

deg below 65 F. For any one day, when the mean temperature is less than 65 F, there are as many degree-days as there are degrees difference in temperature between the mean temperature for the day and 65 F. Degree-days may be calculated on other than the 65 F base, but are seldom used and are of little value except for example, in warehouses where the inside temperature to be maintained differs greatly from the usual inside temperature range of 68 F to 72 F.

Studies made by the *National District Heating Association*¹¹ of the metered steam consumption of 163 buildings located in 22 different cities and served with steam from a district heating company, substantiate the approximate correctness of the 65 F base chosen by the gas industry.

Table 2 lists the average number of degree-days which have occurred over a long period of years, by months, and the yearly totals for various cities in the United States, Canada and Newfoundland. The values for United States cities were calculated by taking the difference between 65 F and the daily mean temperature computed as half the total of the daily maximum and the daily minimum temperatures. The monthly averages were obtained by adding daily degree-days for each month each year and dividing by the number of days in the month; then totaling the respective calendar monthly averages for the number of years indicated and dividing by the number of years. The total or long term yearly average degree-day value is the summation of the 12 monthly averages. Degree days for Canadian cities were supplied by the *Canadian Meteorological Division* of the *Department of Transport*, and were computed from the mean temperature normals on record for the various stations.

Any attempt to apply the degree-day method of estimating fuel consumption for less than one month would be of very little value. It should be noted that this method of calculation is based on a long term average and cannot be expected to coincide with any single year in calculating fuel requirement. Individual yearly degree-day calculations may vary as much as 20 percent above and below the long term average.

If the degree-days occurring each day are totaled for a reasonably long period, the fuel consumption during that period as compared with another period will be in direct proportion to the number of degree-days in the two periods. Consequently, for a given installation, the fuel consumption can be calculated in terms of fuel used per degree-day for any sufficiently long period, and compared with similar ratios for other periods to determine the relative operating efficiencies with the outside temperature variable eliminated.

Computation and Application

The general equation for calculating the probable fuel consumption by the degree-day method is:

$$F = U \times N \times D \times C_t \quad (4)$$

where

F = fuel consumption for the estimate period.

U = unit fuel consumption, or quantity of fuel used per (degree-day) (building load unit).

N = number of building load units (when available use calculated hourly heat loss instead of actual amount of radiation installed).

D = number of degree-days for the estimate period.

C_t = temperature-correction factor from Table 3.

Values of N depend on the particular building for which the estimate is

TABLE 2. AVERAGE MONTHLY AND YEARLY DEGREE-DAYS FOR CITIES IN THE UNITED STATES, CANADA AND NEWFOUNDLAND*^b (BASE 65F)

