OKLAHOMA MONTHLY CLIMATE SUMMARY
SEPTEMBER 2006

OKLAHOMA CLIMATOLOGICAL SURVEY

WE'VE MOVED

The Oklahoma Climatological Survey has moved to its new home in the National Weather Center

Our new address:
120 David L. Boren Blvd., Suite 2900
Norman, OK 73072-7305

Things were not looking good for September, following the scorcher of a summer Oklahoma endured in 2006. Fortune smiled upon the state, however, and provided the 10th coolest September on record, just in time to halt a slew of triple-digit temperatures. The cool weather also stopped 2006's march towards the warmest year on record, dropping the January-September period to the 2nd warmest since 1895. Drought conditions were alleviated somewhat, especially in the southwest and east central sections, where rainfall amounts between 3-6 inches were common. Other areas, including the northwestern one-third of the state, were extremely dry once again. The month finished as the 39th driest on record, averaged statewide. Several bouts with severe weather were punctuated by the return of tornadoes with two touchdowns of weak twisters in Pushmataha County. Those two F0 tornadoes were the first to strike Oklahoma since June 21.

Precipitation

The statewide average precipitation total fell more than an inch below normal. North central Oklahoma was the hardest hit at barely under an inch, the 12th driest September for that region. Most areas of the state were 1-3 inches below normal for the month. Apache led the state at over six inches of precipitation, with Freedom bringing up the rear at less than one-third of an inch. The year-to-date precipitation total still lags well behind normal with a deficit of more than eight inches, enough to rank as the 11th driest January-September on record.

Temperature

Oklahoma temperatures were 2-4 degrees below normal over much of the state during September, an even three degrees below normal averaged statewide. The Panhandle spent much of the month behind meandering cold fronts to finish over 4 degrees below normal, the 3rd coolest September on record for that region. The southwest was nearly four degrees below normal as well, the 7th coolest on record. The Mesonet site at Kenton recorded the coolest reading of the month with a 35-degree mark on the 28th. The warmest reading, 98 degrees, occurred at Newport on the 22nd.

September 2006 Statewide Extremes

Description	Extreme	Station	Date
High Temperature	98ºF	Newport	Sep 22
Low Temperature	35ºF	Kenton	Sep 28
High Precipitation	6.07 in.	Apache	
Low Precipitation	0.31 in.	Freedom	

September Daily Highlights

September 1-4: A rainy beginning to September, a narrow band of showers and storms settled in the northwest ahead of an approaching cold front on the 1st. The 2nd was cloudy and cool as a widespread rain fell across the state, with high temperatures a good 10-20 degrees below normal. The cool weather continued for the next couple of days. Low temperatures dropped into the 40s in the Panhandle, but still managed to remain in the 70s in southeastern Oklahoma. High temperatures also modified somewhat, but remained more than 10 degrees below normal.

September 5-8: The next several days were almost autumnal under the influence of the surface high pressure system that built in following the cold front. High temperatures were in the 70s and 80s, and lows dropped predominantly into the 50s and 60s.

September 9--11: More rain on the 9th as another cold front approached the state. Amounts were light, but Beaver had a heaver storm dump well over an inch of rain on that location. Stronger storms, some severe, were in store for the state on the 10th and 11th. Hail to the size of golf balls fell in Roger Mills County, while winds gusted to 60 mph in several locations. High temperatures managed to return to seasonal averages by the 11th, rising into the 80s and 90s.

September 12-16: Strong northerly winds ushered in much cooler air on the 12th. High temperatures struggled into the 70s under cloudy skies and surface high pressure. A pleasantly cool night followed on the 13th with calm winds and lows in the 40s and 50s. The state began a slow warm up the next couple of days. Strong southerly winds in lieu of an approaching cold front pumped moisture up from the Gulf of Mexico which kept low temperatures in the 60s and 70s, while highs once again soared into the 90s. The winds at times gusted to over 40 mph in western Oklahoma, and over 30 mph in the remainder of the state.

