



Homeland Security

Emergency Services Sector Profile

A system of prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery elements, the Emergency Services Sector (ESS) represents the Nation's first line of defense in the prevention and mitigation of risk from both intentional and unintentional manmade incidents, as well as from natural disasters. ESS functions support each of the other 15 critical infrastructure sectors and assist a range of organizations and communities in maintaining public safety, security, and confidence in the government by performing lifesaving operations, protecting property and the environment, assisting communities impacted by disasters, and aiding recovery from emergencies.

The first responder community comprises an estimated 4.6 million career and volunteer professionals within five primary disciplines: Law Enforcement, Fire and Rescue Services, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Management, and Public Works. This sector profile highlights these five disciplines, along with their workforce makeup and range of specialized capabilities.

The Department of Homeland Security, as the Emergency Services Sector-Specific Agency (ES-SSA), has compiled this data to present a picture of the ESS as a whole and open an avenue to greater federal and sector partner coordination regarding emergency services discipline definitions; national census and data collection methods; and community awareness of capabilities, dependencies, and interdependencies.

The information presented in this fact sheet has been drawn from publicly available sources and in coordination with responsible federal department and agencies and other sector partners including the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; United States Fire Administration; U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics; National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Office of Emergency Medical Services; and various professional and national associations.





Fire and Rescue Services

The Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 defined “fire service” as any organization in any State consisting of personnel, apparatus, and equipment which has as its purpose protecting property and maintaining the safety and welfare of the public from the dangers of fire. Today, according to the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), the term “Fire and Rescue Services” encompasses a variety of capabilities and fire service related organizations to include both structural and wildland firefighting, technical rescue services, emergency medical services, as well as State Fire Marshal’s Offices and equivalent agencies, firefighter associations, and other national level entities. The following statistics are derived from the National Fire Department Registry conducted by USFA.

27,198

fire departments registered with the United States Fire Administration (USFA) (91% of all U.S. fire departments)

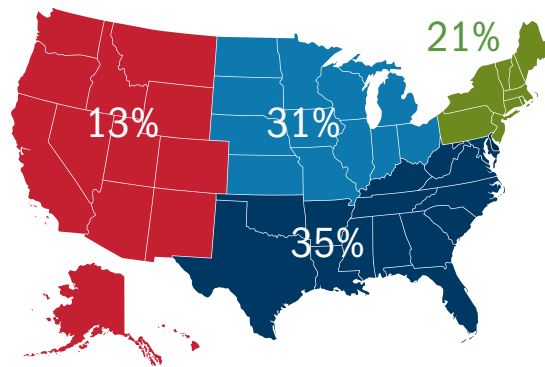


1,066,300

career, volunteer, and paid per call firefighters

151,000

civilian staff and non-firefighting personnel



% of registered fire departments by region

50,700

fire stations

69% of all departments have one fire station

14% have three or more stations

Specialized Services Provided by Fire Departments



Airport/Aviation



Basic & Advanced Life Support



Departmental (in-house) Training Academy



EMS Non-Transport Response



EMS Ambulance Transport



Fire Inspection/Code Enforcement



Fire Inspection/Cause Determination



Fireboat



Hazardous Materials Team



Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program



Public Education



Technical/Specialized Rescue



Vehicle Extrication



Wildfire/Wildland Urban Interface



71%

of registered fire departments are fully staffed by volunteers

States with the highest % of **volunteer** departments

1. Delaware
2. Minnesota
3. Pennsylvania
4. North Dakota
5. South Dakota

States with the highest % of **career** departments

1. Hawaii
2. Florida
3. Massachusetts
4. Arizona
5. California



56%

of all firefighters are volunteers

A **firefighter** is a rescuer extensively trained in firefighting and rescue techniques.

In addition to possessing firefighting skills, firefighters may be trained to provide technical rescue services to perform complex rescue operations (e.g. rescue from a confined space or building collapse, vehicle accident, or swift water). In some areas, firefighters are also cross-trained to provide Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and operate ambulances.

