

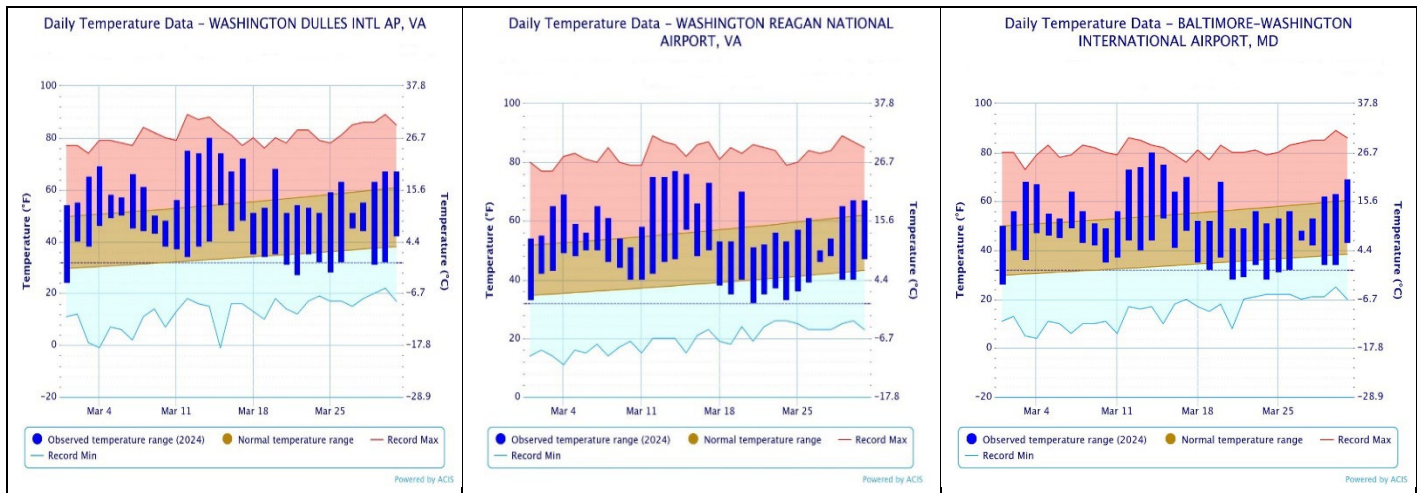


PRESTO



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

March 2024: Warm and Wet



Monthly average temperature for IAD (left), DCA (middle), and BWI (right) during March 2024. It was the 4th warmest March on record at IAD, and 8th warmest for the Washington Area. For the Baltimore Area, it was the 15th warmest March on record.

March Highlights

- Month (temperature)** – March was another warm month for the area. Monthly average temperature anomalies were +5.5F for IAD, +4.7F at BWI, and +4.3F at DCA.
- Month (precipitation)** – March was a wet month across the entire area, with above normal monthly precipitation values of 1.53 inches at BWI, 1.39 inches at DCA, and 0.39 inches at IAD.
- 9th** – Coastal flooding around DC, Annapolis, and Alexandria. IAD and Martinsburg set daily rainfall records of 0.99 inches and 1.39 inches, respectively.
- 10th** – Wind damage in eastern MD and VA, including a 58 mph gust 8 miles NW of Taylors Island.
- 11th** – Strong non-thunderstorm wind gust of 66 mph near Sabillasville, MD.
- 20th** – 68 mph wind gust near Wintergreen, VA and 63 mph gusts near Deer Run, WV and Blue Mountain, VA.
- 29th** – 71 mph wind gust in Wintergreen, VA.
- 30th** – Strong winds in the Chesapeake Bay. 63 mph gust at Highland Beach and 62 mph gust and Saunders Point.
- 31st** – 1 inch hail in Tyro, VA (Nelson County).

March Summary

Temperature: March continued the warm trend of 2024 with all areas being well above average in temperature. IAD had the greatest monthly temperature anomaly of 5.5F, while BWI and DCA observed 4.7F and 4.3F anomalies, respectively. It was the 4th warmest March on record for IAD, the 8th warmest March on record for the Washington Area, and the 15th warmest for the Baltimore Area. No temperature records were set, but DCA only had 1 day with a low temperature of 32F or lower, and BWI only had 3 such days. Due to the warmth and ample rainfall, the peak bloom of cherry blossoms occurred at the Tidal Basin on March 17th, and this tied (2000) for the 2nd earliest bloom on record.

Precipitation: March 2024 was a wet month area-wide with above normal rain and very little snowfall. BWI had the largest anomaly with 1.53 inches, while DCA observed 1.39 inches above normal, and IAD was 0.39 inches above normal. It was the wettest March at DCA and BWI since 1998. There were no extremely heavy rains, but IAD set a daily rainfall record on the 10th with 0.99 inches. Only a trace of snowfall was reported at most lowland locations. Mountainous regions had a few days of accumulating snowfall. The three primary reporting stations have observed about 60% of the seasonal snowfall for the season.

Wind: There were several days with damaging winds during March, specifically on the 10th, 11th, 20th, 29th, 30th, and 31st. The strongest wind gust observed was 71 mph near Wintergreen, VA on the 29th. See the Highlights section for details.

March Stats:

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (inches)			
	Avg. Max	Avg. Min	Avg. Temp	Normal	Normal Dep.	Max	Min	Total	Normal	Nml. Departure	Snow/ Normal Dep.
National (DCA)	61.2	42.6	51.9	47.6	4.3	77/14	32/21	4.89	3.50	1.39	T/-2.0
Baltimore (BWI)	59.4	38.7	49.0	44.3	4.7	80/14	26/01	5.54	4.01	1.53	T/-2.8
Dulles (IAD)	60.9	38.5	49.7	44.2	5.5	80/14	24/21	3.89	3.50	0.39	T/-3.9

Looking Ahead: Normals for April

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)			Extreme/Day		Precipitation (inches)			
	Max	Min	Month Average	Record Max/Date	Record Min/Date	Normal	Precip. Max/Year	Precip. Min/Year	Nml. Snowfall/ Max/Year
National (DCA)	68.0	48.4	58.2	95/17/2002*	15/01/1887	3.21	9.13/1889	0.03/1985	0.0/5.5/1924
Baltimore (BWI)	66.5	43.6	55.5	94/25/1960*	15/01/1923	3.39	8.70/1889	0.39/1985	0.0/9.4/1924
Dulles (IAD)	66.8	43.2	55.0	93/25/1960	17/01/1969	3.47	7.41/2014	0.33/1985	0.1/4.0/1990

* - Latest of more than one occurrence