

1951

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

THE WEATHER OF 1951

RAINFALL

The heavy May rains were confined to the south of Jamaica while both October and November were comparatively dry over large parts of the island. The heavy rain associated with the hurricane of 17th/18th August brought the aggregate for the Island close to the average and the total for the year was only 12% below the normal figure.

TEMPERATURE

The average temperature was very close to the normal although there was a greater range of temperature, the day temperatures being somewhat above the average while night temperatures were slightly below.

The highest temperature recorded in Kingston was 95.1°F on 12th August and the lowest was 63.0°F on 18th February. At Hope Laboratory the figures were 97.0°F and 54.0°F, the temperature being the lowest recorded at Hope Laboratory since the Station started in 1941.

NORTHERS

During the year the bursts of cold air from the north were mainly very weak. Moderate Northers were experienced in the northwest of Jamaica on 9th January and on 3rd/4th February. On both occasions the south coast was affected 12-24 hours later, by which time the Northers had decreased somewhat in intensity.

TROPICAL STORMS

Ten tropical storms were reported during 1951, of which eight developed into hurricanes. Two of these hurricanes entered the Caribbean and moved towards Jamaica.

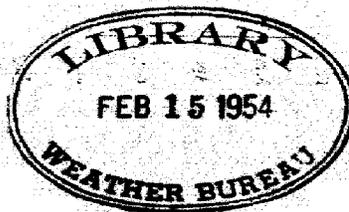
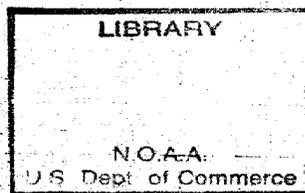
The first of these was located on 15th August near the island of Gaudeloupe and by early morning of the 17th was situated about 250 miles ESE of Kingston. Hurricane warnings had already been issued to all districts of Jamaica for the night of 17th/18th August. The eastern Parishes were the first to be affected and winds of 80-90 m.p.h. accompanied by torrential rain were experienced by 8.30 p.m. The hurricane struck the Kingston area at 9.45 p.m. with winds averaging 85-90 m.p.h. and gusts to 120-125 m.p.h. The passage of the hurricane lasted about 6 hours, decreasing in intensity as it moved westwards over the southern Parishes of the Island.

Widespread damage to crops and property was caused by the winds and rain, especially in the southern half of Jamaica. The northern Parishes escaped the worst fury of the storm and winds of 40-50 m.p.h. were the highest reported, but even this was sufficient to cause a fair amount of damage to crops and flimsy structures.

The loss of life was 56 in Kingston and 152 in the whole Island. The damage to crops and property has been estimated at £15-20,000,000.

The second hurricane that threatened Jamaica entered the Caribbean on 2nd September near Martinique and extensive damage was caused on Martinique and St. Lucia. On 4th September hurricane warnings were issued for Jamaica as it was anticipated that the south coast would be inside the northern boundary of the hurricane. The centre, however, passed about 50-80 miles south of the expected course and Jamaica was not affected.

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# **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

## **Climate Database Modernization Program**

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March 28, 2002

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

KINGSTON, JAMAICA—Mean Meteorological Results for the Year 1951. Latitude 17° 58' North. Longitude 76° 48' West

