



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

July 17, 2026

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Through: Regional Administrator Arsany Thomas (Acting)
FEMA Region 6
Denton, Texas

Dear Mr. President:

Under the provisions of Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207 (Stafford Act), as implemented by 44 CFR § 206.36, I respectfully request that you declare a major disaster for the State of Texas as a result of the July 12, 2026, Severe Weather and Flooding event.

In anticipation of severe weather and flash flooding threats expected to impact South Central and Southwest Texas, I directed the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to activate state emergency response resources and coordinate statewide preparedness and response activities through the Texas Emergency Management Council. As the incident evolved over multiple operational periods, severe weather and flooding produced significant impacts to individuals, public infrastructure, and essential services throughout the affected areas.

Pursuant to state law, I took the appropriate action by directing the execution of the State's emergency management plan. On July 14, 2026, I issued a [disaster declaration](#) for 59 Texas counties and directed the continuation of emergency operations to support affected communities throughout impacted areas of the State. As response operations continue, state and local officials remain actively engaged in evaluating the scope and severity of disaster-related impacts and identifying the resources necessary to support affected individuals, communities, and public infrastructure.

[illegible]

- Direct Federal Assistance (DFA);
- Public Assistance (PA), Categories A through G;
- Statewide activation of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP);
- Activation of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Loan Program for physical and economic losses; and

- Disaster-related tax relief provided by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in accordance with applicable federal authorities and procedures associated with a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration.

As damage assessments continue throughout affected communities, I reserve the right to request additional forms of federal assistance and designate additional counties for assistance under this declaration should further impacts attributable to this incident be identified.

This disaster comes on the heels of several major incidents that have significantly impacted the State of Texas since 2024. These events include:

- March 2024 Wildfires—the largest in state history—which resulted in two federally declared Fire Management Assistance Grants (FMAGs) (5487 and 5488);
- DR-4781—April 2024 Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding that impacted Texas over a three-month period;
- DR-4798—July 2024 Hurricane Beryl;
- March 2025 Wildfires that resulted in six federally declared FMAGs (5552, 5553, 5555, 5570, 5571, and 5573);
- 2026 Wildfires that resulted in four federally declared FMAGs (5619, 5625, 5633, and 5634);
- DR-4871—March 2025 Severe Storms and Flooding; and
- DR-4879—July 2025 Texas Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding.

Texas continues to experience an unprecedented frequency of disasters requiring substantial commitments of state and local resources to support response and recovery operations. These federally-declared disasters represent only a portion of the emergencies to which Texas has responded and does not account for the numerous state-declared incidents that did not meet federal declaration thresholds.

The cumulative impacts of these disasters continue to strain the capabilities of state and local governments and the resilience of affected communities. For many Texans, recovery from one disaster is interrupted by the next, leaving little opportunity to fully restore homes, livelihoods, and local resources. Supplemental federal assistance remains essential when the severity and magnitude of an incident exceed the capabilities of affected communities to recover on their own.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your continued support of the State of Texas and its citizens during times of disaster.

INCIDENT OVERVIEW

Beginning on July 12, 2026, Texas initiated statewide emergency management operations in anticipation of a prolonged severe weather event expected to impact multiple regions of the State. As conditions evolved over multiple operational periods, the geographic scope of the incident expanded, necessitating sustained interagency coordination and the continued deployment of state resources to support affected jurisdictions.

The State Emergency Operations Center (SOC) activated at Readiness Level II (Escalated Response Conditions) and initiated 24-hour operations to coordinate statewide emergency management activities. Disaster District Emergency Operations Centers (EOCS) and regional EOCs across affected regions activated to support local response efforts, coordinate requests for state assistance, and facilitate the rapid deployment of personnel and resources to impacted communities.

I issued a disaster declaration for 59 Texas counties and directed the continuation of emergency operations in support of ongoing response activities. State and local officials remain actively engaged in supporting impacted communities as response operations and damage assessments continue throughout affected areas.

