

JANUARY 1979

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STORM DATA



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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA AND
INFORMATION SERVICE

NATIONAL CLIMATIC CENTER
ASHEVILLE, N.C.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

JANUARY 1979

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	January was a wet and cold month for most of Alabama with no significant storms.								
ALASKA Cook Inlet	31				0	?	4	0	Freezing Rain
	Freezing rain and drizzle fell for over 24 hours across a wide area of the Kenai Peninsula, the Anchorage area and the southern Susitna Valley. Over 80 vehicle accidents were reported. There were no major power outages.								
ARIZONA Central Section	17-78				0	0	7	6	Flooding
	Significant flooding occurred especially over the Salt River and Verde River basins. This was the third major flood within two months and the fourth within ten months essentially over the same sections of the state.								
	A surge of tropical air produced 1 to 4 inches of rain over central Arizona. The watersheds were still saturated, the stream levels high and the reservoirs nearly full from the heavy rains and flooding in November and December. As a result, water was discharged into the Salt River through the Greater Phoenix Area as high as 77,800 cfs. Such a flow closed all but three of the bridges as was the case in March and December 1978. Traffic was again completely disrupted. West of the Greater Phoenix Area farm land and residences were flooded from waters of the Salt River and Agua Fria Rivers. Considerable damage to homes and mobile homes occurred at Black Canyon City along the Agua Fria. This is where six people lost their lives in the December flood when the two bridges on I-17 collapsed.								
	Flooding occurred on the Santa Cruz and tributary washes as it did in the December flood with extensive damage to property, farm land and crops.								
Scottsdale Maricopa County	17	12:57 p.			0	0	0	0	Funnel Cloud
	Funnel cloud reported by Scottsdale Airport Tower to be about five miles to the northeast.								
Gilbert and Sun Lakes Maricopa County	25	5:40 p.			0	0	5	0	Funnel Cloud, Wind
	Funnel cloud reported by public and a pilot did not touch ground, but associated strong winds destroyed one mobile home, damaged another and tore down the rafters of a church under construction in Gilbert. At Sun Lakes a large mobile home was overturned and heavily damaged and numerous carports and roofs were damaged.								
Greater Phoenix Area Maricopa County	25	6-7:00 p.			0	0	3	0	Hail
	Hail one-half to three-quarters inch diameter fell on the west and northwest sides with some damage to roofs.								
ARKANSAS Several Counties in Northwestern Arkansas	Dec. 31, 1978 to Jan. 2:00 a. 1, 1979 to ?				0	?	5	0	Ice Storm
	Freezing rain began falling early on the morning of the 31st, and by that afternoon ice accumulations up to one inch had been reported. Trees and electrical power lines toppled causing widespread power outages in several counties; Madison County suffered the most damage. At the height of the storm, nearly 15,000 customers were without electricity. The National Guard was called out to assist in emergency operations. As late as the following weekend, as many as 3,000 homes were still without power, and the National Guard was operating emergency generators to provide electricity for important functions. Old timers in the area stated that it was the worst ice storm to hit the area since 1949. Arkansas Power and Light Company reported damages exceeding 250 thousand dollars. Total damages were estimated at over 400 thousand dollars.								
Several Counties in South Central and Southeastern Arkansas	6	2:00 p.			9	?	7	7	Ice Storm
	This was one of the worst ice storms to ever occur in Arkansas. Ice accumulations up to three inches completely paralyzed several cities. The cities of Monticello, McGehee, and Warren were hardest hit. At the height of the storm, Arkansas Power and Light Company reported up to 80,000 persons were without power. Many users were still without electricity for up to two weeks after the storm. Utility companies estimated their damages at around 5 million dollars. According to a survey taken by the Arkansas Forestry Commission, over 3-1/2 million acres of timber suffered ice damage inflicting a loss in excess of 6-1/2 million dollars on forest landowners. Total damages in the storm were estimated at over 14 million dollars. Several of the deaths that occurred were caused by automobile accidents on the icy roads.								
CALIFORNIA NORTHERN & CENTRAL SOUTHERN SACRAMENTO VALLEY	1/11	Aftn					?	?	Heavy rain with flash flood watch in effect.
CALIFORNIA SOUTHERN	NO REPORT RECEIVED								
COLORADO Mountains	12, 13				0	0	?	0	Heavy snow
	Heavy snow caused numerous traffic problems in the mountains. Three semi trailers jackknifed near Dominguez. Snow slides near Silverton closed Red Mountain Pass. One car was partially buried by a snow slide; the occupants escaped unhurt. It was a bad month for avalanches-575 were reported in Colorado.								
	Southern part of state								
	22				0	0	?	0	Heavy snow, wind
	Heavy snow fell over Southern Colorado, plaguing motorists and causing a snow slide which cut off the water supply for a while at Crested Butte. The snow caused a barn roof and an old jail roof to collapse in Silverton, and residents of towns in Southwest Colorado had to shovel snow off roofs to prevent more cave-ins. In Southeast Colorado blizzard conditions closed Interstate 25 for a time in the Rye-Coronado City area. 60 MPH winds produced visibilities near zero around Pueblo in late afternoon.								
CONNECTICUT central parts	21	all day			1	0	7	0	heavy rain flooding
	Eight feet of water inundated Stratford as rainfall of three to five inches fell on the state. A woman drowned when fourteen feet of water submerged her car. Widespread major flooding caused extensive evacuation.								
DELAWARE Statewide	20-21								Rain, Glaze
	Low center moved northeastward out of the lower Mississippi Valley. Rain averaged near two inches and several traffic accidents, some with injuries, occurred during the freezing conditions that developed at the onset of precipitation the morning of the 20th. Some local flooding was reported before the rain ended on the 21st, especially over the northern sections of the state.								
Lewes (6 SW), Sussex County	21	1:30 p			0	0	4	0	Wind
	One-half of a 300-ft long chicken house completely destroyed at Coolspring. The brief wind was estimated to be at least 60 mph. No funnel was visible and no roaring sound heard.								
New Castle County	24	All Day			0	0	0	0	Rain
	Second storm in less than a week brought over one inch of rain on already saturated ground. Flooding occurred on Brandywine Creek and other small streams, with four main roads closed and several smaller ones.								
FLORIDA Santa Rosa County	1	2:05 PM CST	1/10	20	0	0	2	0	Tornado
	A small tornado damaged a few trees and power lines in Jay but caused no other property damage.								
Okaloosa County	1	4:30 PM CST							Funnel Cloud
	Okaloosa County police reported a funnel cloud 1 mile north of Niceville. It apparently never touched the ground.								
Hillsborough County	2	11:30 AM EST			0	0	0	0	Thunderstorm
	Wind gusts of 55 mph at Egmont Key accompanied a line of thunderstorms preceding a strong cold front. No damage was reported.								
Boca Raton, Palm Beach County	2	Afternoon	1/10	20	0	0	3	0	Tornado
	A small tornado touched down briefly in the 3600 block on North Federal Highway. Principal damage was to advertising signs.								
Brevard County	12	5:20 PM EST	3/10	20	0	0	4	0	Tornado
	A tornado touched down at the intersection of U. S. 1 and Garret Road in Micco. It damaged a sandwich shop, a beauty salon, and a home before dissipating over the Indian River.								
Okeechobee County	12	3:34 PM EST	1/10	20	0	0	4	0	Tornado
	Two house trailers, both anchored down, were wrecked by a small tornado near Fort Drum. Occupants of the trailers were uninjured. Observers reported the tornado was on the ground for only about 5 seconds.								

