

# FEMA is Fully Ready to Support States, Tribal Nations, Territories and Communities this Hurricane and Wildfire Season

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Under President Trump and Secretary Mullin’s leadership, FEMA is fully prepared to support state, local, tribal and territorial partners ahead of the 2026 hurricane and wildfire seasons. Emergency management works best when it is locally led; state, tribal and territorially managed; and federally supported. The agency is postured to support critical response and recovery functions by providing targeted technical assistance and subject matter expertise through experienced personnel. FEMA’s workforce includes rapidly deployable incident management teams, dozens of experienced Federal Coordinating Officers, highly trained logistics and operations staff, and embedded liaisons who work directly with state and local officials. Additionally, FEMA coordinates with partners nationwide to maintain specialized urban search and rescue task forces and supplemental response teams, ensuring the agency can meet the nation’s needs this season, no matter where disasters strike.

## FEMA is Ready to Scale Up, Mobilize, Deploy

With nearly 20,000 trained and deployable personnel ready to support communities, including full-time staff and reservists, and partnerships with other federal agencies, FEMA can rapidly scale up, mobilize, and deploy responders wherever they are needed. The agency has trained thousands of FEMA responders and conducted hands-on, reoccurring exercises throughout 2026 to ensure a well-developed and ready workforce.

## By the Numbers

Since January 2025, FEMA has enhanced agency-wide readiness to maximize its workforce by assigning disaster roles to almost all personnel and setting clear deployment expectations, ensuring every employee is prepared to support emergency management operations.

- FEMA has nearly 20,000 trained and deployable personnel ready to support communities before, during, and after a disaster, with over 5,700 trained personnel available to immediately deploy for a 30-day deployment.
- FEMA entered the 2026 hurricane season with the lowest number of responders deployed and the second-highest number of responders available for deployment in the past five years. As of June 1, 2026, FEMA had fewer than 3,700 Incident Management personnel deployed supporting disaster operations – a significant reduction compared to the over 6,100 personnel deployed on June 1, 2025.

## Strong Reservist Workforce

FEMA also recently renewed its intermittent reservist workforce which supplements the agency’s full-time workforce to ensure FEMA can respond to large, complex catastrophic events. This year, nearly 98% of reservists accepted new two-year terms with FEMA – an increase from the 94% reappointment acceptance rate in 2024.

## Federal Partnerships

FEMA can also rapidly increase the number of available responders through partnerships with other federal agencies. There are currently over 7,600 federal employees rostered to the Department of Homeland Security's Surge Capacity Force – a voluntary program for federal employees from other federal agencies that allows federal employees an opportunity to support disaster response efforts. These individuals leave their steady-state federal position to deploy to disasters for up to 60 days.

This year, Secretary Mullin activated the Surge Capacity Force on June 4, 2026 – far earlier than any season in recent history. This proactive step will boost recruitment efforts, expedite use of federal employee volunteers when needed, and strengthen FEMA's readiness early in the 2026 hurricane and wildfire seasons.

## Contact Us

If you have any questions, please contact FEMA Office of External Affairs:

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## FEMA Mission

Helping people before, during and after disasters.