



## State Emergency Response Team



# FEMA

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# Fact Sheet

## HURRICANE CHARLEY RECOVERY — BY THE NUMBERS

- 1** Unified Command. Following Hurricane Charley former Florida Division of Emergency Management Director Craig Fugate established “Charley Command.” This unified command system – used for the first time in Florida - merged state and federal response teams to solve problems together. The unified approach led to a faster and more agile response and was pivotal to the success of subsequent statewide responses for Frances, Ivan and Jeanne.
- 4** Hurricane Charley was a Category 4 storm when it made landfall near Punta Gorda on Aug. 13, 2004. It claimed the title of the fifth costliest storm in U.S. history, according to the Insurance Information Institute.
- 140** In connection with Charley, FEMA funded 140 projects aimed at making Florida a more disaster-resistant state. Totaling nearly \$48 million, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds were provided to the state for storm shutters, impact-resistant glass, roof strengthening, drainage projects and other improvements to public facilities.
- 3,800** Patients treated by FEMA Disaster Medical Assistance Teams following the storm.
- 4,700** Temporary housing units, including travel trailers and mobile homes set up by FEMA to house Floridians.
- 7,100** FEMA Public Assistance grants provided to state agencies, local governments and nonprofits as a result of Hurricane Charley.
- 100,000** People sheltered by the American Red Cross in the first couple of weeks of the disaster.
- 182,000** Homes inspected to determine eligibility for FEMA housing assistance.
- 273,000** Individuals who registered for state and federal assistance in Florida.
- 18 million** Cubic yards of debris created by Charley. FEMA funded more than \$286 million in debris removal costs.
- \$50 million** In claims paid by the National Flood Insurance Program in Florida. The program is managed by FEMA.
- \$209 million** Approved for Floridians through the FEMA Individuals and Households program. This included nearly \$92 million to pay for lodging expenses, rental assistance, and minimal home repairs.

(MORE)

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- \$503 million** Approved loans through the U.S. Small Business Administration. The loans reached the occupants of more than 11,000 homes and more than 2,100 businesses.
- \$624 million** Public Assistance funds allocated by FEMA for cities, counties, state agencies and certain nonprofits for nearly 7,100 recovery projects.
- \$15 billion** With torrential rainfall and maximum sustained winds of 145 mph, Hurricane Charley whipped across the State of Florida and left behind an estimated \$15 billion in insured and uninsured losses.

### The Florida Four in 2004: Charley (Aug. 13), Frances (Sept. 5), Ivan (Sept. 16) and Jeanne (Sept. 26)

- Four storms in 44 days caused an estimated \$45 billion in damage.
- Each of the storms is still ranked among the top ten costliest hurricanes in the U.S., according to the Insurance Information Institute.
- Florida was the first state to be hit by four hurricanes in one season since Texas in 1886.
- At the time, FEMA's response to the four hurricanes was the largest in the agency's 26-year history.
- Because of the 2004 hurricanes, nearly \$369 million in federal funds was set aside for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The program funds projects that will protect Florida communities during future storms.
- FEMA received disaster assistance applications from approximately 1.3 million households and businesses in Florida and provided nearly \$1.6 billion in grants to state residents.
- The agency sent nearly \$2.5 billion in federal aid to the state to reimburse local governments and eligible state agencies for nearly 27,000 recovery and rebuilding projects – that amounts to about half of all public disaster recovery projects *nationwide* for that year.

*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 on the Florida Division of Emergency Management and to GET A PLAN!, please visit: [www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org). All students, teachers and parents can find educational information and free downloadable materials at: [www.KidsGetAPlan.com](http://www.KidsGetAPlan.com). For the latest flash reports and other preparedness information go to: [www.YouTube.com/FloridaSERT](http://www.YouTube.com/FloridaSERT).*

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