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
FLORIDA (continued)									
West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County	13	5:10 AM EST	1	50	0	0	6	0	Tornado
									A tornado touched down at Belvedere and Military Trail in suburban West Palm Beach and skipped northeastward. Principal damage was to an automobile dealership, lumber company, service station, and a school building. Additional damage to trees, television antennas and utility lines occurred as the thunderstorm that spawned the tornado moved northeastward across Palm Beach Shores.
Palm Beach County	19	9:30 AM EST			0	0	0	0	Waterspout
									A waterspout was reported offshore from Palm Beach.
Chiefland, Levy County	21	12:15 AM EST			0	0	4	0	Thunderstorm
									Strong winds associated with a line of thunderstorms blew down six television towers that formed the antenna system for a cable television receiving system in Chiefland. Elsewhere in the county numerous trees and utility lines were damaged by the winds.
Brevard County	21	3:10 AM EST	1/10	20	0	0	4	0	Tornado
									A small tornado dipped down briefly just east of Interstate 95 and north of S.R. 46 near Mims. One or two homes were damaged with some additional damage to trees and utility lines.
North and Central Peninsular Florida	21	Morning			0	0	5	0	Wind
									In addition to the storms listed above for January 21st, a squall line moving through the north and central portions of the Peninsula, along with an intense low pressure system north of the State, produced winds of 40 to 50 mph at many places, with locally higher gusts. There were widespread reports of broken and uprooted trees, downed utility lines, and minor damage to roofs, signs, patios, andawnings. Along the central and upper west coast of the Peninsula strong onshore winds and high tides produced coastal flooding and some locally severe beach erosion.
Manatee County	24	2:00 AM EST	7	20	0	0	5	0	Tornado
									A small tornado skipped across western Manatee County, moving northeastward. Trees were toppled, numerous mobile homes and cabins damaged, roofs blown off houses, and utility lines downed. Most of the damage was in a narrow path from Cortez Road to Palmetto and the Palmetto Trailer Park. Strong winds were observed elsewhere in the county. Winds were measured at 100 mph at a power company plant 5 miles east of Parrish.
Volusia County	24	3:30 AM EST	1/2	20	0	0	4	0	Tornado
									A small tornado touched down near a mobile home park near Deland, causing minor damage but no injuries. A sheriff's report indicated the tornado stayed on the ground for about one half mile in an area between S.R. 11 and U.S. 17.
DeSoto County	24	4:16 AM EST	7	7	0	1	5	0	Tornado
									A tornado touched down in the Oakmont Subdivision on Highway 31 and later in DeSoto Ranchettes on S.R. 70. A residence and a mobile home were destroyed, and several other mobile homes were damaged. One person received minor injuries from shattered glass.
Highlands County	24	5:00 AM EST	7	7	0	0	5	0	Tornado
									The Placid Lakes community sustained damage to roofs, trees, buildings, and utility lines as a tornado moved through that area. Lumber from a building supply company was scattered for about a mile along U.S. 27.
Lee County	24	4:53 AM EST	2	20	0	0	5	0	Tornado
									A pre-dawn tornado cut a path of destruction through two small mobile home parks and a nearby residential area in southern Lee County. The tornado touched down in the Harvey Heights Trailer Park on John Morris Road and moved northeast for 2 miles, lifting near Thornton and Lora Road. Ten mobile homes were destroyed, and 30 to 40 others were damaged.
Martin County	24	5:55 AM EST	10	20	0	0	5	0	Tornado
									A small tornado skipped through western Martin County about daybreak ripping off house roofs, felling trees, and downing utility lines. The tornado first hit Port Mayada on the eastern shore of Lake Okeechobee, where damage mainly was to trees and utility lines. It apparently lifted and next touched down in the Booker Park Subdivision of Indiantown where several houses and a church were damaged.
Peninsular Florida	24	Morning and Afternoon			0	0	6	0	Wind
									A line of heavy thunderstorms with frequent wind gusts in excess of 50 mph moved down the Florida Peninsula, followed by a strong cold front with gale force winds. Aside from the storms listed above for January 24th, there was widespread minor damage, mainly broken trees and utility lines, minor roof and mobile home damage, and damage to signs, antennas, screening, and flimsy structures.
GEORGIA									
Northeast GA (Hall County hardest hit)	19-20	10PM - 3PM			0	0	5	0	Ice Storm
									A minor ice storm affected northeast Georgia. Most damage was in a band from Gainesville to Maysville to Toccoa. Mainly iced trees limbs falling on power lines. About \$150,000 damage resulted.
HAWAII									
East of Wheeler AFB, Oahu	8	1:13p							Funnel cloud
Hawaii, Maui and Oahu	11-16				2	2	*6	C	High winds, rough seas, heavy rains
									Combination of stationary upper trough and surface cold front with associated strong northerly winds caused rain and wind damages totalling about \$500,000 on Hawaii Island, \$75,000 on Maui and \$50,000 on Oahu. On Hawaii, greatest loss to sugar plantation roads and public highways washed out by heavy rains. At least 8 homes suffered roof damages from strong northerly winds and at least 6 homes flooded. Highest 7-day (11th-17th) rainfall 71.02 inches at Ookala Kauika but most rain intensity rate moderate. Winds gusted to 50 mph or more. Two fishermen, father and son, drowned in rough seas when small fishing skiff sank between Hilo and Puna early morning of 12th. On 11th between 4p. and 5p, gusty northerly winds swept at least 4 boats to sea from Lahaina Harbor, Maui and ripped off roofs from a home in Waianae Valley, Oahu and nearby school building. In Upper Paia, Maui tree falling across passing truck caused minor injuries to 2 occupants.
10 miles east of Lihue, Kauai	12	2:05p							Waterspout
IDAHO									
Statewide	1-31				5	0	6	0	Extreme cold
									Prolonged sub-zero temperatures much of the month caused frozen and broken water pipes in homes, schools, and businesses. Freezing and breaking of sprinkler pipe flooded many businesses and some schools. Many schools closed due to frozen water pipes. Numerous water meters were frozen and ruined. Near all-time record low temperatures caused overloaded power lines to burn out transformers and damaged telephone equipment. Many cars would not start and numerous social and cultural events were cancelled. Heaviest single freeze damage was at the Bunker Hill Company lead smelter in Kellogg, Shoshone County, which was forced to close because of concentrations of sulphur dioxide in the air. Water pipes and water-cooled processing equipment at the plant froze when deprived of the heat generated by normal plant operations. Damage there was estimated at \$100,000. Heavy power use forced curtailment of power and closure of two factories in southeast Idaho. An overhead sprinkler system burst at the Westwood Village Shopping Center in Pocatello, Bannock County, and flooded several stores. Water mains froze in many locations. Small streams supplying water to several small towns and villages froze solid cutting off water supplies. Also, ice jams caused flooding in several locations. A man, exposed to sub-zero weather, died at Mullan, Shoshone County; three young men snowed out near Rose Lake, Kootenai County, were found dead from exposure; and a man who suffered extreme frostbite to his hands and feet near Soda Springs, Caribou County, died in a hospital.
Ada County	11				0	0	5	0	Flooding
									In Boise, Crane Creek flooded and about 20 to 30 homes received some water damage, mostly to basements. In all of Ada County about 250 homes were affected by water in basements from surface runoff.
Twin Falls and Cassia Counties	11-12				0	0	6	0	Flooding
									The rains of the 10th and 11th melted snow, and the water could not enter the frozen soil. Many small streams flooded with heaviest damage in Twin Falls County where about 100 homes were damaged, mostly to basements; about 9 bridges were either washed out or damaged; and about 1.1 million fish were killed and 120 tanks damaged. At Albion, Cassia County, Marsh Creek flooded two businesses, the basements of several homes, and caused minor damage to the foundations of about 15 trailer homes.
Weiser Area, Washington County	14				0	0	5	0	Flooding
									The Snake River flooded 300-500 acres of farmland; 24 families were evacuated; two homes received flood damages; and 25 wells were polluted. The airport, south of Weiser, was flooded causing the evacuation of small planes; and U. S. Highway 93 was closed for a number of days.
Emmett, Gem County	17				0	0	4	0	Wind
									A new horse training shed 100 feet wide and 200 feet long was demolished during a brief windstorm.
Kamiah, Lewis County	18	2:00 a.			0	0	5	0	Snow
									The roof of a lumber binding and storage shed, 75 feet wide and 200 feet long, collapsed under the weight of a foot of snow. The building had some structural weakness.

