

### Narrative Summary – March 2019

March 2019 was much colder than normal, averaging 37.4°F, which is 9.1° below normal (46.5°F). This makes March 2019 the coldest March on record. The previous record was 39.4°F (1955). The warmest March (1992 and 2015) averaged 51.5°F.

The following daily temperature records were established during March 2019.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>New Record</u>	<u>Old Record</u>	<u>Year</u>
3	Low Minimum	9	14	1989
5	Low Minimum	5	6	1955
7	Low Minimum	14	21	1974+
8	Low Minimum	18	20	2002+
9	Low Minimum	16	22	2009+
10	Low Minimum	13	13	1948 (Tie)
11	Low Minimum	14	19	2009
14	Low Minimum	23	23	1953 (Tie)
5	Low Maximum	25	31	1945
6	Low Maximum	28	33	1957
9	Low Maximum	34	40	1951
10	Low Maximum	33	34	2009
11	Low Maximum	29	32	1950

Precipitation for March 2019 totaled 0.44 inches, 77% of normal (0.57 inches). The wettest March (1957) received 1.86 inches, while the driest March (1968) received 0.02 inch. Precipitation for 2019 (through March) has totaled 3.26 inches, 148% of normal (2.21 inches). Snowfall for March 2019 totaled 4.4 inches, compared to a normal of 0.4 inches. This makes March 2019 the snowiest March on record. The previous record was 4.2 inches (1951). Snowfall for the 2018-2019 season has totaled 32.1 inches, 211% of normal (15.2 inches). This makes the 2018-19 season the 4<sup>th</sup> snowiest on record. The record snowiest season is 56.1 inches (1992-93)

The average wind speed for March 2019 was 6.0 miles per hour (mph), 1.9 mph below normal (7.9 mph). The windiest March (1964 and 1977) averaged 10.7 mph, while the March with the lightest winds (1958) averaged 5.9 mph. The peak gust for March 2019 was 37 mph from the WSW on March 25. The record wind gust for March is 70 mph in 1956.

March 2019 was a historic cold and snowy March. Below is a list of records that were broken.

Daily mean temperature: 37.4°F

Previous record: 39.4°F (1955)

Daily maximum temperature: 48.3°F

Previous record: 50.5°F (1955)

Daily minimum temperature: 26.5°F	Previous record: 28.5°F (1955)
Lowest temperature: 5°F	Previous record: 6°F (1955)
#Days with maximum temperature <= 32°F: 7	Previous record: 2 (1993+)
Latest first 50°F day: March 17	Previous record: March 15 (1951)
Snowfall: 4.4 inches	Previous record: 4.2 inches (1951)
Greatest snow depth: 12.1 inches	Previous record: 9.1 inches (1993)
#Days with >= 1 inch snow depth: 18	Previous record: 7 (1963)
#Days with >= 6 inch snow depth: 18	Previous record: 5 (1993)

Also noteworthy is that March 21 marked the end of a 45 day streak (February 4 – March 20) where the daily mean temperature was below normal.

The monthly climatological data summaries, as well as other information, are available on the Internet.

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**Note:** The data in this summary pertains specifically to the Hanford Meteorology Station (HMS), which is located approximately 25 miles northwest of Richland, WA. No attempt should be made to infer meteorological conditions at other locations from these data.