

Severe Storm Event

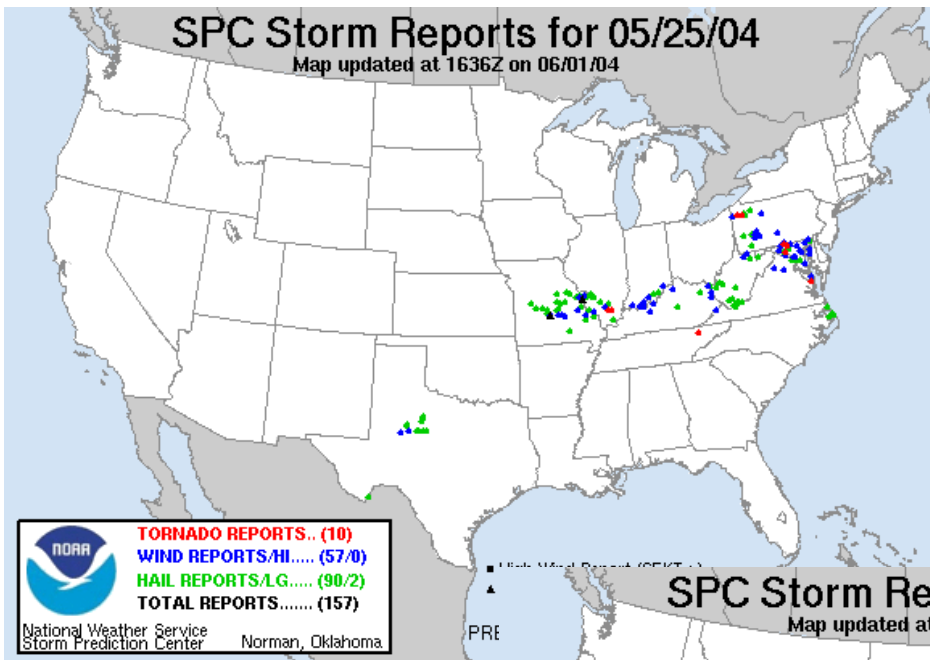
May 25th-27th, 2004

Overview

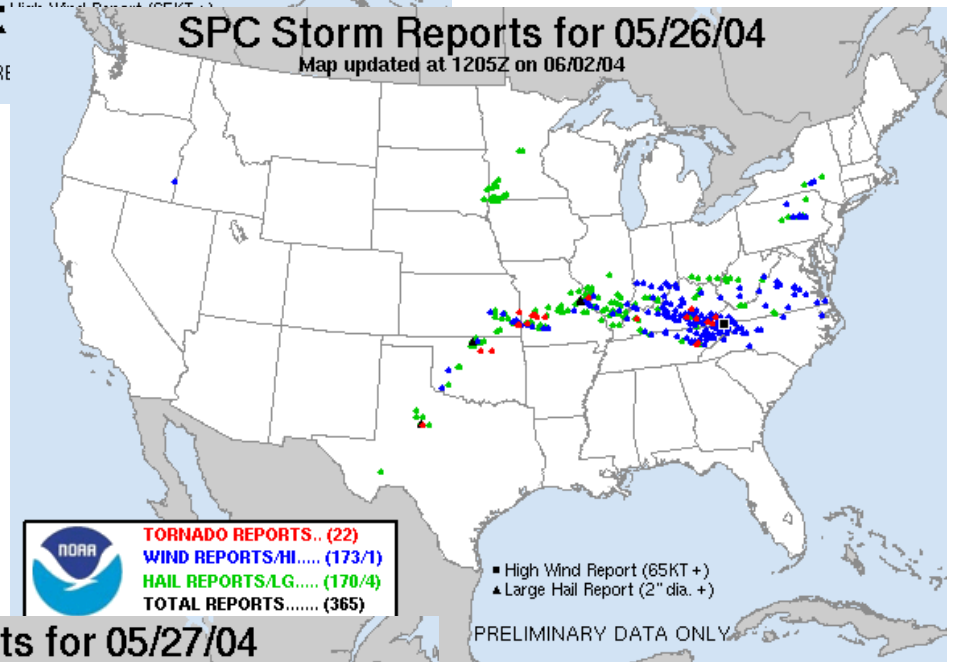
During the last week of May 2004, several rounds of severe thunderstorms brought large destructive hail, severe winds, tornadoes, and flooding to the bi-state region. A wavering frontal boundary draped across Missouri and Illinois was the focus for the thunderstorm development May 24-27, 2004. Upper-level dynamics, such as the jet stream, were collocated with sufficient instability to cause some of the thunderstorms to become severe. Storm surveys conducted across northeast Missouri and west-central Illinois have led to the confirmation of an F0 tornado track in Marion county Missouri and one F0 and two F1 tornado tracks in Pike county Illinois from storms that occurred on Monday, May 24th. Damage was limited to trees, and a few homes, in which the trees were blown into. No injuries or fatalities were reported. The tornadic thunderstorms combined to form a squall line that raced southeast across the St. Louis metropolitan area causing widespread minor wind damage in the late evening hours of the 24th and the early morning hours of the 25th. Later during the afternoon hours of the 25th, a large severe thunderstorm moved across the St. Louis metropolitan area dumping penny to golf ball size hail and up to 3 inches of rain in just 30 minutes. The cities of Creve Coeur, Town and Country, Kirkwood, and St. Louis were the hardest hit by the storm. Over 60 reports of property damage due to hail and severe wind gusts were reported to the National Weather Service from Saint Louis County alone. The heavy rainfall caused numerous roads and parking lots to flood, including Interstate 40/64 at Hampton Ave. Several rounds of severe thunderstorms developed on Wednesday, May 26th. Numerous reports of large hail, severe wind gusts, and local flooding were received at the weather office. It only got worse on the evening of May 27th, when a strong line of thunderstorms spawned several small tornadoes, produced hail, damaging winds and torrential rains. Flooding was widespread across the metro area with storm totals over 2 inches common.

