

2005

LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA ANNUAL SUMMARY WITH COMPARATIVE DATA

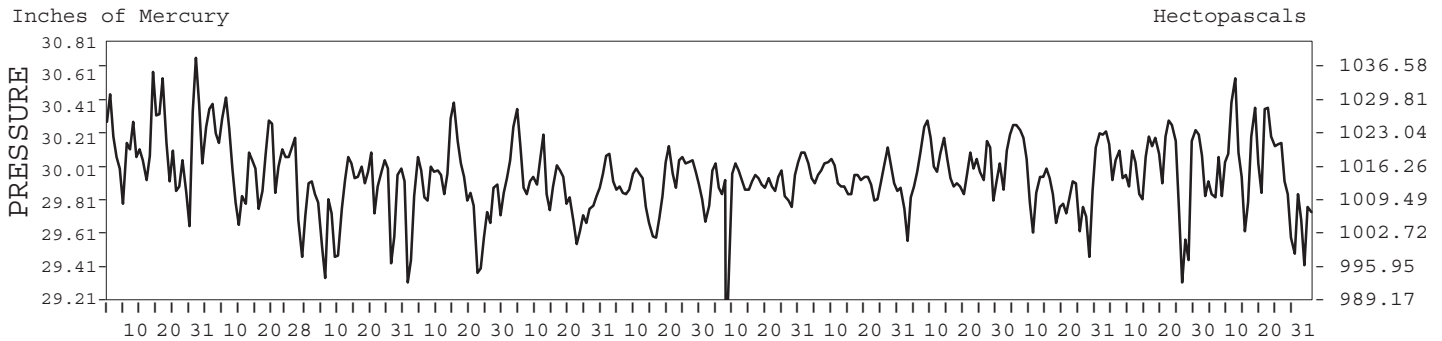
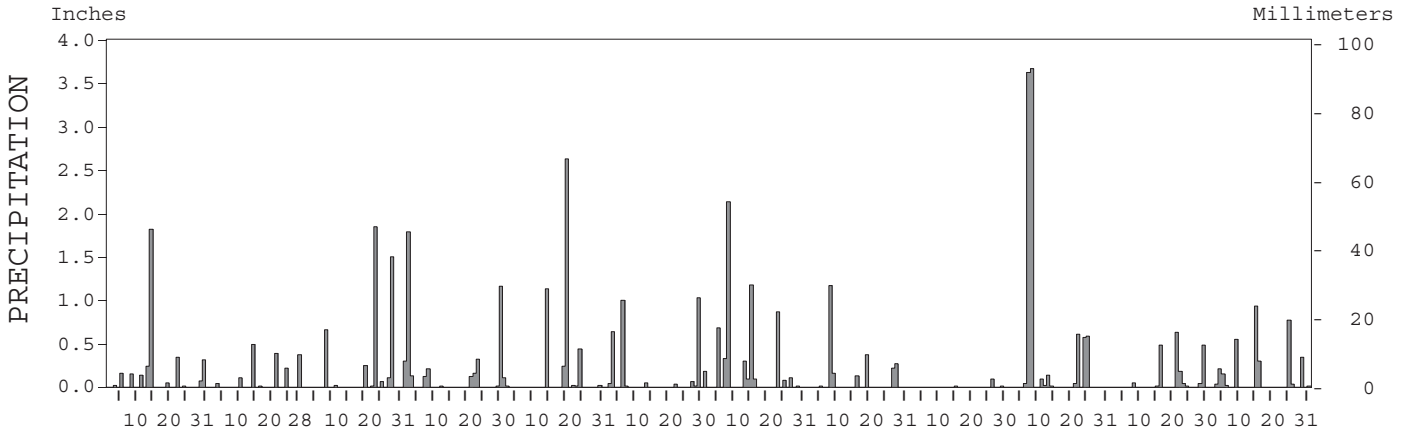
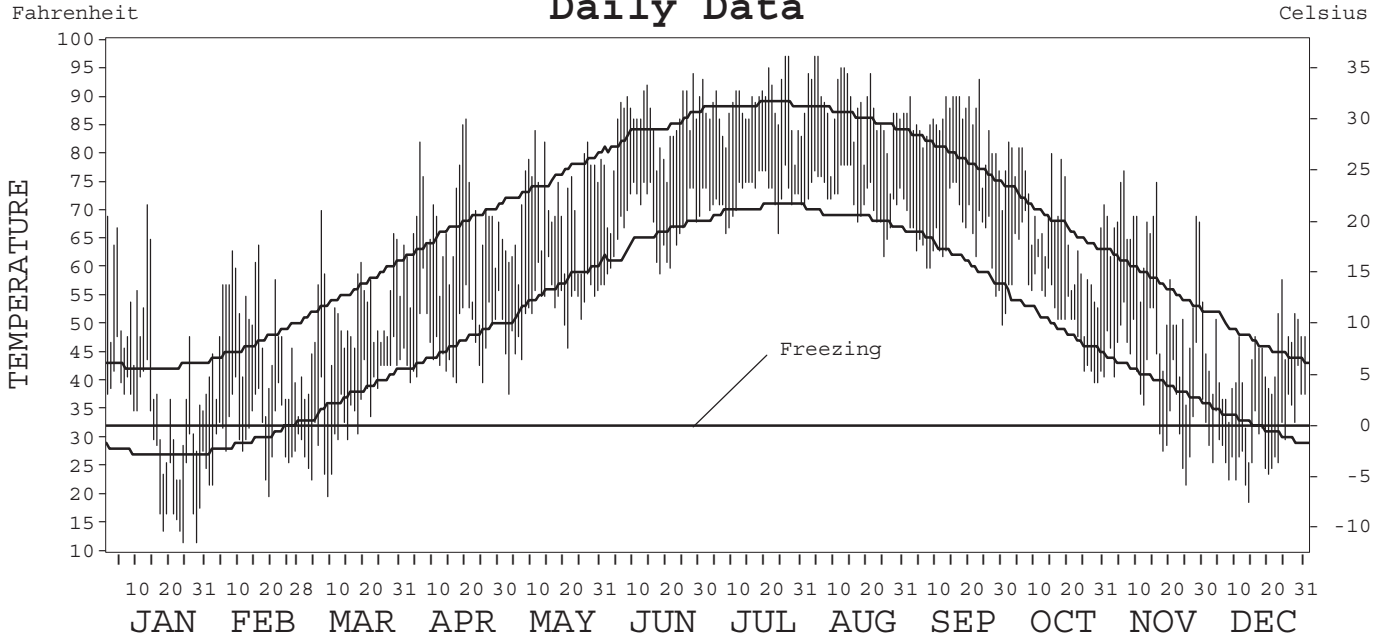