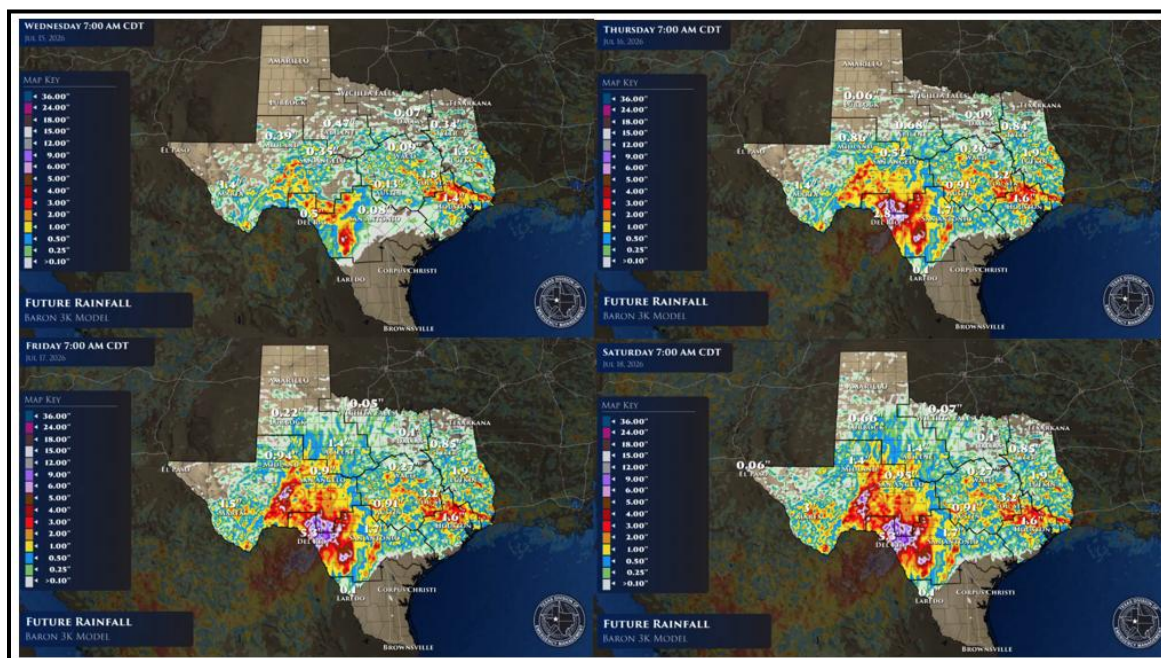


Source: Texas Division of Emergency Management

WEATHER EVENT SUMMARY

Beginning on July 12, 2026, a slow-moving and moisture-rich weather pattern developed across South Central and Southwest Texas, producing multiple rounds of heavy rainfall and creating conditions favorable for life-threatening flash flooding and significant river flooding impacts. Throughout the incident period, forecast products issued by the National Weather Service (NWS) and other meteorological partners consistently identified the potential for excessive rainfall across affected areas, requiring continuous monitoring as weather conditions evolved over multiple operational periods.

Forecast models projected widespread rainfall accumulations across portions of South Central and Southwest Texas, with localized areas expected to receive rainfall totals capable of producing catastrophic flash flooding impacts. Meteorological forecasts consistently identified portions of the affected area within Moderate and High-Risk Excessive Rainfall Outlooks, highlighting the significant threat posed by continuing rainfall throughout the incident period. According to the NWS Weather Prediction Center, High-Risk Excessive Rainfall Outlooks are issued on approximately four percent of days annually, yet account for approximately thirty-six percent of all flood-related fatalities and eighty percent of all flood-related damages nationwide. The issuance of a High-Risk outlook represents one of the most significant excessive rainfall forecasts available and underscores the potential for catastrophic flash flooding impacts associated with an incident. Flood Watches, Flash Flood Warnings, and Flash Flood Emergencies remained in effect across portions of Texas as additional rounds of heavy rainfall developed over impacted communities.



TDEM Meteorology forecasting and mapping

As the incident progressed, meteorological forecasts consistently projected additional excessive rainfall across Texas while indicating that the geographic focus of impacts would continue to shift throughout the incident period. Forecast products issued between July 15 and July 18 projected continued rainfall across portions of South Central, Central, and Southwest Texas, reinforcing the need for sustained emergency operations and the continued deployment of state resources to protect life and property. The persistence and severity of these forecasts significantly increased concerns regarding both immediate flash flooding impacts and cascading river flooding threats across affected communities.

