

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, WEATHER BUREAU  
**LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA**

RICHMOND, VA.  
 BYRD FIELD  
 AUGUST 1959

Latitude 37° 30' N. Longitude 77° 20' W. Elevation (ground) 162 ft. EASTERN Standard time used

Date	Temperature (°F)			Departure from normal	Degree days (base 65°)	Precipitation		Snow, Sleet or Ice on ground at 7:00AM (In.)	Snow, Sleet (In.)	Prevailing direction	Wind		Sunshine (hours and minutes)	Sky cover (tenths)	Thunderstorm or distant lightning	Weather restricting visibility to 1/4 mile or less	Cooling Degree Days (Base 60)	STAGE James River 8:00AM (feet)	Date	
	Maximum	Minimum	Average			Total (Water equivalent) (In.)	Average speed (m. p. h.)				Fastest mile	Speed (m. p. h.)								Direction
1	90	73	82	+4	0	0	0	0	0	NNW	4.5	14	NW	8:53	63	6	6	16	-0.3	1
2	82	60	71	-7	0	0	0	0	0	NNE	9.1	20	N	14:00	100	2	1	10	-0.1	2
3	82	56	69	-9	0	0	0	0	0	SE	6.0	11	SE	14:01	100	2	2	8	1.2	3
4	76	65	71	-7	0	0	0	0	0	S	10.7	17	S	0:06	0	10	9	10	0.9	4
5	90	72	81	+4	0	0	0	0	0	SW	6.9	12	N	7:19	52	7	8	15	1.1	5
6	82	68	75	-2	0	0	0	0	0	SE	6.1	11	E	6:23	46	3	8	12	2.2	6
7	80	68	74	-3	0	1.18	0	0	0	SE	7.1	13	SE	1:25	10	10	10	11	3.0	7
8	87	73	80	+3	0	.50	0	0	0	SE	6.9	14	NE	4:02	29	10	10	15	2.5	8
9	85	72	79	+2	0	0	0	0	0	NNW	5.4	9	NW	7:47	56	7	7	14	2.9	9
10	85	70	78	+1	0	0	0	0	0	N	4.4	12	N	10:50	80	4	4	13	2.6	10
11	85	70	78	+1	0	0	0	0	0	NNW	4.2	12	NE	10:22	76	6	5	13	2.2	11
12	89	65	77	0	0	0	0	0	0	S	4.8	9	S	13:43	100	2	1	13	1.6	12
13	91	65	78	+1	0	0	0	0	0	SSW	5.3	10	SW	13:41	100	0	0	14	-0.1	13
14	91	65	78	+1	0	0	0	0	0	SSW	4.9	9	SE	13:39	100	2	2	14	-1.4	14
15	92	59	81	+4	0	0	0	0	0	S	6.0	11	SE	13:37	100	3	2	16	-1.0	15
16	93	73	83	+7	0	0	0	0	0	S	8.0	13	S	13:34	100	1	1	17	-0.4	16
17	93	71	82	+6	0	0	0	0	0	S	9.2	17	S	13:21	99	3	3	17	-0.4	17
18	94	72	83	+7	0	0	0	0	0	S	6.5	9	SW	11:13	83	5	4	17	0.6	18
19	92	73	83	+7	0	0	0	0	0	NNE	5.8	12	NE	13:28	100	2	1	17	0.9	19
20	91	68	80	+4	0	0	0	0	0	SE	5.4	11	E	13:26	100	0	2	14	2.1	20
21	96	71	84	+8	0	0	0	0	0	S	6.0	10	W	13:24	100	5	7	17	2.2	21
22	96	76	86	+10	0	0	0	0	0	SW	5.7	10	W	11:03	83	7	6	19	2.2	22
23	90	74	82	+6	0	.69	0	0	0	NE	7.2	27	NE	7:53	59	7	9	16	2.3	23
24	91	72	82	+7	0	.28	0	0	0	S	5.5	31	NE	7:05	53	10	10	16	2.7	24
25	91	72	82	+7	0	0	0	0	0	S	4.4	10	NE	10:28	79	5	5	15	2.0	25
26	93	66	80	+5	0	0	0	0	0	SW	5.7	11	SE	12:04	91	3	3	16	2.0	26
27	91	68	80	+5	0	.86	0	0	0	S	6.6	22	S	7:58	61	9	8	15	1.2	27
28	90	69	80	+5	0	0	0	0	0	SE	4.1	10	NE	12:23	94	5	4	15	-0.2	28
29	87	72	80	+5	0	.54	0	0	0	S	5.7	13	SE	4:22	33	9	8	14	-0.3	29
30	84	71	78	+4	0	.35	0	0	0	SE	7.5	24	S	4:13	32	10	10	13	0.0	30
31	88	73	81	+7	0	1.34	0	0	0	SSE	7.0	23	S	2:50	22	10	10	14	0.3	31
Sum	2747	2152				5.75	0				192.6			298:33	170	166		44.6	34.5	Sum
Avg	88.6	69.4									6.2	Fastest	Dir.	Possible	%			1.1		Avg.
											31	NE	420:35	71	54	5.4				Misc.

