

CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

15

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE SECTION

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GENERAL SUMMARY

This month was warm and dry with the temperature averaging over four degrees above normal and precipitation about two-thirds of normal. Snowfall was approximately 63% of normal and sunshine above normal for the month. December started out warm, but the coldest weather of the month spread over the section on the 2d, driving temperatures in Western Maryland to within a few degrees of zero by the morning of the 3d. Oakland reported the lowest temperature, with one degree above zero. The wintry weather was felt in all sections, and only localities protected by the warm coastal waters escaped with temperatures higher than 20 degrees. Delaware's lowest temperature for this period and for the month was 8 degrees at Bridgeville on the 3d. From these low readings the mercury rose rapidly on subsequent days reaching the sixties or lower seventies by the 9th. This warm weather continued through the 13th; the remainder of the month was marked by frequent temperature changes of lesser magnitude and shorter duration. Warm periods occurred about the 17th, 24th, 26th, and 28th, and cold snaps on the 19th, 27th, and 31st. The highest temperatures of the month occurred at most stations on the 9th, 10th, and 28th.

Precipitation was 32% below normal, continuing a trend which started in June. Sines, Maryland and Solomons, Maryland, were the only two stations reporting above normal precipitation. Approximately three-quarters of the total precipitation of the month fell on the 20th and 21st as the result of a disturbance which developed off the Carolina Coast and moved northward just east of the Delmarva Peninsula. There were two generally rainy periods over the State; one extended from the 11th through the 21st, and the second shorter period from the 28th through the 31st. The greatest amount of precipitation for Delaware for the month was 2.32 inches at Georgetown, and the least 1.72 inches at Delaware City. In Maryland the greatest monthly amount was 3.69 inches at Sines. The Weather Bureau Air Station at Baltimore reported the lowest precipitation for the month with 1.54 inches, less than one-half the normal amount. Snowfall too was light, averaging about two-thirds the usual amount for December. All the snow fell during the last half of the month with the exception of some light amounts which fell in some western counties on the 2d. The greatest fall for the month in Maryland was 10.1 inches at Sines; and in Delaware it was 6 inches at Bridgeville.

TEMPERATURE

The monthly mean temperature for the section was 39.6 degrees, 4.4 degrees above normal. The highest monthly mean temperature, 46.8 degrees, was recorded at Crisfield, Maryland, and the lowest, 33.0 degrees at Sines, Maryland. The highest temperature recorded during the month was 76 degrees at Millsboro, Delaware, on the 28th, and the lowest was one degree at Oakland, Maryland, on the 3d. The greatest local monthly range in temperature was 64 degrees at Bridgeville, Delaware, where a minimum of 8 degrees was reported on the 3d, and a maximum of 72 degrees on the 28th. The lowest monthly range in temperature was 44 degrees at Oxford, Maryland, where a minimum of 22 degrees was reported on the 3d and a maximum of 66 degrees reported on the 10th.

PRECIPITATION

The average monthly precipitation for Maryland and Delaware was 2.15 inches, which was 1.02 inches below normal. The greatest amount reported

during the month 3.69 inches at Sines, Maryland, and the lowest amount recorded was 1.54 inches at the Baltimore Airport. The greatest twenty-four hour rainfall was 1.83 inches at Millington, Maryland, on the 20th and 21st. The snowfall averaged 3.2 inches over the section as compared to a normal of 5.1 inches. The greatest monthly snowfall was 10.1 inches at Sines. However, the greatest twenty-four hour amount recorded was 5.0 on the 20th at Tonoloway in Washington County, and at Picardy in Allegany County. The lowest monthly amount of snowfall was 0.5 at Aberdeen, Maryland and Wilmington, Delaware.

PRESSURE, HUMIDITY, SUNSHINE, WIND, DEGREE DAYS

Stations	Atmospheric pressure reduced to sea level			Wind			Mean relative humidity			Percentage of sunshine	Heating degree days (base 65°)	
	Highest	Date	Lowest	Date	Average hourly velocity	Maximum velocity	Direction	Date	7:30 a. m.			1:30 p. m.
Aberdeen, Md.	30.65	3	29.42	13	3.7	35	sw.	25	78	61	76	872
Annapolis, Md.	30.72	11	29.42	13	3.7	35	sw.	25	78	61	76	872
Baltimore, Md.	30.71	31	29.40	12	9.7	37	sw.	13	70	52	57	738
Elkins, W. Va.	30.71	2	29.48	13	8.1	35	sw.	13	92	96	98	639
Harrisburg, Pa.	30.67	31	29.37	13	8.0	34	nw.	25	72	55	62	887
Norfolk, Va.	30.68	3	29.56	13	9.6	33	nw.	2	78	57	73	512
Philadelphia, Pa.	30.68	31	29.36	13	8.1	27	nw.	2	77	56	64	776
Pittsburgh, Pa.	30.66	31	29.41	12	12.0	40	nw.	28	74	58	65	822
Washington, D. C.	30.66	3	29.43	13	7.5	31	nw.	18	72	50	55	724