September 17-18: Storms fired along a cold front moving through the state early on the 17th and spread southeastward. Oklahoma City broke its record for rainfall on the 17th, and Apache had over four inches. Three-inch amounts were recorded in southwestern and northeastern locations. High temperatures that day occurred soon after midnight, and remained in the 60s and 70s for the remainder of the day. Skies cleared from west to east on the 18th. Temperatures rebounded into the 70s and 80s later that day.

September 19-20: The 19th began clear and crisp with lows in the 40s and 50s. A beautiful afternoon followed under surface high pressure. High temperatures rose into the 70s and low 80s. Winds kicked up from the south later that night which allowed low temperatures to remain in the upper 50s and low 60s. Clouds increased due to an approaching upper-level storm, which also kicked up winds from the south at over 40 mph. Temperatures rose into the 80s.

September 21-23: The strong upper-level storm continued its march towards the state on the 18th. Non-thunderstorm related winds with gusts to over 60 mph struck in the west, and strong to severe thunderstorms fired later that day in the east. Two tornadoes touched down in Pushmataha County, but caused only minor damage. Both twisters were rated F0 in intensity. More severe storms ignited on the 22nd and 23rd in eastern Oklahoma, touched off by a slow-moving frontal system. Reports of severe winds and large hail were common with the storms. Throughout this three-day period, the southeastern one-third of the state reported a good general rainfall of 1-3 inches.

September 24-30: The 24th turned out clear and cool following the cold front's passage. Lows dropped to the 40s and 50s, and rebounded into the low- to mid-70s, which marked the coolest high temperatures across the state since May. The low temperatures the following morning dropped into the 30s and low 40s statewide, marking it as the coolest morning since May as well. A slow warm up after that, the high temperatures crept into the 80s and then 90s by month's end. Plenty of sunshine and light winds greeted Oklahoma on the 30th.

September 2006 Statewide Statistics

Temperature

	Average	Depart.	Rank (1892-2006)
Month (Sep)	69.4ºF	-3.0ºF	10th Coolest
Year-to-Date (Jan-Sep)	65.9ºF	2.9ºF	2nd Warmest

Precipitation

	Total	Depart.	Rank (1892-2006)
Month (Sep)	2.29 in.	-1.52 in.	39th Driest
Year-to-Date (Jan-Sep)	19.99 in.	-8.48 in.	11th Driest

Depart. = Departure from 30-year normal

September 2006 Severe Weather

Significant Tornadoes (F2 or greater)

No significant tornadoes reported in the state.

Hail (2 inches in diameter or greater)

No significant hail reported in the state.

Flooding

No flooding events reported in state.

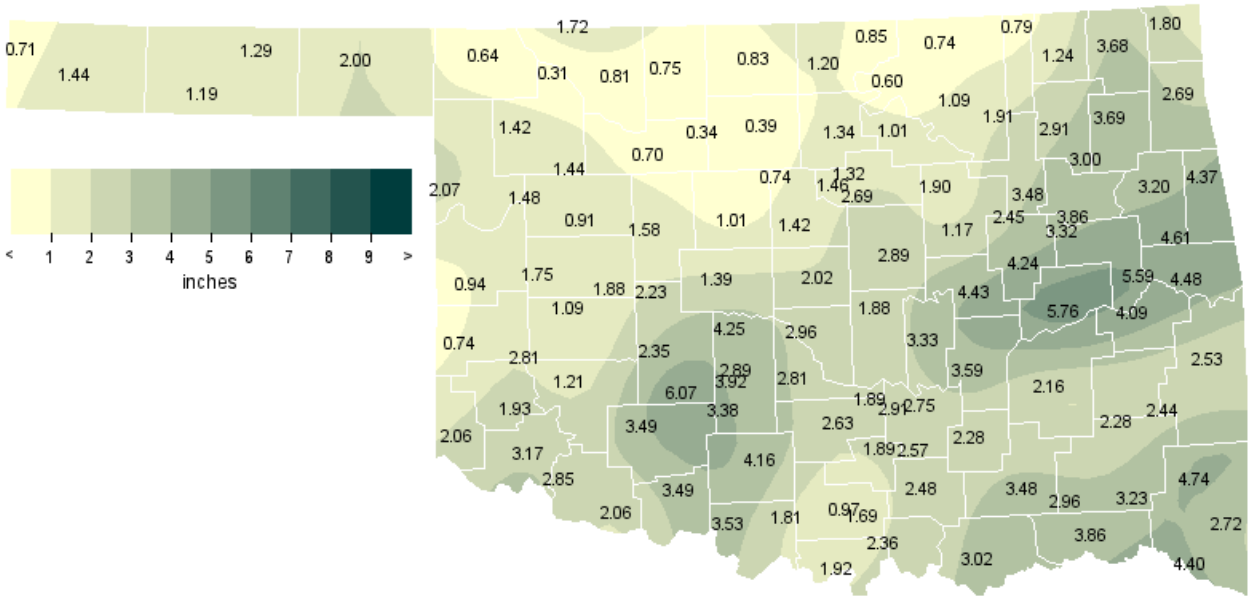
Wind Gusts (70 mph or greater)

