

Mom sees danger everywhere as daughter leaves for school

DEAR ABBY: I'm the proud mom of a wonderful 21-year-old daughter whom I find myself worrying about more and more lately. She just graduated from our local college and is heading to medical school in another state six hours away.

Rationally, I know she'll be fine and can take care of herself, but I am terrified that something will happen to her and I won't be there. My husband and daughter keep telling me nothing will happen and I need to calm down.

My question is, how do I go about staying calm when there is danger everywhere? She's our only child. Aren't my fears justified? Or am I overreacting like they keep telling me?



DEAR ABBY

DEAR EXCLUDED: You have been seeing Russell for five YEARS? It is a big deal, and you would have to have a hide of Kevlar not to be bothered by it. Have you asked him why you are consistently excluded? Have you asked where he thinks your relationship is going? If not, it's time you did.

Not knowing Russell's family, I don't know whether they may have some other objection to you than the fact that you are white. Regrettably, racism exists in every community to some degree. Without more information, I am reluctant to label them.

DEAR ABBY: The media give us stories of racial conflict and the shooting of police officers almost daily, and every reporter and news anchor proposes solutions. As a Hispanic police officer in a small city, I have an observation.

I was having lunch the other day with two other officers. Sitting across from us was a young mom whose child was throwing a temper tantrum. I overheard her say, "If you don't behave, I'm going to give you to those police officers and let them beat you!"

Abby, my parents taught me the police were my friends -- people I could go to if I had a problem. We work hard to interact with the community. I wonder how many other tired and frustrated parents have made their children afraid of the police and created distrust. Like so many other "social problems," maybe a lot of this really starts with how parents teach their children.

— POLICE ARE MY FRIENDS

DEAR POLICE OFFICER: It is the parents' responsibility to discipline their children; it is not the job of the police! It is a huge mistake for parents to instill fear of authority figures in their children, because a day may come when the kid needs help from one of them.

And by the way, this doesn't happen only with law enforcement officers. I have heard of children who are terrified of doctors because their mothers threatened them by saying if they misbehaved, "the doctor would give them a shot." To say these are prime examples of poor parenting is putting it mildly.

More than 1,100 people dead after Hurricane Maria

By Karen Kaplan

Los Angeles Times

It's been almost a year since Hurricane Maria slammed into Puerto Rico, battering the U.S. territory with heavy rain, flash floods and winds that blew up to 155 mph. Officially, the death toll stands at 64. But a new report estimates that 1,139 people lost their lives as a result of the Category 4 storm.

The figure, published Thursday in the Journal of the American Medical Association, is based on mortality data from Puerto Rico's vital statistics system that was not previously available.

It's among the higher estimates of hurricane-related deaths to emerge since the storm hit on Sept. 20, and it's within the range reported in May by a team from the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health. Their conclusion, based on face-to-face interviews of nearly 3,300 Puerto Rican residents, was that between 793 and 8,498 people died as a result of the storm, with 4,645 being the most likely number.

Some deaths were a direct consequence of Hurricane Maria, including residents who drowned in flooded streets or who were crushed in collapsing buildings. Other fatalities occurred days or weeks later as patients were forced to go without necessary medications, lost access to equipment such as dialysis machines or were unable to call for an ambulance following an otherwise treatable emergency as Puerto Rico struggled to recover from the storm.

For the new study in JAMA, demographer Alexis Santos-Lozada of Pennsylvania State University and researcher Jeffrey Howard of the University of Texas at San Antonio examined of-

ficial death counts for Puerto Rico between January 2010 and December 2017.

First, the pair focused on the seven years before the hurricane hit to determine the baseline number of deaths for each month of the year. They averaged the figures from 2010 to 2016 and came up with a range that had a 95 percent chance of including the true mortality number.

Then, for each month, they compared that range to the number of deaths in 2017.

For all of the months between January and August, the 2017 death count was in line with the averages from the previous seven years. In four months (January, April, May and June) the 2017 figure was slightly above average, and in four months (February, March, July and August) it was slightly below. But in all those cases, the 2017 count was within the historical range.

That changed in September, when Hurricane Maria made landfall.

Between 2010 and 2016, the number of September deaths in Puerto Rico was between 2,297 and 2,469. In 2017, it was 2,928, according to the vital statistics system.

To be conservative, Santos-Lozada and Howard compared the 2017 figure to the highest number in the range from previous years. That gave them an estimate of 459 "excess deaths" in the month the hurricane hit.

Using the same method, they estimated there were 564 additional deaths in October and 116 in November. But by December, the 2017 death count (2,820) was back in the historical range (2,543 to 2,824).

