



NEMA 2026 Biennial Report

Data Highlights



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REPORT OVERVIEW

- The **2026 NEMA Biennial Report** highlights the shared perspectives of state emergency management leaders across the nation.
- Drawing on a **comprehensive survey**, NEMA produces this report every two years to assess conditions and share the status of state emergency management programs.
 - This year, NEMA has received information from all fifty states and D.C. covering fiscal year 2025 (FY25)
- NEMA will publish the report in the coming weeks.



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FY25 DISASTER OUTLOOK

- While large-scale disasters draw the most attention, they account for only a small portion of the responsibilities handled by state and local emergency managers.
- In FY25, at least **28,469 disasters/emergencies** required significant commitments of state and local resources but did not require any federal assistance—a **5% increase** from FY23.
 - In these instances, state and local emergency managers build the capabilities needed to reduce risks to residents, enable effective response, and support community recovery.
- **55 events** required a Stafford Act major disaster or emergency declaration in FY25.



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STATE DISASTER FUNDING MECHANISMS

- Every state maintains a formal framework to ensure **fiscal oversight and accountability for disaster funding**.
- In many cases, states employ **multiple funding mechanisms** to balance immediate response needs with long-term recovery obligations.

Funds are appropriated by the state legislature for specific incidents after each major disaster occurs:

18 states

A separate disaster fund(s) exists; funds are appropriated as needed to ensure an adequate balance is always available:

32 states

A disaster trust exists, in which revenues from specified sources (such as a tax or fee) are deposited and used as needed:

3 states

Other funding mechanisms exist (e.g., governor may allocate funding, legislature may fund a contingency fund at their discretion):

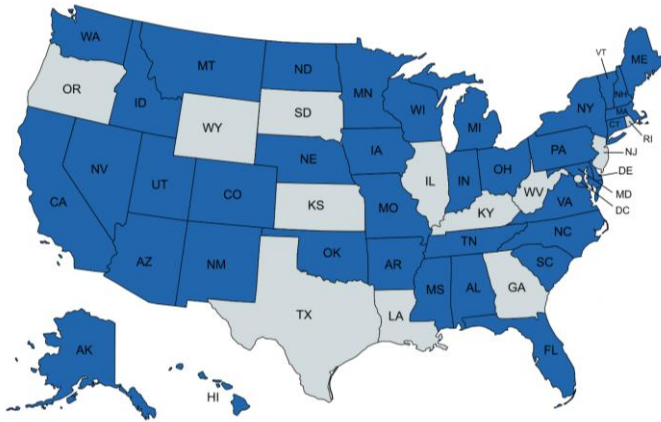
11 states



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STATE-FUNDED DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

- **38 states** maintain **state-funded assistance programs** to provide targeted, timely relief to stabilize households, sustain economies, and restore essential community functions.



28 states manage a public assistance program.



5 states manage an individual assistance program.



7 states have an assistance program strictly for unmet needs.



5 states have a program dedicated to economic/business recovery.



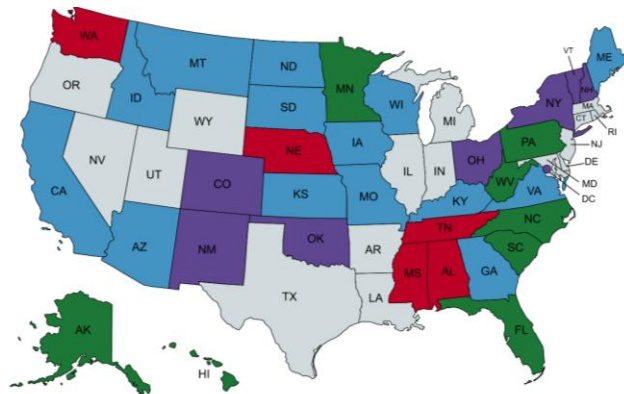
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FEMA PA: STATES PAY FOR NON-FEDERAL PORTION

- For the FEMA Public Assistance (PA) program, **35 states** share in the non-federal cost to support their communities.



- **8 states** pay the entire 25%
- **5 states** evenly split the 25% with locals
- **14 states** share the 25% with locals and PNPs (not equally)
- **8 states** have mixed cost arrangements dependent on disaster impacts or policy



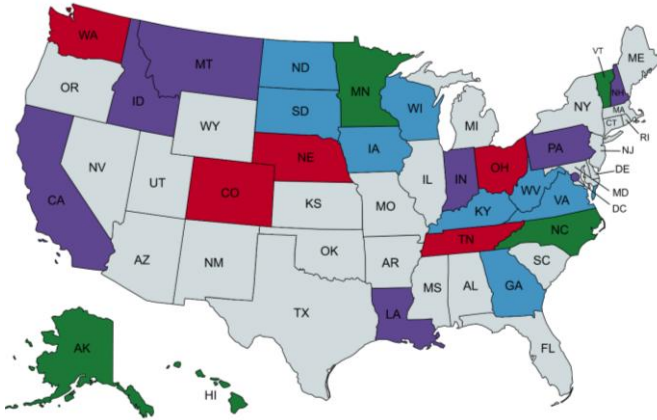
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FEMA HMGP: STATES PAY FOR NON-FEDERAL PORTION

- For the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), **26 states** share the non-federal cost-share responsibilities with their communities.



- 5 states** pay the entire 25 percent cost share for their locals.
- 5 states** split the non-federal portion evenly between local governments.
- 8 states** share the 25% with locals and PNPs (not equally).
- 8 states** have a mixed cost-sharing arrangement tailored to the community's needs, as funding becomes available.

