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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.

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

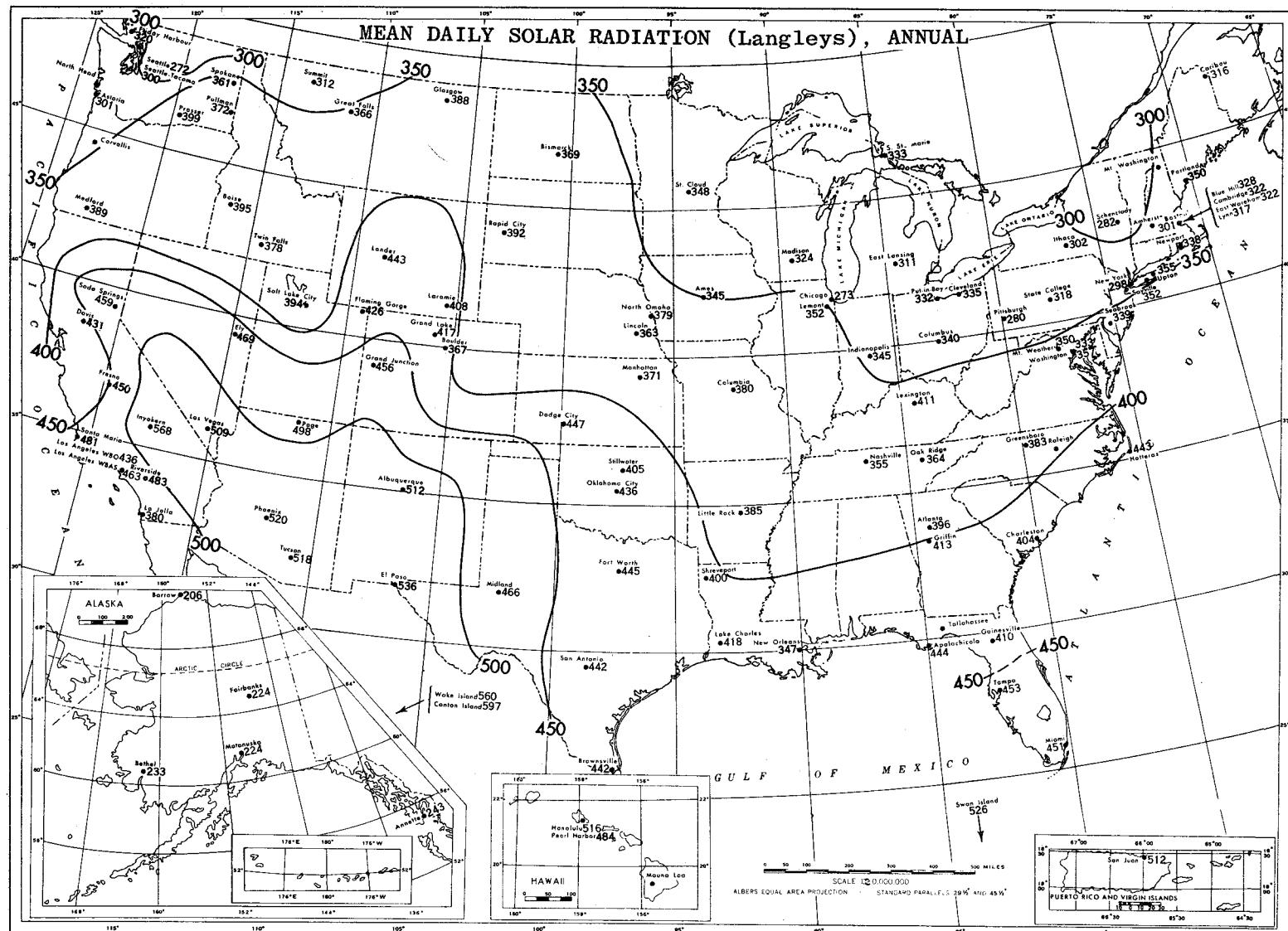


Figure 1. Mean Daily Total Radiation, Annual

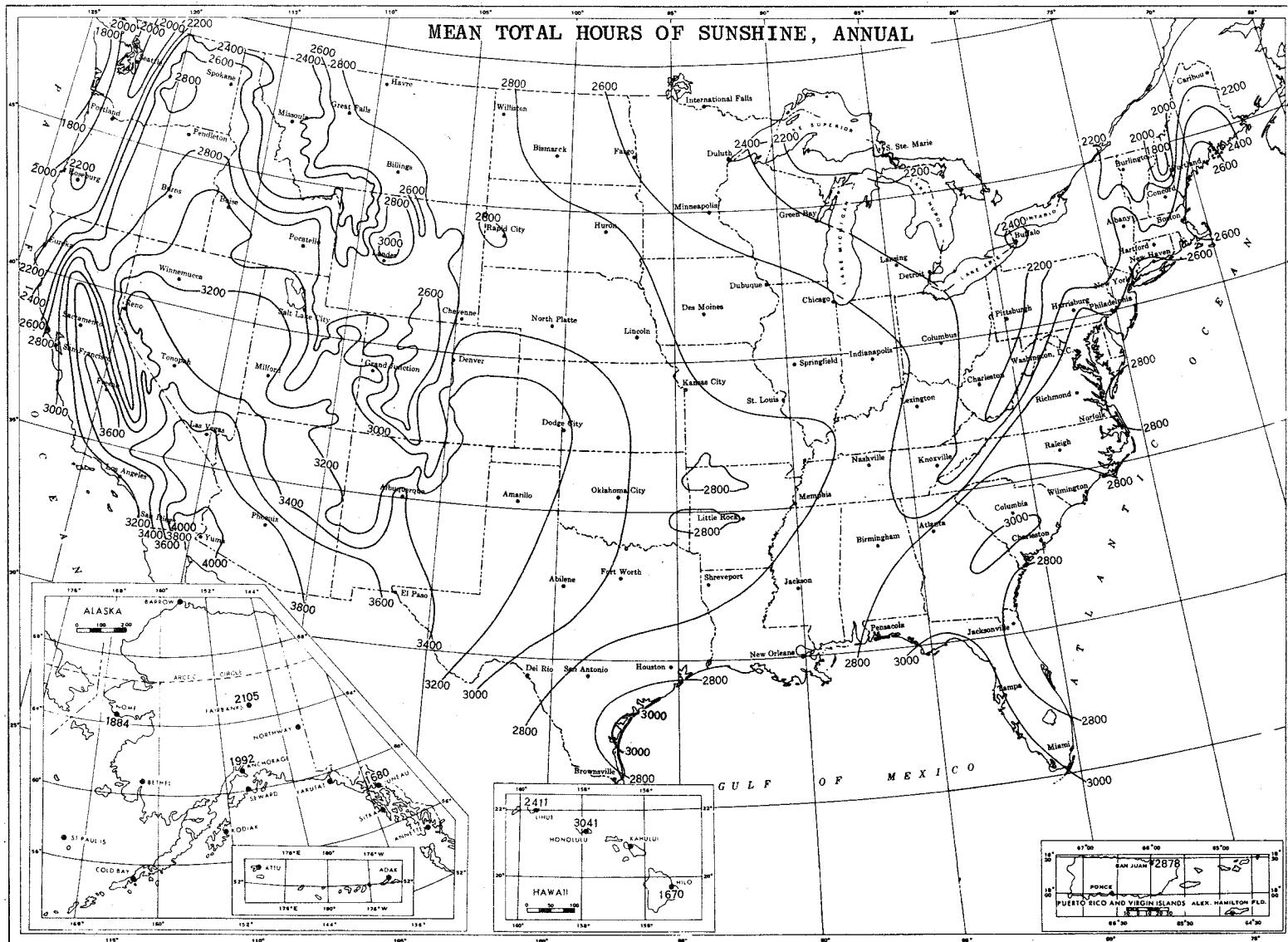


Figure 2. Mean Total Hours of Sunshine, Annual

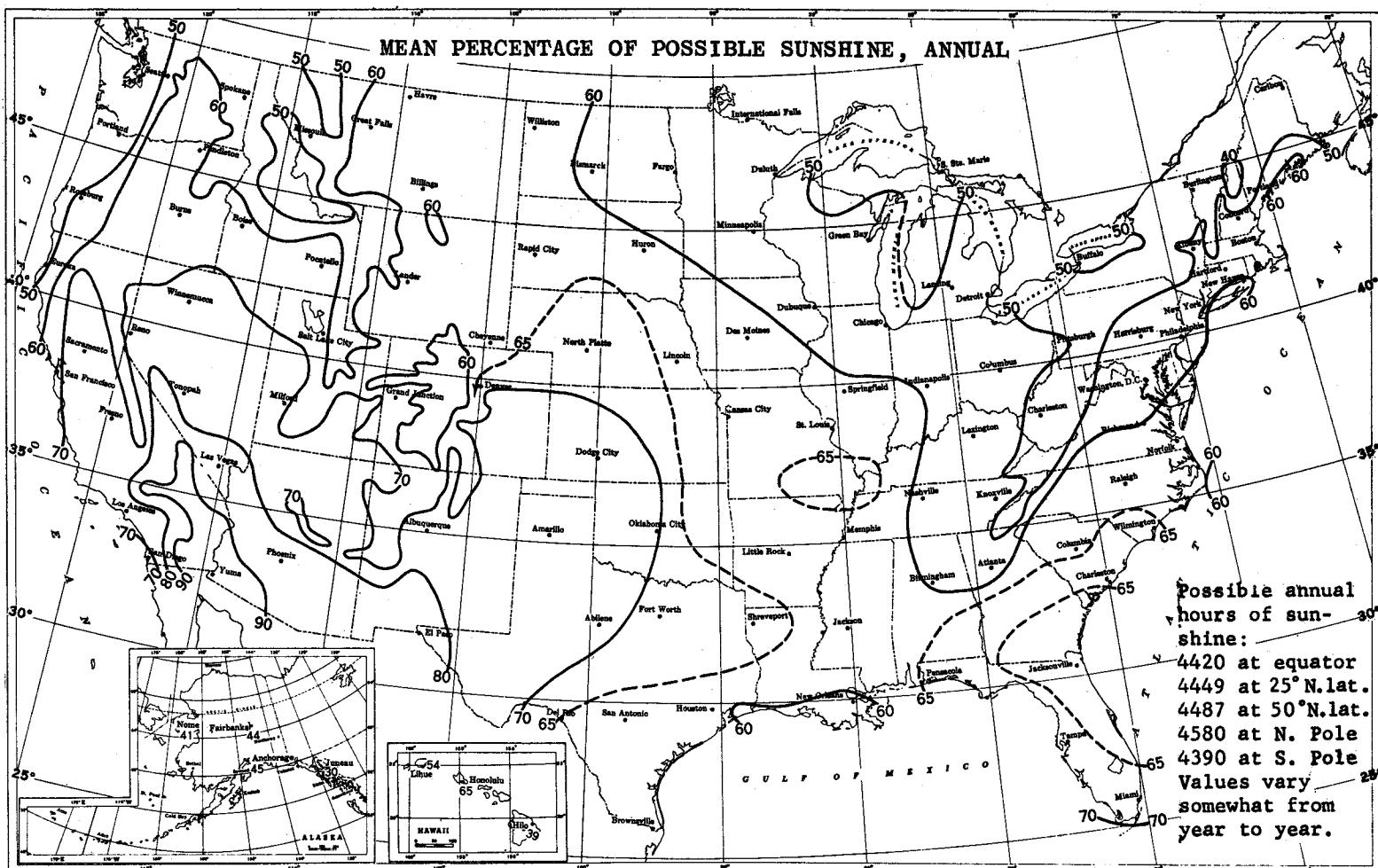


Figure 3. Mean Percentage of Sunshine, Annual

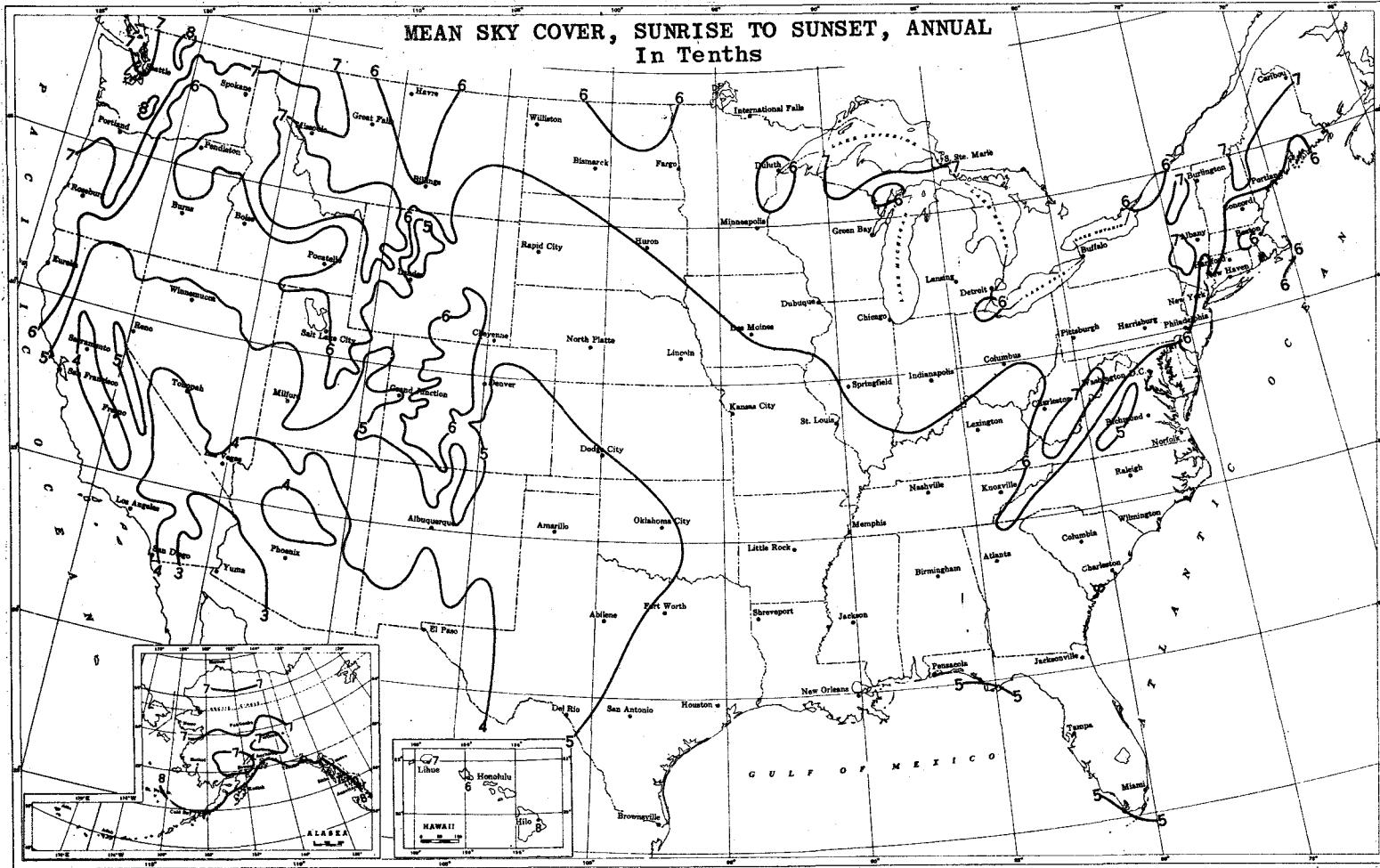


Figure 4. Mean Sky Cover, Sunrise to Sunset, Annual

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

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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)<sup>1</sup> 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.

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<sup>1</sup>Liu, 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.

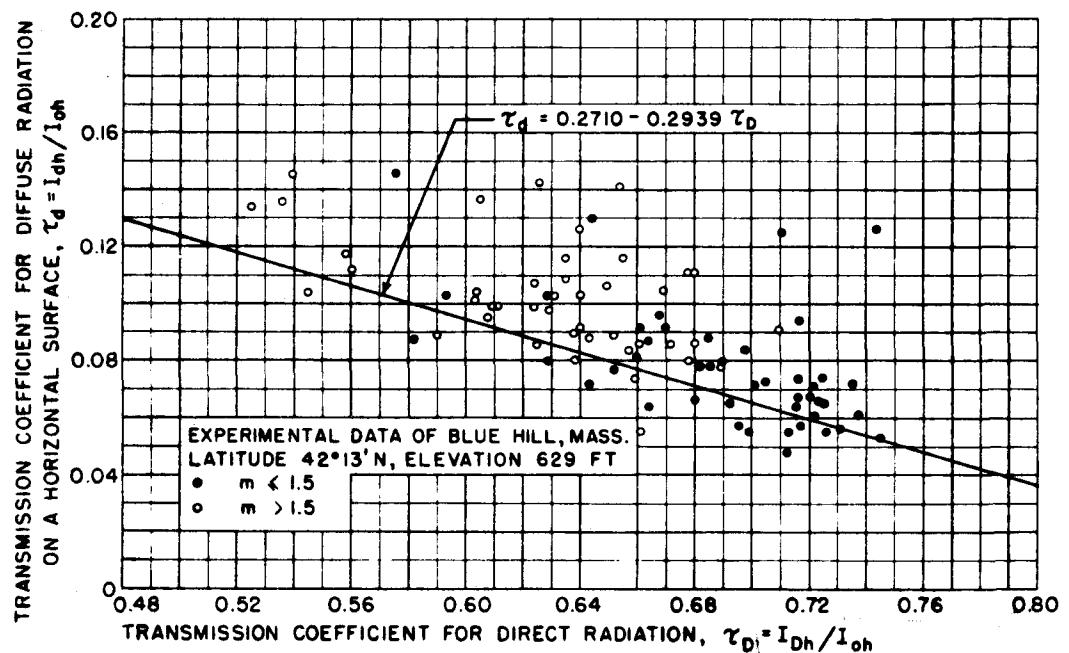


Figure 5. Comparison of the Empirical Relation Between the Intensities of Direct and Diffuse Radiation on a Horizontal Surface Derived from the Data for Hump Mountain, N. C., with the Data for Blue Hills, Mass.

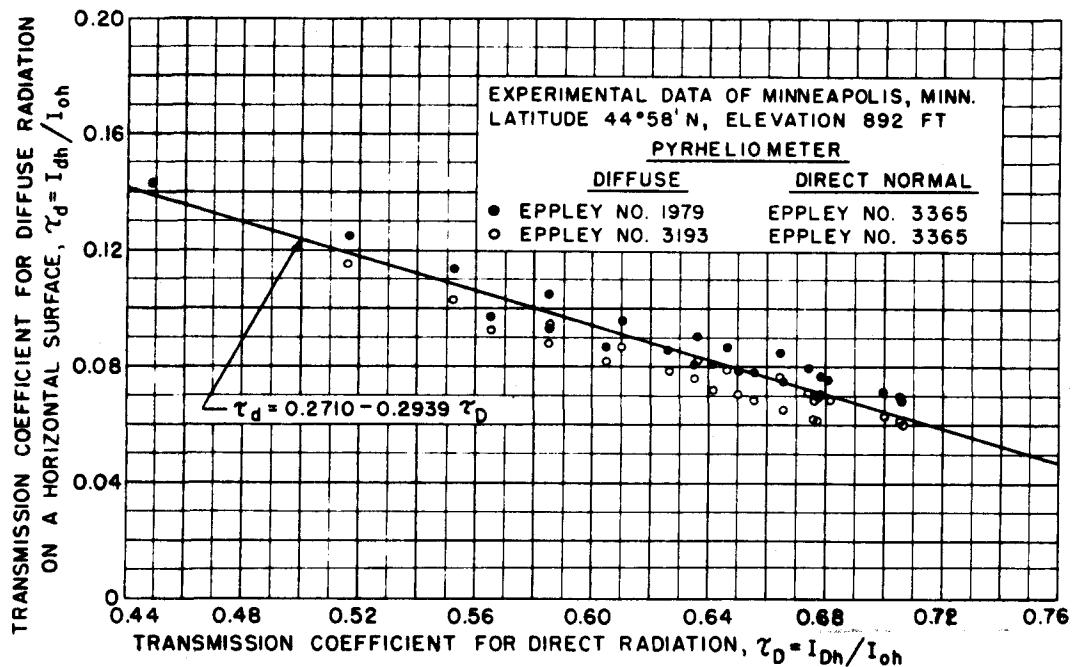


Figure 6. Comparison of the Empirical Relation Between the Intensities of Direct and Diffuse Radiation on a Horizontal Surface Derived from the Data for Hump Mountain, N. C., with the Data for Minneapolis, Minn.

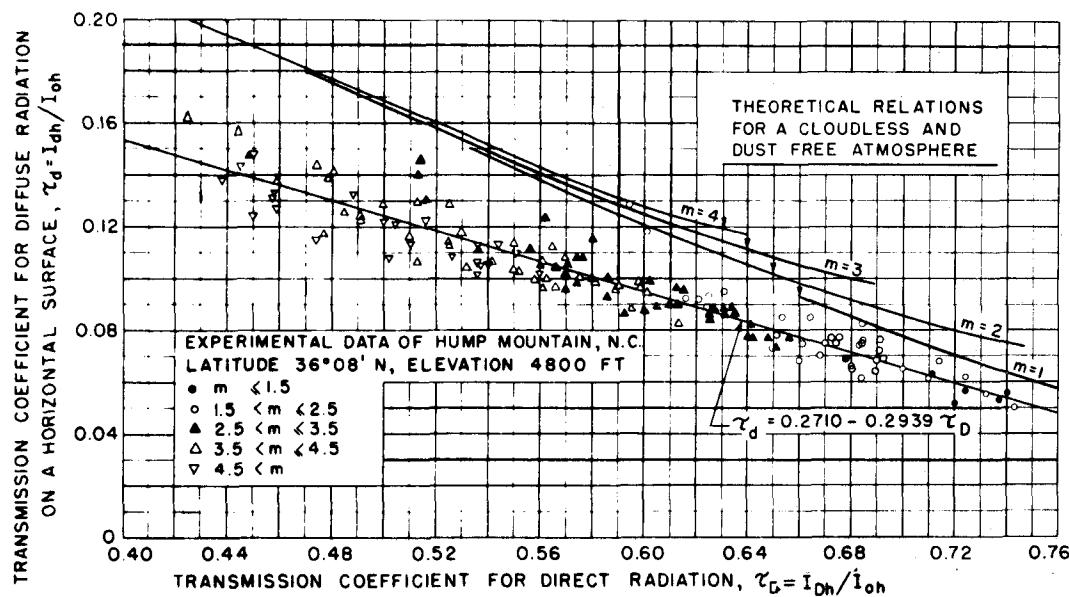


Figure 7. Theoretical and Experimental Relations Between the Intensities of Direct and Diffuse Radiation on a Horizontal Surface for a Cloudless Atmosphere at 4800 Foot Elevation

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:

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

$\tau_{dh} = \frac{I_{dh}}{I_{oh}}$
$\tau_{Dh} = \frac{I_{Dh}}{I_{oh}}$
$I_T = I_{dh} + I_{Dh}$

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

$$I_{dh} = 0.271 I_{oh} - 0.2939 I_{Dh}$$

$$- 0.271 I_{oh} = -I_{dh} - 0.2939 I_{Dh}$$

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

$$\boxed{\frac{I_T - 0.271 I_{oh}}{0.7061} = I_{Dh}} \quad (2)$$

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:

$$\boxed{I_{oh} = 1.94 \text{ gm cal/cm}^2/\text{min} \times 60 \text{ min} \times 12.23 \text{ hours} \times \cos \phi \\ = 1424 \text{ Langleys}^* \times \cos \phi} \quad (3)$$

where  $1.94 \text{ gm cal/cm}^2/\text{min}$  is the solar constant,\*\*  $\phi$  the station latitude and 12.23 the average hours of possible sunshine per day at  $37.5^\circ\text{N}$  latitude. The latter value is acceptable since there is so little difference between  $25^\circ\text{N}$ . latitude and  $50^\circ\text{N}$ . latitude in terms of possible annual hours of sunshine: 4449 compared to 4487, respectively.

