

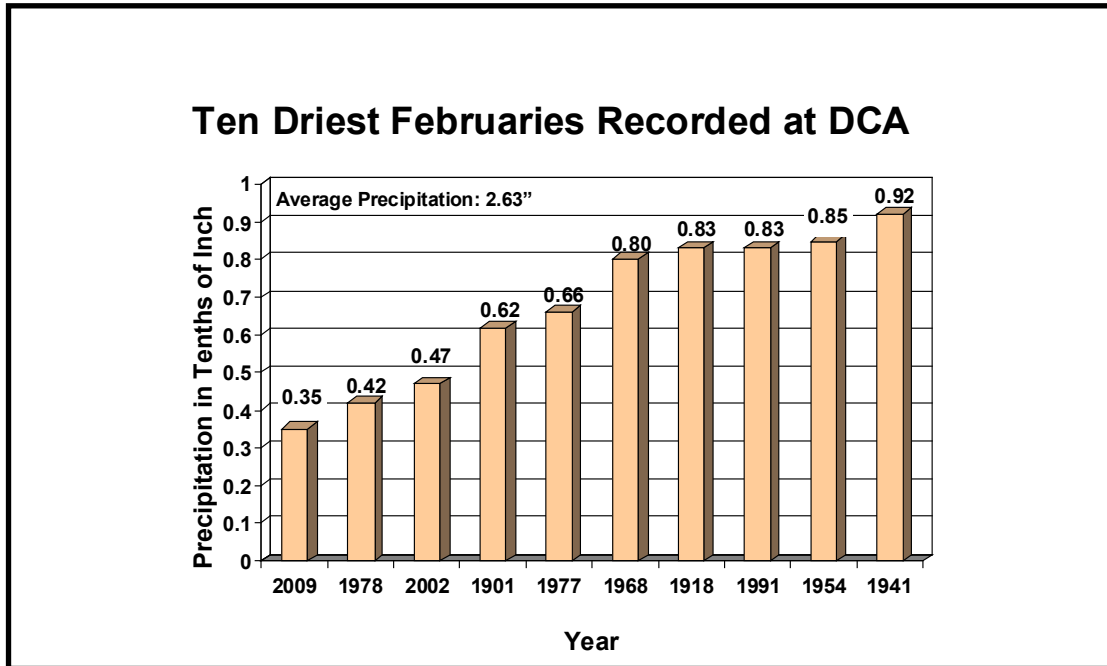


# PRESTO

PREcipitation Summary and Temperature Observations  
For the Washington, DC & Baltimore, MD Area



## **FEBRUARY 2009: Driest Ever Recorded in Washington** **WINTER 2008-09: Dry With Near Normal Temperatures**



### **February Highlights**

- ✦ Above normal temperatures across area: DCA, +1.7°F, BWI, +1.9°F, +3.1°F
- ✦ Eighth of last 10 Februaries with above normal temperatures at all three major airports
- ✦ Highs soared to 70°F or higher on 7<sup>th</sup> including record 71°F at IAD
- ✦ Fifth was only day with subfreezing highs across region (26°F at DCA, 25°F at BWI and IAD)
- ✦ Driest February on record at DCA (0.35") and BWI (0.26"); second driest at IAD (0.36")
- ✦ Powerful winds on 12<sup>th</sup> with gusts over 60 mph in some areas result in downed trees and scattered power outages
- ✦ Less than an inch of snow observed at the three major airports

### **Winter Highlights**

- ✦ Near normal temperatures across the area: DCA and BWI, -0.3°F; IAD, +1.3°F
- ✦ Subfreezing highs on 6 days at DCA, 11 at BWI, and 7 at IAD
- ✦ Highs at or above 70°F on 2 days at DCA and 1 day at BWI and IAD
- ✦ Highs at or above 60°F on 8 days at DCA and BWI; 9 at IAD
- ✦ Above normal temperatures during December-February for 12 out of past 15 winter months
- ✦ Subnormal seasonal precipitation across the area: DCA, -2.81"; BWI, -2.96"; IAD, -3.26"
- ✦ Subnormal seasonal snowfall departures: DCA, -13.2" ; BWI, -15.9"; and IAD, -19.2"
- ✦ Driest winter season at DCA since 2002
- ✦ Powerful winds on the 31<sup>st</sup> result in one fatality and one serious injury across area; more than 90,000 customers lose power. Wind gusts to 59 mph at IAD (strongest this decade in December); 55 mph at DCA (strongest in December since 1992) and 51 mph at BWI
- ✦ Soaking rain on December 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> with about 2" recorded in immediate metro area
- ✦ Bitter cold from January 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> with maximum readings in teens on 17<sup>th</sup>; coldest high temperature in Washington (18°F) since 1994 when the maximum reached only 8°F on January 19<sup>th</sup>
- ✦ Sudden heavy snow showers with up to 3" accumulation in northern and western suburbs on January 19<sup>th</sup> lead to a 42-car pileup and two fatalities near South Mountain on I-70 in Frederick County, MD
- ✦ Measurable snow across metro area on January 27<sup>th</sup> with up to 3" falling in southern and eastern suburbs before changing to sleet, freezing rain and then rain on 28<sup>th</sup>