

Hurricane Ida



Hurricane Ida, Credit: [NASA](#), [European Space Agency](#)

[Link image to enlarge.](#)

Hurricane Ida is seen in this image taken aboard the International Space Station. This dangerous hurricane made landfall in Louisiana on Sunday, August 29, 2021 with maximum sustained winds of 150 miles per hour, or 241 kilometers per hour. [Hurricane Ida](#) left an extensive trail of damaged homes, [infrastructure](#), and lives from Louisiana to [New England](#). It also left a stain on the sea.

Two weeks after the storm, several federal and state agencies, and some private companies, worked to find and contain oil leaks in the Gulf of Mexico. The [U.S. Coast Guard assessed](#) more than 1,500 reports of pollution in the Gulf and in Louisiana, and it prioritized “nearly 350 reported incidents for further investigation by state, local, and federal authorities in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida.” The Coast Guard worked with the Environmental Protection Agency, the state of Louisiana, the National Ocean Service, and other agencies to chronicle and monitor the state of coastal waters and infrastructure.

On September 3, 2021, the [Operational Land Imager](#) (OLI) on [Landsat 8](#) acquired a natural-color image of apparent oil slicks off of the southeastern Louisiana coast near Port Fourchon, a major hub for the oil and gas industry. Hurricane Ida caused the disruption of 90 to 95 percent of the region’s crude oil and gas production, while also damaging current and abandoned pipelines and structures. According to many news reports, surface oil slicks near Port Fourchon are likely related to as many as three damaged or ruptured submarine pipelines. As of now, it is unclear how much oil has spilled into the Gulf of Mexico.






From space, [Earth-observing](#) satellites have a unique view of storms. These observations provide data that help us to better understand hurricanes, and support preparation and disaster response.





Text courtesy of NASA: [Hurricane Ida Makes Landfall in Louisiana](#) and NASA Earth Observatory: [Hurricane Ida Leaves a Trail of Oil](#).

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DISCUSSION PROMPTS

-  During the last few months, did your community experience flooding or tornado warnings due to the hurricanes that made landfall on the east coast of the United States?
-  Do you have family members or friends who were directly impacted by these hurricanes?
-  How likely is your community to experience a hurricane in the next few years? Do you think this probability may be increasing? Why or why not?
-  Given the wide-spread devastation that hurricanes can cause, what could your community do to be prepared for future hurricanes?
-  Share your ideas with us on social media.

OPTIONAL

-  Share images of the direct and indirect impact your community might experience due to a hurricane.
-  Share your images with us on social media.

HURRICANE RESOURCES

From NASA Earth Observatory:

- [Hurricane Ida Batters Louisiana](#)
- [Hurricane Ida Leaves a Trail of Oil](#)
- [Flash Floods from Ida Swamp the Northeast](#)
- [Tropical Storm Henri Approaching New England](#)
- [Hurricanes and Climate Change](#)

[NASA: Hurricane Monitoring](#)

Additional Resources:

- [NASA Global Climate Change: Vital Signs of the Planet](#)
- [NASA Overview: Weather, Global Warming, and Climate Action for the Climate Emergency](#)
- [Perspectives of Earth: Main Website](#)
- [Perspectives of Earth: UN Sustainable Development Goals: Six Essential Elements](#)
- [Windows on Earth: See Earth Through the Astronauts' Lens](#)