

2000

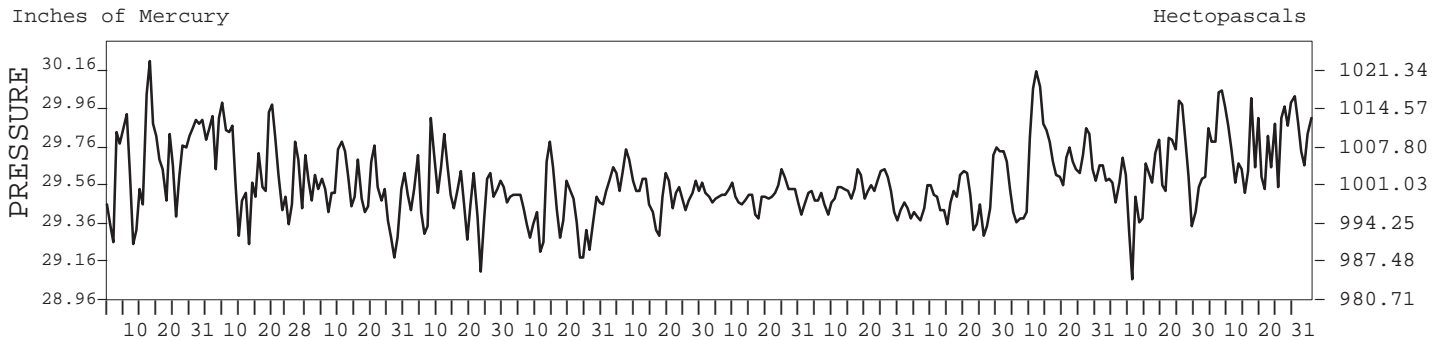
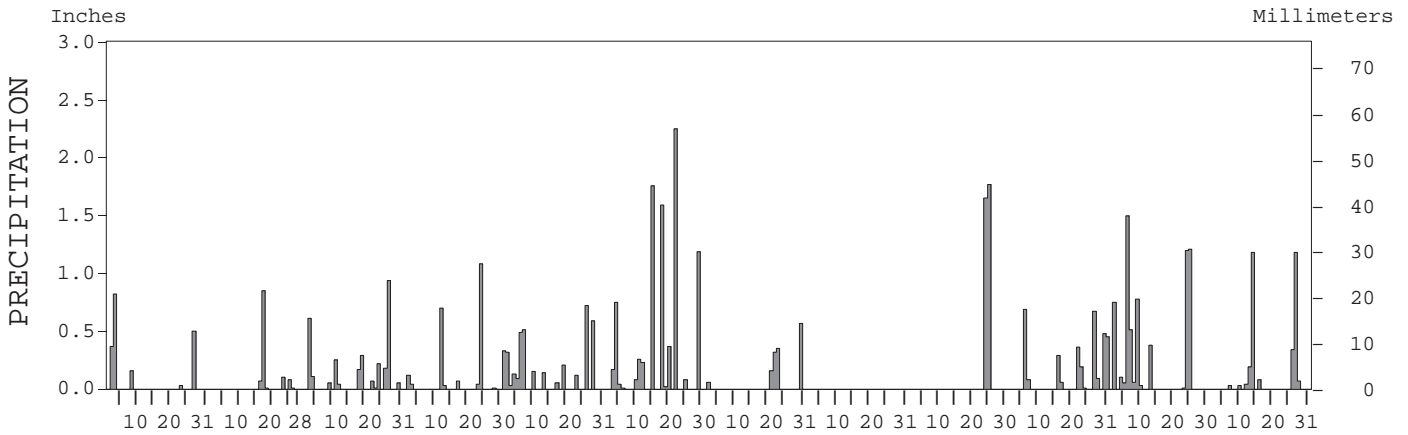
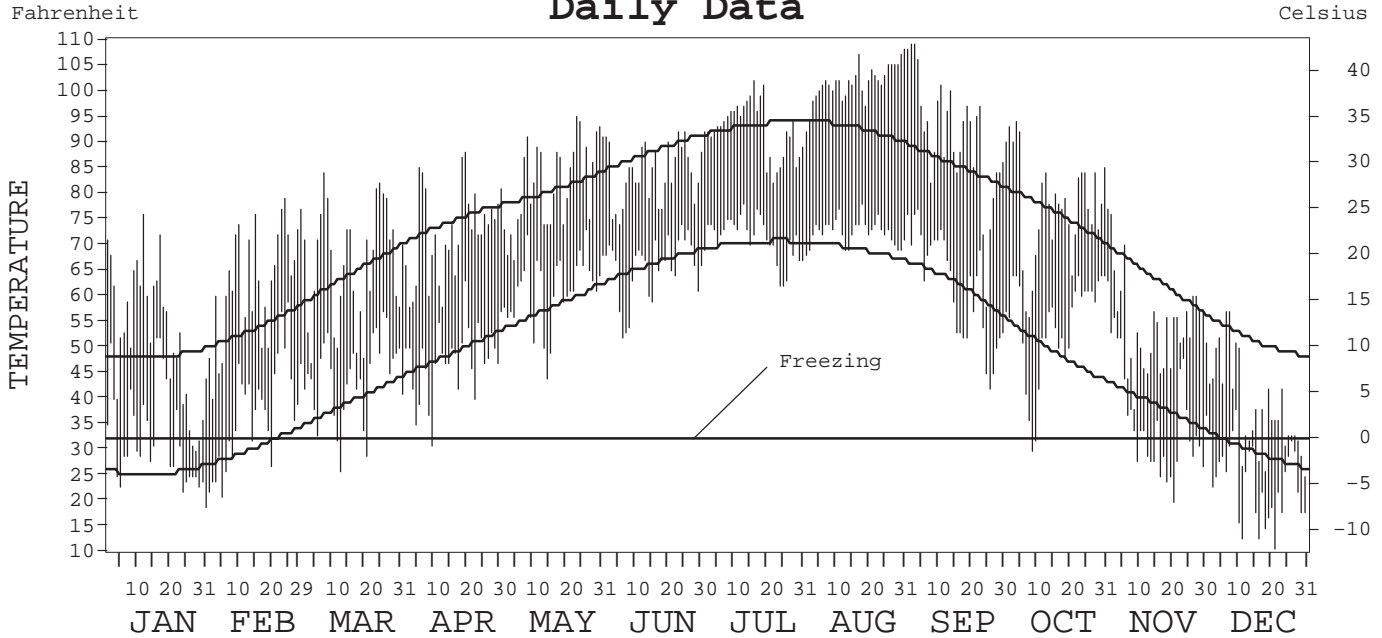
LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA ANNUAL SUMMARY WITH COMPARATIVE DATA



