



#### Lightning Fatalities by State, 1959-2017

### Lightning Fatalities Weighted by Population by State, 1959-2017





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> Ronald L. Holle Vaisala, Inc. Tucson, Arizona Updated May 2018

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### Rank of Population-Weighted Lightning Deaths per Year by State from 1959 to 2017

State	Death Rate Per Million People from 1959-2017	Rank of Death Rate Per Million	State	Death Rate Per Million People from 1959-2017	Rank of Death Rate Per Million
Wyoming	1.19	1	Missouri	0.33	26
New Mexico	1.12	2	North Dakota	0.32	27
Arkansas	0.94	3	Georgia	0.32	28
Colorado	0.80	4	Wisconsin	0.27	29
Florida	0.76	5	Indiana	0.27	30
Mississippi	0.73	6	Minnesota	0.26	31
Montana	0.62	7	Texas	0.25	32
Louisiana	0.61	8	West Virginia	0.24	33
South Dakota	0.60	9	Ohio	0.23	34
Utah	0.58	10	Puerto Rico	0.20	35
Oklahoma	0.57	11	Michigan	0.20	36
North Carolina	0.53	12	Virginia	0.20	37
Alabama	0.52	13	Pennsylvania	0.19	38
South Carolina	0.52	14	New Jersey	O.17	39
Vermont	0.52	15	Illinois	0.15	40
Tennessee	0.51	16	New Hampshire	0.14	41
Nebraska	0.48	17	Rhode Island	0.14	42
Maryland	0.48	18	New York	0.13	43
Idaho	0.46	19	D.C.	0.13	44
Kansas	0.46	20	Nevada	0.10	45
Kentucky	0.45	21	Massachusetts	0.09	46
lowa	0.44	22	Connecticut	0.09	47
Arizona	0.43	23	Oregon	0.06	48
Maine	0.40	24	California	0.02	49
Delaware	0.40	25	Washington	0.02	50
			Alaska	0	51
			Hawaii	0	51

The lightning fatality data were collected by NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). They come from monthly and annual summaries compiled by the National Weather Service and published in monthly issues of Storm Data.

This table for the earlier period from 1959 to 1994 is included in the following article:

Curran, E.B., R.L. Holle, and R.E. López, 2000: Lightning casualties and damages in the United States from 1959 to 1994. Journal of Climate, 13, 3448-3453.



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## Number of Lightning Deaths by State from 1959 to 2017

State	Deaths 1959-2017	Rank of Deaths	State	Deaths 1959-2017	Rank of Deaths	
Florida	498	1	Nebraska	45	31	
Texas	226	2	California	34	32	
North Carolina	200	3	Puerto Rico	34	32	
Colorado	148	4	Massachusetts	32	34	
Ohio	148	4	Wyoming	30	35	
_ouisiana	146	6	Montana	29	36	
New York	143	7	Idaho	27	37	
Fennessee	141	8	Maine	27	37	
Pennsylvania	134	9	West Virginia	26	39	
Arkansas	126	10	South Dakota	25	40	
Maryland	126	10	Connecticut	17	41	
Alabama	121	12	Vermont	16	42	
Georgia	114	13	Delaware	15	43	
Michigan	110	14	North Dakota	12	44	
Mississippi	109	15	Oregon	9	45	
llinois	104	16	New Hampshire	8	46	
Missouri	101	17	Rhode Island	8	46	
South Carolina	101	17	Nevada	7	48	
Dklahoma	100	19	D.C.	5	49	
Kentucky	97	20	Washington	5	49	
New Mexico	93	21	Alaska	0	51	
ndiana	90	22	Hawaii	0	51	
Arizona	84	23				
owa	74	24	UNITED STATES	4136		
New Jersey	74	24	<u></u>			
√irginia	67	26				
Kansas	66	26				
Wisconsin	65	28	Two deaths occurred in Guam, and one death each occurred in			
Minnesota	64	29				
Jtah	55	30	American Samoa and the U.S. Virgin Islands during the period.			

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