# Americans Prepare for Extreme Heat and Severe Weather as Summer Nears



Millions of Americans are bracing for extreme heat and severe weather as summer approaches, according to recent forecasts and reports.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has predicted that most of New Mexico and Utah, as well as parts of Arizona, Texas, and Colorado, have a 60-70% chance of experiencing hotter-than-average temperatures from June through August. Similarly, the entire northeast region of the US, from Maine to Pennsylvania and New Jersey, alongside areas from Louisiana to Arizona and up to Washington and Idaho, have a 40-50% probability of above-average temperatures.

In Texas, the onset of extreme weather has been felt as early as May, with tornadoes, floods, and record-breaking temperatures causing significant damage. Houston experienced severe storms that led to power outages for hundreds of thousands of households and resulted in several fatalities.

A heat dome over Mexico has exacerbated the situation, impacting the US with elevated temperatures and severe weather patterns. As the switch from El Niño to La Niña is expected soon, global heating trends suggest a likely increase in above-average temperatures across the US.

Meanwhile, a series of powerful storms over the Memorial Day weekend resulted in severe damage across central US states including Arkansas, Texas, and Oklahoma. The storms caused at least 18 deaths, downed trees and power lines, and left over 600,000 people without power. In response, Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear declared a state of emergency due to the storm's impact.

The National Weather Service has issued severe thunderstorm warnings for various regions, including the Tennessee Valley, Upper Mississippi Valley, and parts of the East Coast, where damaging winds, lightning, hail, and isolated tornadoes are anticipated.

Additionally, parts of southern Texas, the central Gulf Coast, and southern Florida are under an excessive heat warning. Cities like Houston and Miami are expected to experience extreme temperatures, with heat index readings potentially exceeding 115 degrees Fahrenheit.

Across the affected regions, the risk of heat-related conditions such as heatstroke and heat-induced illnesses is elevated, particularly for vulnerable populations like older adults, children, and outdoor workers.

As the summer progresses, local authorities and meteorological agencies are preparing for continued extreme weather and heatwave conditions, aiming to mitigate the risks and ensure public safety.