

CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

15 MARYLAND AND DELAWARE SECTION

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GENERAL SUMMARY

This January was the coldest since 1918 and the snowiest since 1935. Strong winds were frequent. Severe cold throughout the month was interrupted by mildness during the 12-15th. Precipitation was snow, except light rain on the 12th and 13th and moderate to heavy rain on the 14th. The 11-14th was a cloudy period; the 25-29th a clear sky period. Monthly sunshine was 5% to 10% above normal in the eastern and central divisions and normal in western Maryland, except 5% below normal in the Allegheny Mountain region.

Snowfalls were light, except heavy (6 to 16 inches) over the southern half of the section and moderate (3 to 6 inches) over an area 30 to 35 miles wide northward thereof on the 8th; except heavy (6 to 8 inches) in Garrett and western Allegany Counties on the 17th; and except exceptionally heavy (12 to 24 inches) southward of a line from the southern limit of the District of Columbia northeastward to northward of Dover, Del., and heavy (6 to 12 inches) over an area 20 to 25 miles wide northward thereof on the 24th.

High northwest winds of the 24-25th drifted snow 5 to 10 feet high within the area of heavy snowfall on the 24th.

Rivers and lakes, the tributaries of Chesapeake Bay, and the Upper Chesapeake Bay were frozen over throughout the month. Ice was making during the first decade and was making rapidly during the 16-20th in the Lower Chesapeake Bay, which was frozen over or was mostly filled with ice during the third decade, and prevented oystering.

Rain of the 14th melted the snow-cover, except in the Allegheny Mountain region and the southern third of the Eastern Shore, and revealed grains and grasses green and in good condition. The northern half of the section became snow-covered again on the 17th and the southern half on the 19th and continued so thereafter to the close of the month, except snow disappeared in the extreme northeast portion of the section shortly after the 25th.

Activities were butchering, cutting and hauling wood and ice, and feeding stock, poultry, and birds. — J. B., jr.

TEMPERATURE

The monthly mean for the section, 22.4°, is 10.8° below normal. The highest monthly mean was 28.2° at Crisfield; the least, 12.8°, at Mt. Savage Summit. The highest temperature, 59°, occurred at Princess Anne, Ridgely, Bridgeville, and Milford on the 14th; the lowest, -14°, at Mt. Savage Summit, on the 19th. The greatest local monthly range was 66° at Milford; the least, 43°, at Crisfield. The greatest daily range was 46° at Milford on the 30th.

PRECIPITATION

The monthly average for the section, 2.25 inches, is 1.13 inches below normal. The greatest monthly amount was 4.15 inches at Cambridge; the least, 0.92 inch at Chewsville. The greatest 24-hour amount was 2.40 inches and the greatest 24-hour snowfall was 24.0 inches at Cheltenham on the 23d-24th. The greatest 24-hour rainfall was 1.48 inches at Maryland Line and Towson on the 14th. The monthly average snowfall for the section, 15.7 inches, is 8.5 inches above normal. The average number of days with 0.01 inch or more of precipitation, 7, is 3 below normal.

MISCELLANEOUS PHENOMENA (WITH DATES)

Fogs, light: 4, 5, 7 to 15, 19, 23, 24, 29 to 31.
Fogs, dense: 8, 10 to 14, 24.
Halos, lunar: 16, 20.
Sleet, light: 12.
Sundogs: 10, 16, 29.
Thunderstorm: Oxford, night 14.
Winds, high: 2, 3, 5, 6, 14, 15, 16, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27.

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.	30.51	10	29.54	14	10.4	33	ne.	24	72	62	62	1305
Annapolis, Md.	30.53	10	29.66	14	9.3	33	70	62	62	1243
Baltimore, Md.	30.55	10	29.57	14	11.7	38	s.	14	78	57	63	1208
Elkins, W. Va.	30.59	10	29.46	14	6.8	27	se.	14	73	70	78	1436
Harrisburg, Pa.	30.54	10	29.53	14	9.6	27	w.	5	80	57	64	1336
Norfolk, Va.	30.54	10	29.30	24	9.9	43	ne.	23	75	61	68	1054
Philadelphia, Pa.	30.54	10	29.55	15	12.7	45	s.	14	62	51	53	1227
Pittsburgh, Pa.	30.53	9	29.36	14	12.2	34	sw.	15	89	71	76	1381
Washington, D. C.	30.56	10	29.56	14	7.7	27	nw.	25	66	47	54	1244

