

Christmas Snow in Portland

A Christmas with snow is a rare event in the Portland area. Between 1940 and 2023, only two years (2008 and 2017) stands out as a truly ‘white, snowy’ Christmas. To be a white Christmas, snow must be falling and accumulating, or snow still remains on the ground Christmas morning.

Following is a summary of snow data for both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Bold numbers in the box indicate the probability of receiving at least a trace of snow on Christmas Day.

AIRPORT 1940-2023			<i>Chance of Snow on Christmas at Airport</i> 1%		
On 24 December			On 25 December		
year	snowfall amount	snow depth ³	year	snowfall amount	snow depth ³
2017	1.0 inches	0	2021	trace	none ³
2008	3.1 inches	10”	2017	trace	1”
2007	trace	none ³	2008	0.9 inch	10”
1998	2.0 inches	< 1”	2007	trace	none ³
1990	0.3 inch		1990	trace	none ³
1988	trace	none ³	1983	trace	none ³
1983	0.3 inch		1965	trace	none ³
1974	trace	none ³	1954	trace	none ³
1948	trace	none ³	1952	trace	none ³

DOWNTOWN 1871-2023			<i>Chance of Snow on Christmas Downtown</i> ~2%		
24 December			25 December		
year	snowfall amount	snow depth ³	year	snowfall amount	snow depth ³
2017	1.0 inches	0	2021	trace	none ³
2008	2.0 inches	12”	2017	0.0	1”
1998	2.0 inches	none ³	2008	0.3 inch	11”
1990	0.6 inch	1”	2007	trace	none ³
1983	0.3 inch	trace	1990	trace	1”
1937	1.0 inch	< 1”	1954	trace	none ³
1926	trace	none ³	1952	trace	none ³
1916	trace	none ³	1937	1.3 inches	< 1”
1913	trace	none ³	1930	trace	none ³
1912	trace	none ³	1916	trace	none ³
1909	trace	none ³	1914, 1913	trace	none ³
1892	1.0 inch	n/a	1909	0.2 inch	trace
1889	0.4 inch	n/a	1904	trace	none ³
1884	1.8 inches	n/a	1891	0.7 inch	n/a
			1884	0.9 inch	n/a

³Snow fell, then either melted immediately, or later that day.