

Narrative Summary – May 2009

May 2009 was slightly warmer than normal, averaging 62.2°F, 0.4° above normal (61.8°F). The warmest May (1947) averaged 68.7°F, while the coolest (1984) averaged 56.0°F. There were no temperature records established during May 2009:

Precipitation for May 2009 totaled 0.18 inch, 33% of normal (0.55 inch). The wettest May (1972) received 2.03 inches, while the driest (1992 and earlier years) received only a trace. Total precipitation for 2009 (through May) is 3.16 inches, 101% of normal (3.12 inches).

The average wind speed for May 2009 was 9.1 miles per hour (mph), which was 0.2 mph above normal (8.9 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 was 57 mph on May 5. The record wind gust for May was 71 mph in 1948.

The spring season (March, April and May) was cooler than normal, averaging 51.9°F, 1.9° below normal (53.8°F). The warmest spring (1992) averaged 58.2°F, while the coolest spring (1955) averaged 48.0°F. Spring season precipitation totaled 1.37 inches, 87% of normal (1.58 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://hms.pnl.gov/>

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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.