A **fire marshal** is a fire official who has been lawfully appointed and charged with statutory responsibilities and duties for fire prevention. Fire Marshals’ duties vary by jurisdiction and may include fire code enforcement, property inspections, investigation of the cause and origin of fires, and dissemination of fire safety education information.



Law Enforcement

“Law enforcement” (LE) is the term that describes the individuals and agencies responsible for enforcing laws and maintaining public order and public safety. LE includes the prevention, detection, and investigation of crimes and the apprehension and detention of individuals suspected of law violation. The LE community consists of Federal and State, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) LE agencies, courts systems, correctional institutions, and private sector security agencies. The following statistics are derived from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics national data collections, to include the Census of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies (CSLLEA) Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics (LEMAS) survey and Census of Federal Law Enforcement Officers (FLEO).



U.S. Law Enforcement Categories

Federal Law Enforcement Agencies

73 different agencies, (e.g., U.S. Secret Service, Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Park Police, Office of Inspectors General, etc.)

State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Law Enforcement Agencies

Local police departments, sheriffs' offices, primary state LE agencies, special jurisdiction agencies, and other agencies







Private-Sector Security Companies and Other Protective Service Professionals

Private-sector security guards, transit and rail police, etc.

Specialized Capabilities Provided By Law Enforcement Agencies

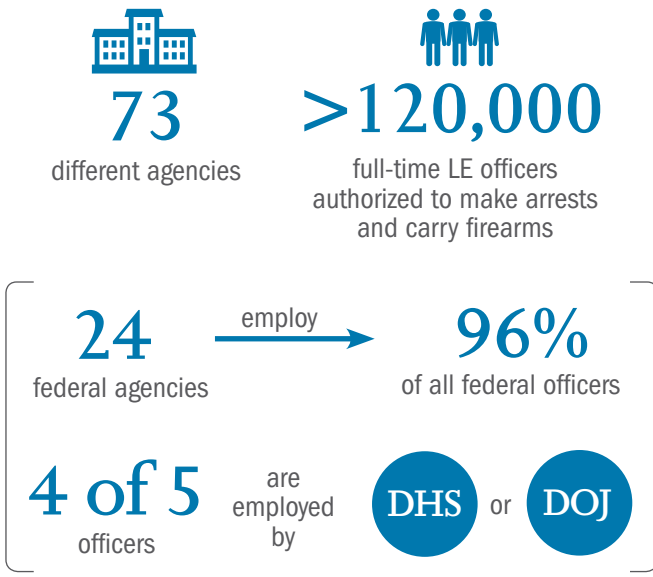
 Aviation Unit	 Bomb Squad/ Explosive Unit	 Canine (K-9) Unit	 Crime Scene Investigation Unit	 Crisis Negotiation Unit (CNU) or Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT)	 Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Unit
 Marine and Port Unit	 Patrol or Strike Team	 Public Safety Dive Team	 Riot/Crowd Control	 Search and Rescue Unit	SWAT Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team

