The earliest known severe hailstorm in the United Kingdom occurred at Wellesbourne in Warwickshire in May 1141 and contained hail not quite as large as a golf ball (by today’s standards).

April 4, 1977 (near New Hope, Georgia): A Southern Airways DC-9 jet crashed after being struck by large hail. The hail and associated heavy precipitation caused the engines to flame out. Seventy people (including eight on the ground) died; 21 people (including the flight attendants) survived.

July 12, 1984 (Munich, Germany): One of the most costly hailstorm events with damage estimated at $1-5 billion.

April 30, 1988 (India): The deadliest hailstorm on record killed 246 people and 1,600 domesticated animals.

July 11, 1990 (Denver, Colorado): Softball-sized hail destroyed roofs and cars, causing more than $600 million in total damage.

September 7, 1991 (Calgary, Alberta, Canada) Hailstorm caused $400 million in property damage.

March 25, 1992 (Orlando, Florida area): Hailstones up to four inches (10cm) in diameter resulted in more than $60 million in damage. This is still the costliest Florida hailstorm on record.


April 14, 1999 (Sydney, Australia): Hailstorm causes $1.6 billion in damage, making it the costliest hailstorm to strike a populated city in the country. The hail damaged some 22,000 homes and more than 60,000 vehicles. Aircraft damage at Sydney Airport was extensive.

June 27, 1999 (Scottsbluff, Nebraska area): Large hail caused extensive damage to crops and property. Twenty-five people were injured as large hail broke car windshields. The Scottsbluff zoo reported injuries to many animals, particularly birds.

March 28, 2000 (Lake Worth, Texas): Last known hail fatality in the United States occurred when a 19-year-old male was killed by grapefruit-sized hail while trying to move a new car to shelter.
June 12, 2002 (Kearney, Nebraska area): Hailstorm caused $2 million in agricultural losses. More than 22,000 acres of corn, soybeans and alfalfa were severely damaged or destroyed.

July 19, 2002 (Henan Province, People’s Republic of China): 25 people were killed and hundreds injured during a hailstorm.

June 22, 2003 (Aurora, Nebraska): Second largest hailstone on record in the United States falls. It had a 7-inch (17.5 cm) diameter and a circumference of 18.75 inches (48cm). (Now the largest hailstone fell on July 23, 2010 in Vivian, South Dakota.)