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STORM DATA

MARCH 1966

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ASHEVILLE: 1966

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

MARCH 1966

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
ALABAMA									
Pickens, Tuscaloosa County	3	7:30-8:15 p.m.	50	150	1	27	5	5	Tornado
			Tornado hit Vienna Community moved northeast through Benevola Community into Tuscaloosa County crossing Highway 82 between Coker and Bull Communities continuing northeast across Highways 171, 43, 69 and 47 disappearing near Lock 15 on Warrior River. About 20 houses were destroyed and 20 damaged. Six barns were demolished and about 15 damaged. Crop losses mainly to timber.						
Gardendale, Jefferson County	3	evening	short	narrow	0	2	4	0	Tornado
			Tornado dipped down in area demolishing one brick house and injuring 2 of the occupants. Seven other houses nearby were damaged.						
Fort Payne, DeKalb County	3	Night			0	0	4	0	Rain
			Over 4 inches of rain fell in a period of a few hours and caused flash flooding of portions of the city. Several houses and commercial buildings flooded to a depth of 2 or 3 feet. Five families evacuated.						
ALASKA									
None reported									
ARIZONA									
None reported									
ARKANSAS									
Jonesboro, Craighead County	4	11:00 a.			1	1	2	0	Wind
			Unusually strong surface winds following cold frontal passage blew down concrete block wall of building under construction fatally injuring one worker and slightly injuring another.						
CALIFORNIA									
None reported									
COLORADO									
Northeastern and East Central Plains	3	All day			0	0	4	0	Wind
			High winds which began late on the 2nd became more severe on the 3rd, and continued into the 4th. Cheyenne Wells reported 63 hours of high winds which continued there through to the 5th. Several highways were closed by blowing dust or blowing snow. Cars and trucks were forced off the icy highway by high wind near Everts. A light plane was overturned at Weld County Airport. There was extensive other minor damage to power lines, buildings, and fences. Wind gusts reached 43 mph at Denver, and there were unofficial reports from 50 to over 90 mph throughout the area.						
Eastern Plains	17	PM			0	0	4	0	Wind
			High winds caused extensive minor damage. A light plane was overturned at the Denver Airport. Wind gusts to 55 mph were recorded at Denver and 65 mph at Pueblo.						
Eastern Plains	22	PM & night			0	0	4	0	Wind, blowing snow
			High winds and blowing snow impeded traffic and closed highways over a wide area. Snowdrifts blocked highways in the north-eastern plains. Wind damage was widespread but mostly minor. Wind gusts to 47 mph were recorded at Denver and 66 mph at Pueblo.						
CONNECTICUT									
None reported									
DELAWARE									
None reported									
FLORIDA									
Winter Haven, Polk Co.	5	4:00 a.m.			0	0	3		Wind
			Strong squall winds affected small residential area in the Inwood community damaging roofs and carpents along Avenue J between N. W. 36th and 40th Streets.						
Miami Dade Co.	29	9:00 p.m.			0	0	4	0	Hail and Wind
			Three-quarter inch diameter hail, torrential rains and strong surface winds accompanied well developed thunderstorm as it passed over the Miami International Airport. Several parked aircraft, moved by the winds, collided and were damaged. Storm dumped 2.01 inches of rain in 15 minutes at Miami Airport to establish new all-time record 15 minute total for that station.						
GEORGIA									
Statewide	1-5				0	0	6	5	Rain and Wind