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\*1 Langley =  $1 \text{ gm cal/cm}^2$

\*\*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

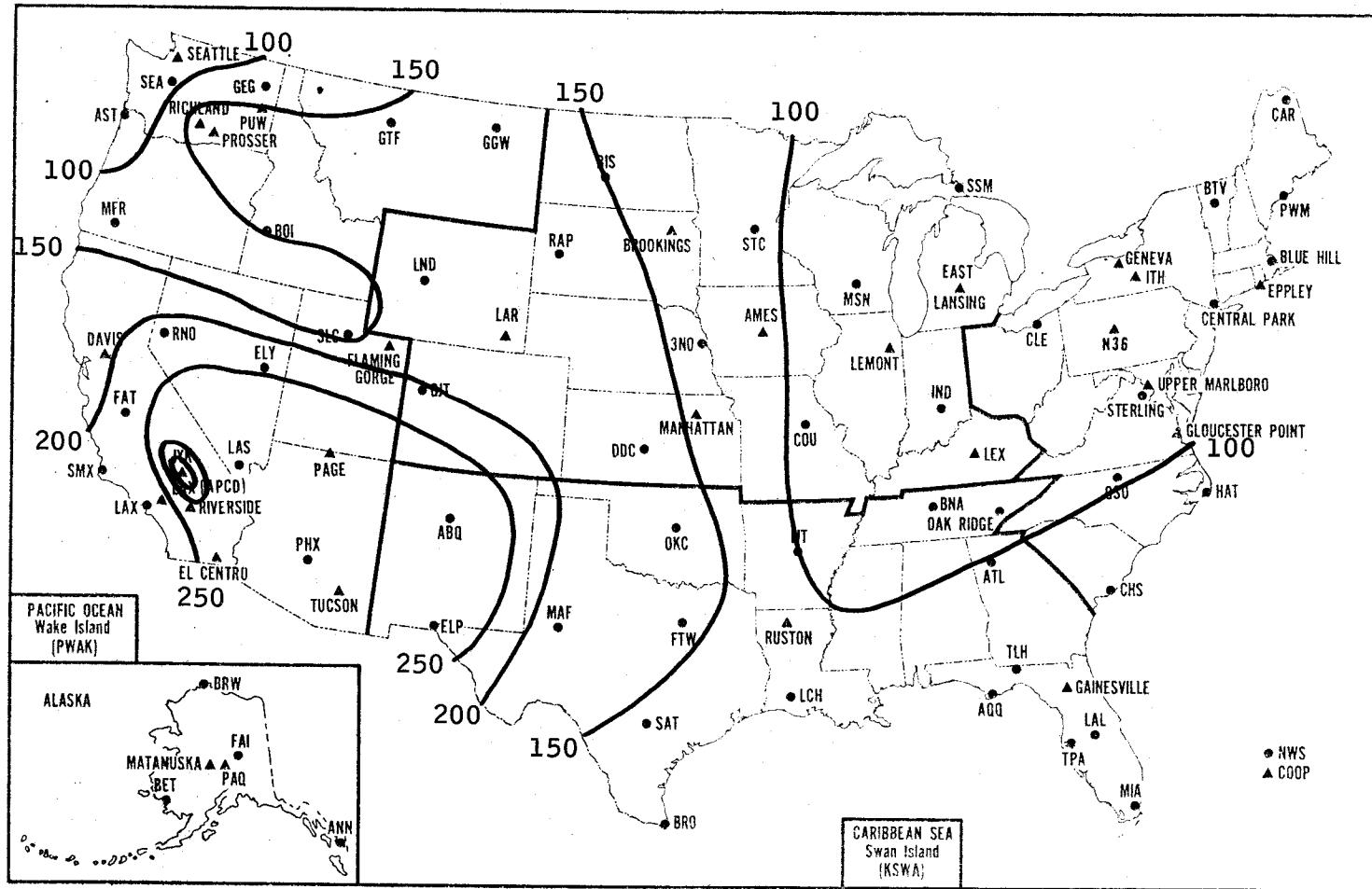


Figure 8. Solar Radiation Stations - Isopleths of Mean Daily Direct Solar Radiation (Langley)

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<sup>+</sup> hours - Figure 2), the highest mean annual percentage of possible sunshine (80<sup>+</sup> 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.

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\*1 Langley = 1 gm cal/cm<sup>2</sup>

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,

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\*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	Data	Latitude	Longitude	Temperature								Precipitation								Humidity (Annual Mean)	Wind				Mean No. of Days With:																	
				Normal				Extremes				Normal Total				Snow, Ice Pellets		Wind		Temperatures		Max.		Min.																		
				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	Mean Speed (mph)	Prevailing Direction	Fastest MPH	Max.	Min.															
(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	May 1948	73	5.2	72	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. 1958	0.00	Jan. 1963	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
(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 8 - 10 = 2 10 - 20 = 4 > 20 = 4

PENALTY GUIDES

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

## PENALTY GUIDES

Table 2. Climatic Degradation by Station

Station	Parameter	Temperature	Precipitation						Wind	Mean Days With:				
			Rain		Snow		Wind			Mean Days With:				
		Record Low		Normal Annual	Monthly Max	24-hour Max		Normal Annual	Monthly Max	24-hour Max	Fastest Speed	1" or more of snow	Thunderstorms	Min. Temp. 32° or below
Las Vegas								S	S	S	S			
Phoenix			P	S	S		P	S	S	S	S	S		
Yuma														
Tucson														
Albuquerque	S			S	S			S	S	S	S	S	S	P
El Paso	S							S	S	S	S	S	S	P
Inyokern														

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.	Mean Total	Monthly Max.	24-Hr. Max.	Snow	Mean Speed	Fastest Speed	% Poss. Sunshine	Temperature	Max.	Min.											
	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			
Basic Matrix	1. Ely	9	9 <sup>5</sup>	9	8	9 <sup>5</sup>	8 <sup>3</sup>	5 <sup>1</sup>	2	7 <sup>10</sup>	7 <sup>10</sup>	7 <sup>10</sup>	6	8	9 <sup>2</sup>	4	7	7	8 <sup>3</sup>	7 <sup>6</sup>	6 <sup>5</sup>	2	8	6	8 <sup>10</sup>	5 <sup>2</sup>			
	2. Reno	8	8 <sup>3</sup>	8	7	7 <sup>3</sup>	4 <sup>2</sup>	6 <sup>2</sup>	4	6 <sup>10</sup>	8 <sup>10</sup>	8 <sup>10</sup>	7	7	2	6	5	6	5 <sup>2</sup>	6 <sup>4</sup>	3	4 <sup>2</sup>	7	5	9 <sup>10</sup>	4			
	3. Las Vegas	5	4	4	2	4 <sup>1</sup>	3	2	6 <sup>1</sup>	2 <sup>2</sup>	6 <sup>5</sup>	3 <sup>2</sup>	1	1	6 <sup>2</sup>	1	3	3	2 <sup>1</sup>	2	4	1	4	2	4 <sup>2</sup>	1			
	4. Phoenix	2	3	2	1	2	5 <sup>2</sup>	7 <sup>2</sup>	8 <sup>1</sup>	1	2	2	4	3	1	5	3	3	3 <sup>1</sup>	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 <sup>6</sup>	9 <sup>5</sup>	9 <sup>2</sup>	3 <sup>2</sup>	3 <sup>2</sup>	4 <sup>5</sup>	2	4	5 <sup>2</sup>	3	3	4	6 <sup>2</sup>	3	8 <sup>5</sup>	1	3	1	3	1			
	7. Albuquerque	7	7	7	6	8 <sup>4</sup>	7 <sup>3</sup>	4	3	5 <sup>5</sup>	5 <sup>5</sup>	6 <sup>10</sup>	5	6	7 <sup>2</sup>	7	6	5	7 <sup>2</sup>	5 <sup>2</sup>	9 <sup>10</sup>	3 <sup>1</sup>	6	4	6 <sup>10</sup>	3			
	8. El Paso	6	6	6	5	6 <sup>3</sup>	6 <sup>3</sup>	8 <sup>3</sup>	7 <sup>1</sup>	4 <sup>2</sup>	4 <sup>5</sup>	5 <sup>5</sup>	2	5	8 <sup>2</sup>	2	4	4	4 <sup>2</sup>	4 <sup>2</sup>	7 <sup>5</sup>	2	5	3	5 <sup>2</sup>	2			
	9. Inyokern	4	5	5	3	5 <sup>1</sup>	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	1	3	3				
Results	Column:	A1			B1			A2			X	B2			X	C1			D1			C2			X	D2	X		
		Score	Rank		Score	Rank		Score	Rank		X	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																												

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

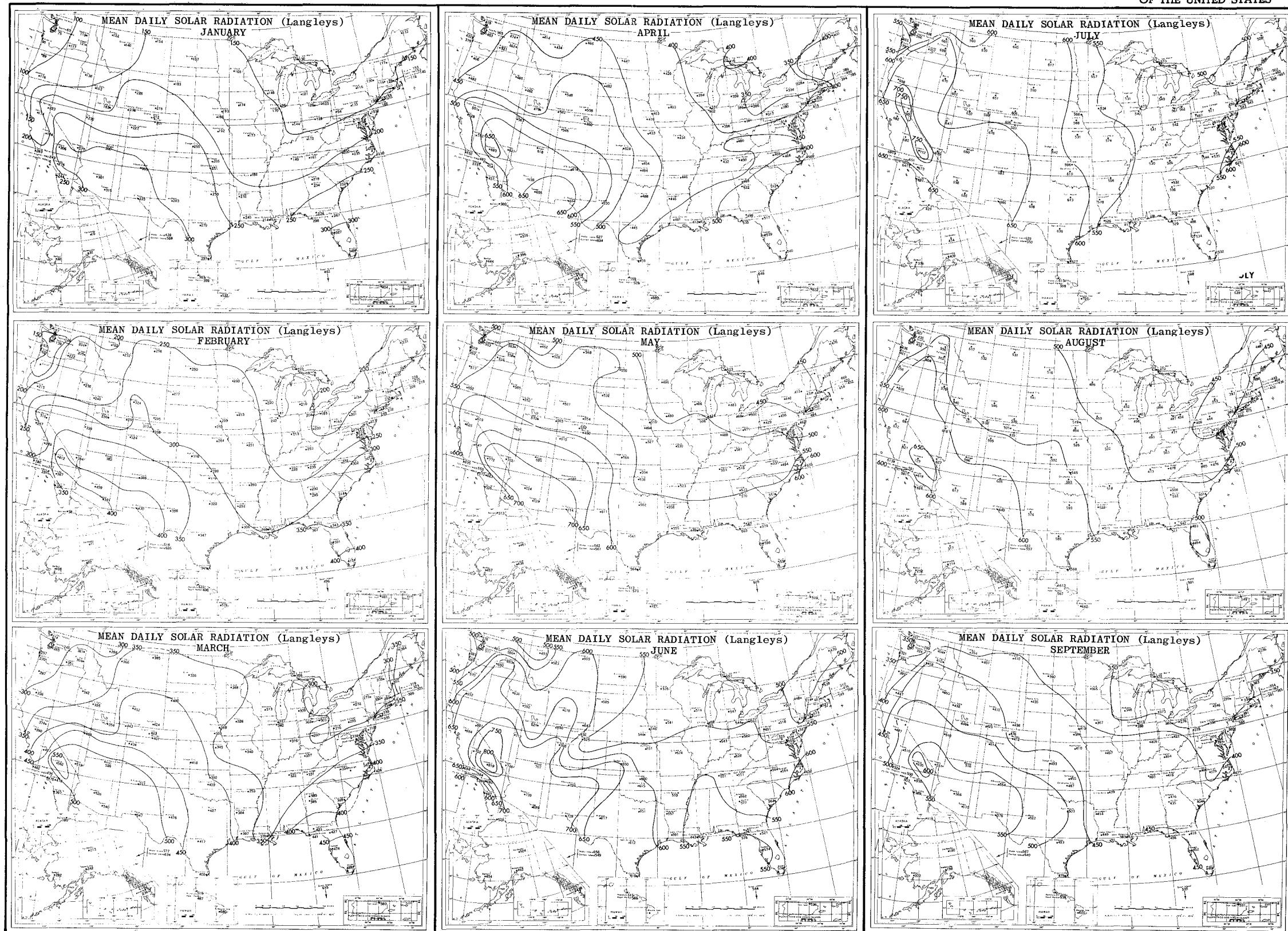
Station	Method	Nine Stations			
		Relative Position	Least Degradation	Weighted Relative Position	Weighted Least Degradation
Yuma	1	1	2	1	1
Inyokern	2	2	1	2	2
Las Vegas	4	3	3	3	3
Phoenix	3	4	4	4	4
Tucson	5	5	5	5	7
El Paso	6	6	7	7	5
Albuquerque	7	7	6	6	6
Reno	8	8	8	8	8
Ely	9	9	9	9	9

**APPENDIX A**  
**SOLAR/CLIMATIC MAPS AND DATA**

MEAN DAILY SOLAR RADIATION, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL

SHEET OF THE NATIONAL ATLAS  
OF THE UNITED STATES

- A1 -



Prepared by Office of Meteorological Research  
and Office of Climatology

Scale for the 48 Contiguous States:

500 0 300 600 900 1200 1500 Miles

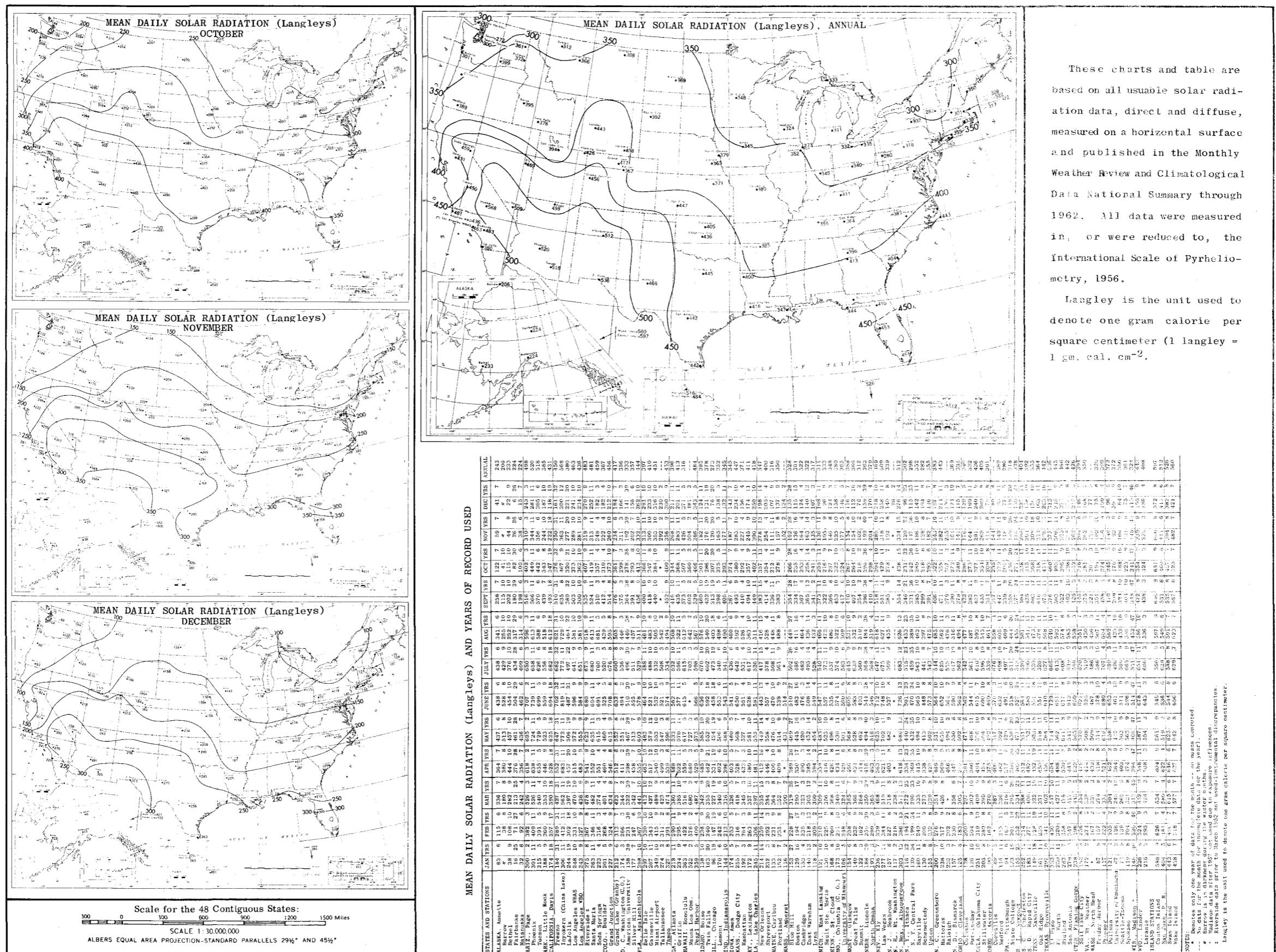
SCALE 1:30,000,000  
ALBERS EQUAL AREA PROJECTION-STANDARD PARALLELS 29½° AND 45½°

FOR SALE BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS, U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D.C., 20402  
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EDITION OF 1964  
MEAN DAILY SOLAR RADIATION, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL

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DEWEY DECIMAL - 551.8270973

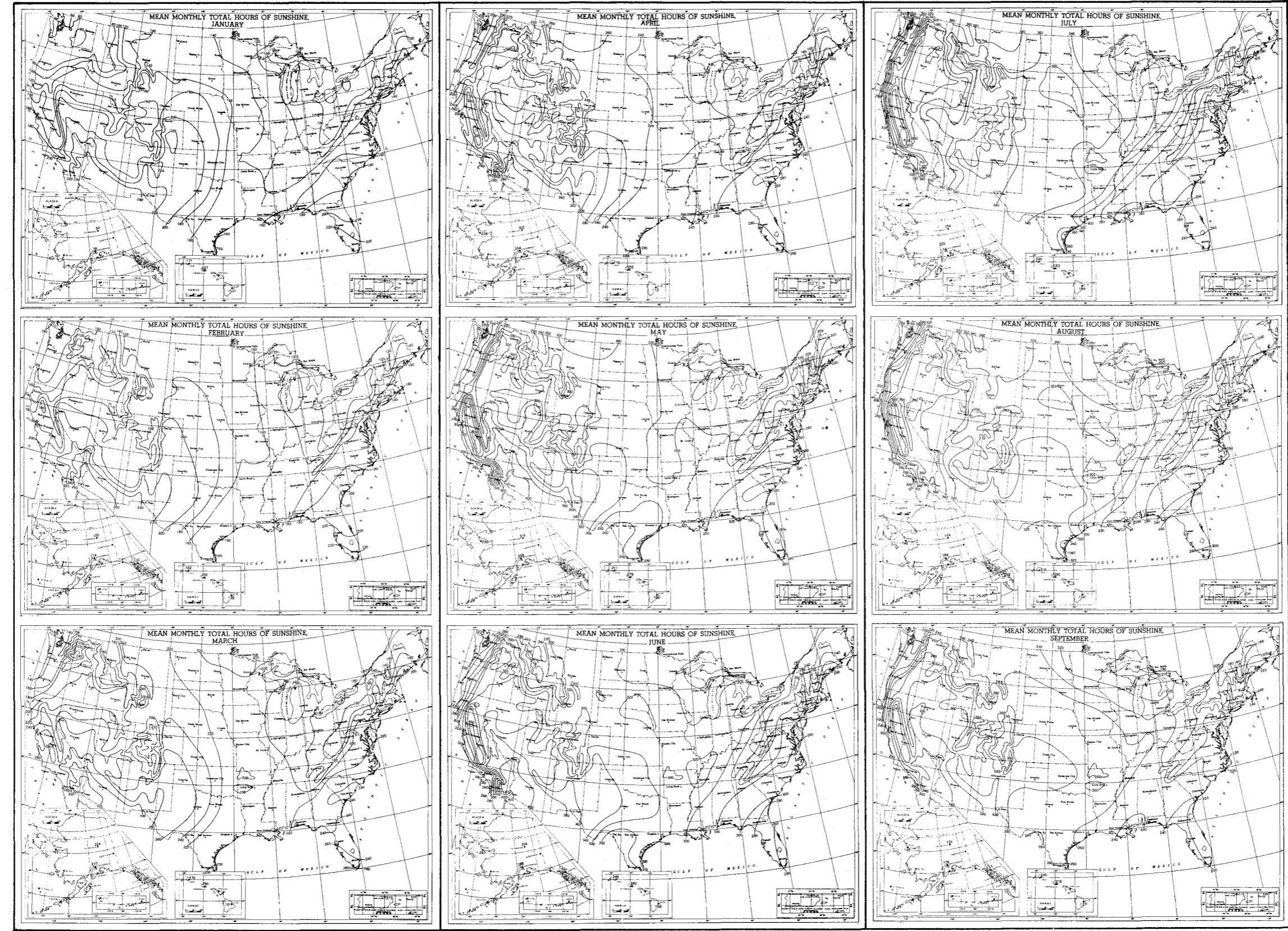
MEAN DAILY SOLAR RADIATION, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL.—Continued



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.  $\text{cm}^{-2}$ ).

