

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, WEATHER BUREAU  
IN COOPERATION WITH MARYLAND STATE WEATHER SERVICE

# CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

15 MARYLAND AND DELAWARE SECTION

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### GENERAL SUMMARY

This March was mild, with an average temperature 46.3°, 3.5° above normal, and 8.9° warmer than the mean temperature of the very cold, windy, and dry March of 1947. Average temperatures for the month were above normal at all stations and no station reported below-zero temperatures. Cold weather during the first 14 days was interrupted briefly by mildness on the 3d, 7-8th, and 10th. Warm weather overspread the section on the 15th and continued until the 27th. The 28-29th were cold and the 30th-31st were warm. The 3-day period of the 20th-22d was very warm, from 20° to 28° above normal, with highest temperatures from 86° to 91°, except 75° to 80° in Garrett County on the 21st. Record high temperatures for the date were set March 21st at some stations. Monthly sunshine was normal.

Monthly precipitation was mostly in the form of rain and averaged 3.84 inches, 0.28 inch above normal. It was well distributed through the month and through the section and totals were, as a rule, between 3.0 and 4.0 inches. Precipitation was near or above normal in all sections except portions of northern and western counties and a few scattered local areas where amounts were about one-half inch below normal. The greatest excesses in precipitation were in extreme western Maryland, near the District of Columbia, and in a few other scattered areas.

Snowfall for this March for the section averaged one-half inch, or about one-tenth of normal. Light snow or snow flurries fell on the 4th in the northern border and some western counties; light snow, sleet, or freezing rain on the 7th in northern and central areas; light snow on the 11th in the Allegheny Mountain highlands, and on the 12th at Easton and Solomons, Maryland. Light to moderate snow fell in Allegany and in western and central Washington Counties on the 7th, with a maximum fall of 6.0 inches at Clear Springs, Maryland.

High winds occurred on the 8th, 15th, 16th, 19th, 22d, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th and 31st.

A tornado was reported on March 19th between 8:00 p.m. and 8:10 p.m., from Fearer to Keyser Ridge, and between 8:15 p.m. and 8:45 p.m. from Keyser Ridge to the top of Meadow Mountain in the northwestern portion of Garrett County, Maryland. The tornado moved from west to east and damage was limited to a path about one-fourth mile wide and fifteen miles long between Fearer and Keyser Ridge, and about one-eighth mile wide and nine miles long between Keyser Ridge and the top of Meadow Mountain. Crop damage was small due to the season while damage to fruit trees, buildings and live stock amounted to about \$45,000.

During the warm weather and moist soil conditions of the second half of the month, winter grains and grasses greened nicely and improved to good to excellent; fruit trees were trimmed and sprayed; early fruit buds were swelling; tobacco beds improved to good; hot beds were being made; manure was being hauled to the fields and was being spread; but plowing was delayed. At the end of the month, fruit trees were budding or blooming in all divisions of the section.

### TEMPERATURE

The monthly mean temperature for the section, was 46.3°, 3.5° above normal; for Maryland, 46.3°, 3.6° above normal; and for Delaware, 46.5°, 3.4° above normal.

For Maryland, the monthly mean temperature varied from 50.8° at Crisfield to 39.8° at Sines. The highest temperature was 91° on the 21st at Coleman and Takoma Park and the lowest was 4° on the 5th at Sines. The greatest local monthly temperature range was 82° at Fort George G. Meade, ranging from 88° on the 21st to 6° on the 6th. The least local monthly temperature range was 62° at Crisfield, ranging from 80° on the 20th to 18° on the 5th and 6th.

For Delaware, the monthly mean temperature varied from 48.5° at Millsboro to 43.0° at Wilmington. The highest temperature was 91° on the 21st at Millsboro and the lowest was 8° on the 5th at Newark (College Farm). The greatest local monthly temperature range was 79° at Millsboro, having a high reading of 91° on the 21st and a low reading of 12° on the 6th. The least local monthly range was 72° at Bridgeville, with a maximum of 85° on the 21st and a minimum of 13° on the 5th.

### PRECIPITATION

The monthly average for the section was 3.84 inches, 0.28 inch above normal; for Maryland, 3.84 inches, 0.32 inch above normal; and for Delaware, 3.81 inches, which is normal for March. For Maryland, it was greatest at Oakland with 5.34 inches, and least at Tonoloway with 2.53 inches. The greatest 24-hour rainfall was 1.88 inches on the 23d-24th at Washington, D. C. For Delaware, the monthly precipitation was greatest

at Millsboro with 4.80 inches, and least at Dover with 3.18 inches. The greatest 24-hour rainfall was 1.12 inches on the 7th at Bridgeville.

