

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
MAURICE H. STANS, Secretary
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SERVICE

STORM DATA

MARCH 1969
Volume 11 No. 3



Asheville 1969

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

MARCH 1969

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 State-wide	23	Afternoon and Evening			1	?	%	0	Wind, Rain
<p>A deep low pressure system moved northeastward through Alabama Sunday afternoon and evening, March 23rd. Sustained gradient winds in excess of 35 mph were common. Downed trees and power line damage was state-wide. High tides closed highways in the Mobile area. Several boats capsized in Mobile Bay but with no loss of life. Numerous lines of thunderstorms with gusts of 50 mph occurred over most of the state. Heavy rains caused flash flooding in many areas. Many auto accidents due to blinding rains, and wind. Boat overturned on the Tombigbee River in Sumter County resulting in one death. Damage by wind 90% of total, rain 10%.</p>									
Alaska Petersburg	March				0	0	5	0	Drought & Cold
<p>Costs released this date cover damage resulting from drought conditions of the past several months, coupled with record breaking cold during January and February of this year. Costs relate to businesses and do not include those from thawing, loss of salaries due to thaw efforts, hauling water, etc.</p>									
Arizona			None reported						
Arkansas			None reported						
California Coronado	3	12:12 pm							Funnel Cloud
<p>Observer at Coronado reported a funnel cloud west of station.</p>									
San Rafael	12	10:00 am							Funnel Cloud
<p>Observer at Hamilton Air Force Base reported funnel cloud south of station moving west.</p>									
San Diego	21	7:00 pm			0	0	4	0	Thundersquall
<p>A severe local thundersquall damaged five gliders parked at Brown Field.</p>									
Colorado Eastern Plains near mountains	19	A.M.			0	1	4	0	Wind
<p>Strong gusty winds caused damage in scattered areas of Boulder, Jefferson, El Paso, and Pueblo Counties. A freight train was derailed near the entrance to a canyon 20 miles west of Denver when some empty cars were caught on a curve by a gust of wind. Two light planes were heavily damaged at Jefferson County airport. A policeman was injured near Pueblo when the motorcycle on which he was riding was blown over. Buildings under construction were damaged in Colorado Springs. There was other scattered light damage. Wind gusts of 60 to 70 mph were reported in various areas, and were estimated at 80 to 90 mph in some localities.</p>									
Connecticut Statewide	24-25	PM-AM			0	0	4	0	Rain
<p>Moderate rain, locally heavy in scattered thunderstorm activity, caused already full brooks and smaller streams to overflow in many sections. Flooded basements were common in lowland areas. Greatest damage occurred in southwestern sections.</p>									
Delaware State	1-2	PM - PM							Snow
<p>Snow reached its maximum depth in Kent and Sussex Counties where up to 15 inches fell. High winds piled drifts to three feet. Snow was blamed for some power failures. No serious accidents were attributed to the storm.</p>									
Southern Half	6-7	PM - AM							Snow
<p>Snow reached its maximum depth in the Lewes-Georgetown areas where 9 to 12 1/2 inches fell. For Lewes this fall of 12 1/2 inches was the record one-day March total. Damage to power lines and trees was apparently more severe than earlier storms. The snows of the 1st-2nd, 6th-7th, and 9th gave a record March total for both the Milford and Lewes cooperative Weather Bureau stations.</p>									
Florida West Coast	6	4:30 to 6:00 p.			0	0	5	0	Squall line
<p>A squall line moved eastward from the Gulf of Mexico, bringing peak wind gusts of 45 to 60 mph and heavy showers to the west coast from Sarasota to Levy Counties. There were widespread reports of light damage. Tides rose briefly to 3 or 4 feet above normal but little or no tidal flooding was reported.</p>									
Biscayne Bay (25 mi. S. of Miami)	22	12:46 p.							Funnels aloft (2)
Pensacola (10 mi. S.W.)	23	7:47 p.							Funnel aloft
Sarasota	25	11:30 to 12:50 a.			0	0	0	0	Hail
<p>Numerous reports of hail with diameter up to 3/4 inch.</p>									
Georgia Statewide	23-24	Night			0	0	5	0	Windstorms
