

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Lewis L. Strauss, Secretary

WEATHER BUREAU

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STORM DATA

JANUARY 1959

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Note: This publication replaces that portion of the "Climatological Data National Summary" contained in the table "Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena". It contains our best information on storms but, due to the difficulties inherent in collection of this type of data, it is not all-inclusive. Delayed data and corrections will be carried in the June and December issues of this publication.

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STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

January 1959

PLACE	DATE	TIME	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM	
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS		
ALABAMA										
Fairview, Cullman County	21	5:45 a.	1	Narrow	0	0	4		Wind, possible tornado	
Public reported seeing a small funnel cloud dip down on farm, just north of Fairview. It demolished a large poultry house and killed 3000 chickens. Porch ripped off of a house nearby and about 1 mile away a large garage was blown away.										
Lauderdale & Colbert Counties	21	Late Morning			0	0	4		Wind	
Several areas of damage scattered over both counties. Principal areas of damage near Waterloo, Lauderdale County and 5 miles west of Cherokee, Colbert County. Near Waterloo, 2 barns and 1 chicken house destroyed and several buildings damaged. In Colbert County 1 barn destroyed, several roofs damaged and numerous trees down.										
Morgan County	21	Midday			0	0	4		Hail, wind, lightning	
Golf ball size hail fell for about 5 minutes in Hartselle. Many windows were broken and roofs damaged by hail. Scattered wind damage elsewhere in County. Near Falkville, lightning caused fire which destroyed house. In the Eva Community numerous buildings damaged, mainly barns and other farm buildings.										
Winston County	21	Morning			0	0	4		Wind, rain	
On outskirts of Haleyville, large poultry house demolished and 3000 chickens killed. Warehouse roof in Haleyville heavily damaged. In the Needmore Community large poultry house was blown down and 300 chickens drowned.										
Chilton County	21	2:30 p.	2	Narrow	0	0	4		Wind, rain	
Narrow band of winds in Enterprise Community blew metal roof and few rafters off of 1 house and blew down few shallow rooted trees nearby. Metal roofs damaged on other small buildings about 1 mile away.										
Craig Field Selma, Alabama	21	2:07 p.							Funnel cloud	
Observer at Base Weather Station, Craig Field, saw funnel cloud dip down out of cloud for about 2 minutes. Did not touch ground. Moving from southwest to northeast.										
Henry & Houston Counties	21	6:15 p.			0	1	4		Thunderstorm	
Roof of auction barn blown off at Headland, in southwest, Henry County, and 1 person slightly injured. At Ardilla, in northwest Houston County, 2 poultry houses demolished and 4500 chickens killed, 3 other poultry houses damaged. Other minor damage such as TV antennas blown down.										
CALIFORNIA										
Entire State	4-5				1	5	96	0	Wind and rain	
Intense storm front moved southeastward across State, with gale force winds, and moderate to heavy rain. Crab fisherman drowned Humboldt Bay. Elderly lady injured in Berkeley when knocked down by wind. Hood blown from passing car injured man at Sacramento. Two injured at Galt Elementary School when portable aluminum shed demolished. Lineman injured near Galt when utility pole was snapped by wind. Damage from wind widespread consisting mainly of broken TV antennas, trees and branches blown down, roofs damaged, windows broken, and signs and power lines blown down. Roofs were blown from a church and a barn at Wilton, a partially completed barn was demolished on Bethel Island, the dome of a Cathedral in Sacramento damaged, the roof blew off a house at Pacifica, two free standing walls of a new high school building at Saratoga fell, roofs were blown from sheds at Naval Station in San Diego, and several wire cages and more than 100 chickens destroyed at a poultry ranch at Vista. Plate glass windows were smashed at Rio Vista, Wilton, Oakland, Chula Vista and Santa Monica. Several boats on trailers upset and damaged at Coronado Yacht Club. Wind and wave action on coastal and inland waters caused considerable damage. Small boats and harbor installations damaged Sausalito - Beldere area, China Camp, Oakland-Alameda Estuary, Bodega Bay, Half Moon Bay, Santa Barbara, Santa Monica, Seal Beach, Newport Harbor, and Coronado. Several boats damaged at Rio Vista and Sacramento Yacht Club. Wind whipped waters of San Joaquin River broke levee at Collinsville, causing loss of 4 boats, fishing nets, and storage sheds. Several beach homes damaged and bulk heads destroyed at Malibu Beach. Considerable damage from flooding and mud slides in heavy rain areas. Minor flooding reported at Pacifica, San Rafael, Alameda, Vallejo, Santa Barbara, Oceano, Pala Springs, Coronado, Whittier, West Puma, Manhattan Beach, El Segundo, and San Fernando Valley. Mud flowing from near-by hills damaged several homes in Benedict Canyon, Monrovia, Eagle Rock and La Jolla. A mud slide covered Beverly Glen Boulevard in West Los Angeles, and an automobile was washed away by a flash flood in Los Angeles, and another was washed down a storm drain in Pasadena. Lightning struck a home in Sunland. Visibility was reduced to less than 100 feet in a sand storm east of Barstow, causing a 15-car chain traffic accident, injuring 18 persons. Damage from wind 45% of total, by rain 5%, and miscellaneous 5%.										
