



# British Columbia Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment

Overview

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# **British Columbia Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment: Overview**

## **Understanding disaster and climate risks in B.C.**

In the face of disasters and increasing climate emergencies, accurate, reliable information is essential to prepare for and reduce our risks. The B.C. Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment (DCRRA) and the B.C. Hazard Insights Tool provide key information on different hazards and how they could impact our province.

## **What is the British Columbia Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment?**

The DCRRA is a resource for provincial ministries, First Nations, local governments, infrastructure owners, health authorities and others. It focuses on six hazards – riverine flood, coastal flood, extreme heat, wildfire, drought and water scarcity and earthquake – and includes comprehensive information on:

- How hazards will be influenced by climate change
- How hazards may impact things we value: natural environment, built environment, economy, governance, health and wellbeing, and society, cultures and relationality
- How hazards may impact certain groups of people differently than others
- What can be done to reduce risks and recover stronger

More than 200 subject matter experts from First Nations and Indigenous organizations, academic and technical institutions, local governments, non-governmental organizations and community groups collaborated with the Province on this project.

## **What is the B.C. Hazard Insights Tool?**

The B.C. Hazard Insights Tool is a web-based mapping tool that shows the extent of each hazard and the potential impacts on infrastructure, people, the economy and the environment. The tool helps emergency managers, community planners, engineers and other professionals identify what hazards might be present and where to focus efforts to understand risks and identify ways to reduce them. The tool is designed for the provincial and regional levels and doesn't contain community or property-level information.

## What did the assessment find?

People in B.C. are familiar with hazards like extreme heat, drought, wildfire and flooding, which are becoming more frequent and severe due to climate change. These events can damage critical infrastructure such as roads, buildings, utilities and power lines, disrupting daily life and the economy.

Some groups, including Indigenous peoples, low-income households and newcomers, face higher risks due to systemic inequities, making it especially important to engage them in emergency planning and risk reduction.

Diverse perspectives strengthen risk management:

- First Nations bring deep knowledge of the land and have been managing risks since time immemorial
- Local communities understand their unique circumstances
- Scientific and technical knowledge complements these perspectives

The DCRRA also explores how we are resilient despite increasing disaster and climate risks. Achieving a resilient future takes a whole-of-society approach that emphasizes collaboration, innovation and equity, to enhance the well-being of people and the environment.

## What's next?

The Province will continue to work with partners to build on our understanding of risks in B.C. The next phase will include: additional hazards and more detailed assessment of risk and resilience in B.C.; adding new information and geospatial analysis to the B.C. Hazard Insights Tool; and guidance for regulated entities under the Emergency and Disaster Management Act to conduct their own risk assessments.

## Learn more

[climatereadybc.gov.bc.ca/pages/dcrra](https://climatereadybc.gov.bc.ca/pages/dcrra)

