

Storm Damage Analysis

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Synopsis

This report will analyse the impact of types of weather events on the public. The report focuses on both economic damage and threats to human health. The data is supplied courtesy of the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Settings and Libraries

```
echo = TRUE
library(ggplot2)
library(tidyr)
library(zoo)
library(dplyr)
library(stringr)
library(gridExtra)
```

Data Processing

Download and import data.

```
if (!exists("storm")) storm <- read.csv(bzfile("repdata-data-StormData.csv.bz2"))
```

Glimpse the Shape of the data.

```
storm <- tbl_df(storm)
storm
```

```
## Source: local data frame [902,297 x 37]
```

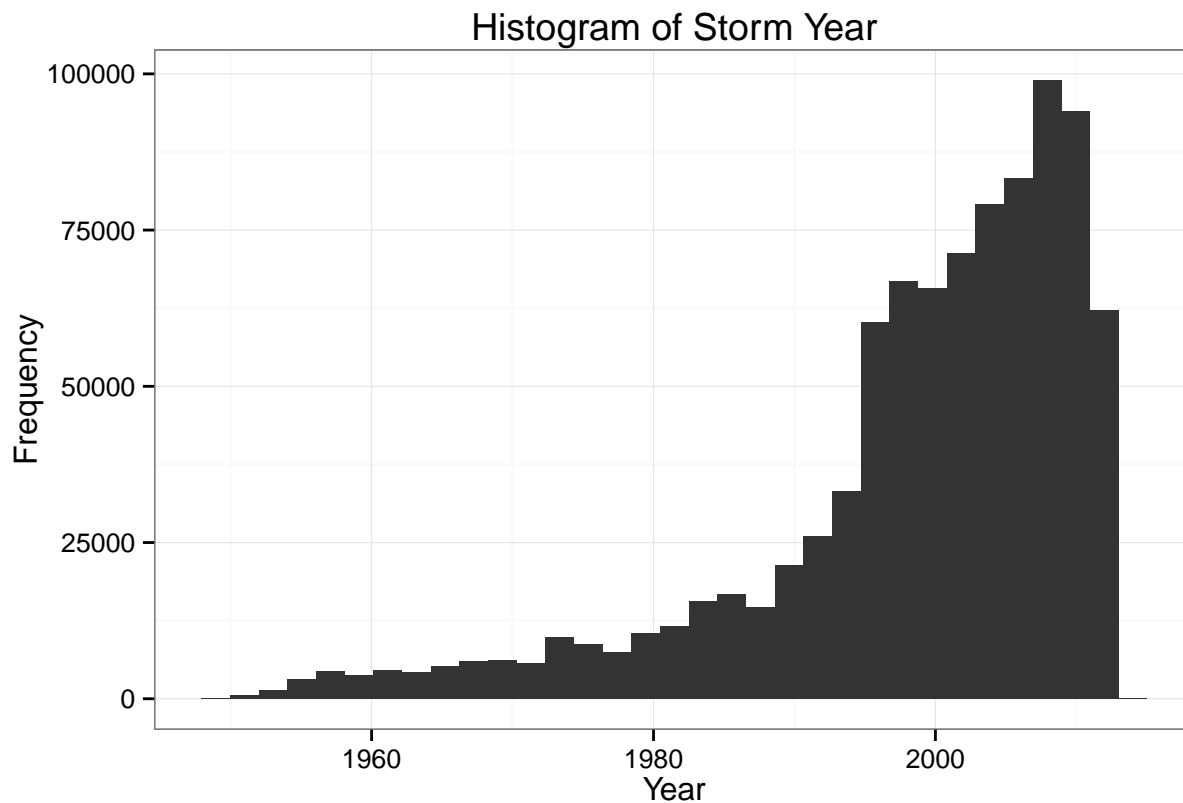
```
##
```

```
##   STATE__      BGN_DATE BGN_TIME TIME_ZONE COUNTY COUNTYNAM STATE
## 1      1  4/18/1950 0:00:00    0130     CST     97    MOBILE    AL
## 2      1  4/18/1950 0:00:00    0145     CST      3    BALDWIN    AL
## 3      1  2/20/1951 0:00:00    1600     CST     57    FAYETTE    AL
## 4      1   6/8/1951 0:00:00    0900     CST     89    MADISON    AL
## 5      1 11/15/1951 0:00:00    1500     CST     43    CULLMAN    AL
## 6      1 11/15/1951 0:00:00    2000     CST     77 LAUDERDALE    AL
## 7      1 11/16/1951 0:00:00    0100     CST      9     BLOUNT    AL
## 8      1  1/22/1952 0:00:00    0900     CST    123 TALLAPOOSA    AL
## 9      1  2/13/1952 0:00:00    2000     CST    125 TUSCALOOSA    AL
## 10     1  2/13/1952 0:00:00    2000     CST     57    FAYETTE    AL
## ..      ...              ...      ...      ...      ...      ...
```

```
## Variables not shown: EVTYPE (fctr), BGN_RANGE (dbl), BGN_AZI (fctr),
## BGN_LOCATI (fctr), END_DATE (fctr), END_TIME (fctr), COUNTY_END (dbl),
## COUNTYENDN (lgl), END_RANGE (dbl), END_AZI (fctr), END_LOCATI (fctr),
## LENGTH (dbl), WIDTH (dbl), F (int), MAG (dbl), FATALITIES (dbl),
## INJURIES (dbl), PROPDGM (dbl), PROPDMGEXP (fctr), CROPDMG (dbl),
## CROPDMGEXP (fctr), WFO (fctr), STATEOFFIC (fctr), ZONENAMES (fctr),
## LATITUDE (dbl), LONGITUDE (dbl), LATITUDE_E (dbl), LONGITUDE_ (dbl),
## REMARKS (fctr), REFNUM (dbl)
```

