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

CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

LATITUDE 29° 27' N
LONGITUDE 96° 56' W
ELEV. (GROUND) 235 ft.

STATION HALLETTSVILLE, TEXAS

MEANS AND EXTREMES FOR PERIOD 1942 - 1971

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		16	30	30		30	30		16		16	16	16	16	16	
Jan	64.6	41.3	53.0	90	1971	11	1962	405	2.25	3.03	1965	0.1	1.9	1951	1	1963	4	*	*	9	0	Jan
Feb	68.1	44.5	56.3	90	1954	6	1951	272	2.70	6.25	1955	0.1	-	-	2	1965	5	0	0	4	0	Feb
Mar	74.4	50.0	62.2	98	1971	20	1943	163	2.08	2.75	1944	T	T	1966+	0		3	*	0	2	0	Mar
Apr	81.5	59.2	70.4	98	1963	31	1971	27	3.01	3.60	1967	0	0		0		4	2	0	*	0	Apr
May	87.0	65.0	76.0	100	1956	42	1954	2	4.65	4.75	1952	0	0		0		6	12	0	0	0	May
Jun	92.9	70.4	81.7	106	1967	54	1970+	0	3.53	5.05	1961	0	0		0		5	24	0	0	0	Jun
Jul	96.5	72.2	84.4	111	1954	56	1967	0	2.22	3.70	1960	0	0		0		3	30	0	0	0	Jul
Aug	97.5	71.9	84.7	109	1962	60	1967+	0	3.08	5.20	1946	0	0		0		5	29	0	0	0	Aug
Sep	91.6	67.5	79.6	106	1963	41	1942	1	4.37	6.75	1961	0	0		0		6	21	0	0	0	Sep
Oct	84.9	58.1	71.5	99	1956	31	1952	22	2.72	4.40	1957	0	0		0		5	8	0	0	0	Oct
Nov	74.6	49.1	61.9	94	1969	23	1950	154	2.71	6.75	1965	0	0		0		4	*	0	2	0	Nov
Dec	67.6	43.8	55.7	88	1954	13	1950	308	2.60	4.10	1943	0	0		0		5	0	0	5	0	Dec
Year	81.8	57.8	69.8	111	July 1954	6	Feb. 1951	1354	35.92	6.75	Sept. 1961	0.2	-	-	2	1965	55	126	*	22	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 HALLETTSVILLE, TEXAS

Hallettsville is located on the Gulf coastal plain about halfway between Houston and San Antonio at the intersection of U.S. highways 77 and 90 Alternate. Founded in 1836, Hallettsville has been the seat of Lavaca County since 1852. It is a commercial center for a farm - ranch area. Industries include metal works, leather products, chemicals and meat-packing.

Lavaca County is rolling plains which drain to the Lavaca and Navidad Rivers. Soils are sandy loam and black waxy types. Over 80 percent of average farm income is from livestock and poultry. Cotton, feed grains and rice are principal crops. Minerals include oil, gas and stone.

The climate of Hallettsville is humid subtropical with hot summers. Because of the proximity of the Gulf of Mexico, Tropical Maritime air masses from off this warm body of water largely control the climate throughout the spring, summer and fall seasons, and throughout much of the winter season. Polar air masses visit the area in winter and do give the climate a continental flavor, but these cooler air masses are greatly modified by a long trajectory across southern latitudes. The result is a climate with mild winter temperatures, but which also has considerable range in annual extremes. Rainfall is rather evenly distributed throughout the year, and averages 35.92 inches. Most often in the form of thundershowers, precipitation may vary considerably from month to month. May and September are the wettest months. In 1936, Hallettsville experienced a relatively dry winter, but then caught 14.34 inches of rain in May, and a whopping 24.68 inches in July. The total for the year measured 62.22 inches, the wettest year of record at Hallettsville. In 1917, which was a dry year throughout Texas, Hallettsville received only 17.31 inches, the least annual total recorded at this location. Relative humidity is highest during the winter and spring, lowest during summer and fall. Mean monthly values, at noon, c.s.t., are estimated at 63 percent in both January and April, 54 percent in both July and October. Annually, Hallettsville receives about 62 percent of the total possible sunshine. Seasonally, sunshine varies from 49 percent in winter to 73 percent in summer. Spring (55 percent sunshine) is more cloudy than fall (65 percent sunshine).

