

April 26, 2024

## Severe Weather Outlook

- Over 35 million Americans are in a severe weather threat zone Friday for potentially strong tornadoes, hail as big as baseballs or even larger and damaging wind gusts a threat that will last through the weekend.
- "Big day today. Really big day tomorrow," FOX Weather Meteorologist Britta Merwin said Friday morning. "In fact, the warning for severe weather is even more dire as we go into Saturday."
- Severe thunderstorms are already popping up on radar across the Plains and Midwest on Friday morning, on a day when the severe weather risk spans over a 1,000-mile stretch from southern Minnesota to Texas, the FOX Forecast Center said.
- A Tornado Watch has been issued until 11 a.m. CDT for portions of eastern Oklahoma. There is a chance of a few tornadoes, scattered damaging wind gusts up to 70 mph, and potential isolated large hail events up to 1 inch in diameter.
- "Some of these tornadoes could be an EF-2 or stronger. That means damage would be expected," Merwin said.
- Severe thunderstorms will be likely in parts of eastern Nebraska into western and central lowa
  and southward into eastern Kansas and Northwest Missouri Friday. A more isolated severe
  threat will extend south-southwestward into parts of the southern Plains, Ozarks and Ark-La-Tex
  from late afternoon into the evening.
- Over 4.8 million people reside in Level 3 out of 5 severe weather threat zones established by the SPC, including those in Overland Park, Kansas; Kansas City, Missouri; Omaha and Lincoln, Nebraska; and Des Moines, Iowa.
- By Saturday, the severe weather threat is even greater and more expansive.
- The FOX Forecast Center said the greatest threat is currently anticipated across parts of the central and southern Plains, where strong tornadoes, very large hail, and damaging winds are possible.
- However, the overall threat extends to a large portion of the central U.S., covering over 55 million people from south-central Texas through Michigan.



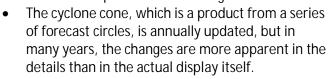


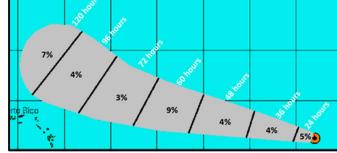
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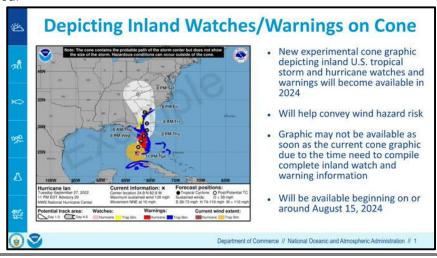
## 2024 Hurricane Forecasting – Cyclone Cone

 One of the most well-known products used by the National Hurricane Center will look different in 2024 with the intention of better communicating a cyclone's wide-ranging threats, as well as taking into account previous forecasting errors.





- This year, every forecast period beyond hour 12 is wider than last year's cone, which factors in accrued errors during past hurricane seasons. At 36 hours out, track cones will now be 4% larger, which is only about 2-3 miles different from last year.
- The most significant changes will be at hours 60 and 120, when the cone will be 9% and 7% wider, respectively.
- Starting around Aug. 15, the National Hurricane Center plans to start releasing an experimental forecast cone that will show all related watches and warnings, including alerts issued by local National Weather Service offices.
- Hurricane forecasters hope the display of alerts will help the public focus on the wide-reaching impacts of a cyclone and not the center track line.
- Additionally, the agency said more Spanish-language products will be released during the 2024 season.
- Experts at Colorado State University (CSU) expect the season to be busy and expect the formation of 23 named storms and 11 hurricanes.
- Forecasters noted that the outlook was their largest prediction of named storms that CSU has ever issued.





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WSP USA Inspection Services Active Disasters				
Disaster Number and State	Disaster Type	Number of Counties Declared	Days Since Launch	Registration Deadline
4749 IL	Flooding	1 County	154	5/21/2024
4757 MI	Flooding	9 Counties	73	5/8/2024

## WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES ACTIVITY