<p>Strong winds that moved through the State ahead of and along with a frontal system caused damage over widely scattered areas. Heaviest losses were reported in the Murray-Gilmer County area in the northwest but damage was reported in at least 20 counties scattered from the northern border to the coast. Numerous buildings were unroofed or damaged to some extent and a large number of mobile homes were moved from their foundations. Many communities reported plate glass windows blown out and 100's of trees were uprooted. Several large trailer houses were demolished in north Georgia and 1000's of chickens were lost. Winds reached 60 mph in the Atlanta area and were probably stronger in some parts of the State. There were many reports of electrical service interruptions.</p>									
Hawaii			None reported						
Idaho Clark County	6-11	All days			0	0	?	?	Snow, wind and cold
<p>Snowfall of 4 to 5 inches occurred across this county on the 6th, was followed by brisk northerly winds through the 10th which drifted and blocked county roads. Snow also blocked Interstate 15 from north of Dubois to the Idaho-Montana line. This late in the season storm closed schools for 2 to 3 days and subzero daily temperatures were coldest on the 11th when morning lows ranged from 20° to 23° below zero at elevations above 6100 feet.</p>									
Idaho Statewide	22-23	5:00 p. 5:00 p.			0	4	4	0	Wind
<p>Strong, gusty winds accompanied the southeastward movement of a cold front across Idaho by midnight. The westerly post-frontal winds generally varied between 240° and 320° and blew at speeds of 25 to 40 m.p.h. Peak gusts were recorded as follows: Moscow 55 m.p.h.; Lewiston WBO, 47 m.p.h. at 2:59 p.m.; Boise WBO, 44 m.p.h. at 7:14 p.m.; Burley FSS, 37 m.p.h. at 10:00 p.m.; 58 m.p.h. at 11:00 p.m. and gusts of 46 to 68 m.p.h. observed between midnight and 7:00 a.m.; Twin Falls City-County Airport, 56 m.p.h.; Rodatello WBO, 35 m.p.h. at 10:15 p.m.; and Idaho Falls FSS, 35 m.p.h. at 11:00 p.m. Blowing dust from fields adjacent to S.R. 45 near Mella, Canyon County reduced visibility to near zero and contributed to two repeated collisions and several cars driven into barrow pits. Scattered wind damage was also reported in the Burley, Gooding and Twin Falls areas. Four children riding in the back of a camper were injured on the afternoon of the 23rd, when the camper blew off the back of a pickup traveling west along Interstate near the Blackcat overpass, about 3 miles west of Meridian.</p>									
Illinois			None reported						
Indiana			None reported						
Iowa			None reported						
Kansas Southwest portion	1-15				0	0	0	0	Snow
<p>The amount of snowfall over southwestern Kansas during the first one-half of March was unusually heavy. Two feet, or more, of snow was recorded in parts of Morton, Seward, and Stevens Counties. The March snowfall was the greatest of record for any month at Hugoton. Elkhart and Liberal had the 2nd heaviest snowfall of record for March.</p>									
Entire State	7-8	afn of 7; night of 7-8			3	0	4	0	Snow, blowing snow
<p>Snow and strong northerly winds of 30-45 mph caused considerable blowing and drifting snow. Blizzard or near blizzard conditions were reported over southwestern Kansas. It was one of the worst snow storms in that area of the State in years. Numerous roads were blocked in the State during the storm, many motorists were stranded, power and telephone lines were downed in some areas, and several cattle died. Human deaths due to the storm were reported from near Junction City, near Council Grove, and near Sylvia.</p>									
Kentucky Eastern Counties	24				0	0	5	0	Wind
<p>Weather Bureau cooperative observers in several counties (Floyd, Pike, Harlan, and Bell) reported thunderstorm activity. High or damaging winds were reported in the counties of Boyd, Martin, Floyd and Pike, and some hail was reported in Floyd county. In Pike county high winds at 3:45 p.m. unroofed and heavily damaged the one-story, 10-room, old Virgie Elementary School. 300 students and faculty escaped injury because school had been dismissed minutes earlier. The wind also flattened a single classroom prefabricated building nearby and demolished two automobiles near the school.</p>									
Louisiana									Data will be delayed

See reference notes at end of table.

