



King County
Emergency Management

2023 Annual Report



Vision: A County with disaster-ready communities where everyone is prepared for and can recover from emergencies.

Mission: We provide regional leadership to strengthen community resilience and access to emergency services.

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King County

Emergency Management

King County Emergency Management Overview

The King County Office of Emergency Management (KCOEM) is part of the Department of Executive Services (DES), which is a partner and leader in Delivering Excellent Service every day; this is achieved by focusing on customers, internal and external, and treating everyone with fairness and respect. KCOEM, pursuant to [King County Code](#), is responsible to provide comprehensive emergency management in accordance with the Revised Code of Washington, [Chapter 38.52](#), including to:

- Prepare for and plan for emergencies and disasters;
- Lead County emergency preparedness efforts and provide effective direction, control, and coordination of King County Government emergency services functional units before, during, and after emergencies and disasters;
- Provide liaison with other governments and the private, nongovernmental sector on matters related to emergency management; and
- Serve as the regional coordinating entity for local governments, King County Governmental departments, and other appropriate agencies, before, during, and after emergencies and disasters.

KCOEM has four key outcomes:

1. Region-wide planning and emergency response coordination for jurisdictional and private sector partners.
2. Achieve a state of continuous improvement through the adoption of standards-based programs.
3. Develop resilient and inclusive systems for King County departments and the whole community.
4. Develop a strong workforce made up of internal and external partners, ready to coordinate emergency response and recovery.

These outcomes are achieved through the following four priorities:

Priority: Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Readiness

Strengthen EOC readiness by fitting the proper environment and layout, improving technology, personnel training, and qualifications. Improving and updating process and procedures and ensuring opportunities for experience through exercises and real events.

Priority: Situational Awareness

Develop better situational awareness, including gathering, analyzing, assessing, processing, and distributing information to partners. Developing and distributing intelligence, using new and enhanced technology, and having the ability to see a broad perspective on threats and hazards.

Priority: Public Awareness and Education

Provide for overall regional readiness through public awareness, performing outreach activities and training, increasing options for and reach of alert and warning systems, using traditional and social media for messaging. Increasing public resilience through programs such as Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), disaster readiness skills, and other public education programs.

Priority: Disaster Risk Reduction

Help to ensure disaster risk reduction by using corrective actions and lessons learned to guide future emergency management work, giving proper attention to the mitigation, prevention, and protection mission areas. Building up the County’s continuity framework through plan updates, workshops, and exercises.



Key Update: State Individual Assistance Pilot Program

KCOEM is the coordinating agency for the County when applying for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or Washington Emergency Management Division (EMD) assistance programs following a disaster. The two programs that are most beneficial to individuals impacted by disaster are the FEMA-funded Individual Assistance (FEMA IA) program and the State-funded, County-managed Individual Assistance (WA IA) pilot program. These programs support individuals and businesses with housing, medical, dental, funeral, personal property, transportation, and other necessary expenses. Information about assistance programs is shared on the EMD website, [linked here](#).

To determine if an event has caused impacts that are beyond the County's and/or State's abilities to address, KCOEM conducts a damage assessment that includes a canvass of local entities to ascertain damage to homes and businesses within the geographic borders. In 2022, KCOEM conducted Individual Assistance damage assessments for the September Bolt Creek Fire and the December King Tide/South Park Flooding that also impacted the Riverbend neighborhood near North Bend.

Since the estimated impact and cost for damages did not meet thresholds for a FEMA-funded IA award for either event, KCOEM petitioned the State to take part in the State IA pilot program.

In response to outreach that began in 2022, KCOEM received a total of 117 applications for assistance due to losses resulting from the September Bolt Creek Fire.

KCOEM followed up with each applicant via phone, email, and/or in person and assisted applicants as needed in providing required documentation. KCOEM issued WA IA grants totaling \$271,541 to 90 King County residents in the Skykomish, Baring, and Grotto areas who were impacted by the Bolt Creek Fire. Residents who were financially impacted by the fire were reimbursed for the cost of staying at a hotel during the evacuation period, loss of food, running a generator due to power outages, and added fuel expenses for longer commutes due to the highway closure.



Figure 1: Flooded Residence in South Park

KCOEM partnered with community-based organizations to reach individuals who were impacted by the December winter weather that included a King Tide, resulting in flooding and wind damage. KCOEM awarded WA IA grants totaling \$122,344 to five recipients in South Park and one resident in Riverbend. With the assistance of the Khmer Community of Seattle King County, four residents who were displaced from their rental units by flooding in South Park received funds to cover costs for moving, rent, and replacement household items; two homeowners received funds to perform repairs on their residences. Figure 1 shows impacts from the King Tide flooding in South Park.

While several counties struggled to implement the WA IA pilot program, it was a success in King County because of KCOEM's ability to conduct community outreach and develop an administrative process and forms that are compliant with State guidance, along with the fact that the County was willing bear the cost of providing recovery funds for community members in need while waiting to be reimbursed by the State. KCOEM's process and documents were shared with other counties as examples by EMD.

Priority: EOC Readiness

EOC Readiness: Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan

In 2023, KCOEM continued work to update and reform the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). The CEMP outlines goals, roles and responsibilities, and concepts of operations to address all hazards in the five emergency management mission areas¹: Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery. The plan components undergoing review and update are the base plan, which is a philosophical and strategic statement on emergency management, and the concepts of preparedness and operations; the Response mission area operational plan; and support function annexes (Emergency Support Function [ESF] and Recovery Support Function [RSF]). New plan components drafted in 2023 include operational plans for the Recovery mission area, and a combined Prevention-Protection mission area plan, along with corresponding support function annexes. These components were developed to include Core Capabilities, Community Lifelines, and Essential Elements of Information (EEI) to bring uniformity for partners needing to use multiple components. This multi-year planning effort involves coordinating with numerous partners such as local government at County and city levels, special purpose districts, non-profit organizations, and private sector businesses. KCOEM planners established working groups, reviewed updated federal and state guidance, and used interviews and surveys to collect information for plan update and development.

Figure 2 shows the relationship between the CEMP, which sets context and expectations, the mission area plans, which provide frameworks for roles and responsibilities, tasks, integration, and actions, and the playbooks and handbooks, which direct personnel actions, equipment, and resources. It also shows how Continuity of Operations (COOP) program guidance, department COOP plans, which describe how essential functions are continued, and the Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP), which provides a multi-year schedule of integrated trainings and exercises, are connected.

¹ Prevention - Prevent, avoid or stop an imminent, threatened or actual act of terrorism.

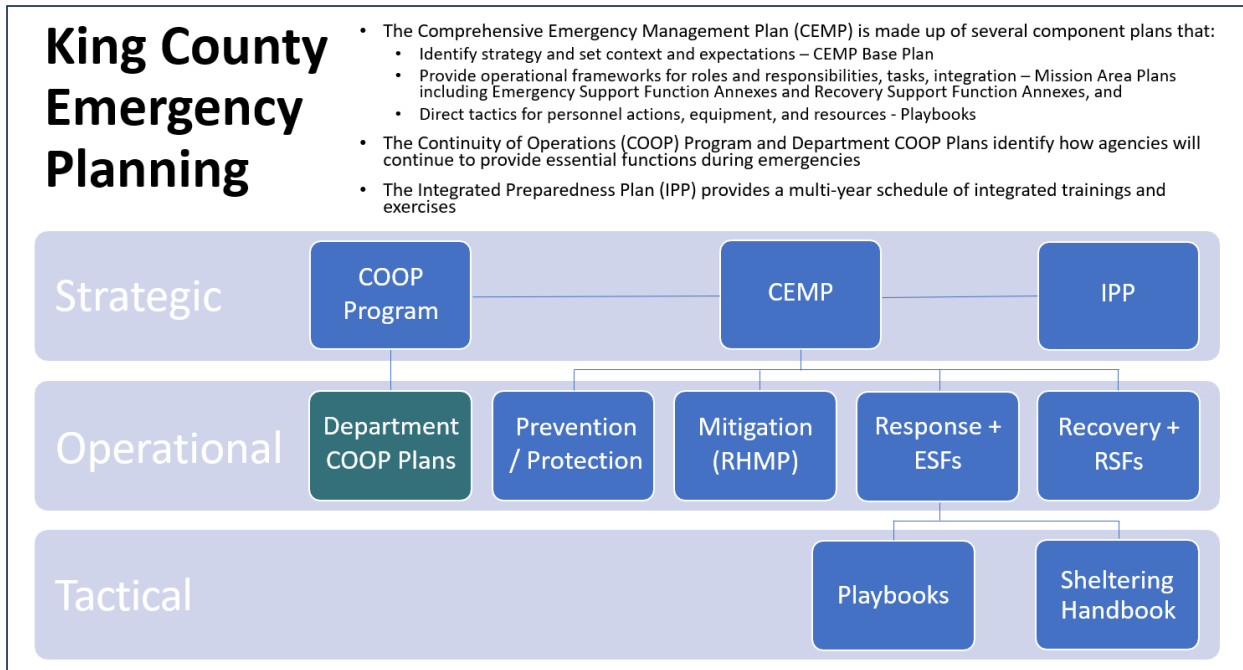
Protection - Protect our citizens, residents, visitors, and assets against the greatest threats and hazards in a manner that allows our interests, aspirations and way of life to thrive.

Mitigation - Reduce the loss of life and property by lessening the impact of future disasters.

Response - Respond quickly to save lives, protect property and the environment, and meet basic human needs in the aftermath of a catastrophic incident.

Recovery - Recover through a focus on the timely restoration, strengthening and revitalization of infrastructure, housing and a sustainable economy, as well as the health, social, cultural, historic and environmental fabric of communities affected by a catastrophic incident.

Figure 2: Hierarchy of King County Emergency Management Plans



EOC Readiness: Training and Qualifications

To be fully functional during emergencies or disasters, the King County EOC relies on trained and qualified professionals ready to respond at a moment’s notice. KCOEM dedicates time to training professionals to fill various EOC roles, through both internal and external trainings. KCOEM employees are the first to staff EOC positions during emergencies and disasters, and as such, they need to have the knowledge, skills, and abilities to do their roles effectively to save and sustain lives, stabilize the situation, and protect property and the environment.

In 2020, KCOEM established the baseline training requirements for its personnel. In 2021, KCOEM identified training requirements for specific roles (positions) in the EOC and developed a training matrix and tracking system to monitor required and recommended training courses for KCOEM personnel and other partners who work in the EOC during emergency operations. Baseline competency courses include trainings such as the FEMA [Professional Development Series](#) (PDS), National Incident Management System (NIMS) courses, and basic EOC trainings. In 2022, KCOEM focused on getting staff members to complete required training. Part of this included ensuring staff had the time and leeway to take online independent study courses, as well as bringing in-person courses to the EOC. For 2022, KCOEM staff members vastly increased the number of completed trainings. Figure 3 below shows the required (REQ) and recommended (REC) FEMA Independent Study and instructor-led courses, along with to whom each applies.

King County Regional Credentialing Workgroup

In 2023, OEM launched a new regional group to support the establishment of a regional EOC Credentialing Program as required by the FEMA National Qualification System (NQS). The King County program is one part of a larger planning effort that will satisfy national requirements for the implementation of the NQS in order to receive Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) funding.

The King County Emergency Operations Center Personnel Credentialing Program (EOC PCP) provides the process by which the King County region will conduct the qualifying and credentialing of EOC personnel within the King County region. The King County program was developed in conjunction with the EMD EOC Credentialing Program, which aims to provide a framework for EOCs throughout the state to develop and implement their own credentialing plans, based on their organizational structure and personnel assignments.

