
Nova Scotia Energy Board

IN THE MATTER OF *The Public Utilities Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.380, as amended

2025 Storm Restoration Cost Report

NS Power

April 1, 2026

NON-CONFIDENTIAL

NS Power 2025 Storm Restoration Costs
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

In its 2023-2024 General Rate Application (GRA) Decision, the Nova Scotia Energy Board (NSEB, Board) directed Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NS Power, the Company) to report annually on its actual storm restoration costs:

[T]he Board directs NS Power to submit annual reports summarizing actual storm restoration costs for each year of the trial period. This reporting is to include a summary of actual Level 1, 2, 3 and 4 storm restoration costs. It shall indicate the monetary amount of any Level 1/2 and Level 3/4 cost underruns or overruns from base rate allowances. These annual reports shall be submitted by April 1 of each year in 2024, 2025 and 2026.¹

As noted by the NSUARB at paragraph 316 of the GRA Decision, NS Power classifies its storms as follows:

- Level 1 – Regional Service Restoration Response: less than 50,000 customers affected, and restoration expected to be completed within 12 hours.
- Level 2 – Multi-Region Service Restoration Response: less than 50,000 customers affected, and restoration expected to be completed within 36 hours, or more than 50,000 customers affected but restoration expected to be completed within 24 hours.
- Level 3 – Provincial Service Restoration Response: less than 50,000 customers affected, and restoration expected to require more than 36 hours, or more than 50,000 customers affected but restoration expected to be completed within 72 hours.
- Level 4 – Corporate Service Restoration Response: more than 50,000 customers affected, and restoration expected to require more than 72 hours.

For clarification, the levels set out in NS Power's Emergency Services Restoration Plan (ESRP) and outlined above are based on the estimated customer impacts and restoration duration prior to the event occurring and are not based on the actual storm impacts experienced.

¹ M10431, NS Power 2023-2024 General Rate Application, NSUARB Decision, Key Document 88655, February 2, 2023, at para. 332, p. 128-129.

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1 NS Power infers from the Board's GRA Decision that the storm cost reporting should include
2 both capital and operating (OM&G) costs.
3

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2.0 2025 LEVEL 3 AND LEVEL 4 STORM EVENTS

In 2025, NS Power experienced two Level 3 storms and no Level 4 storms. NS Power is required to report on weather-related outages impacting 30,000 or more customers. One of the two Level 3 storms required such reporting, and was provided to the NSEB. **Figure 1** lists the outage report filed in 2025 for the Level 3 storm. The outage reporting to the NSEB uses a standard template that was approved by the NSEB and NS Power has provided the outage reports as an attachment to this report.

Figure 1 – 2025 Outage Event Reports for Level 3 and Level 4 Storms

Date	Event	Attachment
December 19 - 20, 2025	Snow Event	1

An outage report was not compiled for the Level 3 Winter Storm EOC event on December 5, 2025 as the storm did not meet the reporting threshold. Outage prediction models based on weather forecasts from multiple weather providers indicated up to 28,000 customers could be impacted by the storm using NS Power's Damage Prediction Model. Additionally, cold temperatures were forecasted and difficult travel and restoration conditions were expected due to snow accumulation. Therefore, NS Power planned for a Level 3 EOC event based on the expectation for restoration delays longer than 36 hours. All the storm preparation work for the December 5 Winter Storm was the same for NS Power regardless of actual impact to the province. The securing of resources (both internal and external), opening of the EOC, and the booking of accommodations and meals had to be done in advance of the storm impacting the province.

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3.0 2025 STORM COSTS

A summary of NS Power's storm restoration costs for the different storm levels and the capital and OM&G costs is provided in **Figure 2** below.

Figure 2 – Summary of 2025 Storm Restoration Costs

Cost Category	Level 1 & 2 Storms	Level 3 & 4 Storms	Total Combined Storms
Capital	\$561,125	\$3,066,360	\$3,627,485
OM&G	\$9,561,293	\$3,222,802	\$12,784,095
Total Combined Costs	\$10,122,419	\$6,289,162	\$16,411,580

Storm restoration costs are tracked by storm event, for Level 3 storms and above. NS Power does not track individual Level 1 & 2 storm costs. **Figure 3** below provides a summary of both the capital and operating expenditures associated with all storm events in 2025.

Figure 3 – Summary of Storm Restoration Cost by Storm Event

Storm Event	Level	Capital Expenditure	Operating Expenditure	Total
Storm Response – Level 1 and 2 Storms	1&2	\$561,125	\$9,561,293	\$10,122,419
Level 3 Storms-prior period	3	\$14,714	(\$7,207)	\$7,507
December 5, 2025 Event	3	-	\$1,072,306	\$1,072,306
December 19-20, 2025 Event	3	\$3,051,646	\$2,157,702	\$5,209,348
Total Combined Costs		\$3,627,485	\$12,784,095	\$16,411,580

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Figure 4 is a breakdown by cost category of the types of capital and operating storm costs:

Figure 4 – Breakdown of 2025 Storm Restoration Costs by Category

Cost Category	Level 1 & 2 Storms	Level 3 & 4 Storms	Total Combined Storms
Capital Expenditures	\$561,125	\$3,066,360	\$3,627,485
Bell Contribution (Capital)	-	-	-
Total Capital	\$561,125	\$3,066,360	\$3,627,485
Operating Expenditures	\$9,561,293	\$3,222,802	\$12,784,095
Bell Contribution (Operating)	-	-	-
Total Operating	\$9,561,293	\$3,222,802	\$12,784,095
Total Combined Costs	\$10,122,419	\$6,289,162	\$16,411,580

Figure 5 provides a breakdown of operating costs by account:

Figure 5 – Breakdown of 2025 Operating Storm Restoration Costs by Account

Account	Level 1 & 2 Storms	Level 3 & 4 Storms	Total Combined Storms
Contracts	\$6,470,884	\$1,971,927	\$8,442,811
Overtime Labour	\$2,135,342	\$930,475	\$3,065,817
Meals & Travel	\$180,770	\$129,606	\$310,376
Materials	\$89,745	\$50,286	\$140,031
Regular Labour	\$624,731	\$97,037	\$721,768
Other	\$59,821	\$43,471	\$103,292
Miscellaneous Revenue (Bell Contribution)	-	-	-
Total Combined Costs	\$9,561,293	\$3,222,802	\$12,784,095

**NS Power 2025 Storm Restoration Costs
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Figure 6 provides a breakdown of capital costs by account:

Figure 6 – Breakdown of 2025 Capital Storm Restoration Costs by Account

Account	Level 1 & 2 Storms	Level 3 & 4 Storms	Total Combined Storms
Salvage	\$(2,003)	\$(59)	\$ (2,062)
Regular & Term Labour	\$ 83,476	\$ 24,075	\$ 107,551
Overtime Labour	\$ 83,878	\$ 753,558	\$ 837,437
Meals & Travel	\$ 5,747	\$ 84,672	\$ 90,419
Materials	\$ 71,623	\$ 54,855	\$ 126,478
Contracts	\$ 162,790	\$1,511,459	\$1,674,249
Other	-	-	-
Administrative, Vehicle, Contractor Overheads	\$ 155,615	\$ 637,798	\$ 793,413
Capital Contributions (Bell)	-	-	-
Total	\$ 561,125	\$3,066,360	\$3,627,485

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4.0 STORM RESTORATION COST FOR ‘STORM READYING’ AND ‘STORM RESPONSE’

In its decision on 2024 Storm Restoration Cost Report (M12188), the Board directed NS Power to distinguish, to the extent operationally practical, between costs incurred for proactive storm readying activities and those incurred for reactive storm response work.

The following section provides a breakdown of storm readying and storm response costs for the storm events in 2025.

Storm restoration costs for the two Level 3 EOC events are separated into storm preparation (storm readying) costs and restoration (storm response) costs, as presented in **Figure 7**. The storm-readying category includes mobilization costs for powerline technician (PLT) contractors, hotel accommodations for PLT contractors for the night preceding the start of restoration activities, and one day of meal per diems for those contractors. Mobilization charges are applied in accordance with the limits established in NS Power’s storm contracts. Costs associated with internal resources, traffic control, and vegetation management contractors are not included in the storm-readying category, as these resources do not incur mobilization costs, nor require pre-restoration hotel accommodations, and are not eligible for meal per diems until restoration work begins. All other storm related costs are classified as storm response costs.

