The Briefing for Wednesday, October 7, 2026

The Last Briefing was Tuesday, October 6, 2026

There are 27 days until the General Election - November 3, 2026.

What's the weather outlook?

10-Day Weather Forecast for Tallahassee, FL – The Weather Channel

Governor Issues Executive Order In Preparation for Isaias

Read the Executive Order **here**.

Gov. Ron DeSantis declared a state of emergency for 25 counties in the Panhandle in preparation Tropical Storm Isaias. By this morning Isaias sat off the eastern coast of Mexico with sustained winds near 40 mph, according to the National Hurricane Center.

Some forecasts predict the storm to develop into a hurricane before making landfall on the Gulf Coast on Friday.

The counties included in the emergency declaration are: Baker, Bay, Calhoun, Columbia, Dixie, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Gulf, Hamilton, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Suwannee, Taylor, Walton, Wakulla and Washington.

Much of the Panhandle has already seen large amounts of rain in recent days, up to 9 inches in some areas, Isaias could bring another sustained downpour to the region.

The declaration also warns of high winds and the possibility of tornados in the area spawned by Isaias. This will be the first hurricane to make landfall this season.

Tropical Weather Outlook

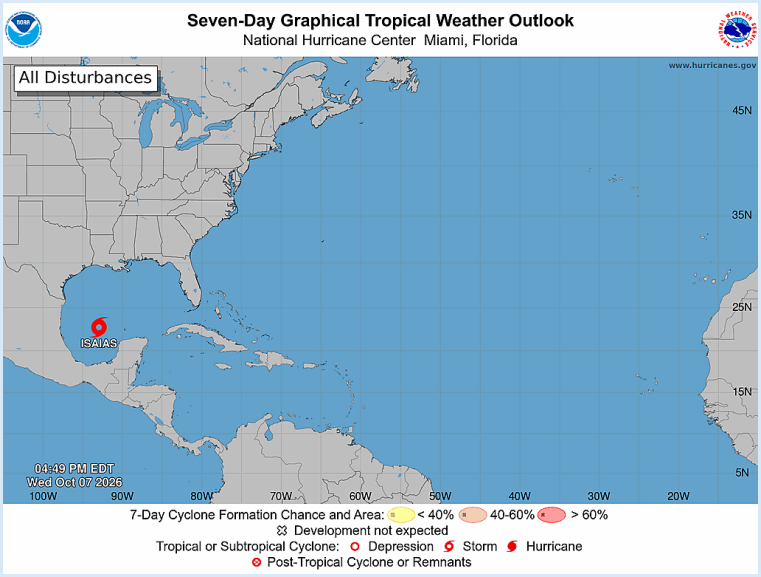
https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/

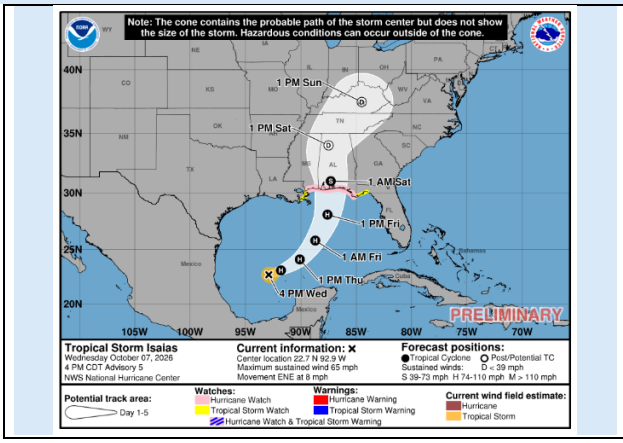
At 400 PM CDT (2100 UTC), the center of Tropical Storm Isaias was located near latitude 22.7 North, longitude 92.9 West. Isaias is moving toward the east-northeast near 8 mph (13 km/h). A continued east-northeastward motion is expected today, followed by a turn toward the northeast and north on Thursday and Friday. On the forecast track, Isaias is expected to pass to the north of the Yucatan Peninsula on Thursday and make landfall along the U.S. northern Gulf Coast late Friday or early Saturday.

