

# Climatology of the United States

No. 20

1971-2000

Station: CAPE MAY 2 NW, NJ

COOP ID: 281351

Climate Division: NJ 3

NWS Call Sign:

Elevation: 20 Feet

Lat: 38° 57N

Lon: 74° 56W

## Temperature (°F)

Mean (1)				Extremes										Degree Days (1) Base Temp 65		Mean Number of Days (3)					
Month	Daily Max	Daily Min	Mean	Highest Daily(2)	Year	Day	Highest Month(1) Mean	Year	Lowest Daily(2)	Year	Day	Lowest Month(1) Mean	Year	Heating	Cooling	Max >= 100	Max >= 90	Max >= 50	Max <= 32	Min <= 32	Min <= 0
Jan	41.7	26.8	34.3	70+	1967	24	41.3	1998	-2	1982	17	23.2	1977	954	0	.0	.0	6.4	5.7	22.2	.1
Feb	43.3	28.2	35.8	72	2000	25	41.8	1998	-1	1979	18	25.5	1979	820	0	.0	.0	7.1	4.3	19.1	@
Mar	50.7	34.8	42.8	82	1990	13	47.5	2000	10	1980	1	38.2	1984	689	0	.0	.0	16.7	.6	10.8	.0
Apr	59.8	43.1	51.5	88+	1974	30	55.8	1994	22	1982	7	46.6	1975	406	0	.0	.0	27.2	.0	1.6	.0
May	69.2	52.6	60.9	95	1991	31	66.9	1991	33	1992	21	57.4	1992	157	29	.0	.3	30.9	.0	.0	.0
Jun	78.2	61.6	69.9	99	1963	27	73.2	1989	42	1956	20	65.8	1972	15	161	.0	1.4	30.0	.0	.0	.0
Jul	83.7	67.2	75.5	106	1966	7	79.0	1993	51	1962	24	72.4	1984	0	324	@	4.5	31.0	.0	.0	.0
Aug	82.7	66.1	74.4	96+	1977	7	76.9	1978	45	1986	29	71.1	1994	0	291	.0	2.9	31.0	.0	.0	.0
Sep	77.0	60.1	68.6	96	1953	1	72.3	1998	32	1967	25	65.8	1982	22	129	.0	.8	30.0	.0	.0	.0
Oct	66.3	49.1	57.7	88	1986	1	62.6	1971	26	1950	27	52.7	1972	246	20	.0	.0	30.7	.0	.6	.0
Nov	56.2	40.4	48.3	83	1950	1	55.0	1985	19	1967	16	41.9	1976	501	0	.0	.0	23.0	.1	5.4	.0
Dec	46.7	31.4	39.1	76	1998	7	45.1	1984	6+	1962	31	27.4	1989	805	0	.0	.0	12.0	2.5	16.4	.0
Ann	63.0	46.8	54.9	106	Jul 1966	7	79.0	Jul 1993	-2	Jan 1982	17	23.2	Jan 1977	4615	954	@	9.9	276.0	13.2	76.1	.1

+ Also occurred on an earlier date(s)

@ Denotes mean number of days greater than 0 but less than .05

Complete documentation available from: [www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/normal/usnormals.html](http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/normal/usnormals.html)

Issue Date: February 2004

(1) From the 1971-2000 Monthly Normals

(2) Derived from station's available digital record: 1948-2001

(3) Derived from 1971-2000 serially complete daily data

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**Climatography  
of the United States  
No. 20  
1971-2000**

National Climatic Data Center  
Federal Building  
151 Patton Avenue  
Asheville, North Carolina 28801  
www.ncdc.noaa.gov

