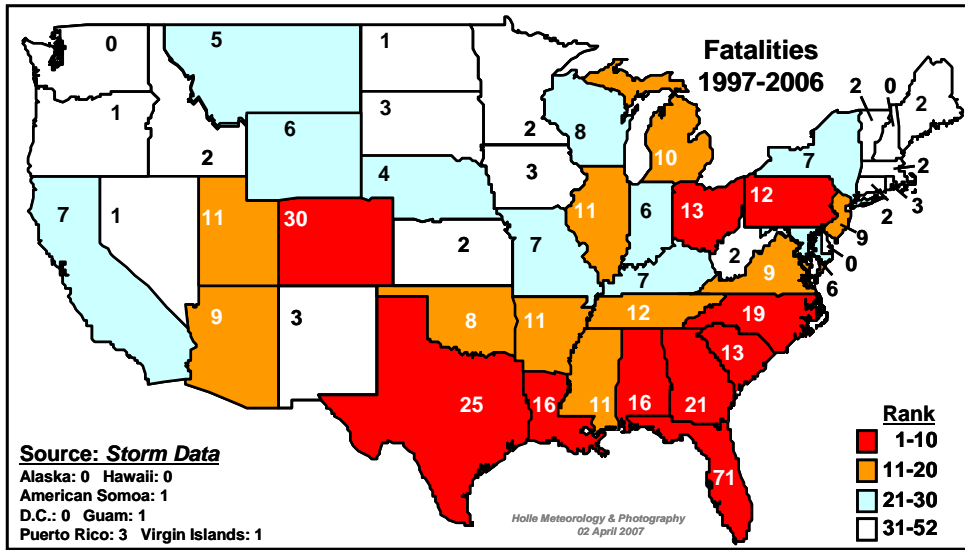
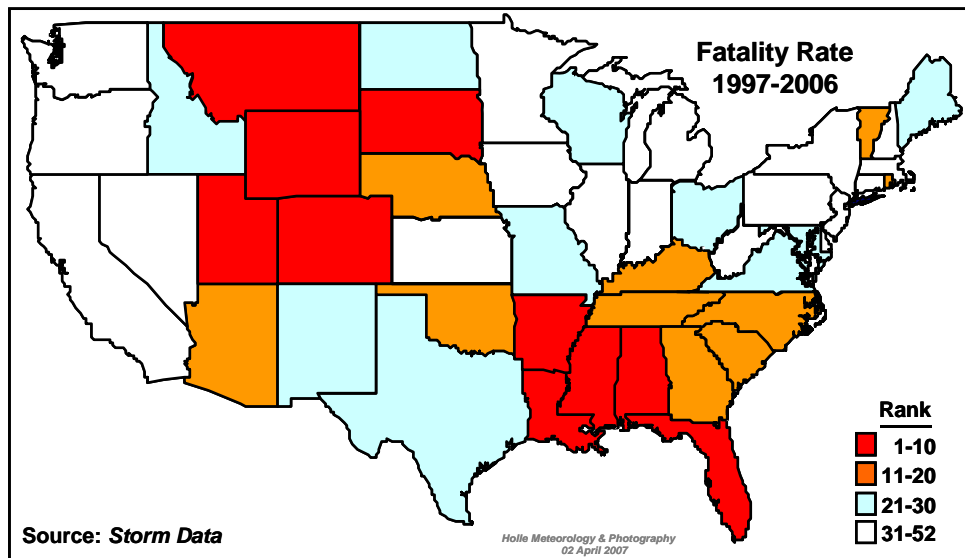


