

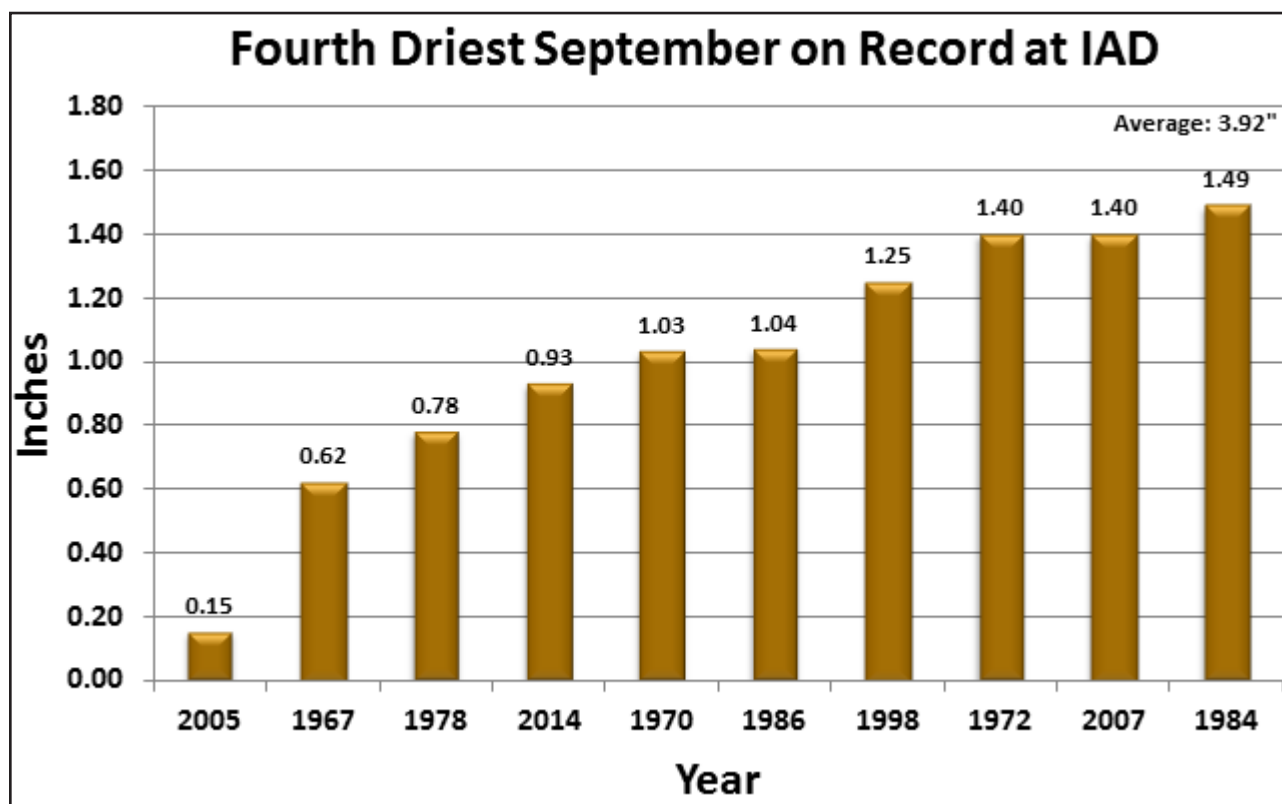


# PRESTO

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



## September 2014: Fourth Driest on Record at IAD; Most Intense Heat Wave in 2014



### September Highlights

- ✦ Well above normal at DCA (+2.9°F), slightly above normal at BWI (+0.9°F) and below normal at IAD (-0.4°F)
- ✦ The year's most intense period of heat and humidity occurred not in July or August but at the beginning of September when DCA exceeded 90°F on 5 of the first 6 days, including maximum temperatures of 95°F on 3 days (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>)
- ✦ IAD records minimum reading of 42°F on the 23<sup>rd</sup>
- ✦ Below normal precipitation at all three airport: DCA, 1.11" (-2.61"); BWI, 3.21" (-0.82"); IAD, 0.93" (-2.99")
- ✦ Fourth driest September on record at IAD (see graphic)
- ✦ Damaging thunderstorm winds at some locations on the 2<sup>nd</sup> caused at least 25 trees to fall near Colesville (Montgomery County); two trees landed on houses causing significant property damage near Columbia, MD (Howard County); Paeonian Springs, VA, (Loudoun County) also reported tree damage.
- ✦ On the 6<sup>th</sup>, sudden downpours lead to flooded roads and a water rescue in Potomac, (Montgomery County), MD Rainfall totals included 1.98" in Silver Spring (Montgomery County) and 1.46" at Round Hill, (Loudoun County), VA

## September 2014

**Temperatures:** Readings were highly variable at the three major airports ranging from well above normal at DCA (+2.9°F), slightly above normal at BWI (+0.9°F) to below normal at IAD (-0.4°F). The year's most intense period of heat and humidity occurred at the beginning of the month when DCA exceeded 90°F on 5 of the first 6 days, including maximum temperatures of 95°F on 3 days. BWI recorded 3 days with temperatures at or above 90°F during this period; IAD recorded 2 such days. Even after the intense heat ended, above normal readings were prevalent in Washington throughout the month with 10 days at or above 80°F, including 91°F on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

In sharp contrast, IAD reported only 4 days after the 6<sup>th</sup> with readings at or above 80°F. Later in the month, many suburban locations observed their first cool autumn nights when minimum readings dipped into the 40s, including 42°F at IAD on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Precipitation:** It was a drier than normal month with well below to somewhat below normal rainfall at all three major airports. Monthly totals were 1.11" (-2.61") at DCA, 3.21" (-0.82") at BWI, and 0.93" (-2.99") at IAD. It was the fourth driest September on record at IAD (see cover graphic).

