

LATITUDE 26° 06' N
 LONGITUDE 80° 09' W
 ELEV. (GROUND) 10 Ft.

U. S. Department of Commerce, Weather Bureau
 Climatological Summary
 In cooperation with
 GREATER FORT LAUDERDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
 CLIMATIC SUMMARY FOR FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
 MEANS AND EXTREMES FOR PERIOD 1925 - 1959

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 daily	Year		90° and above		32° and below		
																		30° and above	30° and below	32° and below	32° and below	
(a)	30	30	30	30		30		9	34	34		34	34		34	30	30	30	30			
Jan.	77.4	59.0	68.2	88	1947 +	30	1940	75	2.56	4.37	1925	0	0		4	0	0	*	0	Jan.		
Feb.	78.5	58.9	68.7	90	1956 +	31	1948	40	1.98	2.87	1941	0	0		4	*	0	*	0	Feb.		
Mar.	80.3	60.6	70.4	94	1948	35	1932 +	20	2.72	4.50	1940	0	0		4	*	0	0	0	Mar.		
Apr.	83.3	65.2	74.3	95	1939 +	40	1950	0	4.15	6.40	1957	0	0		5	1	0	0	0	Apr.		
May	86.2	68.8	77.5	95	1938	50	1928	0	5.52	5.06	1932	0	0		7	4	0	0	0	May		
June	88.7	71.8	80.3	97	1952 +	57	1933	0	7.89	8.60	1930	0	0		10	12	0	0	0	June		
July	90.1	73.2	81.6	98	1932	65	1937	0	6.14	3.05	1926	0	0		11	20	0	0	0	July		
Aug.	90.9	73.5	82.2	98	1958 +	66	1937	0	7.12	6.75	1933	0	0		10	24	0	0	0	Aug.		
Sep.	89.2	73.5	81.4	99	1935	65	1950 +	0	8.93	6.00	1928	0	0		12	15	0	0	0	Sep.		
Oct.	85.7	70.1	77.9	95	1925	46	1937	0	8.39	10.85	1947	0	0		10	4	0	0	0	Oct.		
Nov.	81.3	64.1	72.7	91	1958	35	1950 +	15	3.38	5.10	1954	0	0		6	*	0	0	0	Nov.		
Dec.	78.3	59.5	68.9	88	1948	29	1934	50	3.12	9.99	1958 ^b	0	0		4	0	0	*	0	Dec.		
Year	84.2	66.5	75.4	99	1935	29	1934	200	61.90	10.85	1947	0	0	-	0	-	87	80	0	*	0	Year

(a) Average length of record, years.

† Trace, an amount too small to measure.

** Base 65°F

+ Also on earlier dates, months, or years.

* Less than one half.

b Data from Bahia-Mar station. Daily data not available for station summarized which reported a 2-day total of 12.85 inches, most of which fell on December 26, 1958.

NARRATIVE CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

Fort Lauderdale, the county seat of Broward County, is in the east coast area of the extreme southern portion of the Florida Peninsula. The city is located astride the New River with the business district between two and three miles from the Atlantic Ocean. The surface of the ground is flat and the soil is sandy on the higher ground. A narrow strip of marsh land parallels the coast line just inland from the beach and a sandy soil region six to nine miles wide separates this coastal marsh from the muck land of the Everglades.

The moderating influence of the waters of the Atlantic on maximum temperatures in summer and minimum temperatures in winter is quite strong along the immediate coast but diminishes noticeably a few miles inland. The mean daily maximum temperature on the immediate coast is over two degrees lower in winter and three and one-half degrees lower in summer than at the city station three miles inland. Mean daily minimum temperatures are higher on the immediate coast than in the city throughout the year, the difference ranging from a little more than one degree in September and October to about five degrees in January. Temperatures reach 90° or higher on the coast on only about one-fourth as many days as in the city. Annual precipitation totals for the short period of coincident records at the two stations indicate little difference in precipitation for shore and inland locations.

Extreme temperatures of significance not included in the tabulation above are: 99° in July 1924; 90° in December 1919; 28° in February 1917; and 32° in March 1920. Freezing temperatures have been recorded in the Fort Lauderdale area on only ten days during the 1925-1959 period. On the basis of mean temperatures, January averages the coolest month of the year and August the warmest. February 1958 with a mean of 59.4° is the coldest month and August 1954 with a mean of 84.2° is the warmest month in the records.