The winter season is characterized by considerable cloudiness during the morning hours. Cold fronts which become stationary in the area cause cool, cloudy, drizzly weather, while fronts that move out rapidly bring clear skies, crisp, cool nights, and mild sunny days. Temperatures drop to 32°F or below about 22 days each year, but ordinarily these freezing temperatures are confined to a few hours just before sunrise. Daytime temperatures are rarely low enough to interfere with outdoor activities. Year after year go by with no more than a trace of snow. The lowest temperature of record at Hallettsville is 5°F, and occurred on February 11 and 12, 1899.

The summers at Hallettsville are most often hot and humid. Showers occur about three to five times each month, but otherwise there is little variety in the day-to-day weather. Refrigerated - type air conditioning is recommended for maximum comfort indoors and while traveling. The highest temperature of record at Hallettsville is 111°F, and occurred on July 26 and 27, 1954.

Spring and fall are the most pleasant seasons of the year. Temperatures are moderate, and the weather has greater variety than in summer. Considerable morning cloudiness is present in early spring, while the fall months of October and November are characterized by frequent periods of mild sunny days, and clear, cool nights. Tropical storms that occasionally visit the Texas coast during the late summer and early fall may bring heavy rains to the Hallettsville area, but this is an infrequent occurrence.

The warm season (freeze free period) at Hallettsville is quite long - 280 days. The mean dates of the last occurrence of 32°F or below in the spring and the first occurrence of 32°F or below in the fall, are March 1 and December 6, respectively. Mean annual lake (free water) evaporation is 55 inches, while in an average year, evaporation exceeds precipitation by 20 inches.

