## Tornado Damage Risk Assessment Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex

A Regional Exercise in Demographic, Environmental, and Urban Analysis<br>February, 2000

## Scenario One

Tornado Outbreak Data
Centered at -96.93,32.89


All figures included in this summary are estimates based upon the best information available at the time of the study. A variety of other variables can be incorporated into future studies or come into play during a real event of this magnitude.

Last Update: January 9, 2001

# Data Analysis and Geographic Information System Data Compilation 

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## Study Overview

This study features the use of digitally mapped tornado path information from a real tornado outbreak laid atop Dallas-Fort Worth urban and demographic data. Modern computer technology can help estimate the magnitude that the tasks of warning, rescue, and recovery would require. If we make the very likely assumption that Dallas-Fort Worth would see comparable damage in the same portions of the tornadoes that caused damage in Oklahoma, we can then model this same event across the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and assess how susceptible the area is to large tornado damage potential.

Five (5) separate distributions (scenarios) of the same Oklahoma tornado paths are modeled with the output including:

- The number of structures in the path
- Potential dollar damages to structures and contents
- Residents living in the path
- Employees working in the path
- Utility lines in the path
- The distribution of land use in the path
- Estimated roadway miles and vehicles travelling in the path

The goal is to stress the importance of planning and preparation for the day when this type of event does occur in Dallas-Fort Worth. A tornadic outbreak like the one in Oklahoma would cover an amazing amount of North Central Texas territory, and this study will help quantify that which would be in the way of the storms themselves.


The Tornadoes used in this analysis were mapped using a distinct delineation of the Fujita Scale (FScale) damage regions as they occurred in Oklahoma. The FScale corresponds to the magnitude of damage occurring to structures.

This document focuses on scenario one of the study. For more information about study methodology, data, and procedures, please refer to the study summary document.

Scenario One


Scenario one centers the entire outbreak of tornadoes at -96.93,32.89 (long/lat decimal degrees). This positioning brings the big tornado "A9" up from the southwest through southwest Dallas County. The northern-most tornadoes have significant paths through Denton County. Most of the land that is impacted in this scenario is classified as vacant, but the pockets of residential and commercial land contain property values exceeding $\$ 1.6$ billion. The big tornado's parent system begins in Somervell County and moves up across Cleburne into Dallas County. This tornado outbreak produces the $4^{\text {th }}$ highest potential property losses from damage of the five scenario outbreaks.

Scenario 1 -Summary of Structures in Path

| Fujita Scale <br> Contour | Structures <br> Impacted | Property Value in <br> Path | Potential Property <br> Losses |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 0 | 1071 | $\$ 112,724,707$ | $\$ 5,621,728$ |
| 1 | 7376 | $\$ 668,453,041$ | $\$ 55,143,721$ |
| 2 | 3437 | $\$ 362,933,244$ | $\$ 273,588,297$ |
| 3 | 3440 | $\$ 304,699,713$ | $\$ 295,004,708$ |
| 4 | 1653 | $\$ 168,756,784$ | $\$ 168,756,784$ |
| 5 | 93 | $\$ 13,045,893$ | $\$ 13,045,893$ |
|  |  |  |  |
| Total | 17070 | $\$ 1,630,613,000$ | $\$ 811,000,000$ |



Above: Path of the big tornado "A9"(Moore, OK) across the southern metroplex. Bold numbers along the path indicate the F-Scale rating given to the same portion of the tornado in Oklahoma.


Aerial Image Maps Courtesy of VARGIS LLC
Above: Tornado "A9" path across Interstate-20 in south Dallas County. Velocities of this model path alignment reach F-5 and present the largest traffic threat of the scenario.

## Major Land Uses in Tornado Paths

The largest number of tornado damage paths cross the North Central Texas study area in Scenario One. Most of the land located in the damage paths is classified as vacant. The structural damage from all of the tornadoes can be credited to less than $20 \%$ of their path.

| Land Use Category | Impacted <br> Acres | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Impacted <br> Square Miles | Percent of Total Area in <br> Tornado Paths |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | ---: | ---: |
| Vacant | 32438.08 | 5 | 50.68 | $78.13 \%$ |
| Single Family | 3827.49 | 5 | 5.98 | $9.22 \%$ |
| Water | 1859.33 | 4 | 2.90 | $4.48 \%$ |
| Parks \& Recreation | 1200.96 | 4 | 1.88 | $2.89 \%$ |
| Retail | 434.48 | 5 | 0.68 | $1.05 \%$ |
| Institutional | 275.20 | 5 | 0.43 | $0.66 \%$ |
| Mobile Home Parks | 262.83 | 4 | 0.41 | $0.63 \%$ |
| Industrial | 239.48 | 4 | 0.37 | $0.58 \%$ |
| Multi-family | 181.51 | 4 | 0.28 | $0.44 \%$ |
| Airport | 103.99 | 4 | 0.16 | $0.25 \%$ |
| Office | 16.30 | 4 | 0.03 | $0.04 \%$ |
| Landfill | 9.18 | 1 | 0.01 | $0.02 \%$ |

Major Land Uses in the Path of Tornado "A9" (Moore,OK)

| Land Use Category | Impacted <br> Acres | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Impacted <br> Square Miles | Percent of Total Area in <br> Tornado "A9" Path |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | ---: | ---: |
| Vacant | 7479.06 | 5 | 11.68 | $61.11 \%$ |
| Single Family | 1806.33 | 5 | 2.82 | $14.76 \%$ |
| Water | 786.49 | 4 | 1.23 | $6.43 \%$ |
| Parks \& Recreation | 746.45 | 4 | 1.17 | $6.10 \%$ |
| Retail | 283.16 | 5 | 0.44 | $2.31 \%$ |
| Institutional | 178.50 | 5 | 0.28 | $1.46 \%$ |
| Mobile Home Parks | 175.35 | 4 | 0.27 | $1.43 \%$ |
| Industrial | 170.14 | 4 | 0.27 | $1.39 \%$ |
| Multi-family | 128.87 | 4 | 0.20 | $1.05 \%$ |
| Airport | 65.47 | 4 | 0.10 | $0.53 \%$ |
| Office | 11.43 | 4 | 0.02 | $0.09 \%$ |

## Detailed Structure Summary

The table below provides structure damage estimates for all of the tornado paths. Damages are calculated based on appraisal data and the Fujita Scale contour the structure is located in.

| Type | Total in Path | Property Value in Path | Potential Property <br> Losses |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Single Family Homes | 11944 | $\$ 1,232,998,903$ | $\$ 643,821,260$ |
| Apartment Units | 3728 | $\$ 83,528,277$ | $\$ 32,652,392$ |
| Mobile Homes | 818 | $\$ 18,946,847$ | $\$ 6,233,035$ |
| Commercial Properties | 505 | $\$ 249,161,535$ | $\$ 96,426,015$ |
| Industrial Structures | 64 | $\$ 45,977,820$ | $\$ 32,028,440$ |

## Residents and Employees in Path

The table below provides an estimate of the number of persons occupying the structures in the path of the tornadoes. Numbers are based upon city data for household size, occupancy rates, major employer locations, and traffic survey zone employment data.

| Category | Total Persons | Persons in F-2 or <br> Greater Contour | Persons in F-4 or <br> F-5 Contour |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Residents at Home | 34644 | 14178 | 4296 |
| Employees at Work | 10423 | 5722 | 1156 |

Estimated Number of Persons Occupying
Residential Structures In the Path of Tornadoes

| Fujita Scale <br> Contour | Persons in Homes | Persons in Apartments | Persons in Mobile Homes |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 0 | 1997 | 315 | 290 |
| 1 | 13249 | 3297 | 1318 |
| 2 | 7295 | 1212 | 101 |
| 3 | 7163 | 1249 | 27 |
| 4 | 3405 | 590 | 60 |
| 5 | 240 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 26185 | 6663 | 1796 |

Largest Potential Losses by City

| City | Structures | Property Value <br> in Path | Potential <br> Property Losses | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Employees <br> in Path | Residents <br> in Path |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Dallas | 5944 | $\$ 333,652,222$ | $\$ 191,311,251$ | 5 | 6322 | 12687 |
| County Land or | 2778 | $\$ 309,085,562$ | $\$ 179,825,950$ | 5 | 764 | 7082 |
| Undefined | 1705 | $\$ 170,337,372$ | $\$ 106,357,865$ | 5 | 1065 | 4536 |
| Duncanville | 787 | $\$ 118,237,561$ | $\$ 76,107,321$ | 4 | 58 | 2295 |
| Cedar Hill | 946 | $\$ 108,935,034$ | $\$ 69,086,396$ | 4 | 127 | 2549 |
| Sanger | 814 | $\$ 114,405,328$ | $\$ 47,187,308$ | 3 | 521 | 2024 |
| Cleburne | 397 | $\$ 51,844,101$ | $\$ 31,854,750$ | 3 | 75 | 1132 |
| Keller | 238 | $\$ 30,915,247$ | $\$ 26,628,331$ | 5 | 8 | 696 |
| Mansfield | 668 | $\$ 91,500,772$ | $\$ 18,927,655$ | 2 | 670 | 1850 |
| Mesquite | 301 | $\$ 33,424,503$ | $\$ 10,036,393$ | 2 | 9 | 844 |
| Flower Mound | 96 | $\$ 13,741,749$ | $\$ 8,414,326$ | 3 | 45 | 256 |
| Trophy Club | 204 | $\$ 17,675,095$ | $\$ 7,872,813$ | 3 | 70 | 541 |
| Keene |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Other Features Impacted

| Category | Total <br> Number | Number in F-2 or <br> Greater Contour | Number in F-4 or <br> F-5 Contour |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Schools | 9 | 3 | 1 |
| Miles of Roads | 294.91 | 155.80 | 34.34 |
| Miles of Railroads | 10.52 | 6.02 | 2.7 |
| Major Electrical Utility Lines Intersected | 34 | 20 | 10 |
| by the Centerline of a Tornado |  |  |  |



## Legend

Structural Damage Estimates in Dollars
$\triangle$ \$1,000,000-\$10,000,000
— \$10,000,000-\$25,000,000
A $\$ 25,000,000-\$ 75,000,000$
$\bigcirc>\$ 75,000,000$

Above: The most significant damage areas as calculated for scenario one. Displayed points represent small area locations with total damages exceeding $\$ 1,000,000$. The small areas are no larger than . 2 square miles and exist entirely within the tornado path. A few of the larger damage total dollar values are displayed on the map. Their positioning has been generalized for the scale of mapping.

## Percentage of City Current Single Family Housing Units Destroyed By Tornadoes

The table below describes the inventory of single family houses currently existing in several North Central Texas cities, and compares that to the number that would have been destroyed in scenario one. The city of Sanger in Denton County would have been hit significantly by one of the northern F-4 tornadoes in the group - and the path would have taken the storm across significant single-family housing neighborhoods in the southeastern portion of the city. If Sanger's housing received similar damage that the houses in Oklahoma experienced in that path, an amazing 34 percent of the city's single-family housing inventory would likely have been destroyed. There were multiple strong tornadoes in the Oklahoma outbreak, and the alignment of scenario one would have brought numerous of the northern tornadoes far enough south to have long damage paths in the region.

| City | Houses Destroyed <br> (F2 or Greater Contour) | Estimated Number of Current <br> Single Family Units in 1999 | Percent <br> Destroyed |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Sanger | 531 | 1554 | $34.2 \%$ |
| Duncanville | 974 | 10838 | $8.9 \%$ |
| Cedar Hill | 527 | 9141 | $5.7 \%$ |
| Roanoke | 31 | 594 | $5.3 \%$ |
| Cleburne | 371 | 7958 | $4.6 \%$ |
| Celina | 30 | 655 | $4.5 \%$ |
| Keller | 250 | 7868 | $3.1 \%$ |
| Argyle | 22 | 717 | $3.0 \%$ |
| Trophy Club | 60 | 2033 | $2.9 \%$ |
| Mansfield | 206 | 7568 | $2.7 \%$ |
| Double Oak | 10 | 686 | $1.5 \%$ |
| Dallas | 1943 | 227914 | $0.8 \%$ |
| Flower Mound | 86 | 14946 | $0.5 \%$ |



Above: Path of tornado "E6" through Sanger in Denton County. Colored city polygons represent variations in land use categories.


