



The Environmental
Collaboratory

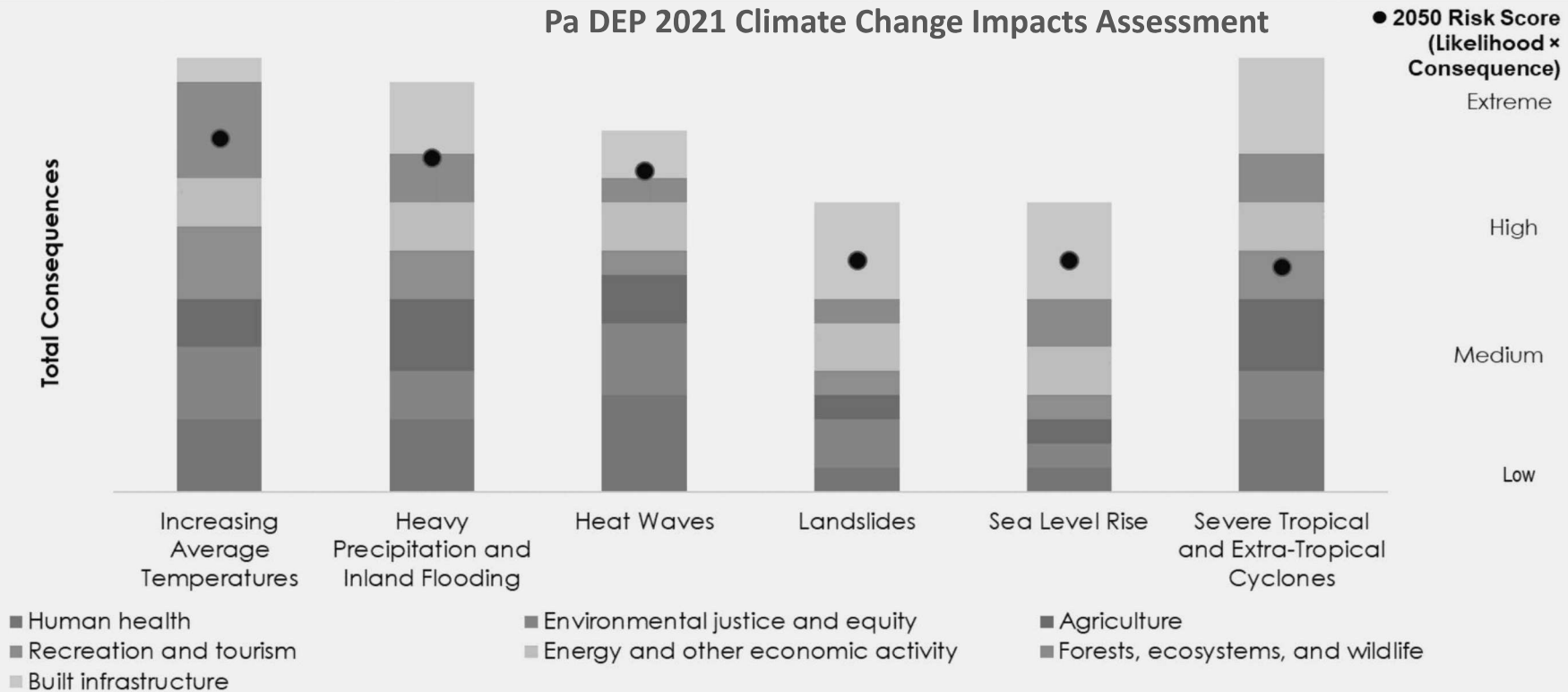


Climate Emergency Preparedness and Resilient Recovery

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"[In 2023,]there have been 25 confirmed U.S. weather and climate disaster events, with losses exceeding \$1 billion each. These events included a drought, two floods, 19 severe storms, a tropical cyclone, a wildfire, and a winter storm. Overall, these events resulted in the deaths of 464 people and had significant economic impacts."

Pa DEP 2021 Climate Change Impacts Assessment



Based on independent survey of 90 residents performed by Drexel University with Eastwick United (local CBO) of the Eastwick Resident respondents...

