

City Report
FIFA World Cup 2026

Miami



Issued
20th May 2026



Miami (Miami Gardens)

Overview

Country	United States of America
Host stadium	Hard Rock Stadium (FIFA tournament-time name: Miami Stadium), Miami Gardens, FL
Distance to Downtown	~16 miles (25 km) north of Downtown Miami
Stadium capacity	64,091
Roof / cover type	Translucent canopy over the seating bowl; the field is open. Shade for spectators, no environmental control
Altitude	~2 m (6 ft)
Timezone (June-July 2026)	Eastern Daylight Time (UTC-4)
Official language(s)	English (Spanish dominant or co-dominant in many neighbourhoods; Haitian Creole and Portuguese widely used)
Match count & dates	7 matches: 4 Group Stage (15th–27th June), 1 R32 (3rd July), 1 Quarterfinal (11th July), 1 Third place game (18th July)
Primary airport(s)	MIA (Miami International) is the primary gateway; FLL (Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood) and PBI (West Palm Beach) serve as secondary options
Population (metro)	~6.2 million (Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach metro)

Risk ratings

Security	LOW
Travel Disruption	MODERATE
Medical Infrastructure	LOW
Natural Disasters	HIGH
Storms/Hurricanes	HIGH
Heat	HIGH

Miami’s primary risks include elevated hurricane and tropical storm risks, as well as heat exposure; there is an even chance that a hurricane or tropical storm impacts the city during the tournament. Heat is the most prominent risk, persisting throughout the tournament. Flooding events

are also likely in Miami, particularly tidal or rainfall-induced flooding, though these are highly likely to have a limited impact. A heightened security presence is almost certain, particularly following the breach of the CONMEBOL Copa America final at this venue in July 2024.

Arrival, departure and transportation

Airports and public transport

MIA (Miami International) is the primary airport; allow three hours for international departures during the tournament window. Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood Airport (FLL) is a major secondary option located about 28 miles (45 km) North, and is often less congested than MIA. West Palm Beach Airport (PBI) is a tertiary option

located about 70 miles (110 km) north. Tri-Rail commuter rail connects MIA, FLL and West Palm Beach, with a transfer at Golden Glades for the FIFA Hard Rock Stadium Express shuttle. Brightline, a higher alternative, runs along the Miami Central-Aventura-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach-Orlando route; Aventura is the official FIFA shuttle pick-up for Hard Rock Stadium.

Recommended accommodation zones

South Beach is the main accommodation zone for tourists and business travellers, but it is located 30 to 60 minutes from the stadium. Brickell and Downtown form the business core and are 30 to 45 minutes from the stadium. Aventura and Sunny Isles are closest to Hard Rock, at 15 to 30 minutes away, and are the lowest-friction option for fans attending multiple matches. Coral Gables and Coconut Grove are residential and boutique zones, 40 to 60 minutes from the venue.



Security and medical risks

Crime

Miami-Dade's crime profile is heterogeneous. Tourist zones, including South Beach, Brickell, Wynwood and Coconut Grove, are well-policed and low-risk. Specific neighbourhoods, including parts of Liberty City, Overtown, Little Haiti, Opa-Locka, and North Miami Beach, have higher reported concentrations of violent crime and are not on standard tourist routes. Property crime, particularly vehicle break-ins and snatch theft on rented mopeds and scooters, is the dominant exposure for visitors. Hard Rock Stadium and the Aventura and Hollywood neighbourhoods immediately surrounding it pose a low risk to fans on event days.

Terrorism

Miami maintains an elevated baseline counterterrorism posture as a major international gateway. The FBI Miami Field Office, the Miami-Dade Police Department, the City of Miami Police Department, the Miami-Dade Sheriff's Office, and the South Florida

Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) coordinate regional security. After the Copa América 2024 final at this venue saw a documented stadium breach by ticketless fans, Hard Rock Stadium and the Miami-Dade Sheriff's Office have committed to a hardened three-checkpoint perimeter enclosing the stadium campus for the 2026 World Cup; ticket screening happens at each checkpoint, and the law-enforcement footprint in and around the venue is larger than any prior event at Hard Rock Stadium. Visitors should expect visible security at MIA airport, the Brickell financial district, Bayfront Park during the Fan Festival window, and the Hard Rock Stadium perimeter throughout the tournament.