Humboldt County	11						4		Heavy rain	
Eel River crested near 19 feet at Fernbridge, flooding several thousand acres. Damage mainly due to deposit of debris and small amount of bank erosion.										
COLORADO										
Eastern Colorado	2-5						5		Cold temperatures	
Continued temperatures near zero and below caused breaking of power and gas lines, water pipes and automatic sprinkler systems. At Boulder, merchandise and furnishings were water damaged when pipes burst in a department store, flooding three floors.										
Boulder, Jefferson & Denver Counties	18	8:00AM-early PM					2	4	Wind	
Strong gusty winds caused damaged buildings, airplanes, radio tower and trees. At Longmont a 70MPH wind caused \$8000 damage to a banger under construction, and \$1000 damage to an airplane when it was blown loose from its moorings. At Boulder, the top of a radio tower was blown down, signs, trees and trailer houses blown over. In southwest Denver, a mother and child were injured in a car when it was struck by a sign that was blown loose. Minor damage to buildings and power lines was reported in the area.										
CONNECTICUT and RHODE ISLAND										
	4-6	Late p., 4th - Late p., 6th					1	*5	C	Wind
Persistent, very strong winds began late on 4th and continued more than 48 hours. Velocities consistently in excess of 25 mph. and frequent gusts of over 40 mph., while peak gusts of 55 to 65 mph. recorded on official WB anemometers on each of three dates. Property damage widespread; many windows smashed and roofs ripped or blown off. Outdoor movie screens, many trees, billboards, TV aerials and utility lines downed in all sections of both states. Mostly minor power failures. Extensive blowing of soils in Conn. River Valley, while winds accompanied by tides near record low levels along southeast coast and Narragansett Bay. Several serious fires greatly aided in their destruction by high winds. Man injured when blown off 20-foot roof.										
FLORIDA										
West Palm Beach Palm Beach County	12	1:45 PM							Waterpouets	
Three waterpouets seen about 12 miles east-northeast of the West Palm Beach Airport.										
Southeast Florida, Belle Glade, Palm Beach and Miami areas.	16	Late morning to mid-afternoon							Strong winds	
Strong winds associated with a squall line which passed over this area caused considerable damage at several scattered points in the area. Winds reached 60 m.p.h. in squalls, blew down trees, disrupted power and damaged a number of buildings in the area. Total damages not estimated.										
GEORGIA										
North Georgia	15	Afternoon					4		Wind, rain and electrical	
High winds and heavy rains hit several north Georgia counties, causing widespread, but mostly minor damage. 20 houses were damaged at Bremen in Haralson County. The Courthouse roof was damaged and several plate glass windows broken at Cumming in Forsyth County. A fairgrounds building was unroofed at Gainesville. Lesser damage to trees, TV antennas and utility lines was reported in DeKalb and Bartow Counties and as far south as Griffin, Milledgeville and Macon.										
North Georgia	21	Late afternoon					5		Wind, rain and electrical	
Strong winds, thunderstorms and heavy rain swept across north Georgia during late afternoon and early evening, leaving damage over a 20 county area. In Cobb County, trees and power poles were blown down and roofs and barns were damaged. A 70 foot radio tower was blown down at Griffin. Several buildings were destroyed or damaged at Summerville in Chattooga County. Wind gusts to 71 mph were reported in Atlanta and an Atlanta woman luckily escaped injury when lightning set fire to a bed she was making up. An airplane lost two external gas tanks while flying in extremely turbulent air 35 miles SW of Atlanta. Damage to houses, and utility lines by falling trees and limbs was reported from many areas throughout north Georgia.										
ILLINOIS										
Entire state	20-21						6		Snow, ice, and rain	
Snowfall 8 to 12 inches over North third followed by much drifting by strong winds and serious disruption of highway traffic. Rainfall 2 to 4 inches in Southeast third with rapid runoff from frozen soil and some flash flooding. Heavy glazing with 1/2 to 1 inch ice accumulation on trees and wires north of a line from Jerseyville to Charleston and over a band 50 to 70 miles wide including the cities of Springfield, Decatur, Champaign, and Danville. Power and communication lines heavily damaged partly by ice but mostly by falling limbs. Several thousand homes without electric power for from 1 to 3 days. Much discomfort from non-operation of heating plants as temperatures dropped to near zero. In Springfield area, worst glaze storm since December 1924. In Champaign area, worst glaze storm in at least 50 years.										

