

STORM DATA



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STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

DECEMBER 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	
ALABAMA											
	December was a relatively dry month with near normal temperatures and no significant storms.										
ALASKA											
Cook Inlet	2				0	0	5	0			Heavy rain and mudslides
	A heavy snowpack was built up in the higher elevations of the Kenai Peninsula during November, 1979. During the closing days of November, snowfall on the southern Kenai Peninsula turned to rain. The snowmelt and persistent rainfall resulted in two major mudslides in Homer, which is situated on the eastern shore of lower Cook Inlet. There was considerable damage to roads and moderate damage to buildings and vehicles in the slide areas. Similar mudslides occurred in the area early in the winters of 1937-38, 1952-53 and 1977-78.										
Southcentral	12-13				0	0	4	0			High winds
	Cold, arctic air surged southward into southcentral Alaska early in the morning hours of Dec. 12 just as a short wave aloft moved through the area from the northwest. Winds to 70 miles an hour hit Valdez during the storm, causing damage to several buildings, mainly in the east part of town, and also causing tanked traffic into the Port of Valdez to be halted from the early morning of the 12th until the morning of the 13th. Peak winds to 100 miles an hour blew in Thompson Pass, on the Richardson Highway, just a few miles northeast of Valdez.										
Southcentral	14-25				0	0	5	0			Glaciation flooding
	Temperatures in southcentral Alaska turned colder in the first week of December, following very mild weather in October and November. A further cooling trend in the second week of the month followed. The snow pack at lower elevations was well below normal due to the above normal temperatures which had prevailed for most of the winter to that point. Due to the cold temperatures and due to the lack of an insulating snowpack, there was rapid freezing of small streams in the area. In this type of a situation, ice forms on the bottom of small streams, and the streamflow moves on top of the growing ice over a progressively wide and elevated area. This phenomenon is known as glaciation flooding. Major flooding began on Dec. 14 on Willow Creek, which crosses the Parks Highway about 35 miles south of Talkeetna, in the Susitna Valley. Several homes on Willow Creek were flooded. Minor floodland ice damage occurred on Montana Creek, about 15 miles south of Talkeetna, and on Rabbit Creek, in the southeast part of Anchorage. Willow Creek was last flooded in this manner in 1975. On Dec. 20, Governor Hammond declared the Willow Creek area a disaster area. The ice formation and flooding diminished on the 25th of December as temperatures rose above normal.										
Southeast	25				30	0	7	0			High winds and rough seas
	A strong occluded front swept eastward through the Gulf of Alaska on Christmas eve, and moved onshore over southeast Alaska late on the morning of Christmas Day. The 741-foot Japanese ore carrier "Lee Wang Zin", which had just departed from Prince Rupert, B.C. with a load of iron ore, was capsized by the storm in Dixon Entrance, about 50 miles south of Ketchikan, just about the time the occluded front moved through. Despite stormy and unsettled weather, the vessel remained afloat and became grounded at Kendrick Bay, on the southern end of Prince of Wales Island, about 40 miles southwest of Ketchikan, on the 27th of December. The superstructure of the vessel broke up as the capsized ship was grounded, and the ship was a total loss. The entire crew of 30 men was lost.										
Southcentral	27-28				0	0	5	0			Heavy snow
	A strong arctic front formed over western Cook Inlet on Dec. 27. As a small low pressure area moved northeastward up Cook Inlet, the front was drawn eastward, and caused heavy snow over the entire Kenai Peninsula and the Anchorage area. Most of the damage due to the snow was at the boat harbor in Seward, where over 2 feet of snow weighted down boats to the extent that 5 boats listed over, took on water, and sank. One boat sank in the harbor at Seldovia, near Homer, due to the heavy load of snow. From 8 to 16 inches of snow fell in Anchorage on the 28th.										
Southeast	28				0	0	3	0			Heavy snow
	A small but intense low pressure area moved northeast out of the Gulf of Alaska on the night of Dec. 27-28 and dissipated near Ketchikan on the 28th. As this happened, cold air was drawn southward over Juneau, where rain changed to snow in the early morning hours. By 10PM on Dec. 28, Juneau had more than 9 inches of snow. The wet, heavy snow caused massive power outages in Juneau and Douglas on the 28th.										
ARIZONA											
	NONE REPORTED										
ARKANSAS											
Gould - Lincoln County	23	7:30 p.	2	50	0	0	5	0			Tornado
	A small tornado touched down in the northwestern part of town and moved northeastward. It destroyed a large hangar and heavily damaged several planes at a local airport. Several homes plus a large farm building also sustained some damage.										
Dermott - Northern Chicot County	23	8:20 p.	** 300	35	0	0	4	0			Tornado
	A small tornado touched down in the northeastern part of town and moved northeastward. It destroyed a mobile home and a frame house. Four other houses sustained damage. Damage was estimated at 40 thousand dollars.										
CALIFORNIA											
NORTHERN & CENTRAL											
All Counties	23/24	23/0900PST through mid-day Dec. 24						6	C		rain, snow, wind
	A strong winter storm moved into Northwestern California on the morning of December 23. The two-day storm resulted in numerous reports of wind in excess of 60 mph, heavy rain in the valleys and blizzard conditions in mountains above 2000'. The storm affected all of northern and central California during a period of exceptionally active holiday travel. Major mountain highways were closed for long periods to allow for snow removal. Utilities over large areas were interrupted during the storm.										
CALIFORNIA SOUTHERN											
Mono County	23 & 24										Blizzard, heavy snow Sierra Nevada and Southern Mono County, 32 to 4 feet of snow at Mammoth Airport.
Los Angeles Co.											None
COLORADO											
Front Range and Adjacent Foothills	4-5				0	0	6	0			High Winds
	A strong chinook hit the Colorado Front Range, producing high winds from Colorado Springs north into Wyoming. The Boulder area was hardest hit, with a peak gust of 119 MPH recorded at Rocky Flats, just south of the city. 92 MPH gusts were recorded in the city. Other strong gusts included 116 MPH at Buckhorn Mountain, northwest of Fort Collins, and 104 MPH at Wondervu, in the foothills southwest of Boulder. The winds were extremely variable in velocity, fluctuating from light breezes to 90 MPH in seconds. Damage was widespread, amounting to about .2 million dollars in Colorado, mostly around Boulder. Roofs were blown off several business buildings and homes; many cars were damaged by flying debris, and hundreds of windows were broken. Small airplanes were severely damaged at three airports in the area. The wind caused scattered power outages and downed trees from Colorado Springs to Fort Collins.										
Eastern	27-28				0	0	?	0			Heavy Snow
	Heavy snow buried the plains of Eastern Colorado and the adjacent foothills. The snow snarled transportation to some extent, but did little damage. Most cities on the plains received 6 to 10 inches of snow from the storm. The heaviest amounts fell along the Front Range north of Denver and in the adjacent foothills. The area from Boulder north to Fort Collins had 15 to 20 inches, and the storm dumped about two feet in the foothills just to the west.										