The King County EOC PCP was created as part of a collaborative effort between KCOEM and other King County regional emergency management entities, including other County agencies, cities and towns, special purpose districts, and other partners. King County regional entities are covered under this framework unless they opt to facilitate a separate program.

The EOC PCP:

- Identifies the required knowledge, skills, and abilities for essential EOC positions and establishes the qualifications for credentialing EOC personnel in King County.
- Establishes Position Task Books (PTB) for essential EOC positions.
- Develops a process for qualifying and credentialing EOC personnel across King County to support jurisdictional assistance.
- Aligns with EMD efforts to deploy EOC personnel through state-managed systems.

Figure 3: KCOEM Required and Recommended FEMA Courses

King County Office of Emergency Management Required and Recommended FEMA Courses	All Staff Members	FEMA PDS	Duty Officers	Planners	EOC Manager	EOC Operations	EOC Resource Management	EOC Planning	Other Non-OEM Personnel Working in the EOC	JIC/JIS/PIO
FEMA Independent Study Courses										
IS-5.A: An Introduction to Hazardous Materials			REQ			REQ				
IS-15.B: Special Events Contingency Planning for Public Safety Agencies				REQ				REC		
IS-26: Guide to Points of Distribution				REC			REQ			
IS-27: Orientation to FEMA Logistics							REQ			
IS-75: Military Resources in Emergency Management				REC		REQ				
IS-100.C: Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS 100	REQ								REQ	
IS-200.C: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response	REQ								REQ	
IS-201: Forms Used for the Development of the Incident Action Plan			REQ		REC	REC	REC	REQ		
IS-120.C: An Introduction to Exercises	REQ	X								
IS-230.D: Fundamentals of Emergency Management	REQ	X								
IS-235.C: Emergency Planning	REQ	X								
IS-240.B: Leadership and Influence	REQ	X								
IS-241.B: Decision Making and Problem Solving	REQ	X								
IS-242.B: Effective Communication	REQ	X								
IS-244.B: Developing and Managing Volunteers	REQ	X								
IS-247.B: IPAWS for Alert Originator			REQ							
IS-271.A: Anticipating Hazardous Weather & Community Risk			REQ							
IS-403: Introduction to Individual Assistance	REC									
IS-772: Individual Assistance PDA Orientation	REC									
IS-453: Introduction to Homeland Security Planning				REQ						
IS-700.B: An Introduction to the National Incident Management System	REQ								REQ	
IS-703.B: National Incident Management System Resource Management				REC			REQ			
IS-706: Intrastate Mutual Aid	REC					REC	REQ			
IS-800.D: National Response Framework, An Introduction	REQ									
IS-1300: Introduction to Continuity of Operations	REC			REQ						
IS-2000: National Preparedness Goal and System Overview	REC			REQ						
IS-2002: Introduction to FEMA Operational Planning				REC				REQ		
IS-2200: Basic Emergency Operations Center Functions	REQ								REC	
IS-2900: National Recovery Framework Overview	REC									
IS-2901: Introduction to Community Lifelines	REQ									
FEMA Instructor-led Courses										
E0143: Advanced Situational Awareness and Common Operating Picture			REC					REC		
E/G0191: EOC/ICS Interface	REQ								REC	
G0235: Emergency Planning				REC						
G0272: Warning Coordination			REC							
E/G0300: ICS 300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents	REC		REQ							
E/G0400: ICS 400: Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff	REC									
E0948: Situational Awareness and Common Operating Picture								REC		
E2002: FEMA Operational Planning Manual								REC		
E/G2300: Intermediate Emergency Operations Center Functions	REC									
E/L388 Advanced PIO Academy										REC
E105 Basic Public Information Officer										REQ
L8540: Basic Interagency Logistics Seminar/Logistic Center Tour							REC			
FEMA Position-specific Courses										
O305: All-Hazards Incident Management Team Introduction	REC									
E/L0950: NIMS ICS All-Hazards Incident Commander Course					REC					
E/L0958: NIMS ICS All-Hazards Operations Section Chief Course						REC				
E/L0962: NIMS ICS All-Hazards Planning Section Chief Course								REC		
E/L0964: NIMS ICS All-Hazards Situation Unit Leader Course								REC		
E/L0967: NIMS ICS All-Hazards Logistics Section Chief Course							REC			

EOC Readiness: Emergency Support Function Lead Agency Group

In 2022, KCOEM formed the Emergency Support Function Lead Agency Group (ESFLAG), which is made up of representatives from the lead agencies of the County’s Emergency Support Functions (ESF) as identified in the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) and Response Operations Plan. ESFs provide the structure that groups resources and capabilities into functional areas most frequently needed in a response operation to best coordinate interagency support during incidents and events. County department representatives who would serve in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during emergencies and disasters make up the membership of the ESFLAG. The ESFLAG met three times in 2023, reviewing the King County Incident Playbooks (Heat, Smoke, and Flooding Playbooks), which outline county agency incident specific preparedness and response operations activities; Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Basics (the functions, positions, activities); and information collection, analysis, and dissemination practices during response operations.

EOC Readiness: EOC Activations

The King County EOC is the location from which regional coordination of information and resources to support incident management activities takes place. The personnel in the EOC serve some or all the following roles and responsibilities, depending on the incident or event:

- Collecting, analyzing, and sharing information.
- Supporting resource needs and requests, including allocation and tracking.
- Coordinating plans and determining current and future needs.
- Providing coordination and policy direction.

In 2023, several emergencies called on KCOEM resources as shown in Figure 4; these emergencies are in addition to the incidents and events handled by the Duty Officer (see Figure 15: Duty Officer Activity Type and CIR Category for Incidents Reported). Activation definitions can be seen below in Figure 5.

Figure 4: 2023 EOC Activations

Mission # / Event	2023 Dates	Activation Level	Ops Periods
23-1394 / Mercer Island Water Outage	4/20-21	Enhanced Monitoring	2
Riverton Park Assistance Tukwila	5/4 -12/31	Enhanced Monitoring	7
August Excessive Heat Event	8/3-26	Enhanced Monitoring	3
23-4787 / December Atmospheric River	12/4-7	Enhanced Monitoring	4
2023 Total			16

For the incidents noted above, such as extreme heat and extreme cold, there was some amount of prior notice available. This notice allowed KCOEM to engage in pre-event planning and coordination with King County leadership, agencies, and other partners, through regional coordination calls (King County agencies and jurisdictional partners) and Business Continuity Calls (King County Government leadership). Lessons learned from these events led to the enhancement and updating of incident-specific playbooks that identify expected actions, and roles and responsibilities for KCOEM, King County agencies, and other partners. In 2023, KCOEM finalized development of additional playbooks to outline the actions, critical tasks, roles and responsibilities, and coordination elements for Smoke, Extreme Cold/Snow/Ice, and Flooding. Additionally, KCOEM continues to socialize the EEI concept with partners who are expected to provide updates. Incident specific EEIs are included in the extreme weather (heat, cold, flooding) playbooks which are in use. KCOEM staff also began work on additional playbooks for incidents

that provide advanced notice, such as migrant arrivals and evacuations.

Figure 5: EOC Activation Levels

Level	Definition/Condition	Staffing Posture	Select Deliverables
Full	Incident or event that requires a fully staffed EOC by KC Emergency Management and activation of many or all of the Emergency Support Functions (ESF) and/or Recovery Support Functions (RSF), including other King County departments and partner agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All KC Emergency Management staff members • ESFs / RSFs • Other King County agencies • City/town representatives • Voluntary agencies • State and federal EM programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Situation Reports • Incident Support Plans • Active use of WebEOC • Active use of Emergency News Blog • Regional / state / local / County agency coordination calls • Active resource management
Partial	An incident or event that requires staffing of the EOC by KC Emergency Management personnel and activation of one or more Emergency Support Functions ESFs and/or Recovery Support Functions (RSF), including select King County departments and partner agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KC Emergency Management staff members • Public Information Officer • ESF and/or RSF representatives (generally, these are from King County departments and agencies) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Situation Reports • Incident Support Plans • Active use of WebEOC • Active use of Emergency News Blog • Active resource management • Conducting coordination calls with county entities and jurisdictions
Enhanced	An anticipated or presently occurring incident or event is being monitored by Duty Officers and additional KC Emergency Management staff members as needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duty Officer • Back Up Duty Officer • Public Information Officer • Additional KC Emergency Management staff members, as required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Situation Reports / Snapshots • Incident Support Plans, as needed • Active use of WebEOC • Sharing of situational awareness products • Emergency News Blog, as needed
Steady State	No anticipated or presently occurring incident or event that requires assistance beyond the regular day-to-day KC Emergency Management operations and monitoring by the Duty Officer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duty Officer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periodic monitoring and updating of WebEOC as conditions warrant • Sharing of situational awareness and products

EOC Readiness: Professional Emergency Management Training

KCOEM offers emergency management trainings, seminars, and exercises to stakeholders, including King County Government and our many external partners.

- In 2023, KCOEM was one of eight sites (across the country) to participate in a first-of-its-kind course delivery for FEMA. In this “Hub and Spoke” model, all sites were connected via Zoom and the class was taught to almost 100 students at the same time. Each site had at least one instructor. Each instructor took a turn teaching parts of the course to the entire audience and managed the group exercises at their physical location.
- In 2023, KCOEM also incorporated one of FEMA’s courses, *G2300: Intermediate Emergency Operations Center Functions*, into the staff “EOC Readiness” trainings, which occur every two weeks. This enabled KCOEM staff members to have exposure to a wide range of topics that can occur when an EOC is activated.

See Figure 6 for the courses taught by KCOEM, and a listing with explanations of these courses, below.

Figure 6: Courses provided by KCOEM in 2021, 2022, and 2023

Course Name	Number of Times Taught ⁴		
	2021	2022	2023
WebEOC - Regional Training Event	3	4	2
Introduction to EOCs – Regional Training Event	2	4	
Lunchtime Lecture: ICS-100 (Just-in-Time training)	3		
Lunchtime Lecture: ICS-200 (Just-in-Time training)	3		
ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents	2	2	2
ICS-400: Advanced ICS for Complex Incidents	8	2	2
G-191: EOC/ICS Interface		2	2
O-305: Type 3 All-Hazards IMT		1	2
Summer Hazards Seminar	1	1	1
Winter Weather Seminar	1	1	1
G-205: Recovery from Disaster: Local Community Role		1	
L-388: Advanced PIO		1	
MGT-460: Planning for Disaster Debris Management		1	
Understanding Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks		1	
JIS/JIC/PIO Skills Training		5	6
Crisis Communications		1	
Mass Care Forum		1	
Regional Elections Security Symposium			1
Coordination for Mass Casualty Incidents Involving Foreign Nationals			1
L0101: "Foundations of Emergency Management"			1
L0110: *Train the Trainer* for FEMA's Basic Academy			1
EMAP's 'Emergency Management Standard' Training			1
G-2300: Intermediate EOC Functions			1
L0962: All-Hazards Planning Section Chief			1
KC EOC Familiarization Training for ESF 4			2
Public Assistance & Preliminary Damage Assessment Training			1
AWR-315: Fundamentals of Criminal Intelligence			1
AWR-219: Site Protection through Observational Techniques			1
AWR-409: Recognizing and Identifying Domestic and Homegrown Violent Extremism			1
MGT-324: Campus Emergencies Prevention, Response, and Recovery			1
L0956: Liaison Officer (AHIMTA)			1
ATC-20 / ATC-45: Safety Evaluation of Buildings after Earthquakes (ATC-20) and Windstorms and Floods (ATC-45)			2
ATC-20: Procedures for Postearthquake Safety Evaluation of Buildings			1
L0103 Planning: Emergency Operations			1
Total	23	28	37

⁴ - Number of times the course was taught during the year; many of these are multi-day courses.

