



**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**  
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



## **2015 Top 10 Wisconsin Weather Events**

- ◊ Record Cold February
- ◊ June 22nd Wind Damage
- ◊ July 6th Flooding/Tornadoes
- ◊ July 13th Wind Damage/Tornadoes
  - ◊ August 2nd Hail
  - ◊ August 18th Tornadoes
  - ◊ Labor Day Flooding
- ◊ Low Number of SVR/TOR/FFW
- ◊ Record Warm Autumn/December
- ◊ December 28th Winter Storm

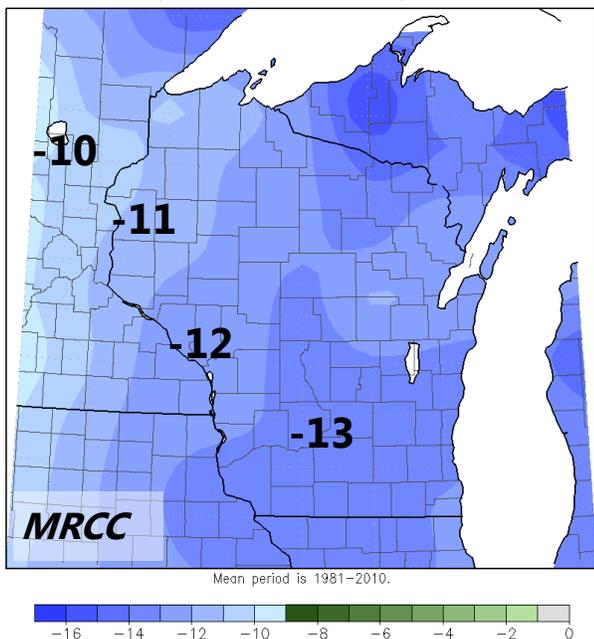
These weather events have been coordinated upon by the Warning Coordination Meteorologists from the National Weather Service offices in Duluth, Green Bay, La Crosse, Milwaukee and Minneapolis. These events are listed in chronological order. Much of the climate related information and maps are from the National Centers for Environmental Information ([www.ncei.noaa.gov](http://www.ncei.noaa.gov)) and the Midwest Regional Climate Center ([mcc.sws.uiuc.edu/](http://mcc.sws.uiuc.edu/)).

For further information, please contact Tim Halbach (NWS Milwaukee WCM) at [Timothy.J.Halbach@noaa.gov](mailto:Timothy.J.Halbach@noaa.gov).

# 1

# Record Cold February

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from Mean  
 February 1, 2015 to February 28, 2015

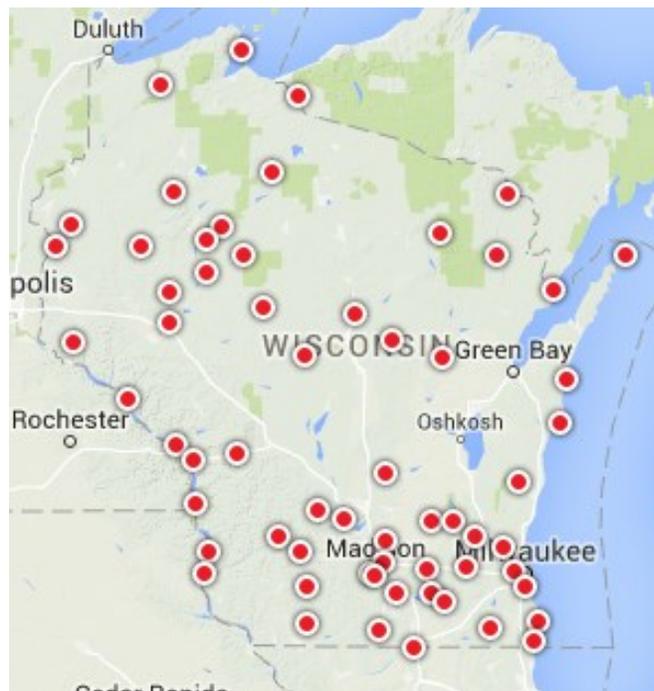


*Average mean temperature departure from normal for Feb 2015.*

Station	Coldest Temperature
Couderay 7W	-35F
Barnes	-34F
Hayward	-33F
Ladysmith 3W	-31F
Clam Lake 4W	-30F
Mercer	-30F
Jump River 3SE	-30F
Brule	-29F

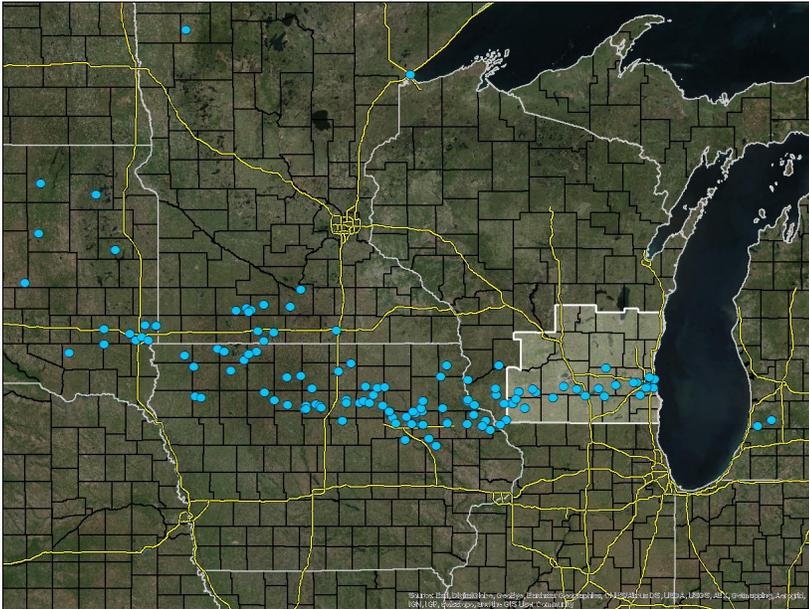
February 2015 went down as one of the coldest on record across Wisconsin and much of the Great Lakes region. Here are a few of the rankings for coldest February:

- Eau Claire: 3rd
- Madison: 5th
- Milwaukee: 6th
- Green Bay: 7th
- La Crosse: 9th



*110 Record Low Temperatures were broken and 25 were tied in Feb 2015.*

# 2 June 22nd Tornadoes/Wind



A squall line tracked from northern Iowa through southern Wisconsin on the morning of June 22nd. There was extensive tree damage along with some structural damage to some barns in southern Wisconsin from 80-100mph winds. Two EF-0 tornadoes also occurred in southwest Wisconsin ahead of the squall line.

