

Hurricane Florence: Six Months Later by the Numbers

Financial Help for Storm Survivors

To date, more than \$1.2 billion dollars in state and federal resources have been approved for North Carolinians, including:

- \$128 million for 34,545 homeowners and renters in FEMA Individuals and Households grants. This includes
 - \$105.5 million in Housing Assistance
 - \$22.5 million in Other Needs Assistance to cover expenses such as loss of personal property, medical treatment and transportation
- [52 counties designated by FEMA](#) for either the Individual Assistance or Public Assistance programs. Aid provided through these programs supports debris removal, emergency protective measures, roads and bridges, water control facilities, building and equipment, utilities, and parks, recreational and other facilities.
- More than \$66 million in FEMA Public Assistance to cover expenses such as emergency response efforts, debris removal and repair or replacement of infrastructure.
- \$392.4 million in U.S. Small Business Administration disaster loans approved for 9,845 applicants, including:
 - \$331.4 million in loans approved for 8,914 homeowners and renters
 - \$62.5 million in loans approved for 934 business owners
- \$89.7 million paid to farmers impacted by the storm, through the Agriculture Disaster Assistance Program administered by the state Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- More than \$3.2 million paid to commercial fishermen and shellfish harvesters by the Department of Environmental Quality's [Hurricane Florence Commercial Fishing Assistance Program](#) to help make up for income lost due to the storm.
- An estimated \$593.1 million in claims paid by the National Flood Insurance Program to home and business owners, with an estimated 15,047 claims filed.
- More than \$5.4 million in unemployment insurance payments made by the state Division of Employment Security to 6,067 claimants in impacted counties, and nearly \$1.6 million in Disaster Unemployment Assistance paid to 1,872 claimants.
- 405 people [hired by the NC Commerce Department](#) to assist with clean-up and recovery using \$2.24 million in Disaster Employment Grant funds.
- \$7 million in [grants awarded to help local governments](#) working to recover from the storm, with more available.
- \$75,000 in [grants to local governments](#) by the state Division of Coastal Management to help plan for future storms and flooding.

Housing

- 667 displaced families in 13 counties now have manufactured housing units or travel trailers to live in while their damaged homes are being repaired through [FEMA's Direct Housing Program](#).
- 174 families with 505 household members currently in hotels under FEMA's Transitional Sheltering Assistance Program, down from a peak of 873 families. The program provides temporary housing while survivors make permanent housing arrangements. While FEMA has announced that funding for the program ends March 12, North Carolina is working to make sure none of the remaining families are left without a place to live.
- 3,223 homeowners currently participating in the [Sheltering and Temporary Essential Power \(STEP\) Program](#) which provides rapid, partial repairs to make homes without extensive damage safe for occupancy. As of March 11, 458 homes have been completed, with 1,220 underway.
- 174 families including 235 adults and 143 children moved into permanent housing following the storm [through Back@Home NC](#). This NC Department of Health and Human Services program helps families made precariously housed by the storm but ineligible for FEMA assistance transition to safe and stable housing.

Infrastructure and Debris Removal

- State crews worked to reopen 2,500 roads and bridges closed due to the storm, completing repairs at nearly 3,600 locations identified by the NC Department of Transportation, with a cost of \$122.9 million to date. Only six roads and bridges remain closed due to the storm because permanent repairs require extensive planning.
- More than 500 emergency general permits issued to help coastal property owners replace docks, piers, bulkheads and similar structures along sounds, rivers and creeks, by the state Division of Coastal Management.
- More than 250 displaced and/or damaged vessels recovered by crews from the U.S. Coast Guard, NC Wildlife Resources Commission and NC DEQ.
- 217 temporary disaster debris sites approved by the state Division of Waste Management to serve as community staging areas for the collection of debris generated by the storm. Currently, 130 sites remain active. The deadline for temporary debris site closures is mid-March.

Food and Health

- 717,038 people received \$101.9 million in food assistance through the [Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program](#).
- 49,864 people received crisis counseling and ongoing behavioral health care by the state Department of Health and Human Services, which secured more than \$8.5 million in federal and state funding to support impacted communities. Of the funding, \$3.5 million supports a door-to-door behavioral health outreach program across all impacted areas because many people needing services were relocated.
- 321 patients received medical care at a state mobile disaster hospital deployed to Lenoir County.
- 12 counties' local 911 call centers got help from the NC Department of Information Technology's 911 Board when shut down due to power outages, flooding and safety risks. During and after the storm, DIT staff monitored eastern North Carolina call centers 24 hours a day to ensure impacted areas had continuous coverage.

Volunteerism

- 75,555 volunteers performed more than 1.7 million hours of community service in the aftermath of the storm.
- With an additional 16 hours of community service leave provided specifically to support hurricane recovery efforts, 1,224 state employees used 15,715 hours of community service leave for tasks such as mucking out flooded homes, cooking meals for displaced residents and helping children catch up on school work. Statewide, 11,158 employees dedicated 117,231 community service hours during this period to help people in affected communities.