

Overview of Draft Allocation Process – June 19, 2018
Houston-Galveston Area Council’s (H-GAC) Method of Distribution for Hurricane Harvey
Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds

The process for developing the draft allocation is as follows:

1. Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) used FEMA’s “Individual Assistance Housing Registrants Large Disasters-V1” for its Method of Distribution(MOD). It is the best data available at the lowest geographic-level (Census Block) to measure the damage caused by Hurricane Harvey in the H-GAC Region. The data is available for download at <https://www.fema.gov/openfema-dataset-individual-assistance-housing-registrants-large-disasters-v1>.
2. The FEMA data is then matched with the US Census TIGER geodatabase to get corresponding City and Zip Code information for the Census Blocks included in the FEMA dataset.
3. Data related to City of Houston and Harris County is excluded from the FEMA data as these jurisdictions will be receiving funds directly from HUD/GLO.
4. Categorizing damage levels based on Owner's Real Property Damage and Renter's Personal Property Damage reported by FEMA. A similar method was used by HUD in categorizing damages for CDBG allocation.

Minor Low: Owner Real Property Damage less than \$3,000 (or) Renter Personal Property Damage less than \$1,000

Minor High: Owner Real Property Damage between \$3,001 and \$7,999 (or) Renter Personal Property Damage between \$1,001 and \$1,999

Major Low: Owner Real Property Damage between \$8,000 and \$14,999 (or) Renter Personal Property Damage between \$2,000 and \$3,499

Major High: Owner Real Property Damage between \$15,000 and \$28,800 (or) Renter Personal Property Damage between \$3,500 and \$7,499

Severe: Owner Real Property Damage more than \$28,800 (or) Renter Personal Property Damage more than \$7,499

5. Assign weights to the damage levels

Minor Low: **0.5**
Minor High: **1**
Major Low: **2**
Major High: **4**
Severe: **5**

For example: 10 Minor Low damage claims are equal to 1 Severe claim

6. Multiply the weights with damage levels and sum it up to get Total Weighted Damage
7. Separate the data into two sets: 1. HUD Most Impacted Areas, and 2. Non-HUD Areas (Remaining Impacted Regions Identified by FEMA)
8. For each set of data calculate Share of Total Weighted Damage by Jurisdiction
9. Multiply the share of Total Weighted Damage with GLO allocated Buyouts amount for HUD and Non-HUD portion and sum it up by jurisdiction. Repeat the same process for Infrastructure Funds.
10. If a Jurisdiction is allocated less than \$1,000,000 for Buyouts and less than \$100,000 for Infrastructure then those funds are rolled up to respective County.
11. Finally, sum up the tables by jurisdiction to get final allocated amount. This will include two tables for Buyout (HUD, Non-HUD) and two tables for Infrastructure (HUD, Non-HUD).

Reallocation Methodology

H-GAC proposes reallocating funds that cannot be spent by a county to other jurisdictions, prioritized by the percentage of units claiming damage within their identified damaged area. There must be a minimum of 5,000 total units in the damaged area for a jurisdiction to be included in this reallocation ranking. The 5,000-unit threshold was established to ensure that reallocated funds will benefit communities with the greatest concentration of damages.