See reference notes at end of table.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

January 1959

PLACE	DATE	TIME	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
INDIANA									
Michigan City, LaPorte County	4				0		4	0	Snow
A local snow storm resulting in drifts 4 feet high as winds blew off Lake Michigan closed schools, clogged secondary roads and slowed travel on the main roads to a crawl.									
South Bend and Mishawaka, St. Joseph County	16-17				0		5	0	Snow
Snow accumulated rapidly on the 16th. A depth of 7 inches was measured by noon. Winds caused much drifting. Strongest one minute wind was 29 a.p.h. from the NW. Schools, factories, and stores closed at noon. By 6 p.m. the snow depth was 14 inches and by midnight it was 17 inches. The greatest depth of 18 inches was reached at noon on the 17th. Heavy snow extended 6 miles west, 5 miles south, 10 miles east and 20 miles north of South Bend. Hundreds of cars and trucks were abandoned along highways of St. Joseph County. The storm was induced by cold winds blowing across Lake Michigan.									
Indiana, northern	20-21				0		6	0	Ice, snow
The country was covered by a sheet of ice as rain fell in temperatures below freezing. The collapse of telephone and electric lines from the heavy ice or tree branches was widespread. Icing was most severe at Fowler (3/4 inch thick) where 100 telephone poles were broken. Damage to the Indiana Bell Telephone system across the state was estimated at \$250,000. Warsaw was in total darkness for 9 hours due to electric power failure. Angola was without electric power all day on the 21st. The I & M Electric Company of South Bend estimated their damages at \$100,000 to transmission lines. Most secondary roads were impassable. Primary roads were kept open by the use of chemicals, but in the far north several inches of snow on top of the ice resulted in snow clogged highways. Snow depths reached 25 inches at South Bend where the superhighway was closed for a short period. Country schools were closed most of the week.									
Indiana, southern	20-22				2		6	0	Rain
Three to six inches of rain on frozen soil flooded lowlands and places seldom exposed to high water. Flash flooding of small streams was general. At least 849 homes were flooded. A truck driver drowned when he stepped from the cab of his truck into swirling flood water north of Deputy. In western Warrick County a man was drowned when his auto slipped from a flooded highway into a flooded ditch. The American Red Cross reported by counties the number of families fleeing their homes: Bartholomew 200, Clark 100, Crawford 64, Dearborn 10, Franklin 20, Harrison 37, Jefferson 150, Jennings 7, Ohio 8, Orange 10, and Washington 63. Financial assistance to families totalled over \$62,000. At Madison the rapid rise of Crooked Creek flooded a 20 block area. Automobiles were carried several blocks. A meat packing plant had a loss of \$100,000. Two other industries were flooded. At Corydon Big and Little Indiana Creeks flooded the business district causing damages of \$300,000. In Crawford County damages were estimated at \$600,000, Floyd County at \$100,000, Jefferson County at \$300,000 and in Franklin County \$1,000,000. Erosion of top soil was severe as one or two inches of surface soil was thawed and washed away by the deluge. Innumerable basements were flooded by flow of surface water.									
IOWA									
Entire State	1-31				6	88	5		Snow
Snow packed streets, highways, and sidewalks, aggravated at times by brief and local freezing rain, resulted in numerous automobile accidents and falls. Three deaths resulted from automobile accidents, and 3 from exposure to cold weather. There were, no doubt, many additional unreported personal injury accidents.									
KANSAS									
Most of state	Dec. 29 - Jan. 5				2				Snow, blowing snow, and severe cold.
Heavy snow over the southwest part of Kansas beginning on Dec. 29th moved eastward toward the northeast on Dec. 30 and 31st, and by Jan. 1st from 2 to 8 inches of snow covered the southwest and southern half of the central third and most of the eastern third of Kansas. This was augmented on January 2nd with 4 inches of snow in the northwest and light snow elsewhere. A cold wave spread over the state on the night of Jan. 3-4th dropping temperatures to -10° in the southeast and to -20° or -25° across the northern and western counties. A biting north wind made the effects of the snow and cold more intense. Numerous accidents resulted from the slick roads and streets. Two deaths were directly attributed to the storm. Traffic was hindered by the drifts and on major highways in the areas of heaviest snow one way traffic only was possible at times. Many schools were closed 1 or 2 days. The severe cold was hard on livestock. Moderating temperatures on the 5th relieved the situation.									
KANSAS									
Most of state	Jan. 19 - 20						1		Blizzard and glaze.
This storm began as light snow in northwest Kansas about noon of January 19th progressing gradually southeastward and intensifying as it moved. The snow in the northwest caused no material trouble although there was some drifting. But from the southwest to the northeast covering a band of 50 to 100 miles in width the heavy snow was badly drifted by the high winds on the 20th and 21st. As the storm advanced into southeastern Kansas the snow changed to rain and freezing rain or freezing drizzle about on a line from Dodge City to Topeka. South and east from Ottawa to Wichita the precipitation was mostly freezing rain, freezing drizzle and some sleet. The glazing began in this area during the night of Jan. 19-20 and by 7 a.m. of the 20th ice was 1/8 inch thick. The fall continued though the day and was heaviest for several hours in the afternoon. By evening some of the heavier amounts were: at Columbus the glaze on wires and small twigs was 1/2 inch in diameter; Eureka, 3/8 inch on the ground; Howard 3/8 inch glaze on the ground and wires were 3/8 inch in diameter; Fredonia, 3/4 inch on ground and wires 1 1/2 inches in diameter. Many accidents were due to skidding automobiles and pedestrians falling on the slick pavements. In Wichita the rate of automobile crashes was estimated at 10 per hour for a while. One person was killed and another seriously injured in a truck crash north of Iola. Many schools were closed for a day or two and many public meetings cancelled. Moderating temperatures melted most of the ice by the evening of the 23rd. Some electric transmission lines were down in the area of the heaviest glaze. Approximately 150 rural and long distance telephone lines were out of service in the Chanute-Independence area and 10 towns were isolated. House lead in wires seemed to be hardest hit.									
Extremes southeast counties.	Jan. 26 - 27						several		Glaze
Glazing, from freezing drizzle and rain, began about day-break of the 26th continuing until early on the 27th. Hazardous driving and walking conditions prevailed until the afternoon of the 27th when some improvement was noted. Numerous head-on car accidents had occurred and several persons were treated at hospitals from falls on the ice. This storm was not as severe as the one on the 19th-20th.									
Western and north-central counties.	Jan. 29						numerous		Glaze and blowing snow.
This storm was of relatively short duration and consisted of 1 to 4 inches of snow over much of the western third of the state and freezing drizzle and freezing rain and some snow in the central and north central counties. Fog and blowing snow lowered visibilities to less than 1/2 mile at times. The snow was too light to cause much trouble. Glazing in the northern half of the central third caused many automobile and some pedestrian accidents. The accretions on wires together with the high winds resulted in breakage of telephone and some electric transmission lines from Russell county north and east to Marshall county.									
KENTUCKY									
Grayson County	21	12:30 p.				3	0	5	Tornado
A tornado swirled down in the county with major damage in the small communities of Neafus, Spring Lick, Goff, Short Creek, Staff and Caneyville. At least eight houses were destroyed and 17 other buildings severely damaged. Apparent direction of storm was to the northeast.									
Meade County	21	PM					4	3	Wind
Strong winds damaged a few homes and destroyed several farm buildings. Electric service was disrupted after power lines were knocked down. About 3500 bales of hay and 500 bushels of corn were lost as a result of a barn being flattened.									
Lexington, Fayette County	21	PM				1	3	6	Wind
Winds blew down a short-wave radio tower which in turn toppled a larger radio tower which sliced through a TV building causing the fatality and injuries.									
Breathitt County	21	PM				1		3	Wind
Fatality was found dead under an overturned barn which was destroyed by the wind.									
LOUISIANA									
Pointe Coupee Parish	21	9:15 a.					2		Tornado
Woman picked up on back steps and carried around house by rotating wind but uninjured near New Roads; barn unroofed, trees stripped of limbs but famed "Spunkier oak" was spared.									
Cinclare, West Baton Rouge Parish	21	9:30 a.					4		High winds
Damaged several buildings and blew down 17 utility poles.									
Jefferson Parish	21	11 a.					4		High winds
Large sections of wall in new court house in Gretna blown out of eighth and ninth floors; race track stands and fences damaged.									

