U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

In cooperation with
Cotton Economic Research and
Bureau of Business Research of
The University of Texas at Austin

CLIMATOGRAPHY OF THE UNITED STATES NO. 20-41

ATITUDE 30° 06' N
LONGITUDE 98° 25' W
ELEV. (GROUND) 1350 ft.

CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

STATION BLANCO, TEXAS

MEANS AND EXTREMES FOR PERIOD 1941-70

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 Depth	Year	Mean number of days: Precip. .10 inch or more	Temperatures Max.: 90° and above	32° and below	Min.: 32° and below	0° and below	Month
(a)	30	30	30	30		30		15	30	30		30	30		15		15	15	15	15	15	
Jan	60.3	34.0	47.2	91	1943	-6	1949	595	2.12	3.21	1968	0.6	11.0	1944	0		4	0	1	15	0	Jan
Feb	63.6	37.3	50.5	91	1954+	-5	1949	445	3.00	4.65	1961	0.4	5.0	1966	5	1966	5	*	*	11	0	Feb
Mar	70.8	42.2	56.5	99	1946	15	1948	292	2.10	2.59	1943	0.1	4.0	1965	-		4	*	0	6	0	Mar
Apr	79.1	53.2	66.2	103	1963	29	1956+	76	3.54	8.12	1949	0	0		0		5	1	0	*	0	Apr
May	85.1	60.7	72.9	103	1967	38	1954	15	3.98	8.13	1958	0	0		0		6	8	0	0	0	May
Jun	92.2	67.7	80.0	103	1963+	49	1964	1	2.92	4.33	1961	0	0		0		4	22	0	0	0	Jun
Jul	96.0	69.6	82.8	109	1954	56	1968	0	1.98	4.21	1943	0	0		0		2	28	0	0	0	Jul
Aug	96.6	68.7	82.7	109	1962+	53	1967	0	2.21	5.05	1942	0	0		0		3	28	0	0	0	Aug
Sep	90.0	63.3	76.7	106	1951	39	1942	4	4.65	17.47	1952	0	0		0		6	17	0	0	0	Sep
Oct	81.5	53.4	67.5	99	1947	28	1957	73	3.60	6.88	1959	0	0		0		4	3	0	*	0	Oct
Nov	70.2	42.1	56.2	95	1949	17	1959+	308	2.09	2.91	1946	0.2	4.0	1955	0		4	*	*	6	0	Nov
Dec	63.3	36.1	49.7	91	1955	12	1951	446	2.20	3.50	1965	T	T	1963+	0		4	0	*	13	0	Dec
Year	79.1	52.4	65.8	109	Aug. 1962	-6	Jan. 1949	2255	34.39	17.47	Sept. 1952	1.3	11.0	Jan. 1944	5.0	Feb. 1966	51	107	1	51	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.

THE CLIMATE OF BLANCO, TEXAS

Blanco, located 50 miles west of Austin, is a popular tourist and recreation center in the scenic Texas Hill Country. The town was first settled in 1853 by pioneer stockmen who had to fortify their home against still hostile Indians. Blanco lies on the banks of the Blanco River--a beautiful Hill Country stream that winds through small secluded valleys and past unusual water sculptured rocks. A popular portion of the river runs through 110-acre Blanco State Park, where facilities for camping, fishing, swimming and picknicking include shelters, trailer space, restrooms and showers. The Blanco River and other Hill Country streams abound in game fish, and hunters may take white-tailed deer, wild turkey, quail and mourning dove during the fall season.

Blanco County is hilly: cut by both the Blanco and Pedernales Rivers. Business income is derived mostly from tourism and ranch marketing. Agricultural income is chiefly from sheep and goat ranching, turkey raising, and hunting leases.

