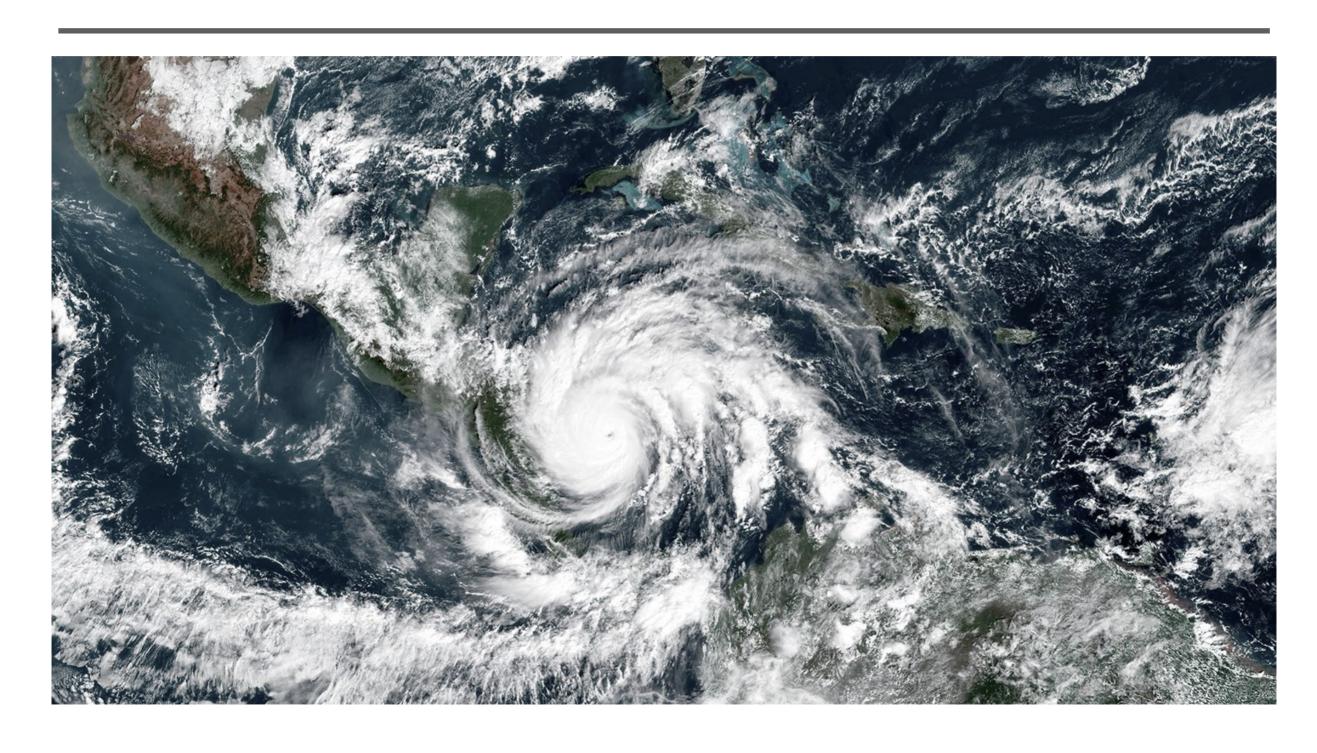


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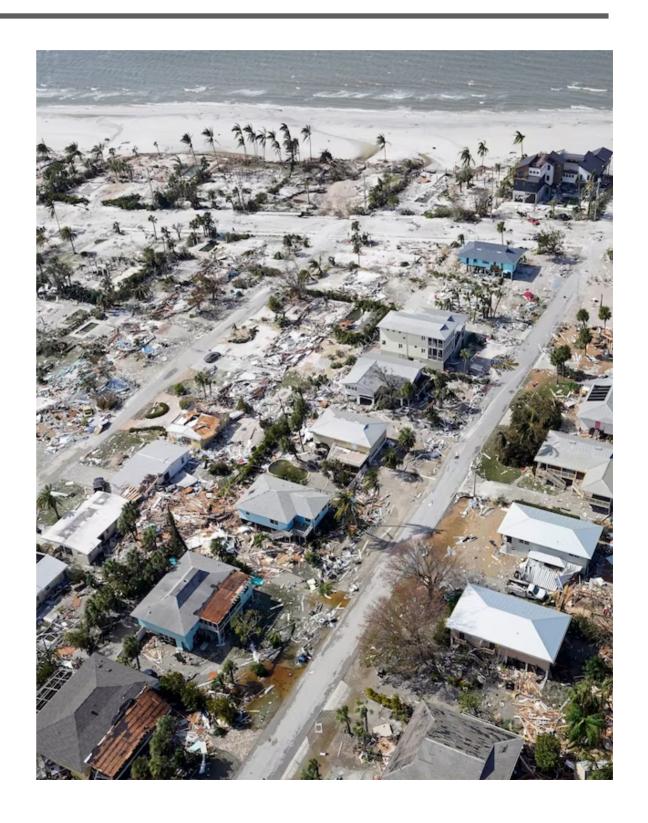
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### **Executive Summary**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration (NOAA) predicts **near-normal hurricane activity** in the Atlantic in 2023. NOAA
predicts the possibility of **one to four major Category 3 or higher** hurricanes during the June 1 to
November 30 season, potentially causing a serious
impact on Airbnb personnel and operations in any
affected area.

