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## **STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD**

**of the**

### **American Association of Neurological Surgeons and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons**

**to the**

### **Subcommittee on Health Energy & Commerce Committee U.S. House of Representatives**

**SUBJECT: H.R. 1876, the Good Samaritan Health Professionals Act of 2017**

**May 17, 2017**

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The American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) would like to express their strong support for H.R. 1876, the Good Samaritan Health Professionals Act of 2017, and would like to thank the subcommittee for holding a hearing on this bipartisan legislation. Introduced by Reps. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) and David Scott (D-Ga.), this bill is designed to provide liability protections to out-of-state volunteer health professionals (VHPs), including physicians, who volunteer to assist victims of federally declared disasters.

As defined by the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288), the President is authorized to issue major disaster declarations in response to certain incidents that overwhelm the capabilities of tribal, state, and local governments. Swift and timely medical response in a disaster or terrorist attack can significantly decrease the loss of life and improve outcomes for patients who desperately need care.

While neurosurgeons have a long history of stepping forward to assist disaster victims, medical volunteers are often turned away due to the inconsistency of Good Samaritan laws and confusion and uncertainty about the application of these laws. This was, unfortunately, evident during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 when thousands of physicians were prevented from helping those most in need. Sadly, this lack of state uniformity has hindered the ability of VHPs to provide care, and in many cases, physicians could not provide these critical services — even if they wanted to — due to lack of liability protections. H.R. 1876 will help ensure that health professionals who volunteer their services in future disasters will not face similar uncertainties, thereby allowing them to focus on providing aid to victims.

Specifically, this bill would provide VHPs with the level of civil immunity that they have in their home state when they provide this urgently needed care. Removing these barriers will allow neurosurgeons, in particular, with their training in trauma and emergency care, to provide Americans with access to high-quality specialty care during a declared crisis.

It is also notable that during these disasters the timely verification of health professional's licensure is not always possible. H.R. 1876 expresses a sense of Congress that the appropriate entities should verify the licenses as soon as is reasonably practical.

Most importantly, H.R. 1876 does not apply if the volunteer engages in “willful or criminal misconduct, gross negligence, reckless misconduct, or a conscious, flagrant indifference to the rights or safety of the individual(s) harmed by the health care professional.”

### **Good Samaritan Laws**

Good Samaritan laws generally provide basic legal protections for those who assist a person who is injured or in danger. In essence, these laws protect the “Good Samaritan” from liability if unintended consequences result from their assistance. All 50 states and the District of Columbia have some form of Good Samaritan law. Who is protected under these statutes — physicians, emergency medical technicians, and other first responders — and how these laws are implemented vary from state to state.<sup>1</sup>

These laws typically do not apply to employees on duty or those with a pre-existing obligation to provide care. Good Samaritan laws provide limited immunity from civil liability for ordinary negligence to protected volunteers. They do not provide payment for defense costs, judgments or settlements. As

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<sup>1</sup> Health Resources and Services Administration. “Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP) — Legal and Regulatory Issues.” Appendix D. Available at <http://www.publichealthlaw.net/Research/PDF/ESAR%20VHP%20Report.pdf>

with other volunteer protection statutes, Good Samaritan laws do not cover gross negligence or wanton misconduct.

### **Volunteer Protection Act of 1997**

While the Volunteer Protection Act of 1997 provides protection to non-profit organizations' and government entities' volunteers, like the Red Cross and the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS), it does not apply to health professionals who unexpectedly volunteer of their own volition.

### **Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act (UEVHPA)**

Some states have adopted the Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act (UEVHPA).<sup>2</sup> Under the UEVHPA, VHPs can register through governmentally established registration systems (e.g., ESAR-VHP or Medical Reserve Corps), or with registration systems set up by disaster relief organizations, licensing boards or national or multistate systems that associations of licensing boards or health professionals have created. UEVHPA liability protections take effect upon the state's emergency declaration. But again, these protections only cover VHPs who have already registered and are in the system.

### **Disaster Relief Fund**

It is important to note just how often disaster declarations are made and potentially how often VHPs are needed throughout the country. A total of 936 major disaster declarations was made between FY 2000 and FY 2015, which resulted in more than \$133 billion obligated from the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF).<sup>3</sup> This funding includes public, individual, and hazard assistance, in addition to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) administrative costs and mission assignments.

A total of 19 major disaster declarations were made in Texas alone, totaling \$8.8 billion from Tropical Storm Allison in 2001, Hurricane Rita in 2005 and Hurricane Ike in 2008. Other states of note include: Louisiana with \$36.6 billion (Hurricane Katrina); New York with \$23 billion (Hurricane Sandy in 2013 and 9/11); Florida with \$10.6 billion (Hurricanes Frances, Ivan and Jeanne in 2004; Hurricane Wilma in 2006; and Hurricane Katrina in 2005); and New Jersey with \$3.8 billion (Hurricane Sandy).<sup>4</sup>

The Appendix to this statement includes state DRF data, demonstrating (by one measure) the scope of federal disaster declarations and, therefore, the need for federal legislation to provide the necessary protections for physician volunteers.

### **Conclusion**

While there are several opportunities for health professionals to register with different non-profit organizations and government entities, as mentioned above, these same health professionals are not provided with the same liability protections if they spontaneously volunteer in a disaster area. This patchwork nature of statutory protections for volunteers indicates that a federal legislative remedy is

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<sup>2</sup> Uniform Law Commission. UEVHPA. Available at <http://www.uniformlaws.org/Act.aspx?title=Emergency%20Volunteer%20Health%20Practitioners>.

<sup>3</sup> Congressional Research Service. "Major Disaster Assistance from the Disaster Relief Fund: State Profiles." Available at <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/homsec/R43883.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Congressional Research Service. "FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: State Profiles."

needed to unify these protections. The Good Samaritan Health Professionals Act of 2017 would alleviate this problem.

The AANS and CNS look forward to working with the subcommittee further and encourage passage of this crucial legislation. In the meantime, thank you for considering our comments.

# APPENDIX



**Congressional  
Research Service**

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# Major Disaster Assistance from the Disaster Relief Fund: State Profiles

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March 29, 2017

Congressional Research Service

7-5700

[www.crs.gov](http://www.crs.gov)

R43883

## Summary

The primary source of funding for federal assistance authorized by a major disaster declaration is the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF), which is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Major disaster declarations have occurred in every U.S. state since FY2000, with obligations for each incident ranging from a few hundred thousand dollars to more than \$31 billion.

This report summarizes DRF actual and projected obligations as a result of major disaster declarations at the national level for the period FY2000 through FY2015. CRS profiles for each state and the District of Columbia are linked to this report. Information on major disaster assistance from the DRF for tribal lands, U.S. territories, and freely associated states is available upon request. This report also includes lists of additional resources and key policy staff who can provide more information on the emergency management issues discussed.

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## Overview

The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act, P.L. 93-288) authorizes the President to issue major disaster declarations in response to certain incidents that overwhelm the capabilities of tribal, state, and local governments. The Stafford Act defines a major disaster as

any natural catastrophe (including any hurricane, tornado, storm, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, or drought), or, regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion, in any part of the United States, which in the determination of the President causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant major disaster assistance under this chapter to supplement the efforts and available resources of states, local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.<sup>1</sup>

Major disaster declarations can authorize several types of federal assistance to support response and recovery efforts following an incident. The primary source of funding for federal assistance following a major disaster is the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF), which is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). While this fund also provides assistance as a result of emergency declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants,<sup>2</sup> major disaster declarations historically account for the majority of obligations from the DRF.

This report provides a national overview of actual and projected obligations funded through the DRF as a result of major disaster declarations between FY2000 and FY2015. In addition to providing a national overview, the electronic version of this report includes links to CRS products that summarize actual and projected obligations from the DRF as a result of major disaster declarations in each state and the District of Columbia. Each state profile includes information on the most costly incidents and impacted localities. In both the national and state-level products, information is provided on the types of assistance that have been provided for major disasters.

Many other federal programs that provide assistance following a major disaster are not funded through the DRF. While the specific agencies and programs called upon will vary from one disaster to another, an overview of selected programs can be found in CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*, coordinated by Bruce R. Lindsay.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2015

A total of 936 major disaster declarations were made between FY2000 and FY2015. These declarations resulted in more than \$133.6 billion in actual and projected obligations from the DRF. There was a high level of variation in the amount of actual and projected funding obligated for major disasters each year, with more than \$48.6 billion in actual and projected obligations for disasters in FY2005 alone. **Figure 1** displays the actual and projected obligations for all major disaster declarations each fiscal year.

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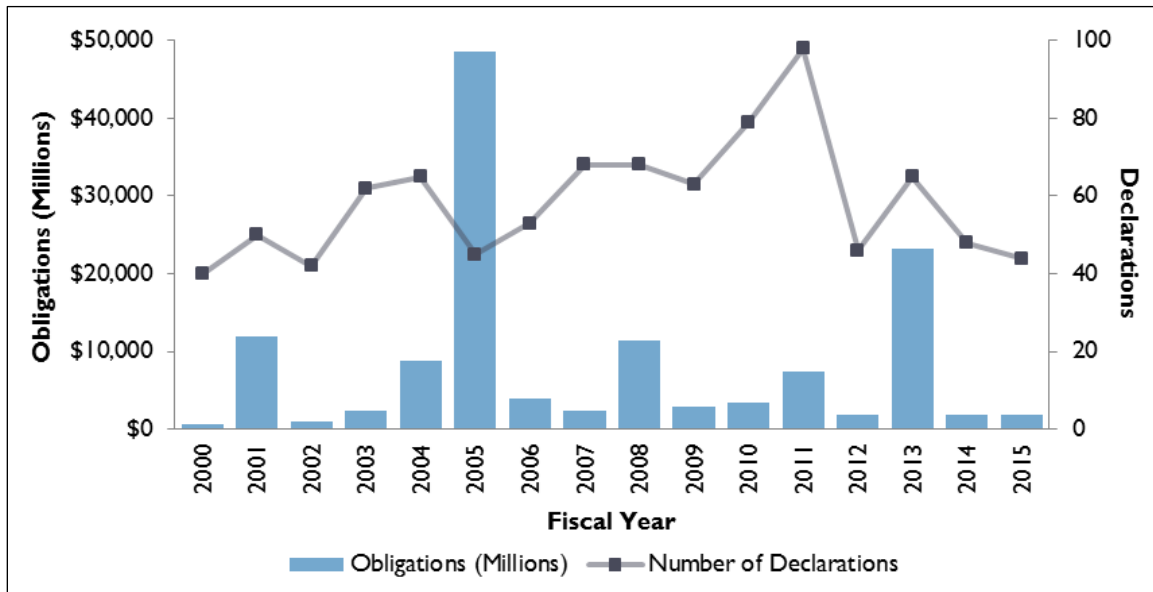
<sup>1</sup> P.L. 93-288, 42 U.S.C. §5122(2)

<sup>2</sup> Emergency declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants will be discussed briefly under “Other FEMA Assistance Funded Through the DRF.” For more information on the types of declarations authorized under the Stafford Act, see CRS Report R42702, *Stafford Act Declarations 1953-2015: Trends, Analyses, and Implications for Congress*, by Bruce R. Lindsay and Francis X. McCarthy.

In **Figure 1**, obligations associated with each declaration are reported in the fiscal year in which the major disaster was declared. However, disaster response and recovery expenses are often incurred over several years following an incident, including some of the incidents from FY2000 to FY2015. To account for the total amount of federal assistance ultimately obligated for major disasters, the obligations data used throughout this report reflects actual obligations as well as obligations projected under FEMA-approved spending plans.

**Figure 1. DRF Actual and Projected Obligations for Declared Major Disasters and Number of Declared Major Disasters, by Fiscal Year**

Obligations are in millions of dollars.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations and major disaster declarations data as of December 2015.

**Note:** Actual and projected obligations are recorded in the fiscal year in which the major disaster was declared.

## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can authorize funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- *Public Assistance*, which is used by tribal, state, or local governments, or certain private nonprofit organizations to provide emergency protective services, conduct debris removal operations, and repair or replace damaged public infrastructure;
- *Individual Assistance*, which provides direct aid to impacted households;
- *Hazard Mitigation Assistance*, which funds mitigation and resiliency projects and programs, typically across the entire state;
- *FEMA administrative costs* associated with each disaster declaration;<sup>3</sup> and

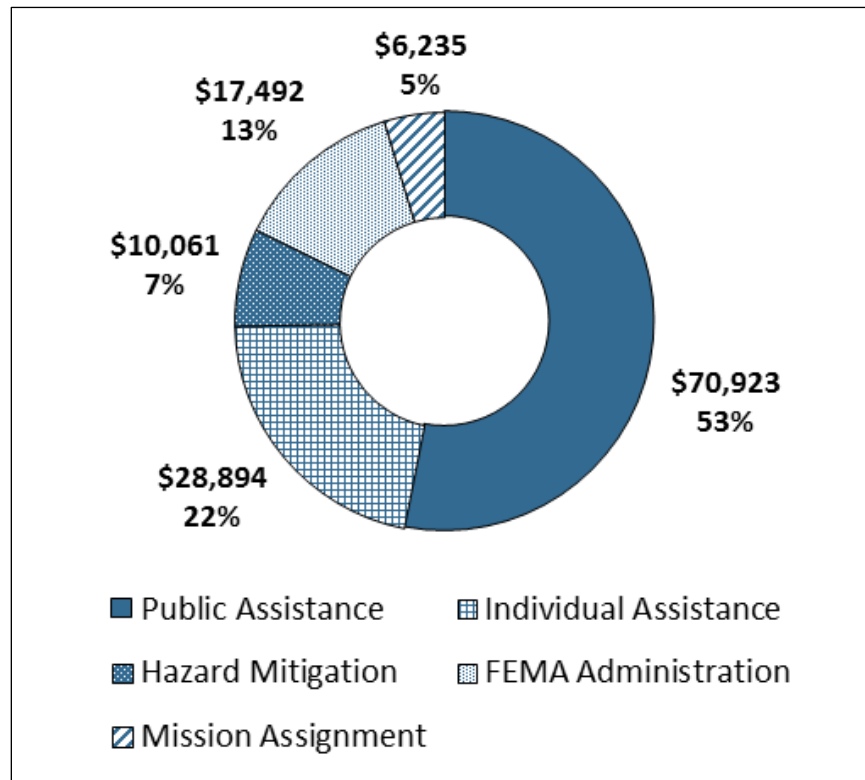
<sup>3</sup> For more information concerning what is included in FEMA Administrative Costs, see U.S. Government Accountability Office, *Federal Emergency Management Agency: Opportunities Exist to Strengthen Oversight of Administrative Costs for Major Disasters*, GAO-15-65, December 17, 2014, <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-65>.

- *Mission Assignment*, which tasks and reimburses other federal entities that provide direct disaster assistance.

The decision concerning which types of assistance to provide is made either when the major disaster is declared or when the declaration is amended. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above are authorized. For others, some assistance types are not authorized. **Figure 2** compares the actual and projected obligations for different types of assistance provided as a result of a major disaster declaration from FY2000 to FY2015.

**Figure 2. DRF Actual and Projected Obligations for Declared Major Disasters by Assistance Type, FY2000-FY2015**

Obligations are in millions of dollars, truncated.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of December 2015.

**Note:** The specific assistance within each of the identified types may have changed in the period FY2000 to FY2015.

## Other FEMA Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disaster assistance described above, there are other forms of assistance that are funded through the DRF. These include assistance associated with Emergency Declarations and with Fire Management Assistance Grants. The funding associated with these types of assistance typically results in lower obligation levels than assistance provided as a result of major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

- *Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized in order to assist tribal, state, and local efforts prior to an incident. For the period

FY2000 through FY2015, total obligations for emergency declarations were just over \$2.37 billion.

- *Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires. Total obligations for FMAGs from FY2000 through FY2015 were slightly more than \$1.21 billion.

## FEMA Assistance Not Funded Through the DRF: National Flood Insurance Program

Floods represent a majority of all major disaster declarations nationwide. One of the primary sources of assistance for flooding events is the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which is not funded through the DRF. For more information on the NFIP, please refer to CRS Report R44593, *Introduction to FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)*, by Diane P. Horn and Jared T. Brown.

## Additional Resources

Many existing CRS products address issues related to the DRF, the disaster declaration process, and types of DRF assistance. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*, by Francis X. McCarthy and Jared T. Brown
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*, by Jennifer E. Lake and Amy Abel
- CRS Report R43784, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*, by Francis X. McCarthy
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*, by Bruce R. Lindsay
- CRS Report R44619, *FEMA Disaster Housing: The Individuals and Households Program—Implementation and Potential Issues for Congress*, by Francis X. McCarthy
- CRS Report R43990, *FEMA's Public Assistance Grant Program: Background and Considerations for Congress*, by Jared T. Brown and Daniel J. Richardson

## State Profiles

In the electronic version of this report, **Table 1** includes links to CRS products that summarize major disaster assistance from the DRF for each state and the District of Columbia. Actual and projected obligations from the DRF as a result of major disaster declarations for tribal lands, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau are available upon request.

**Table 1. Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: State Profiles**

State Profiles include declarations between FY2000 and FY2015

State	Profile
Alabama	CRS In Focus IF10058, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Alabama</i>
Alaska	CRS In Focus IF10059, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Alaska</i>
Arizona	CRS In Focus IF10060, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Arizona</i>
Arkansas	CRS In Focus IF10061, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Arkansas</i>
California	CRS In Focus IF10062, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: California</i>
Colorado	CRS In Focus IF10063, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Colorado</i>
Connecticut	CRS In Focus IF10064, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Connecticut</i>
Delaware	CRS In Focus IF10065, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Delaware</i>
District of Columbia	CRS In Focus IF10066, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: District of Columbia</i>
Florida	CRS In Focus IF10067, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Florida</i>
Georgia	CRS In Focus IF10068, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Georgia</i>
Hawaii	CRS In Focus IF10069, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Hawaii</i>
Idaho	CRS In Focus IF10070, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Idaho</i>
Illinois	CRS In Focus IF10071, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Illinois</i>
Indiana	CRS In Focus IF10072, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Indiana</i>
Iowa	CRS In Focus IF10073, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Iowa</i>
Kansas	CRS In Focus IF10074, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Kansas</i>
Kentucky	CRS In Focus IF10075, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Kentucky</i>
Louisiana	CRS In Focus IF10076, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Louisiana</i>
Maine	CRS In Focus IF10077, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Maine</i>
Maryland	CRS In Focus IF10078, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Maryland</i>
Massachusetts	CRS In Focus IF10079, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Massachusetts</i>
Michigan	CRS In Focus IF10080, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Michigan</i>
Minnesota	CRS In Focus IF10081, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Minnesota</i>
Mississippi	CRS In Focus IF10082, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Mississippi</i>
Missouri	CRS In Focus IF10083, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Missouri</i>
Montana	CRS In Focus IF10084, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Montana</i>
Nebraska	CRS In Focus IF10085, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Nebraska</i>
Nevada	CRS In Focus IF10086, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Nevada</i>
New Hampshire	CRS In Focus IF10087, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: New Hampshire</i>
New Jersey	CRS In Focus IF10088, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: New Jersey</i>
New Mexico	CRS In Focus IF10089, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: New Mexico</i>
New York	CRS In Focus IF10090, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: New York</i>
North Carolina	CRS In Focus IF10091, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: North Carolina</i>
North Dakota	CRS In Focus IF10092, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: North Dakota</i>

State	Profile
Ohio	CRS In Focus IFI0093, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Ohio</i>
Oklahoma	CRS In Focus IFI0094, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Oklahoma</i>
Oregon	CRS In Focus IFI0095, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Oregon</i>
Pennsylvania	CRS In Focus IFI0096, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Pennsylvania</i>
Rhode Island	CRS In Focus IFI0097, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Rhode Island</i>
South Carolina	CRS In Focus IFI0098, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: South Carolina</i>
South Dakota	CRS In Focus IFI0099, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: South Dakota</i>
Tennessee	CRS In Focus IFI0100, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Tennessee</i>
Texas	CRS In Focus IFI0101, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Texas</i>
Utah	CRS In Focus IFI0102, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Utah</i>
Vermont	CRS In Focus IFI0103, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Vermont</i>
Virginia	CRS In Focus IFI0104, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Virginia</i>
Washington	CRS In Focus IFI0105, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Washington</i>
West Virginia	CRS In Focus IFI0106, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: West Virginia</i>
Wisconsin	CRS In Focus IFI0107, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Wisconsin</i>
Wyoming	CRS In Focus IFI0108, <i>Major Disaster Assistance from the DRF: Wyoming</i>

**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of December 2015.

**Note:** All state profiles appear as “archived” products on CRS.gov.

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## Acknowledgments

Assistance with this report was provided by Jennifer E. Lake, Section Research Manager; Francis X. McCarthy, Analyst in Emergency Management Policy; Bruce R. Lindsay, Analyst in American National Government; and Jared T. Brown, Analyst in Emergency Management and Homeland Security Policy. The previous iteration of this report and the associated state profiles were authored by Daniel J. Richardson, former Research Assistant.

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Alabama

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Alabama is part of Region IV, headquartered in Atlanta, GA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

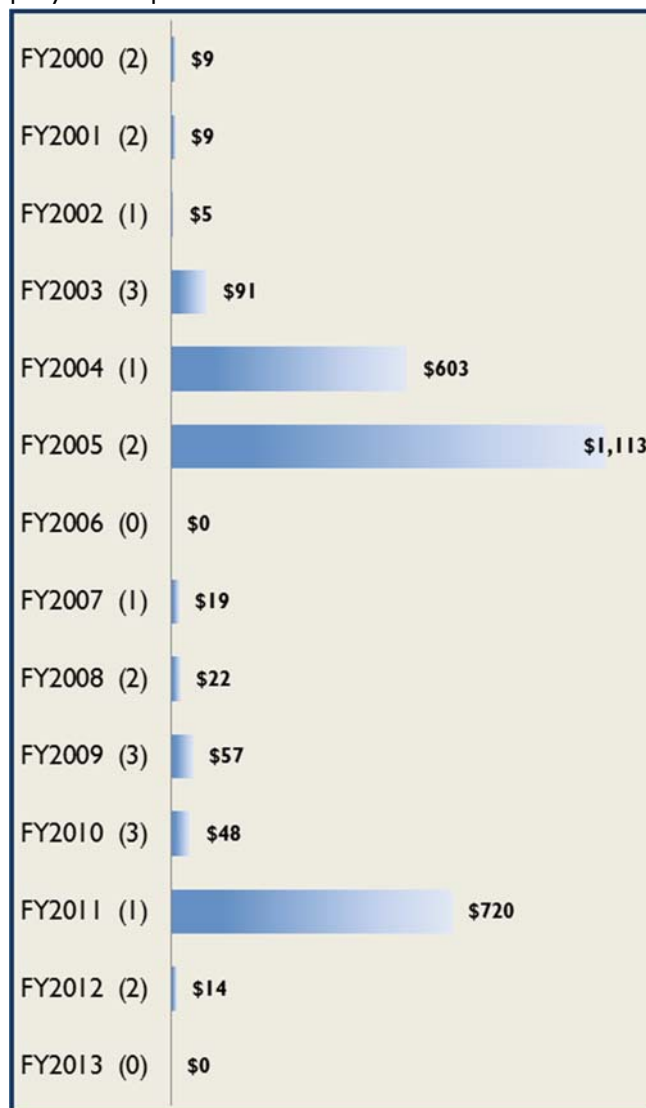
A total of 23 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Alabama between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were three requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to more than \$2.7 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$1.1 billion obligated in FY2005 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Alabama each year. The highest number of declarations in any single year for the state of Alabama was three, which occurred in FY2003, FY2009, and FY2010.

