Hazus-MH: Know Your Risk

Have you ever wondered what could happen to your community if a large earthquake occurred nearby? Do you live in a coastal region vulnerable to high winds and storm surge from hurricanes? Is your community prepared to meet the needs of your citizens when that once in a lifetime flood strikes?

These questions are critical in planning and preparing for natural disasters. Insight into these questions can assist emergency managers and decision makers to know how to mitigate against natural disasters in their communities. FEMA’s Hazus-MH can provide that insight.

Hazus-MH 5 Step Approach

The Hazus-MH 5 step approach can enable you and your community to “Know Your Risk” by providing vital information like the number of buildings at risk, or requirements for sheltering people after a disaster. Once you understand the risks, you can make informed decisions to improve the safety of your community by making it more disaster resilient.

What is Hazus-MH?

Hazus-MH is a nationally applicable standardized methodology that contains models for estimating potential losses from earthquakes, floods, and hurricanes. Hazus-MH uses Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology to estimate physical, economic, and social impacts of disasters. It graphically illustrates the limits of identified high-risk locations due to earthquake, hurricane, and floods. Users can then visualize the spatial relationships between populations and other more permanently fixed geographic assets or resources for the specific hazard being modeled, a crucial function in the pre-disaster planning process.

Check out Hazus on the web!

For more information about the Hazus program visit FEMA’s Hazus website. On the website you can keep up on the latest Hazus news, learn about training opportunities, find out how to get involved in a Hazus User Group (HUG) in your area and much more.

www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/hazus/
How to Order Your Free Copy of Hazus-MH

Hazus-MH software can now be ordered over the Internet from the FEMA Map Service Center (MSC) Web Store.

**Step 1 - Set-up an Account**

FEMA staff, FEMA Contractors, and Federal, State and Local officials will first need to contact MSC Customer Service at 1-877-336-2627 to register with the MSC and receive an account number. All other customers can go directly to the website to register at [www.msc.fema.gov](http://www.msc.fema.gov).

**Step 2 - Place your Order**

To order online, visit the Product Catalog, which is available from the MSC Web Store home page at [www.msc.fema.gov](http://www.msc.fema.gov). If you don’t have access to online ordering, please contact MSC Customer Service at 1-877-336-2627.

**System and Software Requirements**

For the Hazus-MH application to run properly, your system must meet the minimum requirements provided in the table below. It is important to note that these are minimum requirements for reasonable processing times. For optimum performance running multiple scenarios for large communities, the system requirements would need to be increased to process the large amount of data. Refer to the documentation for the specific Hazus-MH release you are using for more detail.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Computer Speed</th>
<th>2.2 GHZ dual core or higher, 2 GB or higher of memory/RAM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disk Space</td>
<td>10 GB of disk space is needed to store one multi-hazard large urban study region/ Inventory data size varies by state; for the entire US – 30 GB is needed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Video/Graphic Adapter</td>
<td>24-bit capable video card with a minimum of 128 MB memory; a resolution of 1078 x 768 or higher is recommended</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supporting Software</td>
<td>Microsoft Windows XP SP3/Windows 7 Professional/Enterprise – only US English versions are supported* ESRI ArcGIS 10 SP1 (Can be purchased by contacting ESRI at 1-800-447-9778 or online at <a href="http://www.esri.com">http://www.esri.com</a>) Spatial Analyst extension required with flood model. *HAZUS–MH installation will allow users to install on other operating systems/service packs, but the application is not certified to work flawlessly with those operating systems/service packs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Technical Assistance is available via the Hazus Help Desk at [https://support.hazus.us](https://support.hazus.us). If you do not yet have login credentials for [https://support.hazus.us](https://support.hazus.us) please send an e-mail to helpdesk@support.hazus.us to gain access.

Users can also call the FEMA Map Information Exchange (FMIX) at 1-877-283-8789 as an alternative means of support. The FMIX gives Hazus users the ability to speak directly with a support representative during normal business hours to follow up on Help Desk tickets, receive assistance in using the Help Desk or get answers to general questions about Hazus.

If you have forgotten your log in credentials, please contact helpdesk@support.hazus.us