

# January 2023 Climate Review

## Overview

January 2023 began the new year on a warm note with well above normal temperatures and precipitation amounts that were near to slightly above normal across the south and below normal for northern sections. Average temperatures were 6 to 8 degrees above the long term means over the region, enough to lead to a top 10 warmest ranking at 3 out of our 4 long-term climate sites. The month began very warm, with the first 5 days seeing highs in the 60s and 70s (15 to 25 degrees above normal). A few thunderstorms occurred during the afternoon and early evening hours on the 4<sup>th</sup> as a slow moving cold front approached from the west. Severe storms were not widespread, but an EF-0 tornado (peak winds of around 70 mph) was confirmed across southern Southampton County in Virginia. This date also saw record high minimum temperatures recorded at all 4 long-term sites when daily lows were in the upper 50s to lower 60s (well above normal highs for the date). The warmth was fairly consistent and generally continued throughout the rest of the month with just a few days here and there that were a little cooler than normal. Most locations experienced their coldest daily highs on the 14<sup>th</sup> when flurries were observed across portions of central and eastern Virginia. No measurable snowfall was recorded over the entire region for the month (not unprecedented but certainly rare for January).

Monthly precipitation totals in January were below normal across the north and near normal to a little above normal along and south of interstate 64; northern areas receiving from 2 to 3 inches for the month with 3 to 4 inches to the south. While the higher amounts over the south were welcome, portions of far southeast VA and NE NC as well as the VA eastern shore was still classified as being in either abnormally dry or moderate drought at the end of the month.

The following table on page 2 shows detailed temperature and precipitation statistics for January 2023 at many locations within the Wakefield CWA. On page 3, daily high temperature departures are shown at Richmond and Norfolk, followed by monthly precipitation maps (page 4), with daily records set during the month at our 4 main climate sites on the last page.

# Tabular Summary of Data for Selected Climate Sites (January):

January 2023 Temperature Summary Data <small>* also on other dates</small> <small>All Normals are 1991-2020</small>																			
Site	Avg Max		Avg Min		Avg Temp		Daily Highs						Daily Mins						Remarks
	(°F)		(°F)		(°F)		Warmest (°F)			Coldest (°F)			Warmest (°F)			Coldest (°F)			
	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	
Richmond	56.4	8.6	35.9	7.1	46.2	7.9	71	3rd	1	40	14th	12	58	4th	8	26	11th	15	6th warmest on record
Norfolk	56.5	5.8	39.2	5.6	47.8	5.6	71	3rd	-1	42	15th	12	64	4th	11	29	10th	10	11th warmest on record
Salisbury	54.7	9.2	34.8	6.8	44.7	7.9	71	4th	3	41	14th	15	61	4th	12	25	*16th	17	4th warmest on record
Wallops Island	53.1	6.9	34.9	5.4	44.0	6.1	72	4th	6	39	14th	12	53	4th	6	25	*16th	13	
Elizabeth City	59.1	6.8	38.3	5.2	48.7	6.0	74	4th	2	44	14th	11	63	4th	9	27	16th	11	8th warmest on record
Ashland, VA	53.5	6.7	35.6	8.4	44.6	7.6	71	3rd	2	40	8th	13	56	4th	7	23	16th	15	
Corbin, VA	51.7	6.7	33.6	7.3	42.7	7.0	71	3rd	4	38	14th	12	59	4th	13	22	10th	15	
Louisa, VA	52.5	7.3	32.3	6.9	42.4	7.1	70	3rd	2	39	8th	12	59	4th	11	19	*16th	15	
Painter, VA	54.8	6.6	37.9	7.5	46.4	7.1	69	4th	2	41	15th	11	57	4th	5	26	28th	12	
Wakefield, VA	56.9	7.1	34.2	6.0	45.5	6.5	72	3rd	1	40	14th	10	61	4th	10	24	10th	15	
Williamsburg, VA	56.4	7.3	36.2	5.6	46.3	6.5	69	*5th	-2	40	14th	10	58	4th	7	27	16th	14	
Edenton, NC	57.4	5.0	39.1	4.7	48.2	4.8	72	4th	2	43	15th	8	55	4th	2	28	10th	12	

