

# Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale

The five categories are, in order of increasing intensity:

<b>Category 1</b>	<b>Sustained winds</b>	33–42 m/s	74–95 mph	64–82 kt	119–153 km/h
	<b>Storm surge</b>		4–5 ft		1.2–1.5 m
	<b>Central pressure</b>		28.94 inHg		980 mbar
	<b>Potential damage</b>	No real damage to building structures. Damage primarily to unanchored mobile homes, shrubbery, and trees. Also, some coastal flooding and minor pier damage.			
	<b>Example storms</b>	Hurricane Agnes – Hurricane Danny – Hurricane Gaston – Hurricane Ophelia			
<b>Category 2</b>	<b>Sustained winds</b>	43–49 m/s	96–110 mph	83–95 kt	154–177 km/h
	<b>Storm surge</b>		6–8 ft		1.8–2.4 m
	<b>Central Pressure</b>		28.50–28.91 inHg		965–979 mbar
	<b>Potential damage</b>	Some roofing material, door, and window damage. Considerable damage to vegetation, mobile homes, etc. Flooding damages piers and small craft in unprotected moorings may break their moorings.			
	<b>Example storms</b>	Hurricane Bob – Hurricane Bonnie – Hurricane Dora – Hurricane Frances – Hurricane Juan			
<b>Category 3</b>	<b>Sustained winds</b>	50–58 m/s	111–130 mph	96–113 kt	178–209 km/h
	<b>Storm surge</b>		9–12 ft		2.7–3.7 m
	<b>Central pressure</b>		27.91–28.47 inHg		945–964 mbar
	<b>Potential damage</b>	Some structural damage to small residences and utility buildings, with a minor amount of curtainwall failures. Mobile homes are destroyed. Flooding near the coast destroys smaller structures with larger structures damaged by floating debris. Terrain may be flooded well inland.			
	<b>Example storms</b>	Great New England Hurricane of 1938 – Hurricane Fran – Hurricane Isidore – Hurricane Jeanne – Hurricane Opal – Hurricane Rita			
<b>Category 4</b>	<b>Sustained winds</b>	59–69 m/s	131–155 mph	114–135 kt	210–249 km/h
	<b>Storm surge</b>		13–18 ft		4.0–5.5 m
	<b>Central pressure</b>		27.17–27.88 inHg		920–944 mbar
	<b>Potential damage</b>	More extensive curtainwall failures with some complete roof structure failure on small residences. Major erosion of beach areas. Terrain may be flooded well inland.			
	<b>Example storms</b>	Galveston Hurricane of 1900 – Hurricane Charley – Hurricane Hugo – Hurricane Iris			
<b>Category 5</b>	<b>Sustained winds</b>	≥70 m/s	≥156 mph	≥136 kt	≥250 km/h
	<b>Storm surge</b>		≥19 ft		≥5.5 m
	<b>Central pressure</b>		<27.17 inHg		<920 mbar
	<b>Potential damage</b>	Complete roof failure on many residences and industrial buildings. Some complete building failures with small utility buildings blown over or away. Flooding causes major damage to lower floors of all structures near the shoreline. Massive evacuation of residential areas may be required.			
	<b>Example storms</b>	Hurricane Andrew – Hurricane Camille – Hurricane Gilbert – Hurricane Katrina – Labor Day Hurricane of 1935			

All wind speeds are based on a one-minute average. Central pressure values are approximate. Intensity of example hurricanes is at time of landfall, not peak intensity (if it was stronger in the open water).