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| home  <p>This website is dedicated to Texas' survivors of a hurricane that hit us head on. This is the story of Hurricane Harvey, and the community of resilient Texans that showed their spirit of survival.</p>  <p>Texas is known for its mantras, "Texas Tough," "Texas Strong," "Don't Mess With Texas!" Harvey ignored our mantras; he did not pay attention to our grit. He did mess with Texas, and he did try to weaken us. Harvey indeed messed with Texas, but he could not mess with our spirit, toughness, and strength.</p> |
| Surprise  Tropical Storm Harvey, began his journey to Texas off the coast of western Africa as a tropical wave that meandered slowly into the Lesser Antilles in the Caribbean Sea. It was an inconsequential tropical wave, weak, disorganized, and it was not expected to develop into anything other than a bit of rain and eventual dissipation upon crossing the Yucatan Peninsula.  On August 17th, Harvey reached tropical storm status, but as predicted, it fizzled out upon reaching the Yucatan Penninsula, and he did. On August 19th, Harvey indeed fizzled out due to moderate wind shears breaking it apart into remnants of a storm. But little did Texas know, Harvey had other plans up his sleeve. On August 24th, Harvey slowly snuck up on us with a fury! He regained tropical storm status, and later that day, within hours, he became a hurricane, quickly reaching category 3, intensifying to a Category 4 hurricane. At 3am, on August 25th, Harvey slammed the coast of Texas near Rockport. It was indeed a surprise attack, and Texas was not ready, but Texas fought back.  Reference: Wikipedia.com |
| Storm  Harvey made landfall near Rockport, a Category 4 hurricane, reaching [winds](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutsshws.php) of about 130mph, causing widespread damage. But his assault on the Texas coast was not finished. A northwestern High depression kept Harvey from quickly running its course. Harvey stalled, took a turn, and headed back on a southeast course back into the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Harvey was not done yet on his assault on the [Texas coast](https://weather.com/storms/hurricane/news/tropical-storm-harvey-forecast-texas-louisiana-arkansas).  Harvey regained strength and returned to Texas through the Matagorda Bay, meandering, sometimes even at a zero mile per hour speed, stalling, dumping 40 to 52 inches of rain from Matagorda, through Beaumont, Houston, San Antonio, and as far inland as Austin. Harvey triggered mass flooding throughout these cities, breaking all-time records for a continental U.S. tropical cyclone.  Finally, on August 30th, Harvey left Texas and began to die, but not without causing flash floods in Louisiana, Arkansas, Kentucky, Tennessee and beyond. I heard on the radio that Texas experienced a 40,000/year flood. This means that the last time it rained like this in Texas, it was during the time of the Neanderthals. |
| Aftermath  The destruction left behind by Harvey was palpable, but Texas spirit and attitude could not have been better demonstrated than by the community-wide effort to save those stranded, and [Texans helping Texans](https://youtu.be/HK6Tt6vXR0E), strangers lending hands to strangers. Texas rose to the occasion, and it showed the world how a castrophy is handled. Our own Houston icon, [Jim McInvale](http://www.cnn.com/2017/08/30/us/gallery-furniture-store-houston-shelter/index.html), opened all his stores and turned them into shelters, providing warm food, blankets, beds, to help fellow Houstonians in the aftermath of the storm.  People drove their boats parked their pickups, and went into water to find and save fellow Texans. The National Guard was quickly deployed, and Texas took this disaster by the horns, but we know it won’t be easy. |
| Recovery  Texas knows the recovery will be monumental, but just like Galveston came back stronger and better after Hurricane Ike, Texans know we will comeback stronger and better.  Texas is already working with FEMA, the National Guard, and other U.S. government agencies to begin the recovery phase of this historic disaster. FEMA has been actively deployed and victims of this historic flooding are already receiving assistance to rebuild Texas homes. In Houston, Mayor Sylvester Turner has mobilized the National Guard, State Troopers, the Core of Engineers, and other agencies to identify areas that continued flooding, integrity of or levies, rescue and recovery efforts, and inspection and management of roadways flooded during the storm.  Texans are already tearing off the sheetrock, and thousands of volunteers are coming to Texas from other states to contribute to the recovery efforts. Texas thanks all fellow Americans for their support and commitment to bringing Texas back.  If you know someone impacted by Harvey, they can apply for assistance at https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4332. |
| help  p>Any form of aid, volunteering, donating, participating, will assist in the recovery efforts surrounding Texan communities devastated by this storm. But I must give a word of caution as we must be aware that there are always criminal entities banking on the hardship of others. For this reason, always verify anyone knocking on your door or calling you or while surfing the web encountering false links requesting donations. You can find ways to help communites <a href="http://www.chron.com/news/houston-weather/hurricaneharvey/article/Hurricane-Harvey-How-to-help-victims-of-the-12003372.php">here</a>. We must not forget that pets also were impacted by this storm. Please click <a href="https://spca.org/give">here</a> if you would like to help displaced pets by Hurricane Harvey.</p>    <p>If you would like to get involved in Texas' recovery efforts, please contact the following agencies |