Unrest

Miami has a moderate risk of unrest, commensurate with the United States. Flashpoint issues are narrower in scope than in other host cities and centre on immigration policy, Cuban and Venezuelan political events, and access to federal buildings. The overall unrest risk in Miami Gardens and near Hard Rock Stadium is low.

Major demonstrations are most likely to converge on Bayfront Park, the federal courthouse and in Little Havana during planned protests.

Natural disaster

Atlantic hurricane and tropical-storm exposure is the dominant hazard in Miami. June and July are early in the season, but documented direct hits and near-misses have occurred in recent decades. Miami sits at sea level on a permeable limestone aquifer; tidal flooding, also known as "sunny-day flooding", occurs even without storms, and rainfall flash-flooding is the single most likely tournament-window operational disruption. The 1992 Hurricane Andrew, which was a Category 5 hurricane when it made landfall in Miami-Dade on 24th August 1992, remains the worst-case scenario, and there is a remote chance of a similar event occurring during the tournament.

Heat/infectious disease

Miami's June and July humidity pushes apparent temperatures above 100°F (38°C) on most days. Hard Rock Stadium's canopy provides shade but not active cooling, so the heat-illness risk is the highest of any host city, concentrated during afternoon kickoffs and entry queues. Travellers should ensure hydration and cooling measures are prioritised, particularly during daytime hours.



Stadium and matchday

Match schedule

Date	Match	Stage	Kickoff (local)
15 th June	Saudi Arabia - Uruguay	Group H	18h00
21 st June	Uruguay - Cape Verde	Group H	18h00
24 th June	Scotland - Brazil	Group C	18h00
27 th June	Colombia - Portugal	Group K	19h30
3 rd July	Winner of Group J - Runner-up Group H	Round of 32	18h00
11 th July	Winner of Match 91 - Winner of Match 92	Quarterfinal	17h00
18 th July	Loser SF1 - Loser SF2	Bronze Final	17h00

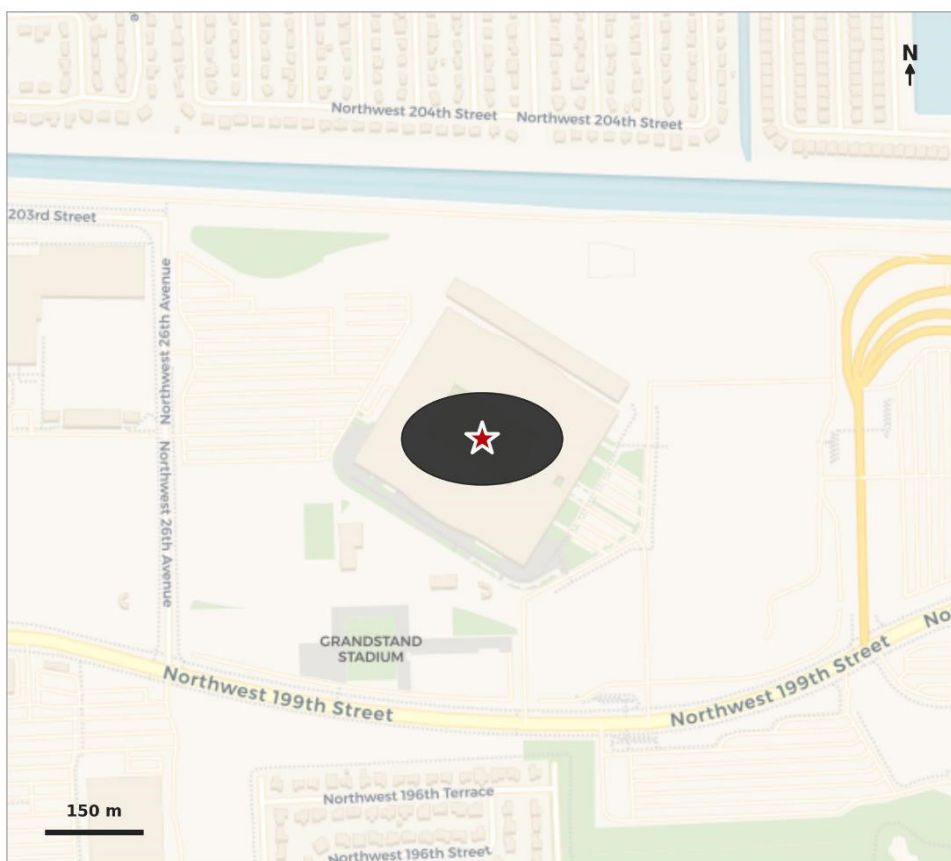
Public transport and transportation to the stadium

