

Texas Municipal League Midyear Conference



Texas Emergency Management by the Numbers

Texas is one of the leading states in the nation in natural disasters

- Over 100 major events since 1953
- TDEM has served the people of Texas for 72 years

Types of disasters can include:

- Hurricanes
- Floods
- Wildfires
- Tornadoes
- Chemical Hazards
- Earthquakes
- Human-caused Incidents



Major Disaster Declarations Since 1953*

1. <u>TEXAS</u>	103
EMER	18
FMAG*	253
TOTAL	374

- The Lone Star State has recorded 103 **Major Disasters** in 72 years.
- 1 EVERY 8.2 MONTHS

**This total includes FMAGs and Fire Suppression Authorizations (predecessor to FMAGs)*



Recent Wildfire Response

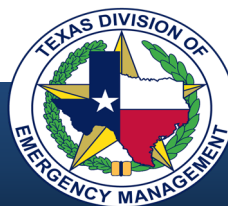
FM-5488 Smoke House Creek Fire

- Largest wildfire recorded in Texas history
- Has burned more than one million acres in the states Panhandle



Recent Wildfire Response

- **Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)**
 - Public Works Response Team (PWRT)
- **Texas A&M Texas Task Force 1 & 2**
 - Search and Rescue Personnel
 - Incident Management Team Personnel
 - Rescue Medical Personnel
- **Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service**
 - Disaster Assessment and Recovery Agents
 - County Extension Agents
- **Texas A&M Veterinary Emergency Team (VET)**
 - Veterinary Response Personnel
- **Texas A&M Forest Service**
 - Incident Management Team
 - Firefighting Personnel
 - Hand Crews
 - Engine Strike Teams



How We Respond in Texas

- **Local** Level
- **State** Level
- **Federal** Level



Incidents begin and end locally and are managed daily at the *closest possible* geographical, organizational, and jurisdictional level.



Each disaster begins and ends at the **local** level.

- Local governments (counties, cities, or towns) respond to *emergencies* daily using their own resources.
- Local governments rely on mutual aid and assistance agreements with neighboring jurisdictions.
- When local jurisdictions cannot meet incident response resource needs with their own resources or with help available from other local jurisdictions, they may ask for state assistance.



Local Authority in Texas

- **Mayors** and **County Judges** serve as emergency management directors – *418.1015*
- Responsible for maintaining an emergency management program within their respective jurisdictions
- Officials often appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC)
- **Mayor** and **County Judge** are authorized by the Texas Disaster Act to declare a local **disaster** for no more than 7 days without consent of governing body of the political subdivision



Local Authority for Evacuations

- A local declaration **activates** the local or interjurisdictional **emergency management plan**
- Only the **mayor** or **county judge** has the authority in Texas to issue an **evacuation for their jurisdiction**
- The mayor or county Judge **may control ingress to or egress from a disaster area**, and **control the movement of persons and the occupancy of premises** under their jurisdiction



Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG)

- Authorized under the Stafford Act, FEMA's Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) Program is available to aid States and their communities with the mitigation, management, and control of fires.
- The FMAG program provides a **75% federal cost-share**. Before eligible costs for reimbursement are granted, the state must meet or exceed the annually adjusted or cumulative fire cost threshold.

FEMA's Texas Fire Cost Threshold for CY2024:

