

Rural Resilience Index (RRI)

Section 1: Community Resources Section 2: Disaster Management

Section 1: Community Resources

Our community is close knit and involved

Dimension Rating				High Low Need More Need More Applie	
Yes	No	Need More Info	Not Applicable	CHARACTERISTICS	This is important to my community
				There is generally a strong sense of belonging	
				Residents generally trust and value each other	
				Residents are proud of their community	
				Residents work together to accomplish shared goals	
				Many residents turn out at community events (parades, fairs, meetings)	
				Inter-generational ties within and between families are strong	
				The community offers a wide-range of recreational and cultural activities	
				Many residents participate in community groups, clubs, churches, and other shared activities	
				Many residents get involved in addressing community problems and issues	
				There is a variety of indoor & outdoor spaces for cultural, social and recreational activities	
				Faith-based, cultural and ethnic groups have spaces to gather	











There is a wide range of volunteer opportunities	
Local organizations are able to recruit and retain volunteers	
A local newspaper/newsletter and/or radio station covers local issues and news	
Regular community meetings keep residents in touch with local issues and news	

Our community is self-sufficient and resourceful

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Yes	No	Need More Info	Not Applicable	CHARACTERISTICS	This is important to my community			
				The community has a do it yourself mentality				
				Many residents have survival skills and knowledge				
				The community uses creative thinking and inventive problem solving				
				Employment opportunities and local services reduce the need to relocate				
				The mix of self-employment, wage-employment, and informal economic activities (e.g., hunting, trapping, fishing) is relatively balanced				
				Many residents are successful in developing and sustaining their own livelihoods or local businesses				
				Local community and service organizations are sustainable				
				Local churches and faith-based organizations are sustainable				
				The Chamber of Commerce (or equivalent) actively engages in the community				
				Local fundraising successfully supports community activities and shared goals				
				Community leaders/elders (elected or informal) successfully apply for grants to fund community projects				
				Locals engage in bartering and trading of goods and services as desired				
				There is at least one local, well-stocked grocery store				
				Locals add to purchased food through hunting, fishing, gathering, growing, and preserving				
				Fuel and repair services for cars or other transportation (e.g., snowmobiles) are available locally or close by				
				Reliable and affordable public transportation or alternatives meet residents needs				

Our community is diverse in skills, knowledge and culture

I		ensio ting	on	High Low Need More No Resilience Resilience Info Applic	
Yes	No	Need More Info	Not Applicable	CHARACTERISTICS	This is important to my community
				A high percentage of residents have lived in the community a long time	
				There is a relatively stable mix of ages (under 25; 25-65; 65 and over)	
				There is a relatively stable blend of new-comers and long-time residents	
				Individuals with specialized training and skills come and remain in the community	
				A wide range of technical, practical, and mechanical skills exist in our community	
				There is availability and access locally to a range of educational and training opportunities	
				The range of activities and facilities encourage young adults and families to stay	
				Education and training levels are relatively high	
				Local knowledge and traditions are valued and passed from generation to generation	
				Traditional knowledge is valued and informs community events and decisions	
				Residents bring a variety of cultural traditions to the community	
				Cultural practices and traditions inform community events and decisions	
				Lessons learned are shared and applied across the community	
				Residents of all ages, ethnicities, abilities etc. are included in and contribute to community life	
				There is diversity in who participates in community events (age, gender, culture, role in the community)	

Our community has a strong health and social support system

Dimension Rating				High Low Need More No Resilience Resilience Info Applic	
Yes	No	Need More Info	Not Applicable	CHARACTERISTICS	This is important to my community
				Most households have reasonable incomes (e.g., cover basic needs)	
				Community services allow seniors and those with disabilities to live independently	
				Schools and child-care options allow families to stay in the community	
				Activities and gathering places provide options for local youth to engage	
				Community services are available locally (e.g. parenting programs, youth organizations, women's shelter)	
				Affordable counselling and other mental health services (e.g., AA) are available locally	
				Primary health care (e.g., family doctors, health clinic) is available locally	
				Adequate support services are available locally to those with specific needs (e.g., children, people with disabilities, chronic health issues)	
				The community rallies to help residents in need	
				A range of community clubs/groups are available locally (e.g., curling club, Red Hat club, Veterans associations)	
				Community service clubs/groups (e.g., Rotary, Lions Club) contribute to community well-being	
				Rates of suicide are generally low	
				Rates of drug and/or alcohol abuse are generally low	
				Rates of crime and violence are generally low	
				Local police and/or community safety programs (e.g., neighbourhood watch, rangers) help prevent crime and increase safety	

