

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - January 2026

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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ILLINOIS, Northeast

(IL-Z033) IROQUOIS, (IL-Z039) FORD

01/01/26 00:00 CST	0	Drought
01/31/26 23:59 CST	0	

Severe to extreme drought conditions continued across southern Ford and southern Iroquois counties in east central Illinois during the month of January.

COOK COUNTY --- 2.4 WNW WHEELING [42.16, -87.97], 1.8 NW NORTH NORTHFIELD [42.16, -87.90], 1.8 SE MT PROSPECT [42.05, -87.90], 2.4 WSW MT PROSPECT [42.05, -87.97]

01/08/26 19:15 CST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
01/08/26 22:30 CST	0	Source: 911 Call Center

Street flooding was reported in multiple areas in Wheeling, Prospect Heights and Mount Prospect.

DU PAGE COUNTY --- 3.0 S AURORA [41.73, -88.26], 1.9 SSW (DPA) DUPAGE AIRPORT [41.87, -88.26], 0.6 SE BENSENVILLE [41.94, -87.92], 1.2 SE ELMHURST [41.89, -87.92], 0.8 ESE PALISADES [41.72, -87.92], 2.4 S ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY [41.69, -87.98], 1.0 S BOLINGBROOK [41.69, -88.03], 1.7 SE WOODRIDGE [41.73, -88.03]

01/08/26 19:20 CST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
01/08/26 22:30 CST	0	Source: Public

Street flooding was reported in Naperville, Woodridge, Darien, Wheaton and Lombard. Rainfall reports included 2.27 inches two miles southwest of Wheaton and 2.24 inches near Downers Grove.

COOK COUNTY --- 2.3 S BURR RIDGE [41.72, -87.92], 0.6 ENE SOUTH SHORE [41.76, -87.56], 0.4 SW NORTHERLY ISLAND [41.86, -87.61], 0.6 SSE GOLD COAST [41.90, -87.62], 0.7 NNE ROGERS PARK [42.02, -87.66], 0.4 S BENSENVILLE [41.94, -87.92], 1.1 W BERKELEY [41.89, -87.92]

01/08/26 20:15 CST	0	Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
01/08/26 22:30 CST	0	Source: Public

Flooding was reported on numerous streets and roadways across central Cook County including in the City of Chicago. Street flooding was reported in Burbank, Uptown, Lincoln Square, Albany Park, Irving Park, Near West Side, Garfield Park, Downtown Chicago and in Hyde Park. Basement flooding was reported in Belmont Gragin, Austin, Humboldt Park, West Garfield Park, Garfield Ridge, Clearing, Archer Heights, West Elsdon, West Lawn, Dunning, Portage Park and Irving Park.

Specific reports of flooding included a public transportation bus stuck in floodwaters near 47 th Street and Wood Street. The California Avenue underpass at Interstate 55 was flooded and impassable. Ashland Avenue viaducts were flooded between 15th Street and 16th Street. The Route 34 underpass east of Route 45 was closed due to flooding. A water rescue was reported at a flooded underpass on Kedzie Avenue between Interstate 55 and 31st Street. Multiple lanes of Interstate 90 were flooded between North Avenue and Division Street. A vehicle was stalled in flood waters at Carroll Avenue and Sacramento Boulevard.

Rainfall reports included 3.37 inches near La Grange; 2.27 inches in Burbank and 2.25 inches near Brighton Park.

COOK COUNTY --- 0.8 SSW TINLEY PARK [41.56, -87.79], 0.6 ENE SOUTH SHORE [41.76, -87.56], 2.3 S BURR RIDGE [41.72, -87.92], 2.1 NE LEMONT [41.69, -87.97], 1.8 NW LEMONT [41.69, -88.03], 2.4 SW LEMONT [41.64, -88.03], 3.3 WNW ORLAND PARK [41.64, -87.91], 2.7 SSW ALPINE [41.56, -87.91]

01/08/26 20:20 CST	0	Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
01/08/26 22:30 CST	0	Source: Public

Flooding was reported on numerous streets and roadways, including in Lemont, Homer Glen, Oak Lawn, Chicago Ridge and Hickory Hills. In the City of Chicago, street flooding was reported in Washington Park and Auburn Gresham. Basement flooding was reported in Chicago Lawn, Ashburn, West Englewood and Auburn Gresham. Route 83 was flooded between Archer Avenue and Route 45. Rainfall reports included 2.89 inches near Crestwood and 2.70 inches in Oak Lawn.