A histogram shows that data records became consistent around 1995, so we will omit earlier events from our analysis.

```
storm$year <- as.numeric(format(as.Date(storm$BGN_DATE, format = "%m/%d/%Y %H:%M:%S"), "%Y"))
ggplot(data=storm)+theme_bw()+
  geom_histogram(aes(x=year))+xlab("Year")+ylab("Frequency")+ggtitle("Histogram of Storm Year")
```



```
# Limit to dense data after 1995
storm = storm[storm$year>=1995,]
```

Public Health

The recorded weather events are not consistent:

```
storm$EVTYPE= as.factor(tolower(storm$EVTYPE))
arrange(storm %>% group_by(EVTYPE) %>% summarise(Count=n()),desc(Count))
```

```
## Source: local data frame [716 x 2]
##
##           EVTYPE  Count
## 1           hail 215932
## 2      tstm wind 128925
## 3 thunderstorm wind 81746
## 4     flash flood 52673
## 5         flood 24642
## 6         tornado 24335
## 7       high wind 19958
## 8     heavy snow 14710
## 9     lightning 14280
## 10    heavy rain 11640
## ..           ...     ...
```

Rename events based on manual exploration.

```
storm$simplified_EVTYPE=as.character(storm$EVTYPE)

word="fld"
rep_ind=grep(word,storm$simplified_EVTYPE)
storm$simplified_EVTYPE[rep_ind]="flood"

replacement_words=c("hail","wind","flood","snow","lightning","rain","winter","funnel cloud",
                    "waterspout","fire","blizzard","drought","ice","heat","fog","freeze",
                    "surf","tropical","cold","dust","avalanche","hurricane","tide",
                    "landslide","warm","current","dry","tornado","storm")
for (word in replacement_words) {

  rep_ind=grep(word,storm$simplified_EVTYPE)
  storm$simplified_EVTYPE[rep_ind]=word

}
```

This simplifies our categories greatly, taking us from 716 to 216

```
Storm_Health=storm %>% group_by(simplified_EVTYPE) %>%
  summarise(Fatalities=sum(FATALITIES),Injuries=sum(INJURIES),
            Count=n())
Storm_Health %>% arrange(desc(Count))
```

```
## Source: local data frame [202 x 4]
##
##   simplified_EVTYPE Fatalities Injuries  Count
## 1           wind       1082     7234 259950
## 2           hail         15     1021 217619
## 3          flood       1414     8598 82607
## 4        tornado       1545    21783 24365
## 5          winter        256     1836 19477
```

```
## 6          snow          149      829 16481
## 7      lightning          730     4633 14287
## 8          rain          101      268 11977
## 9      funnel cloud           0         1  6408
## 10         fire           87     1458  4215
## ..          ...          ...      ...     ...
```

