

# Hurricane Helene

Situation Report #3 | Sunday, September 29, 2024 | 4:00 PM EDT

**REPORT TIME & DATE:** 4:00 PM EDT | Sunday, September 29, 2024

**REPORT DISTRIBUTION:** Public

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Incident Summary

The eye of Helene made landfall at 11:10 PM EDT, September 26 as a Category 4 Hurricane with maximum wind speeds of 140 mph near Perry, Florida just east of the mouth of the Aucilla River. Helene weakened as it moved north through the Southeastern United States on September 27-28, impacting parts of Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana. The storm brought strong winds and heavy rainfall, which caused flooding in some states.

### Electricity Sector Summary

- As of 3:00 PM EDT, September 29, approximately 2.6 million customers are without power, down more than 43% from the region-wide peak of 4.6 million on September 27. Ten states are experiencing significant power outages from the storm, including outages affecting approximately 877,000 customers in South Carolina (31% of total state customers), 638,000 customers in Georgia (13%), 582,000 customers in North Carolina (11%), and 189,000 customers in Florida (2%).
- Restoration efforts are underway across the affected states; however, utilities in many areas are expecting a multi-day restoration effort. Utilities have been encountering widespread flooding and debris impeding access to damaged infrastructure.
- Utilities in the Southeast region made preparations prior to Helene, including pre-staging personnel, materials, and equipment. At least 50,000 personnel from 34 states and the District of Columbia and Canada are responding to power outages in the Southeast and Appalachia.

### Oil and Natural Gas Sector Summary

- The Port of Panama City was open as of early September 29. The Port of Tampa and Seaport Manatee are open with restrictions.
- Approximately 3% of Gulf of Mexico oil and 1% of Gulf of Mexico natural gas production remained shut in as of September 29, down from peak shut-ins of 29% and 20%, respectively.
- Power outages throughout the affected region may be impacting operations at retail fuel stations, bulk terminals, pipelines, and other oil and natural gas infrastructure.

<b>Hurricane Helene Customer Power Outages</b>				
As of 3:00 PM EDT 9/29/24				
State	Current Outages	% State Without Power	Peak Storm Outages	% Restored from Peak
Florida	188,807	1.7%	1,323,821	85.7%
Georgia	637,830	13.2%	1,100,015	42%
South Carolina	876,835	30.6%	1,372,295	36.1%
North Carolina	582,386	11.4%	1,004,273	42%
Tennessee	17,260	<1%	128,592	86.6%
Virginia	126,524	3.2%	243,827	48.1%
Kentucky	39,763	1.8%	226,810	82.5%
West Virginia	35,366	3.5%	91,399	61.3%
Ohio	62,605	1.2%	330,464	81.1%
Indiana	14,453	<1%	114,114	87.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,581,829</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 09/29/2024				
State/Territory	Details	Effective Dates		Status
		Start	End	
Florida	<a href="#">State of Emergency for 61 counties</a>	9/23	11/22	Active
	<a href="#">Hours of Service Waiver</a>	9/23	11/22	Active
	<a href="#">Presidential Declaration of Emergency</a>	9/23	Until Rescinded	Active
Alabama	<a href="#">Presidential Declaration of Emergency</a>	9/22	Until Rescinded	Active
Georgia	<a href="#">State of Emergency</a>	9/24	10/2	Active
	<a href="#">Presidential Declaration of Emergency</a>	9/24	Until Rescinded	Active
South Carolina	<a href="#">State of Emergency</a>	9/25	10/10	Active
	<a href="#">Presidential Declaration of Emergency</a>	9/25	Until Rescinded	Active
North Carolina	<a href="#">State of Emergency</a>	9/25	10/25	Active
	<a href="#">Presidential Declaration of Emergency</a>	9/24	Until Rescinded	Active
	<a href="#">Major Disaster Declaration</a>	9/25	Until Rescinded	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
	<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