

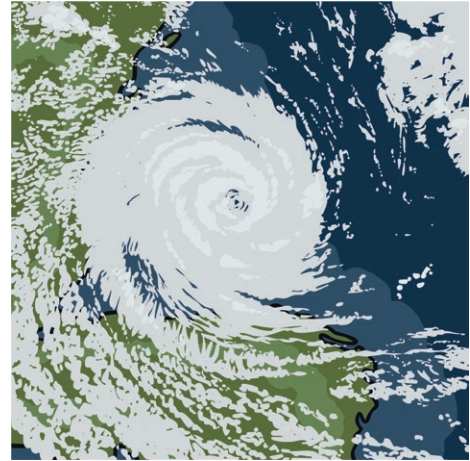
# Hurricane Harvey

Hurricane Harvey was a very destructive hurricane. It was the first major hurricane to hit US mainland since 2005. It was also the first major hurricane of the 2017 hurricane season. Hurricane Harvey was a tropical storm that rapidly grew. As it reached hurricane status, it hit Rockport, Texas, in August 2017.

Several things made Harvey particularly devastating. It reached Category 4 level wind speeds, causing wind damage as it moved.

It also caused massive flooding throughout southern Texas. Some areas had more than 40 inches of rainfall in just 4 days – that's taller than your classroom desk! Hurricane Harvey was the wettest hurricane in US history. The third thing that made Harvey so devastating was its path of travel. After hitting Rockport, it weakened, but stayed over the coast of Texas. This caused huge amounts of rain to fall. Harvey traveled back to the sea and gained strength. When it made landfall again, it caused damage in the state of Louisiana.

Harvey was one of the most damaging hurricanes ever recorded due to the flooding it caused. Tens of thousands of people had to flee their homes. The damage from Harvey is being compared to Hurricane Katrina, the most costly hurricane in US history. Even people who do not live near the cities directly hit by the hurricane are being affected. Many oil rigs are located off the coast of Texas. These rigs were damaged by the storm, which means people have to pay higher prices at the gas pump.



To help repair the damage from Hurricane Harvey, governments and organizations have promised millions of dollars to support the cities affected. Thirty-nine counties will receive support as people begin to rebuild their homes and lives. People all over the country have come together to support the families affected by this devastating hurricane.