Above: Path of tornado "A9" just southeast of Downtown Dallas. Select buildings are mapped and displayed in relationship to the tornado path. The tornado terminates its F-4 damage path at Fair Park.

## Tornado Damage Risk Assessment - Dallas-Fort Worth

## Population Threat and Losses by Tornado

In scenario one, the big tornado "A9", produces its lowest threat of the five scenarios. Despite this "lesser" impact from the big tornado, the scenario still produces over $\$ 800$ million of potential property losses. This is due to the fact that ten (10) separate tornadoes each produce over $\$ 10$ million of potential property losses. The tornado "E6" is significant at over $\$ 119$ million.

| Tornado | Maximum <br> Fujita | Residents <br> in Path | Impacted <br> Structures | Property Value <br> in Path | Potential Property <br> Losses |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| A9 | 5 | 22360 | 9582 | $\$ 716,276,651$ | $\$ 429,879,431$ |
| E6 | 4 | 4130 | 1543 | $\$ 186,154,744$ | $\$ 119,651,428$ |
| G2 | 3 | 2810 | 1022 | $\$ 133,321,694$ | $\$ 81,960,683$ |
| A6 | 3 | 3013 | 1245 | $\$ 151,802,072$ | $\$ 65,649,716$ |
| B20 | 4 | 699 | 265 | $\$ 48,982,847$ | $\$ 36,954,051$ |
| A12 | 2 | 2319 | 889 | $\$ 99,653,144$ | $\$ 19,505,080$ |
| G5 | 3 | 371 | 138 | $\$ 24,656,726$ | $\$ 18,713,397$ |
| B19 | 2 | 788 | 261 | $\$ 35,555,605$ | $\$ 12,607,675$ |
| D2 | 2 | 405 | 161 | $\$ 14,509,387$ | $\$ 7,703,352$ |
| B18 | 1 | 1898 | 683 | $\$ 77,339,683$ | $\$ 6,162,014$ |
| B16 | 1 | 587 | 182 | $\$ 49,341,881$ | $\$ 3,876,862$ |
| A8 | 2 | 203 | 79 | $\$ 7,618,807$ | $\$ 3,113,427$ |
| B10 | 1 | 754 | 372 | $\$ 26,436,540$ | $\$ 2,001,852$ |



Above: Potential Structural Damage Losses by Tornado for Scenario One.


Above: 3-D Enhanced path of tornado "A9" across Dallas County. The downtown Dallas skyline is visible to the left center. The view is to the north-northeast.


Above: Aerial view of tornado path "A9" across northwestern portions of Fair Park. The tornado is nearing the end of its life span, but it is still several blocks wide with significant F -4 damage potential.


Above: Areas of estimated damages to single family homes and apartment units exceeding \$5 million. Dollar values are a function of the number of structures, their appraised value and the magnitude of wind velocities at their location.

## Estimated Traffic in the Path of Tornadoes

Traffic figures for vehicles in the path of the tornadoes are based on NCTCOG transportation modeling for major thoroughfares through the region. The data is an estimate of road volumes and capacities across more than 21,000 links throughout the metroplex, many of them calibrated to actual traffic count data. The models include estimates for freeways, arterials, and collectors, but do not include local residential streets. The numbers for scenario one are derived from those modeling numbers. For scenario one, we are estimating the number of cars that, as a function of volume, speed, time, and distance, should be located on the actual roadway pavement in the tornado's path at the time the tornado overtakes the route. Hourly traffic numbers provide an estimate of how many cars would actually cross the path during the hour of the tornado's primary impact. Vehicles trapped numbers are estimates of how many vehicles should theoretically be on the roadway in the tornado path when the tornado strikes (under varying traffic levels).

| Hourly Vehicles on <br> Routes Crossed by <br> Tornadoes | Vehicles Located in Tornado <br> Paths at Normal Roadway <br> Vehicle Volumes | Vehicles Trapped in <br> Tornado Paths if <br> Roadways all Backed Up |  |  |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ${ }^{* 104697}$ | 435 |  |  |  |

- Estimated based on daily modeling totals and hourly multipliers

North Central Texas Council of Governments/ National Weather Service Fort Worth


## Legend

Number of Vehicles in Path of Tornadoes
$\triangle$ 3-15
-
15-30
A
30-50
$>50$

Above: Areas with 3 or more vehicles potentially trapped in path of tornadoes. Region-wide in scenario one, 635 vehicles are estimated to be in the direct path of tornadoes under such normal flow conditions. Each dot represents an area of no greater than .2 square miles. The dots represent a total of all modeled road data in those small areas. Note that the number of cars "trapped" is also dependent upon the width of the tornado path.



Above: Areas with 100 or more vehicles potentially trapped in tornado paths if roadways backed up (traffic jam). If all lanes were backed up with an average of one vehicle per 35 feet, the above areas would find large numbers of vehicles located in the path at the time of the tornado strike. If all of the modeled routes were backed up this way, 44,000 vehicles would be in the path of tornadoes. Each dot represents an area of no greater than .2 square miles. The dots represent a total of all modeled road data in those small areas. Note that the number of cars "trapped" is also dependent upon the width of the tornado path.

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## Scenario Two

Tornado Outbreak Data
Centered at -97.00,32.95


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Five (5) separate distributions (scenarios) of the same Oklahoma tornado paths are modeled with the output including:

- The number of structures in the path
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- Residents living in the path
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The Tornadoes used in this analysis were mapped using a distinct delineation of the Fujita Scale (FScale) damage regions as they occurred in Oklahoma. The FScale corresponds to the magnitude of damage occurring to structures.

This document focuses on scenario two of the study. For more information about study methodology, data, and procedures, please refer to the study summary document.

## Tornado Damage Risk Assessment = Dallas-Fort Worth

## Scenario Two



Scenario two centers the entire outbreak of tornadoes at -97.00,32.95 (long/lat decimal degrees). This positioning starts the big tornado "A9" near Interstate 35W in northern Johnson County. Following the precise path direction that it did in Oklahoma, the storm moves through northwest Mansfield, through southern Grand Prairie, across Interstate 20, and northeast into Dallas. This alignment of paths produces the lowest damage estimates of the five scenarios, but the damages still approach $\$ 800$ million. Arlington, Grand Prairie, Mansfield, and Dallas could each lose over 500 single family homes.

## Scenario 2 - Summary of Structures in Path

| Fujita Scale <br> Contour | Structures <br> Impacted | Property Value in <br> Path | Potential Property <br> Losses |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 0 | 559 | $\$ 49,202,987$ | $\$ 2,333,068$ |
| 1 | 6171 | $\$ 756,795,476$ | $\$ 60,115,664$ |
| 2 | 3393 | $\$ 414,459,618$ | $\$ 309,800,222$ |
| 3 | 2632 | $\$ 277,734,269$ | $\$ 263,551,342$ |
| 4 | 1566 | $\$ 147,500,912$ | $\$ 147,500,912$ |
| 5 | 39 | $\$ 6,570,143$ | $\$ 6,570,143$ |
|  |  |  |  |
| Total | 14363 | $\$ 1,652,263,000$ | $\$ 790,000,000$ |



Above: Path of the large tornado "A9" through Tarrant and Dallas Counties. Bold numbers along the path indicate the F-Scale rating given to the same portion of the tornado in Oklahoma.


Above: Three-dimensional computer rendering of tornado "A9" path crossing the Trinity River northwest of downtown Dallas and entering the Stemmons industrial district.

Major Land Uses in All Tornado Paths
Like scenario one, nearly $80 \%$ of the tornado paths in scenario two would be made up of vacant land. The damage from the tornadoes can be attributed to less than $20 \%$ of their paths. Denton County is extremely active in this scenario, but the slight adjustment of the paths to the northwest spares many communities from the direct hits that occurred in scenario one.

| Land Use Category | Impacted <br> Acres | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Impacted <br> Square Miles | Percent of Total Area <br> in Tornado Paths |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | ---: | ---: |
| Vacant | 27487.24 | 5 | 42.94 | $79.95 \%$ |
| Single Family | 2853.82 | 5 | 4.46 | $8.30 \%$ |
| Water | 720.60 | 5 | 1.13 | $2.10 \%$ |
| Industrial | 683.87 | 4 | 1.07 | $1.99 \%$ |
| Parks \& Recreation | 676.31 | 4 | 1.06 | $1.97 \%$ |
| Mobile Home Parks | 315.81 | 4 | 0.49 | $0.92 \%$ |
| Retail | 285.74 | 5 | 0.45 | $0.83 \%$ |
| Institutional | 235.29 | 4 | 0.37 | $0.68 \%$ |
| Multi-family | 175.78 | 4 | 0.27 | $0.51 \%$ |
| Airport | 157.08 | 4 | 0.25 | $0.46 \%$ |
| Office | 36.94 | 4 | 0.06 | $0.11 \%$ |

Major Land Uses in the Path of Tornado "A9" (Moore,OK)

| Land Use Category | Impacted <br> Acres | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Impacted <br> Square Miles | Percent of Total Area <br> in Tornado "A9" Path |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | ---: | ---: |
| Vacant | 7441.65 | 5 | 11.63 | $60.81 \%$ |
| Single Family | 1961.76 | 5 | 3.06 | $16.03 \%$ |
| Water | 654.59 | 5 | 1.02 | $5.35 \%$ |
| Industrial | 529.04 | 4 | 0.83 | $4.32 \%$ |
| Parks \& Recreation | 466.67 | 4 | 0.73 | $3.81 \%$ |
| Retail | 190.92 | 5 | 0.30 | $1.56 \%$ |
| Institutional | 174.13 | 4 | 0.27 | $1.42 \%$ |
| Mobile Home Parks | 153.21 | 4 | 0.24 | $1.25 \%$ |
| Multi-family | 147.75 | 4 | 0.23 | $1.21 \%$ |
| Airport | 36.82 | 4 | 0.06 | $0.30 \%$ |
| Office | 33.97 | 4 | 0.05 | $0.28 \%$ |

## Detailed Structure Summary

The table below provides structure damage estimates for all of the tornado paths. Damages are calculated based on appraisal data and the Fujita Scale contour in which the structure is located.

| Type | Total in Path | Property Value in Path | Potential Losses |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Single Family Homes | 8790 | $\$ 1,043,387,374$ | $\$ 499,778,737$ |
| Apartment Units | 3900 | $\$ 166,885,696$ | $\$ 92,655,150$ |
| Mobile Homes | 1214 | $\$ 19,587,208$ | $\$ 14,326,747$ |
| Commercial Properties | 361 | $\$ 286,711,473$ | $\$ 139,740,610$ |
| Industrial Structures | 85 | $\$ 86,488,667$ | $\$ 43,370,106$ |

## Residents and Employees in Path

The table below provides an estimate of the number of persons occupying the structures in the path of the tornadoes. Numbers are based upon city data for household size, occupancy rates, major employer locations, and traffic survey zone employment data.

| Category | Total Persons | Persons in F-2 or <br> Greater Contour | Persons in F-4 or <br> F-5 Contour |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Residents at Home | 34030 | 17706 | 3469 |
| Employees at Work | 19131 | 10062 | 2103 |

## Estimated Number of Persons Occupying Residential Structures In the Path of Tornadoes

| Fujita Scale <br> Contour | Persons in Homes | Persons in Apartments | Persons in Mobile Homes |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 0 | 882 | 86 | 356 |
| 1 | 11691 | 2392 | 917 |
| 2 | 5940 | 1676 | 526 |
| 3 | 4091 | 1477 | 529 |
| 4 | 1819 | 1202 | 342 |
| 5 | 104 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 24527 | 6833 | 2670 |

