

Overview

Hurricanes Katrina (landfall Aug. 29, 2005) and Rita (landfall Sept. 24, 2005) devastated south Louisiana, claiming 1,464 lives and destroying more than 200,000 homes and 18,000 businesses. In the New Orleans metropolitan area, storm surge from Hurricane Katrina breached the city's levee protection system at several points, leaving 80% of the city underwater and thousands stranded on rooftops and in shelters-of-last-resort. Much of St. Bernard Parish was also devastated by flooding and wind damage.

The major wind, rain and storm surge from Hurricane Katrina damaged Plaquemines, Jefferson and St. Tammany parishes. Three weeks later, storm surge from Hurricane Rita re-flooded parts of New Orleans before the storm made landfall in far eastern Texas, devastating much of Cameron Parish and leaving behind intense flood and wind damage in Calcasieu and Vermilion parishes.

Hurricane Katrina is the costliest natural disaster in U.S. history, with a total damage estimate of \$108 billion.

Funding

The U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development appropriated **\$13.4 billion** in Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery funds to Louisiana for recovery from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The funds were provided in three separate appropriations:

\$6.2 billion
in February 2006

\$4.2 billion
in July 2006

\$3 billion
in November 2007
*(fund use limited to
Road Home program
participants)*

TOTAL FUNDING: \$13.4 billion

Reporting Highlights

More than **\$13 billion** was disbursed to support recovery for homeowners, businesses and infrastructure projects following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

More than 130,000 Louisiana homeowners were served through the Road Home Homeowners Assistance Program.

423 infrastructure projects were funded across **27 parishes**.

Over 9,460 businesses were offered loans to revitalize Louisiana's local economy.

Administered Programs

INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMS

- Long-Term Recovery
- Local Government
- Primary and Secondary Education
- Fisheries Infrastructure
- Ratepayer Mitigation/Entergy New Orleans

PLANNING INITIATIVES

This allocation funded projects that included planning studies or that increased the planning capacity of various entities across the state, including parish governments, Louisiana Recovery Authority planning, Housing Program Development, LSU Medical Center and local parish planning.

- State Planning and Technical Assistance

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

- Project-Based Recovery Opportunity
- Innovation Loan and Technical Assistance
- Recovery Workforce Facilities
- Bridge Loan
- Business Recovery Grant/Loan
- Technical Assistance to Small Firms
- Recovery Workforce Training
- Louisiana Tourism Marketing Initiative
- Research Commercialization and Education Enhancement
- Public Service — Cecil J. Picard/LA 4 Early Childhood Education

