

Engaging Underserved Communities and Vulnerable Populations in Hazard Mitigation Planning

Natural Hazards Center | Making Mitigation Work Webinar Series | April 18, 2023



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Purpose and outcomes

1

Share a few facts about the National Mitigation Planning Program

2

Present key updates to FEMA's State and Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guides that call on states to consider equity throughout the planning process.

3

Share resources, materials, best practices and trainings that can help communities grow more resilient



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Planning Is the Foundation for Resilience

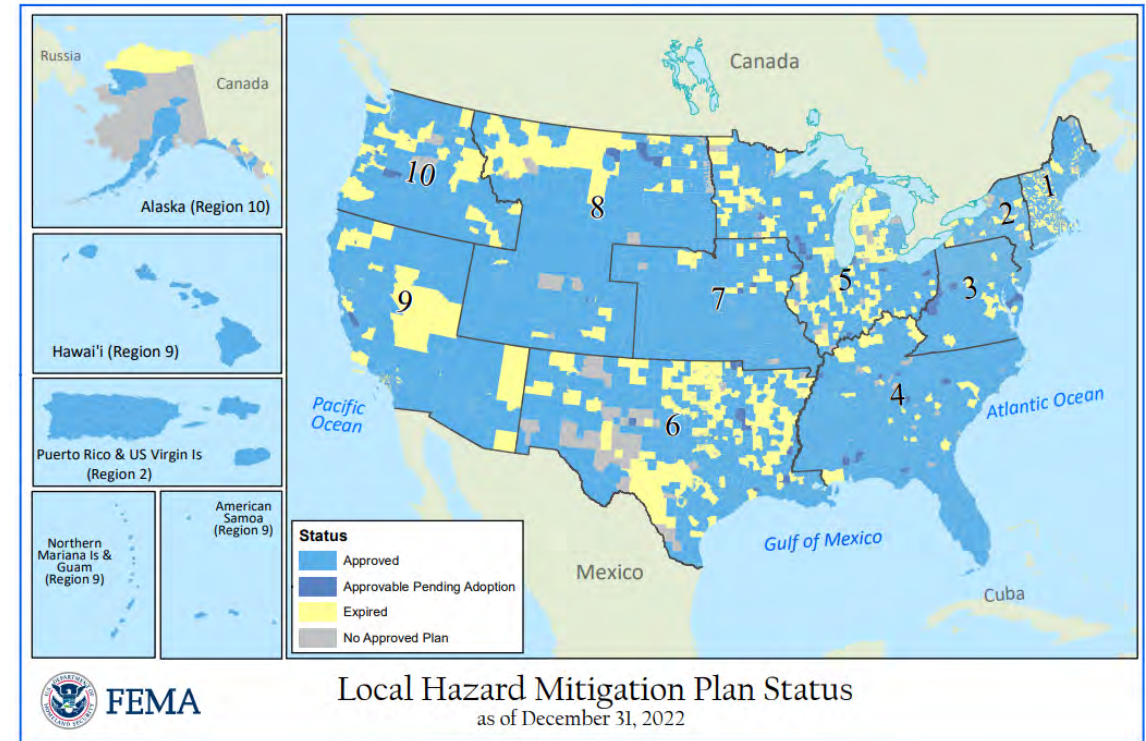


Mitigation Planning Nationwide

All 50 states, the District of Columbia, and five territories have FEMA-approved state mitigation plans.

More than **25,535 local governments** have current local mitigation plans.

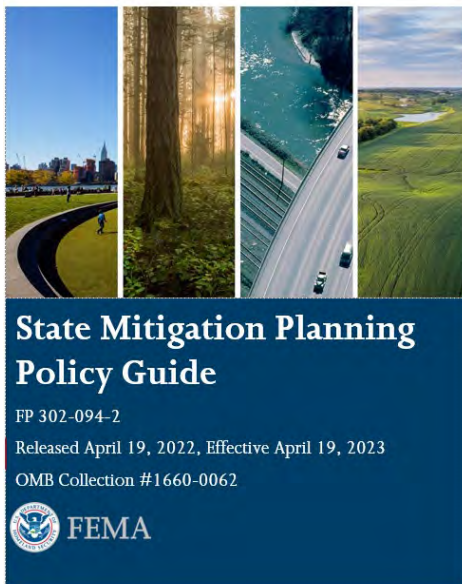
246 tribal governments have current tribal mitigation plans.



