



Marist College Institute for Public Opinion

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Report Commissioned by the National Center for Disaster Preparedness at The Mailman School of Public Health National Survey July 2007*

Major Disaster: Level of Preparedness

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: In thinking about preparing yourself for a major disaster, which could include gathering surplus food, medicine, or other supplies, or developing a plan such as having emergency contacts and meeting points, which of the following best represents your preparedness for a major disaster:

	USA Residents				
	In thinking about preparing yourself for a major disaster, which best represents your preparedness				
	I have not yet prepared, but I intend to in next 6 months	I have not yet prepared, but I intend to in next month	I just recently began preparing	I have been prepared for at least the past 6 months	I am not planning to do anything about preparing
Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	
July 2007	17%	6%	10%	24%	43%
August 2006	15%	5%	12%	28%	40%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Major Disaster: Luck Is More Important than Preparation

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: Thinking about major disasters such as terror attacks, natural disasters, or emergency weather events please tell me if you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements: In order to survive a major disaster or emergency, luck is more important than preparation.

	USA Residents			
	In order to survive a major disaster or emergency, luck is more important than preparation			
	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	
July 2007	9%	27%	46%	18%
August 2006	8%	23%	50%	19%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

* Numbers may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Major Disaster: Not Possible for Average Person to Prepare

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: Thinking about major disasters such as terror attacks, natural disasters, or emergency weather events please tell me if you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements: It is not really possible for an average person to prepare for a major disaster or emergency.

	USA Residents			
	It is not really possible for an average citizen to prepare for a major disaster or emergency			
	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	5%	30%	49%	16%
August 2006	8%	28%	51%	13%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Major Disaster: Experience Major Disaster in the Next Five Years

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: Thinking about major disasters such as terror attacks, natural disasters, or emergency weather events please tell me if you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements: I think it is likely that in the next five years I will experience a major disaster or emergency in the area where I live or work.

	USA Residents			
	I think it is likely that in the next five years I will experience a major emergency or disaster			
	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	14%	33%	44%	9%
August 2006	12%	32%	47%	9%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Major Disaster with No Warning: Adequacy of Community Response Plan

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: In the event of a major disaster where there was NO WARNING such as a terrorist attack or earthquake, do you think your community has an adequate emergency response plan currently in place, or not?

	USA Residents		
	Major disaster where there was no warning: Community has adequate emergency plan		
	Yes, is adequate	No, is not adequate	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	40%	52%	8%
August 2006	32%	60%	8%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Major Disaster with No Warning: Personal Preparation

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: Do you personally feel very prepared, prepared, not very prepared, or not prepared at all for a major disaster where there was NO WARNING such as a terrorist attack or earthquake in your community?

	USA Residents				
	Personally prepared for a major disaster where there was no warning				
	Very prepared	Prepared	Not very prepared	Not prepared at all	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	7%	36%	33%	23%	1%
August 2006	7%	31%	36%	25%	1%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Major Disaster with Warning: Adequacy of Community Response Plan

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: In the event of a major disaster WITH WARNING such as a hurricane, flood, or wildfire, do you think your community has an adequate emergency response plan currently in place, or not?

	USA Residents		
	Major disaster with warning: Community has adequate emergency plan		
	Yes, is adequate	No, is not adequate	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	54%	40%	6%
August 2006	57%	37%	6%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Major Disaster with Warning: Personal Preparation

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: Do you personally feel very prepared, prepared, not very prepared, or not prepared at all for a major disaster WITH WARNING such as a hurricane, flood, or wildfire in your community?

	USA Residents				
	Personally prepared for a major disaster with warning				
	Very prepared	Prepared	Not very prepared	Not prepared at all	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	12%	48%	24%	15%	1%
August 2006	17%	47%	23%	13%	0%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Major Disaster: How Long Until First Responders Reach You

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: In the event of a major disaster in your community, such as a terrorist attack, natural disaster, or emergency weather event, how long do you believe it will take first responders, such as fire, police, paramedics, or the National Guard to arrive and assist you if needed: under one hour, within several hours, within a day, within several days?

	USA Residents				
	In the event of a major disaster in your community, how long until first responders reach you				
	Under one hour	Within several hours	Within a day	Within several days	Vol: Never
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	37%	28%	18%	17%	0%
August 2006	33%	31%	18%	18%	0%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Concerned About Future Terror Attacks in United States

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: Are you very concerned, concerned, not very concerned, or not concerned at all about the possibility there will be more terror attacks in the United States?

	USA Residents			
	Concerned about more terror attacks in the U.S.			
	Very concerned	Concerned	Not very concerned	Not concerned at all
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	31%	49%	15%	5%
August 2006	35%	47%	13%	5%
July 2005	27%	51%	16%	6%
July 2004	29%	47%	17%	6%
August 2003	22%	54%	18%	6%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Confidence in Government to Protect Area Where You Live from Terrorist Attack

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: Overall, are you very confident, confident, not too confident, or not confident at all in the government to protect the area where you live from a terrorist attack?