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					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS		
Maine Central and southern	3				0	0	4	0		Snow, wind
										Snow and strong winds with considerable drifting snow hampered surface and air travel. Many schools closed early. Snow-fall mostly 2 to 12 inches. Scattered utility outages.
Coastal	25				0	0	4	0		Wind, lightning
										Scattered damage from high winds and lightning. Some utility outages.
Maryland Eastern Portion	1-2	PM - PM								Snow
										Heaviest totals, 10 inches and over fell in Baltimore County; on Eastern Shore totals reached as high as 8 inches. Two persons were killed in separate accidents on treacherous roads and one death may be attributed to the snow when a person died of an apparent heart attack after shoveling snow.
Kent and Talbot Counties	3	AM								Snow rollers
										Wind rolled up snow into cylinders reaching 10 - 12 inches in diameter and 22 inches in length. Trails extended as far as 50 - 60 feet. This phenomenon is found quite frequently in mountains but is quite unusual in flat areas as Eastern Shore. Old-time residents could not recall a similar occurrence.
Eastern Shore	6-7	PM - AM			0	0	5	0		Snow
										Heavy wet snow snapped utility lines and poles and as a result many areas were without power. 35,000 broilers valued at \$40,150 died at Federalsburg because of a power failure. Snow reached depths of 7 inches.
Garrett County	10-12									Blizzard
										Storm dropped up to 12 to 15 inches of snow; high winds and poor visibility created blizzard conditions on 11th and 12th.
Massachusetts State	3				0	0	5	0		Snow, wind
										Snowfall totals variable but mostly 3 to 12 inches with heavier amounts mostly in south-east and east. Heavy wet snow collapsed a number of roofs and buildings in the south-eastern portion. In Pembroke, a barn collapse killed a horse. Surface and air transportation schedules cancelled or delayed. Many schools closed. Six deaths were attributed to snow shovelling. Winds with gusts exceeding 50 mph combined with wet snow to fell tree limbs and cause utility failures. High storm tides in afternoon flooded some coastal areas and caused much beach erosion.
Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard	7				0	0	3	0		Snow, wind
										Heavy snow and winds gusting to over 50 mph caused drifts to 3 ft. or higher.
State	25				0	0	6	0		Rain, lightning, wind
										Heavy rain, locally up to 3 inches, caused much local flooding of low areas and basements and local washouts. Many small rivers and brooks flashflooded, causing evacuation of homes. Considerable lightning damage throughout state, including some utility lines knocked out. Wind tore off tree limbs, damaged signs, etc.
Michigan										None reported
Minnesota										None reported
Mississippi Pearl River County	11				0	0	0	?		Cold
										Horticulturist reported moderate to severe tung crop damage. Temperature fell to 27° at Poplarville Experiment Station; unofficial temperatures down to 25° some sections. Damage would vary with location, age of trees and care received, but believed below that of 1968. Some time must elapse before full extent of loss can be determined.
Simpson County	17	11:52 p.								Funnel Cloud Aft
										Funnel cloud reported moving E over Mendenhall, 21 SSE Jackson, (lat. 32.9° N, long. 89.9° W). Highway Patrolman noted rainy and windy weather, no thunder, no hail, no wind damage. Radar, indicated light to moderate rain area.
Carroll County	18				0	0	0	0		Heavy Rain
										Cooperative Observer at Black Hawk measured 6.31 inches of rain at 7:00 p.m.; this is the heaviest of record (since Feb., 1954). No reports of damage received.
Mississippi (continued)										
Tunica County	23	1:30 p.			0	0	?	0		Wind
