

# Winter Weather: Blizzards, Snow Storms & Ice Storms

## Fill-n-the-blank

A blizzard is a dangerous winter storm that is a combination of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ resulting in low visibility. These storms last over \_\_\_\_\_ hours and have strong winds of more than \_\_\_\_\_ mph.

### 3 Types of Blizzards:

\_\_\_\_\_ Blizzards – no fresh snow falling, but strong winds pick up old snow off the ground and move it around, making it hard to see

\_\_\_\_\_ Blizzards – winds of 45 mph or higher and temperatures of 10 F or below. These blizzards have extremely compromised visibility. These are even harder to see than in normal blizzards.

\_\_\_\_\_ Blizzard – happen on the East coast of the US. These are the result of temperature and precipitation changes around the ocean.

Blizzards are most common in the upper \_\_\_\_\_ of the US and the \_\_\_\_\_ because of the wide open land available there that makes wind and snow easier to blow around.

In other places, trees, landforms, and buildings can stop wind but in these \_\_\_\_\_ areas, there is nothing to do so here. Wind from the equator and poles can go in \_\_\_\_\_ directions and meet, causing \_\_\_\_\_. These 2 fronts will cause a storm to form.

Blizzards can also form from \_\_\_\_\_ air rising into the atmosphere, cooling and causing precipitation and clouds to form. They can be extremely \_\_\_\_\_ and can have huge effects on people. Limited visibility can make it very hard to \_\_\_\_\_ or move around, so people get stuck and cannot go anywhere. This makes it hard for rescue teams to find people who are stuck without supplies. They might starve, run out of water, or freeze to death.

Wind and the \_\_\_\_\_ of snow can cause trees to fall over, roofs to cave in, windows to break, or other damage. Fallen power lines can also mean that people may be without \_\_\_\_\_ and increases the risk of frostbite, and hypothermia as a result of being exposed to low temperatures. Crops can die and often do because the ground \_\_\_\_\_ and it is too cold for them to survive. In blizzards animals can starve, run out of \_\_\_\_\_, freeze to death, or get stuck somewhere without the things they need to survive, and die. The \_\_\_\_\_ is also affected because of the loss of crops, inability to work and loss of business because people cannot go out and buy things means less money for everyone.

Differences between Snow storms and Blizzards:

Snow storms are considered to be \_\_\_\_\_ than blizzards because they do not have high winds and low visibility. However they can be just as dangerous. Snow storms are characterized by near freezing or \_\_\_\_\_ or precipitation such as snowfall, sleet, ice, or freezing rain.

A blizzard is a \_\_\_\_\_ kind of snow storm. Blizzards also occur in the \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. The United States alone averages about \_\_\_\_\_ per year.

### STAYING SAFE:

- Listen to weather \_\_\_\_\_
- Keep extra \_\_\_\_\_ (food, water, flashlights, warm blankets) Stay \_\_\_\_\_, if you have to go out, dress warm
- Have backup \_\_\_\_\_ (candles, blankets, and sources of warmth)
- Limit \_\_\_\_\_ to property (protect plants, and reinforce buildings)

### WORD BANK

11	flat	less severe	drive	opposite
warnings	Severe	precipitation	wind	Great Plains
warm	energy	Ground	electricity	Nor'Eastern
freezes	warm	below freezing	weight	supplies
damage	snow	dangerous	water	Midwest
35	harsher	economy		
3	inside	northern plains, midwest, Canada		

