Lightning activity highlights of 2021

The data are from the Vaisala NLDN U.S. National Lightning Detection Network and the Vaisala GLD360 Global Lightning Detection Network, that monitor total lightning activity, including both in-cloud (IC) and cloud-to-ground (CG) lightning, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

**Total Lightning Events Across the U.S.**

- **Over 194 million** total lightning events across the U.S. in 2021
- **24 million more** than in 2020

**Monsoon Returns**

- Nevada, Utah, and Arizona above average lightning in 2021

**Over 2 million acres burned** in lightning-triggered wildfires in 2021 in the U.S.

- Nevada (#1 state with the most total lightning in 2021: 41,914,516)

**Lightning Strikes the Same Place Twice – and More**

- Cloud-to-ground strokes detected
  - **2016 – 2021**
  - Willis Tower: 216
  - John Hancock Center: 159
  - One World Trade Center: 109
  - Trump International Hotel: 103
  - Empire State Building: 25
  - AON Center: 24
  - NY Times Building: 15
  - 432 Park Avenue: 12
  - Bank of America Tower (NYC): 9
  - Chrysler Building: 2

**More than in any other state**

- **223 total lightning events** per square mile in Florida in 2021

**Over 91% more lightning detected north of 80° N than in 2012-2020 combined**

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