

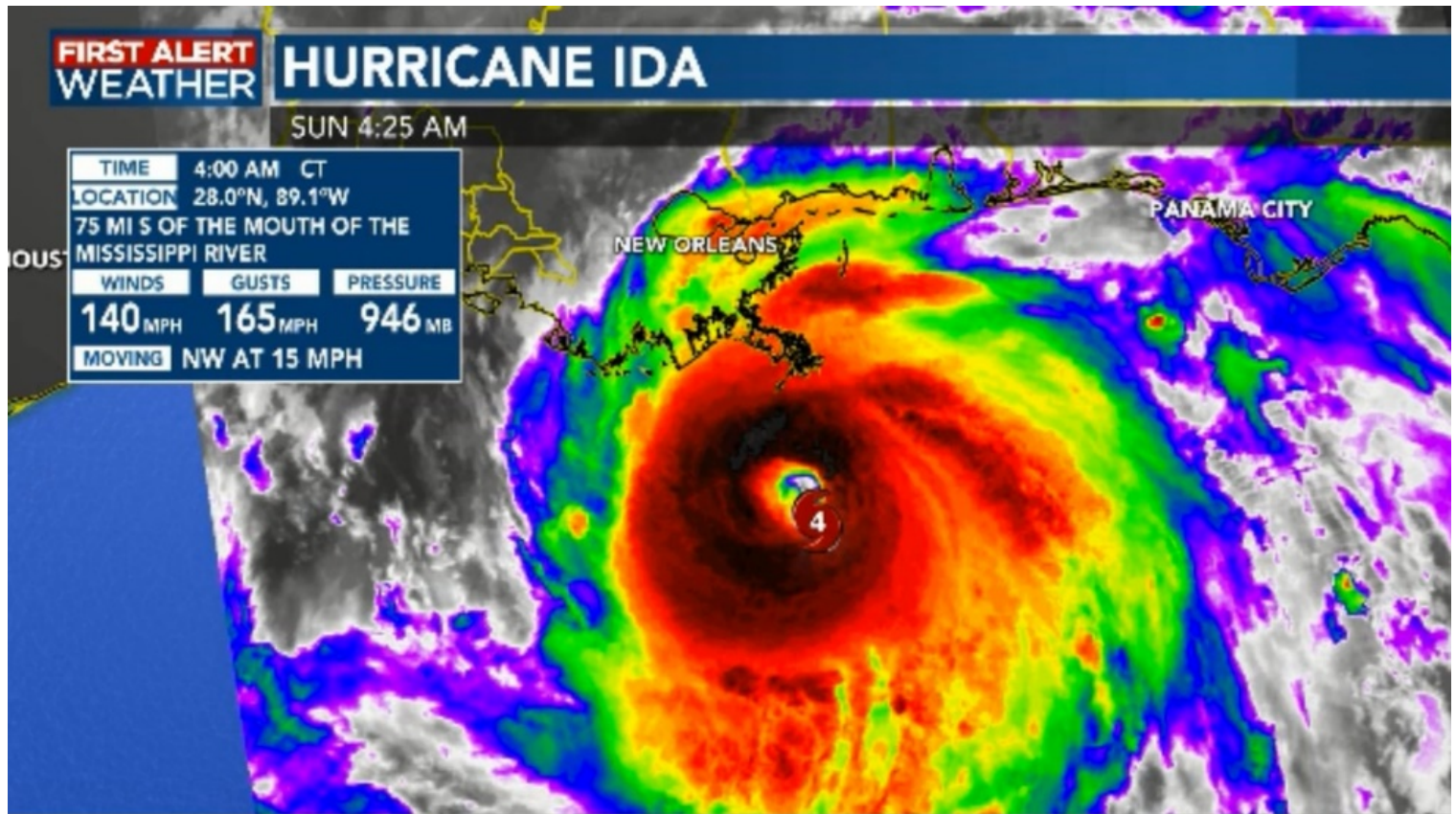
Hurricane Ida

By IASToppers | 2021-08-30 17:30:00



Hurricane Ida

Hurricane Ida made a **landfall** in Louisiana, a state of the U.S.



[Ref: KPLC]

Major Highlights:

- Ida is already a strong **Category 4 storm** with maximum sustained winds of **150 mph** (241 kph).
- It has become the **second most intense hurricane** to strike Louisiana, only behind Hurricane Katrina.
 - Hurricane **Katrina** made landfall on August 29, 2005 in Louisiana, where it caused around 1,800 deaths and damage in billions.
- Scientists have warned of a **rise in cyclone activity** as the ocean surface warms due to climate change, posing an increasing threat to the world's coastal communities.



[Britannica]

Loop Current:

- Ida powered up on an eddy of the **Loop Current**.
 - Normally when a **storm intensifies** or **stalls**, it takes up all of the region's warm water and then hits colder water that starts to weaken the storm.
 - But these warm water spots (like Loop current) **keep fuelling** a storm.
- The Loop Current is an **area of warm water** that travels up from the Caribbean, past the Yucatan Peninsula, and into the **Gulf of Mexico**.
- It is also known as the **Florida current** as it flows through the **Florida Strait**, into the Gulf Stream, and heads north up the eastern coast of the **U.S.**

Key Fact:

- Storms that are **bigger in width** have **larger storm surge** because of the broader push of the water.