

2003

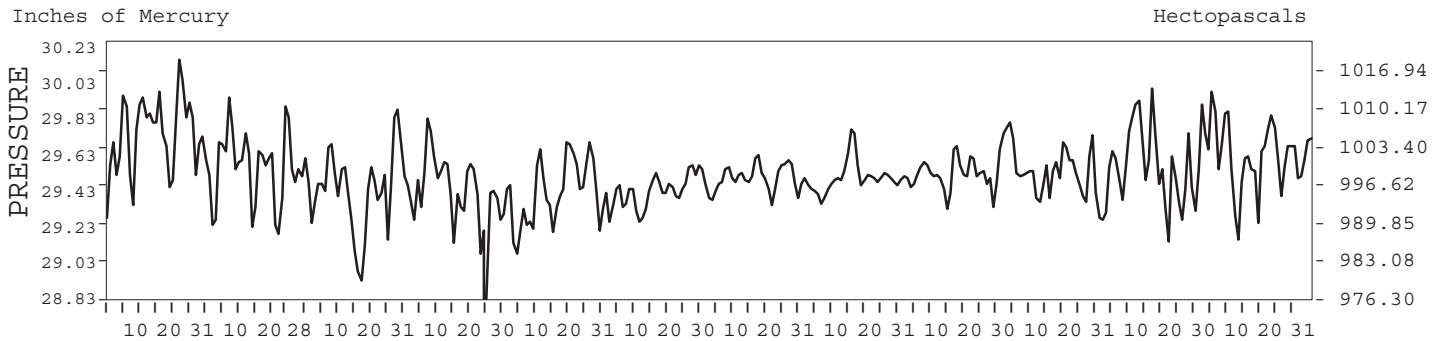
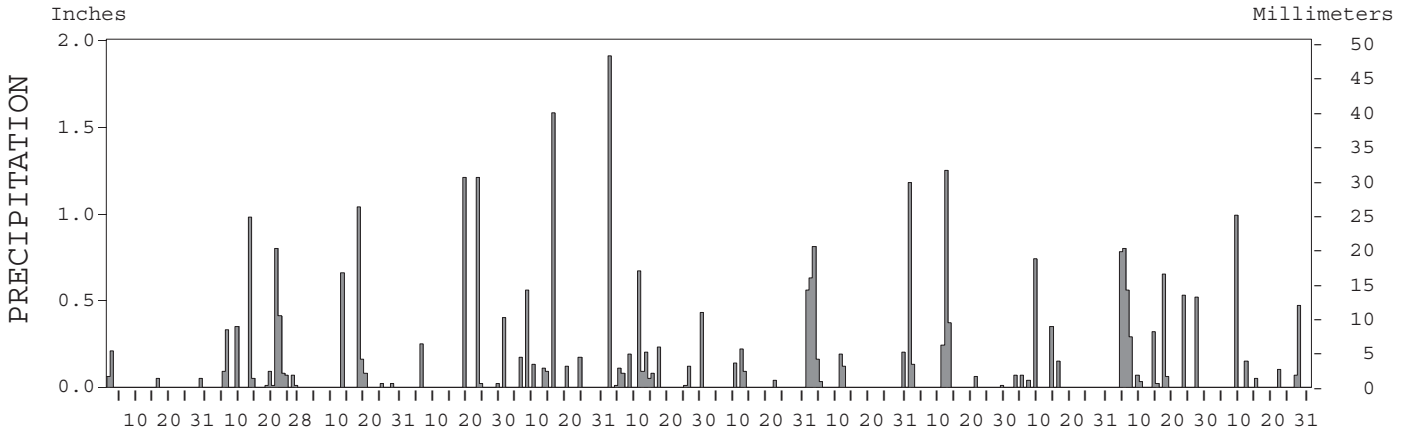
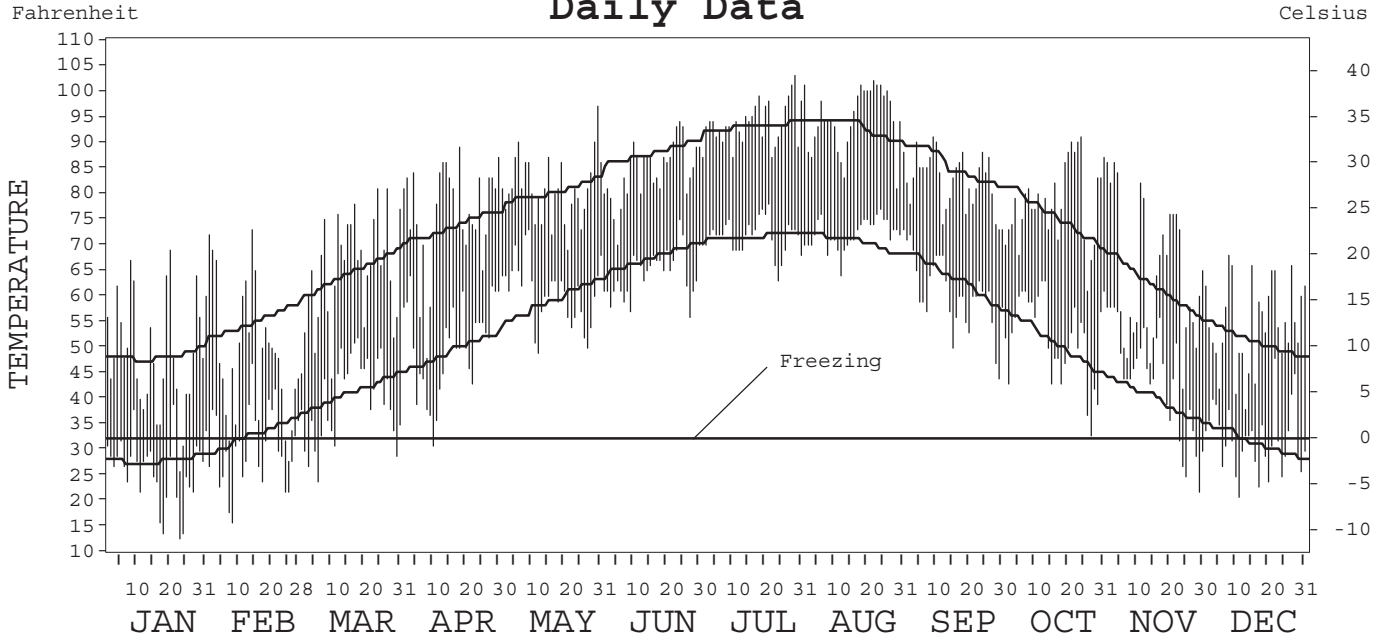
LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA  
ANNUAL SUMMARY WITH COMPARATIVE DATA