Job Functions

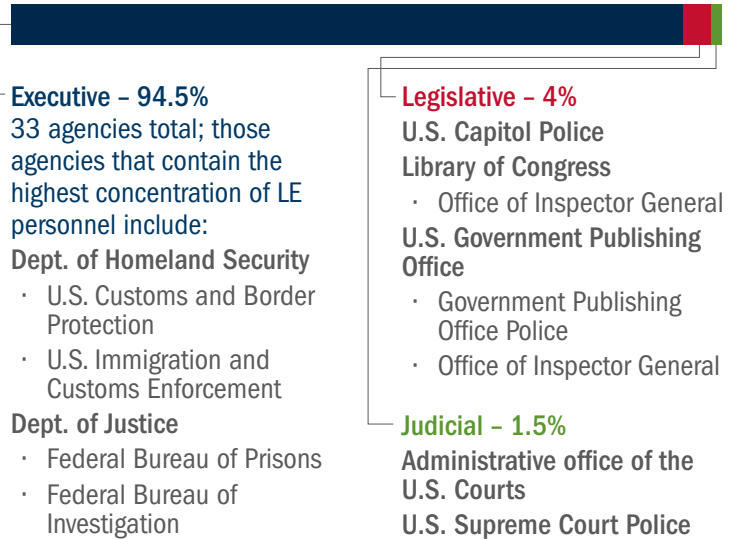
	Criminal Investigation/ Enforcement	Collection of evidence, interdiction and seizure of contraband, surveillance, execution of search warrants, analysis of information, arrest of suspects, development of cases for prosecutions, or any other investigation and enforcement duties pertaining to federal laws and regulations.
	Police response/ patrol	Preventive patrol, responding to complaints and reports of illegal activities, arresting law violators, traffic control, crowd control, handling of emergencies, or other traditional law enforcement responsibilities.
	Inspections/ noncriminal investigations	Employment and personnel security investigation, civil investigation, inspection, or any other type of noncriminal investigation or enforcement.
	Corrections/ detention	Custody, control, supervision, or transportation of pretrial detainees, prison inmates, or detained illegal aliens.
	Security/ Protection	Providing security for federal buildings, courts, records, assets, or other property, or to providing personal protection for federal government officials, judges, prosecutors, jurors, foreign dignitaries, or any other designated persons.
	Court operations	Supervision of federal offenders on probation, parole, or supervised release. Also includes serving civil or criminal process, and providing witness protection, courtroom security, or other activities related to the federal court system.
	Other Functions	General support, administration, research and development, training, information systems, laboratory testing, domestic security intelligence, or any other function not included in the other job function categories.

Federal Law Enforcement Agencies

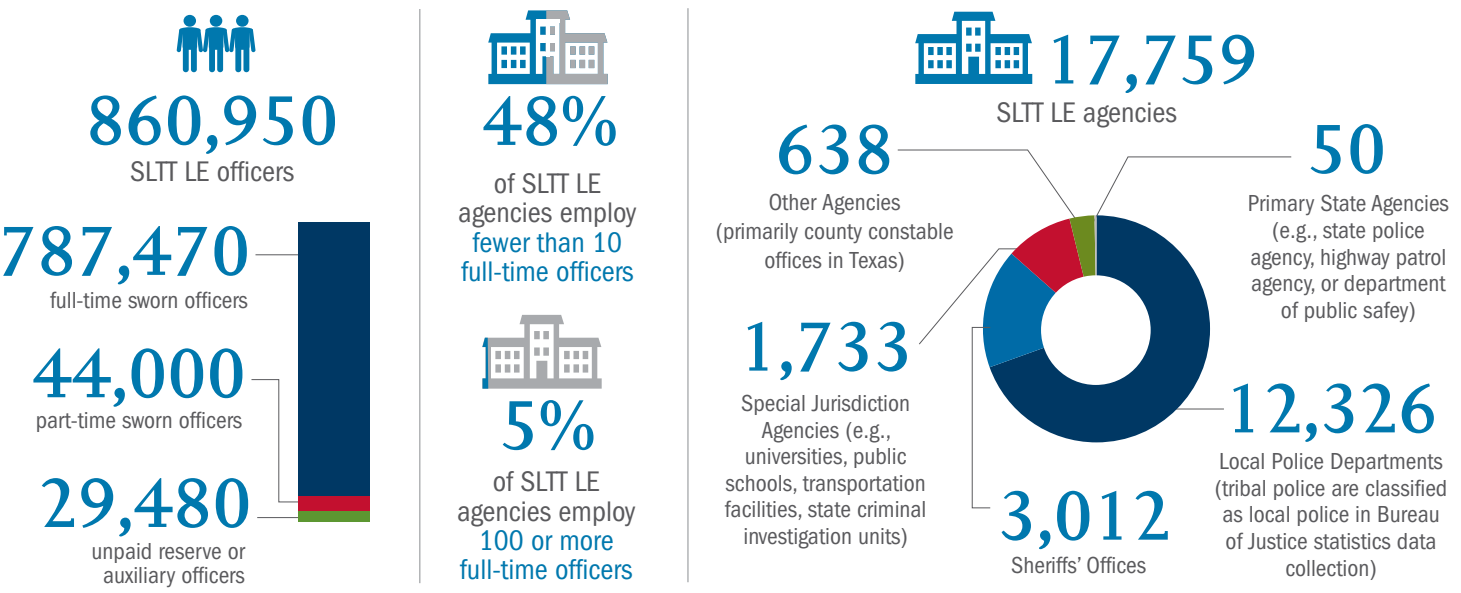
A federal law enforcement agency is an organizational unit, or subunit, of the federal government with the principle functions of prevention, detection, and investigation of crime and the apprehension of alleged offenders.



