

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

CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

15

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE SECTION

G. N. BRANCATO

PRICE: 5 CENTS A COPY; 25 CENTS A YEAR

VOL. LI BALTIMORE, MD., DECEMBER 1947 No. 12

GENERAL SUMMARY

Precipitation for this December was slightly over fifty percent of the normal amount for the section as a whole. However, Delaware was somewhat closer to the usual amount with sixty-five percent of the normal. Northern areas from Carroll County to Allegany County reported the lightest amounts, generally less than one inch. All stations in the section were below the December normal. Nevertheless, the precipitation was very well distributed through the month. Rain fell at most stations from the 5th through the 11th and on the 15-16th. Some light rain, except for snow up to 3 inches in northern and western Maryland, fell on the 23d. The first general snow of the winter fell on the 25-26th. Amounts varied from less than 1 inch in the southern portions of Somerset and Worcester Counties, and in portions of Allegany and Washington Counties, to about 7 inches in Garrett County. Generally, the snow amounted to about 3 to 6 inches.

Temperatures during this December were slightly below normal. As a whole, moderately cold weather, with no extremely warm or cold periods, predominated. A few temperatures in the lower 60's were recorded, mostly in the first week of the month. No report of zero weather was received and the lowest temperatures were generally from 10 to 20 degrees, and occurred at various times during the month. For the month, departures from normal ranged from +0.6 degrees to 3.5 degrees below normal, and all but 7 stations reported below normal averages.

Winds were about twenty-five percent higher than usual during this month. Sunshine was slightly above the usual amount.

At the end of the month, winter grains and grasses were mostly in a fair condition but were snow-covered. Seasonal farm activities, such as butchering, wood cutting, and equipment repairing, were under way.

TEMPERATURE

The monthly mean temperature for the section was 34.0 degrees, 1.3 degrees below normal. The highest monthly mean temperature, was 40.4 degrees at Crisfield, Maryland, and the lowest was 27.2 degrees at Sines, Maryland. The highest temperature, 66 degrees, occurred at Cheltenham, Maryland, on the 3d; the lowest, 1 degree, at Oakland, Maryland, on the 1st and 25th. The greatest local monthly range was 56 degrees at Hancock, Maryland, where a maximum of 62 degrees was reported on the 8th, and a minimum of 6 degrees on the 25th, and at Oakland, Maryland, where a maximum of 57 degrees was reported on the 5th and a minimum of 1 degree on the 1st and 25th. The least monthly range was 33 degrees at Crisfield, Maryland, where a maximum temperature of 57 degrees was reported on the 5th and 16th, and a minimum temperature of 24 degrees on the 20th, 25th, and 30th.

PRECIPITATION

The monthly average for the section was 1.61 inches, which was 1.53 inches below normal. The greatest amount of precipitation for the month was 3.21 inches at Snow Hill, Maryland. Tonoloway, Maryland, reported the least amount for the

month with 0.38 inch. The greatest 24-hour rainfall was 1.65 inches, and was recorded at Lewes, Delaware, on the 15-16th. The snowfall average of 3.4 inches over the section was 1.2 inches below normal. The greatest monthly snowfall was 10.4 inches at Oakland, Maryland, and the least amount was a Trace at Crisfield and Picardy, Maryland. The greatest 24-hour amount, 7.0 inches, fell at Sines, Maryland, on the 26th.

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.			7:30 p. m.
Aberdeen, Md.	30.44	1	29.35	16	8.6	33	.....	.....	83	60	79	.....	1003
Annapolis, Md.	30.50	20	29.49	16	.....	.....	.....	.....	72	61	68	.....	890
Baltimore, Md.	30.48	20	29.41	16	10.3	43	nw.	.....	88	53	63	.....	964
Elkins, W. Va.	30.56	2	29.43	15	6.8	33	w.	.....	85	64	80	.....	1024
Harrisburg, Pa.	30.49	20	29.44	16	8.3	31	nw.	.....	16	75	58	.....	64
Norfolk, Va.	30.48	1	29.45	16	9.0	26	w.	16	72	56	71	.....	64
Philadelphia, Pa.	30.48	20	29.40	16	7.5	25	se.	16	80	55	69	.....	66
Pittsburgh, Pa.	30.48	4	29.35	15	10.8	35	sw.	5	75	62	67	.....	926
Washington, D. C.	30.51	20	29.47	16	6.5	29	nw.	16	72	47	59	.....	64