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
CONNECTICUT Hartford	17	7 AM			1	0	4	0	High wind
	Strong Northwest winds gusted to 50 MPH as a cold front passed through the state. A woman was killed in her automobile as a tree crashed through her windshield while driving.								
DELAWARE Northern	19	All Day			0	0	0	0	Snow
	Ten-hour snowstorm over New Castle County snarled traffic, delayed buses and sent school children home early. Amounts ranged from an inch in the Wilmington area to two inches near the Pennsylvania border.								
FLORIDA			NONE REPORTED						
GEORGIA			NONE REPORTED						
HAWAII			NO REPORT RECEIVED						
IDAHO			NONE REPORTED						
ILLINOIS Northwestern & southeastern areas	11-13	5pm to 3am			0	0	3	0	Ice storm
	An ice storm hit parts of northwestern Illinois on the afternoon of the 11th and the southeast portion on the 12th and 13th. The weight of the ice caused wide-spread power failures from broken power lines. Many communities in the northwestern part of the state (including the counties of Henderson, Rock Island, and Henry) were without electricity for more than one hour. In the southeast section, the ice broke tree limbs. In Carthage, White County, a tree limb fell on a roof of a house.								
Entire state	24-25	1pm to 5pm			1	0	4	0	Wind
	Strong gusting winds caused damage to local areas in the state. Gusts were recorded at 55 knots in some places blowing down trees and power lines. In Chicago, Cook County, high winds blew as much as 4 feet of water from Lake Michigan on part of Lake Shore Drive. Cars became stalled and part of the road was closed. A parked car was crushed by a fallen tree in Spring Valley, Bureau County. In Peoria, Peoria County, a man was crushed to death when a tree fell on the car he was driving. High winds also blew a camper roof off a vehicle and damaged billboards in the Salem area, Marion County.								
INDIANA Northwest Lake, Porter, La-Porte, & St. Joseph Counties	1-2	AM & PM on 1st, AM on 2nd			4	?	5	0	Heavy snow
	Lake effect snow accumulated 6 or more near Lake Michigan in Northwestern Indiana. South Bend had 5". At 5:39 PM on the 1st a light plane crashed into two houses in the Gary, Indiana area. The pilot and a housewife were killed. There were thunder and lightning with dense falling snow at that time. Slippery roads caused three traffic fatalities and several other accidents as 20 mph winds caused some drifting with visibilities fair to none. Total damages estimated about \$100,000.								
Indianapolis Marion County	7	3P			0	5	4	0	High wind
	At 100 Industrial Park on the far northwest side of Indianapolis high winds caused the collapse of a steel frame warehouse extension that was being constructed. Five construction workers were injured. Indianapolis International Airport wind recorders indicated a west-southwest wind with gusts 140-145 mph at 2:35 to 3:00 PM. Damages estimated about \$20,000.								
INDIANA (continued) LaPorte, St. Joseph, & Elkhart Counties Extreme Northern	15-16	AM & PM			2	?	4	0	Heavy snow
	An arctic cold front passing through the area caused lake effect snow. South Bend had 5" and Mishawaka reported 4". Icy roads, blowing snow with temperatures of 0-10° resulted in hazardous driving conditions that caused two traffic deaths and several other minor accidents. Damages estimated at about \$20,000.								
IOWA			NONE REPORTED						
KANSAS			NONE REPORTED						
KENTUCKY			NONE REPORTED						
LOUISIANA East Baton Rouge Parish	23	Evening			0	0	3	0	Thunderstorm placed between \$500 and \$700.
	Patio roof destroyed by winds in Zachary. Damaged by winds in								
Allen Parish	23	Evening			0	0	3	0	Thunderstorm
	Two houses had roof damage due to trees blown over by high winds in Dardale.								
Natchitoches Parish	23	Evening			0	0	3	0	Thunderstorm
	Strong winds damaged supports for school building under construction outside of Natchitoches.								
Franklin Parish	23	Evening			0	0	4	0	Thunderstorm
	House trailer blown over on its side by strong winds near Baskin. Two occupants escaped unhurt.								
Ouachita Parish	23	Evening			0	0	?	0	Thunderstorm
	In Monroe strong winds uprooted some trees and knocked down some power poles and lines. One tree was 186 years old.								
Calcasieu Parish	23	6 PM			0	0	3	0	Thunderstorm
	An unoccupied house trailer southeast of Sulphur sustained moderate wind damage.								
Beauregard Parish	23	6 PM			0	0	3	0	Thunderstorm
	A patio was destroyed by high winds east of Dry Creek.								
St. Landry Parish	23	Evening			0	0	3	0	Thunderstorm
	An out building was destroyed by high winds in Grand Prairie.								
Lafayette Parish	23	Evening			0	0	0	0	Funnel Cloud
	Public reported a funnel cloud north of Lafayette. No Damage done.								
Cameron Parish	23	Evening			0	0	0	0	Funnel Cloud
	Sheriffs deputies reported a funnel cloud in marshland northeast of Cameron. No damage done.								
East Feliciana Parish	23	9:30 PM			0	0	?	0	Thunderstorm
	Trees downed between Jackson and Ethel by strong winds.								
East Feliciana Parish	23	9:30 PM			0	0	?	0	Thunderstorm
	Trees and power lines downed in Woodland by strong winds.								
MAINE			NONE REPORTED						
MARYLAND & D.C. Chesapeake Bay	17	Early Morning			0	0	0	0	Wind
	Northwesterly wind flow, gusting over 35 mph, caused a Liberian freighter to drag anchor and run aground on a sandbar off Kent Island. The strong winds also forced suspension of crane operations, in the port of Baltimore, for two hours during the morning.								
Hagerstown	25	1:15 a			0	0	3	0	Wind
	Locally strong wind associated with a passing cold front collapsed two car ports (damaging three automobiles parked beneath), bent or broke off several television antennas, and broke windows in the Woodmore area. Evidence indicated that the carport roofs were lifted several feet into the air, pulling the support posts out of their ground anchors. Total damage estimated at near \$5,000.								
MASSACHUSETTS			NONE REPORTED						

