

2003

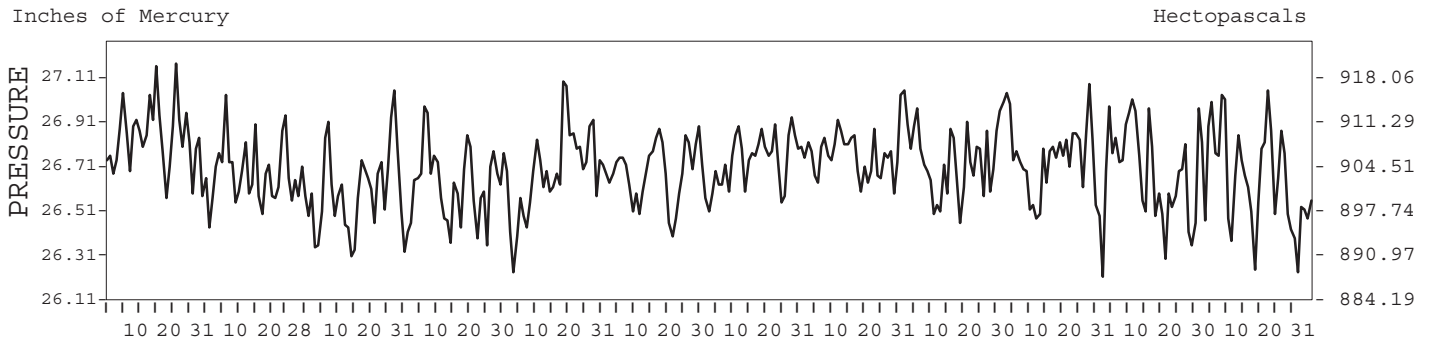
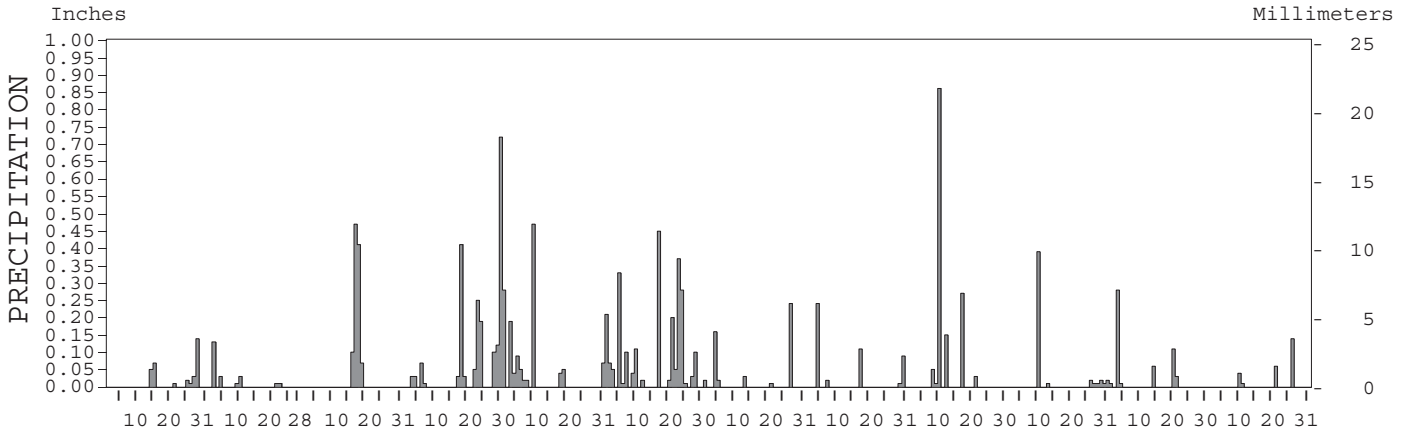
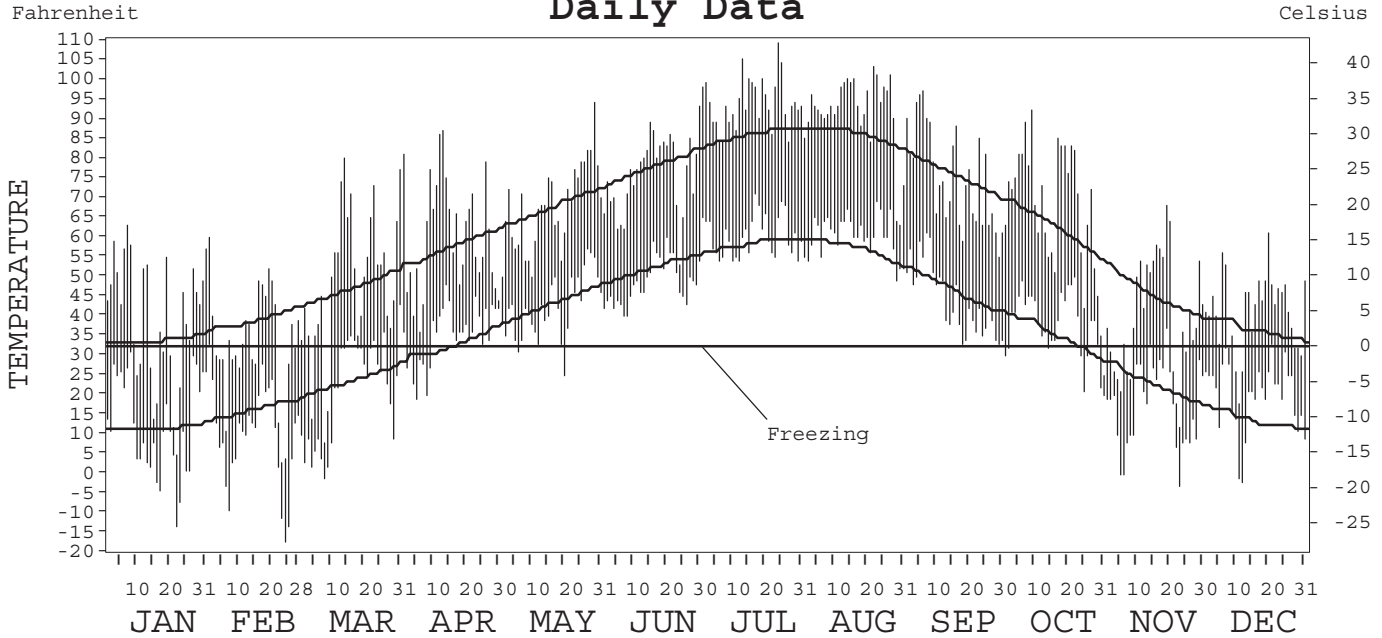
LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA  
ANNUAL SUMMARY WITH COMPARATIVE DATA



