



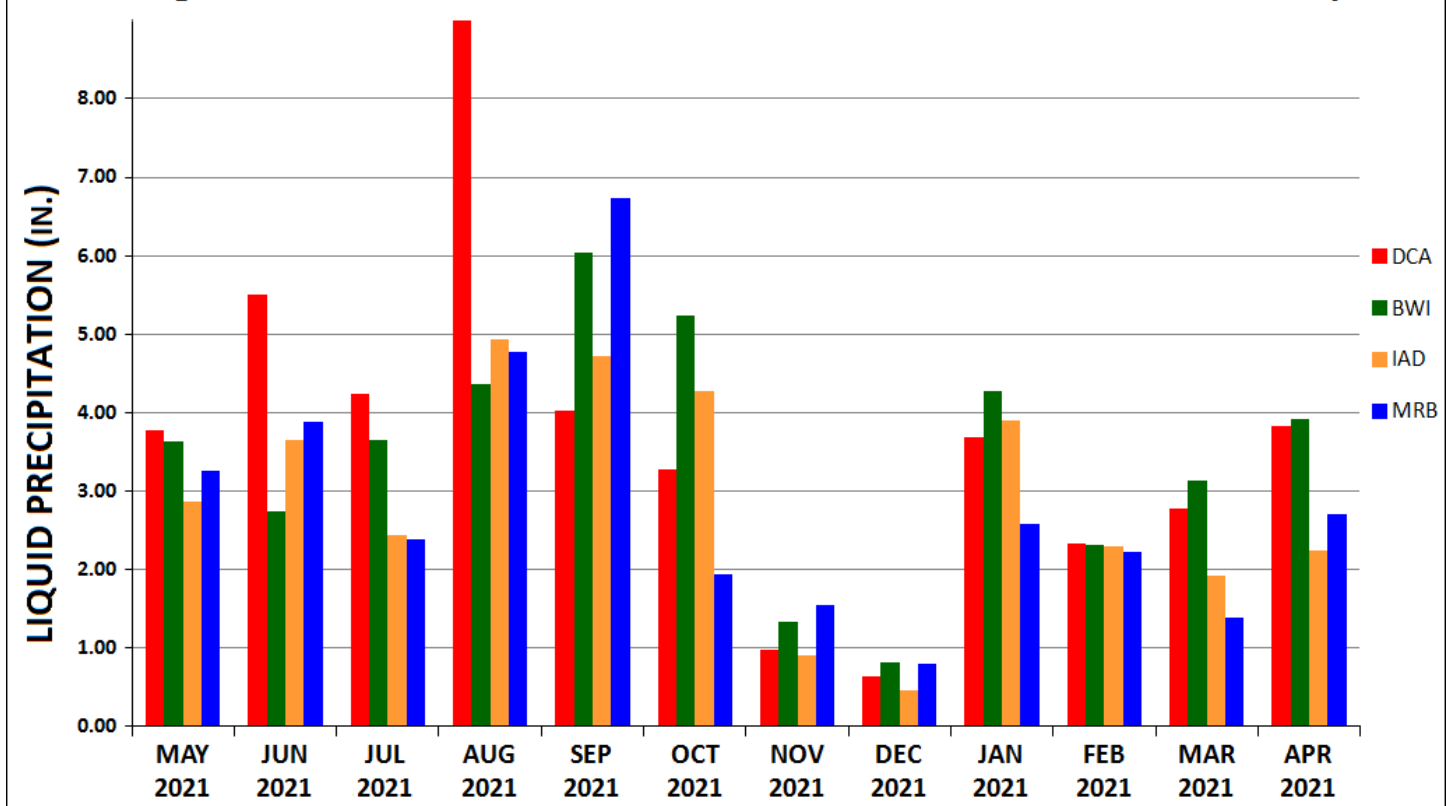
# PRESTO

PREcipitation Summary and Temperature Observations  
For the Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD Area



## APRIL 2022: Quite Cool At Times; Two Storm Systems Lead Near-Normal Rainfall; 26<sup>th</sup>: EF-1 Tornado Hits Waynesboro, VA

### Comparison of Monthly Precipitation During The Past Year August 2021 Pulled DCA Above Normal; Points West Quite Dry



### April Highlights

- ☁ Slightly below normal **temperatures**: DCA 57.0°F (-1.3°); BWI 54.8°F (-0.2°); IAD 53.7°F (-1.3°)
- ☁ DCA's 18 days below normal was greatest frequency since January 2022
- ☁ 29<sup>th</sup> – Record low of **32°F** at BWI marks the 3<sup>rd</sup>-latest freeze ever recorded for the Baltimore Area
- ☁ Near normal to below normal **precipitation**: DCA 3.82" (+0.61"); BWI 3.92" (+0.53"); IAD 2.25" (-1.22")
- ☁ 5<sup>th</sup> – soaking rains combine with additional rainfall on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> for 3-day totals of ~1.50-2.50"
- ☁ 18<sup>th</sup> – late-season Nor'Easter brings up to 1-2" rain (near Chesapeake Bay); moderate snow to Allegheny Mtns, IAD's snow observed on 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> was the latest-ever for consecutive days
- ☁ 26<sup>th</sup> brought the only severe weather, mainly to Augusta County, VA: **EF-1 tornado** tracks from Fishersville to Waynesboro; hail as large as 1.50"; a wind gust measured 74 mph; several more reports of wind damage

