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## Weather Information for Garden City, 2020

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## **Weather Information for Garden City, 2020**

*J. Elliott*

Precipitation in Garden City, KS, for 2020 totaled 15.07 inches. This was 4.46 inches below the 30-year average of 19.53 inches. From January through the end of June, we received 5.26 inches, which was 4.90 inches below normal for that point of the year, resulting in challenging spring planting conditions. Although good rains in July reduced the precipitation deficit, relatively normal moisture the rest of the year resulted in a below average annual total. No significant hail was noted in 2020. The largest precipitation events were 1.25 inches recorded on July 15, 1.82 inches on July 27, and 1.25 inches on August 3 through August 7.

Measurable snowfall occurred in January, February, April, October, and December. Annual snowfall totaled 12.6 inches compared to an average of 16.99 inches. Seasonal snowfall (2019–2020) was 9.9 inches and was 7.12 inches below the average of 17.02 inches.

Average daily wind speed was 5.1 mph compared to the 30-year average of 4.96 mph. Open pan evaporation was measured daily from April through October, and totaled 77.99 inches. This was 3.98 inches above the 30-year mean of 74.01 inches.

Our mean annual temperature was 55.5°F compared to the 30-year average of 54.3°F. Triple-digit temperatures were observed on 12 days in 2020, with the highest being 104°F on June 9. Record high temperatures were set on February 3 at 78°F; September 25 and 26 with 96°F and 100°F, respectively. In addition, record highs were observed on October 8 and October 9 of 93°F and 94°F.

No sub-zero temperatures occurred in 2020. The lowest temperature was 5°F noted on January 11 and 12, February 13, and December 16 and 17. Three record low temperatures were equaled or exceeded: 35°F on September 9 and 10 as well as 16°F on October 26.

The last spring freeze was 32°F on April 25, which was four days earlier than the 30-year average. The first fall freeze was 30°F on October 23, which was ten days later than normal. This resulted in a 181 day frost-free period, which is 13 days longer than the 30-year average.

The 2020 climate information for Garden City is summarized in Table 1.

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Table 1. 30-year averages are for the period 1991-2020

Month	Temperatures											
	2020	Precip	Average						Wind		Evaporation	
		91-20	2020			91-20	2020 extremes		91-20	91-20		
		Average	Max	Min	Mean	Average	Max	Min	2020	Average	2020	Average
									mph		inches	
January	0.83	0.47	50.1	19.7	34.9	31.0	61	5	3.39	4.19	n/a	n/a
February	0.82	0.59	48.1	20.4	34.3	34.1	78	5	4.84	5.00	n/a	n/a
March	0.48	1.14	62.0	32.0	47.0	43.6	85	22	5.59	5.84	n/a	n/a
April	0.15	1.64	69.1	34.6	51.8	52.3	87	19	5.44	6.24	8.45	8.19
May	0.80	2.79	78.3	49.2	63.7	63.1	97	36	6.16	5.50	11.65	10.55
June	2.18	3.09	94.9	63.2	79.1	74.1	104	47	8.31	5.46	18.38	13.28
July	5.09	3.16	92.9	65.6	79.2	78.8	103	58	5.04	4.58	12.44	13.86
August	2.20	2.80	91.2	62.1	76.6	76.6	101	57	4.28	4.18	11.35	11.67
September	1.54	1.33	81.8	48.6	65.2	68.6	100	35	4.01	4.81	8.49	9.78
October	0.13	1.32	68.3	35.7	52.0	55.2	94	15	4.50	4.82	7.23	6.68
November	0.52	0.49	64.2	30.9	47.6	42.0	84	7	5.40	4.67	n/a	n/a
December	0.33	0.71	50.0	18.9	34.5	32.3	71	5	4.26	4.20	n/a	n/a
Annual	15.07	19.53	70.9	40.1	55.5	54.3	104	5	5.10	4.96	77.99	74.01
			Average	2020								
Latest spring freeze			April 29	April 25								
Earliest fall freeze			October 13	October 23								
Frost free period			168 days	181 days								