ISSN 0198-0661

FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS (FSM)

Daily Data



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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION	NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA, AND INFORMATION SERVICE	NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA	DIRECTOR NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER
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METEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR 2000

FORT SMITH, AR (FSM)

LATITUDE: 35° 20' 01" N LONGITUDE: 94° 21' 54" W ELEVATION (FT): GRND: 462 BARO: 462 TIME ZONE: CENTRAL (UTC + 6) WBAN: 13964

ELEMENT		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YEAR	
TEMPERATURE °F	MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM	52.5	62.6	66.3	72.4	82.2	83.9	92.4	101.5	90.8	77.4	54.7	38.8	73.0	
	HIGHEST DAILY MAXIMUM	76	79	84	88	95	92	102	108	109	94	77	57	109	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	12	24	07	19	23	25+	16	31	03+	04	01	08+	SEP 03+	
	MEAN DAILY MINIMUM	32.6	37.7	44.2	47.6	61.3	65.6	71.2	72.5	61.8	54.3	36.0	24.2	50.8	
	LOWEST DAILY MINIMUM	19	21	26	31	44	52	62	68	42	30	20	11	11	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	31	05	12	09	14	06	25+	01	26	09	21	22	DEC 22	
	AVERAGE DRY BULB	42.6	50.2	55.3	60.0	71.8	74.8	81.8	87.0	76.3	65.9	45.4	31.5	61.9	
	MEAN WET BULB	37.8	43.7	49.1	53.5	65.8	69.3	73.7		65.4	59.2	42.1	28.8		
	MEAN DEW POINT	31.2	36.9	43.0	46.9	62.2	66.4	70.1		59.1	54.6	38.0	23.6		
	NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:														
	MAXIMUM ≥ 90°	0	0	0	0	6	6	22	31	16	5	0	0	86	
MAXIMUM ≤ 32°	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	11		
MINIMUM ≤ 32°	19	10	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	14	27	76		
MINIMUM ≤ 0°	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
H/C	HEATING DEGREE DAYS	687	429	310	163	18	0	0	0	25	92	586	1029	3339	
	COOLING DEGREE DAYS	0	3	15	22	236	301	531	691	373	126	5	0	2303	
RH	MEAN (PERCENT)	68	65	68	64	74	78	71	54	62	74	79	75	69	
	HOUR 00 LST	74	70	76	75	84	87	84	63	76	87	86	79	78	
	HOUR 06 LST	79	81	84	83	89	88	93	85	87	92	90	83	86	
	HOUR 12 LST	59	55	59	49	62	69	55	38	44	56	67	68	57	
	HOUR 18 LST	60	50	54	50	63	68	53	33	43	61	71	71	56	
S	PERCENT POSSIBLE SUNSHINE														
W/O	NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:														
	HEAVY FOG (VISBY ≤ 1/4 MI)	3	0	3	0	5	4	1	0	1	0	0	2	19	
	THUNDERSTORMS	2	4	8	6	9	7	5	0	4	2	3	0	50	
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.)	29.67	29.63	29.52	29.51	29.41	29.52	29.48	29.49	29.49	29.66	29.59	29.78	29.56	
	MEAN SEA-LEVEL PRESS. (IN.)	30.17	30.13	30.01	30.00	29.89	30.00	29.96		29.97	30.15	30.09	30.29		
WINDS	RESULTANT SPEED (MPH)	1.3	0.5	2.5	1.1	0.8	1.1	0.9	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.2	2.3	0.5	
	RES. DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	05	18	08	25	19	18	08	33	07	09	32	01	05	
	MEAN SPEED (MPH)	7.2	7.9	8.0	8.0	6.6	5.6	5.0	5.4	6.7	5.9	7.2	7.6	6.8	
