



Thanksgiving Day Climatology



Richmond, VA (1897-2021):

Avg. High/Low: **57 F / 36 F**

Highest Max: **77 F / 1933**

Record Low Max: **32 F / 1930**

Record High Min: **59 F / 1999**

Lowest Min: **20 F / 1930**

Norfolk, VA (1890-2021):

Avg. High/Low: **58 F / 40 F**

Highest Max: **80 F / 1985**

Record Low Max: **32 F / 1930**

Record High Min: **59 F / 1934**

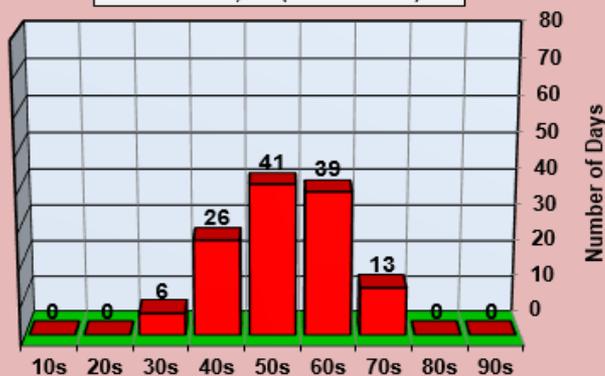
Lowest Min: **25 F / 1930**

Temperature:

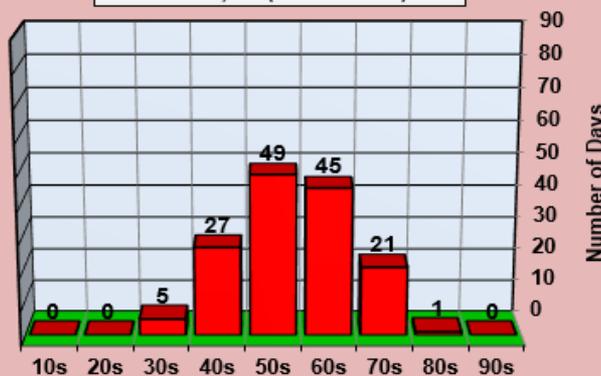
Temperatures on Thanksgiving Day show a fairly high degree of variability across central and southeast Virginia; highs have varied from the upper 70s to around 80 F to winter-like 30s, although one standard deviation reveals that they typically range from the upper 40s to the upper 60s. High temperatures that fail to reach at least 40 F are rare, having occurred on just 6 dates in over 100 years at Richmond and on 5 dates at Norfolk.

Daily minimum temperatures are not quite as varied, generally ranging from the upper 20s to the mid 40s at Richmond, and the lower 30s to around 50 F at Norfolk. At both sites, a temperature colder than 20 F has not been recorded on Thanksgiving Day (although keep in mind that the date of Thanksgiving varies each year).

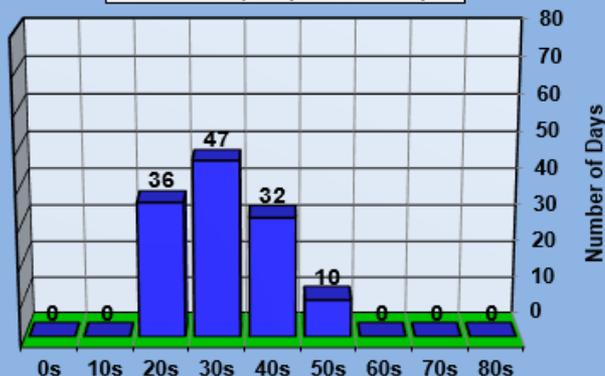
High Temperature by Category
Richmond, VA (1897-Present)



