

# Annual Tornado Watch Hours 2003-2014

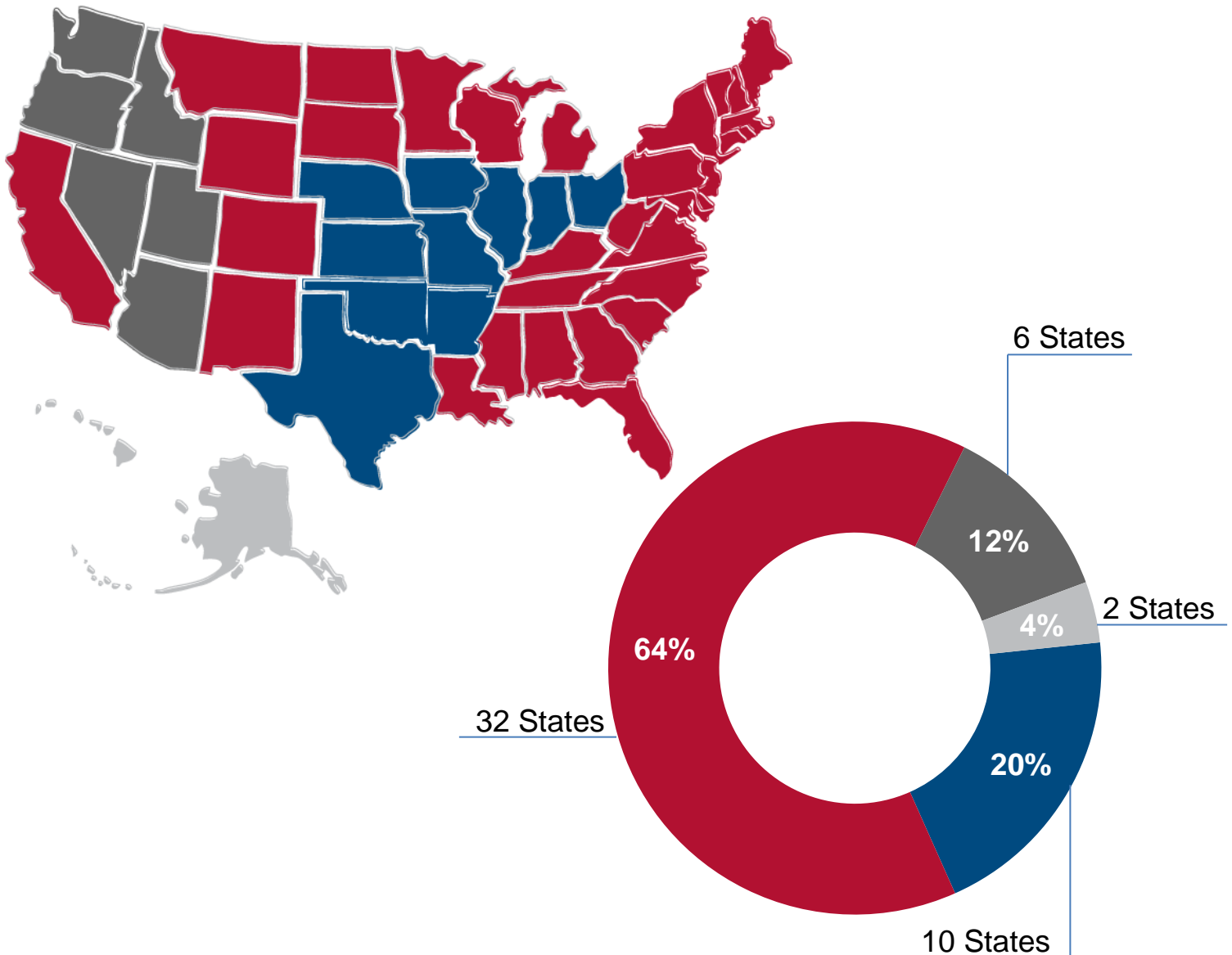


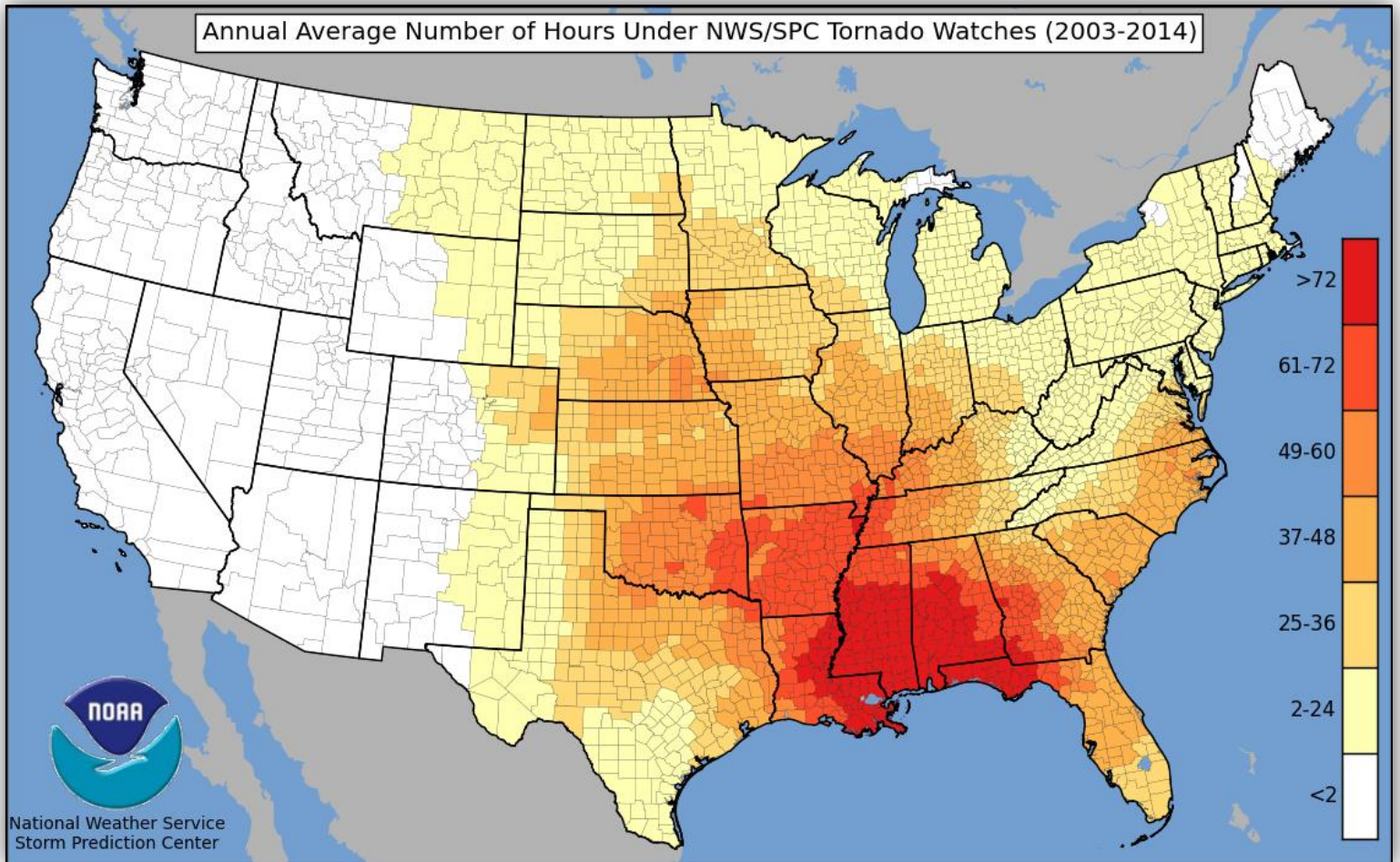
The analysis is based on data provided to the nonprofit Federal Alliance for Safe Homes ([FLASH](#))<sup>®</sup> by the NOAA/National Weather Service *Storm Prediction Center* in Norman, Oklahoma. The data is a compilation of annual averages of all tornado watch hours from 2003 through 2014 for counties in the continental United States and the District of Columbia.

## By the Numbers

## TORNADO WATCHES

■ States Under Watches not in Tornado Alley\*   ■ States in Tornado Alley   ■ States without Watches   ■ States not Included in Data





**90%**  
Counties  
Under Watch

**27**  
Average  
Watch Hours

\* As defined by the NOAA National Climate Data Center: "Although the boundaries of Tornado Alley are debatable (depending on which criteria you use—frequency, intensity, or events per unit area), the region from central Texas, northward to northern Iowa, and from central Kansas and Nebraska east to western Ohio is often collectively known as Tornado Alley." <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/climate-information/extreme-events/us-tornado-climatology/tornado-alley>

