

LATITUDE 37° 41'
LONGITUDE 113° 05'
ELEV. (GROUND) 5680 FEET

CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

STATION

CEDAR CITY, UTAH

MEANS AND EXTREMES FOR PERIOD 1926 - 1955

Month	Temperature (°F)								Mean degree days Base 65°	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	Year					Greatest daily	Year	90° and above		32° and below	32° and below	0° and below	Max.	Min.					
																							Mean	Maximum monthly	Year	Year
(a)	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	5	30	30																
Jan.	40.2	17.3	28.8	67	1953+	-26	1937	1043	0.89	1.50	1944	12.4	43.5	1949	18.0	1944	3	0	6	29	2	Jan.				
Feb.	44.5	21.7	33.1	68	1951	-19	1933	901	1.00	1.20	1928	9.5	29.0	1948+	8.0	1948+	3	0	3	24	2	Feb.				
Mar.	52.4	27.4	39.9	73	1940	-8	1948	831	1.25	1.50	1944	8.6	29.0	1944	26.0	1944	3	0	*	22	*	Mar.				
Apr.	62.6	35.6	49.1	81	1954+	9	1927	481	0.94	0.79	1951+	1.2	13.5	1945	11.0	1945	3	0	*	12	0	Apr.				
May	71.1	42.8	57.0	90	1951	21	1938	271	0.81	1.33	1938	1.5	22.0	1933	8.0	1950	2	*	0	4	0	May				
June	80.9	51.4	66.2	99	1954	30	1950	69	0.46	1.58	1932	T	T	1954+	T	1954+	1	4	0	*	0	0	June			
July	87.4	59.4	73.4	99	1939+	42	1938	*	1.05	1.50	1936	0	0		0		3	11	0	0	0	July				
Aug.	85.2	58.1	71.7	98	1940+	37	1943+	4	1.10	1.40	1936	0	0		0		3	6	0	0	0	Aug.				
Sept.	78.8	50.1	64.5	94	1955+	25	1942	66	0.67	1.10	1943	0.1	2.0	1934	2.0	1934	2	1	0	1	0	Sept.				
Oct.	66.4	39.1	52.8	89	1926	18	1943+	312	1.11	1.08	1936	0.7	7.0	1949+	5.0	1949	3	0	0	8	0	Oct.				
Nov.	52.8	27.0	39.9	73	1934	-4	1938	726	0.92	0.86	1944	5.8	22.5	1946	10.0	1938	3	0	1	21	*	Nov.				
Dec.	43.6	20.1	31.9	67	1950+	-12	1951+	1036	0.92	1.15	1936	9.1	23.5	1936	15.0	1936	3	0	4	28	1	Dec.				
Year	63.8	37.5	50.7	99	July 1939+	-26	Jan. 1937	5740	11.12	1.58	June 1932	48.9	43.5	Jan. 1949	26.0	Mar. 1944	32	22	14	149	5	Year				

(a) Average length of record, years.

T Trace, an amount too small to measure.

+ Also on earlier dates, months or years.

* Less than one half.

CLIMATE OF CEDAR CITY, UTAH

Cedar City, county seat of Iron County in southwestern Utah, lies on a broad, level plain at the base of Hurricane Cliffs in the lower foothills of the Markagunt Plateau. Nearly flat, arid plateau lands extend westward into Nevada. Erosion is very much in evidence around Cedar City, and is still vigorously in progress; the plateau province is still youthful in a physiographic sense. In the lofty Markagunt Plateau, to the east, the variations of the topography of cliffs, sharply cut gullies and canyon floors, suggests individual climates differing widely from the relatively low flat land around Cedar City.

Cedar City, located in the extreme southeast portion of the Great Basin, has an annual rainfall regime typical of the Great Basin pattern, with the maximum in early Spring. However, by virtue of its southerly location, a secondary maximum is found in July and August due to mid-Summer thunderstorms. June is the driest month, followed by September.

Compared to Modena, Utah, or other cities at a similar elevation, Cedar City experiences somewhat cooler summers, warmer winters, and more equable springs and autumns. The seasons are clearly defined. The elevation of 5,680 feet is high enough to preclude extremes of heat in Summer. The highest temperature in the history of the station is 99°, but this has been exceeded by one degree at the Cedar City Airport in June 1954. Days with a maximum of 90° or more are relatively few. Average daily ranges are large, and most of the warm days are followed by cool nights, or cooling late afternoon thunderstorms.

