

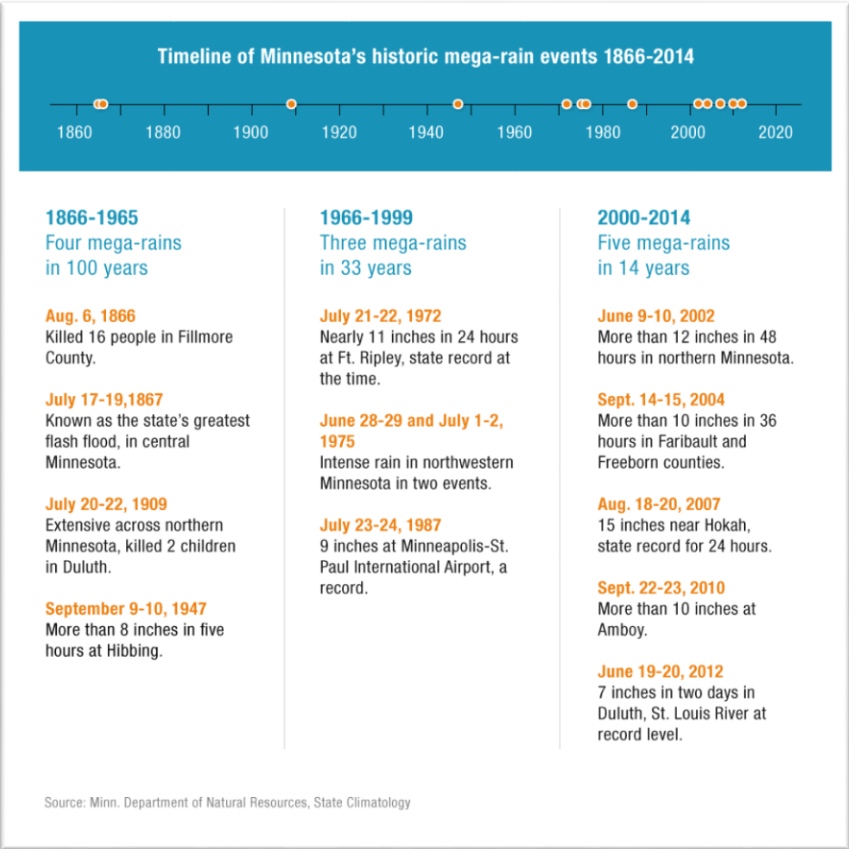


Minnesota’s climate is changing quickly. Our climate is becoming warmer and wetter, and **Minnesotans are already experiencing increased rainfall, flooding and other severe weather events.**

According to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, heavy rains are now more common and intense in the state than at any other time on record. The graphic below illustrates the increasing frequency of “mega-rain events” in Minnesota since the late 1800s. These potentially catastrophic rainfall events are now four times more common than they were before the year 2000.

Extreme weather events are becoming the “new normal” in this region, and climate scientists predict this upward trend will continue.

Additional recent rain events are not listed in the timeline: two 1,000-year storms in Ashland, WI in 2016 and 2018.



The 2012 flood in Duluth resulted in \$108 million in damages to public and utility infrastructure.

“This type of storm reminds us that climate is changing in Minnesota. Not only in terms of quantity of precipitation, but in the character of precipitation as well. A larger fraction of our annual total precipitation is coming in the form of intense thunderstorms.” - Mark Seeley, Climatologist/Meteorologist