

MARCH 1978

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STORM DATA



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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION / ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SERVICE / NATIONAL CLIMATIC CENTER ASHEVILLE, N.C.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

MARCH 1978

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
ALABAMA Coffee County	2	11:46p	0	0	0	0	4	0	Lightning
									Building and contents burned after being struck by lightning at Enterprise.
Houston County	8	9:00a	0	0	0	0	3	0	Flooding from Heavy Rain
									Lowland flooding from heavy rain blocked several roads and partially washed out one road at Dothan. One car was damaged while driving into washed out road.
Colbert County	13	9:33p	0	0	0	0	0	0	High Winds
									High winds from a thunderstorm caused power outages at Muscle Shoals and the surrounding areas.
Lauderdale County	13	9:33p	0	0	0	0	0	0	High Winds and Hail
									High winds from a thunderstorm uprooted trees and broke power lines causing power outages in the Florence area. One half inch hail fell in downtown Florence.
Marion County	13	10:54p	0	0	0	0	0	0	High Winds
									A severe thunderstorm produced winds gusting near 60 MPH at Guin.
Lamar County	14	12:20a	0	0	0	0	4	0	Lightning
									Home burned to the ground after being struck by lightning between Vernon and Sulligent. Family was in the storm cellar when lightning struck and were stunned but not injured.
Lawrence County	14	12:36a	0	0	0	0	0	0	Heavy rain
									Heavy rain caused flooding at Town Creek, 15 miles east southeast of Muscle Shoals, temporarily closing Highway 72.
ALASKA Southeast Alaska	1-2				0	0	4	0	Strong wind
									A weak inverted trough of low pressure held offshore of Southeast Alaska while a 1052 millibar high plunged southward from the Mackenzie Delta to northern British Columbia. Peak winds were about 65 miles an hour in downtown Juneau and unofficial reports of 100 mile an hour gusts were received from Douglas and the Foss Tug dock. A large section of the roof of the National Guard Armory was torn off by the wind.
ARIZONA Much of State	1-5				1	0	7	5	Flooding
									Flooding occurred over much of the state as a result of very heavy rains from February 27th through March 3rd. At the request of Arizona's Governor, President Carter declared nine counties as disaster areas.
									The prolonged moist southwest upper air flow dumped the greatest amounts on the windward side of the steep slopes of the Mogollon Rim and dried out as it passed beyond the crest down to the Little Colorado River Valley. Amounts ranged from 1 to 4 inches in the south-central part of the state to 3 to 6 inches in the central basins and 5 to 11 inches over and just below the Rim and White Mountains.
									These heavy rains were only the latest in a long series of significant rains beginning in late December, 1977. The cumulative effect of these previous rains had been to saturate the watersheds and raise the stream levels and nearly fill the reservoirs, except Roosevelt Lake, all of which had been almost empty at the end of the 1977 summer. The most extensive flooding occurred on the Salt and Verde River basins draining into the water supply dam systems for Maricopa County including the Greater Phoenix Area. Although there was some snow melt above the 6500 ft. level, most of the runoff resulted from the rain. Runoff into the Salt River above the Roosevelt Dam was stored in Roosevelt Lake, but runoff that came down the Verde River and the Salt River below Roosevelt Dam could not be contained by the smaller dams. As a result, a very large volume of water rushed down the normally dry Salt River bed and became a raging torrent through the Greater Phoenix Area and western Maricopa County. The volume at the peak was 138,000 cfs on March 2nd.
									Extensive damage in the Greater Phoenix Area included the washing away of the approaches of eight street bridges, leaving only three intact to handle the daily movement of tens of thousands of vehicles. Traffic was backed up for miles during the rush hours for about a week until the flow of water was contained in the reservoirs and approaches filled back in on some of the crossings. About 2000 feet of the east end of the main runway at Sky Harbor International Airport were broken up into large chunks and airport radio and radar facilities were damaged. About 500 homes in Maricopa were damaged, some totally, by the flood waters. There was extensive damage to crops and farm land and drowning of some livestock in western Maricopa County. A deputy sheriff was drowned while attempting to rescue a woman from her car stalled in a wash.

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ARIZONA (continued)									
									Flooding also occurred along the Little Colorado River with considerable damage in the Winslow area. Most of the runoff came from the tributaries with head waters on the Mogollon Rim. There were minor overflows of the Gila River with some damage in the Safford Valley and at Duncan. There were also overflows on numerous small streams in the state, but with minor damage. On the Hopi and Navajo Indian Reservations most of the roads were made impassable, stranding about 10,000 persons. Food had to be air lifted in, as well as fodder for the livestock.
									Damage estimates by county as made by Federal Disaster Assistance Administration: Apache - unknown, Gila - \$2,720,000, Graham - \$445,000, Greenlee - \$89,000, Maricopa - \$11,362,000, Mohave - \$1,500,000, Navajo - \$250,000, Pima - \$500,000, Yavapai - \$1,600,000, total for the nine counties - \$18,470,000.
ARKANSAS Jonesboro - Craighead County	13	12:50 p.			0	0	2	0	Hail
									Hail up to the size of golf balls covered the ground over the southern part of the city. Only minor damage to autos, trees, etc. was reported.
White Cliff Community - Southeastern Sevier County	23	10:45 p.	5	75	0	1	5	0	Tornado
									A tornado moving toward the northeast destroyed a mobile home, two out-buildings. Four chicken houses were also damaged and 15,000 chickens were killed. One man living in the mobile home was injured. Damage was estimated at 87 thousand dollars.
CALIFORNIA NORTHERN & CENTRAL									
Between Riverbank and Empire, CA, Stanislaus County	1	4pm	1.5	100	0	0	4	0	Tornado
									Several individuals observed a funnel touching the ground in a south-southeasterly direction from just south of the city of Riverbank to just northwest of the community of Empire. Only minor damage.
Near Waterford, CA, Stanislaus County	4	Prior to 3pm	2.5	100	0	0	4	4	Tornado
									The tornado was observed first touching down 3 miles WSW of the city of Waterford. After destroying several portions of a dairy farm it proceeded to the NNE less than a mile where it went aloft.
Vicinity of LaGrange, CA, Stanislaus County	4	Several periods in the PM			0	0	4	0	Flash Flooding
									Mud slides and stream rises caused some damage to road facilities. A mobile home in the town of LaGrange was destroyed in a mud slide.
Hilmar, along Griffith Ave.	4	2-3PM	1	1/2 mi	0	1	5	5	Tornado
									Two barns were destroyed, several barn roofs damaged. Several houses suffered damage and many almond trees uprooted. Path of storm was almost straight north along Griffith Avenue.
Chico Area, Butte County	4	2PM	1-1/2	53	0	0	3	C	Tornado
									Tornado first seen about 8 miles northwest of Chico near the Camp-Pine Creek road. Tornado knocked down about 575 almond trees in a south-north direction.
Prairie Park	3-4				0	0	5	0	Wind/Rain
Santa Barbara & San Luis Obispo County	4	1:50AM - 12:18PM			1	2	?	C	Wind and Rain
Red Bluff area, Tehama County	5	2PM	?	?	0	0	3	0	Tornado
									Tornado sighted as it passed through the Tony Lawrence ranch 12 miles southwest of Red Bluff at Elder Creek on the Red Bluff-Paskanka road. An outhouse, chicken coop, and 2 sheep sheds were destroyed and scattered debris over 20 acres.
Squall Hill area, Tehama County	5	Afternoon	?	?	0	0	?	0	Tornado
									Tornado was observed on the Roguers place. Damage included destruction of a chicken coop, damage to the roof of the residence.
Richfield area, Tehama County	5	Afternoon	?	?	0	0	?	0	Tornado
									Tornado came of of the southwest. Damage included a tree that fell on the Rhoads residence, destroyed a camper, shell, and a camping trailer that blew into an automobile.

