Emergency preparedness continues as a focal point of state archives activities. With increased risk of natural and man-made disasters, the importance of responding quickly and efficiently to protect staff and collections is crucial.

U.S. News reports Mother Nature wreaked havoc on almost every U.S. state between 2010 and 2019. From droughts, floods and tornado outbreaks to hurricanes, winter storms and wildfires, communities across the United States weathered significant storm damage in the past decade.

Number of billion-dollar disasters in the U.S. between 2015–2019, a 25% increase from the 1980s

83% Have an emergency preparedness and recovery plan in place

13% Have plans in development

4% Have no plans

Of the 56 State, Territorial and District of Columbia Archives responding to the 2019 State of State Records survey.
About CoSA

The Council of State Archivists (CoSA) is a nonprofit membership organization of the state and territorial government archives in the fifty states, five territories, and District of Columbia. Through collaborative research, education, and advocacy, CoSA provides leadership that strengthens and supports state and territorial archives in their work to preserve and provide access to government records. CoSA facilitates networking, information sharing, and project collaboration among its member organizations to help state and territorial government archives with their responsibilities for protecting the rights and historical documents of the American people. Read more at www.statearchivists.org.

About Polygon Group

Polygon is a disaster recovery company that provides emergency response and restoration services for damaged archives. Polygon specializes in water and mold damage restoration, archival cleanings and pest eradication. www.polygongroup.com

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