Precipitation occurs during all seasons but on the basis of mean monthly totals of precipitation there is a rainy season of five months from June through October that brings nearly 62 percent of the annual rainfall and a relatively-dry season of five months from November through March that produces only about 22 percent of the annual total. However, most of the rains are of relatively short duration, coming as showers frequently associated with thunderstorms, and the average amount of cloudiness during the rainy season is not much greater than during the dry season. Some of the heaviest rains, including the "record" rainfall of

10.85 inches in one day in October 1947, have been associated with the passage of tropical storms. Other causes occasionally produce 24-hour rainfalls in excess of eight inches, such rains being indicated in the records for November 1915, March 1921, June 1930 and December 1958. The greatest amount of rain for one calendar month in the records is 32.10 inches in October 1924. There was no rain at the Fort Lauderdale station during the period December 31, 1948 through February 23, 1949, the longest drought in the history of the station. Annual rainfall totals have ranged from 35.13 inches in 1951 to 102.36 inches in 1947.

Tropical storms bring hazardous conditions to this area at irregular intervals; the chances of hurricane force winds in any given year are estimated to about one in eight. The most recent occurrence of hurricane winds in this area was in October 1950. Thunderstorms occur in all months of the year and occasionally develop to severe proportions and may include such destructive elements as hail, excessive rain or strong winds. Hail, generally small in size, occurs occasionally and almost all occurrences have been in April or May. Tornadoes have caused personal injury or property damage in Broward county eleven times, during the 1916-1959 period. No snow or sleet appear in the records for the Fort Lauderdale area.

Prevailing wind directions are southeasterly from March through October and northwest to east for the other months. A high frequency of easterly components in the wind direction at all seasons strengthens the maritime climatic feature which is very definite in this area. Wind velocities generally range from twelve to twenty mph during the day and usually drop below ten mph at night. The average relative humidity ranges from about 87 percent in the early morning to about 60 percent in the early afternoon. The number of days with heavy fog averages less than ten per year. In most instances of heavy fog it forms during the latter part of the night and dissipates soon after sunrise. The percentage of possible sunshine ranges from about 60 percent in summer and fall to near 70 percent in the late winter and spring.

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Average Temperature (°F)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1925	73.4	68.2	69.8	71.8	76.0	80.0	81.8	81.5	81.6	80.1	73.2	68.2	75.5
1926	67.4	66.8	69.1	72.2	76.8	79.8	80.9	82.0	82.2	79.1	72.6	72.1	75.3
1927	68.0	72.4	71.1	73.4	76.8	81.5	81.9	81.8	80.2	76.6	73.3	68.1	75.7
1928	64.2	69.5	70.0	73.3	73.3	79.3	80.4	81.0	80.4	76.8	72.0	66.5	74.1
1929	70.4	70.4	73.1	75.6	76.6	79.2	80.0	81.8	81.0	75.0	75.6	68.4	75.8
1930	71.5	68.4	68.3	73.6	77.9	78.8	81.0	81.0	81.6	76.2	70.4	64.8	74.5
1931	65.2	65.8	65.6	72.0	76.8	80.2	82.6	82.6	81.9	76.5	74.8	75.1	75.1
1932	72.4	72.2	69.2	74.7	79.3	79.3	80.4	81.6	81.6	78.4	70.2	72.3	75.7
1933	68.5	71.6	70.4	74.7	79.3	79.3	80.4	81.2	81.4	78.0	70.0	69.6	75.4
1934	66.0	66.8	70.6	73.8	77.2	80.2	81.2	81.6	81.1	79.1	73.2	67.6	75.1
1935	67.2	67.0	73.1	74.4	79.6	79.8	81.8	83.0	81.0	80.0	72.1	62.2	75.1
1936	69.0	68.8	69.6	74.8	77.2	79.5	82.6	83.2	82.2	81.1	73.2	71.9	76.1
1937	76.3	69.0	68.2	70.3	74.3	79.4	79.9	80.8	79.9	75.8	70.8	67.3	74.3
1938	67.9	69.8	73.6	74.6	77.7	80.5	81.4	83.1	81.8	77.2	75.2	68.7	76.0
1939	69.5	74.2	74.0	77.8	76.2	81.2	82.5	82.4	81.8	80.4	70.8	66.2	76.6
1940	60.1	61.0	68.3	72.3	76.6	81.3	83.0	82.9	82.2	75.0	72.5	72.4	74.1
1941	65.6	65.0	67.2	75.2	77.1	81.6	82.8	84.8	82.2	78.4	73.0	71.6	75.4
1942	65.2	65.0	70.6	72.3	76.8	79.6	82.8	81.6	81.1	77.1	73.6	71.0	74.7
1943	70.0	65.7	71.8	72.3	77.6	80.2	80.9	82.2	81.2	76.0	72.2	68.2	74.9
1944	65.6	71.5	74.0	75.7	76.2	81.1	81.4	-	81.6	75.9	71.2	66.3	-
1945	66.6	69.6	73.8	76.2	76.3	80.1	80.4	-	-	77.6	75.2	72.2	-
1946	-	-	-	74.0	76.2	79.6	80.0	81.1	80.0	77.6	75.2	72.2	-
1947	72.8	61.8	-	77.0	77.6	79.2	79.8	81.1	81.0	77.2	75.4	70.0	75.0
1948	66.8	69.9	76.0	76.4	77.0	80.9	81.8	82.0	81.4	78.0	75.8	72.4	76.7
1949	70.6	72.1	74.0	75.0	75.0	80.0	82.1	81.7	81.6	79.8	77.2	71.7	75.8
1950	73.7	69.6	70.9	70.0	77.4	80.1	81.2	81.6	81.5	79.0	68.9	64.3	74.9
1951	65.2	66.1	69.8	73.6	76.5	80.6	81.8	83.4	82.8	78.2	71.6	72.2	75.2
1952	66.7	66.6	73.6	72.6	78.0	82.5	82.7	82.3	81.8	77.5	66.2	66.2	75.4
1953	66.7	66.7	72.6	75.5	80.2	81.0	83.3	82.2	82.2	77.5	72.5	69.9	76.0
1954	68.9	66.6	68.8	76.8	78.7	80.2	82.1	84.2	82.2	77.5	70.4	64.5	75.1
1955	65.4	69.3	72.3	75.0	77.3	79.8	81.6	83.5	82.7	77.2	72.1	69.3	75.5
1956	62.0	71.2	70.1	72.7	78.9	79.4	82.1	83.0	80.9	77.6	69.7	74.8	74.8
1957	69.3	72.2	70.3	77.1	78.8	81.2	82.3	82.2	81.5	76.7	66.9	69.9	76.2
1958	62.2	59.4	70.1	74.7	77.9	82.1	83.2	83.6	82.4	76.8	69.5	69.5	74.9
1959	66.5	75.1	71.0	75.1	76.4	81.0	81.8	81.4	80.6	79.9	74.2	67.1	76.0

