



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

February 7, 2023

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Through: Regional Administrator George A. Robinson
FEMA Region 6
Denton, Texas

RE: Request for Presidential Disaster Declaration—Major Disaster

Dear Mr. President:

Under Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 5170, as implemented by 44 C.F.R. § 206.36, I respectfully request that you declare a major disaster for the State of Texas as a result of severe storms and tornadoes that struck Harris, Jefferson, Liberty, and Orange Counties on January 24, 2023.

On January 23, 2023, I directed the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to prepare state emergency response resources ahead of a winter storm system and severe weather threats expected to move across Texas. TDEM then alerted all members of the Texas Emergency Management Council to stand ready to support response and recovery operations across the state. On January 26, 2023, I took appropriate action under Texas law in response to the severe storms and tornadoes that occurred on January 24, 2023, by directing the execution of the state's emergency management plan and proclaiming a state of disaster for Harris and Orange Counties. On January 30, 2023, I amended and renewed this proclamation to include Jefferson and Liberty Counties after confirming with local officials that conditions posed an ongoing and imminent threat of disaster.

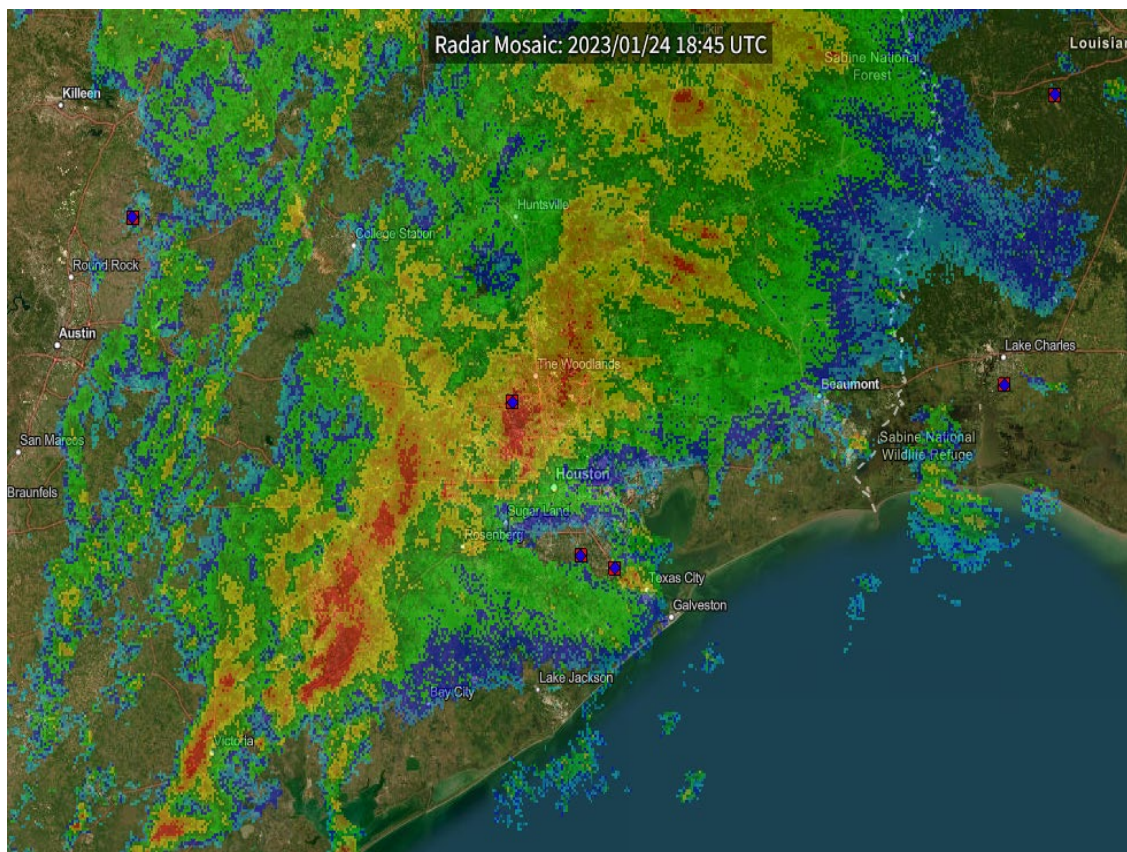
The State of Texas now requests your decisive action to quickly grant this federal major disaster declaration. Pursuant to 44 C.F.R. § 206.36, I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that an effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and affected local governments and that supplementary federal assistance is necessary to save lives and to protect property, public health, and safety. I am requesting a major disaster declaration for Individual Assistance (IA), including the Individuals and Households Programs (IHP), Other Needs Assistance (ONA), Crisis Counseling, Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Disaster Legal Assistance, and Disaster Case Management for the following counties:

