

February 2008 National Weather Summary

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NATIONAL WEATHER SUMMARY

FEBRUARY 2008

1st-9th...In the eastern two-thirds of the country on Friday, an intense low pressure system produced major weather impacts. In the middle Mississippi Valley alone, heavy snowfall, strong winds and low visibilities have been a major concern. From central Illinois on into northwestern Indiana, close to a foot of snow was observed. Moving east, slightly warmer temperatures contributed to snow mixing with sleet, freezing rain and periods of heavy rainfall over the Ohio Valley. In the Northeast and middle Atlantic, freezing rain and sleet, occasionally mixed with rain and snow, caused major problems. Over a third of an inch of ice accumulated in a large portion of the region, downing trees and power lines and causing some power outages.

Elsewhere, scattered showers, with an occasional thunderstorm, were reported across the eastern Mid-Atlantic and the eastern portions of the Southeast. Rainfall amounts of over an inch impacted these regions. Farther west, high pressure allowed for calm and dry conditions across the Plains, upper Mississippi Valley and southern Mississippi Valley. In the West, a cold front produced scattered low-elevation rain showers and mountain snow across northern and central California, the Great Basin and the northern and central Rockies. Farther north, scattered low-elevation rain showers and mountain snow also impacted the Pacific Northwest as another storm system began to move into the region. Precipitation rates have been light to moderate. Places across the Cascades of Oregon and the northern Rockies have reported 6 to 12 inches of new snowfall. Farther south, fair and dry conditions were in place across southern California, the Desert Southwest and across the southern Rockies.

In the East on Tuesday, a frontal boundary produced scattered showers and thunderstorms over the Northeast, Ohio Valley and southern New England. Rainfall amounts over an inch were reported along with areas of flooding in Ohio. Snow showers developed over northern New England. Snowfall accumulations up to six inches were reported. Areas of sleet also fell in the region. Patchy dense fog developed over the Carolinas and Mid-Atlantic, and into the Southeast. Visibilities were less than half a mile in many locations. Skies were partly cloudy and dry over the Deep South.

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Over the central region, a low pressure system produced strong to severe thunderstorms in the southern Plains, lower Missouri Valley and middle Mississippi Valley. Wind damage occurred in central Oklahoma and hail fell in Kansas. Rainfall amounts were over an inch as well. Flooding occurred in southern Missouri. Farther north, snow showers developed over the central and High Plains and moved into the Midwest. Snow accumulations over four inches were reported in Oberlin, Kansas. Goodland, Kansas reported 7.7 inches of snow and 1 to 3-foot drifts. Skies were cloudy and light snow showers were reported over the northern Plains, but little accumulation was expected. Skies were partly cloudy over southern Texas. Over the West, snow showers were also reported in the central and southern Rockies throughout the morning. Moderate accumulations were reported. High pressure brought fair skies and dry conditions of the Desert Southwest, Great Basin, California and the northern Rockies. Scattered rain showers developed over western Washington with snow in the Cascades.

In the East on Wednesday, a frontal boundary produced showers and thunderstorms from the Northeast to the Gulf Coast. Tornadoes developed in northern Alabama and Kentucky, while winds gusted to 72 mph in New Orleans, Louisiana. Many locations received over an inch of rainfall. Rain showers developed over northern areas of the Ohio Valley, and some areas experienced flooding. Colder air over the Great Lakes caused snow showers to develop over Michigan and northern New England. While one to two inches of snow fell over most of the area, a few locations in Vermont reported four inches. Ahead of the front, warm and humid conditions were reported over the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic. Over the central region, heavy snow showers developed over the Midwest and western Great Lakes, while lighter amounts developed over the central Plains and lower Missouri Valley. Accumulations over 14 inches were reported in Iowa, with nearly a foot in northern Illinois. Rain started changing to snow over northern Illinois and eastern Missouri during the morning. Rain showers continued to fall in the Ozarks and into the middle Mississippi Valley. Areas of flooding occurred in southern Missouri. Elsewhere, skies were partly cloudy to mostly clear and dry in the northern and southern Plains. In the West, snow showers continued to move through the northern Great Basin, northern Rockies and higher elevations of the Pacific Northwest along a cold front. Four inches of new snow fell in southern Idaho. High pressure allowed skies in the central and southern Rockies, Desert Southwest and California to stay partly cloudy to mostly clear and dry, with the exception of coastal fog in California.

