

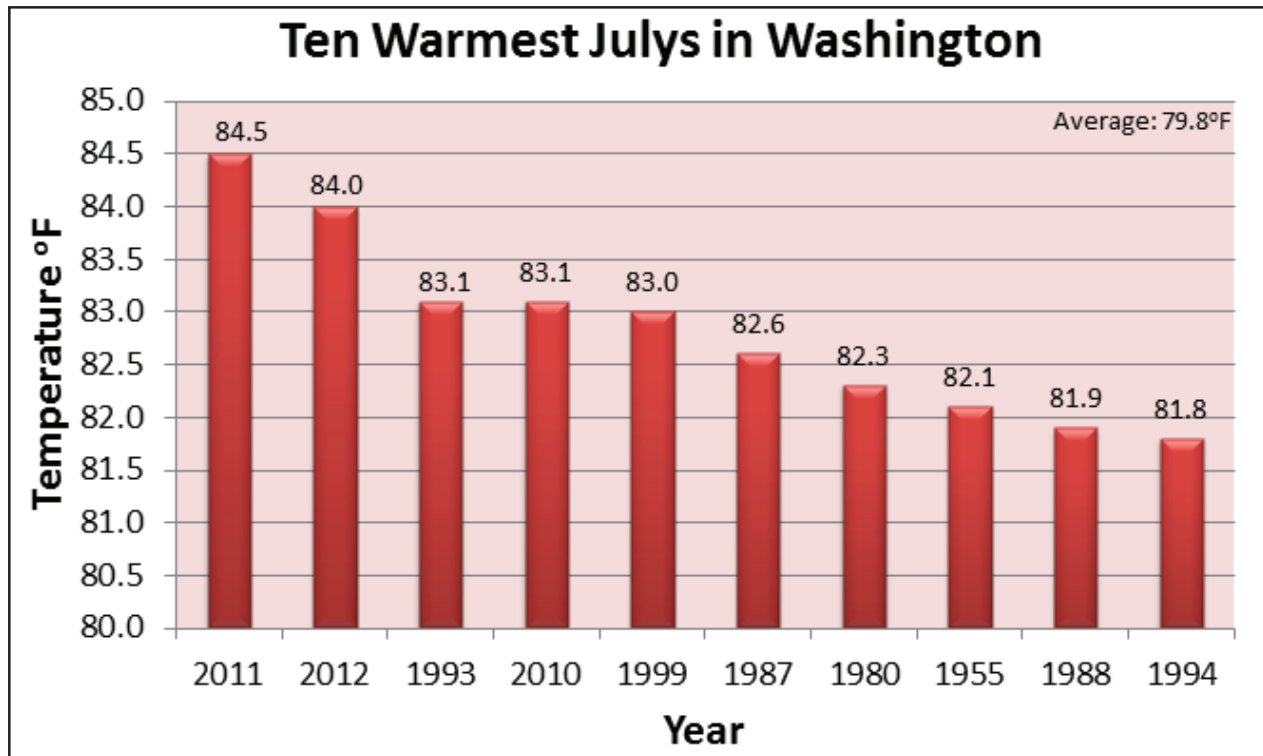


# PRESTO

PRECipitation Summary and Temperature Observations  
For the Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD Area



## ***JULY 2012: Heats On: Second Hottest Month on Record In Washington, at IAD; Numerous Reports of Severe Weather Despite Generally Dry Conditions***



### ***July Highlights***

- ☛ Second hottest month on record at DCA (avg. 84.5°F), IAD (avg. 80.6°F); tied for 5<sup>th</sup> hottest at BWI (avg. 81.4°F)
- ☛ Record 7 days at or above 100°F at DCA, 4 such days at BWI (2<sup>nd</sup> most on record), 3 such days at IAD (tying record)
- ☛ On 7<sup>th</sup>, DCA records 105°F, 1 degree short of all-time high; 104°F at BWI on 7<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, only 2<sup>nd</sup> such occurrence
- ☛ DCA measured 4 consecutive days at or above 100°F (5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>), all-time record
- ☛ Washington equaled record of 16 days with highs at or above 95°F, Baltimore set record at 13 such days
- ☛ Subnormal precipitation at DCA and BWI for 7<sup>th</sup> consecutive month; at IAD, 6<sup>th</sup> out of past 7 months drier than normal
- ☛ On the 8<sup>th</sup>, seven people were injured near Fredericksburg, (Spotsylvania County), VA, when a microburst tore a roof off a gym and a wall collapsed. Torrential rainfall was recorded across northern Maryland including 3.58" in Mt. Airy (Carroll County) and 3.29" in Clarksburg (Montgomery County)
- ☛ On the 10<sup>th</sup>, slow moving thunderstorms in Northern Virginia resulted in heavy rainfall: 2.84" in McLean, high water over Dulles Toll Road (Fairfax County), and 2.76" in DC with high water in Bloomingdale section near R.I. Avenue
- ☛ On the 15<sup>th</sup>, a waterspout moved onshore along Windy Lane near Coltons Point (St. Mary's County), MD. Some property damage was reported consistent with EF-0 winds up to 75 mph
- ☛ On the 18<sup>th</sup>, thunderstorm winds downed large trees in the Chevy Chase section of DC, while ¾" hail struck near Rockville, (Montgomery County), MD; heavy rains flooded roads in Bladensburg, (Prince Georges County), MD
- ☛ Torrential rainfall occurred in some locations on 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>; in Maryland, 4.67" near Jacksonville (Baltimore County), 4.53" in Frederick, 3.51" near Takoma Park. In Virginia, 3.17" in Haywood, VA (Madison County)

