

Winter Storm Elli Disrupts Germany, Kills Three People



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Berlin, Jan. 9— A powerful winter storm sweeping across Germany has left at least three people dead and caused widespread disruption to transport, education, and public services, particularly in northern regions.

Police said all fatalities were linked to weather-related traffic accidents. In the southern state of Bavaria, two people were killed when a vehicle skidded on snow-covered roads and collided

head-on with another car. In a separate incident in Bavaria's Upper Palatinate region, a driver died after losing control of his vehicle and crashing into a tree.

Severe weather conditions led to major rail disruptions. Germany's national rail operator, Deutsche Bahn, suspended all long-distance train services in northern Germany over safety concerns. Rail traffic in and around Hanover, a key transport hub, was brought to a complete halt.

Road travel was also heavily affected as stranded trucks blocked major motorways. Authorities warned of extremely hazardous driving conditions caused by ice and heavy snowfall. Ferry services to several North Sea islands were suspended due to strong winds and rough seas.

The storm forced widespread school closures across northern states, while other regions reported additional closures and a temporary shift to remote learning. Emergency services remained on high alert, urging the public to avoid non-essential travel.