

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Environmental Science Services 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

STATION KENEDY, TEXAS

LATITUDE 28° 49'N
LONGITUDE 97° 51' W
ELEV. (GROUND) 283 ft.

MEANS AND EXTREMES FOR PERIOD 1949-1966

| Month | Temperature (°F) | | | | | | | | ** Mean degree days | Precipitation Totals (Inches) | | | | | | | Mean number of days | | | | | Month |
|-------|------------------|---------------|---------|----------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|------|------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|------|-----------------|-------|----------|-----------|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|-------|
| | Means | | | Extremes | | | | | | Mean | Greatest daily | Year | Snow, Sleet | | | | Precip. .10 inch or more | Temperatures | | | | |
| | Daily maximum | Daily minimum | Monthly | Record highest | Year | Record lowest | Year | Mean | | | | | Maximum monthly | Year | Greatest | Year | | 90° and above | 32° and below | 32° and below | 0° and below | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 | | 17 | | 11 | 17 | 17 | | 17 | 17 | | 11 | | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | | |
| Jan | 66.8 | 41.6 | 54.2 | 88 | 1954+ | 10 | 1962 | 397 | 1.54 | 3.00 | 1965 | 0.1 | 2.2 | 1949 | 0 | | 3 | 0 | * | 2 | 0 | Jan |
| Feb | 70.2 | 45.2 | 57.7 | 94 | 1954 | 7 | 1951 | 252 | 2.39 | 2.57 | 1965 | * | 0.6 | 1960 | T | 1962 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | Feb |
| Mar | 76.5 | 50.2 | 63.4 | 102 | 1950 | 23 | 1965 | 149 | 0.99 | 1.80 | 1964 | 0 | | | 0 | | 2 | * | 0 | 2 | 0 | Mar |
| Apr | 83.2 | 59.7 | 71.5 | 106 | 1963 | 35 | 1962+ | 23 | 2.70 | 3.00 | 1957 | T | T | 1951+ | 0 | | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Apr |
| May | 88.8 | 66.6 | 77.7 | 104 | 1954 | 42 | 1954 | 2 | 3.50 | 4.26 | 1952 | 0 | | | 0 | | 4 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | May |
| Jun | 94.6 | 71.2 | 82.9 | 105 | 1953 | 56 | 1964 | 0 | 2.98 | 3.09 | 1951 | 0 | | | 0 | | 4 | 27 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Jun |
| Jul | 98.0 | 73.0 | 85.5 | 112 | 1954 | 65 | 1959 | 0 | 1.48 | 4.88 | 1949 | 0 | | | 0 | | 2 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Jul |
| Aug | 98.7 | 72.5 | 85.6 | 110 | 1962 | 60 | 1956+ | 0 | 2.28 | 3.55 | 1964 | 0 | | | 0 | | 3 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Aug |
| Sep | 93.3 | 68.7 | 81.0 | 105 | 1954+ | 51 | 1959 | 0 | 3.64 | 5.02 | 1951 | 0 | | | 0 | | 5 | 24 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Sep |
| Oct | 86.2 | 58.7 | 72.5 | 99 | 1955 | 33 | 1964 | 20 | 3.03 | 6.10 | 1960 | 0 | | | 0 | | 4 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Oct |
| Nov | 75.8 | 50.1 | 63.0 | 94 | 1949 | 18 | 1959 | 132 | 2.19 | 2.66 | 1963 | T | T | 1957 | 0 | | 4 | * | 0 | 2 | 0 | Nov |
| Dec | 68.2 | 43.4 | 55.8 | 88 | 1964 | 18 | 1950 | 310 | 1.83 | 1.98 | 1962 | T | T | 1964 | 0 | | 4 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | Dec |
| Year | 83.4 | 58.4 | 70.9 | 112 | July 1954 | 7 | Feb. 1951 | 1285 | 28.55 | 6.10 | 1960 | 0.1 | 2.2 | 1949 | T | Feb. 1962 | 44 | 140 | * | 20 | 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°F

THE CLIMATE OF KENEDY, TEXAS

Kenedy is a farm-ranch-petroleum center in south central Karnes County. Products include guar, flax fiber, fiberglass, and petroleum derivatives. It is also a center for commercial seed production. The surrounding area is level to rolling with sandy loam, alluvial, and dark clay soils. Karnes County is Texas' leading flax growing county. The production of beef cattle is the county's largest agricultural enterprise.