WASHINGTON, D.C.

ISSN 0198-1196

RONALD REAGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT (DCA)

Daily Data



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Thomas R. Karl

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION	NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA, AND INFORMATION SERVICE	NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA	DIRECTOR NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER
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METEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR 2005

WASHINGTON DC, DC (DCA)

LATITUDE: 38° 51' 54" N LONGITUDE: 77° 02' 03" W ELEVATION (FT): GRND: 10 BARO: 3 TIME ZONE: EASTERN (UTC + 5) WBAN: 13743

ELEMENT		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YEAR	
TEMPERATURE °F	MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM	42.9	48.2	51.2	67.2	70.9	84.2	88.3	87.9	84.7	67.8	59.7	43.2	66.3	
	HIGHEST DAILY MAXIMUM	71	64	70	86	84	94	97	97	93	82	77	58	97	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	13	16	07	20	11	28	27+	05+	23	02	06	24	AUG 05+	
	MEAN DAILY MINIMUM	29.2	30.9	34.9	47.4	52.8	67.1	72.6	72.3	65.3	53.1	40.7	29.6	49.7	
	LOWEST DAILY MINIMUM	12	20	20	40	38	57	66	62	50	40	22	19	12	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	28+	19	09	25+	03	01	24+	25	30	29+	25	14	JAN 28+	
	AVERAGE DRY BULB	36.1	39.6	43.1	57.3	61.9	75.7	80.5	80.1	75.0	60.5	50.2	36.4	58.0	
	MEAN WET BULB	31.9	33.8	37.0	48.9	53.9	67.9		71.1	64.6	54.3	44.4	31.9		
	MEAN DEW POINT	24.7	25.0	27.6	40.0	46.4	63.5		66.6	57.8	48.9	36.4	24.1		
	NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:														
	MAXIMUM ≥ 90°	0	0	0	0	0	7	13	12	7	0	0	0	0	39
	MAXIMUM ≤ 32°	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	11	
	MINIMUM ≤ 32°	17	17	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	21	74	
MINIMUM ≤ 0°	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
H/C	HEATING DEGREE DAYS	887	702	675	240	121	4	0	0	5	179	439	881	4133	
	COOLING DEGREE DAYS	0	0	0	16	32	331	490	474	315	46	1	0	1705	
RH	MEAN (PERCENT)	66	60	58	57	60	68	68	66	59	69	61	64	63	
	HOUR 01 LST	70	68	63	68	70	79	77	75	71	76	68	68	71	
	HOUR 07 LST	72	72	67	69	69	77	77	76	74	78	72	73	73	
	HOUR 13 LST	61	48	49	43	47	55	54	53	41	58	50	54	51	
	HOUR 19 LST	64	54	51	50	53	60	63	61	52	67	59	60	58	
S	PERCENT POSSIBLE SUNSHINE														
W/O	NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:														
	HEAVY FOG (VISBY ≤ 1/4 MI)	5	4	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	15	
	THUNDERSTORMS	0	0	2	2	1	5	10	3	1	1	0	0	25	
CLOUDINESS	SUNRISE-SUNSET: (OKTAS)														
	CEILOMETER (≤ 12,000 FT.)														
	SATELLITE (> 12,000 FT.)														
	MIDNIGHT-MIDNIGHT: (OKTAS)														
	CEILOMETER (≤ 12,000 FT.)														
SATELLITE (> 12,000 FT.)															
NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:															
CLEAR															
PARTLY CLOUDY															
CLOUDY															
PR	MEAN STATION PRESS. (IN.)	30.17	30.08	29.83	29.87	29.92	29.93		29.94	30.03	29.96	30.01	29.99		
	MEAN SEA-LEVEL PRESS. (IN.)	30.24	30.15	29.90	29.93	29.98	30.00		30.01	30.10	30.03	30.08	30.06		
WINDS	RESULTANT SPEED (MPH)	3.2	3.6	3.7	0.4	2.6	1.5		1.5	0.3	4.3	3.4	3.9		
	RES. DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	35	34	32	25	35	22		19	35	35	26	31		
	MEAN SPEED (MPH)	8.8	8.4	9.8	9.2	9.0	8.4	6.7	7.2	7.7	8.9	9.3	8.1	8.5	
	PREVAIL. DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	33	33	33	19	33	18	19	21	34	33	20	34	19	
	MAXIMUM 2-MINUTE WIND:														
	SPEED (MPH)	33	31	36	32	35	38	38	30	26	30	43	28	43	
	DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	31	32	32	33	28	34	33	24	34	21	33	32	33	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	08	10	08	02	14	06	27	08	29	07	24	26	NOV 24	
	MAXIMUM 5-SECOND WIND:														
	SPEED (MPH)	46	43	44	46	54	45	45	35	30	39	49	37	54	
DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	33	32	31	31	27	34	33	29	36	22	33	31	27		
DATE OF OCCURRENCE	23	10	08+	02	14	06	27+	31	29+	07	24	02	MAY 14		
PRECIPITATION	WATER EQUIVALENT:														
	TOTAL (IN.)	3.31	1.63	4.46	4.33	4.61	2.87	6.06	2.33	0.11	9.41	1.92	3.34	44.38	
	GREATEST 24-HOUR (IN.)	2.06	0.49	1.86	1.91	2.87	1.03	2.14	1.27	0.09	5.91	0.81	1.23	5.91	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	13-14	14	22-23	01-02	19-20	29	08	08-09	26	07-08	21-22	15-16	OCT 07-08	
	NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:														
PRECIPITATION ≥ 0.01	11	7	8	11	9	9	12	7	3	11	9	11	108		
PRECIPITATION ≥ 0.10	7	5	5	9	5	3	8	6	0	6	4	7	65		
PRECIPITATION ≥ 1.00	1	0	2	2	2	2	2	1	0	2	0	0	14		
SNOWFALL	SNOW, ICE PELLETS, HAIL:														
	TOTAL (IN.)	6.4	5.2	0.8	0.0	T	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	4.8	17.2	
	GREATEST 24-HOUR (IN.)	3.0	2.9	0.8	0.0	T	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	1.6	3.0	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	22	24	08		14						23	09	JAN 22	
	MAXIMUM SNOW DEPTH (IN.)	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	25+	25	01								06		DEC 06	
NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:															
SNOWFALL ≥ 1.0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	7		