COMPARATIVE DATA FOR JANUARY

Year	FOR MARYLAND						FOR DELAWARE					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Temperature			Precipitation		
	Mean	Highest	Lowest	Average	Average snowfall	No. of days with 0.1 in. or more	Mean	Highest	Lowest	Average	Average snowfall	No. of days with 0.1 in. or more
1895	29.5	66	-17	4.35	13.4	11	31.6	65	7	5.09	6.8	12
1896	32.0	66	-13	1.82	1.0	4	32.0	65	4	1.62	0.6	6
1897	29.1	66	-12	1.94	8.1	3	31.7	64	3	2.00	10.3	5
1898	25.3	72	-2	3.60	5.8	11	36.7	66	15	3.25	0.8	11
1899	31.9	70	-24	3.30	5.7	10	34.8	65	-1	3.65	7.8	11
1900	33.6	69	-8	2.34	1.8	7	34.3	62	6	3.34	1.5	6
1901	32.5	68	-4	2.65	8.5	7	33.5	68	6	2.94	5.5	6
1902	29.8	59	-7	3.52	10.2	8	31.5	64	8	3.64	5.2	8
1903	31.4	62	-6	4.02	6.7	9	33.6	60	8	3.73	4.2	8
1904	25.7	64	-20	2.59	15.3	10	28.6	63	-10	2.05	8.1	10
1905	28.6	69	-14	3.66	17.0	11	29.5	63	-6	4.14	19.3	10
1906	38.7	75	-6	2.85	2.3	10	40.2	76	5	3.08	2.0	11
1907	35.6	76	-19	3.18	6.2	12	37.5	77	3	2.36	3.6	12
1908	32.6	63	-21	3.24	7.1	8	34.3	63	5	3.37	6.1	8
1909	34.9	69	-3	2.74	6.1	10	38.1	71	10	2.84	4.1	9
1910	31.9	69	-12	4.33	12.9	12	33.5	65	6	4.07	3.0	10
1911	36.7	76	-5	3.96	4.3	12	38.6	68	11	4.14	2.6	11
1912	29.7	60	-40	2.59	15.0	10	26.5	59	-4	3.48	15.9	11
1913	41.5	74	8	3.17	1.6	13	44.3	71	22	3.28	T.	12
1914	35.9	76	-14	3.95	4.2	7	37.6	74	0	3.20	0.1	6
1915	33.7	66	-10	5.90	6.7	12	37.2	67	15	5.65	1.5	12
1916	37.9	74	-11	1.77	3.2	11	38.8	73	1	1.60	3.1	9
1917	33.3	66	0	3.07	4.4	11	34.0	64	9	3.02	1.5	9
1918	21.2	61	-30	4.24	24.0	10	22.9	58	-9	4.25	21.7	10
1919	26.0	66	-19	3.42	2.7	7	37.2	65	2	3.94	1.1	8
1920	27.8	64	-10	2.40	2.9	10	28.2	64	5	2.95	2.1	11
1921	35.5	70	-5	2.27	1.5	8	37.1	66	4	2.40	0.1	7
1922	30.1	63	-15	3.96	23.0	9	31.4	60	6	4.01	17.3	9
1923	34.7	68	0	4.12	6.5	12	35.9	67	13	4.64	2.2	10
1924	33.4	66	-10	4.07	1.8	7	35.6	67	-1	3.93	T.	7
1925	30.9	63	-31	4.59	19.3	12	33.5	62	-1	5.36	7.9	12
1926	32.2	72	-11	3.12	4.6	10	34.2	65	5	2.94	1.1	10
1927	32.5	78	-5	1.60	2.1	11	33.7	73	2	1.57	4.6	10
1928	34.2	72	-11	2.48	9.4	7	35.2	71	-11	2.87	12.6	8
1929	32.6	69	-13	2.63	2.3	10	34.7	67	6	2.68	0.9	9
1930	33.8	75	-17	2.67	11.8	11	36.4	75	6	3.46	3.2	12
1931	34.4	66	-8	1.64	1.6	5	36.0	65	12	2.07	0.3	5
1932	44.4	80	13	4.98	1.1	12	46.4	77	22	5.56	1.2	11
1933	40.8	70	4	3.11	1.5	9	42.3	68	14	3.81	T.	8
1934	37.1	70	-6	2.52	0.5	9	38.4	66	3	2.26	T.	9
1935	31.2	71	-23	4.67	20.4	11	33.4	70	-7	5.49	16.8	11
1936	27.8	62	-20	5.87	9.7	13	30.8	61	-5	7.23	2.3	13
1937	41.6	77	11	7.43	1.1	17	44.3	72	23	8.27	T.	19
1938	33.5	67	-2	2.26	2.3	11	35.0	62	7	2.74	0.9	13
1939	35.0	69	-7	3.65	11.8	11	35.9	65	4	3.81	9.9	12
1940	22.3	59	-14	2.26	15.6	7	23.6	59	0	2.20	16.1	5
Period	33.0	80	-40	3.36	7.5	10	34.8	77	-11	3.56	5.2	10

