



Summary of Natural Hazard Statistics for 2007 in the United States



This National Weather Service (NWS) report summarizes fatalities, injuries and damages caused by severe weather in 2007. 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 2007 Weather Events, Fatalities, Injuries, and Damage Costs

Weather Event	Fatalities	Injuries	Property Damage (million \$)	Crop Damage (million \$)	Total Damage (million \$)
Convection					
Lightning	45	138	82.06	0.06	82.12
Tornado	81	659	1,400.76	6.77	1,407.52
Thunderstorm Wind	18	256	238.17	191.42	429.60
Hail	0	25	558.76	154.67	713.42
Extreme Temperatures					
Cold	47	174	3.04	2,386.59	2,389.64
Heat	105	1886	0.00	0.00	0.00
Flood					
Flash Flood	70	51	1,227.77	49.89	1,277.66
River Flood	17	8	512.37	518.41	1,030.78
Marine					
Coastal Storm	0	6	93.37	0.00	93.37
Tsunami	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rip Current	57	16	7.57	0.00	7.57
Tropical Cyclones					
Tropical Storm / Hurricane	1	13	38.80	0.01	38.80
Winter					
Winter Storm	9	159	101.00	0.23	101.23
Ice	7	11	1,379.81	0.00	1,379.81
Avalanche	18	12	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other					
Drought	0	0	3.43	1,528.66	1,532.08
Dust Storm	0	4	0.95	0.00	0.95
Dust Devil	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rain	2	8	78.57	2.05	80.62

Fog	0	3	0.45	0.00	0.45
High Wind	16	76	257.42	1.22	258.64
Waterspout	0	0	0.07	0.00	0.07
Fire Weather	19	225	1,370.19	43.61	1,413.80
Mud Slide	3	3	51.15	0.00	51.15
Volcanic Ash	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	515	3733	7,405.70	4,883.58	12,289.28

Summary of 2007 Natural Hazard Statistics

Happily, weather-related deaths were down in 2007 to 515 fatalities from 566. This number is below the 10-year average (1998-2007) of 649. Heat was again the most deadly weather, claiming 105 lives in 2007, but down from 253 deaths in 2006. Flooding was again the second most deadly weather, claiming 87 lives, followed closely by tornadoes, which killed 81 people.

Of the 515 weather-related fatalities, males again accounted for more than twice as many deaths (347) as females (142), a common pattern reflecting the higher percentage of men who hold outdoor jobs such as construction, and who take part in sports and other outside activities. Males were more likely to be victims in all age ranges except the under 9 year old and 80-89 year old categories.

Although weather related fatalities were down in 2007, weather related injuries and illnesses were again up from the previous year. There were 3,733 reported weather-related injuries/illnesses in 2007, up from 3,489 in 2006 and 1,834 in 2005. Mirroring fatality number, heat was by far the biggest contributor to weather illnesses with 1,886, followed by tornadoes with 659 injuries, thunderstorm and high winds with 274 injuries.

August was the deadliest month in 2007, claiming 107 victims, most from extreme heat, followed by February, which numbered 74 deaths largely a result of winter storms, ice and avalanches.

Which state has the most dangerous weather in 2007? Texas numbered the most fatalities with 71, followed by Florida with 51 and California with 48.

Extreme weather caused approximately \$12.29 billion in combined property and crop damages in 2007. Property damages were estimated to top \$7.4 billion, down from just under \$8 billion in 2006. In contrast to 2006 and 2005 when flooding and hurricanes were the most damaging weather, cold, drought, wildfires, tornadoes and ice caused the most total damage in 2007. Cold weather accounted for \$2.4 billion in crop damages and drought cost farmers 1.5 billion. Tornadoes caused the most property damage at \$1.4 billion, followed closely by ice.

California took the biggest hit in terms of damages in 2007 with about \$1.4 billion in both property and crop damages for a total of 2.8 in losses. The next hardest hit state was Georgia with \$973 million in crop losses and \$217 million in property damages. Coming in third in the damage category was Missouri with \$779 million in crop losses and \$13 million property damages.

2007 Summary of Fatalities for All Hazards by Age and Gender

	Female	Male	Unknown	Total	Percent
0 to 9	11	8	0	19	3.69
10 to 19	14	29	0	43	8.35
20 to 29	13	56	0	69	13.40
30 to 39	9	26	0	35	6.80
40 to 49	10	52	1	63	12.23
50 to 59	17	57	0	74	14.37
60 to 69	14	38	0	52	10.10
70 to 79	21	42	0	63	12.23
80 to 89	22	14	0	36	6.99
90 to --	4	5	0	9	1.75
Unknown	7	20	25	52	10.10
Total	142	347	26	515	
Percent	27.57	67.38	5.05		

2007 Monthly Weather Related Fatalities