	PREVAIL. DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	08	06	09	08	21	09	09	09	08	06	08	09	08	
	MAXIMUM 2-MINUTE WIND:														
	SPEED (MPH)	43	31	45	32	33	36	32	20	45	24	29	31	45	
	DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	30	21	34	29	30	03	01	24	31	30	28	33	31	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	03	23	26	20	25	21	20	07	23	26	06+	19	SEP 23	
	MAXIMUM 5-SECOND WIND:														
	SPEED (MPH)	54	40	51	39	40	41	46	34	52	28	37	37	54	
DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	31	22	35	35	29	03	02	25	32	35	28	30	31		
DATE OF OCCURRENCE	03	23	26	07	25	21	20	17	23	05	06	18+	JAN 03		
PRECIPITATION	WATER EQUIVALENT:														
	TOTAL (IN.)	1.88	1.12	2.99	2.42	3.55	8.80	1.46	T	3.42	3.37	6.58	3.26	38.85	
	GREATEST 24-HOUR (IN.)	1.19	0.92	0.94	1.12	1.00	2.25	0.57	T	3.13	0.79	2.00	1.37	3.13	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	02-03	16-17	26	22-23	05-06	21	29	04	23-24	29-30	05-06	12-13	SEP 23-24	
	NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:														
PRECIPITATION ≥ 0.01	5	6	13	9	13	14	5	0	2	11	12	10	100		
PRECIPITATION ≥ 0.10	4	2	8	4	10	9	4	0	2	7	8	5	63		
PRECIPITATION ≥ 1.00	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	2	0	3	2	12		
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															

HEATING DEGREE DAYS (base 65°F) 2000 FORT SMITH, AR (FSM)

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
1971-72	0	0	23	26	441	571	804	616	378	145	36	1	3041
1972-73	1	0	14	176	648	887	873	688	315	258	59	0	3919
1973-74	0	0	9	97	316	764	821	565	304	166	6	1	3049
1974-75	0	0	54	113	465	761	718	699	562	217	10	0	3599
1975-76	0	0	62	141	430	741	863	413	353	123	80	0	3206
1976-77	0	0	20	317	682	837	1186	602	352	88	9	0	4093
1977-78	0	0	0	142	377	773	1143	924	537	113	69	0	4078
1978-79	0	0	0	133	359	771	1215	869	393	175	54	0	3969
1979-80	0	0	8	123	567	699	769	772	531	208	27	0	3704
1980-81	0	0	17	190	441	694	822	600	406	54	61	0	3285
1981-82	0	0	25	184	393	796	941	706	353	270	14	4	3686
1982-83	0	0	28	186	448	625	826	594	443	332	58	3	3543
1983-84	0	0	25	91	419	1113	980	574	496	227	32	0	3957
1984-85	0	0	53	99	461	514	1032	774	281	111	5	1	3331
1985-86	0	0	47	112	364	917	731	529	302	87	13	0	3102
1986-87	0	0	0	121	501	724	779	506	405	168	0	0	3204
1987-88	0	0	3	175	390	675	912	656	414	134	4	0	3363
1988-89	0	0	2	179	411	692	688	797	376	160	52	0	3357
1989-90	0	0	39	126	378	982	611	464	333	180	51	0	3164
1990-91	0	0	12	182	301	794	884	481	324	87	17	0	3082
1991-92	0	0	31	107	541	603	728	429	346	148	51	0	2984
1992-93	0	0	19	96	500	700	790	683	479	230	33	0	3530
1993-94	0	0	12	212	547	653	862	610	330	117	47	0	3390
1994-95	0	0	32	134	324	643	760	552	348	185	40	0	3018
1995-96	0	0	57	128	495	765	868	591	590	177	14	0	3685
1996-97	0	0	21	125	555	639	824	523	314	241	40	0	3282
1997-98	0	0	0	170	498	754	619	509	496	160	10	2	3218
1998-99	0	0	0	70	320	674	694	400	436	100	14	0	2708
1999-00	0	0	22	111	228	618	687	429	310	163	18	0	2586
2000-	0	0	25	92	586	1029							