See reference notes at end of table.

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS			
MAINE All except northern third.	2	A.M.						3	Ice (glaze and sleet)	Ice (glaze and sleet) made highways hazardous. Numerous minor accidents resulted.	
Entire state	4-6							4	Wind	Damaging winds for prolonged period were accompanied by bitter cold. Gusts ranged from 40 to 80 m.p.h. Wind drifted snow onto highways. Sanding of icy roads ineffectual as sand blew off immediately. Many traffic accidents resulted. Reports of windows blown in, roof, fence, sign, and awning damage, and trees and limbs felled with utility lines downed. Barn unroofed at South Andover. Numerous homes without power or heat for several hours. Some schools closed. Autos were stalled and train schedules delayed by the cold blasts.	
All except extreme northwestern portion	15-16	P.M.-A.M.					200	5	Ice (glaze)	Severe and prolonged freezing rain glazed surfaces with smooth ice. Estimated 200 injured with lacerations or fractures from falls or in auto accidents. All forms of transportation hampered, delayed, or cancelled. Many schools closed. Ice built up to 1/2 inch thick in parts of southwestern portion, where highway crews reported conditions the worst in many years. Sand and salt rapidly washed from roads after application with glaze quickly reforming. Vehicles, even some sanding trucks, skidded into the ditch. Hundreds of accidents, some serious. Damage to trees and utilities minimal due to light winds during storm. Extreme northwestern portion escaped glaze but received heavy snow.	
Entire state	21-22							4	Ice (glaze and sleet) and wind	Freezing rain, with sleet in some areas, preceded an advancing warm front. Highways became hazardous for a relatively short period until the advancing thaw aided in clearing the roads. Most traffic accidents were minor. But the glaze combined with wind to fell trees, limbs, and utility lines in many places, most seriously in the southwest portion.	
Entire state	30								Ice (glaze)	Freezing rain in scattered areas but no damage reported.	
MASSACHUSETTS All except Coastal Division	2	A.M.					3	4	Ice (glaze and sleet)	Glaze and/or sleet followed early morning snowstorm. Highways became hazardous. Numerous minor accidents resulted.	
Entire state	4-6						9	4	Wind	Damaging winds for prolonged period were accompanied by bitter cold. Gusts ranged from 40 to 60 m.p.h. Sanding of icy roads ineffectual as sand blew off immediately. Many traffic accidents occurred with 8 injuries. Reports of windows blown in, roof, fence, sign, and awning damage, and trees and limbs felled with utility outages. A 60 foot section of newly constructed wall toppled at Wayland. In Boston a woman was injured when blown against an auto by a gust. Some homes without heat or power for several hours. Many schools closed. Autos were stalled and trains were delayed by the cold blasts.	
All except south-eastern portion	15-16	P.M.-A.M.					50	4	Ice (glaze)	Severe and prolonged freezing rain glazed surfaces with smooth ice. Estimated 50 injuries with lacerations or fractures from falls or by auto accidents. All forms of transportation hampered, delayed, or cancelled. Many schools closed. Most hazardous area was the northeastern portion. Road crews hampered as sand or salt washed away rapidly after application, with glaze reforming. Scores of vehicle accidents. Utilities and trees not seriously affected due to light wind.	
Western and central portions	21-22							3	Ice (glaze and sleet) and wind	Freezing rain on the 21st, with sleet in some areas, preceded an advancing warm front. Highways became hazardous for a relatively short period until the advancing thaw aided in clearing the roads. Most traffic accidents were minor. Icing combined with wind to fell trees, limbs, and utility lines in some areas. Wind gusts over 60 m.p.h. broke windows and limbs and caused power failures on the 22d at Southbridge at about 6 A.M. A large store window was broken at Gardner.	
Western and north-central portions	21-22							4	Rain	Heavy rain flooded numerous cellars. Combined with considerable melt water from a brief thaw during the night, streams rose rapidly and broke up river ice. Local ice jams threatened flooding in several communities. A jam on the Westfield River flooded and heavily damaged a factory building at Chesterfield. Another on the Ware River flooded the Ware Airport. Two bridges were wrecked in North Adams by Hopedale River ice, but loss was minimized by the fact that these bridges had already been scheduled to be replaced in an improvement project. Both water and gas mains were broken at North Adams, as well as power and phone lines.	
Entire state	30							4	Wind	Strong winds caused minor damage over widespread area. At Townsend a large pine tree was snapped off several feet above the ground and toppled onto a house with extensive damage.	
MARYLAND Upper Chesapeake Bay	Dec-Jan						0	0		Much below normal temperatures	
Entire state	20	a.m.								Unusually cold weather so early in the fall-winter season caused abnormally early formation of ice on the upper Chesapeake Bay and the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal slowing shipping. U. S. Coast Guard ice breakers were extremely busy assisting ships and small craft through the ice or rescuing vessels in distress. Near Turkey Point ice reached thicknesses of two feet and temporarily stopped ships of the Liberty class or larger. The famous 600-foot Tolchester Fair was severely damaged as winds and tides piled up ice 25 feet high against the pilings.	
Entire state	20	a.m.								Freezing rain and heavy fog	
Entire state	20	a.m.								Freezing rain throughout the state turned highways and streets into a treacherous sheet of ice causing hundreds of traffic accidents. Scores of persons fell on the icy streets and were injured. Heavy fog served to compound the accidents caused by the glaze.	
MICHIGAN Southern half of Lower Michigan	1	Early morning						50	4	Ice (glaze)	Freezing rain began about midnight and continued until about 8:00 a.m. 1/2 to 3/4 inch ice deposited during storm. Injuries consisted of broken bones in falls on icy streets and walks. Other injuries and several deaths occurred as result of automobile accidents during and after the storm.
Berrien, Cass counties.	16	Early afternoon								Heavy snow.	
Southern half of Lower Michigan	20-21	Evening thru following morning					60	4		Heavy snow and ice (glaze)	
Mason, Manistee counties.	22	All day								Heavy snow squalls in small area, 10 inches or more of snowfall caused closing of schools and blocking of many roads.	
MISSISSIPPI Kosciusko, Attala County	15	9:45 a.						4		Thundersquall	
Laurel, Jones County	15	1:30 p.						5		Thundersquall	
Madison, Madison County	15	10 a.				1	0			Lightning	
Warren County, 25 miles southeast of Vicksburg	20	2:30 p.	Short	Narrow				2		Tornado	
Claborn and Hinds County	20	3 p.	15	Narrow				4		Tornado	
Leake-Neshoba-Winston- Noxubee County	21	9:45 a.	25	Narrow				5		Tornado	
Rankin-Scott County	21	9:30 a.	25	Narrow				4		Tornado	
Warren County	21	8 a.	15	Narrow				4		Tornado	
Issaquena-Sharkey- Humphries County	21	7:40 a.	38	100				4		Tornado	
Pontotoc-Union- Prentiss County	21	9:20 a.	36	Narrow		1	5			Tornado	