The prolonged and evolving nature of this weather event necessitated continuous situational awareness and operational flexibility as response activities continued throughout impacted areas. The evolving nature of the incident required the continued deployment and repositioning of emergency management resources to address both realized impacts and forecasted threats to life and property. Additional excessive rainfall remained possible throughout ongoing response operations, increasing the potential for further impacts and necessitating continued emergency management coordination among state, local, and federal partners.

RESPONSE OVERVIEW

Texas has maintained an aggressive and coordinated response posture throughout this incident to protect life and property and support impacted communities. Through the Texas Emergency Management Council, state agencies and emergency management partners have remained actively engaged in preparedness, response, and recovery operations across affected regions of the State.

The State employed a scalable and adaptive response strategy throughout the incident period, expanding operational capabilities as conditions evolved. Emergency management personnel coordinated statewide situational awareness efforts while specialized response capabilities were strategically positioned to address life safety concerns resulting from severe weather and flooding impacts. As operational requirements increased, Texas coordinated the deployment of additional state, federal, and interstate mutual aid resources to augment response efforts throughout affected communities.

In support of ongoing response operations, Texas has requested and received assistance through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), resulting in the deployment of specialized water rescue resources from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. Additionally, FEMA deployed a Region 6 Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT) to support incident coordination activities. Five Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Teams—Tennessee Task Force 1, Nebraska Task Force 1, Colorado Task Force 1, Missouri Task Force 1, and Arizona Task Force 1—were also deployed in support of life-saving operations, supplementing the extensive capabilities already committed by the State of Texas and its emergency management partners.

Response operations remain ongoing as state, federal, and local officials continue coordinating emergency protective measures, conducting damage assessments, and supporting impacted jurisdictions throughout affected areas of Texas. The continued deployment of personnel, specialized rescue assets, and emergency management capabilities underscores both the severity of this incident and the substantial commitments of resources necessary to protect life and property throughout impacted communities.

STATE AGENCY REPORTS

TDEM: The SOC maintains Readiness Level II, Escalated Response Conditions. This resulted in the need for the SOC to be staffed 24 hours a day during the response. TDEM has 200 personnel and 140 vehicles responding to this event. Daily operations staff are coordinating statewide situational awareness and recovery efforts in support of state agencies and local partners, monitoring and processing individual State of Texas Assessment Tool (iSTAT) and public State of Texas Assessment Tool (pSTAT) submissions, and State of Texas Assistance Requests (STARs). TDEM assistant chiefs and regional staff are working closely with local emergency management partners to assist with any unmet needs and resources. SOC personnel continue to support recovery efforts.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX), Texas A&M Task Force 1 (TX-TF1): TX-TF1 has 10 swiftwater boat squads and has activated a Type 3 water-capable US&R team with four high-profile vehicles. Responders completed multiple calls for service in Uvalde and Kerr County areas, rescuing individuals using swift water boat squads and high-profile vehicles.

Texas Task Force 1, Task Force 2, and Task Force 3 activated water-capable US&R resources, and the Texas A&M Public Works Response Team supported SOC activities.



Source: WOAI-TV

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): TxDOT had response operations underway for the severe weather and flooding event. As of July 16, 2026, TxDOT reported 62 state-maintained road segment closures and 49 state-maintained roads impacted due to flooding.

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS): DPS provided resources in support of heavy rainfall and flash flooding operations. The Tactical Marine Unit Swift Water Rescue Boat Team conducted approximately 30 rescues and deployed boats and personnel to Uvalde and Kendall Counties. DPS also received requests from the Uvalde EOC for rescue and reconnaissance flights and conducted a total of 15 hoist rescues. Texas Highway Patrol supported operations by providing personnel and resources to Disaster District 12 and local EOCs, including the Regional EOC in New Braunfels and local EOC in Uvalde.