Percentage of Federal LE personnel by U.S. Branch of Government

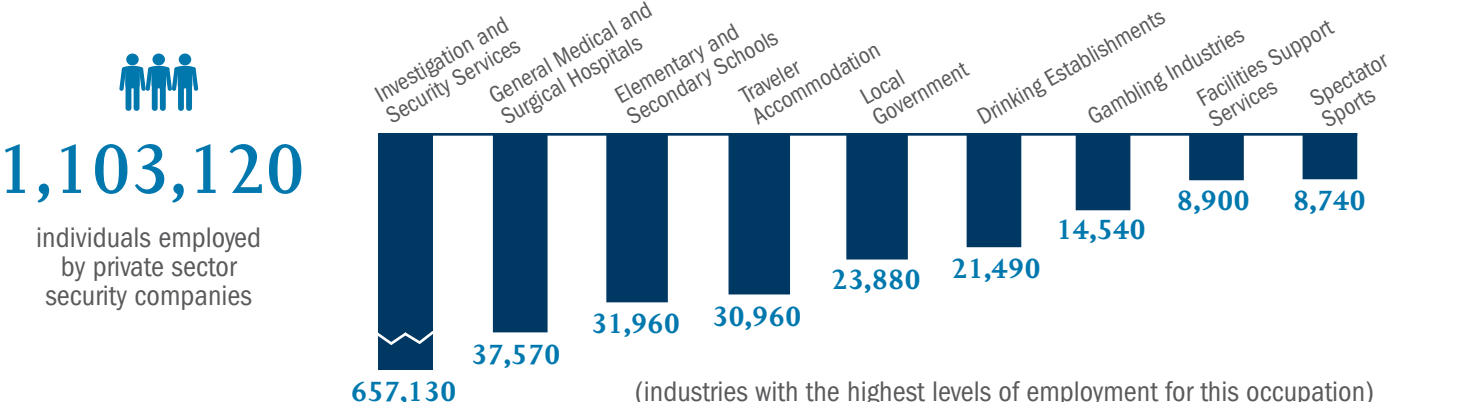


State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Law Enforcement Agencies



Private Sector Security Companies

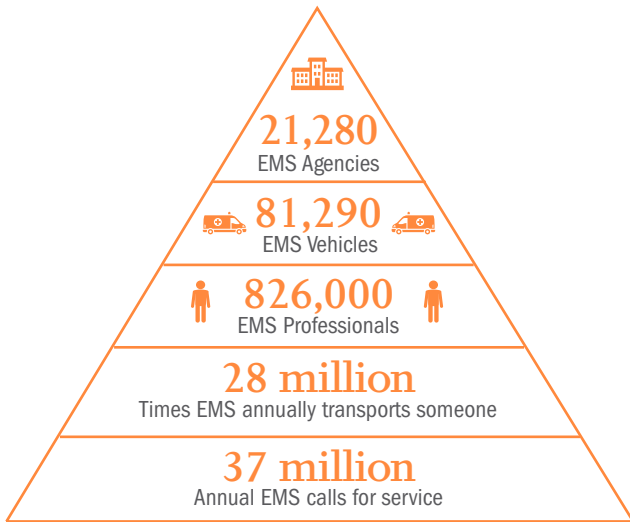
Companies primarily engaged in providing guard and patrol services, such as armed and unarmed security guard services, vehicle patrols, investigative services, risk assessments, and security surveys.