Largest Damages by City

| City | Structures <br> in Path | Property Value <br> in Path | Potential <br> Losses | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Employees <br> in Path | Residents <br> in Path |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Dallas | 4813 | $\$ 448,738,666$ | $\$ 249,575,752$ | 5 | 12957 | 9354 |
| Mansfield | 836 | $\$ 200,291,677$ | $\$ 122,641,370$ | 5 | 579 | 2368 |
| Rendon | 1191 | $\$ 175,637,202$ | $\$ 102,234,975$ | 4 | 157 | 3145 |
| Grand Prairie | 1921 | $\$ 181,753,763$ | $\$ 96,111,457$ | 4 | 148 | 5098 |
| Arlington | 1260 | $\$ 134,394,102$ | $\$ 75,921,563$ | 5 | 271 | 3192 |
| County Land or <br> Undefined | 1825 | $\$ 189,908,589$ | $\$ 58,374,655$ | 4 | 278 | 4633 |
| Krugerville |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fort Worth | 623 | $\$ 65,122,069$ | $\$ 52,547,411$ | 4 | 38 | 1676 |
| Aubrey | 388 | $\$ 41,851,518$ | $\$ 6,682,848$ | 3 | 2687 | 934 |
| Burleson | 72 | $\$ 12,544,270$ | $\$ 5,697,519$ | 4 | 164 | 129 |
| Denton | 505 | $\$ 47,352,218$ | $\$ 4,468,870$ | 1 | 1 | 1415 |

Other Features In Path

| Category | Total <br> Number | Number in F-2 or <br> Greater Contour | Number in F-4 or <br> F-5Contour |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Schools | 11 | 5 | 5 |
| Miles of Roads | 270.11 | 144.05 | 28.13 |
| Miles of Railroads | 24.70 | 14.26 | 1.61 |
| Major Electrical Utility Lines Intersected | 44 | 27 | 12 |
| by Centerline of Tornado |  |  |  |



## Legend

Structural Damage Estimates in Dollars
$\triangle$ \$1,000,000-\$10,000,000
— \$10,000,000-\$25,000,000
A \$25,000,000-\$75,000,000
$\gg \$ 75,000,000$

Above: The most significant damage areas as calculated for scenario two. Displayed points represent small area locations with total damages exceeding $\$ 1,000,000$. The small areas are no larger than . 2 square miles and exist entirely within the tornado path. Their positioning has been generalized for the scale of mapping.

## Tornado Damage Risk Assessment - Dallas-Fort Worth

## Percentage of City Current Single Family Housing Units Destroyed By Tornadoes

The table below describes the inventory of single family houses currently existing in several North Central Texas cities, and compares that to the number that would likely have been destroyed in scenario three. The City of Mansfield would experience the largest percentage loss in this scenario. Grand Prairie also would experience a significant loss of property.

| CITYNAME | Houses Destroyed <br> (F2 or Greater Contour) | Estimated Number of Current <br> Single Family Units in 1999 | Percent <br> Destroyed |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Mansfield | 558 | 7568 | 7.38 |
| Haslet | 25 | 378 | 6.74 |
| Aubrey | 27 | 406 | 6.73 |
| Grand Prairie | 807 | 29854 | 2.70 |
| Argyle | 11 | 717 | 1.58 |
| Arlington | 505 | 75920 | 0.67 |
| Dallas | 699 | 227914 | 0.31 |
| Joshua | 3 | 1426 | 0.28 |
| Flower Mound | 14 | 14946 | 0.10 |
| Fort Worth | 36 | 133889 | 0.03 |



Aerial Image Maps Courtesy of VARGIS LLC
Above: Midway along the path of tornado "A9". This tornado would unleash some of its most intense strength over the open waters of Mountain Creek Lake. The damage path narrowly misses the former Naval Air Station, but does return to shore to produce large damage totals.

## Population Threat and Losses by Tornado

In scenario two, the big tornado "A9" would produce the largest threat. Tornado "B20" would impact nearly $\$ 100$ million of property in Denton County - much of it in F-4 contours. Tornado "E6" threatens F-4 damage like it did in scenario one, but its slight shift to the north and west dramatically reduces its potential losses. None the less, it still impacts 367 structures.

| Tornado | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Residents in <br> the Path | Structures <br> Impacted | Property Value <br> in Path | Potential Losses |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| A9 | 5 | 25019 | 10555 | $\$ 1,202,475,446$ | $\$ 660,403,775$ |
| B20 | 4 | 2267 | 877 | $\$ 99,443,467$ | $\$ 74,821,333$ |
| A12 | 2 | 1721 | 774 | $\$ 82,408,692$ | $\$ 9,358,324$ |
| A8 | 2 | 455 | 171 | $\$ 21,874,120$ | $\$ 9,186,077$ |
| A6 | 3 | 261 | 99 | $\$ 9,817,269$ | $\$ 5,839,539$ |
| G2 | 3 | 188 | 65 | $\$ 7,405,818$ | $\$ 5,771,748$ |
| E6 | 4 | 771 | 367 | $\$ 6,564,932$ | $\$ 5,680,856$ |
| B19 | 2 | 157 | 62 | $\$ 9,453,333$ | $\$ 4,527,893$ |
| B18 | 1 | 723 | 394 | $\$ 52,053,559$ | $\$ 4,135,318$ |
| B10 | 1 | 558 | 234 | $\$ 39,818,038$ | $\$ 2,998,595$ |
| B8 | 1 | 473 | 174 | $\$ 30,099,871$ | $\$ 2,364,991$ |
| B16 | 1 | 375 | 147 | $\$ 25,350,963$ | $\$ 2,019,317$ |



Above: Potential Losses from Structural damages by tornado for Scenario Two.


Tornado path enhanced in 3-Dimensional computer model of Trinity River Corridor near the Stemmons Industrial District. The tornado path is slimmer than earlier in its life cycle, but the tornado is still capable of F-4 damage.


North Central Texas Council of Governments/ National Weather Service Fort Worth Scenario Two-Page 1


Above: Areas of estimated damages to single family homes and apartment units exceeding \$5 million. The estimation is a function of tornado strength, width, and structure appraisal data.

## Estimated Traffic in the Path of Tornadoes

Traffic figures for vehicles in the path of the tornadoes are based on NCTCOG transportation modeling for major thoroughfares through the region. The data is an estimate of road volumes and capacities across more than 21,000 links throughout the metroplex, many of them calibrated to actual traffic count data. The models include estimates for freeways, arterials, and collectors, but do not include local residential streets. The numbers for scenario two are derived from those modeling numbers. For scenario two, we are estimating the number of cars that, as a function of volume, speed, time, and distance, should be located on the actual roadway pavement in the tornado's path at the time the tornado overtakes the route. . Hourly traffic numbers provide an estimate of how many cars would actually cross the path during the hour of the tornado's primary impact. Vehicles trapped numbers are estimates of how many vehicles should theoretically be on the roadway in the tornado path when the tornado strikes (under varying traffic levels).

| Hourly Vehicles on <br> Routes Crossed by <br> Tornadoes | Vehicles Trapped in Tornado <br> Paths at Normal Roadway <br> Vehicle Volumes | Vehicles Trapped in <br> Tornado Paths if <br> Roadways all Backed Up |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ${ }^{*} 101970$ | ${ }^{*} 643$ | 39329 |

[^0]
## Tornado Damage Risk Assessment - Dallas-Fort Worth



## Legend

Number of Vehicles in Path of Tornadoes

| $\triangle$ | $3-15$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| 0 | $15-30$ |
| A | $30-50$ |
| O | $>50$ |

Above: Areas with 3 or more vehicles potentially trapped in path of tornadoes. Region-wide in scenario two, 643 vehicles are estimated to be in the direct path of tornadoes under such normal flow conditions. Each dot represents an area of no greater than . 2 square miles. The dots represent a total of all modeled road data in those small areas. Note that the number of cars "trapped" is also dependent upon the width of the tornado path.


| Legend |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Number of Vehicles in Path of Tornadoes |  |
| $\triangle$ | 100-250 |
| 0 | 250-500 |
|  | $500-750$ |
|  |  |

Above: Areas with 100 or more vehicles potentially trapped in tornado paths if roadways backed up (traffic jam). If all lanes were backed up with an average of one vehicle per 35 feet, the above areas would find large numbers of vehicles located in the path at the time of the tornado strike. If all of the modeled routes were backed up this way, 39,000 vehicles would be in the path of tornadoes. Each dot represents an area of no greater than .2 square miles. The dots represent a total of all modeled road data in those small areas. Note that the number of cars "trapped" is also dependent upon the width of the tornado path.

## Tornado Damage Risk Assessment Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex

A Regional Exercise in Demographic, Environmental, and Urban Analysis<br>February, 2000

## Scenario Three

Tornado Outbreak Data
Centered at -97.21,33.09


All figures included in this summary are estimates based upon the best information available at the time of the study. A variety of other variables can be incorporated into future studies or come into play during a real event of this magnitude.

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# Data Analysis and Geographic Information System Data Compilation 

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## Study Overview

This study features the use of digitally mapped tornado path information from a real tornado outbreak laid atop Dallas-Fort Worth urban and demographic data. Modern computer technology can help estimate the magnitude that the tasks of warning, rescue, and recovery would require. If we make the very likely assumption that Dallas-Fort Worth would see comparable damage in the same portions of the tornadoes that caused damage in Oklahoma, we can then model this same event across the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and assess how susceptible the area is to large tornado damage potential.

Five (5) separate distributions (scenarios) of the same Oklahoma tornado paths are modeled with the output including:

- The number of structures in the path
- Potential dollar damages to structures and contents
- Residents living in the path
- Employees working in the path
- Utility lines in the path
- The distribution of land use in the path
- Estimated roadway miles and vehicles travelling in the path

The goal is to stress the importance of planning and preparation for the day when this type of event does occur in Dallas-Fort Worth. A tornadic outbreak like the one in Oklahoma would cover an amazing amount of North Central Texas territory, and this study will help quantify that which would be in the way of the storms themselves.


The Tornadoes used in this analysis were mapped using a distinct delineation of the Fujita Scale (FScale) damage regions as they occurred in Oklahoma. The FScale corresponds to the magnitude of damage occurring to structures.

This document focuses on scenario three of the study. For more information about study methodology, data, and procedures, please refer to the study summary document.

Scenario Three


Scenario three centers the entire outbreak of tornadoes at -97.21,33.09 (long/lat decimal degrees). This positioning starts the big tornado "A9" near Lake Benbrook. Following the precise path direction that it did in Oklahoma, the storm moves directly through downtown Fort Worth, Haltom City, Richland Hills, Hurst, Colleyville, Bedford and up to the Dam at Lake Grapevine. This is the first multi-billion dollar damage event of the five scenarios. Approximately $\$ 4$ billion of property would lie in the path of these tornadoes. Tornado D1 produces a 9 mile path through southeast Dallas, but with F-1 winds and a small 30 yard width. Meanwhile, tornado D2 (F-2), with a 250 yard width, causes $\$ 50$ million of damage in Garland.

## Scenario 3 - Summary of Structures in Path

| Fujita Scale <br> Contour | Structures <br> Impacted | Property Value in <br> Path | Potential Property <br> Losses |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 0 | 57 | $\$ 8,183,370$ | $\$ 401,653$ |
| 1 | 8148 | $\$ 1,073,874,165$ | $\$ 82,239,941$ |
| 2 | 6447 | $\$ 1,014,789,747$ | $\$ 668,175,650$ |
| 3 | 7120 | $\$ 1,471,786,655$ | $\$ 1,281,121,012$ |
| 4 | 1588 | $\$ 601,097,140$ | $\$ 601,097,140$ |
| 5 | 118 | $\$ 19,262,130$ | $\$ 19,262,130$ |
|  |  |  |  |
| Total | 23380 | $\$ 4,188,993,000$ | $\$ 2,652,000,000$ |

[^1]

Above: Path of the large tornado "A9" through Tarrant County. Bold numbers along the path indicate the maximum F-Scale rating at that location.