January 2023 Precipitation & Snowfall Summary Data <small>* also on other dates</small> <small>All Normals are 1991-2020</small>																		
Site	Total Pre		# Pre Days		# Pre Days		Greatest		Total Snow		# Snow Days		# Snow Days		Greatest		Remarks	
	(in.)		(≥0.01")		(≥0.10")		(in.)		(in.)		(≥0.1")		(≥1.0")		(in.)			
	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Act	Date	Act	Dep	Act	Dep	Act	Dep	Daily	Date		Storm
Richmond	2.82	-0.41	12	2	7	1	0.70	8th	T	-3.7	0	-2	0	-1	T	14th	T	14th
Norfolk	3.12	-0.29	12	1	5	-1	1.32	25th	0.0	-3.2	0	-2	0	-1				
Salisbury	2.28	-1.23	11	0	6	-1	0.86	25th	T	-2.5	0	-2	0	-1	T	14th	T	14th
Wallops Island	2.53	-0.62	13	2	4	-2	1.01	25th	0.0	-3.5	0	-2	0	-1				
Elizabeth City	4.02	0.72	11	2	7	1	1.25	25th	0.0	-0.8	0	-1	0	-1				
Ashland, VA	2.82	-0.47	14	4	10	3	0.58	25th	T	-5.9	0	-3	0	-2	T	14th	T	14th
Corbin, VA	2.74	-0.54	14	6	5	-1	0.64	26th	0.0	-3.6	0	-2	0	-1				
Louisa, VA	2.64	-0.36	11	2	8	3	0.74	25th	0.0	-4.5	0	-2	0	-1				
Painter, VA	3.59	0.04	12	1	7	0	0.82	1st	0.0	-1.2	0	-2	0	-1				
Wakefield, VA	2.71	-1.12	14	4	8	1	0.70	25th	T	-3.5	0	-2	0	-1	T	14th	T	14th
Williamsburg, VA	2.94	-0.83	14	3	8	1	0.70	8th	0.0	-1.7	0	-1	0	-1				
Edenton, NC	3.58	0.08	10	1	7	0	0.93	30th	0.0	-0.9	0	-1	0	-1				

\* **"Dep"**= **Departure** from the 30-year normals (1991-2020). Temperature departures are shaded orange for 1 F or more warmer than average (dark red for 4 F or greater anomalies) and blue for 1 F or more cooler than average (dark blue for 4 F or more below normal). Similarly, precipitation departures are shaded green for 0.50" or more wetter than average (dark green for 2.00" or more) and tan for 0.50" or more drier than average (dark brown for 2.00" or more drier). Snowfall departures are shaded purple for 1" or more above average and tan for 1" or more below average.

# Daily High Temperature Departures at Richmond & Norfolk, VA

## January 2023: Richmond, VA

Observed Maximum Temperature Departure from Normal (°F)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 68° <b>+20°</b> 48°	2 69° <b>+21°</b> 48°	3 71° <b>+23°</b> 48°	4 67° <b>+19°</b> 48°	5 68° <b>+20°</b> 48°	6 58° <b>+10°</b> 48°	7 54° <b>+6°</b> 48°
8 41° <b>-7°</b> 48°	9 54° <b>+6°</b> 48°	10 49° <b>+2°</b> 47°	11 49° <b>+2°</b> 47°	12 65° <b>+18°</b> 47°	13 56° <b>+9°</b> 47°	14 40° <b>-7°</b> 47°
15 46° <b>-1°</b> 47°	16 58° <b>+11°</b> 47°	17 49° <b>+2°</b> 47°	18 64° <b>+17°</b> 47°	19 66° <b>+18°</b> 48°	20 63° <b>+16°</b> 47°	21 50° <b>+2°</b> 48°
22 44° <b>-4°</b> 48°	23 54° <b>+6°</b> 48°	24 56° <b>+8°</b> 48°	25 59° <b>+11°</b> 48°	26 51° <b>+3°</b> 48°	27 48° <b>0°</b> 48°	28 61° <b>+13°</b> 48°
29 57° <b>+9°</b> 48°	30 62° <b>+14°</b> 48°	31 52° <b>+3°</b> 49°				

