How Ready Are We?

Natural Disaster or Emergency Preparedness

To better understand the needs of first responders and other emergency workers, the 2013 American Housing Survey asks U.S. residents how prepared they are for disasters.

Emergency Water Supply
At least three gallons or 24 bottles of water for each person in the household.

54.3% Yes
43.7% No
2.1% Not Reported

Nonperishable Emergency Food
Household has enough non-perishable food to sustain everyone in the household for three days.

82.0% Yes
15.9% No
2.1% Not Reported

Prepared Emergency Evacuation Kit

51.5% Yes
46.1% No
2.4% Not Reported

Emergency Meeting Location

37.4% Yes
60.7% No
2.0% Not reported

Communication Plan
The communication plan must include a contingency for the disruption of cell phone service.

33.0% Yes
65.2% No
1.9% Not Reported
Evacuation Vehicle(s)
Vehicle(s) must be reliable and able to carry all household members, pets, and supplies up to 50 miles away.

88.6% Yes
9.4% No
2.0% Not Reported

Evacuation Funds
If you had to evacuate your home for a safe place at least 50 miles away, do you have financial resources to meet expenses of up to $2,000?

69.8% Yes
26.9% No
3.3% Not Reported

House or Building Number
Clearly Visible

77.5% Yes
21.2% No
1.4% Not Reported

Generator Present

18.3% Yes
80.0% No
1.3% Not Reported

Access to Financial Information

76.8% Yes
20.6% No
2.6% Not Reported


* Not Reported: Households did not provide a response to this question.