

# Climatography of the United States No. 20

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

Station: LUDLOW 3 SSE, SD

1971-2000

COOP ID: 395048

Climate Division: SD 1

NWS Call Sign:

Elevation: 2,990 Feet Lat: 45°47N

Lon: 103°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	26.3	6.2	16.3	70	1981	23	31.7	1992	-38	1982	10	1.1	1979	1512	0	.0	.0	1.7	17.3	30.3	11.2
Feb	32.5	12.4	22.5	69+	1992	29	33.1	1999	-33	1962	28	5.4	1979	1191	0	.0	.0	4.8	12.1	27.1	6.3
Mar	41.6	19.9	30.8	80	1967	29	40.5	1986	-29	1998	11	20.9	1996	1061	0	.0	.0	10.5	6.6	27.9	2.4
Apr	55.0	30.6	42.8	91	1980	21	50.5	1987	-6	1997	8	35.6	1975	667	0	.0	.1	21.3	1.5	17.8	.1
May	66.2	40.8	53.5	98	1980	22	61.0	1977	6	1967	3	48.2	1974	367	12	.0	.4	29.4	.0	4.8	.0
Jun	75.3	49.8	62.6	106	1988	20	74.7	1988	28+	1985	12	57.4	1993	148	74	.4	2.6	29.9	.0	.3	.0
Jul	82.7	55.1	68.9	115	1981	7	73.7	1988	34	1972	4	60.7	1993	57	177	1.4	9.1	31.0	.0	.0	.0
Aug	82.8	53.3	68.1	106	1983	7	75.3	1983	30	1974	31	62.0	1992	78	171	.9	9.6	31.0	.0	@	.0
Sep	71.5	43.0	57.3	105	1971	2	64.2	1998	15	1974	30	51.6	1993	268	34	.3	2.6	28.8	.0	3.0	.0
Oct	57.9	32.0	45.0	95	1953	1	48.3	1974	-9	1991	30	40.6	1972	621	0	.0	.1	24.0	.7	14.4	.1
Nov	39.6	18.9	29.3	79+	1999	7	40.7	1999	-20+	1985	28	12.7	1985	1073	0	.0	.0	8.3	8.3	26.9	2.3
Dec	29.9	9.0	19.5	65+	1998	1	32.2	1999	-38	1983	24	.4	1983	1411	0	.0	.0	2.8	14.8	30.2	8.3
Ann	55.1	30.9	43.1	115	Jul 1981	7	75.3	Aug 1983	-38+	Dec 1983	24	.4	Dec 1983	8454	468	3.0	24.5	223.5	61.3	182.7	30.7

+ 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

054-A

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**Climate Division: SD 1**

**NWS Call Sign:**

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**Lon: 103°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	.43	.32	1.20	1997	5	2.40	1997	.00+	1995	3.9	1.7	.1	.1	.00	.01	.05	.10	.17	.26	.36	.51	.72	1.09	1.46
Feb	.33	.30	.50	1952	18	1.20	1978	.00	1992	3.5	1.3	.0	.0	.01	.04	.08	.13	.18	.24	.31	.40	.53	.74	.94
Mar	.72	.40	1.05	1977	29	2.73	1982	.00	1981	4.3	2.2	.3	@	.03	.08	.18	.29	.40	.54	.69	.89	1.16	1.61	2.05
Apr	1.91	1.86	2.73	1989	27	5.29	1984	.04	1977	7.0	4.3	1.1	.4	.14	.26	.51	.77	1.06	1.40	1.81	2.32	3.04	4.25	5.44
May	2.90	2.56	2.75	1995	13	8.61	1995	.43	1984	8.4	6.1	1.9	.6	.55	.81	1.23	1.62	2.02	2.45	2.94	3.53	4.31	5.57	6.77
Jun	3.12	2.58	3.75	1992	13	7.64	1992	.95	1987	8.6	6.4	2.1	.6	.98	1.28	1.72	2.09	2.46	2.83	3.25	3.73	4.36	5.33	6.24
Jul	2.23	2.28	2.61	1980	3	5.62	1993	.34	1988	7.3	5.1	1.7	.4	.47	.67	1.00	1.29	1.59	1.91	2.27	2.71	3.28	4.19	5.06
Aug	1.33	1.18	2.46	1999	12	2.99	1999	.03	2000	5.2	3.4	.6	.1	.17	.27	.46	.65	.84	1.06	1.31	1.62	2.04	2.74	3.41
Sep	1.25	.99	2.26	1971	5	4.53	1977	.00+	2000	4.3	2.7	.7	.3	.00	.09	.29	.48	.69	.92	1.20	1.54	2.02	2.82	3.60
Oct	1.48	.81	2.65	1994	6	6.22	1998	.06	1987	3.9	2.9	.9	.4	.06	.13	.30	.49	.72	.99	1.33	1.76	2.39	3.47	4.55
Nov	.57	.41	2.35	2000	2	2.66	2000	.00+	1999	3.3	2.0	.2	@	.00	.00	.11	.21	.31	.42	.55	.72	.94	1.31	1.68
Dec	.40	.27	.70	1972	23	1.20	1972	.00+	2000	3.9	1.5	.1	.0	.00	.00	.04	.12	.20	.29	.39	.51	.68	.96	1.24
Ann	16.67	16.18	3.75	Jun 1992	13	8.61	May 1995	.00+	Dec 2000	63.6	39.6	9.7	2.9	9.34	10.63	12.35	13.71	14.94	16.16	17.45	18.90	20.69	23.35	25.72

+ 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

Complete documentation available from:  
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**COOP ID: 395048**

