

Zone A	<p>The 100-year or base floodplain. There are six types of A Zones:</p> <p>A The base floodplain mapped by approximate methods, <i>i.e.</i>, BFEs are not determined. This is often called an unnumbered A Zone or an approximate A Zone.</p> <p>A1-30 These are known as numbered A Zones (<i>e.g.</i>, A7 or A14). This is the base floodplain where the FIRM shows a BFE (old format).</p> <p>AE The base floodplain where base flood elevations are provided. AE Zones are now used on new format FIRMs instead of A1-A30 Zones.</p> <p>AO The base floodplain with sheet flow, ponding, or shallow flooding. Base flood depths (feet above ground) are provided.</p> <p>AH Shallow flooding base floodplain. BFEs are provided.</p> <p>A99 Area to be protected from base flood by levees or Federal Flood Protection Systems under construction. BFEs are not determined.</p> <p>AR The base floodplain that results from the decertification of a previously accredited flood protection system that is in the process of being restored to provide a 100-year or greater level of flood protection.</p>
Zone V and VE	<p>V The coastal area subject to a velocity hazard (wave action) where BFEs are not determined on the FIRM.</p> <p>VE The coastal area subject to a velocity hazard (wave action) where BFEs are provided on the FIRM.</p>
Zone B and Zone X (shaded)	Area of moderate flood hazard, usually the area between the limits of the 100-year and 500-year floods. B Zones are also used to designate base floodplains of lesser hazards, such as areas protected by levees from the 100-year flood, or shallow flooding areas with average depths of less than one foot or drainage areas less than 1 square mile.
Zone C and Zone X (unshaded)	Area of minimal flood hazard, usually depicted on FIRMs as above the 500-year flood level. Zone C may have ponding and local drainage problems that don't warrant a detailed study or designation as base floodplain. Zone X is the area determined to be outside the 500-year flood and protected by levee from 100-year flood.
Zone D	Area of undetermined but possible flood hazards.

Figure 3-10: Flood Insurance Rate Map Zones

Note that the special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) includes only A and V Zones.