



Many people don't prepare for tornadoes in advance. By the time they get an alert on their TV or phone, it may be too late.

Research conducted by the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) indicates that Americans could be better informed about tornado safety and better prepared when a tornado strikes. A survey of residents in tornado-prone states in the U.S. reveals how much we really know about these storms and whether **we're #TornadoStrong.**

88%

of U.S. counties were under a tornado watch at some point over the last five years



But the majority of people think it's only

26-75% of counties

WAIT, TORNADO WATCH OR WARNING?

1/2 of people mistake a tornado watch as a tornado warning



**Tornado
Watch:
Be Prepared!**

Tornadoes are possible in and near your area.



Be ready to act if a warning is issued or you think a tornado is approaching.

**Tornado
Warning:
Take Action!**

A tornado has been spotted in the area or picked up on radar.



Move to a safe room or interior room on the lowest floor of a sturdy building. Avoid windows.

SEEKING SHELTER WHEN A TORNADO STRIKES



INSIDE HOME

- Get inside a certified shelter, FEMA safe room, basement, or storm cellar.
- Go to a small, interior room on the lowest level.
- Stay away from windows, doors, and outside walls.

OUTSIDE HOME

DO:



Get inside a sturdy building if possible.



Take cover in a low, flat area like a ditch or ravine.



In a car, get down and cover your head.

DON'T:



Go in a shed or storage facility.



Try to outrun a tornado in a car.



Get under an overpass or bridge.

NOT ALL SAFE PLACES ARE CREATED EQUAL

People may confuse a “safe room” with a “safe space” in their home like an interior room or closet.

SAFE SPACE

an interior room with no windows or a basement

VS

SAFE ROOM

a room built to withstand storms

Less than half of people have a tornado safe room* even though they provide near-absolute protection in winds up to 250 mph

*consistent with FEMA guidance or meeting International Code Council/National Storm Shelter Association 500 standard