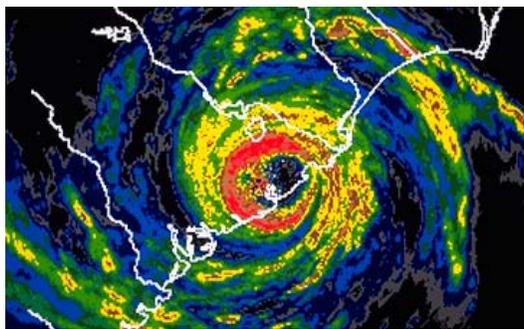


Continental United States Landfalling Hurricanes 1950 - 2004



Questions

1. Which state has the greatest number of landfalling hurricanes?
2. What could be some of the reasons that this state ranks at the top?
3. What is a popular way of measuring a hurricane's strength?
4. How many category 5 hurricanes have hit the United States since 1950?
5. Why are there more category 1 hurricanes than any other category making landfall?
6. How high must the winds be in order for a tropical storm to be called a hurricane?
7. What are other names for hurricanes?
8. How many hurricanes made landfall in the United States so far in 2004? and which states were affected?



Hurricane's eye image

Answers

1. Florida

2. It has the longest coastline which increases chances of hurricanes making landfall. Florida can be hit from both Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico hurricanes.

3. The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale measures hurricane strength. The scale is used to give an estimate of the potential property damage and flooding expected. Wind speed is used to determine the category of a hurricane.

4. Two; Camille (1969) and Andrew (1992)

5. In the world of hurricane climatology, category 1 hurricanes (weak) are more common than higher category (strong) hurricanes. Also, another reason is that a hurricane can lose some of its strength as its eye begins to make landfall. Landfall occurs when the eye moves completely inland.

6. 74 miles per hour (mph)

7. Typhoons (Western Pacific), tropical cyclones (South Pacific and Indian Ocean)

8. Four; one in Alabama, and three in Florida



Palm trees in wind and rough waves

N.C. Standard Course of Study and Grade Level Competencies

Grade 7 – Competency Goal 3

The learner will make observations and build an understanding of weather concepts.

Objectives

3.05 Examine evidence that atmospheric properties can be studied to predict atmospheric conditions and weather hazards:

- Humidity.
- Temperature.
- Wind speed and direction.
- Air pressure.
- Precipitation.
- Tornadoes.
- Hurricanes.
- Floods.
- Storms.

Objectives

3.06 Assess the use of technology in studying atmospheric phenomena and weather hazards:

- Satellites.
- Weather maps.
- Predicting.
- Recording.
- Communicating information about conditions.