COMPARATIVE DATA FOR DECEMBER

Year	FOR MARYLAND						FOR DELAWARE					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Temperature			Precipitation		
	Mean	Highest	Lowest	Average	Average snowfall	No. of days with .01 in. or more	Mean	Highest	Lowest	Average	Average snowfall	No. of days with .01 in. or more
1895	37.0	70	-7	2.58	2.7	7	40.0	69	12	2.39	0.6	7
1896	34.1	70	-3	0.78	4.0	4	34.2	67	7	1.28	6.0	5
1897	36.8	74	-4	3.54	2.5	10	37.9	71	12	3.88	1.5	11
1898	34.0	70	-20	3.61	6.0	8	36.6	68	6	3.48	1.6	11
1899	35.2	69	-6	1.86	2.0	7	37.4	68	1	1.37	1.0	6
1900	34.4	68	-2	2.39	1.8	5	34.7	65	11	2.87	5.0	10
1901	32.5	74	-15	6.80	1.4	10	34.9	69	6	6.00	T	10
1902	33.1	70	-4	5.99	7.3	12	35.4	65	9	6.07	3.1	11
1903	30.1	60	-9	2.25	5.0	7	31.4	56	9	4.15	4.5	8
1904	29.6	64	-11	3.34	15.4	9	30.0	66	-1	4.65	17.1	12
1905	36.4	64	2	4.31	4.2	8	38.3	64	15	4.70	2.2	8
1906	35.5	68	0	4.12	1.3	11	37.5	72	10	4.07	T	10
1907	36.9	76	-7	4.14	4.8	9	41.1	67	16	4.54	1.7	8
1908	35.9	71	-1	3.18	7.7	9	37.5	71	6	4.32	8.2	10
1909	30.5	69	-5	3.64	10.3	7	32.1	62	3	3.86	15.3	6
1910	28.2	65	-15	2.33	11.9	7	30.4	64	-1	3.02	8.1	7
1911	29.8	76	-7	3.66	1.1	10	41.5	76	1	3.65	0.1	8
1912	38.2	75	-0	3.87	7.2	9	40.5	74	15	4.36	6.3	8
1913	38.8	72	-1	2.44	1.0	6	40.4	67	18	2.38	T	6
1914	31.6	68	-30	4.38	5.7	14	34.4	66	7	6.20	1.3	14
1915	32.8	73	-6	3.16	5.2	8	34.9	67	16	3.16	3.5	7
1916	38.4	76	-3	3.63	9.6	11	40.0	70	-3	4.43	9.7	10
1917	26.4	59	-32	1.62	9.4	8	28.5	56	-7	2.14	4.7	8
1918	40.3	71	-7	4.31	0.3	10	41.2	70	13	3.75	0.1	9
1919	29.5	70	-17	2.91	6.0	11	31.9	70	0	3.19	5.9	11
1920	37.2	71	-5	3.42	1.7	8	39.6	69	16	3.52	0.2	7
1921	36.1	70	0	2.55	8.4	10	36.5	66	9	2.24	6.0	9
1922	36.2	71	3	3.79	3.1	10	37.1	66	13	4.18	1.8	10
1923	43.7	72	-2	3.56	1.8	11	44.1	69	16	3.25	1.5	10
1924	35.0	76	-4	2.32	0.3	9	36.9	75	8	2.54	0.1	9
1925	35.2	64	-7	1.84	0.9	9	36.8	63	10	2.30	T	7
1926	32.0	62	-16	3.17	2.2	12	32.8	60	5	3.49	1.3	12
1927	37.0	73	0	3.71	2.4	12	39.1	71	11	4.39	2.3	11
1928	36.8	63	0	1.53	2.5	7	37.4	63	11	2.45	2.5	7
1929	36.8	75	-6	2.41	4.2	9	38.1	70	11	2.71	1.0	13
1930	33.1	60	-17	2.68	5.7	9	35.5	62	8	1.98	3.2	10
1931	42.6	72	-9	2.47	0.7	8	44.4	69	18	2.82	T	7
1932	37.5	73	-6	3.23	12.1	13	39.4	70	4	3.88	13.0	16
1933	36.3	73	-10	2.92	5.9	10	37.4	71	-1	3.66	3.8	11
1934	35.0	71	-16	2.77	1.6	8	36.3	70	11	2.62	0.1	7
1935	29.9	66	-22	2.49	14.1	13	31.1	63	0	2.61	17.1	11
1936	37.4	70	-10	3.55	3.3	12	40.0	68	10	5.16	0.1	18
1937	34.5	74	-12	1.29	2.0	7	36.2	71	9	1.18	T	7
1938	36.0	68	-1	2.84	2.8	10	38.3	65	12	2.70	0.6	8
1939	37.7	70	4	2.00	6.2	9	38.5	68	12	1.61	4.4	8
1940	40.2	70	-13	2.51	0.9	10	40.9	65	8	2.41	2.2	11
1941	39.5	71	6	3.47	0.7	8	40.7	68	13	3.70	T	7
1942	32.2	67	-25	3.86	7.1	13	32.9	63	-13	3.80	5.8	12
1943	34.3	69	-15	1.41	0.6	5	35.0	66	8	1.67	T	4
1944	32.0	62	-14	3.46	7.6	10	33.2	60	8	3.28	3.4	10
1945	30.7	62	-5	4.98	10.6	13	31.2	60	3	6.34	10.9	12
1946	39.4	74	1	2.16	3.4	7	36.7	76	8	2.11	2.1	7
Period	35.1	76	-32	3.14	4.7	9	36.7	76	-12	3.40	3.7	9

