

Kansas, a top 10 state for weather-related dangers

- **Kansas is the sixth-most dangerous state with 19.19 weather-related deaths and injuries per million residents.**
- **The study analyzes weather-related fatalities and injuries across all 50 states from 2020 to 2024.**
- **Maine and Rhode Island report zero weather-related deaths and injuries per million residents.**

A new study conducted by North Carolina Personal Injury Lawyers, [Whitley Law Firm](#), reveals the states with the highest and lowest rates of weather-related deaths and injuries in 2024, based on National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration data.

Nebraska is the most dangerous state with **58.34** weather-related deaths and injuries per million residents in 2024. This is a significant increase from 2023, which reported 6.54 weather-related deaths and injuries per million residents. Nebraska is known for its weather extremes, including tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and blizzards.

Oklahoma ranks second with **54.70** weather-related deaths and injuries per million residents in 2024. The state reported 224 incidents in 2024, a significant increase from 161 in 2023. Oklahoma is located in Tornado Alley, making it particularly susceptible to tornadoes and severe storms.

Nevada had **50.19** weather-related deaths and injuries per million residents in 2024. The state reported 164 incidents in 2024, up from 51 in 2023. Nevada's arid climate makes it prone to extreme heat events and flash floods.

New Mexico follows with **36.15** weather-related deaths and injuries per million residents in 2024. New Mexico's diverse climate makes it susceptible to wildfires, flash floods, and extreme temperatures. The state saw 77 incidents in 2024, a substantial increase from just two incidents in 2023.

Mississippi is fifth, reporting **22.77** weather-related deaths and injuries per million residents in 2024. With 67 reported incidents in 2024, the state shows a decrease from a staggering 310 incidents in 2023. Mississippi's weather hazards include hurricanes, tornadoes, and flooding.

Kansas ranks sixth in the country with **19.19** weather-related deaths and injuries per million residents in 2024. Kansas experienced 57 incidents in 2024, which is more than twice the number in 2023 (28). Across the state, tornadoes and thunderstorms contributed to widespread damage and casualties.

The six states with the highest weather-related deaths and injuries

State	Injuries and deaths 2020	Injuries and deaths 2021	Injuries and deaths 2022	Injuries and deaths 2023	Injuries and deaths 2024	Injuries and deaths per million people 2024
Nebraska	5	3	16	13	117	58.34
Oklahoma	16	50	108	161	224	54.70
Nevada	4	17	90	51	164	50.19
New Mexico	6	23	37	2	77	36.15
Mississippi	143	25	20	310	67	22.77
Kansas	17	15	18	28	57	19.19

The states with the fewest weather-related deaths and injuries are **Maine** and **Rhode Island**.

Rhode Island saw **zero** weather-related deaths and injuries per million residents in 2024, with no incidents recorded. This is an improvement from four incidents in 2023. Despite the low incidence, residents should continue to stay prepared for coastal storms and hurricanes that can affect the area.

Maine reported **zero** weather-related deaths and injuries per million residents in 2024, with no incidents recorded. This marks a decrease from 15 incidents in 2023. Residents in Maine benefit from cooler temperatures and less severe weather patterns, but they should still be aware of winter storms that can bring heavy snow, ice, and dangerous driving conditions.

New Jersey experienced **0.42** weather-related deaths and injuries per million residents in 2024, with four incidents recorded. This is a decrease from 22 incidents in 2023. New Jersey has seen a consistent decline in weather-related incidents over the past five years.

Massachusetts also reported **0.42** weather-related deaths and injuries per million residents in 2024, with three incidents recorded. This number is similar to previous years, indicating stable weather-related incident rates.

New Hampshire saw **0.71** weather-related deaths and injuries per million residents in 2024, with only one incident recorded. This is a decrease from previous years, indicating improved safety or fewer severe weather events.

The five states with the fewest weather-related deaths and injuries

State	Injuries and deaths 2020	Injuries and deaths 2021	Injuries and deaths 2022	Injuries and deaths 2023	Injuries and deaths 2024	Injuries and deaths per million people 2024
Rhode Island	1	2	3	4	0	0.00
Maine	4	3	1	15	0	0.00
Massachusetts	15	5	1	7	3	0.42
New Jersey	9	59	23	22	4	0.42
New Hampshire	7	4	3	0	1	0.71

A spokesperson from [Whitley Law Firm](#) commented on the findings: "The data highlights significant disparities in weather-related deaths and injuries across the United States. States like Nebraska and Oklahoma are experiencing alarming increases, which show the importance of adequate preparedness and response to severe weather events.

