

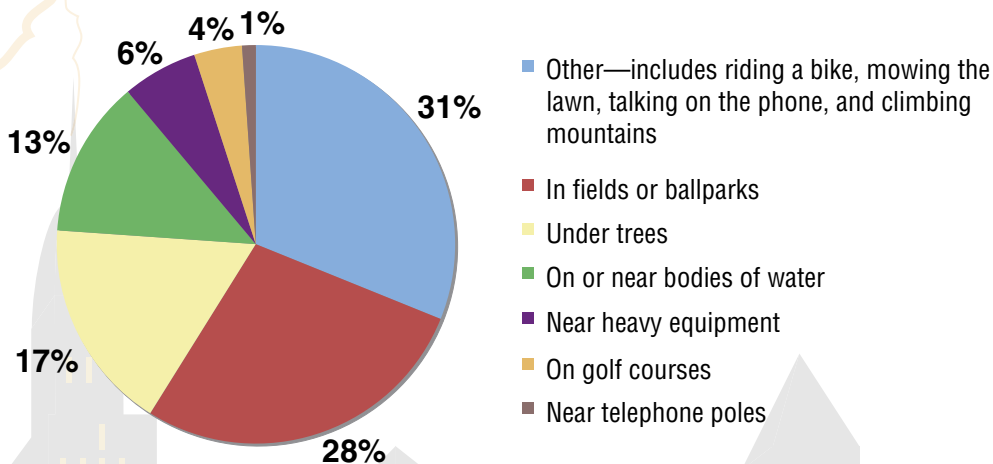
Weather Wise

Lightning

Most people are concerned with hail, strong winds, and tornadoes during thunderstorms. But there is another killer lurking in those clouds. Lightning occurs with every thunderstorm. Because of their unexpected nature, the first and last strikes are the most likely to kill or injure. Lightning can kill someone more than 10 miles away from the rain.

During outdoor activities it is important to monitor changing weather conditions. Thunderstorms fire up quickly on a hot summer day in Oklahoma. Carry a NOAA weather radio with you at all times to alert you to impending severe weather conditions. The radio should include a tone alert to be heard over a crowd of people or a motorboat. For non-severe thunderstorms, remember this slogan to stay safe, "When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors." It is important not to return outside too early. Use the 30/30 rule to determine when to go indoors and when it is safe to return outside. If you count 30 seconds between the thunder and the lightning, the storm is close enough for you to be struck by lightning. Remain indoors for 30 minutes after the last lightning strike. You cannot be injured by performing CPR on a lightning victim. In most cases, a person can be saved if CPR is administered immediately.

Lightning Deaths by Activity



Activity: Use the information above to answer these questions.

1. You see lightning. You count the seconds until you hear the thunder. Your count is 35 seconds. What should you do?
 - a. Continue your soccer game.
 - b. Go to the concession stand.
 - c. Stop the soccer game and begin moving towards your vehicle.
2. Your friend has been struck by lightning. What should you do?
 - a. Call 911 then begin CPR.
 - b. Call 911 and wait patiently for help to arrive.
 - c. Don't touch your friend. You may get electrocuted.
3. Are you more likely to be killed on the golf course or the baseball field?
4. What is the percent difference between these two activities?

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