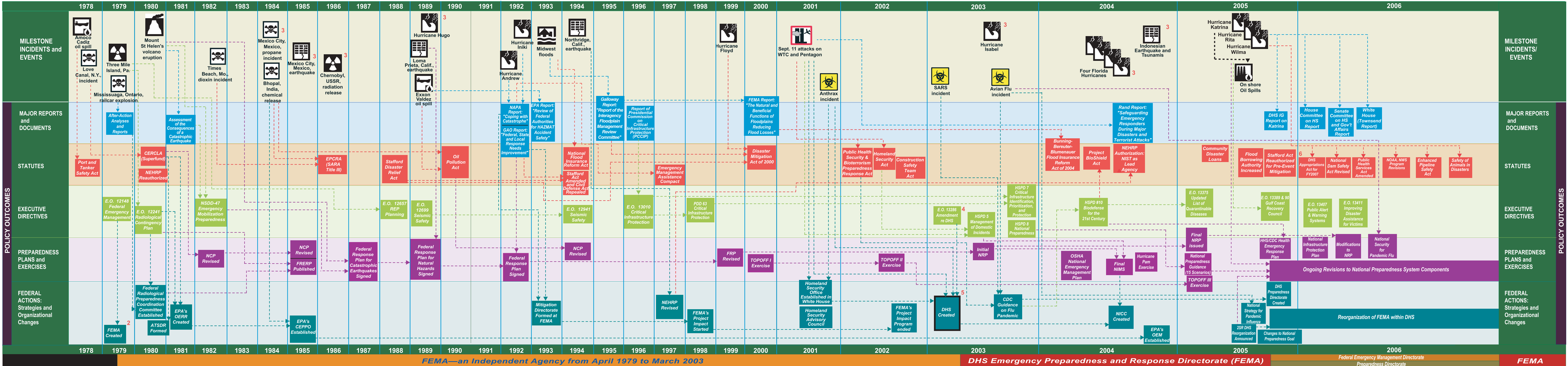


Disaster Time Line: Major Focusing Events and U.S. Outcomes (1978–2006)

by Claire B. Rubin, Irmak Renda–Tanali, and William R. Cumming¹



FEMA—an Independent Agency from April 1979 to March 2003

DHS Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate (FEMA)

Federal Emergency Management Directorate

Preparedness Directorate

FEMA

NOTE: This chart highlights domestic natural disasters and nonterrorism events. For terrorism-related events and outcomes, see the Terrorism Time Line at the project website.

¹ Information about the authors is available at the project website: <http://www.disaster-timeline.com>.

² FEMA's existence as an independent agency spanned the period of April 1979 to March 2003. Between March 1, 2003, and November 1, 2005, the functions of FEMA were housed in the Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate. The use of the term FEMA was authorized by the Secretary of DHS in August 2003 as an administrative convenience. From November 1, 2005, until March 31, 2007, the functions of FEMA transferred to DHS on March 1, 2003, were housed in two Directorates, each led by an Under Secretary: the Federal Emergency Management Directorate and the Preparedness Directorate. The United States Fire Administration (USFA) was housed during that period in the Preparedness Directorate.

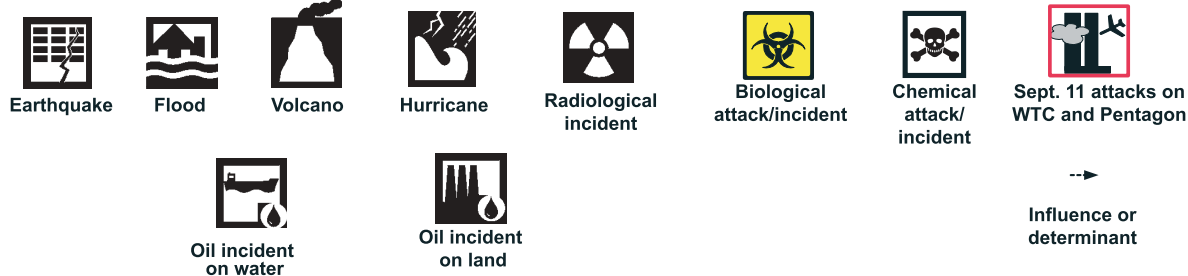
³ These were influential events but did not result in direct policy outcomes.

⁴ Transferred Stafford Act authority from FEMA to the Secretary of DHS.

⁵ FEMA no longer is an independent agency; it is subsumed within DHS.

⁶ The Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (Title VI) is part of the law.

LEGEND



ABBREVIATIONS

2SR ATSDR	Second Stage Review Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry	EHRA	Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act; basis for National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP)	HAZMAT HHS	Hazardous Material Department of Health and Human Services	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act	OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
CEPPO	Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office, EPA	E.O. EPA	Executive Order Environmental Protection Agency	HSOC	Homeland Security Operations Center	NICC	National Integration Coordination Center	PCCIP	Presidential Commission on Critical Infrastructure Protection
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986, also known as SARA Title III	HSPD	Homeland Security Presidential Directive	NIMS	National Incident Management System	R&D REP	Research and Development Radiological Emergency Preparedness
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (Superfund)	FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency	IG	Inspector General	NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology	SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
DHS	Department of Homeland Security	FRERP	Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan	NAPA	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan	NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	SARS	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
DHUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development	FRP GAO	Federal Response Plan Government Accountability Office	NCP	National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program	NRP	National Response Plan	TOPOFF	Top Officials World Trade Center
				NEHRP		NSDD	National Security Decision Directive	WTC	
						NWS OEM	National Weather Service Office of Emergency Management		
						OERR	Office of Emergency and Remedial Response, EPA		

SOURCE

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