

Identifying Infrastructure Dependencies and Interdependencies

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Identifying the dependencies and interdependencies of infrastructure assets and systems is a key component in understanding a disruption to a system. The Department of Homeland Security relies on its understanding of infrastructure systems to prioritize its efforts, inform incident response decisions, and set policy to build infrastructure security and resilience. Unfortunately, there are numerous gaps in the Department's understanding of dependencies and interdependencies that limit its understanding of infrastructure systems. These knowledge gaps include thorough data on infrastructure assets at a regional and national scale, repeatable methods to estimate dependencies and interdependencies between assets, and a detailed understanding of how disruptions to communications impact infrastructure operations. The Department has several ongoing efforts to close these knowledge gaps.