks survey, please check out our publication, [City Park Facts](http://www.tpl.org/cityparkfacts) – <http://www.tpl.org/cityparkfacts>. The 2018 edition will be published on May 23, 2018.

City	Population	Total Dog Parks	Per 100,000 residents
1. Boise	225,405.00	15	6.7
2. Portland, OR	637,683.00	33	5.2
2. Henderson, Nev.	290,567.00	15	5.2
4. Norfolk, Va.	248,958.00	12	4.8

City	Population	Total Dog Parks	Per 100,000 residents
5. Las Vegas	642,798.00	26	4
5. Madison	250,805.00	10	4
7. Oakland	424,072.00	16	3.8
8. San Francisco	871,042.00	32	3.7
9. Tampa	370,224.00	13	3.5
9. Arlington, Va.	227,929.00	8	3.5
11. Louisville	248,987.00	7	2.8
12. Fremont	231,808.00	6	2.6
13. St. Petersburg	258,449.00	6	2.3
13. Anchorage	303,152.00	7	2.3
13. Albuquerque	567,516.00	13	2.3
13. Pittsburgh	309,419.00	7	2.3
17. Sacramento	494,322.00	11	2.2
17. Jersey City	271,566.00	6	2.2
19. Bakersfield	381,201.00	8	2.1
19. Long Beach	481,144.00	10	2.1
19. Chesapeake	242,617.00	5	2.1
22. Seattle	687,870.00	14	2
23. Lexington	318,319.00	6	1.9
23. Chula Vista	269,552.00	5	1.9
25. Washington, D.C.	674,875.00	12	1.8
26. Colorado Springs	459,681.00	8	1.7
26. Minneapolis.	415,852.00	7	1.7
28. New York	8,691,599.00	140	1.6
28. St. Louis	316,262.00	5	1.6
30. Chandler	267,322.00	4	1.5

City	Population	Total Dog Parks	Per 100,000 residents
30. Tucson	539,162.00	8	1.5
32. Denver	699,521.00	10	1.4
32. Lincoln	283,989.00	4	1.4
34. Fresno	525,594	7	1.3
34. Richmond	223,942.00	3	1.3
34. St. Paul	304,055.00	4	1.3
34. Cincinnati	309,190.00	4	1.3
34. Austin	935,806.00	12	1.3
34. Scottsdale	239,959.00	3	1.3
40. Glendale	247,440.00	3	1.2
40. Boston	661,977.00	8	1.2
40. Nashville	672,371.00	8	1.2
43. San Diego	1,397,856.00	16	1.1
43. Durham	265,510.00	3	1.1
43. Orlando	283,852.00	3	1.1
46. Greensboro.	286,435.00	3	1
46. Stockton	312,272.00	3	1
46. San Jose	1,042,940.00	10	1
49. Miami	449,517.00	4	0.9
49. Baton Rouge	230,559.00	2	0.9
49. Chicago	2,781,116.00	24	0.9
49. Atlanta	464,043.00	4	0.9
53. Irving, Texas	240,260.00	2	0.8
53. North Las Vegas	244,004.00	2	0.8
53. Kansas City	488,023.00	4	0.8
53. Aurora	368,200.00	3	0.8

City	Population	Total Dog Parks	Per 100,000 residents
53. Reno	248,815.00	2	0.8
53. New Orleans	378,952.00	3	0.8
53. Gilbert, AZ	254,859.00	2	0.8
53. Buffalo	260,428.00	2	0.8
53. San Antonio	1,442,472.00	11	0.8
53. Detroit	656,087.00	5	0.8
53. Fort Wayne	263,854.00	2	0.8
53. Wichita	399,072.00	3	0.8
65. Toledo	279,019.00	2	0.7
65. Phoenix	1,601,381.00	11	0.7
65. Houston	2,333,285.00	16	0.7
65. Raleigh	457,182.00	3	0.7
69. Charlotte	1,063,054	6	0.6
69. Virginia Beach	461,663.00	3	0.6
69. Riverside	319,466.00	2	0.6
69. Fort Worth	851,362.00	5	0.6
69. El Paso	693,738.00	4	0.6
69. Columbus	871,273.00	5	0.6
69. Jacksonville	886,969.00	5	0.6
69. Anaheim	359,456.00	2	0.6
77. Arlington, Texas	383,549.00	2	0.5
77. Cleveland	383,649.00	2	0.5
77. Milwaukee	591,865.00	3	0.5
77. Baltimore	620,488.00	3	0.5
77. Tulsa	419,494.00	2	0.5
77. Indianapolis	864,712.00	4	0.5

City	Population	Total Dog Parks	Per 100,000 residents
77. Oklahoma City	665,635.00	3	0.5
84. Omaha	447,804.00	2	0.4
84. Philadelphia	1,587,761.00	7	0.4
84. Winston-Salem	244,338.00	1	0.4
84. Mesa, Ariz.	493,089.00	2	0.4
84. Irvine, Calif.	253,395.00	1	0.4
84. Honolulu	1,014,211.00	4	0.4
84. Laredo	264,978.00	1	0.4
91. Plano	287,950.00	1	0.3
91. Dallas	1,323,651.00	4	0.3
91. Corpus Christi	332,403.00	1	0.3
91. Memphis	668,228.00	2	0.3
91. Los Angeles	3,986,442.00	11	0.3
96. Hialeah	234,049.00	0	0
96. Newark	285,064.00	0	0
96. Santa Ana	341,747.00	0	0
96. Lubbock	253,910	0	0
96. Garland	245,080	0	0

<sup>1</sup> The 100 largest US cities are surveyed annually via the city park survey, administered by the Center for City Park Excellence at The Trust for Public Land. Results are reported in both City Park Facts and ParkScore, both available at <http://www.tpl.org>. The 100 largest cities contain 64 million residents, or about 20 percent of the total US population.