

# *First Responder Survey - Part A*

## I. General Agency Information

A. Type of agency, (check one from each column)

<b>31 / 6%</b> vol. EMS only	<b>3 / 0.06%</b> federal entity
<b>9 / 2%</b> paid EMS only	<b>4 / 0.08%</b> state entity
<b>1 / 0.1%</b> paid per call EMS only	<b>71 / 14%</b> county entity
<b>209 / 40%</b> vol. fire/EMS	<b>119 / 23%</b> municipal entity
<b>58 / 11%</b> paid fire/EMS	<b>23 / 4%</b> ESD
<b>5 / 1%</b> paid per call fire/EMS	<b>2 / 0.5%</b> hospital based
<b>151 / 29%</b> vol. fire only	<b>8 / 1.5%</b> private provider
<b>26 / 5%</b> paid fire only	<b>53 / 10%</b> self governed
<b>1 / 0.1%</b> paid per call fire only	<b>0 / 0%</b> other
<b>32 / 6%</b> no response	<b>240 / 46%</b> no response
 <b>523 / 100%</b> total	 <b>523 / 100%</b> total

B. Number of certified personnel within your agency;

LP/	<b>105</b> <5	<b>18</b> 6 - 25	<b>3</b> 26 - 50	<b>1</b> 51 - 100	<b>0</b> >100
EMT-P	<b>196</b> <5	<b>51</b> 6 - 25	<b>11</b> 26 - 50	<b>5</b> 51 - 100	<b>3</b> >100
EMT-I	<b>187</b> <5	<b>28</b> 6 - 25	<b>1</b> 26 - 50	<b>0</b> 51 - 100	<b>1</b> >100
EMT	<b>235</b> <5	<b>137</b> 6 - 25	<b>23</b> 26 - 50	<b>11</b> 51 - 100	<b>4</b> >100
ECA	<b>177</b> <5	<b>58</b> 6 - 25	<b>3</b> 26 - 50	<b>3</b> 51 - 100	<b>1</b> >100
EMD	<b>27</b> <5	<b>9</b> 6 - 25	<b>2</b> 26 - 50	<b>1</b> 51 - 100	<b>0</b> >100
Instructors	<b>168</b> <5	<b>21</b> 6 - 25	<b>2</b> 26 - 50	<b>0</b> 51 - 100	<b>0</b> >100

C. Is your agency a TDH registered First Responder Organization? **310 (59%)** yes  
**174 (33%)** no  
**37 (7%)** unknown

D. Is your agency an active participant in you local RAC or TSA? **271 (52%)** yes  
**183 (35%)** no  
**67 (12%)** unknown

E. What is the size of your primary response area? (check one)

<b>43 (8%)</b> < 9 sq. mi.	<b>237 (45%)</b> < 100 sq. mi.	<b>10 (2%)</b> < 2500 sq. mi.
<b>78 (14%)</b> < 25 sq. mi.	<b>120 (22%)</b> < 900 sq. mi.	<b>2 (0.003%)</b> > 2500 sq. mi.
		<b>33 (0.06%)</b> unknown

F. What is the population of your response area? (check one)

<b>79 (15%)</b> < 1,000	<b>81 (15%)</b> < 10,000	<b>10 (2%)</b> < 250,000
<b>93 (17%)</b> < 2,500	<b>87 (16%)</b> < 50,000	<b>2 (0.4%)</b> < 500,000
<b>105 (20%)</b> < 5,000	<b>26 (4.9%)</b> < 100,000	<b>3 (0.6%)</b> > 500,000
		<b>37 (7%)</b> unknown

G. Average number of calls your agency responds to in a week? (check one)

<b>208 (40%)</b> < 10	<b>34 (6.5%)</b> 101-250	<b>4 (0.5%)</b> 1001-2500
<b>163 (32%)</b> 11-50	<b>16 (1.1%)</b> 251-500	<b>2 (0.4%)</b> 2501-5000
<b>36 (7%)</b> 51-100	<b>10 (1%)</b> 501-1000	<b>1 (0.2%)</b> > 5000
		<b>49 (9.5%)</b> unknown

