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2022 Weather in Review: Appomattox Court House National Historical Park

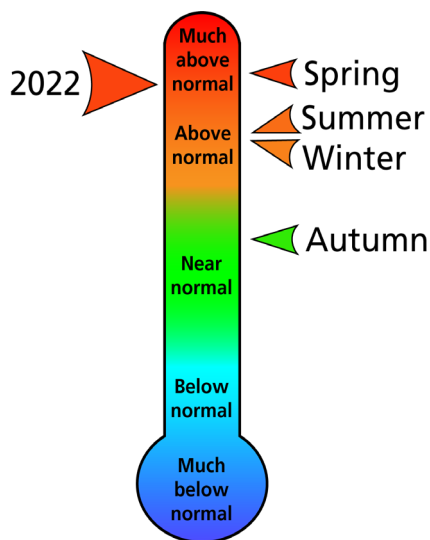
In all, 2022 was warmer than average, but the year had near-normal precipitation. It was the 17th warmest and 53rd wettest year recorded in Appomattox County, VA since 1895. Data indicate that over the long term, annual average temperature and annual total precipitation have both increased in the county (+0.1 °F per decade and +0.31 inches per decade, respectively).

This brief provides county-scale weather data for Appomattox County, VA, including data from 1895–2022 (i.e., period of record). Data and analyses herein are courtesy of the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's \(NOAA\) Climate at a Glance Program](https://www.noaa.gov/climate-at-a-glance).

Temperature

In total, 2022 was the 17th warmest year at the park since 1895 with only the autumn having near-normal temperatures (Figure 1). Nine months had higher than normal temperatures with February, March, and November all being more than 3.5 °F above long-term averages (Table 1).

Table 1. Average monthly, average annual, and departures from long-term average temperatures. Departures from average are based on a comparison of 2022 average temperatures to relevant averages from 1895–2021. Data are available at <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/county/time-series>.



Month/ Year	Average temperature (°F)	Departure from average (°F)
January	33.6	–2.0
February	41.1	+3.7
March	50.1	+4.5
April	56.8	+1.8
May	65.7	+1.8
June	73.6	+1.9
July	77.7	+2.2
August	75.0	+0.9
September	68.8	+1.1
October	54.5	–2.2
November	49.8	+3.7
December	37.3	–0.3
2022	57.0	+1.4

Figure 1. Seasonal and annual temperature rankings. An arrow at the top of the figure would represent the warmest year/season on record (since 1895); at the bottom, the coldest year/season on record. Winter = Jan–Mar, Spring = Apr–June, Summer = July–Sept, Autumn = Oct–Dec. Data are available at <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/county/rankings>.

Precipitation

The year 2022 in Appomattox County was near normal for precipitation, though seasonal precipitation varied (Figure 2). In total, 43.8 inches of precipitation fell, just 1.3 inches more than normal (Table 2).

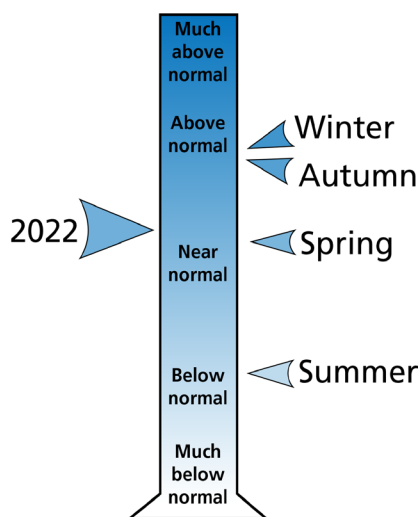


Figure 2. Seasonal and annual precipitation rankings. An arrow at the top of the figure would represent the wettest year/season on record (since 1895); at the bottom, the driest year/season on record. Winter = Jan–Mar, Spring = Apr–June, Summer = July–Sept, Autumn = Oct–Dec. Data are available at <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/county/rankings>.