Aerial Image Maps Courtesy of VARGIS LLC
Above: Aerial image of tornado "A9" path over downtown Fort Worth.

Major Land Uses in All Tornado Paths
Nearly $80 \%$ of the tornado paths in scenario one were made up of vacant land, but scenario three sees a dramatic increase in other land uses, particularly single family. For the first time in the study, the path of the big tornado "A9" hits more developed land than vacant land. Quite simply, this translates to a large number of destroyed structures, big dollar totals, and residents at risk.

| Land Use Category | Impacted <br> Acres | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Impacted <br> Square Miles | Percent of Total Area in <br> Tornado Paths |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | ---: | ---: |
| Vacant | 11549.52 | 5 | 18.04 | $51.26 \%$ |
| Single Family | 4741.62 | 5 | 7.41 | $21.04 \%$ |
| Parks \& Recreation | 1278.93 | 5 | 2.00 | $5.68 \%$ |
| Industrial | 955.45 | 5 | 1.49 | $4.24 \%$ |
| Retail | 864.12 | 5 | 1.35 | $3.84 \%$ |
| Institutional | 579.34 | 5 | 0.91 | $2.57 \%$ |
| Water | 550.35 | 4 | 0.86 | $2.44 \%$ |
| Multi-family | 283.20 | 4 | 0.44 | $1.26 \%$ |
| Office | 267.01 | 4 | 0.42 | $1.19 \%$ |
| Airport | 141.44 | 4 | 0.22 | $0.63 \%$ |
| Mobile Home Parks | 4.94 | 3 | 0.01 | $0.02 \%$ |

Major Land Uses in the Path of Tornado "A9" (Moore,OK)

| Land Use Category | Impacted <br> Acres | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Impacted <br> Square Miles | Percent of Total Area in <br> Tornado "A9" Path |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | ---: | ---: |
| Single Family | 4075.10 | 5 | 6.37 | $33.30 \%$ |
| Vacant | 2850.96 | 5 | 4.45 | $23.30 \%$ |
| Parks \& Recreation | 1225.96 | 5 | 1.92 | $10.02 \%$ |
| Industrial | 853.83 | 5 | 1.33 | $6.98 \%$ |
| Retail | 763.05 | 5 | 1.19 | $6.23 \%$ |
| Institutional | 558.69 | 5 | 0.87 | $4.57 \%$ |
| Multi-family | 268.41 | 4 | 0.42 | $2.19 \%$ |
| Office | 266.37 | 4 | 0.42 | $2.18 \%$ |
| Airport | 134.00 | 4 | 0.21 | $1.09 \%$ |
| Parking | 127.53 | 4 | 0.20 | $1.04 \%$ |
| Water | 11.23 | 4 | 0.02 | $0.09 \%$ |
| Mobile Home Parks | 4.66 | 3 | 0.01 | $0.04 \%$ |

## Detailed Structure Summary

The table below provides structure damage estimates for all of the tornado paths. Damages are calculated based on appraisal data and the Fujita Scale category at the structure location.

| Type | Total in Path | Property Value in Path | Potential Losses |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Single Family Homes | 14480 | $\$ 1,311,323,302$ | $\$ 753,579,000.00$ |
| Apartment Units | 6200 | $\$ 237,749,649$ | $\$ 172,914,000.00$ |
| Mobile Homes | 31 | $\$ 488,506$ | $\$ 267,313.00$ |
| Commercial Properties | 1408 | $\$ 2,204,693,573$ | $\$ 1,464,295,345.00$ |
| Industrial Structures | 478 | $\$ 434,738,177$ | $\$ 261,241,264.00$ |

North Central Texas Council of Governments/ National Weather Service Fort Worth Scenario Three - Page 6

## Residents and Employees in Path

The table below provides an estimate of the number of persons occupying the structures in the path of the tornadoes. Numbers are based upon city data for household size, occupancy rates, major employer locations, and traffic survey zone employment data.

| Category | Total Persons | Persons in F-2 or <br> Greater Contour | Persons in F-4 or <br> F-5 Contour |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Residents at Home | 51312 | 33378 | 3845 |
| Employees at Work | 64636 | 52242 | 11287 |

## Estimated Number of Persons Occupying Residential Structures In the Path of Tornadoes

| Fujita Scale <br> Contour | Persons in Homes | Persons in Apartments | Persons in Mobile Homes |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 0 | 142 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 14721 | 3033 | 47 |
| 2 | 10614 | 3850 | 23 |
| 3 | 10532 | 4785 | 0 |
| 4 | 2926 | 351 | 0 |
| 5 | 284 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 39222 | 12020 | 70 |

Largest Damages by City

| City | Structures <br> in Path | Property Value <br> in Path | Potential <br> Losses | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Employees <br> in Path | Residents <br> in Path |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fort Worth | 12000 | $\$ 2,523,611,447$ | $\$ 1,807,391,422$ | 5 | 51903 | 25050 |
| Colleyville | 927 | $\$ 324,577,041$ | $\$ 170,072,599$ | 5 | 195 | 2839 |
| Hurst | 954 | $\$ 266,282,468$ | $\$ 167,498,093$ | 5 | 3523 | 2197 |
| Haltom City | 1486 | $\$ 244,415,002$ | $\$ 160,702,344$ | 4 | 3800 | 2962 |
| North Richland | 1552 | $\$ 125,541,221$ | $\$ 71,140,903$ | 3 | 853 | 2991 |
| Benbrook | 1533 | $\$ 240,307,563$ | $\$ 67,365,319$ | 3 | 1472 | 3497 |
| Grapevine | 533 | $\$ 114,109,996$ | $\$ 66,571,773$ | 4 | 456 | 1259 |
| Garland | 1637 | $\$ 110,455,032$ | $\$ 49,419,783$ | 2 | 1423 | 4381 |
| Richland Hills | 1316 | $\$ 89,423,870$ | $\$ 45,620,244$ | 3 | 719 | 2900 |
| Bedford | 333 | $\$ 50,312,742$ | $\$ 30,862,305$ | 5 | 16 | 951 |
| Carrollton | 200 | $\$ 24,822,121$ | $\$ 6,375,179$ | 2 | 49 | 518 |

Other Features Impacted

| Category | Total <br> Number | Number in F-2 or <br> Greater Contour | Number in F-4 or <br> F-5Contour |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Schools | 13 | 8 | 1 |
| Miles of Roads | 400.30 | 265.21 | 45.22 |
| Miles of Railroads | 20.39 | 10.12 | 2.35 |
| Major Electrical Utility Lines Intersected | 40 | 22 | 6 |
| by Centerline of Tornado |  |  |  |




Above: The most significant damage areas as calculated for scenario three. Displayed points represent small area locations with total damages exceeding $\$ 1,000,000$. The small areas are no larger than .2 square miles and exist entirely within the tornado path. Their positioning has been generalized for the scale of mapping.

## Percentage of City Current Single Family Housing Units Destroyed By Tornadoes

The table below describes the inventory of single family houses currently existing in several North Central Texas cities, and compares that to the number that would have been destroyed in scenario three. The Cities of Richland Hills, Colleyville and Haltom City see major impacts to their housing inventory from this scenario. Over 5500 houses are destroyed in Fort Worth.

| CITYNAME | Houses Destroyed <br> (F2 or Greater Contour) | Estimated Number of Current <br> Single Family Units in 1999 | Percent Destroyed |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Richland Hills | 426 | 2730 |  |
| Colleyville | 575 | 6174 | $15.61 \%$ |
| Haltom City | 683 | 10093 | $9.33 \%$ |
| Fort Worth | 5554 | 133889 | $6.78 \%$ |
| Hurst | 370 | 10009 | $4.15 \%$ |
| Grapevine | 253 | 10044 | $3.70 \%$ |
| Bedford | 205 | 12106 | $2.53 \%$ |
| Garland | 779 | 56221 | $1.70 \%$ |
| Benbrook | 21 | 6386 | $1.39 \%$ |
| Carrollton | 49 | 27059 | $0.34 \%$ |



Computer Models of tornado "A9", wide enough at this point to encompass the entire width of Downtown Fort Worth. This tornado would also destroy over 5000 homes along its path.



Above: Tornado "A9" path enhanced vertically to emphasize Fujita-Scale contour lines, The largest glass office-buildings in Fort Worth would be completely within F-3 and F-4 wind areas.


## Population Threat and Losses by Tornado

In scenario three, the big tornado "A9", impacts a huge amount of property. This is a true nightmare of a tornado strike, with nearly $\$ 2.6$ billion of losses attributed to this one tornado. The impact of tornado D2 is significant in northeast Dallas County. Many of the northern tornadoes in this outbreak slide above the study area and do not provide much data.

| Tornado | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Residents in <br> the Path | Structures <br> Impacted | Property Value <br> in Path | Potential <br> Losses |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| A9 | 5 | 44649 | 20360 | $\$ 3,978,691,841$ | $\$ 2,587,333,313$ |
| D2 | 2 | 4381 | 1637 | $\$ 110,455,032$ | $\$ 49,419,783$ |
| A12 | 2 | 531 | 205 | $\$ 25,630,718$ | $\$ 6,490,647$ |
| B20 | 2 | 184 | 68 | $\$ 8,137,951$ | $\$ 3,977,458$ |
| D3 | 1 | 481 | 170 | $\$ 22,860,580$ | $\$ 1,785,001$ |
| B8 | 1 | 279 | 121 | $\$ 17,908,842$ | $\$ 1,395,367$ |
| B10 | 1 | 146 | 54 | $\$ 6,456,827$ | $\$ 513,534$ |
| D1 | 1 | 439 | 176 | $\$ 6,535,897$ | $\$ 510,666$ |
| G2 | 2 | 69 | 30 | $\$ 5,634,132$ | $\$ 357,273$ |
| B9 | 1 | 51 | 19 | $\$ 2,264,227$ | $\$ 177,903$ |
| A6 | 2 | 20 | 8 | $\$ 985,666$ | $\$ 142,129$ |
| B18 | 1 | 15 | 6 | $\$ 705,954$ | $\$ 55,467$ |



Above: Structural damage estimates by tornado for Scenario Three


Above: Building structures in the path of Tornado "A9" just southwest of Downtown Fort Worth. Nearly 21,000 structures would be in the path of this tornado alone.


Above: Computer Model of path of Tornado "A9" passing through downtown Fort Worth. Over $90 \%$ of downtown structures would be impacted in this scenario.

## Tornado Damage Risk Assessment - Dallas-Fort Worth



Above: Computer Model of path of Tornado "A9" passing through downtown Fort Worth. The appraised value of structures in the downtown area total around $\$ 1$ Billion. There are over 50,000 jobs in the area as well.

## Estimated Traffic in the Path of Tornadoes

Traffic figures for vehicles in the path of the tornadoes are based on NCTCOG transportation modeling for major thoroughfares through the region. The data is an estimate of road volumes and capacities across more than 21,000 links throughout the metroplex, many of them calibrated to actual traffic count data. The models include estimates for freeways, arterials, and collectors, but do not include local residential streets. The numbers for scenario three are derived from those modeling numbers. For scenario three, we are estimating the number of cars that, as a function of volume, speed, time, and distance, should be located on the actual roadway pavement in the tornado's path at the time the tornado overtakes the route. Hourly traffic numbers provide an estimate of how many cars would actually cross the path during the hour of the tornado's primary impact. Vehicles trapped numbers are estimates of how many vehicles should theoretically be on the roadway in the tornado path when the tornado strikes (under varying traffic levels).

| Hourly Vehicles on Routes Crossed by Tornadoes | Vehicles Trapped in Tornado Paths at Normal Roadway Vehicle Volumes | Vehicles Trapped in Tornado Paths if Roadways all Backed Up |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| *16937 | *1737 | 79581 |



Above: Areas with 3 or more vehicles potentially trapped in path of tornadoes. Region-wide in scenario three, 1737 vehicles are estimated to be in the direct path of tornadoes under such normal flow conditions. Each dot represents an area of no greater than .2 square miles. The dots represent a total of all modeled road data in those small areas. Note that the number of cars "trapped" is also dependent upon the width of the tornado path.