Experts agree El Niño and climate change are complicating this year's forecast.



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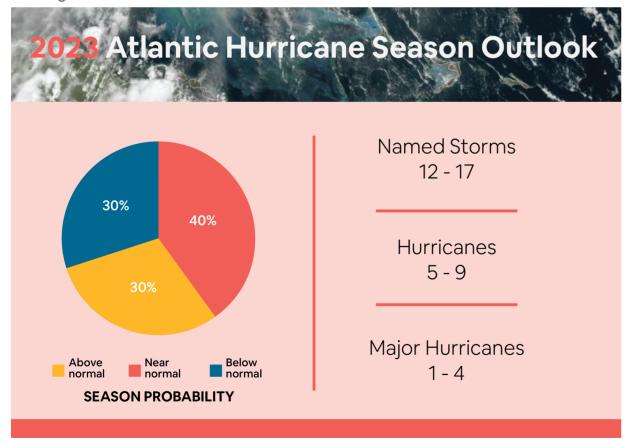
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#### WHAT TO EXPECT

	2021	2022	2023	Average
Named Storms	13-20	14-21	12-17	14
Hurricanes	6-10	6-10	5-9	7
Major Hurricanes	3-5	3-6	1-4	3

**Above:** Comparing 2023 forecasts with previous seasons. **Below:** NOAA predict a 40 percent chance of a near-normal season in 2023 after three above-average seasons.



#### PREDICTIONS FOR THE 2023 SEASON

On May 25, **NOAA** <u>CPC</u> <u>predicted</u> a 40 percent chance of a <u>near-normal season</u>, 30 percent chance of an abovenormal season, and a 30 percent chance of a belownormal season (*see graphic bottom left*). NOAA is predicting a 70 percent chance of 12-17 named storms, of which five to nine can become hurricanes, including one to four major hurricanes (categories 3-5).

On April 13, **Colorado State University (CSU)** produced its seasonal hurricane forecast. CSU <u>named</u> 13 storms, six hurricanes, and two major hurricanes. On June 1, CSU updated its findings to show 15 named storms, seven hurricanes, and three major hurricanes.

The 2023 season <u>depends</u> on two competing factors: <u>El</u>

<u>Niño</u> and increasing sea surface temperatures. The first suppresses hurricane activity, while the latter helps fuel hurricanes. Meteorologists are less confident in their predictions for the 2023 season due to these two competing factors.

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### **RECENT TRENDS**

Meteorologists in the US have <u>recorded</u> six Category 4 or 5 hurricanes making landfall between 2017 and 2022, the highest count in six years. Climate-change induced ocean temperature increases are causing storms to <u>intensify</u> more rapidly and resulting in higher intensity hurricanes.

In addition, the recently-ended 2020-2022 La Niña cycle weakened westerly winds, causing more hurricane

activity in the Atlantic basin. Consequently, the number of hurricanes is likely to be lower than the past three seasons, but higher than during previous El Niño cycles.

Below: Colorado State University (CSU) 2023 Hurricane Season Predictions from April 7 and updated predictions from June 1 (Source).