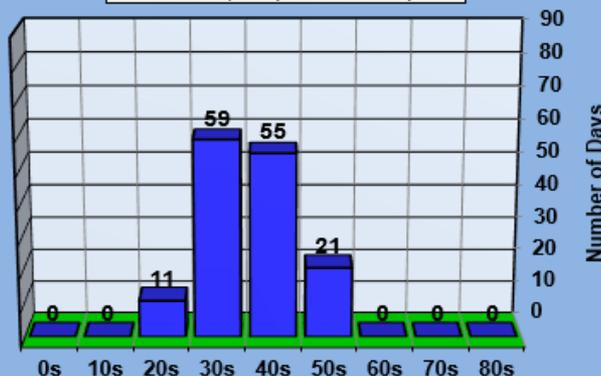
High Temperature by Category
Norfolk, VA (1874-Present)



Min Temperature by Category
Richmond, VA (1897-Present)



Min Temperature by Category
Norfolk, VA (1874-Present)



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Salisbury, MD (1907-2021):

Avg. High/Low: **55 F / 34 F**
 Highest Max: **74 F / 1933**
 Record Low Max: **32 F / 1996**
 Record High Min: **56 F / 1983**
 Lowest Min: **15 F / 1989**

Temperature (continued):

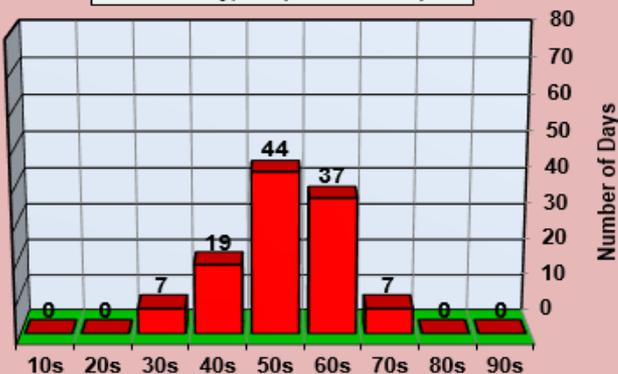
Temperatures on Thanksgiving Day at Salisbury, MD (shown in the table and graphs to the left) also show a fairly high degree of variability. While highs in the 70s are less common than at Richmond and Norfolk, there still have been 7 such occurrences as well as an occasional Thanksgiving that failed to get out of the 30s. One standard deviation reveals that they typically range from the mid to upper 40s to the mid 60s. High temperatures that fail to reach at least 40 F are rare, having occurred on just 7 dates in over 100 years.

Daily minimum temperatures are not quite as varied, generally ranging from the mid 20s to the lower 40s at Salisbury. Unlike Richmond and Norfolk, there have been two occurrences when the min temperature dropped to a reading colder than 20 F, in 1989 (15 F) and in 2000 (19 F).

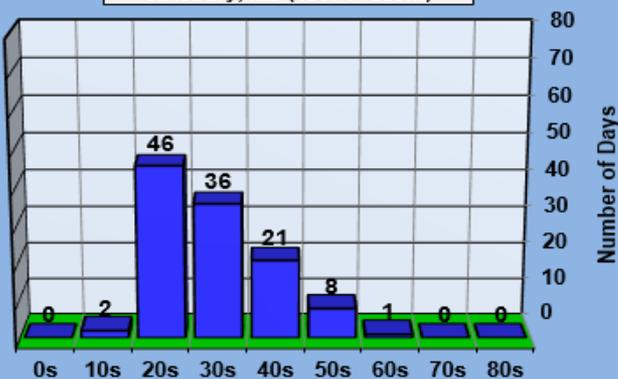
Some Notable *Warm* and *Cold* Thanksgivings:

- **Nov 26, 2020:** High of 73 F at Norfolk, 74 F at Richmond, and 70 F at Salisbury (the most recent “warm” Thanksgiving).
- **Nov 28, 1985:** Norfolk’s warmest on record (80 F), 70 F at Richmond and 61 F at Salisbury.
- **Nov 30, 1933:** Warmest on record for Richmond (77 F) and Salisbury (74 F). Norfolk was 73 F.
- **Nov 28, 1996:** One of only two Thanksgivings since 1907 where the high was in the 30s at all three locations.
- **Nov 27, 1930:** Coldest on record at Richmond (high 32 F/ low 20 F) and Norfolk (high 32 F / low 25 F).