MEAN TOTAL HOURS OF SUNSHINE, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL



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

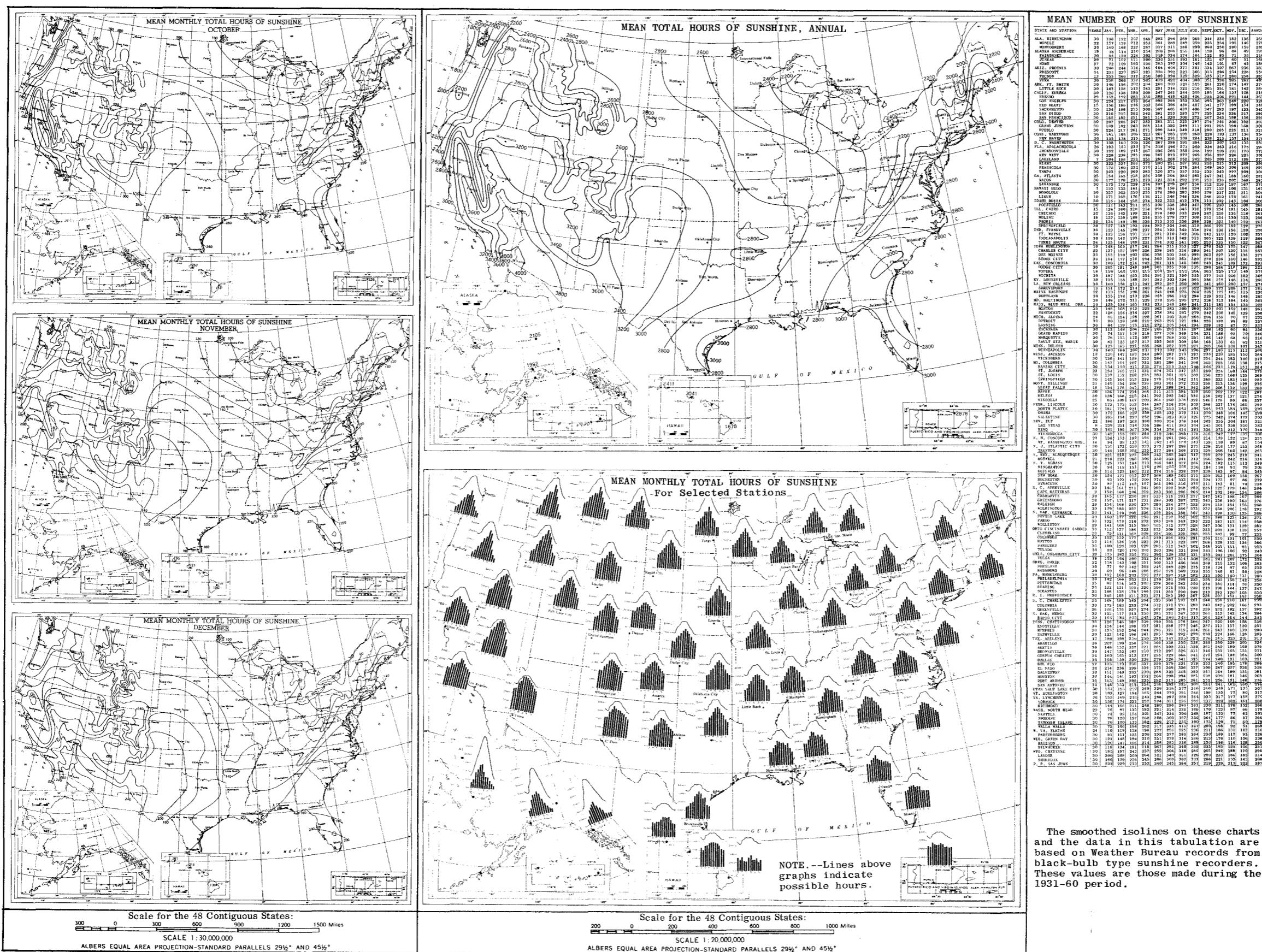
SCALE 1:30,000,000  
ALBERS EQUAL AREA PROJECTION-STANDARD PARALLELS 29½° AND 45½°

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EDITION OF 1963  
MEAN TOTAL HOURS OF SUNSHINE, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL

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DEWEY DECIMAL :: 551.8270673

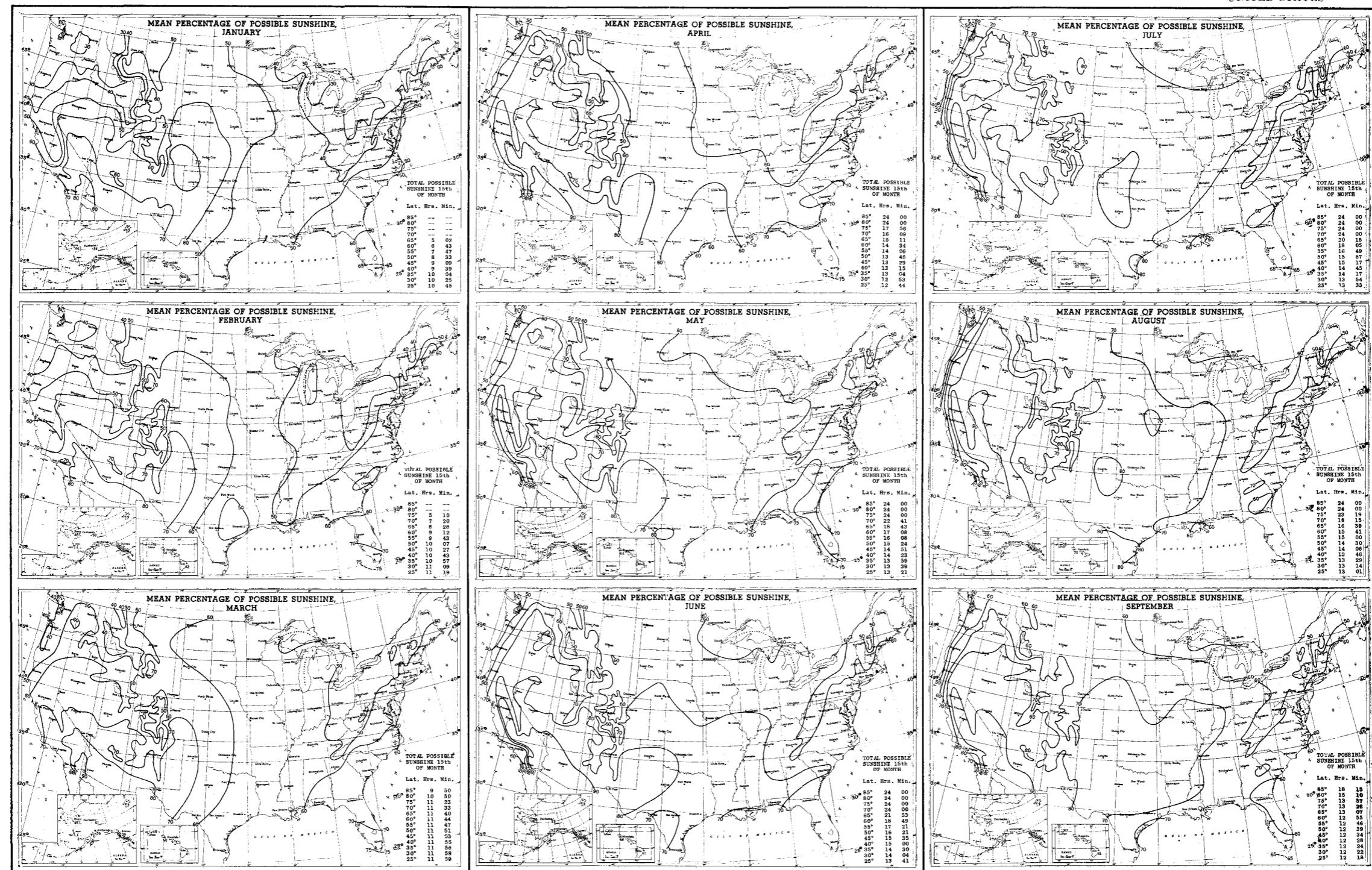
MEAN TOTAL HOURS OF SUNSHINE, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL -Continued



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
WEATHER BUREAU

## MEAN PERCENTAGE OF POSSIBLE SUNSHINE, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL

SHEET OF THE NATIONAL ATLAS  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES



NOVEMBER 1960  
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

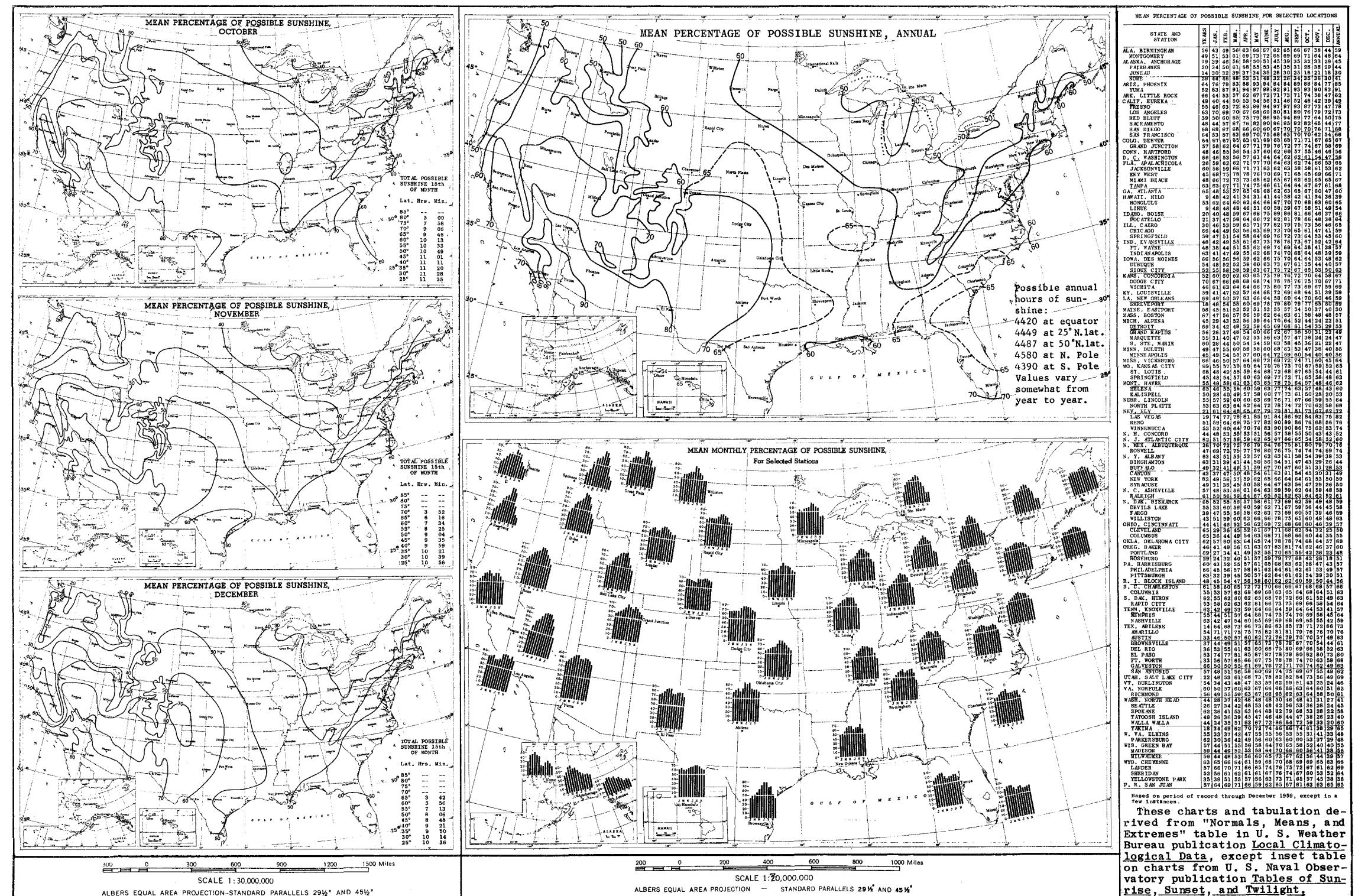
SCALE 1:30,000,000  
ALBERS EQUAL AREA PROJECTION — STANDARD PARALLELS 29½° AND 45½°

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EDITION OF 1960  
MEAN PERCENTAGE OF POSSIBLE SUNSHINE, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL  
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DEWEY DECIMAL :: 551.8270973

- OVER -

MEAN PERCENTAGE OF POSSIBLE SUNSHINE, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL -Continued



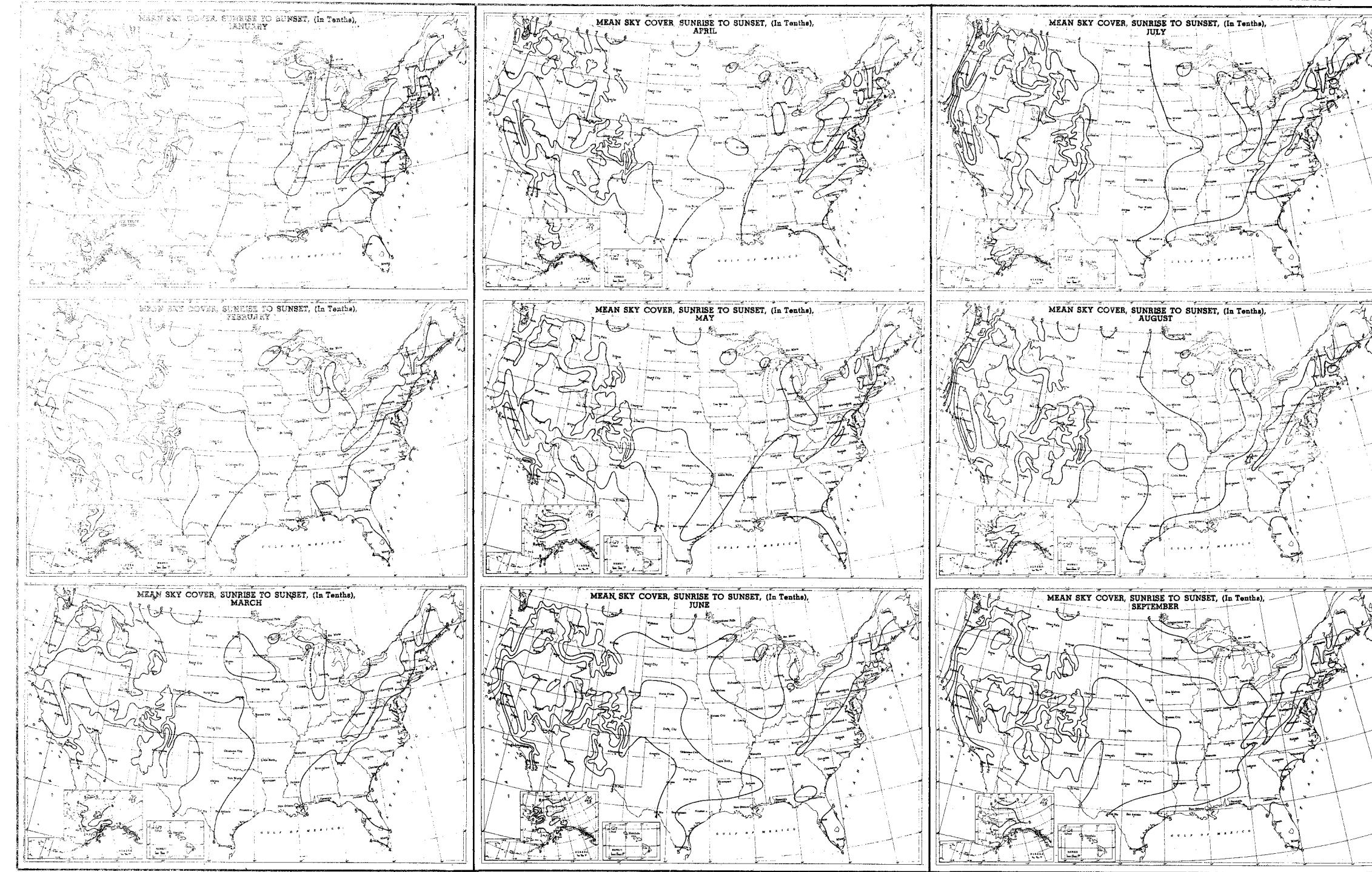
sed on period of record through December 1959, except in a few instances.

These charts and tabulation derived from "Normals, Means, and Extremes" table in U. S. Weather Bureau publication Local Climatological Data, except inset table on charts from U. S. Naval Observatory publication Tables of Sunrise, Sunset, and Twilight.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
WEATHER BUREAU

MEAN SKY COVER, SUNRISE TO SUNSET, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL

SHEET OF THE NATIONAL ATLAS  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES



Base map by United States Weather Bureau

Smoothed isolines 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

SCALE 1:30,000,000  
ALBERS EQUAL AREA PROJECTION-STANDARD PARALLELS 29½° AND 45½°

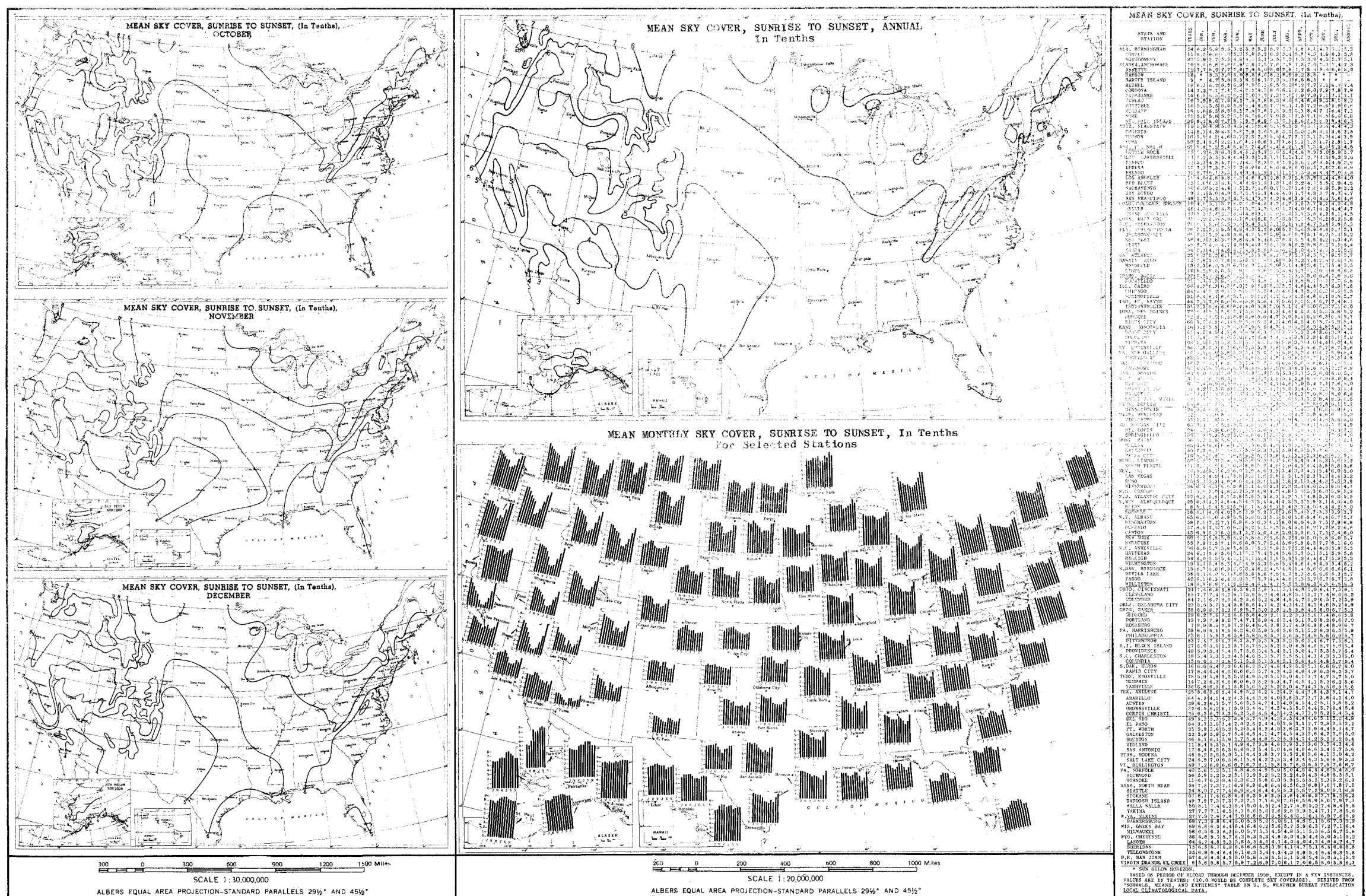
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EDITION OF 1961  
MEAN SKY COVER, SUNRISE TO SUNSET, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL

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DEWY DECIMAL :: 861.87240673

-OVER -

MEAN SKY COVER, SUNRISE TO SUNSET, MONTHLY AND ANNUAL—Continued



\* SUN BELON NORMS.  
BASED ON PERIOD OF RECORD THROUGH DECEMBER 1950, EXCEPT IN A FEW INSTANCES,  
VALUABLE DATA WHICH COULD NOT BE COMPILED FROM COVERAGE. DASHES IN  
"NORMALS, MEANS, AND EXTREMES" TABLE IN U. S. WEATHER BUREAU PUBLICATION  
LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA.

GPO 80-6974

**APPENDIX B**  
**WEATHER SUMMARIES FOR SELECTED STATIONS**

A UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMERCE  
PUBLICATION



- B1 -

# 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						(Base 65°)	Precipitation				Relative humidity				Wind &				Number of days							
	Averages			Extremes				Degree days		Snow, Ice pellets		Total		Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Hour		Resultant		Fastest mile		Sunrise to sunset		Temperatures			
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Highest Date	Lowest Date	Heating Cooling		Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	(Local time)	Hour 05	Hour 11	Hour 17	Hour 23	Direction	Speed	Average speed	Percent of possible sunline	Sunrise to sunset	Max.	Min.	Average daily solar radiation - langleys		
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	3	87	3.8	17	6	8	1	1	32 and below		
FEB	72.5	43.9	58.2	86 11	37 7	195 11	0.03	0.03	17	0.0	0.0			52 29	20	42	2	88	2.3	20	6	0	0	0	32 and below		
MAR	79.9	48.0	64.0	96 30+	34 3+	105 84	0.00	0.00		0.0	0.0			43 21	15	30	3.0	92	1	2.6	22	0	0	0	32 and below		
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	2.1	93	1.4	25	7	0	0	0	32 and below		
MAY	86.8	59.3	73.1	98 25+	51 29	4 259	T	T	6	0.0	0.0			51 29	20	38	2.5	93	1.9	24	7	0	0	0	32 and below		
JUN	99.9	69.0	84.5	112 21	56 3	0 589	0.00	0.00		0.0	0.0			45 24	15	31	2.1	93	1.9	24	7	0	0	0	32 and below		
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	93	2.9	18	10	3	0	0	31		
AUG	101.0	80.2	90.6	108 1	75 21	0 799	0.80	0.55	21-22	0.0	0.0			68 45	36	55	16	85	3.9	15	2	0	0	0	31		
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	1.2	93	1.5	25	4	1	1	0	26		
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	88	1.7	26	3	0	0	0	11		
NOV	73.6	46.5	60.1	84 11+	39 17	155 15	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0			56 33	25	47	35	79	3.5	16	7	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	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
YEAR	84.4	57.5	71.0	114 12	24 8	1317 3595	2.46	1.27	SEP.	0.0	0.0			54 32	23	42	25	89	2.5	252	69	44	14	0	8	1 150	

## NORMALS, MEANS, AND EXTREMES

Month	Temperature						Normal heating degree days (Base 65°)	Precipitation				Relative humidity				Wind &				Mean number of days											
	Normal			Extremes Ø				Snow, Ice pellets		Hour		Resultant		Fastest mile		Sunrise to sunset		Sunrise to sunset			Temperatures			Max.			Min.				
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Record highest	Record lowest	Year		Normal total	Maximum monthly	Year	Minimum monthly	Year	Mean total	Maximum monthly	Year	Mean total	Prevailing direction	Speed	Direction #	Year	Pct. of possible sunline	Mean sky cover	Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	Heavy fog	90° and above	32° and below	32° and below	0° and below	Average daily solar radiation - langleys
(a)	(b)	(b)	(b)	7	7	1971	(b)	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	7	7	7	7	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	
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	1964	84	4.2	16	7	8	2	1	31		
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	7.4	W	1964	88	3.6	6	6	6	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	7.9	W	1956	92	3.5	18	7	6	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 23	17	35	8.4	W	1954	94	2.4	21	5	4	0	0	0	0	
M	93.9	62.1	78.0	109 1970	46 1967	46 0.01	0.37	1965	0.00	1970+	0.37	1965	0.0	0.0	0.0	44 23	15	32	8.3	W	1957	96	1.6	24	5	2	0	0	0	0	
J	101.9	70.0	86.0	116 1968	56 1971	0 0.02	1.96	1960	0.00	1971+	0.02	1960	0.0	0.0	0.0	44 24	14	31	8.5	SSE	1966	98	1.1	26	3	1	0	0	0	0	
J	106.0	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	SSE	1961	90	2.8	20	8	3	1	31	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	SSE	1954	91	2.6	21	7	3	0	0	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 33	23	45	7.1	SE	1969	94	1.4	25	4	1	1	1	28	0	0
O	89.5	59.4	74.5	104 1965	35 1971	0 0.38	2.68	1957	0.00	1967+	2.09	1957	0.0	0.0	0.0	51 28	19	40	6.5	N	1964	93	2.0	24	5	2	1	1	16	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	1957	86	3.1	19	5	6	0	0	0	0	0
D	68.4	41.6	55.0	83 1966	27 1968	319 0.32	1.67	1965	0.00	1963+	1.37	1961	T	1967	64 44	35	55	7.1	N	1959	82	3.7	17	6	8	2	0	0	0	0	
YR	87.1	57.9	72.5	116 1968	24 1971	1217 3.03	2.68	1957	0.00	1971+	2.42	1963	T	1967	53 32	22	42	7.8	N	1954	91	2.7	247	68	50	15	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.

