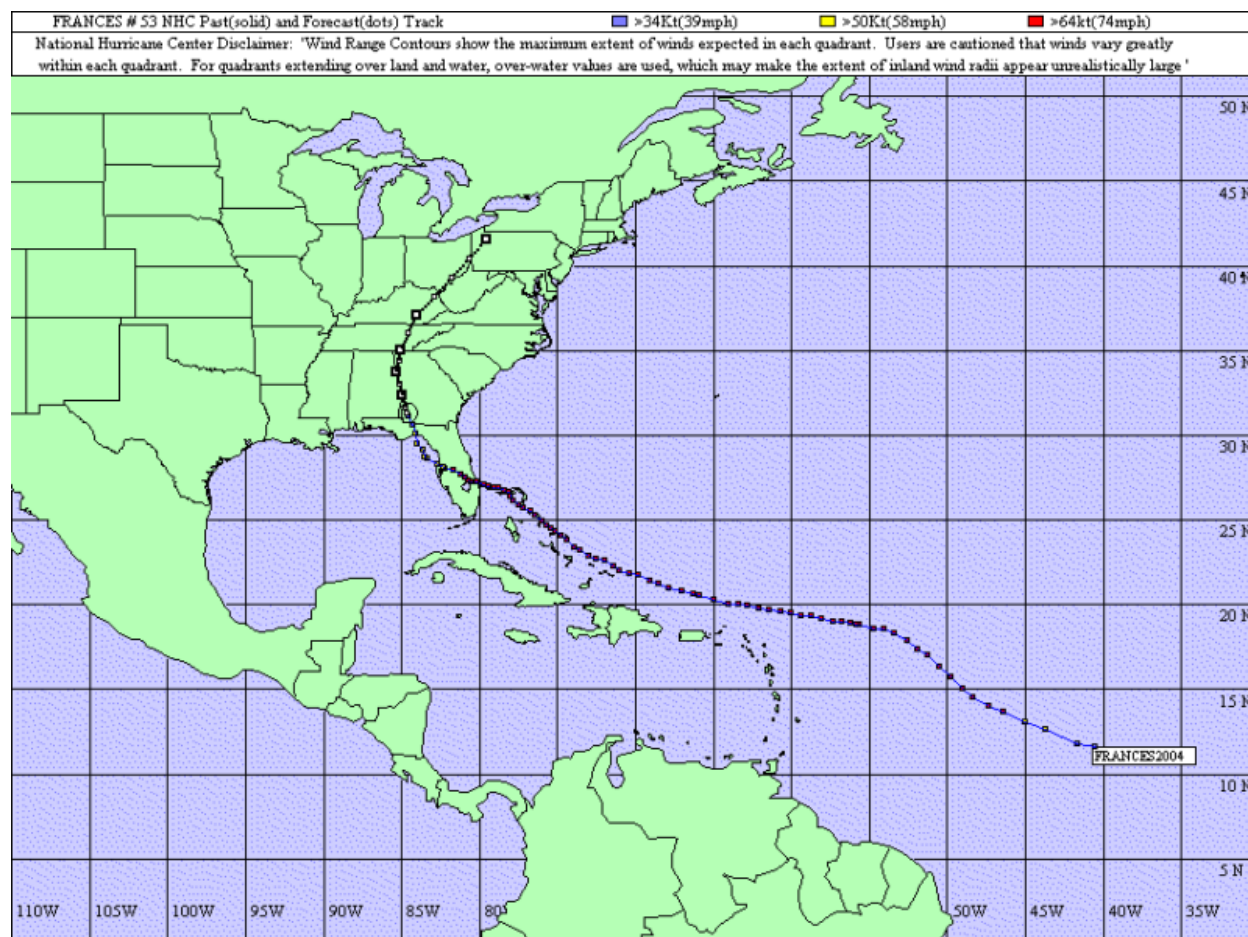


# Hurricane Frances Slams Florida

## Fact Sheet

**Event date:** August 24, 2004 – September 6, 2004



**Figure 1.** Hurricane Frances best track position.

**Summary of event:** Hurricane Frances was not a particularly windy storm for the west coast of Florida. Most of the damage was due to flooding, including freshwater and tidal storm surge. The wind did knock out power to 3 million Florida residents. Coastal storm surge flooding occurred as the hurricane exited the state and entered the Gulf of Mexico. Winds switched to the southwest and frequently gusted to 50 mph. Some areas, including Cedar Key experienced 4-6 foot surge heights, while Tampa and St. Petersburg received a 2-4 foot surge. For some, the maximum surge arrived at low tide, producing only minor flooding. For others, such as those in Shore acres and Bayshore, moderate flooding occurred, closing several roads, and inundating some homes in low lying areas. Cedar Key received just under 5 feet of storm surge while Pinellas County, including Snug Harbor, Snell Isle, and Shore Acres, received 6 feet of water. These locations had up to 2 feet of water in

resident's homes. Areal rainfall ranged from 2-4 inches over southwest Florida, 4-6 inches over Manatee and southern Pinellas counties, 6-8 inches in Hillsborough, Hardee, and Polk counties, and 8-12 inches from Pasco county north.