The monthly average snowfall for the entire section was 0.5 inch, 4.2 inches below normal; for Maryland, it was 0.6 inch, 4.4 inches below normal; for Delaware, it was 0.2 inch, 2.6 inches below normal. For Maryland, the greatest monthly snowfall was 6.0 inches, and the greatest local 24-hour snowfall was 6.0 inches on the 7th, both at Clear Spring. For Delaware, the greatest monthly snowfall was 1.1 inches at Wilmington (Porter Reservoir), and the greatest local 24-hour snowfall was 0.8 inch on the 4th at Newark (Pumping Station), and at Wilmington (Porter Reservoir).

### 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.	30.84	5	29.21	27	10.6	41	s.	27	79	66	65	686
Annapolis, Md.	30.92	5	29.29	27	11.8	35	w.	27	75	59	65	621
Baltimore, Md.	30.93	5	29.27	27	8.9	34	s.	16	76	57	64	562
Elkins, W. Va.	30.83	5	29.33	27	9.0	29	n.	11	80	61	72	681
Harrisburg, Pa.	30.96	5	29.25	27	11.5	29	n.	11	82	60	65	653
Norfolk, Va.	30.84	5	29.45	27	9.0	27	s.	22	74	62	56	585
Philadelphia, Pa.	30.88	5	29.25	27	8.8	28	w.	27	75	51	57	522
Pittsburgh, Pa.	30.91	5	29.34	27	11.5	27	n.	27	75	51	57	585
Washington, D. C.	30.94	5	29.31	27	11.5	27	n.	27	75	51	57	585

