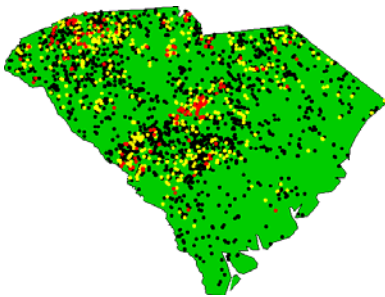




Dam Safety in South Carolina

Dams are a critical part of the nation's infrastructure and provide vital benefits such as flood protection, water supply, hydropower, irrigation and recreation. Yet these dams have the potential for failure and tragic consequences. As downstream development of dams increases and dams continue to age and deteriorate, they demand greater attention and investment to assure their safety.

Dam Stats in South Carolina



Number of National Inventory (NID) Dams: 2,419

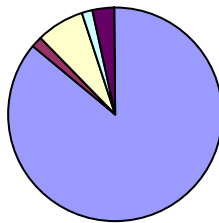
Number of State Regulated Dams: 2,317

Number of High Hazard Potential Dams: 204 (78% are state regulated)

Red Dots = "High-hazard potential dam" is typically defined as a dam whose failure or mis-operation will cause loss of human life and significant property destruction.
Yellow Dots = "Significant-hazard potential dam" is typically defined as a dam whose failure or mis-operation will cause significant property destruction.
Black Dots = "Low-hazard potential dam" is typically defined as a dam whose failure or mis-operation will cause minimal property destruction.

Breakdown of Dam Ownership in South Carolina

- Private 86%
- Public Utility 2%
- Local Government 7%
- Federal Government 2%
- State 3%



The National Dam Safety Program (PL 109-460)

The NDSPA provides training, technical assistance, research and support to states through incentive grant awards that encourage states to improve their programs. It is administered through the Mitigation Directorate at DHS, FEMA.

1. \$3.25 million over five years in training assistance to state engineers
2. \$9 million over five years in research funds to identify more effective techniques to assess, construct and monitor dams,
3. \$38.7 million over five years split among the states, based on the relative number of dams in each state, to make improvements in programs moving toward satisfying all of the 13 basic statutory authorities and programmatic functions identified in the NDSPA,
4. \$3.75 million over five years for the National Inventory of Dams.

This small but vital program has never been fully funded. If full funding were provided many more states could create jobs for dam inspectors allowing for the identification of safety deficiencies (currently limited allotments per state are just shy of an average salary amount needed to hire a new inspector).

The National Dam Rehabilitation and Repair Act

The National Dam Rehabilitation and Repair Act has been introduced into the 110th Congress as HR 1098. This program would provide \$200 million over 4 years in federal grant funds to be cost-shared at 65 percent federal to 35 percent state/local for non-federal publicly owned dams.

South Carolina		
Number of Public Dams (high hazard)	Est. Repair Costs for Public Dams	Proposed Funding from HR 1098
75	\$97,369,080	\$3,388,355.00

Number of Dams per Congressional District

Henry Brown, Jr. - 60
Joe Wilson - 494

J. Gresham Barrett - 588
Bob Inglis - 321

John Spratt - 589
James Clyburn - 367

In the near decade since its start, how has the National Dam Safety Program improved dam safety in South Carolina?

State Dam Safety Performance	Then (1998)	Now (2005)
South Carolina meets basic legislative/regulatory Criteria found in the National Dam Safety Act.	21 out of 32 elements met	21 out of 32 elements met
The National Dam Safety Program supports the remediation ¹ of deficient ² dams. While increasing numbers of deficient dams is bad, the identification of deficient dams and subsequent remediation is needed and important.	3 reported deficient dams	4 deficient dams 2 remediations performed
Inspections of dams (South Carolina's dam safety regulations specify a two-year inspection cycle for high-hazard dams.)	Performed 148 inspections of 148 High-hazard dams	Performed 43 inspections of 153 High-hazard dams
Reducing the risk to the public by increasing the number of current emergency action plans (EAPs) on high-hazard potential dams.	High hazard dams with current EAPs: 133 of 148	High hazard dams with current EAPs: 153 of 153

How is Dam Safety in South Carolina supported by National Dam Safety Program Assistance Grants?

What kinds of projects are supported by state dam safety assistance grants?	South Carolina has used state assistance grants for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff attendance at Bureau of Reclamation Safety Evaluation of Existing Dams • Three vehicle for use in dam inspections • Staff training
Total State grant received FY03-FY05	\$296,267
FY03-05 grant lost due to lack of appropriations	-\$207,433

How does South Carolina stack up to other states?

State Staffing (FTE = full time equivalent)			
Existing Total FTEs	Existing State-Reg Dams per FTE	Rank in U.S. for FTEs Devoted to Dam Safety	
2.5	927	46	
State Budgeting			
Annual Budget for Dam Safety	Program Budget Per Dam	Program Budget Per High-Hazard Dam	Rank in U.S. for State Dollars Going toward Dam Safety Regulation (using High-Hazard Dam Totals Only)
\$200,000	\$86.32	\$1,265.82	42

¹ "Remediation" is defined as a solution to remove the dam safety problem. This can include solutions such as the addition of a larger spillway, repair of the structure, or removal of the dam.

² "Deficient" is defined as a dam that is not capable of performing safely under all required design pool and loading conditions. **Note:** Each state may have different definitions and standards.