

from which I have compiled, for facility of comparison, a statement showing the rainfall from 1866 to 1875, with the mean of each of the periods of five years constituting the decade. There cannot be said to be any marked change at any of the stations either as to quantity or number of days on which rain fell, nor, from my personal observations, did I expect to find any. The rainfall appears indeed to have been greater during the last five years, but much is doubtless due to increased accuracy in observations. Christchurch, with a mean of 27 and 25 inches, is the driest station, if we except Cape Campbell, for which we have only two years' observations; whilst Hokitika, with a mean of 112 and 115 inches, bears the palm as the wettest station in the colony.

STATEMENT showing the MEAN ANNUAL RAINFALL during the first and second Period of Five Years, during the Ten Years from 1866 to 1875 inclusive.

Stations.	1866.		1867.		1868.		1869.		1870.		Mean for 5 years, 1866-70 inclusive.		Remarks.
	Days	Inches.	Days	Inches.	Days	Inches.	Days	Inches.	Days	Inches.	Days.	Inches.	
Mongonui	...	...	186	55.20	...	...	183	48.340	164	52.870	177	52.136	Observations for 3 years only.
Auckland	151	42.0	198	53.18	195	49.087	200	52.797	190	44.831	186	48.379	
Taranaki	156	55.7	165	60.69	161	50.420	152	55.125	175	54.720	161	55.331	
Napier	47	30.0	...	...	...	...	...	...	93	32.410	70	31.205	Observations for 2 years only.
Wellington	131	41.1	126	41.95	184	55.522	166	56.768	158	48.205	153	48.709	
Nelson	66	56.0	87	46.31	91	79.370	86	65.230	85	48.430	83	59.068	
Christchurch	87	19.4	96	30.07	128	30.041	120	27.292	137	28.364	113	27.033	2,104 feet above the sea.
Bealey	...	...	155	81.61	214	126.018	186	85.875	181	106.293	184	99.949	
Hokitika	212	127.5	193	110.51	214	120.210	180	88.210	188	116.680	197	112.622	
Dunedin	179	29.0	175	39.05	116	33.893	169	32.918	171	39.202	162	34.812	
Southland	136	47.2	153	41.62	169	46.346	156	42.680	159	53.950	154	46.359	
Stations.	1871.		1872.		1873.		1874.		1875.		Mean for 5 years, 1871-75 inclusive.		Remarks.
	Days	Inches.	Days	Inches.	Days	Inches.	Days	Inches.	Days	Inches.	Days.	Inches.	
Mongonui	185	57.640	180	46.900	158	63.720	165	56.950	160	52.530	169	55.548	Observations for 2 years only. 2,104 feet above the sea.
Auckland	194	47.505	186	42.096	170	41.237	174	35.024	200	51.310	184	43.434	
Taranaki	207	72.120	158	63.640	181	53.120	167	57.220	169	66.960	176	62.612	
Napier	106	35.890	108	23.940	143	42.380	147	37.940	144	38.260	129	35.682	
Wanganui	...	...	135	38.120	122	38.720	131	36.930	121	47.940	127	40.422	
Wellington	183	64.057	165	50.945	173	54.985	191	53.496	176	65.827	177	57.862	
Nelson	101	55.670	102	78.610	93	65.440	95	71.550	106	69.070	99	68.068	
Cape Campbell	...	...	...	...	...	...	109	28.150	106	21.510	107	24.830	
Christchurch	126	27.935	114	19.741	134	26.330	120	22.790	135	32.310	125	25.821	
Bealey	167	106.801	170	97.130	165	82.071	170	98.095	160	104.595	166	97.738	
Hokitika	196	122.440	179	123.210	161	96.170	171	104.480	186	130.790	178	115.418	
Dunedin	149	22.146	132	27.393	167	35.825	156	28.739	158	42.631	152	31.346	
Queenstown	...	...	117	28.880	131	32.300	115	30.190	114*	31.760	119	30.782	
Southland	144	39.030	144	40.110	191	37.480	206	44.650	201	44.180	177	41.090	

* For 11 months.