

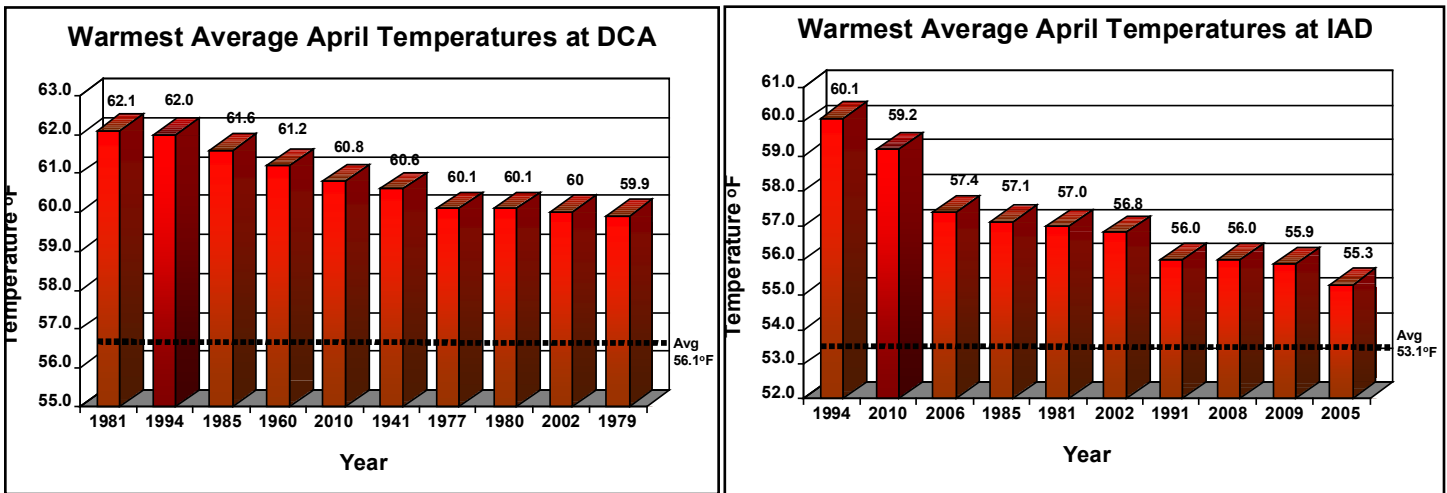


PRESTO

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



APRIL 2010: Fifth Warmest in Washington; Second Warmest at IAD



April Highlights

- Well above normal temperatures across the area: +4.7°F at DCA, +3.9°F at BWI, and +6.1°F at IAD
- Fifth April in last 6 years with above normal temperatures at all three major airports
- Record high temperatures at IAD on 5th-7th, and at BWI, on 6th-7th, when many locations recorded their first 90°F or greater readings of the year, including 93°F at IAD on the 6th; earliest on record at IAD, tied for 2nd earliest at BWI and earliest in Washington since 1942
- Warmest monthly minimum temperatures for April recorded at DCA (41°F) since 1999, and at BWI (34°F) and IAD (32°F) since 1986
- Warmest first week (1st-7th) on record at three major airports
- Below normal rainfall across most locations with 1.29" at IAD, driest since 1985; at DCA, driest since 1991; BWI, driest since 2001
- Severe thunderstorms hit portions of Washington on the 8th, knocking down a large tree near the U.S. Capital; wind gusts measured up to 59 mph at DCA
- Significant hail event on 25th with hail measuring up to 1.75" in Burkittsville, (Frederick County), and near Damascus, MD (Montgomery County); 1.50" hail observed near Lovettsville, VA (Loudoun County)
- Heavy downpours from thunderstorms on 25th produced more than 2 inches of rain in portions of Baltimore and Howard Counties in Maryland

April 2010

Temperature: April continued the well above normal temperatures observed in March. Washington recorded its 5th warmest April, BWI, its 6th warmest, and IAD its 2nd warmest. Positive departures were +4.7°F at DCA, +3.9°F at BWI, and +6.1°F at IAD. The 90°F readings were the earliest ever observed at IAD, tied for second earliest at BWI and earliest in season in Washington since 1942. Many locations, including the three major airports, also recorded their first 90°F or greater readings on the 6th and 7th. The 90°F readings were the earliest ever observed at BWI and IAD. Record highs were set at BWI on the 5th and 6th at BWI when maximum readings reached 84°F and 90°F and from the 5th-7th at IAD when highs of 86°F, 93°F and 91°F were measured. Maximum readings were also quite warm on the 16th and 30th when temperatures soared into the 80s across the area.