Altogether, the excess deaths from September through

November totaled 1,139.

Santos-Lozada and Howard had previously calculated that about 1,085 Puerto Ricans perished as a result of Hurricane Maria. That figure was based on official mortality data only through October 2017.

The additional data suggest the territory's final hurricane-related fatality occurred in November. But there's no way to know for sure until more information is released by the Puerto Rican government, Santos-Lozada said.

"It is possible some deaths occurred in 2018 and that they are associated somehow with Hurricane Maria, but we do not have information on that matter and it would be irresponsible to speculate about it," he said.

Members of the Harvard team have looked at official data for 2018, and they see signs that the hurricane's effects continued well into this year.

When they obtained daily (rather than monthly) mortality data through May 2018, the immediate impact of the hurricane was clear: For about two weeks after Sept. 20, there were between 25 and 50 additional deaths per day, Harvard biostatistician Rafael Irizarry wrote on his blog. After making adjustments for the effects of Puerto Rico's shrinking and aging population, as well as seasonal effects on mortality, they found that that it took only a few days for Hurricane Maria's death toll to reach 64.

The Puerto Rican government has asked researchers from George Washington University to determine how many people in the territory died as a result of the hurricane. That report is expected to be released before the end of the summer.

weather

	TONIGHT	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
Baker City	45 Comfort Index™ 8	83 49 8	86 48 6	92 49 6	97 53 2
La Grande	49 Comfort Index™ 9	81 49 9	86 50 7	93 53 5	98 55 2
Enterprise	44 Comfort Index™ 9	78 47 9	82 50 7	91 52 4	95 56 2

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

ALMANAC	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
TEMPERATURES			
High Thursday	91°	90°	88°
Low Thursday	51°	57°	49°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Thursday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.00	0.00	0.00
Normal month to date	0.04	0.04	0.04
Year to date	4.75	10.30	20.78
Normal year to date	6.40	10.06	14.41

AGRICULTURAL INFO.	
HAY INFORMATION SATURDAY	
Lowest relative humidity	25%
Afternoon wind	NNW at 4 to 8 mph
Hours of sunshine	11.3
Evapotranspiration	0.22

RESERVOIR STORAGE	(through midnight Thursday)
Phillips Reservoir	34% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	46% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	50% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	54% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	23% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	42% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS	(through midnight Thursday)
Grande Ronde at Troy	514 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	122 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	138 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	36 cfs
Minam River at Minam	97 cfs
Powder River near Richland	54 cfs

THURSDAY EXTREMES	
NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 121°	Death Valley, Calif.
Low: 32°	Fraser, Colo.
Wettest: 4.40"	Panama City, Fla.
OREGON	
High: 97°	Rome
Low: 37°	Prineville
Wettest: 0.08"	Astoria

