

Van Buren County, MI

Risk-assessment baseline packet

County FIPS: 26159 Release: 2026-10 Data as of: 2026-09-30 Storm Events data through: 2026-06-30

Hazard Plain is an independent product built from public federal data. It is not a FEMA document and is not reviewed or endorsed by FEMA or any state agency.

Summary

Plan status as of 2026-09-30: Expired on 2021-03-01. Plan: Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083), approved 2016-03-01.
Since the plan was approved on 2016-03-01: no new hazard declaration; 2 COVID-19 declarations (not counted).
NOAA Storm Events records since that date: 73 records (data through 2026-06-30).
Highest expected annual loss (FEMA National Risk Index, modeled total; see B1-a): Inland Flooding (\$9,180,405 a year), Tornado (\$3,219,821) and Hail (\$3,027,930).
Repetitive-loss flood properties now: FMA RL 0, SRL 0 (44 CFR 77.2); any definition: 4.
The tables that follow are organized by the items of FEMA's Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool, Element B (B1-a to B2-c); each heading says which item its tables support.

TERMS USED

EAL: expected annual loss: FEMA's modeled average yearly loss from a hazard.
NRI: FEMA's National Risk Index (version 1.20, December 2025).
NFIP: National Flood Insurance Program.
RL, SRL: repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss: flood-insured properties with repeated claims (definitions in B2-c).
FMA, HMGP: Flood Mitigation Assistance and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, FEMA mitigation grants.
PA: FEMA Public Assistance: disaster aid to governments and some nonprofits.
Zone-level: NOAA logged the event for a National Weather Service forecast zone, which may include parts of neighboring counties.
County-coded: NOAA logged the event to this county.
FIPS: the federal code for a place; 26159 is this area.
D0 to D4: U.S. Drought Monitor categories, from abnormally dry (D0) to exceptional drought (D4).
F/EF, EFU: Fujita and Enhanced Fujita tornado ratings; EFU is an unrated tornado.
kt, CONUS: knots (1 kt is about 1.15 mph); the contiguous United States.
CFR: Code of Federal Regulations.
A4-a, E1-a: other items of FEMA's Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool (sources, and changes since the last plan).
Dollars: nominal (as reported, labeled with the year), not adjusted for inflation.

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Plan clock

Status:	Expired on 2021-03-01	Plan:	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)
Approved:	2016-03-01	Days since expiry:	2,039
Update underway:	none recorded in FEMA's plan tracker		

Until a new plan is approved, FEMA mitigation project grants (HMGP, FMA) need a FEMA exception (44 CFR 201.6(a)(3)).

What changed since your last plan (approved 2016-03-01)

New federal declarations:	no new hazard declaration; 2 COVID-19 declarations (not counted)	Storm Events records since approval:	73 records (data through 2026-06-30)
Repetitive loss now:	FMA RL 0, SRL 0 (44 CFR 77.2); any definition: 4	Repeat-flood change:	this release sets the baseline count.

Sources: 1, 2, 4, 6 (numbered list at the end)

Plan status for every jurisdiction listed in this county: 30 rows, in the section "Plan clock: Plan status for every jurisdiction listed in this county" on the following pages.

State plan status and tribal plans in this state: see the state page.

Plan clock

Plan status for every jurisdiction listed in this county

Source: 1

Jurisdiction	Type	Status	Plan	Approved	Expires	Days to expiry negative = days since expiry
Van Buren County	County	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Bangor city	City	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Bloomington village	Village	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Breedsville village	Village	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Decatur village	Village	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Gobles city	City	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Hartford city	City	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Lawrence village	Village	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Lawton village	Village	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Mattawan village	Village	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Paw Paw village	Village	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
South Haven city	City	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Almena township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Antwerp township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Arlington township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Bangor township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Bloomington township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Columbia township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Covert township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Decatur township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Geneva township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Hamilton township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Hartford township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Keeler township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Lawrence township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Paw Paw township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Pine Grove township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Porter township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
South Haven charter township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039
Waverly township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	Van Buren County (FEMA plan 102083)	2016-03-01	2021-03-01	-2,039

Supports FEMA checklist item B1-a: hazard identification

Hazards NRI does not cover (local data needed)

- dam failure (incl. upstream dams)
- levee failure
- flash flood as its own subtype
- ice jams
- debris flows
- erosion (riverine and coastal)
- land subsidence and sinkholes
- expansive soils

The 18 National Risk Index hazards, ranked by expected annual loss (EAL)

Sources: 5, 6

Rank by EAL	Hazard	NRI risk rating	EAL rating	EAL buildings <i>modeled dollars per year</i>	EAL agriculture <i>modeled dollars per year</i>	Cost of expected deaths and injuries <i>FEMA's dollar value per year, not property damage</i>	EAL total (see note) <i>modeled dollars per year</i>	Storm Events records, 1996 to 2026-06-30 <i>count</i>	Storm Events coverage note
1	Inland Flooding	Relatively Low	Relatively Low	\$9,172,273	\$3,963	\$4,168	\$9,180,405	10	
2	Tornado	Relatively Moderate	Relatively Moderate	\$1,964,550	\$1,920	\$1,253,350	\$3,219,821	4	
3	Hail	Relatively High	Relatively High	\$2,980,812	\$40,364	\$6,755	\$3,027,930	40	
4	Strong Wind	Relatively High	Relatively High	\$1,363,716	\$52,444	\$863,586	\$2,279,745	143	Includes 14 High Wind and 1 Strong Wind records (NOAA non-thunderstorm wind types, outside NRI's Strong Wind definition).
5	Cold Wave	Relatively Low	Relatively Moderate	\$99	\$24,699	\$1,234,863	\$1,259,661	0	No recorded events in Storm Events since 1996 (data through 2026-06-30).
6	Ice Storm	Relatively High	Relatively High	\$47,674	n/a	\$489,286	\$536,960	3	
7	Earthquake	Very Low	Relatively Low	\$235,868	n/a	\$68,338	\$304,206		Storm Events does not record earthquakes.
8	Heat Wave	Relatively Low	Relatively Low	\$3,341	\$2	\$263,700	\$267,043	0	No recorded events in Storm Events since 1996 (data through 2026-06-30).
9	Lightning	Relatively Low	Relatively Low	\$17,433	n/a	\$224,155	\$241,587	2	
10	Winter Weather	Relatively Low	Relatively Moderate	\$6,830	\$2,523	\$76,166	\$85,519	141	Includes 1 Sleet record (outside NRI's Winter Weather definition).
11	Hurricane	Very Low	Very Low	\$8,863	\$3,724	\$6	\$12,593	0	No recorded events in Storm Events since 1996 (data through 2026-06-30).

