

FLOOD WISE COMMUNITIES

Enroll Today!

floodwisecommunities.org

Contact:

ProjectTeam@floodwisecommunities.org

The National
Academies of
SCIENCES
ENGINEERING
MEDICINE

GLISA
A NOAA RISA TEAM

SCIPP
A NOAA RISA TEAM

 **Stanford**
University

 **adaptation**
international

 **HEADWATERS**
ECONOMICS

NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
of COUNTIES
NACo


NLC NATIONAL
LEAGUE
OF CITIES

 **Sea Grant**
Texas
AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

NADO
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS



Stormwater System Vulnerability Assessments for Communities in the Gulf South

Informational Webinar
March 4th, 2021

Webinar Logistics

Zoom Platform:

- **Audio & Video →**

- Disabled for all attendees.

- **Q&A box →**

- Please enter all questions here.

- **Chat Box →**

- Poll answers & moderator use only.

- **Webinar Recording →**

- Live recorded & available online.

Before We Begin...

In *seven* words or less:

1. **Describe your community** (*e.g. small, medium, urban, rural, coastal, inland, Gulf-side, Atlantic-side, etc.*).

2. **How many extreme weather events or impacts** w/ in the last 5 years? (major storms, floods, etc.)

3. **Your biggest concern or priority** for local stormwater infrastructure, management or planning.

*“small, inland,
3 floods,*

budget limitations”

Today's Agenda

1. Introduction

2. About the Project

3. Project Design and Expectations

- Design
- Time commitment
- Support & resources
- Eligibility

4. About the Assessment Tool

- Climate data profiles
- Socioeconomic data profiles

5. Practitioner Perspectives

6. Discussion

Today's Speakers



Teal Harrison

Climate Resilience Specialist
Adaptation International
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About the Project

The FloodWise Team

FloodWise Communities is a National Academy of Sciences Gulf Research Program Thriving Communities grantee.

Our Project Partners

- **NOAA RISA Teams** (Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments)
 - **GLISA** (*Great Lakes Integrated Sciences and Assessments*)
 - **SCIPP** (*Southern Climate Impacts Planning Program*)
- **Stanford University**
- **Headwaters Economics**
- **Adaptation International**



Our Endorsements

National League of Cities

National Association of Counties

National Association of Development
Organizations

Texas Sea Grant

Our Areas of Expertise

Extreme Weather Impacts

Environmental and Social Risk

Co-producing Knowledge

Adaptation Planning

Public Policy

Stakeholder Engagement &
Collaboration

FloodWise Communities, or “FloodWise,” is a nationally- and regionally-backed project developed to help communities better prepare for storms, floods & extreme weather events.

FloodWise provides FREE and tailored stormwater system vulnerability assessments that are:

- Collaborative
- Accessible to every community
- Technology-assisted
- Community-centered
- Widely applicable

Our 3 Main Goals

1. **Support** cities, counties and parishes in assessing extreme weather-related vulnerabilities of local stormwater systems.
2. **Test** how technology can increase collaboration among practitioners & researchers to assess vulnerability and increase community resilience.
3. **Explore** how technology-based assessments can be widely-used by communities throughout the United States.

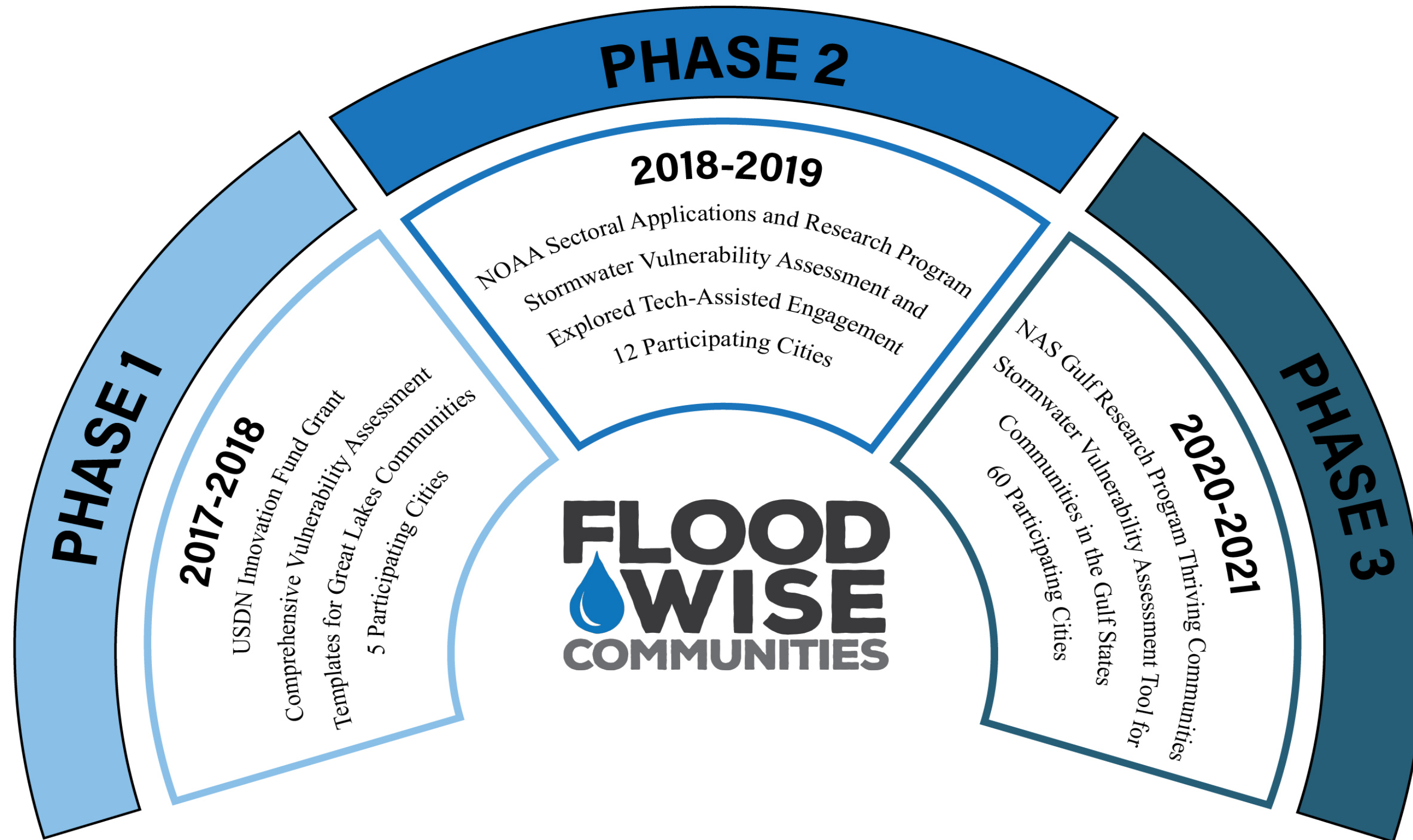
Vulnerability:

The degree to which a system is susceptible to (*sensitivity*) and able to cope with (*adaptive capacity*) adverse effects of extreme weather events.

