



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



December 1998

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

### OKLAHOMA, Western, Central and Southeast

<b>OKZ004&gt;048-050&gt;052</b>	<b>Harper - Woods - Alfalfa - Grant - Kay - Ellis - Woodward - Major - Garfield - Noble - Roger Mills - Dewey - Custer - Blaine - Kingfisher - Logan - Payne - Beckham - Washita - Caddo - Canadian - Oklahoma - Lincoln - Grady - McClain - Cleveland - Pottawatomie - Seminole - Hughes - Harmon - Greer - Kiowa - Jackson - Tillman - Comanche - Stephens - Garvin - Murray - Pontotoc - Coal - Cotton - Jefferson - Carter - Johnston - Atoka - Love - Marshall - Bryan</b>								
	<b>20 1600CST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>Ice Storm</b>
	<b>21 2200CST</b>								

A prolonged period of light freezing drizzle or light freezing rain plagued all of western and central Oklahoma on the 20th and 21st of December producing a thin layer of ice on most roads. Precipitation began first across northern Oklahoma around 1800 CST on the 20th, and then spread southward into all of western and southern Oklahoma during the 12 hour period between 0000 CST and 1200 CST on the 21st. Several hundred traffic accidents occurred during this time with 255 occurring in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area. Across the entire state of Oklahoma there were 13 fatal traffic accidents and 100 injury related traffic accidents. Only a few locations recorded a measureable amount of precipitation, but amounts were typically under 2 or 3 hundredths of an inch. However northwest portions of Oklahoma including Ellis, Harper, Woodward, Woods, and Alfalfa Counties, did receive 1 to 2 inches of snow from late evening on the 20th through the early morning on the 21st. Many schools had to close, and numerous traffic accidents were reported.

<b>OKZ024&gt;032-037&gt;048-050&gt;052</b>	<b>Canadian - Oklahoma - Lincoln - Grady - McClain - Cleveland - Pottawatomie - Seminole - Hughes - Tillman - Comanche - Stephens - Garvin - Murray - Pontotoc - Coal - Cotton - Jefferson - Carter - Johnston - Atoka - Love - Marshall - Bryan</b>								
	<b>23 0600CST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>Ice Storm</b>
	<b>24 0300CST</b>								

An extended period of light freezing drizzle or light freezing rain mixed with periods of light snow and light sleet affected portions of central and southern Oklahoma on most of the 23rd and early on the 24th. Another thin glaze of ice formed on most roads making for treacherous driving conditions. The most significant icing occurred across Garvin, Pontotoc, and Coal Counties, and areas farther south toward the Red River, where many locations reported several hundredths of an inch of ice. Healdton in Carter County reported 0.03 of freezing rain on the 23rd. 225 traffic accidents are known to have occurred across southern Oklahoma on the 23rd, and there was at least 1 fatal traffic accident. Many roads had to be closed for extended periods of time due to icing and/or traffic accidents.

### TEXAS, Western North

<b>TXZ083&gt;090</b>	<b>Hardeman - Foard - Wilbarger - Wichita - Knox - Baylor - Archer - Clay</b>								
	<b>21 0400CST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>Ice Storm</b>
	<b>2200CST</b>								

A prolonged period of light freezing drizzle affected western portions of North Texas on the 21st, producing a thin layer of ice on most roads. Dozens of traffic accidents were reported across the area along with 2 fatal traffic accidents, both of which occurred in Archer County. Precipitation amounts were very light with Shepard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls (Wichita County) recording just one hundredth of an inch on the 21st.

<b>TXZ083&gt;090</b>	<b>Hardeman - Foard - Wilbarger - Wichita - Knox - Baylor - Archer - Clay</b>								
	<b>23 0600CST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>Ice Storm</b>
	<b>24 0300CST</b>								

An extended period of light freezing drizzle or light freezing rain mixed with light snow and light sleet fell across western portions of North Texas on the 23rd and early on the 24th, producing a thin glaze of ice on most area roads. Dozens of traffic accidents occurred including 59 in Wichita County on the 23rd. There was also a 10 car pile-up in Bellvue in Clay County. Slick roads were also reported in Wilbarger, Foard, and Hardeman Counties, but accidents were less numerous than in Wichita and Clay Counties. Shepard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls (Wichita County) recorded just a trace of precipitation during the event.