

2017 Hurricane Season Begins

The North Atlantic hurricane season begins on June 1 and lasts through Nov. 30. The U.S. Census Bureau produces timely local statistics that are critical to emergency planning, preparedness and recovery efforts. The growth in population of coastal areas illustrates the importance of emergency planning and preparedness for areas that are more susceptible to inclement weather conditions. The Census Bureau's rich local economic and demographic statistics from the American Community Survey gives communities a detailed look at neighborhood-level statistics for real-time emergency planning for the nation's growing coastal population.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the Gulf Coast faced many years of rebuilding, and learning how populations were rebounding was critical for community leaders. For the Census Bureau, producing population estimates for places where many homes had been destroyed and people displaced presented a unique but vital challenge. To learn more about how this was done, take a look at the Random Samplings Blog: [After Hurricane Katrina: Where are They Now?](#) This Facts for Features highlights the populations of those counties most heavily effected by Hurricane Katrina.

Emergency planners and community leaders can better assess the needs of coastal populations using Census Bureau statistics. This Facts for Features edition also highlights the number of people living in areas that could be most affected by these acts of nature. The statistics in the Emergency Preparedness section of this Facts for Features are released jointly with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

In the Hurricane's Path

12

The number of years since the United States was struck by a major hurricane (Category 3 or higher). The last one was Hurricane Wilma in October 2005 over Southwest Florida.

Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Hurricane Center
www.nhc.noaa.gov/outreach/history/

7

The number of hurricanes during the 2016 Atlantic hurricane season. During the 2016 season, eight named storms did not strengthen into hurricanes.

Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Hurricane Center
www.nhc.noaa.gov/data/tcr/index.php?season=2016&basin=atl

185

The number of coastline counties along the Atlantic (129 counties) and Gulf of Mexico (56 counties) most threatened by Atlantic hurricanes.

Source: Coastline Population Trends in the United States: 1960 to 2008

www.census.gov/library/publications/2010/demo/p25-1139.html

59.6 million

The population as of July 1, 2016, of the 185 coastline counties stretching from Maine to Texas. In 2006, the population of these counties was 54.5 million. That is an increase of about 5.1 million, or 9.4 percent.

Source: Vintage 2016 Population Estimates and 2000-2010 Intercensal Estimates

www.census.gov/programs-surveys/pepest.html

www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/pepest/intercensal-2000-2010-counties.html

14.5%

The percentage growth of the population of the 98 coastline counties stretching from North Carolina to Texas between 2006 and 2016. These counties grew from 23.9 million (23,892,104) in 2006, to 27.4 million (27,362,058) in 2016; a numeric increase of 3.5 million (3,469,954).

Source: Vintage 2016 Population Estimates and 2000-2010 Intercensal Estimates

www.census.gov/programs-surveys/pepest.html

www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/pepest/intercensal-2000-2010-counties.html

750,919

The collective land area in square miles of the states stretching from Maine to Texas.

Source: State Area Measurements and Internal Point Coordinates

www.census.gov/geo/reference/state-area.html

46,510

The number of miles of coastline from Maine to Texas.

Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

<https://coast.noaa.gov/data/docs/states/shorelines.pdf>

144.6 million

The population as of July 1, 2016, of coastal states stretching from Maine to Texas — the areas most threatened by Atlantic hurricanes. An estimated 44.8 percent of the nation's population lives in these states. In 2006, the population of these states was 131.3 million, or 44.0 percent of the nation's population.

Source: Vintage 2016 Population Estimates (2016) and 2000-2010 Intercensal Estimates (2006), Table PEPANNRES

https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP_2016_PEPANNRES

www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/tables/2000-2010/intercensal/state/st-est00int-01.xls.

10.1%

The percentage growth of the population of the states stretching from Maine to Texas between 2006 and 2016.

Source: Vintage 2016 Population Estimates (2016) and 2000-2010 Intercensal Estimates (2006), Table PEPANNRES

https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP_2016_PEPANNRES

www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/tables/2000-2010/intercensal/state/st-est00int-01.xls.

61.0 million

The number of housing units as of July 1, 2016, of the coastal states stretching from Maine to Texas. An estimated 45.0 percent of the nation's housing units are located in these states. In 2006, the estimated number of housing units was 56.5 million.

Source: Vintage 2016 Housing Unit Estimates (2016) and 2000-2010 Intercensal Estimates (2006), Table PEPANNRES

<https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/PEP/2015/PEPANNHU/>

www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/intercensal-2000-2010-housing-units.html

3.4 million

The number of business establishments in 2015 in the coastal states stretching from Maine to Texas. There were 54,895,165 paid workers in these establishments.

Source: 2015 County Business Patterns

County Business Patterns only include employer establishments (i.e., establishments with paid employees). Nonemployer establishments (i.e., establishments without paid employees) are not included in these totals.

<https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/BP/2015/00A1/>

Emergency Preparedness

5

The number of types of weather-related events — hurricanes and tropical storms, wildfires, flood outlook areas, disaster declaration areas and winter storms — that the Census Bureau's OnTheMap for Emergency Management tool tracks. OnTheMap for Emergency Management provides reports on the workforce and population for current natural hazard and emergency related events.

