

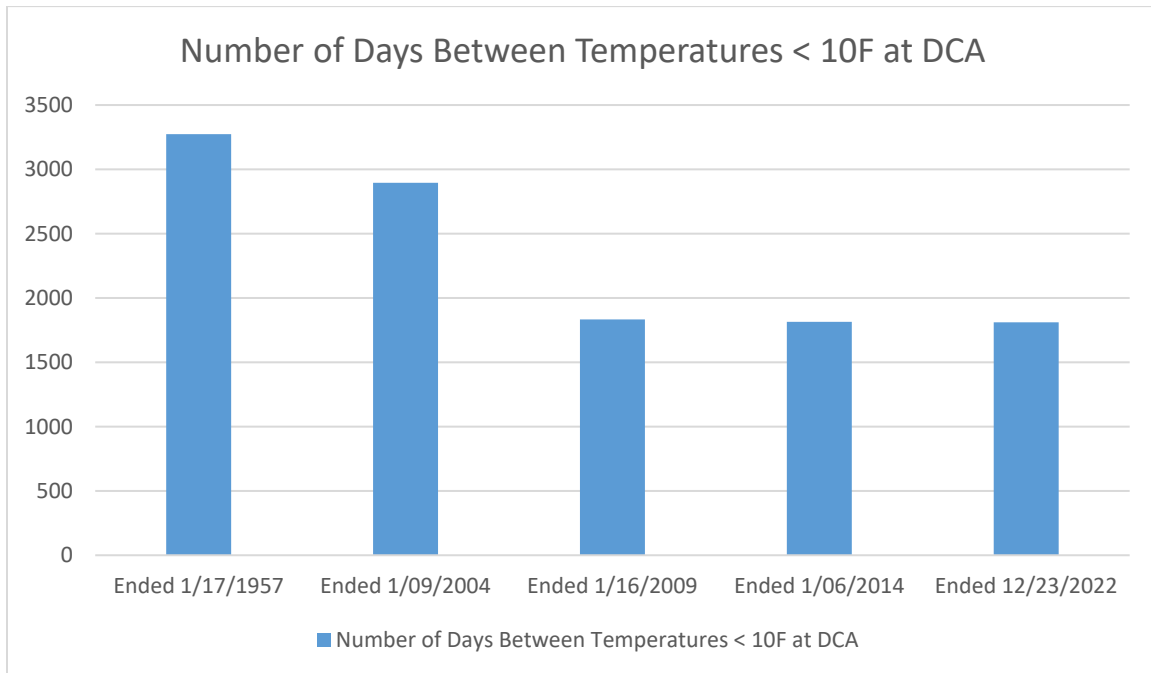


PRESTO



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

December 2022: DCA Drops Below 10°F for the First Time in Nearly Five Years



December Highlights

- December 15** – Up to a ¼ inch of ice accumulation from freezing rain and over 1 inch of sleet in the mountain regions of western MD and eastern WV.
- December 22** – IAD set a daily rainfall record with 2.14 inches. 1-5 inches of snow across western MD, eastern WV, and northwestern VA. Flooding in central VA and MD, as well as around the metro.
- December 23** – Strong winds occurred with a 69 mph wind gust on Barton, MD (Garrett County) and a 63 mph wind gust at I-68 and US 219 in Garrett County, MD. Several wind gusts over 60 mph along the Chesapeake with a peak of 69 mph at 1 mi NNE of Bay Bridge and 2 mi ESE of Eastport.
- December 24** – Record low maximum temperatures at DCA, BWI and IAD of 22F, 20F and 22F respectively. DCA had not been below 10F since early January 2018 until the 23rd, the 5th longest such streak (see cover chart).

December Summary

Temperatures:

Overall, monthly temperatures averaged slightly below normal at all three stations, with DCA having the greatest anomaly at -1.6 F. The first 9 days were mild but from the 10th through just after Christmas, temperatures were consistently below normal. The coldest period was between the 24th and 26th, where temperatures were 15 to 20 degrees below normal; highs were in the 20s and lows were in the single digits. Record low maximum temperatures were set at all three stations on the 24th, with wind chills as low as -10F. DCA dropped below 10F for the first time since early January 2018. The last cold December with an arctic outbreak late in the month locally occurred in 2017. The extreme cold was followed by temperatures 15-20 degrees above normal the last two days of the month.

Precipitation:

Monthly precipitation totals were above normal, with IAD having the greatest anomaly of 1.65 inches. However, heavy rainfalls on the 15th (1-2 inch rainfalls) and 22nd (1-2+ inch rainfalls) made up about 80% of the totals for the month. IAD set a daily rainfall record with 2.14 inches on the 22nd while BWI recorded 2.07 inches. The rest of the month was quite dry. Accumulating snowfall only occurred in areas north and west of the metro. Each of the three stations only measured a trace of snow. Outside of the mountains, only the 23rd saw accumulating snow with a general 1-2 inches.

December Statistics for the Washington/Baltimore Area

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (inches)				Snow
	Av Max	Av Min	Avg T	Nml T	ΔNml	Max	Min	Total	Nml P	ΔNml	Year	
National (DCA)	48.5	31.7	40.1	41.7	-1.6	65/30	9/24	3.86	3.41	0.45	43.51	T
Baltimore (BWI)	48.0	27.1	37.5	38.6	-1.1	66/30	6/24	4.80	3.71	1.09	47.18	T
Dulles (IAD)	47.2	26.6	36.9	37.7	-0.8	66/30	7/24	4.95	3.30	1.65	43.24	T