

Narrative Summary – May 2017

May 2017 was warmer than normal, averaging 63.0°F, 0.9° above normal (62.1°F). The warmest May (1947) averaged 68.7°F, while the coolest (1984) averaged 56.0°F. No daily temperature records were established during May 2017:

Precipitation for May 2017 totaled 0.37 inches, 73% of normal (0.51 inch). The wettest May (1972) received 2.03 inches, while the driest (1992 and earlier years) received only a trace. Total precipitation for 2017 (through May) is 5.35 inches, 164% of normal (3.27 inches).

The average wind speed for May 2017 was 8.4 miles per hour (mph), which was 0.4 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 2017 was from the west-northwest at 49 mph on May 24. The record wind gust for May was 71 mph in 1948.

Note: On the night of May 4 thunderstorms with frequent lightning, heavy showers, and hail moved across the site. Quarter sized hail and nearly a half inch of rain was reported in some locations.

The monthly climatological data summaries, as well as other information, are available on the Internet. Address: <http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/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.