

NEWS

Hurricane Ian

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HURRICANES ARE A frequent natural disaster many people go through in the world, especially along the southern coasts of the United States. On September 28, 2022, after hitting Cuba, Hurricane Ian touched down in Fort Myers, Florida. The hurricane caused winds of up to 150 miles per hour, and was deemed a Category 4 hurricane. The most affected counties in Florida were Lee, Monroe, and Socastra. After destroying parts of Florida, Hurricane Ian landed in South Carolina, becoming a Category 1 hurricane before finally subduing.

More recent information may have come out since this article was written, though currently, according to Fox Weather, "over a hundred people have passed away because of Hurricane Ian." Most of the deaths reported are from Florida, but there are still more being reported from North Carolina and Cuba as well. Also, according to Fox Weather, "most victims died of drowning and the majority of who died were the elderly."

Hurricane Ian also caused power outages across multiple counties and destroyed most of the buildings along the shore. The Washington Post quotes a statement from President Biden: "the scale of Ian's devastation will probably rank among the 'worst in the nation's history.'" The Washington Post also states that: "Hurricane Ian has caused \$60 billion in private insured losses,

the second-largest disaster loss following Hurricane Katrina in 2005 which had around \$89 billion in inflation insured losses... Hurricane Ian was recorded to have the fifth strongest winds and the sixth largest hurricane in the past six years."

Victims of Hurricane Ian had very little medical access because of how high the waters had gotten, though rescuers were able to save about two-thousand people from the destruction.

Hurricane Ian has taken a toll on a lot of the resident's mental health states - causing some to commit suicide or homicide during the hurricane. Some survivors have fallen into a depression with a pressure to bounce back quicker.

No matter how many hurricanes hit Florida, the residents remain strong and resilient. Please send your prayers and goodwill towards the citizens of Florida, Cuba, and North Carolina who have been directly affected by Hurricane Ian during this time of disaster and loss. Check-in with any family you may have living in Florida if you haven't already. If you want to contribute to aiding after this tragedy look for hurricane relief programs to volunteer to help rebuild, help those struggling, or donate to the relief funds. Remember to be thankful for our loved ones and home.



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Photo Credit: Richard Mahle



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