Economic Damage

Adjusting damage estimates according to unit notation provided to be in millions of dollars

```
storm$PROPDMG[storm$PROPDMGEXP=="B"]=(storm$PROPDMG[storm$PROPDMGEXP=="B"]*(10^9))/(10^6)
storm$PROPDMG[storm$PROPDMGEXP=="M"]=(storm$PROPDMG[storm$PROPDMGEXP=="M"]*(10^6))/(10^6)
storm$PROPDMG[storm$PROPDMGEXP=="K"]=(storm$PROPDMG[storm$PROPDMGEXP=="K"]*(10^3))/(10^6)
storm$PROPDMG[storm$PROPDMGEXP=="H"]=(storm$PROPDMG[storm$PROPDMGEXP=="H"]*(10^2))/(10^6)

storm$CROPDMG[storm$CROPDMGEXP=="B"]=(storm$CROPDMG[storm$CROPDMGEXP=="B"]*(10^9))/(10^6)
storm$CROPDMG[storm$CROPDMGEXP=="M"]=(storm$CROPDMG[storm$CROPDMGEXP=="M"]*(10^6))/(10^6)
storm$CROPDMG[storm$CROPDMGEXP=="K"]=(storm$CROPDMG[storm$CROPDMGEXP=="K"]*(10^3))/(10^6)
storm$CROPDMG[storm$CROPDMGEXP=="H"]=(storm$CROPDMG[storm$CROPDMGEXP=="H"]*(10^2))/(10^6)
```

Producing summary table grouped by weather event type

```
Storm_Economy=storm %>% group_by(simplified_EVTTYPE) %>%
  summarise(Property=sum(PROPDMG),Crop=sum(CROPDMG),
    Count=n())
```

Results

Public Health

Public health damage in descending order of fatalities.

```
Storm_Health %>% arrange(desc(Fatalities))
```

```
## Source: local data frame [202 x 4]
##
##   simplified_EVTTYPE Fatalities Injuries  Count
## 1          heat        3081      9088   2587
## 2      tornado        1545     21783  24365
## 3          flood        1414      8598  82607
## 4          wind        1082      7234 259950
## 5      lightning         730     4633  14287
## 6          current        564        524    763
## 7          winter        256     1836  19477
## 8      avalanche        223        159    380
## 9           cold        169        125    823
## 10         surf        160        245   1057
## ..          ...          ...      ...     ...
```

Public health damage in descending order of injuries.

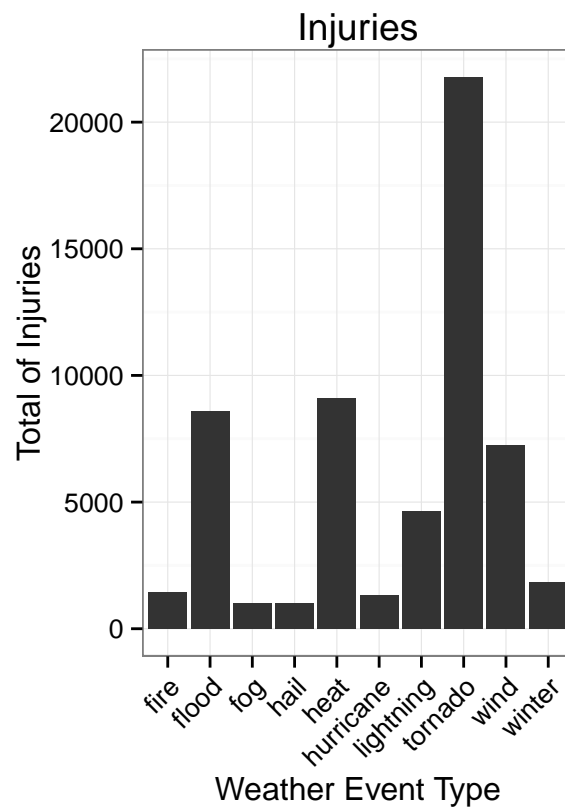
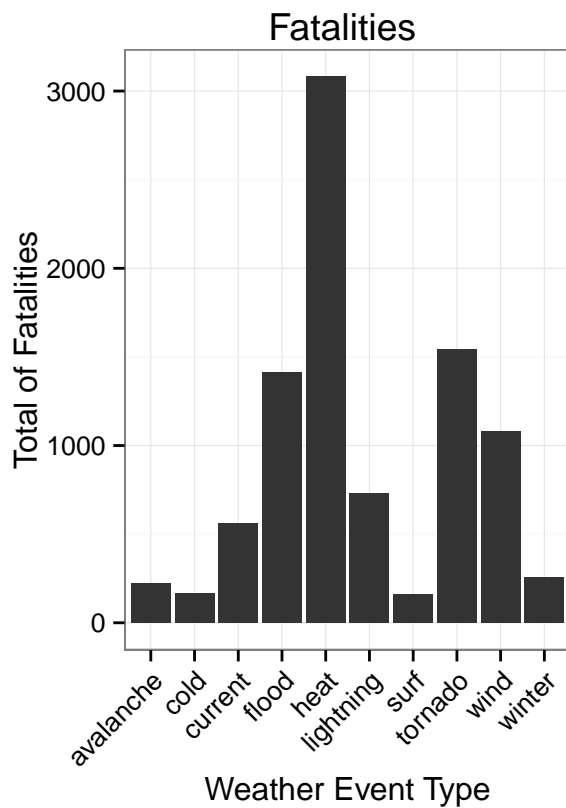
```
Storm_Health %>% arrange(desc(Injuries))
```

```
## Source: local data frame [202 x 4]
##
##   simplified_EVTYPE Fatalities Injuries  Count
## 1      tornado      1545    21783  24365
## 2         heat      3081     9088   2587
## 3        flood      1414     8598  82607
## 4         wind      1082     7234 259950
## 5    lightning       730     4633  14287
## 6        winter       256     1836  19477
## 7         fire        87     1458   4215
## 8    hurricane       133     1327    281
## 9         hail        15     1021 217619
## 10        fog         71      994   1851
## ..          ...          ...      ...      ...
```