Select Course Descriptions

WebEOC - Regional Training Event: is a 1.5-hour, remote-access class on how to use WebEOC, which is an information sharing tool used by EOCs. It consists of both an initial overview of WebEOC, as well as hands-on practice accomplishing specific tasks with the software.

Introduction to EOCs: this one-hour course is an introduction to EOCs for people designated to work in an EOC. The two main topics covered in this course are how EOCs operate, and the main roles in an EOC.

ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents: this 3-day course provides training for personnel who require advanced application of ICS and expands upon information covered in the ICS-100 and ICS-200 courses.

ICS-400: Advanced ICS - Complex Incidents: this 2-day course provides training and resources for personnel who require advanced application of ICS and expands upon information covered in ICS-100 through ICS-300. The target audience is senior personnel performing in a management capacity in ICS.

G-191: EOC/ICS Interface: this course reviews ICS and EOC responsibilities and functions and depends heavily on exercises and group discussions to formulate the interface. The course provides an opportunity for participants to begin developing an interface between an Incident Management Team and EOC personnel.

G-205: Recovery from Disaster: The Local Community Role: this 2.5-day course covers foundational concepts in disaster recovery and the latest guidance on recovery planning.

L-388: Advanced PIO: this 5-day course provides participants with the knowledge and skills to establish, manage, and work within a JIC through multimedia lectures and individual and group activities.

O-305: Type 3 All-Hazards Incident Management Team: this course focuses on the importance of developing and operating as a functional Type 3 All-Hazards Incident Management Team (AHIMT).

MGT-460: Planning for Disaster Debris Management: this 8-hour management-level course is designed to enable participants to identify debris management components and the best planning practices using existing plan examples and case studies.

G-2300: Intermediate Emergency Operations Center Functions: this 3-day course has the goal of assisting individuals and jurisdictions to develop or improve their EOC through training on the managerial and operational roles of the modern-day EOC as a NIMS Command and Coordination functional group operating within a Multiagency Coordination System.

Figures 7 - 10 provide information on the number of 2023 KCOEM trainings and students reached.

Figure 7: Number of Classes Per Year

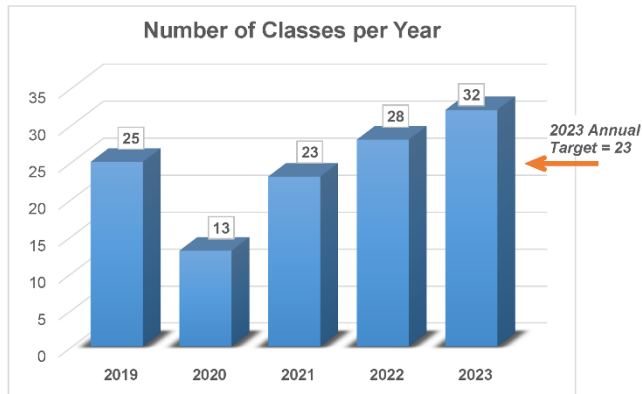


Figure 8: Number of Students Per Year

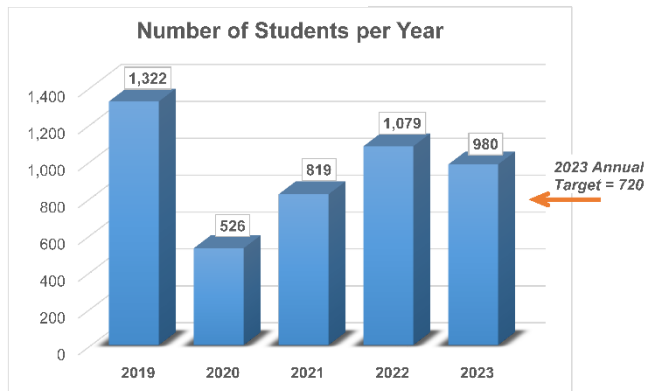


Figure 9: Number of Students Contact Hours Per Year

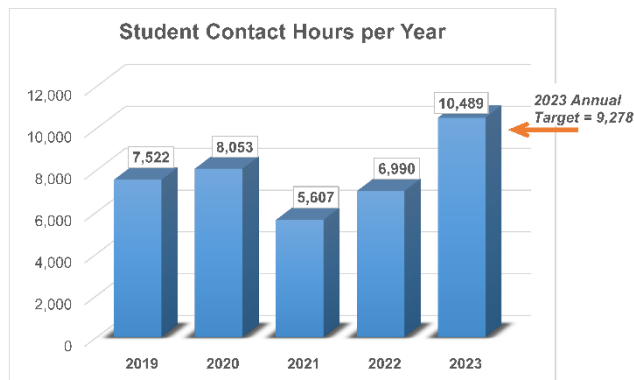


Figure 10: Summary of KCOEM Training

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Class Hours	3,943	7,522	8,053	5,067	6,690	10,489
Number of Students	824	1,322	526	819	1,079	980
Number of Classes	42	25	13	23	28	37

EOC Readiness: Tri-County Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack Program - Training

In 2023, KCOEM hosted 68 students for 900 hours of training as part of the Tri-County Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack Program, a regional program that KCOEM has administered since the program’s creation in 2017 under a federal grant program.

Louisiana State University’s Academy of Counter-Terrorist Education—a member of the federally sponsored National Domestic Preparedness Consortium—delivered four courses:

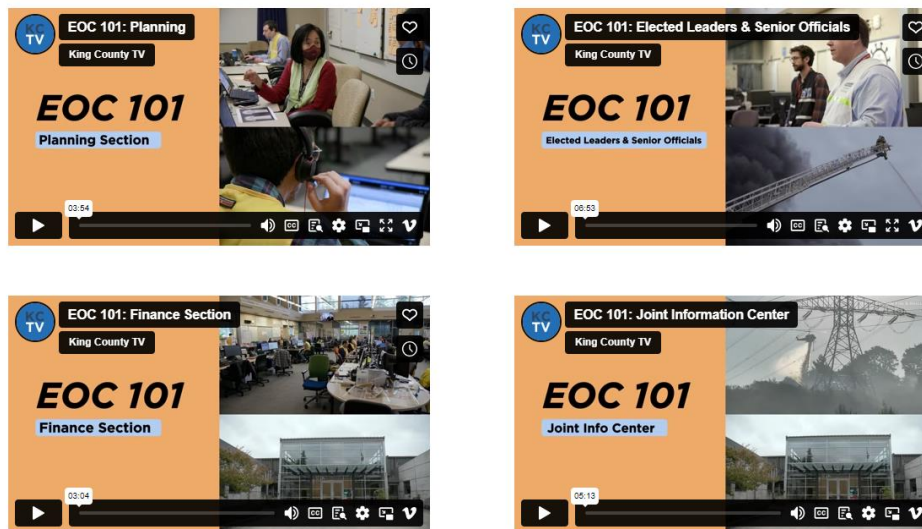
- Oct. 18-20: Fundamentals of Criminal Intelligence (AWR-315)
- Oct. 23: Site Protection through Observational Techniques (AWR-219)
- Oct. 24: Recognizing and Identifying Domestic and Homegrown Violent Extremism (AWR-409)
- Oct. 25-26: Campus Emergencies Prevention, Response, and Recovery (MGT-324)

The courses were selected by a board of public safety leaders from King, Snohomish, and Pierce Counties to train professionals across a wide range of disciplines in ways to protect the communities they serve against acts of violence.

EOC Readiness: EOC 101 Videos

Continuing on the success of the EOC 101 videos developed and filmed in 2022, KCOEM staff continued developing additional videos for the series. Four more videos were created and added to the [EOC 101 website](#). The four topics identified in the screenshots shown in Figure 11 are Planning, Elected Leaders & Senior Officials, Finance Section, and the Joint Information Center. The video series was created to give viewers a quick, digestible overview of the EOC and how it is organized. The videos, which are four to six minutes in length, was designed to be used by any partner agency, especially the cities.

Figure 11: EOC 101 Videos



EOC Readiness: Emergency Managers Professional Webinar Series

In June 2022, KCOEM kicked off a [professional webinar series](#) to add depth to various topics in the emergency management community. Partners were surveyed on topics of particular interest and KCOEM personnel reached out to subject matter experts in the identified categories to best fill the gaps in regional knowledge. The intent of the webinars is to host a “TED”-type session where hosts can share

their expertise. The webinars, which are held bimonthly and can be increased to monthly in the future, facilitate more standardized knowledge in each area and expand the overall reach for a given topic. The webinars are hosted live and recorded, so that interested parties can view them at a time that best works for their schedule if they cannot attend in person. Topics for 2023 included: Tohoku Case Study - A tale of two schools, The Washington State Fusion Center - What it does and why it matters, Homeland Security Grants - Past, present and future, Washington’s Volcanoes – Threats and potential impacts, and Discover the Heart of Tribal Emergency Management – Building meaningful relationships. While the videos are recorded and uploaded for future viewing, participants are encouraged to join live to engage in conversation over the topic. Figure 12 below shows the number of live participants for the six sessions that took place throughout the year. Figure 13 shows screenshots of two webinars. The topics and presenters are credited in Figure 14.

Figure 12: Chart of Participants for Emergency Managers Professional Series

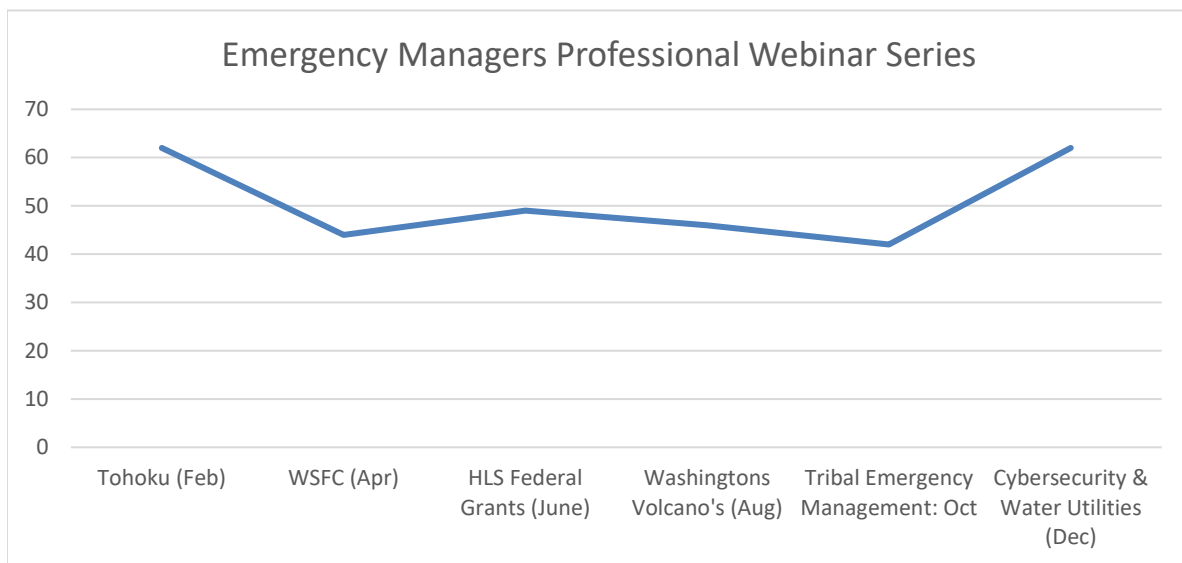


Figure 13: Screenshot Samples from 2023 Emergency Management Webinar Series



Tohoku Earthquake (Feb 2023)



Tribal Law & Emergency Management (Oct 2023)

Figure 14: Name of Webinar and Speakers

Tohoku Case Study: A Tale of Two Schools(slides)	Elyssa Tappero, Tsunami Program Coordinator, WA EMD
The Fusion Center: What it Does and Why it Matters	Doug Larm, Regional Lead Analyst, Seattle Police Dept/Washington State Fusion Center
HLS Grants - Past, Present, and Future	Jennifer Schaal, WA EMD (retired) and Sierra Wardell, Financial Operations Section Manager, WA EMD
Washington's Volcanoes - Threats and Potential Impacts	Brian Terbush, Earthquake/Volcano Program Coordinator, WA EMD
Discover the Heart of Tribal Emergency Management: Building Meaningful Relationships	Lisa Figueroa, Emergency Manager, Redmond Fire Department
<i>Still Waters Run Deep</i> "-Cybersecurity & Water Utilities: Safeguarding Critical Infrastructure	Alexander Salazar Jr from the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) accompanied by Lauren Wisniewski (CISA), Chad Buechler from Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), Andrew Hildick-Smith from Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center (Water ISAC).

