

= 1911 Atlantic hurricane season =

The 1911 Atlantic hurricane season was relatively inactive , with only six known tropical cyclones forming in the Atlantic during the summer and fall . There were three suspected tropical depressions , including one that began the season in February and one that ended the season when it dissipated in December . Three storms intensified into hurricanes , two of which attained Category 2 status on the modern @-@ day Saffir ? Simpson Hurricane Scale . Storm data is largely based on the Atlantic hurricane database , which underwent a thorough revision for the period between 1911 and 1914 in 2005 .

Most of the cyclones directly impacted land . A westward @-@ moving hurricane killed 17 people and severely damaged Charleston , South Carolina , and the surrounding area in late August . A couple of weeks earlier , the Pensacola , Florida area had a storm in the Gulf of Mexico that produced winds of 80 mph (130 km / h) over land . The fourth storm of the season struck the coast of Nicaragua , killing 10 and causing extensive damage .

= = Season summary = =

The Atlantic hurricane database (HURDAT) officially recognizes six tropical cyclones from the 1911 season . Only three attained hurricane status , with winds of 75 mph (121 km / h) or greater . The third hurricane of the season was the most intense storm , with a minimum central air pressure of 972 mbar (28 @. @ 7 inHg) . A week after its dissipation , another hurricane formed with wind speeds that matched the previous storm , but with unknown air pressure . Three weak tropical depressions developed and remained below tropical storm force ; the first formed in February and the third in December . The first storm to reach tropical storm intensity developed on August 4 , and the final tropical storm of the year dissipated on October 31 .

The early 1900s lacked modern forecasting and documentation . The hurricane database from these years is sometimes found to be incomplete or incorrect , and new storms are continually being added as part of the ongoing Atlantic hurricane reanalysis . The period from 1911 through 1914 was reanalyzed in 2005 . Two previously unknown tropical cyclones were identified using records including historical weather maps and ship reports , and information on the known storms was amended and corrected . These storms are referred to simply by their number in chronological order , since tropical cyclones in the Atlantic Ocean were not given official names until much later .

= = Timeline = =

= = Storms = =

= = = Tropical Storm One = = =

Identified by its lack of associated frontal boundaries and closed circulation center , the first tropical cyclone of the 1911 season formed on August 4 over southern Alabama in the United States . At only tropical depression strength , it tracked eastward and emerged into the Atlantic Ocean the next day . Several days later , while located near Bermuda , the depression became a tropical storm and turned northeastward . The storm lasted several more days until dissipating on August 11 . The storm produced heavy rainfall on the Bermuda , but no gale @-@ force winds were reported . The storm was unknown until the 2005 Atlantic hurricane database revision recognized it as a tropical storm .

= = = Hurricane Two = = =

Based on ship observations in the southeastern Gulf of Mexico , a low @-@ pressure area

developed north of Key West in early August . It developed into a tropical depression at 12 : 00 UTC on August 8 , and strengthened into a tropical storm at 06 : 00 UTC on August 9 while moving northwestward off the west coast of Florida . Gradual intensification continued , and at 06 : 00 UTC on August 11 the storm strengthened to hurricane status . At 22 : 00 UTC on August 11 , the hurricane reached its peak intensity and concurrently made landfall near the border between Alabama and Florida as a small tropical cyclone . During this time , the storm 's maximum sustained winds were estimated at 80 mph (130 km / h) , making it the equivalent of a Category 1 hurricane on the modern day Saffir ? Simpson hurricane wind scale . A lull in the storm accompanied the nearby passage of its eye before conditions once again deteriorated . Although the lowest barometric pressure measured on land was 1007 mbar (hPa ; 29 @.@ 74 inHg) in Pensacola , Florida , the storm 's pressure was estimated to be much lower at 982 mbar (hPa : 29 @.@ 00 inHg) . After making landfall , the hurricane weakened and slowly drifted westward , weakening to a tropical depression over Louisiana on August 13 , before dissipating over Arkansas by 12 : 00 UTC the next day .

While developing in the Gulf of Mexico , the tropical cyclone brought light rainfall to Key West , amounting to 1 @.@ 82 in (46 mm) over two days . The hurricane 's outer rainbands affected the Florida panhandle as early as August 10 , producing winds as strong as 80 mph (130 km / h) in Pensacola , where it was considered the worst since 1906 . During the afternoon of August 11 , the United States Weather Bureau issued storm warnings for coastal areas of the gulf coast where the hurricane was expected to impact . Upon making landfall , the storm brought heavy precipitation , peaking at 10 in (250 mm) in Molino , Florida , although the heaviest rainfall was localized from Mississippi to central Alabama . Some washouts occurred during brief episodes of heavy rain as the storm drifted westward after landfall . Strong winds in the Pensacola area downed telecommunication lines and disrupted power , cutting off communication to outside areas for 24 hours . A pavilion on Santa Rosa Island had a third of its roof torn , and some other buildings inland were also unroofed . Offshore , twelve barges were grounded after being swept by the rough surf . Heavy losses were reported to timber after they were swept away when log booms failed . Damage figures from the Pensacola area were conservatively estimated at US \$ 12 @,@ 600 , considered lighter than expected , and there were some deaths .

