

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LUTHER H. HODGES, Secretary

WEATHER BUREAU

ROBERT M. WHITE, Chief

# STORM DATA

NOVEMBER 1963

Volume 5 No. 11



ASHEVILLE: 1963

# STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

NOVEMBER 1963

PLACE	DATE	TIME	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
ALABAMA			None	reported					
ALASKA			No report received by printing headline						
ARIZONA									
Tuma	1	1:30 p.	5	4,000	0	0	3	3	Hail
			Hailstones ranging in diameter from 1/4 to 7/8 inch caused property damage to airplanes and automobiles and some damage to citrus trees.						
ARKANSAS			None	reported					
CALIFORNIA									
Southern California Coastal Counties	19-20				0	6	5	0	Wind and rain
			Strong winds and heavy rain downed hundreds of trees, disrupted utility lines, caused local flooding, and resulted in numerous automobile accidents.						
COLORADO			None	reported					
CONNECTICUT									
Southern Sections	30	5:00 a.-10:00 a.			0	0	5	0	Wind and tide
			An intense extratropical cyclone, moving rapidly through southeastern New York into central Vermont, caused southerly and westerly winds with gusts up to 70 mph to coincide with astronomical high tides during the morning of November 30. Flooding along the coast was severe and was greatest at the eastern end of the State. Over much of the coast from Fairfield to the Rhode Island border, docks were inundated and broken, boats were submerged, and seaside cottages were washed by winds and waves which broke upon the shores at heights up to 20 feet. Beach erosion was common in eastern sections. Trees were uprooted by the high winds and some power shortages occurred.						
DELAWARE			None	reported					
FLORIDA									
Punta Gorda, A N.E. Charlotte Co.	10	8:15 am	1	25	0	2	5		Tornado
			Tornado moved from south to north through a residential area known as Harbour Heights and inflicted major damage to four residences and minor damage to several other nearby residences.						
Wabassee Indian River Co.	10	1:00 pm	Short	Narrow	0	0	*3	0	Tornado
			Tornado moved from southwest to northeast and then out to sea. Reports indicate 10 residences sustained varying degrees of damage. A number of citrus trees were uprooted along storm path.						
Fahoksee Palm Beach Co.	10	2:20 pm	Short	Narrow	0	0	3		Tornado
			Tornado touched ground briefly in schoolyard and destroyed bleacher seats on one side of football field. A number of trees were uprooted along the southwest to northeast path. No homes were affected by the storm.						
Pine Island Center Lee Co.	29	3:15 am			0	0	3		Wind
			Strong gusty winds accompanying thunderstorm completely unroofed one building and uprooted a number of trees in a small area around the Pine Island Center.						
GEORGIA			None	reported					
HAWAII			None	reported					
IDAHO									
Southern Sections (scattered points)	6	Early a.m.					4		Wind, snow
			Cold front entered State from west shortly after midnight, moved beyond eastern border by late afternoon. Machine shed, garage, truck, oil storage tanks badly damaged by wind on two farms near Indian Valley (Washington County) about 2 a.m.; some damage also reported in Canyon County, near Melba. About 6:30 a.m., wind whipped power lines in Oakley area, causing outages over wide area. Later in day trees were uprooted and power lines broken in Idaho Falls area. Most of eastern Idaho above 5000 ft. received first substantial snow of season with reported depths up to 4 inches.						
ILLINOIS									
Winnebago County	17	1:25 p.			0	0	?	?	Hail
			Hail 1 inch diameter reported 3 NW Durand (15 NW Rockford Airport)						
Cook County	17	7:45 p.			0	0	?	?	Hail
			Hail 1 inch diameter reported at Des Plaines						
Madison County	17	9:25 p.			0	0	?	?	Hail
			Boeing 707 reported landing lights knocked out by heavy hail 15 NW St. Louis Lambert Field						
INDIANA			No report received by printing headline						
IOWA			None	reported					
KANSAS									
Hasilton and Greeley Counties	21	5:20 p.-5:40 p.	25	20 to 100				3	Tornado
			Funnel formed in north central Hasilton County and touched ground first 1/2 mile east of highway 27 and 1 1/2 miles south of the county line. It came to earth several times in its north-northeast path and terminated about 3 miles north and 9 miles east of Tribune. It was attended by a loud roar. No farmsteads were hit.						