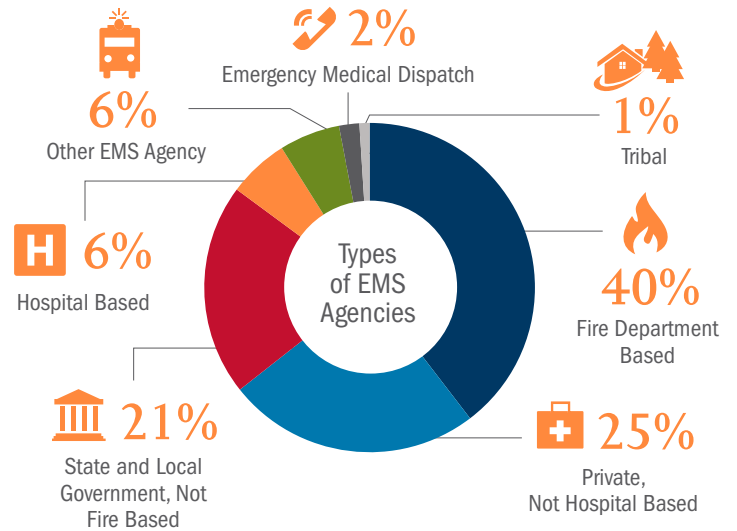


Emergency Medical Services

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is a system of coordinated response, involving multiple people and agencies that provide prehospital emergency medical care. EMS practitioners may provide both basic and advanced medical care at the scene of an emergency and enroute to a hospital. The organizational structure of EMS, as well as who provides and finances the services, varies significantly from community to community. Prehospital services can be based in a fire department, hospital, independent government agency (i.e., public health agency), or nonprofit corporation (e.g., Rescue Squad) or can be provided by commercial for-profit companies. Regardless of the provider, the essential components of an EMS system remain the same.



Adapted from 2011 National EMS Assessment



Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)

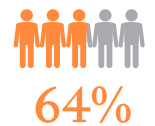
The lowest level of responder, the EMR possesses simple skills to provide immediate lifesaving care for critical patients. The EMR can render on-scene interventions while awaiting additional resources and may serve on a transport crew, but generally will not be the primary caregiver.

% of all EMS professionals



Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

The EMT conducts basic, noninvasive interventions to reduce the morbidity and mortality of acute out-of-hospital emergencies. They have all the EMR's capabilities, plus additional skills associated with patient transport. In many places, EMTs provide the majority of out-of-hospital care, and in some places, the highest level.



Advanced EMT (AEMT)

The AEMT has all the skills of the EMR and EMT, but can also conduct limited advanced and pharmacological interventions. This level allows provision of high-benefit, lower-risk advanced skills by systems that cannot support paramedic-level care. In some jurisdictions, AEMTs may represent the highest level of out-of-hospital care.



Paramedics

The paramedic is an allied health professional who can conduct invasive and pharmacological interventions. Possessing all the skills of the lower-level providers, paramedics can also conduct a broader range of interventions based on skills that are harder to maintain and pose greater risk to patients if done incorrectly. Paramedic care is based on advanced assessment and formulating a field impression.



