

## Communications Status Report for Areas Impacted by Tropical Storm Marco & Hurricane Laura September 5, 2020

The following is a report on the status of communications services in geographic areas impacted by Tropical Storm Marco and Hurricane Laura as of September 5, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. EDT. This report incorporates network outage data submitted by communications providers to the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC) Disaster Information Reporting System (DIRS). Note that the operational status of communications services during a disaster may evolve rapidly, and this report represents a snapshot in time.

The following counties are in the current geographic area that is part of DIRS (the “disaster area”).

**Louisiana:** Beaufort, Calcasieu, Cameron, Sabine, Vernon





### 911 Services

The Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau (PSHSB) learns the status of each Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) through the filings of 911 Service Providers in DIRS, reporting to the FCC’s Public Safety Support Center, coordination with state 911 Administrators and, if necessary, direct contact with individual PSAPs.

- **Louisiana:** Cameron Parish Sheriff’s Office has rerouted 911 calls to another PSAP with location information.

### Wireless Services

The following section describes the status of wireless communications services and restoration in the disaster area, including the percentage of cell sites out of service for each county.

## Percent Cell Sites Out-of-Service By County

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The following table provides cell sites out of service by county. There are 25.5% of the cell sites out of service in the affected area. The information shown was provided by the signatories to the Wireless Network Resiliency Framework Cooperative Agreement.

### Louisiana

State	Affected Counties	Cell Sites Served	Cell Sites Out	Percent Out	Cell Sites Out Due to Damage	Cell Sites Out Due to Transport <sup>1</sup>	Cell Sites Out Due to Power
LA	BEAUREGARD	58	8	13.8%	1	3	4
LA	CALCASIEU	185	68	36.8%	6	42	18
LA	CAMERON	29	11	37.9%	4	5	2
LA	SABINE	39	5	12.8%	0	1	4
LA	VERNON	100	13	13.0%	0	5	8
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>411</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>25.5%</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>36</b>

The number of cell site outages in a specific area does not necessarily correspond to the availability of wireless service to consumers in that area. See Improving the Resiliency of Mobile Wireless Communications Networks, Order, 31 FCC Rcd 13745, para. 10 (2016) (recognizing the difficulties in accurately depicting the ongoing status of a wireless provider’s service during emergencies). Wireless networks are often designed with numerous, overlapping cell sites that provide maximum capacity and continuity of service even when an individual site is inoperable. In addition, wireless providers frequently use temporary facilities such as cells-on-wheels (also known as COWs), increased power at operational sites, roaming agreements, or take other actions to maintain service to affected consumers during emergencies or other events that result in cell site outages.

### Cable Systems and Wireline (Combined)

Cable and wireline companies reported 76,282 subscribers out of service in the affected areas; this may include the loss of telephone, television, and/or Internet services.

#### Broadcast:

- No TV station reported being out of service.
- 6 FM radio stations reported being out of service (K246CK, K272EI, KLXN, KQLK, KRLR, W252AQ)
- 2 AM radio stations reported being out of service (KEZM, KXZZ).

<sup>1</sup> These are cell sites that are out due to issues with the (typically wireline) networks that route communications traffic to and from the cell sites.