



**Texas Division of Emergency Management  
State Situation Report**

**New Information is in Blue Text**

<b>Event Name</b>	20-0013 August Tropical Weather
<b>Date</b>	October 01, 2020
<b>Time</b>	0800
<b>Operational Period</b>	September 30 to October 1, 2020
<b>Report Number</b>	39

<b>Regions Affected</b>	
<b>DPS Regions Affected</b>	2
<b>DDCs Active</b>	None

**STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:** On September 30, Governor Abbott sent a letter to President Donald Trump requesting a major disaster declaration for ten Texas counties to assist in recovery efforts following Hurricane Laura. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) previously granted the state's request for a Federal Emergency Declaration ahead of Hurricane Laura's landfall in Texas.

In his letter, the Governor specifically requested Individual Assistance for individuals and households, crisis counseling, disaster unemployment assistance, disaster case management, disaster legal services, and Small Business Administration (SBA) disaster assistance. The Governor also requested Public Assistance for Debris Removal (Category A), Emergency Protective Measures (Category B), Permanent Work (Categories C-G), and Direct Federal Assistance for the counties of Brazoria, Chambers, Galveston, Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, Sabine, and Shelby. The Governor also requested the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program statewide.

On September 22, Governor Abbott renewed the disaster declaration for Hurricane Laura.

The State of Texas continues to assist the victims from Louisiana with sheltering and basic needs, while volunteer organizations active in disaster (VOADs) continue providing meals to Texas residents who were affected by Hurricane Laura and assisting with recovery efforts.

On September 15, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) has received federal approval to automatically provide replacement benefits for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients for food lost or destroyed due to Hurricane Laura in eight of the impacted counties: Hardin, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, Sabine, San Augustine, Shelby and Tyler. Those eight counties met federal criteria for mass replacements of benefits based on the severity of storm impacts in their area.

FEMA has approved the emergency declaration for the State of Texas (FEMA-3540-EM) for the counties of Anderson, Angelina, Aransas, Bexar, Bowie, Brazoria, Calhoun, Cameron, Camp, Cass, Chambers, Cherokee, Dallas, Ellis, Fort Bend, Franklin, Galveston, Gregg, Grimes, Hardin, Harris, Harrison, Houston, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Kenedy, Kleberg, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Marion, Matagorda, Montgomery, Morris, Nacogdoches, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Panola, Polk, Red River, Refugio, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, San Patricio, Shelby, Smith, Tarrant, Titus, Travis, Trinity, Tyler, Upshur, Victoria, Walker, Waller, Wharton, Willacy and Wood for reimbursement for eligible emergency protective measures (Category B), limited to direct Federal assistance and reimbursement for mass care including evacuation and shelter support.

#### **OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:**

1. Recovery
2. Sheltering and Mass Care
3. Accurate Damage assessments
4. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
5. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

To view the summaries of disaster declarations, letters to the Governor or Disaster Summary Outlines go to: <https://tdem.texas.gov/disaster-summary-outline-2/>

#### **RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS**

##### **Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas A&M University System (TDEM):**

The State of Texas State Operations Center (SOC) remains at Readiness Level II Escalated Response Conditions. The Daily Operations staff continues to process disaster declarations, letters to the Governor, Disaster Summary Outlines, State of Texas Assistance Requests (STARs), as well as disseminating severe weather messages, preparing Snapshots and the State SITREP. The State Management Team (SMT) continues conducting operations in the alternate State Operations Center, working together with activated members of the State's Emergency Management Council. TDEM District Coordinators are working closely with their local emergency management partners to assist with any unmet needs and resources.

**TDEM Mass Care:** TDEM Mass Care continues to coordinate the state-supported non-congregate shelter mission. Evacuees remain in non-congregate shelters throughout the state. TDEM is working with the state of Louisiana on the repopulation of their residents who sought shelter in Texas.

[As of Wednesday, September 30 there were 3,584 evacuees in 11 non-congregate shelters throughout the State in 1,371 hotel rooms.](#) Texas continues to support Louisiana in sheltering and recovery transition needs through partnerships with FEMA and the American Red Cross. Additional shelter consolidation will occur in both Texas and Louisiana over the weekend. To date FEMA has conducted Individual Assistance outreach in 9 of the 11 facilities within Texas, processing [610](#) disaster survivor applications.

##### **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ):**

Drinking Water Systems: Drinking Water System Assessment data pulled from the Natural Disaster Operations Workgroup (NDOW) Response Manager Database as of 2:00 PM Wednesday, September 30, 2020.

Phone assessments are being conducted for 171 drinking water systems in seven counties including: Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, Sabine and San Augustine.

- Of the 171 systems assessed, one is operating on a generator.
- Nine systems are under a Boil Water Notice and 46 have been rescinded.

TCEQ staff are conducting weekly inspections on all of the approved Temporary Debris Management Sites (TDMS). Twelve TDMS in Newton, Orange, Sabine, and Jasper Counties have been authorized.


### **Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOADs):**

**American Red Cross (ARC):** The ARC established a disaster relief operation (DR 538-21) in support of Hurricane Laura across Texas. They've established districts in North Texas, Central Texas and Southeast Texas and are in close coordination with the Louisiana operation to support requests.

- The ARC is operating and managing 11 non-congregate sheltering sites in Texas.
- Distribution of Emergency Supplies: the total number of clean up supplies distributed to date is 22,313.
- Disaster Health, Mental Health, Disability Care, and Spiritual Care contacts to date: 4,620

**Southern Baptists of Texas Convention (SBTC):** SBTC IMT is working out of the Liberty Baptist Church in Bridge City. SBTC to date, has provided: 1,319 showers, 854 loads of laundry, 391 homes completed, 396 total requests received, 217 generator hours, 209 heavy equipment hours, 11,329 total meals prepared and 13,590 volunteer hours.

### **STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED**

BUSES

2

**FINAL COMMENTS:** The State Operations Center (SOC) remains at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions). The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed.

### **The four levels of SOC activation are:**

- Level I (Emergency Conditions)
- Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
- Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)

Level IV (Normal Conditions)

*This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at:*  
<https://tdem.texas.gov/situation-reports/>

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