

**Community
Emergency Planning
and
Assessment
of
Faith-Based Facilities**

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Case Study: Sedgwick County, Kansas

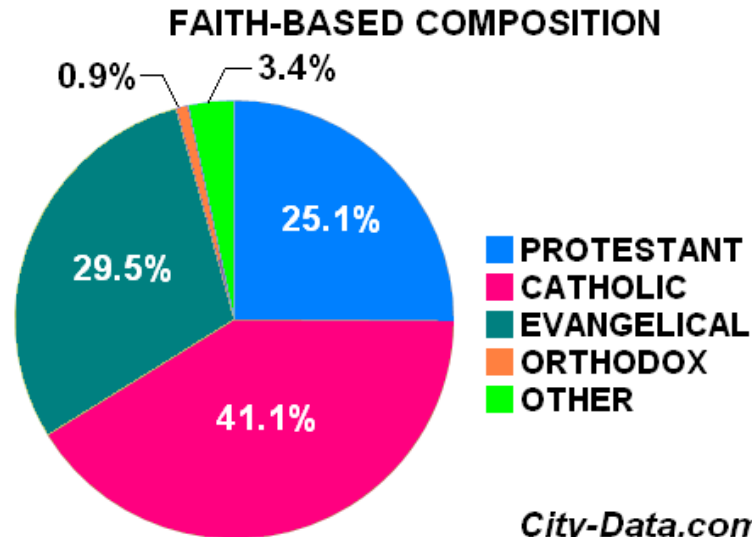
Total County Population: 501,076 (2011 Census)

Number of Faith-Based Facilities: 465

Total Estimated Faith-Based Population: 211,369 (City-Data.com)

Largest Facility Occupancy: 3,400

Smallest Facility Occupancy: 15



Community Emergency Survey

Number of Surveys Sent Out: 465 Facilities

Number of Surveys Received: 63 (13.5%)

Facility Occupancy Noted:

- **Total Number of Staff: 767**
- **Total Number of Worshippers: 23,672**
- **Total Number Requiring Mobility Assistance: 272**

Staff Notification Methods:

- **Home Phone/Landline: 40 (64%)**
- **Cell Phone: 52 (83%)**
- **All-Hazards Weather Radio: 19 (30%)**
- **Email: 28 (44%)**
- **Media: 23 (37%)**
- **Other (Verbal): 10 (16%)**

Community Emergency Survey

Transportation:

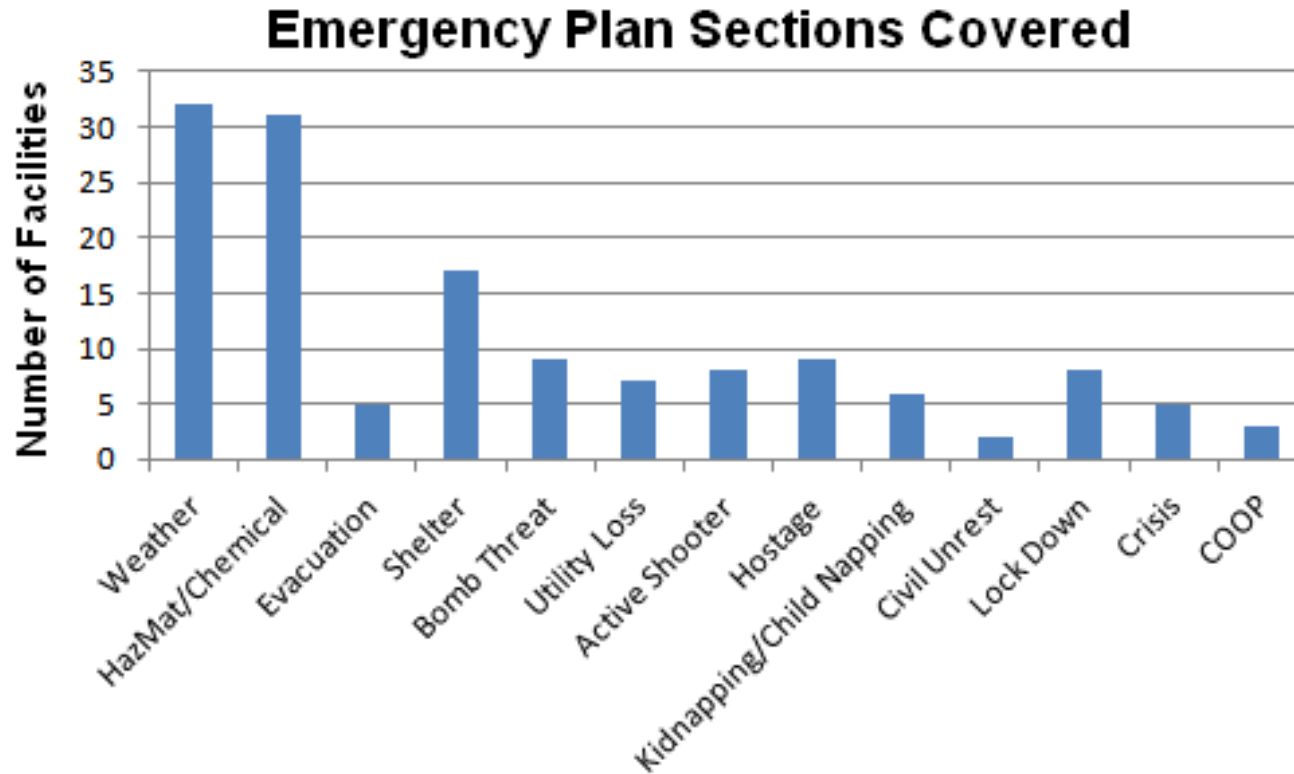
- Number of Vehicles Maintained: 10
- Number of ADA Equipped Vehicles: 2
- Number Available in Event of Emergency Use by Others: 5

