

The seal of the State of Texas is a large, circular emblem on the left side of the slide. It features a five-pointed star in the center, surrounded by a wreath of olive and oak branches. The words "STATE OF TEXAS" are inscribed around the perimeter of the seal.

# **Public Health and Healthcare Response to Hurricane Harvey**

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**Presentation to Senate Committee on  
Finance**

**Dr. John Hellerstedt, Commissioner**

**October 24, 2017**



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**Texas Department of State  
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# DSHS Hurricane Harvey Efforts



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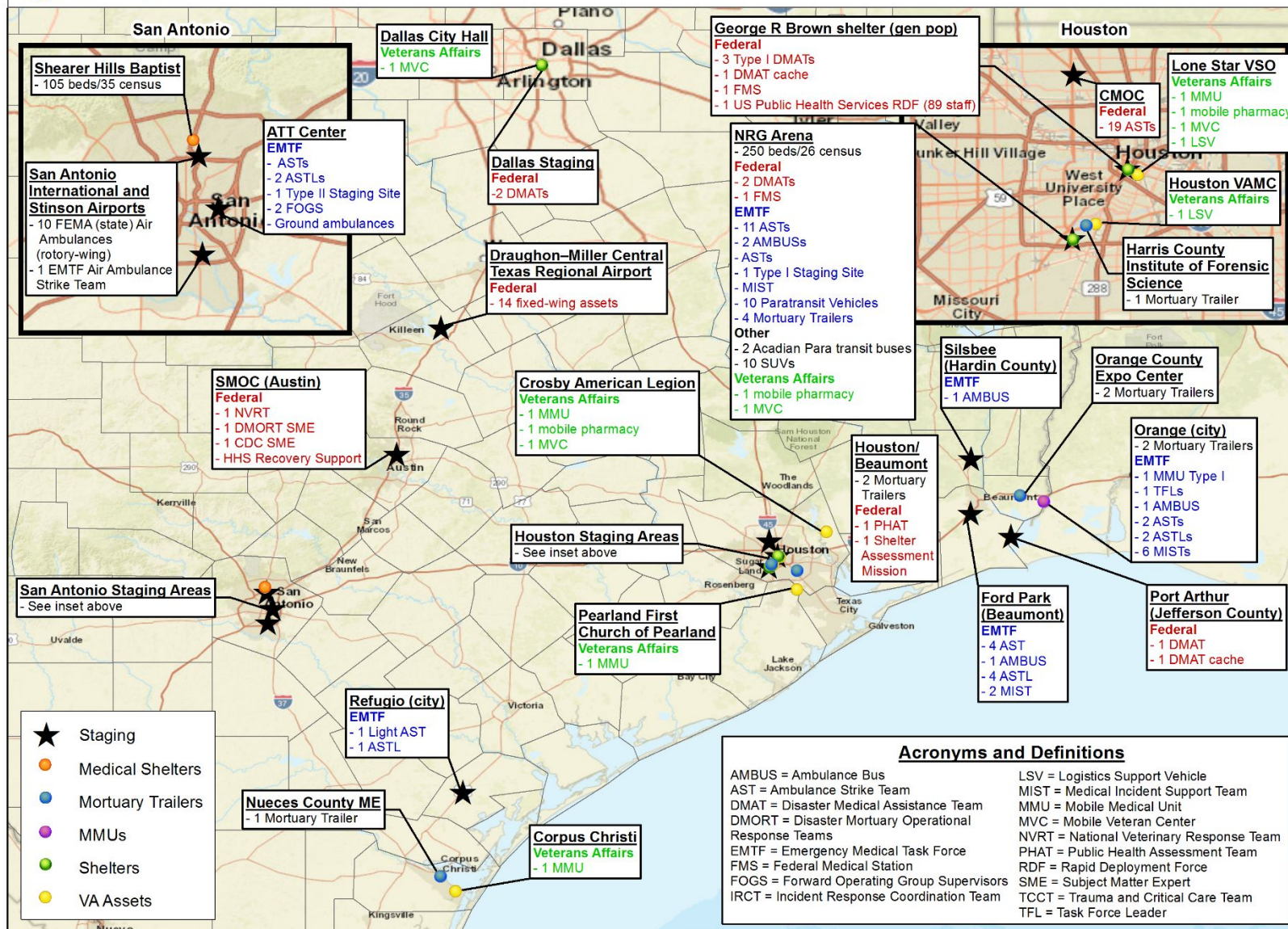
- DSHS efforts by the numbers:
  - **689** DSHS staff involved in response
  - **149** DSHS personnel staffed SMOC
  - **990** medical response missions
  - **3,200** medical patient evacuations
  - **1,800** patients treated by mobilized medical units
  - **142** patients transferred
  - **70,000** vaccines distributed
  - **6,765,971** acres treated for mosquito control
- Total DSHS as of September 20th: **\$41,218,005**







