

## **Tropical cyclones over western North Pacific and South China Sea in 2011**

In 2011, a total of 22 tropical cyclones formed over the western North Pacific and the South China Sea, less than the normal figure of around 30 tropical cyclones in a year. This was the fifth lowest on record since 1946. During the year, only 9 tropical cyclones attained typhoon intensity or above, less than the normal figure of 15.

The first tropical cyclone of the year, Aere, formed in May and the last one, Washi, in December.

The most intense tropical cyclone in 2011 was Super Typhoon Songda (1102) in May. Songda had an estimated maximum sustained wind speed of 205 km/h and a minimum sea-level pressure of 920 hPa when it was located over the western North Pacific about 520 km east-northeast of Manila.

Details of the 22 tropical cyclones in 2011 can be found at <http://www.hko.gov.hk/informtc/tcReporte.htm>.