

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LUTHER H. HODGES, Secretary
WEATHER BUREAU
F. W. REICHELDERFER, Chief

STORM DATA

FEBRUARY 1961

Volume 3 No. 2



ASHEVILLE: 1961

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

FEBRUARY 1961

PLACE	DATE	TIME	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (FAROS)	NO. OF PERSONS				ESTIMATED ¹ DAMAGE	CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS		
ALABAMA										
Statewide	17-25				0	0	6	6		Rains
Except for the extreme southeastern and northwestern counties, excessive and damaging rain fell at some time during this period. Total rainfall exceeded more than 18 inches in many localities. Principal property damage was to roads and bridges but in Jefferson County hundreds of homes were flooded. Crop damage mainly to grain and Baldwin County potato crop.										
Linden, Marengo County	20	6:00 p.	1	?	0	2	4	0		Tornado
Damaged or destroyed 6 houses, several outbuildings, and blew down trees and power lines in rural area northeast of Linden. Two persons injured when house was demolished.										
Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County	22	5:30 a.	1	narrow	0	0	5	0		Tornado
Tornado dipped down in eastern portion of city damaging several warehouses on Northington Campus, then moved northeastward across residential area to Partlow State School grounds. Several homes damaged and many trees blown down or broken off.										
Russell County	24	4:30 p.	18	narrow	0	4	4	0		Tornado
Tornado skipped across county moving east-northeast from Hartsboro community to near Hatcheechubbes and Seale, ending about 5 miles south of Phenix City. Path in rural area. Several houses demolished or damaged and 4 injured.										
ALASKA										
None reported										
ARIZONA										
None reported										
ARKANSAS										
None reported										
CALIFORNIA										
North coast	11-14				0	0	4	0		Rain
Continued rains resulted in numerous landslides and in the collapse of retaining walls. One slide of 500,000 cubic yards of dirt closed U. S. Highway No. 101 for nearly a week.										
Southern California	22				1	6	4	0		Wind
Winds to 70 mph downed trees and utility lines, capsized boats and drove others ashore, and sandblasted automobiles. One woman was killed when a tree fell on her car, and other persons were injured by flying debris. Influenced by terrain, damage was spotty.										
COLORADO										
None Reported										
CONNECTICUT										
	4	Entire Day			10	0	5	0		Blizzard
Storm which reached blizzard proportions in some interior areas, disrupted transportation throughout state. New snow totals generally 15 to 20 inches except a few widely scattered 8 to 14 inches. Sustained strong winds drove snow into drifts 7 to 15 feet high. Scattered power failures throughout state. Some collapsed roofs and shattered plate glass windows because of weight of snow and force of wind. Several minor injuries attributable to storm.										
DELAWARE										
None reported										
FLORIDA										
Fernandina Beach Nassau Co.	23	Afternoon	-	-	0	0	0	0		Funnel cloud
Jacksonville Duval Co.	23	Afternoon	-	-	0	0	0	0		Funnel cloud
Tampa Hillsborough Co.	25	9:00 a.m.	1/4	50	0	0	3	0		Tornado
Tornado moved from west to east										
Tampa Hillsborough Co.	25	9:30 a.m.	-	-	0	0	4	0		Wind
Strong winds unroofed large building near Tampa International Airport										
Dade City Pasco Co.	25	Morning	-	-	0	0	2	0		Funnel cloud and wind
