



A look back at biggest March snowstorms in Boston history

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KEITH BEDFORD/GLOBE STAFF

A mail carrier walked through the snow on Newbury Street in Boston.

By [Matt Rocheleau](#)

GLOBE STAFF MARCH 13, 2017

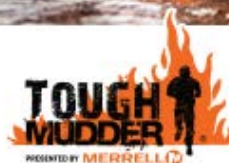
Believe it or not, it looks like this winter — even with all its record-breaking warmth — will wind up

being snowier than usual.

The National Weather Service, as of Monday morning, said it expects the city will receive between 12 and 18 inches of snow from Tuesday's storm.

Only three times has a foot or more snow fallen in Boston during a single day in March, according to weather service records that date back more than 125 years: March 4, 1891 (12 inches); March 13, 1993, (12.3 inches); March 19, 1956, (13.2 inches).

But none of those hold the record for late-season snowfall on a single day. That distinction goes to April 1, 1997, often called the April Fool's Day Blizzard, when a whopping 22.4 inches fell.



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While Tuesday's storm is expected to start and end on the same day, snowstorms can often overlap days.



Live updates: Major March snow storm to hit Mass.

Follow weather updates, alerts, and more coverage as the storm batters Massachusetts.

Flight cancellations pile up at Logan ahead of snow

Stay off the roads Tuesday, Baker warns

Even when accounting for that, foot-or-more snowstorms this late in the year are fairly uncommon.

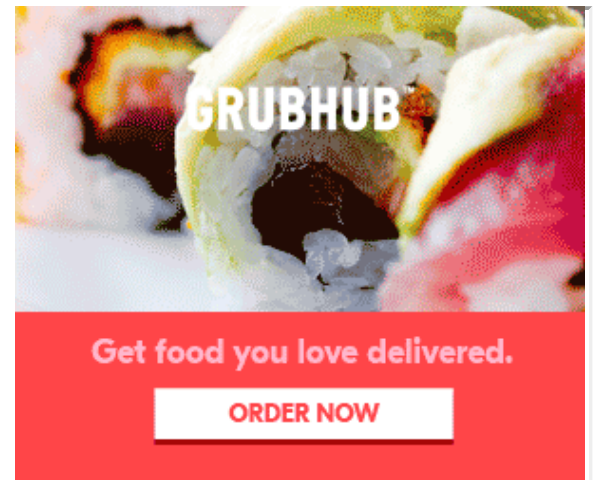
Boston has received a foot or more of snow over the course of two consecutive days in March or later just seven times.

Boston normally receives snow between November and April. Historically, the city has averaged about 43 inches total over those months, with the bulk falling in January and February. March averages about 7.4 inches, and April 1.3 inches.

Winter got off to a bit of a slow start with below average snowfall totals during the first few months.

Still, 21.5 inches fell in Boston last month, which was well above normal for February, and there has been another 2.9 inches so far in March.

That puts the total since November at 39.2 inches, and it appears Tuesday's storm will easily push that total above the historical norm for November through April, with several weeks still to go before we reach May.



Even though parts of the snowy-season have felt more like mid-summer, we seem poised to still somehow wind up with more snow than usual.

Biggest one-day snowfall totals in March or later

Data are for the city of Boston.

| Inches | Year | Date |
|--------|------|-------|
| 22.4 | 1997 | 04-01 |
| 13.2 | 1956 | 03-19 |
| 12.3 | 1993 | 03-13 |
| 12 | 1891 | 03-04 |
| 11.4 | 1960 | 03-04 |
| 10.8 | 1982 | 04-06 |
| 10.5 | 2013 | 03-08 |
| 10.2 | 1944 | 03-20 |
| 9.9 | 1967 | 03-07 |
| 9.4 | 1977 | 03-18 |

Biggest two-day snowfall totals in March or later

Data are for the city of Boston.