Figure 7 – Storm Readyng vs. Storm Response Costs

Event Date	Storm Readyng Cost	Storm Response Cost	Total Cost
December 5, 2025	\$118,089	\$954,217	\$1,072,306
December 19 - 20, 2025	\$353,880	\$4,855,468	\$5,209,348
Total	\$471,969	\$5,809,685	\$6,281,654

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5.0 COMPARISON OF STORM COSTS TO BASE RATES

As part of the 2022 GRA, NS Power proposed the base rate allowances for storm restoration OM&G costs set out in **Figure 8**:

Figure 8 – Base Rates Allowances for Storm Costs

Year	Level 1 and 2 Storm Costs (\$ million)	Level 3 and 4 Storm Costs (\$ million)
2022	\$7.3	\$10.5
2023	\$7.2	\$10.2
2024	\$7.3	\$10.4
2025	\$7.3 ²	\$10.4

The proposed OM&G storm costs were developed using the average historical 5-year storm restoration costs (with Post-tropical Storm Dorian removed) with escalation for inflation and adjustments for AMI forecast savings.

The comparison of 2025 actual operating storm costs to base rates is provided in **Figure 9**.

Figure 9 – Comparison of 2025 Actual Operating Storm Costs to Base Rates by Level

Storm Type	Actual (\$ million)	Base Rates (\$ million)	Variance (\$ million)
Level 1 and 2	\$9.6	\$7.3	\$2.3
Level 3 and 4	\$3.2	\$10.4	(\$7.2)
Total	\$12.8	\$17.7	(\$4.9)

The total operating costs for all levels of storms were \$12.8 million. The total amount in base rates for Level 3 and level 4 storm costs in 2025 was \$10.4 million. NS Power's total actual operating costs for Level 3 and 4 storms recorded in 2025 was \$3.2 million, which is \$7.2 million below the amount in rates. As the amount of actual operating costs for Level 3 and 4 storms was below the amount included in rates for Level 3 and 4 storms, the Company will not be filing a Storm Rider Application for 2025 storm restoration costs.

² Level 1 and 2 storm costs for 2025 were assumed to match 2024, as no GRA was filed for the 2025 test year

**6.0 COST CONTROL AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FOR EXTERNAL
CONTRACTORS**

In its decision regarding NS Power's authorization to overspend on 2022 provincial storm distribution routines, the Board ordered NS Power to implement a comprehensive system of cost control and performance management for external contractors used in storm response, and to include annual reporting on these measures in the Storm Restoration Cost Report. Further, in its decision on 2024 Storm Restoration Cost Report (M12188), the Board indicated that it wishes to gain additional understanding of NS Power's implementation of these measures once the Company has had an opportunity to apply them during Level 3 or Level 4 storms. Accordingly, the Board directed that the 2025 Storm Restoration Cost Report include examples of the measures implemented during such events, along with a description of their success or failure. This information is provided in the following section.

NS Power has formalized the organizational structure overseeing field contractors, with a primary mandate of holding external contractors accountable to cost controls and performance metrics for both blue sky and storm engagements. Storm response cost controls and performance management such as those listed below have been incorporated into the existing oversight processes for all contractor work.

In support of both blue-sky operations and storm response, NS Power has created and staffed a full-time position titled Manager, Contractor Oversight, reporting to the Senior Operations Manager, who is responsible for managing contractor-executed work (Powerline Construction, pole setting and traffic control) and the Contractor Safety Management Plan requirements. During storm response, the Manager, Contractor Oversight reports into the EOC Regional Operations Lead with responsibility for acquiring and managing all external contractors.

- During storm response, trained NS Power resources are assigned as Crew Leads to oversee contractor crews. The Crew Leads are responsible for leading contractor crews, overseeing safety and environmental obligations, and liaising with the EOC Logistics team for the

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1 contractor crews assigned to them. Crew Leads report into the Regional Operations storm
2 structure through Field Supervisors during storm events. External Contractor crews are
3 released first from storm response events, to minimize cost.

- 4 • External contractors are held accountable for cost control and performance metrics based
5 on the contractual terms governing their work, which are reviewed against invoices to
6 ensure compliance prior to paying. Every contractor construction pod is managed by an
7 NS Power Crew Lead who is responsible for among other things to maximize productivity.
8 The construction pods are made up of a Crew Lead, PLT crews (internal or external), traffic
9 control resources and vegetation management crews. The Crew Tracker and oversight
10 model allows for easier management of crew movement within the pod structure to manage
11 restoration on a provincial scale.
- 12 • Standardized storm contracts have been established for PLT and vegetation contractors.
13 These storm-specific contract agreements outline the expected tooling and truck
14 configuration upon arrival in NS Power's service territory for storm duty. This provides
15 appropriate terms and conditions, labour rates and minimum equipment list for all storm
16 contractors entering the province. The minimum equipment list provides NS Power
17 assurance that crews arriving to assist with restoration efforts arrive with appropriate
18 equipment (which is validated by NS Power at induction) to ensure that they can perform
19 all work expected. PLT Contractor trucks and equipment are inspected by NS Power
20 reviewed prior to deployment for storm response and are refused, at no cost to NS Power,
21 if requirements are not met.
- 22 • The Standardized storm contracts also outline storm reimbursement guidelines. The
23 reimbursement guideline ensures consistent and predictable cost control for storm meal
24 expenses. The reimbursement rate, \$70 per person per day, was set in alignment with
25 Canada Revenue Agency daily standard meal expense rate of \$69/day.
- 26 • NS Power has made enhancements to the Storm Tracker tool used by NS Power to track
27 and manage contracted resources used during a storm event. This tool provides accurate
28 information about 'who is where and doing what' across the province, which NS Power
29 Crew Leads and territory leads are responsible to track all contractor information within.
30 They are assigned to specific contractor crews for each event and the details that are entered

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1 into the Storm Tracker tool are used to tabulate with the total costs on a crew-by-crew
2 basis. Restoration site locations (depot), lodging, and travel are all tracked for each
3 contractor in this tool.

- 4 • NS Power's existing Post-event Critique process continually identifies opportunities for
5 improvement after each level 3 or 4 storm. Contractor crew management and costs are one
6 of the items that is reviewed, and applicable action items are assigned as part of this formal
7 process.
- 8 • Members of NS Power's Continuous Improvement Team participate in contractor
9 management during storm response, evaluate and execute initiatives identified for
10 improvement, as required.
- 11 • Initiatives such as updating the Damage Prediction Model with actual storm data each year
12 ensure improved model restoration hours and external resource requirements projections.

13
14 Results from these efforts realized during the **2025** storm season include:

- 15 • All storm contractor invoices received by NS Power were reviewed, there was no travel
16 time exceeding the contracted mobilization allotment invoiced to NS Power.
- 17 • Per diems for food and incidentals were used for both in internal crews and external
18 contractors for all EOC events in 2025. While it is difficult to directly compare storms, in
19 general the cost of the per diems, compared to meal costs in storms prior to 2025 was lower
20 by approximately \$50 per person, per day. Additionally, while not typically captured as a
21 storm cost, post-storm administrative efforts to process invoices and expense reports has
22 been greatly reduced.
- 23 • Members of NS Power's Continuous Improvement Team have identified the opportunity
24 to, and begun to implement, standardized reporting and provision of mid-storm updates on
25 contractor deployment during storm response.
- 26 • The Damage Prediction Model was calibrated with actual storm data in July 2025.

