

Wind Speed:

In 1805, Sir Francis Beaufort, an admiral in the British Navy, came up with a system for describing wind speeds at sea. This scale is called the Beaufort Scale and it uses the numbers 0 - 12. The higher the number, the faster the wind speed.

0 Calm (under 1 mph - miles per hour)

1 Light Air (1 - 2 mph)

2 Light Breeze (4 - 7 mph)

3 Gentle Breeze (8 - 12mph)

4 Moderate Breeze (13-18 mph)

5 Fresh Breeze (19-24 mph)

6 Strong Breeze (25-31 mph)

7 Near Gale (32-38 mph)

8 Gale (39 - 46 mph)

9 Strong Gale (47 - 54 mph)

10 Storm (55 - 63 mph)

11 Violent Storm (64 - 72 mph)

12 Hurricane (over 74 mph)

* The U.S. weather service also uses the numbers 13 - 17 for winds of hurricane speed! #

