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**SELECTING PREFERRED SITES FOR
A SOLAR POWER STATION USING
SOLAR/CLIMATIC DATA**

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SELECTING PREFERRED SITES FOR A SOLAR POWER STATION USING SOLAR/CLIMATIC DATA

TASK 1.1.1 SOLAR DATA

The principal objectives of this task were to:

- Collect solar energy data pertinent to the continental U.S.
- Calculate the direct normal radiation from available total (direct + diffuse) radiation measurements using the method of Liu and Jordan; and draw contours of equal direct radiation intensity.
- Identify, from the radiation maps, geographic regions receiving the highest radiation at the surface.
- Collect and analyze climatic data applicable to the identified regions.
- Recommend, based on both solar energy and climatic criteria, one or two of these regions as the best general location(s) for a solar power plant. (A specific site will be selected in Task 1.2 using as a basis the non-solar site selection criteria developed in Task 1.1.2.)

Objective No. 1: Collect Solar Energy Data

To accomplish this objective, selected pages of the "Climatic Atlas of the United States" published in 1968 were consulted as the most authoritative source of information available. These data, supplied by the National Climatic Center, Asheville, North Carolina, consisted of smoothed isolines and tables based on U. S. Weather Bureau data spanning a number of years*. Specific solar/climatic parameters examined included the following:

- Mean daily solar radiation, monthly and annual
- Mean total hours of sunshine, monthly and annual
- Mean percentage of possible sunshine, monthly and annual
- Mean sky cover, sunrise to sunset, monthly and annual

The analyzed (contoured) annual charts of the above parameters are included as Figures 1 through 4. Refer to Appendix A for complete data including monthly analyses and tabular data. To augment the solar/climatic analysis of subregions selected as potential power station sites, LCDs (Local Climatological Data) for specific stations were obtained (from Asheville). These pamphlets provide a narrative climatological summary as well as statistical data for such parameters as temperature, precipitation, relative humidity, percent of possible sunshine, sky cover, and days with thunderstorms, fog, etc. LCDs of interest are presented in Appendix B.

*The period of record varies from station to station. See notations on individual maps (Appendix A).

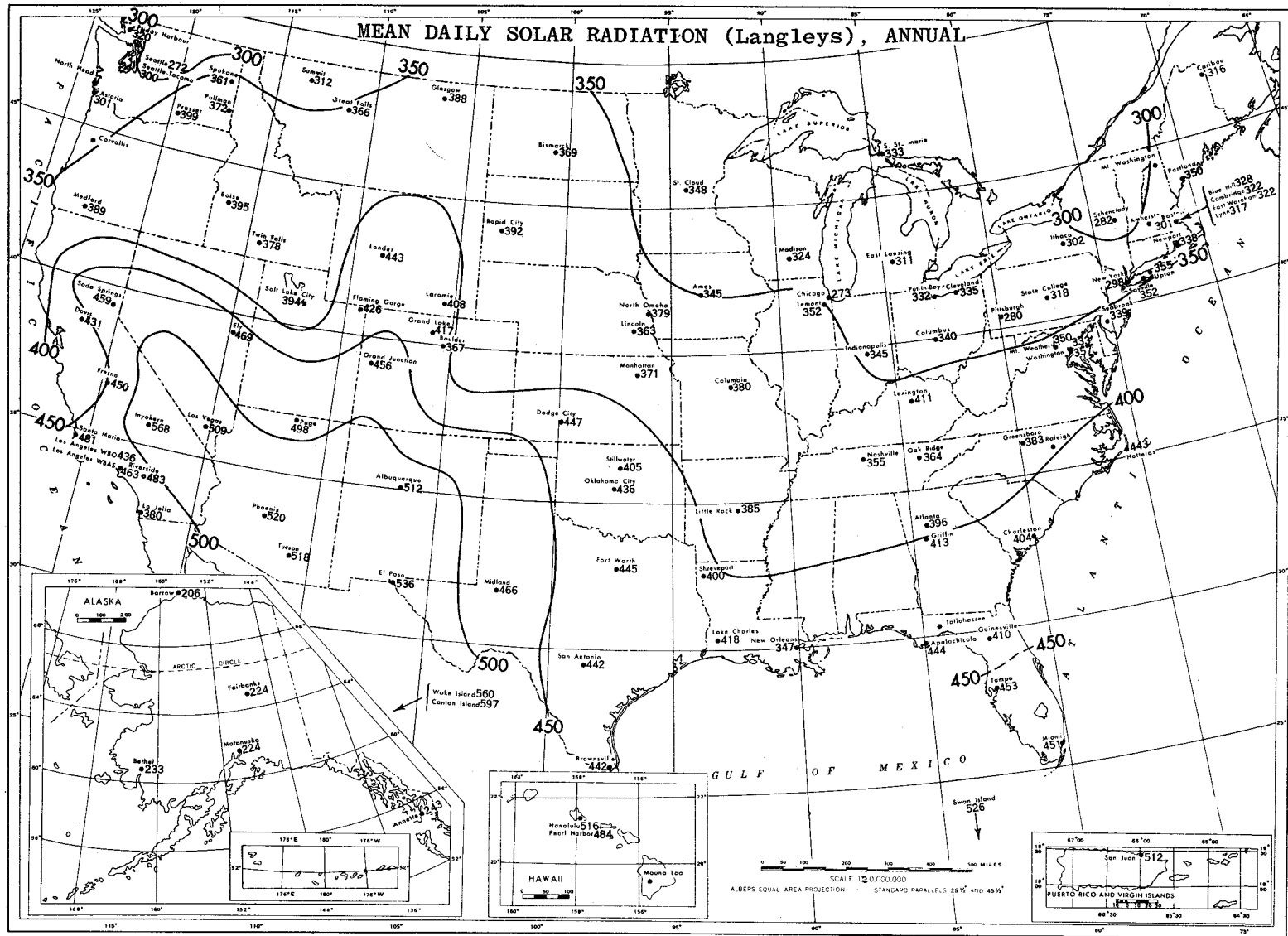


Figure 1. Mean Daily Total Radiation, Annual

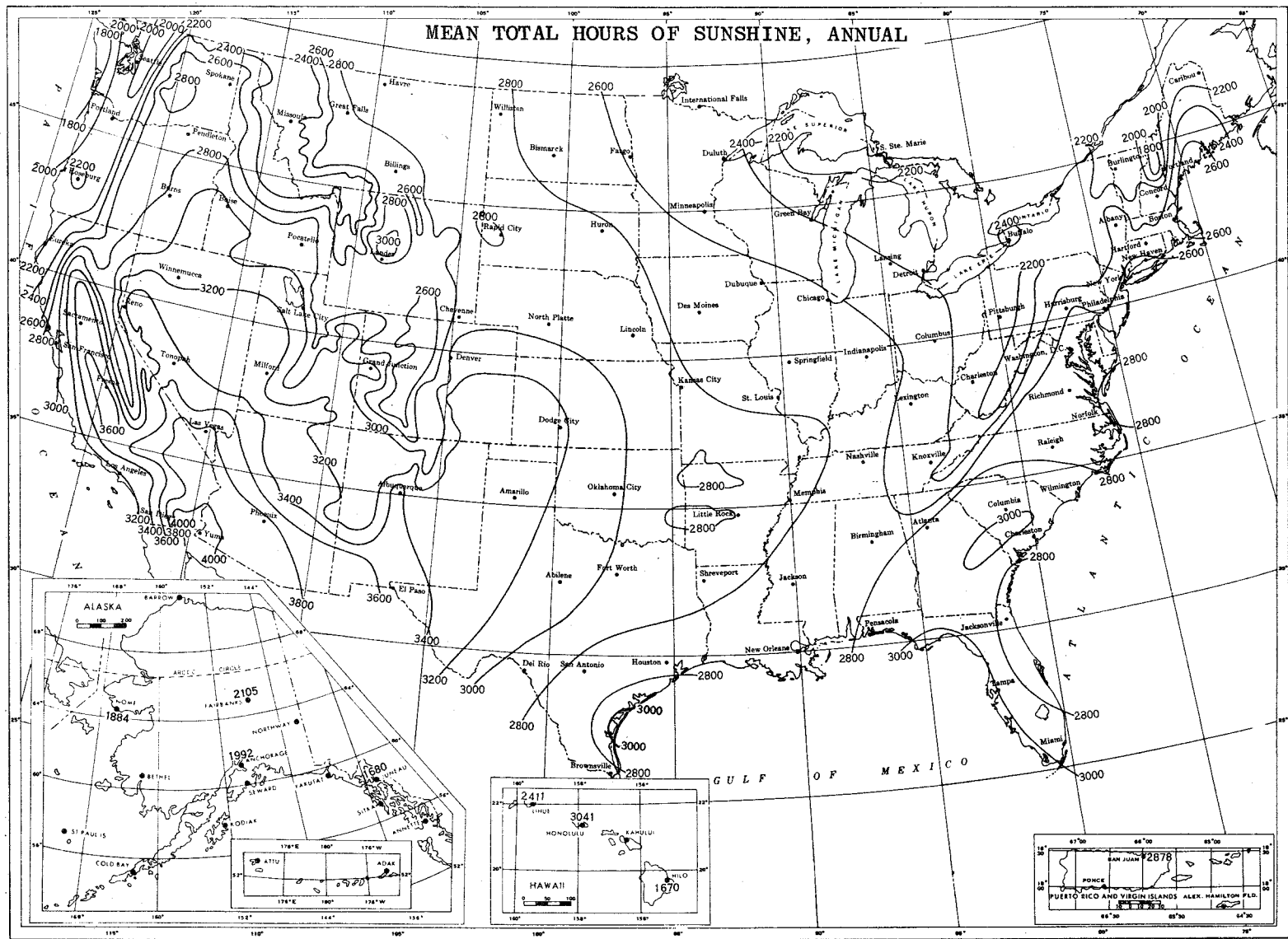


Figure 2. Mean Total Hours of Sunshine, Annual

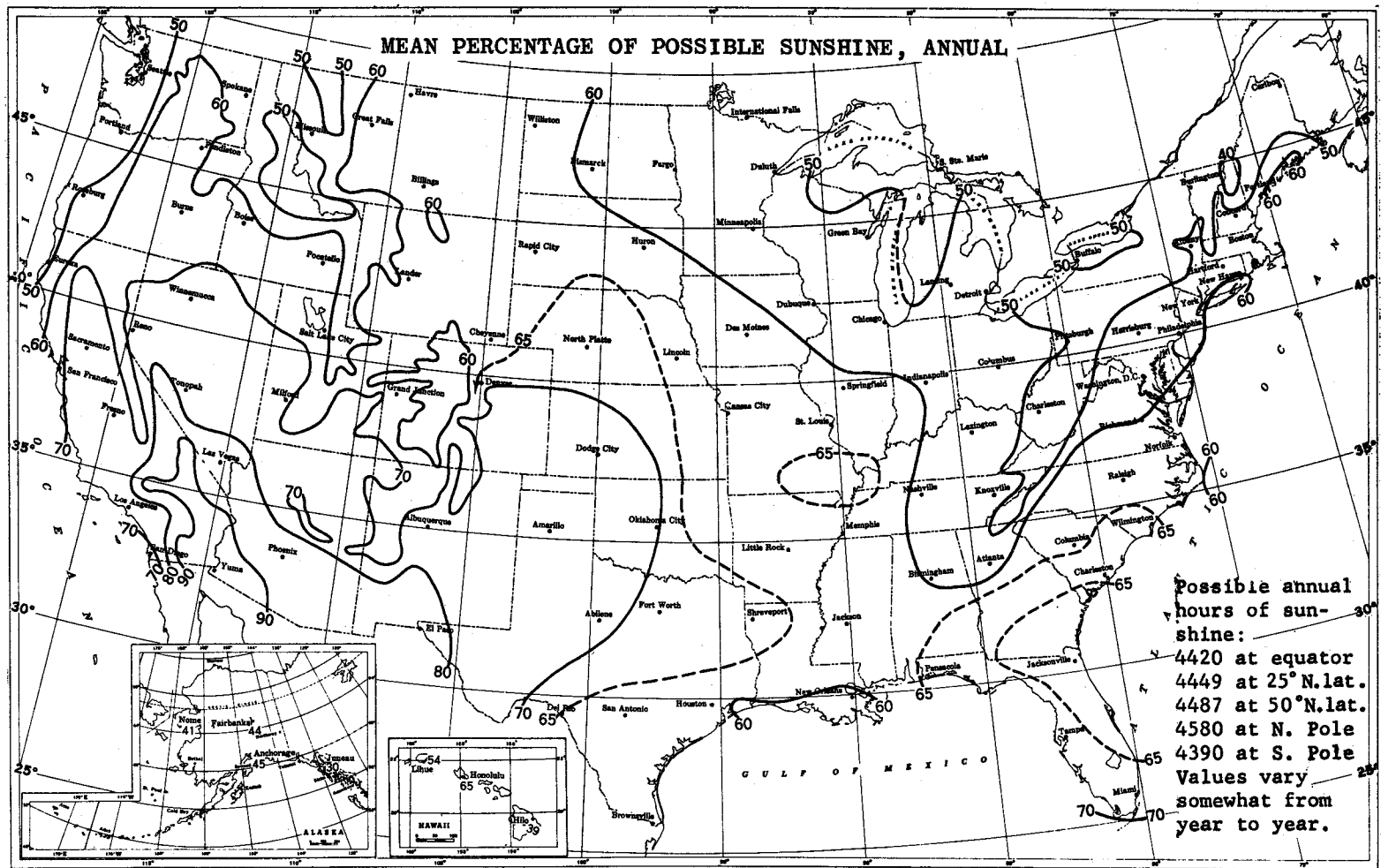


Figure 3. Mean Percentage of Sunshine, Annual

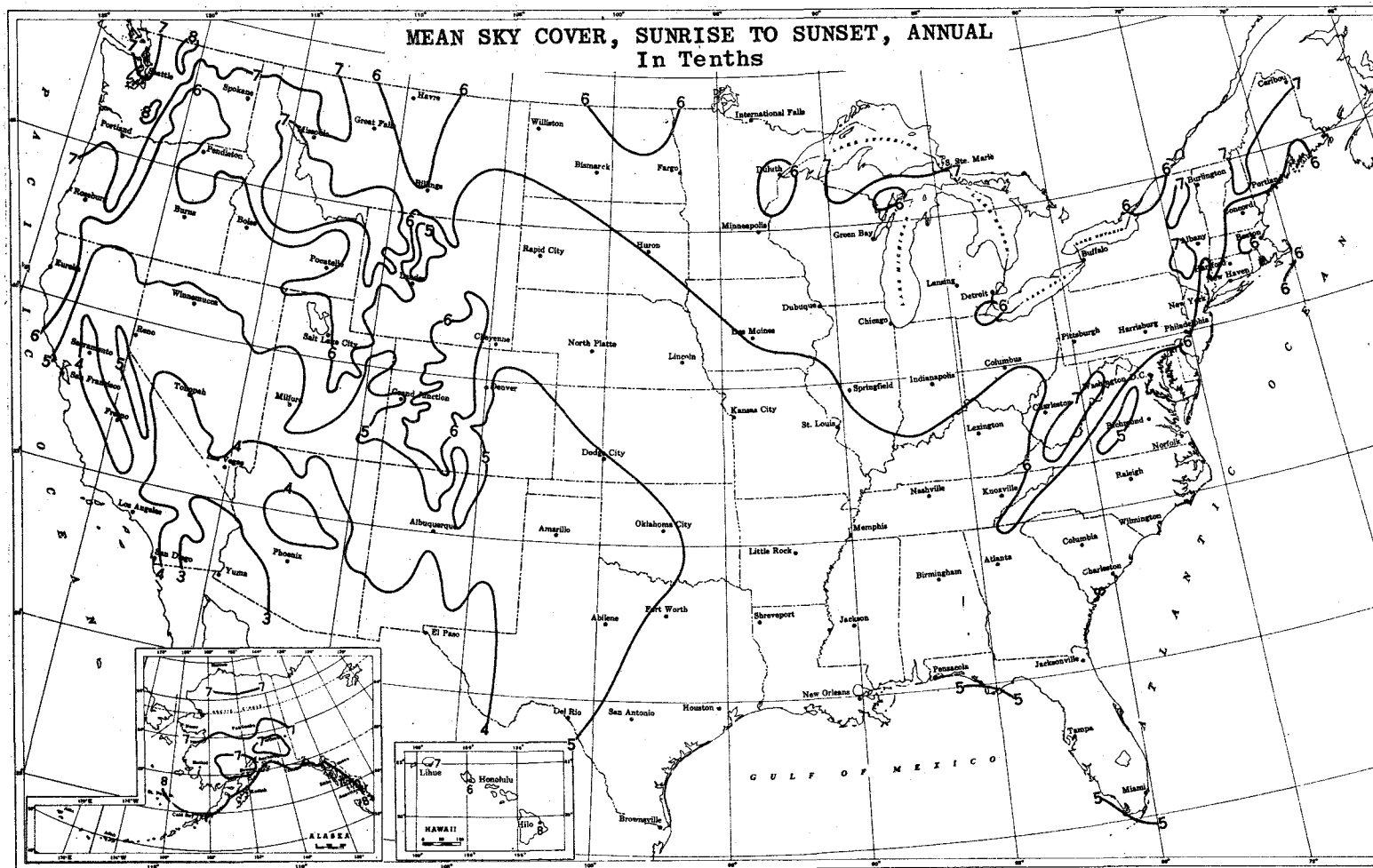


Figure 4. Mean Sky Cover, Sunrise to Sunset, Annual

Objective No. 2: Calculate Direct Normal Radiation Incident at the Surface for Selected Stations and Create Direct Radiation Map

To determine the intensity of direct solar radiation from the intensity of total (direct + diffuse) radiation incident on a horizontal surface, the empirical correlation between direct and diffuse solar radiation intensities given by Liu and Jordan (1960)¹ was used:

$$\tau_{dh} = 0.2710 - 0.2939 \tau_{Dh} \quad (1)$$

where $\tau_{dh} = I_{dh}/I_{oh}$ is the ratio of the diffuse radiation on a horizontal surface at the surface of the earth, I_{dh} , to the intensity of solar radiation arriving at a horizontal surface outside the earth's atmosphere; and $\tau_{Dh} = I_{Dh}/I_{oh}$ is the ratio of the intensity of direct solar radiation on a horizontal surface at the earth's surface, I_{Dh} , to the intensity of radiation on a horizontal surface outside the earth's atmosphere, I_{oh} . Since the quantity I_{oh} can be calculated from the known angular relationships between the earth and sun, the above relationship allows one to separate the total radiation into its direct and diffuse components.

Equation (1) is based on the theoretical studies made by Liu and Jordan (1960) and careful analysis of the then existing solar radiation data. The correlation has been found to apply to widely separate localities with different climatic conditions. Figures 5, 6 and 7 show the comparison between this empirical correlation with experimental data for Hump Mountain, North Carolina; Blue Hill, Massachusetts; and Minneapolis, Minnesota, taken from the reference by Liu and Jordan (1960). This empirical correlation is believed to be applicable to other localities as well.

¹Liu, Benjamin Y.H., and Jordan, Richard C., "The Interrelationship and Characteristic Distribution of Direct, Diffuse and Total Solar Radiation," Solar Energy IV, No. 3, July 1960.

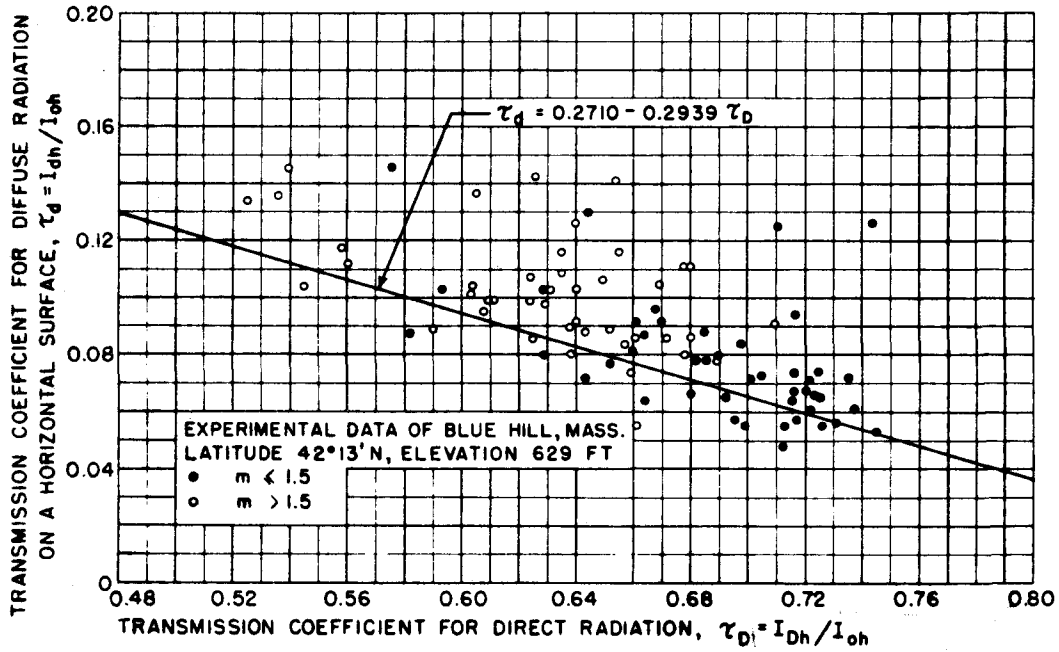


Figure 5. Comparison of the Empirical Relation Between the Intensities of Direct and Diffuse Radiation on a Horizontal Surface Derived from the Data for Hump Mountain, N. C. , with the Data for Blue Hills, Mass.

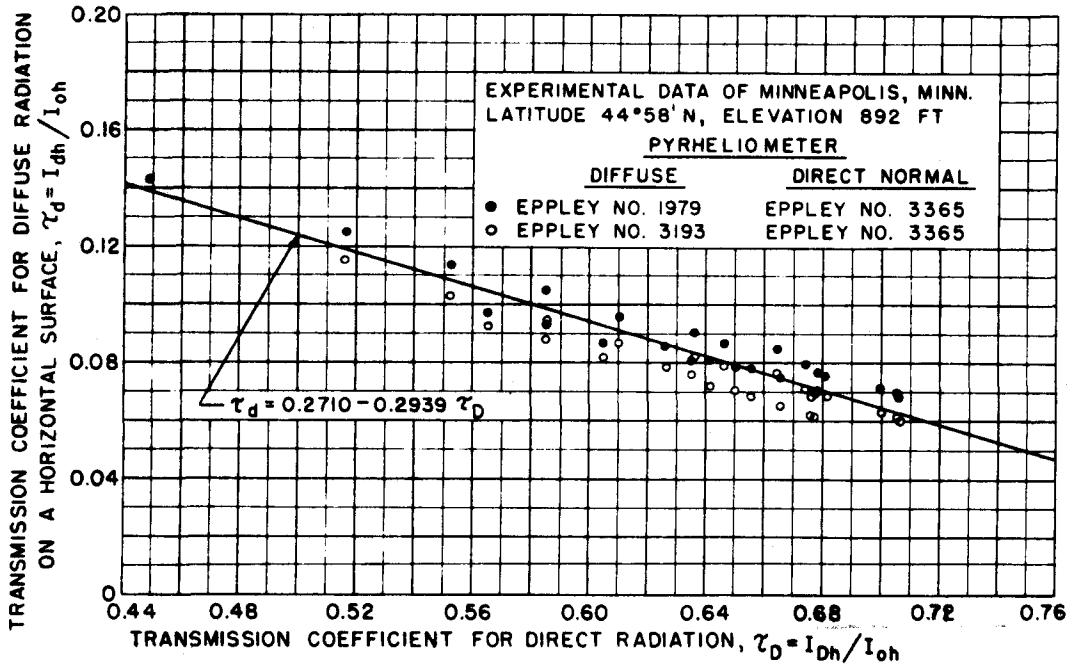


Figure 6. Comparison of the Empirical Relation Between the Intensities of Direct and Diffuse Radiation on a Horizontal Surface Derived from the Data for Hump Mountain, N. C. , with the Data for Minneapolis, Minn.