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Further to these efforts, NS Power is planning to implement a software platform in 2026 to further monitor and control contractor costs. While NS Power has extensive experience developing and utilizing internally developed tools to manage storm events, commercially available software can be leveraged that will:

- Reliably predict the impact of high impact weather events for all weather hazards on NS Power distribution assets and its downstream impact to customers through AI-driven predictive storm impact modeling.
- Model multiple storm scenarios to optimize emergency planning and adequately stage resources.
- Provide on demand access to NS Power's entire portfolio of restoration vendor partners with digital intelligence to optimize for ETA, cost, quality and safety performance.
- Manage the workflow of the end-to-end restoration process. This includes the logistics of securing the appropriate quantity, experience and type of external crews, tracking location and resource distribution, lodging, meal assignments and real-time expense tracking.
- Support compliance with regulatory reporting requirements.
- Provide configurable dashboards for Operations and Emergency Response teams

This project was included as a Subsequent Submittal in the 2026 ACE Plan.

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7.0 PREDICTED AND ACTUAL STORM LEVELS FOR REPORTED EVENTS

For the two Level 3 EOC activations in 2025 referenced above, December 5th and December 19th, the predicted and actual customer impacts are provided in **Figure 10** below. As the weather forecasts received prior to the event can change, NS Power has included the prediction immediately prior to the decision to activate the Company's Emergency Operations Centre. For clarification, once a Storm Level is declared, it is not reduced to a lower Level during the event, regardless of the actual impacts.

Figure 10 – Predicted and Actual Customer Impacts During Reported Events

Event Date	Predicted Customer Impact	Actual Customer Impact
December 5, 2025	28,308	7,222
December 19 - 20, 2025	54,162	198,998

Please accept this report as providing all storm restoration costs (including capital expenditures) incurred in 2025.

DECEMBER 19-20, 2025 WIND STORM

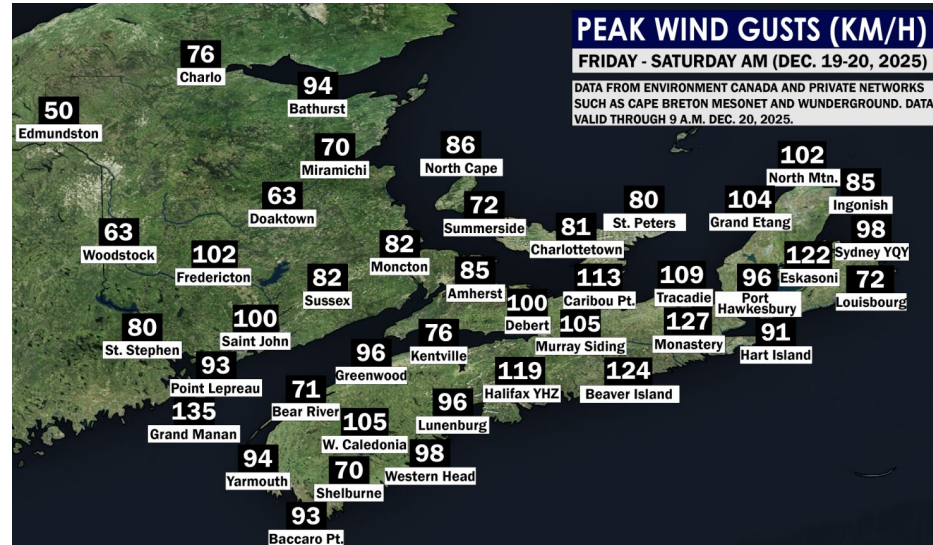
STORM REPORT

METHODOLOGY

- The report assigns the temperature and wind data based on the highest observed speeds that occurred during the event.
- Full accounting of hourly weather data is provided as an appendix for the eight representative stations used.
- The map in the provincial highlights slide is divided into NS Power's operational depot boundaries.
- Provincial highlights in slide 3 and slides 6-7 illustrate outages with the largest CHI impact and overall customer impact. These are intended to give an indication of the overall event impacts and restoration process.
- “Unique Customer Impacts” refers to the total number of unique customers who experienced an outage during the event. A customer who experienced a power outage twice during an event would count as a single unique customer in this tally. “Total Customer Impacts” refers to the total number of customers impacted during an event. A customer who experienced a power outage twice during an event would be counted twice in this tally.
- Following the direction of NS Power’s weather consultant, the data needed for this report to present a useful analysis typically requires an examination of eight representative stations. This provides a view of the magnitude, as well as the timing of the strong winds during an impactful storm event. Since this analysis also involves forecast verification, the same list of trusted, high-quality stations is used to ensure results are aligned and benchmarked with the proper historical context. This is also a practical meteorological rationale to focus on the impact and magnitude of an overall event as opposed to the wind speed and gusts at specific sites. Wind speeds and gusts vary significantly due to local effects and conditions such as, but not limited to, shelter from trees, exposed hilltop, sheltered valleys, or coastal wind effects (i.e. stations located on coastline observe winds that do not extend inland). This site-specific information is useful when determining potential local wind enhancements and how to mitigate; however, it historically has limited added value in the province-wide analysis undertaken by NS Power to date.

SECTION 1: WEATHER EVENT SUMMARY

- A strong wind and rain event impacted Nova Scotia from December 19 into December 20, 2025, bringing strong winds, heavy rainfall, and an elevated risk of localized flooding across the province.
- Winds gusts were recorded above warning levels (80km/h) in 7 of the 8 weather regions. Peak gusts of 115 km/h were recorded in the Eastern Shore region.
- Environment Canada issued Yellow Warnings for both wind and rain prior to December 19, 2025. Heavy periods of rain resulted in upward of 40 mm in some areas.
- The event impacted every area of the province as it swept across the province late on the 19th into the 20th.



SECTION 2: WIND OBSERVATIONS

Region	Forecast (24Hr Prior)		Actuals					
	Precipitation	Wind Gust (km/h)	Weather Station	Temp (°C)	Weather Observation	Sustained Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gust (km/h)	Wind Direction (Deg)
Annapolis Valley (V)	Rain	95	Greenwood	15	Rain	37	96	170
South Shore (SS)	Rain	100	Yarmouth	12	Rain	63	83	180
Northern Nova Scotia (N)	Rain	95	Nappan	14	Rain	48	74	170
NorthEast (NE)	Rain	90	Caribou Pt.	13	Rain	74	104	180
Metro (M)**	Rain	100	Airport	10	Rain	65	100	180
Eastern Shore (ES)	Rain	100	Beaver Is	11	Rain	93	115	180
CB West (CBW)	Rain	100	Grand Étang	14	Rain	52	96	160
CB East (CBE)	Rain	100	Sydney	11	Rain	48	91	190

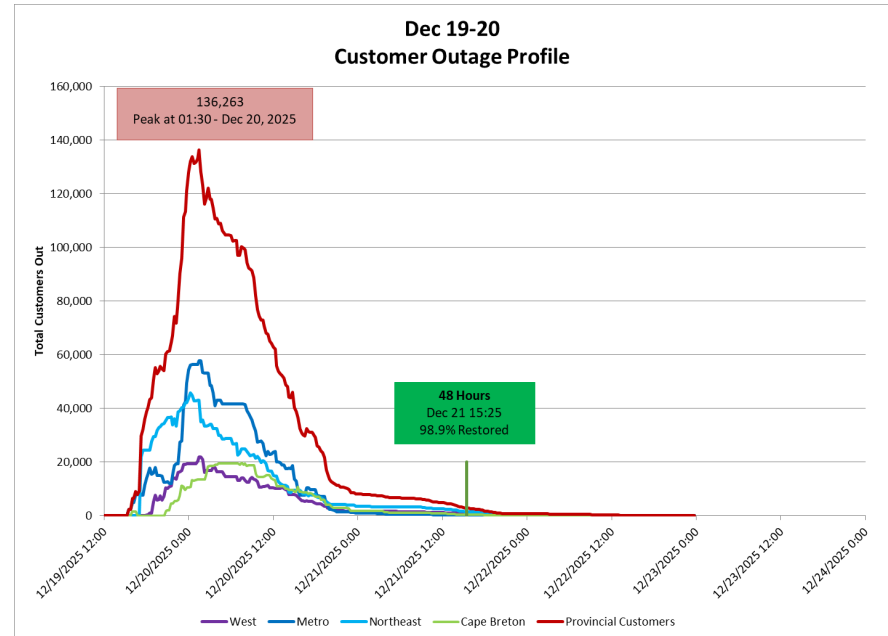
Note: Temperatures shown were recorded during the hour peak winds were observed in each region.

