

NORTH GEORGIA HAIL & STORM DAMAGE REPORT

What 10 Years of Weather Data Means for Your Roof

2015 – 2024 | Gwinnett County, Georgia
Data: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information | U.S. Census Bureau ACS 2024

158 Total
storms

\$9.5M
Documented
damage

36 Storms in
2023

53% Homes
pre-2000

\$7.5M One
2018 storm

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Gwinnett County is one of the fastest-growing counties in Georgia — and one of the most storm-battered. Over the past decade, NOAA's Storm Events Database recorded **158 separate severe weather events** directly in Gwinnett County: 19 significant hail events and 139 damaging thunderstorm wind events. Together these storms caused **\$9.5 million in documented property damage** — and that figure reflects only what was officially reported.

Most homeowners have no idea how many storms their roof has endured. They don't see the granule loss from quarter-size hail. They don't notice the soffit damage after 52-mph winds. And they almost certainly don't know that failing to report storm damage within 6–12 months of the event could make it uncoverable under their homeowner's insurance policy.

This report presents five key findings drawn directly from NOAA's Storm Events Database and U.S. Census Bureau housing age data for Gwinnett County. The findings are written for homeowners — not roofing experts — and the message is clear: your roof has been through more than you realize, and most of that exposure has never been professionally evaluated.

THE 5 KEY FINDINGS

01

Gwinnett County experienced 158 documented severe storm events in 10 years — one every 23 days

1 roof-threatening storm every 23 days

Average frequency of documented severe weather events in Gwinnett County, 2015-2024 (NOAA Storm Events Database)

Between 2015 and 2024, NOAA recorded 19 significant hail events and 139 damaging thunderstorm wind events directly in Gwinnett County — 158 separate severe weather incidents in a single decade. That averages out to roughly one roof-threatening storm event every 23 days during storm season. These are verified events with \$9.5 million in documented property damage. Most homeowners think of storm damage as something that happens occasionally. The data says it's happening constantly — and the cumulative toll on roofs that were never inspected after each event is almost certainly far greater than anyone realizes.

02

Storm activity nearly tripled in 2023 — the most active single year in the entire 10-year dataset

36 storm events in 2023 alone

The most active single year in the dataset — nearly 9x the 4 events recorded in 2015

From 2015 through 2022, Gwinnett County averaged 8 damaging wind events per year. In 2023 alone, NOAA recorded 36 severe wind events — the most active single year in this dataset by a wide margin. 2024 added another 24 events. The two most recent years account for 38% of all storm activity in the decade. If your roof has not been professionally inspected since 2022, it has potentially experienced more than 60 documented storm events without a single qualified look from a roofer. Undetected damage from multiple smaller storms compounds — and by the time it becomes visible, the repair cost has multiplied significantly.

03

One July 2018 hailstorm caused \$7.5 million in documented damage — from a single event in Gwinnett County

\$7.5 million from one storm on one day

July 21, 2018: 2.5-inch hailstones tracked from Dacula to Lawrenceville — 78% of the decade's total hail damage

On July 21, 2018, a hailstorm tracked from Dacula to Lawrenceville dropped hail measuring 2.5 inches in diameter — roughly the size of a baseball — causing \$4.5 million in documented damage near Dacula and an additional \$3 million at Lawrenceville Airport. That single storm event accounts for 78% of all documented hail damage in Gwinnett County over the entire decade. Roofs in that storm's path are now 7 years old with known hail exposure. Even non-penetrating hail damage accelerates granule loss, weakens the mat, and can void manufacturer warranties. A roof that took a 2.5-inch hailstone hit in 2018 and has never been inspected is not performing at its rated lifespan.

04

More than half of all Gwinnett County homes have roofs at or approaching end of expected life

186,022 homes (53%) built before 2000

Source: U.S. Census Bureau ACS 2024, Table B25034 — Gwinnett County housing units by year structure built

The 2024 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey shows 351,100 total housing units in Gwinnett County. Of those, 186,022 — 53% — were built before the year 2000. The average asphalt shingle roof lasts 20-25 years for three-tab shingles and 25-30 years for architectural shingles. A home built in 1990 with its original roof is now 35 years old — well past replacement age. The 86,440 homes built between 2000 and 2009 now have roofs that are 16-25 years old and entering the final phase of their expected lifespan. For these homeowners, a professional inspection is not just a good idea. It is overdue.

