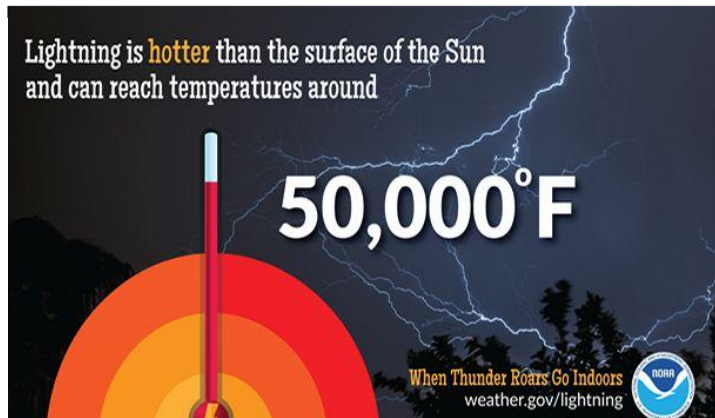
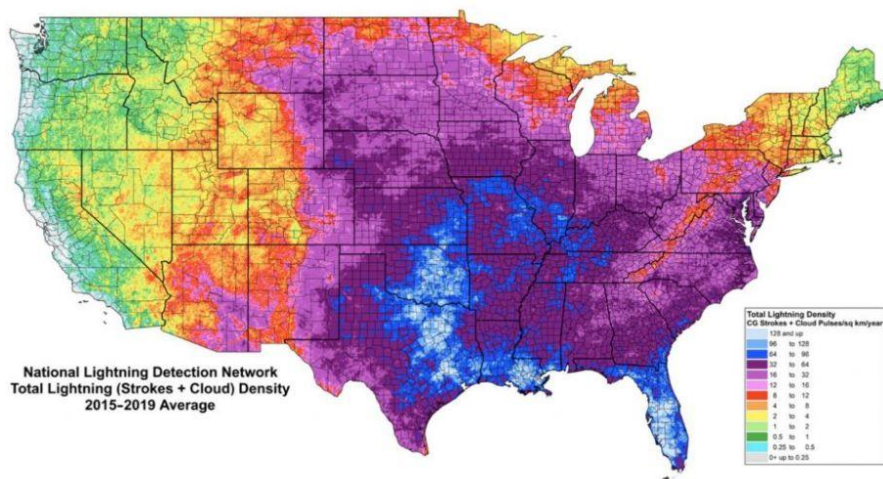


Lightning

Lightning strikes the United States about 25 million times every year. Lightning can strike up to 10 miles away from rainfall. There is a risk for lightning any time thunder is heard.



Average U.S. Total Lightning Density, 2015–2019
1,084,890,070 Events Detected

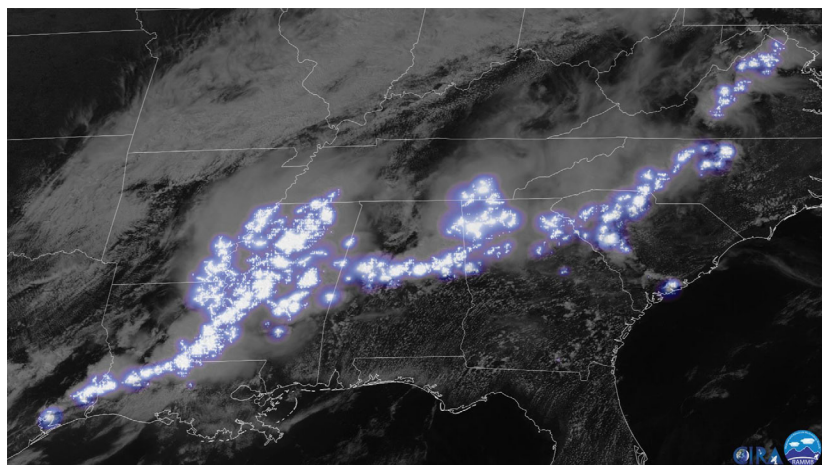


Lightning is a giant spark of electricity in the atmosphere or between the atmosphere and the ground. Lightning can occur between opposite charges within the thunderstorm cloud (Intra Cloud Lightning) or between opposite charges in the cloud and on the ground (Cloud-To-Ground Lightning).

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ANNUAL LIGHTNING REPORT 2019

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NOAA's geostationary satellite has a lightning mapper that allows forecasters to see where lightning strikes are all over North and South America.