

= 1900 Atlantic hurricane season =

The 1900 Atlantic hurricane season featured seven known tropical cyclones, three of which made landfall in the United States. The first system, Hurricane One, was initially observed on August 27. The final storm, Tropical Storm Seven, transitioned into an extratropical cyclone on October 29. These dates fall within the period with the most tropical cyclone activity in the Atlantic. Every storm of the season except Tropical Storm Seven existed simultaneously with another tropical cyclone.

Of the season's seven tropical cyclones, three reached hurricane status. Furthermore, two of those three strengthened into major hurricanes, which are Category 3 or higher on the modern Saffir–Simpson hurricane wind scale. The strongest cyclone of the season, the first hurricane, peaked at Category 4 strength with 145 mph (230 km/h) winds. Upon striking Texas shortly after peak intensity, it produced a devastating storm surge in the Galveston area, with nearly destroyed the city and caused at least 8,000 fatalities. Nicknamed the "Galveston hurricane of 1900", it remains the deadliest natural disaster in the history of the United States. The hurricane also caused about \$31–35 million (1900 USD) in damage. Impact from other tropical cyclones was generally minor, though the remnants of Tropical Storm Five resulted in 1 death and at least \$100,000 in damage in Atlantic Canada.

= = Season summary = =

Tropical cyclogenesis began with the development of the first hurricane on August 27 well west of Cape Verde. It was the strongest storm of the season, peaking as a Category 4 hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 145 mph (230 km/h) and a minimum barometric pressure of 936 mbar (27.6 inHg). This was abnormally late, as the average date of development of the first tropical storm between 1944 and 1996 was July 11. In comparison, the latest date of the first tropical storm during the satellite era was Hurricane Anita on August 29, 1977. During the month of September, which is the climatological peak of hurricane season, three additional tropical cyclones formed, two of which were hurricanes. After the third hurricane dissipated on September 23, activity went dormant for nearly 2 weeks, until the fifth tropical storm formed near the Lesser Antilles on October 4. As it was becoming extratropical, a sixth tropical cyclone developed in the Bay of Campeche on October 10. The final system formed in the eastern Caribbean Sea, crossed Hispaniola, and transitioned into an extratropical cyclone between Bermuda and the East Coast of the United States on October 28.

By far, the storm that caused the most devastation was Hurricane One, nicknamed the "Galveston hurricane". Its storm surge submerged much of Galveston Island in Texas, killing between 6,000 and 12,000 people. Official estimates put the death toll at approximately 8,000. As a result, it is currently the deadliest natural disaster in the history of the United States. At the time, it was also the second deadliest tropical cyclone in the Atlantic basin, behind only the Great Hurricane of 1780, which killed at least 22,000 people in the Lesser Antilles. However, the Galveston hurricane was surpassed in 1998 by Hurricane Mitch, which caused more than 11,000 fatalities in Central America. The storm was also among the deadliest in Canada, where at least 102 people were killed. Few other tropical cyclones during the 1900 Atlantic hurricane season caused any damage or fatalities. However, the extratropical remnants of Tropical Storm Five brought moderate damage to Canada. The storm caused 1 fatality and about \$100,000 in losses, mainly to railroads.

The season's activity was reflected with an accumulated cyclone energy (ACE) rating of 81. ACE is, broadly speaking, a measure of the power of the hurricane multiplied by the length of time it existed, so storms that last a long time, as well as particularly strong hurricanes, have high ACEs. It is only calculated for full advisories on tropical systems at or exceeding 34 knots (39 mph, 63 km/h) or tropical storm strength.

= = Storms = =

## == Hurricane One " The Galveston Hurricane " ==

Early on August 27 , a ship encountered the first tropical storm of the season , while located about 1 @, @ 160 miles ( 1 @, @ 870 km ) east of the southernmost islands of Cape Verde . It slowly strengthened while moving steadily west @-@ northwestward and entered the northeastern Caribbean Sea on August 30 . The storm moved south of Puerto Rico and made landfall in Dominican Republic as a weak tropical storm on September 2 . It weakened slightly while crossing Hispaniola , before re @-@ emerging into the Caribbean Sea later that day . On September 3 , the cyclone struck modern day Santiago de Cuba Province and then slowly drifted along the southern coast of Cuba . Upon reaching the Gulf of Mexico on September 6 , the storm strengthened into a hurricane , while situated near Dry Tortugas .

Significant intensification followed and the system peaked as a Category 4 hurricane with winds of 145 mph ( 230 km / h ) on September 8 . Early on the next day , it made landfall near modern day Jamaica Beach , Texas with winds of 140 mph ( 220 km / h ) . Around that time , its minimum barometric pressure of 936 mbar ( 27 @. @ 6 inHg ) was observed . It weakened quickly after moving inland and fell to tropical storm intensity late on September 9 . The storm turned east @-@ northeastward and became extratropical over Iowa on September 11 . The extratropical system strengthened while accelerating across the Midwestern United States , Ontario , Quebec , northern New England , and then New Brunswick before reaching the Gulf of Saint Lawrence on September 13 . Later that day , the extratropical remnants struck Newfoundland . It then reached the far North Atlantic Ocean and began to weaken , finally dissipating near Iceland on September 15 .

