Eastern Rivers and Mountains Network

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Inventory and Monitoring Division

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2019 Weather in Review: Friendship Hill National Historic Site

In all, 2019 was very warm and wet. The year ended as the 9th warmest and 13th wettest since 1895. Weather data collected from surrounding areas from 1895–2019 show increasing trends in annual average temperature (+0.03 °F per decade) and annual total precipitation (+0.34 inches per decade).

Information in this brief represents county-scale weather data for Fayette County, PA. Individual weather station data may vary from what is reported here.

Temperature

In total, 2019 was the 9th warmest year at the park since 1895. Spring and summer were particularly warm (Figure 1). Nine months had higher than normal temperatures, with February, May, and December all being at least 4 °F above normal (Table 1).

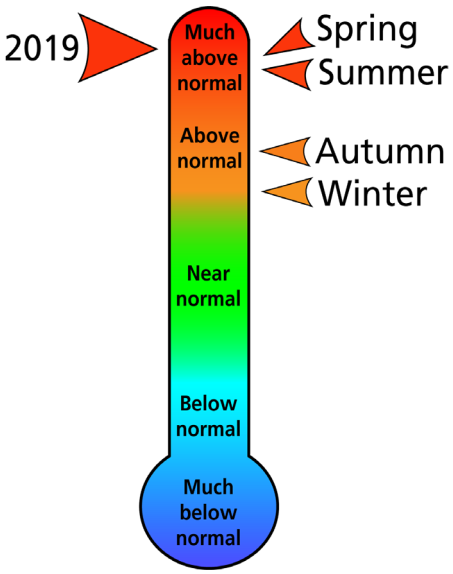

Figure 1. Seasonal and annual temperature rankings. An arrow at the top of the figure would represent the warmest year/season on record (since 1895); at the bottom, the coldest year/season on record. Data are available at https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/county/rankings.

Table 1. Average monthly, average annual, and departures from long-term average temperatures. Departures from average are based on a comparison of 2019 average temperatures to relevant averages from 1895-2018. Data are available at https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/county/time-series.

Month/ Year	Average temperature (°F)	Departure from average (°F)
January	28.8	+1.1
February	34.4	+5.0
March	37.0	-1.4
April	52.6	+3.5
May	63.7	+4.6
June	66.1	-1.0
July	72.7	+1.9
August	69.6	+0.3
September	67.0	+3.7
October	55.5	+3.4
November	37.4	-3.5
December	35.2	+4.0
2019	51.7	+1.8

Precipitation

In total, 2019 was the 13th wettest year at the park since 1895 (Figure 2). By the end of the year, the area received 52.7 inches of precipitation, which is 7.3 inches more than the long-term average (Table 2).

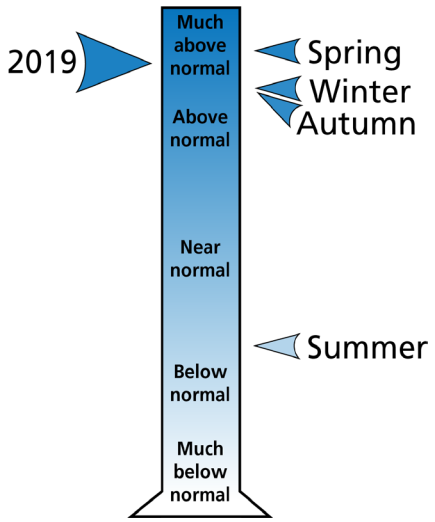

Figure 2. Seasonal and annual precipitation rankings. An arrow at the top of the figure would represent the wettest year/season on record (since 1895); at the bottom, the driest year/season on record. Data are available at https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/county/rankings.

Table 2. Monthly and annual total precipitation and departure from long-term averages. Departures from average are based on a comparison of 2019 precipitation to relevant averages from 1895–2018. Data are available at https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/county/time-series.

Month/ Year	Total precipitation (in.)	Departure from average (in.)
January	4.3	+0.8
February	6.2	+3.3
March	2.2	-1.7
April	4.5	+0.6
May	6.5	+2.2
June	5.9	+1.1
July	4.7	-0.1
August	4.3	+0.2
September	1.8	-1.7
October	4.4	+1.3
November	2.6	-0.6
December	5.3	+1.9
2019	52.7	+7.3

Temperature and Precipitation Trends (1895–2019)

Data from 1895–2019 for Fayette County, PA show increasing trends in annual average temperature (+0.03 °F per decade) and annual total precipitation (+0.34 inches per decade; Figure 3).

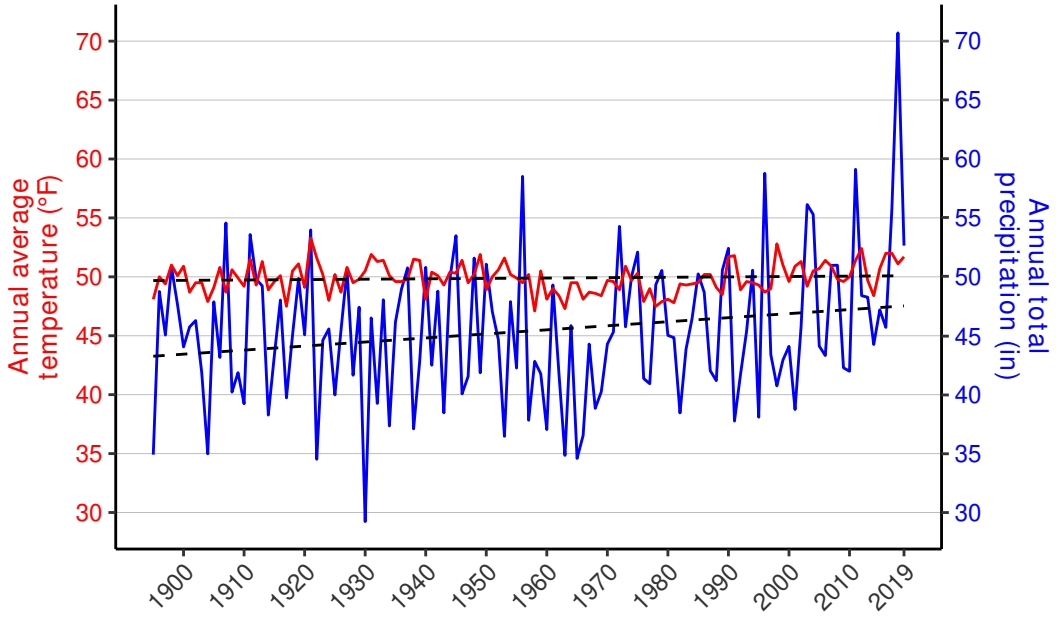

Figure 3. Annual average temperature (°F) and annual total precipitation (in.) from 1895–2019 for Fayette County, PA. Dashed lines represent linear trends. Data are available at https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/county/time-series.

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Parks monitored: *Allegheny Portage Railroad NHS • Bluestone NSR • Delaware Water Gap NRA • Flight 93 NMem • Fort Necessity NB • Friendship Hill NHS • Gauley River NRA • Johnstown Flood NMem • New River Gorge NR • Upper Delaware SRR*

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