

HOMELAND SECURITY: MAYORS ON THE FRONTLINE

Executive Summary of Findings:

Background:

On September 11, the world witnessed an attack on America and watched as the former Mayor of New York stepped into the most critical leadership role imaginable. In the months since that attack, mayors across the nation have been mobilizing the local resources that would be needed to protect their citizens in the event of further terrorist activity.

Through the years, mayors and public safety officials have consistently attached a high priority to preparing themselves, their personnel and their citizens for the possibility of disasters. In recent years, the threat of domestic terrorism and, specifically, the threat of an attack involving weapons of mass destruction, has become a more serious concern for mayors as the leaders of their communities, and for police, fire and emergency medical officials as first responders in emergencies large and small.

This concern has translated into efforts by the Conference of Mayors to raise levels of preparedness, including a project specifically addressing responses to weapons of mass destruction, creation of a mayors' training institute, and discussions of preparedness issues – among mayors and with top federal officials – at national Conference of Mayors meetings.

During the Emergency Preparedness break-out session at the 70th Annual U.S. Conference of Mayors Winter Meeting in January, 2002, participating mayors overwhelmingly expressed a desire to understand the state of mayors' satisfaction with their emergency preparedness. In response to this request, the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM), in collaboration with DuPont through their partnership, Cities United for Science Progress (CUSP), has completed a survey of the USCM membership. The results are presented in this report.

The survey focused on which threats are of most concern to mayors, and the level of a city's emergency preparedness to deal with those threats. Emphasis was placed on planning capabilities, emergency response equipment and funding.

Surveys were mailed to more than 600 mayors across the country, and 122 were returned representing cities of all sizes from every region. Results were tabulated and analyzed by an independent marketing research firm in order to ensure objectivity.

When comparing findings for these 122 respondents, it can be concluded (with 95% confidence) that respondents answered a question differently when at least a 9% difference in their responses occur.

A detailed summary of the survey demographics and statistical basis is presented at the end of this report.

As they always have done in times of crises, mayors have assumed visible leadership roles, both in their cities and throughout their metropolitan regions. Now, as the nation recovers from the tragedy of September 11, and prepares for the possibility of future attacks, America's mayors stand ready on the domestic front lines to assist in every way possible.

Key Findings:

- ◆ Concerns for terrorist-related attacks have not abated among mayors, despite the passage of 9 months since 9/11
 - keenest concerns focus on threat detection (desire to prevent before it happens)
 - keenest sense of vulnerability related to chemical and biological threats
- ◆ Emergency Preparedness Planning, including communications planning, is perceived as satisfactory within a core of first responding agencies and offices, but mayors see need to improve communications “beyond the core”:
 - regions, neighboring communities
 - hospitals/health care providers
 - businesses
 - general public
- ◆ Mayors strongly feel that additional funding and resources are needed for almost every aspect of preparedness for terrorist activity, even in areas already receiving a large share of current budgets, such as emergency response training and equipment purchases. Mayors are interested in:
 - additional funds, primarily directly to cities rather than diverted through states
 - more resources to devote to threat detection and overtime, as well as training, equipment, and communications with other jurisdictions
 - alternate methods of acquiring needed training, products, and services – i.e., leasing
 - potential for pooling regional resources as part of regional planning
- ◆ Some cities do feel they have a “best practice” even in areas generally identified as unsatisfactory such as threat detection, regional emergency response planning, and plans that involve the medical community. These best practices could provide a basis for learning/action on the part of other communities.

