

Unrelenting heat dangerous for those still without power after Houston storms: May 20, 2024

Temperatures could exceed 100 degrees for multiple days causing extremely uncomfortable conditions for those without access to air conditioning while the power is out.

AccuWeather meteorologists say the heat and humidity are reaching dangerous levels amid widespread power outages in Houston following a round of intense thunderstorms on May 16 in a portion of Texas and Louisiana, [Houston](#) was hit especially hard by the storms, which packed hurricane-force winds as high as 100 mph when they roared through on Thursday evening.

After more than a million customers were initially without power, [poweroutage.us](#) reports that 225,000 customers were without power in Texas as of Monday morning, primarily in southeastern Texas. CenterPoint Energy said they're on track for substantial completion of power restoration by the end of the day Wednesday, according to [KHOU 11](#). "Residents across Harris and surrounding counties need to be prepared to be without power for days not hours," posted Jeff Linder, a meteorologist for Harris County, [on X](#). "Mutual aid resources are en route from various areas, but restoration will take time."

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo [told reporter Adam Zuvanich](#) of Houston Public Media that power could be out in some areas for a "couple weeks" as CenterPoint Energy works to repair downed transmission towers in the Cypress, Texas, area.

Widespread power outages in Texas come at 'the worst possible time'

While mainly dry weather is ahead for the Houston area, according to AccuWeather meteorologists, building heat is a big concern.

"This will be the first extended stretch of widespread 90-degree or higher heat this year," said AccuWeather Senior Meteorologist Bob Larson. "For those without power and thus air conditioning or electric fans, this comes at the worst possible time."

An area of high pressure, or "heat dome," is expected to strengthen across Texas and Louisiana, leading to temperatures that will run several degrees above historical averages. In Houston, temperatures will be more typical of the mid-June through early-September period—the hottest time of the year—rather than May.

The temperature, along with the expected bright sunshine and high humidity, will complicate the cleanup and make the heat dangerous.

"[AccuWeather RealFeel® Temperatures](#) will be around and even over 100 degrees for several afternoons in a row into the new week," added Larson.

The veil of night will offer little relief, as temperatures will also remain above average then.

"Not only will the days be hot, but the nights will also be uncomfortable," said Larson. "Low temperatures will barely be into the 70s, along with continued high humidity."

Residents and workers can do several things to protect themselves from the heat, especially at a time when there will be fewer air-conditioned options. These include staying well hydrated, spending time in well-ventilated and shaded areas, and checking on those especially susceptible to [heat-related illnesses](#), such as the elderly and those with chronic medical conditions.

Looking toward the latter portion of the new week and into the [extended Memorial Day holiday weekend](#), there looks to be little relief from the heat in the cards. AccuWeather's Long Range forecasting team continues to expect dry and hot conditions across the Lone Star State and the rest of the South.

Source: <https://www.accuweather.com/en/severe-weather/unrelenting-heat-dangerous-for-those-still-without-power-after-houston-storms/1651357>

Contact us anytime for confidential assistance.

To Get Help

Texas

- United Way 2-1-1: Dial 2-1-1 or visit: <http://www.211texas.org/>
- American Red Cross: 512.928.4271 or visit: <http://www.redcross.org/local/texas/central-and-south-texas>
- Texas Division of Emergency Management: 512.424.2208 or visit: <https://tdem.texas.gov/>

Road Conditions

Texas Department of Transportation

- <https://www.txdot.gov/>

Power Outage

Texas

- Center Point Energy: 800.752.8036: <https://www.centerpointenergy.com/en-us/residential?sa=ho>
- Texas New Mexico Power: 888.866.7456: <https://www.tnmp.com/customers/power-outages-hazards>

Airport Closures

Passengers are urged to not come to the local airport unless your flight has been confirmed. If your flight was canceled, please call your airline's customer service telephone number or rebook through your airline's website.

Flight delay information: <http://www.flightstats.com/go/Home/home.do>

Crisis Portal

www.guidanceresources.com/crisis

The GuidanceResources(r) Online crisis portal offers immediate, direct access to online tools and information.

- * No login or registration required
- * Access the site's most relevant and popular articles on disaster, grief, trauma and other relevant topics

Contact the Employee Assistance Program at 1-833-812-5181

Contact us anytime for confidential assistance.