

eu.usatoday.com

Tropical Storm Isaias updates: NJ, NY, PA power outages, death toll

Wyatte Grantham-Philips USA TODAY Published 4:53 PM EDT
Aug 5, 2020

5-6 minutes

At least nine people were killed this week as Tropical Storm Isaias spawned tornadoes, dumped rain and made landfall as a hurricane on the East Coast.

Isaias toggled between hurricane and tropical storm strength. It made landfall as a hurricane Monday night near Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina, but was downgraded to a tropical storm Tuesday as it headed into Canada.

Isaias had sustained previous top winds of up to 65 mph for more than 18 hours after coming ashore.

Millions of people across several states were still without power Wednesday after power outages hit about 3.7 million customers late Tuesday, according to

PowerOutage.US.

The storm's center was about 45 miles southeast of Montreal late Tuesday night. As of 5 a.m. EDT Wednesday, Isaias was moving northeast at about 28 mph, with a maximum sustained wind of 40 mph, according to the National Hurricane Center.

The storm was forecast to dissipate over eastern Quebec over the next day or so.

Here's a breakdown of what we know and what you can do to help:



9 confirmed deaths in US

At least nine people have died after Tropical Storm

Isaias tore through the U.S. East Coast.

Two people died when Isaias spun off a tornado that struck a North Carolina mobile home park. Another person died in Pennsylvania when their vehicle was overtaken by water and swept downstream.

Three others were killed by falling trees toppled by the storm in Maryland, Connecticut and New York City, and a seventh person died in Delaware when a tree branch fell, authorities said.

Late Tuesday evening, a woman was found dead inside a New Hampshire house that had been crushed by a fallen tree.

The ninth victim, a 5-year-old girl, had gone missing from her Philadelphia-area home during the height of the storm Tuesday and was found dead Wednesday. Authorities said they believed she was swept away by floodwaters in the creek behind her house.

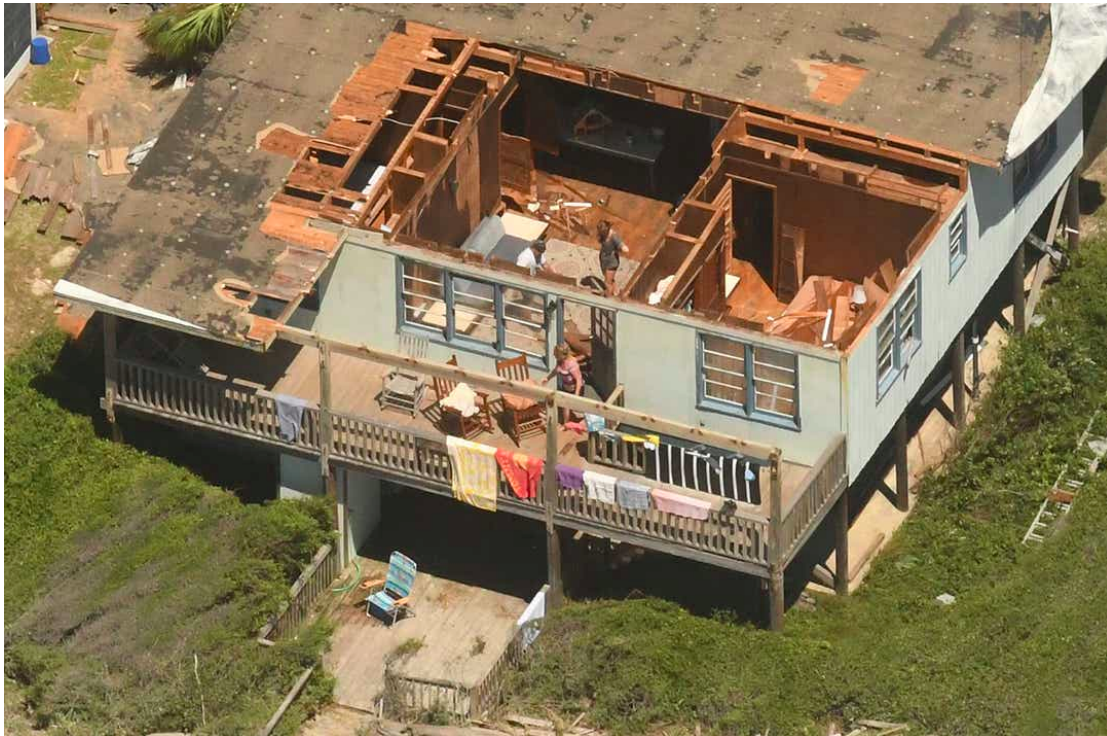
Isaias: What tech you need when disaster strikes

Millions lose power

Power outages spread into Wednesday, with more than 2.7 million customers still without power as of 1:30 p.m. EDT in multiple states – including New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania – according to PowerOutage.US,

which tracks utility reports.

New York City's power utility said it saw more outages from Isaias than from any storm except Superstorm Sandy in 2012.



Storm leaves trail of damage in at least 10 states

After killing two people in the Caribbean and battering Puerto Rico and the Bahamas before brushing past Florida, Isaias ravaged the U.S. East Coast.

In addition to power outages, flooding, tornadoes and fierce wind have hit almost a dozen states: Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Virginia.

In Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and New Jersey, tornadoes were confirmed by the National Weather Service. The NJ Transit train service remained suspended while the railroad says crews cleared about 150 trees and repair signals and overhead wires.

In New York City, Isaias halted commuter trains, closed bridges and sent tree limbs crashing down Tuesday. Patrick Foye, chairman of New York's Metropolitan Transportation Authority, said more than 2,000 trees fell across the system's train and bus network.

Additional deadly tree falls were reported in Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland and New Hampshire.

Isaias was a hurricane: Why do tropical weather systems cause tornadoes?





In Pennsylvania, four children were treated for minor injuries after high winds partially tore the roof off a day care center, officials said. High waters and flooding also hit the eastern region of the state and Philadelphia, where the Schuylkill River is projected to crest early Wednesday at 15.4 feet, its highest level in more than 150 years.

In North Carolina, Isaias made landfall as a hurricane Monday, where it caused floods and fires that displaced dozens of people.

South Carolina also saw crashing waves and destruction at North Myrtle Beach Monday. The Hurricane Center had warned oceanside dwellers near the North Carolina-South Carolina state line to brace for storm surge up to 5 feet and up to 8 inches of rain.

How to help after Isaias

The American Red Cross is responding across the region impacted by Isaias – from helping evacuees and distributing food in the Bahamas, to opening 18 shelters to house North Carolina victims.

You can donate to the Red Cross 2020 Hurricane relief efforts. You can also call 1-800-RED CROSS, text the

word HURRICANES to 90999 to make a \$10 donation, or visit [redcross.org](https://www.redcross.org) to learn more.

The Salvation Army is also responding in the aftermath of the storm: Financial contributions are needed most in order to most efficiently respond to demand and support local economies through the purchase of goods, the Salvation Army said.

To help, contact your local Salvation Army or visit www.HelpSalvationArmy.org. You can also donate by calling 800-SAL-ARMY (800-725-2769) to make a financial donation.

Contributing: The Associated Press