HEATING DEGREE DAYS (base 65°F) 2005 WASHINGTON, D.C. DC (DCA)

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
1976-77	0	0	11	306	652	907	1221	729	389	188	32	3	4438
1977-78	0	0	1	196	406	829	1001	933	633	219	86	0	4304
1978-79	0	0	9	192	378	671	918	1019	425	273	30	0	3915
1979-80	0	0	5	231	313	654	857	830	573	149	28	0	3640
1980-81	0	0	4	189	487	774	984	592	536	133	75	0	3774
1981-82	0	0	19	219	399	818	1135	743	592	328	19	3	4275
1982-83	0	2	9	193	402	597	827	730	497	365	77	0	3699
1983-84	0	0	32	177	433	890	1009	610	710	302	95	4	4262
1984-85	0	0	54	59	561	594	1053	757	533	166	30	6	3813
1985-86	0	0	14	147	320	879	913	824	542	267	61	3	3970
1986-87	0	13	18	180	548	775	931	777	527	304	68	0	4141
1987-88	0	0	4	325	448	719	1047	796	544	317	69	25	4294
1988-89	0	0	18	330	442	807	771	755	596	297	112	0	4128
1989-90	0	0	35	167	507	1144	656	550	481	285	64	4	3893
1990-91	0	0	38	153	381	630	810	608	502	237	22	0	3381
1991-92	0	0	27	175	486	696	824	686	614	295	127	5	3935
1992-93	0	0	43	282	477	781	779	855	700	307	32	3	4259
1993-94	0	0	33	217	487	825	1115	796	599	135	132	0	4339
1994-95	0	0	5	190	348	639	782	853	485	274	59	0	3635
1995-96	0	0	30	144	651	901	993	798	675	268	131	0	4591
1996-97	0	0	9	182	617	677	861	564	499	322	110	30	3871
1997-98	0	0	14	232	557	737	675	596	581	229	50	11	3682
1998-99	0	0	4	153	433	638	824	667	630	251	34	3	3637
1999-00	0	0	22	240	348	707	896	649	408	280	46	2	3598
2000-01	0	0	60	171	544	1022	908	670	654	246	54	4	4025
2001-02	0	0	44	207	302	598	717	621	532	225	101	0	3347
2002-03	0	0	1	257	531	855	1043	871	549	303	128	15	4553
2003-04	0	0	13	231	366	791	1062	771	494	267	34	4	4033
2004-05	0	0	7	209	414	766	887	702	675	240	121	4	4025
2005-	0	0	5	179	439	881							

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COOLING DEGREE DAYS (base 65°F) 2005 WASHINGTON, D.C. DC (DCA)

