

Trends of Rainfall in the District of Ramallah and Al-Bireh: 1950-2008.

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Abstract:

The aim of this paper is to analyze the rainfall trends in several spots of the district of Ramallah and Al-Bireh from 1950's to present.

This research is also aimed to find out whether the district of Ramallah and Al-Bireh has more or less rainfall that would be expected to occur. Furthermore, the study is a part of project concerned with disseminating the salience of rainfall recording in Palestinian schools and municipalities.

Recorded annual rainfall data were obtained from eight governmental schools located on the mountains of Ramallah. Fortunately, such schools continuously kept recording rainfall data since 1950's. Five year period trends, moving averages and linear regression were used to determine rainfall trends and periodical alternations.

Since patterns of rainfall variability have rarely been mentioned in literature of Arab countries, this study is of particular interest to policy makers of countries of the Eastern side of the Mediterranean in general and to Palestine in specific in regards to the effects of rainfall trends upon water resources, human needs, agriculture, and industry.