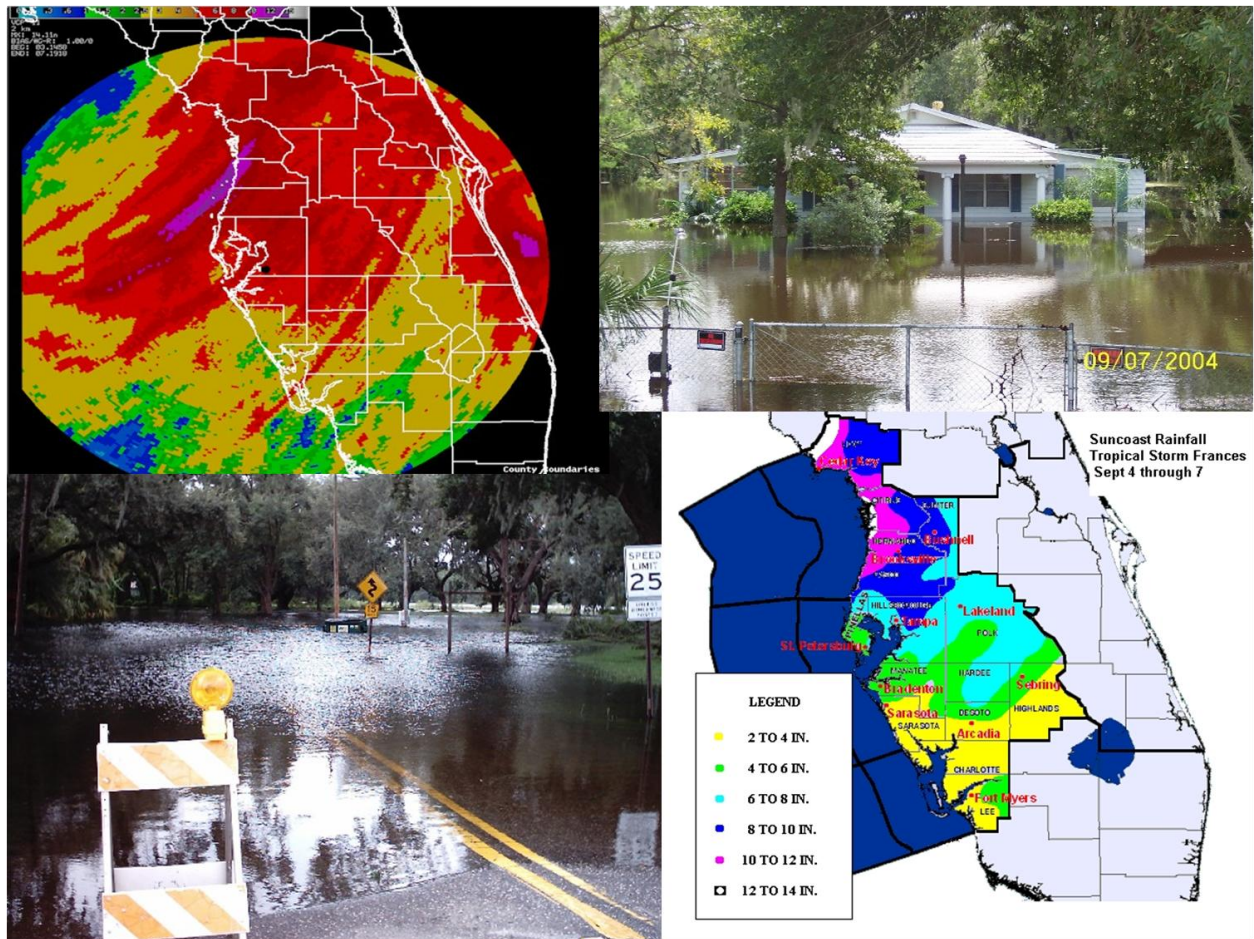


Figure 2. Hurricane Frances precipitation totals and photographs of flood damage.



**Figure 3.** Photograph of damage from a fallen tree.

**Links for more information:**

[http://www.srh.noaa.gov/tbw/?n=tampabayweatherhurricanefrances.](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/tbw/?n=tampabayweatherhurricanefrances)

**Acknowledgments:** National Weather Service, Tampa Bay Area.