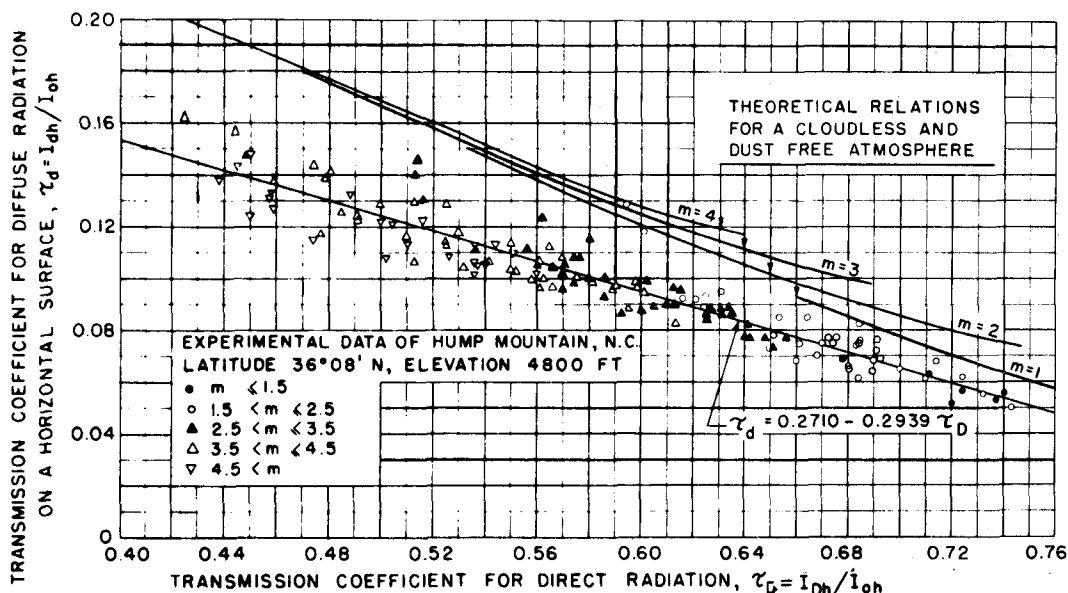


Figure 7. Theoretical and Experimental Relations Between the Intensities of Direct and Diffuse Radiation on a Horizontal Surface for a Cloudless Atmosphere at 4800 Foot Elevation

Equation (1) can be converted to a form by which the direct normal radiation incident on a horizontal surface at a given station can be easily calculated:

$$\tau_{dh} = 0.271 - 0.2939 \tau_{Dh}$$

$$\tau_{dh} = \frac{I_{dh}}{I_{oh}}$$

$$\tau_{Dh} = \frac{I_{Dh}}{I_{oh}}$$

$$I_T = I_{dh} + I_{Dh}$$

$$\frac{I_{oh} \tau_{dh}}{I_{dh}} = 0.271 - 0.2939 \frac{I_{oh} \tau_{Dh}}{I_{Dh}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_{dh} &= 0.271 I_{oh} - 0.2939 I_{Dh} \\
 - 0.271 I_{oh} &= -I_{dh} - 0.2939 I_{Dh} \\
 + \frac{I_T = I_{dh} + I_{Dh}}{I_T - 0.271 I_{oh} = I_{Dh} \underbrace{(1 - 0.2939)}_{0.7061}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$ \frac{I_T - 0.271 I_{oh}}{0.7061} = I_{Dh} $	(2)
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The variable I_T (total direct + diffuse radiation) is the solar radiation value given by the Weather Bureau for each station. I_{oh} is the solar radiation incident on a horizontal surface from sunrise to sunset at the top of the earth's atmosphere above station latitude and can be approximated as follows:

$ \begin{aligned} I_{oh} &= 1.94 \text{ gm cal/cm}^2/\text{min} \times 60 \text{ min} \times 12.23 \text{ hours} \times \cos \phi \\ &= 1424 \text{ Langleys}^* \times \cos \phi \end{aligned} $	(3)
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where $1.94 \text{ gm cal/cm}^2/\text{min}$ is the solar constant,** ϕ the station latitude and 12.23 the average hours of possible sunshine per day at 37.5°N latitude. The latter value is acceptable since there is so little difference between 25°N . latitude and 50°N . latitude in terms of possible annual hours of sunshine: 4449 compared to 4487, respectively.

*1 Langley = 1 gm cal/cm^2

**Calculations by the Smithsonian Institute, Moon and others show a slightly higher value for the solar constant.

Equation (3) represents the amount of solar energy which is incident when the sun is directly over the equator; it is taken as the annual average since the sun "moves" both north and south of the equator an equal distance over a year's time. The effect of the earth's inclination can be ignored since it essentially cancels out from winter to summer. Since we are dealing with annual averages of total insolation at the surface, and are using the direct values for comparative purposes only (to select areas of high direct insolation), the average values for I_{oh} thus derived are considered satisfactory for the purpose of this study.

Direct solar radiation data were then derived using a computer program based on Equation (2). The two variables (I_{oh} and I_T) served as input. These data were then plotted on a map of the U. S. and isolines drawn to reveal zones of high and low direct normal solar radiation (Figure 8).

Objective No. 3: Identify U. S. Areas with the Highest Incident Solar Radiation at the Surface

To accomplish this objective, the map of the direct solar radiation (Figure 8) was reviewed first to identify area(s) of the U. S. receiving the highest average amount of direct solar radiation -- the component of the total radiation used by solar energy concentrators. Following this, the four Weather Bureau maps (Figures 2 through 4) were reviewed to identify high solar radiation centers based on total (direct + diffuse) radiation data. Since both the direct radiation map (Figure 8) and the total radiation map (Figure 1) displayed the same general area of high solar energy concentration, the remaining three maps (Figures 2 through 4) were reviewed to help pinpoint other areas of high energy concentration.

Review of Direct Solar Radiation Map -- (This map is based on data derived from the Liu and Jordan equation for the direct radiation component of total (diffuse + direct) solar radiation.) Figure 8 shows that the only area of

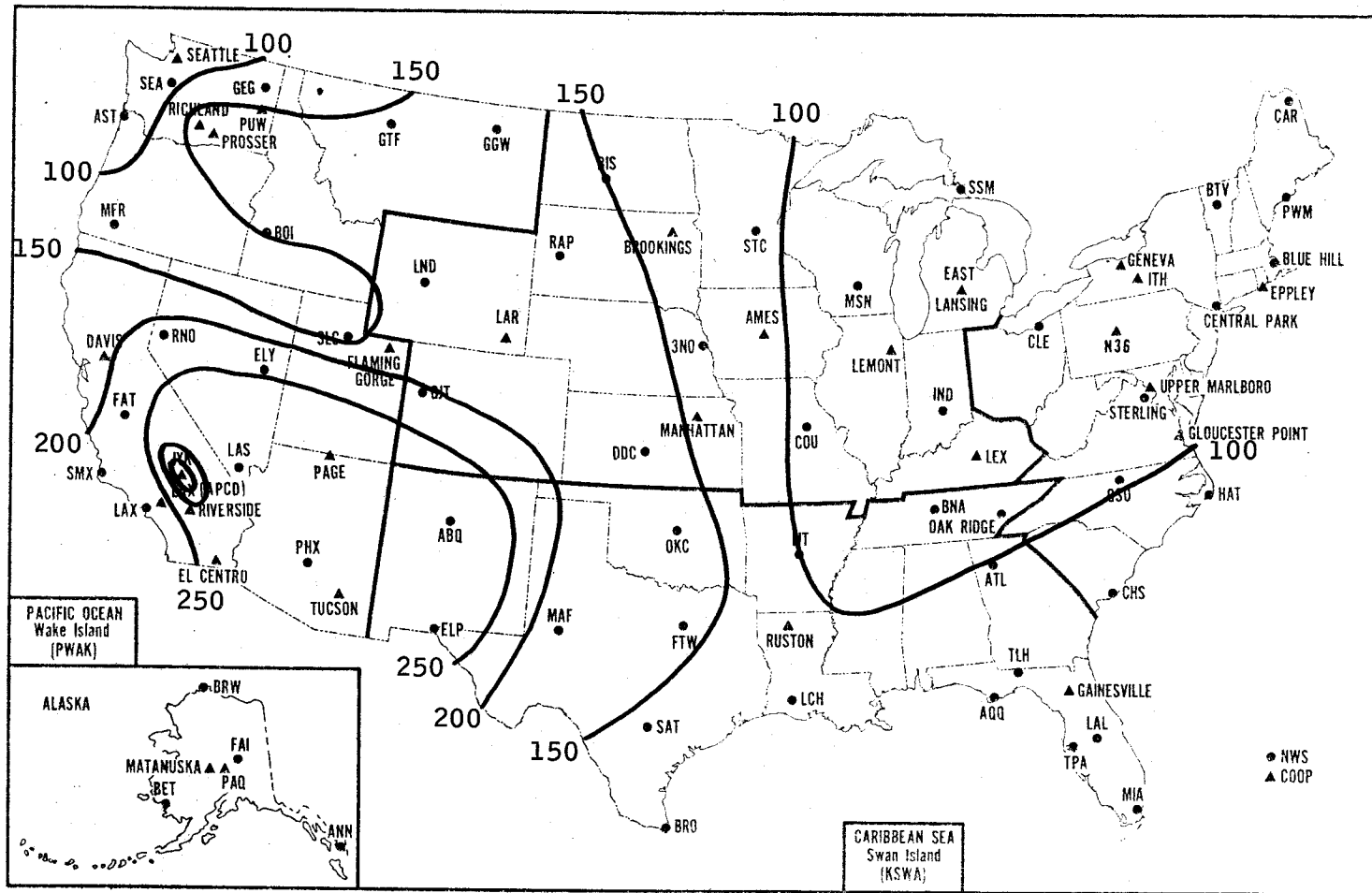


Figure 8. Solar Radiation Stations - Isopleths of Mean Daily Direct Solar Radiation (Langleys)

the U.S. receiving greater than 250 Langleys* per day (mean daily value averaged over the year) is a contiguous five-state region in the southwest. The area of highest concentration of direct radiation (greater than 350 Langleys per day) appears to be an area in the vicinity of Inyokern (China Lake), California.

Review of Total (Diffuse + Direct) Solar Radiation Maps (Provided by U.S. Weather Bureau) -- Referring to Figure 1 it is obvious that the highest mean daily concentration of total solar energy (500 + Langleys per day) also occurs in the same general area, i. e., southwestern U.S. It also experiences the highest mean annual hours of sunshine (3800⁺ hours - Figure 2), the highest mean annual percentage of possible sunshine (80⁺ percent annually - Figure 3), and has fewer clouds than any other area in the U.S. with a mean annual sky cover of 3-4 tenths.

To help pinpoint smaller areas of high solar energy concentration, the monthly maps of (1) mean daily solar radiation, (2) mean total hours of sunshine, (3) mean percentage of possible sunshine, and (4) mean sky cover, sunset to sunrise, were consulted: (Appendix A presents these maps).

Mean Daily Solar Radiation by Months -- Ranges from 250-300 Langleys per day in December and January to 700-800 Langleys in May, June and July, the high being centered over Inyokern, California.

Mean Monthly Total Hours of Sunshine -- Ranges from 220-240 hours per month in December and January to 380-420 hours per month in May and June, the highs occurring in the vicinity of Yuma, Arizona, and Inyokern, California.

*1 Langley = 1 gm cal/cm²

Mean Monthly Percentage of Possible Sunshine -- Ranges from 70-80 percent in December and January to greater than 90 percent in May and June. Of the stations reporting in the area, Yuma, Arizona receives the highest annual mean percentage of possible sunshine (91 percent). In May and June it receives highs of 97 and 98 percent, respectively. A low of 83 percent occurs in December and January. Phoenix data shows 85 percent annually with highs of 93 and 94 percent in May and June; and lows of 76 and 79 percent in January and February. At Inyokern, values range from 70 percent in December and January to greater than 90 percent in May, June, and July.

Mean Monthly Sky Cover -- Ranges from 1-3 tenths sky cover in May and June to 3-5 tenths in December and January. Yuma, Arizona has by far the lowest frequency of mean annual sky cover (1.7 tenths) with Inyokern, Phoenix and Tucson close behind at 3.5, 3.5 and 3.9 tenths, respectively.

This five-state region of highest total solar radiation incident at the surface (Nevada, California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas) has within its bounds one major center of higher radiation. This area, which shows up well on the mean daily solar radiation charts for June and July (Appendix A), is centered over Inyokern, California. Another area which shows up well on the two sunshine charts for most months (Appendix A), is located in Southwest, Arizona. (This area is bounded on the west by El Centro, California (Imperial Valley) and Yuma, Arizona and on the east by Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona.

The large five-state region with its two subregions described above comprise the U.S. areas of highest total solar radiation incident at the surface (as revealed by U. S. Weather Bureau data).

Objective No. 4: Collect and Analyze Climatic Data
Applicable to the Identified Region(s)

Climatological data for selected stations within the U. S. zone of highest solar radiation (both total and direct) were collected and evaluated. This zone is characterized by mean daily solar radiation readings of greater than 250 Langleys direct radiation (Figure 8) and greater than 500 Langleys total radiation (Figure 1). It encompasses the five-state area of southwestern United States described previously.

Basic data for the study were provided by the National Climatic Center at Asheville, N. C. and consisted primarily of annual summaries with comparative data (Appendix B).

The purpose of this climatic analysis was to review a representative cross-section of reporting stations within the area to (1) detect typical local weather conditions which would adversely affect either the operation or the physical integrity of a solar power plant and (2) rank the stations as potential power station sites according to overall climatological suitability.

The stations of primary concern to this study were stations (3) through (9) shown in Table 1. The first two stations (Ely and Reno), lying slightly outside the region of interest, are presented for comparison.

Adverse Weather Factors -- Table 2 shows three stations, i. e., Tucson, Albuquerque and El Paso, to be particularly vulnerable to both long-term and short-term climatic effects, with the latter predominating. However, with one possible exception, * none of these is sufficiently intense and/or long lasting to warrant excluding that area as a potential site. Phoenix,

*Albuquerque experiences minimum temperatures of 32°F or below on 120 mean days a year.

Table 1. Annual Climatic Summaries and Penalty Guides

Weather Element No.				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25													
Station	Latitude	Longitude	Ground Elevation (ft)	Temperature						Precipitation								Humidity (Annual Mean)		Wind			Mean No. of Days With:										Average Daily Solar Radiation (Langley's)	POR							
				Normal			Extremes			Snow, Ice Pellets						Fastest MPH			Temperatures																						
				Daily Max.	Daily Min.	Monthly	Record High	Year	Record Low	Year	Normal Total	Max. Monthly	Year	Min. Monthly	Year	Max. in 24 Hours	Year	Mean Total	Max. Monthly	Year	Max. in 24 Hours	Year	0400	1600	Mean Speed (mph)	Prevailing Direction	Speed	Direction	Year	% of Possible Sunshine	Mean Sky Cover (S-S)	Precipitation .01" or More			Snow or Ice Pellets 1 inch or More	Thunderstorms	Heavy Fog	90° & Above	32° & Below	32° & Below	0° & Below
(1) Ely, Nevada	39°17'N	114°51'W	6253	60.6	28.0	44.3	99	June 1954	-27	Jan. 1949	8.33	3.53	June 1963	0.00	Oct. 1952	1.54	Feb. 1969	47.4	24.8	Jan. 1967+	13.1	Jan. 1943	65	36	10.6	S	74	S	May 1948	73	5.2	72	15	33	2	16	27	218	19	465	1931-60
(2) Reno, Nevada	39°30'N	119°47'W	4404	66.7	30.1	48.4	103	Aug. 1970+	-11	Jan. 1971	7.15	5.25	Dec. 1955	0.00	Sept. 1964+	2.37	Jan. 1943	26.4	29.0	Mar. 1952	16.9	Mar. 1952	70	32	6.3	WNW	80	SW	Mar. 1968+	80	4.5	49	9	13	8	54	8	189	2	408	1931-60
(3) Las Vegas, Nev.	36°05'N	115°10'W	2162	78.7	52.6	65.7	115	June 1970	8	Jan. 1963	3.90	2.59	Aug. 1957	0.00	Sept. 1971+	2.59	Aug. 1957	1.2	16.7	Jan. 1949	5.0	Jan. 1949	39	20	8.8	SW	64	SW	July 1971	86	3.4	23	*	15	1	131	*	41	0	504	1931-60
(4) Phoenix, Arizona	33°26'N	112°01'W	1117	84.7	53.3	69.0	116	June 1970	19	Jan. 1971	7.20	5.56	Aug. 1951	0.00	June 1971+	3.07	Aug. 1943	T	0.6	Feb. 1939	0.6	Feb. 1939	54	23	5.9	E	75	SW	Sept. 1950	86	3.4	35	0	23	2	161	0	15	0	503	1931-60
(5) Yuma, Arizona	32°40'N	114°36'W	194	87.1	57.9	72.5	116	June 1968	24	Jan. 1971	3.03	2.68	Oct. 1957	0.00	Vari-ous	2.42	Sept. 1963	T	T	Dec. 1967	T	Dec. 1967	53	22	7.8	N	64	S	Aug. 1954	91	1.7	15	0	7	1	165	0	2	0	525(E)	1945-64
(6) Tucson, Arizona	32°07'N	110°56'W	2584	81.3	54.1	67.7	111	June 1970+	16	Jan. 1949	11.00	7.93	Aug. 1955	0.00	Nov. 1970+	3.93	July 1958	1.4	6.8	Dec. 1971	6.8	Dec. 1971	52	25	8.2	SE	71	SE	July 1971	86	3.8	50	1	40	1	141	0	21	0	500	1931-60
(7) Albuquerque, N. M.	35°03'N	106°37'W	5311	69.2	44.1	56.6	104	July 1971	-17	Jan. 1971	8.13	3.33	July 1968	0.00	Dec. 1956+	1.92	Sept. 1955	9.7	14.7	Dec. 1959	14.2	Dec. 1958	57	28	8.9	SE	90	SE	Dec. 1943	77	4.2	58	4	43	5	61	6	120	1	507	1931-60
(8) El Paso, Texas	31°48'N	106°24'W	3918	77.2	49.4	63.3	106	June 1968+	-8	Jan. 1962	7.89	6.29	Sept. 1958	0.00	Jan. 1967+	2.89	Sept. 1941	4.4	10.1	Dec. 1960	7.8	Nov. 1961	52	26	9.8	N	70	NW	May 1950+	83	3.8	44	2	36	2	103	1	61	*	522	1931-60
(9) Inyokern, Calif. (China Lake)	35°41'N	117°41'W	2283	79.0	49.9	64.7	114	June 1961	6	Jan. 1963	2.61	2.14	Sept. -	0.00	Jan. -	1.03	Nov. 1946	---	---	---	---	---	35.4 (avg)	7.3	SW	70	W	Mar. 1952	93(E)	3(E)	---	0	3	-	-	-	-	-	568	1945-64	

Wx Element No.	Penalty
(2)	1 point per degree < 33
(5)	1 point per 10 degrees < 20
(6)	1 point per inch > 5
(7)	1 point per inch > 3
(8)	1 point per inch > 2
(9)	0 - T = 0 1 - 5 = 2 6 - 20 = 5 > 20 = 10
(10)	0 - 1 = 0 2 - 10 = 2 10 - 20 = 5 > 20 = 10
(11)	0 - 1 = 0 2 - 5 = 2 6 - 10 = 5 > 10 = 10
(14)	1 - 7 = 0 (Light air to light breeze) 8 - 12 = 2 (Gentle breeze) 13 - 18 = 5 (Moderate breeze) 19 - 24 = 10 (Fresh breeze)
(18)	0 - 20 = 0 21 - 40 = 1 41 - 60 = 2 > 60 = 3
(20)	0 - 20 = 0 21 - 40 = 5 > 40 = 10
(21)	0 - 2 = 0 3 - 5 = 1 5 - 10 = 2 > 10 = 4
(24)	0 - 25 = 0 26 - 100 = 2 > 100 = 10
(25)	0 - 5 = 0 10 - 20 = 2 > 20 = 4

PENALTY GUIDES

T = Trace
E = Estimated
* = Less than 1/2
POR = Period of Record

Table 2. Climatic Degradation by Station

Station	Parameter	Temperature		Precipitation			Wind	Mean Days With:		
		Record Low	Rain		Snow			Fastest Speed	1" or more of snow	Thunderstorms
			Normal Annual	Monthly Max	24-hour Max	Normal Annual	Monthly Max			
Las Vegas						S	S			
Phoenix						S	S			
Yuma						S	S			
Tucson			P	S	S		S	S	S	
Albuquerque	S				P	S	S	S	S	P
El Paso	S			S		S	S	S	S	P
Inyokern							S			

P = Persistent effect
 S = Sporadic effect

Yuma and Inyokern (China Lake) are least degraded with their suitability marred only by occasional high winds (which is common to all stations reviewed).

Station Ranking -- The three best sites for a solar power station, based on the least occurrence or non-occurrence of specific weather conditions, were identified in the preceding paragraph. To rank these stations as well as the remaining six shown in Table 1 from 1-9 (most suitable to least suitable) four different methods were used:

- Relative position
- Least degradation
- Weighted relative position
- Weighted least degradation

The relative position method involved comparing each station's characteristic performance against each of 25 weather elements (Table 1) and ranking them element by element from 1 to 9 (most suitable to least suitable as a power station site). (See Table 3.) For example, Yuma was ranked No. 1 with respect to weather element No. 14 (Mean Wind Speed) since it was the lowest (5.9 mph).

When all 25 columns were filled (i. e., all stations were ranked for all 25 weather elements), each station's overall ranking was obtained by totaling its individual rankings (adding across each row). Final rankings for eight and nine stations, respectively, using this method are shown in Columns A1 and A2 of Table 3.

The method of least degradation uses the position ranking matrix (Table 3) as a basis. In addition, penalties are applied for weather conditions which are more detrimental to a solar power station than can be expressed by a simple comparative station ranking system. For example, referring to Tables 1 and 3, it can be seen that the maximum 24-hour snowfall (weather element No. 11) for three stations (Ely, Reno, and Albuquerque) far exceeds that of the other stations. These stations then are penalized 10 points per Penalty Guide No. 11 (shown in Table 1). Penalties for all stations are shown in the upper right-hand corner of station/element squares shown in Table 3. Station rankings using this method were obtained by adding the penalties horizontally across the matrix for each station. The resulting overall rankings by least degradation for eight and nine stations, respectively, are shown in Columns B1 and B2 of Table 3.

Table 3. Station Ranking by Four Methods

Wx Parameter:	Temperature					Precipitation						Humidity		Wind		Mean Days With:									
	Normal Daily Max.	Normal Daily Min.	Normal Monthly	Record High	Record Low	Normal Total	Monthly Max.	24-Hr. Max.	Snow			0400	1600	Mean Speed	Fastest Speed	% Poss. Sunshine	Mean Sky Cover	≥ .01" Rain	≥ 1" Snow	Thunderstorms	Fog	Temperature			
									Mean Total	Monthly Max	24-Hr. Max.											90°+	≤ 32°	≤ 32°	≤ 0°
Station	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1. Ely	9	9 ⁵	9	8	9 ⁵	8 ³	5 ¹	2	7 ¹⁰	7 ¹⁰	7 ¹⁰	6	8	9 ²	4	7	7	8 ³	7 ⁶	6 ⁵	2	8	6	8 ¹⁰	5 ²
2. Reno	8	8 ³	8	7	7 ³	4 ²	6 ²	4	6 ¹⁰	8 ¹⁰	8 ¹⁰	7	7	2	6	5	6	5 ²	6 ⁴	3	4 ²	7	5	9 ¹⁰	4
3. Las Vegas	5	4	4	2	4 ¹	3	2	6 ¹	2 ²	6 ⁵	3 ²	1	1	6 ²	1	3	3	2 ¹	2	4	1	4	2	4 ²	1
4. Phoenix	2	3	2	1	2	5 ²	7 ²	8 ¹	1	2	2	4	3	1	5	3	3	3 ¹	1	5	2	2	1	2	1
5. Yuma	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	5	1	1	1	3	2	4	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
6. Tucson	3	2	3	4	3	9 ⁶	9 ⁵	9 ²	3 ²	3 ²	4 ⁵	2	4	5 ²	3	3	4	6 ²	3	8 ⁵	1	3	1	3	1
7. Albuquerque	7	7	7	6	8 ⁴	7 ³	4	3	5 ⁵	5 ⁵	6 ¹⁰	5	6	7 ²	7	6	5	7 ²	5 ²	9 ¹⁰	3 ¹	6	4	6 ¹⁰	3
8. El Paso	6	6	6	5	6 ³	6 ³	8 ³	7 ¹	4 ²	4 ⁵	5 ⁵	2	5	8 ²	2	4	4	4 ²	4 ²	7 ⁵	2	5	3	5 ²	2
9. Inyokern	4	5	5	3	5 ¹	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	1	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
WT:	0	2	1	0	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	3	0	3	1	2	3	2	2	2	1	3	3

Station	A1		B1		A2		X	B2		X	C1		D1		C2		X	D2		X						
	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank		Score	Rank		Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank		Score	Rank							
	1. Ely	171	8	72	8				99	9		27	9			340	8		195	8		170	9		63	9
2. Reno	148	7	58	7				80	7	8*	14	5	8		277	7		162	7		127	5	8	34	5	8
3. Las Vegas	76	3	16	3				49	4		4	3			160	3		46	3		94	3		11	3	
4. Phoenix	71	2	6	2				48	3		5	4			141	2		15	2		95	4		13	4	
5. Yuma	40	1	0	1				26	1		0	1			86	1		0	1		59	2		0	1	
6. Tucson	99	4	31	4				68	5		17	6	5		207	4		80	4		138	6	5	49	8	7
7. Albuquerque	144	6	54	6				88	8	7	21	8	7		265	6		142	6		149	7	6	46	6	
8. El Paso	120	5	35	5				79	6		19	7	6		245	5		92	5		153	8	7	46	7	5
9. Inyokern								35	2		1	2									52	1		2	2	

Method	8 Stations by Relative Position	8 Stations by Least Degradation	9 Stations by Relative Position	9 Stations by Least Degradation	8 Stations by Wt'd Relative Position	8 Stations by Wt'd Least Degradation	9 Stations by Wt'd Relative Position	9 Stations by Wt'd Least Degradation

*This number and all others appearing to the right of the calculated rankings (Column X) are adjusted rankings to account for the occurrence of precipitation and low temperatures not factored into the 9-station evaluation because of Inyokern's incomplete data. It is a more realistic figure.

