

## Narrative Summary – September 2012

September 2012 was warmer than normal, averaging 67.5°F, 1.1° above normal (66.4°F). The hottest September (1990) averaged 72.4°F, while the coolest (1985) averaged 58.8°F. There were 5 days in September with maximum temperatures  $\geq 90^\circ\text{F}$  compared to a normal of 6. There were 60 days this year with maximum temperatures  $\geq 90^\circ\text{F}$  compared to a normal of 56 days. The greatest number was 79 days in 1967. There were 0 days in September with maximum temperatures  $\geq 100^\circ\text{F}$  compared to a normal of <1, and a record of 3 on numerous occasions. There were 16 days this year with maximum temperatures  $\geq 100^\circ\text{F}$  compared to a normal of 14. No daily temperature records were established in September 2012.

Precipitation for September 2012 totaled 0.03 inches, 10% of normal (0.31 inch). The wettest September (1947) received 1.34 inches, while the driest (1991 and 1999) received no precipitation. Total precipitation for 2012 (through September) is 4.92 inches, 109% of normal (4.50 inches). The precipitation on September 22 was the end of a period of 64 days without measureable precipitation. The record number of consecutive days with no measurable precipitation is 81 days (1967).

The average wind speed for September 2012 was 6.3 miles per hour (mph), which is below normal (7.3). The windiest September (1961) averaged 9.2 mph, while the September with the lightest winds (1957) averaged 5.4 mph. The peak gust for September 2012 was 39 mph on September 9. The record wind gust for September was 65 mph in 1953.

September 2012 broke the record for the number of days with smoke in a month, with 8 days. The previous record was 4 (Nov. 1969, Feb. 1970). The total days with smoke in 2012 through September is 10, which already exceeds the annual record of 9 (1970). A day with smoke is recorded when the horizontal visibility becomes less than 6 miles at any point during the day.

The monthly climatological data summaries, as well as other information, are available on the Internet.

Address: <http://www.hanford.gov/HMS>

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**Note:** The data in this summary pertain specifically to the Hanford Meteorology Station (HMS), which is located approximately 25 miles northwest of Richland, WA. No attempt should be made to infer meteorological conditions at other locations from these data.