In the East on Friday, light snow showers developed and moved over the Ohio Valley, southern Great Lakes, and New England. A few inches fell in Maine, otherwise snowfall was light. Further to the south, scattered showers and thunderstorms developed over Florida along a cold front. Rainfall amounts were less than half an inch. Skies were clear and dry over the Southeast, Deep South, and Mid-Atlantic. In the central region, light snow showers and areas of patchy fog were reported over the Upper Midwest and western Great Lakes. Accumulation was less than an inch. Skies started to clear across the central Plains. Fair skies and dry conditions were reported in the northern

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and central Plains and Lower Mississippi Valley. Over the West, snow showers and lower elevation rain showers developed in the central Rockies along a cold front then tapered off. Another area of snow showers and valley rainfall developed over the Pacific Northwest and northern Rockies. Heavy snow continued to fall over the Cascades. Some locations reported over a foot of snow overnight. Rainfall amounts were light. Skies were partly cloudy to mostly clear and dry over the southern Rockies, Great Basin, Desert Southwest, and California.

10th–16th...In the EASTERN part of the country, scattered light snows were exiting the New England region. Snow accumulations were generally light through afternoon hours, with a few reports of 3 inches in the higher elevations. Snow continued to fall across the northern portions of Michigan, but with winds relaxing, conditions were not as severe as they have been over the past day. Snowfall reports were generally under 2 inches, with a few reports near 3 inches across the immediate shoreline. The strong system from the Central U.S. began to spread snow showers, and a mix of freezing rain and sleet into the Ohio Valley, with light snow moving into the western Mid Atlantic. Snowfall accumulations of generally 2 to 5 inches have been reported so far, with only light amounts of ice across Kentucky. The Tennessee Valley, Northeast, Southeast, and Deep South experienced dry conditions. In the Plains, scattered snows fell across the Northern and Central Plains and spread into the Upper Mississippi Valley. Snowfall accumulations of 1 to 4 inches have been reported so far, with a few isolated higher amounts. Scattered freezing rain and sleet was reported across the Southern Plains and Ozarks, spreading eastwards toward the Middle Mississippi Valley, with lightning mixing in the heavier bands. Ice accretions of generally a quarter of an inch to one half inch have been reported across portions of the region, with a few reports near 1 inch. Power outages and icy roadways were also reported throughout the Ozarks. Snowfall and sleet accumulations of 1 to 3 inches have also been reported throughout these areas. Looking farther south, scattered showers and thunderstorms popped up across eastern Texas, eastern Oklahoma, Arkansas, and southern Missouri. Only one report of severe weather so far, with dime size hail found in Rogersville, Missouri. Otherwise, dry conditions prevailed across western portions of the Southern and Central Plains. In the West, isolated to scattered snows fell across the northern High Plains, with some reports of moderate accumulations in Montana through the afternoon hours. Coastal rains were reported across the Pacific Northwest, with some rainfall totals nearing two-tenths of an inch. Extremely windy conditions were reported across portions of Wyoming and Colorado, with gusts in excess of 60 mph in some areas, and sustained speeds of over 40 mph. Colorado and Wyoming also experienced snow showers, with a mix of rain found across southern Colorado. Snowfall accumulations have been light. The Great Basin, Inland Pacific Northwest and Desert Southwest reported partly cloudy to mostly clear conditions through the early afternoon. In the East on Tuesday, a wintry mix of precipitation continued to bring havoc. This wintry weather was found from the Great Lakes and

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Ohio Valley into the New England States and southward into the interior locales of Virginia and North Carolina. Significant ice accumulations continue to be reported, with some locations seeing over a half an inch. Snow accumulations of 4 to 6 inches were reported across southern Michigan, with 2 to 4 amounts across New York. Showers and thunderstorms brought heavy rain and severe weather to the southeastern states. Numerous reports of wind damage and tornadoes were found across the southern Mississippi Valley, with one tornado report near the east coast of Florida. Rainfall amounts of near 2 inches have been reported as well.

