

# Stormy Weather?

Since May 1st the forecast area for the Chicago NWS office has seen 15 days with at least one report of severe weather or a warning for severe weather. During that 52-day period, 72 warnings were issued, with a total of 122 total storm reports being submitted.

For the month of May, Chicago-O'Hare recorded 7 thunderstorm days, 6 heavy rain days, and 16 light rain days. So far for June, they have recorded 7 thunderstorm days. During May, Rockford saw 7 days thunderstorm days, 3 heavy rain days, 17 light rain days, and so far for June, 9 thunderstorm days. That adds up to 36 total days at both Chicago-O'Hare and Rockford that had some form of precipitation over the past 52 days, or 69.2% of the days.

When taking a historical look at this 52-day period, since 2005, the average number of warnings issued and storm reports received are around 70.2 and 110.4 respectively. Putting us right around average for this time of year, despite what might have felt like an active pattern. This is consistent with the ENSO-neutral pattern that we are currently in.

Two years that stand out in the records due to their high numbers of warnings and reports are 2008 and 2011. During 2008 from May 30th through June 13th, four events in particular produced 14 tornadoes, tennis ball sized hail, and damaging straight line winds between 60-100 mph in the forecast area for the Chicago NWS Office. In 2011 between May 22 and June 21st, six events produced 15 tornadoes and multiple damaging wind events, including a 90-100 mph straight line wind event in Rockford, IL on May 22. During this time both years were in a weak to moderate La Nina pattern.

Below you can find a recap and/or summary of reports for a few of the events over the past 52 days:

**May 15, 2017:** [Hail to golf ball size in the Rockford Area](#)

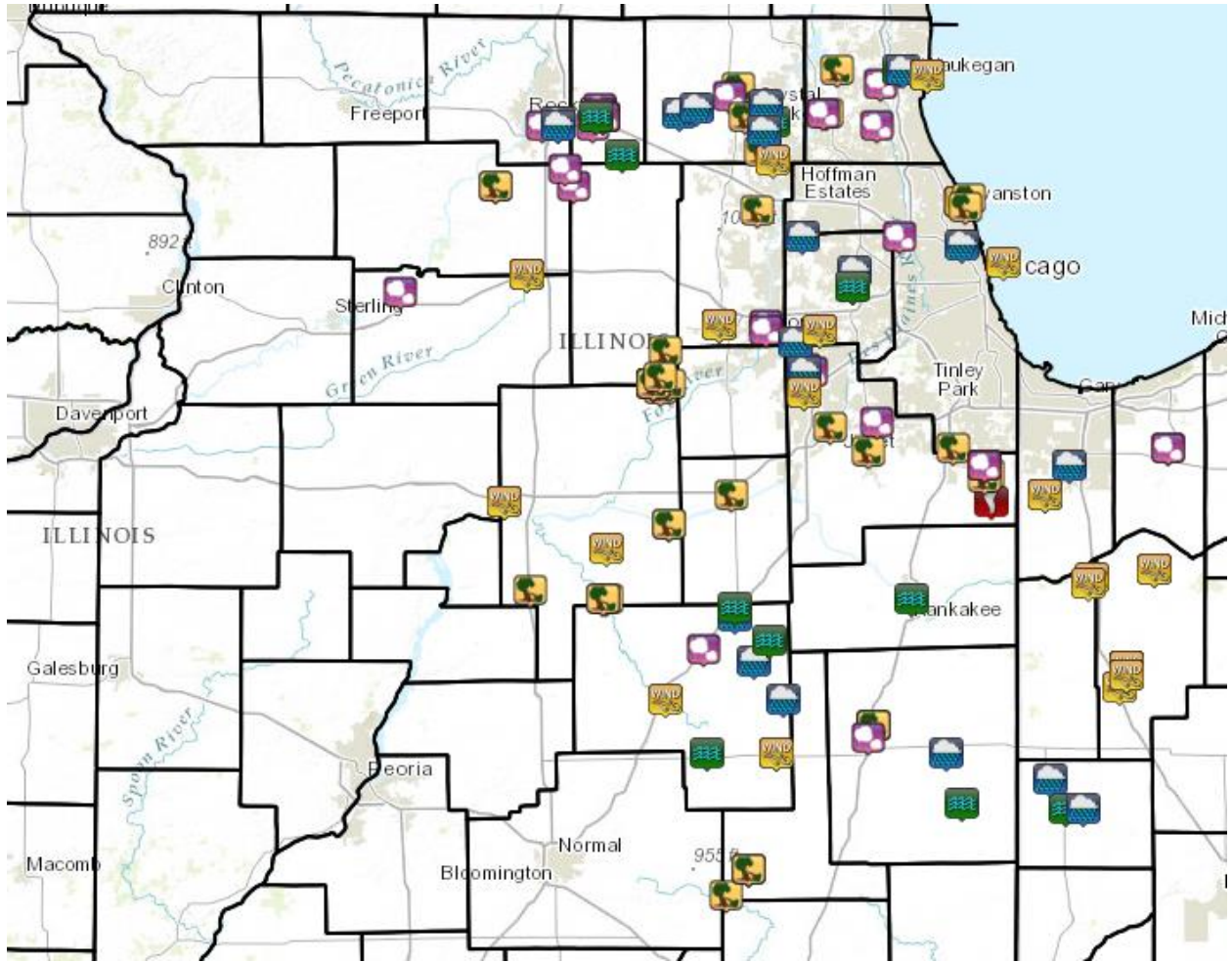
**May 17-18, 2017:** [Severe storms bring scattered intense damage and EF-1 tornado in Capron in Boone County](#)

**May 20, 2017:** [EF-0 tornado in rural Benton County](#)

**June 13-14, 2017:** [Widespread reports of large hail, wind damage, and flooding](#)

**June 17-18, 2017:** [Widespread reports of heavy rain, flooding, and wind damage](#)

**Total Storm Reports from May 1st - June 21, 2017:**



**Number of Warnings and Storm Reports from 2005-2017 from May 1st-June 21st:**

<b>Years:</b>	<b>Number of Warnings:</b>	<b>Number of Reports:</b>
<b>2005</b>	12	9
<b>2006</b>	69	74
<b>2007</b>	57	92
<b>2008</b>	140	202
<b>2009</b>	69	108
<b>2010</b>	57	171
<b>2011</b>	129	192
<b>2012</b>	52	60
<b>2013</b>	75	146
<b>2014</b>	87	155
<b>2015</b>	76	80
<b>2016</b>	20	28
<b>2017</b>	70	118
<b>Average:</b>	<b>70.2</b>	<b>110.4</b>