

Sample Mitigation Public Opinion Survey

Mid-Columbia Region Natural Hazard Mitigation Public Opinion Survey



Your household has been randomly selected to participate in this survey about public perceptions and opinions regarding natural hazards in your county. In addition, we would like information regarding the methods and techniques you prefer for reducing the risks and losses associated with these hazards. The questionnaire should be completed by an adult, preferably the head of household. The information you provide will be used to help improve public/private coordination, mitigation, and risk reduction efforts in your county. The survey should take less than 30 minutes to complete.

This is a public opinion survey, the results of which will inform local natural hazard mitigation planning in Oregon. Your returned, completed survey indicates your willingness to take part in the study. Participation in this study is voluntary. The survey is not intended to contribute to “generalizable knowledge” and none of the information you provide will be attributed to you directly. If you have questions regarding your rights as a research participant, please contact the Office for Protection of Human Subjects, 1600 Millrace Drive, Suite 105, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-5219, or call (541) 346-2510.

NATURAL HAZARD INFORMATION

First we would like to know about your experiences involving natural hazards and your exposure to preparedness information.

- During the past five years in the county you currently reside in, have you or someone in your household directly experienced a natural disaster such as an earthquake, severe windstorm, flood, wildfire, or other type of natural disaster?
 - Yes
 - No (*IF NO Skip to Question 2*)

If "YES", which of these natural disasters have you or someone in your household experienced in the past five years?

(Please check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Drought <input type="checkbox"/> Dust Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Earthquake <input type="checkbox"/> Flood <input type="checkbox"/> Landslide / Debris Flow <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Windstorm <input type="checkbox"/> Volcanic Eruption <input type="checkbox"/> Severe Winter Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____ |
|---|---|

- How concerned are you about the following natural disasters affecting your county?
(Check the corresponding box for each hazard)

Natural Disaster	Very Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Neutral	Not Very Concerned	Not Concerned
Drought	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dust Storm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Earthquake	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Landslide / Debris Flow	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wildfire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Volcanic Eruption	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wind Storm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Severe Winter Storm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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3. Have you ever received information about how to make members of your household and your home safer from natural disasters?

- Yes
 No (*IF NO Skip to Question 5*)

If "YES", how recently?

- Within the last 6 months
 Between 6 and 12 months
 Between 1 and 2 years
 Between 2 and 5 years
 5 years or more

4. From whom did you **last** receive information about how to make members of your household and your home safer from natural disasters?

(Please check only one)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> News media | <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government agency | <input type="checkbox"/> American Red Cross |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance agent or company | <input type="checkbox"/> Other non-profit organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utility company | <input type="checkbox"/> Social media (e.g. Facebook) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> University or research institution | <input type="checkbox"/> Not sure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighbor / friend / family member | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

5. Whom would you most trust to provide you with information about how to make your household and home safer from natural disasters?

(Please check up to three)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> News media | <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government agency | <input type="checkbox"/> American Red Cross |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance agent or company | <input type="checkbox"/> Other non-profit organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utility company | <input type="checkbox"/> Social media (e.g. Facebook) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> University or research institution | <input type="checkbox"/> Not sure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighbor / friend / family member | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

6. What is the most effective way for you to receive information about how to make your household and home safer from natural disasters?

(Please check up to three)

Newspapers:

- Newspaper stories
 Newspaper ads

Television:

- Television news
 Television ads

Radio:

- Radio news
 Radio ads

Internet:

- Email newsletters
 Online news outlets
 Social media (e.g. Facebook)

Other methods:

- Schools
 Outdoor advertisements (billboards, etc.)
 Books
 Mail
 Fire Department/Rescue
 Fact sheet/brochure
 Chamber of Commerce
 Public workshops/meetings
 Magazine
 University or research institution
 Other: _____

7. Prior to receiving this survey, were you aware of your county's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (NHMP)?

- Yes
 No

8. Prior to receiving this survey, were you aware that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requires your county to update the NHMP every five years in order for your county to be eligible for federal pre- and post-disaster hazard mitigation funds?

- Yes
 No

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITIES AND HAZARD MITIGATION STRATEGIES

In order to assess community risk, we need to understand which community assets may be vulnerable to natural hazards in the region. Vulnerable assets are those community features, characteristics, or resources that may be impacted by natural hazards (e.g. populations with functional needs, economic components, environmental resources, etc.). The next set of questions will focus on vulnerable assets in your community and your preferred strategies to mitigate risk to those assets.

9. Community assets are features, characteristics, or resources that either make a community unique or allow the community to function. In your opinion, which of the following *categories* are most susceptible to the impacts caused by natural hazards in your county?

