

Current Watches and Warnings

A **Storm Surge Warning** is in effect from the mouth of the Pearl River to the Alabama / Florida border

A **Tropical Storm Warning** is in effect from the mouth of the Pearl River to the Alabama / Florida border

Current Details from the National Hurricane Center (NHC)

COORDINATES: 31.9° north, 90.7° west

LOCATION: 40 miles (65 kilometers) southwest of Jackson, Mississippi

MOVEMENT: north at 9 mph (15 kph)

WINDS: 40 mph (65 kph) with gusts to 50 mph (80 kph)

RADIUS OF TROPICAL STORM-FORCE WINDS: 195 miles (315 kilometers)

MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE: 996 millibars

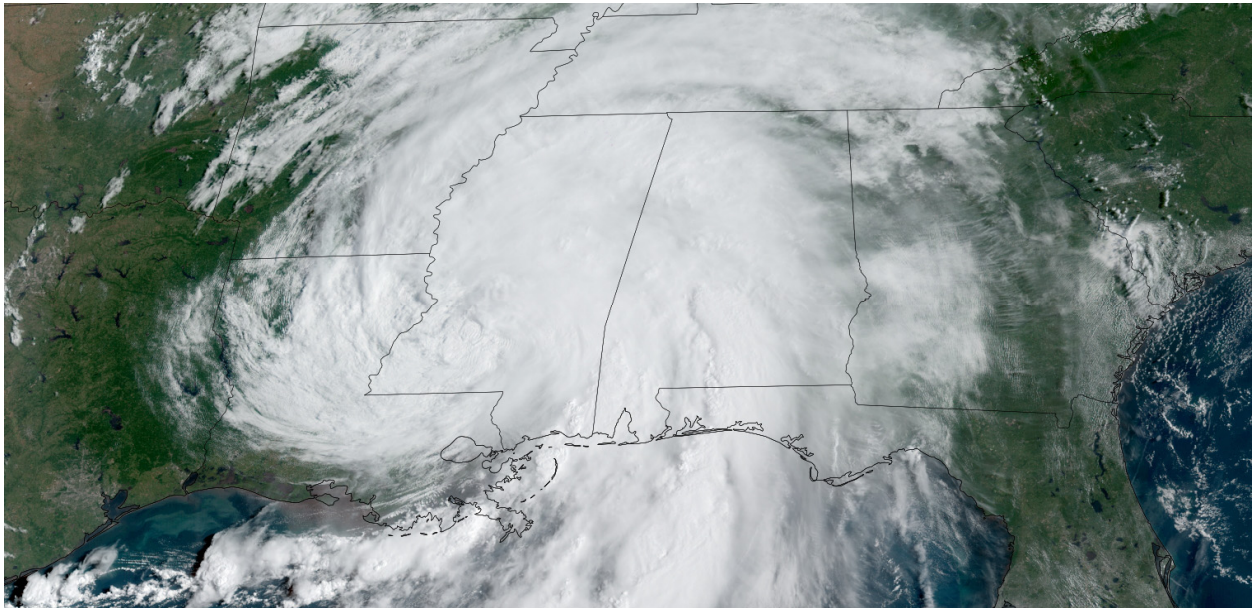
SAFFIR-SIMPSON SCALE RANKING: Tropical Storm

LANDFALL LOCATION: near Fourchon, Louisiana (United States)

LANDFALL INTENSITY: 150 mph (240 kph) – Category 4

LANDFALL TIMEFRAME: approximately 11:55 AM local time (16:55 UTC) August 29

Latest Satellite Picture



Source: NOAA / NASA / Colorado State University (RAAMB)

Discussion

Tropical Storm Ida, located approximately 40 miles (65 kilometers) southwest of Jackson, Mississippi, is currently tracking north at 9 mph (15 kph). The center of Ida has moved farther inland over western Mississippi this morning and NWS Doppler radar velocities and surface observations indicate that the tropical cyclone's winds have continued to decrease. The strongest winds are in a band of convection well southeast of the center along the coasts of Mississippi and Alabama where recent surface reports indicate winds of nearly 40 mph (65 kph) are still occurring. Based on this data, the NHC has set an initial intensity at 40 mph (65 kph). As Ida's circulation moves farther inland, additional weakening will continue, and Ida is expected to become a tropical depression this afternoon. Continued weakening should occur while Ida moves over the Tennessee Valley on Tuesday, and the system is forecast to become extratropical over the eastern United States by late Wednesday. The forecast models indicate that the post-tropical cyclone will be absorbed by a frontal zone over the western Atlantic by the end of the forecast period.

