

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - September 2008

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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LOUISIANA, Southeast

(LA-Z034) POINTE COUPEE, (LA-Z035) WEST FELICIANA, (LA-Z036) EAST FELICIANA, (LA-Z037) ST. HELENA, (LA-Z038) TANGIPAOHA, (LA-Z039) WASHINGTON, (LA-Z040) ST. TAMMANY, (LA-Z046) IBERVILLE, (LA-Z047) WEST BATON ROUGE, (LA-Z048) EAST BATON ROUGE, (LA-Z049) ASCENSION, (LA-Z050) LIVINGSTON, (LA-Z056) ASSUMPTION, (LA-Z057) ST. JAMES, (LA-Z058) ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, (LA-Z059) UPPER LAFOURCHE, (LA-Z060) ST. CHARLES, (LA-Z061) UPPER JEFFERSON, (LA-Z062) ORLEANS, (LA-Z063) UPPER PLAQUEMINES, (LA-Z064) UPPER ST. BERNARD, (LA-Z065) UPPER TERREBONNE, (LA-Z066) LOWER TERREBONNE, (LA-Z067) LOWER LAFOURCHE, (LA-Z068) LOWER JEFFERSON, (LA-Z069) LOWER PLAQUEMINES, (LA-Z070) LOWER ST. BERNARD

09/01/08 00:00 CST	3	0.12B	Hurricane
09/02/08 03:00 CST		0	

(LA-Z038) TANGIPAOHA, (LA-Z040) ST. TAMMANY, (LA-Z050) LIVINGSTON, (LA-Z058) ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, (LA-Z060) ST. CHARLES, (LA-Z061) UPPER JEFFERSON, (LA-Z062) ORLEANS, (LA-Z066) LOWER TERREBONNE, (LA-Z067) LOWER LAFOURCHE, (LA-Z068) LOWER JEFFERSON, (LA-Z069) LOWER PLAQUEMINES, (LA-Z070) LOWER ST. BERNARD

09/01/08 00:00 CST		25.60M	Storm Surge/Tide
09/02/08 03:00 CST		0	

ST. TAMMANY COUNTY --- 2.0 W ABITA SPGS [30.48, -90.06]

09/02/08 13:32 CST		15K	Tornado (EF0, L: 0.20 mi , W: 20 yd)
09/02/08 13:35 CST		0	Source: NWS Employee

A tornado briefly touched down damaging two metal buildings and knocking down trees.

JEFFERSON COUNTY --- 0.5 N WESTWEGO [29.91, -90.13], 0.4 NW WESTWEGO ARPT [29.88, -90.13]

09/02/08 16:40 CST		1.70M	Tornado (EF0, L: 1.62 mi , W: 25 yd)
09/02/08 16:45 CST		0	Source: Emergency Manager

A tornado damaged 35 to 40 structures with 15 being classified as total losses or destroyed.

ST. TAMMANY COUNTY --- BUSH [30.60, -89.90]

09/02/08 19:15 CST		0.10M	Tornado (EF0, L: 0.20 mi , W: 20 yd)
09/02/08 19:18 CST		0	Source: Newspaper

A tornado briefly touched down destroying a horse barn, overturning trailers, and knocking down trees.

Hurricane Gustav emerged into the southeast Gulf of Mexico as a major category 3 hurricane on August 31st after developing in the Caribbean Sea and moving across western Cuba. Gustav tracked northwestward across the Gulf toward Louisiana and made landfall as a category 2 hurricane near Cocodrie, Louisiana during the morning of September 1st. Gustav continued to move northwest across south Louisiana and weakened to a Category 1 storm over south central Louisiana later that day. The storm diminished to a tropical depression over northwestern Louisiana on September 2nd.

The highest wind gust recorded was 102 knots or 117 mph at a USGS site at the Houma Navigational Canal and at the Pilot Station Est C-MAN at near the Southwest Pass of the Mississippi River. The highest sustained wind of 91 mph was recorded at the Pilot's Station East C-MAN site.

However, due to the failure of equipment at some observation sites during the storm higher winds may have occurred. The minimum sea level pressure measured was 951.6 millibars at a USGS site at Caillou Lake southwest of Dulac and 954.5 millibars at the LUMCON facility near Dulac. Rainfall varied considerably across southeast Louisiana ranging from around 4 inches to just over 11 inches.

