

Table 5**The Ten Hardest-Hit Cities**

City	Percent of Homes Underwater	# of Homes in Foreclosure or Default in 2013
Hartford, CT	56%	723
Newark, NJ	54%	1,346
Elizabeth, NJ	53%	567
Paterson, NJ	49%	858
Detroit, MI	47%	4,830
Warren, MI	44%	927
Dayton, OH	43%	3,399
Miami Gardens, FL	43%	726
North Las Vegas, NV	43%	2,648
Bridgeport, CT	42%	1,571

The data on underwater homes is based on Zillow's Negative Equity Report for the end of 2013. The default and foreclosure data was prepared by Americans for Financial Reform and is based on data from RealtyTrac. It includes the total number of unique properties that received a notice of default, lis pendens, notice of trustee sale, or a notice of foreclosure sale in 2013, or that became a real-estate owned property following foreclosure. Because ZIP code boundaries are not always fully aligned with city limits, these numbers should be treated as estimates rather than precise figures.

Bernardino, Palmdale, Visalia, Fresno, Moreno Valley, Modesto, Fairfield, Bakersfield, Rialto, Fontana, and Salinas—are among the nation's 100 hardest-hit cities. Sixteen cities in Florida are among the 100 hardest-hit. These are Miami Gardens, Palm Bay, Jacksonville, Port Saint Lucie, Hialeah, Miramar, Orlando, Tampa, Brandon, Tallahassee, Gainesville, Saint Petersburg, Miami, Pompano Beach, Clearwater, and Fort Lauderdale. Ohio has six of the nation's hardest-hit cities. Five cities in both Illinois and Arizona rank among the nation's underwater hot spots.

The overwhelming majority of these cities are lower-income communities, with median household incomes below the national median of \$51,371. In fact, as **FIGURE 1** illustrates, two-thirds of the 100 hardest-hit cities have median incomes below \$50,000, and 34 percent have median incomes below \$40,000. The hardest-hit city of all, Hartford, CT, is also one of the poorest, with a median household income of just \$28,931. The so-called recovery has left behind lower-income communities.

Figure 1**Median Household Incomes of the 100 Hardest-Hit Cities**