

# October 29th, 2012

Superstorm Sandy ravaged the East Coast causing **71 billion dollars** in damage and **72 deaths**.



# The New York Times

## After the Devastation, a Daunting Recovery

By James Barron Oct. 30 2012

**“The toll - in lives disrupted or lost and communities washed out - was staggering.”**



325, 000 housing units  
suffered some  
form of damage after Sandy.



Approximately 10,000  
renters also lost their  
homes.

<http://www.njspotlight.com/stories/15/11/17/how-many-new-jersey-homes-were-seriously-damaged-by-superstorm-sandy/>



40,500 of primary  
homeowners had homes  
that were severely or  
substantially damaged.





We filed flood insurance claims with the National Flood Insurance Program if we had flood insurance and expected the best.



# Who received money from the NFIP?

Some people received adequate payment from their insurance companies.



Some people received partial payment from their insurance companies.



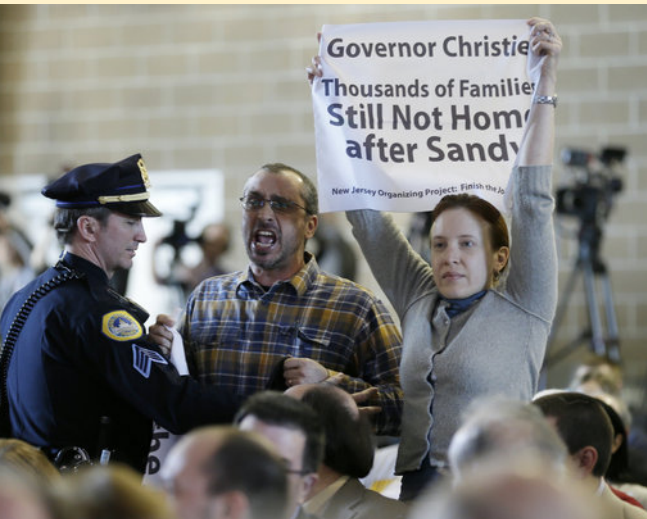
While others received next to nothing from their insurance companies.





## Then came RREM, the 1.1 Billion Dollar HUD funded program run by the state of New Jersey.

- Nearly **15,000** families applied.
- There are just over **8,000** in the program today including both RREM and the Low and Moderate Income Version of RREM.
- As of Saturday, only 4,361 of those families have completed their construction and elevation projects.



By Russ Zimmer Feb. 13, 2015

“More than 300  
Sandy-affected  
homes in Monmouth  
and Ocean counties  
slipped into  
foreclosure during  
the first 10 months of  
2014.”





# Sandy victims need help to get banks off their backs | Di Ionna

By Mark Di Ionna Sept. 26, 2015

“But many of the people - not all, but many - who remain out of their homes were the most economically vulnerable,” Schaer said. “They are single mothers, the elderly, and families struggling to make ends meet before the storm.”



By ELAINE QUIJANO / CBS NEWS / June 2, 2015, 6:56 PM

# The horror stories of New Jersey's Sandy relief program

“When we met Rob Buck at his former home he showed us the damage caused by his contractor’s neglect - a contractor assigned to him under a state-run Sandy recovery program. Buck’s ceiling has started to bow, there’s 2 feet of water in the basement, black mold has crept up the walls, and the house - which is now uninhabitable - has started to sink”

“A CBS News review of the 32 state approved RREM builders found: nearly half are from outside NJ, mainly Texas and Louisiana; several faced lawsuits, bankruptcy or consumer complaints claiming shoddy work; and one builder allegedly left the program last summer but was still signing agreements months later.”

Thousands of families still not home after Sandy





- We won the creation of a Rental Assistance Program, and then led a coalition of communities and elected officials to extend rental assistance for families still out of their homes. That resulted in an additional investment of approximately \$15 million in our families and communities, and a lifeline to help many hold on until they're home
- Passed the Efficiency and Transparency in Sandy Recovery Spending Act with Senate President Sweeney.
- Passed a bill to prevent foreclosures on Sandy impacted families which was conditionally vetoed by Governor Christie.

