



Barrow County Emergency Services

Barrow County – Community Emergency Medical Assessment

Emergency Response Zones (ERZ):

Barrow County Emergency Services is the licensed Emergency Medical Service provider for all Barrow County to include all Municipalities.

Barrow County Emergency Services License Number: **007-05** - GEMSIS PCR Number: **114**

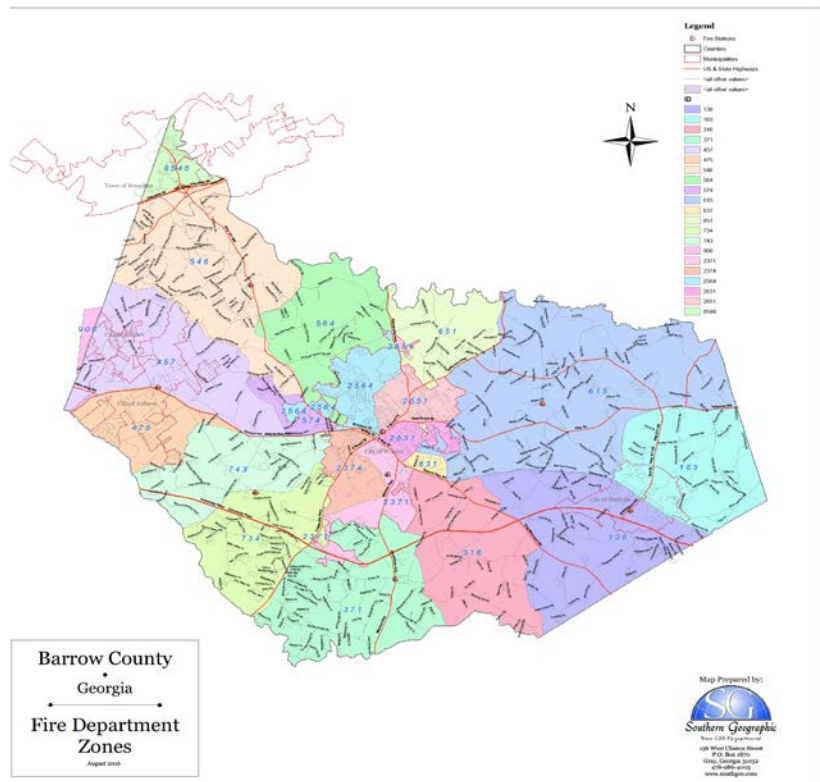
Emergency Response Zone or Standards of Coverage – Defined as those adopted, written policies and procedures that determines the distribution, concentration and reliability of fixed and mobile response force for Fire/Rescue and Emergency Medical Services. Emergency Responses Zones were established by utilizing GIS mapping to ensure ideal response for all of Barrow County. (*Adopted August 2015*)

For the purpose of Barrow County, Barrow County Emergency Services has defined twenty (20) ERZ sub zones in its Standards of Coverage. These sub zones identify the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd due responses for each of the respected zones which is automatically built-in the CAD system to ensure efficient operations.

Emergency Response Zones are as follows:

(Reference ERZ Map)

- ERZ 136
- ERZ 163
- ERZ 316
- ERZ 371
- ERZ 457
- ERZ 475
- ERZ 546
- ERZ 546Hall
- ERZ 564
- ERZ 576
- ERZ 615
- ERZ 631
- ERZ 651
- ERZ 734
- ERZ 743
- ERZ WFD1A
- ERZ WFD1B
- ERZ WFD1C
- ERZ WFD2A
- ERZ WFD2B



Data Components utilized:

- All request for services were utilized in the computation of the following response data. Barrow County considers all calls for service for an ambulance into the dispatch center emergency responses.
- Tyler/New World Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) Software (DSS) Decision Support Server.
- ImageTrend Records Management System (RMS).

Calendar Year 2018 Response Data:

- **Total Responses: 9,578**
- **Patient Contacts: 8,763**
- **Total Transports: 4,635**
- **AVG Zone Wide Response Time (Dispatched to On Scene): 7 minutes 20 seconds.**

2019 1st Quarter Response Data (January 1, 2018 –March 31st, 2019):

- **Total Responses: 2,153**
- **Patient Contacts: 2,178**
- **Total Transports: 1,212**
- **AVG Zone Wide Response Time (Dispatched to On Scene): 7 minutes and 30 seconds.**

The above data reflects all calls of service into the respected ERZs that require a Barrow County Ambulance response regardless of the nature of the call.

Response times:

While the State Office of EMS and Trauma (Department of Public Health) doesn't establish a set standard on response times, it is the understanding that the critically ill and injured benefit most from timely delivery of appropriate care.

NFPA 1710 Standard on response times – Advanced Life support response time of 480 seconds (8 minutes) or less for the arrival of an advanced life support unit at an emergency medical incident where the service is provided by the fire service.

Also referenced in the Emergency Medical Services 4th edition (Guide book Fire-Based EMS systems) – “Policies for the Public Good” – *Response time guidelines for victims of cardiac arrest, notes that the highest hospital discharge rates have been achieved in patients in whom CPR was initiated within four minutes of arrest and advanced cardiac life support administered within eight minutes*

The “Golden Hour” describes the precious time period (60 minutes) from time of injury through location and transportation to definitive care of a critically injured trauma patient to minimize death and permanent disability.

Barrow County Emergency Services goal for performance standards is following the NFPA 1710 Recommended Standard regarding response times to **emergency incidents** within our licensed service area.

Emergency Incidents - means a condition or situation in which an individual perceives a need for immediate medical attention, including conditions or situations requiring medical care, extrication, rescue, or risk suppression in connection with the provision of emergency medical services, or where the potential for such need is perceived by the individual, a bystander, or an emergency medical services provider.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, although the state of Georgia does not define a response time standard through law or rules and regulations; Barrow County Emergency Services strives to meet or exceed all consensus standards set forth by NFPA 1710, American Heart Association, and the Emergency Medical Services Guidebook 4th edition.

By the utilization of strategically located stations, policies and procedures, and performance standards Barrow County Emergency Services continues to offer a high level medical response within its licensed coverage area.

As the communities within the county continue to experience growth, so does the demand for services provided by Barrow County Emergency Services. As a result of potential growth, the Standards of Coverage have undergone extensive analysis over the past year. BCES Staff has reported to the Barrow County Board of Commissioner, and they have agreed, that an additional ambulance is needed as a part of the Standards of Coverage. BCES staff, along with Barrow County Administration are currently in negotiations with Northeast Georgia Health Systems to provide additional Emergency Medical Services response capabilities within the Barrow County EMS zone. Barrow County has set July 1st, 2019 as the target date to begin the additional ems response. As part of these negotiations, a change to the ERZ's will be necessary to maximize the efficiency of all units within the response zone. Furthermore, BCES Staff has realized the emerging need for the ability to categorize request for EMS responses coming into the Emergency Communications Center. Staff is currently researching possible solutions to categorize these request.