

2003 WEATHER SUMMARY

JANUARY

January temperatures averaged cooler than normal for the fourth consecutive month. The average temperature was 5.5 degrees cooler than normal. It was the coldest January since 1994 and the second coldest since 1982. Below zero temperatures were recorded everywhere except the Coastal Division over the course of the month. Precipitation averaged 2.58 inches, which represented 86% of normal. Snow was plentiful.

FEBRUARY

February was the fifth consecutive colder-than-normal month. The average temperature was 4.1 degrees cooler than normal. Below zero temperatures were recorded everywhere except extreme southeastern New York. Precipitation averaged 2.54 inches, which represented 105% of normal. A storm on February 16-18 was this month's major contributor to snowfall accumulations. Heavy snow from this storm was reported everywhere except northern and western New York.

MARCH

March broke New York's string of five consecutive colder-than-normal months, with an average temperature that was equal to the long term normal. Precipitation averaged 2.86 inches, which represented 91% of normal. Snow continued to fall during the month.

APRIL

Six of the last seven months have been cooler than normal. This month, the average temperature was 1.7 degrees colder than normal. Precipitation averaged 2.49 inches, which represented 73% of normal. Three to eight inch snowfall totals were quite common across the state.

MAY

Seven of the last eight months have been cooler than normal.

This month, the average temperature was 0.8 degrees colder than normal. Temperatures failed to break 80 degrees across much of the state. Precipitation averaged 4.69 inches, which represented 127% of normal.

JUNE

Eight of the last nine months have been cooler than normal. This month, the average temperature for the state was 0.7 degrees cooler than normal. The summer's first 90 degree temperatures were recorded. Precipitation around the Empire State showed an unusually large amount of variability. The state averaged 4.28 inches, which represented 107% of normal, but averages for climatological divisions ranged from 2.61 inches (69% of normal) in the Great Lakes to 9.35 inches (251% of normal) in the Coastal Division. For the Coastal Division, this was the wettest June on record.

JULY

Temperatures were only slightly warmer than normal. The average temperature was just 0.3 degrees warmer than the monthly normal. Eight of the last ten months in New York have been cooler than normal. The two months that weren't - March and July - were only a few tenths of a degrees on the positive side of normal. Precipitation averaged 4.67 inches, which was 123% of normal. The Coastal Division averaged only 73%, which was a welcome relief following their record-setting June. The Western Plateau was easily the wettest division with an average of 7.43 inches of rain. This represented nearly twice the monthly normal and was the 4th wettest July on record for the division.

AUGUST

Temperatures averaged 3 degrees warmer than normal. This was the first month since September 2002 that averaged more than a degree warmer than normal. There were some temperatures in the 30's. The high temperature was 95 degrees. Precipitation averaged 4.63 inches, which was 119% of normal.

SEPTEMBER

Temperatures averaged 2.2 degrees warmer. Precipitation averaged 5.49 inches, which was 132% of normal. The Eastern Plateau was the wettest division with 207% of normal, making it the third wettest on record for this division. West Point recorded 6.11 inches in a single day and over 15 inches for the month.

OCTOBER

Temperatures averaged 1.1 degrees cooler than normal. The only parts of the state that failed to drop below freezing this month were New York City, parts of Long Island, and locations among the immediate shores of Lakes Erie and Ontario. Precipitation averaged 5.29 inches which was 152% of normal. Many areas saw the seasons first few flakes of snow.

NOVEMBER

Temperatures averaged 3.4 degrees warmer than normal. The state average of 4.34 inches of precipitation was 116% of normal. Snowfall was recorded across much of the state.

DECEMBER

Temperatures averaged 1.4 degrees warmer than normal. Below zero temperatures were widespread. The average of 4.30 inches of precipitation was 115% of normal. Nearly everywhere in the state, except extreme western New York, received at least a foot of snow.

