

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 ROBSTOWN, TEXAS

LATITUDE 27° 47' N
 LONGITUDE 97° 40' W
 ELEV. (GROUND) 85 ft.

MEANS AND EXTREMES FOR PERIOD 1954-1968

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 Depth		Year	90° and above	32° and below	32° and below	0° and below	
(a)	15	15	15	15		15		13	15	15		15	15	13		13	13	13	13	13		
Jan	64.8	44.5	54.7	88	1965+	16	1962	358	1.95	4.59	1958	T	T	1967+	0	3	0	*	4	0	Jan	
Feb	69.5	48.3	58.9	95	1962	27	1958	229	2.14	2.37	1958	T	0.5	1958	0	5	*	0	1	0	Feb	
Mar	74.9	54.6	64.8	98	1954	31	1965	113	0.69	1.58	1965	0	0		0	2	1	0	*	0	Mar	
Apr	82.9	64.5	73.7	106	1963	41	1962+	13	1.75	2.90	1966	0	0		0	3	3	0	0	0	Apr	
May	87.3	69.7	78.5	102	1955	46	1954	*	3.15	5.86	1968	0	0		0	4	10	0	0	0	May	
Jun	92.1	73.6	82.9	101	1960	58	1955	0	3.53	3.75	1960	0	0		0	5	25	0	0	0	Jun	
Jul	95.1	75.3	85.2	107	1960	63	1967	0	2.21	7.35	1961	0	0		0	3	30	0	0	0	Jul	
Aug	95.8	75.4	85.6	109	1962	64	1967	0	2.06	2.27	1959	0	0		0	4	28	0	0	0	Aug	
Sep	91.5	72.2	81.9	105	1965	54	1967	*	4.90	6.66	1955	0	0		0	6	23	0	0	0	Sep	
Oct	85.0	63.8	74.4	99	1962	40	1957	13	2.79	6.37	1960	0	0		0	4	9	0	0	0	Oct	
Nov	76.0	55.4	65.7	95	1963	28	1959	101	1.43	2.24	1955	T	T	1959+	0	3	1	0	*	0	Nov	
Dec	68.4	47.7	58.1	89	1968+	27	1963	264	1.59	2.89	1960	0	0		0	3	0	0	1	0	Dec	
Year	81.9	62.1	72.0	109	Aug. 1962	16	Jan. 1962	1091	28.19	7.35	July 1961	T	0.5	Feb. 1958	0	45	130	*	6	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 ROBSTOWN, TEXAS

Robstown is located near the center of Nueces County, about 15 miles west of downtown Corpus Christi. Some 10 miles northeast lies the upper end of Nueces Bay, while Corpus Christi Bay is about 18 miles to the east. Robstown is on the primary coastal highway connecting Houston and Brownsville. Nueces County is flat, and broken by bays, the Nueces River, and Petronila Creek. Elevations range from sea level to 180 feet. The agricultural economy of Nueces County is based largely on the production of cotton, sorghums, beef cattle, and hogs. Approximately 7,800 acres are irrigated. Since 1930, over 440 million barrels of oil have been produced in Nueces County. Natural gas, shell, and lime are produced also. Large petrochemical plants are located within the county. The bay area is a major resort area with Padre Island, fishing, sailing, and other water sports, the principal attractions.

The climate of Robstown is subtropical with relatively dry winters and hot humid summers. Average rainfall is 28.19 inches annually. Peak rainfall months are June and September. The month of March is most often the driest. The season of tropical storms from June to November affects the rainfall totals during this period. Large amounts of rainfall are added occasionally to the monthly totals by these disturbances. Rains associated with hurricane Beulah in September 1967 produced a monthly total of 19.52 inches. Several months during the years of record have had no measurable rainfall. The seasonal variation in relative humidity at Robstown is small, being less significant than the diurnal range. The mean annual relative humidity is about 90 percent at 6:00 a.m., 64 percent at noon, and 69 percent at 6:00 p.m., Central Standard Time. The prevailing winds are southeasterly to south-southeasterly throughout the year. In an average year, thunderstorms occur on 32 days.

