



FLORIDA KEYS

National Weather Service

Forecast Office

<http://www.weather.gov/keywest>

ISSUED: 830 PM EST SUN NOV 8 2009

3RD WARMEST OCTOBER FOR KEY WEST GOING BACK TO 1872

2ND DRIEST OCTOBER FOR KEY WEST IN PAST 3 DECADES

AVERAGE TEMPERATURES AT THE KEY WEST AND MARATHON AIRPORT WERE WARM FOR THE MONTH...82.7 AND 82.4 DEGREES RESPECTIVELY. THESE MONTHLY AVERAGES WERE 2.5 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL FOR KEY WEST AND 2.4 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL FOR MARATHON. LAST MONTH ACHIEVED THE RANK OF THIRD WARMEST OCTOBER FOR KEY WEST SINCE TEMPERATURE RECORD KEEPING BEGAN BACK IN 1872. OCTOBER 2009 FALLS SHORT OF WARMEST OCTOBER TO 2007 AND 2003...AT 83.5 AND 82.8 DEGREES RESPECTIVELY.

KEY WEST INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT EXPERIENCED AN OCTOBER WITH NUMEROUS RECORDS LAST MONTH...21 RECORDS WERE EITHER SET OR TIED. THE RECORD HIGH TEMPERATURE FOR THE MONTH WAS SAFE...BUT 3 DIFFERENT DAILY RECORD HIGHS MOVED ASIDE FOR A 2009 TAKEOVER. ADDITIONALLY...5 OTHER DATES TIED PREVIOUS RECORDS.

THE WARMEST TEMPERATURE REACHED IN KEY WEST LAST MONTH WAS 91 DEGREES ON OCTOBER 5TH...7TH...AND 16TH. THE OCCURRENCES ON THE 7TH AND 16TH BOTH SET NEW DAILY RECORDS...REPLACING 90 DEGREES IN 1989 AND 89 DEGREES IN 1911 RESPECTIVELY.

IF WARM TEMPERATURES DURING THE DAY WERE NOT ENOUGH...11 HIGH MINIMUM TEMPERATURES WERE ALSO SET OR TIED OVER THE COURSE OF THE MONTH. ON 5 SEPARATE OCCASIONS THE MONTHLY HIGH MINIMUM RECORD OF 84 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT WAS REACHED...REPLACING THE PREVIOUS RECORD OF 83 LAST SET BACK IN 2007. THESE WARM NIGHTTIME TEMPERATURES WERE ON THE 5TH...6TH...7TH...9TH...AND 10TH.

A VIGOROUS COLD FRONT PENETRATED THE WARM FLORIDA KEYS AROUND MID-OCTOBER...BRINGING WINDY CONDITIONS AND MUCH COOLER TEMPERATURES DOWN TO THE ISLAND CHAIN. DURING A MONTH OF WARM TEMPERATURE RECORDS ONE TEMPERATURE IN PARTICULAR STANDS OUT BY ITSELF...65 DEGREES. ON OCTOBER 19TH A RECORD LOW TEMPERATURE OF 65 WAS SET AT KEY WEST AIRPORT...REPLACING THE PREVIOUS RECORD OF 66 DEGREES FROM 1927.

RAINFALL...OR THE LACK THEREOF...ALSO MADE ITS WAY INTO THE RECORD BOOK FOR OCTOBER 2009. A TOTAL OF 1.11 INCHES OF RAIN FELL AT THE KEY WEST AIRPORT...MAKING IT THE SECOND DRIEST OCTOBER IN THE PAST 3 DECADES. THIS IS ALSO THE 7TH DRIEST OCTOBER SINCE RAINFALL RECORDS BEGAN BACK IN 1871...THE DRIEST BEING 1972 WITH 0.74 INCHES OF RAIN.

BELOW ARE PRELIMINARY RAINFALL TOTALS FOR OCTOBER...COMPARING 2009 TO 2008 AND THE DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL VALUES WHERE AVAILABLE.

OCTOBER RAINFALL VALUES/DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

Station – Station Type	2009	Dep. fm Normal	2008	Dep. fm 2008
Dry Tortugas National Park	1.21		N/A	N/A
Key West WFO	1.35		12.70	11%
Key West International Airport	1.11	-3.23	12.12	9%
Big Coppitt Key	2.39		7.62	31%
Cudjoe Key	1.19		10.38	11%
Bahia Honda State Park	0.93		7.54	12%
Florida Keys Marathon Airport	1.23	-4.07	6.90	18%
Curry Hammock State Park	2.94		7.94	22%
Duck Key	1.59	-3.71	7.21	37%
Islamorada	1.92		4.17	46%
John Pennekamp State Park	1.02		5.45	19%

AS INDICATED ABOVE...REPORTING SITES WERE BELOW 50% OF LAST YEAR'S VALUES. MOST OF THE SITES ENDED UP WITH LESS THAN 25% OF 2008 VALUES.

NORMAL VALUES FOR KEY WEST ARE THE AVERAGE OF 1979-2000 AND FOR MARATHON/DUCK KEY THEY ARE THE AVERAGE SPANNING 1982-2004. RECORDS ARE NOT TRACKED FOR MARATHON DUE TO THE SHORT PERIOD OF ASOS DATA.

\$\$

ROSS