			Very heavy rains over most of the State caused widespread damage to roads, bridges, culverts, bottom farmland and other property. The rainy period extended from the last of February to March 5, with the heaviest amounts occurring in most areas on March 3-4. Every reporting station had more than an inch of rain during the period and nearly 9 inches fell in parts of middle Georgia. Flash flooding caused damage to houses, house trailers and business property in several areas and required the evacuation of numerous families. The worst flooding in 20 years was reported in Columbus where 235 people were forced from their homes. Although damage was reported in all parts of the State, it was heaviest in central, northwest and southwest sections. Several counties in these areas were declared disaster areas. Schools were closed in much of middle Georgia for one or more days because of damage to roads and bridges. Farmland was inundated and heavily eroded in many areas but crop damage was relatively light because few crops had been planted. The thunderstorms that swept over the State on March 3-4 caused some scattered wind damage. Gusts reached 65 knots at Athens.						
HAWAII									
None reported									
IDAHO									
None reported									
ILLINOIS									
Central Illinois	21	noon-4p			0	0	5	0	Hail
			Heavy thunderstorms with large hail moved completely across central Illinois during afternoon. Roofs were damaged, glass broken in houses and greenhouses, and cars dented. Hail stones often one to two inches in diameter frequently completely covered ground. Several automobile collisions were reported as dense fog formed rapidly over hail covered ground. Hail began in western Illinois about noon and generally ended in the east by 4 p.m. Some large hail fell later in northern Illinois. Hail from 3/4" to 2" diameter was reported in Adams, Rock Island, Mercer, Putnam, Ogle, La Salle, Cass, Menard, Logan, Cook, Piatt, Champaign, and Iroquois Counties.						
Whiteside County	21	2:40p	1/20	30	0	0	4	0	Tornado
			Observer reported seeing funnel cloud approach from the southeast and dip to ground in trailer court. One trailer was reported to have been lifted from ground and whirled around several times in air before being deposited against another trailer. Another trailer across the street was completely flattened as it was turned end over end. Movement was from south-southeast to north-northwest. Report by WBAS, Rockford.						
INDIANA									
Rensselaer	21	7:50 p. E.S.T.	?	?	0	0	2	0	Hail
			A severe thunderstorm moved east-northeast at about 40 miles an hour. Hail up to 3/4 inch diameter caused but slight damage. The storm cell was about 6 miles in diameter on radar and 5 to 10 miles north of Rensselaer at 7:35 p.m., E.S.T.						
Pine Village, near	22	3:15 - 3:30 p. E.S.T.	?	?	0	0	0	0	Hail
			One-half inch hail covered ground but damage slight. Radar plotted cell moving east-northeast at 40 m.p.h. and measured tops at 41,000 feet.						
IOWA									
Colesburg	17	7:15 p.					1	2	Lightning
Center Junction	17	10:15 p.						4	Lightning
Oskaloosa	21	12:15 p.						4	Hail
			1 1/2 inch diameter hail.						
Keota	21	12:30 p.						4	Hail
			1 1/2 inch diameter hail.						
3NW South English Keokuk County	21	1:00 p.	1	100				3	Tornado
North English	21	1:00 p.						4	Hail
			1 1/2 inch diameter hail.						
Columbus Junction	21	1:30 p.						3	Hail
			2 inch diameter hail.						
Bellevue	21	10:00 p.						3	Hail
			1 1/2 inch diameter hail.						
Charles City	22	1:00 p.						2	Hail
			Hail to 3/4 inch diameter.						
NW Third of Iowa	22-23				6		6		Blizzard
			Rain changed to sleet, glaze and snow evening 22nd. High winds, 35-40 mph, with gusts to 60-70 mph, downed power and communication lines and isolated the area.						
KANSAS									
Entire State	3-5				1	5	?	?	Wind
			An intense low pressure storm system produced strong winds, with gusts reaching 80 mph in some areas. Widespread damage occurred to television antennas, roofs, windows, signs, communications lines, etc. Some soil blowing and minor crop damage was reported, principally over central and western Kansas. One injury was sustained in Ellsworth County.						
Leavenworth, Leavenworth County	17	4:42 p.	?	?	0	0	?	0	Hail
			Hail up to 1" in diameter covered the ground.						
Wyandotte County	17	5:30 - 6:25 p.	?	?	0	0	?	0	Hail
			Hail 1" to 1-3/4" in diameter fell in the Kansas City, Kansas area.						
Elk County	17	6:00 p.	?	?	0	0	3	0	Hail
			Hail up to 1-1/2" in diameter fell south of Longton.						
Douglas County	21	10:30 p.	6	Narrow	0	0	3	0	Hail
			Hail up to 1-3/4" in diameter was reported from 4 mi. east to 10 mi. east of Lawrence.						

