

# For SSRC - Needs Assessment EHSRC Midwest

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## Start of Block: Default Question Block

Introductory Text The Environmental Health Sciences Research Center (EHSRC) is based at the University of Iowa. The Center is funded by the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and conducts research about the health effects of environmental contaminants and hazards. The Community Engagement Core of the EHSRC acts as a bridge between researchers and community members. We want to learn about community needs in Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri so that we can make sure the research of the EHSRC responds to what people want in our region.

This survey focuses on environmental health, which relates to the relationships between people, their health, and the environment. Important issues include air, soil, and water quality, the effects of climate change and natural disasters on our communities' well-being, and access to safe food and housing. The survey asks about "environmental health issues," which means problems in the environment that can affect human health. This could include problems in the natural environment (soil, water, air) or the built environment (building materials, indoor air quality). The survey also has questions that focus on especially worrisome environmental health issues, such as natural disasters and climate change.

## End of Block: Default Question Block

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## Start of Block: Section 1- Demographic 1

Q52 Let's start with a few questions to see if you qualify.



Q2 In what year were you born?

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*Skip To: End of Block If Condition: In what year were you born? Is Greater Than 2005. Skip To: End of Block.*

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Page Break

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Q3 Do you describe yourself as a man, a woman, or in some other way?

Man (1)

Woman (2)

Some other way (please specify) (3)

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Page Break

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Q4 Do you consider yourself to be Non-Hispanic or Hispanic?

Non-Hispanic (1)

Hispanic (2)

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Q5 What racial group best describes you?

White (1)

Black or African American (2)

Asian or Pacific Islander (3)

Native American or Alaskan Native (4)

Some other race (please describe) (5)

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Page Break



Q6 What is the zip code of your current place of residence?

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End of Block: Section 1- Demographic 1

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Start of Block: Survey section 1: Psychological Domain -- What are the problems?

Q7 In this section, we will be asking about what you see as important environmental problems that can affect human health.

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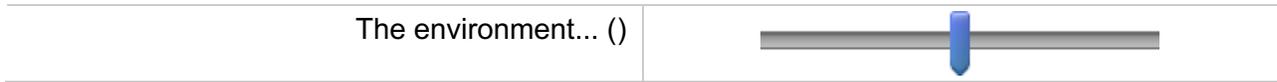
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Q8 How much do you think the environment affects people's health?

Does not affect health   Slightly affects health   Moderately affects health   Significantly affects health   Very significantly affects health

1                      2                      3                      4                      5



Page Break

Q10 How would you rate your overall health?

Poor	Fair	Good	Very good	Excellent
1	2	3	4	5

My overall health is... ()	
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Page Break

Q11 How concerned are you personally about the effect of the environment on your health?

Not at all   Slightly   Moderately   Very   Extremely  
concerned   concerned   concerned   concerned   concerned

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

I am... ()	
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Page Break

Q12 How pessimistic or optimistic do you feel about the future of the environment?

Very Pessimistic    Neither    Optimistic    Very  
pessimistic    pessimistic    or    optimistic  
or  
optimistic

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

I feel... ()	
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Page Break



Q13 How concerned are you about each of the following environmental health issues? The text in parentheses following each topic is provided as examples, but not intended to be a comprehensive list.

	Not at all concerned (1)	Slightly concerned (2)	Moderately concerned (3)	Very concerned (4)	Extremely concerned (5)
<b>Water quality</b> (private wells, source water contamination, drinking water quality, toxic algal blooms, agricultural runoff) (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Outdoor Air Quality</b> (wildfire smoke, industrial emissions, pollen, agricultural dusts and emissions) (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Indoor Air Quality</b> (radon, volatile organic compounds, mold, dust) (5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Natural Disasters</b> (floods, drought, severe storms) (6)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Chemical Contaminants</b> (from plastics and other consumer products, PFAS, PCBs, etc) (7)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Need for clean energy**  
(electric vehicles, wind, solar) (8)

**Conservation**  
(loss of biodiversity, reduction in pollinator habitat, agricultural practices) (9)

**Soil health**  
(erosion, soil contamination, acidification) (10)

**Heavy metal exposure**  
(lead in paint, building materials, or arsenic in water) (11)

**Climate Change**  
(extreme weather events, extreme heat, drought, flooding, increase in insect-borne diseases) (12)

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Q14 Please provide any additional comments about your concerns about the environmental health issues listed previously.