Ida is moving just east of due north and a north-northeastward turn should occur later today, followed by a faster northeastward motion tonight and Tuesday as a mid- to upper-level trough approaches the cyclone from the west. The forecast model guidance remains tightly clustered with very little cross-track spread, although there remains some speed or along-track spread in the guidance.

Please note that Hurricane Ida has caused extensive wind, storm surge, and inland flood-related damage across Louisiana. Further damage is anticipated in Mississippi, Alabama, and other inland states as heavy rains and gusty winds from Ida or its remnants move into the Tennessee Valley and Mid-Atlantic. A significant financial cost is anticipated, with the direct economic toll likely to be well into the double-digit billions (USD). A sizeable portion of this total will not be covered by insurance, including most damage to infrastructure or properties without an active National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policy. Early indications suggest that the insurance impact – including losses from private and public entities – will also be a double-digit billion (USD) total. It will take many months or longer for the financial view of this event to fully develop. Loss estimates will be subject to several revisions as more data is obtained.

Key Messages from the National Hurricane Center

1. Dangerous storm surge inundation will continue into this afternoon along portions of the coasts of Mississippi and Alabama.
2. Tropical storm force winds, especially in gusts, will continue over portions of southeastern Louisiana, southern Mississippi and southern Alabama this afternoon.
3. Ida will continue to produce heavy rainfall tonight through Tuesday morning across portions of southeast Louisiana, Mississippi, and western Alabama, resulting in considerable flash and urban flooding and significant river flooding impacts. Rivers in the Lower Mississippi Valley will remain elevated into next week. As Ida moves inland, additional considerable flooding impacts are likely across portions of the Tennessee Valley, the Ohio Valley, and particularly in the Central and Southern Appalachians into the Mid-Atlantic through Wednesday.
4. In areas that experienced damage and power loss, individuals should use extreme caution during the recovery phase. Post-storm fatalities and injuries often result from heart attacks, heat exhaustion, accidents related to clean up and recovery, and carbon monoxide poisoning from improper generator use.

Additional Information

STORM SURGE: The combination of a dangerous storm surge and the tide will cause normally dry areas near the coast to be flooded by rising waters moving inland from the shoreline. The water could reach the following heights above ground somewhere in the indicated areas if the peak surge occurs at the time of high tide:

Mouth of the Pearl River to AL/FL border, including Mobile Bay: 3-5 feet

Morgan City, LA to the Mouth of the Pearl River, including Lake Borgne: 1-3 feet

Lake Maurepas and Lake Pontchartrain: 1-3 feet

AL/FL border to Okaloosa/Walton County Line including Pensacola Bay: 1-3 feet

Surge-related flooding depends on the relative timing of the surge and the tidal cycle and can vary greatly over short distances.

WIND: Tropical storm conditions will continue over portions of southern Mississippi and southern Alabama through early afternoon.

RAINFALL: Through Tuesday morning across portions of southeast Louisiana into far southern Mississippi, Ida will produce additional rainfall totals of 2 to 4 inches with localized higher amounts possible. Storm total rainfall accumulations of 10 to 18 inches with isolated maximum amounts of 24 inches are expected. Heavy rain combined with storm surge has resulted in catastrophic impacts along the southeast coast of Louisiana with considerable flash flooding and riverine flooding continuing farther inland.

Ida will continue to turn northeast this morning and is forecast to track across the Middle Tennessee Valley, Ohio Valley and Mid-Atlantic through Wednesday, producing the following rainfall totals:

Coastal Alabama to the far western Florida panhandle: An additional 4 to 8 inches resulting in storm total accumulations of 6 to 12 inches with isolated maximum amounts of 15 inches, today through Tuesday morning.

Central Mississippi into far western Alabama: 4 to 8 inches with isolated maximum amounts of 12 inches, today through tonight.