"We encourage residents to stay informed and prioritize safety measures to protect themselves and their communities. Stay vigilant about weather warnings and events, even in states with lower rates of weather-related injuries and deaths."

<https://whitleylawfirm.com>

Kansas Game Warden Q&A

BY LANDON CLEVELAND

Inflatable PFD's

While inflatable PFDs are great for comfort, they are not all created the same. Believe me, I wear one on patrol all the time.

If you do not know what an inflatable PFD is, it is a life jacket that is inflated by a canister of CO2 that is connected to an inflatable rubber cell folded up in fabric. When the CO2 canister is pierced, it inflates the cell and creates buoyancy for the person wearing the PFD.

There are a couple options to choose from and they are easy enough to distinguish from one another if you just read the label on the underside of them. For example, mine that I wear can be an automatic or manual inflation. To manually inflate my PFD, I would need to pull the cord dangling out of my PFD and it would inflate. The automatic way to inflate it is a little different. On my inflatable PFD there is what looks like a pill or tablet that disintegrates when it hits water. When the pill/tablet disintegrates a pin pierces the CO2 canister and inflates the PFD.

Both Manual and Automatic inflatable PFDs have their benefits. For instance, an automatic inflatable PFD would inflate if you were knocked unconscious and fell in the water where a manual would not. But if you go with an automatic inflatable, it must be always worn on the water to count as a PFD. You just asked "why?" in your head. This is because once an automatic inflatable fills up you cannot put it on. You cannot throw an automatic inflatable to someone in the water because it would inflate, and they would not be able to get it on. Whereas you could throw a manual inflatable to someone in the water because they could put it on and then pull the cord to inflate it.

What I am seeing becoming more and more common is fishermen who like to have clean and tidy boats buying inflatable PFDs and having them out and readily accessible in the bottom of their boats. This only works if the inflatable PFD is manual inflation only. Now that you know the differences, you can purchase the kind of inflatable that you want on your boat. It is as easy as reading the coast guard label on the inside of the PFD. Inflatable PFDs are not to be worn by anyone under 16 years of age.

If you would like to read the statute pertaining to this, it is KSA 32-1129. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at: landen.cleveland@ks.gov

Asclera® Therapy at MCHHS – *Feel confident without surgery*

BELOIT – Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems (MCHHS) is proud to now offer Asclera® Therapy, an affordable, FDA-approved, non-surgical treatment designed to reduce the appearance of unsightly spider veins. This safe innovative therapy is now conveniently available in Beloit as a simple outpatient procedure, making it easier than ever to improve the look and feel of your skin without the need for invasive surgery. With summer already here, there's no better time to take the first step toward smoother, clearer skin and renewed confidence.

Asclera® Therapy is designed to reduce the appearance of spider veins—small, visible veins that often appear on the legs in red, blue, or purple patterns that resemble spider webs. While spider veins are usually harmless, they can be a cosmetic concern for many people. They are commonly caused by factors such

as genetics, the natural aging process, hormonal shifts, and lifestyle habits that involve prolonged periods of sitting or standing. Over time, these visible veins may become more prominent, prompting individuals to seek treatment not only for aesthetic reasons but also to promote better circulation and overall skin health.

The benefits of Asclera® Therapy go beyond cosmetic improvements. By addressing visible veins, the treatment helps restore a more even skin tone and promotes a healthier overall appearance. The treatment is performed by our skilled surgeons in a safe, clinical environment, ensuring the highest standard of care.

If you're ready to take control of your skin's appearance and boost your confidence, contact MCHHS at 785-738-9405 to schedule a consultation. Don't let spider veins hold you back from looking your best.

County Commissioners approve agenda items

BY SHARON SAHLFELD

Call Editor

The Mitchell County Commissioners were in session June 16, 2025, before leaving to attend the four multi-county work sessions at the Jewell County Courthouse, in Mankato, around noon.

– Marty Hernandez, Public Works, presented the commissioners with a request to purchase a Motor Grader. With the six they have, they have a lot of hours on them and need to replace the oldest machine. All are All-Wheel Drive.

A 140-15AWJ Caterpillar Model Motor Grader can be purchased by Foley Equipment, for a trade-in price of \$327,000, and be available around October of this year. It will be covered from the Special Machine county budget.

The purchase of the Motor Grader was approved.

