



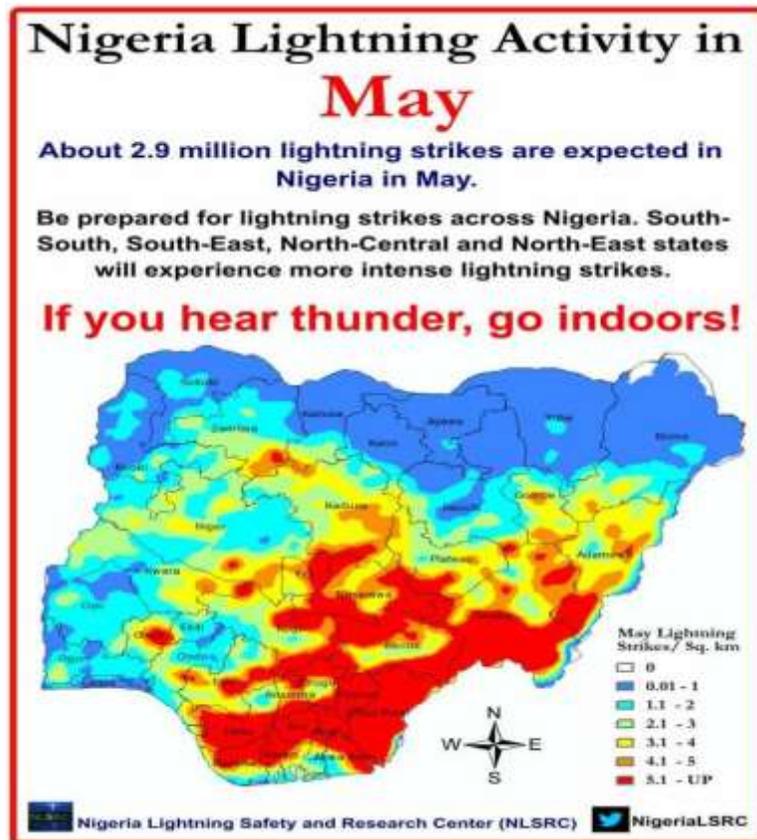
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Special Release

05 May, 2023

### SAFETY MEASURES DURING THUNDERSTORM AND LIGHTNING EVENTS

Members of the University Community are hereby informed that there was a high level warning towards the end of April, 2023 by the Nigeria Lightning Safety and Research Center (NLSRC) (Figure 1), that we shall experience occasions of thunderstorms and lightning across Nigeria in the month of May 2023, most especially in the South eastern regions. However, it should be noted that when such forecast is made, all other regions should be prepared for its occurrence too.



Source: <https://nigeriaLsrc.org/>

Figure 1: Map of Nigeria showing Pattern of Thunderstorm across the states in 2023.

Disaster risk reduction strategies are important for mitigating the effects of thunderstorms and lightning. Specifically, this early warning alert should not be discredited or not given attention. It is very important to adhere to the following safety rules to mitigate the impact of these thunderstorms and lightning to avert sudden death, fires or any form of disaster.

1. Install lightning arrestors in your buildings or make sure you confirm that the existing ones are still functional (see experts).
2. Always check the weather forecast frequently before participating in outdoor activities (available on phones).
3. Stay indoor whenever there is lightning and thunderstorm.
4. While indoor during thunderstorm, always stay away from doors, windows, verandas, bathtubs or any electric conductors.
5. Adopt 30/30 lightning safety rule that says that always go indoor after seeing lightning. You cannot count to 30 before hearing thunder. Stay indoor for 30 minutes having the last clap of thunder.
6. Use surge arrestors for sensitive electronic equipment that are vulnerable to lightning. Surge arrestors help to filter and dissipate harmful surges, thereby protecting against electric fires and discharges that can damage building electrical systems, computer appliances and other systems.
7. Switch off all electrical appliances e.g., inverters, televisions, radio, and computers when there are thick rain forming clouds.
8. Do not walk barefooted.
9. Do not cross the lawn recklessly as there are some exposed underground cables around that could be threats to lives and properties.
10. Make a family communication plan and an emergency kit.
11. If you are in a group, spread out very well to avoid electric current passing from person to person.
12. Avoid contact with water, do not wash or take your bath during thunderstorm.

**BE VIGILANT!!! KEEP SAFE!!!**

## **MANAGEMENT**