

# MARITIME CANADA CLIMATE SUMMARY

## FEBRUARY 2021

### February Continues the Warmer than Normal Start to 2021

Although not as “warm” as January, which ranked as one of the top 5 warmest of all time for many locations across the Maritimes, February temperatures were above normal for most of the Maritimes especially in the east and south. At some sites on the Acadian Peninsula of N.B., in Prince Edward Island, and parts of Nova Scotia, this February ranked as one of their 10 warmest Februaries on record. Total precipitation in parts of eastern New Brunswick and eastern Nova Scotia as well as Prince Edward Island was 125%-200% of the average. Western NB and southwestern NS were near average for the month. Snowfall totals were 120 to 160% of normal for the month in parts of the Maritimes, especially in the eastern regions.

#### The Warmest (°C)

New Brunswick Point Lepreau	7.6
Nova Scotia Cheticamp	14.8
Prince Edward Island St. Peters	12.8

#### The Coldest (°C)

New Brunswick Edmundston	-31.1
Nova Scotia Collegrave	-29.9
Prince Edward Island Maple Plains	-21.8

#### The Wettest (Total mm)

New Brunswick Kouchibouguac	152.4 mm
Nova Scotia Port Hawkesbury	255.3 mm
Prince Edward Island Stanhope	129.3mm

### The Capital Stats

Station Name	Mean Temperature (°C)			Extremes	
	Monthly Mean	Normal Mean	Diff from Normal	Max (Date)	Min (Date)
Charlottetown Airport	-5.3	-7.3	2.0	9.0 (3)	-16.0 (12)
Halifax Shearwater A.	-1.6	-4.2	2.6	9.4 (3)	-11.0 (12)
Fredericton	-6.9	-7.5	0.6	5.4 (24)	-20.9 (10)

Station Name	Total Precipitation			Snowfall	
	Monthly Total	Normal Total	Percent Normal	Total (cm)	Max SOG (Date)
Charlottetown Airport	117.8	83.2	141.5	91.4	38 (23)
Halifax Stanfield Airport	178.9	105.2	169.1	93.9	33 (23)
Fredericton	127.8	70.1	182.3	72.1	36 (23)

### Daily Records

A low pressure system crossing NB on the 3<sup>rd</sup> brought record daily maximum temperature records to numerous stations across NS from Shelburne to Sydney and to St Peters PEI with the highest recorded 14.8C at Cheticamp NS. Other less significant daily maximum – mostly in the single digits were set in NS on 6<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Daily record low minimums were recorded in the Sheet Harbour NS area on 12<sup>th</sup> (-23.7) and at Maple Plains PEI on 19<sup>th</sup> (-21.8).

## Other Significant Events (information provided by Climate Services, ECCC)

**Feb 2-3:** A deep low-pressure system moved through the Bay of Fundy on Groundhog Day. This system brought snow to the region with a [changeover through ice pellets to rain](#) in the south. There was 15 to 35 cm of snow through central NB with over 70 mm of rain to parts of Nova Scotia. Strong winds developed Tuesday with maximum gusts near 100 km/h throughout NS and over 80 km/h in eastern NB and Prince Edward Island. Powerful Les Suetes winds (Grand Etang recorded peak gusts to 182 km/h) caused [damage in the Cheticamp area](#). The poor conditions led to [closure of schools](#) and [power outages](#) throughout the Maritimes.

**Feb 7-8:** A low-pressure system tracked southeast of Nova Scotia before heading to the Avalon Peninsula. The low was strengthening as it progressed, which allowed for significant snowfall totals especially in the Annapolis Valley to eastern [Nova Scotia](#) as well as southeastern [Prince Edward Island](#). Amounts of [30 to 50 cm](#) were recorded in these areas and 15 to 30 in other parts of NS and PEI as well as southern New Brunswick. Many [schools were closed](#). Canada Post cancelled postal service to some NB regions due to poor road conditions. Wind gusts from central to eastern Nova Scotia reached 75 to 104 km/h with the strongest at Beaver Island.

**Feb 16-17:** A low-pressure system tracked through the Bay of Fundy giving snow to northern New Brunswick and freezing rain to southern New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. There was about 8 hours of freezing rain and drizzle in Saint John and 7 hours in Moncton. [PEI saw a few hours of freezing rain](#), which led to slippery roads and power outages before changing to rain and drizzle.

**Feb 23:** Central New Brunswick saw 15 to 25 cm of snow as a system moved through the Bay of Fundy. Prince Edward Island saw 10 to 15 cm and northern NB and Nova Scotia saw anywhere from 2 to 10 cm.

**Other:** The lack of sea ice in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence is causing many concerns. Even with the cooler temperatures lately, there was still a lack of ice in the Gulf especially around Cape Breton. This lack of ice can lead to more [shoreline erosion](#), [damage to the fisheries](#) as well as [seals on shore](#). Some areas have become dangerous as people head out [ice fishing](#) on the thin ice and need to be rescued putting themselves and the emergency responders in danger.

Compiled by Peter J. Lewis with data and information provided by Client Service Operations Atlantic, Meteorological Service of Canada Environment and Climate Change Canada / Government of Canada

## Other CMOS News

**Featured article:** [Gender Equity in Ocean Science: Amplifying Voices, Increasing Impact](#), a report produced for Fisheries and Oceans Canada (author, CarolAnne Black). In celebration of International Women's Day, the findings of this report were presented on March 5<sup>th</sup> by Dr. Arran McPherson, Assistant Deputy Minister, DFO, and on March 8<sup>th</sup> by Professor Angela Hatton, Director of Science and Technology at the National Oceanography Centre of the UK. Links to both presentation can be found on our [Facebook Page](#).

**CDOGS Winner:** Congratulations to **Meghan Troup** and **Emmanuelle Cook** for winning the CMOS prize for best overall presentation at this year's Conference of Dalhousie Oceanography Students (CDOGS) which was held on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Meghan's talk was titled **Mapping eelgrass in Cole Harbour, Nova Scotia using a remotely operated hovercraft**, and Emmanuelle's talk was titled **Seasonal variations of ambient sound and ice draft in the Northwest Passage between 2018-2021**. You can watch these, and all CDOGS presentations, [here](#).

**Upcoming Seminar:** April 8, 12:45pm AST. CMOS Ottawa Centre virtual luncheon, co-hosted by CMOS-Winnipeg. Presentation by **Andrea Niemi**, Research Scientist in the Arctic and Aquatic Research Division of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, titled **Exploring drivers of forage species variability in the Beaufort Sea and Amundsen Gulf**. Abstract, biography and a link to register can be found [here](#).

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