U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, WEATHER BUREAU
IN COOPERATION WITH TRYON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
CLIMATOGRAPHY OF THE UNITED STATES NO. 20 — 31

CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

LATITUDE 35° 13' N
LONGITUDE 82° 14' W
ELEV. (GROUND) 1075 Ft.

STATION TRYON, N. C.

MEANS AND EXTREMES FOR PERIOD 1930-1959

Month	Temperature (°F) Means: Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Extremes: Record highest	Year	Record lowest	Year	** Mean degree days	Precipitation Totals (Inches): Mean	Greatest daily	Year	Snow, Sleet: Mean	Maximum monthly	Year	Greatest daily	Year	Mean number of days: Precip. .10 inch or more	Temperatures: Max. 90° and above	Max. 32° and below	Min. 32° and below	Min. 0° and below	Month
(a)	28	28	28	28		28		28	29	29		29	29		29		29	28	28	28	28	
Jan.	55.5	33.0	44.3	83	1944	3	1940	642	5.18	3.86	1954	1.6	14.0	1940	8.0	1940	8	0	*	16	0	Jan.
Feb.	58.0	33.5	45.8	82	1948	4	1958	538	5.13	3.70	1955	1.2	8.5	1958	8.5	1958	7	0	*	13	0	Feb.
Mar.	65.1	38.4	51.8	92	1945	14	1943	443	6.22	3.33	1952	0.6	12.0	1942	12.0	1942	8	*	0	8	0	Mar.
Apr.	74.4	45.7	60.1	93	1930	23	1943	159	4.82	3.84	1936	0	0		0		7	1	0	1	0	Apr.
May	81.6	54.4	68.0	96	1941	33	1947	37	4.36	6.02	1959	0	0		0		7	3	0	0	0	May
June	87.6	62.1	74.9	103	1952	38	1930	0	4.33	4.81	1947	0	0		0		8	12	0	0	0	June
July	88.7	65.7	77.2	105	1930	44	1933	0	6.12	3.60	1938	0	0		0		10	14	0	0	0	July
Aug.	87.4	64.8	76.1	102	1930	46	1930	0	6.33	7.15	1940	0	0		0		8	11	0	0	0	Aug.
Sep.	82.5	59.1	70.8	103	1954	35	1942	30	4.40	5.05	1936	0	0		0		6	5	0	0	0	Sep.
Oct.	74.2	47.9	61.1	96	1954	26	1952+	161	4.21	6.06	1932	0	0		0		5	1	0	1	0	Oct.
Nov.	64.1	38.1	51.1	87	1950	8	1950	417	4.08	3.75	1948	T	0.5	1951	0.5	1951	6	0	0	10	0	Nov.
Dec.	55.3	32.2	43.8	82	1931	7	1957	657	5.61	5.05	1958	1.5	13.0	1930	13.0	1930	7	0	*	18	0	Dec.
Year	72.9	47.9	60.4	105	1930	3	1940	3084	60.79	7.15	1940	4.9	14.0	1940	13.0	1930	87	47	1	67	0	Year

(a) Average length of record, years.

T Trace, an amount too small to measure.

** Base 65°F

+ Also on earlier dates, months, or years.

* Less than one half.

CLIMATE OF TRYON, NORTH CAROLINA

TRYON is at the heart of the Thermal Belt region of North Carolina, an area widely known for its long freeze-free growing seasons and the relative mildness of earliest fall freezes and latest spring freezes. Thus, delicate vegetation may be seen growing at a time of year when similar plants have long been killed by frost over the Mountain area generally, and even over large portions of Piedmont North Carolina.