Month	Mean Pressure	Air Temperatures (Fah.)				Dew Point		Relative Humidity		Amount of Cloud		Rainfall		Weather				Wind																
		7 a.m.	3 p.m.	Daily Mean	Means of	7 a.m.	3 p.m.	7 a.m. p.m.	Daily Mean	7 1 7 a.m.p.m.a.m.	Total	Greatest Fall in one Day	Rain	Thunder Storm	Clear Sky	Overcast	Gales	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm								
Jan.	30.000	68.8	84.0	76.2	67.7	86.1	69.0	68.3	27*	63	68	65	88	59	73	2.4	3.4	8.0	0.00	0	0	22	0	0	50	1	4	12	14	5	3	8	27	
Feb.	29.991	68.0	83.5	75.6	66.7	86.3	63.0	80.0	19	62	66	64	81	56	73	3.0	3.5	2.5	0.00	0	0	25	0	0	59	7	9	13	9	3	6	26		
Mar.	29.989	68.8	83.2	76.3	67.8	86.4	64.8	80.3	17	63	69	66	81	61	74	2.1	2.0	2.7	0.00	0	0	25	0	0	34	5	33	15	3	2	10	22		
Apr.	29.932	75.7	84.0	79.3	71.6	87.7	67.7	91.0	27	67	72	69	75	67	75	2.9	3.4	2.8	0.38	0.19	14*	2	5	20	0	0	34	11	48	3	1	4	19	
May	29.902	78.2	85.0	81.4	74.9	88.4	71.1	91.4	8	73	75	74	85	72	83	3.4	4.5	5.0	2.39	0.98	17	7	12	8	0	17	1	33	29	3	3	14	24	
June	29.934	79.3	87.0	82.7	75.7	90.7	71.2	94.3	17	70	71	71	74	63	72	3.9	4.5	4.4	0.83	0.44	20	2	5	9	0	11	2	66	18	0	1	5	17	
July	29.951	78.6	87.2	82.3	74.7	90.9	71.8	94.5	22*	71	75	73	77	65	75	4.2	3.6	3.6	3.69	1.61	5	6	12	11	0	18	2	53	26	0	2	14	14	
Aug.	29.919	80.0	87.1	83.1	76.1	91.3	74.0	95.1	12	72	75	73	77	67	76	2.8	3.6	3.5	18.27	16.93	17	6	10	14	0	21	2	24	36	3	1	10	19*	
Sept.	29.891	78.8	85.9	82.1	76.1	89.4	73.7	93.0	20	72	76	74	80	73	81	4.3	4.6	4.1	3.63	1.50	12	7	14	6	0	22	1	31	28	2	2	10	21*	
Oct.	29.899	77.5	85.1	81.2	74.8	89.3	72.2	91.3	6	71	77	74	83	75	83	3.9	4.3	3.9	4.39	1.82	8	5	12	10	0	25	33	29	6	1	12	21		
Nov.	29.907	76.4	85.5	80.6	73.8	89.8	70.0	91.8	17	70	74	72	83	69	79	3.0	3.9	3.5	4.15	2.95	21	3	0	14	0	38	4	18	12	11	3	16	23	
Dec.	29.973	73.5	85.3	79.2	71.8	88.1	69.0	91.0	20	67	71	69	81	64	75	1.9	2.5	3.3	0.64	0.30	27	4	0	26	0	43	1	11	13	12	1	5	17	21
Mean	29.938	75.6	85.2	80.0	72.6	88.7	63.0†	95.1†	68	72	70	80	66	77	80	3.2	3.7	3.5	38.27	13.27	42	70	190	0	2	342	14	296	290	82	19	27	126	253
Totals																																		

\* And other days.  
 † Extreme Temperatures for the year. ‡ Wind and Cloud observation taken at the Airport.—Rainfall entered for August, taken from Palisades Airport.  
 Barometer Pressure reduced to Mean Sea Level. The 75th Meridian West of Greenwich Standard Time used. Altitude of Standard Barometer above Mean Sea Level 24 ft. Height of Thermometers above ground 4 ft. Height of Rain-gauge above ground 3 ft. Height of Anemometer above ground 50 ft. \* Records incomplete on 18th, 19th, and 20th August and 3rd September.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

MOBANT POINT LIGHTHOUSE, JAMAICA—Mean Meteorological Results for the Year 1951. Latitude 17° 56' North. Longitude 76° 12' West.

