

European Study Abroad – Summer 2017

Safety and Security Protocols and Suggestions

MSU School of Human Sciences – FDM Program



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- Intent of the Discussion
- Not to paint a “bleak picture” of current events
 - Paris, Manchester, London, etc.
- But to give realistic views on safety and security during uncertain times
- To keep you safe and traveling smart during a fantastic and truly defining experience in your lives

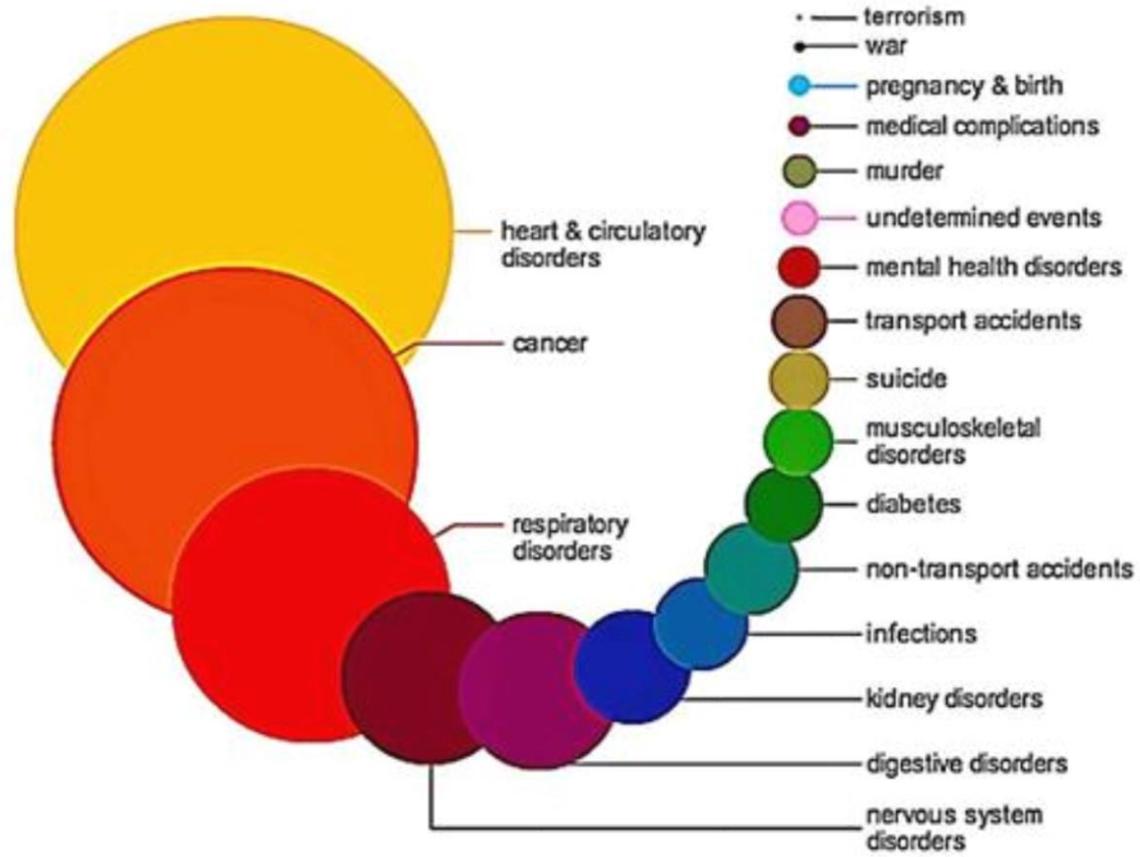


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- And in doing so...
- Making an incredibly rare and improbable event even more improbable by discussing relevant strategies and tips for students traveling internationally.
- Let's gain some perspective...



