

Climate Synopsis for the University of Kansas Field Station

The University of Kansas Field Station experiences the large diurnal and annual variations in climate typical of its mid continental location. Annual extreme temperatures can range from below 0 °F (-18 °C) to above 100 °F (38 °C). Monthly average temperature in Lawrence, KS ranges from a low of 20 °F (-7 °C) in January to just above 90 °F (32 °C) in July. The amount of precipitation annually averages 37 inches (94 cm) with more than 70 percent of this falling during the growing season from April to September. The majority of this precipitation is the result of convective showers. The average growing season (frost-free period) for Douglas County is 185 days. Drought conditions during the growing season are not uncommon. Annual snowfall averages 18 inches (46 cm) with the highest monthly averages in January and February.

For detailed climate data from Lawrence, KS please consult the U.S. Climate Normals, Monthly Station Climate Summary for Lawrence, KS at the National Climate Data Center
<http://cdo.ncdc.noaa.gov/climatenormals/clim20/ks/144559.pdf>

Monthly Climate Summary for Lawrence, Kansas.*

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Average Max. Temperature (F)	39.4	44.4	55.7	67.2	76.1	85.0	90.4	89.2	81.1	70.2	54.9	42.5	66.4
Average Min. Temperature (F)	20.4	24.1	33.4	45.0	54.9	64.2	68.8	67.2	58.8	47.8	34.8	24.7	45.3
Average Total Precipitation (in)	1.08	1.24	2.32	3.46	4.83	5.25	4.12	4.10	4.16	2.94	2.05	1.44	36.99
Average Total Snowfall (in.)	4.7	4.7	3.1	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.9	3.8	18.0
Average Snow Depth (in.)	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*This tabular information is “Based on Data from the High Plains Regional Climate Center, University of Nebraska Lincoln.” The period of record for the data set is 9/1/1894 to 6/30/2009. For more detailed information on this source, including station metadata and graphics metadata, please consult the Climate Center’s website at http://www.hprcc.unl.edu/cgi-bin/cli_perl_lib/cliMAIN.pl?ks4559.