

June

Temperature: The first month of meteorological summer featured well above normal temperatures across the Washington/Baltimore area. Positive departures were +3.4°F at DCA, and +3.5°F at BWI and IAD. Washington recorded its 4th hottest June on record and its hottest since 1994 (see graphic). BWI recorded 9 days with highs at or above 90°F, DCA and IAD, 8 days. The heat came on intensely on the 7th as the region endured highs in the mid to upper 90s and the first 90°F degree reading of the season, including a record high of 98°F at DCA. The hot temperatures continued through the 10th with Washington recorded 95° or higher on 4 consecutive days, its first such occurrence since 1925. There were two fatalities from the heat wave, according to press reports. Washington recorded its most 90°F or greater days in June since 2002. Temperatures were above normal for most of the month. DCA recorded only 2 days with highs in the 70s and BWI and IAD, only 4 such days. Many nighttime readings were uncomfortably warm. Minimum readings were at or above 70°F on 13 days at DCA including a low of 77°F on the 9th.

Precipitation: The pattern of above normal precipitation continued in June at most locations including the three major airports. Monthly totals included 4.80" at DCA (+1.67"), 3.70" at BWI (+0.27"), and 4.21" at IAD (+0.14"). Most of the rainfall arrived with thunderstorms. Many areas reported strong to severe weather throughout the month. The most widespread outbreak arrived on the afternoon of June 4 when a rapidly moving line of strong to severe thunderstorms produced damaging wind gusts across the region causing more than 500,000 customers to lose power, according to press reports. A downed tree reportedly caused an auto fatality in Annandale, VA. In Stafford County, VA, an EF-1 tornado cut a path along the same location as the May 8 EF-2 tornado near Abel Reservoir in the England Run area. The tornado damage, confined mainly to trees, cut a path 1.5 miles long and 50 to 100 yards wide, with estimated wind speeds of 95 mph. Two additional EF-1 tornadoes also struck Virginia. The first, in Stevensburg, Stafford County, swept a 4 mile path about 150 yards wide. The second tornado in the Summerduck and Goldvein areas of southern Fauquier County stretched 8 miles and 100 yards wide. The tornadoes' estimated wind speeds were 95 mph; the primary impact was tree damage. DCA and IAD recorded thunderstorm wind gusts peaks of 59 mph and well over an inch of rain (1.63" at IAD, 1.49" at DCA). Winds peaked at 55 mph at BWI. Thunderstorm wind damage and large hail was widespread on the 7th and 10th. Storms on the 7th produced 58 mph gusts in Frederick County, MD, and 47 mph at BWI. Hail up to 1" was measured in Purcellville, VA, (Loudoun County) and near Hillandale, MD, (Prince Georges County). On the 10th, a 15 year old male was injured by lightning standing under a tree in Frederick County, VA. Winds gusted to 65 mph in north Frostburg, MD, (Allegany County) and 41 mph at DCA. Hail up to 1.75" was reported in Timonium, MD, (Baltimore County) and up to 1" hail pelted portions of Harford County, MD, and Loudoun County, VA. Another round of severe weather impacted many locations on the 16th. Ten injuries were reported on the National Mall when a large tent was damaged from strong thunderstorm winds. Peak gusts were measured at 63 mph in Alexandria, VA, and at Andrew AFB in Maryland. Additional severe reports included 1" hail near Dale City, VA, (Prince William County) on the 22nd and 1.25" hail near Ringgold, MD, (Washington County) on the 23rd. This 10 minute hailstorm covered the ground with an average depth of 1.4" with hundreds of acres of corn destroyed.

On the 13th smoke reduced visibility across the area as southerly winds blew in from fires in eastern North Carolina and from the Great Dismal Swamp in southeastern Virginia.

JUNE 2008 WEATHER STATISTICS FOR THE WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE AREA

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (Inches)			
	AvMx	AvMn	AvgT	NmlT	DepNml	MaxT	MinT	Total	Norm	DepNml	Year to Date
National (DCA)	87.3	68.5	77.9	74.5	+3.4	98/7	58/18	4.80	3.13	+1.67	28.72
Baltimore (BWI)	86.7	64.0	75.3	71.8	+3.5	96/10	52/18	3.70	3.43	+0.27	23.73
Dulles (IAD)	85.7	63.2	74.4	70.9	+3.5	95/10,7	53/18	4.21	4.07	+0.14	26.22

Looking Ahead to July: With a hot June behind us, what does mid-summer hold? Below are some noteworthy July statistics for Washington, D.C. At DCA: Normal Average Temperature: 79.2°F; Normal Monthly Precipitation: 3.66".

Temperature

Hottest: 1993 (Avg. Temp: 83.1°F)
Coollest: 1891 (Avg. Temp: 72.0°F)
Most 90°F+ days: 24 (1987 and 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)

Precipitation

Wettest: 1945 (Precipitation Total: 11.06")
Driest: 1872 (Precipitation Total: 0.82")
Record daily rainfall: 4.69" (July 9, 1970)

* All-time highest reading in Washington (tied with Aug. 6, 1918)