See reference notes at end of table.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA.

MARCH 1966

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
KANSAS (Cont'd.) Entire State	22				0	0	5	7	Blizzard, wind
A fierce blizzard raged over northwestern and portions of north-central and west-central Kansas; tearing down power and communications lines, blocking highways, and stranding numerous travelers. Strong winds occurred in other areas of the State, causing some damage to television antennas, signs, power and telephone lines, and buildings. Winds of 60 mph, with strong gusts, were reported over portions of western Kansas during the height of the storm.									
KENTUCKY			None reported.						
LOUISIANA Tensas Parish	3	3:00 p.m. 3:15	1	250	0	1	3	0	Tornado, funnel cloud aloft, hail
From Waterproof to Newellton hail fell, averaging 1 in., with some 1-1/2 in. diameter, but did not entirely cover the ground. Waterproof also reported heavy rain and strong winds. On Louisiana Highway 128, 1/2 W St. Joseph: utility poles and lines torn down. About 2-1/2 N St. Joseph: funnel cloud aloft observed but did not touch ground; no major damage but portion of tin roofs blown off and some large tree limbs downed. In a storm, reported moving from SW towards NE, one funnel descended parallel to U.S. Highway 65, cut swath, uprooting timber, crossed highway in NNE direction, vicinity Louisiana Highway 888, about 3 N Newellton. House blown down, barn destroyed; another home and barn damaged; one injury reported; power lines and poles damaged; back glass of automobile blown out. The rainfall was extremely heavy for about five minutes.									
MAINE State	5-6				0	0	0	0	Glaze
Glazing conditions produced icy surfaces in scattered sections of the state.									
MARYLAND			None reported						
MASSACHUSETTS State	1-2				0	0	6	0	Wind
Winds gusting to between 50 and 78 mph caused damage in all parts of the state. Roofs and walls of buildings, some fairly new and others in the process of construction, were smashed and toppled. In South Hadley two sections of a roof, each weighing about 1000 lbs., were blown about 100 feet from a building less than 6 months old. Numerous cars were damaged by falling bricks and debris. Falling trees took utility lines down with them and power lines occurred in many communities. In all sections the wind wrecked or damaged signs, TV antennas, windows, and chimneys. In Williamstown, the wind blew off the tops from some gas station pumps. In Boston, the top story of a 3-story building collapsed under pressure of the wind. Other instances of razed roofs and toppled walls were reported. Fallen branches and twigs littered streets and highways across the state.									
Fitchburg	1	about 2 p.m.	short	narrow	0	0	0	0	Dust-devil
Funnel-shaped dust devil rattled windows and doors and rocked cars but apparently did no damage. Pea-sized hail followed shortly.									
Adams	1		short	narrow	0	0	4	0	Dust-devil
Severe local storm, apparently a dust devil or miniature tornado, lifted a 40-foot long barn and dropped it atop a garage. Garage and auto were smashed. A horse in the barn was deposited in a nearby pasture, uninjured. Time of occurrence was at night, probably before midnight.									
MICHIGAN Southern One Third Lower Peninsula	22	2-10 a.			0	0	4	0	Electrical
Scattered thunderstorms and lightning caused considerable damage in Ottawa, Kent and Calhoun counties where two barns were destroyed, 6 heads of livestock killed, others injured and a radio station knocked off the air. Lesser damage occurred in other counties including partial destruction of a house by fire, burst water mains and some wind damage.									
Western Upper Peninsula	23-24	a.m. to p.m.			0	0	?	0	Blizzard
Remains of the very damaging Great Plains Blizzard moved into upper peninsula area dropping visibility to near zero. All schools in Marquette, Alger and Baraga counties closed for two days and industry and business came to a standstill as up to 25 inches of snow whipped by high winds plugged highways.									
MICHIGAN (Cont'd.) Monroe, Monroe County	30	p.m.			0	0	2	0	Lightning
Concussion from a bolt of lightning broke windows in eight houses, jarred hubcaps off a car, activated a burglar alarm and ripped out a 20-foot strip of bark on a tree before tearing a foot square hole in the ground. The bolt hit during a combination snow-hail-rain storm. Five minutes later, sun was shining again.									
MINNESOTA Northern, west central and upper central and east central divisions	2nd-5th				4	?	6	0	Blizzard
Snowfalls of over 2 feet and high winds paralyzed most of the region for up to 4 days. Although temperatures did not drop sharply, duration marks this as one of worst blizzards on record. Heart attacks while shoveling snow caused deaths at Moorhead and Park Rapids. At Warroad a man fell dead while wading through deep drifts. A woman froze to death near Bear River after leaving her stranded car. Unlike the Dakotas, Minnesota experienced little stock losses, apparently because state has large forest regions and this holds down drifting problem. The trees act as shelterbelts. Mink ranches near Warroad had losses due to heavy snow. At Hallock farmers forced to dump milk. Many radio and TV towers took severe damage from winds. Highway patrols set up road blocks much of region allowing only emergency trips with snowplows. Snowmobiles became usual means of transportation. At Crookston, police borrowed 10 snowmobiles and used them in place of squad cars for emergency runs. Many reports of snow causing roofs to cave in. In Duluth blizzard combined with ice storm. Heavily iced (up to 3 inches) power lines down throughout the city were tossed around streets by high winds. Other smaller towns in the area also without power most of 5th. The heavy snows set April stage for some of worst flooding in history along the Red River of the North and its tributaries as well as along the Mississippi River head waters.									
Duluth St. Louis County	10-11						4	0	Ice storm
Freezing rain and winds of over 40 mph caused power failures as ice formed on lines and cables. A number of schools closed. Glazed roads from Duluth to the Iron Range resulted in dangerous driving conditions.									
South of Line-Sioux Falls, S.D., to Cambridge.	22nd-24th				5	?	5	0	Blizzard
Storm spread from west to east beginning most areas with thunder-showers. (Lightning struck and badly damaged radio transmitter near Austin.) Showers changed quickly to wet snow and in some cases ice. Reports of ice accumulation over one inch. In extreme south and southeast, hundreds of telephone and power poles snapped under weight of snow and force of strong winds. Woman killed in Fairmont as a snow-heavy marquee fell. Four others died as direct result of storm. Hundreds stranded as about all travel stopped. In Twin Cities 13.6 inch, 24 hour snowfall third heaviest of record; 11.3" of this fell in 12 hours. Here University of Minnesota closed for first time in history because of weather. Almost all industry, schools, and businesses closed throughout storm region.									
MISSISSIPPI Chickasaw	3	Afternoon					1		Lightning
A 4 year old child killed by lightning near Houston.									
Alcorn	3	2:30 PM					4		Lightning
Fire caused by lightning caused extensive damage to house in Corinth.									
Monroe	3	Afternoon					2		Lightning
Cow killed by lightning near Aberdeen.									
Hinds, Leake, Scott, Neshoba, Rankin, Kemper	3	Late afternoon	200	900	57	504	7	6	Tornado
Tornado touched down South of Learned at about 4 PM, moved through Jackson and on ENE across Rankin, Scott, and Leake Counties, then skipped with brief touch downs in Neshoba and Kemper Counties, then came down for about 50 miles in Alabama. Total damage in Mississippi was about 18 million.									
Yellobusa	3	4 PM							Funnel Cloud
Pontotoc radio reported funnel cloud over Water Valley moving Northeastward.									
Jones	14	6 PM							Funnel Cloud
Funnel Cloud touched ground briefly - No important damage.									
MISSOURI Sturgeon, Boone County	17	9:45 PM					4		Thunderstorm
Damage to farm buildings on the west side of Sturgeon, and to several homes, power lines and trees in Sturgeon.									

