

2012 is hottest year on record for the Northeast

August 8 2012

(Phys.org) -- For the Northeast, it has been the hottest year on record.

New data released by the Northeast Regional Climate Center (NRCC) at Cornell shows the Northeast's seven-month average (January through July) of 49.9 degrees was the warmest such period since 1895, the year such record keeping began.

It has been the second warmest such period in Pennsylvania and West Virginia, and the warmest first seven months of the year in the rest of the Northeast.

The 12 months that ended July 31 was likewise the warmest such period in 117 years in the Northeast, and in all of the states except West Virginia --where the [average temperature](#) of 54.7 degrees missed tying the record set in 1932 by 0.1 degree.

New maximum [temperature](#) records were set at many of the region's first-order stations during July as the [mercury](#) soared into the upper 90s and low 100s. The sensor at Washington's Reagan National Airport recorded 105 degrees July 7, surpassing the record of 102 degrees set just two years ago. Baltimore's new record temperature of 104 degrees July 18 broke the city's long-standing record of 102 degrees set in 1887.

Other notable [weather data](#) released by the NRCC:

- It was the seventh warmest July since 1895 in the Northeast. The average temperature was 72.8 degrees, which was 2.9 degrees above normal.
- Each of the 12 states in the region averaged warmer than normal, with departures that ranged from +1.5 degrees in Rhode Island to +4 [degrees](#) in Delaware.
- It was the second warmest July since 1895 in Delaware and the third warmest in Maryland.
- All 12 states in the region ranked within the top 24 warmest since record keeping began in 1895.
- With a regional precipitation total of 3.7 inches, the Northeast averaged 87 percent of normal in July. The year-to-date totals averaged 88 percent of normal in the Northeast.
- Three [states](#), Pennsylvania (107 percent), Rhode Island (116 percent) and [West Virginia](#) (125 percent) had above-normal precipitation.
- It was the driest January through June since 1895 in Delaware and the fifth driest in Maryland.

Provided by Cornell University

Citation: 2012 is hottest year on record for the Northeast (2012, August 8) retrieved 24 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2012-08-hottest-year-northeast.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.