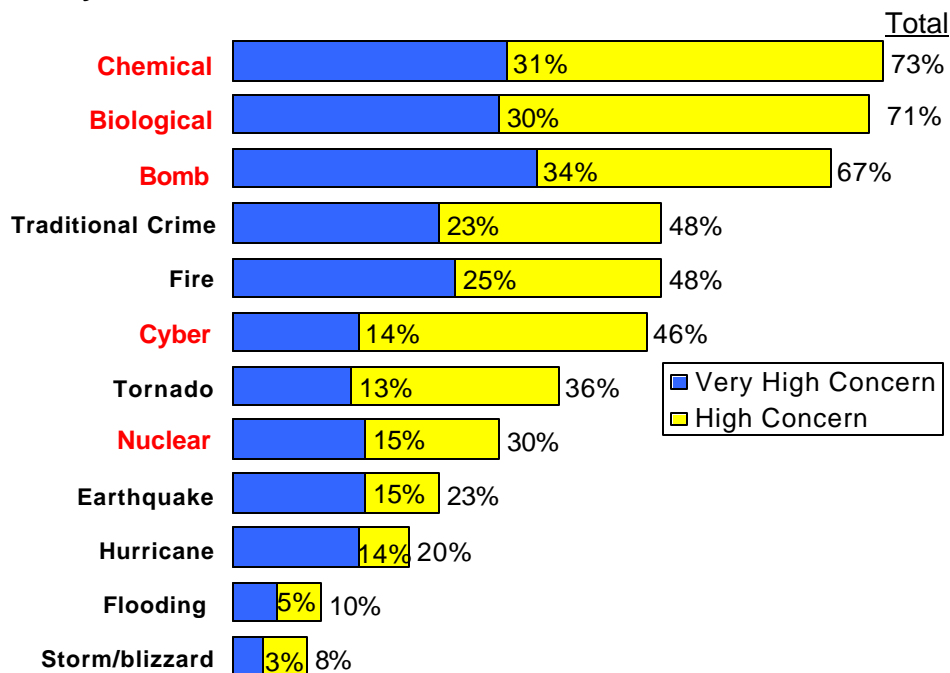
Key Findings:

1. Concern for Threats

The level of concern about terrorism-related threats far outweighs the levels of concern around both natural disasters and traditional crime. The chart below graphically summarizes these findings. **Concerns around chemical, biological and bomb threats are especially high.** Given that the survey was carried out 8 months after September 11, 2001, the findings suggest that terrorist-based threats remain of great concern to the mayors.

Level Of Concern For Threats

From your perspective as a chief executive, what is your city government's and your constituents' level of concern for each of the threats listed below?



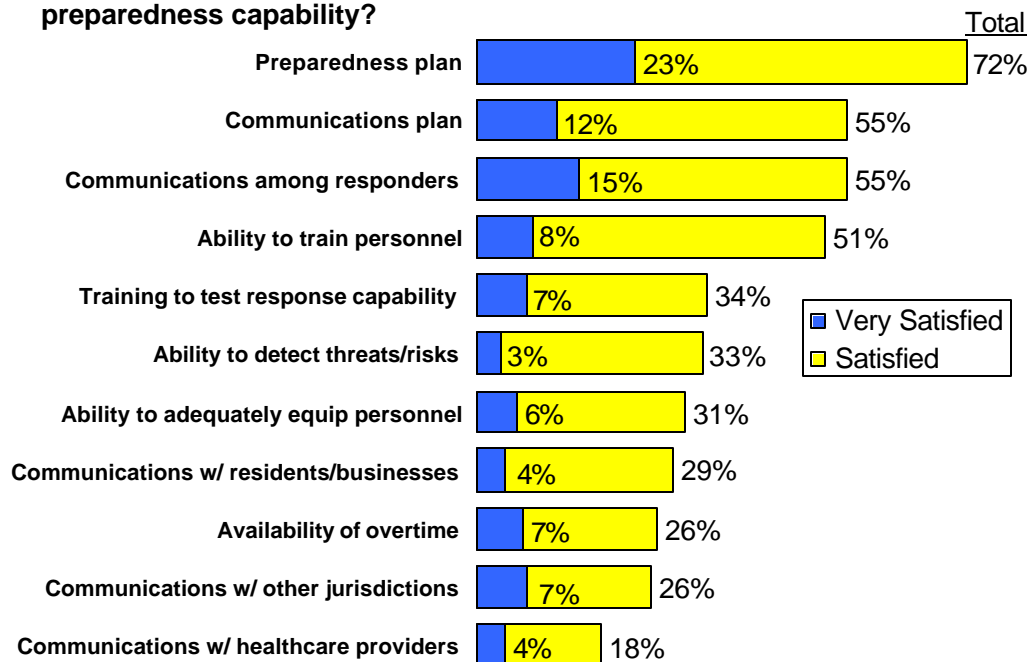
2. Satisfaction with Emergency Preparedness Capability

There is generally high satisfaction with overall preparedness and communications plans plus communications plans among responders.