Priority: Situational Awareness

Situational Awareness: Duty Officer Activity and Coordination

KCOEM Duty Officers rotate through week-long shifts, being available “24/7” as the primary entry point for King County Government and partner agencies into the emergency management system. Duty officers provide regional situational awareness to King County Government and partner organizations, and answer calls for support and resources in response to incidents and emergencies. The critical information requirements (CIR) list identifies categories of situations about which the Duty Officer collects, analyzes, and distributes information. Sources of information include the National Weather Service, first responder organizations, State and federal agencies, jurisdiction partners, and King County departments, among others. This process helps KCOEM, and partners inform operational decisions, such as changing the level of preparedness for an incident, activating the EOC, and dispatching resources to support an incident response operation.

In 2023, KCOEM added new activity types to associate with CIR categories to more accurately capture incidents reported, with the intention of reducing the number of “unknown” or “other” entries. The additional activity types, exercise (activity or notification) and planned event, were added after Operations staff conducted a cross walk of all duty officer entries into WebEOC Activity Log and compared it with the established CIR List. Duty officers received refresher training on the CIRs and competed group exercise practicing categorizing activities into best fit categories. Figure 15 below shows number of incidents reported to the King County Duty Officer in 2021-2023, aligned by CIRs and Activity Type. Figure 16 provides a more detailed crosswalk of the types of incidents that could be reported to the Duty Officer and how KCOEM categorizes them by CIR. Note that sub-categories do not show on WebEOC but are used by Duty Officers to identify which activity type and CIR to select when reporting.

Figure 15: Duty Officer Activity Type and CIR Category for Incidents Reported - 2021 to 2023

ACTIVITY TYPE	CIR Category	2021 Total	2022 Total	2023 Total
Biological/Pandemic	Health/Mass Care	0	3	2
Civil Disturbance	Law Enforcement Activity	1	4	3
Communications Support	Communications	4	1	0
Cybersecurity Incident	Communications	1	0	0
Earthquake	Geological	7	0	1
Exercise (Activity or Notification)	Government Operations	N/A	N/A	1
Fire	Fire Department Activity	20	6	0
Flooding	Severe Weather	0	3	6
Government Operations	Government Operations	1	4	3
Hazmat	Fire Department Activity	67	96	69
KC Facility Issue	Government Operations	2	6	1
Landslide	Geological	5	2	1
Law Enforcement Activity	Law Enforcement Activity	5	3	5
Minor Resource Request		8	4	0
Mission Number Request		0	7	1
Mutual Aid Request	Government Operations	1	0	0
Other		6	11	2
Other EOC activating	Government Operations	2	3	1
Planned Event	Government Operations	N/A	N/A	3
Public Alerting Request		1	5	6
Public Health (Non-Pandemic)	Health/Mass Care	0	2	0
Rescue	Fire Department Activity	2	1	0
School Operations	School Operations	2	1	0
Severe Weather	Severe Weather	2	8	26
Terrorism	Law Enforcement Activity	1	2	3
Threat Advisory Conditions	Law Enforcement Activity	N/A	N/A	1
Transportation	Transportation	15	15	3
Tsunami Alert	Geological	0	1	0
Utility Emergency	Utility Emergency	2	6	4
Unclassified		0	9	0
	Total	155	203	142

Figure 16: CIR-Duty Officer WebEOC Activity Log Crosswalk

CIR List	Subcategories	WebEOC Log Option
Transportation	Roadway; rail; marine/maritime; aviation; snow routes	Transportation
Health	Public Health surge; animal or human disease outbreak; MCI; Mass Fatality Incident; environmental health	Public Health (non-pandemic); biological/pandemic
Line of Duty	Death or injury	Line of duty injury or death
Law Enforcement Activity	Civil disorder; suspicious activity; IED; bomb threat; utility threat (PW/electrical); dam threat; radiological threat; critical infrastructure threat; evacuation	Civil disturbance; law enforcement activity; terrorism; utility emergency; dam failure; rescue
Fire Department Activity	Structure fire; wildfire; fire fatality; hazmat	Fire; hazmat; rescue
Severe Weather	Advisory; Watch; Warning; unusual weather; flooding	Severe weather; flooding
Threat Advisory Conditions	National DHS Threat Level; aviation threat level; MARSEC threat level	Threat advisory conditions
Utility Emergency	Water, stormwater, wastewater; electrical; dam emergency; telephone; gas	Utility emergency; KC facility issues;
Radiological / Hazmat	Nuclear power plant event; radiological device; radiation leak; biological release; chemical release	Hazmat; biological/pandemic
Communications	911 outage; internet outage / cyber issues; mission critical communications	Communications support; cyber-security incident; utility emergency
Geological	Earthquake; tsunami; volcanic eruption	Earthquake; landslide; tsunami/seiche; volcanic hazard
Government Operations	EOC status; mutual aid request; KC facility impacts; government facility impacts or closures; emergency declarations; Presidential messages; COOP; COG; media; elected officials; neighboring counties; KC regional assets deployed	Other EOC activating; mutual aid request; KC facility issue; government operations; minor resource request
School Operations	School system status; bus collision; school emergency	School operations

Situational Awareness: Weekly Coordination Calls

In 2023, KCOEM facilitated weekly regional coordination calls with partners; a practice established during COVID response operations in 2020 and continued since. These calls provided essential situational awareness and other issues of immediate concern. The agenda for these calls has expanded beyond COVID related topics (case counts, transmission rates, and hospital capacity) to include information on emergency operations, weather outlook, severe weather activities, special event notices, resource management, and more. The calls are a forum for regional partners to hear from subject matter experts, and exchange information among peers. Regular participants providing information to our jurisdictional partners include: National Weather Service covering potential upcoming weather impacts and overall outlook, the Washington State Fusion Center to brief on Prevention/Protection related matters, PHSKC for emerging threats from the health sector and the Northwest Healthcare Response Network (NWHRN) concerning healthcare capacity. Other seasonal and incident specific reports are often covered by the Flood Warning Center, KCSO for threats impacting the County and KCRHA for issues impacting vulnerable populations.

Situational Awareness: Snapshot Reports

During emergencies, KCOEM plays a critical role in informing partner agencies of the situation and impacts to support implementation of protective actions. Situational awareness information is shared through a variety of methods, including incident Situation Reports. These provide decision makers with relevant information regarding the nature and extent of the situation, any cascading effects, and the status of operations. Information in the Situation Reports is gathered from King County Government entities, jurisdictional partners, and other response operations entities. For the incidents in 2023, key King County entities with situational updates included: DNRP, DCHS, DLS, KCSO, and PHSKC. Figure 17

shows an example what the FEMA Community Lifelines Overview section of a Situation Report would look like during an incident. KCOEM uses information gathered from a variety of sources to identify the status of a lifeline. Figure 18 is an actual example of a situation report developed and shared during the December 2023 Atmospheric River Activation.

Figure 17: Community Lifelines

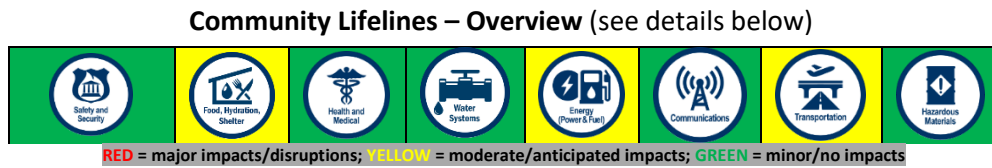


Figure 18: December Atmospheric River Situation Report

***** For Official Use Only *****

King County
Emergency Management

**King County Emergency Management
December Atmospheric River – Situation Report #2
12/06/2023 (as of 1630)**

King County EOC Status	Steady State (as of 1700)	Mission Number	23-4787
King County Emergency Proclamation	N/A	State Emergency Proclamation	N/A
National Weather Service	Flood Warning, Special Weather Statement		

This information is being provided to King County management and partners for safety, staffing, and continuity of services consideration. Please disseminate as appropriate. New information in green bold.

Overview/Event Background:
An atmospheric river impacted the region overnight Monday into Wednesday with periods of heavy rain and river flooding. Another fast-moving system will affect the area Saturday night into Sunday, with lowland rain, moderate to heavy mountain snow, and windy conditions. A break in the weather is expected on Monday through mid-week.

Community Lifelines – Overview (see details below)

King County Government Operations:

- OEM: activated King County EOC at 0800 12/05/2023; as of 1700 on 12/06/2023, the EOC returned to Steady State, with the OEM Duty Officer monitoring.
- DNRP: SWD minor flood at single residential unit. WTD South Treatment Plant conducted a bypass as a result of increased incoming water levels. The Carkeek Combined Sewer Overflow Facility's disinfectant system experienced a malfunction and intermittently released non-disinfected wastewater during the peak to the storm. WTD informed both Public Health – Seattle & King County and Washington State Department of Ecology. Normal operations have been restored at both facilities. Tolt-MacDonald Park is currently closed due to flooding; the boat launch and river road are both closed until further notice; Steve Cox Memorial Park has some minor flooding due to Mallard Lake backing up into the park; monitoring and clearing drainage in all of DNRP park sites. Flood Warning Center technically closed, but still taking some calls; Flood Patrols wrapping up duty.
- DCHS: Flood materials shared with community.
- PHSKC: Normal operations.
- DES/Fleet: No impacts.
- DES/FMD: Normal operations; no water intrusion issues reported today.
- DLS/Roads: A number of routes remain closed due to water over the roadway. Tonight's focus will be road closures (if needed) and on removing traffic controls as floodwaters recede and roads re-open. Staffing adjustments in place for swing and night shifts to ensure continuous staffing coverage for maintenance divisions with flooded roads.
- KCSO: Normal operations.

City Operations:

- City of North Bend: No significant issues with the flooding; no road closures or property damage; downtown park-and-ride parking lot closed as site is low in floodplain and can tend to fill up with backwater that is unable to drain to Snoqualmie River.

23-4787 Situation Report #2 page 1 of 3 last saved: 12/6/2023

Priority: Public Awareness and Education

Public Awareness and Education: Mass Notification

Getting the word out to residents, businesses, and government employees during an emergency reached a broader audience in 2023 with the continued integration of both internal and external alert and notification systems. To date, all cities in King County, except Seattle and Federal Way, have joined KCOEM's notification program – which is offered at no charge.