Winters are mild. Polar Canadian air masses push down about once each week, but undergo considerable modification by the time they reach the Robstown area. Temperatures of 32°F or below occur on about six nights during an average year, and an entire season may pass without a freeze. Precipitation is most often in the form of light to moderate rain, or drizzle. Measurable snow has fallen only once during the 15-year period 1954-1968. Cloudiness is most prevalent in winter. Sunshine received is about 49 percent of the total possible.

Summers are hot and humid. Except for an occasional rainshower, or a rare tropical storm, there is little change in the day-to-day weather. Refrigerated-type air conditioning is recommended for maximum comfort indoors, and for travel. Sunshine received is about 78 percent of the total possible.

Spring and fall are most delightful seasons. Temperatures are moderate, yet the weather has greater variety than in summer. Precipitation is usually the shower-type.

Hurricanes affect Nueces County once every 12 years, on an average. Tropical storms of lesser intensity affect the area about once every four years. The storm surge, the most destructive force associated with a hurricane, is no threat to Robstown, since the city is located safely inland, away from coastal waters. Hurricane force winds or local flooding from excessive rainfall pose the threat of possible property damage; fortunately, such occurrences are infrequent.

The warm season (freeze free period) at Robstown is exceptionally long, averaging 309 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 February 9 and December 15, respectively.

Average Temperature (F)

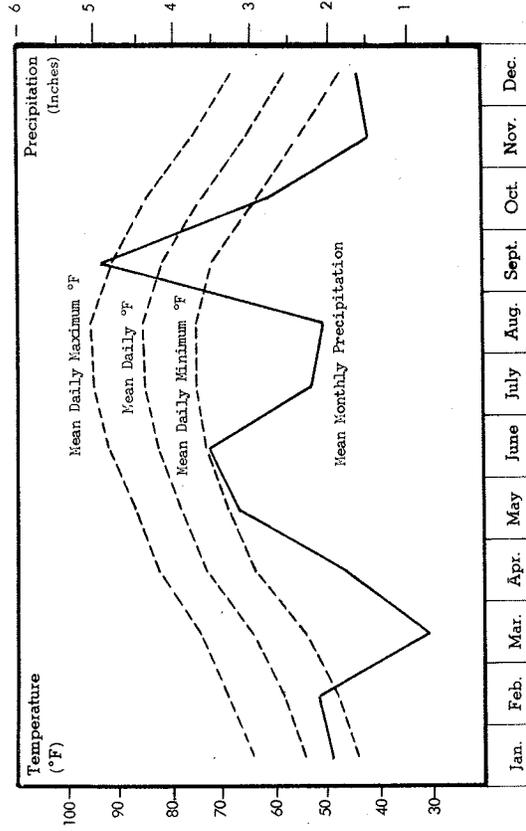
Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1954	59.0	64.9	65.2	74.4	76.3	82.7	85.4	85.6	83.6	75.7	64.4	61.6	73.3
1955	56.6	-	67.5	75.1	79.9	81.4	83.5	84.3	79.6	71.4	63.9	59.1	-
1956	57.5	61.5	66.0	71.9	78.0	82.6	83.5	84.6	80.9	75.3	62.7	60.3	72.1
1957	59.0	66.6	66.4	72.2	78.3	82.1	85.6	86.3	82.4	72.1	62.9	60.3	72.7
1958	53.8	55.6	60.3	71.8	77.5	84.3	85.3	86.6	83.3	71.3	65.7	54.8	70.6
1959	51.3	56.7	63.2	68.2	79.1	82.4	84.9	84.9	83.3	74.9	59.8	58.7	70.6
1960	53.3	55.7	59.5	72.5	76.1	83.8	86.2	86.2	83.4	77.0	66.4	54.0	71.0
1961	50.8	59.2	68.0	70.4	79.3	82.0	83.4	83.4	80.5	74.0	63.0	58.7	71.1
1962	50.3	68.2	62.7	72.5	78.7	82.7	86.0	83.6	82.0	78.9	65.6	56.0	72.9
1963	49.5	56.8	69.2	77.9	79.4	84.1	85.2	86.4	82.0	76.0	67.4	50.2	72.0
1964	54.8	54.5	64.7	75.5	79.8	82.7	85.7	86.7	82.8	71.8	69.5	56.7	72.1
1965	59.8	56.1	60.7	74.7	78.7	83.3	85.7	84.3	83.7	71.5	72.2	61.5	72.7
1966	50.1	53.9	63.8	73.1	76.2	80.4	84.2	85.4	82.0	72.8	67.8	57.0	70.6
1967	55.0	57.0	68.4	78.2	78.8	83.4	85.2	82.1	78.0	71.8	66.2	57.0	71.8
1968	52.7	53.1	60.7	72.8	78.1	81.4	82.9	84.3	79.5	75.6	64.1	58.7	70.3

