

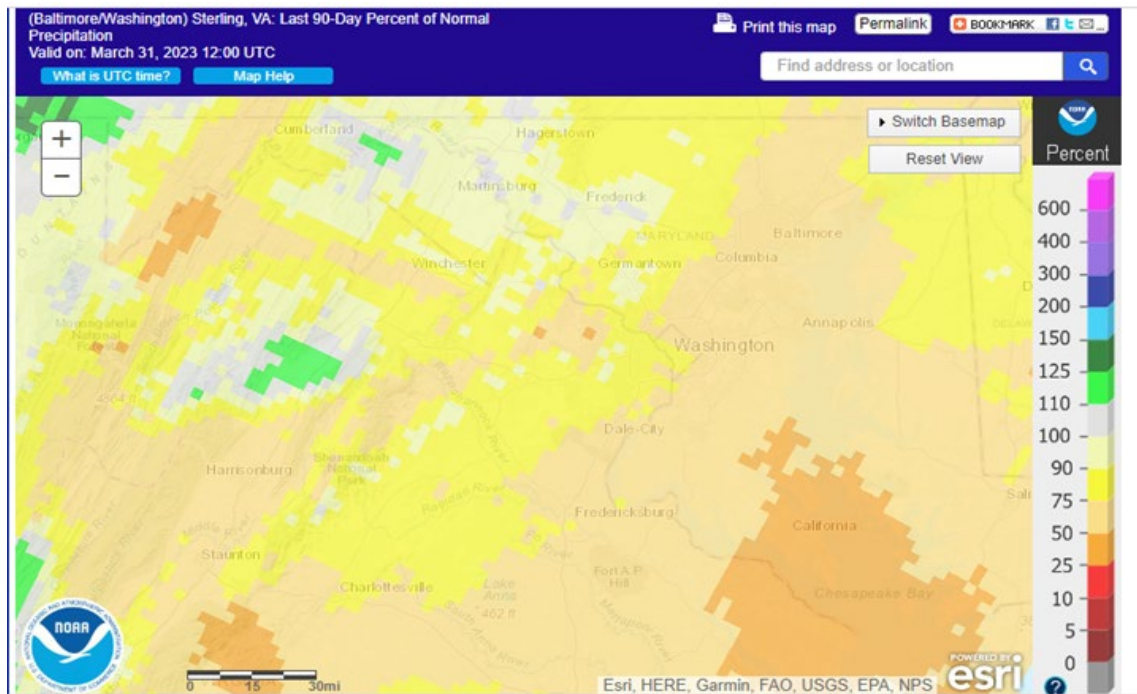


PRESTO



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

March 2023: Another Warm and Dry Month; Dry Year Continues



Percent of normal rainfall for 2023 through 8 AM March 31, 2023 (WFO Baltimore/Washington forecast area). The driest areas are southeast of DC.

March Highlights

- ☁ **Month (temperature)** – Above normal temperatures once again in 2023 (monthly anomalies were: DCA +1.5F; BWI +2.5F; IAD +2.2F).
- ☁ **Month (precipitation)** – Below normal precipitation for most areas (monthly anomalies were: DCA -1.90 inches; BWI -2.52 inches; IAD -1.93 inches). Only a trace of snowfall for each station.
- ☁ **3rd and 4th** – Damaging winds with gusts over 60 mph in western MD and Eastern WV, including a 69 mph gust near Streby, WV (Grant County) on the 3rd, a 72 mph gust near Keyser, WV, and a 74 mph gust in Frostburg, MD on the 4th.
- ☁ **14th** – Widespread wind gusts > 50 mph across much of the area. Mountain snows (3-7 inches) in western MD and eastern WV, including 7 inches near Cherry Grove, WV and 7.5 inches in Frostburg, MD.
- ☁ **23rd** – Thunderstorm wind damage in eastern WV panhandle (Berkeley and Jefferson Counties) including nickel-sized hail in Martinsburg and a possible microburst that downed several large trees near Shepherdstown, WV.

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March Summary

Temperatures:

For the third straight month in 2023, temperatures were above normal for the local area, although not as extreme as in January and February. Monthly temperatures generally averaged from 1.5F to 2.5F above normal during March. There was no extreme cold or warmth or records set or tied during the month.

Precipitation:

Monthly precipitation was below normal for the third straight month in 2023. Precipitation deficits for the month were generally 2-3 inches. For DCA and IAD, March 2023 was the driest March since 2016. For BWI, it was the driest March since 2006. The driest areas in 2023 have been south and east of the DC metro, which have received only 25-50% of the normal precipitation for the year while areas to the west of the metros are closer to average (See cover image). For the three primary stations, the yearly precipitation deficits are BWI -4.64 inches, IAD -3.85 inches, and DCA -3.65 inches.

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (inches)				
	Av Max	Av Min	Avg T	Nml T	ΔNml	Max	Min	Total	Nml P	ΔNml	Year	Snow
National (DCA)	58.3	39.9	49.1	47.6	1.5	84/23	29/19	1.60	3.50	-1.90	5.33	T
Baltimore (BWI)	57.2	36.4	46.8	44.3	2.5	80/23	26/20	1.49	4.01	-2.52	5.35	T
Dulles (IAD)	57.3	35.5	46.4	44.2	2.2	82/23	23/20	1.57	3.50	-1.93	5.20	T

Looking Ahead: Normals for April

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)			Extreme/Day		Precipitation (inches)			Norm Snow
	Max	Min	Monthly	Record Max/Date	Record Min/Date	Nml	Precip. Max/Year	Precip. Min/Year	
National (DCA)	68.0	48.4	58.2	95/27/1915*	15/01/1923	3.21	9.13/1889	0.03/1985	0
Baltimore (BWI)	66.5	43.6	55.0	94/25/1960*	15/10/1923	3.39	8.70/1889	0.39/1985	0
Dulles (IAD)	66.8	43.2	55.0	93/24/1960*	17/18/1969	3.47	7.41/2014	0.33/1985	0.1

* - Latest of more than one occurrence