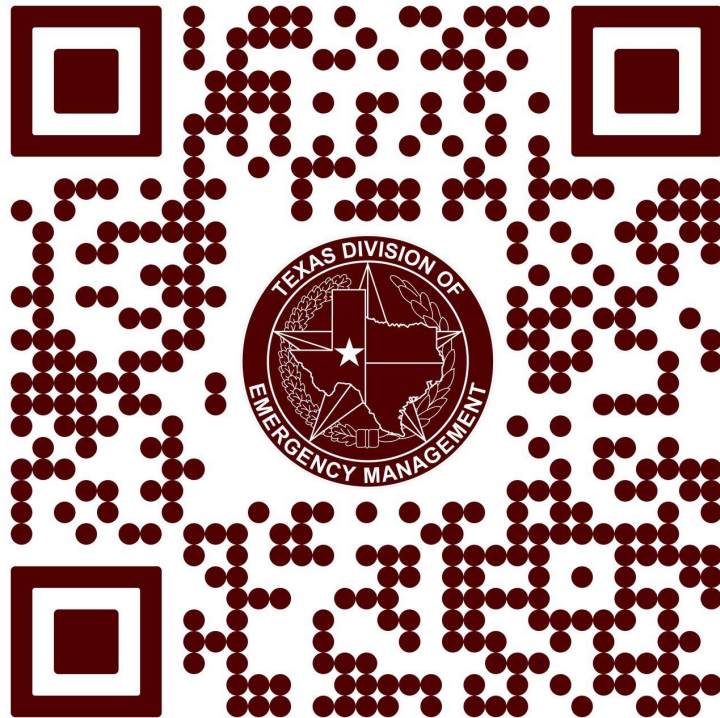
Cumulative: **\$8,044,159**

FEMA's Texas Threshold for Public Assistance

- For the State of Texas : **\$53,627,729**
- Each county has an individual county threshold that must be met.
- Individual county thresholds are posted on the TDEM website (**Pages 30-33 in TDEM Executive Guide**)



Executive Guide



Executive Guide

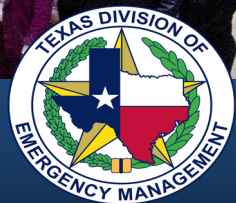
FY 2024

www.tdem.texas.gov
512-424-2208



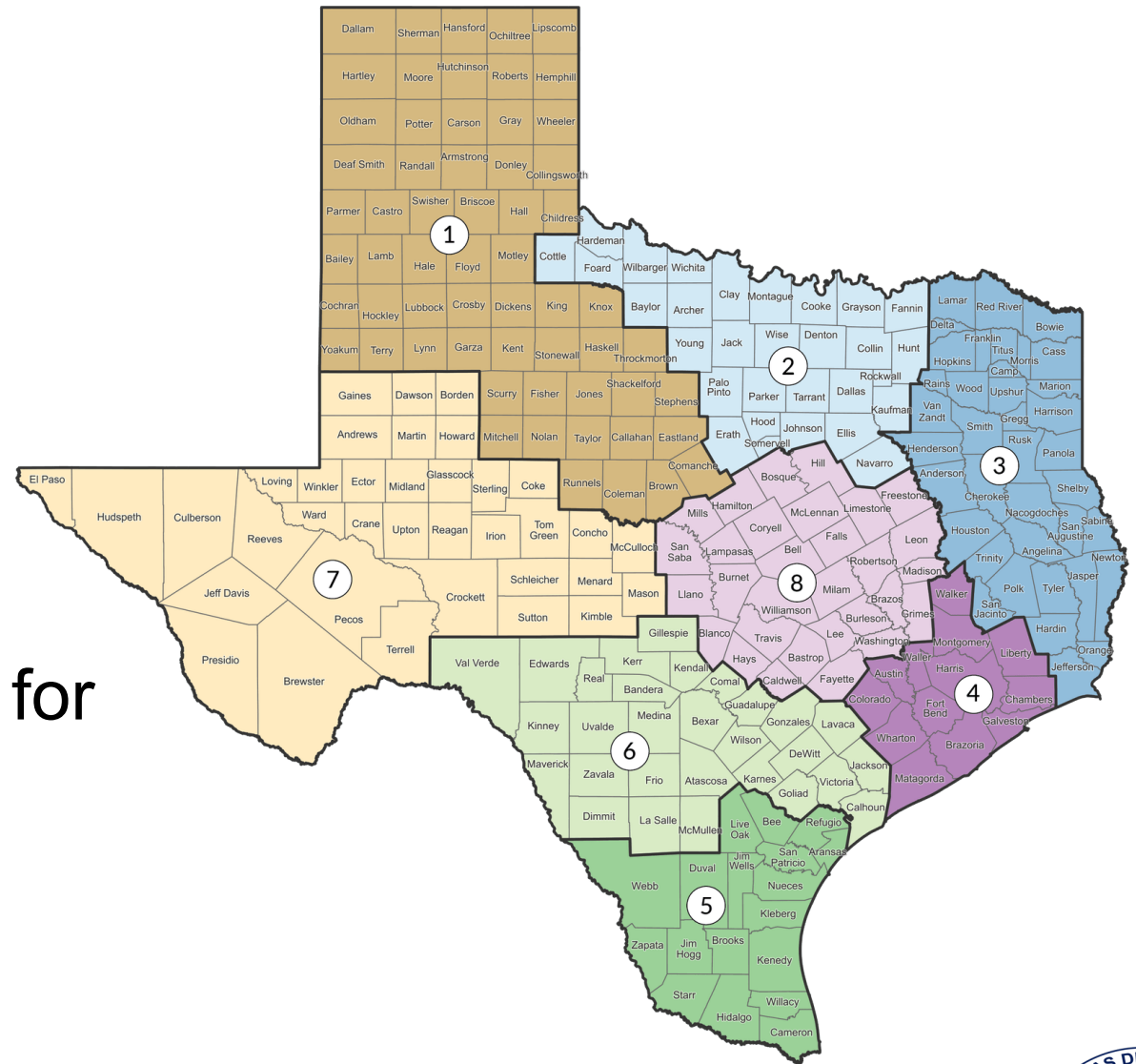
Texas Division of Emergency Management

- TDEM is responsible for a comprehensive state emergency management program that includes:
 - Planning
 - Training
 - Exercise
 - Response
 - Recovery
 - Mitigation



