



ENGINEERED FOR RESILIENCE: WHY BLOCK IS THE SMART CHOICE

Today's engineers and architects have the tall task of designing structures that check all the boxes: safe, sustainable, and all within budget.



When you consider the realities of worsening climate extremes, particularly across the Southern United States, the way in which we build must evolve. Billion-dollar disasters have become the norm, posing significant challenges to infrastructure, public health and local economies.

FEMA defines resilience as our capacity as individuals, communities, businesses, institutions, and governments to adapt to changing conditions and prepare for, withstand, and rapidly recover from disruption.

WHY BLOCK?

Reinforced concrete masonry systems are ideal for disaster-prone areas, offering superior protection against high winds and debris. Concrete masonry units (CMU) are also inherently fireproof, and won't warp, rot, or decay in the face of flooding or high-moisture conditions.

Where CMU truly shines is its ability to take compromise out of the equation. Enduring quality doesn't have to be an eyesore, nor should stewardship come at the expense of security. Block lets you have it all: safe, stunning and a model of efficiency.

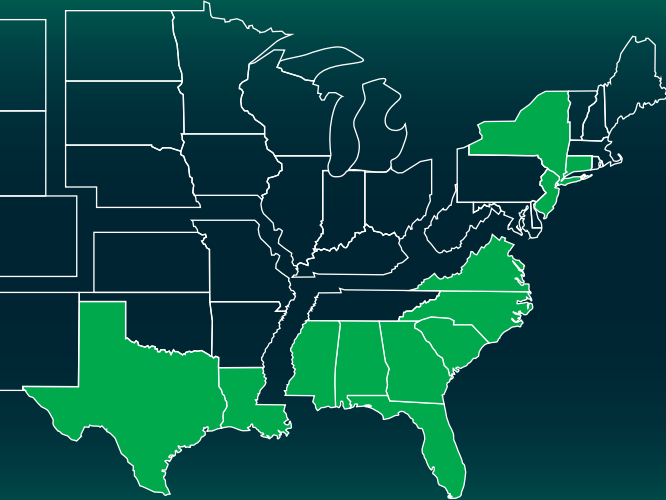


DID YOU KNOW?

For every dollar invested in resilient construction, communities save \$13 in future damages, cleanup costs and economic output. — U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, 2024



U.S. HURRICANE LANDFALLS



FLORIDA	15
LOUISIANA	13
NORTH CAROLINA	10
TEXAS	09
ALABAMA	07
SOUTH CAROLINA	05
MISSISSIPPI	03
GEORGIA	02
CONNECTICUT	01
NEW JERSEY	01
NEW YORK	01
VIRGINIA	01

68

**TOTAL HURRICANE
IMPACTS (2000–2023)**

BLOCK'S ROLE IN RESILIENT CONSTRUCTION

SAFETY:

Nearly half of all homes and businesses in the U.S. are at “severe” or “extreme” risk of flood, wildfire, heat or winds according to Realtor.com’s 2024 Housing and Climate Risk Report. The destruction associated with these events can largely be prevented with concrete masonry. CMU makes it easy for engineers to incorporate defensive architecture without added cost.

SAVINGS:

Many are surprised to see how competitive CMU is with initial construction costs, but the savings don’t stop there. CMU is energy efficient, requires little to no maintenance, and provides relief from soaring insurance premiums.

SUSTAINABILITY:

Given its longevity, local origin and low embodied carbon compared to other systems, CMU is a model of efficiency. When looking at each life-cycle stage (raw material extraction, transportation, manufacturing, construction, maintenance, renovation and end-of-life), block’s low embodied carbon becomes especially compelling.

STRENGTH:

Engineers appreciate CMU for its durability, load-bearing capacity and resistance to compression. Hardened surfaces also provide superior protection against nearly all natural and human-made forces.

**THE BENEFITS OF
BUILDING WITH
BLOCK SPEAK
FOR THEMSELVES.**

Scan the QR code to learn more, and be entered to win a FREE copy of TMS 402/602-22 Building Code Requirements and Specification for Masonry Structures!

