



1
00:00:00,300 --> 00:00:03,880

These lines represent hurricane tracks over the Atlantic Ocean.

2
00:00:04,370 --> 00:00:07,180

Green lines are hurricanes that didn't make landfall.

3
00:00:07,700 --> 00:00:11,750

Yellow lines are hurricanes that did but were less than Category 3,

4
00:00:12,170 --> 00:00:14,410

and it shows that 10 years have passed

5
00:00:14,430 --> 00:00:18,880

since the U.S. has had the landfall of a Category 3 or higher hurricane.

6
00:00:19,530 --> 00:00:24,350

Hurricanes are labeled as 'major' storms when they reach Category 3 or higher,

7
00:00:24,370 --> 00:00:27,410

which means they have winds greater than 111 mph.

8
00:00:28,000 --> 00:00:30,380

Of course hurricanes less than Category 3

9
00:00:30,400 --> 00:00:34,750

can still cause extreme damage with heavy rains and coastal storm surges.

10
00:00:35,300 --> 00:00:39,450

So what are the chances of a major hurricane making landfall in 2016?

11
00:00:39,900 --> 00:00:43,480

This shows the record of hurricane tracks for the last few decades.

12
00:00:43,500 --> 00:00:49,210

Red lines are the major Category 3 or higher hurricanes that did make landfall.

13
00:00:50,330 --> 00:00:54,080

You can see that major hurricanes don't make landfall every year

14

00:00:54,100 --> 00:00:57,650

but some years several major hurricanes do make landfall.

15

00:00:58,100 --> 00:01:02,410

2005 was the most active Atlantic hurricane season on record.

16

00:01:02,430 --> 00:01:04,380

It's then followed by a 10-year gap,

17

00:01:04,400 --> 00:01:09,210

which is the longest period for the U.S. to avoid a Category 3 or higher hurricane

18

00:01:09,230 --> 00:01:12,080

since reliable records began in 1850.

19

00:01:12,930 --> 00:01:14,510

Based off the hurricane record,

20

00:01:14,530 --> 00:01:18,110

a NASA study used a model to gauge hurricane activity.

21

00:01:18,130 --> 00:01:23,450

They found that a 10-year gap only comes along every 270 years.

22

00:01:23,900 --> 00:01:27,710

But this doesn't mean that the U.S. is more likely to get a storm this year.

23

00:01:27,730 --> 00:01:32,410

The study also found that the chance of one or more Category 3 storms hitting our coasts

24

00:01:32,430 --> 00:01:37,550

is roughly 40 percent every year including 2016.

25

00:01:37,570 --> 00:01:40,180

Scientists don't know what's caused this 10-year gap

26

00:01:40,200 --> 00:01:43,580

but we can be sure that major hurricanes have been out there,