See reference notes at end of table.

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MISSOURI (Cont'd.)										
Bethany, Harrison County and King City, Gentry County	17	5:45 PM 5:25 PM							Thunderstorm	
Near Kansas City	17	6:05-6:45 PM	Golf ball sized hail up to 1-3/4 inches in diameter.				4		Thunderstorms	
Kansas City, Clay and Jackson Counties	21	11:20 PM	Golf ball sized hail reported: 10 North Kansas City at 6:05 PM; near Municipal Airport at 5:25 PM; 10 SE Kansas City at 87th and Blue Ridge at 6:45 PM. Winds reported at 70 miles per hour. Wind damage reported near Antioch Shopping Center in Clay County.						Thunderstorm	
Rayville (Near), Ray County	21	11:30 PM	Hail 1-1/4 inch in diameter at Municipal Airport.						Thunderstorm	
Palmyra, Marion County	21		Hail 1-1/2 inch in diameter.						Thunderstorm	
DeKalb County	22	Afternoon	Hail 3/4 inch to 1 inch in diameter.				4		Thunderstorms	
Springfield (10 NE), Greene County	22	Evening	Several farm buildings damaged by straight line winds in the southern part of the county, to the south of Maysville. The following is quoted from a first hand survey of the storm area by a member of the staff of the Weather Bureau Airport Station in Springfield, Mo. "I found an apparent storm path about two miles in length near the community of Bassville. The storm occurred in open country with evidence that it was aloft much of the time. The first damage occurred at the W. Ferrel farm where a front porch was destroyed. It then skipped for about a quarter of a mile and destroyed a large springhouse on the Phillip Reitz farm, destroying two hog houses and picking up a third hog house and carrying it over a four-foot fence and leaving it upright. It then skipped about 1/2 to 3/4 of a mile to the Elmer Bridges farm where a machine shed with pole supports on the east side (the only open side) was lifted off its foundation and set down in a trailer and a manure spreader, with no damage to either the trailer or spreader. Then 1/4 mile north-east of the Bridges farm it destroyed a large barn on the C. E. Butler farm. The barn appeared to be twisted on its foundation. On the south side of the barn a concrete foundation about six inches thick and eight feet long was broken in half about one foot above the ground. The storm appeared to follow a path that varied from NE to NNE and after it left the Butler farm no additional damage could be found. Since the storm occurred shortly after 7:00 PM there were no eye witnesses to the storm. However, the Joe Easterly family that lived in the path of the storm reported that it sounded like a freight train as the storm passed over their house about 7:15 PM. Since there was no damage done it appeared that the storm was aloft at this time."	2		3		Tornado		
Strasburg, Cass County	22	4:00 PM	Wind damage to several sets of farm buildings just north of Strasburg.				4		Thunderstorm	
MONTANA										
NEBRASKA										
All sections	2-4		100 300*	1	?	6	?		Blizzard, damaging winds	
Most of state	22		300 350*	15	?	6	0		Near blizzard	
NEBRASKA (Cont'd.)										
									Deuel Counties east-northeastward. Traffic became paralyzed ten persons died in stalled cars, five died while walking for help. In addition, there were six "storm-related" deaths, a total of 21 lives lost in Nebraska.	
NEVADA										
None reported										
NEW HAMPSHIRE										
State	1-2					0	0	4	0	Wind
Westerly gales caused widespread damage across the state. Electrical power was the major casualty of the storm.										
State	5					0	0	0	0	Glass
Glasing conditions in scattered sections of state produced icy surfaces.										
NEW JERSEY										
None reported										
NEW MEXICO										
None reported										
NEW YORK										
See data at end of table										
NORTH CAROLINA										
Bladen County (Clarkton)	4	9 am	1/4	5	0	0	4	0	Small Tornado	
Lifted roof, damaged fixtures of knitting mill. Damaged roof of warehouse. Several parked autos damaged by debris. Pencil seen moving from southwest to northeast; roaring heard. Heavy rain.										
State	4-12							5	4	Rain, Floods
Heavy rains at end of February and again on March 4 set off flash-floods many areas scattered throughout state. Main rivers also overflowed banks as crests moved downstream. Several dozen homes in different areas had to be evacuated. Roads washed out. Some damage to lowland farms and pastures.										
Hertford and Wake Counties	19	3-6:30pm						3	3	Hail
Unusually heavy hail fell in the McCollers-Garner-Mendell areas of Wake County around 3 pm and near Ahoskie, Hertford County, about 6:30 pm. Accumulations up to four inches deep some areas. Stones 1/4 inch to an inch in diameter. Top early in season for much crop damage. Slight roof damage, auto paint marred, a few windows broken.										
There was little rainfall after the 4th, and serious forest fires broke out in several areas during dry, windy weather at the end of March.										
NORTH DAKOTA										
North Dakota - all portions except the extreme northwest	2-5					5	?	6	0	Blizzard
Snow began over the southern half of the state Wednesday morning, March 2, and spread northward by Thursday to all of North Dakota except the extreme northwest and north central portions. By Friday all parts of the state were under the influence of a severe blizzard except the three extreme northwestern counties which experienced high winds and dust storms but no snowfall.										
In some respects, this blizzard of 1966 can be considered one of the most severe in the history of the state. The legendary January 12, 1888 blizzard, which left at least 112 persons dead, lasted for 14 hours. The unusually severe blizzard of March 15, 1911, with 70 m.p.h. winds, crossed the state from northwest to southeast in only 7 hours, leaving 39 dead in eastern North Dakota, where the storm was most severe.										
In the 1966 storm, winds reported over 70 m.p.h. continued unabated for up to four days in some areas. Snowfall, reported as much as 38 inches in the northeastern part of the state, was piled into mountainous drifts 30 to 40 feet high in many places over the state. For the first time in the history of many towns, schools were closed, all business was suspended, newspapers failed to publish, and all forms of traffic came to a complete halt.										
Minimum temperatures during the blizzard were, in general, in the teens, with below zero temperatures not reported until Saturday and Sunday, after the blizzard had passed. This lack of severely low temperatures, which usually accompany such severe North Dakota blizzards, undoubtedly was partly responsible for the relatively few deaths which occurred directly as a result of the storm. Timely warnings, at least a day in advance of the storm; good dissemination; and modern communications undoubtedly all helped to keep the number of deaths to a minimum. No deaths could be ascribed to lack of warnings or forecasts, the cause of many deaths in earlier days.										
Five persons in North Dakota died due to some related effect of the storm. A six-year old girl of Strasburg, fully clothed for the outdoors, became separated from her two brothers when the children went from their home to a barn 60 feet away. She was found two days later a quarter of a mile from home, frozen to death.										

