

2014 Fiscal Conditions Survey

User ID:

Please complete the survey by December 23, 2013

Save time and postage by completing this survey online!

Go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2014SOTC> & enter the User ID found on the top of this page.

1. Overall, would you say that your city is better or less able to...

- a. Meet financial needs in fiscal year 2013 than last year? *(check one)*
 Better Able Less Able
- b. Address its financial needs in the next fiscal year (2014) compared to this fiscal year? *(check one)*
 Better Able Less Able

2. Please indicate whether FY2012 revenue shortfalls in the following areas were less than 10% or greater than 10% as a percentage of funding expected from each revenue source:

Check one box for each item on the list below. Shortfall = actual receipts fell below predicted or budgeted receipts. Not all revenue sources are available to cities in all states—in this case, please mark “not authorized.”

	No Shortfall	Shortfall <10% of Expected	Shortfall >10% of Expected	Not Authorized in my City
a. Property tax revenues.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Fees, charges, license revenues.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Sales tax revenues.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Local income/commuter tax revenues.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Lodging, restaurant, amusement, other tourist-related taxes..	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. State revenues.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Federal revenues.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Please complete both Part A and Part B below.

Indicate in Part A whether there has been an increase, a decrease, or no change in an item between FY2012 and FY2013 for your city.

Indicate in Part B whether it had no impact, a moderate impact, or a major impact on your city’s overall FY2013 budget.

Select ONE response in Part A: Change for each item.

Select ONE response in Part B: Impact for each item.

	PART A: CHANGE				PART B: IMPACT		
	Increase	No Change	Decrease		No Impact	Moderate Impact	Major Impact
a. Value of city tax base...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B ➡	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Service needs of new development.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B ➡	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Amount of federal aid to city.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B ➡	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Federal environmental mandates.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B ➡	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Federal non-environ. mandates.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B ➡	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. State environmental mandates.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B ➡	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2014 Fiscal Conditions Survey

	Increase	No Change	Decrease		No Impact	Moderate Impact	Major Impact
g. State non-environ. mandates.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Restrictiveness of state tax and expenditure limits on cities.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Public safety needs.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Infrastructure needs.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. Human service needs.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. Education needs.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
m. Cost of employee pensions.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
n. Cost of employee health benefits.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
o. Employee wages and salaries.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
p. Prices, inflation, cost of living.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
q. Population (# of people in city).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
r. Health of local economy.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Please indicate which actions your city has taken in FY2013 for the 2014 fiscal year:

Check one box for each item on the list; if your city does not have authority to take action regarding an item, please check the "not authorized" box.

	Significant Increase in 2014	Slight Increase in 2014	Maintain	Slight Decrease in 2014	Significant Decrease in 2014	Not Authorized
a. Taxes.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Reliance on ending balances/reserves.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Fees/charges/licenses increases.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Growth rate of operating spending.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Actual infrastructure spending.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Actual public safety spending.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Other spending.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Service cutbacks/elimination.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Privatizing or contracting out.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Productivity levels.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. Number and/or scope of interlocal agreements or other cost-sharing plans...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. Size of city government workforce.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
m. Wage levels.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
n. Use of furloughs.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
o. Level of employee benefits.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
p. Other.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2014 Fiscal Conditions Survey

5. If you would like to clarify or explain any of your responses to questions 1-4, please use the space below.

The next section relates to your city's costs of publishing minutes and meeting notices in the local newspaper.

6. For 2013, please estimate how much your city has spent to publish notices (e.g., meeting minutes, financial reports, election notices) in the local newspaper.

Round to nearest whole dollars (e.g., 5200) _____

7. Does your city have a website?

- Yes
- No

8. Are there public facilities in your community at which members of the public can access the internet (e.g., library, community center)?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

9. Please share any comments you have about the mandate on local governments to publish various public notices in the newspaper:

The final section of this survey includes questions about delayed road projects.

10. Over the last 2 years, has your city had to delay one or more road construction or maintenance projects due to lack of funding?

- Yes *(please answer the next question)*
- No
- Don't know

11. If YES, please describe at least one of the projects. Be sure to include projected costs and why project is important.

2014 Fiscal Conditions Survey

If it is okay for LMC staff to follow-up/use your responses in talking to legislators please be sure to provide your contact info below:

Your name: _____ Title: _____

City: _____ Phone: () _____

Email: _____

To complete this survey online, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2014SOTC>.

Enter your user ID, [ID#], when prompted.

OR

Mail or fax your completed survey to:

Lena Gould
League of Minnesota Cities
145 University Ave W
Saint Paul MN 55013-2044
Fax: 651-215-4143

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.