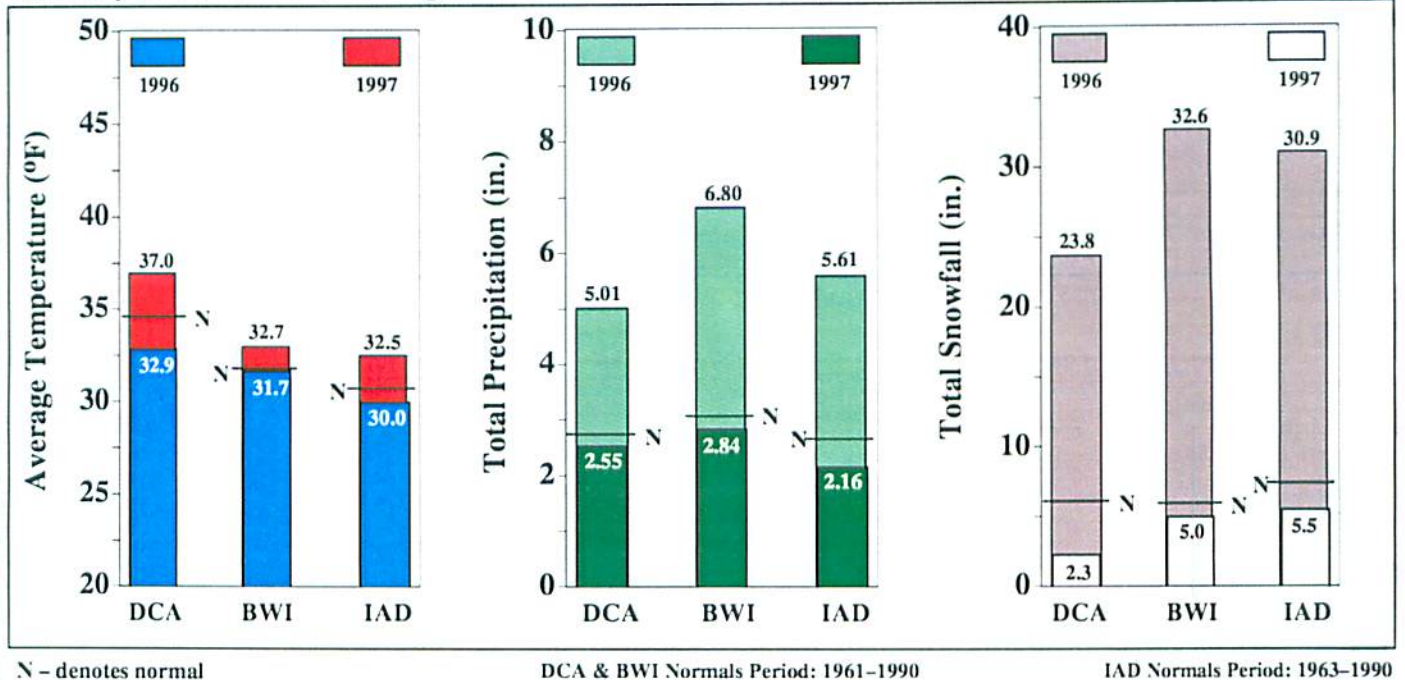


**PRECIPITATION SUMMARY AND TEMPERATURE OBSERVATIONS
FOR THE WASHINGTON, DC & BALTIMORE, MD AREA**

JANUARY 1997

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES

January (1996 vs. 1997) Average Temperature, Total Precipitation & Snowfall at DCA, BWI & IAD



HIGHLIGHTS

- Warmer than normal conditions across the Washington/Baltimore area;
- The first back-to-back (December 1996 & January 1997) warmer than normal months at DCA since July & August 1995;
- 16 days with at or above normal temperatures at DCA, including 5 days with 60°F+ highs;
- Three days with daily record highs at DCA [3rd (66°F), 4th (73°F) & 5th (71°F)], two at BWI [3rd (67°F) & 5th (69°F)], and four at IAD [3rd (64°F), 4th (74°F), 5th (69°F) & 6th (56°F)];
- Highest January reading (73°F on the 4th) and the first January with two 70°F+ readings at DCA since 1975;
- 21 days with at or below freezing lows at DCA (26 at BWI; 25 at IAD), including a monthly extreme minimum of 11°F on the 19th (1°F at BWI; 2°F at IAD);
- An Arctic blast shortly after mid-month (17th-19th) yielded the coldest air of the Winter (thus far) with highs only in the low-mid twenties and dangerous wind chills across the Washington/Baltimore area;
- Slightly below normal precipitation and subnormal snowfall across the local area;
- First month with subnormal precipitation since August 1996 at DCA, and only the fourth such month since January 1996;
- Little snowfall across most of the local area with all of the January totals at DCA (2.3"), BWI (5.0"), and IAD (5.5), falling between the 9th and 11th;
- Subnormal snowfall for the first two months of Winter at DCA, BWI, and IAD.

Andrew H. Horvitz, Office of Meteorology/NWS, (301) 713-1867
Joseph A. Harrison, Climate Prediction Center/NCEP/NWS, (301) 763-4670

(for more details turn over)