Severe weather was prevalent at the beginning of the month. On the 1<sup>st</sup> near Wolf Trap (Fairfax County), VA, thunderstorm winds knocked down a large tree limb. The following day, damaging thunderstorm winds caused at least 25 trees to fall near Colesville (Montgomery County), MD; while two trees landed on houses near Columbia (Howard County), MD, causing significant property damage. Trees were also down from strong winds near Paeonian Springs (Loudoun County), VA.

Then on the 6<sup>th</sup> in Maryland, thunderstorm winds gusted to 58 mph at BWI and a tree was downed near Bradley Farms (Montgomery County); torrential rainfall caused urban flooding near Garrett Park (Montgomery County) and a water rescue was reported in Potomac (Montgomery County). Rainfall totals included 1.98" in Silver Spring (Montgomery County) and 1.46" at Round Hill (Loudoun County), VA.

Isolated strong storms with heavy downpours struck southern Maryland on the 11<sup>th</sup> with 1.20" measured in La Plata (Charles County) and a wind gust to 49 mph observed near East North Beach.

The month's final significant event occurred on the 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> when the area experienced a steady and in some locations, soaking rainfall. Totals included 3.28" in Kingsville (Harford County), MD; 1.75" in McLean (Fairfax County), VA.

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

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (inches)			
	AvMx	AvMin	AvgT	NmIT	DepNml	Max	Min	Total	Nml	DepNml	YTD
National (DCA)	81.8	65.9	73.9	71.0	+2.9	95/1,2,6	54/23	1.11	3.72	-2.61	34.78
Baltimore (BWI)	78.3	59.0	68.7	67.8	+0.9	93/6	44/23	3.21	4.03	-0.82	41.48
Dulles (IAD)	77.3	57.6	67.5	67.9	-0.4	91/6	42/23	0.93	3.92	-2.99	37.14

**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 2014? 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
2013	November 13	October 25	2008	November 18	October 20
2012	November 26	October 13	2007	November 24	October 29
2011	December 10	October 30	2006	November 4	November 15
2010	November 29	November 1	2005	November 17	November 11
2009	December 6	November 6	2004	December 4	October 18

\* Latest first frost at DCA: 12/22/01; at IAD, 11/11/05