Rank by EAL	Hazard	NRI risk rating	EAL rating	EAL buildings <i>modeled dollars per year</i>	EAL agriculture <i>modeled dollars per year</i>	Cost of expected deaths and injuries <i>FEMA's dollar value per year, not property damage</i>	EAL total (see note) <i>modeled dollars per year</i>	Storm Events records, 1996 to 2026-06-30 <i>count</i>	Storm Events coverage note
12	Wildfire	Very Low	Very Low	\$9,906	\$12	\$1,103	\$11,020	0	No recorded events in Storm Events since 1996 (data through 2026-06-30).
13	Landslide	Very Low	Very Low	\$252	n/a	\$1,408	\$1,660	0	No recorded events in Storm Events since 1996 (data through 2026-06-30).
14	Coastal Flooding	Very Low	Very Low	\$1,087	n/a	\$167	\$1,255	0	No recorded events in Storm Events since 1996 (data through 2026-06-30).
15	Drought	No Rating	No Expected Annual Losses	n/a	\$0	n/a	\$0	0	No recorded events in Storm Events since 1996 (data through 2026-06-30).
	Tsunami	Insufficient Data	Insufficient Data	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	No recorded events in Storm Events since 1996 (data through 2026-06-30).

Total = buildings + agriculture + population equivalence; FEMA values each expected death (or 10 injuries) at \$13.7 million (2024 dollars).

NRI risk rating combines expected annual loss with social vulnerability and community resilience; EAL rating rates expected annual loss alone. Both compare this county with all U.S. counties.

Local data needed: state and local wildfire, landslide and tsunami records (Storm Events records these hazards only in part).

Not applicable to this county per NRI, with no federal declaration and no Storm Events record since 1996: avalanche and volcanic activity. That is the evidence for leaving them out of the plan.

The state hazard mitigation plan also lists hazards for this county; FEMA asks the plan to explain any hazard it leaves out.

Supports FEMA checklist item B1-b: hazard location

Affects the whole county (national data give no location within it): Cold Wave, Drought, Hail, Heat Wave, Ice Storm, Lightning, Strong Wind and Winter Weather.

Coastal Flooding and Inland Flooding: The FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) is the required location source for flooding. See the FEMA Flood Map Service Center (<https://msc.fema.gov>) for this county.

Hazards that vary within the county: highest-rated census tracts

Source: 5

Hazard	Highest-rated census tracts <i>NRI risk rating, score 0 to 100</i>
Earthquake	tract 119 (Relatively Low, 57.0); tract 118.02 (Relatively Low, 54.7); tract 101.01 (Relatively Low, 47.4)
Hurricane	tract 119 (Very Low, 36.8); tract 110.03 (Very Low, 35.9); tract 115 (Very Low, 35.7)
Landslide	tract 106 (Relatively Low, 89.9); tract 113 (Relatively Low, 84.7); tract 116.02 (Relatively Low, 84.4)
Tornado	tract 119 (Relatively High, 81.9); tract 101.01 (Relatively High, 80.3); tract 120.01 (Relatively High, 75.7)
Tsunami	no tract has a National Risk Index rating for this hazard
Wildfire	tract 101.01 (Relatively Low, 70.4); tract 110.03 (Very Low, 67.7); tract 105 (Very Low, 65.5)

Up to 3 census tracts per hazard, highest National Risk Index rating first, then highest score; a tract number is the Census tract number (for example 119 is Census Tract 119). FEMA's Resilience Analysis and Planning Tool maps the National Risk Index for every tract: <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/resilience-analysis-and-planning-tool>

Supports FEMA checklist item B1-c: hazard extent

Extent: scale, observed range and worst recorded event per hazard

Sources: 6, 7

Hazard	Scale	Records <i>count and years</i>	Observed range	Worst recorded event	Most damaging (when different)	How it applies to jurisdictions	Note
Coastal Flood, Storm Surge/ Tide	none in data (flood depth: FIRM)	0					Flood depth: see the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map.
Cold/Wind Chill, Extreme Cold/Wind Chill	wind chill	0					Wind chill: in event narratives only (local data needed).
Frost/Freeze (outside NRI's Cold Wave definition)	crop damage	0					Temperature: in event narratives only (local data needed).
Drought	U.S. Drought Monitor scale (D0 to D4)	0					Storm Events enters a drought at D2 or worse east of the Rockies and D3 or worse from the Rockies west (NWS Instruction 10-1605); NRI drought counts D3 and D4 only.
Earthquake	Modified Mercalli (local data)	0					Storm Events does not record earthquakes; the USGS earthquake catalog is the source.
Hail	hail size (inches)	69 records, 1970 to 2024	0.5 in to 3 in (median 1 in); 69 with a recorded value	3 in hail, 2006-08-24	Hail, 2010-04-05, \$50,000,000 property; crops not reported (2010 dollars)	Event records naming jurisdictions in the plan: Decatur township (6 records), Decatur village (6 records), Covert township (5 records), Paw Paw township (5 records), Paw Paw village (5 records), Bloomingdale township (3 records), Bloomingdale village (3 records), Gobles city (3 records), Hartford city (3 records), Hartford township (3 records); and 10 more jurisdictions (see the Excel file).	
Excessive Heat, Heat	heat index (in event narratives)	0					Heat index: in event narratives only (local data needed).
Hurricane, Tropical Storm, Tropical Depression	Saffir-Simpson	0					Storm Events files every zone of a storm's episode under the storm's type; flooding from the storm is filed as Flood or Flash Flood records.

