



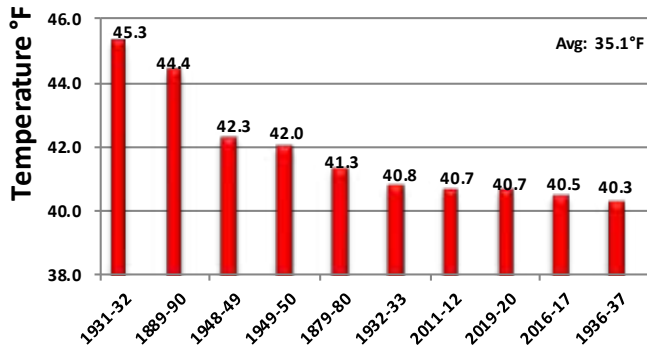
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PRECipitation Summary and Temperature Observations
For the Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD Area

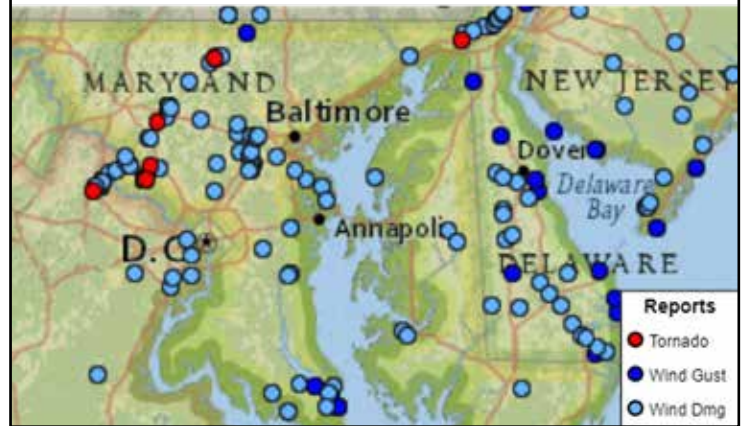


FEBRUARY 2020: Above Normal Temperatures, Little or No Snowfall but Above Normal Precipitation WINTER: Warm with Rare Severe Weather

Tied for 7th Warmest Winter on Record at BWI



Rare Severe Weather Event Feb. 7



February Highlights

- Well above average monthly temperatures, DCA +4.8°F (8th warmest), BWI +6.2°F (9th warmest) and IAD +4.5°F (4th warmest)
- Record high temps at BWI and IAD on the 3rd (67 both locations)
- Record warm low temperatures on the 4th at all 3 stations (49°F DCA, 48°F BWI, 53°F IAD)
- Rare severe weather outbreak on the 7th. [See this link for summary.](#)
- Record warm low temps at DCA (48°F) and IAD (46°F) on the 11th
- No measurable snowfall recorded at DCA, BWI or IAD. For DCA and IAD measured only a trace. BWI measured no snowfall, first such occurrence on record; Least snowily February on record at IAD and least snowy February since 1977 at DCA and tied for 2nd overall.

Winter Seasonal Highlights

- The area marked 5th consecutive winter with above normal temperatures: DCA, +4.6°F ; BWI, +5.6°F; and IAD, +4.4°F.
- Seasonal precipitation was slightly above normal: DCA, 9.28"; (+0.80"), BWI, 9.66" (+0.34"), IAD, 9.54" (+1.16").
- Seasonal snowfall was well below normal: DCA, 0.6" (-14.5"); IAD, 1.8" (-20.1") and BWI, 2.9" (-11.0"); Davis, WV, just barely eclipsed its record lowest seasonal snowfall, 65", on February 28, measuring 67.3" as of February 28; the seasonal average for Davis is 180".
- This winter included no high temperatures at or below freezing at the major airports: DCA's lowest temperature, 22°F, December 19 and February 15; BWI, 19°F, December 20, January 21, 22 and February 19; IAD, 15°F, February 15.
- December was the 10th consecutive December with below normal snowfall at DCA, 9th at BWI; IAD has had 8 out of the last 10 Decembers with below average snowfall.
- Some locations north of the metro area had significant icing on December 16. Thurmont, MD, reported .50 inches of ice accumulation.
- On January 7, the season's only widespread moderate snowfall occurred mostly outside the metro area. Amounts of 4" to 6" occurred over the Shenandoah Valley and Potomac Highlands of West Virginia and icy roads during the event contributed to a car crash, resulting in one fatality and 2 injuries in Fauquier County, VA, according to media reports. Metro area measured under 3".
- Dulles had a record high minimum of 48°F on January 11 and Baltimore tied a record high of 70°F on January 12.
- On January 12, squall line winds resulted in reports of downed trees in both Culpepper and Orange counties, VA, including one "large tree" in Charles County, MD. Aberdeen Proving Ground measured a 43 mph gust; DCA measured 41 mph.

