

Narrative Summary – March 2012

March 2012 was below normal, averaging 45.7°F, 0.8° below normal (46.5°F). The warmest March (1992) averaged 51.5°F, while the coldest (1955) averaged 39.4°F. The following daily temperature records were established in March:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>New Record</u>	<u>Old Record</u>	<u>Year</u>
4	High Maximum	67	65	2005
10	High Minimum	45	45	1987+ (Tie)

+ denotes most recent of multiple years

Precipitation for March 2012 totaled 0.64 inch, 112% of normal (0.57 inch). The wettest March (1957) received 1.86 inches, while the driest (1968) received 0.02 inch. A total of 0.8 inches of snow was recorded during the month, compared to a normal of 0.4 inch, and a maximum snowfall of 4.2 inches (1951). Snowfall for the 2011-2012 snowfall season (through March) is 13.5 inches, compared to a normal of 15.2 inches. Total precipitation for 2012 (through March) is 2.40 inches, 109% of normal (2.21 inches).

The average wind speed for March 2012 was 10.4 miles per hour (mph), which was 2.5 mph above normal (7.9 mph). This makes March 2012 the second windiest March on record. The windiest March (1964 and 1977) averaged 10.7 mph, while the March with the lightest winds (1958) averaged 5.9 mph. The peak gust for March 2012 was 56 mph on March 5. The record wind gust for March was 70 mph in 1956.

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 pertains 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.