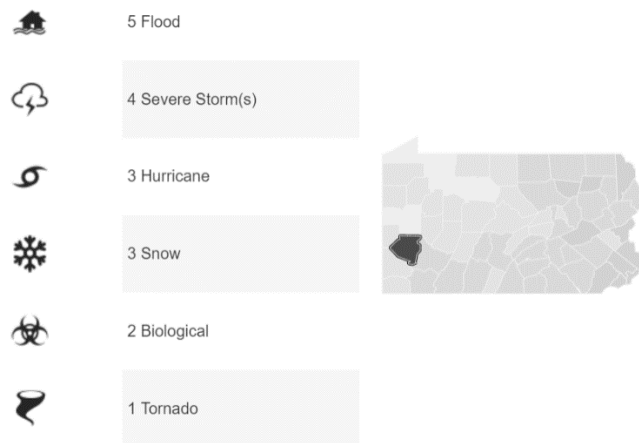


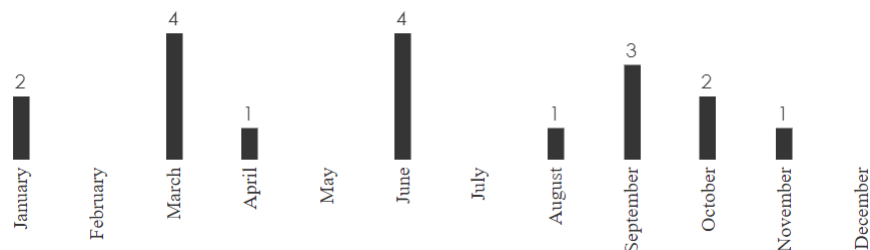
Homework 1

Alexei Hooks

When researching the current FEMA.gov website and observing how disasters and disaster relief is able to be quantified. The county in which I hold residence, Allegheny County in Pennsylvania, has had 18 declared disasters since 1953. Out of these 18 disasters, 8 of them have occurred after 2000. The breakdown is included below:



When assessing the damages that Allegheny County has sustained over the last two decades, we can see that certain disasters are more likely than others. In Allegheny county, the most popular disaster reported was flooding, followed by severe storms and flares from tropical storms or hurricanes. By analyzing which disasters analysts need to prepare for, the timeframe of when the disaster may occur can be just as important. The FEMA.gov website lists which months are the highest chance for disaster to strike which can allow recovery plans to be based around certain climates and include directions in accordance for what type of weather may be occurring within county limits. The graphic breakdown for the months is below:



As the disasters are properly spread out throughout the year, the disaster recovery planners need to be wary of each weather environment when creating their plans. The diversity between each season can change the landscape

of a disaster immensely, so being prepared for each of them should be important for Allegheny county. Especially with a city in it such as Pittsburgh, the county administrators should be wary of how many people could be out on the road and at what times. This way, they can prepare roads for both emergency services and pedestrian traffic, no matter the season. The last included graphic on the FEMA.gov website is the full list of all disasters. This graphic is included below:

2004	SEVERE STORMS AND FLOODING ASSOCIATED WITH TROPIC..	1555
	TROPICAL DEPRESSION IVAN	1557
2005	HURRICANE KATRINA	3235
2010	SEVERE WINTER STORMS AND SNOWSTORMS	1898
2012	HURRICANE SANDY	3356
2013	SEVERE STORMS, TORNADOES, AND FLOODING	4149
2020	COVID-19	3441
	COVID-19 PANDEMIC	4506

Included within the graphic is the year, the disaster, and the disaster number. Each of these metrics are there for the purpose of creating a large dataset, seeing what the actual disaster was, then putting a disaster number to it for quick look up later down the line. This allows officials to see disasters in a quantitative scheme, allowing them to better research and prepare for possible disasters. Each of the disasters listed above were the only since 2000 and have affected the county in different ways. These disasters including a mix of storms, hurricanes, winter storms, and Covid-19. Each of these disasters are able to be learned from and handled even better should there be an occasion like that again.

With this knowledge, the county will be able to know what sectors of disaster planning to better equip than others, as resources may or may not be limited. Further, the disaster teams are able to view which months are the most popular, so they can be even more prepared with recovery plans depending on time and type of disaster. Looking at and analyzing history, such as historians that work at a museum, take past events and learn from what happened, how events were handled, and how individual choses could have been changed to improve the result. Analyzing and adapting data into information is a skill that needs sharpening on a daily basis for disaster response and recovery workers. As these individuals are the ones that are going to be responsible for the lives of those affected by future disaster, they need to be well trained in communication and following a relief plan effectively. The FEMA.gov website is great tool for both county workers and for regular citizens to prepare and adjust for possible disasters.