Month	Mean Pressure				Air Temperatures (Fah.)						Dew Point		Relative Humidity		Amount of Cloud Eighth		Rainfall Inches		Weather				Wind, No. of Observations of												
	7 a.m.	1 p.m.	7 p.m.	Mean	Means of		Absolute Min. and Max.		7 a.m.	1 p.m.	7 p.m.	%	%	7 a.m.	1 p.m.	7 p.m.	Total	Greatest Fall in one Day	Date	Thunder Storm	Clear Sky	Overcast	Gales	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Caln			
					Min.	Max.	Date	Max.																									Date	H	W
Jan.	30.006	75.9	79.1	78.8	73.7	80.6	63.1	84.0	21	70	72	71	83	78	81	5.2	4.6	3.4	0.94	0.34	23	8	1	3	3	0	35	41	11	4	1	1	1	1	
Feb.	29.997	74.6	79.2	76.2	72.9	80.6	60.2	83.7	10	69	70	69	81	74	80	5.3	3.7	3.8	0.83	0.70	3	4	0	1	1	0	31	29	16	2	2	1	1	1	
Mar.	29.971	74.1	80.3	76.6	72.2	82.1	60.4	84.3	16*	69	71	69	83	73	78	3.6	3.7	2.5	0.39	0.17	28	4	0	1	2	0	26	31	17	12	7	7	7	7	
Apr.	29.931	78.2	83.8	79.4	74.3	85.2	64.8	87.3	27	74	75	74	86	74	83	5.5	4.0	3.6	1.71	0.88	27	8	2	1	2	0	9	23	15	34	2	1	3	3	
May	29.902	79.6	84.0	80.6	76.4	86.0	70.4	88.7	12	76	77	76	89	79	86	6.0	5.5	5.1	0.82	3.64	24	20	5	1	10	0	5	12	24	33	2	1	2	13	
June	29.957	81.4	84.5	81.6	78.5	86.0	73.3	87.7	3	77	78	78	88	83	88	5.7	4.8	4.9	7.00	2.13	24	22	9	0	6	1	2	8	33	45	1	1	1	1	1
July	29.956	82.3	86.2	82.3	79.6	87.0	74.4	88.2	5	78	79	78	86	80	86	6.0	4.9	4.7	3.48	1.17	7	16	10	0	6	0	1	6	48	37	1	1	1	1	1
Aug.	29.898	82.4	87.3	83.4	79.5	88.0	72.8	86.7	26	78	79	78	86	76	83	5.6	4.4	3.9	11.15	9.21	17	12	9	2	7	2	8	9	30	34	1	1	3	3	3
Sept.	29.891	81.8	85.1	82.9	77.5	87.2	72.4	89.4	17	78	79	78	88	83	86	6.3	5.5	3.1	8.71	3.00	26	18	9	1	5	0	7	10	43	20	1	1	2	6	6
Oct.	29.870	81.5	85.8	82.1	77.6	87.0	70.7	89.4	4	77	78	77	85	79	85	5.8	5.6	3.7	5.15	0.91	6	16	8	0	8	0	11	13	33	23	4	2	1	0	0
Nov.	29.901	80.8	83.9	81.6	77.1	85.1	68.4	88.7	1*	76	77	76	85	80	83	5.6	5.4	3.4	6.38	1.64	2	12	4	2	9	1	30	10	37	10	2	1	1	1	
Dec.	29.974	79.6	82.1	80.4	77.3	83.7	72.7	85.3	4*	75	75	75	84	78	83	4.6	4.5	2.8	2.04	0.41	12	15	0	3	1	0	28	29	33	3	1	1	1	1	
Mean	29.936	79.3	83.4	80.3	76.4	84.9	60.2	89.7	..	75	76	75	85	78	83	5.4	5.1	3.7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals																			87.00			165	57	15	60	4	1196	221	352	267	9	3	4	11	42

\*And other days.  
 Extreme Temperatures for the year.  
 Barometer Pressure reduced to Mean Sea Level. The 70th Meridian West of Greenwich Standard Time used. Altitude of Standard Barometer above Mean Sea Level 33 ft. Height of Thermometers above ground 4 ft. 6 inches. Height of Rain-gauge above ground 6 ft. 5 ins. Height of Anemometer above the ground 8 ft.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

NEGRIL POINT LIGHTHOUSE, JAMAICA—Mean Meteorological Results for the Year 1951. Latitude 18° 15' North, Longitude 78° 23' West.

