

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, WEATHER BUREAU
 In Cooperation With Conway Merchants & Businessmen's Ass'n.
 CLIMATOGRAPHY OF THE UNITED STATES NO. 20 - 38
CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

LATITUDE 33° 50' N
 LONGITUDE 79° 03' W
 ELEV. (GROUND) 27' MSL

STATION - CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA
 County - Horry

MEANS AND EXTREMES FOR PERIOD 1925-1954

Month	Temperature (°F)								* * * Mean degree days	Precipitation Totals (Inches)							Mean number of days						Month				
	Means				Extremes					Mean	Greatest daily	Year	Snow, Sleet, Hail				Precip. .10 inch or more	Temperatures									
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Record highest	Year	Record lowest	Year	Mean					Maximum monthly	Year	Greatest daily	Year		90° and above	32° and below	32° and below	32° and below	0° and below					
																								Max.	Min.		
(a)	30	30	30	30		30		30																			
Jan.	61.3	38.4	49.9	83	1937	11	1940	477	3.05	2.80	1929	0.2	5.0	1936	5.0	1936	6	0	*	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	Jan.
Feb.	63.0	39.0	51.0	85	1930	11	1936+	398	3.63	2.26	1943	0.1	3.0	1942	3.0	1942	6	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Feb.
Mar.	68.9	44.5	56.7	94	1935	18	1943	295	4.03	4.12	1944	T	T	1947+	T	1947+	7	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Mar.
Apr.	77.0	51.4	64.2	94	1930	28	1944	63	2.95	2.36	1946	0	0	-	0	-	6	2	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	Apr.
May	84.6	59.2	71.9	101	1938	38	1939	0	3.07	2.48	1954	0	0	-	0	-	6	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	May
June	90.4	67.3	78.9	106	1954	45	1930	0	5.03	3.13	1942	0	0	-	0	-	8	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	June
July	91.3	70.7	81.0	103	1952+	51	1933	0	6.96	3.96	1946	0	0	-	0	-	10	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	July
Aug.	90.4	69.8	80.1	106	1954	55	1930+	0	6.41	4.38	1943	0	0	-	0	-	9	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Aug.
Sept.	86.5	65.6	76.1	105	1925	46	1942	0	5.50	4.73	1945	0	0	-	0	-	6	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sept.
Oct.	77.6	53.7	65.8	98	1954	27	1952	59	2.45	3.48	1954	0	0	-	0	-	4	1	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	Oct.
Nov.	68.1	43.6	55.9	86	1941	16	1950	285	2.62	2.72	1934	0	0	-	0	-	5	5	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Nov.
Dec.	60.5	37.4	49.0	84	1943	10	1943	496	3.29	4.12	1941	0.2	6.0	1943	6.0	1943	6	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Dec.
Year	76.6	53.4	65.0	106	Aug. 1954+	10	Dec. 1943	2073	48.99	4.73	Sept. 1954	0.5	6.0	Dec. 1943	6.0	Dec. 1943	79	76	*	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	Year

(a) Average length of record, years.

+ Also on earlier dates, months or years.

T Trace, an amount too small to measure.

* Less than one half.

** Base 65° computed from average monthly temperatures rather than the actual degree-day averages.

Climate of Conway, South Carolina:

The City of Conway, seat of Horry County, is located on the Waccamaw River about 40 miles upstream from the river's mouth. An inland waterway along the Waccamaw River gives Conway access to the Inter-coastal Waterway which makes a junction with the Waccamaw River about 12 miles downstream from Conway. This waterway is maintained upstream to Lake Waccamaw. Conway is in northeastern South Carolina about 15 miles inland from the ocean. The terrain in the general area is relatively flat with poor to well drained sandy loam type soil.

