

JUNE 2003: Persistent rain and unseasonably cool conditions prevalent in May continued through the first three weeks of June, resulting in the coolest and wettest June in Washington since 1972 (see cover). Monthly temperatures averaged between -1.5°F and -3.5°F below normal at the three major airports as unsettled or stormy conditions yielded daily maximum temperatures as much as 25°F below normal. On June 4th, rain and a chilly wind off the Atlantic limited highs to the 50s at many locations, readings more typical of early April. Maximum temperatures remained at or below 80°F on the first eight days of June and from the 15th-22nd. Even more notable were 7 days of highs at or below 70°F at IAD and 6 such days at BWI. Even during the few dry periods in the first three weeks, cooler than normal conditions prevailed across the area. On the 2nd, lows dropped into the 40s at many suburban locations. Two days after the summer solstice (21st), summer-like conditions enveloped the local area as highs soared at or above 90°F from the 24th-26th and again on the 30th at most locations. The high of 90°F on the 24th at DCA was the first 90°F+ reading of 2003 and the latest such reading in more than 20 years.

The nearly constant rainfall resulted in the 4th wettest June in Washington (3rd at both BWI and IAD). Nearly 8 inches of rain was recorded at DCA, while more than 8 inches was measured at IAD. Measurable precipitation (≥ 0.01 ") was observed on 16 days at DCA, 15 at BWI, and 18 at IAD. The entire region received well over an inch of precipitation from a soaking rain on the 7th, causing some localized flooding. Heavy thunderstorms on the 12th, 19th, and 20th resulted in more than an inch at many locations and again generated some local flooding. Even after several hot, dry days the last week of the month, June ended on a wet note as strong thunderstorms produced 0.51" of rain at DCA on the 30th. For the second consecutive month, IAD recorded a monthly precipitation total greater than 8 inches while DCA observed a second consecutive month with over 7 inches, and BWI more than 6 inches. The back-to-back wet month's yielded the 5th wettest May-June (14.93") on record at DCA. Some locations recorded monthly rainfall totals exceeding 10 inches. In sharp contrast to 2002, January-June 2003 precipitation totals (29.54") were more than double those for the same period last year (14.61").

JUNE 2003 WEATHER STATISTICS FOR THE WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE AREA:

Station Location	Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (In)			
	AvMx	AvMn	AvgT	NmlT	DepNml	MaxT	MinT	Total	Norm	DepNml	Yr to date
National (DCA)	79.0	63.6	71.3	74.5	-3.2	93/26	53/2	7.87	3.13	+4.74	29.54
Baltimore (BWI)	78.6	61.0	69.8	71.8	-2.0	93/26	45/2	6.96	3.43	+3.53	29.63
Dulles (IAD)	78.2	60.3	69.2	70.9	-1.7	91/26	45/2	8.34	4.07	+4.27	31.32
Andrews AFB (ADW)	78.5	62.0	70.3	N/A	N/A	91/25*	52/2	8.37	3.70	+4.70	31.46

Other Occurrences:* June 26th.

LOOKING AHEAD TO JULY: *Some noteworthy historical July statistics.*

With the first month of summer behind us, we now look ahead to July, climatologically the hottest month of the year in Washington. Below is a list of noteworthy July statistics for the Washington, D.C. area. (At DCA: Normal Average Temperature: 79.2°F; Normal Monthly Precipitation: 3.66".)

Temperature

- Hottest: 1993 (Avg. Temp: 83.1°F)
- Coolest: 1891 (Avg. Temp: 72.0°F)
- Most 90°F+ days: 24 (1987 & 1993)
- Fewest 90°F+ days: 0 (1891)
- Most 100°F+ days: 6 (1930)
- Longest consecutive period of 90°F days: 16 (July 3-18, 1993)
- Longest consecutive period of 100°F+ days: 4 (July 19-22, 1930)
- Record monthly high: 106°F (July 20, 1930)*
- Record monthly low: 52°F (July 4, 1919 & July 31, 1895)
- * All-time highest reading in Washington (tied w/ Aug. 6, 1918)

Precipitation

- Wettest: 1945 (Prec. Total: 11.06")
- Driest: 1872 (Prec. Total: 0.82')
- Record daily rainfall: 4.69" (July 9, 1970)