KCInform and ALERT King County Enrollment

[KCInform](#) is King County Government's branded system for alerting employees to incidents and

emergencies. County employees have their work email address and work phone (if known) automatically enrolled in KCInform (near 100%) and are encouraged to enhance their accounts with personal contact information.

Figure 19 shows the number of employees registered with KCInform and whether they have enhanced their accounts with personal contact information. Totals vary due to resignations, retirements, and other separations. The total email addresses column includes work and personal email addresses and total phones column includes work, home, and cell phones.

Figure 19: King County Employees Registered with KCInform

	Total Employees Enrolled	Total Email Addresses	Total Phones	Personal Emails	Home Phones	Cell Phones	Text-enabled Cell Phones
DEC 1, 2021	17,999	24,197	25,450	8,607	5,145	8,555	8,101
DEC 1, 2022	19,003	25,611	23,843	8,495	4,681	8,813	8,374
DEC 1, 2023	20,200	27,229	24,532	8,777	4,478	9,178	8,680
DIFFERENCE (2022 to 2023)	+1,197	+1,618	-1,607	+282	-2034	+365	+306

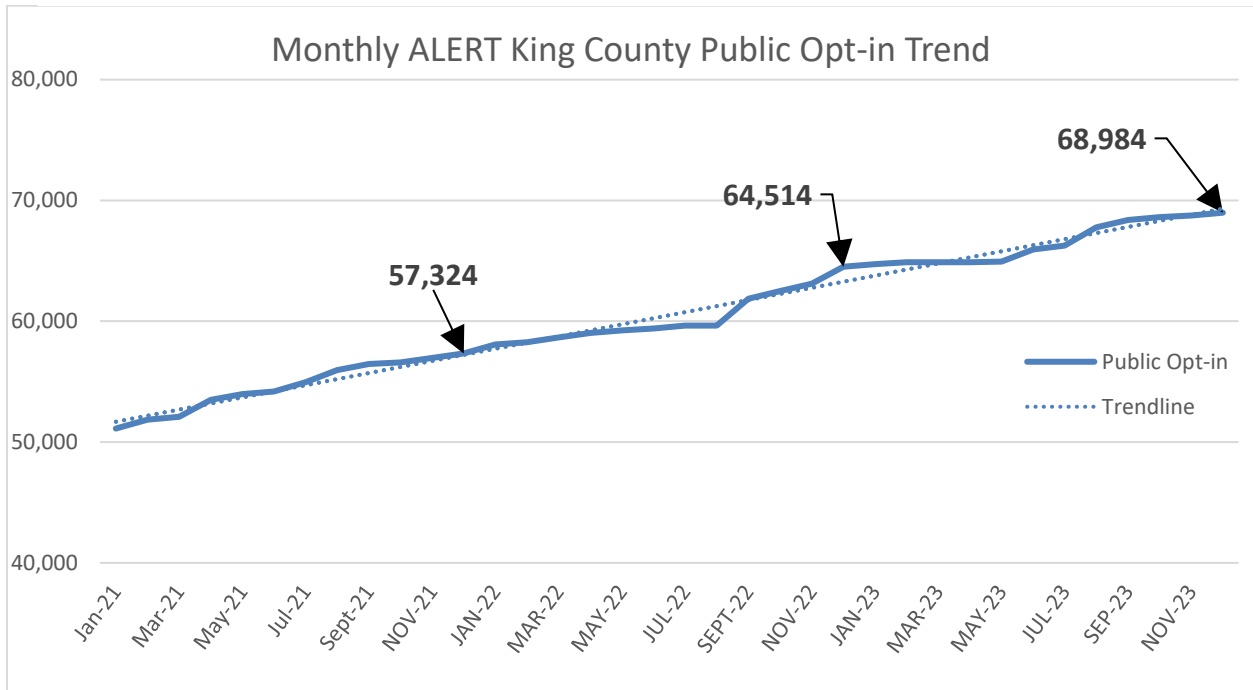


Figure 20: Spanish-speaking Renton partner interviewed at Spanish radio station about ALERT King County

[ALERT King County](#) is the public-facing regional notification system serving residents, businesses, and visitors. Countywide, nearly 65,000 residents and businesses have enrolled since its launch in 2017. In June 2022, enhancements were made to the underlying system that controls ALERT King County, and KCOEM was able to add eight additional languages for people to both register and receive alerts: Arabic, Chinese, French, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish. During the annual National Preparedness Month in September, a radio campaign with two separate Spanish radio stations was developed. The purpose was to focus on Spanish speakers in the region and to encourage them to sign for ALERT King County in Spanish. Figure 20 shows one of our regional partners from the City of Renton Emergency Management being interviewed on behalf of ALERT King County and engaged with them several times at the radio station.

Figure 21 shows the annual ALERT King County opt-in registrations, along with a trend line, and number of registrants at the end of 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Figure 21: Annual ALERT King County Public Opt-In Trend



In 2023, nearly 6,000 messages were sent through KCInform and ALERT King County. King County Government agencies sent most of these messages; with partner cities in second; and other partner agencies used the system sparingly. Figure 22 shows the number of messages sent by jurisdiction in table form and Figure 23 displays the same in graphic form.

Figure 22: KCInform and Alert King County Messages Sent by Jurisdiction in 2021-2023

Jurisdiction	Messages Sent 2021	Messages Sent 2022	Messages Sent 2023
Cities	398	185	190
Hospitals	4	27	2
Fire Districts	13	0	0
Water Districts	8	0	0
Transit Provider	6	0	0
King County Government	6,823	6,108	5,797
Total	7,252	6,320	5,989

Figure 23: KCIInform and Alert King County Messages Sent by Jurisdiction in 2021-2023



Trusted Partner Network and ALERT King County

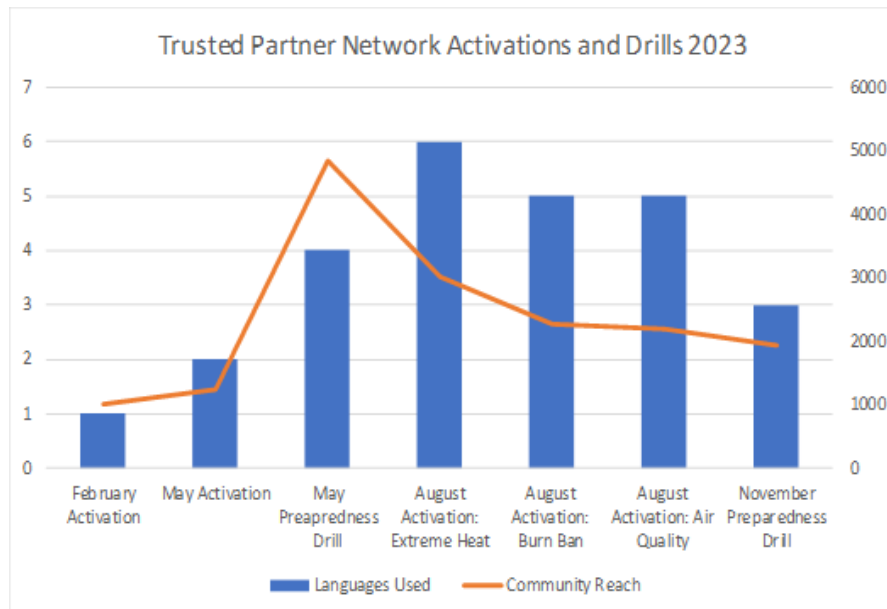
The [Trusted Partner Network](#) (TPN) is an innovative network of trusted community volunteers who act as a bridge to connect emergency notifications with underserved and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) groups across the region. A component of the Inclusive Emergency Communications Plan (IECP), the TPN was operationalized in 2021, with recruitment, training, and sustainment efforts continuing in 2024. Recruitment of new volunteers was ongoing with some difficulty in 2023, as only five new volunteers were onboarded, bringing the total number of volunteers to 62. To reduce barriers to joining, orientation videos were created to allow people to register and receive introductory training on their own schedule. Three videos are now on the [Trusted Partner Network](#) website, and consist of “What is the Trusted Partner Network?” “What do TPN volunteers do?” and “How to sign up for ALERT King County.”

Despite these challenges, the regular drill and check-in schedule with volunteers was maintained and live TPN activations continued. In every drill and activation, TPN volunteers report the estimated number of community members reached and languages utilized. Figure 24 indicates all 9 languages used during drills and activations, although there are 35 total languages reportedly spoken by volunteers. Figure 25 shows the estimated community members reached and the number of languages used in each drill or activation in 2023; this information is self-reported by participating volunteers during each event.

Figure 24: Languages Used During 2023 TPN Drills and Activations

Arabic	Swahili	Tigrinya
ASL	English	Russian
Spanish	Vietnamese	Belarusian

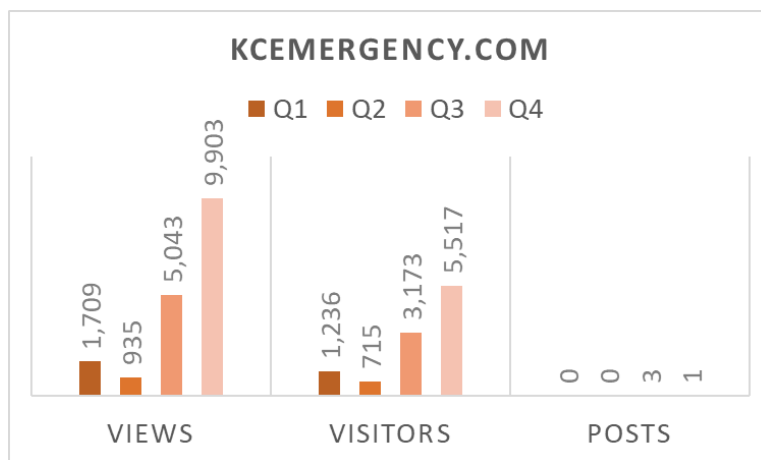
Figure 25: Estimated Community Members Reached and Number of Languages Used by TPN in 2023



Emergency News Blog

During an incident or emergency, KCOEM directs people to the [Emergency News blog](#) to access timely, accurate information. The Emergency News blog serves as a central hub for public information and situation updates. It draws a following of media, regional stakeholders, and residents. Much of our traffic occurred during the kickoff of the August “Ready, Set, Go” campaign where we referred people to the blog from a news release, and in December during a flooding event when duty officers sent Alert King County alerts with a link to the emergency blog for more information. This drove up the number of visitors and views to the blog for the most up-to-date information on the events. Figure 26 shows the views and visitors of the last two quarters, related to the posts.

Figure 26: KC Emergency Blog 2023 Statistics



Views = accessed the blog
 Visitors = clicked through to investigate more

Public Awareness and Education: Public Training and Education

In 2023 KCOEM consistently provided community resources, education, and training in a variety of formats and for a wide array of community groups. Basic Disaster Skills Trainings were hosted by request from community groups as well as through a monthly lunchtime webinar series open to the public. KCOEM also pursued opportunities to expand training and education outreach in King County communities. Responding to interest from community members participating in the monthly lunchtime webinars, KCOEM kicked-off an Advanced Disaster Skills Training Webinar series to dive deeper into preparedness topics. Additionally, in partnership with the Senior and Veteran Services team at DCHS, KCOEM developed and delivered a series of senior center workshops across the region through September and October. KCOEM also provided education opportunities for community members by participating in and support resource fairs, festivals, and other tabling events throughout the year. At all in-person events, including trainings, community meetings, and community fairs, KCOEM provided community members with emergency preparedness materials and information, as well as items to assist in building preparedness kits. KCOEM additionally supports regional community education and training by providing partners with shared resources, outreach materials, and staff support.

