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# Resilience Report

Brief insights and the latest innovations in emergency management and health security.

## Cybersecurity for Emergency Managers



FEMA and CISA recently released "[Planning Considerations for Cyber Incidents - Guidance for Emergency Managers](#)." The guide is intended to support SLTT EM personnel as they prepare for a cyber incident and develop a cyber incident response plan/annex. The guide acknowledges that EMs may not be experts on cyber incidents but do need to understand implications of cyber incidents on local communities and emergency operations. As your organization strengthens its cybersecurity posture, here are resources and tips that you should know about:

- **What you should know:** A cyber incident poses unique considerations for EMs, and each jurisdiction will coordinate roles and responsibilities in preparing for and responding to a cyber incident differently. In alignment with FEMA/CISA's newly released guide, EMs could bare responsibilities for (select):
  - **Coordinating development of a plan or annex for cyber incident response:** Plans should be developed in alignment with CPG 101 to craft a comprehensive and realistic plan that involves diverse stakeholder groups.

- **Activating an EOC during an incident response:** Many jurisdictions use the same command structure to respond to a cyber attack as they would an earthquake, flood, winter storm, etc. [Curry County, OR](#) is an example of a jurisdiction that recently was impacted by a cyber attack and coordinated response and recovery through its EOC.
  - **Managing and prioritizing resources to address response needs:** The EM field acknowledges that cyber emergency responses can require unique processes and resources, and that it is best for cybersecurity and EM professionals to collaborate and support each other. A [recent GovTech article](#) further explores the role of EM in resource coordination for an incident involving a cyber attack.
  - **Coordinating with cyber authorities to maintain situational awareness and reporting:** The lead for communications in a cyber incident as well as modes for communications should be determined for effective incident response. Included within this is identifying who is contacted during a cyber disruption, what details are reported, and how it is reported. This also includes whether the incident is [reported to CISA](#).
- **Resources you should know about:** As cyber incidents evolve, so does EM's role within preparedness, response, and recovery for this incident type. New resources continue to be developed to arm EMs with the knowledge and tools that they need. Below are just a few:
    - [NIST's Cybersecurity Framework](#): The Framework consists of three parts, the Framework Core, Implementation Tiers, and Framework Profiles. It provides ways for organizations to align their cybersecurity activities with business requirements.
    - [CISA's Emergency Services Sector Cybersecurity Framework Implementation Guidance](#): Aligns to NIST's Framework by providing guidance that is more specific to the Emergency Services Sector.
    - [CISA Free Cybersecurity Services and Tools](#): CISA offers links to a variety of free tools and services to aid organization in furthering security capabilities.
    - [CISA Cyber Essentials](#): CISA developed a guide for leaders of small/local government agencies to develop an actionable understanding of where to start in terms of implementing organizational cybersecurity practices.
    - [CISA Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Month](#): CISA leads the national recognition of this month in November and includes resources for critical infrastructure operators to prepare for and withstand/recover from disruptions, including cyber attacks.

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## In the News



### GAO Report Explores Challenges with Public Health Funding

Last week, the GAO released a report that explores both current sources of public health infrastructure funding ([PHEP](#) and [ELC](#)) and temporary sources of funding that arose from the COVID-19 pandemic. The GAO report explains the challenges, reported by jurisdictions, of maintaining sustainable efforts to prepare for future public health threats

given the ebbs and flows of funding. Twelve (12) jurisdictions were selected to give in-depth information to support the report.

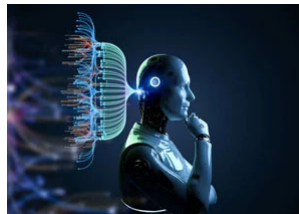
[Read More](#)



### **CDC's Respiratory Disease Season Outlook**

The CDC continues to update its Respiratory Disease Season Outlook. At time of writing, the CDC anticipates greater hospitalizations than pre-pandemic seasons, RSV activity consistent with normal seasonal patterns prior to COVID-19 following last year's surge, and a moderate COVID-19 wave at the peak that occurred last winter. The Outlook acknowledges that the pandemic changed patterns for influenza and RSV circulation, which causes some uncertainty.

[Read More](#)



### **DHS to Lead Responsible Development of AI**

On October 30, President Biden issued an Executive Order that directs DHS to lead the responsible development of AI. Specifically, DHS will manage the use of AI in critical infrastructure and cyberspace, work to reduce the risks that AI can be used to create WMDs, promote AI standards globally, and help the U.S. retain skilled talent. This builds from DHS's establishment of an AI Task Force, focused on applying AI to advance homeland security missions, in April 2023.

[Read More](#)

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## **The Fun Stuff**



### Thank You Veterans and Military Families

We just passed Veterans Day, but November also marks [National Veterans and Military Families Month](#) to honor veterans and military families for their sacrifices and service. Thank you to the brave men and women, and their families, who have served our country, including several members of CONSTANT.

### We're Grateful for Our Readers, Happy Thanksgiving!

CONSTANT wishes a Happy Thanksgiving to our team members, clients, colleagues, and partners. We are immensely grateful for your support! Looking to add to your Thanksgiving dinner menu this year? Here are [67 recipes](#) to consider.



### We're Here to Support You

If you need help with disaster preparedness, COVID-19 AARs, or anything in between, send us an email at [staff@constantassociates.com](mailto:staff@constantassociates.com). We are here to help.

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