ISSN 0198-4721

RAPID CITY,  
SOUTH DAKOTA (RAP)

Daily Data



I CERTIFY THAT THIS IS AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION,  
AND IS COMPILED FROM RECORDS ON FILE AT THE NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER.

*Thomas R. Karl*

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION	NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA, AND INFORMATION SERVICE	NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA	DIRECTOR NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER
---	---	---	---

# METEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR 2003

## RAPID CITY, SD (RAP)

LATITUDE: 44° 02' 44" N      LONGITUDE: 103° 03' 14" W      ELEVATION (FT): GRND: 3150      BARO: 3153      TIME ZONE: MOUNTAIN (UTC + 7)      WBAN: 24090

ELEMENT		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YEAR	
TEMPERATURE °F	MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM	39.6	33.2	48.8	60.5	67.7	75.8	93.8	91.5	75.0	67.2	39.9	41.0	61.2	
	HIGHEST DAILY MAXIMUM	63	60	80	87	94	93	109	103	97	92	68	61	109	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	07	01	14	13	29	30	24	22	06	09	19	20	JUL 24	
	MEAN DAILY MINIMUM	12.5	9.8	21.1	35.3	42.3	48.5	60.3	60.3	44.1	37.8	17.3	19.9	34.1	
	LOWEST DAILY MINIMUM	-13	-17	-1	19	25	40	54	49	33	20	-3	-2	-17	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	22	24	08	05	20	08+	30+	29	29+	31	23	12	FEB 24	
	AVERAGE DRY BULB	26.1	21.5	35.0	47.9	55.0	62.2	77.1	75.9	59.6	52.5	28.6	30.5	47.7	
	MEAN WET BULB	22.2	20.0	29.5	41.6	48.8	54.8	61.8		48.7	42.4	25.1			
	MEAN DEW POINT	15.4	15.3	21.8	34.7	43.2	48.9	51.4		38.4	31.1	18.6			
	NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:														
	MAXIMUM ≥ 90°	0	0	0	0	1	1	23	24	5	1	0	0	0	55
	MAXIMUM ≤ 32°	10	14	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	7	7	45
	MINIMUM ≤ 32°	31	27	25	8	2	0	0	0	0	8	28	30	30	159
MINIMUM ≤ 0°	4	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	2	15	
H/C	HEATING DEGREE DAYS	1198	1212	924	505	320	134	0	17	220	385	1087	1063	7065	
	COOLING DEGREE DAYS	0	0	0	0	20	54	381	364	65	7	0	0	891	
RH	MEAN (PERCENT)	69	76	64	67	68	65	44	47	50	50	69	68	61	
	HOUR 05 LST	76	80	77	82	84	82	65	66	69	61	71	74	74	
	HOUR 11 LST	62	68	53	56	54	51	32	36	36	38	62	59	51	
	HOUR 17 LST	64	74	54	53	53	51	28	33	36	42	69	66	52	
	HOUR 23 LST	75	81	72	76	81	76	54	53	60	59	73	74	70	
S	PERCENT POSSIBLE SUNSHINE														
W/O	NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:														
	HEAVY FOG (VISBY ≤ 1/4 MI)	4	6	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	4	3	22	
	THUNDERSTORMS	0	0	0	0	2	10	7	3	2	1	0	0	25	
CLOUDINESS	SUNRISE-SUNSET: (OKTAS)														
	CEILOMETER (≤ 12,000 FT.)														
	SATELLITE (> 12,000 FT.)														
	MIDNIGHT-MIDNIGHT: (OKTAS)														
	CEILOMETER (≤ 12,000 FT.)														
SATELLITE (> 12,000 FT.)															
NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:															
CLEAR															
PARTLY CLOUDY															
CLOUDY															
PR	MEAN STATION PRESS. (IN.)	26.82	26.67	26.60	26.61	26.68	26.68	26.73	26.77	26.73	26.71	26.68	26.64	26.69	
	MEAN SEA-LEVEL PRESS. (IN.)	30.23	30.07	29.94	29.89	29.94	29.91	29.92	29.97	29.99	29.99	30.06			
WINDS	RESULTANT SPEED (MPH)	4.6	3.7	6.1	2.4	3.0	2.3	1.7	2.4	4.5	6.2	2.3	4.9	2.8	
	RES. DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	34	35	35	09	36	29	06	15	33	33	33	34	35	
	MEAN SPEED (MPH)	9.2	9.7	11.4	10.9	11.7	10.2	9.6	10.3	10.4	10.4	8.2	9.8	10.2	
	PREVAIL. DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	34	35	34	15	34	33	35	15	33	33	35	33	34	
	MAXIMUM 2-MINUTE WIND:														
	SPEED (MPH)	46	44	47	35	44	41	49	39	46	39	44	52	52	
	DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	33	31	34	36	30	23	34	33	32	32	34	31	31	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	04	17	23	16+	13	20	04	20	10	26	12	17	DEC 17	
	MAXIMUM 5-SECOND WIND:														
	SPEED (MPH)	58	54	52	40	49	49	59	46	54	49	51	66	66	
DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	30	31	34	35	30	26	33	33	33	32	33	32	32		
DATE OF OCCURRENCE	04	17	23	19+	13	30	04	20	10	26	12	17	DEC 17		
PRECIPITATION	WATER EQUIVALENT:														
	TOTAL (IN.)	0.33	0.22	1.05	2.04	1.32	2.45	0.48	0.47	1.37	0.49	0.50	0.25	10.97	
	GREATEST 24-HOUR (IN.)	0.17	0.13	0.60	0.72	0.90	0.57	0.24	0.24	0.86	0.39	0.28	0.14	0.90	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	27-28	02	17-18	30	30-01	23-24	27	04	10	10	03	26	MAY 30-01	
	NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:														
PRECIPITATION ≥ 0.01	7	6	4	13	11	18	6	5	6	8	6	4	94		
PRECIPITATION ≥ 0.10	1	1	3	6	3	9	2	2	3	1	2	1	34		
PRECIPITATION ≥ 1.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
SNOWFALL	SNOW, ICE PELLETS, HAIL:														
	TOTAL (IN.)														
	GREATEST 24-HOUR (IN.)														
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE														
	MAXIMUM SNOW DEPTH (IN.)														
DATE OF OCCURRENCE															
NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:															
SNOWFALL ≥ 1.0															

