

JUNE 2001: The first month of meteorological summer featured above-normal precipitation and near-normal temperatures across the Washington/Baltimore area. Monthly precipitation totals exceeding four inches were common across most of the local area (DCA 4.69"; IAD 4.77"), including portions of Loudoun County, VA and Montgomery County, MD where monthly rainfall totals topped 5 inches. IAD recorded its wettest June since 1996. Four rain events (1st, 6th-7th, 15-16th and 22nd-23rd) accounted for most of the monthly precipitation totals across the Washington/Baltimore area. On the 1st, a steady rain developed around mid-day and lasted into the late-evening, yielding between 0.50" and 0.75" of rain at most locations. On the 6th-7th, a storm system generated a soaking rain across the local area, producing precipitation totals between 1 and 2 inches (DCA 1.09" and 1.87" at BWI) at most locations. On the 15th-16th, the remnants of Tropical Storm Allison generated showers and thunderstorms across the region and nearly 2 inches of rain at DCA (1.84") and about an inch at IAD (0.96"). The most intense thunderstorms occurred during the evening hours of the 22nd and early morning hours of the the 23rd. Severe thunderstorms lashed the area with copious rainfall and damaging winds. Torrential downpours produced as much as five inches of rain, resulting in flash flooding across portions of Prince William, Loudoun and Fairfax counties in Virginia and Montgomery, Howard, and Carroll counties in Maryland. In Prince William County, VA, a boy scout troop was rescued from rapidly rising flash flooding in Bull Run Park, according to press reports, Just to the north, up to four inches of rain was recorded in Leesburg, VA while 3.70" fell at the Baltimore/Washington National Weather Service Office in Sterling, VA. At IAD, a record daily rainfall total of 2.06" was observed on the 22nd. In addition, some of the storms packed wind gusts over 60 mph, toppling trees and downing power lines in some areas. Significant wind damage (mostly to trees) was reported in Arcola and Ashburn (Loudoun County), VA. Relatively tranquil conditions prevailed for the next several days. On the 30th, scattered thunderstorms affected some areas. Rainfall totals from these storms were generally less than 0.25" and no severe weather was reported.

Near-normal temperatures prevailed across most of the local area. DCA reported a monthly temperature departure of -0.4°F while both BWI and IAD recorded a monthly temperature departure of +1.5°F. There were 18 days with at or below normal temperatures at DCA, marking the fifth consecutive cooler than normal June at the airport. The coolest temperatures occurred on the first day of the month as clouds and rainfall kept highs below 70°F after a morning with lows in the forties at many suburban locations (45°F at BWI and 48°F at IAD). DCA recorded its first 90°F+ reading of the year on the 13th, but daily highs generally remained in the eighties most of the month. A brief period of hot and humid weather prevailed from the 27th-30th as all three major airports recorded highs at or above 90°F each day. During this four-day period, BWI recorded a high of 95°F on both the 28th and 30th and lows at DCA failed to drop below 70°F.

JUNE 2001 WEATHER STATISTICS FOR THE WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE AREA:

Station Location	Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (In)			
	AvMx	AvMn	AvgT	NmIT	DepNml	MaxT	MinT	Total	Norm	DepNml	Yr to date
National (DCA)	83.5	66.8	75.2	75.6	-0.4	92/28*	54/1	4.69	3.38	+1.31	18.04
Baltimore (BWI)	84.4	63.7	74.0	72.5	+1.5	95/28#	45/1	3.53	3.67	-0.14	20.10
Dulles (IAD)	83.0	61.9	72.5	71.0	+1.5	93/28	48/1	4.77	3.92	+0.85	21.01
Ft. Belvoir (DAA)	M	M	M	N/A	N/A	M	48/1	3.88	3.7	+0.2	20.46
Andrews AFB (ADW)	81.0	61.1	71.1	N/A	N/A	91/29	48/1	4.29	3.7	+0.6	21.97

Other Occurrences: * June 29th; # June 30th; M - denotes missing

LOOKING AHEAD TO JULY: *Above-normal July temperatures at DCA?*

Since 1995, a coincidental temperature pattern has occurred at DCA, with above-normal temperatures occurring on odd-numbered years and cooler than normal conditions observed on even-numbered years. The question arises, will 2001 produce a warmer than normal July at DCA and keep this coincidental temperature pattern going? Below is a list of the average July temperatures and associated monthly temperature departures for the last six years at DCA. [Normal July average temperature at DCA: 80.0°F]

Year	Average July Temperature (°F)	July Temperature Departure (°F)
1995	81.5	+1.5
1996	77.6	-2.4
1997	80.4	+0.4
1998	78.7	-1.3
1999	82.9	+2.9
2000	74.6	-5.4
2001	?	?