

Montana Drought/Precipitation Summary

June 2005 By NOAA's National Weather Service Great Falls Montana

The month of June can be labeled as 'unsettled' across the state. Very heavy precipitation was recorded at many locations. Severe weather was also dominant, with severe reports of some kind reported on 23 days. During the first few days, very heavy rain fell, with Moss Peak, in western Montana, receiving over 9 inches, some areas in the Highwood Mountains received up to 12 inches, while near Circle, 6 to 8 inches fell on the 6th. Severe weather produced high winds, large hail and as many as 7 tornados over eastern Montana. With the heavy rains came flooding. Most airport locations recorded more than their normal June amount. Great Falls and Baker recorded 3 times their June average. Cut Bank recorded their 4th wettest June, while Great Falls recorded their third wettest June of record. Many locations saw their wettest June since 1995. The rain also caused a turn-around in the water-year precipitation. Cut Bank went from their 12th driest water year by the end of May, to their 13th wettest. It has now turned into a more 'normal' water year. Temperatures averaged up to 3 degrees below normal. Clover Meadow, near Cameron, fell to 17F on the 8th, for the state's lowest temperature. Alzada was the warmest on the 22nd, at 102F. Winds were generally below average, except over central portions of the state. The highest wind gust was 95 mph at Fallon in a thunderstorm on the 6th.

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

Location	June	% of Normal	Oct 1 - June 30	% of Normal	Rank	Percentile	Years of Record
Baker	8.38	330	19.61	242			7
Billings	2.35	124	10.55	93	33 rd wettest	67 th	96
Bozeman	3.19	132	9.34	85	23 rd driest	36 th	64
Butte	2.50	121	8.02	91	42 nd driest	38 th	111
Cut Bank	7.00	282	10.10	126	13 th wettest	87 th	97
Dillon	3.18	180	9.06	134	8 th wettest	89 th	65
Glasgow	3.78	172	8.21	114	52 nd wettest	50 th	105
Great Falls	6.85	306	11.87	112	39 th wettest	65 th	113
Havre	5.10	268	8.04	104	61 st driest	49 th	125
Helena	4.55	250	9.61	126	46 th wettest	64 th	127
Jordan	4.02	158	11.18	151			5
Kalispell	5.24	228	12.90	97	60 th wettest	53 rd	127
Lewistown	6.38	218	12.50	100	50 th driest	46 th	109
Livingston	1.99	89	11.25	98	39 th wettest	60 th	100
Miles City	5.20	215	12.75	134	30 th wettest	77 th	128
Missoula	2.90	168	10.46	100	61 st driest	50 th	123
Mullan Pass	2.67	98	32.20	106	25 th driest	39 th	64
Wolf Point	5.68	208	11.00	150			7

For an automated version of this chart, updated daily, go to <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/tfx/dx.php?wfo=tfx&type=&loc=products&fx=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/tfx/image.php?wfo=tfx&type=data&loc=hydro&fx=watyr_pcptnorm.png

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.

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/tfx/main/drought.php?wfo=tfx>