

## California Wildfires

February 12, 2025

### Key figures

- 359 wildfires
- 29 fatalities
- 57,660 acres burned
- 16,248 structures destroyed

### Situation Overview

Communities across Southern California are recovering from the most severe and devastating wildfires in more than forty years, with flames sweeping through approximately 57,000 acres in the greater Los Angeles area. The fires caused widespread destruction and displacement, and it will take years to rebuild what has been destroyed.

### Humanitarian Situation

The wildfires have destroyed entire communities in and around Los Angeles. Approximately 34,000 individuals are still under evacuation orders, many of whom have lost their homes. The scale of impact on businesses and livelihoods is still taking shape, but initial estimates suggest a loss of 15,000 to 20,000 jobs in January as a result of these fires. More than 16,000 structures have been destroyed including homes, schools and places of worship. Power outages have also affected over 4 million customers across Southern California in Los Angeles, Ventura, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside and San Diego Counties. These outages have led to school closures, the loss of refrigerated and frozen food and interruptions to other services. In response to this emergency, California has secured both a federal disaster declaration and a Fire Management Assistance Grant from FEMA to provide aid for local governments and individuals directly affected.

### Needs and Gaps

People affected by the wildfires are most in need of shelter, food, clean drinking water, household items, clothing, and mental health support.

### Lutheran World Relief Response Efforts

Lutheran World Relief is working with partners to provide critical assistance to affected households. With generous support from our donors, we are providing food, bottled water, clean up kits, blankets, clothing, gift cards for essential needs, as well as trauma counseling to approximately 2,300 individuals who have been directly affected by these devastating wildfires.

**In the News:** [Lutheran World Relief's Quilt and Kits operation help victims of LA wildfires - CBS Minnesota](#)

### For more information please contact:

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