

EML 502: Four Ways Disasters Can Households & Families



Economic

- Uninsured home and property losses
- Temporary or permanent loss of employment
- Higher living costs, including transportation

Emotional or Psychological

- Role overload, conflict or inadequacy
- Overworked parents and bored children
- Stress in intimate and partner relationships
- Family violence and human trafficking
- Behavioral problems in children
- Loss of pet

Physical

- Loss of family members and/or friends
- New disabilities from disaster injuries
- Destroyed or damaged homes
- Loss of possessions including personal treasures
- Loss of environment and tools for everyday living
- Temporary or permanent dislocation
- Longer commutes to work or school
- Loss of local business, services, schools, recreational programs, etc.

Social

- Loss of neighborhood
- Loss of social networks, institutions and services
- Expanded roles for both women and men
- Becoming an orphan or widow/er
- Community impacts including migration

Sources: Based in part on FEMA (2003) and Social Vulnerability to Disasters (2013)