Speed (m.p.h.)	Location	County	Day
73	Webbers Falls	Muskogee	23

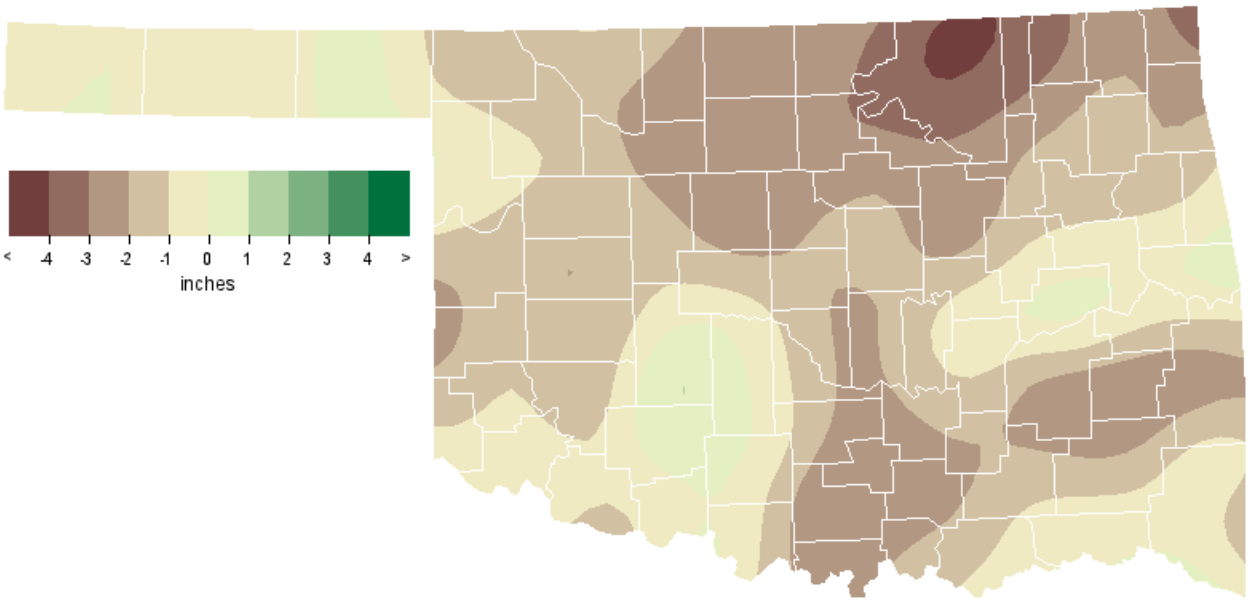
Record Event Report

Description	Day	Location	Record	Previous Record	Year
Daily Maximum Rainfall	17	Oklahoma City	2.49 inches	1.42 inches	1936

