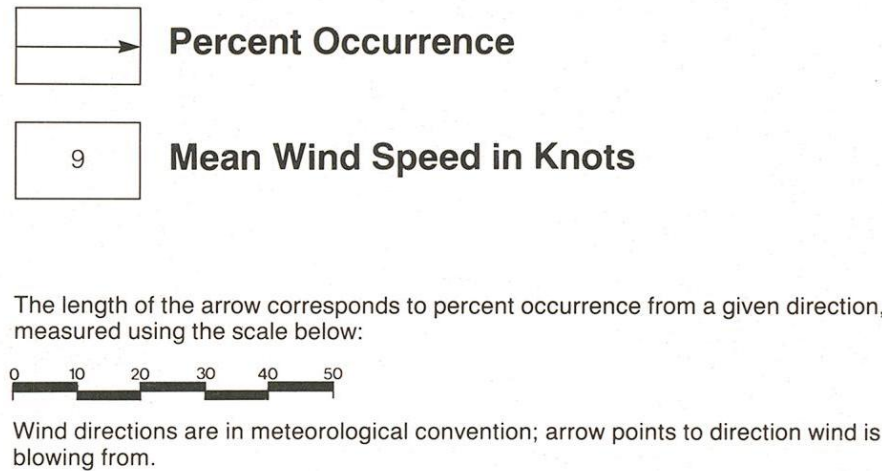


# Prevailing Winds: July

## Description

This map is the second of the 2-map set that depicts prevailing winds with wind roses. The description on Map 1.11 provides additional information.

Wind circulation in the summer is primarily anticyclonic (clockwise around high-pressure areas). The Bermuda High strongly influences the northern Gulf, while trade winds prevail in the central and southern regions. Average wind speeds are typically lower in summer than in winter. Sea breeze systems (onshore winds during day and offshore during night) occur frequently along the northern coast. The occasional hurricanes in the region primarily enter the Gulf of Mexico after formation in the tropical Atlantic. However, a few hurricanes have actually formed within the Gulf. Storm surges often accompany these severe storms when they make landfall.



## References

US DOC, NOAA, National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service, 1983.

Strategic Assessment Branch  
Ocean Assessments Division  
Office of Oceanography and Marine Assessment  
National Ocean Service/NOAA  
and the  
Southeast Fisheries Center  
National Marine Fisheries Service/NOAA