

The Alarming Shortage in America's Top Tourist Hotspots: Only 1 Toilet for Every 100K Visitors

New analysis reveals a troubling restroom deficit nationwide—Is this a hidden challenge facing America's iconic destinations?

GILBERT, AZ, UNITED STATES, April 1, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [A new analysis by Nationwide Waste Service](#), a leading provider of portable sanitary solutions, reveals that despite drawing millions of visitors annually, many of America's most iconic tourist hotspots are struggling to meet a basic need—public restroom access.

According to this analysis, New York City leads U.S. tourist destinations in public restroom availability, with 152 public restrooms and a ratio of 1.3 restrooms per 100,000 visitors. Despite this leadership, even NYC's ratio falls short of meeting the demands of its 62.2 million annual visitors. Other popular destinations, such as San Francisco and San Diego, also face significant restroom shortages, offering just 1.0 and 0.8 restrooms per 100,000 visitors, respectively. These figures highlight the ongoing challenge of restroom accessibility for tourists across major U.S. cities.

Cities like Orlando, Florida, and Las Vegas, Nevada, perform even worse, with a meager 0.1 public restrooms per 100,000 visitors. Despite attracting millions of tourists annually—74 million in Orlando and 40.8 million in Las Vegas—both cities offer shockingly low restroom availability, leaving visitors struggling to find facilities.

Tourist-Heavy Cities Struggle to Meet Basic Bathroom Needs, Leaving Visitors in a Bind



Nationwide Waste Service Logo

Table 1: Top 10 U.S. travel destinations, ranked according to public restroom availability.

Rank	City, State	Visitor numbers 2023, in millions	Public Restroom Availability per 100,000 visitors	Number of Public Restrooms
1	New York City, NY	62.2	1.3	819
2	San Francisco, CA	23.1	1.0	223
3	San Diego, CA	31.8	0.8	249
4	Chicago, IL	51.9	0.7	374
5	New Orleans, LA	17.8	0.3	60
6	Washington, D.C.	25.9	0.3	86
7	Miami, FL	27.2	0.3	86
8	Los Angeles, CA	49.1	0.3	145
9	Las Vegas, NV	40.8	0.1	57
10	Orlando, FL	74.0	0.1	64

The top 10 U.S. travel destinations are part of a comprehensive analysis of 50 U.S. cities with the highest and lowest numbers of publicly available restrooms. The study draws on data from official sources, OpenStreetMap, and the Trust for Public Land to evaluate restroom accessibility.

Table 1: Top 10 U.S. travel destinations, ranked according to public restroom availability.

Public restroom access in major U.S. cities has become increasingly difficult, with many visitors often required to make a purchase in order to use facilities. Recent changes, such as Starbucks ending its 'open-door' policy and restricting restrooms to paying customers, have further limited access. City regulations also vary—like in New York, where only restaurants with 20 or more seats are mandated to provide restrooms—leaving tourists and locals alike struggling to find a facility when needed.

Public Restroom Shortage Might Threaten Tourist Experience, Experts Agree

Experts warn that a shortage of public restrooms could significantly undermine the overall tourist experience. Dr. Steven Soifer, Ph.D., Co-Founder and Treasurer of the American Restroom Association and Adjunct Professor at Adelphi University School of Social Work, stated:

"Imagine visiting a city and spending half your time just looking for a restroom. That's the reality for many tourists in the U.S. The lack of public restrooms isn't just an oversight—it's a crisis that affects mobility, public health, and the overall visitor experience. In a country that prides itself on tourism, this shouldn't be the norm. If cities want to be truly welcoming, they need to invest in basic infrastructure like public restrooms."

Similarly, Dr. Bryant Simon, an American historian and professor at Temple University, noted that improving restroom access not only benefits visitors but can also boost local businesses. He explained:

"In cities like New Hope, Pennsylvania, businesses are stepping up to offer restroom access, recognizing that it fosters a sense of hospitality and inclusion. Meanwhile, larger corporations are doing the opposite, restricting access in ways that make cities feel less inviting. In the end, it's a question of what kind of experience we want to create for both tourists and locals alike."

For a full breakdown of the ranking methodology and detailed city comparisons, please visit: nationwidewasteservice.com/the-best-and-worst-u-s-cities-for-public-toilets/

About Nationwide Waste Service:

Nationwide Waste Service is a leading provider of portable sanitation solutions in the United States, offering a comprehensive range of products, including porta-potties, luxury restroom trailers, dumpsters, and essential waste management equipment. With an extensive network that covers both rural areas and major metropolitan cities, we ensure timely, reliable delivery nationwide. Whether for construction sites, events, or emergency response scenarios, our dedication to quality, affordability, and exceptional customer service makes us the trusted partner for all portable sanitation needs. To learn more about our services, visit nationwidewasteservice.com.

Nadine Blöcher

ABCD Agency UG (haftungsbeschränkt)

+49 30 25737149

[email us here](#)

Visit us on social media:

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/799007565>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2025 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.