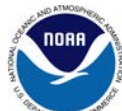
Source: OnTheMap for Emergency Management

<http://onthemap.ces.census.gov/em.html>

Following Statistics Released Jointly With U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



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51.5%

The percentage of U.S. homes that have a prepared emergency evacuation kit. The level of preparedness varies by metro area, with about 70 percent of households in the Miami and Tampa, Fla., metro areas having emergency supplies readily available in the event of an evacuation. The Austin (Texas), Chicago and Minneapolis metro areas had among the lowest rate of homes with an emergency preparedness kit. The rates for Austin, Chicago and Minneapolis were not significantly different from one another.

Source: 2013 American Housing Survey

www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2015/cb15-61.html

54.3%

The percentage of U.S. homes that have an emergency water supply.

Source: 2013 American Housing Survey

www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2015/cb15-61.html

82.0%

The percentage of occupied housing units that have enough nonperishable emergency food to sustain everyone for three days.

Source: 2013 American Housing Survey, Table S06AO

<http://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/AHS/2013/S06AO>

69.7%

The percentage of homes where the occupants said they would likely stay with relatives or friends during a two-week evacuation to a safe place that was at least 50 miles away. This was followed by staying at a hotel or motel (18.1 percent) or public shelter (4.1 percent).

Source: 2013 American Housing Survey, Table S06AO

<http://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/AHS/2013/S06AO>

18.3%

The percentage of single-family homes (excluding manufactured/mobile homes) that have a generator.

Source: 2013 American Housing Survey

www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2015/cb15-61.html

48.4%

The percentage of U.S. homes with at least one pet. Of the 56 million homes with a pet, 26.8 percent need help evacuating or sheltering pets while 72.6 percent do not need assistance.

Source: 2013 American Housing Survey, Table S06AO

<http://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/AHS/2013/S06AO>

77.5%

The percentage of occupied housing units that have a house or building number clearly visible.

Source: 2013 American Housing Survey, Table S06AO

<http://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/AHS/2013/S06AO>

History of Hurricane Naming Conventions

Arlene

The name of the first Atlantic storm of 2017. Hurricane names rotate in a six-year cycle with the 2017 list being a repeat of the 2016 names. The names Matthew and Otto were retired from the 2016 list and were replaced with Martin and Owen.

Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Hurricane Center

www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutnames.shtml

82

The number of Atlantic hurricane and tropical cyclone names officially retired by the World Meteorological Organization. Although hurricane names are recycled every six years, for reasons of sensitivity, hurricanes and tropical storms that were so deadly and costly that reuse of the name would be considered inappropriate are retired.

Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Hurricane Center

www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutnames_history.shtml

1950

The year the Weather Bureau officially began naming hurricanes.

Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Atlantic Oceanography and Meteorological Laboratory

www.aoml.noaa.gov/hrd/tcfaq/J6.html

2005

In one of the busiest Atlantic hurricane seasons on record, 28 named storms formed, forcing use of the alternate Greek alphabet scheme for the first time. When the National Hurricane Center's list of 21 approved names runs out for the year, hurricanes are named after Greek letters. Of the 28 named storms in 2005, 15 were hurricanes in which seven were major (Category 3 or higher). Four hurricanes reached Category 5 status (Emily, Katrina, Rita and Wilma).

Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Atlantic Oceanography and Meteorological Laboratory

www.aoml.noaa.gov/hrd/tcfaq/J6.html

2013

Despite preseason forecasts for an active hurricane season, that year had the fewest Atlantic hurricanes since 1982. While the year had a slightly above-average number of named storms (14), only two of these storms became hurricanes. For the first time since 1994, no hurricane

reached major hurricane strength (Category 3 or higher). No hurricanes and only one tropical storm, Andrea, made landfall in the United States, causing one fatality.

Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Hurricane Center

www.nhc.noaa.gov/data/tcr/summary_atlc_2013.pdf

www.aoml.noaa.gov/hrd/tcfaq/J6.html

For the 2015 summary, see: <www.nhc.noaa.gov/data/tcr/summary_atlc_2015.pdf>.

Get more information about tropical storms, emergency preparedness and the latest forecasts from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Hurricane Center at <www.nhc.noaa.gov/>.

Following is a list of observances typically covered by the Census Bureau's Facts for Features series:

African-American History Month (February)	Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act (July 26)
Super Bowl (1st Sunday in February)	Back to School (August)
Valentine's Day (Feb. 14)	Labor Day (1st Monday in September)
Women's History Month (March)	Grandparents Day (1st Sunday after Labor Day)
Irish-American Heritage Month (March)/ St. Patrick's Day (March 17)	Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15-Oct. 15)
Earth Day (April 22)	Unmarried and Single Americans Week (3rd week of September)
Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month (May)	Halloween (Oct. 31)
Older Americans Month (May)	American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month (November)
Mother's Day (2nd Sunday in May)	Veterans Day (Nov. 11)
Hurricane Season Begins (June 1)	Thanksgiving Day (4th Thursday in November)
Father's Day (3rd Sunday in June)	The Holiday Season (December)
The Fourth of July (July 4)	

Editor's note: The preceding data were collected from a variety of sources and may be subject to sampling variability and other sources of error. Facts for Features are customarily released about two months before an observance in order to accommodate magazine production timelines.

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Jewel Jordan
Public Information Office
301-763-3030 / pio@census.gov

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