



Reanalysis of 1961 to 1965 Atlantic hurricane seasons completed

Nine new tropical storms discovered

The 1961 to 1965 Atlantic hurricane seasons have been reanalyzed. Revisions to the hurricane database were accomplished by obtaining the original observations collected - mainly by ships, weather stations, the Hurricane Hunter Navy, Air Force, and Environmental Science Services Administration (ESSA) aircraft reconnaissance planes, and the earliest available satellite images - and assessing the storms based upon our understanding of hurricanes today. The reanalysis also allowed "discovering" of tropical storms and hurricanes that occurred, but were not yet officially recognized as such in the official records.

Some of the highlights of the revisions made to the database include:

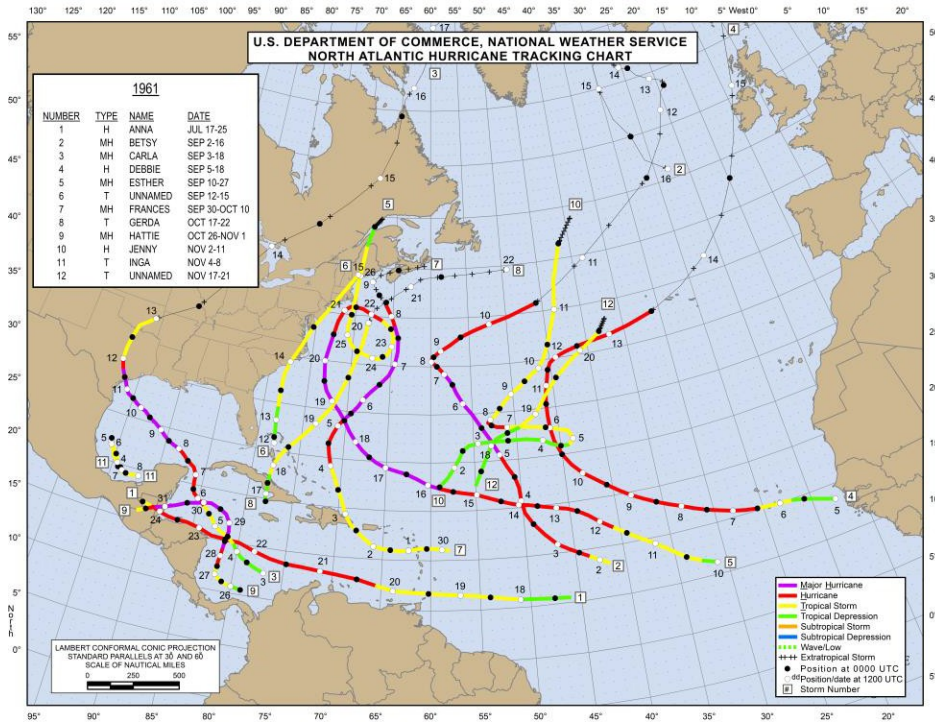
- Nine new tropical storms and hurricanes during these five years were discovered and added to the database
- No Atlantic tropical storms were removed (though one Northeast Pacific tropical storm was removed – Simone, 1961)
- Hurricane Debbie, 1961, was analyzed to have become extratropical near 43°N (instead of striking Ireland as a hurricane at 55°N)
- Six hurricanes were identified as impacting the United States, one less than originally identified (Cindy, 1963 now considered a tropical storm)
- The hurricane with the worst impact on the United States during these five seasons was Betsy in 1965. It killed 75 people in Florida and Louisiana and was the first ever billion dollar hurricane for U.S. damage. Betsy was upgraded to a Category 4 from a Category 3 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale at landfall in Louisiana, as it is reassessed that it had maximum sustained surface winds of 115 kt (130 mph) and a central pressure of 946 mb.

Sandy Delgado, Brenden Moses, Andrew Hagen, Chris Landsea, and the Best Track Change Committee all made substantial contributions toward the reanalysis of these hurricane seasons.