T in columns 7, 8, 9 and in the Hourly Precipitation table indicates an amount too small to measure.

**TEMPERATURE: (°F)**  
 Average monthly 79.0  
 Departure from normal +3.1  
 Highest 96 on 21st-22nd  
 Lowest 56 on 3rd  
 Number of days with -  
 Max. 32° or below 0  
 Max. 90° or above 18  
 Min. 32° or below 0  
 Min. 0° or below 0

**HEATING DEGREE DAYS (base 65°):**  
 Total this month 0  
 Departure from normal 0  
 Seasonal total (since July 1) 0  
 Seasonal departure from normal 0  
**BAROMETRIC PRESSURE (In.)**  
 Avg. station (elev. 164 feet, m. s. l.) 29.842  
 Highest sea level 30.24 on 14th  
 Lowest sea level 29.70 on 8th

**PRECIPITATION: (In.)**  
 Total for the month 5.75  
 Departure from normal +.70  
 Greatest in 24 hours 1.60 on 7th-8th  
 Snow, Sleet -  
 Total for the month 0  
 Greatest in 24 hours 0 on -  
 Greatest depth on ground 0 on -  
 Dates of - Hail None  
 Sleet None Glaze None

**Symbols used in columns 18-19**  
 A = Hail L = Drizzle  
 BS = Blowing snow N = Sand  
 DL = Distant lightning R = Rain  
 D = Dust S = Snow  
 I = Sleet T = Thunderstorm  
 F = Fog FL = Freezing drizzle  
 H = Haze ZR = Freezing rain  
 X = Smoke  
 \*When this elevation differs from the present station elevation this level was selected to permit comparison of data for a longer period of homogeneous record.

A new daily record maximum temperature was set on 22nd and the record was equaled on the 21st. 13 consecutive days without rain in mid month overlapped a period of 16 consecutive days with maximum temperatures of 90° or more.

**Excessive Precipitation**

Period: Minutes	5	10	15	20	30	45	60	80	100	120	150	180
Aug. 23 Amounts	.30	.48	.59	.63	.66	.68	.69	.69	.69	.69	.69	.69
Aug. 27	.26	.45	.59	.66	.71	.75	.76	.78	.79	.82	.84	.85
Aug. 29	.19	.31	.35	.38	.43	.52	.52	.53	.54	.54	.54	.54
Aug. 31	.29	.57	.73	.83	1.01	1.19	1.26	1.28	1.31	1.32	1.32	1.34

**HOURLY PRECIPITATION (In.)**

Errata July 1959:  
 Sunshine, Total Hours and Minutes, should be 229.01; Percent of Possible, 51.

Date	A. M. Hour ending at												P. M. Hour ending at												Date
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1																									1
2																									2
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Known errors found in this issue will be published as errata in later issues.  
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, WEATHER BUREAU  
**LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA**

CHIMBORAZO PARK, RICHMOND, VA.  
 BATTLEFIELD PARK HEADQUARTERS  
 AUGUST 1959

Latitude 37° 32' N. Longitude 77° 27' W. Elevation (ground) 170 ft. EASTERN Standard time used