Vulnerability assessments help identify:

1. Projected changes in weather and climate.
2. Levels of exposure to these projected changes.
3. Sensitivity of infrastructure, systems, public services and residents to projected changes.
4. Capacity of infrastructure, systems, services and residents to adapt to projected changes.

The FloodWise Communities stormwater system vulnerability assessment is ***phase 3*** of a multi-year & well-tested project initiated and designed ***by local governments, for local governments.***



PHASE 1

2017-2018

USDN Innovation Fund Grant
Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment
Templates for Great Lakes Communities
5 Participating Cities

PHASE 2

2018-2019

NOAA Sectoral Applications and Research Program
Stormwater Vulnerability Assessment and
Explored Tech-Assisted Engagement
12 Participating Cities

PHASE 3

2020-2021

NAS Gulf Research Program Thriving Communities
Stormwater Vulnerability Assessment Tool for
Communities in the Gulf States
60 Participating Cities

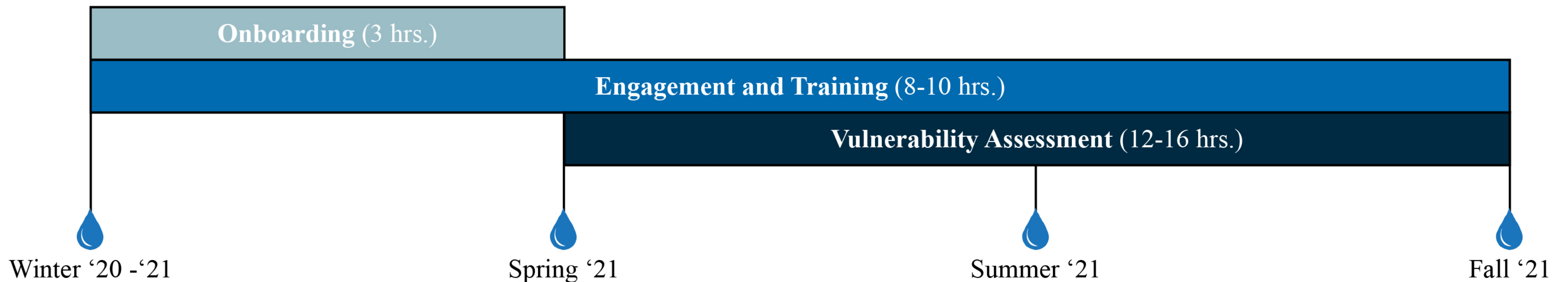
All phases have yielded positive & tangible results!

- No-cost access to the best available data.
- Improved stormwater management, hazard mitigation, emergency management and adaptation planning.
- Data-backed grant, budget and project proposals.
- Effective communication across departments and with local decision makers.
- Improved stormwater system and community resilience.
- Advancement of regional and national efforts to build resilience.

Project Design & Expectations

Communities will work with the FloodWise team to complete their vulnerability assessment over approximately 24 hours, or 3 working days (non-consecutive).

FLOODWISE COMMUNITIES TIMELINE



Participants will assess their local stormwater system vulnerabilities in one of three ways:

- In-person
- Webinar-assisted
- Self-guided



All participants will receive:

1. Access to the FloodWise assessment tool.
2. Downscaled, high-resolution data profiles.
3. A custom training packet.
4. Access to an online dashboard and peer forum.
5. On-going professional support from the FloodWise team.

Formal Engagements & Continued Support

All cities will have FloodWise professional support to successfully complete their assessment after formal engagements.



COVID-19 Considerations & Contingency Plan

Participant health and safety is our priority!

- Follow each community's local guidance and best practices.
- Accommodate practitioners' comfort level w/ in-person assessments.
- Develop alternate strategies for all communities if necessary.

Is my community eligible?

- ✓ Community in TX, LA, MS, AL or FL.
- ✓ Located within 100 miles the Gulf Coast.*
- ✓ Small or medium population size.

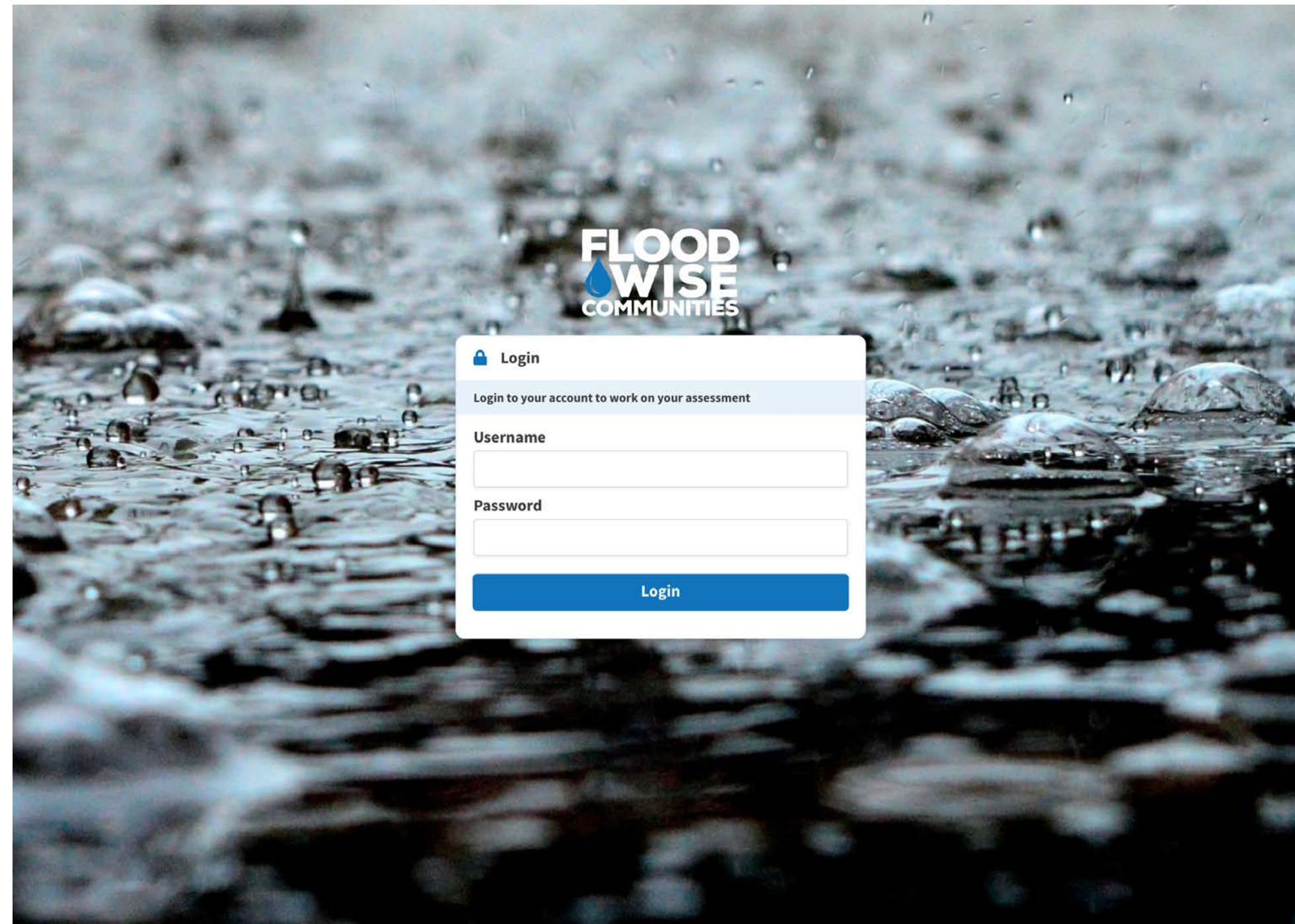
- ✓ Can assemble a team of 3-5 practitioners, local officials or partners.
- ✓ Can invest approx. 24 hours/person (~3 working days).
- ✓ Can host an on-site workshop.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and should be submitted by March 31st.