The storm brought heavy rainfall to Cuba , with up to 12 @. @ 58 inches ( 320 mm ) in a 24 ? hour period in the city of Santiago de Cuba . Much of Florida experienced tropical storm force winds , though no damage occurred . In Texas , strong winds were reported in the Galveston area , reaching 120 mph ( 190 km / h ) . Storm surges between 8 and 12 feet ( 2 @. @ 4 and 3 @. @ 7 m ) inundated the entire Galveston Island . Every house sustained damage , with at least 3 @, @ 636 destroyed . In Galveston alone , approximately 30 @, @ 000 were left homeless , out of a total population of 37 @, @ 000 . The actual death toll is unknown , though it is thought to be at least 8 @, @ 000 . Thus , the 1900 Galveston hurricane was the deadliest natural disaster in the history of the United States . Property damage from the storm was estimated at \$ 30 million . Hurricane force winds and storm surge inundated portions of southern Louisiana , though no significant damage or fatalities were reported . Further north , the storm and its remnants continued to produce heavy rains gusty winds , which downed telegraph wires in Illinois , Kentucky , New York , Michigan , and Ohio . Another fatality occurred in New York City when gusty winds knocked over a sign and struck a 23 @-@ year @-@ old man . The remnants brought severe impact to Canada . In the province of Ontario , losses reached about \$ 1 @. @ 35 million , with \$ 1 million to crops . There were at least 107 deaths in Canada , mostly due to sunken vessels near Newfoundland and the French territory of Saint @-@ Pierre .

## == Hurricane Two ==

A ship reported strong gales in the vicinity of Cape Verde on September 7 . Thus , HURDAT indicates that the second tropical storm of the season formed early on September 7 , while located about 220 miles ( 350 km ) west of the southernmost islands of Cape Verde . It quickly strengthened to a strong tropical storm on September 8 , but then maintained that intensity for nearly 5 days . The system was not tracked until being encountered by the steamship Hungaria on September 13 , at which time it was already a hurricane . Originally , the system was listed as Hurricane Four , it was operationally believed to have developed after the next two tropical cyclones . Later on September 14 , it strengthened further into a Category 2 hurricane while moving northwestward .

Re @-@ curving northward , the system intensified into a Category 3 hurricane on September 16 . At 1800 UTC , the hurricane peaked with maximum sustained winds of 120 mph ( 195 km / h ) . However , it weakened to a Category 2 hurricane later on September 17 . Shortly thereafter , the

storm bypassed southeast of Bermuda , bring gusty winds but little impact . It then re @-@ curved northeastward . The system weakened back to a Category 1 hurricane on September 18 . Later that day , it weakened to a tropical storm and then to a tropical depression early on September 19 . The storm persisted for several more hours , until dissipated about 390 miles ( 630 km ) southeast of Cape Race , Newfoundland .

= = = Hurricane Three = = =

Ship reports indicates that a tropical storm developed on September 8 at 1200 UTC , while located about 175 miles ( 280 km ) east of the Bissagos Islands , Guinea @-@ Bissau . The storm gradually strengthened as it was heading west @-@ northward . By late on September 9 , the system strengthened into a hurricane . It passed southwest of Cape Verde on the following day . The storm then intensified slowly , becoming a Category 2 hurricane early on September 12 . Around that time , the hurricane peaked with maximum sustained winds of 100 mph ( 155 km / h ) . Later on September 12 , it re @-@ curved north @-@ northwestward . After turning north @-@ northeast , the storm began executing a small cyclonic loop on September 14 .

A weakening trend soon occurred , with it weakening to a Category 1 hurricane early on September 15 . About four days later , the hurricane completed its cyclonic loop and then headed west @-@ northwestward . The system weakened to a tropical storm early on September 20 . During the next few days , the storm decelerated and turned westward . Late on September 22 , it weakened to a tropical depression . The depression continued westward , until dissipating at 1800 UTC on September 23 , while located about 745 miles ( 1 @, @ 200 km ) east @-@ southeast of Bermuda .

= = = Tropical Storm Four = = =

Weather maps first indicated a tropical storm over the northwestern Caribbean Sea on September 11 . Heading northwestward , the system brushed the Yucatan Peninsula as weak tropical storm . Late on September 11 , it peaked with maximum sustained winds of 50 mph ( 85 km / h ) and a minimum barometric pressure of 1 @, @ 005 mbar ( 29 @. @ 7 inHg ) , while located in the southeastern Gulf of Mexico . Early on September 13 , the storm re @-@ curved northeastward and began weakening . At 0600 UTC on September 13 , it made landfall near Venice , Louisiana at the same intensity . The storm weakened slightly and briefly moved offshore , before making another landfall near Ocean Springs , Mississippi with winds of 40 mph ( 65 km / h ) .

