

TOWN of CARY

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Emergency Preparedness

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A set of six questions was included in the survey to examine the emergency preparedness of the respondents. The first question asks the respondents what transportation method they would use if government officials ordered a mandatory evacuation of Cary (Table 65). The results indicate that 95.5% of the respondents would use a private vehicle (their own or someone else's) to evacuate the area. There were 4.0% who would need to use public transportation and 0.5% who responded they would use both. This indicates the Town would need to have the ability to move 4,000-5,000 individuals with public transportation based on the population estimate of 115,000.

Table 65. Mandatory Evacuation Transportation Method.

Year	% Private Vehicle	% Public Transportation	% Both Public & Private Transportation
06	95.5	4.0	0.5

The next question examined the respondents living situation if their home were damaged or destroyed (Table 66). Most of the respondents (49.9%) would stay with family or friends in that situation while 32.0% would have the financial resources to move into a motel, apartment, or home. The results also indicate there would be 5.0% who would have to stay in an emergency shelter. This could represent 5,000-6,000 individuals who would need access to an emergency shelter. Approximately 13% of the respondents indicated they would have more than one situation (i.e., stay with friends/family or move into motel/apartment/home).

Table 66. Living Situation if Home Damaged or Destroyed.

Year	I would stay with friends or family	I would have the financial resources to move into a motel/apt./home	I would need to stay in an emergency shelter	Respondent indicated with more than one living situation
06	49.9	32.0	5.0	13.1

Another question was included in the survey to examine the respondent's pet situation if government officials ordered a mandatory evacuation of Cary (Table 67). In the sample, 44.3% of the respondents did not have pets. Of those who had pets, 90.1% indicated they would take their pets with them in the event of a mandatory evacuation. There were 3.6% who indicated they would have the financial resources to board their pets. However, there were 1.8% who would have to leave their pets behind due to the fact that pets are not allowed to stay in emergency shelters with them. This could represent a significant number of animals abandoned in the Town during an evacuation.

Table 67. Mandatory Evacuation Pet Situation.

Year	I would be able to take my pets	I would have the financial	I would leave my pets behind since	Respondent indicated

		resources to board my pets	pets are not allowed in emergency shelters	with more than one pet situation
	with me			
06	90.1	3.6	1.8	4.5

The respondents were also asked how many individuals in their households have health conditions that require daily access to life-saving medical services like oxygen, dialysis, or prescription drugs (Table 68). Of the 405 households surveyed, 17.8% had health conditions requiring daily access to life-saving medical services. Note that 10.3% of the households had 1 person requiring medical services, 7.0% had 2 people, and only 0.5% had 3 people.

Table 68. Number Living in Household with Health Conditions Requiring Daily Access to Life-Saving Medical Services.

		1	2	3
Year	0			
06	82.3	10.3	7.0	0.5

The final two questions examined if the respondents possessed a 3-day emergency kit (food, water, prescriptions, flashlight, radio, important papers, and contact information) and a family plan for how to get together if a disaster were to strike during work or school. The results indicate that 48.8% had a 3-day emergency kit available (Table 69). A crosstabulation of those households with individuals who require daily access to life-saving medical services crossed by possession of a 3-day emergency kit reveals a limited degree of actual preparedness (Table 70). Only 36.6% of those with 1 person in the household needing daily access to life-saving medical services had a 3-day emergency kit. In addition, 46.4% of those with 2 people in the household needing daily access to life-saving medical services had a 3-day emergency kit. As for the family emergency plan, only 45.6% of the households had the plan in place (Table 71).

Table 69. Possession of 3-Day Emergency Kit.

Year	% Yes	% No	% Don't Know
06	48.8	50.3	1.0

Table 70. Possession of 3-Day Emergency Kit by Number in Household with Health Conditions Requiring Daily Access to Life-Saving Medical Services.

Number	n	% Yes	% No	% Don't Know
1	41	36.6	63.4	0.0
2	28	46.4	46.4	7.1
3	2	100.0	0.0	0.0

Table 71. Family Emergency Plan for Getting Together if Disaster Struck During Work or School.

Year	% Yes	% Don't Know

06	45.6	54.4
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Emergency Preparedness Crosstabulations

The crosstabulations for mandatory evacuation transportation methods are shown in Tables B382-B386. The demographic variables age, housing type, income, race, and zip code were used in the breakdowns. The groups with the higher need (in order) for public transportations include \$20,001-\$30,000 incomes (26.3%), 0-\$20,000 incomes (25.0%), Asians (14.3%), and African-Americans (13.3%). In addition, the over 65 age group (11.1%), apartment dwellers (9.1%), and townhouse/ condo residents (9.1%) also reported a somewhat higher need for public transportation.

The crosstabulations for mandatory evacuation living situation are shown in Tables B387-B391. Several groups had higher percentages for needing to stay in an emergency shelter. These include Asians (28.6%), apartment dwellers (15.4%), 0-\$20,000 incomes (13.3%), \$30,001-\$50,000 incomes (13.0%), and \$20,001-\$30,000 incomes (11.1%). In addition, other races (9.1%), over 65 age group (8.3%), and 27511 zip code (8.1%) reported a somewhat higher need for emergency shelters. One additional crosstabulation was conducted in this set that crossed living situation by evacuation transportation method (B392). The results indicate 26.7% of those respondents who would need to use public transportation for evacuation would also need to stay in an emergency shelter. In addition, there were 4.2% of the respondents with access to a private vehicle for evacuation who would need to stay in an emergency shelter.

The crosstabulations for pet situation are shown in Tables B393-B397. The highest percentages among the groups for leaving their pets behind since they are not allowed in emergency shelters were for other races (20.0%), 18-25 year olds (6.3%), 56-65 year olds (5.9%), apartment dwellers (4.5%), and \$50,001-\$70,000 income level (4.5%).

Tables B398-B399 shows the crosstabulations for housing type and zip code for number living in household with health conditions requiring life-saving medical services. The tables illustrate that a larger percentage of households with 1 person requiring the medical services was in townhouse/ condos (16.3%), apartments (12.7%), 27519 zip code (11.1%), and 27513 zip code (11.0%). The larger percentage for 2 people in the household requiring the medical services was in townhouse/ condos (11.6%) and 27511 zip code (11.2%).

The possession of a 3-day emergency kit crosstabulations are shown in Tables B400-B405. The lowest percentages of possession of these kits were among 18-25 year olds (14.3%), 0-\$20,001 incomes (18.8%), and African-Americans (33.3%).

Finally, the crosstabulation for having a family plan in place to get together if a disaster were to strike during work or school are shown in Tables B406-B411. The groupings with the lowest percentages for having the plans in place were 0-\$20,000 incomes (26.7%), 18-25 year olds (28.6%), \$20,001-\$30,000 incomes (31.6%), Asians (38.1%), and \$30,001-\$50,000 incomes (39.1%).

