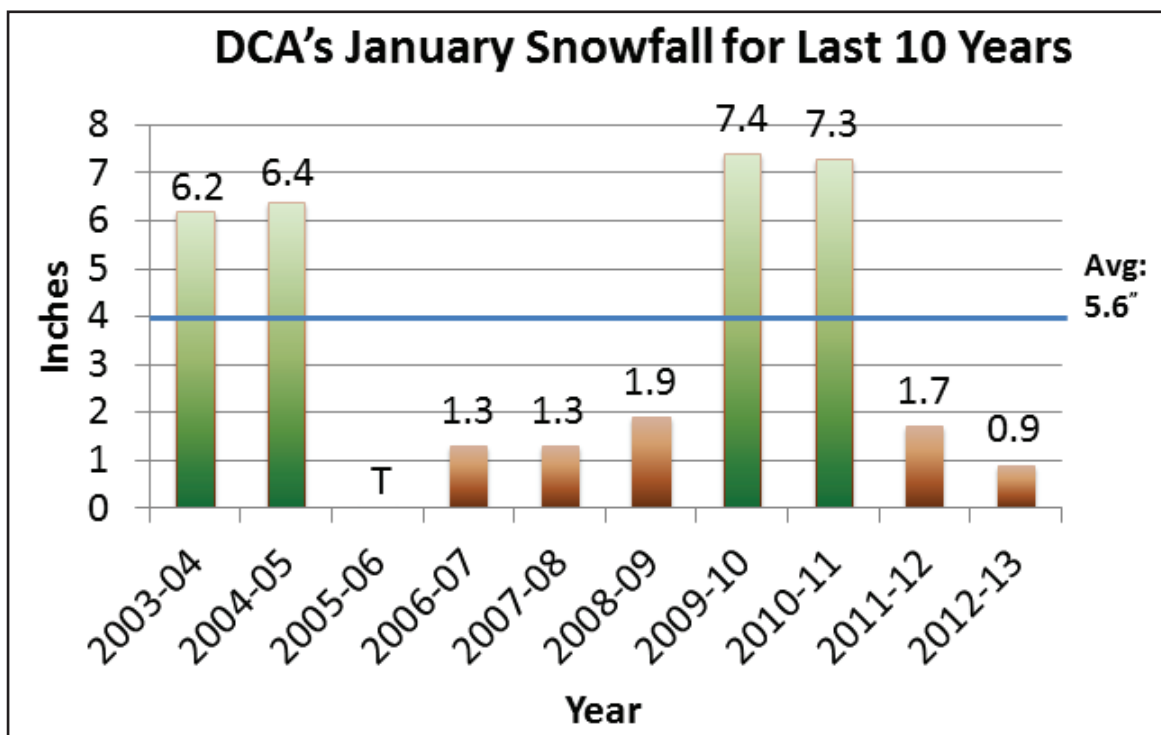


# PRESTO

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



## JANUARY 2013: Above Normal Temperatures With One Cold Wave; Heavy Late Month Rainfall and Little Snow



### January Highlights

- Well above normal readings: +4.3°F at DCA, +4.0°F at BWI and +4.2°F at DCA
- Rapid temperature change during final 10 days of month: initially, four consecutive days (22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>) with highs below 30°F at BWI and IAD, first such occurrence since February 5-8, 2007; then rapid rise in temperatures including a 47°F rise in the maximum temp from 25<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> at DCA (25°F to 72°F), greatest since January 1994
- January marked 23 of the past 24 months with above normal temperatures at BWI; 21 of 24 at BWI; 19 of 24 at IAD
- Mild weather on Inauguration Day: 47°F maximum reading at DCA, with Arctic cold arriving in evening
- Tropical-like moisture plume deluges area on 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> with torrential rainfall totalling more than 4" in some areas: 4.52" near Paeonian Spring, VA (Loudoun County) and 4.31" near Winfield, MD (Carroll County). Heavy rainfall flooded roads, flood warnings were issued for some rivers and streams, and several water rescues occurred on roads in rapidly rising water
- Moderate snowfall across Southern Maryland on 24<sup>th</sup>. Totals included 5.5" in Ridge (St. Mary's County) and 5.0" near Drum Point (Calvert County)
- Washington has not measured an inch of snow in any one event through month's end since the Commuteageddon storm on January 26, 2011