## Legend

Number of Vehicles in Path of Tornadoes
$\triangle$ 100-250

- 250-500
$\triangle$
500-750
> 750

Above: Areas with 100 or more vehicles potentially trapped in tornado paths if roadways backed up (traffic jam). If all lanes were backed up with an average of one vehicle per 35 feet, the above areas would find large numbers of vehicles located in the path at the time of the tornado strike. If all of the modeled routes were backed up this way, 79,000 vehicles would be in the path of tornadoes. Each dot represents an area of no greater than . 2 square miles. The dots represent a total of all modeled road data in those small areas. Note that the number of cars "trapped" is also dependent upon the width of the tornado path.

## Tornado Damage Risk Assessment Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex

A Regional Exercise in Demographic, Environmental, and Urban Analysis<br>February, 2000

## Scenario Four

Tornado Outbreak Data<br>Centered at -96.63,33.50



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Last Update: January 11, 2001

# Data Analysis and Geographic Information System Data Compilation 

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Five (5) separate distributions (scenarios) of the same Oklahoma tornado paths are modeled with the output including:

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- Residents living in the path
- Employees working in the path
- Utility lines in the path
- The distribution of land use in the path
- Estimated roadway miles and vehicles travelling in the path

The goal is to stress the importance of planning and preparation for the day when this type of event does occur in Dallas-Fort Worth. A tornadic outbreak like the one in Oklahoma would cover an amazing amount of North Central Texas territory, and this study will help quantify that which would be in the way of the storms themselves.


The Tornadoes used in this analysis were mapped using a distinct delineation of the Fujita Scale (FScale) damage regions as they occurred in Oklahoma. The F-Scale corresponds to magnitude of damage occurring to structures.

This document focuses on scenario four of the study. For more information about study methodology, data, and procedures, please refer to the study summary document.

## Scenario 4



Scenario four centers the entire outbreak of tornadoes at -96.63,33.50 (long/lat decimal degrees). This positioning starts the big tornado "A9" near Cockrell Hill in Dallas County. Following the precise path direction that it did in Oklahoma, the storm moves through southwest Dallas and through the northwest side of downtown. The storm strengthens to threaten F-5 damage as it enters the Lakewood area of east Dallas, and slides northeast through Rowlett and Garland. Like scenario three, this is a $\$ 3$ billion potential property loss event. Sister tornadoes produced by the same thunderstorm would have cut damage paths through Arlington, Grand Prairie and Burleson. The alignment of scenario four would threaten the most employees in the study - about 94,000.

## Scenario 4 - Summary of Structures in Path

| Fujita Scale <br> Contour | Structures <br> Impacted | Property Value in Path | Potential Property <br> Losses |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 0 | 76 | $\$ 8,863,509$ | $\$ 455,173$ |
| 1 | 11019 | $\$ 1,586,949,894$ | $\$ 121,703,960$ |
| 2 | 8797 | $\$ 1,287,566,904$ | $\$ 801,038,321$ |
| 3 | 6118 | $\$ 1,700,663,604$ | $\$ 1,456,329,235$ |
| 4 | 3964 | $\$ 362,666,563$ | $\$ 362,666,563$ |
| 5 | 910 | $\$ 66,733,295$ | $\$ 66,733,295$ |
|  |  |  |  |
| Total | 30887 | $\$ 5,013,443,000.00$ | $\$ 2,808,000,000.00$ |



Above: Path of the large tornado "A9" through Dallas County. Bold numbers along the path indicate the maximum F -Scale rating at that location.


Above: Computer Model of the tornado path intersecting the west end portion of downtown Dallas. The tornado is at $F$-3 level at this point.

North Central Texas Council of Governments/ National Weather Service Fort Worth Scenario Four-Page 5

Major Land Uses in All Tornado Paths
Nearly $40 \%$ of the land in the path of the tornadoes in scenario four can be classified as developed. This contributes to the $\$ 2.9$ billion damage estimate. The path of the big tornado "A9" covers more developed land than vacant land. This tornado path crosses over 1500 acres of lake water - mainly White Rock Lake and Lake Ray Hubbard.

| Land Use Category | Impacted <br> Acres | Maximum Fujita <br> Scale | Impacted <br> Square Miles | Percent of Total Area <br> in Tornado Paths |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Vacant | 9654.50 | 5 | 15.08 | $45.78 \%$ |
| Single Family | 4983.76 | 5 | 7.79 | $23.63 \%$ |
| Water | 1573.88 | 5 | 2.46 | $7.46 \%$ |
| Parks \& Recreation | 945.89 | 5 | 1.48 | $4.48 \%$ |
| Retail | 821.44 | 5 | 1.28 | $3.89 \%$ |
| Industrial | 678.14 | 4 | 1.06 | $3.22 \%$ |
| Multi-family | 603.08 | 5 | 0.94 | $2.86 \%$ |
| Institutional | 594.76 | 5 | 0.93 | $2.82 \%$ |
| Office | 253.04 | 5 | 0.40 | $1.20 \%$ |
| Parking | 111.16 | 4 | 0.17 | $0.53 \%$ |
| Mobile Home Parks | 73.30 | 4 | 0.11 | $0.35 \%$ |
| Airport | 42.83 | 3 | 0.07 | $0.20 \%$ |
| Landfill | 7.16 | 0 | 0.01 | $0.03 \%$ |

Major Land Uses in the Path of Tornado "A9" (Moore,OK)

| Land Use Category | Impacted <br> Acres | Maximum Fujita <br> Scale | Impacted <br> Square Miles | Percent of Total Area <br> in Tornado "A9" Path |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Single Family | 4298.28 | 5 | 6.72 | $35.12 \%$ |
| Vacant | 2156.44 | 5 | 3.37 | $17.62 \%$ |
| Water | 1465.43 | 5 | 2.29 | $11.97 \%$ |
| Parks \& Recreation | 858.09 | 781.29 | 5 | 1.34 |
| Retail | 591.20 | 5 | 1.22 | $7.01 \%$ |
| Industrial | 581.26 | 5 | 0.92 | $6.38 \%$ |
| Multi-family | 538.43 | 5 | 0.91 | $4.83 \%$ |
| Institutional | 236.52 | 5 | 0.84 | $4.75 \%$ |
| Office | 23.94 | 5 | 0.37 | $4.40 \%$ |
| Mobile Home Parks |  | 4 | 0.04 | $1.93 \%$ |

## Detailed Structure Summary

The table below provides structure damage estimates for all of the tornado paths. Damages are calculated based on appraisal data and the Fujita Scale category at the structure location.

| Type | Total in Path | Property Value in Path | Potential Losses |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Single Family Homes | 17064 | $\$ 1,765,098,694$ | $\$ 1,063,995,160$ |
| Apartment Units | 10953 | $\$ 333,734,132$ | $\$ 210,124,134$ |
| Mobile Homes | 616 | $\$ 7,655,328$ | $\$ 6,612,407$ |
| Commercial Properties | 1263 | $\$ 2,820,373,600$ | $\$ 1,469,457,831$ |
| Industrial Structures | 319 | $\$ 86,582,016$ | $\$ 59,050,148$ |

North Central Texas Council of Governments/ National Weather Service Fort Worth

## Residents and Employees in Path

The table below provides an estimate of the number of persons occupying the structures in the path of the tornadoes. Numbers are based upon city data for household size, occupancy rates, major employer locations, and traffic survey zone employment data.

| Category | Total Persons | Persons in F-2 or <br> Greater Contour | Persons in F-4 or <br> F-5 Contour |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Residents at Home | 69357 | 43203 | 9037 |
| Employees at Work | 94186 | 55992 | 7544 |

## Estimated Number of Persons Occupying Residential Structures In the Path of Tornadoes

| Fujita Scale <br> Contour | Persons in Homes | Persons in Apartments | Persons in Mobile Homes |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 0 | 173 | 14 | 0 |
| 1 | 19758 | 5898 | 311 |
| 2 | 12895 | 6186 | 783 |
| 3 | 9361 | 3777 | 222 |
| 4 | 4521 | 3722 | 13 |
| 5 | 573 | 1150 | 0 |
| Total | 47281 | 20747 | 1329 |

## Largest Damages by City

| City | Structures <br> in Path | Property Value <br> in Path | Potential <br> Losses | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Employees <br> in Path | Residents <br> in Path |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Dallas | 22899 | $\$ 4,193,401,229$ | $\$ 2,487,530,437$ | 5 | 90317 | 47901 |
| Garland | 2813 | $\$ 231,668,343$ | $\$ 132,825,620$ | 4 | 2145 | 7367 |
| Rowlett | 997 | $\$ 151,271,825$ | $\$ 91,798,716$ | 5 | 107 | 3004 |
| County Land or | 721 | $\$ 87,158,945$ | $\$ 28,244,953$ | 4 | 23 | 1939 |
| Undefined |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grand Prairie | 340 | $\$ 40,543,597$ | $\$ 13,597,637$ | 2 | 15 | 992 |
| Arlington | 587 | $\$ 31,118,013$ | $\$ 11,343,994$ | 2 | 286 | 1475 |
| Cockrell Hill | 1138 | $\$ 47,087,888$ | $\$ 11,072,432$ | 2 | 400 | 3508 |
| Mansfield | 262 | $\$ 34,262,918$ | $\$ 10,476,429$ | 2 | 88 | 743 |
| Burleson | 110 | $\$ 20,496,814$ | $\$ 7,710,437$ | 3 | 157 | 272 |
| Grapevine | 20 | $\$ 67,086,230$ | $\$ 5,088,897$ | 1 | 93 | 0 |
| Bedford | 258 | $\$ 43,730,615$ | $\$ 3,359,865$ | 1 | 237 | 569 |

Other Features in Path

| Category | Total Number | Number in F-2 or <br> Greater Contour | Number in F-4 or <br> F-5Contour |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Schools | 27 | 15 | 1 |
| Miles of Roads | 344.34 | 211.48 | 38.58 |
| Miles of Railroads | 18.06 | 12.66 | 0.81 |
| Major Electrical Utility Lines Intersected <br> by the Centerline of a Tornado | 43 | 29 | 7 |



## Legend

Structural Damage Estimates in Dollars
$\triangle$ \$1,000,000-\$10,000,000
— $\$ 10,000,000-\$ 25,000,000$
A \$25,000,000-\$75,000,000
$\gg 75,000,000$

Above: The most significant damage areas as calculated for scenario four. Displayed points represent small area locations with total damages exceeding $\$ 1,000,000$. The small areas are no larger than .2 square miles and exist entirely within the tornado path. Their positioning has been generalized for the scale of mapping.

## Percentage of City Current Single Family <br> Housing Units Destroyed By Tornadoes

The table below describes the inventory of single family houses currently existing in several North Central Texas cities, and compares that to the number that would have been destroyed in scenario four. The City of Cockrell Hill would see a major loss of homes in this scenario, and Dallas would have to recover from a tremendous damage path.

| CITYNAME | Houses Destroyed <br> (F2 or Greater Contour) | Estimated Number of Current <br> Single Family Units in 1999 | Percent Destroyed |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Cockrell Hill | 166 | 896 | $18.53 \%$ |
| Rowlett | 609 | 13149 | $4.64 \%$ |
| Dallas | 7316 | 227914 | $3.21 \%$ |
| Garland | 1280 | 56221 | $2.28 \%$ |
| Mansfield | 92 | 7568 | $1.22 \%$ |
| Little Elm | 2 | 317 | $0.65 \%$ |
| Burleson | 33 | 6205 | $0.55 \%$ |
| Grand Prairie | 115 | 29854 | $0.39 \%$ |
| Arlington | 91 | 75920 | $0.12 \%$ |



Above: Geographical box graph of significant commercial structures along a portion of the path of tornado "A9" through Dallas. Colors correspond to the F-Scale and the height corresponds to the number of stories of the structure in the path.