# NORMALS, MEANS, AND EXTREMES

## RAPID CITY, SD (RAP)

LATITUDE: 44° 02' 44" N      LONGITUDE: 103° 03' 14" W      ELEVATION (FT): GRND: 3150      BARO: 3153      TIME ZONE: MOUNTAIN (UTC + 7)      WBAN: 24090

ELEMENT		POR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YEAR
TEMPERATURE °F	NORMAL DAILY MAXIMUM	30	33.6	38.6	46.6	57.1	67.2	77.4	85.5	85.5	75.2	61.7	44.8	36.1	59.1
	MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM	55	34.1	38.4	45.3	57.5	67.7	77.8	86.4	86.1	75.1	61.3	46.6	37.3	59.5
	HIGHEST DAILY MAXIMUM	61	76	75	82	93	98	109	110	106	104	94	83	75	110
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1987	1995	1993	1989	1969	2002	1989	1988	1978	1993	1999	1965	JUL 1989
	MEAN OF EXTREME MAXS.	55	60.4	63.0	71.8	81.8	87.6	94.6	100.9	100.1	95.0	83.9	71.0	62.7	81.1
	NORMAL DAILY MINIMUM	30	11.3	15.9	23.2	32.3	42.7	51.8	57.9	56.6	46.0	34.7	22.1	13.3	34.0
	MEAN DAILY MINIMUM	55	10.6	15.1	21.6	32.1	42.9	51.9	58.4	57.1	46.2	34.9	22.7	14.2	34.0
	LOWEST DAILY MINIMUM	61	-27	-31	-21	1	18	31	39	38	18	-2	-19	-30	-31
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1950	1996	1996	1975	1950	1951	1987	1992	1985	1991	1959	1990	FEB 1996
	MEAN OF EXTREME MINS.	55	-12.1	-7.3	0.9	16.9	29.3	40.0	48.3	46.2	30.4	18.5	3.1	-9.1	17.1
	NORMAL DRY BULB	30	22.4	27.3	34.9	44.7	55.0	64.6	71.7	71.1	60.6	48.2	33.4	24.7	46.6
	MEAN DRY BULB	55	22.3	26.7	33.4	44.9	55.3	65.0	72.5	71.6	60.8	48.1	34.7	25.8	46.8
	MEAN WET BULB	18	21.0	23.3	30.4	38.7	48.6	57.0	61.4	59.9	50.4	38.0	28.7	21.7	39.9
	MEAN DEW POINT	18	13.8	16.1	23.0	30.1	41.9	50.8	54.2	52.0	41.4	29.7	21.4	14.2	32.4
	NORMAL NO. DAYS WITH:														
MAXIMUM ≥ 90°	30	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	3.1	10.7	11.0	3.9	0.2	0.0	0.0	29.3	
MAXIMUM ≤ 32°	30	12.9	9.1	5.1	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	6.3	10.7	45.3	
MINIMUM ≤ 32°	30	30.0	26.6	26.4	15.6	2.7	*	0.0	0.0	2.0	11.1	25.7	30.0	170.1	
MINIMUM ≤ 0°	30	7.5	4.2	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	*	1.2	4.6	18.7	
H/C	NORMAL HEATING DEG. DAYS	30	1314	1061	925	595	313	88	16	21	190	521	934	1233	7211
	NORMAL COOLING DEG. DAYS	30	0	0	0	2	13	86	227	208	59	3	0	0	598
RH	NORMAL (PERCENT)	30	66	65	65	61	64	65	58	56	55	59	66	66	62
	HOUR 05 LST	30	69	72	75	75	78	80	76	75	70	70	72	71	74
	HOUR 11 LST	30	60	57	54	49	51	52	46	43	41	45	55	59	51
	HOUR 17 LST	30	65	59	53	47	49	50	42	39	38	48	62	65	51
	HOUR 23 LST	30	70	71	72	70	73	75	69	66	63	66	71	69	70
S	PERCENT POSSIBLE SUNSHINE	54	57	60	63	62	60	65	73	74	70	66	55	55	63
W/O	MEAN NO. DAYS WITH:														
	HEAVY FOG (VISBY ≤ 1/4 MI)	62	1.7	2.3	2.8	1.9	1.2	1.2	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.9	2.1	2.0	17.9
	THUNDERSTORMS	62	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.2	5.4	10.3	11.2	8.2	3.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	40.0
CLOUDINESS	MEAN:														
	SUNRISE-SUNSET (OKTAS)	1					9.6	3.2		4.8	5.6		5.6		