ISSN 0198-0661

FORT SMITH,  
ARKANSAS (FSM)

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

## FORT SMITH, AR (FSM)

LATITUDE: 35° 20' 01" N      LONGITUDE: 94° 21' 54" W      ELEVATION (FT): GRND: 477      BARO: 480      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	48.7	49.1	64.9	76.0	81.0	84.4	93.6	94.4	82.4	78.2	64.3	54.6	72.6	
	HIGHEST DAILY MAXIMUM	69	73	81	89	97	94	103	102	91	91	86	68	103	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	20	14	27+	18	30	24	29	22	09	24	03+	08	JUL 29	
	MEAN DAILY MINIMUM	26.2	30.5	39.9	50.2	60.6	64.4	71.6	72.2	60.3	52.0	43.5	32.2	50.3	
	LOWEST DAILY MINIMUM	13	16	24	31	49	56	63	64	44	33	22	21	13	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	23	08	06	10	12	27	24	12	29	27	29	11	JAN 23	
	AVERAGE DRY BULB	37.5	39.8	52.4	63.1	70.8	74.4	82.6	83.3	71.4	65.1	53.9	43.4	61.5	
	MEAN WET BULB	33.1	36.9	46.3	55.5	65.1	68.6	74.2	75.0		57.9	48.7	38.9		
	MEAN DEW POINT	26.0	32.7	40.6	49.2	61.6	65.8	70.2	71.9		52.8	43.5	33.0		
	NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:														
	MAXIMUM ≥ 90°	0	0	0	0	3	5	26	24	3	3	0	0	0	64
	MAXIMUM ≤ 32°	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
MINIMUM ≤ 32°	28	18	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	17	76		
MINIMUM ≤ 0°	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
H/C	HEATING DEGREE DAYS	846	699	380	118	5	0	0	0	10	78	355	665	3156	
	COOLING DEGREE DAYS	0	0	0	68	196	288	554	575	207	86	28	0	2002	
RH	MEAN (PERCENT)	67	78	70	65	75	78	69	74	72	69	73	70	72	
	HOUR 00 LST	75	86	78	76	86	87	78	84	85	81	80	79	81	
	HOUR 06 LST	80	89	88	84	90	93	91	94	91	88	86	83	88	
	HOUR 12 LST	57	71	57	50	61	64	57	58	54	53	61	58	58	
	HOUR 18 LST	55	69	53	49	64	65	51	57	58	55	64	63	59	
S	PERCENT POSSIBLE SUNSHINE														
W/O	NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:														
	HEAVY FOG (VISBY ≤ 1/4 MI)	1	1	2	0	2	2	0	1	2	3	1	1	16	
	THUNDERSTORMS	0	0	1	4	8	7	6	10	1	1	3	4	45	
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.)	29.74	29.56	29.44		29.41	29.43	29.50	29.50	29.54	29.52	29.59	29.62		
	MEAN SEA-LEVEL PRESS. (IN.)	30.25	30.07	29.93		29.90	29.91	29.98	29.98	30.02	30.01	30.09	30.12		
WINDS	RESULTANT SPEED (MPH)	2.4	2.0	0.8	2.4	2.2	2.3	0.3	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.4	1.2	0.7	
	RES. DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	35	02	03	23	05	08	33	06	03	28	02	34	02	
	MEAN SPEED (MPH)	7.2	7.4	7.9	9.0	6.6	5.8	5.0	4.9	6.1	5.8	7.6	8.7	6.8	
	PREVAIL. DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	07	08	08	09	09	09	23	08	07	07	07	07	07	
	MAXIMUM 2-MINUTE WIND:														
	SPEED (MPH)	32	29	33	36	37	39	35	54	28	29	37	35	54	
	DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	30	29	24	25	23	27	02	31	28	33	33	27	31	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	16	03	19	16	16	12	10	01	21+	16	18	09	AUG 01	
	MAXIMUM 5-SECOND WIND:														
	SPEED (MPH)	39	33	41	47	49	45	40	67	33	36	46	40	67	
DIR. (TENS OF DEGS.)	31	29	26	27	29	27	02	31	28	33	32	27	31		
DATE OF OCCURRENCE	16	03	19	19	16	12	10	01	21+	16	18	09	AUG 01		
PRECIPITATION	WATER EQUIVALENT:														
	TOTAL (IN.)	0.37	3.35	1.98	2.71	3.33	4.18	0.49	2.70	3.24	1.42	4.63	1.83	30.23	
	GREATEST 24-HOUR (IN.)	0.27	1.04	1.04	1.23	1.58	1.91	0.22	1.44	1.42	0.74	1.23	0.99	1.91	
	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	01-02	21-22	18	23-24	16	02	12	02-03	12-13	09	04-05	09	JUN 02	
	NUMBER OF DAYS WITH:														
	PRECIPITATION ≥ 0.01	4	14	6	5	9	14	4	8	7	6	12	6	95	
PRECIPITATION ≥ 0.10	1	5	3	3	8	8	2	7	5	3	8	4	57		
PRECIPITATION ≥ 1.00	0	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	7		
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

## FORT SMITH, AR (FSM)

LATITUDE: 35° 20' 01" N      LONGITUDE: 94° 21' 54" W      ELEVATION (FT): GRND: 477      BARO: 480      TIME ZONE: CENTRAL (UTC + 6)      WBAN: 13964