Planning:

- Number of Facilities Affected by Previous Disaster: 8 (13%)
- Number of Pre-Arranged Locations: 5 (8%)
- Number with Written Agreements for Relocation: 2 (3%)
- Facilities with Backup Generators: 6 (10%)

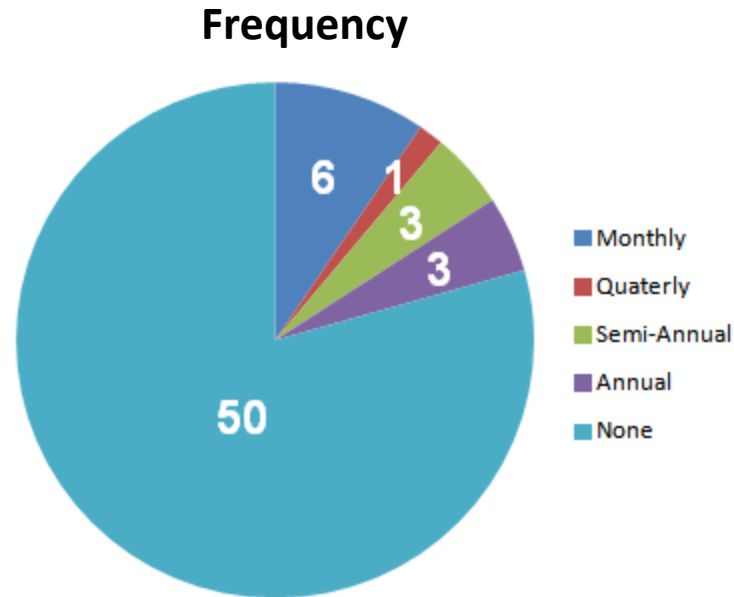
Community Emergency Survey

Planning Continued:



Community Emergency Survey

Exercises and Drills Conducted:



Note: Only 13 of the 63 reporting facilities perform exercises and drills

Community Emergency Survey

Safety and Security:

Facilities with FEMA 361/NSSA* Approved Shelters: 5

Facilities with Generally Identified Shelters: 20

Facilities with Safety/Security Film on Windows: 13

Vital Records:

Number of Facilities Performing Backup of Records: 46 (73%)

Located On-Site: 38 (60%)

Located also Off-Site: 23 (37%)

**National Storm Shelter Association (NSSA)*

Findings from the Survey

Faith-based organizations typically do not have adequate staff to create or maintain emergency plans

Most facilities are not constructed with safe rooms or adequate shelters requiring congregants to exit the building to safe areas or remain in the facility with no assurance of protection

Notifications of emergency conditions or incidents affecting the facility are not routinely monitored

Most facilities having people with disabilities do not have the ability to transport to another facility under evacuation conditions

Civil threats requiring lockdown or defensive posture are not practiced by most facilities

Recommendations

Create a team of faith-based members and Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) members currently practicing or knowledgeable on emergency planning efforts to work with and coordinate with faith-based facilities in creating their own core emergency team

Provide training workshops in neutral locations outside faith-based facilities to ensure differing faiths are not promoted

Provide guidance and assistance tools along with public safety agencies to work with facility staff on creating, maintaining and strengthening emergency planning and exercises/drills

Provide operational exercise opportunities for the faith-based community to participate in and identify/assist in improvements