

March 2022 Review

General Summary

Overall, March was a fairly warm month, with most sites ending up 3 to 5 degrees above average for the month. This is not quite warm enough for any of the long term climate sites to rank in the top 10 lists for warmth however. As is typical of March, the daily temperatures did show a lot of variability; a majority of locations recorded at least one day during the month with a high temperature at or above 80 degrees as well as multiple dates with lows in 20s. Across the entire region, the coldest morning low occurred on the 13th when readings were in the teens and 20s. This followed a strong cold front that brought light snow to the local area on the 12th. In most cases the snowfall was only a trace to around one half inch but NW portions of the CWA recorded as much as 2 to 3 inches.

Monthly precipitation totals in March were generally near normal, but some locally heavy rainfall amounts on the 24th did push monthly totals to above normal across portions of southeast Virginia. The Wallops Island sounding set a daily record for precipitable water on the 24th illustrating the anomalous warmth and moisture that was present that day. There were even some cases of localized flash flooding, a rather unusual occurrence in March.

The following table shows detailed temperature and precipitation statistics for March 2022.

Tabular Summary of Data for Selected Climate Sites (March):

March 2022 Temperature Summary Data <small>* also on other dates 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
Richmond	64.0	4.4	40.7	3.5	52.4	4.0	81	7th	0	46	13th	7	62	31st	6	19	13th	-3
Norfolk	63.0	2.9	44.7	3.4	53.9	3.2	81	7th	0	44	13th	4	64	24th	5	26	13th	-1
Salisbury	60.6	5.3	38.9	3.7	49.8	4.5	79	7th	2	40	13th	4	62	*24th	9	23	13th	4
Wallops Island	58.2	3.7	40.3	3.3	49.2	3.4	79	7th	4	40	*13th	3	55	24th	4	23	13th	1
Elizabeth City	65.9	4.6	44.9	4.4	55.4	4.5	83	7th	3	43	13th	0	63	*24th	5	22	13th	-3
Ashland, VA	64.3	4.4	37.6	1.9	51.0	3.2	81	7th	1	45	13th	6	57	*24th	1	15	13th	-4
Louisa, VA	63.3	5.1	35.6	2.8	49.5	4.0	77	*19th	-2	45	13th	6	58	6th	5	14	13th	0
Painter, VA	61.3	3.8	42.0	4.7	51.6	4.2	78	19th	3	41	13th	1	64	7th	8	25	13th	2
Wakefield, VA	65.2	4.1	40.0	4.2	52.6	4.2	82	7th	2	46	*13th	6	63	24th	7	16	13th	-3
Williamsburg, VA	63.3	3.5	41.8	3.3	52.5	3.4	81	7th	1	45	13th	4	64	24th	7	21	13th	-2
Edenton, NC	67.0	4.0	45.4	3.9	56.2	3.9	80	3rd	0	46	13th	2	64	24th	6	26	13th	0

March 2022 Precipitation & Snowfall Summary Data <small>* also on other dates 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	3.51	-0.49	8	-3	7	0	1.44	12th	0.4	-0.7	1	0	0	0	0.4	12th	0.4	12th
Norfolk	4.49	0.80	10	-1	7	0	1.06	9th	T	-0.4	0	-1	0	0	T	12th	T	12th
Salisbury	3.61	-0.56	9	-3	7	0	1.06	12th	0.1	-0.9	1	0	0	0	0.1	12th	0.1	12th
Wallops Island	4.25	0.34	9	-2	6	-1	1.27	24th	T	-0.7	0	-1	0	0	T	*28th	T	*28th
Elizabeth City	4.33	0.74	10	-1	8	1	1.04	24th	T	-0.3	0	0	0	0	T	12th	T	12th
Ashland, VA	5.30	1.51	9	-1	6	-1	1.53	17th	1.5	-0.3	1	0	1	0	1.5	12th	1.5	12th
Louisa, VA	4.72	1.02	8	-2	6	0	1.57	17th	2.3	0.8	1	0	1	1	2.3	13th	2.3	13th
Painter, VA	7.44	3.48	7	-4	4	-3	4.21	24th	T	-0.5	0	-1	0	0	T	12th	T	12th
Wakefield, VA	7.11	2.89	11	0	8	0	2.44	24th	0.5	0.1	1	0	0	0	0.5	12th	0.5	12th
Williamsburg, VA	5.32	1.07	10	-1	7	0	1.83	12th	T	-0.5	0	-1	0	0	T	12th	T	12th
Edenton, NC	5.21	1.18	6	-3	6	-1	2.14	17th	0.0	-0.2	0	0	0	0				

* **“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 Records for Long Term Climate Sites (March):

Norfolk, VA Records (Period of Record 149 yrs./1874-2022)

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Record Highs: none set.

Record Low Maximums: none set.

Record Lows: none set.

Record High Minimums: 63 (7th), 64 (24th).

Daily Precipitation: none set.

Richmond, VA Daily Records (Period of Record 126 yrs./1897-2022)

**tie*

Record Highs: none set.

Record Low Maximums: none set.

Record Lows: none set.

Record High Minimums: 61 (24th).

Daily Precipitation: none set.

Salisbury, MD Daily Records (Period of Record 116 yrs./1907-2022)

**tie*

Record Highs: 79 (7th).

Record Low Maximums: none set.

Record Lows: none set.

Record High Minimums: 62 (7th), 62 (24th).

Daily Precipitation: none set.

Elizabeth City, NC Daily Records (Period of Record 89 yrs./1934-2022)

**tie*

Record Highs: *82 (6th).

Record Low Maximums: none set.

Record Lows: none set.

Record High Minimums: 63 (19th)

Daily Precipitation: 0.90" (9th).