Figure 3.
**AVERAGE DATE OF THE LAST
 SPRING 32°F FREEZE**

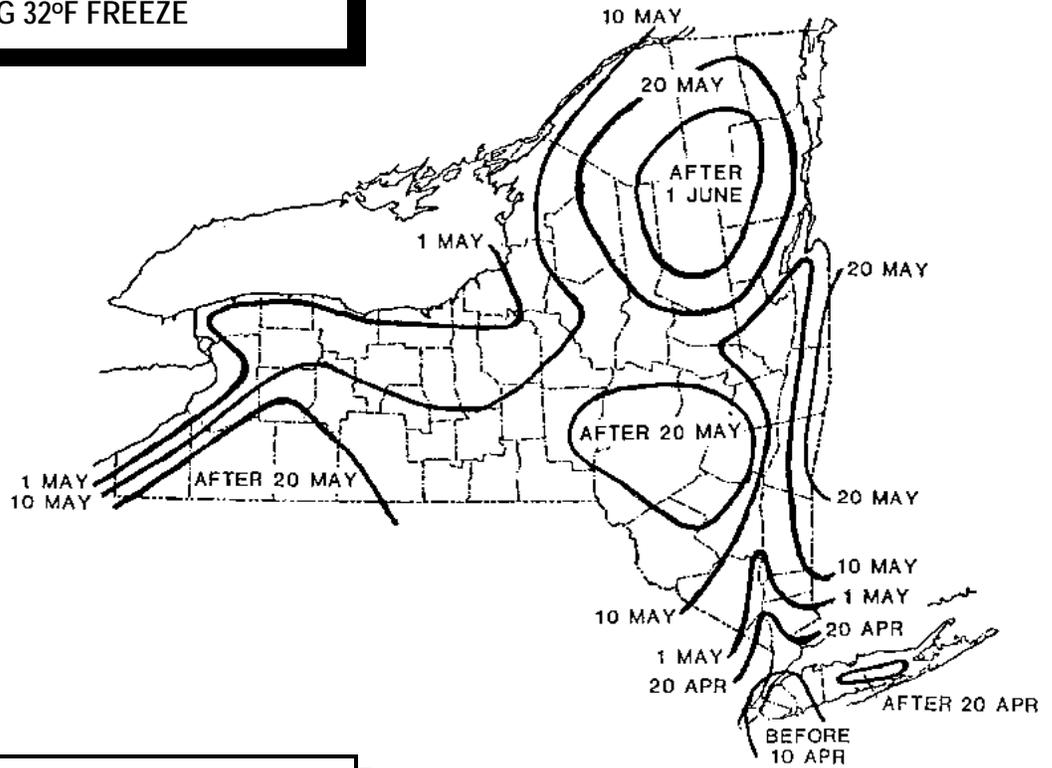


Figure 4.
**AVERAGE DATE OF THE FIRST
 AUTUMN 32°F FREEZE**

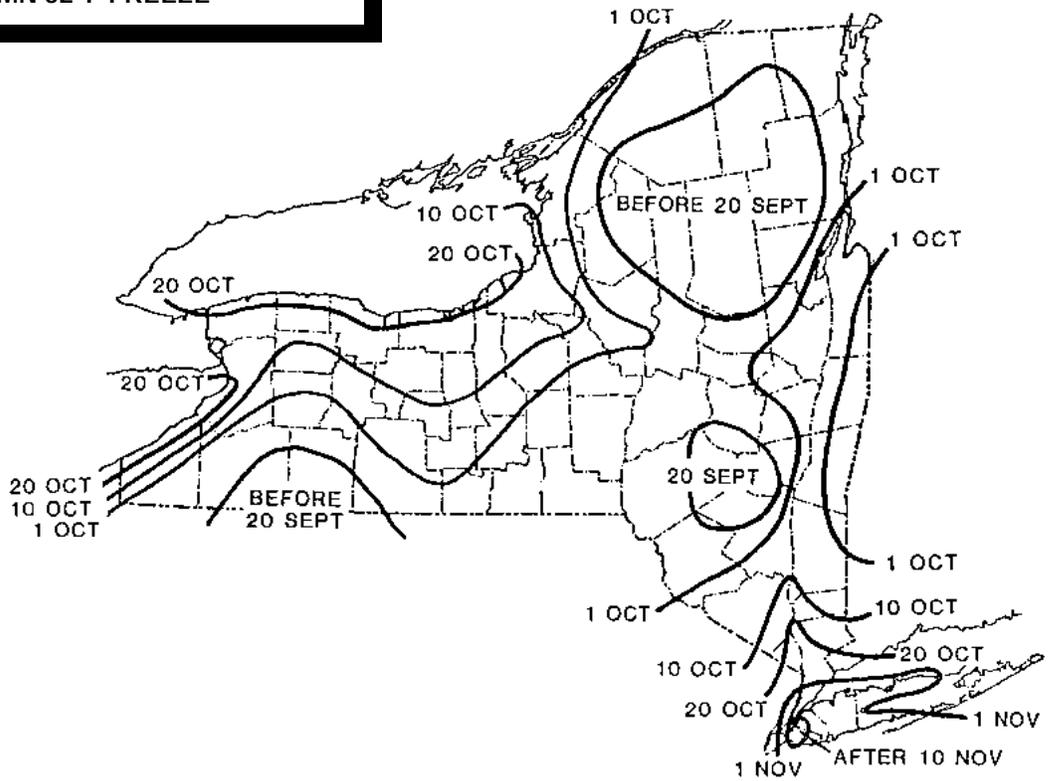


Table 89. TEMPERATURE: Normals by Months at New York Selected Stations

Station	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year
	<i>Degrees F.</i>												
Albany	20.7	23.5	34.2	46.4	57.6	66.7	71.8	69.4	61.2	50.2	39.6	26.6	47.3
Batavia	23.5	24.6	34.5	46.0	57.4	66.4	70.7	68.5	62.1	51.4	40.6	28.8	47.8
Binghamton	21.2	22.8	32.5	44.2	55.8	64.0	69.1	67.1	59.5	48.7	38.3	26.6	45.9
Bridgehampton	30.0	31.1	38.1	46.6	56.1	65.5	71.4	70.9	64.0	54.0	45.0	35.1	50.5
Buffalo	23.7	24.6	33.8	45.1	56.5	65.8	71.1	68.9	61.9	51.1	40.5	29.1	47.7
Canton	14.9	16.5	28.8	42.1	54.1	63.1	68.2	65.8	58.1	46.8	36.0	21.0	43.0
Chazy	16.2	18.1	29.7	43.0	55.4	64.4	69.1	66.6	58.3	47.5	36.1	22.3	43.9
Cooperstown	20.5	22.3	32.2	43.3	54.9	63.1	67.6	66.2	58.8	48.4	37.9	25.9	45.0
Dansville	23.9	25.0	34.3	45.3	56.5	65.5	70.2	68.4	61.3	50.7	40.8	29.7	47.7
Elmira	22.8	24.1	34.0	45.0	55.8	64.6	69.6	67.6	60.3	48.9	39.6	28.4	46.8
