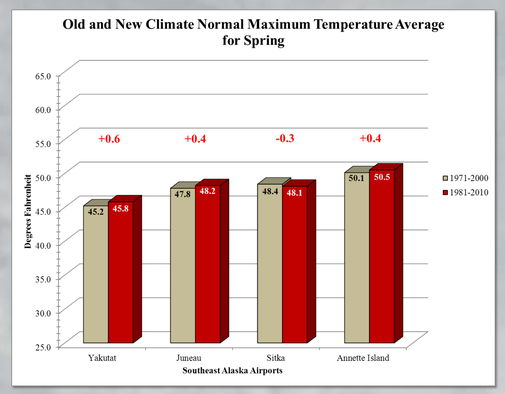
Climate Comparison for Selected Cities in Southeast Alaska
1971-2000 Normals vs. 1981-2010 Normals
Climate Change Trends: Warmer Low Temperatures and Less Snowfall

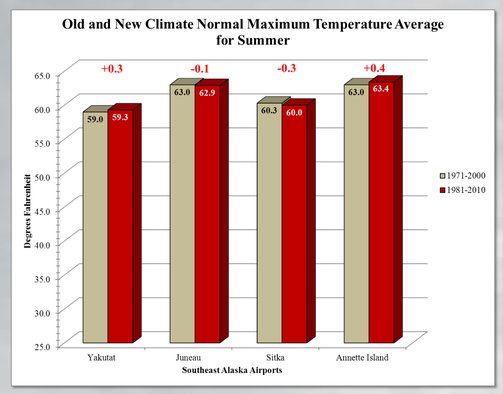
- Four locations representative of northern, southern, coastal, and inland panhandle of Alaska.
- Comparisons were made between old and new Climate Normal values for temperature, precipitation, and snowfall.
- Climate Normal values represent a 30-year average of the parameter in question.
- Old Climate Normal Period 1971-2000.
- New Climate Normal Period 1981-2010.
- Results are separated according to accepted seasonal definitions (Spring: March, April, May; Summer: June, July, August; Autumn: September, October, November; Winter: December, January, February).
- Results reveal the variability in selected parameters from location to location and from season to season.

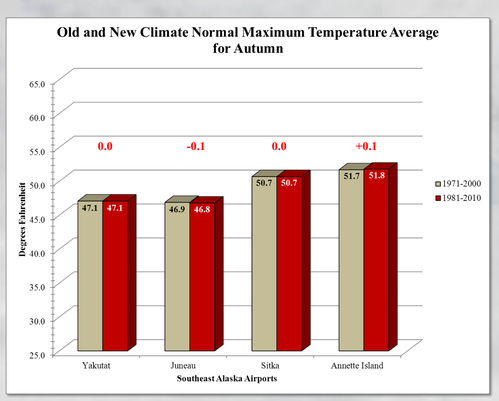
Climate Change Trends

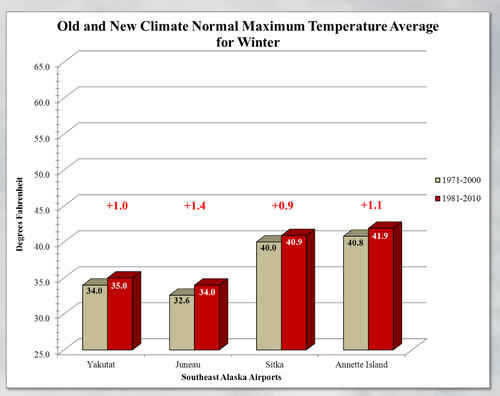
- Changes in daily high temperatures are slight and mixed with some locations experiencing increases and some locations actually cooling.
- Changes in daily lows are more uniformly warmer, and exhibit warming throughout the year, and in all four locations.
- Winter temperatures are warming the most.
- Daily low temperatures are rising more than daily highs.
- Diurnal temperature spread is decreasing.
- Precipitation changes are mixed.
- Trend in seasonal daily low temperatures and precipitation totals reflected in changes to snowfall.