**Weather service provider was unable to obtain actual measurements for the Metro region; all provided actuals are from the December 19th 04:00 forecast.

SECTION 3: OUTAGE SUMMARY

Metric	Result
Unique Customers Impacted	198,998
Customer Interruptions	268,354
Total Customer Hours	2,112,088
Event Start Time	Dec 19 15:25
Event End Time*	Dec 20 19:33
Main Regions Impacted	Entire Province

Outage Restoration Profile:



Restoration began at the onset of storm-related outages and continued throughout the event until the last customer was restored at 16:00 on December 23, 2025. As a result, 98.93% of impacted customers were restored within the first 48 hours. Per NS Power's storm restoration principles, these smaller outages are addressed following restoration of larger outages and are often complicated by off-road or remote locations of damage or tree contacts or flooded areas.

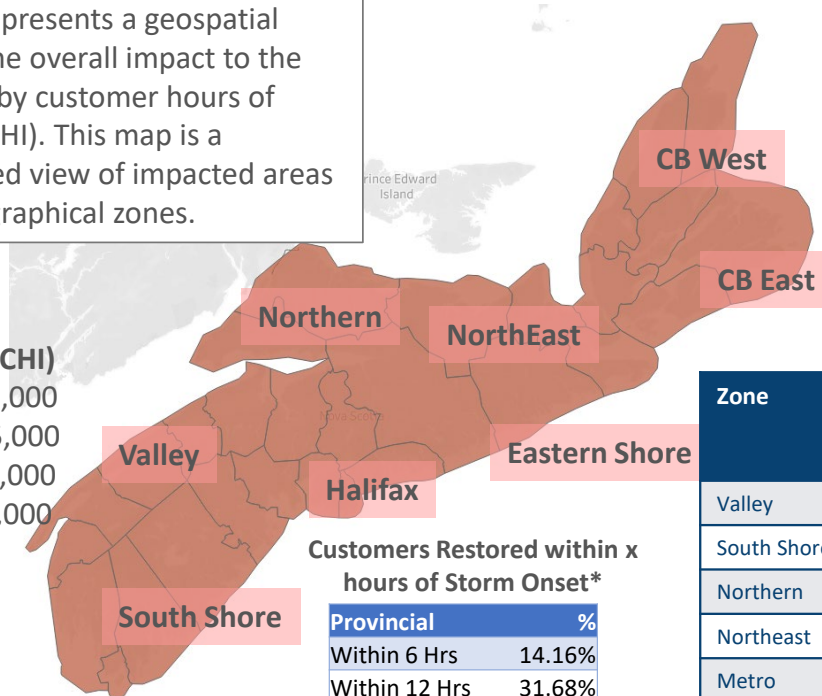
*Event End Time is noted as the beginning time of the final outage attributable to the storm event. Combined with the start time, these two times provide the bounds of the outage events included in storm analysis. As shown in the graph above, restoration of customers continues beyond event end time.

SECTION 4: PROVINCIAL IMPACT SUMMARY – DECEMBER 19-20, 2025

This map presents a geospatial view of the overall impact to the province by customer hours of impact (CHI). This map is a symbolized view of impacted areas by 8 geographical zones.

Legend (CHI)

Red >50,000
Orange >25,000
Yellow >10,000
Green <10,000



**Customers Restored within x
hours of Storm Onset***

Provincial	%
Within 6 Hrs	14.16%
Within 12 Hrs	31.68%
Within 24 Hrs	82.17%
Within 48 Hrs	98.93%

*This table represents the percentage of customers restored within 6, 12, 24, or 48 hours of the start of the storm, rather than the start of their individual outage.

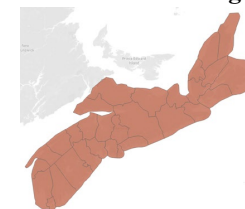
** 93.62% of customers were restored prior to the stormy weather ceasing. Average restoration time for the storm was under 19.5hrs.

NS experienced a wind, snow and rain event bringing strong gusts and significant precipitation on December 19-20, 2025. High winds and heavy, wet snow caused trees to contact lines and led to equipment damage. Over 600 field resources were mobilized to restore power in affected areas.

Zone	Customers Impacted (CI)***	Unique Customers Impacted	Customer Hours of Interruptions (CHI)
Valley	43,852	36,199	289,711
South Shore	20,075	17,194	230,061
Northern	20,595	11,189	126,874
Northeast	55,377	43,247	525,566
Metro	92,007	62,050	559,818
Eastern Shore	3,813	3,081	57,834
CB West	9,865	7,071	69,045
CB East	22,770	18,967	253,180
Province	268,354	198,998	2,112,088

***Customers Impacted (CI) reflects total not unique impacted

*Wind gusts shown are those at or preceding the event.



SECTION 4: PROVINCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts* (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Valley	12/19/2025 23:03	Greenwood	210	28	96	14	Adverse Weather	Wind	High winds and heavy rain caused the recloser to operate.	3,404	10.53
South Shore	12/19/2025 20:28	Yarmouth	190	52	81	12	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused trees to contact the primary lines, opening the recloser.	1,764	13.5
Northern	12/19/2025 22:13	Nappan	170	43	74	13	Loss of Supply	Transmission Substation	High winds and heavy rain caused a broken lead on the transmission line.	2,348	8.55
Northeast	12/19/2025 18:36	Caribou Pt.	170	52	63	11	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused trees to contact the primary lines, opening the recloser.	2,701	16.51
Metro	12/19/2025 17:02	Halifax Airport	180	55	85	12	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused trees to contact the primary lines, opening the recloser.	3,587	18.33
Eastern Shore	12/20/2025 0:07	Beaver Island	180	96	115	11	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused trees to contact the primary lines, opening the recloser.	1,046	11.67
CB West	12/20/2025 0:15	Gr. Etang	170	56	93	14	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused trees to contact the primary lines, opening the recloser.	1,573	19.1
CB East	12/19/2025 21:26	Sydney	190	48	70	11	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused trees to contact the primary lines, opening the recloser.	1,670	15.02

SECTION 4: PROVINCIAL HIGHLIGHTS – TOP 5 EVENTS BY CUSTOMERS IMPACTED

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Northeast	12/19/2025 17:09	Caribou Pt.	170	46	57	11	Loss of Supply	Transmission Substation	High winds and heavy rain caused a broken lead on the transmission line.	4,921	8.59
Halifax	12/19/2025 16:20	Halifax Airport	180	55	85	12	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused trees to contact the primary lines, opening the recloser.	3,847	0.88
Halifax	12/19/2025 23:06	Halifax Airport	180	65	100	10	Adverse Weather	Wind	High winds and heavy rains caused the recloser to operate.	3,842	4.48
Halifax	12/19/2025 17:02	Halifax Airport	180	55	85	12	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused trees to contact the primary lines, opening the recloser.	3,587	18.33
Halifax	12/20/2025 11:26	Halifax Airport	270	45	100	1	Failed/ Damaged Equipment	Mechanical Failure	High winds caused the primary line to become dislodged from the pole.	3,584	4.06

SECTION 4: PROVINCIAL HIGHLIGHTS – TOP 5 EVENTS BY DURATION

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
South Shore	12/20/2025 8:37	Yarmouth	290	48	83	2	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to damage the customer's service line. Crews had trouble accessing the private road due to road conditions.	1	79.39
Northeast	12/19/2025 17:26	Caribou Pt.	170	46	57	11	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to damage the primary line. Crews had to wait for improved conditions and day light to access this line through the woods.	49	69.84
South Shore	12/19/2025 20:36	Yarmouth	190	52	81	12	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to damage the customer's service line. Crews needed to replace the triplex to the customer's house.	1	68.35
South Shore	12/19/2025 19:58	Yarmouth	180	46	72	12	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused multiple trees to contact and damage the primary line in multiple locations. Higher load on downstream customers delayed restoration.	29	67.29
South Shore	12/19/2025 21:52	Yarmouth	180	63	83	12	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused multiple trees to contact and damage the primary line in multiple locations. Higher load on downstream customers delayed restoration.	11	66.69



NOTE: NS Power's Emergency Services Restoration Plan details the restoration priorities which focus on restoring power to critical infrastructure and the largest number of customers first. Following this plan, crews were initially focused on outage events impacting larger customer counts and then continued in this manner until all customers were restored.