# Resource Locations





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# DSHS Hurricane Harvey Recovery Efforts

## DSHS is engaged in ongoing public health recovery efforts.

- **Food Safety:** The Texas Rapid Response Team (TRRT) has been activated to monitor and respond to any food-related incidents
- **Impact Assessment:** Working with locals to assess impact to public health and medical infrastructure, public health issues relating from the disaster, identify gaps, and provide support as appropriate
- **After Action:** Identifying lessons learned to produce a comprehensive statewide Public Health and Medical After Action Report and Improvement Plan
- **Asset Recovery:** Assessing resources expended during the emergency in order to replace and repair equipment in preparation for future responses
- **Reimbursement:** Working with entities involved in response to ensure documentation necessary for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement has been completed
- **Data and Statistics:** Analyzing death certificates, reviewing media reports, and contacting medical examiners and justices of the peace to identify hurricane-related deaths



# Hurricane Harvey Expenditures and Funding Sources

Hurricane Harvey Estimated Expenditures	
Personnel, Supplies, and Logistics	\$2,834,439
Contract - Emergency Medical Task Force/Regional Advisory Council Resources	\$12,254,754
Contract – Vector Control	\$11,716,090
Contract – BCFS Medical Shelter	\$7,560,000
Contract – FEMA Ambulances*	\$6,600,000
Contract – Mortuary Trailers	\$160,320
Contract – Oxygen	\$44,370
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$41,218,005</b>

Hurricane Harvey General Revenue Funding Sources	
Original Funding Identified – Health Data and Analysis, Immunizations, Laboratory, Mental Health State Hospitals (AY 17)	\$2,800,000
Base Capital Lapses (AY 17)	\$1,178,305
25% Capital Lapse (AY 17)	\$401,836
Unobligated GR (AY 17)	\$4,672,567
HHS Funding (AY 17)	\$7,448,970
Delay Paying HHS System Expenses (AY 18)	\$15,613,806
Public Health Revenue Accounts (AY 18)	\$12,604,199
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$44,719,683</b>

\* It is anticipated the \$6.6 M for FEMA ambulances will be paid directly by FEMA





# Funding for Public Health Response

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- There is no specific funding stream for response.
- DSHS uses various budget mechanisms to manage cash flow during a response.
  - Payments are due before potential federal reimbursement is received.
- FEMA reimbursement cannot always be expected, and the parameters of reimbursement are unpredictable.
  - 100 percent reimbursement is the exception to the rule.
  - Costs may fall outside the time period for reimbursement.



# Appendix

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- DSHS Responsibilities in Emergency Response
- Funding Public Health Preparedness
- Preparedness Efforts
- Response Efforts
- Recovery Efforts





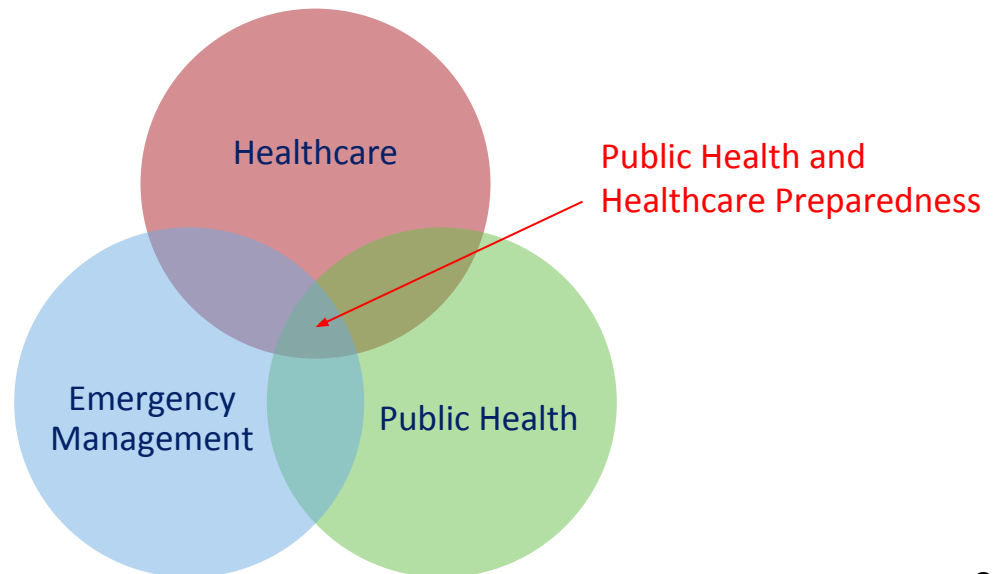
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# DSHS Responsibilities in Emergency Response