We encourage communities to apply even if they feel they can't meet all eligibility criteria (e.g. distance, # of team members, meeting space).

About the FloodWise Tool

The FloodWise tool is a step-by-step process walking users through examining the extreme weather and climate vulnerabilities of their community's stormwater system.



The FloodWise tool can assess:

- Open and closed systems
- Traditional infrastructure and natural systems
- High-risk infrastructure
- Critical infrastructure
- Operational capacities
- Emergency services
- Social vulnerability



Welcome to the Mobile, AL stormwater vulnerability assessment

This assessment is designed for stormwater practitioners, local officials, local partners, and adaptation professionals who wish to collaboratively address the adaptive stormwater management, infrastructure, and municipal planning needs of their community. A guided, step-by-step tool, this vulnerability assessment examines the City of Mobile's stormwater system vulnerability to heavy precipitation and other extreme weather impacts.

As a member of the **Mobile, AL** team, you will complete a **webinar-assisted** stormwater vulnerability assessment, incorporating the best available weather and climate data and high-resolution socioeconomic mapping to produce a tailored, comprehensive evaluation of the stormwater-related risks, vulnerabilities and adaptive capacity of your community. To get started, or to continue Mobile's assessment, click below.

[Open the assessment](#)

There are 3 main components of the assessment:

1. Setting the foundation
2. Sensitivity & adaptive capacity assessment
3. Vulnerability scores

See example response

Save answers

Adaptive capacity

3 unanswered

View related info

Where 1 is easy and 10 is hard, how much capacity does your community stormwater system have in each of the following areas:

Personnel

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

EasyHard

Funding/Financial Capacity

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

EasyHard

Information/Data

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

EasyHard

Action Channels and Social and Political Support

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

EasyHard

Infrastructure

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

EasyHard

Stormwater systems assessment

Built systems

Add a built component +

Street gutters

✓ Sensitivity Assessment
4 of 4 sections complete

! Adaptive Capacity Assessment
1 of 3 sections complete

Evaluate

5
of 7

Impermeable pavement

✓ Sensitivity Assessment
4 of 4 sections complete

✓ Adaptive Capacity Assessment
3 of 3 sections complete

Evaluate

7
of 7

Pumps

! Sensitivity Assessment
3 of 4 sections complete

! Adaptive Capacity Assessment
0 of 3 sections complete

Evaluate

3
of 7

Swirl treatments

! Sensitivity Assessment
0 of 4 sections complete

! Adaptive Capacity Assessment
0 of 3 sections complete

Evaluate

0
of 7

Natural systems

Add a natural component +

Above ground storage - wetlands

! Sensitivity Assessment
3 of 4 sections complete

! Adaptive Capacity Assessment
0 of 3 sections complete

Evaluate

3
of 7

Street trees - residential

! Sensitivity Assessment
0 of 4 sections complete

! Adaptive Capacity Assessment
0 of 3 sections complete

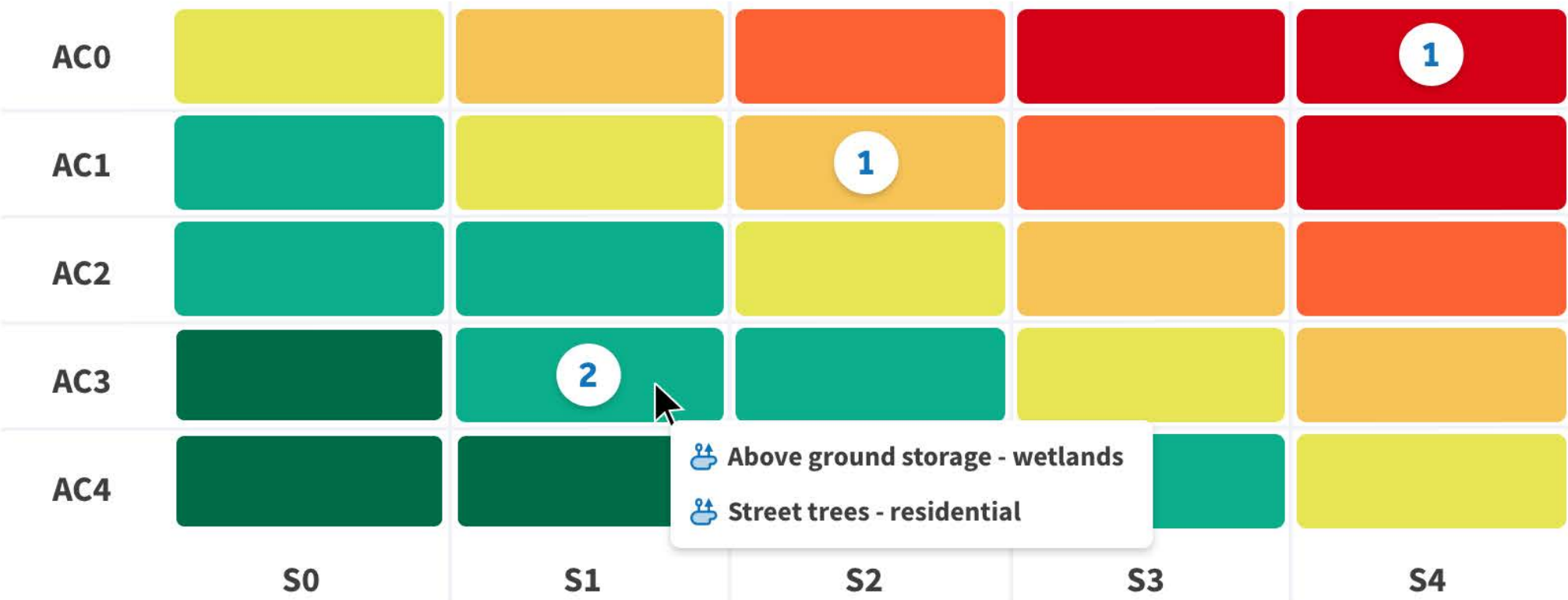
Evaluate

0
of 7

Vulnerability scores

Print report

Scores matrix



Overview

Open full report

| System component | Sensitivity score | Adaptive capacity score | Vulnerability score | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Street gutters | S4 | AC0 | Red | Responses Edit Delete |
| Impermeable pavement | S2 | AC1 | Orange | Responses Edit Delete |
| Above ground storage - wetlands | S1 | AC3 | Green | Responses Edit Delete |

FloodWise Vulnerability Assessment Tool:

Custom Weather & Climate Profiles

Background & Motivation

About FloodWise climate scientists

- Climatologists at SCIPP and GLISA.
- Years of experience; work on previous projects.

Motivation behind customized climate profiles

- Variable climate hazards along the Gulf Coast.
- Provision of community-specific climate info.

Purpose of the climate profiles

- Detailing historical and future climate change at the city/county level for better flood preparedness.



Data & Methodology

Types of Data and Sources

- Historical weather & climate observations (local) - [NOAA SRCC](#).
- Future weather & climate projections (local) [NA-CORDEX](#).
- [Flood Risk](#) & [Sea Level Rise](#) maps (city).
- Severe weather event reports (local) - [NOAA NCEI](#).
- Historical climate trend (regional) - [SCIPP](#)

Methodology

- Balance of information and effective communication.
- Using data presentation that has worked before (i.e. Phase 2 and SARP).

FloodWise will provide data that has been evaluated and determined to be the best available for the Gulf region, saving time and ensuring data quality.

What's Included:

Unique data profiles for all participating cities.

- Weather & climate summary (top)
- Temperature summary (middle)
- Rainfall summary & table
- Recent local severe weather events
- Flood risk summary
- Sea level rise summary (if applicable)

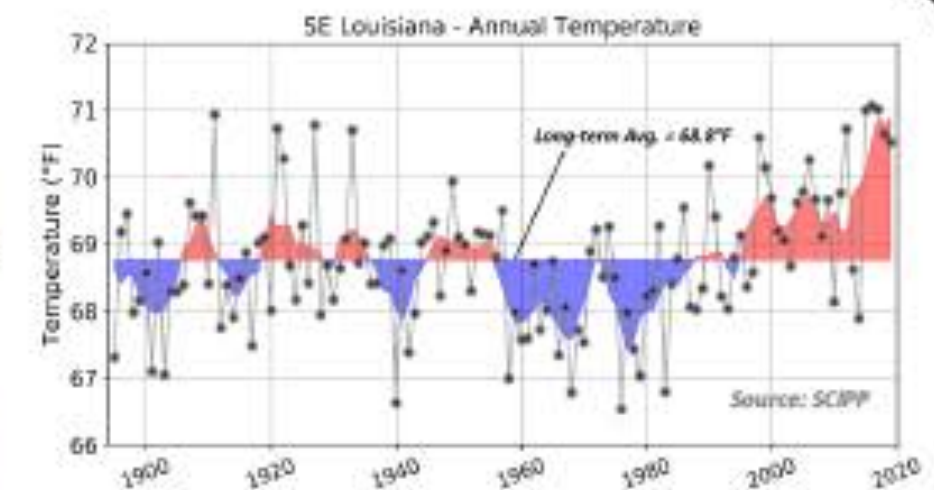
Climate Profile – New Orleans, LA

City Summary

- Temperatures in New Orleans have increased by 1.3°F in recent years.
- Business-as-usual could increase temperatures by 5.7 to 9°F by late-21st Century.
- New Orleans has recently lost almost 7 in of annual rainfall, becoming slightly less heavy.
- Future rainfall trends are unclear, wide range of potential outcomes.
- A sea level rise of 3 feet could submerge the outer edges of the city.

Temperature in New Orleans

Being in a humid-subtropical zone, New Orleans' climate is characterized by warm summers and mild winters. Recent decades have seen average temperatures increase by over 1°F in New Orleans, with over an extra 30 hot days and warm nights each year. If current warming trends continue, temperatures well above 90°F could be a common occurrence by 2100.



Temperatures in Southeast Louisiana have increased by 2°F in just the last few decades.