North Central Texas Council of Governments/ National Weather Service Fort Worth Scenario Four - Page 9

## Tornado Damage Risk Assessment - Dallas-Fort Worth

## Population Threat and Losses by Tornado

In scenario four, the big tornado "A9", would produce a huge amount of damage. This is a true nightmare of a tornado strike, with over $\$ 2.8$ billion attributed to this one tornado. Three other tornadoes from the same thunderstorm would produce expensive damage paths in Arlington, Burleson, and Grand Prairie. If the model path had been slightly more southeast, the damages would have been much higher - encompassing more of downtown Dallas with higher winds.

| Tornado | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Residents in <br> the Path | Structures <br> Impacted | Property Value <br> in Path | Potential <br> Losses |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| A9 | 5 | 61893 | 27896 | $\$ 4,625,407,214$ | $\$ 2,723,827,041$ |
| A6 | 2 | 2318 | 883 | $\$ 67,975,789$ | $\$ 22,314,998$ |
| A3 | 3 | 864 | 329 | $\$ 46,615,295$ | $\$ 18,375,306$ |
| A8 | 2 | 892 | 306 | $\$ 37,948,740$ | $\$ 13,103,062$ |
| G2 | 3 | 382 | 140 | $\$ 16,855,263$ | $\$ 10,950,858$ |
| B10 | 1 | 75 | 48 | $\$ 70,380,852$ | $\$ 5,347,619$ |
| E3 | 3 | 203 | 74 | $\$ 8,961,242$ | $\$ 3,607,472$ |
| B8 | 1 | 866 | 382 | $\$ 46,290,588$ | $\$ 3,525,793$ |
| B9 | 1 | 597 | 257 | $\$ 42,448,399$ | $\$ 3,289,092$ |
| E2 | 1 | 450 | 166 | $\$ 19,953,824$ | $\$ 1,567,380$ |
| B19 | 2 | 33 | 13 | $\$ 3,517,406$ | $\$ 1,095,714$ |



Above: Structural damage estimates by tornado for Scenario Four.


Computer Model of the tornado path intersecting the west end portion of downtown Dallas and continuing across heavily-developed areas near White Rock Lake to the east.


North Central Texas Council of Governments/ National Weather Service Fort Worth Scenario Four - Page 11


Above: Single family housing locations that would receive the most expensive damages in scenario four. Red circles mark areas with over $\$ 50$ million in total losses. Model calculations indicate that some neighborhood areas could see losses near $\$ 100$ million.

## Estimated Traffic in the Path of Tornadoes

Traffic figures for vehicles in the path of the tornadoes are based on NCTCOG transportation modeling for major thoroughfares through the region. The data is an estimate of road volumes and capacities across more than 21,000 links throughout the metroplex, many of them calibrated to actual traffic count data. The models include estimates for freeways, arterials, and collectors, but do not include local residential streets. The numbers for scenario four are derived from those modeling numbers. For scenario four, we are estimating the number of cars that, as a function of volume, speed, time, and distance, should be located on the actual roadway pavement in the tornado's path at the time the tornado overtakes the route. Hourly traffic numbers provide an estimate of how many cars would actually cross the path during the hour of the tornado's primary impact. Vehicles trapped numbers are estimates of how many vehicles should theoretically be on the roadway in the tornado path when the tornado strikes (under varying traffic levels).

| Hourly Vehicles on <br> Routes Crossed by <br> Tornadoes | Vehicles Trapped in Tornado <br> Paths at Normal Roadway <br> Vehicle Volumes | Vehicles Trapped in Tornado <br> Paths if Roadways all Backed Up |  |
| :---: | :---: | ---: | :---: |
| *181933 | 87099 |  |  |

* Estimated based on daily modeling totals and hourly multipliers

North Central Texas Council of Governments/ National Weather Service Fort Worth Scenario Four - Page 12


## Legend

Number of Vehicles in Path of Tornadoes

| $\triangle$ | $3-15$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| 0 | $15-30$ |
| A | $30-50$ |
|  | $>50$ |

Above: Areas with 3 or more vehicles potentially trapped in path of tornadoes. Region-wide in scenario four, 1833 vehicles are estimated to be in the direct path of tornadoes under such normal flow conditions. Each dot represents an area of no greater than 2 square miles. The dots represent a total of all modeled road data in those small areas. Note that the number of cars "trapped" is also dependent upon the width of the tornado path.


## Legend

Number of Vehicles in Path of Tornadoes
$\triangle$ 100-250

- 250-500

4 500-750
> 750

Above: Areas with 100 or more vehicles potentially trapped in tornado paths if roadways backed up (traffic jam). If all lanes were backed up with an average of one vehicle per 35 feet, the above areas would find large numbers of vehicles located in the path at the time of the tornado strike. If all of the modeled routes were backed up this way, 87,000 vehicles would be in the path of tornadoes. Each dot represents an area of no greater than . 2 square miles. The dots represent a total of all modeled road data in those small areas. Note that the number of cars "trapped" is also dependent upon the width of the tornado path.

## Tornado Damage Risk Assessment Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex

A Regional Exercise in Demographic, Environmental, and Urban Analysis<br>February, 2000

## Scenario Five

Tornado Outbreak Data
Centered at -96.84,33.14


All figures included in this summary are estimates based upon the best information available at the time of the study. A variety of other variables can be incorporated into future studies or come into play during a real event of this magnitude.

Last Update: January 11, 2001


# Data Analysis and Geographic Information System Data Compilation 

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## Study Overview

This study features the use of digitally mapped tornado path information from a real tornado outbreak laid atop Dallas-Fort Worth urban and demographic data. Modern computer technology can help estimate the magnitude that the tasks of warning, rescue, and recovery would require. If we make the very likely assumption that Dallas-Fort Worth would see comparable damage in the same portions of the tornadoes that caused damage in Oklahoma, we can then model this same event across the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and assess how susceptible the area is to large tornado damage potential.

Five (5) separate distributions (scenarios) of the same Oklahoma tornado paths are modeled with the output including:

- The number of structures in the path
- Potential dollar damages to structures and contents
- Residents living in the path
- Employees working in the path
- Utility lines in the path
- The distribution of land use in the path
- Estimated roadway miles and vehicles travelling in the path

The goal is to stress the importance of planning and preparation for the day when this type of event does occur in Dallas-Fort Worth. A tornadic outbreak like the one in Oklahoma would cover an amazing amount of North Central Texas territory, and this study will help quantify that which would be in the way of the storms themselves.


The Tornadoes used in this analysis were mapped using a distinct delineation of the Fujita Scale (F-Scale) damage regions as they occurred in Oklahoma. The F-Scale corresponds to magnitude of damage occurring to structures.

This document focuses on scenario five of the study. For more information about study methodology, data, and procedures, please refer to the study summary document.

## Scenario Five



Scenario five centers the entire outbreak of tornadoes at -96.84,33.14 (long/lat decimal degrees). Scenario five calculates to have the highest dollar risk of the scenarios. This route touches the big tornado "A9" down initially in Arlington. Following the precise path and direction that it did in Oklahoma, the storm moves through northeast Arlington, Grand Prairie, Irving, Dallas, and Richardson. This path crosses UT-Arlington, the Ballpark in Arlington, Six Flags over Texas, Texas Stadium, and expensive office property in Richardson. A large number of apartment complexes would be in the way in North Dallas - over 19,000 units altogether in this scenario. Over 17,000 houses are in the path as well, along with an amazing 84,000 residents.

## Scenario 5 - Summary of Structures in Path

| Fujita Scale | Structures <br> Impacted | Property Value in <br> Path | Potential Damages |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 0 | 508 | $\$ 57,341,105$ | $\$ 2,760,376$ |
| 1 | 15464 | $\$ 1,692,391,492$ | $\$ 130,044,824$ |
| 2 | 9518 | $\$ 1,309,717,551$ | $\$ 833,337,409$ |
| 3 | 9201 | $\$ 1,308,032,590$ | $\$ 1,196,426,674$ |
| 4 | 3513 | $\$ 650,186,547$ | $\$ 650,186,547$ |
| 5 | 574 | $\$ 46,553,369$ | $\$ 46,553,369$ |
| Total | 38778 | $\$ 5,064,222,000$ | $\$ 2,859,000,000$ |



Above: Path of the large tornado "A9" through Dallas County. Bold numbers along the path indicate the maximum F-Scale rating at that location.


Above Left: Computer Model of tornado "A9" path enhanced vertically and moving northeast across Dallas County. Variations in colors and shape represent differences in Fujita contour. Above Right: Computer Model of tornado "A9" path moving northeast across Northeast Tarrant County. Arlington, Texas is front and center in this view.

## Major Land Uses in Tornado Paths

Nearly $50 \%$ of the land in the path of the tornadoes in scenario five can be classified as developed. This contributes to the $\$ 3$ billion property loss estimate. Nearly $70 \%$ of the path of the big tornado "A9" occurs through developed acreage.

| Land Use Category | Impacted <br> Acres | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Impacted <br> Square Miles | Percent of Total <br> Area in Tornado |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | ---: | ---: |
| Vacant | 8150.40 | 5 | 12.73 | $40.12 \%$ |
| Single Family | 5154.45 | 5 | 8.05 | $25.37 \%$ |
| Industrial | 1287.20 | 5 | 2.01 | $6.34 \%$ |
| Retail | 1274.36 | 5 | 1.99 | $6.27 \%$ |
| Institutional | 800.20 | 5 | 1.25 | $3.94 \%$ |
| Multi-family | 730.77 | 5 | 1.14 | $3.60 \%$ |
| Water | 690.55 | 3 | 1.08 | $3.40 \%$ |
| Parks \& Recreation | 654.65 | 5 | 1.02 | $3.22 \%$ |
| Office | 373.77 | 4 | 0.58 | $1.84 \%$ |
| Mobile Home Parks | 115.39 | 4 | 0.18 | $0.57 \%$ |
| Landfill | 8.37 | 2 | 0.01 | $0.04 \%$ |
| Airport | 5.80 | 1 | 0.01 | $0.03 \%$ |

## Major Land Uses in the Path of Tornado "A9" (Moore,OK)

| Land Use Category | Impacted <br> Acres | Maximum Fujita <br> Scale | Impacted <br> Square Miles | Percent of Total Area <br> in Tornado "A9" Path |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Single Family | 4265.63 | 5 | 6.66 | $34.85 \%$ |
| Vacant | 2593.94 | 5 | 4.05 | $21.19 \%$ |
| Retail | 1216.99 | 5 | 1.90 | $9.94 \%$ |
| Industrial | 1137.93 | 5 | 1.78 | $9.30 \%$ |
| Multi-family | 682.94 | 5 | 1.07 | $5.58 \%$ |
| Institutional | 609.52 | 5 | 0.95 | $4.98 \%$ |
| Parks \& Recreation | 395.72 | 5 | 0.62 | $3.23 \%$ |
| Office | 360.72 | 4 | 0.56 | $2.95 \%$ |
| Water | 86.80 | 3 | 0.14 | $0.71 \%$ |
| Mobile Home Parks | 49.50 | 4 | 0.08 | $0.40 \%$ |

## Detailed Structure Summary

The table below provides structure damage estimates for all of the tornado paths. Damages are calculated based on appraisal data and the Fujita Scale wind category at the structure location.

| Type | Total in Path | Property Value in Path | Potential Losses |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Single Family Homes | 17287 | $\$ 2,039,340,760$ | $\$ 1,170,205,081$ |
| Apartment Units | 19053 | $\$ 534,207,672$ | $\$ 305,435,283$ |
| Mobile Homes | 582 | $\$ 9,109,008$ | $\$ 5,330,942$ |
| Commercial Properties | 1718 | $\$ 2,291,954,031$ | $\$ 1,269,344,214$ |
| Industrial Structures | 165 | $\$ 189,611,183$ | $\$ 108,993,689$ |