The climate is temperate with rainfall throughout the year and can be classified as Cfa by Köppen, with a continentality index of 37 percent according to Johansson. The daily weather is largely controlled by the eastward march of pressure and frontal systems, although pressure patterns that give northeasterly through southwesterly winds will impart a definite marine flavor to the climate. During the summer when invasions of continental air become infrequent, maritime tropical air persists for extended periods. The character of the rain during the warm half of the year outside of tropical disturbances is mostly of a showery nature, while during the colder half of the year, it is usually of a steady nature connected with the fall from over-running moist air. Conway, being near the seacoast, usually feels the fringe effects of one or more hurricanes during the late summer and fall season. Occasionally one of these storms may come close enough to give strong winds in the area. Fortunately, since South Carolina has been settled, relatively few storms have caused hurricane force winds in Conway. The most recent major storm of this nature was hurricane Hazel in 1954. Other outstanding storms include the 1906 and 1822 hurricanes. The nearest relative humidity records are those of Florence, where the 1 pm values range from a low of 40 odd percent in the spring to a peak percentage in the low sixties during the summer. The yearly 1 pm average is about 48 percent. There are no wind observations from Conway, but records from Charleston show the prevailing winds from January through July to be southwesterly with northeasterly flow during the balance of the year.

The summers are warm, relatively humid, as is characteristic of the South. The warm season usually begins in May and extends well into September. An average summer should have two days in June of 100° or above, two in July and one in August. Since July and August comprise a substantial portion of the hurricane season, the rainfall averages are affected by the few downpours that have developed due to the proximity of hurricanes. This is the rainiest time of the year, with 38 percent of the annual rainfall occurring during this season.

The fall season begins with summer-like temperatures persisting to about the middle of September, changing slowly through an "Indian Summer" period to the prewinter cold spells, which begin to be felt during the last of November. The "Indian Summer" period is the most pleasant time of the year, with the sunshine at a relative maximum, rainfall at a relative minimum and few temperature extremes. September is the month of greatest hurricane frequency in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Ocean, and occasionally one may come close enough to cause excessive rain and squally weather. During the past 30 years this has happened about 7 times. Twenty-two percent of the annual rainfall occurs during the fall.

Winters at Conway are usually mild. One or two cold waves are likely during the winter and two or possibly three days may reach below 20°. The lowest temperature ever recorded was 6° in December, 1917 and again in January, 1918. Snow flurries are not very rare during winters, although it is unusual to have measurable amounts of snow fall or a snow cover for more than a day. The heaviest snow fall of record was on February, 1912 when 10.5 inches of snow fell in 24 hours. The winter rainfall accounts for 20 percent of the annual total.

Spring is marked by its rapid changes from windy and occasional cold in March to generally warm and pleasant in May. This is the period when locally severe thunderstorms and squalls are most prevalent and tornado alerts are most often issued. Horry County has been fortunate in the past with only 4 tornadoes of note during the past 44 years. Only one of these occurred in Conway, and that was in September, 1913. Moderate damage, but no casualties were reported in connection with this tornado. Twenty percent of the annual rainfall is during the spring season.

The average date of the last spring freeze in the Conway area is March 18, while the average date of the first freeze in the fall is November 12. The interval between these average dates, the growing season, is 240 days. However, during the period of record, killing frost has been reported as late as April 20 in the spring and early as October 11 in the fall.

There is no recording raingage at Conway. However, maximum rainfall intensities recorded on the automatic raingage at Loris from 1941 to 1950, are as follows:

Duration	1 hour	2 hours	3 hours	6 hours	12 hours
Amounts	2.63	3.25	3.33	3.40	4.48
Date	7/19/48	9/25/48	7/19-20/48	7/19-20/48	6/25/45

Nathan Kronberg, John C. Purvis, Lyle Callahan & Alton L. Stone, Climatologists, Weather Bureau Airport Station, Columbia, S. C.

Station History:

Regular observations for the Conway area were begun with the appointment of Mrs. M. J. Porter, who served as observer from January, 1894 through December of 1899. The first records were rainfall and river observations, with temperature records beginning in 1900. In January of 1900, Mr. P. Quattlebaum, assumed observational duties, and since that date the weather observation program has remained in the Quattlebaum family. The various observers were, respectively: McQ. Quattlebaum, October, 1903 to September, 1905; Miss M. G. Quattlebaum, October, 1905 to September, 1906; P. C. Quattlebaum, October, 1906 to April, 1912; Paul Quattlebaum, May, 1912 to September, 1930. The current observer, Mr. Perry C. Quattlebaum, began observations October, 1930. Beginning with the appointment of Mr. P. Quattlebaum in 1900 until 1912 the thermometers and raingage were located 3 miles west of the Post Office. In 1912 these instruments were relocated 1/2 mile north-east of the Post Office near the Quattlebaum residence, and have continued here to the present. The current position of the river gage is on the Waccamaw River near the Quattlebaum residence.