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD): TPWD game wardens and search and rescue vessel teams deployed two swiftwater boat teams to Guadalupe County to support response operations related to rivers expected to crest during the early morning hours. Crews assisted with evacuations and hospital transportation. As of July 16, 2026, TPWD has assisted with more than 30 rescues, and Garner State Park was closed due to ongoing weather conditions.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): The Emergency Medical Task Force has two all-hazards packages active, with one in San Antonio and one in transit from Bryan to San Antonio. On July 16, 2026, an additional Ambulance Strike Team supported operations in the Uvalde/Kerrville/Leakey area alongside Emergency Support Function 9 for water rescues and interfacility transfers.



Source: Texas Department of Transportation

Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD deployed aerial and ground assets in support of the severe weather response, including helicopters and high-profile vehicles to assist with flood rescues. Responders rescued one person, evacuated over 25 people, and evacuated nine domestic animals. Additional personnel were staged and placed on alert to support the severe weather mission as needed.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS): TAMFS continued to monitor current and forecasted fire and hazardous weather conditions and positioned personnel and resources accordingly. Eight Single Engine Air Tankers and one Air Attack aircraft were concentrated in Region 1 and northern Region 6 near Fredericksburg. Four All-Hazards Strike Teams supported heavy rain and flood response operations in Regions 6 and 7, including performing rescues and evacuations in Comfort and Uvalde. Two additional strike teams remained ready for further resource requests, and SOC staffing was prepared for 24-hour operations with support from a Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) Technical Specialist.

VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTER (VOAD) SUMMARIES

American Red Cross (ARC): One ARC-managed shelter was opened by local officials and community stakeholders in Uvalde. The shelter housed more than 63 occupants overnight.

Sheltering: The shelter count stood at nine locations throughout multiple counties and communities.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IMPACTS

Research consistently shows that children are especially vulnerable following a disaster. Their emotional reactions and recovery are shaped by age, developmental level, previous experiences, and personal circumstances. The duration of recovery often depends on how frightening the experience was and the extent of damage or loss a child has endured.

Older adults also face heightened vulnerability due to physical or emotional disabilities, frailty, loss of property with sentimental or financial value, limited transportation options, economic hardship, and social isolation. These factors amplify the challenges older adults face during a disaster and throughout the often-prolonged recovery process.



Source: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Both children and adults may require behavioral health support, particularly when confronting housing instability or financial hardship, either while displaced or upon returning home. These stressors can result in feeling overwhelmed, impairing decision-making, problem-solving, and overall cognitive functioning. Physiological and emotional reactions are common across all age groups.

Emergency responders, who play a critical role during and after disasters are at particularly high risk due to repeated exposure to traumatic events. This can result in a range of physical and behavioral health impacts, including intrusive memories, sleep disturbances, fear, irritability, depression, anxiety, withdrawal, acute stress disorder (ASD), and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Responders may also face burnout, compassion fatigue, and increased reliance on alcohol or substances as coping mechanisms.

Experience from prior disasters has shown that behavioral health needs surge as recovery begins. Similar to the catastrophic flooding Texas experienced in 2025, this event has impacted many of the same communities that have yet to fully recover from last year's disaster. The cumulative effects of repeated flooding and consecutive disasters have compounded emotional and psychological stress for survivors, first responders, and emergency personnel, leaving little opportunity for meaningful recovery between events.

STATEWIDE RESPONSE COSTS

The State of Texas has committed substantial personnel, equipment, and financial resources in support of response and recovery operations associated with the July 12, 2026, Severe Weather and Flooding event. State agencies continue to incur costs related to emergency response activities, personnel deployments, specialized rescue capabilities, air assets, emergency protective measures, and ongoing recovery operations throughout affected communities. The following sections outline both expended and estimated costs incurred in support of these operations, totaling approximately \$489.7 million.

Response costs associated with this incident continue to evolve as emergency operations remain ongoing and additional resources are deployed to address emerging operational requirements. Preliminary statewide expenditures presently exceed \$14.2 million and are expected to increase as response and recovery activities continue throughout impacted areas.

The prolonged and evolving nature of this incident has required sustained commitments of state resources to support emergency operations while simultaneously maintaining readiness capabilities across Texas. These expenditures are occurring within the broader context of recent disasters that have required substantial commitments of State and local resources.

