

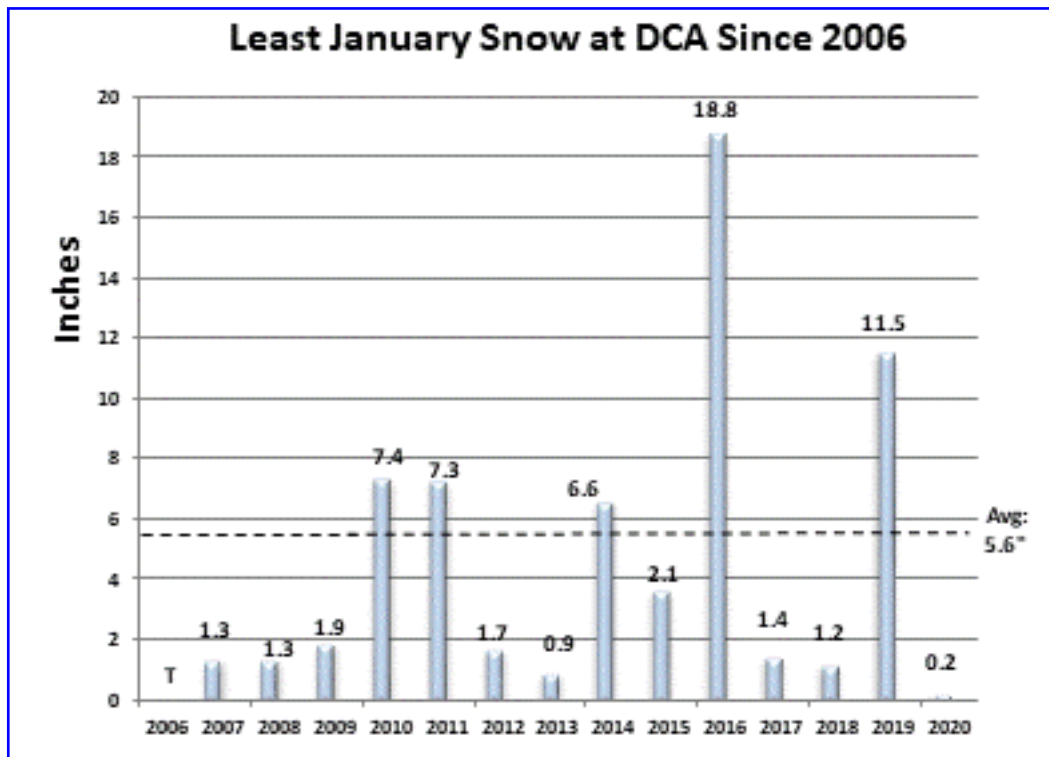


# PRESTO

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



## JANUARY 2020: Unseasonably Warm With Below Normal Snowfall



### January Highlights

- ☁ The month featured well above normal temperatures: DCA, +6.4°F; BWI, 7.3°F; and IAD +5.7°F with no days with maximums at or below freezing.
- ☁ Average temperatures were at or above normal for 25 days at DCA and BWI, 23 at IAD
- ☁ On 7<sup>th</sup>, light to moderate snowfall fell across the region: highest totals were over the Shenandoah Valley and Potomac Highlands of West Virginia with lightest totals near and southeast of DC. Icy roads during the event contributed to a car crash, resulting in one fatality and 2 injuries in Fauquier County, VA, according to press reports.
- ☁ On the 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, the area observed record warm temperatures. Dulles had a record high minimum of 48°F on the 11<sup>th</sup> and Baltimore tied a record high of 70°F on the 12<sup>th</sup>.
- ☁ The 12<sup>th</sup> also saw squall line winds that 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.
- ☁ On 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, there were widespread heavy rainfall totals of 1"-2". DCA recorded 1.23", BWI, 1.45" and IAD, 1.54". In Maryland, Sabillasville (Frederick County), recorded 2". In Virginia, Mustoe (Highland County), MD, 2.50"; Orange (Orange County), 2.40"; and near Panorama (Page County), 2.38". Maximum rainfall in West Virginia was 1.86" in Shannondale (Jefferson County). In DC, Dalecarlia Reservoir (NW) recorded 1.92".