**Station: CAPE MAY 2 NW, NJ**

**COOP ID: 281351**

**Climate Division: NJ 3**

**NWS Call Sign:**

**Elevation: 20 Feet**

**Lat: 38°57N**

**Lon: 74°56W**

Precipitation (inches)																									
	Precipitation Totals									Mean Number of Days (3)				Precipitation Probabilities (1) Probability that the monthly/annual precipitation will be equal to or less than the indicated amount											
	Means/ Medians(1)		Extremes							Daily Precipitation				Monthly/Annual Precipitation vs Probability Levels These values were determined from the incomplete gamma distribution											
Month	Mean	Med-ian	Highest Daily(2)	Year	Day	Highest Monthly(1)	Year	Lowest Monthly(1)	Year	>= 0.01	>= 0.10	>= 0.50	>= 1.00	.05	.10	.20	.30	.40	.50	.60	.70	.80	.90	.95	
Jan	3.68	3.33	2.62	1998	28	7.35	1979	.40	1981	10.5	6.8	2.9	.9	1.32	1.67	2.17	2.59	2.99	3.40	3.85	4.37	5.04	6.07	7.01	
Feb	3.03	2.97	1.91	1994	11	6.01	1979	1.27	1980	10.3	6.6	2.2	.5	1.47	1.73	2.09	2.37	2.64	2.90	3.18	3.50	3.90	4.51	5.05	
Mar	4.18	3.80	3.03	1963	12	8.54	1994	1.37	1986	11.0	6.8	3.0	1.1	1.32	1.72	2.31	2.81	3.30	3.80	4.35	5.00	5.84	7.14	8.34	
Apr	3.31	3.04	2.39	1983	16	8.25	1983	.57	1985	10.6	6.9	2.3	.8	1.19	1.50	1.95	2.33	2.69	3.06	3.46	3.93	4.53	5.45	6.29	
May	3.65	3.72	3.70	1967	7	8.02	1984	.47	1986	10.5	6.6	2.5	.8	1.17	1.52	2.03	2.47	2.89	3.33	3.81	4.37	5.09	6.21	7.24	
Jun	3.01	2.81	4.89	1967	19	7.47	1981	.34	1971	8.3	5.5	2.0	.7	.78	1.06	1.50	1.88	2.26	2.66	3.11	3.64	4.32	5.41	6.43	
Jul	3.39	3.10	4.09	2000	26	8.38	2000	.70	1983	9.0	5.4	2.0	.9	.89	1.21	1.70	2.13	2.56	3.01	3.51	4.10	4.86	6.08	7.21	
Aug	3.78	3.68	8.15	1953	14	7.59	1985	.56	1987	9.0	5.6	2.4	1.0	1.07	1.42	1.97	2.44	2.90	3.38	3.92	4.55	5.36	6.65	7.84	
Sep	3.31	3.04	6.35	1960	12	7.41	1996	.17	1978	8.1	5.1	2.1	.9	.74	1.05	1.53	1.97	2.40	2.87	3.39	4.01	4.83	6.14	7.37	
Oct	3.41	2.90	3.50	1956	18	7.13	1971	.34	2000	8.1	5.0	2.4	1.1	.97	1.29	1.78	2.21	2.62	3.05	3.53	4.10	4.83	5.98	7.05	
Nov	3.11	3.19	3.30	1951	3	6.24	1977	.92	1974	8.9	5.9	2.3	.7	1.03	1.32	1.76	2.12	2.48	2.85	3.25	3.72	4.32	5.25	6.12	
Dec	3.53	3.36	6.17	1973	17	10.40	1973	.50	1988	10.6	6.5	2.4	.7	.81	1.14	1.66	2.12	2.58	3.08	3.63	4.29	5.15	6.53	7.82	
Ann	41.39	39.83	8.15	Aug 1953	14	10.40	Dec 1973	.17	Sep 1978	114.9	72.7	28.5	10.1	31.65	33.59	36.05	37.90	39.52	41.09	42.69	44.45	46.57	49.62	52.23	

+ Also occurred on an earlier date(s)

# Denotes amounts of a trace

@ Denotes mean number of days greater than 0 but less than .05

\*\* Statistics not computed because less than six years out of thirty had measurable precipitation

(1) From the 1971-2000 Monthly Normals

(2) Derived from station's available digital record: 1948-2001

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**Climate Division: NJ 3**

**NWS Call Sign:**

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**Lat: 38°57N**

**Lon: 74°56W**

Snow (inches)																							
Snow Totals															Mean Number of Days (1)								
Means/Medians (1)					Extremes (2)										Snow Fall >= Thresholds					Snow Depth >= Thresholds			
Month	Snow Fall Mean	Snow Fall Median	Snow Depth Mean	Snow Depth Median	Highest Daily Snow Fall	Year	Day	Highest Monthly Snow Fall	Year	Highest Daily Snow Depth	Year	Day	Highest Monthly Mean Snow Depth	Year	0.1	1.0	3.0	5.0	10.0	1	3	5	10
Jan	4.1	2.0	1	#	8.6	1996	7	17.9	1987	13	1987	27	3	1987	2.5	1.2	.6	.1	.0	3.6	1.8	.8	.2
Feb	6.1	2.5	1	#	16.8	1979	19	27.1	1979	25	1979	19	9	1978	2.3	1.1	.6	.3	.1	4.6	2.7	1.9	.9
Mar	1.5	.0	#	0	6.1	1996	2	10.3	1996	6	1980	2	1	1978	1.1	.5	.2	@	.0	1.1	.4	.1	.0
Apr	.1	.0	#	0	.9	1990	7	.9	1990	1+	1996	9	#+	1996	.2	.0	.0	.0	.0	.1	.0	.0	.0
May	.0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Jun	.0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Jul	.0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Aug	.0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Sep	.0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Oct	#	.0	0	0	#	1979	10	#	1979	0	0	0	0	0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Nov	.3	.0	#	0	3.3	1989	23	6.1	1989	6	1989	23	1	1989	.2	.1	@	.0	.0	.1	.1	@	.0
Dec	1.5	.1	#	#	5.0	1982	12	8.3	1989	5+	2000	30	1+	2000	1.2	.4	.2	@	.0	1.6	.6	.1	.0
Ann	13.6	4.6	N/A	N/A	16.8	Feb 1979	19	27.1	Feb 1979	25	Feb 1979	19	9	Feb 1978	7.5	3.3	1.6	.4	.1	11.1	5.6	2.9	1.1