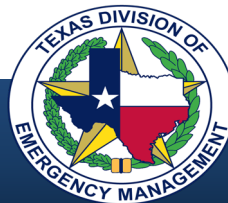
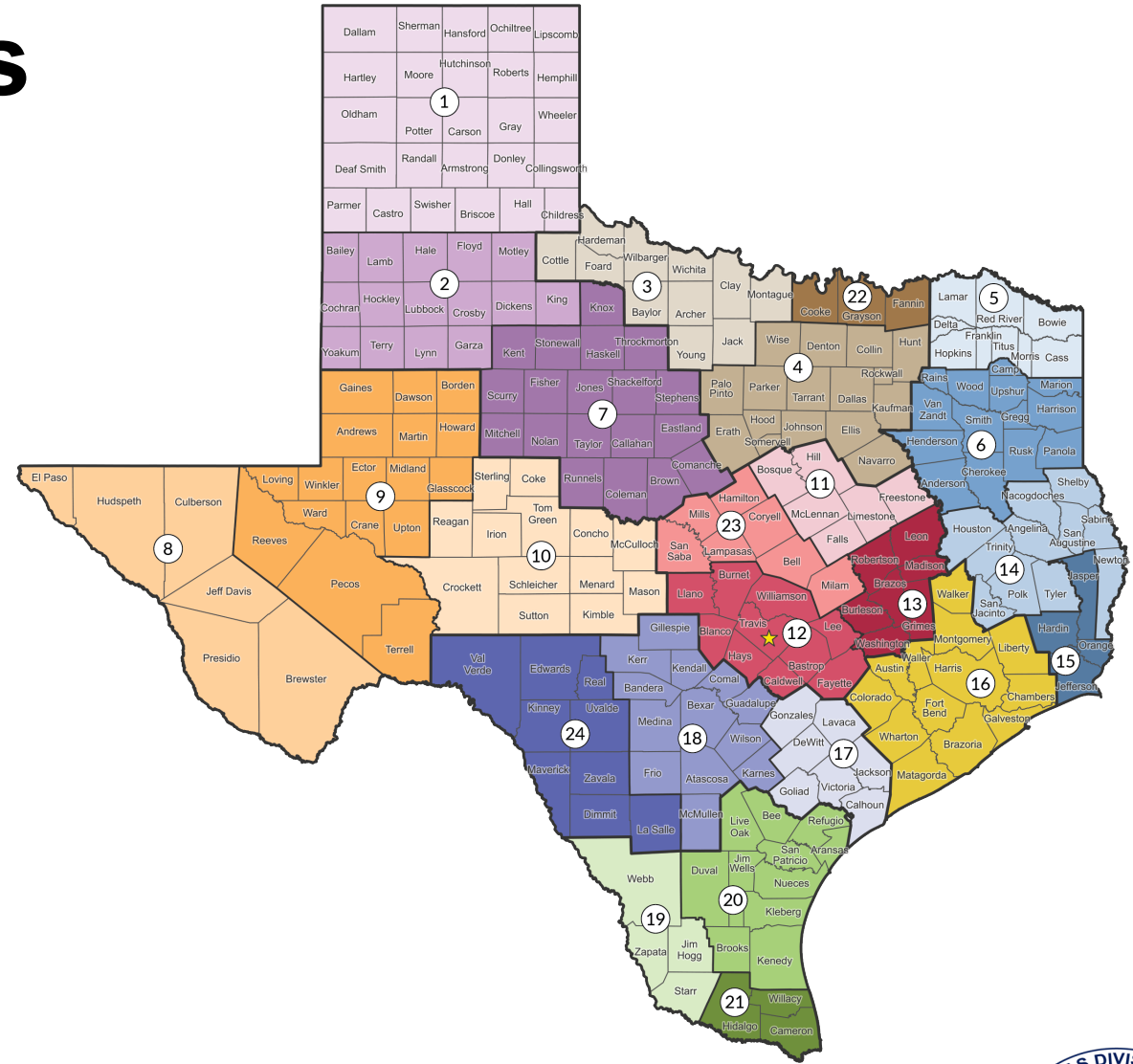
TDEM Regions