The National Weather Service Office in St. Louis issued nearly 450 watches, warnings and statements during these 5 days. Timely warnings, terrific coordination between our office and emergency management, great communications with the media, and a raised awareness by the public helped everyone to get through this event without a single fatality or reported injury.

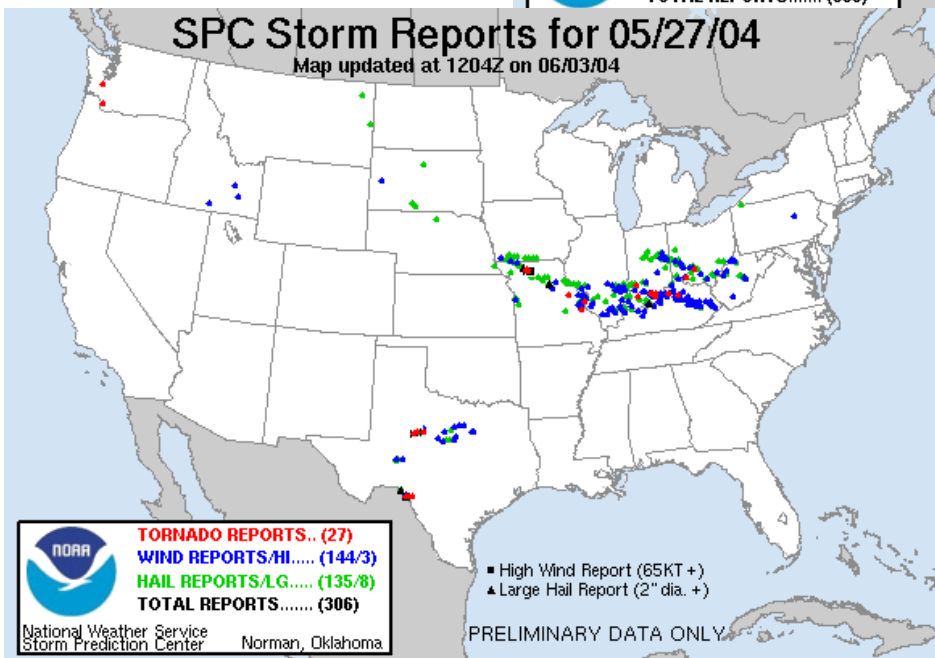
Storm Reports



SPC Storm Report Map for May 25th, 2004.



SPC Storm Report Map for May 26th, 2004.



SPC Storm Report Map for May 27th, 2004.

Damage Photos



Tree blown down onto a house. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.



Tree blown down onto a house. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.



Flooding on I-55. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.

Damage Photos



Flooding on Highway 40/I-64. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.

Flooding on Broadway,
downtown St. Louis.
Photo courtesy of KSDK
Channel 5.



Flooding on
Broadway,
downtown St. Louis.
Photo courtesy of
KSDK Channel 5.

Damage Photos



Fire truck driving through flood waters on I-55. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.

Flooding on I-55. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.



Flooding on I-55. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.

Damage Photos



Flooding on I-55. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.

Another picture of tree that fell onto a house. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.