WBAN : 13964

COOLING DEGREE DAYS (base 65°F) 2000 FORT SMITH, AR (FSM)

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL
1971	0	0	2	25	86	416	482	408	321	86	9	0	1835
1972	0	0	0	58	107	369	404	471	338	55	0	0	1802
1973	0	0	0	42	86	297	472	457	299	80	8	0	1741
1974	0	0	43	40	224	231	527	385	82	28	7	0	1567
1975	0	0	3	46	163	327	457	454	175	67	23	0	1715
1976	0	4	9	33	54	239	435	388	187	16	0	0	1365
1977	0	0	0	60	250	460	554	528	367	40	3	0	2262
1978	0	0	0	60	173	357	632	567	419	46	6	0	2260
1979	0	0	7	33	113	307	464	426	207	85	4	0	1646
1980	0	0	0	11	164	434	643	649	419	50	5	0	2375
1981	0	0	0	117	81	430	534	412	245	49	0	0	1868
1982	0	0	27	26	183	252	493	510	249	91	8	2	1841
1983	0	0	0	30	80	281	501	597	313	76	15	0	1893
1984	0	0	2	25	111	412	490	500	253	86	8	6	1893
1985	0	0	27	52	146	351	538	503	317	80	13	0	2027
1986	0	0	6	49	179	435	617	418	359	58	0	0	2121
1987	0	0	10	72	290	398	502	578	243	15	12	0	2120
1988	0	0	6	31	185	450	583	604	344	31	0	0	2234
1989	0	0	13	102	189	332	460	481	205	102	12	0	1896
1990	0	2	22	52	140	480	533	533	386	59	9	0	2216
1991	0	0	17	49	284	426	538	474	266	72	6	4	2136
1992	0	0	1	62	131	323	496	346	218	43	0	2	1622
1993	0	0	9	17	132	387	678	633	247	45	2	0	2150
1994	0	0	9	88	171	514	487	411	238	93	9	0	2020
1995	1	0	15	30	148	316	529	610	230	36	3	0	1918
1996	0	3	1	26	262	387	463	438	188	38	4	1	1811
1997	0	0	2	7	111	322	555	439	306	104	0	0	1846
1998	0	0	25	24	281	467	671	611	473	84	3	3	2642
1999	0	5	0	46	139	378	554	622	256	68	4	0	2072
2000	0	3	15	22	236	301	531	691	373	126	5	0	2303

SNOWFALL (inches) 2000 FORT SMITH, AR (FSM)

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
1971-72	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	2.0	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6
1972-73	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.7	4.4	T	0.0	T	0.0	0.0	6.8
1973-74	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	T	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1
1974-75	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	T	0.0	5.8	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.6
1975-76	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	7.2	T	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.9
1976-77	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.0	13.0	T	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.7
1977-78	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	T	11.7	10.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.9
1978-79	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	11.8	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.2
1979-80	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	0.0	1.0	1.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7
1980-81	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	3.2	T	T	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9
1981-82	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	3.6	6.7	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.3
1982-83	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
1983-84	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	0.9	1.9	1.8	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0
1984-85	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1	8.1	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.2
1985-86	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	6.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.1
1986-87	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	1.6	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4
1987-88	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	12.3	T	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.8
1988-89	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.3	3.3	0.0	T	0.0	0.0
1989-90	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	T	T	0.0	T	T	0.0	0.2
1990-91	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3	0.0	T	T	T	0.0	0.0	5.3
1991-92	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	0.0	T	T	T	0.0	T	0.0	T
1992-93	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	T	T	T	T	T	0.0	0.0	T
1993-94	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	0.2	0.0	2.4	0.7	2.6	T	0.0	0.0	5.9
1994-95	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	4.7		0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1995-96	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	T	0.5	T	T	0.0	0.0	T	0.5
1996-97	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	T		T	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
1997-98	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	0.0	0.0					
1998-99													
1999-00													
2000-													
POR= 52 YRS	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	T	T	2.5	T	T	T	T	0.0	2.5

