

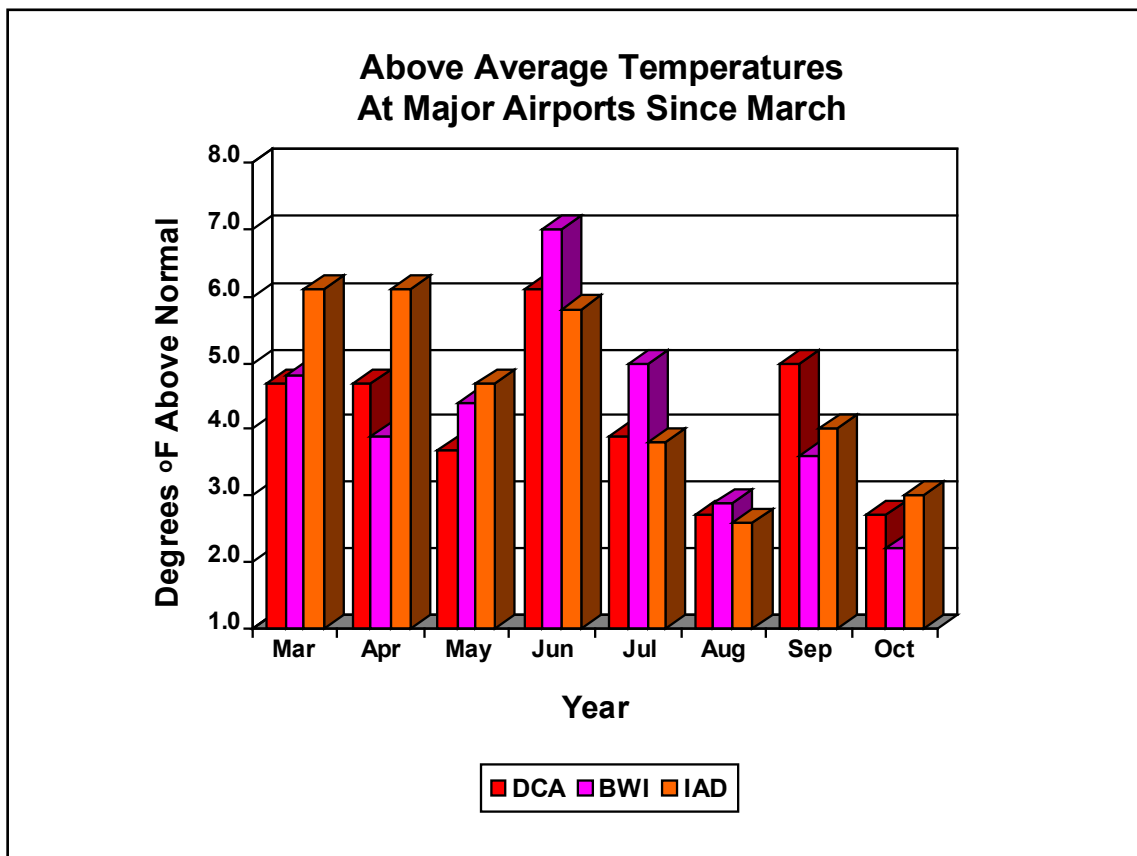


# PRESTO

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



## October: Another Warm Month; Near Normal Rainfall



### October Highlights

- ☁ For the 8th consecutive month, above normal temperatures across area: +2.7°F at DCA, +2.2°F at BWI and +3.0°F at IAD
- ☁ Three days with highs at or above 80°F including 88°F at DCA on 11<sup>th</sup> and record 86°F at IAD
- ☁ 14 days with highs at or above 70°F at DCA
- ☁ First occurrence since 1995 with monthly minimum temperature at or above 35°F at BWI
- ☁ Second consecutive October (5<sup>th</sup> overall) with no freezing temperatures at IAD
- ☁ Nearly a 1 inch deficit for monthly rainfall at IAD (2.38")
- ☁ Three rainfall events (3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>; 14<sup>th</sup>; 27<sup>th</sup>) of about an inch across the region
- ☁ Hail to 0.88" and wind gusts to about 60 mph impact portions of Ann Arundel County on the 11<sup>th</sup>

