



Demonstrate the ability of the whole community, especially state, territorial, tribal, and local governments, to perform effective recovery coordination and planning in parallel with response operations to achieve long-term community recovery objectives.

The National Exercise Program (NEP) is a two-year cycle of select exercises across the nation that examines and validates capabilities in all preparedness mission areas. The 2017-2018 NEP is guided by seven Principals' Objectives, established by the Principals Committee of the National Security Council and informed by data through the National Preparedness System.

What is Recovery Coordination?

Disaster recovery describes how the **whole community builds, sustains, and coordinates delivery of recovery capabilities**. Resilient and sustainable recovery encompasses more than the restoration of a community's physical structures to pre-disaster conditions. Rather, effective coordination of partners and resources **ensure the continuity of services and support to meet the needs of affected community members** who have experienced the hardships of financial, emotional, and/or physical impacts of devastating disasters.

Recovery coordination includes activities focused on a **timely restoration, strengthening, and revitalization** of the infrastructure, housing, a sustainable economy, and the health, social, cultural, historic, and environmental fabric of communities affected by a catastrophic incident. For more information on disaster recovery, please see the National Disaster Recovery Framework at www.fema.gov/national-disaster-recovery-framework.

RELATED CORE CAPABILITIES

- **Operational Coordination**
- **Planning**
- **Public Information and Warning**
- **Infrastructure Systems**
- **Health and Social Services**
- **Housing**
- **Natural and Cultural Resources**

Spotlight: The National Disaster Recovery Framework

"The recovery process is a sequence of interdependent and often concurrent activities that progressively advance a community toward its planned recovery outcomes. Decisions made and priorities set by a community pre-disaster and early in the recovery process have a cascading effect on the nature, speed, and inclusiveness of recovery."

Why is this important?

States and territories provide annual data on their proficiency across 32 core capabilities through the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and State Preparedness Report (SPR). FEMA reports the results of the capability assessments annually in the National Preparedness Report (NPR) to provide a comprehensive analysis of preparedness, including a shared national picture of training and exercise needs relative to capability gaps. Analytic results help shape training and exercise prioritization decisions at all levels.

National Preparedness Report

The 2017 NPR reported that only 27% of states and territories indicated proficiency in Recovery core capabilities and identified **Economic Recovery, Housing, and Infrastructure Systems as national areas for improvement**. This represents the sixth consecutive year Housing and Infrastructure Systems were areas for improvement.

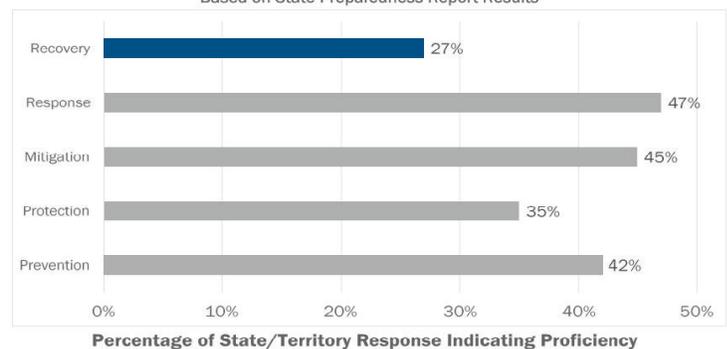
2015-2016 National Exercise Program (NEP) cycle exercises highlighted areas for improvement for integration of long-term recovery considerations into response operations.

State Preparedness Report

Since 2012, states and territories have consistently reported **lower levels of proficiency for Recovery core capabilities than in any other Mission Area**. According to 2015 SPR data, states and territories identified Economic Recovery, Health and Social Services, Housing, and Natural and Cultural Resources among the eight lowest-rated capabilities.

Furthermore, states and territories identified Housing and Economic Recovery as two of the top five core capabilities that would **require federal support to fill remaining gaps**.