## Significant Incidents

Alabama received more than \$1 billion in federal aid from the DRF following Hurricane Katrina in FY2005. The state also received more than \$600 million as a result of Hurricane Ivan in FY2004 and more than \$720 million following severe storms in FY2011.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Alabama, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

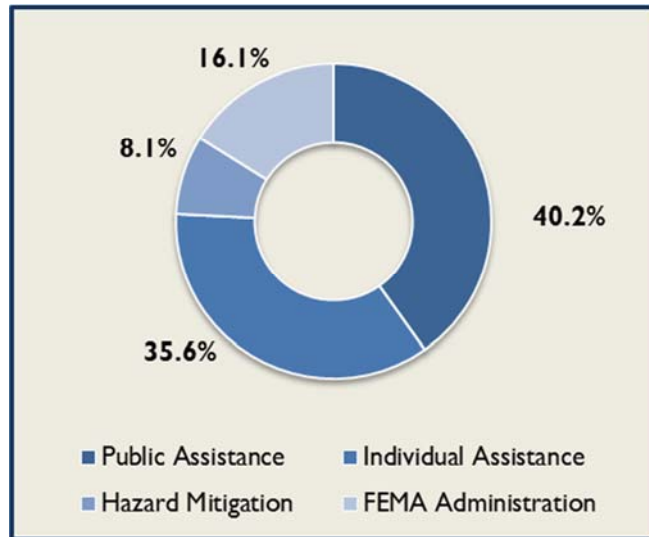
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Alabama from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Alabama, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 67 counties in Alabama have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Jefferson County received more declarations than any other during this time, with 13.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

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January 28, 2015

## FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Alaska

### Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Alaska is part of Region X, headquartered in Seattle, WA.

### Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 20 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Alaska between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there was one request for a major disaster declaration that was denied. The approved declarations led to \$275 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with nearly \$80 million obligated in FY2013 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Alaska each year. The highest number of declarations in a single fiscal year was three, which occurred in both FY2003 and FY2007.

### Significant Incidents

Alaska received more than \$60 million in federal assistance from the DRF following a flooding incident in FY2013, which resulted in one of the two declarations during that fiscal year. The state also received more than \$45 million in FY2009 as a result of flooding and ice jams and more than \$23 million in FY2003 following an earthquake.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Alaska, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

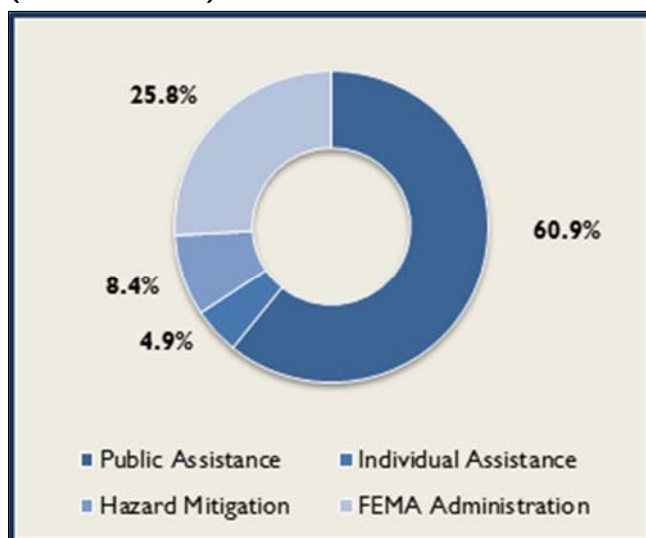
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Alaska from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Alaska, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 33 different boroughs, statistical areas, or other regions in Alaska have received aid under a major disaster declaration. The Lower Yukon Education Attendance Area has received more declarations than any other, with seven.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

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### National Flood Insurance Program:

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Arizona

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Arizona is part of Region IX, headquartered in Oakland, CA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

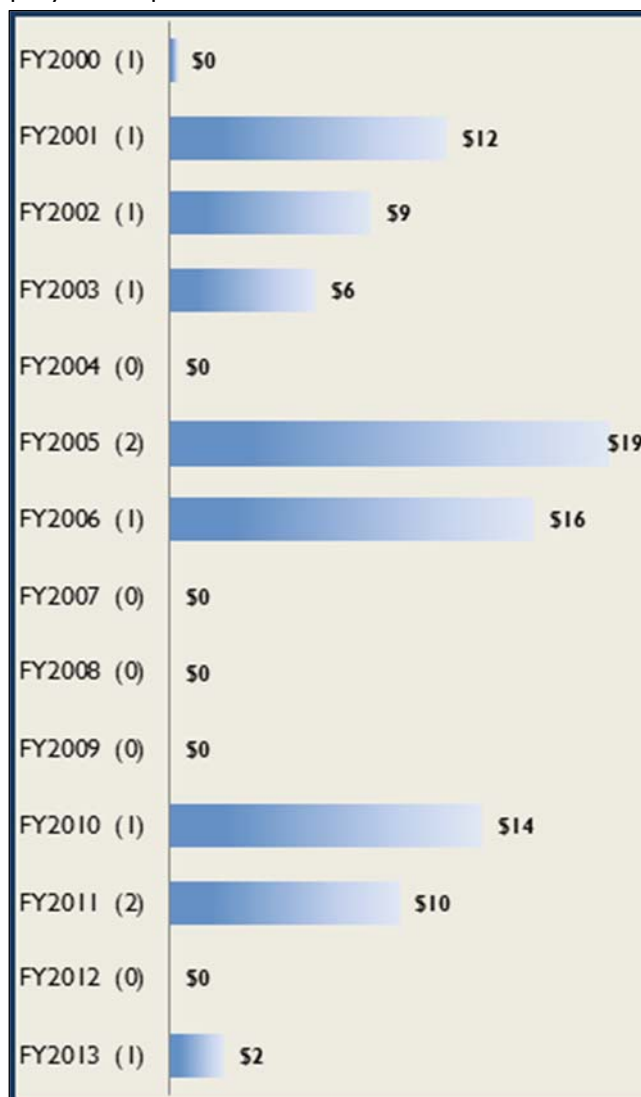
A total of 11 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Arizona between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were three requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$88 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Arizona each year. The highest number of declarations in a single fiscal year during this period was two, which occurred in both FY2005 and FY2011.

## Significant Incidents

Severe storms and flooding in FY2006 led to the highest level of DRF assistance for a single incident, with roughly \$16 million obligated. Arizona also received assistance following wildfires and severe winter storms during this time.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Arizona, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

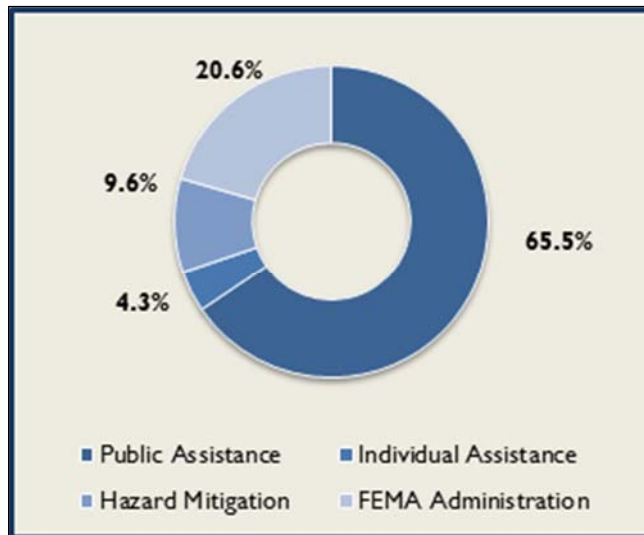
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Arizona from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Arizona, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 22 counties or reservations in Arizona have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, no county has received more than five declarations.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Arkansas

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Arkansas is part of Region VI, headquartered in Denton, TX.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 23 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Arkansas between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were two requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to more than \$889 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$300 million obligated in FY2009 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Arkansas each year. The highest number of declarations for Arkansas in a single year was four, which occurred in both FY2008 and FY2009.

## Significant Incidents

The largest level of assistance provided from the DRF to Arkansas for a single incident was the result of severe winter storms in FY2009. This incident led to \$277 million in DRF assistance. Arkansas also received more than \$200 million for another winter storm in FY2001. More recently, Arkansas received more than \$100 million for severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding in FY2011.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Arkansas, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.



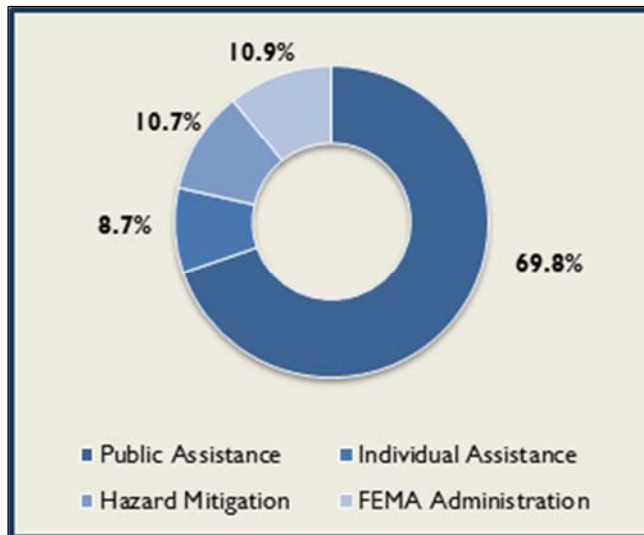
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Arkansas from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Arkansas, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 75 counties in Arkansas have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, Van Buren County and Newton County have received more declarations than any others, with 13 each.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: California

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. California is part of Region IX, headquartered in Oakland, CA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 16 major disaster declarations were made in the state of California between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were five requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to nearly \$1.5 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$200 million obligated in four separate fiscal years. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to California each year. The highest number of declarations in a single fiscal year was three, which occurred in FY2004.

## Significant Incidents

California received \$275 million in federal assistance from the DRF following wildfires in FY2008. The state also received more than \$100 million after three other incidents: wildfires in FY2004, severe storms, floods, mudslides, and landslides in FY2006, and winter storms in FY2011. California has received assistance for three earthquakes during this period.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in California, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** Click and type sources

**Notes:** Click and type notes

**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

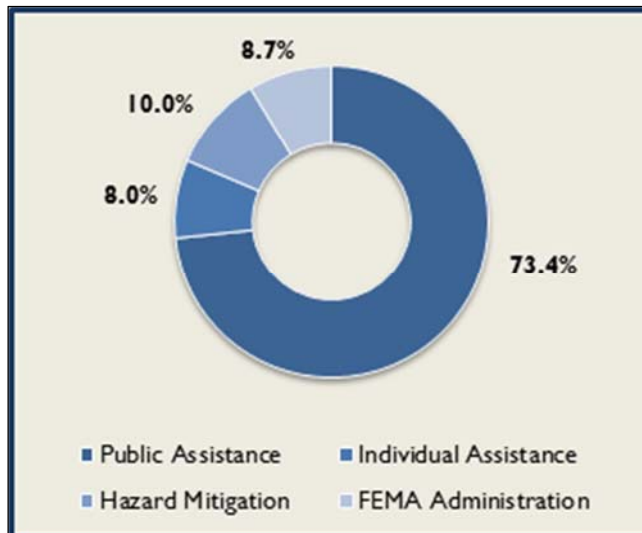
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to California from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for California, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 51 counties or reservations in California have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, Riverside County has received more declarations than any other, with eight.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Colorado

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Colorado is part of Region VIII, headquartered in Denver, CO.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

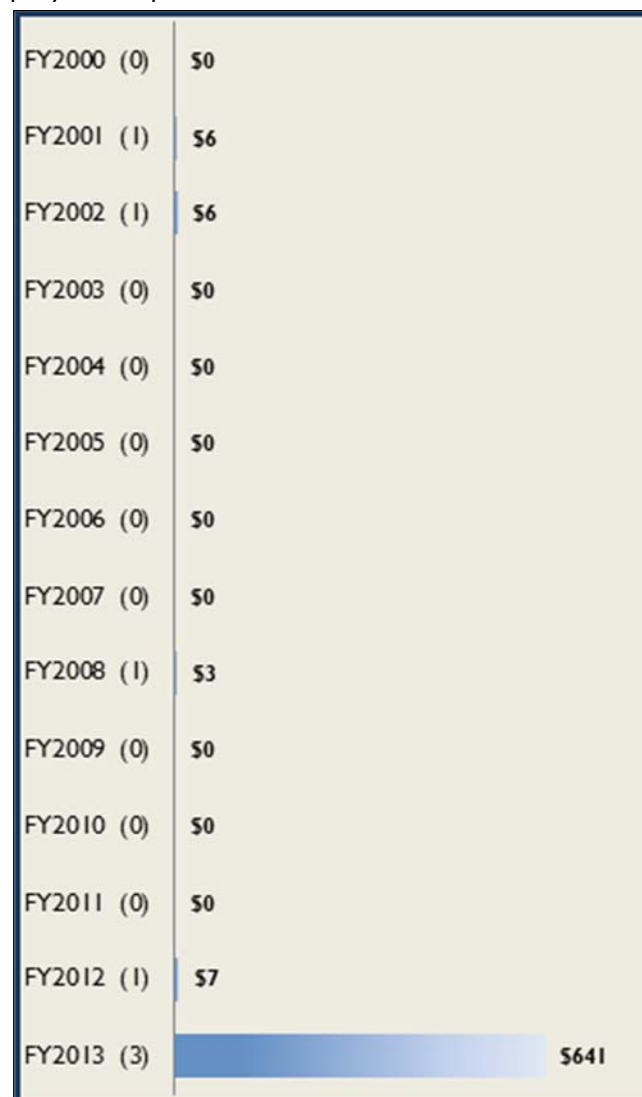
A total of seven major disaster declarations were made in the state of Colorado between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were no requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to nearly \$664 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$641 million obligated in FY2013. For the majority of the years in this period, there were no major disaster declarations. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Colorado each year. The highest number of declarations for Colorado in a single year was three, which also occurred in FY2013.

## Significant Incidents

The relatively high level of obligations in FY2013 was the result of flooding in the summer of that year. That single incident led to more than \$631 million in federal obligations from the DRF, while no other incident during this period led to obligations higher than \$10 million.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Colorado, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

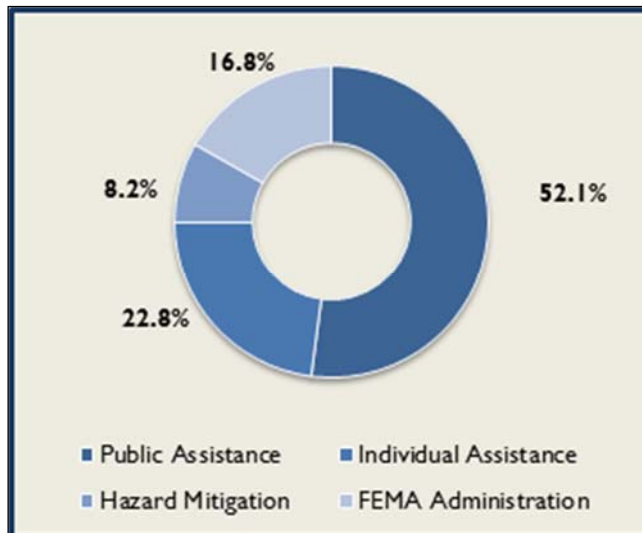
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Colorado from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Colorado, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 65 counties or reservations in Colorado have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time no single county has received more than four.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

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- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
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January 28, 2015

## FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Connecticut

### Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Connecticut is part of Region I, headquartered in Boston, MA.

### Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of eight major disaster declarations were made in the state of Connecticut between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were also four requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$412 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$165 million obligated in FY2013 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Connecticut each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in both FY2011 and FY2013, each of which had two declarations.

### Significant Incidents

The most significant incident in the state of Connecticut was caused by Hurricane Sandy in FY2013. This incident led to more than \$123 million in federal funding from the DRF.

Other major incidents include Tropical Storm Irene in FY2011 and severe storms in FY2012.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Connecticut, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

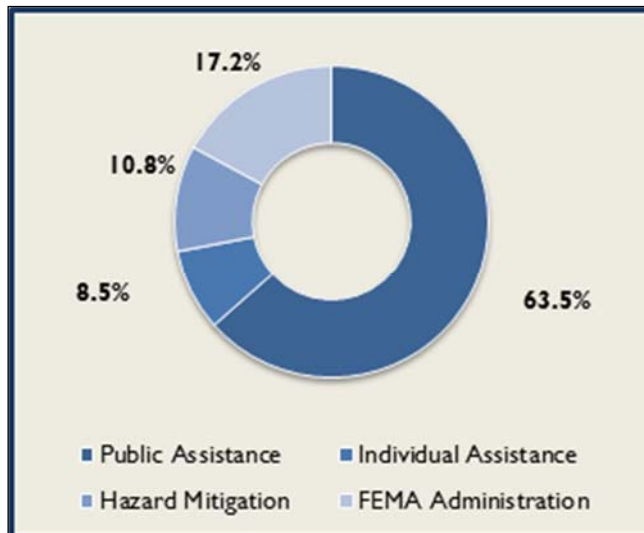
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Connecticut from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Connecticut, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 10 localities in Connecticut have received aid under a major disaster declaration, including two Indian reservations. The highest number for a single county during this time is seven.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

### FEMA Disaster Assistance:

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### National Flood Insurance Program:

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**Daniel J. Richardson**, [drichardson@crs.loc.gov](mailto:drichardson@crs.loc.gov), 7-2389

January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Delaware

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Delaware is part of Region III, headquartered in Philadelphia, PA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of seven major disaster declarations were made in the state of Delaware between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were no requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$39 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with nearly \$16 million obligated in FY2003 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Delaware each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in FY2003, when Delaware received two declarations.

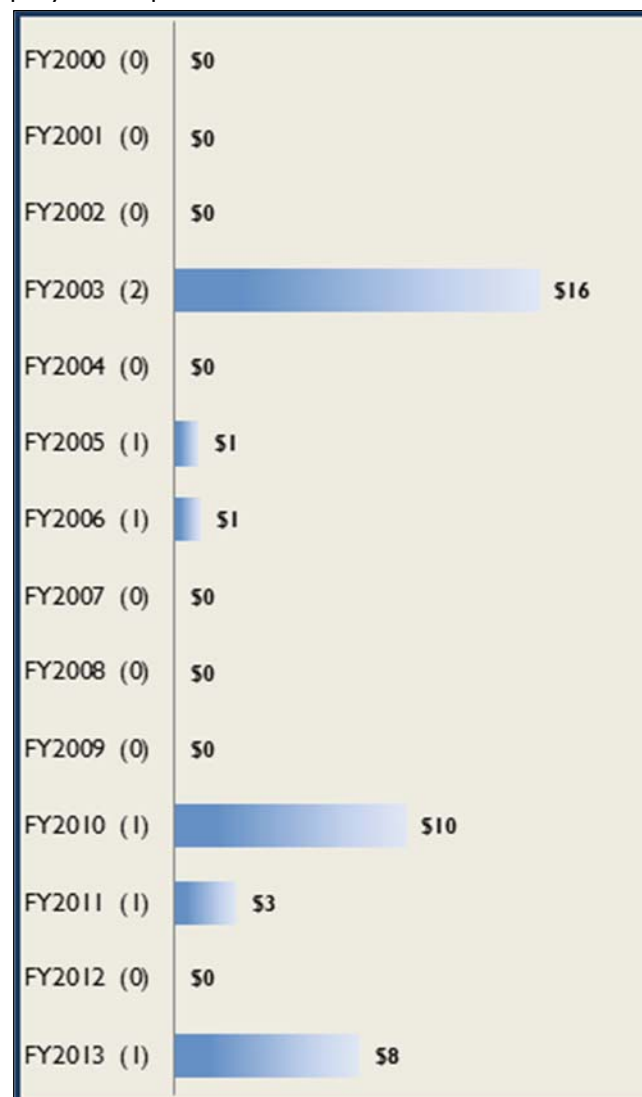
## Significant Incidents

The most significant incident in the state of Delaware was severe winter storms, which occurred in FY2010. This single incident led to more than \$10 million in federal funding from the DRF.

Other major incidents include Hurricane Isabel and Tropical Storm Henri in FY2003, as well as Hurricane Irene in FY2011. Delaware also received relief associated with Hurricane Sandy in FY2013.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Delaware, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.



