

Qualifier		Weather Phenomena		
Intensity or Proximity 1	Descriptor 2	Precipitation 3	Obscuration 4	Other 5
- Light	MI Shallow	DZ Drizzle	BR Mist	PO Dust/sand whirls
Moderate (no qualifier)	BC Patches	RA Rain	FG Fog	SQ Squalls
+ Heavy	DR Low drifting	SN Snow	FU Smoke	FC Funnel cloud
VC in the vicinity	BL Blowing	SG Snow grains	DU Dust	+FC Tornado or waterspout
	SH Showers	IC Ice crystals (diamond dust)	SA Sand	SS Sandstorm
	TS Thunderstorms	PL Ice pellets	HZ Haze	DS Dust storm
	FZ Freezing	GR Hail	PY Spray	
	PR Partial	GS Small hail or snow pellets	VA Volcanic ash	
		UP *Unknown precipitation		

The weather groups are constructed by considering columns 1–5 in this table in sequence: intensity, followed by descriptor, followed by weather phenomena (e.g., heavy rain showers(s) is coded as +SHRA).

* Automated stations only

Sky Cover	Contraction
Less than 1/8 (Clear)	SKC, CLR, FEW
1/8-2/8 (Few)	FEW
3/8-4/8 (Scattered)	SCT
5/8-7/8 (Broken)	BKN
8/8 or (Overcast)	OVC

Encoding Pilot Weather Reports (PIREPS)

1	XXX	3-letter station identifier	Nearest weather reporting location to the reported phenomenon
2	UA	Routine PIREP, UUA-Urgent PIREP.	
3	/OV	Location	Use 3-letter NAVAID idents only. a. Fix: /OV ABC, /OV ABC 090025. b. Fix: /OV ABC 045020-DEF, /OV ABC-DEF-GHI
4	/TM	Time	4 digits in UTC: /TM 0915.
5	/FL	Altitude/Flight level	3 digits for hundreds of feet. If not known, use UNKN: /FL095, /FL310, /FLUNKN.
6	/TP	Type Aircraft	4 digits maximum. If not known, use UNKN: /TP L329, /TP B727, /TP UNKN.
7	/SK	Sky cover/Cloud layers	Describe as follows: a. Height of cloud base in hundreds of feet. If unknown, use UNKN. b. Cloud cover symbol. c. Height of cloud tops in hundreds of feet.
8	/WX	Weather	Flight visibility reported first: Use standard weather symbols; intensity is not reported: /WX FV02 R H, /WX FV01 TRW.
9	/TA	Air temperature in Celsius (C)	If below zero, prefix with a hyphen: /TA 15, /TA -06.
10	/WV	Wind	Direction in degrees magnetic north and speed in six digits: /WV 270045, WV 280110.
11	/TB	Turbulence	Use standard contractions for intensity and type (use CAT or CHOP when appropriate). Include altitude only if different from /FL, /TB EXTREME, /TB LGT-MDT BLO 090.
12	/IC	Icing	Describe using standard intensity and type contractions. Include altitude only if different than /FL: /IC LGT-MDT RIME, /IC SVR CLR 028-045.
13	/RM	Remarks	Use free from to clarify the report and type hazardous elements first: /RM LLWS -15KT SFC-030 DURC RNWY 22 JFK.

FD KWBC 151640
 BASED ON 151200Z DATA
 VALID 151800Z FOR USE 1700-2100Z
 TEMPS NEGATIVE ABV 24000

FD	3000	6000	9000	12000	18000	24000	30000
AMA		2714	2725+00	2625-04	2531-15	2542-27	265842
DEN			2321-04	2532-08	2434-19	2441-31	235347

Figure 12-13. Winds and temperature aloft report.

Winds Aloft Key

DDSS[-/+]TT

Where DD is direction *10

SS is wind speed in kts

TT is temperature

Note 1: all temps above 24000 are assumed to be negative

Note 2: if direction > 36, subtract 50 to get direction and add 100 to get wind speed