Harris, Jefferson, Liberty, and Orange Counties

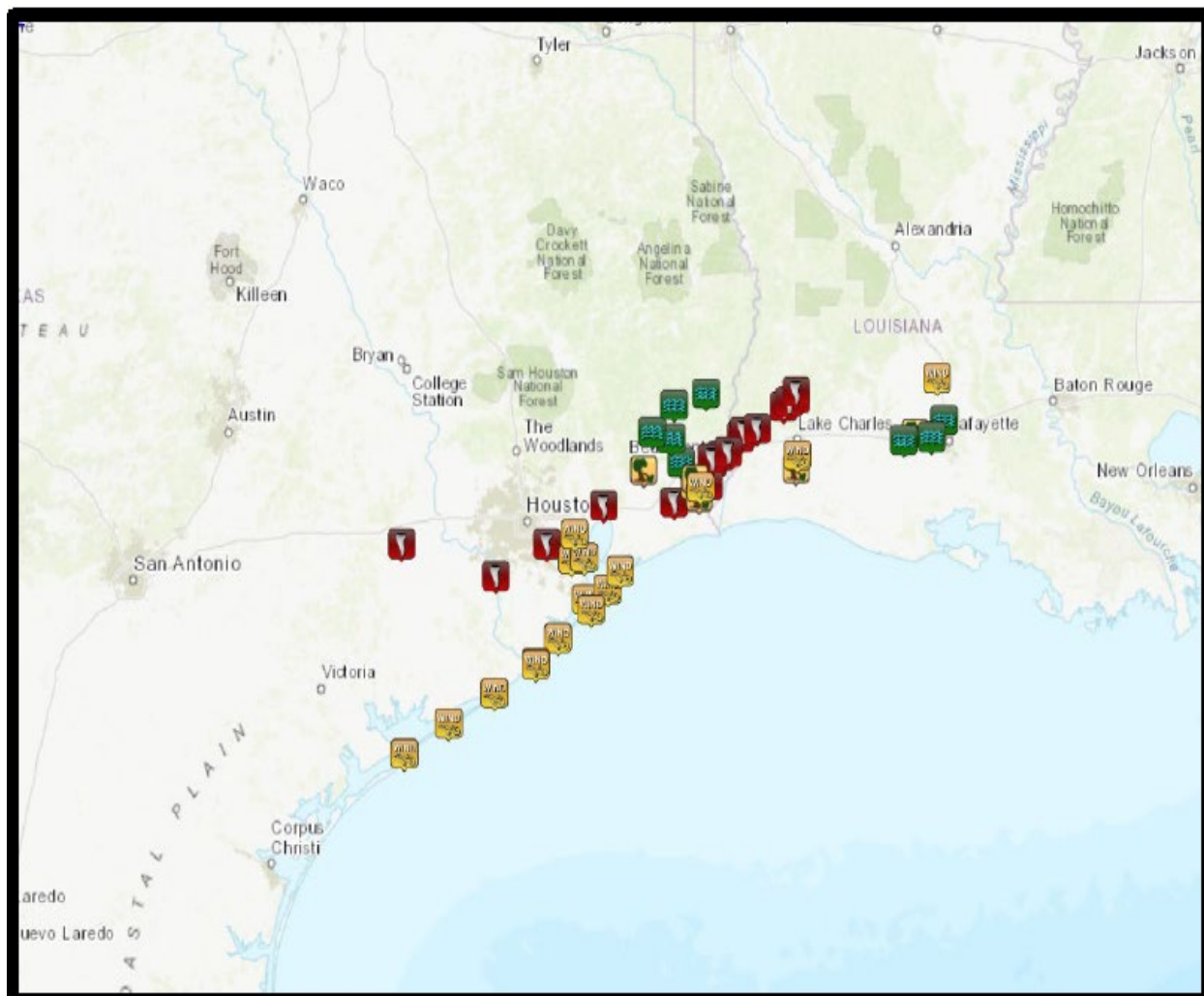
Additionally, I am requesting the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program statewide and the U.S. Small Business Administration Disaster Loan program for physical and economic loss for all counties requested. As we assess damages to other affected counties, I also reserve the right to request assistance for additional counties in Texas and to request the FEMA Public Assistance program if conditions warrant the program.

INCIDENT OVERVIEW

On January 23, 2023, the National Weather Service (NWS) predicted an “Enhanced” risk of severe weather across a southeast portion of Texas for January 24, which included the threat of tornadoes, damaging wind, and hail. To support Texas jurisdictions impacted by the January 2023 severe storms, the State Operations Center (SOC) moved to a readiness position on January 23, 2023.



During the morning of January 24, thunderstorms began to develop as a cold front moved across the state. Throughout the day, there were numerous reports of wind damage and tornadoes across the Houston metropolitan area. In the days that followed, the NWS conducted surveys to determine the extent of the damage caused by the storms. The surveys confirmed that damage was caused by high winds, most of which were caused by tornadoes. A total of eight tornadoes were confirmed in Texas by the NWS.



In Harris County, an EF-3 tornado with peak winds of 140 mph traveled 18.7 miles, impacting the Cities of Houston, Pasadena, Deer Park, and Baytown. This tornado damaged or destroyed numerous homes, including some multi-family residences. Many homes had walls and roofs removed.

An EF-1 tornado with winds up to 90 mph impacted Jefferson County. The tornado was on the ground for 5.5 miles. It caused damage to roofs and fences near Taylor Landing.

Eastern Liberty County, near Nome, was impacted by an EF-2 tornado. The tornado was on the ground for 0.33 miles, producing winds up to 125 mph. The storm removed a roof from a home and destroyed windows.