Hazard	Scale	Records <i>count and years</i>	Observed range	Worst recorded event	Most damaging (when different)	How it applies to jurisdictions	Note
Ice Storm	Sperry-Piltz ice scale (local data)	3 records, 1997 to 2023 (3 zone-level)		Ice Storm, 2023-02-22, \$100,000 property; \$0 crops (2023 dollars), 1 direct death (reported for the zone); NWS zone MIZ071		Countywide (zone-level records).	Ice thickness: in event narratives only (local data needed).
Flash Flood, Flood, Lakeshore Flood	damage and flood days (flood depth: FIRM)	10 records, 1996 to 2013 (2 zone-level)		Flood, 2013-04-17, \$3,000,000 property; \$0 crops (2013 dollars)		Event records naming jurisdictions in the plan: South Haven charter township (2 records), South Haven city (2 records), Covert township (1 record), Lawton village (1 record). Zone-level records (2) apply countywide.	Flood depth: see the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map. Storm Events damage is often \$0 or blank for floods, major ones included; FEMA Public Assistance by declaration (B1-d) shows which floods cost the most.
Debris Flow	none (count and damage only)	0					Physical measure: in event narratives only (local data needed).
Lightning	annualized frequency (the measure FEMA's Local Mitigation Planning Handbook names)	2 records, 1997 to 2011		Lightning, 1997-09-19, \$200,000 property; crops not reported (1997 dollars)		Event records naming jurisdictions in the plan: South Haven charter township (1 record), South Haven city (1 record).	Storm Events lists lightning with damage or casualties; physical measure in event narratives only (local data needed).
High Wind and Strong Wind (outside NRI's Strong Wind definition)	wind speed (kt and mph)	15 records, 1997 to 2024 (15 zone-level)	42 kt (48 mph) to 67 kt (77 mph) (median 53 kt (61 mph)); 14 with a recorded value	67 kt (77 mph) measured gust, High Wind, 2013-11-17; NWS zone MIZ071	High Wind, 2017-03-08, \$10,000,000 property; \$0 crops, reported for the zone (2017 dollars)	Countywide (zone-level records).	
Thunderstorm Wind	wind speed (kt and mph)	184 records, 1958 to 2026	50 kt (58 mph) to 87 kt (100 mph) (median 52 kt (60 mph)); 120 with a recorded value	87 kt (100 mph) estimated gust, Thunderstorm Wind, 2020-06-26	Thunderstorm Wind, 2022-06-13, \$3,000,000 property; \$0 crops (2022 dollars)	Event records naming jurisdictions in the plan: Bangor city (18 records), Bangor township (18 records), Decatur township (15 records), Decatur village (15 records), Lawton village (15 records), Paw Paw township (14 records), Paw Paw village (14 records), Lawrence township (10 records), Lawrence village (10 records), South Haven charter township (10 records); and 11 more jurisdictions (see the Excel file).	
Tornado	Enhanced Fujita (Fujita before Feb 2007)	19 records, 1954 to 2010	F/EF0 to F/EF3 (median F/EF2); 19 with a recorded value	F3 tornado, 1980-05-13, 21 mi path length (whole path, pre-1996), 300 yd wide, \$2,500,000 property; crops not recorded (1980 dollars), 15 direct injuries		Event records naming jurisdictions in the plan: Gobles city (1 record), Paw Paw township (1 record), Paw Paw village (1 record).	Before 1996 a tornado is listed once, under the county where it began, with its whole path's rating and length; from 1996 on, each county lists its own segment. Length is not used to rank tornadoes (see Methods).

Hazard	Scale	Records <i>count and years</i>	Observed range	Worst recorded event	Most damaging (when different)	How it applies to jurisdictions	Note
Tsunami	none (count and damage only)	0					Physical measure: in event narratives only (local data needed).
Wildfire	acres burned (local data)	0					Acres burned: in event narratives only (local data needed).
Winter Storm, Heavy Snow, Blizzard, Lake-Effect Snow, Winter Weather, Sleet	none in data (snowfall: local data)	141 records, 1996 to 2026 (141 zone-level)		Winter Storm, 2016-02-24, \$25,000 property; \$0 crops (2016 dollars); NWS zone MIZ071		Countywide (zone-level records).	Snow depth: in event narratives only (local data needed).

Where a hazard names more than 10 jurisdictions, the table lists the 10 with the most records; every one is in the Excel file, sheet "B1-c Extent".

Storm Events records are more complete after 1996; before 1996 only Tornado (from 1950), Hail and Thunderstorm Wind (from 1955) exist. Zone-level records whose zone no NWS zone-county file places in this county (mostly before 2020) are not counted here (the Methods page explains the zone matching).

Dollars are nominal (as reported), labeled with the year; not adjusted for inflation.

Supports FEMA checklist item B1-d: previous occurrences

Federal declarations for this county: 13 declarations covering 9 separate hazard incidents counted in this packet (declarations for the same incident count once; non-natural and evacuation-only declarations are not counted).

Federal disaster declarations for this county

Sources: 1, 2, 3

Declared	Incident began	FEMA number	Type	Title	Mapped hazard	County Public Assistance <i>federal share obligated, nominal dollars</i>	Flags	Notes
2020-03-27	2020-01-20	DR-4494-MI	Major disaster	COVID-19 Pandemic	Non-natural, not counted	\$5,100	new since last plan	
2020-03-13	2020-01-20	EM-3455-MI	Emergency	COVID-19	Non-natural, not counted	no Public Assistance recorded	new since last plan	same incident as DR-4494
2005-09-07	2005-08-29	EM-3225-MI	Emergency	Hurricane Katrina Evacuation	Hurricane: evacuation support, not a local hazard event; not counted	no Public Assistance recorded		
2004-06-30	2004-05-20	DR-1527-MI	Major disaster	Severe Storms, Tornadoes, and Flooding	Inland Flooding; Tornado: designated for Hazard Mitigation only (no Public or Individual Assistance for this county); not counted	PA not declared for this county		
2001-01-10	2000-12-11	EM-3160-MI	Emergency	Snow	Winter Weather	\$22,979.06		
1999-01-27	1999-01-02	EM-3137-MI	Emergency	Mi - Severe Weather 1/2 /99	Winter Weather	\$15,796.88		
1986-09-18	1986-09-10	DR-774-MI	Major disaster	Severe Storms & Flooding	Inland Flooding	PA not declared for this county		

Declared	Incident began	FEMA number	Type	Title	Mapped hazard	County Public Assistance	Flags	Notes
						<i>federal share obligated, nominal dollars</i>		
1980-09-08	1980-09-08	DR-631-MI	Major disaster	Severe Storms & Flooding	Inland Flooding	no Public Assistance recorded		
1980-05-16	1980-05-16	DR-621-MI	Major disaster	Severe Storms & Tornadoes	Tornado	no Public Assistance recorded		
1978-01-27	1978-01-27	EM-3057-MI	Emergency	Blizzards & Snowstorms	Winter Weather	no Public Assistance recorded		
1977-02-05	1977-02-05	EM-3030-MI	Emergency	Snowstorms	Winter Weather	no Public Assistance recorded		
1975-04-26	1975-04-26	DR-465-MI	Major disaster	Severe Storms, High Winds & Flooding	Inland Flooding (primary); also designated: Strong Wind	no Public Assistance recorded		
1973-04-12	1973-04-12	DR-371-MI	Major disaster	Severe Storms & Flooding	Inland Flooding	no Public Assistance recorded		

County Public Assistance: applicants the FEMA record places in this county, including any state agencies FEMA files there; statewide rows are listed on the state page; federal share obligated, nominal dollars.

