



Iowa Tornado Statistics



2018

Compiled by: Craig Cogil

Total Number of Tornadoes: 69

Number of Injuries: 36

Number of Deaths: 0

Path Length of All Tornadoes: 131.7 miles

Average Path Length: 1.91 miles

Average Width: 87 yards

Longest Path Length Individual Tornado: 9.17 miles – Pella Tornado

Largest Width Individual Tornado: 1200 yards (0.68 miles wide) – Marshalltown Tornado

Peak Hour of Tornado Occurrence: 2 - 3 PM CST

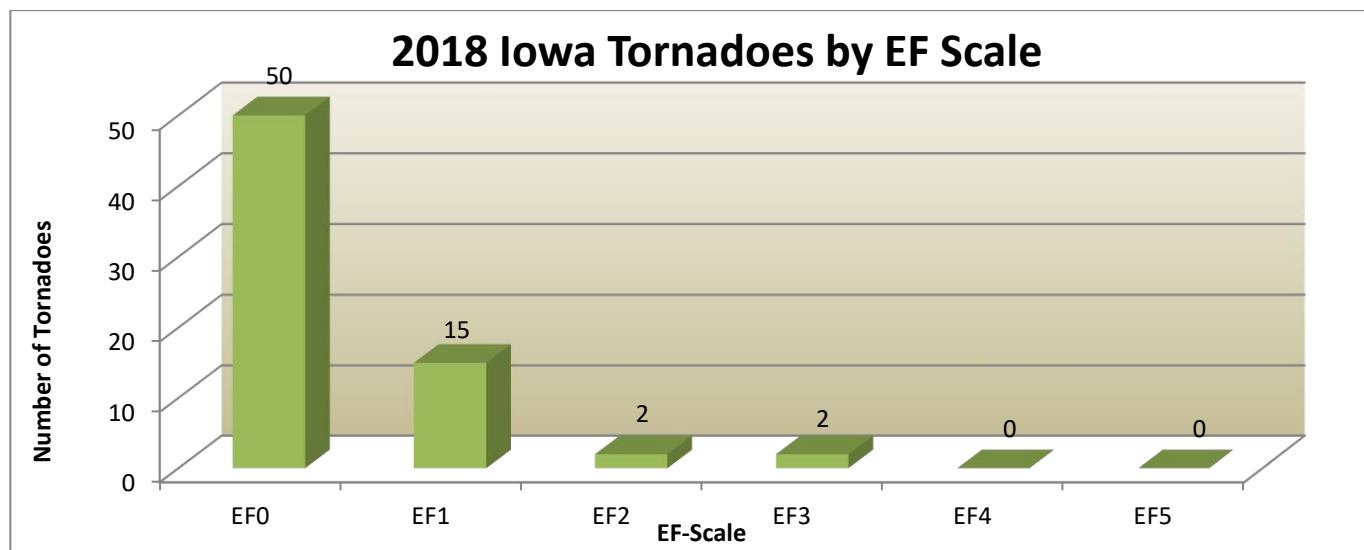
Peak Month of Tornado Occurrence: July

Most Tornadoes in a Day: July 19th with 21 tornadoes

Number of Tornado Days: 21

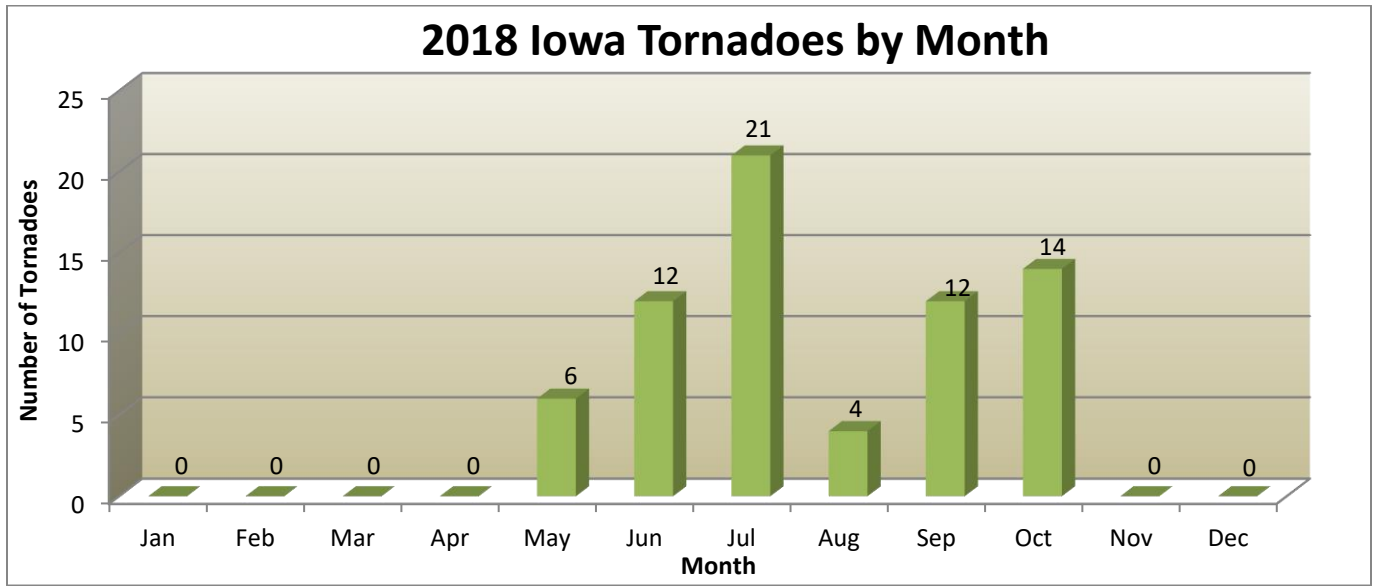
Tornadoes by EF-Scale:

EF0	EF1	EF2	EF3	EF4	EF5
50	15	2	2	0	0
72%	22%	3%	3%	0.0%	0.0%



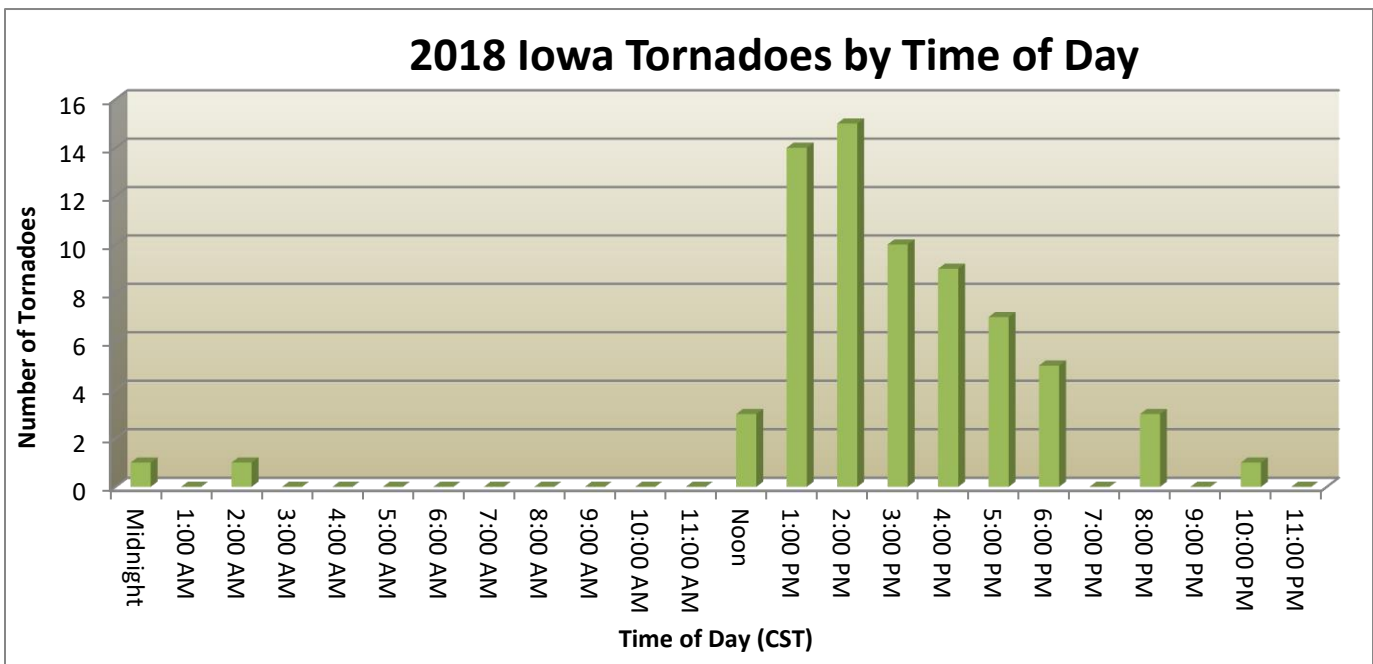
Tornadoes by Month:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
0	0	0	0	6	12	21	4	12	14	0	0
0%	0%	0%	0%	9%	17%	31%	6%	17%	20%	0%	0%



Tornadoes by Time of Day (CST):

MID	1AM	2AM	3AM	4AM	5AM	6AM	7AM	8AM	9AM	10AM	11AM
1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Noon	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM
3	14	15	10	9	7	5	0	3	0	1	0
4%	20%	22%	14%	13%	10%	7%	0%	4%	0%	2%	0%



2018 Iowa Tornado Summary

A total of 69 tornadoes occurred across the state of Iowa in 2018. The first tornado of the year did not occur until May 3rd which is nearly a month later than usual. Four tornadoes occurred on that day with two in southwest Jasper County, one in northern Marion County and the last near Olin in Jones County. All were weak and short lived with only crop and tree damage noted. The next tornado occurrence was on Memorial Day when a weak tornado occurred southeast of Plover in Pocahontas County. Another similar tornado spun-up on the next day just northeast of Ames and remained over cropland. The tornadoes in June occurred mainly on two days, the 9th and 20th. Three tornadoes touched down on June 9th in northern Iowa with two EF1 tornadoes occurring, one near Forest City and the other southeast of Winthrop. On the 20th, six EF0 tornadoes occurred, mainly in central Iowa.

The largest outbreak of the year and the biggest since November 2015 occurred on July 19th when 21 tornadoes touchdown across the state. The most significant tornadoes were two EF3's. One passed just northeast of Pella but hit the Vermeer manufacturing plant on the east side of town, producing 13 injuries. The other EF3 formed northwest of Marshalltown and produced a path of destruction from the northwest side of town, through the middle of the business district, exiting the east side of town over the Lennox plant. This tornado produced 22 injuries along with damages estimated over \$200 million. Four weak tornadoes occurred during the month of August remaining in open areas with little damage noted. September saw twelve more tornadoes added to the total for the year including a 5 mile long tornado which caused damage in Superior, Iowa. One brief tornado occurred late in the evening on October 3rd near Center Junction in Jones County. The last two tornado days of the year occurred on October 8th and 9th with a combined 13 tornadoes. One of the tornadoes on the 8th moved through northeast Clarke County injuring one individual.

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