

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Atlantic Ocean Hurricane Season Forecast

Overview

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has issued its August forecast for the 2022 Atlantic Ocean Hurricane Season. Forecasters within the U.S. governmental agency are now projecting **14-20 named storms, 6-10 hurricanes, and 3-5 major hurricanes (Category 3+)** between the months of June and November for the Atlantic Basin. This is a slight reduction from its May release, and also includes the three named storms which have already developed in 2022 (Alex, Bonnie, Colin).

Forecast Details

NOAA's report indicates that there are multiple factors for the Atlantic hurricane season forecast, which suggests above-normal activity for the seventh consecutive season:

- Atmospheric conditions now present within the Main Development Region (MDR) are conducive for tropical cyclone development. These conditions are expected to last through the peak months of the hurricane season (August / September / October).
- The West African Monsoon has been stronger than average with rains in June near the 80th percentile of historical observations. The African Easterly Jet has also shifted northward, but not as far north as last year. A northward shift is favorable for tropical storm and hurricane formation, with a shift further north being more favorable. Also, sea-level pressure analyses indicate that pressures are generally below normal across the MDR.
- Models suggest a 62% chance of La Niña conditions persisting through the August / September / October timeframe and virtually no chance that El Niño will develop and suppress the hurricane activity this season. La Niña phases favor more activity as it results in weaker vertical wind shear and other inhibiting atmospheric or oceanic factors.
- There is some uncertainty in the forecast as some observed conditions are not as supportive of an active season. Sea surface temperatures in the MDR have been slightly above normal during the past 4 weeks but have been below average for some periods during the past 2 months. NOAA analysis based on the temperature difference between the Atlantic MDR and Global Tropics, as well as the Niño 3.4 Index, point to outcomes closer to normal levels of activity.

NOAA provides the following probabilities for the 2022 Atlantic Hurricane Season: 60% of an abovenormal season, a 30% chance of a near-normal season, and a 10% chance of a below-normal season.

As a reminder: Above or below average hurricane season forecasts are often a poor predictor of seasonal economic or insured losses. Landfall location, intensity, and coastal / inland storm behavior are the predominant loss correlation drivers.



NOAA Atlantic Basin Hurricane Season Forecast (June 1 - November 30)

Forecast Parameter	Average (1991-2020)	2022 (May Forecast)	2022 (Aug Forecast)	
Named Storms	14	14-21	14-20	
Hurricanes	7	6-10	6-10	
Major Hurricanes	3	3-6	3-5	
ACE Range (Median) – 1951-2020	75.4-130%	115-200%	110-190%	
Chance for an Above-Normal Hurricane Season	33%	65%	60%	
Chance for a Near-Normal Hurricane Season	33%	25%	30%	
Chance for a Below-Normal Hurricane Season	33%	10%	10%	

Source: NOAA

Historical Forecast Verification

NOAA Atlantic Hurricane Season Forecast Validation: Last 15 Years

Year	Named Storms			Hurricanes			Major Hurricanes		
	Мау	Aug	Actual	Мау	Aug	Actual	Мау	Aug	Actual
2007	13-17	13-16	15	7-10	7-9	6	3-5	3-5	2
2008	12-16	14-18	16	6-9	7-10	8	2-5	3-6	5
2009	9-14	7-11	9	4-7	3-6	3	1-3	1-2	2
2010	14-23	14-20	19	8-14	8-12	12	3-7	4-6	5
2011	12-18	14-19	19	6-10	7-10	7	3-6	3-5	4
2012	9-15	12-17	19	4-8	5-8	10	1-3	2-3	2
2013	13-20	13-19	14	7-11	6-9	2	3-6	3-5	0
2014	8-13	7-12	8	3-6	3-6	6	1-2	0-2	2
2015	6-11	6-10	11	3-6	1-4	4	0-2	0-1	2
2016	10-16	12-17	15	4-8	5-8	7	1-4	2-4	4
2017	11-17	14-19	17	5-9	5-9	10	2-4	2-5	6
2018	10-16	9-13	15	5-9	4-7	8	1-4	0-2	2
2019	9-15	10-17	18	4-8	5-9	3	2-4	2-4	3
2020	13-19	19-25	30	6-10	7-11	14	3-6	3-6	7
2021	13-20	15-21	21	6-10	7-10	7	3-5	3-5	4
2022	14-21	14-20		6-10	6-10		3-6	3-5	

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