Gustav produced widespread wind damage across southeast Louisiana, especially in the area from Houma and Thibodaux through the greater Baton Rouge area. Hurricane force wind gusts occurred across the inland areas through the Baton Rouge area and surrounding parishes. A peak wind gust of 91 mph was recorded at the Baton Rouge (Ryan Field) Airport at 112 PM CST. This was only one mph less than the highest wind gust recorded during Hurricane Betsy in 1965. The electric utility serving most of southeast Louisiana reported 75 to 100 percent of utility customers were without power after the storm from Lafourche and Terrebonne Parishes northwest through the Baton Rouge area to southwest Mississippi and central Louisiana. Considerable damage occurred to many houses and structures as large tree limbs and trees were toppled by the hurricane force winds. Preliminary estimates from the American Red Cross indicated that around 13,000 single family dwellings were damaged by the hurricane in southeast Louisiana, and several thousand more apartments and mobile homes. Early estimates from Louisiana Economic Development indicated that Gustav caused at least \$4.5 billion in property damage in Louisiana, including insured and uninsured losses.

A storm surge of 5 to 8 feet above normal occurred along the coast from the mouth of Mississippi River westward through Terrebonne Parish. The highest storm surge of 8 to 12 feet above normal occurred more distant to the east, on the east side of the Mississippi River

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Delta, from the Mouth of Mississippi River to the Mississippi-Louisiana border. Storm surge around Lake Pontchartrain was generally 4 to 5 feet above normal. Storm surge affected many low-lying coastal areas as well as areas around Lake Pontchartrain, but federal levees protected most of the high density population areas of greater New Orleans. However, some locally built levees were breached or overtopped.

Three tornadoes occurred on the 2nd of September from feeder bands over the area as remnants of Gustav passed well north of the area. The most significant of the tornadoes occurred on west bank areas of Jefferson Parish where several structures suffered heavy damage.

Rainfall run-off was great enough to produce moderate flooding at some locations along the Amite and Comite Rivers in the Baton Rouge area, and along the Bogue Falaya River in the Covington area.

(LA-Z038) TANGIPAOHA, (LA-Z040) ST. TAMMANY, (LA-Z046) IBERVILLE, (LA-Z047) WEST BATON ROUGE, (LA-Z048) EAST BATON ROUGE, (LA-Z049) ASCENSION, (LA-Z050) LIVINGSTON, (LA-Z056) ASSUMPTION, (LA-Z057) ST. JAMES, (LA-Z058) ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, (LA-Z059) UPPER LAFOURCHE, (LA-Z060) ST. CHARLES, (LA-Z061) UPPER JEFFERSON, (LA-Z062) ORLEANS, (LA-Z063) UPPER PLAQUEMINES, (LA-Z064) UPPER ST. BERNARD, (LA-Z065) UPPER TERREBONNE, (LA-Z066) LOWER TERREBONNE, (LA-Z067) LOWER LAFOURCHE, (LA-Z068) LOWER JEFFERSON, (LA-Z069) LOWER PLAQUEMINES, (LA-Z070) LOWER ST. BERNARD

09/11/08 05:00 CST	1.83M	Tropical Storm
09/13/08 03:00 CST	0	

(LA-Z038) TANGIPAOHA, (LA-Z040) ST. TAMMANY, (LA-Z049) ASCENSION, (LA-Z050) LIVINGSTON, (LA-Z057) ST. JAMES, (LA-Z058) ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, (LA-Z060) ST. CHARLES, (LA-Z062) ORLEANS, (LA-Z066) LOWER TERREBONNE, (LA-Z067) LOWER LAFOURCHE, (LA-Z068) LOWER JEFFERSON, (LA-Z069) LOWER PLAQUEMINES, (LA-Z070) LOWER ST. BERNARD

09/11/08 12:00 CST	0.19B	Storm Surge/Tide
09/14/08 00:00 CST	0	

Hurricane Ike emerged into the southeast Gulf of Mexico as a category 1 hurricane on September 9th after earlier being a major hurricane as it moved across the Caribbean. Ike gradually intensified and developed an unusually large wind field as it tracked northwest across the Gulf over the next three days. Ike made landfall as a category 2 hurricane during the early morning hours on September 13th along the northern end of Galveston Island, Texas. Mainly tropical storm force wind gusts associated with Ike affected southeast Louisiana although sustained tropical storm winds were measured near the coast. The main effect of Ike on southeast Louisiana was the storm surge which inundated sections of the coast, especially Terrebonne and Lafourche Parish.