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IDAHO (continued)									
Lewiston, Nez Perce County	27	Morning			0	0	5	0	Snow
A large warehouse roof collapsed under the weight of a foot of snow. The old building did not meet current codes for snow load. Paper supplies in the building were damaged.									
ILLINOIS									
West of Palos Park Cook County	4	Early Morning			2	0	0	0	Extreme Cold
Two 8 year old boys froze to death. They wandered outside a dormitory at the Joseph P. Kennedy School for Exceptional Children late at night during extremely cold weather.									
Just West of Carondolet, St. Clair County	5				1	0	0	0	Extreme Cold
A man died from exposure to the cold in a levee area.									
Northern Illinois	12-14				4	7	?	0	Heavy Snowstorm Extreme Cold
An intense snowstorm began the evening of January 12. It affected the northern half of Illinois. The Governor of the state declared 22 counties in the northern quarter of the state to be disaster areas. Most of the northern third of the state received 12 inches or more snow before the storm ended early the morning of January 14. In Chicago, a total of 20.3 inches fell, making this the second greatest snowfall of the city's history. Chicago had a total of 29 inches of snow on the ground at the end of the storm, which was a new record for total snow accumulation. Compounding the misery was the strong wind, which drifted the snow over roads, blocking travel in many sections. Following the storm, bitter cold hit the entire state. The morning of the 15th, Chicago's low temperature was -15F, one of the coldest temperatures on record in the city. Roads, railroad tracks and airport runways became clogged with snow over the entire northern half of the state, halting or slowing travel. O'Hare International Airport in Chicago closed for only the 6th time in its history, stranding thousands of travelers. In the Chicago metropolitan area alone, merchants estimated business losses of a billion dollars. Four deaths and 7 injuries were reported as a result of the storm. Three deaths occurred on the 13th. In Galena, Jo Daviess County, a man died of exposure to the cold just outside his house. In Downer's Grove, DuPage County, an 80-year old woman froze to death in her yard. In Waukegan, Lake County, a young man who was a resident of the Waukegan Developmental Center was found dead, a victim of the cold weather. He had wandered away from a home on the center's grounds. On the 14th, an elderly woman froze to death in Berwyn, Cook County, after walking away from a nearby nursing home. The immense accumulations of snow on roofs began causing injuries and damage. A woman was hurt in a roof collapse at the B & C Auction House January 13 near Manito, Mason County. At McHenry in McHenry County, 3 women were hurt on the same day. The roof of a riding stable fell on them. On the 14th, 3 more injuries were reported. At Oglesby, LaSalle County, a man was taken to a hospital suffering from frostbite. In Morton Grove, Cook County, the roof of the village garage caved in. Portions of the roof fell on 2 village workmen, sending them both to a local hospital.									
Northern Illinois	Entire Month				0	7	8	0	Heavy Snowstorms Extreme Cold
Record accumulations of snow put excessive pressures on roofs throughout the northern half of the state, resulting in scores of reports of cave-ins. Much of the area had seen snow depths rise beginning with the New Year's Eve storm. The intensely cold weather during the entire month of January meant that little snow melted. Beginning with the snowfall of New Year's Eve, structural damage began to occur. Little damage to house roofs was reported, but garages, carports, awnings and commercial buildings, especially those with flat metal roofs of long spans, suffered great damage. Stores, warehouses, commercial garages and stables were especially hard hit. Livestock losses were considerable in some rural locations, as hog pens, hatcheries, barns and stables fell. Seven injuries were reported during the period, as the cold weather and pileup of snow continued to add wintery misery upon the northern sections of Illinois. On January 15, in St. Charles, Kane County, 2 men were hurt when the roof of the Edward Hines Lumber Company store collapsed. The overhanging roof of a gasoline station at Illinois 59 and Illinois 64, just north of West Chicago, Du Page County, fell the night of January 18. This caused injury to 2 women and a man trapped underneath the roof. On January 19, in Des Plaines, Cook County, a woman suffered frostbite after a long wait outside for a bus. A truck driver who was housed at the Joliet Armory in Will County the morning of January 25, due to difficult travel conditions, suffered frostbite and was taken to a local hospital.									
INDIANA									
Southern Indiana	6-7				0	0	?	?	Heavy snow
Heavy snow of 5 to 10 inches covered much of Southern Indiana with wind producing drifts 2 to 4 feet. Many cars were stalled. Some roads were closed and many schools closed.									
Northwestern Indiana	13-14				0	0	?	?	Heavy snow, wind, record cold
A strong winter storm tracked over Central Indiana and dumped 15 to 20 inches of snow over much of Northwest Indiana. South Bend recorded 17.2 inches and a record cold temperature of minus 16 degrees on the morning of the 15th. Schools were closed and many cars and trucks were marooned on roads. Snow drifts caused by winds 25 to 35 mph were recorded 6 to 8 feet high.									
IOWA									
Southeast one-half of Iowa	12/31	3:00 P 1/1 2:00 P			0	0	4	0	Heavy snow
An ominous beginning to the third coldest January on record started on New Year's Eve when heavy snow of 4 to 15 inches fell over the Southeast half of Iowa. Winds blew drifts to 4 feet high which closed many roads and stranded many motorists.									
Southeast one-half of Iowa	12-14	8:00 P 6:00 P			0	1	6	0	Near Blizzard
A severe winter storm approaching blizzard conditions crippled most of the state with 4 to 16 inches of new snow. Winds as high as 50 miles per hour and temperatures ranging from zero to 15°F produced windchill factors to 45° below zero. Many people were stranded in homes. Most roads were closed. A 2 1/2 year old boy was lost for 20 minutes in the blizzard. In that time both arms and legs froze. The boy had to be hospitalized. Snow drifted onto many roofs collapsing many buildings.									
Southwestern Iowa	17-18	3:00 P 2:00 P			0	0	3	0	Ice Storm
An ice and sleet storm covered the southwestern sections of the state. This ice made roads impassable. Many cars and trucks slid into ditches and had accidents.									
Eastern Half of Iowa	22	3:00 A- 8:00 P			0	0	5	0	Heavy Snow
Three to seven inches of new snow fell accompanied by wind gusts of up to 40 MPH. Windchill factors dropped to 30 to 40 below zero. The combination of new snow and snow from previous storms and the wind shipped the snow into drifts up to 15 feet high. This closed roads, schools, and businesses. The weight of the snow collapsed buildings.									
KANSAS									
Entire state	12-13				6	?	6	0	Snow, wind
A winter storm moved rapidly southeast across Kansas the evening of the 12th into the afternoon of the 13th. Snowfall was generally 1 to 3 inches in the south and extreme west to 11 to 13 inches in the north central and northeast. Winds of 25 to 45 mph caused blowing and drifting with drifts of 10 to 18 feet in the north central and northeast. Wind-chill indexes were 30 to more than 40 degrees below zero. Transportation was virtually halted. Trains were stalled or delayed, most airports were closed for long periods, and nearly all highways were closed - some for more than two days. Deaths from exposure included two men stranded in a car 6 miles north of Stafford, and elderly couple who left their stranded car about a mile north of Miles, and a woman walking home in El Dorado. A man died of a heart attack while trying to reach shelter from his stalled car a mile east of Louisburg. Other deaths and injuries resulted from poor driving conditions in the storm. Although livestock suffered, losses still could not be determined by late February due to continued snow cover in some areas.									
KENTUCKY									
	6-7							?	
The worst ice storm since the early 50's caused hardships for many KY families. Close to 50 to 100 thousand customers were without service for many hours because of downed wires.									