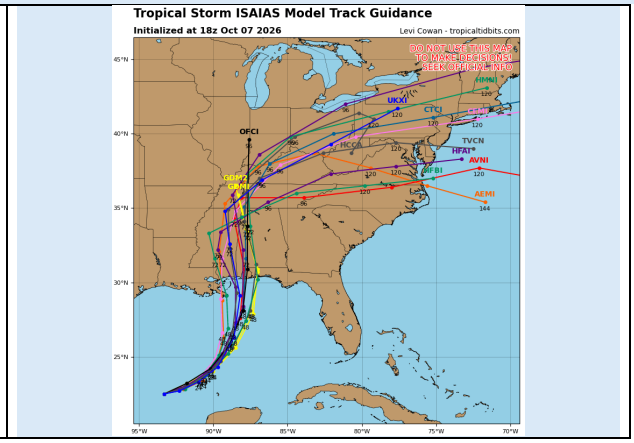
Maximum sustained winds are near 65 mph (100 km/h) with higher gusts. Isaias is forecast to become a hurricane by Thursday morning, with further strengthening expected through Friday morning.

Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 60 miles (95 km) from the center.

The estimated minimum central pressure is 994 mb (29.36 inches) based on NOAA Hurricane Hunter dropsonde data.







Sports Links

Major League Baseball - Playoff Bracket

WNBA Playoff Bracket

College Football Scores and Schedules

Florida College Teams this week

New Mexico State at FIU
South Florida at UTSA
Florida State at Louisville
South Carolina at Florida
UCF at Oklahoma State
FAMU at Alabama State

UM and FAU have bye week!

Headlines Around The State

Wednesday - OCT. 7, 2026

FlaPol: Ron DeSantis blasts Palm Beach GOP for endorsing Mike Caruso after molestation charges

Floridian: Florida Lawmakers Unite Behind Bipartisan Farm Relief Bill

WUSF: What are the 4 vaccines Florida wants to make optional for schools and daycares?

Democrat: Texas surpasses Florida for most school book bans, report says

Sun: McGraw files federal suit against DeSantis over School Board removal

WLRN: Could a fly help solve Florida's sargassum problem?

Herald: King tide side effect: Floridians stranded after floods zap high rise elevators

My News 13: How could Amendment 3 impact property values?

FlaPol: Gov. Ron DeSantis declares state of emergency for 25 counties

Herald: Exclusive: Prosecutors push to put ex-Palm Beach clerk back in jail for alleged child abuse

Sun-Sentinel: After backlash, Palm Beach County GOP pulls support for Mike Caruso

Post: Exclusive: Why PBC Republican chair said Caruso endorsement happened

WLRN: Uthmeier announces arrests in alleged massive sea life poaching ring

FlaPol: Steve Howard: 'F-bombs' coming to Citrus County if voters pass Amendment 3

The Docket

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

- CENTRAL FLORIDA WATER - Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. - The Central Florida Regional Planning Council is meeting. Location: Okeechobee County Courthouse, County Commissioners Chambers; 304 NW 2nd Street, Okeechobee.
- PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION - Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. - The Florida Public Service Commission is to consider CSWR-Florida Utility Operating Company, LLC's petition to establish the rate base value of the Wastewater System of Forest Utilities, Inc. Location: Betty Easley Conference Center, Room 148, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee.
- NORTHWEST WATER - Wednesday, 2 p.m. - The Northwest Florida Water Management District is holding a meeting. Location:81 Water Management Drive, Havana.
- AMENDMENT 3 IN MARTIN COUNTY - Wednesday, 6 p.m. - State Rep. Toby Overdorf, R-Palm City, is one of the speakers for a panel discussion hosted by the League of Women Voters of Martin County on Amendment 3 on the November ballot regarding property taxes. Location: Unity of Stuart, 211 SE Central Parkway, Stuart.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

- IMMUNIZATION RULES - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The Department of Health is holding a hearing on proposed revisions to immunization requirements for school entry. Location: Orlando Marriott Lake Mary, Grand Ballroom E, F, G, H, 1501 International Parkway, Lake Mary.

- SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board is meeting. Location: SFWMD Headquarters, B-1 Building, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach.
- GAMING COMMISSION - Thursday, 9:30 a.m. - The Florida Gaming Control Commission is meeting. Location: Joseph P. Cresse Hearing Room 148, Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee.
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS - Thursday, 11 a.m. - The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release opinions.
- CARD SOUND BRIDGE STUDY - Thursday, 5:30 p.m. - The Florida Department of Transportation, District Six, is holding a meeting to evaluate alternatives to address the degradation of the Card Sound Road Bridge in Monroe County. Location: Murray Nelson Government Center, BOCC Room located at 102050 Overseas Highway, Key Largo.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

- RINGLING BRIDGE - Friday, 10 a.m. - The Florida Department of Transportation District 1 is holding a workshop on plans for reconstruction of the Little Ringling Bridge between Bird Key Drive and Sarasota Harbour West. Location: Sarasota City Hall, Conference Room 112, 1565 1st St, Sarasota.
- CITRUS FORECAST - Friday, 12 p.m. - The U.S. Department of Agriculture will release the first outlook for Florida's 2026-2027 citrus growing season.
- FLATHEAD CATFISH - Friday, 5 p.m. CT - The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is holding a meeting on flathead catfish in Panhandle rivers. Location: 361 N. 10th St., DeFuniak Springs.
- FINANCE REPORTS - Friday - State candidates and political committees face a deadline for filing reports showing finance activity between Sept. 26 and Oct. 2. Location: Department of State, Division of Elections, Bureau of Election Records, R.A. Gray Building, Room 316, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee.

Here are key dates for 26-27

2026 Events

Nov 3 –	General Election
Nov. 17-19-	Rural Summit – Ocala – Sponsored by FREDA
Nov. 30 – Dec. 3	Legislative Committee Meetings
Dec 2-4 –	Florida Association of Counties Legislative Conference
Dec 2 -	Small County Coalition Breakfast –
Dec 2-4 –	FSBA Legislative Conference – Tampa
Dec 3 -	Small District– SSDCC Legislative Meeting in Tampa

2027 Events

January 4 – 7	Legislative Committee Meetings
January 11 – 14	Legislative Committee Meetings
February 1 – 4	Legislative Committee Meetings
February 8 – 11	Legislative Committee Meetings
February 15 – 18	Legislative Committee Meetings

March 2 -	Legislature convenes
March 16 -	Small County Coalition/Small School District Joint Legislative Reception
March 17 -	Small School District Council Consortium Legislative Briefing
March 17 -	Florida Association Counties – Legislative Day
March 17-18-	Rural Days 2027 – Tentative
April 30 -	Legislative Session 60 Days – Sine Die!
June 9 – 11	FSBA/FADSS Annual Summer Conference, Kissimmee, FL
June 10 -	Small School District Council Consortium – Annual Meeting
June 22-25	FAC Annual Summer Meeting - Hilton Orlando
June 22 -	Small County Coalition Annual Meeting Breakfast – Orlando
Nov. 30 – Dec. 3	FSBA/FADSS 82nd Annual Joint Conference, Kissimmee, FL

Briefing is prepared by Chris Doolin

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The Briefing is compiled to provide information to elected officials and staff in counties that are members of the Small County Coalition and the Small School District Council Consortium. It is also sent to Professional Colleagues and Associates. For Questions Email – cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com

If you want to see all of the latest briefings – you can go www.smallcountycoalition.org or www.ssdcc.org and click on the red Briefing button

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