Flooding on I-55. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.

Damage Photos



Flooding in Brentwood.
Photo courtesy of KSDK
Channel 5.

More car damage at
Mary Institute and
Saint Louis Country Day
School. Photo courtesy
of KSDK Channel 5.



Hail covering the
ground at Mary
Institute and Saint
Louis Country Day
School. Photo courtesy
of KSDK Channel 5.

Damage Photos



Large hail at Mary Institute and Saint Louis Country Day School. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.

Car with major hail damage at Mary Institute and Saint Louis Country Day School. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.



Hail covering the ground at Mary Institute and Saint Louis Country Day School. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.

Damage Photos



Flooding on Highway 40/I-64. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.

Flooding on Highway 40/I-64. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.



Flooding on Highway 40/I-64. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.

Damage Photos



Flooding on Highway 40/I-64. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.

Flooding occurring on Theodosia Ave. in downtown St. Louis. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.



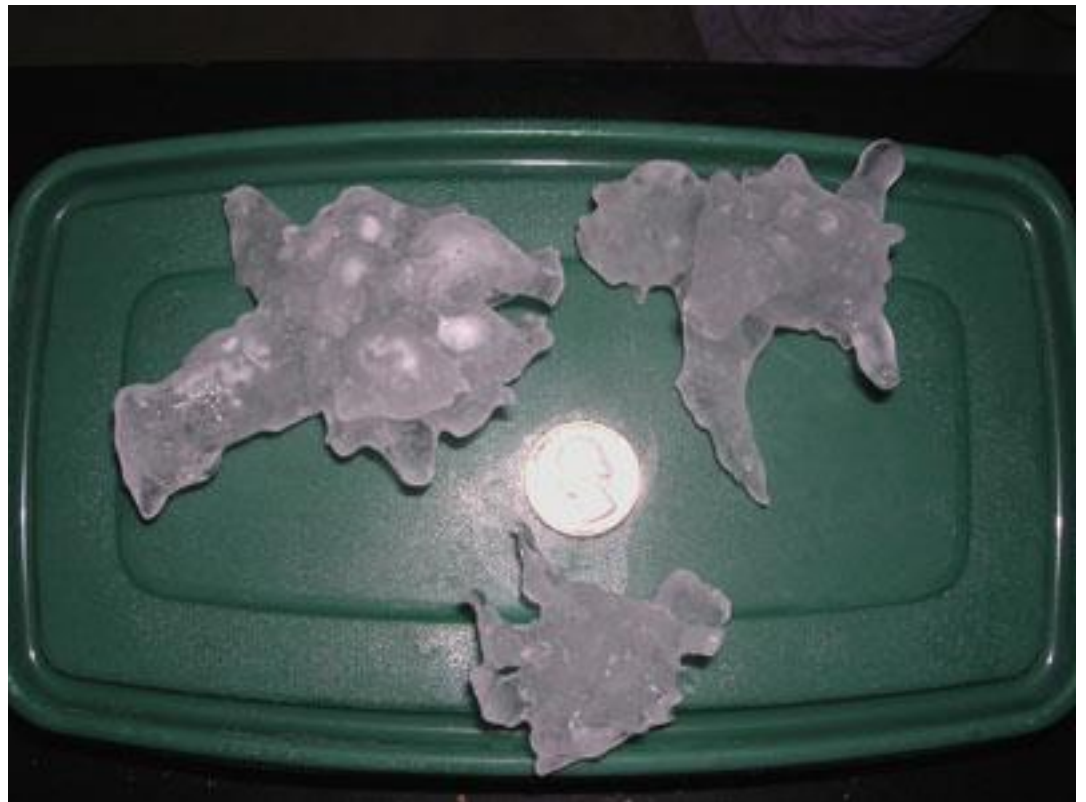
Broken skylight due to large hail. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.

Damage Photos



Large hail covering the ground. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.

Very large and oddly shaped hail that fell near Washington, MO compared to a quarter. Photo courtesy of KSDK Channel 5.



Please note that while the severe weather data presented in this event synopsis has been quality controlled, it is still considered unofficial. Official reports & statistics for severe weather events can be found in the **Storm Data** publication (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/IPS/sd/sd.html>) or **Storm Events Database** (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>), available from the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) web page [formerly the National Climate Data Center (NCDC)].

More detailed tornado track information can be accessed using the National Weather Service Damage Assessment Toolkit for all tornadoes beginning in 2012. <https://apps.dat.noaa.gov/StormDamage/DamageViewer/>

Any questions regarding this event review should be address to w-lsx.webmaster@noaa.gov