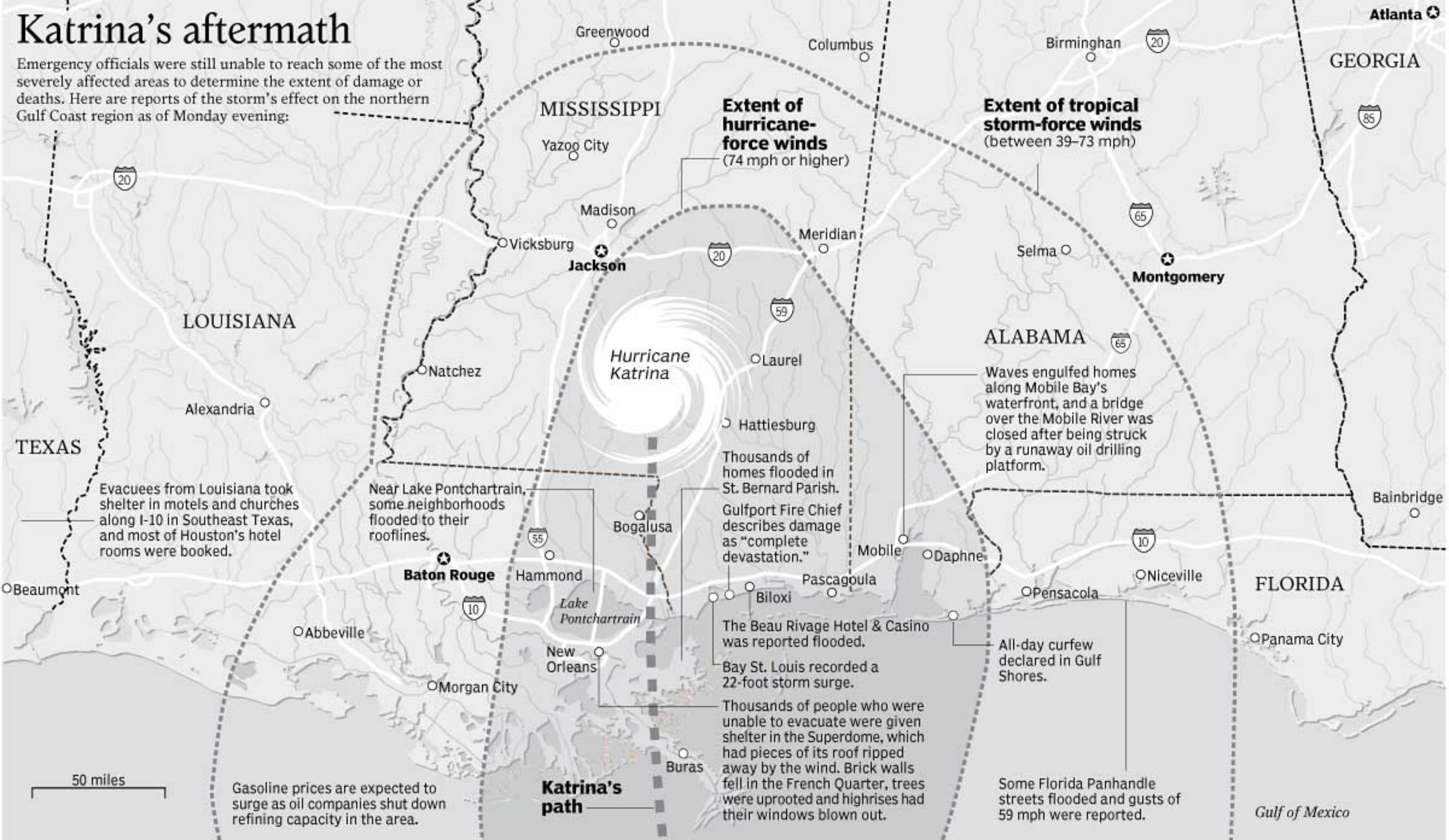


Katrina's aftermath

Emergency officials were still unable to reach some of the most severely affected areas to determine the extent of damage or deaths. Here are reports of the storm's effect on the northern Gulf Coast region as of Monday evening:



Evacuees from Louisiana took shelter in motels and churches along I-10 in Southeast Texas, and most of Houston's hotel rooms were booked.

Near Lake Pontchartrain, some neighborhoods flooded to their rooftops.

Thousands of homes flooded in St. Bernard Parish. Gulfport Fire Chief describes damage as "complete devastation."

The Beau Rivage Hotel & Casino was reported flooded. Bay St. Louis recorded a 22-foot storm surge.

Thousands of people who were unable to evacuate were given shelter in the Superdome, which had pieces of its roof ripped away by the wind. Brick walls fell in the French Quarter, trees were uprooted and highrises had their windows blown out.

Waves engulfed homes along Mobile Bay's waterfront, and a bridge over the Mobile River was closed after being struck by a runaway oil drilling platform.

All-day curfew declared in Gulf Shores.

Some Florida Panhandle streets flooded and gusts of 59 mph were reported.

Gasoline prices are expected to surge as oil companies shut down refining capacity in the area.