Orange County was affected by two tornadoes. The first was an EF-1 with maximum winds of 100 mph. This tornado traveled 2.28 miles across southern Orange County. The second was an EF-2 tornado with winds peaking around 120 mph. The tornado touched down around Orangefield before traveling 25.69

miles across Orange County. This tornado damaged or destroyed many homes before crossing the Sabine River into Louisiana. Two injuries related to this tornado were reported.

RESPONSE OVERVIEW

Due to this severe weather event, I declared a gubernatorial disaster for Harris, Jefferson, Liberty, and Orange Counties. The State of Texas still has resources committed to recovery from the severe storms and tornadoes of January 24, 2023.

Multiple state agencies, local jurisdictions, volunteer agencies, and other stakeholders are working to respond and recover from these severe storms and tornadoes. Below is a summary of the resources used in Texas during response and recovery operations for this disaster. As of February 2, 2023, state agencies have expended almost \$500,000 in response to this disaster, and we are anticipating this number to grow rapidly over the coming weeks.

Agency Reporting	Personnel													Reporting Agency	
	(Head Count)	Straight Time	Overtime	Travel	Equipment	Materials	Rentals	Fuel	Water/ Ice	Contracts	Leases	Repairs	Other	Total	
Finance DSHS	2	\$203.83	\$305.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$53,803.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$54,312.58	
Finance TDEM	38	\$8,588.05	\$792.01	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,380.06	
Finance TEEEX	180	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$17,204.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$287,005.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$304,209.00	
Finance TFS Regional IMT	12	\$24,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,824.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25,824.00	
Finance TFS TAMU	66	\$31,680.00	\$0.00	\$10,032.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$41,712.00	
Grand Total	298	\$64,471.88	\$1,097.76	\$29,060.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$340,808.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$435,437.64	

State Agency Summaries

TDEM: The SOC issued an Advisory notification on Monday, January 23, 2023, due to the potential for severe weather, flash flooding, and critical fire. Daily operations staff coordinated statewide situational awareness and recovery efforts in support of state agencies and local partners, and monitored and processed damage submissions and State of Texas Assistance Requests.

Regional TDEM personnel were deployed to local emergency operations centers, including the City of Pasadena, the City of Deer Park, Orange County, the City of Baytown, and Harris County. 16 Regional TDEM personnel were also deployed for rapid damage assessments in the above jurisdictions. TDEM staff coordinated with FEMA and Small Business Administration (SBA) representatives during Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDA) to ensure all local damages were accounted for and verified.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1): Deployed personnel were assigned to the SOC for escalated operations, and 45 TX-TF1 personnel were deployed as a part of an Urban Search and Rescue team to assist residents with search and rescue operations. Personnel also participated in damage assessments and wellness checks for impacted areas.

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS): Personnel from DPS were present in the SOC to support the state's incident response. Locally, DPS helicopters were deployed for aerial surveillance and monitoring areas of concern for residents.

Texas A&M Forest Services (TFS): TFS personnel were deployed to jurisdictions impacted by the tornado outbreak. Multiple saw crew teams were deployed to assist with clearing heavy debris and assisting citizens as necessary. In addition, TFS personnel supported emergency operations center staffing in the City of Deer Park and the City of Pasadena.



Beamer Place Apartment Complex, Houston

Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) Summaries

Local, state, and national mission-driven organizations, including VOAD member agencies and established Long Term Recovery Groups, have been engaged in response and recovery efforts for the severe storms and tornadoes of January 24, 2023. Examples of voluntary agencies include the following organizations:

- Orange County Recovers
- St. Vincent De Paul
- Catholic Charities
- Austin Disaster Relief Network
- Relief Research for Jehovah's Witnesses
- Samaritans Counseling
- Southeast Texas Food Bank
- Baker Ripley
- Hope Disaster Recovery
- Pasadena & Deer Park Chamber of Commerce
- United Way of Greater Baytown Area and Chambers County (UWGBACC LTR)
- United Way of Greater Houston Long-Term Recovery Committee
- Baker Ripley
- Hope Disaster Recovery
- Houston Responds
- Jefferson County Long-Term Recovery



American Red Cross (ARC) is supporting survivors located in hotels to supplement those who require financial assistance to extend their reservations and cover the cost of basic needs. ARC is supporting survivors at the Beamer Place Apartment Complex to assist affected residents with wrap-around services. Additionally, the organization hosted Multi-Agency Resource Centers in the Cities of Pasadena, Deer Park, and Baytown, and at the Baker Ripely campus to assist over 450 residents.

The Salvation Army provided financial assistance and meals in partnership with local food banks at their location and additionally distributed 600 meals to support the Disaster Assistance Center in the city of Pasadena. Mobile feeding units deployed to impacted areas and distributed 200 meals, 400 drinks, and 200 snacks in the immediate aftermath of the storm. Feeding sites were established at 3 locations in the City of Deer Park from Wednesday, January 25, through Friday, January 27.

Additionally, VOAD member agencies provided survivors with tarps, hygiene kits, clean-up buckets, animal food and supplies, food bank meal boxes, water, feeding, case management, and support with damage assessments.