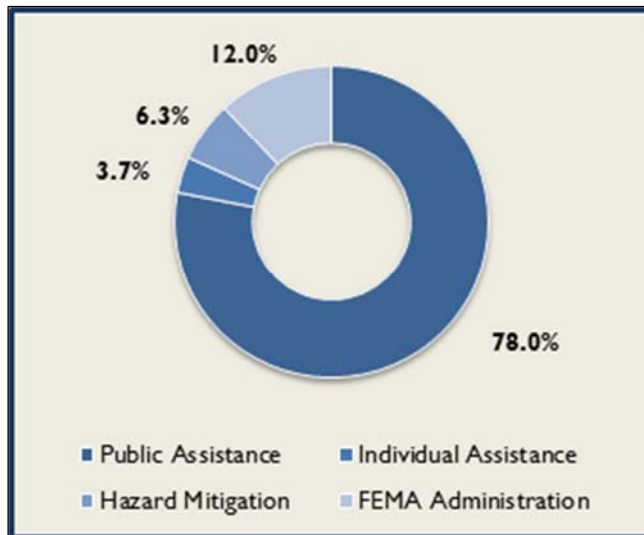
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Delaware from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Delaware, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, all three counties in Delaware (Kent, Newcastle, and Sussex) have received aid under major disaster declarations declared in the state; Newcastle and Sussex counties received aid under five, while Kent County received aid under four.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
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- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: District of Columbia

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. The District of Columbia is part of Region III, headquartered in Philadelphia, PA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 10 major disaster declarations were made in the District of Columbia between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were no requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$45 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the District, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the District's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with \$12 million obligated in FY2010 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to the District of Columbia each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in FY2000, FY2010, and FY2012, each of which had two declarations.

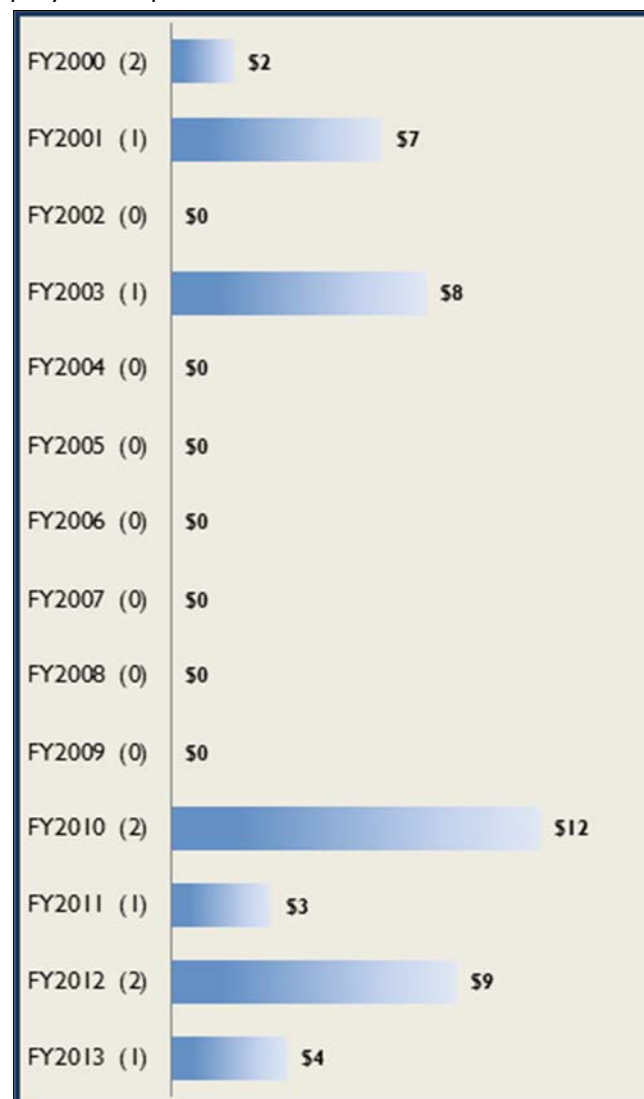
## Significant Incidents

The most significant incident in the District of Columbia was Hurricane Isabel, which occurred in FY2003. This incident led to \$8 million in federal funding from the DRF.

Other major incidents include severe winter storms in FY2010 and Hurricane Sandy in FY2013.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in the District of Columbia, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

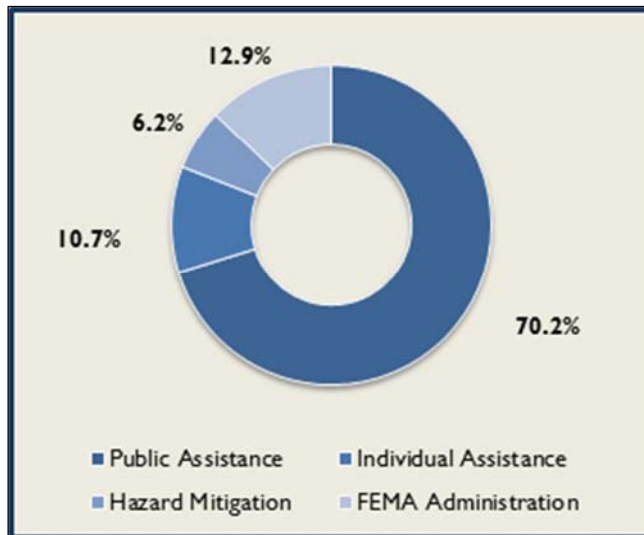
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to the District of Columbia from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for the District of Columbia, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

All declarations for the District of Columbia have been provided to the entire District, which is considered a “county-equivalent” by FEMA. There were no declarations for only certain areas within the District.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
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- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA’s Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Florida

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Florida is part of Region IV, headquartered in Atlanta, GA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 24 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Florida between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were eight requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$10.6 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$6.2 billion obligated in FY2004 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Florida each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in FY2001, when Florida received five declarations.

## Significant Incidents

There were four tropical storms or hurricanes in FY2004 that resulted in more than \$1 billion in federal relief from the DRF, including Frances, Ivan, and Jeanne.

Florida also received more than \$2.5 billion for Hurricane Wilma in FY2006 and more than \$200 million as a result of Hurricane Katrina in FY2006.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Florida, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

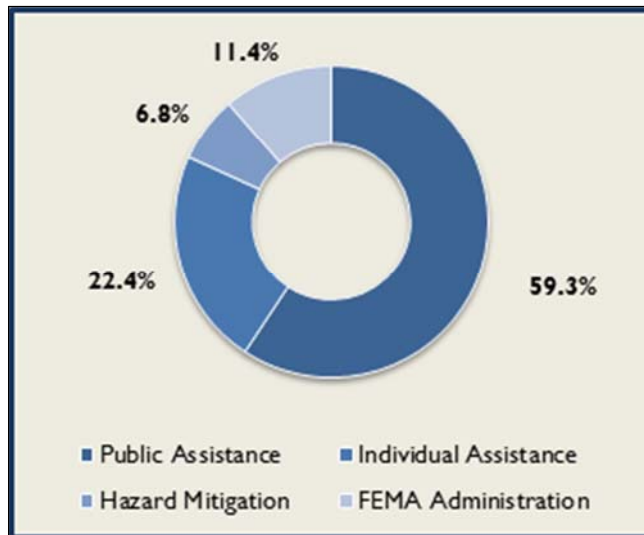
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Florida from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Florida, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 68 counties in Florida have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Collier County received more declarations than any other during this time, with 12.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Georgia

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Georgia is part of Region IV, headquartered in Atlanta, GA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

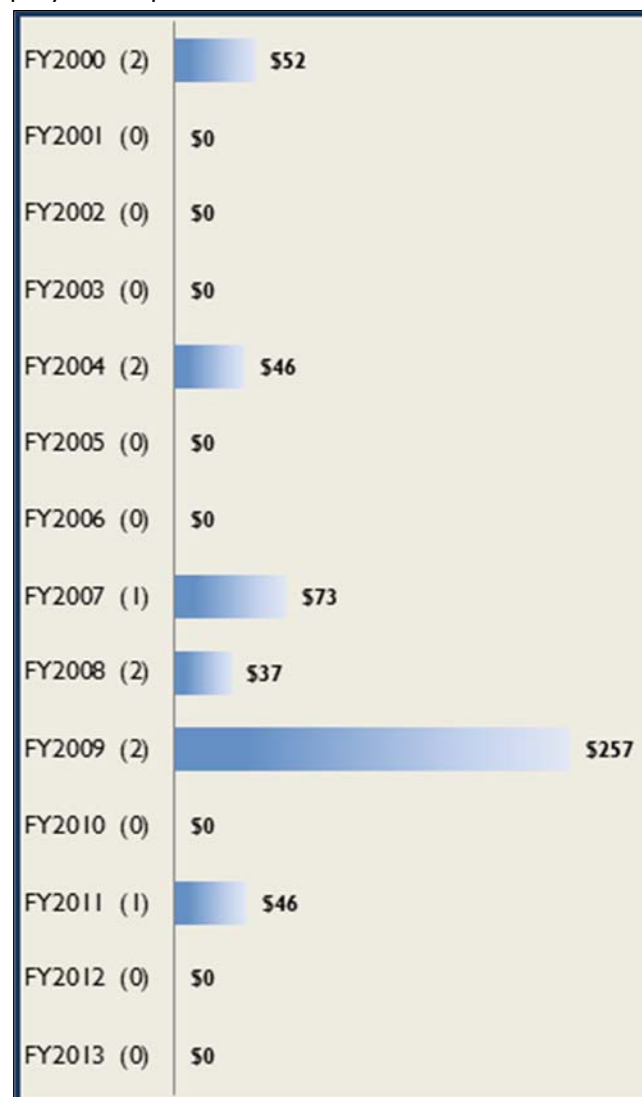
A total of 10 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Georgia between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were three requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to more than \$511 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$250 million obligated in FY2009 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Georgia each year. Georgia did not receive more than two declarations in any single year during this time period.

## Significant Incidents

Severe storms and flooding in FY2009 resulted in more than \$214 million in federal assistance from the DRF. No other single incident between FY2000 and FY2013 resulted in more than \$100 million in assistance.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Georgia, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

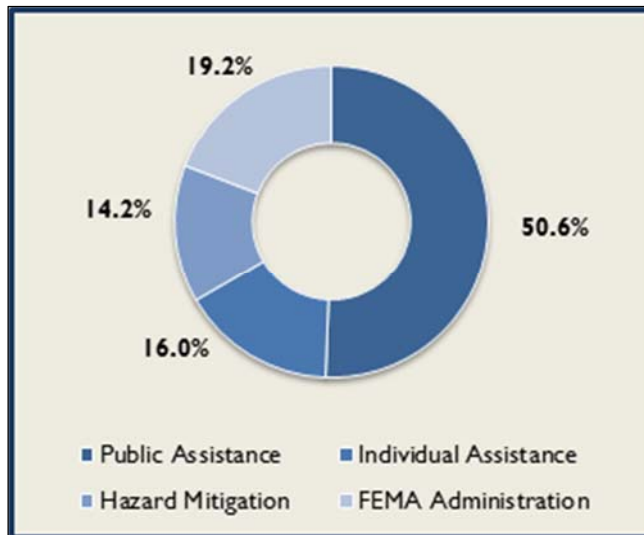
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Georgia from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Georgia, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 140 counties in Georgia have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Upson County received more declarations than any other during this time, with five.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Hawaii

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Hawaii is part of Region IX, headquartered in Oakland, CA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

Eight major disaster declarations were made in the state of Hawaii between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were no requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$115 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation between fiscal years, with \$43 million obligated in FY2007 alone.

**Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Hawaii each year. Hawaii did not receive more than one declaration in any given fiscal year during this time.

## Significant Incidents

The high level of obligations in FY2007 was the result of an earthquake that occurred in the fall of 2006. Hawaii also received more than \$20 million in DRF assistance following a severe storm and flash flooding incident in FY2005.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Hawaii, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.



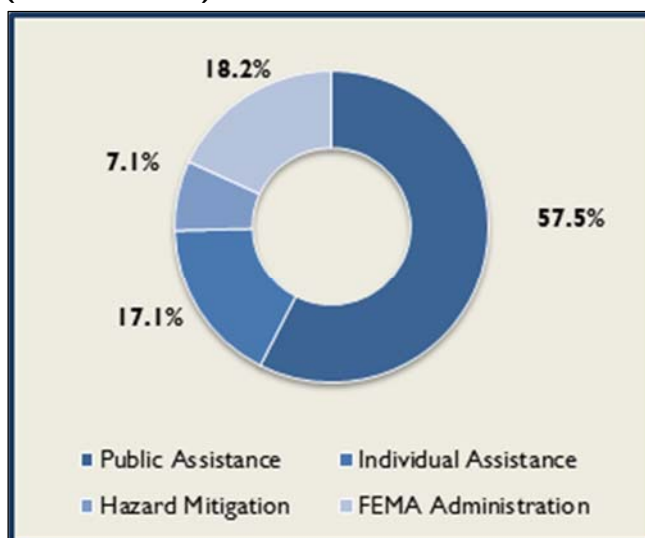
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Hawaii from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Hawaii, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, four localities in Hawaii have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, no county has received more than five declarations.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Idaho

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Idaho is part of Region X, headquartered in Seattle, WA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of six major disaster declarations were made in the state of Idaho between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there was one request for a major disaster declaration that was denied. The approved declarations led to \$18 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. FY2010 saw the highest level of federal obligations, with \$5 million. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Idaho each year. Idaho did not receive more than one declaration in a single year during this period.

## Significant Incidents

Severe storms and flooding in FY2010 led to the highest level of DRF assistance during this period. In addition to this incident, Idaho also received assistance following heavy rains, wildfires, landslides, and mudslides.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Idaho, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

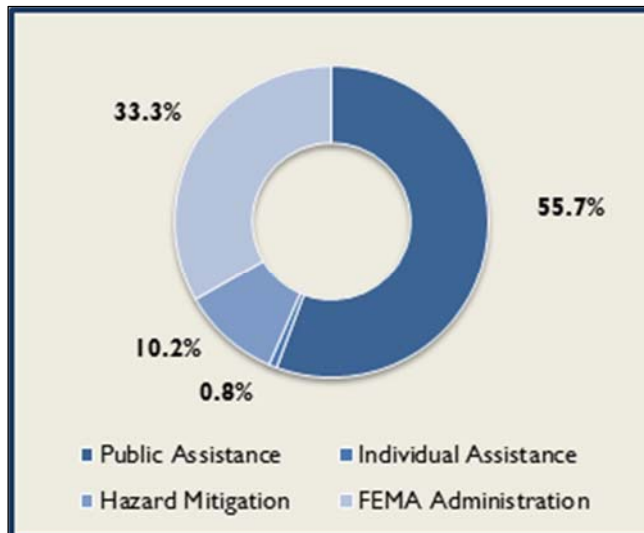
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Idaho from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Idaho, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 26 counties or reservations in Idaho have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, Idaho County has received more than any other locality, with three.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
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FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Illinois

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Illinois is part of Region V, headquartered in Chicago, IL.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 17 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Illinois between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were 10 requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to nearly \$1.3 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with nearly \$500 million obligated in FY2010 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Illinois each year. The highest number of declarations for Illinois in a single year is three, which occurred in both FY2007 and FY2009.

## Significant Incidents

The largest single incident in Illinois during this period was the result of severe storms and flooding in FY2010. This incident resulted in \$478 million in DRF assistance. Illinois also received more than \$100 million following severe storms in both FY2009 and FY2013.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Illinois, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

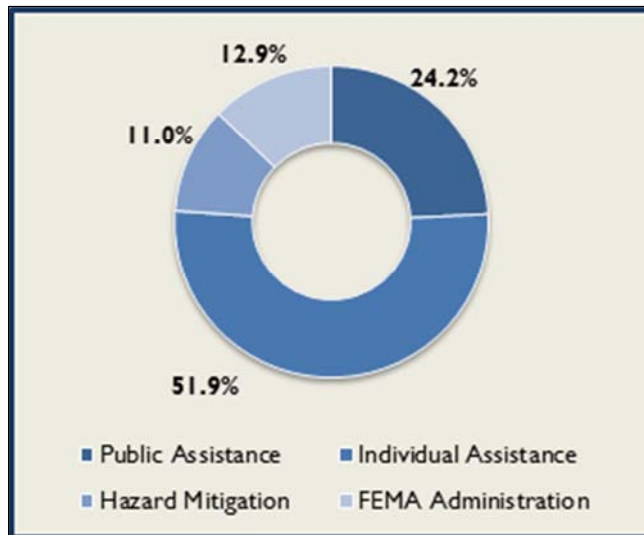
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Illinois from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Illinois, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 102 counties in Illinois have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Adams County and Pike County have received the highest number of declarations during that time period, with seven each.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
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- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Indiana

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Indiana is part of Region V, headquartered in Chicago, IL.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

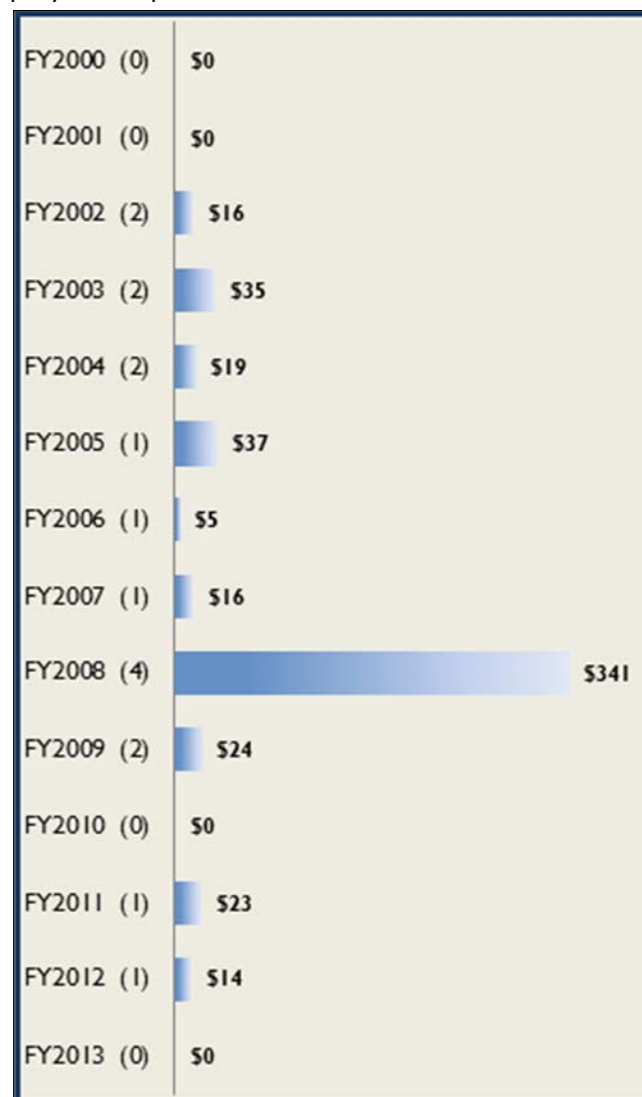
A total of 17 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Indiana between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were four requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$529 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with nearly \$341 million obligated in FY2008 alone. No other year during this period had total obligations nearly this high. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Indiana each year. The highest number of declarations in any single year for the state of Indiana was four, which occurred in FY2008.

## Significant Incidents

The largest single incident in Indiana during this period was the result of severe storms and flooding in FY2008. This incident led to more than \$225 million in DRF assistance. There was an additional \$85 million obligated for similar incidents that occurred later in FY2008. No other incident in the state during this period resulted in more than \$37 million of DRF assistance.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Indiana, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

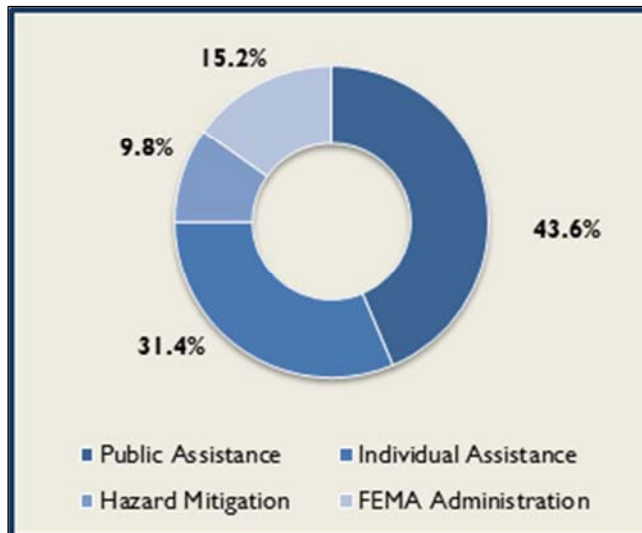
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Indiana from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Indiana, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 91 counties or reservations in Indiana have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Gibson County and Vanderburgh County received more declarations than any other during this time, with nine each.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

## FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Iowa

### Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Iowa is part of Region VII, headquartered in Kansas City, MO.

### Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 21 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Iowa between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were four requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to nearly \$2.7 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with \$2 billion (77% of the total) obligated in FY2008 alone.

**Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Iowa each year. The highest number of declarations for Iowa in a single year was four, which occurred in FY2010, FY2011, and FY2013.

### Significant Incidents

The severe storms, tornadoes, and floods in FY2008 led to the highest level of DRF assistance during this period. The single declaration for this incident led to more than \$2 billion in assistance. There were two incidents in FY2010, a severe winter storm and a summer storm that resulted in flooding and tornadoes, which led to more than \$100 million in assistance.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Iowa, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.



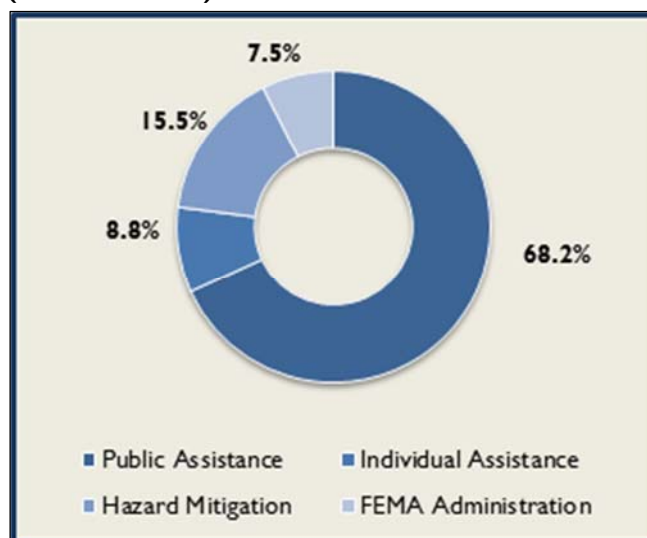
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Iowa from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Iowa, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 99 counties in Iowa have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Wapello County has received more declarations than anywhere else in the state, with nine.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Kansas

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Kansas is part of Region VII, headquartered in Kansas City, MO.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 27 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Kansas between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were no requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to more than \$1.2 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$500 million obligated in FY2007 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Kansas each year. The highest number of declarations for Kansas in a single year was four, which occurred in FY2009.