See reference notes at end of table.

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January 1959

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS		
MISSISSIPPI Smith County, Wize	21	10:30 a.	Short	50			3		Tornado	
Hinds County	21	8 a.	Extended from Utica to Jackson		1	1	4		Thundersquall winds in places causing much damage to roofs and walls. Child drowned in rain swollen stream.	
Tishomingo County, Belmont near	21	9 a.	Short	Narrow		1	4		Tornado	
Marion, Columbia	21	10:30 a.	Short	Narrow			4		Tornado	
			Numerous homes unroofed, airports demolished in northern part of town.							
MISSOURI	20-21-22				1	20	6		Ice and snow	
	All but the extreme northwest corner and the southeast corner were covered with a mixture of freezing rain, sleet and snow. Many roads impassable, trees, power & phone lines down. Mail delivery delayed, schools closed. Many thunderstorms reported. Many places reported from 3/8 to 1 inch of ice on wires, trees, etc.									
Lilbourne, New Madrid County	22	A.M.					5		Lightning	
	Large mill destroyed when struck by lightning.									
NEW HAMPSHIRE Entire state	2	A.M.					3		Ice (glaze and sleet)	
	Glaze and/or sleet followed early morning snowstorm. Highways became hazardous with minor accidents resulting.									
Entire state	4-6				1	4			Wind	
	Damaging winds for prolonged period were accompanied by bitter cold. Gusts ranged from 40 to 80 m.p.h. Winds drifted snow onto highways. Sanding of icy roads ineffectual as sand blew off immediately. Minor traffic accidents resulted. Reports of windows blown in, roof, fence, sign and awning damages, and trees and limbs felled with utility lines downed. A woman was injured in Concord by a falling heavy sign. Some homes without power or heat for several hours. Many schools closed. Autos were stalled and trains delayed by the cold blasts.									
Entire state	15-16 P.M.-A.M.				50	5			Ice (glaze)	
	Severe and prolonged freezing rain glazed surfaces with smooth ice. Estimated 50 injuries with lacerations or fractures from falls or by auto accidents. All forms of transportation hampered, delayed, or cancelled. Many schools closed. Most hazardous area was the southeastern portion, where ice built up to 3/4 inch thick in spots. The State Highway Dept. reported the nearly state-wide ice storm to be the worst in many years. Road crews were able to keep only main routes passable and those with difficulty. Sand and salt washed away rapidly after spreading with glaze quickly reforming on the roads. Even some sanding trucks slid into the ditch. Scores of minor accidents and some were serious. Trees and utility lines not seriously affected due to light winds. Extreme northern portion not seriously affected by ice storm, but there heavy snow fell.									
Entire state	21-22						4		Ice (glaze and sleet), wind and rain	
	Freezing rain, with sleet in some areas, preceded an advancing warm front. Highways became hazardous for a relatively short period until the advancing thaw aided in clearing the roads. Most traffic accidents were minor. Iceing combined with wind to fell trees, limbs, and utility lines in some areas. Heavy rains flooded some cellars in the southern portion.									
Entire state	30								Ice (glaze)	
	Reports of light glaze from many areas over state, but no damages were noted.									
NEW JERSEY Woodbury, Gloucester County	17	Night 16th-17th				2			Snow	
	Light snow during evening of 16th and morning of 17th formed icy patches on highways. Auto skidded on ice and crashed into pole.									
Statewide	20	Morning							Glaze	
	A light covering of glaze occurred over most of state, with no reports of fatalities, injuries, or property damage.									
Statewide	27	Night 26th-27th							Glaze	
	Light glaze over much of state, with no reports of fatalities, injuries, or property damage.									
NEW YORK										
New York City area	1-2						5		Heavy driving rain-storm	
	Five pedestrians killed in traffic accidents. Rain lashed the city for 16 hours ending at 7:10 a.m. (2nd) knocking out power lines, flooding highways and causing heavy traffic jams.									
East-central New York, Southeastern New York, New York City-Long Island area	3-7						13	24	5	Strong winds, bitter cold
	Numerous deaths in fires aggravated by strong winds and bitter cold. Numerous injuries due to falling signs, trees, debris, etc. Extensive loss in plate glass windows, roofs torn off, TV aerials toppled, overturned airplanes, trailers blown over, collapsed construction work, signs and trees blown down, power disruptions, and ferry service obstructions. Low water conditions in the Hudson River disrupted ferry service, shipping and water supply intakes. From late on the 3rd through the 7th of the month unusually windy and cold weather developed on the back side of a deepening storm center which stagnated over the Maritime Provinces. Winds ranged from 40 to 75 mph at times and gale winds persisted throughout the period with near blizzard conditions in some upstate areas where below zero temperatures and blowing snow added to the severity of the storm.									
Statewide (Upstate)	15-16						11	4		Heavy snowstorm, gale winds
	Eleven deaths attributed to storm conditions and numerous injuries. Heavy snowstorm, especially near the Great Lakes, gale winds, blizzards, blowing snow and near blizzard conditions. Snowfalls of 1 to 1 1/2 feet in many Lake county areas. Bennett's Bridge reported 5 1/2 inches in 16 hours. Strong winds and severe drifting closing some roads in the Lake Ontario area.									
Statewide	20-23						9	7	7	Heavy rain, wind, rapid thawing accompanied by heavy runoff of snow melt and widespread flooding
	A strong northward flow of warm, moist air over a period of several days in connection with the passage of a very active storm system produced what is commonly called a "January thaw". Heavy rains and unusually heavy runoff from rapidly melting snow caused widespread lowland flooding in many populated areas. Flooding streams, broken ice covers, ice jams and gale to hurricane force winds added to the havoc caused during the storm period.									
Dear River (near Carthage)	22	Morning						3		Suspected small tornado
	Sounded like a jet plane - pinned farmer to fence, unroofed barn and spun roof around, then caused some damage to nearby village.									
NORTH CAROLINA										
Transylvania County	5	Unknown				1	1	4		Wind and Cold
	One killed, one injured, when truck hit tree blown down by wind.									
Piedmont Section of North Carolina	8	4:00 p. - 8:00 p.						15	4	Snow and Glaze
	Numerous falls and traffic mishaps when freezing rain and snow began in late afternoon and continued through twilight rush period.									
Tryon area, Polk County	21	7:30 p.	1	Narrow				4		Wind
	Trees blown down, roofs damaged, power and telephone lines broken.									
Olin area, northern Iredell County	21	8:45 p.	4	300				4		Probable Tornado
	One dwelling destroyed, several buildings damaged, by sudden wind-storm of great force and short duration. Moved northeastward.									
Pilot Mountain area, Surry County	21	9:15 p.	1/4	100				4		Tornado
	Service station destroyed; homes, other buildings unroofed or otherwise damaged. Funnel cloud seen. Storm moved northeastward.									
	Three storms of 21 may have been single skipping tornado or group of tornadoes. General windy weather on 21-22 caused scattered minor wind damage in practically all sections of North Carolina.									

See reference notes at end of table.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

