



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



September 2002

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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ALABAMA, North Central

ALZ006	Madison	10 1500CST			0	0	0	0	Excessive Heat The afternoon high temperature measured at the Huntsville International Airport was 99 degrees. This temperature established a new record high temperature. The previous record was 94 degrees last set in 1990.
ALZ002	Colbert	10 1500CST			0	0	0	0	Excessive Heat The high temperature observed at the Muscle Shoals Municipal Airport was 97 degrees. This temperature established a new record high.
ALZ006	Madison	11 1500CST			0	0	0	0	Excessive Heat The high temperature observed at the Huntsville International Airport was 96 degrees. This temperature established a new record high temperature. The previous record was 95 degrees last set in 1983.
ALZ019	Calhoun	11 1500CST			0	0	0	0	Excessive Heat The afternoon high temperature measured at the Anniston Municipal Airport was 97 degrees. This temperature established a new record high.
ALZ044	Montgomery	11 1500CST			0	0	0	0	Excessive Heat The high temperature observed at Dannelly Field was 99 degrees. This temperature established a new record high. The previous record was 98 degrees set back in 1962.
ALZ044	Montgomery	12 1500CST			0	0	0	0	Excessive Heat The high temperature measured at Dannelly Field was 98 degrees. This temperature tied the previous record high.
Lamar County	Vernon	16 1317CST			0	0	3K	0	Thunderstorm Wind (G50) Trees and power lines were blown down on SR 17 and on SR 18 near Vernon.
Madison County	1.7 S Meridianville	18 1340CST 1341CST	0.1	20	0	0	0	0	Tornado (F0) A small tornado touched down briefly in a cotton field just southwest of the intersection of Countess Road and US 231 just south of Meridianville. A storm spotter video taped the funnel cloud just prior to the touchdown. Beg: 34 49.627/86 34.441 End: 34 49.686/86 34.360
Madison County	Monrovia	18 1600CST			0	0	8K	0	Thunderstorm Wind (G50) Trees were blown down in and near Monrovia. One tree fell onto a vehicle causing minor damage.
Morgan County	Decatur	20 1900CST			0	0	15K	0	Lightning Lightning struck two homes in the Decatur area. Both homes caught on fire and sustained varying degrees of damage. No injuries were reported.
Cullman County	Bremen	20 1935CST			0	1	0	0	Lightning One person was struck by lightning at Cold Springs High School. The extent of injuries was unknown.
Clay County	Countywide	22 0200CST 0430CST			0	0	10K	0	Flash Flood



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					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	
<u>ALABAMA, North Central</u>									
Randolph County									
Countywide	22	0200CST 0430CST			0	0	200K	0	Flash Flood
Jefferson County									
Countywide	22	0300CST 0900CST			0	0	5.8M	0	Flash Flood
Shelby County									
Countywide	22	0400CST 0930CST			0	0	100K	0	Flash Flood
St. Clair County									
Countywide	22	0400CST 0600CST			0	0	20K	0	Flash Flood
Talladega County									
Countywide	22	0400CST 0900CST			0	0	20K	0	Flash Flood
Chilton County									
Countywide	22	0630CST 0930CST			0	0	10K	0	Flash Flood
Tuscaloosa County									
Countywide	22	0630CST 0900CST			0	0	50K	0	Flash Flood

Very heavy rain fell across central Alabama during the early morning hours. The heaviest rain was measured generally from Tuscaloosa to Birmingham to Wedowee. Radar-estimated rainfall amounts averaged from 3 to 5 inches with many localized areas over 7 inches in only a few hours. The hardest hit area was the Birmingham Metropolitan area where the damage stretched from Bessemer to Pelham to Mountain Brook to Vestavia Hills. The following events were reported: numerous high water rescues were performed by area fire departments, one junior high school sustained major damage, one home was totally destroyed, 100 homes suffered varying degrees of damage, 22 apartments were flooded, one bowling alley sustained major damage, at least 20 businesses were damaged, a few bridges were washed out, a few culvert pipes were washed away, trees and power lines fell down due to the saturated ground, numerous roads were temporarily closed and impassable, and over 200 automobiles suffered significant damage in Vestavia Hills. No injuries were reported.

Some 24 hour rainfall totals in inches (most of which fell in two to four hours);

Logan Martin Dam	10.96
Vincent	8.19
Mitchell Dam	7.64
Wilsonville	7.75
Alabaster	5.60
Childersburg	5.05
Palmerdale	5.03
Helena	4.71
Calera	4.67
Pinson	4.50

ALZ001-003-006-009-024 Lauderdale - Franklin - Madison - Jackson - Jefferson
26 1500CST 0 0 27K 0 High Wind (G40)

Tropical Storm Isidore moved inland along the Louisiana Coast during the early morning hours. The large scope of this storm affected areas in north and central Alabama. Total rainfall amounts averaged from 3 to 5 inches. No significant flooding was reported because the rain fell over a long enough period of time. But the ground across the area became saturated. Wind gusts associated with this tropical system ranged from 25 to 50 miles an hour. The higher wind gusts mainly occurred at the higher elevations of north Alabama. The saturated ground conditions, in combination with the wind gusts, knocked several trees down in the mentioned counties. A few power lines also were knocked down leaving many customers temporarily without power.