There is unexpectedly low satisfaction with preparedness to communicate with residents, businesses, and other jurisdictions and especially with healthcare providers.

Satisfaction With Emergency Preparedness Capability

How satisfied are you with each of the following aspects of your emergency preparedness capability?

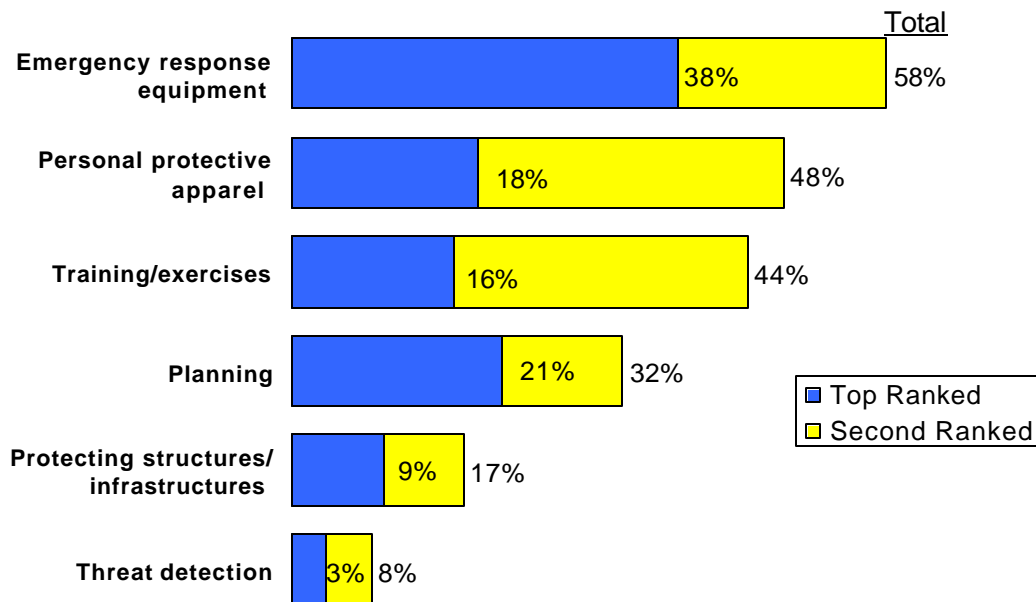


3. Emergency Response Budget Distribution

The largest proportion of budgets designated for emergency response is directed at emergency equipment and protective personal apparel. Less than 10% of a typical emergency budget is directed toward threat detection. The need for threat detection capabilities and equipment is a recurring theme.

Amount Of Emergency Response Budget Spent On Aspects of Preparedness

Please rank in order the amount of your emergency response budget that is spent on the following aspects of preparedness.

