## Town of Cary

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## Cary Tax Rate

## Cary Municipal Tax Rate

The survey examined Cary's municipal tax rate of .42 per \$100 of property valuation as compared to other localities (Charlotte, Raleigh, Chapel Hill, and Durham). A five-point scale was used. The response categories were "very low", "somewhat low", "about right", "somewhat high", and "very high."

The results for the total sample are shown in Table 47. A majority (64.6%) of the respondents felt that the tax rate was "about right" in Cary. A slight skewing or slanting on the high side is to be expected because these questions are often perceived as a potential justification for a tax increase. This year it appears the skewing to the high side has decreased slightly. Note that 28.1% (30.8% in 2004) answered the rate was "somewhat high" or "very high" while 7.5% (4.4% in 2004) answered it was "somewhat low" or "very low". This was also apparent in the mean reduction from 3.34 to 3.26 this year (remember that "about right" is the midpoint at 3.00). Overall, there has been a slight decrease in the perception that taxes in Cary were on the high side with a majority of the respondents indicating the tax rate was "about right."

Table 47. Cary Municipal Tax Rate in Cary.

			Somewhat Low	About Right	Somewhat High	Very High	%
Year	Mean	Very Low 1	2	3	4	5	Above 3
06	3.26	1.9	5.6	64.6	21.2	6.9	28.1
04	3.34	0.8	3.6	64.8	21.9	8.9	30.8
02	3.20	0.5	6.3	69.5	20.4	3.3	23.7
00	3.30	0.5	3.6	66.4	24.0	5.2	29.2
98	3.13	0.5	7.3	73.7	15.9	2.5	18.4

Cary Municipal Tax Rate Crosstabulations

Crosstabulations were conducted on age, children in household under 18, housing type, race, years in Cary, and zip code (Tables B301-B306). Most groupings felt the tax rate was "about right" with a slant toward taxes being on the high side. The groups with the highest percentage above the midpoint of 3 (in order) were 56-65 year olds (45.0%), Asians (45.0%), other races (40.0%), apartment residents (39.6%), over 65 year olds (39.4%), those living in Cary 0-1 years (38.9%), and households without children (32.3%).



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