\* 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 46° 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: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 220, 230, 240, 250, 260, 270, 280, 290, 300, 310, 320, 330, 340, 350, 360, 370, 380, 390, 400, 410, 420, 430, 440, 450, 460, 470, 480, 490, 500, 510, 520, 530, 540, 550, 560, 570, 580, 590, 600, 610, 620, 630, 640, 650, 660, 670, 680, 690, 700, 710, 720, 730, 740, 750, 760, 770, 780, 790, 800, 810, 820, 830, 840, 850, 860, 870, 880, 890, 900, 910, 920, 930, 940, 950, 960, 970, 980, 990, 1000, 1010, 1020, 1030, 1040, 1050, 1060, 1070, 1080, 1090, 1100, 1110, 1120, 1130, 1140, 1150, 1160, 1170, 1180, 1190, 1200, 1210, 1220, 1230, 1240, 1250, 1260, 1270, 1280, 1290, 1300, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1340, 1350, 1360, 1370, 1380, 1390, 1400, 1410, 1420, 1430, 1440, 1450, 1460, 1470, 1480, 1490, 1500, 1510, 1520, 1530,

### AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
1932	50.9	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	59.0	65.3	66.6	72.9	82.2	93.4	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	72.3
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	50.3	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	73.8	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	73.6	61.0	59.0	74.4
1941	56.4	62.5	64.8	67.0	72.8	82.6	91.9	87.2	80.8	71.1	65.2	57.7	72.3
1942	58.2	57.5	63.0	68.1	76.3	84.8	94.2	91.0	84.7	75.4	65.8	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	66.6	70.8	80.6	89.4	90.2	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	89.9	88.0	75.2	59.2	53.6	53.6	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	73.5	78.1	86.6	91.8	93.6	85.6	81.5	69.5	63.0	75.7
1951	56.3	59.7	64.8	71.6	80.2	85.9	94.9	90.9	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	61.3	59.0	65.4	69.9	73.6	85.8	95.2	93.2	88.2	76.4	66.4	55.6	74.2
1954	56.6	66.6	69.1	76.4	81.2	85.8	94.3	90.8	88.9	77.9	67.5	56.4	75.4
1955	52.0	55.0	64.7	68.7	76.7	85.5	92.0	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	92.4	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	76.6	77.7	92.0	96.7	93.2	86.2	77.5	65.5	57.5	75.9
1960	53.0	58.1	69.8	74.2	79.7	92.3	95.8	94.2	89.8	76.3	64.8	56.1	73.4
1961	59.7	62.6	65.7	73.6	77.7	90.7	94.0	92.2	84.6	75.0	61.7	56.1	74.6
1962	56.8	60.2	61.3	77.4	76.2	86.5	92.9	95.9	89.4	77.0	68.0	59.8	75.1
1963	55.2	67.5	68.4	68.3	81.2	84.2	93.6	91.7	89.9	79.3	68.4	57.8	74.7
#1964	53.5	56.2	61.6	68.1	73.6	84.8	93.2	91.4	84.7	79.1	58.9	55.6	71.9
1965	56.6	58.6	61.2	69.7	78.6	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	92.2	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	88.6	84.9	74.9	63.4	51.8	70.0
1969	59.6	56.9	62.8	71.0	80.3	82.4	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	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
MEAN	57.3	72.5	78.5	86.2	93.4	101.9	106.2	104.8	100.6	89.3	76.7	67.9	67.1
MAX	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
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

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	62	246	233	78	2	3	0	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	207	166	52	16	0	0	980			
1936-37	0	0	0	0	74	281	206	87	8	0	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	156	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	0	84	234	133	207	86	8	0	0	754			
1942-43	0	0	0	4	40	187	224	100	5	22	0	0	582			
1943-44	0	0	0	6	266	295	274	80	9	0	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	9	0	0	1026			
1946-47	0	0	0	0	14	157	206	343	71	42	0	0	846			
1947-48	0	0	0	0	186	352	262	242	167	7	0	0	1216			
1948-49	0	0	0	0	7	181	406	562	277	84	10	0	0	1527		
#1949-50	0	0	0	0	25	7	328	378	69	40	2	0	0	851		
1950-51	0	0	0	0	32	82	273	168	74	9	2	0	0	640		
1951-52	0	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	0	840		
1953-54	0	0	0	0	1	74	283	258	40	87	0	0	0	743		
1954-55	0	0	0	0	2	13	263	298	227	22	2	0	0	1049		
1955-56	0	0	0	0	0	96	202	178	292	72	25	0	0	865		
1956-57	0	0	0	0	13	102	214	265	67	31	0	0	0	692		
1957-58	0	0	0	0	125	162	205	162	62	28	0	0	0	688		
1958-59	0	0	0	0	86	106	151	188	9	0	0	0	0	542		
1959-60	0	0	0	0	16	34	231	362	195	13	8	0	0	859		
1960-61	0	0	0	0	0	59	269	159	73	38	0	0	0	598		
1961-62	0	0	0	0	18	118	266	253	138	149	0	0	0	692		
1962-63	0	0	0	0	0	36	165	359	28	74	28	0	0	690		
#1963-64	0	0	0	0	0	63	222	349	249	140	39	19	0	1080		
1964-65	0	0	0	0	0	199	278	258	190	126	64	1	0	1116		
1965-66	0	0	0	0	0	65	321	390	273	71	3	0	0	1123		
1966-67	0	0	0	0	0	82	249	299	126	56	70	1	0	0	883	
1967-68	0	0	0	0	0	37	385	296	69	41	14	0	0	842		
1968-69	0	0	0	0	0	67	403	167	219	146	3	9	0	1014		
1969-70	0	0	0	0	0	3	67	257	306	116	108	53	0	0	910	
1970-71	0	0	0	0	0	4	75	333	331	195	105	36	4	0	1083	
1971-72	0	0	0	0	0	76	155	415	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### TOTAL SNOWFALL

<table border="1

STATION LOCATION

YUMA, ARIZONA

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Ailine distance and direction from previous location	Latitude North	Longitude West	Ground at tem- perature site	Elevation above Ground						Sea level	Remarks	
							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'	i194	f20	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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- B5 -

# 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 throughs. 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:  $33^{\circ} 26' N$       Longitude:  $112^{\circ} 01' W$

Elevation (ground) : 1117 feet

Year: 1971

Month	Temperature						Degree days (Base 65°)		Precipitation						Relative humidity				Wind &				Number of days														
	Averages			Extremes																																	
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Highest	Date	Lowest	Date	Heating	Cooling	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Hour	Hour	Hour	Hour	Resultant	Peak gust	Percent of possible sunrise	Sunrise to sunset	Sunrise to sunset	Number of days	Maximum	Minimum	Average daily solar radiation - longt.									
JAN	68.1	36.2	52.2	88	19	19	7	396	7	0.22	0.22	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	57	32	21	43	11	1.7	0.1	2.8	91	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	44	27	17	35	14	0.9	0.2	2.9	89	0	0	0	0	0	593							
MAR	80.0	46.5	62.3	94	29	30	2	123	76	0.13	0.13	13	0.0	0.0	0.0	32	15	10	22	21	0.9	0.5	2.0	95	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	36	21	14	26	22	1.0	0.7	2.1	89	0	0	0	0	0	507							
MAY	87.6	58.9	73.3	97	26	51	5	265	T	0.00	0.00	28+	0.0	0.0	0.0	35	18	14	22	23	1.5	0.9	2.4	93	0	0	0	0	0	507							
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	31	15	11	18	26	2.4	0.8	1.2	94	0	0	0	0	0	507							
JUL	107.3	82.5	94.9	114	11	72	1	0	934	0.24	0.14	16	0.0	0.0	0.0	39	24	17	27	27	3.6	9.4	51	89	3.0	19	9	2	0	0	507						
AUG	100.5	78.7	89.6	106	31+	72	13+	0	773	0.99	0.30	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	64	40	30	46	19	1.4	8.0	46	75	4.4	6	7	1	0	0	507						
SEP	99.0	72.1	85.6	112	12+	59	20	0	623	0.92	0.69	29	0.0	0.0	0.0	47	29	21	34	12	1.8	8.0	52	SE	1	90	1	3	0	0	0	507					
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	59	33	25	44	13	2.5	8.6	39	S	24	81	2.9	7	5	1	0	0	507				
NOV	73.6	45.7	59.7	88	11	37	18+	185	30	T	T	29+	0.0	0.0	0.0	59	35	23	45	11	2.4	5.7	42	E	19	75	4.2	17	4	9	0	0	0	507			
DEC	61.1	39.3	50.2	76	25+	28	12	455	0	0.47	0.24	7	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	507			
YEAR	84.4	56.6	70.5	114	11	19	7	1532	3651	3.59	0.69	SEP. 29	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	154	0	17	0	467

## NORMALS, MEANS, AND EXTREMES

<sup>6</sup> 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 (193

Also on earlier dates, months or years.

+ Also on earlier dates, months, or years.  
T Trace, ar, 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

### Means, and Extremes table 1 1963.

‡  $\geq 70^\circ$  at Alaskan stations.

#### THE VARIOUS 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. Hearing degree days are the sums of negative departures of average daily temperatures from 65° F., while cooling degree day totals are the sums of positive departures of average daily temperatures from 65° F. Wind speeds are measured at a height of 10 feet above ground level, 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.

**& Figures.** Instead of letters in a direction column indicate direction in tens of degrees from true North; 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.

### AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
1932	47.0	56.8	61.9	69.2	77.3	85.0	91.8	92.1	87.0	71.5	63.0	49.3	71.0
1933	48.6	49.6	61.9	64.7	72.6	87.6	91.8	92.4	86.8	76.8	62.7	54.6	71.1
1934	54.5	60.8	70.0	74.8	83.2	83.8	94.0	90.0	84.8	75.5	61.4	56.0	74.1
1935	53.8	57.9	57.6	69.4	74.1	89.2	92.0	88.4	84.6	72.6	57.2	54.3	70.9
#1936	52.8	56.4	64.6	73.1	81.7	90.3	93.2	91.1	83.6	73.2	61.8	53.2	72.9
#1937	43.2	54.7	59.9	67.6	78.6	85.3	91.8	92.2	86.9	74.8	62.3	56.9	71.2
1938	52.6	54.4	57.8	66.6	78.7	83.4	88.8	88.2	84.4	69.2	53.2	53.6	69.2
1939	50.7	47.0	61.0	70.2	77.5	84.6	92.0	90.3	82.0	69.4	62.5	55.5	70.2
1940	54.6	55.2	63.6	69.5	80.8	89.1	92.0	91.3	85.0	72.7	57.7	55.6	72.3
1941	53.3	57.3	58.4	61.6	74.5	80.6	88.6	86.2	79.2	66.4	60.0	52.3	68.2
1942	52.4	51.0	57.0	64.8	73.4	83.2	91.8	87.6	83.3	70.6	61.9	54.5	69.3
1943	51.7	57.6	69.2	70.7	77.5	83.0	91.0	87.4	84.0	71.1	59.4	52.4	70.8
1944	49.9	51.6	56.0	64.0	74.0	79.6	88.6	90.3	83.0	73.2	56.6	52.0	68.2
1945	50.4	54.6	55.8	64.5	75.1	81.2	91.1	89.6	83.8	73.8	57.6	49.3	69.0
1946	49.6	52.0	60.8	72.4	75.8	86.2	90.1	88.8	83.8	66.4	54.3	53.6	69.5
1947	48.5	58.1	62.7	68.2	78.8	83.7	92.9	88.6	85.2	72.7	55.0	49.2	70.4
1948	51.6	52.0	56.3	69.2	76.4	84.2	91.2	91.4	85.6	73.6	54.8	50.1	69.8
1949	43.7	51.8	59.1	70.6	76.0	85.3	90.4	87.6	86.1	68.5	64.4	51.3	69.6
1950	49.7	58.9	62.6	72.5	76.0	84.9	90.5	90.3	82.2	78.3	64.2	57.5	72.3
1951	51.9	56.1	60.7	67.8	76.7	83.0	92.5	87.2	83.2	71.9	58.6	52.1	70.1
1952	51.6	54.2	55.6	67.5	79.6	84.5	89.9	85.0	85.8	76.8	57.1	50.0	70.4
1953	54.5	53.3	61.5	66.6	70.9	85.0	90.8	89.3	84.1	71.6	61.5	49.3	69.9
1954	52.3	61.1	58.3	71.6	78.2	84.7	91.3	88.4	86.2	74.9	64.6	50.0	72.1
1955	48.7	50.9	61.6	66.7	75.6	83.7	86.7	86.6	82.9	75.7	59.1	55.6	69.5
1956	56.0	50.9	61.6	66.1	76.9	86.9	87.9	85.8	84.6	69.7	57.8	53.3	69.8
1957	54.0	61.4	61.8	66.5	72.9	87.1	91.4	88.0	83.2	70.6	56.4	55.0	70.7
#1958	53.0	58.0	57.0	66.7	81.3	89.1	93.6	92.7	86.6	76.6	61.4	56.0	72.7
1959	53.8	53.9	63.6	73.5	76.3	90.3	94.0	88.1	83.3	72.7	60.9	53.6	72.0
#1960	48.5	51.5	65.1	70.4	77.8	90.0	92.4	89.7	85.9	70.6	60.5	50.5	71.1
1961	54.2	55.6	59.6	69.2	75.6	88.6	91.7	88.6	80.6	69.6	57.1	52.3	70.2
1962	51.5	55.7	56.0	72.3	73.5	83.1	90.1	89.7	84.3	71.6	61.9	55.0	70.6
1963	48.4	60.2	61.0	65.8	70.0	81.7	93.0	87.1	87.1	76.2	61.9	51.8	71.0
1964	46.7	49.3	56.5	65.2	73.7	82.6	90.6	86.2	80.9	74.9	55.5	52.0	67.8
1965	52.7	52.4	56.1	63.4	71.8	79.0	91.0	89.0	79.2	73.8	62.1	52.9	68.6
1966	48.2	49.7	61.2	69.8	80.1	86.8	93.0	90.9	82.9	70.9	60.5	52.0	70.5
1967	50.7	55.7	62.8	64.5	75.1	81.1	91.6	91.0	84.8	73.5	63.9	48.2	70.1
1968	52.4	59.7	59.9	66.7	76.6	86.2	90.2	86.5	83.6	72.7	59.2	49.5	70.3
1969	54.9	53.0	56.9	68.5	78.3	84.2	93.1	94.4	84.0	69.5	62.1	54.8	71.3
1970	52.1	60.2	59.5	64.7	79.6	88.1	95.0	92.5	82.2	69.1	61.4	52.6	71.4
1971	52.2	56.3	63.3	66.5	73.3	85.3	94.9	89.6	85.6	69.3	59.7	50.2	70.5
RECORD	51.6	55.4	60.3	67.7	75.8	85.0	90.7	88.9	83.4	71.6	59.9	52.4	70.2
MEAN	65.0	69.0	74.6	82.9	91.8	101.4	104.1	101.7	97.7	86.8	74.7	65.8	84.6
MAX	38.1	41.7	46.0	52.4	59.8	68.6	77.3	76.0	69.1	56.3	45.0	38.9	55.8
MIN	48.6	50.0	52.4	59.8	68.6	77.3	80.0	78.0	70.0	60.0	50.0	40.0	50.0

### TOTAL DEGREE DAYS

Season	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total
1932-33	0	0	0	14	69	488	506	429	95	74	0	0	1675
1933-34	0	0	0	0	85	323	117	6	14	7	0	0	1277
1934-35	0	0	0	0	178	284	347	204	239	17	0	0	1269
1935-36	0	0	0	22	237	328	378	246	77	31	0	0	1319
#1936-37	0	0	0	8	118	367	681	287	173	34	5	0	1673
1937-38	0	0	0	0	119	252	311	243	187	30	0	0	1142
1938-39	0	0	0	25	357	352	440	503	194	15	0	0	1886
1939-40	0	0	0	12	106	292	312	281	103	17	0	0	1123
1940-41	0	0	0	29	229	282	361	215	202	136	11	0	1465
1941-42	0	0	0	57	163	396	387	391	246	63	6	0	1711
1942-43	0	0	0	24	106	323	413	209	86	45	0	0	1206
1943-44	0	0	0	37	171	393	467	388	282	57	0	0	1797
1944-45	0	0	0	0	267	404	452	291	286	103	0	0	1803
1945-46	0	0	0	6	235	487	479	365	150	17	0	0	1739
1946-47	0	0	0	37	323	350	513	194	102	25	0	0	1544
1947-48	0	0	0	6	304	485	412	361	256	21	0	0	1855
1948-49	0	0	0	15	312	464	664	308	184	42	0	0	2049
1949-50	0	0	0	59	53	431	469	167	107	11	4	0	1301
1950-51	0	0	0	0	72	226	399	249	147	36	0	0	1145
1951-52	0	0	0	11	186	394	414	304	295	43	0	0	1649
1952-53	0	0	0	0	252	429	322	131	49	6	0	0	1507
1953-54	0	0	0	19	148	479	388	114	206	7	4	0	1365
1954-55	0	0	0	14	39	336	300	90	117	37	3	0	1436
1955-56	0	0	0	1	181	278	271	402	131	55	0	0	1319
1956-57	0	0	0	47	214	356	334	117	107	48	7	0	1230
#1957-58	0	0	0	12	253	303	365	191	245	68	0	0	1437
1958-59	0	0	0	4	124	271	341	306	66	0	3	0	1115
1959-60	0	0	0	20	119	342	306	388	56	14	0	0	1451
#1960-61	0	0	0	51	233	388	414	255	277	2	0	0	1620
1961-62	0	0	0	6	72	512	384	151	167	39	0	0	1321
1962-63	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1963-64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1964-65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1965-66	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1966-67	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1967-68	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1968-69	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1969-70	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1970-71	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1971-72	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RECORD	0.77	0.74	0.66	0.36	0.12	0.09	0.90	1.05	0.80	0.45	0.59	0.88	7.41

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	Longitude	Elevation above sea level										Remarks	
						North	West	Ground at temperature site	Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Telethermometer	Tipping bucket rain gauge	Weighing rain gauge	8" rain gage	Hygrothermometer	
CITY																	
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		b4l		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.	
AIRPORT																	
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 1128	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 - 1108 feet to 12/12/60. e - 41 feet to 12/12/60.	

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  
NATIONAL CLIMATIC CENTER  
FEDERAL BUILDING  
ASHEVILLE, N.C. 28801

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE





# 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.

# METEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

Station: LAS VEGAS, NEVADA		MCCARRAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT		Standard time used: PACIFIC		Latitude: 36° 05' N		Longitude: 115° 10' W		Elevation (ground): 2162 feet		Year: 1971																						
Month	Temperature				Degree days (Base 65°)		Precipitation				Relative humidity		Wind &				Number of days				Temperatures													
	Averages		Extremes										Resultant		Fastest mile		Sunrise to sunset		Partly cloudy		Cloudy		Precipitation											
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	High	Low	Date	Heating	Cooling	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Total	Hour	04	10	16	22	Hour	Direction	Speed	Direction	#	Day	Percent of possible sunshine	Average sky cover	Percent of possible sunshine	Average sky cover							
JAN	56.6	32.2	44.4	74	31+	12	6	630	0	T	T	2	45	36	25	40	27	3.1	7.3	37	SW	13	91	3.8	17	7								
FEB	62.9	36.5	47.7	79	11	19	27	421	0	0.03	0.02	17	35	26	18	28	32	3.1	8.3	46	NW	19	89	3.8	13	9								
MAR	69.7	41.8	55.8	88	30	23	3	306	24	T	T	13	26	17	11	18	28	2.8	9.3	48	NW	31	93	3.7	17	7								
APR	77.3	48.7	63.0	89	13	39	2	105	53	T	T	18+	29	18	13	22	22	5.3	10.5	44	SW	17	91	2.5	19	9								
MAY	80.5	55.5	68.0	95	15	46	8	47	148	0.84	0.60	7	40	25	18	32	22	3.6	10.2	52	SW	21	83	3.8	16	9								
JUN	93.1	68.4	83.3	111	22	51	1	0	556	T	2	0.0	22	13	9	14	20	7.3	10.1	36	SW	26	98	1.6	23	5								
JUL	107.1	78.5	92.8	113	28+	66	1	0	871	0.08	0.05	30	0.0	0.0	0.0	23	16	11	17	20	6.5	9.9	64	SW	14	95	2.9	17	13					
AUG	101.1	76.8	89.0	109	2+	71	14	0	752	0.90	0.50	14	0.0	0.0	0.0	44	32	23	34	18	2.4	7.4	55	NE	8	78	4.4	15	8					
SEP	92.1	63.0	77.6	107	12	47	30	4	390	0.00	0.00	0.0	23	16	13	19	20	2.1	8.9	54	NW	30	97	1.2	25	4								
OCT	75.7	47.6	61.7	95	14	26	30	207	112	0.06	0.06	17	36	27	19	28	25	3.3	8.2	40	NW	29	87	2.2	23	6								
NOV	63.4	38.4	50.9	73	10+	31	20	417	0	0.12	0.12	15	41	30	24	36	28	3.0	6.8	31	SW	13	75	4.1	14	9								
DEC	51.1	31.7	41.4	62	25	21	9	724	0	0.51	0.21	27	13	51	44	36	48	29	3.4	8.5	38	NW	7	63	4.8	13	6							
YEAR	78.0	51.6	64.8	113	JUL.	28+	12	JAN.	6	2861	2906	2.54	0.60	MAY	7	T	T	DEC.	13+	35	25	18	28	23	2.9	8.8	64	SW	JUL.	14	87	3.2	212	94

## NORMALS, MEANS, AND EXTREMES

Month	Temperature				Normal heating degree days (Base 65°)		Precipitation				Relative humidity		Wind &				Mean number of days				Temperatures															
	Normal		Extremes										Snow, Ice pellets		Resultant		Fastest mile		Sunrise to sunset		Partly cloudy		Cloudy		Precipitation		Max.		Min.							
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Record highest	Record lowest	Year	Normal total	Maximum monthly	Year	Minimum monthly	Year	Maximum monthly	Year	Mean total	Maximum monthly	Year	Maximum in 24 hrs.	Year	Mean speed	Prevailing direction	Speed	Direction #	Year	Pct: of possible sunshine	Sunrise to sunset	Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	Heavy fog	90° and above	32° and below	32° and below	32° and below	Average daily solar radiation - langleys		
(a)	(b)	(b)	(b)	12	12		(b)	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	11	11	11	11	23	23	23	23	23	23	11	11	11	11	22				
J	54.2	32.0	43.1	75	1962	8	1963	688	0.53	2.41	1949	T	1971+	1.01	1952	0.9	16.7	1949	5.0	52	37	27	45	6.9	W	52	78	4.9	14	6						
F	59.4	36.1	47.8	79	1971	19	1971+	487	0.44	0.96	1969	0.00	1967+	0.63	1958	T	1966+	48	35	25	41	8.1	NW	54	81	4.5	13	7								
M	67.6	42.0	54.8	91	1966	23	1971+	335	0.35	1.50	1952	0.00	1956	1.14	1952	T	1963+	40	26	18	32	9.6	NW	52	84	4.3	14	9								
A	77.6	51.4	64.5	96	1962	32	1967	111	0.23	2.44	1965	0.00	1962	0.97	1965	T	1970+	35	21	15	26	10.6	SW	48	86	3.6	17	7								
M	87.9	59.6	73.8	106	1969+	40	1964	6	0.08	0.96	1969	0.00	1970+	0.80	1969	T	1970+	31	18	13	22	10.9	SW	52	79	3.3	18	9								
J	97.2	68.5	82.9	115	1970	51	1971+	0	0.04	0.82	1967	0.00	1958+	0.75	1967	0.0	0.0	0.0	27	16	11	18	10.6	SW	46	93	1.9	23	5							
J	103.5	75.8	89.7	114	1967	62	1970+	0	0.50	1.64	1956	0.00	1963	1.32	1956	0.0	0.0	0.0	29	20	15	22	9.8	SW	64	86	3.0	19	9							
A	101.0	73.4	87.2	113	1969	56	1968	0	0.48	2.59	1957	0.00	1956	2.59	1957	0.0	0.0	0.0	37	25	19	28	9.2	SW	55	88	2.6	21	7							
S	94.3	65.6	80.0	107	1971	46	1965	0	0.34	1.58	1963	0.00	1971+	1.07	1963	0.0	0.0	0.0	33	21	16	25	8.7	SW	54	92	1.7	24	4							
S	80.1	53.1	66.6	98	1963	26	1971	76	0.20	0.63	1958	0.00	1967+	0.63	1958	T	1956	36	24	18	29	7.7	WSW	52	87	2.6	21	6								
N	65.0	39.9	52.5	83	1967	28	1968	387	0.31	2.22	1965	0.00	1956	1.78	1960	0.2	4.0	1964	4.0	1964	4.8	35	39	16	23	7	2	* *	* *	6	0	309				
D	56.2	33.9	45.1	71	1966	15	1968	617	0.40	1.38	1959	0.00	1963+	0.83	1959	0.1	2.0	1967	2.0	1967	5.8	W	54	89	4.4	15	7	9	2	* *	0	0	14	0	253	
YR	78.7	52.6	65.7	115	JUN.	8	JAN.	2709	3.90	2.59	AUG.	0.00	1971+	2.59	1957	1.2	16.7	1949	5.0	1949	3.4	SW	64	JUL.	86	3.4	215	83	67	23	* 15	1	131	* 41	0	504

Ø For period August 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 117 in July 1942; maximum monthly precipitation 3.39 in September 1939.