Average Temperature (°F)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1925	47.8	55.0	58.7	65.7	68.4	79.2	81.8	79.8	81.4	66.3	53.6	46.8	65.4
1926	46.7	52.2	50.4	61.6	70.6	77.8	80.2	81.7	77.6	66.8	53.6	52.6	64.3
1927	48.2	58.8	57.0	63.6	72.6	78.9	78.9	76.9	76.2	67.8	59.0	50.0	65.4
1928	47.8	49.4	56.4	61.8	68.8	78.2	79.6	80.2	74.2	67.8	55.4	49.3	64.1
1929	51.0	48.2	60.8	65.6	70.1	75.8	78.6	77.8	74.5	64.2	57.7	49.4	64.6
1930	49.6	54.4	54.0	65.1	73.8	75.8	83.0	77.8	79.2	61.8	53.3	45.4	64.4
1931	46.5	49.1	51.4	62.0	69.3	77.1	82.5	79.4	76.8	66.2	60.0	57.6	64.8
1932	58.2	56.6	53.8	63.0	70.4	78.1	82.5	79.1	72.7	65.9	55.0	54.0	65.9
1933	54.4	52.3	56.6	62.6	75.8	78.1	78.5	79.8	79.0	66.0	54.2	53.8	66.1
1934	50.6	44.4	55.7	66.2	71.0	79.7	82.6	81.3	76.8	64.8	58.2	48.0	64.6
1935	49.8	50.6	62.8	64.6	70.6	78.6	79.4	79.5	74.4	64.8	58.2	41.2	64.6
1936	45.7	46.2	58.3	62.8	71.9	80.7	81.9	80.4	76.6	67.6	54.8	50.7	64.5
1937	60.6	49.0	54.5	63.2	70.8	79.8	80.7	79.8	72.7	63.0	53.6	45.1	64.4
1938	48.2	54.7	62.8	65.2	74.5	77.3	79.6	82.6	76.8	63.7	60.0	49.6	66.2
1939	52.4	58.2	61.3	65.2	71.4	82.4	81.8	80.7	77.8	68.8	62.4	48.6	66.8
1940	37.2	49.4	54.6	62.8	70.9	81.3	81.2	80.2	74.4	64.7	56.4	53.2	63.9
1941	47.2	43.6	51.0	66.4	72.2	79.0	82.6	81.0	77.8	71.6	57.7	51.6	65.2
1942	47.1	44.0	58.6	65.4	73.1	79.8	83.6	80.0	78.1	67.0	59.0	49.3	65.4
1943	50.8	50.8	56.3	62.0	73.4	83.0	81.9	81.4	73.0	63.6	53.8	47.2	64.8
1944	47.9	54.2	56.4	64.0	74.4	81.2	79.8	78.8	77.2	64.6	54.6	44.1	64.8
1945	46.9	52.7	65.6	69.2	79.8	80.2	81.6	79.6	78.9	65.0	58.3	43.9	66.0
1946	50.3	52.6	62.0	65.4	72.8	77.6	79.8	78.4	74.8	66.2	61.6	52.3	66.1
1947	54.2	44.0	49.6	67.6	72.8	77.2	77.9	80.8	76.2	69.4	54.2	48.6	64.4
1948	42.8	49.4	60.2	67.3	72.3	79.9	82.6	79.2	74.4	60.8	61.8	53.3	65.4
1949	57.6	57.3	55.9	63.0	72.3	77.9	82.2	81.2	73.8	69.0	53.7	49.9	66.1
1950	57.0	53.4	52.8	61.5	73.9	80.2	79.9	78.4	66.8	51.7	41.4	64.2	64.2
1951	47.2	48.4	55.2	62.2	70.3	79.0	81.1	81.4	74.8	68.2	51.6	50.9	64.2
1952	53.6	48.7	55.8	62.4	74.0	83.1	81.7	80.6	74.7	66.4	54.1	44.9	64.5
1953	48.9	51.1	56.6	62.6	76.8	77.4	79.9	79.7	74.4	66.1	49.2	49.2	64.7
1954	48.7	51.7	55.0	66.6	68.1	79.9	82.5	83.1	76.5	67.3	54.1	44.7	65.0

