

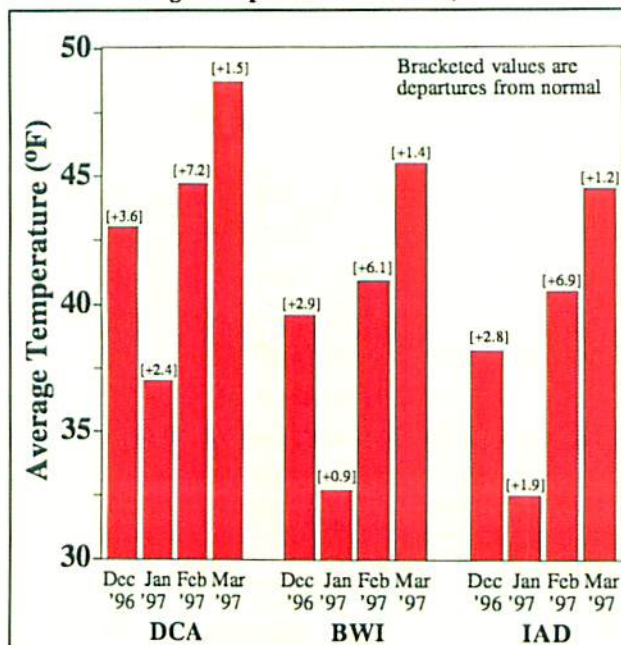


**PRECIPITATION SUMMARY AND TEMPERATURE OBSERVATIONS
FOR THE WASHINGTON, DC & BALTIMORE, MD AREA**

MARCH 1997

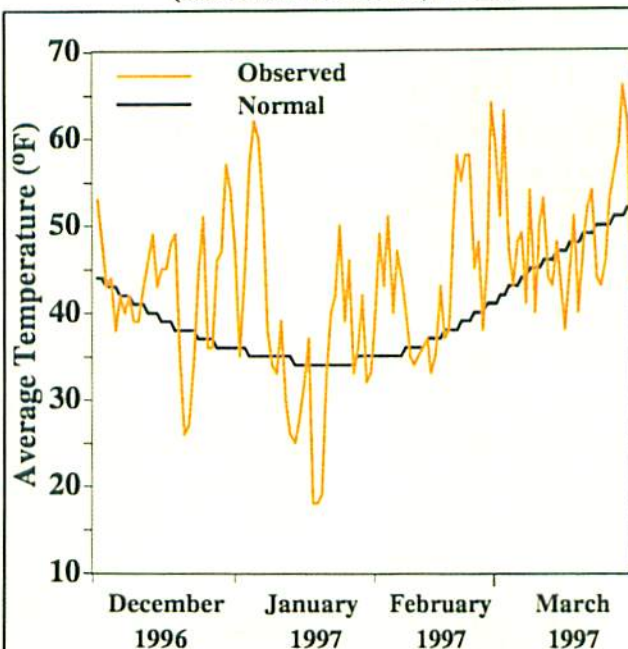
**FOURTH CONSECUTIVE MONTH WITH WARMER THAN
NORMAL CONDITIONS ACROSS THE
WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE AREA**

**December 1996, January, February & March 1997
Average Temperatures at DCA, BWI & IAD**



DCA & BWI Normals Period: 1961–1990

**December 1996 – March 1997 Daily Average Temperatures
(Observed vs. Normal) at DCA**



IAD Normals Period: 1963–1990

HIGHLIGHTS

- Above normal temperatures and precipitation across the Washington/Baltimore area;
- Fourth consecutive warmer than normal month at the three major airports, the longest such period since October 1990–August 1991 at DCA;
- 18 days with at or above normal temperatures at DCA;
- 11 days with 60+°F readings at DCA (26 such days during January–March 1997);
- Only 2 days with at or below freezing lows at DCA, the fewest such March days (tied w/ 1996) since 1973;
- Sixth March out of last seven with above normal precipitation at DCA, BWI & IAD;
- Two storm systems dumped more than two inches of rain between the 1st & 3rd;
- Only a trace of snow measured at DCA, the lowest March total (tied w/ '92, '91, '87, '86 and '85) since 1983;
- Highs in the seventies across the area on the 27th–30th, followed by isolated severe thundershowers on the 29th (with hail reported in some areas), then measurable snow across parts of northeastern Maryland and snow showers around the Washington area on the 31st;
- Strong wind gusts of 40–50 mph on the 6th, 25th & 26th and 31st;

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(for more details turn over)