

JUNE 1991: June marked the ninth consecutive warmer than normal month in Washington, making this the longest stretch of above normal monthly temperatures since eleven in a row occurred during June 1973–April 1974. While June did not observe the long period of heat and humidity that occurred during the latter part of May, the month did record several short episodes of hot and muggy weather. DCA and BWI both recorded 12 days at or above 90°F while IAD observed nine. In addition, DCA reported back-to-back record highs on the 16th and 17th when the mercury hit 98°F and 95°F, respectively. These periods of oppressive heat and humidity more than offset the few cool and seasonable days that occurred sporadically throughout June. The month ended with very warm weather and a record high minimum temperature of 82°F at DCA on the morning of the 30th. It was the highest minimum temperature at DCA since the all-time record of 84°F observed in July 1983.

Most areas recorded drier than normal conditions for the third consecutive month, with some areas receiving only about one-third the normal precipitation for June. Both DCA and BWI measured only slightly more than an inch of precipitation, well below the normals of 3.35" and 3.76", respectively (see table). The 1.08" of precipitation at BWI was the third lowest amount ever recorded in June. However, a few parts of the Washington area did receive copious amounts of rain. During the early morning of June 3rd, Dulles was inundated with 4.33" of rain while parts of Fairfax County received up to 2" from a stationary thunderstorm. Additional storms and heavy showers on June 17–18 dumped 1.5"–2" of rain across parts of Montgomery and Prince Georges counties, somewhat alleviating dry conditions. Periods of rain from an easterly flow and a frontal system just to the south of Washington resulted in about half an inch of rain and subnormal temperatures during the weekend of June 22–23rd. Precipitation totals at both DCA and BWI through June are more than 6" below normal with the bulk of the deficits at both airports occurring during the last three months. DCA has recorded only 43% (4.23") of the normal 9.76" inches of precipitation for the period April–June while BWI has received only 37% (3.92") of the 10.55" of rain that normally falls during the second quarter of the year.

JUNE 1991 WEATHER STATISTICS FOR THE WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE AREA:

Station Location	Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (In)		
	AvMx	AvMn	AvgT	NmlT	DepNm	MaxT	MinT	Total	Norm	DepNm
National (DCA)	86.8	66.8	76.8	74.5	+2.3	98/15*	57/7	1.27	3.35	-2.08
Baltimore (BWI)	86.3	62.9	74.6	72.2	+2.4	99/16	51/7	1.08	3.76	-2.68
Dulles (IAD)	84.8	59.8	72.3	70.7	+1.6	96/16#	47/14	6.58	4.23	+2.35
Ft. Belvoir (DAA)	85.7	60.8	73.3	72	+1	98/30	49/8	1.47	3.7	-2.2
Andrews AFB (ADW)	83.3	60.6	71.9	72	0	97/16	46/6	2.48	3.7	-1.2

Other dates of occurrence: * June 19th, 29th, and 30th; # June 30th.

LOOKING AHEAD TO JULY: Dry First Half of Year–Wet Second Half?

The 1991 total of 12.38" of precipitation is the fifth driest start (January–June) recorded since records began in Washington. Below is a list of the four driest January–June periods and the corresponding precipitation totals for the last six months (July–December) of each year as well as the yearly total.

Year	January–June Total	July–December Total	Annual Total
1872	10.49"	21.73"	32.22"
1986	10.63"	21.94"	32.57"
1969	11.74"	31.56"	43.30"
1977	12.00"	24.14"	36.14"
1991	12.38"	?	?

(Note: January–June Normal: 18.60" ; July–December Normal: 20.40" ; Annual Normal: 39.00")
(Normals period: 1951–1980)