										Strong winds and heavy rains impeded traffic. The driver of a double-decker greyhound bus said the winds literally pushed the vehicle 4 to 5 feet off Highway 61, near Tunica, onto a mushy shoulder where it nixed, and the wind nearly blew him down when he got off the bus.
Attala County	23	2:30 p.	short	53	0	0	3	0		Tornado
										About 15 N Kosciusko on Highway 43, 3 N Shady Grove School, neighbor saw funnel cloud dip down and almost immediately pick back up. "It blew away a feed barn 180 feet long, scattered it all over the place," a herd of cows in the barn escaped; a chicken house and a utility shed were destroyed; total loss estimated \$3,000. Family in house during downpour of rain wrote, "It sound just like a jet airplane down low," but did not go outside to check. Storm moved northward, no other damage reported.
Panola County	23	5:00 p.			0	0	4	0		Wind
										High winds buffeted areas of County; some trees and numerous sheds reported damaged or destroyed. The most damage was to W of Bates-willa on Rural Route 3; man on Birdsong's farm wrote, "cloudy... winds were gusting up to 10-50 mph, all day..." Almost 300 yards E of his home, "An airplane hangar (metal) was demolished, an airplane and big truck damaged," total loss estimated \$6,000. Storm began 4:55 p.m., ended 5:15 p.m., moved from E towards W. Damage occurred about 5:00 p.m. Man noticed large piece metal (from hangar roof) blowing down road in front of house, no funnel sighted, neither was there mention of noises. The two-ton truck in path of heavy debris from hangar, had caved-in cab and Cessna Skyhawk suffered wing damage.
Lauderdale County	23	5:45 p.			0	0	7	0		Wind, Low Pressure
										Sea-level pressure dropped to 29.21 inches at 5:45 p.m. at Key Field, Meridian, the lowest pressure of record (since Sept., 1829). A squall line passed at 5:50 p.m. with maximum wind gusts 46 mph. Meridian Police Department reported minor damage mostly from falling tree limbs.
Gulf Coast	23				0	0	?	0		Wind
										Winds caused coastal tides to be 2 to 4 feet above normal; some flooding in low areas. HANCOCK COUNTY: Newspaper reported little damage in Pass Christian area, tides possibly entered 3 homes in Pass Isles area on Pindexter. HARRISON COUNTY: Roads in low areas of Biloxi were closed.
State	23	evening								Aurora borealis
										Aurora borealis sightings from northern Mississippi to along the Gulf Coast. Carthage Cooperative Observer noted it was brilliant in Leake County from 8:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Newspaper noted hundreds throughout Mississippi reported seeing "magnificent" redlights in sky after passage of heavy clouds.
Choctaw County	31	evening			1	0	0	?		Thunderstorm
										Rain and electrical storm reported by Ackerman newspaper to have damaged crops in the neighborhood of Raff; boy, about 14, struck by lightning and instantly killed while trying to make his way to a cotton house after working in field.
Missouri										None reported
Montana Statewide								5		Flooding
										Last 2 weeks of month
										A number of bridges were destroyed or damaged by high water and ice jams throughout the State. Most extensive damage from ice jam flooding occurred along the Yellowstone River from near Miles City to the river's mouth 19th through the 21st.
Nebraska										None reported
Nevada Ely	30, 31	6:00PM			0	0	5	0		Flood
										Rising temperatures and saturated soils, together with melting snow from the Robison Mountain Range flooded Ely with water depth as much as three feet. No injury was reported. Flooding began near 6:00PM and subsided about six hours later with drop in temperature. Damage to some roads, pavements and buildings.
New Hampshire Central and south	3				0	0	4	0		Snow, wind
										Variable snowfall totals, mostly 2 to 12 inches, with strong and locally damaging wind. Considerable drifting. Transportation slowed and some schools closed. Scattered utility outages.