A storm surge ranging from 4 to nearly 8 feet above normal along the southeast Louisiana coast with a storm surge around 5 feet above normal in Lake Pontchartrain. The unusually high storm surge generated by the distant hurricane affected many low-lying coastal areas as well as areas around Lake Pontchartrain, but federal levees protected most of the high density population areas of greater New Orleans. Some locally built levees were breached or overtopped, most notably in southern Terrebonne Parish where 2,500 homes out of the 15,000 homes in the affected area were flooded. In southern Jefferson Parish from Lafitte and Crown Point to Grand Isle, approximately 2,500 structures were flooded. Considerable storm surge flooding was noted around Lakes Pontchartrain and Maurepas. Around 200 structures were flooded in St Tammany Parish from Slidell to Mandeville and Madisonville. The storm surge flooding took several weeks to fully drain from many low lying areas of southeast Louisiana. Louisiana Economic Development office estimated that Ike caused insured and uninsured property damage of at least \$3.5 billion in the state of Louisiana.

The highest wind gust recorded in southeast Louisiana was 69 mph at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport ASOS site during a squall while the highest sustained wind of 55 mph was recorded at the Pilot's Station East CMAN site near Southwest Pass; however, due to the failure of equipment at some observation sites during the storm higher winds may have occurred. The minimum sea level pressure measured in southeast Louisiana was 1002.5 millibars at LUMCON facility near Dulac. Rainfall across the area was mainly less than one and a half inches.

MISSISSIPPI, South

(MS-Z068) WILKINSON, (MS-Z069) AMITE, (MS-Z070) PIKE, (MS-Z071) WALTHALL, (MS-Z077) PEARL RIVER, (MS-Z080) HANCOCK, (MS-Z081) HARRISON, (MS-Z082) JACKSON

09/01/08 00:00 CST	19.39M	Hurricane
09/02/08 03:00 CST	0	

(MS-Z080) HANCOCK, (MS-Z081) HARRISON, (MS-Z082) JACKSON

09/01/08 00:00 CST	2.50M	Storm Surge/Tide
09/02/08 03:00 CST	0	

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The highest wind gust recorded in south Mississippi was 74 mph at the Gulfport-Biloxi Regional Airport while the highest sustained wind of 54 mph was recorded at the Waveland Yacht Club. No official wind observations were available in far southwest Mississippi, however wind gusts to hurricane force may have occurred. The minimum sea level pressure measured in south Mississippi was 998 millibars at the McComb-Pike County Airport. Rainfall varied considerably ranging from around 4 to 10 inches.

Gustav produced mainly light wind damage across coastal Mississippi, although more significant and concentrated damage occurred in southwest Mississippi closer to the track of center of the storm. Widespread power outages occurred in southwest Mississippi, especially in Wilkinson County. Approximately 640 homes and mobiles homes in Wilkinson County were damaged by wind and falling trees and tree limbs.

Storm surge ranged from of 4.5 to 6 feet in Jackson County to 8 to 11 feet in Hancock County. The maximum storm tide on the Mississippi coast was recorded at the NOAA tide gage at Bay St Louis with a reading of 10.92 ft above MLLW. Around 50 homes were flooded in Hancock County along with minor to moderate coastal flooding and beach erosion. The worst coastal flooding from the storm surge was in Hancock County.

(MS-Z080) HANCOCK, (MS-Z081) HARRISON, (MS-Z082) JACKSON

	09/11/08 00:00 CST	0			
	09/13/08 12:00 CST	0			Storm Surge/Tide

(MS-Z080) HANCOCK, (MS-Z081) HARRISON, (MS-Z082) JACKSON

	09/11/08 05:00 CST	0			
	09/13/08 03:00 CST	0			Tropical Storm

Hurricane Ike emerged into the southeast Gulf of Mexico as a category 1 hurricane on September 9th after earlier being a major hurricane as it moved across the Caribbean. Ike gradually intensified and developed an unusually large wind field as it tracked northwest across the Gulf over the next three days. Ike made landfall as a category 2 hurricane during the early morning hours on September 13th along the northern end of Galveston Island, Texas. Mainly tropical storm force wind gusts associated with Ike affected coastal Mississippi although sustained winds of nearly tropical storm force were measured right along the coast. The main effect of Ike on coastal Mississippi was the storm surge which affected sections of the coast, primarily Hancock and Harrison Counties.

A storm surge ranging from 3 to nearly 6 feet above normal occurred along the coast. The unusually high storm surge generated by the distant hurricane affected low-lying coastal areas flooding roadways, low lying properties and some structures.

The highest wind gust recorded in coastal Mississippi was 48 mph at the Gulfport-Biloxi Airport ASOS site. The highest sustained wind of 37 mph was recorded at the same site. The minimum sea level pressure measured in coastal Mississippi was 1008.4 millibars at Bay Waveland Yacht Club. Rainfall across the area was mainly one inch or less.