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MICHIGAN									
Monroe county	7	Afternoon			0	0	4	0	High Winds
Gale force winds blew a semi-trailer off the road on I-75. During the height of the storm wind gusts to 36 mph were recorded at 3:30pm at the Michigan Gas Utilities Company in Monroe. At Parkside Drive, in South Monroe Township, a huge oak tree near a home snapped and tumbled into the back yard of the home with several large branches puncturing holes in the home's attic and upstairs bedroom. An estimated 1,190 customers of Detroit Edison Co. were without electrical power in Monroe, Milan, Flat Rock areas due to scattered power outages caused by broken tree limbs and debris blown onto power lines and insulators. Strong winds also blew off an attachment to a shelter adjacent to the Frenchtown Township Volunteer Fire Department at Nadeau Rd. and N. Dixie Highway around 4:30pm.									
Emmett Township, Calhoun county.	16	Afternoon			0	2	3	0	Strong Gusty Winds
A small imported car was blown off I-94 and rolled over several times as it was hit by a wind gust on the Beadle Lake Road overpass. The driver and passenger sustained injuries.									
New Buffalo, Berrien county.	25	Mid Morning to Mid Afternoon			0	0	5	0	Wind Storm
A powerful lake storm blasted the New Buffalo area lakefront leaving blown out seawalls, beach and bluff damage. At the peak of the storm fourteen food waves driven by 35 mile an hour winds caused considerable damage to the Michiana lakefront where some 100 feet of steel pilings were blown out causing an estimated damage of \$40,000. Damage was also reported to seawalls along the Sunset shores area. The wind storm also caused numerous power outages over southern lower Michigan. Wind gusts of 35 miles per hour were common with some gusts reaching 40 mph before noon.									
MINNESOTA									
NONE REPORTED									
MISSISSIPPI									
Bolivar County	23	8:14pm	0	0	0	?	4	0	Thunderstorm, high winds
High winds destroyed a wooden house 6 miles north of Gunnison. Ten persons were inside the house, but there were no major injuries.									
Madison County	23	10:15pm	0	0	0	0	?	0	Thunderstorm, high winds
High winds blew down several trees near the Ross Barnett Reservoir just off County Line Road in Madison County.									
Lincoln and Pike Counties	23	11:00pm	0	0	0	0	4	0	Thunderstorm, high winds
High winds associated with a line of heavy thunderstorms caused scattered damage in these two counties. Some power lines, a chain link fence, and a large revolving clock at a shopping center south of Brookhaven in Lincoln County were blown down. In Pike County, southwest of McComb, the roof and carport of a house were blown off, and the roof and one wall of a paint shop were destroyed. Some signs were also blown down.									
MISSOURI									
Southeast Scott, Stoddard, New Madrid, Mississippi, Dunklin, and Pemiscot Counties	12	ngt.			0	0	4	0	Ice
The ice started forming before noon in a steady light rain, and by nightfall it became obvious that a major ice storm was developing. A thick glaze of ice coated trees and power and telephone lines, while highways and streets, with the exception of some bridges and overpasses, stayed relatively clear. Broken limbs falling on power lines either pulled them loose and forced them to the ground or snapped them in two. Several power transformers either caught fire or went out. Hundreds of trees were damaged or destroyed.									
MONTANA									
Eastern Slopes of the Rockies	4				0	0	5	0	Strong Winds
Strong westerly winds up to 100 miles an hour blew over mobile homes, downed power poles, and destroyed some aircraft.									
Eastern Slopes of the Rockies	3-14						5	0	Strong Winds
Strong westerly winds in excess of 100 miles an hour in some areas blew over mobile homes, downed power poles and damaged some homes.									
NEBRASKA									
Cherry County	7	6:30 AM			0	0	2	0	Damaging Winds
Winds gusting to 60 m.p.h. caused roof damage to a ranch west of Valentine.									
Nuckolls County	11	Morning			0	0	4	0	Damaging Winds
Winds gusting to around 45 m.p.h. overturned a mobile home being towed north of Superior causing considerable damage.									
South Central	28-29	Late Night to Morning			0	0	0	0	Heavy Snow
Heavy snow fell in south central Nebraska with around 5 inches at Grand Island.									
NEVADA									
NONE REPORTED									
NEW HAMPSHIRE									
NONE REPORTED									
NEW JERSEY									
Coastal Areas Monmouth and Ocean Co.	19	6:30 a			0	?	?	?	SNOW STORM
An unexpected strong storm dumped up to five inches of snow in New Jersey causing hundreds of minor accidents and hampering morning and evening rush-hour traffic. The snow fell for more than 16 hours in most parts of the state. Princeton recorded the heaviest snowfall with five inches, followed by Point Pleasant, 4.5 inches and Atlantic City, four inches. The most rapid accumulation occurred in the morning, with about two inches falling in the first few hours. The snow tapered off in the early afternoon but lingered on with sub-freezing temperatures and gusty winds for the rest of the day in many areas.									
NEW MEXICO									
NONE REPORTED									
NEW YORK									
COASTAL									
Extreme Southeast, Nassau, Suffolk Co., Metropolitan Area	19	6:30a			0	0	?	?	SNOW STORM Season's First Snowfall
The snow came down on us as a result of a low pressure system carrying moisture off the Great Lakes and made havoc with us by dumping 2.3 inches of snow by mid-afternoon in Central Park. Temperatures fell into the upper 20's and lower 30's and tapered off to flurries around midnight totalling 1.5 inches of snowfall.									
CENTRAL									
EASTERN SOUTHERN TIER MOHAWK VALLEY, CATSKILLS AND THE HUDSON VALLEY									
	13	10A-4PM			0	0	3	0	SNOW
THE FIRST MAJOR SNOWSTORM IN THE AREA DEPOSITED 2 TO 4 INCHES OF SNOW AND WAS THE CAUSE OF OVER FIFTY TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS INCLUDING SEVERAL SCHOOL BUSES. MANY OF THE ACCIDENTS WERE MINOR BUT SEVERAL WERE SERIOUS. A FEW POWER OUTAGES WERE ALSO REPORTED DUE TO A MIXTURE OF FREEZING RAIN IN THE SOUTHERN PORTIONS OF THE AREA.									
EASTERN SOUTHERN TIER CATSKILLS AND LOWER HUDSON VALLEY									
	19	2 P-6P			0	0	2	0	SNOW
TWO TO FIVE INCHES OF SNOW CAUSED NUMEROUS TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN THE AREA DUE TO LIMITED VISIBILITIES AND SLIPPERY ROADS.									