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NORTH DAKOTA (Cont'd.)									
									Another girl, age 12, of Woodworth, slipped out of the house to close a chicken-coop door. She was never again seen alive after she started back to the house about 100 feet away. Her frozen body was found the next day, half-a-mile from home.
									Three elderly men died as a result of heart attacks, probably brought on by overexertion. A 60 year old man in Linton died in his car after vainly trying to extricate it from a ditch into which it had skidded. A janitor was found inside a school where he had collapsed after shoveling snow from the walks. The third man, age 73, a farmer of Driscoll, was found frozen to death in his farm yard only a few yards from his home. Many minor injuries, directly related to the storm, occurred but none proved fatal.
									The loss in livestock was serious, with an estimated loss of 18,500 cattle, 7,500 sheep, and 600 hogs. On a farm in eastern North Dakota 7,000 turkeys perished. Many cattle suffocated in barns which became completely sealed in by huge snowdrifts. Pole barns, in which stock were herded before the storm struck collapsed, resulting in many dead and injured animals. The total loss of livestock was estimated at near \$1 million dollars.
									The continual high winds piled snow in corrals and feed lots. Cattle, in their milling around, trapped down and compacted the snow until the level of the snow became higher than the fence. The cattle then wandered off and perished in open fields.
									All transportation ceased by the second day of the storm. Three transcontinental trains were trapped in railway cuts and within a short time were nearly covered with rock-hard snow, which defeated all efforts to free the trains until after the storm ended. Five hundred passengers were trapped for a time. Automobile travel, even early in the storm, was prevented by the huge drifts and by near zero visibility which in Bismarck continued for 42 hours without any let-up.
									Power and telephone service were interrupted for up to several days in many areas, by the high winds and driven snow. Heavy drifts crushed sheds and aircraft hangars and many store windows were blown in. Snow was driven into attics and chimney vents were frozen, resulting in a number of cases of gas poisoning. Many all-time records for monthly snowfall for snowfall during one storm and for 24-hour snowfall were broken. The length of duration of the blizzard, particularly in the southern half of the state, set many records as did the length of zero and near-zero visibility conditions. The snow, which carried large quantities of dirt, was dubbed "smirt".
									This 1966 blizzard can therefore be considered as an all-time record blizzard for North Dakota for sustained severity, low visibilities, and amount of snowfall.
OHIO									
Cleveland	23	3:30 PM			0	13	5		Windstorm
									A line of moderate to heavy thunderstorms passed over the Cleveland area during mid-afternoon. Although there was a minimum of thunder and lightning, high winds, ripped the tops from three buildings, blew down a radio tower, downed utility lines, and did considerable damage of lesser nature. Masonry walls in the top floor of a factory building were blown down, debris crashing onto parked cars below. Most, if not all the destruction took place in western parts of Metropolitan Cleveland, including western suburbs. Strongest gusts reported at the Cleveland Hopkins Airport were 52 mph. Although no tornadoes were in evidence, there was an unconfirmed report about 5 PM of a waterspout about 15 miles west-northwest of Cleveland.
									As this line of thunderstorms progressed across the state, other instances of localized windstorm damage were reported from such widely-separated places as Galion, Lorain, Cincinnati, and New Philadelphia.
OKLAHOMA									
Entire state	3-5	Most Hours			0	0	5	0	Wind
									A cold front moving across the state during the early morning hours of the 3rd was followed through the 5th with strong gusty surface winds from the northwest mostly during the daylight hours. General scattered wind damage included downed drive-in theater screens at Alva and Arnett, and many damaged signs, traffic signals, car ports, power lines, trees, and TV antennas statewide. Wind-whipped grass fires burned over 3,000 acres near McAlester and destroyed two empty homes. Single homes were also destroyed at Seminole and near Stillwater. Blowing dust over much of the State reduced visibility to one mile in many areas and near one-fourth mile in the central part of the Panhandle at times. Peak gusts recorded were as follows: 3rd - Ardmore 50 MPH at 5:26 AM and McAlester 44 MPH at 12:58 PM; 4th - Enid 59 MPH at 10:18 AM, Clinton-Sherman Air Force Base 50 MPH at 12:45 PM, Hobart 46 MPH, Gage 63 MPH 2:55 PM, Ponca City 63 MPH at 11:58 PM; 5th - Oklahoma City 60 MPH at Noon, Blackwell 52 MPH, Stillwater 70 MPH near noon, Danan 62 MPH during afternoon, Tulsa Weather Bureau Airport Station 41 MPH at 5:50 PM and 10:00 PM, and Ardmore 55 MPH during day.
Osage, Payne, Lincoln, Creek, Tulsa, and Washington Counties	17	8:00p.-9:18p.			0	0	4	0	Wind and hail
