

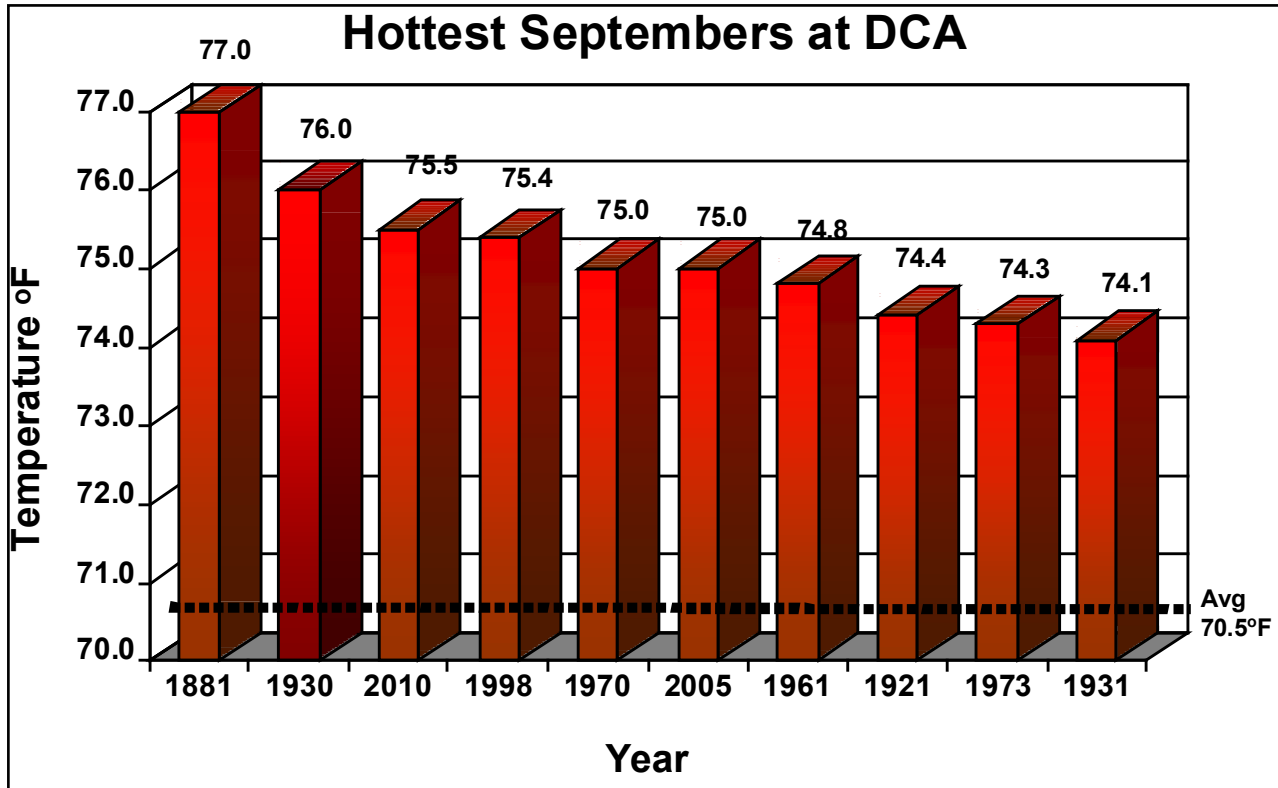


PRESTO

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



September: Third Warmest in Washington; Record Rainfall at Months' End



September Highlights

- Well above normal temperatures across area: + 5.0°F at DCA, +3.6°F, +4.0°F at IAD
- Seventh consecutive month with above normal temperature readings at all three major airports
- DCA and IAD recorded 9 days and BWI 7 days with highs at or above 90°F, most since 1998 at DCA and BWI, since 2007 at IAD
- Highs at or above 90°F at DCA on 67 days in 2010, equals 1980 as most on record; BWI set new record with 59 such days; IAD, with 58
- On 24th, record 99°F at DCA and 97°F at IAD; hottest readings on record so late in a calendar year
- Record rainfall on 30th: totals of 6.02" at BWI (2nd greatest total of any calendar day); 4.66" at DCA and 4.74" at IAD (3rd greatest in Sept. at both locations). Amounts over a foot across parts of southern Maryland and 4"-8" across most of metro area resulted in road closures
- On 30th, EF0 (winds to 80 mph) tornado near Lake Shore in Ann Arundel County with a maximum path of 200 yards, path length of 1 mile, snapped and uprooted trees, and caused some property damage
- Severe weather on the 22nd with thunderstorm wind gusts up to 58 mph in Four Corners (Montgomery County), MD; hail up to 1.50" near Wintergreen (Nelson County), 1.0" in Purcellville (Loudoun County) VA, resulted in loss of power to 20,000 customers across the area, according to press reports
- Wettest September at BWI since 1999

