# Tropical Storm Beryl Forecasted to Become First Hurricane of 2024 Atlantic Season



Tropical Storm Beryl is forecast to become the first hurricane of the 2024 Atlantic season. As of June 29, Beryl is moving west at 21mph with sustained winds of 60mph, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Hurricane Center. The storm is expected to reach hurricane strength before passing 26 miles south of Barbados on Sunday, bringing heavy rain, high winds, and dangerous storm surges.

Barbados has issued a hurricane watch, with Prime Minister Mia Mottley urging residents to prepare. The island is currently hosting the Twenty20 World Cup final, adding to the urgency of preparations. Home Affairs Minister Wilfred Abrahams detailed the readiness actions, including securing fishing vessels and cleaning drains.

Following Barbados, Beryl's projected path includes passing south of the Dominican Republic and Haiti, then over Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, heading toward Mexico’s Yucatán peninsula. Tropical Storm Alberto, which caused flooding in Texas and northeastern Mexico last week, was the first named storm of the season.

NOAA's recent report predicts an above-average hurricane season, influenced by climate patterns including La Niña, which typically boosts hurricane activity in the Atlantic.