SECTION 4: ZONE SUMMARY IMPACT SUMMARY – VALLEY

This region was impacted by high winds and heavy rain during the weather event. The largest cause of outages was due to tree contacts, as winds peaked at 96 km/h in the region.

Outage Summary:

Customers Impacted: 43,852

Customer hours of interruption: 289,711

Full Restoration*: 66.8 Hours

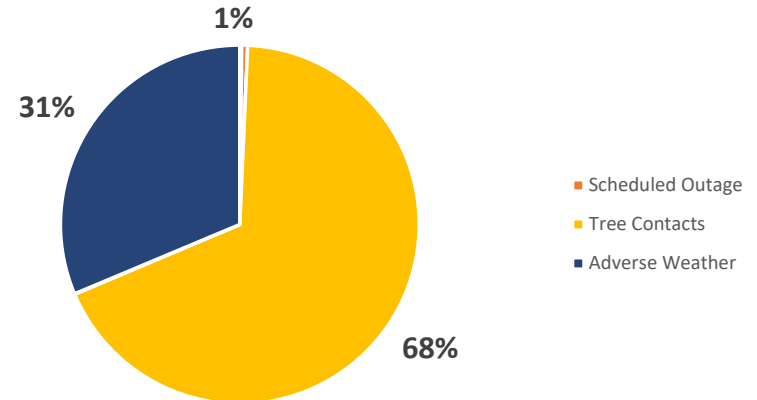
*elapsed time from first outage event to restoration of last event

Customers Restored within X hours of Storm Onset

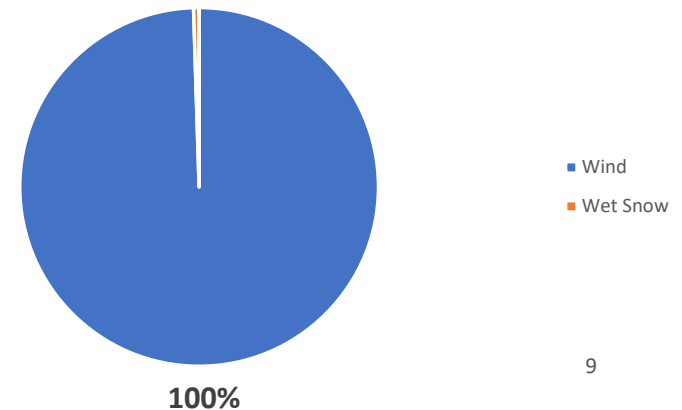
Valley	%
Within 6 Hrs	36.01%
Within 12 Hrs	47.74%
Within 24 Hrs	89.77%
Within 48 Hrs	99.78%

This table represents the percentage of customers restored within 6, 12, 24, or 48 hours of the start of the storm, rather than the start of their individual outage. Average restoration time for this region was 20.07 hours.

Cause of Outages (CHI)



Adverse Weather Cause of Outage (CHI)



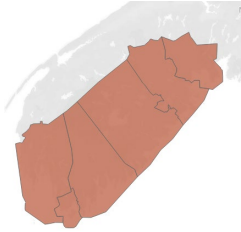
SECTION 4: ZONE IMPACT SUMMARY – VALLEY TOP TWO EVENTS BY DURATION & CUSTOMER IMPACT

Duration

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customer s Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Valley	12/20/2025 8:56	Greenwood	250	56	96	2	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to break the customer's service line.	1	49.3
Valley	12/19/2025 19:08	Greenwood	160	41	65	14	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to break the customer's service line.	1	47.39

Customer Impact

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Valley	12/19/2025 23:03	Greenwood	210	28	96	14	Adverse Weather	Wind	High winds and heavy rain caused the recloser to operate.	3,404	10.53
Valley	12/19/2025 21:42	Greenwood	170	37	96	15	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to contact the primary line, operating the recloser.	2,432	4.36



SECTION 4: ZONE SUMMARY IMPACT SUMMARY – SOUTH SHORE

This region was impacted by high winds and heavy rain during the weather event. The largest cause of outages was due to tree contacts, as winds peaked at 83 km/h in the region.

Outage Summary:

Customers Impacted: 20,075

Customer hours of interruption: 230,061

Full Restoration*: 95.3 Hours

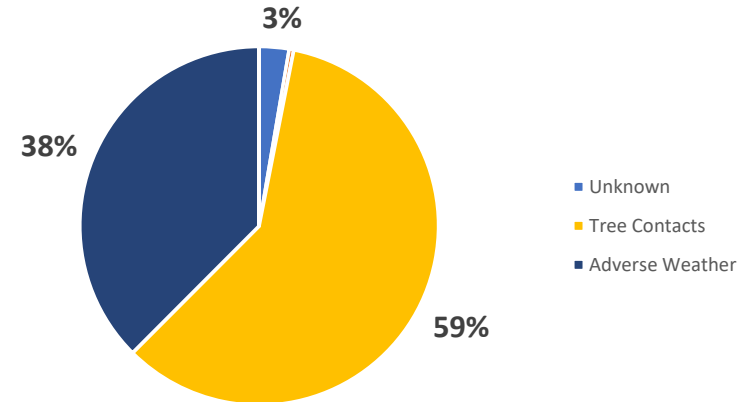
*elapsed time from first outage event to restoration of last event

Customers Restored within X hours of Storm Onset

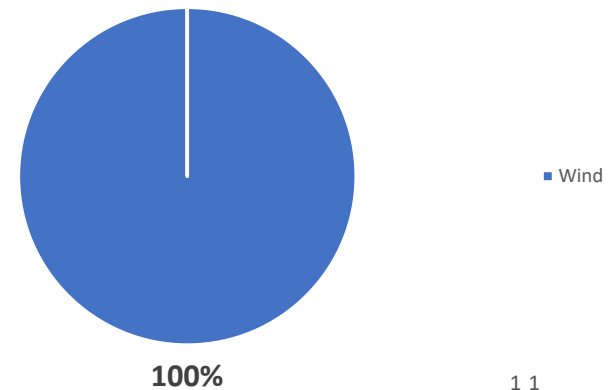
South Shore	%
Within 6 Hrs	3.66%
Within 12 Hrs	17.17%
Within 24 Hrs	70.01%
Within 48 Hrs	96.35%

This table represents the percentage of customers restored within 6, 12, 24, or 48 hours of the start of the storm, rather than the start of their individual outage. Average restoration time for this region was 23.1 hours.

Cause of Outages (CHI)



Adverse Weather Cause of Outage (CHI)



SECTION 4: ZONE IMPACT SUMMARY – SOUTH SHORE TOP TWO EVENTS BY DURATION & CUSTOMER IMPACT

Duration

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
South Shore	12/20/2025 8:37	Yarmouth	290	48	83	2	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to damage the customer's service line. Crews had trouble accessing the private road due to road conditions.	1	79.39
South Shore	12/19/2025 20:36	Yarmouth	190	52	81	12	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to damage the customer's service line. Crews needed to replace the triplex to the customer's house.	1	68.35

Customer Impact

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
South Shore	12/19/2025 20:28	Yarmouth	190	52	81	12	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	Strong winds caused trees to contact the primary lines, opening the recloser.	1,764	13.5
South Shore	12/19/2025 23:00	Yarmouth	230	35	83	9	Adverse Weather	Wind	High winds and heavy rain caused the recloser to operate.	1,409	8.95



SECTION 4: ZONE IMPACT SUMMARY – NORTHERN

This region was impacted by high winds and heavy rain during the weather event. The largest cause of outages was due to a transmission line outage which caused outages for 13,000 customers and were 5 and 8 hour outages.