**Climate Division: SD 1**

**NWS Call Sign:**

**Elevation: 2,990 Feet**

**Lat: 45° 47N**

**Lon: 103° 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	1.9	.2	4	1	10.0	1986	21	10.0	1986	22	1977	31	18	1997	1.2	1.0	.5	.2	.1	-9.9	-9.9	-9.9	-9.9
Feb	3.4	4.0	2	#	4.0	1982	23	6.5	1982	24	1979	22	13	1979	1.0	.9	.4	.0	.0	-9.9	-9.9	-9.9	-9.9
Mar	3.0	1.5	2	#	14.0	1985	3	14.0	1985	15	1998	7	11	1998	.9	.8	.5	.2	.1	-9.9	-9.9	-9.9	-9.9
Apr	1.4	.0	1	0	6.0	1978	18	6.0	1978	16	1997	6	9	1986	.2	.2	.1	.1	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0
May	.3	.0	0	0	8.0	1986	7	8.0	1986	0	0	0	0	0	.1	.1	.1	@	.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	1.0	1973	15	1.0	1973	14	1984	24	1	1984	@	@	.0	.0	.0	.1	.0	.0	.0
Oct	1.8	.0	#	0	9.0	1973	10	11.0	1973	9	1973	10	1	1980	.5	.5	.2	.1	.0	.5	.3	.2	.0
Nov	3.1	.0	1	#	9.0	1977	20	18.0	1977	23	1985	30	14	1978	.5	.5	.2	.1	.0	-9.9	-9.9	-9.9	-9.9
Dec	6.7	5.5	3	#	9.0	1993	17	17.0	1973	18	1977	31	12	1983	1.8	1.6	.6	.3	.0	-9.9	-9.9	-9.9	-9.9
Ann	21.6	11.2	N/A	N/A	14.0	Mar 1985	3	18.0	Nov 1977	24	Feb 1979	22	18	Jan 1997	6.2	5.6	2.6	1.0	.2	-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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**Elevation: 2,990 Feet**

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**Lon: 103° 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	6/21	6/13	6/08	6/03	5/30	5/26	5/21	5/16	5/08
32	6/08	6/01	5/27	5/23	5/20	5/16	5/12	5/07	4/30
28	5/25	5/19	5/14	5/11	5/07	5/04	4/30	4/25	4/19
24	5/11	5/05	5/01	4/28	4/25	4/22	4/18	4/15	4/09
20	4/30	4/25	4/21	4/17	4/14	4/11	4/08	4/04	3/29
16	4/17	4/12	4/09	4/06	4/03	3/31	3/28	3/25	3/20
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	8/26	8/31	9/04	9/07	9/10	9/13	9/16	9/20	9/25
32	9/08	9/13	9/16	9/18	9/20	9/23	9/25	9/28	10/02
28	9/12	9/17	9/21	9/24	9/26	9/29	10/02	10/06	10/11
24	9/21	9/27	10/01	10/05	10/08	10/11	10/15	10/19	10/25
20	9/27	10/03	10/08	10/11	10/15	10/18	10/22	10/27	11/02
16	10/14	10/19	10/23	10/26	10/29	10/31	11/03	11/07	11/12
Freeze Free Period									
Temp (F)	Probability of longer than indicated freeze free period (Days)								
	.10	.20	.30	.40	.50	.60	.70	.80	.90
36	129	120	113	108	102	97	91	84	75
32	147	139	133	128	123	118	113	107	99
28	166	158	152	146	142	137	132	126	117
24	192	183	176	171	165	160	154	148	139
20	211	201	194	188	183	177	171	164	155
16	229	222	217	212	208	204	199	194	186

\* 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	1512	1191	1061	667	367	148	57	78	268	621	1073	1411	8454
60	1357	1051	906	521	238	73	19	31	161	467	923	1256	7003
57	1265	976	813	437	174	41	9	17	109	375	833	1163	6212
55	1205	924	751	383	137	27	5	11	81	314	774	1101	5713
50	1063	793	606	261	66	7	0	2	30	178	636	958	4600
32	574	387	183	24	0	0	0	0	0	5	226	472	1871

Base	Cooling Degree Days (1)												
Above	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann
32	85	119	145	347	667	916	1143	1117	756	407	143	83	5928
55	4	13	1	16	91	253	435	414	147	3	1	0	1378
57	1	8	0	10	66	207	378	359	116	1	0	0	1146
60	0	0	0	4	37	149	294	280	77	0	0	0	841
65	0	0	0	0	12	74	177	171	34	0	0	0	468
70	0	0	0	0	2	27	93	91	12	0	0	0	225

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	9	44	189	466	720	945	918	565	246	43	4	1	10	54	243	709	1429	2374	3292	3857	4103	4146	4150
45	0	1	12	102	321	570	790	763	423	140	15	0	0	1	13	115	436	1006	1796	2559	2982	3122	3137	3137
50	0	0	1	52	200	423	635	608	290	71	3	0	0	0	1	53	253	676	1311	1919	2209	2280	2283	2283
55	0	0	0	17	103	280	480	454	177	26	0	0	0	0	0	17	120	400	880	1334	1511	1537	1537	1537
60	0	0	0	6	41	159	327	306	98	7	0	0	0	0	0	6	47	206	533	839	937	944	944	944
Base	Growing Degree Units for Corn (Monthly)												Growing Degree Units for Corn (Accumulated Monthly)											
50/86	1	15	48	145	296	444	597	579	362	180	39	6	1	16	64	209	505	949	1546	2125	2487	2667	2706	2712

(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.  
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)