									A line of thunderstorms moved eastward across the area with locally strong wind gusts recorded up to 80 MPH at the Chushing Civil Defense tower by 8:45 PM. Winds of 55 to 60 MPH were also measured by the Striplid Civil Defense at 9:05 PM. Individual storm
									cells moved northeastward with 1- to 2-inch size hail covering the ground 1 inch deep at Barmidall about 8:00 PM. A square mile path included damage to roofs and a greenhouse. Marble-sized hail also covered the ground 5 miles north of Cohelata. Hail up to three-fourths-inch size covered the ground 2 miles southeast of Oilton at 9:00 PM. Scattered hail elsewhere about 9:00 PM covered the ground at Sperry with one-inch size stones up to 1-3/4 inches deep. One-inch size hail also fell at Skiatook with up to 70 percent of the ground covered 2 miles east of the town. The Jenks-Bixby area received 3/4-inch size hail with about 30 percent of the ground covered. A few 1-inch size stones were reported at Sepulpa at 9:18 PM. Wind damage totaled \$12,000 and hail damage \$10,000.
									Entire state
	22	During Day			0	0	5	0	Wind
									Strong gusty surface winds across Oklahoma during the day resulted from the passage of a cold front which overtook and intensified another cold front that had entered the State only a few hours earlier. Blowing dust reduced visibility to a few miles in many parts of the State while gusty winds caused scattered damage to many communities. Several power lines were downed while shorted lines set grass fires and winds whipped other uncontrolled grass fires in Comanche, Stephens, Garvin, Oklahoma, Noble, Kay, and Creek Counties. Scattered fires in Osage, Washington, and Nowata Counties also blackened some 30,000 acres of grass land, burned two barns, miles of fence posts, and a \$16,000 stockpile of telephone poles. Other wind damage included two single-engine light planes, patio covers and roofs, broken plate glass windows, traffic signals, and numerous fences blown over. Maximum gusts recorded were: Ardmore Federal Aviation Agency 58 MPH at 3:00 PM, Blackwell 45 MPH at 3:10 PM, McAlester 65 MPH at 6:12 PM, and Oklahoma City Weather Bureau Airport Station 59 MPH at 7:55 PM.
McAlester, Pittsburg County	22	5:17p.-6:30p.	8-10	*2-3	0	0	5	0	Hail
									Few 3/4-inch size hail fell downtown. Roof damage to east by hail depth of 1 1/2 inches and some stones of 2- to 3-inch size.
OREGON									
Western, Central and Northeastern Oregon	1	Most of the day			0	10-20	4	3	Snow
									Snows of 1-6 inches on valley floors and central Oregon plateau, up to 12 inches on mountain highways produced very hazardous highway conditions. Numerous accidents resulted in several injuries but no known fatalities.
Western, North Central Oregon	8-10				0	3-4	5	4	Rain, Wind
									Heavy rains and high winds western Oregon, high winds north-central. Rainfall 24-hour totals of 3.5-7.0 inches in Coastal and Coast Range areas, 1.0-2.0 inches inland western valleys and west slopes of Cascades. Stream draining Coast Range rose rapidly, overflowing banks in some cases. Several roads, some schools closed. Low lying farm land flooded but generally flood damage not serious. High winds in north central Oregon caused substantial damage and few traffic accidents.
Western, North Central Oregon	15	Most of the day.			0	None Known	5	3	Wind
									High gusty winds along coast and extending inland in northern Oregon. Caused damage to roofs, outdoor signs, less substantial farm buildings. In some areas blowing dust created reduced visibility to near zero temporarily halting traffic. Numerous power, telephone service outages resulted. Five large ships held up outside the Columbia River bar for several hours until winds subsided sufficiently to permit its crossing.
Western, Central and Northeastern Oregon	21	Most of the day.			0	Unknown	5	3	Wind, Snow
									Snowfalls of 1-3 inches in Willamette Valley and Coastal area, 3-20 inches in central Oregon Plateau, Klamath Basin caused very hazardous driving. Sunset Highway closed for several hours. High winds in northern half of State broke windows, dropped many trees across power and telephone lines causing service interruptions, badly damaged hangar and 5 aircraft at La Grande.
PACIFIC AREA									None reported
PENNSYLVANIA State-wide	1	All day			1	7	5		Wind
									Strong winds with gusts to 60 mph unroofed a number of buildings, broke windows and downed many trees, utility lines and outdoor advertising signs. In Johnstown the wall of a warehouse was blown in causing damage valued at \$60,000. Six thousand dollars damage resulted when two mobile homes were overturned by the strong wind, while being moved on highways. In Huntington a woman was injured when struck by a piece of metal blown from a roof. Another woman was injured in Homestead when a glass advertising sign was blown down. Four persons were injured by wind blown debris in the Allentown area. Near Pittsburgh, one construction worker was killed and another injured when a portion of a new wall was blown down on top of them.
Eastern Counties	5	Afternoon					4		Thunderstorm
									Near Berwick, lightning set fire to a dairy barn, which was partially destroyed, as well as electrocuting 18 head of cattle. Loss was set at \$20,000. Near Norristown, a cow was also killed by lightning.