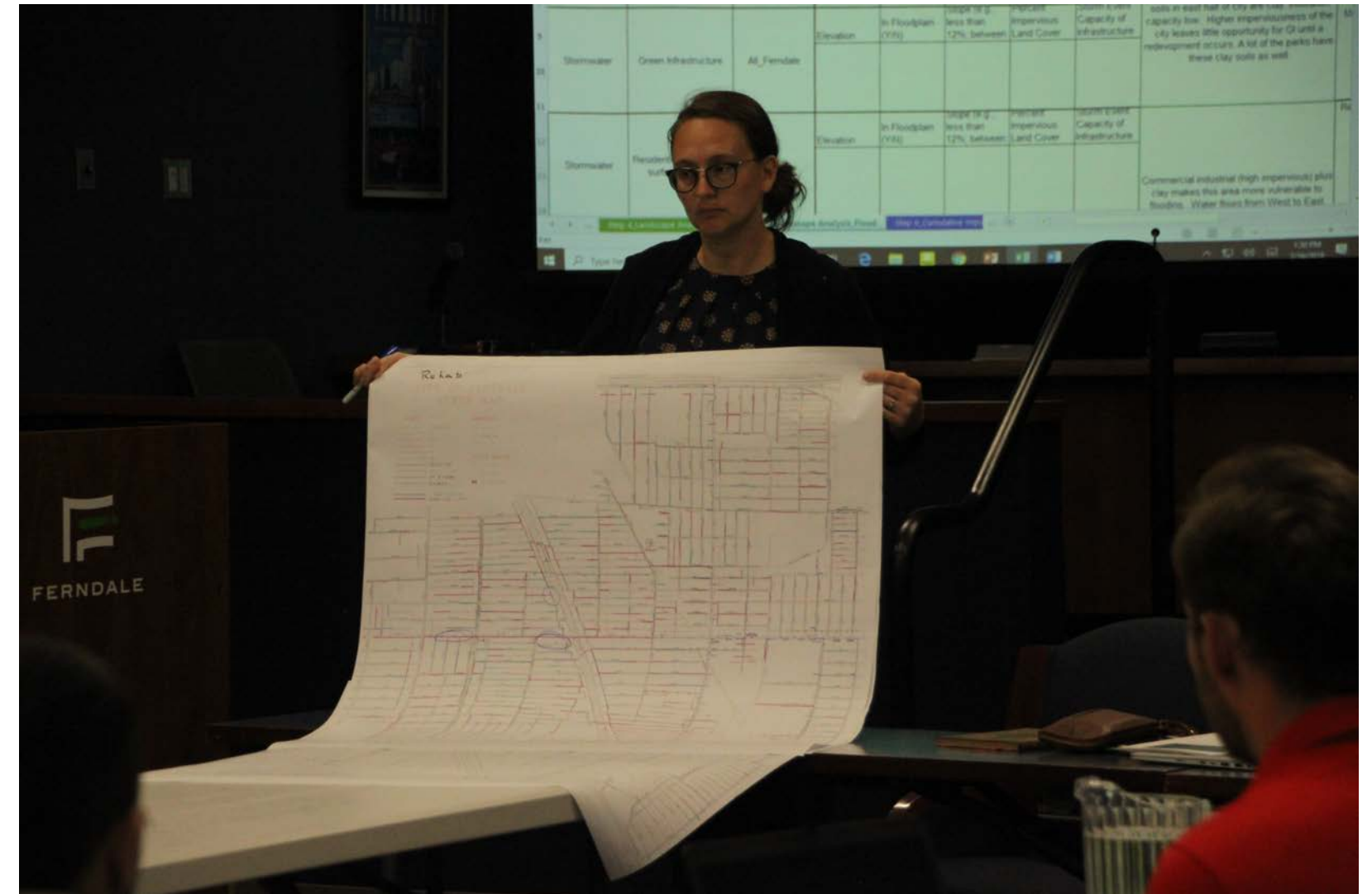
Historic and Projected Temperature – New Orleans

| Variable | Historic: 1981-2010 | Historic Change: 1981-2010 | Mid-Century Projections: 2041-2070 | End-Century Projections: 2071-2100 |
|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Annual Avg Temp. | 70.6 °F | 1.3 °F | 73.3 to 76.0 °F | 76.3 to 79.6 °F |
| Winter Avg Temp. | 56.0 °F | -0.2 °F | 58.4 to 60.4 °F | 60.3 to 63.8 °F |
| Spring Avg Temp. | 70.5 °F | 1.9 °F | 73.1 to 76.6 °F | 76.3 to 79.1 °F |
| Summer Avg Temp. | 83.6 °F | 2.9 °F | 86.2 to 89.7 °F | 89.4 to 92.2 °F |
| Autumn Avg Temp. | 72.1 °F | -0.1 °F | 74.5 to 78.2 °F | 78.2 to 84.4 °F |
| Annual Avg High | 79.5 °F | 1.6 °F | 82.0 to 85.0 °F | 85.2 to 88.0 °F |
| Annual Avg Low | 61.7 °F | 1.1 °F | 64.5 to 67.0 °F | 67.5 to 71.3 °F |
| Hot Days (>95°F) per year | 26 days | 35 days | 43 to 97 days | 89 to 140 days |
| Warm Nights (>75°F) per year | 70 days | 32 days | 132 to 158 days | 163 to 201 days |

