

August 13, 2024 | Issue 84

## **Resilience Report**

Brief insights and the latest innovations in emergency management and health security.

### **2024 Hurricane Season in Full Force**



The 2024 Atlantic Hurricane Season has already brought significant impacts. In early July, Hurricane Beryl broke a number of meteorological records, becoming the "earliest category-5 storm on record in the Atlantic basin." Last week, <u>Hurricane Debby</u> left intense tornadoes, flooding, and power outages along the East Coast. At time of writing, Tropical Storm Ernesto is tracking toward <u>Puerto Rico</u>. The storm is expected to bring heavy rain, flash flood, and mudslide conditions. While the mainland of the U.S. is forecasted to be spared from the storm, rip currents and larger waves will still pose concerns.

As we move further into August, the peak of the hurricane season is quickly approaching. Thus, the NOAA recently updated its <u>Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook</u>. It is anticipated that "atmospheric and oceanic conditions have set the stage for an extremely active hurricane season that could rank among the busiest on record," including 17-24 named storms, 8-13 hurricanes, and 4-7 major hurricanes. This outlook is similar to the initial one issued in <u>May</u>. There is a 90% probability that the 2024 Atlantic Hurricane Season is 'above normal.' Below, we discuss factors contributing to this forecast as well as safety and preparedness tips.

 What is driving a remarkably active forecast?: The combination of warmer sea surface temperatures in the Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea, reduced vertical wind shear, weaker tropical Atlantic trade winds, and an enhanced west African monsoon are all conditions that are expected to continue into the fall and contribute to the outlook. The possibility of <u>La Niña</u> developing in the coming months also causes forecasters to anticipate storms developing and intensifying.

- How can individuals prepare for hurricane season?: NOAA shares a number of tips to prepare for the hurricane season. These include resources for knowing your risk, understanding forecast information, evacuating, and more. We also urge those with access and functional needs to review tailored resources published by agencies like the <u>Red Cross</u> to ensure that specialized needs are addressed.
- How can governments and emergency managers enhance their capabilities to help communities prepare for, respond to, and recover from hurricanes?: Hurricane preparedness and evacuation planning is a complex endeavor. The <u>National Hurricane Program</u>, an interagency partnership between FEMA, USACE, and the NOAA NHC, offers operational tools, data, resources, training, and technical assistance to emergency managers and partners. Furthermore, reviewing After Action Reports (AARs) from all levels of government can provide actionable best practices and lessons learned to enhance preparedness in your community.

## CONSTANT Celebrates 20 Years of Making the World a Safer Place



On August 24th, CONSTANT will officially recognize 20 years of service! This achievement symbolizes two decades of innovation, growth, and unwavering commitment to meeting our clients' most pressing needs. We have been sharing special news about CONSTANT's anniversary on our LinkedIn. Follow along, and stay tuned for more!

## CONSTANT Announces Inc. 5000 Recognition



As we continue the countdown to CONSTANT's 20-year anniversary, we're excited to announce that CONSTANT has been named to the <u>2024 Inc 5000 list</u>! For the second straight year, CONSTANT has been marked one of the fastest-growing private companies in the U.S.

Learn more about this incredible achievement by reading our press release.

## **Upcoming Conferences**

CONSTANT continues our attendance at upcoming industry conferences into the fall! Learn more below about where CONSTANT team members will be later this year. Please contact us at <u>info@constantassociates.com</u> should you be interested in meeting with one of our team members while attending these events.

### **NEMA Annual Forum**

CONSTANT team members, including our Federal Portfolio Manager Kim Hayward Buys, will be at <u>NEMA's Annual Forum</u>. We look forward to connecting with our industry peers in Baltimore in the beginning of October.

### **IAEM** Conference

CONSTANT is excited to announce that we will be exhibiting during the <u>IAEM Annual</u> <u>Conference & EMEX</u> (booth #910). More information to come. We'll see you in Colorado Springs in November!

### In the News



#### **DHS Publications Provide Approaches to Combatting Threats**

In June and July, there were a number of reports or articles published by DHS or the GAO that provide approaches, priorities, or recommendations to combatting emerging threats. This includes the CP3's white paper on <u>targeted violence and terrorism prevention efforts</u>, Secretary Mayorkas's <u>strategic guidance to guide critical infrastructure security and</u> <u>resilience efforts</u>, and the GAO's report on federal incident reporting requirements for cyber threats to systems that provide essential services (linked below).

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# COVID-19 Implications Continue in 2024

A summer COVID surge is impacting states <u>across the U.S.</u> COVID also made headlines at the <u>Paris Olympics</u>, as multiple athletes competed despite announcing they had tested positive. In the meantime, a number of articles or reports on isolation and quarantine, testing, vaccination, response and recovery coordination, and more continue to emerge from <u>RAND</u>, the GAO (<u>report 1</u>, <u>report 2</u>), the <u>HHS OIG</u>, and <u>Health Affairs</u>. The WHO also released a pathogens prioritization framework for pandemic research preparedness.

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#### **FEMA Recognizes National Resilience Month**

August marks <u>FEMA's</u> celebration of National Resilience Month! This builds on activities being conducted throughout the year as FEMA marked 2024 as the '<u>Year of Resilience</u>,' and recognizes the work being performed as governments and their partners execute innovative projects. FEMA also released an update to its <u>Hazard Mitigation Assistance</u>

<u>Program Guide</u>. Read on for more information about National Resilience Month, including success stories, news and events, and funding opportunities.

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### The Fun Stuff



#### **Women's Equality Day**

On August 26th, we celebrate Women's Equality Day! This day celebrates the importance of the women's suffrage movement, as well as all of the efforts historically undertaken to achieve equality. Learn more about this <u>here</u>.

#### **Back to School Month!**

August is National Back to School Month! Conquer this school year with back to school <u>checklists</u>, school <u>safety resources</u>, <u>supply tips</u>, and more. CONSTANT wishes a safe, educational, and fun school year for all!



### We're Here to Support You

If you need help with disaster preparedness, infectious disease planning, or anything in between, send us an email at <u>staff@constantassociates.com</u>. We are here to help.

CONSTANT is certified as an 8(a) and Economically Disadvantaged Woman Owned Business (EDWOSB) and as a Great Place To Work. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Got this as a forward? You can subscribe to receive future issues of Resilience Report by clicking <u>here</u>.



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