

2025

**Maine Health Care Coalition:
Downeast Chapter
(Hancock and Washington Counties)
Executive Report**



*Report written by: Kawther Mohamed and Alfred May
April 22, 2026*

What is the Health Care Coalition?

The Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR), an agency under the US Department of Health and Human Service, manages the Hospital Preparedness Program ([HPP](#)). The focus of the program funding to Maine is to establish collaborative networks in geographic jurisdictions that meet emergency preparedness capabilities through professional training and cycle of exercises to ensure that health care partners have what is needed to respond to disasters and public health emergencies.

Maine has eight geographic public health districts that align with health care coalition chapters. The Maine HCC Downeast Chapter supports health care organizations that are required to meet Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Emergency Preparedness Rule in Hancock and Washington Counties. The CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule is to ensure adequate planning for natural and man-made disasters and coordination with federal, state, tribal, regional, and local emergency preparedness systems.

Structure of Maine HCC and Downeast Chapter

The Maine CDC HCC Statewide Council is represented by experts in hospital preparedness, elected representatives from each of the eight HCC chapters, and Maine CDC staff including the public health district liaisons.

The Maine HCC Downeast District has the following leadership:

- Danielle Day, Chair (Mount Desert Island Hospital)
- Alfred May, Vice Chair (Maine CDC Downeast Public Health District)
- Andrew Sankey, Consultant (Hancock County Emergency Management Agency)
- Kawther Mohamed, Coordinator (Maine CDC Downeast Public Health District)



Recognition of Partners



We want to thank and recognize partners who have consistently participated* in our four quarterly meetings as well as planning efforts.

- *Andrew Sankey, Hancock County EMA*
- *Danielle Day, Mount Desert Island Hospital*
- *Christine Day, Washington County EMA*
- *Rod Tirell, Eastport Health Care*
- *Luke Putnam, Calais Community Hospital*
- *Brian Frutche, Down East Community Hospital*

**Attended 3 or more meetings since July 2025.*

Membership

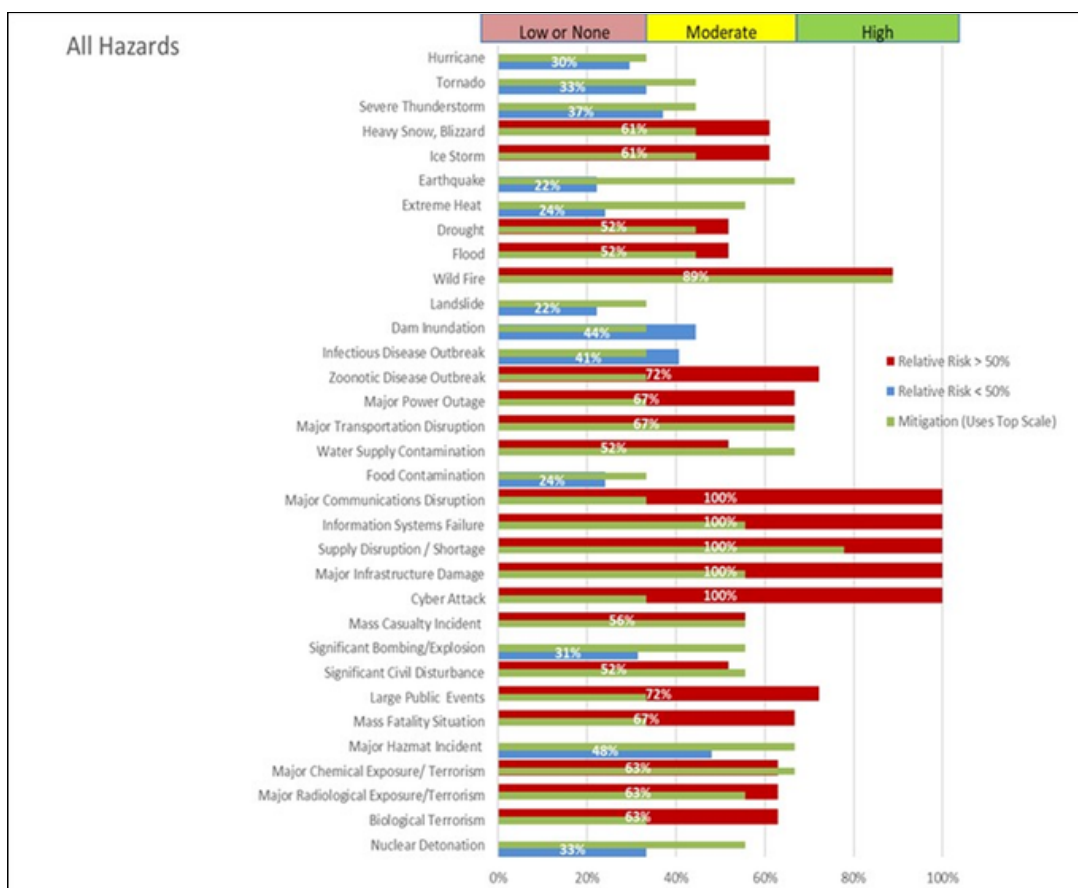
Based on our [HCC Bylaws](#), the Maine HCC Downeast Chapter recruits members from a list of sectors. **Who are our members:**

