

STATE OF TEXAS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW

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Introduction

Texas continuously practices mitigation and preparedness to minimize the impacts of man-made and natural disasters. The Texas Division of Emergency Management has initiatives and guidelines established by Chapters 418 and 421 of the Texas Government Code. Chapter 418 is the governing document for all emergencies in the state of Texas.

Objectives

- Provide knowledge to recognize local government roles during an incident or disaster.
- Broaden knowledge of challenges TDEM faces during disaster response.
- Increase awareness of the roles and responsibilities of emergency management in the state of Texas.

Emergency Management in Texas

The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) is charged with carrying out a comprehensive all-hazard integrated emergency management program for the state supporting cities, counties, and state agencies in planning and coordinating emergency resources to protect lives, property and environment. TDEM is aligned and structured similarly to the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command Structure (ICS) in support of the National Response Framework's five mission areas: prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery. Additionally, TDEM adheres to legislative guidance in Chapter 418 and 421 of the Texas Government Code.

As a highly populated industrial and agricultural state, Texas is susceptible to a variety of natural and man-made disasters, sometimes with limited or no warning. Throughout Texas' history, the state has experienced a multitude of hurricanes, tornadoes, floods and flashfloods, wildfires, droughts, pandemics, acts of terrorism and cyberattacks.

When any disasters occur, the responsibility to manage the response starts and ends with local authorities. If a situation exceeds a jurisdictional resources and capabilities, the mayor and/or county judge may request assistance from TDEM (See Figure 1),

Depending on a disaster's scope, TDEM coordinates the activities of the state's Emergency Management Council.

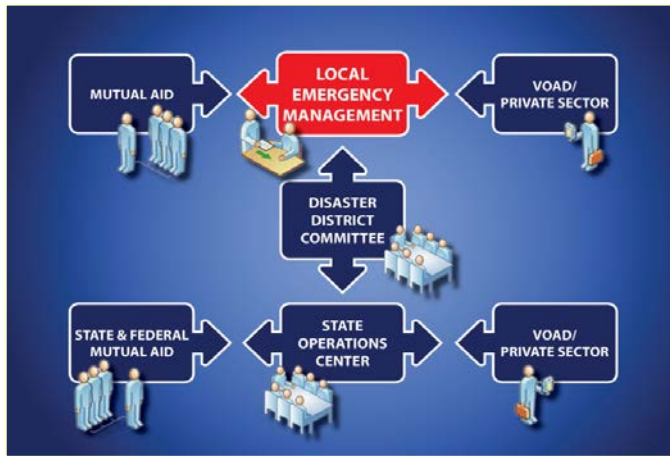


Figure 1 – Requesting Assistance

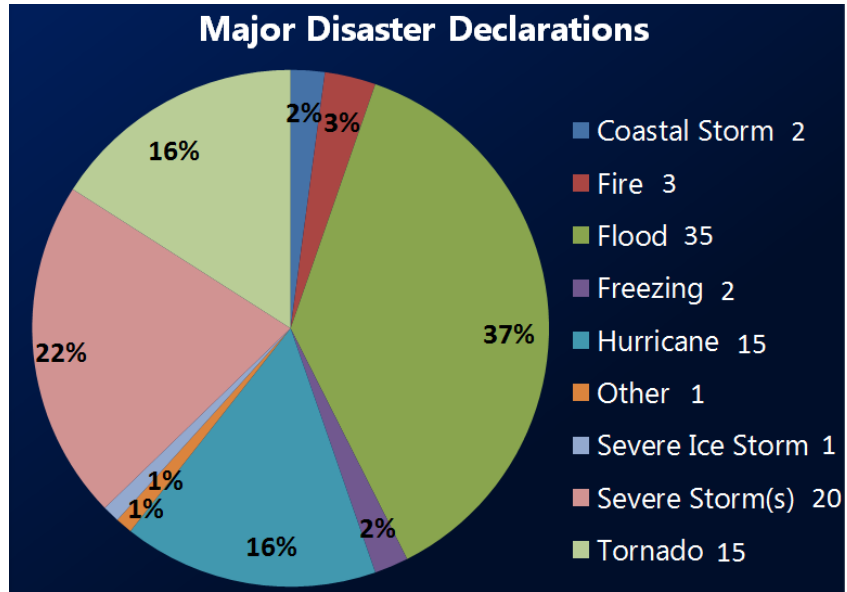
Disasters in Texas

Since 1953, Texas leads all states in major disaster declarations:

#	State	Total MDDs *As of 07/13/2017
1	Texas	94
2	California	84
3	Oklahoma	81
4	New York	71
5	Florida	69
6	Louisiana	64
7	Kentucky	62
8	Arkansas	62
9	Alabama	59
10	Iowa	58
11	Mississippi	58
12	Missouri	58

Texas averages one major disaster every eight months.

Major Disaster Declaration Summary



Why Prepare?

In the past 2 years Texas experienced 6 major disaster declarations and one Fire Management Assistant Grant Program.

2015

- DR-4223 (May to June 2015 Flooding and Severe Weather)
- DR-4245 (October 2015 Flooding)
- FM-5166 (Hidden Pines Fire)

2016

- DR-4255 (January Blizzard and Severe Weather)
- DR-4266 (March Storms, Tornadoes and Flooding)
- DR-4269 (April Storms and Flooding)
- DR-4272 (May – June, Storms and Flooding)