- (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).
- + 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. Daily mean temperatures are the averages of the 24-hour day beginning with 1200. "Snow, 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 3-minute values.

# To 8 compass points only.

### AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
1937	31.2	44.8	53.4	61.6	74.2	82.1	87.8	87.6	80.3	67.0	54.0	47.5	64.3
1938	46.0	47.7	52.2	64.4	70.2	81.0	87.0	86.0	79.9	63.4	46.0	46.8	64.3
1939	44.2	41.2	55.8	65.0	74.2	81.6	88.5	87.8	75.6	63.7	55.1	48.5	65.1
1940	46.5	50.2	56.4	65.2	78.0	86.4	86.3	89.0	76.3	66.4	50.1	46.2	65.8
1941	46.9	52.8	55.4	59.2	73.4	78.8	87.2	83.0	73.0	60.7	52.8	46.1	64.1
1942	47.8	46.9	52.7	64.6	71.0	83.3	91.7	86.8	77.4	67.7	54.4	47.7	65.9
1943	44.4	51.8	56.5	68.0	80.2	88.5	87.2	80.9	67.8	52.7	47.8	57.1	67.1
1944	44.8	46.9	55.0	62.1	73.5	77.6	87.1	87.4	81.1	70.2	55.2	46.6	65.5
1945	45.4	51.0	53.0	63.2	74.8	80.8	89.6	86.4	80.4	67.5	51.6	43.2	65.6
1946	42.8	46.8	50.6	62.1	74.6	85.8	80.3	88.3	80.0	61.6	50.6	48.6	66.2
1947	42.6	53.0	58.9	62.2	78.8	82.2	88.6	87.9	83.3	74.8	50.3	44.0	67.0
#1948	45.6	46.4	50.4	65.0	73.0	82.6	88.7	87.9	79.8	67.3	54.6	41.1	64.6
1949	32.4	41.8	53.6	67.1	70.8	82.3	89.3	82.0	82.2	63.9	58.9	49.3	65.2
1950	41.2	51.7	56.7	67.1	72.5	81.3	88.7	87.3	78.2	71.8	56.6	51.2	67.0
1951	43.8	47.5	54.6	64.1	72.8	82.0	90.1	85.5	81.6	64.9	50.9	42.3	65.0
1952	41.8	48.4	50.4	64.1	76.2	80.3	88.2	90.8	80.7	71.9	49.5	45.4	65.6
1953	50.4	48.7	56.4	63.9	66.2	81.7	90.6	87.1	81.8	65.3	55.1	44.0	65.9
1954	65.3	54.1	52.2	69.6	77.8	81.2	90.7	86.0	80.6	68.4	57.2	43.8	67.3
1955	41.1	43.7	54.1	60.3	70.2	81.6	87.2	86.7	80.8	69.8	53.1	48.1	64.8
1956	48.8	45.6	56.5	63.4	74.3	85.5	88.2	86.2	83.4	65.3	50.6	45.8	66.2
1957	43.6	55.0	66.9	63.5	69.3	85.8	88.9	86.3	80.1	63.7	49.0	46.8	65.8
1958	46.0	52.2	52.1	62.4	78.0	84.0	88.8	90.5	81.0	69.9	53.5	48.8	67.3
#1959	46.4	47.7	57.2	68.7	72.2	86.8	93.4	87.1	77.8	68.2	53.4	47.4	67.2
1960	41.0	46.0	59.7	66.0	73.4	87.4	91.0	88.3	82.0	66.1	53.0	44.3	66.5
1961	45.1	51.0	56.2	65.1	72.9	87.0	91.0	87.7	75.6	64.1	50.3	42.5	65.7
1962	44.3	49.9	51.3	70.3	70.6	82.3	88.3	89.8	81.4	68.7	57.3	45.9	66.7
1963	41.1	55.8	54.0	58.5	75.9	78.6	90.4	87.9	80.5	70.1	55.0	44.6	66.0
1964	42.0	45.6	52.3	61.8	70.9	80.9	90.7	87.6	78.4	72.0	50.0	45.3	64.8
1965	47.1	49.5	53.2	61.2	69.6	78.0	88.7	87.9	74.8	69.8	55.9	45.0	65.1
1966	42.7	45.8	57.9	66.4	77.5	83.9	89.3	89.6	80.1	66.5	55.4	46.1	66.8
1967	45.3	50.6	59.3	56.2	72.5	79.6	91.7	90.3	80.0	69.1	56.7	41.6	66.1
1968	44.2	55.7	57.5	62.0	73.5	84.0	89.0	83.5	79.7	67.0	54.5	40.8	65.0
1969	47.5	46.3	53.0	64.4	76.8	81.4	89.7	92.2	82.5	62.8	53.5	45.8	66.3
1970	44.0	52.5	54.9	58.6	75.3	83.4	91.1	88.8	77.2	63.8	55.0	44.5	65.8
1971	44.4	49.7	55.8	63.0	68.0	83.3	92.8	89.0	77.6	61.7	50.9	41.4	64.8
RECORD													
MEAN	44.0	49.0	55.1	64.1	73.3	82.5	89.4	87.6	79.6	66.7	53.0	45.4	65.8
MAX	56.5	61.9	69.0	78.6	88.4	98.2	104.9	102.7	95.4	81.9	66.9	57.9	80.2
MIN	31.4	36.0	41.2	49.5	58.2	66.7	73.9	72.4	63.8	51.5	39.1	32.8	51.4

### TOTAL DEGREE DAYS

Season	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
													Total
1936-37													0
1937-38	0	0	0	16	333	548	1049	566	357	132	2	0	2456
1938-39	0	0	0	89	569	563	644	666	286	77	1	0	2893
1939-40	0	0	0	64	298	510	574	425	215	75	0	0	2161
1940-41	0	0	0	73	449	586	565	344	293	186	0	0	2496
1941-42	0	0	0	5	367	588	596	524	353	51	20	0	2663
1942-43	0	0	0	53	317	542	577	368	213	78	4	0	2152
1943-44	0	0	0	77	368	539	636	526	311	97	6	0	2560
1944-45	0	0	0	355	570	608	391	374	143	0	0	0	2441
1945-46	0	0	0	41	408	679	656	511	282	47	0	0	2624
1946-47	0	0	0	118	433	508	694	325	163	58	1	0	2302
1947-48	0	0	0	46	441	566	603	535	451	88	18	0	2838
#1948-49	0	0	0	52	462	742	1011	653	352	60	8	1	3347
1949-50	0	0	0	151	183	672	730	368	255	51	35	0	2445
1950-51	0	0	0	3	250	419	650	486	319	84	33	0	2244
1951-52	0	0	0	86	413	700	711	475	447	60	2	0	2894
1952-53	0	0	0	4	458	598	598	446	248	102	60	0	2383
1953-54	0	0	0	104	292	643	602	300	393	15	12	0	2361
1954-55	0	0	0	63	229	649	733	591	326	168	42	2	2811
1955-56	0	0	0	17	350	520	497	553	268	105	8	0	2318
1956-57	0	0	0	85	427	590	657	276	243	93	32	0	2403
1957-58	0	0	0	89	475	556	580	350	394	154	3	0	2601
1958-59	0	0	0	42	338	497	571	477	239	21	19	0	2204
#1959-60	0	0	0	2	48	340	334	236	225	77	4	0	2462
1960-61	0	0	0	63	351	636	611	384	268	63	5	0	2381
1961-62	0	0	0	136	438	693	635	418	420	13	30	0	2783
1962-63	0	0	0	28	229	588	733	254	337	109	7	0	2285
1963-64	0	0	0	17	295	626	703	557	394	141	72	0	2805
1964-65	0	0	0	12	444	606	551	427	358	220	49	0	2667
1965-66	0	0	0	15	266	615	685	529	235	54	0	0	2416
1966-67	0	0	0	47	286	578	606	397	189	261	25	0	2389
1967-68	0	0	0	18	244	716	638	265	231	110	8	0	2230
1968-69	0	0	0	1	304	743	536	518	381	74	16	0	2601
1969-70	0	0	0	112	341	589	643	344	304	208	8	0	2549
1970-71	0	0	0	111	295	631	630	421	306	105	47	0	2546
1971-72	0	0	0	4	207	417	724						

### TOTAL SNOWFALL

Season	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total
1937													0
1938	0.06	0.91	T	T	0.70	0.01	0.00	T	0.11	2.45			
1939	0.14	0.89	1.17	0.13	0.12	0.23	0.44	0.37	0.21	0.63	4.46		
1940	0.14	0.28	0.40	0.55	0.11	0.00	0.25	0.17	0.07	0.35	0.18	7.30	
1941	1.14	1.58	1.63	1.68	0.21	T	0.93	1.75	T	1.13	0.33	0.24	10.72
1942	0.00	0.06	0.36	0.06	+	0.00	0.77	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.05	2.39	
1943	1.01	0.14	0.52	0.85	T	0.00	0.04	0.31	0.03	T	1.24	4.24	
1944	0.40												

STATION LOCATION

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Airline distance and direction from previous location	Latitude North	Longitude West	Ground at tem- perature site	Elevation above Ground						Sea level	Remarks	
							Sea level	Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Telpsychrometer	Tipping bucket rain gage	Weighing 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 d 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.

## METEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

Station: TUCSON, ARIZONA

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Standard time used: MOUNTAIN

Latitude: 33° 07' N      Longitude: 110° 56' W

Elevation (ground) : 2586 feet

Year: 1971

Month	Temperature						(Base 65°*)	Precipitation				Relative humidity				Wind & Number of days																							
	Averages			Extremes				Snow, Ice pellets				Resultant				Fastest mile				Sunrise to sunset				Temperatures															
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Highest Date	Lowest Date	Heating Cooling		Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Hour 05	Hour 11	Hour 17	Hour 23	Direction	Speed	Average speed	Direction #	Speed	Direction	Percent of possible sunshine	Average sky cover sunrise to sunset	Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	01 inch or more	01 inch or more	Thunderstorms	Heavy fog							
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Highest Date	Lowest Date	Heating Cooling		Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Hour 05	Hour 11	Hour 17	Hour 23	Direction	Speed	Average speed	Direction #	Speed	Direction	Percent of possible sunshine	Average sky cover sunrise to sunset	Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	01 inch or more	01 inch or more	Thunderstorms	Heavy fog							
JAN	65.6	35.4	50.5	85 19	17 6	44.5	6	0.04	0.04	2	7	1	3	52	30	21	45	15	2.6	8.1	28	SW	2	93	2.8	20	4	0	0	0	0	0	315						
FEB	66.6	37.9	52.3	80 15+	27 4	350	0	0.50	0.34	17-18	13	0.0	0.0	49	28	21	38	19	2.3	9.3	37	W	2	88	8.8	16	6	0	0	0	0	0	520						
MAR	76.4	49.1	59.8	90 30+	22 3	200	45	1	1	1	1	0.0	0.0	31	16	11	20	22	2.5	10.3	36	SW	1	97	2.4	22	6	0	0	0	0	0	520						
APR	78.4	47.1	62.8	92 11	39 20+	111	51	0.56	0.50	15	0.0	0.0	0.0	40	20	15	28	20	4.0	10.4	29	SW	2	93	2.1	21	7	2	0	0	0	0	590						
MAY	85.1	53.5	69.3	94 25	46 19+	12	152	0.01	0.01	12	0.0	0.0	0.0	33	17	12	23	22	4.4	10.0	34	W	17+	95	2.0	24	4	3	1	0	0	0	676						
JUN	96.8	65.6	81.2	105 22+	50 3	0	493	T	T	17 +	0.0	0.0	0.0	31	16	11	21	24	3.5	8.8	38	E	24	93	1.9	24	3	3	0	0	0	0	649						
JUL	100.2	74.7	87.5	108 11	68 16	0	706	2.18	0.75	30-31	0.0	0.0	0.0	56	32	26	46	21	2.8	9.3	71	SE	16	85	4.1	17	10	4	8	0	0	0	678						
AUG	91.9	70.6	81.3	97 29+	67 12+	0	514	3.29	1.00	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	78	49	43	68	18	2.4	8.3	40	SE	3	74	5.5	7	16	8	15	0	0	0	591						
SEP	92.1	66.1	79.1	101 15+	55 23	0	430	1.75	0.65	8	0.0	0.0	0.0	63	38	33	54	17	3.7	9.1	42	W	18+	88	2.3	23	4	3	5	0	0	0	535						
OCT	76.3	52.0	64.2	89 14+	26 30	120	1.18	0.97	16-17	0.0	0.0	0.0	68	41	38	60	15	3.9	9.6	35	S	24	76	3.3	19	5	7	7	0	0	0	414							
NOV	70.4	43.2	56.8	86 11	35 22+	249	12	0.69	0.66	15-16	0.0	0.0	0.0	64	37	31	58	15	3.2	7.7	29	E	3	75	4.5	15	5	10	2	0	0	0	330						
DEC	58.4	35.8	47.1	78 24	27 17	154	0	1.97	0.83	4	6.8	6.8	8	81	56	49	78	15	3.5	7.7	39	E	18	64	5.5	13	3	15	6	1	0	0	244						
YEAR	79.9	52.1	66.0	108 11	17 6	2035	2510	12.17	1.00	AUG.	3	6.8	6.8	DEC.	8	54	32	26	45	19	2.9	9.1	71	SE	16	86	3.3	221	78	66	50	1	45	1	113	0	32	0	495

## NORMALS, MEANS, AND EXTREMES

Month	Temperature						Precipitation						Relative humidity				Wind & <small>Cloudiness</small>						Mean number of days																				
	Normal			Extremes			Normal hearing degree days (Base 65°)			Snow, Ice pellets			Mean total		Hour		Hour		Hour		Pct. of possible sunshine		Sunrise to sunset		Precipitation		Show, Ice pellets		Thunderstorms		Heavy fog		Temperatures Max.		Temperatures Min.								
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Record highest	Record lowest	Year	Normal total	Maximum monthly	Year	Minimum monthly	Year	Maximum in 24 hrs.	Year	Mean total	Maximum monthly	Year	Maximum in 24 hrs.	Year	05 (Local time)	11	17	23	Hourly	Cover	Sunrise	Sunset	Hourly	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Average daily solar										
(a)	(b)	(b)	(b)	31	31	31	(b)	(b)	(b)	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31							
J	62.6	37.0	49.8	87	1953	16	1949	471	0.82	2.37	1957	T	1970+	1.40	1946	0.3	1949	3.5	1949	62	39	33	56	7.9	SE	40	E	1962+	14	7	10	4	* * *	0	311	0	311						
F	66.0	39.8	52.9	97	1957	20	1955+	344	0.84	2.27	1941	0.01	1961	0.2	3.9	1965	3.9	1965	59	34	27	49	8.0	SE	59	40	1952	83	4.4	13	6	9	4	* * *	0	311							
M	72.2	43.8	58.0	92	1950	20	1965	242	0.53	2.26	1952	0.00	1956	1.49	1952	0.3	5.7	1964	5.7	1964	52	28	22	41	8.5	SE	41	SE	1955	86	4.5	14	8	6	9	4	* * *	0	500				
A	81.1	50.6	65.9	102	1943	27	1945	75	0.27	1.66	1951	0.00	1960+	0.75	1952	T	1.0	1956	1.0	1956	42	21	16	31	8.8	SE	46	1952	91	3.4	17	7	6	9	4	* * *	0	633					
M	89.4	57.5	73.5	107	1958+	38	1950	6	0.13	0.89	1943	0.00	1964+	0.89	1943	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	33	16	12	23	8.6	SE	50	42	NE	1965	94	2.7	20	7	4	1	0	1	0	699				
J	98.2	67.1	82.7	111	1970+	47	1955	0	0.29	1.46	1954	0.00	1969+	1.27	1954	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	32	17	13	23	8.5	SSE	50	42	NE	1961	93	2.2	22	6	2	1	0	0	699					
J	98.5	74.1	86.3	111	1958	63	1960+	0	2.06	5.20	1958	0.27	1947	3.93	1958	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	57	33	28	47	8.2	SE	71	SE	1971	77	5.3	10	12	9	10	4	* * *	0	600					
A	94.7	71.5	83.1	109	1944	61	1956	0	2.88	7.93	1955	0.46	1953	2.48	1961	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	67	40	34	55	7.6	SE	54	NE	1969+	80	4.7	12	12	7	10	4	* * *	0	577					
S	93.3	67.4	80.4	107	1950+	44	1965	0	1.00	5.11	1964	0.00	1953	3.05	1964	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	55	31	27	44	8.1	SE	54	SE	1960	87	2.8	20	6	4	4	* * *	0	527						
O	83.2	56.8	70.0	101	1955	26	1971	25	0.64	2.62	1957	0.00	1952	1.86	1951	T	1.0	1959	1.0	1959	52	29	25	43	8.2	SE	47	SE	1948	90	2.7	20	7	4	3	* * *	0	444					
N	71.9	44.2	58.1	90	1947	24	1958	231	0.62	1.90	1952	0.00	1970+	1.86	1968	0.2	6.4	1958	6.4	1958	54	31	28	48	8.1	SE	55	E	1951	85	3.5	17	7	6	3	* * *	0	333					
D	64.9	38.9	51.9	84	1954	18	1954	406	0.92	5.02	1965	0.00	1958	1.54	1967	0.4	6.8	1971	6.8	1971	62	39	35	57	7.8	SE	44	W	1949	79	4.5	15	6	10	4	* * *	0	270					
YR	81.3	54.1	67.7	111	JUN.	1949	JAN.	11.00	7.93	1955	0.00	1970+	3.93	1958	1.4	6.8	1971	6.8	1971	52	30	25	43	8.2	SE	71	SE	JUL.	1971	86	3.8	194	91	80	50	1	40	1	141	0	21	0	500

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

(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, air 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.

‡  $\geq 70^\circ$  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 expressed 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., 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

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
1932	43.3	54.6	57.4	63.5	71.7	79.6	85.5	85.2	80.6	67.8	60.0	47.2	66.4
1933	47.7	47.5	57.8	60.6	67.1	82.4	87.4	85.8	81.6	72.0	59.4	52.2	66.8
1934	49.4	56.4	63.9	69.0	78.4	79.8	87.8	83.6	79.6	70.6	56.7	52.3	69.0
1935	52.1	55.0	64.7	67.6	82.0	85.7	82.3	78.3	68.8	54.6	51.5	66.5	
1936	48.8	53.2	59.0	66.9	75.3	83.8	86.8	83.8	77.6	68.6	59.9	50.8	67.9
1937	41.2	52.9	56.0	62.8	73.8	81.2	85.3	86.0	81.8	71.0	59.4	54.3	67.2
1938	52.4	54.2	57.6	65.5	71.3	81.8	84.4	83.3	81.2	70.0	54.8	53.0	67.5
1939	50.4	45.5	59.2	67.2	74.0	82.6	87.2	84.6	79.4	67.5	62.2	56.2	68.0
#1940	52.6	52.8	59.6	65.4	76.0	83.4	87.2	84.4	80.8	70.7	56.8	56.5	68.9
1941	52.6	56.5	56.9	59.8	72.9	80.2	86.4	83.2	79.4	67.2	60.6	52.0	67.3
1942	53.0	50.8	55.8	63.6	72.1	82.9	89.8	85.2	81.6	69.4	63.2	54.2	68.5
1943	52.8	58.7	61.8	70.4	76.3	83.2	88.0	83.9	82.0	70.8	61.6	52.5	70.2
1944	50.4	50.7	56.4	63.0	73.4	80.6	87.4	86.4	79.6	72.8	55.9	52.3	67.4
1945	50.7	53.6	56.4	63.4	73.6	78.9	86.5	84.2	80.9	71.6	58.5	50.4	67.2
1946	48.0	52.0	59.4	70.6	73.0	85.4	86.0	84.0	80.9	65.9	54.8	55.6	68.0
1947	48.4	57.8	59.6	64.8	76.8	81.2	88.2	83.7	83.0	70.4	54.2	48.2	68.1
#1948	51.5	50.8	54.0	68.0	75.1	83.4	86.8	85.2	82.6	71.1	53.6	51.2	67.8
1949	43.0	50.2	57.6	67.4	73.4	83.0	85.0	84.2	82.2	66.4	64.3	50.8	67.3
1950	50.4	57.2	59.7	66.2	71.6	81.6	82.8	84.7	78.3	76.8	63.0	56.9	69.4
1951	50.3	53.7	57.4	64.4	74.0	80.5	88.8	84.9	83.2	72.5	58.5	51.5	68.3
1952	51.1	51.6	52.7	65.5	76.9	83.4	86.0	85.3	83.9	76.4	56.4	50.1	68.8
1953	53.9	52.2	56.6	65.2	68.9	84.1	86.8	86.4	82.9	71.0	61.6	48.6	65.5
1954	53.9	60.3	59.3	71.5	75.9	83.1	86.8	84.4	82.9	74.2	62.9	53.3	70.6
1955	46.7	48.8	59.6	64.4	71.8	82.3	84.6	81.8	81.1	74.3	58.5	55.5	67.4
1956	56.1	48.7	60.2	66.4	75.6	86.2	85.4	84.0	84.3	70.2	57.8	52.5	68.8
1957	53.8	61.1	59.6	66.2	71.2	85.3	88.1	84.2	81.3	67.9	54.3	54.9	69.0
#1958	51.4	55.8	54.2	64.5	79.1	84.9	86.9	84.5	80.5	71.9	57.6	55.6	68.9
1959	53.8	51.5	58.2	67.2	72.5	82.4	86.6	81.8	81.8	69.7	58.5	51.4	68.2
1960	46.8	47.8	61.0	65.7	71.9	83.5	86.0	84.2	81.2	67.3	59.2	47.1	67.0
1961	52.5	53.0	58.2	66.2	72.9	84.7	86.1	81.8	77.1	68.5	54.6	50.5	67.1
1962	49.0	55.7	53.3	70.1	71.7	80.3	84.9	87.0	81.3	70.6	61.5	54.0	68.2
1963	48.3	57.5	57.7	64.0	77.7	83.5	87.6	82.3	82.4	73.2	59.3	52.7	68.6
1964	47.5	47.7	54.8	63.2	73.2	82.0	86.2	81.6	76.3	72.1	55.2	52.4	66.0
1965	53.6	51.1	55.1	64.5	70.1	77.6	85.0	84.0	76.8	71.9	62.6	52.1	67.1
1966	47.7	47.8	60.1	66.8	76.1	82.8	85.3	82.9	78.3	68.1	61.1	52.4	67.4
1967	51.4	55.6	52.1	62.1	71.9	80.7	85.4	84.6	80.7	71.6	62.9	48.6	68.1
1968	52.4	59.1	58.7	63.2	73.3	83.5	84.9	81.3	80.7	71.7	58.3	50.6	68.1
1969	55.5	53.1	54.3	66.6	74.9	80.7	86.1	86.3	81.2	66.8	58.6	52.4	68.0
1970	50.0	57.0	55.9	61.1	75.2	83.4	87.2	84.8	76.4	65.1	60.1	51.8	67.3
1971	50.5	52.3	59.8	62.8	69.3	81.2	87.5	81.3	79.1	64.2	56.8	47.1	66.0
RECORD	50.3	53.1	57.7	64.5	72.6	81.9	86.1	83.9	80.0	69.4	58.2	51.2	67.4
MEAN	64.5	67.6	73.1	80.8	89.6	98.7	99.2	96.6	94.2	81.5	73.4	65.3	82.3
MAX	36.0	38.5	42.3	48.1	55.6	65.0	72.9	71.2	65.7	53.6	43.0	37.1	52.4
MIN													

