

**FEBRUARY 1992:** The mild weather throughout the months of December and January continued into February. While no record highs were recorded at DCA, consistently above normal temperatures were observed, including 16 consecutive days [February 14–29] which led to monthly temperatures averaging 3.7°F above normal. Precipitation averaged slightly below normal, with three rain events (15th, 17th–19th, and 24th–26th) providing about two inches across the region. A six hour moderate snowfall of 3–6 inches during the morning hours on the 13th accounted for the month's total snowfall, creating hazardous driving conditions, and providing winter weather-lovers a brief opportunity to enjoy a snow-cover that would completely melt a day later.

**FEBRUARY 1992 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	Snow
National (DCA)	49.7	32.7	41.2	37.5	+3.7	62/19*	20/10	2.23	2.62	-0.39	2.6
Baltimore (BWI)	46.4	27.7	37.1	34.7	+2.4	61/23	11/10	2.49	2.98	-0.49	1.9
Dulles (IAD)	48.4	27.5	38.0	33.6	+4.4	65/19	7/10	2.26	2.64	-0.38	3.4
Ft. Belvoir (DAA)	50.2	30.9	40.6	36	+5	64/19#	15/10	2.64	3.0	-0.4	5.5
Andrews AFB (ADW)	48.2	29.1	38.6	36	+3	64/19	14/9	2.37	2.8	-0.4	4.0

Other dates of occurrence: \* February 22nd and 28th; # February 22nd.

**WINTER (DECEMBER-FEBRUARY) 1991-1992:** The Winter of 1991–1992 will go down in the record books as a warm winter with temperatures averaging more than 3°F above normal at DCA and IAD. The three winter months were consistently warmer than normal (DCA averaged 3°F above normal all three months) with only short-lived outbreaks of severe cold, producing only a modest 14°F low temperature at DCA. In addition, only on one calendar day (midnight-to-midnight) did temperatures remain below freezing at DCA (January 19th). There were several extended periods of above freezing temperatures at DCA, including December 8–14 and February 15–28. Snowfall was below normal for the 5th consecutive winter season, with DCA receiving less than 50% of normal. Only two light to moderate snowfalls occurred. The first on January 25th (the latest one inch snow since 1987 at DCA, BWI, and IAD) provided 2–4 inch accumulations around the area, and the second on February 13 produced 3–6 inches regionally. However, after both storms, warm weather quickly returned and the snow became an instant memory. Rainfall was heavy during December, with three significant events dropping totals over 4 inches at all airports. December 1991 was the wettest (5.07") at DCA since 1983. Precipitation was about average in January and only slightly below normal in February.

**WINTER 1991-1992 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	Snow
National (DCA)	48.8	32.4	40.6	37.2	+3.4	71/12-19	14/1-9	10.08	8.56	+1.52	6.6
Baltimore (BWI)	45.9	27.6	36.8	34.6	+2.2	67/12-9	9/1-9	7.84	9.38	-1.54	4.1
Dulles (IAD)	47.5	26.8	37.2	33.4	+3.8	67/12-8	7/2-10	8.93	8.76	+0.17	5.5
Ft. Belvoir (DAA)	48.4	29.1	38.8	35	+4	73/12-9	11/12-20	10.14	9.1	+1.0	8.5
Andrews AFB (ADW)	47.4	28.7	38.0	36	+2	71/12-9	10/1-16*	8.67	9.3	-0.6	8.0

Other dates of occurrence \* January 19th.

**LOOKING AHEAD TO MARCH:** A warm start to Spring?

Since 1985, all three airports (DCA, BWI, and IAD) have recorded warmer than normal temperatures during March. How will 1992 compare? Below is a list of the average March temperatures since 1985 and the departures from normal for the three airports. (March Normals at: DCA 45.8°F; BWI 43.3°F; IAD 42.4°F and Normals Period: 1951–1980 at DCA and BWI; 1963–1980 at IAD)

Year	Average Temp. (°F)			Dep. Nml. (°F)		
	DCA	BWI	IAD	DCA	BWI	IAD
1992	?	?	?	?	?	?
1991	48.8	46.7	46.1	+3.0	+3.4	+3.7
1990	50.2	47.6	48.1	+4.4	+4.3	+5.7
1989	46.1	43.8	43.7	+0.3	+0.5	+1.3
1988	47.2	45.1	43.9	+1.4	+1.8	+1.5
1987	47.7	46.2	43.5	+1.9	+2.9	+1.1
1986	47.4	45.0	44.3	+1.6	+1.7	+1.9
1985	47.7	46.0	45.0	+1.9	+2.7	+2.6