H. What percent of your calls fall into each category below/ (total must equal 100%)

_____prehospital emergency, transported	_____nonemergency transfer
_____prehospital nonemergency, transported	_____aid call, lift assist, welfare check, etc.
_____emergency transfer	_____false alarm, not needed

**(Data not available in spreadsheet summary)**

I. What is your average response time for prehospital emergency calls? (check one)

<b>170 (32.5%)</b> < 5 min.	<b>61 (11.5%)</b> 11-20 min.	<b>0</b> 31-45 min.
<b>227 (43.5%)</b> 6-10 min.	<b>3 (0.5%)</b> 21-30 min.	<b>0</b> > 45 min.
		<b>62 (12%)</b> unknown

J. What is your average travel time to hospital? (check one)

<b>0</b> < 10 min.	<b>237 (45.5%)</b> 21-30 min.	<b>27 (5.1%)</b> 46-60 min.
<b>0</b> 11-20 min.	<b>165 (30.5%)</b> 31-45 min.	<b>4 (0.7%)</b> > 1 hr.
		<b>90 (17.2%)</b> unknown

K. What is the response time to the farthest part of your primary response area? (check one)

<b>267 (51%)</b> < 15 min.	<b>28 (5.3%)</b> 31-60 min.	<b>1 (0.2%)</b> 2-3 hrs.
<b>192 (36.7%)</b> 16-30 min.	<b>2 (0.4%)</b> 1-2 hrs.	<b>0</b> > 3 hrs.
		<b>33 (6.3%)</b> unknown

L. What is the travel time to the nearest hospital from the farthest part of your response area? (check one)

<b>324 (62%)</b> < 30 min.	<b>9 (1.7%)</b> 1-2 hrs.	<b>0</b> > 3 hrs.
<b>145 (27.5%)</b> 31-60 min.	<b>1 (0.2%)</b> 2-3 hrs.	<b>44 (8.5%)</b> unknown

M. Currently, your agency is manned and equipped to respond; (check one)

<b>169 (32%)</b> 100% of the time
<b>148 (28%)</b> 100% of the time, except under extraordinary circumstances
<b>35 (7%)</b> unless we are currently on a call (only 1 crew available usually)
<b>95 (18%)</b> over %50 of the time (have personnel available normally)
<b>37 (7%)</b> less than %50 of the time (don't have personnel available normally)
<b>39 (8%)</b> unknown

## II. Equipment and Supplies

A. Check the following equipment your agency has currently; (check all that apply)

- 428 O2 & related supplies
- 312 spinal immobilization equipment
- 304 A.E.D.
- 153 I.V. & intubation supplies & equipment
- 98 ACLS med.
- 119 cardiac monitor/defibrillator
- 112 narcotics and/or other controlled meds
- 219 pedi. supplies & equipment
- 86 other: (HazMat, Rescue, Adv. Airway, Water Rescue, Pulse Ox, MICU, Ventilator, Stokes Litter, MAST, Decon Trailer, 12-Lead)
- 25 other: (Biological, High Angle, Confined Space, Nitro-Nox, Gator Cart, GPS/Cell Phone, KED, Fast-1 ID)

B. What specialized equipment does you agency have? (check all that apply)

- 310 jaws of life
- 431 S.C.B.A.
- 185 air bags
- 179 repelling gear
- 235 stokes basket
- 74 other: (Rescue, HazMat, WMD, PPV Fan, Hand Tools, Aerial Ladder, Rescue Boat, Stair Chair, 75' Quint, 85' Ladder, Fire Boat, Rescue Divers, K-12 Saw, Lumidor, Bee Suit, Cribbing, SAR, ATV's, Floating Pump, Tent, SKED)
- 19 other: (Under Water Display Camera, T1 Camera, Shoring Blocks, Decon Suits, Booms and Pads, Portable Lights, Generator)

C. List the number of apparatus, your agency uses, in each category below according to its condition;

- |               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 501 excellent | 84 poor           |
| 391 good      | 31 out of service |
| 212 adequate  |                   |

