

Arkansas Weather Statistics for 2017

Tornadoes

(30 tornadoes, 0 fatalities, 13 injuries)

1. 8.6 miles southwest of El Dorado to 7.0 miles west of El Dorado (Union Co.), January 21, 704 PM - An EF1 tornado had a path length of 2.9 miles.
2. 10.9 miles east-southeast of El Dorado to 11.0 miles east of El Dorado (Union Co.), January 21, 738 PM - An EF0 tornado had a path length of 0.6 mile.
3. 2.0 miles west-northwest of Hamburg to 2.0 miles northwest of Hamburg (Ashley Co.), January 21, 845 PM - An EF0 tornado had a path length of 0.7 mile.
4. 1.0 mile west of Higginson to 0.5 mile north-northeast of Higginson (White Co.), February 28, 703 PM – An EF1 tornado had a path length of 1.4 miles. Four people were injured.
5. 1.3 miles south-southwest of Kensett to 0.2 mile southwest of Kensett (White Co.), February 28, 707 PM – An EF2 tornado had a path length of 1.1 miles. Two people were injured.
6. 1.0 mile south of Lamar to 1.0 mile south of Lamar (Johnson Co.), March 1, 129 AM – An EF1 tornado had a path length of 0.1 mile.
7. 4.9 miles east-northeast of Cleveland to 5.0 miles east-northeast of Cleveland (Conway Co.), March 1, 216 AM - An EF1 tornado had a path length of 1.0 mile.
8. 4.8 miles north of Center Ridge to 4.8 miles north-northeast of Center Ridge (Conway Co.), March 1, 218 AM – An EF0 tornado had a path length of 1.1 miles.
9. 2.0 miles east-northeast of Fairbanks to 2.0 miles north-northwest of Pearson (Cleburne Co.), March 1, 233 AM – An EF1 tornado had a path length of 3.9 miles.
10. 3.3 miles southwest of Possum Grape to 1.7 miles southeast of Possum Grape (Jackson Co.), March 1, 313 AM - An EF1 tornado had a path length of 4.2 miles.
11. 0.2 mile southeast of Diaz to 1.7 miles east-southeast of Diaz (Jackson Co.), March 1, 320 AM - An EF1 tornado had a path length of 1.6 miles.

12. 7.7 miles east of Winslow to 4.2 miles northwest of Combs (Washington and Madison Cos.), March 6, 1051 PM - An EF1 tornado had a path length of 6.4 miles.

13. 2.0 miles north of Mossville to 4.0 miles east-northeast of Saint Joe (Newton and Searcy Cos.), March 6, 1138 PM - An EF2 tornado had a path length of 36.7 miles. One person was injured.

14. 0.8 mile north-northwest of Black Rock to 0.8 mile north-northeast of Black Rock (Lawrence Co.), March 6, 237 AM - An EF0 tornado had a path length of 0.4 mile.

15. 3.0 miles south-southeast of Fountain Lake to 2.0 miles south-southeast of Fountain Lake (Garland Co.), March 24, 958 PM – An EF0 tornado had a path length of 1.4 miles.

16. 3.9 miles northwest of Glen Rose to 2.0 miles south-southeast of Nance (Hot Spring and Saline Cos.), March 24, 1031 PM – An EF2 tornado had a path length of 1.2 miles.

17. 1.0 mile south of Nance to 1.0 mile east of Nance (Saline Co.), March 24, 1032 PM – An EF1 tornado had a path length of 1.9 miles.

18. 2.7 miles north-northwest of Gibson to 2.0 miles northeast of Olmstead (Pulaski and Faulkner Cos.), March 24, 1120 PM – An EF2 tornado had a path length of 4.1 miles. Six people were injured.

19. 0.2 mile south of Marmaduke to 0.8 mile east of Marmaduke (Greene Co.), March 25, 134 AM – An EF0 tornado had a path length of 0.8 mile.

