

Guidance for the use of the WHO mass gathering risk assessment tool in the context of COVID-19

*Guidance for authorities and event organizers planning mass gatherings during the COVID-19 outbreak
Version 2 – 10 July 2020*

The content of this Risk Assessment tool has been updated to reflect new WHO guidance. Additional improvements have been made to the way the information is organized and new information has been added. The expanded tool now includes six tabs: 1. Instructions; 2. Decision Tree; 3. Risk Evaluation; 4. Risk Mitigation; 5. Risk Communication; 6. Summary.

Version 1 was published on 16 April 2020 under the title: "How to use the WHO mass gathering risk assessment tool."

Routine planning for mass gatherings includes conducting risk assessments to determine the risk of COVID-19. The World Health Organization (WHO) has developed this risk assessment tool as part of its communication strategy developed for use by host countries and organizers of mass gatherings.

There are three pillars to the WHO Mass Gathering Religious Addendum Risk Assessment tool:

1. Risk Evaluation
2. Risk Mitigation
3. Risk Communication

This risk assessment tool includes all the factors from the generic WHO risk assessment tool to enable event organizers to determine a more accurate overall risk score.

This tool must be completed in this Excel spreadsheet (see following tabs), as the spreadsheet covers the entire process, the risk evaluation, and the risk mitigation for religious event organizers. After the risk evaluation and risk mitigation have been completed, the scores you receive are calculated through the second tab ("2. Decision Tree") or the decision matrix via the fifth tab. The sixth tab details the importance of clearly communicating your plans and findings with your community as part of your strategy.

This risk assessment should be used in conjunction with the Practical considerations and recommendations found on the WHO website.

(<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/practical-considerations-and-recommendations-for-organizing-mass-gatherings-during-the-covid-19-outbreak>)
COVID-19 app for smartphones, WHO Academy.

To accurately provide answers to the following risk evaluation and risk mitigation questions, please reference the daily global COVID-19 situation reports provided by WHO as well as the local situation in your area.

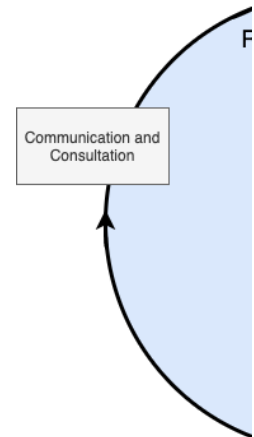
Risk assessment must be conducted with input from local public health authorities, and risk communication measures, and risk communication must be engaged from the initial stages of planning.

For the overall risk to be determined, factors under consideration include:

- the current stage of the COVID-19 outbreak and known transmission dynamics
- the geographical distribution and number of participants, and their individual risk factors

- the religious addendum risk assessment tool
- the mitigation measures that are currently in place or feasible

It should also be noted that risk assessment is a cyclical process as demonstrated in messages to the public, participants and event staff; and monitoring and reviewing figure displays, this tool should be continuously updated to account for changing in



It is important to remember that while mitigation measures can reduce the risk of C community transmission should seriously consider postponing or reducing mass gat distancing. Any decision can be supported through the use of WHO tools, in particul

If movement restrictions and further national measures have been established in th opening/conducting mass gatherings is being considered after movement restrictio

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WHO reference number: [WHO/2019-nCoV/Religious_Leaders_RAtool/2020.2](#)

Gathering risk assessment tools for religious gatherings in the context of COVID-19

current COVID-19 pandemic

advance and new evidence on both COVID-19 and mass gatherings, as well as feedback from end-users. The tool is now updated and presented: the Decision Tree is now built into the tool and a new tab dedicated to Risk Communication has been added. The tool includes: 1. Introduction; 2. Decision Tree; 3. Risk Evaluation; 4. Risk Mitigation; 5. Decision Matrix; 6. Risk Communication.

This tool is a gathering religious addendum risk assessment tool in the context of COVID-19".

The tool is designed to determine the overall risk of disease spread connected to a mass gathering. In view of the current outbreak of COVID-19, this tool is a gathering religious addendum risk assessment tool for religious events. The assessment includes a risk evaluation, risk mitigation, and risk communication. The tool is designed to assess the specific risk of COVID-19.

Assessment Tool:

This tool is a gathering religious addendum risk assessment tool for mass gatherings plus additional considerations relating to religious services or celebrations to

score are automatically calculated there. The tabs contain a decision tree providing an overview of the tool and instructions for use of the individual components are provided in the respective tabs. The instructions for use of the tool are available in the Excel spreadsheet for both sections will need to be entered into the decision tree accessible in the "5. Decision Matrix" for the overall risk score to be determined. The final tab ("6. Risk Communication") provides considerations for the event's risk communication for staff, participants and general public and provides considerations for the event's risk communication

and recommendations for religious leaders and faith-based communities in the context of COVID-19

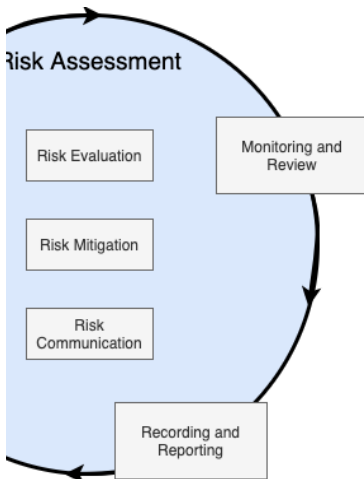
(gathering-religious-addendum-risk-assessment-tool-in-the-context-of-covid-19) and in the WHO

questions, organizers must be knowledgeable about the current COVID-19 outbreak. The organizers should refer to the national COVID-19 situation reports, if available.

Personnel with expertise in mass gatherings, risk assessment, epidemiology, infectious disease control and risk communication are recommended for the tool's use.

Risk profile

in the figure below. Recording and reporting on the findings of the risk assessment, communicating key findings from the risk assessment must continuously occur throughout the planning stages of a mass gathering. As the gathering forms.



For COVID-19 infections, they cannot completely eliminate the threat. It is WHO's view that all countries with large gatherings that bring people together and have the potential to amplify disease and support physical distancing are at high risk. This is the focus of the WHO Risk Assessment for Mass Gatherings during COVID-19.

In a country, the WHO risk assessment tool does not apply. However, when the process of reopening has been lifted, it will be critical to ensure any decisions are based on a risk assessment, such as the