*Blue dots: Wind damage reports.*

Location	EF Scale	Path Length	Max Width
Rural Crawford County	EF0	1.3 miles	35 yards
Rural Crawford/Richland County	EF0	6.0 miles	60 yards



*Grant County*

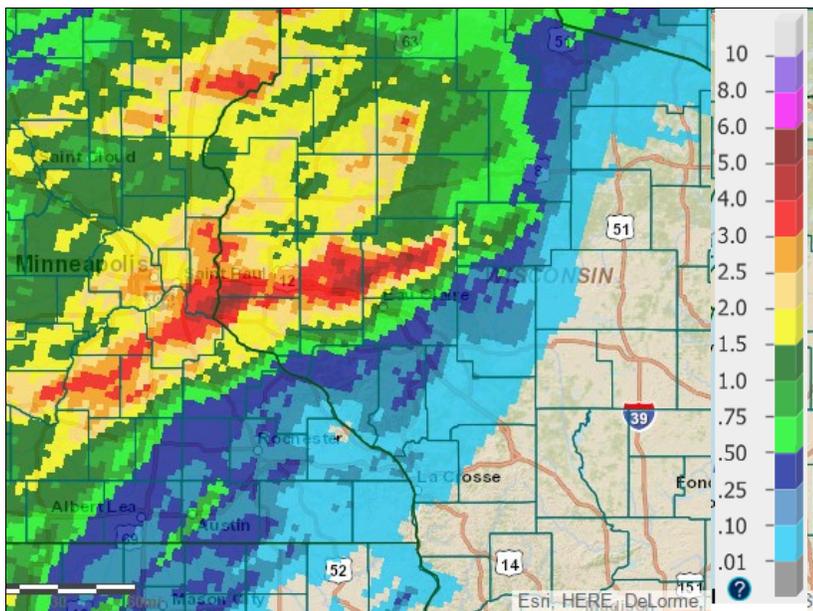


*Lafayette County  
 East of Platteville*



*Far NW Green County*

# 3 July 6th Flooding/Tornadoes



Rain showers and thunderstorms produced flash flooding in northwest Wisconsin and then followed up by producing three tornadoes in northeast Wisconsin. River Falls picked up 7.11" of rainfall! The three tornadoes came from rain showers that didn't even have lightning/thunder with them!

*Rainfall analysis: Red=Over 3"*

Location	EF Scale	Path Length	Max Width
Marion	EF1	0.8 miles	75 yards
Pella	EF0	0.1 miles	25 yards
Gillett	EF1	2.2 miles	50 yards



*Marion Tornado Damage*



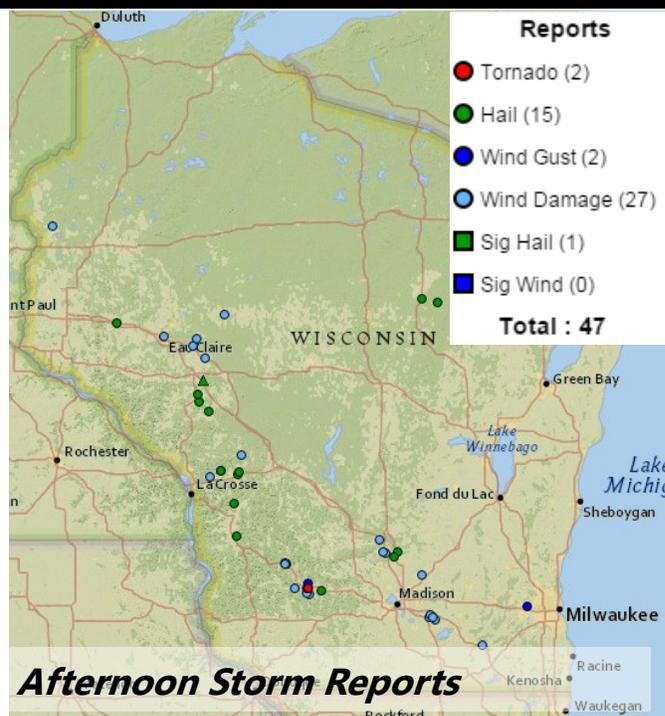
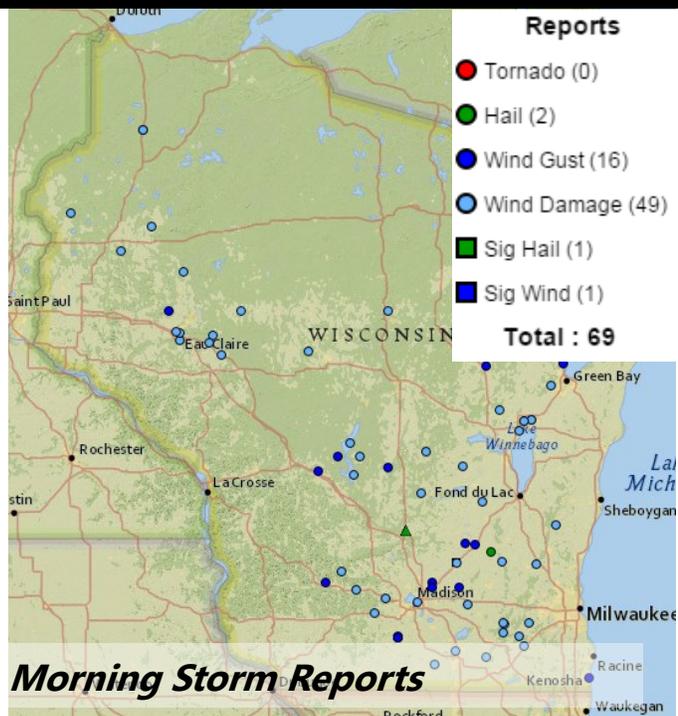
*Pella Tornado Damage*