Hard Rock Stadium is in Miami Gardens, about 16 miles (25 km) from downtown Miami and 20 miles (32 km) from FLL. There is no direct rail link to the venue; match-day access is via the Florida Turnpike, I-95, and NW 199th Street/Hard Rock Boulevard. Miami-Dade County has formally announced the Miami Game Day Express programme involving free dedicated round-trip shuttles for verified ticket holders, operating from four official transit hubs: Dr Martin Luther King Jr. Plaza Metrorail Station, Golden Glades Multimodal Transit Station, Aventura Brightline Station, and Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. Metrorail will run extended service on 27th June and 3rd July to support lateevening match egress. Driving and self-parking remain available, but parking inventory is constrained, and pricing is almost certain to be surge-priced; fans are advised to pre-purchase via the official stadium parking system or use rideshare. Matchday road closures around NW 199th Street are scheduled to begin five to six hours before kickoff.



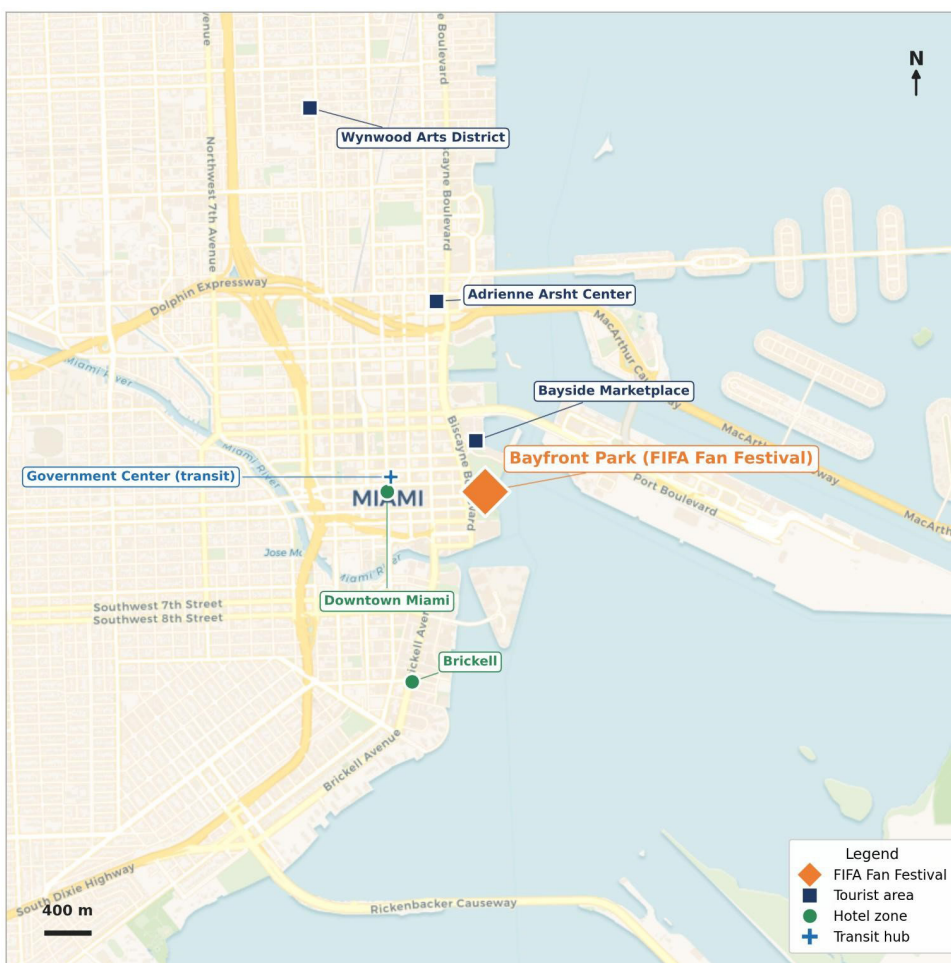
Entry/gates into the stadium

Per FIFA standard policy for the 2026 World Cup, Hard Rock Stadium gates are expected to open two hours before kickoff. The FIFA-standard clear-bag policy is enforced, including clear bags up to 12" x 6" x 12" (about 30 cm x 15 cm x 30 cm) or a one-gallon Ziploc, plus a small clutch up to 4.5" x 6.5" (≈11 cm x 17 cm); there is no bag check or storage on-site. Screening is by metal detector and manual bag inspection. Prohibited items include professional cameras with detachable or telephoto lenses, drones, oversized signs and banners (FIFA's typical size limit is ~2 m x 1.5 m), umbrellas and any flagpoles. The third-place match on 18th July will draw the largest gate volume of the tournament window in Miami.