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Introducing the 2022 State and Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guides

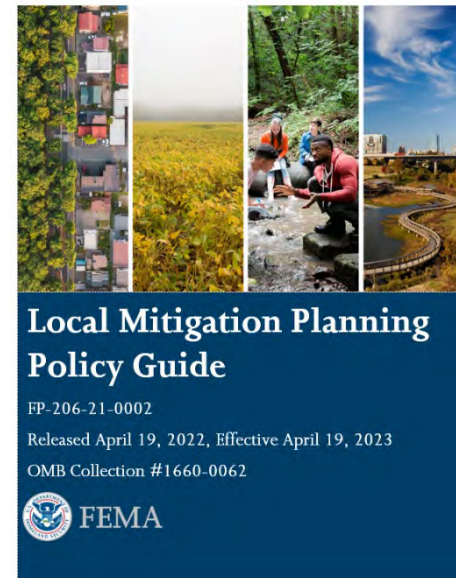
FEMA's policy on and interpretation of Title 44, Part 201 of the Code of Federal Regulations.



**Section 201.3:
Responsibilities**

**Section 201.4: Standard
State Requirements**

**Section 201.5: Enhanced
State Requirements**



**Section 201.3:
Responsibilities**

**Section 201.6: Local
Requirements**

Approved Plans Are a Prerequisite for Many Grants



Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)



Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)



Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)



HMGP Post Fire



Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund



Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dams (HHPD)



Public Assistance Categories C-G



Fire Mitigation Assistance Grants (FMAG)



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Equity in the 2022 Policies

Why Include Equity?

- Mitigation plans support risk reduction for the **whole community**.
- Plans are a **chance to counter systematic barriers** and reduce risk for all.



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Equity in State Mitigation Plans



- Must describe how effective local mitigation efforts are. This includes gaps and disparities in serving underserved and socially vulnerable populations.
- Should consider these groups when prioritizing jurisdictions to receive grant funding.



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Equity in the State Planning Process



- Describe how the state coordinated with *agencies* whose programs support socially vulnerable and underserved communities.
- Describe how the state coordinated with *other groups* that support these communities.



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Equity in the State Risk Assessment



- Analyze the vulnerability of jurisdictions with respect to the impacts to populations. This includes socially vulnerable and underserved communities.
- Summarize recent and projected development. This includes demographic changes that put certain communities at risk.



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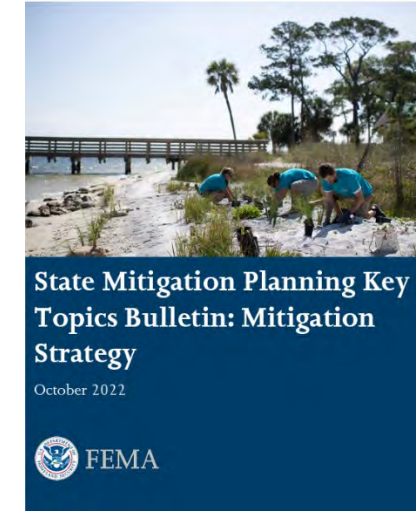
Guidance for State Planning



Explains equity terms.
Shares how to set up an equitable process.



Explains where to get data and how to analyze vulnerable jurisdictions.



Describes how equity can be a part of the strategy and action plan.



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Equity in the Local Mitigation Planning Process and Risk Assessment



Planning process must:

- Describe how the process gave stakeholders that represent socially vulnerable and underserved communities the opportunity to participate.
- Document how the public, including members of underserved communities, had the chance to participate.



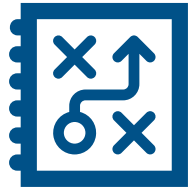
Risk assessment must:

- Describe the vulnerability of each jurisdiction. This includes socially vulnerable and underserved communities.



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Equity in the Local Mitigation Strategy



- Include actions that benefit underserved communities and socially vulnerable populations.
- Evaluate actions using qualitative benefits. This includes how they benefit underserved and socially vulnerable communities.



