

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics Issues a Press Release on the Occasion of World Meteorological Day, 23/03/2008

The highest quantity of rainfall in 2007 was 581.9 mm in Tulkarm Station

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics issued a press release on the occasion of World Meteorological Day, March 23. This press release focuses on the main statistical data of the main meteorological indicators in the Palestinian Territory, based on the administrative records from the Palestinian Ministry of Transport. It provides basic statistical aspects of meteorology, including rainfall, temperature, relative humidity, wind, evaporation, solar radiation and pressure.

The Palestinian Territory is one of the most ancient regions in the Middle East; it is located in the northern temperate zone of the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea. The Palestinian Territory climate is affected by three factors:

- a) the mountain range extending from the North to the South and parallel to the coast;
- b) the Sinai and North African Desert; and
- c) the Jordanian-Syrian Desert.

The weather in the Palestinian Territory classified into 3 types:

1. Mediterranean Sea weather: the annual average temperature is about 22° C, and the annual average rainfall is 400-500 ml.
2. Semi-desert weather: the annual average temperature is about 18° C, and the annual average rainfall is 200-350 ml.
3. Desert weather: the annual average temperature is about 22° C, and the annual average rainfall is about 200 ml.

The highest amount of rainfall was in Tulkarm and the lowest was in Jericho.

The amount of rainfall ranged between 581.9 mm in Tulkarm Station and 115.2 mm in Jericho Station in 2007. The time series data indicate that the annual mean rainfall was between 48.7 mm in Jericho Station in 1999, and 942.7 mm in Nablus Station in 2003.

The lowest air temperature was recorded in Hebron Station and the highest in Jericho Station.

The time series data show that the annual mean air temperature over the period 1975-2005 was between 14.5° C degrees in Hebron Station, and 24.0° C in Jericho Station. The annual mean air temperature for 2007 ranged between 16.5° C in Hebron Station and 24.0° C in Jericho Station.

The main findings of the time series indicate that the annual mean maximum air temperature over the period 1975-2007 was between 18.2° C in Hebron Station, and 30.9° C in Jericho Station. The annual mean maximum air temperature reached 20.7° C in Hebron and Ramallah Stations and 30.5° C in Jericho Station in 2007.

The data of 2007 indicates that the lowest value for the monthly mean maximum air temperature was 10.8° C in Hebron Station at January, while the highest value for the monthly mean maximum air temperature was 39.7° C in Jericho Station at July.

The main findings of the time series indicate that the annual mean minimum air temperature over the period 1975-2005 was between 11.2° C in Hebron Station and 17.9° C in Jericho Station. While the annual mean minimum air temperature ranged between 12.4° C in Hebron Station and 17.9° C in Jericho Station in 2007.

The data of 2007 indicates that the lowest monthly mean minimum air temperature was 4.9° C in Hebron Station at January, while the highest monthly mean minimum air temperature was 25.7° C in Jericho Station at August.

Ramallah has the highest annual mean relative humidity and Jericho has the lowest.

The data indicate that the annual mean relative humidity in 2007 was between 53% in Jericho Station and 73% in Ramallah Station.

The data of 2007 indicates that the annual mean relative humidity decreased in April to 41% in Jericho Station, and increased in February to 85% in Ramallah Station.

The lowest amount of water evaporation was in Nablus and the highest was in Jericho.

The data indicate that the annual mean evaporation in 2007 was between 1,730.4 mm in Nablus Station and 2,130.0 mm in Jericho Station.

The data of 2007 indicates that the annual mean quantity of evaporation decreases in January to 41.7 mm in Ramallah Station, and increases in July to 309.1 mm in Jericho Station.

The lowest annual mean wind speed was in Jenin and the highest was in Ramallah.

The data of 2007 indicates that the lowest annual mean wind speed was 1.7 km/hour in Jenin Station in January, while the highest annual mean was 10.0 km/ hour in Ramallah Station at April and June.

The highest duration mean of sunshine was in Hebron and the lowest was in Gaza.

The data of 2007 indicates that the highest duration mean of sunshine was 12.3 hours/day in Hebron Station on July, while the lowest duration mean of sunshine was 5.4 hour/day in Gaza Station on February.

Main Important Meteorological Indicators in the Palestinian Territory by the Station Location, 2007

Month	Station Location					
	Jenin	Tulkarm	Nablus	Ramallah	Jericho	Hebron
Annual Mean Air Temperature (C ^o)	20.5	23.2	18.2	16.6	24.0	16.5
Annual Mean Maximum Air Temperature (C ^o)	25.9	25.9	23.4	20.7	30.5	20.7
Annual Mean Minimum Air Temperature (C ^o)	16.6	16.9	14.0	13.6	17.9	12.4
Annual Amount of Rainfall (mm)	232.5	581.9	574.0	543.9	115.2	447.8
Annual Mean Relative Humidity (%)	65.0	59.0	64.0	73.0	53.0	64.0
Annual Amount of Evaporation (mm)	1,946.4	..	1,730.4	1,959.6	2,130	1,855.2