Orlando Orange Co.	25	10:45 a.m.	Short	Narrow	0	0	3	0		Tornado
Funnel cloud dipped to ground briefly, cloud moved from northwest to southeast										
GEORGIA										
Northwestern half of State	18-25							5	4	Heavy rains
Prolonged heavy rainfall caused local flooding on most streams in northwestern half of State. Hundreds of families were evacuated as homes were flooded in numerous towns and communities. Heavy damage to roads and streets with many bridges and fills being washed out. Large acreage of low lying farmland flooded with damage suffered by some grain crops. Heaviest rains in westcentral section where eight day totals exceeded seventeen inches. Death of five persons attributed to flash floods.										
Columbus, 3 miles east	22	3:55 p.	Short	600	0	0	4	0		Tornado
One building unroofed and trees uprooted and snapped off. Power lines down.										
Doolley County, near Pinehurst	24	2:30 p.	5	100	0	0	4	0		Tornado
Storm moved along or near ground from about 3 miles west of Pinehurst to 2 miles north of same town. Three houses and two barns destroyed. Many trees and utility lines blown down. Storm moved northeastward.										
Lizella, Bibb County	24	3:30 p.	4	100	0	0	4	3		Tornado
One house destroyed, two others damaged 9 miles west of Macon. Storm moved northeastward.										
Darville, Twiggs County	24	3:30 p.	1	50	0	0	4	0		Tornado
Several residences and outhouses damaged and trees uprooted as storm apparently touched ground only briefly. Storm moved northeastward.										
Baldwin County, 5 miles E. of Milledgeville	24	4:45 p.	1/2	600	0	0	4	0		Tornado
Roofs blown from five houses. Storm moved southeastward.										
McBean, Richmond County	24	6:30 p.	1	100	0	0	4	0		Tornado
Post Office was demolished and two houses damaged. Storm moved eastward.										
Butler, Taylor County	24	7:45 p.	2	100	0	0	4	0		Tornado
Storm struck western City limits of town damaging about ten houses. Storm moved northeastward.										
HAWAII										
None reported										
IDAHO										
None reported										
ILLINOIS										
Entire State	2-3	Most of both days			8	20	5			Snow, strong winds
Heavy snowstorm averaging 5 to 7 inches over most of state tied up traffic in larger cities. 5 people died as result of over exertion from shoveling snow and 3 died as a result of auto or truck accidents. 20 people injured in auto and bus accidents.										
INDIANA										
No report received by printing deadline.										
IOWA										
North and West two-thirds of State	17-18				3	30	6			Ice storm
The heaviest glazing extended from the Clarinda-Creston area northeastward through the Des Moines, Boone, Ames, Marshalltown area to Hampton and Fayette areas. Heavy layers of ice resulted in communication and power line interruptions and considerable loss from broken tree limbs particularly in the Creston, Boone, Colp, Hampton, Fayette, Winterset, Cedar Falls and Des Moines areas. Power was off up to 5 days in some localities. Northward some glazing and sleet associated with snow was reported into northwestern Iowa where 14-16 inches of snow temporarily isolated the Spencer-Estherville area. Numerous accidents occurred with the wide spread glazing. Line damage in central Iowa was estimated at one million dollars. The widespread tree breakage caused much additional cost to municipalities. Thunderstorms associated with the storm resulted in at least one fire loss from lightning.										

