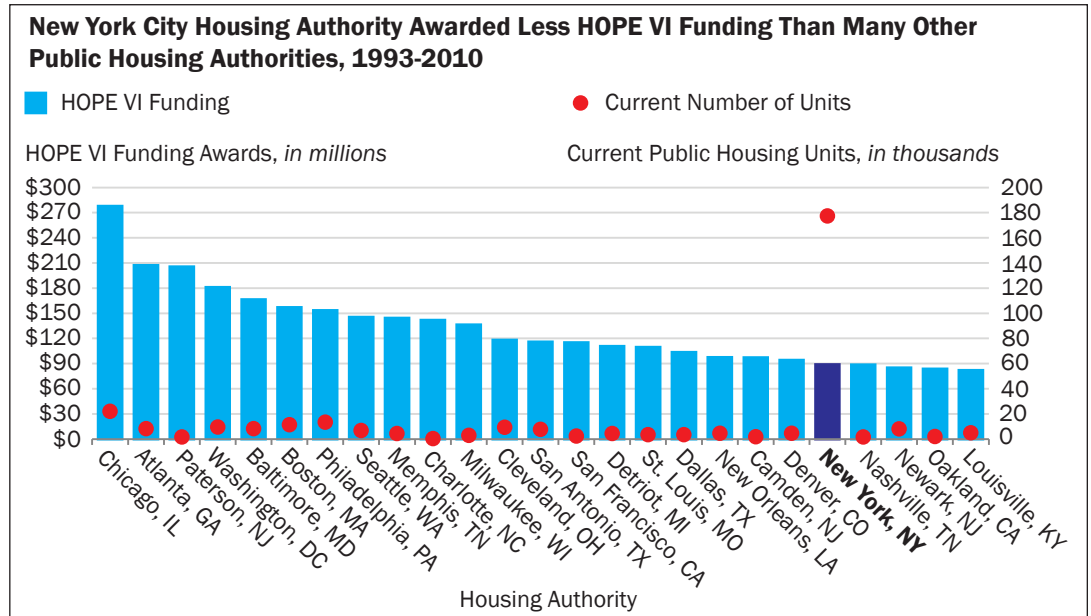


# Is the New York City Housing Authority's Participation in Federal Public Housing Repair Programs Lagging?

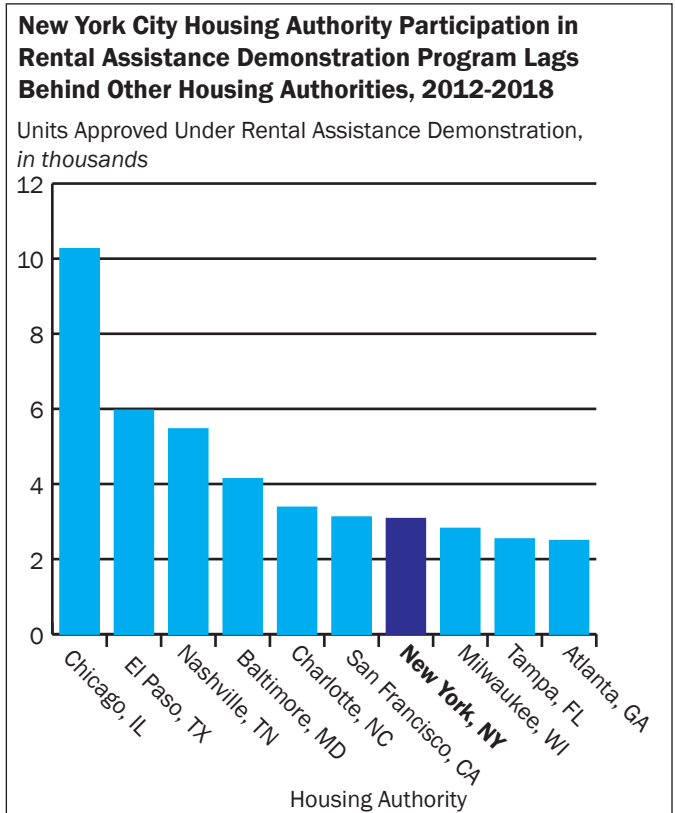
Following cutbacks in traditional federal aid for repairing or replacing public housing, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development created new programs that rely on leveraging private dollars to help address the needs of deteriorating housing developments nationwide. With the New York City Housing Authority facing an estimated \$32 billion in capital needs, IBO compared the New York housing authority's participation in these public-private programs to that of other housing authorities across the country. We focus on two key programs: the Housing Opportunities for People Everywhere, or HOPE VI program, which was funded from 1993 through 2010, and the Rental Assistance Demonstration program launched in 2012. Participation in these programs can be controversial because they involve some degree of privatization and the potential for a loss of public housing through demolition or conversion.

- New York has the largest public housing authority with over 177,000 units.
- The city's housing authority was awarded \$89 million in HOPE VI funds for three developments: Prospect Plaza in Brooklyn, Markham Gardens on Staten Island, and Arverne-Edgemere in Queens.
- In contrast, Chicago received the largest amount of HOPE VI



awards, totaling \$278 million, more than three times the amount awarded to New York. The Chicago Housing Authority is the second largest in the nation, currently with 22,000 units, one-eighth the size of New York's housing authority.

- Nationally, New York City ranked 21<sup>st</sup> for HOPE VI funding awards, participating at a substantially lower rate than other large housing authorities such as Atlanta (\$207 million), Washington, DC (\$181 million), and Baltimore (\$167 million).
- Chicago also leads the way under the Rental Assistance Demonstration program, with 10,300 units either completed or approved for conversion to private operation under long-term affordability contracts. El Paso ranks second, with nearly 6,000 units in the program, followed by Nashville with 5,500 units.
- New York City ranks 7<sup>th</sup> among housing authorities, with 3,100 units participating in the Rental Demonstration Program, though it is likely the city's housing authority will seek to move more developments into the program.



SOURCES: IBO analysis of data from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and New York City Housing Authority

NOTE: Housing authority sizes reflect the current number of housing units, which may be less than the total number of units at the time HOPE VI and other program awards were granted because the number of possible public housing units nationwide has been on the decline. Not all programs had a one-for-one public housing unit replacement requirement.

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