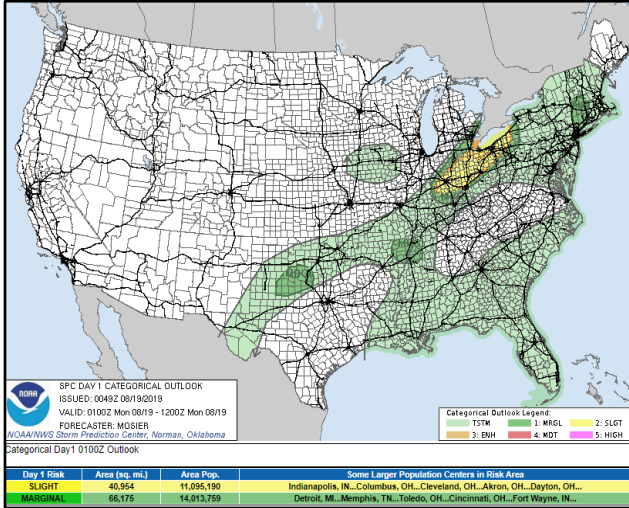
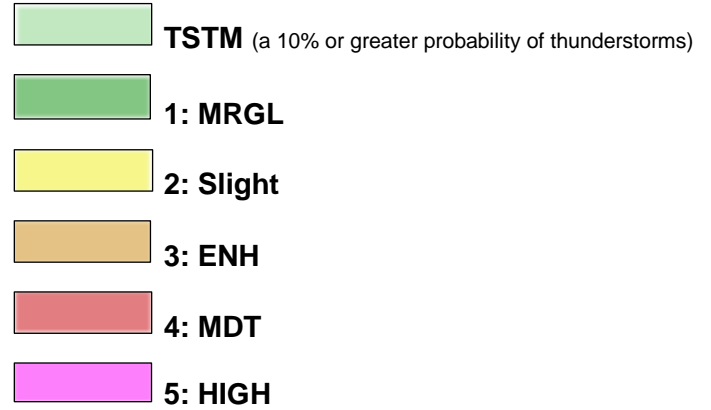


Storm Prediction Center Severe Risk Categories



Categorical Outlook Legend:



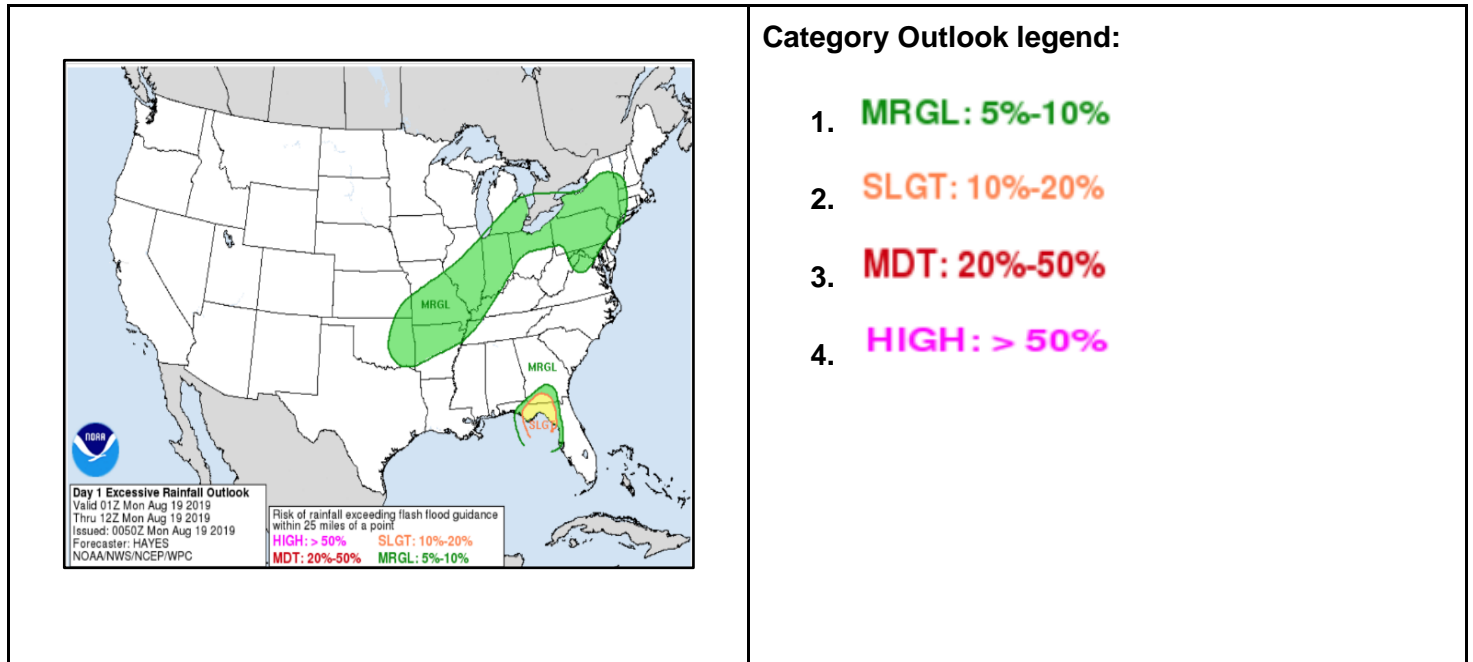
Understanding Severe Thunderstorm Risk Categories

