

Figure 1: The number of recorded tropical storms has increased dramatically over time. Even though pre-1960 data likely undercounts the number of storms, there growth is still clear growth in recent history.

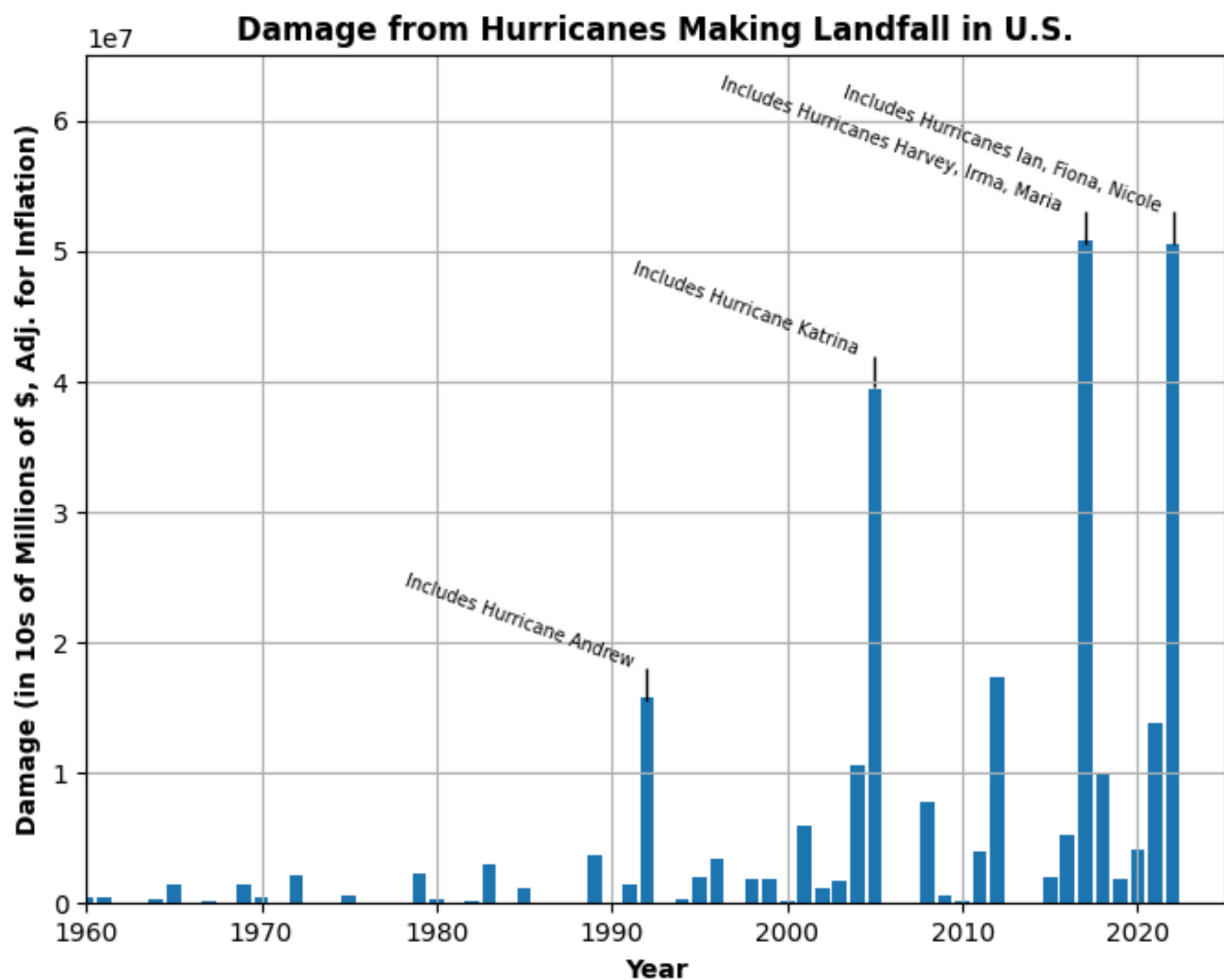


Figure 2: The severity of hurricanes have also increased in recent history. Almost all of the most damaging hurricane seasons since 1960 have occurred in the last 20 years.

