

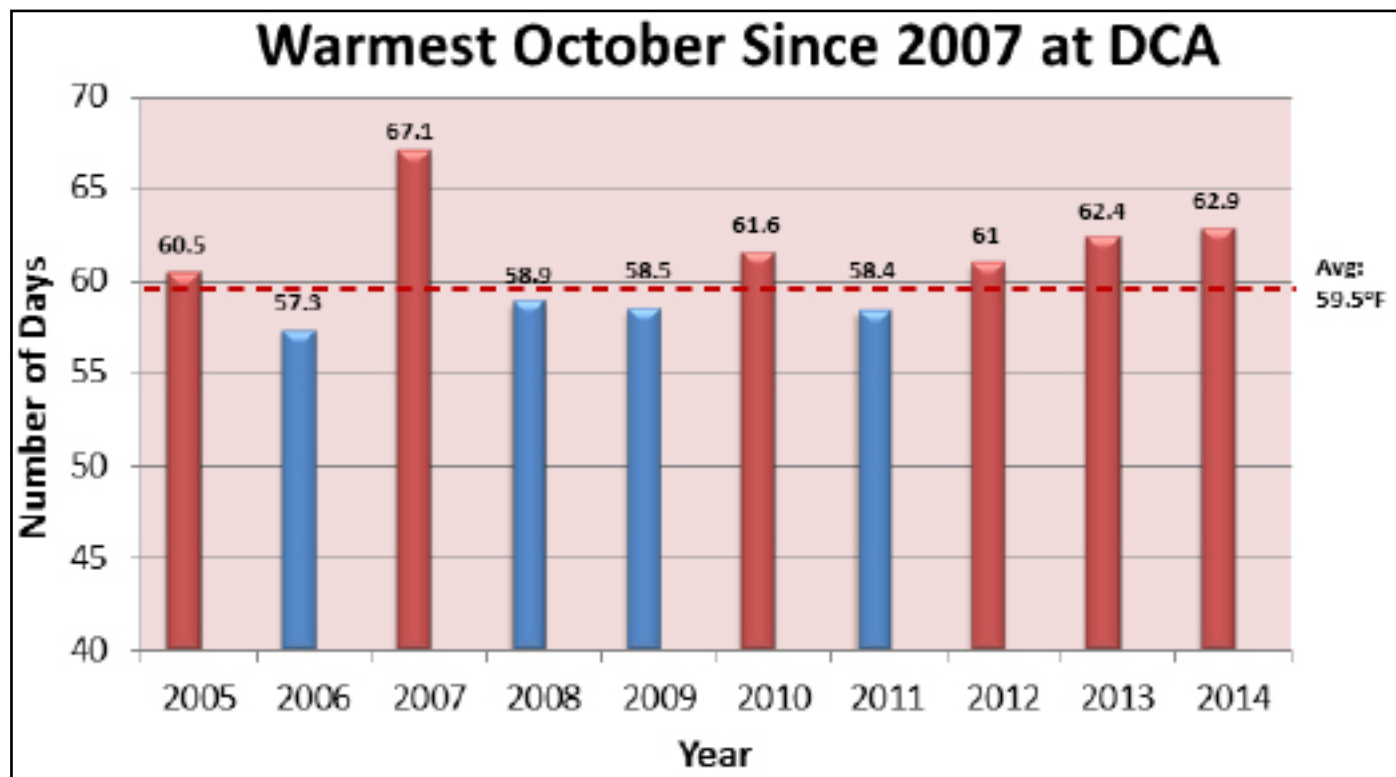


# PRESTO

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



## October 2014: Above Normal Temperatures; Two Tornadoes Confirmed in Metro Area on 15<sup>th</sup>



### October Highlights

- ⚡ Above normal readings were recorded at all three major airports: +3.4°F at DCA, +2.1°F at BWI and +0.8°F at IAD
- ⚡ Unusual for October, BWI and IAD monthly maximums occurred late in the month on the 28<sup>th</sup> at 80°F and 82°F respectively
- ⚡ It was the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive October with above normal temperatures at BWI and the third consecutive year at DCA and IAD.
- ⚡ On the 15<sup>th</sup>, severe thunderstorms in the early afternoon spawned two small EF-0 tornadoes (wind speeds estimated at 55-65 mph). One tornado confirmed in the Belle Haven section of Alexandria, (Fairfax County), VA. The path length was 1.5 miles and path width was 75 yards with tree damage. The second tornado occurred near Savage, (Howard County), MD. The path length was 0.4 miles and path width was 75 yards. Tree and property damage was observed. Torrential downpours accompanied the thunderstorms with the highest totals in Maryland: 3.85" in Bel Air (Harford County) and 3.35" in Kingsville (Baltimore County); In Virginia, 2.50" in Gainesboro, (Frederick County); 1.44" at DCA. IAD observed a daily record 1.30"
- ⚡ On the 21<sup>st</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup>, the area received a soaking rainfall with the greatest rainfall totals in Maryland: 1.98" in Catonsville (Baltimore County), and 1.72" in Laurel (Ann Arundel County); in Virginia, high totals included 1.79" in Mclean and 1.19" in Vienna (Fairfax County); 1.39" in Washington.