+ Also occurred on an earlier date(s) #Denotes trace amounts

@ Denotes mean number of days greater than 0 but less than .05

-9/-9.9 represents missing values

Annual statistics for Mean/Median snow depths are not appropriate

(1) Derived from Snow Climatology and 1971-2000 daily data

(2) Derived from 1971-2000 daily data

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Freeze Data									
Spring Freeze Dates (Month/Day)									
Temp (F)	Probability of later date in spring (thru Jul 31) than indicated(*)								
	.10	.20	.30	.40	.50	.60	.70	.80	.90
36	5/04	4/29	4/26	4/22	4/20	4/17	4/14	4/10	4/05
32	4/19	4/14	4/11	4/09	4/06	4/04	4/01	3/29	3/25
28	4/06	4/02	3/29	3/27	3/24	3/21	3/18	3/15	3/10
24	3/31	3/25	3/20	3/17	3/13	3/09	3/06	3/01	2/23
20	3/15	3/08	3/03	2/27	2/23	2/19	2/15	2/10	2/02
16	3/04	2/26	2/21	2/18	2/14	2/10	2/06	2/01	1/22
Fall Freeze Dates (Month/Day)									
Temp (F)	Probability of earlier date in fall (beginning Aug 1) than indicated(*)								
	.10	.20	.30	.40	.50	.60	.70	.80	.90
36	10/11	10/16	10/20	10/23	10/26	10/29	11/01	11/05	11/10
32	10/22	10/27	10/30	11/03	11/06	11/08	11/12	11/15	11/20
28	11/10	11/14	11/17	11/20	11/23	11/26	11/28	12/02	12/06
24	11/26	12/01	12/04	12/06	12/08	12/11	12/13	12/16	12/21
20	12/07	12/12	12/16	12/20	12/23	12/27	12/31	1/04	1/11
16	12/12	12/19	12/25	12/29	1/02	1/07	1/12	1/18	1/30
Freeze Free Period									
Temp (F)	Probability of longer than indicated freeze free period (Days)								
	.10	.20	.30	.40	.50	.60	.70	.80	.90
36	209	202	197	193	189	185	181	176	169
32	232	225	220	216	212	209	204	200	193
28	258	253	249	246	243	240	237	234	228
24	290	283	278	274	270	266	261	257	250
20	329	317	311	306	301	297	292	287	280
16	>365	342	333	326	321	316	311	305	297

\* Probability of observing a temperature as cold, or colder, later in the spring or earlier in the fall than the indicated date.

**0/00** Indicates that the probability of occurrence of threshold temperature is less than the indicated probability.

Derived from 1971-2000 serially complete daily data

Complete documentation available from:

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Degree Days to Selected Base Temperatures (°F)													
Base	Heating Degree Days (1)												
Below	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann
65	954	820	689	406	157	15	0	0	22	246	501	805	4615
60	799	680	534	261	65	2	0	0	4	136	356	650	3487
57	706	596	441	181	32	0	0	0	1	87	274	558	2876
55	644	540	380	135	17	0	0	0	0	62	224	501	2503
50	501	407	238	50	2	0	0	0	0	21	121	359	1699
32	114	65	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	46	233

Base	Cooling Degree Days (1)												
Above	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann
32	183	170	341	584	896	1136	1347	1314	1097	797	490	264	8619
55	0	0	1	29	200	446	634	601	407	146	23	7	2494
57	0	0	0	15	152	386	572	539	347	109	14	1	2135
60	0	0	0	5	92	297	479	446	260	64	5	0	1648
65	0	0	0	0	29	161	324	291	129	20	0	0	954
70	0	0	0	0	5	61	177	146	38	4	0	0	431