High Temperature by Category
Salisbury, MD (1907-Present)



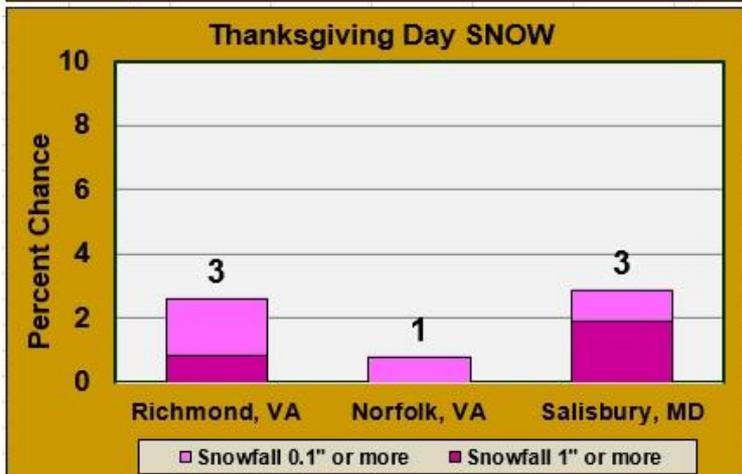
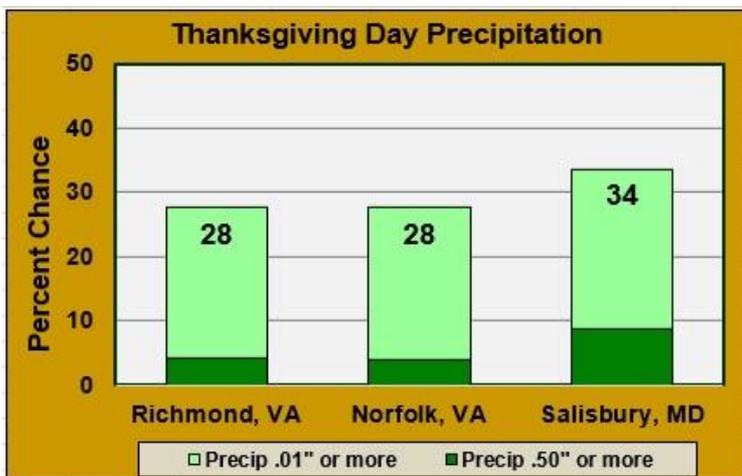
Min Temperature by Category
Salisbury, MD (1907-Present)



Thanksgiving Day Climatology

Most Snow on Thanksgiving:

Richmond:	2.0"	/	1912
Norfolk:	0.5"	/	1912
Salisbury:	6.0"	/	1912



Precipitation and Snow:

Late November is a relatively dry time of year, and as the graph to the left with the green bars shows, measureable precipitation (.01" or greater) occurs on less than 30% of all Thanksgivings at Richmond and Norfolk; Salisbury is a little wetter with 34% of all Thanksgiving days receiving measureable precipitation. To represent a day with moderate to heavy precipitation, the graphs depict the percent occurrence of 0.50" or more of precipitation (darker green shading). This is quite a rare event at Richmond and Norfolk (4 to 5%), and about 9% at Salisbury. The wettest on record at Richmond was in 1935 (1.06"), the only Thanksgiving at Richmond that received 1.00" or more of precipitation. Norfolk's wettest Thanksgiving was in 1992 (1.77") and Salisbury's wettest occurred in 1983 when 1.82" was recorded.

While measureable snowfall (0.1" or more) is exceedingly rare at all sites (1 to 3%), there have been a few snowy Thanksgivings, most notably in 1912 when all of central and southeast Virginia and the lower Maryland eastern shore received measureable snow (this is the only Thanksgiving on record with measureable snow at Norfolk). The most recent snowy Thanksgiving was in 1989 when Richmond recorded 1.1" and Salisbury had 3.0". Both places had the snow begin in the early morning hours and had 1" snow depth measured at 7 am Thanksgiving morning. Norfolk had just rain for this date.