

# ELEMENT 1 CHECKLIST

# CLIMATE RISKS AND COMMUNITY VULNERABILITIES ASSESSMENT

Yes = Action completed     Somewhat = Action in progress or incomplete     No = No action planned or taken     Unknown = Status or action unknown     N/A = Does not apply

GENERAL		Value	Rank
1.0.1	Does your health care facility receive notifications of weather warnings, alerts, and advisories for the following hazard conditions?:		
	• Extreme heat	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Extreme cold	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Extreme weather - freezing rain, blizzard, ice storm, hail, snow	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Drought	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Wildfire	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Tornado	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Flash Floods and/or Coastal Floods	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Hurricanes or Severe storms	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Avalanche or landslides	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Poor air quality and smog	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Water-borne contamination and/or diseases	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Vector-borne diseases	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	

STEP 1: Understand Climate Risks		Value	Rank
<i>“Climate vulnerability assessment” is the analysis of the expected impacts, risks and adaptive capacity of a region or sector to the extreme and gradual effects of climate change. A vulnerability assessment is more than simple measurement of the potential harm caused by extreme weather events resulting from climate change includes an assessment of the ability to adapt.</i>			
1.1.1	Is local or regional government conducting climate risk and vulnerability assessments for the healthcare sector?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• If “yes”, are these assessments regularly updated with emerging data and climate science?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
1.1.2	Does local government communicate to your organization and the community information on local extreme weather hazard trends, including likely hazard impacts?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
1.1.3	Does your organization have partnerships with universities or other climate and health-focused organizations to inform your understanding of climate and health risks?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
1.1.4	Does disaster risk assessment inform local development policies? <i>(Are local and municipal government authorities acting on climate change information in formulating development policies?)</i>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
1.1.5	If the answers above are “no”, has your organization conducted an independent climate risk assessment?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• If the answer is ‘yes’, does your organization utilize the resultant information as a basis of planning?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
1.1.6	Based on your response to the questions above, rank your level of climate risk understanding.	<input type="radio"/> 3 (Exemplary) <input type="radio"/> 2 (Functional) <input type="radio"/> 1 (Marginal) <input type="radio"/> 0 (None) <input type="radio"/> N/A	

STEP 2: Assess Community Preparedness and Vulnerabilities		Value	Rank
<i>A resilient health care facility is dependent in part on the climate resiliency of the broader community. Climate variability and climate change may create risks in your community that can affect your health care facility. The community may have limited capacity to cope and certain vulnerability factors (e.g. institutional, demographic, socio-economic) may increase future risks. Step 2 questions should be completed for each campus or unique facility location.</i>			
1.2.1	Are local government organizations equipped with knowledge, experience and resources to manage disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation at a community or neighborhood level?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
1.2.2	Are there existing partnerships between the community, healthcare organization and local authorities to reduce climate vulnerability in the surrounding communities?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
1.2.3	Does the local government support vulnerable local populations <i>(particularly elderly, children)</i> to actively participate in risk reduction decision making, policy making, planning and implementation?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	

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1.2.4	Does your healthcare organization have an understanding of local community vulnerability to extreme temperatures, flooding and other extreme weather hazards?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A
1.2.5	Do staff from your health care facility regularly participate on community disaster planning committees (e.g. when emergency management or community vulnerability assessments are undertaken)?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A
1.2.6	When conducting risk assessments, does your health care facility receive and exchange information about risks in the community (e.g. vulnerability of infrastructure, critical resources, vulnerability of the population) from knowledgeable community partners?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A
1.2.7	Does your healthcare organization participate in community educational programs to assist the local community in reducing climate risk and vulnerabilities?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A
1.2.8	Is your healthcare system engaged in community health programs to improve community health in the face of particular climate risks (for example, home care for asthma to reduce health vulnerabilities during heat waves)?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A
1.2.9	Based on your response to the questions above, rank your level of community preparedness for climate change impacts	<input type="radio"/> 3 (Exemplary) <input type="radio"/> 2 (Functional) <input type="radio"/> 1 (Marginal) <input type="radio"/> 0 (None) <input type="radio"/> N/A

