

Mississippi Hurricane Katrina

A Decade of Progress through Partnerships

Hancock County



It's been nearly ten years since Hurricane Katrina left widespread destruction in Mississippi. In less than 24 hours, more than **234,000** homes in the state were damaged or destroyed and a third of the state's population, **more than one million people**, were affected by the historic storm.

In Hancock County, the devastation was pervasive. The small town of Waveland, some 50 miles east of New Orleans, was dubbed **ground zero** by the media as Katrina's northeast outer wall almost wiped it off the map. In the aftermath of the hurricane, FEMA provided nearly **\$210 million** to individuals and families in Hancock County for rebuilding homes, temporary housing, replacing lost property, medical bills and funeral expenses.

Public Assistance funds have been disbursed to numerous projects across the county, totaling **\$537 million**. In partnership with the state of Mississippi, FEMA provided Hancock County communities with hazard mitigation funds for projects such as the Bay Saint Louis Fire Station, the Waveland Police Station and new, stand alone FEMA 361 emergency safe rooms throughout the county.

Today, with the Hurricane Katrina recovery mission nearly complete, Mississippi's new and repaired infrastructure will be **less vulnerable** to future storms than in 2005.



Hancock County Court House
152 Main St, Bay St. Louis, Miss. 39520

Hurricane Katrina — Aug. 29, 2005

Hancock County
Population: 43,949

Nearly \$1.4 billion in FEMA and SBA assistance to Hancock County

\$537 million
Public Assistance
obligations for projects in
Hancock County

Nearly \$210 million
Individual Assistance
provided to survivors

11,164
Survivors assisted with
housing and other needs

\$35.3 million
Hazard Mitigation Grant
Program funding for projects

100 percent
FEMA has paid 100 percent
of the cost share for Public
Assistance and up to
100 percent for Hazard
Mitigation projects

8,274
Temporary Housing Units for
displaced families

\$590 million
U.S. Small Business
Administration low-interest
disaster loans to survivors
and businesses



FEMA





Hancock Medical Center
Hancock County



Waveland Public Library
Hancock County

“Without FEMA’s Public Assistance program, the city of Waveland wouldn’t have been able to rebuild at all after Katrina.

FEMA’s Public Assistance funds were extremely important to the recovery effort, helping with everything from debris removal to replacing public buildings and equipment.

We’re better prepared for the future, because MEMA helped us secure mitigation funds to rebuild stronger facilities that can survive the next disaster.”

Waveland Mayor Mike Smith

Individual Assistance

Helping Survivors!

After Hurricane Katrina, almost **21,000** individuals and households, nearly half the residents of Hancock county, received FEMA financial assistance. Of the total:

- Nearly **\$210 million** in federal funds was dedicated to rebuilding homes, temporary housing, replacing lost property, medical bills and funeral expenses.
- Nearly **20,000** families received rental assistance, with more than **8,200** families provided with temporary housing units.

Public Assistance

Cleaning up / Protecting People & Property / Repairing & Rebuilding Infrastructure

Debris Removal/Emergency Protective Measures: More than **\$44 million** has been obligated to protect people and property, and remove debris.

Health Care: More than **\$44 million** has been obligated to rebuild and improve hospitals and other health care facilities.

Education: More than **\$64 million** has been obligated for K-12 public schools.

Public Safety and Protection: More than **\$6 million** has been obligated for the restoration of fire and police stations, courthouses and jails.

Historical Structures: More than **\$17 million** has been obligated to restore historic properties.

Hazard Mitigation Building

Stronger, Smarter, Safer!

FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Grant Program has pledged **\$35.3 million** to fund projects designed to help make Hancock County communities stronger and safer. This is part of the **\$364 million** available to Mississippi for projects to reduce the impact of disasters on people and property.

“Hurricane Katrina was a storm of such historic magnitude, that it took everything we had and truly dedicated teamwork to recover from it. FEMA was there to assist the state of Mississippi from day one, and we have a strong and genuine partnership with them. Today, we can see the results of our recovery efforts all across the state. We have come a long way, and we did it all working together.”

- Robert Latham, Executive Director - Mississippi Emergency Management Agency



FEMA

FEMA’s mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate all hazards.

For more information, visit www.fema.gov/