Global Temperature Correlates With Hurricane Occurrence

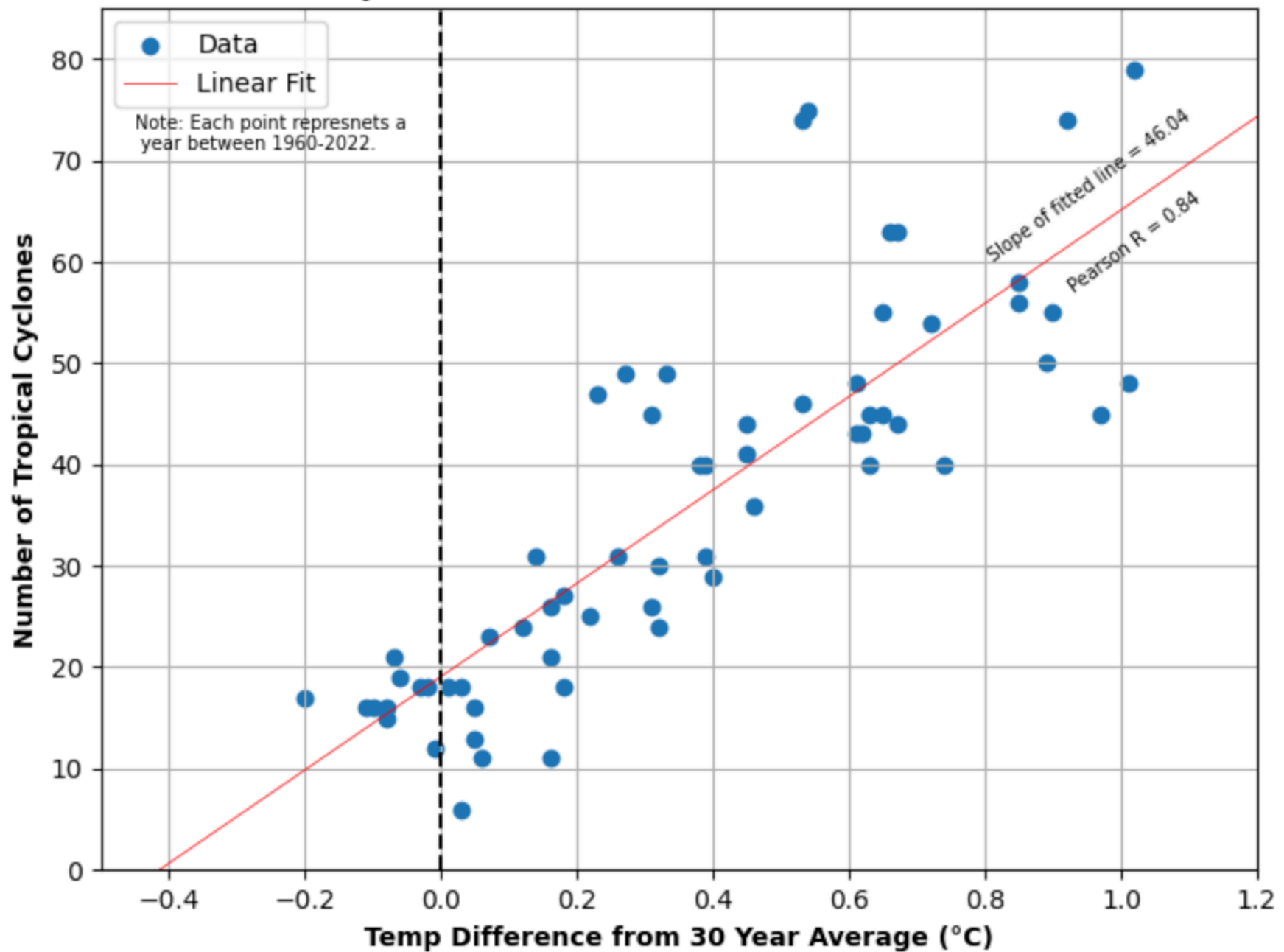


Figure 3: Rising temperatures are the reason for increased hurricane occurrence. The slope of the fitted line estimates that a global rise in temperature of 0.1°C results in an average of 4.6 more tropical cyclones globally.



Figure 4: Damage caused by Hurricane Sandy when it made landfall in New York in 2012. Occurrences like this will happen more frequently as global temperatures continue to rise. Source: National Geographic.