See reference notes at end of table.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

MARCH 1966

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM	
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS		
PUERTO RICO			None reported							
RHODE ISLAND			None reported							
SOUTH CAROLINA Statewide	1-5					5	5		Flooding	
			General rains during the last of February and the first 5 days of March caused a period of flooding on most major streams in South Carolina. The flooding along the Waccamaw, near Conway, caused the evacuation of about 30 families in that area, affecting about 38 homes and 13 trailers, near the middle of the month.							
Statewide	15-31						6		Forest fires	
			Dry, windy weather towards the end of March caused a serious forest fire hazard that continued into April over all of South Carolina. Approximately 36,000 acres were burned during the month. Several houses and some property were destroyed.							
Inland South Carolina	29	a.m.					5		Frost	
			Generally below freezing temperatures with scattered frost throughout central South Carolina - caused some damage to fruits and vegetables.							
SOUTH DAKOTA Statewide	2-5					3	7	0	Blizzard and heavy snow	
			The blizzard began late on 2nd in west and moved very slowly across state reaching extreme east on 4th continuing into 5th. Snow depth ranged from 2-4 inches in southeast to 35 inches at Mobridge in north central. Winds of 40-55 M. P. H. with gusts to 100 M. P. H. caused blowing snow which reduced visibility to near zero during storm. Drifts of up to 30 feet were reported in sheltered areas while open fields were nearly bare. The storm caused heavy livestock losses. Estimated losses were 50,000 cattle, 46,000 sheep and 1800 hogs. The largest losses were in the central and north central part of state. Livestock deaths were mostly caused by suffocation due to snow packing in the nostrils. The heavy snow collapsed a number of structures and caused some livestock losses that were sheltered inside. Three deaths were directly caused by storm due to exposure and 9 deaths were indirectly caused by storm; 2 due to heart attacks and 1 by asphyxiation. The blizzard was rated as one of the most severe that has been experienced in the state. Many roads were blocked by the snow. Schools and many business places were closed due to storm.							
West and Southeast	22-23					1	?	0	Blizzard and heavy snow	
			The storm began on 22nd in west moving southeastward into Nebraska and then moving northeastward across southeastern part of South Dakota. Winds of up to 50 M. P. H. caused blowing snow which reduced visibility to near zero. Up to 7 inches of snow fell in the southeast and lower levels of the west had 8 inches, while lead in the Black Hills received 2 feet. Traffic was paralyzed due to snow-blocked roads. Schools and many business places were closed. One death at Yankton was directly caused by storm due to exposure and exhaustion. One death at Sioux Falls was indirectly caused by storm due to heart attack. Storm damage was light compared to above blizzard.							
TENNESSEE										
Ashland, Cheatham County	3	5:00p.				0	0	3	0	Lightning
			Lightning started two separate fires within the City.							
Lenoir City, Loudon County	3	p.m.				0	0	?	0	Lightning
East Tennessee	13	5p-7p				1	4	4	0	Windstorm
			Preceding cold front, a windstorm moved eastward across the area, with locally strong winds to 62mph. Winds damaged roofs, trees, windows, power and telephone lines. A small boat capsized in Boone Lake near Kingsport, with one fatality and three injured. At Greenville a private airplane hangar was damaged by strong winds. Widespread wind damage was also reported in the Kingsport area. At Lenoir City, a construction worker was injured when a masonry wall was blown down. There was little or no thunder, lightning, and the rainfall was surprisingly light. An unconfirmed funnel cloud was reported in the Bluff City area, Sullivan County during passage of the storm.							
TEXAS										
Lake Travis Travis Co.	12	afternoon	?	?		0	0	0	0	Hailstorm
			Hailstones up to the size of golf balls fell in the area of Lake Travis northwest of Austin. There was no known damage.							
Whitney Hill Co.	22	8:17 p								Funnel aloft
23 E Big Spring Mitchell Co.	27	5:15 p-5:40 p								Funnel aloft
Sterling City Sterling Co.	27	afternoon	?	?		0	0	0	0	Hailstorm
			A hailstorm dropped hailstones up to golf-ball size at Sterling City. No damage was reported.							
20 NW Abilene Jones Co.	27	9:30 p								Funnel aloft
TEXAS (Cont'd.)										
Near Anson Jones Co.	27	night								Funnel aloft
1 1/2 N Garwood Colorado Co.	28	2:30 a-3:45 a	10	*1		0	0	L	0	Tornado
			A tornado that sounded like a freight train roared down State Highway 71 north of Garwood. Several barns were unroofed or destroyed, and one house was pushed off its foundation blocks. About 20 utility poles were blown down. The home of Alvin Beal was moved off its blocks and a hole knocked in the house by flying debris. A large shed behind the Beal home was demolished. Barns at the Milton Minarcik place and at the H. F. Priesmeyer place were unroofed or severely damaged. A shed was demolished at the Mrs. Joe Beal place. Total property damage was estimated at \$15,000.							
San Patricio and Nueces Counties	28	2:30 p-3:30 p	20	*1/2		0	1	?	?	Hail and windstorm
			Hail and strong thunderstorm winds struck an area of San Patricio and Nueces Counties beginning south of Mathis and east of Sandia and extending eastward to Sinton. One woman was injured in a windstorm when her trailer was blown over. Cotton, maize, cucumbers, and melon crops south of Mathis were damaged by the hail which averaged about 2 inch in diameter. Largest stones were one inch in diameter.							
40 N Marfa Jeff Davis Co.	28	6:51 p								Funnel aloft
UTAH			None reported							
VERMONT State	1-2					0	0	5	0	Wind
			Westerly gales caused widespread damage. Wind wrecked or damaged signs, TV antennas and windows, downed trees and wires and littered streets with branches and twigs. A large trailer truck became wind-whipped near Brattleboro when it was blown over onto guard rails on Route 91. The driver was uninjured. Power failures were reported in many communities.							
U. S. VIRGIN IS.			None reported							
VIRGINIA			No report received by printing deadline							
WASHINGTON										
Little Goose Dam on Snake River - 40 miles NNE Walla Walla	14	1130P				0	0	3	0	Tornado
			The funnel of a small tornado touched the ground near Little Goose Dam on the Snake River. Principal damage was to a steel crane which was blown off the track and tipped over. Other damage was to signs and scattering of loose construction materials. Very unstable air was associated with an active cold front crossing the State. Several thunderstorms and hail were reported in several localities in extreme eastern counties.							
15 miles NE Spokane	14	1147P				0	0	0	0	Funnel cloud reported.
WEST VIRGINIA			None reported							
WISCONSIN										
Walworth, Racine Counties	21	6:30-7 p	15	200		0	1	6	0	Tornado, hail, wind, lightning
			Severe thunderstorms with damaging winds, hail (up to 1" dia.), and one or several tornadoes moved in a generally east-northeast direction through Walworth and Racine counties from near Beloit to Racine. Tornado(es) caused extensive damage to buildings, trees and power lines along path from Darien to Lyons in Walworth county. One person injured as house trailer blew apart. Also moderate wind damage in Burlington, Union Grove and Racine. One large barn with 25 cattle lost due to fire set by lightning near Eagle.							
Northwestern half of state	22-23					0	0	5	0	Snow, wind
			Worst storm of the winter. Snow whipped by gale winds accumulated 5 to 15 inches north of a line from LaCrosse to Dreen Bay. Heaviest amounts in Pierce and St Croix counties. Huge drifts blocked highways and closed schools and businesses for 48 hours. Telephone and power lines down in many areas due to wet snow and wind. The storm was accompanied by thunder and lightning. Several buildings damaged by lightning.							
WYOMING East 1/3 of State	3-4					0	0	5	C	Wind Storm
			Extremely high gusty winds caused damage to crops, buildings, trees, signs, etc. High winds began early on the 3rd and diminished late the 4th. Some areas of east-central Wyoming had flowing and drifting snow early in the storm.							

