

Table C26.5-1 Saffir/Simpson Hurricane Scale

Hurricane Category	Sustained Wind Speed (1)		Central Barometric Pressure		Storm Surge		Damage Potential
	mph	(m/s)	inches of mercury	millibars	ft	(m)	
1	74–95	33.1–42.5	>28.91	>979	4 to 5	0.8 to 1.2	Minimal
2	96–110	42.6–49.2	28.50–28.91	965–979	6 to 8	1.3 to 1.8	Moderate
3	111–130	49.3–58.1	27.91–28.47	945–964	9 to 12	1.9 to 2.7	Extensive
4	131–155	58.2–69.3	27.17–27.88	920–944	13 to 18	2.8 to 3.7	Extreme
5	>155	>69.3	<27.17	<920	>18	> 3.7	Catastrophic

1000 millibars = 100 kPa

(1) 1-minute average wind speed at 33 ft (10 m) above open water

Table C26.5-2 Approximate Relationship between Wind Speeds in Asce 7 and Saffir/Simpson Hurricane Scale

Saffir/Simpson Hurricane Category	Sustained Wind Speed Over Water ^a		Gust Wind Speed Over Water ^b		Gust Wind Speed Over Land ^c	
	MPH	(m/s)	mph	(m/s)	mph	(m/s)
1	74–95	33–43	90–116	40.2–51.9	81–105	36.2–46.9
2	96–110	44–49	117–134	52.3–59.9	106–121	47.4–54.1
3	111–130	50–58	135–158	60.3–70.6	122–143	54.5–63.9
4	131–155	59–69	159–189	71.1–84.5	144–171	64.4–76.4
5	>155	>69	>190	>84.5	>171	>76.4

^a1-minute average wind speed at 33 ft (10 m) above open water^b3-second gust wind speed at 33 ft (10 m) above open water^c3-second gust wind speed at 33 ft (10 m) above open ground in Exposure Category C. This column has the same basis (averaging time, height, and exposure) as the basic wind speed from Figure 26.5-1.