January 1959

PLACE	DATE	TIME	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM	
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS		
OHIO Entire state	21	Mostly during night and forenoon			15	*	8	(*)	C	Heavy rain and resultant flood.
		<p>A light rain and snow situation on Jan. 19 and 20 developed by late on the 20th into heavy rains which spread in a 50-mile band from southwestern counties northeastward across the state to near Youngstown. Within this band storm totals ranged from 4 to 6 inches, the major portion of which fell within a 12-hour period on the 21st. Heavy thunderstorm activity contributed to the intensity of rainfall. Because the soil was frozen, except for a thin surface layer, the percentage of runoff was unusually high; and streams rapidly approached and exceeded flood stages.</p> <p>Substantial portions of several towns were inundated, especially in central counties, and relatively few communities escaped sustaining material damage. Many rural and urban residents alike were evacuated from their homes by boat or helicopter. Numerous highways were blocked for a 2-4-day period by high water. Of total property damage, estimated at 100 million dollars, 28% was to public (state, county and local) and 72% to private property (as reported by Civil Defense). Much low-lying crop land was inundated with serious loss, both to fall-corn grains and topsoil erosion. Subsequent freezing coated large northwestern areas with ice, which threatens to damage crops still further.</p> <p>Outside this band of heaviest rain (particularly in the northwest, storm totals ranged downward to less than 2 inches, and less serious flooding resulted. However, in northern counties flood conditions were aggravated by snow melt and ice jams.</p>								
OKLAHOMA Atoka County	15	00:06 a.								Hail
		<p>Pilot reported 3/4 to 1 inch in diameter hail with moderate to severe turbulence 40 miles south of McAlester.</p>								
Entire State	20-21	p.m. 20th - a.m. 21st			1		5			Ice storm, hail, wind, snow and blowing snow
		<p>Blowing snow reduced visibility causing car-train wreck 1 mile north of Guyton in which one man was killed and a collision at Texhoma in which 6 persons were injured. Glass conditions in central and eastern areas caused slick roads. Strong winds caused some ice-over utility wires to snap. Light hail fell from thunderstorms over some central and eastern sections.</p>								
OREGON Eugene, Lane County	4-6	Morning	300	*60	1	3	3	1		Snow and freezing rain
		<p>The first substantial snow in 2 years in western Oregon spread across the northern two thirds of the State and was accompanied in many areas by freezing rain. Depths in the Willamette Valley ranged from about 2 to 9 inches and in northcentral and north-eastern valleys between 1 and 5 inches. Falls were much heavier at higher elevations. This created extremely hazardous traffic conditions; one woman was killed in an auto accident at Eugene brought on by icy streets. Storm damage generally was not significant.</p>								
PENNSYLVANIA Statewide	5	All day			1	2	4			Wind and snow
		<p>Winds which reached up to 60 mph in eastern sections damaged roofs, broke windows and toppled electric signs. One airplane at Philadelphia airport was turned over. Two persons were injured in an automobile accident on snow covered road in Pocono Mountains. One man died of exposure as result of extreme cold.</p>								
Lehighton, Carbon County	11	3:40 p.					3			Wind
		<p>Strong gusty surface winds responsible for crash of small plane.</p>								
Allentown-Scranton area	14	Early evening			13		4			Ice
		<p>Slippery roads caused numerous automobile accidents.</p>								
Allegheny county	14-15	Night and Morning			4		4			Snow
		<p>Snow covered roads resulted in several automobile accidents.</p>								
Statewide	16	All day			6	17	4			Snow and ice
		<p>Snow accumulated to depths less than 6 inches but caused many automobile accidents.</p>								
Statewide	20-22	Morning			3	13	7			Rain, wind and snow
		<p>Moderate to heavy rain falling on frozen ground and aided by snow-melt and ice jams produced severe flooding in western counties and moderate to severe local flooding in central sections. High winds blew down signboards and trees and overturned a house trailer. Damage by rain and flooding about 95% of total, by wind 5%.</p>								
* Substantial no estimates available.										

See reference notes at end of table.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

January 1959

PLACE	DATE	TIME	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
