

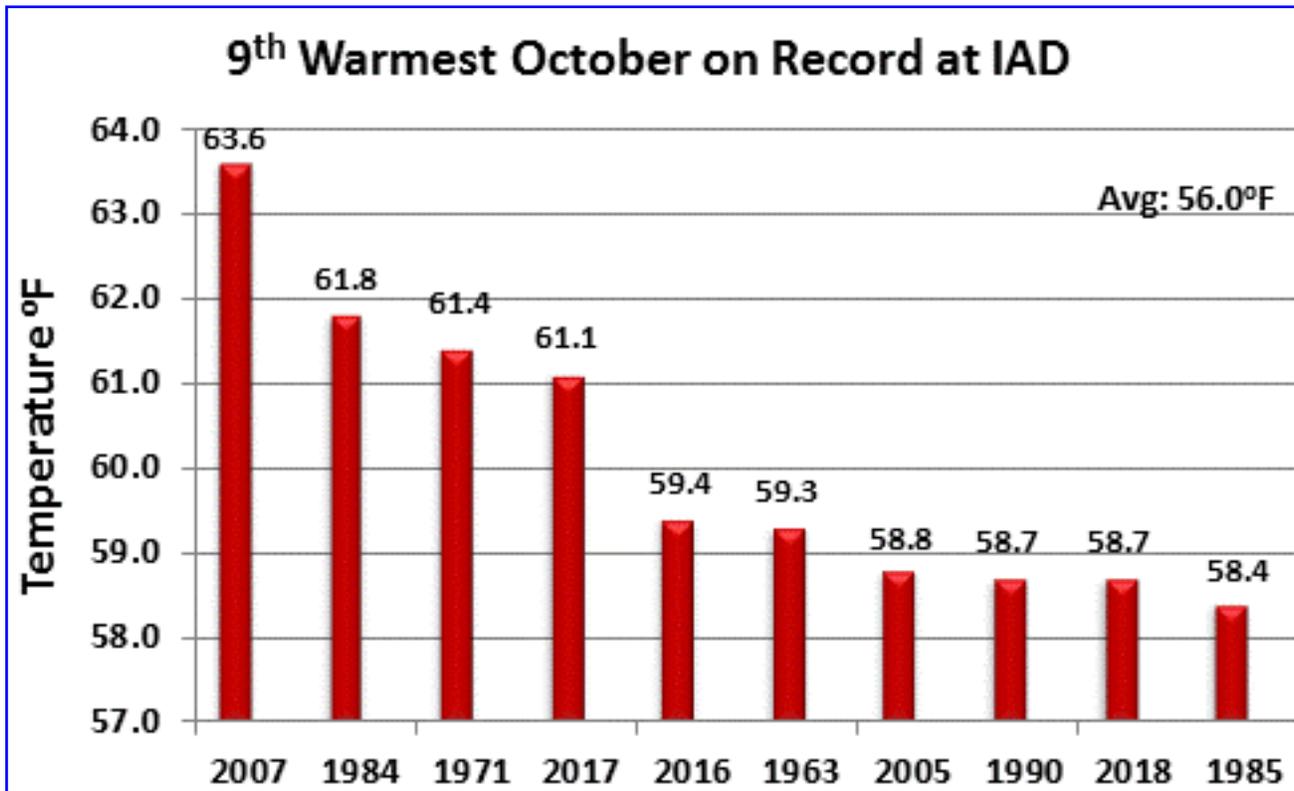


PRESTO

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



OCTOBER 2018: Very Warm Start then Chilly Finish; Driest Month Since March



October Highlights

- ✦ The area marked well above normal readings: +3.1°F at DCA, +3.2°F at BWI and + 2.7°F at IAD.
- ✦ DCA's maximum temperature of 90°F on the 4th was its first October reading this hot since 2013
- ✦ From the 1st through the 11th, DCA also recorded 8 days at or above 80°F while BWI and IAD reported 9 such days; IAD equaling a calendar day record of 86°F on the 3rd.
- ✦ From the 12th through month's end, the area observed subnormal readings: IAD recorded 10 days with maximum readings in the 50s and 1 day (26th) with a maximum of 48°F, equaling a record low for the day. BWI recorded 8 days with high temperatures in the 50s and 1 day, also the 26th, reaching just 49°F. DCA reported 7 days in the 50s between the 18th and 27th.
- ✦ The three major airports recorded subnormal precipitation for the first time since March: 3.06" (-0.34") at DCA, 2.69" (-0.64") at BWI and 2.68" (-0.57") at IAD
- ✦ On the 11th remnants from Hurricane Michael brought heavy rain across the area. Totals in Maryland included 7.39" near Accokeek (Charles County), 6.86" near Ridge (St. Mary's County) and 5.76" near Londontowne (Ann Arundel County). In Virginia, high totals included 8.40" at the Montebello Fish Culture (Nelson County); 6.50" in Jersey (King George County) and 4.62" in Spotsylvania Courthouse (Spotsylvania County). The metro areas were drenched with 1.5"-4.0". Multiple vehicles were stranded in water at least knee high in St. Charles (Charles County), MD, and strong winds blew down 10-15 trees, one on a house, in southern St. Mary's County.