## DSHS responsibilities fall under the State of Texas Emergency Plan.

- Emergency Support Function 8: coordinating public health and medical response during emergencies
- Annex D: radiological emergencies





# DSHS Responsibilities in Emergency Response

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- While emergency response begins at the local level, DSHS plays a vital role when:
  - There is no local health department
  - The response exceeds local capacity
  - Large events involve multiple jurisdictions
  - Response involves areas with no local component
- DSHS operates the State Medical Operations Center (SMOC)
  - SMOC operates in coordination with the State Operations Center (SOC) operated by the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM).
- Personnel and resources from across DSHS are utilized to respond to an emergency.



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# Funding for Public Health Preparedness

**General Revenue funding is not specific to preparedness. Rather, it maintains the public health infrastructure necessary for response.**

State Funds by Strategy	FY 2018-19
A.1.1: Public Health Preparedness & Coordinated Services	\$28,607,815
A.2.3: Infectious Disease Epidemiology, Surveillance, and Control	\$22,772,131
A.4.1: Laboratory Services	\$83,449,761
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$134,829,707</b>



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# Funding for Public Health Preparedness

**A federal cooperative agreement funds two public health preparedness programs:**

- **Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)**
- **Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP)**

Preparedness Federal Funding Programs	FY 2018-19 Totals
Hospital Preparedness Program (528 – HPP)	\$32,353,268
Public Health Emergency Preparedness (531 – PHEP)	\$75,773,702
Public Health Preparedness Response Zika (775-PHPR) One-time	\$950,000
Hospital Preparedness Program Ebola Supplemental (752 – Part A) One-time	\$1,700,000
Hospital Preparedness Program Ebola Supplemental (761- Part B) One-time	\$500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$111,276,970</b>

# Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)