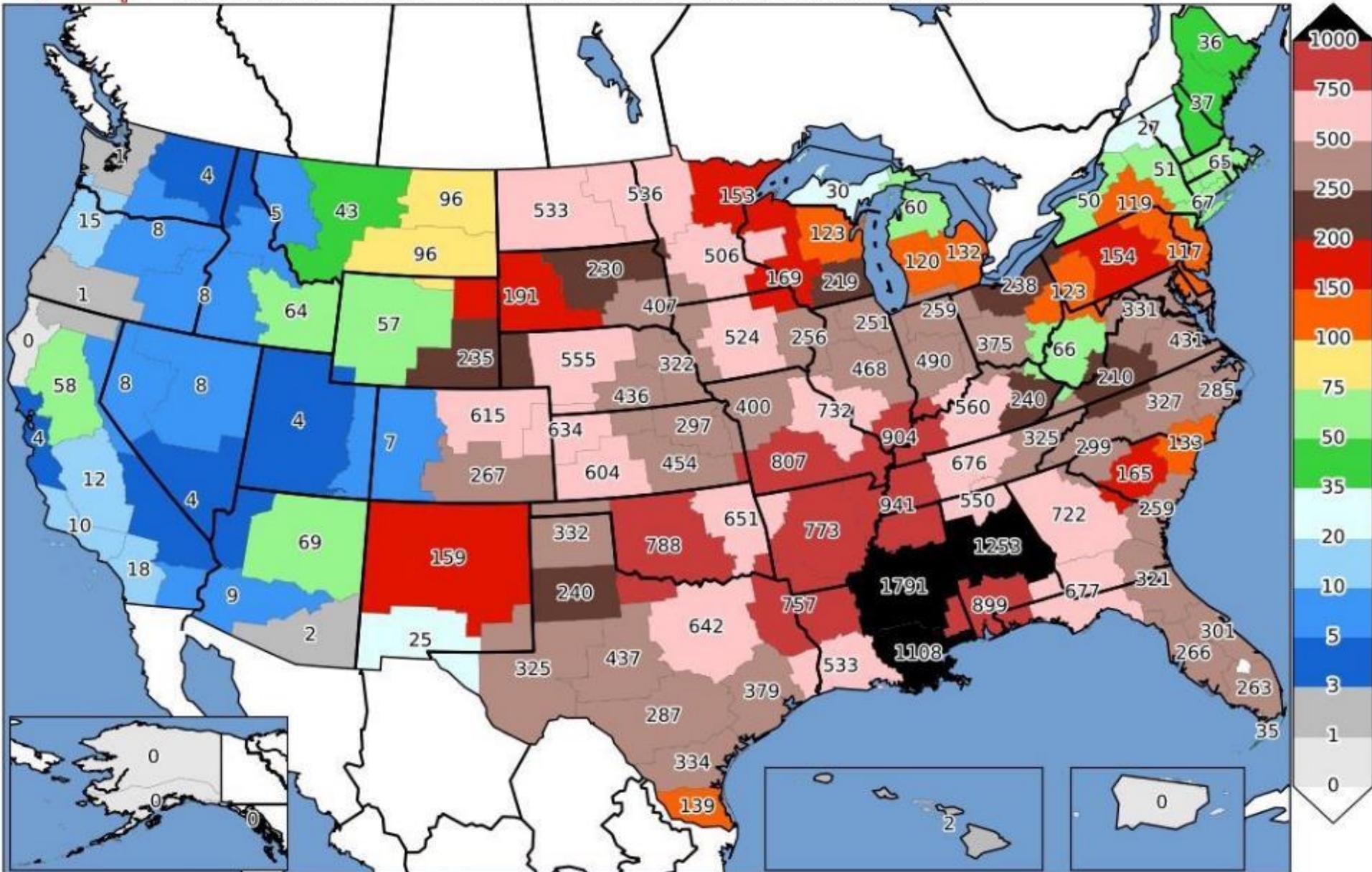
Leading causes of death in perspective



