

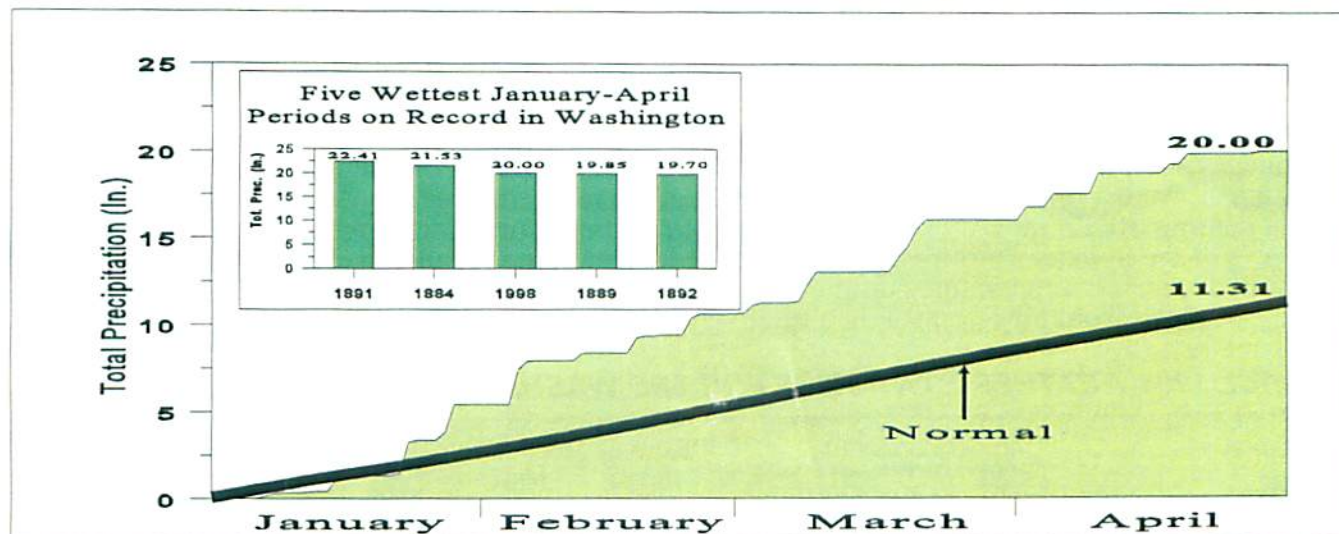


PRECIPITATION SUMMARY AND TEMPERATURE OBSERVATIONS
FOR THE WASHINGTON, DC & BALTIMORE, MD AREA

APRIL 1998

FOURTH CONSECUTIVE **WETTER** THAN NORMAL MONTH AT DCA
YIELDS **WETTEST** JANUARY-APRIL PERIOD IN OVER 100 YEARS IN
WASHINGTON

January-April 1998 Cumulative Precipitation at DCA



HIGHLIGHTS

- Slightly above normal temperatures across most of the Washington/Baltimore area;
- 19 days with subnormal temperatures at DCA;
- Second consecutive April without an 80°F+ reading at DCA;
- Five days with lows of 32°F or lower at IAD, 3 such days at BWI;
- Last freeze of the season at BWI on the 12th and at IAD on the 13th;
- A thirty degree temperature drop during the evening of the 26th with the passage of a strong cold front (temperature at DCA fell from 80°F to 50°F);
- Above normal precipitation at DCA, DAA & ADW and near normal at both BWI and IAD;
- Wettest January-April period ever recorded at DCA (Tot. Prec.: 20.00"; Dep. Nml.: +8.69"), BWI (Tot. Prec.: 20.64"; Dep. Nml. +8.00") and IAD (Tot. Prec.: 19.76"; Dep. Nml. +7.97");
- As in March, most of the monthly precipitation across the local area (96% at DCA) fell during the first three weeks;
- Precipitation totals for the first third of 1998 were more than 160% of normal and about 50% of the annual normal at the three major airports.

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