

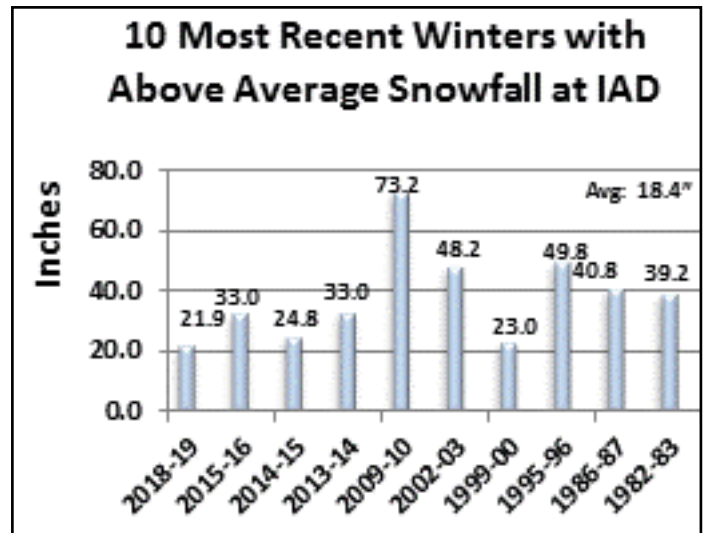
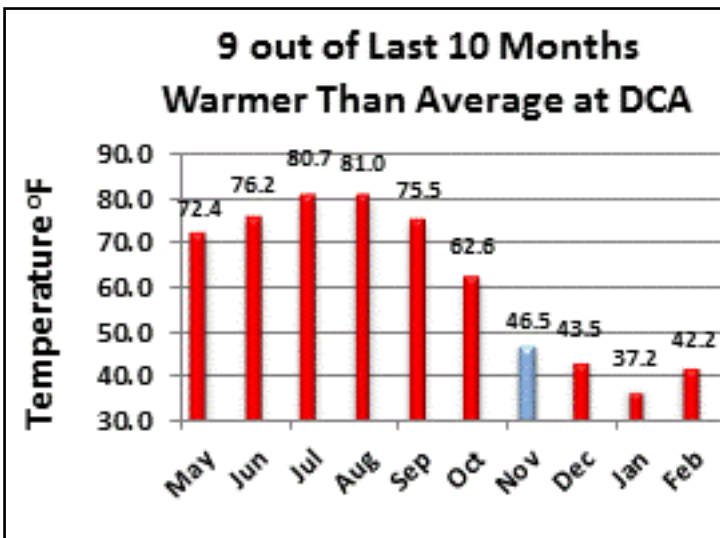


PRESTO

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



FEBRUARY 2019: Above Normal Temperatures With Two Significant Winter Storms WINTER: Above Normal Temperatures and Snowfall at DCA, IAD



February Highlights

- ✦ Above normal temperature with positive departures: DCA, +3.2 °F; BWI, +2.0°F; IAD, +2.1°F
- ✦ On the 5th, DCA reported a calendar day record 74°F; IAD reached 72° and BWI 71°F
- ✦ Bitter cold on 1st with maximum temperatures of 24°F at DCA, 23°F at IAD and 20°F at IAD
- ✦ On the 20th, the month's largest snowfall generally totaled between 3"-6"; largest amounts included 7.5" near Sabillasville (Frederick County), MD, and 6.2" near Lovettsville (Loudoun County), VA. IAD measured a calendar day record 4.7", BWI 4.5" and DCA 2.6"
- ✦ On the 11th-12th, an ice storm impacted portions of central and northern Maryland with numerous trees and wires down across upper Montgomery and Howard Counties. Ice accumulated to 0.41" near Roxbury Mills (Howard County) and 0.30" near Damascus (Montgomery County). In Virginia, ice accumulated to 0.30" near Blue Mountain (Warren County). Further north, snowfall predominated with 7.8" near Sabillasville and 7.0" near Bel Air (Harford County) along with .25" ice accumulation near Thurmont (Frederick County), MD