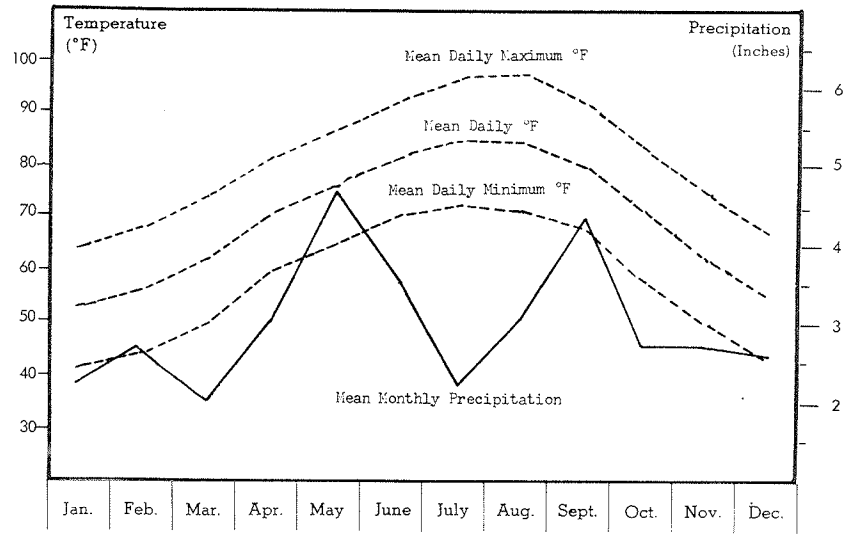
HALLETTSVILLE, TEXAS
Average Temperature (°F)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1942	48.6	53.5	60.2	69.3	74.0	81.6	82.0	82.5	75.0	71.0	65.2	56.6	68.3
1943	53.2	60.2	59.6	72.4	78.1	80.9	83.2	86.4	77.2	68.4	58.4	52.2	69.2
1944	51.2	61.0	61.5	69.8	74.1	81.6	85.6	86.2	79.0	69.0	60.6	52.2	69.3
1945	54.4	58.2	69.2	69.4	76.0	83.0	84.8	84.4	79.2	71.0	66.4	52.8	70.7
1946	51.0	55.5	62.8	70.8	76.0	77.8	82.8	84.2	77.8	71.9	61.8	56.4	69.1
1947	50.9	49.5	56.8	68.2	74.6	81.4	83.7	83.2	81.5	78.1	58.2	54.8	68.4
1948	44.8	54.6	62.0	71.7	76.2	83.9	86.9	86.2	77.9	71.4	61.7	62.6	70.0
1949	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	58.0	-
1950	61.5	60.5	61.5	68.4	78.2	81.0	84.9	85.0	80.1	74.8	63.3	56.8	71.3
1951	54.1	57.8	65.2	70.1	77.4	82.3	86.3	88.4	81.3	74.1	60.2	59.1	71.4
1952	62.3	60.6	62.0	65.6	73.4	81.5	84.0	85.7	77.9	64.4	59.6	53.9	69.2
1953	58.0	55.7	69.9	69.2	76.0	84.2	85.5	84.7	78.7	72.1	59.2	50.7	70.3
1954	56.9	60.9	62.6	72.9	73.3	83.2	86.7	86.3	81.9	73.0	60.2	57.8	71.3
1955	53.6	55.4	63.7	71.7	76.9	78.9	82.8	82.3	81.0	69.5	62.6	54.9	69.5
1956	52.0	59.3	62.2	69.6	78.0	82.8	85.7	85.5	81.2	73.9	58.4	57.8	70.5
1957	54.7	63.1	62.0	67.5	75.2	79.9	84.7	84.5	76.8	68.0	60.3	58.6	69.6
1958	51.3	50.8	59.3	69.4	76.8	83.5	84.4	86.6	80.9	69.7	63.2	52.3	69.0
1959	51.0	57.1	61.8	67.6	77.4	81.9	83.0	83.4	81.1	71.9	57.5	55.3	69.1
1960	52.2	49.8	58.6	70.9	73.6	83.3	83.5	81.7	77.4	72.8	63.6	51.8	68.3
1961	49.1	57.7	66.1	68.2	76.8	80.0	81.5	81.5	79.6	71.4	59.6	55.7	68.9
1962	48.9	64.1	60.2	69.6	76.6	80.8	85.2	87.8	81.0	76.0	61.7	54.2	70.5
1963	47.3	54.5	67.1	75.4	79.1	83.2	83.1	85.1	80.2	74.4	62.6	46.9	69.9
1964	54.7	51.1	61.9	71.8	78.3	81.9	85.5	85.9	80.7	68.2	66.0	56.5	70.2
1965	57.1	54.1	58.3	72.9	75.5	80.5	83.9	84.4	81.7	67.5	67.3	58.1	70.1
1966	48.1	52.0	62.2	71.6	75.4	80.3	83.9	84.0	79.9	71.0	66.7	55.7	69.2
1967	54.6	54.8	68.0	76.6	76.4	83.9	85.7	84.3	77.8	70.5	64.6	54.0	70.9
1968	51.3	49.7	59.6	70.1	76.4	80.6	82.2	84.2	77.7	74.3	60.1	54.6	68.4
1969	56.3	56.6	56.1	70.1	74.4	81.7	87.7	86.5	80.6	72.4	60.4	57.9	70.1
1970	48.1	56.5	58.4	71.0	73.2	80.0	83.4	85.5	79.6	69.6	60.5	62.0	69.0
1971	59.6	59.1	64.5	69.5	76.9	82.9	85.0	81.6	79.2	73.2	63.4	61.1	71.3