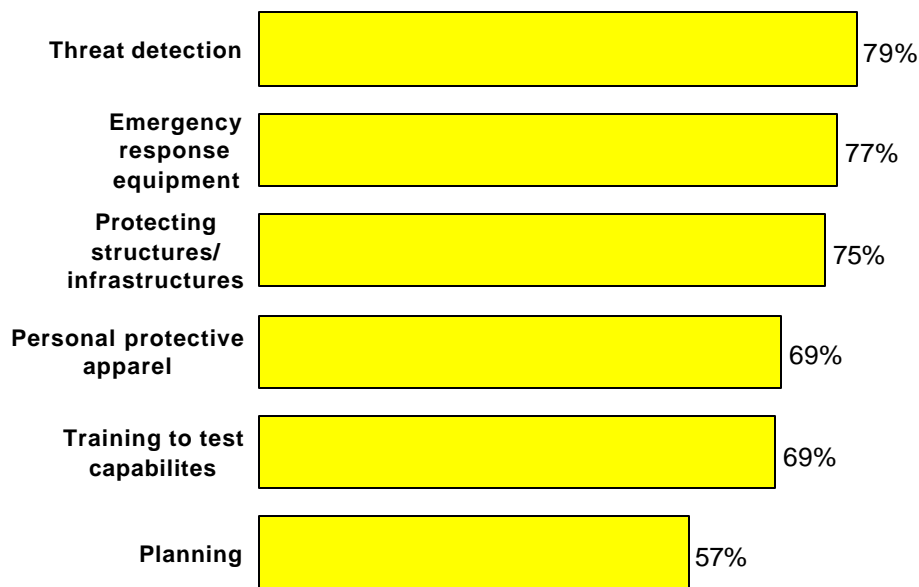


4. Funding Shortfalls

Funding shortfalls are high across all the categories. ***There is an especially large shortfall associated with threat detection.*** This shortfall is wholly consistent with the high concerns expressed previously around chemical, biological and bomb threats and the low current budget expenditures.

Emergency Response Preparedness Funding Shortfalls

In what aspects of emergency response preparedness do you have a funding shortfall?



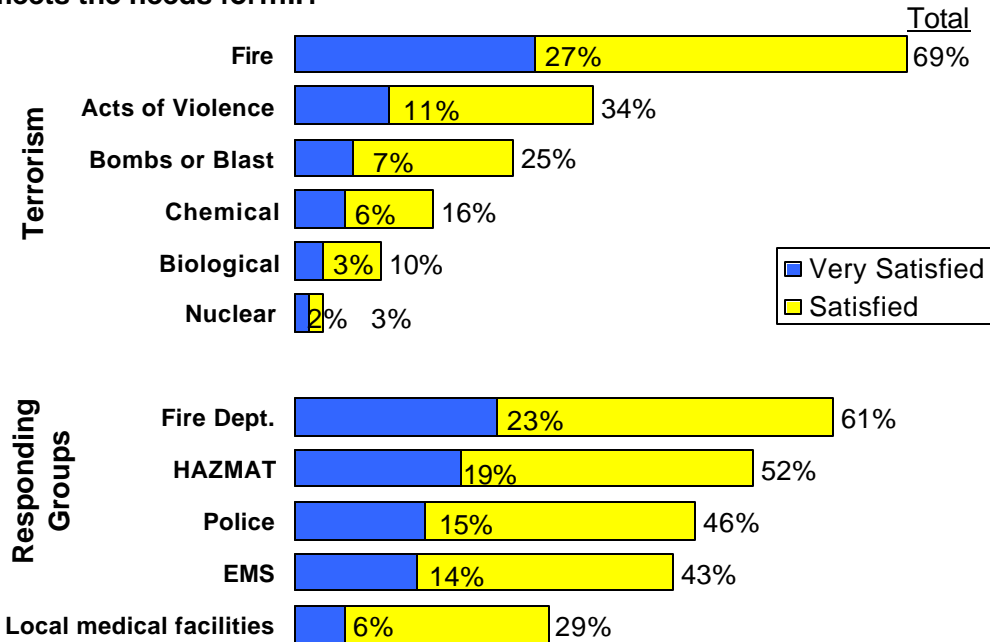
5. Satisfaction that personal protective apparel on hand meets needs

With the exception of personal protective equipment for fire, the satisfaction that the protective apparel on hand meets the need is not especially high.

Satisfaction levels for personal protective equipment for chemical, biological or bomb threats are very low. In addition, there is low satisfaction with levels of personal protective equipment for local medical facilities.

Satisfied That Personal Protective Apparel On Hand Meets Needs For.....

How satisfied are you that the personal protective apparel you have on hand meets the needs for.....?

