

= 1868 Atlantic hurricane season =

The 1868 Atlantic hurricane season was among the quietest on record , with only four tropical cyclones recorded . Only three seasons had fewer storms than in 1868 , and seven had the same number of storms . Initially , there were no known storms during the season , although a re @-@ analysis confirmed the activity . All tropical activity occurred within a 45 day span . There may have been other unconfirmed tropical cyclones during the season . Meteorologist Christopher Landsea estimates up to six storms were missed from the official database , due to small tropical cyclone size , sparse ship reports , and relatively unpopulated coastlines .

Only one of the storms , the second , made landfall , doing so near Apalachicola , Florida . It produced heavy rainfall and gusty winds across the southeastern United States , although there was no severe damage associated with the storm . The first hurricane killed two people when a ship passed through its winds for 14 hours . The third hurricane , located in the western Caribbean Sea , did not affect land , although two ships experienced its strong winds . The final hurricane lasted three days across the western Atlantic , forcing one ship to halt its voyage due to storm damage .

= = Timeline = =

= = Storms = =

= = = Hurricane One = = =

The first known tropical cyclone of the season was observed on September 3 , about halfway between the Bahamas and Bermuda . A nearby ship estimated winds of 80 mph (130 km) , indicating the presence of the hurricane . It moved northward initially , passing about 220 mi (355 km) west of Bermuda on September 4 . Thereafter , the hurricane turned toward the northeast , and the ship " John Richardson " encountered gale force winds on September 5 , resulting in a wreck of its cargo . On September 6 , it was estimated to have reached peak winds of 105 mph (165 km / h) , based on observations from the ship with the call sign " Greenock " . The hurricane lashed the ship with strong winds for 14 hours , killing the captain and one crewman . At the time , it was about 400 mi (640 km) southeast of Halifax , Nova Scotia . Turning to the northeast , the hurricane passed south of Newfoundland before last being observed on September 7 .

= = = Tropical Storm Two = = =

A ship sunk in the western Gulf of Mexico on October 1 , which was the first indication of the second tropical cyclone of the season . The storm moved slowly northeastward toward the southeastern Louisiana coastline , intensifying to its estimated peak winds of 70 mph (115 km / h) . On October 4 , it passed near or over southeastern Louisiana , producing heavy rain and gusty winds in New Orleans . Flooding was observed in portions of the city , and the West Rigolets Lighthouse on Lake Pontchartrain suffered \$ 5 @ , @ 000 in damage due to the storm (1868 USD , \$ 81 @ , @ 000 2010 USD) . The storm accelerated northeastward and struck near Apalachicola , Florida late on October 4 .

As the storm crossed over the Florida panhandle and southeastern Georgia , the winds weakened to 45 mph (72 km / h) , although it still produced heavy rainfall and gusty winds in Savannah , Georgia . No severe damage was reported in the city . The tropical storm continued northeastward , emerging into the western Atlantic and paralleling the coastlines of the Carolinas just offshore . Several ships reported strong winds and rough seas . On October 6 , the storm restrengthened to its peak intensity before becoming an extratropical cyclone about 200 mi (320 km) southeast of Cape Cod ; however , one meteorologist assessed it as acquiring extratropical characteristics after it exited Georgia into the western Atlantic . As an extratropical storm , it reached winds of 80 mph (

130 km / h) , based on a ship report south of Atlantic Canada . Late on October 7 , the storm was last observed to the south of Newfoundland . The storm was the only one in the season not to attain hurricane status .

= = = Hurricane Three = = =

As the previous storm was moving along the coastline of the southeastern United States , a new hurricane was observed in the western Caribbean Sea , about halfway between Honduras and Jamaica . Its intensity , based on a ship report , was estimated at 105 mph (165 km / h) . The hurricane moved slowly west @-@ northwestward , and another ship experienced its strong winds on October 7 . There were no further observations , so its complete track is unknown .

= = = Hurricane Four = = =

The final known hurricane of the season was observed on October 15 , to the northeast of the central Bahamas . The ship " Jim Cow " , en route from New York to Panama , suffered heavy damage from the storm , so much that it could not complete its voyage . Moving generally northeastward , the hurricane was estimated to have reached peak winds of 105 mph (165 km / h) , based on ship reports . On October 17 the cyclone was absorbed by a rapidly intensifying extratropical cyclone off the coast of New England . It never affected land .