D. How would you rate your agency's reusable equipment? ie. -LSBs, KEDs, etc. (check one)

- |                                    |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> poor       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good      | <input type="checkbox"/> inadequate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> adequate  |                                     |

**(Data not available in spreadsheet summary)**

E. Are you able to regularly maintain adequate supply levels?

**424 (81%)** yes  
**55 (11%)** no  
**44 (8%)** unknown

F. Has patient care ever suffered due to inadequate equipment or supplies?

**385 (73.6%)** no  
**73 (14%)** yes  
**65 (12.4%)** unknown

### III. Communication/ Dispatch

A. Does your response area have (check one)

911 access  
 enhanced 911 with no prearrival medical instruction  
 enhanced 911 with prearrival medical instruction to the caller from dispatch  
 none of the above

**(Data not available in spreadsheet summary)**

B. Who dispatches for your agency? (check all that apply)

**78 (12%)** you do your own  
**44 (6.8%)** EMS provider  
**131 (20.2%)** city dispatcher  
**286 (44.2%)** county dispatcher  
**15 (2.3%)** hospital  
**43 (6.6%)** 3<sup>rd</sup> party  
**51 (7.9%)** other: (Self, In-House Security, Air Traffic Control Tower, Phone System, FAA, Air Force Rescue Center, Answering Service)

**(Several respondents reported multiple sources of dispatching.)**

C. Method of notification from dispatch; (check all that apply)

**67 (6.8%)** siren, bell, other audible public means  
**131 (13.3%)** telephone  
**416 (42.2%)** pager  
**297 (30.2%)** 2 way radio  
**65 (6.5%)** in-house alarm  
**9 (1%)** other: (Alpha Pager, Snap Pager, Fax, Scanner, Mobile Computer, CAD, In-station Printers)

**(Several reported multiple notification methods)**

#### IV. Training/Education

A. Does your agency provide or pay for; (check all that apply)

<b>37 (27.6%)</b> initial EMS training	<b>26 (19.4%)</b> EMS continuing education
<b>32 (23.9%)</b> advanced EMS training	<b>0</b> other _____
<b>26 (19.4%)</b> college classes	<b>0</b> other _____
<b>13 (9.7%)</b> ACLS, BTLs, PALS, etc.	

B. How far do you normally have to travel for classes? (check one)

<b>120 (23%)</b> < 10 mi.	<b>143 (27.4%)</b> 26-50 mi.	<b>10 (2%)</b> 101-200 mi.
<b>157 (30%)</b> 11-25 mi.	<b>35 (6.7%)</b> 51-100 mi.	<b>2 (0.4%)</b> > 200 mi.
		<b>56 (10.5%)</b> unknown

C. What is the farthest you have had to travel to attend classes? (check one)

___ < 50 mi.	___ 101-200 mi.	___ > 350 mi.
___ 51-100 mi.	___ 201-350 mi.	

**(Data not available in spreadsheet summary)**

D. What types of training are needed by your agency, that aren't currently being supplied? (check all that apply)

<b>173 (22.4%)</b> initial basic classes	<b>127 (16.5%)</b> ACLS, BTLs, PALS,, etc.
<b>137 (17.7%)</b> initial advanced classes	<b>180 (23.2%)</b> specialized rescue classes
<b>141 (18.2%)</b> basic continuing ed. classes	<b>15 (2%)</b> other

E. Who currently provides training for your agency? (check all that apply)

<b>259 (33%)</b> you do your own	<b>162 (20.6%)</b> community or Jr. college
<b>219 (27.8%)</b> another EMS agency	<b>81 (10.3%)</b> for profit entity
<b>65 (8.3%)</b> hospital	<b>0</b> other

F. Has your agency ever applied for a grant for education? **114 (21.8%)** yes  
**374 (71.5%)** no  
**35 (6.7%)** unknown

( # of times **174** )

G. Has your agency ever received a grant for education? **74 (14%)** yes  
**410 (78.4%)** no  
**39 (7.6%)** unknown

( # of times **88** )

