

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE—Summary of the Records of Temperature, Rainfall, and Sunshine for February 1972—continued

Station	Height of Station Above M.S.L.	Air Temperatures in Degrees (Celsius)								Rainfall in Millimetres				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
	Metres	°C	°C	°C		°C		°C		mm			mm		Hrs.
Borland Saddle	991	15.3	5.6	10.5	..	21.9	10	0.5	1	34	3	..	16	21	..
Queenstown	329	22.3	9.6	16.0	+0.5	28.1	15	5.0	25	12	4	-52	7	8	244
Queenstown Aerodrome ..	352	21.7	8.1	14.9	..	27.0	15	2.0	25	9	2	..	6	8	..
Mid Dome	387	20.2	7.6	13.9	-0.3	24.5	10,21	1.9	25	33	9	-56	13	8	..
Cromwell	213	24.8	9.4	17.1	0.0	29.2	3	2.2	25	5	2	-36	5	8	..
Moa Creek	427	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Earnsclough	152	23.6	8.0	15.8	+0.2	31.0	25	0.8	25	7	3	-31	5	8	..
Alexandra	141	23.5	9.7	16.6	-0.1	28.7	25	3.1	25	8	4	-30	5	8	243
Roxburgh (Power Station)	110	22.9	9.3	16.1	+0.3	28.8	15	3.5	6	11	6	-40	6	8	..
Moa Flat	410	19.4	7.3	13.4	+0.8	25.5	15	2.9	6	28	8	-46	10	8	..
Mahinerangi Dam	396	18.1	7.7	12.9	-0.2	24.0	4	3.0	6	40	10	-51	15	8	..
Tapanui	226	19.7	8.6	14.2	+0.2	25.3	15	4.9	7	28	9	-53	11	23	..
Rankleburn Forest	255	19.2	8.2	13.7	+0.3	24.1	15	4.1	6	24	8	-45	9	8	..
Taieri Mouth	15	18.0	8.8	13.4	..	24.1	10	4.3	7	21	5	-48	10	8	..
Otautau	55	19.1	7.5	13.3	-0.7	24.2	21	3.0	19	25	8	-64	12	8	191
Winton	44	19.0	7.8	13.4	-1.0	24.4	21	2.8	12	25	8	-54	12	8	200
Gore, D.S.I.R.	124	19.0	8.7	13.9	-0.9	25.1	15	3.1	6	39	10	-40	12	23	187
Hokonui Forest	46	19.8	7.9	13.9	-0.6	25.0	21	3.0	6,8	42	11	-49	19	23	..
Woodlands	47	18.9	8.3	13.6	..	23.8	21	1.8	12	38	15	..	13	10	..
Invercargill Aerodrome ..	0	17.9	8.3	13.1	-0.3	22.8	21	0.7	12	28	8	-69	20	8	199
Tiwai Point, Bluff	5	17.8	11.1	14.5	..	21.4	22	6.5	12	25	9	..	15	8	..
Milton	18	20.6	8.9	14.8	+0.3	26.0	15	2.0	7	20	8	-44	7	8	..
Fineland, Balclutha	6	20.3	8.7	13.0	-1.2	25.6	22	2.4	7	21	8	..	10	23	182
Nugget Point	131	17.2	10.3	13.8	..	21.8	10	6.7	1	25	10	..	10	8	..
Rarotonga Airport, Cook Is.	5	30.1	23.5	26.8	+1.0	30.9	4	20.9	27	145	20	-63	22	29	218
Raoul Is., Kermadec Is. ..	38	23.4	18.0	20.7	+1.7	25.6	27	14.3	5	56	12	-89	18	13	200
Waitangi, Chatham Islands	48	16.2	9.6	12.9	+1.9	18.8	9	6.0	3	38	16	-23	24	24	142
Campbell Island	15	12.0	6.5	9.3	+0.1	14.6	12	0.1	21	59	20	..	10	26	72
Scott Base, Antarctica ..	18	..	..	-9.6	+1.1	-0.6	7,18	-26.0	24	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lake Vanda, Antarctica ..	104	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

