



Resilience Highlights

2025

saskatchewan.ca/resilience-reporting

Saskatchewan!



Contents

A New Way of Telling Saskatchewan's Resilience Story	1
A System-Wide View of Resilience	2
The Big Picture.	2
Key Areas.	3
Practical Stewardship of Land and Water	4
Infrastructure That is Built to Last.	5
An Economy Determined to Compete and Adapt.	6
Ready Communities and Strong Emergency Systems	7
Well-Being at the Centre	8

A New Way of Telling Saskatchewan's Resilience Story

Resilience is about preparing for change, responding when challenges arise and continuing to move forward. For Saskatchewan, resilience is not a new idea. Over generations, people have learned to live with a variable and sometimes extreme climate across an expansive landscape, forging a diverse resource-based economy and strong communities rooted in adaptation and endurance. What is new is how resilience is being reported and shared.

This year marks the launch of a refreshed approach to resilience reporting designed to provide a clearer and more complete picture of progress. The reporting now highlights resilience through plain-language stories organized into key areas and themes to showcase programs, research advances, industry innovation, new technologies and practical actions. These stories will be updated regularly to reflect the dynamic and diverse nature of resilience in Saskatchewan.

Annual reporting will now take the form of a resilience highlights summary that brings together key results from the previous calendar year, including a number-based snapshot of activities, investments and outcomes featured across the resilience stories. This first edition establishes a baseline through 2025 and into fall 2026, providing a shared reference point for understanding resilience today and monitoring change over time. Together, these highlights demonstrate how practical action, steady investment and collaboration continue to strengthen Saskatchewan's ability to adapt, respond and thrive.

Resilience reporting is clearer, more accessible and more connected – showing how progress in one area supports and strengthens others.

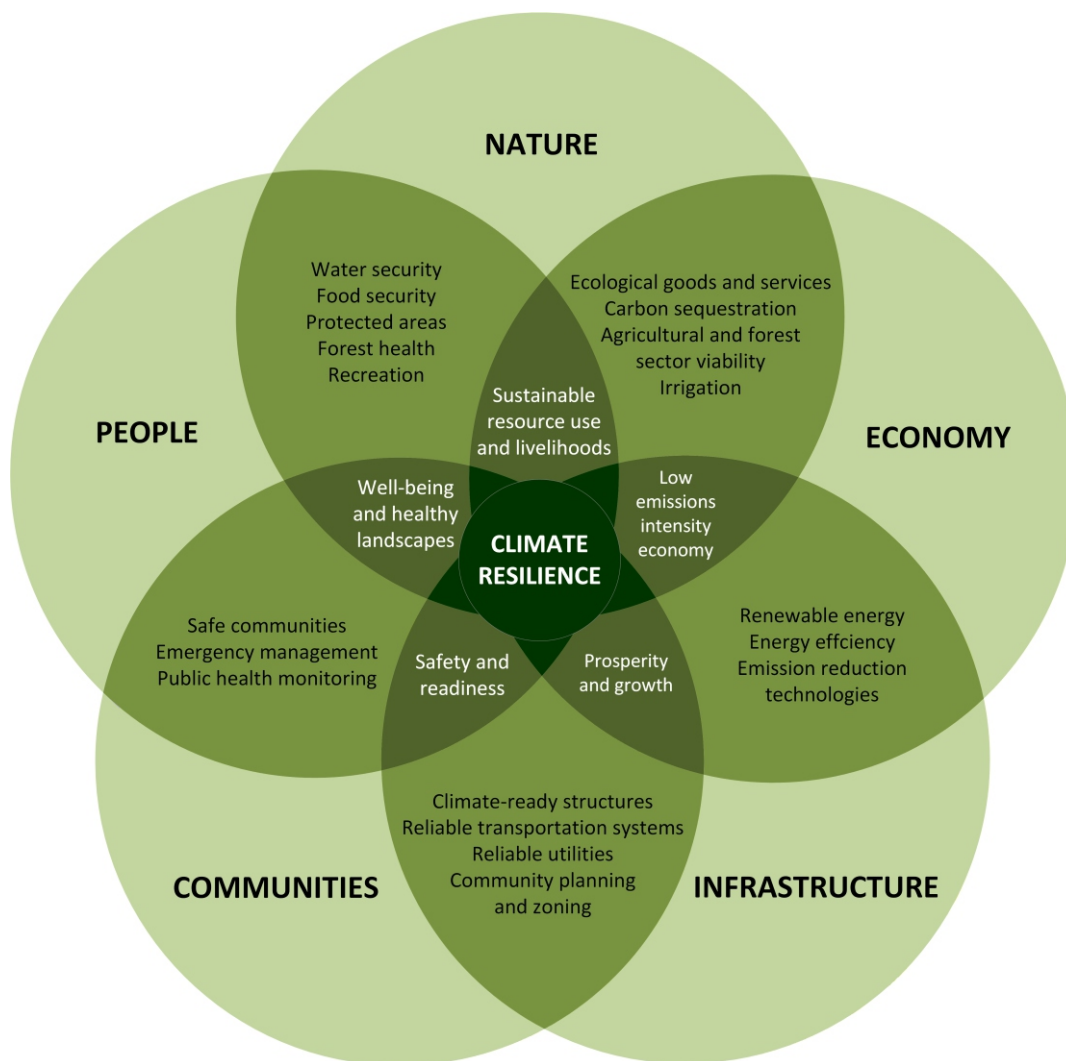
At its core, this new approach makes resilience reporting clearer, more accessible and more connected. It reflects how resilience takes shape in Saskatchewan – across landscapes, communities, infrastructure and economy, and highlights how progress in one area supports and strengthens others. By better capturing these connections, the refreshed reporting provides a more accurate and useful picture of how Saskatchewan is building resilience now and into the future.