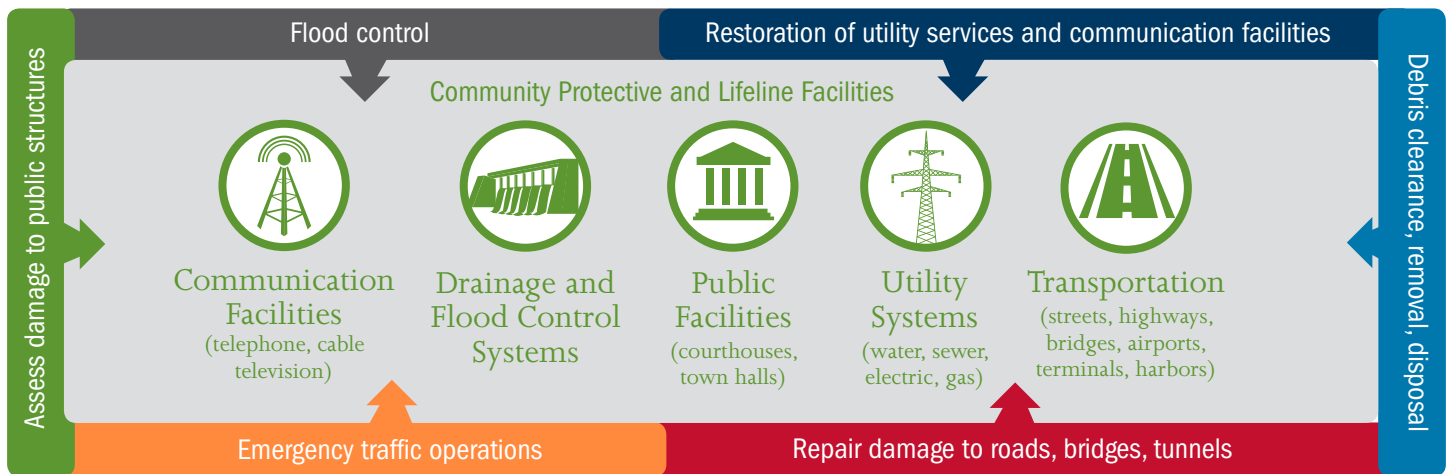


Public Works

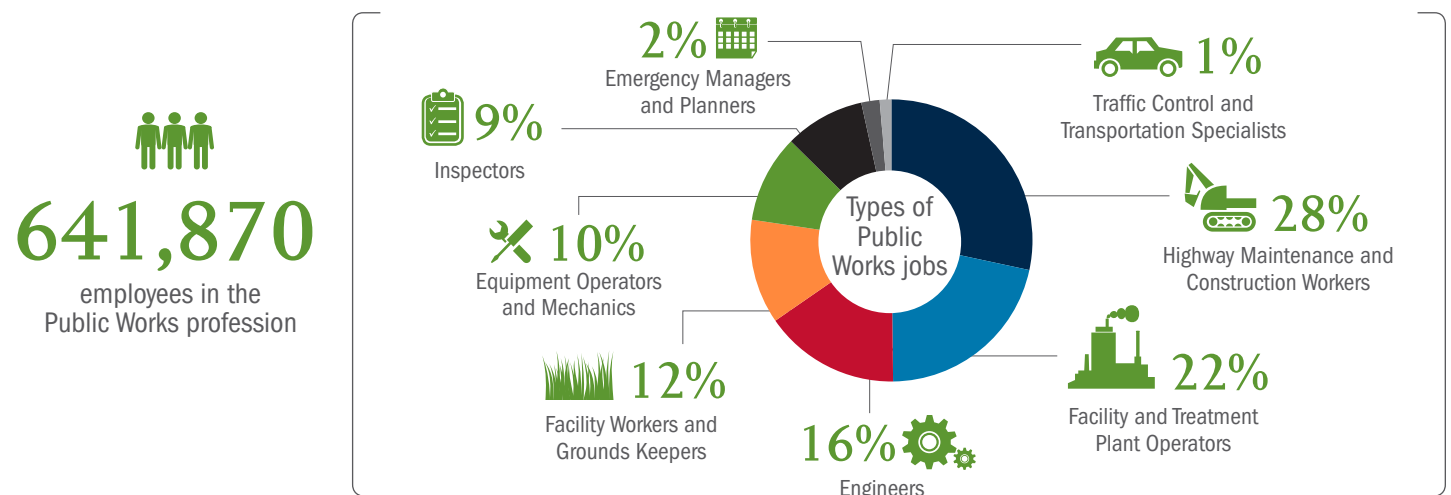
The United States has approximately 19,400 municipalities of varying sizes. In each community, there are common needs that must be met through the provision of public works services (e.g., drinking water, utilities, trash collection, etc.). Public Works may be defined as the combination of physical assets, management practices, policies, and personnel necessary for government to provide and sustain structures and services essential to the welfare and acceptable quality of life for its citizens. From an emergency management perspective, Public Works is an integral component of a jurisdiction's emergency planning and response efforts.