Fredonia	25.0	25.7	35.2	46.0	57.2	66.4	70.9	69.1	63.1	52.9	42.3	30.9	48.7
Geneva	22.5	23.4	33.1	44.8	55.9	65.1	70.3	68.5	61.2	50.2	39.9	28.0	46.9
Glens Falls	18.9	21.7	32.5	45.0	56.8	65.1	70.0	67.6	59.7	48.7	37.4	24.3	45.7
Gloversville	18.1	19.9	30.9	43.9	55.6	64.4	69.1	66.9	58.6	47.8	36.5	24.3	44.6
Ithaca	21.6	22.6	32.9	43.9	54.9	63.9	68.5	66.7	59.7	48.9	39.2	27.7	45.9
Liberty	20.5	22.6	32.2	43.7	54.5	62.8	67.6	65.8	58.3	47.7	37.6	25.7	45.0
Little Valley	20.8	21.6	31.3	42.4	53.1	62.1	66.6	64.9	58.3	47.8	37.8	26.8	44.4
Lowville	15.6	17.4	28.9	41.9	53.8	62.8	67.5	65.3	57.2	46.6	35.2	22.3	42.8
Massena	14.4	16.5	28.4	47.6	55.0	63.9	69.1	66.4	57.9	46.9	35.2	20.3	43.0
New York City	31.5	33.1	41.4	51.4	61.7	71.1	76.3	75.4	68.2	57.4	47.3	36.5	54.1
Riverhead	30.6	31.6	39.6	48.6	59.2	68.4	73.4	72.5	65.8	55.6	45.9	35.6	52.2
Rochester	23.7	24.6	34.2	45.9	57.0	64.9	70.2	68.0	61.7	51.1	40.5	29.1	47.5
Syracuse	22.5	24.1	33.8	45.7	57.0	65.3	70.3	68.4	61.3	50.5	40.5	28.4	47.3
Utica	20.1	21.9	32.2	44.6	56.3	64.8	70.2	68.2	60.3	49.1	38.5	25.9	45.9
Watertown	18.1	19.4	31.1	43.7	55.8	64.8	70.3	68.4	60.3	48.7	38.1	24.4	45.1