The graphs below illustrate the events posing most risk to public health.

```
worst_fatalities=(Storm_Health %>% arrange(desc(Fatalities)))$simplified_EVTYPE[1:10]
temp_plot_data=Storm_Health %>% arrange(desc(Fatalities))
temp_plot_data=temp_plot_data[temp_plot_data$simplified_EVTYPE %in% worst_fatalities,]
fatality_plot <- ggplot(temp_plot_data) + theme_bw() +
  geom_bar(aes(x =simplified_EVTYPE,weight=Fatalities ))+
  scale_y_continuous("Total of Fatalities") +
  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 45,hjust = 1)) +
  xlab("Weather Event Type") +
  ggtitle("Fatalities ")

worst_Injuries=(Storm_Health %>% arrange(desc(Injuries)))$simplified_EVTYPE[1:10]
temp_plot_data=Storm_Health %>% arrange(desc(Injuries))
temp_plot_data=temp_plot_data[temp_plot_data$simplified_EVTYPE %in% worst_Injuries,]
injury_plot <- ggplot(temp_plot_data) + theme_bw() +
  geom_bar(aes(x =simplified_EVTYPE,weight=Injuries ))+
  scale_y_continuous("Total of Injuries") +
  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 45,hjust = 1)) +
  xlab("Weather Event Type") +
  ggtitle("Injuries")
grid.arrange(fatality_plot, injury_plot, ncol = 2)
```



Economic Damage

Economic damage in descending order of property damage.

```
Storm_Economy %>% arrange(desc(Property))
```

```
## Source: local data frame [202 x 4]
##
##   simplified_EVTYPE  Property      Crop  Count
## 1      flood 160599.941 6937.8045 82607
## 2    hurricane 84550.180 5504.7928   281
## 3       storm 44396.884   18.2050   356
## 4     tornado 25117.691  456.6028 24365
## 5        wind 20697.734 1941.7631 259950
## 6        hail 15669.297 3069.4353 217619
## 7         fire  7761.007  402.2676  4215
## 8    tropical  7660.073  693.8860   749
## 9         tide  4650.933    0.8500   427
## 10        ice  3644.372  15.6608  1981
## ..      ...      ...      ...      ...
```

Economic damage in descending order of crop damage.