	MIDNIGHT-MIDNIGHT (OKTAS)	1					9.6	3.2			6.4				
	MEAN NO. DAYS WITH:														
	CLEAR	1		7.0	3.0		1.0	10.0							
PARTLY CLOUDY	1	4.0	3.0	6.0		7.0	9.0								
CLOUDY	1	3.0	6.0	9.0		21.0	4.0								
PR	MEAN STATION PRESSURE (IN)	31	26.71	26.71	26.67	26.66	26.67	26.68	26.73	26.74	26.75	26.74	26.70	26.70	26.71
	MEAN SEA-LEVEL PRES. (IN)	19	30.08	30.08	30.01	29.95	29.92	29.90	29.93	29.95	29.98	30.03	30.05	30.10	30.00
WINDS	MEAN SPEED (MPH)	36	10.5	11.1	12.2	12.8	11.9	10.8	10.1	10.0	10.7	11.0	10.9	10.4	11.0
	PREVAIL. DIR (TENS OF DEGS)	24	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	15	33	33	33	33	33
	MAXIMUM 2-MINUTE:														
	SPEED (MPH)	8	59	59	54	61	57	54	69	54	47	55	57	52	69
	DIR. (TENS OF DEGS)		32	33	33	32	32	32	21	32	33	33	33	31	21
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		2002	1998	2000	1997	1999	2001	2002	2002	1999	1999	1998	2003	JUL 2002
	MAXIMUM 5-SECOND:														
	SPEED (MPH)	8	68	70	62	69	68	69	89	64	56	67	67	66	89
DIR. (TENS OF DEGS)		31	31	33	31	32	33	21	33	34	34	33	32	21	
YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		2002	1996	2000	1997	1999	2001	2002	2002	1999	1999	1998	2003	JUL 2002	
PRECIPITATION	NORMAL (IN)	30	0.37	0.46	1.03	1.86	2.96	2.83	2.03	1.61	1.10	1.37	0.61	0.41	16.64
	MAXIMUM MONTHLY (IN)	61	1.77	2.46	3.02	5.16	8.18	7.00	6.13	4.83	3.94	5.60	2.22	1.65	8.18
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1944	1953	1945	1967	1996	1968	1969	1982	1946	1998	1985	1975	MAY 1996
	MINIMUM MONTHLY (IN)	61	0.01	0.02	0.12	0.02	0.33	0.42	0.38	0.10	0.03	T	0.03	0.01	T
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1952	1999	1981	1987	1966	2002	1988	1943	1975	1960	1945	2001	OCT 1960
	MAXIMUM IN 24 HOURS (IN)	61	1.26	1.00	2.19	3.19	3.40	4.01	2.51	2.60	2.13	2.49	1.09	1.04	4.01
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1944	1953	1945	1997	1965	1963	1944	1982	1966	1982	1944	1975	JUN 1963
	NORMAL NO. DAYS WITH:														
PRECIPITATION ≥ 0.01	30	6.4	6.4	8.2	9.7	12.0	12.1	9.8	7.8	6.5	6.4	5.8	5.5	96.6	
PRECIPITATION ≥ 1.00	30	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	*	2.2	
SNOWFALL	NORMAL (IN)	30	5.2	6.3	9.1	6.2	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.2	1.8	6.3	5.3	40.9	
	MAXIMUM MONTHLY (IN)	57	24.0	23.7	30.7	30.6	11.6	3.6	T	T	2.0	10.2	33.6	17.9	33.6
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1949	1953	1950	1970	1950	1951	1993	1994	1970	1995	1985	1975	NOV 1985
	MAXIMUM IN 24 HOURS (IN)	57	16.3	10.0	14.9	16.0	13.4	3.6	T	T	2.0	7.8	9.4	9.8	16.3
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1944	1953	1973	1970	1967	1951	1993	1994	1970	1995	1977	1975	JAN 1944
	MAXIMUM SNOW DEPTH (IN)	49	16	14	16	17	13	2	0	0	1	6	15	11	17
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1993	1987	1977	1970	1967	1951			1965	1954	1985	1985	APR 1970
	NORMAL NO. DAYS WITH:														
SNOWFALL ≥ 1.0	30	1.5	2.4	2.5	1.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	2.2	1.6	12.7	

