

Montana Drought/Precipitation Summary

June 7, 2004

Montana weather and precipitation summary, May 2004.

Three major storms have produced rainfall amounting to over one inch each during May. On May 10-12, heavy snow fell along the northern Rocky Mountain front and northeastern Montana, north of highway 2. Also, over one inch of rain fell west of the divide in the Missoula area. Cold temperatures have followed the snow, with record lows in the teens observed over portions of north central and northeast Montana on the 13th. Other storms produced rain or snow on the 16th and 18th -19th. Temperatures were on the cool side, averaging one to five degrees below normal.

Historical Rank of Precipitation (inches) for the Past Month and Water Year to Date

Location	May 1 - May 31	% of Normal	Oct 1 - May 31	% of Normal	Rank	Percentile	Years of Record
Billings	0.81	33	5.90	63	11 th driest	16 th	70
Bozeman	2.87	115	6.81	80	16 th driest	25 th	63
Butte	2.04	101	4.65	68	18 th driest	16 th	110
Cut Bank	1.95	88	3.12	56	12 th driest	12 th	101
Dillon	2.82	156	5.01	101	32 nd driest	50 th	64
Glasgow	3.15	183	7.18	143	28 th wettest	75 th	111
Great Falls	2.91	115	5.12	62	11 th driest	10 th	112
Havre	3.50	190	5.31	91	50 th driest	40 th	124
Helena	2.21	124	5.72	98	42 nd driest	34 th	124
Kalispell	1.17	57	8.95	81	33 rd driest	31 st	105
Lewistown	2.52	86	6.73	70	15 th driest	14 th	108
Livingston	0.64	39	5.22	80	31 st driest	31 st	101
Miles City	1.31	17	3.63	51	3 rd driest	3 rd	111
Missoula	3.93	176	9.99	114	43 rd driest	39 th	111

For an automated version of this chart, updated daily, go to
<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/cgi-bin/greatfalls/getproduct.pl?PCPNTOTALS>

For a state map of % of normal water year precipitation (updated around the 7th of each month), go to:
http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/Greatfalls/txf.php?TEXT+wateryear_percent.html

For the latest information on mountain snow pack from the NRCS, go to:
<http://www.mt.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/index.html>

For the latest U.S. Drought Monitor, issued weekly by the Climate Prediction Center (CPC), go to:
<http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>

Montana precipitation/temperature forecast.

As of June 1st, CPC forecasts equal chances of wetter or drier than normal conditions across Montana for the period through June 2004, and equal chances of warmer or cooler than normal temperatures. For the period June through September, the forecast calls for equal chances of above or below normal temperatures and precipitation over Montana. Graphics and text relating to these outlooks, and additional long-range forecasts can be found at

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/multi_season/13_seasonal_outlooks/color/seasonal_forecast.html

Further inquiries about the moisture conditions can be directed to Dave Bernhardt or Gina Loss at (406) 453-2081. Many more links can be found on the Drought Information Page of the NWS Great Falls web site at
<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/Greatfalls/txf.php?HTML+drought>