

Tropical Storm Risk (TSR) Atlantic Hurricane Season Forecast

Tropical Storm Risk (TSR) has issued its latest forecast for the 2019 Atlantic Hurricane Season. The agency is forecasting **12 named storms, 6 hurricanes, and 2 major hurricanes (Category 3+)** between the months of June and November. This is generally unchanged from TSR's initial projection of tropical activity released in April; only difference is one additional expected hurricane. The projected activity is expected to be 10 percent below the long-range norm (1950-2018) and 20 percent below the recent 10-year norm (2009-2018).

The agency, which originates from University College London (UCL), cites that the main predictor for this forecast is the latest projection of trade winds across the Caribbean Sea and tropical North Atlantic from July to September. It is currently anticipated that these winds will be slightly stronger than normal – primarily due to a continuance of weak to moderate El Niño – which should have a suppressing effect on cyclogenesis during the season. Trade winds are impactful since it can influence cyclone vorticity (a parameter that allows for “spin” of the storms) and an increase in wind shear in the main development regions. The latest trade wind forecast values are slightly lower than what was modeled in April. Due to this reason, a near-normal season is currently forecast.

As always, TSR notes the continued uncertainties surrounding July-September trade winds and sea surface temperatures across the North Atlantic at this lead time. Further uncertainty remains regarding the intensity of El Niño during the peak development months. A stronger El Niño has historically led to a reduced number of Atlantic storms.

TSR currently projects that there is a 24 percent probability that the 2019 Atlantic Hurricane Season ACE Index will be above-average, a 39 percent likelihood it will be near-normal, and a 37 percent chance it will be below-normal.

The Accumulated Cyclone Energy Index is equal to the sum of the squares of 6-hourly maximum sustained wind speeds (in knots) for all systems while they are at least tropical storm strength. The ACE Landfall Index is the sum of the squares of hourly maximum sustained wind speeds (in knots) for all systems while they are at least tropical storm strength and over the United States mainland (reduced by a factor of 6).

The tables on the next page show the TSR forecast and the range of uncertainty that surrounds the forecast. The full report is available at TSR's webpage (<http://tropicalstormrisk.com/>). The next TSR forecast update will be sent in early August 2019.

TSR Atlantic Basin Hurricane Season Forecast (June 1 – November 30)

Forecast Parameter	Average Year	2019 (December 2018)	2019 (April 2019)	2019 (May 2019)
Named Storms	11	11	12	12
Hurricanes	6	5	5	6
Major Hurricanes	3	2	2	2
ACE Index (1950-2018)	104	74	81	88

Source: Tropical Storm Risk

TSR U.S. Landfalling Atlantic Hurricane Season Forecast (June 1 – November 30)

Forecast Parameter	Average Year	2019 (April 2019)	2019 (May 2019)
Named Storms	3	2	2
Hurricanes	1	1	1
ACE U.S. Landfall Index (1950-2018)	2.4	1.3	1.5

Source: Tropical Storm Risk

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