PRECIPITATION (inches) 2003 RAPID CITY, SD (RAP)

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL
1974	0.16	0.30	0.34	1.55	1.32	1.10	0.68	1.37	0.88	1.18	0.12	0.12	9.12
1975	1.05	0.35	2.45	1.37	1.23	5.63	1.57	0.87	0.03	0.69	0.57	1.65	17.46
1976	0.28	0.47	0.33	2.70	2.74	4.81	1.05	1.31	0.28	0.21	0.61	0.41	15.20
1977	0.83	0.25	2.63	1.57	2.49	1.76	2.98	1.79	2.86	1.06	0.82	0.36	19.40
1978	0.19	0.84	0.40	2.19	3.12	2.01	4.08	1.42	0.18	0.26	0.63	0.25	15.57
1979	0.49	0.33	0.47	0.31	1.17	3.60	4.11	2.32	0.07	0.90	0.15	0.07	13.99
1980	0.20	0.51	0.86	1.13	1.58	4.75	1.78	2.38	0.48	2.28	0.57	0.66	17.18
1981	0.14	0.09	0.12	0.32	2.81	1.89	4.47	1.74	0.16	1.81	0.23	0.35	14.13
1982	0.39	0.37	1.35	0.69	6.50	2.89	1.81	4.83	2.69	3.82	0.27	0.36	25.97
1983	0.34	0.18	0.84	1.00	2.18	3.01	1.94	2.39	0.33	1.74	1.07	0.47	15.49
1984	0.10	0.18	0.69	3.10	1.57	4.72	1.57	1.00	0.74	0.67	0.51	0.38	15.23
1985	0.46	0.06	1.55	0.32	1.24	1.58	1.03	1.86	1.57	0.98	2.22	0.77	13.64
1986	0.49	0.92	0.88	4.74	1.43	4.56	0.91	1.32	3.14	1.64	1.40	0.01	21.44
1987	0.04	1.71	1.14	0.02	3.39	1.37	0.83	2.37	0.68	0.26	0.30	0.31	12.42
1988	0.17	0.34	0.52	0.60	3.25	1.09	0.38	1.98	0.56	0.76	0.81	0.46	10.92
1989	0.02	0.34	0.96	1.46	1.40	1.04	0.82	1.70	3.09	1.49	0.43	0.82	13.57
1990	0.22	0.37	1.17	0.77	4.87	1.42	1.94	1.87	2.44	0.61	0.44	0.33	16.45
1991	0.32	0.77	0.63	2.99	4.40	3.27	1.97	0.58	0.59	1.00	0.73	0.04	17.29
1992	0.29	0.16	1.92	0.71	2.47	2.17	3.25	0.47	0.42	0.68	0.39	0.57	13.50
1993	0.68	0.61	0.82	3.05	2.16	3.39	4.31	1.18	1.46	0.90	0.70	0.53	19.79
1994	0.45	0.66	0.37	1.20	1.47	0.67	0.64	0.92	0.27	2.84	0.66	0.35	10.50
1995	0.09	0.55	0.79	2.57	4.03	4.50	2.87	0.46	0.82	2.42	0.42	0.13	19.65
1996	0.85	0.10	1.06	1.63	8.18	1.24	0.52	1.85	1.55		0.07		
1997	0.65	0.28	0.20	4.80	5.35	3.43	3.67	3.93	0.78	0.47	0.19	0.08	23.83
1998	0.15	1.24	1.32	0.28	2.34	5.59	1.26	1.42	1.50	5.60	1.13	0.06	21.89
1999	0.21	0.02	1.32	2.45	4.49	5.24	3.68	0.47	0.85	0.11	0.43	0.21	19.48
2000	0.23	0.15	1.37	3.95	2.40	1.60	2.06	0.70	0.45	1.54	0.47	0.11	15.03
2001	0.24	0.17	0.42	2.16	1.73	3.57	2.46	1.59	0.91	0.97	0.07	T	14.29
2002	0.05	0.20	0.69	2.24	1.61	0.42	1.13	0.76	2.45	0.65	0.04	0.03	10.27
2003	0.33	0.22	1.05	2.04	1.32	2.45	0.48	0.47	1.37	0.49	0.50	0.25	10.97
POR= 104 YRS	0.42	0.48	1.00	1.98	3.09	3.20	2.19	1.51	1.23	1.03	0.60	0.49	17.22

WBAN : 24090

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE (°F) 2003 RAPID CITY, SD (RAP)

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL
1974	21.9	32.5	37.6	47.2	53.8	66.6	77.3	67.7	57.6	51.7	36.4	28.9	48.3
1975	23.7	17.6	27.6	40.5	54.0	62.2	74.7	70.3	58.5	49.2	33.8	29.4	45.1
1976	23.9	34.6	34.4	46.9	55.4	64.3	72.8	72.6	63.3	45.4	31.7	26.8	47.7
1977	12.7	34.6	36.4	49.5	60.3	69.0	73.4	66.0	61.0	48.8	33.3	21.9	47.2
1978	11.0	15.3	35.4	45.2	55.1	65.1	71.1	69.7	66.2	50.5	29.2	17.1	44.2
1979	7.4	16.8	35.4	44.4	53.6	65.4	70.4	68.5	66.3	50.9	33.0	33.2	45.4
1980	21.0	27.1	31.5	48.9	57.4	67.1	74.9	68.6	61.6	48.9	39.3	30.3	48.1
1981	32.6	29.4	40.0	51.5	54.9	64.9	72.0	70.0	63.5	47.7	40.4	25.8	49.4
1982	11.9	23.9	33.0	42.1	53.3	59.7	70.7	70.2	58.7	47.2	32.7	28.6	44.3
1983	32.1	37.3	36.4	40.7	52.0	63.1	73.6	78.0	60.8	49.4	34.9	8.1	47.2
1984	28.0	36.1	34.3	43.8	53.6	62.8	72.2	74.8	57.2	47.2	37.5	21.4	47.4
1985	21.6	23.8	35.9	52.0	61.8	62.1	74.6	69.0	55.6	47.3	16.0	21.0	45.1
1986	29.8	21.5	43.0	44.2	54.9	67.6	70.9	69.6	55.0	48.7	30.6	30.5	47.2
1987	31.1	32.5	32.6	51.6	59.5	67.1	75.4	68.1	61.4	47.1	40.3	28.9	49.6
1988	21.7	26.9	35.6	47.1	60.0	75.6	76.1	72.5	60.4	49.7	36.4	28.4	49.2
1989	28.7	14.4	31.1	45.8	55.4	64.0	77.0	73.1	61.0	48.8	36.4	19.4	46.3
1990	32.4	28.9	36.4	45.0	53.2	66.6	71.7	73.8	65.9	48.2	40.5	17.8	48.4
1991	18.4	36.0	38.5	46.3	56.6	67.2	72.9	74.0	61.1	46.4	30.0	32.7	48.3
1992	33.6	36.3	40.9	47.1	57.4	62.6	64.3	65.9	62.6	49.3	32.4	19.0	47.6
1993	16.0	15.2	37.6	43.5	56.1	60.3	65.1	68.6	56.6	48.2	32.4	31.5	44.3
1994	22.4	19.8	40.5	46.0	60.2	68.5	70.7	73.3	65.5	49.7	35.5	30.3	48.5
1995	29.2	31.9	33.2	40.3	51.8	62.9	70.6	73.6	60.1	46.5	33.7	25.4	46.6
1996	14.9	27.3	26.2	43.3	50.6	65.5	70.8	73.2	59.8		24.3	17.9	
1997	18.1	28.8	36.7	38.7	52.8	66.3	70.9	68.7	62.5	48.6	33.2	30.3	46.3
1998	24.3	34.9	28.0	46.2	56.2	58.7	72.7	72.3	67.1	47.8	36.9	26.8	47.7
1999	25.6	36.6	36.3	42.6	53.0	62.6	71.3	71.4	55.7	49.9	44.4	33.3	48.6
2000	26.2	33.2	38.7	43.1	56.0	62.5	73.6	74.4	63.4	49.8	27.0	16.7	47.1
2001	29.7	16.9	34.4	46.0	56.2	64.1	74.8	74.4	62.5	47.9	39.9	28.9	48.0
2002	27.7	30.7	22.4	44.3	51.8	69.7	78.3	71.2	61.9	39.0	37.4	31.7	47.2
2003	26.1	21.5	35.0	47.9	55.0	62.2	77.1	75.9	59.6	52.5	28.6	30.5	47.7
POR= 104 YRS	23.1	25.8	33.4	44.9	55.1	64.6	72.4	70.9	60.8	48.6	35.5	26.3	46.8