West Central Counties from Russell and Ellis counties south through Kiowa County	21	Late evening							Hail and wind
			A late evening thunderstorm developed several rather severe cells with local hail in Russell and Kiowa counties and a damaging wind in Ellis County.						
KENTUCKY			None	reported					
LOUISIANA									
Vermilion Parish	5	5:15 a.-5:17 a.	?	?	0	1	2	0	Tornado
			Moving from S to N, one funnel, illuminated by lightning, touched ground 600 ft. from oil rig in West Cadeyan "Klondike" oil field. Did minor damage; to avoid being sucked up by tornado winds, diamond bit operator grabbed steam pipe and received minor hand burns.						
New Orleans Area	5-7	Late evening; early morning							Fog
			Heavy early morning fog halted or retarded traffic; Veterans Highway and Causeway Boulevard roadblocks established; Mississippi River ship and barge movements halted; airports closed to incoming airplanes; Jefferson Downs discontinued night races (5th) when visibility was reduced.						
Southeast Division	8				0	0	0	6	Heavy rain, wind
			In some areas heavy rain and strong winds lodged up to 60-80% of sugar cane, mostly heavier varieties, leaving lighter barreled varieties standing. Harvesting costs increased; up to 15-25% of crop in field will not be harvested.						
Southeast Division	9						3		Heavy rain, wind
			Heavy rains and high winds along Gulf Coast. Thunderstorms, with gusts to 67 m.p.h. (Burrwood), hit near the mouth of the Mississippi River. Some minor flooding outside of New Orleans.						
Northern Division	22	a.m. hrs.			0	0	3	0	Turbulence
			Rapidly moving cold front, preceded by thunderstorms, rain, and near gale winds in northeast Louisiana. Some telephone poles and trees downed in Caddo Parish, several roofs damaged. In Winn Parish, home hit by lightning and burned.						
Caddo Parish	22	9:30 a.	3	300	0	0	3	0	Tornado
			Thirty NW Shreveport, thunderstorm brought gusts of wind and heavy rain. Accompanying small tornado, 2 E Vivian, damaged or unroofed four houses, uprooted trees, knocked down garages and outhouses.						
Natchitoches Parish	30								Dry spell
			Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service declared Natchitoches Parish a drought disaster area.						
MAINE									
Statewide	2				0	0	4	0	Wind, storm tide
			Southerly gales, heavy rains and a 15 ft. tide in the Portland area caused widespread but generally minor damage over the state. In Aroostook County, wind felled trees took down utility lines. The late morning tide at Portland was 4 ft. above normal, covering waterfront areas with up to a foot and a half of water. At Blue Hill, a gas line leading into a home was struck by lightning during a brief thunderstorm.						
Statewide	6-8				0	0	5	0	Wind, rain, surf
			Northeast gales along the coast and in southwestern portion of the state and general heavy rains amounting to 2 to more than 7 inches caused widespread but mostly minor damage. In most instances damage resulted from local flooding of streets and cellars, minor flooding along river banks, and from the heavy surf especially along the southwest coast. In the more northern areas, flood damage was minimized or avoided when rain changed to snow. Wind damage included broken tree limbs, smashed windows, downed signs, and bent or broken antennae.						
Coastal and South	29-30				2	3	6	0	Wind, surf
			Storm winds gusted to from 60 to more than 70 m.p.h. At Portland the maximum gust was 76 m.p.h. from the south early on the 30th. Tides increased by up to 4 to 5 ft. above normal with a raging surf. Coastal installations were battered, trees and branches were felled taking utility lines down with them. A sea wall at Cape Elizabeth was pounded to pieces and a wharf at Portland was smashed by a work barge torn adrift. Many other boats were torn from their moorings and grounded or swamped. Two brothers among 5 passengers in a car were killed when a large tree limb crashed down on the car. The other 3 passengers were injured, one seriously. The fury of the storm buckled a big granite block breakwater at Squirrel Island in the Boothbay Harbor area, hardest						

