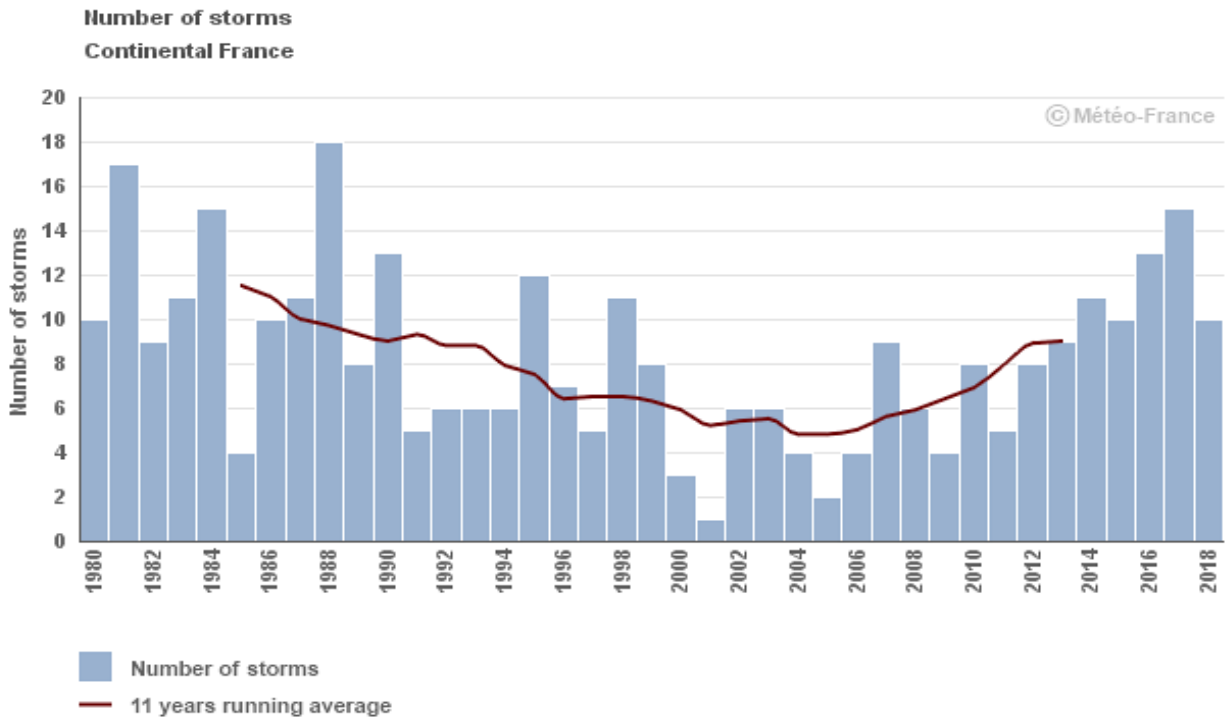
Evolution of storms
Past climate – metropolitain France

1. Graph reading aid



Histogram: annual number of storms that have affected the national or regional territory.

Continuous Curve: 11-year rolling average of the number of storms

2. Definition

A **Storm** is a low-pressure system that generates high winds above 100 km/h in plain over an extensive area (more than 2% of the national territory).

As a first step, storms are identified at national step. A region is then considered to be struck by a national storm if it meets the local storm criterion locally (more than 1 % of the regional territory affected by winds over 100 km/h).

3. Data and methods

Wind data for storms come from merging direct measurements from the Météo-France observation network (more than 650 measurement points in 2018) and data analyzed by AROME, the Météo-France fine mesh meteorological model. These wind fields have a 2.5 km spatial resolution.
This method is also used in real time for the qualification of storms in metropolitan France.

4. References

Soubeyroux et al, 2014, *Caractérisation des tempêtes historiques en Métropole*, XXVIIe Colloque

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