See reference notes at end of table.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

FEBRUARY 1961

PLACE	DATE	TIME	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
KANSAS									
Barber County	17	afternoon							Funnel cloud
			A funnel cloud was reported near Medicine Lodge during the afternoon.						
Sedgwick County	17	3:45pm-4:15pm	7	1 1/2			5		Hail
			Hailed areas was in the residential area on the north side of Wichita. Largest stones were about 2 inches in diameter. Ground was covered to a depth of 2 inches.						
Chase County	17	afternoon							Tornado
			A small tornado damaged farm buildings 2 miles west of Clements near the western county line. Path was toward the northeast.						
Geary County	17	5:30pm					3		Electrical
			About 1600 bales of hay were lost when lightning struck about 16 miles south of Manhattan. The resulting fire burned for 12 hours.						
Neosho County	17	10:30am							Severe wind
			A severe gust of wind damaged a car port and roofs in the southwest part of Chamite. Storm moved northward.						
Cherokee County	17	8:15pm							Electrical
			A large barn and contents of hay, feed, farm implements and several head of livestock were lost in a fire originating from a lightning strike, 1 1/2 miles south of Columbus.						
Cherokee County	17	11:00pm-11:12pm	6	880			3		Tornado and hail
			A tornado was seen by numerous persons along its northeast path from a mile south of Crestline to near the Missouri border east of Lawton. A number of farm plants were damaged and one county road was closed by fallen trees. There was some minor evidence of a second tornado. Pea to marble sized hail also fell over a strip 5 miles long and 3 miles wide northeast of Crestline.						
Northern Counties	17-19	afternoon of 17th & part of 18th							Glaze
			Freezing drizzle formed an icy coating on trees, wires and walk and roadways across the north western and north central counties of Kansas during the morning and in the northeastern counties in the afternoon and night of the 17th. The glaze was about 0.4 inch thick in some places. A few transmission and communication lines were broken and traffic operated under hazardous conditions until early on the 18th in some localities.						
KENTUCKY									
Central Kentucky	25				5		5		Snowstorm
			A snowstorm with strong winds, accompanied by thunder and lightning, covered much of the central Kentucky area with snowfall up to twelve inches and drifts of several feet in depth. Louisville underwent some of its worst weather in recent history. Hundreds of motorists were stranded by slippery roads and by drifts. All major roads were blocked and airplane and bus transportation was not possible for close to 24 hours. Fatalities and injuries were linked directly or indirectly to the weather.						
LOUISIANA									
Angie, Washington Parish	21	4:15 am	3/4	300	0	9	5	0	Tornado
			Moved toward north; school and several homes demolished.						
Stony Point, East Baton Rouge Parish	24	5:55 am			0	0	3	0	Hailstorm
			Public reported hailstones size of golf balls.						
MAINE									
Statewide	1-3				0	0	5	0	Prolonged severe cold
			These were last 3 days of one of the longest enduring periods of severe cold of record, that began on January 18th, in all parts of the state. In central and northern sections daily minima were persistently below zero and frequently far below. In southern section, except along the immediate coast, readings were nearly as low. Throughout the state, daily maxima remained below freezing, mostly much below. The prolonged severe cold sent frost deep into streets and other cleared areas. Resulting freezing and bursting of water mains and connections reached record proportions by the 4th in many communities.						
Southern portion	19	Most of day			0	0	0	0	Heavy fog
			Unusually heavy and widespread fog slowed or halted traffic, during night hours especially and forced cancellation of some scheduled flights.						
Central and North	23-26				0	0	4	0	Heavy snow and wind
			Frequent snowfall occurred in this period with heaviest falls on the 24th and 26th. Total accumulation ranged from 10 inches in central sections to nearly 30 inches in extreme northern areas. In the latter areas, excessive snowfall accumulations on roofs collapsed some barns and sheds. In at least one case, several garaged trucks were badly damaged. Transportation was slowed throughout the affected area and was brought to a standstill in northern portions of the state. High winds downed tree limbs in the Houlton area on 26th.						
MAINE (Cont'd.)									
Southern, Central and Northeastern areas	24-26				0	0	0	0	Glaze
