

TORNADO TIPS

Know the facts and figures in your area

TRAVELERS

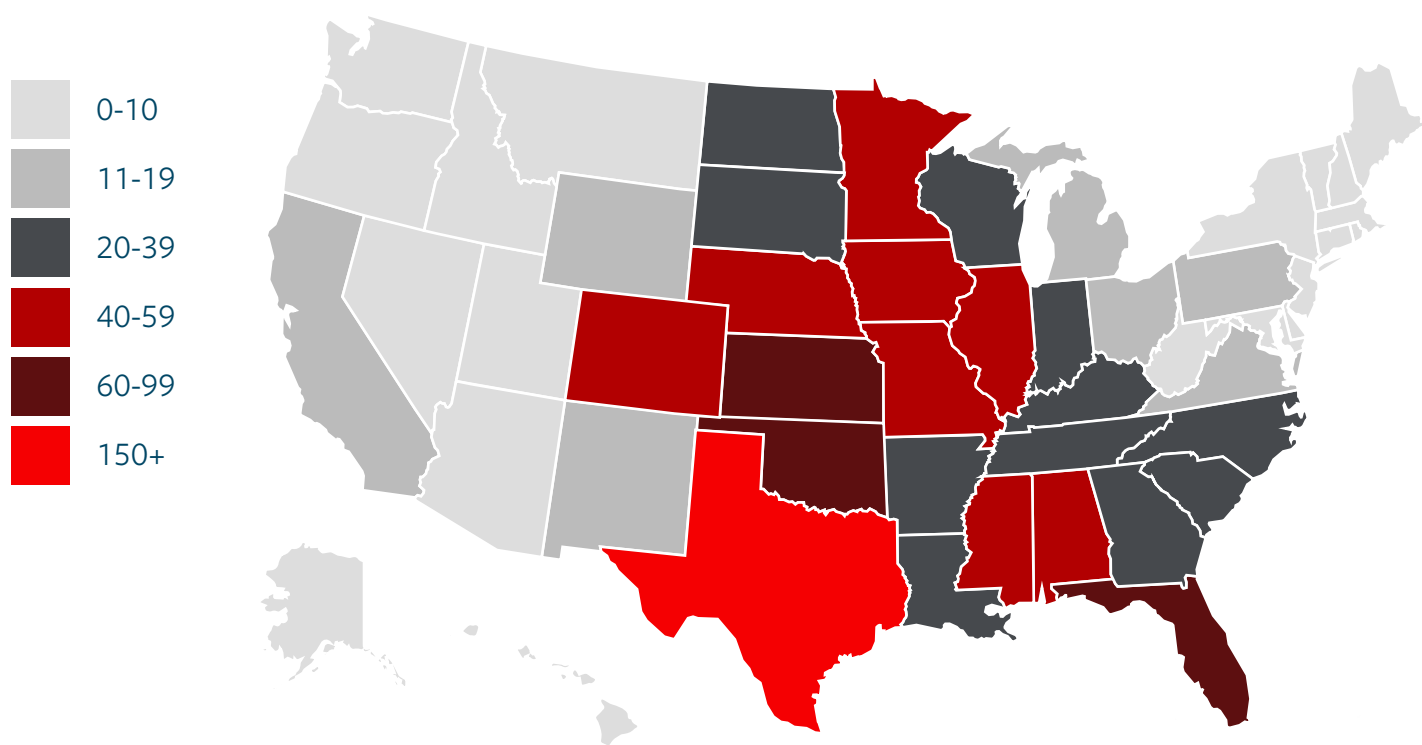
WHEN DO THEY OCCUR?



Tornadoes can occur any time of the year, with a peak in the U.S. from March to July.¹

AVERAGE ANNUAL NUMBER OF TORNADOES

1991-2010²



The U.S. is home to more tornadoes than any other country in the world.³

Every state in the continental U.S. has reported tornadoes.⁴

WHAT TO LOOK FOR



SKIES THAT TURN DARK AND OFTEN GREEN⁵



A WALL CLOUD (AN ABRUPT LOWERING OF A CLOUD TOWARDS THE GROUND)⁶



SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS WITH LIGHTNING, HEAVY RAIN AND SOMETIMES HAIL⁷



A ROARING SOUND SIMILAR TO A FREIGHT TRAIN⁸

If a tornado watch is issued, take precaution.

- Conditions are favorable for tornadoes.
- Do not wait for it to become a tornado warning.

When a warning is issued, a tornado is imminent.

- Tornadoes can occur rapidly without notice.
- One has either been spotted or is expected to develop.

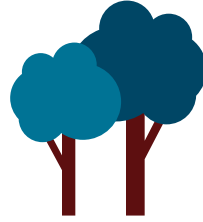
HOW TO RESPOND



IF YOU ARE INSIDE A HOUSE, SEEK SHELTER IN THE BASEMENT.⁹



IF YOU ARE IN A MOBILE HOME, LEAVE THE HOME AND GO TO A SHELTER.¹⁰



IF THERE IS NO SHELTER NEARBY, LIE FLAT IN THE NEAREST DITCH, RAVINE OR CULVERT AND SHIELD YOUR HEAD WITH YOUR HANDS.¹¹



IF THERE IS NO BASEMENT, REMAIN IN THE CENTER PART OF THE HOUSE ON A LOWER LEVEL AND AWAY FROM WINDOWS. MAKE SURE HEAVY OBJECTS (E.G., PIANO, REFRIGERATOR, ETC.) ARE NOT ON THE LEVEL ABOVE YOU. THESE ITEMS CAN FALL THROUGH THE FLOOR IF A TORNADO STRIKES THE HOUSE.¹²



GET UNDER SOMETHING STURDY, SUCH AS A HEAVY TABLE OR WORKBENCH. IF POSSIBLE, COVER YOUR BODY WITH A BLANKET, SLEEPING BAG, OR MATTRESS, AND PROTECT YOUR HEAD WITH ANYTHING AVAILABLE—EVEN YOUR HANDS.¹³

HOW DAMAGING ARE THEY?

1274¹⁴

TORNADOES ON AVERAGE PER YEAR BETWEEN 2001 AND 2011

70¹⁵

DEATHS ON AVERAGE PER YEAR

1500¹⁶

INJURIES ON AVERAGE PER YEAR

318¹⁷

MILES PER HOUR: THE RECORD WIND SPEED OF THE WORST TORNADOES

2.6¹⁸

MILES: THE RECORD WIDTH OF A TORNADO

219¹⁹

MILES: THE RECORD DAMAGE PATH OF A TORNADO IN LENGTH

KNOW WHAT TO DO

when it comes to tornadoes

SHARE THIS INFOGRAPHIC with your family, friends and neighbors to help them **#ThinkSafe**.

VISIT travelers.com/prepare-prevent to learn more.

¹ <http://farmersalmanac.com/weather/2014/03/17/our-2014-tornado-season-forecast>
^{2,3,4} <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/climate-information/extreme-events/us-tornado-climatology>
^{5,8,9,10,11,12} <http://www.ready.gov/tornadoes>
⁶ <http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster/tornado>
⁷ <http://www.ready.gov/thunderstorms-lightning>
¹³ <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/tornadoes/during.asp>
¹⁴ <http://www.ppi.noaa.gov/wp-content/uploads/PPI-Weather-Econ-Stats-10-13-11.pdf>
^{15,16} <http://www.noaa.gov/features/protecting/grumpyweather.html>
¹⁷ <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/oun/?n=events-19990503-may3faqs>
¹⁸ <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/tornadoes/2013/13>
¹⁹ <http://www.noaaneews.noaa.gov/stories/s393.htm>

