

Checking In

Compare the costs of property damage with the storm intensities (Category). Are the strongest storms (Category 5 hurricanes) the ones that result in the most damage?

Think about the factors that could affect costs attributed to hurricane damage. Which of the following do you think has the largest affect on costs for property damage associated with a hurricane? Discuss your ideas with a lab partner.

- Housing prices of affected communities
- Population density
- Storm intensity
- Height above sea level (elevation) of affected area

7. What are some of the advantages of using a computer model rather than a physical model to predict the height of storm surges?

8. What are the actions you could take to keep yourself safe from a storm surge? From the list of Storm Surge Safety Actions, record the three recommendations you believe are the most important for survival.

9. Describe what happens to debris and loose material in hurricane-force or tornado-related winds. How can you protect yourself from this hazard?

Death and Destruction

Part A: Specific Dangers of Storms

1: What do you think is the major cause of damage to buildings from hurricanes?

2: What do you think is the main danger to human lives in a hurricane?

3: Record the URL of your top choices of interesting photos or videos that illustrate the dangers of a hurricane. Include a brief description of each resource you list.

4: List 5-6 common causes of death that are attributed to hurricanes.

5: From your reading, give a brief description of some of the challenges medical examiners had in making an accurate count of the number of deaths related to Hurricane Katrina.

6: Of the fifteen deadliest hurricanes in the U.S, only one occurred in the past 50 years. Does this fact mean that hurricanes have become less dangerous in the past 50 years? Discuss why you think fewer people are dying in U.S. hurricanes than in the past.