North Central Texas Council of Governments/ National Weather Service Fort Worth

## Residents and Employees in Path

The table below provides an estimate of the number of persons occupying the structures in the path of the tornadoes. Numbers are based upon city data for household size, occupancy rates, major employer locations, and traffic survey zone employment data.

| Category | Total Persons | Persons in F-2 or <br> Greater Contour | Persons in F-4 or F-5 <br> Contour |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Residents at Home | 84023 | 49795 | 9037 |
| Employees at Work | 65976 | 34620 | 4034 |

## Estimated Number of Persons Occupying Residential Structures In the Path of Tornadoes

| Fujita Scale <br> Contour | Persons in Homes | Persons in Apartments | Persons in Mobile Homes |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 0 | 740 | 266 | 94 |
| 1 | 19686 | 12803 | 639 |
| 2 | 10809 | 9379 | 181 |
| 3 | 12022 | 8057 | 312 |
| 4 | 4415 | 3314 | 41 |
| 5 | 623 | 642 | 0 |
| Total | 48295 | 34461 | 1267 |

Largest Damages by City

| City | Structures in <br> Path | Property Value <br> in Path | Potential <br> Losses | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Employees <br> in Path | Residents <br> in Path |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Richardson | 2646 | $\$ 1,181,684,411$ | $\$ 725,265,311$ | 4 | 20444 | 5903 |
| Dallas | 9975 | $\$ 1,137,064,101$ | $\$ 682,759,258$ | 5 | 6716 | 20968 |
| rving | 10702 | $\$ 1,053,901,925$ | $\$ 631,266,564$ | 5 | 9695 | 24128 |
| Arlington | 8663 | $\$ 864,859,618$ | $\$ 366,997,137$ | 4 | 21812 | 16440 |
| Grand Prairie | 2179 | $\$ 315,129,208$ | $\$ 227,908,255$ | 5 | 2350 | 5772 |
| Denton | 1338 | $\$ 178,962,045$ | $\$ 103,083,052$ | 3 | 890 | 2648 |
| Plano | 1419 | $\$ 154,742,221$ | $\$ 85,592,131$ | 4 | 2058 | 3357 |
| County Land or | 591 | $\$ 56,829,540$ | $\$ 15,712,998$ |  | 3 | 79 |
| Undefined |  |  |  |  | 1472 |  |
| Fort Worth | 447 | $\$ 43,037,057$ | $\$ 6,760,349$ | 3 | 1543 | 1024 |
| Crowley | 276 | $\$ 23,339,717$ | $\$ 6,153,789$ | 2 | 6 | 863 |
| Everman | 279 | $\$ 18,029,903$ | $\$ 4,948,438$ | 2 | 56 | 791 |

Other Features in Path

| Category | Total Number | Number in F-2 or <br> Greater Contour | Number in F-4 <br> or F-5Contour |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Schools | 16 | 11 | 3 |
| Miles of Roads | 344.90 | 186.07 | 31.79 |
| Miles of Railroads | 16.29 | 8.06 | 1.01 |
| Major Electrical Utility Lines Intersected <br> by the Centerline of a Tornado | 43 | 30 | 4 |



## Legend

Structural Damage Estimates in Dollars
$\triangle$ \$1,000,000-\$10,000,000
— $\$ 10,000,000-\$ 25,000,000$
A \$25,000,000-\$75,000,000
$\gg \$ 75,000,000$

Above: The most significant damage areas as calculated for scenario five. Displayed points represent small area locations with total damages exceeding $\$ 1,000,000$. The small areas are no larger than . 2 square miles and exist entirely within the tornado path. Their positioning has been generalized for the scale of mapping.

## Tornado Damage Risk Assessment - Dallas-Fort Worth

## Percentage of City Current Single Family Housing Units Destroyed By Tornadoes

The table below describes the inventory of single family houses currently existing in several North Central Texas cities, and compares that to the number that would have been destroyed in scenario four. The City of Irving would see a major loss of homes in this scenario.

| CITYNAME | Houses Destroyed <br> (F2 or Greater Contour) | Estimated Number of Current <br> Single Family Units in 1999 | Percent <br> Destroyed |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Irving | 3884 | 77 | 32067 |
| Everman | 1263 | 1774 | $4.11 \%$ |
| Grand Prairie | 65 | 29854 | $4.36 \%$ |
| Crowley | 682 | 1944 | $3.38 \%$ |
| Richardson | 389 | 24922 | $2.74 \%$ |
| Denton | 2859 | 15087 | $2.58 \%$ |
| Dallas | 384 | 227914 | $1.25 \%$ |
| Arlington | 279 | 75920 | $0.51 \%$ |
| Plano | 27 | 58542 | $0.48 \%$ |
| Fort Worth |  | 133889 | $0.02 \%$ |



Aerial Image Maps Courtesy of VARGIS LLC

Above: Aerial image of tornado "A9" path across northeast Arlington. The Ballpark in Arlington and Six Flags over Texas are directly in the path, as is Interstate 30 and SH 360.

## Tornado Damage Risk Assessment - Dallas-Fort Worth

## Population Threat and Losses by Tornado

In scenario five, the big tornado "A9", produces a huge risk. This is a true nightmare of a tornado strike, with nearly $\$ 2.7$ billion in losses attributed to this one tornado. Tornado "A8", the sister of tornado "A9", would touch down in Arlington and threaten to do over \$50 million of damage. Denton would have taken its biggest hit from this scenario, with "G2" producing F-3 damage.

| Tornado | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Residents in <br> the Path | Structures <br> Impacted | Property Value <br> in Path | Potential <br> Losses |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| A9 | 5 | 74020 | 34409 | $\$ 4,569,996,115$ | $\$ 2,666,322,540$ |
| G2 | 3 | 3203 | 1576 | $\$ 192,218,868$ | $\$ 112,729,994$ |
| A8 | 2 | 2564 | 1192 | $\$ 138,472,668$ | $\$ 53,616,361$ |
| A6 | 3 | 1886 | 668 | $\$ 66,350,989$ | $\$ 16,535,164$ |
| B19 | 2 | 134 | 49 | $\$ 5,917,737$ | $\$ 3,255,701$ |
| A12 | 1 | 311 | 114 | $\$ 19,013,832$ | $\$ 1,493,943$ |
| B18 | 1 | 349 | 138 | $\$ 19,119,349$ | $\$ 1,493,308$ |
| B8 | 1 | 571 | 246 | $\$ 8,865,941$ | $\$ 678,566$ |
| B16 | 1 | 175 | 67 | $\$ 7,552,296$ | $\$ 673,412$ |
| A14 | 1 | 88 | 36 | $\$ 7,729,281$ | $\$ 603,171$ |



Above: Structural damage estimates by tornado for Scenario Five


Above: Damage Path looking southeast along U.S. 75 in North Dallas just north of I-635. This area features a large concentration of apartments, which are hit heavily in this scenario.


Above: Computer model of tornado "A9" damage path through Arlington. The University of Texas at Arlington is in the near left-center, with the Ballpark in Arlington, Six Flags, and the Brookhollow area in the upcoming path. The tornado path is nearly 1 mile wide.


Above: Single family housing locations that would receive the most expensive damages in scenario five. Red circles mark areas with over $\$ 50$ million in total losses.

## Estimated Traffic in the Path of Tornadoes

Traffic figures for vehicles in the path of the tornadoes are based on NCTCOG transportation modeling for major thoroughfares through the region. The data is an estimate of road volumes and capacities across more than 21,000 links throughout the metroplex, many of them calibrated to actual traffic count data. The models include estimates for freeways, arterials, and collectors, but do not include local residential streets. The numbers for scenario five are derived from those modeling numbers. For scenario five, we are estimating the number of cars that, as a function of volume, speed, time, and distance, should be located on the actual roadway pavement in the tornado's path at the time the tornado overtakes the route. Hourly traffic numbers provide an estimate of how many cars would actually cross the path during the hour of the tornado's primary impact. Vehicles trapped numbers are estimates of how many vehicles should theoretically be on the roadway in the tornado path when the tornado strikes (under varying traffic levels).

| Hourly Vehicles on Routes <br> Crossed by Tornadoes | Vehicles Trapped in Tornado <br> Paths at Normal Roadway <br> Vehicle Volumes | Vehicles Trapped in <br> Tornado Paths if <br> Roadways all Backed Up |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| ${ }^{*} 213349$ | *2485 |  |

[^2]

Above: Areas with 3 or more vehicles potentially trapped in path of tornadoes. Region-wide in scenario five, 2485 vehicles are estimated to be in the direct path of tornadoes under such normal flow conditions. Each dot represents an area of no greater than .2 square miles. The dots represent a total of all modeled road data in those small areas. Note that the number of cars "trapped" is also dependent upon the width of the tornado path.


## Legend

Number of Vehicles in Path of Tornadoes
$\triangle \quad$ 100-250

- 250-500
$\triangle$ 500-750
> 750

Above: Areas with 100 or more vehicles potentially trapped in tornado paths if roadways backed up (traffic jam). If all lanes were backed up with an average of one vehicle per 35 feet, the above areas would find large numbers of vehicles located in the path at the time of the tornado strike. If all of the modeled routes were backed up this way, 87,000 vehicles would be in the path of tornadoes. Each dot represents an area of no greater than . 2 square miles. The dots represent a total of all modeled road data in those small areas. Note that the number of cars "trapped" is also dependent upon the width of the tornado path.

## Tornado Damage Risk Assessment Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex

A Regional Exercise in Demographic, Environmental, and Urban Analysis<br>February, 2000

## Scenario 6



All figures included in this summary are estimates based upon the best information available at the time of the study. A variety of other variables can be incorporated into future studies or come into play during a real event of this magnitude.

Last Update: December 7, 2005
Data Analysis and Geographic Information System Data Compilation

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## Study Overview

This study features the use of digitally mapped tornado path information from a real tornado outbreak laid atop Dallas-Fort Worth urban and demographic data. Modern computer technology can help estimate the magnitude that the tasks of warning, rescue, and recovery would require. If we make the very likely assumption that Dallas-Fort Worth would see comparable damage in the same portions of the tornadoes that caused damage in Oklahoma, we can then model this same event across the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and assess how susceptible the area is to large tornado damage potential.

Six (6) separate distributions (scenarios) of the same Oklahoma tornado paths are modeled with the output including:

- The number of structures in the path
- Potential dollar damages to structures and contents
- Residents living in the path
- Employees working in the path
- Utility lines in the path
- The distribution of land use in the path
- Estimated roadway miles and vehicles travelling in the path


The goal is to stress the importance of planning and preparation for the day when this type of event does occur in Dallas-Fort Worth. A tornadic outbreak like the one in Oklahoma would cover an amazing amount of North Central Texas territory, and this study will help quantify that which would be in the way of the storms themselves.

The Tornadoes used in this analysis were mapped using a distinct delineation of the Fujita Scale (F-Scale) damage regions as they occurred in Oklahoma.
The F-Scale corresponds to magnitude of damage occurring to structures.

## Scenario 6



Scenario 6 - Summary of Structures in Path

| Fujita Scale | Structures <br> Impacted | Property Value in <br> Path | Potential Damages |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 10048 | $\$ 1,249,195,589$ | $\$ 95,680,773$ |
| 2 | 7812 | $\$ 1,422,638,821$ | $\$ 839,442,009$ |
| 3 | 6874 | $\$ 1,712,279,168$ | $\$ 1,426,661,959$ |
| 4 | 3313 | $\$ 1,593,709,786$ | $\$ 1,593,709,787$ |
| 5 | 234 | $\$ 1,053,665,547$ | $\$ 1,053,665,545$ |
| Total | 28284 | $\$ 7,031,488,000$ | $\$ 5,009,160,000$ |



Tornado Path Through Downtown Dallas


Above Left: Computer Model of tornado "A9" path enhanced vertically and moving northeast across Dallas County. Variations in colors and shape represent differences in Fujita contour.