Growing Degree Units (2)																								
Base	Growing Degree Units (Monthly)												Growing Degree Units (Accumulated Monthly)											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
40	45	58	150	356	656	907	1111	1080	871	564	277	98	45	103	253	609	1265	2172	3283	4363	5234	5798	6075	6173
45	16	21	66	218	501	757	956	925	721	410	165	45	16	37	103	321	822	1579	2535	3460	4181	4591	4756	4801
50	0	4	22	108	346	607	801	770	571	268	87	12	0	4	26	134	480	1087	1888	2658	3229	3497	3584	3596
55	0	0	6	40	208	457	646	615	422	151	33	3	0	0	6	46	254	711	1357	1972	2394	2545	2578	2581
60	0	0	1	14	103	309	491	460	279	68	9	0	0	0	1	15	118	427	918	1378	1657	1725	1734	1734
Base	Growing Degree Units for Corn (Monthly)												Growing Degree Units for Corn (Accumulated Monthly)											
50/86	18	23	66	166	366	598	782	757	574	310	128	39	18	41	107	273	639	1237	2019	2776	3350	3660	3788	3827

(1) Derived from the 1971-2000 Monthly Normals

(2) Derived from 1971-2000 serially complete daily data

**Note:** For corn, temperatures below 50 are set to 50, and temperatures above 86 are set to 86

Complete documentation available from:

[www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/normals/usnormals.html](http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/normals/usnormals.html)

## Notes

- a. The monthly means are simple arithmetic averages computed by summing the monthly values for the period 1971-2000 and dividing by thirty. Prior to averaging, the data are adjusted if necessary to compensate for data quality issues, station moves or changes in station reporting practices. Missing months are replaced by estimates based on neighboring stations.
- b. The median is defined as the middle value in an ordered set of values. The median is being provided for the snow and precipitation elements because the mean can be a misleading value for precipitation normals.
- c. Only observed validated values were used to select the extreme daily values.
- d. Extreme monthly temperature/precipitation means were selected from the monthly normals data.  
Monthly snow extremes were calculated from daily values quality controlled to be consistent with the Snow Climatology.
- e. Degree Days were derived using the same techniques as the 1971-2000 normals.  
Complete documentation for the 1971-2000 Normals is available on the internet from:  
[www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/normal/usnormals.html](http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/normal/usnormals.html)
- f. Mean "number of days statistics" for temperature and precipitation were calculated from a serially complete daily data set.  
Documentation of the serially complete data set is available from the link below:
- g. Snowfall and snow depth statistics were derived from the Snow Climatology.  
Documentation for the Snow Climatology project is available from the link under references.

## Data Sources for Tables

Several different data sources were used to create the Clim20 climate summaries. In some cases the daily extremes appear inconsistent with the monthly extremes and or the mean number of days statistics. For example, a high daily extreme value may not be reflected in the highest monthly value or the mean number of days threshold that is less than and equal to the extreme value. Some of these difference are caused by different periods of record. Daily extremes are derived from the station's entire period of record while the serial data and normals data were for the 1971-2000 period. Therefore extremes observed before 1971 would not be included in the 1971-2000 normals or the 1971-2000 serial daily data set. Inconsistencies can also occur when monthly values are adjusted to reflect the current observing conditions or were replaced during the 1971-2000 Monthly Normals processing and are not reconciled with the Summary of the Day data.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Temperature/ Precipitation Tables<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. 1971-2000 Monthly Normals</li><li>2. Cooperative Summary of the Day</li><li>3. National Weather Service station records</li><li>4. 1971-2000 serially complete daily data</li></ol></li><li>b. Degree Day Table<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Monthly and Annual Heating and Cooling Degree Days Normals to Selected Bases derived from 1971-2000 Monthly Normals</li><li>2. Daily Normal Growing Degree Units to Selected Base Temperatures derived from 1971-2000 serially complete daily data</li></ol></li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>c. Snow Tables<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Snow Climatology</li><li>2. Cooperative Summary of the Day</li></ol></li><li>d. Freeze Data Table<br/>1971-2000 serially complete daily data</li></ol> |
|---|---|

## References

U.S. Climate Normals 1971-2000, [www.ncdc.noaa.gov/normal.html](http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/normal.html)  
U.S. Climate Normals 1971-2000-Products Clim20, [www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/normal/usnormalsprods.html](http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/normal/usnormalsprods.html)  
Snow Climatology Project Description, [www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/monitoring/snowclim/mainpage.html](http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/monitoring/snowclim/mainpage.html)  
Eischeid, J. K., P. Pasteris, H. F. Diaz, M. Plantico, and N. Lott, 2000: Creating a serially complete, national daily time series of temperature and precipitation for the Western United States. J. Appl. Meteorol., 39, 1580-1591,  
[www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/special/serialcomplete\\_jam\\_0900.pdf](http://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/special/serialcomplete_jam_0900.pdf)