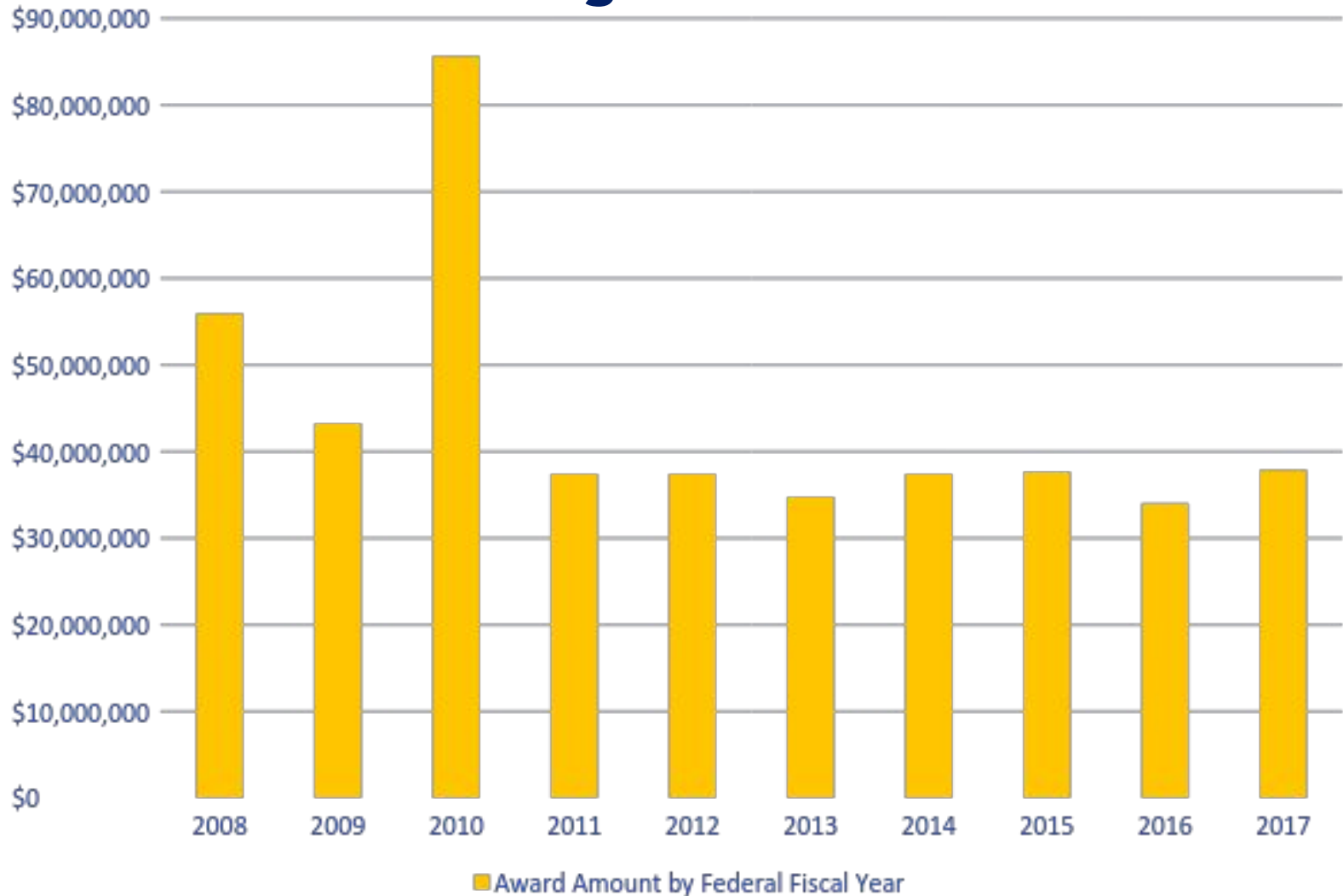
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- Administered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Focus is on community preparedness to prevent, respond to, and rapidly recover from all public health threats.
- Key components:
  - Epidemiology and surveillance
  - Lab Response Network (LRN) – biological and chemical
  - Rapid dispensing of medical countermeasures
  - Responder safety and health
- Funds support local health departments, health service regions, statewide projects, and DSHS central office.



# Public Health Emergency Preparedness Funding: 2008-2017



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# Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP)

