



Presenter Disclosures

The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:

No relationships to disclose

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Purpose

Evaluate the association between mental health status and disaster preparedness among respondents to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS)

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Americans are Not Prepared

- "...only one-third (34%) of Americans have started preparing, or are prepared, for a major disaster." (Redlener, 2007)
- 53% of Americans are not prepared with a
 3-day supply of food and water. (Currie, 2012)
- Being prepared may mitigate the negative impacts of disasters.

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Mental Health Impact of Disasters

Population	PTSD Prevalence
General Population	8%
Direct disaster victims	30-40 %
Disaster response workers	10-20 %

(Galea, 2005)

Factors increasing likelihood of adverse outcomes (Bethel, 2011; Norris, 2002)

- Chronic disease
- Mental illness
- Physical disability

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Vulnerable Populations at Risk

- "Persons with a disability are 1.22 times more likely to be unprepared for an emergency." (Smith, 2009)
- "Respondents with poorer health, disabilities, and multiple chronic diseases were generally less likely to have a complete set of disaster preparedness supplies." (Bethel, 2011)

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Gaps in Research

- Recent efforts focus on increasing preparedness levels in populations with disabilities. (Christensen, 2007; Rowland, 2007; Eisenman, 2009)
- Gaps
 - Chronic conditions (eg: asthma, diabetes)
 - Mental health

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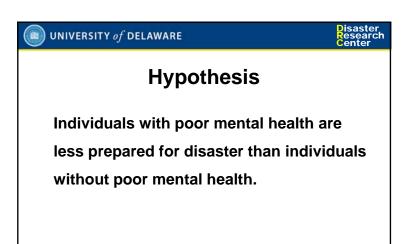
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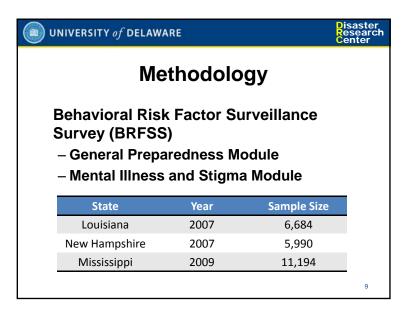
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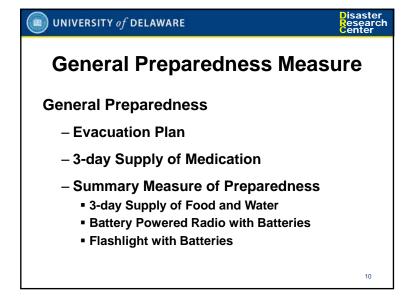
Research Question

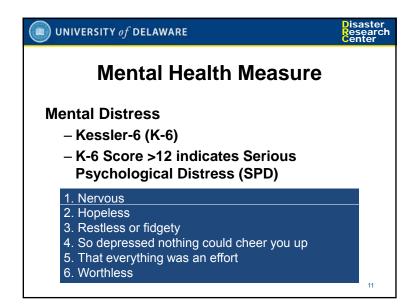
Are those with poor mental health more or less prepared for disasters than those without poor mental health?

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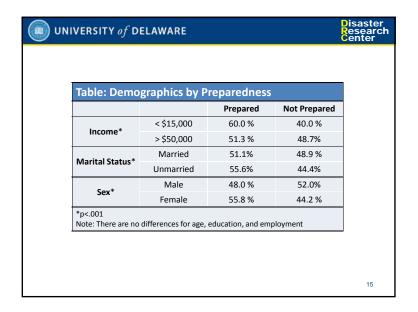
Data Analysis

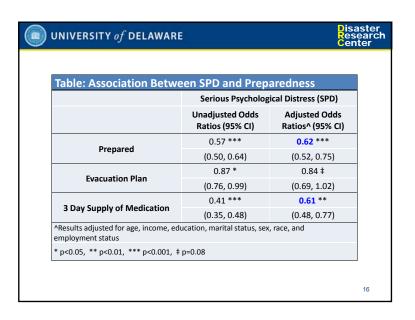
- Chi-square
- T-test
- Logistic regression
- Statistical analysis conducted in SPSS 19.0 accounting for complex sampling design and weighting.

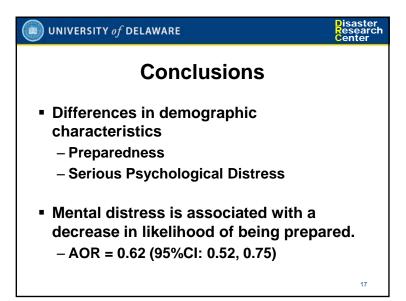
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	Table: Prevalence of Pr	reparedness a	nd SPD	
	Outcome	Percent	n	
	Preparedness (summary measure)	53.1 %	11,491	
	Evacuation Plan	29.0 %	6,377	
	3-Day Supply of Medication	91.2 %	18,209	
	Serious Psychological Distress	5.6 %	1,216	
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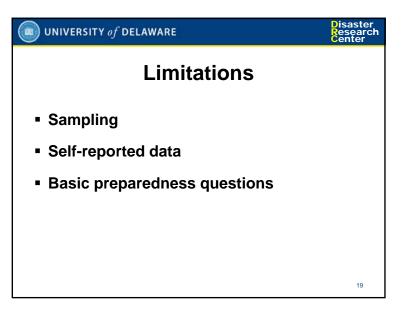
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able: Demogra	aphics by Mental	SPD	No SPD	
Age	Age * (mean)	51.89	55.06	
Income	< \$15,000	16.5 %	83.5%	
	>\$50,000	1.4 %	98.6 %	
Education	< HS graduate	14.7 %	85.3 %	
	College graduate	2.0 %	98.0 %	
Marital Status	Married	3.4%	96.6%	
	Not Married	8.5%	91.5%	
Employment	Not Employed *	8.1 %	91.9 %	
Sex	Male	4.4 %	95.6 %	
	Female	6.3 %	93.7 %	
<.001				













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Future Research

- State level differences (LA, MS, NH)
- Validation of preparedness measures
- Cohort study to investigate longitudinal aspect of preparedness within vulnerable populations

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