

**MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW - ARMIDALE NSW  
JANUARY 2011**

January 2011 was a warm month with good rainfall.

The rainfall total of 103.8 mm was very close to the average with most of the rain falling in the first 12 days of the month. Moderate to heavy falls on the 5th and 10th caused minor flooding in Dumaresq Creek.

Day temperatures were mostly close to normal, although there were a few cool cloudy days in the first half of the month. Conditions became much warmer in the second half of the month with temperatures exceeding 30 degrees on five days.

There were two notable extremes.

The maximum of 16.4C on the 6th was the coolest January maximum for five years, and the maximum of 34.4C on the 26th was the hottest for any month for two years.

Thunderstorm activity was a little lower than normal with storms on four days, and prevailing winds were light to moderate easterlies which is normal for this time of the year.

There were two notable events:

9th to 12th - Humid easterly winds feeding into a trough off the southern Queensland coast caused heavy rain and severe flooding to the Brisbane/Ipswich/Toowoomba areas. Further south the Northern Tablelands received heavy showers and rain areas brought in by the easterly winds. For the 4 days up to 9am on the 12th 41.8 mm of rain was recorded in Armidale which was near the southern edge of the system. There was minor flooding in Dumaresq Creek on the 10th, 11th and 12th.

January 3rd - Heavy rain and strong winds were produced by a thunderstorm in the late afternoon. The storm moved in from the south at 4.30pm with winds gusting to 63 km per hour at the airport. 18.6 mm of rain fell between 4.30 and 5pm, and cold air with the storm caused the temperature to drop over 13 degrees from between 3.30pm and 4.30pm.

***JANUARY STATISTICS*** (long term averages in brackets)

Rainfall: 103.8 mm (101.8 mm)

Rain days: 9 (10)

Average maximum temp: 26.2 deg (26.4 deg)

Average minimum temp: 13.8 deg (12.6 deg)

Highest maximum temp: 34.4 deg on the 26th

Lowest maximum temp: 16.4 deg on the 6th

Highest minimum temp: 17.7 deg on the 11th

Lowest minimum temp: 8.9 deg on the 30th

Fine sunny days: 14 (16)

Ideal weather days: 4 (1)

Days with thunderstorms: 4 (6.5)

Days with frosts: 0 (0)

Days with fogs: 1 (1)

Wind direction at 3pm & number of days: E: 13, SE: 5, NE: 4, W: 4, SW: 4, S: 1

Average daily evaporation: 4.4 mm (5.2 mm)

***Thunderstorm details:***

2nd: 7.00-9.30pm - thunder heard - no rain

9.30-10.00pm approx - slight storm - 0.2 mm rain

3rd: 3.45-5.30pm - heavy storm from south with squalls - 18.6 mm rain

5th: 12.00 noon approx - slight storm from west

2.00pm approx - slight storm from west

19th: 8.00-9.45pm - thunder heard - no rain

9.45-11.30pm - moderate storm from west - 17.4 mm rain