



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



February 2003

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

### CONNECTICUT, Northeast

CTZ002>004

**Hartford - Tolland - Windham**

07	0500EST	0	0		<b>Winter Storm</b>
08	1900EST				

A winter storm passing southeast of Nantucket brought heavy snow to northern Connecticut. Totals of 5 to 10 inches were common in Hartford, Tolland, and Windham counties with the greatest amounts reported in Windham County. No significant storm damage was reported, mainly due to the fluffy, light nature of the snow as temperatures dropped into the teens and 20s during the height of the storm. The main impact was on travel, as motorists failed to negotiate slick roadways. State police handled dozens of fender-benders on the highways but no injuries were reported.

Officially, the storm total at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks was 5.3 inches. Other snowfall totals as reported by trained spotters included 12 inches in Woodstock; 11 inches in Mansfield, Thompson, and South Killingly; 10 inches in East Hartford, Glastonbury, Storrs, Stafford Springs, Ashford, Pomfret, and Danielson; 8 inches in Farmington, Newington, Hartford, East Windsor, and Coventry; and 6 inches in Granby.

CTZ002>004

**Hartford - Tolland - Windham**

17	1000EST	0	0		<b>Winter Storm</b>
18	2300EST				

A major winter storm impacted southern New England with heavy snow and strong winds as it tracked southeast of Nantucket. Snowfall totals of 12 to 20 inches were widely observed in Hartford, Tolland, and Windham counties. No significant damage was reported due to the storm, primarily since the snow was fluffy and light with temperatures in the teens and 20s. Impact on travel was minimal, since the storm affected the region on Presidents Day and most schools were closed that week. However, there were numerous reports of minor accidents as a result of slippery roads. No injuries were reported.

Officially, the storm total at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks was 15.0 inches. This set a new daily snowfall record, breaking the previous record of 7.6 inches which fell on the same date in 1952.

Other snowfall totals, as reported by trained spotters, included 20 inches in Hartford, Manchester, and Union; 18 inches in Farmington, Wethersfield, Glastonbury, Andover, and Woodstock; 16 inches in West Hartford and Storrs; 15 inches in Simsbury, Newington, Mansfield, Ashford, and Thompson; and 14 inches in Unionville.

CTZ002

**Hartford**

23	2100EST 2330EST	0	0	15K	<b>Strong Wind</b>
----	--------------------	---	---	-----	--------------------

Strong winds brought down power lines and knocked out electrical service to customers in Avon, Canton, and Simsbury. In all, about 6,000 customers were left without power.

### MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

MAZ004-006>007

**Northern Worcester - Western Essex - Eastern Essex**

01	2100EST	0	0	15K	<b>Heavy Snow</b>
02	1000EST				

Low pressure passing well south of New England brought a slushy, wet snow to much of central and northeast Massachusetts. Around 6 inches of accumulation was observed from northern Worcester County into Middlesex and Essex Counties. The precipitation began as snow, then changed to rain for a time, before switching back to snow during the overnight and early morning hours. The heaviest snow fell between midnight and 6 am, when radar showed a nearly stationary band of snow coming in off the ocean and extending inland across the Merrimack Valley. Accumulations tapered off dramatically farther to the south, with amounts of 1 to 3 inches common in the immediate Boston area.



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



February 2003

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

### MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

In Leominster, the weight of the snow caused the roof of a small stand-alone garage to cave in. No injuries were reported

Officially, total storm accumulations were 5.0 inches at Worcester Airport and 1.3 inches at Logan International Airport in Boston. Other storm totals included 7 inches in Ashburnham, Hopkinton, and West Newbury; and 6 inches in Gardner, Lancaster, Natick, North Andover, and Newburyport.

**MAZ005>007-009-011>024**

**Western Middlesex - Western Essex - Eastern Essex - Western Hampden - Eastern Hampden - Southern Worcester - Western Norfolk - Southeast Middlesex - Suffolk - Eastern Norfolk - Northern Bristol - Western Plymouth - Eastern Plymouth - Southern Bristol - Southern Plymouth - Barnstable - Dukes - Nantucket**

<b>07</b>	<b>0500EST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Winter Storm</b>
<b>08</b>	<b>1900EST</b>			

A winter storm passing southeast of Nantucket brought heavy snow to south central and eastern Massachusetts. The greatest snowfall totals, averaging 12 to 16 inches, were observed from Worcester to Boston to Cape Cod and the Islands. Amounts tapered off farther to the north and west, with 6 inch amounts common from Springfield to Ayer and the New Hampshire border in northeast Massachusetts. As little as 2 to 4 inches of snow were reported in northwest and north central Massachusetts.

