

# MARITIME CANADA CLIMATE SUMMARY

## May 2022

### A Dry May – Less than 50% of Normal Precipitation in Many Locations

A series of ridges of high pressure resulted in less than half the normal precipitation for southern NB, PEI and NS with some locations receiving barely 25%. The only exception was NW NB where significant rain in the last week resulted in above normal amounts. Temperatures at the start of the month continued the cool trend from the end of April. For the period 5-8<sup>th</sup> average daily temperature where up to 8 C below normal including a low of -7.7 C in Edmundston NB. Following the cold start, a period of well-above normal saw daytime highs reaching the high 20's and low 30's in some inland locations. At the final reckoning, the above normal trend for 2022 continued though for most locations by less the 1 C. The dry conditions resulted in burn restrictions being put in place for all three Provinces early in the month. A significant wildfire in Yarmouth County resulted in several Air Quality warnings. Coastal sea surface temperatures at the end of the month continued 3-5 C above normal.

#### The Warmest (°C)

<b>New Brunswick</b>	
Aroostook	32.5
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	
Kejimikujik	31.3
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>	
Maple Plains	28.1

#### The Coldest (°C)

<b>New Brunswick</b>	
Edmundston	-7.7
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	
Collegetown	-7.4
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>	
Maple Plains	-7.4

#### The Wettest (Total mm)

<b>New Brunswick</b>	
Edmundston	122.7
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	
Western Head	100.4
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>	
North Cape	52.2

### The Capital Stats

Station Name	Mean Temperature (°C)			Extremes	
	Monthly Mean	Normal Mean	Diff from Normal	Max (Date)	Min (Date)
Charlottetown	9.5	9.2	0.3	26.0 (22)	-5.1 (8)
Halifax	10.9	10.0	0.9	26.9 (12)	-3.7 (7)
Fredericton	12.3	11.1	1.2	30.2 (13)	-3.1 (8)

Station Name	Total Precipitation			Snowfall	
	Monthly Total (mm)	Normal Total (mm)	Percent Normal	Total (cm)	SOG End of Month
Charlottetown	33.9	91.0	37	NA	NA
Halifax Shearwater	61.8	120.6	51	NA	NA
Fredericton	47.9	103.8	46	NA	NA

### Daily Temperature Records

The cool beginning to the month saw 26 daily record lows set (17 in NB, 7 PEI, 2 NS) mostly during the nights of 7-9<sup>th</sup>. The cool period was followed by a dramatic change of airmass which saw 92 new daily record highs most of which were set during the period 11-14<sup>th</sup>. NS recorded the most with 42 new records three of which were above 30 C. NB saw 38 new highs with 7 above 30 C and PEI had 5 new daily records with the highest 27.4 C at Summerside on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## Significant Weather Events (information provided by Climate Services, ECCC)

**May 5-8:** Calm and clear conditions under a very broad ridge of high pressure provided sunny skies to the Maritimes but kept cool temperatures around. Nighttime lows reached record daily lows for many stations across the region. Morning low temperatures on May 7 and 8 broke many daily, and some all-time May weather station records with temperatures as low as -7.7 C. Average daily temperatures were up to 8 degrees colder than normal.

**May 11-14:** A ridge of high pressure set up north of the region and remained fairly stationary for a 4-day period which provided a dome of warm weather for the provinces. Sunny skies and record setting daily maximum temperatures were observed across the Maritimes, peaking on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May. The three previous days had high in the high 20's to low 30's C. High temperatures in NB hit 31.7 C, in NS hit 30.1 C, and in PEI hit 26.6 C on May 14<sup>th</sup>. On that last day many nighttime temperature lows stayed above 10C, setting records for some of the warmest low temperatures on record for that date. The warm temperatures and dry conditions helped spur on [the second largest forest fire in Nova Scotia](#) in the last 50 years in Yarmouth County, covering up to 3100 hectares.

**May 22:** A cold front moved across New Brunswick in the afternoon and evening. Significant thunderstorms developed across northern New Brunswick late in the afternoon and in the evening producing downpours alongside thunder and lightning. Rain fell rapidly with amounts near 15mm at observed sites; however, one unofficial observation in western NB recorded 33mm of precipitation.

**May 26-28:** A warm front slowly moved across northern New Brunswick providing consistent rain to northern New Brunswick for a 3-day period and setting multiple daily precipitation records for May 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. As the associated low passed, rain spread to the rest of the Maritimes on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Rainfall amounts in NB totaled 60-90 mm in the north with lower amounts in the south. One volunteer observation near Edmundston reported 102 mm. Precipitation amounts in PEI totaled 30-40mm with volunteer observations up to 50 mm. Nova Scotia totaled 20-40mm.

Compiled by Peter J. Lewis with data and information provided by Client Service Operations Atlantic, Meteorological Service of Canada  
Environment and Climate Change Canada / Government of Canada

## Other CMOS News

**CMOS Halifax Webinar:** CMOS-Halifax hosted 'Not Just a Webinar' on May 25<sup>th</sup>. If you missed it, you can view it on the CMOS YouTube Channel @ [CMOS Halifax - Citizen Science and the Cape Breton Weather Mesonet - YouTube](#). And congrats to Ada Loewen who was the winner of the CoCoRaHS backyard precipitation gauge.

**Breaking for Summer:** CMOS-Halifax will be taking its usual summer break. We will continue publishing these monthly climate reports throughout the summer. Stay tuned come September as we launch a fundraising campaign for the ILA-CMOS scholarship fund for 2023.

**Have a wonderful and safe summer. Enjoy the beautiful maritime weather while it lasts!**

**Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (CMOS) | Halifax Chapter**

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