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

* 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.

- The categorical forecast specifies the level of the overall severe weather threat via numbers (e.g., 5), descriptive labeling (e.g., HIGH), and colors (e.g., magenta).
- The probabilistic forecast directly expresses the best estimate of a severe weather event occurring within 25 miles of a point.
- The categories: TSTM (light green) non-severe, 1-MRGL (dark green), 2-SLGT (yellow), 3-ENH (orange), 4-MDT (red) and 5-HIGH (magenta)
- SPC Severe Thunderstorm Risk Categories has an ENH category while WPC Excessive Rainfall Risk does not.
- Low probabilities due to the uncommon occurrence at any one location.
- Scale matches with shaded areas

Weather Prediction Center Excessive Rain Risk Categories



Understanding WPC Excessive Rainfall Risk Categories				
No Area/Label	MARGINAL (MRGL)	SLIGHT (SLGT)	MODERATE (MDT)	HIGH (HIGH)
Flash floods are generally not expected.	Isolated flash floods possible	Scattered flash floods possible	Numerous flash floods likely	Widespread flash floods expected
	Localized and primarily affecting places that can experience rapid runoff with heavy rainfall.	Mainly localized. Most vulnerable are urban areas, roads, small streams and washes. Isolated significant flash floods possible.	Numerous flash flooding events with significant events possible. Many streams may flood, potentially affecting larger rivers.	Severe, widespread flash flooding. Areas that don't normally experience flash flooding, could. Lives and property in greater danger.
@NWSWPC				
Flash flooding near me?	Flash Flooding	Flash Flooding	Flash Flooding	Flash Flooding
NO Flash Flooding				
WEATHER PREDICTION CENTER				

- The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) forecasts the probability that rainfall will exceed flash flood guidance (FFG) within 40 kilometers (25 miles) of a point.
- Gridded FFG is provided by the twelve NWS River Forecast Centers (RFCs) whose service areas cover the lower 48 states.
- WPC creates a national mosaic of FFG, whose 1, 3, and 6-hour values represent the amount of rainfall over those short durations which it is estimated would bring rivers and streams up to bankfull conditions.
- WPC uses a variety of deterministic and ensemble-based numerical model tools that get at both the meteorological and hydrologic factors associated with flash flooding.
- WPC ER Risk Categories are similar to SPC, however probability/percentages are very different.
- Scale matches with underline areas