(Please rank the community assets in order of vulnerability, 1 being most vulnerable and 6 being least vulnerable)

Community Assets	Potential Natural Hazard Impact	Order of Vulnerability
Human	Loss of life and/or injuries	_____
Economic	Business closures and/or job losses	_____
Infrastructure	Damage or loss of bridges, utilities, schools, etc.	_____
Cultural/Historic	Damage or loss of libraries, museums, fairgrounds, etc.	_____
Environmental	Damage or loss of forests, rangeland, waterways, etc.	_____
Governance	Ability to maintain order and/or provide public amenities and services	_____

10. Next we would like to know what specific types of community assets are most important to you.

(Check the corresponding box for each asset)

Community Assets	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Not Very Important	Not Important
Elder-care facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schools (K-12)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hospitals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major bridges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire/Police Stations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Museums/Historic buildings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major employers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Small businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
College / University	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
City Hall / Courthouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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11. A number of activities can reduce your community's risk from natural hazards. These activities can be both regulatory and non-regulatory. **Please check the box that best represents your opinion of the following strategies to reduce the risk and loss associated with natural disasters.**

Community-wide Strategies	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Sure
I support a regulatory approach to reducing risk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I support a non-regulatory approach to reducing risk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I support a mix of both regulatory and non-regulatory approaches to reducing risk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I support policies to prohibit development in areas subject to natural hazards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I support the use of tax dollars (federal and/or local) to compensate land owners for not developing in areas subject to natural hazards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I support the use of local tax dollars to reduce risks and losses from natural disasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I support protecting historical and cultural structures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I would be willing to make my home more disaster-resistant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I support steps to safeguard the local economy following a disaster event	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I support improving the disaster preparedness of local schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I support a local inventory of at-risk buildings and infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I support the disclosure of natural hazard risks during real estate transactions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12. Natural hazards can have a significant impact on a community, but planning for these events can help lessen the impacts. The following statements will help determine citizen priorities regarding planning for natural hazards in your county. **Please tell us how important each one is to you.**

Statements	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Not Very Important	Not Important
Protecting private property	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protecting critical facilities (e.g. transportation networks, hospitals, fire stations)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Preventing development in hazard areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Enhancing the function of natural features (e.g. streams, wetlands)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protecting historical and cultural landmarks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protecting and reducing damage to utilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengthening emergency services (e.g.- police, fire, ambulance)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disclosing natural hazard risks during real estate transactions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promoting cooperation among public agencies, citizens, non-profit organizations, and businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MITIGATION AND PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD

Households can mitigate and prepare for natural hazards in order to prevent damage to property, injuries, and loss of life. The precautions you take and training you receive can make a big difference in your ability to recover from a natural disaster or emergency. Access to basic services, such as electricity, gas, water, telephones and emergency care may be cut off temporarily, or you may have to evacuate at a moment's notice. The following questions focus on your household's preparedness for disaster events.

13. In the following list, please check those activities that you have done in your household, plan to do in the near future, have not done, or are unable to do.

(Please check one answer for each preparedness activity)

In your household, have you or someone in your household:	Have Done	Plan To Do	Not Done	Unable To Do
Attended meetings or received written information on natural disasters or emergency preparedness?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Talked with members in your household about what to do in case of a natural disaster or emergency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Developed a "Household/Family Emergency Plan" in order to decide what everyone would do in the event of a disaster?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prepared a "Disaster Supply Kit" (stored extra food, water, batteries, or other emergency supplies)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In the last year, has anyone in your household been trained in First Aid or Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prepared your home by having smoke detectors on each level of the house	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discussed or created a utility shutoff procedure in the event of a natural disaster?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

GENERAL HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Finally, we would appreciate any information you are willing to share with us about you and your household. This information will remain confidential and is for survey comparison purposes only.

14. Please indicate your age: _____

15. Gender: Male Female

16. Please indicate your level of education:

- High school graduate/GED
- Some college/trade school
- College degree

- Postgraduate degree
- Other (please specify): _____

17. What is your total household income?

- Less than \$10,000
- \$10,000 - \$19,999
- \$20,000 - \$29,999
- \$30,000 - \$39,999
- \$40,000 - \$49,999
- \$50,000 - \$59,999
- \$60,000 - \$69,999
- \$70,000 - \$79,999
- \$80,000 - \$89,999
- \$90,000 - \$99,999
- \$100,000 - \$149,999
- More than \$150,000

18. Zip code (optional): _____

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19. County:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clackamas County | <input type="checkbox"/> Sherman County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hood River County | <input type="checkbox"/> Umatilla County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gilliam County | <input type="checkbox"/> Wasco County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Morrow County | <input type="checkbox"/> Wheeler County |

20. Please specify your race:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> White |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American | |

21. Please specify your ethnicity:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino |
|---|---|

22. How long have you lived in Oregon?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than one year | <input type="checkbox"/> 10-19 years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-5 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 20 years or more |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5-9 years | |

23. Do you own or rent your home?

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Own | <input type="checkbox"/> Rent |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|

24. Do you own/rent a:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single-family home | <input type="checkbox"/> Condominium / townhouse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Duplex | <input type="checkbox"/> Manufactured home |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apartment (3-4 units in structure) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apartment (5 or more units in structure) | |

Please feel free to provide any additional comments in the space provided:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR PROVIDING THIS INFORMATION

The Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience at the University of Oregon's Community Service Center prepared this survey. Implementation of this survey has been made possible by funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Oregon Emergency Management.

For more information, please contact the Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience at 1209 University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-1209, call (541) 346-3588, or visit <http://csc.uoregon.edu/opdr/>