

Climatology of the United States

No. 20 1971-2000

Station: TAHOE CITY, CA

COOP ID: 048758

Climate Division: CA 3

NWS Call Sign:

Elevation: 6,230 Feet Lat: 39° 10N

Lon: 120° 09W

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	40.5	20.1	30.3	59	1990	10	36.5	1986	-14+	1937	21	23.7	1993	1076	0	.0	.0	2.5	3.3	29.7	.4
Feb	42.0	21.3	31.7	60+	1996	9	38.3	1991	-15	1989	7	27.0	1990	934	0	.0	.0	4.3	2.6	27.4	.3
Mar	45.1	24.3	34.7	67	1988	27	39.1	1997	-6	1935	10	26.5	1977	924	0	.0	.0	9.5	1.8	28.7	.2
Apr	51.4	27.7	39.6	74	1981	30	46.5	1992	5	1999	9	33.0	1975	763	0	.0	.0	17.3	.3	25.3	.0
May	60.1	33.5	46.8	81	1986	31	53.9	1992	9	1974	18	39.8	1977	565	0	.0	.0	26.0	@	14.4	.0
Jun	69.2	39.6	54.4	90	1961	22	58.4	1985	24+	1990	1	50.1	1980	320	2	.0	.0	29.3	.0	3.3	.0
Jul	77.5	44.7	61.1	93+	1934	28	64.4	1988	22	1975	1	56.3	1983	142	20	.0	.1	31.0	.0	.3	.0
Aug	77.0	44.8	60.9	94	1933	15	63.8	1988	29+	1957	30	54.1	1976	148	21	.0	.2	31.0	.0	.2	.0
Sep	70.1	39.6	54.9	87+	1955	2	58.3	1981	21+	1965	19	48.7	1986	310	4	.0	.0	29.3	.0	2.8	.0
Oct	60.0	32.3	46.2	80	1933	3	52.0	1988	9	1971	28	40.0	1971	585	0	.0	.0	26.0	.1	16.1	.0
Nov	47.9	25.5	36.7	70	1988	6	43.6	1995	1	1931	23	29.4	1994	849	0	.0	.0	13.2	1.0	26.5	.0
Dec	41.4	20.6	31.0	60	1990	10	35.3	1981	-16	1972	11	25.1	1971	1055	0	.0	.0	3.3	3.2	29.6	.5
Ann	56.9	31.2	44.0	94	Aug 1933	15	64.4	Jul 1988	-16	Dec 1972	11	23.7	Jan 1993	7671	47	.0	.3	222.7	12.3	204.3	1.4

+ 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: 1931-2001

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

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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	6.01	4.29	4.65	1997	2	18.23	1997	.08	1991	10.2	7.7	4.1	2.0	.29	.61	1.31	2.10	3.03	4.13	5.48	7.22	9.69	13.91	18.14
Feb	5.71	4.59	5.80	1963	1	22.25	1986	.07	1988	9.8	7.7	3.7	1.8	.47	.85	1.60	2.39	3.26	4.26	5.45	6.94	9.01	12.47	15.88
Mar	4.57	3.12	3.98	1995	23	19.58	1995	.50	2000	9.8	7.2	3.1	1.3	.33	.62	1.21	1.84	2.54	3.35	4.32	5.55	7.26	10.15	13.00
Apr	1.82	1.58	3.67	1958	3	6.71	1982	.14+	1992	7.4	4.5	1.0	.2	.22	.36	.62	.87	1.14	1.44	1.79	2.22	2.80	3.77	4.70
May	1.21	1.03	1.91	1996	16	4.18	1996	.00	1985	6.2	3.2	.6	.2	.05	.15	.33	.51	.70	.92	1.17	1.49	1.93	2.66	3.37
Jun	.77	.59	1.46	1936	6	2.09	1982	.00+	1994	3.8	2.5	.3	.0	.00	.00	.24	.38	.51	.64	.80	.98	1.22	1.61	1.98
Jul	.33	.16	1.63	1974	9	2.66	1974	.00+	2000	1.7	.8	.2	.1	.00	.00	.01	.04	.09	.16	.25	.38	.57	.90	1.25
Aug	.46	.24	1.60	1991	15	1.96	1976	.00+	2000	2.6	1.1	.1	.1	.00	.00	.00	.05	.13	.23	.36	.53	.79	1.25	1.72
Sep	.90	.51	1.45	1982	16	4.78	1982	.00	1987	3.9	2.1	.6	.1	.00	.03	.10	.21	.34	.51	.74	1.04	1.49	2.28	3.10
Oct	1.95	1.58	3.15	1933	29	6.67	1975	.00+	1995	4.9	3.4	1.3	.5	.00	.18	.51	.82	1.14	1.50	1.92	2.43	3.13	4.28	5.41
Nov	4.25	3.13	4.56	1950	19	13.55	1981	.31	1992	8.4	6.3	2.9	1.2	.33	.61	1.17	1.75	2.40	3.15	4.04	5.16	6.72	9.33	11.91
Dec	4.68	4.11	6.77	1964	23	18.50	1996	.00	1989	9.0	7.1	2.8	1.4	.16	.51	1.17	1.85	2.59	3.44	4.46	5.73	7.50	10.46	13.37
Ann	32.66	27.61	6.77	Dec 1964	23	22.25	Feb 1986	.00+	Aug 2000	77.7	53.6	20.7	8.9	14.40	17.32	21.38	24.69	27.78	30.90	34.24	38.08	42.91	50.25	56.89