See reference notes at end of table.

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PLACE	DATE	TIME	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
MAINE (Cont'd.)									
									hit by the storm. The coastal areas of 8 coastal counties were later declared disaster areas by the Small Business Administration. Storm rainfall mostly one to two inches over state. Some totals near three inches in southwest section, where some local flooding of underpasses, etc., occurred.
MARYLAND									
Statewide	6-7				4	0	4	0	Rain and Wind
									Many traffic accidents, including four fatalities, were reported during rain, heavy at times, and wind from storm moving up from the Carolinas. Also there were reports of property damage, blocking of roads and interrupted telephone and power service by fallen trees and minor flooding.
MASSACHUSETTS									
Coastal area	7-8				0	0	5	0	Wind, rain, electrical
									Northeast storm lashed coastal areas with gale force winds, heavy rain and thunderstorms. High seas pounded the coastline. Many small boats were swamped. Several craft including a large cabin cruiser were torn from their moorings and smashed against the rocks. Many streets and cellars were flooded. Along the North Shore wind felled trees and large limbs took down utility lines, and thunderstorms occurred in several communities. A house in Salem was struck and damaged extensively by lightning. Heavy rain occurred throughout the state.
State	29-30				1	0	6	0	Wind, surf, rain
									A center of extremely low barometric pressure moved northward early on the 30th near the western Massachusetts border. Resulting southerly gales battered the entire state with widespread cases of windows broken, trees down, utilities out, chimneys toppled, signs and aeriaks damaged, and cars crushed by falling trees and chimneys. These were most numerous in the eastern portion. The strongest wind was recorded also in the east, with Cape Cod getting steady winds up to 60 m.p.h. with gusts of hurricane force. At Woods Hole and at Chatham 80 m.p.h. was reported. At Gloucester, 10-ton granite blocks, set 70 years ago in Dogbar breakwater, were dislodged to create a 40-foot gap in the harbor structure. Greatest wind damage was along Cape Cod's south shore where many boats were grounded or smashed. One life was lost at Chatham, from a small boat. Much damage to shore and harbor installations on south shore due to storm surge tides much higher than normal and a heavy surf. Some streets reported flooded to depth of three feet. Many homes flooded and families evacuated. At Bourne 20 families were evacuated. At Chelsea also, 30 families were evacuated from flooded homes. The Taunton River, due to storm surge and heavy rain, rose to 5 feet above normal high tide, flooding lowlands and many buildings. At Dighton 10 families were evacuated by boat. A heavy concentration of damage was in the greater New Bedford area, where unofficial reports indicated flooding by tides up to 8 feet above normal. In this area, 25 Mattapoisett homes were a total loss, with others damaged. Warham's business section was two feet under water. Storm rainfall, on the 29th and 30th, totaled generally one to two inches except some less than one inch on Cape Cod and also many stations with up to three inches or more in the east-central and north-eastern sections of the state. Heavy rain flooded underpasses, stalled cars, and caused very hazardous driving conditions. Some flooding also due to clogged drains and sewers. Many inland cellars also flooded in areas with heaviest rainfall.
MICHIGAN									
Lake Leelanau	1	4:20 p.							Funnel aloft
									Funnel aloft observed over Lake Leelanau.
Southern Lower Michigan	17	4:30 p. - 11:30 p.					5		Thunderstorms with high winds, hail and heavy rains
									Hail ranging up to golf ball size caused wide spread damage to buildings, homes and cars. Heavy window damage reported to greenhouses, stores and homes due to hail. Heavy rains flooded basements and caused considerable damage. Roads and streets suffered damage also due to flooding. Power service disrupted to many homes due to high winds and lightning. High winds felled many trees with resultant damage to homes, buildings, and cars. Several lightning induced fires damaged buildings and homes.
