Fact Sheet

National Risk Index and Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants

The National Risk Index is an online application from FEMA that identifies communities most at risk to natural hazards.

About the National Risk Index

The NRI is an online mapping application that visualizes natural hazard risk metrics based on 18 natural hazards, expected annual loss, social vulnerability, and community resilience. With this tool, you can discover a holistic view of community risk to natural hazards via online maps and data.

The Need for Risk Data in Project Development for Hazard Mitigation Grants

Strong mitigation grant applications require access to accurate, current, relevant, and comprehensive risk data. That data can often be spread across many agencies, websites, and levels of government. The National Risk Index brings together high-quality risk and resilience information from a variety of sources that can be leveraged in several Hazard Mitigation Assistance project grant applications and subapplications.

Using the National Risk Index as Supporting Documentation for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Applications

The NRI calculates a baseline, relative-risk measurement for each county and U.S. Census tract. Specific hazard data at county levels can be retrieved for the following:

- Expected annual loss in dollars

- Frequency/Probability of event (hazard dependent)

- Exposed population in dollars

Figure 1: Mitigation in Confluence Park, Denver, Colorado

These data can support multi-jurisdictional projects. The National Risk Index's data is visualized in interactive web maps at the county and Census tract level and made available via geographic information system (GIS) feature services for custom analyses. These data can be applied to large-scale infrastructure projects for all Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs.

The NRI will also help communities demonstrate their natural hazard risk and provide them the ability to strengthen their grant application in addition to benefit-cost analysis. The maps and graphics clearly illustrate risk and can help build the case for a mitigation project.

Get Started

- Visit the National Risk Index's website at fema.gov/NRI.

- Explore the Map: Search different areas and learn more about your local natural hazard risk.

- Learn More: Use the interactive platform and documentation to help better understand what factors make your community at risk to natural hazards.

- Expand Your Analyses: Access and use the National Risk Index's data to create your own maps and apps.

For more information, send an email to FEMA-NRI@fema.dhs.gov.

For more information on mitigation grants, visit: fema.gov/grants/mitigation.