This table reflects the total average hours, average hours per year, and range of hours per county in any given year from 2003-2014 that have experienced a tornado watch. The table omits the six states (Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington) without any tornado watches during the period.

State	Total Average Hours (2003-14)	Average Hours Per Year	Range of Hours Per County
Alabama	4,884	73	47-99
Arkansas	4,879	65	53-77
California	1	1	1
Colorado	596	19	1-39
Connecticut	34	4	2-7
Delaware	45	15	14-16
District of Columbia	23	23	23
Florida	3,491	52	27-91
Georgia	8,271	52	31-78
Illinois	4,213	41	16-60
Indiana	3,093	34	20-51
Iowa	3,587	36	26-49
Kansas	4,122	39	18-55
Kentucky	4,259	35	17-62
Louisiana	4,722	74	56-99
Maine	19	2	1-3
Maryland	486	20	8-30
Massachusetts	37	3	2-6
Michigan	881	11	1-22
Minnesota	2,109	24	5-36
Mississippi	6,884	84	60-104
Missouri	5,571	48	28-70
Montana	208	5	1-17
Nebraska	3,632	39	19-51
New Hampshire	19	2	1-3
New Jersey	191	9	6-14
New Mexico	110	6	1-11
New York	318	5	1-8
North Carolina	3,452	35	10-50
North Dakota	880	17	8-28
Ohio	1,630	19	6-30
Oklahoma	4,217	55	16-69
Pennsylvania	542	8	5-14
Rhode Island	12	2	2-3
South Carolina	1,878	41	32-50
South Dakota	1,719	26	17-42
Tennessee	3,982	42	16-68
Texas	7,955	32	5-62
Vermont	46	3	3-4
Virginia	3,301	25	8-47
West Virginia	647	12	7-20
Wisconsin	1,300	18	4-30
Wyoming	116	8	1-18