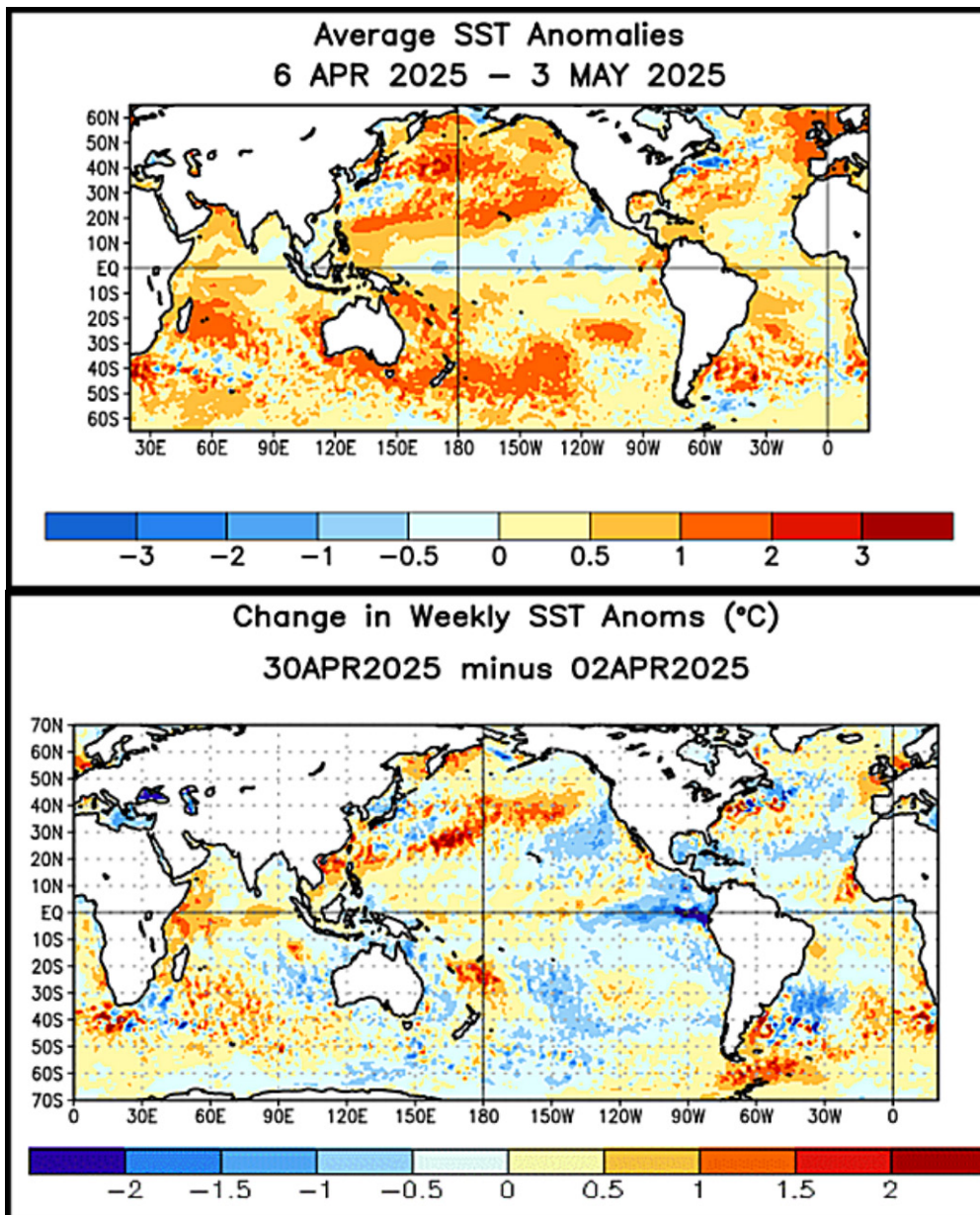


2025 East Atlantic Tropical Cyclones May Reach Gulf Of Mexico

By Drew Lerner

Kansas City, May 5 (World Weather Inc.) – [Cooler ocean surface temperatures in the Atlantic Ocean this year relative to those of the past two years may help reduce the number of tropical cyclones that develop, but the impact may be greatest on the steering of those storms that form off the Africa coast. Unlike the past two years when storms from the eastern Atlantic Ocean were often steered away from the Gulf of Mexico, this year's storm paths may favor a greater number of systems reaching the Gulf of Mexico and/or the southeastern United States.](#)



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As discussed and theorized over the past two years, World Weather, Inc. believes strongly that the weaker subtropical high pressure system over the Atlantic Ocean (the Bermuda High) in the past two years was a direct byproduct of unusually warm to hot ocean surface water temperatures. The idea behind the theory is that the more anomalously warm the ocean surface becomes the greater amounts of water vapor and rising air evolves from the water surface into the lower atmosphere. This rising warm and moist air disrupts the natural sinking air that usually occurs in association with the Bermuda high pressure system. Without the strong sinking motion in the atmosphere the high pressure system cannot be nearly as intense as it would otherwise be and that leads to frequent breakdowns in the the high pressure system and also leads to dramatic shifts in its position.

The Bermuda High is the single greatest influence on the movement of eastern Atlantic Ocean tropical cyclones. The stronger the high pressure system gets the faster tropical systems can move and the faster movement can sometimes interfere with the storm's intensification, but that depends on many other atmospheric parameters.



The largest or most massive high pressure systems in the subtropical Atlantic Ocean are usually responsible for sending tropical cyclones that evolve west of the Africa coast west northwesterly toward the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea. Last year, despite the unusually warm to hot ocean surface water temperature only two tropical cyclones formed over open water west of the Africa coast and neither of them were steered into the United States. Most of the tropical cyclones in 2024 formed over the Caribbean Sea, the Gulf of Mexico or over open water east of the Greater Antilles.

World Weather, Inc. believes strong Bermuda high pressure systems over the Atlantic Ocean not only help storms move toward the Gulf of Mexico and southeastern United States, but they may also contribute to the necessary spin needed to get tropical cyclones to develop over the eastern tropical Atlantic Ocean. The past two years of

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unusually warm to hot ocean water induced much fear over the potential of many more tropical cyclones than usual, but interestingly there were actually fewer storms forming over that water than usual and perhaps the Bermuda High was a part of the reason for that.

The lack of a strong Bermuda high pressure may contribute to less ideal conditions for storm development, but it certainly leads to a potential for more erratic movement. Quite often a weak Bermuda High will impact tropical cyclone steering which may allow storms to recurve to the northeast sooner than they would with a stronger Bermuda High.

This year's ocean surface temperatures are much closer to normal than that of the past two spring seasons. That should lead to a better defined Bermuda high pressure system if our theory is correct. Such an event should lead to more tropical cyclone development in the tropical eastern Atlantic Ocean than seen in 2024 and a better potential for those storms to move toward the Gulf of Mexico and southeastern United States.

Ocean water temperatures have been cooling recently in the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea and if that trend continues there may be less tropical cyclone development in those areas than last year. Most of last year's tropical cyclones came for the Caribbean Sea, Gulf of Mexico or western Atlantic Ocean. *Development is still expected in these areas especially early and late in the tropical cyclone season (which is normal), but a few more storms from the tropical Atlantic are expected as well.*

Overall, World Weather, Inc. is looking for 15 named tropical storms this season with 3 major hurricanes. Fewer storms will turn to the northeast like those of 2023 and 2024 and a few more may reach the Gulf of Mexico while the southeastern United States may be faced with the greatest potential for land-falling storms. World Weather, Inc. also expects fewer storms in the western Gulf of Mexico this year.

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