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL
1976	0	4	1	92	86	383	424	370	179	15	0	0	1554
1977	0	0	10	49	177	289	496	434	274	18	15	0	1762
1978	0	0	0	10	117	358	434	514	274	25	0	0	1732
1979	0	0	14	9	120	231	431	425	208	39	2	0	1479
1980	0	0	0	9	174	301	546	563	374	38	1	0	2006
1981	0	0	6	49	118	417	478	380	204	18	0	0	1670
1982	0	0	0	6	155	244	479	330	185	51	13	1	1464
1983	0	0	0	21	81	310	510	504	269	42	0	0	1737
1984	0	0	0	4	99	368	365	404	157	73	0	0	1470
1985	0	0	6	70	135	232	444	373	228	37	6	0	1531
1986	0	0	5	10	162	358	503	318	202	70	1	0	1629
1987	0	0	0	8	146	347	554	431	222	0	0	0	1708
1988	0	0	1	4	101	313	534	490	144	11	0	0	1598
1989	0	0	16	14	91	362	417	381	233	33	1	0	1548
1990	0	0	30	46	50	309	451	364	183	88	0	0	1521
1991	0	0	5	38	278	362	517	472	214	41	5	0	1932
1992	0	0	0	16	53	214	457	285	175	8	0	0	1208
1993	0	0	0	5	114	319	569	460	218	9	8	0	1702
1994	0	0	1	53	82	439	530	333	166	11	6	0	1621
1995	0	0	0	20	91	297	515	511	216	67	1	0	1718
1996	0	0	0	29	105	373	397	364	181	14	0	0	1463
1997	0	0	1	0	52	282	484	399	184	72	0	0	1474
1998	0	0	27	11	132	257	438	456	322	9	0	5	1657
1999	0	0	0	4	111	301	565	462	180	6	0	0	1629
2000	0	0	4	5	143	300	307	319	146	29	0	0	1253
2001	0	0	0	31	88	318	323	441	171	47	5	0	1424
2002	0	0	1	82	117	340	500	507	248	66	0	0	1861
2003	0	0	0	12	32	211	402	434	183	9	15	0	1298
2004	0	0	0	45	250	262	426	345	213	8	0	0	1549
2005	0	0	0	16	32	331	490	474	315	46	1	0	1705

SNOWFALL (inches) 2005 WASHINGTON, D.C. DC (DCA)

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
1976-77	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.6	9.7	0.0	0.0	T	0.0	0.0	11.1
1977-78	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	10.3	3.8	8.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.7
1978-79	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1	T	4.0	30.6	T	0.0	0.0	0.0	37.7
1979-80	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	T	8.6	5.1	6.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.1
1980-81	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	0.3	4.2	T	T	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.5
1981-82	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	1.7	15.3	5.3	0.2	T	0.0	0.0	22.5
1982-83	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.6	T	21.0	0.0	T	0.0	0.0	27.6
1983-84	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	T	6.5	T	1.8	T	0.0	0.0	8.6
1984-85	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	0.3	10.0	T	T	T	0.0	0.0	10.3
1985-86	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	1.8	12.9	T	T	0.0	0.0	15.4
1986-87	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	20.8	10.3	T	T	0.0	0.0	31.1
1987-88	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.5	T	13.1	T	0.4	T	0.0	0.0	25.0
1988-89	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	2.9	1.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.7
1989-90	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5	9.0	0.2	T	2.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	15.3
1990-91	T	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	4.8	0.3	T	0.0	T	0.0	8.1
1991-92	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	0.0	4.0	2.6	T	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.6
1992-93	0.0	T	0.0	0.0	T	1.0	T	4.1	6.6	0.0	T	0.0	11.7
1993-94	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	2.6	3.5	3.1	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.2
1994-95	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	0.0	3.9	5.8	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.1
1995-96	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	1.3	23.8	15.2	5.2	T	0.0	0.0	46.0
1996-97	0.0	T	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	2.3	4.0	T	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7
1997-98	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	0.1	T	T	T	0.0	T	T	0.1
1998-99	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	2.2	0.2	8.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.6
1999-00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	14.5	0.9	0.0	T	0.0	0.0	15.4
2000-01	0.0	T	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.4	2.8	0.2	T	0.0	0.0	7.4
2001-02	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	3.2
2002-03	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.1	4.5	28.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	40.4
2003-04	T	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.2	6.2	T	T	0.0	T	0.0	12.4
2004-05	T	T	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	6.4	5.2	0.8	0.0	T	0.0	12.5
2005-	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	4.8							
POR= 61 YRS	T	T	0.0	0.0	0.8	3.0	5.3	5.4	2.2	T	T	T	16.7

