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Resilience Report 2025

Beyond the Payoff:

How Investments in Resilience and Disaster Preparedness Protect Communities

Disasters are increasing in frequency, severity, and cost, making resilience a national imperative. The report shows every dollar not invested in disaster resilience today could multiply costs 10 years from now.

Key Report Findings

27	Number of billion-dollar disasters the U.S. experienced in 2024, totaling $182.7 billion in damages
33	Every $1 dollar not invested in disaster resilience today can cost communities up to $33 in lost future economic activity
70	In hurricane-prone areas, higher levels of investment can prevent the loss of more than 70,000 jobs
6	The report outlines six “levers of resilience” that local leaders can use to strengthen preparedness

Preparedness is not just a safety measure—it’s a local economic development strategy.

See the full report

Impact by Disaster Type

Across all scenarios, reduced funding leads to significantly higher long-term costs.

Hurricane

Cost per dollar not invested: $7.84*

Jobs lost: 131,000

GDP decline: $24B

Tornado

Cost per dollar not invested: $25.15*

Jobs lost: 14,500+

GDP decline: $2.2B

Wildfire

Cost per dollar not invested: $21.87*

Jobs lost: 9,800+

GDP decline: $1.7B

Drought

Cost per dollar not invested: $32.72

Jobs lost: 19,200+

GDP decline: $3.6B

Flood

Cost per dollar not invested: $25.44*

Jobs lost: 13,700+

GDP decline: $2.3B

*Cost after disaster strikes for every dollar not invested in disaster resilience.

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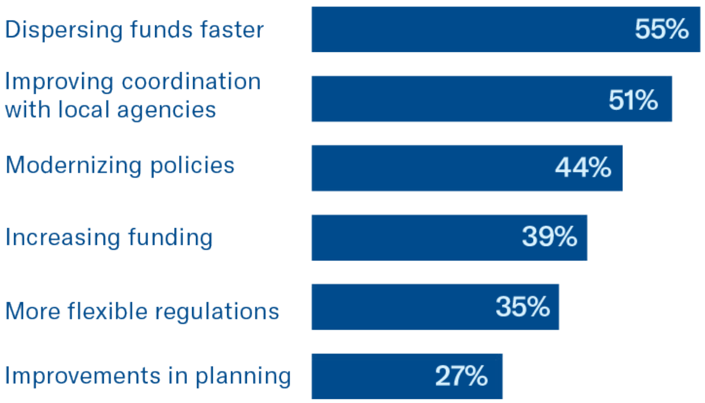
Insights from Resilience Experts

Emergency managers, engineers and resilience professionals emphasize the importance of cross-sector collaboration.

- **96%** say public-private coordination needs improvement.
- **51%** prefer state-managed programs for distributing federal funds.
- **58%** cite federal financial assistance as the most critical support.

Ways to distribute disaster recovery funding more efficiently



Six Levers of Resilience

Tools that local leaders can use to strengthen preparedness.

1. **Risk-Informed Design**
   Modern building codes, proper zoning, and hazard mapping.
2. **Infrastructure and Mitigation**
   Resilient power, water, transportation, and communications systems.
3. **Economic Continuity**
   Support for small businesses and workforce development.
4. **Governance and Leadership**
   Cross-sector coordination and mutual aid agreements.
5. **Civic Engagement**
   Public awareness and household preparedness.
6. **Performance and Accountability**
   Community scorecards, metrics, and risk modeling.

Explore the Levers of Resilience