



Iowa Tornado Statistics



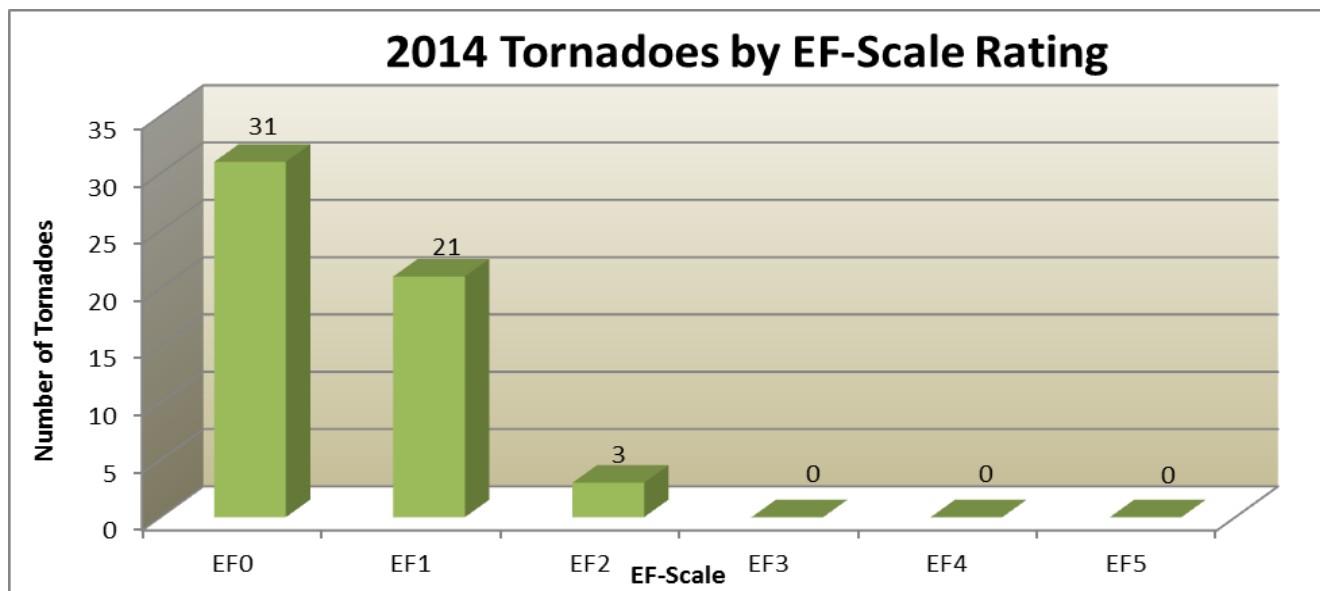
2014

Compiled by: Craig Cogil

Total Number of Tornadoes: 55
Number of Injuries: 0
Number of Deaths: 2 – both in Keokuk County on April 27th
Path Length of All Tornadoes: 211.1 miles
Average Path Length: 3.8 miles
Average Width: 133 Yards
Longest Path Length Individual Tornado: 45.7 miles
Largest Width Individual Tornado: 1600 Yards (0.9 miles wide)
Peak Hour of Tornado Occurrence: 7 – 8 PM CST
Peak Month of Tornado Occurrence: June
Most Tornadoes in a Day: June 16th with 12
Number of Tornado Days: 15

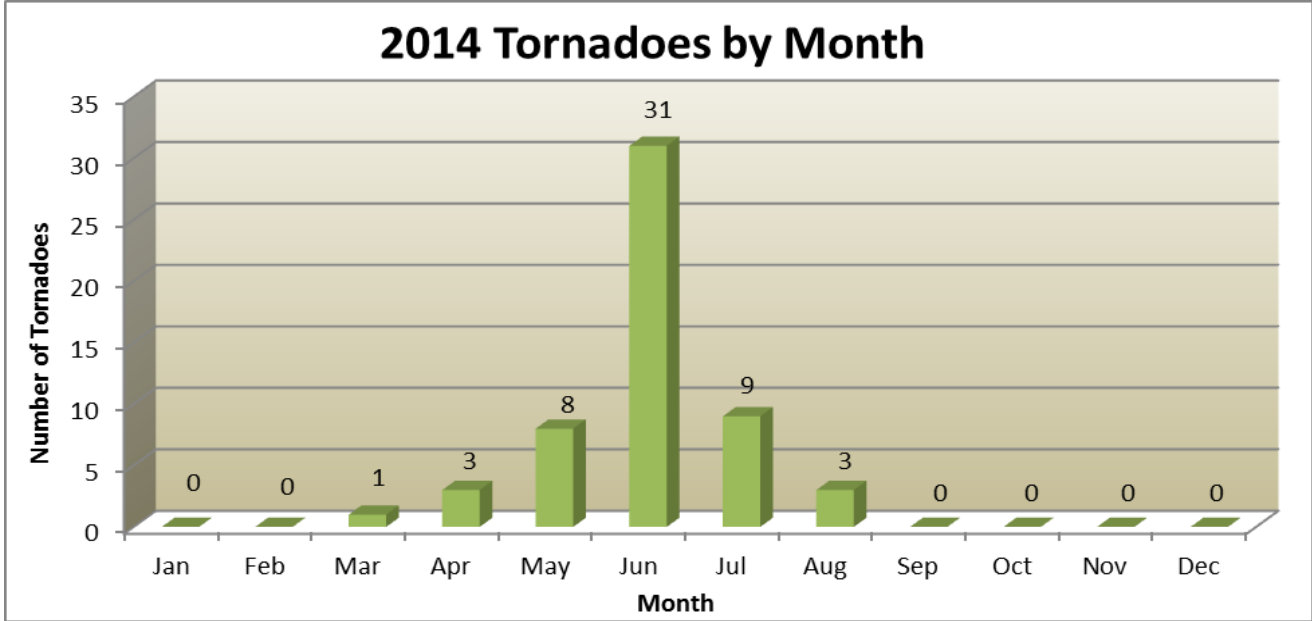
Tornadoes by EF-Scale:

EF0	EF1	EF2	EF3	EF4	EF5
31	21	3	0	0	0
56.4%	38.2%	5.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%



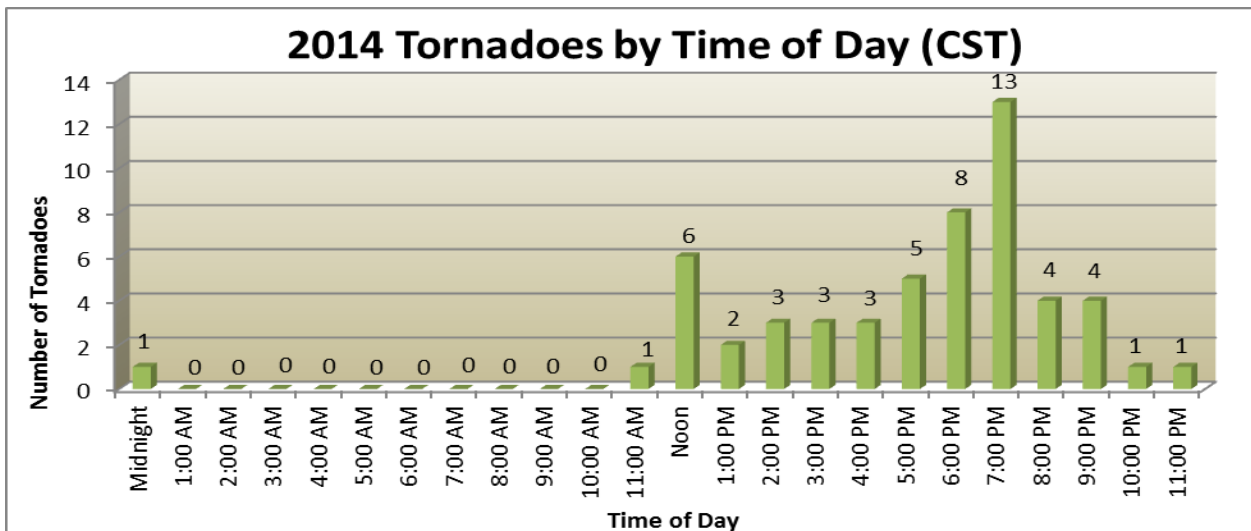
Tornadoes by Month:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
0	0	1	3	8	31	9	3	0	0	0	0
0%	0%	2%	5%	15%	56%	17%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%



Tornadoes by Time of Day (CST):

MID	1AM	2AM	3AM	4AM	5AM	6AM	7AM	8AM	9AM	10AM	11AM
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%
Noon	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM
6	2	3	3	3	5	8	13	4	4	1	1
11%	4%	5%	5%	5%	9%	15%	24%	7%	7%	2%	2%



2014 Iowa Tornado Summary

By: Kevin Skow

The year 2014 saw a substantial rebound in Iowa's tornado activity after two quiet years that set records for the earliest ending to the tornado season (2012) and longest stretch of time between tornadoes (359 days from 2012 - 2013). In fact, the 55 tornadoes recorded in 2014 is more than 2012 (16) and 2013 (28) combined and above the 46 tornadoes that Iowa sees in a typical tornado season (averaged over the years 1980-2014). Over half of the tornadoes this year were weak EF0s that were generally very short-lived. All but three of remaining tornadoes were rated EF1, and the three EF2 tornadoes caused limited damage at this magnitude. The monthly breakdown of tornado activity was fairly close to climatology as well, with June seeing the most tornadoes of any month of the year (31), followed by nine in July, eight in May, and three in August and April. The autumn months typically see minimal tornado activity, but late season outbreaks can be rather prolific as was shown on October 4, 2013.

The first tornado of the season caused some minor house damage near Osceola on March 27 and was followed by a weak tornado near Lone Tree on April 13. On April 27, a squall line produced a broad, intermittent tornado track along a 46 mile stretch from Wapello to Johnson County that unfortunately killed two people. Widespread straight-line wind damage also occurred in SE Iowa with this complex. All of May's tornadoes occurred on May 11, with three in NW Iowa and another four touching down in west central Iowa. Two of these tornadoes damaged trees, homes, and power lines along Lake Panorama.

The latter half of June witnessed multiple tornado events, starting on June 16 with 12 tornadoes skipping across the northern half of Iowa. Most of the tornadoes were rain-wrapped and embedded within a larger straight-line wind storm, but several isolated storms on the southern flank of the complex produced two highly visible tornadoes. Five tornadoes struck Iowa on June 29 and eight on June 30, one of which struck the town of Traer with damage up to EF2. Traer would just dodge a bullet a week later when a very photogenic tornado tracked just to the north and east of town on July 6. This tornado was one of nine tornadoes to touch down during that afternoon. One tornado skirted the town of Reinbeck while other highly visible tornadoes were reported in Hamilton, Butler, Jasper, Guthrie, and Benton counties. A brief tornado touched down in Emmet County on August 17 and caused no damage, followed by two touchdowns in Carroll and Webster counties on August 31 on the leading edge of a powerful squall line.

If you have any questions, please contact Craig Cogil at craig.cogil@noaa.gov