

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE—Summary of the Records of Temperature, Rainfall, and Sunshine for December 1960—continued

Station	Height of Station Above M.S.L.	Air Temperatures in Degrees (Fahrenheit)								Rainfall in Inches				Bright Sunshine	
		Means of		Mean of A and B	Difference From Normal	Absolute Maximum and Minimum				Total Fall	No. of Rain Days	Difference From Normal	Maximum Fall		
		A Max.	B Min.			Maximum	Date	Minimum	Date				Amount		Date
Ft.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.	In.	In.	Hrs.						
Woodbourne	89	70.4	49.6	60.0	-0.4*	85.0	26	36.0	3	0.74	8	-1.45*	0.23	1	..
Blenheim	14	70.1	50.0	60.0	-0.8	86.8	26	36.9	2, 3	0.82	8	-1.18*	0.24	11	217
Lake Grassmere	15	64.9	52.2	58.6	..	83.5	22	44.5	2	2.83	12	..	0.70	10	205
Golden Downs	900	68.7	44.6	56.6	-0.5	83.2	28	30.5	3	2.95	8	-1.19	1.13	29	..
Waihopai	860	69.8	45.6	57.7	-3.1	83.0	26	31.6	3	0.61	5	-2.30	0.23	29	..
Westport	7	67.1	48.5	57.8	+0.1	79.0	26	40.6	3	2.24	9	-5.41*	0.87	1	256
Molesworth	2,930	62.7	40.7	51.7	-3.1*	79.0	26	34.0	13, 18	1.11	8	-1.03*	0.31	4	..
Reefton	630	69.5	46.1	57.8	..	77.2	27	33.0	3	1.85	5	..	0.72	1	..
Totara Flat	254	70.4	44.7	57.6	..	78.0	31	34.0	4	1.87	7	..	1.05	16	..
Greymouth	13	66.9	52.2	59.6	+1.4*	71.9	11	44.2	4	2.73	8	-5.73*	1.44	16	244
Hanmer Forest	1,270	65.0	43.9	54.4	-3.4	81.9	28	32.5	18	6.27	16	+2.56	1.05	7	158
Hokitika South	15	65.8	47.0	56.4	+0.3*	72.3	11	36.6	4	1.96	7	-8.00*	1.31	16	284
Balmoral	650	66.9	47.1	57.0	-0.3*	83.0	28	36.0	3	3.21	12	+0.91	0.64	4	..
Lake Coleridge	1,195	65.3	45.8	55.6	-1.4	82.0	28	34.0	4	1.88	9	-0.70	0.54	1	..
Eyrewell	520	65.9	47.0	56.4	..	84.5	22	38.3	21	3.57	15	-0.03*	0.82	4	..
Franz Josef	392	67.5	46.9	57.2	..	74.5	11	38.5	3	6.78	9	..	3.84	16	..
Ashley Forest	350	65.1	48.1	56.6	-2.5*	86.5	28	41.0	2, 21	3.74	15	+0.46*	0.54	2	..
Darfield	640	66.8	46.3	56.6	-2.3	87.4	28	38.0	12	3.60	15	+0.75	0.98	1	..
Christchurch Airport	94	65.2	48.9	57.0	..	87.2	22	41.8	21	3.02	11	..	0.92	1	178
Christchurch	22	65.8	49.0	57.4	-2.4	88.0	22	41.5	3	3.70	12	+1.16	1.44	1	..
Hororata	631	66.3	45.8	56.0	..	87.2	28	36.7	12	4.04	15	..	1.25	1	..
Onawe, Akaroa	150	66.1	49.6	57.8	-2.5	85.5	22	41.0	6	4.59	16	+1.89	1.42	1	205
Lincoln	36	65.6	47.1	56.4	-2.3	85.8	22	37.4	12	4.46	14	+2.24	2.45	1	209
Highbank	1,102	63.7	47.0	55.4	..	82.5	28	39.0	2, 4	4.29	15	..	1.36	1	177
The Hermitage	2,510	63.3	44.0	53.6	-1.0	76.0	31	33.0	2	5.07	12	-7.85	3.35	16	183
Winchmore	526	64.6	46.1	55.4	-2.3*	87.8	28	37.5	12	3.01	12	+0.21	1.10	1	..
Haast	15	65.1	48.2	56.6	-0.1*	73.3	11	39.6	2	4.22	10	-8.36*	1.69	16	252
Ashburton	323	68.4	47.4	57.9	-1.2	92.0	28	39.8	3, 21	2.59	12	-0.42	1.00	1	188
Temuka	80	65.8	46.9	56.4	..	91.2	28	37.5	2	2.92	10	..	0.81	4	..
Fairlie	1,004	65.9	43.8	54.8	-2.3	90.0	28	32.0	3, 30	2.46	12	-0.43	0.58	1	..
Timaru	56	68.7	48.7	58.7	+0.0	89.1	22	40.2	2, 12	3.49	11	+0.83	1.10	8	216
Adair	200	63.7	47.7	55.7	-1.5*	84.1	22	38.3	2	2.73	11	-0.10*	0.74	1	..
Tara Hills, Omarama	1,600	70.6	44.0	57.3	-0.6*	88.7	31	32.8	11, 12	0.27	5	-1.73*	0.12	2	245
Benmore, Otematata	920	70.2	47.8	59.0	..	88.8	28	38.2	3	0.44	5	..	0.14	4	..
Lake Hawea	1,147	69.7	49.3	59.5	..	85.2	28	39.4	2	0.42	5	..	0.25	1	..
Milford Sound	20	64.7	49.1	56.9	+1.5	70.3	29	41.1	2	16.54	10	-6.82	6.07	15	..
Waimate	200	66.4	48.3	57.4	+0.4	86.0	22	40.5	2	2.86	15	-0.07	0.62	1	160
Naseby Forest	2,300	65.6	40.3	53.0	..	80.8	28	31.2	18	1.23	7	..	0.54	1	..
Queenstown	1,100	68.3	46.9	57.6	-0.3	82.9	31	39.0	2	0.84	6	-1.66	0.52	16	268
Cromwell	720	72.2	48.3	60.2	+0.0*	89.1	31	37.0	4	0.41	5	-0.87*	0.20	1	..
Ophir	1,000	69.7	42.7	56.2	-2.1	88.4	31	30.9	20	0.43	3	-1.39	0.19	16	..
Moa Creek	1,400	67.0	41.3	54.2	..	82.7	28	29.8	21	0.49	3	..	0.23	16	..
Earnsclough	500	70.7	43.8	57.2	-2.4*	86.3	28	33.0	20	0.46	4	-0.80*	0.34	10	..
Waipiata	1,550	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Alexandra	520	70.0	48.0	59.0	-1.2	83.5	21	38.0	3	0.32	3	-0.98	0.18	16	243
Garston	1,009	68.0	42.7	55.4	..	85.0	31	31.9	3	1.60	8	..	0.44	16	..
Roxburgh Hydro	350	69.3	45.3	57.3	..	86.0	28	33.0	17	1.10	7	-0.71	0.63	16	..
West Arm, Lake Manapouri	593	62.6	46.9	54.8	..	75.9	12	36.9	2	9.32	15	..	4.52	16	..
Mid Dome	1,252	66.7	43.8	55.2	..	81.1	31	34.9	21	2.48	9	..	0.79	15	..
Cherry Farm, Waikouaiti	21	63.0	45.6	54.3	..	76.1	16	37.9	21	1.61	13	..	0.30	23	..
Moa Flat, West Otago	1,345	61.9	41.9	51.9	..	73.6	31	32.0	18	1.76	11	-1.20*	0.66	16	..
Taieri	80	64.2	45.8	55.0	-1.0*	79.4	16	37.9	6	2.41	15	-0.15*	0.63	3	148
Musselburgh, Dunedin	5	62.2	49.3	55.8	-1.0*	76.9	22	42.3	5	1.96	13	-0.92	0.55	16	164
Riversdale	419	64.5	44.3	54.4	..	76.0	21	35.5	21	1.51	8	..	0.60	16	..
Tapanui	550	64.6	43.9	54.2	..	77.0	31	34.4	3	2.92	10	..	1.08	3	..
East Gore	245	65.5	44.4	55.0	-1.3	77.3	31	32.8	3	2.47	12	-0.61	0.87	16	..
Gore	240	65.8	43.6	54.7	-2.0*	78.0	31	31.7	2	2.39	12	-0.69*	0.88	16	207
Otautau	180	64.3	45.3	54.8	-0.3*	77.3	31	33.8	3	2.22	10	-0.80*	0.86	16	200
Pebbley Hills	150	65.7	43.6	54.6	..	75.0	31	32.0	3	1.91	11	-1.61*	1.10	16	..
Invercargill Airfield	0	62.3	45.2	53.8	-1.2*	72.0	22	33.0	3	2.00	15	-1.60*	0.97	16	196