Total Precipitation (Inches)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1925	7.69	2.75	2.04	3.67	3.39	4.97	2.71	2.24	1.02	2.76	3.89	4.01	41.14
1926	6.57	4.64	4.23	1.26	1.42	4.81	7.61	4.36	5.03	1.07	4.10	1.30	46.40
1927	1.12	2.22	2.42	0.43	1.14	5.23	5.94	3.83	3.83	1.90	1.30	3.71	39.42
1928	1.10	6.54	2.80	7.31	6.70	7.42	6.08	8.04	14.63	1.72	1.41	2.37	63.27
1929	7.16	4.07	3.31	3.02	6.76	6.30	2.37	3.82	3.29	3.97	2.72	4.26	51.05
1930	4.40	0.88	4.08	1.52	0.72	5.78	5.84	3.23	6.72	4.58	3.03	5.25	46.03
1931	2.39	1.68	3.58	2.69	4.95	2.20	8.93	7.35	0.20	7.17	3.62	1.97	53.89
1932	3.03	3.85	2.73	3.07	4.30	9.86	4.31	6.77	5.21	0.91	0.76	0.28	47.74
1933	2.32	6.62	1.84	3.08	3.72	2.15	12.52	6.38	7.16	0.93	5.58	1.71	49.80
1934	1.17	5.09	3.00	0.72	4.74	5.40	7.02	8.82	5.45	0.30	1.81	4.29	43.31
1935	1.73	1.34	1.21	2.21	1.15	4.40	11.69	6.21	6.97	0.30	2.18	4.04	57.60
1936	6.18	3.81	5.05	2.82	2.19	5.21	5.07	6.38	2.78	10.19	4.34	2.43	45.03
1937	2.81	5.05	1.99	5.05	0.96	4.46	3.13	6.41	4.91	2.49	4.34	2.43	45.03
1938	2.68	0.74	1.36	5.35	5.00	4.52	7.71	3.91	7.44	2.14	2.47	45.06	45.06
1939	4.10	6.91	2.61	2.94	2.53	6.90	5.37	9.04	4.21	0.83	0.65	1.81	47.90
1940	2.54	6.20	2.85	2.20	3.04	3.20	7.57	5.17	0.50	0.36	1.62	2.85	38.10
1941	2.02	2.38	6.38	6.82	0.12	11.81	4.89	7.42	1.81	0.59	6.93	6.93	51.92
1942	1.69	4.37	7.71	1.29	3.32	8.59	7.53	5.78	1.96	1.05	0.89	2.95	47.13
1943	2.90	1.48	5.95	4.52	2.42	3.25	11.75	13.36	7.53	1.05	1.26	4.06	58.48
1944	3.44	5.70	11.00	2.69	3.52	2.11	6.76	5.12	2.15	2.92	1.69	1.33	49.33
1945	2.41	3.63	2.29	2.47	2.60	6.61	10.23	12.09	13.84	1.10	1.42	6.63	65.02
1946	3.66	2.17	3.52	5.71	5.72	2.96	10.07	11.62	1.50	3.71	2.53	1.13	52.17
1947	2.68	0.35	5.13	3.52	8.83	9.92	5.37	8.57	3.85	3.85	7.85	5.45	67.04
1948	3.95	6.38	3.66	3.40	3.49	5.40	5.44	5.44	6.08	3.26	9.51	3.94	59.40
1949	0.68	5.66	2.51	3.90	2.77	7.38	4.35	5.83	8.50	2.98	2.17	1.44	48.17
1950	0.43	1.04	4.55	0.26	2.46	2.30	12.25	2.17	8.48	0.31	0.82	4.98	46.19
1951	0.93	1.15	4.82	3.78	0.36	7.66	7.66	6.91	6.61	0.31	2.26	3.36	39.38
1952	1.81	5.00	4.94	1.61	2.72	3.58	6.26	8.97	7.57	1.18	3.42	2.46	49.52
1953	3.08	5.72	5.28	1.11	3.41	4.18	3.44	7.88	3.52	0.33	3.52	5.47	50.94
1954	1.68	1.52	3.98	2.61	3.14	0.17	3.00	1.70	6.86	6.86	1.23	2.39	31.81