Statewide declarations

Source: 2

Declared	Incident began	FEMA number	Type	Title	Mapped hazard
1956-04-05	1956-04-05	DR-53-MI	Major disaster	Tornado	Tornado
1953-06-09	1953-06-09	DR-6-MI	Major disaster	Tornado	Tornado
1953-06-02	1953-06-02	DR-4-MI	Major disaster	Tornado	Tornado

FEMA recorded these with designated area Statewide and no county, so they are listed on every county page in the state and not counted with county rows. Local data needed: whether each one affected this county.

Previous occurrences by hazard, with explicit no-event rows

Sources: 2, 6, 7

Hazard	Storm Events records, all years on file <i>(years in the Period column)</i>	Since plan approval <i>records</i>	In the 12 months before plan approval <i>records</i>	Last 5 years <i>records</i>	Declared incidents, all years <i>separate disasters</i>	Declared since approval <i>separate disasters</i>	Period	Statement
Coastal Flooding	0	0	0	0	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	No recorded events, 1996 to 2026-06-30, NOAA NCEI Storm Events
Cold Wave	0	0	0	0	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	No recorded events, 1996 to 2026-06-30, NOAA NCEI Storm Events
Drought	0	0	0	0	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	No recorded events, 1996 to 2026-06-30, NOAA NCEI Storm Events
Earthquake	0	0	0	0	0	0		Storm Events does not record earthquakes; the USGS earthquake catalog is the source.
Hail	69	9	0	5	0	0	1955 to 2026-06-30	
Heat Wave	0	0	0	0	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	No recorded events, 1996 to 2026-06-30, NOAA NCEI Storm Events

Hazard	Storm Events records, all years on file <i>(years in the Period column)</i>	Since plan approval <i>records</i>	In the 12 months before plan approval <i>records</i>	Last 5 years <i>records</i>	Declared incidents, all years <i>separate disasters</i>	Declared since approval <i>separate disasters</i>	Period	Statement
Hurricane	0	0	0	0	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	No recorded events, 1996 to 2026-06-30, NOAA NCEI Storm Events
Ice Storm	3	1	0	1	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	
Inland Flooding	10	0	0	0	4	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	
Landslide	0	0	0	0	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	No recorded events, 1996 to 2026-06-30, NOAA NCEI Storm Events
Lightning	2	0	0	0	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	
Strong Wind	199	45	1	30	1	0	1955 to 2026-06-30	Includes 14 High Wind and 1 Strong Wind records.
Tornado	19	0	0	0	1	0	1950 to 2026-06-30	
Tsunami	0	0	0	0	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	No recorded events, 1996 to 2026-06-30, NOAA NCEI Storm Events
Wildfire	0	0	0	0	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	No recorded events, 1996 to 2026-06-30, NOAA NCEI Storm Events
Winter Weather	141	18	5	11	4	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	Includes 1 Sleet record.

Notable Storm Events records

Sources: 1, 6, 7

Date	Event type	Magnitude or extent	Damage <i>nominal dollars</i>	Deaths, injuries <i>direct only</i>	Location	Flags	Why listed
2023-02-22	Ice Storm		\$100,000 property; \$0 crops, reported for the zone (2023 dollars)	1, 0	NWS zone MIZ071 (VAN BUREN), zone-level	new since last plan; within last 5 years	deaths or injuries recorded
2020-06-26	Thunderstorm Wind	87 kt (100 mph) estimated gust	\$1,000,000 property; \$0 crops (2020 dollars)	0, 0	FOREST DUNES to PAW PAW	new since last plan	B1-c worst recorded: Thunderstorm Wind
2017-03-08	High Wind	61 kt (70 mph) estimated gust	\$10,000,000 property; \$0 crops, reported for the zone (2017 dollars)	0, 0	NWS zone MIZ071 (VAN BUREN), zone-level	new since last plan	B1-c most damaging: High Wind and Strong Wind
2016-02-24	Winter Storm		\$25,000 property; \$0 crops, reported for the zone (2016 dollars)	0, 0	NWS zone MIZ071 (VAN BUREN), zone-level	in the 12 months before plan approval	B1-c worst recorded: Winter Storm, Heavy Snow, Blizzard, Lake-Effect Snow, Winter Weather, Sleet
2013-11-17	High Wind	67 kt (77 mph) measured gust	\$100,000 property; \$0 crops, reported for the zone (2013 dollars)	0, 0	NWS zone MIZ071 (VAN BUREN), zone-level		B1-c worst recorded: High Wind and Strong Wind
2013-04-17	Flood		\$3,000,000 property; \$0 crops (2013 dollars)	0, 0	SOUTH HAVEN to COVERT		B1-c worst recorded: Flash Flood, Flood, Lakeshore Flood
2012-04-16	Strong Wind	48 kt (55 mph) estimated gust	\$10,000 property; \$0 crops, reported for the zone (2012 dollars)	1, 0	NWS zone MIZ071 (VAN BUREN), zone-level		deaths or injuries recorded
2010-04-05	Hail	1.25 in	\$50,000,000 property; crops not reported (2010 dollars)	0, 0	LAWTON to MATTAWAN ARPK		B1-c most damaging: Hail
2006-08-24	Hail	3 in	\$25,000 property; \$10,000 crops (2006 dollars)	0, 0	GRAND JCT		B1-c worst recorded: Hail
1997-09-19	Lightning		\$200,000 property; crops not reported (1997 dollars)	0, 0	SOUTH HAVEN		B1-c worst recorded: Lightning
1984-05-18	Thunderstorm Wind	speed not recorded	damage not recorded (pre-1996 record)	1, 2	location not recorded		deaths or injuries recorded
1980-05-13	Tornado	F3, 21 mi path length (whole path, pre-1996), 300 yd wide	\$2,500,000 property; crops not recorded (1980 dollars)	0, 15	location not recorded		B1-c worst recorded: Tornado

The full list is in the Excel file, sheet "B1-d Storm Events history" (443 rows).

Location is the place NOAA recorded, as written in its data; it need not be a jurisdiction in this plan.

Local data needed: state-declared emergencies, from your state emergency management agency (federal data do not include them).

Tribal and special-area declarations in this state are listed on the state page.

