

**JULY 1995:** Weather more typical of summer in the Washington/Baltimore area arrived during the second week of July and persisted through the end of the month. After near normal temperatures during June and a relatively cool start to July (11 of the first 12 days were below normal at DCA), relentless heat and humidity enveloped the local region the final two-thirds of the month, yielding the hottest July on record at BWI. Highs reached or exceeded 90°F on 21 days at BWI, including the last 20 days of the month, one shy of the longest such period ever recorded at BWI: 21 days, July 29–August 18, 1988. This record will be broken if highs on the first 2 days of August reach 90°F or higher. In addition, 90°F+ highs were observed on 18 of the last 19 days at DCA and 17 of the last 20 at IAD. Despite the persistent heat, there were very few daily records established. In fact, DCA and BWI observed only one each (on the 15th, a record high minimum of 79°F at DCA and a record daily high of 102°F at BWI). IAD observed two daily record highs (15th: 98°F and 31st: 95°F) and two record daily high minima (73°F on the 14th and 15th). The heat combined with oppressive humidity to generate dangerous heat indices, with some locations recording apparent temperatures over 115°F. In addition, there were several days when air quality reached unhealthy levels across the local area. Nights were often uncomfortably warm and sticky as lows never dropped below normal (<72°F) after the 12th at DCA. On the 15th, the low at DCA and BWI fell only to 79°F, and ADW recorded a steamy 81°F.

Monthly precipitation was near to slightly above normal across most of the local area, but as is frequently the case during the summer months, daily totals varied widely from one location to the next. Most locations received the bulk of their monthly totals during the first ten days of the month, with dry conditions dominating by month's end (cooler than normal conditions early in the month were due in large part to extensive cloud cover and numerous showers and thunderstorms). Strong thunderstorms on the 10th generated heavy rains (1.64" at IAD), small hail, frequent lightning, disrupting electrical service across portions of northern Virginia. Scattered strong thunderstorms on the 21st dumped 1.60" of rain at DCA and generated some urban flooding in northern Virginia. These rains provided a brief respite from the heat and contributed to about 40% of the monthly total at DCA. BWI recorded the most monthly precipitation (3.65") since September 1994; however, this was their tenth consecutive month with subnormal precipitation, the longest such period ever observed at BWI.

**JULY 1995 WEATHER STATISTICS FOR THE WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE AREA:**

Station Location	Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (In)				
	AvMx	AvMn	AvgT	NmlT	DepNm	MaxT	MinT	Total	Norm	DepNm	Yr to Date	DepNm
National (DCA)	90.4	72.5	81.4	80.0	+1.4	99/15	61/9	4.03	3.80	+0.23	19.60	-2.55
Baltimore (BWI)	91.7	71.3	81.5	77.0	+4.5	102/15	58/9	3.65	3.69	-0.04	17.64	-6.08
Dulles (IAD)	89.4	66.9	78.2	75.6	+2.6	98/15	54/9	4.24	3.49	+0.75	22.13	-1.09
Ft. Belvoir (DAA)	89.9	68.1	79.0	76	+3	98/15	62/3	4.05	3.8	+0.3	23.99	0
Andrew AFB (ADW)	92.6	72.3	82.5	77	+6	101/15	60/9	4.11	4.3	-0.2	23.81	-0.7

**LOOKING AHEAD TO AUGUST:** *Another drier than normal month at BWI?*

With subnormal precipitation observed at BWI again in July, our attention now focuses on whether or not the record stretch of consecutive drier than normal months will continue. If below normal precipitation falls in August, it would be the eleventh consecutive such month. Below is a list of monthly precipitation totals at BWI since September 1994.

Month & Year	Total Prec. & Dep. Nml. (In.)	Month & Year	Total Prec. & Dep. Nml. (In.)
September 1994	3.93 +0.52	March 1995	2.12 -1.26
October 1994	1.82 -1.16	April 1995	1.92 -1.17
November 1994	1.95 -1.37	May 1995	3.40 -0.32
December 1994	1.98 -1.43	June 1995	1.80 -1.87
January 1995	2.87 -0.18	July 1995	3.65 -0.04
February 1995	1.88 -1.24	August 1995	? ?