

: *How does decision support help in a major emergency?*

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Any event that occurs with little or no warning and causes or threatens death or injury, serious disruption of essential service or damage to property, the environment or infrastructure is a **major** emergency. When the emergency exceeds capabilities of emergency services either locally, regionally or nationally, then a crisis may exist. A major emergency requires the activation and use of specific procedures, decision support tools, and the mobilization of additional resources as required to ensure an effective, co-ordinated response.

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