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## January 2020

**Temperatures:** The first month of 2020 featured well above normal temperatures at all three major airports: DCA, 42.4°F (+6.4°F); BWI, 40.2°F (+7.3°F); and IAD, 38.9°F (+5.7°F). It was the warmest January since 2006 at DCA and BWI and the 7<sup>th</sup> warmest on record at IAD. Readings were well above average for the first 16 days. On the 12<sup>th</sup>, BWI tied a record high of 70°F set in 2017. IAD recorded a record high minimum of 48°F on the 11<sup>th</sup>, breaking a record set in 1975. Average temperatures for the first 16 days of the month were generally 10-11 degrees above normal for most areas.

Temperatures were slightly below average from the 17<sup>th</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup>, with the coldest lows in the low teens outside of the metro areas on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. The last week of the month swung warmer with temperatures slightly above average.

**Precipitation:** Monthly precipitation was near normal with minimal snowfall: DCA, 2.79" (-0.02"); BWI, 3.11" (+0.06"); and IAD, 3.33" (+0.65"). At DCA, monthly snowfall, 0.2", was 4% of normal, the least snowy January since 2006; BWI got 22% of normal (1.5") and IAD, 32% (2.3"). Most of the precipitation fell on just a few days with many locations recording just 8 to 9 days with measurable precipitation and many locations received almost half of their monthly total on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Snowfall was sparse with the only widespread accumulations occurring on the 7<sup>th</sup>. 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 Omph (Morgan County), WV; and 1.0" in Dalecarlia Reservoir in DC. Icy roads during the event contributed to a car crash, resulting in one fatality and two injuries in Fauquier County, VA, according to press reports.

There were some minor snow accumulations on the 18<sup>th</sup> 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).

Winds gusted to 60+ mph near Wintergreen, (Augusta County), VA, on the 8<sup>th</sup>. The 12<sup>th</sup> saw squall line winds that resulted in reports of downed trees in both Culpepper and Orange Counties, VA, and several reports of downed trees, including one "large tree" in Charles County, MD. Aberdeen Proving Ground measured a 43 mph gust; DCA measured 41 mph. On the 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, widespread heavy rainfall totals of 1"-2". DCA recorded 1.23", BWI, 1.45" and IAD, 1.54". In Maryland, Sabillasville (Frederick County), recorded 2.00". In Virginia, Mustoe (Highland County) MD, 2.50"; Orange (Orange County), 2.40"; and near Panorama (Page County), 2.38". Maximum rainfall in West Virginia was 1.86" in Shannondale (Jefferson County). In Washington, Dalecarlia Reservoir (NW) recorded 1.92".

### January 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 |
| National (DCA)  | 49.8                      | 35.0  | 42.4 | 36.0 | +6.4   | 72/11       | 23/21    | 2.79                   | 2.81 | -0.02  | 0.2  |
| Baltimore (BWI) | 48.7                      | 31.7  | 40.2 | 32.9 | +7.3   | 72/11       | 19/21,22 | 3.11                   | 3.05 | +0.06  | 1.5  |
| Dulles (IAD)    | 47.6                      | 30.2  | 38.9 | 33.2 | +5.7   | 70/11       | 16/22    | 3.33                   | 2.68 | +0.65  | 2.3  |

**Looking Ahead:** *Continued Below Normal Snowfall for the winter?* With two months of below normal snowfall behind us what does the rest of winter hold?

|   | DCA            | BWI             | IAD            |
|---|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Total seasonal snowfall through Jan. 31         | 0.6            | 1.8             | 2.9            |
| Seasons through Jan. 31 with ≤ current snowfall | 10 of 131 (8%) | 16 of 135 (12%) | 10 of 56 (18%) |
| Following Feb. with ≥ 10" of snowfall           | 0              | 3 (19%)         | 2 (20%)        |
| Winter total snowfall ≥ 10"                     | 2 (20%)        | 5 (31%)         | 3 (30%)        |
| Winter total snowfall ≥ 20"                     | 2 (20%)        | 2 (13%)         | 1 (10%)        |