

JUNE 1994: Unprecedented heat and humidity enveloped the Washington/Baltimore area during June, establishing record high monthly average temperatures at the three major airports. Monthly temperature departures ranged from +3.8°F at DCA to +5.0°F at IAD. The most intense heat occurred from the 13th through the 16th as readings topped the century mark at both DCA (101°F – only 1°F shy of the all-time June record in Washington) and BWI (101°F) on the 15th. Numerous record daily highs were observed across the local region, including 5 at DCA (on the 7th, 14th, 15th, 16th and 19th), 4 at BWI (8th, 14th, 15th, and 20th), and 6 at IAD (7th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th and 19th). The heat wave prevailed for two weeks (13th–26th), establishing a new June record for consecutive 90°F+ days (14) at DCA, although many suburban areas recorded highs in the eighties during the latter portion of the period. There were 24 days with at or above normal temperatures at DCA, including a record tying 17 June days with 90°F+ readings. Both BWI and IAD observed a June record number of days with highs at or above 90°F with 15 and 14 such days, respectively. Abnormal warmth prevailed during the nighttime also as DCA established a new June (12th–25th) record for consecutive days (14) with lows at or above 70°F.

The typical spotty summer rainfall pattern occurred during June, with precipitation amounts varying widely from one location to the next. Of the five local airports, only IAD and DAA observed above normal monthly totals with nearly 6 inches recorded at both locations; however, DCA and ADW both reported monthly totals of less than two inches. It was the third consecutive month with less than 2 inches of precipitation at DCA, including a period of 16 straight days (May 26–June 10) without measurable rainfall. Strong thunderstorms (often accompanied by strong winds, frequent lightning, and some hail) during the latter third of June accounted for most of the monthly precipitation across the local region. Storms produced more than an inch of rain at IAD on both the 21st and the 24th and more than 2 inches at DAA on the 29th. DCA recorded 0.58" of rain on the 23rd–24th, the most significant precipitation since the first week of May. Despite three consecutive months of subnormal rainfall at DCA, the January–June precipitation total was more than three inches above normal (see table below).

JUNE 1994 WEATHER STATISTICS FOR THE WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE AREA:

Station Location	Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (In)				
	AvMx	AvMn	AvgT	NmiT	DepNm	MaxT	MinT	Total	Norm	DepNm	Yr to Date	DepNm
National (DCA)	90.0	68.7	79.4	75.6	+3.8	101/15	54/3	1.59	3.38	-1.79	21.66	+3.31
Baltimore (BWI)	88.6	65.8	77.2	72.5	+4.7	101/15	48/3	2.84	3.67	-0.83	25.69	+5.66
Wesley (IAD)	88.4	63.7	76.0	71.0	+5.0	99/15	44/3	5.82	3.92	+1.90	25.16	+5.43
Belvoir (DAA)	87.3	63.6	75.4	72	+3	98/15	47/10	5.82	3.7	+2.1	25.72	+5.52
Andrew AFB (ADW)	87.3	63.5	75.4	72	+3	97/15	44/3	1.69	3.7	-2.0	22.22	+2.02

LOOKING AHEAD TO JULY: Dry June = Dry Summer?

The Summer of 1994 has commenced with a dry start across most of the local area. As mentioned above, DCA recorded subnormal June rainfall, marking the eighth such occurrence in the last ten years. With that in mind, does a dry June portend a dry summer? Below is a list of the last ten June precipitation totals and the corresponding summer amounts at DCA. [June Normal: 3.38" ; Summer Normal: 11.09" ; Normals Period 1961–1990]

<u>Year</u>	<u>June Precipitation Total (In.)</u>	<u>Summer Precipitation Total (In.)</u>
1994	1.59	?
1993	1.73	6.96
1992	2.35	10.17
1991	1.27	7.06
1990	3.14	13.66
1989	6.02	12.83
1988	0.95*	7.08
1987	3.90	8.56
1986	1.29	10.41
1985	2.05	7.31

* Driest June ever recorded at DCA (2nd driest in Washington)