STEP 3: Prepare a Climate Risk and Vulnerability Analysis		Value	Rank
<i>Step 3 should be completed for each campus or unique facility location.</i>			
1.3.1	Has your organization reviewed, evaluated and cataloged extreme weather risks for this healthcare delivery location?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
1.3.2	When identifying climate risks, is uncertainty around changing weather patterns, including future climate variability, considered?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
1.3.3	Have you projected future climate impacts to 2050 or 2080?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
1.3.4	Does your facility/organization consider how indirect climate risks (drought, food prices, water availability, fossil fuel price increases) may affect future vulnerabilities or risks?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
1.3.5	Does your organization prepare and regularly update a Hazard Vulnerability Analysis?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
1.3.6	Does your Hazard Vulnerability Analysis include consideration of the impacts of extreme weather risks on both your buildings and infrastructure?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
1.3.7	Have you completed the following components of a Climate Risk Assessment for each facility/campus:	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Do you maintain a database of extreme weather losses from past events on your campus(es), city or region?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Have you mapped the intensity and probability of extreme weather events across all your campuses (today, 2050, 2080)?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Have you identified the vulnerabilities and hazard exposures your community may face? <b>See Section 1.2 above.</b>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Have you determined the degree of vulnerability and exposure to the hazard your campus or buildings may face? <b>See Elements 2 and 3 for guidance.</b>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Have you assessed the impact of community vulnerabilities on patient surge and non-traditional needs the community may expect a medical facility to provide? <b>See Element 4 for guidance.</b>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Have you identified the capacities and resources available within your organization, neighborhood or community to provide redundancy? <b>See Element 4 for guidance.</b>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Have you determined the potential to mitigate extreme weather impacts through enhanced ecosystem adaptations? <b>See Element 5 for guidance.</b>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
1.3.8	Based upon the responses to questions above, rank the state of climate risk and vulnerability analysis for the campus or facility?	<input type="radio"/> 3 (Exemplary) <input type="radio"/> 2 (Functional) <input type="radio"/> 1 (Marginal) <input type="radio"/> 0 (None) <input type="radio"/> N/A	

STEP 4: Prepare a System-wide Climate Risk and Vulnerability Analysis		Value	Rank
1.4.1	If your campus is part of a larger health system, does the system have a comprehensive hazard vulnerability planning process that considers strategic relocation of people and assets during and following extreme weather events...		
	• Within each campus?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Within the system?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	
	• Within a larger regional delivery system?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Somewhat <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown <input type="radio"/> N/A	

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**1.4.2** National and regional assessments of climate-related hazards are conducted approximately every 5 years. How often are risk assessments at your health care facility carried out (or revisited and updated)?

• Every year		<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> Somewhat	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Unknown	<input type="radio"/> N/A
• 2-5 years		<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> Somewhat	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Unknown	<input type="radio"/> N/A
• 6-10 years		<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> Somewhat	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Unknown	<input type="radio"/> N/A
• Never		<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> Somewhat	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Unknown	<input type="radio"/> N/A

**1.4.3** Based upon the responses to questions above, rank the state of climate risk and vulnerability analysis for your system?

3 (Exemplary)     2 (Functional)     1 (Marginal)     0 (None)     N/A

**SUMMARY**

	Value	Rank
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*Based on your responses above, develop a list of action items to address Clinical Care Service Delivery issues identified.*

**1.5.1** Have you determined climate risks for each building and campus based on hazard vulnerability assessments and/or this checklist?

Yes     Somewhat     No     Unknown     N/A

**1.5.2** Have you determined climate vulnerabilities and risks for the system as a whole?

Yes     Somewhat     No     Unknown     N/A

**1.5.3** Have you mapped priority strategies for this Element across a timetable for implementation? *Refer to the Getting Started section of the Climate Resilience Toolkit toolkit.climate.gov.*

Yes     Somewhat     No     Unknown     N/A

*This checklist is one component of a five element framework and toolkit for improving healthcare facility climate resilience. The full set of checklists, companion resources and case studies are available at [toolkit.climate.gov](http://toolkit.climate.gov). This document is provided to the public for informational purposes and voluntary use. It does not represent official HHS policy.*