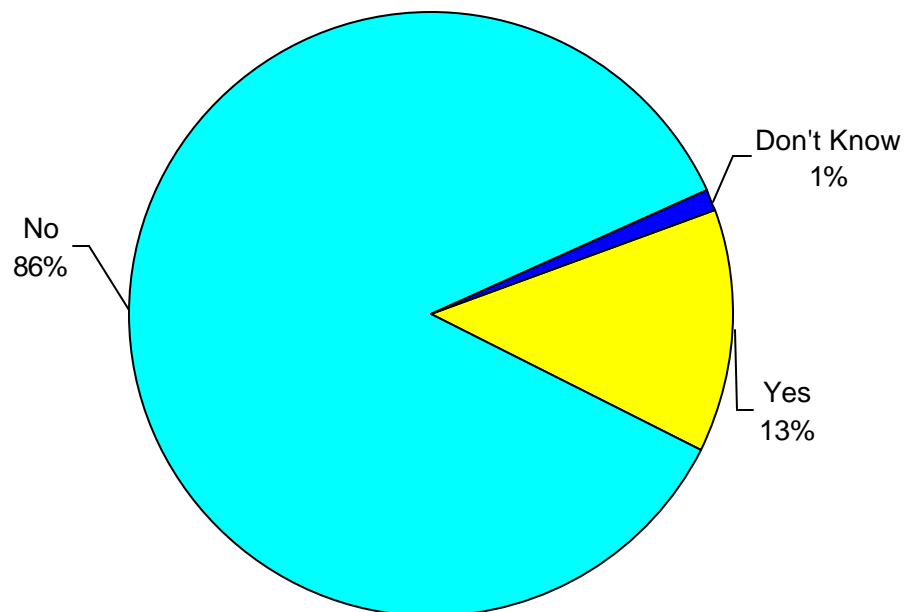


6. Enough Protective Apparel in the Event of Emergency / Terrorist Attack

The mayors have concern that they do not have sufficient protective apparel in the event of an emergency or terrorist attack. This finding is consistent with the earlier finding of funding shortfalls for personal protective apparel.

Enough Protective Apparel In The Event Of Emergency/Terrorist Attack

Do you feel you have enough personal protective apparel to meet the needs of your community in the event of an emergency or terrorist attack?

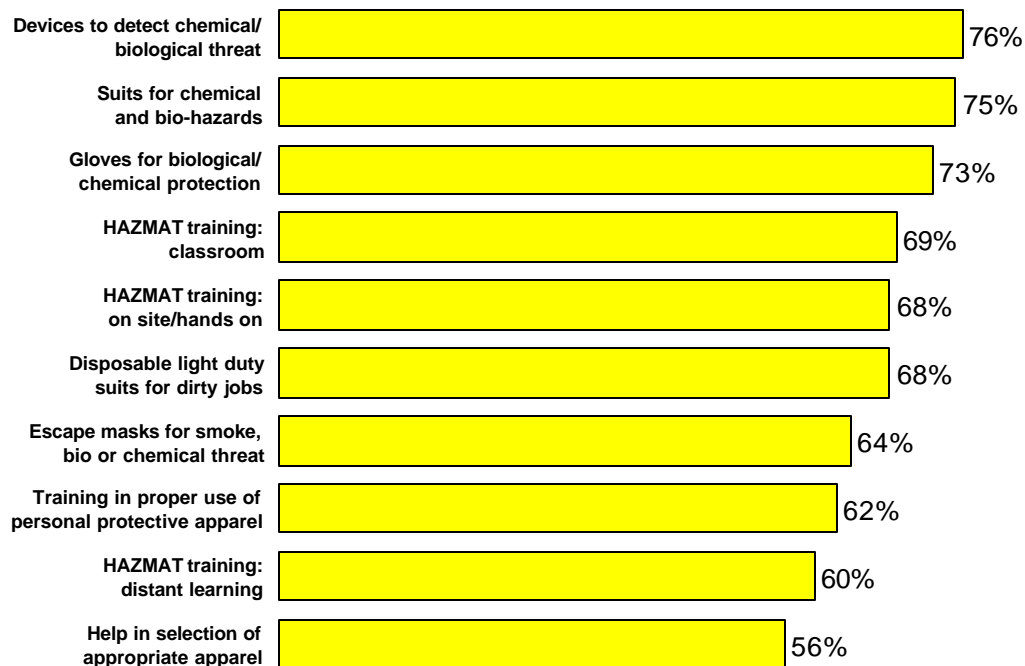


7. Current and Planned Purchases

Consistent with the high levels of concern around chemical and biological threats, the largest percentage of current or planned purchases is for devices for detecting chemical and biological threats. Suits and gloves for biological and chemical protection are the next highest.

Current/Planned Product Purchasing

Are you currently or soon to be in the market for the following products?