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Total Precipitation (Inches)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1952	0.15	0.77	1.90	1.26	1.85	1.55	2.96	0.04	3.49	0	2.15	0.90	17.02
1953	0.39	1.35	0.18	0.50	0.92	0.15	0.15	16.99	1.27	3.32	0.18	1.19	26.59
1954	0.31	0.09	0.34	4.19	0.66	2.65	0.77	1.72	3.24	3.95	0.22	0.24	18.38
1955	0.91	0.97	0.10	0.06	1.69	0.96	0.93	0.40	9.74	2.45	3.57	1.00	22.78
1956	0.78	0.71	0.22	3.70	2.89	1.24	0.48	0.30	0.31	4.96	0.43	0.46	16.48
1957	0.34	1.77	1.79	3.29	3.43	7.49	0	2.34	2.67	0.79	5.19	0.24	29.14
1958	10.34	4.83	0.91	0.65	3.03	1.50	2.84	1.62	8.34	7.91	0.71	1.37	43.75
1959	1.40	4.41	0.15	3.51	3.68	4.91	1.27	3.87	0.77	0.77	0.92	1.54	30.96
1960	1.76	2.77	1.26	2.99	1.18	7.25	0.83	4.10	2.81	9.59	1.98	6.49	43.01
1961	1.78	3.60	0.57	1.71	0	4.66	8.15	1.87	3.42	0.14	1.79	1.07	28.19
1962	0.36	0.10	0.76	0.76	0.12	6.40	0.05	0.31	1.60	0.64	1.34	2.24	14.49
1963	0.21	0.90	0.08	0.51	0.95	4.45	1.20	1.92	5.08	1.46	1.75	0.78	19.29
1964	1.22	2.03	1.50	0.02	3.52	1.09	4.49	1.02	5.13	0.47	0.24	2.49	23.22
1965	1.22	4.04	1.83	0.48	4.14	0.50	1.27	2.08	1.68	1.93	1.77	4.23	25.17
1966	3.24	1.24	0.33	3.52	7.68	3.69	2.85	2.71	2.96	0.31	0.17	0.16	28.86
1967	2.83	2.24	0.15	0.23	3.10	0.16	1.37	3.83	19.52	2.63	0.44	0.71	37.31
1968	2.66	2.33	1.09	0.81	11.11	5.97	6.60	0.99	6.26	1.89	0.86	0.88	41.45

Monthly Temperatures and Precipitation



STATION HISTORY

Rainfall observations began at Robstown on September 15, 1922, but were discontinued in July 31, 1929. The Robstown Chamber of Commerce purchased a standard 8-inch rain gage in 1928 and recorded rainfall data through 1945. On January 1, 1947, the Chamber of Commerce gage was moved to a location 0.5 mile north-northeast of the Robstown Post Office building; then on June 23, 1948, the gage was moved to a site near the Robstown Record newspaper office, 1,000 feet east-northeast of the post office; Carroll (each was appointed the official Weather Bureau Cooperative Observer. On October 7, 1953, the station was upgraded and became a complete climatological station with the addition of a cotton region shelter, and maximum and minimum thermometers. Rainfall records are incomplete prior to 1952. Daily temperature and rainfall data are published monthly in CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA-TEXAS. Station index number: 41-71677-37.

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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.