Figure 27 shows examples of KCOEM staff members sharing preparedness information and supplies with the community and promoting ALERT King County: AmeriCorps Fellow Ella Liddicoat delivers a disaster preparedness presentation to middle school students (top left); the KCOEM outreach table is set up and ready at Skykomish Tunnel Days (top right); DES Director Caroline Whalen and AmeriCorps Fellow Ella Liddicoat interact with community members at a community gathering in Marymoor Park (bottom left); AmeriCorps Fellows Aniya Beck and Matt Ciarvella share information and resources at a community tabling event with the non-profit Mother Africa in Kent (bottom center); AmeriCorps Fellows Aniya Beck and Matt Ciarvella and KCOEM PIO Sheri Badger discuss preparedness with Federal Way Senior Center and Food Bank Director after delivering a preparedness workshop (bottom right)

Figure 27: KCOEM Promoting Preparedness at Area Events



Figure 28 outlines the community engagements hosted and supported by KCOEM outreach staff in 2023. Events included continuing efforts, such as community resource fair tabling and basic disaster skills training webinars, as well as new initiatives, such as the Senior Center workshop series and advanced disaster skills training webinars.

Figure 28: Types of Engagements Held in 2023

Quarter	Event Type	Number of events	Number of participants	Additional details
1	In person Tabling	2	35	Community Resource Fairs
1	Virtual Basic Disaster Skills Training	4	175	Community groups and public webinars
1	In Person Basic Disaster Skills Training	3	318	School and Community Based Organization groups
1	In person special topics training	2	21	Girl scouts and senior living community
1	Facility Visit	1	18	School group
2	In person Tabling	6	245	School groups, resource fairs, community festivals
2	Virtual Basic Disaster Skills Training	2	65	Public webinars
2	In person Basic Disaster Skills Training	2	40	Community groups
2	In person special topics training	1	20	Senior living community
3	In person Tabling	5	345	Community festivals, resource fairs
3	Virtual Basic Disaster Skills Training	4	197	Public webinars
3	In person Basic Disaster Skills Training	3	100	School and community groups
3	Virtual Basic Disaster Skills Training	1	160	KC employees
3	National Night Out event support	5	325	NNO support in Pacific
3	Senior Center Workshop	2	110	In partnership with Senior and Veteran Services
4	In person Tabling	4	420	School and community resources fairs and community preparedness events
4	Virtual Basic Disaster Skills Training	3	208	Webinar series
4	Virtual Basic Disaster Skills Training	2	130	KC employees and Swedish-Providence employees
4	Virtual Advanced Disasters Skills Training	1	62	Preparing an Emergency Water Supply
4	Senior Center Workshop	4	95	In partnership with Senior and Veteran Services

Public Awareness and Education: Social Media

KCOEM employs a strategy of engagement on social media to quickly disseminate [#KingCountyReady](#)-branded preparedness and safety messaging through King County’s flagship social channels ([@KingCountyWA](#) on Facebook and X/Twitter), as well as Instagram ([@kingcountyoem](#)). Figures 29-31 detail the number of KCOEM-related social media posts by platform, as well as level of engagements by the public. During Preparedness Month in September, KCOEM hosted a Facebook live event, focusing on preparation for an earthquake and the October Great ShakeOut exercise.

Figure 29: 2023 Twitter/X Engagements

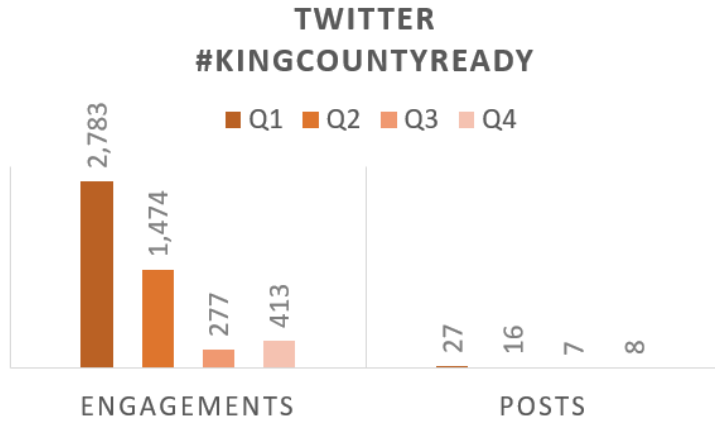


Figure 30: 2023 Facebook Engagements and Posts

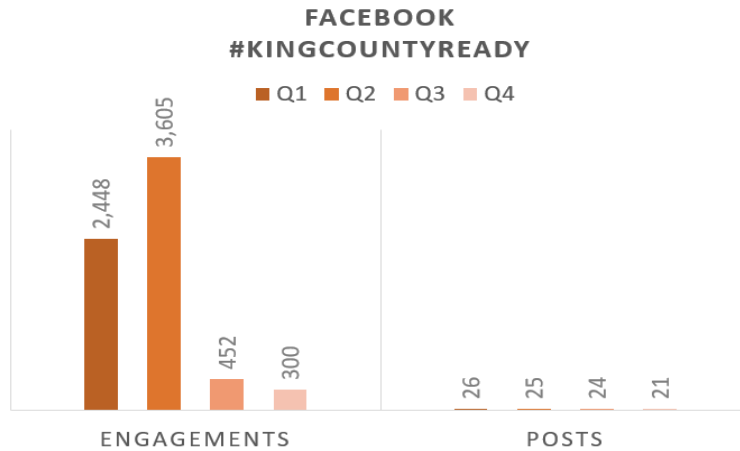
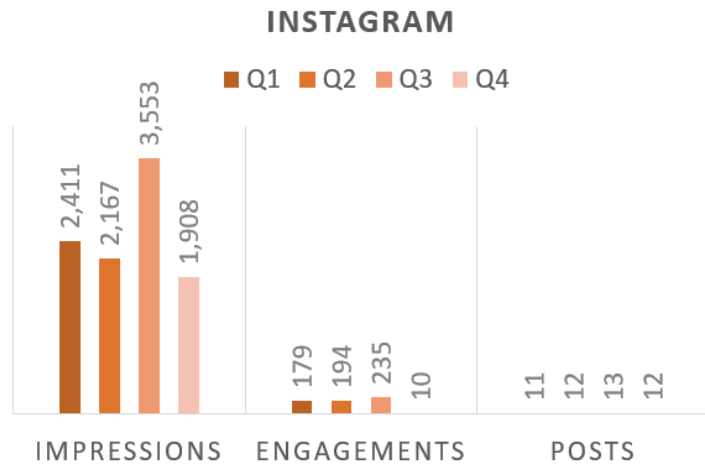


Figure 31: 2023 Instagram Impressions, Engagements, and Posts



Priority: Disaster Risk Reduction

Disaster Risk Reduction: Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) administers the Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) program, which funds mitigation projects that reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from future disasters. Two of these HMA programs are the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). BRIC is an annual, nationally competitive grant that has \$1 billion available for FY 2023, \$2.3 billion available in the FY 2022 grant cycle, \$1 billion in FFY21, and \$500 million in FFY20. Priorities are large infrastructure projects that prepare and reduce the impacts of climate change, and projects that serve historically underserved communities. HMGP funding becomes available after federal disaster declaration, and impacted jurisdictions are given priority for mitigation grant submissions; the COVID-19 pandemic brought \$96 million in HMGP funding for Washington State.

Three years into the FEMA-approved [Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan](#) (RHMP), there has been success in attracting HMA grants; the RHMP allows any jurisdiction within geographic King County to sign on to the plan with a jurisdiction annex, making the planning process substantially easier and giving the jurisdiction access to HMA grant funding. Figure 32 shows the eight natural and six human-caused hazards covered by the RHMP Risk Assessment.

Figure 32: Natural and Human-Caused Hazards Covered by the RHMP Risk Assessment

Avalanche	Civil Disturbance	Cyber Incident	Dam Failure	Earthquake	Flood	Health Incident
Hazardous Materials	Landslide	Severe Weather	Terrorism	Tsunami	Volcano	Wildfire

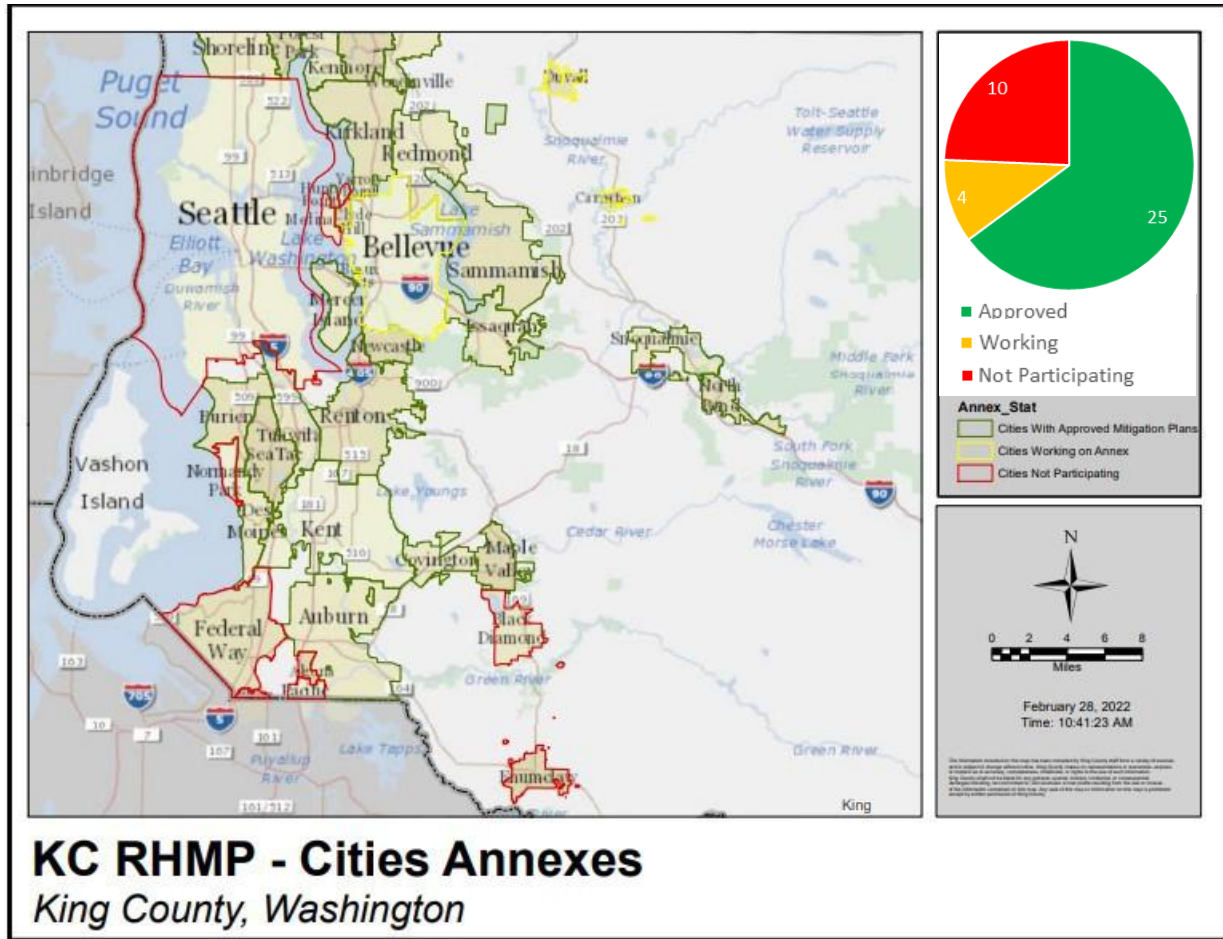
KCOEM provides leadership and support to the entire region of geographic King County, including through development of plans such as the RHMP. This plan assesses natural and human-caused hazards that can impact the region and develops strategies to reduce risk and build resilience. Nearly 60 planning partners including school districts, water districts, and cities participated in the process to develop the RHMP. Many of these have already completed annexes to the RHMP or are in the process of doing so. Figure 33 shows the number and type of jurisdictions that have signed on to the RHMP and adapted it for their own use. Figure 34 shows city participation in the RHMP annex creation.

