

Narrative Summary – May 2012

May 2012 was cooler than normal, averaging 61.1°F, 1.0° below normal (62.1°F). The warmest May (1947) averaged 68.7°F, while the coolest (1984) averaged 56.0°F. No temperature records were established during May 2012.

Precipitation for May 2012 totaled 0.22 inch, 43% of normal (0.51 inch). The wettest May (1972) received 2.03 inches, while the driest (1992 and earlier years) received only a trace. Total precipitation for 2012 (through May) is 3.23 inches, 99% of normal (3.27 inches).

The average wind speed for May 2012 was 9.5 miles per hour (mph), which was 0.7 mph above normal (8.8 mph). The windiest May (1983) averaged 10.7 mph, while the May with the lightest winds (1957) averaged 5.8 mph. The peak gust for May 2012 was 42 mph on May 3. The record wind gust for May was 71 mph in 1948.

The spring season (March, April and May) was slightly cooler than normal, averaging 53.9°F, 0.1° below normal (54.0°F). The warmest spring (1992) averaged 58.2°F, while the coolest spring (1955) averaged 48.0°F. Spring season precipitation totaled 1.47 inches, 90% of normal (1.63 inches). The wettest spring (1995) received 3.28 inches, while the driest (1968) received only 0.09 inch.

The monthly climatological data summaries, as well as other information, are available on the Internet.

Address: <http://www.hanford.gov/hms>

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Note: The data in this summary pertain specifically to the Hanford Meteorology Station (HMS), which is located approximately 25 miles northwest of Richland, WA. No attempt should be made to infer meteorological conditions at other locations from these data.