Blanco has a humid subtropical climate with hot summers. Mean total annual rainfall is 34.39 inches, and rather evenly distributed throughout the year. The rainfall pattern is somewhat typical of the Edwards Plateau with a double maxima - in May and September. In an average year, September is the wettest month: July is the driest. Approximately two-thirds of the average annual rainfall occurs during the warm season, April through October. A large portion of the warm season rainfall is a result of thunderstorm activity, and large variations in amounts occur from year-to-year. Total annual precipitation has ranged from [illegible]06 inches in 1919 to only 12.98 inches in 1901. In exception-[illegible] wet years, a significant proportion of the rainfall results from excessive downpours that may be lost to the soil due to rapid runoff. In September 1952, a total of 17.47 inches fell at Blanco within a single 24-hour period, while more than eight inches have fallen within 24 hours in both April and May

Winter. Temperatures are quite mild: freezes occur on only two out of five nights during an average winter season. The average daily maximum in January, the coldest month, is 60.3°F--quite pleasant for most outdoor activity. Frequent "northers" may bring sharp drops in temperature, but periods of cold weather are short, and soon moderated by sunshine and southerly winds. Cloudiness is most prevalent in winter. Precipitation is usually in the form of light rain or drizzle. Significant snowfall is rare. Most often snow melts as it falls, with little or no accumulation on the ground. The lowest temperature of record at Blanco is -6°F, and occurred January 31, 1949.

Summer. Hot daytime temperatures prevail for a long period in summer: however, these are broken occasionally by thundershowers. Evaporative-type home air conditioners operate efficiently about 90 percent of the time: the refrigeration-type is prefered. Automotive air conditioning is recommended for maximum comfort while motoring. The highest temperature of record at Blanco is 110°F, and this reading occurred several times: in July 1914, 1918 and 1939, and in August 1917.

Spring and Fall are the most pleasant seasons at Blanco: temperatures are more moderate than in either winter or summer. The weather is more changeable in the spring, while long periods of fair weather, with mild days and crisp cool nights, characterize late fall (October and November).

At Blanco, mean relative humidity, measured at noon c.s.t., is estimated at 58 percent in January, 56 percent in April, 45 percent in July and 53 percent in October. Mean percentage of total possible sunshine is 53 percent in winter, 58 percent in spring, 75 percent in summer and 65 percent in fall. The prevailing winds at Blanco are southerly, April through September, and northerly, October through March.

The mean length of the warm season (freeze free period) is 234 days. In the spring, the mean date of the last occurrence of 32°F or below is March 26, while the mean date of the first occurrence of 32°F or below in the fall is November 15. Mean annual lake (free water) evaporation is 58 inches. Evaporation exceeds rainfall by about 28 inches annually.

