## Wisconsin Public Radio & St. Norbert College Survey Center

# THE WISCONSIN SURVEY – FALL 2005 Natural Disaster Preparedness and Responsibility

## FOR RELEASE AFTER: 7AM FRIDAY NOV. 18.

#### Survey Information:

Number of Adult Wisconsin Resident Respondents: 400

Interview Period: October 31 – November 11, 2005 Margin of Error: +/- 5% at the 95% confidence level.

### **Contact:**

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How well prepared do you think the national (federal) government is to deal with another major natural disaster. Do you think they are very well prepared, well prepared, somewhat prepared, not very well prepared, or not at all prepared?

| Very Well Prepared            | 4%  |  |
|-------------------------------|-----|--|
| Well Prepared                 | 16% |  |
| Somewhat Prepared             | 43% |  |
| <b>Not Very Well Prepared</b> | 26% |  |
| Not at All Prepared           | 11% |  |
| Not Sure                      | 1%  |  |
| Refused                       | 0%  |  |

Thinking about Hurricane Katrina and the disaster relief effort in New Orleans, how much of the blame for the problems in the relief effort do you think each of the following was responsible for. Let's start with the Mayor of New Orleans, would you say that he was responsible for...

|  | A Lot | Some | Not<br>Much | None | Not Sure | Refused |
|--|-------|------|-------------|------|----------|---------|
| The Mayor of New<br>Orleans                                  | 36%   | 45%  | 13%         | 4%   | 3%       | 0%      |
| Local Parish Leaders other than the Mayor                    | 24%   | 48%  | 16%         | 7%   | 5%       | 0%      |
| The Governor of Louisiana                                    | 37%   | 49%  | 9%          | 2%   | 4%       | 0%      |
| FEMA (the Federal<br>Emergency Management<br>Administration) | 38%   | 40%  | 12%         | 6%   | 3%       | 0%      |
| President Bush   | 29%   | 32%  | 19%         | 18%  | 3%       | 0%      |

Which level of government, local, state, or national, do you think **should** have the primary responsibility in dealing with natural disasters.

| Local                     | 22% |
|---------------------------|-----|
| State                     | 32% |
| National                  | 27% |
| <b>Combination (vol.)</b> | 19% |
| Not Sure                  | 1%  |
| Refused                   | 0%  |

|              | Natural Disaster Preparation            |        |          |                  |            |  |  |
|--------------|---|--------|----------|------------------|------------|--|--|
|              | Very<br>Well                            | Well   | Somewhat | Not Very<br>Well | Not At All |  |  |
| Democrats    | 1%                                      | 10%    | 41%      | 30%              | 18%        |  |  |
| Republicans  | 8%                                      | 27%    | 45%      | 18%              | 2%         |  |  |
| Independents | 4%                                      | 5%     | 44%      | 33%              | 13%        |  |  |
| Other        | 0%                                      | 17%    | 48%      | 17%              | 14%        |  |  |
|              | "A Lot" of Blame for Response           |        |          |                  |            |  |  |
|              | Mayor                                   | Parish | Gov      | FEMA             | Pres       |  |  |
| Democrats    | 17%                                     | 14%    | 18%      | 53%              | 43%        |  |  |
| Republicans  | 57%                                     | 39%    | 52%      | 22%              | 7%         |  |  |
| Independents | 40%                                     | 24%    | 49%      | 45%              | 40%        |  |  |
| Other        | 31%                                     | 17%    | 33%      | 23%              | 20%        |  |  |
|              | Where Should Primary Responsibility Be? |        |          |                  |            |  |  |
|              | Local                                   | State  | National | Combo            | Not Sure   |  |  |
| Democrats    | 16%                                     | 24%    | 39%      | 19%              | 2%         |  |  |
| Republicans  | 30%                                     | 37%    | 16%      | 16%              | 0%         |  |  |
| Independents | 18%                                     | 40%    | 28%      | 15%              | 0%         |  |  |
| Other        | 17%                                     | 13%    | 20%      | 47%              | 3%         |  |  |

The tables above should be read across, e.g., 16% of Republicans think the primary responsibility for natural disaster response should be at the national level.