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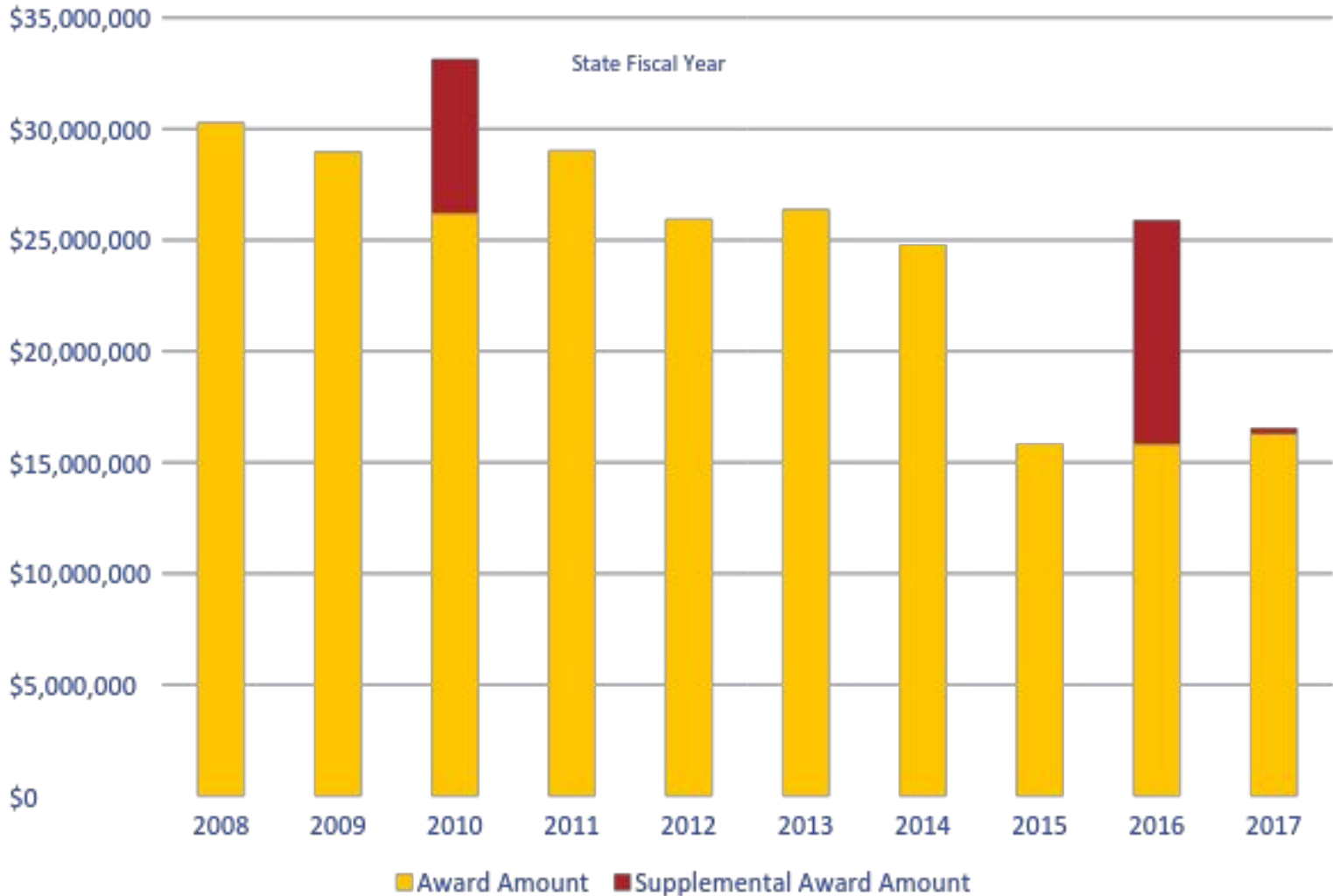
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- Administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR).
- HPP funds support equipment and trained personnel:
  - Ambulance bus (AMBUS) equipment
  - Mobile medical units
  - Ambulance strike teams
  - Physicians, nurses, and paramedics
- Funds used to support healthcare preparedness coalitions, statewide projects, and the DSHS central office.



# Hospital Preparedness Program Fiscal Years 2008-2017

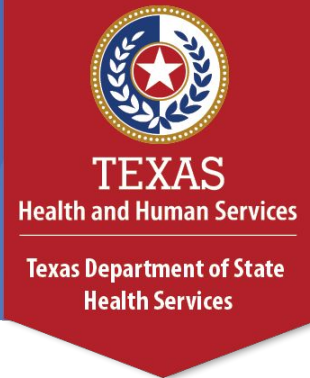


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# Preparedness – DSHS Hurricane Harvey Efforts

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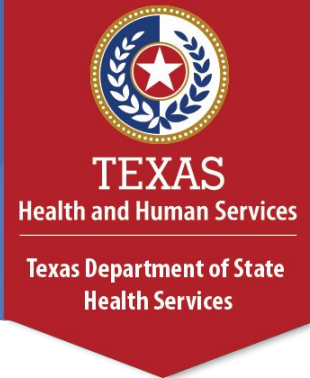


- Before each hurricane season, DSHS updates plans, procedures, and staff training to ensure readiness
  - Conducted 8 day, full-scale evacuation exercise in June 2017 in conjunction with Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)
- Raising public awareness about how to prepare for a disaster increases personal readiness
  - <http://www.texasprepares.org/>
- Mobilizing assets before the hurricane makes landfall is important to ensure resources are in place for response.