*Gillett Tornado Damage*

## 4

# July 13th Damaging Winds



Two rounds of severe weather occurred across the southern half of Wisconsin on July 13th. Damaging winds occurred with an early morning squall line that produced the most damage in Columbus w/80-100mph winds there.

Location	EF Scale	Path Length	Max Width
Lone Rock	EFO	0.1 miles	50 yards



*Columbus AM Wind Damage*



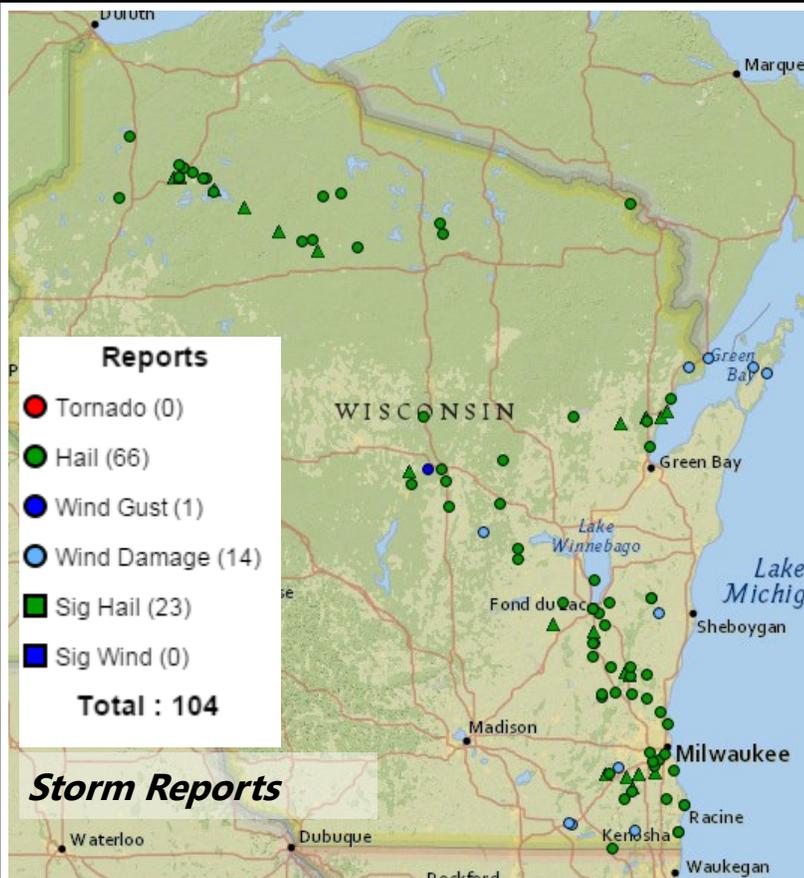
*Columbus AM Wind Damage*



*Cataract PM Thunderstorms*

## 5

# August 2nd Large Hail



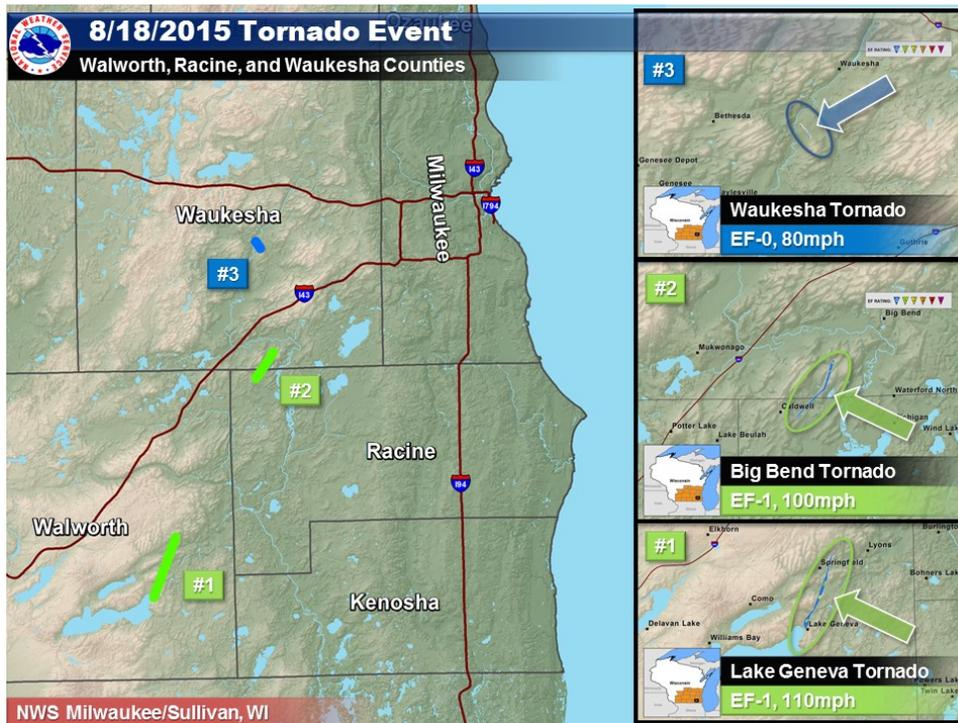
Thunderstorms developed in northwest Wisconsin shortly after daybreak and persisted through much of the eastern half of the state by the evening. Large hail occurred with numerous storms with the largest ones measured around 3-4 inches!