Disaster Assistance Center:			
	Friday 1/28/23	Saturday 1/29/23	Sunday 1/30/23
Volunteers	15	50	48
Community Partners	27	26	25
Households Served	130	256 (520 individuals)	195 (294 individuals)

Friday 1/27/23		Saturday 1/28/23	
Distribution Type	Distribution Count	Distribution Type	Distribution Count
Clean up Buckets	73	Clean up Buckets and Blessing Buckets	420
Tarps	50	Tarps	175
Cases of Water	127	Cases of Water	300
Crises Hygiene Kits	100	Crises Hygiene Kits	200

Sunday 1/29/23	
Distribution Type	Distribution Count
Clean up Buckets and Blessing Buckets	420
Tarps	73
Cases of Water	100

The voluntary organizations described above have been working tirelessly with state and local officials since the disaster, but the citizens affected are in desperate need of additional assistance to enable a quick and complete return to normalcy.

LOCALIZED IMPACT AND RECENT DISASTERS

Southeast Texas has seen more than its share of disasters in recent years. Since 2020, the counties impacted by the severe storms and tornadoes of January 24, 2023, have suffered damages from three other federally declared disasters, including COVID-19, Hurricane Laura, and Winter Storm Uri. Additionally, this region is still recovering from Hurricane Harvey in 2017, a disaster that, to date, has cost an estimated total of \$125 billion.

The State of Texas has had more federal disaster declarations than any other state, even without accounting for the numerous state disasters that did not meet federal thresholds and requirements. Additionally, the State of Texas is currently responding to a severe winter weather disaster that began on January 30, 2023, affecting 127 Texas counties. Damage assessments for this disaster are only beginning, but initial indications provide evidence of a daunting debris problem, along with power and water outages across the state.

Considering the scope of these disasters and the recent economic issues caused by COVID-19, Texans affected by the severe storms and tornadoes of January 24, 2023, are in dire need of federal assistance. The constant barrage of disaster-caused damages on the community infrastructure and individual homes far exceeds the financial resources available to these communities to recover from another catastrophic

event. Federal assistance is needed to supplement an already exhausted tax revenue for the communities that have been subject to a steady cadence of major disasters over the last ten years.

State Fiscal Capacity and Resource Availability

Since 2020, the State of Texas has likely spent more on disaster response than any other state in the Union. Currently, state agencies have spent tens of billions of dollars in response to COVID-19. Most state agencies in Texas held responsibilities for a variety of response, recovery, and mitigation actions related to COVID-19, and these responsibilities continue today. Federal funding has helped to mitigate the impact of COVID-19, but the State of Texas is still relying heavily on our own resources and people to continue response efforts.

Additionally, throughout much of 2021 and 2022, the State of Texas has worked continuously to respond to a growing surge in illegal border crossings and an escalating humanitarian crisis at the Texas–Mexico border. Texas state agencies have spent over \$1.2 billion to combat the ongoing crisis at our southern border. Additionally, the state’s total investment in border security efforts during the 2020–2021 state fiscal year was \$1.1 billion, and in September 2021, I signed House Bill 9, which appropriated \$1.8 billion to Texas border security efforts, including the construction of a border wall, strategic fencing, and other barriers for the 2022–2023 biennium. Even though assistance has been requested, the federal government has not provided support in responding to the disaster at our southern border.

These disasters are depleting state funds and severely impacting the state’s ability to serve Texas citizens in response to recent disasters like the severe storms and tornadoes of January 24, 2023. Federal assistance for Texans impacted by this disaster would allow individuals to quickly recover from this major disaster.

Behavioral Health Impacts

Research indicates that children who have survived a disaster are particularly vulnerable after a disaster, and their reactions and emotional recovery can be influenced by their age, developmental level, prior experiences, and personal circumstances. The length of recovery depends on how frightening the storm experience was to the individual and the extent of damage and loss.

Senior citizens are also a particularly vulnerable population due to physical or emotional disability or frailty, loss of property that is often sentimentally or economically valuable, lack of reliable transportation, economic disadvantage, and isolation from families. These factors intensify existing vulnerabilities during disasters and during the often lengthy recovery process.

Both children and adults may need behavioral health support, as many may face housing and financial issues while displaced from their homes and as they return. These types of conditions lead to feelings of being overwhelmed, which can influence cognitive functioning for decision-making and problem-solving. Physiological and emotional changes are common reactions in both children and adults.

Emergency responders provide critical services to communities during and after disasters. Their routine exposure to traumatic incidents and chronic trauma-inducing situations puts them at high risk of experiencing a range of physical and behavioral health consequences. These situations can contribute to traumatic stress-related symptoms such as intrusive thoughts or memories of the incident, difficulty

sleeping, fear, irritability, anger, anxiety, depression, withdrawal and isolation, Acute Stress Disorder, and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Responders also may be at risk for burnout, compassion fatigue, and increased alcohol and substance use.

Prior events have taught us that there will be an increased need for behavioral health services as recovery efforts begin after this type of disaster, especially because of the number of disasters over the past year that allowed little reprieve for disaster survivors and emergency responders.

DAMAGE ASSESSMENTS

Immediately following the severe storms and tornadoes of January 24, 2023, TDEM began coordinating damage assessments with local jurisdictions in the affected areas. This involved surveying damage to public infrastructure as well as residences in the area. TDEM also provided training and assistance in using the damage self-reporting application, which allows local officials and emergency managers to quickly gather damage reports following a disaster.