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	17	1.28	6.0	5
1897	36.5	74	-4	3.54	2.5	10	37.9	71	12	3.83	1.5	11
1898	34.0	70	-2	3.61	6.0	7	36.6	68	6	3.48	1.6	8
1899	35.2	69	-6	1.85	2.2	8	37.4	65	1	1.87	1.0	6
1900	34.4	68	-2	2.39	1.8	5	34.7	65	11	2.87	5.0	9
1901	32.5	74	-15	6.80	1.4	10	34.9	69	6	6.00	.....	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	0	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	.....	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	39.8	76	-7	3.65	1.1	10	41.5	76	15	3.65	0.1	9
1912	35.2	75	-10	3.88	7.2	10	37.5	74	15	4.38	6.8	8
1913	33.8	72	-1	2.44	1.0	6	40.4	67	18	2.38	.....	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	33.4	76	-3	3.63	9.6	11	34.0	70	-3	2.43	9.7	10
1917	26.4	59	-32	1.62	9.4	8	28.5	56	-7	4.14	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	0.8	8	36.9	75	0	2.84	0.1	9
1925	35.2	64	-7	1.84	0.9	9	36.8	63	10	2.30	.....	7
1926	32.0	62	-16	3.17	2.2	12	32.8	60	5	3.49	1.8	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	2.32	.....	7
1932	37.5	73	-6	3.23	12.1	13	39.4	70	4	3.88	13.0	15
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	5.55	3.3	13	40.0	68	10	5.16	0.1	13
1937	34.5	74	-12	1.29	2.0	7	36.2	71	9	1.18	.....	7
1938	36.0	68	-1	2.84	2.8	10	38.3	65	12	2.70	0.8	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	.....	7
1942	32.2	67	-25	3.86	7.1	13	32.9	63	-12	3.80	5.8	12
1943	34.3	69	-15	1.41	0.6	5	35.0	66	8	1.57	.....	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	4.93	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
1947	33.9	66	-1	1.50	3.1	7	34.7	63	10	2.19	4.6	7
Period	35.1	76	-32	3.11	4.7	9	36.6	76	-12	3.37	3.7	9

Climatological Data for December 1947

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.), Number of days (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 (+). Trace or 0.005 inch or less rain or melted snow. † Recording gage. ‡ Data interpolated. § Elevation is of ground above mean sea level.

Post addresses of these stations are as follows: Of Bell, Glenndale; of Blackwater, Cambridge; of Charlotte Hall, Mechanicsville; of Coleman, Worton; of Edgemont, Smithsburg; of Ferry Landing, Owings; of Great Falls, Bethesda; of Peadry, 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. ¶ Porter 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 December 1947