LATE RETURNS

Wallaceville, Nov 1960	195	63.4	47.8	55.6	+1.0*	69.0	29	37.0	5	2.17	14	-1.34*	0.86	14	186
Temuka, Oct 1960	80	61.3	43.8	52.6	..	75.0	18	34.0	15	1.13	8	..	0.28	13	..
Temuka, Nov 1960	80	63.3	43.0	53.2	..	76.3	14	33.0	18	1.03	4	..	0.64	30	..

NOTE—At stations where departures from normal have an asterisk, the temperature record has been maintained for less than 10 years, the rainfall record for less than 20 years. Rainfall normals have been revised and now refer to the standard period 1921-50. Where observations are not available for the whole period, or where the site of the rain gauge has been changed, the normals are partly interpolated.

NOTES ON THE WEATHER FOR DECEMBER 1960

General: December was a cool month, with a marked reversal of the usual patterns in rainfall and sunshine, so that Gisborne and Hawke's Bay were cloudy and wet while the West Coast was sunny and dry. This reversal was caused by persistent south-easterly winds during the first half of the month, with unusually cool temperatures, snow on the ranges of both Islands, and cloud and rain in eastern districts, while the West Coast basked in sunshine.

For the greater part of the country conditions were considered to be somewhat too dry for satisfactory growth, affecting especially the hay crops. In a few areas, such as Bay of Plenty and parts of the Nelson district, the dry weather was becoming rather serious.

Rainfall: Rainfall was below average in the South Island (except for the Kaikoura coast and most of Canterbury), and in the North Island west of the main ranges. In most of these areas it was about half; but in parts of North Taranaki, Southern Manawatu, the

Marlborough Sounds, north-west Nelson, Buller, Westland, and Central Otago it was less than a quarter of average. For some stations in these areas it was the driest December on record. This was the case for Hokitika and New Plymouth.

On the other hand, in Gisborne and Hawke's Bay rainfall was two to five times the normal value, and a few stations in these districts had their wettest December on record.

Temperatures: Temperatures were 1-3 degrees below average, except in Taranaki and Nelson and on the West Coast, where they were close to normal.

Highest departures from normal were recorded in eastern districts from eastern Northland to central Canterbury.

Sunshine: Sunshine was below average in the North Island and in northern and eastern districts of the South Island from Christchurch northward. Greatest deficiencies of over 50 hours were recorded in Gisborne and Hawke's Bay.