Damages to Homes

Due to tornadoes, high winds, and flooding, many homes in Southeast Texas sustained major damage or were destroyed. Assessing damages submitted through the TDEM Individual Assistance—State of Texas Assessment Tool (iSTAT), TDEM began reviewing and verifying locally identified damages. Of the damage reports submitted by the affected individuals, TDEM believes 673 residences were affected; 368 had minor damage; 144 sustained major damage; and 71 homes were destroyed.

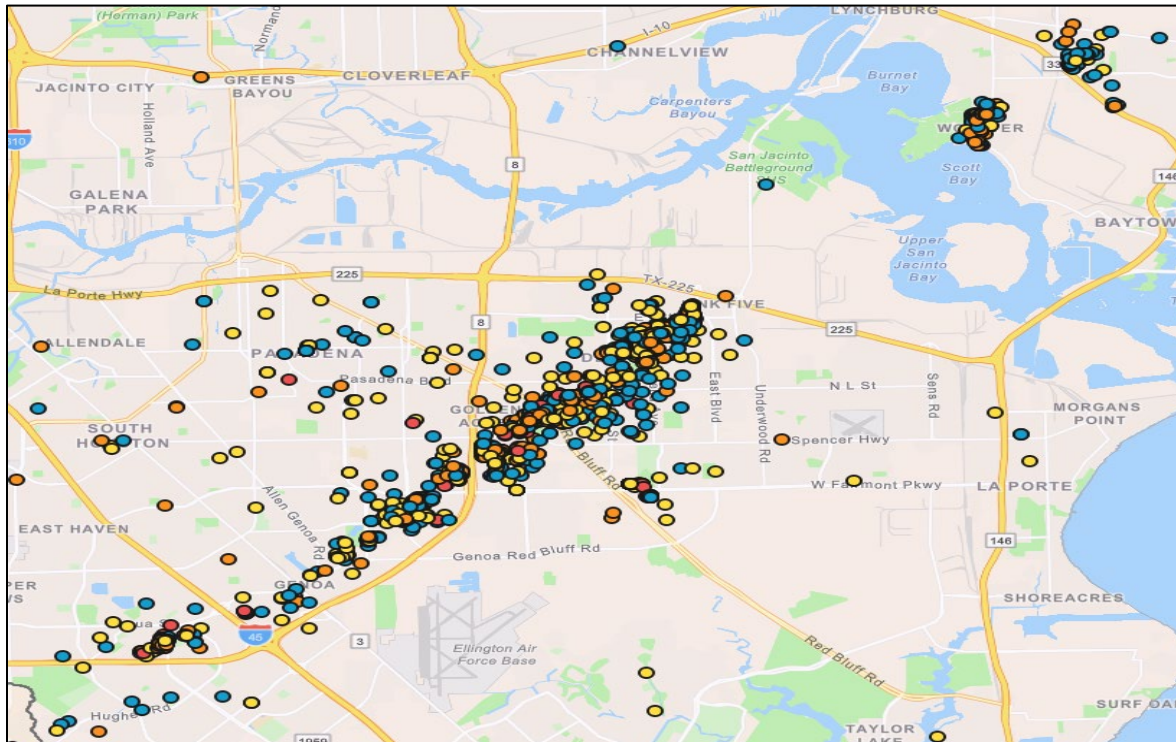


Image showing submissions to iSTAT for property damage following the severe storms and tornadoes of January 24, 2023.

Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

FEMA personnel arrived in Harris County on January 27, 2023, and started Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs) on January 28, 2023. Joining state and local officials, FEMA and SBA deployed six damage assessment teams to the area, and a portion of the reported damages referenced above was evaluated by Joint PDA teams. On February 1, 2023, FEMA reported the following preliminary findings:

County Name	Destroyed	Major	Minor	Affected	% Owner	% Insured	% Low Income
Harris Owners	32	134	62	1	100.0%	45.0%	14.0%
Harris Renters	102	168	88	12	0.0%	11.0%	14.0%
Orange Owner	9	17	8	3	100.0%	54.0%	13.0%
Orange Renter	2	2	3	-	0.0%	8.0%	13.0%
TOTAL/AVERAGE	145	321	161	16			

In total, FEMA believes the estimated cost of the FEMA Individual and Households program could be more than \$4.23 million dollars. These types of damages constitute a major disaster in any state across

the country, and if FEMA chooses not to provide assistance to these individuals, over 640 Texans will be left on their own in securing these recovery funds.

Many of the destroyed homes are in medium-income neighborhoods where survivors struggled to rebuild, make mortgage payments, or pay rent in a market lacking affordable rental resources. The individual and economic impact on these communities means it will take them a significant amount of time and effort to recover. Long-term recovery from such devastation is the most difficult part of a disaster. Federal assistance will be key to a rapid and resilient recovery.

Disaster-Impacted Population Profile

Those living in the affected area contribute significantly to the economies of Texas and the United States. The impacted area is home to petroleum refineries, the largest employers in the Houston area, one of the busiest ports in the United States, manufacturing companies, and much more. Unfortunately, for many, work slowed or came to a halt as companies and businesses took precautionary measures prior to and following the severe storms and tornadoes of January 24, 2023.

