North Conway, NH (NCON3) Monthly Weather Summary

December 2021

Summary

The calendar year comes to an end, and a new year of weather observation at the North Conway (NCON3) Cooperative Weather Station begins. The year 2022 marks the 63rd year the North Conway Cooperative Station has been monitoring weather and climate going back to the station’s founder, Joe Dodge, in 1959. The year 2022 was also the warmest year on record in North Conway, according to the National Centers for Environmental Information’s (NCEI) records that go back to 1974 online, averaging 47.6F. The previous warmest year was 1998 at 47.4F, and the third warmest was 2020 at 47.3F. Here are the top five warmest years:

1. 47.6F (2021)
2. 47.4F (1998)
3. 47.3F (2020)
4. 47.1 (2006)
5. 46.9 (2016)

December 2021 wrapped up the year being slightly warmer than normal, with a near normal amount of snowfall recorded at the station. Following a less snowy than normal October and November, frequent snowfalls were observed throughout the month of December. Twenty-two days out of the month featured at least a trace of observed snowfall. A storm on the 18th-19th brought the month’s greatest snowfall of 5.8 inches in a 24-hour period. While snowfall was frequent throughout the month, most totals were modest, slowly accumulating to eight inches of snow on the ground briefly on the morning of the 26th and 28th.

Snowfall for the month and now for the season stands at 15.3 inches. This figure falls just 1.6 inches below normal for the month and 6.4 inches below normal for the season.

Temperatures for the month of December averaged on the warmer side, with daily minimum temperatures averaging more the three degrees above normal. A warm spell during the middle of the month featured four days with maximum temperature above 50F, topping out at 60F on the 16th-17th. This reading set a new daily maximum temperature record. On the flip side, three different observation days featured minimum temperatures in the single digits.

Temperature

Average Maximum Temperature: 37.0F [+1.4F]
Average Minimum Temperature: 20.9F [+3.2F]
Mean Temperature: 29.0F [+2.4F]
Maximum Temperature for the Month: 60F on the 16th -17th
Minimum Temperature for the Month: 8F on the 19th-20th and 20th-21st

_Precipitation_

Total: 4.19 inches [-0.36 inches below normal]
Greatest in 24 hours: 0.61 inches [on the 6th-7th]
Snowfall: 15.3 inches [-1.6 inches below normal]

_Wind_

Average wind speed: 1.6 MPH
Peak Gust and Direction: 30.5 MPH from the NNE on the 3rd

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Summary provided by: Brian Fitzgerald
COOP Observers: Brian Fitzgerald, Hank Dresch, Greg Fitch, Mark Bunker
Pine Street, North Conway, New Hampshire
Period of Observation: 8:00 AM – 8:00 AM
Daily temperature data for the year 2021, with normal temperature range and station record maximum and minimum temperature records for reference. Source: https://w2.weather.gov/climate/xmacis.php?wfo=gyx