

Narrative Summary – May 2015

May 2015 was warmer than normal, averaging 66.5°F, 4.4° above normal (62.1°F). This ties for the fifth warmest average on record for the month of May. The warmest May (1947) averaged 68.7°F, while the coolest (1984) averaged 56.0°F. The following temperature record was established during May 2014:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>New Record</u>	<u>Old Record</u>	<u>Year</u>
13	Low Maximum	56	57	1955

Precipitation for May 2015 totaled 1.49 inches, 292% of normal (0.51 inch). This is the fifth highest total on record for the month of May. The wettest May (1972) received 2.03 inches, while the driest (1992 and earlier years) received only a trace. The 24-hour total of 1.34 inches on May 12-13 is the second highest 24-hour total on record for the month of May. Total precipitation for 2015 (through May) is 3.32 inches, 102% of normal (3.27 inches).

The average wind speed for May 2015 was 8.6 miles per hour (mph), which was 0.2 mph below normal (8.8 mph). The windiest May (1983) averaged 10.7 mph, while the May with the lightest winds (1957) averaged 5.8 mph. The peak gust for May 2015 was 47 mph on May 24. The record wind gust for May was 71 mph in 1948.

The spring season (March, April and May) was warmer than normal, averaging 57.5°F, 2.2° above normal (54.0°F). The warmest spring (1992) averaged 58.2°F, while the coolest spring (1955) averaged 48.0°F. Spring season precipitation totaled 2.23 inches, 136% of normal (1.63 inches). The wettest spring (1995) received 3.28 inches, while the driest (1968) received only 0.09 inch.

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.