

NIMS Incident Types

Type 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The incident can be handled with one or two single resources with up to six personnel. ■ Command and General Staff positions (other than the Incident Commander are not activates. ■ No written Incident Action Plan (IAP) is required. ■ The incident is contained within the first operational period and often within an hour to a few hours after resources arrive on the scene. ■ Examples include a vehicle fire, an injured person, or a police traffic stop.
Type 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Command and General Staff functions are activated only if needed. ■ Several resources are required to mitigate the incident. ■ The incident is usually limited to one operational period in the control phase. ■ The agency administrator may have briefings, and ensure the complexity analysis and delegation of authority are updated. ■ No written Incident Action Plan (IAP) is required but a documented operational briefing will be completed for all incoming resources. ■ The role of the agency administrator includes operational plans including objectives and priorities. ■ Examples include a building fire or large protest/rally.
Type 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ When capabilities exceed initial emergency response, the appropriate ICS positions should be added to match the complexity of the incident. ■ Some or all of the Command and General Staff positions may be activated, as well as Division/Group supervisor and/or Unit Leader level positions. ■ A Type 3 Incident Management Team (IMT) or incident command organization manages initial action incidents with a significant number of resources, an extended attack incident until containment/control is achieved, or an expanding incident until transition to a Type 1 or 2 team. ■ The incident may extend into multiple operational periods. ■ A written IAP may be required for each operational period. ■ Examples include a chemical leak with evacuation, tropical storm/hurricane or a hostage stand-off.
Type 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ This type of incident extends beyond the capabilities for local control and is expected to go into multiple operational periods. A Type 2 Incident may require the response of resources out of area, including regional and/or national resources, to effectively manage the operations, command and general staffing. ■ Most or all of the Command and General Staff positions are filled. ■ A written IAP is required for each operational period. ■ Many of the functional units are needed and staffed. ■ Operations personnel normally do not exceed 200 per operational period and total incident personnel do not exceed 500 (guidelines only). ■ The agency administrator is responsible for the incident complexity analysis, agency administrator briefings, and the written delegation of authority. ■ Examples include a devastating flood or earthquake.
Type 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ This type of incident is the most complex, requiring national resources to safely and effectively manage and operate. ■ All Command and General Staff positions are activated. ■ Operations personnel often exceed 500 per operational period and total incident personnel will usually exceed 51,000. ■ Branches need to be established. ■ The agency administrator will have briefings, and ensure that the complexity analysis and delegation of authority are updated. ■ Use of resource advisors at the incident base is recommended. ■ There is a high impact on the local jurisdiction, requiring additional staff for office administrative and support functions. ■ Examples include a major terroristic attack, or a Katrina level disaster.