

2025

U.S. Lightning Report: A First Look

An early look at 2025 U.S. lightning activity, powered by data from AEM's Earth Networks Total Lightning Network® (ENTLN), delivering more lightning with near-zero false alarms.

Highlights



429.9M

total lightning pulses
across the U.S.



88.4M

total lightning flashes
nationwide



9.8%

increase in total lightning
flashes over prior year



Kay County, OK

most lightning-dense county
at 123.4 flashes/mile²



Texas

biggest surge of lightning at 1.3
million flashes above average



June 15

most lightning-intense day
with 929,016 flashes

Top stories

01

Oklahoma dethrones Florida as lightning hot spot

Oklahoma topped Florida to become the state with the highest concentration of lightning (73 flashes per mile²). The shift signals a broader surge in lightning activity across the Great Plains.

02

Texas takes top spot in storm intensity

With 9,103 Dangerous Thunderstorm Alerts (DTAs), Texas had more than twice as many dangerous thunderstorms as the next highest state. In fact, the Plains states accounted for half of the top 10 states with the most DTAs.

03

Peak lightning days bring billion-dollar disasters

Across multiple states, lightning peaked on days that coincided with billion-dollar disasters. For states ranging from as far south as Arkansas and Texas and as far north as Wisconsin, lightning peaked when they encountered their most costly storms and tornado outbreaks.

In the full report, you'll see...

- Which states had surprisingly sparse lightning
- Which states had the biggest jumps in thunderstorm activity
- When lightning peaked in each state
- Which counties saw the most lightning
- How lightning impacted top airports and tourist attractions