Public Works plays a central role in incident management (both pre- and post-event) by providing much of the engineering and technical expertise required to plan, construct, operate, and restore most of a community's protective and lifeline facilities. During an incident, Public Works may act as the lead agency for debris management, restoration of critical infrastructure, and damage assessment.

Unique Function of Public Works in Emergencies



Public Works Specialized Services





Emergency Management

Emergency Management is the managerial function charged with creating the framework within which communities reduce vulnerability to hazards and cope with disasters. This managerial function is typically undertaken by a designated **Emergency Manager**, who has a working knowledge of all the basic tenets of emergency management, including mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, and the knowledge, skills, and ability to effectively manage a locality's emergency management program. **Emergency Management Specialists** and **Emergency Management Directors** plan for, coordinate, and manage response efforts.


9,840
Emergency Management
Directors in the U.S.

The industries with the highest levels of employment for this occupation include:

5,150 → 	Local Government	350 → 	Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools
1,180 → 	State Government	320 → 	Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution
790 → 	General Medical and Surgical Hospitals		

Numbers from U.S. Department of Labor

Emergency Services Sector Specialized Capabilities

In addition to foundational capabilities of the disciplines, Federal, SLTT, and private sector assets, networks, and systems also provide specialized emergency services through individual personnel and teams. These specialized capabilities may be found in one or more various disciplines, depending on the jurisdiction.

Tactical Teams

Teams of personnel with specialized training and equipment to handle high-risk situations (e.g., hostage rescue, counterterrorism operations, etc.). While traditionally a LE capability, such as special weapons and tactics (SWAT) teams, cross-training with fire and rescue and EMS personnel has recently increased.

2,031 full-time SWAT personnel

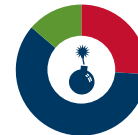
247
collateral duty as bomb tech



9,525 collateral duty SWAT personnel

883 full-time bomb techs

466
FBI accredited Bomb Squads throughout the US



2,045 collateral duty bomb techs

Hazardous Devices/ Public Safety Bomb Disposal Teams

Personnel specially trained in the investigation and disarming of suspected explosive devices. (Note: Some bomb squads and bomb techs are assigned to fire departments).

Canine (K-9)/ Explosives Detection Canine (EDC) Units

Utilized for search and rescue, evidence search and detection (e.g. presence of narcotics, explosives, tobacco products, etc.), and suspect apprehension.

752 full-time EDC handlers

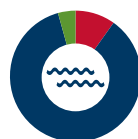
163
EDC handlers with collateral duty as bomb techs



360 collateral duty EDC handlers

260 full-time divers

114
divers with collateral duty as bomb tech



2,263 collateral duty divers

Public Safety Dive Teams

Teams of personnel with specialized training and equipment for underwater rescue, investigation, and recovery of evidence. Personnel may be part of LE, fire and rescue, or EMS organizations.

Search and Rescue (SAR) Units

Specialized teams of personnel trained in the location, rescue, and initial medical stabilization of distressed individuals. Many States and local jurisdictions maintain SAR capabilities. Per the Emergency Support Function #9 Search and Rescue Annex, Federal SAR roles and responsibilities are divided amongst the following primary agencies: Urban SAR (FEMA); Maritime/ Coastal/Waterborne SAR (U.S. Coast Guard); and Land SAR (U.S. Department of the Interior and Department of Defense).