Fanzones

The official FIFA Fan Festival is at Bayfront Park in downtown Miami, running from 13th June to 5th July with free public access. Daily attendance is forecast at up to 30,000. The site programmes large-format match screenings, live music and entertainment, food and drink activations, interactive installations and sponsor pavilions. The specific concert lineup is being released in phases by the Miami host committee and was not fully published as of mid-May. Additional fan events are planned in South Beach. Each official fan zone operates its own screening perimeter.



Match risk rating

Match	Date and Kickoff (All Times Local)	Match Risk Rating
Saudi Arabia – Uruguay	15 th June 18h00	MINIMAL
Uruguay – Cape Verde	21 st June 18h00	MINIMAL
Scotland – Brazil	24 th June 18h00	LOW
<p>This match is assessed as LOW risk due to the likelihood of high fan turnout and associated disruption. Precedent from previous World Cups and European Championships underscores that both sets of fans are likely to travel to Miami in large numbers for the match. Disruption is likely due to the large Brazilian community in Florida, who are likely to gather in large numbers at fanzones and other venues in the Miami metropolitan area. Clashes between the two fanbases are highly unlikely to occur. Demand surges for taxis and rideshares are highly likely to be recorded on matchday, given the relatively low level of transit connectivity to Hard Rock Stadium. Arterial roads between Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and Hard Rock Stadium, including I-95, the Florida Turnpike, and 27th Avenue, are likely to experience increased travel delays.</p>		
Colombia – Portugal	27 th June 19h30	HIGH
<p>This match is assessed as HIGH risk due to the projected high attendance and enhanced security at the match. Colombia – Portugal is one of the most high-profile matches in the group stage, with both fanbases likely to travel in large numbers to Miami. Fan gatherings are highly likely to result in travel disruption in Downtown Miami as well as other high-footfall sites in the area, like Miami Beach and Fort Lauderdale. This is the first Colombia match in Miami since the major unrest at the 2024 Copa America, and authorities are likely to heighten security around Hard Rock Stadium and other tourist sites in the Miami area. Demand surges for taxis and rideshares are highly likely to be recorded on matchday, given the relatively low level of transit connectivity to Hard Rock Stadium. Arterial roads between Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and Hard Rock Stadium, including I-95, the Florida Turnpike, and 27th Avenue, are likely to experience increased travel delays.</p>		
Round of 32	3rd July 18h00	MODERATE
<p>This match is assessed as MODERATE risk due to elevated security and operational risks commensurate with the knockout stage. While the teams are not confirmed for this match, knockout stage matches are more likely to involve two teams with large fanbases, with a higher likelihood of disruption and fan unrest if it is a rivalry match or involves a fanbase with ultras presence. Fan gatherings are highly likely to result in travel disruption in Downtown Miami as well as other high-footfall sites in the area, like Miami Beach and Fort Lauderdale. Demand surges for taxis and rideshares are highly likely to be recorded on matchday, given the relatively low level of transit connectivity to Hard Rock Stadium. Arterial roads between Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and Hard Rock Stadium, including I-95, the Florida Turnpike, and 27th Avenue, are likely to experience increased travel delays.</p>		

Match risk rating

Match	Date and Kickoff (All Times Local)	Match Risk Rating
Quarterfinal	11th July 17h00	MODERATE
<p>This match is assessed as MODERATE risk due to elevated security and operational risks commensurate with the knockout stage. While the teams are not confirmed for this match, knockout stage matches are more likely to involve two teams with large fanbases, with a higher likelihood of disruption and fan unrest if it is a rivalry match or involves a fanbase with ultras presence. Fan gatherings are highly likely to result in travel disruption in Downtown Miami as well as other high-footfall sites in the area, like Miami Beach and Fort Lauderdale. Demand surges for taxis and rideshares are highly likely to be recorded on matchday, given the relatively low level of transit connectivity to Hard Rock Stadium. Arterial roads between Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and Hard Rock Stadium, including I-95, the Florida Turnpike, and 27th Avenue, are likely to experience increased travel delays.</p>		
Third Place Match	18th July 17h00	MODERATE
<p>This match is assessed as MODERATE risk due to elevated security and operational risks commensurate with the knockout stage. While the teams are not confirmed for this match, knockout stage matches are more likely to involve two teams with large fanbases, with a higher likelihood of disruption and fan unrest if it is a rivalry match or involves a fanbase with ultras presence. Fan gatherings are highly likely to result in travel disruption in Downtown Miami as well as other high-footfall sites in the area, like Miami Beach and Fort Lauderdale. Demand surges for taxis and rideshares are highly likely to be recorded on matchday, given the relatively low level of transit connectivity to Hard Rock Stadium. Arterial roads between Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and Hard Rock Stadium, including I-95, the Florida Turnpike, and 27th Avenue, are likely to experience increased travel delays.</p>		

