

AVMA 2024 Disaster Situational Awareness Report #5 Friday, September 27, 2024
Hurricane Helene

Key Messages for Post-Tropical Cyclone Helene

Advisory 18: 4:00 PM CDT Fri Sep 27, 2024

1. Historic, catastrophic and life-threatening flash and urban flooding, including numerous major landslides, will continue across portions of the southern Appalachians through this evening, followed by gradual improvement tonight and into Saturday. Widespread serious river flooding is ongoing, some of which will be major to record breaking.
2. There is a possibility of long-duration power outages in portions of the southeast U.S. If you use a generator, be sure it is placed outside at least 20 feet away from doors, windows, and garages to avoid deadly carbon monoxide poisoning.
3. Use caution after the system passes as deadly hazards remain including downed power lines and flooded areas.

Post-Tropical Cyclone Helene
 Day 1 Rainfall Forecast (inches)
 Created 4:27 PM EDT Fri Sep 27 2024
 Valid 2:00 PM EDT Fri Sep 27 2024
 through 8:00 PM EDT Sat Sep 28 2024
 @OIA@NWS@NCEP@WPC

Local point maximum rainfall may be higher than shown. See the NHC public advisories for the latest tropical cyclone information.

Risk of Flash Flooding
 Marginal: At Least 5% Moderate: At Least 20%
 High: At Least 15% Very High: At Least 70%

For more information go to hurricanes.gov

Helene

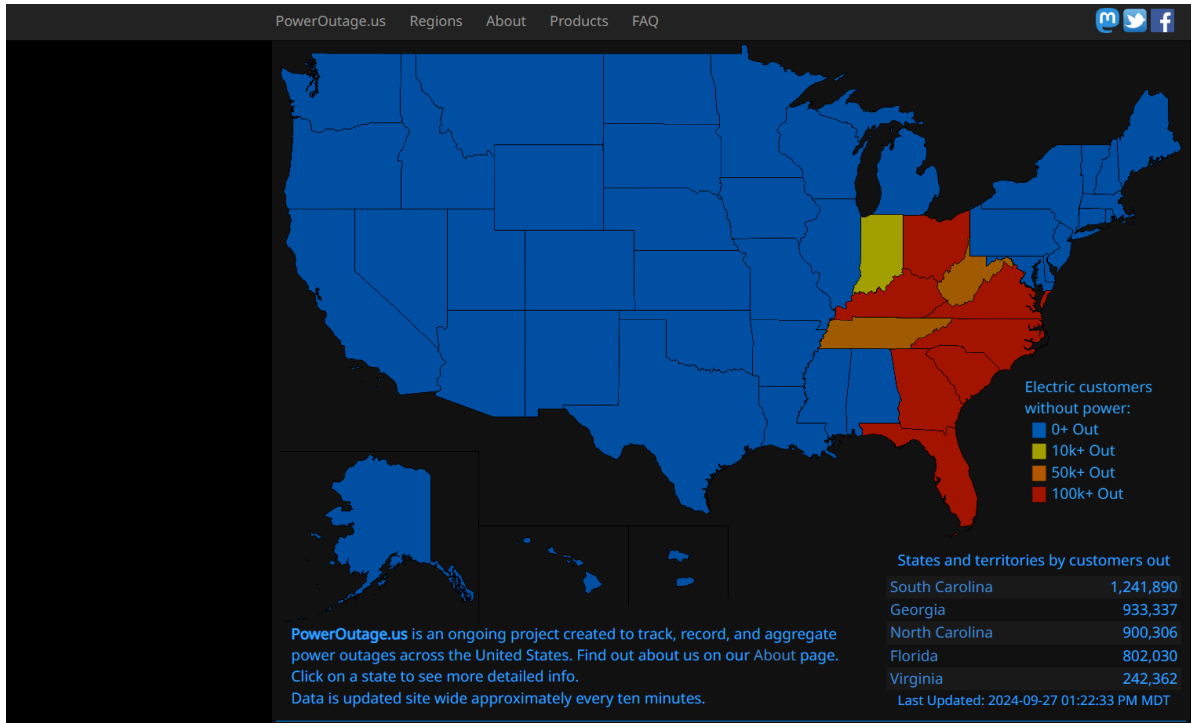
NWS Weather Prediction Center
 Updated 11 AM EDT, Friday September 27

OBSERVED PRECIPITATION (preliminary)

Past 2 days
ending 11 AM
EDT Friday

Select Preliminary Storm Total Rainfall

FLORIDA		NORTH CAROLINA	
Sumatra	15.50"	Busick	29.58"
Wilma	11.94"	Mount Mitchell State Park	24.20"
Apalachicola	9.20"	Asheville 4.1 ESE	13.15"
GEORGIA		SOUTH CAROLINA	
Dillard 3.5 NE	14.06"	Table Rock	13.91"
Fort Eisenhower	12.85"	Salem 1.8 NE	13.78"
Atlanta 5.3 NE	11.62"	Columbia 2.1 NNW	10.76"
ALABAMA		TENNESSEE	
Eufaula Municipal Arpt	9.42"	Benlon 2.3 ESE	7.22"
Pansy 1.6 NNE	8.50"	Seneedville 9.5 WSW	7.17"
Auburn-Opelika Arpt	7.13"	Bristol/Kingsport/Johnson City Arpt	5.74"
WEST VIRGINIA		VIRGINIA	
Bluefield Arpt	5.91"	Independence 1.3 S	9.49"
Elkhorn	4.65"	Galax 5.3 SW	7.49"
Beckley Memorial Arpt	3.68"	Troutdale 8.7 SW	7.04"



- Helene strengthened to a Category IV hurricane before making landfall in the Big Bend area of Northwest Florida Thursday evening.
- The concerns with this storm are wind related damage followed by historic rain amounts in some parts of the Southeast.
- State response personnel in multiple states are characterizing the impacts of this storm as “catastrophic”.
- 15 tornadoes have been reported since Thursday in parts of South Carolina and Georgia.
- Georgia has confirmed at least 12 human deaths related to the storm with more expected. Some news outlets are reporting at least 40 human deaths so far in impacted states.
- The National Animal Rescue and Sheltering Coalition (NARSC) has been activated for the region to assist with coordination, animal search and rescue (ASAR), and sheltering.
- States in the southeast are working on partial/limited animal movement restriction waivers for the storm. Individuals should check with their state animal health official (state veterinarian) for additional information.
- Animal Search and Rescue (ASAR) and assessment needs for animals, including livestock, is ongoing. Many dairies and other livestock operations are running on generators.
- State Veterinary Response Teams in states that have them have been mobilized.
- AVMA/AVMF are messaging impacted states about available resources (including grants).
- Donations can be made to the [AVMF Disaster Relief Fund](#).

AVMA provides disaster preparedness, response, and recovery information at <https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/animal-health-and-welfare/disaster-preparedness> including information on grants available from AVMF for veterinarians who are either directly impacted by a disaster or who provide care to animals impacted by disasters.

Please contact Dr. Warren J. Hess at whess@avma.org with corrections or updates.