Fall arrives rather early, and there is a rapid transition to Winter. The average date of the first freeze is in early October. Temperatures below zero have been recorded from late November to early March, yet only five days with zero or below occurs in the average year. Severe temperatures are infrequent, and 10° below zero can be expected about once in four years.

The seasonal total snowfall is near 50 inches, with a few extreme seasons near 90 inches. Snowstorms occasionally combine with high winds and cause hardship to livestock operators and transportation facilities. High winds occur to a considerable degree in all seasons, and dust storms are not uncommon.

Due to a short growing season and limited water supplies, agricultural activities, except for livestock raising, are quite limited in this vicinity. Most enterprises direct their interest to the natural resources of the area.

Following are tables of miscellaneous phenomena not included in the climatological summary table:

Temperature Equal To Or Lower Than:	Average Dates of Occurrence		Length of Period
	Last in Spring	First in Fall	
32°	May 15	October 5	143
28°	April 28	October 14	169
24°	April 17	October 29	195
20°	March 30	November 6	221
16°	March 14	November 18	249

Extremes of Temperature and Precipitation which have occurred prior to 1926 and which exceed those appearing in the table include:

Maximum Temperature:	Greatest Daily Precipitation:
74° in March 1916	1.04 inches in April 1900
95° in May 1910	1.78 inches in June 1925
74° in November 1916	1.55 inches in July 1917
72° in December 1921	1.96 inches in August 1916
	2.88 inches in September 1911
	2.70 inches in October 1916
	1.25 inches in November 1905

Minimum Temperature:
7° in April 1920
13° in May 1922
28° in June 1919
38° in July 1921
14° in October 1917
-16° in December 1924

Experiences from Autographic Records, 1941-1954:
1 Hour 0.91 inch in August 1946
2 Hours 1.03 inch in August 1946
3 Hours 1.09 inch in August 1946
6 Hours 1.15 inch in August 1946
12 Hours 1.26 inch in March 1944
24 Hours 1.55 inch in March 1944

Greatest and least monthly precipitation totals for the full period of record are as follows:

Month	Greatest	Year	Least	Year
January	2.64	1944	0.09	1948+
February	3.10	1932	0.09	1947
March	3.78	1906	0.08	1955
April	3.65	1900	0.05	1911
May	3.24	1935	T	1948+
June	3.87	1925	0	1946+
July	4.12	1936	0.03	1948
August	4.24	1921	0	1944
September	3.63	1911	T	1953+
October	4.28	1916	0	1952+
November	3.36	1905	T	1932
December	2.60	1924	0	1900
Annual	18.76	1941	6.66	1950