A System-Wide View of Resilience

Resilience reporting continues to be organized around five interconnected areas: natural systems, physical infrastructure, economic sustainability, community preparedness and human well-being. While stories are presented under these areas, the reporting also emphasizes how these areas interact and reinforce one another through cross-cutting themes.

A healthy wetland reduces flood risk for roads and communities. Reliable infrastructure keeps people connected during emergencies. Research and innovation support farm sustainability, emissions improvements and food security. Public health, safe water and access to nature all contribute to human well-being and social stability. This system-wide view reflects the real world and supports better decision-making.



The Big Picture

Taken together, these resilience stories point to a clear set of takeaways. Resilience in Saskatchewan is practical rather than symbolic. It is built through collaboration, steady investment and action across interconnected systems. It recognizes global realities while focusing on actions that deliver meaningful results at home.

Key Areas

Each key area features stories of practical programs, research, funding and initiatives that strengthen resilience across Saskatchewan's sectors and communities. Together, these stories bring resilience to life by showing clear actions being taken today to prepare for tomorrow and reduce future risks.

	Natural Systems reflect the health and integrity of Saskatchewan's land, water and forests and the ecological goods and services they provide, including food, fibre, fuel, clean water, carbon storage and wildlife habitat, while supporting recreation, cultural connection and traditional practices central to community well-being.
	Physical Infrastructure reflects the built systems that support daily life, enabling the movement of people and goods and the reliable operation of transportation networks, utilities, water systems and energy infrastructure while improving energy efficiency.
	Economic Sustainability reflects the ability to remain competitive in global markets while attracting investment, driving innovation and lowering emissions intensity.
	Community Preparedness reflects the ability of Saskatchewan communities to anticipate, respond to and recover from environmental events such as floods, droughts and wildfires through risk awareness, co-ordinated planning and effective emergency management.
	Human Well-Being reflects the ability of Saskatchewan residents to adapt to environmental and economic change while maintaining health, stability, and the capacity to meet their needs and support their families.



Practical Stewardship of Land and Water

Across Saskatchewan, resilience begins with the land. Stories from the natural systems area emphasize science-based stewardship of soil, water, forests and working landscapes. These efforts protect biodiversity while supporting agriculture, energy development and recreation.



Beyond dedicated protected areas, Saskatchewan's approach recognizes that well-managed working landscapes deliver meaningful benefits. Healthy soils store carbon and retain moisture. Wetlands reduce flooding and support wildlife. Forests provide habitat while supporting rural economies. Resilience here is built through long-term care, partnerships with producers and Indigenous communities and applied research that improves decisions on the ground.

12%

Saskatchewan is on track to protect 12 per cent of the province's land through the Protected and Conserved Areas Network.

Over 16 million acres

Saskatchewan has more than 16 million acres of wetlands, including 4.6 million acres on farmland.

47 million acres

A provincial wetland inventory now covers 47 million acres of agricultural land and shows that 86 per cent of wetlands remain undrained.