Historical disaster impacts further demonstrate the magnitude of damages anticipated from this event. Of the 28 Texas counties currently included in the State's request for a federal major disaster declaration, 10 experienced similar impacts during the DR-4879—July 2025 Texas Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding and have once again sustained damages from this incident.

The recurrence of significant flooding impacts within the same geographic areas provides a reasonable basis for estimating anticipated PA costs associated with the current incident. Given

that many of the affected communities are experiencing impacts comparable to, or greater than, those previously sustained in prior events, historical obligations indicate that eligible damages for the 10 repeatedly impacted counties are currently valued at approximately \$25.5 million. As damage assessments continue and additional costs are identified, this estimate is expected to increase.

These recurring impacts underscore the extraordinary burden placed upon state and local governments and further demonstrate that the severity and magnitude of this disaster exceed the capabilities of affected jurisdictions absent of supplemental federal assistance.

LOCALIZED IMPACT

Recent Multiple Disasters

The communities included within this request have experienced multiple disasters in recent years, requiring repeated commitments of local resources to support response and recovery operations. While some incidents resulted in federal disaster assistance, others did not meet federal declaration thresholds despite producing significant impacts to affected communities. Recovery from disasters often extends well beyond the incident period, requiring sustained investments of time, personnel, and financial resources by local governments and residents alike.



Source: The Kerr County Lead

The July 12, 2026, Severe Weather and Flooding event has further compounded the challenges facing many of these communities. Local jurisdictions are once again responding to widespread flooding impacts while continuing to address long-term recovery needs associated with previous incidents. The cumulative effects of recurring disasters may significantly affect community recovery capabilities and further strain already limited local resources.

The long-term nature of disaster recovery is particularly evident throughout the affected area. Over the last year, state and local partners have undertaken intensive debris removal operations resulting from previous flooding disasters impacting many of the communities included within this request. To date, approximately 7,746,758 cubic yards of debris have been collected and processed, with an estimated 271,329 cubic yards remaining to be removed following last year's event. These ongoing operations underscore that recovery efforts remain active throughout affected communities and continue to require substantial commitments of personnel, equipment, and financial resources. The recurrence of significant flooding events before previous recovery efforts have been completed also challenges the ability of impacted communities to restore critical services, rebuild damaged infrastructure, and return to normal operations.

Based on the debris removal operations associated with DR-4879, the July 2025 Texas Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding disaster, TDEM calculated preliminary debris operation cost projections for the July 12, 2026, Severe Weather and Flooding event, given the repetitive storm path and current operational footprint. Utilizing the average cost per cubic yard observed during ongoing debris operations and considering the substantially larger geographic footprint and severity of impacts associated with this incident, TDEM estimates that debris removal activities may exceed \$450 million statewide. While debris assessments remain ongoing, these projections reflect the significant operational and financial demands anticipated throughout affected communities and further demonstrate the extraordinary burden this event has placed on state and local capabilities.

The counties included within this request have been impacted by multiple federally declared disasters and significant severe weather events since 2023, including:

- DR-4705—January 2023 Severe Winter Weather;
- DR-4781—April 2024 Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding that impacted Texas over a three-month period;
- March 2025 Wildfires that resulted in a federally declared FMAG within the impacted area (5570 and 5553);
- DR-4871—March 2025 Texas Severe Storms and Flooding; and
- DR-4879—July 2025 Texas Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding.



Source: KEYE-TV

Damage Assessments

Due to continuing flood conditions and forecasted severe weather impacts throughout affected communities, the State of Texas has employed advanced geospatial analysis capabilities to support ongoing Initial Damage Assessment (IDA) activities. These capabilities provide critical situational awareness while supplementing traditional field-based damage assessments in areas where incident conditions continue to evolve and may limit the safe deployment of assessment personnel. The utilization of remote sensing technologies and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) products allows the State to continue identifying and validating disaster-related impacts while maintaining the safety of emergency management personnel engaged in response operations.

In coordination with the TDEM GIS team, preliminary flood exposure analyses incorporate remote sensing methodologies to identify structures located within flood-impacted areas and provide critical information regarding the geographic scope and severity of flooding impacts resulting from this incident.