Winter Seasonal Highlights

- ✦ Fourth consecutive winter with above normal temperatures: DCA, +2.8°F; BWI, +1.9°F; and IAD, +0.3°F.
- ✦ Above normal seasonal precipitation: DCA, 12.64" (+4.16"), BWI, 13.33" (+4.01"), IAD, 13.22" (+4.84")
- ✦ Snowfall was above normal at IAD and DCA: DCA, 15.2" (+1.6"); and IAD, 21.9" (+3.5") and below normal at BWI, 13.9" (-3.9")
- ✦ DCA and IAD recorded just 4 days with subfreezing maximums, BWI, 5 such days
- ✦ From December 14-16, over 3" of rain across the area with DCA, BWI and IAD setting calendar day totals on the 15th with 2.55" at DCA, 2.49" at IAD and 2.24" at BWI. Greatest totals included 4.32" at Northwest Branch Anacostia (Prince Georges County), MD; 4.34" near Woolsey (Prince William County), VA, and 3.53" in Washington, resulting in flooded roads and water rescues
- ✦ Major snowstorm south of Washington on December 9. Totals in Virginia included 21.0" at Wintergreen and 16.8" near Afton (Nelson County), 15.5" in Sherando (Augusta County) and 12.9" in Charlottesville (Albemarle County), while Ridge in St. Mary's County, MD, measured 6.5"
- ✦ The first snowstorm of the season occurred January 12-13. Greatest storm totals in Maryland included 13.2" near Clarksburg (Montgomery County) and in Columbia, 13.0" (Howard County). In Virginia, totals included 12.1" in Baileys Crossroads (Arlington County) and 12.0" near Tysons Corner (Fairfax County). In Washington, 10.2" was measured at the National Zoo. IAD measured 10.6" with a daily record of 7.7" on the 13th; DCA measured 10.3", including a daily record of 8.3" on the 13th; BWI observed 6.6"

February 2019

Temperature: The final month of meteorological winter featured above normal temperatures: +3.2 °F at DCA, +2.0°F at BWI and +2.1°F at IAD. DCA recorded 6 days with maximum readings at or above 60°F, including a calendar day record 74°F on the 5th. At BWI, there were 2 such days including 71°F on the 5th. IAD recorded 3 such days, including a high of 72°F on the 5th. Minimum readings held in the 40s on 5 days at DCA.

In sharp contrast, the month started frigid with a blast of arctic chill that arrived in late January and continued for the first 2 days of the month. Maximum temperatures were below 25°F on the 1st: 24°F at DCA, 23°F at BWI and 20°F at IAD. IAD bottomed out in the single digits for low temperatures including 7°F on the 2nd; BWI's also dropped to the single digits with a monthly low minimum temperature of 8°F on the 2nd.

Precipitation: Similarly to January, monthly precipitation was above normal, but not excessively so, with totals between 3"-4" at the three major airports: DCA 3.52" (+0.90"); BWI 3.64" (+0.74") and IAD, 3.50" (+0.76"). There were three significant events.

The month's largest snowfall occurred on the 20th when moderate to heavy snow started about dawn and continued until about midday before transitioning to sleet, freezing rain and then rain at most locations during the afternoon. Snowfall amounts generally totaled between 3"-6" with the largest amounts included 7.5" near Sabillasville (Frederick County), MD, and 6.2" near Lovettsville (Loudoun County), VA. IAD measured a calendar day record 4.7", BWI 4.5" and DCA, 2.6". This event ensured above normal seasonal snowfall totals at DCA and IAD.

The second event started the evening of the 10th and ended late evening on the 12th and resulted in the month's largest precipitation total (1.0"-1.5" water equivalent). The immediate metro area reported a brief period of snow to start then small amounts of ice on the 10th and 11th while much greater impacts occurred north and west of the major cities. An ice storm impacted portions of central and northern Maryland with numerous trees and wires down across upper Montgomery and Howard Counties. Ice accumulated to 0.41" near Roxbury Mills (Howard County) and 0.30" near Damascus (Montgomery County). In Virginia, ice accumulated to 0.30" near Blue Mountain (Warren County). Further north, snowfall predominated with 7.8" near Sabillasville and 7.0" near Bel Air (Harford County) along with .25" ice accumulation near Thurmont (Frederick County), MD.