## October 2010

**Temperature:** Above normal temperatures were observed across the region. Positive departures were +2.7°F at DCA, +2.2°F at BWI and +3.0°F at IAD. On 3 days (9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>), highs soared above 80°F including a summer-like 88°F at DCA on the 11<sup>th</sup> and a record high of 86°F at IAD. On the next day, the 12<sup>th</sup>, IAD tied another record high, 83°F. A warm and humid air mass during the final week of the month resulted in record high minimum readings at the three major airports. On the 28<sup>th</sup>, the airports each set new records: DCA, 68°F; BWI, 67°F; IAD, 65°F. The previous day, records were equaled at DCA (63°F), BWI (62°F) and set at IAD (61°F).

In sharp contrast, highs held in the chilly 50s on 5 days at BWI, 4 days at IAD and 3 days at DCA. Record low minimum temperatures were tied on the 4<sup>th</sup> at BWI (54°F) and at IAD (56°F). Although some locations reported frost or freezing temperatures on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and the 30<sup>th</sup>, the three major airports remained above freezing. DCA's minimum was 40°F on the 30<sup>th</sup> and BWI's minimum of 35°F was its warmest monthly minimum reading since 1995. IAD's minimum was 33°F, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Precipitation:** Rainfall was near to below normal across the Washington/Baltimore area. Monthly totals were 3.40" (+0.18") at DCA; 2.95" (-0.21") at BWI and 2.38" (-0.99") at IAD. The majority of the monthly rainfall occurred during three events.

The first storm system impacted the area during the evening of the 3<sup>rd</sup> until about midday on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Rainfall totals were generally between 0.75" and an inch across the area.

Then on the 14<sup>th</sup>, rainfall totaled about an inch with some locations receiving greater amounts, including 1.72" in Woodbridge (Prince William County); 1.59" in Mount Vernon (Fairfax), VA; 1.45" in Camp Springs (Prince Georges County), MD, and 1.26" at DCA. Several trees were downed from strong thunderstorms near Clements (St. Mary's County), MD.

The months' final significant rainfall occurred on the 27<sup>th</sup> when some locations again recording more than 1 inch. The greatest totals included 1.46" in Gaithersburg (Montgomery County); 1.32" in Riviera Beach (Anne Arundel County), MD, and 1.27" at DCA. Flash flooding was reported near Ilda (Fairfax County), VA, and a water spout was observed off Rock Point, MD.

Portions of Ann Arundel County observed severe weather on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Hail up to 0.88" struck Gibson Island while thunderstorm winds gusted to about 60 mph in Indian Village.

### OCTOBER 2010 WEATHER STATISTICS FOR THE WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE AREA

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (Inches)			
	AvMx	AvMn	AvgT	NmlT	DepNml	Max	MinT	Total	Norm	DepNml	Yr to Date
<b>National (DCA)</b>	70.3	52.8	61.5	58.8	+2.7	88/11	40/30	3.40	3.22	+0.18	30.78
<b>Baltimore (BWI)</b>	68.4	46.9	57.6	55.4	+2.2	85/11	35/23,30	2.95	3.16	-0.21	39.47
<b>Dulles (IAD)</b>	69.0	47.0	58.0	55.0	+3.0	86/11	33/23,30	2.38	3.37	-0.99	35.13

**Looking Ahead to November:** Cooler days turns interest to when the metro area will receive the first inch or greater snowfall this winter season. In the last 10 years, the first snow has fallen anywhere from early December to late January. The earliest snow (>1") in Washington, D.C., fell on October 30, 1925, (2.2") and October 20, 1940, (1.4"). The earliest measurable snow ever recorded at DCA fell on October 10, 1979, (0.3"). DCA recorded less than 1" of snowfall during the 1997-98 and 1972-73 seasons. December 5, 2009, marked the third occurrence in the past 5 years and fifth such occurrence in the past 8 years for the first inch measured at DCA

#### Snow Season First 1" (or greater) Snowfall at DCA

2009-2010	December 18
2008-2009	January 27
2007-2008	December 5
2006-2007	January 21
2005-2006	December 5

#### Snow Season First 1" (or greater) Snowfall at DCA

2004-2005	January 19
2003-2004	December 4
2002-2003	December 5
2001-2002	January 19
2000-2001	December 19