Location	Hail Size
Franklin	3"
Mukwonago 2 NW	3"
New Post 4 NNW	3"
Pensaukee	3"
Wind Lake	2.75"



## 6

# August 18th Tornadoes



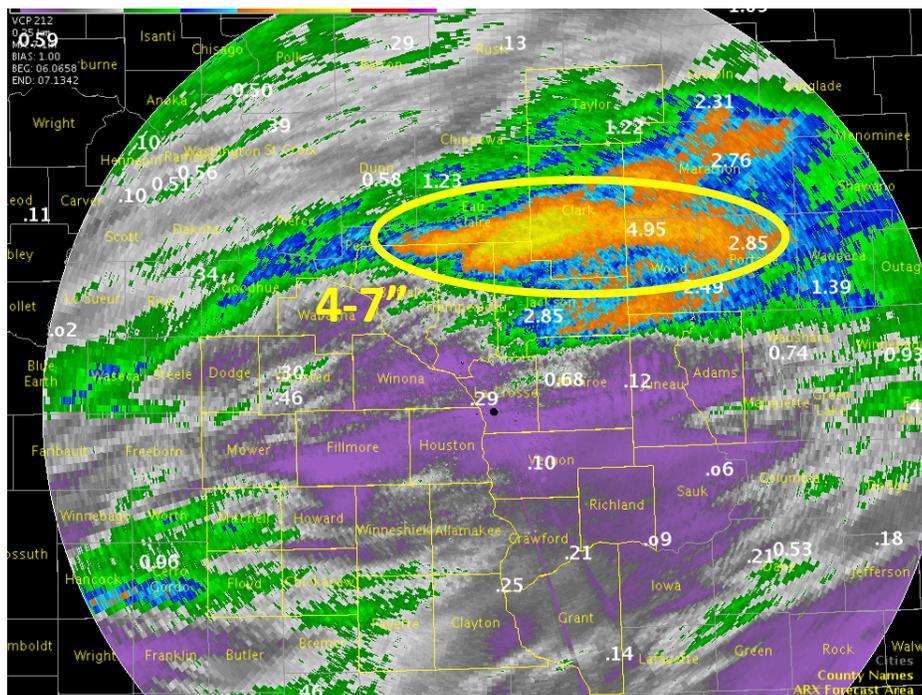
Thunderstorms moved through southeastern Wisconsin and produced 3 tornadoes in the evening. The first started in Lake Geneva on the northeast side of the town.

Location	EF Scale	Path Length	Max Width
Lake Geneva	EF1	4.8 miles	75 yards
Big Bend	EF1	2.4 miles	50 yards
Waukesha	EF0	0.7 miles	25 yards



# 7

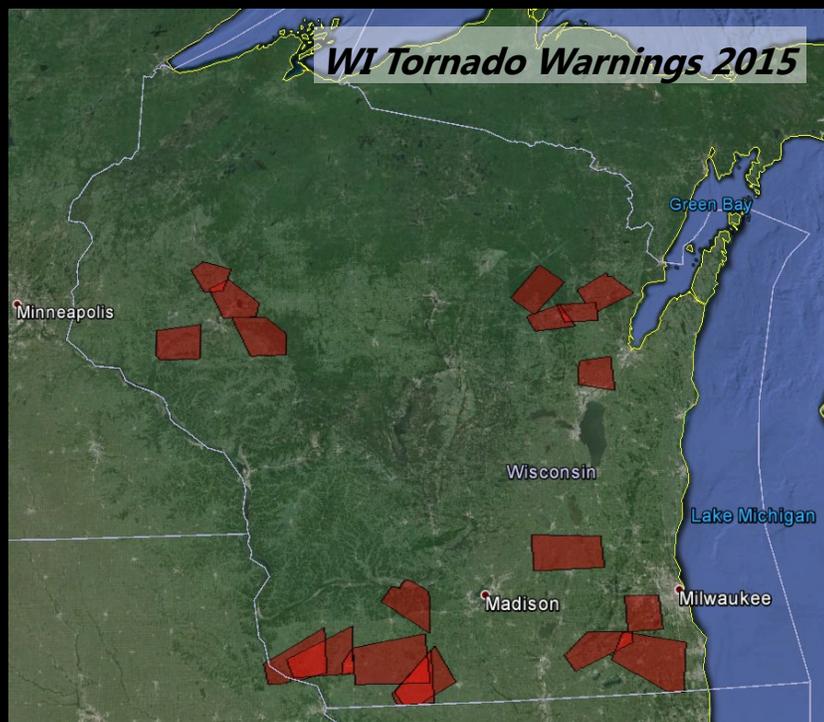
# Labor Day Flooding



Heavy rain fell from Sunday evening into Labor Day morning in northwest Wisconsin. 4 to 7 inches were reported which led to flash flooding, erosion, culvert washouts and damaged roadways. Osseo was the high report at 6.95"!