Tennessee (Cont'd)									
Stanley Valley and Mooresburg, Hawkins County	21	Afternoon	At Stanley Valley	2	houses were unroofed and a third partially unroofed. At one of the unroofed houses 3 new rooms were also blown away. One barn was demolished resulting in the destruction of a mowing machine and severe damage to a tractor inside. Several barns and storage sheds were partially or totally unroofed. At Mooresburg a large barn, valued at several thousand dollars was demolished; a team of mules and 5 head of cattle inside the barn were killed. Several other barns and sheds were damaged.	4	Wind		
Carter County	21		At least 20 bridges		were washed out. Many roads were damaged or obstructed by trees, slides and large rocks.	4	Rain		
Chattanooga, Hamilton County	21		A waitress was cut by flying glass. A 100 ft. chimney toppled on to a building causing \$5000 damage. A drive in theater screen was blown down. An empty water tank a top a 4-story building, blown off its steel rigging, crashed partly through a roof. A small airplane hangar was damaged.	1		4	Wind		
Lake City, Anderson County	21		25 families were evacuated from their homes due to flooding.				Rain		
Macon County	21		Extensive damage to roofs of residential and farm buildings.			4	Wind		
Putnam County	21		1 home and 3 farm buildings were destroyed, 6 homes and 4 farm buildings sustained major damage and 7 homes, 7 farm buildings and 2 other buildings received minor damage. Damage was most severe in Holladay Community.			5	Wind		
Sneedville (near) Hancock County	21		A farmer was severely injured when a barn collapsed on him.	1			Wind		
TEXAS									
San Antonio area, Bexar County	3-4	2 days	Young crops of parsnip, cauliflower, carrots and cabbage badly damaged.	0	0	5	Freeze		
El Paso, El Paso Co.	20	8 am to aftn	short narrow	0	1	3	Wind		
			U.S. Weather Bureau reported gusts 50 and 60 mph, average 30 to 45 mph at noon. Eight telephone poles blown down, two hit a car and a truck; driver's hand cut.						
Wichita Falls, Wichita County	20-21	night & early am		0	4	3	Glaze ice		
			Two men fall, broke bones; two boys hit by cars because of icing conditions.						
Pampa, Gray County	30-31	evening to evening			4	4	Glaze ice		
			Thirteen collisions reported to police during 24-hour period, most minor. Two cars total wrecks.						
UTAH									
Nephi, Juab County	2			1	0	5	Snow		
			During a snowstorm, a 16-year-old youth was killed when the car in which he was riding skidded across an icy highway into the path of a pick-up truck.						
Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County	28	After 3 P.M.		0	3	4	Snow		
			An estimated 60 to 70 automobile accidents (mostly minor) occurred as a result of slick roads during a snow storm. Three persons were injured in the collisions.						
VERMONT									
Entire state	2	A.M.				2	Ice (glaze and sleet)		
			Glaze and/or sleet made highways hazardous. Minor accidents resulted.						
Entire state	4-6					4	Wind		
			Damaging wind for prolonged period was accompanied by bitter cold. Gusts ranged from 40 to 80 m.p.h. in parts of the state. Winds drifted snow onto highways, especially bad in the northeast portion. Sanding of icy roads ineffectual as sand blew off immediately. Minor traffic accidents resulted. Wind damage to windows, roofs, fences, signs and awnings, trees and limbs, and utility lines. Some homes without heat or power for several hours. Some schools closed. Some autos were stalled and train schedules delayed by the cold blasts.						
All except extreme northern portion.	15-16	P.M.-A.M.				4	Ice (glaze)		
			Freezing rain glazed surfaces, hampering all transportation. Numerous minor accidents on the highways and some serious. Trees and utility lines not seriously damaged, due to light winds. Extremes northern portion escaped the ice storm but received heavy snow, 10 to 15 inches.						
Southern and east-central portions	21-22			2		4	Ice (glaze and sleet), rain, wind		
			Freezing rain, with sleet in some areas, preceded an advancing warm front. Highways became hazardous for a relatively short period until the advancing thaw aided in clearing the roads. Most traffic accidents were minor but 2 injuries were reported. Wind combined with glaze to damage some trees, limbs and utility lines in the southern portion. Heavy rains combined with melt water from the brief thaw to inundate and close some highways and flood some cellars in the southern portion.						
Southern portion	30						Ice (glaze)		
			Scattered reports of freezing rain but no damage noted.						