STATE	STATION	YEARS	NO. OF STA- TIONS	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	YEARLY TOTAL	
Ala.	Annisston.....	05/08-40/41	36	0	0	10	135	388	600	609	513	361	152	37	1	2806	
	Birmingham.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	1	10	111	348	586	591	497	313	130	23	1	2611	
	Mobile.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	0	1	44	203	377	397	314	175	52	3	0	1568	
	Montgomery.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	0	4	71	279	484	494	405	239	85	10	0	2071	
Aris.	Flagstaff.....	98/99-40/41	43	43	70	244	673	847	1111	1167	970	889	668	469	190	7241	
	Phoenix.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	0	18	166	384	402	263	154	47	7	0	0	1441	
	Yuma.....	98/99-40/41	44	0	0	0	9	113	306	318	182	85	22	1	0	1036	
Ark.	Bentonville.....	06/07-40/41	35	1	1	38	216	516	810	879	716	519	247	88	7	4036	
	Fort Smith.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	0	12	128	410	717	763	615	390	154	36	1	3226	
	Little Rock.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	0	11	120	383	668	704	579	307	145	31	1	3009	
Calif.	Eureka.....	98/99-45/46	48	281	269	274	344	411	518	541	478	504	440	391	307	4768	
	Fresno.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	0	5	77	309	562	573	380	289	152	4	0	2823	
	Independence.....	98/99-40/41	43	0	0	28	216	512	778	799	619	477	267	120	18	3339	
	Los Angeles.....	98/99-45/46	48	1	0	5	43	110	225	272	235	212	158	103	27	1495	
	Needles.....	17/18-38/39	22	0	0	0	19	217	416	447	243	124	26	3	0	1391	
	Point Reyes.....	98/99-40/41	43	350	336	263	282	317	425	467	406	437	413	415	363	4474	
	Red Bluff.....	98/99-33/34	38/39-40/41	41	0	0	12	97	345	592	601	419	328	178	72	9	2653
	Sacramento.....	98/99-45/46	48	2	1	15	98	332	582	595	405	326	202	101	21	2680	
	San Diego.....	98/99-45/46	48	5	1	9	60	143	252	300	257	230	172	118	49	1596	
	San Francisco.....	98/99-45/46	48	196	179	121	139	241	420	460	340	317	272	255	197	3137	
	San Jose.....	06/07-40/41	35	21	21	62	151	329	512	527	383	249	187	72	2	2823	
Colo.	Denver.....	98/99-45/46	48	8	8	126	411	716	1005	1023	897	790	516	275	64	5339	
	Durango.....	04/05-40/41	37	25	37	201	535	861	1204	1271	1002	859	615	394	139	7139	
	Grand Junction.....	98/99-45/46	48	1	1	59	347	743	1138	1218	883	671	377	152	23	5613	
	Leadville.....	07/08-40/41	34	280	332	509	841	1139	1413	1470	1285	1245	990	740	434	10678	
	Pueblo.....	98/99-45/46	48	3	4	91	377	730	1042	1042	875	724	446	195	29	5558	
Conn.	Hartford.....	04/05-45/46	42	3	16	105	370	692	1065	1157	1002	859	524	213	47	6113	
	New Haven.....	98/99-45/46	48	3	11	88	341	658	1017	1109	1023	840	522	221	47	5880	
D. C.	Washington.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	2	42	251	553	872	928	834	624	340	101	14	4561	
Fla.	Apalachicola.....	13/14-45/46	33	0	0	1	23	154	300	323	252	159	38	2	0	1252	
	Jacksonville.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	0	0	25	144	294	302	244	131	42	3	0	1185	
	Key West.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	0	0	0	2	14	21	15	7	0	0	0	59	
	Miami.....	11/12-45/46	35	0	0	0	0	15	41	53	45	28	3	0	0	1281	
	Pensacola.....	13/14-45/46	33	0	0	0	25	159	305	332	255	162	39	4	0	571	
Ga.	Tampa.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	0	0	6	60	149	157	126	82	11	0	0	571	
	Atlanta.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	0	12	128	392	644	660	563	382	169	33	2	2985	
	Augusta.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	0	4	85	312	529	533	448	274	107	13	1	2306	
	Macon.....	99/00-45/46	47	0	0	5	91	322	532	538	449	278	108	14	1	2338	
	Savannah.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	0	1	45	206	390	395	332	194	66	6	0	1635	
	Thomasville.....	05/06-40/41	36	0	0	2	48	208	361	359	299	178	52	5	1	1513	
Idaho.	Boise.....	98/99-45/46	48	9	17	136	385	717	1025	1077	840	688	440	252	92	5678	
	Lewistown.....	06/01-32/33	33	5	9	107	378	688	932	992	779	603	371	193	62	5109	
	Pocatello.....	98/99-45/46	48	12	21	176	478	821	1156	1224	1004	845	550	330	124	6741	
Ill.	Cairo.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	0	26	151	489	823	878	746	512	232	60	4	3957	
	Chicago.....	98/99-45/46	48	6	7	88	337	712	1116	1218	1080	861	531	259	67	6292	
	Peoria.....	05/06-45/46	41	4	8	88	350	730	1126	1231	1035	790	436	178	28	8004	
	Springfield.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	3	65	286	664	1056	1151	977	719	377	132	16	5446	
Ind.	Evansville.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	1	35	211	544	888	948	822	682	288	85	6	4410	
	Fort Wayne.....	98/99-45/46	35	6	13	106	374	737	1107	1211	1052	864	504	217	41	6232	
	Indianapolis.....	98/99-45/46	48	1	4	66	297	660	1032	1102	973	737	410	154	22	5458	
	Royal Center.....	18/19-31/32	14	11	19	116	373	740	1104	1239	978	860	502	245	64	6239	
	Terre Haute.....	12/13-45/46	34	0	3	62	270	627	993	1072	897	687	358	133	15	5117	
Iowa	Charles City.....	04/05-45/46	42	8	24	164	480	906	1362	1535	1281	995	552	255	62	7624	
	Davenport.....	98/99-45/46	48	2	6	91	344	748	1176	1291	1111	835	448	171	29	6282	
	Des Moines.....	98/99-45/46	48	1	1	102	354	767	1204	1320	1132	843	446	171	29	6375	
	Dubuque.....	98/99-45/46	48	3	12	123	402	808	1249	1380	1190	915	493	204	41	6820	
	Keokuk.....	98/99-41/42	44	1	3	71	303	680	1077	1191	1025	761	397	136	18	5663	
	Sioux City.....	A 98/99-45/46	48	3	11	128	402	844	1273	1402	1206	909	455	202	40	6905	
Kan.	Concordia.....	98/99-45/46	48	1	3	68	288	670	1060	1144	954	712	365	142	18	5425	
	Dodge City.....	A 98/99-45/46	48	1	3	59	275	641	998	1046	868	668	351	139	20	5069	
	Iola.....	05/06-40/41	36	0	1	40	236	579	930	1026	817	599	282	98	8	4616	
	Topeka.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	2	56	254	623	1013	1096	917	659	326	116	13	5075	
Ky.	Wichita.....	A 98/99-45/46	48	0	1	41	221	576	947	1016	836	604	290	103	9	4644	
	Louisville.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	1	35	217	549	881	931	816	588	298	93	8	4417	
	Lexington.....	98/99-40/41	43	1	3	48	258	601	916	984	862	650	352	123	14	4792	
La.	New Orleans.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	0	0	23	145	304	323	247	129	31	1	0	1203	
	Shreveport.....	A 98/99-45/46	48	0	0	4	71	275	506	531	415	241	79	10	0	2132	
Me.	Eastport.....	98/99-45/46	48	158	146	271	528	827	1224	1364	1238	1080	778	530	301	8445	
	Greenville.....	07/08-40/41	38	69	113	315	643	1012	1464	1625	1443	1251	842	468	194	9439	
Md.	Portland.....	A 98/99-45/46	48	28	48	182	466	794	1182	1309	1188	997	671	376	136	7377	
	Baltimore.....	98/99-45/46	48	0	1	33	227	526	855	921	837	637	343	95	12	4487	

* Computed from daily temperatures recorded by United States Weather Bureau stations over a varied number of seasons as indicated in the 3rd and 4th column of the table. Degree-day data for airport stations are not included in this table. The data for United States cities were computed by the United States Weather Bureau in 1946 and 1947 in accordance with the requirements of the National Joint Committee on Weather Statistics. The data for a number of the cities listed are based on readings taken at more than one official city weather station during the periods of analysis, but the slight difference in the readings would not appreciably affect the resultant. ^b Letter A indicates city office and airport records combined.