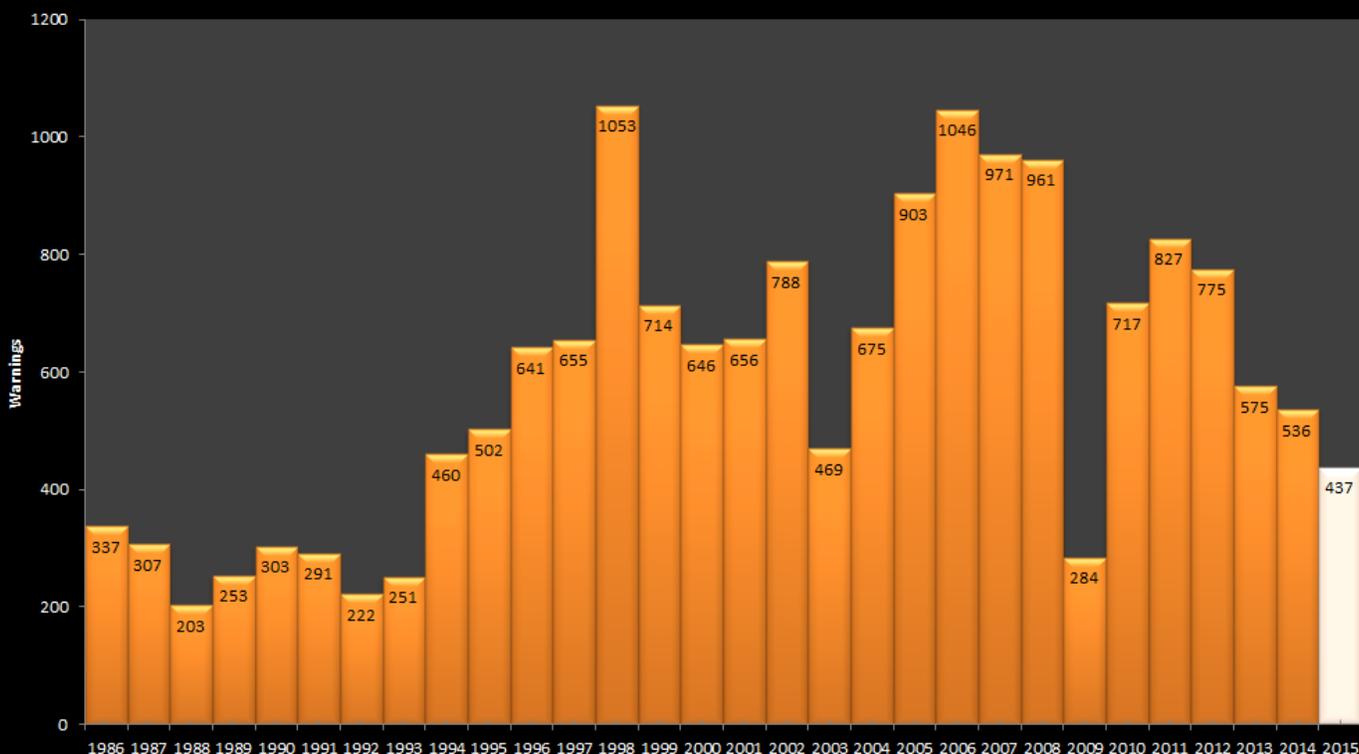


## 8 Low Amount of SVRs & TORs



In terms of severe weather, it was a relatively quiet year across the state. There were 17 tornadoes (11 EF0, 6 EF1) with 23 being average. The NWS offices serving Wisconsin (which also includes some of MN/IA) issued 437 Severe Thunderstorm Warnings, which is the second lowest amount since 1994 (lowest=2009 w/284 SVRs).

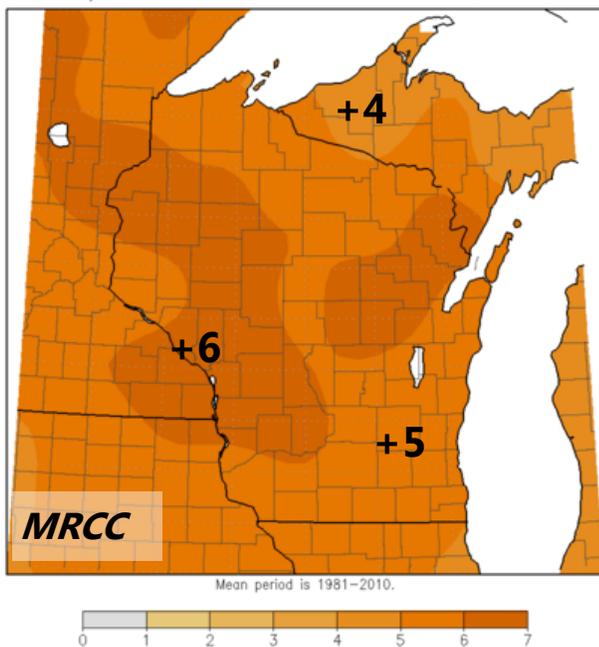
**2015 Severe Thunderstorm Warnings from DLH, GRB, ARX, MKX, MPX**



## 9

# Warm End to 2015

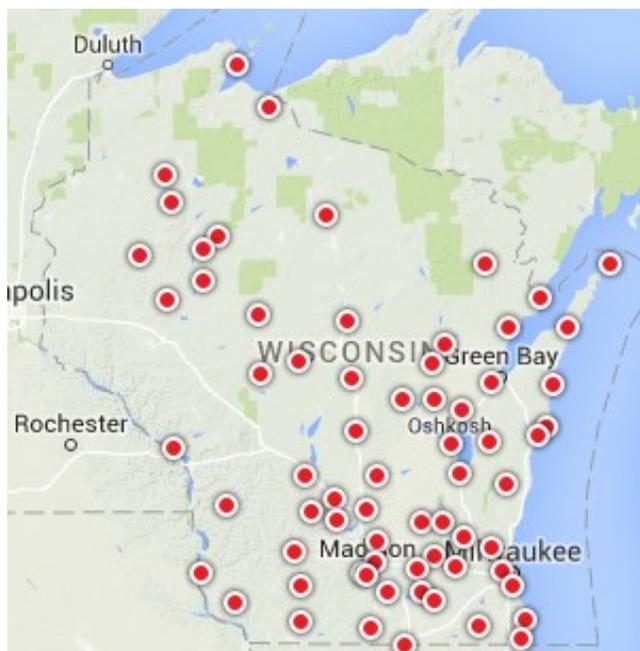
Average Temperature (°F): Departure from Mean  
September 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015