HEATING DEGREE DAYS (base 65°F) 2003 RAPID CITY, SD (RAP)

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
1974-75	1	42	242	407	849	1112	1274	1318	1151	728	343	119	7586
1975-76	3	16	206	493	929	1096	1269	878	940	535	295	98	6758
1976-77	3	6	132	606	991	1177	1616	846	877	459	165	17	6895
1977-78	1	48	163	494	944	1330	1669	1383	912	588	312	91	7935
1978-79	17	40	111	443	1068	1480	1781	1348	910	614	362	82	8256
1979-80	3	25	64	433	952	982	1359	1094	1032	483	251	54	6732
1980-81	1	18	144	510	763	1070	998	993	765	402	311	65	6040
1981-82	21	7	108	531	730	1209	1646	1146	985	682	358	170	7593
1982-83	7	21	226	545	962	1119	1012	772	880	723	407	113	6787
1983-84	8	0	208	474	896	1762	1139	832	948	626	366	101	7360
1984-85	0	0	268	546	820	1344	1341	1148	895	393	146	144	7045
1985-86	8	27	327	544	1466	1358	1083	1211	672	617	317	35	7665
1986-87	5	12	296	497	1025	1059	1045	907	997	408	199	46	6496
1987-88	10	49	147	545	736	1111	1340	1103	905	533	195	17	6691
1988-89	3	18	163	470	850	1127	1120	1414	1047	586	303	116	7217
1989-90	3	6	182	495	847	1410	1004	1004	880	597	363	68	6859
1990-91	10	5	112	514	730	1462	1440	807	815	556	269	16	6736
1991-92	2	6	183	581	1045	997	964	828	742	539	262	107	6256
1992-93	67	83	138	493	973	1418	1515	1390	841	636	269	158	7981
1993-94	56	26	256	522	972	1035	1312	1260	749	565	171	27	6951
1994-95	9	17	79	468	876	1068	1104	919	983	734	400	130	6787
1995-96	11	5	215	568	933	1221	1551	1087	1200	643	447	66	7947
1996-97	6	0	203	1215	1453	1446	1008	872	783	373	30	30	6962
1997-98	23	26	127	510	947	1067	1254	837	1143	558	272	198	6962
1998-99	3	0	91	522	840	1178	1214	790	885	666	366	104	6659
1999-00	22	6	284	460	609	976	1196	914	808	652	281	139	6347
2000-01	10	1	152	462	1134	1490	1086	1339	944	565	278	127	7588
2001-02	9	0	138	523	746	1111	1149	954	1313	614	417	44	7018
2002-03	0	17	189	797	817	1027	1198	1212	924	505	320	134	7140
2003-	0	17	220	385	1087	1063							

WBAN : 24090

COOLING DEGREE DAYS (base 65°F) 2003 RAPID CITY, SD (RAP)

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL
1974	0	0	0	1	3	143	390	132	28	0	0	0	697
1975	0	0	0	0	9	41	314	188	19	12	0	0	583
1976	0	0	0	0	4	83	251	248	87	3	0	0	676
1977	0	0	0	0	25	143	270	85	51	0	0	0	574
1978	0	0	0	0	9	99	214	193	154	0	0	0	669
1979	0	0	0	4	15	99	179	141	110	2	0	0	550
1980	0	0	0	6	25	123	315	136	48	14	0	0	667
1981	0	0	0	3	5	67	243	170	74	0	0	0	562
1982	0	0	0	0	3	18	189	190	41	0	0	0	441
1983	0	0	0	0	9	62	282	407	88	0	0	0	848
1984	0	0	0	0	18	41	234	309	42	2	0	0	646
1985	0	0	0	10	53	64	312	158	51	0	0	0	648
1986	0	0	0	0	11	124	192	164	0	0	0	0	491
1987	0	0	0	13	33	118	341	152	45	0	0	0	702
1988	0	0	0	2	46	341	355	255	33	2	0	0	1034
1989	0	0	0	15	9	95	380	265	70	0	0	0	834
1990	0	0	0	2	4	120	226	282	147	3	0	0	784
1991	0	0	0	3	16	89	256	294	76	15	0	0	749
1992	0	0	0	9	36	41	51	118	72	11	0	0	338
1993	0	0	0	0	0	25	66	146	9	7	0	0	253
1994	0	0	0	0	28	141	193	280	97	0	0	0	739
1995	0	0	0	0	0	72	192	280	72	1	0	0	617
1996	0	0	0	0	5	86	194	262	52	0	0	0	491
1997	0	0	0	0	4	76	211	148	58	7	0	0	504
1998	0	0	0	0	8	15	250	232	160	0	0	0	665
1999	0	0	0	0	2	40	225	212	9	0	0	0	488
2000	0	0	0	0	10	71	282	299	108	0	0	0	770
2001	0	0	0	4	11	107	320	300	69	1	0	0	812
2002	0	0	0	0	15	193	422	216	103	0	0	0	949
2003	0	0	0	0	20	54	381	364	65	7	0	0	891

SNOWFALL (inches) 2003 RAPID CITY, SD (RAP)