### TOTAL DEGREE DAYS

TUCSON, ARIZONA															
Season	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total		
1934-35	0	0	0	18	276	394	395	276	310	63	41	0	1773		
1935-36	0	0	0	56	317	413	493	341	246	83	6	0	1955		
1936-37	0	0	0	26	171	444	738	344	281	95	0	0	2109		
1937-38	0	0	0	0	176	333	389	302	233	83	22	0	1538		
1938-39	0	0	0	20	327	368	455	542	218	32	0	0	1962		
1939-40	0	0	0	29	120	280	385	352	169	61	0	0	1396		
1940-41	0	0	0	36	255	269	283	241	241	175	33	0	1633		
1941-42	0	0	0	59	159	405	372	399	285	93	6	0	1778		
1942-43	0	0	0	31	82	328	375	190	125	48	0	0	1179		
1943-44	0	0	0	43	118	386	458	414	269	95	4	0	1787		
1944-45	0	0	0	2	287	392	448	315	324	137	1	0	1906		
1945-46	0	0	0	2	206	451	526	370	196	22	0	0	1780		
1946-47	0	0	0	51	308	304	513	205	175	76	2	0	1634		
1947-48	0	0	0	19	337	518	417	408	341	41	0	0	2081		
#1948-49	0	0	0	23	344	428	683	414	230	64	0	0	2186		
1949-50	0	0	0	78	56	442	445	216	154	22	21	0	0	1434	
1950-51	0	0	0	0	72	242	448	321	230	81	25	0	0	1419	
1951-52	0	0	0	18	187	404	404	388	383	69	0	0	0	1860	
1952-53	0	0	0	0	275	456	339	352	161	64	38	0	0	1685	
1953-54	0	0	0	30	152	499	352	127	179	5	6	0	0	1350	
1954-55	0	0	0	13	91	364	560	445	175	74	13	0	0	1735	
1955-56	0	0	0	0	198	288	268	268	167	84	0	0	0	1473	
1956-57	0	0	0	47	223	378	340	128	167	50	18	0	0	1351	
1957-58	0	0	0	41	314	306	416	232	329	100	0	0	0	1758	
#1958-59	0	0	0	27	215	284	340	370	205	8	10	0	0	1459	
1959-60	0	0	0	45	169	416	556	493	136	68	5	0	0	1908	
1960-61	0	0	0	0	27	163	486	381	331	206	41	9	0	0	1674
1961-62	0	0	0	61	312	444	491	285	357	5	7	0	0	1662	
1962-63	0	0	0	13	137	336	515	215	234	79	0	0	0	1529	
1963-64	0	0	0	2	186	372	533	497	321	107	27	0	0	0	2045
1964-65	0	0	0	5	293	348	383	305	114	21	0	0	0	1852	
1965-66	0	0	0	8	33	110	396	532	473	166	26	0	0	0	1744
1966-67	0	0	0	20	126	386	416	256	115	113	20	0	0	0	1452
1967-68	0	0	0	14	89	302	384	170	200	91	0	0	0	0	1450
1968-69	0	0	0	4	204	440	288	328	339	34	35	0	0	0	1672
1969-70	0	0	0	55	188	384	455	224	274	132	8	0	0	0	1720
1970-71	0	0	0	58	143	403	445	350	200	111	12	0	0	0	1722
1971-72	0	0	0	120	249	548									
RECORD	0.80	0.82	0.70	0.37	0.19	0.26	2.21	2.19	1.28	0.57	0.78	1.05	11.22		
MEAN															

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

STATION LOCATION

TUCSON, ARIZONA

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Ailine distance and direction from previous location	Latitude North	Longitude West	Ground at tem- perature site	Elevation above Sea level										Remarks
							Ground					Sea level					
							Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Telethermometer	Tipping bucket rain gage	Weighing rain gage	S" rain gage	Hygrothermometer	Pyranometer		
<u>COOPERATIVE</u> University of Arizona	10-1891	Present		32° 14'	110° 57'	2391	a40	b5	b5				3		# 2440	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.	

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

## 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 dust-storms, 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 word: MOUNTAIN

Latitude: 31° 48' N      Longitude: 106° 24' W

Elevation (ground) : 3918 feet

Year: 1971

Month	Temperature						(Base 65°)	Precipitation						Relative humidity						Wind &						Number of days																	
	Averages			Extremes				Snow, Ice pellets						Resultant			Fastest mile			Sunrise to sunset			Temperatures																				
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Highest	Date	Lowest	Date	Heating	Cooling	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Hour 05	Hour 11	Hour 17	Hour 23	Direction	Speed	Average speed	Direction #	Date	Percent of possible sunshine	Average sky cover sunrise to sunset	Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	90° and above	32° and below	Heavy fog	Maximum	Minimum	Average daily solar radiation - Langley's								
JAN	61.1	28.1	44.6	75	31+	3	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	W	86	4.0	14	8	4	0	0	325										
FEB	63.7	33.1	48.4	87	78	15	13	457	0	0.04	0.03	18	4.9	0.0	20	37	25	19	29	26	5.7	10.3	56	W	W	95	4.0	15	11	2	0	433											
MAR	73.5	42.6	58.1	88	27	14	3	254	45	0.00	0.00	T	0.0	0.0	T	23	16	12	18	28	6.3	11.6	48	W	W	95	2.4	22	9	0	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	3.5	11.1	39	W	W	95	2.8	19	7	4	3	623												
MAY	86.1	58.1	72.1	94	26+	46	13	6	235	0	0.0	0.0	20	28	16	12	17	25	6.2	11.3	49	SW	W	94	3.4	17	7	1	1	691													
JUN	95.3	66.8	81.1	101	28+	53	5+	0	492	0.01	0.01	20	34	18	14	22	22	22	22	2.2	8.4	37	NE	W	94	2.6	22	6	2	2	709												
JUL	94.4	70.1	82.3	100	18+	62	2	0	543	2.34	1.65	2-3	0.0	0.0	0.0	59	35	27	44	12	2.7	7.9	43	W	N	22	88	3.5	16	11	4	8	665										
AUG	88.5	65.4	77.0	93	23	60	7+	0	375	1.59	0.62	9	0.0	0.0	0.0	73	44	38	55	12	2.6	7.3	40	W	W	84	4.4	12	18	1	9	586											
SEP	86.8	60.2	73.5	96	16	44	20	31	293	0.96	0.78	23	0.0	0.0	0.0	63	37	29	49	14	1.2	7.9	35	E	W	87	3.1	19	9	2	6	500											
OCT	74.8	50.1	62.5	84	14+	35	20	112	43	1.07	0.54	25	0.0	0.0	0.0	68	43	36	56	26	1.0	8.1	35	W	W	73	4.1	15	10	6	8	398											
NOV	65.4	38.7	52.1	77	5	31	24+	381	0	0.14	0.13	15	0.0	0.0	0.0	62	38	33	55	34	1.9	6.9	33	W	W	82	4.2	15	9	6	5	0											
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	W	69	5.9	7	12	12	9	269											
YEAR	76.9	49.5	63.2	101	28+	3	JAN.	8	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	DEC.	14+	88	3.7	193	118	54	52	3	33	1	100	4	55	0	509

## NORMALS, MEANS, AND EXTREMES

Month	Temperature						Precipitation						Relative humidity				Wind & Precipitation				Mean number of days														
	Normal			Extremes $\varnothing$			Normal heating degree days (Base 65°)			Snow, Ice pellets			Hour		Hour		Hour		Hour		Sunrise to sunset		Temperatures Max.		Temperatures Min.										
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Record highest	Year	Record lowest	Year	Normal total	Maximum monthly	Year	Minimum monthly	Year	Maximum in 24 hrs.	Year	Mean total	Maximum monthly	Year	Maximum in 24 hrs.	Year	Mean sky cover sunrise to sunset	Precipitation	1 in or more Snow, Ice pellets	10 in or more Thunderstorms	32 and above	32 and below	0 and below	Average daily solar radiation								
(a)	(b)	(b)	(b)	12		12		(b)	32		32				32	32		32		29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29								
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	1943	78	4.6	14	8	9	3	337	
F	62.4	35.7	49.1	79	1962	11	1963	445	0.41	1.42	1944	0.00	1943	0.87	1954	0.8	8.9	1956	7.2	1956	50	35	25	40	10.3	W	1960	82	4.1	14	7	7	3	432	
M	65.4	40.3	54.9	88	1971+	14	1971	319	0.35	2.26	1958	T	1966+	1.72	1941	0.4	7.3	1958	7.3	1958	44	30	21	23	12.1	W	1950*	84	4.4	16	8	8	3	551	
A	72.2	46.5	63.4	98	1965	33	1968	105	0.29	1.23	1942	0.00	1955+	1.08	1966	T	1971+	1971+	33	21	14	24	12.2	WSW	1958+	66	8.6	16	8	6	2	661			
M	86.9	56.9	71.9	101	1969	31	1967	0	0.40	1.92	1941	0.00	1962	1.23	1941	0.0	0.0	1966	0.0	1966	41	25	20	30	11.2	WSW	1950*	89	8.6	16	8	6	2	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	1966	0.0	1966	11	11	11	11	11	SW	1943	78	4.6	14	8	9	3	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	1965	0.0	1965	58	39	29	43	9.1	SSE	1966	79	4.5	12	13	6	8	32	
A	93.0	67.7	80.4	105	1969	58	1970+	0	1.41	4.11	1957	T	1962	2.00	1957	0.0	0.0	1957	0.0	1957	59	41	32	47	8.6	S	1948	81	4.2	14	12	5	7	32	
S	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	1941	0.0	1941	63	45	34	50	8.5	S	1970	52	3.1	19	7	4	5	32	
S	78.8	50.0	64.4	92	1969+	25	1970	84	0.85	4.31	1945	0.00	1952	1.77	1945	0.0	0.0	1945	0.0	1945	56	34	26	45	8.4	N	1956	84	3.0	19	7	4	5	398	
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	1944	83	3.5	17	6	7	2	463	
D	57.5	30.1	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	1970*	66	4.2	16	7	8	2	306	
YR	77.2	49.4	63.3	106	1968+	-8	1962	2700	7.89	6.29	1958	0.00	1967+	2.89	1941	4.4	10.1	1960	7.8	1961	52	34	26	41	9.8	N	1950*	83	3.8	195	98	72	44	2	522
JUN.							JAN.							DEC.							NOV.							MAY							

∅ 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) there have been b  
Climatological sta

(B) Climatological standard normals (1)  
\* Less than one half.

+ Also on earlier dates, month

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  
1962.

†  $-70^{\circ}$  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. Sleeting 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.

& 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

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
1932	42.8	53.2	52.2	65.1	73.2	81.0	83.0	80.8	73.9	62.6	53.2	43.2	63.7
1933	43.7	66.6	58.9	60.5	70.6	80.0	84.0	79.8	68.6	55.4	50.1	65.0	
1934	45.4	53.8	58.0	68.0	76.8	83.1	84.8	83.8	77.8	69.4	55.4	48.5	67.1
1935	48.8	48.6	58.6	65.3	68.4	81.2	84.0	81.6	73.4	67.1	53.4	46.5	64.7
#1936	45.5	51.2	58.0	65.8	74.2	82.4	82.6	80.8	73.7	63.4	50.6	46.8	64.6
1937	42.4	49.3	52.8	64.4	74.4	82.4	84.4	84.3	76.9	66.8	55.2	47.4	65.1
1938	47.2	53.8	57.4	63.8	73.1	81.2	80.6	81.0	73.8	68.6	49.8	48.4	64.9
1939	45.8	43.6	58.2	65.6	75.0	83.0	83.1	80.7	77.2	64.4	51.5	49.4	64.8
1940	42.6	50.4	58.4	63.6	73.8	79.2	83.4	79.6	77.2	66.0	50.8	50.4	64.6
1941	46.7	53.0	53.8	60.2	73.7	78.6	80.9	79.8	74.4	65.2	53.3	49.2	64.0
#1942	47.7	48.2	54.1	63.6	73.5	83.6	83.6	79.4	73.5	64.8	58.1	47.7	64.8
1943	44.4	51.2	55.8	67.2	72.6	79.6	80.7	84.0	73.8	63.8	51.2	43.6	64.0
1944	40.8	49.4	54.0	61.6	71.7	79.4	82.3	80.0	72.6	65.6	51.4	44.7	62.8
1945	45.8	51.5	54.2	61.8	73.2	79.0	81.7	81.5	75.8	63.8	54.9	45.4	64.0
1946	41.0	48.5	55.8	67.8	71.6	82.6	82.0	81.8	76.8	66.2	49.8	47.0	64.2
1947	40.0	49.7	55.4	61.4	73.5	79.4	83.6	80.0	76.4	68.0	49.4	43.0	63.3
1948	40.6	48.8	50.8	67.4	74.6	82.2	83.2	82.2	76.0	64.4	47.9	47.6	63.8
1949	38.1	48.2	57.0	62.1	72.5	80.6	81.6	80.1	74.7	62.7	55.7	44.0	62.9
1950	49.2	53.4	58.0	65.9	72.1	82.5	79.9	80.6	74.4	70.7	54.0	49.5	65.8
1951	44.2	47.6	54.5	61.3	73.1	80.8	85.6	82.3	77.9	67.8	51.0	46.4	64.4
1952	46.2	47.3	50.7	62.0	72.0	82.7	81.3	83.6	76.2	65.4	49.3	44.1	63.8
1953	50.3	48.1	58.7	64.4	68.8	84.1	83.5	82.1	76.3	64.2	53.8	48.0	64.5
1954	47.0	52.6	54.9	68.6	73.2	81.2	83.2	79.3	78.5	67.9	54.5	46.0	65.6
1955	42.3	45.4	53.8	64.8	71.6	79.8	79.7	80.1	76.8	66.3	54.4	49.4	63.9
1956	49.7	44.9	57.5	61.8	75.7	83.9	82.0	79.9	77.4	67.5	48.4	44.6	64.4
1957	49.3	57.6	57.0	62.4	67.5	81.9	83.9	80.5	74.5	62.4	49.0	44.4	64.5
1958	42.9	51.6	57.0	62.3	74.2	83.5	84.5	82.6	74.0	62.5	52.3	47.0	64.2
#1959	47.9	49.3	54.0	65.0	72.9	83.0	82.9	81.0	77.9	66.1	50.3	46.3	64.8
1960	42.4	46.3	55.7	66.3	73.7	85.0	81.9	82.5	75.6	69.5	52.9	39.8	64.0
1961	41.0	47.9	56.3	64.1	74.1	80.8	82.8	80.5	74.5	63.5	47.8	46.3	63.3
1962	40.5	53.5	50.9	67.3	74.1	80.0	81.3	84.0	73.9	64.9	53.7	45.2	64.1
1963	40.5	49.2	56.4	66.5	74.9	81.1	84.9	80.3	76.2	66.4	51.5	42.7	64.4
1964	39.3	40.8	53.6	63.2	73.9	81.5	84.5	82.6	75.2	63.4	51.8	44.0	62.8
1965	48.0	46.7	52.1	65.3	71.8	78.2	84.2	81.1	74.0	63.0	50.8	45.7	63.9
1966	40.1	42.9	56.4	65.1	74.5	79.5	83.6	78.7	73.4	62.1	54.5	42.4	62.8
1967	41.6	48.0	59.6	65.1	70.9	79.1	83.0	78.6	73.3	63.7	53.1	41.5	63.1
1968	42.4	50.4	53.0	61.4	73.0	81.0	79.1	76.5	72.4	65.0	51.0	41.3	62.2
1969	48.6	48.4	49.3	65.8	72.1	81.5	84.9	85.7	77.1	67.7	52.5	48.6	65.2
1970	46.9	52.3	55.6	63.9	72.2	79.7	82.8	81.4	74.2	59.5	51.9	48.0	64.0
1971	44.6	48.4	58.1	62.6	72.1	81.1	82.3	77.0	73.5	62.5	52.1	44.7	63.2
RECORD	44.8	49.3	55.5	63.9	72.3	80.8	82.0	80.3	74.9	64.7	52.6	45.2	63.9
MEAN	57.3	62.3	68.9	77.5	89.4	93.8	91.9	86.8	77.7	65.7	57.3	57.3	76.6
MAX	32.2	36.3	42.1	50.2	58.6	67.3	70.1	68.7	63.0	51.6	39.4	33.1	51.1
MIN													

### TOTAL DEGREE DAYS

Season	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total		
1932-33	0	0	22	117	357	680	661	519	196	144	27	0	2723		
1933-34	0	0	0	3	286	465	608	315	231	31	1	0	1940		
1934-35	0	0	0	17	290	512	503	462	213	53	69	0	2119		
#1935-36	0	0	16	86	353	570	604	397	221	88	3	0	2338		
1936-37	0	0	36	111	434	563	575	441	378	80	8	0	2756		
1937-38	0	0	0	41	297	548	557	314	239	134	10	0	2140		
1938-39	0	0	0	0	36	452	513	598	600	218	82	5	0	2504	
1939-40	0	0	0	72	404	484	696	420	218	93	5	0	2392		
1940-41	0	0	0	58	422	452	567	333	349	152	15	0	2348		
1941-42	0	0	0	73	349	524	537	473	337	97	1	0	2391		
#1942-43	0	0	7	69	216	537	639	389	289	52	5	0	2203		
1943-44	0	0	14	61	412	664	748	451	339	112	10	0	2811		
1944-45	0	0	49	412	629	594	379	334	148	1	0	0	2547		
1945-46	0	0	28	84	310	607	742	462	287	13	5	0	2538		
1946-47	0	0	4	38	453	555	773	428	308	148	1	0	2708		
1947-48	0	0	0	32	473	684	758	472	444	47	0	0	2910		
1948-49	0	0	2	102	512	533	899	473	257	152	0	0	2930		
1949-50	0	0	0	139	277	653	484	320	221	42	7	0	2143		
1950-51	0	0	0	0	323	456	634	480	322	131	27	0	2373		
1951-52	0	0	0	21	414	569	682	499	437	94	14	0	2530		
1952-53	0	0	0	47	459	642	646	456	468	211	69	64	0	2410	
1953-54	0	0	0	86	329	784	551	338	316	17	13	0	2434		
1954-55	0	0	0	46	308	580	696	543	284	64	2	0	2523		
1955-56	0	0	0	34	317	477	468	578	238	0	0	0	2244		
1956-57	0	0	0	4	65	494	624	726	205	242	19	0	2229		
1957-58	0	0	0	4	127	476	570	677	370	422	116	3	0	2765	
1958-59	0	0	0	16	120	343	549	523	434	335	86	3	0	2409	
1959-60	0	0	0	0	33	439	573	691	534	176	58	10	0	2514	
#1960-61	0	0	0	86	257	806	735	473	266	97	1	0	0	2221	
1961-62	0	0	0	82	513	575	754	318	433	36	3	0	0	2714	
1962-63	0	0	0	0	85	333	608	753	438	279	41	0	0	2417	
1963-64	0	0	0	0	17	341	683	789	695	354	99	3	0	2981	
1964-65	0	0	0	0	70	391	643	521	504	397	54	7	0	2595	
1965-66	0	0	0	4	107	240	592	769	612	264	59	4	0	2651	
1966-67	0	0	0	2	126	307	695	718	469	173	56	25	0	2571	
1967-68	0	0	0	0	106	252	720	691	415	377	128	0	0	2791	
1968-69	0	0	0	0	61	414	728	503	464	477	43	24	0	2714	
1969-70	0	0	0	0	62	371	504	556	348	286	94	33	0	2254	
1970-71	0	0	0	39	180	388	519	625	457	254	110	6	0	0	2578
1971-72	0	0	0	31	112	381	624								

### TOTAL SNOWFALL

Season	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total





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STATION LOCATION

EL PASO, TEXAS

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Airline distance and direction from previous location	Latitude North	Longitude West	Ground at temp- erature site	Elevation above Ground						Sea level	Remarks	
							Sea level	Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Telpsychrometer	Tipping bucket rain gage	Weighing rain gage	8" rain gage	Hypsothermometer
<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		
Adm. Bldg., Interna- tional 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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# 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 disconcerting 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						(Base 65°)	Precipitation						Relative humidity						Wind &						Number of days						Average daily solar radiation - langleys								
	Averages			Extremes				Snow, ice pellets			Percent of possible sunshine			Fasted mile			Sunrise to sunset			Precipitation			Maximum			Temperatures														
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Highest Date	Lowest Date	Date		Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Total	Hour	11	17	23	Hour	Speed	Direction #	Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	0.1 inch or more	1.0 inch or more	Thunderstorms	Heavy fog	Max.	Min.													
JAN	48.2	18.9	33.6	69	31	-17	7	968	0	0.27	0.26	02	2.7	8.0	34	18	5	87	3.8	18	5	0	0	0	0	5	330													
FEB	53.0	27.5	38.9	69	17	13	28	725	0	0.21	0.21	20-21	2.3	53	33	26	42	13	4.0	13	8	0	0	0	0	0	5	536												
MAR	64.2	31.2	47.7	85	26	10	7	533	0	0.03	0.03	1-2	0.5	1-2	40	21	15	30	31	2.1	10.9	47	14	8	0	0	0	0	5	611										
APR	69.0	37.6	53.3	85	11	28	1	343	0	0.78	0.35	15	T	22	47	26	20	35	20	2.4	11.6	45	16	7	0	0	0	0	5	720										
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	3.9	12.5	47	14	10	0	0	0	0	5	744										
JUN	90.5	57.1	73.8	99	26	42	4	5	277	0.02	0.01	0.0	0.0	0.0	32	17	11	21	20	1.6	10.8	43	82	3.2	20	7	0	0	0	0	5	330								
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	14	7	0	0	0	0	5	600										
AUG	87.3	60.4	73.9	91	31+	53	8	282	0	0.87	0.35	16-17	0.0	0.0	71	40	35	55	12	2.3	10.7	50	16	79	2.9	18	8	0	0	0	0	5	509							
SEP	80.5	52.2	66.4	94	14+	37	19+	101	149	1.44	0.57	22-23	T	18	57	36	28	47	20	1.5	10.9	58	29	78	3.4	20	4	0	0	0	0	5	396							
OCT	67.1	40.5	53.8	79	14+	25	30	341	0	1.15	0.89	24-25	T	26	66	40	34	54	20	1.5	10.9	58	27	77	4.4	14	5	1	0	0	0	5	300							
NOV	57.6	32.8	45.2	72	5	21	20	587	0	0.67	0.33	16-17	T	29	68	47	39	61	36	1.5	8.1	38	27	11	5	0	0	0	0	5	220									
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	75	06	1.3	8.4	38	1	57	5.5	3	0	0	0	5	220								
YEAR	69.1	40.5	54.8	104	JUL.	-17	JAN.	4747	1153	8.05	0.89	24-25	OCT.	12.6	5.2	13-14	57	36	29	46	23	0.2	10.1	58	S	OCT.	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°)	Precipitation						Relative humidity						Wind &						Mean number of days						Average daily solar radiation - langleys
	Normal			Extremes				Snow, ice pellets			Percent of possible sunshine			Fasted mile			Sunrise to sunset			Precipitation			Max. number of days			Temperatures						
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Record highest	Record lowest	Year		Normal total	Normal monthly	Year	Maximum in 24 hrs.	Year	Mean total	Maximum monthly	Year	Maximum in 24 hrs.	Year	Mean speed	Pervailing direction	Speed	Direction #	Year	Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	0.1 inch or more	1.0 inch or more	Thunderstorms	Heavy fog	Max.	Min.	
(a)	(b)	(b)	(b)	12	12	12	(b)	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	11	11	11	11	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	23		
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	
F	52.2	27.5	39.9	72	1963	1	1964	703	0.38	1.42	1948	0.04	1959	0.88	1957	1.8	8.2	1964	4.2	1946	62	43	31	51	8.8	SE	68	NW	1944	74	4.8	
M	56.8	32.7	45.8	85	1971	9	1966	595	0.46	1.71	1958	1	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	
A	69.1	32.2	59.7	89	1965	23	1970	288	0.47	1.97	1942	T	1967+	1.68	1969	3.4	4.6	1949	9.0	1945	45	25	18	33	10.9	S	72	SW	1942	77	4.6	
M	78.3	51.9	65.1	94	1964	28	1967	81	0.75	3.07	1941	T	1945+	1.14	1969	T	1951	T	1951	42	23	16	30	10.4	SE	80	SE	1950	80	4.1		
J	88.6	61.1	74.9	102	1969	42	1971	0	0.57	1.71	1967	T	1964+	1.64	1964	0.0	0.0	0.0	44	24	17	31	9.9	S	82	SE	1946	83	3.2			
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	61	36	28	48	9.0	SE	68	E	1945	76	4.5			
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	66	40	31	52	8.1	SE	61	SE	1951	76	4.2			
S	82.3	57.6	70.0	12	1971	37	1971+	12	0.95	1.99	1940	T	1957	1.92	1955	T	1971+	T	1971+	57	41	31	52	8.5	SE	62	SE	1948+	81	3.3		
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	1970	57	46	26	46	8.2	SE	66	N	1959	80	3.4		
N	56.1	31.1	49.6	12	1971+	13	1968	642	0.38	1.45	1940	0.00	1949	0.76	1950	1.2	9.3	1940	5.5	1946	63	43	35	53	7.7	N	57	NW	1948+	78	3.9	
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	1958	69	52	44	60	7.5	N	90	SE	1943	71	4.6			
YR	69.2	44.1	56.6	104	1971	-17	JAN.	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	

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 Temperature less than one-half of normal.
- 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.