Tryon is situated in the southern edge of Polk County, in the valley of the North Pacolet River, a short distance north of the South Carolina border. Most of Tryon is at an elevation of 1000-1200 feet above mean sea level, while directly to the northwest a spur of the Blue Ridge Mountains forms a northeast-southwest barrier to a height of 2000-4000 feet. Another spur extends southward into South Carolina just west of Tryon, while beyond these spurs the Blue Ridge proper and the Great Smoky Mountains rise to elevations of 5000-6000 feet in the highest part of the Appalachian Mountain System. The Tryon area is thus protected by a series of increasingly high barriers, which tend to hold back the flow of cold air from winter outbreaks moving southward over the Plains States from Central Canada. The weaker of these outbreaks are turned aside and prevented from reaching Tryon, and even the strongest are modified in passing over the Mountains. While the temperature drops below freezing on about half the nights in December, January and February, it is very rare even in the coldest weather that it fails to rise above freezing during the afternoon. There has been no zero weather in Tryon during the entire period of record covered by this summary. Heating requirements, as indicated by heating degree-day values, are lower than for most sections of Piedmont North Carolina and for large portions of the Coastal Plain.

The average length of freeze-free growing season at Tryon is over 200 days per year, a longer season than that of any other weather station in the North Carolina Mountains and longer than a great many locations in the Piedmont and interior Coastal Plain. The average date of last occurrence in spring of a temperature as low as 32 degrees is April 10; of 28 degrees, March 26; of 20 degrees, February 20. The average date of first occurrence in autumn of 32 degrees is October 30; of 28 degrees, November 8; of 20 degrees, December 5.

Summer afternoons are warm in Tryon, but rapid cooling takes place after sunset, so that even at the warmest time of year early morning temperatures average below 66 degrees. The occurrence of 90 degree weather is less common here than in the eastern part of North Carolina, but such temperatures have been recorded in eight of the twelve months. Temperatures as high as 100 degrees have been observed in the four months, June through September, but this is quite rare; several years may pass without one such occurrence.

July is the warmest month of the year at Tryon, with August averaging almost as warm. During the thirty year period covered by this summary the lowest temperature has occurred in January, but December has averaged the coldest month during the same period.

Precipitation is abundant in the Tryon area, and exceptionally well-distributed throughout the year. Even during the driest months of October and November the average monthly rainfall is a little over four inches. There is rarely any serious droughtiness in the growing season, or at any other time of year.

Some snow falls at Tryon almost every winter, but the average amount is only a small fraction of that which falls in the higher Mountains to the north, and is less than half that which falls in many areas of the western and northern Piedmont. Only one in every five or six winters brings a total winter's snowfall of as much as twelve inches, and only two or three times in the past thirty years has there been a foot on the ground at one time. In the higher Mountains to the north and west, however, snow can be found the greater part of the winter.

Westerly winds prevail at Tryon, following the valley of the North Pacolet River. Wind speeds average only about eight or nine miles per hour, however, and directions may vary with local contours of the land. Light breezes are common at night, serving to inhibit frost formation in winter and to increase comfort on summer evenings. The highest winds in the area are usually those accompanying summer thundershowers, since the Mountain barriers diminish the strength of winter storms, and tropical storms affecting coastal North Carolina and adjoining areas in summer and autumn rarely cause high winds this far inland.

The sun shines more than half the daylight hours in Tryon, with the most sunshine in the late spring and early summer, and the least in winter. There is usually a great deal of fine, sunny weather in the autumn season, also. Relative humidity averages about seventy percent around the year, with the highest humidities occurring in the late summer and the lowest in spring.