Date	Temperature (°F)			Departure from normal	Degree days (base 65°)	Precipitation		Snow, Sleet, or Ice on ground at 8:00AM (In.)	Prevailing direction	Wind		Total (hours and minutes)	Percent of possible	Sky cover			Thunderstorm or distant lightning	Weather restricting visibility to 1/4 mile or less				Date	
	Maximum	Minimum	Average			Total (Water equivalent) (In.)	Snow, Sleet (In.)			Average speed (m. p. h.)	Fastest mile			Sunrise to sunset (tenths)	Midnight to midnight (tenths)	Speed (m. p. h.)							Direction
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1	94	71	83	+5	0	.44																	1
2	90	67	79	+1	0	0																	2
3	83	57	70	-8	0	0																	3
4	84	63	74	-4	0	0																	4
5	86	66	76	-2	0	.07																	5
6	91	66	79	+1	0	T																	6
7	84	67	76	-2	0	1.00																	7
8	79	67	73	-5	0	1.72																	8
9	89	72	81	+3	0	.09																	9
10	85	69	77	0	0	T																	10
11	91	72	82	+5	0	0																	11
12	78	55	72	-5	0	0																	12
13	83	64	74	-3	0	0																	13
14	84	66	75	-2	0	0																	14
15	85	66	76	-1	0	0																	15
16	87	71	79	+2	0	0																	16
17	90	75	83	+6	0	0																	17
18	91	70	81	+4	0	0																	18
19	92	72	82	+5	0	0																	19
20	92	72	82	+5	0	0																	20
21	92	72	82	+6	0	0																	21
22	97	72	85	+9	0	0																	22
23	98	73	86	+10	0	0																	23
24	92	73	83	+7	0	.14																	24
25	92	70	81	+5	0	.26																	25
26	89	66	78	+2	0	T																	26
27	90	61	76	+1	0	0																	27
28	91	67	79	+4	0	.10																	28
29	90	69	80	+5	0	T																	29
30	85	68	77	+2	0	.50																	30
31	82	72	77	+2	0	.09																	31
Sum	2736	2121				4.41																	Sum
Avg	88.3	68.4									Fastest	Dir.	Possible	%									Avg.

T in columns 7, 8, 9 and in the Hourly Precipitation table indicates an amount too small to measure. Misc.

TEMPERATURE: (°F)  
 Average monthly 78.4  
 Departure from normal +2.1  
 Highest 98 on 23  
 Lowest 57 on 3  
 Number of days with -  
 Max. 32° or below 0  
 Max. 90° or above 16  
 Min. 32° or below 0  
 Min. 0° or below 0

HEATING DEGREE DAYS (base 65°):  
 Total this month 0  
 Departure from normal 0  
 Seasonal total (since July 1) 0  
 Seasonal departure from normal 0

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE (In.)  
 Avq. station (elev. \*feet, m. s. l.)  
 Highest sea level on  
 Lowest sea level on

PRECIPITATION: (In.)  
 Total for the month 4.41  
 Departure from normal -.54  
 Greatest in 24 hours 1.72 on 8  
 Snow, Sleet -  
 Total for the month 0  
 Greatest in 24 hours 0 on  
 Greatest depth on ground 0 on  
 Dates of - Hail 0  
 Sleet 0 Glaze 0

Symbols used in columns 18-19

A - Hail L - Drizzle  
 BS - Blowing snow N - Sand  
 DL - Distant lightning R - Rain  
 D - Dust S - Snow  
 E - Sleet T - Thunderstorm  
 F - Fog ZL - Freezing drizzle  
 H - Haze ZR - Freezing rain  
 K - Smoke

\*When this elevation differs from the present station elevation this level was selected to permit comparison of data for a longer period of homogeneous record.

△ Observation day for 24 hours ending at 8 A.M. Maximum temperatures will usually have occurred on the calendar day preceding date of entry.

Thunderstorms over Richmond's West End the night of 7th-8th produced excessive rains causing flash flooding. Rainfall amounts of a few hours duration ranged 4 to 8 inches in the flood area with greatest overnight amount of 8.43 inches reported at 6915 Everview Road, which is in general vicinity of Three Chopt Road and Patterson Avenue. Preliminary damage estimates exceeded several hundred thousands of dollars and 57 families were displaced from their homes. This storm is among the worst natural disasters ever to affect the City and environs.