Our community has strong local leadership and governance

Dimension Rating				High Low Need More No Applic	
Yes	ON	Need More Info	Not Applicable	CHARACTERISTICS	This is important to my community
				Informal leaders from different pockets of the community are valued (e.g., elders, key volunteers, business leaders)	
				Informal leaders have a positive influence in community activities and development	
				Informal leaders and/or elected officials actively seek out and listen to residents' opinions	
				Informal leaders and/or elected officials engage with residents in creative problem solving and decision making	
				Leaders/local government make timely, effective, and fair decisions	
				Local decision-making processes and decisions are well understood	
				Local businesses are included in community processes and decisions	
				Decisions affecting the community reflect diverse interests/perspectives and local priorities	
				Roles and responsibilities of local or regional/county government are clearly defined and understood	
				Policies and procedures affecting the community are clearly communicated	
				Measures are in place (e.g., audit and oversight) to ensure government accountability	
				Community planning adopts a sustainable community approach	
				Community planning looks forward to consider changes that might affect the tax base or the demand for specific services	
				Community planning addresses accessibility (for those with disabilities, low income) and equity	

Our community is stable and sustainable

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Yes	No	Need More Info	Not Applicable	CHARACTERISTICS	This is important to my community
				Changes in the local population (e.g., age, numbers) are relatively predictable	
				Seasonal influxes (e.g., tourists/seasonal workers/weekenders) are predictable	
				Our community has adequate, affordable housing for permanent residents	
				Our community has adequate, affordable housing for seasonal populations	
				Our community has adequate goods (e.g., food, dry goods) for seasonal populations There are generally low rates of unemployment	
				Residents' lifestyles reflect their valuing of the local environment	
				Residents value and protect local natural resources, soil and watersheds	
				Residents engage in sustainable harvesting and/or extraction of resources	
				Leaders/local government identify and protect environmentally sensitive areas	
				Local/regional governments protect and sustainably manage natural resources	
				Local air/water/soil quality is relatively high	
				Residents understand the impact of climate change on the local environment	
Ou	r co	omr	mui	nity has adequate services and utilities	
I	Dime Ra	nsic ting	n	High Low Need More No Resilience Resilience Info Applic	
Yes	No	Need More Info	Not Applicable	CHARACTERISTICS	This is important to my community
				Our community has accessible and reliable power	
				Disruptions to electricity is minimal (frequency/duration)	

		Our community has safe, ample drinking water	
		Water is regularly tested for pollutants (municipal, or individual wells)	
		Water testing results are tracked and problems effectively addressed	
		Disruptions to or contamination of the water supply are minimal	
		Our community manages sewage adequately (including septic fields)	
		If there is a community sewage system it is regularly tested and maintained	
		Our community has adequate, safe garbage disposal options	
		Telephone and/or cellular service is available and affordable	
		Disruptions to telephone/cellular services are minimal	
		High speed (broad band) internet is available and affordable	
		Disruptions to internet service are minimal	
		Television is available and affordable (e.g., cable, satellite)	
		Disruptions to television service are minimal	
		Radio reception is available and reliable	
		Disruptions to radio reception are minimal	

Regional governance and services support our community

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Yes	No	Need More Info	Not Applicable	CHARACTERISTICS	This is important to my community
				There are strong working relationships between local & regional governments	
				Regional planning involves direct consultation with local communities	
				Clear lines of communication exist between local and regional governments	
				Decisions at the regional level address local values, issues, & needs	
				Regional economic initiatives attract investors and provide new opportunities	
				Regional economic initiatives consider and address associated problems (e.g., influx of workers, increase in drug/alcohol use, violence)	
				Regional economic initiatives attract investors and provide new opportunities	
				Regional planning balances social, economic and environmental needs	
				Regional planning adopts a long-term view	
				Regional health services are accessible	

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		Regional health services include adequate specializations, expertise and staff	
		Regional health and social services include outreach local communities	
		The nearest primary care/acute care hospital is within two hours year round	
		Most residents can easily access (car, public transit) the nearest regional hub within two hours	
		Closures of access routes (e.g., roads, bridges, piers) are minimal	
		The nearest regional hub has the resources (e.g., food, dry goods) local residents need	
		The nearest regional hub has the services (e.g., banking, health, dental) local residents need	