# Response – DSHS Hurricane Harvey Efforts

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- Deployed medical personnel to assist with medical evacuations and to support general population shelters:
  - 795 Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) personnel
  - 100 EMTF ambulances
  - 13 EMTF ambuses
  - 18 Disaster Medical Assistance Teams
  - 58 air ambulances
- 3 mobile medical units to treat, stabilize, and transport individuals
- 3 medical shelters for evacuees with medical needs

# Response – DSHS Hurricane Harvey Efforts

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- Requests from local entities for vaccine were processed
  - As of September 22nd, provided over 70,633 doses to the locals
- Sanitarians were deployed to impacted areas to help provide guidance on food safety
- Maintain situational awareness and provide assistance to healthcare facilities, as needed
- Support aerial and ground spraying to control mosquito populations



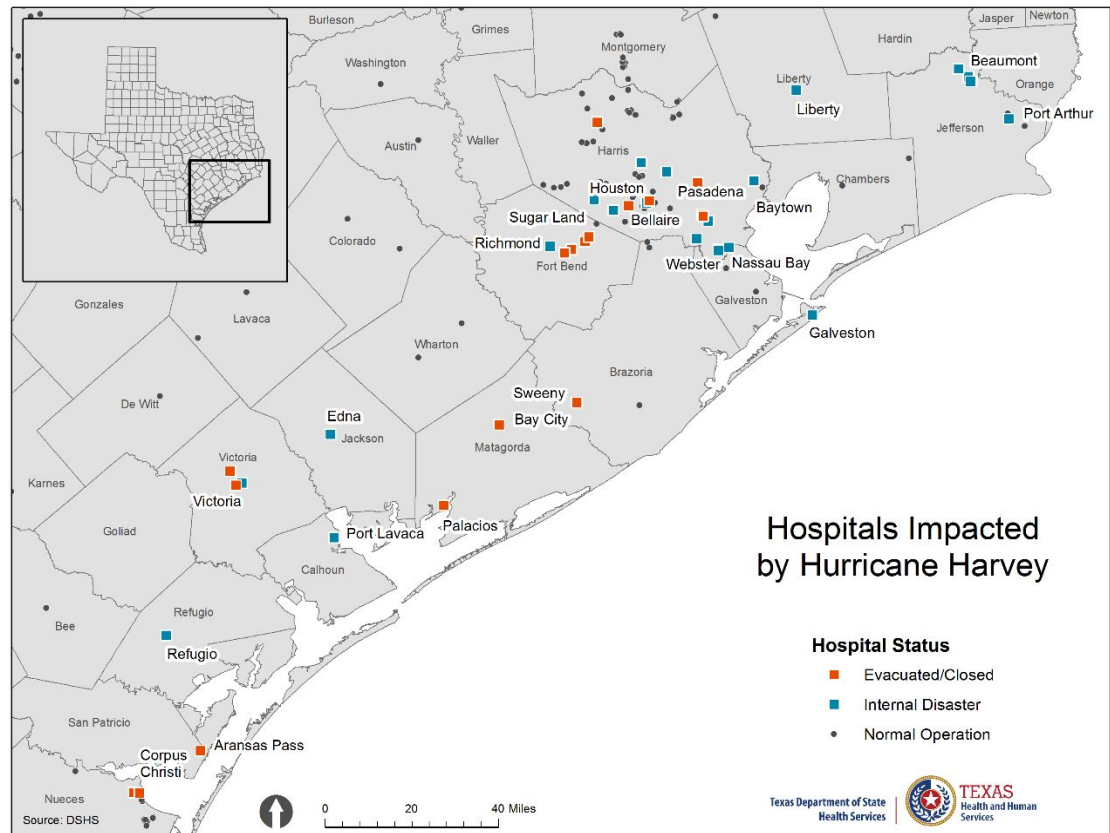
# Response – DSHS Hurricane Harvey Efforts



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- Evacuated/  
Closed: 20
- Internal  
Disaster: 25