WILL COUNTY --- 1.5 NNW IDYLSIDE [41.54, -88.13], 0.9 SW FOREST PARK [41.54, -88.06], 1.4 NE PRESTON HEIGHTS [41.50, -88.06], 0.6 WNW ROCKDALE [41.50, -88.13]

01/08/26 20:30 CST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
01/08/26 22:30 CST	0	Source: Social Media

Video shared on social media showed street flooding in multiple locations in Joliet. Rainfall reports included 2.92 inches in Rockdale and 2.77 inches near Lockport.

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(IL-Z014) COOK				
	01/08/26 21:00 CST		0	High Wind (MAX 50 kt)
	01/08/26 21:00 CST		0	
COOK COUNTY --- 0.8 ENE BRIGHTON PARK [41.82, -87.69]				
	01/08/26 21:26 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	01/08/26 21:26 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
Power lines were blown down at 3800 South Artesian Avenue.				
COOK COUNTY --- 1.0 NNE (MDW) CHICAGO MIDWAY AIRPORT [41.79, -87.74]				
	01/08/26 21:34 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	01/08/26 21:34 CST		0	Source: Broadcast Media
A traffic light was blown down onto a moving car at the intersection of Cicero Avenue and 55th Street. The car's windshield was cracked but no serious injuries were reported.				
COOK COUNTY --- 0.5 NW BUCKTOWN [41.92, -87.69]				
	01/08/26 21:35 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	01/08/26 21:35 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
Numerous utility poles were blown down in the general area of Western Avenue and Fullerton Avenue.				
Scattered thunderstorms along with heavy rain moved across parts of northeast Illinois during the evening of January 8th, producing flash flooding and localized wind damage.				
(IL-Z004) BOONE, (IL-Z005) MCHENRY, (IL-Z006) LAKE, (IL-Z011) DE KALB, (IL-Z012) KANE, (IL-Z013) DU PAGE, (IL-Z019) LA SALLE, (IL-Z020) KENDALL, (IL-Z021) GRUNDY, (IL-Z023) KANKAKEE, (IL-Z032) LIVINGSTON, (IL-Z033) IROQUOIS, (IL-Z039) FORD, (IL-Z103) NORTHERN COOK COUNTY, (IL-Z104) CENTRAL COOK COUNTY, (IL-Z105) SOUTHERN COOK COUNTY, (IL-Z106) NORTHERN WILL COUNTY, (IL-Z107) SOUTHERN WILL COUNTY, (IL-Z108) EASTERN WILL COUNTY				
	01/14/26 05:30 CST		0	Winter Weather
	01/14/26 10:45 CST		0	
(IL-Z033) IROQUOIS				
	01/14/26 09:36 CST		0	High Wind (MAX 61 kt)
	01/14/26 09:36 CST		0	
A strong cold front moved across northern Illinois during the morning of January 14th with a band of heavy snow and snow squalls. Wind gusts were between 40 mph and 50 mph with a few higher gusts, including a gust to 61 mph near Crescent City. Visibility was reported to be near zero in many locations. Snowfall amounts were generally between 1 and 2 inches and with temperatures falling below freezing as the snow began, roads became icy. Hundreds of vehicle accidents were reported across northern Illinois.				
(IL-Z003) WINNEBAGO, (IL-Z004) BOONE, (IL-Z005) MCHENRY, (IL-Z006) LAKE, (IL-Z008) OGLE, (IL-Z010) LEE, (IL-Z011) DE KALB, (IL-Z012) KANE, (IL-Z013) DU PAGE, (IL-Z019) LA SALLE, (IL-Z020) KENDALL, (IL-Z021) GRUNDY, (IL-Z023) KANKAKEE, (IL-Z032) LIVINGSTON, (IL-Z033) IROQUOIS, (IL-Z039) FORD, (IL-Z103) NORTHERN COOK COUNTY, (IL-Z104) CENTRAL COOK COUNTY, (IL-Z105) SOUTHERN COOK COUNTY, (IL-Z106) NORTHERN WILL COUNTY, (IL-Z107) SOUTHERN WILL COUNTY, (IL-Z108) EASTERN WILL COUNTY				
	01/19/26 05:00 CST		0	Cold/Wind Chill
	01/19/26 13:00 CST		0	
Very cold air moved across northern Illinois during the morning of January 19th and continued into the early afternoon. Wind chills 25 below zero were common across northern Illinois with a few locations across northwest Illinois in the 25 below to 30 below zero range.				
(IL-Z003) WINNEBAGO, (IL-Z004) BOONE, (IL-Z005) MCHENRY, (IL-Z006) LAKE, (IL-Z008) OGLE, (IL-Z010) LEE, (IL-Z011) DE KALB, (IL-Z012) KANE, (IL-Z013) DU PAGE, (IL-Z019) LA SALLE, (IL-Z020) KENDALL, (IL-Z103) NORTHERN COOK COUNTY, (IL-Z104) CENTRAL COOK COUNTY, (IL-Z105) SOUTHERN COOK COUNTY, (IL-Z106) NORTHERN WILL COUNTY, (IL-Z108) EASTERN WILL COUNTY				
	01/23/26 00:00 CST		0	Extreme Cold/Wind Chill
	01/24/26 11:00 CST		0	
(IL-Z021) GRUNDY, (IL-Z023) KANKAKEE, (IL-Z032) LIVINGSTON, (IL-Z033) IROQUOIS, (IL-Z039) FORD, (IL-Z107) SOUTHERN WILL COUNTY				
	01/23/26 02:00 CST		0	Cold/Wind Chill
	01/24/26 08:00 CST		0	

