

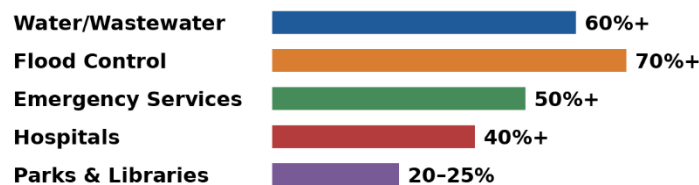
State Special Districts Profile

Texas



Texas law authorizes a wide range of special purpose governmental entities (“special districts”), to provide essential public infrastructure and services that cities and counties may not otherwise provide. These districts are created pursuant to the Texas Constitution and various statutory framework including, among others, the Texas Water Code, Health and Safety Code, and Local Government Code.

As of 2025, Texas has over **3,500 special districts governments**, serving all 254 counties in Texas, making it one of the largest and most diverse special district systems in the United States. State-level estimates and agency tracking often reflect even higher totals when including all active, inactive, and functionally classified special districts.



Percentages reflect the amount of people in Texas who are served by particular types of special districts, and may vary by region and service type. Service impact estimates reflect how significant a role special districts have especially in newly-developing and unincorporated areas (where they often serve as the primary provider of infrastructure and services).

Most Common Special Districts

Municipal Utility Districts (MUDs)	1,000+
Emergency Services Districts (ESDs)	375+
Water Control & Improvement Districts (WCIDs)	200+
Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCDs)	100+
Municipal Management Districts (MMDs)	100+
Hospital Districts (HDs)	90+
Drainage Districts (DDs)	80+
Library District (LDs)	15+

Texas special districts routinely plan, finance, and implement projects supported through:

- State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs (Clean Water & Drinking Water)
- FEMA flood mitigation and disaster recovery programs
- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding
- State and regional water supply and resilience programs

Texas special districts are where federal, state, and local infrastructure and critical services policies meet the most direct local implementation. They are foundational to how communities build, grow, and sustain essential public services.

Special District Services in Texas

Agricultural Development Districts
Arts & Entertainment Districts
County Assistance Districts
County Development Districts
Crime Control & Prevention Districts
Drainage Districts
Emergency Services Districts
Fresh Water Supply Districts
Groundwater Conservation Districts
Groundwater Management Areas
Health Services Districts
Homestead Preservation Districts
Hospital Districts

Irrigation Districts
Jail Districts
Levee Improvement Districts
Library Districts
Mosquito Control Districts
Municipal Development Districts
Municipal Management Districts
Municipal Utility Districts
Multi-jurisdictional Library Districts
Navigation Districts
Public Improvement Districts
Regional Districts
Reinvestment Zones

Road Districts
Road Utility Districts
Self-Liquidating Navigation Districts
Special Utility Districts
Sports & Community Venue Districts
Sports Facility Districts
Stormwater Control Districts
Water Control & Improvement Districts
Water Improvement Districts
Wind Erosion Districts
Noxious Weed Control Districts