

MOPHRAT FAQs

What is the MOPHRAT?

The Missouri Public Health Risk Assessment Tool (MOPHRAT) helps Local Public Health Agencies (LPHAs) prioritize jurisdictional impacts to public health by guiding planners through an analysis of various hazards. The MOPHRAT helps assess the level of planning necessary to ensure access to emergency response and preparedness resources, taking into account the services provided by LPHAs and the healthcare system.

This Public Health Risk Assessment Tool was created by the Center for Public Health Readiness at the Drexel University School of Public Health, funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) have collaborated with the Drexel University School of Public Health to update and modify the tool for use in the state of Missouri at the local and state levels.

Why should I complete a MOPHRAT? We already use a different risk assessment tool.

While there are many great risk assessment tools out there, this tool is designed specifically with Missouri and public health in mind:

- Scenarios have been tailored to be Missouri-specific. For example, the Joplin tornado is used as the scenario for tornado hazards.
- MOPHRAT is made specifically for LPHAs. The tool borrows some of the methodology from other popular risk assessment tools, like Kaiser-Permanente and THIRA, but is narrowed down to a public health scope.
- The tool is user-friendly. Building the MOPHRAT into an Excel worksheet format allows for easy calculation on complex formulas. Just plug in the numbers and the tool does the rest.
- This tool meets PHEP grant requirements, taking the guesswork out of what is needed in your risk assessment.

What is a risk assessment? Is that like a needs assessment or other planning document?

A risk assessment is a process to identify potential hazards and analyze what *could* happen if a hazard occurs. This differs from a needs assessment, which is a systematic process for determining and addressing needs, or "gaps", between current conditions and desired conditions, or "wants". A risk assessment should address things that might occur in your jurisdiction instead of the current state of your jurisdiction.

Per the PHEP requirement, it is important to submit a risk assessment specifically addressing hazards and possible disaster scenarios. While other documents might have some of this information, they will likely not be as comprehensive as a risk assessment. Completing the MOPHRAT for your jurisdiction's risk assessment ensures the assessment is thorough and meets requirements.

Who reviews the MOPHRAT?

Once submitted, the PHEP Capability 1 co-leads will review the MOPHRAT for completion. While a risk assessment will look different for every jurisdiction, a "completed" MOPHRAT will meet the following criteria:

- Step 1: Baseline Data is completely filled in.
- Step 2: Hazard Specific Data is filled in for all hazards that are relevant for your jurisdiction. Feel free to leave irrelevant hazards blank (ex. coastal storms if there is no beach). Much of this section is auto-filled from either the scenario or Step 1.
- Step 3: Analysis is showing lists, graphs, and other results. These are calculated automatically from Step 1 and 2 as long as enough data is entered. If your MOPHRAT is filled in and items are still coming up as "not calculated", please reach out for technical assistance.

The MOPHRAT will not be reviewed for accuracy or "correct" results. As long as you are inputting the data that is useful for your jurisdiction then it is correct.

How often do I complete it?

As per the PHEP requirement, your jurisdiction will only have to complete a MOPHRAT once every five years. Ideally, there are benefits to completing it every 2-3 years along with an Emergency Operations Plan and other planning updates.

Where do I get the tool?

The MOPHRAT tool, plus all supplementary documents can be found [here](#).

What do the results of the tool mean?

In short, the MOPHRAT looks at the "big picture" of disasters and public health. The analysis section (Step 3) contains graphs, lists, and more depicting the potential impact hazards will have on public health. The analysis shows hazards in relation to each other, so the results are primarily for comparison. The MOPHRAT's results do not provide specific information about a disaster (ex. how many fatalities will there be from a tornado?), but can point towards planning prioritization (ex. tornadoes have a larger impact than wildfires in this jurisdiction). You are welcome to message the PHEP Capability 1 co-leads for feedback and suggestions on how to move forward with your results.

What is the Baseline Data Spreadsheet?

On the same page as the MOPHRAT, we have also provided the Baseline Data Spreadsheet. This is a table of publically-sourced county information that will be important for completing your MOPHRAT. Start with this document as your primary reference for the numbers included in your MOPHRAT.

There is no need to complete or submit the Baseline Data Spreadsheet. Any numbers not found on the spreadsheet will need to be found through your jurisdiction (ex. number of public health staff). SEMA and DHSS will update this spreadsheet yearly to ensure the most accurate information is easily available.

My jurisdiction has no hospital or health centers, how can I complete this?

If your area has no healthcare facilities, this will need to be reflected in the MOPHRAT. For the best accuracy, we suggest the following:

- If you have a healthcare facility within 50 miles that regularly see patients from your jurisdiction, answer with information for that facility.
- If you do not have one within 50 miles or it is very inaccessible for your community, put "1" for all relevant questions. This allows the formulas to work while still reflecting that the capacity in your area is very low.

HELP! I have another question and need technical assistance!

If you have any questions or need assistance completing the MOPHRAT, please contact State Emergency Management Agency MOPHRAT Lead [Kay Beesley](#) or call 573-526-9364.