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| **[Wind]** |
| **DEFINITION:**  Air motion relative to the Earth's surface. Unless otherwise specified, only the horizontal component is considered.  **REFERENCE(S):** WMO (1992) [International Meteorological Vocabulary, WMO-No. 182](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=4712). Available at <https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=4712> Accessed on 25 November 2019. |
| **ANNOTATIONS:**  **Synonym(s): N/A**  **Additional scientific description: N/A**  A three-dimensional vector quantity with small-scale random fluctuations in space and time superimposed upon a larger-scale organized flow. It is considered in this form in relation to, for example, airborne pollution and the landing of aircraft. For the purpose of the present Guide, however, surface wind will be considered mainly as a two-dimensional vector quantity specified by two numbers representing direction and speed. The extent to which wind is characterized by rapid fluctuations is referred to as gustiness, and single fluctuations are called gusts. (WMO 2008)  **Metrics and numeric limits:**  An internationally recognized scale for measuring wind is the Beaufort Scale, which is an empirical measure that relates wind speed to observed conditions at sea or on land. Its full name is the Beaufort wind force scale. It is comprised of 13 levels including: calm, light air, light breeze, moderate breeze, fresh breeze, strong breeze, near gale, gale, strong gale, storm, violent storm and hurricane. Specifics of the thresholds for each level can be found at the following website: <https://www.rmets.org/resource/beaufort-scale>  **Key relevant UN convention/multilateral treaty:** N/A  **Examples of drivers, outcomes and risk management:**  Wind is a main or contributing component to a number of hazards such as derecho, tropical cyclone, blizzard, sub-tropical cyclone, subtropical storm, tornado, and tropical storm.  **REFERENCE(S):**   * Royal Meteorological Society, The Beaufort Scale, 19 July 2018. Available at: <https://www.rmets.org/resource/beaufort-scale> * WMO Guide to Meteorological Instruments and Methods of Observation, WMO-No.8. Available at: <https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=10179> |
| **Coordinating Agency or Organisation:**  World Meteorological Organization (WMO) |
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