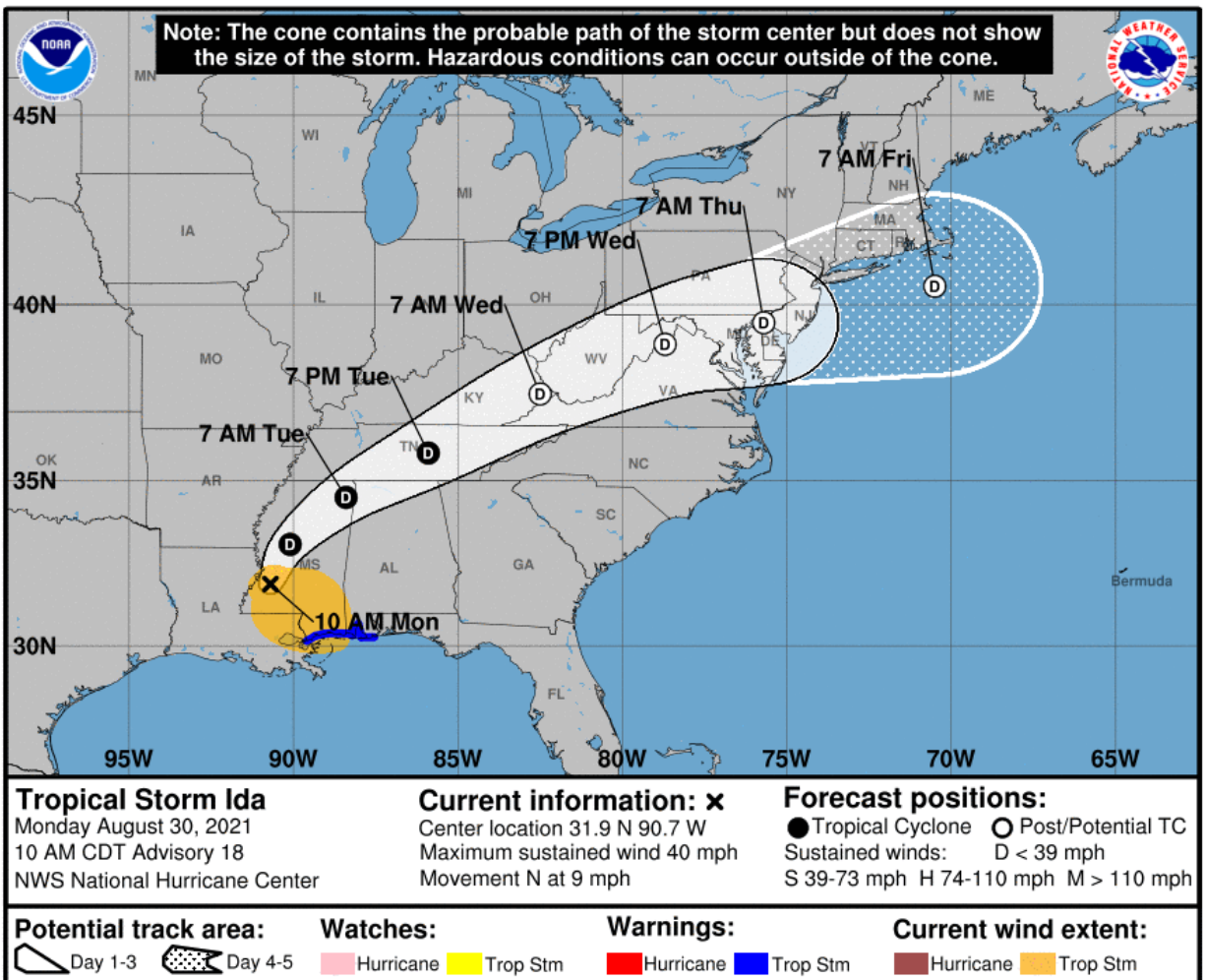
Middle Tennessee Valley, Ohio Valley, Central/Southern Appalachians into the Mid-Atlantic: 3 to 6 inches with isolated higher amounts, Tuesday into Wednesday.

Considerable flash flooding is possible from the Lower Mississippi Valley through the Middle Tennessee Valley, Ohio Valley, Central/Southern Appalachians, and into the Mid-Atlantic. Widespread minor to isolated major riverine flooding is occurring or forecast from the Lower Mississippi Valley into far western Alabama. Rivers will remain elevated into next week.

TORNADOES: A few tornadoes are possible through tonight, mainly across southeast Mississippi, southern Alabama, and the western Florida Panhandle. The threat for a few tornadoes will shift east on Tuesday and become centered across eastern Alabama, western Georgia, and the Florida Panhandle.

SURF: Swells will continue to affect portions of the northern Gulf Coast through today. These swells are likely to cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions.

