

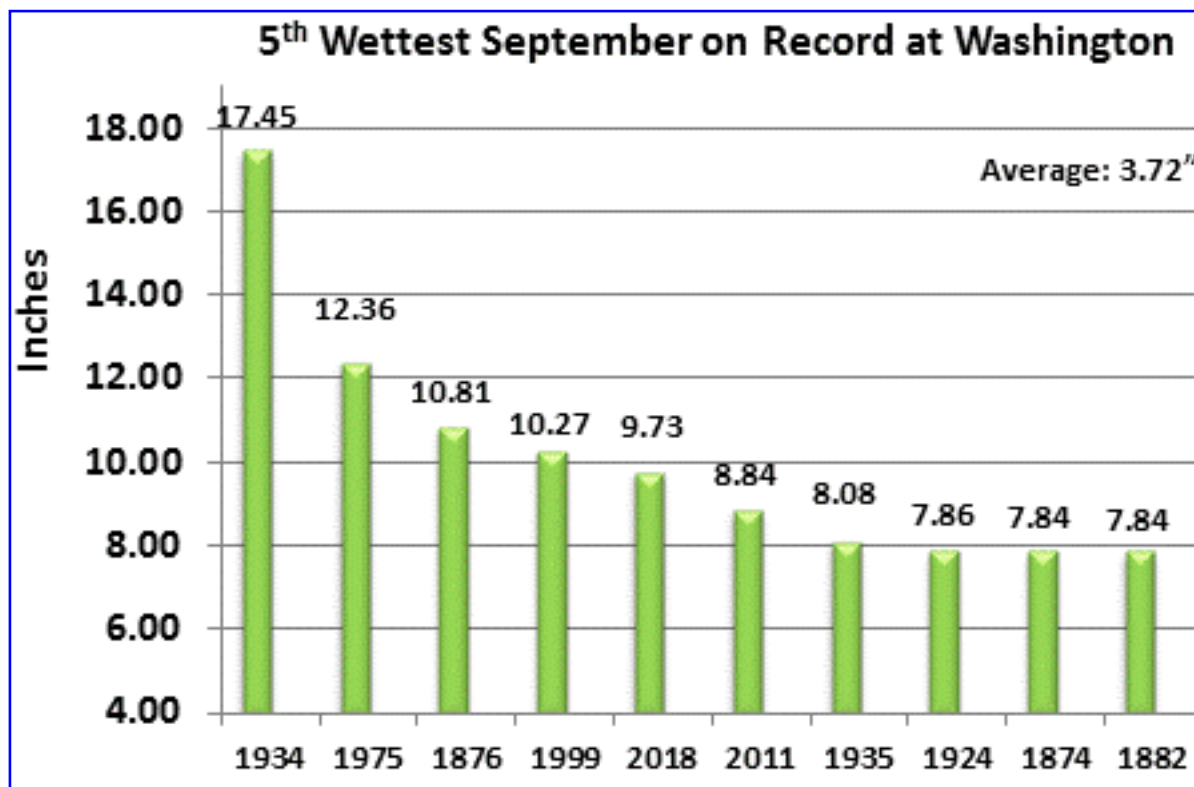


PRESTO

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



SEPTEMBER 2018: Excessively Wet With Above Normal Temperatures



September Highlights

- Well above normal temperatures: +4.4°F at DCA, +5.2°F at BWI and +4.5°F at IAD: 5th warmest September on record in Washington, 10th in Baltimore (warmest since 1970) and 3rd warmest at IAD
- Season's final heat wave with highs at or above 90°F: 3rd-7th at DCA; 2nd-6th at BWI and 3rd-6th at IAD
- DCA marked 16 days with minimum readings at or above 70°F; IAD, 10 such days, BWI, 9
- Average monthly minimum readings set all-time records for September: DCA 69.1°F and IAD 65.4°F
- Sixth consecutive month with precipitation above normal at DCA, BWI and IAD
- Excessively wet month with over 9" of rain at DCA and BWI, resulting in the 5th wettest September on record in Washington, 6th in Baltimore and 8th at IAD. Rainfall totals through 9 months have exceeded the average annual total at the three airports
- On the 8th-9th, remnants from Tropical Storm Gordon resulted in a soaking rain and combined with gusty winds and saturated soils, toppled trees and power lines near Mitchellville (Prince Georges County), MD, and near Sterling Park (Loudoun County), VA. Highest totals included 4.40" near Sabillasville (Frederick County), MD, and 3.45" near Sherando (Augusta County), VA. Calendar day records were set at BWI, 2.23", DCA, 1.59" and IAD 1.40"
- On the 17th-18th, remnants from Hurricane Florence produced heavy rain, flooded roads, trapping several vehicles near Montpelier (Prince Georges County) and near Rosedale (Baltimore County), MD. A water rescue occurred on a bridge near Roseland (Nelson County), VA. Rainfall totaled 3.70" near Baltimore City and 3.26" near McLean (Fairfax County), VA; BWI set a daily record 2.22" on the 18th.