*Average mean temperature departure from normal for Sept—Dec 2015.*

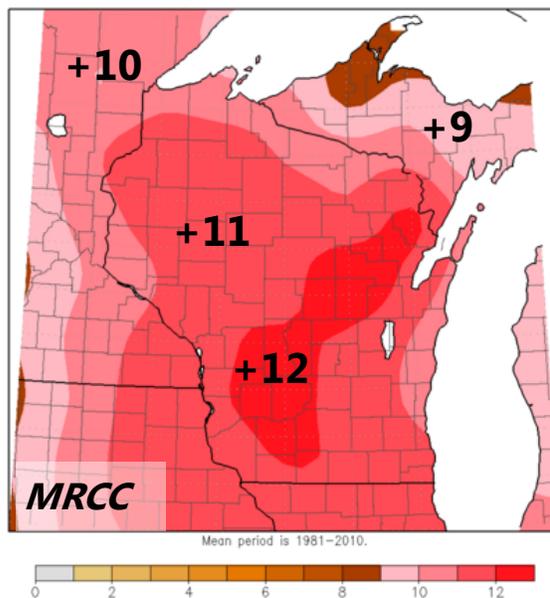
The period from September to December went down as one of the warmest stretches on record for this period across Wisconsin and much of the Great Lakes region. The most records were broken in December, which ended up being the warmest one on record for many locations.

# of Records Broken	High Max Temp	High Min Temp
September	13	111
October	23	9
November	63	104
December	181	294

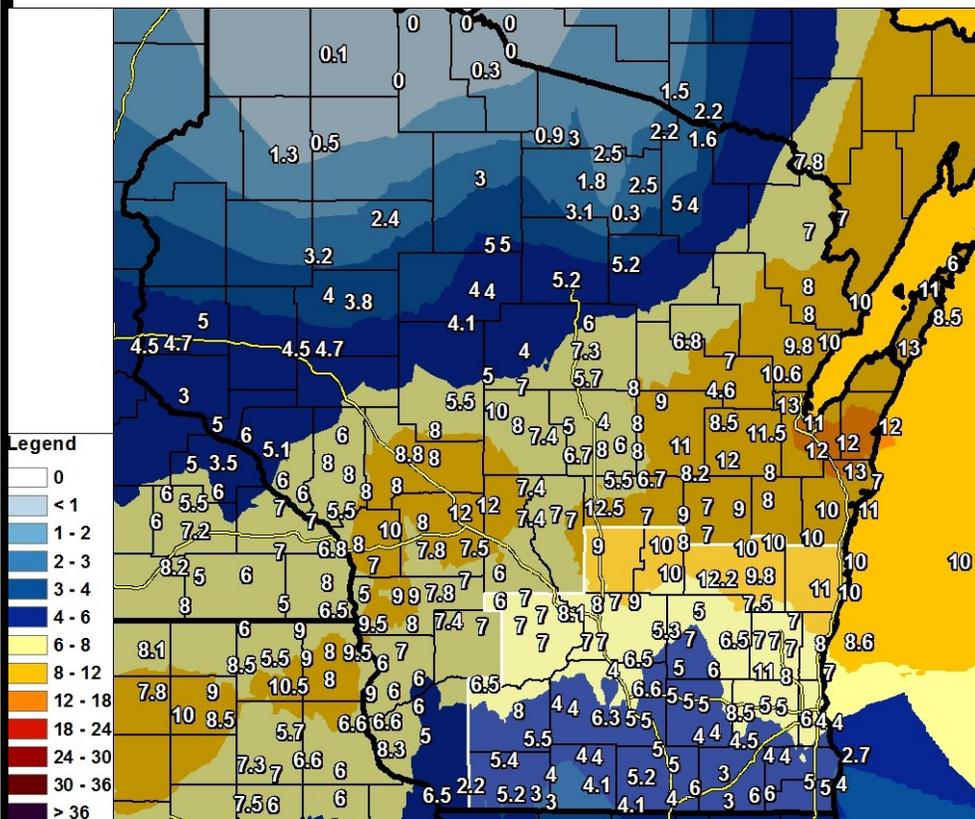


*High Temperature records in December.*

Average Temperature  
December 1, 20 *December 2015.*



## 10 > December 28 Winter Storm



The most widespread, heavy snowfall in 2015 came from a storm on December 28th which produced a strip of 8 to 12" through the central portion of Wisconsin. High amounts of sleet fell in southern Wisconsin. Winds were also strong with some gusts in the 40-55 mph range!

