Bahamian Climatology

Hurricane Climatological Impact Rankings of Some of the Major Islands in The Bahamas

Island & Position on the North Atlantic listing: Abaco #6 th Affected by	Impact- Frequency: Brushed or hit	Longest gap between storms: 21 years	Average years between direct hurricane hits: Once every	Average years between major (Cat 3 or higher) hurricane hits: Once every	Average MPH of hurricane hits- based on sustained measured winds: 114 mph	Statistically when this area should be affected next: Before the end of	Last affected by: Tropical Storm Eta
85 named storms and 51 hurricane hits since 1871	every 1.75 years	1966- 1986	3.70 years	7.05 years		2022	in 2020
Grand- Bahama- #3 rd Affected by 93 named storms and 57 hurricane hits since 1871	Brushed or hit every 1.60 years	7 years 1916- 1924	Once every 4.03 years	Once every 8.76 years	113 mph	Before the end of 2022	Tropical Storm Eta in 2020
Nassau- #51 st Affected by 63 named storms and 38 hurricane hits since 1871	Brushed or hit every 2.37 years	10 years 1908- 1919	Once every 5.73 years	Once every 9.31 years	120 mph	End of 2023	Tropical Storm Eta in 2020
Andros-#8 th Affected by 81 named storms and 45 hurricane hits since 1871	Brushed or hit every 1.84 years	6 years 1909- 1916 & 1919- 1926	Once every 4.66 years	Once every 8.76 years	122 mph	Before the end of 2022	Tropical Storm Eta in 2020
Eleuthera- #18 th	Brushed or hit every 2.04 years	18 years 1973- 1992	Once every 4.38 years	Once every 8.28 years	114 mph	Before the end of 2023	Tropical Storm Eta in 2020

Affected by 73 named storms and 46 hurricane hits since 1871							
Long Island- #32 nd	Brushed or hit every	12 years 1960-	Once every 5.73	Once every 12.42	109 mph	End of 2022	Hurricane Isaias in 2020
Affected by 68 named storms and 38 hurricane hits since 1871	2.19 years	1973	years	years			
Acklins-#46 Affected by 65 named storms and 39 hurricane hits since 1871	Brushed or hit every 2.29 years	17 years 1963- 1981	Once every 2.29 years	Once every 6.48 years	114 mph	End of 2023	Hurricane Isaias in 2020

(Courtesy of Jim Williams/www.hurricanecity.com)

Storms Affecting The Bahamian Archipelago by the Month

Month:	Number of storms:
May	2
July	2
August	8
September	15
October	7
November	3

(Courtesy of NOAA/National Hurricane Center, HURDAT, Wikipedia, Colorado State University, Wayne Neely, & Bahamas Department of Meteorology).

Storms Affecting The Bahamian Archipelago by the Month

Period:	Number of storms:
1800s	3
1900–49	3
1960s	3
1970s	2
1980s	1
1990s	4
2000s	8
2010s	8
2020s	5

(Courtesy of NOAA/National Hurricane Center, Wikipedia, Colorado State University, Wayne Neely, Bahamas Department of Meteorology).

Deadliest Bahamian Hurricanes

The following is a list of North Atlantic tropical storms that caused fatalities in the Bahamian Archipelago:

Name:	Year:	Deaths:
Great Okeechobee Hurricane	1928	~1400 Bahamian migrant
		workers in Florida
Great Bahamas Hurricane	1866	387+
Great San Ciriaco	1899	~334
Great Nassau Hurricane	1926	258–68+
Great Andros Hurricane	1929	142
Great Miami Hurricane	1926	~123
Hurricane #3	1883	109
Hurricane #8	1908	99
Great Florida Keys Hurricane	1919	≥94–5
Dorian	2019	74 (50 missing*)
Hurricane #6	1908	58+

(Courtesy of NOAA/National Hurricane Center, Wikipedia, Colorado State University, Wayne Neely, Bahamas Department of Meteorology). *Official Royal Bahamas Police Force Records.

Most Intense North Atlantic Hurricane

Rank:	Hurricane:	Year:	Pressure (hPa):	Pressure (inHg):
1	Wilma	2005	882	26.05
2	Gilbert	1988	888	26.23
3	Great Labour Day	1935	892	26.34
4	Rita	2005	895	26.43
5	Milton	2024	897	26.49
6	Allen	1980	899	26.55
7	Camille	1969	900	26.58
8	Katrina	2005	902	26.64
9	Mitch	1998	905	26.73
9	Dean	2007	905	26.73

(Courtesy of NOAA/National Hurricane Center, Wikipedia, Colorado State University, Wayne Neely, Bahamas Department of Meteorology).

Total and Average Number of North Atlantic Tropical Storms by Month (1851–2017)

Month:	Total:	Average per year:
January — April	7	<0.05
May	22	0.1
June	92	0.5
July	120	0.7
August	389	2.3
September	584	3.5
October	341	2.0
November	91	0.5
December	17	0.1

(Courtesy of NOAA/National Hurricane Center, Wikipedia, Colorado State University, Wayne Neely, Bahamas Department of Meteorology).

