



Summary of Natural Hazard Statistics for 2013 in the United States



This National Weather Service (NWS) report summarizes fatalities, injuries and damages caused by severe weather in 2013. The NWS Office of Climate, Water and Weather Services and the National Climatic Data Center compiled this Summary of U.S. Natural Hazard Statistics from Storm Data, a report comprising statistics from NWS forecast offices in the 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

Summary of 2013 Weather Events, Fatalities, Injuries, and Damage Costs

Weather Event	Fatalities	Injuries	Property Damage (million \$)	Crop Damage (million \$)	Total Damage (million \$)
Convection					
Lightning	23	145	23.90	0.06	23.96
Tornado	55	756	3,642.17	6.60	3,648.76
Thunderstorm Wind	17	120	626.93	51.04	677.96
Hail	0	4	1,245.72	75.07	1,320.79
Extreme Temperatures					
Cold	24	2	159.96	459.35	619.31
Heat	92	1519	2.08	0.00	2.08
Flood					
Flash Flood	60	25	957.03	22.45	979.48
River Flood	22	8	1,215.71	49.41	1,265.12
Marine					
Coastal Storm	0	0	23.94	0.00	23.94
Tsunami	0	2	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rip Current	63	57	10.00	0.00	10.00
Tropical Cyclones					
Tropical Storm / Hurricane	1	0	10.11	0.20	10.31
Winter					
Winter Storm	21	50	345.00	0.00	345.00
Ice	0	0	89.74	0.01	89.74
Avalanche	21	21	0.00	0.00	0.00

Other					
Drought	0	0	15.09	3,705.99	3,721.08
Dust Storm	0	0	2.29	0.00	2.29
Dust Devil	0	6	0.05	0.00	0.05
Rain	5	10	3.81	0.05	3.86
Fog	1	1	3.06	0.00	3.06
High Wind	19	15	77.86	4.40	82.26
Waterspout	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fire Weather	20	24	355.81	0.39	356.20
Mud Slide	1	0	7.15	0.00	7.15
Volcanic Ash	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	3	2	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	448	2767	8,817.39	4,375.00	13,192.39

Summary of 2013 Natural Hazard Statistics

For the second consecutive year, weather-related deaths dropped significantly. In 2013 there were 448 weather related deaths, down from 538 in 2012 and less than half the 2011 total of 1,096 victims. The 2013 number is below the 10-year average (2003-2012) of 642 deaths. Heat was again the most deadly hazard in 2013, claiming 92 victims, but down from 156 deaths in 2012. River and flash flooding were the next most deadly hazard with 82 fatalities, followed by rip currents, 63 victims.

Of the 2013 weather-related deaths, males as usual accounted for more deaths 305 (68%), than females, 125 (28%), with 4% unknown. This gender breakdown is typical. In most years, there are almost twice as many male victims of extreme weather as female, a pattern likely reflecting the higher percentage of men who hold outdoor jobs such as construction and who take part in sports and other outside activities such as fishing and boating. In 2013, males were more likely to be victims in all age ranges except the 80+ categories, where the percentage of women who reach this age range exceeds that of men.

Which was the deadliest month? As in 2012, extreme heat pushed July to the top, followed by May and June, which brought tornadoes and heat.

In 2013, weather related injuries and illnesses numbered 2,767 up slightly from the 2012 total of 2,653, but down dramatically from the 2011 total of 8,859. Heat again caused the most weather related illnesses with 1,519 up from 1,062 in 2012. Tornadoes took a grim second place with 756 injuries, down from 822 in 2012. Lightning resulted in 145 injuries in 2012.

Which state had the most dangerous weather in 2012? Oklahoma, with 49 casualties, took that dubious honor from New York, which numbered 58 weather-related fatalities in 2012. A large number of the Oklahoma deaths were due to tornadoes and flash flooding. Nevada was the next hardest hit, with 42 deaths, all victims of extreme heat. Illinois again made the top three most dangerous states list with 39 victims, with almost half, 16, victims of extreme cold.

Total damages from weather in 2013 were just a third of the 2012 total. Extreme weather caused approximately \$13.2 billion in combined property and crop damages in 2013, down from the 2012 total of \$38.9 billion.

Property damages were estimated at \$8.8 billion, only about a quarter of the 2012 total: \$32.8 billion. The most costly weather culprit was tornadoes, which caused \$3.6 billion in damages, followed by flash and river flooding, \$2.2 billion, and hail, \$1.2 billion. Crop damages in 2013 totaled about \$4.4 billion. Drought caused more crop damage than all other weather hazards combined, \$3.7 billion.

2013 Summary of Fatalities for All Hazards by Age and Gender

	Female	Male	Unknown	Total	Percent
0 to 9	12	20	1	33	7.37
10 to 19	6	20	0	26	5.80
20 to 29	11	44	1	56	12.50
30 to 39	13	44	0	57	12.72
40 to 49	8	30	0	38	8.48
50 to 59	15	48	0	63	14.06
60 to 69	22	43	0	65	14.51
70 to 79	10	27	0	37	8.26
80 to 89	15	15	0	30	6.70
90 to --	5	0	0	5	1.12
Unknown	8	14	16	38	8.48
Total	125	305	18	448	
Percent	27.90	68.08	4.02		

2013 Monthly Weather Related Fatalities