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NEW YORK (continued) WESTERN Niagara and Erie Counties	11/30 to 12/1	Morning to Morning	-	-	-	-	5	-	Heavy snow	
									Lake effect snowstorm shifted from southern Western New York to the Buffalo Area and portions of Niagara County and produced near record snowfall. The storm produced a total of 22.4 inches at the Buffalo Airport. For the 24-hour period ending 7 AM December 1, the Airport recorded 20.1 inches which is second to the record of 24.3 inches. There were thousands of cars abandoned in the middle of streets and thruways, many people snowbound in plants and offices, caves-in roofs and school closings. A state of emergency was declared in Depew and Lancaster. Cleanup operations took several days.	
NORTH CAROLINA									NO REPORT RECEIVED	
NORTH DAKOTA Southwest and South Central	4	Night			0	0	4	0	High Winds	
									Wind gusts to 85mph were reported at Bowman (Bowman County), 59mph at Dickinson (Stark County), and 56mph at Bismarck (Burleigh County) behind a strong cold front. In Bismarck, the strong winds blew the roof off a warehouse. The roof hit a cooperative power line causing a power outage, and then smashed into a building.	
OHIO Lake, Ashtabula Geauga Counties	182	3pm 1st -3pm 2nd			0	0	3	0	Heavy Snow	
									A west northwest flow of cold air across Lake Erie created lake effect snow squalls in these counties for about 24 hours. Up to 16 inches of snow was reported in eastern Lake, northern Geauga and most of Ashtabula counties.	
East of a Line From Sandusky to Ironton	7	515pm			0	8	6	0	High Winds	
									Winds in this area averaged 30 to 40 mph for 2 hours ahead of a fast moving cold front. As the front approached and crossed the area wind gusts reached as high as 70 mph. Numerous utility lines and trees were downed and several roofs were blown off of buildings. Eight people were injured slightly by flying debris.	
Lorain, Medina, Cuyahoga, Summit, Stark, Portage, Geauga, Lake, Ashtabula, Trumbull & Mahoning Counties	248 10 am 24 25 10 am 25				0	0	5	0	Heavy Rain	
									Rain fell over the entire state on these two days with the heaviest rain falling in the northeast counties. Up to 2 and 1/2 inches of rain fell in northeast Ohio. This rain caused flooding of the Chagrin and Cuyahoga Rivers. Flooding also occurred in many small streams in that area. Drainage systems also overflowed leading to flooding of roads and basements.	
OKLAHOMA									NONE REPORTED	
OREGON									NONE REPORTED	
PACIFIC Majuro Atoll	11/26 to 12/3						6	7	5	High Waves
									Ocean swell generated by the strong northeasterly winds of an intense sub-tropical high pressure system which drifted slowly eastward and then westward about 1500 to 2000 miles to the north washed over the eastern end of Majuro Atoll destroying or substantially damaging over 680 dwellings (most of them flimsily built), forcing the evacuation of 6000 of the island's population of 9500 and leaving 4000 homeless. Hardest hit was the so-called DUD area (3 atolls -- Harrit, Uliga and Lap -- connected by causeways), where most of the population is concentrated. Rita, the largest village, was left 95 per cent destroyed, submerged under sea water and mud, and its residents evacuated to the western end of the island or to boats in the lagoon. All major buildings, including the hospital, were heavily damaged. Water supplies were contaminated, the sewage system destroyed, communications and power disabled. Airlifts of tents, cots, blankets, food and cooking facilities were flown, and tent cities erected. The most severe wave action and damage occurred in three episodes: the morning of November 26 and the early morning and afternoon of December 3, and coincided with astronomical tides of about 6 feet, when waves overtopped storm berms 7 to 13 feet in height and sent a wall of water 3 to 4 feet deep across parts of the island, whose highest elevation is only about 11 feet sea. At least 14 acres of land was lost to erosion, principally in the eastern portion of Majuro, where large sections of land were reported missing and replaced by salt water lagoons. Damage estimates: Public property, \$2.2 million; individual homes, \$2.5 million; business establishments, \$1.4 million; agriculture, \$200 thousand; Total \$6.3 million. 3 to 6 injuries, none serious. Note: Waves from the same high lashed Wake Island and Peale Island from November 24 to 27 and again from November 30 to December 3, but caused only minor local flooding and no damage. These waves are probably also those mentioned in late reports from Kapingamarangi Atoll as arriving November 27 - 30 from the northeast and severely damaging coconut trees (2000 destroyed), taro, breadfruit and other subsistence crops.	
Eastern Caroline Is.	1-4				0	0	3	4	Tropical Storm	
									Tropical Storm Abby passing near the atolls of Mokil, Pingelap, Urek and Maodon did extensive damage to coconut trees, pandanus, breadfruit, papaya (up to 99 per cent destroyed), banana (up to 95 per cent destroyed), etc. While it is difficult to assign a dollar value to these losses, this widespread destruction of their subsistence crops means great and long hardship to these islanders. In addition, a large number of dwellings, docks and boat houses were badly damaged.	
Truk	5				0	0	7	3	Tropical Storm	
									Tropical Storm Abby passes about 30 miles north of Truk with maximum sustained winds of 35 mph and peak gusts to 52 mph, from the west. Principal damage was to coastal revetments.	
PENNSYLVANIA EASTERN Eastern Pennsylvania	19 to 20	4:00 AM EST to 9:00 AM EST						2	0	Heavy Snow
									Snow accumulation was an inch or less over the Lower Susquehanna Valley, but the remainder of Eastern Pennsylvania received 3 to 7 inches. The snow resulted in especially hazardous traveling conditions and this brought about hundreds of automobile accidents. There was a resulting large number of injuries. Fortunately, all but a few were minor. There was an even larger number of injuries resulting from pedestrians falling on the slippery surfaces.	
PENNSYLVANIA WESTERN Western and Central	7	night			0	0	5	0	Strong Wind	
									Strong and gusty winds, as high as 60 mph, caused widespread damage. Trees were blown down, many falling on homes and cars. Trainers were knocked over, a half a wall of a building was ripped out, and the roof of a bowling alley was blown off.	
PUERTO RICO Off Northwest P. R.	30	6:40 p.			0	0	0	0	0	Waterspout