Table 2. Monthly and annual total precipitation and departure from long-term averages. Departures from average are based on a comparison of 2022 precipitation to relevant averages from 1895–2021. Data are available at <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/county/time-series>.

Month/ Year	Total precipitation (in.)	Departure from average (in.)
January	4.49	+1.19
February	2.69	–0.33
March	4.29	+0.63
April	2.31	–1.08
May	5.85	+1.98
June	3.26	–0.45
July	3.35	–0.89
August	5.03	+0.91
September	1.22	–2.40
October	2.39	–0.93
November	4.35	+1.38
December	4.59	+1.32
2022	43.82	+1.31

Temperature and Precipitation (1895–2022)

Data for Appomattox County, VA indicate that annual average temperature has increased approximately +0.1 °F per decade and annual total precipitation has increased approximately +0.31 inches per decade since 1895 (Figure 3).

National Park Service scientists have forecast future changes in climate too. Models estimate that by 2100, annual average temperature at the park will increase by 2.9–8.6 °F (from a best-case to worst-case scenario, respectively). Annual total precipitation is expected to increase by 8–14% (see [Gonzalez et al., 2018](#) for details).

Data in this brief are preliminary and were retrieved from NOAA on 01/10/22.

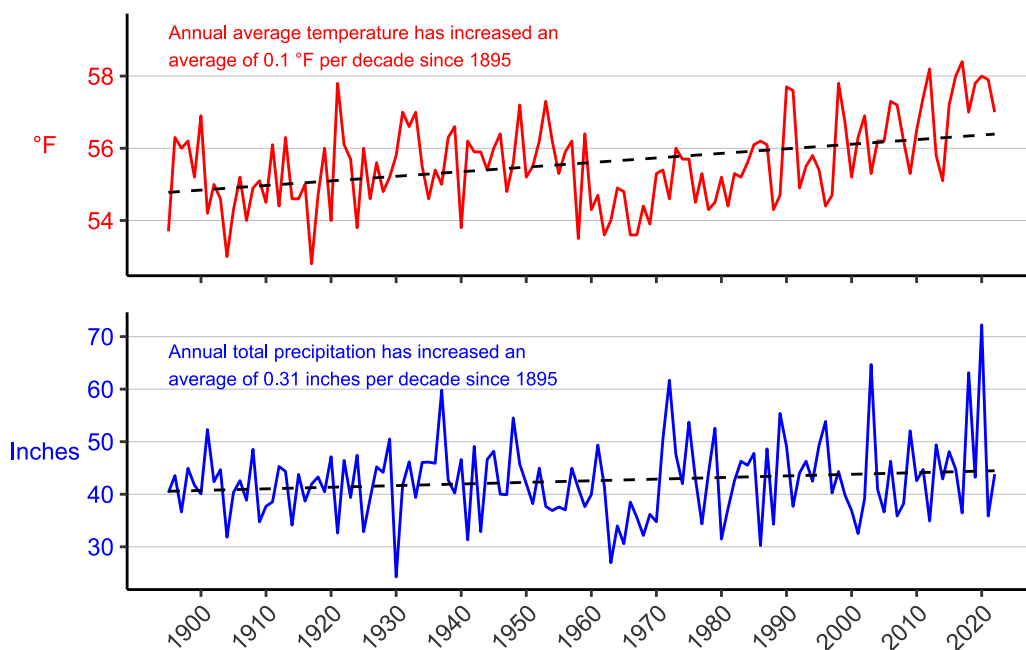


Figure 3. Annual average temperature (°F) and annual total precipitation (in.) from 1895–2022 for Appomattox County, VA. Dashed lines represent linear estimates of change. Data are available at <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/county/time-series>.

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Parks monitored: Appomattox Court House NHP • Booker T. Washington NM • Eisenhower NHS • Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania NMP • Gettysburg NMP • Hopewell Furnace NHS • Petersburg NB • Richmond NBP • Shenandoah NP • Valley Forge NHP