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CALIFORNIA (continued)									
NORTHERN & CENTRAL									
Richfield area, Tehama County	5	Afternoon							Funnel aloft
Chico area Butte County	5	5PM							Funnel aloft
Red Bluff area Tehama County	5	3PM-4PM			0	0	0	0	Hail
					Hail above 1 inch in diameter occurred in north part of Red Bluff. No reports of any damage.				
Barren hills WSW of Newman, CA, Stanislaus County	9	Before Midday							Funnels
Paradise Area, Butte County	23	Approx 2:20PM	?	?	0	0	4		Tornado (Unk)
					Tornado was sighted by neighbors of Mrs. Mary Coomes as the tornado tore the roof off her residence and deposited it on two bars of the family. Mrs. Coomes was in the house with 4 children. No injuries were reported according to newspaper articles.				
Stockton, CA, San Joaquin County	31	1:40PM	.5	10	0	0	4	0	Tornado
					Initial touchdown of the cell occurred about 2 miles NNE of Stockton Metro Airport in the midst of a truck loading area. Two semi-truck trailers were lifted and layed on their sides; sheet tin and several sheets of plywood were distributed over a large area, and one mobile home suffered significant damage.				
CALIFORNIA SOUTHERN									
Los Angeles County	4 & 5				6	?	?	?	
					Heavy rains and pounding surf damaged numerous homes in the Malibu area. Mud slides damaged homes throughout the county. Power and telephone outages plagued over 500,000 residents. Storm claimed 6 lives.				
					Brief waterspouts were reported off Santa Monica and Redondo Beach. Funnel clouds were sighted near Torrance and El Toro Marine Base. A "tornado watch" was issued for a line from 10 miles north of Burbank to 25 miles southwest of Campo, and included sections of Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.				
San Diego County	5th				3	?	?	?	
					Torrential rains thrashed San Diego County, especially hard hit was the Community of Lakeside ...flooding homes, streets and business. 3 deaths in the county were blamed on the storm. The storm extended south of the border into Baja, California ... 26 persons were reported killed in Tijuana and Escondido. More than 6,000 people were left homeless.				
San Diego, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles and Orange, Counties.	4th and 5th.				?	?	?		
					The storm wrecked the strawberry crop ...losses at approx. 2 million dollars.				
COLORADO Cedaredge (Delta County)	31	2050			0	0	3	0	Lightning
					Major damage to one home. Several nearby homes sustained damage to electrical appliances.				
CONNECTICUT Statewide	3	Morning			0	0	0	0	Heavy Snow
					Four to eight inches of snow fell after a three week storm respite.				
DELAWARE					NONE REPORTED				
FLORIDA									
Haines City, Polk County	3	9:45AM EST			0	0	0	0	Funnel cloud aloft
					A funnel cloud aloft was observed over Lake Rochelle moving towards Haines City. No damage was reported.				
Auburndale, Polk County	3	10:00AM EST			0	0	4	0	Windstorm
					Wind storms of 60 mph were reported in Bartow and there was minor damage through much of Polk County due to high winds associated with a line of thunderstorms. A large evangelist's tent was blown down causing an estimated \$10,000 damage.				
Bokeelia, Lee County	3	12:35PM EST	0.1	20	0	0	5	0	Tornado
					A tornado struck the end of Pine Island, and destroyed 5 mobile homes and damaged 12 others. Damage was estimated \$150,000.				
FLORIDA (continued)									
Punta Gorda, Charlotte County	3	12:45PM EST	0.1	20	0	0	4	0	Tornado
					A small tornado touched down briefly in Punta Gorda dumping a few mobile homes on their side and blowing off several roofs of houses. Damage was estimated \$25,000.				
St. Lucie, St. Lucie County	3	1:30PM EST	0.1	20	0	0	5	0	Tornado
					A tornado moved through an exclusive country club section in St. Lucie causing damages estimated between \$100,000 and \$150,000 to homes in that area. Most of the damage was to pool enclosures and storage houses with some roof and window damage.				
Okeechobee, Okeechobee County	3	1:35PM EST	0.1	20	0	0	4	0	Tornado
					A small tornado struck southeast Okeechobee destroying 3 mobile homes and toppled numerous trees. There was considerable damage to carpools and awnings. Damage was estimated at least \$35,000.				
Lantana, Palm Beach County	3	2:05PM EST			0	0	0	0	Funnel cloud aloft
					The Florida Highway Patrol reported a funnel cloud aloft west of Lantana. No damage was reported.				
Glades, Hendry and Palm Beach Counties	3	2:15-2:30 PM EST			0	1	5	0	Windstorm
					Winds estimated at more than 60 mph were associated with a line of thunderstorms and produced considerable damage to trees, signs, power lines and property in counties around Lake Okeechobee. Most damage reports were in the LaBelle, Clewiston and Belle Glades areas. Two small airplanes were heavily damaged at Clewiston Municipal Airport, radio station WSWM in Belle Glade had the mobile home office and studio roof blown off causing one minor injury. Total damage in all the counties was estimated more than \$50,000.				
Delray Beach, Palm Beach County	3	2:42 PM EST			0	0	0	0	Funnel cloud aloft
					The Highway Patrol reported a funnel cloud southwest of Delray Beach. There was no report of damage.				
Lake Worth, Palm Beach County	3	3:04 PM EST	0.1	10	0	0	3	0	Tornado
					A small tornado touched down in a one block area of Lake Worth turning a mobile home over with damage to roofs and trees in the area. Damage was estimated \$5,000.				
Miami, Dade County	3	3:45PM EST			0	0	0	0	Funnel cloud
					The public reported a funnel cloud aloft near the Florida Turnpike at Miller Road in southwest Dade County. There were no reports of damage.				
Broward and Dade Counties	3	4:00 PM EST			0	0	3	0	Windstorm
					High winds associated with a line of thunderstorms produced damage to power lines and trees in portions of Dade and Broward counties. Wind gusts of 76 mph were reported by the public near the Dade-Broward line. Damage estimates were less than \$5,000.				
Broward and Dade Counties	9	5:00AM EST			0	0	4	0	Windstorm
					High winds associated with a squall line swept through Broward and Dade counties damaging power lines, awnings and toppling large trees on dars at a number of locations. Damage estimates were more than \$10,000.				
GEORGIA									
Northeast Georgia (especially Gilmer, Fannin, Union, Towns, Rabun, Habersham, Stephens, Banks, and Hall counties)	2-3				0	0	3	3	Ice Storm
					A minor ice storm struck northeast Georgia during the night, downing many trees, and breaking power lines. Total damage was estimated at \$10,000.				
HAWAII									
Mauna Kea Mountain, Hawaii Island	1-2				0	0	4	?	High winds
					Strong tropospheric westerly winds descended to altitude of 3 tall summits in State - Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa on Hawaii Island and Mt. Haleakala, Maui. At 2p. on 1st, upper air sounding at Hilo, Hawaii reported west southwest 60 mph 9 thousand-foot wind. Only significant damage reported on Mauna Kea. At Hale Pohaku, the 8 thousand-foot mid-level facility on slope of Mauna Kea, \$1,700 wooden cover on water tank destroyed. At Mauna Kea observatories, above 13 thousand-foot level, wind gusts estimated more than 100 mph damaged metal wall sidings, roof, construction project and blew Matson seawan container loaded with parts half mile down slope. Gale force winds in Kau, Kohala and Hamakua districts knocked down trees and branches.				
2 mi. off Kaupo, Maui	6	9:10a							Funnel cloud
Near Penguin Banks off Molokai	16	near mid-night			1	0	4		High winds and sea
					60-foot double-hulled sailing canoe Hokulea capsized under gale wind and sea condition about 5 hours after leaving Ala Moana Park, Oahu on second voyage to Tahiti. No escort accompanied canoe on this attempt. Life guard-surfer crew member lost in attempt to paddle surfboard to Lanai of other island. Crew remaining with canoe rescued after spotted by airline pilot night of 17th.				