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RHODE ISLAND Cumberland	8	11:40AM			0	0	5	0	High wind
									Strong gusty winds blew down a large apartment building under construction.
SOUTH CAROLINA									NONE REPORTED
SOUTH DAKOTA									NO REPORT RECEIVED
TENNESSEE									NONE REPORTED
TEXAS NORTHERN North Texas	12	Afternoon			0	0	4	4	Ice Storm
									Scattered light damage resulted from an ice storm that affected North Texas generally north of an Abilene - Fort Worth - Greenville line. Moderate tree and power line damage occurred in Wise, Montague, and Cook Counties.
TEXAS SOUTHERN Vidor, Orange Co.	12	4:00 pm			0	0	?	0	Heavy Rain
									A sudden local downpour hit the city of Vidor dumping two to four inches of rain during the hour-long storm. Excessive urban flooding in this heavily wooded city was probably made worse by a large accumulation of fallen leaves which choked drainage systems.
TEXAS WESTERN									NONE REPORTED
UTAH									NONE REPORTED
VERMONT									NONE REPORTED
VIRGINIA									NONE REPORTED
VIRGIN ISLANDS South West of St. Thomas	16	2:00 p.			0	0	0	0	Waterspout
Off St. Thomas	23	1:00 p.			0	0	0	0	Waterspout
WASHINGTON Pacific, Lewis, Grays Harbor, Thurston, Pierce, Jefferson, King, Clallam, Snohomish, Skagit, Whatcombe, Island Counties	13-15				2	6	7	6	Heavy Rain
									Moderate to heavy rain fell over most of Western Washington as several Pacific cyclones swept inland for a period from December 13 through December 15. Mud slides, flooding, road and bridge washouts, and spill droision occurred in most of the 12 county area. A state dump truck driver was killed about five miles south of Forks when his vehicle plunged into the Bogachiel River at 5:30 AM December 14th after the approach to the U. S. Hwy 101 bridge washed out. Shortly afterwards, a car and a log truck also dove into the river. Six people were hospitalized. Nearby Quillayute had received 4.46 inches of rain in the 24 hour period on December 13th. Most of the rivers in the ten county area reached flood stage or above during the weeklong period. One man drowned in the Skagit River near Mount Vernon on December 15th while trying to escape the rising waters. Upstream, Moss Dam collected 2.51 inches of rain in the 24 hour period ending at 8 AM December 14th. The Seattle Tacoma Airport received a record amount of rain for a seven-day period with 7.67 inches between the 13th and 19th. The Cascade Mountain pass highways of I-90 through Snoqualmie Pass, U. S. 2 over Stevens Pass and State Hwy 542 to Mt. Baker all were closed due to mudslides and high water on December 14 and 15.
WEST VIRGINIA									NONE REPORTED
WISCONSIN State	21 thru 24				?	?	?	?	
									Dense fog covered most of the state for a prolonged period of time. The fog developed the morning of December 21 and persisted through the morning of December 24. The central and southern parts of the state were plagued with visibilities often less than one-eighth of a mile. The fog paralyzed Milwaukee and Madison Airports for much of the weekend, stranding thousands of preholiday travelers as most flights in and out of the two cities were cancelled. In addition, fog-shrouded highways claimed 14 lives among the hundreds of traffic accidents reported during the dense fog.
Central and South									WIND
									A low pressure system intensified and moved rapidly northeastward from Missouri across central Illinois to northern Indiana on Christmas Eve. Southern and central Wisconsin were hit with heavy rain and strong winds from the storm. The southeast part of the state received the worst of it, with gale force winds and driving rain. Northerly winds averaged 40 mph at Milwaukee during the afternoon with many gusts over 50 mph. A peak wind gust of 61 mph was reported at Milwaukee at 6:36 p.m. GST. The high winds caused havoc to ships moored in the Milwaukee Harbor of Lake Michigan. A 428-foot long freighter was ripped from its moorings and battered against a dock during the storm. The ship, loaded with concrete, sank. Replacement value of the ship and cargo were unknown, but will probably run into the millions.
WYOMING State wide	4	All day & night			0	0	6	0	Wind
									Very strong gusty winds all day and evening caused damage throughout the State to houses, power and phone lines, trees, signs, mobile homes, semi-trailer trucks, and miscellaneous equipment. At Buffalo winds were estimated to be in excess of 100 mph and at Cody a gust peak of 92 mph was reported. Twenty-three empty cars of a Union Pacific freight train were knocked off the tracks between Cheyenne and Laramie. Only minor injuries were reported.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