## October 2014

**Temperatures:** Above normal readings were recorded at all three major airports. Positive departures were +3.4°F at DCA, +2.1°F at BWI and +0.8°F at IAD. DCA observed 4 days with highs at or above 80°F, including a monthly maximum of 82°F on the 14<sup>th</sup>. In an atypical twist, BWI and IAD recorded their monthly maximums late in the month on the 28<sup>th</sup> when they recorded 80°F and 82°F, respectively. There were no significant intrusions of cold air and none of the airports measured its first freeze of the season, the first such occurrence at IAD since 2010.

There were some chilly days. IAD reported 5 days with maximum readings in the 50s, BWI, 4 such days; and DCA, 2. There were no temperatures records equaled or established. It was the warmest October in Washington since 2007 (see cover graphic). It was the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive October with above normal temperatures at BWI and the third consecutive year at DCA and IAD.

**Precipitation:** Rainfall was near normal at the three major airports with amounts from 3 inches to more than 4 inches. Positive departures were reported at DCA, 3.49" (+0.09") and BWI, 4.16" (+0.83"); IAD was slightly below normal, 3.01 (-0.24").

The majority of the month's rainfall occurred on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>. The event on the 15<sup>th</sup> also produced severe weather. A line of strong to severe thunderstorms in the early afternoon spawned two small EF-0 tornadoes (wind speeds estimated at 55-65 mph). One tornado was confirmed in the Belle Haven section of Alexandria (Fairfax County), VA. The path length was 1.5 miles and path width was 75 yards. Tree damage was observed. The second tornado occurred near Savage (Howard County), MD. The path length was 0.4 miles and path width was 75 yards. Tree and property damage was observed. Torrential downpours accompanied the thunderstorms. Greatest amounts in Maryland included 3.85" in Bel Air (Harford County) and 3.35" in Kingsville (Baltimore County); In Virginia, 2.50" was recorded in Gainesboro (Frederick County); and DCA measured 1.44". IAD noted a daily record 1.30".

The second event produced evening thundershowers on the 21<sup>st</sup> followed by a steady rainfall overnight that continued the following day. Penny size (0.75") hail struck Carroll (Baltimore City), MD. Greatest rainfall totals in Maryland were 1.98" in Catonsville (Baltimore County) and 1.72" in Laurel (Ann Arundel County); in Virginia, high totals included 1.79" in Mclean and 1.19" in Vienna (Fairfax County); D.C. high total was 1.39".

Two additional events occurred earlier in the month. Showers were heavy in some locations during the evening of the 3<sup>rd</sup> into the 4<sup>th</sup> with 1.72" measured in New Market (Frederick County), MD, and 1.26" in Rixeyville (Culpeper County), VA. Then on the 7<sup>th</sup>, evening thunderstorms with strong winds caused tree damage in St. Mary's County, MD, and near Batesville (Albemarle County), VA. Rainfall was significant in some areas including 1.62" in Taneytown (Carroll County), MD, and 1.50" in Woodstock (Shenandoah County), VA.

### October 2014 Weather Statistics for the Washington/Baltimore Area

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (inches)			
	AvMx	AvMin	AvgT	NmlT	DepNml	Max	Min	Total	Nml	DepNml	YTD
<b>National (DCA)</b>	71.1	54.7	62.9	59.5	+3.4	82/14	44/5	3.49	3.40	+0.09	38.27
<b>Baltimore (BWI)</b>	67.7	48.7	58.2	56.1	+2.1	80/28	35/20	4.16	3.33	+0.83	45.64
<b>Dulles (IAD)</b>	67.1	46.5	56.8	56.0	+0.8	82/28	33/5, 27	3.01	3.25	-0.24	40.15

**Looking Ahead to November:** The first inch or greater snowfall at DCA during the 2013-14 snow season occurred on January 2 (1.9"). Listed below are the date in the last 10 years when the first inch of snow was measured at DCA.

First Inch of Snow at DCA for Last 10 years			
2013-2014	January 2	2008-2009	January 27
2012-2013	March 25	2007-2008	December 5
2011-2012	<i>Did Not Occur</i>	2006-2007	January 21
2010-2011	December 16	2005-2006	December 5
2009-2010	December 18	2004-2005	January 19