Press Release by Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and the Palestinian Meteorological Directorate (PMD) on the Occasion of World Meteorological Day (WMD), March 23, 2018.

This Year's Theme:"Weather Ready, Climate Smart"

Every year on the 23rd March, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), composed of 189 members, and the global meteorological community celebrate the World Meteorological Day. This year's theme is "Weather Ready, Climate Smart".

In Palestine, this day is celebrated by Meteorological specialists, mainly Palestinian Meteorological Directorate (PMD).

The PMD conducts optimal observations of climatic conditions in the direct or indirect service of different forms of life to contribute effectively to the development of the national economy. Palestine is an observer in the WMO and a member of the Arab Organization of Meteorology in the League of Arab States.

The following are the most prominent features of the weather in Palestine during the 2017 (1/1/2017 - 31/12/2017)

Amount of Rainfall in 2017 is less than the Mean Average

The amount of rainfall in 2017 was 356 mm in Hebron Station, and 46 mm in Jericho Station. The mean average rainfall in Hebron Station was 596 mm and 166 mm in Jericho, and the distribution of rainfall level was concentrated in most of the governorates in January and February during the year 2017.

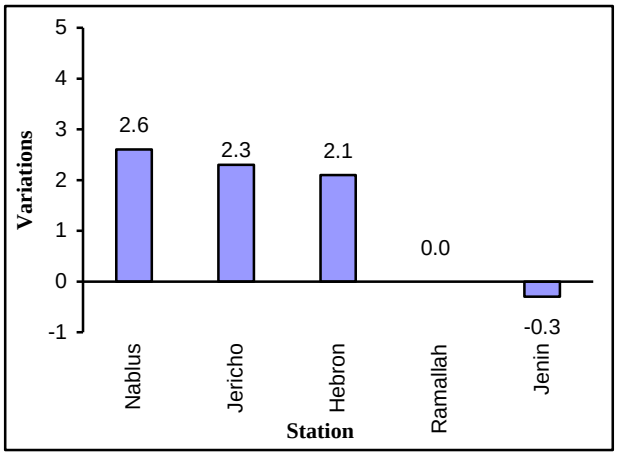
Cumulative Amount of Rainfall (mm) for 2017
Compared with the Mean Average Figures in Some West Bank Stations

Station	Quantity of Rainfall (mm) (1/1-31/12/2017)	Mean Average (mm)	From Mean Average%
Hebron	356	596	60
Bethlehem	243	518	47
Nablus	291	660	44
Ramallah	252	615	41
Jenin	175	486	36
Tulkarm	208	602	35
Jericho	46	166	28

High Temperatures in 2017 Compared with Mean Average

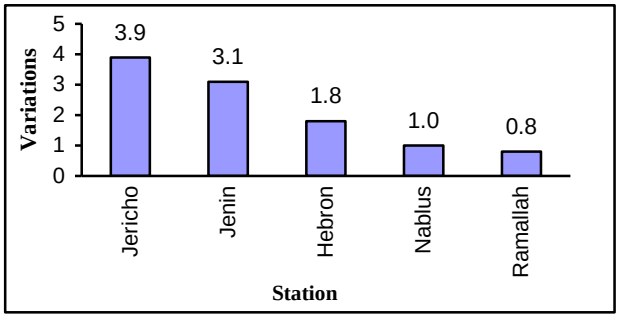
Maximum air temperatures during 2017 were higher than the mean average by (2.6°C**)** in Nablus Station; whereas the maximum air temperatures decreased by (0.3°C**)** from the mean average in Jenin Station.

Variations in Maximum Air Temperature (°C) in 2017 and Mean Average in Some West Bank Stations



Minimum temperatures in 2017 were also higher than the mean average by around 3.9 °C in Jericho Station and 0.8 °C in Ramallah Station.

Variations in Minimum Air Temperature (°C) and Mean Average in Some West Bank Stations, 2017



Higher Total Evaporation in 2017

The total evaporation in 2017 was ranged between 2,411 mm in Jericho Station and 1,790 mm in Ramallah Station.

Total Evaporation (MM) in 2017 and Mean Average in Some West Bank Stations

Station	Total Evaporation (MM), 2017	Mean Average (MM)	Mean Average %
Jericho	2,411	2,101	115
Jenin	2,082	..	..
Hebron	2,009	1,608	125
Nablus	1,863	1,682	111
Ramallah	1,790	1,889	95

..: Data not Available

Highest Annual Humidity in Nablus, Lowest in Jericho

Data showed that annual relative humidity in 2017 ranged between 42% in Jericho Station and 73% in Nablus Station.

Mean Relative Humidity (%) in 2017 and Mean Average in Some West Bank Stations

Station	Relative Humidity (%), 2017	Mean Average	Mean Average %
Nablus	73	61	120
Ramallah	68	57	119
Jenin	65	69	94
Hebron	64	62	103
Tulkarm	57	70	81
Bethlehem	55	60	92
Jericho	42	52	81

..: Data not Available

The Highest Average Hours of Sunlight was in Jericho Station in 2017

During 2017, the highest average hours of sunlight was 8.8 hours per day in Jericho Station, while the lowest average hours was 8.2 hours per day in Hebron Station compared to 2016 where it was 8.8 hours per day in Jericho Station and 8.3 hours per day in Hebron Station.