Kenedy has a subtropical climate with mild dry winters and hot humid summers. Minimum temperatures are 32°F or below only about one night in four, on an average, in January—the coldest month. Since Kenedy is only about 80 miles inland from the Gulf of Mexico, its climate is largely controlled by this warm body of water. Polar air masses push southward through Texas in winter, but these undergo considerable modification before reaching the Kenedy area. These colder, drier air masses furnish greater variation in temperature and more abrupt changes in the weather during this season than is normally experienced during spring, summer, or fall. Cold fronts may become stationary in the South Texas area during winter and late spring, resulting in a greater frequency of cloudy, rainy days than in other seasons, but producing only small amounts of precipitation. Polar air masses pushing southward in March become very dry when warmed by the South Texas sun; consequently, average March rainfall is less than that of any other month.

Summers are hot. The average daily maximum temperatures are 98.0° and 98.7°F in July and August respectively. While the prevailing southeasterly winds bring humid air from the Gulf of Mexico, little of this moisture is released, and mid-summer is a relatively dry period. Average total July precipitation is 1.48 inches.

The interaction of the warm moisture-laden air from the Gulf with

polar air masses in both spring and fall result in greater precipitation during these seasons. Rain falls mostly as showers and thundershowers and is not evenly distributed. Occasional tropical disturbances, moving inland from the Gulf during early fall, contribute to the average rainfall during this season. Peak rainfall occurs during September with a secondary peak in May.

Northerly winds prevail during most of the winter, while southeasterly winds from the Gulf of Mexico prevail during all other seasons and may be experienced for long periods during the winter. The area receives about 50 percent of the total possible sunshine during the winter months and about 75 percent of the total possible during the summer. Mean annual relative humidity is 85 percent at 6:00 a.m. and 55 percent at 6:00 p.m. Central Standard Time. Mean annual lake evaporation is 54-56 inches.

The Kenedy area has a long growing season (freeze free period) of 281 days. The average date of the last freeze in the spring is February 24; the average date of the first fall freeze is December 2. Measurable snow has fallen only twice in the 17-year period 1949-1966.

Severe wind storms may accompany the thunderstorms of late spring and early fall. Seven tornadoes are known to have touched ground in Karnes County within the seven-year period 1959-1966. Hailstorms are quite rare.

In summary, Kenedy enjoys mild dry winters and delightful spring and fall seasons. Daytime temperatures are hot in summer and refrigerated air conditioning is recommended June through September.

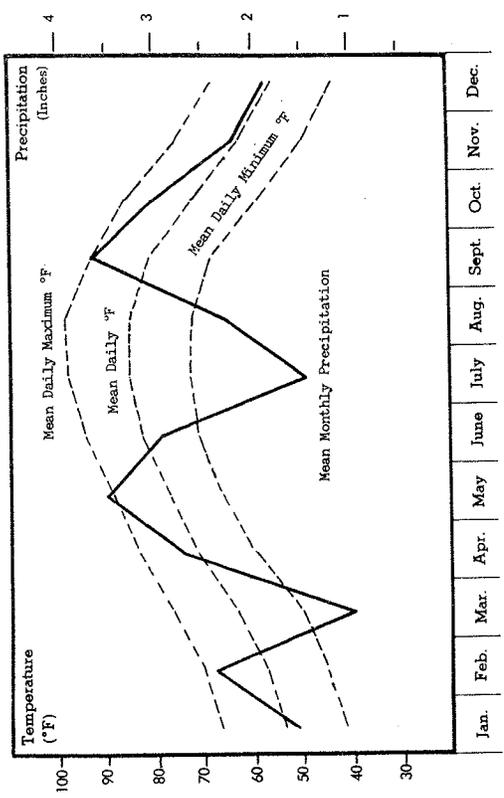
KENNEDY, TEXAS

Total Precipitation (Inches)