Climatological Data for December 1946

Table with columns: Stations, Counties, Elevation, Length of record, Temperature (Mean, Departure from normal, Highest, Date, Lowest, Date), Precipitation (Total, Departure from normal, Greatest in 24 hours, Date, Total snowfall, With precip., Clear, Partly cloudy, Cloudy), Prevailing direction of wind, Observers.

All departures from normal are computed from the averages of the entire period for stations having 10 or more years of record, except that for First-Order Weather Bureau Stations they are based on adopted normals. The normal may be found by adding the departures when minus (-) or subtracting when plus (+). T. Trace or 0.005 inch or less rain or melted snow. 1 Recording gage. Italics, Data interpolated. Elevations are of ground above mean sea level.

Post addresses of these stations are as follows: Of Bell, Glendale; of Blackwater, Cambridge; of Charlotte Hall, Mechanicsville; of Coleman, Worton; of Edgemont, Smithsburg; of Ferry Landing, Owings; of Great Falls, Bethesda; of Picardy, Paw Paw, W. Va.; of Prettyboy Dam, Parkton; of Sines, Oakland; of Takoma Park No. 2, Silver Spring; of Tonoloway, Hancock; of Trappe, Oxford. *Custom House, Gay and Water Sts. **Weather Bureau Building, 24th and M Sts. †Also on other dates. §§ Municipal Building. §§§ Porter Reservoir. || Water Pumping Station. ||| University Farm. §1 mile west. Figures and letters following station indicate distance and direction of the observation point from the City Post Office. †1.8 miles west. § Private instruments.

Thermometers are read in morning; maximum temperature then read is charged to preceding day, on which it almost always occurs. Temperatures at Aberdeen, Annapolis, Baltimore, Baltimore Airport, Frederick Airport, Sines, Washington, and Wilmington are from midnight to midnight; at Ocean City and Snow Hill the thermometers are read at 1:30 a.m. the extremes are charged to the preceding day; at other stations temperatures are for a 24-hour period ending in late afternoon or near sunset except 8 p.m. at Chestertown. Italics, Data interpolated.

Daily Precipitation for December 1946

Table with columns for Stations, Drainage basin, Day of month (1-31), and Total. Rows list various Maryland and Delaware stations with their respective precipitation amounts for each day.

Except as otherwise indicated, amounts are for 24-hours ending late in afternoon. 1Midnight to midnight; recording gage. 2Measured in the morning; for the preceding 24-hours. 3Data for 24-hours ending at 1:30 a. m. of following day. T. Trace or 0.005 inch or less. *Included in next measurement. †FALICS data interpolated. ‡First-order Weather Bureau station. §Water Pumping Station. ¶University Farm. ¶Municipal Building. ¶¶Porter Reservoir. ¶¶Midnight to midnight

Daily Temperatures for December 1946

Table with columns for Stations (Delaware), Day of month (1-31), and Mean. Rows list Delaware stations (Bridgeville, Delaware City, Dover, Georgetown, Lewes, Millsboro, Newark, Wilmington) with their maximum and minimum temperatures for each day.

Daily Temperatures for December 1946-Continued

Table with columns for Stations (Maryland), days 1-31, and Mean. Rows list various locations like Aberdeen, Annapolis, Baltimore, etc., with their respective maximum and minimum temperatures for each day.

See page 46 for explanation of reference marks.

(WBO, Philadelphia, Pa.-7-23-47-1826)