Source: SC-ACIS; NA-CORDEX

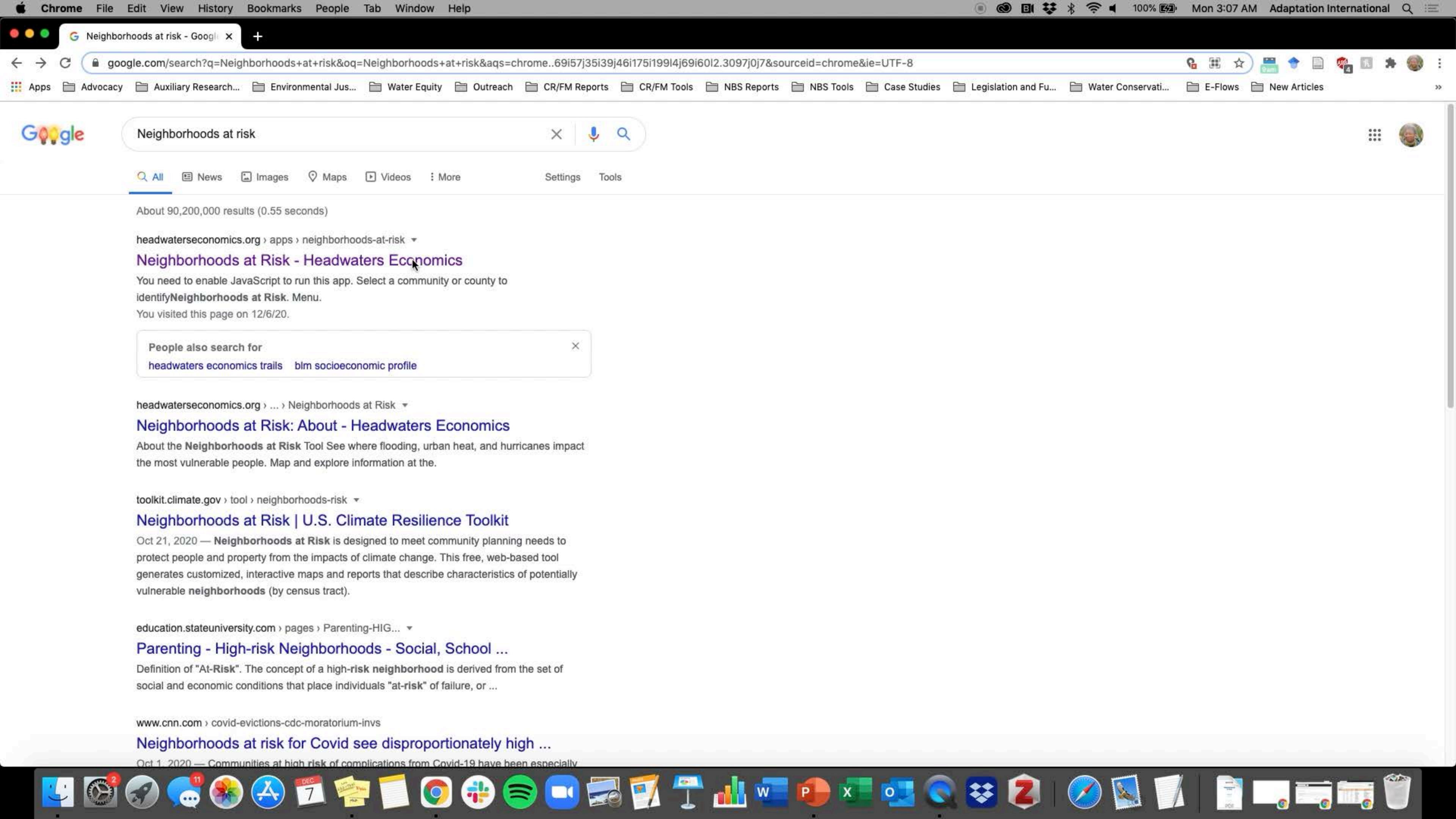
Weather & Climate Profiles in Practice

Downscaled custom weather and climate data will be incorporated at several points as cities complete their assessment and can be applied to other contexts!



FloodWise Vulnerability Assessment Tool:

Neighborhoods at Risk Socioeconomic Profiles



Neighborhoods at risk

All News Images Maps Videos More Settings Tools

About 90,200,000 results (0.55 seconds)

headwaterseconomics.org › apps › neighborhoods-at-risk

Neighborhoods at Risk - Headwaters Economics

You need to enable JavaScript to run this app. Select a community or county to identify **Neighborhoods at Risk**. Menu.

You visited this page on 12/6/20.

People also search for

headwaters economics trails blm socioeconomic profile

headwaterseconomics.org › ... › Neighborhoods at Risk

Neighborhoods at Risk: About - Headwaters Economics

About the **Neighborhoods at Risk** Tool See where flooding, urban heat, and hurricanes impact the most vulnerable people. Map and explore information at the.

toolkit.climate.gov › tool › neighborhoods-risk

Neighborhoods at Risk | U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit

Oct 21, 2020 — **Neighborhoods at Risk** is designed to meet community planning needs to protect people and property from the impacts of climate change. This free, web-based tool generates customized, interactive maps and reports that describe characteristics of potentially vulnerable **neighborhoods** (by census tract).

education.stateuniversity.com › pages › Parenting-HIG...

Parenting - High-risk Neighborhoods - Social, School ...

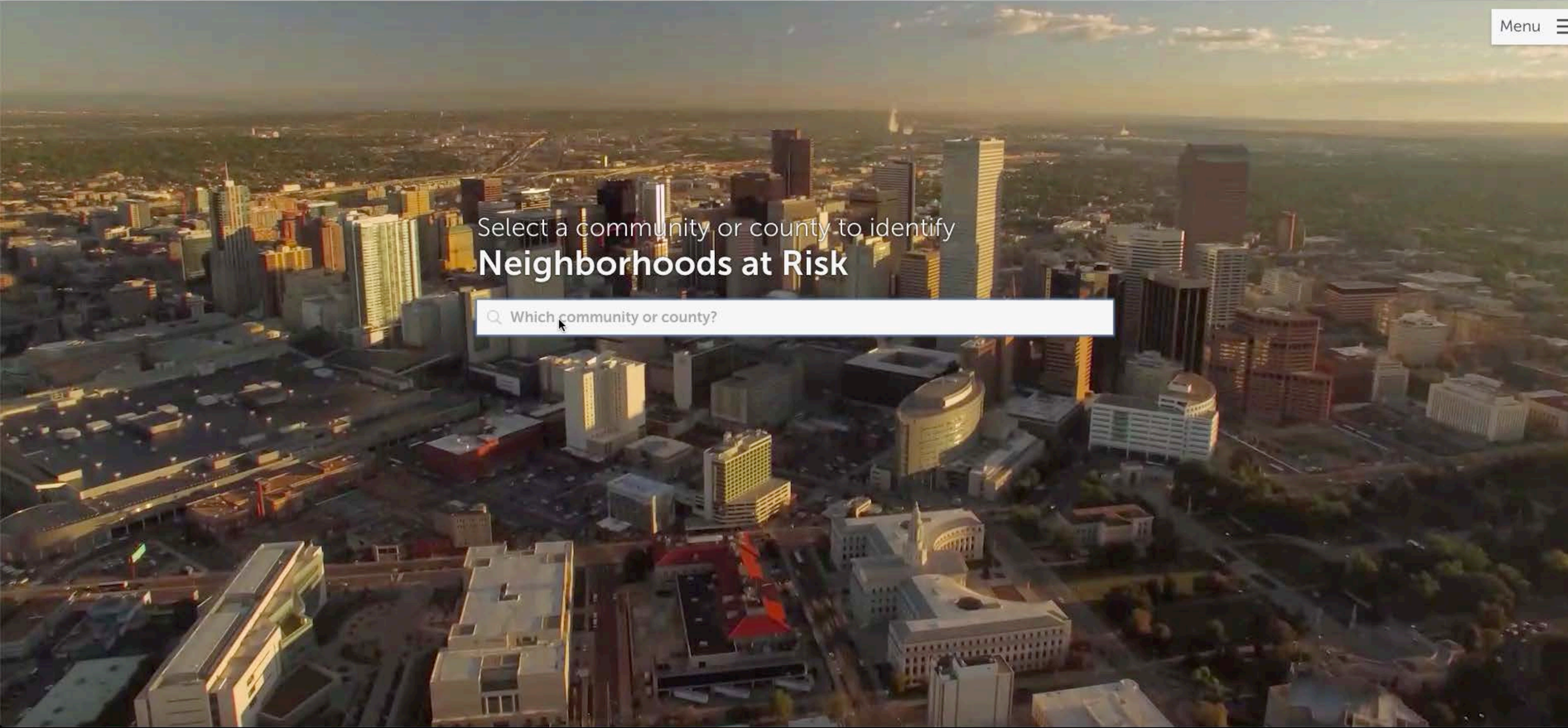
Definition of "At-Risk". The concept of a high-risk **neighborhood** is derived from the set of social and economic conditions that place individuals "at-risk" of failure, or ...

www.cnn.com › covid-evictions-cdc-moratorium-invs

Neighborhoods at risk for Covid see disproportionately high ...

