



FACTSHEET: SHIELDS READY CAMPAIGN



OVERVIEW

- On November 7, 2023, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) launched [Shields Ready](#), a sustained national campaign to increase the security and resilience of America's critical infrastructure. This campaign is part of a broader agency priority initiative for 2024 focused on resilience.

ABOUT SHIELDS READY

- On November 7, 2023, CISA launched the [Shields Ready](#) campaign to increase the security and resilience of America's critical infrastructure.
- Strong infrastructure resilience is the foundation for strong community and national resilience. The Shields Ready campaign focuses on the intersection between resilience and preparedness for our Nation's critical infrastructure, from preparing for an event to responding and recovering quickly from an incident.
- Shields Ready complements CISA's successful [Shields Up](#) campaign, which was established last year in the aftermath of the Russian invasion of Ukraine to help U.S. critical infrastructure entities urgently prepare for potential retaliatory cyber-attacks based on specific threat intelligence.
 - Shields Ready focuses more broadly on helping critical infrastructure entities build long-term resilience into their systems and supply chains by ensuring an ability to respond effectively and recover rapidly to the full range of potential disruptive incidents.
- This focused approach highlights the key steps that critical infrastructure organizations can take to build resilience:
 - Identify Critical Assets and Map Dependencies. Determine the systems that are critical for ongoing business operations, and map out their key dependencies on technology, vendors, and supply chains.
 - Assess Risks. Consider the full range of threats that could disrupt these critical systems and the specific impacts that such threats could pose to continuity of operations.
 - Plan and Exercise. Develop incident response and recovery plans to reduce the impact of these threats to critical systems and conduct regular exercises under realistic conditions to ensure the ability to rapidly restore operations with minimal downtime.
 - Adapt and Improve. Periodically evaluate and update response and recovery plans based on the results of exercises, real-world incidents, and an ongoing assessment of the threat environment.
- Shields Ready aligns with FEMA's [Ready](#) campaign, and each campaign webpage will feature and link to the other for easy reference and use.

THE RISK ENVIRONMENT

- The threats and hazards America's critical infrastructure faces are changing with rapidly intensifying frequency and severity. More frequent, severe natural disasters; relentless criminal and foreign sponsored cyberattacks; continued threats of terrorism and targeted violence; pandemics and changing migration and labor patterns; and growing international competition and potential conflict. The interconnectivity of critical infrastructure creates risks because a disruption in one place can ripple near and far.
- Furthermore, the hazards we face are increasingly widespread and even global in nature, meaning our individual and organizational resilience is woven together with that of our neighbors, businesses, and international partners.

WHY RESILIENCE MATTERS

- The nation's security and economic prosperity relies on having consistently working critical infrastructure to support our lives, our communities and our nation.
- We need to be certain that our critical infrastructure is secure and have confidence in our incident response and

recovery no matter the threats or hazards we face. This is national resilience.

- As the federal agency charged with understanding and managing risk to the physical and digital infrastructure that Americans rely on, CISA understands just how critical this effort is to the safety and security of our nation.
- Shields Ready is all about bringing our respective critical infrastructure and emergency management communities closer together.
- Building national resilience requires a collaborative partnership between business and government, between individuals and the broader community. It is a civic duty where everyone plays a role to make the nation stronger.

LEARN MORE

To learn more visit www.CISA.gov/ShieldsReady. Please send media inquiries to CISAMedia@cisa.DHS.gov