– Yvonne Melton appeared to go over the Mitchell County Treasurer's budget.

There were no questions from the commissioners, until possible after an audit.

– Julie Willoughby of Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas (DVACK), attended to ask for the Elder Abuse Awareness Proclamation to be approved and signed.

According to the National Council on Aging, one in ten seniors in America ex-

perience mistreatment or abuse including domestic and sexual violence, financial exploitation, and neglect.

Abusers of older adults are both women and men and are usually family members.

Elders throughout the United States lose an estimated \$2.9 billion or more annually due to elder financial abuse and \$28.3 billion annually due to financial exploitation – such as the illegal taking, misuse, or concealment of funds, property, or assets of a senior for another's benefit. This increases their risk of death by 300 percent compared to seniors who have not been mistreated. The DVAK 24 hour hotline is 1-800-874-1499.

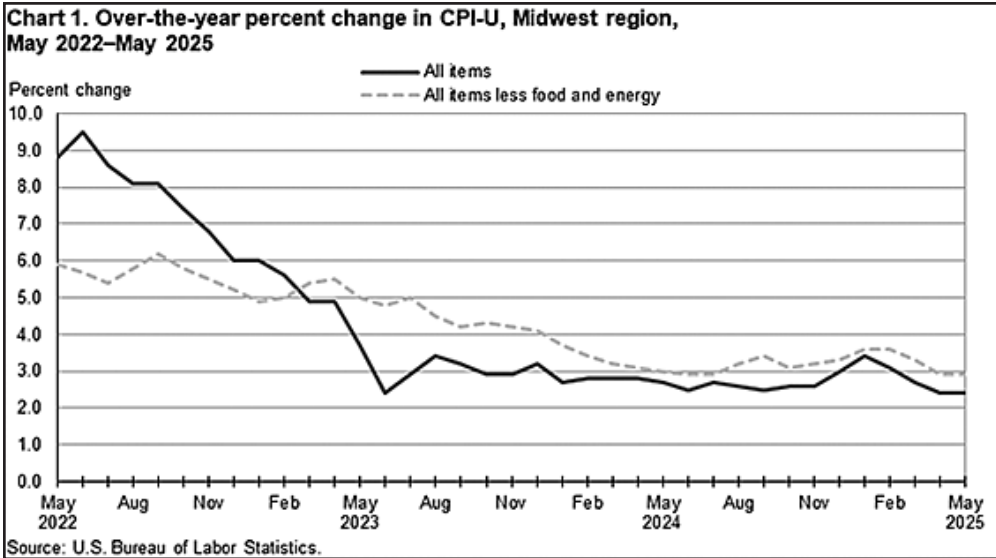
The Mitchell County Commissioners approved June 2025 as Elder Abuse Awareness Month.

– Other items to be approved included the Heart Choices fireworks stand.

A Neighborhood Revitalization grant was approved for Scott Bandel, for Lot 6-7 of the north block 7 of the North Campus for an amount of \$200,000.

A payment of \$1,500 to LEPC was approved. This includes Mitchell, Ottawa, Phillips, and Brooks counties.

– Mitchell County Clerk, Heather Weston, requested that some of the budget discussions be brought to a close with needed information by the next meeting, on June 23, 2025.



Consumer Price Index

Prices in the Midwest Region, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), advanced 0.2% in May, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The all items less food and energy index increased 0.2%, while the food index was up 0.3% and the energy index advanced 0.4%.

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U rose 2.4%. The index for all items less food and energy increased 2.9%, while food prices advanced 2.6%. Energy prices decreased 3.0% over the year.

The Beloit Senior Center offers meals (served at 11:30 a.m., Monday-Friday) for the cost of \$3.50 to \$4 through the North Central-Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging
Beloit 785-738-5802 / Glen Elder 785-545-3444

SR CENTER MENUS

Beloit/Glen Elder Senior Center

Week of June 23 to June 27

Monday - Turkey Tetrazzini, Mixed Vegetables, Beets, Ambrosia, Roll
Tuesday- Sausage

Gravy over Biscuit, Hash-browns, Stewed Tomatoes,

Mandarin Oranges

Wednesday- Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Carrots, Peach Cobbler, Roll

Thursday- Fiesta Steak, Potato Wedges, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Tropical Fruit, Roll

Friday- Goulash, Green Beans, Cookie, Pudding, Bread

We Print

Vinyl Banners



PRINT5

510 Washington Street

785-243-1520