Overall rankings of stations using the third and fourth methods (weighted relative position and weighted least degradation) were obtained by weighting the individual weather elements evaluated in the two previous methods and going through the same procedure. Resulting overall rankings for eight and nine stations, respectively, are shown in Columns C1, D1 and C2, D2 of Table 3.

Objective No. 5: Recommend Best Location(s) for a Solar Energy Plant Based on Solar Energy and Climatic Criteria

The best site for a solar energy plant in the continental United States based on solar energy measurements, will be found within the borders of a contiguous five-state region comprised of Nevada, California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. This region was evaluated on the basis of climate using local weather station data. A cross-section of representative stations were ranked in descending order from either 1 to 9 or 1 to 8 (best suited to least suited for a solar power station) depending on whether eight-station or nine-station data were used. One station (Inyokern) had incomplete data so could only be evaluated against comparable data of the other eight stations. The stations were ranked using four different methods as described under Objective No. 4. Results are presented in Table 4. Based on these results and Table 2, the region in the vicinity of Yuma, Arizona is recommended as the preferred site of a solar power station. Recommended sites in order of preference are areas in the vicinity of:

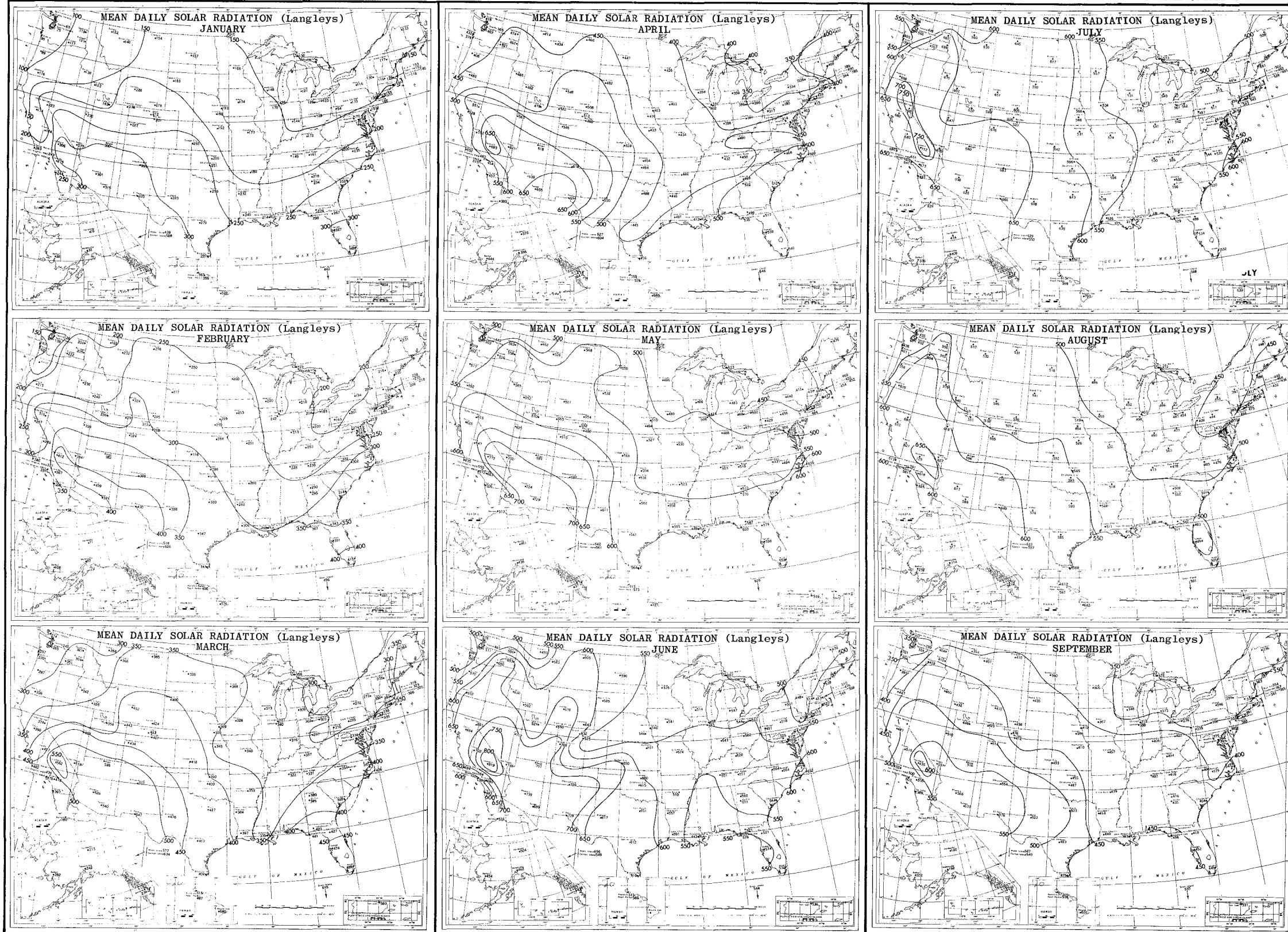
- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Yuma, Arizona | 5. Tucson, Arizona |
| 2. Inyokern, California | 6. El Paso, Texas |
| 3. Phoenix, Arizona | 7. Albuquerque, New Mexico |
| 4. Las Vegas, Nevada | |

Table 4. Climatic Ranking of 8 Stations and 9 Stations by Four Methods

Station	Eight Stations			
	Method Relative Position	Least Degradation	Weighted Relative Position	Weighted Least Degradation
Yuma	1	1	1	1
Phoenix	2	2	2	2
Las Vegas	3	3	3	3
Tucson	4	4	4	4
El Paso	5	5	5	5
Albuquerque	6	6	6	6
Reno	7	7	7	7
Ely	8	8	8	8

Station	Nine Stations			
	Method Relative Position	Least Degradation	Weighted Relative Position	Weighted Least Degradation
Yuma	1	1	2	1
Inyokern	2	2	1	2
Las Vegas	4	3	3	3
Phoenix	3	4	4	4
Tucson	5	5	5	7
El Paso	6	6	7	5
Albuquerque	7	7	6	6
Reno	8	8	8	8
Ely	9	9	9	9

APPENDIX A
SOLAR/CLIMATIC MAPS AND DATA



Prepared by Office of Meteorological Research
and Office of Climatology

Scale for the 48 Contiguous States: 0 300 600 900 1200 1500 Miles

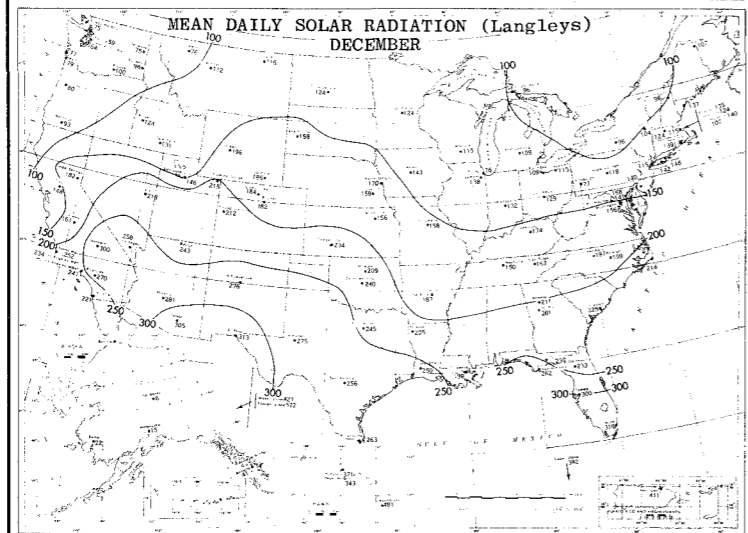
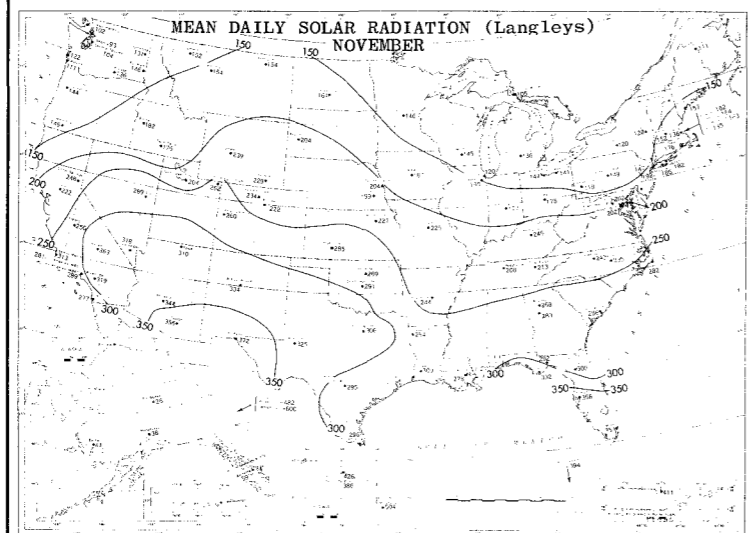
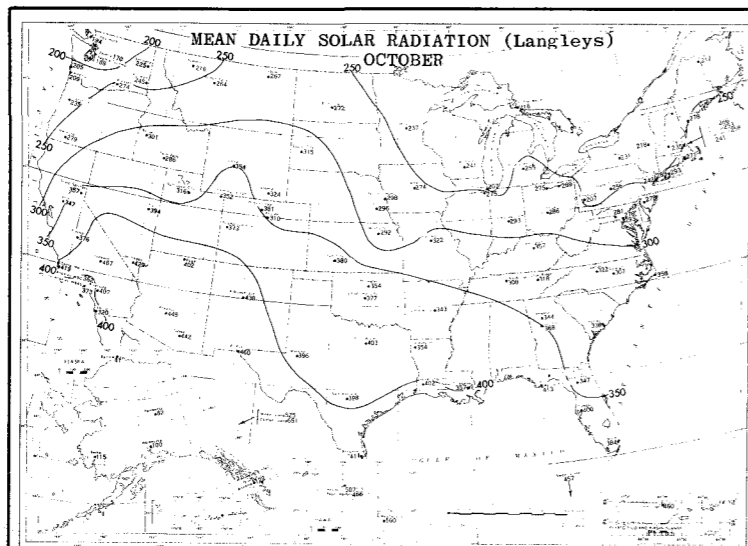
SCALE 1:30,000,000
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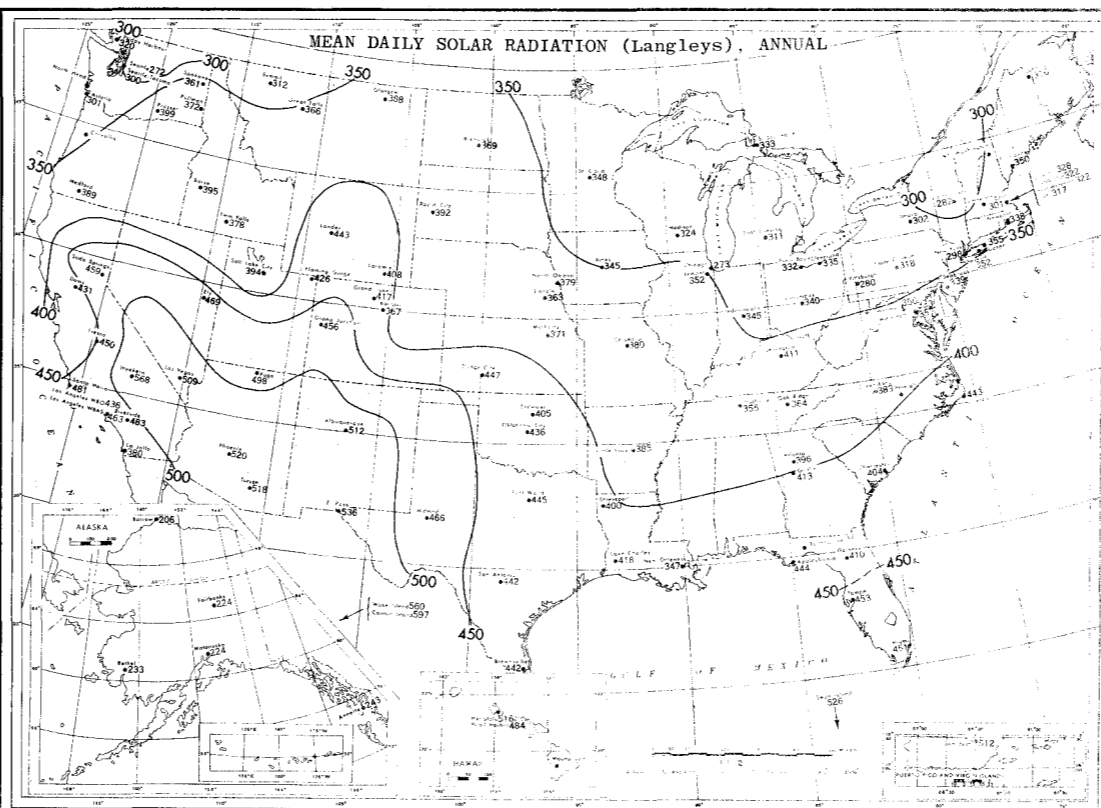
MEAN DAILY SOLAR RADIATION, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL

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DEWEY DECIMAL -- 581.5270973

MEAN DAILY SOLAR RADIATION, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL-Continued



Scale for the 48 Contiguous States: SCALE 1:30,000,000 ALBERS EQUAL AREA PROJECTION-STANDARD PARALLELS 29 1/2° AND 45 1/2°



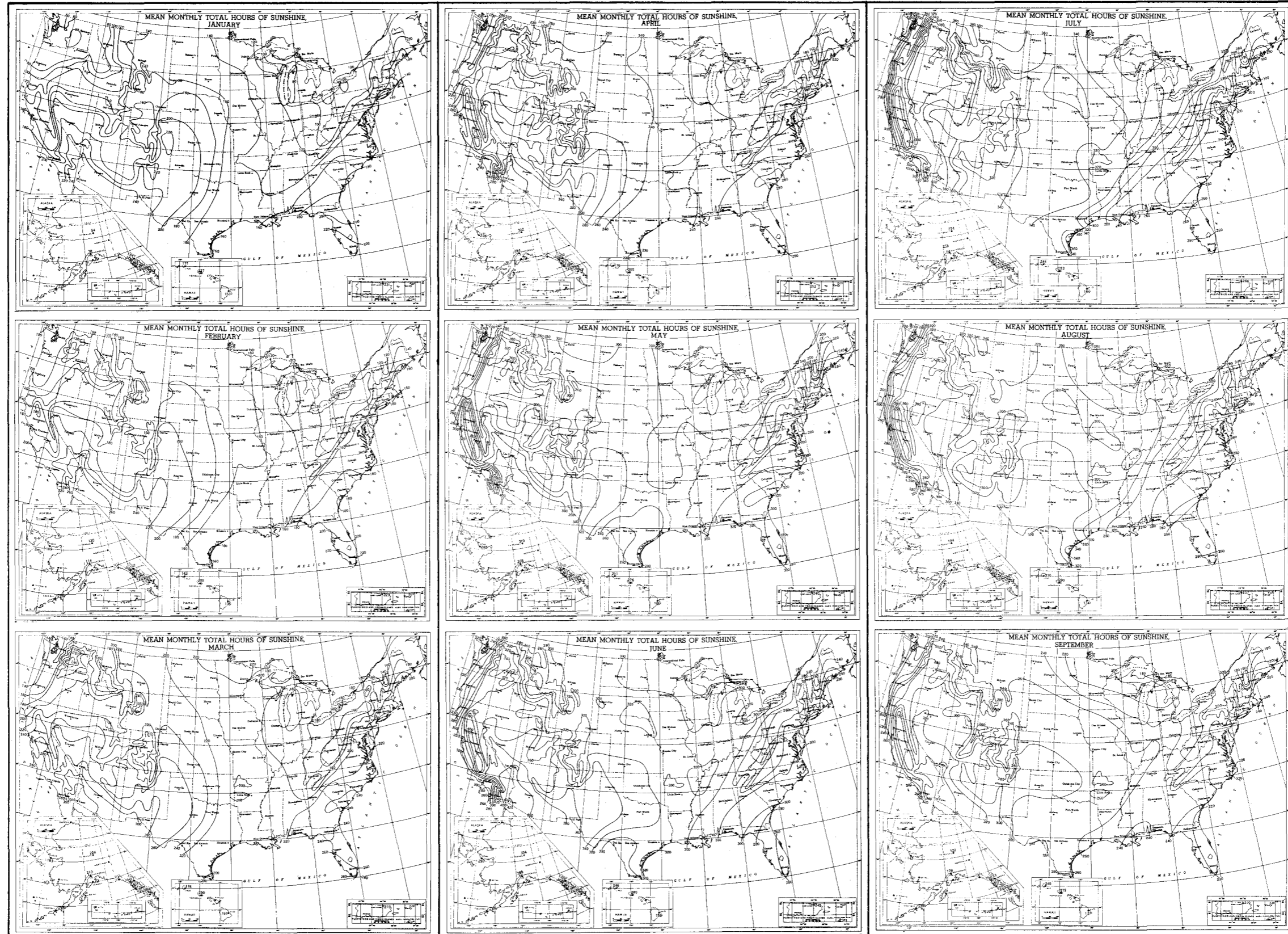
These charts and table are based on all usable solar radiation data, direct and diffuse, measured on a horizontal surface and published in the Monthly Weather Review and Climatological Data National Summary through 1962. All data were measured in, or were reduced to, the International Scale of Pyrheliometry, 1956.

Langley is the unit used to denote one gram calorie per square centimeter (1 langley = 1 gm. cal. cm⁻²).

MEAN DAILY SOLAR RADIATION (Langleys) AND YEARS OF RECORD USED

Table with columns for States and Stations, and rows for months (JAN to DEC) and Annual. It lists solar radiation values in Langley units for various locations across the United States.

NOTES: 1. Values are only one year of data for the month - no means computed. 2. Data for the month for monthly data for the year. 3. Values in brackets during the winter months. 4. Values in parentheses during the summer months. 5. Values in italics during the winter months. 6. Values in boldface during the summer months. 7. Values in boldface during the winter months. 8. Values in boldface during the summer months. 9. Values in boldface during the winter months. 10. Values in boldface during the summer months.



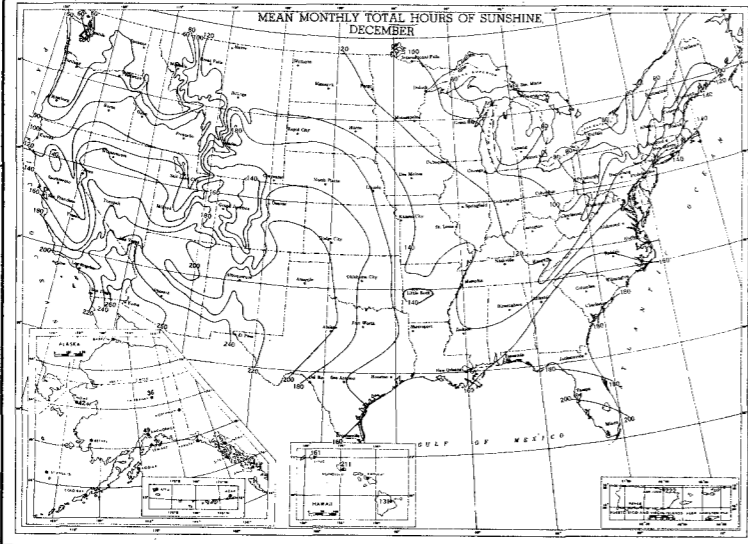
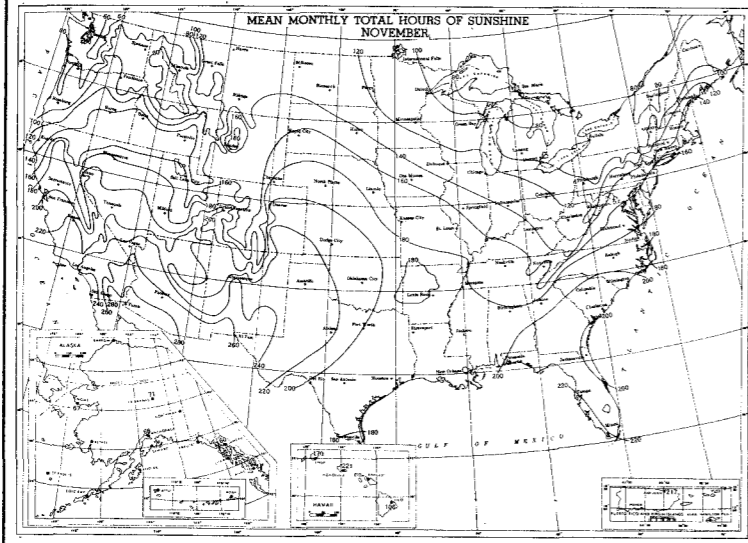
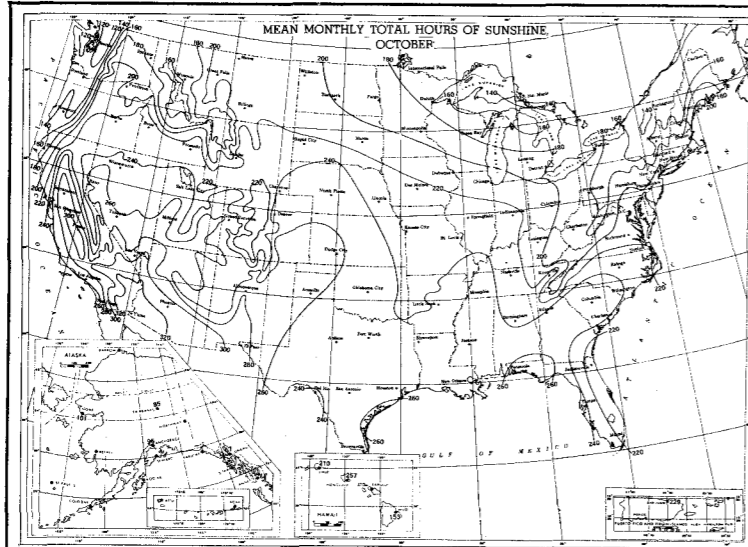
Base map by United States Weather Bureau
Data based on period, 1931-60
Prepared by Office of Climatology

