

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2009

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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OKLAHOMA, Western, Central and Southeast

(OK-Z006) ALFALFA, (OK-Z009) ELLIS, (OK-Z010) WOODWARD, (OK-Z011) MAJOR, (OK-Z014) ROGER MILLS, (OK-Z015) DEWEY

12/24/09 02:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
12/24/09 14:00 CST	0	

(OK-Z016) CUSTER, (OK-Z017) BLAINE, (OK-Z018) KINGFISHER, (OK-Z019) LOGAN, (OK-Z020) PAYNE, (OK-Z021) BECKHAM, (OK-Z022) WASHITA, (OK-Z023) CADDO, (OK-Z024) CANADIAN, (OK-Z025) OKLAHOMA, (OK-Z026) LINCOLN, (OK-Z027) GRADY, (OK-Z028) MCCLAIN, (OK-Z029) CLEVELAND, (OK-Z030) POTTAWATOMIE, (OK-Z031) SEMINOLE, (OK-Z033) HARMON, (OK-Z034) GREER, (OK-Z035) KIOWA, (OK-Z036) JACKSON, (OK-Z037) TILLMAN, (OK-Z038) COMANCHE, (OK-Z039) STEPHENS, (OK-Z040) GARVIN, (OK-Z041) MURRAY, (OK-Z042) PONTOTOC, (OK-Z044) COTTON, (OK-Z045) JEFFERSON, (OK-Z046) CARTER, (OK-Z050) LOVE

12/24/09 04:00 CST	2.10M	Blizzard
12/24/09 22:00 CST	0	

(OK-Z007) GRANT, (OK-Z008) KAY, (OK-Z012) GARFIELD, (OK-Z013) NOBLE, (OK-Z047) JOHNSTON, (OK-Z051) MARSHALL

12/24/09 05:00 CST	0	Winter Storm
12/24/09 20:00 CST	0	

A powerful winter storm developed over parts of the Southern Plains, resulting in one of the most widespread and damaging blizzards to affect Oklahoma in decades. Blizzard conditions affected the vast majority of northern, central, and southwest Oklahoma for at least 5 to 7 hours. A surface low pressure center intensified rapidly over northern Texas, leading to severe, blustery winds during the morning and afternoon hours. Rain began falling during the early morning hours over southwest Oklahoma and progressed northeast. The rain quickly changed to sleet and freezing rain, and then to all snow as temperatures fell into the 20s. By late morning over southwest Oklahoma and the early afternoon over the rest of Oklahoma, winds were sustained around 40 mph, with frequent wind gust of 50 to 60+ mph. Snowfall rates approached two inches per hour at times for some locations, and the visibilities were frequently less than 100 feet. Numerous accidents were reported, especially given the high volume of traffic the day before Christmas. A large 50+ car accident was reported near Midwest City, that resulted in several injuries. Most area roadways were shut down for the day into Christmas morning, which included all interstates in and around the Oklahoma City metro area, and almost all of Interstate 44. Thousands of people were stranded in their cars for several hours, and many abandoned their vehicles, littering the roads and highways. This made snow removal more difficult, and roads were slow to reopen. The strong winds, combined with the below freezing temperatures, allowed for wind chill temperatures to drop to near zero. This made it even more dangerous for people that were abandoning their vehicles. By sunset, the snowfall had accumulated five to seven inches over much of southwest into central Oklahoma, with a maximum of eight to ten plus inches over central Oklahoma, including the Oklahoma City metro area, and over south-central Oklahoma. Total damage from the blizzard have exceeded \$18 million across Oklahoma. Unfortunately, nine people lost their lives, either in weather-related traffic accidents, or being struck by cars while assisting stranded motorists.

TEXAS, Western North

(TX-Z083) HARDEMAN, (TX-Z084) FOARD, (TX-Z085) WILBARGER, (TX-Z086) WICHITA, (TX-Z087) KNOX, (TX-Z088) BAYLOR, (TX-Z089) ARCHER, (TX-Z090) CLAY

12/24/09 04:00 CST	0	Blizzard
12/24/09 16:00 CST	0	

A powerful winter storm developed over parts of the Southern Plains, resulting in one of the most widespread and damaging blizzards to affect western north Texas in decades. Blizzard conditions affected northern Texas for at least 5 to 7 hours, with travel and commerce severely impacted. A surface low pressure center intensified rapidly, leading to severe, blustery winds. Rain began during the early morning hours, but quickly changed to sleet and freezing rain, and then to all snow, as temperatures never rose above freezing. By mid to late morning winds were sustained around 40 mph, with frequent wind gust of 50 to 60+ mph. Snowfall rates approached two inches per hour at times, and the visibilities were frequently less than 100 feet. Numerous accidents were reported, especially given the high volume of traffic the day before Christmas. Most area roadways were shut down for the day into Christmas morning, which included Interstate 44 north of Wichita Falls. Many people were stranded in their cars for several hours, with several abandoning their vehicles. The strong winds, combined with the below freezing temperatures, allowed for wind chill temperatures to drop to near zero. This made it even more dangerous for people that were abandoning their vehicles. Governor Rick Perry mobilized the military to assist the thousands that were stranded in the snow. In addition to the military, hundreds of tractors road up and down the roadways, assisting stranded motorists. By sunset, the snowfall had accumulated up to nine inches, with the highest totals over Wichita and Clay counties.