Current GIS analyses indicate impacts extending across multiple occupancy classifications throughout the affected area, including agricultural, commercial, educational, governmental, industrial, residential, unclassified, and utility and miscellaneous structures. Preliminary analyses have identified approximately 4,778 structures located within flood-impacted areas of the counties presently included within this request.

Occupancy Classification	Structures Identified
Residential	2,791
Agriculture	925
Commercial	276
Unclassified	664
Industrial	53
Government	43
Education	24
Utility and Miscellaneous	2
Total	4,778

The diversity of occupancy classifications identified through preliminary GIS analyses highlights the widespread nature of this incident and its potential impacts on homes, businesses, agricultural operations, educational institutions, government facilities, and critical infrastructure throughout affected communities. These geospatial products continue to support IDA activities by informing resource prioritization efforts, supplementing traditional field-based assessments, and enhancing the State’s understanding of both immediate and cascading impacts resulting from this incident.

Insurance Data

Many of the destroyed homes in previous federally declared disasters were in low- to medium-income neighborhoods where survivors struggled to rebuild, make mortgage payments, or pay rent in a market where there was a lack of affordable and available rental resources. The personal 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.

In addition to homeowner’s insurance, the following table shows the estimated total of National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policies in effect in the state-declared disaster counties.

Estimated NFIP Penetration Rate				
County	Residential Penetration Rate	Residential Contracts-in-Force (CIF)	Total Residential Structures	FIPS Code
Atascosa	0.93%	141	16,945	48013
Bandera	3.64%	232	11,407	48019
Bexar	1.42%	4,486	509,806	48029
Blanco	2.23%	86	5,326	48031
Brewster	4.52%	135	4,841	48043
Comal	5.12%	1,540	42,713	48091
Crockett	2.07%	20	1,692	48105
Dimmit	0.75%	21	3,976	48127
Edwards	0.25%	–	1,601	48137
Frio	0.28%	8	5,402	48163
Gillespie	1.34%	153	11,903	48171
Kendall	4.57%	386	12,577	48259
Kerr	2.36%	513	21,478	48265
Kimble	1.72%	40	3,199	48267
Kinney	1.29%	13	1,861	48271
LaSalle	0.69%	3	2,474	48283
Mason	0.71%	10	2,662	48319
Maverick	0.88%	124	15,464	48323
Medina	2.51%	359	17,182	48325
Menard	3.80%	69	1,684	48327
Real	6.66%	124	2,599	48385
Schleicher	0.14%	1	1,453	48413
Sutton	1.49%	12	1,941	48435
Terrell	0.14%	2	697	48443
Uvalde	2.48%	208	10,223	48463
Val Verde	1.21%	193	16,592	48465
Wilson	1.15%	166	16,325	48493
Zavala	2.14%	64	3,976	48507

Table showing the estimated NFIP penetration rates for affected counties (data from FEMA Region 6).

Disaster Impacted Population Profile

Those living within the affected communities contribute significantly to the economies of both Texas and the United States. However, the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of these communities may significantly influence their ability to recover from disaster-related impacts.

The counties included within this request encompass both urban centers and rural communities with varying socioeconomic and demographic characteristics that may present additional challenges during disaster response and recovery operations. Several affected counties report median household incomes below both the state and national averages and maintain populations that experience disproportionate challenges following disasters.

