Understanding Severe Thunderstorm Outlook Categories



LEVEL	CATEGORY	DETAILS	SUMMARY	How many severe storms are possible?		How bad could the worst storms be?	DEFINITIONS
	General Thunderstorm	Although severe weather is not expected, all thunderstorms can produce deadly lightning, gusty winds, and small hail.	No severe thunderstorms expected			Similar to storms your area experiences many times per year	Severe Storm
				None	Numerous		Any storm that contains at least one of the following:
	Marginal (MRGL)	Some storms could be capable of damaging winds and severe hail. Localized tornado threat could develop.	Isolated severe storms possible			Similar to storms your area may experience several times per year	Wind gusts of at least 58 mph
				None	Numerous		Hail at least one inch in
2	Slight (SLGT)	Increased confidence that some storms will contain damaging winds, severe hail, and/or tornado potential.	Isolated to scattered severe storms expected			Similar to storms your area may experience a few times per year	diameter Tornado
		A few severe storms could be significant		None	Numerous		A
3	Enhanced (ENH)	High confidence that several storms will contain damaging winds, severe hail, and/or tornadoes.	Scattered to numerous severe storms expected			Similar to intense storms your area may only experience once	Significant Severe
		Several severe storms could be significant		None	Numerous	or twice per year	Any of the following hazards:
	Moderate (MDT)	High confidence that many storms will contain damaging winds, severe hail, and/or tornadoes.	Scattered to numerous severe storms expected			Similar to intense storms your area may only experience once per year or less	Wind gusts of at least 75 mph
		Several severe storms likely to be significant		None	Numerous	per year or less	Hail at least two inches
5	High (HIGH)	High confidence that an outbreak of storms will contain tornadoes, damaging winds, and/or severe hail.	Numerous severe storms expected			Very intense storms your area may only experience once or twice in a lifetime	in diameter . Tornado of at least EF-2 rating
		Tornado outbreak and/or widespread damaging winds		None	Numerous	twice in a metine	