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
1974-75	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	1.5	1.4	13.7	6.1	27.4	1.3	0.0	0.0	51.4
1975-76	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	8.4	17.9	2.0	6.5	4.3	3.5	0.0	0.0	47.2
1976-77	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	7.0	6.1	11.1	2.6	26.0	3.4	0.0	0.0	56.7
1977-78	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	10.6	7.4	3.1	15.0	3.0	2.6	T	0.0	42.5
1978-79	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	9.8	4.0	6.1	4.4	2.6	1.8	2.8	0.0	31.5
1979-80	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	1.8	0.3	3.0	10.1	8.6	5.4	0.0	0.0	29.2
1980-81	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	6.9	6.1	1.2	1.3	T	T	0.0	0.0	16.9
1981-82	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	1.2	3.8	6.2	5.0	11.5	5.5	0.0	0.0	34.8
1982-83	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	1.2	4.0	2.9	0.3	6.5	4.3	4.3	0.0	24.9
1983-84	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.9	6.9	7.1	1.9	2.5	6.1	22.1	0.2	0.0	48.0
1984-85	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.7	2.0	4.9	3.8	0.7	16.2	0.4	0.0	T	30.0
1985-86	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.6	33.6	10.2	5.7	10.7	6.0	12.7	0.0	0.0	80.9
1986-87	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	12.6	0.1	0.5	21.5	10.9	0.3	0.0	0.0	45.9
1987-88	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	T	4.7	2.7	3.6	10.6	6.1	0.0	0.0	29.4
1988-89	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	9.0	0.4	7.3	10.7	6.4	0.0	0.0	36.0
1989-90	0.0	T	0.0	3.9	4.6	10.9	3.1	5.0	9.2	3.0	0.5	T	40.2
1990-91	0.0	T	0.0	1.5	1.0	6.2	6.3	8.2	3.6	11.1	4.9	T	42.8
1991-92	T	0.0	T	4.0	6.7	0.8	5.2	1.2	8.2	3.5	0.0	0.0	29.6
1992-93	T	0.0	0.0	0.9	5.0	12.4	13.6	9.0	1.0	12.2	0.0	0.0	54.1
1993-94	T	0.0	T	2.4	11.4	5.5	7.5	11.1	5.6	12.8	0.0	T	56.3
1994-95	0.0	T	0.0	0.0	6.8	4.6	0.9	6.3	9.2	10.1	T	T	37.9
1995-96	0.0	0.0	T	10.2	3.1	1.4	19.4	4.4	16.2	10.3	0.9	T	65.9
1996-97	0.0	0.0	T								0.0	T	
1997-98	T	T	0.0	3.1									
1998-99			0.0	T	15.9	0.5	2.0	0.2	18.5	6.3	0.0	T	
1999-00	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	0.3	3.7	2.9	1.5	5.5	19.0	0.0	0.0	32.9
2000-01	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	2.9	3.0	2.7						
2001-02													
2002-03													
2003-													
POR= 55 YRS	T	T	0.1	1.7	5.2	4.9	5.0	6.2	8.9	6.4	0.8	0.1	39.3

WBAN : 24090

REFERENCE NOTES :

<p>PAGE 1: THE TEMPERATURE GRAPH SHOWS NORMAL MAXIMUM AND NORMAL MINIMUM DAILY TEMPERATURES (SOLID CURVES) AND THE ACTUAL DAILY HIGH AND LOW TEMPERATURES (VERTICAL BARS).</p> <p>PAGE 2 AND 3: H/C INDICATES HEATING AND COOLING DEGREE DAYS. RH INDICATES RELATIVE HUMIDITY W/O INDICATES WEATHER AND OBSTRUCTIONS S INDICATES SUNSHINE. PR INDICATES PRESSURE. CLOUDINESS ON PAGE 3 IS THE SUM OF THE CEILOMETER AND SATELLITE DATA NOT TO EXCEED EIGHT EIGHTHS(OKTAS).</p> <p>GENERAL: T INDICATES TRACE PRECIPITATION, AN AMOUNT GREATER THAN ZERO BUT LESS THAN THE LOWEST REPORTABLE VALUE. + INDICATES THE VALUE ALSO OCCURS ON EARLIER DATES. BLANK ENTRIES DENOTE MISSING OR UNREPORTED DATA. NORMALS ARE 30-YEAR AVERAGES (1971 - 2000). ASOS INDICATES AUTOMATED SURFACE OBSERVING SYSTEM. PM INDICATES THE LAST DAY OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH. POR (PERIOD OF RECORD) BEGINS WITH THE JANUARY DATA MONTH AND IS THE NUMBER OF YEARS USED TO COMPUTE THE MEAN. INDIVIDUAL MONTHS WITHIN THE POR MAY BE MISSING. WHEN THE POR FOR A NORMAL IS LESS THAN 30 YEARS, THE NORMAL IS PROVISIONAL AND IS BASED ON THE NUMBER OF YEARS INDICATED. 0.* OR * INDICATES THE VALUE OR MEAN-DAYS-WITH IS BETWEEN 0.00 AND 0.05. CLOUDINESS FOR ASOS STATIONS DIFFERS FROM THE NON-ASOS OBSERVATION TAKEN BY A HUMAN OBSERVER. ASOS STATION CLOUDINESS IS BASED ON TIME-AVERAGED CEILOMETER DATA FOR CLOUDS AT OR BELOW 12,000 FEET AND ON SATELLITE DATA FOR CLOUDS ABOVE 12,000 FEET. THE NUMBER OF DAYS WITH CLEAR, PARTLY CLOUDY, AND CLOUDY CONDITIONS FOR ASOS STATIONS IS THE SUM OF THE CEILOMETER AND SATELLITE DATA FOR THE SUNRISE TO SUNSET PERIOD.</p>	<p>GENERAL CONTINUED: CLEAR INDICATES 0 - 2 OKTAS, PARTLY CLOUDY INDICATES 3 - 6 OKTAS, AND CLOUDY INDICATES 7 OR 8 OKTAS. WHEN AT LEAST ONE OF THE ELEMENTS (CEILOMETER OR SATELLITE) IS MISSING, THE DAILY CLOUDINESS IS NOT COMPUTED. WIND DIRECTION IS RECORDED IN TENS OF DEGREES (2 DIGITS) CLOCKWISE FROM TRUE NORTH. "00" INDICATES CALM. "36" INDICATES TRUE NORTH. RESULTANT WIND IS THE VECTOR AVERAGE OF THE SPEED AND DIRECTION. AVERAGE TEMPERATURE IS THE SUM OF THE MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM TEMPERATURE DIVIDED BY 2. SNOWFALL DATA COMPRISE ALL FORMS OF FROZEN PRECIPITATION, INCLUDING HAIL. A HEATING (COOLING) DEGREE DAY IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE AVERAGE DAILY TEMPERATURE AND 65° F. DRY BULB IS THE TEMPERATURE OF THE AMBIENT AIR. DEW POINT IS THE TEMPERATURE TO WHICH THE AIR MUST BE COOLED TO ACHIEVE 100 PERCENT RELATIVE HUMIDITY. WET BULB IS THE TEMPERATURE THE AIR WOULD HAVE IF THE MOISTURE CONTENT WAS INCREASED TO 100 PERCENT RELATIVE HUMIDITY.</p> <p>ON JULY 1, 1996, THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BEGAN USING THE "METAR" OBSERVATION CODE THAT WAS ALREADY EMPLOYED BY MOST OTHER NATIONS OF THE WORLD. THE MOST NOTICEABLE DIFFERENCE IN THIS ANNUAL PUBLICATION WILL BE THE CHANGE IN UNITS FROM TENTHS TO EIGHTS(OKTAS) FOR REPORTING THE AMOUNT OF SKY COVER.</p>
---	--