## Significant Incidents

The severe winter storms in FY2007 led to the highest level of DRF assistance during this period. This incident led to more than \$285 million in assistance. Severe winter storms the following year in FY2008 also led to an additional \$261 million in assistance. The only other declaration that involved more than \$100 million in DRF obligations was for severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding in FY2007.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Kansas, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

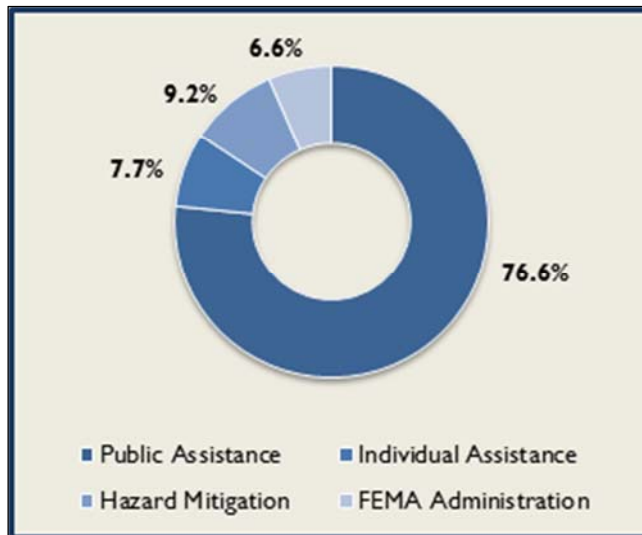
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Kansas from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Kansas, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 106 localities in Kansas have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, Butler County has received more declarations than anywhere else in the state, with 12.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Kentucky

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Kentucky is part of Region IV, headquartered in Atlanta, GA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 24 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Kentucky between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were two requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$933 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with \$466 million obligated in FY2009 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Kentucky each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in FY2009, when Kentucky received four declarations.

## Significant Incidents

The most significant incident in the state of Kentucky was the result of severe winter storms and flooding in FY2009.

Kentucky also received more than \$50 million in assistance per incident for severe storms in FY2009, FY2010, and FY2011.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Kentucky, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

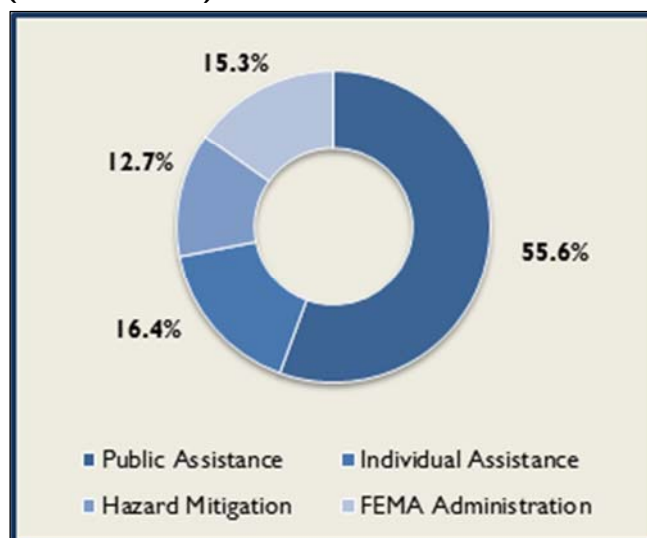
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Kentucky from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Kentucky, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 120 counties in Kentucky have received aid under a major disaster declaration. The highest number in any single locality was 12 during that period.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

### FEMA Disaster Assistance:

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**Daniel J. Richardson**, [drichardson@crs.loc.gov](mailto:drichardson@crs.loc.gov), 7-2389

January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Louisiana

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Louisiana is part of Region VI, headquartered in Denton, TX.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 19 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Louisiana between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were nine requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to more than \$36.6 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund, which is the highest of any state. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$33 billion obligated in FY2005 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Louisiana each year. The highest number of declarations for Louisiana in a single year was three, which also occurred in FY2005.

## Significant Incidents

The largest level of assistance provided from the DRF to Louisiana for a single incident was the result of Hurricane Katrina in FY2005, which led to \$31.2 billion in DRF assistance. Louisiana also received nearly \$2 billion in assistance on two separate occasions, as a result of Hurricane Rita in FY2005 and Hurricane Gustav in FY2008. More recently, Hurricane Isaac led to more than \$750 million in DRF assistance during FY2012.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Louisiana, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.

FY2000 (1)	\$3
FY2001 (2)	\$130
FY2002 (1)	\$42
FY2003 (1)	\$259
FY2004 (2)	\$24
FY2005 (3)	\$33,218
FY2006 (0)	\$0
FY2007 (2)	\$29
FY2008 (2)	\$2,122
FY2009 (0)	\$0
FY2010 (1)	\$12
FY2011 (1)	\$10
FY2012 (2)	\$759
FY2013 (1)	\$5

**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.



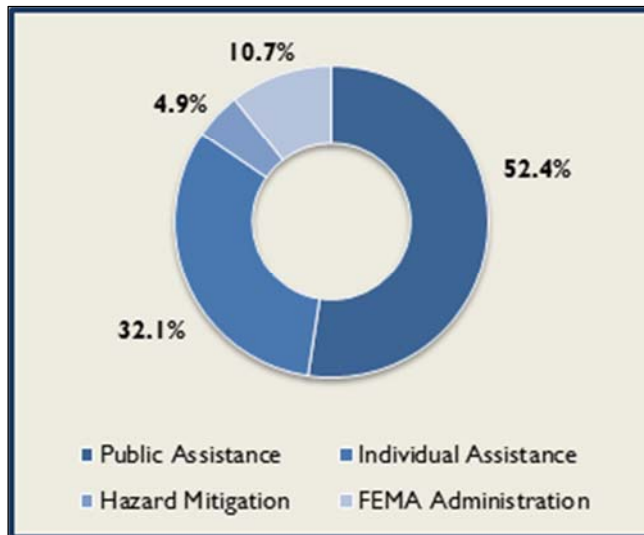
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Louisiana from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Louisiana, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 64 parishes in Louisiana have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, Jefferson Parish has received more declarations than any other, with 13.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

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FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

## FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Maine

### Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Maine is part of Region I, headquartered in Boston, MA.

### Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 19 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Maine between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were also two requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$123 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$44 million obligated in FY2007 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Maine each year. The highest number of declarations in one year also occurred in FY2007, which had three declarations.

### Significant Incidents

The most significant incident in the state of Maine was caused by severe storms and flooding in FY2007. This incident led to more than \$38 million in federal funding from the DRF.

Other major incidents include severe winter storms and flooding in FY2005 and FY2009.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Maine, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

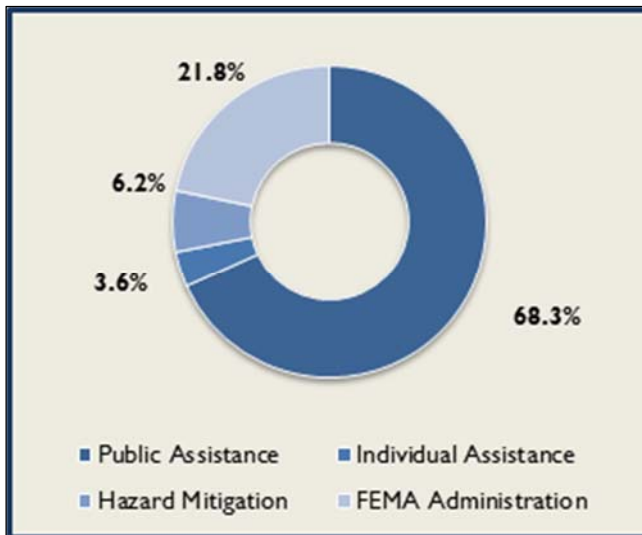
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Maine from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Maine, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 16 localities in Maine have received aid under a major disaster declaration. York County has received the highest number of declarations during this period, with 10.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
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- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Maryland

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Maryland is part of Region III, headquartered in Philadelphia, PA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 10 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Maryland between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were also two requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$336 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with \$100 million obligated in FY2003 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Maryland each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in FY2010 and FY2012, each of which had two declarations.

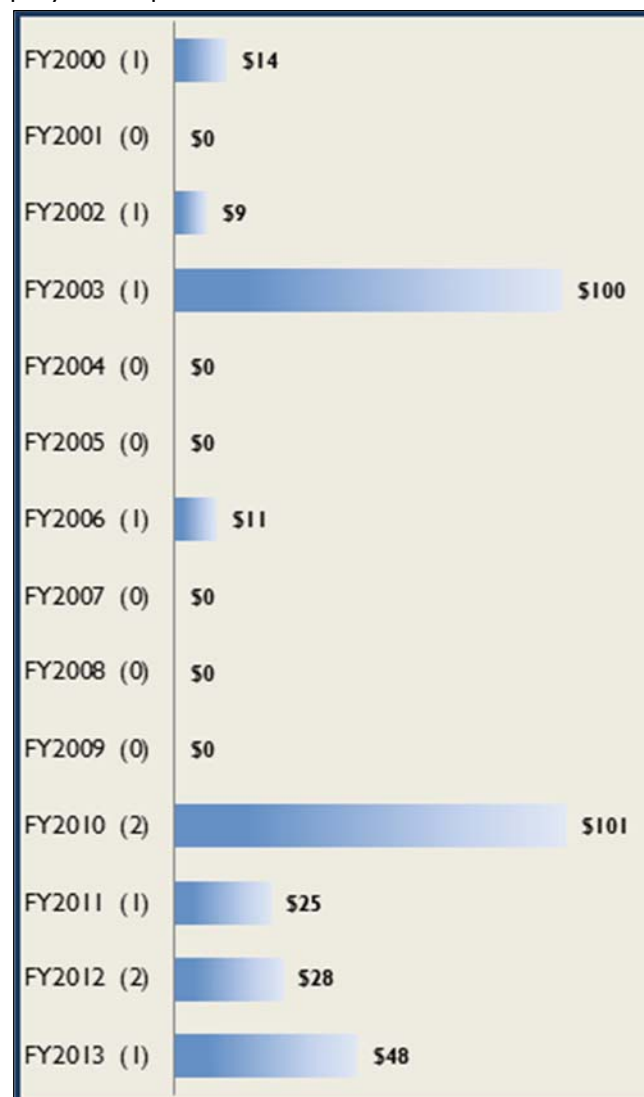
## Significant Incidents

The most significant incident in the state of Maryland was Hurricane Isabel, which occurred in FY2003. This incident led to \$100 million in federal funding from the DRF.

Other major incidents include severe winter storms in FY2010 and Hurricane Irene in FY2011. Maryland also received relief associated with Hurricane Sandy in FY2013.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Maryland, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

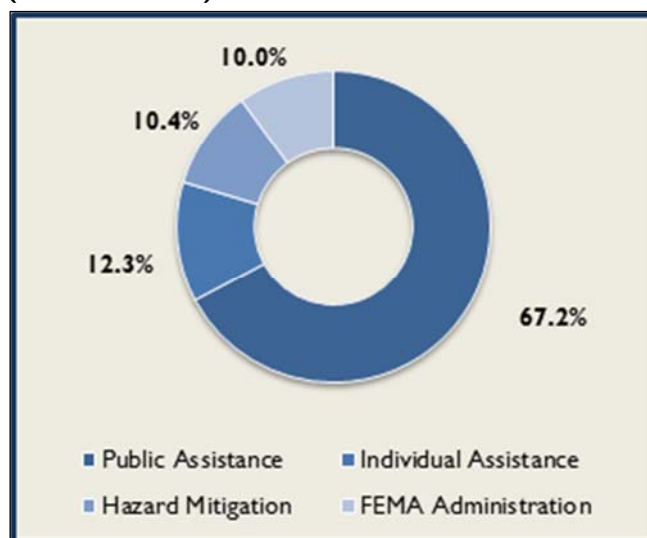
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Maryland from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Maryland, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 24 localities in Maryland have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Charles County has received the highest number of declarations with nine.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

## FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Massachusetts

### Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Massachusetts is part of Region I, headquartered in Boston, MA.

### Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 13 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Massachusetts between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were also two requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$688 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$220 million obligated in FY2011 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Massachusetts each year. The highest number of declarations in one year also occurred in FY2011, which had three declarations.

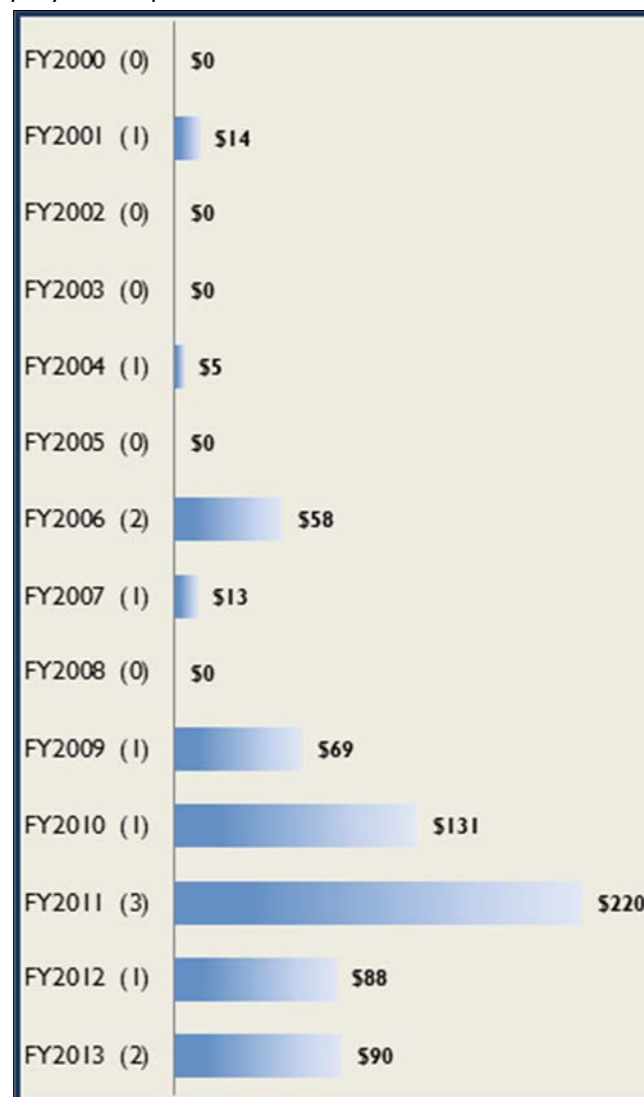
### Significant Incidents

The most significant incident in the state of Massachusetts was caused by severe storms and tornadoes in FY2011. This incident led to more than \$137 million in federal funding from the DRF.

Other major incidents include severe winter storms in FY2009, FY2010, FY2012, and FY2013. Massachusetts also received assistance following Hurricane Sandy.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Massachusetts, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.



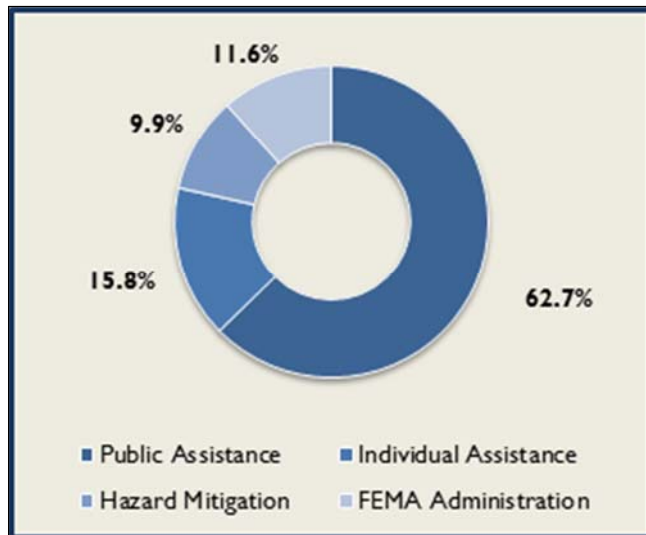
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Massachusetts from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Massachusetts, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 14 localities in Massachusetts have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Essex County and Middlesex County have received the highest number during this period, with nine each.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Michigan

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Michigan is part of Region V, headquartered in Chicago, IL.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

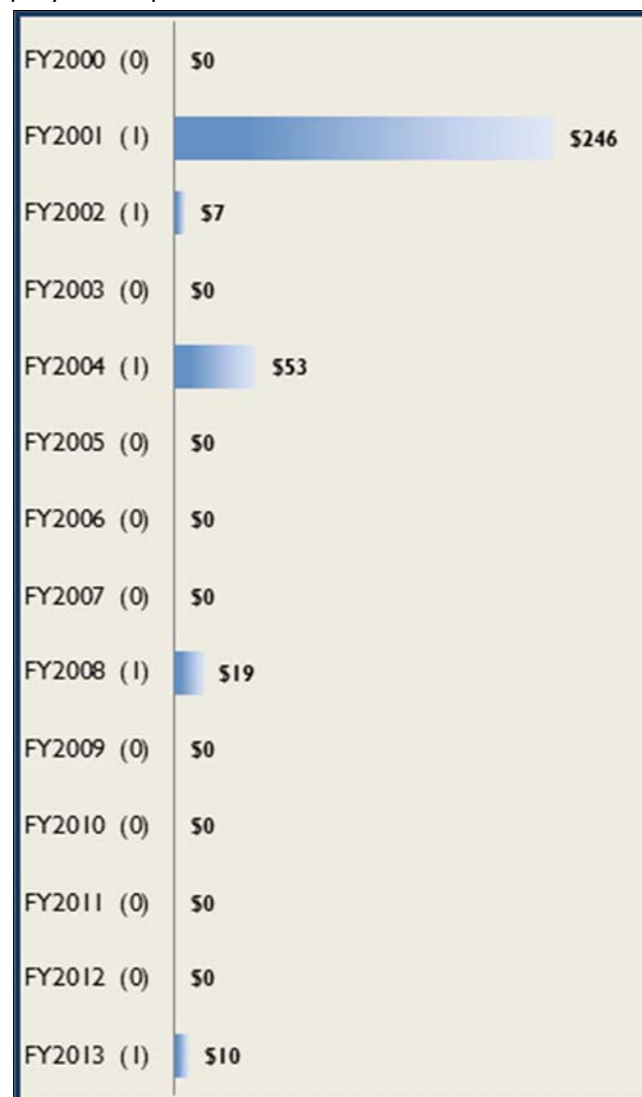
A total of five major disaster declarations were made in the state of Michigan between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were three requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$334 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$246 million obligated in FY2001 alone. No other year during this period had total obligations nearly this high. **Figure 1** displays the total amount obligated to Michigan each year. Michigan did not receive more than one declaration within a single fiscal year during this period.

## Significant Incidents

The largest single incident in Michigan during this period was in FY2001. Every incident that led to a declaration for Michigan involved storms, floods, tornadoes, or a combination of the three.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Michigan, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

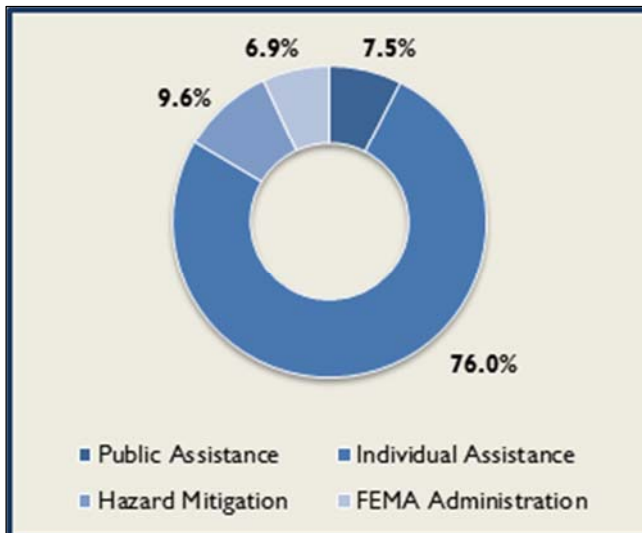
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Michigan from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Michigan, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 41 counties or reservations in Michigan have received aid under a major disaster declaration. No individual county has received assistance under more than three declarations during this time.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

### FEMA Disaster Assistance:

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### National Flood Insurance Program:

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Minnesota

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Minnesota is part of Region V, headquartered in Chicago, IL.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 18 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Minnesota between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were no requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to more than \$524 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with nearly \$100 million obligated in FY2011 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Minnesota each year. The highest number of declarations for Minnesota in a single year during this period was four, which occurred in FY2011.

## Significant Incidents

The three incidents that led to the highest level of DRF assistance for Minnesota during this period were all the result of severe storms and floods. These incidents occurred in FY2007, FY2009, and FY2012, and each led to more than \$50 million in federal assistance.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Minnesota, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

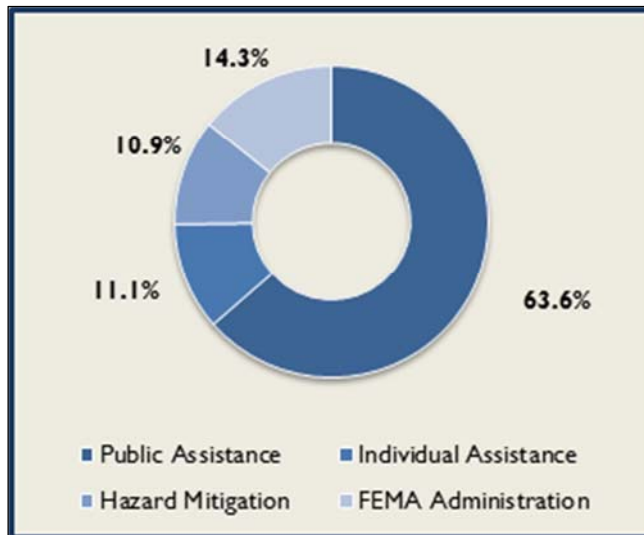
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Minnesota from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Minnesota, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 93 counties in Minnesota have received aid under a major disaster declaration. The highest number of declarations for any single locality was eight. Norman County, Clay County, and Yellow Medicine County each had this many declarations.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

## FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Mississippi

### Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Mississippi is part of Region IV, headquartered in Atlanta, GA.

### Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 21 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Mississippi between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were five requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to nearly \$10.8 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$10 billion obligated in FY2005 alone. The next highest year during this period was only \$122 million.

**Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Mississippi each year. The highest number of declarations in any single year for the state of Mississippi was four, which occurred in FY2003.