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Q15 Think about the place you live right now. Which of the following environmental health issues are you concerned about in your home? (select all that apply)

- Private well contamination (1)
- Drinking water quality (2)
- Radon (3)
- Volatile organic compounds (for example in paint, furniture, etc.) (4)
- Mold (5)
- Lead exposure (6)
- Structural integrity (7)
- Pests inside my home (i.e., insects and rodents) (8)
- Natural gas exposure (from gas stoves or heating elements) (9)
- Agricultural dust or drift (10)
- None (11)

End of Block: Survey section 1: Psychological Domain -- What are the problems?

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Start of Block: Block 3

Q16 In this section, we will ask about who you think is affected by environmental health issues.

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Page Break

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Q17 Think about the city, county, or neighborhood you currently live in as your “community.” Do you consider yourself more or less vulnerable than others in your community to exposure to environmental health issues?

More vulnerable (1)

About the same (2)

Less vulnerable (3)

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Page Break

Q18 What populations do you think are especially at risk for environmental health issues in our region? [select all that apply]

- Children (1)
- Young adults (2)
- Working adults (3)
- Senior citizens (4)
- Those living in rural areas (5)
- Those living in urban areas (6)
- Racial or ethnic minorities (7)
- Immigrant populations (8)
- Veterans (10)
- Other (11) \_\_\_\_\_
- I don't know (12)
- None (13)

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Q19 Please elaborate on your responses by describing why you made your selections or what you see as the environmental health issues that are experienced by any of the above groups

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Q20 How prepared is your **community** for a natural disaster, like a tornado or flood?

Not at all prepared   Slightly prepared   Moderately prepared   Very prepared   Extremely prepared

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

My community is... ()	
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Q21 How prepared is your **household** for a natural disaster, like a tornado or flood?

Not at all prepared   Slightly prepared   Moderately prepared   Very prepared   Extremely prepared

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

My household is... ()	
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Page Break

Q22 Think about the people, places, organizations, and leadership in your community. Imagine a natural disaster hit your community (for example, flood, derecho, tornado, blizzard, etc.). What assets does your community currently have that would help you recover from that disaster?

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Page Break

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Q23 What characteristics about your community could be strengthened to improve its ability to recover from a natural disaster?

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End of Block: Block 3

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Start of Block: Block 4

Q24 In this section, we will be asking about what and how you know about environmental health issues.

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Page Break

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Q25 How knowledgeable are you about environmental health issues?

Not Slightly Moderately Very Extremely  
knowledgeable knowledgeable knowledgeable knowledgeable knowledgeable  
at all

1 2 3 4 5

I am... ()	
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Page Break

Q26 Do environmental health issues get the right amount of attention?

- They get too much attention (1)
- They get just the right amount of attention (2)
- They do not get enough attention (3)

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Page Break

Q27 If you are seeking out environmental health information, what sources do you consult?  
Select all that apply.

- National media (1)
  - Local media (2)
  - State agencies (e.g., Iowa Department of Natural Resources) (3)
  - Federal agencies (e.g., EPA, CDC, NOAA) (4)
  - Non-governmental organizations (5)
  - University-based sources (6)
  - Public library (7)
  - Local health department (8)
  - Other (please describe) (9)
- 
- None of these (10)

Page Break

Q49 Please provide up to three examples of a trustworthy information source that covers environmental health. (enter one in each text box).

Source 1:

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Q54 Source 2:

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Q53 Source 3:

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Q28 Below is a list of social media platforms. On which of those do you see information about environmental health issues? Select all that apply.

- Facebook (1)
  - YouTube (2)
  - Instagram (3)
  - TikTok (4)
  - Snapchat (5)
  - X (formerly Twitter) (6)
  - Reddit (7)
  - LinkedIn (8)
  - Quora (9)
  - Discord (10)
  - Other (please describe) (11)
- 
- None of these (12)

End of Block: Block 4

Start of Block: Block 5

Q29 In this section, we will be asking about what you think is being done or should be done about environmental health issues.

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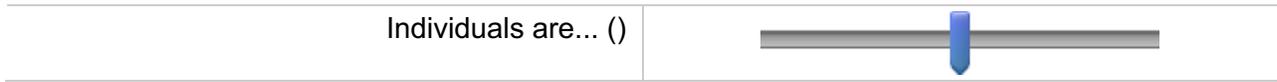
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Q30 How capable are individuals in your community to protect themselves from environmental health issues?