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, 06 = North, and 00 = Calm. Prevailing 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	29.4	42.9	43.8	55.1	63.4	71.6	76.7	75.8	66.6	54.0	44.4	31.6	54.7
1933	32.4	31.9	47.2	54.0	59.8	72.2	77.8	73.4	70.8	58.2	44.1	34.0	54.6
1934	35.4	43.9	49.3	56.7	67.1	72.0	79.5	77.2	67.2	58.7	44.4	30.0	57.3
1935	37.4	38.6	46.2	54.1	58.0	72.0	77.2	74.6	66.2	56.6	41.9	34.7	54.8
1936	32.6	39.9	47.1	55.4	65.0	74.3	77.0	76.4	66.2	55.2	42.0	35.2	55.5
1937	26.4	37.3	43.4	54.0	64.5	70.8	76.8	77.8	69.9	58.0	45.6	37.8	55.2
1938	36.0	40.4	46.2	54.6	62.8	73.2	75.9	74.7	67.4	57.6	38.0	37.7	55.5
#1939	34.4	30.0	46.2	56.0	65.5	74.3	72.6	75.7	70.6	56.0	44.2	40.0	55.8
1940	35.2	39.2	49.0	54.4	65.5	73.4	78.2	74.2	68.4	58.8	41.4	39.3	56.4
1941	36.0	42.8	45.0	50.6	63.8	70.2	76.0	75.1	67.3	56.6	45.5	37.7	55.6
1942	37.0	36.2	43.3	54.8	64.4	74.8	78.5	75.8	68.6	57.8	48.1	40.8	56.7
1943	38.6	43.6	48.2	60.9	65.8	74.0	79.0	78.4	70.2	56.8	44.3	32.1	57.7
1944	29.2	40.0	44.4	52.2	63.9	73.3	76.4	73.3	68.6	58.7	43.0	36.2	55.2
1945	36.8	43.0	45.0	52.3	66.2	72.6	78.4	78.2	70.6	58.6	45.2	33.4	56.7
1946	33.5	40.2	47.9	61.3	64.0	77.5	78.3	75.9	71.3	56.3	41.6	40.4	57.4
1947	33.0	42.2	47.4	54.5	67.0	72.8	80.2	72.0	72.6	60.4	40.4	34.6	56.8
1948	33.7	37.6	40.9	53.9	66.7	73.8	79.9	77.6	71.4	57.2	40.6	38.2	56.4
1949	30.3	37.2	47.9	55.5	64.8	73.7	77.7	76.3	71.8	56.2	50.7	34.1	56.4
1950	37.5	44.8	47.9	58.5	65.7	76.1	76.8	76.3	67.9	56.8	48.3	42.3	59.0
1951	36.6	39.8	46.3	54.8	66.5	74.7	82.6	76.6	71.9	58.8	42.2	36.2	57.2
1952	39.0	39.4	42.3	55.9	66.4	78.1	79.2	79.9	70.7	61.0	40.1	33.7	57.0
1953	42.2	38.7	48.8	53.1	61.5	78.1	80.0	77.7	73.0	59.2	46.3	32.8	57.8
1954	38.4	46.8	46.0	62.0	67.0	76.4	81.3	76.6	72.8	61.4	48.7	36.1	59.5
1955	33.8	34.6	47.4	55.1	63.9	73.9	77.0	76.9	72.5	61.1	45.1	30.0	56.8
1956	41.1	36.0	49.2	55.3	69.6	78.9	78.4	76.3	74.1	60.3	41.0	36.3	58.1
1957	39.9	44.1	47.3	55.2	61.9	74.8	79.1	76.0	70.3	56.6	40.3	36.5	57.3
#1958	39.3	43.5	42.8	53.0	68.6	78.5	79.6	78.9	69.2	56.9	46.0	41.5	57.8
1959	34.3	39.5	42.9	57.0	65.1	77.0	78.6	76.2	70.6	56.8	43.9	38.0	56.9
#1960	33.0	36.5	49.9	57.7	64.7	76.0	78.7	76.1	70.6	56.3	46.5	33.9	57.1
1961	33.9	40.6	47.0	54.5	65.9	75.8	76.7	75.2	65.6	55.8	40.3	34.1	55.5
1962	31.6	42.3	52.0	58.1	64.1	72.7	76.3	72.0	69.4	58.1	46.9	32.6	56.3
1963	29.4	40.5	45.2	57.7	68.0	74.6	75.4	75.9	72.5	61.5	45.7	34.8	57.3
1964	30.0	29.1	41.5	51.7	65.8	73.0	78.2	76.8	69.3	59.4	43.7	35.5	56.5
1965	38.8	39.4	44.6	54.8	61.7	69.4	77.9	75.4	66.6	58.0	48.4	35.8	55.9
1966	30.1	33.2	45.6	54.6	67.2	72.8	79.8	75.7	68.4	56.8	46.7	34.3	55.4
1967	32.2	40.5	52.0	57.8	63.8	71.5	79.2	74.5	68.4	58.2	46.1	32.6	55.5
1968	38.8	43.3	46.7	53.4	62.7	75.2	76.1	72.4	68.0	58.3	42.8	30.0	55.5
1969	38.0	38.5	41.1	57.4	66.2	73.6	80.2	79.0	70.0	53.8	41.4	39.1	56.6
1970	34.5	42.8	44.1	52.5	66.2	72.7	79.6	77.8	67.5	52.6	44.5	36.4	56.0
1971	33.6	38.9	47.7	53.3	61.7	73.8	78.1	73.9	66.4	53.8	45.2	31.9	54.8
RECORD	34.6	39.5	46.2	54.9	63.8	73.2	77.1	75.1	68.4	56.8	43.9	35.1	55.7
MEAN	52.7	60.5	69.8	79.0	88.7	90.9	88.6	82.3	71.1	57.5	47.3	69.6	
MAX	22.0	26.3	31.9	39.9	48.6	57.7	63.3	61.6	54.5	42.4	30.3	22.9	41.8
MIN													

### TOTAL DEGREE DAYS

Season	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total	
#1932-33	0	0	43	341	621	1039	1008	928	552	487	192	3	5214	
1933-34	0	0	212	625	810	917	590	488	254	44	1	3941		
1934-35	0	3	28	198	618	898	740	580	327	236	3	4487		
1935-36	0	0	64	267	691	937	1003	724	556	289	67	6	4604	
1936-37	0	0	87	301	692	925	1196	778	672	345	67	10	5073	
1937-38	0	0	11	221	583	844	904	688	582	335	123	2	4293	
1938-39	0	0	5	240	810	843	946	777	583	267	36	0	4706	
#1939-40	0	0	14	280	626	775	925	748	497	318	61	0	4244	
1940-41	0	0	13	195	712	798	898	622	619	420	102	15	4394	
1941-42	0	0	51	263	584	846	805	672	307	89	0	0	4479	
1942-43	0	0	16	228	504	749	819	599	519	163	60	0	3657	
1943-44	0	0	14	250	624	1019	1115	727	639	386	85	3	4862	
1944-45	0	0	21	200	680	875	621	618	379	41	11	4314		
1945-46	0	0	53	206	593	982	979	697	697	532	125	76	0	4243
1946-47	0	0	12	273	704	763	911	637	543	318	48	9	4228	
1947-48	0	0	0	172	735	942	970	747	746	185	51	3	4605	
1948-49	0	0	13	245	733	836	1074	777	530	299	83	3	4273	
1949-50	0	0	6	290	428	950	845	560	522	195	50	0	3852	
1950-51	0	0	27	20	495	697	874	699	572	301	81	3	5771	
1951-52	0	0	3	200	680	888	800	738	693	266	58	6	4330	
1952-53	0	0	19	134	740	965	700	732	500	298	200	0	4282	
1953-54	0	0	0	185	554	899	818	503	581	96	59	2	3787	
1954-55	0	0	3	151	483	889	961	840	538	292	90	0	4249	
1955-56	0	0	1	139	590	764	736	634	583	288	20	0	3857	
1956-57	0	0	0	195	715	880	771	648	543	317	123	3	4015	
1957-58	0	0	0	3	249	739	817	614	596	375	54	0	4395	
1958-59	0	0	0	35	249	562	722	948	706	587	249	60	0	4118
#1959-60	0	0	0	20	250	628	823	819	624	300	128	4	4326	
1960-61	0	0	0	3	256	548	956	856	751	308	65	0	4231	
1961-62	0	0	0	43	248	731	951	1030	629	730	214	78	2	4656
1962-63	0	0	0	22	208	534	863	1098	680	605	219	7	0	4238
1963-64	0	0	0	0	124	573	911	1076	1036	722	391	85	3	4941
1964-65	0	0	2	0	173	632	909	805	709	624	300	128	4	4326
1940-41	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13.2
1941-42	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14.6
1942-43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.0
1943-44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12.9
1944-45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6.0
1945-46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16.6
1946-47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6.8
1947-48	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21.0
1948-49	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19.0
1949-50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5.0
1950-51	0	0	0	0	0									

STATION LOCATION

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Airlne distance and direction from previous location	Latitude North	Longitude West	Ground at tem- perature site	Elevation above						Sea level	Remarks	
							Sea level			Ground					
							Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Tephychrometer	Tipping bucket rain gage	Weighing rain gage	8" rain gage	Hygrothermometer	
<u>COOPERATIVE</u>															
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		?							
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						
<u>CITY</u>															
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.
<u>AIRPORT</u>															
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. b - Not moved 3/16/65. c - 5327 to 1/22/66. d - 13 feet to 4/16/66.
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	

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

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COMMERCE  
PUBLICATION



- B25 -  
**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.

# METEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

Station: ELY, NEVADA

YELLAND FIELD

Standard time used: PACIFIC

Latitude: 39° 17' N

Longitude:

114°

51' W

Elevation (ground): 6253 feet

Year: 1971

Month	Temperature						(Base 65°)	Degree days			Precipitation			Relative humidity			Wind &			Number of days												
	Averages			Extremes				Snow, Ice pellets			Resultant			Fastest mile			Sunrise to sunset			Temperatures												
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Highest	Lowest	Date		Heating	Cooling	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Total	Hour	Hour	Hour	Hour	Speed	Direction #	Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	01 inch or more	Snow, ice pellets	Avg. daily solar radiation - langleys							
JAN	38.5	9.8	24.2	57	18+	-26	5	1259	0	0.63	0.54	12-13	72	67	61	74	20	5.5	10.9	39	N	2	69	6.0	11	5	15	31	7 253			
FEB	42.3	17.5	29.9	59	13	0	27	979	0	0.57	0.18	17	74	57	48	71	28	2.3	9.7	40	SW	20	60	6.0	7	12	9	1 347				
MAR	50.0	19.3	34.7	69	29	-10	2	933	0	0.20	0.10	14-15	4.1	2.7	15	70	40	31	59	24	3.7	9.9	41	SW	26	5.6	10	10	10	1 465		
APR	56.3	26.3	41.3	69	16+	12	1	705	0	1.31	0.49	23-24	13.1	5.0	24	69	45	36	58	22	3.4	10.1	35	SE	10	76	6.1	9	7	14	0 505	
MAY	60.8	33.2	47.0	74	25+	20	18	549	0	2.89	0.70	4-5	6.3	5.4	4-5	76	47	66	67	20	4.1	10.0	42	SE	27	69	6.8	6	10	15	0 557	
JUN	77.7	40.4	59.1	91	22	29	2+	183	8	0.09	0.07	10	0.0	0.0	0.0	66	28	25	49	10	4.7	9.3	42	S	10	86	3.9	14	12	4	7 710	
JUL	88.5	47.8	68.2	96	14	39	11+	18	122	0.17	0.08	18-19	0.0	0.0	0.0	56	24	19	38	22	3.1	8.9	32	SE	1	81	4.1	15	11	5	0 687	
AUG	86.1	50.6	68.4	94	13	42	24	4	117	0.25	0.16	7	0	0.0	0.0	65	31	26	48	20	3.6	9.1	35	SW	17	75	5.8	5	18	8	0 570	
SEP	72.2	32.8	52.5	87	13+	16	28	369	2	0.39	0.18	30	2.2	2.2	30	53	29	19	41	20	4.3	10.8	33	SE	29	91	1.7	23	6	1	0 580	
OCT	57.3	23.2	40.3	78	11+	-3	30	760	0	1.08	0.43	24-25	9.7	3.6	27-28	76	49	41	63	20	2.9	10.7	32	SE	15	72	4.6	14	8	9	1 346	
NOV	46.1	17.8	32.0	61	4+	2	1	983	0	0.59	0.21	28	6.0	2.4	28	77	60	53	75	20	4.5	10.3	34	S	12	69	5.5	10	6	2	0 272	
DEC	33.1	4.7	18.9	47	20+	-11	31	1422	0	1.25	0.45	24	13.6	3.9	27-28	79	70	69	81	19	5.8	11.5	43	SE	22+	60	6.7	5	9	17	15 30	
YEAR	59.1	27.0	43.1	96	JUL.	-26	JAN.	5	8164	249	9.42	0.70	4-5	71.5	6.5	12-13	69	46	40	60	21	3.8	10.1	43	SE	22+	76	5.2	129	118	118	0 23

## NORMALS, MEANS, AND EXTREMES

Month	Temperature						Normal heating degree days (Base 65°)	Precipitation			Relative humidity			Wind &			Mean number of days												
	Normal			Extremes				Snow, Ice pellets			Resultant			Fastest mile			Sunrise to sunset			Temperatures									
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Record highest	Record lowest	Year*		Normal total	Maximum monthly	Year	Mean total	Maximum monthly	Year	Mean total	Maximum monthly	Year	Mean speed	Pervailing direction	#	Year	Percent of possible sunshine	Mean sky cover	Sunrise to sunset	01 inch and above	32° and below	32° and above	0° and below	Avg. daily solar radiation - langleys	
(a)	(b)	(b)	(b)	33	33	33	(b)	(b)	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	11	28	28	33	28	33	33	33	33	33	33	18		
J	36.8	8.7	22.8	68	1951	-27	1949	1308	0.78	1.92	1952	T	1948	0.95	1952	8.6	24.8	1967	13.1	1963	70	59	69	60	6.2	9	7	15	7 245
F	39.8	13.3	26.6	66	1963	-25	1949	1075	0.70	2.19	1949	0.07	1964	1.54	1969	6.9	24.8	1959	10.4	1956	75	59	51	72	10.7	5	7	14	4 335
M	47.2	19.7	33.5	73	1966	-13	1952	977	0.85	2.40	1952	0.07	1955	0.86	1954	8.9	24.8	1958	10.6	1954	72	47	41	65	10.9	5	5	7	1 463
A	57.6	27.5	42.6	78	1962+	-5	1963	672	0.95	2.77	1944	1.04	1947	6.4	1966	6.4	24.5	1963	10.7	1970	68	40	34	57	11.1	5	5	7	* 553
M	66.7	33.8	50.3	87	1954+	7	1950	456	0.85	3.05	1967	T	1948	1.42	1955	1.8	10.8	1964	6.5	1959	55	39	30	53	11.0	5	5	7	0 624
J	77.2	40.0	58.6	99	1954	19	1950	225	0.50	3.53	1963	0.3	1946	1.70	1963	5.6	1939	59	29	25	44	10.8	5	6	7	0 689			
J	86.8	48.1	67.5	97	1960	30	1968+	28	0.65	1.81	1970	T	1948+	1.22	1952	0.0	0.0	1952	51	22	22	29	10.4	5	5	7	0 659		
A	85.1	47.1	66.1	95	1969+	24	1960	43	0.49	1.58	1945	T	1962+	0.59	1957	0.0	0.0	1957	51	27	23	42	10.7	5	5	7	0 600		
S	76.9	38.1	57.5	93	1950	15	1968	234	0.56	2.23	1967	T	1953+	1.25	1963	0.1	0.0	1963	52	28	24	43	10.6	5	5	7	0 522		
S	63.1	28.7	45.9	84	1967	-3	1971	592	0.73	1.76	1941	0.00	1959	1.07	1968	1.9	9.7	1971	7.3	1954	63	36	29	53	10.9	5	5	7	* 389
N	69.1	18.2	33.7	71	1956+	-15	1964	939	0.59	1.82	1960	T	1959	1.29	1960	4.7	15.3	1968	10.4	1967	71	51	42	67	10.2	5	5	7	1 275
D	40.8	12.7	26.8	67	1958	-22	1951	1184	0.68	2.11	1966	T	1962	1.12	1966	7.8	22.3	1970	7.2	1970	59	55	71	10.3	6	6	7	5 220	
YR	60.6	28.0	44.3	99	JUN.	-27	JAN.	7733	8.33	3.53	1963	0.00	1952	1.54	1969	47.4	24.8	JUN.	13.1	1943	65	41	36	56	10.6	5	7	7	19 465

(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).

\* 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., 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

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	
1938														
1939	21.1	14.7	34.5	45.8	51.8	57.4	67.4	66.3	57.1	44.8	28.6	27.3		
1940	26.4	31.2	38.3	43.4	55.4	62.6	68.1	68.1	56.3	47.1	31.9	30.4	46.6	
1941	27.2	34.7	36.2	36.2	51.4	55.8	65.1	63.0	51.1	41.8	34.6	28.6	43.8	
1942	23.4	23.8	30.6	41.6	46.6	57.4	70.1	65.6	55.7	45.6	35.0	31.2	43.8	
1943	25.3	28.8	36.8	48.1	49.8	54.6	66.6	65.8	59.3	46.8	36.2	27.1	45.4	
1944	18.7	23.0	29.5	38.0	51.0	53.4	65.2	63.8	57.0	47.4	30.4	25.5	41.9	
1945	25.6	29.0	27.6	37.4	49.0	53.4	67.2	65.3	55.0	48.0	32.6	24.6	42.9	
1946	21.2	25.8	35.4	45.2	48.3	59.8	67.6	66.5	56.2	39.8	29.8	30.0	43.8	
1947	20.0	34.8	37.6	41.2	53.5	55.8	67.3	65.5	58.4	48.3	29.0	24.8	44.7	
1948	28.8	24.0	26.4	42.8	48.8	57.4	66.2	64.5	57.1	44.9	30.4	18.9	42.5	
1949	5.8	15.0	31.8	46.0	50.0	57.6	66.3	64.5	59.0	43.0	41.4	23.4	42.0	
1950	20.2	33.0	33.7	42.4	47.3	56.7	65.9	63.8	54.8	51.1	39.0	34.8	45.2	
1951	25.3	29.3	32.3	43.5	50.3	56.8	67.3	64.8	57.6	43.0	31.8	18.4	43.4	
1952	17.6	19.9	22.4	43.0	52.1	57.3	66.5	67.5	59.3	50.6	26.9	24.6	42.3	
1953	33.5	30.7	39.1	39.8	42.7	57.5	69.1	65.2	59.7	45.9	37.9	24.1	45.1	
1954	27.2	34.3	31.8	46.1	54.0	57.7	69.6	64.0	56.5	46.0	38.8	25.8	46.0	
1955	14.6	17.9	31.4	39.3	47.8	57.6	65.2	67.7	56.8	47.3	31.6	28.6	42.2	
1956	31.9	19.5	35.8	41.3	50.5	60.5	65.6	67.6	59.8	44.2	30.6	26.8	44.1	
1957	18.7	34.3	41.0	47.5	50.5	60.0	67.6	66.5	56.4	43.5	32.0	44.2		
1958	27.5	23.9	30.2	38.2	50.1	59.1	65.7	68.6	57.8	43.6	33.9	46.0		
1959	28.8	26.0	35.6	44.8	47.4	52.3	62.4	64.6	53.5	44.2	34.4	25.9	45.0	
1960	19.0	23.3	39.3	43.2	50.3	62.4	66.0	65.9	59.5	46.8	39.5	26.0	45.0	
1961	27.0	31.7	34.0	41.4	50.2	62.4	68.4	66.1	52.6	43.4	30.5	25.1	44.4	
1962	20.4	29.4	29.3	47.4	49.0	59.6	65.5	65.8	58.9	48.7	38.0	29.7	45.2	
1963	22.9	36.8	32.3	36.1	54.3	53.7	66.5	65.3	59.8	50.7	34.3	27.6	49.0	
1964	19.3	22.3	27.9	39.6	48.6	56.6	68.4	64.7	54.4	49.6	29.3	24.0	42.2	
1965	27.4	27.8	32.4	41.9	45.9	55.2	65.5	63.6	50.5	49.2	37.6	24.5	43.6	
1966	20.1	22.5	36.7	42.6	55.5	60.6	68.6	66.3	59.1	45.7	38.1	27.0	45.2	
1967	26.2	28.4	38.4	34.7	45.6	68.1	68.1	57.9	47.7	37.6	17.6	44.1		
1968	23.1	35.8	36.7	38.0	49.3	59.4	68.4	61.1	54.5	46.7	34.8	23.6	44.3	
1969	31.2	25.9	26.2	43.2	56.9	57.4	68.5	69.6	60.7	40.4	35.1	29.8	45.4	
1970	29.3	35.0	32.9	34.8	50.7	67.3	68.1	52.2	41.1	36.0	21.7	43.9		
1971	24.2	29.9	34.7	41.3	47.0	59.1	68.2	68.4	52.5	40.3	32.0	18.9	43.1	
RECORD MEAN MAX MIN	23.7 38.0	27.7 41.1	35.0 46.9	41.5 56.5	50.2 66.5	57.9 76.0	67.3 85.5	65.7 84.4	56.6 75.8	45.8 63.3	34.0 49.1	24.6 40.5	16.4 60.4	9.3 27.9