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LOUISIANA									
Claiborne Parish	19	Evening	?	?	0	16	?	0	Wind Storm
Assumption Parish	19	Evening	?	?	0	2	?	0	Wind Storm
	Both of the above wind storms came out of severe thunderstorms which were part of several thunderstorms which occurred in Louisiana. There were scattered reports of minor damage in many areas but no significant damage was done. The damage consisted mainly of downed trees, power lines, and signs. The injuries in both Claiborne and Assumption were due to overturned trailers from high winds. None of the injuries were serious.								
Jefferson Davis Parish	20	4:20 AM	?	?	0	0	5	0	Wind Storm
	An early morning thunderstorm hit the community of Elton doing quite a bit of damage (\$50-60,000) but no deaths or injuries. One warehouse was demolished and two house trailers overturned.								
St. James Parish	23	1:45 PM	2	200	0	27	6	0	Wind Storm
	A line of thunderstorms moving across southeast Louisiana hit the town of Litcher with winds in excess of 100 mph. Total damage estimated over \$1,000,000. None of the injuries were serious. Five homes were destroyed, 30 homes damaged, 13 house trailers destroyed, 16 cars heavily damaged, with temporary classroom buildings at the Jr. High and High schools destroyed or damaged. Other minor damage to homes and business. Witnesses described a black cloud accompanied by rain lasting only a few seconds. The top story of a Masonic lodge building was torn off.								
Evangeline Parish	23	Morning	0	0	0	0	5	0	Lightning
	Lightning struck a house in Mamou setting it afire. It burned to the ground.								
MAINE									
	NO REPORT RECEIVED								
MARYLAND & D.C.									
Statewide and District of Columbia	7	All Day			0	0	0	0	Fog
	Very dense fog made vehicular traffic hazardous over many sections and forced the closing of major airports for a significant part of the day.								
Statewide & District of Columbia	12-13								Snow, Freezing Rain
	Snow beginning early on the 12th accumulated generally between 3 and 5 inches over western, central and northern sections. Freezing rain developed over most of the area the night of the 12th into the morning of the 13th. Driving became hazardous and many highway accidents reported, with at least one fatality.								
Western	17	All Day							Glaze
	Combination of snow, sleet and freezing rain left many streets and highways a sheet of ice in many sections over Garrett, Allegany and Washington Counties. Many rider-bender accidents reported.								
Statewide	18	All Day					3	0	Wind
	Low center moved from Great Lakes region to off the New England coast, where it intensified. Winds gusted to 50 mph or more over the state, causing power outages in many sections. Traffic on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and also the Key Bridge, near Baltimore, was barred to empty trucks and house trailers for several hours. In the Baltimore metropolitan area there were reports of scattered roof and window damage by homeowners.								
Statewide & District of Columbia	20	All Day			0	12	4	0	Sleet, Freezing Rain
	Heavy sleet storm accumulated 2 to 3 inches over Allegany and Washington Counties and an inch or more in other sections before changing to freezing rain and then to rain. Up to 50% of households in Garrett County were without electricity as wires snapped under a 3-inch buildup of ice. Ice covered limbs snapped and took out power lines, disrupting electricity to over 5,000 homes in the Baltimore area and scattered sections in central Maryland. An estimated one dozen cases of injuries occurred, mostly not serious, due to falls with at least 6 of these in Frederick County.								
Central and Eastern	21-22				0	0	3	0	Rain, Flooding
	The combination of two-inch rainfall along with frozen ground led to considerable run off and local flooding in many sections, beginning on the 21st and continuing into the 22nd. Most serious problems were over Carroll, Baltimore, Harford and Cecil counties. Basements were flooded in sections of Baltimore City. On the Eastern Shore, southeast winds, along with high tides, caused some flooding in low-lying areas of Talbot County.								
North Central and Northeastern	24	All Day			0	1	4	0	Rain, Flooding
	Almost a duplication of situation that occurred a few days earlier. One-to-two-inch rainfall over the area resulted in high runoff with high water in flood-prone areas. Many roads had to be closed, including 40 in Carroll County and 50 in Frederick County. Among the incidents related to the storm: Trailer camp at Funkstown had to be evacuated; The basement walls of a home in Frederick collapsed from pressure of flood water; A man stranded in his auto near Elkton was rescued, and treated for a neck injury, the water having reached within 9 or 10 inches of the roof of the car.								
MARYLAND & D.C. (continued)									
Western	28-29								Snow, Blizzard Conditions
	Snowfall ranged from over 4 inches in Frederick County to 10 inches in Garrett County and was followed by very cold northwest winds gusting between 40 and 50 mph on the 29th. Visibilities were reduced to zero and at least two tractor-trailers were jack-knifed by the strong winds. Numerous traffic accidents reported over the entire area. In Garrett County six-to-eight-foot drifts closed secondary roads and reduced travel to one lane on major state highways, with roads again blocked as soon as they were cleared, by drifting snow.								
	NOTE: Precipitation, which was largely in the form of rain, amounted to over 8 inches in many sections of the state.. for a new record total for the month of January.								
MASSACHUSETTS									
Middlefield	17	?			0	1	4	0	high winds
	Winds gusting to 55 mph blew a tree down on a mobile home demolishing it and injuring its occupant.								
Eastern parts	21-26	all day			0	0	7	0	heavy rain and flood
	Heavy rain caused extensive highway and urban flooding necessitating evacuation. River flood from 22nd through 25th resulted in the Concord, Blackstone, Charles, Shawheen, Ipswich, Merrimac, Neponset and Sudbury Rivers far overflowed their banks. Wayland, Tewksbury, Chelmsford, Subbury, Ashland and many other towns were under three to four feet of water for four to five days. Several counties were declared federal disaster areas. A dam in Grafton broke causing damage, but no casualties.								
Duxbury	25	all day			0	0	6	0	high wind
Hull									coastal flooding
Marshfield									
Nahant									
Plymouth									
Quincy									
Revere									
Scituate									
Weymouth									
	An intense coastal storm brought wind gusts to 60 mph. The onshore direction coupled with perigee tides brought extensive flooding and erosion. Several hundred people were evacuated. The usual coastal homes that were flooded in past storms suffered again.								
MICHIGAN									
	1	Early Morning			0	0	5		Freezing Rain
	An area 15 miles either side of a Kalamazoo, Montrose line. Up to 1/2 inch of ice, bent trees and covered lines. 26,000 residents in the area suffered power outages as 21 primary and 300 secondary power lines were down in Kalamazoo alone. Hardest hit were Lansing, Battle Creek, Kalamazoo and Chesaning.								
Midland, Midland county.	1-2				0	5	0		Cold Temperatures
	5 persons received treatment for frost bite.								
Lower Peninsula	14-15				2	1			Heavy snow and cold temperatures
	A 56 year old man and a 16 year old boy were found dead due to exposure. The man was found face down in the snow in Glen Arbor, and the boy face up, 1 mile from his home in Ludington. A 51 year old man suffered frost bite to his hands and face after being found face down near his Jackson home.								
Near Charlevoix, Charlevoix county.	17	Afternoon							Blowing snow
	A woman was killed in a four car pileup when visibility was lowered to near zero on Michigan Highway 31 due to blowing snow.								
State Wide	all month				1	3	7		Build up of snow and ice.
	Many storage buildings, warehouses and garages collapsed under the weight of 2 to 4 feet of accumulated ice and snow on their roof surfaces. Metal storage buildings, and wooden garages, and lumber storage sheds were the most frequent targets. 70 barns in the Grand Rapids area collapsed in a one week period. 25 buildings in Benton Harbor and 23 in South Haven were either structurally damaged or suffered a full roof collapse. Major structures collapsing included a school in Caledonia, a church in Flint, an ice rink in Calumet, a library building in Edmore, a 20,000 hen chicken coop in Fillmore, a Billiard building in Alma, three warehouses in Ludington, and four large manufacturing facilities near Grand Rapids. Damage to contents and livestock was substantial. The one death and two of the injuries occurred when wooden garages collapsed without warning. Heavy damage was also done to awnings, gutters and airports throughout the state. Hardest hit were the western sections of Lower Michigan and the western half of Upper Michigan.								