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ALABAMA, Southwest

Storm tide flooding occurred on the west end of Dauphin Island and in the south part of Mobile county and also along the Causeway that crosses Mobile Bay. Tidal flooding also took place along the Baldwin county beaches and along Pensacola Beach and Navarre Beach in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties in Florida.

Baldwin County

Point Clear

14	0720CST 0750CST				0	0			Flash Flood
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Heavy rains caused temporary street flooding around Point Clear. Several roads in the area became impassable and had to be closed for about half an hour. The water quickly drained when the rain stopped.

Mobile County

Theodore to Bayou La Batre

14	0735CST 0830CST				0	0			Flash Flood
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Heavy rains caused street flooding between Theodore and Bayou La Batre. Several roads across the south part of Mobile county had to be closed for almost an hour due to the flooded streets. Water quickly drained out of the roads after the rain stopped

Mobile County

Theodore

14	0830CST 0831CST	0.1	20		0	0	8K		Tornado (F0)
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A weak tornado briefly touched down near Theodore. Several trees were blown down by the tornado. No injuries were reported.

Mobile County

5 W Mobile Bates Fld

22	1408CST 1409CST	0.1	20		0	0	1K		Tornado (F0)
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An off duty meteorologist observed a weak tornado just ahead of a squall line that was moving in from the north. The tornado lasted less than a minute and blew down several large tree limbs. He observed the funnel and saw it touchdown before taking cover in his home. No injuries were reported.

ALZ061>064

Upper Mobile - Upper Baldwin - Lower Mobile - Lower Baldwin

24	0900CST				0	0	6.5M		Tropical Storm
26	1500CST								

For the second time during the month the area was threatened by a tropical storm. Tropical Storm Isidore threatened the area Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. We were put under a Tropical Storm Warning at 900 AM CST on September 24. The Tropical Storm Warning was dropped at 300 PM CST on September 26 as the remains of Isidore moved across eastern Mississippi. Isidore moved ashore over the Southeast Louisiana Coast between 200 and 300 AM CST on September 26. Although the center of Isidore did not move over our area, the strongest winds and heaviest rains were east of the center with most of the damage across Southwest Alabama and Northwest Florida.

Some of the winds recorded across Southwest Alabama and Northwest Florida were as follows: Mobile Airport, sustained wind of 42 knots with gusts to 50 knots. Mobile Brookley Field, sustained wind of 40 knots with gusts to 50 knots. Dauphin Island, sustained wind of 42 knots with gusts to 52 knots. Cedar Point, sustained wind of 35 knots with gusts to 53 knots. Pensacola Airport, sustained wind of 29 knots with gusts to 44 knots. Pensacola Naval Air Station, sustained wind of 31 knots with gusts to 43 knots. Hurlburt Air Force Base in Mary Esther, sustained wind of 33 knots with gusts to 49 knots. Pensacola Beach, sustained wind of 40 knots with gusts to 58 knots. Perdido Key, sustained wind 37 knots with gusts to 53 knots.

The lowest sea level pressure was 991 MB at Mobile Airport, Dauphin Island and Semmes, Alabama.

Two day rainfall totals across the area ending at 1100 AM CST on September 26 were as follows in Alabama: Robertsdale 11.76, Semmes 11.90, Bay Minette 11.00, Mobile (4 S of MOB) 11.00, Brewton 10.29, Gulf State Park 10.20 and Mobile (Municipal Park) 10.12. In Florida: Milton 15.72, Pace 13.76, Bratt 10.27, Munson 10.14, Pensacola Airport 9.09, Pea Ridge 8.74 and Milligan 8.27. In Mississippi: Wiggins 9.80, Merrill 9.19, Leakesville and Waynesboro 7.15.

The highest storm tides along the Alabama coast were as follows: Middle Bay Light House 6.1 feet, Mobile State Docks 5.9 feet, Cedar Point 5.0 feet, and Dauphin Island 4.4 feet. Along the Florida coast, some storm tides were as follows: Pensacola 5.2 feet, Perdido Pass 4.5 feet, Destin East Pass 3.8 feet, and Santa Rosa Sound 3.4 feet.

Major beach erosion occurred on Dauphin Island and along the beaches of Baldwin county in Alabama, as well as along the Florida panhandle coastline from Pensacola Beach to Navarre Beach.