Hospitals	Long Term Care Facilities	Assisted Living Facilities	Public Health Agencies	Tribal Health Centers
Emergency Management Agencies	Hospice Agencies		Home Health Care Agencies	Skilled Nursing and Nursing Facilities
Emergency Medical Services	Community Based Health Services	Behavioral Health Providers	Federally Qualified Health Centers	Public Safety Agencies

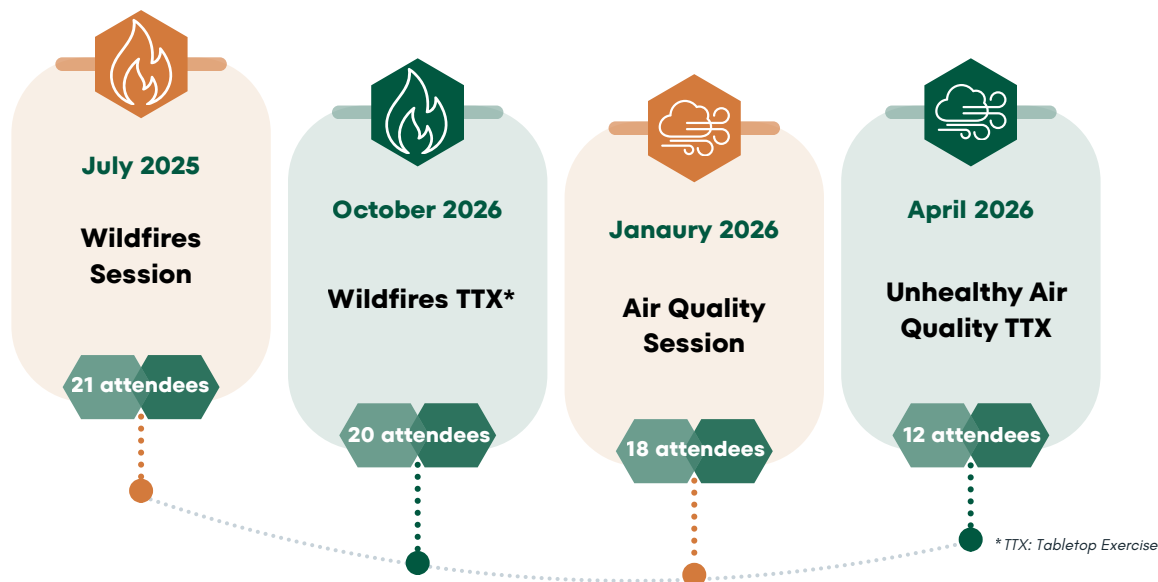
Year One Action Steps: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

A Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA), using an adapted Kaiser Permanente Hazard Vulnerability Analysis tool, was conducted in each of the eight Maine HCC Chapters in 2024. The assessment reviewed natural hazards, technological hazards, human hazards, and hazardous materials. Representatives from public health, hospital systems, healthcare organizations, community organizations, and emergency management actively participated.

