

# Catastrophic Storms Slam South & Midwest—Death Toll Hits Horrific New Levels

Utter devastation struck the nation's heartland over the weekend as dozens of tornadoes left a trail of death and destruction across eight states, from Missouri to Alabama. At least 39 people are known to be dead.

Near Mobile, Alabama, there were at least three killed, including Anita Owen's mother.

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As she surveyed what little was left of her mother's home, a weeping Owens recounted how she learned of her mom's death from a relative, "All she could say was 'Mama's house is gone. It's leveled. It's leveled.' You wouldn't think just some wind and tornadoes would do this much devastation."

In Talladega County, Alabama, a high school bus looked like a toy tossed against the side of Winterboro High School.

At the Paradise Ranch RV Resort in Mississippi, miraculously, no one was hurt while much of the grounds were flattened.

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In Georgia, a tornado was confirmed west of Atlanta. One eyewitness said, "It sounded like a war zone."

In Arkansas, the National Guard was deployed after an EF-3 tornado packing 165-mile-per-hour winds flattened buildings.

The highest death toll was in Missouri, with at least a dozen lives lost.

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