No significant storm damage was reported, mainly due to the fluffy, light nature of the snow as temperatures dropped into the teens and 20s during the storm. Travel was impacted, however, especially during the height of the storm which coincided with the evening rush hour. Highway traffic was reduced to a crawl on parts of Interstates 93, 95, and 495 as well as Route 128 where numerous spin-outs were reported. Logan International Airport in Boston closed completely shortly after 4 pm. One runway opened shortly after, but airport officials struggled to clear runways as snowfall rates reached 2 inches per hour for about 4 hours.

Official storm totals included 17.0 inches at Blue Hill Observatory in Milton, 12.1 inches at the National Weather Service office in Taunton, 11.0 inches at Logan International Airport in Boston, and 9.3 inches at Worcester Airport. Other snowfall totals as reported by trained spotters included 16 inches in South Weymouth, Hingham, and Brockton; 14 inches in Wrentham, Walpole, Quincy, Marshfield, and Barnstable; 12 inches in Webster, Ashland, Woburn, Dorchester, Brighton, Needham, Millis, North Attleboro, West Plymouth, Sandwich, and Eastham; 11 inches in downtown Worcester, Oxford, West Medway, Reading, Belmont, Swampscott, Cambridge, South Boston, Plymouth, Hyannis, Chatham, Edgartown, and Nantucket; 8 inches in Monson, West Brookfield, Sturbridge, Billerica, North Andover, Concord, Swansea, and Fairhaven; and 6 inches in Granville, Southwick, Longmeadow, Lancaster, Pepperell, Ayer, Methuen, Haverhill, and Newburyport.

**MAZ024**

**Nantucket**

<b>10</b>	<b>1100EST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Heavy Snow</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>2200EST</b>			

Low pressure passing well southeast of New England brought heavy snow to Nantucket, where 8.0 inches of accumulation was reported by a trained spotter. Amounts tapered off to the north and west, with totals of 2 to 5 inches on Cape Cod and 1 to 3 inches across the rest of the Bay State. No storm damage or injuries were reported.

**MAZ002>024**

**Western Franklin - Eastern Franklin - Northern Worcester - Western Middlesex - Western Essex - Eastern Essex - Western Hampshire - Western Hampden - Eastern Hampshire - Eastern Hampden - Southern Worcester - Western Norfolk - Southeast Middlesex - Suffolk - Eastern Norfolk - Northern Bristol - Western Plymouth - Eastern Plymouth - Southern Bristol - Southern Plymouth - Barnstable - Dukes - Nantucket**

<b>17</b>	<b>1000EST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Winter Storm</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>2300EST</b>			

A major winter storm impacted southern New England on Presidents Day with heavy snow and strong winds. This was the most significant snowstorm of the winter, with totals of 1 to 2 feet reported throughout the state. The highest totals, around 2 feet, were reported in two areas: one from the east slopes of the Berkshires into northern Worcester County, and the second over Boston's South Shore communities. This snowstorm ranked in the top 10 for Boston and Worcester in detailed records dating back to at least



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



February 2003

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

### MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

the early 1900s. Despite the tremendous snowfall totals, the overall impact of the storm was minimal since it occurred on a holiday and during school vacation week. However, numerous minor accidents were reported. In addition, no significant damage was reported due to the fluffy, light nature of the snow.

Officially, the storm total at Logan International Airport in Boston was 27.5 inches, which set a record for the greatest snowstorm in Boston. The total eclipsed the previous record of 27.1 inches set during the Blizzard of 1978 on February 6th and 7th, though it should be noted that this storm had much less of an impact on the region and pales in overall comparison to the Blizzard of 1978. That storm produced high winds, significant coastal flooding, and more than 3 feet of snow in some areas, crippling the state for several days. The 27.5 inches of snow in Boston also set a record for the greatest 24 hour snowfall total, breaking the previous record of 25.4 inches set during the April Fools Blizzard on March 31st and April 1st 1997. The snowstorm also helped set the February snowfall record in Boston, which reached 41.6 inches and broke the previous record of 41.3 inches set in 1969.

Other official snowfall totals included 24.7 inches at Blue Hill Observatory in Milton, 20.8 inches at Worcester Airport, and 17.8 inches at the National Weather Service office in Taunton.