Stations	Drainage basin	Day of month																															Total				
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
<i>Maryland</i>																																					
Aberdeen ⁴	Atlantic					T.		*	.14		.43					.92	.12							T.			T.	.22							1.83		
Annapolis ¹	do					T.		.07	.04		.28					.90	.02							T.				.16							1.47		
Baltimore ¹	do					T.		.10	.07		.39					.70	.04							T.			T.	.31							1.63		
Baltimore Airport ⁴	do					T.		.11	.10		.49					.81	.03							T.			T.	.23							1.79		
Bell	do					T.		.29			.14	.24				.03	.67							T.				.23							1.60		
Beltsville	do					.01			.30		.20	.12				.67								T.				.18							1.48		
Blackwater	do					.07			.09		.10	.39				* 1.18								T.				.30							2.13		
Cambridge	do					T.					.15	.30				* 1.06								T.			.08								1.84		
Charlotte Hall	do					.05			.06		.13	.24				.04	.96							T.			.22								1.72		
Cheltenham ²	do					.01			.15		.35					.76								T.			.14								1.40		
Chestertown	do					.01		.05	.11		.44	T.				.76	.12								.04		T.	.34							1.87		
Chesville	do					.03		.06	.07		.15	T.				.04	.29								.02			.08								0.74	
Clear Spring	do					.31		.15	.10		.15	T.				.23	.37							T.			.30								1.61		
Coleman	do					T.		.23	.10		.13	T.				.10	.04							T.			.36								1.90		
College Park	do					.02		T.	.32		.13	T.				.02	.61							T.			.20								1.50		
Conowingo Dam ²	do					T.		.18	T.		.26					.94									.06		.25		.02						1.71		
Crisfield	do					.11		T.			.09	.43				.14	.25								.05		T.								2.07		
Cumberland ²	do					.09		T.	.20		T.					.28									.01		T.	.02								0.63	
Easton	do					T.		.26			.09	.33				T.	.53								.03		.36									1.60	
Edgemont ²	do					.03	.06		.18		.18					.28									T.		.11		.04							1.60	
Elkton	do					T.		.32			.25					.04	.23									.50										1.34	
Emmitsburg	do					T.		.21			.24					* .41									T.		.20									1.66	
Fallston	do					T.		.21			.18	.35				* 1.09									.06		.30									2.19	
Ferry Landing	do					.01		.12			.11	.24				T.	.84								T.		.30									1.62	
Fort George G. Meade	do					T.		.30			.35					.03	.70									.25										1.63	
Frederick	do					.10		.06	.18		.15	.17				.04	.40								.02		.14		T.							1.26	
Frederick Airport ⁴	do					.11		.17	.09		.29	T.				.41	.03									.14		T.								1.24	
Frostburg	do					.12	.01	.07	.12		.05	.03				.11	.29								.03		T.	.11		.04						0.98	
Germantown	do					.03		.08	.12		.25	.20				.24	.19								.02		.19									1.32	
Great Falls ²	do					.01	.05	.25			.28					.38									T.		.22									1.19	
Hancock No. 1 ²	do					.05	.02	.14			.08					.30											.03									0.62	
Hancock No. 2 ²	do					.02	.03	.10	.02		T.					.26										T.		.03	.61							0.47	
Huntingtown	do					.01		.10			.14	.24				.02	.99								.01		.19									1.70	
Keedysville	do					.04		.03			.12					.06	.25								T.		.04										0.72
La Plata	do					.04		*			.65					.80										.25										1.70	
Luke ²	do					.11		.09	T.		.05					.30									.02	.02	T.	.01	T.							0.60	
Maryland Line	do					.02		.25			.10	.28				.67									.10		.30									1.72	
Millington	do					.02		.13	.44		.44					.03	.78								.02		.50									1.92	
Oakland	Ohio					T.	.22	.06	.06	.42	T.	.10	.12	.01	T.	.20	.17								.24	.15	.25	.20	.07						.05	2.32	
Oxford	Atlantic					T.	.22	.06	.06	.42	T.	.10	.12	.01	T.	.20	.17								.08		.24									1.75	
Perry Point	do					.07		.07	.10		.12	.10				1.08									.08		.21									1.93	
Picardy	do					.07		.10	.10		T.	.05				T.	.25										T.									0.57	
Prettyboy Dam	do					.02		*	.22		T.	*	.29			*	.55								.02		.21									1.31	
Ridgely	do					.02		.18			.07	.39				1.02									.03		.90									2.01	
Rock Hall	do					*		.17			.08	.47				1.48									.20		.40									2.80	
Salisbury	do					.04		.13			.78					.40	.12									.17		.40								2.59	
Sines ¹	Ohio					.01	.27	.10	.18		.17					1.36	.25									.18		.37							.03	3.21	
Snow Hill ³	Atlantic					T.	.07		.13		.63					1.36	.25									.18		.37								3.21	
Solomon	do					.06		.02			.15	.25				.45	.72								.01		.16									1.80	
State Sanatorium	do					.05		*	.27		*	.29				.58										.20		.20								1.34	
Takoma Park, No. 1	do					.02		.02	.26		.20	.06				.04	.52										.18									1.25	
Takoma Park, No. 2	do					.02		.12			.09					.05	.06										.04										0.38
Tonoloway	do					.02		.12			.09					.05	.06										.04										0.38
Towson ²	do					.03		.04	.17		.07	.18				.27	.25								.02		.19									1.22	
Unionville	do					.15		.08	.05		.05	.38				.25	.10								.05		.10									0.83	
Western Port	do					T.		.24	.24		*	.38				* .50									.18		.55									1.85	
Westminster ²	do					.02	.08		.19	.01	*	.15				.36											.01		.61							0.78	
Williamsport ²	do					.01		.01	.05		*	.45				.20	.80									.25		.45								2.22	
Woodstock	do					.02		.15	.10		.35					.62	.02								T.	T.		T.	.21							1.47	
Washington, D. C. ¹	do					.02		.15	.10		.35					.62	.02																			1.47	
<i>Delaware</i>																																					
Bridgeville	Atlantic					.03		.15			.07	.40				T.	1.22								.05		.38									2.30	
Delaware City	do					*		.25	T.		.40					T.	.80								T.	.05											

Daily Temperatures for December 1947-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 46 for explanation of reference marks.

(WBO, Philadelphia, Pa. - 3-18-48-1325)