

# Spanish floods: Civil, military rescue effort underway as at least 158 dead

Oct. 31 (UPI) — Rescue efforts were continuing Thursday in eastern Spain after more than a year's worth of rainfall fell in eight hours, triggering flash flooding that killed at least 158 people, destroyed roads, bridges and cut power and left some areas cut off from the outside world.

The number of confirmed deaths climbed from 95 to at least 158 Thursday, as authorities continued to make grizzly discoveries, including multiple people trapped inside vehicles and buried by mud and debris, Spanish Transport Minister Óscar Puente told reporters.

Authorities said 92 of the deaths were in Valencia Province on the eastern coast, two in neighboring Castilla La Mancha and one in Malaga Province on the southern coast but with many areas only accessible by helicopter and an unknown number of people unaccounted for there were fears the death toll could rise.

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