2003  
RAPID CITY,  
SOUTH DAKOTA (RAP)

Rapid City, which is not far from the geographical center of North America, experiences the large temperature ranges, both daily and seasonal, that are typical of semi-arid continental climates.

The city is surrounded by contrasting landforms, with the forested Black Hills rising immediately west of the city, and rolling prairie extending out in the other directions. From 40 to 70 miles southeast lie the eroded Badlands. The Black Hills, many of which are more than 5,000 feet above sea level, with a number of peaks above 7,000 feet, exert a pronounced influence on the climate of this area. The rolling land to the east of the city is cut by the valleys of the Box Elder and Rapid Creeks, which flow generally east-southeastward. The station is located on the north slope of the irrigated Rapid Valley. An east-west ridge 200 to 300 feet higher than the airport separates the station from the Box Elder Creek Valley.

The principal agricultural products in the area are cattle and wheat, and ranchers and farmers are dependent on the current weather forecasts, which are at times of vital interest in the protection of livestock.

Although the annual precipitation is light at lower elevations, the distribution is beneficial to agriculture with the greatest amounts occurring during the growing season. The heaviest snows are expected in the spring, which helps to furnish moisture for the early maturing crops such as wheat, while heavy winter snows at the higher elevations provide irrigation water for the fertile valleys.

Summer days are normally warm with cool, comfortable nights. Nearly all of the summer precipitation occurs as thunderstorms. Hail is often associated with the more severe thunderstorms, with resultant damage to vegetation as well as other fragile material in the path of the storms. Autumn, which begins soon after the first of September, is characterized by mild, balmy days, and cool, invigorating mornings and evenings. Autumn weather usually extends into November and often into December.

Temperatures for the winter months of December, January, and February are among the warmest in South Dakota due to the protection of the Black Hills, the frequent occurrence of Chinook winds, and the fact that the winter tracks of arctic air masses usually pass east of Rapid City. Rapid City has become the retirement home for many farmers and ranchers from the western half of the state because of the cool summer nights and the relatively mild winters.

Snowfall is normally light with the greatest monthly average of about 8 inches occurring in March. Cold waves can be expected occasionally, and one or more blizzards may occur each winter.

Spring is characterized by unsettled conditions. Wide variations usually occur in temperatures, and snows may fall as late as May.

Based on the 1951-1980 period, the average first occurrence of 32 degrees Fahrenheit in the fall is September 29 and the average last occurrence in the spring is May 7.

# STATION LOCATION

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA

LOCATION	Occupied From	Occupied To	Airline Distances and Directions from previous Location	LATITUDE NORTH	LONGITUDE WEST	ELEVATION ABOVE										AUTOMATED OBSERVING EQUIPMENT *	* TYPE M = AMOS T = AUTOB S = ASOS W = AWOS  REMARKS
						SEA LEVEL		GROUND									
						GROUND	TEMPERATURE	WIND INSTRUMENT	EXTREME THERMOMETERS	PSYCHROMETER	SUNSHINE SWITCH	TIPPING BUCKET	RAIN GAUGE	WINDHOLE GAUGE	8 INCH RAIN GAUGE		
*NOTES:																	
<u>AIRPORT</u>																	
Old Municipal Airport 8 mi. ENE of Rapid City	1/19/39	10/12/50		44°09'	103°06'	3215	55	5	5		3	3	3				
Administration Building Municipal Airport + + Rapid City Regional Airport effective October 1, 1970	10/12/50	11/02/71	6.5 mi. SSE	44°03'	103°04'	e3162	f21	b6	5		a3	c5	3	d5			
Federal Service Bldg. Regional Airport	11/02/71	09/01/95	725 ft WSW	44°03'	103°04'	3162	g21	s6	s5	23	3	5	3 i5	g5 h5	NA		
Rapid City Regional AP	09/01/95	Present	NA	44°03'	103°03'	j3150									S		

**For Hard Copy Subscription:**

Price and ordering information: NCDC Subscribing Service Center, 310 State Route 956, Building 300, Rocket Center, WV 26726.

**INQUIRIES/COMMENTS CALL: Toll Free (866) 742-3322**

Visit our Web Site for other weather data: [www.ncdc.noaa.gov](http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov)

**Non-Subscription Request:**

NCDC Customer Services;  
Phone: 828-271-4800  
Fax: 828-271-4876  
Email: [ncdc.orders@noaa.gov](mailto:ncdc.orders@noaa.gov)

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300  
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

**FIRST CLASS  
POSTAGE & FEES PAID  
United States Department of Commerce  
NOAA Permit No. G - 19**

\* NOTES: For earlier station history see previous edition.