BLANCO, TEXAS

Average Temperature (°F)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1941	53.0	50.5	54.5	66.8	77.1	80.7	84.0	85.5	79.0	72.2	55.2	50.0	67.4
1942	45.4	48.1	56.0	65.6	73.2	81.0	81.2	82.2	77.0	66.8	61.4	52.4	65.9
1943	48.4	56.8	57.8	69.2	74.9	80.0	82.2	84.0	74.2	65.0	53.4	47.0	66.1
1944	46.2	54.2	57.2	66.0	70.2	79.8	83.6	82.8	76.0	67.0	58.6	46.2	65.6
1945	48.8	52.6	64.2	65.0	72.6	79.8	82.4	83.4	78.3	65.2	60.8	48.3	66.8
1946	46.8	51.5	59.6	68.6	72.8	78.2	83.4	82.0	76.2	68.7	57.8	53.2	66.6
1947	45.8	45.0	53.4	64.4	72.8	81.5	83.2	83.2	78.5	75.2	54.6	50.8	65.7
1948	41.6	48.8	56.1	69.2	75.1	83.1	83.6	83.2	74.6	66.8	56.2	52.0	65.9
1949	43.5	53.5	58.0	60.9	75.0	79.1	81.8	80.8	78.1	66.7	59.5	51.7	65.7
1950	54.3	53.2	56.2	63.4	73.2	79.0	82.1	81.2	77.1	71.2	55.9	50.1	66.4
1951	48.4	49.0	58.1	64.5	72.0	79.6	84.5	84.5	78.2	70.4	53.9	52.9	66.3
1952	55.7	54.6	55.8	62.3	69.8	79.5	81.3	84.9	75.2	62.2	55.9	48.6	65.5
1953	53.3	51.2	63.1	64.1	72.5	83.2	83.5	82.2	74.4	67.5	54.4	45.9	66.3
1954	50.6	55.8	57.1	70.1	71.6	82.0	85.2	84.0	79.1	69.4	54.9	53.1	67.7
1955	47.9	50.4	59.5	70.7	75.9	78.0	82.2	82.3	79.3	67.7	56.0	49.6	66.6
1956	47.8	51.3	57.2	65.5	76.2	81.9	83.1	81.4	75.5	67.2	51.5	51.7	65.8
1957	49.3	59.1	56.6	62.8	69.7	77.5	83.0	82.5	73.4	62.4	52.9	52.2	65.1
1958	45.3	45.0	50.9	63.2	71.6	80.3	83.1	82.7	76.6	64.4	56.6	46.2	63.8
1959	44.1	49.7	54.8	61.1	73.7	79.8	80.6	81.2	77.4	66.1	49.6	50.1	64.0
1960	45.7	44.2	50.7	66.0	69.8	80.6	81.9	80.5	75.2	69.1	57.6	45.1	63.9
1961	42.9	51.7	60.5	64.2	74.6	78.6	79.3	79.1	75.3	66.0	52.8	52.5	64.8
1962	42.5	59.1	53.3	65.2	75.2	79.4	84.0	85.5	78.1	73.1	57.2	48.8	66.8
1963	42.5	48.7	60.8	71.5	75.5	82.3	85.0	84.8	79.7	72.5	58.3	41.9	67.0
1964	45.8	44.7	56.2	67.1	74.8	80.6	84.9	85.0	79.0	65.0	60.0	49.1	66.0
1965	50.8	45.8	50.5	68.5	71.5	79.1	82.8	81.7	78.7	64.5	62.2	51.5	65.6
1966	42.2	45.7	56.0	66.7	71.9	79.0	83.9	80.9	75.8	65.4	60.9	47.2	64.6
1967	47.6	48.3	63.0	73.7	73.6	81.5	83.1	80.6	73.1	66.1	56.3	47.9	66.2
1968	46.2	45.6	55.0	65.3	71.8	77.9	79.9	82.4	73.5	68.7	54.1	48.6	64.1
1969	50.0	50.0	51.0	66.2	70.6	78.4	84.4	83.6	76.7	66.6	54.3	51.6	65.3
1970	42.3	50.4	53.3	67.3	69.1	77.5	81.7	82.7	77.6	64.4	54.2	55.6	64.7