Based on the assessment and analysis, the figure below provides a summary of the hazard risk scores. Each district was required to prioritize two hazards that ranked high and were tangible and could be practically exercised. In Downeast, Wildfires and Air Quality were chosen with the objective to include and test these in partner emergency operation plans with a goal to increase preparedness and resiliency. Our four HCC Downeast quarterly meetings, from July 2025 to April 2026, were focused on meeting the objectives and strategies of our HVA Work Plan. Our partners felt that using the quarterly meetings for completing the work plan made sense and that they could prioritize participation for those dates.

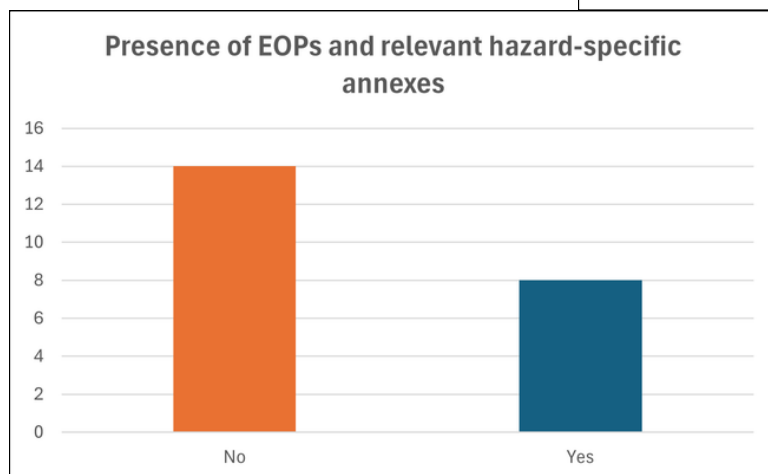
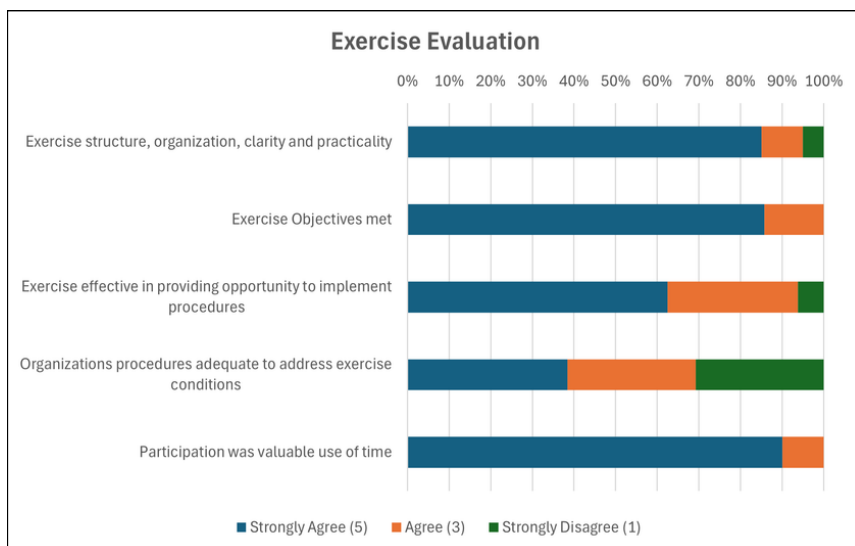


Meetings and Attendance



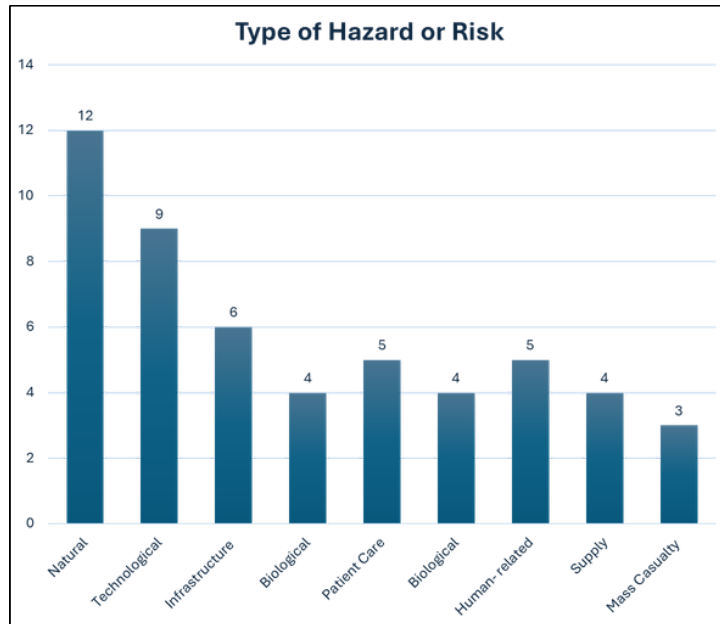
Evaluation

At the conclusion of each exercise session, an evaluation questionnaire was filled by participants to determine the exercise conduct and if partners had pertinent emergency plans for their facilities.