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

JANUARY 1979

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	PROPERTY	CROPS	
MINNESOTA Statewide	18-20				0	0	5	0			Heavy Snow
	Deepening low pressure over Colorado at daybreak Thursday, January 18th - widespread freezing drizzle and freezing rain eastward to Iowa at noon. By evening snow had spread eastward into Western Minnesota. A new well-defined low center moved into Eastern Nebraska and Western Iowa during the night with snow and increasing wind throughout the State. Low center finally moved into Wisconsin on Friday Night, although snow continued over much of Minnesota. Snow ended by daybreak Sunday except for Arrowhead Region of Northeastern Minnesota. In two-day period snowfall ranged from two to five inches in north, and five to 10 inches over south. Travel was difficult and often impossible in near blizzard conditions - hundreds of schools closed with Travel Advisories and Warnings in effect for entire State. Some businesses closed, flights cancelled, progress often impossible even for stopovers, many semi-trucks and cars in ditches.										
South-half Minnesota	22-23				0	2	5	0			Heavy Snow
	At daybreak on Monday, January 22nd a low pressure area that had moved eastward from the Rockies deepened over the Plains of Kansas and Nebraska. The low continued to Eastern Kansas where it extended northward as a trough into Minnesota by Monday Evening. By this time moderate to heavy snow was reported over much of Southern Minnesota. With the low centered over Iowa, Missouri, and Eastern Kansas at Midnight, the snow had moved to eastern portions of the State, where it continued with considerable blowing and drifting into Tuesday morning. By noon snow had continued eastward into Wisconsin and winds were subsiding. This two-day period of heavy snow was the second occurrence within 4 days. Confined to Southern Minnesota, amounts ranged from 3 or 4 inches to near 11 inches at Montevideo and New London. Many schools either dismissed early or classes cancelled. Poor highway visibility curtailed travel with traffic near a stand-still in many areas by late afternoon Monday. Moderate winds contributed to drifting snow throughout Southern Minnesota and Travel Advisories were continued. Many accidents in urban areas, mostly minor. In a 2-car accident 3 miles east of New London, two people injured and hospitalized. Some business places closed and most civic and church events cancelled.										
MISSISSIPPI Rankin County	1	2:15 a.m.			0	0	3	0			High winds
	Thunderstorm activity caused winds to be locally very strong and gusty just south of the city of Florence which is about 10 miles south of Jackson. Limbs and some tree trunks were broken off and some old farm buildings were damaged considerably.										
Northwest Miss.	6-7				0	0	7	6			Freezing rain (ice storm)
	Falling rain froze on contact when it struck the ground, trees, buildings and other objects. Nine counties in the northwest were coated with ice but hardest hit were Tunica, Osborn, and Bolivar. The Governor declared a state of emergency in the nine counties. Tree damage to orchards, forests and ornamentals was extensive. A coating of up to two inches of ice snapped trees and limbs off at a rapid rate. Power and telephone lines and poles were downed... many of the poles being snapped off several feet above the ground. Power was out for several days, affecting up to 30,000 customers of power companies. The cities of Cleveland and Clarkdale were completely blacked out for at least one day, affecting about 35,000 residents. Kitchens were set up in schools and churches to serve food to those who cooked with electric power. The temperature dropped to very low values causing much discomfort to those with electric heating systems.										
Statewide	18-20				0	0	7	5			Heavy rains, flooding
	Very heavy rain over a period exceeding 48 hours caused extensive flooding. The hardest hit areas were the Pearl and Big Black River basins, which cover central, south central, west central and the southwest sections of the state. Several locations on these two rivers and on the Yazoo River rose so high that they remained above flood stage for the rest of the month. Damage to streets and roads was extensive, homes and autos also suffered considerably. Erosion affected fields and yards, as well as bridge abutments and other areas. Parts of the city of Jackson were under water for more than a week.										
MISSOURI North Half and South-west Missouri	12-14	pm 12- am 14			?	0	0	5	0		Winter
	Heavy snow beginning Friday evening and continuing into early Sunday morning accumulated to amounts around a foot across the north half of the state and up to eight inches in southwest Missouri, in addition to snow already on the ground. Winds gusting to around 40 mph caused drifts up to 12 feet high and stranded as many as 700 farm families in a five-county area in northeast Missouri. Missouri National Guard helicopters stationed at Chillicothe and Kirksville airlifted some persons from the stricken area and transported drugs and hay and other feed to cattle. Livestock, particularly hogs, appeared to suffer the most from the sub-zero temperatures and blowing snow. Pigs crowded together to keep warm and many smothered to death. The roofs of many large buildings and awnings and canopies of numerous businesses collapsed in northern Missouri under the weight of the heavy snow.										
MONTANA											NONE REPORTED
NEBRASKA Southeast Nebraska	12-13	Evening to Early Afternoon			0	0	4	0			Heavy Snow
	Heavy snow fell south of a line from Tekamah to Red Cloud. Snowfall averaged 4 to 8 inches with the greatest amounts reported at Auburn and Falls City where 10 inches occurred. Winds gusting to near 45 m.p.h. caused near blizzard conditions in blowing snow and drifts of 3 to 6 feet. Many side roads were closed or had one lane travel.										
Southwest, Central and Eastern Nebraska	18	Morning to Late Evening			0	?	6	0			Ice Storm
	Freezing rain spread eastward over the state generally south of a line from Sidney to Valentine. Severe glazing caused very hazardous roads and walks and numerous accidents. The glaze accumulated to a layer of around 1 inch in many areas. The weight of the ice broke tree limbs, power lines and poles resulting in numerous power outages. Some of the hardest hit areas were around McCook and Beatrice.										
Garden County	22	Evening			1	0	0	0			Ground Blizzard
	A rural Lewellen man died when he froze to death as he attempted to walk home from a snowbound vehicle during high winds. A low visibility was caused by blowing snow.										
Panhandle and Sandhills	Late November thru January				0	0	?	?			Persistent Snow Cover and Ground Blizzards
	Heavy snow cover from around Thanksgiving along with periods of additional snow and winds resulting in drifting and blowing snow caused severe stress to ranchers and their cattle herds along with recurring snow removal problems for local road crews. Snow depths ranged upward to 30 to 25 inches at times along with some drifts of 8 to 20 feet. Cattle had severe grazing problems and snow-bound ranchers had difficulty reaching the herds to feed them. Cattle losses resulted and the weakened nature of the herds was expected to affect spring calving. County and municipal budgets and equipment were taxed from the near constant snow removal operations and many side roads remained drifted shut. Dawes, Box Butte, Morrill, Garden, Sheridan, Cherry, Grant, Thomas, Blaine and Arthur Counties were declared state disaster areas. State road department equipment was brought in to help clear roads and National Guard helicopters were stationed in the area to assist with livestock rescue and feeding operations and to assist in emergency medical and personal aid situations for ranchers.										
NEVADA Western & Northern Nevada	11	UNK			0	0	5	0			Warm Winter Storms
	A series of warm winter storms brought rain to high elevations of the Sierra and to the mountains of Western and Northern Nevada. This combined with up to 12 inches of snow at low elevations for strong runoff and local areas of flooding. One two-lane bridge was washed out in Carson City, while elsewhere flooding was mainly to streets in urban areas and to low lying farm and agricultural areas.										
NEW HAMPSHIRE											NO REPORT RECEIVED
NEW JERSEY											NONE REPORTED
NEW MEXICO											NONE REPORTED
NEW YORK COASTAL											NONE REPORTED