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New Hampshire (continued)									
Southern	25				0	0	5	0	Rain, lightning
Heavy rain, locally to about 3 inches, flooded low areas and basements. Three families were evacuated from flooded trailer homes in Salem. Local lightning damage throughout area.									
New Jersey Statewide									
	24-25	Overnight					4		Heavy rain, electrical.
Heavy rain, accompanied by scattered thunderstorms, covered most of the State, as a coastal low pressure system developed and moved northeastward along the coast. Up to 4 inches of rain fell over northern and central portions of the State, with lesser amounts in the southern Counties. There was some flooding reported, and some utility lines were struck by lightning.									
New Mexico Southeastern New Mex.									
	14-15	Evening-Day					4		Heavy snow
Unseasonable heavy snow brought record March totals of 6 to 13 inches of snowfall to many southeastern New Mexico localities, with unofficial estimates of drifts to from 2 to 5 feet. A roof collapsed at Hobbs due to the weight of snow. Travel was disrupted.									
New York Hudson Valley and Long Island									
	2-3	a.m. to a.m.					5		Snow, wind
An erratic coastal storm brought heavy snow to portions of the Hudson Valley and eastern Long Island. Snowfall totals of 20 to 30 inches centered in Orange County with 33 inches at Port Jervis. Totals of 12 to 17 inches fell in a narrow belt, about 30 miles wide, extending NNE to Rensselaer County; amounts decreased rapidly to the west and east of this belt. Schools in lower and mid Hudson Valley closed on 3rd as industries and surface travel greatly hampered. Snowfall up to 11 inches, driven by high winds, affected eastern Long Island; highway travel halted by four-foot drifts. Many auto accidents and persons injured in same. Winds gusting to 45 mph. caused high tides and flooding of southeastern Long Island coast. Wind-driven tides resulted in collapse of two homes and washed three more into the sea at Westhampton and Ocean Beach for total loss of \$200,000. Snowfall from New York City to central Long Island only 3 to 6 inches but made highway travel very slippery.									
New York City and Hudson Valley (lower)									
	24-25						4		Rain, wind, flooding
Extensive surface flooding and overflow from rain-swollen streams occurred in Greater New York City and in the lower Hudson River Valley as far north as the Kingston and Poughkeepsie areas. Precipitation totaling from 2.0 to near 3.0 inches flooded expressways and traffic tunnels in Boroughs of Kings and Queens, forcing closures; badly snarled traffic in vicinity. Rains decreased to 1.5 to 2.0 inches in Orange, Ulster and Dutchess Counties but many streams already carrying snowmelt flooded lowlying areas along Walkill River, Wappingers Creek and others. Several families evacuated in Dutchess County as school interior flooded at Beacon. Heavy rains caused large retaining wall to collapse on Staten Island. Winds downed tree limbs and utility wires in several Orange County communities.									
North Carolina Mountains, Piedmont, & NW Coastal Plain									
	1				0	0	5	0	Snow and Sleet
Snow began west portion night of February 28 and spread over more than half of state March 1. Amounts from 4 to 16 inches in Mountains, 1 to 12 inches Piedmont, and zero to six inches Coastal Plain. Damage mostly broken tree limbs, power and telephone lines, with a few cases of frame buildings collapsing from weight of snow. There were several weather-related accidents, with at least one fatality.									
Lenoir & Pasquotank Counties									
	19	Early morning					5	0	Wind
Rather windy entire state, with damage reported in two areas. Most of loss due to collapse of a large warehouse under construction in Kinston. Minor damage to a church and a frame building in Elizabeth City.									
Swain County									
	23						4	0	Wind
Thousands of trees reported uprooted in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Some disruption of power and telephone facilities.									
North Dakota									
									None reported
Ohio Northern Areas									
	20	Afternoon-Evening					4		Wind and electrical