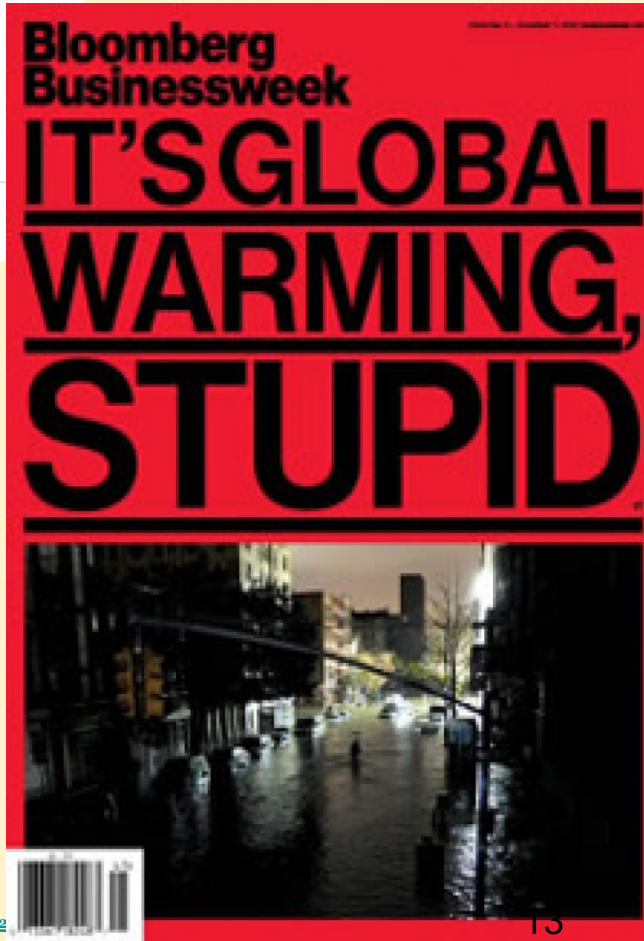
Local

# Climate change did not cause Superstorm Sandy, but probably intensified its effects

By Jason Samenow November 15, 2012 

“Off the coast where Sandy struck..., October surface ocean temperatures have warmed by two degrees over the last hundred years,” Hayhoe says. “So when any given hurricane comes along, on average there’s warmer water than there would have been otherwise,” she notes. “Which gives it more energy, and gives it more strength.”

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/capital-weather-gang/post/the-whole-truth-about-superstorm-sandy-and-climate-change/2012/11/15/d3b7ceea-2>



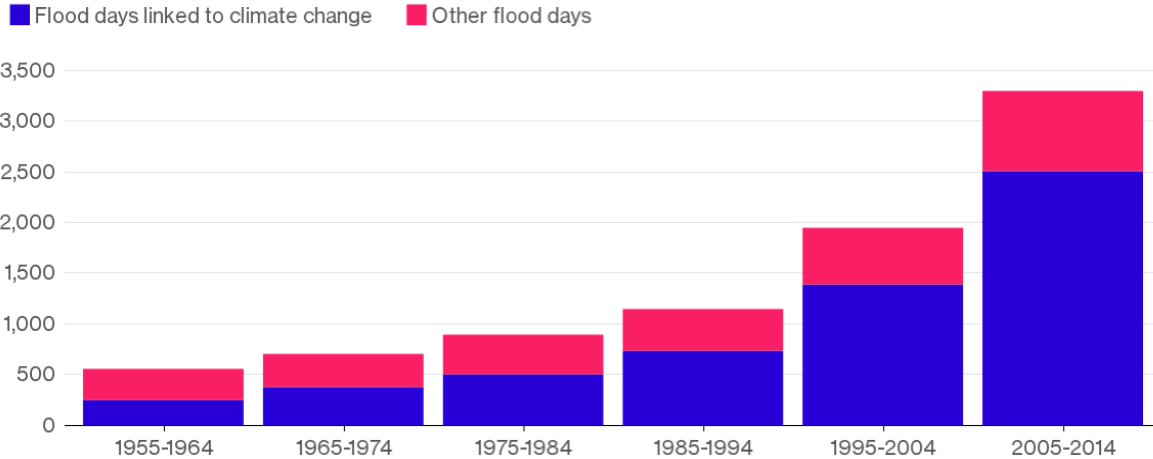
# But things are changing...

App.com by Andrew Ford  
Feb. 22, 2016

Sea-level  
Rise  
Fastest in  
3,000  
Years:  
Study

## Climate Change Worsens U.S. Coastal Flooding

Since the mid-20th century, sea-level rise has brought increased flooding to coastal U.S. cities. Researchers can now estimate how many of those flood days are attributable to human activity.



"Unnatural Coastal Floods" report, Climate Central

Bloomberg

Bloomberg by Eric  
Roston Feb. 22, 2016

Most  
U.S.  
Flooding  
Linked to  
Climate  
Change

E. BARRETT PRETTYMAN  
UNITED STATES COURT HOUSE

# NJOP in DC in support of Clean Power Plan and NODAPL



Bob Gordon and Loretta Weinberg 5:17 p.m. EST February 22, 2016

“The most disconcerting part of the hearing was heart-wrenching testimony by Monmouth and Ocean County Sandy survivors who rightfully questioned why NJ did not apply for any funding for projects to protect homeowners in the Jersey Shore countries that sustained the lion’s share of Sandy damage.”

“Questions also were raised about whether NJ’s reluctance to embrace climate change gave HUD “political reasons” to deny our application. While NY State has developed a comprehensive mitigation and adaptation plan is mapping for climate change and sea-level rising, and is increasing its green building and energy efficiency standards, NJ is the only state bordering either the Atlantic or Pacific Ocean that does not have a plan to deal with climate change and sea-level rise.”





# THE SANDY TRUTH PROJECT

## TAKE OUR SURVEY NOW

We have launched the Sandy Truth Project to learn how the recovery is going for you and your community so we can show the struggles communities are having and take action for solutions. Your participation is appreciated and your privacy will be respected. We'll use this information to share an overall picture of the recovery but we will not share your personal story or information. All the questions except a few in the beginning are optional so feel free not to answer.

NJOP, Volunteer Lawyers for Justice, Rutgers University researchers and Stockton University's Office of Service-Learning are collaborating on developing the survey and training community members to conduct





- Full and Fair Sandy Recovery for All
- The Seas are Rising and so are we
- Economic Security and Dignity for All