Oct 1, 2020 — Communities at high **risk** of complications from Covid-19 have been especially





Menu

Select a community or county to identify
Neighborhoods at Risk

Which community or county?



Neighborhoods at Risk

Selected Tracts

Selected Location(s):
Mobile, AL

Comparison Location:
U.S.

Produced by
Headwaters Economics'
Economic Profile System (EPS)
December 7, 2020

Neighborhoods at Risk

Selected Tracts

Families in Poverty

| | Mobile, AL | Selected Tracts | U.S. |
|---|------------|-----------------|------------|
| Total families for whom poverty status is determined, 2018* | 43,356 | 62,247 | 78,697,103 |
| Families in poverty | 7,301 | 9,726 | 7,930,699 |
| Families with children in poverty | 5,618 | 7,441 | 5,909,657 |
| Single mother families in poverty | 4,544 | 5,679 | 3,563,666 |

Percent of Total, 2018*

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Families in poverty | 16.8% | 15.6% | 10.1% |
| Families with children in poverty | 13.0% | 12.0% | 7.5% |
| Single mother families in poverty | 10.5% | 9.1% | 4.5% |

Change in Percentage Points, 2010*-2018*

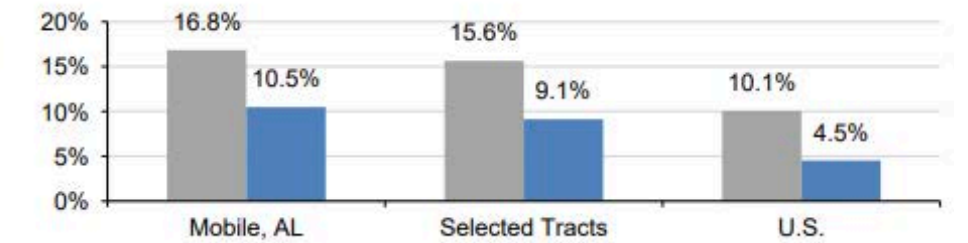
For example, if the value is 3% in 2010* and 4.5% in 2018*, the reported change in percentage points is 1.5.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Families in poverty | -1.1 | -0.9 | 0.0 |
| Families with children in poverty | -1.4 | -1.4 | -0.4 |
| Single mother families in poverty | -1.1 | -1.2 | -0.3 |

High Reliability: Data with coefficients of variation (CVs) < 12% are in black to indicate that the sampling error is relatively small.
Medium Reliability: Data with CVs between 12 & 40% are in orange to indicate that the values should be interpreted with caution.
Low Reliability: Data with CVs > 40% are displayed in red to indicate that the estimate is considered very unreliable.

Families in Poverty, Percent of Total, 2018*

- Mobile, AL has the largest share of single mother families in poverty (10.5%).



■ Families in poverty ■ Single mother families in poverty

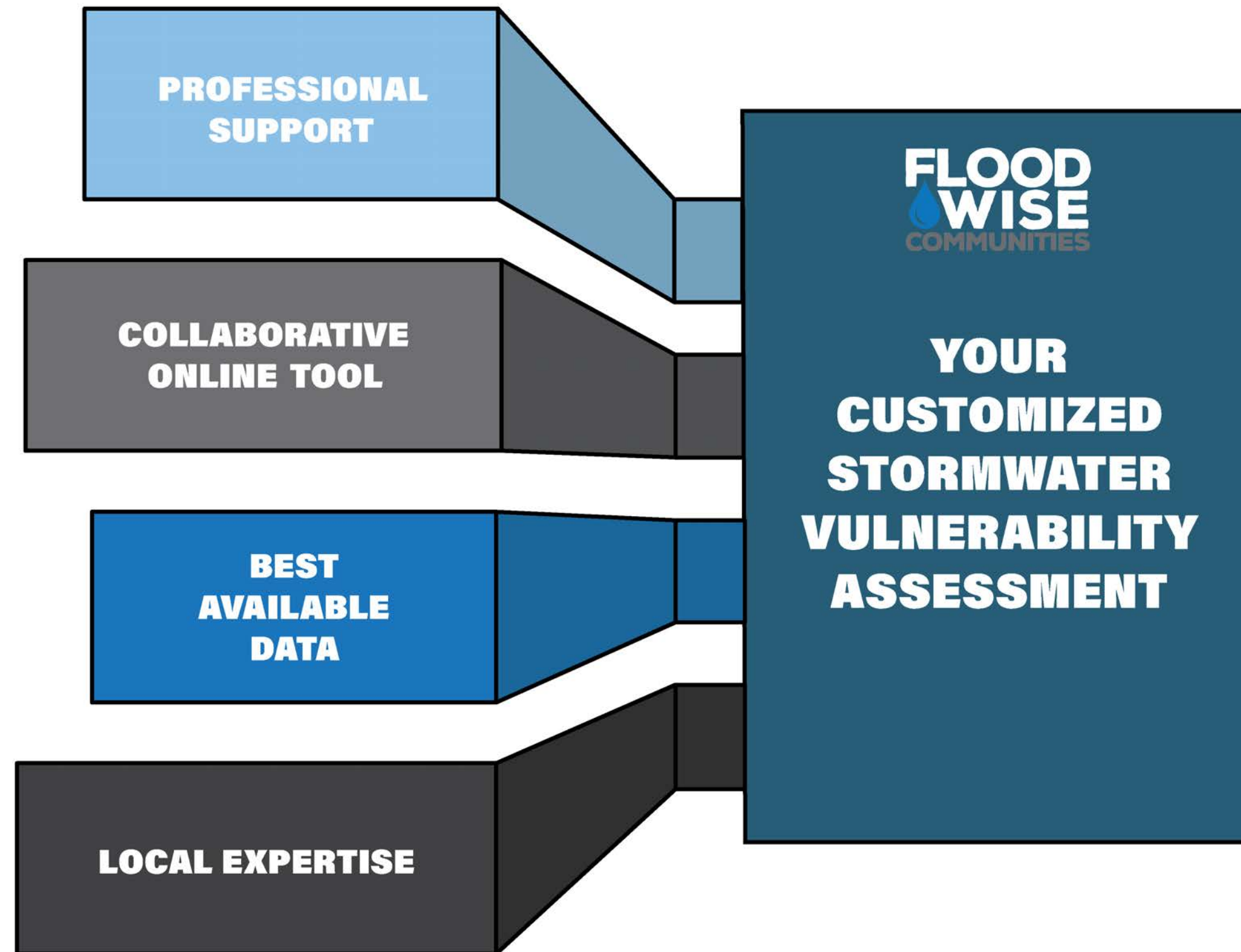
Families in Poverty, Change in Percentage Points, 2010*-2018*

- The largest change in the share of single mother families in poverty occurred in Selected Tracts, which went from 10.4% to 9.1%.