WBAN : 13964

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 (1961 - 1990). 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>
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2000 FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS (FSM)

The weather station at Fort Smith, Arkansas, was established on June 1, 1882 by the U. S. Army Signal Service. For the first 63 years, offices were located at several places within a few blocks of each other in downtown Fort Smith. Since 1945 the station has been at the Fort Smith Municipal Airport, about 5 miles southeast of its original location. Fragmentary weather records made by Army Surgeons exist as far back as 1821.

Fort Smith is located on the Arkansas River at its confluence with the Poteau River and at the point where it enters the state from Oklahoma. The river valley is broad and fairly flat, although elevations in the city of Fort Smith range from 390 feet at the river to about 700 feet. Within 20 miles to the north are the Boston Mountains with elevations to about 2,100 feet and about the same distance south are the Ouachita Mountains with a maximum elevation of about 2,600 feet. The general terrain in the area consists of low broken hills separated by creek and river bottom land.

The surrounding terrain has a definite influence on the weather of Fort Smith. Under conditions of light wind, the direction is prevailing northeast throughout the year. When there is a fairly strong inversion these winds may remain northeasterly even though a strong gradient is present. Although infrequent, dense fog will move in from the river to the east and persist longer than would be expected. In the summer this will result in uncomfortably high humidities and in the winter in cooler temperatures than reported at surrounding stations. Summertime temperatures in the mountains to the north are generally several degrees cooler than in the river valley.

Temperature extremes do occur. In summer there is an average of 10 days when the temperature rises to 100 degrees or higher. On the other hand, in about one year in five, the temperature does not reach 100 degrees. Wintertime temperatures rarely fall to zero or below.

Rainfall is well distributed throughout the growing season. January is the driest month, May the wettest. The difference is almost 3 inches, but rainfall is generally adequate for agricultural pursuits. Summer precipitation comes in the form of convective showers. Dry spells occur, but true droughts are infrequent.

Snowfall varies widely from season to season. Although snowfall averages a little over 6 inches, some years go by with no measurable amount being recorded. Ice storms are much more frequent, causing many problems with traffic movement.

Based on the 1951-1980 period, the average first occurrence of 32 degrees Fahrenheit in the fall is October 30 and the average last occurrence in the spring is April 3.

STATION LOCATION

FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS

LOCATION	Occupied From	Occupied To	Airline Distances and Directions from previous Location	LATITUDE NORTH	LONGITUDE WEST	ELEVATION ABOVE										AUTOMATIC OBSERVING EQUIPMENT *	* TYPE M = AMOS T = AUTOB S = ASOS W = AWOS REMARKS
						GROUND											
						SEA LEVEL	GROUND	WIND INSTRUMENT	EXTREME THERMOMETER	PSYCHROMETER	SUNSHINE SWITCH	TRAINING GAUGE	WEIGHING RAIN GAUGE	8 INCH RAIN GAUGE	HYGROMETER		
*NOTE:																	
AIRPORT																	
Administration Building Municipal Airport	9/26/45	8/30/60	4.5 mi. SE	35°20'	94°23'	458	30	5	5	Unk	5	3					
Terminal Building Municipal Airport	8/30/60	8/01/94	1000 ft. NE	35°20'	94°22'	449 c447	23	6 e5 g	6 e5 h Unk	21 d21	3 f3	24 a5 f5 j21	3 f3	b5 i5		a. Moved to field site 8/22/61. b. Commissioned 2000' SSE of thermometer site 4/1/64. c. Effective 4/1/64. d. Type change 12/1/64. e. Minor adjustment 9/20/73. f. Moved 30' E 7/20/79. g. Removed 8/1979. h. Minor adjustment 8/1/79. i. Type change 8/1/85. j. Moved to roof 9/1/86.	
Municipal Airport	08/01/94	Present	NA	35°20'	94°22'	462								S	ASOS commissioned 8/1/94.		

SUBSCRIPTION: Price and ordering information available through : National ClimaticDataCenter, Federal building, Asheville, North Carolina 28801.

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* NOTES: For earlier station history see previous editions.