Climatological Data for January 1940

Table with columns: STATIONS, COUNTIES, Elevation, Length of record, Temperature (Mean, Departure from normal, Highest, Date, Lowest, Date, Greatest daily range), Precipitation (Total, Departure from normal, Greatest in 24 hours, Total snowfall), Number of days (With precip., Clear, Partly cloudy, Cloudy), Prevailing direction of wind, OBSERVERS.

The departures from normal temperatures are computed from the averages of the entire period for stations having 10 or more years of record. Departures of precipitation with 15 years or more of record are computed from a normal or "standard mean", adjusted to a uniform 35-year period; for stations of 10 to 14 years the means for the period of record are used.

†Post addresses of these stations are as follows: Of Bell, Glendale; of Coleman, Worton; of Fallston, Bagley; of Ferry Landing, Owings; of Great Falls, Bethesda; of Mt. Savage Summit, Frostburg; of Odessa, Middletown; of Pearsd, Paw Paw, W. Va.; of Pleasant Hill, Owings Mills; of Prettyboy Dam, Parkton; of Sines, Oakland; of Tonoloway, Hancock. *Custom House, Gay and Water Sts. **Weather Bureau Building, 24th and M Sts. †Also on other dates. ‡miles northwest of Frostburg. §Municipal Building. ¶Porter House, Gay

Daily Precipitation for January 1940

Table with columns for Stations, Drainage basin, Day of month (1-31), and Total. Rows list various locations like Aberdeen, Annapolis, Baltimore, etc., with their respective precipitation amounts for each day.

Except as otherwise indicated, observations are generally made late in afternoon, near sunset, and precipitation recorded is for the 24 hours ending at time of observation.
1 First-order Weather Bureau station; precipitation is for the 24-hour period, midnight to midnight.
2 Precipitation is for 24-hour period, midnight to midnight.
3 Precipitation is for 24-hour period, 9:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
4 Precipitation is measured in the morning; amount then recorded is for the preceding 24 hours.
† Precipitation is measured with recording gage. * Precipitation is included in the next measurement. T. Trace, or precipitation is less than .01 inch.
§ Two miles northwest of Frostburg. §§ Municipal Building. §§§ Porter Reservoir.

Daily Temperatures for January 1940

Table with columns for Stations, Day of month (1-31), and Mean. Rows list various locations like Bridgeville, Delaware Breakwater, Delaware City, etc., with their maximum and minimum temperatures for each day.

Daily Temperatures for January 1940-Continued

Table with columns for Stations, days 1-31, and Mean. Rows list various Maryland and Delaware locations such as Aberdeen, Annapolis, Baltimore, etc., with their respective daily temperature readings.

§§ Instruments are read in morning; maximum temperature then read is charged to preceding day, on which it almost always occurs. Temperatures at Aberdeen, Annapolis, Baltimore, Conowingo Dam, Dundalk, Sines, and Washington are from midnight to midnight; other stations, except Cheltenham and Cumberland, are on 24-hour period ending late in afternoon, near sunset, except 9:30 p.m. at Princess Anne. (WBO, Richmond, Va., 4-4-40-1,150)