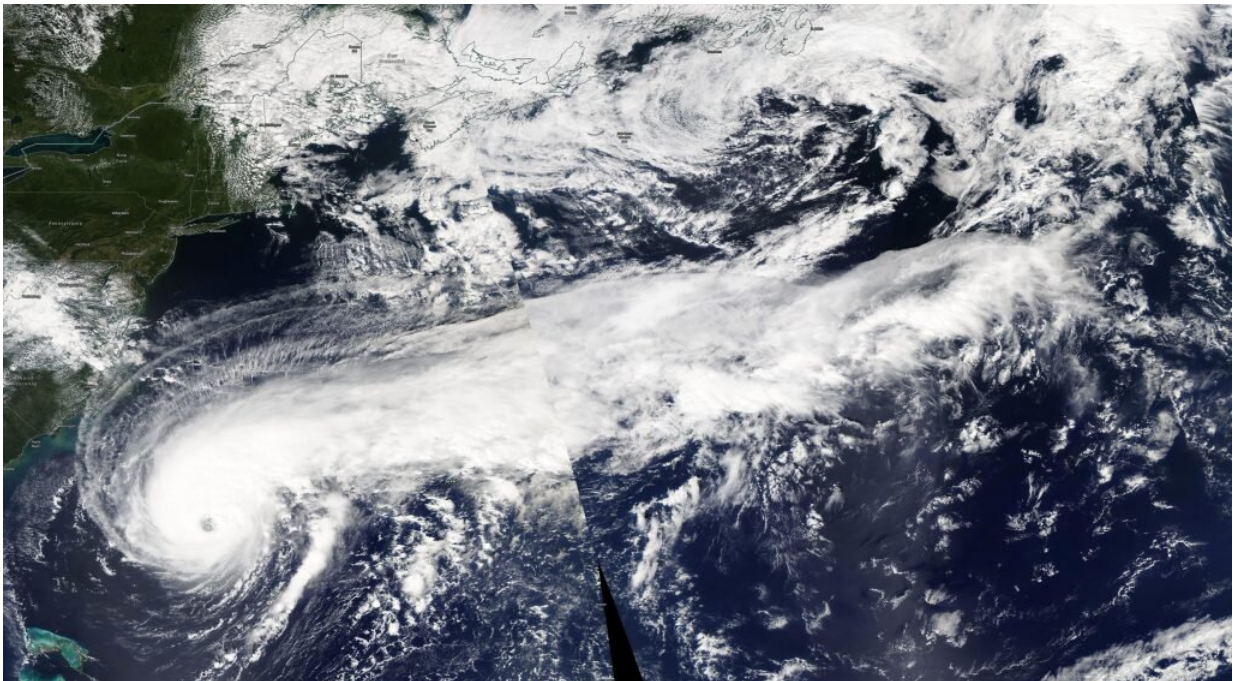


# NASA's wide view of major hurricane Humberto's massive Atlantic 'tail'

September 18 2019, by Rob Gutro

---



On Sept. 18, the MODIS instrument that flies aboard NASA's Aqua satellite provided these stitched together images of Hurricane Humberto in the Atlantic Ocean. Although Humberto's eye was just about 490 miles (785 km) west-southwest of Bermuda at the time of the Aqua overpass, the thick band of thunderstorms east of the center stretched beyond eastern Canada!

NASA's Aqua satellite is one in a fleet of NASA satellites that provide data for research. NASA's Aqua satellite provided a visible image of

Major Hurricane Humberto and its very long "tail" of thunderstorms stretching past eastern Canada.

Hurricanes are the most powerful weather event on Earth. NASA's expertise in space and [scientific exploration](#) contributes to essential services provided to the American people by other federal agencies, such as hurricane weather forecasting.

On Sept. 18, the Moderate Imaging Spectroradiometer or MODIS instrument that flies aboard NASA's Aqua [satellite](#) passed over the northern Atlantic Ocean and gathered images of Hurricane Humberto. Humberto is such a large storm that the Aqua satellite had to make two Earth orbits to capture the entire storm. At NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, those images were put together to form a complete picture of Humberto.

Although Humberto's eye was just about 490 miles (785 km) west-southwest of Bermuda at the time of the Aqua overpass, the thick band of thunderstorms east of the center stretched beyond eastern Canada!

On Sept. 19, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) said, "Humberto's satellite presentation continues to be outstanding with a large ragged eye and surrounded by deep convection."

The NHC said, "At 8 a.m. EDT (1200 UTC), the eye of Hurricane Humberto was located by satellite near latitude 31.8 degrees north and longitude 68.9 degrees west. Humberto has increased its forward speed and is moving toward the east-northeast near 16 mph (26 kph). This general motion with an additional increase in forward speed is expected through early Thursday, followed by a northeastward to north-northeastward motion through Friday.

Maximum sustained winds are near 115 mph (185 kph) with higher

gusts. Humberto is a category 3 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. Some fluctuations in intensity are likely during the next day or so, but Humberto should remain a powerful [hurricane](#) through early Thursday. A steady weakening trend should begin later on Thursday, Sept. 19.

Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 60 miles (95 km) from the center and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 175 miles (280 km). The estimated minimum central pressure is 951 millibars.

On the NHC forecast track, the core of Humberto is expected to pass just to the northwest and north of Bermuda later tonight.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Citation: NASA's wide view of major hurricane Humberto's massive Atlantic 'tail' (2019, September 18) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2019-09-nasa-wide-view-major-hurricane.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.