H. Does your RAC or TSA provide training? **152 (29%)** yes  
**193 (37%)** no  
**178 (34%)** no reply

I. Does your agency provide or pay for the training listed below? (check all that apply)

<b>116 (12.5%)</b>	EVO	<b>28 (3.1%)</b>	other: (Rescue, Fire Control, Swift Water
<b>184 (19.8%)</b>	infection control		Rescue, Scuba, Bioterrorism, Dive
<b>137 (14.7%)</b>	crime scene preservation		Rescue, Confined Space Rescue)
<b>200 (21.5%)</b>	mass casualty situations		
<b>264 (28.4%)</b>	haz-mat situations		

J. How many times has your agency used Critical Incident Stress Debriefings in the past year?

<b>67 (12.8%)</b>	not involved	<b>12 (2.3%)</b>	4- 7	<b>68 (13%)</b>	unknown
<b>212 (40.5%)</b>	0	<b>2 (0.4%)</b>	8-15		
<b>158 (30.5%)</b>	1-3	<b>4 (0.7%)</b>	> 15		

## V. Mutual Aid

A. What is the average time for the nearest mutual aid to arrive? (check one)

<b>0</b>	< 10 min.	<b>305 (58%)</b>	31-60 min.	<b>1 (0.2%)</b>	> 2 hrs.
<b>178 (34%)</b>	11-30 min	<b>33 (6%)</b>	1-2 hr.	<b>6 (1.8%)</b>	unknown

B. Do you currently have mutual aid agreements in place for...

<b>512 (19.2%)</b>	heavy call volume
<b>480 (17.9%)</b>	M.C.I.
<b>516 (19.3%)</b>	extraordinary rescue situations
<b>523 (19.6%)</b>	Haz-Mat situations
<b>522 (19.5%)</b>	search & rescue
<b>120 (4.5%)</b>	other: (Multiple Alarms, Fires, ALS, EOD, Daytimes, Transports, Industrial, Rescue, Air Crashes, Bio Hazards, CIMA, When out of District, Wildland Grass Fires)

C. How many times has your agency activated mutual aid in the past 6 months? (check one)

<b>107 (17.7%)</b>	0	<b>187(31%)</b>	4-10	<b>24 (3.9%)</b>	26-50
<b>179 (29.7%)</b>	< 3	<b>37 (6.2%)</b>	11-25	<b>20 (3.3%)</b>	> 51
<b>48 (7.9%)</b>	unknown				

D. How many times has your agency supplied mutual aid in the past 6 months? (check one)

<b>88 (16.8%)</b>	0	<b>132 (25,4%)</b>	4-10	<b>38 (7.2%)</b>	26-50
<b>135 (25.8%)</b>	< 3	<b>54 (10.3%)</b>	11-25	<b>23 (4.4%)</b>	> 50
<b>53 (10.1%)</b>	unknown				



B. With your current level of funding, your agency has been...(check one)

- 60 (11.5%)** unable to provide all the essential services needed
- 157 (30%)** barely able to provide essential services
- 235 (45%)** able to maintain services adequately
- 36 (7%)** able to expand and provide any and all needed services
- 35 (6.5%)** unknown

### **VIII. Public Education & Public Relations**

A. Is your entity involved in or participate in...(check all that apply)

- 145 (24.5%)** EMS awareness education
- 224 (37.9%)** community first aid/CPR classes
- 83 (14%)** ride along programs
- 46 (7.8%)** explorer organization
- 54 (9.2%)** agency mail outs (how often? Bi-weekly, Monthly, Quarterely, Annually)
- 38 (6.5%)** other: (Drug Awareness Programs, Red Ribbon Campaigns, School Programs, Health Fairs, Fire Safety Programs, Public Relations, AED/CPR Classes, BP Clinics, Open House, DWI Programs at High Schools, Newspaper Articles)

**(Respondents reported multiple involvements)**

B. Does your agency have a specific person assigned to public education/awareness?

- 141 (26.9%)** yes      **343 (65.6%)** no      **39 (7.5%)** unknown

C. Does your agency have any special projects during EMS week?

- 69 (13.2%)** yes      **412 (78.8%)** no      **42 (8%)** unknown