

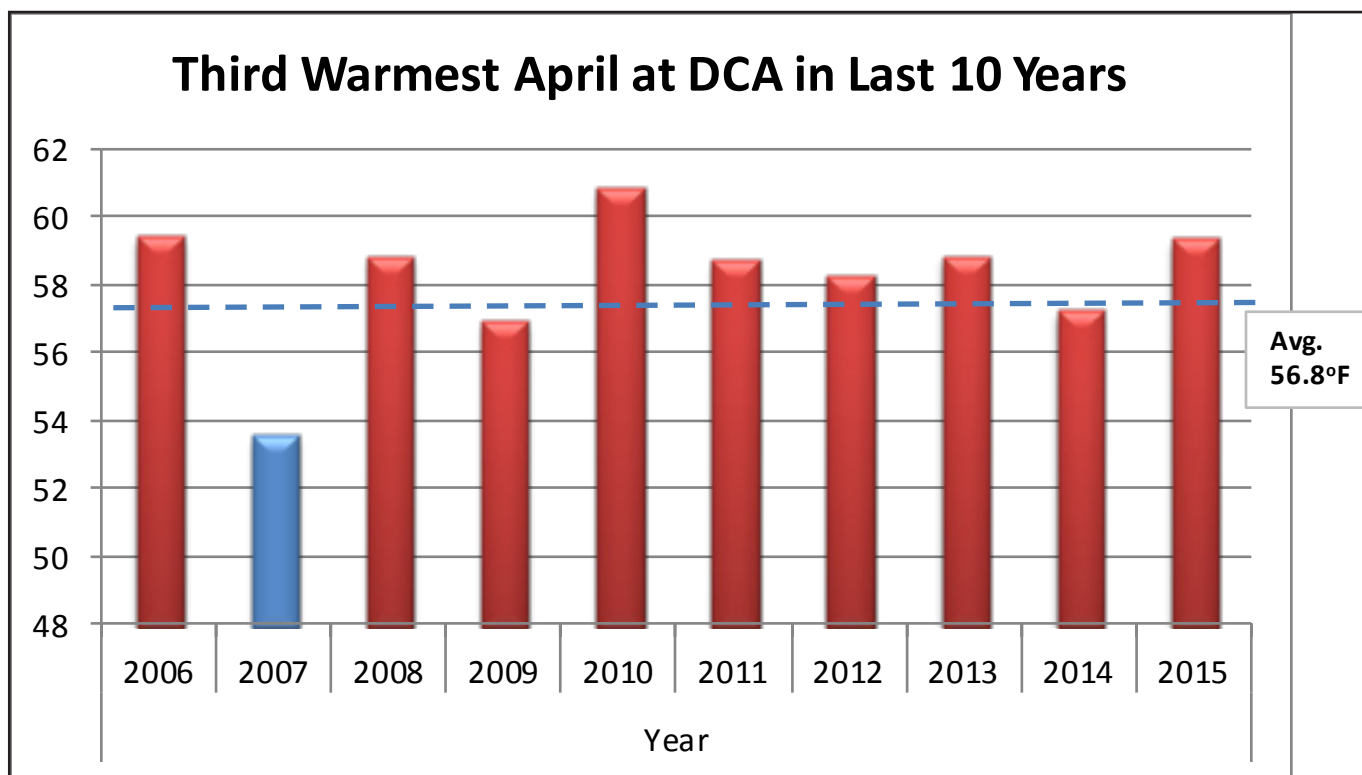


# PRESTO

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



## APRIL 2015: Above Normal Temperatures; Spring's First Taste of Severe Weather



### April Highlights

- ☁ Above normal temperatures at all three major airports: +2.6°F at DCA, +0.8°F at BWI and +0.3°F at IAD
- ☁ On the 18<sup>th</sup>, DCA soared to 84°F; BWI and IAD hit 80°F for the first time in 2015
- ☁ The season's last freeze occurred on the 1<sup>st</sup> at BWI and 12<sup>th</sup> at IAD
- ☁ On the 20<sup>th</sup>, 1" to nearly 3" of rain soaked the metro area: greatest amounts in Virginia were 2.87" near Madison (Madison County), VA, and 2.17" near Dumpries (Prince William County), VA; in Maryland, 2.50" was measured near Lewistown (Frederick County) and 2.46" near Lexington Park (St. Mary's County)
- ☁ Later on the 20<sup>th</sup>, scattered severe thunderstorms (first of season in some areas) were reported including 1.0" hail in Burtonsville (Montgomery County), MD, and near Fredericksburg (Spotsylvania County), VA
- ☁ On the 4<sup>th</sup>, strong winds not associated with a thunderstorm gusted to 53 mph at Quantico Marine Corp (Prince William County), VA; winds gusted to 49 mph at IAD and 46 mph near Andrews AFB, (Prince Georges County), MD

