

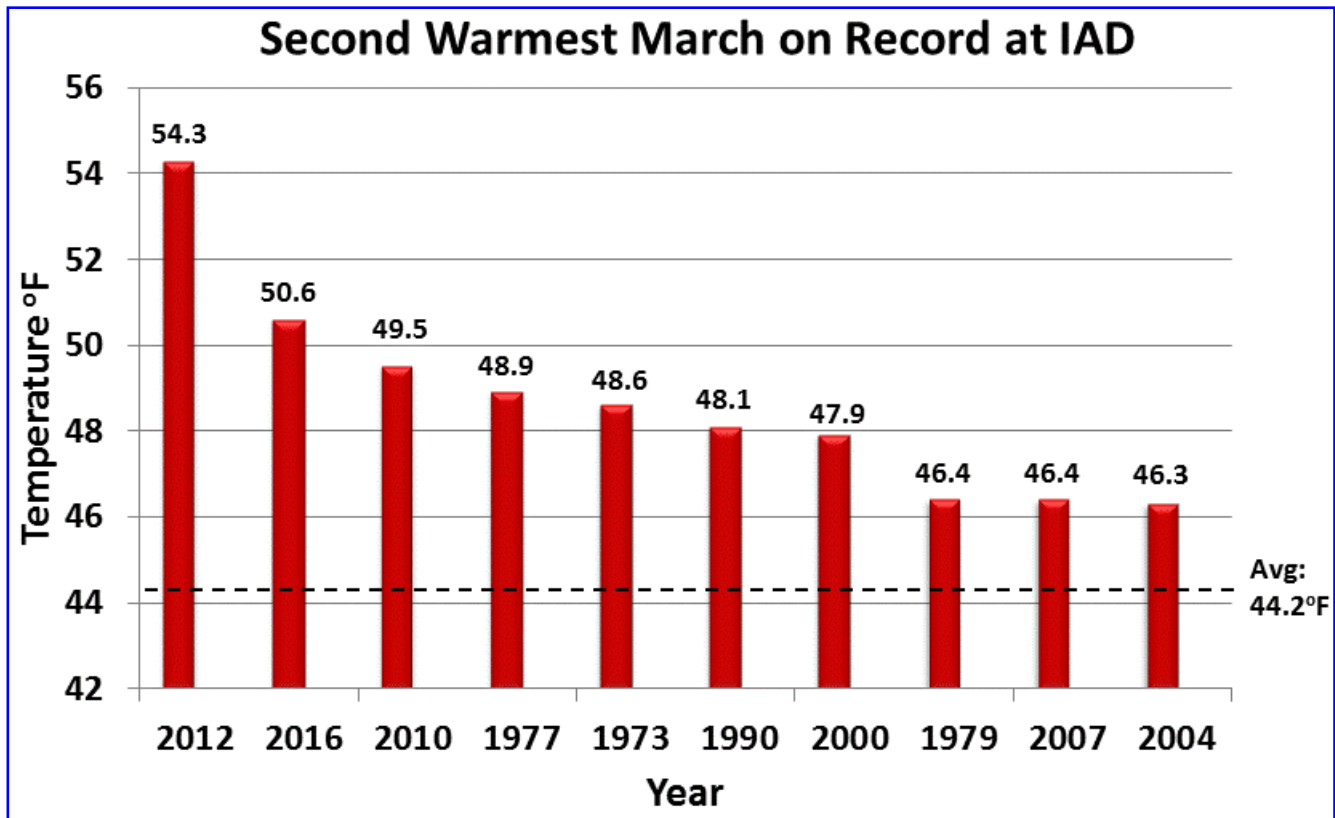


PRESTO

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



MARCH: Above Normal Temperatures with Subnormal Precipitation



March Highlights

- Well above normal temperatures: 2nd warmest on record at IAD, 4th warmest in Washington and 6th warmest at BWI with positive departures of +6.7°F at DCA and +6.4°F at BWI and IAD
- DCA recorded 10 days with highs at or above 70°F, including a record 79°F on the 10th. BWI and IAD soared to record highs of 82°F on the 9th and 80°F on the 10th
- Well below normal precipitation was measured at the three major airports: DCA, 1.16" (-2.32"); BWI, 2.10" (-1.80"); and IAD, 1.45" (-1.93"); the month was the driest March at DCA, BWI since 2012 and since 2006 at IAD
- The season's final noteworthy snowfall occurred the 3rd-4th: heaviest amounts were measured in Southern Maryland including 6.3" near California (St. Mary's County), 4.6" in both Mount Victoria (Charles County) and near Huntingtown (Calvert County); elevated areas near Wintergreen in Augusta County, VA, reported 5.0" and near Shiloh (King George County), 3.5"
- Strong wind gusts on the 28th caused isolated areas of damage: a tree fell on a house in Sykesville, (Carroll County) MD, and a tree blocked a road near Oakton, (Fairfax County), VA. Maximum wind gusts of 55 mph were recorded near Sabillasville (Frederick County) and 54 mph and near Belvedere Heights, (Anne Arundel County), MD; winds peaked at 51 mph near Leesburg and 49 mph near Lovettsville (Loudoun County), VA, as well as at DCA.