Minimum readings were also well above normal: DCA's lowest temperature of 41°F was its highest April monthly minimum since 1999. BWI's and IAD's minimums of 34°F and 32°F were their warmest April minimums since 1986. Overnight lows on the 6th and 7th were in the mid 60s in many areas, more typical of average maximum readings.

Precipitation: Rainfall was well below normal across most locations with monthly negative departures of almost an inch at BWI to nearly 2" at IAD. Monthly totals were 1.50" at DCA (-1.27"), 2.20" at BWI (-0.80"), and 1.29" at IAD (-1.93"). April was the driest since 1991 at DCA, 2001 at BWI and 1985 at IAD. None of the airports recorded an inch of rain on any calendar day, although BWI came close on the 25th with 0.99".

Reports of severe weather were frequent in April. On the 5th, isolated severe thunderstorms moved through Northern Virginia with 1" hail measured near White Oak in King George County and just southeast of Fredericksburg. Three days later, thunderstorm wind damage caused a large tree to fall near the U.S. Capital. Winds gusts were measured to 60 mph near South Gate, MD (Ann Arundel County) and near Falls Church, VA (Arlington County); 59 mph gusts were observed at DCA. Rainfall totaled 1.03" in Oxon Hill, MD (Prince Georges County).

Scattered thunderstorm wind damage struck portions of Northern Maryland on the 16th, when 60 mph wind gust were measured near Ladiesburg (Frederick County). Wind knocked down a large tree near Polar Springs (Howard County).

A widespread severe weather event occurred on the 25th with hail the primary impact. Hail was measured as large as 1.75" in Burkittsville, (Frederick County), and 1.50" near Damascus, MD (Montgomery County); 1" hail was observed near Lovettsville, VA (Loudoun County). Rainfall was heavy across Baltimore and portions of Howard County in Maryland. Totals included 2.18" in Towson (Baltimore County), and 2.12" in Ellicott City (Howard County).

The final severe weather event occurred on the 26th across the extreme parts of Southern Maryland and in isolated portions of Virginia. A water spout was observed 1 mile south of Cobb Island, MD, and 1" hail was measured in St. Mary's County, MD, and in Burr Hill, VA (Orange County). Heavy rainfall was noted in some locations, including 1.55" in Warrenton (Fauquier County), and 1.13" in Rixeyville (Culpeper County), VA.

APRIL 2010 WEATHER STATISTICS FOR THE WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE AREA

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (Inches)			
	AvMx	AvMn	AvgT	NmIT	DepNml	Max	MinT	Total	Norm	DepNml	Yr to Date
National (DCA)	71.7	50.0	60.8	56.1	+4.7	90/6,7	41/18	1.50	2.77	-1.27	8.73
Baltimore (BWI)	69.7	44.6	57.1	53.2	+3.9	90/6,7	34/28	2.20	3.00	-0.80	13.12
Dulles (IAD)	72.6	45.9	59.2	53.1	+6.1	93/6	32/18	1.29	3.22	-1.93	11.29

Looking Ahead to May: The first 2 months of climatological spring featured well above normal temperatures. Will the season conclude as warm? Listed below are the most recent 10 years when DCA recorded above normal temperatures in March and April and the subsequent May temperatures. Average May temperature for DCA is 65.6°F.

Last 10 Years with Above Average Monthly Temperature at DCA										
Year	2010	2008	2006	2004	2002	1998	1995	1991	1990	1986
March	51.2	49.0	47.9	48.8	47.7	46.9	49.2	48.8	50.2	47.4
April	60.8	58.9	59.5	57.4	60.0	57.4	56.3	58.2	56.8	56.2
May	?	64.7	65.1	71.8	65.2	67.5	65.8	73.0	64.3	68.1