

Key to Aerodrome Forecast (TAF) and Aviation Routine Weather Report (METAR) (Front)



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

KEY to AERODROME FORECAST (TAF) and AVIATION ROUTINE WEATHER REPORT (METAR) (FRONT)

TAF KPIT 091730Z 091818 15005KT 5SM HZ FEW020 WS010/31022KT
 FM 1930 30015G25KT 3SM SHRA OVC015 TEMPO 2022 1/2SM +TSRA
 OVC008CB
 FM0100 27008KT 5SM SHRA BKN020 OVC040 PROB40 0407 1SM -RA BR
 FM1015 18005KT 6SM -SHRA OVC020 BECMG 1315 P6SM NSW SKC

METAR KPIT 091955Z COR 22015G25KT 3/4SM R28L/2600FT TSRA OVC010CB
 18/16 A2992 RMK SLP045 T01820159

FORECAST	EXPLANATION	REPORT
TAF	Message type : <u>TAF</u> -routine or <u>TAF AMD</u> -amended forecast, <u>METAR</u> -hourly, <u>SPECI</u> -special or <u>TESTM</u> -non-commissioned ASOS report	METAR
KPIT	ICAO location indicator	KPIT
091730Z	Issuance time: ALL times in UTC " <u>Z</u> ", 2-digit date, 4-digit time	091955Z
091818	Valid period: 2-digit date, 2-digit beginning, 2-digit ending times	
	In U.S. METAR : <u>COR</u> rected of; or <u>AUTO</u> mated ob for automated report with no human intervention; omitted when observer logs on	COR
15005KT	Wind: 3 digit true-north direction , nearest 10 degrees (or <u>VariaBle</u>); next 2-3 digits for speed and unit, <u>KT</u> (KMH or MPS); as needed, <u>G</u> ust and maximum speed; 0000KT for calm; for METAR , if direction varies 60 degrees or more, <u>V</u> ariability appended, e.g., 180 <u>V</u> 260	22015G25KT
5SM	Prevailing visibility; in U.S., <u>Statute Miles</u> & fractions; above 6 miles in TAF <u>Plus6SM</u> . (Or, 4-digit minimum visibility in meters and as required, lowest value with direction)	3/4SM
	Runway Visual Range: <u>R</u> ; 2-digit runway designator <u>L</u> eft, <u>C</u> enter, or <u>R</u> ight as needed; " <u>l</u> ", <u>M</u> inus or <u>P</u> lus in U.S., 4-digit value, <u>F</u> ee <u>T</u> in U.S., (usually meters elsewhere); 4-digit value <u>V</u> ariability 4-digit value (and tendency <u>D</u> own, <u>U</u> p or <u>N</u> o change)	R28L/2600FT
HZ	Significant present, forecast and recent weather: see table (on back)	TSRA
FEW020	Cloud amount, height and type: <u>S</u> Ky <u>C</u> lear 0/8, <u>F</u> EW >0/8-2/8, <u>S</u> Ca <u>T</u> tered 3/8-4/8, <u>B</u> ro <u>K</u> e <u>N</u> 5/8-7/8, <u>O</u> Ver <u>C</u> ast 8/8; 3-digit height in hundreds of ft; <u>T</u> owering <u>C</u> Umulus or <u>C</u> umulonim <u>B</u> us in METAR ; in TAF , only <u>C</u> B. <u>V</u> ertical <u>V</u> isibility for obscured sky and height "VV004". More than 1 layer may be reported or forecast. In automated METAR reports only, <u>C</u> Lea <u>R</u> for "clear below 12,000 feet"	OVC 010CB
	Temperature: degrees Celsius; first 2 digits, temperature " <u>l</u> " last 2 digits, dew-point temperature; <u>M</u> inus for below zero, e.g., M06	18/16
	Altimeter setting: indicator and 4 digits; in U.S., <u>A</u> -inches and hundredths; (<u>Q</u> -hectoPascals, e.g., Q1013)	A2992

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FORECAST	EXPLANATION	REPORT
WS010/31022KT	In U.S. TAF , non-convective low-level ($\leq 2,000$ ft) <u>W</u> ind <u>S</u> hear; 3-digit height (hundreds of ft); " <u>T</u> "; 3-digit wind direction and 2-3 digit wind speed above the indicated height, and unit, <u>KT</u> In METAR , <u>ReMaRk</u> indicator & remarks. For example: <u>S</u> ea- <u>L</u> evel <u>P</u> ressure in hectoPascals & tenths, as shown: 1004.5 hPa; <u>T</u> emp/dew-point in tenths °C, as shown: temp. 18.2°C, dew-point 15.9°C	RMK SLP045 T01820159
FM1930	<u>F</u> ro <u>M</u> and 2-digit hour and 2-digit minute beginning time: indicates significant change. Each FM starts on a new line, indented 5 spaces	
TEMPO 2022	<u>T</u> EM <u>P</u> o <u>R</u> ary: changes expected for <1 hour and in total, < half of 2-digit hour beginning and 2-digit hour ending time period	
PROB40 0407	<u>P</u> RO <u>B</u> ability and 2-digit percent (30 or 40): probable condition during 2-digit hour beginning and 2-digit hour ending time period	
BECMG 1315	<u>B</u> E <u>C</u> o <u>M</u> i <u>n</u> G: change expected during 2-digit hour beginning and 2-digit hour ending time period	

Table of Significant Present, Forecast and Recent Weather- Grouped in categories and used in the order listed below; or as needed in TAF, No Significant Weather.

QUALIFIER							
INTENSITY OR PROXIMITY							
'-' Light	"no sign"	Moderate		'+' Heavy			
VC Vicinity: but not at aerodrome; in U.S. METAR , between 5 and 10SM of the point(s) of observation; in U.S. TAF , 5 to 10SM from center of runway complex (elsewhere within 8000m)							
DESCRIPTOR							
MI	Shallow	BC	Patches	PR	Partial	TS	Thunderstorm
BL	Blowing	SH	Showers	DR	Drifting	FZ	Freezing
WEATHER PHENOMENA							
PRECIPITATION							
DZ	Drizzle	RA	Rain	SN	Snow	SG	Snow grains
IC	Ice Crystals	PL	Ice Pellets	GR	Hail	GS	Small hail/snow pellets
UP	Unknown precipitation in automated observations						
OBSCURATION							
BR	Mist	FG	Fog	FU	Smoke	VA	Volcanic Ash
SA	Sand	HZ	Haze	PY	Spray	DU	Widespread dust
OTHER							
SQ	Squall	SS	Sandstorm	DU	Duststorm	PO	Well developed dust/sand swirls
FC	Funnel cloud	+FC	Tornado/waterspout				

- Explanations in parentheses "(")" indicate different worldwide practices.
- Ceiling is not specified; defined as the lowest broken or overcast layer, or the vertical visibility.
- NWS **TAFs** exclude turbulence, icing and temperature forecasts; NWS **METARs** exclude trend forecasts.