

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - January 2023

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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### TEXAS, South Panhandle

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#### (TX-Z035) LUBBOCK, (TX-Z036) CROSBY

	01/02/23 13:47 CST	0	High Wind (MAX 54 kt)
	01/02/23 14:07 CST	0	

A vigorous upper low tracked east from the Four Corners into the Central Plains on the second. A pacific cold front tracked east across the area from late morning through early afternoon. Trailing the front, a 700 mb cold front swept east with sufficient moisture for a band of lower clouds and virga showers. Immediately behind the fronts, virga showers produced severe wind gusts in both Crosby and Lubbock Counties. A Texas Tech University West Texas mesonet site near Ralls measured a wind gust to 62 mph. The Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS) at Lubbock International Airport measured a wind gust to 61 mph.

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#### (TX-Z035) LUBBOCK

	01/03/23 14:20 CST	0	High Wind (MAX 50 kt)
	01/03/23 14:20 CST	0	

A strong cyclone over the Central Plains brought strong winds to the region for a second consecutive day. Although winds were generally lighter this day, a severe wind gust of 58 mph was reported at Lubbock International Airport Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS).

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#### (TX-Z021) PARMER, (TX-Z022) CASTRO, (TX-Z023) SWISHER, (TX-Z024) BRISCOE, (TX-Z025) HALL, (TX-Z026) CHILDRESS, (TX-Z027) BAILEY, (TX-Z028) LAMB, (TX-Z029) HALE, (TX-Z032) COTTLE, (TX-Z033) COCHRAN, (TX-Z035) LUBBOCK

	01/11/23 13:01 CST	0	High Wind (MAX 56 kt)
	01/11/23 17:40 CST	0	

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#### (TX-Z037) DICKENS, (TX-Z038) KING

	01/11/23 15:00 CST	60K	Strong Wind (MAX 48 kt)
	01/11/23 17:00 CST	0	

An intense upper level storm system resulted in widespread strong to severe wind gusts raking West Texas on the afternoon of the 11th. The winds managed to lift copious amounts of dust across eastern New Mexico and West Texas. The blowing dust dropped the visibility and painted an eerie red-brown hue across the skyline during the afternoon and early evening before beginning to settle out. Several thicker bands of dust dropped the visibility to one mile or less at its peak. The westerly wind gusts peaked at 50-60 mph over most of the South Plains region.

High wind gusts from the Texas Tech University West Texas mesonet network are below:

- 62 mph at Silverton (Briscoe County),
- 62 mph at Turkey (Hall County),
- 62 mph at Amherst (Lamb County),
- 61 mph at Hart (Castro County),
- 60 mph at Memphis (Hall County),
- 60 mph at Friona (Parmer County),
- 60 mph at Dimmitt (Castro County),
- 59 mph at Tulia (Swisher County),
- 58 mph at Vigo Park (Swisher County),
- 58 mph at Happy (Swisher County),
- 58 mph at Olton (Lamb County), and
- 58 mph at Paducah (Cottle County).

The following high wind reports are from Automated Surface Observing Stations (ASOS):

- 64 mph at Lubbock International Airport (Lubbock County) and
- 61 mph at Childress Municipal Airport (Childress County).

Sustained high winds of 40 mph or greater were observed by the Texas Tech University West Texas mesonet sites below:

- 44 mph at Muleshoe (Bailey County) and
- 42 mph at Morton (Cochran County).

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#### (TX-Z024) BRISCOE, (TX-Z034) HOCKLEY, (TX-Z035) LUBBOCK

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	01/15/23 13:02 CST		0	High Wind (MAX 54 kt)
	01/15/23 15:55 CST		0	

Strong winds aloft on the 15th struggled to mix down to the surface due to thick high level cloud cover. However, high level clouds briefly thinned out during the afternoon which allowed these strong winds aloft to quickly mix to the surface. A few areas saw severe wind gusts for several minutes.

High wind gusts from the Texas Tech University West Texas mesonet are listed below:

59 mph at Anton (Hockley County),  
 59 mph at Silverton (Briscoe County), and  
 58 mph at Levelland (Hockley County).

The Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS) at Lubbock International Airport measured a wind gust of 60 mph.

The Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS) at Levelland Municipal Airport measured a wind gust of 62 mph.