### TOTAL DEGREE DAYS

ELY, NEVADA													
Season	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total
1938-39													
1939-40	18	22	237	639	819	960	1129	981	826	577	410	237	6767
1940-41	19	19	260	554	997	1073	1172	848	897	864	422	276	7401
1941-42	55	81	418	717	906	1130	1289	1158	1066	706	587	228	8341
1942-43	1	59	282	605	894	1043	1230	1010	873	508	469	311	7285
1943-44	40	52	170	566	866	1173	1437	1216	1105	806	436	352	8219
1944-45	36	59	246	544	1039	1226	1222	1011	1155	832	496	349	8215
1945-46	23	43	311	531	973	1254	1363	1097	917	598	519	163	7792
1946-47	5	18	268	782	1055	1084	1397	846	851	714	357	275	7652
1947-48	22	22	211	518	1081	1247	1125	1187	1198	667	504	227	8057
1948-49	35	63	247	628	1036	1400	1363	1040	1030	569	464	224	8962
1949-50	16	73	183	679	1295	1311	1291	1020	1034	672	542	255	7647
1950-51	35	54	319	423	776	929	1221	992	1008	641	449	241	7088
1951-52	4	48	214	672	1191	1439	1463	1300	1312	634	394	224	8715
1952-53	20	9	176	439	1138	1248	973	954	920	749	687	225	7538
1953-54	6	43	160	585	809	1262	1166	1084	1040	560	391	248	7048
1954-55	8	82	253	580	781	1208	1557	1313	1094	765	525	219	8325
1955-56	66	2	263	542	994	1121	1019	1312	901	704	444	146	7514
1956-57	36	82	159	637	1025	1176	1422	855	892	712	535	176	7718
1957-58	12	33	252	659	1074	1056	1126	864	868	796	332	173	7475
1958-59	34	3	227	534	902	958	1115	1085	901	598	537	98	6993
1959-60	11	51	342	580	909	1205	1418	1200	792	649	447	86	7690
1960-61	10	75	137	574	883	1183	1170	925	953	702	454	128	7194
1961-62	6	19	176	574	1029	1230	1381	987	1098	522	490	176	7967
1962-63	29	49	177	500	802	1091	1299	784	1007	861	322	335	7258
1963-64	20	35	152	435	913	1152	1411	1230	1143	755	500	251	7997
1964-65	17	74	314	470	1064	1203	1097	1037	1006	684	586	285	7837
1965-66	27	76	429	485	814	1248	1387	1188	869	664	291	154	7632
1966-67	9	35	177	592	801	1169	1193	1019	817	904	485	313	7514
1967-68	3	10	210	530	814	1462	1293	840	870	802	483	182	7499
1968-69	10	151	316	559	900	1268	1039	1087	1198	649	244	229	7650
1969-70	26	7	127	757	892	1084	1100	834	990	900	435	234	7386
1970-71	12	7	376	734	863	1334	1259	979	933	705	549	183	7934
1971-72	18	4	369	760	983	1422							

### TOTAL SNOWFALL

Season	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total
1938-39	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1	7	0.1	5.8	6.5	13.8	8.6	5.8	4.8	5.6
1939-40	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	6.4	7.1	1.7	6.5	0.0	24.9
1940-41	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	2.8	1.0	3.9	1.7	4.6	12.2	2.0	0.2	28.4
1941-42	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	5.6	1.1	18.8	5.3	3.2	11.7	2.0	1.2	47.1
1942-43	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	8.3	1.4	7.2	1.2	3.0	T	1	37.8
1943-44	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	0.4	7.6	11.2	9.9	20.3	5.8	0.0	1	55.2
1944-45	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	0.6	7.3	8.3	7.4	20.4	8.5	2.1	0.0	51.1
1945-46	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	10.5	4.7	11.0	1.5	11.6	T	0.0	0.0	39.3
1946-47	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	5.6	15.3	4.4	2.6	3.3	1.2	1.3	0.0	33.7
1947-48	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	1.0	4.0	7.0	16.8	1.5	2.0	2.8	0.0	32.9
1948-49	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	18.9</							

STATION LOCATION

ELY, NEVADA

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Airlne distance and direction from previous location	Latitude North	Longitude West	Ground at temp- erature site	Elevation above Ground						Sea level	Remarks		
							Sea level	Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Telepychrometer	Tipping bucket rain gage	Weighing rain gage	8" rain gage		
Yelland Field	10-12-38	9- 8-61		39° 17'	114° 51'	6257	46	6	6		3	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	3	6279	Wind equipment moved 3000 feet north to center of field.

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

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- B29 -

# 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.

## METEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

Station: RENO, NEVADA

**INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

Standard time used: **PACIFIC**

Latitude: 39° 30' N      Longitude: 119° 47' W

Elevation (ground) : 4404 feet

Year: 1971

Month	Temperature						(Base 65°)	Precipitation		Relative humidity			Wind &			Number of days																							
	Averages			Extremes				Snow, ice pellets		Resultant			Fastest mile		Sunrise to sunset			Temperatures																					
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Highest!	Date	Lowest!		Heating	Cooling	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Date	Total	Greatest in 24 hrs.	Hour	Hour	Hour	Hour	Percent of possible sunlight	Average sky cover sunrise to sunset	Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	Max. 1 in or more	1/2 in or more	Thunderstorms	Heavy fog	90 and above	32 and below	32 and below	0° and below	0° and below							
JAN	45.9	20.0	33.0	66	18	-11	3	985	0	0.75	0.35	12-13	11.4	5.6	12-13	82	73	52	76	21	1.4	4.1	42	13	67	5.4	10	9	12	5	1	6	27	224					
FEB	52.5	21.3	36.9	71	13	10	26	780	0	0.33	0.21	19	4.9	3.0	19	73	55	36	57	30	2.8	9.5	33	28	60	2.0	7	12	12	19	1	1	27	395					
MAR	56.1	25.6	40.9	76	29	20	0	739	0	1.54	0.62	12	17.0	2.7	4-5	71	52	33	53	29	2.4	7.1	40	25	69	0.0	6	9	11	11	1	1	24	464					
APR	62.4	29.4	45.9	78	5	20	22	567	0	0.59	0.40	25	3.3	2.1	23-24	74	43	51	56	28	3.2	7.8	40	30	59	5.7	8	11	11	17	1	1	24	465					
MAY	65.0	36.8	50.9	79	15	25	18	429	0	2.38	0.94	20-21	6.0	6.9	20-21	76	51	48	70	32	2.8	7.1	36	20	59	6.5	8	6	6	17	1	1	24	597					
JUN	79.4	40.0	59.7	90	22+	29	c	164	11	0.09	0.05	1	0.0	0.0	0	70	36	26	44	28	2.4	5.5	29	17	83	5.5	18	6	6	6	0	0	0	0	0				
JUL	92.5	50.5	71.5	102	28	39	11	9	217	1.06	0.64	30-31	0.0	0.0	0	73	33	24	43	29	2.6	5.1	36	16	93	2.1	24	5	2	6	0	0	0	0	591				
AUG	92.7	48.7	70.7	100	10	37	22	13	197	0.09	0.07	26	0.0	0.0	0	66	28	19	38	28	2.4	5.6	34	28	93	2.5	22	7	2	2	0	0	0	0	525				
SEP	78.1	34.8	56.5	96	13	23	19	264	15	0.10	0.10	29	7	7	29-30	38	28	20	28	1.3	6.5	37	29	95	1.3	25	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	455					
OCT	64.4	27.2	45.8	87	13	8	29	588	0	0.44	0.30	16	5.1	3.7	16	72	42	29	56	31	1.6	5.4	33	23	80	4.1	16	9	6	3	1	0	0	0	309				
NOV	53.5	21.6	37.5	72	4	13	17	819	0	0.24	0.12	13	0.2	0.2	13	74	55	58	62	23	0.5	5.6	42	28	165	3.4	11	14	4	0	0	0	0	194					
DEC	+40.2	22.9	26.6	61	5	-1	30	1184	0	2.97	1.39	24-25	23.6	14.9	24-25	76	63	53	70	24	1.1	5.2	36	28	12	58	6.5	7	8	16	7	3	0	0	0	145			
YEAR	65.2	30.7	48.0	102	JUL.	-11	3	6541	440	10.58	1.39	24-25	63.8	14.9	24-25	72	47	34	55	28	1.8	5.9	49	SW	25	75	4.6	162	91	112	59	16	17	5	55	15	202	9	388

† DATA CORRECTED AFTER PUBLICATION OF THE MONTHLY ISSUE

## NORMALS, MEANS, AND EXTREMES

Month	Temperature												Precipitation												Relative humidity				Wind &				Mean number of days										
	Normal				Extremes				Normal heating degree days (Base 65°)				Snow, ice pellets				Hour				Fastest mile				Sunrise to sunset				Temperatures														
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Record highest	Daily	Record lowest	Year	Normal total	Maximum monthly	Year	Minimum monthly	Year	Maximum in 24 hrs.	Year	Mean total	Maximum monthly	Year	Maximum in 24 hrs.	Year	04 (Local time)	06	10	16	22	Speed	Direction #	Year	Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy	Max.	Min.											
(a) F	44.6	16.2	30.4	70	1967	-11	1971	1073	1.19	4.13	1969	T	1966	2.37	1943	6.6	20.0	1956	72	65	48	68	6.1	S	80	SW	1968	65	6.2	9	7	15	1	20	1	1	1	1					
F	49.8	21.4	35.6	74	1967+	0	1968	823	1.02	3.69	1962	T	1967	5.5	1962	4.9	23.5	1969	13.9	1959	70	56	35	60	6.0	S	54	SW	1969	69	6.0	8	7	13	1	27	1	1	1	1			
M	57.3	25.6	41.5	83	1966	0	1971	729	0.68	2.02	1952	0.04	1966	1.21	1943	5.2	29.0	1952	65	45	31	52	7.5	WNW	80	SW	1968	74	5.8	9	9	13	1	27	1	1	1	1					
A	65.4	30.5	48.0	88	1966	15	1970	510	0.54	2.04	1958	T	1962+	1.64	1958	1.5	7.5	1958	7.3	1958	65	38	28	49	7.9	WNW	47	W	1960	79	5.6	9	10	11	1	27	1	1	1	1			
M	71.5	36.3	53.9	95	1970+	18	1964	357	0.52	2.89	1963	T	1970+	1.29	1963	1.1	14.1	1964	9.0	1962	66	35	26	46	7.6	WNW	39	W	1968	79	4.9	12	10	9	1	27	1	1	1	1			
J	80.3	39.8	60.1	100	1970	29	1971	189	0.37	1.31	1965	0.00	1959+	0.79	1969	T	0.2	1970	0.2	1970	70	37	27	46	7.1	WNW	42	NW	1966	83	3.6	16	8	6	1	27	1	1	1	1			
J	89.4	45.9	67.7	103	1970	33	1965	43	0.27	1.06	1971	0.00	1951+	0.80	1949	0.0	0.0	0.0	1949	68	30	20	39	6.5	WNW	44	SW	1962	92	2.1	23	6	2	3	1	27	1	1	1	1			
A	88.3	42.7	65.5	103	1970+	29	1968	87	0.17	1.65	1965	0.00	1957+	0.97	1965	0.0	0.0	0.0	1965	70	33	21	41	6.1	WNH	43	SW	1968	93	2.1	24	5	2	3	1	27	1	1	1	1			
S	81.2	36.4	58.8	96	1971	20	1965	204	0.23	1.02	1950	0.00	1964+	0.80	1950	T	1971+	T	1971+	70	35	22	47	5.4	WNW	42	W	1970	91	2.3	5	5	3	2	27	1	1	1	1				
O	69.0	29.4	49.2	91	1965	8	1971	490	0.51	2.14	1945	T	1966+	1.55	1962	0.4	5.1	1971	3.7	1971	71	40	25	54	5.3	WNW	50	SW	1962	82	4.0	16	7	8	1	27	1	1	1	1			
N	55.7	20.8	38.3	76	1969+	8	1964	801	0.57	2.04	1946	0.00	1959	1.23	1949	1.7	8.7	1961	6.7	1961	74	58	44	66	5.1	SW	52	SW	1967	70	5.6	7	13	15	1	27	1	1	1	1			
D	47.3	16.4	31.9	70	1969	-3	1968	1026	1.08	5.25	1955	0.01	1947	2.16	1955	5.0	25.6	1971	14.9	1971	73	65	55	69	5.1	SW	68	SW	1968	62	6.3	8	8	15	1	27	1	1	1	1			
YR	66.7	30.1	48.4	103	1970+	-11	1971	6332	7.15	5.25	1955	0.00	1964+	2.37	1943	26.4	29.0	1952	16.9	1952	70	45	32	53	6.3	WNW	80	SW	1968+	80	4.5	166	89	110	49	9	13	8	54	8	189	2	400

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 106 in July 1931; lowest temperature -19 in January 1890; maximum monthly precipitation 6.76 in January 1916; maximum precipitation in 24 hours 2.71 in January 1903; maximum monthly snowfall 65.7 in January 1916; maximum snowfall in 24 hours 22.5 in January 1916.

(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) \* there have been breaks in the record.  
Climatological standard normals (1931-1960).  
Less than one half.

Also on earlier dates, months, or years.

+ Also on earlier dates, months, or years.  
T Trace, an amount too small to measure.

Below zero temperatures are preceded by

The prevailing direction for wind in the Normals, Means and Extremes table is from seconds through

Means, and Extremes table is from records through 1963.

† = 20° at Alaskan stations

↳ > 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.

& 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

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.

### AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
1932	29.8	32.2	45.0	47.4	55.4	66.8	70.2	70.2	65.5	52.6	46.4	29.0	51.0
1933	30.3	28.7	43.0	48.0	50.1	65.2	75.8	72.3	63.6	59.6	43.8	39.6	51.7
#1934	39.6	42.0	52.4	55.0	60.2	62.5	71.6	73.3	63.4	54.0	44.9	35.3	54.5
1935	33.8	39.6	37.9	47.7	55.6	67.1	69.4	72.2	67.1	49.9	35.3	33.8	50.8
1936	38.0	36.0	44.8	52.6	57.6	64.6	74.3	71.4	61.6	53.9	41.8	33.3	52.5
1937	15.8	35.6	49.3	46.4	59.2	63.8	73.2	71.1	64.6	54.2	45.0	36.8	50.8
1938	36.4	33.2	38.6	49.0	56.2	65.4	71.6	70.8	65.2	50.6	37.6	37.0	51.0
1939	36.2	32.8	45.3	54.6	58.6	64.1	73.2	74.3	63.0	52.2	45.0	41.2	53.4
1940	34.6	40.4	44.9	50.2	61.4	70.6	70.8	73.0	60.2	54.7	40.0	37.6	53.3
1941	38.0	41.8	44.3	46.4	56.6	61.8	72.8	68.0	58.0	49.6	44.1	37.2	51.6
#1942	28.5	24.9	40.8	47.0	51.8	61.9	73.9	71.1	60.4	51.0	42.0	36.6	50.1
1943	34.4	35.8	43.9	50.8	55.0	57.2	70.4	65.0	64.0	50.2	40.2	30.1	50.1
1944	32.6	35.1	39.6	43.8	55.0	57.4	67.3	66.0	61.2	52.8	38.1	33.4	48.5
1945	33.2	37.2	37.4	45.0	53.4	60.4	71.2	67.0	60.2	53.0	40.2	33.4	49.4
1946	33.6	34.6	40.6	49.2	55.7	60.4	69.3	69.9	59.3	45.4	38.0	35.2	49.3
1947	31.8	42.0	43.2	48.5	63.8	60.3	66.6	66.1	61.4	51.6	42.0	36.6	50.0
1948	36.0	32.5	36.4	44.7	52.0	62.2	67.8	62.5	64.4	50.8	38.2	37.0	47.8
#1949	14.0	20.3	40.2	51.6	54.7	62.8	68.8	65.0	60.9	47.8	44.2	31.0	47.7
1950	29.3	39.0	39.2	48.0	54.0	60.4	70.0	68.1	59.4	53.3	43.5	38.0	50.4
1951	33.1	26.5	38.4	46.7	53.8	63.3	70.0	66.5	62.3	46.8	40.1	30.5	49.3
1952	26.2	35.7	40.0	47.8	55.4	59.0	70.4	67.3	61.9	54.2	34.5	30.0	48.4
1953	40.3	35.5	40.3	45.4	47.8	57.0	70.5	65.6	64.0	49.1	42.3	32.7	49.2
1954	35.3	39.9	37.3	50.4	59.0	60.0	69.4	63.6	57.7	49.6	41.4	32.2	49.7
1955	24.8	32.1	38.7	41.4	53.4	62.3	66.7	69.5	59.9	50.7	39.4	35.6	47.9
1956	34.1	27.6	41.4	46.2	54.9	61.7	68.6	64.8	61.3	47.7	36.8	30.5	48.0
1957	25.8	38.9	42.4	45.7	53.5	64.9	68.6	65.0	61.5	46.8	36.6	35.2	48.7
#1958	34.3	41.2	37.0	45.1	59.2	61.4	69.8	72.0	60.2	52.6	38.7	37.2	50.7
1959	36.5	33.9	42.6	50.3	51.3	56.3	72.9	66.8	57.4	51.8	39.6	29.9	49.8
1960	27.5	36.1	44.3	48.2	51.7	65.2	70.4	65.5	61.0	48.9	40.1	32.1	49.3
1961	33.4	40.7	41.6	46.6	53.4	66.6	69.4	69.1	55.9	49.7	36.5	31.7	49.6
1962	26.7	34.1	39.6	50.1	51.5	61.7	67.0	61.5	60.8	51.2	40.8	33.9	48.3
#1963	28.2	44.4	40.5	41.8	52.7	59.0	65.1	64.7	63.3	52.4	40.2	35.1	49.3
1964	32.5	34.2	37.7	45.3	51.9	61.3	70.7	66.9	58.1	55.3	38.0	36.0	49.0
1965	33.6	40.1	43.2	49.6	54.0	59.2	66.1	65.8	54.9	52.4	41.6	29.9	49.2
1966	33.4	34.8	43.4	50.2	60.7	63.7	65.7	65.5	58.7	49.6	41.0	34.0	50.2
1967	37.0	40.3	40.6	43.1	59.4	59.9	69.6	71.0	62.6	51.0	42.7	28.3	49.8
1968	31.7	42.4	42.4	44.6	52.8	62.9	73.0	64.5	59.6	50.6	40.8	31.4	49.7
1969	37.0	34.2	47.0	48.4	58.1	62.0	70.8	68.8	63.4	45.3	39.0	36.7	50.4
1970	37.3	42.0	43.4	44.1	58.0	65.1	73.0	71.5	57.2	48.0	45.4	29.2	51.0
1971	33.0	36.9	40.9	45.9	50.9	59.7	71.5	70.7	56.5	45.8	37.5	26.6	48.0
RECORD													
MEAN	32.0	36.6	41.3	47.6	54.8	62.4	70.2	68.6	60.7	51.0	41.1	33.4	49.9
MAX	43.7	48.8	54.7	62.4	70.0	79.2	89.1	87.5	79.0	67.8	55.5	45.2	65.2
MIN	20.2	24.3	27.8	32.7	39.6	45.6	51.3	49.6	42.4	34.1	26.6	21.5	34.6

### TOTAL DEGREE DAYS

RENO, NEVADA													
Season	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total
1932-33	12	22	42	384	559	1116	1073	1017	680	511	472	66	5954
#1933-34	0	0	74	181	636	920	986	710	840	519	298	24	5358
1934-35	5	1	132	340	603	920	986	710	840	519	298	24	5358
1935-36	32	0	28	468	891	968	838	840	628	370	239	102	5404
1936-37	14	0	134	344	696	982	1526	824	574	558	196	98	6046
1937-38	0	6	75	337	600	874	886	892	818	479	282	72	5321
1938-39	10	0	48	444	823	870	894	900	611	304	215	112	5231
1939-40	0	0	100	398	598	736	940	714	624	502	124	29	4763
1940-41	0	0	191	320	748	842	837	648	642	560	270	120	5178
1941-42	12	28	216	475	681	1129	844	748	523	417	113	5988	
#1942-43	5	46	142	417	592	878	950	700	656	431	321	24	5481
1943-44	4	55	53	459	740	1084	1007	868	790	635	310	241	6247
1944-45	17	39	149	304	978	778	857	580	359	161	6091		
1945-46	0	26	190	353	741	977	974	852	752	476	399	150	5780
1946-47	10	19	605	809	923	1041	645	675	498	160	156	5705	
1947-48	27	42	136	415	884	1010	902	942	886	612	403	127	6386
#1948-49	33	36	163	438	806	1175	1577	976	767	403	223	114	6811
1949-50	12	47	139	354	619	1037	1102	724	794	503	398	170	6019
1950-51	5	18	201	355	579	800	795	818	452	348	104	104	5465
1951-52	15	37	92	558	742	1062	1198	843	955	509	290	187	6488
1952-53	4	12	107	330	907	952	755	819	759	577	523	235	5986
1953-54	4	42	67	485	675	993	916	695	854	432	201	193	5557
1954-55	9	83	217	470	700	1007	1238	914	808	702	355	124	6629
1955-56	50	8	201	437	762	905	952	1077	723	556	309	123	6103
1956-57	45	45	184	484	1024	1178	858	780	440	409	118	6408	
1957-58	1	3	87	429	653	1132	1025	650	694	366	369	113	5772
1958-59	0	91	180	471	721	1033	861	856	745	494	208	104	5734
1949-50	0	0	0	1.1	1.0	7.7	871	851	638	724	216	90	5485
1950-51	0	0	0	0	0	0	7.7	10.5	3.6	2.5	0.0	0.0	16.6
1951-52	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.1	8.5	18.1	0.6	29.0	0.0	59.3
1952-53	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.2	6.8	0.4	2.0	3.0	0.0	13.8
1953-54	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.3	2.1	3.7	7.4	13.1	0.8	26.9
1954-55	0	0	0	0	0	0	7.4	7.8	5.6	0.2	1.5	2.0	21.6
1955-56	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.7	9.2	20.0	3.4	0.7	0.0	37.0
1956-57	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.9	7.4	0.4	4.4	0.1	0.0	7.2
1957-58	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.0	3.1	3.1	1.0	4.6	10.0	31.3
#1959-60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	1.1	0.5	22.1	0.1	0.1	26.9
1960-61	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	1.8	13.4	3.0	0.0	20.8
1961-62	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.7	0.7	0.0	6.7
1962-63	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.7	0.0	0.0	11.0
1963-64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0</td					

STATION LOCATION

RENO, NEVADA

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Airline distance and direction from previous location	Latitude North	Longitude West	Ground at temperature site	Elevation above						Sea level	Remarks				
							Sea level	Ground			Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Telpyrometer	Tipping bucket rain gage	Weighing rain gage	8" rain gage	Hygrometer
<u>COOPERATIVE</u>																		
Southern Pacific Depot Cor. Comm. & Lake Sts.	12- 1-70	12-31-87		39° 31.8'	119° 48.4'	4493											Daily rainfall records by Southern Pacific Co. Agent.	
Univ. of Nevada Campus Admn. Bldg. (Morril Hall)	1- 1-88	11-10-05	0.7 mi. NNW	39° 32.7'	119° 48.5'	4558		5									Max., min. and rainfall records of University of Nevada.	
<u>CITY OFFICE</u>																		
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					
<u>AIRPORT STATION</u>																		
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 12-1-59. 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.			

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

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