Table 90. PRECIPITATION: Normals by Months at New York Selected Stations

Station	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year
	<i>Inches</i>												
Albany	2.4	2.3	2.9	3.0	3.4	3.6	3.2	3.5	2.9	2.8	3.2	2.9	36.2
Batavia	1.6	1.8	2.0	3.1	3.3	3.8	3.0	3.8	3.6	3.0	3.0	2.5	34.5
Binghamton	2.4	2.3	2.8	3.1	3.4	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3	2.9	3.3	3.0	37.0
Bridgehampton	4.2	3.8	4.1	4.0	3.8	3.6	3.0	3.4	3.5	3.4	4.5	4.3	45.7
Buffalo	2.7	2.3	2.7	2.9	3.1	3.5	3.1	4.2	3.5	3.1	3.8	3.7	38.6
Canton	1.9	1.9	2.1	2.8	3.0	3.3	3.4	4.2	3.8	3.2	3.4	2.8	35.8
Chazy	1.5	1.6	1.8	2.6	3.0	3.0	3.4	4.1	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.4	32.1
Cooperstown	2.4	2.2	3.0	3.3	3.6	4.2	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.0	3.4	3.1	39.0
Dansville	1.4	1.5	1.8	2.8	2.9	3.8	3.0	3.2	3.4	2.6	2.7	2.1	31.2
Elmira	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.7	3.2	3.8	3.4	3.0	3.1	2.8	2.9	2.3	33.3
Fredonia	2.3	2.1	2.6	3.2	3.1	3.7	3.6	4.0	4.6	3.9	4.2	3.4	40.7
Geneva	1.8	1.8	2.1	2.9	3.0	3.7	2.9	3.1	3.2	2.9	3.1	2.5	32.9
Glens Falls	2.7	2.6	3.4	3.7	4.4	3.9	3.7	4.3	3.8	3.4	4.0	3.5	43.4
Gloversville	2.8	2.6	3.3	3.5	4.0	4.0	3.7	3.9	3.8	3.3	3.8	3.5	42.4
Ithaca	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.9	3.3	3.8	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.2	3.1	2.6	35.4
Liberty	3.4	3.3	3.5	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.3	4.4	3.9	3.7	4.3	4.0	48.3
Little Valley	3.4	3.1	3.5	3.8	3.9	4.5	4.0	4.5	4.7	4.1	4.8	4.7	49.1
Lowville	3.0	2.5	2.8	3.1	3.0	3.5	3.3	3.8	3.8	3.4	4.1	3.7	40.1
Massena	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.6	2.5	3.1	3.2	3.7	3.5	2.8	3.1	3.2	34.1
New York City	3.0	2.9	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.6	4.1	3.7	3.4	3.0	3.8	3.4	42.1
Riverhead	4.0	3.6	3.9	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.8	3.2	3.5	4.3	4.1	45.3
Rochester	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.6	2.7	3.0	2.7	3.4	3.0	2.4	2.9	2.7	32.0
Syracuse	2.3	2.1	2.8	3.3	3.3	3.8	3.8	3.5	3.8	3.2	3.7	3.2	38.9
Utica	3.5	3.0	3.4	3.6	3.7	4.1	3.8	3.8	4.3	3.4	4.3	4.2	45.1
Watertown	3.3	2.4	2.6	2.9	3.2	3.4	2.8	4.1	4.2	3.7	4.4	4.0	40.9

Table 91. TEMPERATURE: Monthly Average Temperatures at New York Selected Stations, 2003