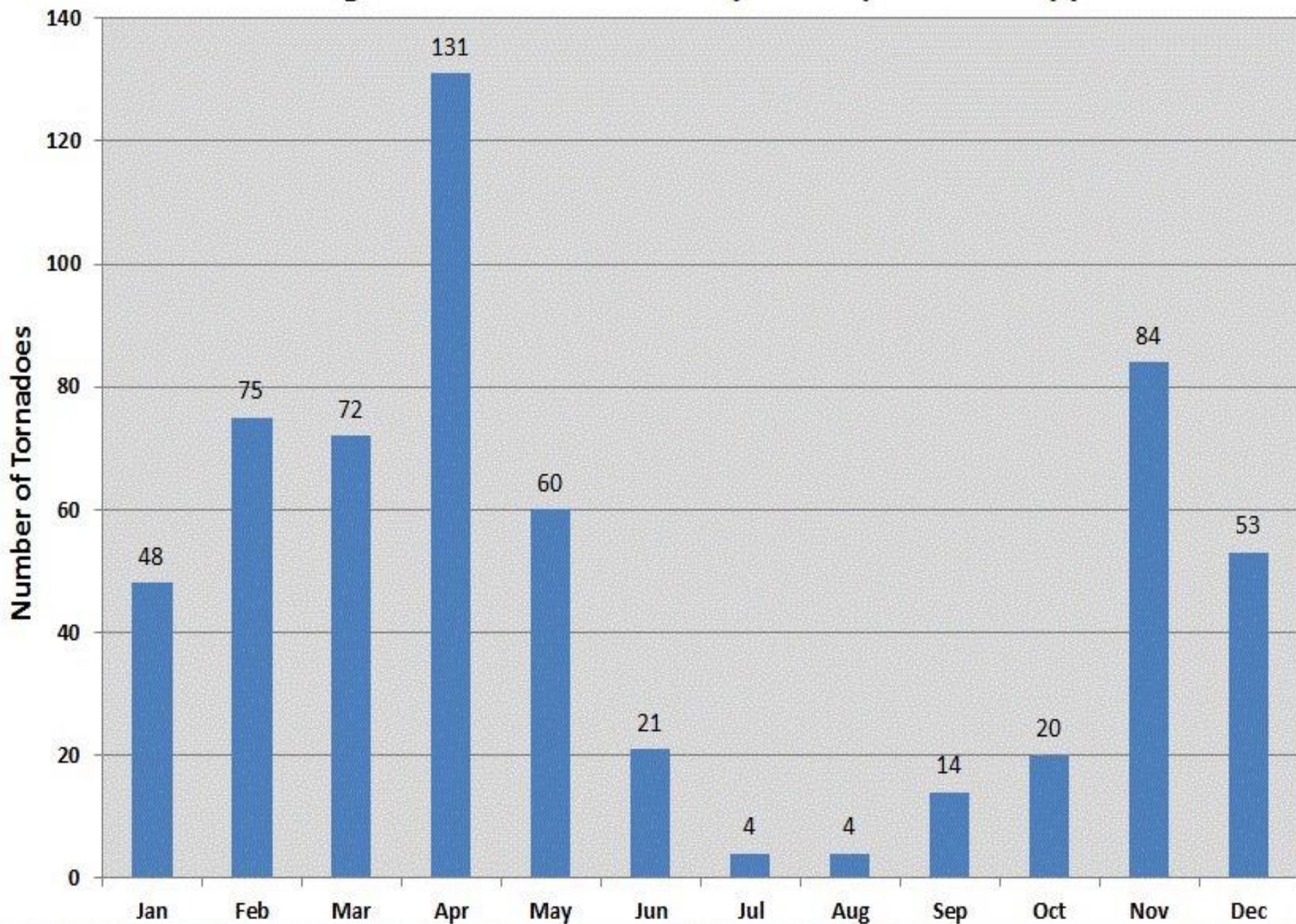


Tornado Warning Counts by NWS Office

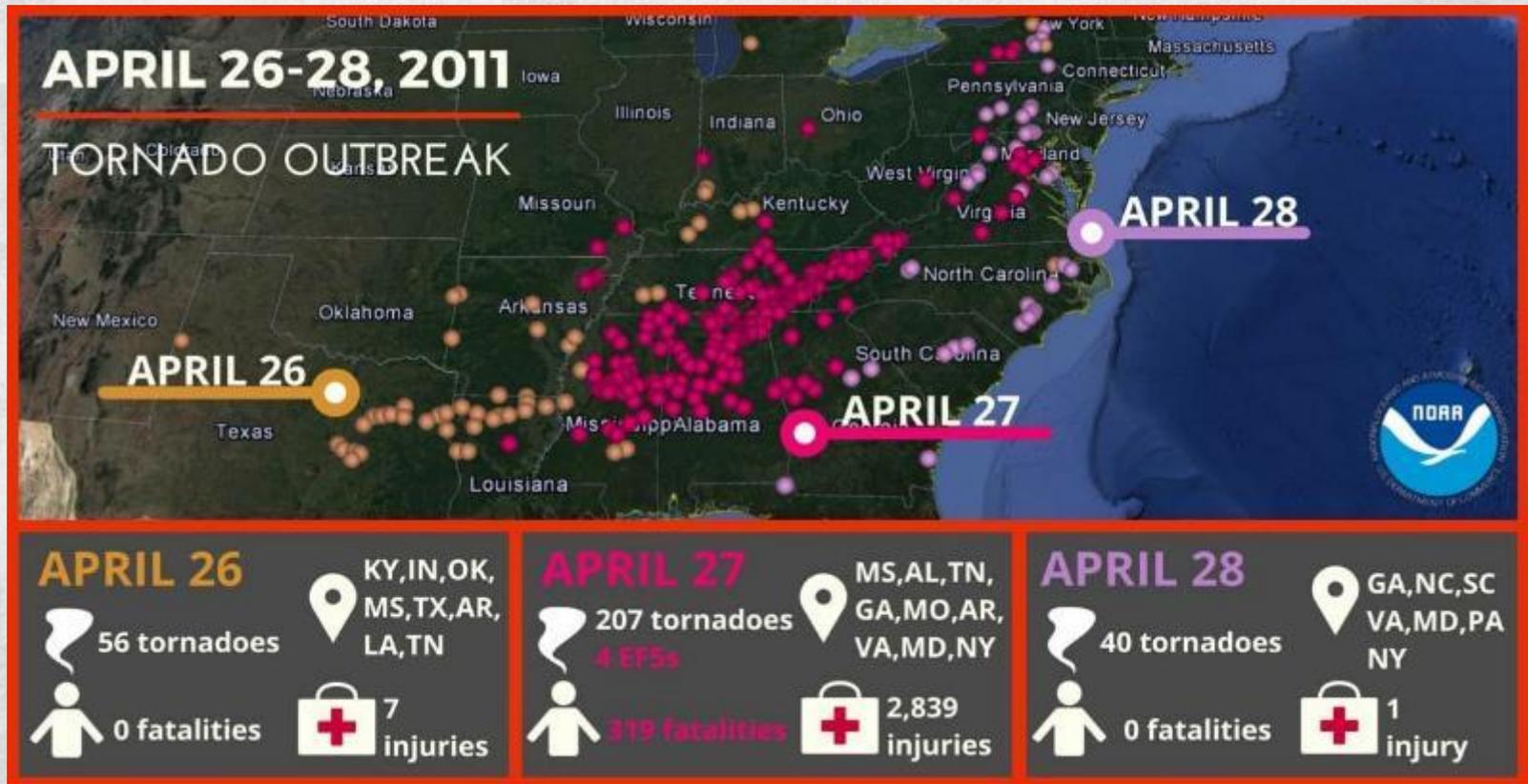
Valid 01 Jan 2005 00:00 - 16 Feb 2017 00:00 UTC, based on VTEC: TO.W