Weather Bureau Airport Station
Raleigh-Durham Airport
North Carolina

CHARLES B. CARNEY
State Climatologist

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Average Temperature (°F)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1930	43.4	—	—	59.9	68.2	71.8	79.9	74.6	73.1	56.2	47.4	38.0	—
1931	42.4	45.4	46.4	57.0	64.7	74.5	79.8	75.7	74.8	62.4	56.2	50.6	60.8
1932	49.8	51.8	48.1	59.1	65.7	74.4	80.0	76.1	70.3	60.2	48.3	44.8	60.7
1933	48.8	43.6	51.4	57.3	71.0	76.0	75.8	75.7	74.6	59.8	50.2	48.0	61.0
1934	44.4	38.0	47.6	59.0	66.6	74.9	79.5	76.4	71.9	60.2	51.2	41.1	59.2
1935	41.4	42.6	55.1	58.8	65.8	73.8	76.0	74.6	69.0	60.0	53.8	37.2	59.0
1936	37.8	41.1	53.0	57.0	69.1	74.5	78.4	75.6	71.2	61.2	49.4	44.8	59.4
1937	51.6	44.3	50.4	57.2	66.6	75.7	76.0	74.9	66.6	56.6	47.6	42.5	59.2
1938	42.7	49.7	57.0	58.8	67.8	71.4	74.8	76.8	70.0	59.9	53.6	43.8	60.5
1939	45.2	49.0	54.4	59.0	66.0	77.2	76.8	74.8	72.9	63.7	49.3	46.6	61.2
1940	32.4	43.6	48.6	57.4	66.0	74.6	75.7	75.3	68.2	61.0	50.4	46.4	58.3
1941	43.8	40.8	46.4	61.4	68.6	74.5	77.2	76.2	72.0	67.2	51.5	46.9	60.5
1942	42.0	41.0	51.4	62.0	68.1	76.1	78.6	74.2	69.8	61.6	52.1	42.6	60.0
1943	45.2	46.8	48.8	58.3	70.2	78.6	76.4	78.4	68.0	59.2	51.2	46.2	60.6
1944	43.2	48.2	51.1	58.7	70.4	77.2	74.3	74.1	71.0	60.4	50.1	38.3	59.8
1945	44.0	47.0	60.6	62.8	65.5	75.6	77.0	75.4	73.4	59.8	52.4	37.2	60.9
1946	43.9	46.8	58.4	61.8	66.1	74.2	76.0	74.0	69.6	60.8	55.6	—	—
1947	46.8	39.0	44.4	63.3	67.4	70.6	73.6	77.7	72.0	64.0	48.8	—	—
1948	37.0	46.5	56.0	63.4	69.1	75.0	78.0	74.8	68.6	57.6	54.3	48.5	60.7
1949	51.4	50.3	52.9	58.2	67.3	74.3	78.4	74.3	67.5	64.2	50.3	44.2	61.1
1950	54.1	48.4	49.5	57.1	69.2	74.1	74.0	73.1	68.3	63.3	47.8	40.3	59.9
1951	43.1	45.9	52.2	58.8	66.7	74.0	77.7	78.0	71.0	63.7	46.5	44.2	60.2
1952	49.3	47.4	51.4	60.4	68.5	80.0	78.6	75.3	69.4	57.9	51.5	43.5	61.1
1953	46.2	48.1	54.2	60.2	72.4	76.1	77.5	76.6	70.3	62.3	52.4	43.0	61.6
1954	44.8	49.7	52.6	63.9	64.0	74.8	79.2	79.1	74.4	63.5	47.7	41.0	61.2
1955	43.5	45.7	54.9	64.2	69.6	70.7	78.4	78.7	73.1	60.9	51.8	39.3	60.9
1956	41.6	48.4	53.5	58.9	69.4	75.1	77.3	77.7	69.7	62.5	50.8	53.0	61.5
1957	45.4	51.3	51.7	63.3	69.7	75.4	77.5	75.6	72.1	58.2	53.0	45.8	61.6
1958	38.7	38.8	48.1	60.8	69.2	75.3	77.8	77.4	70.5	59.9	56.3	41.9	59.6
1959	42.8	47.7	50.6	61.8	70.8	74.7	76.8	78.7	71.0	63.3	50.4	45.8	61.2