ELEMENT		POR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YEAR
TEMPERATURE °F	NORMAL DAILY MAXIMUM	30	48.1	54.8	64.2	73.2	80.0	87.7	92.9	92.6	84.9	75.0	61.4	50.9	72.1
	MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM	43	48.3	54.4	63.6	73.9	80.4	87.8	93.2	92.7	85.0	75.5	62.2	51.4	72.4
	HIGHEST DAILY MAXIMUM	58	81	86	94	95	98	105	111	110	109	96	86	82	111
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1952	1962	1974	1987	1951	1953	1954	1964	2000	1963	2003	1951	JUL 1954
	MEAN OF EXTREME MAXS.	56	70.4	74.9	82.6	87.7	91.2	95.7	100.8	100.8	96.5	90.1	79.5	72.4	86.9
	NORMAL DAILY MINIMUM	30	27.8	32.6	40.9	49.0	58.9	67.2	71.4	70.3	62.9	50.5	39.5	31.1	50.2
	MEAN DAILY MINIMUM	43	26.9	31.5	39.5	49.0	58.3	66.5	70.6	69.4	62.0	49.5	38.9	30.5	49.4
	LOWEST DAILY MINIMUM	58	-10	-9	7	22	35	47	50	51	33	22	8	-5	-10
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1977	1951	1948	1975	1954	1972	1972	1986	1967	1952	1976	1989	JAN 1977
	MEAN OF EXTREME MINS.	56	10.3	15.4	22.2	32.2	44.0	54.9	61.7	59.6	45.2	32.8	21.7	14.8	34.6
	NORMAL DRY BULB	30	38.0	43.7	52.6	61.1	69.5	77.5	82.2	81.5	73.9	62.8	50.5	41.0	61.2
	MEAN DRY BULB	56	38.2	43.2	51.3	61.4	69.7	77.4	82.2	81.3	73.6	62.7	50.3	41.1	61.0
	MEAN WET BULB	52	34.1	38.1	44.8	53.9	62.7	69.7	73.0	71.7	65.6	55.4	44.8	36.7	54.2
	MEAN DEW POINT	52	28.0	31.8	37.6	47.3	58.6	66.2	69.2	67.8	61.3	50.2	39.1	30.8	49.0
NORMAL NO. DAYS WITH:	MAXIMUM ≥ 90°	30	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5	2.2	12.7	23.2	22.0	10.3	1.2	0.0	0.0	72.2
	MAXIMUM ≤ 32°	30	3.3	1.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.8	7.0
	MINIMUM ≤ 32°	30	22.6	15.1	6.5	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	8.4	18.7	73.1
	MINIMUM ≤ 0°	30	0.2	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3
H/C	NORMAL HEATING DEG. DAYS	30	851	611	409	172	32	1	0	0	23	145	448	745	3437
	NORMAL COOLING DEG. DAYS	30	0	0	8	43	157	364	520	495	275	61	5	1	1929
RH	NORMAL (PERCENT)	30	73	69	65	66	73	74	70	70	72	72	73	74	71
	HOUR 00 LST	30	78	76	73	76	84	85	82	81	84	83	81	80	80
	HOUR 06 LST	30	83	82	80	84	89	90	90	90	90	89	85	84	86
	HOUR 12 LST	30	63	58	54	51	59	59	55	54	56	54	59	63	57
	HOUR 18 LST	30	63	56	51	49	58	58	54	53	58	58	63	65	57
S	PERCENT POSSIBLE SUNSHINE	51	49	55	56	61	62	69	73	72	66	65	55	50	61
W/O	MEAN NO. DAYS WITH: HEAVY FOG (VISBY ≤ 1/4 MI)	58	2.5	1.5	1.0	0.7	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.3	2.1	1.7	2.1	16.4
	THUNDERSTORMS	58	1.2	1.9	4.7	6.8	8.3	7.6	7.1	6.4	4.5	3.3	2.8	1.7	56.3
CLOUDINESS	MEAN: SUNRISE-SUNSET (OKTAS)	1			4.8			4.0		2.4		3.6		6.4	
	MIDNIGHT-MIDNIGHT (OKTAS)	1			4.8					2.4		2.4			
	MEAN NO. DAYS WITH: CLEAR	1	1.5	3.0	12.0		8.0	11.0	3.0	12.0	7.0	14.0		5.0	
