



2019 National Preparedness Report



Homeland
Security

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The *National Preparedness Report* summarizes the progress made and challenges that remain in building and sustaining the capabilities needed to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from the threats, hazards and incidents that pose the greatest risk to the Nation. As a requirement of the *Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006* and a key element of the National Preparedness System, this annual report offers all levels of government, the private and nonprofit sectors, and the public practical insights into preparedness that support decisions about program priorities, resource allocation, and community actions.

The *2019 National Preparedness Report (2019 Report)* presents an overview of the five preparedness mission areas—Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery—and describes major findings identified through community-wide research and engagement. The report covers calendar year 2018 and contains:

- An **Introduction** and **Timeline of Incidents**;
- A snapshot of **preparedness grant allocations**;
- **Cross-cutting preparedness trends identified** through community Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA)/ Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR) submissions;
- **Report Findings** that assess mission area successes and challenges;
- **Preparedness in Practice** callouts that highlight real-world examples of whole community efforts;
- Actionable information to help individuals increase **personal- and community-level preparedness**; and
- A **Conclusion** that contains a discussion on the evolution of measuring preparedness and future assessment efforts.

FINDINGS

The *2019 Report* presents 15 findings that highlight successes and challenges across the five mission areas. These findings include:

Prevention

- Improved Federal support to state, local, tribal, territorial governments and private sector partners strengthened prevention efforts to counter terrorist threats—including weapons of mass destruction (WMDs)—and criminal activity nationwide.
- The National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC) helped increase the preparedness of state, local, tribal, and territorial first responders by providing training opportunities nationwide, but specific gaps remain.
- Fusion centers are increasingly playing an integral part in major events or incidents at the state and local levels while meeting or exceeding performance standards.

Protection

- All levels of government are implementing new, cybersecurity-focused governance structures and engaging in collaborative partnerships to help protect critical infrastructure against malicious cyber activity.
- To improve private sector and individual security and resilience to malicious cyber activity, all levels of government are developing new tools and resources promoting good cyber hygiene.

Mitigation

- The recently passed *Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018* (DRRA) emphasizes the importance of mitigation through transformational shifts in mitigation policy and funding priorities.
- Many states and territories still have outdated building codes despite evidence that updating and enforcing codes lead to mitigation-related savings.
- Some individual citizens and businesses do not adequately align their insurance coverage to their insurance needs and local threats and hazards.

- Changes to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) are helping to shift risk from the Federal Government and improve the financial stability of the program, while also improving program accessibility.

Response

- Locally executed, state, territory, or tribe managed, and federally supported capabilities improved response operations by filling in key communication and knowledge gaps.
- Updates to national response doctrine and coordination processes reflect and promote the importance of public-private partnerships and cross-sector collaboration in response operations.
- The newly implemented Community Lifelines construct enhances scalable response across all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector by facilitating response coordination efforts.

Recovery

- As disaster-related damages and insurance claims increase, the insurance industry is developing innovative ways to better support community recovery.
- Federal agencies are coordinating with state, local, tribal, and territorial governments to make recovery resources more accessible to individuals, businesses, and communities.
- Efforts are underway to develop a national, end user-driven recovery approach to help communities achieve specific goals.