



THE PEDIATRIC HAZARD VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS (HVA) TEMPLATE

Executive Summary

The pediatric hazard vulnerability analysis (HVA) template was developed to promote the inclusion of children and their unique needs into regional disaster preparedness. Though the physiologic and developmental vulnerabilities of pediatric patients cause them to be disproportionately affected by disasters, they are often omitted from general hazard assessments. The pediatric HVA is an interactive toolkit that allows users to assess individual hazard effects and existing regional preparedness across pediatric-specific dimensions, such as family reunification and child transport capabilities.

The pediatric HVA is not meant to be a thorough checklist of hospital emergency planning but instead brings attention to how various healthcare facilities, emergency medical services, and government agencies work together to care for children during disasters. We hope this tool raises potentially overlooked pediatric considerations, and regions can use it to demonstrate year-over-year preparedness improvements.

Template Details

Each hazard's impact and the region's subsequent preparedness are broken into human impact, healthcare system impact, and community safety infrastructure categories. As scores and hazard likelihoods are assigned, the tool produces a **hazard impact** and **hazard vulnerability score** that incorporates hazard-specific mitigation and preparedness.

The template includes brief category descriptors to help users with scoring. Once completed, regions can view how all hazards' impact and vulnerability scores compare to one another in an interactive dashboard.