

Montana Drought/Precipitation Summary

August 1, 2004

Montana weather and precipitation summary, July 2004.

Cool temperatures prevailed during the first 12 days of July, keeping temperatures below normal across most of the state. Some frost was observed at scattered locations in the west during the first week. A bout of severe weather during the second weekend brought widespread hail and very strong winds to many locations in northeast Montana. The second half of the month brought much warmer conditions, such that temperatures averaged as much as 3 degrees above normal over western Montana. Dry conditions returned with only isolated thunderstorms during the last half of the month. Great Falls last measured precipitation on July 7th.

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

Location	Ju1 1 - Jul 31	% of Normal	Oct 1 - Jul 31	% of Normal	Rank	Percentile	Years of Record
Billings	2.27	177	10.12	80	24 th driest	34 th	70
Bozeman	1.77	149	11.19	92	29 th driest	46 th	63
Butte	0.91	62	7.54	73	15 th driest	14 th	110
Cut Bank	0.64	41	5.12	53	8 th driest	8 th	101
Dillon	0.71	62	7.59	96	31 st driest	48 th	64
Glasgow	2.09	117	11.61	129	41 st wettest	63 rd	111
Great Falls	0.42	29	8.36	70	13 th driest	12 th	112
Havre	1.08	72	8.54	93	49 th driest	40 th	124
Helena	0.68	51	7.47	83	19 th driest	15 th	124
Kalispell	1.86	132	12.04	82	35 th driest	33 rd	105
Lewistown	0.73	35	10.66	73	12 th driest	11 th	108
Livingston	1.74	113	11.01	85	40 th driest	40 th	101
Miles City	1.56	96	6.96	62	6 th driest	5 th	111
Missoula	0.70	64	11.86	102	49 th wettest	56 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 August 1st, the CPC forecast for August is warmer than normal conditions over Montana. The precipitation forecast is for equal chances of wetter or drier than normal conditions. For the period August through November, the forecast calls for equal chances of above or below normal temperatures and precipitation over most of the state. 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>