Major storm tide flooding occurred in Mobile County Alabama on the west end of Dauphin Island, along low lying coastal areas of the southern part of the county, and along the Causeway that crosses the northern part of Mobile Bay. Storm tide flooding also occurred in Baldwin County, primarily in the West Beach and Orange Beach areas. Storm tide flooding also occurred along portions of the Florida coastline from Pensacola Beach to Navarre Beach. Moderate river flooding occurred in Mobile and Baldwin counties in Alabama, with some river flooding also reported in Escambia, Santa Rosa, and Okaloosa counties of the Florida panhandle.

Two F0 tornadoes occurred in coastal Okaloosa county in Florida, two F0 tornadoes occurred in coastal Baldwin county of Alabama



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ALABAMA, Southwest

and one F0 in Mobile county. Minor structural damage was reported with each tornado, but for the most part, only tree damage occurred.

Primary storm effects were along the coasts of Alabama and the Florida panhandle. In Mobile county, the main effects were the tidal flooding that occurred on Dauphin Island. The berm on the west end of the island was destroyed. Bayou La Batre and the road leading to Dauphin Island were flooded by above normal tide levels. Two feet of water covered Water Street in downtown Mobile. The causeway at the northern end of Mobile Bay was closed for a time due to high water, and some of the businesses on the causeway were flooded. Some houses along Bayou Sara and the Fowl River had some water in them. In Baldwin County, major beach erosion occurred along an area known as West Beach. Surges in this area were estimated at 5.5 to 6.5 feet. Wind driven waves on top of this surge deposited sand across West Beach Road and the wave action removed a couple of feet of sand from underneath several beach houses. Some houses along the Fish River were also flooded. In Escambia County major beach erosion occurred on Pensacola Beach. The road to Fort Pickens and the road between Pensacola Beach and Navarre Beach was closed due to the road being overwashed with several feet of sand. The island was breached in a couple of places. The Santa Rosa county coast sustained major beach erosion as well...primarily around Navarre Beach. Lastly, Okaloosa county experience some beach erosion, but not as extensively as did the counties just to the west. Highway 98 between Fort Walton and Destin had a couple of feet of water across it, but at least one lane remained open and passable.

Mobile County

Theodore

24	1745CST 1830CST				0	0			Flash Flood
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Heavy rains caused streets to flood near Theodore. Several of the streets were impassable and had to be closed for about an hour. The water quickly drained from the streets and they were reopened after the rain stopped.

Mobile County

Theodore to Bayou La Batre

25	0300CST 0730CST				0	0			Flash Flood
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Heavy rains fell across the south part of Mobile county and caused several streets to flood. Many of the secondary streets between Theodore and Bayou la Batre had to be closed for several hours due to the heavy rain. The streets were reopened after the rain stopped and the water had time to drain.

Baldwin County

Foley to Gulf Shrs

25	0445CST 1200CST				0	0			Flood
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Heavy rains caused several streets in the south part of Baldwin county to flood. Most of the secondary streets in the south part of the county had standing water in them and had to be closed for several hours. Most of the water drained out of the streets in the early afternoon as the heavy rains subsided.

Baldwin County

Gulf Shrs

25	1825CST 1827CST	0.1	20		0	0	25K		Tornado (F0)
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A weak tornado moved across part of Gulf State Park. The tornado was spawned from a storm that moved in from the Gulf of Mexico. The weak tornado flipped a couple of trailers and also blew down trees and power lines in the Park. No injuries were reported.

Baldwin County

Gulf Shrs

25	1906CST 1907CST	0.1	20		0	0	15K		Tornado (F0)
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A weak tornado damaged a building near the Gulf of Mexico in Gulf Shores. The storm that spawned the tornado moved in from the Gulf. The building suffered minor roof damage and several windows were blown out.

Baldwin County

South Portion

25	2140CST				0	0			Flood
26	1500CST								

Heavy rains associated with Tropical Storm Isidore again caused many streets to flood in the south part of the county. Numerous secondary roads had to be closed for several hours due to high water.



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ALABAMA, Southwest

Mobile County

South Portion

	25	2140CST			0	0			Flood
	26	1500CST							

Heavy rains from Tropical Storm Isidore again caused flooding across the south part of the county. Many streets were closed for hours due to high water.

Escambia County

Atmore

	26	0205CST 0600CST			0	0			Flash Flood
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Heavy rains as a result of Tropical Storm Isidore caused several streets to have standing water in them in Atmore. Many secondary roads had to be closed for several hours due to the high water.

Mobile County

Semmes

	26	0530CST 0532CST	0.1	20	0	0	5K		Tornado (F0)
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A weak tornado blew down several trees and caused some minor roof damage to a home near Semmes. The rapidly moving tornado also damaged a couple of outbuildings near the same location.