

COMMON



Highlights

- New **National Planning Frameworks** (Frameworks) unify whole community planning for the Prevention, Response, and Mitigation mission areas. (Planning, p. 15)
- State and local jurisdictions increasingly used the **Integrated Public Alert and Warning System** in 2013, but technical and outreach barriers continue to hinder its adoption and use in some areas. (Public Information and Warning, p. 16)
- Ongoing regional planning efforts address issues such as regional coordination, resource management, private-sector integration, and individuals with access and functional needs. (Planning, p. 15)
- A growing number of states are creating plans to address potential climate change risks. (Planning, p. 15)
- FEMA continued to analyze and improve incident management guidance and develop incident management resources in 2013. (Operational Coordination, p. 17)

Trends

The three common core capabilities—Planning, Public Information and Warning, and Operational Coordination—are crucial links across capabilities and mission areas. Success in these cross-cutting capabilities requires coordination and integration across diverse organizations and jurisdictions. Through the 2013 State Preparedness Report process, states and territories reported gradual improvements in the common core capabilities from 2012 to 2013, as shown in Figure 1. Forty-three percent of states and territories reported making the most progress in the Operational Coordination core capability in 2013, while 91 percent reported that addressing any remaining gaps in this core capability is mostly or entirely a state responsibility.

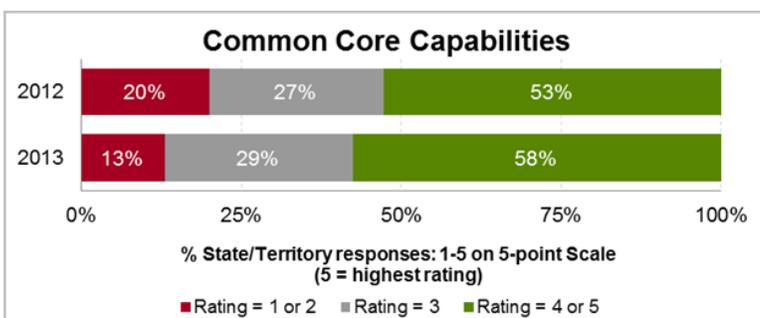


Figure 1: In the 2013 State Preparedness Report submissions, 58 percent of the self-assessment ratings from states and territories were either a 4 or 5, representing a 5-percent increase from the previous year.

Key accomplishments during 2013 among the common core capabilities included new and improved doctrine, procedures, and systems. For example, the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System integrates various public alerting technologies into one platform that any alerting authority can access. Nearly 250 emergency response entities have become alerting authorities through the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System since 2011, including 42 state emergency management organizations. Together, these alerting authorities issued nearly 7,700 alerts in 2013 using a common system. Similarly, the National Incident Management System is the national standard for incident

management and response, with all states and territories reporting its adoption and incorporation into response training and exercises. In 2013, FEMA published new guidance related to the National Incident Management System for the whole community, including a [guide for intelligence and investigative operations](#) and [public works response resources](#). Finally, the Federal Government completed Frameworks to unify whole community preparedness planning, followed by *Federal Interagency Operational Plans* to align Federal preparedness planning. Federal stakeholders have begun to incorporate these new inputs into their plans and training programs, creating the foundation for improved coordination across the Federal Government.

By the Numbers

The Emergency Management Accreditation Program conducted **38 state, local, and Federal assessments** in 2012 and 2013. **Forty-five programs** have received accreditation.

Ninety percent of the U.S. population is directly covered by **77 broadcast stations** for Presidential alerts issued through the Emergency Alert System.

More than **90 percent** of Federal departments and agencies responding to a 2013 preparedness survey reported using the National Incident Management System for incident management and nearly **90 percent** have developed operational response plans.

Resilience Innovations

- The Emergency Management Assistance Compact maintains a database of [Mission Ready Packages](#) that describe specific response and recovery capabilities that jurisdictions offer for mutual aid.
- Twitter introduced [Twitter Alerts](#), which allow pre-qualified organizations (e.g., the American Red Cross, government agencies) to make critical posts (“tweets”) more visible in emergencies.
- The U.S. Geological Survey used data from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to develop [maps](#) of temperature and precipitation projections at the county level.

Preparedness in Action Jurisdictions that responded to the Boston Marathon bombings applied lessons from previous preparedness activities for large-scale events. Several jurisdictions had participated in local planning initiatives supported by DHS for responding to improvised explosive devices and complex attacks. Boston-area responders used DHS grant funds to test coordinated responses to large-scale events through exercises. New England was also one of ten sites that continued to use [Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program](#) funds to develop plans, tools, and training. The New England site exercised its *Multiple Improvised Explosive Device Response Plan* in 2011 and its *Regional Catastrophic Coordination Plan* in 2012, both of which helped specialized units coordinate before the Boston Marathon. Furthermore, the City of Boston used plans from other program sites to inform recovery and re-entry strategies after the bombings.

In addition, in 2013, whole community partners continued to develop and update plans to prepare for the impacts of climate change. At the national level, in December, [the State, Local, and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience](#) held its inaugural meeting, including 26 governors, mayors, tribal leaders, and other elected officials. Convened as part of *Executive Order 13653*, task force members are advising the Federal Government on ways to support communities in preparing for the impacts of climate change. In state activity, California released an updated *Climate Adaptation Strategy* for public comment in December to reflect recent advances in climate science and risk management. In October, California, Washington, Oregon, and Canada’s British Columbia signed the *Pacific Coast Action Plan on Climate and Energy*, which supports the President’s 2013 *Climate Action Plan*.

Along with regional and state planning, the Federal Government developed emergency planning tools in 2013 as part of the President’s plan to reduce gun violence. In June, the U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), DHS, FEMA, and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released guides to help [schools](#), [institutions of higher education](#), and [houses of worship](#) develop emergency operations plans. These joint products provide practical resources that reflect emergency planning best practices and lessons learned from recent incidents. In addition, since December 2012, DHS partnered with the U.S. Secret Service (USSS) and the FBI to conduct outreach briefings with 100 K-12 school districts on school security.

Whole Community Accomplishments

Team Rubicon: Team Rubicon is a disaster relief nonprofit primarily composed of military veterans that has provided thousands of volunteers to support disaster response missions, such as basic search and rescue, debris removal, and emergency medical care. In 2013, Team Rubicon adopted the National Incident Management System for incident management and required all volunteers to complete FEMA’s basic online training.

Broward County, Florida: In 2012, Sandy triggered flooding and erosion of beaches and highways in Florida. Based on that experience, Broward County began incorporating sea level rise and climate projections into its existing land use and comprehensive plans. The four-county South Florida Regional Climate Compact, which includes Broward County, also finalized a climate action plan in 2013 to protect against climate impacts.