

NOVEMBER 2006 Temperature: After two months with subnormal temperatures, the area warmed up for the final month of meteorological Autumn. Monthly temperature departures of +2.0°F, +4.1°F and +3.4°F were observed at DCA, BWI and IAD, respectively, resulting in the warmest November at BWI and IAD since 2003. There were 18 days with above normal temperatures at DCA, including five days with highs at or above 70°F. The months' warmest readings occurred on the 11th when highs reached the upper 70's in many areas, including daily record highs at IAD (78°F) and BWI (77°F tied with 1949). While there were no blasts of Arctic air, there were numerous days with chilly conditions. DCA recorded six days with highs below 50°F, the most such days since 2000 (tied with 2002). The month's lowest temperatures were recorded on the 4th when DCA recorded its first and only freeze of the season, with a minimum of 29°F. It was the earliest 32°F or lower temperature since 1993 at DCA. At IAD, temperatures dipped to 22°F. Mild nighttime conditions were prevalent; DCA recording 7 days with lows at or above 50°F, including the last day of the month.

Precipitation: Well above normal precipitation was recorded throughout the region for the third consecutive month with totals between 5"-7" recorded at many locations, including the three major airports. DCA, BWI and IAD recorded monthly precipitation surpluses of 2.13", 3.13" and 2.00" respectively, as the area recorded its 4th wetter than normal November in the last 5 years. The month featured several strong storms that brought heavy rainfall. On the 7th-8th, a soaking rain brought up to 2" across the metro area (1.75" at DCA and IAD). On the 12th, over an inch was recorded in some locations including DCA (1.11"). Four days later, a strong storm brought heavy rainfall, flooding as many as 70 roads in Northern Virginia and leading to several water rescues in Prince Georges County, MD, according to press reports. Strong winds accompanied the storms and resulted in 8,000 customers without power across the metro area, according to press reports. Rainfall totals included 4.10" in Waldorf and 3.87" and White Hall (Baltimore County), MD. The month's final storm brought more heavy rain on Wednesday, the 22nd, a traditional heavy travel day for the Thanksgiving holiday. About an inch was observed throughout the area including 1.26" at BWI.

NOVEMBER 2006 WEATHER STATISTICS FOR THE WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE AREA

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (In.)			
	AvMx	AvMn	AvgT	NmIT	DepNml	Max	MinT	Total	Norm	DepNml	Yr. to Date
National (DCA)	58.4	43.0	50.7	48.7	+2.0	75/10	29/4	5.16	3.03	+2.13	46.21
Baltimore (BWI)	58.6	40.6	49.6	45.5	+4.1	77/11	26/4	6.25	3.12	+3.13	41.36
Dulles (IAD)	58.1	39.1	48.6	45.2	+3.4	78/11	22/4	5.31	3.31	+2.00	44.14
Andrews (ADW)	58.9	41.6	50.3	N/A	N/A	76/11	25/4	7.34	3.30	+4.04	37.74

AUTUMN (September-November) Temperature: Despite a warm November, cool weather in September and October contributed to the coolest Autumn since 2000 at DCA. Seasonal temperatures averaged near normal with DCA slightly below (-0.8°F) and BWI and IAD slightly above (+0.6°F). DCA's maximum temperature reading of 85°F on September 9th was its coolest since 1950. September brought no days with intense heat or humidity. Minimum temperatures were cooler as well. Most locations recorded lows in the 40's on several days, including 6 such days at IAD; BWI's low was 42°F on the month's final day.

October continued cool temperatures resulting in the coolest September-October since 1988 in Washington. DCA recorded 19 days with at or below normal temperatures, marking the coolest October since 1999. DCA marked 8 days with highs in the 50's, the most (tied with 2005 and 1997) since 1988. Most suburban locations marked their first freeze of the season on October 13th, including IAD at 31°F and BWI at 32°F. The month featured warm conditions in 8 of the first 10 days of October and at the end of the month. DCA's high of 73°F on the 31st marked the fourth consecutive year the high has been 70°F or more on Halloween. November returned to warmer than normal temperatures. See above for details.

AUTUMN Precipitation: Well above normal seasonal rainfall fell across the local area with precipitation departures between +6" and +10" at the three major airports. It was the wettest Autumn ever observed at BWI (see cover), wettest since 1988 at DCA and second wettest at IAD. Rainfall totals at the three major airports ranged between 16"-20". The rainy Autumn started on September 1 when remnants of Tropical Storm Ernesto ended dry conditions that began in mid-July. Ernesto brought the metro areas more than 2" of rain along with gusty winds to 40 mph. Nearly 5" of rain soaked Annapolis, while King George County, in Virginia's Northern Neck, measured 7.75" of rain. Winds gusted to 58 mph at Ocean City, MD, where storm surge eroded the beaches, flooded coastal marshes and caused property damage. Three additional storms on September 5th, 14th and 28th also brought significant rainfall. The storm on the 28th spawned a tornado that struck Severna Park, MD. Winds were measured at 90 mph (F1 on the Fujita Scale). One injury was reported, 13 homes destroyed and 33 homes were severely damaged, according to press reports. Penny size hail struck Bowie, MD.

October continued the wet Autumn trend with totals generally in the 5" to 6" range, resulting in the fourth October in the past five years with above normal rainfall. The majority of the precipitation fell during three major storms on 6th-7th, 17th, and 27th -28th. The September-October period was the wettest since 1979 at IAD (fifth wettest overall) with 11.94". The period was the wettest since 1999 at DCA with 11.37", and at BWI (3rd wettest overall) with 13.31". October also marked strong wind events on the 6th, 7th, 20th and 28th. On the 20th, winds gusted as high as 44 mph in Middletown, MD. On the 28th, winds gusted up to 46 mph at BWI and IAD and 45 mph at DCA. According to press reports, as many as 20,000 customers lost power.

AUTUMN 2006 WEATHER STATISTICS FOR THE WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE AREA

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	AvMx	AvMn	AvgT	NmIT	DepNml	Max	MinT	Total	Norm	DepNml
National (DCA)	66.5	50.7	58.6	59.4	-0.8	85/9-9	29/11-4	16.53	10.04	+6.49
Baltimore (BWI)	66.1	47.4	56.7	56.1	+0.6	84/9-9	26/11-4	19.56	10.26	+9.30
Dulles (IAD)	66.1	46.7	56.4	55.8	+0.6	84/9-9 ¹	22/11-4	17.25	10.50	+6.75
Andrews (ADW)	66.1	48.4	57.3	N/A	N/A	83/9-18	25/11-4	15.77	10.20	+5.57

Other Occurrences: ¹9-30,

Looking Ahead to DECEMBER: How much snow? Three of the past four years have recorded above average snowfall across the region. Here is a look at the past 10 years. Normal DCA December snowfall: 1.5".

Year	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996
December Snowfall	4.8"	0.1"	6.2"	7.1"	0.0"	2.0"	Trace	0.5"	0.1"	0.2"