Scale for the 48 Contiguous States: 300 0 300 600 900 1200 1500 Miles

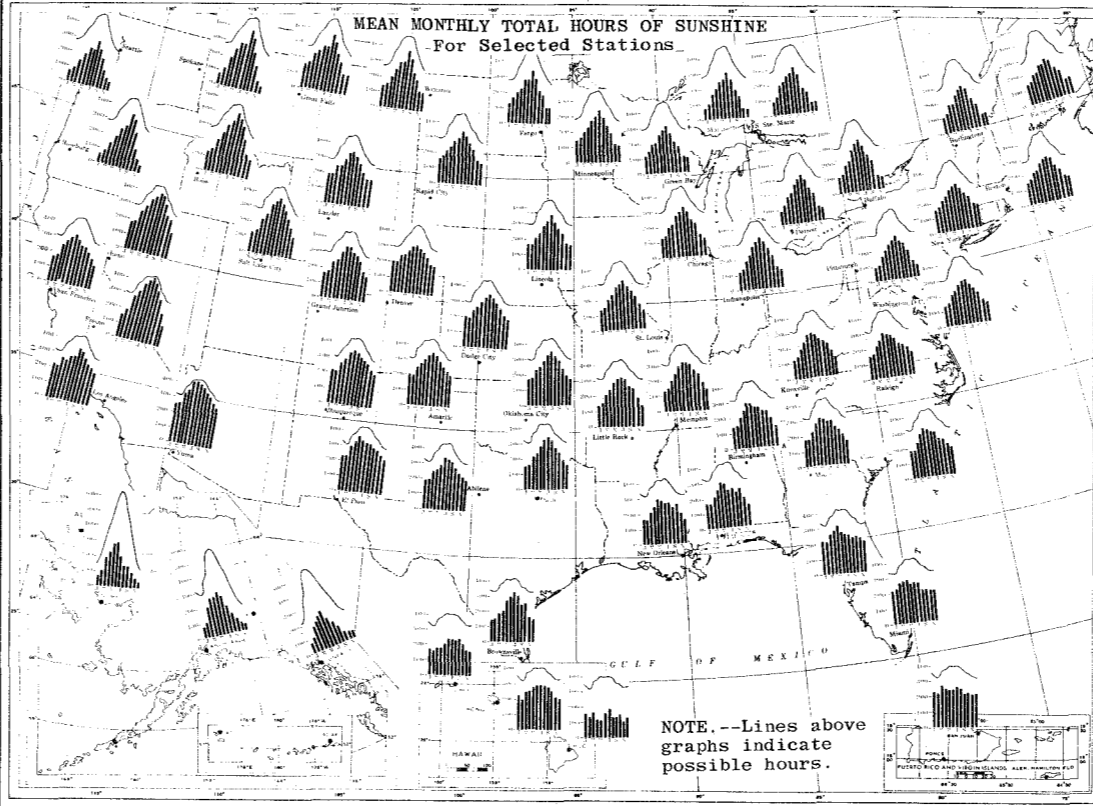
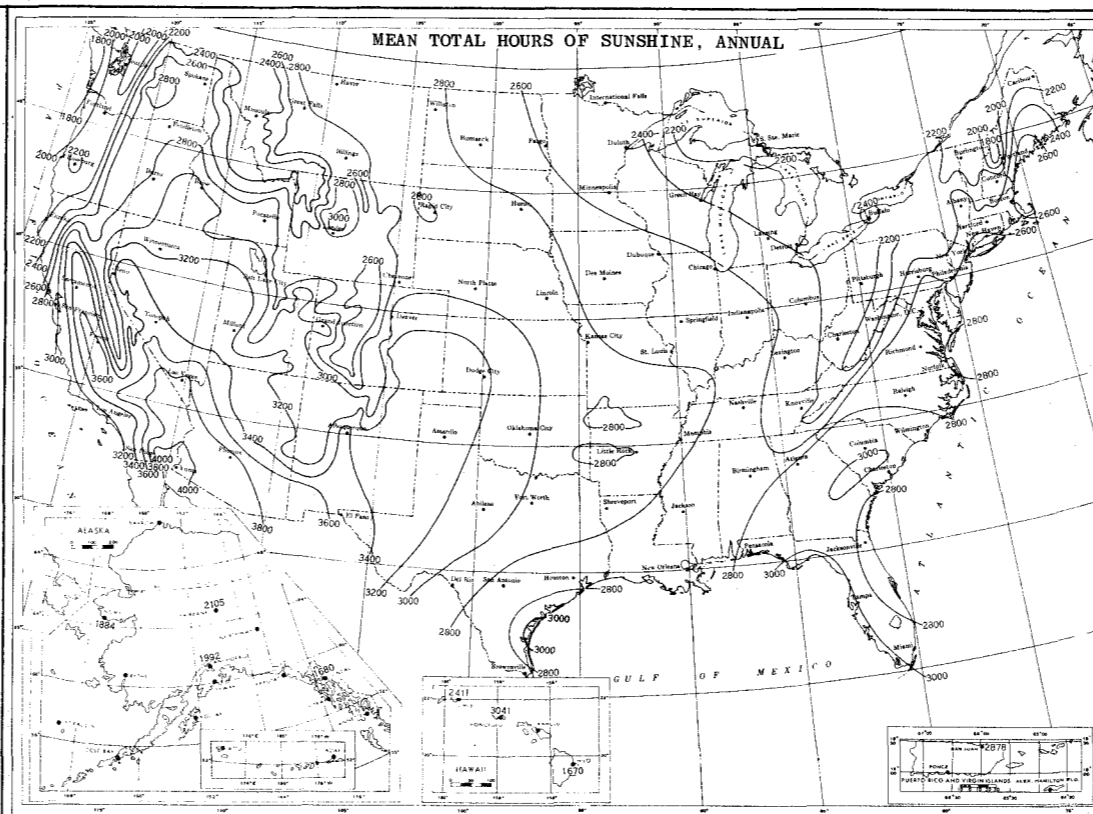
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MEAN TOTAL HOURS OF SUNSHINE, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL
EDITION OF 1963
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DEWEY DECIMAL ... 581.8270973



Scale for the 48 Contiguous States:
0 300 600 900 1200 1500 Miles
SCALE 1:30,000,000
ALBERS EQUAL AREA PROJECTION-STANDARD PARALLELS 29½° AND 45½°

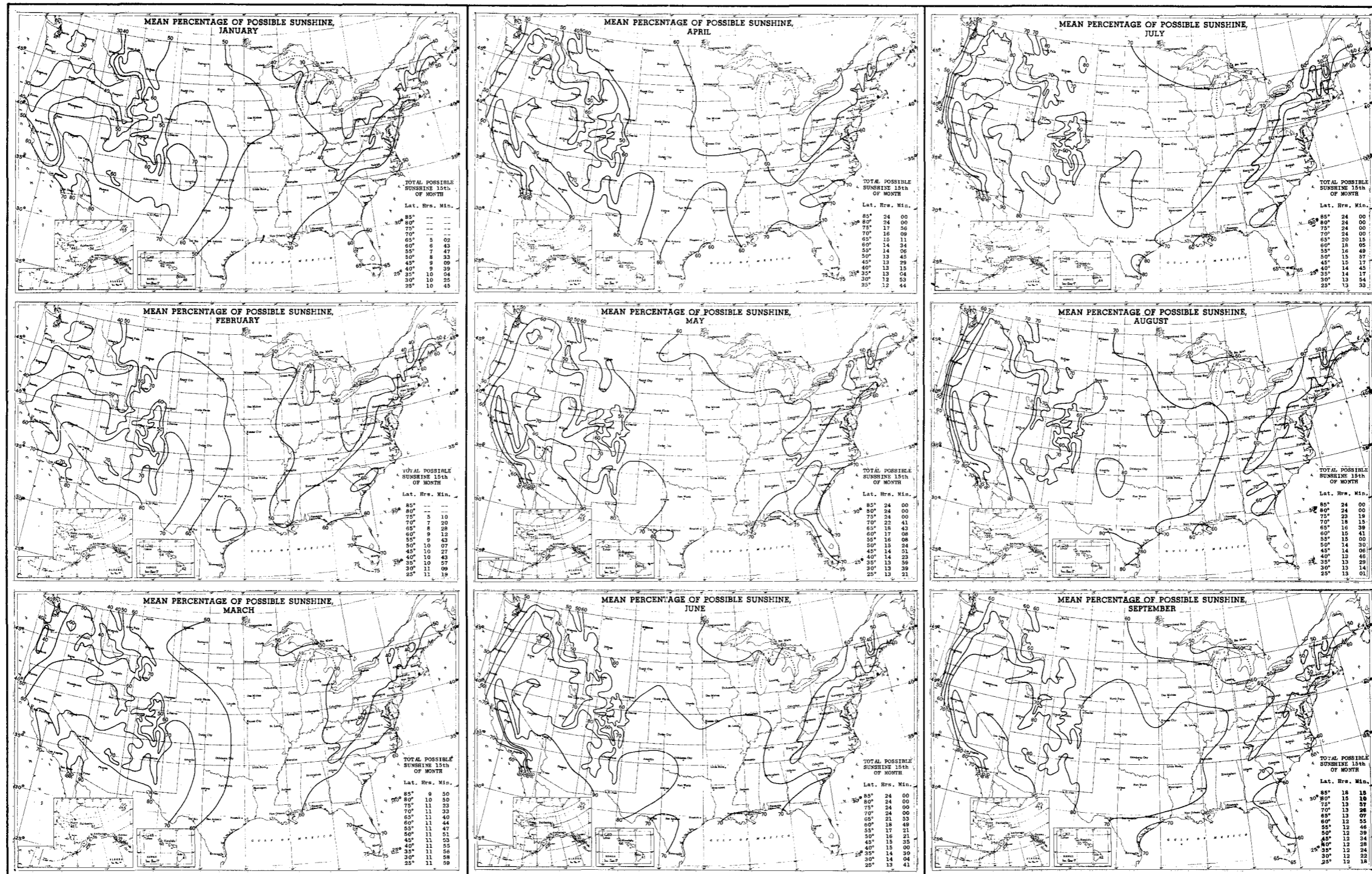


Scale for the 48 Contiguous States:
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SCALE 1:20,000,000
ALBERS EQUAL AREA PROJECTION-STANDARD PARALLELS 29½° AND 45½°

MEAN NUMBER OF HOURS OF SUNSHINE

STATE AND STATION	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	ANNUAL
ALA. ANN ARBOR	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
ALA. MOBILE	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
ALASKA ANCHORAGE	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
ARIZ. PHOENIX	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
ARK. LITTLE ROCK	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
CALIF. SACRAMENTO	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
COLO. DENVER	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
CONN. HARTFORD	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
DELA. WILMINGTON	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
FLA. MIAMI	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
GA. ATLANTA	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
IA. DES MOINES	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
IND. INDIANAPOLIS	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
ILL. CHICAGO	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
INDEP. WASHINGTON	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
KANS. TOPEKA	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
KENT. CINCINNATI	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
LA. NEW ORLEANS	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
MASS. BOSTON	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
MICH. LANSING	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
MINN. MINNEAPOLIS	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
MISS. JACKSON	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
MO. KANSAS CITY	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
NEB. LINCOLN	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
N.H. PORTSMOUTH	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
N.J. PHILADELPHIA	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
N.M. ALBUQUERQUE	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
N.Y. ALBANY	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
N.Y. NEW YORK	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
OHIO CINCINNATI	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
OKLA. OKLAHOMA CITY	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
OREG. PORTLAND	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
PENN. PHILADELPHIA	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
R.I. PROVIDENCE	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
S.C. CHARLESTON	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
TENN. MEMPHIS	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
TEX. DALLAS	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
UTAH SALT LAKE CITY	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
VIC. ALEXANDRIA	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
VA. RICHMOND	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
WASH. SEATTLE	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
WIS. MILWAUKEE	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
WYOM. CHEYENNE	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152

The smoothed isolines on these charts and the data in this tabulation are based on Weather Bureau records from black-bulb type sunshine recorders. These values are those made during the 1931-60 period.



Base map by United States Weather Bureau
Smoothed isolines based on readings from black-bulb type sunshine
recorders at 164 stations with 20 years or more of record through
1959
Prepared by Office of Climatology

300 0 300 600 900 1200 1500 Miles

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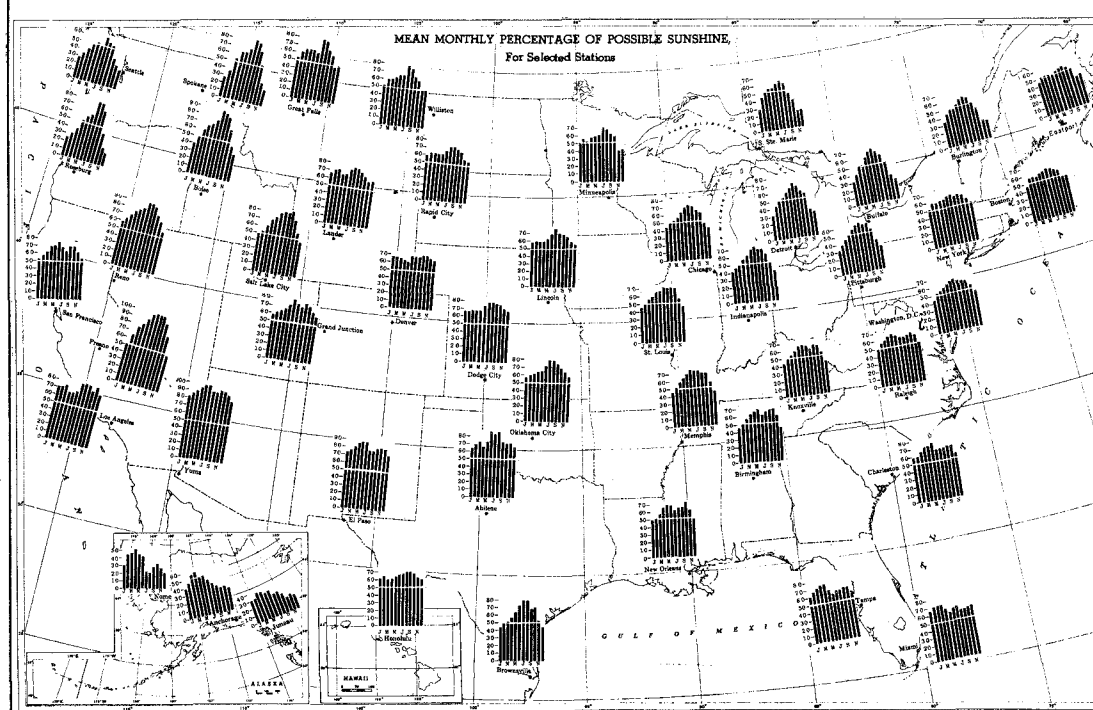
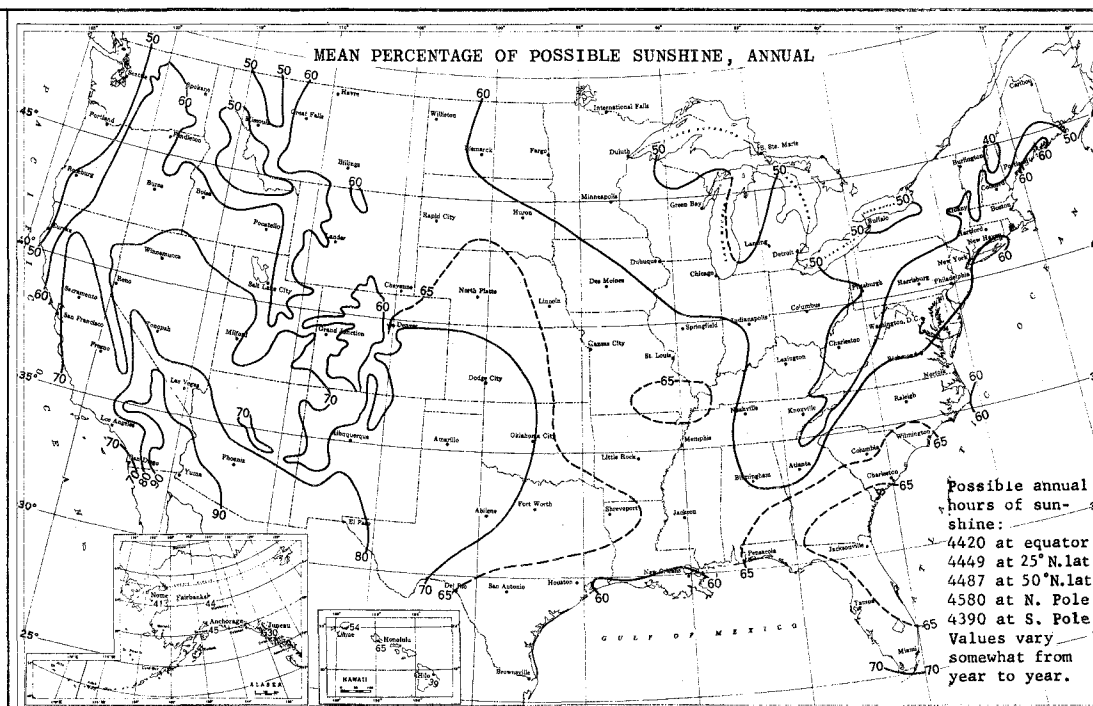
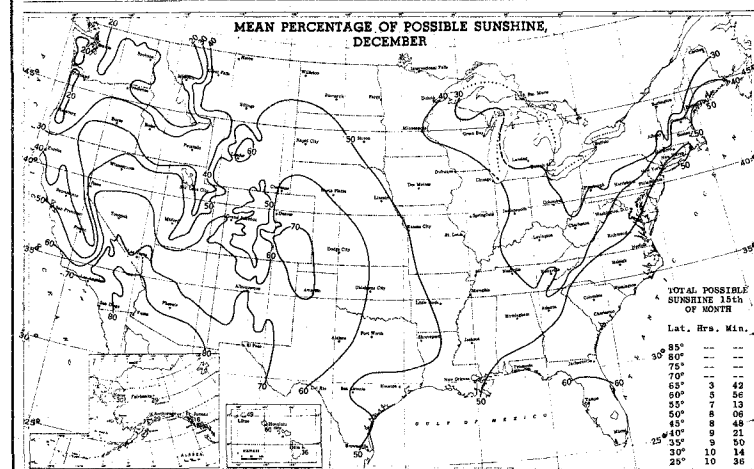
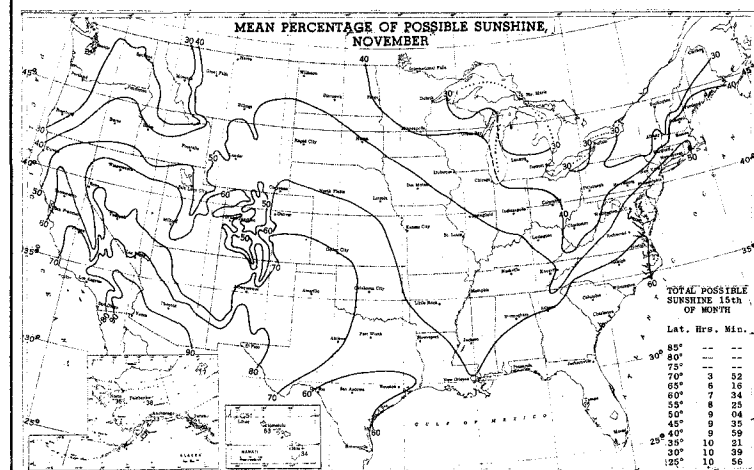
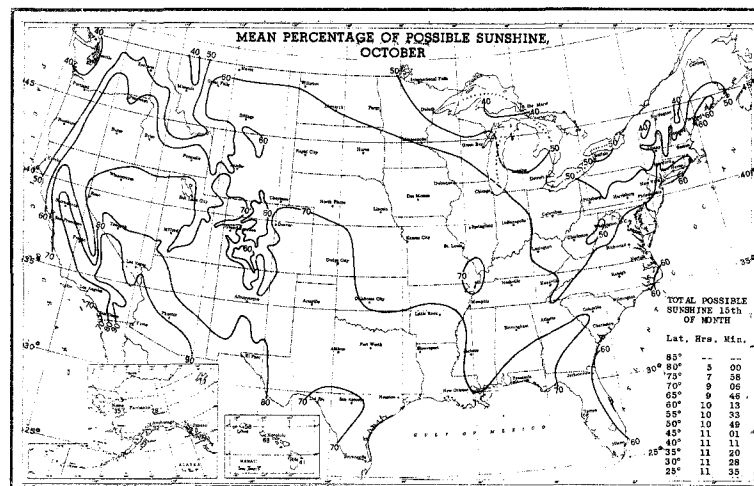
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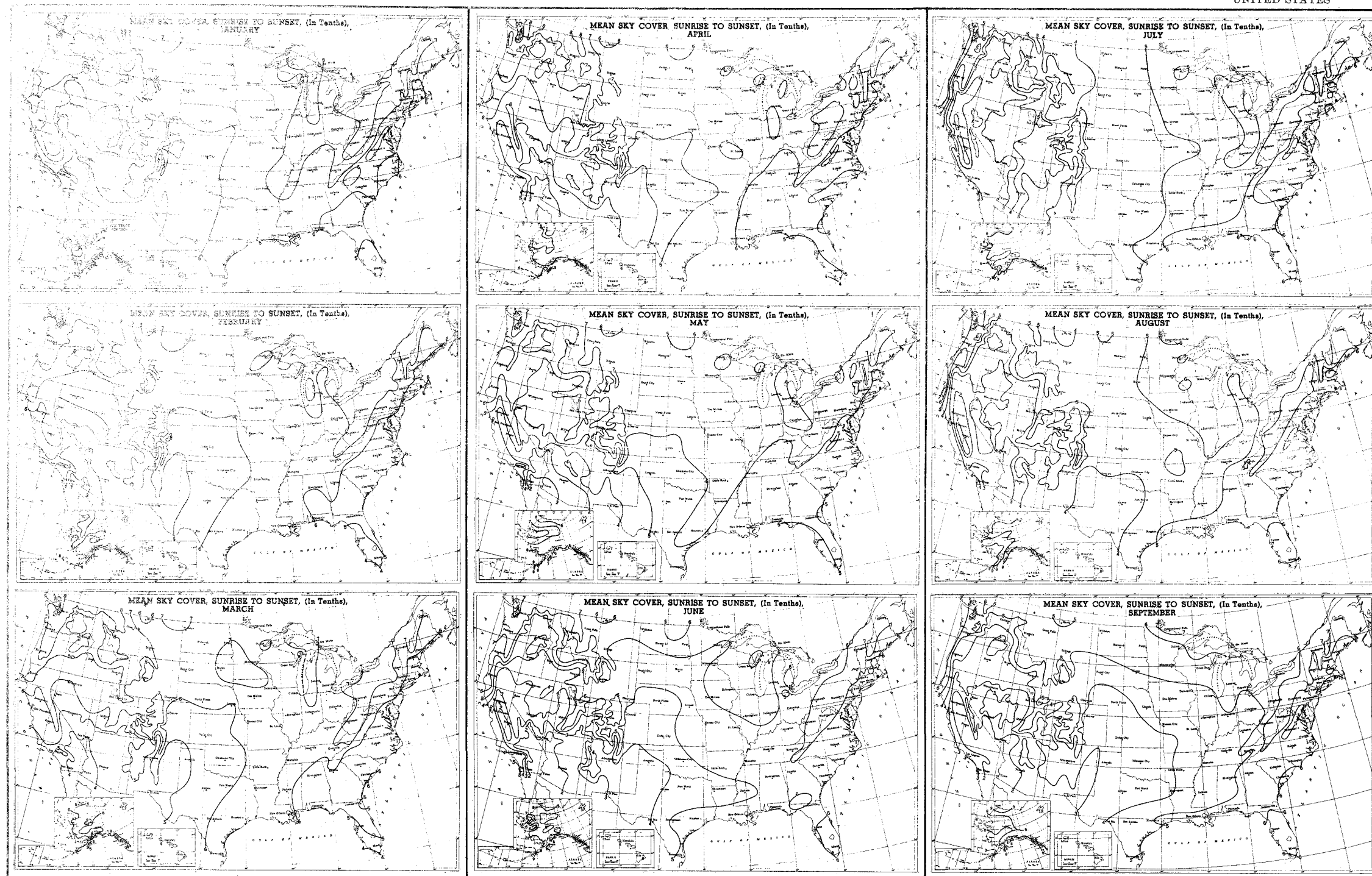
MEAN PERCENTAGE OF POSSIBLE SUNSHINE, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL -Continued



MEAN PERCENTAGE OF POSSIBLE SUNSHINE FOR SELECTED LOCATIONS

STATE AND STATION	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUN.	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	ANNUAL
ALA. BIRMINGHAM	56	43	49	56	63	66	67	62	65	66	67	58	64
ALASKA ANCHORAGE	49	51	53	61	69	73	72	68	69	69	71	64	64
ARIZONA PHOENIX	49	49	56	58	59	51	45	39	32	35	32	35	49
ARK. LITTLE ROCK	52	40	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	61	61
CALIF. SACRAMENTO	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
FLA. MIAMI	52	40	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	61	61
GA. ATLANTA	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
IND. INDIANAPOLIS	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
IOWA DES MOINES	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
KANS. WICHITA	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
MO. ST. LOUIS	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
MICH. DETROIT	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
MINN. MINNEAPOLIS	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
NEB. LINCOLN	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.H. PORTSMOUTH	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.J. PHILADELPHIA	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. ALBANY	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BINGHAMTON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BUFFALO	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. CATON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. NEW YORK	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. SYRACUSE	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. ALBANY	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BINGHAMTON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BUFFALO	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. CATON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. NEW YORK	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. SYRACUSE	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. ALBANY	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BINGHAMTON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BUFFALO	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. CATON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. NEW YORK	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. SYRACUSE	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. ALBANY	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BINGHAMTON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BUFFALO	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. CATON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. NEW YORK	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. SYRACUSE	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. ALBANY	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BINGHAMTON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BUFFALO	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. CATON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. NEW YORK	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. SYRACUSE	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. ALBANY	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BINGHAMTON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BUFFALO	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. CATON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. NEW YORK	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. SYRACUSE	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. ALBANY	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BINGHAMTON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BUFFALO	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. CATON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. NEW YORK	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. SYRACUSE	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. ALBANY	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BINGHAMTON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BUFFALO	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. CATON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. NEW YORK	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. SYRACUSE	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. ALBANY	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BINGHAMTON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BUFFALO	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. CATON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. NEW YORK	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. SYRACUSE	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. ALBANY	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BINGHAMTON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BUFFALO	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. CATON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. NEW YORK	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. SYRACUSE	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. ALBANY	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BINGHAMTON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BUFFALO	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. CATON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. NEW YORK	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. SYRACUSE	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. ALBANY	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BINGHAMTON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BUFFALO	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. CATON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. NEW YORK	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. SYRACUSE	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. ALBANY	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BINGHAMTON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BUFFALO	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. CATON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. NEW YORK	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. SYRACUSE	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. ALBANY	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BINGHAMTON	55	46	53	61	68	73	72	68	69	69	69	61	61
N.Y. BUFFALO	55	46	53	61	68								

MEAN SKY COVER, SUNRISE TO SUNSET, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL



Base map by United States Weather Bureau
Smoothed iselines based on hourly observations from sunrise to sunset
at 236 stations with 20 years or more of record through 1959
Prepared by Office of Climatology

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APPENDIX B
WEATHER SUMMARIES FOR SELECTED STATIONS

A UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE
PUBLICATION



LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA ANNUAL SUMMARY WITH COMPARATIVE DATA

YUMA, ARIZONA

1971

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SERVICE

NARRATIVE CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

The climate of Yuma is definitely a desert product. During the winters, home-heating is necessary from late October until the 10th of April; but work or play can be conducted comfortably out-of-doors from about 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the winter, which is a period of mostly clear skies and abundant sunshine. Frosts are not uncommon in the nearby valleys and must be expected occasionally on higher lands.