### Significant Incidents

Mississippi received nearly \$10.3 billion in federal aid from the DRF following Hurricane Katrina in FY2005. While this is the largest incident in this period by a wide margin, the state also received \$28 million as a result of Hurricane Ivan in FY2004 and more than \$82 million following severe storms in FY2011.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Mississippi, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.

FY2000 (0)	\$0
FY2001 (3)	\$39
FY2002 (1)	\$13
FY2003 (4)	\$76
FY2004 (1)	\$28
FY2005 (2)	\$10,294
FY2006 (0)	\$0
FY2007 (0)	\$0
FY2008 (3)	\$57
FY2009 (1)	\$5
FY2010 (2)	\$42
FY2011 (2)	\$122
FY2012 (1)	\$99
FY2013 (1)	\$14

**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.



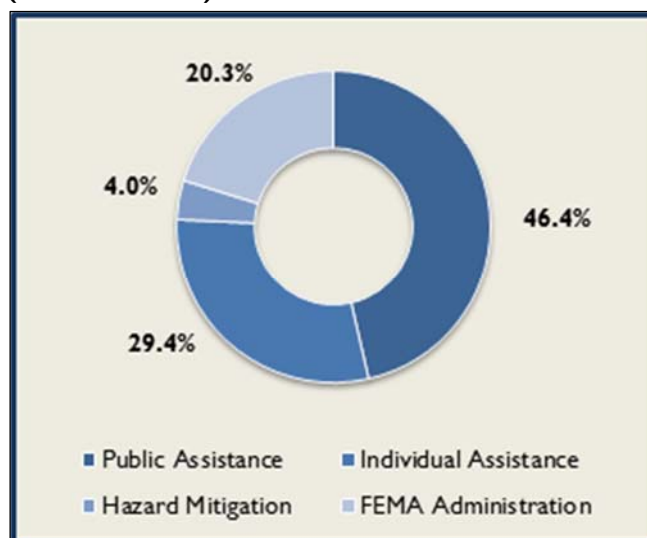
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Mississippi from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Mississippi, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 83 counties or reservations in Mississippi have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Holmes County and Pearl River County received more declarations than any other county during this time, with nine.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
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- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Missouri

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Missouri is part of Region VII, headquartered in Kansas City, MO.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

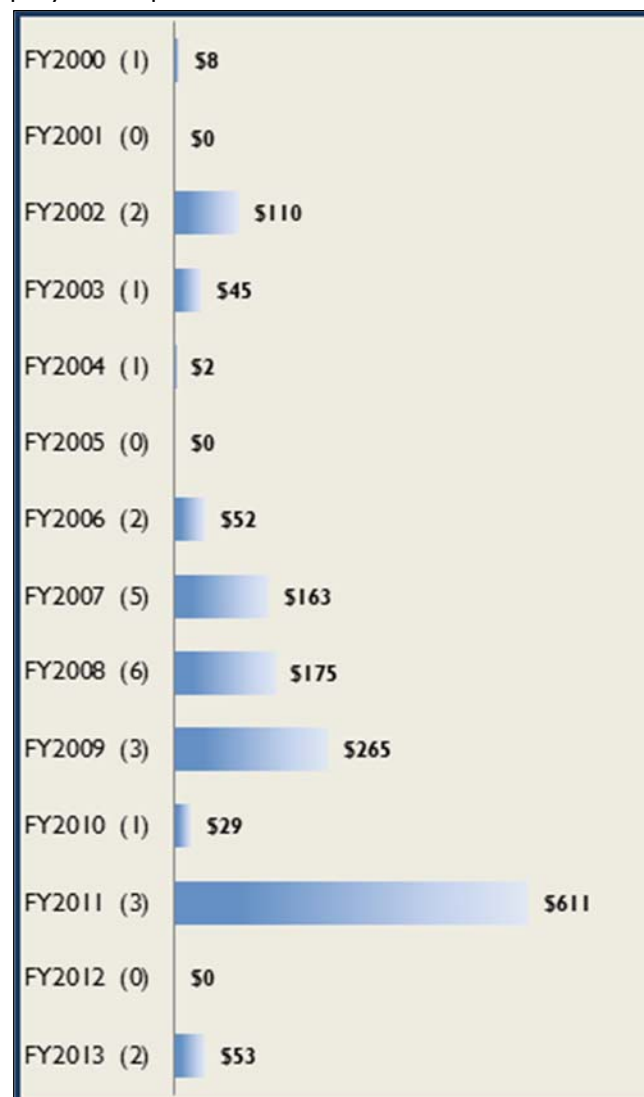
A total of 27 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Missouri between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were five requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to more than \$1.5 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with \$611 million obligated in FY2011 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Missouri each year. The highest number of declarations for Missouri in a single year was six, which occurred in FY2008.

## Significant Incidents

The incident that led to the highest level of DRF assistance for Missouri during this period, with more than \$500 million obligated, was the result of severe storms, tornadoes, and floods in FY2011. Other large incidents include severe winter storms in FY2009 and FY2007, each of which resulted in more than \$100 million in DRF assistance.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Missouri, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

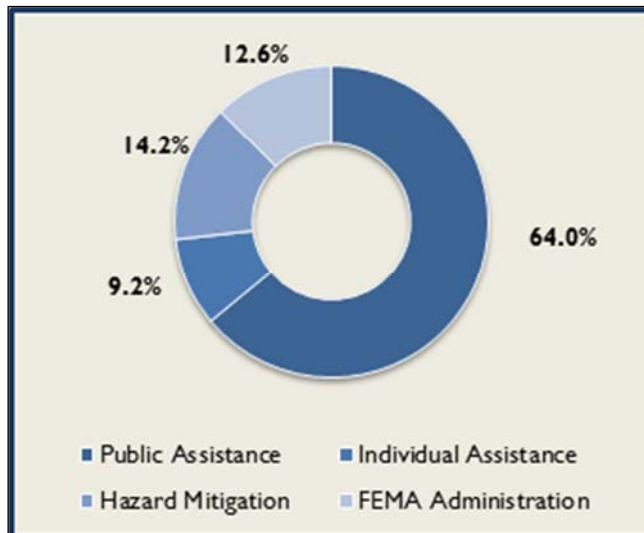
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Missouri from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Missouri, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 115 localities in Missouri have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Webster County has received more declarations than anywhere else in the state, with 14.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
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- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

## FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Montana

### Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Montana is part of Region VIII, headquartered in Denver, CO.

### Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

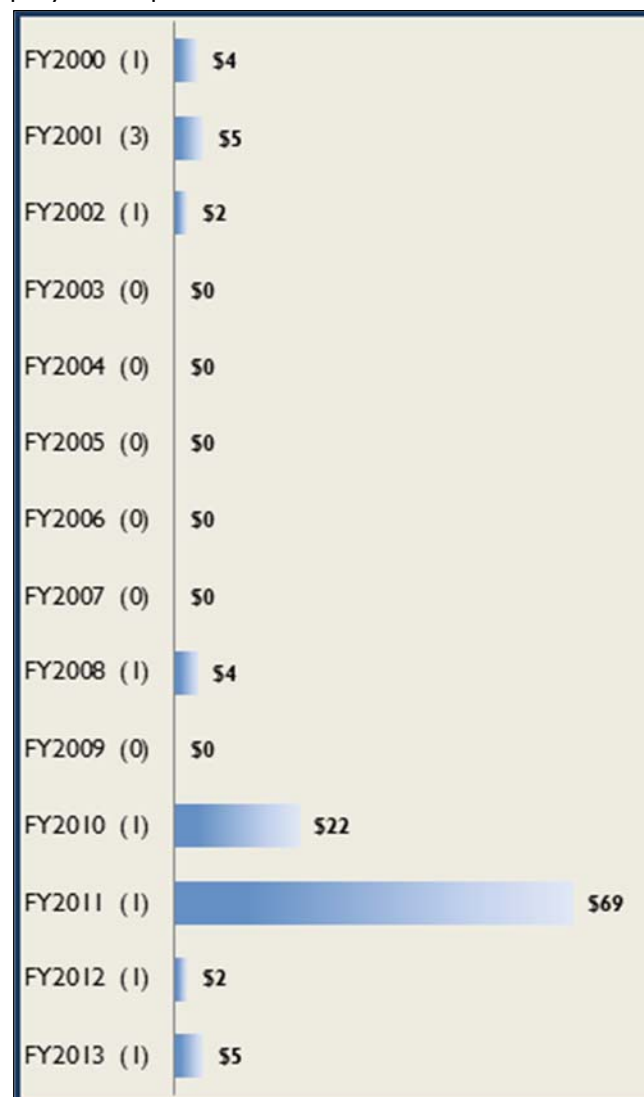
A total of 10 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Montana between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there was one request for a major disaster declaration that was denied. The approved declarations led to nearly \$113 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than half of the total for this period obligated in FY2011 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Montana each year. The highest number of declarations in a single year was three, which occurred in FY2001.

### Significant Incidents

Severe storms and flooding in FY2011 led to the highest level of DRF assistance during this period, with \$69 million obligated. In addition to severe storms and floods, Montana also received assistance following winter storms and wildfires.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Montana, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

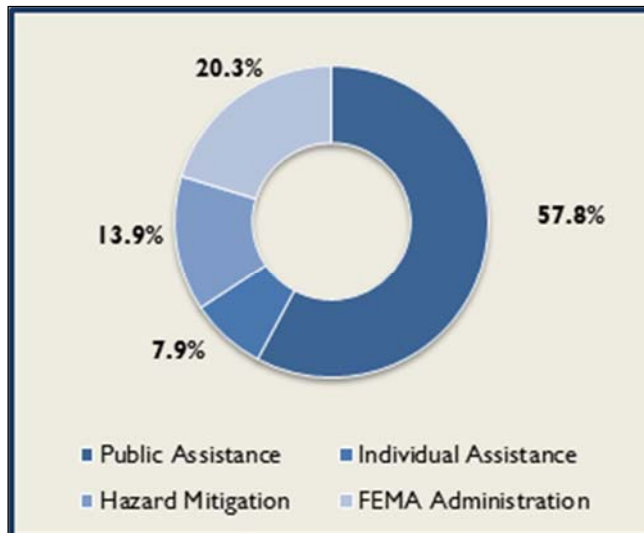
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Montana from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Montana, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 64 counties or reservations in Montana have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, Hill County has received more than any other locality, with five.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

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FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

## FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Nebraska

### Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Nebraska is part of Region VII, headquartered in Kansas City, MO.

### Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 22 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Nebraska between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were three requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$509 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$100 million obligated in FY2007, FY2010, and FY2011. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Nebraska each year. The highest number of declarations for Nebraska in a single year was four, which occurred for three fiscal years.

### Significant Incidents

The severe winter storms in FY2007 led to the highest level of DRF assistance during this period. This incident led to nearly \$150 million in assistance. The only other incident that led to more than \$100 million in assistance was the result of flooding in FY2011.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Nebraska, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.



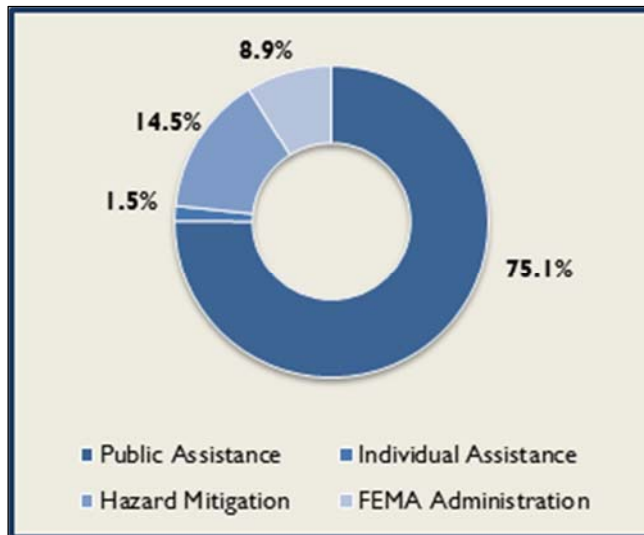
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Nebraska from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Nebraska, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 93 counties or reservations in Nebraska have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time no single county has received more than 10.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Nevada

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Nevada is part of Region IX, headquartered in Oakland, CA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

Four major disaster declarations were made in the state of Nevada between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were no requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$29 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Nevada each year. Nevada did not receive more than one declaration in any given year during this period, and total DRF obligations were only above \$10 million on one occasion in FY2006.

## Significant Incidents

The largest amount of federal assistance Nevada received between FY2000 and FY2013 was for severe storms and flooding that occurred in FY2006. Nevada has also received assistance as a result of fires, heavy rains, and severe winter storms.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Nevada, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

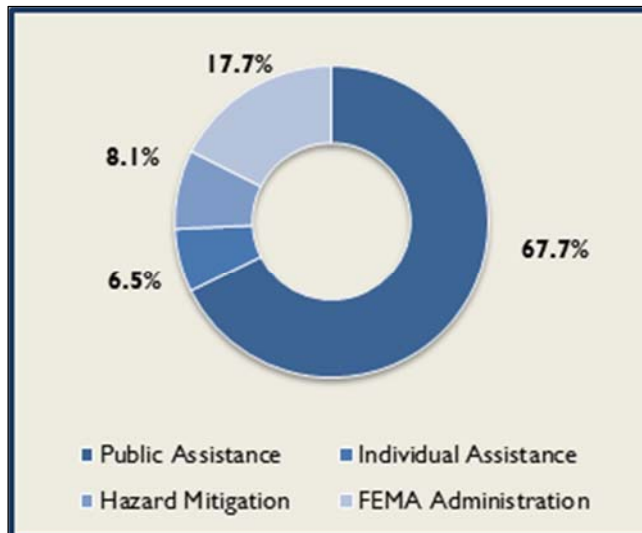
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Nevada from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Nevada, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 10 counties or reservations in Nevada have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, Carson City and Lyon County received the highest number of declarations, with two each.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

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### National Flood Insurance Program:

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January 28, 2015

## FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: New Hampshire

### Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. New Hampshire is part of Region I, headquartered in Boston, MA.

### Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 18 major disaster declarations were made in the state of New Hampshire between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were also three requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$192 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$48 million obligated in FY2006 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to New Hampshire each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in FY2013, which had three declarations.

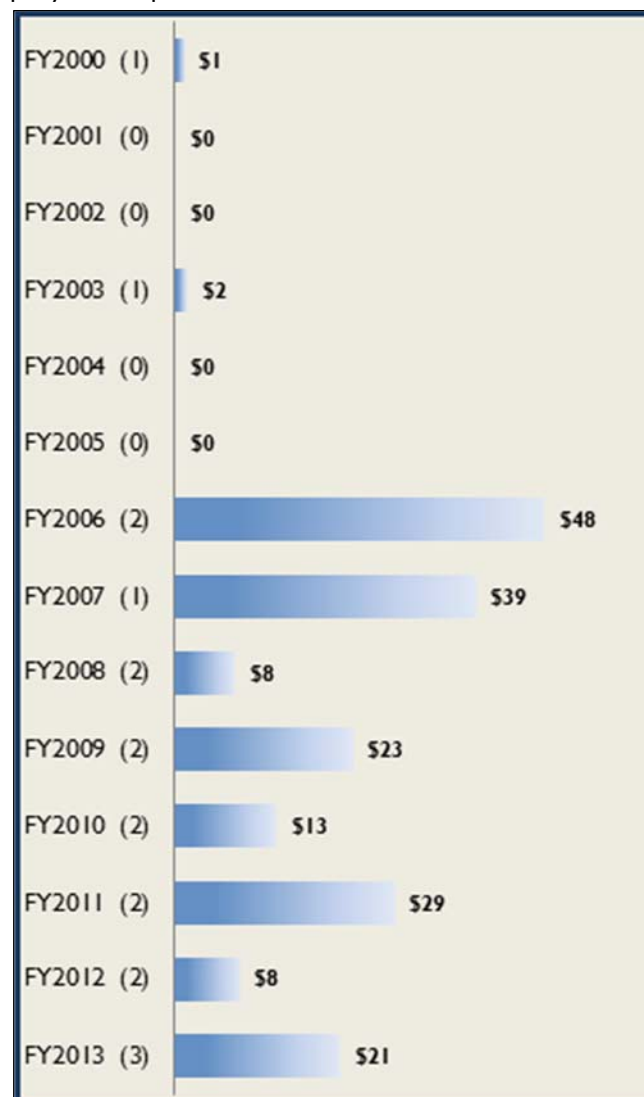
### Significant Incidents

The most significant incident in the state of New Hampshire was caused by severe storms and flooding in FY2007. This incident led to more than \$39 million in federal funding from the DRF.

Other major incidents include severe storms and flooding in FY2006 and Tropical Storm Irene in FY2011.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in New Hampshire, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

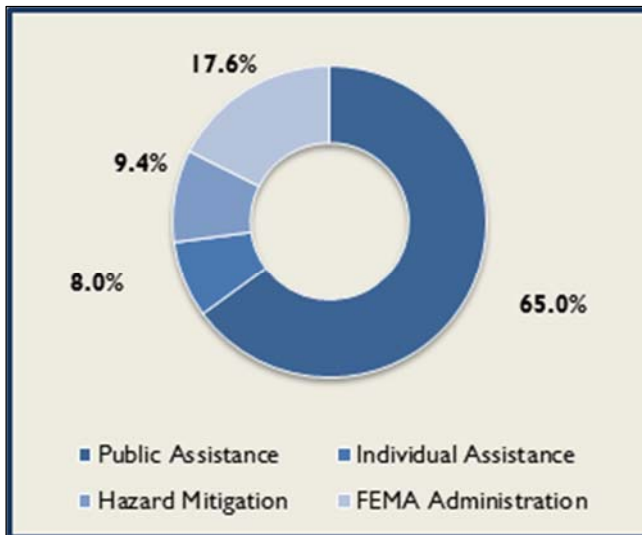
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to New Hampshire from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for New Hampshire, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 10 localities in New Hampshire have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Grafton County has received the highest number of declarations during this period, with 10.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

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### National Flood Insurance Program:

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: New Jersey

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. New Jersey is part of Region II, headquartered in New York, NY.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 17 major disaster declarations were made in the state of New Jersey between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were four requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$3.8 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with nearly \$3.0 billion obligated in FY2013 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to New Jersey each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in FY2010, when New Jersey received four declarations.

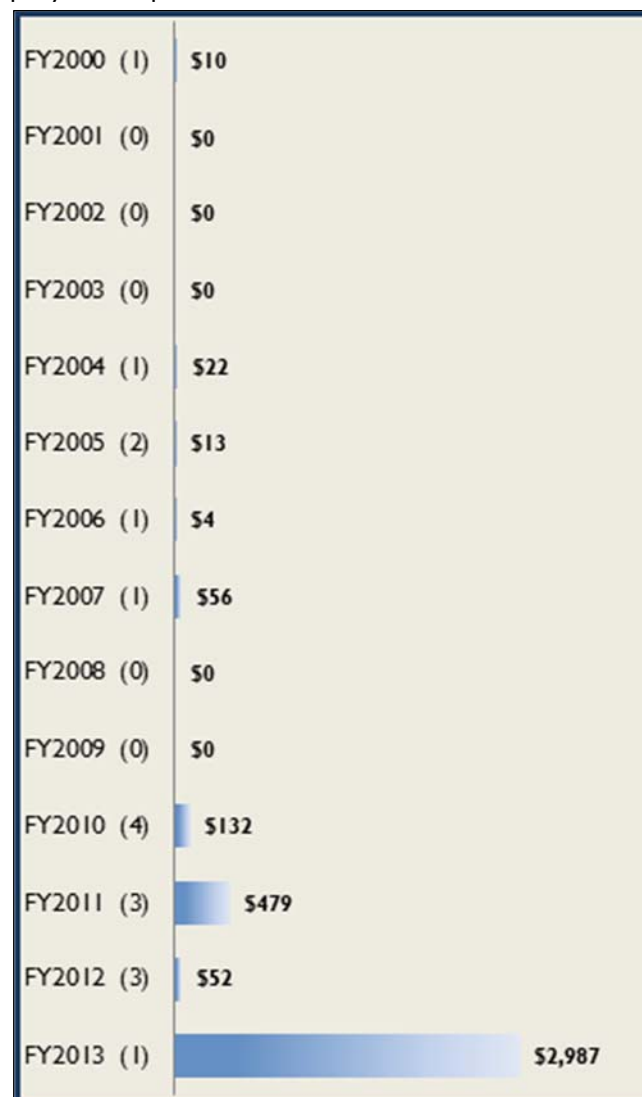
## Significant Incidents

The most significant incident in the state of New Jersey was Hurricane Sandy, which occurred in FY2013. Obligations for this single incident are much higher than any previous incident in the state's history.

Hurricane Sandy was also different from prior major disaster declarations because the federal government adjusted the cost-share to provide more resources from the Disaster Relief Fund.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in New Jersey, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

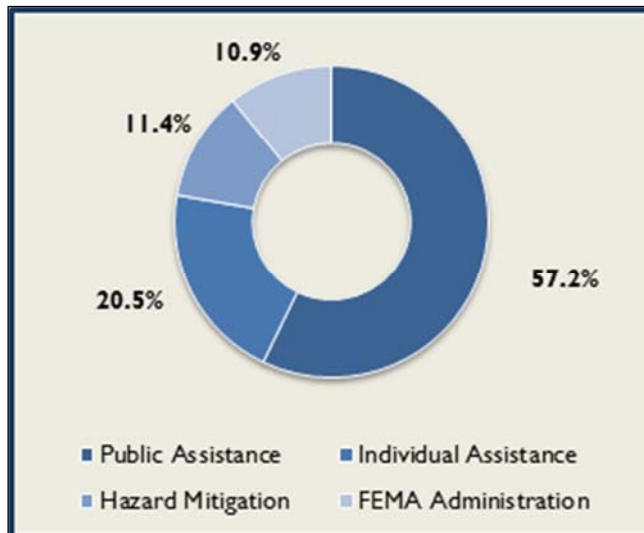
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to New Jersey from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for New Jersey, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 21 counties in New Jersey have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Sussex, Atlantic, and Mercer counties have had more than any other counties, with nine each.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
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- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

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January 28, 2015

## FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: New Mexico

### Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. New Mexico is part of Region VI, headquartered in Denton, TX.

### Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

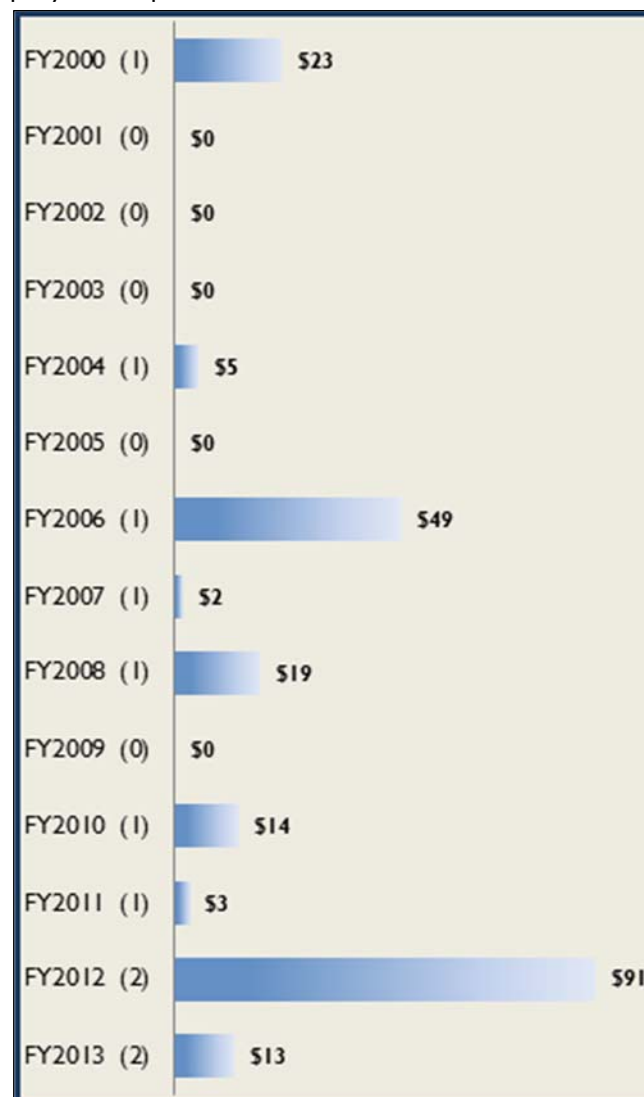
A total of 11 major disaster declarations were made in the state of New Mexico between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there was one request for a major disaster declaration that was denied. The approved declarations led to more than \$219 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$90 million obligated in FY2012 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to New Mexico each year. The highest number of declarations for New Mexico in a single year was two, which occurred in both FY2012 and FY2013.

### Significant Incidents

The largest amount of assistance provided from the DRF to New Mexico for a single incident was the result of flooding in FY2012. This incident led to nearly \$60 million in DRF assistance. New Mexico also received nearly \$50 million for a severe storms and flooding in FY2006.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in New Mexico, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

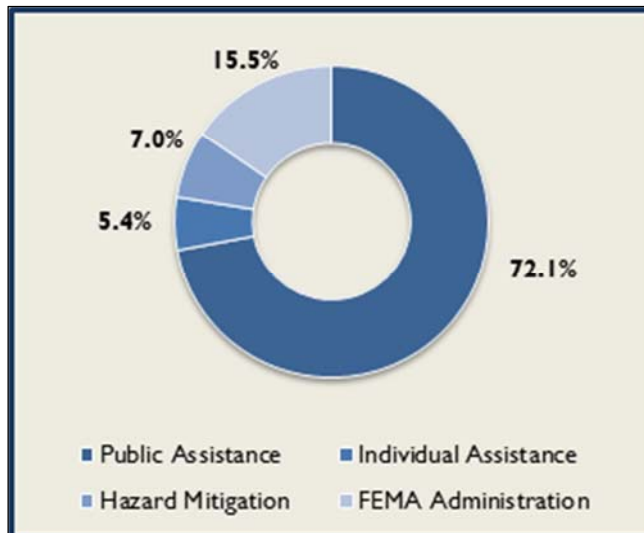
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to New Mexico from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for New Mexico, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 45 localities or reservations in New Mexico have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, Lincoln, Sandoval, and Socorro counties have received the most, with six each.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
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FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: New York

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. New York is part of Region II, headquartered in New York, NY.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 28 major disaster declarations were made in the state of New York between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were six requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$23 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with nearly \$12 billion obligated in FY2013 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to New York each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in FY2011, when New York received five declarations.

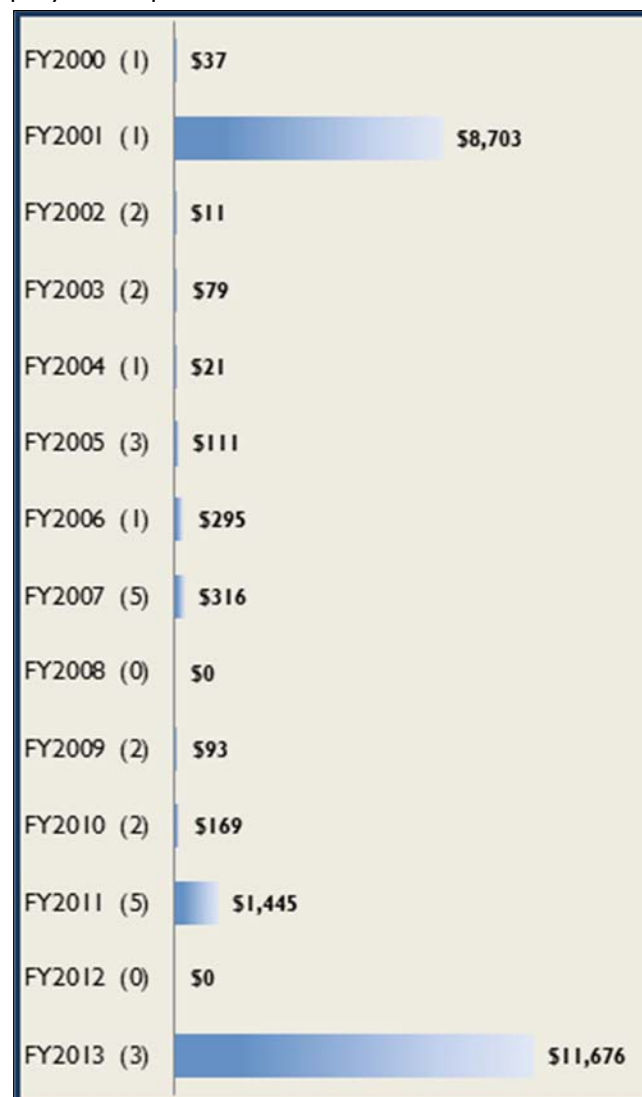
## Significant Incidents

The largest DRF assistance to the state of New York was for Hurricane Sandy, which occurred in FY2013. New York also received a major disaster declaration following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

Both of these incidents are different from prior major disaster declarations because the federal government adjusted the cost-share to provide more resources from the Disaster Relief Fund.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in New York, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.



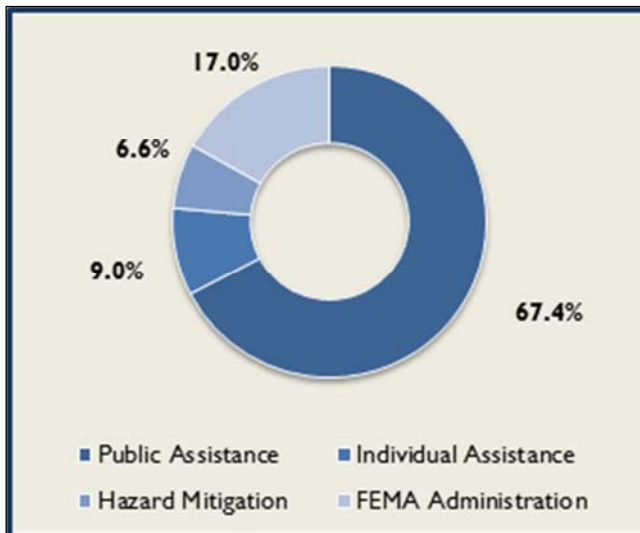
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to New York from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for New York, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 62 counties in New York have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Delaware County has received more declarations than any other county, with 14.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
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FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

### FEMA Disaster Assistance:

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: North Carolina

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. North Carolina is part of Region IV, headquartered in Atlanta, GA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

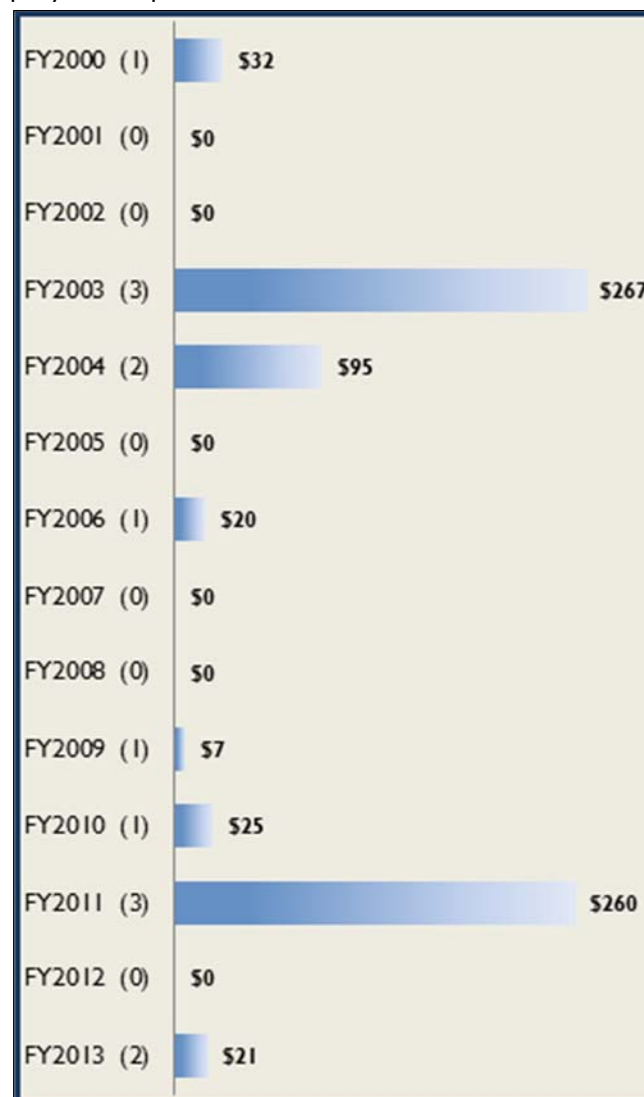
A total of 14 major disaster declarations were made in the state of North Carolina between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were three requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$726 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with \$267 million obligated in FY2003 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to North Carolina each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in FY2003 and FY2011, when North Carolina received three declarations.

## Significant Incidents

The most significant incidents in the state of North Carolina were Hurricane Isabel in 2003 and Hurricane Irene in 2011. Both of these incidents resulted in more than \$150 million from the DRF.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in North Carolina, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

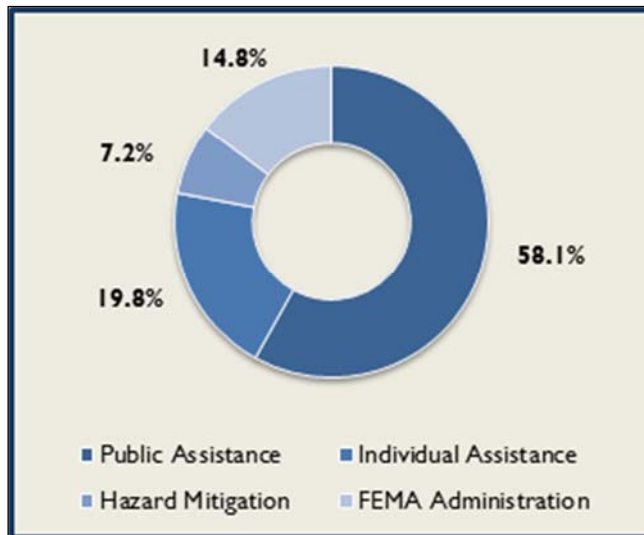
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to North Carolina from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for North Carolina, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 97 counties or reservations in North Carolina have received aid under a major disaster declaration. No individual locality has received more than five declarations during that time.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: North Dakota

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. North Dakota is part of Region VIII, headquartered in Denver, CO.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

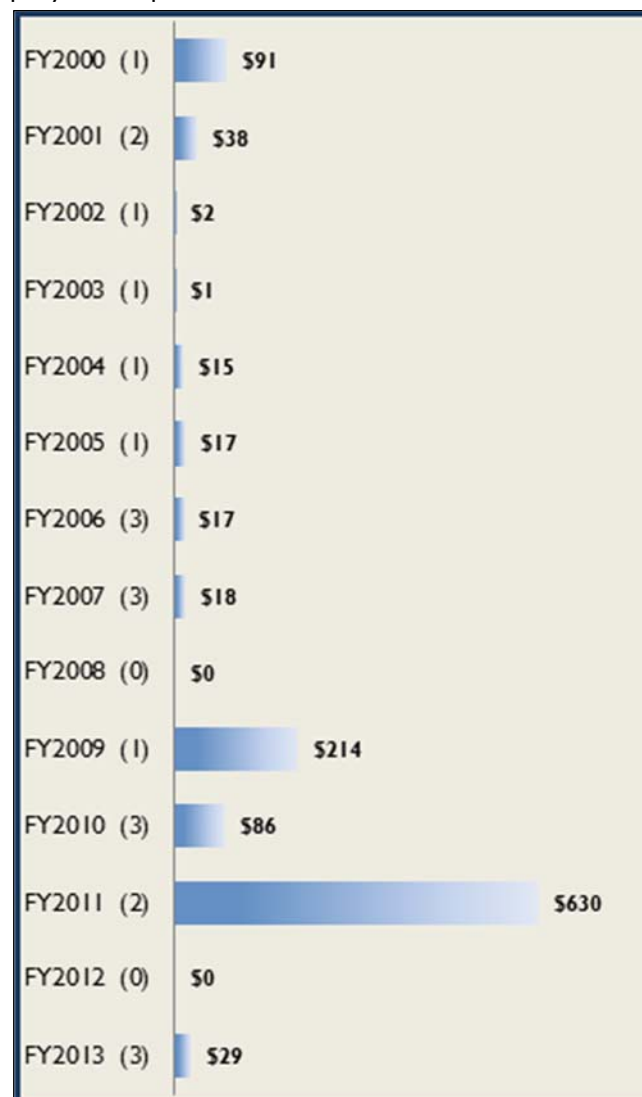
A total of 22 major disaster declarations were made in the state of North Dakota between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were no requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$1.2 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with \$630 obligated in FY2011 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to North Dakota each year. The highest number of declarations in single year was three, which occurred in four separate fiscal years.

## Significant Incidents

Flooding in FY2011 led to the highest level of DRF assistance during this period, with \$624 million obligated for a single incident. In addition, North Dakota also received more than \$200 million following severe winter storms in FY2009 and more than \$90 million following storms, floods, and ground saturation in FY2000.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in North Dakota, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

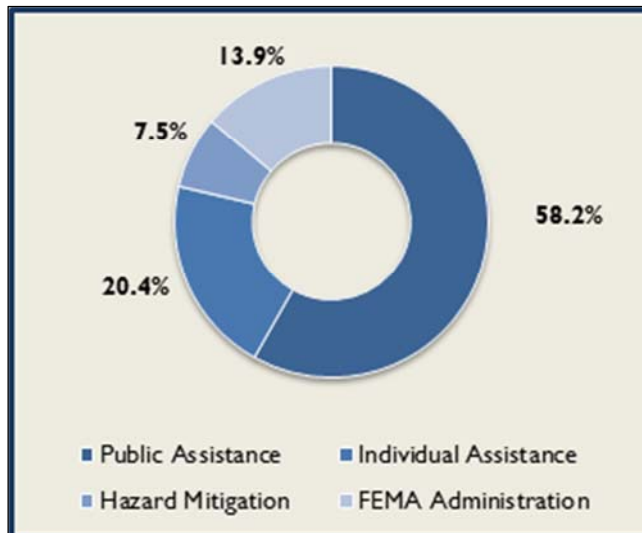
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to North Dakota from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for North Dakota, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 60 counties or reservations in North Dakota have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, Walsh, McHenry, and Benson counties have received more than any other locality, with 12 each.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Ohio

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Ohio is part of Region V, headquartered in Chicago, IL.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 19 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Ohio between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were three requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$637 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$100 million obligated each year from FY2003 through FY2005. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Ohio each year. The highest number of declarations in any single year for the state of Ohio was four, which occurred in FY2003.

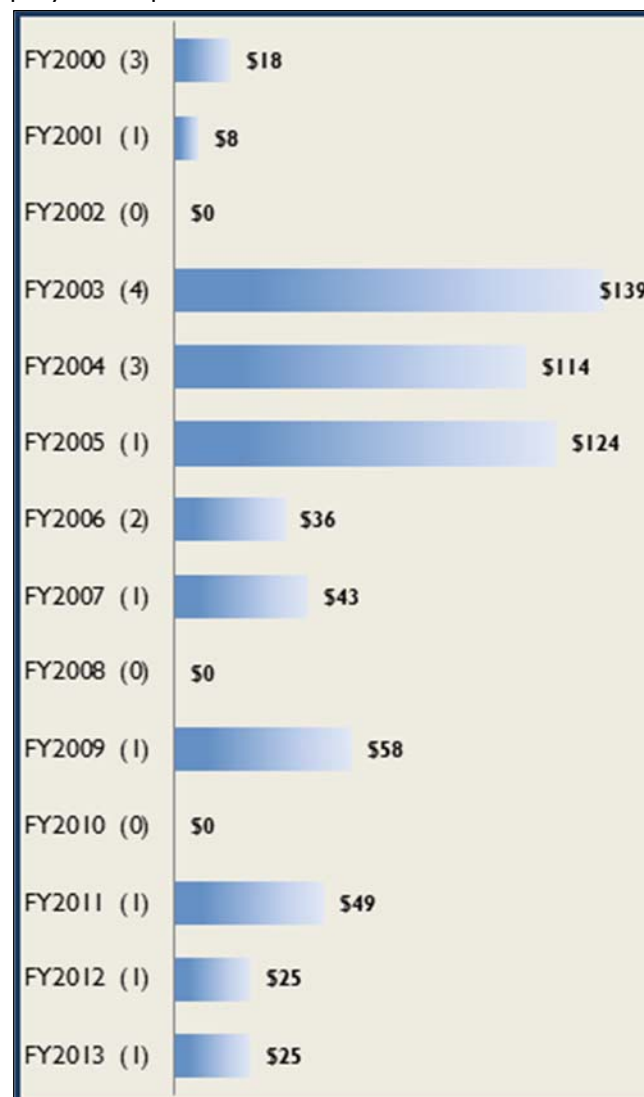
## Significant Incidents

The largest single incident in Ohio during this period was the result of severe winter storms, flooding, and mudslides in FY2005. This incident led to more than \$123 million in DRF assistance.

Ohio also received assistance more than \$90 million in FY2003 following tornadoes, flooding, storms, and high winds.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Ohio, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

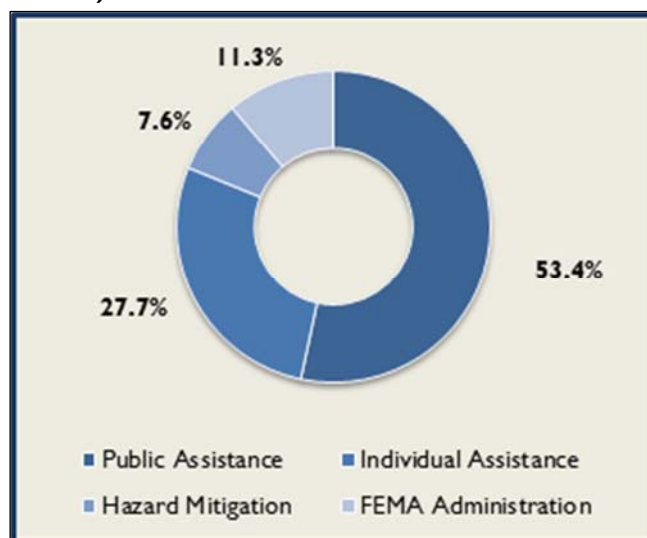
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Ohio from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Ohio, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 87 counties or reservations in Ohio have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Guernsey County and Franklin County received more declarations than any other during this time, with eight each.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Oklahoma

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Oklahoma is part of Region VI, headquartered in Denton, TX.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 36 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Oklahoma between FY2000 and FY2013, which is the highest number for any state. During that time, there were eight requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to more than \$1.2 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$100 million obligated for six separate fiscal years. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Oklahoma each year. The highest number of declarations for Oklahoma in a single year was six, which occurred in FY2007.

## Significant Incidents

The largest level of assistance provided from the DRF to Oklahoma for a single incident was the result of severe winter storms in FY2001. This event led to \$207 million in DRF assistance. More recently, Oklahoma has received more than \$100 million in assistance following winter storms in FY2010 and severe storms and tornadoes in FY2013.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Oklahoma, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

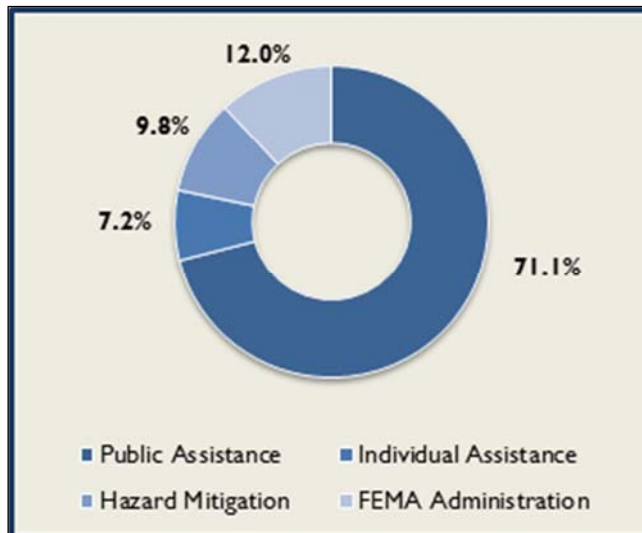
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Oklahoma from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Oklahoma, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 77 localities in Oklahoma have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, Okfuskee County has received more declarations than any other, with 17.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Oregon

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Oregon is part of Region X, headquartered in Seattle, WA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 10 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Oregon between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were two requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to nearly \$198 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$98 million obligated in FY2008 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Oregon each year. The highest number of declarations in a single year was two, which occurred in both FY2007 and FY2011.

