

TOWN of CARY

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Quality of Life

Quality of Life in Cary

The perception of the quality of life in Cary over the past two years was assessed with a five-point scale. The response categories were "much worse", "somewhat worse", "the same", "somewhat better" and "much better" for this question.

Overall, 57.3% of respondents perceived the quality of life in Cary as "the same" over the past two years (Table 35). The mean dropped from 3.44 in 2004 to 3.24 this year. This indicates a slight drop in the perception that the quality of life is better from the last survey. Higher means indicate perceptions of an improvement in the quality of life. However, there was still a rather strong belief the quality of life has improved in the past two years. Note that 30.6% responded on the *better* side of the scale (over 3) compared to only 12.1% who responded on the *worse* side of the scale (below 3).

Table 35. Quality of Life in Cary.

Year	Mean	Much Worse 1	Somewhat Worse 2	The Same 3	Somewhat Better 4	Much Better 5	% Above 3
06	3.24	1.9	10.2	57.3	22.9	7.7	30.6
04	3.44	0.5	7.9	50.0	30.6	11.0	41.6
02	3.18	1.0	18.6	49.0	23.9	7.5	31.4
00	3.05	1.6	22.8	49.2	22.0	4.4	26.4

Quality of Life Crosstabulations

The crosstabulations for age, children in household under 18, education, gender, housing type, income, race, years in Cary, and zip code are shown in Tables B246-B254. The means were generally consistent within most groupings. The predominant response was that the quality of life was "the same" this year. However, it is important to note there continued to be a higher percentage of responses on the *better* (over 3) side of the scale. In fact, there were no groupings where the percentages on the *worse* side were greater than the *better* side. The closest was for the over 65 age group that had 15.2% on the *better* side and 12.2% on the *worse* side.



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