Forecast Parameters	Average for 1992-2020	CSU Forecast for 2023 (as of April 7)	CSU Forecast for 2023 (as of June 1)
Named Storms	14.4	13	15
Named Storm Days	69.4	55	60
Hurricanes	7.2	6	7
Hurricane Days	27.0	25	30
Major Hurricanes	3.2	2	3
Major Hurricane Days	7.4	5	7

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### THE LAST THREE SEASONS

**2023:** Given the above-average number of storms in recent years, NOAA predict hurricane activity in 2023 to be closer to normal.

2022: The 2022 Atlantic Hurricane Season was uncommonly quiet in July and August, which was unusual for a La Niña year. October was also quiet, but in November, activity increased. The 2022 Hurricane Season produced 14 named storms, including eight hurricanes and two major hurricanes.

**2021:** The 2021 Atlantic Hurricane Season <u>produced</u> an above-average number of storms for the sixth consecutive year. The season produced 21 named storms, the third most on record, trailing 2020 and 1995.

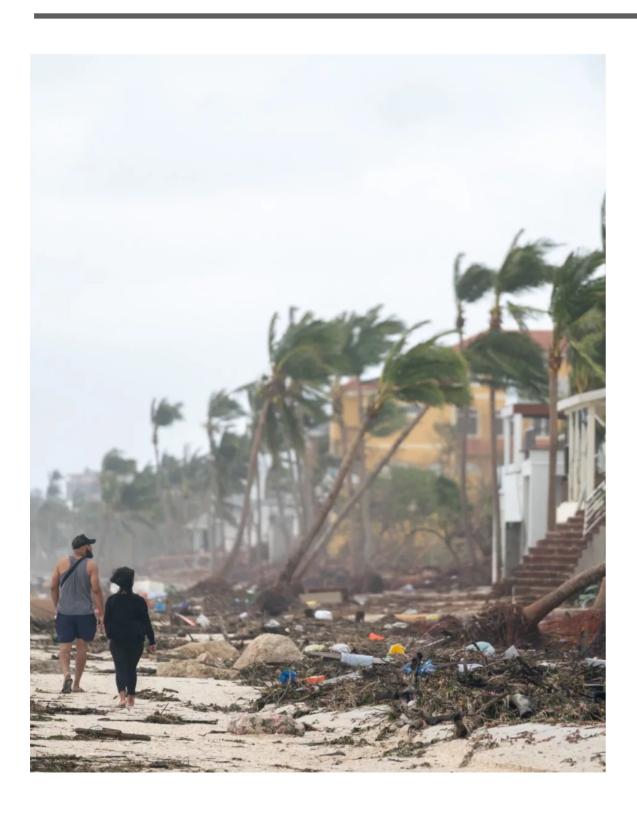
**2020:** The season <u>set</u> records for the total number of storms showing rapid intensification and multiple landfalls.



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#### EMPLOYEE AND OPERATIONAL IMPACT

States along the Atlantic coast or the Gulf of Mexico are most vulnerable to hurricanes. On average, 40.4 percent of all Atlantic hurricanes make landfall in Florida.

Certain regions, including Florida, the Texas coast, and Louisiana, are more susceptible to direct hits. Employees in these three states statistically are at high risk of hurricane activity, especially during September.

Airbnb has 132 employees living and working in Florida, 156 in Texas, and five in Louisiana. Hurricanes, in general, can severely impact employee movement. During such events, damages or destruction of city and office infrastructure could massively disrupt communities.

Damages to bridges or roads, highway closures, and other road hazards could present several challenges. Conditions could also complicate a full assessment of damages in affected areas, causing delays in the repair process.

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In addition to direct structural blows to homes and offices, Airbnb employees may experience damage or destruction to vehicles and are left with extensive costs associated with cleanup and long-term medical care.

Coastal areas, in particular, face significant damage from storm surges and may receive evacuation orders. Long absences from work could lead to job loss or reduced wages.

Power <u>outages</u> are highly likely due to downed or damaged power lines that require hours to weeks to repair.

Repeated hurricanes make it difficult for communities and businesses to recover fully.

In the long term, Airbnb employees living or working in <u>affected</u> areas may require a range of support to get back on their feet. Additionally, the <u>threat</u> to life and

operations is increasing due to the impact of climate change on the weather.

A destructive hurricane season costs billions of dollars in damages in areas affected by the storms. In the US, Hurricane Katrina (2005, USD 192.5 billion) is the costliest storm on record, followed by Harvey (2017, USD 152.5 billion), Ian (2022, USD 114 billion), Maria (2017, USD 109.8 billion), and Sandy (2012, USD 84.6 billion).

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