March 2016

Temperatures: The first month of spring featured well above normal temperatures. It was the 2nd warmest on record at IAD (graphic), 4th warmest in Washington and 6th warmest at BWI. Positive departures were +6.7°F at DCA and +6.4°F at BWI and IAD, marking the warmest March since 2012 at the three major airports.

DCA recorded 10 days with highs at or above 70°F, including a record 79°F on the 10th. BWI and IAD soared to record highs of 82°F on the 9th and 80°F on the 10th. The 10th also featured calendar day record high minimum readings with 57°F at DCA and BWI and a balmy 59°F at IAD.

There were no intrusions of arctic cold. DCA and IAD observed only 4 days with highs in the 40s and BWI, only 5 such days. After dropping to 32°F or below from the 2nd-4th, DCA recorded no subfreezing low temperatures the remainder of the month.

Precipitation: The three major airport measured well below normal precipitation: DCA, 1.16" (-2.32"); BWI, 2.10" (-1.80") and IAD, 1.45", (-1.93"). The month was the driest March at DCA, BWI since 2012 and since 2006 at IAD. None of the airports recorded at least an inch of precipitation on any calendar day.

The season's final noteworthy snowfall began the evening of the 3rd and ended pre-dawn on the 4th. The heaviest amounts were measured in Southern Maryland, including 6.3" near California (St. Mary's County), 4.6" in both Mount Victoria (Charles County), and near Huntingtown (Calvert County); In elevated areas in Virginia snow totals included 5.0" near Wintergreen in Augusta County and 3.5" near Shiloh, (King George County). BWI measured 2.5" while IAD observed 1.3".

The month's largest rain event began the afternoon of the 13th ending about dawn on the 14th. Portions of Maryland recorded over an inch for the event including 1.15" in Kingsville and 1.13" in White Marsh (Baltimore County); BWI's storm total was 1.11".

The month also featured strong wind gusts on the 28th, causing isolated areas of damage. A tree fell on a house in Sykesville, (Carroll County) MD, and a tree blocked a road near Oakton, (Fairfax County), VA. In Maryland, maximum wind gusts were 55 mph near Sabillasville (Frederick County) and 54 mph near Belvedere Heights, (Anne Arundel County); winds peaked at 51 mph near Leesburg and 49 mph near Lovettsville (Loudoun County), VA, as well as at DCA.

March 2016 Weather Statistics for the Washington/Baltimore Area

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (inches)				Yr. to Date
	AvMx	AvMin	AvgT	NmlT	DepNml	Max	Min	Total	Nml	DepNml	Snow	
National (DCA)	63.1	44.0	53.5	46.8	+6.7	79/9,10	29/3	1.16	3.48	-2.32	0.3	7.63
Baltimore (BWI)	61.2	38.8	50.0	43.6	+6.4	82/9	22/3	2.10	3.90	-1.80	2.5	11.30
Dulles (IAD)	62.6	38.5	50.6	44.2	+6.4	82/9	22/3	1.45	3.38	-1.93	1.3	9.71

Looking Ahead to April: Last Freeze at DCA and IAD. April is usually the last month before autumn when a 32°F or lower reading occurs in Washington suburbs. The city has never recorded a freezing reading in May, although suburban areas have. Below is a list of the last 32°F or lower readings at DCA and IAD for the last 10 years.

DCA				IAD			
Year	Date of last 32°F or lower reading	Year	Date of last 32°F or lower reading	Year	Date of last 32°F or lower reading	Year	Date of last 32°F or lower reading
2015	March 29 (28°F)	2010	Feb. 27 (31°F)*	2015	April 12 (31°F)	2010	April 18 (32°F)
2014	March 27 (27°F)	2009	March 24 (28°F)	2014	April 21 (31°F)	2009	April 13 (32°F)
2013	April 4 (31°F)	2008	March 9 (29°F)	2013	April 4 (31°F)	2008	April 16 (31°F)
2012	March 6 (29°F)	2007	April 9 (31°F)	2012	April 25 (31°F)	2007	April 11 (28°F)
2011	March 28 (31°F)	2006	March 23 (32°F)	2011	April 6 (30°F)	2006	April 10 (31°F)

*Earliest last freeze in DCA's recorded history.