# Recovery sites

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Many disasters can happen to an organization. When one thinks of a disaster, it will most likely be of a natural one. But this is not always the case. This is where a recovery site comes into play. Recovery sites are an emergency backup facility. This site needs to be at least far enough away from the main production area, so it will not be affected by the disaster[2]. But what is a recovery site really?

Disaster recovery(DR) is the process of planning and preparing in advance for what one needs to do in case of an emergency. Everything from human-made to natural disasters needs to be accounted for. A hurricane and a data breach will require two different responses. What one needs to do and what is needed to get the organization up and running[1].

Disaster recovery sites can be divided into three categories hot, cold, and warm sites.

Hot sites are intended to imitate the production server and will have a small downtime as possible. This site has every hardware needed to go back live as fast as feasible with redundancy in case of a hardware breakdown. It will also have a near-real-time synchronization with the production server, so every information on the production server will also be stored here. All of this combined makes a hot site the most reliable solution out there[1].

On the other hand of the scale, we have a Cold site. Cold sites contain the least amount of equipment needed to run. This makes it the least reliable but at a low-cost. There is no synchronization with the production server and a high risk of data loss. Since nothing is up and running, everything has to be set up and installed. All this will cause the organization time and resources to get the cold site operational[3].

A warm site is a combination of hot and cold sites. Have some redundancy, slight downtime, and daily to weekly synchronization. Because it is everything from daily to weekly synchronization, it can result in some data loss. This is the most cost-efficient solution. Everything is already up and running, but application and software may not have been installed, which can take some time[1].

These sites will ensure your data safety, and the organization may continue where they left off until it is safe to return or a new permanent work location has been selected.

A disaster comes in many forms. No matter what, one should be prepared for the worst. Each site has its drawback and benefits. No matter what one chooses, one must know what its intended purpose is and what one needs. Will the site store lots of critical information and application or is the application and information not that important. All of these are needed to know beforehand. Recovery sites is a must for every organization. No matter what size and function. Loss of data, especially crucial information, can be fatal not only to the organization but also to people and should be avoided at all costs.

# References

[1] Kelly C.Bourne. *Application Administrators Handbook*. URL: `https://reader.elsevier.com/reader/sd/pii/B9780123985453000121?token=57D7A368027D8CA553AB5601865CD94AE05909D5B2490D6F3D7BA0F` (accessed: 26.10.2020).

[2] Jessie Reed. *An Overview of Disaster Recovery Sites*. January 14, 2019. URL: `https://www.nakivo.com/blog/overview-disaster-recovery-sites/`.

[3] Segue Technologies. *The Three Stages of Disaster Recovery Sites*. November 20, 2013. URL: `https://www.seguetech.com/three-stages-disaster-recovery-sites/`.