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# Significant snow this late in the year is rare, but not unheard of

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STAN GROSSFELD/GLOBE STAFF/FILE

**Snow removal efforts were underway at Fenway Park after the April Fool's Day blizzard in 1997.**

By **Matt Rocheleau**

GLOBE STAFF MARCH 18, 2016

Forecasters' latest predictions are calling for Boston to get between 6 and 8 inches of snow Sunday into Monday.

Such significant snowfall this late into the year is somewhat rare, but not unprecedented.

Only 13 times before has Boston received 6 or more inches of snowfall in a two-day stretch on March 20 or later, according to a review of National Weather Service records.

- Topping that list is the so-called April Fools' Day blizzard, which dumped a whopping 25.4 inches on the city on March 31 and April 1, 1997. The storm featured strong winds and heavy, wet snow that left thousands of area residents without power, the Globe reported.

In some ways, the scenario leading up to the storm was similar to the weirdly warm weather we've been experiencing this year that left us with the sense that winter was over. In the five days before the storm hit, temperatures topped 54 degrees each day, including a 63-degree high the day before the blizzard arrived.



## Boston likely to get 6 to 8 inches of snow this weekend

Areas in Southeastern Mass. could see 4 to 7 inches, with Boston expected to get less, beginning on Sunday afternoon.

## Hardware stores offer both beach chairs — and snow melt

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- The next snowiest two-day stretch this late in the year was a blizzard that dropped 13.3 inches on Boston on April 6-7, 1982. The storm hit during the morning rush hour, snarling traffic and leaving thousands of commuters stranded, the [Globe reported](#).

“Someone didn’t tell Mother Nature it’s spring,” Robert Hazzard, a weather service specialist, told the newspaper at the time.

- In 1944, 10.3 inches of snow fell on March 20-21 in a storm blamed for six deaths, the [Globe reported](#), describing it as “the worst snowstorm of the year.” Schools were closed in most Greater Boston communities.

### Significant snowfalls this late in the year

Only 13 times before has Boston seen 6 inches or more of snow in a two-day stretch on March 20 or later.

Rank	Snowfall (in.)	Year	Dates	Day 1, Day 2 snowfall (in.)	Note
1	25.4	1997	March 31-April 1	3, 22.4	-
2	13.3	1982	April 6-7	10.8, 2.5	-
3	10.3	1944	March 20-21	10.2, 0.1	-
4	9.4	1984	March 29-30	9.1, 0.3	-
5	9.1	1917	April 9	All one day	-
6	8.6	1993	March 23-24	0.1, 8.5	-
7	7.9	1893	April 6-7	3.9, 4	-
8	7.3	1970	March 29-30	All one day	Another 5.8 in. fell on 31st
9	6.4	1996	April 9-10	1, 5.4	Another 0.4 in. fell on 7th; 0.5 in. on 8th
10	6.4	1957	March 20	All one day	-
11	6.1	1915	April 3-4	5, 1.1	-

12	6	1958	March 20-21	1.8, 4.2	Another 0.7 in. fell on 22nd
13	6	1920	March 20	All one day	-

**SOURCE: National Weather Service**

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