Outage Summary:

Customers Impacted: 20,595

Customer hours of interruption: 126,874

Full Restoration*: 64.03 Hours

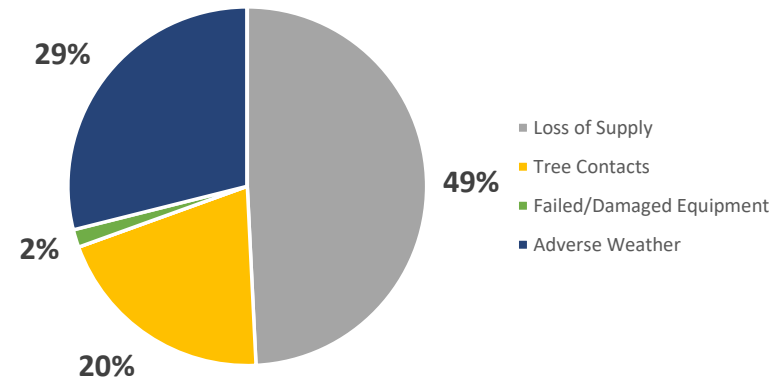
*elapsed time from first outage event to restoration of last event

Customers Restored within X hours of Storm Onset

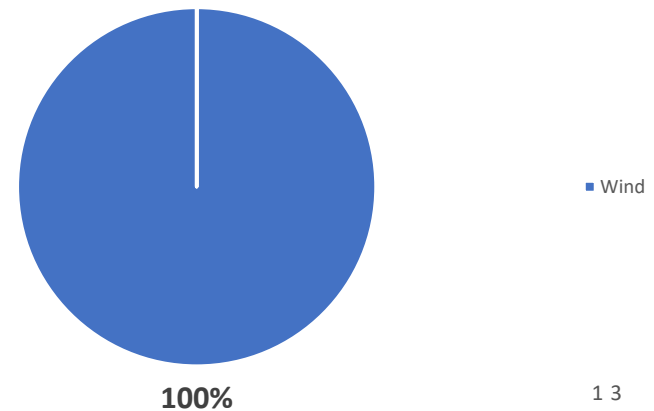
Northern	%
Within 6 Hrs	0.05%
Within 12 Hrs	28.30%
Within 24 Hrs	92.34%
Within 48 Hrs	100.00%

This table represents the percentage of customers restored within 6, 12, 24, or 48 hours of the start of the storm, rather than the start of their individual outage. Average restoration time for this region was 7.9 hours.

Cause of Outages (CHI)



Adverse Weather Cause of Outage (CHI)



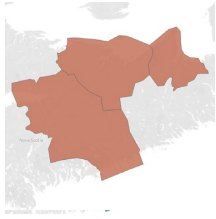
SECTION 4: ZONE IMPACT SUMMARY – NORTHERN TOP TWO EVENTS BY DURATION & CUSTOMER IMPACT

Duration

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Northern	12/19/2025 17:09	Nappan	170	44	65	13	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to land on the primary line, breaking the pole.	50	45.86
Northern	12/20/2025 14:35	Nappan	280	35	74	-1	Adverse Weather	Wind	Hight winds and heavy rain caused a branch line fuse to open.	1	42.6

Customer Impact

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Northern	12/19/2025 22:24	Nappan	170	43	74	13	Adverse Weather	Wind	High winds and heavy rain caused the recloser to operate.	2,525	5.68
Northern	12/19/2025 22:13	Nappan	170	43	74	13	Loss of Supply	Transmission	High winds and heavy rain caused a broken lead on the transmission line.	2,348	8.55



SECTION 4: ZONE IMPACT SUMMARY – NORTHEAST

This region was impacted by high winds and heavy rain during the weather event. The largest cause of outages was due to tree contacts, as winds peaked at 104 km/h in the region.

Outage Summary:

Customers Impacted: 55,377

Customer hours of interruption: 525,566

Full Restoration*: 72.92 Hours

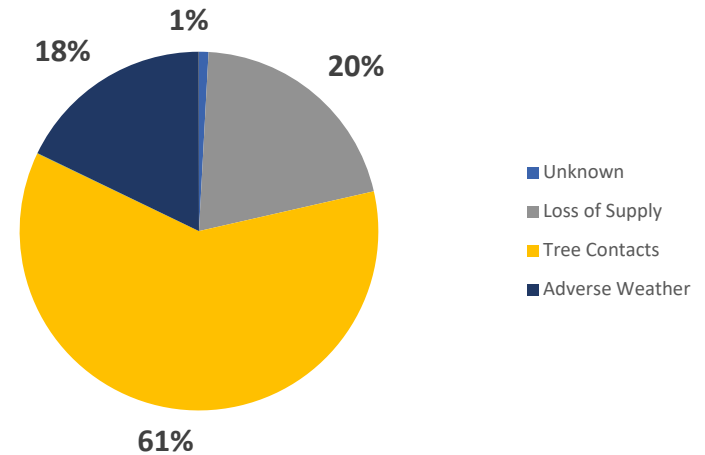
*elapsed time from first outage event to restoration of last event

Customers Restored within X hours of Storm Onset

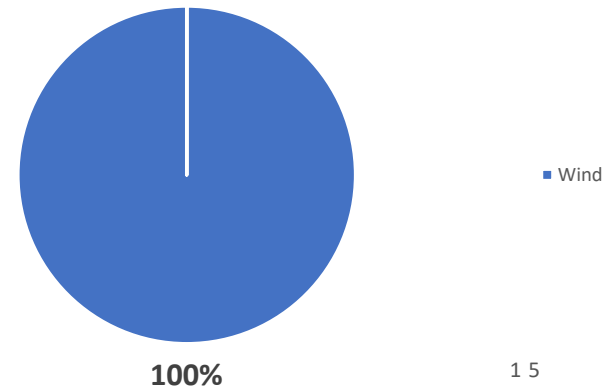
Northeast	%
Within 6 Hrs	1.86%
Within 12 Hrs	40.82%
Within 24 Hrs	82.42%
Within 48 Hrs	97.71%

This table represents the percentage of customers restored within 6, 12, 24, or 48 hours of the start of the storm, rather than the start of their individual outage. Average restoration time for this region was 25.2 hours.

Cause of Outages (CHI)



Adverse Weather Cause of Outage (CHI)



SECTION 4: ZONE IMPACT SUMMARY – NORTH-EASTERN TOP TWO EVENTS BY DURATION & CUSTOMER IMPACT

Duration

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Northeast	12/19/2025 17:26	Caribou Pt.	170	46	57	11	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to damage the primary line. Crews had to wait for improved conditions and daylight to access this line through the woods.	49	69.84
Northeast	12/19/2025 20:26	Caribou Pt.	170	67	87	13	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to damage the customer's service line.	1	64.66

Customer Impact

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Northeast	12/19/2025 17:09	Caribou Pt.	170	46	57	11	Loss of Supply	Transmission	High winds and heavy rain caused a broken lead on the transmission line.	4,921	8.59
Northeast	12/19/2025 17:09	Caribou Pt.	170	46	57	11	Loss of Supply	Transmission	High winds and heavy rain caused a broken lead on the transmission line.	3,219	8.59



SECTION 4: ZONE SUMMARY IMPACT SUMMARY – METRO

This region was impacted by strong winds and periods of heavy rain. The largest cause of outages was due to trees contacting the power lines.