			Several occurrences of glaze on these 3 days covering a wide but discontinuous belt extending diagonally across state from southwest to northeast and including west-coastal and south-central sections. Ardoostook County experienced glazing conditions on the 25th and 26th, only. Presque Isle reported glaze 0.3 inch thick on the 26th.						
Southern and North-eastern sections	25	Most of day			0	0	0	0	Heavy fog
			This was second occurrence of month of unusually heavy and widespread fog that resulted, once again, in slowing traffic to a crawl and forcing cancellation of some scheduled flights.						
MARYLAND									
Statewide									None reported
MASSACHUSETTS									
Statewide	1-3				0	0	5	0	Prolonged severe cold
			These were last 3 days of a prolonged severe cold period with temperatures continuously below freezing that began on Jan. 18th. Over most of state, this was the longest period of enduring cold since 1918, and the second longest since the 1870's, at least. Harbor and shore ice built up to near record extent by early February. Navy and Coast Guard icebreakers were called upon to free several ice-bound vessels. In many snow cleared areas, the prolonged cold sent frost deep into the ground. Resulting freezing and bursting of water mains and connections reached record proportion in many communities by the 4th. This timing coincided with the very heavy snowstorm over the State (on 4th), and added to the general hardships brought on by the storm. One favorable aspect of the harbor ice was that it prevented storm waves from spilling onto vulnerable areas, thus keeping lowland flooding at a minimum.						
Entire state	4	All day			4	0	5	0	Heavy snow, wind
			This was the 3d major snowstorm of the season at coastal areas, and the 4th over the interior. The storm dumped from 10 to 25 inches over the State. Transportation was choked, and flights cancelled. Mail deliveries were cancelled as were most scheduled group meetings. Elementary school sessions were called off in many communities on Monday, the second day after the storm, due to hazardous walking conditions. Worcester County received the heaviest yields of 20 to 25 inches, while the eastern slopes of the Berkshires were smothered under 15 to 20 inches. Drifts up to 10 feet deep were reported in areas removed from the coast, where colder weather prevailed. Heavy snow accumulation collapsed the roof of a factory in Norwood, Mass. State of emergency was declared in some communities. Some 50,000 homes, mostly in eastern sections, were without heat or light for 12 to 36 hours and even longer and emergency crews were flown to trouble spots by helicopter. More than 5500 phone outages were reported of which 4,000 were in southeastern Mass, where winds reached whole gale force, icing up exposed surfaces. Four deaths from exposures were attributed directly to the storm while 15 additional fatalities were storm-related, most resulting from over-exertion. Major highways were kept open, though with extreme difficulty over central and western parts of the state where the firmer snow kept drifting in behind the plows. Flooding of low coastal sections was held at a minimum as ice-jammed harbors prevented waves from spilling onto vulnerable areas. New snow fell on a residue of previous accumulations to produce total depths ranging up to 45 to 50 inches over the higher elevations of central and western parts of the state.						
Scattered over state	14				0	0	0	0	Glaze
			Light to moderate glazing occurred in scattered areas of the interior.						
Entire state	14, 18, 19				0	0	0	0	Heavy fog
			Unusually heavy and widespread fog occurrences slowed traffic and transportation and caused cancellation of scheduled flights. Maximum effect was during nighttime.						
Hampshire County	18				0	0	0	0	Glaze
			Glazing occurred over western portions of county.						
Central and eastern sections	23-26				0	0	0	0	Heavy fog
			Frequent heavy and widespread fog occurrences during this period slowed traffic and transportation and caused cancellation of scheduled flights. Worst conditions probably existed evening of 18th, especially in northeast where visibility was reduced to zero for a number of hours.						
Michigan									
East Central Section of Thumb Area	25	noon, midnight					4		Freezing rain, sleet, snow, high winds
			In Port Huron, power and phone service to over thousand homes blacked out for hours due to lines being broken by heavy ice coating and high winds. Likewise, high winds blew down hundreds of heavy ice coated TV antennas, 62 telephone poles and also damaged some ice coated trees in the area. Power and phone service blackouts and TV antenna damage caused by heavy ice coating and high winds extended generally to small town areas within a 25 mile radius of Port Huron.						