STATION HISTORY

Records of temperature and precipitation for Fort Lauderdale and vicinity begin with November 1912 at the station known as Fort Lauderdale through July 1941. The first observer was W. M. Reine and he resumed through October 1916, but details as to exact location and exposure of instruments are not available. The station was moved several times between November 1916 and July 1941 but all locations were within one mile of the Post Office, latitude 26° 07' N, longitude 80° 06' W, and all were ground exposures with the elevation of the ground ranging from 7 to 10 feet above sea level. Exposures were good except that from January 1936 through July 1941 the data may have been affected some by nearby buildings. Observers from November 1916 through July 1941 were A. J. Willsey, C. R. Chilton, C. E. Shultz, A. J. Willsey, J. L. Cody, and J. R. Carter in that order.

From August 1941 through July 1945, the station was at the Fort Lauderdale Yacht Club, latitude 26° 05' N, longitude 80° 06' W, and was known as Fort Lauderdale 3SR. The ground elevation was 5 feet above sea level and a satisfactory ground exposure was provided. The manager of the Yacht Club served as observer. Due to the close proximity of the Atlantic Ocean, hardly a mile to the east, the temperature data from this location are not representative of the city and are not included in the Means and Extremes tabulation on the other side of this sheet.

A break in the records begins with August 1945 and ends with March 1946. Records for the present location known as Fort Lauderdale begin with April 1946. This is a ground exposure at the obser-