In the central and western portion of the US, scattered snows fell. Snowfall totals were locally moderate, with up to 5 inches reported in portions of southern Wisconsin and generally 3 inches across the northwest. A mix of freezing rain and snow fell across portions of the Northern Ozarks and Middle Mississippi Valley, complicating an already bad weather situation. Ice accretions to nearly one-half of an inch have been reported, causing power outages and travel hazards. South of the wintry precipitation, showers and thunderstorms roared across the Southern Ozarks and eastern Texas. Some of these storms produced strong to severe weather, with hail up to one inch and wind gusts to 65 mph. The Plains, Northern Great Lakes, and western Texas reported fair conditions through the early afternoon, outside of some isolated snows in Nebraska.

In the eastern third of the nation on Wednesday, low pressure continued to bring a mix of weather conditions from the New England states southward into Florida. A mix of freezing rain, sleet, and snow fell across portions of New England, western New York, and western Pennsylvania before changing over to a bit of light snow this evening. Accumulations have generally been light, with some areas seeing 2 inches. Across northern Maine accumulations have been heavy, with totals up near a foot in some locations. Heavy rains fell on the warm side of the system from southern New England southward through the Carolinas and into Florida. Rainfall amounts of 2 to 3 inches were reported in the Mid-Atlantic states. Thunderstorms were found across southern Florida, with a few reports of wind damage. Lake effect snow occurred near the Great Lakes today as well, with minor accumulations reported. In the central and western portion of the nation, a storm system moved into the Northern Plains, with moderate to heavy snows and blustery winds. Accumulations of 8 inches were reported across central North Dakota, along with bitterly cold temperatures and 25 mph winds creating blizzard like conditions. Frontal boundary draped across the central Rockies as well, with more snow in the higher elevations there as well. Accumulations have been around 4 to 8 inches in the mountains of Wyoming, Utah, and Idaho. In some of the lower elevations of Utah and Nevada, rain was reported with minor amounts. Gusty winds have been reported with this system today as well, with gusts to 30 to 45 mph common across the Rockies.

17th-23rd...In the East on Monday, a low pressure system continued to produce scattered snow showers across the Great Lakes, Ohio Valley, and into western portions of the Mid Atlantic. Snowfall accumulations

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of generally 1 to 4 inches have been reported; however, isolated higher amounts have been reported across Lower Michigan with lake effect snows bringing up to 6 inches so far. A mix of rain and snow fell across southern Indiana, southern Ohio, and northern Kentucky. Along the coast, scattered rain showers developed in association with a warm front crossing the Northeast. Rainfall amounts were generally around a quarter to three quarters of an inch, but a few locations experienced amounts near 1 inch. In fact, Hyannis, Massachusetts, received 0.99 inches of rainfall so far. Strong gusty winds blew across portions of New England as well, and gusts of up to 70 mph have been recorded. Farther south, scattered showers and thunderstorms were triggered by a cold front across the Mid Atlantic and Southeast. Only two reports of severe weather were recorded in Florida, with a few trees knocked down by stronger wind gusts. Rainfall amounts were moderate to heavy in many locations across the Southeast, with some places receiving over 2 inches of rain. In fact, Warner Robins, Georgia, received 3.68 inches of rain and Panama City, Florida, reported 2.37 inches of rain. Elsewhere across the region, high pressure provided for partly to mostly cloudy skies and dry conditions.

In the West, isolated snow showers developed along a cold front across the Northern Plains and Upper Mississippi Valley. Snowfall amounts ranged from 1 to 4 inches. Farther south, another area of light snow showers moved across the Central Plains and portions of the Central Rockies. Snowfall amounts were light, with generally less than 1 inch of new snow reported. A mix of snow and rain was found across southern portions of the Central Plains and into the Southern Plains. Only light amounts have been reported. Elsewhere, high pressure allowed for fair and dry conditions across the Pacific Northwest, Great Basin, California, Desert Southwest, Southern Rockies, and the Lower Mississippi Valley.