Supports FEMA checklist item B1-e: probability of future events

Probability: FEMA annualized frequency and descriptor per hazard

Sources: 5, 6

Hazard	FEMA annualized frequency (modeled) <i>unit per row</i>	Unit	In plain terms	Descriptor	Descriptor basis	NRI events or days in its record period (hail, wind and tornado are area- weighted, so can be fractional)	NRI period	Location	Note
Coastal Flooding	0.0131	events per year at a location (modeled)	about 0.013 per year at a given location in the county		Storm Events records in 0 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (0%)	not shown	modeled	see B1-f	No descriptor: no Storm Events record 1996 to 2025
Cold Wave	1.26	event-days per year	about 1.26 days per year		event-days in 0 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (0%)	24	2005-11-12 to 2024-11-12 (19 years)	countywide	No Storm Events cold wave record, 1996 to 2025.
Drought	0	event-days per year	none modeled		event-days in 0 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (0%)	0	2000 to 2025 (25.25 years; D3 and D4 only)	countywide	No Storm Events drought record, 1996 to 2025
Earthquake	0.000993	annual probability at a location	chance a given location in the county has at least minor- damage shaking in a year: 0.0993%			not shown	modeled	see B1-f	No descriptor (Storm Events does not record earthquakes).
Hail	1.86	events per year	about 1.86 per year	Highly likely	FEMA annualized frequency (modeled)	71.0 (modeled)	1986 to 2023 (38 years)	countywide	
Heat Wave	2.68	event-days per year	about 2.68 days per year		event-days in 0 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (0%)	39	2005-11-12 to 2024-11-12 (19 years)	countywide	No Storm Events heat wave record, 1996 to 2025
Hurricane	0.00699	events per year	about 1 in 143 years	Unlikely	FEMA annualized frequency (modeled)	2	1851 to 2024 (Atlantic)	see B1-f	NRI counts hurricane and tropical storm tracks passing within storm-force wind range; federal declarations are in B1-d.
Ice Storm	0.963	event-days per year	about 0.963 days per year	Likely (from Storm Events: 3 of 30 years)	event-days in 3 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (10%)	38	1946-12-31 to 2014-02-12 (67 years)	countywide	
Inland Flooding	0.357	event-days per year	about 0.357 days per year	Likely (from Storm Events: 7 of 30 years)	event-days in 7 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (23.3%)	10	1996 to 2023 (28 years)	see B1-f	
Landslide	0.141	events per year (modeled)	about 1 in 7 years	Likely	FEMA annualized frequency (modeled)	not shown	modeled	see B1-f	

Hazard	FEMA annualized frequency (modeled)	Unit	In plain terms	Descriptor	Descriptor basis	NRI events or days in its record period (hail, wind and tornado are area- weighted, so can be fractional)				Location	Note
	<i>unit per row</i>						NRI period				
Lightning	35.9	days per year with a strike	about 35.9 days per year	Highly likely	FEMA annualized frequency (modeled)	not shown	1995 to 2023 (29 years; CONUS)			countywide	
Strong Wind	3.66	events per year	about 3.66 per year	Highly likely	FEMA annualized frequency (modeled)	81	1986 to 2023 (38 years)			countywide	
Tornado	0.399	events per year	about 1 in 3 years	Likely	FEMA annualized frequency (modeled)	not shown	1950 to 2023 (EF2+); 1986 to 2023 (EF0-1)			see B1-f	
Tsunami		annual probability at the most exposed location (used in place of a county value)			Storm Events records in 0 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (0%)	not shown	modeled			see B1-f	No descriptor: no Storm Events record 1996 to 2025
Wildfire	0.0000137	annual probability at a location	chance a given location in the county burns in a year: 0.00137%		Storm Events records in 0 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (0%)	not shown	modeled			see B1-f	No descriptor: no Storm Events record 1996 to 2025
Winter Weather	28.9	event-days per year	about 28.9 days per year	Highly likely (from Storm Events: 28 of 30 years)	event-days in 28 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (93.3%)	550	2005-11-12 to 2024-11-12 (19 years)			countywide	

FEMA annualized frequency (modeled) is the National Risk Index v1.20 (December 2025) estimate of how often a hazard affects this county in a year; it is not recorded events divided by years, and its unit differs by hazard (events, event-days, or days with a lightning strike per year). For earthquake, wildfire, coastal flooding and tsunami the value is the chance (or number of events) at a location in the county, not across the county, so no "1 in N years" is given and the descriptor comes from Storm Events where it has a record (none for earthquake). The Methods page gives each hazard's method, from FEMA's National Risk Index Technical Documentation v1.20.

Descriptor scale used in this packet (defined per unit)

Sources: 5, 6

Unit	Descriptor	Definition
events per year	Highly likely	1 or more per year
events per year	Likely	about once in 1 to 10 years
events per year	Possible	about once in 10 to 100 years
events per year	Unlikely	less than once in 100 years
annual probability	Likely	10% to under 100% chance in a given year
annual probability	Possible	1% to under 10% chance in a given year
annual probability	Unlikely	under 1% chance in a given year
event-days (share of years)	Highly likely	event-days recorded in 90% or more of years
event-days (share of years)	Likely	event-days recorded in 10% to under 90% of years
event-days (share of years)	Possible	event-days recorded in some years but under 10% of years
lightning strike-days	Highly likely	cloud-to-ground strikes on 1 or more days per year

Intensity bands: historical frequency (Storm Events)

Source: 6

Hazard	Band	Years	Events <i>county-coded records</i>	Years in period	Events per year <i>events / years</i>
Hail	1.00-1.99 in	1996 to 2025	20	30	0.667
Hail	2.00 in+	1996 to 2025	3	30	0.1
Thunderstorm Wind (counted as NRI Strong Wind)	50-64 kt	1996 to 2025	97	30	3.23
Thunderstorm Wind (counted as NRI Strong Wind)	65 kt+	1996 to 2025	6	30	0.2
Thunderstorm Wind (counted as NRI Strong Wind)	unmeasured or below 50 kt	1996 to 2025	19	30	0.633
Tornado	EF0-1	1996 to 2025	4	30	0.133
Tornado	EF2-3	1996 to 2025	0	30	0
Tornado	EF4-5	1996 to 2025	0	30	0
Tornado	unrated (EFU)	1996 to 2025	0	30	0

The bands show how often events of each severity were recorded in this county, to profile how severe events have been (FEMA's probability item asks for the range of intensities).

Hail smaller than 1 inch is not counted: on 2010-01-05 the National Weather Service raised its severe-hail threshold from 3/4 inch to 1 inch, so smaller reports became less common after 2009 (NWS Service Change Notice 09-52). NRI hail frequency uses a 0.75 inch threshold.

Optional: future conditions. Not a required item in the 2025 FEMA Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide; some states ask for it. The federal Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation (CMRA) site gives county exposure to future climate conditions (<https://resilience.climate.gov/>).

