U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Environmental Satellite, Data,
and Information Service

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: BANKHEAD LOCK AND DAM, AL **COOP ID: 010505**

Climate Division: AL 3 **NWS Call Sign:** **Elevation: 280 Feet** **Lat: 33˚27N** **Lon: 87˚21W**

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	53.3	28.5	40.9	80	1972	14	50.7	1974	-5	1985	21	31.1	1977	747	0	.0	.0	19.6	1.2	18.6	.2
Feb	58.4	31.1	44.8	82+	1996	24	52.5	1990	4+	1996	6	34.3	1978	567	0	.0	.0	21.1	.6	14.2	.0
Mar	66.8	37.8	52.3	87	1995	24	57.9	1974	14+	1996	10	46.8	1971	401	8	.0	.0	29.0	.1	7.1	.0
Apr	74.6	43.3	59.0	94	1987	22	64.5	1981	22	2000	6	52.3	1983	200	19	.0	.1	29.9	.0	1.6	.0
May	81.7	52.9	67.3	98	1996	27	72.3	1987	36	1971	5	60.3	1976	62	132	.0	2.9	31.0	.0	.0	.0
Jun	88.7	61.0	74.9	101+	1998	25	78.9	1981	41	1972	2	71.4	1972	1	298	.2	15.5	30.0	.0	.0	.0
Jul	91.6	65.3	78.5	107	1977	8	82.2	1980	51	1972	7	74.4	1972	0	417	1.7	22.2	31.0	.0	.0	.0
Aug	91.4	64.1	77.8	105+	2000	18	82.2	2000	51	1968	30	73.3	1976	0	394	1.4	21.4	31.0	.0	.0	.0
Sep	86.1	58.3	72.2	101	1999	6	76.6	1980	34+	1999	24	67.6	1982	11	228	.3	9.7	30.0	.0	.0	.0
Oct	76.2	45.6	60.9	95	1986	1	66.9	1984	25+	1999	26	56.0	1977	176	49	.0	.5	30.9	.0	.4	.0
Nov	65.9	36.9	51.4	87	2000	1	58.1	1985	16	1970	24	42.7	1976	413	5	.0	.0	28.2	.0	7.6	.0
Dec	56.6	30.9	43.8	80	1998	6	52.1	1984	0+	1989	24	33.0	1989	658	0	.0	.0	23.0	.6	15.6	.1
Ann	74.3	46.3	60.3	107	Jul 1977	8	82.2+	Aug 2000	-5	Jan 1985	21	31.1	Jan 1977	3236	1550	3.6	72.3	334.7	2.5	65.1	.3

\+ 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/normals/usnormals.html

(1) From the 1971-2000 Monthly Normals

(2) Derived from station's available digital record: 1957-2001

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

Issue Date: February 2004

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Precipitation (inches)

Precipitation Totals

Month	Means/ Medians(1) Mean	Means/ Medians(1) Median	Extremes Highest Daily(2)	Year	Day	Highest Monthly(1)	Year	Lowest Monthly(1)	Year
Jan	6.52	6.67	4.92	1996	27	10.97	1996	1.35	1981
Feb	5.08	4.26	4.62	1961	22	10.89	1990	1.09	2000
Mar	6.76	6.30	5.65	1975	15	16.57	1976	1.55	1985
Apr	5.07	4.09	7.01	1979	13	14.35	1979	.81	1986
May	4.94	4.23	4.50	1998	10	12.21	1991	.70	2000
Jun	4.57	4.19	3.64	1970	3	9.99	1989	1.55	1988
Jul	5.65	5.23	3.80	1996	8	16.13	1996	.51	1983
Aug	3.68	3.23	3.77	1992	7	9.01	1992	.52	1999
Sep	3.70	3.25	3.95	1958	12	10.53	1988	.52	1984
Oct	4.02	3.31	7.80	1983	11	9.82	1983	.00	2000
Nov	5.05	4.85	4.10	2000	9	10.54	2000	1.06	1981
Dec	5.46	4.66	10.03	1983	3	19.04	1983	.87	1980
Ann	60.50	60.93	10.03	Dec 1983	3	19.04	Dec 1983	.00	Oct 2000

Mean Number of Days (3)