September 2010

Temperature: For the 7th consecutive month, temperatures were above normal across the Washington/Baltimore area. Positive departures were + 5.0°F at DCA, +3.6°F, +4.0°F at IAD. Summerlike temperatures lingered, causing DCA and IAD to record 9 days highs at or above 90°F, and BWI, 7 days, the most since 1998 at DCA and BWI and since 2007 at IAD. The hot temperatures resulted in a record number of 90°F+ readings for the calendar year at BWI, 59, and IAD, 58. DCA's total of 67 equaled 1980 for the most recorded in a calendar year. Numerous other heat records were set: On the 8th, IAD tied a record high, 93°F. A 4-day heat wave from the 22nd-25th broke additional records at all three major airports. IAD tied another record when it reached 94°F on the 22nd and 93°F on the 23rd. Many locations recorded their highest temperatures of the month on the 24th, unusually late in the year. DCA's maximum reading of 99°F and IAD 97°F were the hottest temperatures observed on record for these dates. On the final 90°F day of the month, IAD set yet another record with a high of 93°F and a record high minimum of 68°F; DCA's low also was a record high minimum: 74°F.

Precipitation: Most of September featured very dry conditions but the month concluded with record rainfall on the final day, resulting in well above normal precipitation. Monthly amounts were 6.02" at DCA (+2.23"), 8.26" at BWI (+4.28") and 6.16" (+2.34") at IAD. On the 8th, gusty breezes with temperatures in the low 90s and dew points in the 30s resulted in relative humidity values at just 15%. The month's first rainfall did not occur until the 12th, with amounts generally between 0.50" and 0.75" across the area. This event marked the first rainfall at most locations in 18 days. The month's major severe weather event occurred on the 22nd when severe thunderstorms rolled through many locations accompanied by damaging wind gusts up to 58 mph in Four Corners (Montgomery County), MD, resulting in power loss to about 20,000 users across the area, according to press reports. Hail up to 1.50" was measured near Wintergreen (Nelson County), and to 1.0" in Purcellville (Loudoun County), VA; rainfall totaled 1.28" in Norrisville (Harford County), MD. On the 27th, heavy downpours resulted in excessive rainfall including 3.73" near Boston (Culpeper County), 2.80" in Faber (Nelson County), VA, and 2.0" near Millers (Carroll County) and in Roxbury Hills (Howard County), MD.

The final days of the month featured a tropical moisture plume beginning on the 29th and ending early afternoon on the 30th, followed by more heavy rainfall from the remnants of Tropical Storm Nichole in the evening into the early hours on October 1. Daily rainfall records were set on the 30th at all three major airports with totals of 6.02" at BWI (2nd greatest total of any calendar day); 4.66" at DCA and 4.74" at IAD, 3rd highest total for 1 day in September at DCA and IAD. Rainfall was much heavier near the Chesapeake Bay and across southern Maryland. Amounts included 14.07" in Portneys Overlook and 13.80" in Widewood (St. Mary's County); 13.48" in Solomons (Calvert County). Totals in the metro area included 10.17" near Kingsville (Baltimore County), 6.18" in Brentwood Manor (Howard County), 5.89" near Dranesville (Fairfax County), and 4.67" at the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C. The torrential rains impacted transportation, which resulted in numerous road closures. Isolated severe weather was reported as well as an EF0 tornado (winds to 80 mph) near Lake Shore in Ann Arundel County. The maximum path was 200 yards with a path length of 1 mile. The tornado snapped and uprooted trees and caused property damage.

SEPTEMBER 2010 WEATHER STATISTICS FOR THE WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE AREA

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (Inches)			
	AvMx	AvMn	AvgT	NmIT	DepNml	Max	MinT	Total	Norm	DepNml	Yr to Date
National (DCA)	85.4	65.6	75.5	70.5	+5.0	99/24	56/21	6.02	3.79	+2.23	27.38
Baltimore (BWI)	82.5	59.6	71.0	67.4	+3.6	95/1,24	47/21	8.26	3.98	+4.28	36.52
Dulles (IAD)	83.8	58.8	71.3	67.3	+4.0	97/24	46/21	6.16	3.82	+2.34	32.75

Looking Ahead to October: The first freeze! October traditionally marks the first freeze in suburban locations. When will the Washington/Baltimore area record its first freeze in 2010? Below is a list of the first 32°F or lower readings at DCA and IAD in the last 10 years.

Year	First 32°F (or lower) reading		Year	First 32°F (or lower) reading	
	DCA	IAD		DCA	IAD
2009	December 6	November 6	2004	December 4	October 18
2008	November 18	October 20	2003	November 10	October 3
2007	November 24	October 29	2002	November 27	October 18
2006	November 4	October 15	2001	December 22*	October 9
2005	November 17	November 11*	2000	November 16	October 8

*Latest date for first freeze ever recorded