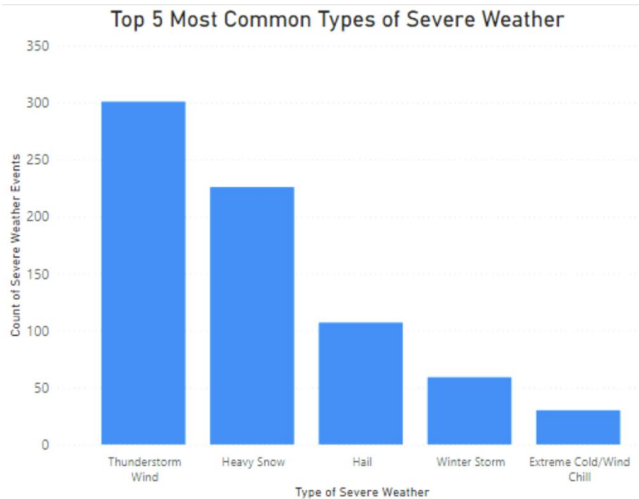


## **Top 5 Most Common Types of Severe Weather**

1. Thunderstorm Wind
2. Heavy Snow
3. Hail
4. Winter Storm
5. Extreme Cold/Wind Chill



## **Resources**

*Natural Hazards | Maine Emergency Management Agency. (2021).*  
Maine.Gov.  
<https://www.maine.gov/mema/hazards/natural-hazards>

## **Contact us**

Toll-free, in-state  
800-452-8735

[MEEmergency@maine.gov](mailto:MEEmergency@maine.gov)



Seal of Maine

# **Be Prepared for Severe Weather**

By: Janelle Munson-McGee



**Are you Prepared for Severe Weather in Maine?**

"If you don't like the weather in New England now, just wait a few minutes."

- Mark Twain

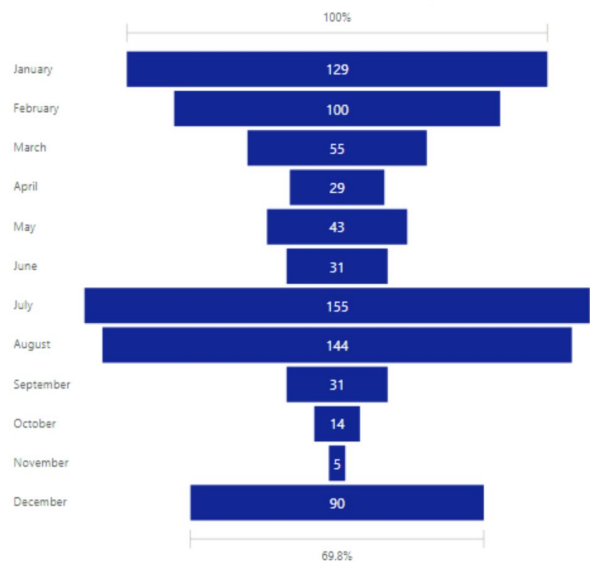
## Watch Vs. Warning

**Watch:** Atmospheric conditions are favorable for severe weather. Keep an eye on the sky and monitor the weather radio stations.

**Warning:** be prepared to seek shelter because that means severe weather is inevitable. Shelter in place and follow further instructions.

Listen to and follow all **WATCH** and **WARNING** recommendations from the National Weather Service.

**Number of Severe Weather Events by Month**



## When to Look out

### **May - October**

#### **Thunderstorm Wind**

Severe Thunderstorms produce “damaging wind gusts of 58 mph or more.” Damaged trees and falling branches may cause power and communication outages.

#### **Hail**

Severe storm Warnings are issued for hail that is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch or greater in diameter.

### **November - April**

#### **Winter Storm**

Typically characterized by low temperatures, strong winds, and large quantities of snow. Types of storms include: Blizzards, Ice Storms, Sleet Storms, and Snow Storms.

**Heavy Snow** and **Extreme Cold** are also severe weather occurrences during this time of year.

People should start preparing early by winterizing their house.

## Be Prepared

### **General Checklist**

More detailed checklists online.

- ☐ Drinking Water
- ☐ Food
- ☐ Fuel
- ☐ Medical items
- ☐ Battery powered radio
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Blankets and warm layers (winter months)

### **Power Outages**

All of these events can lead to Power Outages. Trees fall on power lines, wind blows over telephone poles, ice breaks a line, etc.

Power outages vary in length. Generators can come in handy and are sold in varying sizes. You can get a generator to power your whole house or just the essentials. Common places to go include:

- Lowes
- Home Depot
- Ames
- Specialty generator and electricity stores