Wind gusts of 50 to 60 miles per hour were associated with the first thunderstorms of the spring season. These storms caused widespread but light property damage. Numerous trees fell across power lines especially in northeastern portions of the State. Lightning set a fire which caused \$1500. damage to a sand dredge near Lorain. Another fire destroyed 8,000 ever-green trees near Geneva.									
Ohio (continued)									
Caldwell Area, Noble County	24	4:00p	0.5	Narrow	0	0	3		Tornado
Three persons observed a snake-like whirling massive dark cloud moving from a westerly direction touched ground about 2 miles east of Caldwell. The funnel touched ground near a farmhouse, picked up a wheelbarrow and tossed it about 30 feet, literally burying it in a small ravine near the home. Continuing in a zig-zag course the tornado then struck a barn and removed half the roof and tore the barn from its foundation. There were additional reports of winds uprooting trees in the general vicinity.									
Oklahoma Kingfisher, near, Kingfisher County									
	7	6:09p.	1	?	0	0	0	0	Hail
Golf ball size hail was reported north of Kingfisher, but no damage occurred.									
Panhandle and Northwest Half of State									
	13-15	Night, 13th - Night, 15th			0	0	7	0	Snow
A heavy snowstorm blanketed the area with amounts ranging from 2 to 14 inches. Hardest hit was the Panhandle area where roads and schools were closed and travelers were stranded. The snow piled up on snow cover already present, but through the process of melting, the maximum depth reported was 1/4 inches at Beaver. Snowfall decreased as the storm moved eastward with maximum amounts in the southwest about 8 inches and about 2 to 3 inches in the central and northeast parts of the State. Benefits to crops from the moisture will outweigh damages which occurred to roads, utilities, etc. Previous snows in this same area earlier in the month failed to reach proportions of this storm.									
East-Central and Northeast Portions of the State									
	18-20	Late p.m., 18th - Early a.m. 20th			0	0	4	0	Strong wind
Strong, gusty winds whipped many grass fires across the area with several thousand acres of land burned in Delaware, Mayes, Ottawa, Craig, Creek, Pittsburg, and Muskogee Counties. Considerable property loss occurred near Grand Lake where homes, outbuildings, boats, and docks burned. Several oil wells and barns were burned in Muskogee County.									
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County									
	27	Afternoon			0	0	3	0	Dust Devil
A small dust devil overturned a private airplane and left it lying upside down at the Expressway Junction Airport. Wind during the afternoon at Will Rogers World Airport ranged from 4 to 10 knots.									
Oregon									
									None reported
Pacific									
									None reported
Pennsylvania Southern Indiana Co.									
	24	Noon					3		Wind
High winds caused electrical service failure in Blairsville for nearly three hours in some areas, and up to five hours in other areas. A 30 foot mobile home was overturned while being towed causing \$300 damage to the unit. A large plate glass display window was blown onto the sidewalk by the wind, leaving an estimated \$200 damage. In Homer City a partially constructed garage was extensively damaged by a gust of wind.									
Puerto Rico Northern Coast									
	1	Afternoon			2	0	4	0	Heavy Rains & Wind
Heavy rains and strong winds which began on the afternoon of February 28th continued during the early hours of March 1st and resulted in some record 24-hour rainfall totals for various stations in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Moderate to heavy rains again occurred on March 2nd. In Puerto Rico the rains were generally concentrated along the northern sections of the island as the result of a pressure trough moving eastward, the remains of a strong frontal system which had moved off the eastern coast of the United States. Flood alerts were called along the northern coast and 10 families were evacuated from their homes in the Bayamon area. In Isla Verde water entered the homes of a number of residents of Villamar Urbanization on Fourth Street. Two persons were killed on the afternoon of the 1st as the result of a power line downed by high winds when it was hurled against them by a passing car. The U. S. Geological Survey reported the peak stage on Rio Maneyes, which lies about midway between San Juan and Fajardo was only two feet below that of the flood of January 26, 1969 which was the greatest in at least 41 years.									