Total Precipitation (Inches)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1930	3.32	—	—	2.61	2.42	2.96	1.50	2.77	2.56	1.29	6.86	5.68	—
1931	2.61	3.61	5.21	5.22	3.75	3.46	3.74	4.74	.89	1.27	1.41	15.19	51.10
1932	7.58	3.13	5.90	3.15	5.08	6.01	5.12	7.02	4.17	13.35	6.88	10.88	78.27
1933	2.60	4.93	3.48	5.16	6.20	1.72	3.31	5.45	2.46	2.29	1.41	4.24	43.25
1934	2.98	4.51	9.66	4.02	5.77	6.70	4.29	11.64	3.75	6.11	4.74	3.66	67.83
1935	7.13	3.47	4.39	4.39	4.10	2.78	8.99	10.46	2.55	1.20	5.45	2.98	57.89
1936	11.53	5.64	6.29	9.44	.95	2.06	4.01	4.79	7.52	14.25	2.71	9.12	78.31
1937	11.82	4.54	1.89	5.97	2.88	3.23	10.95	8.08	4.93	11.05	2.31	2.70	70.35
1938	3.17	2.36	5.46	2.70	6.27	5.32	10.24	3.76	3.65	.85	3.64	3.42	50.84
1939	5.37	11.52	3.55	4.62	4.35	4.16	6.60	11.64	2.02	1.18	1.12	3.48	59.61
1940	3.67	5.21	4.95	2.74	1.84	5.23	4.25	14.64	.99	2.29	5.53	4.61	55.95
1941	2.48	1.54	5.49	2.85	1.52	3.91	6.48	5.78	1.09	1.63	3.50	6.28	42.55
1942	4.21	6.60	6.52	.99	10.13	3.43	5.93	10.32	9.33	2.64	2.41	9.31	71.82
1943	6.18	2.84	7.44	4.96	5.60	9.00	11.54	3.12	4.16	.84	2.75	4.58	63.01
1944	4.39	8.30	11.02	6.08	.77	3.23	4.23	4.33	10.02	3.56	5.83	3.81	65.57
1945	2.08	6.76	4.88	5.63	2.33	1.66	9.72	2.20	11.12	2.88	4.06	9.45	62.77
1946	11.63	5.97	7.29	2.99	7.28	2.75	8.24	5.75	4.53	6.17	4.94	2.70	70.24
1947	8.15	1.42	4.45	3.72	2.94	9.10	4.72	4.42	2.29	8.38	6.25	2.68	58.52
1948	4.59	5.13	9.59	1.39	3.89	3.10	9.36	11.67	5.34	1.25	14.26	5.45	75.02
1949	5.42	5.45	5.81	7.53	2.95	5.21	7.71	16.06	3.70	8.17	2.37	3.34	73.72
1950	3.35	2.35	5.75	1.17	8.06	3.65	7.47	8.91	6.31	6.78	1.12	5.05	59.97
1951	1.75	3.83	7.66	4.71	.67	7.13	3.96	2.88	3.65	1.93	4.96	10.48	53.61
1952	5.94	5.58	13.73	5.89	3.28	1.30	3.32	6.74	1.07	1.97	2.99	4.63	56.44
1953	5.71	8.50	7.85	3.54	2.30	6.06	2.30	2.16	6.31	.55	2.64	7.79	55.71
1954	9.77	3.69	7.12	2.22	3.47	3.15	3.56	1.75	.11	.28	5.37	6.49	46.98
1955	2.19	5.52	2.97	6.68	7.08	3.81	6.97	3.09	1.38	2.72	1.79	.52	44.72
1956	1.49	10.12	4.08	6.50	3.43	1.21	5.99	3.38	5.28	3.20	2.92	4.29	51.89
1957	4.49	7.50	5.86	8.03	3.56	10.89	1.32	3.36	10.43	4.74	7.94	3.97	72.09
1958	5.28	5.23	6.48	11.95	3.81	2.97	8.60	5.23	1.50	1.98	2.34	6.49	61.86
1959	4.40	3.53	5.56	7.60	13.98	4.58	9.11	3.87	8.78	11.57	2.02	5.05	80.05

STATION HISTORY

Wayne W. Creasman has been Weather Observer during the entire period of record covered by this summary. The instruments are located at his residence on Trade Street.

Published through the courtesy of the Tryon Chamber of Commerce