2015 State and Territory Self-Assessment of Preparedness Capability
Based on State Preparedness Report Results

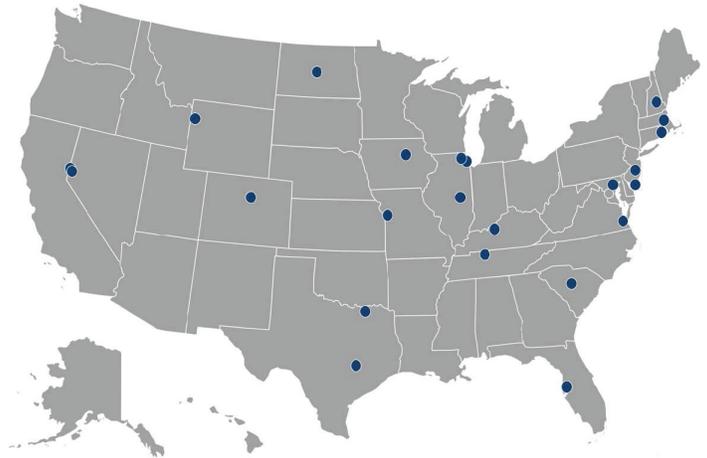




What are the major challenges?

An analysis of 24 real-world and exercise after-action reports (AARs) revealed common challenges:

- Ensuring businesses and jurisdictions have recovery plans that outline recovery needs, goals, clear and specific objectives and metrics for a variety of threats
- Establishing mechanisms and/or structures for improving collaboration and coordination between economic and community recovery activities
- Ensuring collaboration between public, private, tribal, regional partners, and other stakeholders within the recovery coordination structure
- Developing economic impact assessments with inconsistent and/or incomplete data
- Communicating proactively with businesses during recovery, and sharing data and program information between agencies providing disaster services
- Applying the principles of coordination and unified command to the recovery process, and prioritizing recovery actions through a regional roadmap to economic and community restorations



Distribution of jurisdictions that submitted AARs for exercises that tested recovery coordination capabilities

Note: Multiple exercises may have been conducted within the same location

What can I do?

Training and exercises can help all levels of government, the private and nonprofit sectors, and other partners across the whole community be better prepared. The National Exercise Division at FEMA is committed to providing assistance to partners in planning, designing, developing, conducting, and evaluating their own exercises that validate core capabilities.

Exercise Starter Kits

Exercise Starter Kits are pre-packaged sets of guides and templates to help exercise planners develop tabletop exercises that can be tailored to the specific threats, resources, and operational plans of their community. Each Exercise Starter Kit:

- Includes ready-to-use materials and templates for developing, conducting, and evaluating an exercise
- Incorporates sample scenarios and discussion questions reviewed by experts
- Is flexible and adaptable to meet the needs of individual jurisdictions

Access the Exercise Starter Kits now at <https://preptoolkit.fema.gov/>

Training Courses

Examples of relevant training courses are provided below. Course offerings frequently change; please visit www.firstrespondertraining.gov for a full list of training courses and additional resources.

- E0209:** State Recovery Planning and Coordination
- E0210:** Recovery from Disaster: The Local Community Role
- E0824:** Partner Coordination in Disaster Response and Recovery
- CDC:** Building Resilient Communities
- IS-2900:** National Disaster Recovery Framework Overview
- PER-304:** Social Media for Disaster Response and Recovery
- CDC:** Functional and Access Needs: Preparedness and Recovery Issues

FEMA training courses are provided at no cost to first responders.

National Exercise Program Nominations

Benefits of participating in the NEP include:

- Receiving technical assistance and support for your exercises from experienced exercise specialists
- Access to exercise templates, tools, and other resources to help you design, conduct, and evaluate your exercises
- The ability to pursue new exercise ideas and broaden the impact of your exercises to a wider group of stakeholders
- The opportunity to influence national preparedness policy and resource allocation decisions at all levels by contributing exercise findings

How to Participate in the NEP

1. Visit www.fema.gov/nep to learn more about the 2017-2018 cycle
2. Download and complete the Exercise Nomination Form
3. Work with your FEMA Regional Exercise Officer and submit the Exercise Nomination Form to nep@fema.dhs.gov
4. The FEMA National Exercise Division will respond to discuss your exercise