

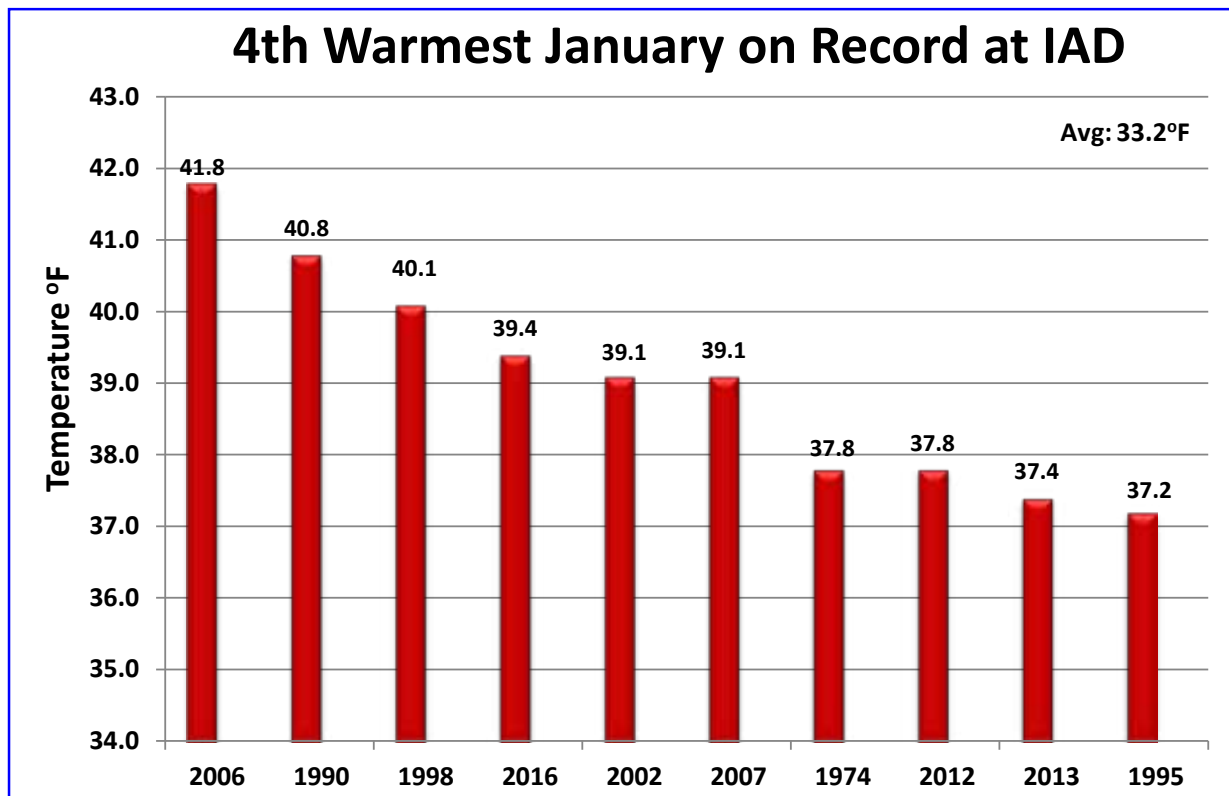


# PRESTO

PRECipitation Summary and Temperature Observations  
For the Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD Area



## JANUARY 2017: Well Above Normal Temperatures with Little Snow in Metro Area



### January Highlights

- Well above normal temperatures across the area: +6.1°F at DCA and BWI, +6.2°F at IAD
- Warmest since 2006 at DCA and BWI. IAD average monthly temperature of 39.4°F was 4th warmest on record
- On the 12<sup>th</sup>, DCA soared to 72°F; BWI and IAD reached 70°F, equaling a record at BWI and breaking a record at IAD
- DCA recorded 19 consecutive days (11<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>) with minimum readings above freezing, an all-time record
- Near normal precipitation: DCA, 2.75" (-0.06"); BWI, 2.69" (-0.36"); IAD, 2.73" (+0.05")
- On the 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, strong winds impacted the area. On the 24<sup>th</sup>, peak gusts were measured at 54 mph in Gaithersburg (Montgomery County), MD, and 52 mph near Dahlgren (King George County), VA; on the 26<sup>th</sup>, peak gusts measured at 54 mph near Glen Burnie (Anne Arundel County), MD, and 51 mph near Newington (Fairfax County), VA
- Well below normal snowfall: DCA, 1.4"; IAD, 1.0"; and BWI, 0.7; least snow at BWI in January since 1998
- The season's first major snowfall dumped significant amounts over Southern Maryland and portions of Virginia south of Washington on the 7<sup>th</sup> but much less fell in the immediate metro area. Storm totals in Maryland included 9.7" near Ridge, 8.0" and near California (St. Mary's County) and 7.5" near Dowell and Chesapeake Woods (Calvert County); in Virginia, highest totals were 5.5" in Jersey (King George County) and 3.4" near Sealston and near Fredericksburg (Stafford County)