Entire State	22	8:00p., 23 22nd - 4:00 a., 23rd					5		High winds
									High winds up to 60 mph caused wide spread damage throughout the entire area. Numerous trees, TV antennas, and power lines blown down with heavy damage reported to buildings and homes. Many large store windows and picture windows in homes blown in and broken. Store awnings blown down and damaged. Falling trees and limbs blocked streets and roads and damaged buildings, homes, and cars. Small light aircraft at several airports blown over and seriously damaged.
MINNESOTA									None reported
MISSISSIPPI									
Central Division	22	4:24 p.							Turbulence aloft
									Pilot reported extreme turbulence east of Jackson. Unable to control Convair 34.
MISSOURI									None reported
MONTANA									None reported
Great Falls, Cascade County	27	2 PM	7	7	0	1	0	0	Wind
									High gusty winds broke the top from a tree which in falling struck and injured a woman.
NEBRASKA									None reported
NEVADA									None reported
NEW HAMPSHIRE									
Coox County	7-8				0	0	3	0	Rain
									Torrential rains washed out two North Country roads in the southern part of the county and threatened the bridge over the Ammonoosac River in Twin Mountain as the river rose about a foot an hour and finally crested only six feet below the bridge.
Statewide	29-30				0	0	4	0	Wind
									High winds gusting to hurricane velocities in some areas lashed many parts of the state. State Police reported 90 m.p.h. gusts at Franconia Notch. Extremely hazardous driving conditions were created when some trees and many branches were knocked onto rain slicked roads. Most extensive damage was reported at beach fronts along the coast where wind and waves pounded cottages, wharves and small boats. Power and phone outages were widespread. Associated storm rainfall totaled about one inch or more over most of the state but up to nearly three inches near the coast. Some local flooding of underpasses, etc., in southeastern section.
NEW JERSEY									None reported
NEW MEXICO									None reported
NEW YORK									
New York City and Long Island	6-7	Both days					5		Heavy rain, wind
									Storm producing from 3.5 to 4.5 inches of rain caused widespread flooding of New York City boroughs and shore areas of Long Island. Street and highway flooding with some 3 feet of water was at peak during morning rush hours of 7th. Thousands of cars and buses stalled and/or abandoned on approaches to New York City. Tides 2 to 4 feet above normal and accompanied by winds up to 55 mph, caused considerable beach erosion on Long Island. Winds also wrought damage to power lines and trees; stone windows broken by wind at New Rochelle, Westchester County. Power and telephone outages at various times during storm. Storm total of 4.28 inches at New York City heaviest since August 1955. Precipitation also ended six weeks of very deficient rainfall in this and other areas of state.
New York City and Long Island	29-30	a.m. of 29th - late p.m. of 30th			2		4		Heavy rain, wind
									Second storm of same type (northeaster) to hit area in less than four weeks. Rains of 1.5 to somewhat over 2.0 inches produced severe flooding in boroughs of New York City and western half of Long Island. Worst flooding occurred during evening rush hours of 29th in contrast to morning rush hours in storm of 6-7th. Winds reached velocities of 50 mph. and tides 3 feet above normal caused considerable beach erosion on Fire Island and shore area flooding. Man blown off boat and drowned in sea. Another person killed when struck by car during period of heavy rain. Some wind damage to power lines and trees. Barometric pressure at New York City dropped to 28.70 inches (sea level) on the 30th which approached lowest pressure of record, 28.38 inches.
NORTH CAROLINA									
Wayne, Wilson Counties	6	early evening			0	0	4	0	Wind
									Wind blew down a commercial greenhouse and parts of a building under construction.
North Carolina	29						See remarks	5	0
									Wind, Rain, Snow, glaze
									Vigorous low pressure storm caused foul weather over entire state. Numerous occurrences of minor wind damage to signs, barricades, etc. Several automobile accidents partially attributable to weather, with at least one fatality.
NORTH DAKOTA									None reported
OHIO									None reported