| Year | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Ann'l |
|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|-------|------|------|-------|
| 1949 | 2.22 | 1.77 | 1.61 | 9.09 | 2.79 | 1.67 | 6.80 | 1.17 | 1.13 | 5.66 | 0.05 | 4.19 | 38.15 |
| 1950 | 0.44 | 1.77 | 0.50 | 3.35 | 1.39 | 3.35 | 4.26 | 3.94 | 0.65 | 0.16 | 0.16 | 0.18 | 19.97 |
| 1951 | 0.29 | 1.58 | 2.15 | 0.80 | 2.45 | 7.00 | 0 | 2.45 | 8.02 | 0.92 | 2.52 | 0 | 30.39 |
| 1952 | 0.37 | 2.16 | 0.76 | 3.05 | 5.33 | 0.57 | 0.73 | 0.29 | 9.39 | 0 | 4.70 | 1.52 | 28.87 |
| 1953 | 0.27 | 1.97 | 0.05 | 1.53 | 4.82 | 0.77 | 0.03 | 4.00 | 2.88 | 4.03 | 0.34 | 1.98 | 22.67 |
| 1954 | 0.99 | 0.01 | 0.14 | 2.31 | 0.93 | 4.30 | 0.22 | 1.75 | 1.00 | 1.85 | 2.05 | 1.94 | 15.89 |
| 1955 | 1.35 | 2.84 | 0.09 | 0.39 | 4.91 | 0.95 | 3.72 | 6.35 | 1.00 | 0.50 | 1.08 | 1.02 | 24.22 |
| 1956 | 0.35 | 0.59 | 0.46 | 0.98 | 4.01 | 0.97 | 0.43 | 0.76 | 3.07 | 1.82 | 1.47 | 2.36 | 17.27 |
| 1957 | 0.31 | 1.85 | 3.28 | 7.99 | 5.47 | 2.22 | 0.01 | 2.11 | 7.91 | 2.99 | 6.76 | 0.54 | 41.44 |
| 1958 | 6.21 | 5.47 | 1.07 | 0.71 | 4.44 | 1.87 | 2.30 | 0.37 | 6.56 | 5.87 | 0.65 | 1.16 | 36.78 |
| 1959 | 0.32 | 3.59 | 0.35 | 2.69 | 2.07 | 3.38 | 0.33 | 3.39 | 3.98 | 3.80 | 1.06 | 2.01 | 46.22 |
| 1960 | 1.37 | 2.04 | 1.94 | 2.43 | 2.01 | 3.61 | 3.07 | 3.46 | 1.97 | 16.38 | 4.01 | 3.93 | 46.22 |
| 1961 | 1.64 | 2.62 | 0.39 | 1.63 | 1.90 | 3.62 | 1.18 | 1.86 | 4.61 | 1.99 | 2.67 | 0.31 | 23.82 |
| 1962 | 0.74 | 1.11 | 1.06 | 3.81 | 1.49 | 4.61 | T | 0.83 | 4.42 | 1.41 | 3.97 | 3.87 | 27.32 |
| 1963 | 0.39 | 1.82 | 0.16 | 1.75 | 0.60 | 6.41 | 0.98 | 0.25 | 0.79 | 1.60 | 5.22 | 2.92 | 22.89 |
| 1964 | 2.32 | 1.98 | 2.33 | 1.33 | 2.79 | 1.34 | 1.08 | 6.15 | 0.73 | 4.50 | 1.04 | 1.64 | 23.64 |
| 1965 | 6.32 | 6.69 | 0.84 | 0.90 | 10.06 | 2.32 | 1.08 | 0.45 | 3.31 | 4.91 | 1.56 | 3.88 | 41.91 |
| 1966 | 1.78 | 3.09 | 0.59 | 3.83 | 4.12 | 4.60 | 0.49 | 1.42 | 4.01 | 0.22 | 0.02 | 1.12 | 25.29 |