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HAWAII (continued) N. Kona to Kau, Hawaii Island					?	?			Dry spell		
									Dry spell interrupted but rainfall remained below normal for month: Pahala 3.52 inches or 63% of normal, Naalehu 4.44 inches or 80%, Pahala 9.69 inches or 64%, S. Kona 1.68 inches or 45%, Holualoa 2.71 inches or 43%, and Puu Waavaa 1.71 inches or 53%. No new Dept. of Agriculture damage assessment received.		
IDAHO Washington, Canyon, and Ada Counties	23	3:30 p			0	0	4	0	Wind, Lightning		
									Thunderstorms with local strong gusty winds, lightning, and small hail caused scattered light damage. At Weiser, Washington County, a bowling alley roof was damaged by wind. Lightning caused a fire that heavily damaged a house in Nampa, Canyon County. In Boise, Ada County, an aluminum carport was blown down and a few power outages were reported.		
ILLINOIS Central	6-8				0	0	7	0	Heavy Snow		
									Heavy snow of from 5 to 17 inches, one of the heaviest in history for the area, blanketed Central Illinois south of a line from Quincy to Danville and north of Interstate 70. Many motorists were stranded on highways in drifts up to 7 feet deep, and all forms of transportation were at a standstill for at least a day. The heavy snow caused several carports and roofs to collapse.		
Northern Two Thirds of State	24-27				0	0	8	?	Ice Storm		
									A heavy coating of ice, several inches thick in some reports, and strong winds caused the worst ice storm in many years over the central third of Illinois. The thick layers of ice and gusty winds combined to snap power lines, break off large tree limbs, bend home TV antennas and send several tall TV and radio transmitting antennas crashing to the ground. Thousands of power poles were downed, and electricity was out for about one million people. Twenty-four counties in the central third of Illinois were declared disaster areas by the governor. No serious injuries or deaths were reported, but numerous traffic accidents and falls on the ice were caused by the slick conditions. Numerous small fires were started as fallen wires shorted out on buildings after power poles fell. Cleanup operations in central Illinois took over a week. The icing conditions gradually spread over the northern third of the state. Though the damage was not as extensive in the north, travel was halted and delayed in many cases as the layers of ice built up on airport runways, train tracks and highways. O'Hare Airport in Chicago was forced to close after a large transport aircraft skidded off a runway. The C.T.A. in Chicago had to shut down 3 major portions of its lines for the first time in 20 years. Some large chunks of ice fell off high buildings in downtown Chicago, endangering pedestrians and denting cars parked below.		
INDIANA									SEE END OF TABLE		
IOWA SE Iowa	24-25	12:00 Noon 11:00 P			0	0	2	0	Heavy Snow		
									A 4-8 inch snow fell over much of SE Iowa assuring a White Easter. Many cars were in ditches. Some airports were closed and many Easter plans were cancelled or delayed.		
KANSAS									NONE REPORTED		
KENTUCKY BALLARD CY	13	7:30 p.m. CST					4	0	High Winds		
									A severe thunderstorm which produced winds of greater than 60 mph blew down two walls and the roof off of a house in LA CENTER. The house was made out of cinder blocks.		
LOUISIANA									NONE REPORTED		
MAINE									NO DATA RECEIVED FOR THIS STATE		
MARYLAND & D.C.									SEE END OF TABLE		
MASSACHUSETTS Southern Parts	3	Morning			0	0	0	0	Heavy Snow		
									Four to eight inches of snow fell as a "Northeaster" skimmed the coast. On extreme southern Cape Cod up to 15 inches fell.		
MICHIGAN Alma, Gratiot	13	Evening			0	0	4		Weight of Heavy snow. Rain falling into a layer of snow caused a factory roof to collapse. Machinery inside the building was also damaged.		
An area south of Benton Harbor, Jackson and Monroe	25-26	Evening and early morning			0	0	4		Ice Storm 15,000 homes and businesses left without power as ice-laden tree limbs blocked roads and downed power and service lines throughout the area. The southern half of Hillsdale and Lenawee counties hardest hit. Ice buildup in the hardest hit areas was around 1/2 inch.		
MINNESOTA									NONE REPORTED		
MISSISSIPPI Northern two-thirds of the State	13	noon to midnight			0	0	4	2	Thunderstorms, wind, flooding, hail.		
									Numerous thunderstorms, some severe, passed through the state during a twelve-hour period. There was a wide variety of wind damage to property, flooding in several cities and towns, and a few reports of small hail.		
MISSOURI Poplar Bluff, Butler County	13	5:50 pm			?	?	0	5	0	Lightning	
									Lightning crackling down through a roof into an electric cable started a smoky fire that destroyed four downtown businesses in the Ferguson Building.		
Central and North Central Missouri	23-25	eve. 23, all day 24 & 25			?	?	0	0	4	0	Winter Storm
											Precipitation began falling Thursday night the 23rd as rain, changed to sleet and freezing rain by early Friday morning the 24th, and finally to all snow by midday Friday and continued most of the 25th, Saturday. Audrain, Pike, and Lincoln counties were hardest hit by accumulating glaze and strong winds which caused serious power and telephone outages and extensive damage to trees. Toppling trees and branches caused additional damage to houses and cars. Lack of power caused water shortages in many areas when pumps became inoperable. Flooding was prominent along the already primed Missouri River and its tributaries. In Monroe County, awnings on businesses in downtown Paris and Monroe City collapsed under the combined weight of the ice and snow, one awning breaking the windows of the store and damaging merchandise in the window at Monroe City. Also in Monroe City, the west section of the roof on Seilh's Kitchen Koper building collapsed, burying equipment and building materials underneath it.
MONTANA										NONE REPORTED	
NEBRASKA Southeast Nebraska	1-2	Evening to Afternoon			0	0	0	0	0	Heavy Snow	
											Snow spread across southeast Nebraska closing schools and making travel difficult. Amounts ranged from 4 inches at Lincoln to 8 inches at Auburn and Syracuse.
Southwest Nebraska	6	Evening			0	0	0	0	0	Heavy Snow	
											Narrow swath of heavy snow fell with 10 inches from Palisade to Maywood. Six inches of snow reported at Elwood.
NEVADA Las Vegas	4	1800			0	0	5	0	0	Severe Thunderstorm.	
											Flash Flood mainly on Las Vegas Strip. Damage limited to roads.
NEW HAMPSHIRE											NO DATA RECEIVED FOR THIS STATE
NEW JERSEY											NONE REPORTED
NEW MEXICO Santa Fe, Santa Fe County	1	2:15p			0	0	4	0	0	Lightning	
											Two lightning strikes on microwave tower at State Communications complex disrupted entire system. Hundreds of transistors and other electronic components destroyed and some equipment out of service for days.
Gila and San Francisco River Valleys; Grant, Hidalgo, and Catron Counties	1-2				0	0	4	0	0	Flooding	
											Heavy rains or snowpack caused rivers to run bankfull with some floodplain inundation. Considerable ground erosion due to high water and some damage to bridge abutments. Little other property loss.