Supports FEMA checklist item B1-f: hazards that vary across jurisdictions

Range of census tract risk within the county

Source: 5

Hazard	Tracts <i>rated of all</i>	NRI risk score, 0 to 100			Tracts by rating
		Min	Median	Max	
Coastal Flooding	5 of 22	68.2	74.9	77.1	Relatively Low 1, Very Low 4, No Rating 17
Cold Wave	22 of 22	34.7	55.0	67.0	Relatively Moderate 16, Relatively Low 6
Drought	0 of 22				No Rating 22
Earthquake	22 of 22	14.5	31.2	57.0	Relatively Low 5, Very Low 17
Hail	22 of 22	81.8	93.9	97.5	Relatively High 19, Relatively Moderate 3
Heat Wave	22 of 22	6.4	18.4	29.9	Relatively Low 12, Very Low 10
Hurricane	22 of 22	22.4	29.5	36.8	Very Low 22
Ice Storm	22 of 22	68.5	88.0	93.0	Relatively High 4, Relatively Moderate 17, Relatively Low 1
Inland Flooding	22 of 22	6.5	35.1	66.3	Relatively Moderate 4, Relatively Low 15, Very Low 3
Landslide	22 of 22	49.9	75.7	89.9	Relatively Low 5, Very Low 17
Lightning	22 of 22	26.8	50.9	65.4	Relatively Moderate 11, Relatively Low 11
Strong Wind	22 of 22	72.8	92.0	96.8	Very High 1, Relatively High 19, Relatively Moderate 2
Tornado	22 of 22	47.2	68.4	81.9	Relatively High 6, Relatively Moderate 15, Relatively Low 1
Tsunami	0 of 22				Insufficient Data 22
Wildfire	22 of 22	47.3	60.0	70.4	Relatively Low 1, Very Low 21
Winter Weather	22 of 22	40.8	61.2	73.2	Relatively Moderate 21, Relatively Low 1

Rated tracts only: No Rating (score 0.0), Not Applicable and Insufficient Data tracts are counted but not used for the minimum, median and maximum.

The score ranks a tract against all U.S. tracts (100 = highest). The rating is FEMA's category for the tract's risk value, computed differently, so the two can disagree.

Frequency data for cold wave, hail, heat wave, ice storm, lightning, strong wind and winter weather are county-wide or coarse (49 km grid or NWS zone), the same for every jurisdiction; the tract range mostly reflects where buildings and people are.

Each jurisdiction (starting figures from federal data)

Sources: 1, 3, 4, 6

Jurisdiction	Type	Plan status	Repetitive loss <i>FMA RL and SRL (44 CFR 77.2); repeat-flood, any definition</i>	Public Assistance to this jurisdiction <i>FEMA records matched by applicant name; federal share obligated, nominal dollars</i>	Event records naming this place <i>all years; since its plan</i>	Notes
Van Buren County	County	Expired on 2021-03-01		\$6,461.25	0 total; 0 since its plan	No NFIP community ID on this jurisdiction's plan row. Includes \$5,100 for declarations not counted as hazard incidents (DR-4494-MI).
Bangor city	City	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	\$5,563.51	19 total; 4 since its plan	
Bloomington village	Village	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	\$5,433.91	8 total; 0 since its plan	
Breedsville village	Village	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	\$989.06	4 total; 2 since its plan	
Decatur village	Village	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	\$6,081.10	21 total; 10 since its plan	
Gobles city	City	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	\$2,533.50	7 total; 0 since its plan	
Hartford city	City	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	6 total; 1 since its plan	
Lawrence village	Village	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	11 total; 1 since its plan	
Lawton village	Village	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	\$3,392.09	19 total; 7 since its plan	
Mattawan village	Village	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	3 total; 0 since its plan	
Paw Paw village	Village	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	20 total; 3 since its plan	
South Haven city	City	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 2	no Public Assistance recorded	15 total; 4 since its plan	
Almena township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	0 total; 0 since its plan	
Antwerp township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	0 total; 0 since its plan	
Arlington township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	0 total; 0 since its plan	
Bangor township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	19 total; 4 since its plan	
Bloomington township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	8 total; 0 since its plan	
Columbia township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	0 total; 0 since its plan	

Jurisdiction	Type	Plan status	Repetitive loss <i>FMA RL and SRL (44 CFR 77.2); repeat-flood, any definition</i>	Public Assistance to this jurisdiction <i>FEMA records matched by applicant name; federal share obligated, nominal dollars</i>	Event records naming this place <i>all years; since its plan</i>	Notes
Covert township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 1	no Public Assistance recorded	10 total; 0 since its plan	
Decatur township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 1	no Public Assistance recorded	21 total; 10 since its plan	
Geneva township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	0 total; 0 since its plan	
Hamilton township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	0 total; 0 since its plan	
Hartford township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	6 total; 1 since its plan	
Keeler township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	8 total; 2 since its plan	
Lawrence township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	11 total; 1 since its plan	
Paw Paw township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	20 total; 3 since its plan	
Pine Grove township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	1 total; 0 since its plan	
Porter township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	0 total; 0 since its plan	
South Haven charter township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	15 total; 4 since its plan	
Waverly township	Township	Expired on 2021-03-01	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	0 total; 0 since its plan	

Repetitive-loss counts are for whole NFIP communities, which can extend beyond this county (see the note in B2-c).

County Public Assistance in B1-d also includes applicants filed under the county that are not jurisdictions in this plan (for example state agencies, special districts and nonprofits), so the jurisdiction rows add up to less.

Supports FEMA checklist items B2-a and B2-b: vulnerability and potential impacts

Local data needed

The table below gives county-level starting figures; the plan describes impacts for each jurisdiction and its own assets.