See reference notes at end of table.

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
<b>OKLAHOMA</b>									
Northeast Oklahoma	16	Mid-day			0	0	?	?	Wind
			Southerly winds gusting to more than 50 MPH caused widespread light damage across area. High-voltage lines were blown down 1.5 miles east of Barnstall, Osage County, with erupting grass fire burning several hundreds of acres of grass and damaging fences across five farms. High winds necessitated 100 firefighters and 13 hours to halt the fire. Several homes in Tulsa, Tulsa County, received damages to shingles, while a parked car in Henryetta, Okmulgee County, was damaged heavily when blown into the side of a house.						
Healdton, EN Carter County	19	10:20a.-10:30a.	1/4	20	0	0	2	0	Tornado
			A small tornado destroyed a garage and damaged a house roof and trees at a home just north of the Comanche "T" north of Healdton. Some electrical lines were also downed.						
Drake, Murray County	19	12:00 N.-12:08p.	1	3/4	0	0	?	?	Tornado
			Small tornado struck several times along a path that moved northeast. One barn and other outbuildings were destroyed, a cemetery fence was downed, and trees severely damaged.						
Ralston, Pawnee County	22	2:10a.	Short	Narrow	0	0	0	0	Tornado
			Nearby residents saw a small tornado in an open field at the south edge of Ralston. It was sighted by the Ralston Police in its later stage as it was pulling back into the clouds.						
Vinson, Harmon County	22	Near 7:30 p.m.	Short	Narrow	0	0	0	0	Hail
			Cooperative Weather Observer reported hail up to three-fourths-inch size fell briefly in area. No damage reported.						
<b>OREGON</b>									
None reported									
<b>PACIFIC AREA</b>									
None reported									
<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>									
None reported									
<b>PUERTO RICO</b>									
None reported									
<b>RHODE ISLAND</b>									
Coastal Sections	29-	6:00 p., 29th - 10:00 a., 30th			0	0	5	0	Rain, wind, tide
			An intense extratropical cyclone moved rapidly through south-eastern New York into central Vermont on the morning of November 30. It was preceded by strong south-southeasterly winds and flooding rains of 1 3/4 to 3 1/2 inches during the night of November 29-30 when the tide was low and was accompanied by southerly and southwesterly gale force winds during the astronomical high tides on the morning of November 30. Peak gusts of 68 mph at Providence and 85 mph at Block Island were recorded. Tides only a few inches lower than the tides measured during hurricane Donna in 1960 were observed. The resultant flooding was severe with streets and highways inundated in most coastal areas. Beaches were pounded by 20 foot waves and fishing boats and yachts were hurled onto docks and shores. Beachfront cottages were flooded or damaged and some were evacuated. Power was knocked out in several communities and a number of plate glass windows and signs were destroyed by the force of the wind.						
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b>									
None reported									
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA</b>									
None reported									
<b>TENNESSEE</b>									
Memphis, Shelby County	5	4:30 p.	?	?	0	0	0	0	Hail
			3/4 inch hail was reported in Parkway Village as a thunderstorm moved east-southeastward across the area.						
<b>TEXAS</b>									
Near Woodsboro Refugio County	8	11:00 a.	1	50	0	1	4	0	2 Tornadoes, funnels aloft
			One tornado was first observed about 8 miles southeast of Woodsboro. It moved from southeast toward the northwest before dissipating about 4 miles northwest of Refugio. The violent funnel touched ground, destroying one farm house, then moved about 5 miles and destroyed another farm house and an attached garage. Several power lines were blown down, as well as several trees. One person was injured in one of the farm houses destroyed. About 1:00 p.m., another tornado touched ground in a brush area at the west city limits of Woodsboro but caused no damage. Several funnels aloft were observed in the area that did not touch ground.						
W Coliad Coliad County	8	1:00 p.	?	?	0	0	?	?	Tornado, funnel aloft
			A twin-funneled tornado demolished two sheds on a farm about four miles west of Coliad on the Kennedy Highway. Apparently one large funnel touched ground, while the second funnel remained aloft. Trees were splintered and a barn damaged on a near by farm. There were no injuries.						
<b>TEXAS (Cont'd)</b>									
Fort Arthur Jefferson County	9	Morning	?	?	0	0	?	?	Windstorm
			Wind gusts measured up to 60 miles per hour blew out several plate glass windows and broke off tree limbs in Fort Arthur shortly after midnight, on the morning of the 9th. About 4:00 p.m., several boats were blown loose from their moorings and damaged at Sabine Pass and Fort Arthur. At Fort Arthur, the fishing vessel Iowa sank about 4:00 p.m. at its dock.						
NNW College Station Robertson County	17	3:17 p.							Funnel aloft
			Funnel cloud moved eastward, then went back into cloud.						
Spanish Fort Montague County	19	10:00 a.	?	100	0	0	?	0	Tornado
			A small tornado overturned a trailer house and destroyed or damaged several small out buildings. There were no injuries. Up to three inches of rain accompanied the storm.						
Muenster Cooke County	19	?	?	?	0	0	?	?	Tornado
			A tornado touched ground west of Muenster and moved northeastward to the Marysville Community, causing minor damage to at least ten farm homes along its path. There were no injuries. The worst damage occurred on the Henry Pells Sr. farm where two poultry houses and a garage were destroyed, a barn damaged, and several windows broken in the farm house.						
<b>UTAH</b>									
None reported									
<b>VERMONT</b>									
State	29-30				0	0	3	0	Wind
			A center of unusually low barometric pressure moved northward through the state on the 30th, producing a new record low barometer reading for November at the Burlington observatory. Associated winds reached gale force in the southern portion and caused instances of local wind damage, mostly by falling trees and limbs. Rain began on the 29th with storm totals varying from only about one-half inch in the western portion to about one inch or more in the eastern portion.						
<b>U.S. VIRGIN IS.</b>									
None reported									
<b>VIRGINIA</b>									
Stuarts Draft, Augusta County	29	2:15 to 2:30 PM	?	?	0	0	4	0	Tornado
			Tornado observed just east of Stuarts Draft on the road leading to Sherando about 10 miles southeast of Staunton. New house under construction nearly leveled with portions of roof carried 75 feet. Porch and roof of another house torn away. A few outbuildings and trees were uprooted in immediate vicinity. At the community of Stuarts Draft high winds and heavy rains occurred during this time with lightning seen and thunder heard earlier. Some minor wind damage also reported in the western and southwestern counties.						
<b>WASHINGTON</b>									
None reported									
<b>WEST VIRGINIA</b>									
None reported									
<b>WISCONSIN</b>									
None reported									
<b>WYOMING</b>									
None reported									

\* Miles instead of yards.  
<sup>1</sup> 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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