In the period from November 1 to April 1 there are, on the average, 16 daylight hours with rain, a little more than three a month. There are places in the world where more rain has fallen in a single year than has fallen at Yuma during the past 90 years.

The sun does not shine all of every day, but it comes nearer doing so at Yuma than any other place in the United States for which we have records. Even in December and January the lower Colorado River Valley averages better than eight hours of sunshine a day.

The summers in this country are long and hot. Afternoon temperatures reach 100°, on the average, from June 5 to September 23, and 105° from June 29 to August 19. An extreme of 120° has been reached four times and the absolute high of 123° was registered on September 1, 1950.

The hot air, ballooning upwards, draws in moisture-laden air from the Gulf of Lower California. Water content of the air from mid-July to mid-September is higher than might be expected over a desert area. This condition results from the relative nearness to the Gulf of Lower California. Evaporative coolers are very effective for cooling purposes during all the months except July, August, and September, during which months the wet bulb temperatures are frequently between 75° and 80° -- a condition that makes the ordinary water cooler somewhat ineffective.

EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS RECORDED AT YUMA ARE INDICATED BELOW.

The greatest number of consecutive days with:

- Maximum temperature 90° or higher, 152 in 1956.
- Maximum temperature 100° or higher, 101 in 1937.
- Maximum temperature 110° or higher, 14 in 1955.
- Minimum temperature 32° or lower, 8 in 1913.
- Minimum temperature 80° or higher, 30 in 1959.
- Rainfall 0.01 inch or more, 7 in 1897.
- No rainfall as great as 0.01 inch, from December 29, 1879, to December 15, 1880, 351 days.

Other statistics show:

Yuma's warmest day with a mean temperature of 103.5° was recorded on July 31, 1957.

Warmest month was July 1959 with a mean temperature of 96.7°. The average maximum was 109.4°, and the minimum temperature averaged 83.9°.

Warmest year was 1958 with a mean temperature of 76.3°. The average maximum temperature was 90.6°, and the minimum averaged 61.9°.

Coldest day was January 6, 1913, with a mean temperature of 31°. The maximum temperature reading was 38° and the minimum temperature was 24°.

Coldest month was January 1937 with an average of 44.9°. The maximum temperature averaged 55.9°, and the minimum 33.9°.

Coldest year was 1909 with an average of 70.4°. The average maximum was 85.7° and the minimum 55.2°.

Highest temperature ever recorded at Yuma was 123° on September 1, 1950.

Lowest temperature ever recorded at Yuma was 22° on January 24, 1937, December 26, 1911, and January 20, 1883.

Wettest year on record, 1905 with 11.41 inches of rainfall.

Driest year on record, 1956 with 0.30 inch of rainfall.

Snow entries in the records indicate a trace in December 1932, January 1937, and December 1967.

METEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

Station: **YUMA, ARIZONA** MCAS/YUMA INTL AIRPORT Standard time used: **MOUNTAIN** Latitude: **32° 40' N** Longitude: **114° 36' W** Elevation (ground): **194 feet** Year: **1971**

Month	Temperature					Degree days (Base 65°)		Precipitation						Relative humidity				Wind &						Number of days														
	Averages			Extremes		Heating	Cooling	Total	Snow, Ice pellets			Resultant				Fastest mile		Percent of possible sunshine	Average sky cover sunrise to sunset	Sunrise to sunset			Precipitation .01 inch or more	Snow, Ice pellets 1.0 inch or more	Thunderstorms	Heavy fog	Temperatures				Average daily solar radiation - langley's							
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Highest	Lowest				Date	Date	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Hour	Hour	Hour	Hour			Speed	Direction	Direction					Date	Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy		90° and above	32° and below	32° and below	0° and below			
	Daily	Daily	Monthly	Highest	Lowest	Date	Date	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Hour	Hour	Hour	Hour	Speed	Direction	Direction	Date	Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	90° and above	32° and below	32° and below	0° and below													
JAN	68.1	41.4	54.8	88	19	24	8	331	22	0.04	0.04	2	0.0	0.0	47	32	22	38	36	4.7	7.3	27	NW	3	87	3.8	17	6	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
FEB	72.5	42.9	58.2	86	11	37	7	193	11	0.03	0.03	17	0.0	0.0	52	29	20	42	32	2.8	7.9	32	NW	19	88	2.3	20	6	2	1	0	0	0	0	0			
MAR	79.9	48.0	64.0	96	30+	34	3+	103	84	0.00	0.00	0	0.0	0.0	43	21	15	30	32	3.0	7.5	34	N	1	91	2.6	22	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	0			
APR	81.9	52.8	67.4	95	13	46	22	36	116	0.17	0.17	14-15	0.0	0.0	52	28	21	41	26	3.1	8.3	42	W	17	93	1.4	25	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	0			
MAY	86.8	59.3	73.1	98	25+	51	29	4	259	T	T	6	0.0	0.0	51	29	20	38	25	3.3	8.3	31	N	17	89	1.9	24	3	4	0	0	0	14	0	0	0		
JUN	99.7	69.0	84.5	112	21	56	3	0	589	0.00	0.00	0	0.0	0.0	45	24	15	31	21	4.5	7.6	25	S	23	97	.7	28	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
JUL	106.2	79.5	92.9	113	11	70	1	0	868	T	T	31+	0.0	0.0	53	33	21	38	17	7.9	10.0	33	SE	28	93	2.9	18	10	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
AUG	101.0	80.2	90.6	108	1	75	21	0	799	0.80	0.55	21-22	0.0	0.0	68	42	36	55	16	6.7	9.2	33	SE	4	85	3.9	15	12	4	5	0	0	0	31	0	0	0	
SEP	98.9	72.5	85.7	114	12	57	28	0	627	1.27	1.27	29	0.0	0.0	56	36	21	43	17	1.2	7.2	26	NW	5	93	1.5	25	6	1	1	0	0	0	26	0	0	0	
OCT	81.3	56.6	69.0	98	10	35	30	76	205	T	T	25+	0.0	0.0	57	33	26	46	35	2.4	7.3	28	NE	18	89	1.7	26	2	3	0	0	11	0	0	0	0		
NOV	73.6	46.5	60.1	84	11+	39	17	155	15	0.00	0.00	0	0.0	0.0	56	33	25	47	35	3.2	6.6	24	W	29	79	3.5	16	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0			
DEC	62.4	40.5	51.5	75	25	31	12	415	0	0.15	0.10	4	0.0	0.0	65	44	34	56	35	3.4	7.0	28	NW	31	74	4.1	16	7	8	4	0	0	0	0	0	0		
YEAR	84.4	57.5	71.0	114	SEP. 12	JAN. 24	8	1317	3595	2.46	1.27	SEP. 29	0.0	0.0	54	32	23	42	25	0.9	7.9	42	W	APR. 17	89	2.5	252	69	44	14	0	8	1	150	0	7	0	0

NORMALS, MEANS, AND EXTREMES

Month	Temperature					Normal heating degree days (Base 65°)	Precipitation										Relative humidity				Wind &						Mean number of days												
	Normal			Extremes			Normal total	Maximum monthly	Year	Minimum monthly	Year	Maximum in 24 hrs.	Year	Snow, Ice pellets				Hour	Hour	Hour	Hour	Mean speed	Prevailing direction	Fastest mile		Pct. of possible sunshine	Mean sky cover sunrise to sunset	Sunrise to sunset			Precipitation .01 inch or more	Snow, Ice pellets 1.0 inch or more	Thunderstorms	Heavy fog	Temperatures				Average daily solar radiation - langley's
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Record highest	Year									Record lowest	Year	Mean total	Maximum monthly							Year	Maximum in 24 hrs.			Year	Hour	Hour					Hour	Hour	Direction	Direction	
	(a)	(b)	(b)	(b)	7		7	(b)	(b)	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	7	7	7	7	21	13	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	7	7	7	7	
J	66.8	40.0	53.4	88	1971	24	1971	363	0.39	1.29	1955	T	1970+	0.56	1955	0.0	0.0	0.0	57	39	27	47	7.3	N	41	NW	1964	84	4.2	16	7	8	2	0	0	0	0	1	0
F	71.1	43.4	57.3	89	1968	31	1965	228	0.36	1.82	1958	0.00	1967	1.34	1958	0.0	0.0	0.0	55	34	23	44	7.5	N	50	W	1964	88	3.6	16	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M	78.0	48.0	63.0	98	1966	34	1971	130	0.24	0.82	1970	0.00	1971+	0.61	1970	0.0	0.0	0.0	51	28	19	39	7.5	WNW	43	N	1956	92	3.5	18	7	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	
A	86.1	55.0	70.6	102	1965	42	1967	29	0.09	1.20	1965	0.00	1962+	1.08	1965	0.0	0.0	0.0	47	25	17	35	8.4	W	47	NW	1954	94	2.4	21	5	4	1	0	0	3	0	0	0
M	93.9	62.1	78.0	109	1970	46	1967	0	0.01	0.37	1965	0.00	1970+	0.37	1965	0.0	0.0	0.0	44	23	15	32	8.3	WNW	38	NW	1957	96	1.8	24	5	2	0	0	0	21	0	0	0
J	101.9	70.0	86.0	116	1968	56	1971	0	0.01	0.02	1960	0.00	1971+	0.02	1960	0.0	0.0	0.0	44	24	14	31	8.5	SSE	42	SW	1966	98	1.1	26	3	1	0	0	0	27	0	0	0
J	106.9	78.7	92.8	114	1970+	70	1971+	0	0.23	1.07	1958	T	1971+	1.06	1958	0.0	0.0	0.0	50	32	23	39	9.5	SSW	52	NE	1961	90	2.8	20	8	3	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
A	104.9	78.3	91.6	115	1969	63	1968	0	0.50	1.31	1955	0.00	1956+	1.14	1970	0.0	0.0	0.0	59	37	27	46	9.0	SSW	54	S	1954	91	2.6	21	7	3	0	0	0	31	0	0	0
S	101.1	71.5	86.3	114	1971	53	1965	0	0.38	2.47	1963	0.00	1968+	2.42	1963	0.0	0.0	0.0	57	39	23	45	7.1	SSW	42	SE	1969	94	1.4	25	4	1	0	0	1	0	28	0	0
O	89.5	59.4	74.5	104	1965+	35	1971	0	0.38	2.68	1937	0.00	1967+	2.09	1957	0.0	0.0	0.0	51	28	19	40	6.5	N	47	S	1964	93	2.0	24	5	2	1	0	0	16	0	0	0
N	76.7	46.6	61.7	94	1966	33	1964	148	0.12	1.66	1969	0.00	1971+	1.42	1969	0.0	0.0	0.0	58	36	28	50	6.8	N	47	N	1957	86	3.1	19	5	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	
D	68.4	41.6	55.0	83	1968	27	1968	319	0.32	1.67	1965	0.00	1963+	1.37	1961	0	0	0	64	44	35	55	7.1	N	47	W	1959	82	3.7	17	6	8	2	0	0	0	0	1	0
YR	87.1	57.9	72.5	116	1968	24	JUN. 1971	1217	3.03	2.68	1957	0.00	1971+	2.42	1963	T	T	1967	T	T	1967	7.8	N	54	S	1954	91	2.7	247	68	50	15	0	7	1	165	0	2	0

Ø For period April 1964 through the current year.
 Means and extremes above are from existing and comparable exposures. Annual extremes have been exceeded at other sites in the locality as follows:
 Highest temperature 123 in September 1950; lowest temperature 22 in January 1937 and earlier date; maximum monthly precipitation 6.25 in August 1909; maximum precipitation in 24 hours 4.01 in August 1909; fastest mile of wind 56 from Northwest in March 1949.

- (a) Length of record, years, based on January data. Other months may be for more or fewer years if there have been breaks in the record.
- (b) Climatological standard normals (1931-1960).
- + Less than one half.
- Also on earlier dates, months, or years.
- T Trace, an amount too small to measure.
- Below zero temperatures are preceded by a minus sign.
- The prevailing direction for wind in the Normals, Means, and Extremes table is from records through 1963.
- ‡ ≲ 70° at Alaskan stations.

Unless otherwise indicated, dimensional units used in this bulletin are: temperature in degrees F.; precipitation, including snowfall, in inches; wind movement in miles per hour; and relative humidity in percent. Heating degree day totals are the sums of negative departures of average daily temperatures from 65° F. Cooling degree day totals are the sums of positive departures of average daily temperatures from 65° F. Sleet was included in snowfall totals beginning with July 1948. The term "ice pellets" includes solid grains of ice (sleet) and particles consisting of snow pellets encased in a thin layer of ice. Heavy fog reduces visibility to 1/4 mile or less.

Sky cover is expressed in a range of 0 for no clouds or obscuring phenomena to 10 for complete sky cover. The number of clear days is based on average cloudiness 0-3, partly cloudy days 4-7, and cloudy days 8-10 tenths.

Solar radiation data are the averages of direct and diffuse radiation on a horizontal surface. The langley denotes one gram calorie per square centimeter.

* Figures instead of letters in a direction column indicate direction in tens of degrees from true North; i.e., 00-East, 18-South, 27-West, 36-North, and 00-Calm. Resultant wind is the vector sum of wind directions and speeds divided by the number of observations. If figures appear in the direction column under "Fastest mile" the corresponding speeds are fastest observed 1-minute values.

To 8 compass points only.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
1932	50.8	58.6	65.8	70.4	77.0	83.8	90.8	90.9	86.9	72.8	64.7	50.7	71.9
1933	51.1	53.0	65.3	66.6	72.9	85.2	93.0	92.0	87.5	79.2	65.2	57.1	72.4
1934	57.5	62.6	73.0	76.0	81.8	81.2	93.0	91.8	85.6	76.2	63.8	57.8	75.0
1935	56.0	61.2	61.4	70.7	74.6	87.8	91.3	90.6	87.4	73.1	59.5	56.2	72.5
1936	55.4	59.6	67.5	73.8	80.6	88.0	93.0	93.0	85.1	74.0	63.8	56.0	74.1
1937	44.9	57.8	63.3	70.2	78.1	85.6	92.8	93.4	89.6	76.8	64.1	60.3	73.1
1938	58.5	58.2	62.2	70.8	77.4	85.2	90.6	90.4	87.5	73.2	59.0	57.9	72.6
1939	55.1	53.2	65.5	73.5	79.0	85.1	91.8	92.6	83.2	74.2	66.5	61.0	73.4
1940	59.2	59.6	67.8	72.2	81.7	88.0	91.6	92.1	85.3	75.6	61.0	59.0	74.4
1941	56.4	62.5	64.8	67.0	80.2	82.6	91.9	87.2	80.8	71.1	65.2	57.7	72.3
1942	58.2	57.5	63.0	68.0	80.2	84.4	92.4	89.9	88.0	75.2	59.2	59.0	73.2
1943	57.8	62.6	68.0	73.4	79.9	83.8	92.3	91.0	88.8	76.2	64.3	56.4	74.5
1944	55.6	55.4	63.2	68.0	76.8	80.6	89.6	92.0	86.8	75.8	60.2	57.4	71.8
1945	55.1	59.2	60.6	69.5	77.0	82.8	92.7	92.0	86.7	77.2	62.2	55.0	72.5
1946	56.0	56.9	63.6	74.6	77.4	86.8	91.6	92.9	87.0	70.4	59.9	58.5	73.0
1947	53.8	63.2	65.8	71.0	80.2	84.4	92.4	93.0	88.0	75.2	59.2	55.6	73.1
1948	56.8	57.1	59.8	71.2	76.7	83.9	90.8	91.8	86.2	74.7	59.2	51.9	71.7
1949	46.8	55.2	63.2	74.9	78.4	88.8	93.6	92.8	92.2	73.8	69.8	54.8	73.7
#1950	52.7	63.2	67.4	75.9	78.1	86.6	91.6	93.6	86.5	81.5	69.5	63.0	75.7
1951	56.3	59.7	64.8	71.6	80.2	85.9	94.9	91.9	90.6	77.2	64.0	55.6	74.4
1952	53.8	59.4	60.2	72.0	84.1	85.6	93.9	94.9	90.4	82.9	61.1	55.4	74.5
1953	61.5	59.0	65.4	69.9	73.6	85.8	95.2	92.2	85.2	76.4	66.4	55.6	74.2
1954	56.6	66.6	63.1	76.4	81.2	85.8	93.5	90.8	88.7	77.9	66.7	56.7	73.8
1955	52.0	55.0	64.7	68.7	76.7	85.5	90.2	92.0	88.7	79.7	63.6	58.4	72.9
1956	59.0	54.7	65.8	70.1	79.2	89.0	91.9	90.9	91.9	74.8	63.4	57.8	74.0
1957	56.2	65.8	66.6	71.4	75.6	90.7	96.3	92.4	88.0	73.5	61.0	59.6	74.7
1958	58.1	63.0	61.9	72.5	84.9	88.6	94.1	94.9	89.4	81.0	64.4	62.1	76.3
1959	60.1	58.2	68.4	76.8	77.7	92.0	96.7	93.2	86.3	77.5	66.5	57.5	75.9
1960	59.0	58.1	69.8	74.2	79.7	92.3	95.8	94.2	89.8	76.3	64.8	56.1	75.4
1961	59.7	62.4	65.7	73.6	77.7	90.9	94.0	93.2	84.6	75.0	61.7	56.1	74.6
1962	56.8	60.2	61.3	73.4	76.2	86.2	93.3	95.9	89.1	77.0	68.0	59.8	75.1
1963	53.2	67.5	64.4	68.3	81.2	84.3	93.6	91.7	89.9	79.3	65.4	57.6	74.7
#1964	53.5	56.2	61.6	68.1	73.8	84.8	93.2	91.4	84.7	79.1	58.9	55.8	71.9
1965	56.8	58.4	61.2	69.7	73.8	81.0	92.4	92.5	82.4	77.6	65.0	54.4	72.2
1966	52.2	55.0	65.4	73.6	81.2	86.4	92.8	93.2	86.6	74.2	64.0	57.2	73.5
1967	55.1	60.6	65.3	63.2	77.4	83.1	93.9	93.3	84.4	76.7	66.9	52.4	72.7
1968	55.2	64.3	66.1	70.1	78.7	86.9	91.4	88.8	84.9	74.9	63.4	51.8	73.0
1969	59.6	56.9	62.8	71.0	80.3	83.4	93.4	95.9	88.8	71.6	63.8	56.5	73.7
1970	54.9	61.0	62.4	65.9	79.3	86.6	94.5	93.8	84.4	72.3	63.1	54.1	72.7
1971	54.8	58.2	64.0	67.4	73.1	84.5	92.9	90.6	85.7	69.0	60.1	51.5	71.0
RECORD MEAN	54.9	58.9	64.1	70.6	77.2	85.2	91.9	91.2	85.6	74.2	62.9	55.8	72.7
MAX	67.3	72.5	78.5	86.2	93.4	101.9	106.2	104.8	100.6	89.3	76.7	67.9	87.1
MIN	42.4	45.3	49.7	54.9	61.0	68.5	77.6	77.5	70.5	59.0	49.0	43.6	58.3

TOTAL DEGREE DAYS

YUMA, ARIZONA

Season	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total	
1932-33	0	0	0	8	36	442	432	338	25	41	13	0	1335	
1933-34	0	0	0	0	0	62	246	233	78	2	3	0	624	
1934-35	0	0	0	0	119	228	288	130	134	10	0	0	909	
1935-36	0	0	0	10	169	270	297	166	52	16	0	0	980	
1936-37	0	0	0	0	74	281	623	200	87	8	0	0	1273	
1937-38	0	0	0	0	60	148	206	191	104	14	0	0	723	
1938-39	0	0	0	3	178	230	303	330	92	6	0	0	1142	
1939-40	0	0	0	2	28	142	189	158	22	6	0	0	547	
1940-41	0	0	0	4	136	190	267	80	40	36	0	0	753	
1941-42	0	0	0	2	84	234	133	207	86	8	0	0	754	
1942-43	0	0	0	4	40	187	224	100	9	22	0	0	582	
1943-44	0	0	0	6	65	266	295	274	80	9	0	0	995	
1944-45	0	0	0	0	169	237	307	164	154	59	0	0	1090	
1945-46	0	0	0	0	121	314	275	226	81	13	0	0	1026	
1946-47	0	0	0	14	157	205	343	71	42	13	0	0	846	
1947-48	0	0	0	0	186	352	252	242	187	7	0	0	1216	
#1948-49	0	0	0	1	181	406	562	277	84	10	0	0	1527	
#1949-50	0	0	0	25	7	328	378	69	40	2	2	0	851	
1950-51	0	0	0	0	32	82	273	168	74	9	2	0	640	
1951-52	0	0	0	3	71	286	342	156	186	2	0	0	1046	
1952-53	0	0	0	0	168	294	119	171	69	19	0	0	840	
1953-54	0	0	0	0	2	13	263	298	282	67	22	2	0	743
1954-55	0	0	0	0	2	13	263	298	282	67	22	2	0	1049
1955-56	0	0	0	0	96	202	178	292	72	25	0	0	865	
1956-57	0	0	0	13	103	214	265	67	31	13	0	0	706	
1957-58	0	0	0	0	125	162	205	62	106	28	0	0	688	
1958-59	0	0	0	0	88	106	151	188	9	0	0	0	542	
1959-60	0	0	0	16	34	231	362	195	13	8	0	0	859	
1960-61	0	0	0	0	59	269	159	73	38	0	0	0	598	
1961-62	0	0	0	18	118	266	253	138	149	0	0	0	942	
1962-63	0	0	0	0	36	165	359	28	74	28	0	0	690	
#1963-64	0	0	0	0	63	222	349	249	140	38	19	0	1080	
1964-65	0	0	0	0	199	278	258	190	126	64	1	0	1116	
1965-66	0	0	0	0	65	321	390	273	71	3	0	0	1123	
1966-67	0	0	0	0	82	249	299	126	50	70	1	0	883	
1967-68	0	0	0	0	84	385	296	69	41	14	0	0	842	
1968-69	0	0	0	0	67	403	167	119	146	3	9	0	1014	
1969-70	0	0	0	3	67	257	306	116	108	53	0	0	910	
1970-71	0	0	0	0	75	333	331	195	105	36	4	0	1083	
1971-72	0	0	0	0	76	155	415							

TOTAL PRECIPITATION

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
1932	T	1.06	0.00	T	0.00	T	1.36	T	0.03	3.99	T	0.51	6.35
1933	1.16	0.12	0.00	0.81	0.00	T	0.78	0.27	0.20	0.78	0.02	0.78	3.56
1934	0.03	0.11	0.18	0.00	0.00	T	0.74	T	0.00	0.54	0.65	2.32	3.28
1935	0.74	0.66	0.11	0.01	T	0.00	T	0.59	0.84	0.00	0.03	0.30	3.28
1936	0.24	0.18	T	0.00	0.00	T	0.18	0.11	0.02	T	0.42	0.14	1.29
1937	0.14	0.08	1.47	0.00	T	0.09	0.46	T	1.71	0.00	0.00	0.35	4.30
1938	0.07	0.58	0.61	T	0.00	T	0.18	0.25	0.35	T	0.00	0.88	2.92
1939	0.91	0.19	0.01	T	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.12	3.13	T	0.19	0.06	6.66
1940	0.04	0.25	0.21	0.00	0.00	T	0.10	0.53	0.41	T	0.79	2.33	
1941	0.83	0.50	1.54	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.17	2.16	0.08	0.36	0.37	0.42	6.71
1942	0.19	0.84	0.17	T	0.00	0.00	0.08	1.08	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.01	2.41
1943	0.33	T	0.27	T	0.00	T	T	1.29	0.04	0.03	0.00	0.46	2.42
1944	0.20	1.25	0.20	T	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.21	0.64	1.22	0.35	4.07
1945	0.37	1.05	0.39	T	0.00	0.00	0.09	1.61	T	0.54	0.00	0.05	4.10
1946	0.07	T	T	T	0.00	0.00	0.44	0.19	0.55	T	0.12	0.88	2.25</

STATION LOCATION

YUMA, ARIZONA

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Airline distance and direction from previous location	Latitude North	Longitude West	Elevation above										Remarks
						Sea level Ground at temperature site	Ground								Sea level	
							Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Telepsychrometer	Tipping bucket rain gage	Weighing rain gage	8" rain gage	Hygrothermometer		
<u>CITY</u>																
Fort Yuma (Present Indian School Hill)	11/18/73	7/07/85		32° 44'	114° 37'								a21	a - 26 feet to 1882.		
Quartermaster Building Fort Yuma, North end of Second Avenue	7/07/85	7/1891	1/2 mi. WSW	32° 44'	114° 37'	138	50	b16	b16				c2	b - 5' to 1889. c - 21' to 1886; 22' to 1888; 1' to 1890.		
Quartermaster Building Fort Yuma, North end of Second Avenue	7/1891	8/26/49	No change	32° 44'	114° 37'	138	d57	e9	e9	3		2	55	d - 50' to 1903; 47' to 1904; 46' to 1905; 58' to 1941. e - 16' to 1908. Tipping bucket installed 1922; Sunshine Switch 1909. Maximum and minimum temperatures and precipitation only after 9/7/48.		
<u>AIRPORT</u>																
Yuma Army Airfield 4 miles SSE of Post Office	8/1929	2/1935		32° 40'	114° 36'	203										
Yuma Army Airfield South wing of Room T-114	12/02/42	1/09/46	1 mi. SSE	32° 39'	114° 35'	203	64	19	19			14				
Yuma Army Airfield East wing of Room T-114	1/11/46	9/07/48		32° 39'	114° 35'	203	24	4	4			4				
Yuma Army Airfield South wing of Room T-114	9/07/48	7/01/50		32° 39'	114° 35'	203	23	4	4	14		14	19			
Administration Building Marine Corps Air Station Yuma International AP (Yuma County Airport to October 1962)	7/01/50	Present	1 mi. NNW	32° 40'	114° 36'	1194	E20	4	4	h4	4	4	17	f - 27' until remoted to field site 1/19/58. g - Installed 3/21/58. h - Commissioned 810' NW of thermometer site 3/24/64. i - 199' to 3/24/64.		

