

## Resilience Compendium: Strategies to Reduce Communities' Risk to Disasters

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**Introduction:** The *Victorian Compendium of Community-Based Resilience Building Case Studies* supports place-based disaster risk reduction by promoting strategies to reduce communities' risk before, during, and after disasters or emergencies and by strengthening community resilience through shared learning. It grew from Community Resilience Forums at Monash University, where community resilience practitioners presented their programs, explained their evolution, how they solved challenges, and shared unforeseen learnings. Forum attendees expressed an urgency for a sharing platform to help build community expertise, save precious community resources, avoid program duplication to prevent communities from reinventing the wheel. These now represent key tenets of the Compendium.

**Method:** International exemplars inform the structure of the Compendium and a thematic analysis identified critical success factors for underpinning disaster risk reduction and resilience strategies.

**Results:** As an Australian first, the Compendium gathered 38 programs between 2012 and 2022, which were addressed before (29), during (7), and after (17) events. Programs addressed all hazards (23), bushfires (11), heat (2), fire safety (1), and house fires (1). Twenty programs used a framework. Thirty received funding, with nine receiving less than \$20,000 and five receiving more than \$100,000. Twenty-nine addressed a whole-of-community perspective.

Critical success factors included: strong governance and Board support; trust, partnerships, commitment, adaptability, stamina, and community leadership; paid facilitator, local government support, external funding; and celebrating often-neglected success.

**Conclusion:** Offering an innovative contribution to resilience practice and research, the Compendium supports and enables locally-led and owned place-based disaster risk reduction efforts. It supports the Sendai Framework and augments principles in the National Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction by connecting people from diverse sectors to deliver distinct, adaptable actions to help reduce communities' risk before, during, and after disasters or emergencies. The Compendium enables communities to preserve valuable community resources offering opportunities to extend to a national or international Compendium.

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## Understanding Community Preparedness and Emergency Supply Kit Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices Among the U.S. Population

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**Introduction:** During disasters households may experience lost communication and roads may become impassable; thus a

common recommendation is to prepare an emergency supply kit that can be used to shelter-in-place during evacuation. The decision to prepare for disasters becomes more challenging during pandemics because individuals may be hesitant to evacuate to shelters or may be unsure of items to include in emergency supply kits. Because of this, many preparedness estimates before 2020 may no longer reflect current levels of preparedness. The aim of this research was to provide information on what actions people take to prepare for disasters, determine whether households have supply kits, and help guide next steps to better prepare for and respond to disasters during a pandemic.

**Method:** We conducted descriptive statistics, chi-square analyses, and backward-step regressions on 10 questions collected through Porter Novelli's ConsumerStyles surveys in Fall 2020 (n=3,625), Spring 2021 (n=6,455), and Fall 2021 (n=3,553) to examine factors that contribute to overall household preparedness levels and supply kit ownership.

**Results:** Being married, having children in the home, and having a household income of \$150,000 or more are all associated with increased preparedness levels. Persons living in mobile homes, recreational vehicles (RVs), boats, or vans are half as likely to have preparedness plans compared to those living in single family homes. While there was a significant association between level of preparedness and supply kit ownership, overall kit ownership is also lacking. While most respondents believed a kit would help their chance of survival, only a third had one. Age, sex, education level, and region of the country were significant predictors of kit ownership.

**Conclusion:** This study helped close existing knowledge gaps surrounding preparedness and emergency supply kits to guide public health research and prevention strategies, including messaging, to help reduce adverse health impacts during multiple emergencies.

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## Descriptive Analysis of Northern Triangle Disasters in the EM-DAT Database: 1900-2022.

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**Introduction:** Since 1900, disasters in the Northern Triangle of Central America—Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador—have caused over one-hundred-thousand deaths, affected millions of people, and caused billions of dollars of damages. As climate change causes increasingly frequent severe weather events, the catastrophic effects of disasters are likely to contribute to poverty and political and economic instability in the region leading to greater levels of migration out of the Northern Triangle.

**Method:** This study provides a descriptive analysis of all disasters recorded in the EM-DAT database affecting Guatemala,