- Critical facilities and lifelines per hazard
- A problem statement per jurisdiction per hazard
- Changes in development in hazard-prone areas since the last approval, or a statement of none (E1-a)
- Future assets

County-level starter: exposure, expected annual loss and damage since the plan

Sources: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7

Hazard	Building exposure <i>modeled dollars</i>	Agriculture exposure <i>modeled dollars</i>	Population exposed <i>people</i>	EAL buildings <i>modeled dollars per year</i>	EAL agriculture <i>modeled dollars per year</i>	Cost of expected deaths and injuries <i>FEMA's dollar value per year, not property damage</i>	EAL as % of exposure <i>buildings; agriculture where noted</i>	Storm Events damage since 2016-03-01 <i>county-coded records, property plus crops, nominal dollars</i>	Zone-level damage since plan <i>property plus crops, reported for the zone</i>	Public Assistance since plan <i>nominal dollars; see note</i>	Note
Coastal Flooding	\$439,114,890	n/a	728	\$1,087	n/a	\$167	0.000248%				
Cold Wave	\$16,093,650,972	\$264,638,959	75,550	\$99	\$24,699	\$1,234,863	under 0.0001%				
Drought	n/a	\$0	n/a	n/a	\$0	n/a					agriculture exposure is 0 in NRI
Earthquake	\$28,077,882,096	n/a	75,587	\$235,868	n/a	\$68,338	0.00084%				
Hail	\$16,093,650,972	\$264,638,959	75,550	\$2,980,812	\$40,364	\$6,755	0.0185%	\$40,000			
Heat Wave	\$16,093,650,972	\$264,638,959	75,550	\$3,341	\$2	\$263,700	under 0.0001%				
Hurricane	\$16,032,446,726	\$262,048,775	75,272	\$8,863	\$3,724	\$6	under 0.0001%				
Ice Storm	\$16,093,650,972	n/a	75,550	\$47,674	n/a	\$489,286	0.000296%		\$100,000		
Inland Flooding	\$16,067,664,724	\$617,967	711	\$9,172,273	\$3,963	\$4,168	n/a (see note)				NRI counts the full building value of any census block with some flood loss; this is not the value of buildings in the floodplain. Use local FIRM overlays for B2-a/B2-b.
Landslide	\$163,765,627	n/a	662	\$252	n/a	\$1,408	0.000154%				
Lightning	\$16,093,650,972	n/a	75,550	\$17,433	n/a	\$224,155	0.000108%				
Strong Wind	\$16,093,650,972	\$264,638,959	75,550	\$1,363,716	\$52,444	\$863,586	0.00847%	\$4,786,000	\$13,010,000		Storm Events damage since the plan includes 3 zone-level High Wind records (\$13,010,000): a NOAA non-thunderstorm wind type, outside NRI's Strong Wind definition.
Tornado	\$16,093,650,972	\$264,638,959	75,550	\$1,964,550	\$1,920	\$1,253,350	0.0122%				

Hazard	Building exposure <i>modeled dollars</i>	Agriculture exposure <i>modeled dollars</i>	Population exposed <i>people</i>	EAL buildings <i>modeled dollars per year</i>	EAL agriculture <i>modeled dollars per year</i>	Cost of expected deaths and injuries <i>FEMA's dollar value per year, not property damage</i>	EAL as % of exposure <i>buildings; agriculture where noted</i>	Storm Events damage since 2016-03-01 <i>county-coded records, property plus crops, nominal dollars</i>	Zone-level damage since plan <i>property plus crops, reported for the zone</i>	Public Assistance since plan <i>nominal dollars; see note</i>	Note
Tsunami	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a					NRI publishes no building exposure for this county
Wildfire	\$7,994,933,762	\$113,538,591	42,236	\$9,906	\$12	\$1,103	0.000124%				
Winter Weather	\$16,093,650,972	\$264,638,959	75,550	\$6,830	\$2,523	\$76,166	under 0.0001%		\$0		

Totals since 2016-03-01 (Storm Events through 2026-06-30): 50 county-coded records, 32 with a damage value recorded (including \$0), \$4,826,000; 23 zone-level records, 18 with a damage value recorded (including \$0), \$13,110,000 reported for the zone; Public Assistance: no counted declaration since the plan.

FEMA does not split Public Assistance by hazard. A declaration mapped to several hazards is listed under each of them with its full amount, so the per-hazard column does not add up to the total; the unit total counts each declaration once.

NRI computes earthquake exposure on its own basis, so it exceeds the county building value in B2-a.

Supports FEMA checklist item B2-a: vulnerability (county context)

County context

Source: 5

Measure	Value
Population	75,550
Building value (total, not at risk)	\$16,093,650,972
Agriculture value (total, not at risk)	\$264,638,959
NRI risk rating (all hazards)	Relatively Low
Expected annual loss, buildings and agriculture, all hazards	\$15,942,354
Expected annual loss, population equivalence, all hazards (NRI values each statistical life at \$13.7M; a modeled value of expected deaths and injuries, not property damage)	\$4,487,050
Social vulnerability rating	Relatively Moderate
Community resilience rating	Very High
NRI version	December 2025

FEMA's all-hazard expected annual loss adds buildings, agriculture and population equivalence; this table gives the property part and the population-equivalence part as separate rows.

Social vulnerability: higher means people are more likely to be harmed and slower to recover. Community resilience: lower means the community is less able to recover. High social vulnerability and low resilience both raise the NRI risk rating.

Supports FEMA checklist item B2-c: repetitive loss properties

Repetitive loss in this county, both definitions

Sources: 1, 4

Definition	Properties	Severe repetitive loss	Properties
Repetitive loss, FMA definition (44 CFR 77.2)	0	Severe repetitive loss, FMA definition (44 CFR 77.2)	0
Repetitive loss, NFIP insurance definition	4	Severe repetitive loss, NFIP insurance definition	0

The state NFIP coordinator's list, the source FEMA's Handbook names, often uses the NFIP insurance definition (second row).

Repeat-flood properties: county and state-level rows

Sources: 1, 4

Scope	RL, FMA <i>properties</i>	SRL, FMA <i>properties</i>	RL, NFIP <i>properties</i>	SRL, NFIP <i>properties</i>	Any category <i>properties</i>	Mitigated <i>properties</i>	Currently insured <i>properties</i>
County total	0	0	4	0	4	0	2
of which: South Haven city	0	0	2	0	2	0	1
of which: Covert township	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
of which: Decatur township	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
Statewide, no county in FEMA's file	0	0	4	0	4	0	0

The statewide row counts properties FEMA's file gives with no county in this state; they are listed for reference and are not in this county's counts.

Repeat-flood properties by jurisdiction in the plan (NFIP community)

Sources: 1, 4

Jurisdiction	NFIP community ID	RL, FMA <i>properties</i>	SRL, FMA <i>properties</i>	RL, NFIP <i>properties</i>	SRL, NFIP <i>properties</i>	Any category <i>properties</i>	Mitigated <i>properties</i>	Currently insured <i>properties</i>
Bangor city	260529	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bloomingtondale village	261150	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Breedsville village	260530	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Decatur village	261153	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gobles city	261143	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hartford city	260532	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lawrence village	261152	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lawton village	260533	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mattawan village	261151	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paw Paw village	260598	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Haven city	260211	0	0	2	0	2	0	1
South Haven city	261523	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Jurisdiction	NFIP community ID	RL, FMA <i>properties</i>	SRL, FMA <i>properties</i>	RL, NFIP <i>properties</i>	SRL, NFIP <i>properties</i>	Any category <i>properties</i>	Mitigated <i>properties</i>	Currently insured <i>properties</i>
Almena township	260528	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Antwerp township	261139	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arlington township	260705	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bangor township	260210	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bloomington township	261140	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Columbia township	260531	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Covert township	260259	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Decatur township	261141	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
Geneva township	261142	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hamilton township	261144	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hartford township	261145	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Keeler township	261146	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lawrence township	261147	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paw Paw township	261149	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pine Grove township	260534	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Porter township	261148	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Haven charter township	260212	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Waverly township	260678	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Counts by occupancy group for each jurisdiction are in the Excel file, sheet "B2-c Jurisdictions".