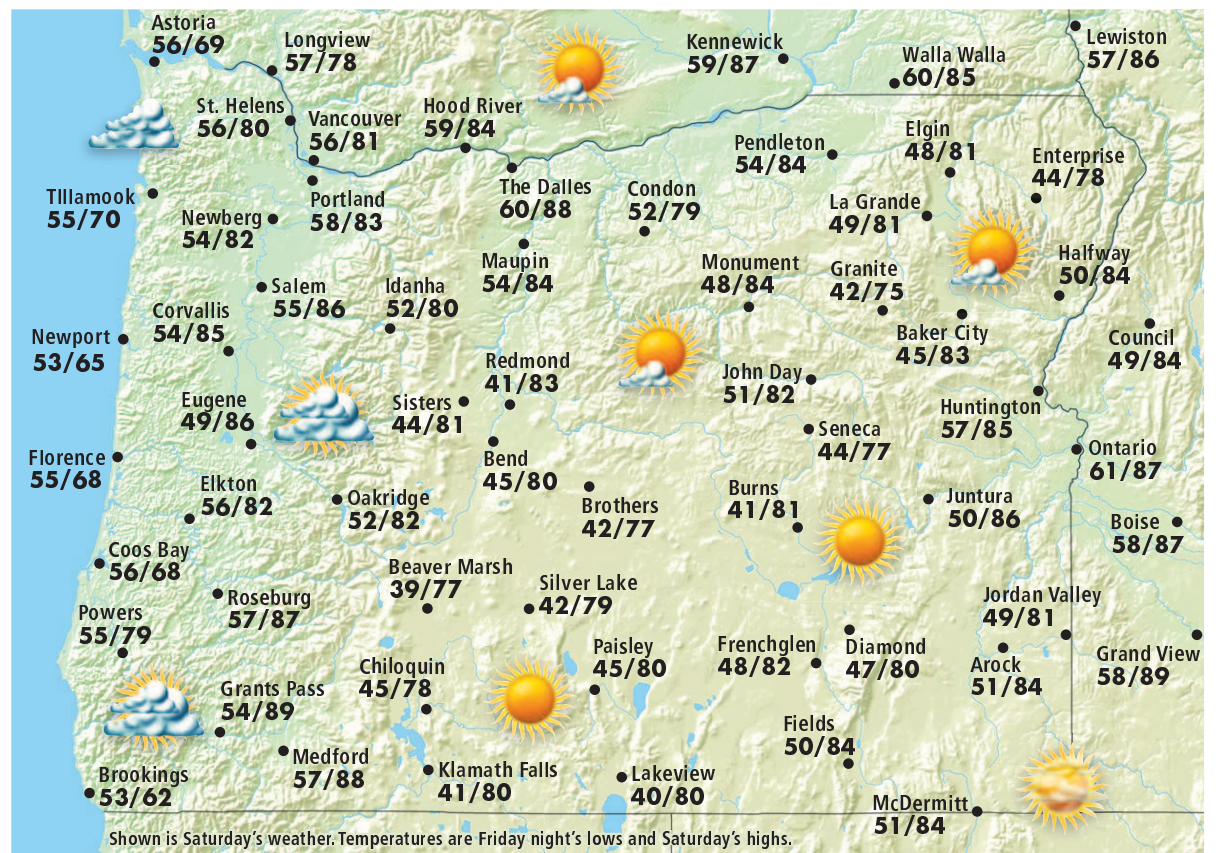
WEATHER HISTORY
Flooding struck Erie, Pa., on Aug. 4, 1915, killing 75 people, destroying bridges and inundating streets. Such sudden local floods are major hazards in the summer.

SUN & MOON	FRI.	SAT.
Sunrise	5:39 a.m.	5:40 a.m.
Sunset	8:18 p.m.	8:16 p.m.
Moonrise	11:48 p.m.	none
Moonset	12:26 p.m.	1:33 p.m.

MOON PHASES	Last	New	First	Full
	Aug 4	Aug 11	Aug 18	Aug 26

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018



REGIONAL CITIES

City	SAT. HI/Lo/W	SUN. HI/Lo/W	City	SAT. HI/Lo/W	SUN. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	69/55/pc	70/56/pc	Lewiston	86/58/s	91/63/s
Bend	80/47/s	85/51/pc	Longview	78/54/pc	82/57/pc
Boise	87/59/s	89/62/s	Meacham	79/46/s	84/48/s
Brookings	62/52/pc	64/50/pc	Medford	88/58/s	89/60/pc
Burns	81/44/s	84/46/s	Newport	65/53/pc	63/53/pc
Coos Bay	68/56/pc	67/54/c	Olympia	80/52/pc	85/53/pc
Corvallis	85/54/pc	83/55/pc	Ontario	87/60/s	91/60/s
Council	84/51/s	86/53/s	Pasco	87/55/s	92/56/pc
Elgin	81/48/s	86/50/s	Pendleton	84/57/s	89/59/s
Eugene	86/50/pc	85/52/pc	Portland	83/60/pc	87/63/pc
Hermiston	87/58/s	92/58/pc	Powers	79/55/pc	77/54/c
Hood River	84/60/s	90/63/pc	Redmond	83/46/s	87/48/pc
Imnaha	84/53/s	88/57/s	Roseburg	87/56/pc	86/59/pc
John Day	82/51/s	86/56/s	Salem	86/56/pc	88/58/pc
Joseph	78/47/s	82/48/s	Spokane	80/56/s	86/60/s
Kennewick	87/57/s	87/57/pc	The Dalles	88/60/s	94/64/pc
Klamath Falls	80/43/pc	82/47/s	Ukiah	77/46/s	83/48/s
Lakeview	80/39/pc	81/41/s	Walla Walla	85/61/s	91/67/pc

RECREATION FORECAST SATURDAY

ANTHONY LAKES	Mostly sunny	55 35	PHILLIPS LAKE	Mostly sunny	77 43
MT. EMILY REC.	Cooler	66 45	BROWNLEE RES.	Mostly sunny	86 51
EAGLE CAP WILD.	Mostly sunny	65 34	EMIGRANT ST. PARK	Mostly sunny	71 40
WALLOWA LAKE	Mostly sunny	79 45	MCKAY RESERVOIR	Mostly sunny	82 53
THIEF VALLEY RES.	Mostly sunny	83 45	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	Mostly sunny	81 49



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