In December 2023, KCOEM officially began the RHMP update planning process for the 2025-2030 version of the plan by hosting a kick-off meeting with partners (county agencies, city / town, and special purpose district representatives). Partners were introduced to the planning process and timeline for 2025 update, learned about new required elements, and discussed strategy for coordination. An RHMP Steering Committee was developed to oversee the update process with the bulk of the work anticipated being accomplished in 2024. The RHMP is updated every five years according to Federal Regulations.

Figure 33: Number and Types of Jurisdictions Signed on to the RHMP and Adapted for Their Own Use

Status	City	Fire District	School District	Water/Sewer	Total
Approved	25	3	1	21	50
Working	4	0	5	3	12
Not Participating	10	22	13	15	59

Figure 34: King County RHMP Annexes



King County Government was awarded one BRIC grant for FFY20, funding King County’s Climate Action Team in developing a strategy to mitigate the urban “heat island” effect. Two additional projects were approved but then pulled by the applicants. In FFY21, King County communities had three infrastructure large projects selected for further review, the final stage before award:

- The City of Shoreline seeks to stabilize a landslide hazard on North 175th Street
- The City of Auburn will seismically harden a control valve on Reservoir Two
- King County Water District No. 90 will relocate the District’s Wellfield and Water Treatment Plant out of known hazard areas

BRIC FFY22 includes King County Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update \$234,374.40 currently selected

for further review. This project validates the County’s commitment to substantial equity and climate change-informed investments in resilient communities. Award results for the FFY22 BRIC grant round and HMGP 4481 round are still pending.

Figure 35 shows a summary of regional (geographic King County) BRIC submissions for the FFY21 to FF23 BRIC rounds. Figure 36 provides the Summary of Regional FFY21 HMGP (Associated with DR-4481-WA) Submissions.

Figure 35: Summary of regional (geographic King County) BRIC submissions for the FFY21 to FFY23 grant rounds.

FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) HMA Grants						
Status	BRIC FFY21		BRIC FFY22		BRIC FFY23	
	Count	Cost Totals	Count	Cost Totals	Count	Cost Totals
Pre-applications	49	\$414,177,846	22	\$92,088,488	24	\$213,638,654
State Invite for full applications	24	\$100,962,378	22	\$92,088,488	14	\$69,645,654
Submitted to FEMA	4	\$27,740,000	7	\$46,519,413	TBD	TBD
Federal selection for further review	3	\$20,600,000	1	\$234,374.40	TBD	TBD
Applicant withdrawn	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Award	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

Figure 36: Summary of Regional FFY21 HMGP (Associated with DR-4481-WA) Submissions

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program DR-4481-WA		
Status	Count	Cost Totals
Pre-applications	34	\$414,495,736
State Invite for full applications	24	\$101,280,267
Submitted to FEMA	13	\$53,090,133
Federal selection for further review	TBD	TBD

Disaster Risk Reduction: Local Emergency Planning Committee

As required by the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act ([EPCRA](#)), in 2023 the [King County Local Emergency Planning Committee](#) (LEPC) held regular quarterly meetings, reviewed the King County Hazardous Material Response Plan, participated in exercises, and collected on-site storage chemical reports from local businesses. LEPC meetings include representatives from local business and industry, and partners from local, state, and federal agencies. Figure 37 shows the status of the King County LEPC annual required activities for 2023.

Figure 37: Status of Annual EPCRA Requirements for LEPCs

EPCRA Requirement	Status	Notes
Hold one LEPC meeting each year	100%	Meetings were held quarterly (four in 2023)
Membership is reflective of community	95%	Added 1 Broadcast Station / Periodic community group attendance
Plan contains all required elements	100%	Plan meets required content
Plan reviewed on annual basis	100%	Annual plan review completed in 2023
Collect/maintain chemical inventory forms	N/A	Ongoing (by KCOEM)
Provide chemical information to the public upon request	N/A	No requests were made in 2023

Disaster Risk Reduction: Dam Safety

There are 147 dams in the greater region that could impact King County in the event of an unintentional release of water. While most of these dams are located within the county limits, several are outside of our jurisdiction and would pose significant impacts as well. The 127 dams in the county include nine high-hazard dams, along with 87 dams that would have impacts if they fail, and 31 dams that would have little to no impact in failure. Collectively, these dams serve various beneficial purposes: most dams protect communities from regular flooding, others serve as a source of clean drinking water, and select few produce electricity for cities. Most of these dams are owned by local governments or private parties, with few owned by the state or federal governments.

KCOEM manages a Dam Safety Program to support dam owners and operators with response plans for high-hazard dams, educate at-risk populations about the threat of dam failure, and help acquire resources to repair or remove poor-condition dams. Over the course of the last year, OEM began tracking specific metrics to help us achieve this goal; the first being Emergency Action Plan (EAP) tracking. Figure 38 shows the number of revised EAPs we received for the year, with a large portion of owners updating their EAPs at the start of the year. FEMA's current guidance is that EAPs should be reviewed yearly to account for staffing changes and should undergo a full revision approximately every 5 years. Similarly, Figure 39 shows the number of exercises of these plans we participated in for the year which follows a similar guidance of running an exercise of these plans approximately every 5 years.

Figure 38: Emergency Action Plans (EAPs)

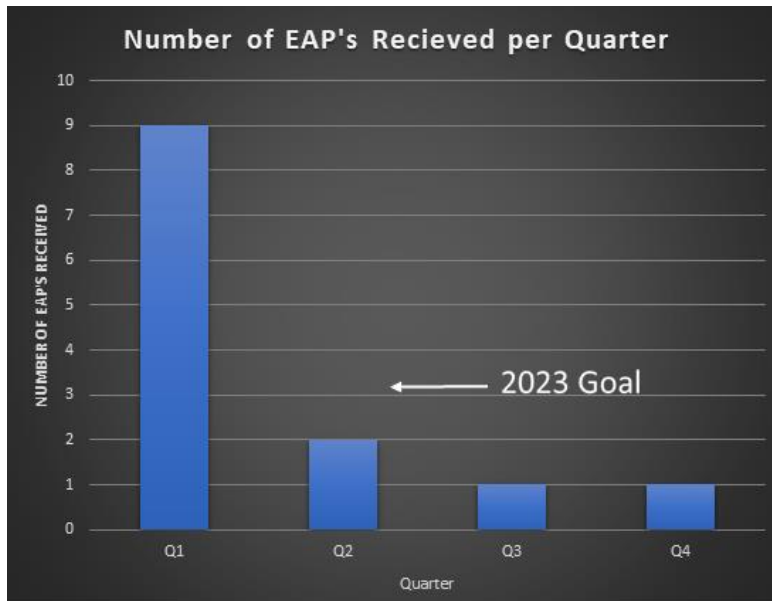


Figure 39: Dam Failure Exercises



Disaster Risk Reduction: Emergency Management Coordinating Committee

The Emergency Management Coordinating Committee (EMCC) is comprised of representatives drawn from each department in King County Government and supplemented by subject matter experts critical to responding to events and emergencies. This group meets monthly, including in-person once a quarter, to coordinate policies and guidelines, as well as collaborate on lessons learned from incidents affecting government operations. Figure 40 outlines the attendance of each Department at EMCC for 2021-2023.

In 2023, the EMCC contributed to:

- The yearly and three-year training opportunities plan providing input and feedback

- DNRP’s new efforts on the Debris Management Plan update, hearing from DNRP representatives
- The launch of the new county Continuity of Operations (COOP) program, including two in-person workshops for representatives to learn how to draft elements of a COOP plan and presentations from different departments on how to coordinate integration
- Providing input to and gaps for the FEMA-required 2023 regional Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and Stakeholder Preparedness Report (SPR)
- Reviewed and gave input to multiple AARs including Bolt Creek Fire and COVID-19
- Multiple county employee specific preparedness month efforts including a set of county wide preparedness month weekly drills and a county wide personal preparedness webinar
- The Great Washington ShakeOut
- Refamiliarization with how to run a department exercise following HSEEP standards
- Developed 2024 priorities including potential meeting topics and a refresh to the yearly meeting calendar

Figure 40: EMCC Attendance by Department for 2021, 2022, and 2023

Agency	2023	2022	2021
King County Council	60%	100%	90%
DAJD	90%	80%	20%
DCHS	90%	70%	80%
DES	100%	100%	100%
King County District Court	10%	60%	80%
DJA	60%	60%	60%
DNRP	100%	100%	100%
Metro	50%	80%	90%
DLS	70%	90%	70%
King County Assessor	50%	20%	30%
PHSKC	80%	100%	100%
King County Elections	30%	90%	90%
Executive Office	10%	40%	70%
DHR	80%	90%	100%
KCIT	80%	60%	70%
KCSO	90%	100%	70%
KCOEM	100%	100%	100%
PAO	20%	90%	100%
King County Superior Court	30%	20%	0%
DPD	10%	30%	40%
Total (target=75%)	58%	77%	74%

Disaster Risk Reduction: Continuity of Operations (COOP)

In February of 2023, KCOEM brought on board a Continuity of Operations (COOP) Coordinator to develop the King County COOP Program. All existing COOP Plans from each Executive Department were reviewed, and the COOP Coordinator completed monthly trainings and quarterly workshops through the Emergency Management Coordinating Committee on the following topics:

- Introduction to Continuity of Operations
- Continuity Communications Workshop
- Business Process Analysis and Business Impact Analysis Workshop
- Facilities Management Division (FMD), King County Information Technology (KCIT) and KCOEM Interdependencies

The COOP Coordinator engaged in independent COOP review sessions with the following agencies, seeking input and collaboration:

- Department of Local Services
- Department of Judicial Administration
- Department of Metro Transit
- County Council
- King County Information Technology
- Facilities Management Division
- Department of Executive Services
- Department of Natural Resources and Parks
- Department of Human Resources
- Department of Community & Human Services
- Department of Public Health
- City of Renton

Ensuring the resilience and uninterrupted functionality of departmental essential functions is paramount and the COOP Program stands as a cornerstone in achieving this goal. The COOP framework encompasses risk assessments, contingency planning, and crisis management to minimize the impact of disruptions on our day-to-day activities. By proactively identifying potential threats and vulnerabilities, the COOP Program enables us to swiftly adapt, maintain essential functions, and safeguard the well-being of our partners. Figure 41 shows the status of department COOP plans in 2023.