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NEW MEXICO Artesia, Eddy County	12	Daytime			0	4	0	0	Windstorm
	Strong, gusty straight-line winds collapsed storage complex which was under construction. Damage estimate: \$20,000 to \$30,000.								
Carlsbad, Eddy County	23	daytime			0	2	4	0	Windstorm
	Mobile home blown over and demolished by strong winds.								
Hobbs, Lea County	23	2:00p			0	0	0	0	Wind
	Wind gust of 58 mph reported at Hobbs Airport.								
NEW YORK COASTAL			NONE	REPORTED					
NEW YORK CENTRAL									
SOUTHERN TIER, CATSKILLS, HUDSON VALLEY AND MORAWK VALLEY	3	8A-10P							SNOW
	FOUR TO SIX INCHES OF SNOW BLANKETED THE AREA CAUSING NUMEROUS TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES. STRONG GUSTY WINDS INTO THE MORNING OF THE 4TH, ALSO WERE TO BLAME FOR MORE TRAFFIC MISHAPS.								
ONONDAGA COUNTY	13				1	0	3	0	
	WARMING TEMPERATURES IN THE CITY OF SYRACUSE CAUSED A 400 POUND BLOCK OF ICE TO BREAK FREE FROM THE ROOF OF A CATHEDRAL AND, AFTER BOUNCING OFF A LOWER ROOF, FELL ON A 23 YEAR OLD WOMAN, KILLING HER INSTANTLY.								
WARREN COUNTY	19	6P-7P							WIND
	WINDS UP TO 43MPH WERE RECORDED AT WARREN COUNTY AIRPORT AND CAUSED SEVERAL POWER OUTAGES IN THE COUNTY DUE TO DOWNED TREES AND POWER-LINES.								
NEW YORK WESTERN			NONE	REPORTED					
NORTH CAROLINA Haywood County	21	4:00 AM				4			Wind
	Winds in excess of 100 mph damaged a house, trees and two cars on a hill between Ghost Mountain and Sheepback near Waynesville. Strong winds began around 3:30 while the strong, damaging winds hit at 4:00 AM.								
Burke County	24	11:30 PM			1	4			Lightning
	One man was killed and four persons injured when hit by lightning while camping in the Linville Gorge near Jones Ridge.								
Wayne County	26	5:30 PM					3	3	Hail
	Egg size hail fell in the Wahunta and Pikeville sections north of Goldsboro. One measured 5 inches in diameter.								
Sampson County	26	5:49 PM				1			Lightning
	A boy was injured when struck by lightning near Roseboro.								
Sampson County	26	5:57 PM					3		Hail
	Golfball size hail fell 8 miles northwest of Clinton.								
NORTH DAKOTA Southwestern North Dakota	20-31	--	--	--	0	0	?	?	Flooding
	Major flooding in southwestern North Dakota due to snow melt.								
OHIO NORTHEAST	14-17th	ALL DAY			0	0	6	C	FLOODING
	Snow melt, ice jamming, and rainfall combined to produce the worst flooding along the Chagrin River since 1959. There was considerable property damage but no loss of life or injuries.								
NORTHWEST	23-30th	ALL DAY			0	0	4	C	FLOODING
	Snow melt, ice jamming, and rainfall combined to produce near record flooding along the Maumee River.								
NORTHWEST	24-25th	AFTERNOON			0	0	4	0	ICE STORM
	Freezing drizzle began Friday afternoon and changed to freezing rain Friday night and Saturday morning. Heavy ice accretion downed utility lines and trees and made travel extremely hazardous.								
OKLAHOMA Allen, Pontotoc County	20	6:45p.-9:00p.			0	0	5	0	Hail
	Early evening hour thunderstorms produced large amounts of hail that was deposited on the town of Allen. Three different hail producing thunderstorms were reported to move over Allen in a little more than a two hour period. The hail, measured at 11/2 inches in diameter or less, did extensive damage to 350 units of a camper manufacturing company. These included pickup campers, trailers, and mobile homes. Numerous cars and roofs of homes were also reported damaged in and around the Allen area. No crop damage was reported.								
Pawhuska, Catoosa County	23	3:49a.			0	0	5	0	Lightning
	Lightning struck a home in Pawhuska in the early morning hours completely burning to the ground. A 13 year boy overcome by the resulting smoke was burned to death. Six other family members escaped without injury.								
OREGON			NONE	REPORTED					
PACIFIC			NONE	REPORTED					
PENNSYLVANIA EASTERN Eastern Penna.	3-4	5 AM EST to 1 AM EST			0	0	2	0	Snow
	Snowfall over Eastern Pennsylvania accumulated to 1 to 6.5 inches. The heaviest accumulations were over southeast sections with 6.5 inches at Philadelphia. Slippery roadways caused numerous traffic accidents accounting for 1 death and at least 6 injuries. Slippery footing caused at least 2 injuries from falls.								
Lancaster, Chester Counties	14-15	5 AM EST to 3 AM EST			0	0	3	0	Heavy Rain
	Rain over Eastern Pennsylvania coupled with melting snow caused some roadway and stream flooding. Precipitation amounts were mostly 3/4 to 1-1/4 inches. The flooding was most prominent in Lancaster and Chester Counties. In Lancaster County 26 roads were closed, many basements were flooded and at least 6 families were forced to leave their homes.								
Eastern Penna.	16	7 AM EST to 10 PM EST			0	0	2	0	Snow
	Snowfall over Eastern Pennsylvania accumulated to 1 to 6 inches. The heaviest snowfall was over southern sections where 3 to 6 inches accumulated.								
Eastern Penna.	25-27	1 PM EST to 11 AM EST			0	0	5	0	Heavy Rain, Ice Storm
	Precipitation began on the 25th as snow, sleet and freezing rain and gradually changed to rain by the morning of the 26th. Rain then continued heavy at times into the 27th. The freezing rain accumulated on trees and power lines causing extensive power outages from Bedford and Adams Counties north to Centre County and across the upper Susquehanna Valley and the Northeast. Over 10,000 customers suffered power outages. The rainfall that followed coupled with melting snow and ice to cause extensive flooding of streams, roadways and basements. Many roads were closed with some having washouts. Rainfall amounts ranged from 1-3/4 to 3-1/2 in.								
PENNSYLVANIA WESTERN Erie County	14	Morning			0	0	?	0	High Winds
	High winds collapsed a partially completed house near Girard. Other wind damage in the form of downed trees and power lines, and blow-out store windows was generally minor. A peak wind gust of 67 mph was recorded (7:09 am) at the Erie International Airport.								
Fayette, Somerset, Cambria, Bedford, and Fulton Counties	25-26				0	0	?	0	Ice and Wind
	More than 5,000 West Penn Power Company customers were without power for varying amounts of time as several inches of ice accumulation and high winds combined to down numerous power lines. Downed trees blocked some mountain roads.								
PUERTO RICO Culebra-Vieques Passage	14	5:45 p.			0	0	0	0	Waterspout
Culebra-Vieques Passage	22	4:30 p.			0	0	0	0	Waterspout
Culebra-Vieques Passage	31	6:50 p.			0	0	0	0	Waterspout

