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The U.S. Fire Administration maintains the **Emergency Management and Response – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC)**.

For information regarding the EMR-ISAC visit www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac or contact the EMR-ISAC office at: (301) 447-1325 and/or emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov.

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Emergency Responder Health Surveillance

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is pleased to introduce the [U.S. National Response Team \(NRT\) Emergency Responder Health Monitoring and Surveillance \(ERHMS\) system](#) training. ERHMS provides guidelines for protecting emergency responders involved in various emergencies and settings.

The ERHMS System Training course provides necessary tools for implementing health monitoring and surveillance of emergency response workers. It also outlines important procedures during pre-deployment, deployment, and post-deployment activities, including credentialing, risk communication, and after-action assessments.

The ERHMS System: Leadership Training course introduces the ERHMS system to leaders in organizations responsible for planning and executing incident response activities. The intended audience includes local, regional, state, tribal, and federal personnel who are responsible for the occupational safety and health of responders.

Both courses are free online and provide Continuing Education Units (CEUs). Anyone involved with the deployment and protection of emergency workers is encouraged to take the courses and also to review the other [ERHMS resources available on the NIOSH website](#).

(Source: [NIOSH](#))

Ebola Spreads, American Patients Return Home

This latest outbreak of [Ebola virus](#) is the most deadly since it first appeared: of the roughly 2,000 people who've died from the disease since 1976, 932 are from the recent outbreak. Increasing concerns about infected people traveling to other parts of the world bring new restrictions as health officials attempt to stop the spread.

Two infected American health workers were flown to Atlanta to receive treatment, making them the first Ebola patients in the United States. They have also received experimental serum that, so far, appears to be helping, though full clinical trials are required before that can fully be determined. In New York, a patient who recently returned from West Africa is being tested for Ebola after showing some symptoms.

Twenty American [airports are screening passengers](#) returning from the affected area, and last week the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued an [alert for medical professionals](#) listing things to watch for. Some important facts:

The InfoGram is distributed weekly to provide members of the Emergency Services Sector with information concerning the protection of their critical infrastructures.

- Ebola is only transmitted through contact with bodily fluids;
- People with Ebola are only contagious when they are showing symptoms;
- Symptoms can show up anywhere between 2 and 21 days from infection;
- Symptoms begin with fever, vomiting, headache, diarrhea, and muscle pain;
- Symptoms progress to renal failure, difficulty breathing, and bleeding inside and outside the body.

Though the portrayal of Ebola in the news is unnerving, officials maintain there is little risk of a serious outbreak in the United States due to our use of proper quarantine and PPE. However, the number of [health care workers contracting the disease](#) while likely using correct shielding practices is very concerning.

(Source: [CDC Ebola Site](#))

USGS Updates Earthquake Hazard Maps

The U.S. Geological Survey released their [updated National Seismic Hazard Maps](#), showing 42 of the lower 48 states have a reasonable chance of facing damage from ground shaking in the next 50 years. Last updated 6 years ago, these new maps were developed with new ground motion models and compare changes between the 2008 maps and the 2014 ones.

The highest risk is on the west coast, intermountain west, and several clusters in the central and eastern United States. That really hasn't changed since the 2008 map; instead, the [potential severity and strength of earthquakes was upgraded](#) for those areas based on new data. For example, risk was upgraded in the eastern United States and the New Madrid Zone based in part on recent earthquakes there.

The Pacific Northwest's risk was upgraded due to similarities between its seismic hazards and those of Japan and Chile, both of which experienced very strong earthquakes in the past several years. New faults recently discovered in parts of California lead to increased hazard estimates there.

The report is essential for anyone involved in risk analysis, earthquake resistant construction and engineering, building codes, or emergency preparedness planning.

(Source: [U.S. Geological Survey](#))

New Website, Guide Helps Keep Schools Safe

School administration, law enforcement, emergency dispatch, and communities working to keep schools safe now have two new resources at their disposal, thanks to the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC).

[SchoolSafetyInfo.org](#) is a "clearinghouse of information and contacts for law enforcement and other public safety officials to prepare, respond and recover" as they work to keep schools as safe as possible." In addition to the information above, funding resources will be added soon.

[Sharing Ideas & Resources to Keep our Nation's Schools Safe Volume II](#) (PDF, 2.4 Mb) provides examples of real programs and success stories around the country preparing for and responding to school violence. Topics include cooperative efforts in communities, training programs, and projects such as smartphone apps and direct lines to emergency dispatch. [Volume I](#) (PDF, 2.3 Mb) was published in 2013.

(Source: [NLECTC](#))

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For information specifically affecting the private sector critical infrastructure contact the **National Infrastructure Coordinating Center** by phone at **202-282-9201**, or by email at nicc@dhs.gov.