HALLETTSVILLE, TEXAS
Total Precipitation (Inches)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1942	0.65	1.14	1.35	5.15	1.26	1.71	6.95	4.30	4.13	2.60	3.53	2.46	35.23
1943	2.48	0.65	2.50	0.66	7.00	3.65	7.68	0.30	2.93	1.12	3.90	6.62	39.49
1944	5.80	1.83	5.85	0.22	9.51	1.47	0.22	3.65	1.95	1.95	4.47	5.20	42.12
1945	3.15	1.78	2.55	4.39	0.85	4.45	1.31	3.19	1.03	3.16	0.53	2.28	28.67
1946	4.79	4.00	5.40	4.42	4.25	8.07	0.70	8.02	6.94	4.90	3.20	1.55	56.24
1947	3.09	0.48	2.39	2.42	5.56	0.45	1.40	3.51	0.35	0.20	1.86	3.79	25.50
1948	2.35	3.99	1.43	2.17	6.82	2.12	1.98	3.63	2.35	0.28	0.83	0.20	28.15
1949	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1950	1.23	2.59	0.68	4.82	1.99	2.63	1.35	3.06	3.92	0.08	0.21	0.40	22.96
1951	0.40	0.89	2.69	0.94	3.45	6.84	0.30	0.81	9.36	0.94	2.37	0.70	29.69
1952	1.00	3.82	1.66	3.17	7.35	1.19	2.84	0.88	4.93	0.05	9.14	4.75	40.78
1953	0.92	2.59	0.06	3.35	4.95	1.79	0.86	3.41	1.20	4.51	1.14	3.33	28.11
1954	1.14	0.21	0.21	6.10	2.95	0.25	0.34	2.30	1.83	2.09	0.56	1.20	19.18
1955	2.26	8.83	0.36	1.77	7.81	3.22	3.57	7.37	1.57	1.90	0.83	1.72	41.21
1956	1.26	1.51	0.72	0.89	3.16	1.12	1.50	0.40	1.11	1.31	1.68	3.35	18.01
1957	0.54	2.93	8.71	5.50	4.73	3.52	0.85	1.02	5.51	7.48	5.64	0.86	47.29
1958	4.29	3.72	0.30	1.44	4.63	4.71	3.82	0	8.22	2.77	1.32	2.79	38.01
1959	0.13	4.22	0.46	6.96	5.81	3.18	2.64	4.30	6.62	7.22	1.23	4.65	47.42
1960	0.64	3.20	2.12	2.15	0.94	7.61	6.36	10.46	0.60	9.91	3.38	3.29	50.66
1961	2.20	4.00	0.64	1.62	0.53	9.95	4.03	1.69	11.03	2.40	3.23	0.88	42.20
1962	1.80	0.74	1.20	5.70	0.94	8.19	0.17	0.65	6.30	2.26	0.54	3.80	32.29
1963	1.41	3.46	0.62	0.88	0.01	4.30	3.96	0.94	0.46	1.40	3.84	2.38	23.66
1964	2.45	2.63	2.45	2.01	2.01	3.34	1.23	3.37	8.17	0.67	2.20	2.06	32.59
1965	5.58	6.82	0.68	1.55	10.33	2.59	0.32	1.10	2.58	4.22	10.74	4.78	51.29
1966	2.82	3.11	1.57	5.07	5.03	2.31	2.80	4.81	0.72	0.87	0.21	0.77	30.09
1967	1.31	0.52	1.67	4.06	4.15	0.02	1.46	1.09	8.76	3.71	1.07	1.32	29.14
1968	5.97	1.68	2.89	2.25	5.88	6.21	3.46	1.37	5.70	2.40	4.64	2.12	44.57
1969	2.58	3.72	4.20	5.11	8.57	1.78	0.06	3.34	2.50	2.56	3.73	3.11	41.26
1970	2.94	2.49	3.81	1.56	11.96	0.75	1.67	0.55	6.36	3.17	0	0.88	36.14
1971	0.02	0.81	1.15	0.96	2.30	5.07	0.50	9.85	9.46	2.77	2.47	4.27	39.63

Monthly Temperatures and Precipitation



STATION HISTORY

Temperature and rainfall observations began at Hallettsville in October 1891, and except for the year 1949, and a very few months in other years, records are complete to the present day. Throughout its history, the station has remained within a distance of 0.7 mile from the Hallettsville post office. Leo Brier, the present Cooperative Weather Observer, was appointed December 7, 1949, and the station was relocated to the home of his mother, Mrs. Paul Brier, at 1007 N. Texana Street. On March 21, 1956 Mr. Brier assumed the duties of Cooperative Weather Observer at Yoakum, 19 miles southwest of Hallettsville, thus becoming one of the very few, perhaps the only, Cooperative Weather Observers to record the weather at two separate cities concurrently. Station equipment at Hallettsville consists of a cotton region shelter, maximum and minimum thermometers, and a standard, eight-inch, non-recording rain gage. Daily temperature and precipitation data are published monthly in Climatological Data - Texas. Station index number: 41-3873-07.

Climatologist for Texas
National Weather Service
3600 Manor Road, Austin, Texas 78723
November 1972

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.