



2020

OKLAHOMA LIGHTNING REPORT



ABOUT THIS REPORT

The 2020 Lightning Report was prepared by Earth Networks using the Earth Networks Total Lightning Network (ENTLN). The following report includes in-cloud, cloud-to-ground, and total lightning data for this state and the surrounding water bodies (if any) throughout 2020. Counts, densities, rankings, Dangerous Thunderstorm Alerts (DTAs), and Thunder Days in this report are from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.

THE EARTH NETWORKS TOTAL LIGHTNING NETWORK (ENTLN)

The lightning data in this report is derived from the Earth Networks Total Lightning Network (ENTLN), which monitors the combination of in-cloud and cloud-to-ground lightning strikes over 100 countries. With over 1,800 sensors, the ENTLN is the most extensive and technologically advanced total lightning network in the world. ENTLN has been specifically deployed to detect real-time lightning and provide advanced warning for severe weather events that could threaten public safety and operational efficiency.

IN THIS REPORT



03 **08** 09

Report Terminology

Lightning Counts

06 Lightning Density

Dangerous Thunderstorm Alerts

Thunder Days

Contact

REPORT TERMINOLOGY

To help you better understand the insights from this lightning report, we've included definitions of our frequently used report terminology below.

Lightning Pulse: This report measures lightning pulses. A pulse is a surge of electric current in lightning usually accompanied by a burst of light. Pulses are classified as In-cloud (IC) or Cloud-to-Ground (CG).

Lightning Flash: A lightning flash is a collection of pulses close in space and time that approximates the continuous ionized channels of a complete bolt of lightning.

Cloud-to-Ground Lightning (CG): Lightning that happens between opposite charges in a cloud and on the ground.

In-Cloud Lightning (IC): Lightning that occurs between opposite charges within a thunderstorm cloud.

Total Lightning Detection: The combination of all in-cloud and cloud-to-ground lightning activity.

Pulse Density: The number of lightning pulses per square mile per year.

Dangerous Thunderstorm Alerts (DTAs): Earth Networks patented advanced severe weather warnings that notify users of incoming storms up to 45 minutes before storm arrival.

Thunder Days: Any given day where lightning was detected in a certain area.

TOTAL LIGHTNING

is the combination of cloud-to-ground (CG) and in-cloud (IC) lightning strikes



Cloud-to-Ground lightning:

Lightning that happens between opposite charges in a cloud and on the ground

In-Cloud lightning:

Lightning that occurs between opposite charges within a thunderstorm cloud





LIGHTNING COUNT RANKINGS



Oklahoma ranked 3 in total lightning pulses for 2020.



TOTAL (CG+IC) PULSE DENSITY MAP







Total Pulse Density (sqmi)

Pulse density is a better indicator of lightning activity than total lightning counts because it enables us to compare different sized areas (like states and counties) fairly.

We cluster pulses together into a flash. With every pulse we detect, we receive a more precise measure of lightning activity. At left, areas in bright yellow experienced the highest lightning pulse density per square mile in 2020.

500

TOTAL PULSE DENSITY RANKINGS

This chart shows the top 15 counties in the state ranked by total pulse density, which is the total lightning divided by the area of the county (in square miles).



DANGEROUS THUNDERSTORM ALERTS IN THE U.S.



Earth Networks issued 29,401 Dangerous Thunderstorm Alerts (DTAs) in 2020. This year's map clearly shows the persistent drought conditions that have plagued the South and Southwest.

Dangerous Thunderstorm Alerts (DTAs), available exclusively to Earth Networks, provide **50% more lead time** to severe storms compared to publicly available alerts.

DANGEROUS THUNDERSTORM ALERTS BY MONTH

Earth Networks issued 1,902 Dangerous Thunderstorm Alerts for the state in 2020.

OKLAHOMA



TOTAL STATE THUNDER DAYS: 205



-10 -5 -15 **Change in Thunder Days Map**

This year, the Southwest and Midwest experienced significantly less lightning than in previous years due to a persistent drought and weak monsoon. States in the Southeast experienced a substantial uptick in lightning activity this year, including Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Kentucky.

10

15

Thunder Days are the days we detected lightning over a certain area. The map shows a deviation from our 7-year average and illustrates our overall finding that lightning decreased about 15% from 2019.

EARTH NETWORKS®



THANK YOU

For additional insights or permission to use data or graphics from this report, please contact us at: info@earthnetworks.com or call 1 301.250.4000



APPENDIX

This table ranks all U.S. states by total lightning pulses, including in-cloud and cloudto-ground from highest to lowest. Total number of thunder days in each state (the total number of days in the year when lightning was detected by ENTLN) are also included. The period covered is January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.