Requests for additional information should be directed to the National Weather Service Office for which this summary was issued.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE





LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA ANNUAL SUMMARY WITH COMPARATIVE DATA

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

1971

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SERVICE

NARRATIVE CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

Phoenix is located in about the center of the Salt River Valley, a broad, oval-shaped, nearly flat plain. The Salt River runs from east to west through the valley but, owing to impounding dams upstream, it is usually dry. The climate is of a desert type with low annual rainfall and low relative humidity. Daytime temperatures are high throughout the summer months. The winters are mild. Nighttime temperatures frequently drop below freezing during the three coldest months, but afternoons are usually sunny and warm.

At an elevation of about 1100 feet, the station is in a level or gently sloping valley running east and west. The Salt River Mountains are located about 6 miles to the south and rise to 2600 feet m.s.l. The Phoenix Mountains lie 8 miles to the north-northwest and have a maximum elevation of 2300 feet m.s.l. Eighteen miles to the southwest lies the 3300-foot Estrella Mountain, and 25 miles to the west are found the White Tank Mountains with an elevation of 4000 feet m.s.l. The Superstition Mountains are approximately 40 miles to the east and rise to 4600 feet m.s.l.

The central floor of the Salt River Valley is irrigated by water from dams built on the Salt River system. To the north and west of the gravity flow irrigated district there is considerable agricultural land irrigated by pump water. There is no evidence that the irrigation has in any way affected the relative humidity in the valley. The average daytime relative humidity is about 30 percent based on observations at 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

There are two separate rainfall seasons. The first occurs during the winter months from November to March when the area is subjected to occasional storms from the Pacific Ocean. While this is classed as a rainfall season, there can be periods of a month or more in this or any other season when practically no precipitation occurs. Snowfall occurs very rarely in the Salt River Valley, while light snows occasionally fall in the higher mountains surrounding the valley. The second rainfall period occurs during July and August when Arizona is subjected to widespread thunderstorm activity whose moisture supply originates in the Gulf of Mexico. These thunderstorms are extremely variable in intensity and location.

The spring and fall months are generally dry, although precipitation in substantial amounts has fallen on occasion during every month of the year.

Since the Phoenix area is primarily agricultural, minimum temperatures and their variation over the valley have been studied closely. During the winter months the temperature is marginal for some types of crops, such as citrus. Areas with milder temperatures around the edges of the valley are utilized by these crops. However, the valley is subject to occasional killing and hard freezes in which no area escapes damage.

The valley floor, in general, is rather free of wind. During the spring months southwest and west winds predominate and are associated with the passage of low pressure troughs. During the thunderstorm season there are often local gusty winds, usually flowing from an easterly direction. Throughout the year there are periods, often several days in length, in which winds remain under 10 miles an hour.

Sunshine in the Phoenix area averages 86 percent of the possible amount, ranging from a minimum monthly average of 77 percent in January and December to a maximum of 94 percent in June. During the winter, skies are sometimes cloudy, but clear skies predominate and temperatures are mild. During the spring, skies are also predominately clear with warm temperatures during the day and mild pleasant evenings. Beginning with June, daytime weather is hot. During July and August, there is often considerable afternoon cloudiness associated with cumulus clouds building up over the nearby mountains. Summer thundershowers seldom occur in the valley before evening.

The autumn season, beginning during the latter part of September, is characterized by sudden changes in temperature. The change from the heat of summer to mild winter temperatures usually occurs during October. The normal temperature change from the beginning to the end of this month is the greatest of any of the twelve months in central Arizona. By November, the mild winter season is definitely established in the Salt River Valley region.

METEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

Station: PHOENIX, ARIZONA SKY HARBOR AIRPORT Standard time used: MOUNTAIN Latitude: 33° 26' N Longitude: 112° 01' W Elevation (ground): 1117 feet Year: 1971

Month	Temperature						Degree days (Base 65°)		Precipitation						Relative humidity				Wind &				Number of days																	
	Averages			Extremes			Heating	Cooling	Total	Snow, Ice pellets			Resultant				Peak gust				Sunrise to sunset			Precipitation .01 inch or more	Snow, Ice pellets 1.0 inch or more	Thunderstorms	Heavy fog	Temperatures				Average daily solar radiation - langley's								
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Highest	Date	Lowest				Date	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Hour	Hour	Hour	Hour	Direction	Speed	Average speed	Speed					Direction	Date	Percent of possible sunshine	Average sky cover sunrise to sunset		Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	90° and above	32° and below	32° and below	0° and below	
JAN	68.1	36.2	52.2	88	19	19	7	396	7	0.22	0.22	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	57	32	21	43	11	1.7	6.1	28	W	2	91	2.8	22	9	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	299		
FEB	71.0	41.5	56.3	84	13+	31	28	241	2	0.35	0.34	17-18	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	44	27	17	35	14	0.9	8.2	46	WNW	3	89	2.9	16	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	383		
MAR	80.0	46.5	63.3	95	29	30	2	123	76	T	T	13	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	32	15	10	22	21	0.9	7.5	39	W	13	89	2.6	20	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	507		
APR	81.4	51.6	66.5	94	13	44	19	53	107	0.13	0.13	15	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	38	21	14	26	22	1.0	7.7	39	WSW	17	89	2.1	21	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	564		
MAY	87.6	58.9	73.3	97	26+	51	5	0	265	T	T	28+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35	18	14	22	23	1.5	8.9	46	NE	12	93	2.4	23	4	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	635	
JUN	101.0	69.5	85.3	111	22	56	3	0	614	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	31	15	11	18	26	2.4	8.1	36	W	2	94	1.6	23	4	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	636		
JUL	107.3	82.5	94.9	114	11	72	1	0	934	0.24	0.14	16	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	39	24	17	27	27	3.6	9.4	51	SE	31	89	3.0	19	9	3	2	0	4	0	31	0	0	631	
AUG	100.5	78.7	89.6	106	31+	72	13+	0	773	0.99	0.30	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	64	40	30	46	19	1.4	8.0	52	ESE	12	75	4.4	6	24	7	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	548	
SEP	99.0	72.1	85.6	110	12+	59	20	0	623	0.92	0.69	29	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	47	29	21	34	12	1.8	8.0	46	SE	1	90	1.7	24	5	1	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	494	
OCT	81.7	56.9	69.3	95	13	34	30	79	220	0.27	0.21	16-17	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	59	33	25	44	13	2.5	8.6	39	S	24	81	2.9	19	7	0	1	0	12	0	0	0	0	390	
NOV	73.6	45.7	59.7	88	11	37	18+	185	30	T	T	29+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	59	35	23	45	11	2.4	5.7	25	ENE	19	75	4.2	17	4	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	289	
DEC	61.1	39.3	50.2	76	25+	28	12	455	0	0.47	0.24	7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	73	58	38	62	12	2.4	6.2	28	ENE	17	68	5.1	13	6	12	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	224	
YEAR	84.4	56.6	70.5	114	JUL. 11	19	JAN. 7	1532	3651	3.59	0.69	SEP. 29	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	48	29	20	35	17	0.9	7.7	52	SE	SEP. 1	86	3.0	223	88	54	26	0	21	0	154	0	17	0	467

NORMALS, MEANS, AND EXTREMES

Month	Temperature						Normal heating degree days (Base 65°)	Precipitation						Relative humidity				Wind &				Mean number of days																						
	Normal			Extremes				Normal total	Snow, Ice pellets			Resultant				Peak gust				Sunrise to sunset			Precipitation .01 inch or more	Snow, Ice pellets 1.0 inch or more	Thunderstorms	Heavy fog	Temperatures				Average daily solar radiation - langley's													
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Record highest	Year*	Record lowest			Year	Mean total	Maximum monthly	Year	Minimum monthly	Year	Maximum in 24 hrs.	Year	Hour	Hour	Hour	Hour	Mean speed	Prevailing direction					Speed	Direction	Year	Pct. of possible sunshine		Mean sky cover sunrise to sunset	Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	90° and above	32° and below	32° and below	0° and below					
(a)	(b)	(b)	(b)	11		11		(b)	(b)	34		34		34		11	11	11	11	26	18	34	34		76	26	34	34	34	32	34	32	34	11	11	11	11	22						
J	64.0	35.3	49.7	88	1971	19	1971	474	0.73	2.41	1955	0.00	1948	1.31	1951	T	T	1962+	T	1962+	67	44	31	57	4.9	E	49	WNW	1965	78	4.8	14	7	10	4	0	*	1	0	0	7	0	296	
F	68.1	38.9	53.5	89	1963	26	1964	328	0.85	2.23	1944	0.00	1967	1.07	1944	T	0.6	1939	0.6	1939	61	39	27	50	5.5	E	49	SSE	1959	80	4.3	13	6	9	4	0	1	*	0	0	0	3	0	397
M	75.0	42.9	59.0	95	1971	25	1966	217	0.66	4.16	1941	0.00	1959+	1.32	1941	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	59	33	23	44	6.2	E	50	WNW	1956	83	4.3	15	7	9	3	0	1	*	1	0	1	0	1	0	513
A	83.9	50.4	67.2	101	1962	37	1968	75	0.32	2.10	1941	0.00	1962+	1.38	1941	T	T	1949	T	1949	46	24	16	30	6.5	E	45	WNW	1957+	88	3.5	17	7	6	2	0	1	0	7	0	0	0	629	
M	92.9	57.1	75.0	108	1970+	40	1967+	0	0.13	0.94	1944	0.00	1952+	0.94	1944	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	37	18	13	22	6.6	E	59	SSE	1954	93	2.7	21	6	4	1	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	704		
J	101.6	65.5	83.6	116	1970	51	1965	0	0.09	0.95	1955	0.00	1971+	0.94	1955	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	36	18	13	22	6.6	E	47	SW	1965	94	1.8	23	5	2	1	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	712		
J	104.6	75.0	89.8	114	1971+	67	1968+	0	0.77	4.19	1955	T	1947	1.97	1955	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	47	29	20	34	6.9	W	71	N	1959	84	3.8	16	11	4	4	0	6	0	31	0	0	0	640		
A	101.6	73.4	87.5	114	1969	61	1968+	0	1.12	5.56	1951	0.02	1967	3.07	1943	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	57	36	25	43	6.9	ENE	60	SSW	1953	85	3.5	17	10	4	5	0	8	0	31	0	0	0	390		
S	98.2	67.3	82.8	110	1971	47	1965	0	0.73	4.23	1939	0.00	1968+	2.43	1970	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	55	33	24	43	6.0	W	75	SW	1950	89	2.1	22	5	3	3	0	0	0	27	0	0	0	534		
O	86.7	54.6	70.7	102	1963	34	1971	22	0.46	2.66	1957	0.00	1952+	1.47	1959	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	53	28	20	42	5.5	E	48	SSW	1956	88	2.6	21	6	4	3	0	1	0	14	0	0	0	435		
N	73.7	42.4	58.1	92	1967	31	1966	234	0.49	3.04	1952	0.00	1956+	1.07	1952	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	61	38	29	53	5.0	E	45	SW	1963+	84	3.5	18	6	6	2	0	*	*	0	0	0	0	324		
D	66.1	37.0	51.6	82	1965	24	1968	415	0.85	3.98	1967	0.00	1958	1.89	1967	T	T	1968+	T	1968+	70	49	36	61	4.8	E	68	W	1953	77	4.0	15	6	10	4	0	1	1	0	0	4	0	267	
YR	84.7	53.3	69.0	116	JUN. 1970	19	JAN. 1971	1765	7.20	5.56	1951	0.00	JUN. 1971+	3.07	AUG. 1943	T	0.6	1939	0.6	1939	54	32	23	42	5.9	E	75	SW	1950	86	3.4	212	82	71	35	0	23	2	161	0	15	0	503	

Ø Peak Gust observed during Airway observational program from January 1938 through October 1953; from recorder charts thereafter.
 † Combined record from Post Office, August 1895 through October 1953, and from Sky Harbor Airport, November 1953 to date.
 § Broken record: 1940, 1941, and 1948 to date.

Means and extremes above are from existing and comparable exposures. Annual extremes have been exceeded at other sites in the locality as follows:
 Highest temperature 118 in July 1958+; lowest temperature 16 in January 1913; maximum monthly precipitation 6.47 in July 1911; maximum precipitation in 24 hours 4.98 in July 1911; maximum monthly snowfall 1.0 in January 1937 and earlier; maximum snowfall in 24 hours 1.0 in January 1937 and earlier.

- (a) Length of record, years, based on January data. Other months may be for more or fewer years if there have been breaks in the record.
 - (b) Climatological standard normals (1931-1960).
 - * Less than one half.
 - + Also on earlier dates, months, or years.
 - T Trace, an amount too small to measure.
- Below zero temperatures are preceded by a minus sign. The prevailing direction for wind in the Normals, Means, and Extremes table is from records through 1963.

‡ ≥ 70° at Alaskan stations.

Unless otherwise indicated, dimensional units used in this bulletin are: temperature in degrees F.; precipitation, including snowfall, in inches; wind movement in miles per hour; and relative humidity in percent. Heating degree day totals are the sums of negative departures of average daily temperatures from 65° F. Cooling degree day totals are the sums of positive departures of average daily temperatures from 65° F. Sleet was included in snowfall totals beginning with July 1948. The term "ice pellets" includes solid grains of ice (sleet) and particles consisting of snow pellets encased in a thin layer of ice. Heavy fog reduces visibility to 1/4 mile or less.

Sky cover is expressed in a range of 0 for no clouds or obscuring phenomena to 10 for complete sky cover. The number of clear days is based on average cloudiness 0-3, partly cloudy days 4-7, and cloudy days 8-10 tenths.

Solar radiation data are the averages of direct and diffuse radiation on a horizontal surface. The langley denotes one gram calorie per square centimeter.

Ø Figures instead of letters in a direction column indicate direction in tens of degrees from true North; i.e., 09-East, 18-South, 27-West, 36-North, and 00-Calm. Resultant wind is the vector sum of wind directions and speeds divided by the number of observations. If figures appear in the direction column under "Fastest mile" the corresponding speeds are fastest observed 1-minute values.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

TOTAL DEGREE DAYS

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Table with columns: Year, Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Annual. Rows include years from 1932 to 1970 and record values.

Table with columns: Season, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Total. Rows include seasons from 1932-33 to 1970-71 and record values.

TOTAL PRECIPITATION

TOTAL SNOWFALL

Table with columns: Year, Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Annual. Rows include years from 1932 to 1970 and record values.

Table with columns: Season, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Total. Rows include seasons from 1932-33 to 1970-71 and record values.

Record mean values above (not adjusted for instrument location changes listed in the Station Location table) are means for the period beginning in 1896.

Indicates a break in the data sequence during the year, or season, due to a station move or relocation of instruments. See Station Location table. Temperature, Precipitation, and Snowfall are from City Office locations through 1937. Heating Degree Days are from City Office locations through June 1938. All data for later periods are from Airport locations.

STATION LOCATION

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Airline distance and direction from previous location	Latitude North	Longitude West	Elevation above										Remarks	
						Sea level	Ground								Sea level		
							Ground at temperature site	Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Telepsychrometer	Tipping bucket rain gage	Weighing rain gage	8" rain gage			Hygrothermometer
<u>CITY</u>																	
Adobe Building Corner of Center and Washington	1/28/76	1/19/78		33° 27'	112° 04'	1085											
Center Street, between Washington & Jefferson	1/19/78	8/05/95	100 ft. S	33° 27'	112° 04'	1085		4	4				a3			a - 19 feet to 12/31/81. Several breaks in records.	
Wharton Block 38 N Center Street	8/06/95	8/01/01	250 ft. N	33° 27'	112° 04'	1085	57	47	47				37				
Talbot Building SW corner First Avenue at Adams	8/01/01	3/24/13	300 ft. NW	33° 27'	112° 05'	1085	56	50	50		b41		41			b - Added 6/1/06.	
Federal Building 230 N First Avenue	3/24/13	6/27/16	500 ft. NNW	33° 27'	112° 05'	1086	81	76	76		68		68				
Water Users Building 145 W Van Buren Street	6/27/16	9/04/24	100 ft. W	33° 27'	112° 05'	1086	81	11	11		68		68			Wind instruments & rain gage equipment left on roof of Federal Building. Thermometer shelter moved to lawn between the buildings.	
Ellis Building Basement 137 N Second Avenue	9/04/24	8/22/33	300 ft. S	33° 27'	112° 05'	1086	82	10	10		56		56			Thermometer shelter in Ellis Court, exposure poor, moved back to Federal Bldg. lawn on 7/18/25.	
Ellis Building 5th Floor 137 N Second Avenue	8/22/33	10/22/36	No change	33° 27'	112° 05'	1086	107	10	10		81		81			Ellis Building was raised 2 stories.	
Post Office Building 500 N Central Avenue	10/22/36	12/16/36	1200 ft. NNE	33° 27'	112° 04'	1083	51	39	39		36		36			Shelter on flat gravelled roof.	
Post Office Building 500 N Central Avenue	12/16/36	10/22/53	No change	33° 27'	112° 04'	1083	87	39	39		36		36			Psychrometric observations moved to WBAS at Sky Harbor Airport on 7/1/39.	
Post Office Building 500 N Central Avenue	10/22/53	8/15/68	No change	33° 27'	112° 04'	1083		39			39		36			Combined at Airport effective 10/22/53, weighing rain gage added 11/1/53. Psychrometer, wind equipment and tipping bucket removed same date.	
<u>AIRPORT</u>																	
Sky Harbor Airport Administration Building 3 miles ESE Phoenix P. O.	5/02/33	12/19/52		33° 26'	112° 02'	1108	29	5	5	a5			3	b		Station closed 7/27/35 to 1/1/38. Cotton Region Shelter moved 110 feet NE & Standard Shelter added 10/1/40. a - Commissioned 6/1/49. b - Added 6/4/49.	
Sky Harbor Airport New Terminal Building	12/19/52	5/29/58	0.8 mi. SE	33° 26'	112° 01'	1114	32	5	5	5			5	3	1128	Weighing Rain Gage added 11/1/53.	
Sky Harbor Airport FAA Operations Building	5/29/58	Present	0.3 mi. NW	33° 26'	112° 01'	d1117	e18	5	5	5			4	3	c5	1139 c - Commissioned 3900 feet E of office 12/12/60. d - 1109 feet to 12/12/60. e - 41 feet to 12/12/60.	

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LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA ANNUAL SUMMARY WITH COMPARATIVE DATA

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

1971

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SERVICE

NARRATIVE CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

Las Vegas is situated near the center of a broad desert valley, which is almost surrounded by mountains ranging from 2,000 to 10,000 feet higher than the floor of the valley. This Vegas Valley, comprising about 600 square miles, runs from northwest to southeast, and slopes gradually upward on each side towards the surrounding mountains. Weather observations are taken at McCarran Airport, 7 miles south of downtown Las Vegas, and about 5 miles southwest and 300 feet higher than the lower portions of the valley. Since mountains encircle the valley, drainage winds are usually downslope toward the center, or lowest portion of the valley. This condition also affects minimum temperatures, which in lower portions of the valley can be from 15° to 25° colder than recorded at the airport on clear, calm nights. The four seasons are well defined. Summers are typically "desert" with maximum temperatures usually in the 100° plus bracket. The proximity of the mountains contributes materially to the relatively cool summer nights, with the majority of the minimums being between 70° and 75°. There is a period of about two weeks almost every summer when warm, moist, tropical air predominates weather conditions in this area, and causes scattered thundershowers, occasionally quite severe, together with higher than average humidity. Although maximum temperatures are much lower during this humid period, minimum temperatures are higher than usual and many natives consider this the most unpleasant weather of the year. Soil erosion, especially near the mountains and foothills surrounding the valley, is evidence that these summer thundershowers have in the past on occasion developed into "cloudburst" proportions. Aside from this short humid period, summers are not as uncomfortable as indicated by the daytime maxima, because of the prevailing low humidity. Winters, on the whole, are mild and

pleasant. Daytime temperatures average near 60°, and with mostly clear skies and warm sunshine, there is little decrease in outdoor activities. Winter minimum temperatures average 3° above freezing. The spring and fall seasons are generally considered most ideal, although rather sharp temperature transients occur during these months. There are but few days during the spring and fall months when outdoor activities are affected in any degree by the weather.

The Sierra Nevada Mountains of California and the Spring Mountains immediately west of the Vegas Valley, the latter rising to elevations over 10,000 feet above the valley floor, act as effective barriers to moisture laden storms moving eastward from the Pacific Ocean. It is mainly these barriers that result in a minimum of dark overcast and rainy days. Rainy days average from less than one in June to three per month in the winter months. Snow rarely falls in this valley, and it usually melts as it falls, or shortly thereafter. The one real exception occurred during January 1949 when 16.7 inches of snowfall was recorded. The maximum depth on the ground at any time was 7 inches on the 12th of the month. January 1949 will be remembered because of relatively heavy snows over the far southwest, which extended to the southern California coastline.

Strong winds, associated with major storms, usually reach this valley from the southwest or through the pass from the northwest. Winds over 50 m.p.h. are infrequent, but when they do occur, are probably the most provoking of the elements experienced in the Vegas Valley, because of the blowing dust and sand associated with these stronger winds.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

Table with columns: Year, Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Annual. Rows include years from 1937 to 1970, plus RECORD, MEAN, MAX, and MIN rows.

TOTAL DEGREE DAYS

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Table with columns: Season, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Total. Rows include seasonal data from 1936-37 to 1970-71, plus RECORD, MEAN, MAX, and MIN rows.