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Bitterly cold air moved across northern Illinois on January 23rd and January 24th with wind chills between 25 below and 35 below zero. Wind chills 35 below to 40 below zero occurred across far northern and northwest Illinois.

(IL-Z006) LAKE, (IL-Z013) DU PAGE, (IL-Z019) LA SALLE, (IL-Z020) KENDALL, (IL-Z021) GRUNDY, (IL-Z023) KANKAKEE, (IL-Z032) LIVINGSTON, (IL-Z033) IROQUOIS, (IL-Z039) FORD, (IL-Z106) NORTHERN WILL COUNTY, (IL-Z107) SOUTHERN WILL COUNTY, (IL-Z108) EASTERN WILL COUNTY	01/24/26 14:00 CST	0	0	Winter Weather
	01/25/26 17:00 CST	0	0	

(IL-Z103) NORTHERN COOK COUNTY, (IL-Z104) CENTRAL COOK COUNTY, (IL-Z105) SOUTHERN COOK COUNTY	01/24/26 16:00 CST	0	0	Winter Storm
	01/25/26 18:00 CST	0	0	

Snow developed across east central and northeast Illinois during the afternoon of January 24th and continued through the afternoon of January 25th. Snowfall amounts were generally 2 to 4 inches through the Interstate 55 corridor and 4 to 6 inches along and east of the Interstate 57 corridor. Lake enhanced snow developed on January 25th with higher snowfall amounts across eastern Cook County. Snowfall amounts there included 10.5 inches in the Chicago Loop; 9.1 inches in Garfield Park; 9.0 inches in Avondale and Bridgeport; 8.8 inches in Glenview and 8.5 inches in Logan Square. Chicago O'Hare Airport measured 4.4 inches.

INDIANA, Northwest

(IN-Z019) BENTON	01/06/26 07:00 EST	0	0	Drought
	01/31/26 23:59 EST	0	0	

Severe drought conditions developed across Benton County in west central Indiana in early January and continued through the end of the month.