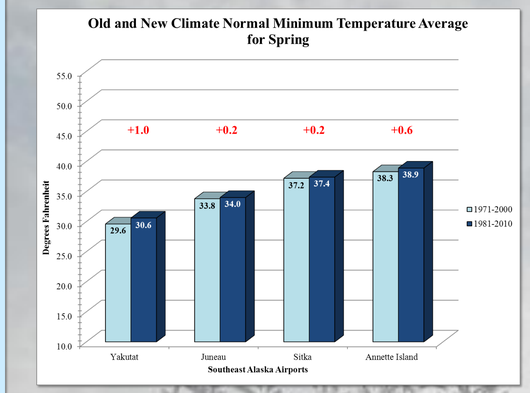
Reference: National Climatic Data Center
http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/ncdc.html

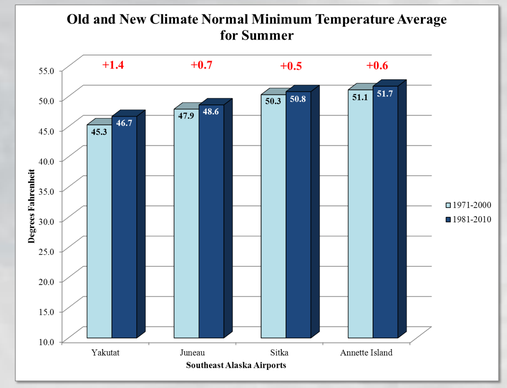


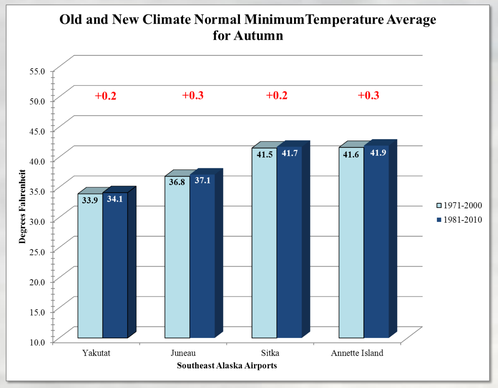


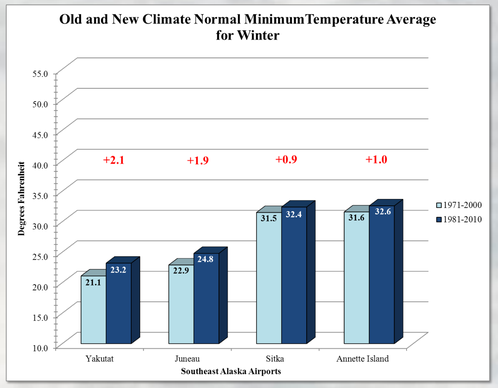


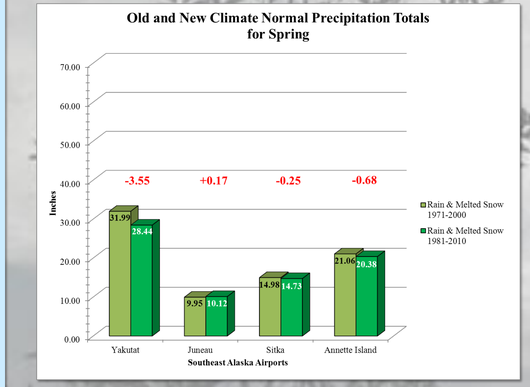


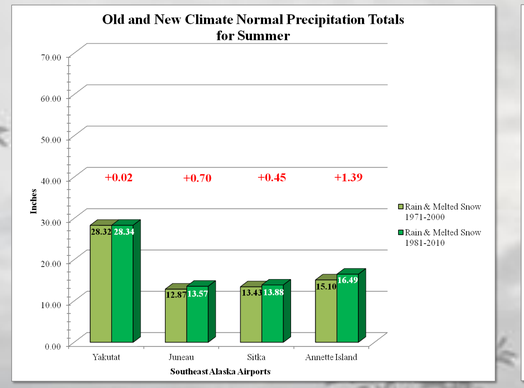


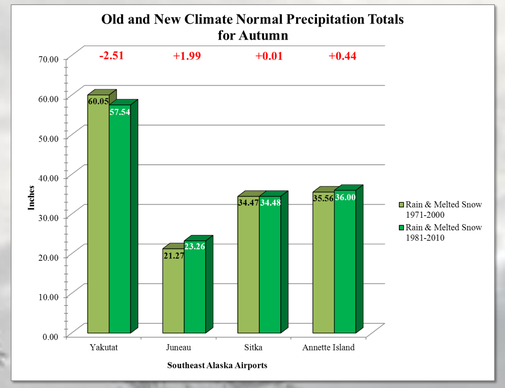