T - Trace

Monthly Temperatures and Precipitation



KENNEDY, TEXAS

Average Temperature (°F)

| Year | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Ann'l |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1949 | 59.3 | 57.0 | 60.5 | 66.4 | 78.5 | 82.4 | 83.8 | 83.1 | 81.6 | 71.7 | 62.3 | 56.6 | - |
| 1950 | 54.9 | 57.2 | 65.9 | 72.0 | 81.2 | 83.8 | 86.0 | 88.7 | 81.9 | 77.4 | 64.1 | 57.4 | - |
| 1951 | 62.0 | 60.9 | 63.3 | 68.0 | 75.8 | 82.8 | 85.4 | 87.9 | 78.8 | 74.4 | 64.1 | 58.2 | 72.0 |
| 1952 | 58.1 | 55.9 | 70.4 | 71.7 | 78.1 | 86.6 | 87.7 | 85.2 | 78.8 | 66.5 | 60.5 | 53.2 | 70.5 |
| 1953 | 58.1 | 55.9 | 70.4 | 71.7 | 78.1 | 86.6 | 87.7 | 85.2 | 78.8 | 71.9 | 60.5 | 53.2 | 70.5 |
| 1954 | 58.1 | 55.9 | 70.4 | 71.7 | 78.1 | 86.6 | 87.7 | 85.2 | 78.8 | 71.9 | 60.5 | 53.2 | 70.5 |
| 1955 | 54.3 | 58.2 | 66.4 | 74.8 | 79.7 | 83.9 | 86.1 | 86.5 | 82.3 | 73.1 | 64.7 | 56.0 | 72.2 |
| 1956 | 55.7 | 60.5 | 64.0 | 72.4 | 79.5 | 82.9 | 85.5 | 85.3 | 80.5 | 75.2 | 61.1 | 58.2 | 71.7 |
| 1957 | 55.3 | 65.0 | 69.3 | 69.5 | 77.0 | 82.1 | - | - | - | 68.6 | 62.1 | 58.2 | 69.3 |
| 1958 | 52.2 | 52.5 | 59.7 | 70.8 | 76.4 | 81.2 | 85.2 | 86.3 | 79.9 | 68.6 | 62.1 | 58.2 | 69.3 |
| 1959 | 52.2 | 57.0 | 61.8 | 67.4 | 78.5 | 82.6 | 84.2 | 83.8 | 80.6 | 72.0 | 56.0 | 53.4 | 69.3 |
| 1960 | 52.0 | 52.2 | 57.7 | 71.7 | 74.2 | 83.6 | 85.6 | 84.1 | 78.4 | 74.8 | 64.5 | 53.3 | 69.3 |
| 1961 | 50.0 | 59.3 | 67.3 | 69.5 | 78.2 | 81.5 | 82.9 | 83.0 | 79.2 | 71.2 | 60.9 | 57.3 | 70.0 |
| 1962 | 48.7 | 57.2 | 62.1 | 71.5 | 78.6 | 82.1 | 86.7 | 88.3 | 81.4 | 77.3 | 63.0 | 55.3 | 71.9 |
| 1963 | 47.8 | 55.8 | 66.8 | 77.1 | 79.7 | 83.8 | 84.8 | 86.2 | 81.0 | 74.1 | 65.0 | 48.3 | 70.9 |
| 1964 | 55.4 | 52.7 | 62.5 | 72.5 | 77.7 | 82.0 | 85.2 | 85.7 | 81.1 | 68.8 | 66.8 | 56.3 | 70.6 |
| 1965 | 58.4 | 54.8 | 58.2 | 73.8 | 76.4 | 81.8 | 84.9 | 84.8 | 82.0 | 69.1 | 69.0 | 58.8 | 71.0 |
| 1966 | 49.4 | 53.4 | 63.4 | 72.9 | 75.5 | 80.0 | 83.9 | 84.6 | 80.2 | 70.9 | 66.9 | 56.3 | 69.8 |

STATION HISTORY

A climatological station, equipped with maximum and minimum thermometers, and standard rain gauge, was established at Kennedy, July 7, 1948. The station was located at the observer's residence, 1800 feet southwest of the post office. After two short moves previously, it was relocated to its present location at the Municipal Warehouse, 0.22 mile south-southwest of the post office on November 20, 1957. The City of Kennedy is the official observer. Temperature and precipitation data are published monthly in CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA-TEXAS.

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