= = = Hurricane Three = = =

Over a week after the dissipation of the previous hurricane , the third storm of the season developed on August 23 and slowly tracked west @-@ northwestward . After attaining hurricane status , the storm turned more towards the northwest , and several days later reached its peak wind speeds of 100 mph (155 km / h) ; a barometric pressure of 972 mbar (hPa) was reported . The center passed inland a few miles south of Savannah , Georgia , on August 28 ; upon making landfall , the hurricane rapidly degenerated . It deteriorated into a tropical depression on August 29 and persisted over land until dissipating a couple of days later .

The hurricane , relatively small in size , caused widespread damage between Savannah and Charleston , South Carolina . Savannah itself received only minor damage , although the storm 's center passed close by . Along the coast of Georgia , torrential rainfall caused numerous washouts on railroads . Crops , livestock and roads in the area took heavy damage . At Charleston , winds were estimated at 106 mph (171 km / h) after an anemometer , last reporting 94 mph (151 km / h) , failed , and 4 @.@ 90 in (124 mm) of precipitation fell over three days .

The storm raged for more than 36 hours , causing severe damage ; the winds unroofed hundreds of buildings , demolished many houses and had an extensive impact on power and telephone services . Tides 10 @.@ 6 ft (3 @.@ 2 m) above normal left a " confused mass of wrecked vessels and damaged wharfs " , according to a local forecaster in Charleston , while six navy torpedo boats were ripped from their moorings and blown ashore . In total , 17 people were killed in the hurricane , and property damage in Charleston was estimated at \$ 1 million (1911 USD , \$ 25 @.@ 4 million 2014 USD) .

== Hurricane Four ==

The next storm formed well to the east of the Lesser Antilles on September 3 and moved westward , attaining tropical storm status about a day later . The storm slowed and curved toward the southwest , nearing the northern coast of Colombia before pulling away from land and strengthening into a hurricane . It further intensified to Category 2 status before striking Nicaragua on September 10 . Quickly weakening to a tropical storm , the cyclone continued westward across Central America and briefly entered the eastern Pacific Ocean . It dissipated shortly thereafter . In the town of Corinto , a report indicated the deaths of 10 people and 50 additional injuries . About 250 houses were destroyed , leaving approximately \$ 2 million (1911 USD , \$ 50 @. @ 8 million 2014 USD) in damage . Data on this storm is extremely scarce ; as such , only minor revisions could be made to its chronology in the hurricane database .

== Tropical Storm Five ==

The fifth official tropical cyclone of the year was also previously unknown until contemporary reassessments . It exhibited some hybrid characteristics , and may have qualified for subtropical cyclone status according to the modern classification scheme . On September 15 , the storm formed over the central Atlantic and initially moved westward . It gradually intensified as it turned northwestward , and on September 19 it transitioned into an extratropical cyclone southeast of New England . The system was subsequently absorbed by a more powerful frontal boundary approaching from the northwest .

== Tropical Storm Six ==

The final storm was first observed as a disturbance near Puerto Rico in the Caribbean Sea in late October . The disturbance was the precursor to a tropical depression which developed over the southern Bahamas and headed west @-@ southwestward across Cuba , where , at Havana , winds blew from the southeast at 44 mph (71 km / h) . It became a tropical storm on October 27 and drifted southwestward . Near the eastern tip of the Yucatán Peninsula , the storm turned sharply northward . An area of high pressure over the United States prevented the cyclone from turning eastward toward Florida , and it continued into the Gulf of Mexico . However , on October 31 , the storm curved eastward and moved ashore over northern Florida . The storm decreased in intensity as it passed into the Atlantic . The storm 's circulation center remained poorly defined throughout its course . It was long believed to have developed south of Cuba , although a reevaluation of ship data indicated the depression had actually formed east of the island . On October 26 , the Weather Bureau hoisted hurricane warnings along the east coast of Florida from Key West to West Palm Beach , and on the west coast up to Tampa .

== Tropical depressions ==

In addition to the six officially recognized tropical storms and hurricanes , three tropical depressions in the 1911 season have been identified . The first developed in February from a trough of low pressure in the open Atlantic and progressed westward . Although a ship dubiously reported winds of over 50 mph (80 km / h) in association with the system , a lack of supporting evidence precludes its designation as a tropical storm . The cyclone dissipated by February 21 . The second depression evolved from an extratropical cyclone in mid- to late May , becoming a tropical cyclone on May 22 northeast of Bermuda . It persisted for three days as it meandered around the same general area before being absorbed by another non @-@ tropical storm . The modern @-@ day documentation of this system was also hindered by a lack of data . On December 11 , the third tropical depression formed near the Turks and Caicos Islands . It progressed westward and was situated just north of eastern Cuba the next day . The system began to weaken on December 13 and dissipated shortly thereafter .