Station	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	<i>Degrees F.</i>											
Albany	15.6	21.1	34.4	44.5	56.8	66.3	72.2	72.7	63.0	48.2	42.3	29.3
Batavia	18.6	21.1	35.9	43.2	56.6	1/	65.8	71.9	62.2	49.3	42.7	32.8
Binghamton	15.8	19.5	32.2	42.3	53.8	62.7	68.1	68.9	59.4	46.1	41.3	28.2
Bridgehamton	26.7	28.1	37.9	45.3	54.2	65.1	72.5	74.5	66.0	53.2	47.3	36.3
Buffalo	19.0	20.8	33.5	43.0	55.4	63.5	69.6	70.8	62.8	48.8	43.1	33.2
Canton	9.7	12.1	28.2	39.1	54.6	63.4	69.6	69.6	61.5	46.0	38.9	23.9
Chazy	11.7	15.2	29.6	41.7	56.2	1/	1/	71.4	62.7	1/	1/	1/
Coopertown	14.8	19.0	30.2	40.8	53.4	63.2	68.9	69.8	60.4	45.6	40.5	27.2
Dansville	18.4	21.4	35.5	44.8	55.9	64.2	69.8	71.3	61.9	48.0	43.3	31.7
Elmira	18.1	21.3	33.1	43.5	55.2	65.7	68.9	70.5	60.7	46.5	42.4	29.4
Fredonia	21.1	23.4	37.9	46.4	57.3	65.7	70.8	71.8	63.5	51.8	46.4	34.7
Geneva	17.8	19.7	33.5	42.3	54.6	63.9	70.2	70.8	61.7	47.9	42.0	31.0
Glens Falls	10.8	16.2	31.1	41.6	54.6	63.6	68.6	69.6	60.2	46.8	38.9	22.7
Gloversville	13.2	17.6	30.7	41.0	55.0	64.1	68.7	69.9	61.0	45.3	42.3	26.3
Ithaca	17.5	20.5	32.7	42.6	54.4	63.1	68.8	69.3	60.3	46.7	42.6	29.7
Liberty	15.7	19.1	32.3	41.0	52.1	61.3	67.3	68.2	59.3	44.8	40.4	27.7
Little Valley	15.3	17.0	30.3	44.0	53.7	61.0	64.5	66.4	58.2	46.5	41.5	27.8
Lowville	10.2	14.3	28.6	38.5	53.9	62.1	67.1	68.2	59.9	44.6	38.2	24.2
Massena	8.4	9.7	25.2	39.4	54.0	63.5	68.5	68.4	60.5	44.9	37.2	22.0
New York City	27.5	30.1	43.1	49.8	58.7	68.4	75.8	76.7	68.0	55.1	50.0	37.6
Riverhead	27.6	29.0	40.4	47.9	57.3	67.1	74.1	75.9	68.0	54.8	49.1	38.0
Rochester	18.2	20.9	34.1	43.3	55.2	64.8	70.6	70.7	62.5	48.2	42.2	32.3
Syracuse	18.9	21.6	34.2	43.8	56.1	64.6	71.2	71.5	63.3	48.6	42.2	30.0
Utica	14.5	18.6	31.6	42.0	55.0	63.2	69.0	69.5	61.0	47.2	40.0	26.4
Watertown	11.5	14.8	29.7	39.8	53.8	62.3	69.0	69.2	61.7	47.0	40.5	28.2

Table 92. PRECIPITATION: Monthly Precipitation at New York Selected Stations, 2003