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

MARCH 1978

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
RHODE ISLAND									
	3	Morning			0	0	0	0	Heavy Snow
	About six inches of snow fell. It was hardly noticeable after the Great Blizzard of February.								
SOUTH CAROLINA									
Northwest South Carolina	2-3				0	0	4	0	Snow, freezing rain
	Snow, freezing rain, and sleet up to 6 inches in higher elevations disrupted utilities, tied up traffic and caused closing of schools.								
Eastern South Carolina	26	P.M.					4	5	Hail
	An area of thunderstorms accompanied by golf ball size hail occurred in northeastern South Carolina during the afternoon. Hail shattered glass doors, windows, storefronts, church stained glass windows, and damaged roofs in Latta, South Carolina. Lesser damage was reported at Dillon, Lakeview, and scattered areas in eastern South Carolina.								
SOUTH DAKOTA									
	NONE REPORTED								
TENNESSEE									
New Market, Lake County	13	7:12 p.					4		Tornado
	This very small tornado touched down briefly ripping off parts of the roof, smashing windows, and tearing off the porch of a house. No injuries, but the occupants reported the storm sounded "like 1,000 freight trains."								
Townsend, Blount County	14	2:30 a.					5		Wind storm
	Strong winds during a thunderstorm ripped off the roof of the Big Valley Motel. Twenty-three out of the 41 rooms sustained damage.								
TEXAS									
NORTHERN									
Eastern Palo Pinto County	20	5:00 p-5:40 p	30	*3	0	0	5	?	Hailstorm
	A severe thunderstorm developed near Possum Kingdom Lake and moved southeast across Palo Pinto County. The storm dropped 0.75 to 1.5 inch diameter hail in a swath 30 miles long and 3 miles wide from west of Groford to southeast of Mineral Wells. Total dollar damage was estimated at \$100,000 with the heaviest damage east and north of Mineral Wells. The ground was covered with up to three inches of hail in some areas.								
Gainesville area, Cooke County	20	5:40 p-6:40 p	18	*7	0	0	6	?	Hailstorm and Two Funnel Clouds
	A severe hailstorm moved eastward from the Muenster area to Gainesville. The hail caused at least \$2 million damages to residential roofs and automobiles. At the Gainesville Airport, a new airplane was destroyed by the hail. Hailstones up to 1.75 inches in diameter were first reported in the Muenster and Myra areas at 5:40 p.m. By 6:40 p.m., hail covered the ground in Gainesville where most of the damage occurred. Two funnel clouds were sighted near Muenster by Civil Defense storm spotters. Neither of the funnels touched down.								
Parker County	20	6:32 p-8:40 p			0	0	?	?	Hail and Windstorms
	Two separate thunderstorms moved southeast through western Parker County. The first storm, which affected Palo Pinto County earlier, dropped golf ball size hail south of Weatherford at 6:32 p.m. Civil Defense reported that this storm caused hail damage in an 8 mile by 1/2 mile strip of land from west through south of Weatherford. The second storm occurred from 8:05 to 8:40 p.m., affecting an area from west of Weatherford, through town, to the Alledo area. At 8:05 p.m., hail was reportedly stacked 1 to 4 inches deep 5 to 7 miles west of Weatherford. Most of the hail was from 0.5 to 0.75 of an inch in diameter but golf ball size hail fell 1 mile north of Alledo at 8:40 p.m. Straight winds to 45 m.p.h. accompanied the storms, causing scattered out building damage.								
Johnson County and Extreme South Tarrant County	20	7:00 p-9:30 p			0	0	6	?	Hailstorms
	The two Parker County thunderstorms moved southeast, bringing two periods of heavy rain and hail to extreme southern Tarrant County and northern Johnson County. Damage was light in Tarrant County, but insurance estimates were more than \$500,000 in Johnson County. The first storm, which moved through the county from 7 p.m. until 7:30 p.m., apparently caused the heaviest damage. Many automobiles and roofs were damaged in Joshua, Burleson, and Venus. Hail ranged from 0.50 to 1.0 inches in diameter. Hail accumulated up to 2 inches deep at the intersection of 917 and Highway 179. The second storm brought mostly marble size hail to Benbrook and southwest Fort Worth (Tarrant County) at 8:40 p.m. and southeast of Burleson (Johnson County) at 9:30 p.m.								
