

New York City's Snowy Days (Winters 1869-70 through 1899-00)

Before the day had well advanced, every horse car and elevated railroad in the city had stopped running; the streets were almost impassable to men or horses by reason of the huge masses of drifting snow; the electric wires-telegraph and telephone connecting spots...were nearly all broken.

—A description of the Blizzard of 1888 from "In A Blizzard's Grip," *The New York Times*, March 13, 1888, p.1.



The Blizzard of 1888 (Library of Congress)

Seasonal Snowfall:

1869-70	27.8"
1870-71	33.1"
1871-72	14.1"
1872-73	60.3"
1873-74	36.9"
1874-75	47.9"
1875-76	18.3"
1876-77	40.4"
1877-78	8.1"
1878-79	35.7"
1879-80	22.7"

1880-81	35.5"
1881-82	31.4"
1882-83	44.0"
1883-84	43.1"
1884-85	34.2"
1885-86	20.8"
1886-87	32.9"
1887-88	45.6"
1888-89	16.5"
1889-90	24.3"
1890-91	28.8"
1891-92	25.4"
1892-93	49.7"
1893-94	36.1"
1894-95	27.0"
1895-96	46.3"
1896-97	43.6"
1897-98	21.1"
1898-99	55.9"
1899-00	13.4"

Daily Snowfall:

1890-91:

December 3	3.0"
December 8	1.3"
December 26	7.0"
December 29	0.1"
January 4	0.5"
January 5	0.5"
January 25	8.0"
February 7	1.5"
February 20	0.8"
February 26	0.3"
March 6	Trace
March 7	2.1"

1891-92:

January 6	3.5"
January 9	1.5"
January 11	0.1"
January 15	6.0"
January 19	1.0"
January 24	0.1"
February 11	0.1"
March 1	2.0"
March 16	2.0"
March 17	Trace
March 18	8.0"
April 14	Trace
April 15	1.0"

1892-93:

November 9	2.3"
November 29	Trace
November 30	4.0"
December 13	1.5"
December 20	1.3"
December 23	0.1"
December 25	0.1"
January 5	Trace
January 6	6.0"
January 9	Trace
January 10	1.0"
January 12	5.0"
January 14	2.0"
January 15	1.5"
January 30	0.5"
February 1	0.5"
February 13	3.5"
February 17	Trace
February 18	9.1"
February 19	0.1"
February 21	Trace
February 22	2.0"
February 25	0.3"
February 28	2.0"
March 4	6.0"
March 7	0.1"
April 7	0.5"

1893-94:

December 3	1.5"
December 5	1.5"
December 14	1.5"
December 30	0.5"
January 10	1.0"
January 14	0.8"
January 26	Trace
January 27	6.5"
January 29	0.3"
January 30	0.8"
February 1	0.5"
February 4	1.0"
February 12	Trace
February 13	7.0"
February 14	Trace
February 15	4.0"
February 25	Trace
February 26	8.0"
April 12	1.0"

1894-95:

November 30	0.5"
December 26	Trace
December 27	4.0"
January 8	Trace
January 9	1.5"
January 16	0.5"
January 18	Trace
January 19	3.0"
January 26	1.0"
January 28	Trace
January 29	3.5"
February 2	4.0"
February 7	Trace
February 8	5.0"
March 2	1.0"
March 15	Trace
March 16	3.0"

1895-96:

December 8	Trace
December 9	0.3"
January 7	0.5"
January 9	2.0"
January 19	0.5"
February 1	1.0"
February 3	Trace
February 4	3.5"
February 9	1.5"
February 13	1.0"
February 16	0.5"
February 19	0.5"
February 26	1.5"
March 2	10.0"
March 11	Trace
March 12	4.0"
March 15	Trace
March 16	12.0"
March 23	Trace
March 24	4.5"
April 6	0.5"
April 7	2.5"

1896-97:

November 29	2.5"
November 30	2.5"
December 15	Trace
December 16	7.0"
December 22	Trace
December 23	6.0"
January 20	0.5"
January 22	0.3"
January 24	0.5"
January 27	Trace
January 28	10.0"
February 2	1.5"
February 12	8.5"
February 20	1.0"
March 1	0.8"
March 14	2.5"

1897-98:

November 23	2.3"
December 3	0.8"
December 20	Trace
December 21	0.3"
December 26	3.0"
January 1	0.1"
January 9	Trace
January 10	0.3"
January 25	1.5"
January 27	0.1"
January 29	2.0"
January 31	5.0"
February 23	0.3"
February 26	1.0"
March 2	1.0"
March 4	1.0"
April 5	2.5"

1898-99:

November 24	3.0"
November 26	5.0"
November 27	5.0"
November 29	Trace
November 30	6.0"
December 12	0.5"
December 31	1.0"
January 1	3.0"
January 6	1.0"
January 12	0.3"
January 31	1.0"
February 1	1.0"
February 5	1.0"
February 6	0.8"
February 7	Trace
February 8	6.5"
February 12	Trace
February 13	16.0"
March 7	3.0"
March 18	0.5"
March 22	0.3"
March 25	0.5"
March 26	0.5"

1899-1900:

December 27	0.1"
January 1	0.5"
January 14	0.5"
February 17	5.8"
February 18	0.3"
February 25	0.5"
March 6	0.3"
March 15	5.0"
March 26	0.3"
March 31	0.3"

Note: Small differences may exist between the sum of the daily amounts and seasonal snowfall totals.

Sources: National Climatic Data Center and National Weather Service at Upton, New York