Jurisdiction rows are whole NFIP communities and need not add up to the county total: a community that extends into another county is counted in full on each jurisdiction row, while the county table counts only its part in this county.

County repeat-flood properties by occupancy group

Sources: 1, 4

Occupancy group	RL, FMA <i>properties</i>	SRL, FMA <i>properties</i>	RL, NFIP <i>properties</i>	SRL, NFIP <i>properties</i>	Any category <i>properties</i>	Mitigated <i>properties</i>	Currently insured <i>properties</i>
single-family residential	0	0	3	0	3	0	1
2 to 4 unit residential	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
other residential	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
non-residential	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
not reported	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

FEMA's occupancy groups have no institutional class; institutional properties are counted in non-residential or other residential in the table by occupancy group.

FMA RL and FMA SRL are the Flood Mitigation Assistance definitions (44 CFR 77.2), the ones the FEMA Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide cites. NFIP repetitive loss (the FEMA insurance definition) is 2 or more claims over \$1,000 in 10 years, and a property can leave that group once it is mitigated. Also shown: NFIP severe repetitive loss, any category, mitigated and currently insured. The Methods page gives the OpenFEMA field details.

Counts are aggregates of FEMA's public NFIP Multiple Loss Properties file (FEMA's data date 2026-08-02; file version 2026-08-04). No property is identified. County assignment is FEMA's geocode.

In this county 0 properties are FMA repetitive loss but not NFIP repetitive loss, and 4 properties are NFIP repetitive loss but not FMA repetitive loss.

Exact counts; no count suppression.

Sources

Tables cite these sources by number. The full list, for the plan's bibliography (FEMA review item A4-a):

1. FEMA, OpenFEMA HazardMitigationPlanStatuses v1, version 2026-09-29T134039Z, pulled 2026-09-30, <https://www.fema.gov/api/open/v1/HazardMitigationPlanStatuses> (API)
2. FEMA, OpenFEMA DisasterDeclarationsSummaries v2, version 2026-09-29T162832Z, pulled 2026-09-30, <https://www.fema.gov/api/open/v2/DisasterDeclarationsSummaries> (API)
3. FEMA, OpenFEMA PublicAssistanceFundedProjectsSummaries v1, version 2026-09-29T150754Z, pulled 2026-09-30, <https://www.fema.gov/api/open/v1/PublicAssistanceFundedProjectsSummaries> (API)
4. FEMA, OpenFEMA NfipMultipleLossProperties v1, version 2026-08-04T164045Z, pulled 2026-09-30, <https://www.fema.gov/api/open/v1/NfipMultipleLossProperties> (API)
5. FEMA, FEMA National Risk Index 1.20.0 (December 2025), county and census tract tables, version 1.20.0, pulled 2026-09-30, https://www.fema.gov/about/reports-and-data/openfema/nri/v120/NRI_Table_Counties.zip (download, 25 MB), https://www.fema.gov/about/reports-and-data/openfema/nri/v120/NRI_Table_CensusTracts.zip (download, 635 MB)
6. NOAA NCEI, NOAA NCEI Storm Events Database, details files (csvfiles v1.0), version c20260918, pulled 2026-09-30, <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/pub/data/swdi/stormevents/csvfiles/>
7. NOAA National Weather Service, NWS county-public forecast zones correlation file, version bp03mr20 to bp16ap26 (11 files; newest bp16ap26), pulled 2026-09-30, <https://www.weather.gov/gis/ZoneCounty>
8. U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2024 Gazetteer, 2020 place by county, CT county-to-cousub crosswalk, version 2024-gazetteer, pulled 2026-09-30, https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gazetteer/2024_Gaz_counties_national.zip, [https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gazetteer/2024_Gaz_cousubs_national.zip](https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gaz_cousubs_national.zip), [https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gazetteer/2024_Gaz_place_national.zip](https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gaz_place_national.zip), [https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gazetteer/2024_Gaz_unsd_national.zip](https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gaz_unsd_national.zip), [https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gazetteer/2024_Gaz_elsd_national.zip](https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gaz_elsd_national.zip), [https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gazetteer/2024_Gaz_scsd_national.zip](https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gaz_scsd_national.zip), https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/reference/codes2020/national_place_by_county2020.txt, https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/reference/ct_change/ct_cou_to_cousub_crosswalk.xlsx (used to match place names and codes; no table prints its values)

What this packet is and what the plan adds

This packet is the federal data for the plan's risk assessment, organized by the items of FEMA's Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool, Element B. Each section heading names the item its tables support; the plan and FEMA's review decide whether the item is met.

The plan adds what only the community has: local data on assets, critical facilities, development and each jurisdiction's impacts; local hazard history, including state-declared emergencies; the mitigation strategy; and adoption.

How the federal data are built: National Risk Index values are FEMA's model, not counts of events. Storm Events is more complete from 1996; zone-level records are placed by forecast zone, not by location in the county. Public Assistance for a jurisdiction is matched by applicant name. The Methods page gives every rule and the known edge cases.

OpenFEMA disclaimer

This product uses the Federal Emergency Management Agency's OpenFEMA API, but is not endorsed by FEMA. The Federal Government or FEMA cannot vouch for the data or analyses derived from these data after the data have been retrieved from the Agency's website(s).

Reuse, citation and corrections

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Cite this: Hazard Plain (2026). Van Buren County, MI: risk-assessment baseline packet, release 2026-10 (data as of 2026-09-30; County FIPS 26159). Automated baseline. <https://hazardplain.org/mi/26159/> Built from FEMA OpenFEMA, the FEMA National Risk Index and NOAA NCEI Storm Events; source versions in the packet's Sources list.

Corrections: to report an error, name the packet, the table and what your records show. Contact: contact@hazardplain.org

Hazard Plain release 2026-10. As of 2026-09-30; Storm Events data through 2026-06-30. Automated baseline.