

Hurricane Research Division

How many direct hits by hurricanes of various categories have affected each state?

Contributed by Chris Landsea

This table, updated from Jarrell et al. (2001), shows the number of hurricanes affecting the United States and individual states, i.e., direct hits. The table shows that, on the average, close to seven hurricanes every four years (~1.75 per year) strike the United States, while about three major hurricanes cross the U.S. coast every five years (0.60 per year). Other noteworthy facts, updated from Jarrell et al. (2001), are:

1. Forty percent of all U.S. hurricanes hit Florida
2. Eighty-three percent of category 4 or higher hurricanes strikes have hit either Florida or Texas
3. Pennsylvania's only hurricane strike between 1851-2004 was in 1898 (from Blake et al. 2005).

NOAA/ National Weather Service
National Centers for Environmental Prediction
National Hurricane Center
Tropical Prediction Center
11691 SW 17th Street
Miami, Florida, 33165-2149 USA



Hurricane direct hits on the mainland U.S. coastline and for individual states by Saffir/Simpson category

1851-2006

AREA	CATEGORY						Major Hurricanes
	1	2	3	4	5	ALL	
U.S. Coastline (Texas to Maine)	113	74	76	18	3	284	97
Texas	23	18	12	7	0	60	19
(North)	12	7	3	4	0	26	7
(Central)	7	5	2	2	0	16	4
(South)	9	5	7	1	0	22	8
Louisiana	18	14	15	4	1	52	20
Mississippi	2	5	8	0	1	16	9
Alabama	12	5	6	0	0	23	6
Florida	44	33	29	6	2	114	37
(Northwest)	27	16	12	0	0	55	12
(Northeast)	13	8	1	0	0	22	1
(Southwest)	16	8	7	4	1	36	12
(Southeast)	13	13	11	3	1	41	15
Georgia	12	5	2	1	0	20	3
South Carolina	19	6	4	2	0	31	6
North Carolina	22	13	11	1	0	46	13
Virginia	9	2	1	0	0	12	1
Maryland	1	1	0	0	0	2	0
Delaware	2	0	0	0	0	2	0
New Jersey	2	0	0	0	0	2	0
Pennsylvania	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
New York	6	1	5	0	0	12	5
Connecticut	4	3	3	0	0	10	3
Rhode Island	3	2	4	0	0	9	4
Massachusetts	5	2	3	0	0	10	3
New Hampshire	1	1	0	0	0	2	0
Maine	5	1	0	0	0	6	0

Information provided is believed to be accurate and from a reliable source, but it is not guaranteed.

For more information, please contact NOAA directly.

© Copyright – Jorge Gojman 2008

Notes:

Updated from Jarrell et al. (2001).

State totals will not equal U.S. totals and Texas and Florida totals will not necessarily equal sum of sectional totals.

Regional definitions are found in Appenix A of Jarrell et al. (2001).

Provided courtesy of: Mary Ann & Jorge Gojman, Fine Homes Specialists
Prudential Southeast Coastal Properties
1 Diamond Causeway, Suite #4, Savannah, GA 31406
Mary Ann Tel. 912-713-1800 - Jorge Tel. 912-713-1823