States and territories not listed in these tables reported no storms or unusual weather phenomena during the month.

PLACE	DATE	TIME	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
VIRGINIA									
South and North Central Virginia	21-22	Late afternoon and night					5		Wind and rain
			Strong winds did extensive damage counties southwest and southeast. Storm began first in southwest Virginia late afternoon of 21st, moving to southeast and north central Virginia by midnight. Greatest wind damage to buildings, trees, overhead utilities, and towers. Winds reported to or near 70 MPH in southwest, southeast and north central. Greatest damage reported in southwest counties. 3500 chickens killed by wind damaged buildings and rain - Roanoke County.						
WASHINGTON									
Entire State	2-5						0	0	High wind followed by sharp drop in temperature and snow
			Power and communication lines damaged by wind. Sharp drop in temperature accompanied by freezing rain and snow produced hazardous driving conditions, and caused some damage to small grain.						
Eastern Washington	10-13						0	0	Rain
			Runoff resulting from melting snow and heavy rain on the 10th and 11th caused a damaging flood along Wilson Creek and high water in numerous other localities in eastern Washington. Soil erosion was severe in many localities in the winter wheat area. Highways were damaged by flood water in numerous areas.						
Entire State	21-28						1	0	Rain
			Heavy rain between the 21st and 27th over most of the State and runoff from melting snow resulted in all streams in western Washington rising to above flood stage during the last week of the month. Flood damage for the most part was limited to flooding of low farm land and highways, with residences and business property damaged in a few localities. Numerous land slides occurred in all localities west of the Cascades. Highways were blocked by landslides and residences and other property were damaged in some localities.						
			In eastern Washington, Wilson Creek and other streams were above flood stage for the second time during the month. Roads were damaged and soil erosion was severe in some of the rolling land in the winter small grain area.						
WEST VIRGINIA									
	21 and 22						3		Wind
			High winds over the state for most of two days caused scattered property damage reported mostly as minor. Television antennas were damaged and telephone lines blown down.						
ALASKA									
Anchorage	6-7	Noon 6th to 8 P.M. 7th	150	100	3*	6			
			The strong winds were the result of a deepening low in the Gulf of Alaska. The low center crossed the Alaska Peninsula into the western Gulf area on January 5 but did not begin to intensify until the following day. Rather strong winds developed all along the Gulf perimeter. Winds associated with this storm resulted in damages in the vicinities of Eldred Rock, Haines, and Homer; but specific damage reports are not available from these areas. Major damages suffered in the general Anchorage area consisted of (1) Damages to aircraft, particularly small craft, at airports in the Anchorage-Palmer area and at Lake Hood (near International Airport, Anchorage), (2) Damages to buildings, both residential and business properties, including, chiefly, broken windows, roof damage, etc., (3) Damages to utilities, including broken power lines, some caused by falling trees, and to elevated power transformers, (4) Frozen and cracked water pipes and resulting damages to buildings, chiefly residential in the Government Hill area of Anchorage, (5) Damages to automobiles and other vehicles, including parked vehicles damaged by various forms of flying debris, and (6) Damages to structures arising from fires definitely traceable to the windstorm. Damage directly by wind along 9% of total, damage to frozen water pipes and resultant building damages (item 4) 4% of total, damage from fires started by wind action 1% of total (item 6). *Two of these persons were injured in fires which broke out as a result of the windstorm.						
HAWAII									
E. Kauai, E. Oahu, Molokai, Maui, Lanai, and Hawaii	17	From early morning, to late evening					6	5	Wind and rain
			Marked cold front passage with winds generally in excess of 35 m.p.h. but with local squalls giving winds to 100 m.p.h. Small boats damaged or lost. Trees and utility lines down. Many buildings severely damaged, especially at Kilauea Military Camp. Crops washed out or stripped by wind.						

* Includes crop damage.

† 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 \$5,000,000
- 7 \$5,000,000 to \$50,000,000
- 8 \$50,000,000 to \$500,000,000
- 9 \$500,000,000 to \$5,000,000,000.