Early on September 14 , the storm weakened to a tropical depression . It weakened slowly while moving northeastward across the Deep South , before dissipating near Athens , Georgia on September 15 . Operationally , it was considered the third tropical cyclone of the season . A telegraph from the Weather Bureau headquarters in Washington , D.C. warned vessels to remain in port for portions of the Gulf Coast of the United States . Strong gales were experienced along the coast from eastern Louisiana to western Florida and severely disrupted telegraph services in the region . The remnants brought heavy rains from Virginia to New England . Rough seas along the coast of New Jersey washed the schooner Willie ashore .

= = = Tropical Storm Five = = =

Observations from a ship indicate that the fifth tropical depression of the season developed at 0600 UTC on October 4 , while located about 230 miles ( 370 km ) northeast of Anguilla . Initially , the system remained weak and failed to strengthen into a tropical storm until October 7 . It began to execute a cyclonic loop by early on the following day . Further intensification occurred and the storm peaked with winds of 70 mph ( 110 km / h ) early on October 9 . Eventually , it accelerated north @-@ northeastward and became extratropical early on October 10 . The remnants moved northward and eventually curved northeastward . Late on October 11 , the extratropical remnants struck Nova Scotia . It continued rapidly across Atlantic Canada and re @-@ emerged into the Atlantic . By October 14 , the remnants dissipated near the southern tip of Greenland .

The remnants of Tropical Storm Five brought severe impact to Canada . In Nova Scotia , 13 schooners were grounded , while 2 were destroyed . Strong winds downed telegraph wires in the eastern end of the province , while barns were de @-@ roofed and trees were felled in Bayfield . High tides in New Brunswick inundated portions of Saint John , with some houses having up to 18 inches ( 460 mm ) of water . Other low @-@ lying areas were flooded . Washouts disrupted the Canadian Pacific Railway service and swept away portions of the tracks . The cost to repairs the tracks was estimated at \$ 100 @,@ 000 . There was also damage to highways and bridges . A child drowned after attempting to cross a swollen creek . On Prince Edward Island , winds damaged small buildings and knocked chimneys of some houses . Electrical wires were reported down in Charlottetown .

= = = Tropical Storm Six = = =

The sixth tropical storm of the season developed in the Bay of Campeche on October 10 . Operationally , it was believed that the storm originated over eastern Cuba . Moving rapidly north @-@ northeastward across the Gulf of Mexico , the storm peaked with maximum sustained winds of 45 mph ( 75 km / h ) and a minimum barometric pressure of 1 @,@ 008 mbar ( 29 @.@ 8 inHg ) early on October 11 . The storm re @-@ curved east @-@ northeastward and made landfall near modern day Horseshoe Beach , Florida at the same intensity early on October 12 .

It emerged into the Atlantic Ocean late on October 12 , shortly before becoming extratropical while located about 35 miles ( 56 km ) east of Jekyll Island , Georgia . The remnants moved along the East Coast of the United States , striking the Outer Banks of North Carolina , Long Island in New York , and New England . It continued inland over Canada , until dissipating over Labrador on October 15 . Impact from the storm was generally minor . Rainfall and gusty winds were reported between Florida and the Carolinas . Further north , it brought brisk to strong winds to New Jersey and southern New England .

= = = Tropical Storm Seven = = =

Telegraph reports indicate that a tropical depression developed in the eastern Caribbean Sea on October 24 . The depression moved northwestward without differentiating in intensity before making landfall near San Cristóbal , Dominican Republic with winds of 35 mph ( 55 km / h ) . It did not weaken while crossing Hispaniola and instead strengthened into a tropical storm shortly after emerging into the Atlantic Ocean near the northwestern tip of Haiti . Late on October 27 , the storm re @-@ curved north @-@ northeastward and pass through the eastern Bahamas . Around that time , it peaked with maximum sustained winds of 50 mph ( 85 km / h ) .

Early on October 28 , the storm accelerated and re @-@ curved slightly to the northeast . At 0000 UTC on October 29 , it transitioned into an extratropical cyclone while located about 310 miles ( 500 km ) northwest of Bermuda . The extratropical remnants persisted until dissipating later on October 29 . No impact was reported in either Dominican Republic or Haiti . Much of eastern Cuba reported light rains , particularly in the provinces of Camagüey and Santiago de Cuba . Strong winds were reported throughout the Bahamas , though no damage occurred . As far east as Jupiter , Florida , sustained winds reached 32 mph ( 51 km / h ) .