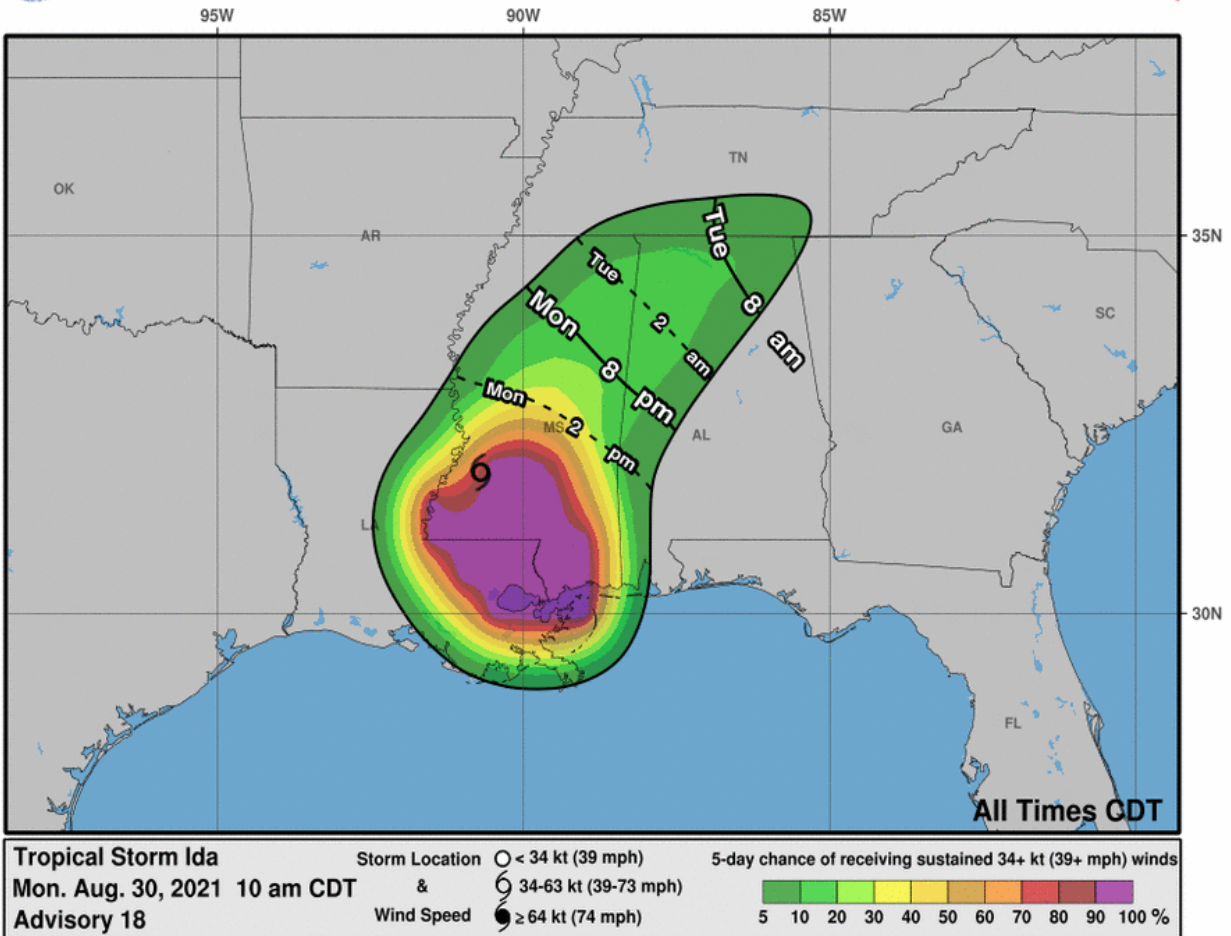
National Hurricane Center (NHC) Forecast



