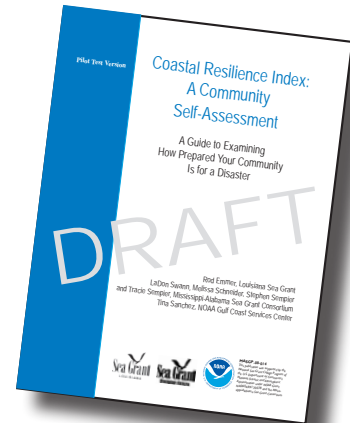


# Coastal Resilience Index

The Coastal Resilience Index is a tool communities can use to examine how prepared they are for storms and storm recovery. To complete the index, community leaders get together and use the tool to guide discussion about their community's resilience to coastal hazards.

## Purpose

- Provides a simple, inexpensive method for community leaders to perform a self-assessment of their community's resilience to coastal hazards
- Identifies weaknesses a community may want to address prior to the next hazard event
- Guides discussion within a community, not intended for comparison between communities



## Index details

- Uses information that is readily available
- Has eight pages and includes six sections (critical facilities and infrastructure, transportation issues, community plans and agreements, mitigation measures, business plans and social systems)
- Asks mainly "yes" or "no" questions
- Can be completed in less than three hours

## Pilot communities (completed index as of Feb. 5, 2009)

- Dauphin Island, Alabama
- Ocean Springs, Mississippi
- St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana
- Bayou La Batre, Alabama
- Orange Beach, Alabama
- Gulf Shores, Alabama

**Coastal Storms Program**  
Gulf of Mexico



## Index supporters

- NOAA Coastal Storms Program – Gulf of Mexico
- Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium
- Louisiana Sea Grant College Program
- Gulf of Mexico Alliance Coastal Community Resilience Team

## Pilot community participants

- Suggested new items for inclusion in the index
- Benefited from discussion about questions asked in the index
- Provided input regarding ways to strengthen the index
- Received assistance for participation

## Next steps

- Complete pilot testing
- Make revisions to the index that reflect the suggestions from pilot communities
- Align index to the Community Rating System, which may provide future insurance benefits to residents and businesses within communities
- Disseminate the index across the Gulf and offer assistance to communities in completing it

**Critical Infrastructure and Facilities**

The following are key indicators that will give a preliminary assessment of your community's disaster resilience. A more detailed assessment process is available in the FEMA 386-2 publication (fema.gov).

1. Place a check mark in the column where your community's critical infrastructure and facilities are located. If the infrastructure or facility is functional after a disaster, place a check mark in the far right column. Use the information in the yellow boxes to complete the section "Determining Your Resilience Index" on Page 6.

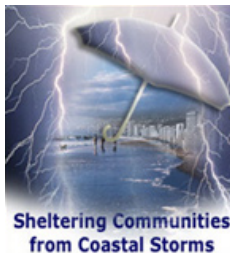
Example: Power grid	Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)	Storm of Record <sup>1</sup>	Storm of Record plus 50% of surge height <sup>2</sup>	Infrastructure or facility functions after disaster <sup>3</sup>
<b>Section A: Critical Infrastructure</b>				
Wastewater treatment system				
Power grid				
Water purification system				
Transportation/evacuation routes				
<b>Total check marks for Section A:</b>				
<b>Section B: Critical Facilities</b>				
City Hall				
Police station				
Fire station(s)				
Communications main office or substation				
Emergency operation center				
Shelter-in-place shelter(s)				
Hospital(s)				
<b>Total check marks for Section B:</b>				

<sup>1</sup> Storm of Record: The greatest inland extent or depth of storm surge as derived by the National Weather Service and/or reported by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Geological Survey or the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

<sup>2</sup> Storm of Record plus 50% of the surge height is the criteria for mapping the inland extent of flooding.

<sup>3</sup> Please consider how your community may be so a direct hit from a storm when completing the "Facility functions after a disaster" column.

Your community's department of engineering or public works is responsible for mapping flood zones.



## Contact information

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MASGP-09-006

This publication was supported by the National Sea Grant College Program of the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration under NOAA Grant NA06OAR4170078 and the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium.