

2025 Building Code Adoption Tracking: FEMA Region 1

This fact sheet provides a high-level overview of the status of hazard-resistant building code adoption in each state and territory within a FEMA region. The regional fact sheets show an annual metric of the percent of communities adopting hazard-resistant¹ building codes.

Why Building Codes?

Disaster resilience starts with building codes because they enhance public safety and property protection.

Why Track Codes?

Buildings constructed according to hazard-resistant building codes have shown better performance during disasters. By tracking which areas have strong building codes, SLTTs, FEMA, and other agencies can better determine which communities are more prepared and which might be at higher risk during a disaster.

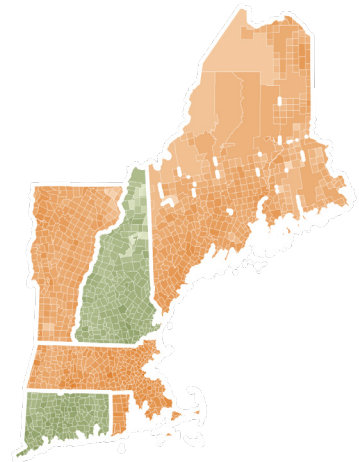


Figure 1. FEMA Region 1

Purpose of Building Code Adoption Tracking

- Use the emerging data to inform FEMA policies and laws in pre-disaster and post-disaster goals
- Federal funding assistance requirements may be correlated to adoption of the latest published building code editions.

FEMA's Role Will Be Continuous

- Proposing building code changes to ensure public safety
- Defending against changes that weaken flood, wind, and seismic provisions.
- Supporting the training of state, local, tribal and territorial officials.

¹ Hazard-resistant codes mean the 2021 or later International Building Code and International Residential Code, without weakening of any resilience provisions related to any of the five tracked hazards for which the jurisdiction is at high risk.





Figure 2. Building Code Adoption Tracking Process

The following percentages indicate the tracked jurisdictions which have adopted hazard-resistant² building codes within each state. The percentages are based upon jurisdictions within each state which are at high risk³ to one or more hazard types (Region 1’s hazards are flood, damaging wind, and hurricane wind). Notes in *italics* indicate non-weakening notes relating to administrative, enforcement, or other non-design provisions.

CONNECTICUT
HIGHER RESISTANCE
State adopts the 2021 International Building Code (IBC).
Note that state removes NFIP-related criteria for granting a variance in a flood hazard area (Sec. 104.10.1).
State adopts the 2021 International Residential Code (IRC).

100.0%

100.0%

**3,605,944 people across 172 jurisdictions are protected.*

MAINE
HIGHER RESISTANCE
State adopts the 2021 IBC.
Note that Maine only requires jurisdictions with populations of at least 4,000 to enforce the code.
State adopts the 2021 IRC.
Note that Maine only requires jurisdictions with populations of at least 4,000 to enforce the code.

100.0%

100.0%

**1,362,359 people across 106 jurisdictions are protected.*

² See footnote 1.

³ High-risk is defined according to national consensus-based standards, the NFIP, and the Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule. For a detailed description of the high-risk methodology, visit the FEMA Building Code Adoption Tracking landing page at www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/risk-management/building-science/bcat/.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE****HIGHER RESISTANCE**

IBC State adopts the 2021 IBC.

IRC State adopts the 2021 IRC.

99.4%

93.7%

Note: State is not fully resistant because some jurisdictions with high flood risk do not participate in the NFIP and Portsmouth has introduced local amendments that weaken IRC hurricane resilience with a lower design wind speed (100 mph) in Table R301.2(1) than the model code requirement for Portsmouth based on ASCE 7-16 (115 mph).

**1,369,171 people across 206 jurisdictions are protected.*

**MASSACHUSETTS****LOWER RESISTANCE**

IBC Commonwealth adopts the 2021 IBC.

IRC Commonwealth adopts the 2021 IRC. Commonwealth amends R309.3 (Garages and Carports - Flood Hazard Areas) and R322.3.2 in ways that weaken flood resistance of garages. Commonwealth also weakens R322.3.3 by removing language requiring that columns and supporting foundations be designed to resist various flood loads.

0.0%

0.0%

**0 people across 340 jurisdictions are protected.*

**RHODE ISLAND****LOWER RESISTANCE**

IBC State adopts an outdated IBC (2018 edition). State weakens wind resistance by replacing all model code wind figures with Rhode Island Table 1608.1, which specifies design wind speeds for Jamestown that are less conservative than the model code, and which removes Jamestown from the windborne debris region.

IRC State adopts an outdated IRC (2018 edition). State weakens flood resistance by removing “most restrictive flood hazard area” language from R322.2.1. State weakens hurricane resistance in R301.2.1.1 by allowing old ICC standard SSTD 10, *Hurricane Resistant Construction Standard*, to be used instead of current standard ICC 600, *Standard for Residential Construction in High-Wind Regions*, and by not requiring cold-formed steel structures to conform to American Iron and Steel Institute S230, *Standard for Cold-Formed Steel Framing – Prescriptive Method for One and Two Family Dwellings* in wind-design-required locations. And in R301.2.1.2, state further weakens hurricane resistance: (1) by applying protection of openings to Wind Zone 3 only, rather than the whole windborne debris region, (2) by changing “openings” to “windows,” and (3) by excluding garage doors.

0.0%

0.0%

**0 people across 39 jurisdictions are protected.*

**VERMONT****LOWER RESISTANCE**

IBC State adopts the (outdated) 2015 IBC.

Note that Vermont’s replacement of IBC Ch. 1 omits several NFIP-related administrative flood provisions.

IRC No statewide residential code.

0.0%

0.0%

**0 people across 213 jurisdictions are protected.*