Total Precipitation (Inches)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1925	8.49	1.23	5.82	3.43	12.96	7.26	4.89	9.70	4.26	3.10	5.63	6.43	73.22
1926	9.04	1.26	0.16	3.51	4.40	9.77	13.12	14.01	11.72	6.98	2.63	0.49	77.29
1927	1.46	3.71	0.76	7.35	4.15	4.15	3.11	4.12	10.93	10.16	2.12	1.75	70.35
1928	1.46	0.71	1.80	1.92	7.13	6.84	3.98	13.09	16.35	4.12	1.43	1.40	60.23
1929	1.05	0.44	2.49	4.27	2.95	8.77	12.91	4.88	16.98	4.90	7.51	7.51	79.75
1930	3.05	1.75	6.36	5.83	2.77	24.24	4.35	4.40	4.31	6.96	4.06	1.61	69.69
1931	2.85	3.74	5.93	10.29	2.47	2.19	3.50	3.06	13.12	12.38	3.53	0.39	63.45
1932	1.93	1.93	3.66	2.03	14.49	11.30	1.48	14.88	4.98	4.98	5.67	0.14	64.97
1933	1.54	0.05	3.15	4.56	1.48	9.64	14.01	14.88	4.76	15.34	4.81	1.01	75.23
1934	0.49	4.05	1.77	6.92	12.22	8.05	8.45	3.82	11.02	4.28	2.24	1.41	64.72
1935	1.66	1.54	0.56	7.67	1.22	7.83	7.28	2.48	10.72	9.10	2.01	0.78	52.85
1936	3.77	2.98	3.59	3.54	7.40	20.56	6.22	9.59	5.30	6.55	4.58	2.41	76.49
1937	0.91	2.80	-	-	-	11.17	3.05	6.95	9.77	4.11	-	-	-
1938	2.13	2.15	0.30	0.59	7.18	7.08	7.08	1.36	3.27	6.58	3.45	2.35	41.05
1939	2.23	2.55	1.36	1.17	5.38	4.63	4.04	7.61	6.19	8.73	2.66	1.91	48.46
1940	2.42	3.16	7.88	0.98	3.96	9.43	3.05	9.60	15.59	4.62	1.49	8.57	70.75
1941	3.08	5.06	3.64	5.49	0.06	2.19	10.36	2.72	8.51	4.35	8.23	3.12	55.01
1942	7.95	2.24	2.31	4.20	6.24	8.14	0.78	2.65	5.55	6.21	0.47	5.30	53.05
1943	0.33	0.73	3.62	3.73	5.23	2.49	5.08	8.76	7.85	5.96	2.62	0.98	47.38
1944	1.61	4.78	4.78	1.25	6.44	1.96	7.24	3.97	3.34	10.36	0.11	0.55	41.61
1945	4.02	0.61	0.07	1.17	2.98	5.41	8.19	2.23	6.30	4.55	4.15	2.75	-
1946	-	-	-	0.02	7.59	7.30	7.30	8.23	6.30	4.55	4.15	2.75	-
1947	1.65	1.94	1.75	6.47	4.95	19.60	13.65	8.85	15.70	21.55	5.05	1.80	102.36
1948	3.75	2.45	2.45	4.50	3.90	2.90	2.10	9.85	10.35	15.20	1.15	3.85	56.72
1949	0.00	0.30	2.11	4.50	3.05	7.15	2.19	9.65	10.85	6.20	1.30	9.95	56.72
1950	0.35	1.75	-	3.00	2.85	2.55	6.41	9.65	12.35	9.17	5.37	1.15	-
1951	0.00	1.75	1.35	3.60	3.70	2.05	4.26	4.92	4.45	7.05	1.00	1.00	35.13
1952	0.39	2.02	2.50	2.15	1.65	0.70	3.10	11.50	3.80	13.65	0.55	2.60	76.71
1953	5.05	3.10	0.50	2.30	4.60	8.10	6.68	10.45	10.60	18.32	4.45	3.60	45.61
1954	0.85	2.50	1.80	7.50	11.55	14.85	9.40	3.80	14.00	10.45	8.25	0.85	85.80
1955	0.80	0.50	0.50	2.05	4.65	11.60	4.80	2.60	5.20	4.20	0.65	3.75	41.20
1956	1.50	0.40	0.55	2.75	5.75	3.65	4.35	6.15	6.35	6.30	1.50	0.00	39.25
1957	7.50	7.00	2.20	14.70	5.45	4.15	7.25	11.55	6.65	6.70	2.10	3.90	74.15
1958	7.75	0.80	4.50	0.30	15.95	3.70	3.60	5.90	5.90	3.55	2.35	20.45	72.15
1959	2.60	1.75	6.70	0.90	4.90	14.65	7.50	6.70	13.85	6.45	10.95	2.75	79.70

STATION HISTORY-Cont'd.

wer's residence, one and one-quarter miles SSW of the Post Office, and about three miles from the ocean front. Mr. F. P. Medford, Jr., 1439 SW 6th Avenue served as the observer from April 1946 through April 1960. Mrs. Alan Lakarra, 702 SW 15th Street became the observer in June, 1960.

Fort Lauderdale Bahia-Mar

This station was established in June 1950. It is three miles east of the Fort Lauderdale Post Office at the Bahia-Mar Yacht Basin, latitude 26° 07' N, longitude 80° 06' W. The ground elevation is 7 feet above sea level. Temperature data are from a ground exposure and the rain gauge is on the roof of a one-story building. The shore of the Atlantic Ocean is only about one-fourth mile to the east of the station and moderating influences of the water are quite pronounced. Temperature data recorded here are representative of the ocean front in this vicinity but data recorded at the station known as Fort Lauderdale are more representative for points more than one mile from the ocean front. The control operator of the Yacht Basin serves as observer.