NWS Wakefield - Richmond

## January 2023: Norfolk, VA

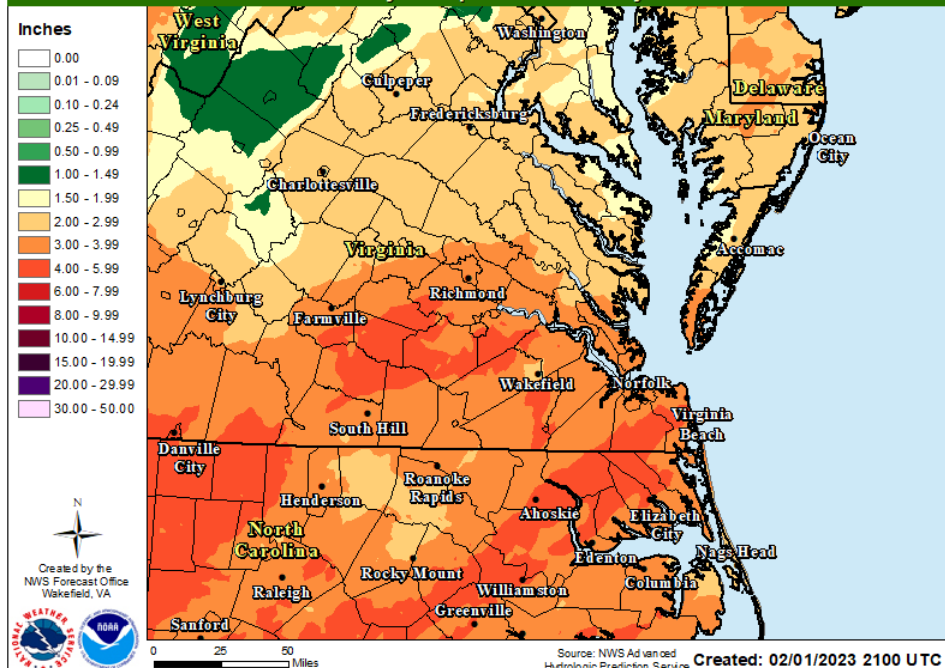
Observed Maximum Temperature Departure from Normal (°F)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 64° <b>+12°</b> 52°	2 65° <b>+13°</b> 52°	3 71° <b>+20°</b> 51°	4 70° <b>+19°</b> 51°	5 65° <b>+14°</b> 51°	6 57° <b>+6°</b> 51°	7 51° <b>0°</b> 51°
8 45° <b>-6°</b> 51°	9 51° <b>0°</b> 51°	10 49° <b>-2°</b> 51°	11 49° <b>-2°</b> 51°	12 67° <b>+16°</b> 51°	13 59° <b>+9°</b> 50°	14 42° <b>-8°</b> 50°
15 42° <b>-8°</b> 50°	16 52° <b>+2°</b> 50°	17 52° <b>+2°</b> 50°	18 61° <b>+11°</b> 50°	19 70° <b>+20°</b> 50°	20 63° <b>+13°</b> 50°	21 47° <b>-3°</b> 50°
22 58° <b>+8°</b> 50°	23 52° <b>+2°</b> 50°	24 52° <b>+2°</b> 50°	25 62° <b>+12°</b> 50°	26 60° <b>+10°</b> 50°	27 47° <b>-4°</b> 51°	28 59° <b>+8°</b> 51°
29 58° <b>+7°</b> 51°	30 55° <b>+4°</b> 51°	31 55° <b>+4°</b> 51°				