Finally, following rain on the 24th, strong to damaging winds were measured overnight on the 24th and during the day on the 25th knocked down trees and wires causing some loss of power in some locations. Wind gusts over a 24 hour period were about 50 mph across the region with the highest reported gusts of 65 mph near Woodville (Rappahannock County), VA, and 61 mph near Thurmont, MD.

February 2019 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)	50.0	34.4	42.2	39.0	+3.2	74/5	18/2	3.52	2.62	+0.90	3.7	6.82
Baltimore (BWI)	46.4	29.3	37.8	35.8	+2.0	71/5	8/2	3.64	2.90	+0.74	6.1	6.79
Dulles (IAD)	47.5	29.0	38.3	36.2	+2.1	72/5	7/2	3.50	2.74	+0.76	6.4	7.46

Winter (Dec-Feb) Temperatures: For the 4th consecutive winter season, the three major airport reported above normal readings: DCA, +2.8°F; BWI, +1.9°F; and IAD, +0.3°F. December observed well above normal temperatures. DCA, BWI and IAD observed 10 days with maximum temperatures at or above 50°F. DCA also recorded 3 days at or above 60°F; BWI and IAD reported 2 such days. There were no intrusions of arctic air during the month.

January started warm and ended bitterly cold. DCA and BWI were above normal and IAD slightly below. Maximum temperatures varied considerably during the month. New Year's Day at all three airports was in the 60s but 3 days failed to rise above freezing. IAD also recorded three minimum readings below 10°F, including -2°F on the month's final day. BWI's minimum was below 10°F on the month's final 2 days when arctic chill enveloped the region. February was warmer than normal. (See monthly summary above.)

Winter Precipitation: The season was wetter than normal: DCA, 12.64"; (+4.16"), BWI, 13.33" (+4.01"), IAD, 13.22" (+4.84"). Snowfall was above normal at IAD and DCA: DCA, 15.2" (+1.6"); and IAD, 21.9" (+3.5") and below normal at BWI, 13.9" (-3.9"). It was the wettest December since 2009 at the three major airports. About half of the month's precipitation occurred during a 3-day period from the 14th-16th when more than 3" fell across the area. On the 15th, DCA, BWI and IAD set calendar day records: DCA, 2.55"; IAD, 2.49"; and BWI 2.24". Greatest totals included 4.32" at Northwest Branch Anacostia (Prince Georges County), MD; 4.34" near Woolsey (Prince William County), VA, and 3.53" in Washington. On the 20th-21st, heavy rain led to 5"-6" of water flowing across Rte. US-250 near Staunton (Augusta County), VA. The following day featured rare December severe thunderstorms with quarter size (1.0") hail pelting Reese (Carroll County), MD, and high winds knocking down a tree near Sterling Park (Loudoun County), VA.

January was wet but not excessively so. The season's first significant snowstorm occurred January 12-13 during two distinct periods of moderate to heavy snowfall. The first significant band of snow occurred overnight on the 12th with accumulations of about 5". The second band began in the afternoon and continued into the evening of the 13th, leaving a total of about 7" in many areas. The greatest storm totals included 13.2" near Clarksburg (Montgomery County), MD, and 12.1" in Baileys Crossroads (Arlington County), VA. In Washington, 10.2" was measured at the National Zoo. IAD measured 10.6", including a daily record of 7.7" on the 13th; DCA, 10.3" including a daily record of 8.3" on the 13th and BWI, 6.6". The monthly snowfall total at IAD of 15.5" was its 6th snowiest on record. February featured above normal precipitation (see monthly summary above).

Winter 2018-19 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)	48.1	33.8	41.0	38.2	+2.8	74/2-5	10/1-31	12.64	8.48	+4.16	15.2	
Baltimore (BWI)	45.4	28.7	37.0	35.1	+1.9	71/2-5	5/1-31	13.33	9.32	+4.01	13.9	
Dulles (IAD)	45.4	27.5	36.5	36.2	+0.3	72/2-5	-2/1/31	13.22	8.38	+4.84	21.9	

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	Tot. Snowfall: 19.3"
Extreme Maximum: 93°F (March 23, 1907)		Most precipitation in one day (liquid): 2.79" (March 9, 1881)	
Most days with: lows < 32°F: 24 (1960); highs > 90°F: 3 (1907)		Most snowfall in one day: 11.3" (March 29, 1942)	