20. 1.8 miles northeast of Tag to 1.6 miles southwest of Solo (Pope Co.), March 29, 723 PM – An EF1 tornado had a path length of 2.4 miles.

21. 2.8 miles north-northeast of Bergman to 1.7 miles southwest of South Lead Hill (Boone Co.), April 4, 934 PM – An EF1 tornado had a path length of 3.4 miles.

22. 4.0 miles southwest of Beaver to 7.5 miles east-northeast of Holiday Island (Carroll Co.), April 26, 122 AM – An EF1 tornado had a path length of 13.1 miles. The tornado continued another 2.9 miles in Missouri (Barry and Stone Cos.) before dissipating.

23. 1.8 miles north-northwest of Chickalah to 1.9 miles north of Chickalah (Yell Co.), April 26, 1004 AM – An EF0 tornado had a path length of 0.5 mile.

24. 2.0 miles west-southwest of Bellefonte to 1.0 miles north of Bellefonte (Boone Co.), April 29, 316 PM– An EF1 tornado had a path length of 1.0 mile.
25. 4.0 miles north of Natural Dam to 4.9 miles north-northeast of Natural Dam (Crawford Co.), April 29, 457 PM– An EF1 tornado had a path length of 5.5 miles.
26. 2.0 miles north of Walker to 3.0 miles south-southeast of West Point (White Co.), April 30, 1237 AM – An EF1 tornado had a path length of 5.9 miles..
27. 4.0 miles south of Augusta to 4.0 miles south-southeast of Augusta (Woodruff Co.), April 30, 1257 AM – An EF0 tornado had a path length of 0.8 mile.
28. 1.4 miles west-southwest of Dell to 4.3 miles northeast of Dell (Mississippi Co.), April 30, 207 AM– An EF1 tornado had a path length of 5.6 miles.
29. 3.0 miles south-southwest of Tomberlin to Allport (Lonoke Co.), April 30, 215 AM– An EF1 tornado had a path length of 5.1 miles.
30. 4.0 miles north of Pleasant Grove to 5.0 miles east-southeast of Monticello (Drew Co.), April 30, 545 AM– An EF0 tornado had a path length of 1.2 miles.

Thunderstorm (Straight-Line) Winds (1 fatality, 3 injuries)

90 mph+...

- 5.5 miles east-northeast of Newport (Jackson Co.), March 1. Two people were injured.
- Fairfield Bay (Van Buren Co.), March 1
- Rover to Russellville, including Danville and Plainview (Pope and Yell Cos.), April 26

80 to 90 mph...

- Hagarville (Johnson Co.), March 1
- Clinton (Van Buren Co.), March 1
- Drasco (Cleburne Co.), March 1
- Ravenden Springs (Lawrence Co.), March 1
- Richwoods to Giles Spur (Lawrence Co.), March 1. There was an 87 mph gust measured.
- Hickman to Huffman (Mississippi Co.), March 1

75 to 80 mph...

0.9 miles northeast of Lisbon (Union Co.), January 16
Jerusalem (Conway Co.), March 1
Marshall (Searcy Co.), March 1
Big Flat (Baxter Co.), March 1
3 miles south-southwest of Salado (Independence Co.), March 1
Ravenden to Imboden (Lawrence Co.), March 1
Walnut Ridge (Lawrence Co.), March 1. There was a 76 mph gust measured.
Tyronza to Beasley (Poinsett Co.), March 1
0.7 miles east-northeast of Greenbrier (Faulkner Co.), March 1
Brinkley (Monroe Co.), April 26

Nance (Saline Co.), March 27, 300 AM – Thunderstorm winds less than 50 mph downed a tree onto a home. One person was injured. It is believed trees in the area were weakened by storms a few days prior to this event (on the 24th), with a weak tornado (rated EF1) tracking close to where the injury occurred (tornado number 17 on the list above).

DeWitt (Arkansas Co.), April 29, 555 PM – Damaging straight-line winds downed a tree onto a mobile home. A 65-year-old woman inside was killed.