See reference notes at end of table.

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Rhode Island Southern sections	2-3	PM-PM			0	0	4	0	Snow, wind
<p>The third major coastal storm to strike southern New England in four weeks produced snowfall of 3 to 6 inches in Rhode Island but, in the southern half of the state, wind-driven snow piled up to 12 feet in places. Schools and stores were closed on the 3rd, interstate travel was stalled, and expressway ramps were blocked. Scattered power failures occurred.</p>									
	24-25	PM-AM			0	0	4	0	Rain, wind
<p>Moderate rain, heavy at times of scattered thunder activity, caused lowland flooding as brooks, streams, and drains overflowed. Damage was confined mainly to basements. Strong winds downed power lines and caused power failures in Warwick, Lincoln, and Narragansett. In Richmond and Exeter, lightning travelled 400 feet along the steel rods in the concrete pavement of a new highway, making a hole 1 foot in diameter beneath part of the road.</p>									
South Carolina				None reported					
South Dakota				None reported					
Tennessee East Half of State	6-9				0	0	0	0	Snow
<p>Season's last snowfall of consequence yielded irregular amounts of snow over a three-day period of recurring light snow. Accumulations ranged from traces to 1 inch to about 1 inch in some mountain areas. No serious direct damage was reported but numerous traffic accidents occurred on slippery roads and highways.</p>									
Memphis, Shelby County	24	a.m.			0	0	4	0	Wind
<p>Winds, associated with fast-moving pressure system caused mostly minor damage by toppling trees, interrupting power service and smashing windows.</p>									
East Tennessee	24	5:00-6:00p.m.			0	2	5	0	Wind
<p>Strong winds of 40 to 45 mph, with gusts to 55 mph, downed trees and disrupted power service throughout the area. At Western Plaza Shopping Center in Knoxville, winds toppled a brick wall inlaid with concrete block, damaging a canopy over a pedestrian walkway. Damage to canopy and store front was estimated at \$10,000. Winds damaged houseboats and small pleasure craft on TVA lakes, especially in Knoxville on Loudoun Lake, and in Bristol on South Holston Lake. Several large signs were blown down in the Gatlinburg area. Two persons were injured at Tellico Plains when their mobile home was overturned by the storm.</p>									
Great Smoky Mts. National Park and Cherokee National Park	24	p. m.			0	0	7	0	Wind
<p>Strong, gusty thunderstorm winds prevailed most of this same day over a wide area of the State, and minor wind damage was reported from most sections. Aside from the two storms mentioned above, the most spectacular incident was that in the National Forests of East Tennessee. Park Officials estimated 100,000 trees were uprooted or damaged. Pilots who surveyed the area report the greatest damage occurred in a wide area, extending from Sylco Mountain, south of Parksville in Polk County, to the Tellico Plains section in Monroe County. It is estimated that 8 to 10 million board feet of lumber may be salvaged.</p>									
Texas Gillespie County	7	9:30 p-10:00 p	30	*6	0	0	4	0	Hailstorm, high wind
<p>Hail caused an estimated \$25,000 damage to property within a 6-by-30 mile area of Gillespie County which included Fredericksburg. Damage was mostly to roofs. Hailstones averaged three-quarters inch in diameter, but a few stones as large as two inches in diameter were reported. The area of hail damage began about 15 miles west of Fredericksburg and extended eastward about 15 miles beyond the city. A roaring noise was heard at Fredericksburg as the storm passed, but no funnel was observed. There was some minor wind damage.</p>									
Navasota, Grimes County	7	11:45 p-12 mid	?	?	0	0	5	0	Hailstorm
<p>Hail caused an estimated \$500,000 damage to property in Navasota and portions of Grimes County to the north and east of Navasota. Composition roofs of houses suffered the most damage. Windows were broken in some homes. Neon signs at the Cow Talk Steak House were heavily damaged. Strange sounds of rushing wind like that of an overhead freight train were heard, but no funnel aloft was observed, and there was no wind damage reported. Hailstones were one inch to one and one half inches in diameter. Hail covered the ground to a depth of four inches in places.</p>									
Corpus Christi, Kueces County	23	8:00 a-8:05 a							Funnel aloft
<p>Reported over the 400 block of Airport Road near old Cliff Haus Airport.</p>									
Texas (continued) Hamshire, Jefferson County	23	11:00 a-11:05 a	67		0	1	4	0	Tornado