05

43 documented events specifically confirmed trees fell on homes across Gwinnett County communities

43 of 139 events confirmed structural impact

Confirmed by NOAA narratives: trees on homes in Lilburn, Duluth, Suwanee, Norcross, Dacula, Grayson, Sugar Hill

In 43 of the 139 documented wind events, NOAA narratives specifically confirmed that trees fell on houses, structures, and power lines across Gwinnett County — in Lilburn, Duluth, Suwanee, Norcross, Dacula, Grayson, and Sugar Hill. These are events confirmed by emergency managers, trained spotters, and broadcast media with specific street addresses. Insurance research shows most homeowners who experience minor storm damage never file a claim — they don't realize it qualifies, don't know a roof inspection is free, or assume their deductible makes it not worthwhile. The result is structural damage that deteriorates for years, until it becomes impossible to ignore and far more expensive to fix.

GWINNETT COUNTY STORM EVENTS BY YEAR | 2015–2024

Year	Wind Events	Hail Events	Storm Events	Wind Damage	Hail Damage	Notes
	3	4	7	\$0	\$30,000	Below avg
2016	1	8	9	\$0	\$215,000	Below avg
	3	17	20	\$0	\$460,000	Above avg
2018	4	11	15	\$7,510,000	\$1,200,000	PEAK DAMAGE
	0	10	10	\$0	\$300,000	Near avg
2020	4	15	19	\$10,000	\$21,500	Above avg
	1	8	9	\$0	\$0	Below avg
2022	1	6	7	\$0	\$0	Below avg
2023	2	36	38	\$0	\$65,000	PEAK EVENTS
2024	0	24	24	\$0	\$22,000	Above avg
TOTAL						

GWINNETT COUNTY HOUSING AGE | U.S. CENSUS BUREAU ACS 2024

Total housing units: 351,100 | Source: ACS 1-Year Estimates, Table B25034, 2024

Year Built				
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	22,187	6.3%	Under 5 years	Good
Built 2010-2019	50,445	14.4%	6-15 years	Good
	86,440	24.6%	16-25 years	INSPECT NOW
Built 1990-1999	73,006	20.8%	26-35 years	OVERDUE
	71,200	20.3%	36-45 years	OVERDUE
Built 1970-1979	31,201	8.9%	46-55 years	OVERDUE
	16,621	4.7%	55+ years	OVERDUE

OVERDUE = at or beyond expected asphalt shingle lifespan (20-30 years). **INSPECT NOW** = entering final phase of expected life. Professional inspection recommended.

THREE THINGS GWINNETT COUNTY HOMEOWNERS SHOULD DO NOW

STEP 1 — Know Your Roof's Age

Find the original building permit or ask when your home was purchased. If your roof is 15 years or older — or if you don't know its age — a professional inspection is warranted immediately. Age combined with storm exposure is the #1 predictor of hidden damage.

STEP 2 — Schedule a Free Inspection

If your neighborhood appeared on the hail or wind map, schedule a professional inspection. HD Pro Roofing offers free, no-obligation inspections for Gwinnett County homeowners. Inspections are free. Undetected damage is not.

STEP 3 — Know Your Insurance Window

Most Georgia homeowner policies require storm damage to be reported within 6-12 months of the event. Undetected damage reported after that window may not be covered. A timely inspection protects your claim eligibility before the window closes.

FREE ROOF INSPECTION FOR GWINNETT COUNTY HOMEOWNERS

If your home is in Gwinnett County and you haven't had a professional roof inspection in the past 3 years, HD Pro Roofing offers a free, no-obligation inspection for homeowners in our service area.

The data in this report shows why it matters. The inspection is free. The peace of mind is permanent.

Visit hdproroofting.com or call today to schedule your free inspection.

METHODOLOGY & DATA SOURCES

Storm event data sourced from NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) Storm Events Database, filtered for Gwinnett County, Georgia, January 2015 through December 2024. Dataset includes all NOAA-classified Hail events and Thunderstorm Wind events with occurrences within Gwinnett County boundaries. Property damage figures represent NOAA-reported minimums and do not include uninsured losses, damage below the official reporting threshold, or unreported incidents. Actual residential roofing damage across the county is likely substantially higher than documented figures reflect.

Housing age data sourced from U.S. Census Bureau, 2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates Detailed Tables, Table B25034 (Year Structure Built), Gwinnett County, Georgia. Total housing units: 351,100. Roof lifespan estimates reflect industry-standard guidelines for asphalt shingle roofing under Georgia climate conditions (three-tab: 20-25 years; architectural/dimensional: 25-30 years).

Expert commentary provided by HD Pro Roofing, licensed roofing contractor, Gwinnett County, Georgia. This report is for informational purposes only and does not constitute professional engineering, insurance, or legal advice. Homeowners should consult a licensed roofing contractor for a property-specific assessment.

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