

## Cary Municipal Tax Rate

The survey examined Cary's municipal tax rate of 42 cents per \$100 of property valuation as compared to other localities (Charlotte, Raleigh, and Durham). A 5-point scale was used. The response categories were very low (1), somewhat low (2), about right (3), somewhat high (4), and very high (5).

The results for the total sample are shown in Table 39. A majority (68.0%) of the respondents felt that the tax rate was about right in Cary. A slight skewing or slanting to the higher side is to be expected because these questions are often perceived as a potential justification for a tax increase. This year, it appears the skewing to the high side has decreased significantly. Note that only 18.9% (28.1% in 2006) answered on the "high" side of the scale (above 3). In addition, there was an increase in the responses on the "low" side of the scale from 7.5% in 2006 to 13.2% this year. This was also apparent in the mean reduction from 3.26 to 3.06. Overall, there has been a significant decrease in the perception that taxes in Cary were on the higher side with a majority of the respondents indicating the tax rate was about right or appropriate.

**Table 39. Cary Municipal Tax Rate in Cary.**

Year	Mean	Very Low 1	Somewhat Low 2	About Right 3	Somewhat High 4	Very High 5	% Below 3	% Above 3
<b>08</b>	<b>3.06</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>68.0</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>18.9</b>
06	3.26	1.9	5.6	64.6	21.2	6.9	7.5	28.1
04	3.34	0.8	3.6	64.8	21.9	8.9	4.4	30.8
02	3.20	0.5	6.3	69.5	20.4	3.3	6.8	23.7
00	3.30	0.5	3.6	66.4	24.0	5.2	4.1	29.2
98	3.13	0.5	7.3	73.7	15.9	2.5	7.8	18.4

### Cary Municipal Tax Rate Crosstabulations

Crosstabulations were conducted on age, education, housing type, income, race, and years in Cary (Tables B284-B289). Across most of the breakdowns, the respondents indicated the tax rate was about right. The subgroups with the highest means or perceived taxes on the "high" side were African-Americans (3.33), \$20,001-\$30,000 income level (3.31), Asians (3.26), those without a college degree (3.22), and 56-65 age group (3.21).