

Annual Disaster/Death Statistics for US Storms

1. Tornadoes

- **The United States averages about 1000 recorded tornadoes every year.** (www.tornadoproject.com)
- **Annually tornadoes cause an average of 1,500 injuries** (www.nssl.noaa.gov)
- **On average, 80 deaths each year are directly attributed to the 1000 tornadoes reported** (www.nssl.noaa.gov)

2. Thunderstorms

- **Number of thunderstorms occurring in the United States a year: 100,000** (www.naturalhazards.org)
- **Injuries:**
 - i. 1,700 injuries per year due to flash floods
 - ii. lightning injures 300 people in the U.S. each year (www.pathnet.org)
- **Deaths:**
 - i. floods from thunderstorms have accounted for about 70 deaths per year
 - ii. lightning has caused an average of 55 fatalities per year
 - iii. thunderstorm winds cause an average of 31 deaths per year
 - iv. hail causes an average of one (www.gweather.com)

3. Hurricanes

- **A total of ten tropical cyclones reaching storm strength with six of these becoming hurricanes and two of those actually striking the coast of the U.S.** (www.aoml.noaa.gov)
- **Injuries:**
 - i. hurricanes cause 60 injuries per year
- **Nationwide, hurricanes annually account for an average of 17 deaths** (www.lope.state.la.us)

4. Shelters

- **Since 1980, approximately 20,000-30,000 shelters have been built** (exact count unavailable: Larry Tanner, P.E., Wind Science and Engineering Research Center)
- **Approximately 10,000 lives are saved each year due to shelters and emergency plans** (www.fema.gov)
- **36% of Americans do not have emergency preparedness plans**