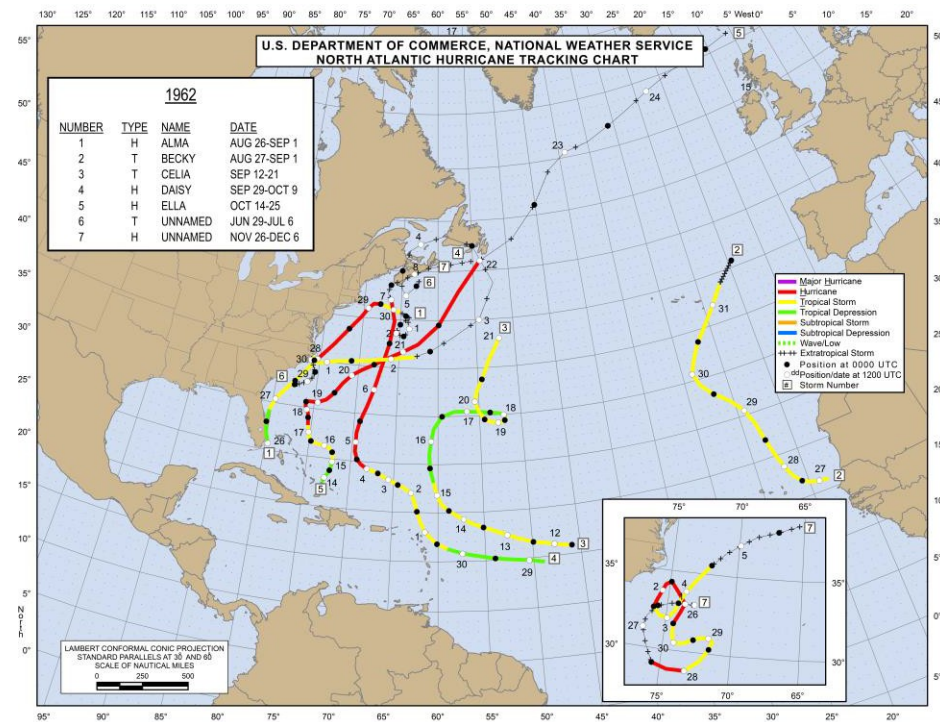
NOAA Hurricane Re-analysis Project: http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/hrd/data_sub/re_anal.html

HURDAT2 file: <https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/data/hurdat/hurdat2-1851-2018-120319.txt>

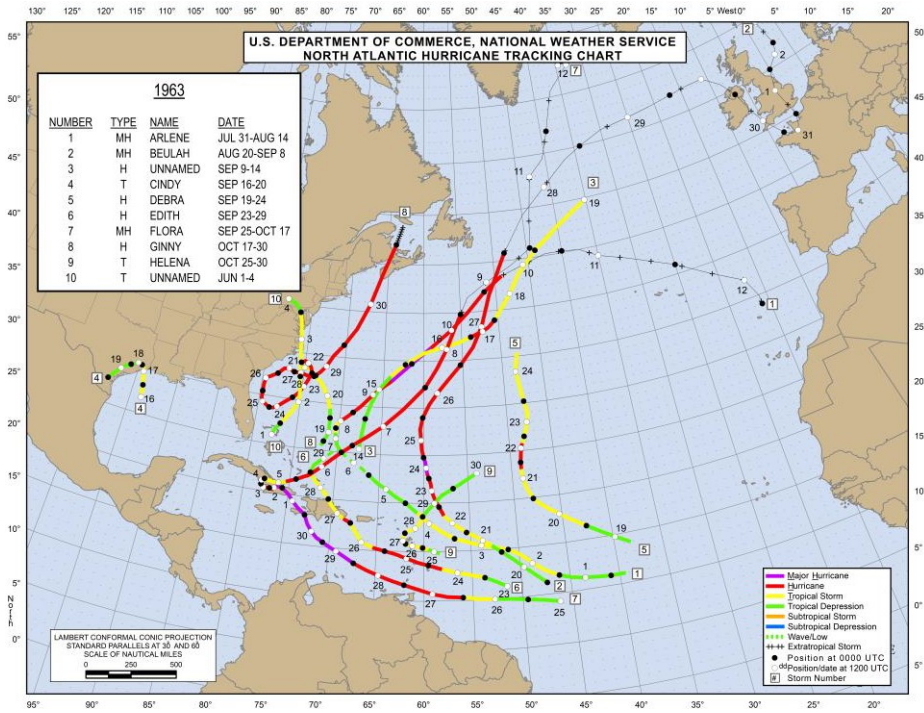
Media Contact: NHC Public Affairs - nhc.public.affairs@noaa.gov



