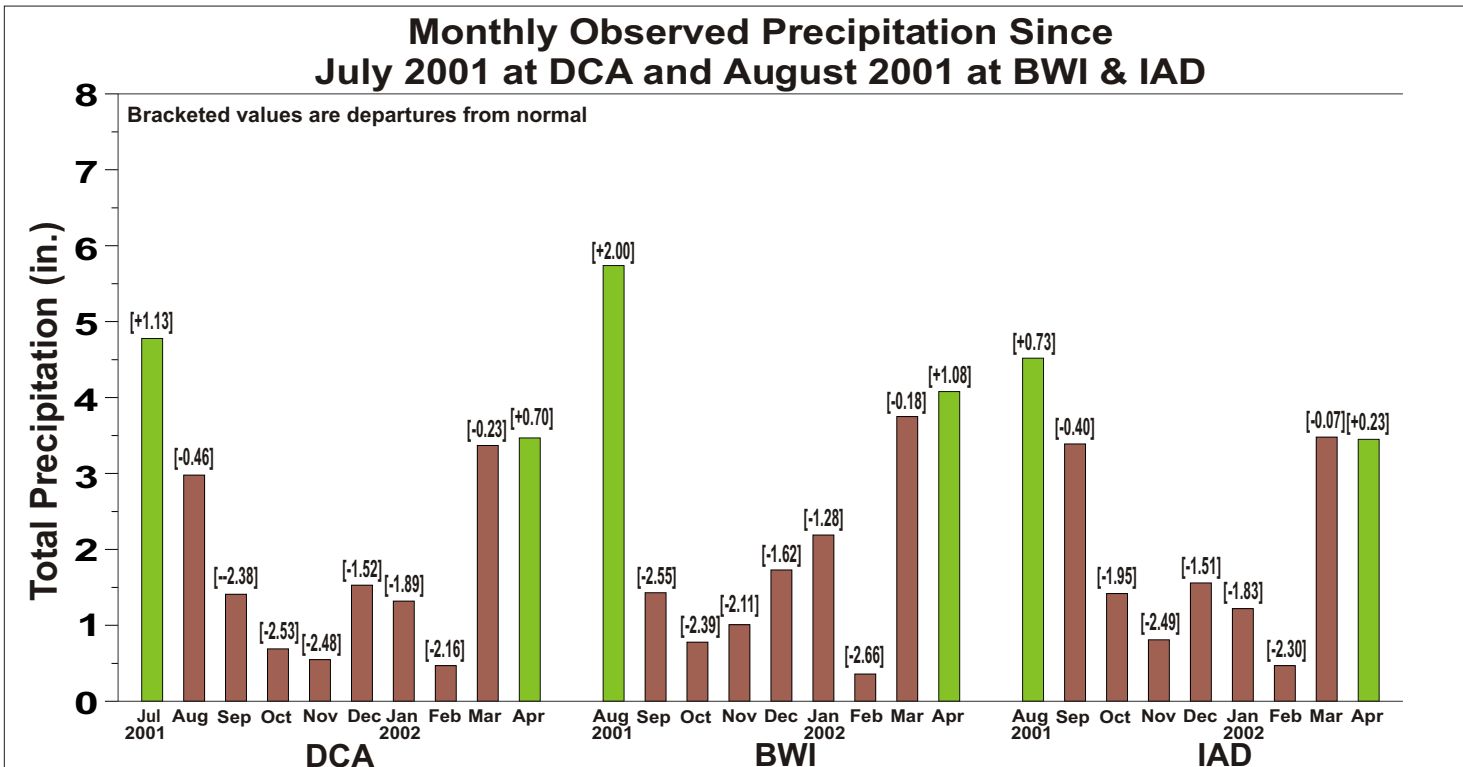


**PRECIPITATION SUMMARY AND TEMPERATURE OBSERVATIONS
FOR THE WASHINGTON, DC & BALTIMORE, MD AREA**

APRIL 2002

**FIRST WETTER THAN NORMAL MONTH AT MOST LOCATIONS
SINCE LATE LAST SUMMER; VERY STRONG TORNADO
OBSERVED IN SOUTHERN MARYLAND**



HIGHLIGHTS

- Above-normal temperatures and precipitation across the local area;
- 17 days with above normal temperatures at DCA;
- Warmest April at DCA (8th overall), BWI (8th overall) and IAD (4th overall) since 1994;
- First 90°F+ reading of the year on the 16th at all three major airports; Earliest such reading since 1977 at DCA;
- Mid-month heat wave from the 16th-19th with highs topping 90°F each day at some locations;
- Daily record highs on the 16th and 17th at both DCA (92°F & 95°F) & BWI (90°F & 93°F) and on the 16th, 17th and 19th at IAD (91°F, 93°F & 91°F);
- All-time highest April reading (95°F) tied at DCA and established at IAD (93°F) on the 17th;
- Most 90°F+ days (3) in April since 1976 at DCA;
- One day (7th) with a minimum temperature of 32°F or lower at DCA, 2 at BWI and 5 at IAD;
- First wetter than normal month since July 2001 at DCA, since August 2001 at both BWI and IAD (see graphic);
- 11 days with measurable precipitation at DCA, 10 at BWI and 12 at IAD;
- A very strong tornado (F4 - 207-260 mph winds) touched down in southern Maryland, causing more than \$100 million in damage, claimed 5 lives and injured more than 100 people in Charles and Calvert counties in Maryland, according to press reports;
- Precipitation deficits of more than 3 inches for the first four months of 2002;
- Pollen level exceeds 2500 grains/meter³ during mid-month heat wave.