In the East on Wednesday, an upper-level disturbance produced snow showers across the Great Lakes and the Northeast. Snowfall rates were generally light, except where lake-effect snow fell. Areas east of Lake Michigan reported heavy snow of over 8 inches in some spots. Cloverville, Michigan, observed 10.40 inches of snow. Generally lighter snow amounts of 3 to 5 were reported east of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. However, Colden, New York received 8 inches of snow. Strong gusty winds impacted portions of the middle Atlantic and the central Appalachians with gusts of up to 40 miles-per-hour. Elsewhere, light rain showers and isolated thunderstorms impacted portions of southern Florida. Rainfall rates were light to moderate. A few rain and wet snow showers occurred in West Virginia, Kentucky, and northern Tennessee this morning. Snow accumulations were one inch or less. Highs ranged from the mid teens to low 20's in the Great Lakes Region and Ohio Valley. The Northeast experienced highs generally ranging from the mid 20's to mid 40's; the warmest temperatures occurred along the coast. The Appalachians and Tennessee Valley experienced highs mainly in the 30's and 40's. Across the Mid-Atlantic and Southeast, highs were mainly in the 50's and 60's. However, some areas in Florida warmed into the 70's. In the West, cold Arctic air with gusty winds

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created wind chills of over 40 degrees below zero across the northern Plains and the upper Mississippi Valley. Further west, strong gusty winds impacted portions of the northern Rockies and the northern High Plains with gusts in excess of 35 mph. Along the West Coast, a Pacific Storm system began to spread scattered rain showers across the coastline of California from Point Conception northward. Rainfall rates have been light so far, although 0.63 inches of rain fell in Crescent City, California. Elsewhere, high pressure allowed for partly to mostly cloudy skies and dry conditions across the Pacific Northwest, Desert Southwest, the Great Basin, the southern Rockies, and the southern Plains. Highs generally were in the single digits and teens in the Upper Midwest and northern Plains, but some areas in northern Minnesota and North Dakota remained below zero throughout the day. Over the central Plains, highs ranged from the mid 30's to mid 50's, in the southern Plains, highs were in the 50's and 60's. Areas across the West experienced highs generally ranging from the 30's to the 50's. However, higher elevations experienced highs in the 20's. Also, some locations in the Desert Southwest warmed into the 60's and 70's.

A winter storm system has been affecting a large portion of the eastern United States on Friday. A wintry mix of snow, sleet and freezing rain was common across portions of the Ohio Valley and the northern Mid-Atlantic this morning. Snow totals ranged from an inch or two across the coastal plain of the northern Mid-Atlantic to upwards of 6 inches across portions of the Appalachians. For example, Mount Savage, Maryland received six inches of snow. Ice accumulations made for a treacherous morning commute in portions of the region. Ice accumulations of up to three-tenths of an inch occurred over an area from eastern Missouri through southern Indiana, southern Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia and Maryland. For example, Dunn Loring, Virginia picked up two-tenths of an inch of ice so far today. Arcadia, Missouri received three-tenths of an inch of freezing rain. Farther north, snow showers pushed across the eastern Great Lakes and into New England. Snow totals were generally one to six inches, with locally higher totals. For example, Stratford, Connecticut picked up nine inches of snow. Also, Whitehouse, New Jersey received six inches of the white stuff. Farther south, a complex of showers and thunderstorms pushed across the southern Mid-Atlantic, the Tennessee Valley, the Gulf Coast and into portions of the Southeast. Locally heavy rains and occasional lightning strikes were common with this activity. Rainfall totals were generally three-quarters of an inch to an inch and a-half, with some locally higher totals. In fact, Panama City, Florida received 2.18 inches of rain. The only areas of quiet weather occurred across northern New England and the western Great Lakes this morning, where cold and dry weather occurred. Weather conditions were mostly quiet across the nation's Mid-section this morning. Cool and dry weather was common across the Upper Midwest, along with the northern and central Plains. One lone area of showers and thunderstorms slowly pushed across portions of southeastern Texas before coming to an end by mid-day. Locally heavy downpours and isolated lightning was common with this activity. Rainfall totals were under a quarter of an inch. Also,

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an area of snow pushed across eastern Missouri and central Illinois. Snow accumulations were a trace to almost three inches. In fact, 2.7 inches of snow fell near Allenville, Illinois. In the West, a storm system brought rain and mountain snow showers to much of California, portions of the Desert Southwest and a large portion of the Great Basin. A wide range of rainfall totals occurred, ranging from a few hundredths of an inch to over an inch. For example, Oceanside, California received 1.96 inches of rain. Snow accumulations were four to eight inches across the Sierra Nevadas. Snow totals across the Great Basin were generally two to four inches. Meanwhile, light snow showers occurred across the mountains of western Colorado. Also, isolated areas of rain showers fell across interior sections of Washington. No significant rainfall totals occurred. Snow accumulations of 1 to three inches occurred in that region. Elsewhere, dry and quiet weather was common across the northern and southern Rockies.

