



Launch Mission Execution Forecast

Mission: Falcon 9 Starlink 5-6

Issued: 1 May 2023 / 0830L (1230Z)

Valid: 4 May 2023 / 0319 – 0712L (0719 – 1112Z)



Forecast Discussion: A dry and very stable air mass has moved across the Florida peninsula in the wake of Sunday's cold frontal passage. Expect high pressure to be in control of the weather throughout most of the rest of the week. This will maintain the stable air mass through at least Friday. Northwest winds will persist through mid-week giving way to easterly winds on Thursday. It is not too likely that there will be much in the way of cloud cover, but if there are some clouds, they will likely be cumulus clouds. Therefore, the primary weather concern for launch day is the Cumulus Cloud Rule.

In the event of a 24-hour delay, expect very similar weather conditions on the backup day. The only real difference is a shift in the wind direction which will become east. Once again, very little in the way of cloud cover is expected. If there are clouds, they will likely be cumulus and the primary weather concern is the Cumulus Cloud Rule.

		Probability of Violating Weather Constraints ¹			
Launch Day	5%	Primary Concerns: Cumulus Cloud Rule			
	Weather Conditions			Additional Risk Criteria ²	
	Weather/Visibility: None / 7 mi.	Clouds			Upper-Level Wind Shear: Low
	Temp/Humidity: 66°F / 70%	Type	Coverage	Base (ft)	Tops (ft)
Liftoff Winds (200'): 330° 10 - 15 mph	Cumulus	Few	2,000	4,000	Booster Recovery Weather: Low
					Solar Activity: Low
		Probability of Violating Weather Constraints			
24-Hour Delay	5%	Primary Concerns: Cumulus Cloud Rule			
	Weather Conditions			Additional Risk Criteria	
	Weather/Visibility: None / 7 mi.	Clouds			Upper-Level Wind Shear: Low
	Temp/Humidity: 68°F / 76%	Type	Coverage	Base (ft)	Tops (ft)
Liftoff Winds (200'): 090° 10 - 15 mph	Cumulus	Few	2,000	4,000	Booster Recovery Weather: Low
					Solar Activity: Low
Notes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Probability of Violation (PoV) is the chance of a local safety or customer constraint violation occurring any random time during the launch window. Additional Risk Criteria, which are not included in the PoV, are mission-specific constraints that may not include all phenomena within each risk factor. 				
	See https://www.patrick.spaceforce.mil/Portals/14/Weather/LaunchFAQ.pdf for more information				
Next Forecast Will Be Issued		2 May 2023			