*Snowfall amounts from December 28th Winter Storm*



**Delavan**



**NWS Green Bay**

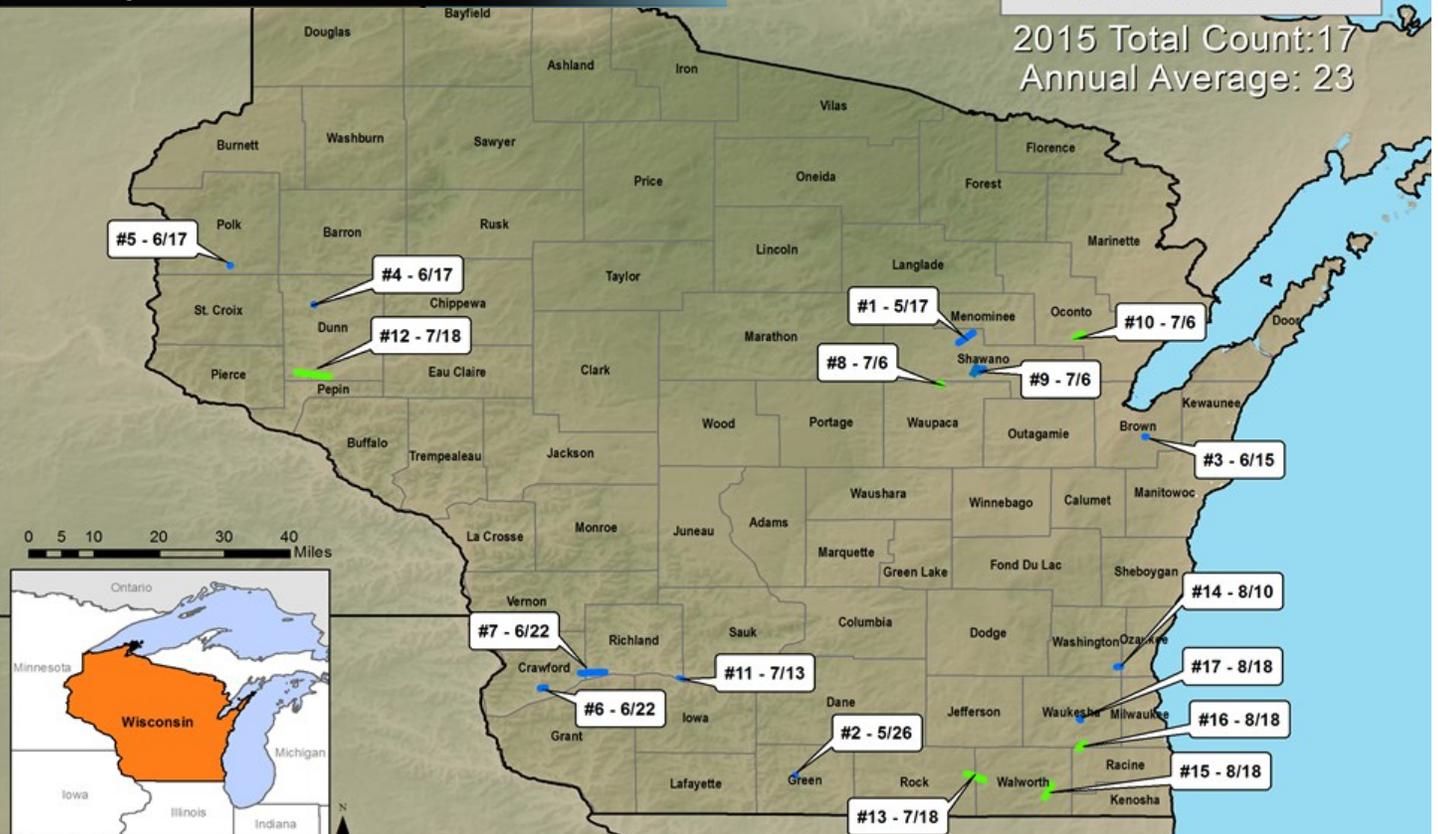


# Wisconsin Tornadoes 2015

EF RATING: 0 1 2 3 4 5

TOTAL: 11 6 0 0 0 0

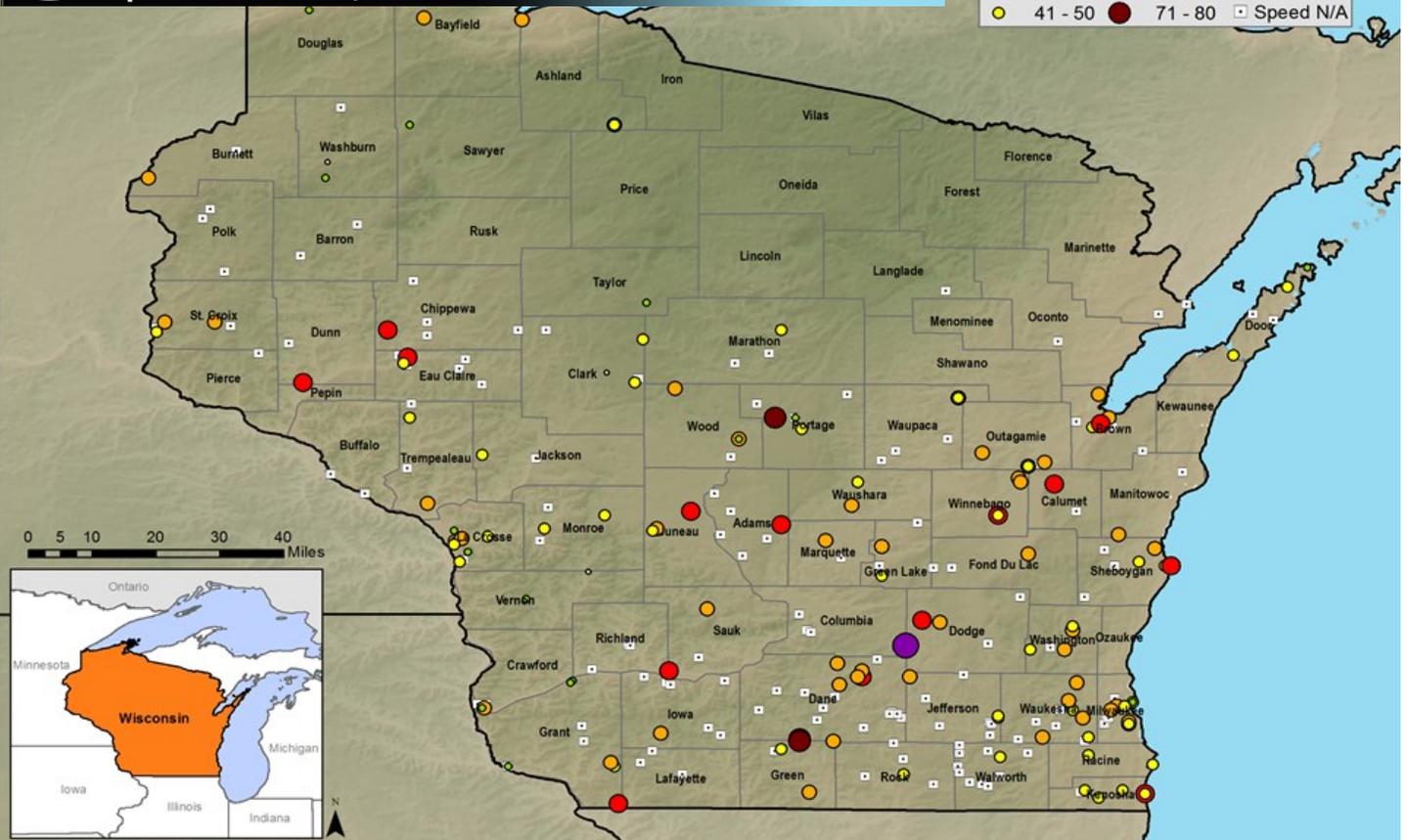
2015 Total Count: 17  
Annual Average: 23