February 2020

Temperature: February was another mild month across the region: DCA, 43.8°F (+6.2°F), BWI, 42.0°F (+4.8°F), IAD, 41.4°F (+4.5°F). Average temperatures at all three airports were generally above average except for the 14th and 15th, 20th-22nd and 27th-29th. The coldest lows for the month occurred on the 15th when temperatures dipped to 22°F at DCA, 19°F at BWI and 15°F at IAD. There were no days with high temperatures at or below freezing. Several record warm days were measured: On the 3rd, BWI set a record high of 67°F and IAD, 67°F. BWI. The next day, DCA observed a record warm low temperature of 49°F, BWI, 48°F; and IAD, 53°F. A week later on the 11th, DCA measured a record warm low temperature of 48°F, IAD, 46°F. IAD also set record warm low temperatures of 41°F on the 10th, and 44°F on the 26th.

Precipitation: The last month of winter featured slightly above average precipitation for much of the region but no measurable snowfall: DCA, 3.21" (+0.59"), BWI, 2.98" (+0.08 BWI and IAD, 3.24" (+0.50"). There were no days with greater than or equal to 1" at any of the three major airports. On the 21st, DCA and IAD recorded their only snowfall, a scant Trace; BWI recorded no snow. The only accumulating snow across the region occurred well outside the metro area and those values were less than 1".

Severe Weather: A rare severe weather outbreak occurred on the 7th when five tornadoes were verified and numerous damaging wind gusts observed. The event included three EF-1 tornadoes: one near Dickerson, MD; one in Westminster/Manchester, MD, and a third in Monrovia, MD. There were also two EF-O tornadoes: one struck at Leesburg, VA, and the second at Boyds/Dawsonville, MD. There were no injuries or fatalities in any of the tornadoes but there was significant tree and property damage to homes, a barn and utility lines. Prior to this event, only 4 tornadoes had been reported in Maryland during February since 1950. [See details on the events.](#)

February 2020 Weather Statistics for the Washington/Baltimore Area

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (inches)				
	AvMx	AvMin	AvgT	NmlT	DepNml	Max	Min	Total	Nml	DepNml	Snow	Year to Date
National (DCA)	51.9	35.8	43.8	37.6	+6.2	65/4	22/15	3.21	3.80	+0.59	T	6.00
Baltimore (BWI)	51.3	32.7	42.0	37.2	+4.8	67/3,4	19/15	2.98	3.06	+0.08	0	6.09
Dulles (IAD)	51.8	31.6	41.4	36.9	+4.5	67/3,4	15/15	3.24	3.74	+0.50	T	6.57

Winter (Dec-Feb) Temperatures: For the 5th consecutive winter season, the three major airports reported above normal readings: DCA, +4.5°F; BWI, +5.6°F; and IAD, +4.4°F. December started the season warm but set no records and included no arctic air incursions. January had the largest positive anomalies. In fact, it was the warmest January since 2006 at DCA and BWI and the 7th warmest on record at IAD. There were no high temperatures at or below freezing for each of the three stations. DCA never observed a low below 20°F, (lowest was 22°F on December 19 and February 15) BWI's lowest temp was 19°F, which occurred December 20, January 21 and 22 and February 19; the lowest temperature at Dulles was 15°F on February 15. The majority of the days during the winter averaged above normal. For DCA, 73% of the winter's days had an average temperature above normal, BWI, 77%, and IAD, 68%. January 11-12 and February 3-4 and 10-11 saw record high minimums across parts of the region. Record high temperatures occurred on January 12. February continued warm (See monthly summary above).

