

Understanding Severe Thunderstorm Risk Categories

THUNDERSTORMS (no label)	1 - MARGINAL (MRGL)	2 - SLIGHT (SLGT)	3 - ENHANCED (ENH)	4 - MODERATE (MDT)	5 - HIGH (HIGH)
<p>No severe* thunderstorms expected</p> <p>Lightning/flooding threats exist with <u>all</u> thunderstorms</p>	<p>Isolated severe thunderstorms possible</p> <p>Limited in duration and/or coverage and/or intensity</p>	<p>Scattered severe storms possible</p> <p>Short-lived and/or not widespread, isolated intense storms possible</p>	<p>Numerous severe storms possible</p> <p>More persistent and/or widespread, a few intense</p>	<p>Widespread severe storms likely</p> <p>Long-lived, widespread and intense</p>	<p>Widespread severe storms expected</p> <p>Long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense</p>
					

* NWS defines a severe thunderstorm as measured wind gusts to at least 58 mph, and/or hail to at least one inch in diameter, and/or a tornado. All thunderstorm categories imply lightning and the potential for flooding. Categories are also tied to the probability of a severe weather event within 25 miles of your location.



National Weather Service

www.spc.noaa.gov