	USA Residents				
	Government to protect the area where you live from terrorist attack				
	Very confident	Confident	Not too confident	Not confident at all	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	10%	44%	29%	16%	1%
August 2006	8%	36%	38%	17%	1%
October 2005	7%	35%	37%	19%	2%
July 2005	10%	39%	32%	16%	3%
July 2004	10%	43%	31%	14%	2%
August 2003	14%	48%	25%	10%	3%
August 2002	10%	48%	26%	10%	6%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Confidence in Government to Protect Public Transportation from Terrorist Attack

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: Overall, are you very confident, confident, not too confident, or not confident at all in the government to protect public transportation such as trains and buses from terrorist attack?

	USA Residents				
	Government to protect public transportation from terrorist attacks				
	Very confident	Confident	Not too confident	Not confident at all	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	5%	39%	38%	17%	1%
August 2006	5%	31%	44%	19%	1%
July 2005	5%	32%	41%	18%	4%
July 2004	6%	37%	39%	16%	3%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Confidence in Government to Respond to Natural Disaster or Emergency Weather Event

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: Overall, are you very confident, confident, not too confident, or not confident at all in the government to respond to a natural disaster or emergency weather event in your area?

	USA Residents				
	Government to respond to a natural disaster or emergency weather event in your area				
	Very confident	Confident	Not too confident	Not confident at all	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	11%	51%	26%	11%	1%
August 2006	9%	45%	31%	14%	1%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Confidence in Government to Protect U.S. Borders

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: Overall, are you very confident, confident, not too confident, or not confident at all in the government to protect U.S. borders?

	USA Residents				
	Government to protect U.S. borders				
	Very confident	Confident	Not too confident	Not confident at all	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	4%	33%	36%	26%	1%
August 2006	7%	24%	44%	24%	1%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Confidence in Health Care System to Respond to Biological, Chemical, or Nuclear Attack

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: In general, how confident are you that the health care system is ready to respond effectively to a biological, chemical, or nuclear attack: very confident, confident, not too confident, or not confident at all?

	USA Residents				
	Health care system ready to respond to biological, chemical, or nuclear attack				
	Very confident	Confident	Not too confident	Not confident at all	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	6%	30%	40%	23%	1%
August 2006	4%	24%	44%	27%	1%
July 2005	7%	32%	41%	17%	3%
July 2004	7%	32%	42%	16%	2%
August 2003	9%	37%	39%	13%	2%
August 2002	9%	44%	31%	9%	7%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Confidence in Government to Oversee Spending and Set Priorities on Disaster Preparedness

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: How confident are you in the government to oversee spending and set priorities on terrorism and disaster preparedness: very confident, confident, not too confident, or not confident at all?

	USA Residents			
	Government to oversee spending and set priorities on terrorism and disaster preparedness			
	Very confident	Confident	Not too confident	Not confident at all
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	4%	32%	40%	24%
August 2006	5%	30%	41%	24%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Family Emergency Preparedness Plan

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: Do you have a family emergency preparedness plan that all family members know about?

	USA Residents	
	Does family have emergency preparedness plan	
	Yes	No- Unsure
	Row %	Row %
July 2007	43%	57%
August 2006	42%	58%
October 2005	45%	55%
July 2005	43%	57%
July 2004	37%	63%
August 2003	35%	65%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Family Emergency Preparedness Plan: The Basics

Asked of those who have a plan, results include all residents

Question Wording: Does your family emergency preparedness plan include all, some, or none of the following: at least two days of food and water, a flashlight, a portable radio and spare batteries, emergency phone numbers, and a meeting place for family members in case of evacuation?

	USA Residents			
	Does family emergency preparedness plan include the basic items			
	All	Some	None	No emergency plan
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	31%	11%	1%	57%
August 2006	31%	10%	1%	58%
October 2005	31%	13%	1%	55%
July 2005	30%	12%	1%	57%
July 2004	24%	12%	1%	63%
August 2003	23%	11%	1%	65%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Family Emergency Preparedness Plan: Why Not?

Asked of those who do not have a complete plan

Question Wording: Please tell me the main reason you do not have a complete family emergency preparedness plan: I have not had time, I'm not sure about what to do, I don't feel it will make a difference, It's too expensive, I believe the necessary supplies will be provided by the government or local agency, or It's unlikely there will be an emergency event that affects my family?

	USA Residents							
	Why not have a family emergency preparedness plan							
	I have not had time	I am not sure about what to do	I do not feel it will make a difference	It is too expensive	I believe the necessary supplies will be provided	It is unlikely there will be an emergency event	Vol.: I feel prepared	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	26%	21%	12%	6%	4%	21%	3%	7%
August 2006	26%	22%	14%	6%	3%	21%	3%	5%
October 2005	23%	23%	14%	4%	3%	18%	4%	11%
July 2005	21%	25%	15%	4%	7%	13%	5%	10%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Evacuation

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: In the event of a major disaster or emergency, if you were ordered to evacuate your home or office and go to a distant location would you leave immediately, wait until concerns about children or loved ones were addressed, or would you not leave?