40-60%

The Agricultural Water Stewardship Policy sets regional drainage and wetland retention goals of at least 40 per cent per watershed, with up to 60 per cent in priority areas.

530 projects

The Resilient Agricultural Landscapes Program funded 530 projects worth \$11 million in 2025-26 to improve water quality, soil health and biodiversity.

248 projects

The Animal Health and Biosecurity Program supported 248 producer-led projects totaling \$1.4 million in 2025-26.

95%

Saskatchewan farmers now use zero or minimum tillage on 95 per cent of cropland.

\$3.15 million

Provincial and federal funding over five years support research on how pasture and forage soils store carbon.

\$290 thousand

Agriculture Development Fund support is helping map carbon storage in Saskatchewan cropland soils.

15.4 million seedlings

Since 1991, SaskPower's Shand Greenhouse has distributed more than 15.4 million tree and shrub seedlings.

36 parks

Provincial parks protect more than 1.4 million hectares across 36 parks.

96% lower

A research update shows Saskatchewan canola delivers 96 per cent lower emissions than competing jurisdictions, with strong results across several crops.

450 projects

SaskEnergy has supported nearly 450 environmental projects across Saskatchewan over the past decade.



Infrastructure That is Built to Last

Resilient physical infrastructure is essential to daily life. The reporting highlights practical upgrades to buildings, highways, bridges and energy systems that help Saskatchewan operate reliably under changing conditions.



Across public facilities, transportation corridors and energy networks, the focus is on reliability, efficiency and durability. Planning is informed by data and local experience. Investments are made to reduce future disruptions and avoid higher repair costs down the road. The stories for this area show that resilience often comes from steady, incremental improvements rather than only large, one-time projects.

14 railways

Saskatchewan supports 14 provincially regulated short-line railways operating across more than 2,100 kilometres of track.

62 culverts

In 2024-25, 62 highway culverts met enhanced standards, including 12 designed for a 1:100-year flow.

15 bridge assets

The Ministry of Highways replaced 10 timber bridges and five timber abutments in 2024-25 to maintain connectivity and support long-term community and economic stability.

More than 847,000 kilowatt-hours

Solar systems on government-owned buildings have generated more than 847,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity, saving about \$93,000 and avoiding 475 tonnes of CO₂e.

83 facilities

The Energy Challenge achieved nearly 1.5 per cent lower electricity use, about 3 per cent lower emissions and \$710,000 in cost savings.

Over 200 stations

Upgrades at more than 200 SaskEnergy line-heater stations are improving efficiency and reliability.

2,113 megawatts

By the end of 2025, SaskPower's renewable power generation reached 2,113 megawatts, over 34 per cent of available generating capacity.

51 buildings

Fifty-one government-owned buildings now hold BOMA BEST certification; 10 LEED-certified facilities were added in the past five years.

65%

Waste diversion at Lloyd Place rose from 25 per cent in 2013 to 65 per cent in 2024.

71%

Improvements at Meadow Lake's Wiciwakan Building achieved a nearly 71 per cent waste diversion rate.

176 panels

SaskEnergy's first large-scale solar project uses 176 panels generating nearly 80 kilowatts, with seven additional ground-mounted arrays added since.

1,015 hectares

SaskPower cleared 1,015 hectares of vegetation around power lines to reduce fire risks and maintain transmission reliability.

\$6.3 million

SaskPower is investing \$6.3 million in four new nuclear research chairs.

815 projects

The Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program supported 815 projects representing over \$8 million in rebates.



An Economy Determined to Compete and Adapt

Economic resilience in Saskatchewan is grounded in competitiveness and innovation. Across energy, agriculture, mining and manufacturing, the province is focused on improving performance while continuing to supply essential goods to the world.



The stories across this area highlight a consistent theme: emissions reductions and efficiency improvements must happen in ways that keep Saskatchewan competitive in global markets. Saskatchewan's approach emphasizes practical technology, real performance gains and reinvestment in solutions that lower emissions intensity while maintaining affordability, quality and reliability. This same practical mindset is reflected across agriculture research, industrial modernization, carbon management, irrigation expansion and value-added production. The shared emphasis remains on results that endure.

73%

Methane venting and flaring emissions declined 73 per cent between 2015 and 2025.

51 million tonnes

Nearly 51 million tonnes of carbon dioxide have been safely stored through geological storage and enhanced oil recovery since 2000.

