



27 Aug 2019 16:20Z NOAA/NESDIS/STAR GOES-East Band 13

“Dorian” is a compact storm, meaning the radius of highest winds doesn’t go out very far from the center, only about 40 miles right now. This makes it vulnerable to disruption as it crosses the mountainous terrain of Puerto Rico and Hispaniola – there’s a chance it will break up completely. But, if it survives that portion of the trip, the water along its projected path through the Bahamas to Florida is around 84 degrees and the overall atmospheric environment (low wind shear) will be somewhat favorable for strengthening. A hurricane of some intensity, perhaps Cat 2 at landfall, seems reasonable. The map directly above shows 20 model outputs - that’s a lot- with strong agreement on the path of the system. Looks like a Labor Day weekend spoiler for some folks in the Sunshine State...if it holds together.

My best numbers:

For Dorian to fall apart crossing PR and Hispaniola: 15%

To survive the crossing and reach Florida as a tropical storm: 20%

To survive the crossing and reach Florida as a hurricane: 65%