

## The March 1958 Snowstorm



The image is a screenshot of a weather website titled "Phillyweather.net" with a sub-header "MARCH 18-21, 1958 SNOWFALL TOTALS". It displays a table of snowfall totals for various locations in the Northeast United States. The table has two columns: the location and the snowfall total in inches. The locations are listed in descending order of snowfall total.

Location	Snowfall Total (inches)
Morgantown, PA	50"
Mount Airy, MD	33"
Allentown, PA	20.3"
Wilmington, DE	19"
Trenton, NJ	17.8"
Reading, PA	16"
Lancaster, PA	13"
Central Park, NY	11.7"
Philadelphia, PA	11.4"

Yes, that Morgantown total of 50" is not a fluke...Morgantown, at 750' in elevation at the borders of Chester, Berks, and Lancaster Counties in Southeast Pennsylvania, set a record for snowfall in the immediate area as this area saw significant snowfall from a low pressure center that was cut off from the main steering pattern in the atmosphere, with snows continuing to pile up across a narrow band along the ridge tops of Southeast Pennsylvania and across the Poconos in Northeast Pennsylvania, where Stroudsburg received 35.4" of snow from the storm.

This was a storm where elevation mattered somewhat, as the highest accumulations occurred along those mentioned ridge tops in Southeast Pennsylvania while Philadelphia "only" received 11.4" over a three day period as temperatures were slightly milder and the lack of orographic enhancement (precipitation being squeezed out over the hills from air being lifted up due to change in elevation). This storm developed just four weeks after another snowstorm slammed the Northeast with snow in February 1958.

NOAA Daily Weather Map from March 20th, 1958.