Figure 41: King County Agency COOP Plan Status as of 2023

Agency	COOP Plan Status	Agency	COOP Plan Status
King County Council	2023	PHSKC	2023
DAJD	2021	King County Elections	2022
DCHS	2023	Executive Office	2021
DES	2022	DHR	2020
King County District Court	2020	KCIT	2022
DJA	2021	KCSO	2022
DNRP	2021	PAO	Pending
Metro	2022	King County Superior Court	2022
DLS	2021	DPD	2015
King County Assessor	2022	KCOEM	2023

Disaster Risk Reduction: Federal Assistance

FEMA Public Assistance Program

KCOEM is the coordinating agency for the County when applying for FEMA Public Assistance following a disaster. A large part of this effort is a damage assessment, which includes a canvass of local entities to ascertain damage to public facilities and infrastructure within the geographic borders. In 2023, KCOEM provided technical assistance to King County department and division-level staff members to help formulate and refine 42 different projects for FEMA Public Assistance Program reimbursement funding for events that occurred in 2020, DR 4481-COVID and DR 4539-Winter Storms. To help facilitate this

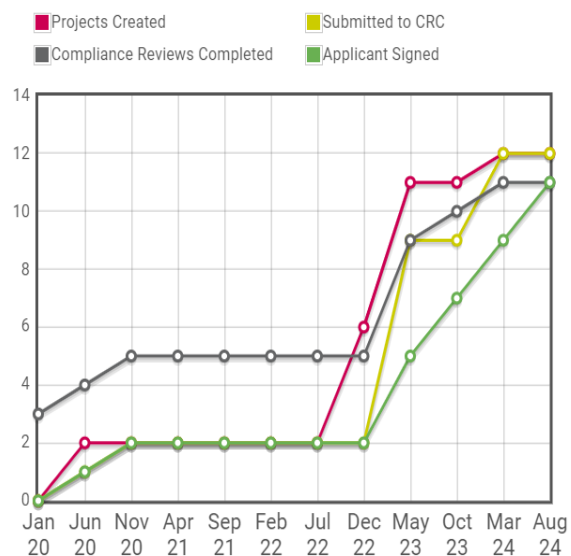
highly technical process, KCOEM conducted weekly assistance sessions with affected County agencies (Figure 42). The result of these efforts was a significant increase in the number of projects that were fully formulated by King County, submitted to the FEMA Consolidated Resource Center (CRC) for approval, and final Project Worksheets signed (Figure 43).

Figure 42: FEMA Public Assistance Information for Current Disasters

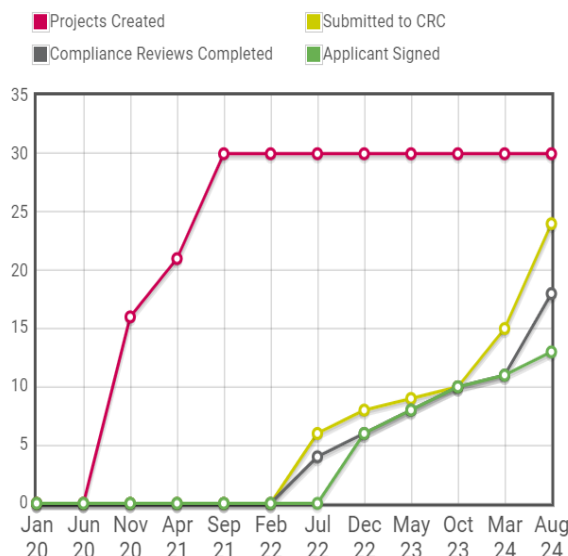
	Agencies Participating			Meetings Agencies			Number of Projects			Estimated Expenses
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	2020-2023
Jan-Feb 2021 Winter Storms	5	6	6	15	130	156	42	38	30	\$24,511,197
COVID-19	15	15	15	30	52	52	5	9	12	\$201,025,615
COVID-19 - DOH		1	1		25	25		1	1	\$97,041,438

Figure 43: Project Activity Summary for DR 4481 & DR 4539

My Org on 4481DR Since Declaration



My Org on 4539DR Since Declaration



U.S. Small Business Administration Disaster Loan Program

After most major incidents, KCOEM also facilitates the collection of information to support a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Declaration. Not all assessments result in a declaration, but the ones that do enable those severely impacted businesses and individuals to apply for low interest loans. In 2023, KCOEM provided technical assistance for two multi-unit fires, both residential building fires. Neither of these resulted in declarations by the SBA.

Federal Grant Funding for Emergency Management

King County receives federal funds from the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) and the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), which consists of the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). Investments of these grant dollars are administered by KCOEM to meet regional capability gaps identified through annual assessments with input from partners. These grants also fund 40 percent of KCOEM’s staff members, who provide coordination,

planning, community education, exercise and evaluation, emergency operations, alert and warning, and resource management services, and contribute to all other services for which KCOEM has responsibility. Figure 44 shows a decline in the EMPG award, little change to UASI and a slight increase to SHSP. However, there continues to be an overall decreasing trend to award amounts for nationally competitive portions of these grant programs. KCOEM has been monitoring the funding trend and, in 2023, sustained strategic staffing changes to maintain capabilities in anticipation of future reductions in federal grant awards.

Figure 44: Federal Grant Award Amounts Over Time

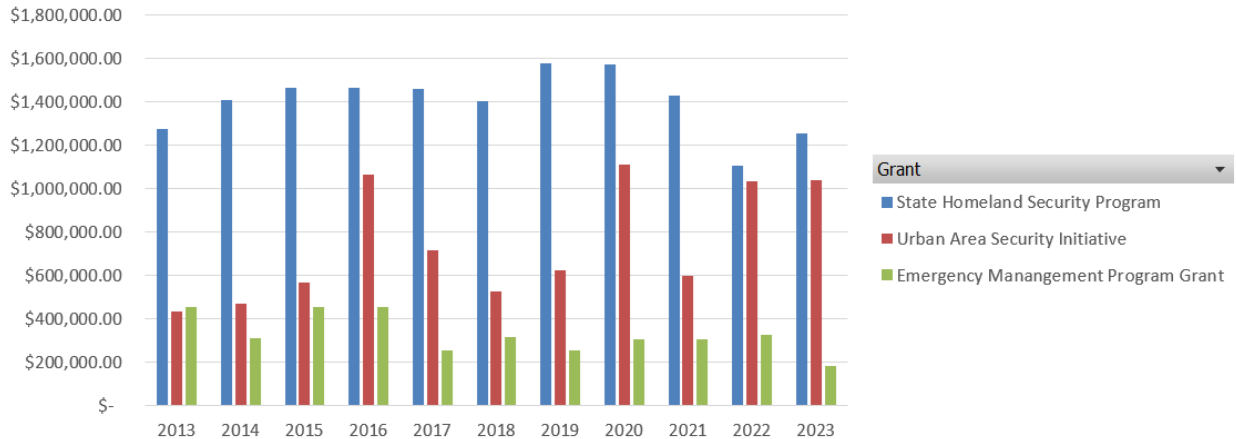
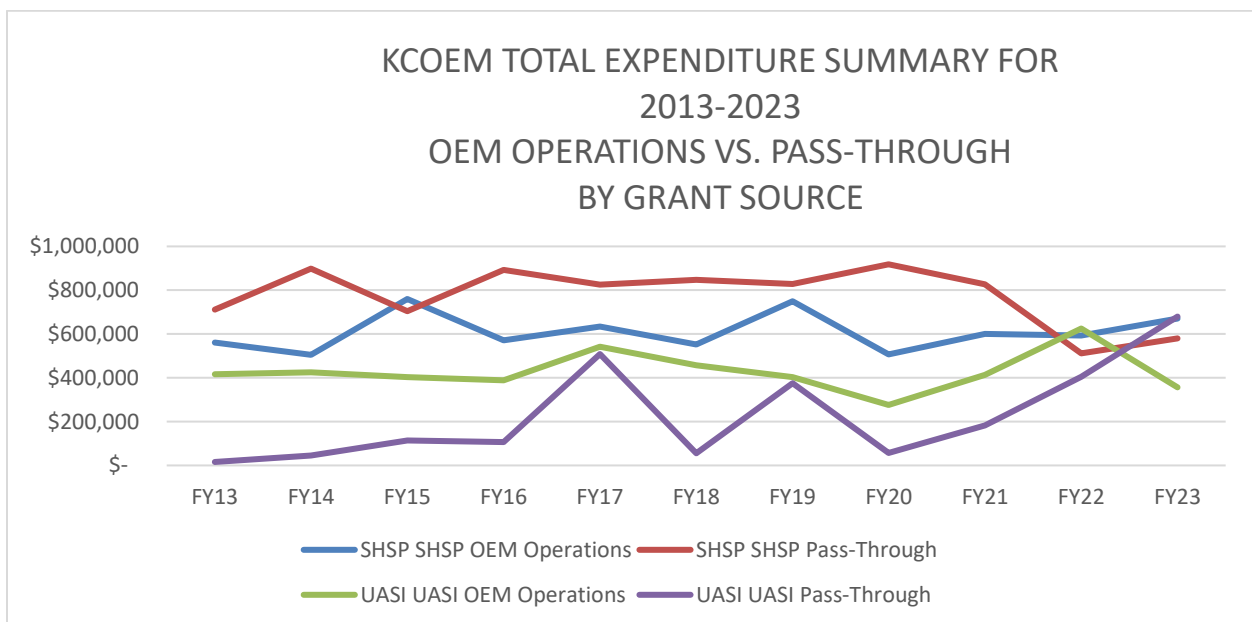


Figure 45 shows a summary of expenditures for 2013-2023 OEM operations versus pass through by grant source.

Figure 45: Summary of SHSP & UASI Expenditures for 2013-2023



Approximately 50 percent of the HSGP awards for 2023 were passed through to regional partners to

establish regional capabilities. Figure 46 shows the disciplines and types of regional projects receiving “pass-through” funding by the SHSP and UASI programs; direct support to OEM is at the bottom of the table.

Figure 46: Funding from SHSP and UASI Programs

Pass Through					
Discipline	Project Title	2022		2023	
		SHSP	UASI	SHSP	UASI
Fire/EMS	Structural Collapse	\$ 332,000.00		\$ 150,143.00	
	Hazmat Plume Modelling			\$ 1,988.00	
Law Enforcement	Fusion Center	\$ 85,000.00		\$ 89,250.00	
	Helicopter Equipment		\$ 85,000.00		\$ 56,842.00
	Bomb Team Equipment	\$ 94,500.00		\$ 152,250.00	
	CCTA		\$ 57,500.00		
	X-Ray System		\$ 220,000.00		
	Armored Vehicle System				\$ 447,894.00
	Unmanned Ariel System		\$ 100,000.00		
Elections	Elections Interior CCTV Cameras			\$ 210,000.00	
	Workshop Series				\$ 100,000.00
Cybersecurity	Cybersecurity TTX		\$ 81,000.00		
	Transportation Resiliency				\$ 52,631.00
	Subtotal	\$ 511,500.00	\$ 543,500.00	\$ 603,631.00	\$ 657,367.00
Retained					
Discipline	Project Title	2022		2023	
		SHSP	UASI	SHSP	UASI
KCOEM Staff	Planning	\$ 503,750.00	\$ 311,500.00	\$ 480,000.00	\$ 268,421.00
KCOEM Projects	COW			\$ 80,043.00	
	Stop the Bleed		\$ 175,000.00		\$ 110,526.00
	TPN			\$ 37,000.00	
	Community Outreach	\$ 89,250.00		\$ 50,000.00	
	Subtotal	\$ 593,000.00	\$ 486,500.00	\$ 647,043.00	\$ 378,947.00
	Total	\$ 1,104,500.00	\$ 1,030,000.00	\$ 1,250,674.00	\$ 1,036,314.00

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King County

Emergency Management

kingcounty.gov/ready