Most Likely Arrival Time of Tropical Storm-Force Winds



Most Likely Arrival Time of Tropical-Storm-Force Winds

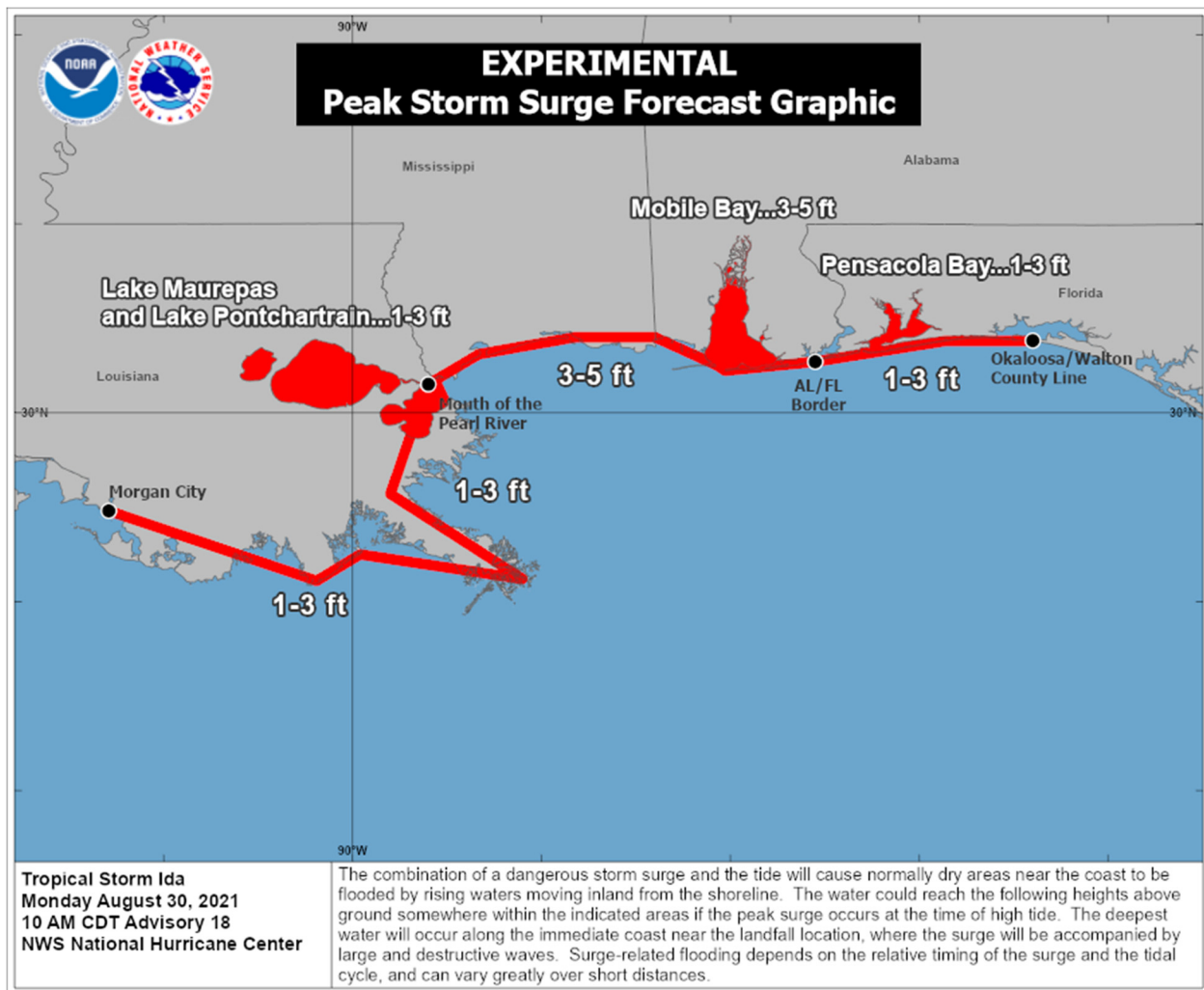