See reference notes at end of table.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

MARCH 1966

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS		
NEW YORK State	1-2	p.m. to p.m.			1	9	4		Wind	
									All sections of state affected by damaging winds, gusting generally from 50 to 60 mph, but reported up to 75 mph. Man killed in Brooklyn when struck by heavy plank blown off building roof. Injuries resulted from overturned house trailers in Delaware County and bus at Lafayette, Onondaga County as well as by flying debris and being blown to the ground. Widespread power failures reported from Buffalo and Chautauque in the west to Westchester and Long Island with many northern and central communities affected. One building each unroofed at Troy and Poughkeepsie but property damage relatively light considering strength, duration and size of area buffeted by the winds. Snowfall of up to eight inches and drifting of roads caused school closure and hazardous travel in northern counties of Lewis, Franklin and Clinton.	
Mohawk and Black River Valleys	12-13	p.m. to a.m.					4		Freezing rain	
									Power lines fell over wide area of western Mohawk Valley and extending into Black River Valley of Lewis County. Outages for nearly 24 hours affected thousands of farms, homes and businesses in 4 four-county area. Hospitals in Rome, Oneida County on emergency power for several hours. Highway travel very hazardous.	

- ° Includes crop damage.
- C Crop damage
- * Miles instead of yards.
- † 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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