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	

THE FOLLOWING ARE LATE REPORTS, CORRECTIONS, AND DELETIONS:

LATE REPORTS TEXAS NORTHERN									
PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	CHARACTER OF STORM
North Texas	10	Afternoon-Evening							Tornado Outbreak
The following additions are for the devastating Red River Valley tornado outbreak of April 10, 1979. See April Storm Data for further details.									
11E Crowell, Foard County	10	3:20 p	2.5	100	0	0	3	0	Tornado
The tornado developed from tornadic thunderstorm #1, which spawned 2 other longer track tornadoes in Foard County and Wilbarger County. National Severe Storm Lab storm chasers observed and photographed the tornado, which caused damage at the intersection of Highway 70 and Farm Road 267. The storm chasers noted that the tornado occurred beneath the extreme southwest end of storm #1's flanking line, while the Vernon tornado was in its developing stage further to the northeast and adjacent to storm #1's precipitation shaft. The flanking line tornado was described as having a typically tapered, funnel-shaped appearance.									
SNE Santa Rosa Lake, Wilbarger County	10	3:40 p	?	?	0	0	0	0	Windstorm
NSL storm chasers noted that tornadic thunderstorm #2, which later produced the Harrold tornado, snapped a tree from its trunk near the intersection of Highway 183 and Farm Road 1763. The damage could have resulted from the incipient Harrold tornado.									
Munday, Knox County	10	4:00 p			0	0	3	0	Hailstorm
Thunderstorm #3, which later produced the Seymour and Wichita Falls tornadoes, dropped up to golf ball size hail for a few minutes in Munday. Damage was limited to several automobiles. The report was received from the Knox County Farm Bureau.									
SN Maybelle, Baylor County	10	4:30 p-4:37 p			0	0	?	?	Funnel Cloud and Hailstorm
Driving south on Highway 183, the NSL storm chase team encountered one inch diameter hail at 4:30 p.m. At 4:37 p.m., they observed a cone-shaped funnel cloud which became enveloped in a curtain of precipitation. Both of these events were associated with tornadic thunderstorm #4, which produced the Rocky Point tornado in Wichita County at 5:08 p.m.									
Wichita Falls, Wichita County	10	6:00 p	2	50	0	0	4	0	Tornado and Hail
Late information indicates that what was first reported as straight line wind damage in northwest Wichita Falls was actually a small tornado. The tornado skipped through the area while the much larger tornado was devastating the southern sections of town. The secondary tornado was described by several witnesses as a small funnel without a condensation cloud to the ground. The tornado split a utility pole near the Channel 3 studios on the Seymour Highway, downed a drive-in movie screen in the same area, and destroyed several outbuildings, a carport, and a house roof on Allen Drive further to the northeast. Also in April Storm Data, it was reported that thunderstorm #3 produced hailstones up to 2 inches in diameter in Wichita Falls. Later evidence indicates that stones up to 3 inches in diameter fell in central Wichita Falls while the giant tornado was in the extreme southwest portion of town shortly after 6 p.m.									
Southern Coleman County	29	2:30 a			0	0	4	5	Hailstorm and Windstorm
An intense thunderstorm moved from northwest to southeast across the area, causing heavy hail damage to wheat, generally along and south of a Gouldsust-Rockwood-Wagon line. Hail size was not specified. Strong straight-line winds uprooted trees and blew down fences in and around Whon.									
Bell County	21	Afternoon			0	1	6	?	Flash Flood and Windstorm
Over 6 inches of rain caused flash flooding in the Belton, Temple, and Killeen areas. Several vehicles were washed off of roads in Harter Heights and Killeen but all of the occupants were rescued. One 14 year old girl in Killeen received minor injuries when flood waters swept her down a drainage ditch. Street damage in Temple was reported to be in excess of one million dollars. Thunderstorm winds caused minor damage and uprooted trees in and around Temple.									
Killeen, Bell County	28	Evening			0	1	0	0	Lightning
Richard Rivera, 38, received minor injuries when he was struck by lightning.									
Celina, Collin	30	6:30 a-8:30 a			0	0	4	0	Flash Flood
Four inches of rain caused flash flooding on Doe Creek. At least 3 houses and 1 business on Seventh Street received major damage.									

