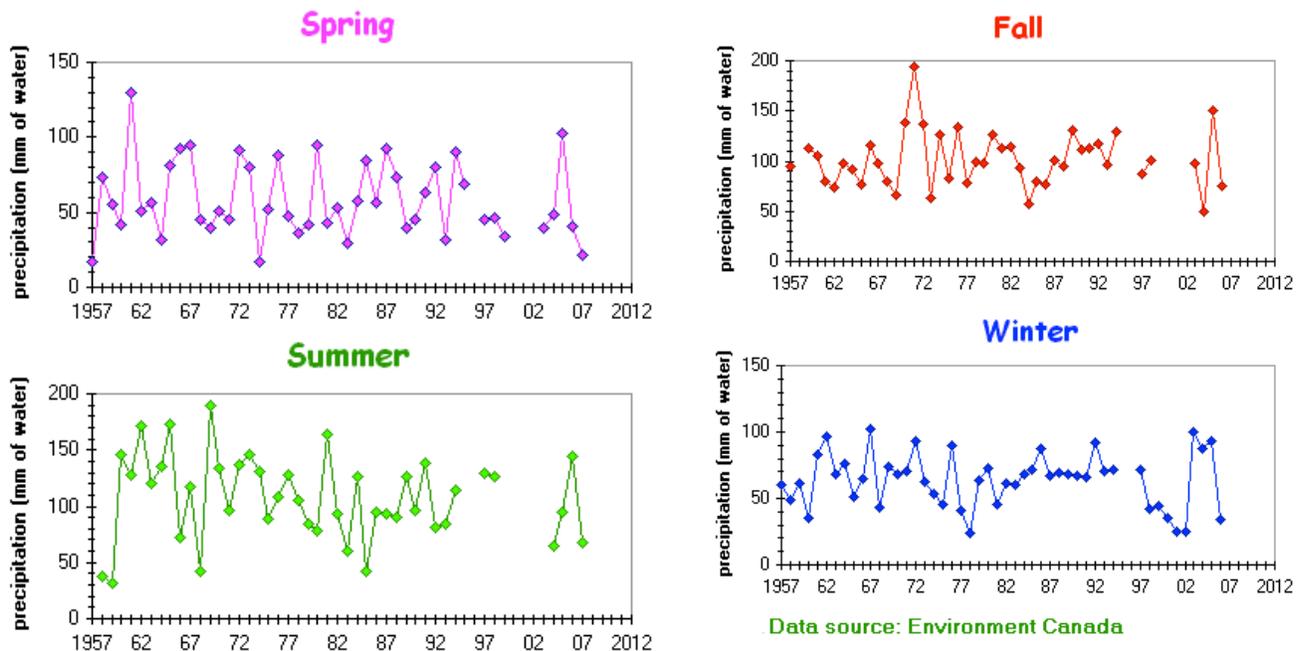


Precipitation at Inuvik



What is happening?

- The total amount of precipitation for each season at Inuvik shows no consistent trend over time.
- Precipitation does vary with season. There is less precipitation in winter and spring (averaging about 60 mm in each season) and more in summer and fall (averaging just over 100 mm). There is considerable variation from year to year and unusual years are easily picked out in the graphs.

Why is it happening?

- Precipitation levels are affected by variations in other climate variables, such as changes in mean temperatures or the frequency of storm systems passing through an area. Because there are many different factors that influence precipitation amounts, predictions of how precipitation levels in the northern Yukon will be affected by climate change are difficult to make.

Why is it important?

- The amount of snow in winter affects the movements of humans and other large mammals, habitat conditions for many small mammals, and winter insulation for insects and plants. The level of snow accumulation also affects the amount of water that is generated by melt during the spring.

- Summer rain levels have effects on the growth of plants, water levels in lakes and rivers, and human outdoor activities.

Technical Notes

- Trends in total precipitation levels were tested using data from Environment Canada's homogenized data set for Inuvik for the period 1957 to 2007 using a significance threshold of $p < 0.05$.
- Precipitation totals were calculated for March-May, June-August, September-November, and December-February. Winter totals are calculated using December values of the current year, and January and February values of the following year.
- Missing data points are due to a lack of sufficient data to calculate precipitation totals for those years. There are no records currently available for the period 2008-2012.

Links

- [Temperatures in Inuvik](#)
- [Temperatures at Old Crow](#)
- [Precipitation at Old Crow](#)

Data added: March 27, 2014.