■ Families in poverty ■ Single mother families in poverty

Great on their own, stronger together.



Practitioner Perspectives

Matthew Naud

adapt.city

Resource Recycling Systems

Ann Arbor, MI

- **Senior Consultant**
 - adapt.city/recycle.com
- **Environmental Coordinator, Ann Arbor**
 - 2001-2018
- **Urban Sustainability Directors Network**
 - Michigan Green Communities
 - Great Lakes Climate Adaptation Network
 - 2010 – 2018
 - USDN Innovation Fund
 - Vulnerability Assessment Template
 - Neighborhoods at Risk

Vulnerability Assessments in Practice

- **Is there one template all cities can use?**
 - Common climate risk
 - Common stormwater elements
 - Solution sets will differ based on budget, staff capacity
- **How do we visualize extreme weather risk and equity?**
 - Neighborhoods at Risk
- **Begin with citywide review**
 - Macro analysis
 - How will climate affect service delivery

Outputs

- Weather & climate, socioeconomic profiles
- Vulnerability and adaptive capacity matrix

What tools do you need to inform decision makers & local officials about extreme weather and climate risk?

- Do these tools help demonstrate why your budget should be funded?

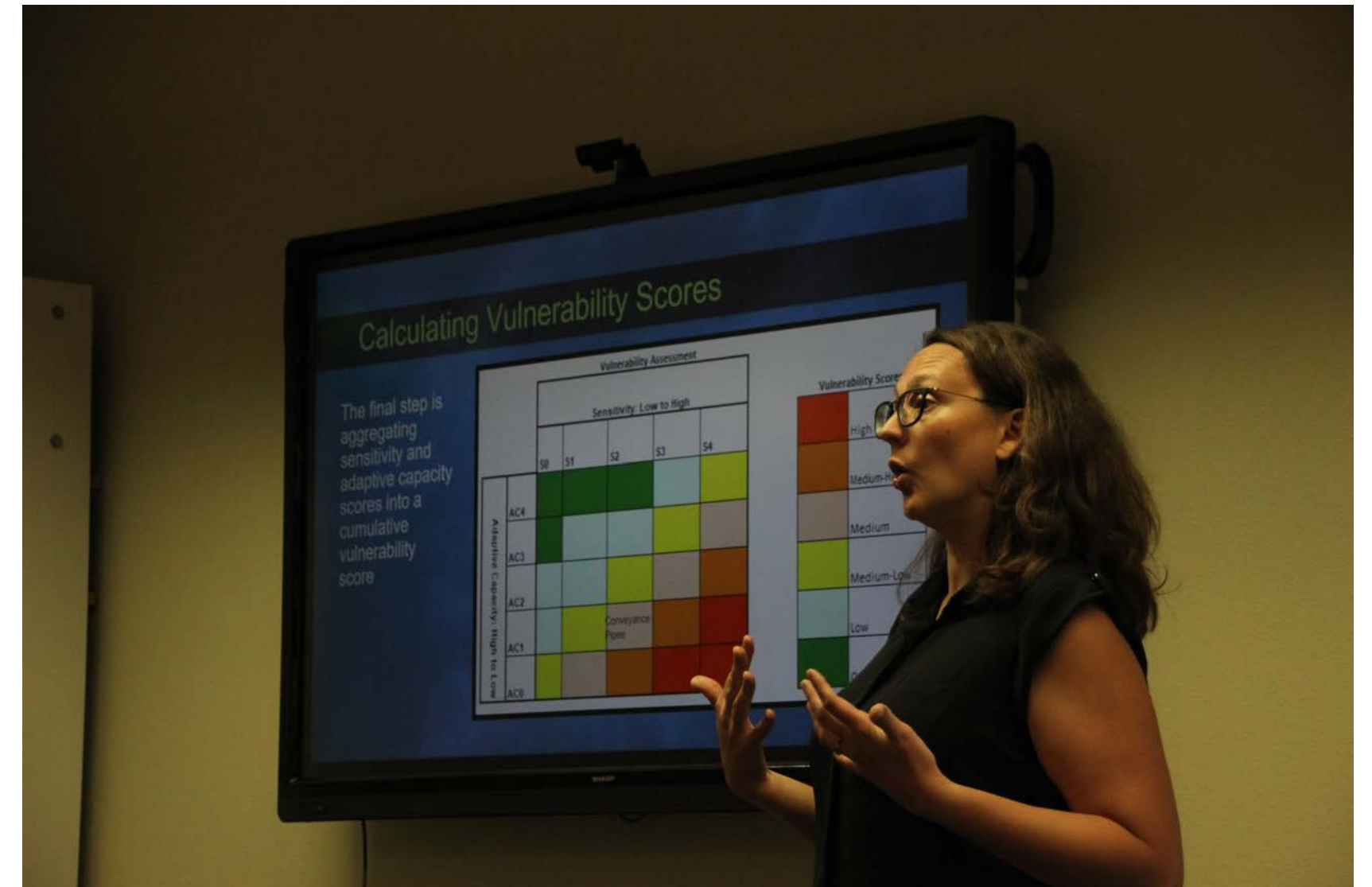
What data do you need for system design and planning?

- Asset management
- Bond rating risk

Scalability to other city systems

The process is transferable:

- *Elements of water distribution system*
- *Affordable housing sites*
- *Are we managing more trees in wealthy areas than poor areas?*
- *Is capital investment equitably distributed?*



*Learning from and with each other is
the fastest way to solve for extreme
weather impacts!*

How to Enroll

- ✓ Visit floodwisecommunities.org.
- ✓ Click “Apply Today!”
- ✓ Fill out the enrollment form.
- ✓ Hit Submit!

Priority will be given to communities that apply by March 31st.

We encourage communities to apply even if they feel they can't meet all eligibility criteria or the enrollment deadline.

Questions? Contact:

ProjectTeam@floodwisecommunities.org



Questions & Comments?

**FLOOD
WISE
COMMUNITIES**

Thank you!

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 **Sea Grant**
Texas
AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

NADO
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