LATE REPORTS TEXAS (continued)									
PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	CHARACTER OF STORM
2W Centerville, Leon County	27	6:30 a				5	0	?	Flash Flood
A van load of people on their way to a church camp stopped on Highway 7 after encountering a flooded bridge. A truck rained into the van from behind, knocking the van into the flooded creek. Five of the occupants drowned in the creek. The flash flood resulted from extremely heavy rains from Tropical Storm Claudette.									
Milam County	27	4:00 a-Noon			0	0			Flash Flood
Scattered flash flood damage occurred in rural Milam County as the remnants of Claudette traversed the area. Most rainfall reports were between 4 and 8 inches with a maximum amount of 14 inches 2 miles north of Milverna.									
INDIANA AUGUST 1979									
Nebraska, Jennings County	1	1242 P			0	1	0	0	Lightning
Lightning struck a tree in front of the Brown's residence at Nebraska, Indiana. Kenny Brown was on the porch. He was treated and released at Community Hospital Emergency Room in Jennings.									
Thatcher Park Golf Course, Indianapolis Marion County	24	?			0	3	0	0	Lightning
Three golfers were struck by lightning in the parking lot while loading their clubs. The lightning hit a tree and bounced. One golfer's arm was broken, another had head and arm lacerations, and the third was treated and released by a hospital. All had minor burns.									
CALIFORNIA NORTHERN & CENTRAL NOVEMBER 1979 NONE REPORTED									
CALIFORNIA SOUTHERN NOVEMBER 1979 NONE REPORTED									
HAWAII NOVEMBER 1979									
Island of Hawaii	14-18				1	0	6	6	Heavy Rain and Flooding
Orographic trade winds augmented by an upper level low pressure system produced prolonged heavy rains and flooding over windward (northeastern) Hawaii Island. Five-day rainfall totals reached 40 inches in places, but was probably much higher in ungaged mountain areas. Hardest hit was Waipio Valley, which flood waters transformed into a lake, washing away tarp and rice fields, sheds and equipment, sugar cane, macadamia nuts, guava and truck crops, extensively damaging homes and a Peace Corps camp and dealing a severe blow to future prospects for agriculture in the Valley. Over 90 % of the Valley's farmlands was covered by boulders, dirt and uprooted trees. 49 residents were evacuated by helicopter, while 20 families fled their homes in Piipihua, on the slopes above Hilo. The new \$6.9 million road to Waipio Lookout dedicated just two days earlier was heavily damaged by undermining and landslides. One person whose crushed car was found at the bottom of Kalopa Gulch, is presumed dead. Damages exceeded \$4 million: \$1.5 million to crops, \$2 million to public property (mostly to roads) and one-half million to private property.									
MAINE NOVEMBER 1979									
Androscoggin County	26	9pm-Midnt			0	0	4	0	Wind, Heavy Rain
A vigorous cold front produced wind gusts estimated between 40 to 55 mph, and heavy downpours from a half inch to one inch in one hour or less. Trees were uprooted or snapped off, and limbs were ripped down. Winds blew down a partially constructed warehouse in Lewiston, otherwise building damage was minor. A few traffic accidents were reported. Power outages affected about 2,000 customers in the Lewiston-Auburn area for as little as 15 minutes up to 6 hours.									
NEW HAMPSHIRE NOVEMBER 1979									
Statewide	26	7-9 pm			0	0	5	0	Wind, Heavy Rain
A vigorous cold front produced wind gusts estimated between 45 to 60 mph, and heavy downpours from a half inch to one inch in one hour or less. Trees were uprooted or snapped off, as well as their limbs ripped down. In turn, they caused building damage, traffic accidents and power outages. About 7,000 customers were without power throughout the state. The outages ranged from only a few minutes to around 7 hours.									

