

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2013

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

(TX-Z100) YOUNG, (TX-Z101) JACK, (TX-Z115) STEPHENS, (TX-Z116) PALO PINTO, (TX-Z131) HOOD, (TX-Z132) SOMERVELL, (TX-Z133) JOHNSON	12/01/13 00:00 CST	0	0	Drought
	12/31/13 23:59 CST		11K	

Only 7 of the 46 counties in the Fort Worth CWA experienced drought conditions in the month of December. All counties did improve throughout the month because of 2 to 4 inches of rain across the area. By the end of the month only Palo Pinto and Young counties remained in severe drought (D2).

(TX-Z091) MONTAGUE, (TX-Z092) COOKE, (TX-Z093) GRAYSON, (TX-Z094) FANNIN, (TX-Z100) YOUNG, (TX-Z101) JACK, (TX-Z102) WISE, (TX-Z103) DENTON, (TX-Z104) COLLIN, (TX-Z105) HUNT, (TX-Z107) HOPKINS, (TX-Z116) PALO PINTO, (TX-Z117) PARKER, (TX-Z118) TARRANT, (TX-Z119) DALLAS, (TX-Z120) ROCKWALL, (TX-Z129) EASTLAND, (TX-Z130) ERATH, (TX-Z131) HOOD, (TX-Z132) SOMERVELL, (TX-Z133) JOHNSON, (TX-Z134) ELLIS, (TX-Z141) COMANCHE, (TX-Z142) MILLS, (TX-Z143) HAMILTON	12/05/13 12:45 CST	29.55M	0	Winter Storm
	12/06/13 13:00 CST		0	

(TX-Z095) LAMAR	12/05/13 15:30 CST	20M	0	Ice Storm
	12/06/13 12:45 CST		0	

(TX-Z145) HILL, (TX-Z158) BELL	12/05/13 23:15 CST	0.11M	0	Winter Weather
	12/06/13 11:30 CST		0	

A winter storm affected much of North and Central Texas for an extended period from December 5th through the 10th. A combination of freezing rain, sleet, and a little snow began falling during the day on the 5th and continued through the morning hours of the 6th. As the ice and sleet settled on the 6th, a thick layer of ice paralyzed most of the area north of a line from Goldthwaite to Cleburne to Ennis to Sulphur Springs. In this area, accumulations of sleet and ice measured up to 5" with the highest amounts from Denton to Sherman to Bonham. Temperatures remained below freezing until the 9th and 10th resulting in a prolonged winter event. Most residents were forced to remain at home for several days. A new term, coined "cobblestone ice", was used to describe the condition of the ice on the interstates and highways due to the compaction of ice and sleet. South of this area, lighter amounts of icing occurred producing mainly icy bridges, overpasses, and elevated surfaces.

As a result of the ice storm, significant tree damage occurred with thousands of tree branches falling under the weight of the ice. Power lines were also brought down, and at the peak of the storm, 275,000 customers were without power in the North Texas region. Most schools, especially in the hardest hit areas, were closed for several days. Some businesses were forced to close for a day or two also. Hundreds of injuries were reported due to falls on the ice but exact numbers were not available. Seven fatalities occurred during this event; 4 in vehicles, 2 from exposure, and 1 from a fall on the ice. Early estimates from the insurance council estimated \$30 million in residential insured loses. The estimate did not include damage to vehicles or roads. Many roads and bridges were damaged from the ice and/or from attempts by TXDOT to remove the ice using plows and graders. Hundreds of people and semis were stranded for long periods on many of the main highways and interstates including I-35 from Fort Worth to the Oklahoma border and Interstate 20 from Fort Worth going west. The clean-up from this event took weeks and even a few months in some places.

(TX-Z093) GRAYSON	12/12/13 06:50 CST	30K	0	Winter Weather
	12/12/13 06:50 CST		0	

A truck driver died on US Highway 75 in Sherman when he crashed his semi after losing control on an icy patch. The temperature at the time of the accident was around 23 degrees.

DALLAS COUNTY --- 2.0 S OAK CLIFF [32.69, -96.82]	12/21/13 03:18 CST	13K	0	Heavy Rain
	12/21/13 03:18 CST		0	Source: Broadcast Media

A vehicle lost control on I-35E due to slick roads from rain and crashed through a guardrail. The driver of the vehicle was killed and the passenger was injured.

DALLAS COUNTY --- 0.3 E ARCADIA PARK [32.75, -96.89]

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	12/21/13 04:40 CST		13K	Heavy Rain
	12/21/13 04:40 CST		0	Source: Broadcast Media

Weather played a role in the death of a person who crashed their truck in the 4500 block of Davis Street near Cockrell Hill Rd. The roads were slick due to rain at the time of the accident. No other information about the deceased could be found.

SOMERVELL COUNTY --- 2.9 ENE NEMO [32.28, -97.62]

12/21/13 08:15 CST	10K	Lightning
12/21/13 08:15 CST	0	Source: Broadcast Media

A lightning strike started a fire at a gas well on CR 308 just north of Highway 67 between Glen Rose and Cleburne.

Slick roads caused by heavy rain resulted in 2 fatalities in Dallas. Lightning started a fire at a gas well in Somervell County.

(TX-Z117) PARKER

12/29/13 15:00 CST	50K	Winter Weather
12/29/13 19:00 CST	0	

A female died in a car crash near Weatherford that was likely caused by an icy patch. Five other passengers were seriously injured in the crash.