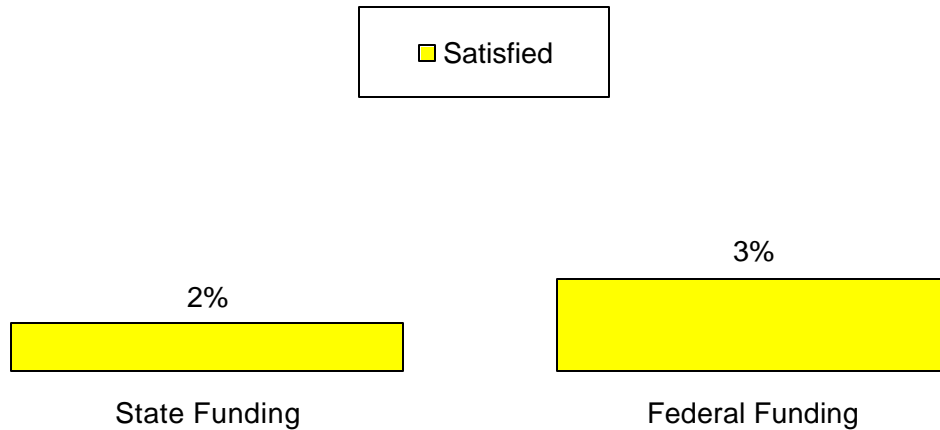


8. Satisfaction with your Federal and State Funding

Satisfaction levels with funding received from both state and federal governments is very low. No respondents stated that they were very satisfied with either state or federal funding.

Satisfaction With Funding

What is your current level of satisfaction with funding your city is receiving from your state/the federal government?

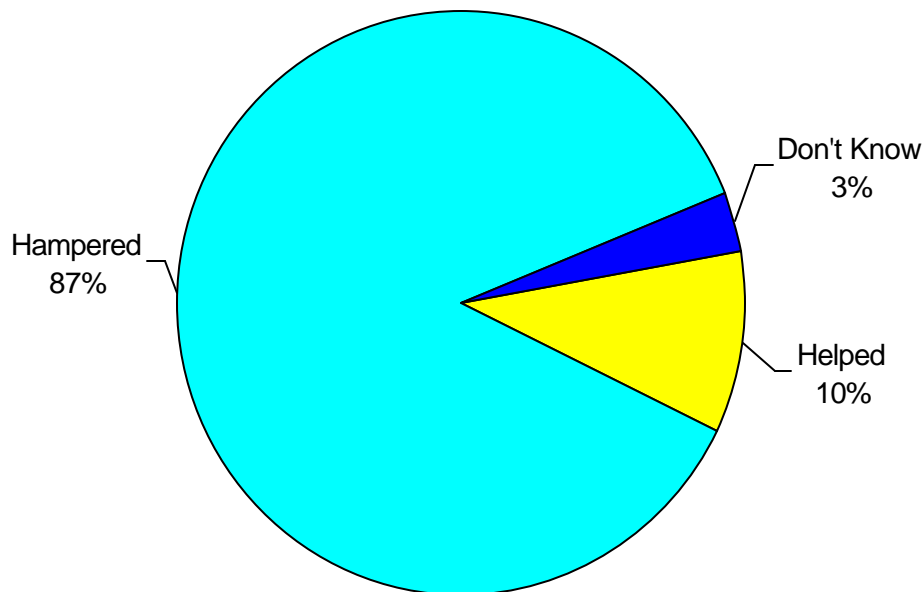


9. Effect of Federal Government Channeling City Emergency Funding Directly to the State

Respondents **overwhelmingly** reported that emergency preparedness funding for their respective cities would be hampered by having federal funds go to the states instead of directly to their cities.

Effect Of Government Providing Emergency Funding Directly To State

Would your city's emergency preparedness funding be helped or hampered if the federal government were to provide their funding directly to the state as opposed to directly to the city?