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FEMA Guidance and Training

- Mitigation planning regulations: Title 44 CFR Section 201.
- Related products:
 - [State Mitigation Planning Key Topics Bulletins \(2022\)](#).
 - [Local Mitigation Planning Handbook \(2013\)](#).
- [FEMA's Equity Website](#).
- [Equity and Mitigation Planning Website](#).
- Training:
 - Mitigation Planning YouTube [playlist](#).
 - [IS/L-329: State Hazard Mitigation Planning](#).
 - [L/K-318: Local Mitigation Planning Training](#).

Let's get started and create a hazard mitigation plan!

Email:
FEMA-Mitigation-
Planning@fema.dhs.gov



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FEMA Data Tools

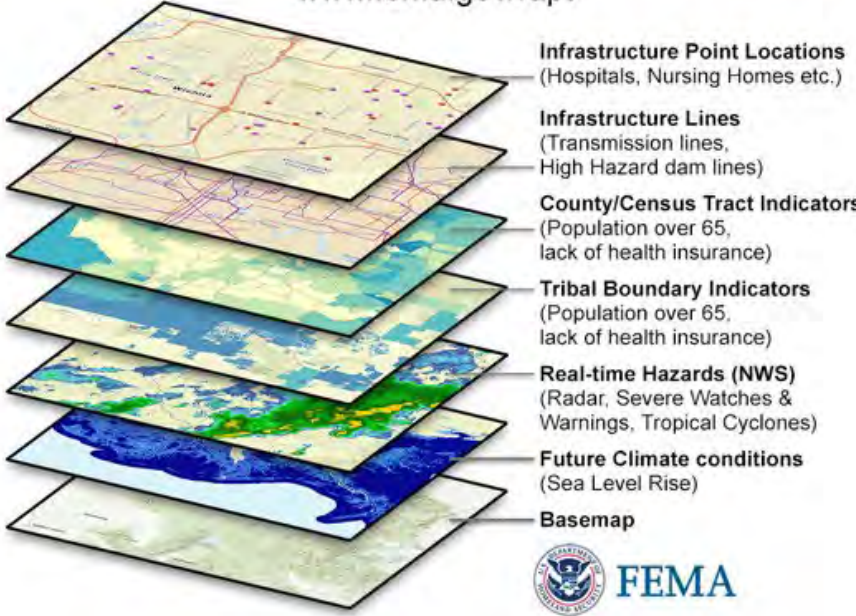
National Risk Index (NRI)



Resilience Analysis and Planning Tool (RAPT)

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www.fema.gov/rapt



Non-FEMA Resource: Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool

- [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool \(CEJST\)](#).
 - Identifies disadvantaged communities at a census tract level through standardized, nationally consistent data.
 - Considers communities disadvantaged if they meet two criteria. First, they must be in a census tract that meets the threshold for at least one of the tool's categories of burden. Second, they must meet the threshold for a corresponding economic indicator.
 - Considers communities disadvantaged if they are on the lands of a federally recognized tribe.
- Criteria used for grant scoring criteria and grants with an equity standard.



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Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation – Additional FEMA Resources

- **[Guides to Expanding Mitigation \(FEMA\)](#)**: The Guides to Expanding Mitigation are part of a series designed to highlight innovative and emerging partnerships for hazard mitigation. The booklets show how communities can better support hazard mitigation projects and planning by engaging other sectors. This supports FEMA's goal of building a culture of preparedness, which is part of the agency's strategic plan.
- **[Hazard Mitigation Planning \(FEMA\)](#)**: FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Planning provides information on planning, best practices, grants, regulations, and more, to minimize the impacts of disasters and break the cycle of disaster damage and reconstruction.
- **[Mitigation Ideas: A Resource for Reducing Risk to Natural Hazards \(FEMA\)](#)**: The document provides a resource that communities can use to identify and evaluate a range of potential hazard mitigation actions for reducing risk to natural hazards and disasters.
- **[Hazard Mitigation Planning Program Resource List \(FEMA\)](#)**: This fact sheet provides a list of resources to assist with every step of the hazard mitigation planning process.



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Cathleen Carlisle
Cathleen.carlisle@fema.dhs.gov



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