Business as usual operations

Demand surges around match days are almost certain, especially on the days of the quarterfinal and third-place match. I-95, the Florida Turnpike and the Government Center transit hub are highly likely to saturate four to six hours before and after kickoff. Hotel inventory in South Beach and Brickell is almost certain to be limited during the tournament window, with surges in demand for taxis and rideshare services also highly likely. The most affected sectors include tourism and hospitality, financial services, real estate, port logistics, and healthcare.

Recommendations for businesses and organisations

- Consider implementing remote-work options for staff commuting via I-95, the Florida Turnpike or US-1. Match-day Hard Rock Stadium operations close adjacent surface streets in Miami Gardens; the Miami Game Day Express shuttle network (from Golden Glades, Aventura Brightline, MLK Plaza Metrorail and the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel) handles most ticketed-fan flow.
- Pre-book hotel blocks well ahead. June and July are Miami's traditional off-season, but tournament demand is almost certain to result in limited availability; Miami Beach, Brickell and Aventura are the areas most likely to be affected, particularly through the final week.
- Maintain an active hurricane-preparedness plan throughout the tournament window. 1st June marks the start of the Atlantic hurricane season, and a tropical system's landfall during the tournament cannot be ruled out. For mission-critical operations, run tabletop exercises on stadium-

evacuation and hurricane co-occurrence.

- The third-place match weekend overlaps with the normal Saturday turnaround at PortMiami; travellers are advised to build an extra buffer into embarkation timing.
- Brief marketing and legal teams on FIFA-marks restrictions: extra scrutiny is expected around Bronze Final week and the Bayfront Park Fan Festival (13th June to 5th July). Ambush-marketing enforcement at the South Beach perimeter is almost certain to be extensive.

Recommendations for residents

- Plan errands and medical appointments away from match-day afternoons, especially the Bronze Final on 18th July.
- Refresh hurricane evacuation kits and keep extra prescription medication and fuel in case of system activity.
- Sign up for Miami-Dade Alerts to stay apprised of security, operational and weather developments.



Multi city travel

Miami sits in FIFA's Eastern cluster with New York/New Jersey, Boston, Philadelphia and Toronto. Flights to NYC are about three hours, and to Toronto, about three and a half hours. Miami is also one of the closest US host cities to the Mexican host cities, at roughly two and a half hours to Mexico City. Travellers entering Canada need a passport; visa-