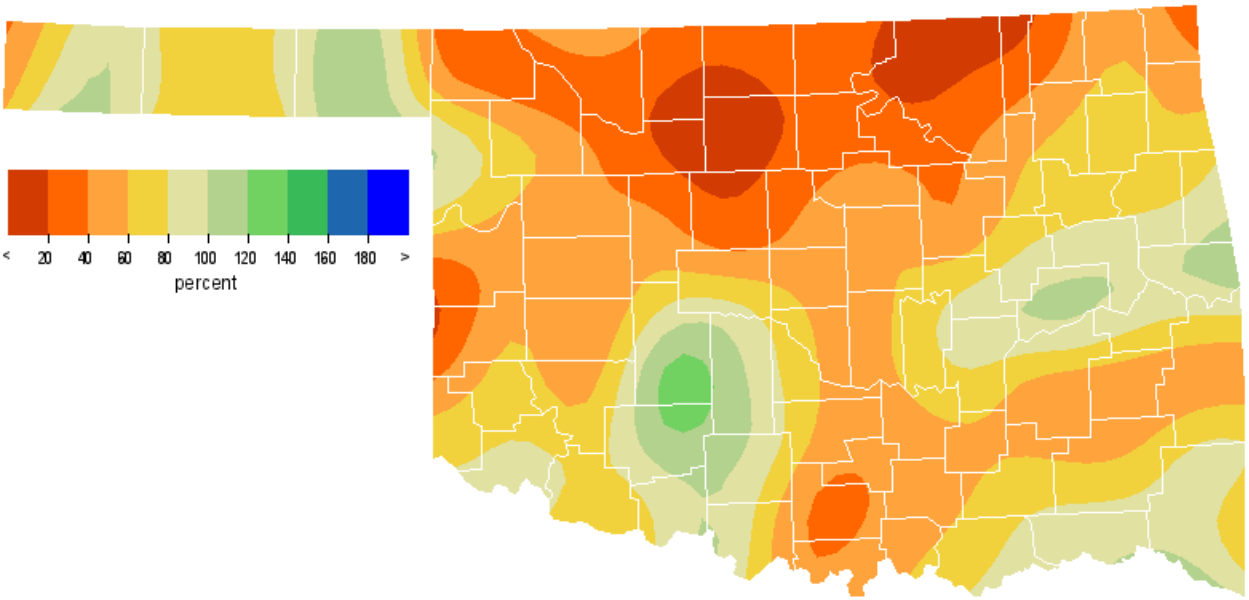
September 2006 Observed Precipitation



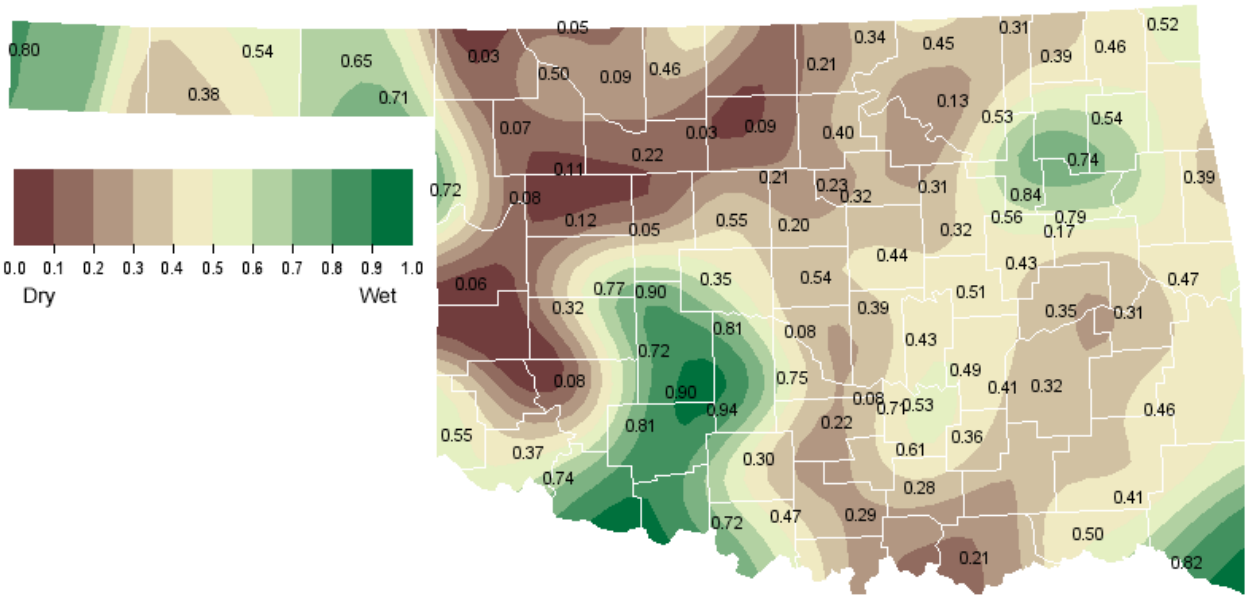
September 2006 Departure from Normal Precipitation