Not at all capable   Slightly capable   Moderately capable   Very capable   Extremely capable

1                      2                      3                      4                      5



Page Break

Q31 Do you feel you would have access to help if you experienced problems related to the environment (housing issue, natural disaster, flooding, extreme weather)?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- I don't know (3)

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Page Break \_\_\_\_\_

Q32 What individuals or groups are responsible for protecting residents from environmental health problems in our region?

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Page Break

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Q33 How important are the following policies in protecting residents from environmental health issues?

	Not at all important (1)	Slightly important (2)	Moderately important (3)	Very important (4)	Extremely important (5)
Local policies (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
State policies (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Federal policies (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Page Break



Q34 Please rank the following items according to what you see as the most to least important roles of universities in protecting environmental health. (To adjust the rankings, drag and drop the items to move around, put most important at the top of the list and least at the bottom)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Conducting research (1)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sharing information with the general public about findings or current research (2)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Conducting outreach directly to communities in the region (3)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Educating students (4)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sharing information with policymakers based on findings of locally-based research (5)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other (please describe) (6)

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Q35 Which of the following would be the most beneficial to you in reducing your personal risk for environmental health issues?

- Financial resources to make improvements in housing or other personal risk factors (1)
  - Better policies at the local, state, or federal level to reduce the risk of environmental health issues (2)
  - More information about environmental health issues (3)
  - Better access to medical services/health screenings that could identify health problems caused by environmental issues (4)
  - Environmental sampling/monitoring in my community to identify health risks (5)
  - Changes in my workplace or work environment (6)
  - Other (please describe) (7)
- 
- None of these (8)

End of Block: Block 5

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Start of Block: Additional Demographic Questions

Q55 Finally, we'd like to ask a few questions about you.

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Page Break

Q40 Do you consider the community that you live in to be urban, suburban, or rural?

- Urban (1)
- Suburban (2)
- Rural (3)
- Don't know (4)
- Decline to answer (5)

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Page Break

Q46 Which of the following categories do you most align with?

- General community member (1)
- Representative of a community or environmental organization (2)
- Academic or researcher (3)
- Policymaker (4)
- Teacher (5)
- Community leader (6)

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Page Break

Q36 Where were you born?

- In the United States (US State or territory) (1)
- Outside the United States (2)
- Decline to answer (3)

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Page Break

Q41 What is the last grade or class that you completed in school?

- None, or grade 1-8 (1)
- High school incomplete (grades 9-11) (2)
- High school graduate (grade 12 or GED certificate) (3)
- Technical, trade, or vocational school AFTER high school (4)
- Some college, no 4-year degree (including associate degree) (5)
- College graduate (B.S., B.A., or other 4-year degree) (6)
- Post-graduate training or professional schooling after college (e.g., toward a master's Degree or Ph.D.; law or medical school) (7)
- I don't know (8)
- Decline to answer (9)

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Page Break

Q39 What is your occupation?

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Q42 Please answer the following questions about the house, apartment, or mobile home where you currently live. Which best describes this building?

- A mobile home (1)
- A one-family house detached from any other house (2)
- A one-family house attached to one or more houses (3)
- An apartment building (4)
- Boat, RV, van, etc. (7)
- Don't know (8)
- Decline to answer (9)

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Page Break

Q43 About when was this building first built?

2000 or later (specify year in text box) (1)

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1990 to 1999 (2)

1980 to 1989 (3)

1970 to 1979 (4)

1960 to 1969 (5)

1950 to 1959 (6)

1940 to 1949 (7)

1939 or earlier (8)

Don't know (9)

Decline to answer (10)

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Page Break

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Q44 When did you move into this home (apartment, mobile home)? Please list the year.

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Page Break

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Q45 Does your home use a private water system or a public water system?

For example, private water systems could include private ground water residential wells and usually supply water to an individual residence. Public water systems could include municipal water supplies and usually supply water to multiple residences.

- Private water system (1)
  - Public water system (2)
  - I don't know (3)
  - Decline to answer (4)
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Q50 This is the end of the survey. By selecting the forward arrow, your survey will be submitted.

Thank you for your time and input!

**End of Block: Additional Demographic Questions**

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