This part of the state is also one of the densest residential areas in the Houston Metropolitan Statistical Area and home to many vulnerable population groups. In some of the affected counties, over 20 percent of households speak a language other than English at home. These language barriers can hinder Texans from accessing the emergency assistance they desperately need. In many counties, the percentage of the population over 65 years of age with a disability is higher than 10 percent. Also, persons under the age of 18 make up a significant portion of the disaster area, as outlined in the sections below.

As noted previously, Texans living in the affected area are no strangers to disasters, but many citizens have reached their breaking point.

Population Statistics

Southeast Texas is one of the denser populated areas in the state. Among the four counties for which federal assistance is being requested, the population exceeds 5 million Texans and is home to Texans of varying demographics. All requested counties have sizable populations below 65 years of age without health insurance.

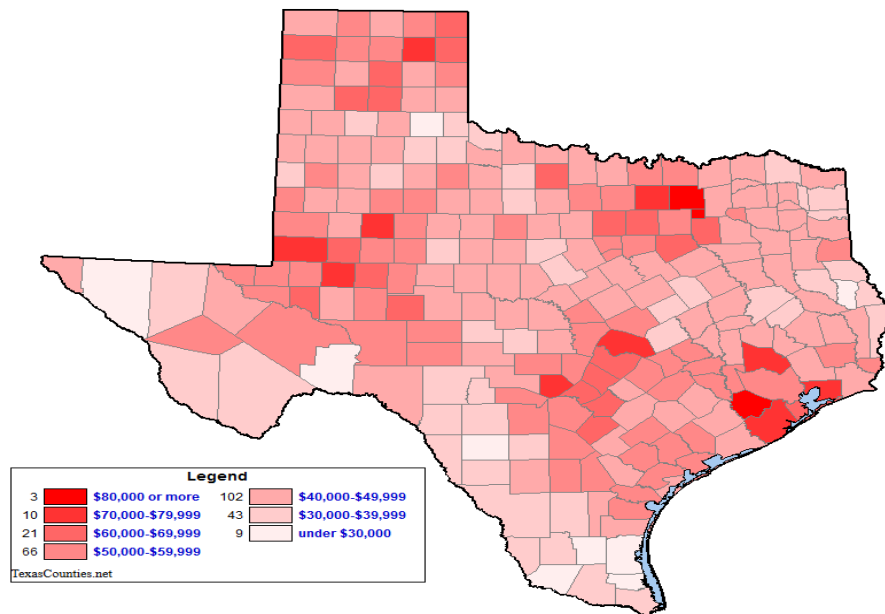
	Median household income in dollars	Percent pre-disaster unemployment	Percent of persons below poverty level	Percent of persons 18 yrs and younger	Percent of elderly (age 65 and older)	Percent of Disabled (under the age of 65)	Percent without health insurance (under age 65)	Speak a language other than English
National	\$69,021.00	4.00%	11.60%	22.20%	16.80%	8.70%	9.80%	21.70%

Texas	\$67,321.00	39.00%	14.20%	25.30%	13.10%	8.00%	20.40%	35.10%
Harris	\$65,788.00	4.00%	16.40%	26.20%	11.40%	6.80%	22.40%	44.70%
Jefferson	\$53,613.00	6.70%	19.20%	24.4%	15.0%	10.2%	23.3%	22.20%
Liberty	\$53,871.00	5.70%	15.60%	28.8%	12.30%	11.2%	23.20%	26.00%
Orange	\$68,756.00	5.90%	12.50%	25.20%	16.00%	11.60%	16.40%	6.90%

Data from U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
 Numbers in red identify outliers from the national and Texas averages

Income and Poverty

The heat map shown below shows that 220 of 254 counties make less than the US median household average.



According to data from the U.S. Census Bureau, all four counties impacted by the severe storms and tornadoes of January 24, 2023, have median household incomes less than the national average of \$69,021. In addition to incomes lower than the median household income, many residents in the affected area rely on assistance for nutrition. According to data from the Texas Department of Health and Human Services, individuals receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits for the month of December 2022 in these counties range from 14 to 15 percent.

CLOSING

We will rebuild and recover, but we are fatigued. The constant onslaught of record-breaking storms is affecting our first responders, depleting our resources, and causing undue mental and financial stress to Texans.

Pursuant to 44 C.F.R. § 206.36, Texas communities are eligible for federal recovery assistance, and you should grant it. I believe this incident is of such magnitude and severity that effective response is beyond state and local capability, and supplementary federal assistance is necessary to save lives and to protect property, public health, and safety.

As a result of this disaster, the State of Texas is specifically requesting a major disaster declaration for Individual Assistance (IA), including the Individuals and Households Programs (IHP), Other Needs Assistance (ONA), Crisis Counseling, Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Disaster Legal Assistance, and Disaster Case Management for the following counties:

Harris, Jefferson, Liberty, and Orange Counties

Additionally, I am requesting the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program statewide and the U.S. Small Business Administration Disaster Loan Program for physical and economic loss for all counties requested. As we assess damages to the other affected counties, I also reserve the right to request assistance for additional counties in Texas and to request the FEMA Public Assistance program if conditions warrant the program.