## April 2015

**Temperatures:** April featured above normal temperatures for the first time in 2015. Positive departures were +2.6°F at DCA, +0.8°F at BWI and +0.3°F at IAD. DCA recorded 15 days with maximum readings of 70°F or greater while BWI and IAD reported 12 such days, making the cold days of winter and early spring a distant memory. The month's warmest temperatures occurred on the 18<sup>th</sup> when DCA soared to 84°F and BWI and IAD hit 80°F for the first such occurrence in 2015.

In sharp contrast, BWI's maximum reading was only 47°F on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 45°F on the 9<sup>th</sup>; IAD only reached 48°F on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Minimum temperatures were in the 30s on 10 days at IAD and 9 at BWI.

The season's last freeze occurred on the 1<sup>st</sup> at BWI and on the 12<sup>th</sup> at IAD. IAD observed a 39°F temperature rise on the 2<sup>nd</sup> ranging from a minimum of 33°F to a maximum of 72°F later in the day. There were no daily records for temperature or precipitation equaled or established at the three major airports, the first such occurrence since December 2014.

**Precipitation:** Monthly rainfall totals varied widely across the region with above normal totals at DCA, 3.41" (+0.35") and BWI, 4.30" (+1.11") and a subnormal total at IAD 2.46" (-1.01").

Two significant events brought over an inch of rain to many locations. The greatest amounts in the first event occurred in Maryland on the 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> when 1.75" of precipitation was measured in White Oak (Montgomery County) and 1.63" near Severn (Ann Arundel County).

The second event started on the evening of the 19<sup>th</sup> and lasted until about dawn on the 20<sup>th</sup>, bringing 1" to nearly 3" of soaking rain to the area. The greatest amounts in Virginia were 2.87" near Madison (Madison County), and 2.17" near Dumfries (Prince William County); in Maryland, 2.50" was measured near Lewistown (Frederick County) and 2.46" near Lexington Park (St. Mary's County). Later on the 20<sup>th</sup>, some areas reported scattered severe thunderstorms, the first of season for those locations, including 1.0" hail in Burtonsville (Montgomery County), MD, and near Fredericksburg (Spotsylvania County), VA.

Southern Maryland was impacted by heavy rainfall on the 14<sup>th</sup> when 1.99" was observed near Waldorf (Charles County) and 1.33" near Great Mills (St. Mary's County).

Scattered strong thunderstorms winds struck some locations on the 22<sup>nd</sup> causing trees to fall near Towson, (Baltimore City), MD, near Patapsco (Carroll County), MD, and near Sperryville (Rappahannock County), VA.

April's last day included isolated strong thunderstorms with 0.75" hail near Patapsco (Carroll County), MD, and in Ruckersville (Greene County), VA, while 1.13" deluged near Culpeper, VA.

Strong non-thunderstorm winds were also observed on the 4<sup>th</sup> when northwest winds gusted to 53 mph at Quantico Marine Corp (Prince William County), VA, 49 mph at IAD and 46 mph near Andrews AFB (Prince Georges County), MD.

### April 2015 Weather Statistics for the Washington/Baltimore Area

Location	Station Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (inches)				
	AvMx	AvMin	AvgT	NmlT	DepNml	Max	Min	Total	Nml	DepNml	Yr. to Date	Snow
National (DCA)	69.4	49.4	59.4	56.8	+2.6	84/19	39/24	3.41	3.06	+0.35	12.86	T
Baltimore (BWI)	66.1	43.0	54.5	53.7	+0.8	80/18	31/1	4.30	3.19	+1.11	15.10	0.0
Dulles (IAD)	66.9	42.5	54.7	54.4	+0.3	80/18	31/1	2.46	3.47	-1.01	11.40	T

**Looking Ahead to May:** Another May with above normal temperatures? The last five Mays have featured above normal temperatures in Washington. Will 2014 extend the streak? Listed below are the 10 most recent May departures from normal for average temperatures at DCA.

Last 10 May Departures from Normal for Average Monthly Temperature at DCA										
Year	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Average Monthly Temperature Departure	?	+2.5°F	+0.7°F	+5.4°F	+1.4°F	+3.7°F	-0.1°F	-0.9°F	+2.2°F	-0.5°F