TEXAS (continued)									
NORTHERN									
Midlothian, Ellis County	20	10:05 p			0	0	?	?	Hailstorm
	Storm spotters reported 1.5 inch diameter hail in Midlothian at 10:05 p.m. Extent of damage is unknown.								
Seymour, Baylor County	22	4:00 p-6:30 p	15	?	0	0	?	?	Hailstorm
	An isolated thunderstorm produced a swath of hail from west of Seymour to at least 10 miles east of Seymour. Most of the hail was 0.5 inches in diameter but 1 inch diameter hail was reported by the Sheriff's Department 9 miles east of Seymour. Little damage was reported.								
Wichita Falls, Wichita County	23	1:00 p-1:30 p			0	0	?	?	Hailstorm
	A thunderstorm moved east across northern Wichita Falls and the Air Base, producing marble size hail. A few hail stones measuring one inch in diameter were observed at the National Weather Service Office at the airport. Damage was apparently minor.								
Breckenridge, Stephens County	23	1:15 p			0	0	4	?	Hailstorm
	Marble hail fell mostly across western portions of Breckenridge. Civil Defense reported that a few of the stones ranged from 0.75 to 1.0 inch in diameter. The hail produced some roof damage.								
Central and Northern Brown County	23	5:30 p-5:50 p			0	0	5	4	Hail and Windstorm
	A severe thunderstorm moved northeast from central into northern Brown County. The storm skirted the Brownwood airport and golf ball hail resulted in minor damage to several aircraft. An early warning allowed airport personnel to move most of the planes inside hangers before the storm struck. After affecting the Lake Brownwood area, the storm moved into northeast Brown County with hail stripping trees and causing roof damage in rural areas. Strong winds and hail heavily damaged the roof of a church and parsonage in the town of May.								
Tarrant County	23	6:00 p-6:50 p			0	0	4	?	Windstorm and Urban Flooding
	A line of heavy thunderstorms moved across the county, causing scattered damage mainly in northern portions of the area. Minor street flooding was reported in Fort Worth with a number of cars stalled out in north Fort Worth. In North Richland Hills, strong straight winds destroyed a horse barn and broke large tree limbs.								
Howe and Dorchester, Grayson County	23	6:05 p			0	0	3	0	Urban Flooding
	Thunderstorms produced up to 3.15 inches of rain within 40 minutes with minor flooding resulting.								
Priddy, Mills County	23	6:00 p			0	0	?	?	Hailstorm
	Baseball size hail fell briefly in Priddy. The extent of damage was not known.								
Community and Hamilton, Hamilton County	23	6:30 p-6:40 p			0	0	?	?	Hail and Windstorm
	The Priddy storm moved into Hamilton County, dropping 1.75 inch diameter hail at the small town of Community. Marble hail and high winds occurred in Hamilton, producing minor damage.								
Richardson, Dallas County	23	7:15 p			0	0	4	0	Windstorm
	A severe thunderstorm that had caused wind damage in northern Tarrant County moved east-northeast through Richardson. An amateur radio storm spotter measured wind gusts to 57 m.p.h. The strong winds unroofed one home in Richardson and destroyed a number of sheds, fences, and outbuildings. Trees were also uprooted by the wind gusts.								
Plano area, Collin County	23	7:15 p			0	1	5	0	Windstorm
	The Richardson storm caused further damage in the Plano area, a few miles northeast of Richardson. Straight line winds destroyed one mobile home and heavily damaged six others in the Fairwood Village Trailer Park at Farm Road 544 and North Star Road in east Plano. The owner of the destroyed mobile home received cuts and bruises but no severe injuries. The destroyed trailer was rolled 25 feet by the winds before smashing into another trailer.								
Ladonia, Fannin County	23	8:30 p			0	0	5	0	Windstorm
	Thunderstorm winds caused considerable damage in the Ladonia area. A large cow barn was destroyed on the southwest outskirts of town while considerable roof, carport, garage, and tree damage occurred inside Ladonia. Several outbuildings and T.V. aerials were downed by the strong winds.								
Delta County	23	9:50 p			0	0	?	?	Windstorm
	A severe thunderstorm caused scattered wind damage to barns and outbuildings in rural areas, mainly north of Cooper. A 23-foot camper trailer was damaged as were several automobiles and buildings in Cooper.								