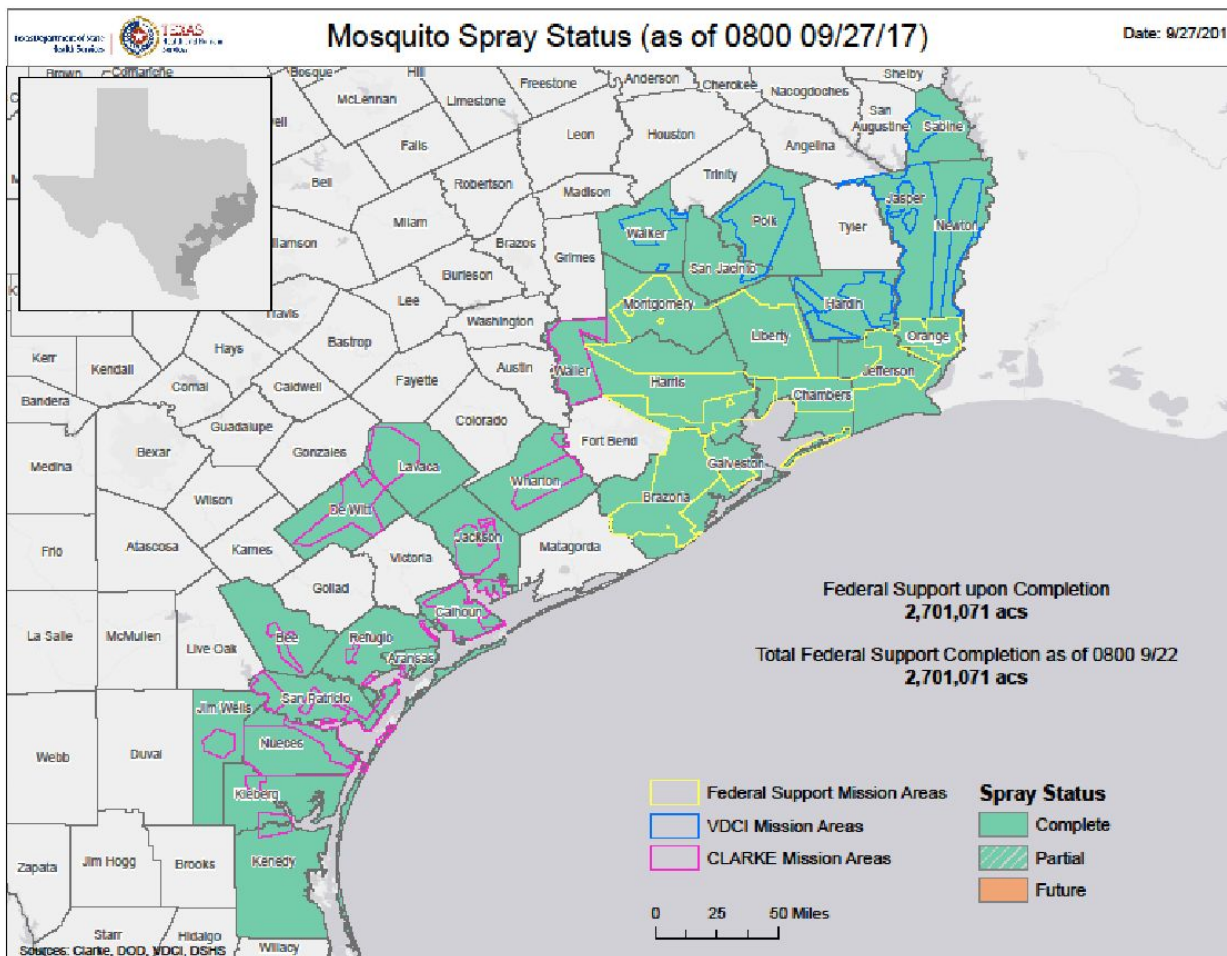


# Recovery – DSHS Hurricane Harvey Efforts



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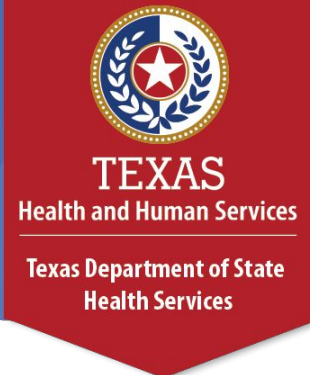
Counties sprayed:  
29

Approximate  
number of acres  
sprayed: 6,765,971



# Response – DSHS Hurricane Harvey Efforts

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- The Governor's office has granted several DSHS requests to waive certain rules and statutes to facilitate response and recovery:
  - Mold Remediation
  - Food Donation
  - Animal Shelters
  - Grace Periods for License Deadlines/Fees
  - Delayed Infection Reporting by Facilities
  - Asbestos
  - Vital Statistics Fees
  - Alternate Potable Water Sources
  - Verification of Immunizations for School Enrollment

# Recovery – DSHS Hurricane Harvey Efforts

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- Provide public health education and outreach for cleanup and recovery
- Collect and analyze hurricane-related health data to assess the public health impacts from the storm
  - Identify hurricane-related deaths
  - Modify the Texas Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System
  - Collaborate to analyze data on water, soil, and air quality
- Perform public health surveillance to monitor for infectious diseases
- Identifying and monitoring public health risks post-event



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# Thank you

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