Disaster Management

Our community is disaster aware

Dimension Rating				High Low Need More No Resilience Resilience Info Applic	
Yes	No	Need More Info	Not Applicable	CHARACTERISTICS	This is important to my community
				Most residents are aware of current local and regional hazards and risks	
				Most residents are aware of previous disasters and lessons learned	
				Most residents are familiar with local disaster/emergency plans	
				Most residents know their roles and responsibilities in the event of a disaster	
				Most residents are aware of how to access emergency help	
				Seasonal visitors (e.g., tourists, workers) are aware of local hazards and risks	
				Seasonal visitors are aware of how to access emergency help	
				Hazard warning signs (e.g., tsunamis, avalanche) are clearly posted and understood	
				Most residents can recognize warning signal(s) (e.g. emergency sirens) and know what to do	
				Seasonal visitors (e.g., tourists, workers) can recognize warning signals and know what to do	
				Most residents know evacuation procedures and routes	
				Most residents know where local emergency shelters are	
				Schools include disaster preparedness in their curriculum	
				Communities conduct disaster preparedness education for schools and community groups	

Our community is prepared for disaster

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Yes	No	Need More Info	Not Applicable	CHARACTERISTICS	important to my community
				Most residents have emergency supplies at home, work and in their cars	
				Most residents minimize disaster risks (e.g., trimming trees around the home, insulating pipes)	
				Most residents live within 10 kilometers of the town/village center	
				Most households are prepared to survive at least 2 weeks without outside help (e.g., food stores, back up power and heat, alternate water supplies, access to fuel)	
				Most households have emergency kits (e.g., solar/hand-powered radio and flashlights, first aid supplies, necessary medication and prescriptions, cash)	
				Most households have evacuation plans (e.g., priority list of what to take; how to get out of the house)	
				Most households have emergency communication plans (e.g., how to contact each other once evacuated)	
				Most households have adequate insurance	
				Most residents participate in household and community disaster drills and simulations	
				Schools/daycares have up-to-date disaster plans	
				Parents/caregivers are aware of and understand school/day care disaster plans	
				Schools/daycares do regular emergency drills for all local hazards	
				Schools/daycares have emergency communication plans with parents/caregivers	
				Local businesses/community organizations have business continuity plans and adequate insurance	
				Local business leaders support and mentor disaster preparedness	

Our community structures are protected

CHARACTERISTICS This is important to my community CHARACTERISTICS CHARACTERISTICS This is important to my community Most homes have smoke/fire/carbon monoxide detectors & regularly test them Most homes are located away from high risk hazard zones (e.g., slide areas, flood plains) Most businesses have smoke/fire/carbon monoxide detectors & regularly test them Most businesses/community organizations are located away from high risk hazard zones Schools/daycares and other public buildings have smoke/fire/carbon monoxide alarms & regularly test them Schools/daycares and other public buildings are located away from high risk hazard zones Schools/daycares and other public buildings are retrofitted/built to locally relevant hazard codes Schools/daycares and other public buildings are retrofitted/built to locally relevant hazard codes Steps are taken to limit disaster-related damage to schools and public buildings Telephone lines, towers, and/or cellular towers are well maintained Steps are taken to limit disaster related damage to telephone lines, towers (e.g., underbrush removal) Cocal infrastructure (e.g., roads, bridges, dykes, and piers) are well maintained There is a variety of access routes in and out of the community Alternate access routes are regularly checked and kept open Cocal resource, land-use planning and construction codes address local	Dimension Rating				High Low Need More No Resilience Resilience Info Applic	7			
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Our livestock, animals and farms are protected

Dimension Rating				High Low Need More No Resilience Resilience Info Applic				
Yes	No	Need More Info	Not Applicable	CHARACTERISTICS	This is important to my community			
				Most livestock/farm owners have an easily accessible (kept somewhere where it can be seen or found if owner is away) and comprehensive disaster plan.				
				Livestock/farm owners' plans are reviewed and updated annually or following any significant change in operations				
				Livestock/farm owners plans have been shared with family, employees, and neighbouring owners				
				Plans include emergency operations numbers and other critical numbers (e.g., vet, provincial emergency program, relevant government agencies) on their cell phones				
				Plans include a detailed farm/property site map that identifies key buildings, resources and dangers (e.g., hazardous goods, septic tanks, gas				
				Plans include identification of existence and location of potential hazardous goods stored on property				
				Most livestock/farm owners have identified and invested in emergency response resources and equipment and contingency power				
				Most livestock/farm owners have an evacuation plan for animals and the necessary equipment and expertise to move them in the event of a disaster				
				Most livestock owners understand local hazard risks and how to keep animals safe through alternate shelter, food supplies, or evacuation				
				Newer residents with livestock are integrated into existing networks and cooperative plans				
				Local emergency plans address the needs of animals including alternate shelter, providing food and water to animals in evacuated areas, managing mass evacuations, reunification plans				

