

Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

Tornadoes striking state at rapid rate

Illinois has experienced more than 100 in '24, double annual average

By **Adriana Pérez**
Chicago Tribune

On Monday, the National Weather Service in Chicago issued 16 tornado warnings — the most they've sent out on a single day since 2004. The office confirmed that at least 28 tornadoes swept across northern Illinois and northwest Indiana on Sunday and Monday night as peak wind gusts reached more than 100 mph.

Illinois has already experienced over 100 tornadoes this year, though the state typically averages 50 tornadoes annually.

This is likely because the air in the Midwest is becoming more saturated with humidity, a key ingredient of strong thunderstorms that can produce tornadoes. As climate change intensifies, so do favorable conditions for this kind of severe weather that has cost billions of dollars in recent years.

Monday's tornadoes were part of a derecho, a widespread and long-lived storm with damaging winds. It is a common Midwest phenomenon with roughly one happening every year. But the caliber of this derecho is generally only seen once every five to 10 years, said Brett Borchardt, a meteorologist with the weather service's office in Chicago. Most recently in August 2020, a similarly "ferocious" derecho downed trees and rattled windows from Iowa to Chicago and caused \$11 billion in damages.

While there are no specific temperature requirements for tornadoes to form, the air close to the ground needs to be warm and moist in relation to cooler, drier air higher up in the atmosphere. So increasingly humid summers will likely lead to intensified tornado seasons. But observations also indicate

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Luggage is carted as some conveyors were down at O'Hare International Airport during a global technology outage that grounded flights Friday.
ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Global technology outage creates major headaches

Disrupted flights, radio stations knocked off air just few of issues around Chicago

By **Sarah Freishtat, Stacy St. Clair, Robert Channick, Rebecca Johnson and Talia Soglin**
Chicago Tribune

As a global technology outage rippled across Chicago Friday morning, the arrival and departure screens at bustling O'Hare International Airport were empty of flights.

Instead, the boards showed bright blue "Recovery" screens with the words "It looks like

Windows didn't load correctly" printed underneath.

"You have to laugh," said United passenger Mollie Jensen of Chicago, who was trying to rebook her flight to Las Vegas. "Otherwise, you'd just sit down in the middle of the concourse and cry. You just have to push through it until you find a solution."

The outage sent shockwaves across Chicago airports, trains, banks, hospitals and radio stations. It left passengers at O'Hare scrambling to rebook

their flights or get on standby lists for later departures, and forced cancellations and delays on Metra trains.

UChicago Medicine workstations malfunctioned. Radio stations were knocked off air. Fermilab, the west suburban U.S. Department of Energy particle physics lab, suspended regular operations at its Batavia location.

The issues were caused by a faulty software update and affected computers running Microsoft Windows, and were not due to a security incident or cyberattack, according to cybersecurity firm CrowdStrike, which issued the update. The firm said a

fix was on the way.

In the meantime, the technology outage disrupted companies and services around the world, and highlighted their dependence on just a handful of providers.

The magnitude of the global outage was staggering, with disrupted operations across a broad spectrum of industries, impacting everyone from customers to employees, many of whom faced the "blue screen of death" on their work computers this morning.

The problem is expected to be resolved within 24 to 36 hours,

Turn to Outage, Page 2



U.S. Rep. Sean Casten addresses supporters in 2022 in Burr Ridge.
ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



U.S. Rep. Jesús "Chuy" García speaks in Chicago in March.
BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Casten, García call on Biden to step aside

They join ranks of state and national Democrats urging the president to end bid for reelection

By **Dan Petrella**
Chicago Tribune

Illinois U.S. Reps. Sean Casten and Jesús "Chuy" García on Friday added their names to the growing list of Democrats calling for President Joe Biden to step aside and not run for a second term.

Casten and García become the fourth and fifth Illinois congressional Democrats to encourage the 81-year-old Biden to abandon his effort to defeat former President Donald Trump in the November election. Trump accepted the Republican presidential nomination Thursday night in Milwaukee.

In a submitted opinion piece published online Friday, Casten, a west suburban congressman since 2019, said if the upcoming election was a referendum on performance, promises and character, he thinks Biden would defeat Trump.

"But politics, like life, isn't fair. And as long as this election is instead litigated over which candidate is more likely to be held accountable for public gaffes and 'senior moments,' I believe

that Biden is not only going to lose but is also uniquely incapable of shifting that conversation," Casten wrote. "It is with a heavy heart and much personal reflection that I am therefore calling on Biden to pass the torch to a new generation."

Casten, of Downers Grove, called on Biden "to manage an exit with all the dignity and decency that has guided his

Turn to Step down, Page 4

Biden resists Dem calls to quit race

Party angst growing as more lawmakers pressure president

By **Zeke Miller, Lisa Mascaro, Michael Balsamo and Aamer Madhani**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A growing chorus of Democratic lawmakers called Friday for President Joe Biden to drop his reelection bid, even as the president insisted he's ready to return to the campaign trail next week to counter what he called a "dark vision" laid out by Republican Donald Trump.

As more Democratic members of Congress called for him to drop out Friday — bringing the total since his disastrous debate against Trump to at least 30 — Biden remained isolated at his beach house in Delaware after being diagnosed with COVID-19. The president, who has insisted he can

Turn to Biden, Page 6

Online research on jurors

Michael Madigan's attorneys lay out a plan to scrub potential jurors' social media. **Chicagoland, Page 3**

Trump goes off script

Thursday night, Donald Trump couldn't resist falling back into the kind of diatribe he is known for. **Nation & World**

Great expectations

Sky rookie Angel Reese is on the WNBA All-Star roster that will face Team USA. **Chicago Sports**

TODAY'S WEATHER



High **82** Low **66**

Complete Chicagoland forecast on Page 8

\$4.00 city and suburbs and elsewhere
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