## Significant Incidents

The largest amount of assistance provided by the DRF during this period was the result of severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides in FY2008. More recently, Oregon also received more than \$21 million following a similar incident in FY2012.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Oregon, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.



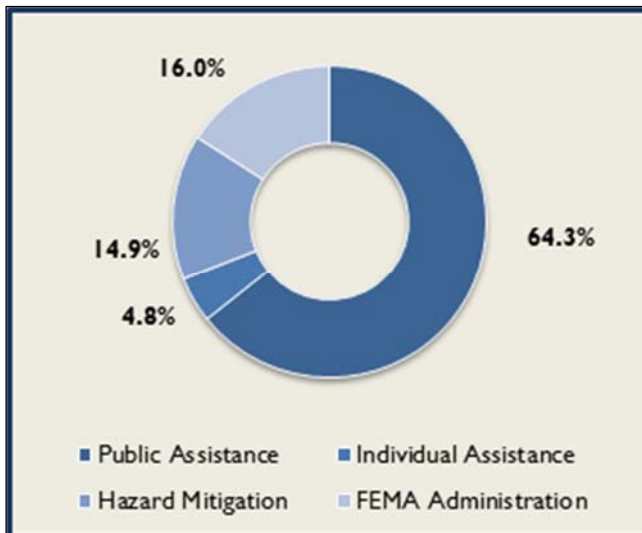
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Oregon from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Oregon, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 39 counties or reservations in Oregon have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, Tillamook County and Lincoln County have received more than any other locality, with eight each.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

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- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

## FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Pennsylvania

### Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Pennsylvania is part of Region III, headquartered in Philadelphia, PA.

### Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 14 major disaster declarations were made in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were also two requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$1.0 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with nearly \$500 million obligated in FY2011 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Pennsylvania each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in FY2004 and FY2011, each of which had three declarations.

### Significant Incidents

The most significant incident in Pennsylvania was Tropical Storm Lee, which occurred in FY2011. This incident led to nearly \$374 million in federal funding from the DRF.

Other major incidents include Tropical Depression Ivan in FY2004, severe storms in FY2006, and Hurricane Irene in FY2011. Pennsylvania also received assistance as a result of Hurricane Sandy in FY2013.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Pennsylvania, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

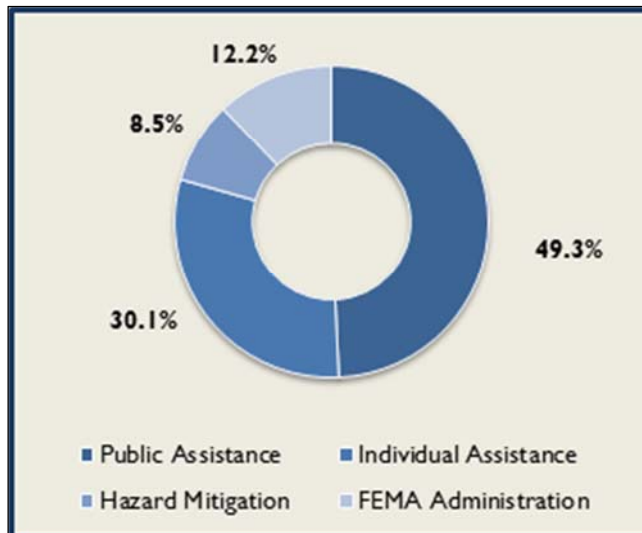
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Pennsylvania from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Pennsylvania, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 67 localities in Pennsylvania have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Wyoming County has received assistance for major disasters 10 times across this period, which is the highest number in the state.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

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### National Flood Insurance Program:

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January 28, 2015

## FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Rhode Island

### Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Rhode Island is part of Region I, headquartered in Boston, MA.

### Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of five major disaster declarations were made in the state of Rhode Island between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were also three requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$141 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$100 million obligated in FY2001 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Rhode Island each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in FY2013, which had two declarations.

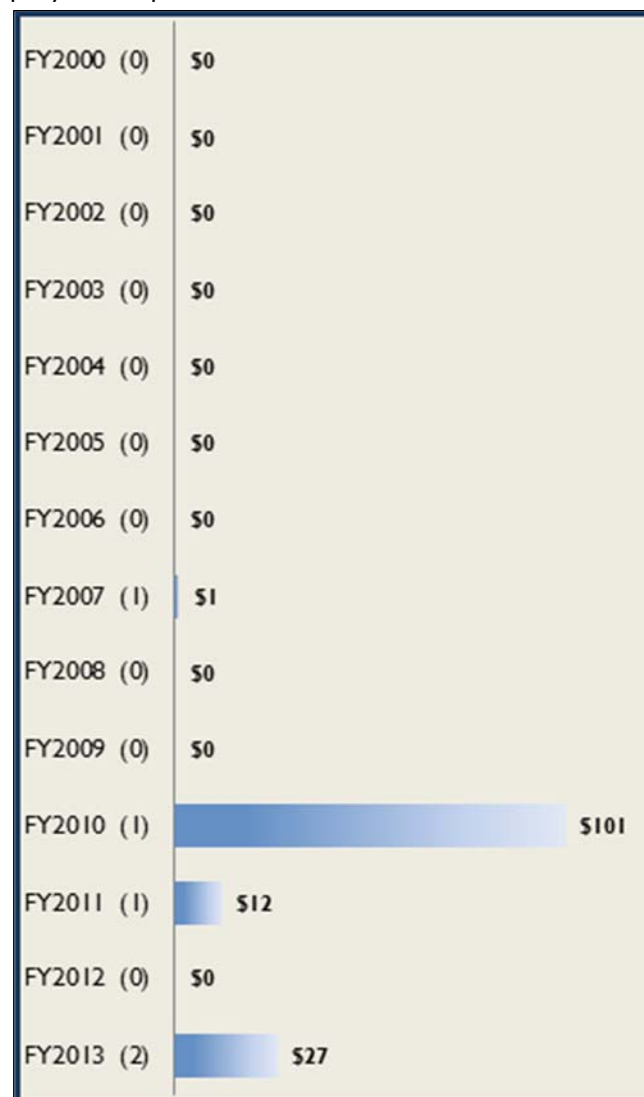
### Significant Incidents

The most significant incident in the state of Rhode Island was caused by severe storms and flooding in FY2010. This incident led to more than \$100 million in federal funding from the DRF.

Other major incidents include Hurricane Sandy in FY2013. Rhode Island also received assistance following Tropical Storm Irene in FY2011.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Rhode Island, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

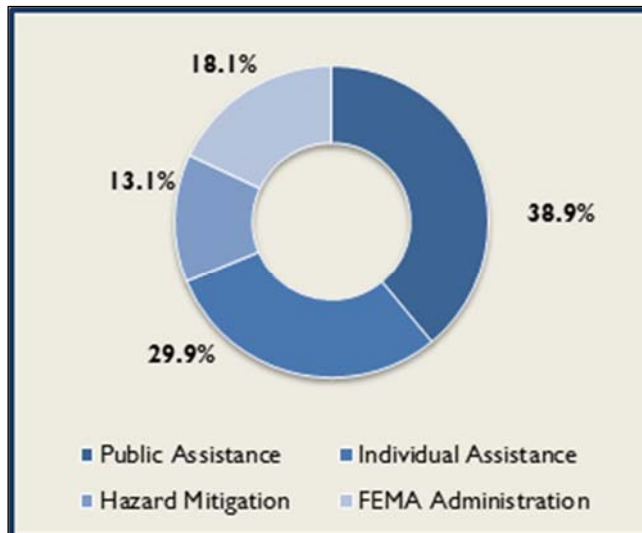
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Rhode Island from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Rhode Island, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, five localities in Rhode Island have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Newport County has received the highest number of declarations during this period, with five.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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### National Flood Insurance Program:

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: South Carolina

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. South Carolina is part of Region IV, headquartered in Atlanta, GA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of seven major disaster declarations were made in the state of South Carolina between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there was one request for a major disaster declaration that was denied. The approved declarations led to \$76 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with nearly \$37 million obligated in FY2004 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to South Carolina each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in FY2004, when South Carolina received three declarations.

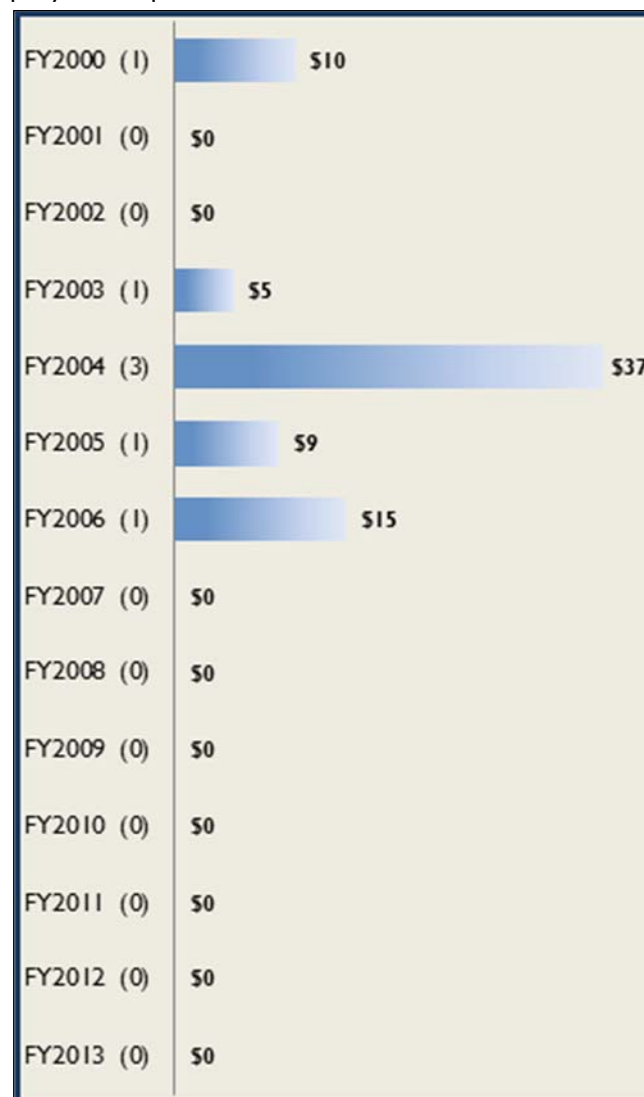
## Significant Incidents

The most significant incidents in the state of South Carolina were the result of a severe ice storm and Tropical Storm Gaston, both of which occurred in FY2004.

There were no major disaster declarations approved for South Carolina between FY2007 and FY2013.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in South Carolina, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

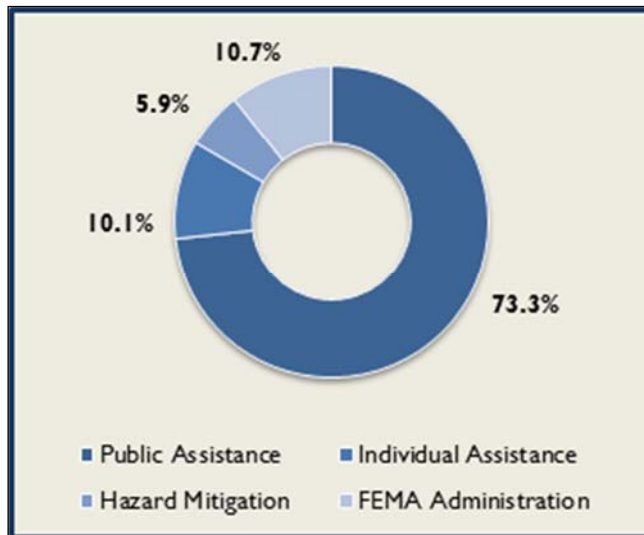
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to South Carolina from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for South Carolina, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 43 counties in South Carolina have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Cherokee County has received the highest number of declarations during that time, with five.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: South Dakota

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. South Dakota is part of Region VIII, headquartered in Denver, CO.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 22 major disaster declarations were made in the state of South Dakota between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were no requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$316 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with \$114 obligated in FY2010 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to South Dakota each year. The highest number of declarations in a single year was six, which occurred in FY2010.

## Significant Incidents

Flooding in FY2011 led to the highest level of DRF assistance during this period, with \$79 million obligated for a single incident. In addition, South Dakota also received more than \$60 million following winter storms in FY2010.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in South Dakota, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

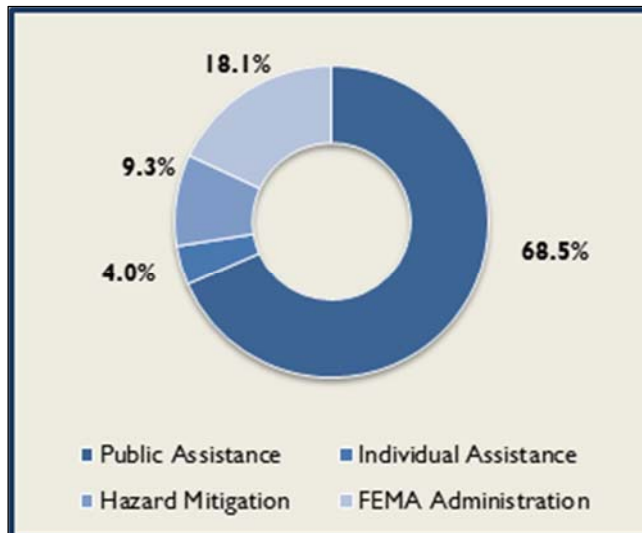
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to South Dakota from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for South Dakota, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 75 counties or reservations in South Dakota have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, Perkins County has received more than any other locality, with 11.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Tennessee

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Tennessee is part of Region IV, headquartered in Atlanta, GA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 22 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Tennessee between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there was one request for a major disaster declaration that was denied. The approved declarations led to \$974 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$546 million obligated in FY2010 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Tennessee each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in FY2011, when Tennessee received five declarations.

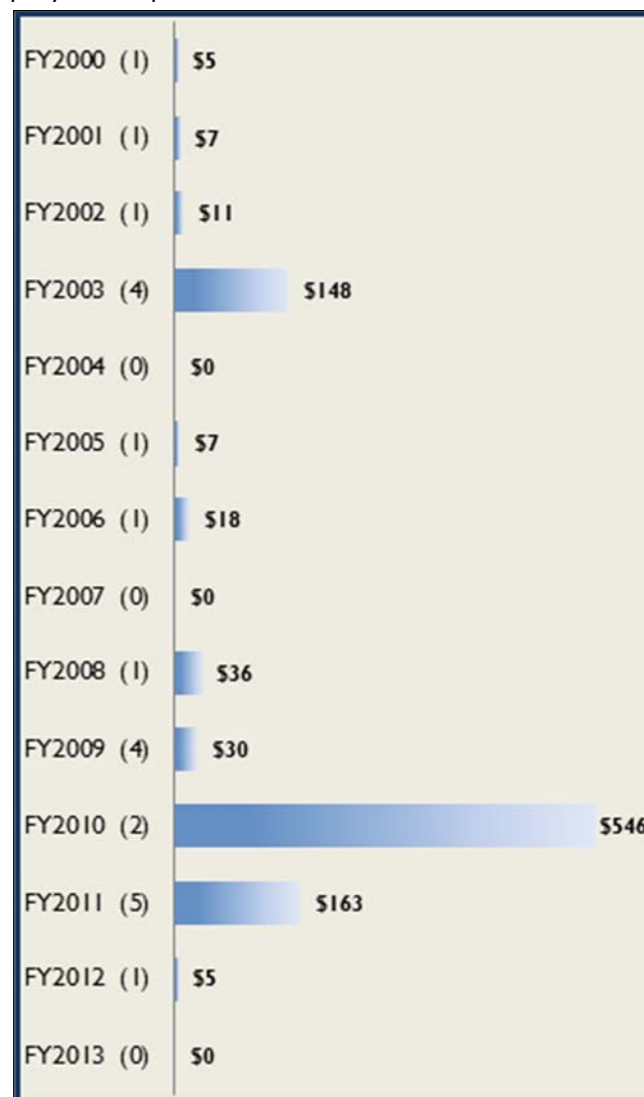
## Significant Incidents

The most significant incident in the state of Tennessee was the result of severe storms, flooding, winds, and tornadoes in FY2010. This incident resulted in nearly \$540 million in federal obligations.

Tennessee also received more than \$50 million for similar incidents in FY2003 and FY2011.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Tennessee, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.



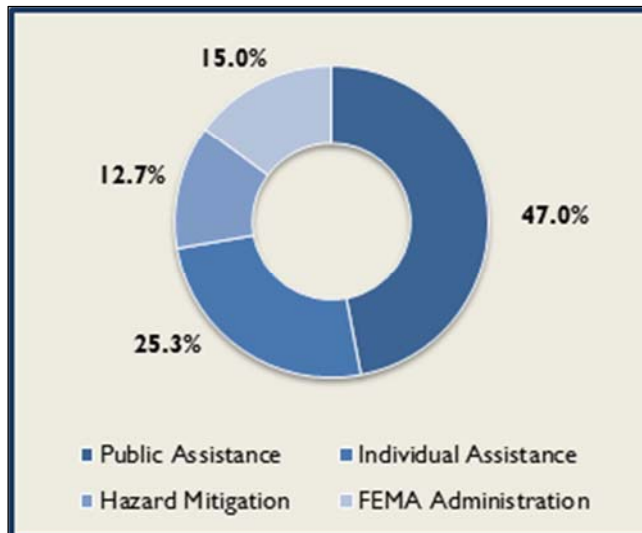
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Tennessee from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Tennessee, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 94 counties in Tennessee have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Jackson County received more declarations than any other during this time, with 11.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
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- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

## FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Texas

### Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Texas is part of Region VI, headquartered in Denton, TX.

### Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

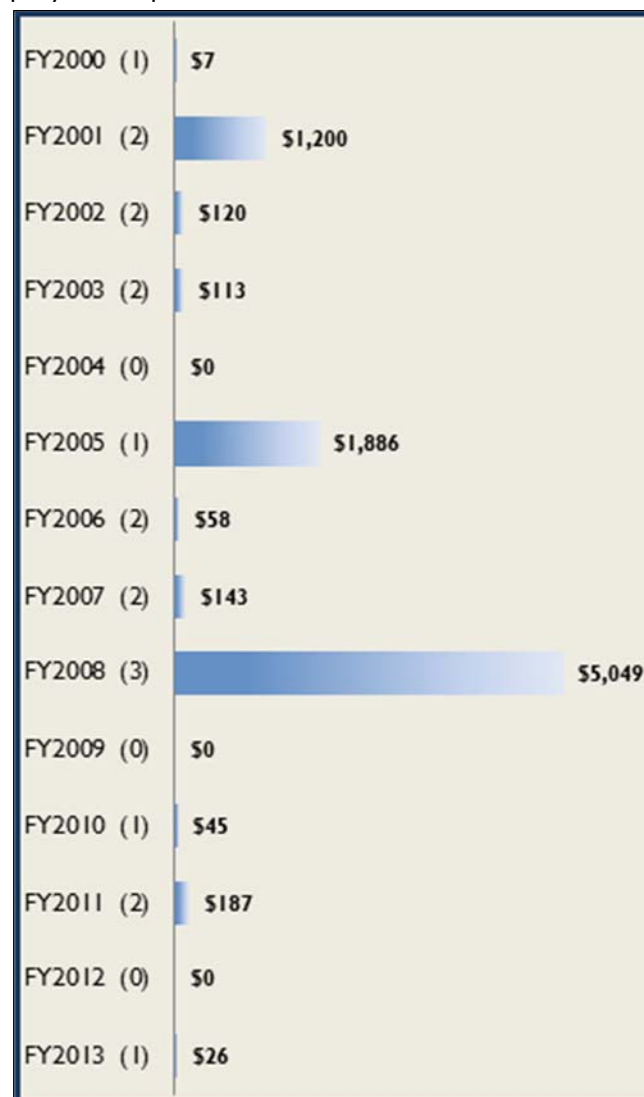
A total of 19 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Texas between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were 15 requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to more than \$8.8 billion in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$5 billion obligated in FY2008 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Texas each year. The highest number of declarations for Texas in a single year was three, which also occurred in FY2008.

### Significant Incidents

The largest level of assistance provided from the DRF to Texas for a single incident was the result of Hurricane Ike in FY2008. This incident led to \$4.9 billion in DRF assistance. Texas also received more than \$1 billion in assistance as a result of Tropical Storm Allison in FY2001 and Hurricane Rita in FY2005.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Texas, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

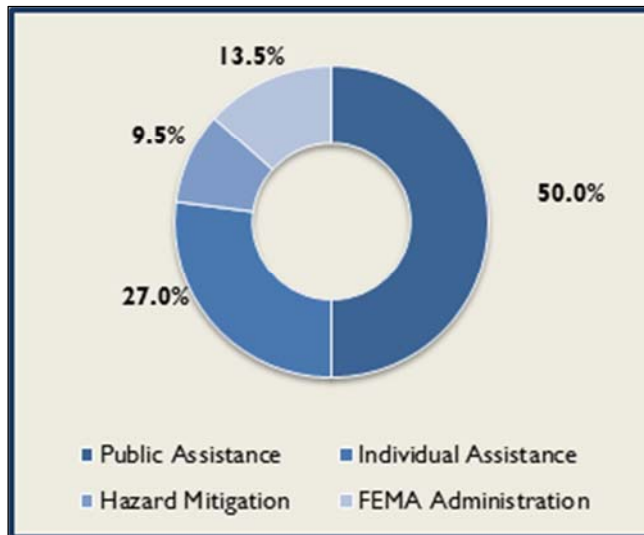
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Texas from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Texas, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 254 counties in Texas have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, San Patricio County has received more declarations than any other, with nine.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

### FEMA Disaster Assistance:

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### National Flood Insurance Program:

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Utah

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Utah is part of Region VIII, headquartered in Denver, CO.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of six major disaster declarations were made in the state of Utah between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were no requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$45 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than half of the total obligated in FY2011 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Utah each year. The highest number of declarations for Utah in a single year was two, which occurred in both FY2005 and FY2011.

