

# Hurricane Helene

Situation Report #2 | Saturday, September 28, 2024 | 4:00 PM EDT

**REPORT TIME & DATE:**

4:00 PM EDT | Saturday, September 28, 2024

**REPORT DISTRIBUTION:**

Public

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Incident Summary

The eye of Helene made landfall as a Category 4 Hurricane near Perry, Florida around 11:10 PM EDT September 26, just east of the mouth of the Aucilla River. As of 11:00 AM EDT, September 28, Helene is located approximately 145 miles southwest of Louisville, Kentucky as a post-tropical cyclone with present movement southeast at three miles per hour and maximum sustained winds of 15 miles per hour. Helene is forecasted to drift slowly southeast and eventually eastward along the Kentucky-Tennessee border through the weekend, where it will dissipate. The heavy rain is lessening with an additional 1-2 inches of rainfall expected across portions of the Ohio Valley and central Appalachians through Sunday.

### Electricity Sector Summary

- As of 3:00 PM EDT, September 28, 3.4 million customers are without power across ten states, including approximately 1.05 million customers in South Carolina (37% of total state customers), 770,000 customers in Georgia (16%), 670,000 customers in North Carolina (13%), and 380,000 customers in Florida (3%).
- Restoration efforts have begun in some affected states, with utilities in many areas expecting a multi-day restoration effort. Utilities are experiencing widespread flooding and debris impeding access. Crews are unable to operate in heavily flooded areas and when wind speeds are greater than 30 MPH.
- Utilities in the Southeast region made preparations prior to Helene, including pre-staging personnel, materials, and equipment. At least 50,000 personnel from 31 states and the District of Columbia and Canada are responding to power outages in the Southeast and Appalachians.

### Oil and Natural Gas Sector Summary

- The ports of Tampa, Manatee, and Panama City remain closed as of early September 28. The Port of Savannah has removed restrictions.
- U.S. offshore operators still had shut-in 12% of Gulf of Mexico oil production and 6% of natural gas production as of September 28.
- Power outages throughout the affected region may be impacting operations at retail fuel stations, terminals, and other oil and natural gas infrastructure.

<b>Hurricane Helene Customer Power Outages</b>				
As of 3:00 PM EDT 9/28/24				
State	Current Outages	% State Without Power	Peak Storm Outages	% Restored from Peak
Florida	378,221	3.4%	1,323,821	71%
Georgia	773,190	16%	1,100,015	30%
South Carolina	1,050,208	37%	1,372,295	23%
North Carolina	670,224	13%	1,004,273	33%
Tennessee	40,813	1.4%	128,592	68%
Virginia	168,778	4.3%	243,827	31%
Kentucky	102,438	4.6%	226,810	55%
West Virginia	56,331	5.6%	91,399	38%
Ohio	154,259	2.9%	330,464	53%
Indiana	45,077	1.6%	114,114	60%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,439,539</b>			



## Emergency Declarations and Waivers

To provide vital supplies and transportation services to a disaster area in the United States, emergency declarations may be issued by the President, Governors of States, or the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). These declarations trigger the temporary suspension of certain Federal safety regulations, including Hours of Service, for motor carriers and drivers engaged in specific aspects of the emergency relief effort. See [49 CFR 390.23](#) for the actual emergency regulation.

Emergency Declarations and Hours of Service Transportation Waivers				
As of 3:00 PM EDT 09/28/2024				
State/Territory	Details	Effective Dates		Status
		Start	End	
Florida	<a href="#">State of Emergency for 61 counties</a>	9/23	11/22	Active
Florida	<a href="#">Hours of Service Waiver</a>	9/23	11/22	Active
Florida	<a href="#">Presidential Declaration of Emergency</a>	9/23	Until Rescinded	Active
Georgia	<a href="#">State of Emergency</a>	9/24	10/2	Active
South Carolina	<a href="#">State of Emergency</a>	9/25	10/10	Active
North Carolina	<a href="#">State of Emergency</a>	9/25	10/25	Active
Virginia	<a href="#">State of Emergency</a>	9/25	11/9	Active
Kentucky	<a href="#">State of Emergency</a>	9/24	10/8	Active
Tennessee	<a href="#">State of Emergency</a>	9/27	Until Rescinded	Active
Alabama	<a href="#">Presidential Declaration of Emergency</a>	9/22	Until Rescinded	Active
South Carolina	<a href="#">Presidential Declaration of Emergency</a>	9/25	Until Rescinded	Active
Tennessee	<a href="#">Presidential Declaration of Emergency</a>	9/26	Until Rescinded	Active
West Virginia	<a href="#">State of Preparedness</a>	9/26	Until Rescinded	Active

Sources: State government & federal government websites