(IN-Z001) LAKE, (IN-Z002) PORTER, (IN-Z010) NEWTON, (IN-Z011) JASPER, (IN-Z019) BENTON	01/14/26 07:45 CST	0	0	Winter Weather
	01/14/26 13:00 CST	0	0	

(IN-Z002) PORTER	01/14/26 09:30 CST	0	0	High Wind (MAX 50 kt)
	01/14/26 09:30 CST	0	0	

(IN-Z001) LAKE, (IN-Z002) PORTER, (IN-Z010) NEWTON, (IN-Z011) JASPER, (IN-Z019) BENTON	01/14/26 10:30 EST	0	0	Winter Weather
	01/14/26 12:00 EST	0	0	

A strong cold front moved across northwest Indiana during the morning of January 14th with a band of heavy snow and snow squalls. Wind gusts were between 40 mph and 50 mph with a few higher gusts, including a gust to 58 mph near Lake Station. Visibility was reported to be near zero in many locations. A band of lake effect snow then move across far northwest Indiana through early afternoon. Snowfall amounts were 2 to 4 inches near Lake Michigan and 1 to 2 inches elsewhere.

(IN-Z001) LAKE, (IN-Z002) PORTER	01/19/26 08:00 CST	0	0	Cold/Wind Chill
	01/19/26 12:00 CST	0	0	

Very cold air moved across northwest Indiana during the morning of January 19th with wind chills 20 below to 25 below zero.

(IN-Z001) LAKE	01/23/26 05:00 CST	0	0	Extreme Cold/Wind Chill
	01/24/26 08:00 CST	0	0	

(IN-Z002) PORTER, (IN-Z010) NEWTON, (IN-Z011) JASPER, (IN-Z019) BENTON	01/23/26 05:00 CST	0	0	Cold/Wind Chill
	01/24/26 08:00 CST	0	0	

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(IN-Z002) PORTER, (IN-Z010) NEWTON, (IN-Z011) JASPER, (IN-Z019) BENTON				
	01/23/26 07:00 EST	0		Cold/Wind Chill
	01/24/26 08:00 EST	0		

Bitterly cold air moved across northwest Indiana on January 23rd and January 24th with wind chills 20 below to 30 below zero.

(IN-Z001) LAKE, (IN-Z002) PORTER				
	01/24/26 16:00 CST	0		Winter Storm
	01/25/26 22:00 CST	0		

(IN-Z010) NEWTON, (IN-Z011) JASPER, (IN-Z019) BENTON				
	01/24/26 16:00 EST	0		Winter Weather
	01/25/26 16:00 EST	0		

(IN-Z010) NEWTON, (IN-Z011) JASPER, (IN-Z019) BENTON				
	01/24/26 16:00 CST	0		Winter Weather
	01/25/26 19:00 CST	0		

Snow spread across northwest Indiana during the afternoon of January 24th and continued through the evening of January 25th as it transitioned to lake effect snow. Snowfall amounts were generally in the 4 to 6 inch range with higher amounts near Lake Michigan, which included 9.0 inches in Valparaiso and 8.1 inches in Hobart.

(IN-Z001) LAKE, (IN-Z002) PORTER				
	01/30/26 17:00 CST	0		Winter Storm
	01/31/26 02:30 CST	0		

Lake effect snow developed during the early evening of January 30th across far northwest Indiana and continued into the early morning hours of January 31st. Storm total snowfall amounts included 11.0 inches near Dune Acres; 10.0 inches in Porter; 9.0 inches in Chesterton; 8.0 inches three miles southeast of South Haven; 7.8 inches near Valparaiso and 6.7 inches near Hobart.

LAKE MICHIGAN

WILMETTE HARBOR TO NORTHERLY ISLAND IL COUNTY --- HARRISON-DEVER CRIB [41.92, -87.57]				
	01/08/26 21:34 CST	0		Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 45 kt)
	01/08/26 21:44 CST	0		Source: C-MAN Station

A line of scattered thunderstorms moved across parts of southern Lake Michigan during the evening of January 8th producing severe winds.

WILMETTE HARBOR TO NORTHERLY ISLAND IL COUNTY --- HARRISON-DEVER CRIB [41.92, -87.57]				
	01/14/26 07:00 CST	0		Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 43 kt)
	01/14/26 07:06 CST	0		Source: C-MAN Station

BURNS HARBOR TO MICHIGAN CITY IN COUNTY --- MICHIGAN CITY HARBOR [41.72, -86.92]				
	01/14/26 07:38 CST	0		Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 44 kt)
	01/14/26 07:44 CST	0		Source: C-MAN Station

A strong cold front produced snow squalls and wind gusts to near 50 mph as it moved south across southern Lake Michigan during the morning of January 14th.