

BC ATLAS OF DISASTER

PROJECT SYNOPSIS

THE ATLAS SEEKS TO:

- ▶ **Document** climate-related disasters and disaster data in BC
- ▶ **Describe** and visualize the spatial distribution of previous climate disasters and their impacts to communities in British Columbia from 2013-2023
- ▶ **Identify** data gaps and barriers that impede our understanding of climate disasters in BC
- ▶ **Mobilize** knowledge, tools, analytics and graphics to equip communities and decision-makers with detailed information that promotes proactive climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and climate justice

LIKE THE U.S. ATLAS OF DISASTER, WE WILL ASK:

- ▶ **WHAT IS THE SCALE OF CLIMATE DISASTER IN BC?**
 - The Atlas of Disaster found that 90% of all US counties have issued climate-related disaster declarations.
- ▶ **DO GOVERNMENT EMERGENCY RESPONSES TRACK THE MOST DANGEROUS EVENTS?**
 - The Atlas of Disaster found that Arizona and Nevada, the states with the highest occurrences of heat-related deaths in the US, had low numbers of disaster declarations compared to all other states.
- ▶ **WHICH AREAS OF THE PROVINCE FACE COMPOUNDING RISKS?**
 - The Atlas of Disaster combined multiple social and physical vulnerability indicators (e.g. energy reliability, population density, health risks, sea level rise) to visualize where disaster financial assistance and new climate infrastructure could have the most impact to reduce compounding risks.

CURRENTLY WE ARE ANALYZING:

- ▶ **EVACUATION ORDERS AND ALERTS:** TIMING, DURATION, TYPE OF HAZARD
- ▶ **HEAT EXPOSURE:** NUMBER OF DAYS OVER 30 C
- ▶ **REPORTED HEAT-RELATED DEATHS:** ALONG WITH DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION
- ▶ **2021 SOCIAL VULNERABILITY INDEX:** AN INDICATOR OF THE SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF COMMUNITIES (E.G. POVERTY, RENTERS, AGE OF RESIDENTS), USED TO ASSESS SENSITIVITY TO AND ABILITY TO RECOVER FROM DISASTERS

WE WOULD LIKE TO GATHER AND MAP INFORMATION ON:

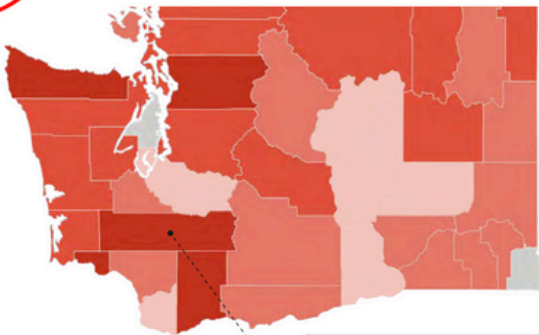
- ▶ **LOCAL STATES OF EMERGENCY:** TIMING, DURATION, TYPE OF HAZARD
- ▶ **DISASTER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**
- ▶ **PAYMENTS:** AMOUNT, TYPE OF HAZARD
- ▶ **UTILITY OUTAGES:** TIMING, DURATION, TYPE OF HAZARD

WHAT THIS COULD LOOK LIKE!!

DISASTER OCCURRENCES 2011-2021

FEDERALLY DECLARED CLIMATE DISASTERS BY COUNTY

16
disaster
declarations

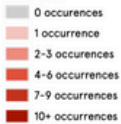


Lewis County has had the highest number of recent disasters in the state: 8 disasters.

Ninety-five percent of Washington counties have had a recent disaster declaration. Twelve counties have had five or more.

Number of Disaster Events

Major Disaster Declarations (2011-2021)



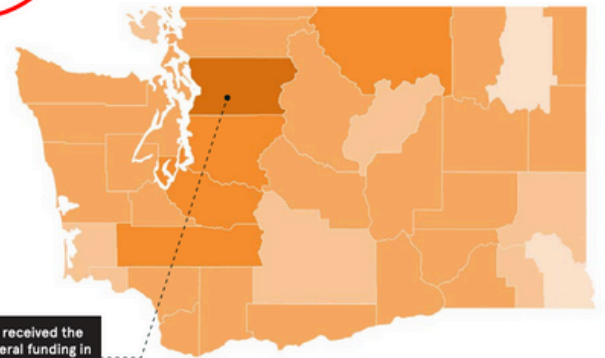
Source: FEMA 2021
Maps courtesy of iParameters

VISIT THE ATLAS OF DISASTER WEBSITE TO LEARN MORE!

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE 2011-2021

POST-DISASTER PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND HAZARD MITIGATION FUNDS OBLIGATED BY COUNTY FOR CLIMATE DISASTERS

\$267M
post-disaster
assistance



Snohomish County has received the most post-disaster federal funding in the state: over \$48 million.

Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation

Federal Share Obligated (2011-2021)



Source: FEMA 2021
Maps courtesy of iParameters

\$248M FEMA obligations

\$18.6M HUD CDBG-DR Funds

\$267M FEMA + HUD assistance

\$35 per capita cost

HELP US SHAPE THE BC ATLAS OF DISASTER! PLEASE ANSWER A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU'D LIKE TO SEE MAPPED.