93%

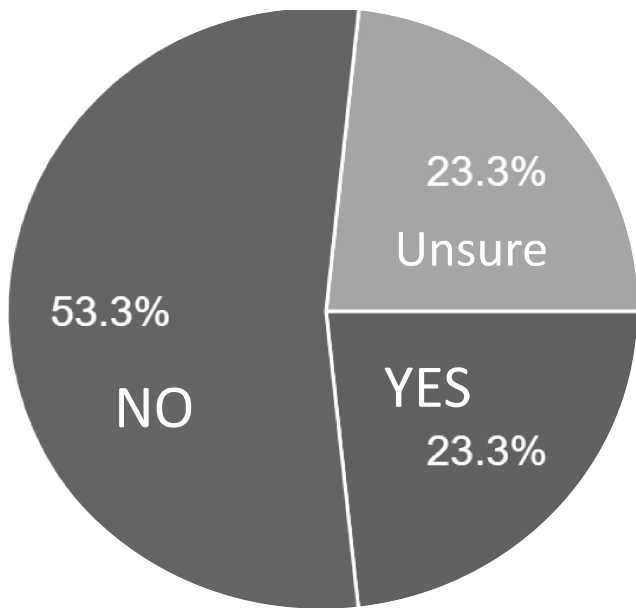
have experienced flooding at their place of residence or immediate neighborhood (within 5-min from home)

87.9%

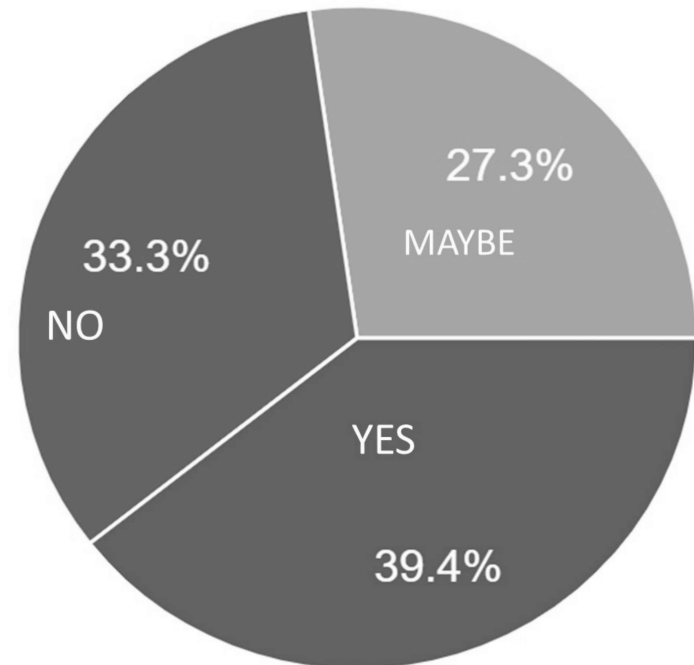
respondents in 2023 noted it is "very important" that a formal evacuation plan be developed for the Eastwick community

Highlights of Eastwick United Surveys

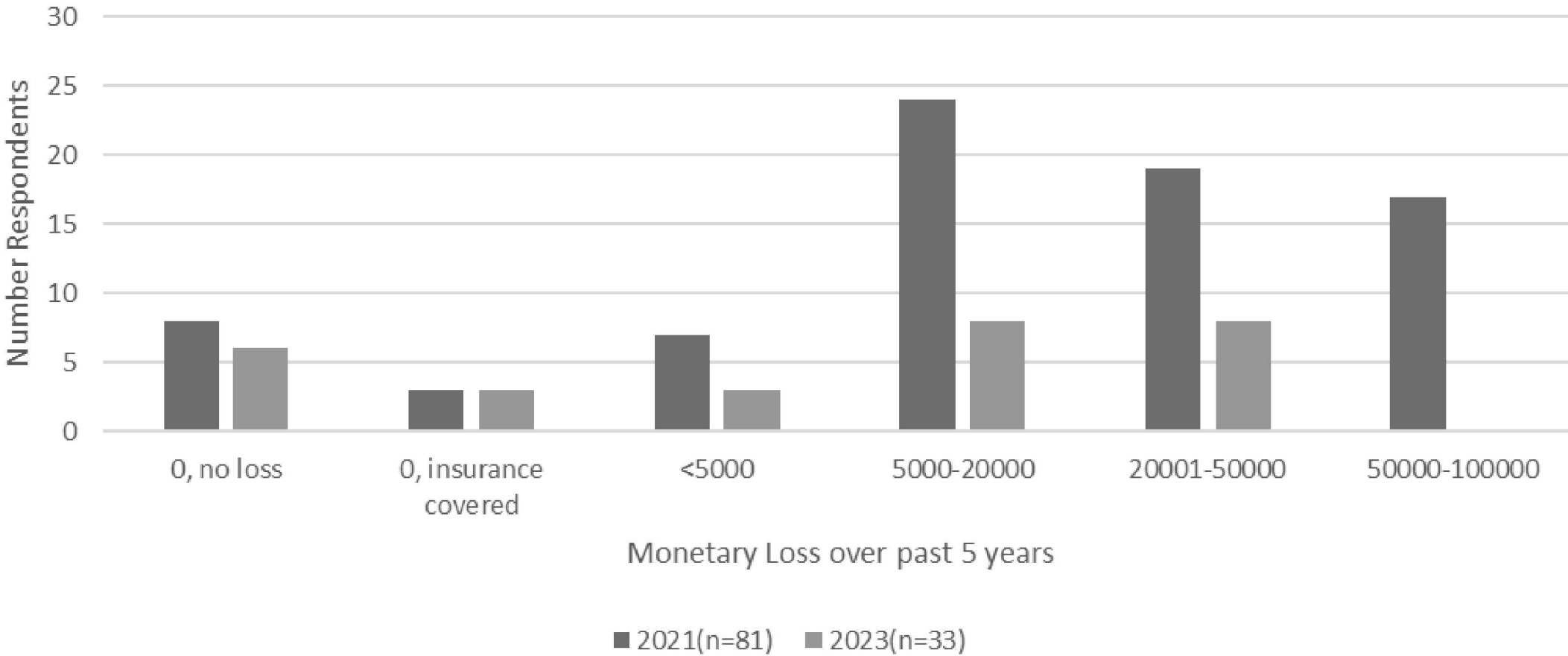
Have you made a flood emergency plan or are you aware of one that has been made for your community?



