

Building Disaster Resilient Kansas Communities – Together



ARISE—Adaptive and Resilient Infrastructures driven by Social Equity—is a major 5-year research initiative led by Kansas universities and colleges. It aims to help Kansas communities prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters like floods, ice, and tornadoes. The project focuses not just on physical infrastructure, but also on the people, systems, and decisions that shape community resilience.

WHY IT MATTERS TO KANSAS



Kansas ranks 9th in the nation for federal disaster declarations, and the risks are rising.



Taking smart actions now to reduce disaster risk will safeguard lives and protect economies.



Together, we can significantly lessen post-disaster suffering and recovery cost.



WHO WE ARE

More than 150 people from 12 Kansas institutions collaborate in this project—including KU, K-State, WSU, Emporia State, and several community colleges. Dozens of local governments, nonprofits, and utility providers also partner with ARISE. More than 1,000 Kansans have contributed so far, through surveys, interviews, and other activities.

WHAT ARISE DOES

ARISE conducts research to equip Kansas communities—rural and urban—with resources to efficiently tackle disasters before, during and after they strike. By better understanding infrastructure, including gaps in under-resourced areas, the team seeks the following six high-impact outcomes.



Disaster Planning & Recovery Support
Empowering local leaders to support all residents, including the most vulnerable.



Predictive Technology
Simulating real-world disaster scenarios with AI models to guide resilience enhancements.



Probabilistic Hazard Maps
Supports disaster planning and response through interactive visuals of past storms.



Community-Defined Resilience Metrics
Locally developed indicators reflect real community needs and attainable goals.



Behavioral & Institutional Insights
Enhancing policies for disaster response.



Workforce & STEM Pipeline
Educating learners of all ages with in-demand skills such as data science.

GET INVOLVED

ARISE is powered by community voices, and we welcome yours. Whether you are a local leader, educator, student, researcher, or resident, we invite you to engage with us.



SCAN HERE

Follow this QR code to learn more about how to get involved in our research, seed grants, data science, community events, and more.

Website: arisekansas.org
Email: nsfepscor@ku.edu

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