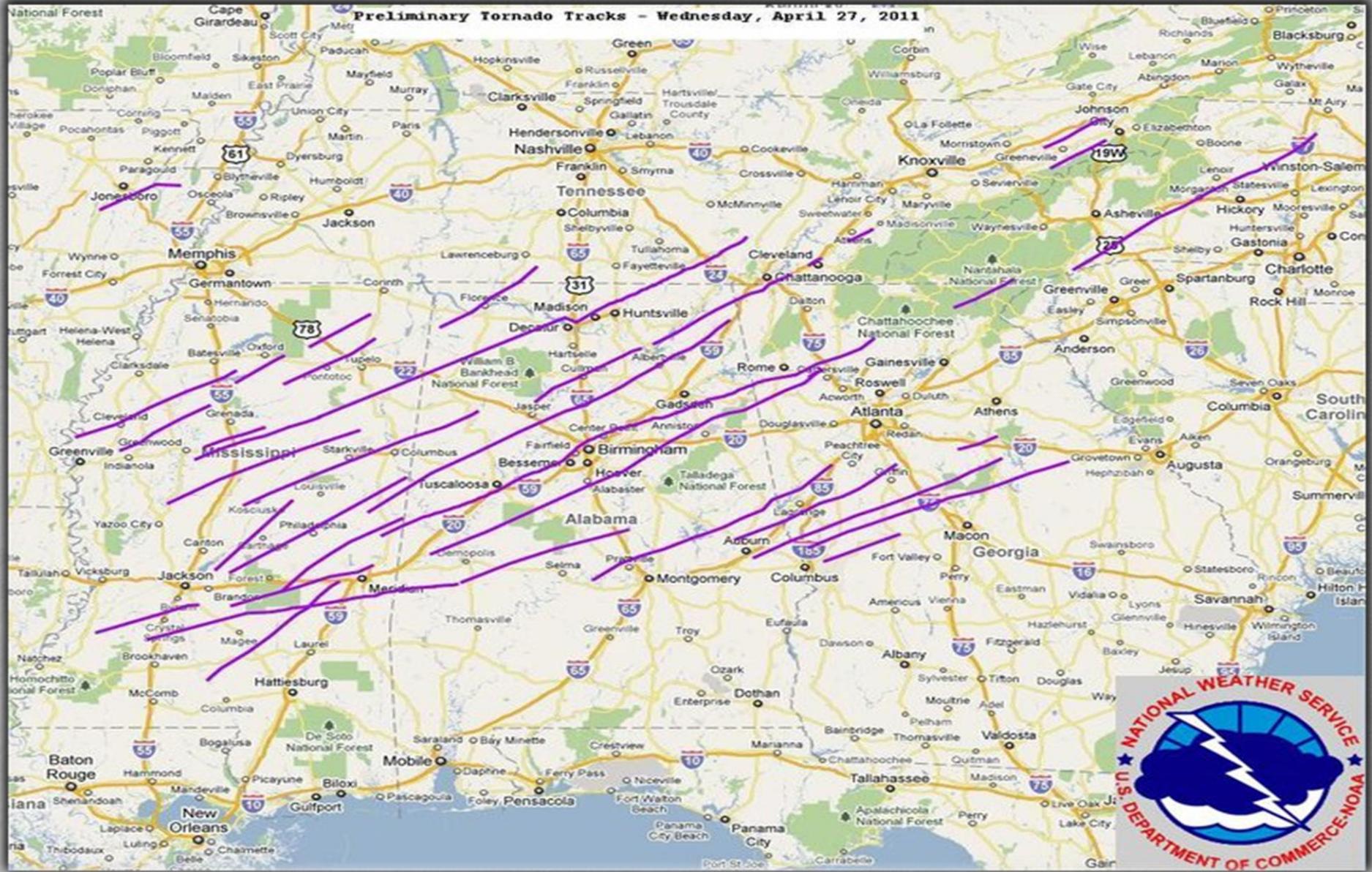
Strong and Violent Tornadoes (EF2-EF5) in Mississippi 1950-2016



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Preliminary Tornado Tracks - Wednesday, April 27, 2011



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Smithville, MS

- April 27, 2011
- EF5 with ~205 mph wind speeds
- 16 fatalities
- 117 structures destroyed;
- 50 more damaged



Images courtesy of:
Dr. Mike Brown,
MSU Geosciences Faculty



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- Crime & Personal Safety vs. Terrorist Threats
 - Recognize the Obvious...Recent Events
- American students have over twice as high a mortality rate on their home campus as they do while studying abroad.
 - It may actually be safer to study abroad in some cases



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- Recent events and sensationalist media coverage have contributed to fear.
- However, college students are approximately 4,700 times as likely to die from an alcohol-related incident than a terrorist attack (goabroad.com).
- Yes, you read that correctly....4,700 times as likely



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- Does that mean you should be complacent and steer clear from your use of good judgement and common sense?