## January 2013

**Temperatures:** January started with well above normal readings at all three major airports. Positive temperature departures were +4.3°F at DCA, +4.0°F at BWI and +4.2°F at DCA. Readings were near or above normal for the majority the month with the exception of 22<sup>nd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>. During those five days, the region experienced subfreezing highs on 4 consecutive days (22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>) as Arctic air entrenched the area. This cold blast marked the first such occurrence of highs below 30°F at BWI and IAD since February 5-8, 2007. Minimum readings dropped into the high single digits and teens. DCA's 15°F high on the 23<sup>rd</sup> was its coldest reading since March 3, 2009; BWI's minimum readings at or below 15°F for the 4-day period were its first such occurrence since January 21-24, 2005.

A dramatic warm up occurred immediately following the cold wave of the winter season. Maximum readings soared well into the 60s and reached 70°F at IAD on the 29<sup>th</sup>, then 70°F or greater at the three major airports the following day. The 47°F rise in maximum readings from the 25<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> was the largest increase at DCA since January 1994. IAD's maximum of 72°F on the 30<sup>th</sup> was its warmest January reading since January 4, 2004, when the maximum was 73°F.

**Precipitation:** Above normal amounts were recorded at BWI and IAD while DCA observed subnormal precipitation. Monthly totals were 3.64" (+0.59") at BWI, 3.70" (+1.02") at IAD and 2.53" at DCA (-0.28"). The majority of the month's precipitation occurred on the 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>. In the first event, periods of light rain occurred on the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, followed by a soaking rain during the evening of the 15<sup>th</sup> into the morning of the 16<sup>th</sup>. Totals were over an inch in some areas including 1.29" in Round Hill, VA (Loudoun County), and 1.27" in Waldorf, MD (Charles County), 1.15" at BWI, and 1.08" at DCA.

The second event featured a plume of tropical moisture, more common in late spring or summer. Many locations received more than 4", resulting in flooded roads, flood warnings for some rivers and streams, and several water rescues occurred on roads in rapidly rising water. Rainfall totals included 4.52" near Paeonian Spring, VA (Loudoun County), and 4.31" near Winfield, MD (Carroll County). In addition, wind damage from thunderstorms across portions of VA, knocked down trees in Stanardsville (Greene County) and near Charlottesville (Albemarle County). Strong wind gusts were also reported in other areas including 52 mph near Ijamsville (Frederick County), and in Round Hill, VA.

Snowfall generally was light with two minor events on the 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>. During the first event, Southern Maryland experienced a moderate snowfall with totals reaching 5.5" in Ridge (St. Mary's County), and 5.0" near Drum Point (Calvert County). On the 25<sup>th</sup>, the highest totals were 2.5" in Great Mills (St. Mary's County), MD, and 2.0" near Severn and Riviera Beach (Anne Arundel County), MD, and near Emmitsburg (Frederick County).

### January 2013 Weather Statistics for the Washington/Baltimore Area

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (Inches)			
	AvMx	AvMn	AvgT	NmIT	DepNml	Max	MinT	Total	Nml	DepNml	Snow
National (DCA)	47.5	33.1	40.3	36.3	+4.3	72/30	15/23	2.53	2.81	-0.28	0.9
Baltimore (BWI)	45.2	28.6	36.9	32.9	+4.0	70/30	11/25	3.64	3.05	+0.59	2.9
Dulles (IAD)	46.0	28.7	37.4	33.2	+4.2	72/30	9/23	3.70	2.68	+1.02	1.8

**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	2012-13	2012-11	2008-09	2007-08	2006-07	2001-02	2000-01	1998-99	1997-98	1996-97
December	0.2	T	T	2.6	T	0	2.0	0.5	0.1	0.2
January	0.9	1.7	1.9	1.3	1.3	2.7	2.4	2.2	T	2.3
February	?	0.3	0.1	1	5.9	0.5	2.8	0.2	T	4.0