# Wisconsin Wind Damage Reports 2015

DAMAGE REPORT SPEEDS (IF AVAIL.)

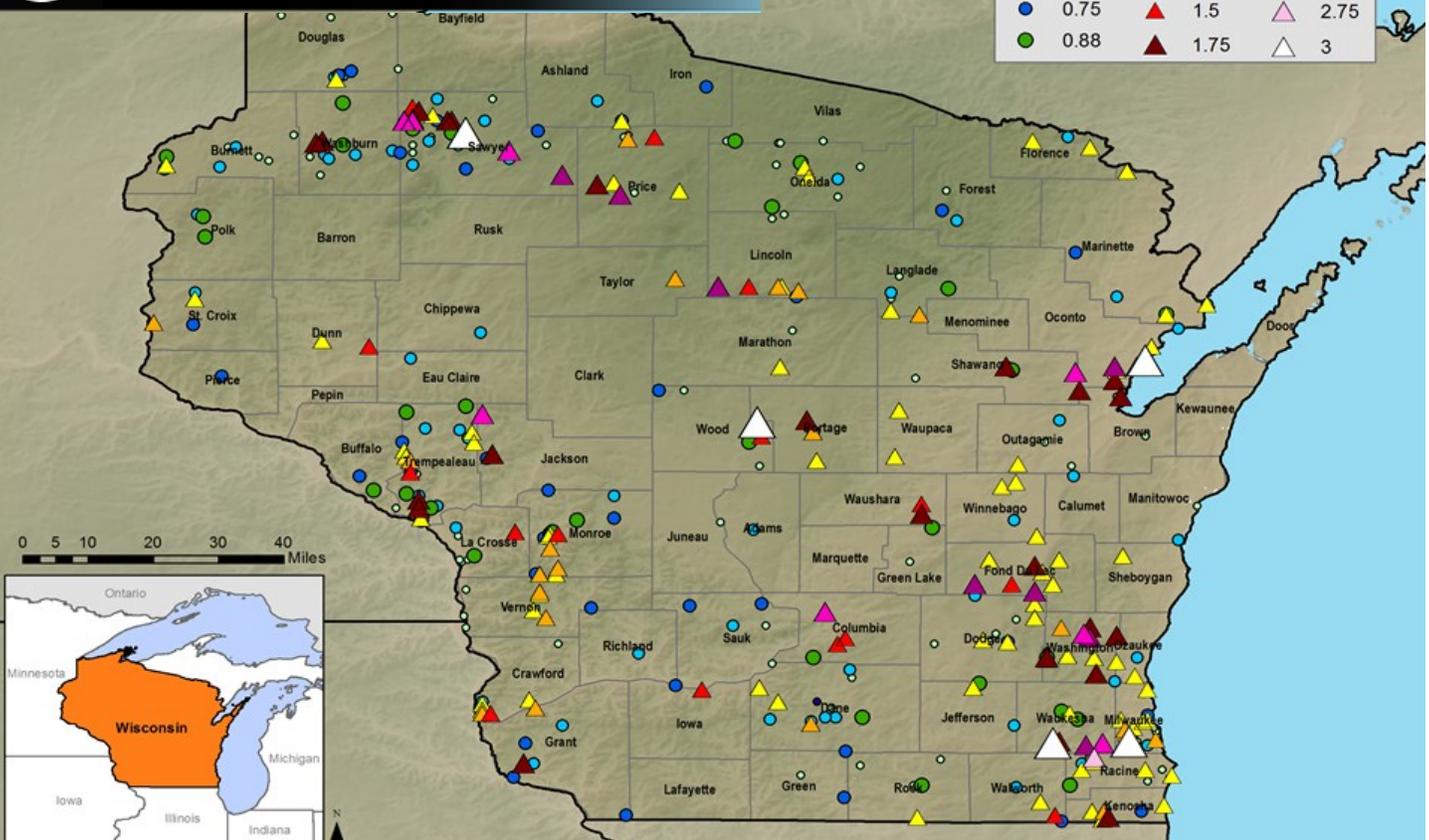
- ≤ 30
- 31 - 40
- 41 - 50
- 51 - 60
- 61 - 70
- 71 - 80
- 81 - 90
- 91 - 100
- ◻ Speed N/A





# Wisconsin Hail Reports 2015

HAIL SIZE (INCHES):		
○ 0.25	▲ 1	▲ 2
● 0.5	▲ 1.25	▲ 2.5
● 0.75	▲ 1.5	▲ 2.75
● 0.88	▲ 1.75	▲ 3



# Wisconsin Flood Reports 2015

FLOODING EVENTS	
● Flood	● Flash Flood