Average Temperature (°F)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1926	29.8	38.3	42.6	50.1	58.3	71.4	73.5	73.4	64.0	55.2	45.6	29.5	52.6
1927	35.5	37.4	44.5	48.4	57.2	67.0	73.8	73.7	67.8	54.8	41.8	28.6	52.3
1928	33.2	35.0	41.5	47.8	56.2	67.4	75.2	75.1	67.9	55.0	39.9	28.4	52.3
1929	27.8	28.4	39.8	45.2	51.8	61.0	71.4	71.4	62.0	52.9	38.4	24.9	50.3
1930	25.2	38.9	40.2	53.0	51.6	66.8	72.2	68.3	-	47.9	35.0	21.9	-
1931	30.0	34.4	40.0	51.4	58.7	69.6	78.2	73.7	65.4	55.6	36.6	28.1	51.8
1932	24.2	33.0	40.8	51.1	57.6	-	-	73.6	67.4	51.9	46.8	25.3	51.8
1933	28.6	24.4	43.0	46.2	50.8	70.9	77.4	73.6	70.1	59.2	43.6	41.0	52.4
1934	33.8	41.1	50.2	55.0	64.9	75.8	77.1	75.2	66.2	56.5	48.5	32.8	55.2
1935	36.0	37.6	36.7	49.9	53.8	70.8	78.8	72.8	64.2	52.5	38.0	33.0	52.0
1936	33.1	35.4	41.8	53.9	60.8	70.4	71.6	72.2	63.9	53.0	-	32.6	-
1937	13.8	32.1	40.1	46.6	59.6	65.8	73.2	73.3	65.8	52.6	42.9	31.0	50.0
1938	32.1	33.0	30.2	48.8	55.9	66.8	71.8	71.2	65.2	51.0	32.0	37.2	49.9
1939	28.2	19.1	40.0	50.2	57.8	68.8	73.4	73.0	62.2	49.6	-	31.2	-
1940	-	35.2	45.0	-	60.7	70.0	74.6	74.2	62.8	53.2	37.6	-	-
1941	33.0	39.2	40.9	42.8	57.2	62.6	71.0	67.4	57.6	44.9	39.0	31.5	48.9
1942	26.8	27.2	36.0	48.0	53.4	64.4	74.8	71.0	63.0	51.0	40.4	35.2	49.3
1943	31.6	35.0	41.3	53.2	55.6	62.6	72.1	70.4	64.6	52.8	40.0	32.2	51.0
1944	24.1	27.6	33.6	43.8	55.4	60.6	71.6	70.8	63.8	52.2	36.2	31.3	47.7
1945	30.0	35.4	36.7	43.2	56.6	60.0	71.4	69.6	60.6	52.8	39.2	28.9	48.7
1946	26.2	32.8	41.0	51.4	54.8	67.4	72.0	70.8	62.0	45.4	36.5	35.2	49.6
1947	24.4	38.4	43.2	46.4	59.3	63.0	72.0	70.0	66.0	52.6	31.4	29.0	49.7
1948	30.6	29.4	31.8	49.0	56.7	64.4	72.8	71.4	65.7	52.6	35.6	28.4	49.0
1949	12.5	23.5	30.0	50.7	54.0	64.9	72.5	71.3	61.8	47.3	46.7	30.2	48.1
1950	27.1	36.8	40.4	50.5	54.0	64.9	70.5	70.1	61.0	47.3	46.7	31.2	48.1
1951	29.1	35.2	36.0	48.5	56.8	65.6	73.4	69.7	65.7	51.5	37.6	27.5	49.7
1952	29.2	33.1	34.7	49.9	58.5	66.4	72.7	73.3	65.4	58.6	34.6	32.2	50.7
1953	39.5	33.4	42.1	46.9	50.9	66.7	74.6	70.7	66.5	51.7	43.6	28.8	51.3
1954	33.2	36.9	37.6	52.7	60.2	65.4	74.7	71.3	64.9	42.8	31.1	31.1	52.1
1955	24.9	25.0	39.4	45.7	55.8	65.3	72.1	71.4	65.3	54.8	39.8	38.2	49.8

HISTORY - CEDAR CITY, UTAH

A first-order Weather Bureau station was established at 318 Main Street on July 1, 1899. Instruments were exposed on the roof of a two-story building, but the sunshine recorder was never placed in operation due to electrical difficulties. The station was closed December 20, 1900, and moved to Modena, Utah.

A cooperative observing station was established about one-half mile west of the post office on November 1, 1905. After two or three changes in observers, Mr. Parley Dalley served as observer from October 1909 to February 1921. No information is available on the exact locations during this early period, but from the consistency of the records, none of the changes appeared significant.

In June 1921, however, the station was moved to near the mouth of Coal Creek Canyon, with mountains rising abruptly to the east. Mr. Thomas Lawrence, a horticulturist, recorded the observations until October 1936. As might be expected, precipitation at this location, nearer the mountains and about one thousand feet higher than the west side of town, averaged more than the other locations. From double-mass curves, a 20% increase in the October - April totals is indicated.

In November 1936 the station was moved to the Southern Utah Power Company plant, 1.5 miles west-northwest of the post office. Observations were taken by various plant employees, and at the present time the program is under the capable supervision of Mr. Wendell P. Slack, superintendent of the plant. A recording rain gage was installed in September 1941. The station name was changed to Cedar City Power House in July 1948.

At the present time there is a synoptic reporting station, operated by the Civil Aeronautics Administration, at the Cedar City Airport, 2.2 miles northwest of the Post Office. This station renders hourly airway observations, and has been in operation since July 1946.