	PARTLY CLOUDY	1	1.0	4.0	1.0		2.0	5.0	1.0	1.0	4.0	1.0		3.0	
CLOUDY	1	4.0	2.0	9.0		7.0	7.0		2.0	7.0	4.0		10.0		
PR	MEAN STATION PRESSURE (IN)	31	29.66	29.61	29.50	29.48	29.45	29.47	29.51	29.52	29.55	29.59	29.59	29.65	29.55
	MEAN SEA-LEVEL PRES. (IN)	52	30.16	30.11	30.01	29.97	29.95	29.95	29.98	29.98	30.01	30.07	30.10	30.14	30.04
WINDS	MEAN SPEED (MPH)	38	8.4	8.5	9.3	9.1	7.6	6.8	6.3	6.3	6.6	6.9	7.8	8.1	7.6
	PREVAIL. DIR (TENS OF DEGS)	24	09	09	09	09	09	09	09	09	09	09	09	09	09
	MAXIMUM 2-MINUTE: SPEED (MPH)	9	43	39	45	45	49	57	37	54	45	51	39	44	57
	DIR. (TENS OF DEGS)		30	26	34	26	30	28	29	31	31	29	29	22	28
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		2000	2001	2000	1995	2001	1996	1995	2003	2000	2001	1998	1996	JUN 1996
	MAXIMUM 5-SECOND: SPEED (MPH)	9	54	49	51	53	59	67	51	67	52	62	66	56	67
DIR. (TENS OF DEGS)		31	27	35	27	29	28	20	31	32	30	29	22	31	
YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		2000	2001	2000	1995	2001	1996	1995	2003	2000	2001	1998	1996	AUG 2003	
PRECIPITATION	NORMAL (IN)	30	2.37	2.59	3.94	3.91	5.29	4.28	3.19	2.56	3.61	3.94	4.80	3.39	43.87
	MAXIMUM MONTHLY (IN)	58	11.33	7.94	8.87	10.32	13.45	10.40	10.41	6.57	8.96	12.05	14.01	10.09	14.01
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1949	1951	2002	1957	1990	1958	1960	1971	1974	1951	1946	1971	NOV 1946
	MINIMUM MONTHLY (IN)	58	0.20	0.14	0.80	0.56	0.79	0.38	0.08	0.20	0.06	T	0.59	0.27	T
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1986	1947	1971	1989	1970	1954	2001	2000	1956	1964	1954	1981	OCT 1964
	MAXIMUM IN 24 HOURS (IN)	58	5.42	4.45	3.87	5.12	5.56	3.54	7.13	5.09	3.95	5.90	6.91	5.78	7.13
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1949	1985	2002	1964	1982	1999	1960	1971	1974	1951	1973	1971	JUL 1960
	NORMAL NO. DAYS WITH: PRECIPITATION ≥ 0.01	30	7.8	7.3	10.1	9.7	10.9	9.1	6.8	6.6	8.2	8.0	7.9	7.8	100.2
PRECIPITATION ≥ 1.00	30	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.5	1.3	0.9	0.6	1.3	1.3	1.7	1.0	12.8	
SNOWFALL	NORMAL (IN)	30	3.0	1.7	0.6	0.*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.*	0.5	0.9	6.7	
	MAXIMUM MONTHLY (IN)	52	13.0	11.5	5.3	T	T	T	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	4.7	7.2	13.0
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1977	1960	1968	1994	1992	1996				1993	1976	1975	JAN 1977
	MAXIMUM IN 24 HOURS (IN)	52	11.0	5.8	5.3	T	T	T	0.0	0.0	0.0	T	4.7	7.1	11.0
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1988	1978	1968	1994	1992	1996				1993	1976	1975	JAN 1988
	MAXIMUM SNOW DEPTH (IN)	46	11	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	11
	YEAR OF OCCURRENCE		1988	1960	1989								1976	1963	JAN 1988
NORMAL NO. DAYS WITH: SNOWFALL ≥ 1.0	30	0.9	0.7	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.3	2.3	