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

JANUARY 1979

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	
NEW YORK (continued)									
CENTRAL SCHOHARIE, MONTGOMERY, OTSEGO AND FULTON COUNTIES	25-26				0	0	5	0	RAIN AND SNOW
									SNOW AND ICE ACCUMULATING ON BUILDING ROOFS FELT AN ADDED STRAIN WHEN A MIXTURE OF RAIN AND SNOW FELL EARLY ON THE 25TH. DURING BOTH DAYS NUMEROUS INSTANCES WERE REPORTED OF COLLAPSED ROOFS. IN AMSTERDAM, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, A DAIRY BARN GAVE WAY UNDER THE WEIGHT OF SNOW AND ICE. IN SHARON SPRINGS, SCHOHARIE COUNTY, THE CENTER SECTION OF A BARN WITH 200 DAIRY COWS INSIDE GAVE WAY UNDER THE SNOW AND RAIN. ANOTHER BUILDING NEAR ONEONTA, OTSEGO COUNTY, COLLAPSED UNDER WET SNOW AND ICE IN WHICH THERE WERE THREE AUTOMOBILES.
									A BARN AND CARPORT ROOF NEAR GLOVERSVILLE IN FULTON COUNTY BOTH GAVE WAY UNDER THE ICE AND SNOW ON THE ROOFS CAUSING EXTENSIVE DAMAGE TO MANY VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT STORED IN THESE STRUCTURES.
									NO PERSON OR ANIMAL WAS INJURED IN ANY OF THESE MISHAPS.
NEW YORK WESTERN Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Genesee, Wyoming, Southern Erie Counties	30	00-12 hrs.			0	0	6	0	Ice Storm
									Glaze accumulation over 2 inches in some areas destroyed 2 radio towers. Power disrupted for 15,400 customers for up to 3 days.
NORTH CAROLINA Alexander County	3rd	--			1	0	0	0	Freeze
									A man in Taylorsville died of exposure in record-setting freezing temperatures.
NORTH DAKOTA Near Pillsbury (Barnes County)	1	1:30 am (CST)			0	1	0	0	Cold weather
									A 20 year old man was found nearly dead from exposure in a farmer's field. The man was attempting to get help for his stuck pickup truck when he was overcomd by the cold.
11N Pettibone (Kidder County)	1	About 3 am (CST)			1	1	0	0	Cold weather
									A 24 year old man died of exposure while walking cross country in deep snow and 50 below wind chill temperatures. The man was attempting to get help for his stuck car at the time of his death. A passenger, who remained in the car, was found the next morning in good condition.
Western Third	1	Early morning to late evening			0	0	0	0	Ground blizzard
									A ground blizzard forced the closure of several roads leaving some holiday travelers stranded. In addition, poor visibility was responsible for a nine car pileup near Bowman in which two persons were injured.
Devils Lake (Ramsey County)	5				1	0	0	0	Cold weather
									A 71 year old man died from exposure after abandoning his stuck pickup truck.
Southern Third	18-19				0	0	0	0	Heavy Snow
									Heavy snow, with an accumulation of up to 8 inches, forced the closure of some rural schools and the cancellation of several social events.
OHIO Southeast	7	Afternoon & Evening			0	0	0	5	Ice Storm
									Freezing rain during the afternoon and evening accumulated up to an inch of glaze in southeast Ohio. Numerous utility lines were downed and trees and roofs collapsed from the weight of the ice. Many orchards received considerable damage to fruit trees.
OKLAHOMA									NONE REPORTED
OREGON Portland Multnomah County	9-10				5	UNK	(7)	UNK	Severe ice storm
PACIFIC Marshall Islands	4-6				0	1	5		Typhoon Alice
									Forming far south southeast of Kwajalein on about January 1st and upgraded to tropical storm on 3rd south of Kwajalein, Alice moved northward passing within 50 miles northeast of Kwajalein early morning of 4th. Changing course towards the west northwest and strengthening slowly, Alice passed within 30 miles south of Eniwetok on morning of 6th lashing inland with reported gusts of about 80 mph. Leaving Marshalls as typhoon, Alice travelled almost due west passing within 90 miles south of Guam right of 10th. Weakening after passing Guam, storm died on 15th in Philippine Sea. Limited damage information received from Marshalls. Kwajalein experienced some wave damage to breakwater, pier and structures. Eniwetok reported "considerable" damage. Several large rocks washed up on runway. Guam escaped with minor damage.
PENNSYLVANIA EASTERN									NO REPORT RECEIVED
PENNSYLVANIA WESTERN Western Counties	7-8				1	2	0	0	Ice, Heavy snow
									Freezing rain and sleet followed by 2 to 4 inches of snow caused hazardous driving conditions, school closings, and power outages over most of western Pennsylvania. In some sections there was between 6 to 10 inches of snow. There was one fatality. A man driver lost control of his car and skidded sideways on an ice-covered road and into a tree. Two passengers were injured.
Southwestern Counties	17				1	0	0	0	Ice
									Freezing rain across most southwestern Pennsylvania caused hazardous driving conditions with one fatality. A woman driver lost control of her vehicle and crossed into another lane where she collided with another car.
PUERTO RICO 12 Miles NE San Juan	3	8:15 a.			0	0	0	0	Waterspout
Bayamon	19	Evening			2	0	0	0	Heavy Rain
									Heavy local convective rain showers in the Bayamon area caused a small creek bed leading to the Rio Honda to overflow. A man and woman were drowned when their car was swept off a small bridge by the strong current as they attempted to cross the creek.
Vieques Passage	23	11:15 a.			0	0	0	0	Funnel Cloud
RHODE ISLAND statewide	22	all day			0	0	6	0	heavy rain flooding
									Extensive highway and urban flooding resulted from nearly three inches of rain. The Blackstone and Patuxet Rivers rose to threatening heights.
Coventry Cranston Johnston Patuxet Valley Warwick	23-25	all day			0	0	6	0	heavy rain flooding high wind
									Again three to four inches of rain brought extensive cellar and highway flooding. The Pocasset, Blackstone and Patuxet Rivers caused evacuation of about five hundred people. The usual barrier beach erosion, occurred with strong onshore wind and several cottages were shaken.
SOUTH CAROLINA									NONE REPORTED
SOUTH DAKOTA									NO REPORT RECEIVED
TENNESSEE West and Northwest Middle Tennessee	6-7	Evening					4		Ice storm
									Ice storm began the evening of January 6 in southwest Tennessee spreading across most of West Tennessee and into northwest Middle Tennessee on the 7th. Area affected was generally along and northwest of a line from Memphis to Nashville.
West Tennessee	20								Power/telephone outages and tree damage due to ice coated limbs. Schools closed/delayed openings, plus traffic problems.
									Snowfall amounts varied from trace to 2 inches.
Middle and East Tennessee	21								Heavy snow storm
									Snowfall amounts varied from 2 to 3 inches in Middle Tennessee to 4 to 8 inches in East Tennessee