Lightning Deaths by State, 1997 to 2006



Lightning Deaths Weighted by Population by State 1997 to 2006



Ronald L. Holle
April 2007

**NUMBER OF LIGHTNING DEATHS
BY STATE FROM 1997 TO 2006**

State	Deaths 1997-2006	Rank of Deaths	State	Deaths 1997-2006	Rank of Deaths
Alabama	16	6	New Jersey	9	18
Alaska	0	47	New Mexico	3	32
Arizona	9	17	New York	7	25
Arkansas	11	12	North Carolina	19	5
California	7	22	North Dakota	1	45
Colorado	30	2	Ohio	13	8
Connecticut	2	38	Oklahoma	8	20
Delaware	0	48	Oregon	1	46
D.C.	0	49	Pennsylvania	12	10
Florida	71	1	Puerto Rico	3	32
Georgia	21	4	Rhode Island	3	34
Hawaii	0	50	South Carolina	13	9
Idaho	2	37	South Dakota	3	35
Illinois	11	13	Tennessee	12	11
Indiana	6	26	Texas	25	3
Iowa	3	31	Utah	11	15
Kansas	2	38	Vermont	2	42
Kentucky	7	23	Virginia	9	19
Louisiana	16	7	Washington	0	52
Maine	2	39	West Virginia	2	43
Maryland	6	27	Wisconsin	8	21
Massachusetts	2	40	Wyoming	6	28
Michigan	10	16			
Minnesota	2	41			
Mississippi	11	14	United States	437	
Missouri	7	24			
Montana	5	29			
Nebraska	4	30			
Nevada	1	44			
New Hampshire	0	51			

One death each occurred in American Samoa, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands during the period.

The lightning fatality data were collected by NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). They come from monthly and annual summaries compiled by the National Weather Service and published in monthly issues of *Storm Data*. Data for recent years are available at:
<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/hazstats.shtml>.

A similar table for the period from 1959 to 1994 is included in the following article:
Curran, E.B., R.L. Holle, and R.E. López,
2000: Lightning casualties and damages in

the United States from 1959 to 1994. *Journal of Climate*, **13**, 3448-3453.
The 1959 to 1994 information is also available at the National Severe Storms Laboratory web site:
<http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/papers/techmemos/NWS-SR-193/techmemo-sr193.html>

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**RANK OF POPULATION-WEIGHTED LIGHTNING
DEATHS BY STATE FROM 1997 TO 2006**

State	Death Rate Per Million People from 1997 to 2006	Rank of Death Rate Per Million	State	Death Rate Per Million People from 1997 to 2006	Rank of Death Rate Per Million
Wyoming	1.21	1	Virginia	0.13	26
Colorado	0.70	2	Missouri	0.13	27
Montana	0.55	3	Texas	0.12	28
Utah	0.49	4	Ohio	0.11	29
Florida	0.44	5	Maryland	0.11	30
Arkansas	0.41	6	West Virginia	0.11	31
South Dakota	0.40	7	New Jersey	0.11	32
Mississippi	0.39	8	Iowa	0.10	33
Alabama	0.36	9	Michigan	0.10	34
Louisiana	0.36	10	Indiana	0.10	35
Vermont	0.33	11	Pennsylvania	0.10	36
South Carolina	0.32	12	Illinois	0.09	37
Rhode Island	0.29	13	Puerto Rico	0.08	38
Georgia	0.26	14	Kansas	0.07	39
North Carolina	0.24	15	Connecticut	0.06	40
Nebraska	0.23	16	Nevada	0.05	41
Oklahoma	0.23	17	Minnesota	0.04	42
Tennessee	0.21	18	New York	0.04	43
Arizona	0.18	19	Massachusetts	0.03	44
Kentucky	0.17	20	Oregon	0.03	45
New Mexico	0.16	21	California	0.02	46
Maine	0.16	22	Alaska	0	47
North Dakota	0.16	23	Delaware	0	48
Idaho	0.15	24	D.C.	0	49
Wisconsin	0.15	25	Hawaii	0	50
			New Hampshire	0	51
			Washington	0	52

The lightning fatality data were collected by NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). They come from monthly and annual summaries compiled by the National Weather Service and published in monthly issues of *Storm Data*. Data for recent years are available at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/hazstats.shtml>.

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