Winter Precipitation: The season was slightly wetter than normal: DCA, 9.28" (+0.80"); BWI, 9.66" (+0.34"); IAD, 9.54" (+1.16"). Snowfall was well below normal: DCA, 0.6" (-14.6"); and IAD, 1.8" (-20.1") and below normal at BWI, 2.9" (-11.0"). Overall precipitation amounts were slightly above normal for the winter but a lack of snowfall was a major theme. Snowfall amounts were in the top 10 lowest on record for each station. If there is no more snow this season, DCA will end up with 3.8% of normal snowfall, BWI will have 8.9% and IAD will have 13%.

December started the season with near normal rainfall and minimal snow, marking the 10th consecutive below normal December snowfall. The first measurable snow in many locations occurred on the December 11 with the largest amount, 1.0", near Westminster (Carroll County), MD. On December 16, 2.3" was measured near Sabillasville (Frederick County), MD. A few locations measured significant icing including 0.50" near Thurmont (Frederick County), MD.

January continued warm with little snow. The only snowfall of note fell on January 7. High totals included 6.0" west of Norrisville (Baltimore County), MD; 5.5" east of Linville (Rockingham County), VA; 5.5" west of Linden (Warren County), VA; 5.3" east of Omps (Morgan County), WV; and 1.0" in Delcarlia Reservoir in DC. Icy roads during the event contributed to a car crash, resulting in one fatality and 2 injuries in Fauquier County, VA, according to media reports. There were some minor snow accumulations on January 18 along with some sleet and ice accumulation. Maximum ice accumulation in Maryland was 0.15" in both Emmerton and Wagners Mill (Harford County). In Virginia, 0.13" was measured near Beaverdam Reservoir (Loudoun County) and Berryville (Clarke County). Maximum ice accumulation in West Virginia was 0.18" north of Shepherdstown (Jefferson County). Icy roads during the event contributed to a car crash, resulting in one fatality and 2 injuries in Fauquier County, VA, according to media reports. February was wet with no snow but included unseasonal severe weather (see monthly summary above).

Winter 2019-20 Weather Statistics for the Washington/Baltimore Area

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (inches)			
	AvMx	AvMin	AvgT	NmlT	DepNml	Max	Min	Total	Nml	DepNml	Snow
National (DCA)	50.4	35.2	42.8	38.2	+4.6	72/1-11	22/12-19, 2-15	9.28	8.48	+0.80	0.6
Baltimore (BWI)	49.5	32.0	40.7	35.1	+5.6	72/1-11	19/12-20; 1-21,22; 2-19	9.66	9.32	+0.34	1.8
Dulles (IAD)	49.0	30.6	39.8	35.3	+4.4	70/1-11	15/2-15	9.54	8.38	+1.16	2.9

Looking Ahead to March—a month of extremes. Below is a list of some notable March statistics for Washington since 1871.

Temperature Extremes: Current Average 46.8°F		Precipitation Extremes: Current Average 3.48", Snow: 1.3"	
Coldest: 1885	Avg. Temp.: 34.0°F	Wettest: 1891	Tot. Prec.: 8.84"
Warmest: 2012	Avg. Temp.: 56.8°F	Driest: 2006	Tot. Prec.: 0.05"
Extreme Minimum: 4°F (March 4, 1873)		Snowiest: 1914	
Extreme Maximum: 93°F (March 23, 1907)		Tot. Snowfall: 19.3"	
Most days with: lows < 32°F: 24 (1960); highs > 90°F: 3 (1907)		Most precipitation in one day (liquid): 2.79" (March 9, 1881)	
		Most snowfall in one day: 11.3" (March 29, 1942)	