Outage Summary:

Customers Impacted: 92,007

Customer hours of interruption: 559,818

Full Restoration*: 69.97 Hours

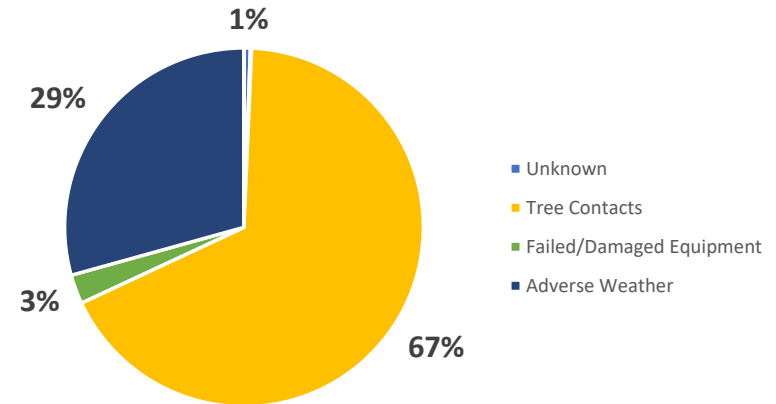
*elapsed time from first outage event to restoration of last event

Customers Restored within X hours of Storm Onset

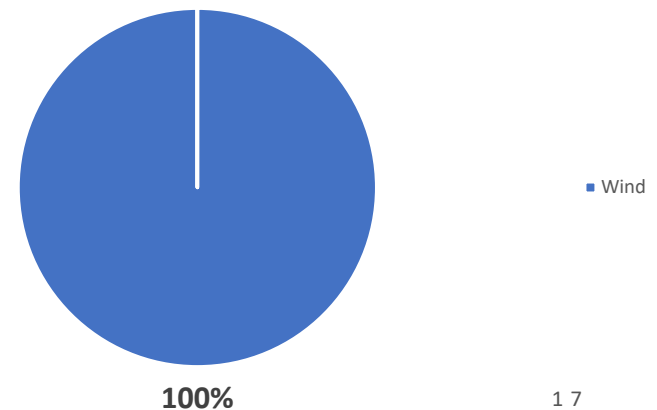
Metro	%
Within 6 Hrs	18.67%
Within 12 Hrs	28.71%
Within 24 Hrs	85.02%
Within 48 Hrs	99.87%

This table represents the percentage of customers restored within 6, 12, 24, or 48 hours of the start of the storm, rather than the start of their individual outage. Average restoration time for this region was 13.86 hours.

Cause of Outages (CHI)



Adverse Weather Cause of Outage (CHI)



SECTION 4: ZONE IMPACT SUMMARY – METRO TOP TWO EVENTS BY DURATION & CUSTOMER IMPACT

Duration

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Halifax	12/19/2025 23:24	Halifax Airport	180	65	100	10	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to fall on the primary line, operating the fuse.	1	60.15
Halifax	12/19/2025 17:32	Halifax Airport	180	55	85	12	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to fall on the customer's service line.	1	53.09

Customer Impact

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Halifax	12/19/2025 16:20	Halifax Airport	180	55	85	12	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused trees to contact the primary lines, opening the recloser.	3,847	0.88
Halifax	12/19/2025 23:06	Halifax Airport	180	65	100	10	Adverse Weather	Wind	High winds and heavy rain were suspected to cause the conductors to make contact, opening the recloser.	3,842	4.48



SECTION 4: ZONE SUMMARY IMPACT SUMMARY – EASTERN SHORE

This region was impacted by high winds and heavy rain during the weather event. The largest cause of outages was due to tree contacts, as winds peaked at 115 km/h in the region.

Outage Summary:

Customers Impacted: 3,813

Customer hours of interruption: 57,834

Full Restoration*: 61.00 Hours

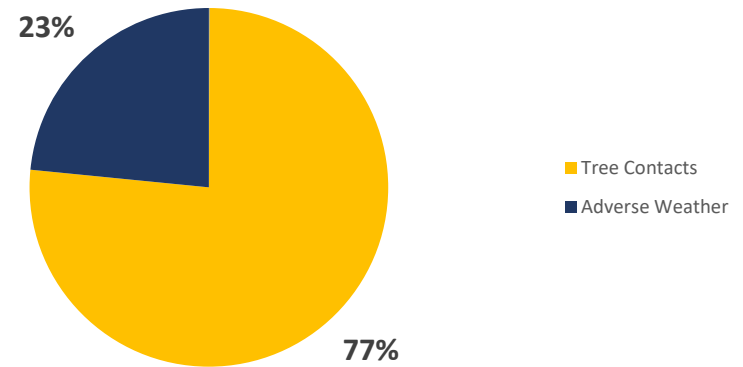
*elapsed time from first outage event to restoration of last event

Customers Restored within X hours of Storm Onset

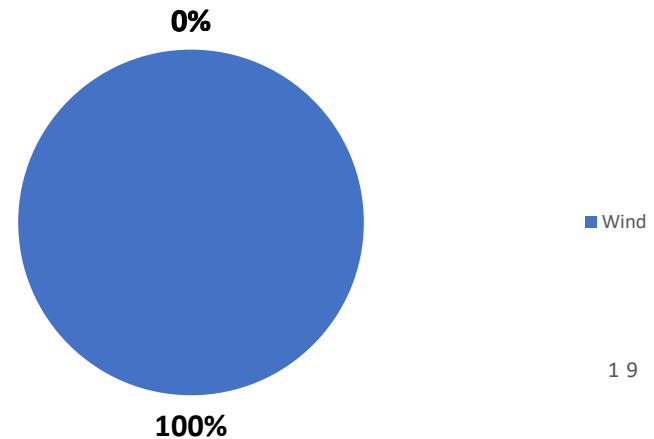
Eastern Shore %	
Within 6 Hrs	0.00%
Within 12 Hrs	0.00%
Within 24 Hrs	78.76%
Within 48 Hrs	94.05%

This table represents the percentage of customers restored within 6, 12, 24, or 48 hours of the start of the storm, rather than the start of their individual outage. Average restoration time for this region was 20.7 hours.

Cause of Outages (CHI)



Adverse Weather Cause of Outage (CHI)



SECTION 4: ZONE IMPACT SUMMARY –EASTERN SHORE TOP TWO EVENTS BY DURATION & CUSTOMER IMPACT

Duration

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Eastern Shore	12/20/2025 0:07	Beaver Island	180	93	115	11	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to damage the customer's service line.	1	57
Eastern Shore	12/20/2025 0:07	Beaver Island	180	93	115	11	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused trees to contact the primary lines, opening the recloser.	160	56.97

Customer Impact

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Eastern Shore	12/20/2025 0:07	Beaver Island	180	93	115	11	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	Strong winds caused trees to contact the primary lines, opening the recloser.	1,046	11.67
Eastern Shore	12/19/2025 22:24	Beaver Island	170	69	104	9	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	Strong winds caused trees to contact the primary lines, opening the recloser.	566	12.85



SECTION 4: ZONE IMPACT SUMMARY – CAPE BRETON WEST

This region was impacted by high winds and heavy rain during the weather event. The largest cause of outages was due to tree contacts, as winds peaked at 96 km/h in the region.

Outage Summary:

Customers Impacted: 9,865

Customer hours of interruption: 69,045

Full Restoration*: 56.69 Hours

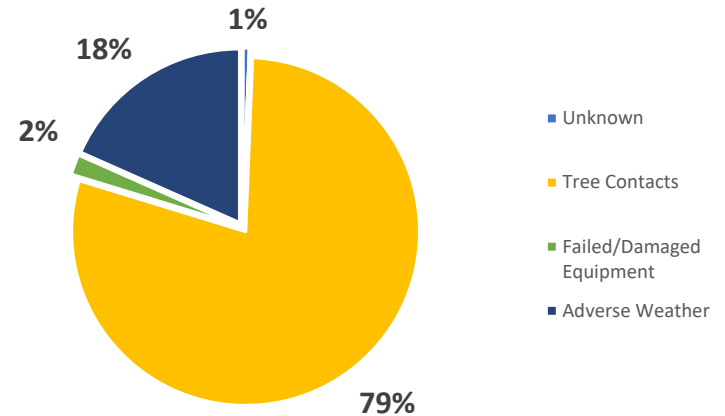
*elapsed time from first outage event to restoration of last event

Customers Restored within X hours of Storm Onset

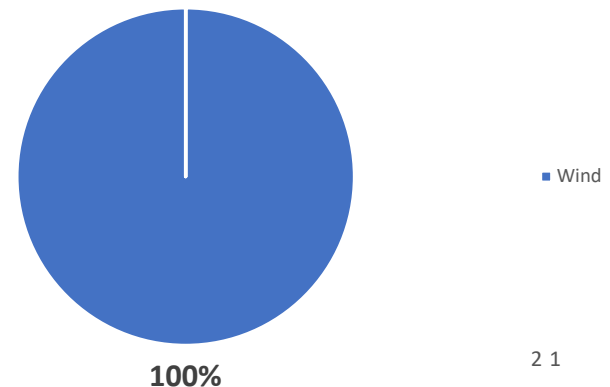
CB West	%
Within 6 Hrs	32.92%
Within 12 Hrs	47.48%
Within 24 Hrs	79.27%
Within 48 Hrs	99.97%

This table represents the percentage of customers restored within 6, 12, 24, or 48 hours of the start of the storm, rather than the start of their individual outage. Average restoration time for this region was 14.4 hours.