Rank:	Precipitation: (mm)	Precipitation: (In)	Storm/Year:	Location:
1	747.5	29.43	Noel 2007	Long Island
2	580.1	22.84	Dorian 2019	Hope Town
3	500.3	19.70	Matthew 2016	Matthew Town, Inagua
4	436.6	17.19	Flora 1963	Duncan Town
5	390.1	15.36	Inez 1966	Nassau Airport
6	337.1	13.27	Fox 1952	New Providence
7	321.1	12.64	Michelle 2001	Nassau
8	309.4	12.18	Erin 1995	Church Grove
9	260.0	9.88	Fay 2008	Freeport
10	236.7	9.32	Floyd 1999	Little Harbour Abacos

Wettest Tropical Cyclones and their Remnants in The Bahamas-Highest-Known Totals

(Courtesy of NOAA/National Hurricane Center, Wikipedia, Colorado State University, Wayne Neely, Bahamas Department of Meteorology).

Most Storms in a Year (North Atlantic)

Year:	Tropical Storms:	Hurricanes:	Major:
2020	30 *	14	7
2005	28 *	15	7
2021	21 *	7	4
1933	20	11	6
2023	20 *	7	3
2010	19	12	5
1995	19	11	5
1887	19	11	2
2012	19	10	2
2011	19	7	4

(Courtesy of NOAA/National Hurricane Center, Wikipedia, Colorado State University, Wayne Neely, Bahamas Department of Meteorology). * Includes at least one subtropical storm.

Fewest Storms in a Year (North Atlantic)

Year:	Tropical Storms:	Hurricanes:	Major:
1914*	1	0	0
1930	3	2	2
1857	4	3	0
1868	4	3	0
1883	4	3	2
1884	4	4	1
1890	4	2	1
1917	4	2	2
1925	4	2	0
1983	4	3	1

(Courtesy of NOAA/National Hurricane Center, Wikipedia, Colorado State University, Wayne Neely, Bahamas Department of Meteorology). *The 1914 season had just one tropical storm and no hurricanes.

Most Intense North Atlantic Hurricanes by Minimum Barometric Pressure

Hurricane:	Season:	By peak pressure (mbar):	By peak pressure (inHg):	By pressure at landfall (mbar):	By pressure at landfall (inHg):
Wilma	2005	882	26.05	-	-
Gilbert	1988	888	26.22	900	26.58
Labour Day	1935	892	26.34	892	26.34
Rita	2005	895	26.43	-	-
Milton	2024	897	26.49	-	-
Allen	1980	899	26.55	-	-
Camille	1969	900	26.58	900	26.58
Katrina	2005	902	26.64	-	-
Mitch	1998	905	26.72	-	-
Dean	2007	905	26.72	-	26.72
"Cuba"	1924	-	-	-	26.87
Dorian	2019	-	-	-	26.87
Janet	1955	-	-	-	26.99
Irma	2017	-	-	-	26.99
"Cuba"	1932	-	-	-	27.10
Michael	2018	-	-	-	27.14

(Courtesy of NOAA/National Hurricane Center, Wikipedia, Colorado State University, Wayne Neely, Bahamas Department of Meteorology). Note: (-) Indicates that the pressure was not a record, only the top ten storms for each category are included here.

Strongest North Atlantic Hurricanes (by 1-minute sustained wind speed)

Hurricane:	Season:	By peak sustained wind speed (mph):	By wind speed at landfall (mph):
Allen	1980	190	185
Labour Day	1935	185	-
Gilbert	1988	185	185
Dorian	2019	185	-
Wilma	2005	185	-
Mitch	1998	180	-
Rita	2005	180	180
Irma	2017	180	-
Milton	2024	180	-
"Cuba"	1932	175	175
Janet	1955	175	175
Camille	1969	175	175
Anita	1977	175	175
David	1979	175	165
Andrew	1992	175	-
Katrina	2005	175	175
Dean	2007	175	165
Felix	2007	175	165
Maria	2017	175	-

(Courtesy of NOAA/National Hurricane Center, Wikipedia, Colorado State University, Wayne Neely, Bahamas Department of Meteorology). Note: (-) Indicates that the wind speed was not a record, only the highest ranking storms for each category are included here.

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Costliest North Atlantic Hurricanes

Rank:	Category:	Hurricane:	Season:	Damage:
1	5	Katrina	2005	\$125 billion

2	4	Harvey	2017	\$125 billion
3	5	lan	2022	\$113 billion
4	5	Maria	2017	\$91.6 billion
5	4	Helene	2024	\$87.9 billion
6	5	Milton	2024	\$85 billion
7	5	Irma	2017	\$77.2 billion
8	4	Ida	2021	\$75.3 billion
9	3	Sandy	2012	\$68.7 billion
10	4	Ike	2008	\$38 billion

(Courtesy of NOAA/National Hurricane Center, Wikipedia, Colorado State University, Wayne Neely, Bahamas Department of Meteorology).