LATE RETURNS

Minginui Forest, September 1971	366	14.3	3.7	9.0	+0.6	17.0	21	-2.6	9	273	18	+161	45	21	..
Minginui Forest, October 1971	366	16.6	4.6	10.6	-0.1	20.6	15	-2.7	1	187	18	+68	44	20	..
Minginui Forest, November 1971	366	19.9	7.6	13.8	+0.8	26.0	30	2.9	3	155	19	+53	56	16	..
Minginui Forest, December 1971	366	21.8	10.8	16.3	+1.5	25.7	11	4.0	9	138	14	+44	39	9	..
Wairapukao Forest, October 1971	438	16.3	5.5	10.9	+0.6	18.8	4	-1.7	1	145	19	+33	30	20	..
Wairapukao Forest, November 1971	438	18.9	7.5	13.2	+0.4	22.0	14,29	1.4	1	104	9	+7	68	5	..
Wairapukao Forest, December 1971	438	21.3	11.3	16.3	+1.7	25.8	9	5.5	11	193	12	-102	90	1	..
Wairapukao Forest, January 1972	438	21.6	10.5	16.1	0.0	26.0	18,28	3.0	8	71	10	-41	36	3	..
Whatawhata, January 1972	104	21.9	12.6	17.3	-0.5	25.6	1	6.4	24	101	11	-11	37	2	..
Kahui, Taihape, December 1971	518	20.1	10.1	15.1	..	24.3	16	6.2	9	73	9	..	26	4	..
Kahui, Taihape, January 1972	518	20.5	10.2	15.4	..	25.9	1	4	8	58	10	..	16	2	..

The "normal" refers to the present site of the instruments. The standard periods for normals are: for temperature 1931-60, for rainfall 1921-50, and for sunshine 1935-60. No normals are available for stations with only short records.
 *The sunshine recorder is not located at the station but is in the near vicinity.
 A rain day is equal to or greater than 0.1 mm.

NOTES ON THE WEATHER FOR FEBRUARY 1972

General—February was dry and sunny; in the South Island it was one of the driest months on record. An unusually high frequency of southerly winds brought more relatively cool and cloudy weather east of the ranges than elsewhere. In most districts conditions were considered to be too dry, and in parts of the North Island dairy production was falling rapidly. On the other hand, in Otago and Southland the dry weather was welcomed after the unsettled spell in January as giving an opportunity for harvesting.

Rainfall—The only area with rainfall above normal was part of the ranges of Gisborne and Hawke's Bay with Wairoa. In the North Island totals were about half the normal value, in the South Island only a third. Westland, the Alps, the Canterbury high country, and the greater part of Central Otago received less than a quarter of the normal rainfall. Lakes Wakatipu, Hawea, Wanaka, and Ohau with an area extending to Paringa in South Westland had totals of less than a tenth of the normal.

Temperatures—Temperatures were below normal east of the ranges, except in Otago, by up to nearly 2°C (in Hawke's Bay).

They were above normal by up to 1°C on the West Coast, in the Alps and in Central Otago. On the average the North Island was 0.7°C cooler than normal while the South Island was close to normal. The coolest period was the first 10 days.

Sunshine—Sunshine was above normal by up to 90 hours, except in eastern districts, where it was mainly close to normal. Western districts, the Taumarunui-Taupo-Taihape area, and inland Canterbury were especially favoured. Lake Tekapo's total of 276 hours was a record for February but New Plymouth's 281 hours was the highest.

Weather Sequence—During the first 2 days of February a trough and its associated small depression moved off to the east while an anticyclone was centred over the Tasman Sea. In the cool southerlies rain was reported in eastern districts of the North Island besides Marlborough and Nelson. From the 3rd to the 7th the anticyclone remained over the Tasman Sea, and a ridge of high pressure extended over New Zealand. The weather was settled apart from isolated showers. However, in Gisborne the showers were quite frequent, especially on the 5th.