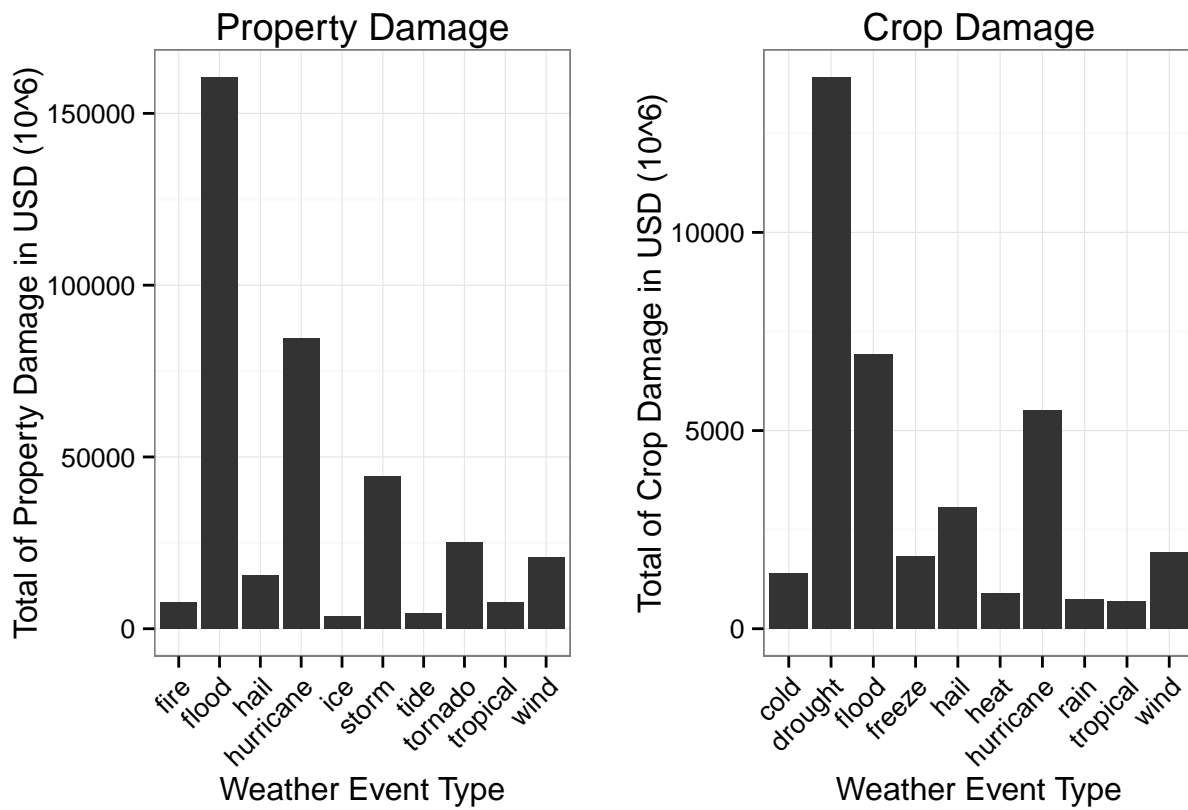
```
Storm_Economy %>% arrange(desc(Crop))
```

```
## Source: local data frame [202 x 4]
##
##   simplified_EVTYPE    Property      Crop  Count
## 1      drought    1046.30600 13922.1218   2486
## 2      flood    160599.94142  6937.8045  82607
## 3    hurricane    84550.18001  5504.7928   281
## 4        hail    15669.29732  3069.4353 217619
## 5        wind    20697.73367  1941.7631 259950
## 6      freeze      18.68000  1839.0610   1439
## 7        cold     46.33640  1408.6155    823
## 8        heat     20.12075   899.3135   2587
## 9        rain    3158.28544   740.1528  11977
## 10     tropical    7660.07255   693.8860    749
## ..          ...          ...          ...
```

The graphs below illustrate the events posing most risk to public health.

```
ind_1=(Storm_Economy %>% arrange(desc(Property)))$simplified_EVTYPE[1:10]
temp_plot_data=Storm_Economy %>% arrange(desc(Property))
temp_plot_data=temp_plot_data[temp_plot_data$simplified_EVTYPE %in% ind_1,]
property_plot <- ggplot(temp_plot_data) + theme_bw() +
  geom_bar(aes(x =simplified_EVTYPE,weight=Property ))+
  scale_y_continuous("Total of Property Damage in USD (10^6)") +
  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 45,hjust = 1)) +
  xlab("Weather Event Type") +
  ggtitle("Property Damage")

ind_2=(Storm_Economy %>% arrange(desc(Crop)))$simplified_EVTYPE[1:10]
temp_plot_data=Storm_Economy %>% arrange(desc(Crop))
temp_plot_data=temp_plot_data[temp_plot_data$simplified_EVTYPE %in% ind_2,]
crop_plot <- ggplot(temp_plot_data) + theme_bw() +
  geom_bar(aes(x =simplified_EVTYPE,weight=Crop ))+
  scale_y_continuous("Total of Crop Damage in USD (10^6)") +
  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 45,hjust = 1)) +
  xlab("Weather Event Type") +
  ggtitle("Crop Damage")
grid.arrange(property_plot, crop_plot, ncol = 2)
```



Conclusion

This Analysis shows that:

- Heat, Tornadoes, and Flooding, respectively, pose the greatest risk to human life.
- Tornadoes, Heat, and Flooding, respectively, pose the greatest risk to human injury.
- Flooding, Hurricanes, and Storms, respectively, inflict the greatest property damage.
- Drought, Hurricanes, and Heat, respectively, inflict the greatest crop damage.