“Of course it is important to stay safe, but that is true anywhere you live. While it may be risky to travel, to me it is even riskier to live a life sheltered from experiences and allowing the evil forces in the world to dictate your path.”

- Kate Conquest, CAPA The Global Education Network,
2015 Dublin Study Abroad Alumni.



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- While pick-pocketing, residential break-ins, bicycle thefts and other forms of theft are the most common forms of crime against American citizens, you must still be vigilant and use caution...just as you would at home.



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- Before Departure:
 - Secure the following items:
 - Travel Documents: passport, valid visa, ID cards, plane tickets, itinerary. Provide itinerary to family and/or friends at home.
 - Health: immunizations, insurance (check with your agent about coverage overseas), prescriptions
 - Finance: access to emergency funds
 - Register your travel plans with MSU and with the United States Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP).



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- Before Departure:
 - Bookmark the [US Department of State's home page](#) and Like/Follow their [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) Pages
 - Record addresses and phone numbers of US Embassy/Consulate and emergency numbers



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- While Abroad:
 - Keep your legal documents safe and secure; lock rooms
 - Be aware of local customs that may present safety risks; Respect the local culture and customs
 - Register with local US authorities
 - Stay in touch with home
 - Keep program staff informed of your whereabouts and well-being



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- While Abroad:
 - Travel in groups when possible
 - Have cash in local currency and at least 5 days of any prescribed medication
 - Avoid protests, particularly those directed at US
 - Pay attention to your physical surroundings and those around you
 - Use common sense



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- Due to recent events:
 - Visitors to congested and popular tourist areas (museums, monuments, train stations, airports, malls, concert halls, nightclubs, subways, public demonstrations, sports events, restaurants, etc.) should be particularly attentive to your surroundings and those surrounding you.
 - Know where you are going



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- Due to recent events:
 - HAVE AN EMERGENCY PLAN OF ACTION and an EXIT STRATEGY
 - Situational Awareness
 - Know how to get out without having to rely on assistance
 - “Run, Hide, Fight” in the case of a shooter
 - Be mindful of Travel Alerts and monitor local sources; factor these in decisions for personal activities and plans



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- Due to recent events:
 - In public places, identify multiple exits and alert authorities of suspicious persons
 - Enter and exit transportation hubs quickly
 - Keep a fully charged cell phone with you at all times
 - Read all electronic messages sent from STEP.
- Due to recent events:
 - Stay in contact with loved ones at home
 - Limit your patronage of American-owned or branded shops and restaurants.
 - Pay attention to messages from program coordinator and any hosts along with those of US DOS and local authorities



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- Crimes of opportunity are more likely to involve violence on the street late at night
 - Avoid unlit or dimly lit areas
- Women should exercise extra caution when out alone at night (SO DON'T) and consider traveling out only with trusted friends
 - While incidents of sexual assault is statistically very low, attacks do occur



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- Be cautious in bars and clubs where alcohol is served and do not leave your drink unattended or accept a drink from strangers.
- There are high incidences of “smash and grab” robberies in economically depressed areas or on highly traveled thoroughfares.
 - Thieves usually on foot or motorcycle
 - Keep doors locked and valuables out of sight



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- Finally, exercise caution while walking around high traffic areas and crossing streets. Traffic conditions, sign placements, and right of way rules differ from those in the United States.
- Driving is typically faster and more aggressive than in the US.



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- In the rare event that an emergency or crisis develops:
 - Contact your program coordinator immediately
 - Follow instructions of local authorities
 - Be prepared for additional security screening and unexpected disruptions
 - Utilize social media often to update your status
 - Monitor the [US Department of State home page](#) and Like/Follow their [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) Pages



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- Your STEP Registration will benefit you in a time of crisis abroad.
- If the need arises, contact the respective US Embassy or US Consulate in your area...



