



2013 National Preparedness Report

Overview

The *National Preparedness Report* (NPR) summarizes progress the Nation has made in building, sustaining, and delivering the 31 core capabilities outlined in the *National Preparedness Goal* across all five mission areas identified in Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8): Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery. This report marks the second annual NPR, updating and expanding upon findings from the 2012 NPR. While last year's report focused on all of the progress made in the decade following the September 11, 2001 attacks, the 2013 NPR highlights accomplishments achieved or reported on during 2012.

The 2013 NPR presents an opportunity to reflect on the progress that whole community partners—including all levels of government, private and nonprofit sectors, faith-based organizations, communities, and individuals—have made in strengthening the Nation's preparedness for all risks and to identify where areas of improvement remains.

In addition to updating key findings from the 2012 NPR, FEMA reviewed information from Federal partners, and other nongovernmental and private sector partners. Furthermore, recent, independent evaluations, surveys, and data from 2012 reports and assessment submissions from states and territories informed the 2013 NPR.

Important Preparedness Progress Continues

The 2013 NPR provides a comprehensive, national-level assessment of all preparedness core capabilities, identifying 65 key findings that highlight national areas of strength and areas for improvement.

Overall, the 2013 NPR found the Nation continues to make progress enhancing its preparedness, including continued improvements within the areas of national strength identified in the 2012 NPR. Furthermore, the NPR confirms that these areas continue to align with investments made by whole community partners through federal preparedness grant assistance programs.

Areas of National Strength

The 2013 *National Preparedness Report* highlights areas of national strength in the following core capabilities; each of these was identified as an area of strength in the 2012 NPR:

- **Planning:** Federal interagency partners made significant progress in finalizing National Planning Frameworks and Federal Interagency Operating Plans across all preparedness mission areas.
- **Operational Coordination:** Nationwide adoption of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) increased in 2012; 10 of 11 federal agencies responded to a 2012 preparedness survey indicating they use NIMS to manage incidents, and all 11 reported having the operational capability to meet the Goal.
- **Intelligence and Information Sharing:** The national network of fusion centers and Joint Terrorism Task Forces continued to mature. New national strategies and federal interagency governance structures emerged to provide a consistent and unified approach to guide the implementation of fusion center policies and standards.
- **Operational Communications:** By FY 2012, 50 states and territories completed developing State Emergency Communications Plans. The Nation began facilitating a transition to a national public safety broadband system for emergency communications and continued developing Next Generation 9-1-1.

Opportunities for Improvement

The 2013 NPR shows that the Nation has made progress in preparedness, but also identifies areas where work remains. New national areas for improvement identified in the 2013 NPR include enhancing the resilience of infrastructure systems and maturing the role of public-private partnerships.

Areas for National Improvement

The 2013 *National Preparedness Report* identified two new areas for improvement.

- **Infrastructure Systems:** Hurricane Sandy and other events in 2012 confirmed that enhancing both the physical and cyber resilience of infrastructure systems is a national area for improvement. Disclosure of cyber incidents on critical infrastructure control systems rose by at least 52 percent and a number of infrastructure control systems accessible through the Internet and vulnerable to attack were identified. Stressed infrastructure systems present obstacles to effective response and recovery operations.
- **Public-Private Partnerships:** A 2011 assessment of preparedness-related public-private partnerships revealed significant challenges in the long-term resourcing and sustainability of these partnerships across all mission areas. Efforts across all mission areas to establish collaborative partnerships are underway, including the model outlined in the *National Infrastructure Protection Plan*, as well as information-sharing processes reflected in FEMA's new National Business Emergency Operations Center and the Department of Homeland Security Office of Infrastructure Protection's National Infrastructure Coordination Center.

Additionally, the Nation has made important progress in the national areas for improvement identified in the 2012 NPR.

- **Cybersecurity:** Federal partners developed and improved national-level cyber plans and frameworks in 2012, testing them through the first-ever cyber-focused National Level Exercise. Lessons learned from the exercise translated into improved interagency and private-sector response efforts during significant, continuous disruptions to U.S. bank websites in the fall of 2012.
- **Recovery-focused capabilities:** Over the past year, Federal partners began implementing key elements of the *National Disaster Recovery Framework* (NDRF), establishing a Recovery Support Function Leadership Group to oversee NDRF coordination and planning. Federal partners also activated the NDRF formally for the first time in 2012, deploying Federal Disaster Recovery Coordinators (FDRCs) in response to the severe drought, and Hurricanes Isaac and Sandy.
- **Integration of individuals with disabilities and access and functional needs:** All seven major Federal emergency plans produced in 2012 address the integration and inclusion of individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs. Likewise, state emergency operations plans increasingly address integration, inclusion, and accessibility for the whole community.

The Future of the National Preparedness Report

Future NPRs will continue to document changes in capability levels and national preparedness by evaluating trends across multiple years. The ability of future NPRs to summarize preparedness progress will improve over time as implementation activities related to PPD-8 proceed. Ongoing development of the National Preparedness System will integrate current preparedness efforts and create consistent, reliable approaches to support decision-making, resource allocation, and assessment.