### COMPARATIVE DATA FOR FEBRUARY

Year	FOR MARYLAND						FOR DELAWARE					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Temperature			Precipitation		
	Mean	Highest	Lowest	Average	Average snowfall with .01 in. or more	No. of days with .01 in. or more	Mean	Highest	Lowest	Average	Average snowfall with .01 in. or more	No. of days with .01 in. or more
1895	39.8	74	-7	2.94	3.5	9	40.9	69	19	3.61	1.2	9
1896	36.4	72	-13	4.26	14.6	9	38.2	74	12	4.74	3.8	8
1897	44.4	82	12	2.93	0.7	10	44.5	80	20	2.72	T.	10
1898	47.5	84	-7	3.80	3.0	11	48.2	78	22	2.67	1.0	9
1899	40.9	77	-1	4.79	3.7	11	42.0	72	20	5.32	3.4	11
1900	37.3	74	-8	3.50	1.9	9	36.4	69	6	3.72	6.0	10
1901	42.6	81	-9	3.50	1.9	9	42.7	74	8	3.60	0.6	7
1902	44.7	80	3	3.92	10.5	10	46.2	75	16	7.74	3.5	10
1903	49.2	85	15	5.12	0.2	10	49.9	79	23	6.10	0.0	9
1904	41.2	87	5	2.99	2.0	10	41.2	74	17	3.42	1.4	10
1905	45.4	88	-15	3.16	2.2	10	44.4	83	11	3.12	0.6	11
1906	36.7	88	8	4.83	11.3	13	38.5	63	14	6.11	4.3	13
1907	46.1	93	2	3.30	6.5	9	46.1	88	16	2.99	4.8	9
1908	45.7	85	11	3.16	0.6	10	47.6	88	22	1.74	0.8	9
1909	40.2	80	9	3.69	7.6	11	41.8	75	17	3.82	2.5	10
1910	49.0	89	14	1.11	2.1	5	49.3	86	22	2.58	3.0	5
1911	39.8	77	-5	2.56	9.3	12	40.6	74	6	3.10	7.0	10
1912	39.5	78	-7	6.69	7.7	13	41.1	72	16	7.16	7.9	12
1913	47.2	89	-3	4.56	0.7	10	49.1	80	18	3.86	T.	10
1914	37.8	80	-14	2.40	15.4	9	38.6	75	4	3.02	18.5	10
1915	36.6	64	3	1.14	4.4	5	38.8	62	8	1.96	1.7	3
1916	35.9	73	-3	3.88	4.5	10	35.9	69	8	3.51	5.8	10
1917	41.1	82	-5	5.34	10.2	13	41.7	76	17	6.26	0.9	13
1918	45.6	84	8	3.61	0.1	9	44.8	80	17	3.48	T.	9
1919	45.8	76	14	3.87	0.6	10	46.4	78	24	4.63	0.1	9
1920	43.2	85	-1	3.00	2.7	9	43.6	75	11	3.86	1.7	10
1921	53.6	91	14	2.38	T.	11	54.6	88	23	2.51	0.5	11
1922	44.2	80	11	4.70	2.2	13	45.0	76	19	4.48	0.2	12
1923	43.3	82	-6	4.23	5.8	11	44.0	80	13	6.00	4.5	12
1924	40.7	77	11	4.98	12.2	10	41.7	76	22	5.34	1.7	10
1925	44.8	82	-3	2.25	0.4	9	46.6	79	9	2.28	T.	8
1926	38.0	80	-8	2.21	2.1	10	39.3	80	10	2.39	0.5	9
1927	45.4	84	10	1.72	0.2	9	45.6	82	13	1.92	T.	10
1928	41.7	83	7	2.97	7.0	10	42.2	82	14	2.81	0.6	11
1929	48.0	86	4	3.14	1.3	10	49.7	81	11	3.89	T.	7
1930	42.2	77	4	2.16	1.6	7	43.7	76	18	2.00	T.	11
1931	39.1	65	14	4.28	7.4	13	40.6	64	25	5.24	7.4	12
1932	38.2	75	-4	5.70	5.7	10	40.1	70	12	6.46	1.8	10
1933	40.1	79	0	4.40	3.2	13	41.8	80	16	3.15	1.2	13
1934	38.7	78	-10	4.35	11.7	14	40.1	75	6	5.26	13.4	14
1935	47.6	86	10	2.99	1.8	14	47.9	77	19	3.25	0.4	13
1936	47.0	83	15	5.87	3.0	12	48.9	76	20	5.60	T.	12
1937	39.4	74	1	1.96	9.7	8	39.8	69	15	2.56	3.5	9
1938	46.9	88	-6	2.74	3.3	14	46.9	82	17	2.60	3.2	13
1939	45.9	80	-5	3.74	0.3	11	44.4	84	17	5.10	1.3	14
1940	38.1	75	-1	3.84	2.3	10	38.6	71	14	4.64	1.2	12
1941	36.7	70	-8	2.25	12.7	8	37.3	63	13	2.36	8.4	8
1942	44.7	79	5	5.99	15.4	12	45.0	75	24	6.13	3.1	12
1943	42.6	84	-6	3.56	8.1	12	44.0	83	4	3.81	6.3	12
1944	40.2	82	0	5.69	5.5	14	41.1	78	13	6.16	6.1	15
1945	53.0	91	17	1.80	0.3	10	53.1	89	22	1.79	0.0	10
1946	50.7	83	12	2.40	0.1	11	50.8	80	18	3.11	0.0	11
1947	37.3	71	-6	1.66	6.1	9	37.7	69	11	1.92	4.3	8
1948	46.3	91	4	3.84	0.6	12	46.5	91	8	3.81	0.2	13
Period	42.7	93	-15	3.52	5.0	10	43.1	91	4	3.81	2.8	10

Climatological Data for March 1948

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... Station addresses 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 Pleardy, Paw Paw, W. Va.; of Prettyboy Dam, Parkton; of Sines, Oakland; of Takoma Park No. 2, Silver Spring; of Tonoloway, Hancock; \*Custom House, Gay and Water Sts. \*\*Weather Bureau Building, 24th and M Sts. †Also on other dates. ‡Municipal Building. ††Reservoir. ‡‡Water Pumping Station. †††University Farm. Figures and letters following station indicate distance and direction of the observation point from the City Post Office. ††† 1.8 miles west.

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 11 p.m. at Chestertown. Italics, Data interpolated.

Daily Precipitation for March 1948

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 data for each day of March 1948.

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. ITALICS Data interpolated. †First-order Weather Bureau station. ‡Water Pumping Station. ††University Farm. §Municipal Building. ¶Porter Reservoir. ¶¶Midnight to midnight

Daily Temperatures for March 1948

Table with columns for Stations (Delaware), Day of month (1-31), and Mean. Rows list Delaware stations (Bridgeville, Delaware City, Dover, Georgetown, Lewes, Milford, Millsboro, Newark, Wilmington, Wilmington) with their maximum and minimum temperatures for each day of March 1948.

Daily Temperatures for March 1948—Continued

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

See page 10 for explanation of reference marks.

(WBO, Philadelphia, Pa.—8-16-48-1325)