Tropical Activity

Atlantic – Tropical Storm Ian

- Hurricane Ian made landfall near Cayo Costa, Florida Wednesday as a category 4 hurricane with 150mph winds and will likely make a second landfall on the Atlantic Coast Friday.
- Ian, now a tropical storm, continues to bring dangerous conditions to parts of Florida as it churns toward the Atlantic.
- As of 8 a.m. ET Thursday, Ian’s center was some 40 miles east of Orlando and 10 miles west of Cape Canaveral.
- It was moving northeast at 8 mph, with maximum sustained winds of 65 mph.
- Forecasters caution that Ian's center is looking more likely to move all the way across the Florida Peninsula and emerge over the Atlantic Ocean on Friday.
- Depending on how long the center of Ian is able to spin over the Atlantic, Ian may be able to regain some wind intensity.
- Given Ian's current track, the most likely timing for its second U.S. landfall is late Friday afternoon to early Friday evening.
- A large swath from Georgia to Virginia is forecast to pick up at least 2-4 inches of rain from Ian spanning Friday through the weekend.
- States of emergency have been declared in Georgia, Virginia and the Carolinas in advance of Ian’s arrival, and tropical storm warnings as well as storm surge warnings have been posted.

Florida

- The middle of the state, Ian dumped record-smashing rain. The Orlando metro area saw nearly a foot of rain from 4 a.m. Wednesday until 4 a.m. Thursday.
- Flash flood warnings were issued for parts of Orange, Osceola, Brevard and Volusia counties.
- Severe and life-threatening storm surge inundation of eight to 10 feet above ground level, along with destructive waves, is ongoing along the southwest Florida coastline from Englewood to Bonita Beach, including Charlotte Harbor.
- FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell has told CNN that Lee County, home to Fort Myers, was the area hit hardest by Hurricane Ian. And she expects the damage is going to be catastrophic.
- Five deaths have been confirmed in Fort Myers as Hurricane Ian continues moving across land on Thursday.
- Florida’s Turnpike is closed in both directions from mile markers 254 through 267 in Orange County due to significant flooding, according to the Florida Highway Patrol.
- A section of the Sanibel Causeway, the only bridge that leads to Sanibel Island, collapsed on Wednesday night in the wake of Hurricane Ian.
September 29, 2022

- Jacksonville International Airport has announced it is not operating today and all flights are canceled. Flights remain canceled at Tampa International and Orlando International. Nearly 2,000 flights have been canceled today, according to flight tracker flightaware.com.
- More than 2.5 million people were without power across the state by 6:30 a.m.
- Power outages hit Southwest Florida the hardest including most residents of hard-hit DeSoto, Charlotte, Lee and Collier counties, according to poweroutage.us. About 600,000 people were without power in Central Florida by Thursday morning.
- Mandatory & voluntary evacuations in FL for 21 counties.
- 196 shelters open with 10.6k occupants.
- President Joe Biden approved a Major Disaster declaration in Florida after Hurricane Ian hit the state Wednesday as a Category 4 storm.
- Biden ordered Federal aid to supplement State, tribal, and local recovery efforts in the areas affected by Hurricane Ian.
- The President’s action makes Federal funding available to affected individuals in the counties of Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Hardee, Hillsborough, Lee, Manatee, Pinellas, and Sarasota.

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