

# Arkansas Weather Statistics for 2017

## Tornadoes

**(36 tornadoes, 0 fatalities, 14 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 7, 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 1.9 miles. One person was injured.
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. 0.8 mile east of Datto to 2.0 miles west-northwest of Corning Municipal Airport (Clay Co), April 30, 125 AM – An EF1 tornado had a path length of 2.8 miles.
29. 1.5 miles west-northwest of Happy Corners to 1.1 miles north of Happy Corners (Mississippi Co.), April 30, 156 AM – An EF1 tornado had a path length of 1.7 miles. The tornado continued another 1.2 miles in Missouri (Dunklin Co.) before dissipating.
30. 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.
31. 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.
32. 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.
33. 4.3 miles southwest of Bentonville to 2.4 miles south-southwest of Bentonville (Benton Co.), May 19, 1207 AM– An EF0 tornado had a path length of 2.0 miles.
34. 0.6 mile north of Short, OK to 4.6 miles east-southeast of Natural Dam (Sequoyah Co., OK and Crawford Co., AR), May 27, 1145 PM– An EF1 tornado had a path length of 11.2 miles.
35. 0.7 mile south-southeast of Jonesboro to 0.7 mile southeast of Jonesboro (Craighead Co.), July 3, 628 AM– An EF1 tornado had a path length of 0.1 mile.
36. 1.5 miles east-northeast of Preston Place to 2.0 miles north-northeast of Preston Place (Phillips Co.), August 31, 819 AM– An EF0 tornado had a path length of 1.7 miles.

## **Thunderstorm (Straight-Line) Winds**

### **(3 fatalities, 4 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  
3.1 miles west-northwest of Pinnacle (Pulaski Co.), March 24  
Rover to Russellville, including Danville and Plainview (Pope and Yell Cos.), April 26  
Romance (White Co.), May 11  
Nashville (Howard Co.), May 28

#### 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  
0.7 mile south of Bald Knob (White Co.), March 24  
Goobertown (Craighead Co.), March 25  
0.7 mile north of Mount Ida (Montgomery Co.), April 29  
1 mile east-northeast of Lakeway (Marion Co.), May 19  
Lutherville (Johnson Co.), May 28  
1 mile southwest of Hot Springs (Garland Co.), May 28

#### 75 to 80 mph...

0.9 mile northeast of Lisbon (Union Co.), January 16  
Jerusalem (Conway Co.), March 1  
Marshall (Searcy Co.), March 1  
Big Flat (Baxter Co.), March 1  
3.0 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 mile east-northeast of Greenbrier (Faulkner Co.), March 1  
0.4 mile northeast of Pea Ridge (Benton Co.), March 6  
Brinkley (Monroe Co.), April 26  
Ozark (Franklin Co.), May 19  
Siloam Springs (Benton Co.), May 27

2.6 miles northwest of Barling (Sebastian Co.), May 27  
Crawfordsville to Blanton (Crittenden Co.), May 27  
1.6 miles north-northwest of Van Buren (Crawford Co.), May 28  
0.4 mile north-northeast of Mineral Springs (Howard Co.), May 28  
1 mile north of Alma (Crawford Co.), July 8  
5 miles east of Bentonville (Benton Co.), July 8  
2.1 east-northeast of Lavaca (Sebastian Co.), October 22  
Charleston (Franklin Co.), October 22

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 24<sup>th</sup>), 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.

Crawfordsville (Mississippi Co.), May 27, 1040 PM – Thunderstorm winds pushed a tree onto two mobile homes. A minor injury resulted.

2 miles south-southeast of Hardin (Jefferson Co.), June 23, 605 PM – Thunderstorms knocked a tree onto a moving vehicle. The driver of the vehicle was killed.

1.6 miles east of Salesville (Baxter Co.), June 23, 230 PM – A 71-year-old man was on Lake Norfolk when thunderstorm winds overturned his kayak. Family members and emergency personnel tried to revive him, but he eventually died.

## **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
- 1 mile southwest 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
- Omaha (Boone Co.), May 27
- 1.5 miles south-southwest of Lowry (Boone Co.), May 27
- Greenwood (Sebastian Co.), June 30

## **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.

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

## **Lightning**

### **(0 fatalities, 2 injuries)**

Vilonia (Faulkner Co.), July 4 – As a storm approached, a man was struck by lightning while removing a hammock from a tree.

3 miles east of Woodlawn (Lonoke Co.), July 28 – Lightning struck a home and started a small fire. A woman in the home suffered a minor injury.

#### **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.**