<p>An estimated \$50,000 damage resulted from a tornado that struck the Hamshire community in east Jefferson County; one person was injured. Several houses were unroofed and trailer homes demolished by the funnel. Mrs. Christos Gianakakis, 22, was alone in her mobile home when it was overturned and demolished. She received a laceration on her head. The tornado struck at the caution light on State Highway 124, moving from the southwest toward the northeast. The tornado laid in ruins almost everything in its path, which was about 200 feet wide and one half mile long. The Cliff Bergeron Service Station, which is made of cement blocks, was torn in two. The roofs of the Douglas Abshire and J. D. Belancon homes were torn off. The Frank Pospisil family were asleep in their mobile home when it was overturned; luckily none were injured. The A. Courville home was lifted off its concrete blocks and then dropped a few feet away.</p>									
Utah				None reported					
Vermont State	24-25				0	0	5	0	Wind
<p>Locally damaging wind toppled trees and limbs and caused utility outages. A trailer was overturned in Bennington. Storm was accompanied by rain at lower elevations and by heavy wet snow at high elevations where snow helped topple trees. Many schools closed due to resultant power failures. In Pleasant Valley, two barns were derofed and some homes damaged by wind. Many trees were blown down there.</p>									
Virgin Islands				None reported					
Virginia State	1-2					4			Snow, wind, Tide
<p>Heavy snow over most of the state with maximum depths up to 18 inches in Piedmont areas; was a factor in numerous traffic accidents and delayed transportation. Thousands of electric users were without power up to 4 days in southern counties of the Piedmont areas. A few schools were closed on the 3rd but rapid melting left most main highways in good condition. Winds greater than 50 miles per hour along the coast and tides 2 to 5 feet above normal resulted in minor flooding in Virginia Beach City, Suffolk, Smithfield, and Norfolk.</p>									
Richmond	24	11:05 P.M.	3/10	17	0	1	5	0	Tornado
<p>Tornado unroofed a garage, damaged 12 apartments; 6 completely, downed trees in a low swampy area between Bellemeade and Commerce Roads, downed signs on the west side of Commerce Road, knocked down 150 feet of brick and cinderblock wall of a L-shaped warehouse on the east side of Commerce Road and other minor damage. Several automobiles had their windows blown out and one had the windshield wipers twisted but left the windshield intact. Damage was also reported to the east of this area in Henrico County and may have been caused by the same storm. One house was partially unroofed, several trees down, one against a house, and windows smashed.</p>									
7 miles SE of South Boston in Halifax County	24	9:20 P.M.	**150	20	1	2	4		Tornado
<p>Tornado completely demolished a six-room farm house, barn, trailer shelter, and stable. A four year old girl, Leundra Faulkner, asleep in the house at the time, was killed and her body was recovered approximately 75 yards away. Injured were Mrs. Dorothy Faulkner who was admitted to the hospital with back injuries and her daughter, Vickie, who had multiple fractures. Two other children were treated and released, one a 7-month old baby who was found unconscious in a grove of trees 50 yards away. The tornado apparently skipped along a range of hills southeast of the Hyco River with trees and outbuildings on other farms in the area receiving damage. Approximately 3 miles from the Faulkner place, the storm went through a grove of large trees and wrung them off, leaving only large stumps with splinters of top.</p>									
Washington Entire State	22					5			Wind.
<p>Strong winds struck the coastal area during the early morning of 22nd and reached the eastern section of Washington in the afternoon. Wind velocities ranging from 35-40 MPH with gusts reaching 50 MPH were reported in some localities. Power lines and a few buildings were damaged by falling trees and strong wind. In some localities in the southeastern section of the State, visibility was reduced to near zero by blowing dust, and several automobile accidents were reported. In some instances, highways were closed for several hours.</p>									
West Virginia Morgantown	20	8:30 p.m.			0	0	2	0	Windstorm
<p>Strong winds tore a front porch roof off of a residence in the eastern part of the city near the airport. Damage was estimated at about \$300.</p>									

See reference notes at end of table.

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

MARCH 1969

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED ¹ DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
Wisconsin State	20				0	0	5	0	Sleet, wind
		Heavy wet snow and strong winds caused extensive damage to telephone and power lines throughout state							
Wyoming				None reported					

- ° Includes crop damage.
- C Crop damage.
- * Miles instead of yards.
- ** Yards instead of miles.
- + Storm damages are placed in categories varying from 1 to 9 as follows:
 - 1 Less than \$50
 - 2 \$50 to \$500
 - 3 \$500 to \$5,000
 - 4 \$5,000 to \$50,000
 - 5 \$50,000 to \$500,000
 - 6 \$500,000 to \$5,000,000
 - 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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USCOMM-ESSA-Asheville, N. C. -4/30/69-1150