



Summary of Natural Hazard Statistics for 2006 in the United States



This National Weather Service (NWS) report summarizes fatalities, injuries and damages caused by severe weather in 2006. 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 2006 Weather Events, Fatalities, Injuries, and Damage Costs

LAST UPDATED : 3/25/2008

<u>Weather Event</u>	<u>Fatalities</u>	<u>Injuries</u>	<u>Amount of Property Damage (M)</u>	<u>Amount of Crop Damage (M)</u>	<u>Total Prop/Crop Damage (M)</u>
<u>Convection</u>					
Lightning	48	246	\$ 63.8	\$ 0.0	\$ 63.8
Tornado	67	990	752.3	6.7	759.0
Tstm Wind	14	249	408.0	31.1	439.1
Hail	0	18	1,569.4	132.9	1,702.3
<u>Extreme Temperatures</u>					
Cold	2	5	0.0	11.9	11.9
Heat	253	1513	0.2	492.5	492.7
<u>Flood</u>					
Flash Flood	59	18	2,136.6	104.9	2,241.5
River Flood	17	5	1,631.1	95.2	1,726.3
Small Stream/Urban Flood	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<u>Marine</u>					
Coastal Storm	7	16	55.1	0.0	55.1
Tsunami	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Rip Current	23	24	0.0	0.0	0.0
<u>Tropical Cyclones</u>					
Tropical Storm/Hurricane	0	1	2.4	43.3	45.7
<u>Winter</u>					
Winter Storm	17	109	571.0	0.0	571.0
Ice	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Avalanche	11	6	0.0	0.0	0.0
<u>Other</u>					
Drought	0	4	138.0	2,498.1	2,636.1
Dust Storm	2	22	0.7	2.3	3.0
Dust Devil	0	1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Rain	1	4	52.4	49.7	102.1
Fog	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
High Wind	26	133	195.0	15.2	210.2
Waterspout	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fire Weather	0	0	192.4	0.0	192.4
Mud Slide	3	2	58.9	20.0	78.9
Volcanic Ash	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous	17	126	157.3	232.7	390.0
TOTALS	567	3492	\$7,984.6M	\$3,736.5M	\$11,721.1M

Summary of 2006 Natural Hazard Statistics

After the horrific losses in 2005 (1,451), largely from Hurricane Katrina, weather-related deaths were down in 2006 to 566. This number is below the 10-year average (1997-2006) of 649. Heat was by the far the most deadly weather in 2006, claiming 253 lives, followed by flooding with 76 victims and tornadoes, which caused 67 deaths.

Of the 566 weather-related fatalities, males accounted for more than twice as many deaths (378) as females (181), a fairly normal pattern. Males were more likely to be victims in all age ranges except the 90+ category, which likely reflects the fact that fewer males than females live into their 90s.

Although weather related fatalities were down in 2006, injuries were up. There were 3,489 weather-related injuries in 2006, up from 1,834 in 2005 and 2,428 in 2004. In 2006, heat was by far the biggest contributor to injuries with 1513, followed by tornadoes with 989 injuries, thunderstorm and high winds with 380 injuries and lightning with 246.

July and August were the deadliest months in 2006. July claimed 160 victims, most of whom were likely victims of extreme heat, while August numbered 144 victims, again most likely victims of extreme heat. California numbered the most fatalities with 79 victims, 65 of which were heat related. New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois followed with 48, 46 and 45 losses respectively. New York and Illinois each lost 42 residents to extreme heat, while Pennsylvania numbered 29 heat victims and 9 flood deaths. Tennessee lost 40 citizens, 34 from tornado outbreaks.

Severe weather caused approximately \$11.72 billion in total damages in 2006. Property damages were estimated to top \$7.98 billion, down dramatically from \$96.7 billion in 2005. In contrast to the previous 2 years when hurricanes were the most damaging weather, flooding caused the most property damage in 2006 with an estimated \$3.97 billion in claims. Hail accounted for \$1.7 billion in losses and tornadoes contributed another 759 million in damages.

Crop damages for 2006 totaled \$3.7 billion. The biggest contributor was drought, which cost farmers \$2.5 billion in lost crops. Texas took the biggest hit on crops with \$2.43 billion, followed by California with \$706 million.

2006 Summary of all Natural Hazards

2006 SUMMARY OF FATALITIES FOR ALL HAZARDS BY AGE AND GENDER

	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>UNKNOWN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
0 TO 9	9	17	0	26	5
10 TO 19	10	28	0	38	7
20 TO 29	18	30	0	48	8
30 TO 39	9	39	0	48	8
40 TO 49	24	58	0	82	14
50 TO 59	27	67	0	94	17
60 TO 69	20	51	0	71	13
70 TO 79	26	29	0	55	10
80 TO 89	26	34	0	60	11
90 TO --	9	7	0	16	3
UNKNOWN	3	18	7	28	5
TOTAL	181	378	7	566	100
PERCENT	32	67	1	100	

2006 MONTHLY WEATHER RELATED FATALITIES