See reference notes at end of table.

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS							KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
MINNESOTA										NEW JERSEY									
NONE REPORTED										Entire State									
MISSISSIPPI Expose, Bunker Hill, Bassfield; Marion and Jefferson Davis Counties	20	5:10 p- 5:45 p	16	100	0	8	5	0	Tornado									6	Heavy snow and strong winds
Silver Creek, Gwinville, Corinth; Lawrence, Jefferson Davis, Simpson Counties	20	5:30 p- 6:10 p	25	100	0	4	5	0	Tornado										Heavy snow storm with depths to 27 inches and drifts of 4 feet or more. Heaviest amounts in metropolitan counties in Northeast. Winds 38 mph or higher caused considerable drifting. Transportation facilities disrupted and many business services interrupted. Several deaths resulted indirectly from the storm, principally from over-exertion.
6 mi. south Hattiesburg, Forest County	20	5:30 p	Short	Narrow	0	0	4	0	Tornado	NEW MEXICO									
Near Jackson, Rankin County	20	5:40 p	Unk.	Unk.	0	0	0	0	Tornado	None reported									
Sunrall, Lamar County	21	5:20 p			0	0	3	0	Tornado	NEW YORK									
NE Greenwood, Leflore County	20	5:55 p							Funnel cloud	Statewide									
Near Weason, Lincoln County	24	5:35 p							Funnel cloud	3-5 P.M. 3rd- A.M. 5th									
Near Overt, Jones County	24	7:45 p							Funnel cloud	Southwestern storm center moved across the Northern Gulf States and northeastward across the Virginias and Carolinas then northeastward along the coast. The storm was of blizzard intensity with severe cold and strong to gale force winds. Snowfall was heaviest in the central and southeastern counties where most sections recorded amounts of 1 1/2 to 2 feet. Some central county areas reported a fall of over 3 feet. The New York City area was at a near paralysis in modes of transportation with a fall of 1 1/2 feet. The fall tapered off to 5 inches at Buffalo and little or none in the extreme north-eastern counties near the Canadian border. Many communities in central New York declared a state of emergency for 24 to 48 hours. On Long Island 40,000 homes were without power for 12 to 24 hours and sections of the Island were isolated. Highway traffic in the New York City area was restricted to only essential vehicles for several days. Widespread disruption to transportation and business occurred with great economical losses. Cortland reported a fall of 40"; Syracuse reported a fall of 7" in one hour. Drifting was severe in some sections. The economical consequences of the storm were severe and total dollar consequences were somewhere in the range of Code 7; 20 deaths occurred from overexertion and 2 traffic deaths as indirect consequences of the severe weather.									
MISSOURI										Central and Northern New York									
None Reported										19									
MONTANA										Northern, Western and Southeastern counties									
East of Continental Divide	25	A. M.	-	-	0	0	4	4	High Wind	25-26									
									High Wind	Scattered areas such as St. Lawrence region, Clinton County, Buffalo area, Jamestown area and New York City area reported velocities to 70 mph with trees and wires down, structural damage to buildings, radio tower blown down, thousands of homes without power and communications. Also, heavy rain and melting snow produced scattered areas of flooding in low areas. Freezing rain occurred in Clinton, Franklin and St. Lawrence counties.									
NEBRASKA										NORTH CAROLINA									
Southeastern Nebr.	17	About noon to noon	-	-	0	?	5	0	Glece, lightning	Most of State									
									Glece, lightning	3 Early am to late pm									
									Glece, lightning	Mountains and Piedmont									
									Glece, lightning	7 Day and part of night									
									Glece, lightning	Sleet and freezing rain mainly over northern Piedmont with snow in the Mountains. Glazed roads caused hazardous driving conditions. Two men killed in separate automobile accidents due to icy roads. Power and telephone service disrupted in scattered areas due to ice-laden tree limbs falling on wires with Guilford County hardest hit. Some schools closed.									
NEVADA										Burgaw area, Pender County									
None reported										25 Noon									
NEW HAMPSHIRE										Entire State									
Statewide	1-3				0	0	5	0	Prolonged severe cold	25 All day									
									Prolonged severe cold	High winds caused widespread minor damage throughout the state with occasional instances of structural damage. The wind at Winston-Salem Airport reached a sustained speed of 75 mph with a peak gust to 97 mph, the highest wind since the station was established in 1944. Most widespread damage was to TV antennas, stingles, signs, awnings and glass plate windows. Many trees and tree limbs falling on utility lines caused disruption of power and telephone service in numerous areas. Many roads blocked by uprooted trees. Scattered small orchards damaged or destroyed. Sheet metal lumber shed demolished in Stanley County. Warehouse partly demolished in Surry County damaging five cars. Steel framework building under construction toppled in Cleveland County.									
Southern section	4	Most of day			0	0	3	0	Heavy snow	NORTH DAKOTA									
									Heavy snow	None reported									
Scattered over state	14, 17, 23, 24, 25				0	0	0	0	Glece										
									Glece										