	USA Residents		
	If ordered to evacuate, would you		
	Leave immediately	Wait until concerns were addressed	Not leave
	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	46%	43%	11%
August 2006	44%	44%	12%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Reason Would Not Evacuate Immediately: Lack of Confidence in Who Is Ordering You to Leave

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: If you were ordered to evacuate, thinking about your own circumstances, would any of the following keep you from leaving immediately: Not leave because of your lack of confidence in who is ordering you to leave.

	USA Residents	
	Not leave because of lack of confidence in who is ordering you to leave	
	Yes	No- Unsure- Does not apply
	Row %	Row %
July 2007	37%	63%
August 2006	42%	58%
October 2005	36%	64%
July 2005	38%	62%
July 2004	45%	55%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Reason Would Not Evacuate Immediately: Do Not Have Transportation

Asked of all residents

Question Wording: If you were ordered to evacuate, thinking about your own circumstances, would any of the following keep you from leaving immediately: Not leave because you do not have transportation.

	USA Residents	
	Not leave because you do not have transportation	
	Yes	No- Unsure- Does not apply
	Row %	Row %
July 2007	23%	77%
August 2006	29%	71%
October 2005	30%	70%
July 2005	26%	74%
July 2004	33%	67%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Confidence in Government to Respond to a Bird Flu Pandemic

Asked of residents

Question Wording: In general, how confident are you that the government is ready to respond effectively to a bird flu pandemic or other major epidemic: very confident, confident, not too confident, or not confident at all?

	USA Residents				
	Confidence in government to respond to bird flu pandemic				
	Very confident	Confident	Not too confident	Not confident at all	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	7%	34%	38%	19%	2%
August 2006	6%	27%	42%	23%	2%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Confidence in Health Care System to Respond to a Bird Flu Pandemic

Asked of residents

Question Wording: In general, how confident are you that the health care system is ready to respond effectively to a bird flu pandemic or other major epidemic: very confident, confident, not too confident, or not confident at all?

	USA Residents				
	Confidence in health care system to respond to bird flu pandemic				
	Very confident	Confident	Not too confident	Not confident at all	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
July 2007	7%	37%	37%	18%	1%
August 2006	6%	27%	44%	22%	1%

Marist Poll Trend Data July 2007

Nature of the Sample

The July 2007 national survey was conducted July 9th through July 20th, 2007. 1,352 adults 18 years of age or older within the continental United States were interviewed by telephone. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a complete list of telephone exchanges from throughout the nation. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each region of the country was represented in proportion to its population. The results of the entire survey are statistically significant at $\pm 2.7\%$. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish.

The August 2006 national survey was conducted July 19th through August 7th, 2006. 1,207 adults 18 years of age or older within the continental United States were interviewed by telephone. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a complete list of telephone exchanges from throughout the nation. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each region of the country was represented in proportion to its population. The results of the entire survey are statistically significant at $\pm 3.0\%$. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish.

The October 2005 national survey was conducted on October 12th, 13th and 17th, 2005. 1,052 adults 18 years of age or older within the continental United States were interviewed by telephone. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a complete list of telephone exchanges from throughout the nation. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each region of the country was represented in proportion to its population. The results of the entire survey are statistically significant at $\pm 3.0\%$. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish.

The July 2005 national survey was conducted from July 15th through 22nd, 2005. 1,315 adults 18 years of age or older within the continental United States were interviewed by telephone. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a complete list of telephone exchanges from throughout the nation. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each region of the country was represented in proportion to its population. The results of the entire survey are statistically significant at $\pm 2.7\%$. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish.

The July 2004 national survey was conducted from July 19th through 26th, 2004. 1,234 adults 18 years of age or older within the continental United States were interviewed by telephone. There were 564 interviews with people employed by a company with more than 10 employees. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a complete list of telephone exchanges from throughout the nation. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each region of the country was represented in proportion to its population. The results of the entire survey are statistically significant at $\pm 3\%$. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish.

The August 2003 national survey was conducted from August 5th through 14th, and 18th through 20th, 2003. 1,373 adults 18 years of age or older within the continental United States were interviewed by telephone. There were 663 interviews with people employed by a company with more than 10 employees. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a complete list of telephone exchanges from throughout the nation. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each region of the country was represented in proportion to its population. The results of the entire survey are statistically significant at $\pm 3\%$. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish.

The August 2002 national survey was conducted from August 12th through 22nd, 2002. 1,215 adults 18 years of age or older within the continental United States were interviewed by telephone. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a complete list of telephone exchanges from throughout the nation. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each region of the country was represented in proportion to its population. The results of the entire survey are statistically significant at $\pm 3\%$. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.