October 2018

Temperatures: An exceptionally warm start resulted in well above normal readings: DCA, +3.1°F; BWI, 3.2°F; and IAD +2.7°F. IAD recorded its 9th warmest October on record (see cover graphic), Baltimore marked its 11th all-time warmest October and in Washington, it was the 16th all-time warmest. Maximum temperatures more typical of late August were prevalent the majority of the first 11 days. DCA surged to 90°F on the 4th, its first October reading this hot since 2013. During this period, DCA recorded an additional 8 days at or above 80°F while BWI and IAD reported 9 such days; IAD equaling a calendar day record 86°F on the 3rd. Minimum readings equaled or broke new records on several dates. DCA's minimum of 73°F on the 10th and 70°F on the 11th were new records; a 71°F reading on the 7th equaled the calendar day mark. BWI's minimum of 69°F equaled a record on the 10th and set a record the following day. IAD's minimum of 69°F equaled a record on the 9th and set a record the following day.

Then from the 12th through month's end, the area shifted to subnormal readings. IAD recorded 10 days with maximum readings in the 50s, more typical of mid-to-late November, and 1 day (26th) with a maximum of 48°F, equaling a record low for the day. BWI recorded 8 days with high temperatures in the 50s and 1 day, also the 26th, reaching only 49°F. DCA reported 7 days in the 50s between the 18th and 27th. Suburban locations, including BWI and IAD, marked the season's first freeze on the 22nd when minimum readings reached 32°F at BWI and 29°F at IAD.

Precipitation: For the first time since March, the three major airports recorded subnormal precipitation: DCA, 3.06" (-0.34"); BWI, 2.69" (-0.64"); and IAD, 2.68" (-0.57"). Despite the below normal totals, there were three notable rainfall events. The month's first significant event occurred in Maryland during the evening of the 4th when an intense line of thunderstorms resulted in heavy rainfall, including 1.48" near Columbia and 1.15" near Sykesville in Howard County.

On the 11th, the entire area was impacted with a soaking rain when the remnants from Hurricane Michael moved through. Rainfall totals were greatest south and east of Washington and Baltimore. Highest amounts in Maryland included 7.39" near Accokeek (Charles County), 6.86" near Ridge (St. Mary's County) and 5.76" near Londontowne (Ann Arundel County). In Virginia, greatest totals included 8.40" at the Montebello Fish Culture (Nelson County); 6.50" in Jersey (King George County) and 4.62" in Spotsylvania Courthouse (Spotsylvania County). The immediate metro area generally was drenched with between 1.5"-4.0". Multiple vehicles were stranded in water at least knee high in St. Charles (Charles County), MD, and strong winds blew down 10-15 trees, one of a house, in southern St. Mary's County.

The month's final soaker occurred from the 26th-27th when more than an inch of rainfall was reported across the region. The greatest amount in Maryland was 2.34" measured near Eagle Harbor (Calvert County); in Virginia, 2.03" was observed at Big Meadows (Madison County).

The month also featured strong to damaging winds on the 21st. Peak gusts reached 49 mph at Patuxent River Naval Air Station in St. Mary's County and 46 mph at Quantico Marine Corps (Prince William County), VA. The strong winds took down trees and wires near Fallston (Harford County) and a tree fell onto a wire causing a fire near Four Corners (Montgomery County), MD. In Virginia, damaging winds knocked down a tree in New Market (Shenandoah County).

October 2018 Weather Statistics for the Washington/Baltimore Area

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (inches)			
	AvMx	AvMin	AvgT	NmIT	DepNml	Max	Min	Total	Nml	DepNml	Yr to Date
National (DCA)	70.0	55.1	62.6	59.5	+3.1	90/4	38/22	3.06	3.40	-0.34	52.89
Baltimore (BWI)	68.3	50.3	59.3	56.1	+3.2	88/4	32/22,25	2.69	3.33	-0.64	57.14
Dulles (IAD)	68.1	49.4	58.7	56.0	+2.7	89/4	29/22	2.68	3.25	-0.57	53.30

Looking Ahead to November: The first inch or greater snowfall at DCA during the 2017-18 snow season occurred on December 9 (1.5"). Listed below are the dates when the first inch or more of snow was measured at DCA in the last 10 years.

First Inch of Snow at DCA for Last 10 years			
2017-2018	December 9	2012-2013	March 25
2016-2017	January 30	2011-2012	Did Not Occur
2015-2016	January 22	2010-2011	December 16
2014-2015	January 6	2009-2010	December 18
2013-2014	January 2	2008-2009	January 27