Station	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	<i>Inches</i>											
Albany	3.45	2.15	2.26	2.89	5.08	2.84	4.52	4.41	4.91	4.67	3.66	5.48
Batavia	2.69	1.70	0.99	1.58	4.34	1/	3.34	3.53	2.08	2.91	4.63	1.39
Binghamton	2.30	2.44	2.30	2.47	4.16	4.96	4.92	2.15	7.06	4.73	2.85	3.13
Bridgehamton	2.60	6.17	6.98	6.64	5.64	7.83	3.66	5.98	2.86	4.01	2.76	4.97
Buffalo	2.30	2.69	2.81	0.90	5.43	1.79	3.69	2.47	3.91	3.43	4.10	3.64
Canton	1.09	1.81	2.79	1.42	4.35	2.56	3.62	4.94	3.23	6.89	4.85	3.20
Chazy	1/	0.37	1.66	2.47	4.46	3.42	1/	4.64	3.45	1/	1/	1/
Coopertown	3.77	1.93	2.11	3.71	4.13	3.99	4.51	5.87	5.77	5.80	3.78	2.80
Dansville	1.99	1.68	1.86	1.55	3.55	2.27	6.99	3.44	4.13	2.27	3.28	1.93
Elmira	2.79	2.35	2.35	1.63	2.87	4.61	6.83	8.01	6.08	3.62	2.42	3.37
Fredonia	1.82	2.02	2.32	1.58	4.81	1.11	4.63	2.52	5.67	4.44	3.64	2.32
Geneva	1.41	1.81	1.85	1.81	5.45	3.06	3.44	5.36	3.80	3.07	3.15	2.75
Glens Falls	0.42	0.89	1.15	1.98	3.49	2.25	5.89	4.41	6.83	3.61	4.38	4.15
Gloversville	3.56	3.06	3.05	3.78	6.34	4.55	6.92	7.75	5.36	5.90	3.35	4.46
Ithaca	2.70	2.50	2.16	2.42	2.98	4.45	6.81	3.84	5.61	4.23	3.13	3.57
Liberty	3.27	4.08	4.46	1.81	4.77	6.57	4.91	5.67	10.68	7.69	4.32	5.42
Little Valley	1.99	1.44	1.72	3.53	2.18	4.12	10.13	4.26	4.51	3.70	4.43	2.55
Lowville	1.80	1.78	2.39	3.03	5.21	3.01	2.51	7.36	3.67	6.91	5.40	3.63
Massena	0.14	1.05	2.81	1.31	5.99	2.40	5.24	2.50	2.52	6.79	4.17	2.59
New York City	2.30	4.55	4.57	3.20	3.40	10.26	3.76	5.85	6.03	4.90	4.18	5.42
Riverhead	2.81	5.02	6.07	5.36	5.47	8.33	2.81	2.80	5.90	5.10	3.37	4.46
Rochester	2.05	1.96	1.95	1.27	4.56	2.23	2.26	4.13	2.69	1.90	4.26	2.42
Syracuse	1.44	2.58	2.89	2.61	5.27	2.83	3.30	3.03	3.14	4.27	3.14	3.10
Utica	1.34	2.56	2.63	2.42	5.81	4.28	4.20	4.82	4.77	5.31	4.27	3.03
Watertown	2.72	2.77	3.54	0.78	6.73	1.65	2.69	3.45	2.73	6.08	5.59	2.64

1/ Data not available.

Weather information and data furnished in cooperation by National Weather Service, NOAA, U.S. Dept. of Commerce.

Table 93. GROWING DEGREE DAYS: New York Selected Stations, April-October, 2003 ^{1/}

Station	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Season Total ^{2/}
Albany	77	220	498	694	714	399	77	2,692
Batavia	<u>3/</u>	230	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	98	<u>3/</u>
Binghamton	35	143	388	566	593	292	71	2,099
Bridgehamton	36	153	457	706	757	486	146	2,760
Buffalo	58	184	413	614	652	389	89	2,409
Canton	<u>3/</u>							
Cooperstown	26	<u>3/</u>	407	<u>3/</u>	604	327	48	2,165
Dansville	73	208	433	623	<u>3/</u>	367	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Elmira	35	157	397	570	622	320	57	2,164
Fredonia	101	232	475	651	682	420	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Glens Falls	38	153	412	612	627	308	64	<u>3/</u>
Ithaca	50	175	403	588	604	318	57	2,220
Liberty	33	93	346	537	575	282	49	1,929
Little Valley	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	356	452	508	246	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Lowville	38	150	377	531	561	293	47	2,017
Massena	41	147	407	576	580	<u>3/</u>	47	2,131
New York City	100	252	571	839	849	584	203	3,444
Riverhead	73	230	524	755	811	548	185	3,150
Rochester	67	179	447	646	648	370	82	2,465
Syracuse	62	201	446	663	675	403	74	2,537
Utica	49	169	400	<u>3/</u>	605	337	73	2,253
Watertown	45	224	439	644	658	424	80	2,538

^{1/} One growing degree day is accumulated for each whole degree that the daily mean temperature is above 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

^{2/} Total may not add due to growing degree days in March.

^{3/} Data not available.