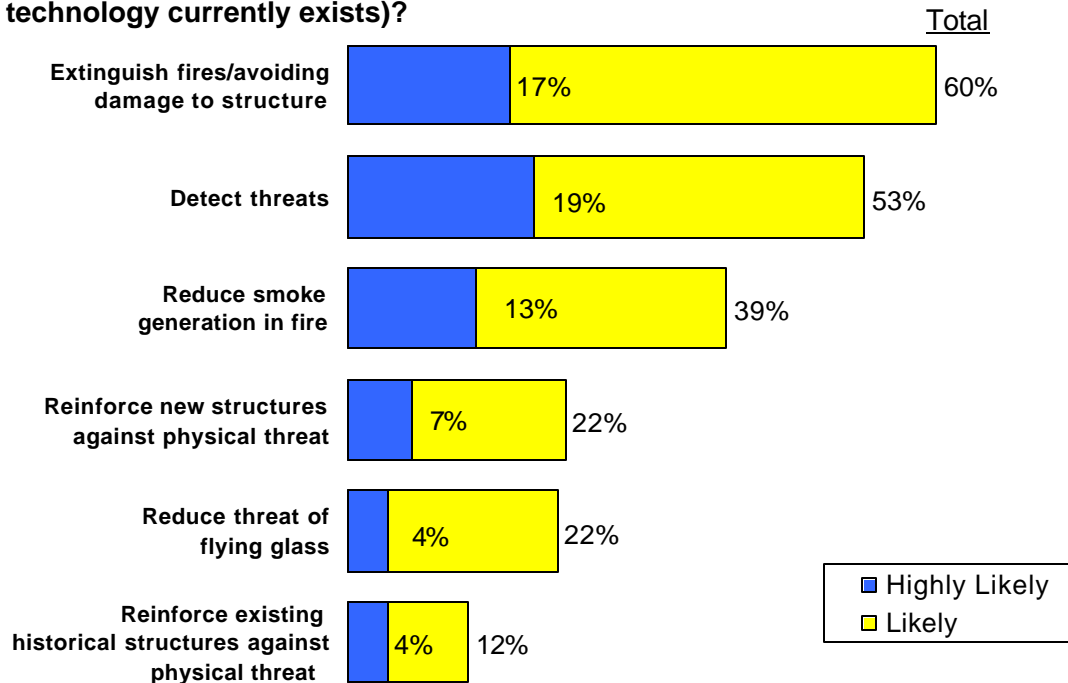


10. Likelihood of Taking Specific Actions

The leading areas where cities are likely to take specific action focus on extinguishing of fires with minimal collateral damage, detection of threats and reduced smoke generation during a fire. The detection of threats is again a top-of-mind issue.

Likelihood To Take Action To....

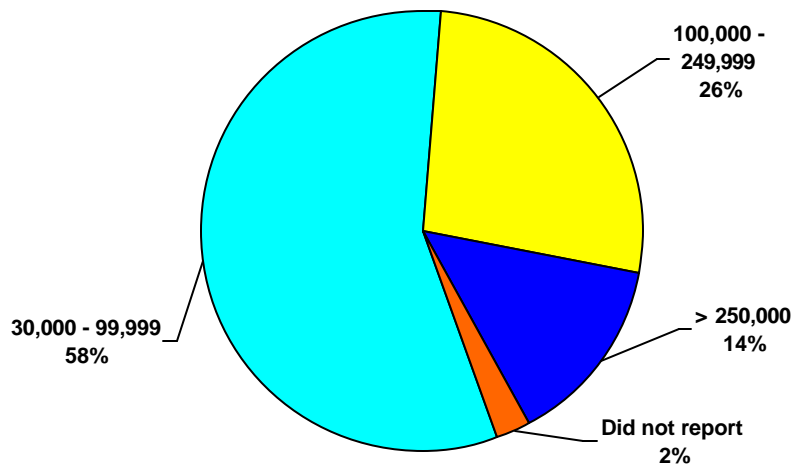
How likely are you to take action to address the following (recognizing that the technology currently exists)?



Demographics:

The majority of respondents are from cities with populations between 30,000 and 99,999. Cities with populations between 100,000 and 250,000 make up roughly one quarter of all the respondents. Cities with populations >250,000 account for nearly 15% of respondents. Respondent demographics, broken out by census district, are also shown below.

City Demographics: Population



City Demographics: Census District