| Inches | Year | Start | End |
|--------|------|-------|-------|
| 25.4 | 1997 | 03-31 | 04-01 |
| 19.7 | 1960 | 03-03 | 03-04 |
| 14 | 1891 | 03-03 | 03-04 |
| 13.3 | 1982 | 04-06 | 04-07 |
| 13.3 | 1956 | 03-19 | 03-20 |
| 13.1 | 2013 | 03-07 | 03-08 |
| 12.8 | 1993 | 03-13 | 03-14 |
| 11.1 | 1939 | 03-12 | 03-13 |
| 10.8 | 1967 | 03-06 | 03-07 |
| 10.7 | 1944 | 03-19 | 03-20 |

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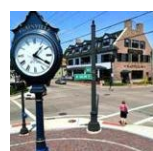
Storms could bring hail and severe winds

Damaging winds, quarter-size hail, and even a tornado are possibilities in Massachusetts today. [MORE...](#)



Dick Albert, former Channel 5 weatherman, dies

"It's a huge loss," said Harvey Leonard. "It's truly like losing a brother, that's what I considered him to be." [MORE...](#)



In Michelle Carter's hometown, opinions vary on justice of her sentence

Residents who spoke to the Globe were split on whether Carter, now 20, received an appropriate sentence for urging Conrad Roy III to kill himself. [MORE...](#)



The majority of Harvard's incoming class is nonwhite

Harvard's push to broaden diversity comes as the Trump administration turns its focus on affirmative action policies. [MORE...](#)



VA Secretary ousts third official at troubled N.H. hospital

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Mother of Conrad Roy III seeks \$4.2m in wrongful death suit against Michelle Carter

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Teamster in Top Chef trial could get jail time for posting on Facebook during trial

Daniel Redmond, one of four Teamsters on trial, posted an article on the Facebook page, "Support the Teamster 4," violating a court order to not speak publicly about the case. [MORE...](#)



Thousands of cyclists are pedaling during the 38th Pan-Mass Challenge

More than 5,300 cyclists took off Saturday morning in the 2017 Pan-Mass Challenge, raising money for patient care and cancer research. [MORE...](#)



He thought he was dying, but highway chief paved his own road to salvation

Tom Tinlin needed a lot of things to go his way when a blood vessel in his brain burst in April. Fittingly, one of them was traffic. [MORE...](#)



Lawbreakers or just really lucky? Mass. has more repeat lottery winners than any other state

Some people redeem so many winning tickets that they raise questions about the integrity and oversight of the \$5 billion state lottery. [MORE...](#)

Police disperse hundreds of youths in the North End

State Police spokesman David Procopio said Boston police requested Massachusetts State Police assistance with dispersing between 500 and 1,000 youths. [MORE...](#)



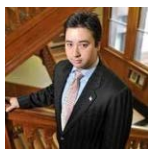
A cross-country bicycle trip of a lifetime — delayed 40 years

John Sweeney averaged 65 miles a day, mostly along Route 20, a 3,365-mile ribbon of asphalt that is the longest road in the United States. [MORE...](#)



State Police investigate video of youths fighting on pier in Quincy

A video of youths being punched and kicked is making the rounds on social media. [MORE...](#)



Cambridge city councilor to leave politics

Cambridge city councilor Leland Cheung, the first Asian-American on the council, announced this week that he intends to leave politics. [MORE...](#)



This weekend, bus shuttles replace rail service on five lines

You might want to just stay home this weekend. [MORE...](#)



Michelle Carter receives 15 months in jail; will remain free pending appeal

A judge sentenced Michelle Carter to two and a half years, with 15 months to serve and 15 months probation, for goading her boyfriend to kill himself in a high-profile texting suicide case. However, he allowed Carter to remain free while awaiting appeal. [MORE...](#)

‘Dukes of Hazzard’ actor arrested in Waltham



Tom Wopat was arraigned on a charge of groping a woman who was to share the stage with him in a local production of "42nd Street." [MORE...](#)

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