

Narrative Summary – October 2009

October 2009 was much cooler than normal, averaging 50.2°F, 2.8° below normal (53.0°F). The warmest October (1988) averaged 59.6°F, while the coolest (1984) averaged 47.9°F. October 2009 tied for the fourth coolest October on record since 1945, and there had been only eight Octobers with an average temperature below 51.0°F. The following temperature records were established during October 2009:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>New Record</u>	<u>Old Record</u>	<u>Year</u>
10	Low Maximum	50	50	1962 Tie
10	Low Minimum	29	33	1959
11	Low Maximum	50	52	1968+others
11	Low Minimum	21	30	1960
12	Low Maximum	44	54	1966
12	Low Minimum	29	29	2002 Tie
13	Low Maximum	45	57	1969

Precipitation for October 2009 totaled 0.78 inch, 159% of normal (0.49 inch). The wettest October (1957) received 2.72 inches, while the driest (1987 and earlier years) received only a trace. Total precipitation for 2009 (through October) is 4.20 inches, 86% of normal (4.89 inches).

The average wind speed for October 2009 was 8.0 miles per hour (mph), which was 1.5 mph above normal (6.5 mph). The windiest October (1946) averaged 9.1 mph, while the October with the lightest winds (1952) averaged 4.4 mph. The peak gust for October 2009 was 46 mph on October 4. The record wind gust for October was 72 mph in 1997.

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

Address: <http://hms.pnl.gov/>

Ken Burk 373-3215

HMS Staff 373-2716

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.