# Spain’s Valencian region hit by cyclonic supercell storms months after catastrophic floods



Spain faces a challenging time, with renewed storms battering the Valencian region just months after it experienced catastrophic flooding that claimed over 230 lives. The latest inclement weather has prompted warnings for British tourists considering travel to the area. The recent hailstorm brought with it hailstones the size of a fist, alongside significant flooding that caught local residents off guard. Footage shared online captured the chaos as vehicles were damaged and streets transformed into rivers, stark reminders of the devastation caused by natural disasters.

The storms were intensified by orange weather warnings issued by the state meteorological agency AEMET, indicating a "significant danger" level. Francesc Moragues, the director of AEMET, described the conditions as highly irregular, characterising them as a "cyclonic supercell storm," which brings severe weather phenomena such as hail and torrential downpours. This occurrence is particularly disheartening for residents still recovering from the traumatic events of October 2024, when unprecedented rainfall led to a tragedy of historic proportions, bringing rainfall levels up to 772 litres per square metre in some areas over just 12 hours.

The 2024 floods, referred to as a DANA event (Depresión Aislada en Niveles Altos), had catastrophic repercussions, damaging infrastructure and homes across the region and leaving an indelible mark on the community's psyche. Many businesses were devastated, and the government’s response—the perceived failure in emergency preparedness and communication—has sown seeds of discontent among the populace. In fact, just days before the latest storms, a significant demonstration against regional president Carlos Mazon was planned but had to be cancelled due to a historic power outage that affected nearly the entire country.

Such events underscore a trend of increasing climate volatility seen across Europe, exacerbated by human-induced climate change. In 2024 alone, flooding in Europe resulted in 335 fatalities, impacting over 410,000 individuals. The Copernicus Climate Change Service reported that western Europe experienced some of its wettest conditions on record since 1950. Current climatic trends show that nearly a third of Europe’s rivers reached dangerous flood levels this year, and southeastern regions suffered a prolonged heatwave, highlighting the stark juxtaposition of severe weather patterns across the continent.

The economic consequences of such disasters are substantial. Experts estimate that total insured losses from the 2024 floods could exceed €4 billion, with the Consorcio de Compensación de Seguros (CCS), Spain’s government insurance pool, stepping in to manage an unprecedented volume of claims. As communities grapple with the physical and financial toll of these extreme weather events, there is little doubt that the fallout will influence future planning and resource allocation for disaster management.

As Valencia braces for more poor weather, many residents are left questioning the adequacy of local governance and disaster preparedness, alongside grappling with the emotional and economic repercussions of their recent misfortunes. The cycle of devastating storms and flooding not only threaten lives but threaten to unravel the fabric of communities that have long thrived in Spain's fertile landscapes.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraph 1, 2, 4, 6
2. Paragraph 3
3. Paragraph 4
4. Paragraph 5
5. Paragraph 6

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14695911/Warning-British-tourists-Valencia-battered-flash-flooding-six-months-232-lost-lives-freak-storm.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.cadenaser.com/nacional/2025/04/29/15-metros-de-agua-a-30-kmh-la-dimension-de-la-dana-de-valencia-en-50-datos-cadena-ser/> - An in-depth analysis of the DANA (Depresión Aislada en Niveles Altos) that struck Valencia on October 29, 2024, detailing the unprecedented rainfall, flood depths, and the resulting human and infrastructural impacts. The report highlights the record-breaking precipitation, with some areas receiving up to 772 liters per square meter in 12 hours, and the devastating effects on local communities, including the tragic loss of 222 lives and extensive property damage.
3. <https://www.reuters.com/business/finance/spanish-floods-may-lead-total-insured-losses-above-4-bln-euros-analyst-2024-11-14/> - Reuters reports on the financial aftermath of the October 2024 floods in Spain, noting that the total insured losses could exceed four billion euros. The article discusses the role of the Consorcio de Compensación de Seguros (CCS), the Spanish government insurance pool, in covering these claims and the potential for increased insurance premiums to replenish CCS reserves.
4. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-10-30/over-95-dead-in-spain-flash-flooding-emergency/104539978> - ABC News covers the devastating flash floods in Spain's southeastern regions, reporting at least 95 fatalities and multiple missing persons. The Spanish government declared three days of mourning, and military rescue efforts were initiated to assist those trapped in submerged homes and vehicles.
5. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2024_Spanish_floods> - The Wikipedia article provides a comprehensive overview of the 2024 Spanish floods, detailing the causes, affected regions, and the extensive damage caused by the torrential rains and subsequent flooding. It includes information on the number of fatalities, missing persons, and the economic impact of the disaster.
6. <https://kathmandupost.com/climate-environment/2024/10/30/spain-flash-floods-kill-at-least-51-people-in-valencia-region> - The Kathmandu Post reports on the flash floods in Spain's Valencia region, confirming at least 51 deaths due to torrential rains. The article includes statements from local authorities and describes the challenges faced by emergency services in accessing affected areas.
7. <https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/images/153533/valencia-floods> - NASA's Earth Observatory provides satellite imagery and analysis of the widespread flooding in Valencia, Spain, caused by intense rainfall on October 29, 2024. The images show the extent of the floodwaters affecting urban and agricultural lands, including the Turia river and the L'Albufera wetlands.