

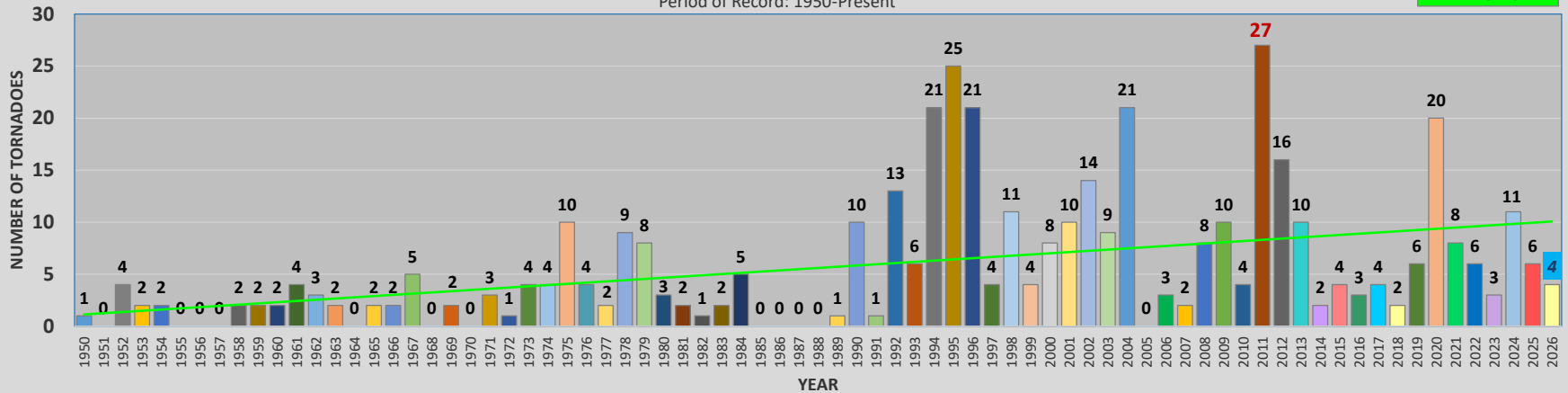
MARYLAND TORNADES

Count by Year

Period of Record: 1950-Present

$$y = 0.1175x + 1.0144$$

$$R^2 = 0.179$$

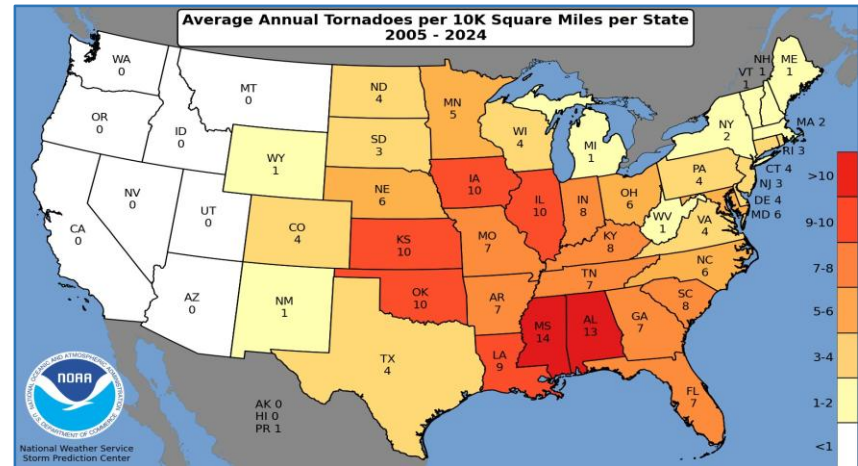
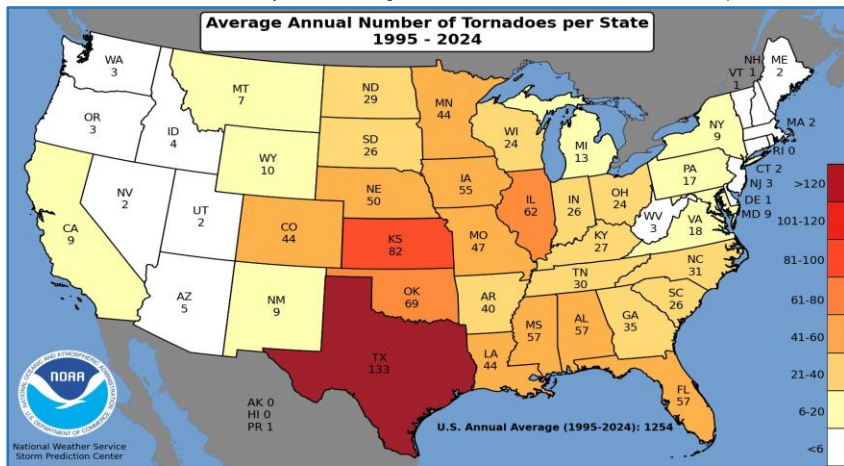


PRELIMINARY Data for 2025 and 2026 through 3/16/2026, Updated 3/28/2026

The average number of Maryland tornadoes occurring for the entire period from 1950-2024 was 5.6 per year. However, more recently (due to numerous factors, e.g., an ever-growing population being affected/observing, weather cycles, and technology (including improved radar detection and cell phone videos)), the average number of tornadoes has increased. For the shorter, more recent period 1995-2024 the average has increased to 9.2 tornadoes per year (see map, below).

Though other areas of the country, e.g., Tornado Alley in the Great Plains, have more strong tornadoes, Maryland actually has more tornadoes than most states when judging by the number per square mile. In fact, per the Storm Prediction Center's data for the 20-year period 1995-2014, Maryland was tied for 2nd place, averaging 10 per square mile (an actual average of 10.45), ranking only behind Kansas, which averaged 11. The other states also averaging 10 were Illinois, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. However, when the data was updated for the 30-year period 1995-2024, the Maryland State Average dropped to 6 per square mile (the same for the 20-year period, 2005-2024 - map, below), tied for 16th place among all 50 states but was still slightly higher than surrounding states. Even though Maryland has dropped in the rankings with this more recent time period, it still ranked higher than the notorious state of Texas's 4 and was just one behind Florida's 7 per square mile.

The Count by Year Chart's green Trendline is Linear, with associated Equation and R-Squared Value shown.



DATA SOURCE: 1) NOAA's National Weather Service - Storm Prediction Center:

- 2) Storm Event Database (NCEI):
- 3) National Weather Service - Baltimore/Washington (Sterling, VA):
- 4) National Weather Service - Philadelphia/Mt. Holly (PA/NJ):
- 5) National Weather Service - Wakefield (VA):
- 6) National Weather Service - Pittsburgh (PA):

- <https://www.spc.noaa.gov/wcm/>
- <https://www.spc.noaa.gov/wcm/#jmc>
- <https://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/historical.html>
- <https://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/online/monthly/newm.html>
- <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>
- <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/Climate?wfo=lxw>
- <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/Climate?wfo=phi>
- <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/Climate?wfo=akq>
- <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/Climate?wfo=pbz>

NOTE: A total of 431 tornadoes have been documented from 1/1/1950-3/16/2026