

Weekend Snowstorms

There is an interesting rule or oddity which exists with significant East Coast snowstorms that several meteorologists have noted over the past several years.

If you go back to look of the Paul J. Kocin's book [Snowstorms Along the Northeast Coast of the United States: 1955 to 1985](#) which studies snowstorms in 1955 to 1987.

You include the recent events you'll find that the all snow events along the I-95 corridor cities -- Richmond Washington D.C. Baltimore Philadelphia New York City New Haven Providence Boston--- those events of all occurred on a weekend.

All except for 2 events ---

Really !!

I call this the I-95 SECS WEEKEND RULE.

Now that being said let's keep the few criteria for parameters.

A weekend event would be a snowstorm that started on a Friday and ended on a Saturday... OR began on a Saturday and ended on a Sunday...OR began on a Sunday and ended on a Monday.

This oddity does not apply to snowstorms in the lower mid Atlantic -- say Virginia D.C. Lower Maryland and NC...nor doesn't apply to a land northeast snowstorms that might affect areas let's say from interior Pennsylvania often to interior sections of New England.

Given those parameters the fact is every single major I-95 PURE snowstorm -- has occurred on a weekend.

Everyone since 1900 except for 2.... I am sure you recall January 96 blizzard--it was a Saturday into Sunday into Monday event...

December 25-26, 1909	Saturday - Sunday
March 1-2, 1914	Sunday - Monday
April 3-4, 1915	Saturday Sunday
February 6-7, 1920	Saturday - Sunday
January 27-29, 1922 Knickerbockers Storm	Friday - Saturday
February 19-20, 1934	Monday - Tuesday
January 22-24, 1935	Tuesday - Thursday
February 14-15, 1940 St. Valentine's Day Storm	Wednesday Thursday
December 26-27, 1947	Friday - Saturday
March 18-19, 1956	Sunday - Monday
February 14-17, 1958 Blizzard of '58	Saturday - Sunday

March 18-21, 1958	Tuesday Thursday
March 4-5, 1960	Friday - Saturday
December 11-13, 1960	Friday - Saturday
January 18-20, 1961	Thursday - Friday
February 4-5, 1961	Friday - Saturday
January 12-13, 1964	Sunday - Monday
January 29-31, 1966 Blizzard of '66	Sunday - Monday
December 23-25, 1966	Friday - Sunday
February 5-7, 1967	Friday - Saturday
February 8-10, 1969 Lindsay Storm	Friday - Saturday
February 22-28, 1969 long duration event in Gulf of Maine	
December 26-28, 1969	Friday - Saturday
February 18-20, 1972 rain in I-95 Cities	WED-THUR
January 20-21, 1978	Friday Saturday
February 5-7, 1978	weekend
February 18-20, 1979 President's Day Storm	Sunday - Monday
April 5-7, 1982	Monday - Wednesday
February 10-12, 1983	Friday Saturday
January 21-23, 1987	Wednesday Friday
January 25-26, 1987	Sunday Monday
February 22-23, 1987	Sunday Monday
March 12-14, 1993 The Storm of the Century	Friday Saturday
January 6-8, 1996	weekend

What about Dec 29-30 2000? That was a weekend event (as defined above)....
Feb 10-11 1994 (the Ice/ snow storm) with a Friday to Saturday event....

The March 12 13th historical 1888 blizzard was a Sunday to Monday event... the
Feb. 12 -14 1899 severe East Coast snowstorm that was part of an arctic
outbreak of historic proportions... occurred on a Friday to Sunday.

The Ash Wednesday's severe Nor'easter of March 5-7 occurred on a Monday to
Wednesday... and it was a rain event for most of East Coast I-95 cities.
Well you get the idea.

This is something that folks like myself, Mr Drag and Paul J. Kocin, Joe Bastardi
have all mentioned and talked about from time to time.

Interestingly this oddity does not apply for mid Atlantic snowstorms.
For example the January 24 25th 2000 severe Nor'easter which dumped some
21" snow in Charlotte and greater than six inches snow in much of South
Carolina and 15 inches to 18 inches in central Virginia and 12 inches of snow in
DC...only drop 6" in Philly New York City and Boston... and it was a Monday
Tuesday event.

OK well what about Xmas 2002 Nor'easter... you may ask?

Well except for the NYC LI area Most of I-95 cities did NOT get significant snow
if any at all... D.C. Baltimore Philly the coastal errors of Connecticut and
southeast New England saw mainly rain.

It was not a majority snow event so again it doesn't count.

Of course there is a reason WHY this "oddity" exists-

If we include the periods of Friday to Saturday, Saturday to Sunday... and Sunday to Monday, that is three days out of seven.

Still it does seem a little unlikely thing.
This weekend rule doesn't apply to say systems that are strictly New England Snowstorms/ Nor'easters... though it does seem to occur often up there... for instance April 97. And some of the big snows in the lower Mid Atlantic -- NC VA MD seems a lot of Mid-week storminess.

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