7.6 million tonnes

SaskPower's Boundary Dam Unit 3 has captured over 7.6 million tonnes of carbon dioxide since 2014.

\$9.2 million

The Saskatchewan Lean Improvements in Manufacturing program supported agribusiness efficiency and production capacity in 2025-26.

Over 50 sites

Over 50 former mine and mill sites are listed in the Institutional Control Registry.

\$57.8 million and 1,558 jobs

The Saskatchewan Technology Fund projects created 1,558 new jobs and procured over \$57.8 million from Saskatchewan businesses.

More than \$14 million

More than \$14 million in new agriculture research funding was announced for Agriculture Development Fund and strategic research projects.

\$179 million

Since 2021-22, almost \$179 million has been invested in agricultural science and research.

More than 105,000 acres

More than 105,000 new irrigation acres were developed between 2020 and 2025, with potential

More than \$19 million

More than \$19 million was committed in 2024 to maintain and upgrade irrigation infrastructure.

26.5%

SaskEnergy achieved a 26.5 per cent reduction in operational emissions from 2019 levels in 2025-26.

27 of 34

Saskatchewan is home to 27 of Canada's 34 critical minerals.

100 years

A 100-year supply of provincially owned coal supports reliable electricity and a bridge to future energy sources.

1,400 jobs

Coal-fired power operations near Estevan and Coronach provide nearly 1,400 jobs.



Ready Communities and Strong Emergency Systems

Community preparedness brings resilience into everyday decision-making by turning planning, risk awareness and coordination into practical actions that help communities anticipate emergencies, respond effectively and recover quickly. Flood mapping, wildfire planning, water management and emergency response capacity are central to this work.



The stories for this area show how provincial agencies, municipalities and Indigenous communities work together to identify risks, improve readiness and protect what matters most. Preparedness is treated as an ongoing responsibility, not a reaction after disaster strikes.

75 communities

The Water Security Agency has assessed flood risk in 75 higher-risk communities to prioritize modern flood mapping.

76%

Seventy-six per cent of northern communities facing moderate to high wildfire risk now have preparedness plans.

1,463 hectares

Wildfire fuel-reduction work has been completed on 1,463 hectares of Crown land toward a 2,464-hectare target by 2028.

4 aircraft

Four multipurpose Dash 8 aircraft are being added to the emergency fleet, producing 30 per cent fewer emissions than older models.

163 studies

Since 2022, 163 water supply studies have been completed to support evidence-based water allocation decisions.

\$351 million

During major disaster years, the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program provided over \$351 million to support about 21,700 claims.



Well-Being at the Centre

Resilience is ultimately about people. The human well-being area highlights how safe water, reliable heat, healthy food systems and natural spaces support daily life. It also shows how education, extension services and inclusive economic opportunities help communities remain stable and connected over time.



Programs that connect people to nature, protect public health and support households during difficult conditions reinforce the social foundations of resilience. These efforts highlight adaptation as a shared benefit that strengthens communities and supports daily life.

27 culverts

Upgrades along Highway 55 are reducing flood and landslide risks across a 78-kilometre corridor.

47 beaches

The Healthy Beaches Program monitored 47 beaches and analyzed more than 2,500 water samples in 2025.

80 wells

The Groundwater Observation Well Network includes 80 monitoring wells provincially.

\$5 million

SaskEnergy invested \$5 million in energy-efficiency rebates in 2024-25.

6,200 homes

SaskEnergy's Tune-Up Assistance Program supported approximately 6,200 households across 60 communities from 2017 to 2025.

\$552,000

In 2025-26, SaskEnergy invested \$552,000 through the Natural Gas Innovation Fund to support projects that improve energy efficiency and emissions intensity across the energy system.

60 facilities

Resiliency risk management plans have been completed for about 60 public facilities.

930,000 visits

Saskatchewan provincial parks recorded 930,000 visits in 2025 and a 92 per cent satisfaction rate.

12,000 inquiries

Agriculture Knowledge Centre and regional offices respond to nearly 12,000 inquiries each year.

16,000 students

Saskatchewan's Outdoor Classroom Program engaged over 16,000 students from 377 schools in 758 park-based learning activities in 2025.

**For more information about
Saskatchewan's Resilience Reporting:
saskatchewan.ca/resilience-reporting**

**For more information contact:
prairie.resilience@gov.sk.ca**