Do you have somewhere you can evacuate to in the case of a flood?



Highlights of Eastwick Community Surveys





**PREPAREDNESS
AND RESPONSE**

Drilling

- Especially Elderly Non-English-Speaking Residents
- Trauma Informed Facilitation
- Partners (PPD, LSNA, community orgs)

Warning System

- Flood Monitoring Tools
- A System Of Alarms/Sirens Strategically Placed
- Messaging: Formal & Informal (Phone Tree)

Shelter

- Multiple, Near Eastwick, Well-resourced (Cots And Accessible Bedding), Publicly Accessible, Safe
- Investigate Additional Locations (Betram, Com-Tech)

SHARED KNOWLEDGE FROM THE EASTWICK
RESIDENTS ON COMMUNITY NEEDS FOR
FLOODING DISASTER RESILIENCE

Evacuation

- Directional Signage
- Multi-Format Communication (Digital, Flyers, etc.)
- Police Security for Property

Support Vulnerable Members

- Roof Signal/Flag for Dire Need Households
- Priority In Any Community Phone Triage
- Priority And Known Needs To First Responders

Recovery

- Electronic And Physical Updated List Of Resources
- Nearby Multi-agency Resource Center (MARC)
- Maintain Recovery Fund and On-Going Projects

Data Accessibility

- "... Access to the survey data and not just the resulting analyses ... to understand their communities."
- Transparency & Equity in Funding Distribution






Collaborate

- Strong Outreach and Multi-Level Effort Coordination
- Investment in Community Organizing
- Equitable Politician Engagement When Appropriate



**POST-
EVENT**

Addressing Needs of Communities in Climate Extreme Weather Environmental Crisis

	Preparation	Response	Recovery
 Coordination	Empowering local leaders Resource mapping Drill running	Mobilizing community safely Assisting vulnerable populations Government agency response	Continued capacity building Economic recovery Culture recovery
 Knowledge	Household plans Procedural documents Identifying vulnerable populations	Effective Communication Evacuation routes	Lessons learned
 Nutrition	Prep kit	Distribution of emergency relief	
 Shelter	Insurance Temperature control Property and community resilience measures	Known evacuation spot Adequate shelter in place	Relocation assistance Home repair City infrastructure Nature regrowth
 Health	Adequate baseline health	Emergency aid	Follow-up/lasting health issues Psychological health

Climate Emergency Preparedness and Resilient Recovery



Pa DEP 2021 Climate Change Impacts Assessment

Key priorities:

- Reducing extreme heat risks to human health, particularly for vulnerable populations
- Reducing flood risks to infrastructure and communities and
- Helping low-income households cope with an increased energy burden

I. Development of climate emergency preparedness planning. This plan must include an “all of society” approach that includes all stakeholders segments including i) residents, ii) community based organizations, iii) community facilities (e.g., health care, schools), iv) local governments, v) private sector and vi) universities.

II. DEP must address the increasing environmental and public health impacts from climate risks on communities from contaminated sites facility that manage, or store hazardous materials. DEP should coordinate with USEPA on this approach.

III. DEP must address the increasing vulnerability of facilities producing or using chemical from climate risks such as flooding. USEPA – in its Risk Management Plan Rule – has identified this risk.

IV. With respect to the DEP’s priority to help low-income households cope with an increased energy burden, DEP should partner with other Commonwealth Agencies, Federal Agencies (such as US Department of Energy) and local organizations engaged in efforts with low income households that are addressing energy burdens such as the Energy Coordinating Agency.