Our community has a comprehensive disaster plan

Dimension Rating				High Low Need More No Applic	
Yes	No	Need More Info	Not Applicable	CHARACTERISTICS	This is important to my community
				The community disaster plan addresses all local hazard and risks	
				Roles and responsibilities are clearly defined and understood	
				The plan addresses adequate disaster staffing and staff rotation requirements	
				Well trusted community members are designated to communicate during a disaster	
				The plan includes measures for temporary shelter, food, water, power and fuel for permanent and seasonal residents	
				The plan addresses short- and long-term impacts and recovery needs (e.g., social, economic, emotional, and ecological)	
				The plan identifies and addresses vulnerable community members/groups (e.g., children, frail elderly)	
				A number of communication methods are identified and included (e.g., call-out lists, door to door)	
				The plan includes evacuation procedures and hazard-specific alternatives (e.g. in case of chemical spill, nuclear accident)	
				Plans identify amateur radio (HAMS) and/or satellite phone operators to assist with emergency communication	
				Plans address communication and cooperation between fire-fighting, search and rescue, policing, and medical responders	
				The plan addresses post-disaster debris management	
				The plan includes up-to-date inventories (who, where) of skills, training and knowledge that might help in a disaster	
				The plan includes up-to-date inventories (what, where) of equipment & vehicles that could be used in evacuation (e.g., snowmobiles, quads, buses, trucks) and response (e.g., front end loaders, tractors)	
				The plan includes up-to-date inventories (what, where) of emergency supplies (e.g., food, medical supplies, fuel, generators)	
				The plan includes up-to-date maps identifying key buildings	
				The plan includes up-to-date maps identifying dwellings and residents who may require special assistance in evacuation or recovery	

Our community is involved in ongoing disaster planning

Dimension Rating				High Low Need More No Applic			
Yes	No	Need More Info	Not Applicable	CHARACTERISTICS	This is important to my community		
				There is an active and adequately resourced local disaster planning committee			
				Planning incorporates knowledge of local disasters and lessons learned			
				Community members are involved and contribute to the plan			
				Planning processes involve consultation with vulnerable community members (e.g., those with disabilities)			
				The planning cycle is continuous and includes evaluation and updating of the plan			
				Leaders/local government successfully access grants for disaster planning and preparedness			
				Community leaders receive media and crisis communication training			
				Local disaster volunteers receive training and practice			
				Planning includes coordination with neighbouring communities			
				Planning includes coordination between local and regional governments			
				Planning includes coordination with schools, hospitals, support agencies, care facilities and businesses			
				Planning includes establishing interagency and inter-governmental communication channels and cooperation agreements			
				Planning maximizes regional cooperation in purchasing equipment & training			
Our community has adequate first response capacity Dimension High Low Need More Not Applicable							
Yes	No	Need More Info	Not Applicable	CHARACTERISTICS	This is important to my community		
				There is a local, adequately staffed and trained fire department (paid or volunteer)			
				The local fire department has sufficient basic equipment, vehicles & resources			
				The local fire department has access to ongoing training			

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				The local fire department regularly practices disaster/emergency drills	
				There is a local, adequately staffed and trained search and rescue organization (paid or volunteer)	
				The local search and rescue organization has sufficient equipment, vehicles & resources	
				The local search and rescue organization has access to ongoing training	
				The local search and rescue organization regularly practice disaster/emergency drills	
				There is a local, adequately staffed and trained police department/detachment	
				The local police department/detachment has sufficient equipment, vehicles & resources	
				The local police department/detachment has access to ongoing training	
				The local police department/detachment regularly practices disaster/emergency drills	
				There is a local, adequately staffed and trained ambulance service or medical response team	
				The local ambulance service/medical response team has sufficient equipment, vehicles & resources	
				Local ambulance attendants/medical response teams have access to ongoing training	
				Local ambulance and medical responders regularly practice disaster/emergency drills	
				Local first response teams includes one or more paramedics	
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		Local community and health facility emergency plans address how to move/transport people who are bedridden or otherwise disabled	
		Regional health facilities have plans to meet the increase in demands for health/mental health services in a disaster	
		There is an airstrip or helipad available for emergency medical evacuations	
		Local health care providers (e.g., family physicians, nurses) have disaster training	
		Local health care providers have access to adequate equipment, vehicles and resources	
		Public health helps the community identify, prepare for and respond to infectious diseases	
		Public health coordinates regional and local health care providers and facilities in planning for infectious diseases	