

Where It's Even Snowier



Photo: GlacierNPS via Wikimedia Commons

As the American Northeast gets yet *another* snowstorm, people are already counting up the inches and the below-freezing days to see what winter records are being broken. But what is the snowiest place in the US? Even with all these storms, it's never New York, Boston, or Washington, DC who win the prize. It isn't even the ski resorts in the Rocky Mountains out west. The winner is Valdez, Alaska. Valdez gets a whopping **300 inches of snow** each year, compared to those Northeast cities who average **maybe 20 or 30 inches**. Valdez gets around 20 inches of snow in October by itself, and has had times when it gets over 100 inches a month for many months in a row. If you really like snow, this would be the place to live.

Wee ones: New York City averages 28 inches of snow each year, while Boston gets 44 inches. Who gets more?

Little kids: If Valdez gets 100 inches of snow a month for 4 months, how much snow is that? *Bonus:* If you were supposed to have 20 days of school in January, and thanks to snowstorms school was closed for 4 of them, how many days of school did you still have?

Big kids: About 4,000 people live in Valdez. If each one goes outside and makes 3 big snowballs to build a snowman, how many snowballs is that? *Bonus:* If Valdez gets double-digit snow in $\frac{2}{3}$ of the months of the year, how many snowy months does it get?

The sky's the limit: If some snowy winter Valdez gets 20 inches of snow in October, 42 inches in November, and 55 inches each in February and March, and in December they get 30 more inches than in January, how much snow falls in December to average 60 inches a month over those 6 months?