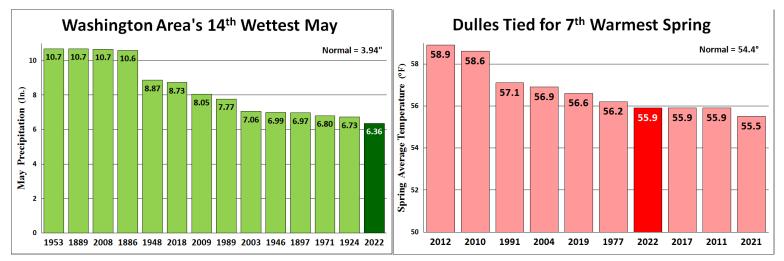






MAY 2022: Mild, Often Rainy; 27th: 2 Tornadoes in MD SPRING: Warm, Near to Above Normal Precipitation



May Highlights

- Slightly above normal **temperatures**: DCA 67.8°F (+0.6°F); BWI 66.6°F (+2.2°F); IAD 65.8°F (+1.8°F)
- ⁵ 6th-8th: Unusually chilly, temperatures holding in the 40s to 50s; **9th:** DCA's 43°F = 2nd lowest May minimum since 2013
- 20th-22nd: Unseasonably warm; **21st**: Most locations record 1st 90F+, record high minimums at DCA (73°F), IAD (67°F)
- Frequent and copious precipitation: DCA 6.36" (+2.42"); BWI 5.39" (+1.54"); IAD 6.85" (+2.13"), IAD's 10th wettest
- 🕏 6th-8th: Soaking rains total **4.79"** north of Thurmont (Frederick Co.), MD, and generally **1.50-3.50**" elsewhere
- 👎 16th: Over a dozen reports of large hail from the DC metro and eastward, with **2.25-3.00"** hail in Calvert Co., MD
- 22nd: Widespread t-storm wind damage in DC metro and MD/VA Piedmont; severe gusts at DCA, IAD (59, 58 mph); locally intense rains, including 3.09" in Clarksburg (Montgomery Co.), MD
- 27th: Squall lines hit MD: 2 tornadoes midday brief EFO in Olney (Montgomery Co.) before evening EF1 tracked 4 miles through St. Mary's and Charles Co's; wind damage from gusts up to 65 mph in Anne Arundel and Calvert Co's

Spring Seasonal Highlights

- S Warm March and May led above normal **temperatures**: DCA 58.4°F (+0.7°F); BWI 56.4°F (+1.8°F); IAD 55.9°F (+1.5°F)
- Wet May led near-slightly above normal precipitation: DCA 12.95" (+2.25"); BWI 12.44" (+1.13"); IAD 11.02" (-0.70")
- \$ 3/6: Record highs of 78°F at BWI, IAD, also record high minimum at IAD (50°F); 3/7: record highs DCA (80°F), BWI (79°F), IAD (77°F); 3/19: IAD record high (77°F), DCA and IAD both set record high minimum of 57°F
- 🕈 3/12: 3-5" snowfall N & W of the metros with ~1" or less near DC/Baltimore and S&E; windy, blowing snow
- 🕈 3/31: Severe thunderstorms with two EF-0 tornadoes in Fairfax County, VA: Centreville and Tysons Corner
- 4/18: Late-season Nor'Easter brings up to 1-2" rain (near Chesapeake Bay); moderate snow to Allegheny Mtns, IAD's observed snow on 4/18 & 4/19 was the latest for consecutive days since records began in 1963.
- **\$** 4/29: Record low of **32**°F at BWI marks the 3rd-latest freeze ever recorded for the Baltimore Area

May & Spring Season 2022

May Temperatures: The 7th-9th's anomalous chill was offset by sporadic unseasonable heat on the $20^{th}-22^{nd}$ and $30^{th}-31^{st}$, while several slightly-above-normal days, mainly mid-month, led the mild trend: DCA 67.8°F (+0.6); BWI 66.6°F (+2.2); IAD 65.8°F (+1.8). First 90°F days were hit at all 3 airports on the 21^{st} , with Dulles' 92° F tying the daily record. IAD reached record high maximum levels twice more - tying the $22^{nd}'s$ (91° F) and setting the $31^{st}'s$ (94° F).

May Precipitation and Severe Weather: May was a wet month with most areas observing well above normal precipitation. Rain was both frequent (measurable on 14-15 days) and plentiful (**1.00"+** on 2-3 days) at the 3 airports: DCA 6.36" (+2.42), BWI 5.39" (+1.54), IAD 6.85" (+2.13). This equated to Washington's 14th-wettest May in the 151-year record (see cover), and IAD's 10th wettest of 60 years. Rainier periods included the 3rd-8th, 12th-16th, and 22nd-27th. Meanwhile severe weather occurred within the region on 11 days, but isolated events were most common, with the vast majority of reports confined to the 16th, 20th, 22nd, and 27th (see highlights above). Strong storms on the overnight of the 3rd-4th brought as much as **1.85**" near Woolsey (Prince William Co.), VA. 24-hour reports through dawn on the 7th included **3.97**" north of Thurmont, MD, **2.44**" near Clarks Corner (Fauquier Co.), VA, **2.18**" near Martinsburg (Berkeley Co.), WV, and **2.08**" in Friendship Heights (Northwest), DC. Reported 5-day totals for the 3rd-7th were generally 2-4", with greatest observations **5.80**" north of Thurmont and **5.66**" east of Front Royal (Warren Co.), VA.