+ 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: 1931-2001

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

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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	38.4	40.0	21	16	21.0	1997	23	106.5	1996	76	1993	1	66	1993	7.5	7.2	4.4	2.8	1.4	28.1	27.0	25.3	23.2
Feb	40.8	35.5	29	29	31.0	1985	8	109.5	1998	97	1993	24	69	1993	7.7	7.5	4.7	2.9	1.2	25.8	24.3	23.7	22.2
Mar	30.9	25.5	23	23	32.0	1995	23	100.0	1995	84	1993	1	61	1983	7.1	6.8	3.8	2.2	.9	25.9	24.3	22.9	19.1
Apr	11.1	5.0	10	2	16.0	1999	6	42.0	1999	74	1982	4	55	1983	4.1	3.8	1.7	.8	.2	10.3	8.3	6.7	5.4
May	2.8	1.0	1	#	10.0	1975	1	14.0	1975	45	1983	1	18	1983	1.1	1.1	.5	.2	@	2.2	1.6	1.2	1.0
Jun	.4	.0	#	0	4.0	1995	16	4.0	1995	4	1995	16	#+	1995	.1	.1	.1	.0	.0	.1	.1	.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	.4	.0	#	0	4.0	1971	30	5.0	1986	4+	1986	27	#+	1986	.2	.2	.1	.0	.0	.2	.1	.0	.0
Oct	2.5	.0	#	#	10.0	1981	29	12.0+	1985	12	1981	29	1+	2000	1.0	.9	.2	.1	@	1.3	.5	.2	.1
Nov	17.3	14.5	3	1	26.0	1982	30	59.0	1985	40	1994	26	13	1994	4.3	4.1	2.0	1.2	.3	10.5	7.5	5.6	3.0
Dec	26.2	24.3	10	8	37.0	1996	21	83.5	1992	62	1992	31	30	1994	6.2	6.0	3.2	1.9	.6	21.1	18.0	15.8	12.4
Ann	170.8	145.8	N/A	N/A	37.0	Dec 1996	21	109.5	Feb 1998	97	Feb 1993	24	69	Feb 1993	39.3	37.7	20.7	12.1	4.6	125.5	111.7	101.4	86.4

+ 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	7/18	7/14	7/11	7/08	7/06	7/03	6/30	6/27	6/23
32	7/07	6/30	6/26	6/22	6/18	6/14	6/10	6/06	5/30
28	6/16	6/09	6/05	6/01	5/28	5/24	5/20	5/16	5/09
24	6/01	5/23	5/17	5/12	5/07	5/02	4/27	4/21	4/13
20	5/11	5/03	4/28	4/23	4/18	4/13	4/08	4/03	3/26
16	5/02	4/23	4/16	4/10	4/05	3/30	3/25	3/18	3/08
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	8/10	8/16	8/20	8/24	8/27	8/30	9/02	9/06	9/12
32	8/27	9/04	9/09	9/14	9/19	9/23	9/28	10/03	10/11
28	9/19	9/26	10/01	10/05	10/09	10/13	10/17	10/22	10/29
24	10/11	10/17	10/21	10/24	10/28	10/31	11/03	11/07	11/13
20	10/19	10/26	10/31	11/04	11/08	11/12	11/16	11/21	11/28
16	11/06	11/12	11/16	11/20	11/23	11/26	11/30	12/04	12/10
Freeze Free Period									
Temp (F)	Probability of longer than indicated freeze free period (Days)								
	.10	.20	.30	.40	.50	.60	.70	.80	.90
36	76	67	61	56	52	47	42	36	27
32	118	109	102	97	92	87	81	75	66
28	161	151	144	139	133	128	122	115	106
24	202	192	185	178	173	167	161	153	143
20	234	223	216	209	203	197	191	183	173
16	260	250	243	237	231	226	220	213	203

* 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)

Base	Heating Degree Days (1)												
	Below	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
65	1076	934	924	763	565	320	142	148	310	585	849	1055	7671
60	921	794	785	613	413	185	51	56	180	432	699	900	6029
57	828	710	692	524	327	120	20	23	119	345	609	807	5124
55	766	654	630	466	272	85	9	12	86	289	549	745	4563
50	611	514	477	328	157	27	0	1	29	170	402	590	3306
32	119	75	66	29	3	0	0	0	0	3	39	115	449

Base	Cooling Degree Days (1)												
	Above	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
32	66	65	149	256	461	672	901	895	684	441	180	83	4853
55	0	0	0	3	17	67	197	194	80	15	0	0	573
57	0	0	0	1	10	42	146	144	53	8	0	0	404
60	0	0	0	0	3	17	84	84	24	3	0	0	215
65	0	0	0	0	0	2	20	21	4	0	0	0	47
70	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	4

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	0	0	17	75	235	438	657	649	454	229	41	3	0	0	17	92	327	765	1422	2071	2525	2754	2795	2798
45	0	0	0	24	122	293	502	494	309	111	5	0	0	0	0	24	146	439	941	1435	1744	1855	1860	1860
50	0	0	0	1	44	167	349	340	175	37	0	0	0	0	0	1	45	212	561	901	1076	1113	1113	1113
55	0	0	0	0	6	66	204	193	72	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	72	276	469	541	547	547	547
60	0	0	0	0	0	14	80	76	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	94	170	182	182	182	182
Base	Growing Degree Units for Corn (Monthly)												Growing Degree Units for Corn (Accumulated Monthly)											
50/86	0	1	23	74	179	301	438	430	312	176	41	1	0	1	24	98	277	578	1016	1446	1758	1934	1975	1976

(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/normal/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/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