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## April 2022

**April Temperatures:** Several deep troughs of chilly Canadian air, especially through April's first three weeks, promoted below-normal temperatures across the region. The coolest days relative to normal were the **18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>** following a strong coastal storm, and the **27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>** when a polar air mass invaded the eastern US. The three airports had lows in the 30s on 3 (DCA), 8 (BWI), and 12 (IAD) days; although DCA recorded 9 days with a minimum of 42°F or lower. Baltimore's record low of **32°F** on the **29<sup>th</sup>** was a 50-year return, and the first time since 1966 a freeze was observed after 4/26.

Unseasonable warmth during much of the **12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>**, and milder conditions through the **21<sup>st</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>**, offset much of the frequent chill. DCA reported 10 days that reached the 70s/80s, and Charlottesville, VA hit 92°F on the **24<sup>th</sup>**, marking their first 90+ mark of the year.

**April Precipitation & Severe Weather:** The region reported overall near-normal precipitation, which included a gradient from relatively dry conditions at IAD and points west to ample rainfall over the metros and east. The vast majority of the month's rain fell between two storm systems: the prolonged overrunning of the **5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>** and the potent Nor'Easter on the **18<sup>th</sup>**. 1-day rainfall totals through dawn on the **6<sup>th</sup>** were as high as **2.54"** near North Beach (Calvert Co.), MD and **1.97"** in Friendship Heights (Northwest), DC. Following additional light rainfall on the **6<sup>th</sup>** and **7<sup>th</sup>**, 3-day total precipitation values included **3.12"** near North Beach, 2.78" near Falls Church (Fairfax Co.), VA, and 2.28" in Brookland (Northeast), DC.

The coastal storm on the **18<sup>th</sup>** dropped ~1" of rainfall over most of the region, while 1-2" was common along and near the Chesapeake Bay, with **2.02"** in Birdsville (Anne Arundel Co.), MD, 1.32" in Monterey (Highland Co.), VA, 1.27" in Friendship Heights, and 1.26" near Riverside (Jefferson Co.), WV. Accumulating snowfall was also measured from the foothills of the Blue Ridge into the interior mountains, with scattered reports of **4-8"** from near Frostburg (Allegany Co.), MD to Highland Co. and Madison Co. in VA, a general 1-3" across the Shenandoah Valley, and a light coasting as far south and east as Middletown (Frederick Co.), MD. Flurries were observed as far east as the National Arboretum (Northeast), DC and Leeds (Cecil Co.), MD. Dulles' observed trace of snowfall on the **18<sup>th</sup>** and **19<sup>th</sup>** was the latest consecutive days of snow ever reported in the stations' 60-year record (the previous record was in 1973 on April 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>).

Severe weather only occurred on the **26<sup>th</sup>**. While confined to Augusta County, VA and vicinity, these early afternoon supercells still led to extensive damage. An **EF-1 tornado** tracked 6 miles from Fishersville to Waynesboro, with maximum width 75 yards and estimated maximum winds of **90 mph**, while producing significant roof and/or structural damage to a barn and farmhouse as well as an office complex, before entering Waynesboro, where it downed trees onto residential structures, toppled a steeple from a church, and snapped or uprooted many trees. Large hail was also common with this cell, with hailstones reported as large as **1.50"** in between the two towns.

### April 2022 Weather Statistics for the Washington/Baltimore Area

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (inches)				
	Av Max	Av Min	Avg T	Nml T	ΔNml	Max	Min	Total	Nml P	ΔNml	Year To Date	Snow
National (DCA)	66.6	47.3	57.0	58.3	-1.3	86/13	39/4,28	3.82	3.21	+0.61	12.60	0.0
Baltimore (BWI)	65.6	44.0	54.8	55.0	-0.2	87/13	31/11	3.92	3.39	+0.53	13.63	0.0
Dulles (IAD)	65.3	42.1	53.7	55.0	-1.3	86/13	30/4,11	2.25	3.47	-1.22	10.37	T

**Looking Ahead:** Despite a couple warm spells throughout April, no primary sites rose past the mid 80s. When will the region hit 90°F for the first time this year? While the third week of May is normal, early-mid June is not uncommon. Below are the dates of the first 90+ day for each of the last 10 years at DCA and IAD.

Site	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
DCA	May 28	Apr 10	May 13	May 12	Jun 11	Apr 29	May 2	May 20	Jun 3	May 20
IAD	May 28	May 30	May 13	Jun 11	Jun 11	May 17	May 3	May 26	Jun 3	May 23

**Earliest/Nml/Latest ... WASHINGTON : 3-22-1907/ May 16 /7-12-1979 ... DULLES : 4-6-2010/ May 19 /7-14-1972**