Total Precipitation (Inches)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1926	0.10	1.30	1.30	2.42	0.59	0.17	0.29	0.44	0.41	0.13	0.80	1.22	9.17
1927	1.08	2.30	3.20	0.27	0.28	0.46	0.77	0.77	1.09	2.04	2.05	1.40	16.22
1928	0.80	1.90	1.80	0.44	0.71	0.00	1.62	0.48	0.32	1.63	1.20	1.80	11.54
1929	1.31	1.90	1.80	1.08	0.61	T	2.51	2.79	1.71	0.40	0.13	0.01	12.85
1930	1.30	1.60	1.30	0.30	1.53	0.63	1.10	2.58	0.79	0.83	1.30	0.10	13.36
1931	0.78	0.59	0.67	0.87	0.66	0.28	3.20	0.67	1.01	0.73	2.75	0.60	12.81
1932	1.01	3.10	0.50	1.02	0.66	1.66	1.52	1.52	0.35	1.30	1.70	1.70	15.40
1933	1.40	0.10	0.50	0.75	1.75	0.00	1.41	1.57	0.14	0.35	0.90	0.90	15.40
1934	0.15	0.81	0.81	1.12	0.30	0.06	0.64	1.31	0.82	0.75	0.66	0.66	8.82
1935	0.35	0.66	0.83	1.16	3.24	0.02	0.69	1.31	0.44	0.07	0.78	1.53	10.95
1936	0.35	1.38	1.02	0.12	T	0.18	4.12	2.11	0.01	0.63	1.72	1.53	13.60
1937	1.96	0.46	2.59	0.26	1.04	0.10	1.13	0.13	1.15	0.49	0.23	1.20	11.04
1938	1.18	1.15	2.87	0.85	2.36	0.32	0.17	1.40	0.59	1.13	0.60	1.13	10.73
1939	1.18	1.36	0.98	0.80	0.47	0.47	0.42	0.21	2.85	1.39	0.15	0.02	10.30
1940	0.88	0.92	0.34	0.50	0.20	0.25	0.27	1.25	2.56	0.63	0.33	1.29	9.42
1941	0.36	0.91	1.96	2.68	0.95	1.31	2.90	0.36	0.54	3.76	1.24	1.78	18.76
1942	0.70	0.85	1.10	1.81	0.27	T	0.17	1.27	0.05	1.24	1.46	1.09	10.01
1943	0.56	1.26	1.85	0.37	0.40	0.35	0.40	1.49	1.57	0.80	0.67	0.26	10.73
1944	2.64	1.06	2.02	1.18	0.20	0.61	0.23	0.88	T	0.21	2.32	0.44	10.73
1945	0.81	0.64	1.83	1.05	0.49	0.66	0.76	0.88	0.24	2.82	0.49	0.46	11.13
1946	0.81	0.30	0.64	0.62	0.89	0.00	0.39	2.77	0.04	3.51	2.53	1.12	13.65
1947	0.09	0.09	0.26	1.47	0.91	1.50	0.27	1.68	0.02	1.92	1.16	1.56	10.93
1948	0.09	1.69	2.36	1.00	T	0.84	0.03	1.06	0.03	0.86	0.09	1.25	9.31
1949	2.57	0.76	1.63	1.11	1.06	1.49	0.28	0.82	0.82	1.20	0.20	0.31	12.57
1950	1.04	0.33	1.09	0.27	0.85	1.41	0.14	0.34	0.72	0.05	0.31	0.22	6.66
1951	0.47	0.40	0.23	1.57	0.54	0.15	0.51	0.59	0.64	0.97	0.98	1.42	9.57
1952	0.63	0.38	1.98	1.45	0.39	0.49	1.13	0.29	0.26	0.00	0.53	0.77	8.30
1953	0.32	0.64	0.60	0.60	0.35	0.51	2.06	2.06	T	1.38	0.63	0.44	8.32
1954	0.91	0.31	0.87	0.77	1.33	1.17	0.69	0.42	0.52	0.23	0.55	0.38	8.15
1955	0.52	0.73	0.08	0.11	0.18	0.05	1.14	2.31	0.51	0.01	1.19	0.22	6.88

CEDAR CITY CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY
Monthly Averages 1926 - 1955