## July 2012

**Temperatures:** For the third consecutive July, excessively hot conditions prevailed across the area. Positive departures were +4.2°F at DCA; +4.4°F, BWI; +3.9°F, IAD, resulting in the 2<sup>nd</sup> warmest month on record, topped only by July 2011 in Washington and at IAD. The average July temperature at DCA was 84.0°F (84.5°F in July 2011) and 80.6°F at IAD (81.0°F in July 2011); Baltimore's average temperature of 81.4°F, tied the 5<sup>th</sup> hottest month of all time. Maximum readings were at or above 100°F on 7 days, most ever in any month, including 4 consecutive days (5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>), first such occurrence in Washington. Near all-time record heat occurred on 7<sup>th</sup> when DCA marked 105°F (one degree shy of equaling all-time high). On July 7, DCA recorded its warmest average daily temperature, 94°F. BWI also peaked at 104°F twice during the month (7<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>), only the second such occurrence in Baltimore on record. The heat was persistent: DCA set a record with 11 consecutive days at or above 95°F (June 28-July 8) and 16 days at or above 95°F, equaling August 1980 for most on record. Minimum readings were consistently above normal. DCA recorded only 1 day with a minimum below 70°F and 3 consecutive days (5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>) with minimums at or above 80°F.

In sharp contrast, record cool conditions prevailed on the 21<sup>st</sup> when all three major airports observed their coolest maximum readings on record (71°F DCA, and 69°F at BWI and IAD).

**Precipitation:** Subnormal precipitation was observed at the three major airports: DCA, 2.81" (-0.92"); BWI, 3.27" (-0.80"); IAD, 2.43" (-1.24"). July marked the 7<sup>th</sup> consecutive month with subnormal precipitation at DCA and BWI and 6<sup>th</sup> out past 7 months below normal at IAD. These numbers marked the first occurrence for subnormal precipitation in Washington for each of the first 7 months of a calendar year. Rainfall totals varied widely due to scattered showers and thunderstorms.

Strong to severe thunderstorms was prevalent throughout the month. In the early morning hours on the 2<sup>nd</sup> in Maryland ¾" hail struck Damascus (Montgomery County) with winds gusting to 60 mph near Patuxent River (St. Mary's County). The following day in Virginia, large limbs were downed by thunderstorm winds near Pabonian Springs (Loudoun County) and ¾" hail struck Afton (Nelson County). Then on the 4<sup>th</sup> in Virginia, 1" hail was measured near Crozet (Albemarle County). In the early morning of the 5<sup>th</sup>, winds gusted to 68 mph near Quantico (Prince William County). Later on the 5<sup>th</sup> in Maryland, trees were down from thunderstorm winds near Glencoe, and 1.68" rain was reported in Jacksonville (Baltimore County).

More stormy weather occurred on the 8<sup>th</sup>, causing injuries to seven people near Fredericksburg (Spotsylvania County) when a microburst tore a roof off a gym and a wall collapsed. Torrential rainfall was recorded across northern Maryland: 3.58" in Mt. Airy (Carroll County), and 3.29" in Clarksburg (Montgomery County).

On the 10<sup>th</sup>, slow moving thunderstorms in Northern Virginia resulted in heavy rainfall, 2.84" in McLean, and high water over the Dulles Toll Road (Fairfax County); DC measured 2.76", causing high water in the Bloomingdale section of the city near Rhode Island Avenue.

On the 15<sup>th</sup>, a waterspout moved onshore along Windy Lane near Coltons Point (St. Mary's County), MD. Property damage was reported consistent with EF-0 tornado winds up to 75 mph.

The region encountered another stormy period from the 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> when numerous heavy showers, thunderstorms and severe weather returned. On the 18<sup>th</sup>, large trees were downed by thunderstorm winds in the Chevy Chase section of DC, while ¾" hail struck near Rockville, (Montgomery County), MD. Meanwhile, heavy rains flooded roads in Bladensburg, (Prince Georges County), MD. Total rainfall in Maryland from the 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> included 4.67" near Jacksonville (Baltimore County) , 4.53" in Frederick, 3.51" near Takoma Park, and 3.17" in Haywood, (Madison County), VA.

More isolated activity occurred toward month's end. Thunderstorm winds knocked trees down near Cockeysville, (Baltimore County), MD, on the 26<sup>th</sup>; 60 mph wind gusts were reported near Morningside, (Prince Georges County), MD, on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 1.25" hail struck near Jeffersonton, (Culpeper County), VA, on final day of July.

### July 2012 Weather Statistics for the Washington/Baltimore Area

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)			Extreme/Day				Precipitation (Inches)			
	AvMx	AvMn	AvgT	NmlT	DepNml	Max	MinT	Total	Nml	DepNml	Yr to Date
National (DCA)	93.1	74.9	84.0	79.8	4.2	105/7	67/21	2.81	3.73	-0.92	15.93
Baltimore (BWI)	91.7	71.2	81.4	77.0	4.4	104/7,18	64/12,21	3.27	4.07	-0.80	16.65
Dulles (IAD)	91.4	69.8	80.6	76.7	3.9	101/8,18	63/12	2.43	3.67	-1.24	17.03

**Looking Ahead to August:** After a hot June and the second hottest July on record, what does August hold? Below are the hottest 10 summers in Washington as well as 2011 numbers for June and July.

Hottest Average Summer Temperatures at DCA: June, July, August										
Year	2012	2011	2010	1980	1991	2002	1993	1987	1983	1995
Temperature	80.1*	79.9	81.2	80.0°F	79.4°F	79.4°F	79.3°F	79.2°F	79.1°F	79.1°F

\*Average temperature for June and July 2012