- Texas is divided into 8 geographical Regions
- Each Region has a TDEM Assistant Chief Responsible for Emergency Management



State Disaster Districts

- Texas has 24 Disaster Districts – The Texas Capitol is recognized at the 25th Disaster District
- Boundaries based on Councils of Government
- Each Disaster District has a TDEM District Chief



County Liaison Officers



- Hiring (80~) field response employees
- Providing more comprehensive state support for additional Texas communities
- Improving emergency management capabilities statewide
- Will more than triple the size of TDEM's field support network

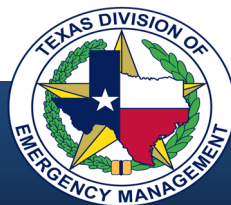
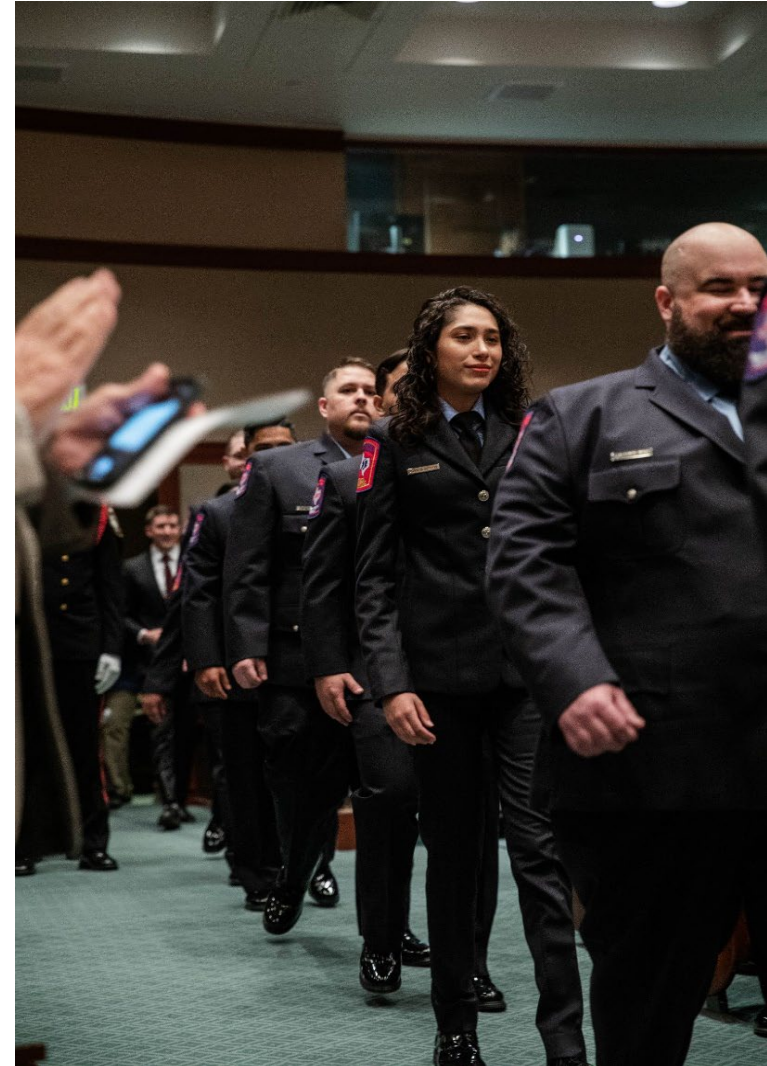
tdem.texas.gov/about/careers



Emergency Management Academy

- Training in all phases of emergency management
- Runs approximately 8 months
- Based in San Antonio
- Expanded to offer training to public/private local entities
- Third cadet class will kick off in the fall!

tdem.texas.gov/academy



TDEM Headquarters



Communication & Collaboration

- Remember: single, consistent messaging is a must!
- Conflicting messaging equals potential public confusion
- Work together!
- Numerous entities, working separately from each other, can create unintended conflicts and/or repetition



Personal Responsibility

- Are you ready?
- Is your family prepared?
- Does your workplace have a plan?
- Does your church, place of worship, or civic organization have a plan?
- Does your neighborhood have a plan?



The Conference Fort Worth Convention Center May 28-31, 2024



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Let's Connect!



**Scan to access TDEM's
social media accounts**



Stump the Chump Any questions?