PRECIPITATION (inches) 2003 FORT SMITH, AR (FSM)

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL
1974	0.96	1.80	4.09	4.96	1.93	4.68	0.64	6.22	8.96	3.82	4.27	2.33	44.66
1975	2.27	3.71	6.70	2.09	6.91	5.86	2.47	4.91	2.49	0.28	3.15	3.66	44.50
1976	0.33	0.70	4.20	3.77	4.91	4.62	1.29	2.82	2.65	5.39	1.05	1.82	33.55
1977	1.93	1.46	6.29	1.04	2.17	4.17	2.61	2.61	4.63	0.87	3.21	1.30	32.29
1978	2.15	2.66	4.20	1.94	5.16	3.05	0.49	0.47	0.84	0.17	7.12	3.26	31.51
1979	2.67	4.55	5.74	4.80	8.04	4.50	5.75	4.44	0.78	3.90	1.87	2.74	49.78
1980	0.99	0.74	2.98	2.24	4.61	3.20	1.43	0.65	3.16	3.24	1.90	1.32	26.46
1981	1.54	2.68	3.04	2.91	5.46	3.79	7.65	2.17	1.88	6.14	3.00	0.27	40.53
1982	4.15	1.33	1.99	1.27	11.23	4.99	4.81	2.35	0.64	3.50	5.72	6.01	47.99
1983	1.72	1.23	2.08	2.94	5.34	3.22	2.61	2.39	1.82	4.97	4.82	1.92	35.06
1984	0.80	2.60	4.13	2.16	4.70	1.87	3.33	2.00	6.18	11.80	7.33	6.16	53.06
1985	1.65	5.71	7.45	4.44	2.78	2.77	2.03	3.57	3.60	4.88	10.73	0.40	50.01
1986	0.20	3.55	1.80	6.97	5.33	4.36	0.20	5.63	1.84	4.20	2.35	1.21	37.64
1987	2.50	3.45	3.90	1.13	6.46	2.79	2.96	2.83	1.71	2.19	4.70	8.12	42.74
1988	1.62	2.09	5.03	5.57	1.26	1.75	2.32	1.05	5.72	1.46	5.51	1.65	35.03
1989	4.43	5.53	5.99	0.56	10.21	5.51	7.09	2.45	3.47	0.83	0.60	0.74	47.41
1990	5.13	5.95	4.61	8.48	13.45	0.63	2.37	3.60	4.87	3.52	3.77	4.84	61.22
1991	2.21	0.82	3.86	7.43	3.43	1.95	2.65	1.80	4.83	8.84	3.99	4.43	46.24
1992	1.43	1.48	2.26	3.90	5.60	8.33	4.51	2.34	6.91	0.89	5.56	5.46	48.67
1993	4.05	3.10	1.90	7.33	5.31	5.03	0.18	2.57	6.17	4.79	4.26	2.87	47.56
1994	3.46	3.95	2.93	5.27	6.52	3.64	10.38	2.91	0.26	3.23	13.92	3.74	60.21
1995	3.51	0.78	2.20	5.55	6.41	4.44	4.20	0.50	4.00	1.87	2.07	4.21	39.74
1996	3.05	1.35	3.58	5.93	4.41	5.23	7.67	4.38	6.53	3.83	9.18	1.87	57.01
1997	0.56	6.50	4.18	3.62	1.62	6.64	1.06	2.16	1.36	6.31	2.38	4.49	40.88
1998	7.76	3.02	4.99	1.01	2.62	2.46	2.63	1.73	5.46	5.79	3.43	3.04	43.94
1999	2.12	1.17	4.78	5.33	8.79	7.75	0.08	0.20	4.03	3.42	1.45	5.01	44.13
2000	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
2001	2.39	7.11	1.23	2.15	8.79	2.31	T	1.88	3.81	3.21	1.98	5.72	40.58
2002	3.79	1.22	8.87	5.94	3.94	3.04	2.53	4.74	1.06	2.05	1.21	5.22	43.61
2003	0.37	3.35	1.98	2.71	3.33	4.18	0.49	2.70	3.24	1.42	4.63	1.83	30.23
POR= 121 YRS	2.48	2.76	3.43	4.15	5.04	3.90	3.11	2.98	3.34	3.38	3.41	2.99	40.97

WBAN : 13964

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE (°F) 2003 FORT SMITH, AR (FSM)