Hail

(0 fatalities, 0 injuries)

4.00 inches

Bull Shoals (Marion Co.), May 11

2.75 inches

Omaha (Boone Co.), May 11
3 miles northeast of Cauthron (Logan Co.), May 11

2.50 inches...

1.9 miles east of Taylor (Columbia Co.), January 21
Monnie Springs (Pulaski Co.), February 28
Omaha (Boone Co.), March 9
4 miles south of Caulksville (Logan Co.), April 26
2 miles northeast of Alpena (Boone Co.), May 11
3 miles west of Bull Shoals (Marion Co.), May 11

2.00 inches...

3 miles north of Beebe (White Co.), February 28

4 miles north-northwest of Rye Hill (Sebastian Co.), April 28

Floods and Flash Floods

(8 fatalities, 0 injuries)

Erbie (Newton Co.), April 26 - A 65-year old man was canoeing with three others on a swollen Buffalo River. His canoe capsized, and his body was recovered several days later.

Springdale (Washington Co.), April 29 – A 10-year-old girl fell into a creek, was swept away, and drowned.

Eureka Springs (Carroll Co.), April 29 – A 24-year-old woman was inner tubing in a drainage ditch. Her body was found a half mile downstream.

Hindsville (Madison Co), April 29 – A 4-year old boy and 18-month-old girl were in a car that was pushed off a road by high water. Their bodies were eventually recovered.

Fayetteville (Washington Co.), April 30 – The body of a 76-year-old man was found in a vehicle that had been submerged in water.

West Little Rock (Pulaski Co.), April 30 – A woman’s body was discovered in Rock Creek. She was supposedly camping in a tent, and went missing after the water came up.

5 miles west-northwest of Paron (Saline Co.), April 30 – A group of kayakers was in high water along Alum Fork below a spillway on Lake Winona. One of the kayakers lost his life, and the others had to be rescued.

Investigating...Heber Springs (Cleburne Co.), May 5 – A kayaker disappeared on the Little Red River after departing John F. Kennedy Park. His body was discovered a short time later.

Note: A fire chief was killed near Quitman (Cleburne Co.) early on April 30th after being struck by a vehicle on Highway 25 during a torrential downpour. The death was indirectly related to the weather.

Lightning

(0 fatalities, 0 injuries)

No lightning fatalities/injuries have been reported.

Notes:

Severe weather events shown above in black have been certified for publication in *Storm Data*, which is published by the National Climatic Data Center. However, these entries are still subject to change if additional information is received or errors are found. Entries appearing in blue have not yet been certified for publication. Typically, certifications occur about two months after the end of a given month. For example, severe weather events that occurred in November will be certified for publication at the end of January.

Severe weather events will be added as soon as possible after they occur. However, because it often takes several days to survey tornado tracks after a large severe weather outbreak, it may be a week or more before tornadoes can be added to the listing.

Tornadoes shown above will sometimes be referenced as being a certain number of miles from a different town than was indicated in the preliminary report sent to the news media. When a storm survey team goes out, a laptop computer and a GPS device are used to mark the latitude and longitude of the beginning and ending points of a tornado, as well as some intermediate points along the track. At the conclusion of the survey, the points on the laptop are used to compute where the beginning and ending points of the tornado are in relation to nearby towns. For easy reference, the only towns used are those that appear on the official map published by the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department. This information is then sent to the news media, so that they can disseminate the information quickly. A few days or weeks afterwards, the latitude and longitude points are entered into the official Storm Data software that is used by the National Weather Service. This software then computes beginning and ending points in relation to towns that are listed in the Storm Data database. Some of the communities in the database are quite small, and it may be necessary to reference commercial map plotting software such as Mapquest or Google Earth to see the location of these communities. The points that the software computes for tornadoes are those shown in the listing above, and these are the points that will appear when *Storm Data* is published by the National Climatic Data Center.