Month	Mean Pressure				Air Temperatures (Fah.)				Dew Point		Relative Humidity		Amount of Cloud		Rainfall		Weather				Wind															
	7 a.m.	1 p.m.	7 p.m.	Ina.	7 a.m.	1 p.m.	7 p.m.	Ina.	7 a.m.	1 p.m.	7 p.m.	Ina.	7 a.m.	1 p.m.	7 p.m.	Ina.	Total	Greatest fall in one day	Thunder Storm	Clear Sky	Overcast	Gales	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm					
Jan.	29.993	70.5	82.1	74.5	65.9	83.9	60.0	20	88.0	30	66	66	86	58	74	2.4	2.5	1.8	1.77	0.60	16	7	2	15	1	0	28	36	9	4	4	5	3	1	3	
Feb.	29.986	69.7	82.0	74.9	65.4	83.9	60.0	13	87.0	27	65	63	85	54	67	3.1	3.0	2.5	0.47	0.40	3	2	0	8	2	0	17	36	11	5	6	4	1	2	2	
Mar.	29.951	70.1	82.6	77.0	66.0	84.8	63.0	7	87.0	2*	65	67	85	58	71	1.4	2.1	3.3	0.78	0.37	30	4	0	11	0	0	11	26	9	7	10	13	7	4	6	
Apr.	29.911	74.8	84.3	78.9	70.5	86.3	68.0	1*	90.0	22	70	71	84	63	76	2.7	2.7	2.9	0.69	0.22	24	5	7	6	1	0	8	19	11	20	5	4	5	6	12	
May	29.884	78.8	86.3	80.4	73.9	88.0	70.3	1	91.4	27	72	73	79	63	79	3.7	3.1	2.8	2.04	0.36	31	11	0	3	2	0	12	25	6	11	4	3	2	5	25	
June	29.912	79.2	87.0	81.3	74.2	89.7	71.2	2	92.0	29	70	72	74	63	77	3.5	4.2	4.5	2.18	0.44	7	12	4	2	6	0	3	18	10	12	3	5	5	4	30	
July	29.933	78.3	87.4	81.2	74.5	89.7	71.0	13	92.8	22	71	73	74	64	79	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.39	3.10	28	10	5	4	6	0	3	17	10	7	12	6	9	7	22	
Aug.	29.893	77.7	87.3	80.8	74.1	88.7	71.8	16	92.3	1	73	75	86	67	83	3.7	3.6	4.6	16.19	7.09	17	18	3	1	3	1	6	14	6	12	6	5	3	0	35	
Sept.	29.870	77.7	87.3	80.7	74.7	88.9	71.3	26	92.4	19	73	74	85	66	83	4.5	4.7	4.3	4.55	1.69	12	12	6	2	5	0	3	20	10	15	9	4	4	0	25	
Oct.	29.863	76.6	86.0	79.4	73.9	87.7	71.5	28*	91.8	31	73	74	87	69	84	3.8	4.5	3.9	10.07	3.70	10	15	2	3	7	0	8	24	8	20	8	1	4	2	18	
Nov.	29.888	75.1	86.7	78.4	72.5	87.7	68.3	4	91.0	16	70	73	87	63	83	4.0	3.3	3.5	3.04	2.00	18	7	1	8	4	0	15	38	10	5	6	2	3	3	8	
Dec.	29.953	73.1	86.1	78.2	70.4	87.8	66.0	28	89.3	22	67	69	83	58	75	1.4	2.2	1.4	0.09	0.06	27	2	1	17	0	0	2	49	12	6	3	4	6	2	10	
Mean 29.920	76.1	85.4	78.8	71.3	67.3	86.0†	69.0†	...	92.8†	...	70	71	83	62	78	3.2	3.3	3.3	...	...	...	105	31	80	37	1	116	822	112	124	76	56	51	42	196	
Totals																																				

\*And other days.  
†Extreme Temperatures for the year.  
‡Barometer Pressure reduced to Mean Sea Level. The 75th Meridian West of Greenwich Standard Time used. Altitude of Standard Barometer above Mean Sea Level 22 ft. Height of Thermometers above ground at 4 ft. 6 in. Height of Rain-gauge above ground 3 ft. Height of Anemometer above ground 13 ft.

## STATION NOTES

The climatological readings for Kingston are made from several stations. Temperatures and humidity are measured in a Stevenson Screen situated at St. George's College, and supervised by the Society of Jesuits. The exposure is good and the readings are considered representative of the area. Rainfall is measured at the Public Works Office but there are several other gauges within a two-mile radius with which to compare. This is necessary with the capricious nature of Jamaica rain. Cloud weather and wind are recorded at Palisadoes Airport situated on the seaward side of Kingston Bay. This is a full time synoptic and climatological meteorological station, first class, maintained by the British Caribbean Meteorological Service, and is the forecast centre for the western Caribbean. Here the exposure is excellent but the cloud amount tends to be less than over the City. Showers are also less frequent. The day sea breeze sets in earlier at the Airport and apparently is stronger, while the night land breeze which cools the urban area does not appreciably affect the Airport till dawn. Wind is recorded by Dines Pressure Tube Recording Anemometer.

Both Morant Point and Negril Point Light houses are full synoptic reporting stations with a good complement of instruments. Exposures are open and very good.