Why OIG Did This Review
Three major hurricanes hit the United States between August and September of 2017. On September 8, 2017, the President signed the first Federal Disaster Assistance package of the 2017 hurricane season following Hurricane Harvey. On February 9, 2018, the President signed into law the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (P.L. No. 115-123), which provided disaster relief totaling approximately $89.3 billion. HHS received $5.97 billion ($1.07 billion for discretionary programs), of which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) received $200 million.

Our objectives were to identify CDC’s potential risks for preparing for and responding to hurricanes and other natural disasters and to determine whether CDC has designed and implemented controls and strategies to mitigate these potential risks.

How OIG Did This Review
We interviewed CDC management, reviewed documents, and analyzed the information provided by CDC to describe its current hurricane preparedness and response processes. Based on this review, we identified 4 hurricane preparedness and response risk areas at CDC and 22 sub-risk areas.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Has Controls and Strategies To Mitigate Hurricane Preparedness and Response Risk

What OIG Found
Within the 4 risk areas related to CDC’s hurricane preparedness and response activities, we identified 22 sub-risk areas and rated 19 as low risk and 3 as moderate risk.

Even though we rated three sub-risk areas as moderate, CDC had developed various controls and strategies that are designed to mitigate the risks we identified for preparing for and responding to hurricanes and other natural disasters.

What OIG Recommends
This report contains no recommendations.

The full report can be found at https://oig.hhs.gov/oas/reports/region4/41802014.asp.