Some specific snowfall totals, as reported by trained spotters, included 28 inches in Rockport; 27 inches in Winthrop and Brookline; 26 inches in South Weymouth; 25 inches in Montgomery, Milton, and Hanson; 24 inches in Townsend and Topsfield, 23 inches in Ashfield, Leverett, Petersham, Norwood, and Hingham; 20 inches in Sunderland, Easthampton, Shrewsbury, Boxboro, Framingham, Manchester, West Medway, and Mansfield, 18 inches in Deerfield, Hampden, Worthington, Westborough, Hudson, Hopkinton, Acushnet, and Marshfield; 16 inches in Springfield, Westhampton, downtown Worcester, Sterling, Pepperell, Amesbury, Newburyport, Pocasset, and Chatham; 15 inches in Holyoke, Wilbraham, Leominster, Natick, North Andover, Hyannis, and Nantucket; 13 inches in Edgartown; and 12 inches in Stoneham.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE, Southern

NHZ011>012

#### **Cheshire - Hillsborough**

<b>17</b>	<b>1000EST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Winter Storm</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>2300EST</b>			

A major winter storm impacted southern New England with heavy snow and strong winds as it tracked southeast of Nantucket. Snowfall totals of 10 to 20 inches were widely observed in Cheshire and Hillsborough counties, though amounts tapered off to as little as 5 to 8 inches in the northwest third of Cheshire County which was farther removed from the storm's influence. No significant damage was reported due to the storm, primarily since the snow was fluffy and light with temperatures in the teens and 20s. Impact on travel was minimal, since the storm affected the region on Presidents Day and most schools were closed that week. However, there were numerous reports of minor accidents as a result of slippery roads. No injuries were reported.

Some specific snowfall totals, as reported by trained spotters, included 22 inches in Merrimack; 21 inches in Manchester and Peterborough; 20 inches in Jaffrey and Milford; 18 inches in Nashua; 17 inches in Greenfield; 13 inches in Weare; 8 inches in Swanzey; and 6 inches in Marlow.

### RHODE ISLAND

RIZ001>007

#### **Northwest Providence - Southeast Providence - Western Kent - Eastern Kent - Bristol - Washington - Newport**

<b>07</b>	<b>0500EST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Winter Storm</b>
<b>08</b>	<b>1900EST</b>			

A winter storm passing southeast of Nantucket brought heavy snow to Rhode Island. Amounts of 6 to 12 inches were common, with the greatest amounts in the higher elevations of northern Providence County. No significant storm damage was reported, mainly due to the fluffy, light nature of the snow as temperatures fell into the teens and 20s during the height of the storm. The main impact was to travel, as police and fire departments responded to numerous fender-benders. No injuries were reported.

Officially, the storm total at T.F. Green State Airport in Warwick was 7.2 inches. Other snowfall totals as reported by trained



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



February 2003

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

### RHODE ISLAND

spotters included 13 inches in Burrillville and Woonsocket; 12 inches in North Foster and North Smithfield; 11 inches in West Coventry and downtown Providence; 10 inches in Johnston and Cranston; 8 inches in Smithfield, West Warwick, North Kingstown, Tiverton, and Portsmouth; and 6 inches in Middletown.

**RIZ001>007**

**Northwest Providence - Southeast Providence - Western Kent - Eastern Kent - Bristol - Washington - Newport**

<b>17</b>	<b>1100EST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Winter Storm</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>2300EST</b>			

A major winter storm impacted southern New England with heavy snow and strong winds as it tracked southeast of Nantucket. Snowfall totals of one to two feet were widely observed throughout Rhode Island. No significant damage was reported due to the storm, primarily since the snow was fluffy and light with temperatures in the teens and 20s. Impact on travel was minimal, since the storm affected the region on Presidents Day and most schools were closed that week. However, there were numerous reports of minor accidents as a result of slippery roads. No injuries were reported.

Officially, the storm total at T.F. Green State Airport in Warwick was 15.0 inches. Of that total, 14.7 inches fell on February 17th, which set a record for the date. The previous record snowfall was 4.1 inches set in 1974.

Other snowfall totals, as reported by trained spotters, included 23 inches in Burrillville; 22 inches in Cumberland; 21 inches in Cranston; 20 inches in Woonsocket; 19 inches in South Kingstown; 17 inches in North Foster, West Warwick, Johnston, and downtown Providence; 16 inches in Middletown; 15 inches in Coventry and North Kingstown; and 14 inches in Portsmouth