Daily Precipitation

Month	>= 0.01	>= 0.10	>= 0.50	>= 1.00
Jan	12.8	8.6	4.6	2.3
Feb	10.2	6.6	3.6	1.8
Mar	11.4	8.0	4.4	2.3
Apr	9.2	6.5	3.3	1.4
May	9.5	6.4	3.3	1.6
Jun	10.2	7.2	3.1	1.5
Jul	11.9	8.1	3.9	1.7
Aug	9.1	6.3	2.5	1.0
Sep	8.8	5.5	2.6	1.1
Oct	6.7	4.6	2.4	1.5
Nov	10.1	7.0	3.4	1.8
Dec	11.1	7.4	3.8	1.5
Ann	121.0	82.2	40.9	19.5

Precipitation Probabilities (1)

Probability that the monthly/annual precipitation will be equal to or less than the indicated amount

Monthly/Annual Precipitation vs Probability Levels
These values were determined from the incomplete gamma distribution

Month	.05	.10	.20	.30	.40	.50	.60	.70	.80	.90	.95
Jan	2.51	3.12	3.98	4.70	5.38	6.08	6.83	7.70	8.81	10.51	12.06
Feb	1.70	2.18	2.88	3.48	4.06	4.65	5.30	6.05	7.02	8.53	9.92
Mar	2.10	2.75	3.70	4.52	5.31	6.13	7.03	8.09	9.46	11.59	13.56
Apr	1.01	1.47	2.21	2.89	3.58	4.32	5.16	6.17	7.50	9.64	11.67
May	1.08	1.53	2.26	2.91	3.57	4.27	5.06	6.00	7.24	9.22	11.10
Jun	1.51	1.95	2.58	3.13	3.65	4.18	4.77	5.46	6.34	7.71	8.97
Jul	1.28	1.81	2.63	3.38	4.12	4.91	5.80	6.86	8.25	10.47	12.55
Aug	1.01	1.36	1.89	2.35	2.81	3.28	3.81	4.43	5.24	6.52	7.71
Sep	.51	.82	1.35	1.86	2.40	2.99	3.68	4.52	5.65	7.50	9.29
Oct	.24	.62	1.25	1.84	2.47	3.16	3.97	4.96	6.31	8.53	10.69
Nov	2.02	2.48	3.14	3.69	4.20	4.73	5.29	5.95	6.78	8.05	9.20
Dec	1.67	2.19	2.96	3.63	4.27	4.94	5.67	6.54	7.65	9.39	11.01
Ann	45.00	48.05	51.94	54.87	57.46	59.95	62.51	65.33	68.74	73.66	77.89

\+ 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: 1957-2001
(3) Derived from 1971-2000 serially complete daily data

Complete documentation available from:
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Snow (inches)

Snow Totals

Means/Medians (1)

Month	Snow Fall Mean	Snow Fall Median	Snow Depth Mean	Snow Depth Median
Jan	.0	.0	0	0
Feb	.1	.0	#	0
Mar	.0	.0	0	0
Apr	.0	.0	0	0
May	.0	.0	0	0
Jun	.0	.0	0	0
Jul	.0	.0	0	0
Aug	.0	.0	0	0
Sep	.0	.0	0	0
Oct	.0	.0	0	0
Nov	.0	.0	0	0
Dec	#	.0	#	0
Ann	.1	.0	N/A	N/A

Extremes (2)

Month	Highest Daily Snow Fall	Year	Day	Highest Monthly Snow Fall	Year	Highest Daily Snow Depth	Year	Day	Highest Monthly Mean Snow Depth	Year
Jan	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feb	.8	1996	3	.8	1996	1	1996	3	#	1996
Mar	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Apr	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jun	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jul	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aug	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sep	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oct	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nov	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dec	#	1997	14	#	1997	#	1997	14	#	1997
Ann	.8	Feb 1996	3	.8	Feb 1996	1	Feb 1996	3	#+	Dec 1997

Mean Number of Days (1)

Snow Fall >= Thresholds

Month	0.1	1.0	3.0	5.0	10.0
Jan	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Feb	.1	.0	.0	.0	.0
Mar	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Apr	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
May	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Jun	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Jul	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Aug	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Sep	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Oct	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Nov	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Dec	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
Ann	.1	.0	.0	.0	.0

Snow Depth >= Thresholds

Month	1	3	5	10
Jan	.0	.0	.0	.0
Feb	@	.0	.0	.0
Mar	.0	.0	.0	.0
Apr	.0	.0	.0	.0
May	.0	.0	.0	.0
Jun	.0	.0	.0	.0
Jul	.0	.0	.0	.0
Aug	.0	.0	.0	.0
Sep	.0	.0	.0	.0
Oct	.0	.0	.0	.0
Nov	.0	.0	.0	.0
Dec	.0	.0	.0	.0
Ann	@	.0	.0	.0