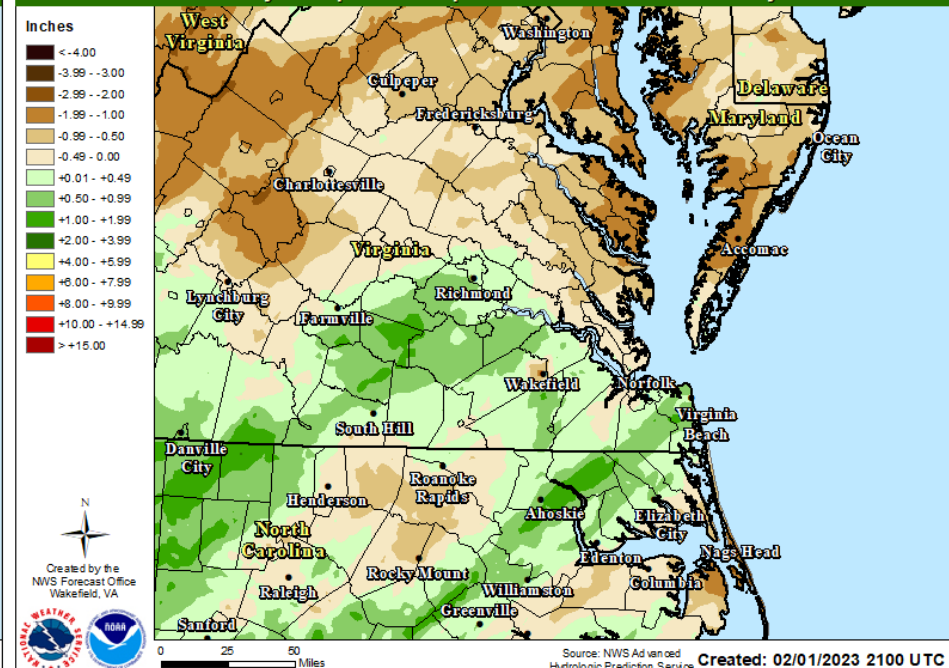
NWS Wakefield - Norfolk

# Regional Precipitation Maps

Total Monthly Precipitation - January 2023



Total Monthly Precipitation Departure From Normal - January 2023



**Total Precipitation** for the month is shown in the map on the left. **Departures** from the 30-year normals (1991-2020) are shown on the map on the right.



# Daily Records for Long Term Climate Sites (January):

## Norfolk, VA Records (Period of Record 150 yrs./1874-2023)

*\*tie*

**Record Highs:** none set.

**Record Low Maximums:** none set.

**Record Lows:** none set.

**Record High Minimums:** 64 (4<sup>th</sup>).

**Daily Precipitation:** none set.

## Richmond, VA Daily Records (Period of Record 127 yrs./1897-2023)

*\*tie*

**Record Highs:** none set.

**Record Low Maximums:** none set.

**Record Lows:** none set.

**Record High Minimums:** 58 (4<sup>th</sup>).

**Daily Precipitation:** none set.

## Salisbury, MD Daily Records (Period of Record 117 yrs./1907-2023)

*\*tie*

**Record Highs:** none set.

**Record Low Maximums:** none set.

**Record Lows:** none set.

**Record High Minimums:** 61 (4<sup>th</sup>).

**Daily Precipitation:** none set.

## Elizabeth City, NC Daily Records (Period of Record 90 yrs./1934-2023)

*\*tie*

**Record Highs:** none set.

**Record Low Maximums:** none set.

**Record Lows:** none set.

**Record High Minimums:** 63 (4<sup>th</sup>).

**Daily Precipitation:** none set.