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS					
OHIO													
Tiffin	18	8:45 PM	1	100	0	0	5	0		Tornado			
<p>This storm, clearly a tornado, struck the northern part of Tiffin causing moderate damage, mainly to northeastern and northern sides of buildings. Two small factories were practically demolished and two large industrial buildings were unroofed. A similar, but less destructive storm was reported between Tipp City and Troy where several farm buildings were damaged.</p>													
Extrema northern Ohio	25 26	During night			0	0	6	0		Gleze and wind-storm.			
<p>A combination of sleet, glaze, snow and strong northerly winds, accompanying an unusually deep low-pressure system, caused wide-damage over extreme northern Ohio. Wind-blown wet snow covered practically the entire state with accumulations up to 7 inches following a day-long rain of 1 to 2 inches. Extensive damage to utility wires and poles and to trees was confined mainly to a 20 to 40-mile strip extending from extreme northwestern Ohio eastward along the lake shore to the Pennsylvania border, and resulted from glaze accumulations whipped by high winds. Throughout this area telephone and electric services were disrupted for up to 18 hours. Property losses reported consisted mainly of costs incident to the restoration of utility services. Additional losses resulted from falling trees crashing onto houses and automobiles. At Port Clinton lake ice was blown ashore piling high over Ohio Route #2.</p>													
OKLAHOMA													
Purcell, 12 miles SW, McClain County	17	4:30 p.	1/2	20	0	0	2	0		Tornado, hail			
<p>Tornado moved from southwest to west of Purcell through open country, only damage was to fences. Heavy hail up to 3 inches in diameter fell over a square mile area about 3 miles north of Purcell. Holes were torn in roofs of farm buildings. Storm moved northeastward.</p>													
Norman, Cleveland County	17	4:35 p.			0	0	0	0		Funnel aloft			
<p>Fireman sighted funnel aloft just east of Norman.</p>													
Spencer and Jones, Oklahoma County	17	5:45 p.	8	300	0	7	4	0		Tornado, hail, rain			
<p>Two small funnels were observed as they formed over Spencer. Witness described them as reaching the ground and bumping together. The tornado destroyed several homes and buildings and damaged over a score more. The injuries resulted in wrecked homes and trailer houses. The funnel lifted northeast of Jones, traveled aloft over Luther and struck again at a farm northeast of Luther. Light hail up to 3/4 inch in diameter fell in the area. Heavy rain fell for short period in Oklahoma City causing some flash flooding. Hospital basement was flooded, damaging some valuable research equipment; this property loss not estimated.</p>													
Canadian and Kingfisher Counties	17	p.m.	?	?	0	1	3	0		Hail			
<p>Truck collision in heavy hailstorm just north of El Reno resulted in one injury. Hail up to the size of hen eggs covered a mile-wide path just north of Cimarron River in extreme eastern Kingfisher County. Cars were dented and other property damaged.</p>													
Stratford, Garvin County; Konawa and Nowata, Seminole County; Hughes, Okfuskee and Okmulgee Counties	17	6:15 p.	92	300	0	11	6	0		Tornado			
<p>Funnel first sighted just west of Sulphur, moved northeastward, then northeastward across Stratford at roof-top level. Considerable damage to over 50 homes and several business buildings. One injury from flying debris. Funnel skipped northeastward and struck Konawa cutting about a 3 block wide path of destruction across the city through the main business district. About 150 homes and 40 business firms were destroyed or damaged. Seven persons were injured in Konawa. The tornado next skipped with only spotted evidence to Nowata where about 75 houses were damaged in a path 2 1/2 blocks wide and 11 blocks long. Several farmsteads were damaged and 2 persons were injured when their car was picked up off the highway about 6 miles west of Wetumka. Several farmsteads, homes and utility lines were damaged southeast of Fairbairn northwest of Henryetta, where one injury was reported, and south of Schuler where the funnel evidently lifted.</p>													
Shawnee, 9 miles west, Pottawatomie County	17	7:00 p.	?	?	0	1	4	0		Tornado			
<p>Several farmsteads, homes, and a paint factory were damaged in a path from 9 miles west to 4 miles northwest of Shawnee. Woman received hand injury.</p>													
Marshall, Bryan and Atoka Counties	17	8:00 p.	?	?	0	0	2	0		Hail, wind, rain			
<p>Severe thunderstorm with walnut-sized hail, 60 miles per hour winds and heavy rain moved across southern and eastern Marshall County, northwest Bryan County and southern Atoka County. The only damage reported resulted to a few broken windows.</p>													
