# Recovery Assistance Trends and Lessons from Hurricanes Ike and Harvey





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## INTRODUCTION

Using SBA Loan data from recent hurricanes in Galveston County, TX we want to know:

- 1. How consistent is the SBA Loan Program across events?
- 2. What should households. businesses, and nonprofits expect in terms of availability, amount and timing of assistance?

### **BACKGROUND**

### **Hurricane Ike:**

Made landfall on Saturday September 13, 2008.

The areas hit hardest in Galveston County included Dickinson, Kemah, League City, and Clear Lake Shores.

Out of 106,617 households in Galveston County, 19,574 were damaged as a result of this storm.

Out of 26,410 businesses in Galveston County, more than 18,000 were damaged as a result of this storm.

### **Hurricane Harvey:**

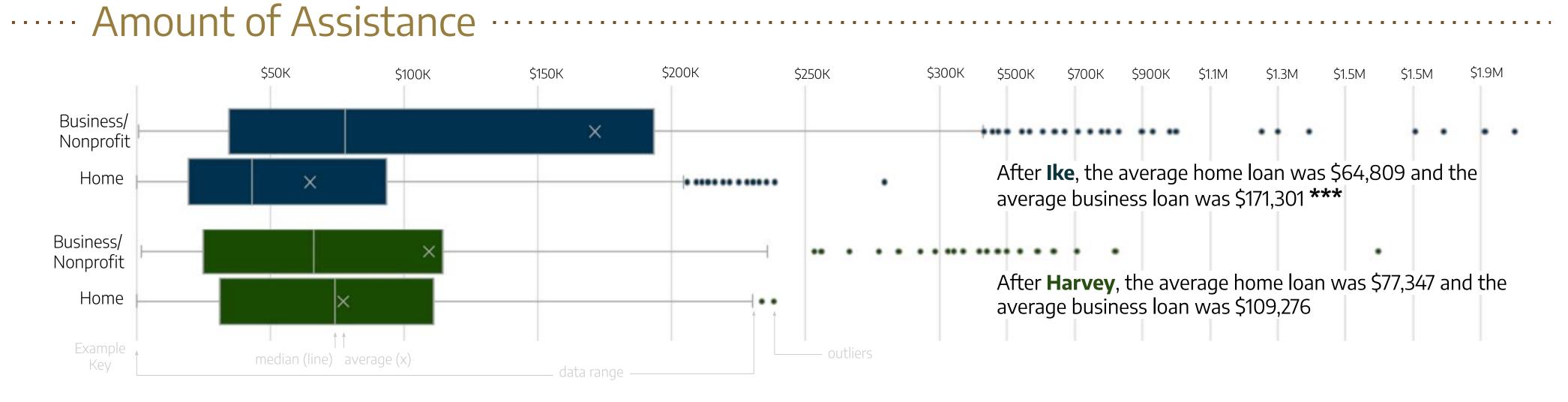
Make landfall on Friday August 25, 2017.

The areas hit hardest in Galveston County included Dickinson, League City, and Friendswood.

Out of 121,423 households in Galveston County, 20,235 were damaged as a result of this storm.

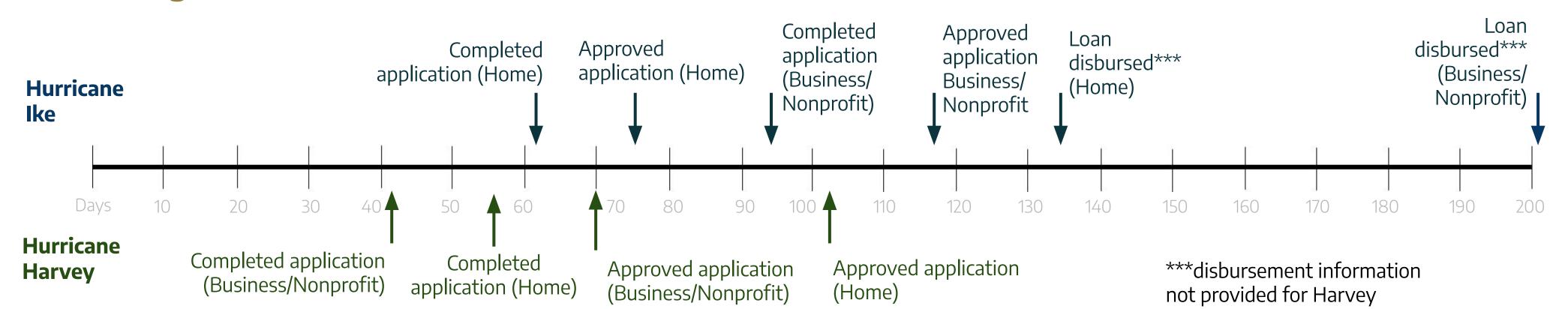
Out of 31,504 businesses in Galveston County, the number of damaged businesses is unavailable.

# HURRICANE IKE Home loans # of loans approved: 2,424 # of loan declined: 6,288 Business/Nonprofit loans # of loans approved: 521 (business), 43 (nonprofit) # of loans declined: 1,042 (business), 19 (nonprofit) # of loans declined: 312 (business), 13 (nonprofit) # of loans declined: 312 (business), 31 (nonprofit) # of loans declined: 312 (business)



\*\*\* After Ike, only **56%** of homes and **59%** of businesses actually <u>had money disbursed to them</u>, despite being approved for the loan. The actual <u>disbursed amount</u> was **79%** of the approval amount for homes and **91%** of the approval amount for businesses. (Disbursement information was not provided after Hurricane Harvey)

# ·····Timing of Assistance



### **CONCLUSIONS**

1. How consistent is the SBA Loan Program across events?

The number of SBA loan applications was greater for Hurricane Ike. However, Hurricane Harvey had a greater average loan amount for homes while Hurricane Ike had a greater average loan amount for businesses.

While most of the loan approvals for Hurricane Ike were focused on the island part of the county, Hurricane Harvey loan approvals were focused on the mainland part of the county.

Lastly, during Hurricane Ike the turn-around time for approved applications was considerably faster despite a higher volume of applications.

2. What should households. businesses, and nonprofits expect in terms of availability, amount and timing of assistance?

A limitation that we found is that because we only looked at one type of loan for businesses and homeowners, our data might not show the full picture for what disaster assistance looked like on average for every single business and homeowner.

Also, the date to approval does not necessarily affect how soon funds were disbursed to those that got approved for a loan.



NIST or the U.S Department of Commerce.

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