24th–29th...In the East on Monday, a low–pressure system was responsible for a variety of weather conditions. Rain, freezing rain, sleet, and snow all impacted the central Plains, middle Mississippi Valley, and the upper Mississippi Valley. Precipitation amounts were light to moderate. Many locations in northern Iowa reported freezing rain, then changing over to snow, which made for hazardous travel conditions. Farther south, light isolated rain showers and fog impacted eastern Kansas, Missouri, eastern Oklahoma, and northern Arkansas. Rainfall amounts were light. The leading edge of precipitation brought light freezing rain into western Indiana. In other areas, a broad ridge of high pressure allowed for calm and dry conditions across the eastern third of the country, with only the northern Mid–Atlantic reported light snow early this morning, and light rain showers fell across southern Florida. In the western third of the nation, scattered heavy snow showers impacted the Great Basin and the central Rockies. Higher elevations received over a foot of new snowfall, while locations in the lower valleys reported snowfall amounts ranging from 1 to 4 inches. Isolated snow showers also impacted portions of the northern Rockies and the northern High Plains, precipitation amounts were light. Further west, isolated low elevation rain showers and mountain snow impacted the northern Great Basin and the Pacific Northwest. Precipitation rates were light to moderate. Elsewhere, high pressure built in and brought drier conditions across California and the Desert Southwest.

In the East on Wednesday, scattered showers and a few thunderstorms ended across portions of central and southern Florida. Small hail and some breezy winds were reported with this activity, with some locally high rainfall totals. Scattered snows fell across New England, the Northeast and into portions of the Ohio and Tennessee Valley and Appalachians as an upper–level disturbance moved out of the region. Snowfall totals were generally under 4 inches, with slightly higher amounts towards the upper elevations of the Appalachians and towards the southern shores of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario where lake–enhanced snows were reported. Lake–effect snow continued to pound the southern

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and western shores of Lake Michigan, with up to 4 inches of new snow reported. Fair and cool conditions made their way into the western Ohio Valley, the Southeast, the Mid-Atlantic and the Deep South. In the western two-thirds of the Nation, the only major weather story was the light snow falling across portions of the Upper and Middle Mississippi Valley and Northern Great Lakes. Snowfall totals were generally under 2 inches. Scattered rains moved into portions of western Washington state, with rainfall totals generally under one-quarter of an inch. Patchy low clouds and fog lingered over the central valley of California, as well as portions of the inland Pacific Northwest. Breezy pass winds in southern Wyoming, western Montana and Colorado gusted to 50 mph at times. The Plains, Mississippi Delta, Texas, Desert Southwest, Rockies, Great Basin, High Plains and California saw dry conditions through the early afternoon. In the East on Friday, scattered snows fell across portions of the Ohio Valley and Western Great Lakes as an upper-level disturbance passed through the region. Snowfall totals were generally under three inches, with the majority of that falling across southern Michigan and northern Ohio. Scattered rain showers moved across portions of the Tennessee Valley and Western Deep South, with rainfall totals nearing two-tenths of an inch in some areas. The Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Southeast and Eastern Deep South saw fair and dry conditions through the afternoon hours.

In the western two-thirds of the Nation, scattered snows fell across portions of the Upper Mississippi Valley and Northern Great Lakes. Snowfall was locally heavy across portions of northern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, with other snowfall totals generally under two inches. Some freezing rain mixed in with the snowfall across portions of northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin, with no ice accretions reported. Low clouds and fog hovered over the coastal reaches of California, with scattered valley fogs across portions of the Intermountains. Scattered rain showers moved across the Ozarks, with light rainfall reported. Fair conditions were reported across the Pacific Northwest, Great Basin, Rockies, Plains, Middle and Lower Mississippi Valley, Desert Southwest and High Plains.