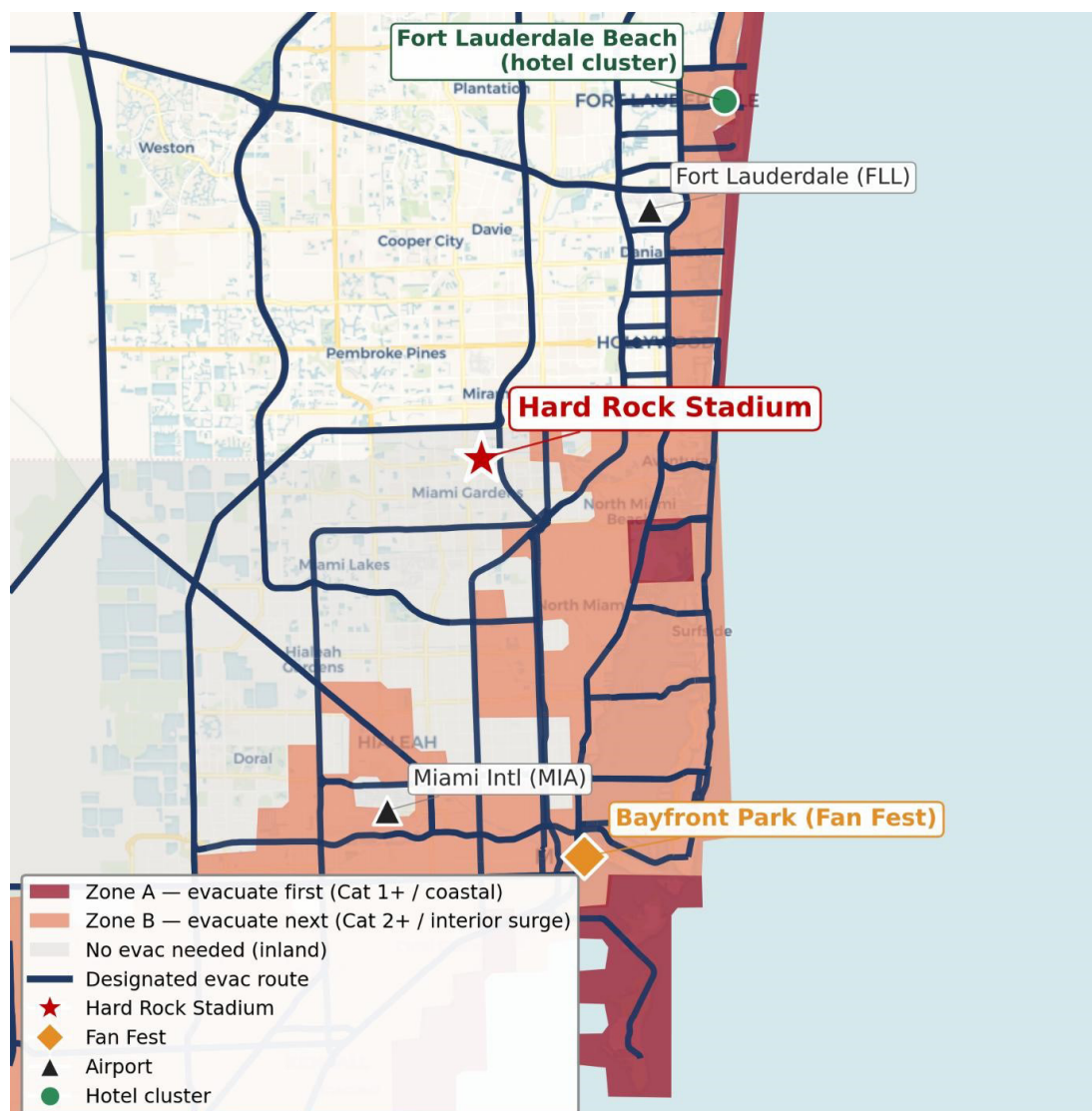
exempt nationals flying in need a Canadian eTA before boarding, while visa-required nationals need a visitor visa unless they qualify for an eTA exception. Travellers to Mexico require a visa unless they are from Canada, the USA, the EU, the UK, Japan, or select other countries. See the Special Advisory for routing guidance.



City-specific risks

Miami’s defining seasonal hazard is Atlantic hurricane and tropical-storm activity. The Atlantic hurricane season starts on 1st June, with Healex providing an updated report on hurricane risks. Preliminary outlooks trend toward an average-to-below-average season, with roughly 12 to 15 named storms and 2 to 3 major hurricanes. Although June and July are early in the climatology, documented direct hits and near-misses have occurred; the most significant hurricane, Hurricane

Andrew in 1992, struck in August as a Category 5. The Fan Festival at Bayfront Park sits in FEMA Zone A; the stadium in Miami Gardens is on slightly higher ground, but the access roads, such as NW 199th Street, the Florida Turnpike or I-95, remain susceptible to storm-related flooding and disruption. Operational planning should assume a fourday lead time for a credible tropical system threat and should pre-stage cancellation/ postponement decisions.



General advice

- **During major events, plan journeys avoiding common protest flashpoints.** Bayfront Park, the federal courthouse and Versailles Restaurant in Little Havana are likely locations for organised demonstrations, particularly during Cuba- or Venezuela-related news cycles.
- **Pedestrian travel is advisable across South Beach, Brickell, Wynwood and Coconut Grove before nightfall as long as basic security precautions are followed.** Exercise increased caution in parts of Liberty City, Overtown, Little Haiti, parts of Opa-Locka and North Miami Beach, and minimise non-essential movement during hours of darkness.
- **Hydration is essential outdoors at all times - apparent temperatures over 100°F (38°C) are routine during the tournament window.** Use DEET-based repellent for evening outdoor events.
- **Ensure personnel are aware of best practice protocols for evacuation or tropical storms during the June-November North Atlantic hurricane season.** Monitor meteorological authorities and media sources to stay apprised of potential storms and weather conditions.