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
TEXAS (continued)									
NORTHERN									
12 N Tyler, Smith County	23	9:50 p			0	0	?	?	Hailstorm
									Marble size hail was reported by the Department of Public Safety 12 miles north of Tyler. Damage was apparently negligible.
Paris, Lamar County	23	10:10 p			0	0	5	0	Windstorm
									Scattered wind damage occurred in the Paris area as thunderstorms traversed the county. Several light airplanes were overturned and heavily damaged at Cox Field Airport. A number of homes, fences, and outbuildings received damage in Paris, Reno, and Sylvan. Two mobile homes were heavily damaged and a greenhouse destroyed in Southeast Paris. Outbuilding damage was reported in rural areas south of Paris.
Western Harrison County	23	10:15 p			0	0	3	0	Windstorm
									Thunderstorm winds ripped the roof off of a home on Page Road in extreme western Harrison County. The report was made by radio station WMT.
TEXAS SOUTHERN									
PRIDDY Mills County	23	6:30p			0	0	0	0	Hailstorm
									A line of thunderstorms moving across south central Texas during the evening hours produced hail to 1-1/2 inches in diameter over open rangeland about 3 miles north of Priddy. Damage was negligible. The line continued southeast and produced more large hail later in the evening over Travis and Williamson Counties.
Austin Area Travis and Williamson Counties	23	9:00p			0	0	4	3	Hailstorm
									A line of thunderstorms moving across south central Texas during the evening hours produced hail to 1-1/2 inches in diameter over an area bounded by a line connecting Rutto, Pflugerville, Mansfield Dam and back to Rutto, TX. This area includes northwest Travis County and southwest Williamson County. Damage to roofs, windows and a few early crops was reported. The line of storms weakened thereafter and no other reports of severe weather were received.
TEXAS WESTERN									
El Paso, El Paso County	10	12:58 p			0	0	0	0	Wind
									Wind gusts to 62 mph at El Paso International Airport. No reported damage.
Dalhart, Dallam County	12	4:28 p			0	0	0	0	Wind
									Gusts to 66 mph at Dalhart from thunderstorm. No reported damage.
Midland, Midland County	24	4:44 p			0	0	0	0	Wind
									Gusts to 68 mph at Midland Air Terminal. Dust to 1/4 mile. No reported damage.
Sierra Blanca, Hudspeth County	31	5:40 p			0	0	0	0	Hail
									Golf ball size hail was observed by DPS. No property damage reported.
UTAH									
VERMONT FRANKLIN AND WINDHAM COUNTIES									
	3				NONE REPORTED				SNOW
									FRIDAY AFTERNOON THROUGH SATURDAY MORNING NUMEROUS TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS WERE REPORTED DUE TO SLIPPERY ROADS AND UP TO SIX INCHES OF SNOW. INJURIES REPORTED WERE MINOR WITH NO FATALITIES.
ARIZONA									
	26				NONE REPORTED				SNOW
									TWO TO EIGHT INCHES OF SNOW IN THE CENTRAL AND SOUTH PORTIONS, AND UP TO FIFTEEN INCHES IN THE NORTH, CAUSED SLIPPERY ROADS AND NUMEROUS TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS THROUGHOUT THE DAY. SEVERAL POWER OUTAGES WERE REPORTED IN THE NORTH. ALL INJURIES REPORTED WERE MINOR.
VIRGINIA									
Statewide									
	2-3				0	0	0	0	Snow
									Storm moved northeastward from southeast corner of the nation and deposited 4 to 6 inches of snow over the central and northern portions of the state. Over the higher elevations in the southwest sections, from 6 to 8 inches were reported, while a 10-inch total occurred in Grayson County. Major traffic tie-ups resulted, along with numerous accidents. Schools closed in Shenandoah County for the 15th time this season.
Central	8	Early			0	0	4	0	Glaze
									Freezing rain caused a rash of accidents on highways. Ice accumulation on power lines resulted in numerous outages.
Roanoke and Pittsylvania Counties & City of Roanoke	10-11				0	0	3	0	Rain
									Combination of locally heavy rains and melting snow resulted in some flooding of basements and required the closing of a few roads. Rain-softened trees responsible for downed power lines in Catawba and Hanging Rock sections of Roanoke County.
VIRGINIA (continued)									
Western									
	25-26				0	0	7	4	Glaze
									Freezing rain during the night of the 25th into Easter Sunday morning, the 26th, devastated trees and power lines over approximately two dozen counties from the vicinity of the Maryland-West Virginia line southwestward to the North Carolina boundary. Ice accumulations especially over the higher elevations said to be thickest in memory of many observers. Widespread tree damage, slides and live power lines made many roads impassable and also disrupted power service to over 100,000 people. Many television and radio stations knocked off the air for a lengthy period of time. Combination of losses, including more than 15,000 acres of trees and power line repair, estimated at around \$9.5 million.
Gloucester and Mathews Counties	25-26				0	0	3	0	Rain
									Two-day rainfall totaled over 4 inches in some areas and caused local minor flooding and washed-out a few dirt roads.
VIRGIN ISLANDS									
					NONE REPORTED				
WASHINGTON									
					NONE REPORTED				
WEST VIRGINIA									
Northeast sections	25-26	both days			0	0	?	?	Ice storm
									A severe ice storm hit higher elevations, generally above 3,000 feet, of northeast West Virginia Saturday and Easter Sunday. Up to two inches of ice was deposited with downed telephone and power lines and utility poles. Many people in Pendleton County were without power for five days. Thousands of trees were uprooted with limbs stripped from many others. An estimated 25,000 acres of timber was severely damaged in the Monongahela National Forest.
WISCONSIN									
					NONE REPORTED				
WYOMING									
					NONE REPORTED				
INDIANA									
Adams and Allen Counties	15-31				0	0	0	0	Flooding
									A combination of melting snow and rain caused major flooding in Adams and Allen Counties. Most of the flooding was along the St. Marys and Maumee Rivers. Approximately 1,000 families were evacuated. The St. Marys River at Decatur and the Maumee River at Ft. Wayne were above flood stage for more than two weeks. The river stage at Decatur was the highest since 1959, while at Ft. Wayne it was the second highest on record. Flood damage was estimated at around 36 million dollars.
Lake, Newton, Porter, Jasper and Starke Counties	19-31				0	0	0	0	Flooding
									Combination of melting snow and rain caused major flooding along the Kankakee and Yellow Rivers. About 40 families were evacuated in the Schneider area because of levee failures and 28 families were evacuated along the Yellow River. Damage was estimated at one million dollars.
North and Central Indiana	24-25	A P			0	0	?	?	Ice Storm
									Freezing rain began the morning of the 24th in central Indiana and spread into northern Indiana. The freezing precipitation ended the afternoon of the 25th. A half inch of ice accumulated, downing numerous trees and utility poles causing power outages.
MARYLAND & D.C.									
Western, Central, D.C. & northern Eastern Shore	3				0	0	0	0	Snow
									Coastal storm beginning early morning and into the afternoon, brought 5 to 7 inches of snow from Garrett County eastward. In the Baltimore and Washington, D.C. areas 4 to 5 inch accumulations disrupted morning rush hour traffic and responsible for many minor accidents.
Anne Arundel County	8				0	0	0	0	Snow
									Snow began around 8 AM, with accumulations from 4 inches to as much as 7 inches over the County before changing to sleet and freezing rain late in the afternoon and at night.
Dorchester County	10-11				0	0	3	0	Rain, Flooding
									Heavy rain, combined with rapidly melting snow cover, caused water to back up and flood yards and streets especially in the Vienna and Rhoadsdale areas.

