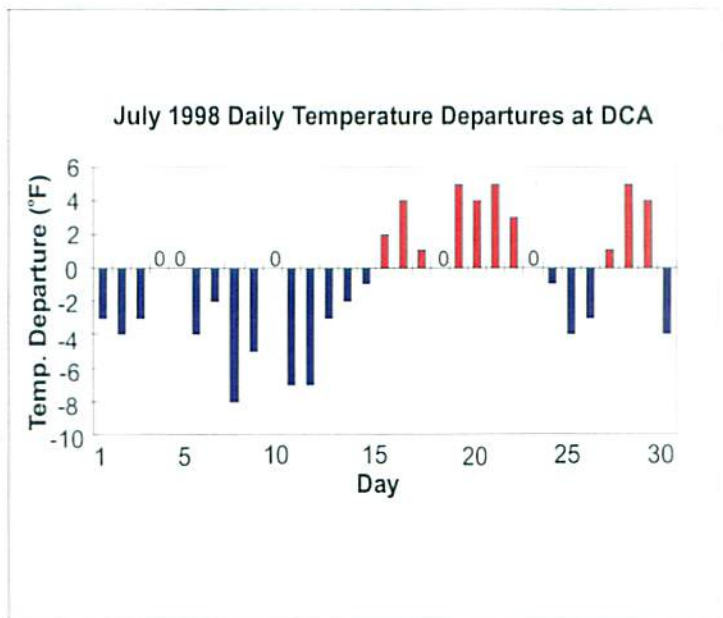
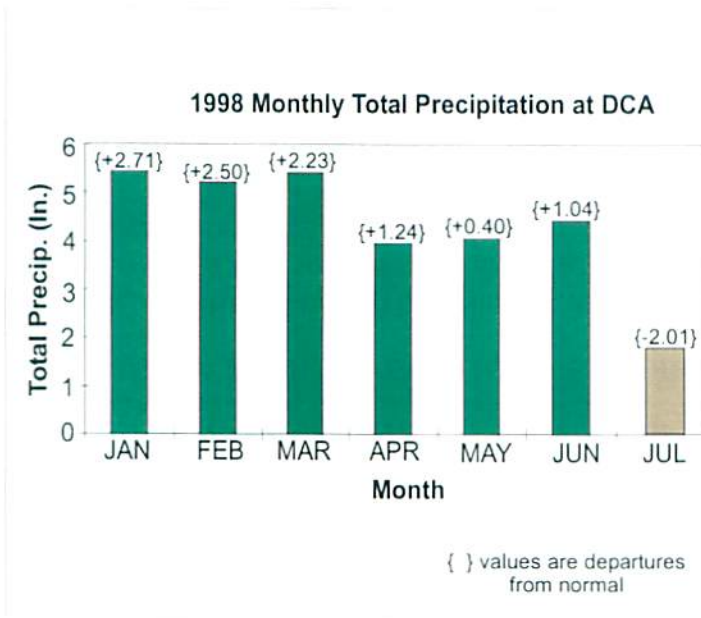




**PRECIPITATION SUMMARY AND TEMPERATURE OBSERVATIONS
FOR THE WASHINGTON, DC & BALTIMORE, MD AREA**

JULY 1998

**A DRY JULY ENDS SIX CONSECUTIVE MONTHS OF WETTER
THAN NORMAL CONDITIONS AT DCA**



HIGHLIGHTS

- Near normal temperatures and subnormal precipitation across the Washington/Baltimore area;
- First drier than normal month of 1998 at DCA and the driest month since October 1994 at IAD;
- Second consecutive July with less than 2 inches of precipitation across most of the local area;
- Only 4 days with measurable precipitation (≥ 0.01 ") at BWI, 5 at IAD and 7 at DCA;
- Third driest July on record at IAD (1.32") and 8th at BWI (1.42");
- 21 consecutive days (9th-29th) without measurable precipitation at BWI;
- Only 0.53" of rain at BWI during last 23 July days, 0.70" at IAD and 0.94" at DCA;
- Brief, but intense thunderstorms on the 16th and 30th generated rain, frequent lightning & strong wind gusts, downing trees and power lines and causing numerous power outages across parts of local area;
- 21 days with at or below normal temperatures at DCA, including the first 15 July days (see graphic above);
- No prolonged periods of intense heat during the month, but 3 consecutive days (20th, 21st & 22nd) with 95°F+ highs at DCA;
- Only 9 days with 90°F+ highs at DCA, the fewest (tied w/ 1996 & 1989) since 1984, 11 such days at BWI & 10 at IAD.

Andrew H. Horvitz, Office of Meteorology/ NWS, (301) 713-1867
Joseph A. Harrison & David King, Climate Prediction Center/NCEP/NWS, (301) 763-4670

Note: PRESTO is available on the Internet at the following URL's:
http://nic.fb4.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/PRESTO or
<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om>