Appendix: methodology

Risk ratings

MINIMAL	LOW	MODERATE	HIGH	EXTREME
Locations in this category are likely to be affected by small-scale, peaceful, protests that occur sporadically and represent no security risk but may cause temporary localised travel disruption.	Locations in this category are likely to be affected by small-scale protests and low-level clashes, resulting in a heightened police presence in the affected areas. Multiple arrests are reported, resulting in travel and operational disruption.	Locations in this category are likely to be affected by medium to large-scale protests and multiple low-level clashes. Local businesses are at a heightened risk of being damaged and looted, resulting in operational disruption.	Locations in this category are likely to be affected by large-scale protests and clashes taking place resulting in the deployment of National Guard units to contain the unrest. Movement restrictions are implemented to contain unrest, resulting in significant operational disruption.	Locations in this category are likely to be affected by significant civil unrest resulting in the temporary absence of law and order. Strict movement restrictions are imposed and a significant deployment of National Guard units leads to severe operational disruption.

Incident impact ratings

MINIMAL	LOW	MODERATE	SIGNIFICANT	CRITICAL
Incidents in this category are routine within the risk environment and do not pose a threat to life. Incidents rarely impact beyond the immediate vicinity and / or there is negligible implication associated with the risk factor.	Incidents in this category are routine within the risk environment but rarely pose a threat to life and / or the casualty impact is incidental and highly localised. Incidents rarely impact beyond the immediate vicinity or the implications are incidental.	Incidents in this category are fairly common for the risk environment and may pose a threat to life, occasionally resulting in mass casualties. The impact is typically restricted to the immediate vicinity and / or is incidental.	Incidents in this category occasionally occur in the risk environment and typically pose a credible and imminent threat to life, occasionally resulting in mass casualties. The impact may spread beyond the immediate vicinity.	Incidents in this category are highly out of the ordinary for the risk environment, pose a significant and imminent threat to life and will likely result in significant mass casualties. The impact is likely to have wider-reaching implications.

Risk trends

RAPIDLY IMPROVING	IMPROVING	STABLE	DETERIORATING	RAPIDLY DETERIORATING
The situation is improving in the short term, with the potential for an event to cause a sudden and unexpected improvement.	The situation is improving in the medium term, at a steady and predictable rate.	The situation is unlikely to see a significant improvement or deterioration over the medium term.	The situation is worsening in the medium term, at a steady and predictable rate.	The situation is worsening in the short term, with the potential for a sudden and unexpected deterioration.

Source evaluation criteria

CANNOT BE JUDGED	UNRELIABLE	RARELY RELIABLE	FAIRLY RELIABLE	USUALLY RELIABLE	RELIABLE
No basis exists for evaluating the reliability of the source.	Lacking in authenticity, trustworthiness, or competency. Frequent history of misinformation or inaccuracy.	Significant doubt about authenticity, trustworthiness or competency. Some history of misinformation or inaccuracy.	Doubt about authenticity, trustworthiness, or competency. History of some valid information.	Some doubt about authenticity, trustworthiness, or competency. History of valid information most of the time.	No doubt of authenticity, trustworthiness, or competency. History of being reliable almost all of the time.

Information validity

CANNOT BE JUDGED	CONFIRMED FALSE	LIKELY FALSE	POSSIBLY TRUE	PROBABLY TRUE	CONFIRMED TRUE
No basis exists for evaluating the validity of the information.	Confirmed as false by reputable independent sources.	Not confirmed. Possible but not logical. No other information on the subject or information is contradictory.	Not confirmed but reasonably logical. Limited other information on subject.	Not confirmed but logical in itself and consistent with most other information on subject.	Confirmed by reputable independent sources and logical in itself.

Forecasting

REMOTE CHANCE	HIGHLY UNLIKELY	UNLIKELY	EVEN CHANCE	LIKELY	HIGHLY LIKELY	ALMOST CERTAIN
<5%	10% - 20%	25% - 35%	40%-50%	55%-75%	80%-90%	>95%

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