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL
1974	38.3	44.5	56.4	60.5	71.7	72.4	81.8	77.2	65.7	62.0	49.5	40.2	60.0
1975	41.6	39.8	46.7	59.1	69.8	75.7	79.5	79.4	68.6	62.4	51.2	40.9	59.6
1976	36.9	50.7	53.7	61.7	63.9	72.8	78.8	77.4	70.3	55.1	42.0	37.8	58.4
1977	26.5	43.3	53.5	63.9	72.5	80.1	82.6	81.8	77.1	61.6	52.3	39.8	61.3
1978	28.0	31.9	47.4	63.0	68.2	76.7	85.1	83.0	78.8	61.9	53.0	39.9	59.7
1979	25.6	33.8	52.3	60.1	66.7	75.0	79.8	78.5	71.5	63.5	45.9	42.2	57.9
1980	40.0	38.3	47.6	58.2	69.1	79.2	85.5	85.6	78.2	60.2	50.3	42.4	61.2
1981	38.2	43.3	51.8	66.9	65.5	79.0	82.0	78.1	72.1	60.4	51.7	39.1	60.7
1982	34.3	39.5	54.3	56.6	70.2	73.0	80.6	81.2	72.2	61.7	50.2	44.7	59.9
1983	38.1	43.6	50.4	54.8	65.5	74.0	81.0	84.1	74.4	64.3	51.4	28.9	59.2
1984	33.3	45.0	48.7	58.1	67.3	78.5	80.6	80.9	71.4	64.4	49.7	48.4	60.5
1985	31.6	37.1	56.7	62.8	69.3	76.4	82.2	81.1	73.8	63.7	53.0	35.2	60.2
1986	41.2	46.0	55.2	63.5	70.2	79.3	84.7	78.3	76.8	62.8	48.0	41.5	62.3
1987	39.6	46.8	52.1	61.6	74.1	78.0	81.0	83.5	72.8	59.7	52.2	43.0	62.0
1988	35.4	42.2	51.6	61.4	70.7	79.8	83.5	84.2	76.1	60.0	51.2	42.4	61.5
1989	42.6	36.2	53.0	62.9	69.3	75.9	79.6	80.3	70.3	63.9	52.5	33.1	60.0
1990	45.1	48.2	54.7	60.4	67.6	80.7	81.9	82.0	77.2	60.8	55.0	39.1	62.7
1991	36.3	47.7	54.8	63.5	73.4	79.0	82.1	80.0	72.6	63.7	46.9	45.4	62.1
1992	41.4	50.1	53.7	61.9	67.4	75.6	80.8	75.9	71.4	63.1	48.1	42.3	61.0
1993	39.3	40.4	49.6	57.8	68.0	77.7	86.7	85.2	72.6	59.3	46.6	43.7	60.6
1994	37.0	43.0	54.5	63.7	68.8	81.9	80.5	78.0	71.7	63.5	54.3	44.1	61.8
1995	40.2	45.0	54.0	59.6	68.2	75.3	81.8	84.4	70.5	61.9	48.4	40.1	60.8
1996	36.8	44.5	45.8	59.8	72.8	77.6	79.8	79.0	70.3	62.1	46.3	44.1	59.9
1997	38.2	46.1	54.8	56.9	67.2	75.5	82.7	79.0	75.0	62.5	48.2	40.5	60.6
1998	44.8	46.6	49.6	60.2	73.5	80.2	86.5	84.4	80.5	65.2	54.1	43.2	64.1
1999	42.3	50.6	50.6	62.9	68.8	77.3	82.6	85.0	72.6	63.3	57.4	44.8	63.2
2000	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
2001	36.8	44.7	49.0	66.7	70.6	77.7	85.8	84.3	72.3	61.2	56.2	44.5	62.5
2002	41.1	42.1	49.0	64.3	68.4	78.1	82.4	82.0	76.2	60.6	48.6	43.3	61.3
2003	37.5	39.8	52.4	63.1	70.8	74.4	82.6	83.3	71.4	65.1	53.9	43.4	61.5
POR= 121 YRS	39.0	43.0	51.8	61.7	69.5	77.8	82.0	81.3	74.5	63.1	50.9	41.8	61.4

HEATING DEGREE DAYS (base 65°F) 2003 FORT SMITH, AR (FSM)

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
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
2000-01	0	0	25	92	586	1029	872	561	489	80	16	0	3750
2001-02	0	0	16	154	267	631	734	636	490	105	33	0	3066
2002-03	0	0	0	196	495	665	846	699	380	118	5	0	3404
2003-	0	0	10	78	355	665							

WBAN : 13964

COOLING DEGREE DAYS (base 65°F) 2003 FORT SMITH, AR (FSM)

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL
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
2001	0	3	0	137	196	387	653	603	244	42	8	5	2278
2002	0	0	2	89	148	398	549	535	342	65	7	0	2135
2003	0	0	0	68	196	288	554	575	207	86	28	0	2002

SNOWFALL (inches) 2003 FORT SMITH, AR (FSM)

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
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	
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	
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													
2000-01													
2001-02													
2002-03													
2003-													
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 (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  
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	WIND INSTRUMENT	EXTREME THERMOMETERS	PSYCHROMETER	SUNSHINE SWITCH	TIPPING GAUGE	WINDHINDING GAUGE	8 INCH RAIN GAGE	HYGROMETER			
*NOTE: <u>AIRPORT</u>																	
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'	k477								S			ASOS commissioned 8/1/94. k. Ground elevation.

**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 editions.