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS							KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS		
MARYLAND & D.C. (continued)																				
Marling Farms, Queen Annes County	14	2:10 p	0.2	15	0	0	4	0	Tornado											
<p>Small tornado, moving southwest to northeast, touched down and damaged five homes. One had the roof torn off and carried 200 yards to the northeast. Much of the insulation of this house was sucked downward through a small trap door leading to the attic area and scattered throughout the house. One witness reported seeing the funnel, and a roar similar to a freight train was also heard. This occurrence was verified by personnel from NWS Office, Baltimore-Washington International Airport. Total damage estimated at between \$20,000 and \$25,000.</p>																				
Western, north Central & Northeast Portions	16				0	0	0	0	Snow											
<p>Snowfall of 3 to 5 inches over much of the area, with 6 to 9 inches occurring over Harford and northern Baltimore Counties.</p>																				
Wheaton, Montgomery County	21	7:45 p-8:00 p			0	0	3	0	Rapid Temperature/Pressure Change											
<p>Apparent combination of temperature/pressure differential between interior and outside air caused windows in some 30 automobiles to smash outward, while parked in shopping center lot. A cold front accompanied by brisk northwest winds was passing across the area at the time.</p>																				
Western	26	All Day			0	0	4	0	Glaze											
<p>Freezing rain wreaked havoc over Allegany and Garrett Counties as ice-laden trees and branches snapped, carrying wires with them. In Garrett County, 50% was without power for a time. In many cases, after repairs were made, bent trees sprang back after ice melted and re-severed the lines.</p>																				
Baltimore and Harford Counties	26				0	0	4	0	Rain, Flooding											
<p>Rainfall in excess of three inches in some areas resulted in flooding of basements and some closed roads. In Darlington, Harford County, the most serious flooding was reported - necessitating the evacuation of five families.</p>																				

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS							KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
THE FOLLOWING ARE LATE REPORTS, CORRECTIONS, AND DELETIONS:																			
LATE REPORTS										CORRECTIONS									
MONTANA 20 Eastern Counties										ARIZONA Tacna Yuma County									
NEW YORK CENTRAL AREAWIDE										Wellton Yuma County									
VERMONT AREAWIDE																			
WATERBURY																			
ENOSBURG																			

- 0 Includes crop damage.
- C Crop damage.
- * Miles instead of yards.
- ** Yards instead of miles.
- † Storm damages are placed in categories varying from 1 to 9 as follows:
 - 1 Less than \$50
 - 2 \$50 to \$500
 - 3 \$500 to \$5,000
 - 4 \$5,000 to \$50,000
 - 5 \$50,000 to \$500,000
 - 6 \$500,000 to \$5 Million
 - 7 \$5 Million to \$50 Million
 - 8 \$50 Million to \$500 Million
 - 9 \$500 Million to \$5 Billion

Note: This publication contains our best information on storms but, due to the difficulties inherent in collection of the type of data, it is not all-inclusive. Late Reports and Corrections will be carried in the month following receipt of these data.

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