

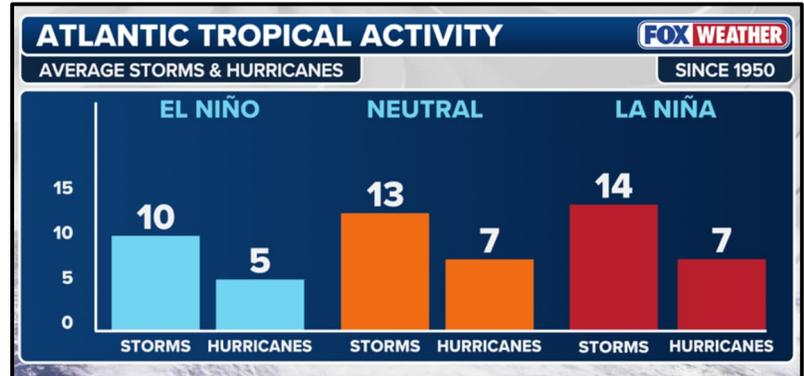
# DAILY DART

WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES DISASTER AWARENESS REPORT

March 18, 2026

## 2026 Atlantic Hurricane Outlook

- A major shift in the global climate pattern is underway as the tropical Pacific starts to transition out of a fading La Niña and toward a potential El Niño later this year.
- Some forecast models suggest a strong or very strong El Niño will form, which could have major implications for the Atlantic hurricane season.
- NOAA has issued an El Niño Watch as conditions are expected to develop within the next six months.
- A large pool of warm water beneath the surface of the Pacific is moving east, which is often a sign that surface temperatures could warm quickly in the months ahead.
- There's currently about a 62% chance that El Niño develops between June and August, though some global models suggest it could become a strong event by late summer or early fall.
- Some of the more aggressive long-range models are leaning toward a strong outcome. A number of these projections point to about an 80 to 90% chance of a strong El Niño, with a few even suggesting a very strong event.
- This potential shift has important implications for the Atlantic hurricane season. In most cases, El Niño acts to suppress hurricane activity by increasing wind shear over the Atlantic.
- But this year might not be so straightforward. Sea surface temperatures in the Atlantic remain near or slightly above average, which provides fuel for storms.
- During the 2023 hurricane season, a similar event occurred and, in that case, the record warm sea surface temperatures offset the negative impacts from El Niño.
- While the events are seemingly similar, hurricane season is defined by much more than just El Niño or La Niña. Even in years with a strong El Niño, the risk is never zero.
- Historically, these patterns have been associated with fewer storms overall, but it only takes one to create major impacts.
- Timing will be key. If El Niño develops quickly by mid-summer, it could limit activity during peak hurricane season. If the transition is slower, there may still be a window for early-season storms in June and July.



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## Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

State	Event	Number of Counties for IA		Start-End
		Requested	Completed	
MI	Severe Weather & Tornadoes March 6, 2026	3	0	3/16 - TBD

## Pending Individual Assistance Declaration Request

State	Event	Date Submitted	Approved/Denied/ Pending	Number of Counties/Tribes
IL*	Severe Storms and Flooding July 25 - 28, 2025 (Appeal)	11/21/2025	Pending	3 Counties
WA	Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides/Mudslides. Dec 5-22, 2025	1/21/2026	Pending	10 Counties
TN	Severe Winter Storm Jan 22 & continuing	1/28/2026	Pending	23 Counties
MS	Severe Winter Storm Jan 23-27, 2026	2/3/2026	Pending	36 Counties

\*Award of task order to contractor pending

## WSP USA Inspection Services Active Disasters

Disaster Number and State	Disaster Type	Number of Counties Declared	Days Since Launch	Registration Deadline
	N/A			

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## WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES ACTIVITY

