



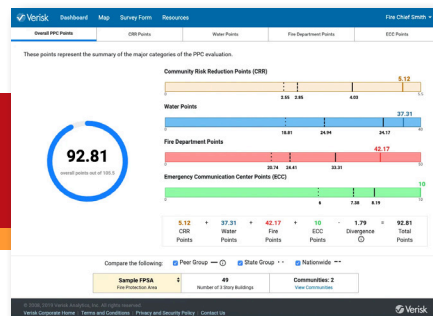
ISO helps community mitigation efforts through various educational and promotional tools.

PPC Seal



Free Program Presentations

Mitigate Website



## Working Together

ISO works to foster an active relationship with fire departments, building departments, water suppliers, and communities. Your participation in our PPC, BCEGS, and floodplain management programs is critical in attaining the ultimate goal: safer communities. ISO gives presentations to municipalities, fire departments, water suppliers, and other organizations. Call us to arrange for a presentation, speaker, or meeting.

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# ISO Community Hazard Mitigation: Working together for safer communities



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## Fire Protection: ISO's Public Protection Classification



The ISO Public Protection Classification (PPC®) program provides important, hands-on, up-to-date information on the capabilities of public fire protection in nearly 50,000 fire protection areas across the United States. We analyze fire departments, water supply systems, emergency communications, and community risk reduction efforts and assign a PPC grade from 1 (superior property fire protection) to 10 (does not meet ISO's minimum criteria). Most U.S. property insurers use the PPC grade in calculating premiums. Generally, a community with a good PPC grade receives lower insurance rates than a community with a poor PPC grade, assuming all other factors are equal.

### Some of the benefits of the PPC program include:

- lower premiums from insurance companies
- incentive for improving and maintaining public fire protection, which could reduce losses
- helping fire departments and public officials plan, budget for, and justify improvements
- helping communities prepare to fight fires effectively

## Water Resources

As part of the PPC program, ISO has extensive information on more than 30,000 areas served by community and municipal water systems.

### We work directly with community water authorities and local government officials to:

- collect water supply data and assess the adequacy of local water infrastructure
- determine if the amount of available water is sufficient to fight fires above normal usage
- assess all components of the water system, including pumps, storage, and filtration
- evaluate, flow test, and assess the location and capabilities of hydrants



## Building Code Enforcement: ISO's Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule

ISO's Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS®) assesses the effectiveness and enforcement of a community's building codes, with an emphasis on mitigating losses from natural hazards. The program assigns each participating community a grade of 1 (exemplary commitment to building code enforcement) to 10. Communities with effective, well-enforced codes generally demonstrate better loss experience—and insurance rates can reflect that.



The BCEGS program gives communities a clear incentive to implement and enforce effective building codes. Better codes result in safer buildings and less damage when natural disasters occur. That can reduce losses and make residents safer—and create communities that are more desirable in which to live, work, and own properties.

### BCEGS helps communities by:

- encouraging the adoption of the most current building codes
- helping building departments operate more efficiently
- motivating enhanced code enforcement
- promoting construction of better catastrophe-resistant buildings
- helping reduce economic, property, and personal losses from catastrophes
- potentially leading to lower insurance premiums

## Floodplain Management: Community Rating System

In 1991, ISO began implementation of the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS), a voluntary, incentive-based program designed to assess a community's actions that exceed NFIP minimal requirements.



### The program's three main goals are to:

- reduce and avoid flood damage to insurable property
- strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the NFIP
- foster comprehensive floodplain management

### CRS-evaluated activities fall into four categories:

- public information — advising people about flood hazards, showing how to reduce flood damage, and encouraging the purchase of flood insurance
- mapping and regulations — increasing protections for new development with various programs and development standards
- flood damage reduction — reducing risk to existing development with various programs and redevelopment standards
- warning and response — protecting lives and property during floods through comprehensive public warning and response programs

ISO continues to administer and expand the CRS program.