County	Median household income in dollars	Pre-disaster unemployment	Persons below poverty level	18 yrs and younger	Elderly (age 65 and older)	Disabled (under the age of 65)	Speak a language other than English
Atascosa	\$ 70,700.00	4.50%	15.90%	26.10%	16.50%	9.60%	41.30%
Bandera	\$ 80,734.00	4.20%	11.00%	17.20%	31.90%	13.00%	14.20%
Bexar	\$ 72,341.00	4.20%	14.60%	23.70%	14.30%	11.30%	37.00%
Blanco	\$ 92,425.00	3.70%	8.00%	16.40%	32.40%	18.80%	10.00%
Brewster	\$ 56,212.00	2.80%	15.10%	16.90%	24.80%	7.80%	29.80%
Comal	\$ 101,889.00	3.90%	6.90%	21.40%	20.80%	10.30%	15.20%
Crockett	\$ 81,022.00	3.00%	14.70%	23.60%	24.70%	12.10%	64.10%
Dimmit	\$ 38,808.00	6.80%	28.50%	27.00%	19.30%	17.50%	58.90%
Edwards	\$ 40,313.00	2.90%	19.20%	21.60%	31.30%	5.80%	36.20%
Frio	\$ 66,010.00	5.10%	27.00%	25.90%	13.80%	15.50%	45.80%
Gillespie	\$ 76,162.00	3.10%	8.20%	18.80%	33.50%	8.80%	16.50%
Kendall	\$ 114,962.00	3.60%	6.50%	21.60%	23.90%	7.80%	14.30%
Kerr	\$ 69,395.00	3.40%	11.20%	17.70%	32.20%	9.90%	14.40%
Kimble	\$ 69,455.00	3.80%	15.40%	17.40%	33.50%	20.20%	17.20%
Kinney	\$ 69,455.00	4.40%	15.40%	17.40%	33.50%	20.20%	17.20%
La Salle	\$ 70,000.00	4.40%	20.70%	18.30%	25.50%	12.50%	48.00%
Mason	\$ 74,180.00	3.60%	11.20%	18.70%	34.70%	21.30%	19.10%
Maverick	\$ 49,568.00	8.60%	21.80%	29.80%	15.30%	23.70%	89.30%
Medina	\$ 78,074.00	4.20%	11.20%	22.60%	19.70%	16.80%	26.00%
Menard	\$ 53,043.00	4.40%	20.00%	17.40%	32.20%	23.70%	22.00%
Real	\$ 39,605.00	4.60%	15.10%	19.20%	34.80%	19.40%	12.80%
Schleicher	\$ 86,694.00	4.40%	15.40%	21.10%	27.00%	20.80%	36.40%
Sutton	\$ 78,906.00	6.40%	12.30%	23.90%	23.90%	21.80%	52.10%
Terrell	\$ 44,886.00	3.60%	18.70%	17.70%	31.20%	11.90%	29.20%
Uvalde	\$ 44,886.00	4.50%	18.70%	17.70%	31.20%	31.20%	29.20%
Val Verde	\$ 66,100.00	6.00%	18.10%	26.60%	15.60%	19.00%	63.80%
Wilson	\$ 94,565.00	3.90%	9.30%	23.10%	19.20%	10.40%	23.00%
Zavala	\$ 36,749.00	6.40%	25.70%	29.00%	18.30%	17.60%	67.70%

Data from the U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Several impacted counties report poverty rates exceeding 20 percent, while others maintain disproportionately large populations of older adults living on fixed incomes, individuals with disabilities, and households with limited English proficiency. These demographic characteristics may present additional barriers to accessing emergency assistance, securing temporary housing, replacing damaged property, and navigating long-term recovery efforts.

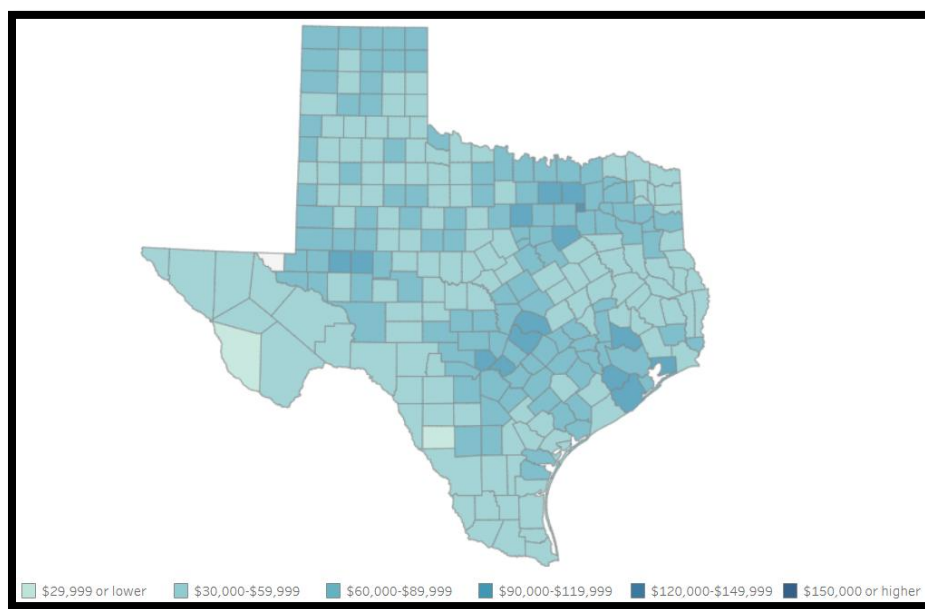
In multiple counties included within this request, individuals aged 65 years and older comprise more than 30 percent of the population, while children under the age of 18 represent more than one-quarter of the population. Additionally, several counties report disability rates significantly exceeding the national average and maintain large populations that speak a language other than English within the home.

The demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the affected communities directly influence their capacity to recover from disaster-related impacts. Supplemental federal assistance

will be critical in supporting affected individuals, households, and communities as they address both immediate needs and the challenges associated with long-term recovery.

Income and Poverty

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2024 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates, the median household income for Texas is approximately \$79,721, which remains below the national median household income of \$83,604. While Texas continues to experience substantial economic growth, household incomes vary significantly across the State, particularly within rural communities that frequently face additional challenges associated with disaster recovery. Many Texas counties continue to report household incomes below both the state and national median household income levels.



Map showing household median income by county. Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

The counties impacted by the July 12, 2026, Severe Weather and Flooding event are located throughout South Central and Southwest Texas and include numerous rural communities that face unique challenges during disaster response and recovery operations. Preliminary demographic and socioeconomic analyses indicate that many of the affected counties have median household incomes below both the state and national averages and include populations that rely upon federal and state assistance programs to meet daily needs.

Additionally, many affected communities have higher proportions of older adults living on fixed incomes who may face increased challenges recovering from disaster-related impacts. Older populations are often disproportionately affected by disasters due to increased medical needs, mobility limitations, and the financial burdens associated with repairing or replacing damaged property and securing temporary housing. The disruption of essential services and additional

recovery-related expenses can present significant barriers to recovery for vulnerable populations throughout the affected areas.

The demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the affected communities directly influence their ability to recover from disaster-related impacts. Limited household resources, rural geographic considerations, and vulnerable populations may significantly affect both the pace and capacity of long-term recovery efforts. Supplemental federal assistance will be critical in supporting affected individuals, households, and communities as they recover from this incident.

CLOSING

Pursuant to 44 CFR § 206.36, I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective response and recovery efforts exceed the capabilities of the State of Texas and affected local governments. Supplemental federal assistance is necessary to save lives, protect property, public health and safety, lessen or avert the threat of further disaster impacts, and support the recovery of affected Texans and their communities.

Accordingly, I respectfully request a major disaster declaration authorizing PA, Categories A through G; and DFA for the counties of Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Blanco, Brewster, Comal, Crockett, Dimmit, Edwards, Frio, Gillespie, Kendall, Kerr, Kimble, Kinney, La Salle, Mason, Maverick, Medina, Menard, Real, Schleicher, Sutton, Terrell, Uvalde, Val Verde, Wilson, and Zavala. I further request statewide activation of the HMGP and reserve the right to request additional counties and forms of federal assistance as damage assessments continue throughout affected communities.

Additionally, I respectfully request activation of the U.S. SBA Disaster Loan Program for both physical and economic losses in all counties designated for IA, as well as the IRS Disaster Tax Relief Program for eligible disaster-related tax relief measures.

I have designated Chief Nim Kidd as the Governor's Authorized Representative (GAR) for this request and Paula Hanson and Orlando Alanis as Alternate Governor's Authorized Representatives. Chief Kidd will serve as the State Coordinating Officer, and Sherri LaCour will serve as the Deputy State Coordinating Officer. Chief Kidd is authorized to coordinate with FEMA and provide any additional information or justification necessary in support of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Abbott", written in a cursive style.

Greg Abbott
Governor

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