



Rats are overrunning cities. People are fighting back with dry ice and birth control

BY JARED GILMOUR
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Rats populations are spiking in cities across the United States—and in many, it’s only getting worse.

From Houston to New York City to Washington, D.C., warmer winters are giving rodents more time to breed, according to the New Republic. And with how quickly rats can breed, even one extra litter a year can spell a baby boom.

Rodent complaints in Chicago were up 9 percent in the early part of the summer alone—and that’s in a city that just last year held the dubious distinction of being “the rattiest in America,” according to USA Today. New York Mayor Bill De Blasio unveiled a \$32 million plan to root out rats in July, but even that only targets the most infested areas.

“I travel all over the world,” rat expert Bobby Corrigan told the New Republic. “Complaints and feedback and questions I hear right now are all, ‘We’ve never seen rats in the city like this before.’ They’re all expressing the same concern: Our rat problem is worse than ever.”

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