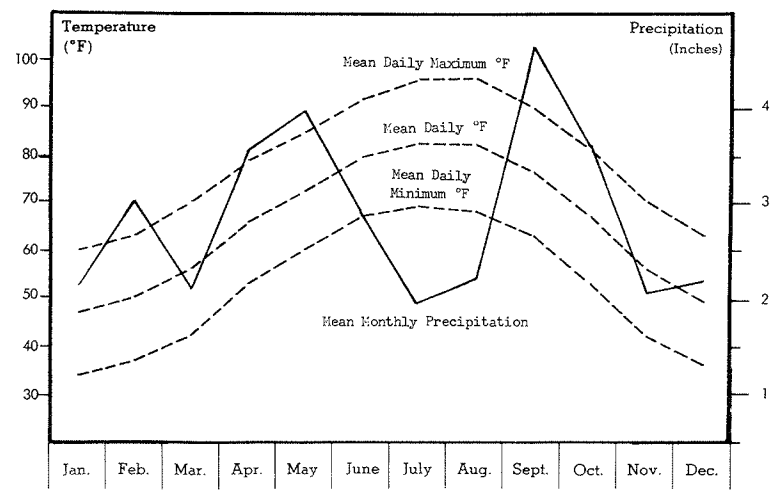
BLANCO, TEXAS

Total Precipitation (Inches)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1941	0.81	7.40	5.69	5.77	2.73	4.11	1.46	0	2.79	6.63	0.59	1.15	39.21
1942	0.07	1.25	0.03	6.25	2.54	0.35	1.85	10.36	7.98	5.17	1.89	1.75	40.19
1943	1.04	0.43	2.90	1.15	3.47	1.38	8.63	0	7.34	1.06	1.63	3.01	31.32
1944	4.66	4.72	3.69	0.51	10.60	0.61	0.51	5.98	3.02	1.08	4.73	4.76	45.07
1945	3.20	3.86	2.54	2.24	0.36	4.84	2.73	1.50	2.88	2.84	1.36	4.04	32.68
1946	4.98	2.85	1.51	3.50	3.30	3.87	0.40	1.28	4.28	2.35	6.66	2.39	35.16
1947	4.14	T	1.50	1.34	2.14	1.85	0.27	2.35	0.89	0.19	3.45	2.57	19.29
1948	T	3.10	0.72	1.79	2.84	-	-	1.59	2.06	3.90	0.79	1.45	-
1949	4.32	3.78	3.22	13.07	2.40	3.78	2.85	2.46	0.73	5.00	0	3.32	44.53
1950	1.16	3.83	0.24	5.15	3.20	2.59	3.52	2.40	3.46	1.44	0.79	0	27.79
1951	0.16	3.58	3.73	2.14	5.49	3.34	0.55	1.19	2.96	1.67	1.22	1.05	26.49
1952	0.77	1.70	3.19	5.15	6.19	3.30	2.90	T	22.86	0	4.18	3.55	53.67
1953	0.72	1.39	2.31	3.95	2.08	1.41	1.45	3.93	7.37	3.90	0.56	1.96	31.03
1954	1.34	0.12	0.43	1.83	0.24	1.18	1.52	0.81	1.14	5.10	0.44	0.21	14.36
1955	1.91	3.13	0.38	0.14	3.56	3.26	2.05	2.71	0.80	0.09	1.35	0.89	20.27
1956	1.37	1.25	0.30	0.08	1.85	0.19	0.32	0.61	1.06	2.82	2.42	3.35	15.62
1957	0.65	2.81	4.71	13.33	7.74	2.87	0.23	1.46	8.77	6.28	4.13	1.16	54.14
1958	3.84	4.76	3.53	2.17	11.30	6.35	0.24	3.48	8.66	6.30	1.58	1.19	53.40
1959	0.93	2.71	0.31	5.74	2.16	6.92	3.01	3.20	2.40	9.62	1.93	3.28	42.21
1960	2.29	2.93	2.94	0.85	0.96	3.40	6.21	3.23	1.06	13.50	2.15	5.42	44.94
1961	1.13	7.97	0.34	0.12	0.52	10.32	6.97	0.61	4.90	3.96	3.75	2.12	42.71
1962	1.31	1.33	1.31	4.34	1.76	4.19	0.51	2.54	2.73	2.85	2.07	2.16	27.10
1963	0.26	2.40	0.28	2.20	2.33	2.16	0.29	1.18	0.43	2.46	3.00	1.40	18.39
1964	3.90	2.11	4.89	1.34	1.13	0.99	0.14	2.47	5.94	2.78	3.27	1.21	30.17
1965	3.32	5.93	1.97	3.95	10.02	3.21	0.45	1.35	6.24	4.15	2.47	6.13	49.19
1966	1.93	2.84	0.60	5.23	4.07	0.73	2.16	4.52	6.69	0.64	0	0.21	29.62
1967	0.25	1.91	1.30	2.02	3.95	0.02	0.42	0.47	7.02	2.94	2.81	1.68	24.79
1968	10.77	2.30	1.90	3.58	7.68	3.27	4.57	0.33	4.95	1.48	2.97	2.27	46.07
1969	0.64	3.52	2.91	5.22	5.35	4.65	0.69	3.13	2.26	8.12	1.50	2.53	40.52
1970	1.79	3.96	2.76	2.22	7.16	0.10	1.07	0.19	6.06	0.65	0	0.14	26.10

T - Trace

Monthly Temperatures and Precipitation



STATION HISTORY

Rainfall observations began at Blanco in May 1896: temperature observations began in October of the same year. From its beginning, the station has remained in essentially the same location throughout its history: thus, the Blanco data furnish one of the best climatic records in the state, in this respect. The station equipment, consisting of a cotton region shelter, maximum and minimum thermometers, and a standard, non-recording, 8-inch rain gage, is located at the Blanco Lumber Yard, 0.3 mile northwest of the post office. Daily temperature and precipitation data are published monthly in Climatological Data - Texas. Station index number: 41-0832-06.

Climatologist for Texas
National Weather Service
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Single copies of this summary are available without charge from the Bureau of Business Research, The University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712. Quantity rates upon request.