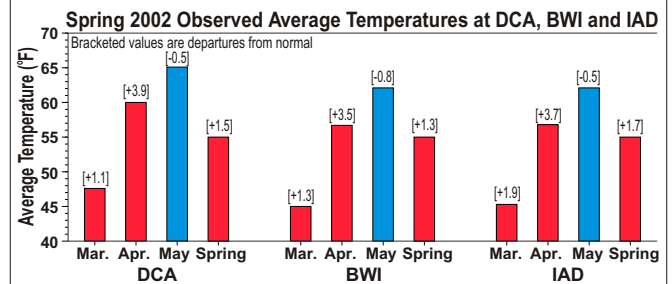
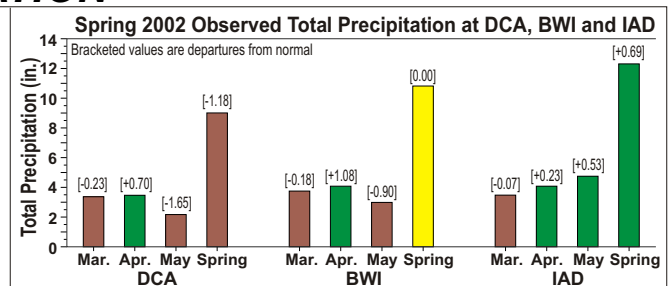
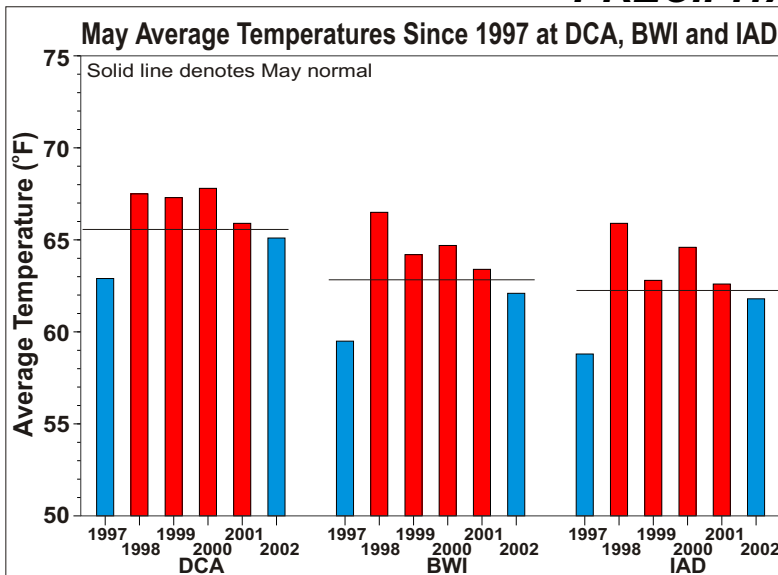




**PRECIPITATION SUMMARY AND TEMPERATURE OBSERVATIONS
FOR THE WASHINGTON, DC & BALTIMORE, MD AREA**

**MAY 2002 & SPRING REVIEW
FIRST COOLER THAN NORMAL MAY SINCE 1997;
ABOVE-NORMAL SPRING TEMPERATURES AND NEAR-NORMAL
PRECIPITATION**



HIGHLIGHTS

MONTHLY

- Subnormal temperatures and precipitation across most of the Washington/Baltimore area;
- First cooler than normal May since 1997 at the three major airports;
- Abnormally cool weather from the 18th-22nd with temperatures averaging 12°F below normal at DCA;
- Daily record lows established at DCA on the 20th (42°F), at BWI on the 19th-22nd (40°F, 39°F, 34°F, & 35°F) and at IAD 19th-23rd (36°F, 36°F, 37°F, 31°F & 39°F -tied with 1990);
- Latest 32°F or lower reading (31°F on the 22nd) on record at IAD;
- Above-normal precipitation at IAD and the wettest month (4.75") since June 2001;
- Ninth month out of last 10 with subnormal precipitation at DCA.

SEASONAL

- Above-normal temperatures and near-normal precipitation across most of the Washington/Baltimore area;
- 54 days (59%) with at or above-normal temperatures at DCA;
- Third consecutive warmer than normal season at DCA;
- Lowest minimum temperature at DCA (19°F on March 5th) since December 26, 2000 at DCA;
- First 90°F+ reading of the year on April 16th at all three major airports; Earliest such reading since 1977 at DCA;
- Mid-month heat wave from April 16th-19th with highs topping 90°F each day at some locations;
- Daily record highs on April 16th and 17th at both DCA (92°F & 95°F) & BWI (90°F & 93°F) and on April 16th, 17th and 19th at IAD (91°F, 93°F & 91°F);
- Beneficial seasonal precipitation (totals between 9 and 12 inches) provides short-term drought relief, but groundwater levels remain well below normal;
- A very strong tornado (F4 - 207-260 mph winds) touched down in southern Maryland, causing more than \$100 million in damage, claimed 5 lives and injured more than 100 people in Charles and Calvert counties in Maryland, according to press reports.

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