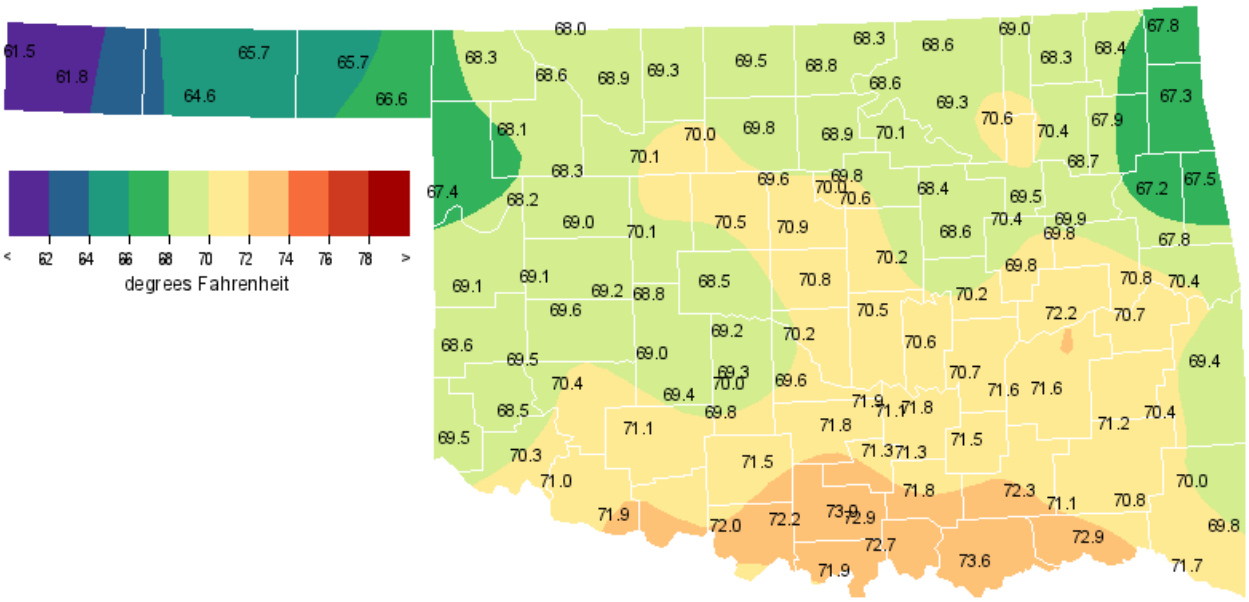
September 2006 Percent of Normal Precipitation



