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New Yorkers Concerned About Preparedness for Future Terror Attacks

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This Marist College Institute for Public Opinion poll reports:

- **Most New Yorkers do not think their community is ready to respond to a future terror attack:** With the largest anti-terror drill underway in selected places around the country, 68% of New York City residents do not think their community has an adequate emergency response plan in the event of a future terror attack. 11% are unsure about their community's preparedness. 21% do think their community has a plan in place to deal with a terror emergency.

Question Wording: In the event of a terrorist attack in your area, do you think your community has an adequate emergency response plan currently in place, or not?

NYC Residents	Yes	No	Unsure
April 2005	21%	68%	11%

- **Many residents not confident city is protected from terrorism, especially subways and bridges:** Only 32% of New York City residents have confidence in the government to protect the subways and bridges in the New York City area from future terror attacks. There is also concern about the ability to protect the area's nuclear power facilities, the water supplied to communities, Grand Central Station, and the airports. 53% of New Yorkers do have confidence that an attack against a specific historical site such as the Empire State Building or the Statue of Liberty would be thwarted.

Question Wording: Are you very confident, confident, not too confident, or not confident at all in the government to protect each of the following from terrorist attack:

	Very Confident/ Confident	Very Confident	Confident	Not Too Confident	Not Confident at All
NYC Residents					
Historical sites	53%	7%	46%	33%	14%
Airports	45%	6%	39%	39%	16%
Grand Central Station	44%	7%	37%	39%	17%
The water supply	39%	5%	34%	40%	21%
Nuclear power facilities	38%	5%	33%	40%	22%
The subways and bridges	32%	5%	27%	43%	25%

- **About one in three families have elements of an emergency plan in place for family members:** 35% of city residents have some semblance of an emergency plan in the event of a terrorist attack. 23% have put together basic necessities such as food and water, a flashlight, a portable radio and spare batteries, as well as contact information and a meeting place for family members.

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

NYC Residents	Yes	No	Unsure
April 2005	35%	64%	1%

Question Wording: If so, 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?

NYC Residents	All	Some	None	No Plan
April 2005	23%	11%	1%	65%

- **Residents believe the city has not gotten its fair share from Washington to fight terrorism:** 73% of residents do not think the federal government has given New York City its fair share of money to combat future terror attacks.

Question Wording: Do you feel the federal government has given New York City more than its fair share of money to prepare for future acts of terror, less than its fair share, or has New York City received its fair share of money to prepare for future acts of terror?

NYC Residents	More	Less	Fair Share
April 2005	6%	73%	21%

- **Many still worry about future terror attacks:** Although concern about terrorism in New York has waned in the three and a half years since September 11th, 51% of city residents still worry about future terror attacks in the city.

Question Wording: Are you very worried, worried, not too worried or not worried at all about another major terrorist attack in New York City?

	Very Worried/ Worried	Very Worried	Worried	Not Too Worried	Not Worried at All
NYC Residents					
April 2005	51%	14%	37%	37%	12%
September 2004	60%	22%	38%	24%	16%
March 2002	55%	22%	33%	31%	14%
October 2001	73%	34%	39%	18%	9%

How the Survey Was Conducted

This survey was conducted on March 9th, 10th, 14th, and 15th, 2005. 1,012 residents of New York City were interviewed in proportion to the population in each borough. All interviews were conducted by telephone. The results for residents are statistically significant at $\pm 3\%$. The margin of error increases for cross-tabulations.