WBAN : 13743

REFERENCE NOTES :

<p>PAGE 1: THE TEMPERATURE GRAPH SHOWS NORMAL MAXIMUM AND NORMAL MINIMUM DAILY TEMPERATURES (SOLID CURVES) AND THE ACTUAL DAILY HIGH AND LOW TEMPERATURES (VERTICAL BARS).</p> <p>PAGE 2 AND 3: H/C INDICATES HEATING AND COOLING DEGREE DAYS. RH INDICATES RELATIVE HUMIDITY W/O INDICATES WEATHER AND OBSTRUCTIONS S INDICATES SUNSHINE. PR INDICATES PRESSURE. CLOUDINESS ON PAGE 3 IS THE SUM OF THE CEILOMETER AND SATELLITE DATA NOT TO EXCEED EIGHT EIGHTHS(OKTAS).</p> <p>GENERAL: T INDICATES TRACE PRECIPITATION, AN AMOUNT GREATER THAN ZERO BUT LESS THAN THE LOWEST REPORTABLE VALUE. + INDICATES THE VALUE ALSO OCCURS ON EARLIER DATES. BLANK ENTRIES DENOTE MISSING OR UNREPORTED DATA. NORMALS ARE 30-YEAR AVERAGES (1971 - 2000). ASOS INDICATES AUTOMATED SURFACE OBSERVING SYSTEM. PM INDICATES THE LAST DAY OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH. POR (PERIOD OF RECORD) BEGINS WITH THE JANUARY DATA MONTH AND IS THE NUMBER OF YEARS USED TO COMPUTE THE MEAN. INDIVIDUAL MONTHS WITHIN THE POR MAY BE MISSING. WHEN THE POR FOR A NORMAL IS LESS THAN 30 YEARS, THE NORMAL IS PROVISIONAL AND IS BASED ON THE NUMBER OF YEARS INDICATED. 0.* OR * INDICATES THE VALUE OR MEAN-DAYS-WITH IS BETWEEN 0.00 AND 0.05. CLOUDINESS FOR ASOS STATIONS DIFFERS FROM THE NON-ASOS OBSERVATION TAKEN BY A HUMAN OBSERVER. ASOS STATION CLOUDINESS IS BASED ON TIME-AVERAGED CEILOMETER DATA FOR CLOUDS AT OR BELOW 12,000 FEET AND ON SATELLITE DATA FOR CLOUDS ABOVE 12,000 FEET. THE NUMBER OF DAYS WITH CLEAR, PARTLY CLOUDY, AND CLOUDY CONDITIONS FOR ASOS STATIONS IS THE SUM OF THE CEILOMETER AND SATELLITE DATA FOR THE SUNRISE TO SUNSET PERIOD.</p>	<p>GENERAL CONTINUED: CLEAR INDICATES 0 - 2 OKTAS, PARTLY CLOUDY INDICATES 3 - 6 OKTAS, AND CLOUDY INDICATES 7 OR 8 OKTAS. WHEN AT LEAST ONE OF THE ELEMENTS (CEILOMETER OR SATELLITE) IS MISSING, THE DAILY CLOUDINESS IS NOT COMPUTED. WIND DIRECTION IS RECORDED IN TENS OF DEGREES (2 DIGITS) CLOCKWISE FROM TRUE NORTH. "00" INDICATES CALM. "36" INDICATES TRUE NORTH. RESULTANT WIND IS THE VECTOR AVERAGE OF THE SPEED AND DIRECTION. AVERAGE TEMPERATURE IS THE SUM OF THE MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM TEMPERATURE DIVIDED BY 2. SNOWFALL DATA COMPRISE ALL FORMS OF FROZEN PRECIPITATION, INCLUDING HAIL. A HEATING (COOLING) DEGREE DAY IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE AVERAGE DAILY TEMPERATURE AND 65° F. DRY BULB IS THE TEMPERATURE OF THE AMBIENT AIR. DEW POINT IS THE TEMPERATURE TO WHICH THE AIR MUST BE COOLED TO ACHIEVE 100 PERCENT RELATIVE HUMIDITY. WET BULB IS THE TEMPERATURE THE AIR WOULD HAVE IF THE MOISTURE CONTENT WAS INCREASED TO 100 PERCENT RELATIVE HUMIDITY.</p> <p>ON JULY 1, 1996, THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BEGAN USING THE "METAR" OBSERVATION CODE THAT WAS ALREADY EMPLOYED BY MOST OTHER NATIONS OF THE WORLD. THE MOST NOTICEABLE DIFFERENCE IN THIS ANNUAL PUBLICATION WILL BE THE CHANGE IN UNITS FROM TENTHS TO EIGHTS(OKTAS) FOR REPORTING THE AMOUNT OF SKY COVER.</p>
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2005
WASHINGTON, D.C.
RONALD REAGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT (DCA)