STATE	TOTAL LIGHTNING PULSES	TOTAL THUNDER DAYS	
ТХ	63,683,799	278	
FL	35,430,198	246	
ОК	26,159,420	205	
KS	23,125,675	179	
IL	16,785,149	166	
NE	14,433,875	178	
МО	14,081,658	184	
VA	13,234,163	176	
GA	13,016,803	217	
ОН	12,009,955	143	
SD	11,940,870	156	
LA	11,787,379	230	
AL	11,448,621	202	
AR	11,417,155	211	
NC	10,666,834	203	
PA	10,024,978	151	
MS	9,236,279	210	
IN	9,175,986	149	
IA	9,121,097	140	
WI	8,812,327	145	
TN	8,458,373	186	
MN	8,009,792	148	
KY	7,974,926	166	
MI	7,769,382	159	
ND	7,634,287	131	
SC	7,454,219	197	
CO	7,360,769	185	
MD	6,666,766	124	
NM	5,819,550	196	
MT	5,107,593	154	
WY	4,951,397	166	
NY	4,943,122	152	
WV	4,684,226	150	
AZ	3,532,759	151	
	3,465,297	96	
	1,951,574	172	
	1,518,171	172	
	1,207,040	5U 146	
	1,237,002	00	
	056 197	151	
OP	930,187	131	
	\$13,633 802 252	70	
	618 242	70	
W/Δ	402 333	117	
ME	358 334	<u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u>81</u></u>	
	254 695	75	
	190 992	42	
	130,332 AA 20A	47	
	47,204	** /	

APPENDIX

This table ranks all U.S. states by total lightning pulses, including in-cloud and cloudto-ground from highest to lowest. Total number of thunder days in each state (the total number of days in the year when lightning was detected by ENTLN) are also included. The period covered is January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.

COUNTY	
	PULSES
Osage County	991,376
McCurtain County	846,562
Le Flore County	805,769
Pittsburg County	619,219
Comanche County	609,193
Pushmataha County	568,370
Grady County	509,353
Garvin County	496,793
Stephens County	489,324
Carter County	478,940
Choctaw County	459,586
Tillman County	459,470
Atoka County	428,967
Pottawatomie County	420,829
Bryan County	420,395
Jefferson County	409,603
Caddo County	400,120
Canadian County	394,221
Grant County	393,570
Kiowa County	384,801
Craig County	381,720
Woods County	379,867
Texas County	375,142
Pontotoc County	371,802
Hughes County	364,976
Oklahoma County	363,599
Cotton County	361,003
Garfield County	347,470
Delaware County	342,374
Cherokee County	341,326
Lincoln County	340,492
Muskogee County	335,484
Kingfisher County	332,487
McClain County	321,597
Beaver County	319,040
Major County	317,924
McIntosh County	312,057
Blaine County	306,935
Ellis County	302,269
	· ·

TOTAL THUNDER DAYS	COUNTY	TOTAL LIGHTNING PULSES	TOTAL THUNDER DAYS
93	Harper County	299,069	66
103	Latimer County	295,334	85
96	Love County	292,636	61
90	Sequoyah County	292,189	82
72	Jackson County	288,946	71
88	Murray County	288,195	63
76	Roger Mills County	285,477	75
74	Alfalfa County	284,740	72
67	Coal County	281,357	65
71	Woodward County	278,693	74
78	Johnston County	276,881	70
70	Haskell County	274,214	79
80	Kay County	269,445	74
77	Adair County	267,674	72
82	Seminole County	259,945	68
57	Mayes County	254,820	76
83	Cimarron County	254,212	74
69	Logan County	253,171	69
69	Okmulgee County	248,198	72
81	Washita County	241,927	82
87	Noble County	241,523	66
70	Nowata County	241,065	80
77	Creek County	236,872	65
76	Cleveland County	234,957	68
76	Rogers County	234,259	77
71	Okfuskee County	228,770	66
62	Dewey County	214,793	69
71	Tulsa County	214,110	72
85	Beckham County	205,097	73
81	Ottawa County	196,837	77
68	Marshall County	190,047	64
85	Payne County	188,387	60
75	Custer County	186,953	76
74	Wagoner County	180,288	74
89	Pawnee County	178,880	65
73	Washington County	149,280	70
73	Greer County	123,905	73
75	Harmon County	107,655	63
76			