Search and Rescue
Units (SAR)

FEMA - Establishes policy and leads the coordination of the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System

28 Urban SAR Task Forces spread throughout the U.S. trained and equipped by FEMA to handle structural collapse

Hazardous Materials Response Units (HMRU)

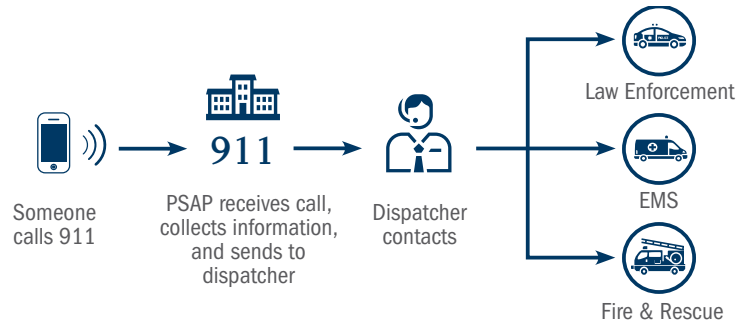
Personnel trained and equipped to perform work to control actual or potential leaks, spills, discharges, or releases of hazardous materials (HAZMAT). Capability often associated with fire departments, LE organizations, and some federal department and agencies with HAZMAT related responsibilities (e.g. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Coast Guard, FBI, etc.).



Numbers from USFA National Fire Department Registry

Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP)

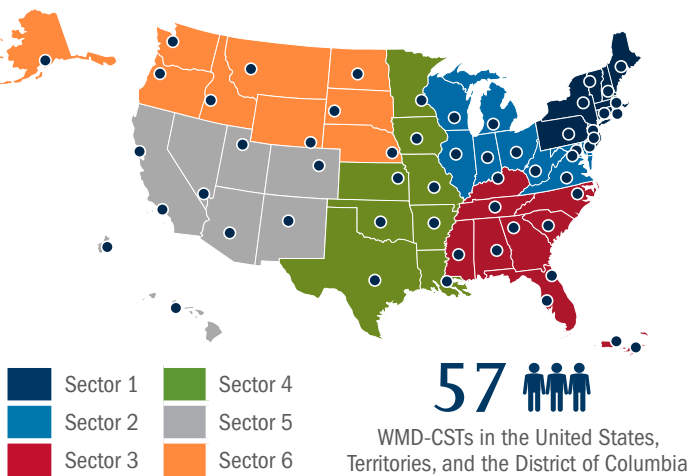
A facility that has been designated to receive 9-1-1 calls and route them to emergency services personnel. Sometimes known as a Public Safety Communications Center, a PSAP may act as a dispatch center.



Numbers from National Emergency Number Association

National Guard WMD-Civil Support Teams

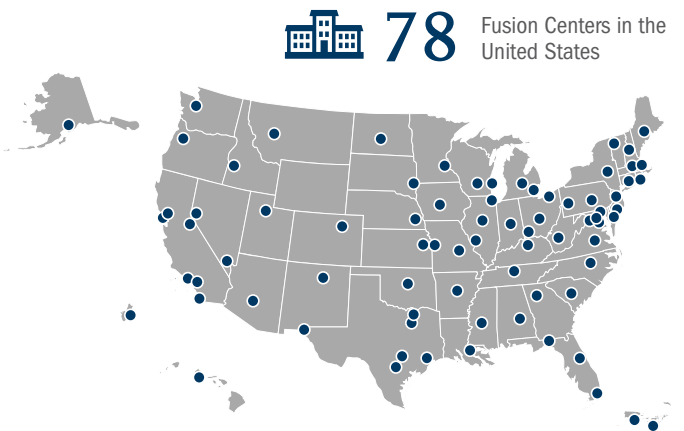
Specialized teams that provide support to civil authorities during a domestic Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and high-yield Explosives (CBRNE) incident. Civil Support Teams (CSTs) provide assistance by identifying chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear agents and substances, assessing current or projected consequences, advising on response measures, and assisting with requests for additional support. A CST is typically employed by a state's Adjutant General under the direction of the state's governor.



Information from National Guard Bureau

Fusion Centers

A State government-designated facility that provides information sharing and analysis for an entire State or major urban area. Other names include "Information Analysis Center," "Counter Terrorism Information Center," and "Regional Intelligence Center."



Adapted from National Fusion Center Association "Fusion Centers" 2017