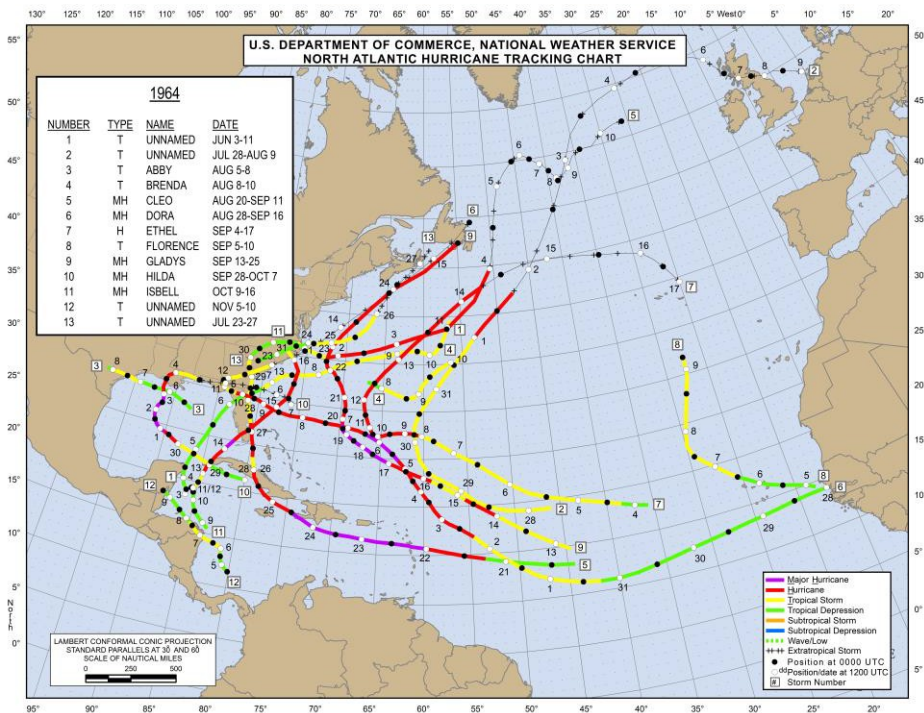
Revised 1961 North Atlantic Tropical Storms and Hurricanes



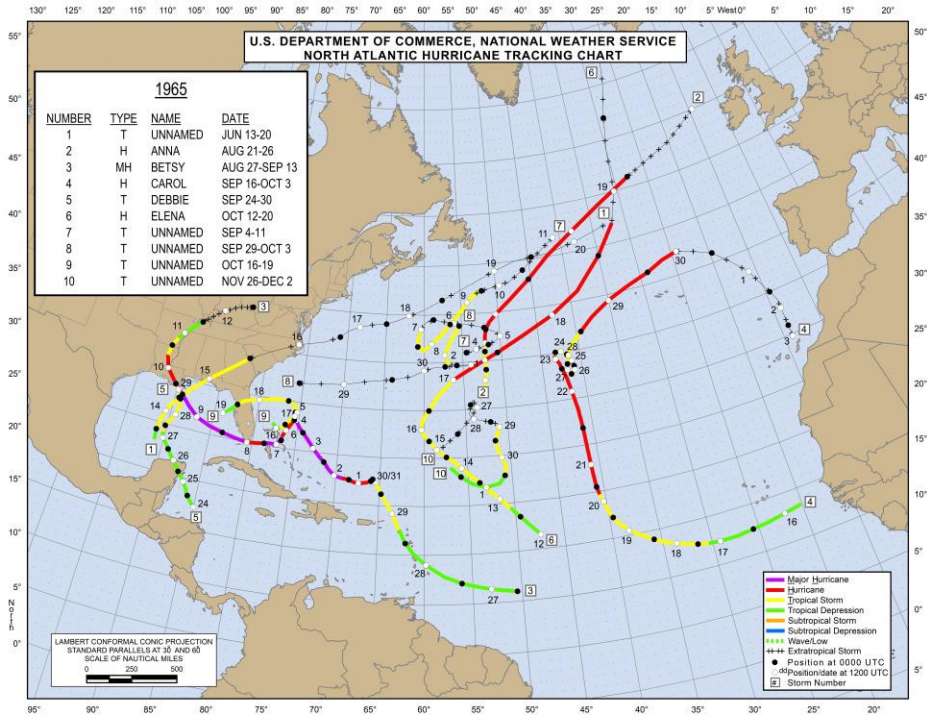
Revised 1962 North Atlantic Tropical Storms and Hurricanes



Revised 1963 North Atlantic Tropical Storms and Hurricanes



Revised 1964 North Atlantic Tropical Storms and Hurricanes



Revised 1965 North Atlantic Tropical Storms and Hurricanes

January 6, 2020