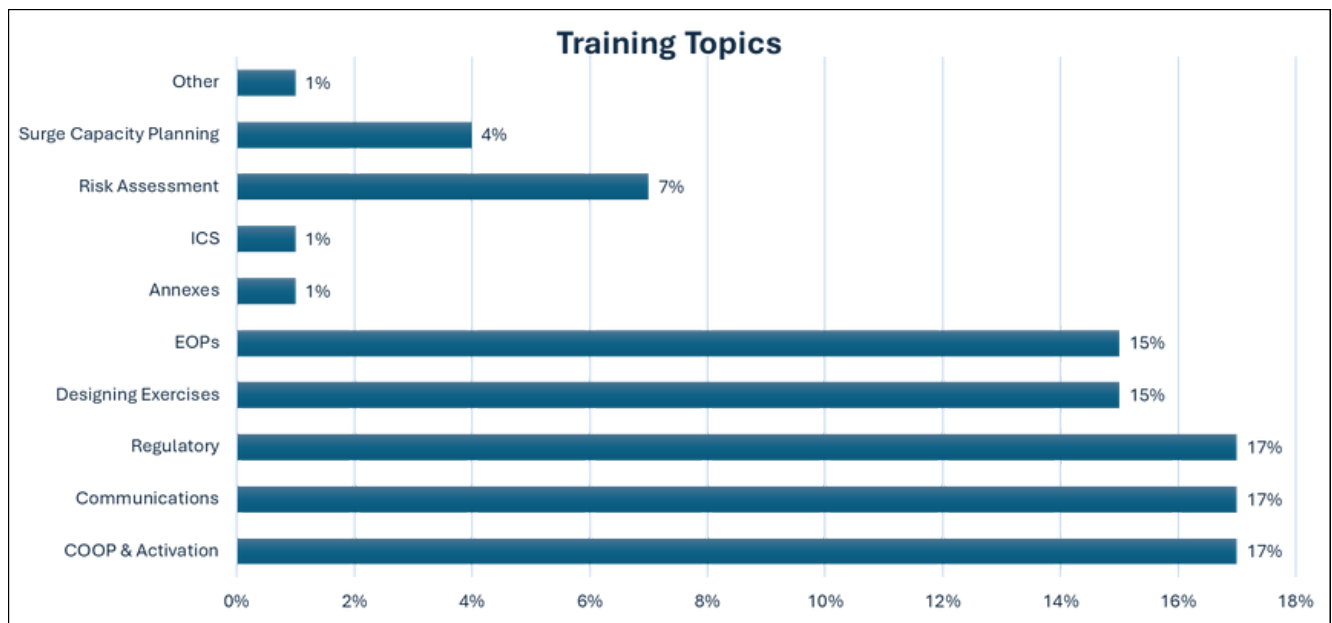


*EOP: Emergency Response and Operations Plans

Training and Exercise Needs Assessment



A Training and Exercise (T&E) Needs Assessment was conducted, where a survey was sent to the Downeast Chapter members. The results will inform the Chapter in developing a T&E plan. The results show the type of hazards identified and training gaps.



Resources and events

- [Maine HCC website](#)
- Maine HCC Liaison/Project Manager: [Hannah Dieterich](#)
- [Maine HCC Newsletter](#)
- Maine HCC Conference: *Fall 2026*

- [ASPR HPP](#)
- [ASPR Medical Response and Surge Exercise \(MRSE\)](#)

Planning for the next year

A District Chapter Strategic Plan is in the works to develop a comprehensive plan that will include:

- HCC Strategic Plan: District-specific objectives
- HCC Deliverables: District-specific tasks
- District HVA Planning and Priorities
- Training and Exercise Plan Implementation
- HCC Recovery Plan Development.



CONTACT

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