## January 2017

**Temperatures:** Well above normal temperatures highlighted the coldest climatologic month of the year. Positive temperature departures were +6.1°F at DCA and BWI, and +6.2°F at IAD. January was the warmest since 2006 at DCA and BWI. IAD's average monthly temperature of 39.4°F was its 4<sup>th</sup> warmest January on record (see graphic). Maximum temperatures were 50°F or greater on 14 days at DCA, 13 at IAD, 11 at BWI. The month's highest readings occurred on the 12<sup>th</sup> when DCA soared to 72°F and BWI and IAD reached 70°F, equaling a record at BWI and breaking a record at IAD. Minimum readings were frequently well above normal as well. DCA reported 11 days with low temperatures at or above 40°F, 9 such days at IAD and 6 at BWI. DCA and BWI set two daily record warm minimum temperature records; IAD recorded 5 such daily records. DCA recorded 19 consecutive days (11<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>) with minimum readings above freezing, an all-time record.

The month did include some intense cold. Arctic air invaded the area from 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> with subfreezing highs: IAD recorded a subfreezing high on the 6<sup>th</sup> as well. Maximum readings held in the 20s from the 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> at all three airports with low temperatures bottomed out in the teens in most areas and as low as 7°F at IAD on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Gusty northwest winds on the 8<sup>th</sup> resulted in wind-chill values generally between 0°F and -5°F across the metro area.

**Precipitation:** The immediate metro area recorded near normal precipitation and well below normal snowfall: DCA, 2.75" (-0.06"); BWI, 2.69" (-0.36"); IAD, 2.73" (+0.05"). Monthly snowfall totals were 1.4" at DCA, 1.0" at IAD and 0.7" at BWI. It was the least snow in January at BWI since 1998. The month's greatest rainfall occurred from the 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> when many locations recorded a 2-day total greater than an inch, including the three major airports. Totals were 1.24" at BWI, 1.21" at DCA and 1.09" at IAD. The season's first major snowfall dumped significant amounts over Southern Maryland and portions of Virginia on the 7<sup>th</sup> but much less in the immediate metro area. This coastal storm stayed east of Washington and Baltimore. Storm totals in Maryland included 9.7" near Ridge and 8.0" and near California (St. Mary's County), and 7.5" near Dowell and Chesapeake Woods (Calvert County). In Virginia, totals highest amounts included 5.5" in Jersey (King George County) and 3.4" near Sealston and near Fredericksburg (Stafford County). In sharp contrast, totals were less than an inch at the three airports: IAD 0.6", BWI 0.5" and DCA 0.4". On the evening of the 14<sup>th</sup>, hazardous road conditions occurred across portions of northern Maryland due to freezing rain. Ice accumulations measured 0.1" near Catonsville (Baltimore County) and .05" near Elkridge (Howard County).

Then on the 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>, additional rainfall was heavy in some locations: In Virginia, 2.01" was measured near Rixeyville (Culpeper County) and 1.69" near Haymarket (Prince William County); in Maryland, totals included 1.17" near Middletown and 1.04" near Thurmont (Frederick County). Strong to damaging wind gusts followed the storm with a downed tree reported on Beach Drive near Chevy Chase, (Montgomery County) and at the intersection of Piney Branch Rd and New Hampshire Ave near Langley Park (Prince Georges County), MD. Peak gusts were measured at 54 mph in Gaithersburg (Montgomery County) and 52 mph near Dahlgren (King George County). Strong winds impacted the area again on the 26<sup>th</sup> with peak gusts measured at 54 mph near Glen Burnie (Anne Arundel County), MD, and 51 mph near Newington (Fairfax County), VA. The month's final snowfall occurred on the 30<sup>th</sup> with the heaviest accumulations south and east of Washington. Totals in Virginia included 3.2" near Dunavant (Spotsylvania County) and 2.8" near Flat Run (Orange County); in Maryland, 2.5" was measured near Wicomico (Charles County). Meanwhile, DCA reported its first inch of snowfall in any one event, increasing its winter season total to 1.4".

### January 2017 Weather Statistics for the Washington/Baltimore Area

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (inches)			
	AvMx	AvMin	AvgT	NmIT	DepNml	Max	Min	Total	Nml	DepNml	Snow
National (DCA)	48.6	35.7	42.1	36.0	+6.1	72/12	15/8	2.75	2.81	-0.06	1.4
Baltimore (BWI)	46.1	32.0	39.0	32.9	+6.1	70/12	10/9	2.69	3.05	-0.36	0.7
Dulles (IAD)	46.7	32.1	39.4	33.2	+6.2	70/12	7/9	2.73	2.68	+0.05	1.0

**Looking Ahead:** *Continued Below Normal Snowfall?* After 2 months with no significant snowfall, what does February have in store? Listed below are the most recent 10 years with subnormal December and January snowfall at DCA and the resultant totals in February. February average, 4.8".

Year	2016-17	2014-15	2012-13	2012-11	2008-09	2007-08	2006-07	2001-02	2000-01	1998-99
December	T	T	0.2	T	T	2.6	T	0	2.0	0.5
January	1.4	3.6	0.9	1.7	1.9	1.3	1.3	2.7	2.4	2.2
February	?	9.8	0.4	0.3	0.1	1.0	5.9	0.5	2.8	0.2