

An Old Dominion University research team conducted a regional survey in May-July 2016 to help inform planning and resilience efforts across Hampton Roads. The web-based survey was distributed through email, social media, in-person surveys were solicited at various regional venues. Complete responses were received from 1,633 Hampton Roads residents that include perceptions about vulnerability to sea level rise and flooding, feasibility and support for adaptation actions.

## Key Results

### VULNERABILITY AND IMPACTS OF SEA LEVEL RISE AND FLOODING

**Vulnerability:** 52% rated their personal vulnerability to flooding due to sea level rise as high or extremely high

**Impacts:** 61% think sea level rise is having impacts in Hampton Roads now

Increased frequency and severity of flooding	79%
Private property damage or loss	75%
Problems with stormwater drainage	70%
Shoreline erosion and loss of land	69%
Increased insurance rates	68%
Damage or loss of public infrastructure	64%
Higher storm surge	63%
Increased traffic congestion, delays, etc.	62%
Increased health risks	62%
Habitat loss	57%

### TOP THREE ACTIONS

that would most help residents adapt

- Learn more about what my city is doing to address flooding and/or sea level rise (61%)
- Find out more about different adaptation actions (43%)
- Learn more about sea level rise and/or flooding (40%)



### MOST FEASIBLE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING RESILIENCE

- Floodplain policy and management such as through preserving open space, managing development in flood-prone areas (49%)
- Natural solutions such as dunes and beaches, wetlands, oyster reefs, etc. (49%)
- Improvement to drainage systems (49%)

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### SUPPORT FOR ADAPTATION ACTIONS

% indicating support or strong support for the action

Constructing public buildings & structures to better withstand flooding & storms	87%
Using green infrastructure	87%
Changing building codes & increasing construction standards in vulnerable areas	85%
Building sand dunes	83%
Providing tax incentives for taking actions to reduce risks of flood damage	81%
Reducing new building on the coast	80%
Limiting rebuilding in locations seriously damaged by flooding or storms	71%
Replenishing sand on beaches	69%
Offering money to people & businesses to move inland	51%
Building sea walls	43%