

## Heavy rainfall expected to hit Istanbul

### ISTANBUL

Turkish State Meteorological Service has issued a warning for heavy rains expected for the metropolis Istanbul and the Marmara region on May 18.

It will be partly cloudy in the northern, central and eastern parts of the country, while Marmara, Northern Aegean, central parts of the Western Mediterranean, Taurus Mountains of the Eastern Mediterranean, Western Black Sea, Central Black Sea coasts, eastern Anatolia (except Ardahan), Ankara, Çankırı, Kırıkkale, Kırşehir, Konya, Çorum, Amasya and Giresun will experience rainy and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly and less cloudy.

The temperatures will go down by 4 and 10 degrees throughout in the northwest parts and increase by 2 and 4 degrees in the central regions. Meanwhile, the rest of the country will not see major changes.

According to the latest surveillance by the meteorological authorities, Marmara's northern and western parts, including Istanbul, Bursa and Yalova provinces, are expected to be affected by local rainfall.

The residents of Marmara region, Bursa and Yalova are warned of "flash flood, local flood, local hail, lightning strike, strong wind during precipitation, disruptions at traffic".

In Marmara and North Aegean coasts, the speed of wind will reach up to 40-60 kilometers per hour, from the north and northeast. Residents are warned against adverse conditions due to the wind.

While rainfall mostly focused on the western parts of Istanbul during the morning of May 18, downpour and thunder showers are expected across the city during midday and in the evening. The rain is expected to be more severe in western Istanbul after noon and across the metropolis during the evening.

Rainfall is also expected in 11 provinces in Turkey's northern, eastern and central regions, including the capital Ankara. The meteorological service has issued a yellow alert for these provinces. It also warned against flash floods and lightnings in Marmara region. The temperatures are expected to return to seasonal normal levels with the upcoming weekend.

Meanwhile, Ankara Governor's Office has issued a warning for the snowfall expected in the capital's higher regions, urging the citizens to pay attention to freezing and icing.