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 **17 named storms, 8 hurricanes, and 3 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 named storm. The projected activity is expected to be 30 percent above the long-range norm (1950-2019) and 10 percent above the recent 10-year norm (2010-2019).

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 weaker than normal – primarily due to an expectation of the emergence of a weak La Niña – which should enhance the likelihood of 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 or decrease in wind shear in the main development regions. The latest trade wind forecast values are slightly lower than what was modeled in April. There is also an expectation that sea surface temperatures across the tropical North Atlantic will be warmer than normal. Both conditions in combination suggest an above average season.

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 ultimate phase of ENSO during the peak development months. The presence of even weak La Niña conditions have historically led to an above average number of Atlantic storms.

TSR currently projects that there is a 57 percent probability that the 2020 Atlantic Hurricane Season ACE Index will be above-average, a 31 percent likelihood it will be near-normal, and a 12 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 2020.

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

Forecast Parameter	Average Year (1950-2019)	2020 (December 2019)	2020 (April 2020)	2020 (May 2020)
Named Storms	12	15	16	17
Hurricanes	6	7	8	8
Major Hurricanes	3	3	3	3
ACE Index (1950-2019)	104	105	130	135

Source: Tropical Storm Risk

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

Forecast Parameter	Average Year (1950-2019)	2020 (April 2020)	2020 (May 2020)
Named Storms	3	4	5
Hurricanes	1	2	2
ACE U.S. Landfall Index (1950-2019)	2.4	3.2	3.4

Source: Tropical Storm Risk

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