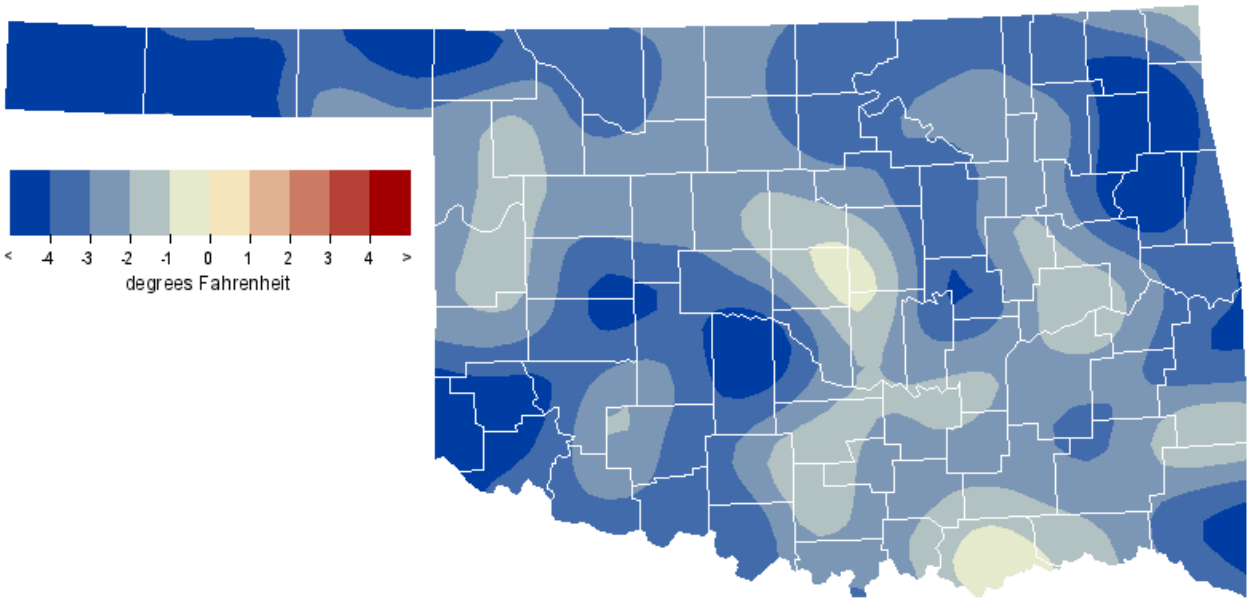
September 2006 Average Soil Moisture at 25cm