Idabel, McCurtain County	17	10:17 p.			0	0	0	0		Funnel aloft			
<p>Highway Patrol reported funnel aloft east of Idabel.</p>													
OREGON													
Most of State	8-10								3	several	6	4	Heavy Rains
<p>Heavy rains entire State caused particularly damaging floods, slides, farm land erosion west of Cascades. Most flooding occurred in tributary areas of coastal, Willamette and Umpqua rivers. Points on two major highways, scores of secondary roads closed by high water, slides. One combination mail-passenger train derailed by slide which pushed locomotive into Columbia River 25 miles east of Portland, 4 persons injured. Approximately 200 families evacuated their homes, in most cases proved to be only a precautionary measure. Three deaths resulted - two from drowning, one from heart attack during evacuation. Number sheep drowned in low lying pastures; heavy losses due to damaged bridges, roadbeds; changes in river channels, destroyed considerable farm land, washed away several buildings. Combination saturated soils, flooding brought down many power, telephone poles interrupting utilities service to thousands of customers. Some plants closed by high water, business establishments, homes suffered considerable flood damage in towns of North Albany, Turner, Sutherlin, Drain; to a lesser degree in several others along tributary streams.</p>													
Western, Central Oregon	23-24				0	0	6	3					Wind
<p>Fairly strong winds over most of State, but reached serious damaging proportions western, central portions of State. Officially reported gusts to 70 mph at Eugene, 63 at Medford; unofficially recorded to over 100 mph at coastal points. Hundreds of trees blown down which at various times blocked 5 major highways, scores of secondary roads; seriously damaged at least 20 cars, dozen or more homes; brought down large numbers of telephone, power lines and poles causing whole communities to be without service for up to 10 hours in some cases. Roofs of hundreds of homes, several schools and business establishments blown off or badly damaged. Many barns demolished, contents damaged; at least 5 airplanes - 4 at Medford, 1 at Florence severely damaged on ground. Hotel at Caryville nearly destroyed by falling trees.</p>													
PENNSYLVANIA													
State-wide	3-4	A.M. of 3rd to P.M. of 4th							15	6	5		Snowstorm
<p>The one to two feet of new snow deposited by the storm nearly paralyzed transportation facilities in all sections. Strong winds piled the snow into drifts up to ten feet high. Numerous minor auto accidents were reported, in which 6 persons were injured. All of the reported deaths were due to over-exertion while shoveling snow. Numerous garage and carport roofs caved in, due to the weight of the snow. In Glaysburg a theater roof also collapsed under the excessive snow accumulation.</p>													
Johnstown Area	8	Throughout Day										4	Snowstorm
<p>A 17-inch snowfall on top of 20 inches that fell on the 3rd and 4th collapsed the roof of a theater and damaged two adjoining buildings.</p>													
Southeastern Counties	26	Daylight Hours										4	Windstorm
<p>Strong, gusty winds of 40 to 60 mph toppled a number of trees over a wide area. This in turn disrupted electric and telephone service for a time in a few communities.</p>													
PUERTO RICO													
None reported													
RHODE ISLAND													
	4	Entire Day							1	1	5	0	Wind and Snow
<p>Severe near blizzard with snowfalls of 13 to 20 inches disrupted all transportation. High liquid content of snow combined with excessive winds to produce general power failures many sections. Drifts of 7 to 15 feet everywhere. One death from freezing in snowbank recorded in Exeter. In Block Island this was worst winter storm since beginning of records in 1861. Sustained winds 65 mph with gusts to 80 mph combined with 17 inches of wet snow to cause general power failures throughout the island.</p>													
SOUTH CAROLINA													
Entire state	3-4												Gleze
<p>There were snow flurries and sleet. Public service and transportation were occasionally interrupted. Many schools were closed. Gleze was strongest in northern areas but substantial ice occurred as far south as Sullivan's Island in Charleston County.</p>													
Western and Central South Carolina	24	6:30 p.-midnight							4		4		Wind and rain
<p>A squall line, moving northeastward, appears to have been the cause of an airplane crash in Aiken County in which 4 people lost their lives. Basement and low area flooding was widespread in metropolitan Columbia from overflowing ponds and local lakes.</p>													