TOTAL PRECIPITATION

Table with columns: Year, Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Annual. Rows include years from 1937 to 1970, plus RECORD and MEAN rows.

TOTAL SNOWFALL

Table with columns: Season, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Total. Rows include seasonal data from 1936-37 to 1970-71, plus RECORD and MEAN rows.

Record mean values above (not adjusted for instrument location changes listed in the Station Location table) are means for the period beginning in 1937.

Indicates a break in the data sequence during the year, or season, due to a station move or relocation of instruments. See Station Location table.

STATION LOCATION

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Airline distance and direction from previous location	Latitude North	Longitude West	Elevation above										Remarks
						Sea level	Ground								Sea level	
							Ground at temperature site	Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Telepsychrometer	Tipping bucket rain gage	Weighing rain gage	8" rain gage		
Western Air Express A. P. Water Tower Building	8/15/35	8/01/42		36° 14'	115° 02'	1876	d47	a5	5		c3	b4	a3			a - Added 12/26/36. b - Added 11/8/40. c - Added 4/29/41, removed 6/10/42. d - 30 feet to 6/21/41. Some minor relocations of instruments.
Administration Building McCarran Field † † New name for Airport.	8/01/42	12/18/48	600 ft. NNW	36° 14'	115° 02'	1879	26	5	5		e4	f3	3			e - Installed 8/18/42, at 3 feet to 7/25/45. f - 4 feet to 7/25/45, removed 1/25/48. Several minor relocations of one or more instruments.
Administration Building McCarran Field †† †† Name transferred to new Airport. Changed to McCarran International Airport in 1968.	12/18/48	Present	14 mi. SW	36° 05'	115° 10'	2162	a20	5	5		3		b4	c4	2188 2200	a - 27 feet to 2/2/54 and 72 feet to 3/12/59. b - 3 feet to 2/2/54. c - Commissioned 2200 feet E of thermometer site 5/1/60. d - Elevation effective 3/12/68.

Requests for additional information should be directed to the National Weather Service Office for which this summary was issued.

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LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA ANNUAL SUMMARY WITH COMPARATIVE DATA

TUCSON, ARIZONA

1971

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SERVICE

NARRATIVE CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

Within 10 to 15 miles of the station the terrain is flat or gently rolling, with many dry washes. There is a general increase in elevation from north and northwest to south and southeast. Rugged mountain ranges and jutting hills encircle the valley floor. The higher mountains to the north, east, and south reach up to over 5,000 feet above the airport, and are at distances of 25 to 40 miles. To the west, the hills and smaller mountains range from 500 to 4,000 feet above the airport; all are more than 5 miles distant.

The soil cover is rather sandy, and native vegetation is mostly brush, cacti, and small trees, typical of the low latitude desert climate. The metropolitan area of Tucson lies at the foot of the Catalina Mountains, to the north of the airport. As a result of the lower elevation and more protected location of the City, recorded maximum temperatures are usually higher there than at the airport and minimum temperatures are correspondingly lower than at the airport.

As might be expected from its geographical situation, the climate of Tucson is prominently characterized by a long, hot season, beginning in April and ending in October. From May through September, maximum temperatures above 90° are the rule, with the mean maximum occasionally exceeding 100° in July. Under usual conditions, the diurnal temperature range is large, averaging almost 30°, although it may exceed 40°. Clear skies or very thin high clouds permit intense surface heating during the day and active radiational cooling at night, a process enhanced by the characteristic atmospheric dryness. The average growing season in the Tucson area approximates 250 days.

The distribution of precipitation through the year is such that more than 50 percent of the annual amount usually falls between July 1 and September 15 and a secondary maximum from December through March provides over 20 percent of the yearly precipitation. During the July-September period scattered convective or orographic showers and thunderstorms occur that often fill dry washes to overflowing. On occasion, brief, torrential downpours cause spectacular and destructive flash floods in sections of the metropolitan area, sometimes from short-period falls of over 1.50 inches. Hail rarely falls in thunderstorms, and sleet is an almost unknown form of precipitation. The December through March precipitation is more

general and occurs as prolonged rainstorms that provide much needed replenishment of ground water. During these storms, snow often falls on the higher mountains, but snow in Tucson itself is infrequent, particularly in accumulations exceeding an inch in depth.

Relative humidity shows a pronounced daily oscillation in line with the usual large daily range in temperature. From near the first of the year, the average relative humidity decreases steadily until July and the beginning of the thunderstorm season, when it shows a marked increase. By the middle of September, and end of the thunderstorm season, it decreases again, resuming the upward climb in late November. Only occasionally during the summer is relative humidity high enough to produce appreciable physical discomfort, and then only for short periods. During the hot season, relative humidity values may fall below 10 percent during afternoons, and sometimes below 5 percent. The low average wet bulb temperature during hot weather makes evaporative air coolers effective most of the time.

Tucson lies in the zone receiving more sunshine than any other section of the United States; the persistence of the bright sunshine is one of the most noteworthy features of this desert climate. Cloudless days are commonplace, and average cloudiness, much of it being very thin cirriform clouds, is low.

Surface winds are generally light, with no important seasonal changes in either velocities or prevailing direction. Occasional windstorms cause localized duststorms, particularly in the outlying sections of Tucson where the ground has been disturbed in numerous development areas. During the spring months, winds may briefly be strong enough to cause some damage to trees and buildings. Wind velocities and directions are influenced to an important extent by the surrounding mountains, as well as by the general slope of the terrain. With weak pressure gradients, local winds tend to be in the SE quadrant during the night and early morning hours, veering to NW during the day. Highest velocities usually occur with winds from the SW and E to S.

While dust and haze of local origin are frequently visible, their effect on the general clarity of the atmosphere is not great. Visibility values are normally high; and fog is extremely rare.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

Table with columns: Year, Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Annual. Rows include years from 1932 to 1971, and summary rows (RECORD, MEAN, MAX, MIN).

TOTAL DEGREE DAYS

TUCSON, ARIZONA

Table with columns: Season, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Total. Rows include years from 1934 to 1972.

TOTAL PRECIPITATION

Table with columns: Year, Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Annual. Rows include years from 1932 to 1971, and summary rows (RECORD, MEAN).

TOTAL SNOWFALL

Table with columns: Season, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Total. Rows include years from 1934 to 1972.

Record mean values above (not adjusted for instrument location changes listed in the Station Location table) are means for the period beginning in 1900.

Indicates a break in the data sequence during the year, or season, due to a station move or relocation of instruments. See Station Location table. Temperature and precipitation are from the University of Arizona location through May 1940 and from Airport locations thereafter. Heating Degree Days from Airport locations for the entire period of the table.

STATION LOCATION

TUCSON, ARIZONA

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Airline distance and direction from previous location	Latitude North	Longitude West	Elevation above										Remarks	
						Sea level	Ground										Sea level
							Ground at temperature site	Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Telepsychrometer	Tipping bucket rain gage	Weighting rain gage	8" rain gage	Hygrometer		
<u>COOPERATIVE</u> University of Arizona	10-1891	Present		32° 14'	110° 57'	2391	a40	b5	b5						3	#	a - 45 ft. to September, 1894. b - 11 ft. to September, 1894. # - Added June, 1946.
<u>AIRPORT</u> Tucson Municipal (Later Davis-Monthan Air Force Base)	1/22/30	10/14/48		32° 11'	110° 55'	2553	c33	g5	g5		f14	d14	e14				Army Signal Service to Nov. 1932. c - Installed 6/17/40 d - Installed 6/17/40 at 3 ft. and moved to roof 7/23/47. e - Unknown to 6/17/40, 5 ft. to 7/23/47. f - Installed 10/1/47. g - Unknown prior to 6/17/40.
Tucson Municipal	10/14/48	10/15/58	4.9 mi. SW	32° 08'	110° 57'	2558	33	5	5	4	5			5			New Airport
Tucson Municipal ††	10/15/58	Present	4500 ft. E	32° 07'	110° 56'	2584	20	5	5	5	3			4			†† Tucson International Airport effective 3/13/63.

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LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA ANNUAL SUMMARY WITH COMPARATIVE DATA

EL PASO, TEXAS

1971

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SERVICE

NARRATIVE CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

The city of El Paso is located in the extreme west point of Texas at an elevation of about 3,700 feet in the business district, with the Weather Bureau station located on a mesa at about 200 feet higher elevation. The climate of the region is characterized by the abundance of sunshine throughout the year, high but no extreme daytime summer temperatures, with very low humidity, scanty rainfall, and a relatively cool winter season typical of arid areas.

Rainfall throughout the year is light, insufficient for any growth except desert vegetation, and irrigation is necessary for crops, gardens, and lawns. Dry periods of several months' duration without appreciable rainfall are not unusual. More than half of the precipitation occurs in the summer season from brief, but at times heavy, thunderstorms. Small amounts of snow fall nearly every winter, but snow cover rarely amounts to more than an inch and seldom remains on the ground for more than a few hours.

Daytime summer temperatures are high, frequently above 90° and occasionally above 100°, but summer nights are usually comfortable, with minimum temperatures usually in the sixties. The average number of days with temperatures 90° or higher is 102 per year, and with 100° or higher 10 per year. The highest temperature on record is 109° on June 21, 1960, and July 3, 1960. It should be noted that when temperatures are high the relative humidity is generally quite low. A 20-year tabulation of observations with temperatures above 90° shows that in April, May, and June the humidity averaged from 10 to 14 percent, while in July, August, and September it averaged 22 to 24 percent. This low humidity aids the efficiency of evaporative air coolers, which are widely used in homes and public buildings and are quite effective in cooling the air to comfortable temperatures.

Winter daytime temperatures are mild, rising to

55° to 60° on the average. At night they drop below freezing about half the time in December and January, and the average number of days with temperatures 32° or lower is 51 per year. Temperatures below 10° are rare, having occurred on only 28 days in over 80 years of record, although an extreme of 8° below zero has been recorded. The flat, irrigated land of the Rio Grande Valley in the vicinity of El Paso is noticeably cooler, particularly at night, than the airport or the City proper, both in summer and winter. This results in more comfortable temperatures in summer, but increases the severity of frosts in winter. The cooler air in the Valley also causes marked short-period fluctuations of temperature and dewpoint at the airport with changes in wind direction, especially during the early morning hours.

The Franklin Mountains begin within the City limits and extend northward for about 16 miles; peaks of these mountains range from 4,687 to 7,152 feet above sea level. They add noticeably to the gustiness of the winds during high velocities, and cause changes in direction during periods of light winds.

Dust and sandstorms are the most unpleasant features of the weather in El Paso. While wind velocities are not excessively high, the soil surface is dry and loose and natural vegetation is sparse, so moderately strong winds raise considerable dust and sand. A tabulation of duststorms, for a period of 20 years, shows definitely that they are most frequent in March and April, and comparatively rare in the fall months, although they do occur at all times of the year. The highest monthly average is in March, nearly 40 hours a month with visibility reduced to 6 miles or less by dust.

Prevailing winds are from the north in winter and south in summer, with the prevailing direction for the year north by a small margin.

METEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

Station: EL PASO, TEXAS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT Standard time used: MOUNTAIN Latitude: 31° 48' N Longitude: 106° 24' W Elevation (ground): 3918 feet Year: 1971

Month	Temperature				Degree days (Base 65°)		Precipitation			Relative humidity				Wind &				Number of days																						
	Averages		Extremes		Heating	Cooling	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Resultant				Fastest mile				Sunrise to sunset			Temperatures				Average daily solar radiation - langley's															
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Highest						Lowest	Date	Hour	Hour	Hour	Hour	Direction	Speed	Average speed	Direction #	Date	Percent of possible sunshine	Average sky cover	Average sky cover sunrise to sunset	Clear		Partly cloudy	Cloudy	Precipitation .01 inch or more	Snow, ice pellets 1.0 inch or more	Thunderstorms	Heavy fog	90° and above	32° and below	32° and below	0° and below					
JAN	61.1	28.1	44.0	75	31+	8	625	0	0.17	0.07	3-4	3.6	1.5	3-4	53	34	26	43	27	1.8	7.9	45	W	3	86	4.0	14	9	8	2	2	0	0	0	4	20	0	325		
FEB	63.7	33.1	48.4	78	15	8	457	0	0.04	0.03	18	T	T	20	37	25	19	29	26	5.7	10.3	56	SW	3	95	3.4	15	11	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	433		
MAR	73.6	42.6	58.1	88	27	14	254	45	0.00	0.00	0	0.0	0.0	0	23	16	12	18	28	6.3	11.6	48	W	5	99	2.4	22	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	565		
APR	77.1	48.0	62.6	89	11+	36	7	110	45	0.42	0.34	14	T	T	19	33	21	15	26	27	3.5	11.1	39	W	21	95	2.8	19	7	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	623	
MAY	86.1	58.1	72.1	94	26+	46	13	6	235	T	T	11	0.0	0.0	0	28	16	12	17	25	6.2	11.3	49	SW	4	94	3.4	17	7	7	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	691
JUN	95.3	66.8	81.1	101	28+	53	5+	0	492	0.01	0.01	20	0.0	0.0	0	34	18	14	22	22	2.2	8.4	37	NE	20+	94	2.6	22	6	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	709
JUL	94.4	70.1	82.3	100	18+	62	2	0	543	2.34	1.85	2-3	0.0	0.0	0	59	35	27	44	12	2.7	7.9	43	W	22	88	3.5	16	11	4	9	0	9	0	28	0	0	0	665	
AUG	88.5	65.4	77.0	93	23	60	7+	0	375	1.59	0.62	3	0.0	0.0	0	73	44	38	55	12	2.6	7.3	40	N	8	84	4.4	12	18	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	501	
SEP	86.8	60.2	73.5	96	16	44	20	31	293	0.96	0.78	2	0.0	0.0	0	63	37	29	49	14	1.2	7.9	35	E	5	87	3.1	19	9	6	6	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	388	
OCT	74.8	50.1	62.5	84	14+	35	20	112	43	1.07	0.54	25	0.0	0.0	0	68	43	36	56	26	1.0	8.1	35	W	11	85	2.6	15	10	6	8	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	596
NOV	65.4	38.7	52.1	77	5	31	24+	381	0	0.14	0.13	15	0.0	0.0	0	62	38	33	55	34	1.9	6.9	33	W	28	82	4.2	15	9	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	339	
DEC	56.4	32.9	44.7	71	26+	23	30	624	0	0.50	0.21	8-9	1.0	1.0	1	75	53	45	66	29	1.2	7.7	56	SW	14	69	5.9	7	12	12	1	1	1	0	0	13	0	269		
YEAR	76.9	49.5	63.2	101	JUN. 28+	JAN. 3	2600	2071	7.24	1.65	JUL. 2-3	4.8	1.5	JAN. 3-4	51	32	26	40	26	1.9	8.9	56	SW	14+	88	3.7	193	118	54	52	3	33	1	100	4	55	0	509		

NORMALS, MEANS, AND EXTREMES

Month	Temperature				Normal heating degree days (Base 65°)	Precipitation								Relative humidity				Wind &				Mean number of days																						
	Normal		Extremes \emptyset			Normal total	Maximum monthly	Year	Minimum monthly	Year	Maximum in 24 hrs.	Year	Snow, ice pellets				Fastest mile				Pct. of possible sunshine	Mean sky cover	Sunrise to sunset			Temperatures				Average daily solar radiation - langley's														
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Record highest									Year	Record lowest	Year	Mean total	Maximum monthly	Year	Maximum in 24 hrs.	Year			Hour	Hour	Hour	Hour	Mean speed	Prevailing direction	Speed		Direction #	Year	Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	Precipitation .01 inch or more	Snow, ice pellets 1.0 inch or more	Thunderstorms	Heavy fog	90° and above	32° and below	32° and below	0° and below	
(a)	(b)	(b)	(b)	12	12	(b)	(b)	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	11	11	11	11	29	15	32	32	29	29	29	29	29	32	32	32	32	11	11	11	11	22							
J	56.3	29.5	42.9	80	1970	-8	1962	685	0.46	1.84	1949	0.00	1967+	0.61	1960	1.3	8.3	1949	4.2	1949	59	41	31	50	9.3	N	61	SW	1943	78	4.6	14	8	9	3	1	*	1	0	1	20	*	337	
F	62.4	35.7	49.1	79	1962	11	1963	445	0.41	1.42	1944	0.00	1943	0.87	1956	0.8	8.9	1956	7.2	1956	50	35	25	40	10.3	N	69	W	1960	82	4.1	14	7	7	3	0	*	0	*	12	0	432		
M	69.4	40.3	54.9	88	1971+	14	1971	319	0.35	2.26	1958	T	1964+	1.72	1941	0.4	7.3	1958	7.3	1958	44	30	21	23	12.1	WSW	70	SW	1950+	84	4.4	13	8	8	0	1	*	0	0	0	6	0	551	
A	78.2	48.5	63.4	98	1965	33	1968	105	0.29	1.23	1942	0.00	1955+	1.08	1966	0.4	7.3	1958	7.3	1958	33	21	14	24	12.2	WSW	66	W	1958+	87	3.4	16	6	2	0	1	*	1	0	0	0	0	661	
M	86.9	56.9	71.9	101	1969	31	1967	0	0.40	1.92	1941	0.00	1962	1.23	1941	T	1971+	T	1971+	35	20	13	24	11.5	WSW	70	NW	1950+	89	3.2	19	8	4	2	0	2	*	15	0	*	0	0	0	723
J	95.4	66.5	81.0	106	1968	51	1968+	0	0.69	2.67	1966	T	1969+	1.45	1966	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	41	25	18	30	10.3	S	68	N	1947	89	2.8	20	7	3	3	0	5	0	26	0	0	0	0	731
J	94.9	68.9	81.9	106	1963	62	1971+	0	1.29	5.53	1968	0.17	1965	2.63	1968	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	58	39	29	43	9.1	SSE	68	NE	1966	79	4.5	12	13	6	8	0	10	0	28	0	0	0	672	
A	93.0	67.7	80.4	105	1969	58	1970+	0	1.19	4.11	1957	T	1962	2.00	1957	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	59	41	32	47	8.6	S	63	N	1948	81	4.2	14	12	5	7	0	10	0	23	0	0	0	632	
G	87.5	61.4	74.5	98	1970+	44	1971	0	1.14	6.29	1958	T	1959+	2.89	1941	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	63	45	34	50	8.5	S	52	SW	1970	82	3.1	19	7	4	5	0	4	*	10	0	0	0	398	
D	78.9	50.0	64.4	92	1969+	25	1970	84	0.85	4.31	1945	0.00	1952	1.77	1945	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	56	34	26	45	8.4	N	49	W	1956	84	3.0	19	7	5	4	0	2	*	1	0	*	0	0	463	
N	66.3	36.1	51.2	81	1966	18	1970	414	0.33	1.63	1961	0.00	1964+	1.19	1943	0.9	7.8	1961	7.8	1961	57	38	32	49	8.8	N	57	W	1944	83	3.5	17	6	7	2	*	*	0	0	6	0	0	359	
D	57.5	30.7	44.1	75	1970	11	1964	648	0.49	1.73	1960	0.00	1955+	1.05	1946	1.0	10.1	1960	7.1	1951	64	45	37	55	8.7	N	66	W	1970+	77	4.2	16	7	8	4	*	*	0	*	17	0	0	306	
YR	77.2	49.4	63.3	106	JUN. 1968+	-8	JAN. 1962	2700	7.89	6.29	1958	0.00	JAN. 1967+	2.89	SEP. 1941	4.4	10.1	1960	7.8	1961	52	34	26	41	9.8	N	70	NW	1950+	83	3.8	195	98	72	44	2	103	1	61	*	522			

\emptyset Beginning Sept. 1, 1960.

Means and extremes above are from existing and comparable exposures. Annual extremes have been exceeded at other sites in the locality as follows:

Highest temperature 109 in June and July 1960; maximum monthly precipitation 8.18 in July 1881; maximum precipitation in 24 hours 6.50 in July 1881; maximum snowfall in 24 hours 8.4 in November 1906.

- (a) Length of record, years, based on January data. Other months may be for more or fewer years if there have been breaks in the record.
- (b) Climatological standard normals (1931-1960).
- * Less than one half.
- Also on earlier dates, months, or years.
- T Trace, an amount too small to measure.
- Below zero temperatures are preceded by a minus sign.
- The prevailing direction for wind in the Normals, Means, and Extremes table is from records through 1963.
- ‡ 70° at Alaskan stations.

Unless otherwise indicated, dimensional units used in this bulletin are: temperature in degrees F.; precipitation, including snowfall, in inches; wind movement in miles per hour; and relative humidity in percent. Heating degree day totals are the sums of positive departures of average daily temperatures from 65° F. Sleet was included in snowfall totals beginning with July 1948. The term "ice pellets" includes solid grains of ice (sleet) and particles consisting of snow pellets encased in a thin layer of ice. Heavy fog reduces visibility to 1/4 mile or less.

Sky cover is expressed in a range of 0 for no clouds or obscuring phenomena to 10 for complete sky cover. The number of clear days is based on average cloudiness 0-3, partly cloudy days 4-7, and cloudy days 8-10 tenths.

Solar radiation data are the averages of direct and diffuse radiation on a horizontal surface. The langley denotes one gram calorie per square centimeter.

* Figures instead of letters in a direction column indicate direction in tens of degrees from true North; i.e., 09-East, 18-South, 27-West, 36-North, and 00-Calm. Resultant wind is the vector sum of wind directions and speeds divided by the number of observations. If figures appear in the direction column under "Fastest mile" the corresponding speeds are fastest observed 1-minute values.

To 8 compass points only.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

Table with columns: Year, Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Annual. Rows include years from 1932 to 1971, plus RECORD, MEAN, MAX, and MIN values.

TOTAL DEGREE DAYS

EL PASO, TEXAS

Table with columns: Season, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Total. Rows include years from 1932-33 to 1971-72, plus RECORD, MEAN, MAX, and MIN values.

TOTAL PRECIPITATION

Table with columns: Year, Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Annual. Rows include years from 1932 to 1971, plus RECORD and MEAN values.

TOTAL SNOWFALL

Table with columns: Season, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Total. Rows include years from 1932-33 to 1971-72, plus RECORD and MEAN values.

Record mean values above (not adjusted for instrument location changes listed in the Station Location table) are means for the period beginning in 1887 for temperature and 1879 for precipitation.

Indicates a break in the data sequence during the year, or season, due to a station move or relocation of instruments. See Station Location table. Temperature, degree day, and snowfall data are from City Office locations through November 1942, precipitation through 1939.

STATION LOCATION

EL PASO, TEXAS

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Airline distance and direction from previous location	Latitude North	Longitude West	Elevation above										Remarks
						Sea level	Ground								Sea level	
							Ground at temperature site	Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Telepsychrometer	Tipping bucket rain gage	Weighting rain gage	5" rain gage		
<u>CITY OFFICE</u>																
San Francisco Street between Santa Fe and El Paso Streets	11- 6-77	8-12-80		31° 47'	106° 30'	3720	22	17	17				11			
One door east of above office	8-12-80	11- 1-81	1 door E	31° 47'	106° 30'	3720		27								
Corner San Francisco & Santa Fe Streets	11- 1-81	11- 1-82	1/2 blk. W	31° 47'	106° 30'	3720	21	5	5				2			
State Nat'l. Bank Bldg. 1 door W of SW cor. San Antonio & Oregon Streets	11- 1-82	4- 1-88	700 ft. E	31° 47'	106° 30'	3720	37	21	21				34		Maximum temperature too high in early years, due to exposure of thermometers on northwest wall of building.	
Sheldon Hotel, SW cor. St. Louis (later Mills) and Oregon Streets	4- 1-88	8- 8-94	400 ft. NW	31° 47'	106° 30'	3720	80	68	68		62		62			
Govt. Bldg., SE cor. St. Louis and Oregon Streets	8- 8-94	12-29-07	100 ft. NE	31° 47'	106° 30'	3720	110	10	10		2		2		Thermometer shelter and rain gages in San Jacinto Plaza.	
El Paso and Southwestern Building, SE corner Stanton & Franklin Sts.	12-29-07	6-30-25	1100 ft. NNE	31° 47'	106° 30'	3731	133	111	110		102		102			
Mills Bldg., NW corner Oregon and Mills Sts.	7- 1-25	4-28-36	1100 ft. SSW	31° 47'	106° 30'	3720	175	153	152		145		145			
U. S. Court Hse., NE cor. San Antonio and Kansas Streets	4-28-36	12-19-42	1500 ft. E	31° 47'	106° 30'	3711	101	82	82		75		75			
<u>AIRPORT STATION</u>																
American Airlines Admn. Bldg., Municipal AP	11-20-31	12-14-42		31° 48'	106° 24'	3913	54	6	6		3		3			
Admn. Bldg., International AP (formerly Municipal Airport)	12-14-42	4- 1-64	2000 ft. E	31° 48'	106° 24'	a3918	b20	c32	c31		29	30	29	d5 e3950	Ground exposure for temperature and precipitation instruments to 5-17-44. a - 3920 ft. to 9-1-60. b - 85 ft. to 5-1-61. c - 37 ft. 5-17-44 to 4-23-59. d - Commissioned 4000 ft. N of thermometer site 9-1-60. e - Added 5-30-49.	
FAA-WB Building International Airport	4- 1-64	Present	.3 mi. SE	31° 48'	106° 24'	3918	f20				25	26	25	f5 3954	f - Not moved	

Requests for additional information should be directed to the National Weather Service Office for which this summary was issued.