Cause of Outages (CHI)



Adverse Weather Cause of Outage (CHI)



SECTION 4: ZONE IMPACT SUMMARY – CAPE BRETON WEST TOP TWO EVENTS BY DURATION & CUSTOMER IMPACT

Duration

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customer s Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Cape Breton West	12/19/2025 21:18	Gr. Étang	160	57	93	13	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to contact the primary line, opening the fuse.	1	42.13
Cape Breton West	12/20/2025 0:37	Gr. Étang	160	50	93	14	Adverse Weather	Wind	High winds caused a tree to contact the primary line, opening the fuse.	1	38.12

Customer Impact

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customer s Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Cape Breton West	12/20/2025 0:15	Gr. Étang	160	50	93	14	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	Strong winds caused trees to contact the primary lines, opening the recloser.	1,573	19.1
Cape Breton West	12/19/2025 15:56	Gr. Étang	160	31	50	12	Failed/ Damaged Equipment	Mechanical Failure	High winds and heavy rain led to a tie wire failing, causing the recloser to operate.	1,509	0.61



SECTION 4: ZONE IMPACT SUMMARY – CAPE BRETON EAST

This region was impacted by high winds and heavy rain during the weather event. Winds were above warning levels reaching 91 km/h during the event. Trees contacting power lines was the largest cause of outages in this region.

Outage Summary:

Customers Impacted: 22,770

Customer hours of interruption: 253,180

Full Restoration*: 66.18 Hours

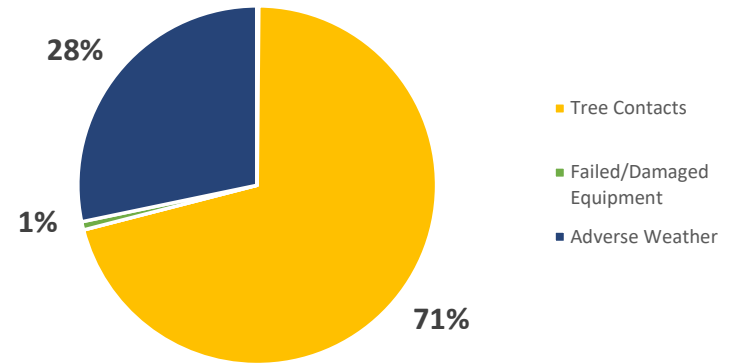
*elapsed time from first outage event to restoration of last event

Customers Restored within X hours of Storm Onset

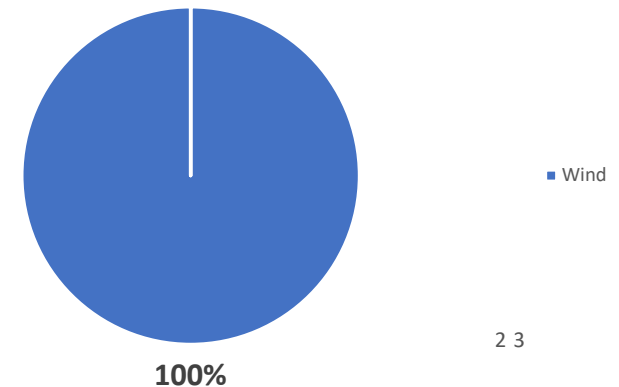
CB East	%
Within 6 Hrs	0.01%
Within 12 Hrs	4.77%
Within 24 Hrs	58.72%
Within 48 Hrs	98.16%

This table represents the percentage of customers restored within 6, 12, 24, or 48 hours of the start of the storm, rather than the start of their individual outage. Average restoration time for this region was 19.87 hours.

Cause of Outages (CHI)



Adverse Weather Cause of Outage (CHI)



SECTION 4: ZONE IMPACT SUMMARY – CAPE BRETON EAST TOP TWO EVENTS BY DURATION & CUSTOMER IMPACT

Duration

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Cape Breton East	12/19/2025 21:27	Sydney	190	48	70	11	Adverse Weather	Wind	High winds and heavy rain caused the customer's service connection to fail.	1	61.19
Cape Breton East	12/20/2025 9:30	Sydney	240	33	91	6	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to fall on the customer's service line.	1	49.11

Customer Impact

Zone	Date/ Time	Weather Station	Direction (Degrees)	Wind (km/h)	Max Wind Gusts (km/h)	Temp (°C)	Cause	Sub-Cause	Description	Customers Impacted	Duration (Hours)
Cape Breton East	12/20/2025 2:34	Sydney	180	56	91	11	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	High winds caused a tree to fall on the primary line, opening the recloser.	2,195	6.91
Cape Breton East	12/19/2025 21:26	Sydney	190	48	70	11	Tree Contacts	Falling Trees	Strong winds caused trees to contact the primary lines, opening the recloser.	1,670	15.02

SECTION 5: COMPARISON TO SIMILAR OUTAGE EVENTS

- The 2018 storm brought stronger peak winds than the 2025 event, but both produced significant tree and line damage across the province.
- Both storms began with above freezing temperatures, though 2018 included snow, ice pellets, and freezing rain, while 2025 brought upwards of 40 mm of heavy rain that tapered off before temperatures fell below freezing.
- During the December 19–20, 2025 storm, crews worked through broken poles, downed trees, and prolonged poor visibility, with peak winds occurring overnight; these conditions required periodic safety stand downs and led to slower travel and access to damaged sites.

Event	December 19-20 2025	January 4-5 2018
Customers Interrupted	268,354	412,793
Customer Hours of Interruption	2,112,088	2,094,094
Customers Restored in 48hrs	98.93	99.88
Field Resources Available	>600	>440
Peak Winds	115 km/h	150 km/h

SECTION 6: LESSONS LEARNED

- Prediction model – Actual high wind durations exceed forecasts provided to NSP, resulting in more outages than anticipated.
- Transmission crews were staged near possible transmission events to allow for quick response. With helicopter inspections unable to take place during poor weather, NS Power relies heavily on all-terrain vehicle patrols and foot patrols during these situations until it is safe to fly.
- Overnight Damage Assessment crews were used to identify high priority work for crews the following morning. This work was very useful for restoration and will be considered for following events as the weather is cleared and they can patrol main feeders.

CEA DEFINITIONS

CI = Customer Interruptions

Total number of customers without power

CHI = Customer Hours of Interruption

Combination of customers and duration

SAIFI = Average Outage Frequency

Customer interruptions / # of customers

SAIDI = Average Outage Duration

Customer hours of interruption / # of customers

CAIDI = Average Outage Duration (for those interrupted)

Customer hours of interruption / # of customer interruptions



Unknown/other

Interruptions with no apparent cause or reason identified that could have contributed to the outage

Scheduled outage

Interruptions due to the planned disconnection for construction or maintenance purposes

Loss of supply

Interruptions due to problem in the bulk electricity system (transmission)

Tree contacts

Interruptions caused by trees or tree limbs contacting energized circuits

Lightning

Interruptions due to lightning strike on energized circuits

Defective equipment

Interruptions resulting from equipment failures

Adverse weather

Interruptions resulting from weather conditions (e.g. Rain, ice storms, snow, winds, extreme ambient temperatures, freezing fog, or frost)

Adverse environment

Interruptions due to equipment being subjected to abnormal environmental conditions (e.g. Salt spray, contamination, humidity, corrosion, vibration, fire, or flooding)

Human element

Interruptions due to errors of utility staff in construction, maintenance, or operations

Foreign interference

Interruptions due to external contacts beyond the control of the utility (e.g. Birds, animals, vehicles, dig-ins, or other foreign objects)

December 19 – 20, 2025 Weather Data has been filed electronically.