See reference notes at end of table.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

FEBRUARY 1961

PLACE	DATE	TIME	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM	PLACE	DATE	TIME	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS							KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
SOUTH CAROLINA (Cont'd.)										VERMONT									
Jackson, Aiken County	24	6:30 pm	1/3 to 1/2 mi.	50-75	0	5	4	0	Tornado	Statewide	1-3	—	—	—	0	0	4	0	Prolonged severe cold
New Ellenton, Aiken County	24	7-7:15 pm	1/3 - 1/2 mi.	50	0	0	3	0	Tornado	These were last 3 days of one of the longest enduring periods of severe cold on record, that began on January 18th, in all parts of the state. In northern sections daily minima were persistently below zero and frequently far below. Readings in southern sections were nearly as low. Throughout the state, daily maxima remained below freezing and mostly much below. In general instances the mercury remained near or below zero for more than 48 hours. The prolonged severe cold sent frost deep into streets and other cleared areas. Resulting freezing and bursting of water mains and connections reached record proportions by the 4th in many communities.									
Woodford, Orangeburg County	24	8:00 pm	1/2 mi.	35	0	0	1	0	Tornado	Southeast and extreme south	4	Most of day	—	—	0	0	3	0	Heavy snow
South Carolina	25	all day					4	0	High winds	Storm yielded 10 to 22 inches with heaviest amounts in extreme south. Traffic slowed and schools closed in many communities. Mail deliveries curtailed. Some power losses reported.									
SOUTH DAKOTA										Northern half of state									
General	1	All Day			2	1			Snow	Storm yielded 10 to 22 inches with heaviest amounts in extreme south. Traffic slowed and schools closed in many communities. Mail deliveries curtailed. Some power losses reported.									
TENNESSEE										U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS									
Newport, Cocke County	25				0	0	4	0	Wind	None reported									
TEXAS										VIRGINIA									
West Texas	4-6				1	0	0	0	Snow	Statewide	3	—	—	—	4	?	?	—	Snow, sleet and glaze
Sutton County	5-6				0	0	0	4	Snow	New snowfalls ranging 2 inches in south to 13 inches in Shepandoah Valley blanketed the state. Freezing rain and sleet added an icy covering throughout the southern half of the state to produce hazardous driving and traffic was hampered or at a standstill throughout the state.									
Kenedy Earns County	5	10:10 a. - 11:00 a.	50	*10	0	0	3	0	Wind	Richmond Area	23	6:30 A.M.	—	—	0	0	4	0	Heavy rains
Nueces County	5	9:40 a. - 9:41 a.	1/4	15	0	0	3	0	Tornado	Scattered thunderstorms over central Virginia gave off localized amounts of rain 1.25 to 1.75 inches within an hour and caused flash flooding in Richmond's West End and Lakeside sections, flooding foundations of some homes and buildings.									
Houston Harris County	16	5:00 p.	?	?	0	0	5	0	Wind	Western Half of State	25-26	—	—	—	2	?	?	?	High winds and rain
Bell County	16				1	0	0	0	Flooding	A moderate squall line crossed the state afternoon and evening of 25th and very high westerly winds followed through the night and early the 26th. Gusts in excess of 40 miles per hour were common in western and northern counties and Roanoke reported one gust to 85 miles per hour. Many buildings were damaged and numerous farm buildings destroyed, mostly in western and northern counties. Several mobile homes were overturned. Widespread interruptions of power and communications resulted because of trees blown down across lines. Thunderstorm convective caused some flash flooding in scattered western counties and both deaths listed were attributed to rain and flash flooding, one a traffic accident, the other by drowning.									
Fort Bend County	18	4:00 p.							Funnel aloft	WASHINGTON									
South Plains	20-21				0	0	5	0	Snow	Western	18-21								5 Heavy precipitation
UTAH										WEST VIRGINIA									
									None reported	Northern mountains and eastern panhandle									
										Southern counties									
										8									Heavy snowfall
										9	A.M.				1				Glaze
										25									Wind shift with line squalls crossed the State from west to east mid-day with the following reported damage:

See reference notes at end of table.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

FEBRUARY 1961

PLACE	DATE	TIME	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED ¹ DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
WEST VIRGINIA (Cont'd.)									
Oak Hill, Fayette Co.	1	P.M.	3	100	0	0	5	None	Tornado - followed by heavy rain and snow
									Funnel, seen by Mr. Elbert Kincaid, St. Clair Avenue, moved from SSW toward NNE bringing snow 4 to 6" and freezing temperatures. Rosedale Elementary School was completely destroyed. Trees, 2 to 4 ft. diameter, uprooted; roofs uplifted, antennas ripped, telephone and electric power service disrupted. Small house was moved from off foundation. Icy highways caused several accidents.
Barbour, Braxton, Wood, Doddridge, Greenbrier, Lewis, Preston, Randolph, Taylor, Tucker and Webster counties									Trees blown over blocking roads; power and telephone service disrupted and roofs destroyed.
Beckley, Raleigh Co.						1			Power lines blown down and one person injured when tree fell on her.
Clarksburg, Harrison Co.									Telephone Company reported water in cables - 1500 telephones out of service.
Fairmont, Marion Co.									Power line set roof of house afire.
Charleston, Kanawha Co.									Damage to plate glass windows and buildings.
Pocahontas County									Barns blown down killing sheep and few cattle.
WISCONSIN									None reported
WYOMING									None reported

- * Miles instead of yards.
- ¹ Includes crop damage.
- C 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.

Note: This publication 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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