+ 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	4/24	4/20	4/17	4/14	4/11	4/08	4/06	4/02	3/29
32	4/17	4/11	4/06	4/02	3/30	3/26	3/22	3/17	3/11
28	4/13	4/03	3/28	3/22	3/17	3/12	3/06	2/27	2/18
24	3/23	3/15	3/09	3/04	2/27	2/23	2/18	2/12	2/04
20	3/10	3/02	2/24	2/19	2/14	2/09	2/04	1/29	1/21
16	2/28	2/18	2/11	2/05	1/30	1/24	1/17	1/07	0/00

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	10/06	10/13	10/18	10/22	10/26	10/30	11/03	11/08	11/14
32	10/23	10/28	11/01	11/04	11/07	11/10	11/13	11/17	11/22
28	11/01	11/07	11/12	11/15	11/19	11/23	11/26	12/01	12/07
24	11/13	11/21	11/26	12/01	12/05	12/10	12/14	12/20	12/28
20	11/25	12/04	12/10	12/15	12/20	12/26	12/31	1/06	1/15
16	12/11	12/22	12/31	1/07	1/14	1/21	1/30	2/10	0/00

Freeze Free Period

Temp (F)	Probability of longer than indicated freeze free period (Days)								
	.10	.20	.30	.40	.50	.60	.70	.80	.90
36	222	213	207	202	197	192	187	181	172
32	248	239	233	227	222	216	211	204	195
28	282	269	261	253	246	239	232	223	211
24	314	302	294	287	280	273	266	258	246
20	342	331	322	315	309	302	295	287	275
16	>365	>365	>365	365	348	337	327	316	303

***** 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

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Degree Days to Selected Base Temperatures (˚F)

Heating Degree Days (1)

Base Below	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann
65	747	567	401	200	62	1	0	0	11	176	413	658	3236
60	600	430	266	98	19	0	0	0	2	89	279	512	2295
57	513	352	197	56	8	0	0	0	0	54	209	426	1815
55	456	302	158	35	4	0	0	0	0	36	169	372	1532
50	327	191	80	8	0	0	0	0	0	10	89	251	956
32	47	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	23	80

Cooling Degree Days (1)

Base Above	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann
32	323	366	630	809	1093	1286	1440	1417	1206	897	583	387	10437
55	20	15	75	154	384	596	727	704	516	219	61	23	3494
57	14	9	52	115	326	536	665	642	457	175	41	16	3048
60	8	2	27	68	244	446	572	549	368	118	21	9	2432
65	0	0	8	19	132	298	417	394	228	49	5	0	1550
70	0	0	0	3	55	160	266	246	113	15	0	0	858

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	164	228	439	631	908	1103	1251	1230	1019	712	409	224	164	392	831	1462	2370	3473	4724	5954	6973	7685	8094	8318
45	87	132	304	483	753	953	1096	1075	869	558	277	126	87	219	523	1006	1759	2712	3808	4883	5752	6310	6587	6713
50	41	67	185	341	598	803	941	920	719	404	168	64	41	108	293	634	1232	2035	2976	3896	4615	5019	5187	5251
55	18	27	95	214	443	653	786	765	569	262	89	30	18	45	140	354	797	1450	2236	3001	3570	3832	3921	3951
60	0	6	39	110	292	503	631	610	422	143	38	4	0	6	45	155	447	950	1581	2191	2613	2756	2794	2798
Base	**Growing Degree Units for Corn (Monthly)**												**Growing Degree Units for Corn (Accumulated Monthly)**											
50/86	107	160	289	410	603	744	839	832	686	459	264	143	107	267	556	966	1569	2313	3152	3984	4670	5129	5393	5536

(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:
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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.
Compete documentation for the 1971-2000 Normals is available on the internet from:
www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/normals/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 are 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.

a. Temperature/ Precipitation Tables
   1. 1971-2000 Monthly Normals
   2. Cooperative Summary of the Day
   3. National Weather Service station records
   4. 1971-2000 serially complete daily data

b. Degree Day Table
   1. Monthly and Annual Heating and Cooling Degree Days Normals to Selected Bases derived from 1971-2000 Monthly Normals
   2. Daily Normal Growing Degree Units to Selected Base Temperatures derived from 1971-2000 serially complete daily data

c. Snow Tables
   1. Snow Climatology
   2. Cooperative Summary of the Day

d. Freeze Data Table
   1971-2000 serially complete daily data

References

U.S. Climate Normals 1971-2000, www.ncdc.noaa.gov/normals.html
U.S. Climate Normals 1971-2000-Products Clim20, www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/normals/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