## Detailed Structure Summary

The table below provides structure damage estimates for all of the tornado paths. Damages are calculated based on appraisal data and the Fujita Scale category at the structure location.

| Type | Total in Path | Property Value in Path | Potential Losses |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Single Family Homes | 17615 | $\$ 1,830,429,040$ | $\$ 1,120,960,121$ |
| Apartment Units | 9402 | $\$ 301,120,386$ | $\$ 156,951,208$ |
| Mobile Homes | 189 | $\$ 1,919,603$ | $\$ 1,481,882$ |
| Commercial Properties | 1068 | $\$ 4,893,976,586$ | $\$ 3,727,404,924$ |
| Industrial Structures | 7 | $\$ 4,043,296$ | $\$ 2,361,939$ |

## Residents and Employees in Path

The table below provides an estimate of the number of persons occupying the structures in the path of the tornadoes. Numbers are based upon city data for household size, occupancy rates, major employer locations, and traffic survey zone employment data.

| Category | Total Persons | Persons in F-2 or <br> Greater Contour | Persons in F-4 or F-5 <br> Contour |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Residents at Home | 66150 | 43099 | 7818 |
| Employees at Work | 138849 | 127331 | 67025 |

Estimated Number of Persons Occupying Residential Structures In the Path of Tornadoes

| Fujita Scale <br> Contour | Persons in Homes | Persons in Apartments | Persons in Mobile Homes |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 477 | 28 | 0 |
| 2 | 4430 | 2814 | 67 |
| 3 | 13167 | 3133 | 144 |
| 4 | 14613 | 4194 | 27 |
| 5 | 16172 | 6720 | 158 |
| Total | 48861 | 16891 | 398 |

Largest Damages by City

| City | Structures <br> in Path | Property Value <br> in Path | Potential <br> Losses | Maximum <br> Fujita Scale | Employees <br> in Path | Residents <br> in Path |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dallas | 21158 | $\$ 6,461,046,218$ | $\$ 4,684,209,459$ | 5 | 136521 | 46053 |
| Garland | 3561 | $\$ 256,291,199$ | $\$ 146,522,763$ | 5 | 1613 | 9612 |
| Rowlett | 824 | $\$ 92,859,657$ | $\$ 54,412,454$ | 5 | 0 | 2500 |
| County Land or | 655 | $\$ 67,188,589$ | $\$ 40,900,238$ | 4 | 45 | 1691 |
| Undefined |  |  |  |  | 4 | 400 |
| Cockrell Hill | 1156 | $\$ 51,229,940$ | $\$ 37,423,461$ | 3560 |  |  |
| Grand Prairie | 619 | $\$ 60,464,694$ | $\$ 29,437,126$ | 4 | 2 | 16 |
| Mansfield | 308 | $\$ 42,392,252$ | $\$ 16,253,287$ | 1826 |  |  |

## Percentage of City Current Single Family Housing Units Destroyed By Tornadoes

The table below describes the inventory of single family houses currently existing in several North Central Texas cities, and compares that to the number that would have been destroyed in the scenario if they received comparable damage to the structures in Oklahoma.

| CITYNAME | Houses Potentially <br> Destroyed <br> (F2 or Greater Contour) | Estimated Number of Current <br> Single Family Units in 1999 | Percent <br> Destroyed |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Dallas | 7823 | 227914 | $3.43 \%$ |
| Garland | 1907 | 56221 | $3.39 \%$ |
| Cockrell Hill | 690 | 896 | $77.00 \%$ |
| Rowlett | 520 | 13149 | $3.95 \%$ |
| Grand Prairie | 353 | 29854 | $1.18 \%$ |
| Mansfield | 138 | 7568 | $1.82 \%$ |

## Estimated Traffic in the Path of Tornadoes

Traffic figures for vehicles in the path of the tornadoes are based on NCTCOG transportation modeling for major thoroughfares through the region. The data is an estimate of road volumes and capacities across more than 21,000 links throughout the metroplex, many of them calibrated to actual traffic count data. The models include estimates for freeways, arterials, and collectors, but do not include local residential streets. The numbers for this scenario are derived from those modeling numbers. For this scenario, we are estimating the number of cars that, as a function of volume, speed, time, and distance, should be located on the actual roadway pavement in the tornado's path at the time the tornado overtakes the route. Hourly traffic numbers provide an estimate of how many cars would actually cross the path during the hour of the tornado's primary impact. Vehicles trapped numbers are estimates of how many vehicles should theoretically be on the roadway in the tornado path when the tornado strikes (under varying traffic levels).

## Values Calculated for Volumes at 5:00 P.M.

| a Hourly Vehicles on Routes <br> Crossed by Tornadoes | b Vehicles Trapped in Tornado <br> Paths at Normal Roadway <br> Vehicle Volumes | ${ }^{\text {V }}$ Vehicles Trapped in <br> Tornado Paths if <br> Roadways all Backed Up |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| ${ }^{*} 256,000$ | 4,000 |  |

- Estimated based on daily modeling totals and hourly multipliers

Explanation:
${ }^{\text {a }}$ Hourly Vehicles on Routes Crossed by Tornadoes -- During the Hour of 5:00-6:00 P.M., a total of 256,000 separate vehicles will move across the tornado path. This is an hourly total -only a portion of them would be present at the time of a tornado passage.
${ }^{\mathrm{b}}$ Vehicles Trapped in Tornado Paths at Normal Roadway Vehicle Volumes - If you spread the hourly volume uniformly across roadways as a function of speed, 4000 cars would normally be on the routes crossing the tornado path at the time of tornado impact.
${ }^{\text {c }}$ Vehicles Trapped in Tornado Paths if Roadways all Backed Up - If the roads were backed up due to congestion, accidents, panic, etc..., this is the number of cars that ultimately would fit on the roads. Imagine the roads as a parking lot -- with about 8 feet of space in between the vehicles -- and the number of cars you could fit on the roads within the tornado path exceeds 87,000.

Computer Estimate of Individual Named Routes in Path

| Roadway | ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Hourly Vehicles on Routes Crossed by Tornado | ${ }^{\text {b }}$ Vehicles Trapped in Tornado Path at Normal Roadway Vehicle Volumes | ${ }^{\text {c }}$ Vehicles Trapped in Tornado Path if Roadways all Backed Up |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| IH30 WB | 5218.28 | 229.47 | 1409.24 |
| IH30 EB | 5308.18 | 227.37 | 1474.48 |
| COMMERCE ST | 3581.30 | 163.52 | 2904.92 |
| SH78 | 3573.67 | 148.99 | 1966.04 |
| GASTON AVE | 2318.36 | 140.49 | 3848.51 |
| IH35E NB | 7787.43 | 125.46 | 852.64 |
| IH35E SB | 8058.20 | 123.61 | 855.87 |
| SP408 SB | 2659.20 | 114.75 | 926.76 |
| SP408 NB | 2635.13 | 113.72 | 939.11 |
| INDUSTRIAL BLVD | 4071.98 | 102.45 | 1346.11 |
| JEFFERSON BLVD | 1727.91 | 92.29 | 3323.10 |
| US75 NB | 5117.39 | 90.92 | 914.17 |
| US75 SB | 5494.43 | 89.47 | 892.45 |
| LIVE OAK ST | 1434.01 | 86.20 | 3484.93 |
| ELM ST | 2587.86 | 65.51 | 1172.00 |
| HAMPTON RD | 3118.87 | 61.86 | 1006.01 |
| SATURN RD | 2235.37 | 48.58 | 740.55 |
| MAIN ST | 1887.20 | 47.11 | 1236.31 |
| ABRAMS RD | 1513.70 | 46.93 | 1503.99 |
| MUNGER BLVD | 2434.03 | 45.97 | 962.17 |
| WOODALL ROGERS | 6269.89 | 45.70 | 349.93 |
| RPIH30 IH35E ST | 2645.42 | 44.56 | 211.42 |
| ROSS AVE | 1695.69 | 42.80 | 1270.98 |
| WESTMORELAND RD | 1720.85 | 41.45 | 1055.81 |
| LP12 SB | 2193.64 | 41.26 | 529.61 |
| WOODALL ROGERS | 5688.37 | 35.50 | 282.17 |
| LP12/BUCKNER BLVD | 2735.76 | 34.37 | 510.70 |
| BECKLEY AVE | 1664.04 | 34.12 | 511.81 |
| SYLVAN AVE | 2192.79 | 33.70 | 909.44 |
| IH35E OFFRAMP SB | 3416.92 | 33.18 | 111.74 |
| RPWOODALL RGRS | 3068.85 | 32.62 | 151.79 |
| IH635 NB | 6106.17 | 32.09 | 213.09 |
| IH635 SB | 6025.88 | 31.39 | 211.25 |
| HASKELL AVE | 1216.50 | 30.15 | 513.55 |
| BELT LINE/1ST ST S | 3209.87 | 28.81 | 391.22 |
| FIELD ST | 2461.16 | 26.67 | 622.58 |
| US75 OFFRAMP SB | 2211.72 | 25.96 | 171.84 |
| ILLINOIS AVE | 1025.37 | 25.16 | 1317.95 |
| PEAK ST | 1140.67 | 25.14 | 512.55 |
| PEARLST | 1894.46 | 25.06 | 632.36 |
| WALTON WALKER NB | 2031.23 | 25.00 | 249.58 |
| GRIFFIN ST | 2137.21 | 24.74 | 1074.79 |
|  |  |  |  |

## Scenario 6

Fujita-Scale 1 and Greater

| Fujita Scale Contour Within | Category | Impacted | *Total Value in Path | **Potential Damages |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Single Family Homes | 5828 | \$599,928,530 | \$47,137,240 |
| 2 | Single Family Homes | 5261 | \$531,487,906 | \$425,190,325 |
| 3 | Single Family Homes | 4747 | \$503,800,456 | \$453,420,409 |
| 4 | Single Family Homes | 1608 | \$181,021,714 | \$181,021,712 |
| 5 | Single Family Homes | 169 | \$14,190,432 | \$14,190,432 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Total |  | 17615 | \$1,830,429,040 | \$1,120,960,121 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | Apartment Units | 3874 | \$132,663,522 | \$9,120,617 |
| 2 | Apartment Units | 2192 | \$73,045,866 | \$58,436,692 |
| 3 | Apartment Units | 1821 | \$60,170,971 | \$54,153,871 |
| 4 | Apartment Units | 1497 | \$34,877,271 | \$34,877,273 |
| 5 | Apartment Units | 16 | \$362,754 | \$362,754 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Total |  | 9402 | \$301,120,386 | \$156,951,208 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | Mobile Homes | 74 | \$729,535 | \$291,814 |
| 2 | Mobile Homes | 13 | \$142,680 | \$142,679 |
| 3 | Mobile Homes | 69 | \$793,464 | \$793,464 |
| 4 | Mobile Homes | 32 | \$253,923 | \$253,923 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Total |  | 189 | \$1,919,603 | \$1,481,882 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | Commercial Buildings | 268 | \$514,225,965 | \$39,010,245 |
| 2 | Commercial Buildings | 343 | \$817,191,495 | \$355,055,613 |
| 3 | Commercial Buildings | 233 | \$1,146,100,277 | \$916,880,217 |
| 4 | Commercial Buildings | 174 | \$1,377,349,235 | \$1,377,349,235 |
| 5 | Commercial Buildings | 48 | \$1,039,109,612 | \$1,039,109,612 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Total |  | 1068 | \$4,893,976,586 | \$3,727,404,924 |

* Total Value in Path is the total structure and content value located within the tornado paths.
** Potential Damages represents an estimate of property value damage based on the proportion of property value falling within different Fujita Scales.


[^0]:    * Estimated based on daily modeling totals and hourly multipliers

[^1]:    North Central Texas Council of Governments/ National Weather Service Fort Worth Scenario Three- Page 4

[^2]:    * Estimated based on daily modeling totals and hourly multipliers