May 12th-16th found the wet pattern continuing across the region. The greatest 1-day rainfall reports for each day were...13th: **1.70**" near Hollymead (Albemarle Co.), VA; 14th: **2.99**" south of Great Mills (St. Mary's Co.), MD; and 15th: **2.89**" in Bryantown (Charles Co.), MD. On the 16th, more modest rains accompanied severe storms, which downed multiple trees in Fairfax Co., VA. Reported 5-day totals for this next rainy period included isolated 3-4" amid many readings near 1".

A third wet period began with the 22nd's t-storms also bringing **2.88**" near North Beach (Calvert Co.), MD and **2.63**" to Friendship Heights. Reports for the 23rd's daytime-overnight rainfall were as great as **1.43**" near Charlottesville, VA. Locally intense storms on the 27th measured **2.42**" in Berrysville (Clarke Co.), VA, while several sites observed near **2**" across southern MD and Harford Co, MD. The Olney, MD **EFO** produced estimated peak winds of **80 mph** with a max width of 125 yards while tracking 0.25 miles, the **EF1** that tracked from Charlotte Hall (St. Mary's Co.) to Benedict (Charles Co.) was estimated at **90 mph**, 100 yards, 4.16 miles. The 27th's straight-line wind damage was most notable from near Fredericksburg, VA through southern MD. Total rain reports of 1-3" were common for this 6-day (22nd-27th) period, while **5.17**" near North Beach, MD and **3.51**" in Wolf Trap (Fairfax Co.), VA were the greatest. Monthly totals were well represented by the 3 airports, while patches of 7-9" were isolated and spatially modest.

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	St	ation Te	mperat	ures (°I		Extrem	ne/Day	Precipitation (inches)					
Location	Av Max	Av Min	Avg T	Nml T	∆Nml	Max	Min	Total	I NmI P ΔNmI Year		Year To Date		
National (DCA)	76.4	59.1	67.8	67.2	+0.6	96/31	43/9	6.36	3.94	+2.42	18.96		
Baltimore (BWI)	76.6	56.5	66.6	64.4	+2.2	96/31	39/9	5.39	3.85	+1.54	19.02		
Dulles (IAD)	75.9	55.6	65.8	64.0	+1.8	94/31	37/9	6.85	4.72	+2.13	17.22		

May 2022 Weather Statistics for the Washington/Baltimore Area

Spring (Mar-May) Temperatures: A very warm March and mild May drove seasonal averages above normal: DCA 58.4°F (+0.7°F); BWI 56.4°F (+1.8°F); IAD 55.9°F (+1.5°F). A cool April brought 18 days below normal at DCA. Washington also observed the normal number of lows at or below 32°F (8 days) as well as highs at or above 90°F (2 days).

Spring (Mar-May) Precipitation and Severe Weather: A dry March and locally dry April were offset by substantial rains in May, with resultant seasonal totals near to slightly above normal: DCA 12.95" (+2.25"); BWI 12.44" (+1.13"); IAD 11.02" (-0.70"). These values ranged from 94% of normal at Dulles to 121% of normal at DCA.

March saw eight blustery days where all 3 airports recorded peak wind gusts over 40 mph. Ample rains over April 5th-7th totaled 1.50-2.50" for most locations. April 26th brought the month's only severe weather, mainly to Augusta County, VA: an **EF1 tornado** tracked from Fishersville to Waynesboro, hail reported as large as 1.50", and a measured **74 mph** wind gust.

Spring 2022 Weather Statistics for the Washington/Baltimore Area

	S	tation Te	emperat	ures (°F)	Extrem	ne/Day	Precipitation (inches)					
Location	Av Max	Av Min	Avg T	Nml T	ΔNml	Max	Min	Total Nml P		∆Nml	Snow	∆Nml	
National (DCA)	67.8	48.9	58.4	57.7	+0.7	96/5-31	21/3-13	12.95	10.70	+2.25	0.9	-2.4	
Baltimore (BWI)	67.1	45.6	56.4	54.6	+1.8	96/5-31	20/3-13	12.44	11.31	+1.13	0.4	-1.1	
Dulles (IAD)	67.0	44.6	55.9	54.4	+1.5	94/5-31	19/3-13	11.02	11.72	-0.70	3.5	-0.5	

Looking Ahead: Will June follow May's warm and wet pattern? The last eight Mays that were both warmer and wetter in Washington than current normals were most often followed by rather cool Junes with modest rainfall.

DCA	1936		1953		1975		1982		1985		2014		2018		2019		2022	
DCA	MAY	JUNE	MAY	JUNE	MAY	JUNE	MAY	JUNE	MAY	JUNE	MAY	JUNE	MAY	JUNE	MAY	JUNE	MAY	JUNE
AV TEMP	67.4°	72.8°	70.0°	74.6°	69.7°	76.3°	69.0°	72.8°	68.1°	72.3°	68.5°	77.2°	72.4°	76.2°	71.0°	76.4°	67.8°	??
PRECIP	5.32"	2.29"	10.69"	2.98"	4.71"	2.15"	5.11"	5.41"	5.79"	2.05"	4.96"	3.31"	8.73"	5.21"	4.97"	4.27"	6.36"	??
	DCA 1991 - 2020 Normal Monthly Temperatures (°F), Precipitation (In.): MAY (67.2°, 3.94") JUNE (76.3°, 4.20")																	