## Significant Incidents

Flooding in FY2011 led to the highest level of DRF assistance during this period. This incident led to nearly \$14 million in assistance. The only other incident that led to more than \$10 million in assistance was the result of severe winter storms earlier in that same year.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Utah, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

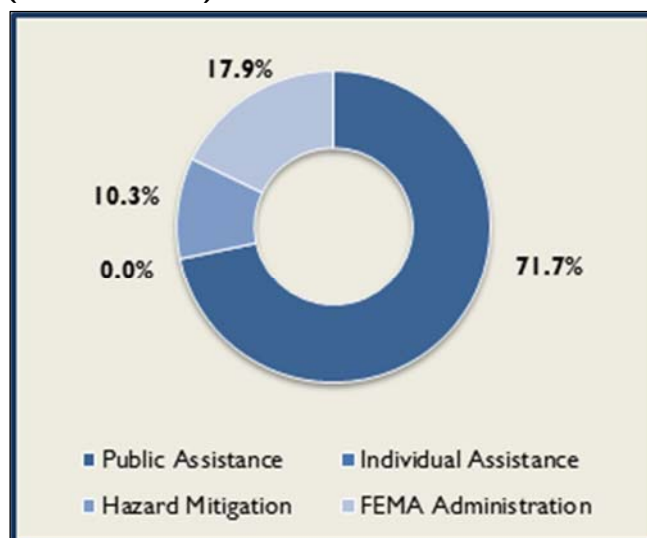
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Utah from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Utah, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 24 counties or reservations in Utah have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time no single county has received more than three.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Vermont

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Vermont is part of Region I, headquartered in Boston, MA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 20 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Vermont between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were no requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$423 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$371 million (88% of the total) obligated in FY2011 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Vermont each year. The highest number of declarations in one year also occurred in FY2011, which had four declarations.

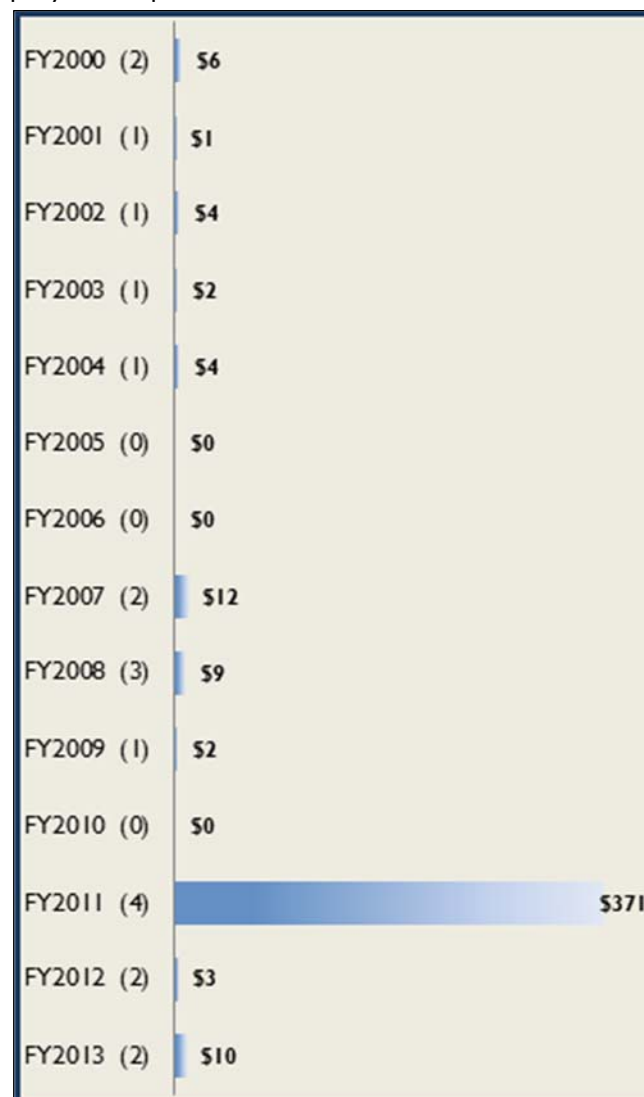
## Significant Incidents

The most significant incident in the state of Vermont was caused by Tropical Storm Irene in FY2011. This incident led to more than \$334 million in federal funding from the DRF.

Other major incidents include severe storms in both FY2007 and FY2013.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Vermont, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

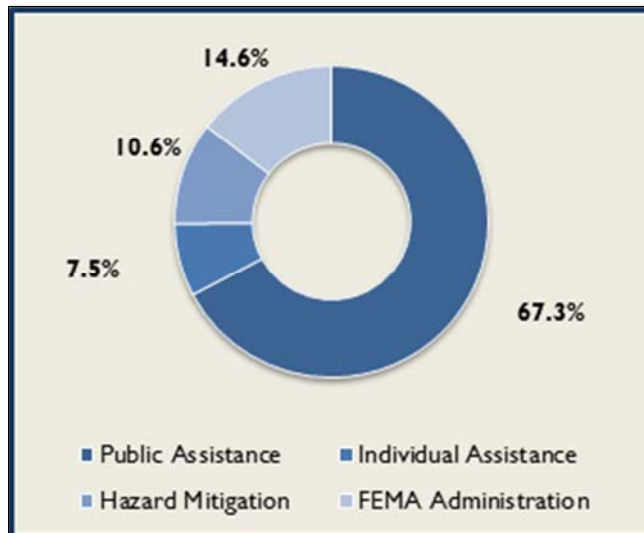
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Vermont from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Vermont, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 14 localities in Vermont have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Lamoille County has received the highest number of declarations during this period, with 11.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Virginia

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Virginia is part of Region III, headquartered in Philadelphia, PA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 21 major disaster declarations were made in the commonwealth of Virginia between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were also three requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$813 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$348 million obligated in FY2003 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Virginia each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in FY2004, FY2010, and FY2012, each of which had three declarations.

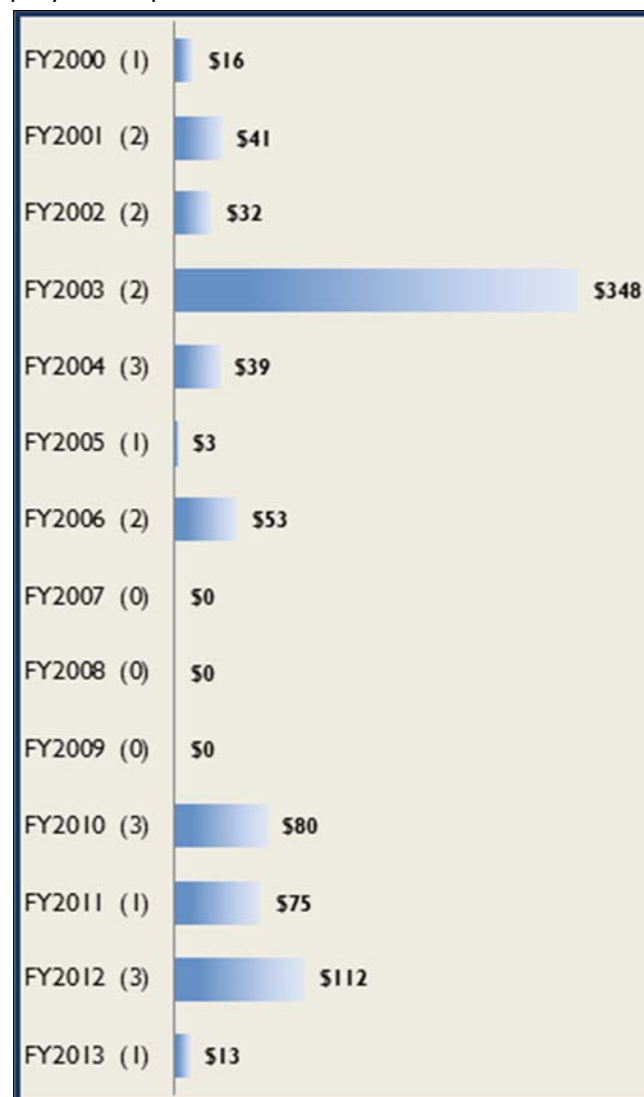
## Significant Incidents

The most significant incident in the state of Virginia was Hurricane Isabel, which occurred in FY2003. This incident led to more than \$328 million in federal funding from the DRF.

Other major incidents also occurred in FY2011 as a result of Hurricane Irene (\$75 million) and in FY2012 as a result of an earthquake (\$71 million). Virginia also received relief associated with Hurricane Sandy in FY2013.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Virginia, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

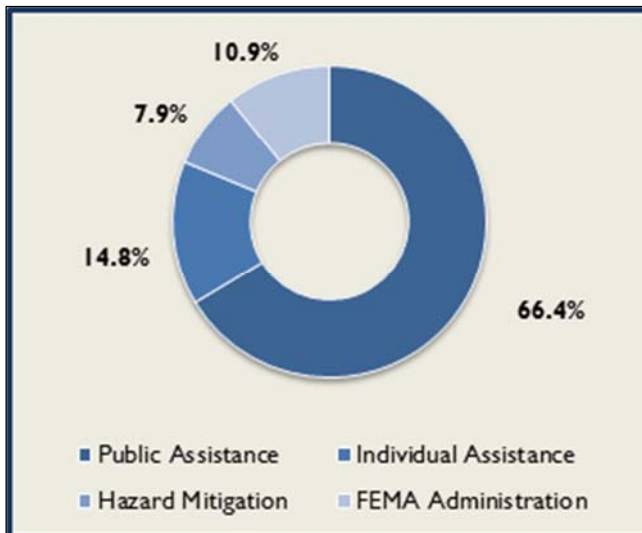
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Virginia from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Virginia, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 133 localities in Virginia have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Tazewell County has received aid under 10 declarations during this time, the most in the state.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
- CRS Report RL34146, *FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer*
- CRS Report R42845, *Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction*
- CRS Report R43537, *FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: Overview and Selected Issues*
- CRS Report RL33053, *Federal Stafford Act Disaster Assistance: Presidential Declarations, Eligible Activities, and Funding*

FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

## CRS Experts

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Washington

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Washington is part of Region X, headquartered in Seattle, WA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 11 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Washington between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were five requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to \$620 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$100 million obligated for three separate fiscal years.

**Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Washington each year. The highest number of declarations in a single fiscal year was two, which occurred in FY2007, FY2009, and FY2012.

## Significant Incidents

Washington received \$185 million in federal assistance from the DRF following an earthquake in FY2013. The state also received more than \$119 million as a result of severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides in FY2008.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Washington, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.



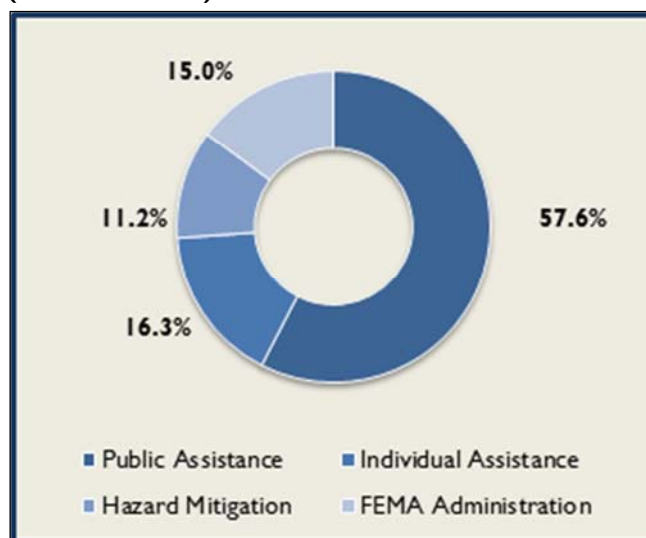
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Washington from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Washington, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 40 counties or reservations in Washington have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, no county has received more than nine.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
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FEMA is also responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). More information on whether your community participates in this program can be found in the NFIP Community Status Book at [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Wisconsin

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Wisconsin is part of Region V, headquartered in Chicago, IL.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 12 major disaster declarations were made in the state of Wisconsin between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there were two requests for major disaster declarations that were denied. The approved declarations led to nearly \$430 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with \$164 million obligated in FY2008 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Wisconsin each year. The highest number of declarations for Wisconsin in a single year was two, which occurred in both FY2002 and FY2011.

## Significant Incidents

The incident that led to the highest level of DRF assistance for Wisconsin during this period was the result of severe storms and floods in FY2008. The only other incident that led to more than \$100 million in DRF assistance was in FY2010 and was also the result of severe storms and flooding.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Wisconsin, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

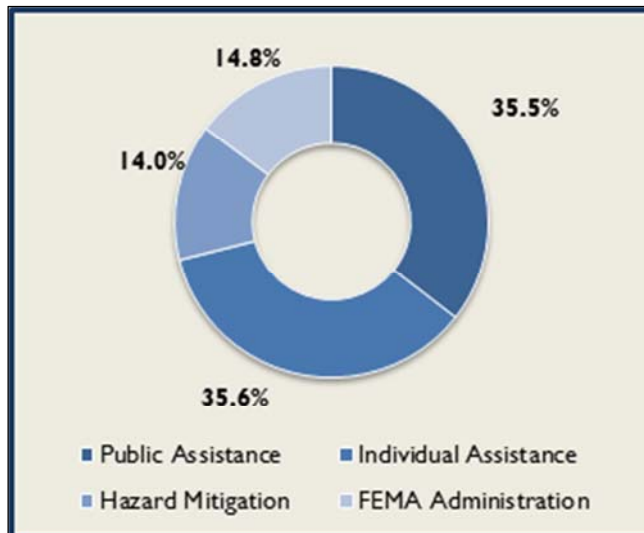
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Wisconsin from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Wisconsin, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 67 counties in Wisconsin have received aid under a major disaster declaration. The locality with the highest number of declarations during this period was Grant County, which had eight.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: West Virginia

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. West Virginia is part of Region III, headquartered in Philadelphia, PA.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

A total of 23 major disaster declarations were made in the state of West Virginia between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there was also one request for a major disaster declaration that was denied. The approved declarations led to \$659 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with \$164 million obligated in FY2004 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to West Virginia each year. The highest number of declarations in one year occurred in FY2004 and FY2010, each of which had four declarations.

## Significant Incidents

The most significant incident in the state of West Virginia was from severe storms, flooding, and landslides that occurred in FY2001. This one incident led to \$147 million in federal funding from the DRF.

Other major incidents include severe storms in both FY2002 and FY2004. West Virginia also received relief associated with Hurricane Sandy in FY2013.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in West Virginia, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.



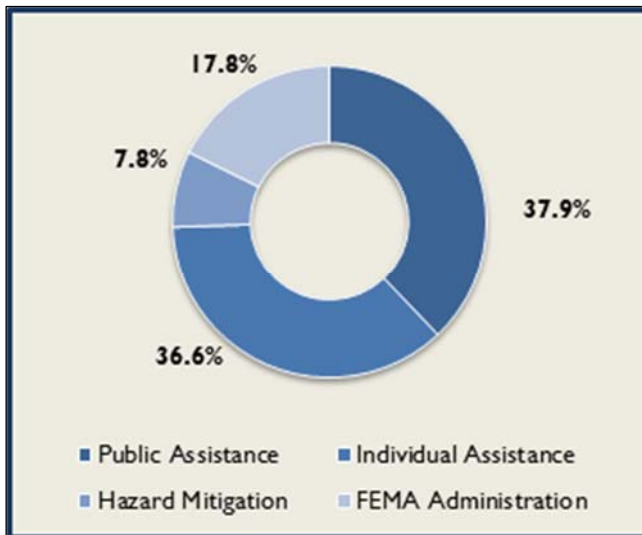
## Types of Assistance Provided for Major Disasters

A major disaster declaration can include funding for different purposes, depending on the needs of the state. These purposes include:

- Public Assistance (PA) that is used to conduct debris removal operations, repair or replace damaged public infrastructure, and other assistance;
- Individual Assistance (IA) that provides direct aid to impacted households, and other assistance;
- Hazard Mitigation (HM) that funds resilience projects and programs, typically across the whole state; and
- FEMA administrative costs associated with each disaster declaration.

The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to West Virginia from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for West Virginia, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 55 localities in West Virginia have received aid under a major disaster declaration. Mingo County received aid under 14 declarations during this time, the most in the state.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

There are many existing CRS products that address issues related to the Disaster Relief Fund, the disaster declaration process, and federal emergency management policy. Below is a list of several of these resources:

- CRS Report R41981, *Congressional Primer on Responding to Major Disasters and Emergencies*
- CRS Report R43519, *Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts*
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January 28, 2015

# FEMA DRF Major Disaster Assistance: Wyoming

## Overview

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is the primary source of funding used to provide assistance following a major disaster declaration. The authority to declare a major disaster is provided to the President under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Relief and Disaster Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

The information below includes only the funding provided as a result of a major disaster declaration, not other assistance funded through the DRF. Additionally, this information does not include other federal sources of disaster assistance, such as Small Business Administration disaster loans.

FEMA administers disaster relief through regional offices around the country. Wyoming is part of Region VIII, headquartered in Denver, CO.

## Major Disaster Declarations: FY2000-FY2013

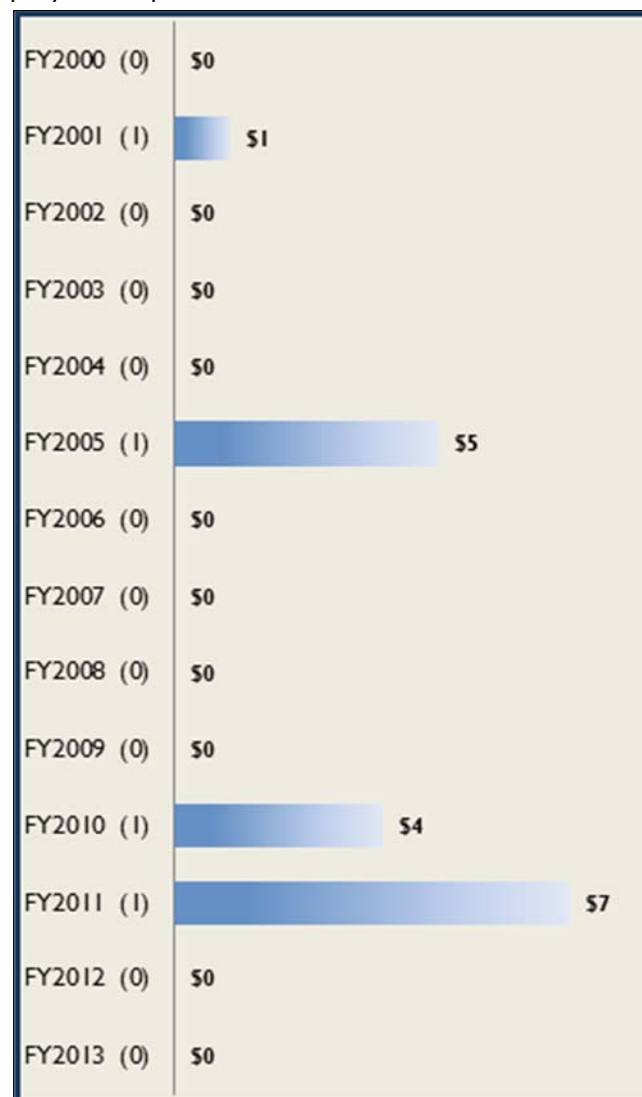
A total of four major disaster declarations were made in the state of Wyoming between FY2000 and FY2013. During that time, there was one request for a major disaster declaration that was denied. The approved declarations led to nearly \$16 million in federal obligations from the Disaster Relief Fund. This funding does not include the assistance that was provided directly by the state, either as a cost-share for federal assistance, or through the state's own authorities and programs. There was a high level of variation in the amount of funding obligated each year, with more than \$7 million obligated in FY2011 alone. **Figure 1** displays the total funding obligated to Wyoming each year. Wyoming did not receive more than one declaration in a single year during this period.

## Significant Incidents

Severe storms, floods, and landslides in FY2011 led to the highest level of DRF assistance during this period. In addition to this incident, Wyoming also received assistance following tornadoes, floods, and winter storms.

**Figure 1. DRF Obligations for Declared Major Disasters in Wyoming, by Fiscal Year**

Figures are in millions of dollars. The number of declarations per year is in parentheses.



**Source:** CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligations data as of June 2014.

**Notes:** Figures above reflect both actual obligations and projected obligations. Only obligations from the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund are included. Please consult the "Additional Resources" section for information on other federal assistance programs.

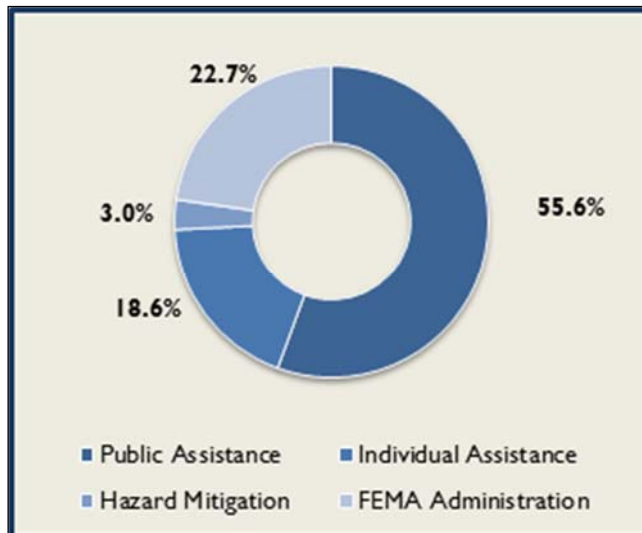
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The decision to provide certain types of assistance is made at the time of the major disaster declaration. For many major disasters, all of the assistance types outlined above will be authorized. For others, some assistance types will not be included. **Figure 2** compares the amounts expended for different types of assistance that were provided to Wyoming from FY2000 to FY2013.

**Figure 2. DRF Assistance for Wyoming, by Type (FY2000-FY2013)**



Source: CRS analysis of FEMA DRF obligation data as of June 2014.

## County Impact

Since 2000, 17 counties or reservations in Wyoming have received aid under a major disaster declaration. During that time, Platte County has received more than any other locality, with three.

## Other Assistance Funded Through the DRF

In addition to the major disasters listed above, there are also other forms of assistance that are funded through the Disaster Relief Fund. These include both Emergency Declarations and Fire Management Assistance Grants. The assistance provided for these declarations typically involves lower obligation levels than major disaster declarations, although there is significant variation across incidents.

*Emergency Declarations* are often made at the time a threat is recognized and are issued to assist state, local, and tribal efforts prior to the incident.

*Fire Management Assistance Grants* (FMAGs) provide aid for the control, management, and mitigation of fires.

## Additional Resources

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