FEMA FACT SHEET

2025 Building Code Adoption Tracking: FEMA Region 2

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-resistant[1] 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.

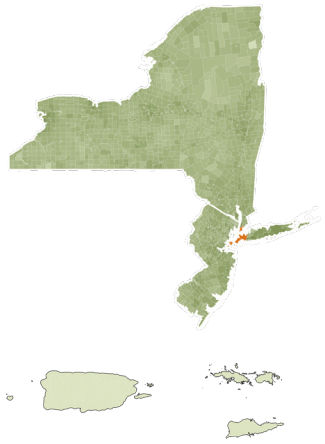

Figure 1. FEMA Region 2

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.

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Figure 2. Building Code Adoption Tracking Process

The following percentages indicate the tracked jurisdictions which have adopted hazard-resistant[2] building codes within each state and territory. The percentages are based upon jurisdictions within each state and territory which are at high risk[3] to one or more hazard types (Region 2's hazards are flood, damaging wind, hurricane wind, tornado, and seismic). Notes in *italics* indicate non-weakening notes relating to administrative, enforcement, or other non-design provisions.

UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

HIGHER RESISTANCE	
IBC	Territory adopts the 2024 International Building Code (IBC).
IRC	Territory adopts the 2024 International Residential Code (IRC).

100.0%

100.0%

**87,146 people across 3 jurisdictions are protected.*

NEW JERSEY

HIGHER RESISTANCE	
IBC	State adopts the 2021 IBC. *Note that New Jersey's replacement of IBC Chapter 1 omits NFIP-related administrative flood provisions for criteria for granting a variance in a flood hazard area (Sec. 104.10.1).*
IRC	State adopts the 2021 IRC. *Note that New Jersey amends R322.1.9, which contains flood provisions regulating manufactured homes in flood hazard areas, such that it applies only to "relocated" rather than to "all new and replacement" manufactured homes. Note also that New Jersey's replacement of IRC Chapter 1 omits NFIP-related administrative flood provisions for criteria for granting a variance in a flood hazard area (R104.10.1).*

99.0%

98.8%

**9,195,018 people across 751 jurisdictions are protected.*

Note: State is not fully resistant because some jurisdictions with high flood risk do not participate in the NFIP.

[2] See footnote 1.

[3] High-risk is defined according to national consensus-based standards, the National Flood Insurance Program, 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 YORK

LOWER RESISTANCE

IBC	State adopts and outdated IBC (2018 edition). State has published draft rules adopting and amending the 2024 IBC, but has not published an anticipated adoption or effective date. *Note that state's replacement of Chapter 1 omits several NFIP-related criteria for granting a variance in flood hazard areas, however.*
IRC	State adopts and outdated IRC (2018 edition). State has published draft rules adopting and amending the 2024 IRC, but has not published an anticipated adoption or effective date. *Note that state's replacement of Chapter 1 omits several NFIP-related criteria for granting a variance in flood hazard areas, however.*

0.0%

0.0%

**0 people across 1,436 jurisdictions are protected.*

Note: State is not fully resistant because some jurisdictions with high flood risk do not participate in the NFIP.

PUERTO RICO

LOWER RESISTANCE

IBC	Territory adopts an outdated International Building Code (2018 edition).
IRC	Territory adopts an outdated International Residential Code (2018 edition).

0.0%

0.0%

**0 people across 78 jurisdictions are protected.*