

Climatography of the United States

No. 20

1971-2000

Station: SIERRAVILLE R S, CA

COOP ID: 048218

Climate Division: CA 2

NWS Call Sign:

Elevation: 4,975 Feet Lat: 39° 35N

Lon: 120° 22W

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	41.6	16.7	29.2	67	1961	18	37.0	1981	-19+	1975	3	22.0	1972	1112	0	.0	.0	6.5	3.7	30.1	2.3
Feb	46.7	20.5	33.6	70+	1977	20	42.3	1991	-25	1949	13	26.9	1989	878	0	.0	.0	10.4	2.0	27.2	1.3
Mar	52.0	26.1	39.1	78+	1986	31	44.4	1972	-15	1952	21	33.7	1985	804	0	.0	.0	18.7	.2	27.1	@
Apr	58.9	29.0	44.0	84+	1981	30	49.2	1989	6	1976	15	35.8	1975	631	0	.0	.0	23.9	@	22.6	.0
May	66.9	35.5	51.2	94	1951	28	57.7	1992	15	1988	1	43.8	1977	430	2	.0	.1	29.1	.0	10.7	.0
Jun	75.8	41.3	58.6	99	1950	30	63.3	1977	21	1952	12	55.1	1991	206	12	.0	1.1	29.8	.0	2.0	.0
Jul	83.7	44.6	64.2	100+	1975	27	68.0	1996	29+	1987	20	60.4	1993	81	54	.1	6.5	31.0	.0	.4	.0
Aug	83.8	42.8	63.3	104	1981	8	67.1	1981	25	1973	24	59.3	1976	95	43	.1	6.0	31.0	.0	.6	.0
Sep	77.3	37.1	57.2	100	1955	3	60.5	1981	15+	1954	21	51.5	1986	242	8	.0	1.7	29.9	.0	6.4	.0
Oct	67.0	29.6	48.3	92	1980	2	54.1	1988	7	1971	29	43.4	1984	517	0	.0	.2	29.0	.0	21.4	.0
Nov	51.9	23.5	37.7	79	1961	10	44.2	1995	-8	1985	14	29.6	1985	819	0	.0	.0	18.1	.8	27.3	.2
Dec	43.9	17.1	30.5	69	1969	21	37.1	1981	-29	1972	9	22.9	1972	1069	0	.0	.0	8.2	3.4	29.2	2.0
Ann	62.5	30.3	46.4	104	Aug 1981	8	68.0	Jul 1996	-29	Dec 1972	9	22.0	Jan 1972	6884	119	.2	15.6	265.6	10.1	205.0	5.8

+ 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

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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No. 20 1971-2000

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

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COOP ID: 048218

Climate Division: CA 2

NWS Call Sign:

Elevation: 4,975 Feet Lat: 39°35N

Lon: 120°22W

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	4.59	4.09	4.80	1997	6	12.02	1997	.14	1991	7.8	5.6	2.9	1.4	.28	.55	1.12	1.74	2.45	3.28	4.28	5.56	7.34	10.38	13.39
Feb	4.38	3.65	5.14	1963	1	19.37	1986	.00	1988	8.2	5.9	2.7	1.3	.34	.81	1.52	2.16	2.83	3.56	4.39	5.41	6.78	9.01	11.15
Mar	3.80	2.65	4.25	1983	14	15.16	1995	.14	1988	8.1	5.7	2.2	.9	.34	.61	1.11	1.64	2.22	2.87	3.65	4.62	5.97	8.20	10.40
Apr	1.33	1.14	2.01	1958	3	5.14	1982	.16	1985	5.2	3.0	.4	.1	.14	.24	.42	.61	.81	1.03	1.29	1.62	2.07	2.81	3.53
May	1.08	.85	2.69	1957	19	3.88	1971	.00	1999	5.1	2.6	.5	.1	.03	.11	.25	.41	.58	.78	1.02	1.32	1.74	2.45	3.15
Jun	.45	.39	1.47	1967	13	1.33	1993	.00+	1994	2.4	1.2	.2	.0	.00	.00	.11	.21	.29	.38	.47	.58	.74	.97	1.20
Jul	.29	.09	1.59	1974	9	2.23	1974	.00+	2000	1.2	.7	.1	@	.00	.00	.00	.01	.05	.11	.20	.32	.50	.82	1.15
Aug	.42	.16	1.42	1976	2	2.55	1976	.00+	2000	1.8	1.1	.2	@	.00	.00	.00	.00	.07	.17	.30	.48	.74	1.20	1.67
Sep	.77	.43	1.47	1959	19	4.16	1982	.00+	1995	3.2	2.0	.5	.1	.00	.00	.05	.15	.28	.44	.65	.92	1.31	1.99	2.68
Oct	1.65	1.22	6.10	1962	12	5.51	1975	.00+	1995	4.1	2.6	1.0	.4	.00	.08	.30	.54	.82	1.14	1.53	2.02	2.71	3.88	5.05
Nov	3.68	2.51	4.60	1988	23	14.79	1981	.16	1992	6.1	4.6	1.7	.9	.23	.44	.90	1.40	1.96	2.62	3.43	4.45	5.88	8.31	10.73
Dec	3.90	2.88	4.51	1964	23	16.53	1996	.00	1989	7.0	4.7	2.0	.9	.07	.30	.78	1.32	1.94	2.67	3.57	4.72	6.34	9.11	11.88
Ann	26.34	23.52	6.10	Oct 1962	12	19.37	Feb 1986	.00+	Aug 2000	60.2	39.7	14.4	6.1	12.39	14.68	17.83	20.37	22.73	25.10	27.62	30.50	34.12	39.58	44.49

+ 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

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

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www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/normals/usnormals.html

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COOP ID: 048218

Climate Division: CA 2

NWS Call Sign:

Elevation: 4,975 Feet

Lat: 39°35N

Lon: 120°22W

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	17.1	12.5	4	2	14.0	1973	9	41.0	1973	48	1993	4	33	1993	2.3	2.2	1.5	.9	.1	-9.9	-9.9	-9.9	-9.9
Feb	10.6	8.5	4	1	16.0	1996	22	43.0	1975	33	1990	21	21	1993	2.6	2.2	1.1	.6	.2	8.8	6.5	5.3	1.4
Mar	6.5	3.0	1	1	44.0	1995	23	44.0	1995	45	1995	24	7	1985	2.0	1.9	1.0	.6	.2	2.5	1.5	.9	.4
Apr	3.3	.0	#	#	27.0	1982	1	40.5	1982	32	1982	1	6	1982	1.0	.7	.4	.2	@	.8	.5	.4	.2
May	1.0	.0	#	0	7.5	1983	10	7.5	1983	4	1979	8	#+	2000	.5	.4	.1	@	.0	.3	@	.0	.0
Jun	.0	.0	0	0	.5	1988	7	.5	1988	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	#	1986	25	#	1986	0	0	0	0	0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Oct	.6	.0	#	0	4.0	1971	28	4.0+	1984	4+	1985	9	#+	1989	.2	.2	.1	.0	.0	.1	@	.0	.0
Nov	3.3	.0	#	#	10.0	1983	21	19.0	1983	23	1985	12	8	1985	1.1	1.0	.5	.2	@	1.1	.4	.1	.1
Dec	9.3	5.8	2	1	23.4	1971	25	42.9	1971	27	1971	26	7	1972	2.1	1.9	.9	.5	.1	5.3	2.8	1.7	.6
Ann	51.7	29.8	N/A	N/A	44.0	Mar 1995	23	44.0	Mar 1995	48	Jan 1993	4	33	Jan 1993	11.8	10.5	5.6	3.0	.6	-9.9	-9.9	-9.9	-9.9

+ 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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Climate Division: CA 2

NWS Call Sign:

Elevation: 4,975 Feet

Lat: 39° 35N

Lon: 120° 22W

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	7/28	7/22	7/17	7/14	7/10	7/07	7/03	6/29	6/23
32	7/11	7/03	6/28	6/23	6/19	6/15	6/10	6/05	5/29
28	6/17	6/09	6/03	5/30	5/25	5/21	5/16	5/10	5/03
24	5/20	5/14	5/09	5/05	5/01	4/27	4/23	4/18	4/12
20	5/05	4/26	4/20	4/14	4/09	4/04	3/30	3/24	3/15
16	4/17	4/07	3/31	3/25	3/19	3/14	3/08	3/01	2/19
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	8/01	8/06	8/10	8/13	8/15	8/18	8/21	8/25	8/30
32	8/20	8/26	8/30	9/02	9/05	9/09	9/12	9/16	9/22
28	9/05	9/11	9/16	9/20	9/23	9/27	10/01	10/06	10/12
24	9/20	9/27	10/01	10/05	10/09	10/13	10/17	10/22	10/29
20	10/12	10/18	10/22	10/25	10/28	10/31	11/04	11/08	11/13
16	10/26	10/31	11/04	11/08	11/11	11/14	11/18	11/22	11/27
Freeze Free Period									
Temp (F)	Probability of longer than indicated freeze free period (Days)								
	.10	.20	.30	.40	.50	.60	.70	.80	.90
36	59	51	45	40	36	31	26	20	12
32	101	93	87	82	77	73	68	62	54
28	153	142	134	127	121	114	107	99	88
24	193	182	174	167	161	154	147	139	128
20	235	224	215	208	201	195	187	179	167
16	272	259	251	243	236	229	221	213	200

* 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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Climate Division: CA 2

NWS Call Sign:

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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	1112	878	804	631	430	206	81	95	242	517	819	1069	6884
60	957	738	649	484	288	98	19	26	123	368	669	914	5333
57	864	654	556	399	213	54	6	8	73	284	579	821	4511
55	802	598	494	344	170	33	2	3	47	233	519	759	4004
50	647	458	347	220	86	7	0	0	11	127	375	604	2882
32	165	79	22	10	0	0	0	0	0	1	38	150	465

Base	Cooling Degree Days (1)												
Above	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann
32	77	125	241	369	596	796	996	971	756	507	210	104	5748
55	0	0	0	13	53	140	285	261	113	25	0	0	890
57	0	0	0	8	33	101	227	204	79	14	0	0	666
60	0	0	0	3	16	55	147	128	40	6	0	0	395
65	0	0	0	0	2	12	54	43	8	0	0	0	119
70	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	7	0	0	0	0	18

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	1	22	70	159	361	567	758	732	528	285	65	11	1	23	93	252	613	1180	1938	2670	3198	3483	3548	3559
45	0	0	19	74	224	418	603	577	379	158	17	0	0	0	19	93	317	735	1338	1915	2294	2452	2469	2469
50	0	0	0	23	117	279	448	422	243	73	0	0	0	0	0	23	140	419	867	1289	1532	1605	1605	1605
55	0	0	0	1	45	156	297	268	122	21	0	0	0	0	0	1	46	202	499	767	889	910	910	910
60	0	0	0	0	10	64	161	138	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	74	235	373	413	413	413	413
Base	Growing Degree Units for Corn (Monthly)												Growing Degree Units for Corn (Accumulated Monthly)											
50/86	15	35	79	154	274	396	518	512	412	281	89	22	15	50	129	283	557	953	1471	1983	2395	2676	2765	2787

(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

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
- 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">a. Temperature/ Precipitation Tables<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 1971-2000 Monthly Normals2. Cooperative Summary of the Day3. National Weather Service station records4. 1971-2000 serially complete daily datab. Degree Day Table<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Monthly and Annual Heating and Cooling Degree Days Normals to Selected Bases derived from 1971-2000 Monthly Normals2. Daily Normal Growing Degree Units to Selected Base Temperatures derived from 1971-2000 serially complete daily data | <ol style="list-style-type: none">c. Snow Tables<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Snow Climatology2. Cooperative Summary of the Dayd. Freeze Data Table
1971-2000 serially complete daily data |
|---|---|

References

U.S. Climate Normals 1971-2000, www.ncdc.noaa.gov/normal.html
U.S. Climate Normals 1971-2000-Products Clim20, www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/normal/usnormalsprods.html
Snow Climatology Project Description, 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