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

JANUARY 1979

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	
TEXAS NORTHERN North Texas	5-6	Evening-Morning			0	?	5	0	Ice Storm
									The second ice storm within a week caused scattered damage across most of North Texas. While not as severe as the December 30-31 storm, the January 5-6 storm resulted in numerous automobile accidents. The heaviest icing was in eastern sections of North Texas. Some power lines were downed in Smith, Van Zandt and Henderson County, causing brief power outages. An undetermined number of people were hurt by falling on ice-coated sidewalks.
North Texas	10-11	Evening of 10 thru afternoon of 11			0	?	4	0	Snow and Ice Storm
									Winters 3rd major North Texas storm dumped from 3 to 5 inches of snow north and west of the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Ice accumulations caused power line and tree damage in and around Comanche County which is about 100 miles southwest of Fort Worth. Most of the damage was scattered and quit light in comparison to the two previous ice storms.
Rio Vista, Hill County	18	8:00 p			0	0	4	0	Windstorm
									Straight-line winds from a severe thunderstorm unroofed a portion of the Rio Vista school. The winds also overturned a tractor trailer near Rio Vista.
Northern Tarrant County	19	3:00 p-3:30 p			0	0	4	0	Wind, Hail, and Rainstorm
									A thunderstorm intensified over the Fort Worth area, becoming severe as it moved into northeast Tarrant County. Winds gusts to 69 MPH were observed at the Dallas/Fort Worth Airport. Small hail and rains up to 2 inches within a half hour period resulted in minor damage in the suburbs northeast of Fort Worth.
Northern Dallas County	19	3:30 p-4:00 p			0	0	5	0	Wind, Hail, and Rainstorm
									The severe thunderstorm moved from Tarrant into northern Dallas County, accompanied by estimated 75 MPH winds. Automobile showroom windows were shattered and portable buildings blown about on the Northwest Highway in Northwest Dallas. The winds also ripped the roof off of a warehouse and a day-care center in North Dallas. Part of an office building in Addison was destroyed by the wind gusts. Other scattered wind damage was reported in Garland and Rowlett. Hail up to golf ball size fell near the University of Dallas at 3:55 p.m. Heavy rains that accompanied the hail and winds caused some temporary urban flooding.
Rockwall, Rockwall County	19	4:15 p			0	0	?	?	Windstorm
									The last damage from the severe thunderstorm that earlier moved through North Dallas was in Rockwall, where a large YMCA sign was damaged.
TEXAS SOUTHERN south central Texas Hill Country	1	early morning			0	0	4	0	Ice Storm
									Temperatures fell below freezing during the day December 31 as a strong cold wave moved through the area. Late in the day light to moderate rain began spreading over the area depositing a layer of glaze as the rain froze on surfaces. Heavier showers and a few thundershowers late that night and early morning January 1 produced heavier local accumulations of ice. South Texas counties most significantly affected were Kerr, Gillespie, Llano, Burnet, Blanco, Kendall, Bays, Travis, Williamson, Milan, and Robertson. Half inch accumulations of glaze were common with some localized areas getting 1 inch coatings. No significant limb breakage to commercial fruit orchards was reported, but isolated light property damage occurred over the Llano county area and consisted of broken power and telephone lines, downed signs, and disrupted highway travel. Not included in damage figures are government costs for road maintenance on these holidays.
Lower Rio Grande Valley	2-3	overnight			0	0	0	7	Unusual Cold
									The worst cold wave to hit the Lower Rio Grande Valley citrus and winter vegetable areas since January 1967 brought minimum temperatures ranging from 11 at Texas Gardens in Hidalgo County to 7 at Brownsville in Cameron County on the morning of January 3. Temperatures reached these minima about sunrise but many acres in Hidalgo County were at or below 26 degrees for 6 to 11 hours the night of the 2nd until late morning on the 3rd. Unharvested orange and grapefruit losses in Hidalgo and Cameron Counties were estimated near \$25 million, but this does not include potential losses on next year's crops caused by limb damage and bloom reduction. A 20 percent reduction in normal sugar cane production accounted for an estimated \$10 million loss. Although the large onion crop was expected to recover from the cold, most other winter vegetables were killed or set back resulting in an estimated 75 percent reduction in normal yield. Vegetables so affected were cabbage, beets, lettuce, and broccoli.