Washington lies at the western edge of the mid Atlantic Coastal Plain, about 50 miles east of the Blue Ridge Mountains and 35 miles west of Chesapeake Bay, adjacent to the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers. Elevations range from a few feet above sea level to about 400 feet in parts of the northwest section of the city.

Observations have been kept continuously since November 1870. Since June 1941 the official observations have been taken at Washington National Airport.

National Airport is located at the center of the urban heat island. As a result, low temperatures are the highest for the area. Differences between the airport and suburban locations are often 10 to 15 degrees. There is less variation in the high temperatures.

Summers are warm and humid and winters are cold, but not severe. Periods of pleasant weather often occur in the spring and fall. The summertime temperature is in the upper 80s and the winter is in the upper 20s. Precipitation is rather uniformly distributed throughout the year.

Thunderstorms can occur at any time but are most frequent during the late spring and summer. The storms are most often accompanied by downpours and gusty winds, but are not usually severe.

Tornadoes, which infrequently occur, have resulted in significant damage. Severe hailstorms have occurred in the spring.

Tropical storms can bring heavy rain, high winds and flooding, but extensive damage from wind and tidal flooding is rare. Wind gusts of nearly 100 mph and rainfall over 7 inches have occurred during the passage of tropical storms and hurricanes.

Major flooding of the Potomac River can result from heavy rains over the basin, occasionally augmented by snowmelt, and above normal tides associated with hurricanes or severe storms along the coast. Flooding may also occur after a cold winter when the Potomac may be blocked with ice.

Although a snowfall of 10 inches or more in 24 hours is unusual, several notable falls of more than 25 inches have occurred. Normal snowfall during the winter season is 18 inches.

The average date of the last freezing temperature in the spring is April 1 and the average date for the first freezing temperature in the fall is November 10.

STATION LOCATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. RONALD
REAGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT

LOCATION	Occupied From	Occupied To	Airline Distances and Directions from previous Location	LATITUDE NORTH	LONGITUDE WEST	ELEVATION ABOVE										AUTOMATIC OBSERVING EQUIPMENT *	* TYPE M = AMOS T = AUTOB S = ASOS W = AWOS REMARKS
						SEA LEVEL	GROUND										
							GROUND	WIND	EXTREME	PSYCHROMETER	SUNSHINE	TIPPING BUCKET	WEIGHING RAIN GAGE	8 INCH RAIN GAGE	HYGROTHERMOMETER		
*NOTE: <u>AIRPORT</u> Main Terminal Building Washington National AP	8/30/68	02/01/98	750' NE	38°51'	77°02'	10	20 Q20	N77	N77	N81	N3 P85	N3 P85	N3 P85	4 Q4		N. Nov moved 8/30/68. P. Relocated 3/1971. Q. Moved 800' SSE 8/1/75. Station type changed from WSO to WSCMO 11/29/79.	
Ronald Reagan National Airport	02/01/98	Present	NA	38°52'	77°02'	r10									S	ASOS Commissioned 02/01/98 r. Ground Elevation	

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* NOTES: For earlier station history see previous edition.