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(TX-Z021) PARMER, (TX-Z022) CASTRO, (TX-Z023) SWISHER, (TX-Z024) BRISCOE, (TX-Z025) HALL, (TX-Z026) CHILDRRESS, (TX-Z028) LAMB, (TX-Z029) HALE, (TX-Z030) FLOYD, (TX-Z031) MOTLEY, (TX-Z032) COTTLE, (TX-Z034) HOCKLEY, (TX-Z035) LUBBOCK, (TX-Z036) CROSBY	01/24/23 01:00 CST	0	Heavy Snow
	01/24/23 14:00 CST	0	

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(TX-Z027) BAILEY, (TX-Z032) COTTLE, (TX-Z037) DICKENS, (TX-Z038) KING, (TX-Z039) YOAKUM, (TX-Z040) TERRY, (TX-Z041) LYNN, (TX-Z042) GARZA, (TX-Z043) KENT	01/24/23 01:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
	01/24/23 15:00 CST	0	

A potent mid-upper level storm system dropped into the desert southwest, then directed itself toward Texas on the 23rd and 24th. In advance of the system, cool air spread southward, setting the stage for a bout of wintry weather. The air at ground level was relatively dry but quickly moistened as the snow fell into the dry air from aloft. Temperatures at ground level were also several degrees above freezing as the precipitation began late in the evening on the 23rd. However, temperatures rapidly dropped to around the freezing mark as the air saturated. Given the relatively warm start to the wintry event, some locations experienced a brief period of rain and/or sleet before changing over to snow. Bands of moderate to heavy snow spread from west to east across the South Plains, southern Texas Panhandle, and Rolling Plains early on the 24th. With temperatures hovering right around the freezing mark, the snow had a high moisture content. In addition, when the snow intensity waned, many of the primary roadways were warm enough that much of the snow quickly melted, which helped mitigate travel issues. The snow continued to fall, occasionally moderate to heavy, through the morning and into the afternoon, before tapering off from west to east during the afternoon. The heaviest snow targeted the north-central and northeast South Plains into the southern Texas Panhandle and northwestern Rolling Plains. Only the southeastern Rolling Plains largely missed out on the significant snow because their temperatures were slightly too warm. Instead, they observed more cold rain and generally only a dusting of snow.

The highest snowfall totals per county per NWS cooperative weather observers are listed below:

11.0 inches at Matador (Motley County),  
 9.0 inches at Plainview (Hale County),  
 8.5 inches at Kress (Swisher County),  
 7.3 inches at Childress (Childress County),  
 7.2 inches at Lubbock International Airport (Lubbock County),  
 7.0 inches at Turkey (Hall County),  
 7.0 inches at Friona (Parmer County),  
 7.0 inches at Silverton (Briscoe County),  
 6.0 inches at Dimmitt (Castro County),  
 5.5 inches at Anton (Hockley County),  
 5.2 inches at Floydada (Floyd County),  
 4.5 inches at Olton (Lamb County),  
 4.0 inches at Morton (Cochran County),  
 4.0 inches at Crosbyton (Crosby County),  
 3.5 inches at Denver City (Yoakum County),  
 3.3 inches at Post (Garza County),  
 3.2 inches at 7E Paducah (Cottle County),  
 3.0 inches at Muleshoe (Bailey County),  
 3.0 inches at Tahoka (Lynn County),  
 3.0 inches at Brownfield (Terry County),  
 2.2 inches at 15S Paducah (King County),

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1.7 inches at Spur (Dickens County), and 1.0 inch at Jayton (Kent County).				

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**(TX-Z044) STONEWALL**

01/30/23 00:00 CST			0	Ice Storm
01/31/23 23:59 CST			0	

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**(TX-Z035) LUBBOCK, (TX-Z040) TERRY**

01/31/23 04:00 CST			0	Winter Weather
01/31/23 12:00 CST			0	

Several consecutive days of wintry precipitation occurred from late January through early February. Temperatures tumbled 30-40 degrees behind an arctic cold front from the 28th into the 29th. Even colder air settled into the region on the night of the 29th and morning of the 30th, as temperatures dipped into the teens over all of the South and Rolling Plains, and single digits in the Texas Panhandle. The bitter cold was accompanied by enough moistening to result in the development of areas of light freezing drizzle, light sleet, and light snow. Though light, the wintry precipitation did create some travel difficulties as it quickly stuck to the sub-freezing roadways. The light drizzle, sleet, and snow diminished toward midday on the 30th. Pockets of light freezing drizzle and snow flurries redeveloped over parts of the region for the second morning in a row on the 31st. The light frozen precipitation again created problems on area roadways, including in and around Lubbock. Unfortunately, there were four fatalities and two injuries from vehicle wrecks that hit icy spots on the roadway. One fatality and injury occurred on US Highway 62/82 near Wolfforth where a vehicle hit a slick patch on an overpass and rolled over. Three additional fatalities and one injury occurred along US Highway 380 west of Brownfield (Terry County) as a vehicle rolled over into a ditch. The South Plains region experienced another lull in the precipitation on the afternoon and evening of the 31st. Periodic spurts of freezing rain and sleet continued through the evening of the first and into the early morning on the second as temperatures lingered a few degrees below freezing. A final band of precipitation exited the region to the east by late morning on the second as temperatures finally rebounded above freezing across the region. Many locations across the South Plains and Rolling Plains had experienced sub-freezing temperatures continuously from early on the 29th until mid-morning on the second. Ice accumulation totals were highest in the Rolling Plains, where a tenth to quarter inch was common. This event continues into February.