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PUBLICATION



LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

ANNUAL SUMMARY WITH COMPARATIVE DATA

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

1971

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SERVICE

NARRATIVE CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

'Arid Continental' characterizes the climate of Albuquerque and vicinity in a minimum number of words. With an average annual rainfall of just over eight inches there is generally insufficient natural moisture to maintain the growth of any but the most hardy desert vegetation. However, successful farming is carried on in the valley by irrigation and considerable fruit and produce are raised. In the mountains east of the City precipitation is considerably heavier. At Tijeras Ranger Station, about 15 miles east of Albuquerque, the average annual rainfall is more than 15 inches. Some dryland farming is carried on in this mountain area and native vegetation shows the effect of the heavier rainfall with good native grass cover and timbered mountains. The average monthly precipitation at Albuquerque varies from less than one-half inch during the winter months, November through March, to over an inch and a quarter during the months of July and August. With normally less than two inches of moisture, the winters are generally very dry. A considerable portion of this meager winter precipitation falls in the form of snow, but the monthly fall exceeds 3 inches infrequently and there are normally only four days a year when as much as one inch of snow occurs. Snow rarely remains on the ground in the valley for more than 24 hours but in the nearby mountains, snow cover is normal from the middle of December until early spring and a modern ski resort operates during the winter months just 25 miles from the City. The July-September period furnishes almost half of the annual moisture with most of the rain falling in the form of brief but at times rather heavy thundershowers. Prolonged rainy spells are practically unknown. These summer showers do not materially interfere with outdoor activities but do have a considerable moderating effect on summer daytime

temperatures.

Temperatures in Albuquerque are those characteristic of high altitude, dry, continental climates. The average daily range of temperature is relatively high but extreme temperatures are rare as testified by the fact that there is normally less than one day a year when the temperature reaches 100° or drops to zero. Daytime temperatures during the winter average near 50° with only a few days on which the temperature does not rise above the freezing mark. In the summer, daytime maxima average less than 90° except in July and with the large daily range, the nights normally are comfortably cool. The air is normally dry with an average annual relative humidity of approximately 43%. "Muggy" days are unknown and the usual humidity during the warmer part of the day is about 30%, dropping down to less than 20% in June, the least humid month of the year.

Another feature of the climate is the large number of clear days and the high percentage of sunshine. Sunshine is recorded during more than three-fourths of the hours from sunrise to sunset and this high percentage carries through the winter months when clear, sunny weather predominates. Wind movement throughout the year averages around nine miles per hour, but during the late winter and spring months the average is somewhat higher and occasional windy and dusty days occur. These occasional dust storms are the most discomforting part of Albuquerque's climate. However there are on an average only 46 days during the year when the maximum wind speed reaches 32 miles per hour. Tornadoes rarely occur in the vicinity of Albuquerque.

METEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

Station: **ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO** SUNPORT-KIRTLAND AFB Standard time used: **MOUNTAIN** Latitude: **35° 03' N** Longitude: **106° 37' W** Elevation (ground): **5311** feet Year: **1971**

Month	Temperature						Degree days (Base 65°)		Precipitation						Relative humidity				Wind &				Number of days																
	Averages			Extremes			Heating	Cooling	Total	Snow, Ice pellets			Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.			Resultant				Fastest mile	Percent of possible sunshine	Average sky cover sunrise to sunset	Sunrise to sunset			Precipitation .01 inch or more	Snow, Ice pellets 1.0 inch or more	Thunderstorms	Heavy fog	Temperatures				Average daily solar radiation - langley's				
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Highest	Date	Lowest				Date	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.		Date	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Hour	Hour	Hour				Hour	Direction	Speed					Average speed	Speed	Direction	Date		Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	90° and above
	05	11	17	23	(Local time)																																		
JAN	48.2	18.9	33.6	69	31	-17	7	968	0	0.27	0.26	3	3.0	3.0	3	69	50	36	59	02	2.7	8.0	34	E	3	87	3.8	18	5	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	330	
FEB	53.0	24.7	38.9	69	17	13	28	725	0	0.21	0.21	20-21	2.3	2.3	20-21	53	33	26	42	33	3.1	10.9	47	SW	3	82	4.0	13	8	7	2	1	0	0	0	1	25	0 411	
MAR	64.2	31.2	47.7	85	26	10	7	533	0	0.03	0.03	1-2	0.5	0.5	1-2	40	21	15	30	31	4.7	11.6	45	W	17	84	3.6	14	13	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	18	0 536	
APR	69.0	37.6	53.3	85	11	28	1	343	0	0.78	0.35	15	T	T	22+	47	26	20	35	20	2.4	11.6	45	SW	5	82	3.7	16	7	7	4	0	1	2	0	0	5	0 611	
MAY	77.9	45.4	61.7	88	26	34	19	122	26	0.16	0.08	6	0.0	0.0		39	19	12	25	23	3.3	12.5	47	SW	29	85	3.9	14	10	7	4	0	3	0	0	0	0	720	
JUN	90.5	57.1	73.8	99	26	42	4	5	277	0.02	0.01	29+	0.0	0.0		32	17	11	21	20	1.6	10.8	43	SW	18	82	3.2	20	7	3	2	0	3	0	0	0	744		
JUL	92.6	63.6	78.1	104	13	57	31+	0	414	1.05	0.41	19-20	0.0	0.0		57	33	29	46	13	3.3	10.3	47	E	29	79	4.3	13	14	4	10	0	11	0	0	0	0	679	
AUG	87.3	60.4	73.9	91	31+	53	8	0	282	0.87	0.35	16-17	0.0	0.0		71	40	35	55	13	1.7	8.9	44	E	14	74	3.9	15	13	3	9	0	11	0	0	0	0	600	
SEP	80.5	52.2	66.4	94	14+	37	19+	101	149	1.44	0.57	22-23	T	T	18	57	36	28	47	12	2.3	10.7	50	SE	16	79	2.9	18	8	4	8	0	3	0	11	0	0	509	
OCT	67.1	40.5	53.8	79	14+	25	30	341	0	1.15	0.89	24-25	T	T	26	66	40	34	54	20	1.5	9.9	58	S	29	78	3.4	20	4	7	5	0	1	0	0	0	396		
NOV	57.6	32.8	45.2	72	5	21	20	587	0	0.67	0.33	16-17	T	T	29+	68	47	39	61	36	1.5	8.1	38	NW	27	77	4.4	14	5	11	5	0	0	3	0	0	12	0 300	
DEC	41.7	22.0	31.9	55	25	5	16	1022	0	1.40	0.47	13-14	6.8	5.2	13-14	85	70	62	79	06	1.3	8.4	38	E	1	57	5.5	13	3	15	7	2	0	4	0	0	220		
YEAR	69.1	40.5	54.8	104	JUL. 13	-17	JAN. 7	4747	1153	8.05	0.89	24-25	12.6	5.2	DEC. 13-14	57	36	29	46	23	0.2	10.1	58	S	OCT. 29	79	3.9	188	97	80	60	4	33	9	57	11	121	5	505

NORMALS, MEANS, AND EXTREMES

Month	Temperature						Normal heating degree days (Base 65°)	Normal total	Minimum monthly	Year	Precipitation						Relative humidity				Wind &				Mean number of days																		
	Normal			Extremes							Normal total	Maximum monthly	Year	Snow, Ice pellets			Maximum in 24 hrs.	Year	Resultant				Fastest mile	Percent of possible sunshine	Mean sky cover sunrise to sunset	Sunrise to sunset			Precipitation .01 inch or more	Snow, Ice pellets 1.0 inch or more	Thunderstorms	Heavy fog	Temperatures				Average daily solar radiation - langley's						
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Record highest	Year	Record lowest								Year	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.			Date	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date				Hour	Hour	Hour					Hour	Direction	Speed	Average speed		Speed	Direction	Date	Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy
	(a)	(b)	(b)	(b)	12						12	(b)	(b)	32		32		32		32	32	32	32	11	11	11	11	32	15	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	11	11	11	11	
J	46.4	23.5	35.0	69	1971	-17	1971	930	0.41	1.17	1941	T	1970+	0.87	1962	1.9	6.0	1951	4.6	1966	66	47	36	56	7.8	N	61	E	1949	73	4.8	13	8	10	3	1	* 1	0	3	29	1	301	
F	52.2	27.5	39.9	72	1963	1	1964	703	0.38	1.42	1948	0.04	1959	0.48	1957	1.8	8.2	1964	4.2	1966	62	43	31	51	8.8	N	68	NW	1944	74	4.8	12	7	9	4	1	* 1	0	1	23	0 384		
M	58.8	32.7	45.8	85	1971	9	1966	595	0.48	1.71	1958	T	1966+	0.77	1968	1.7	7.3	1958	6.8	1942	53	32	24	41	10.0	SE	80	NW	1943	74	5.0	12	10	9	4	1	1	0	* 19	0 504			
A	69.1	42.2	55.7	89	1965	23	1970	288	0.47	1.97	1942	T	1967+	1.66	1969	0.3	4.6	1949	3.0	1944	45	23	18	33	10.9	SE	72	S	1946	77	4.6	13	9	8	3	* 2	* 0	0	0	0	606		
M	78.3	51.9	65.1	94	1969+	28	1967	81	0.75	3.07	1941	T	1945+	1.14	1969	T	1951	T	1951	42	23	16	30	10.4	S	72	W	1950	80	4.1	15	10	6	4	0	4	0	0	0	694			
J	88.6	61.1	74.9	102	1969	42	1971	0	0.57	1.71	1967	T	1964+	1.64	1952	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	44	24	17	31	9.9	S	82	SE	1946	83	3.2	18	8	4	4	0	5	* 16	0	0	729		
J	91.2	65.8	78.5	104	1971	54	1964	0	1.20	3.33	1968	0.14	1958	1.77	1961	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	61	36	28	48	9.0	SE	68	E	1945	76	4.5	12	15	4	9	0	12	* 24	0	0	0	675	
A	88.0	64.3	76.2	99	1969+	52	1968	0	1.33	3.30	1967	T	1962	1.22	1967	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	66	40	31	52	8.1	SE	61	SE	1951	76	4.2	14	13	4	9	0	12	* 16	0	0	620		
S	82.3	57.6	70.0	94	1971	37	1971+	12	0.95	1.99	1940	T	1957	1.92	1955	T	1971+	T	1971+	66	40	31	52	8.1	SE	61	SE	1945	81	3.3	18	7	5	6	0	5	* 0	0	0	537			
O	70.7	45.3	58.0	87	1963	25	1971+	229	0.75	2.88	1960	0.00	1952	1.80	1969	T	0.5	1970	0.5	1970	57	36	28	46	8.7	SE	66	N	1959	80	3.4	18	8	5	0	3	* 0	0	0	2	435		
N	56.1	31.1	43.6	62	1971+	13	1968	642	0.38	1.45	1940	0.00	1949	0.76	1940	1.2	9.3	1940	5.5	1946	63	43	35	53	7.5	SE	57	NW	1948+	78	3.9	16	7	3	1	1	1	0	* 14	0 323			
D	48.3	25.6	37.0	68	1966	4	1968	868	0.46	1.85	1959	0.00	1956+	1.35	1958	2.8	14.7	1959	14.2	1958	69	52	44	60	7.5	N	90	SE	1943	71	4.6	14	8	9	3	1	* 1	0	0	2	28	0 270	
YR	69.2	44.1	56.6	104	JUL. 1971	-17	JAN. 1971	4348	8.13	3.33	1968	0.00	1956+	1.92	1955	9.7	14.7	1959	14.2	1958	57	37	28	46	8.9	SE	90	SE	1943	77	4.2	175	110	80	58	4	43	5	61	6	120	1	507

Means and extremes above are from existing and comparable exposures. Annual extremes have been exceeded at other sites in the locality as follows:
Maximum monthly precipitation 8.15 in June 1852 (measured by Medical Officers of Army at Army Post near plaza).

- (a) Length of record, years, based on January data. Other months may be for more or fewer years if there have been breaks in the record.
 - (b) Climatological standard normals (1931-1960).
 - * Less than one half.
 - + Also on earlier dates, months, or years.
 - T Trace, an amount too small to measure.
- Below zero temperatures are preceded by a minus sign. The prevailing direction for wind in the Normals, Means, and Extremes table is from records through 1963.
- ‡ > 70° at Alaskan stations.

Unless otherwise indicated, dimensional units used in this bulletin are: temperature in degrees F.; precipitation, including snowfall, in inches; wind movement in miles per hour; and relative humidity in percent. Heating degree day totals are the sums of negative departures of average daily temperatures from 65° F. Cooling degree day totals are the sums of positive departures of average daily temperatures from 65° F. Sleet was included in snowfall totals beginning with July 1948. The term "ice pellets" includes solid grains of ice (sleet) and particles consisting of snow pellets encased in a thin layer of ice. Heavy fog reduces visibility to 1/4 mile or less.

Sky cover is expressed in a range of 0 for no clouds or obscuring phenomena to 10 for complete sky cover. The number of clear days is based on average cloudiness 0-3, partly cloudy days 4-7, and cloudy days 8-10 tenths.

Solar radiation data are the averages of direct and diffuse radiation on a horizontal surface. The langley denotes one gram calorie per square centimeter.

& Figures instead of letters in a direction column indicate direction in tens of degrees from true North; i.e., 00-East, 18-South, 27-West, 36-North, and 00-Calm. Resultant wind is the vector sum of wind directions and speeds divided by the number of observations. If figures appear in the direction column under "Fastest mile" the corresponding speeds are fastest observed 1-minute values.

To 8 compass points only.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

Table with columns: Year, Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Annual. Rows include years from 1932 to 1970, plus RECORD MEAN, MAX, and MIN.

TOTAL DEGREE DAYS

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

Table with columns: Season, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Total. Rows include years from 1932 to 1970, plus RECORD MEAN, MAX, and MIN.

TOTAL PRECIPITATION

Table with columns: Year, Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Annual. Rows include years from 1932 to 1970, plus RECORD MEAN.

TOTAL SNOWFALL

Table with columns: Season, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Total. Rows include years from 1932 to 1970, plus RECORD MEAN.

Record mean values above (not adjusted for instrument location changes listed in the Station Location table) are means for the period beginning in 1893.

Indicates a break in the data sequence during the year, or season, due to a station move or relocation of instruments. See Station Location table. Precipitation Data are from Univ. of New Mexico location for 1/93-12/05, 7/06-9/06, 5/07-2/08, 4/08-8/08, 11/08, 1/09-2/09, 4/09-4/10, 9/18-3/31; 1216 W Central Ave. location for 1/06-6/06, 10/06-4/07, 8/07-3/08, 9/08-10/08, 12/08, 3/09, 5/10-4/15, 7/15-9/15, 1/16; and Rio Grande Ind. School location for 5/15-6/15, 10/15-12/15 and 2/16-7/16. Temperature data are from Univ. of New Mexico location for 1/93-5/10; Rio Grande Ind. School location for 5/15-12/18; and Univ. of New Mexico location for 1/19-3/31.

STATION LOCATION

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Airline distance and direction from previous location	Latitude North	Longitude West	Elevation above										Remarks	
						Sea level	Ground								Sea level		
							Ground at temperature site	Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Telepsychrometer	Tipping bucket rain gage	Weighing rain gage	8" rain gage			Hygrothermometer
COOPERATIVE																	
4th and W. Gold Avenue	1-1892	12-1892		35° 05'	106° 39'												
University of New Mex.	1-1893	5-1910	1.5 mi. E	35° 05'	106° 37'	5150		7									
1216 W. Central Avenue	1-1906	1-1916	2 mi. W	35° 05'	106° 40'	4960											Precipitation only. Record intermittent.
Rio Grande Industrial School	5-1915	12/31/18	5 mi. S	35° 01'	106° 40'	4950		4									Temperature only after July, 1916.
5th and W. Central Ave.	8-1916	8-1918	5 mi. N	35° 05'	106° 39'	4960											
University of New Mex.	9-1918	3-1931	1.5 mi. E	35° 05'	106° 37'	5150	59	48	48								
CITY																	
Kimo Theatre Building 419 W. Central Avenue	4/01/31	1/23/33	1.5 mi. W	35° 05'	106° 39'	4960	66	52	51		45		45				Office moved 1000 feet SW to Federal Building 6/29/32, but instruments not moved.
AIRPORT																	
TWA Airport West of City	1/23/33	7/31/39	3.8 mi. W	35° 05'	106° 43'	5100	39	6	5		15		15				
Administration Building Municipal Airport	7/31/39	6/23/58	6 mi. ESE	35° 03'	106° 37'	5310	48	6	5		3	5	3			5348	
Administration Building Municipal Airport	6/23/58	2/04/60	A			5310	48	16	15		13	15	13			5348	A - Instrument relocation to roof 33 feet SSE of ground site.
Administration Building Municipal Airport	2/04/60	3/16/65	B	35° 03'	106° 37'	5311	a23	17	17		13	15	13	5		5348	B - Instrument relocations and commissioning of hygrothermometer. a - Direct reading equipment 48 feet to 3/1/60; other wind equipment continued at 48 feet.
FAA/Weather Bureau Building, Albuquerque Sunport-Kirkland AFB	3/16/65	Present	350 ft. SW	35° 03'	106° 37'	5311	b23	16	16		17	17	d17	b5		5337	b - Not moved 3/16/65. c - 5327 to 1/22/66. d - 13 feet to 4/16/66.

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LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

ANNUAL SUMMARY WITH COMPARATIVE DATA

ELY, NEVADA

1971

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SERVICE

NARRATIVE CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

Ely, Nevada, is located within but near the southern rim of the Great Basin. The neighboring terrain consists of alternate mountain ranges and sagebrush covered valleys. Principal cover on the mountains is juniper, pinion, and, at higher elevations, white fir and white pine.

Valley floors in this region are near 6,000 feet above sea-level. This high elevation is conducive to sharp night-time radiation, which produces pleasant summer nights but also reduces the season that is free from freezing temperatures to, on the average, about 74 days.

Owing to the normally low (yearly average less than 10 inches) precipitation, farming is limited to areas that can be irrigated from mountain streams or wells. The livestock industry is predominant in agriculture. Cultivated crops consist almost entirely of grains and forage.

The mountain ranges provide fairly good summer pastures for cattle which find enough food also for

a good portion of the winter in dry or snow-softened desert plants. All stock, however, has to be finished for market in the feed-yards.

Sheep share the mountain pastures with cattle in the summer, and as winter approaches move out on the wide flat valleys. These browsers eat snow for water and consume a wide variety of desert plants, including the lowly sagebrush. It is not uncommon for bands of sheep to spend an entire winter without supplemental feed.

The Ely weather station is near the center of Steptoe Valley, which is five miles wide at this point. The mountains of the Egan Range to the west and the Schell Creek Range to the east range up to 4,000 feet above the station elevation and prevent strong surface winds from these directions. A very pronounced drainage wind sweeps down the valley during the morning hours. More precipitation is noted near the mountains than is measured in the center of the valley.

STATION LOCATION

ELY, NEVADA

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Airline distance and direction from previous location	Latitude North	Longitude West	Elevation above								Remarks	
						Sea level	Ground								Sea level
							Ground at temperature site	Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Telepsychrometer	Tipping bucket rain gage	Weighing rain gage		
Yelland Field	10-12-38	9- 8-61		39° 17'	114° 51'	6257	46	6	6		3	3	3	6262	
Yelland Field FAA-WB Building	9- 8-61	Present	400 ft. NNW	39° 17'	114° 51'	6253	20	4	4		3	3	3	6279	Wind equipment moved 3000 feet north to center of field.

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LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

ANNUAL SUMMARY WITH COMPARATIVE DATA

RENO, NEVADA

1971

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SERVICE

NARRATIVE CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

At an elevation of 4,400 feet above mean sea level, Reno is located at the west edge of Truckee Meadows in a semiarid plateau lying in the lee of the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range. To the west, the Sierras rise to elevations of 9,000 to 11,000 feet, and hills to the eastward reach 6,000 or 7,000 feet. The Truckee River, flowing from the Sierras eastward through Reno, drains into Pyramid Lake to the northeast.

While temperatures on the whole are mild, the daily range between maximum and minimum is considerable, often exceeding 45°. Even when afternoon maxima reach the upper 90's a light wrap is needed shortly after sunset. Nights with minimum temperature over 60° are rare. Afternoon temperatures in mid-winter are moderate, and on an average only 6 days a year fail to reach a temperature above freezing.

More than half the city's precipitation, falling largely as mixed rain and snow, occurs from December to March. Although there is an average of nearly 24 inches of snow a year, it is seldom that snow lies on the ground for more than 3 to 4 days at a time. Summer rain comes mainly as brief thundershowers in the middle and late afternoons. While precipitation is scarce, abundant water is available from the high altitude reservoirs in the Sierra Nevada, where precipitation is heavy.

Humidity is very low during the summer months, and moderately low during the winter. Fogs are rare, and are usually confined to the early morning hours of mid-winter. Sunshine is abundant throughout the year.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

Table with columns for Year, Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Annual. Rows include years from 1932 to 1970 and 1971-72, plus RECORD and MEAN values.

TOTAL DEGREE DAYS

Table with columns for Season, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Total. Rows include years from 1932-33 to 1970-71 and 1971-72, plus RECORD and MEAN values.

RENO, NEVADA

TOTAL PRECIPITATION

Table with columns for Year, Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Annual. Rows include years from 1932 to 1970 and 1971-72, plus RECORD and MEAN values.

TOTAL SNOWFALL

Table with columns for Season, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Total. Rows include years from 1932-33 to 1970-71 and 1971-72, plus RECORD and MEAN values.

Record mean values above (not adjusted for instrument location changes listed in the Station Location table) are means for the period beginning in 1888 for temperature and 1870 for precipitation.

Indicates a break in the data sequence during the year, or season, due to a station move or relocation of instruments. See Station Location table. Data are from Cooperative locations through November 10, 1905, from City Office locations through August 1942, and from Airport locations thereafter.

STATION LOCATION

RENO, NEVADA

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Airline distance and direction from previous location	Latitude North	Longitude West	Elevation above										Remarks	
						Sea level	Ground										Sea level
							Ground at temperature site	Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Telepsychrometer	Tipping bucket rain gage	Weighing rain gage	8" rain gage	Hygrothermometer		
COOPERATIVE																	
Southern Pacific Depot Cor. Comm. & Lake Sts.	12- 1-70	12-31-87		39° 31.8'	119° 48.4'	4493							4		Daily rainfall records by Southern Pacific Co. Agent.		
Univ. of Nevada Campus Admn. Bldg. (Morrill Hall)	1- 1-88	11-10-05	0.7 mi. NNW	39° 32.7'	119° 48.5'	4558			5				4		Max., min. and rainfall records of University of Nevada.		
CITY OFFICE																	
Thoma-Biglow Building 1st & Virginia Streets	11-11-05	2-28-10	0.7 mi. SSE	39° 31.7'	119° 48.5'	4496	63	56	56		47		47				
IOOF Building 2nd & N Center Streets	3- 1-10	2-28-34	0.1 mi. NE	39° 31.7'	119° 48.5'	4495	81	74	74		67		67				
Post Office Building S Virginia & Mill Sts.	3- 1-34	8-31-42	0.2 mi. S	39° 31.7'	119° 48.5'	4493	76	61	61		53		53				
AIRPORT STATION																	
Hubbard Field (later changed to United Airlines Airport)	1- 8-31	5-31-49	3.5 mi. SSE	39° 29.6'	119° 46.6'	4397	52	20	20		5	5	4				
CAA Building Reno Municipal Airport	6- 1-49	10-23-59	60 ft. S	39° 29.6'	119° 46.6'	4397	53	6	6		4	a5	a3		Name changed from United Airlines Airport 12-1-53. a - Shielded 10-25-57.		
Federal Facilities Bldg. Municipal Airport † † International Airport effective 2-3-70	10-23-59	Present	0.8 mi. NNW	39° 30.0'	119° 46.6'	4404	20	6	6		5	4	b4 c4418		b - Commissioned 11-3-59 about 3/4 mile SE of office and moved 2350 ft. N by W 11-16-63 to site about 1800 ft. ESE of office. c - Commissioned 12-1-65.		

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