National Hurricane Center: Wind Speed Probabilities

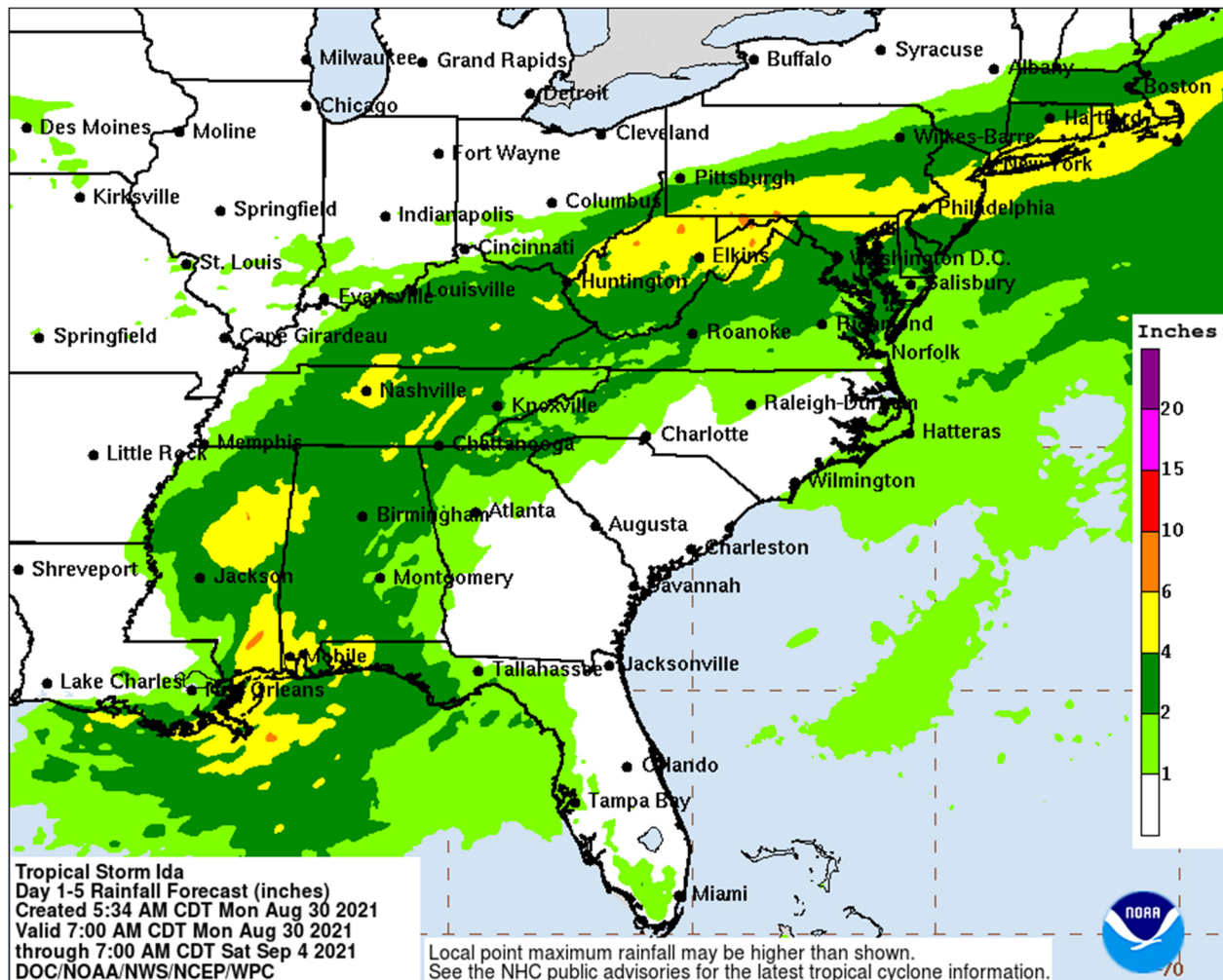
Tropical Storm-Force Wind Probabilities (≥ 40 mph (65 kph))



