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Resilience Report

Brief insights and the latest innovations in emergency management and health security.

The Aftermath of Hurricanes Helene and Milton



The [highly active hurricane season](#) predicted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) back in May materialized in late September and early October, with Hurricane Helene occurring from Tuesday, September 24th to Sunday, September 29th and Hurricane Milton making landfall on October 9th. Nearly [300 deaths](#) have been attributed to Helene, Milton, or one of the other 11 named storms this season, with Helene tragically ending at least 228 lives (at time of writing). With about six (6) weeks left in the hurricane season, [another storm system](#) in the Atlantic could strengthen to a tropical depression in the Caribbean later this week and other storms could continue to emerge.

Response and recovery to Helene and Milton has been heavily impacted by both praise and criticism. While the *Resilience Report* will not dive deeply into this dialogue, we provide the following information or resources:

- FEMA has established a [Hurricane Rumor Response](#) page in which the agency addresses common rumors surrounding funding, debris removal, threat information, etc. and provides links to additional information (when appropriate).
- Disaster survivors in certain areas of GA, FL, NC, SC, TN, and VA are now eligible to apply for federal assistance through FEMA by visiting [disasterassistance.org](#),

downloading the [FEMA app](#), visiting a [Disaster Recovery Center](#), and/or calling the FEMA helpline at 1-800-621-3362.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Becerra authored [a letter to health care leaders and stakeholders](#) addressing supply chain disruption, specifically that as a result of the Baxter facility in Marion, NC that provides IV solutions, irrigation fluids, and peritoneal solutions to the U.S. medical system.
- [NASA](#) shared information through its Disaster Response Coordination System to collaborate directly with FEMA and other partners to provide Earth observation maps and data products related to the hurricanes.
- An article from [Wired](#) discusses how a hurricane's category does not show the full characterization of its impacts. Helene, for example, made landfall in Florida as a Category 4 but later unleashed historic amounts of rain across NC, SC, and GA, causing devastating flooding. The Saffir-Simpson scale brings shortcomings by being based solely on wind speed, and not accounting rainfall, storm surge, flooding, and other factors that need to be understood by the public.

Upcoming Conferences

CONSTANT continues our attendance at upcoming industry conferences into the fall! Learn more below about where CONSTANT team members will be later this year. Please contact us at info@constantassociates.com should you be interested in meeting with one of our team members while attending these events.

IAEM Conference

International Association of Emergency Managers Conference

Emergency Management Ascending

Mona Bontty, Kim Hayward Buys, and
Ali Leis are attending the IAEM
Conference on behalf of CONSTANT.

Visit us at booth #910 on Monday,
Tuesday, and Wednesday. We look
forward to seeing you there!

November 16-18
Colorado Springs, CO



CONSTANT is excited to announce that we will be exhibiting during the [IAEM Annual Conference & EMEX](#) (booth #910). Team members Mona Bontty, Kim Hayward Buys, and Ali Leis will be representing CONSTANT. Learn more about CONSTANT's attendance at the IAEM Conference [here](#). We'll see you in Colorado Springs in November!

Professional Services Council Vision 2024

Jeff Philippart, CONSTANT's Business Development Director, will be at the [Professional Services Council \(PSC\)](#) Vision 2024 Federal Market Forecast Conference beginning November 19th. CONSTANT looks forward to joining industry and government leaders at the event in Washington D.C.

National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference

Ali Leis, CONSTANT's Health Security and Healthcare Preparedness Portfolio Manager, will be attending the [National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference](#)! Should you be attending the event in Orlando in early December, contact us to connect with Ali. We look forward to connecting with our healthcare and public health colleagues.

In the News



Participating in International ShakeOut Day

Today marks International ShakeOut Day, where over 50M people around the world will participate in an earthquake drill. The drill occurs at 10:17am local time. You can register for the drill and/or learn more information, including who is participating, why to participate, or resources to share year long at the link below. CONSTANT encourages those who reside or visit areas prone to earthquakes to participate and prepare to react quickly and protect themselves from flying debris should an earthquake strike.

[Read More](#)



CISA Recognizes Cybersecurity Awareness Month

October marks Cybersecurity Awareness Month, and this year's recognition is the 21st time that the month has been celebrated. CISA focuses on ways to "Secure Our World" during this month of recognition, challenging individuals to use strong passwords, turn on multifactor authentication, report phishing, and update software. Visit the link below to access the Cybersecurity Awareness Month 2024 Toolkit (available in English and Spanish), CISA's live events and webinars, and other resources and messaging.

[Read More](#)



The Latest in Public Health and Healthcare

Last week, the CDC announced a third human case of H5 bird flu in [California](#). The individual reported occupational exposure to infected dairy cows, suggesting animal-to-human spread. The CDC's risk assessment for the general public continues to be low. The CDC also published a Respiratory Illness Data Channel. The channel allows you to access a community snapshot of respiratory illness activity, including COVID-19, RSV, and seasonal influenza, as well as to gauge overall respiratory illness activity across the U.S.

[Read More](#)

The Fun Stuff

OCTOBER IS
**BREAST
CANCER**
AWARENESS MONTH



October: Home to Multiple Awareness Months

October marks recognition of [Breast Cancer Awareness Month](#), [Domestic Violence Awareness Month](#), [National Disability Employment Awareness Month](#), and more. Join CONSTANT in observing these important recognitions. We also proudly celebrate [National Women's Small Business Month](#)!

NFL 2024: Week 7 Schedule

We enter [week 7 of the NFL schedule](#)! Catch tonight's game between the Broncos and the Saints. Key games for week 7 include the Chiefs vs. the 49ers, the Lions vs. the Vikings, and the Texans vs. the Packers. In between Thursday and Sunday, catch [NCAA football](#) action, including No. 1 Texas vs. No. 5 Georgia.



We're Here to Support You

If you need help with disaster preparedness, infectious disease planning, or anything in between, send us an email at staff@constantassociates.com. We are here to help.

CONSTANT is certified as an 8(a) and Economically Disadvantaged Woman Owned Business (EDWOSB) and as a Great Place To Work. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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