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
TEXAS (continued) SOUTHERN Montgomery and northern Harris Counties	19	4:00 am			0	0	6	0	Heavy Rain
									Thunderstorms became intense over northern Harris and Montgomery Counties during the early morning hours dumping heavy amounts of rain on already soaked ground. By 7 am rainfall amounts ranged from 3.5 to over 6.5 inches across northern Harris County and over southern and eastern Montgomery County. Rapid runoff caused sudden rises on tributaries north and west of Lake Houston. Most significant flooding occurred to housing subdivisions in Montgomery County located along Spring Creek, at the town of New Caney on Caney Creek, and at Splendora on Peap Creek. About 140 homes in Montgomery County sustained some flood damage. A few homes on the south side of Spring Creek in Harris County were also flooded.
Lower Rio Grande Valley	20	4:00 pm-midnight			0	0	4	0	High Wind
									Strong persistent northwest winds of 40 mph gusting to 60 mph caused scattered light damage over Hidalgo and Cameron Counties. Utility and telephone poles and lines were snapped, and some minor roof and sign damage occurred.
El Campo, Wharton County	20	2:10 am	12	20	0	0	4	0	Tornado
									Thunderstorms moving eastward over Wharton County generated a small tornado. The twister first touched down about 7 miles west of El Campo near Farm Road 1300 where it destroyed a barn and garage. It then moved east at 30 mph and apparently went aloft until dipping to ground level again over El Campo where it destroyed a carport on Wharton Street and moved an automobile a few feet. The storm apparently moved eastward aloft again passing over a number of farms and homes without causing damage. For a third and final time along its straight-line path, the tornado touched down and destroyed a small building near the Texas Department of Public Safety offices in Pierce. Persons witnessing the tornado along its path both on ground and aloft reported hearing the characteristic roar for 50 to 60 seconds as it passed.
northwest Harris County	20	morning			0	0	5	0	Heavy Rain
									Moderate to heavy rain began soon after midnight on the 20th, and during the hours just before dawn intense thunderstorms moved east and northeast over the western part of Harris County. These storms dumped at least 2 inches of rain in a short period. The ground was completely saturated from the previous day's rains and ditches and streams were already running full. As a result, water rose quickly in streets and small streams due to the poor drainage conditions. Around the Cypress-Fairbanks area about 50 homes were flooded forcing evacuation of occupants in some of them.
TEXAS WESTERN									NONE REPORTED
UTAH Cache, Davis, Weber, Morgan, Box Elder, Salt Lake, Utah, Tooele, Wasatch, Duchesne and Uintah Counties	Jan 1 Jan 9				0	0	5	0	Severe Freeze
									An extremely cold air mass dominated the entire state the first 9 days of January. The daily mean temperature for the period ranged between 6 degrees and 26 degrees. The average of the mean temperature for the period was 18.8 degrees. The ground frost level in many new subdivisions gradually descended during this period to a depth of five to six feet in many areas. Normally, a good snow cover would protect from such action, but many locations were without sufficient snow during this period. Many homes and businesses in Northern and Eastern Utah suffered heavily from frozen water pipes. Those with plastic pipes seemed to have suffered most from cracked pipes. Many businesses were flooded in the Salt Lake area. Total damages due to freezing and breaking of pipes was estimated at \$200,000 dollars.
VERMONT SOUTHERN COUNTIES	25				1	0	5	0	SNOW
									SEVEN INCHES OF SOGGY SNOW FELL IN THE AREA CAUSING NUMEROUS ROOFS TO COLLAPSE, MANY DOWNED TREES AND POWERLINES, AND MANY TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS. MOUNTAIN AREAS REPORTED UP TO TWENTY INCHES OF SNOW WITH HIGHER DRIFFS DUE TO STRONG WINDS.
									A TEN YEAR OLD GIRL WAS CRUSHED TO DEATH BY A LOAD OF HEAVY SNOW THAT SLID OFF THE ROOF OF HER HOUSE AS SHE PLAYED IN EAST ARLINGTON, BENNINGTON COUNTY.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

JANUARY 1979

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	
VIRGINIA									
Statewide	12-13								Freezing Rain, Sleet, Snow
	<p>First major storm of season resulted in widespread hazardous road conditions. Sleet or freezing rain beginning the morning of the 12th spread eastward, with glaze continuing into the morning of the 13th over much of the area. The northern counties of the state reported mostly snow, accumulating an inch to an inch and a half. Hundreds of traffic accidents, with at least four fatalities associated with them, attested to the treacherous road conditions that developed.</p>								
Statewide	20-21				4	30	7	0	Ice Storm
	<p>One of the worst ice storms in memory of many began early the morning of the 20th and continued into early the following day. Up to an inch of solid ice was reported over sections of southwest Virginia and a staggering number of trees and power lines were down, creating extended power outages for over a hundred thousand households over the state. Some localities were still without electricity a week after the storm. Four deaths were directly attributable to the storm. In Roanoke, a man fell down a flight of stairs during the outage, suffering fatal injuries. In Campbell County a mother and her daughter were electrocuted when a power surge, created by broken lines, electrified their mobile home. Also, a 10-year-old western Virginia boy was asphyxiated by fumes from a gas-powered generator being used temporarily by his family. More than two dozen injuries due to falls were estimated and at least 3 fatalities occurred in highway accidents. Secondary roads were impassable due either to ice or tree blockage. At least one million dollars damage to trees were reported by Pittsylvania County, while repairs to power facilities were expected to run into the millions. Loss due to food freezer spoilage was inestimable. Other damage was incurred by trees falling on auto's or homes and buildings.</p>								
Amelia (nr), Amelia County	21	1:30 a			0	0	4	0	Wind
	<p>Trailer, apparently not anchored down, carried 7 feet off foundation. Living room extensively damaged as front steps buckled floor. A train-like raring sound was heard by occupants.</p>								
Rappahannock County	24	All Day			0	0	0	0	Rain, Flooding
	<p>Combination of heavy rain and snow melt resulted in flash flooding especially in the Laurel Hills section.</p>								
VIRGIN ISLANDS									
Off Western St. Croix	11	2:35 p.			0	0	0	0	Funnel Cloud
Off Western St. Croix	26	1:30 p.			0	0	0	0	Waterspout
Off Southern St. Thomas	26	4:45 p.			0	0	0	0	Waterspout
WASHINGTON									
NO REPORT RECEIVED									
WEST VIRGINIA									
NONE REPORTED									
THE FOLLOWING ARE LATE REPORTS, CORRECTIONS, AND DELETIONS:									
CORRECTIONS									
AUGUST 1978									
OREGON									
Scappoose, Columbia County	16	300PM	-	-	0	0	5	?	Tornado/wind
WISCONSIN									
Statewide									snowstorm, wind
Jan 1	<p>The major snowstorm that hit southeast Wisconsin over the New Year's weekend began winding down on Monday January 1st. The snow ended but gusty winds continued through most of the day on the 1st causing drifts up to 5 feet, closing many secondary roads.</p>								
Jan 12-14	<p>Another major winter storm hit southeast Wisconsin over the weekend of January 12 through the 14th. The snow developed early Friday night January 12th and began accumulating after midnight. The heaviest snow fell from Saturday afternoon January 13 through early Sunday morning on the 14th. From 12 to 20 inches of new snow fell. Winds increased Saturday afternoon and by Saturday night gusts of 40 mph were reported causing near blizzard conditions across most of Southeast Wisconsin. Travel became nearly impossible with many snowplows pulled off the roads. Drifts of 6 to 8 feet and higher were common in Southeast Wisconsin by Sunday morning blocking many roads, especially in the rural areas.</p> <p>The effects of the storm were compounded since it came on the heels of a storm over the New Year's Holiday. In addition, cleanup operations on January 14th was hampered by bitter cold temperatures and gusty northerly winds.</p> <p>Fifteen deaths were indirectly attributed to the storm, mostly caused by heart attacks and some due to traffic accidents. No exposure deaths were reported.</p>								
Jan 23-24	<p>The third major storm of January hit Eastern Wisconsin on the night of January 23rd continuing January 24th. Heavy snow of 5 to 12 inches and strong winds caused near blizzard conditions across Eastern Wisconsin during the night of January 23rd and continued through the morning hours of January 24th. Winds of 20 to 40 mph whipped snow into huge drifts and many roads once again became blocked with travel very hazardous across Eastern Wisconsin during the morning of January 24.</p> <p>Heart attacks and numerous traffic accidents were again attributed to the storm, but once again no exposure deaths reported.</p> <p>Accumulated snow on roofs of stores, houses, buildings and barns caused many roofs in Wisconsin to sag greatly or collapse during the month of January. Damage estimates range into the millions as continued cold temperatures and repeated snowfalls piled snow to record depths over most of the state in January.</p>								
WYOMING									
Statewide	1 to 31		N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	Severe winter weather
	<p>Numerous heavy snows combined with prolonged extremely cold temperatures have caused widespread damage across much of Wyoming during the month of January. Estimated loss of 2700 sheep and 2000 cattle with projected losses of calves and lambs to 35,000 head are reported. Also, numerous towns and communities across the state have extensive damages to their water systems due to frozen water mains and sewer systems. Emergency Winter Storm Relief Aid of \$2.5 million is currently being asked for by the state.</p>								

- o 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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