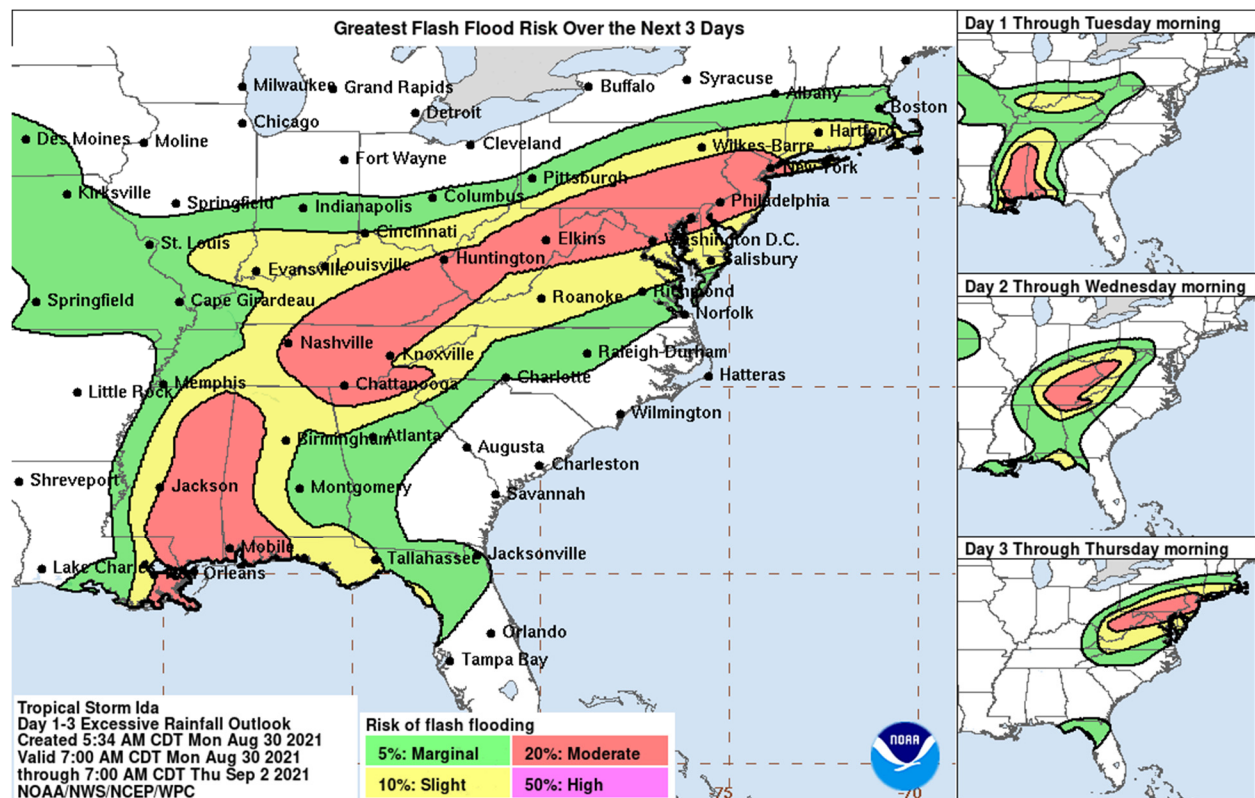
NHC: Storm Surge Inundation Graphic



Weather Prediction Center: Rainfall Potential



Weather Prediction Center: Flash Flood Potential



Additional Information and Update Schedule

Wind intensity forecasts and forecast track information can be found via the National Hurricane Center at www.nhc.noaa.gov

NEXT CAT ALERT: Since continued weakening will occur while tracking further inland, this will be the final Cat Alert. A comprehensive review will be found in this week's Weekly Cat Report.

Tropical Cyclone Intensity Classifications for Global Basins

WIND SPEED			BASINS AND MONITORING BUREAU							
KT	MPH	KPH	NE Pacific, Atlantic	NW Pacific	NW Pacific	SW Pacific	Australia	SW Indian	North Indian	
			National Hurricane Center (NHC)	Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC)	Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA)	Fiji Meteorological Service (FMS)	Bureau of Meteorology (BOM)	Meteo-France (MF)	India Meteorological Department (IMD)	
30	35	55	Tropical Depression	Tropical Depression	Tropical Depression	Tropical Depression	Tropical Low	Tropical Depression	Deep Depression	
35	40	65	Tropical Storm	Tropical Storm	Tropical Storm	Cat. 1 Tropical Cyclone	Cat. 1 Tropical Cyclone	Moderate Tropical Storm	Cyclonic Storm	
40	45	75								
45	50	85			Severe Tropical Storm	Cat. 2 Tropical Cyclone	Cat. 2 Tropical Cyclone	Severe Tropical Storm	Severe Cyclonic Storm	
50	60	95								
55	65	100								
60	70	110								
65	75	120	Cat. 1 Hurricane	Typhoon	Typhoon	Cat. 3 Severe Tropical Cyclone	Cat. 3 Severe Tropical Cyclone	Tropical Cyclone	Very Severe Cyclonic Storm	
70	80	130								
75	85	140								
80	90	150				Cat. 2 Hurricane	Cat. 4 Severe Tropical Cyclone	Cat. 4 Severe Tropical Cyclone		Intense Tropical Cyclone
85	100	160								
90	105	170								
95	110	175				Cat. 3 Major Hurricane	Cat. 5 Severe Tropical Cyclone	Cat. 5 Severe Tropical Cyclone	Very Intense Tropical Cyclone	Super Cyclonic Storm
100	115	185								
105	120	195								
110	125	205								
115	130	210	Cat. 4 Major Hurricane							
120	140	220								
125	145	230								
130	150	240								
135	155	250	Cat. 5 Major Hurricane							
140	160	260								
>140	>160	>260								

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