I have designated Chief Nim Kidd as the Governor's Authorized Representative (GAR) and Suzannah Jones and Warren Weidler as Alternate GARs. Chief Kidd is designated as the State Coordinating Officer, and Suzannah Jones is designated as the Deputy State Coordinating Officer for this request. Chief Kidd will work with FEMA and will provide further information and justification on my behalf.

Sincerely,



Greg Abbott
Governor

GA:tpd

Enclosure: OMB No. 1660-0009/FEMA Form 010-0-13

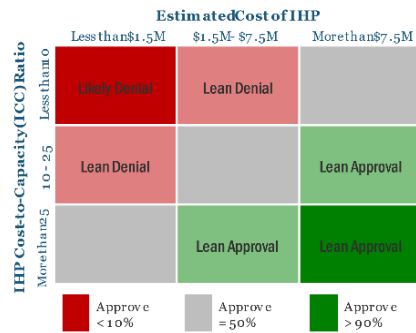
Texas Severe Weather and Tornadoes (Harris and Orange Counties)
24-Jan-23

County Name	Destroyed	Major	Minor	Affected	% Owner	% Insured	% Low Income
Harris Owners	32	134	62	1	100.0%	45.0%	14.0%
Harris Renters	102	168	88	12	0.0%	11.0%	14.0%
Orange Owner	9	17	8	3	100.0%	54.0%	13.0%
Orange Renter	2	2	3	-	0.0%	8.0%	13.0%
TOTAL/AVERAGE	145	321	161	16			

IHP Cost Estimate = \$4,235,555.02/\$1,958,500 (TTR) = 2.16 ICC Ratio = Lean Denial

3

Principal Evaluation Method



$$ICC \text{ Ratio} = \frac{\text{Estimated Cost of IHP from PDA}}{\left(\frac{\text{State TTR}}{\$1,000,000} \right)}$$

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Federal Emergency Management Agency
REQUEST FOR PRESIDENTIAL DISASTER DECLARATION
MAJOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY

OMB Control Number 1660-0009
Expires 06/30/2023
1. Request Date Feb 3, 2023

Burden Disclosure Notice

Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 9 hours per response. The burden estimate includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and submitting the form. This collection of information is required to obtain a benefit. You are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding the accuracy of the burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to: Information Collections Management, Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, Paperwork Reduction Project (1660-0009). **NOTE: Do not send your completed form to this address.**

Completion of this form including applicable attachments satisfies legal requirements for emergency and major disaster declaration requests under 42 U.S.C. §§ 5170 and 5191, respectively, as implemented at 44 C.F.R. §§ 206.35 and 206.36. Failure to use this form may result in a failure to meet these requirements and/or a delay in processing the request.

2a. Name of State (as defined in Stafford Act 102, 42 U.S.C. § 5122) or Indian tribal government requesting declaration. Texas	2b. Population (as reported by 2010 Census) or estimated population of Indian tribal government's damaged area(s). 29,145,505
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3. Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's Name Greg Abbott	4. Designation of State or Tribal Coordinating Officer upon declaration (if available) and phone number W. Nim Kidd (512) 424-2436
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5. Designation of Governor's Authorized Representative or Tribal Chief Executive Representative upon declaration (if available) and phone number
W. Nim Kidd (512) 424-2436

6. Declaration Request For: Major Disaster (Stafford Act Sec. 401) Emergency (Stafford Act Sec. 501 (a))

7. Incident Period: Beginning Date Jan 24, 2023 End Date _____ or Continuing

If requesting a "continuing" incident period, enclose an official statement from a qualified Federal Government agency acknowledged as a national authority in a specific incident field (e.g., United States Geological Survey for seismic incidents, the National Weather Service for flooding).

7b. Type of Incident (Check all that apply)

Drought Earthquake Explosion Fire Flood Hurricane Landslide Mudslide
Severe Storm

(rain, high water, wind-driven, rain, hail, lightning) Snowstorm (Must include Enclosure D: Historic and Current Snowfall Data) Straight-Line Winds

Tidal Wave Tornado Tropical Depression Tropical Storm Tsunami Volcanic Eruption Winter Storm

Other (please specify) _____

8. Description of damages (Short description of impacts of disaster on affected area and population). Include additional details in enclosed Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's cover letter.
Beginning on January 24, 2023, severe storms and tornadoes began impacting Texas and created a threat of imminent disaster, including widespread and severe property damage, injury, and loss of life, due to damaging winds, tornadoes, heavy rainfall, and flash flooding in Harris, Jefferson, Liberty, and Orange Counties. Additional details are included in the cover letter for this request.

9. Description of the nature and amount of State and local or Indian tribal government resources which have been or will be committed. Include additional details in enclosed Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's cover letter.
On January 23, 2023, Governor Greg Abbott directed the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to prepare state emergency response resources ahead of a winter storm system and severe weather threats expected to move across Texas, beginning January 24, 2023. TDEM has alerted all members of the Texas Emergency Management Council to be prepared to support response and recovery operations across the state. Immediately following the disaster, TDEM personnel were deployed to assist in emergency operations centers, conduct rapid damage assessments, and assist in immediate recovery efforts. Additionally, examples of other agencies responding include Texas Task Force 1 deployed a Urban Search and Rescue Teams; Texas A&M Forrest Service deployed chainsaw teams; and Texas Department of Public Safety helicopters were deployed for aerial surveillance.

10. Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment*

Individual Assistance Dates Performed **Requested** Jan 25, 2023 **Start** Jan 28, 2023 **End** Feb 1, 2023

Individual Assistance Accessibility Problems (Areas that could not be accessed, and why)
N/A

Public Assistance Dates Performed **Requested** Jan 25, 2023 **Start** Jan 28, 2023 **End** _____

Public Assistance Accessibility Problems (Areas that could not be accessed, and why)
Public Assistance joint Damage assessments are ongoing. The state prioritized the assessment of homes immediately following this disaster.

11. Programs and Areas Requested

Individual Assistance N/A Individuals and Households Program Crisis Counseling Program Disaster Unemployment Assistance
 All Disaster Case Management Disaster Legal Services Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Assistance

For the following jurisdictions, specify programs and areas (counties, parishes, independent cities; for Indian tribal government, list tribe(s) and/or tribal area(s)) If additional space is needed, please enclose additional documentation).
Harris, Jefferson, Liberty, and Orange Counties

For States, identify Federally-recognized Tribes in the requested counties (if applicable).

Please see **Enclosure A: Supplemental Information for Individual Assistance** for additional information in support of this request*.
**Not Required for Emergency Declaration Request*

11. Programs and Areas Requested (Continued)

Public Assistance N/A Debris Removal (Category A) Emergency Protective Measures (Category B) Permanent Work (Categories C-G)* (not available for Emergency Declaration Requests)

For the following jurisdictions, specify programs and areas (counties, parishes, independent cities; for Indian tribal government, list tribe(s) and/or tribal area(s)). If additional space is needed or your request includes different categories of work for different jurisdictions; please enclose additional documentation.

For States, identify Federally-recognized Tribes included in the requested counties (if applicable).

Please see **Enclosure B: Supplemental Information for Public Assistance** for additional information in support of this request*.

Indemnification for Debris Removal Activity

I do not anticipate the need for debris removal.

I anticipate the need for debris removal, which poses an immediate threat to lives, public health and safety. Pursuant to Sections 403 and 407 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5170b & 5173, the State or Indian tribal government agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the United States of America for any claims arising from the removal of debris or wreckage for this disaster. The State or Indian tribal government agrees that debris removal from public and private property will not occur until the landowner signs an unconditional authorization for the removal of debris.

Request for Direct Federal Assistance

I do not request direct Federal assistance at this time.

I request direct Federal assistance for work and services to save lives and protect property, and:

a. I request the following type(s) of assistance:
To meet critical emergency protection requirements as needed to include but not limited to, law enforcement, food, and shelter.

b. List of reasons why State and local or Indian tribal government cannot perform, or contract for, required work and services.

c. In accordance with 44 C.F.R. § 206.208, the State or Indian tribal government agrees that it will, with respect to direct Federal assistance: (1) Provide without cost to the United States all lands, easements, and rights-of-ways necessary to accomplish the approved work; (2) Hold and save the United States free from damages due to the requested work, and shall indemnify the Federal Government against any claims arising from such work; (3) Provide reimbursement to FEMA for the non-Federal share of the cost of such work in accordance with the provisions of the FEMA-State or FEMA-Tribe Agreement ; and (4) Assist the performing Federal agency in all support and local jurisdictional matters.

Request for Snow Assistance

N/A I request snow assistance.

Snow assistance for the following jurisdictions (Specify counties, independent cities or tribes and/or tribal areas).

Please see **Enclosure D: Historic and Current Snowfall Data** for additional information in support of this request*.

*Not Required for Emergency Declaration Request

11. Programs and Areas Requested (Continued)

Hazard Mitigation* Statewide OR

For the following specific counties, parishes, independent cities or tribes and/or tribal areas.

12. Mitigation Plan Information*

a. Mitigation Plan Expiration Date October 2023 b. Type of Plan Enhanced Standard

13. Other Federal Agency Programs

I do not anticipate requirements from Other Federal Agencies I do anticipate requirements from Other Federal Agencies

Please see **Enclosure C**: Requirements for Other Federal Agency Programs for additional information in support of this request*.

14. Findings and Certifications

I certify the following:

- a. I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the State and the affected local government or Indian tribal government and that supplementary federal assistance is necessary.
- b. In response to this incident, I have taken appropriate action under State or tribal law and have directed the execution of the State or Tribal Emergency Plan on Jan 26, 2023 in accordance with the Stafford Act.
- c. The State and local governments, or Indian tribal government will assume all applicable non-Federal share of costs required by the Stafford Act.

15. List of Enclosures and Supporting Documentation

- Cover Letter Enclosure A (Individual Assistance)* Enclosure B (Public Assistance)*
- Enclosure C (Requirements for Other Federal Agency Programs) Enclosure D (Historic and Current Snowfall Data)
- Additional Supporting Documentation _____



Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's Signature

02/07/2023

Date

If anyone except the Governor or Tribal Chief Executive signs this document, please provide the documentation that establishes that this individual has the legal authority to act on behalf of the Governor or Tribal Chief Executive.

*Not Required for Emergency Declaration Request