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED ¹ DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
LATE REPORTS									
WISCONSIN									
NOVEMBER 1979									
Crawford County	7	Late Afternoon					?		High Wind
A cold front moved across Wisconsin late in the day producing areas of gusty winds. High winds between Roscbel and Blue River in Crawford County damaged a number of farm buildings.									
Ashland, Iron, Bayfield & Vilas Counties	11/28 thru 12/1								Snow
Brisk northerly winds carrying cold arctic air across Lake Superior produced significant "lake effect" snowfall across portions of extreme northern Wisconsin. Over 2 1/2 feet of snow was reported in some locations with the community of Perce measuring a 8 1/2 inch snowfall.									
CORRECTIONS									
TEXAS									
NORTHERN									
FEBRUARY 1979									
Eastern Henderson and Western Smith Counties	24	9:35 a - 9:50 a			0	6	5	?	Hailstorm
A report in February Storm Data did not list the 6 injuries. The injuries occurred when 6 fishermen from Hugo, OK were caught in the hailstorm while fishing on Lake Palestine. The men were bruised, several of them severely, by golf ball size hail.									
APRIL 1979									
Wilbarger and Wichita Counties	10	3:55 p	64	880	1	0	4	?	Tornado and Hailstorm
In April, 1979, Storm Data it was reported that this tornado, which developed near Harold, TX, caused no fatalities. However, late evidence indicates a woman was killed by the tornado. The fatality occurred on Highway 287, 200 yards west of the Farm Road 1763 overpass. Patrolman Johnny Morris of the DPS said that the woman left her car and took refuge under the wheels of a semi-trailer truck when the tornado approached. She was killed when tornadoic winds caused the truck wheels to roll across her. The death occurred on level ground and was not a result of faulty brakes according to Officer Morris.									
3 NE Ballinger, Runnels County to 4W Novice, Coleman County	10	9:00 p	20.5	1320	0	0	5	?	Tornado
This tornado was first reported as developing near Crews (Runnels County) at 9:17 p.m. and moving to near Novice (Coleman County). Later data from the Runnels County Farm Bureau indicated that the tornado actually touched down 3 miles northeast of Ballinger and moved 20.5 miles to the northeast, dissipating west of Novice. The tornado was quite large, varying from 0.5 to 1.0 mile wide. Extensive damage occurred to barns, fences, and ranch equipment along the track. Several homes received minor damage. The tornado caused continuous damage during the first 11 miles, with damage a bit more sporadic during the next 5 miles, then apparently continuous again near the end of the track. Several barns were devastated, with debris blown a great distance from the point of origin. This report stands as a correction for the 9:17 p.m. tornado report at Crews.									
SOUTH DAKOTA									
JUNE 1979									
Brule County	19	1455 CST							Tornado
Charles Mix County	19	1500 CST							Tornado
Davison County	19	1558							Tornado
Potter County	19	1605							Tornado
Minnehaha County	19	1610							Tornado
Minnehaha County	19	1700							Tornado
Coddington County	19	1718							Tornado
Union County	19	1733							Tornado
Union County	19	1735							Tornado
Brown County	19	1755							Tornado
Day County	19	1805							Tornado
Roberts County	19	1810							Tornado
McPherson County	19	1821							Tornado

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED ¹ DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
CORRECTIONS									
MISSOURI									
OCTOBER 1979									
East Barry and South-east Lawrence Counties	30	6:57 pm	20	200	0	7	6	0	Tornado
The first sign of the tornado was four miles southeast of Jenkins in Barry County where the roofs of two barns owned by Don Parsons were blown off, and a number of 1000-pound bales of hay were blown across the highway. The Gautney Store and home at the intersection of Highways 248 and 39 were extensively damaged. The store, which had been closed about three years, and the adjoining residence on the north side were demolished. The roof was blown away, and the north wall as well as some partitions were removed by the wind. A motor home parked behind the residence was blown over and severely damaged. Mr. and Mrs. Gautney, at home at the time, escaped injury. At Reavisville, northeast of Jenkins, the roof of the Elmer Pearson home was completely blown away, and the north wall was blown down. Mr. and Mrs. Pearson and their son Wayne were treated for injuries at Aurora Community Hospital. Also destroyed on the Pearson property were a barn, a shed, and a well house. In Marionville, Lawrence County, most severely damaged were the Country Village Shopping Center and a mobile home park. Many houses were also damaged. Four people were treated at the Aurora Hospital when the mobile home they were living in was turned over in south Marionville. At the Country Village Shopping Center, all six of the occupied businesses received damage, with Scott's IGA Market suffering extensive damage. At Scott's there was extensive damage to the roof, and an outer and back wall were blown over. At Gambles located at the other end of the center, a transformer fell from a broken pole through the roof of the store. Other businesses damaged in the area were the Dairy Crest, the Pronto Store, Reeves Motel, and the Conoco station. The S and S Real Estate building was completely leveled. At the Stark Brothers Nursery just north of Marionville, metal buildings, fences, and trees were destroyed.									
TEXAS									
NORTHERN									
Cresson, Hood County	30	8:35 a	Short Narrow		0	0	3	0	Tornado
Originally reported as occurring at Cresson in Tarrant County.									
ALABAMA									
NOVEMBER 1979									
Wilcox County	25	11:20a			0	0	0	2	Funnel Cloud and Wind
Funnel cloud reported by public near Millers Ferry. Minor tree damage was reported.									

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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USCOMM-NOAA-ASHEVILLE, N.C. 1980-1700

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