September 2018

Temperatures: Well above normal temperatures at the three major airports: DCA, +4.4°F; BWI, +5.2°F; and IAD, +4.5°F, making it the 5th warmest September in Washington, 10th in Baltimore (warmest since 1970) and 3rd warmest at IAD. The season's final heat wave occurred near the beginning of the month. DCA and BWI recorded 5 consecutive days with highs at or above 90°F and IAD, 4 such days. On the 4th, DCA's maximum reading of 95°F equaled a calendar day record and its minimum reading of 79°F broke a record for warmest minimum temperature for the date as well as equaling the all-time warmest minimum for September. The persistent cloud cover and humidity resulted in average monthly minimum readings setting all-time records for September: DCA 69.1°F and IAD 65.4°F; and tied for 5th warmest at BWI, 66.0°F. DCA's low temperature dropped below 60°F only on the 27th (59°F), while the minimum for the month was a warm 54°F at both BWI and IAD. IAD set or tied seven high minimum daily temperature records; DCA set or equaled records on 5 days. In contrast, daily low maximum readings were established at IAD on the 9th (64°F) and 10th (68°F).

Precipitation: For the 6th consecutive month, precipitation was above normal and well above normal for the month: DCA, 9.73" (+6.01"), BWI, 9.19" (+5.16") and IAD, 7.36" (+3.44"). It was the 5th wettest September in Washington, 6th in Baltimore and 8th at IAD. It was the wettest month since June 2015 at DCA and BWI and since July 2017 at IAD. It was the wettest September since 1999 at DCA and since 2011 at BWI and IAD. Rainfall totals for 9 months have exceeded the average annual total at the three airports. BWI recorded 18 days with measurable rain including 2 days with more than 2" and 8 consecutive days with measurable rain (7th-14th). DCA and IAD reported measurable rain on 16 days with DCA recording 1 day with over 2" and 2 days over 1". IAD measured 3 days with over 1" of rain.

The month featured some notable rainmakers. In the early morning hours on the 1st thunderstorms deluged Shenandoah (Page County), VA, with 4.10" flooding multiple roads and leading to a water rescue. Thunderstorms during the evening and overnight from the 7th-8th deluged some areas. Several vehicles were stranded by high water in D.C. and a vehicle was trapped in high water on the George Washington Parkway in Arlington, VA. Rainfall totaled 3.49" in Takoma Park (Montgomery County), MD, and 2.89" at DCA. The remnants from Tropical Storm Gordon quickly followed from late on the 8th to the 9th resulting in an all-day soaker. Gusty winds with saturated soils toppled trees and power lines near Mitchellville (Prince Georges County), MD, and near Sterling Park (Loudoun County), VA. Greatest amounts included 4.40" near Sabillasville (Frederick County), MD, and 3.45" near Sherando (Augusta County), VA. Calendar day records were set at the three airports: BWI, 2.23"; DCA, 1.59", IAD, 1.40".

On the 12th, thunderstorms dumped 2.80" near Potomac and 2.43" near Gaithersburg (Montgomery County). The remnants from Hurricane Florence produced copious rainfall from the 17th-18th. Flooded roads trapped several vehicles near Montpelier (Prince Georges County) and near Rosedale (Baltimore County). A water rescue occurred on a bridge near Roseland (Nelson County), VA. Rain totaled 3.70" near Baltimore City and 3.26" near McLean (Fairfax County), VA; BWI set a daily record 2.22" on the 18th.

Another all-day soaker on the 23rd brought over an inch to many locations with greater amounts in portions of the Shenandoah with 2.58" near Christian (Augusta County), VA, flooding numerous roads across the county.

On the 26th, damaging thunderstorm winds knocked down a tree near Marston (Frederick County), MD, and near Rixeyville (Culpeper County), VA. The month's final event occurred from the 27th-28th with over an inch across the region and over 2" in some areas including 2.55" near Adamstown and Buckeystown (Frederick County) and 2.35" near Bluemont (Loudoun County). Some roads were flooded across Montgomery, Howard, Fairfax and Loudon counties.

September 2018 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	Yr to Date
National (DCA)	81.6	69.1	75.5	71.1	+4.4	95/4	59/27	9.73	3.72	+6.01	49.83
Baltimore (BWI)	80.0	66.0	73.0	67.8	+5.2	95/6	54/30	9.19	4.03	+5.16	54.45
Dulles (IAD)	79.4	65.4	72.4	67.9	+4.5	94/4,6	54/30	7.36	3.92	+3.44	50.62

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 2018? 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
2017	November 10	November 10	2012	November 26	October 13
2016	November 23	October 26	2011	December 10	October 30
2015	November 23	October 18	2010	November 29	November 1
2014	November 15	November 8	2009	December 6	November 6
2013	November 13	October 25	2008	November 18	October 20

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