US Embassy and Consulate Info



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US Embassy and Consulate Info

- **U.S. Embassy Paris**
- **2 Avenue Gabriel
75008 Paris, France**
- **<https://fr.usembassy.gov/embassy-consulates/embassy/>**
- **Telephone: +(33)(1) 43-12-22-22**
- **Emergency After-Hours: +(33) (1) 43-12-22-22, enter zero "0" after the automated greeting**
- **Fax: +(33)(1) 42-66-97-83; +(33)(1) 42-61-61-40 (Special Consular Services)**
- **citizeninfo@state.gov**



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- Emergency Numbers in Paris:
- 911 in France is 112 for medical, fire, and police. Calls are free.
- Paris Police: Dial 17
- Ambulance: Dial 15
- Fire: Dial 18



US Embassy and Consulate Info



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US Embassy and Consulate Info

- **U.S. Embassy Rome**
- **Via Vittorio Veneto, 121
00187 Rome, Italy**
- **<https://it.usembassy.gov/embassy-consulates/embassy/>**
- Telephone: +(39) 06-4674-1
- Emergency After-Hours Telephone: +(39) 06-4674-1
- Fax: +(39) 06-4674-2244
- **uscitizensrome@state.gov**
- The Rome consular district include the regions of Lazio, Marche, Umbria, Abruzzo, and Sardegna.



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- Emergency Numbers in Rome:
 - City Police Rome – 06 67691
 - Central Police Station (Rome) – 06 4686
 - 911 in Italy is 112 for the Carabinieri (Italian Police Force) or 113 which is directed to the Italian State Police
 - For medical emergencies, you can dial 118
 - For fire emergencies, you can dial 115



US Embassy and Consulate Info



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US Embassy and Consulate Info

- **U.S. Consulate General Florence**
- **Lungarno Amerigo Vespucci 38,
50123 Florence, Italy**
- **<https://it.usembassy.gov/embassy-consulates/florence/>**
- Telephone: +(39) 055-266-951
- Emergency After-Hours: +(39) 055-266-951
- Fax: +(39) 055-215-550
- **uscitizenflorence@state.gov**
- The Florence consular district includes the regions of Tuscany, and Emilia-Romagna (all except the Provinces of Piacenza and Parma), as well as the Republic of San Marino.



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- Emergency Numbers in Florence
 - 911 in Italy is 112 for the Carabinieri (Italian Police Force) or 113 (directed to Italian State Police)
 - For medical emergencies, you can dial 118
 - For fire emergencies, you can dial 115



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US Embassy and Consulate Info

- **U.S. Consulate General Milan**
Via Principe Amedeo 2/10
20121 Milano, Italy
- <https://it.usembassy.gov/embassy-consulates/milan/>
- Telephone: +(39) 02-290-351
- Emergency After-Hours: +(39) 02-290-351
- uscitizenmilan@state.gov
- The Milan consular district includes the regions of Valle D'Aosta, Piemonte, Lombardia, Veneto, Trentino-Alto Adige, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Liguria, and Emilia-Romagna (Provinces of Piacenza and Parma only).



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- Emergency Numbers in Milan
 - 911 in Italy is 112 for the Carabinieri (Italian Police Force) or 113 (directed to Italian State Police)
 - For medical emergencies, you can dial 118
 - For fire emergencies, you can dial 115



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US Embassy and Consulate Info

- **U.S. Consular Agent - Venice**
Viale Galileo Galilei 30
30173 Tessera, Italy
- Telephone: +(39) 041-541-5944
- Fax: +(39) 041-541-6654
- Emergency After-Hours Telephone: Please contact the U.S. Consulate General in Milan.
- uscitizensvenice@state.gov
- Monday through Thursday, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM, by appointment only.



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- Emergency Numbers in Venice
 - 911 in Italy is 112 for the Carabinieri (Italian Police Force) or 113 (directed to Italian State Police)
 - For medical emergencies, you can dial 118
 - For fire emergencies, you can dial 115



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- Resources:
 - [What Can You Do in a Crisis Abroad?](#)
 - [Get Help in an Emergency](#)
 - [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Travelers' Health](#)



Thank You For Your Time!



REMEMBER: Travel Smart, Stay Safe, Learn, and most importantly, Have Fun. Hail State!



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