

# How Do We Measure Up?

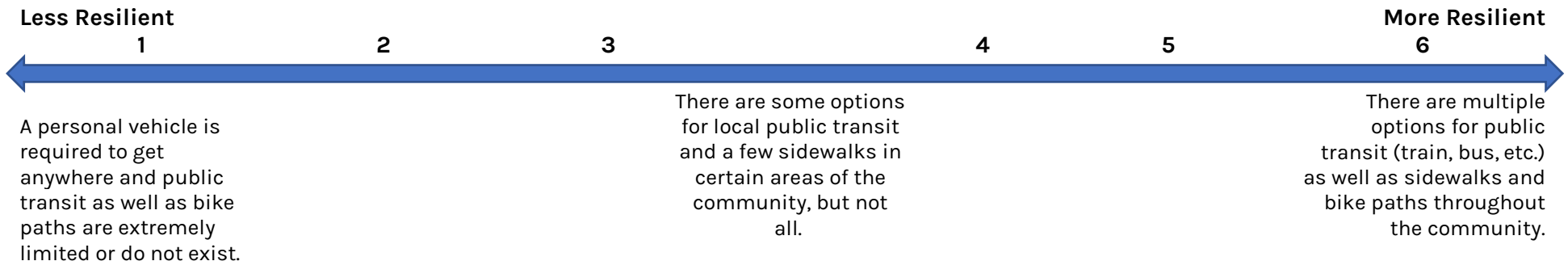
## Exploring Climate Resilience in Our Communities

Your group will use resources such as maps, community profiles, and your own experiences to explore your own community with a focus on **infrastructure** risks to climate change impacts. For each category, use the tool provided (or your own observations) in order to determine where your community falls on the line below for each category. Circle your answer and use the information you gather, as well as what you learn from the other groups, to answer the questions below.

### Transportation

Think of your own experience here. Search on [Google Maps](#) for directions from your school to your home. Select the walking, transit, and bike options. Does it say you can walk without concern of highways or provide a route on a bike path? Can you take public transit like a bus or train without multiple changes or needing a car for a part of the journey?

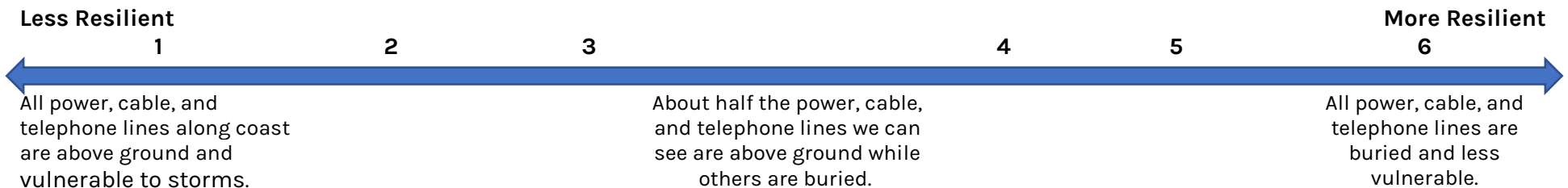
**Why this matters:** Having multiple options for transport can ensure people have various ways to get to the places they need such as work, school, grocery stores, and green spaces. Public transportation as well as bike paths and sidewalks can also encourage people to drive less and reduce the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> coming from our transportation.



### Energy and Communications

Use your own observations here. If possible, take a walk around the school grounds to see how the utility lines there are placed.

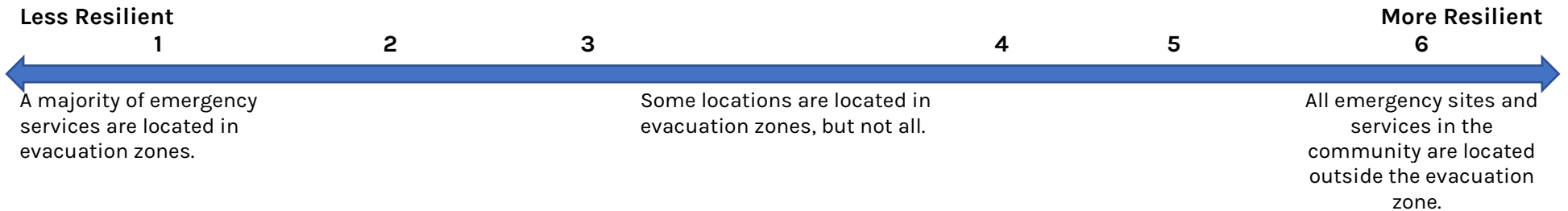
**Why this matters:** Power, cable, and telephone lines in coastal areas that are above ground are vulnerable to high winds and impacts from extreme weather.



## Emergency Service (Hospitals, Police, Fire Stations, and Schools) Locations

In this [Google Drive](#), find the hurricane evacuation map of your community. Zoom in and notice where the icons for hospitals, fire, police, and schools (which are often used as emergency shelters in case of storms for people who need to evacuate) are located.

**Why this matters:** During extreme weather it is important that emergency services be accessible to everyone in the community who may need them.



## Evacuation Routes

In this [Google Drive](#), find the hurricane evacuation map of your community (same as used above) and choose a location in the community. Next, look at where that location is in relation to state and local highways that residents would need to use in case of an emergency to get to a safe zone.

**Why this matters:** To increase resilience, community members should have multiple options for evacuation in case there is a road that floods or tree blows down blocking that passage.



## Impervious Cover

Use the [Climate Change Map Tool](#) and zoom into your community. Turn on the Impervious Cover layer in the menu and estimate how much exists in your community.

**Why this matters:** High amounts of impervious surface (any surface in the landscape that cannot effectively absorb or infiltrate rainfall such as roads, sidewalks, parking lots, buildings) can increase flooding as well as the heat island effect.