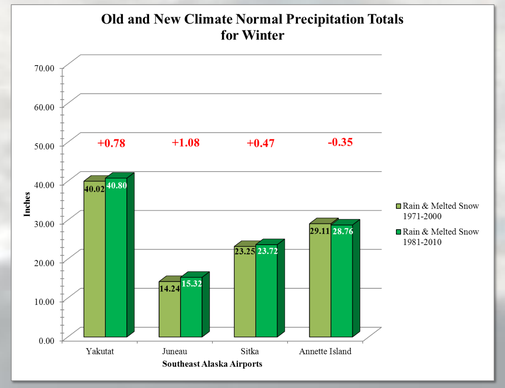


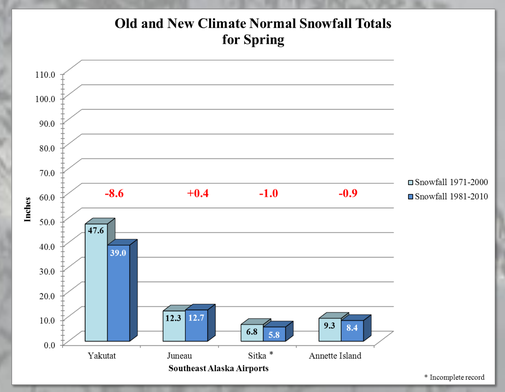


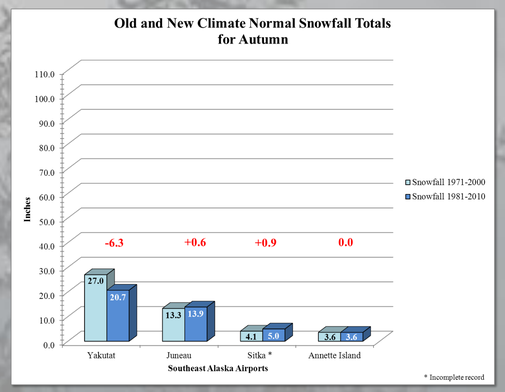


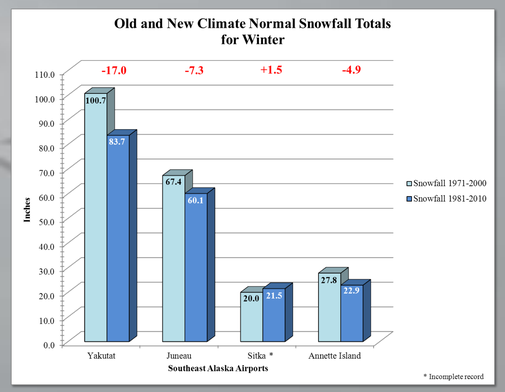












National Weather Service, Juneau, Alaska
Rick Fritsch and Nikki Becker
Contact: 907-790-6800
frederick.fritsch@noaa.gov or nichole.becker@noaa.gov
http://pajk.arh.noaa.gov/

October 2011