September 2006 Average Temperature



September 2006 Departure from Normal Temperature



Mesonet Monthly Summary for September 2006

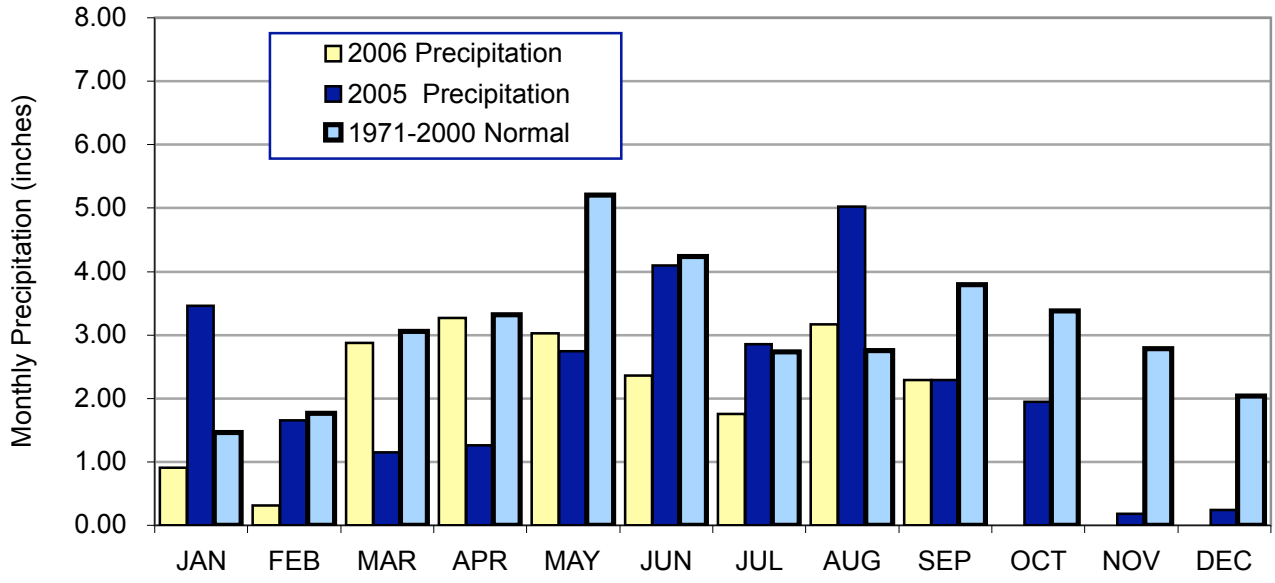
NAME	MEAN TEMP	HIGH TEMP	HIGH DAY	LOW TEMP	LOW DAY	HDD	CDD	TOT PPT	HIGH 24-HR	HIGH DAY
PANHANDLE										
Arnett	67.4	93	30	42	25	33	106	2.07	1.59	2
Beaver	65.7	93	16	37	25	66	88	2.00	1.51	9
Boise City	61.8	86	16	37	24	124	28	1.44	.60	1
Buffalo	68.3	96	16	39	28	34	133	.64	.19	2
NORTH CENTRAL										
Blackwell	68.8	96	16	41	19	29	143	1.20	.58	11
Breckinridge	69.9	95	16	41	19	23	169	.39	.27	21
Cherokee	69.3	94	16	41	25	24	154	.75	.61	1
Fairview	70.1	96	30	42	25	14	168	.70	.35	2
Freedom	68.6	94	16	41	28	26	134	.31	.15	2
Lahoma	70.0	95	16	44	19	18	168	.34	.10	2
May Ranch	68.1	92	16	42	28	28	120	1.72	.62	1
NORTHEAST										
Bixby	69.5	94	16	42	29	26	161	3.48	1.74	23
Burbank	68.6	96	16	39	29	31	140	.60	.38	21
Copan	69.0	96	16	42	19	32	151	.79	.43	21
Foraker	68.6	96	16	42	29	31	138	.74	.45	21
Jay	67.8	92	16	41	28	****	****	2.69	1.80	17
Miami	67.9	92	16	41	29	44	130	1.80	1.21	17
Nowata	68.3	94	16	38	29	40	140	1.24	.79	17
Pawnee	70.6	96	16	44	19	****	****	1.01	.43	21
WEST CENTRAL										
Bessie	69.5	94	16	48	28	11	146	1.09	.44	17
Butler	69.0	94	30	41	25	19	140	1.75	1.34	10
Camargo	68.1	94	30	40	25	24	118	1.48	1.02	10
Cheyenne	69.0	92	30	45	28	****	****	.94	.62	10
Erick	68.6	95	30	40	25	23	130	.74	.37	2
CENTRAL										
Bowlegs	70.6	96	16	43	29	19	187	3.33	2.68	17
Bristow	68.6	94	16	38	29	35	142	1.17	.74	17
Chandler	70.2	93	30	44	25	16	173	2.89	1.23	4
Chickasha	69.4	94	1	42	25	17	148	2.89	2.13	17
El Reno	68.4	92	30	41	25	25	128	1.39	.47	17
Guthrie	70.9	96	16	46	25	14	190	1.42	.82	17
Kingfisher	70.5	96	16	43	25	11	176	1.01	.50	21
Marena	70.0	96	16	44	29	17	167	1.46	.41	17
Minco	69.2	91	1	45	29	18	144	4.25	2.08	17
Oilton	68.3	94	16	39	28	41	141	1.90	.86	4
EAST CENTRAL										
Calvin	70.7	96	16	41	29	20	189	3.59	1.59	17
Cookson	67.8	91	16	39	29	53	138	4.61	1.88	23
Eufaula	72.2	96	16	47	29	14	230	5.76	2.80	22
Haskell	69.8	96	16	43	29	27	171	3.32	1.63	17
McAlester	71.6	95	16	43	29	****	****	2.16	.83	23
Okmulgee	69.8	96	16	42	29	28	173	4.24	2.98	17
Sallisaw	70.3	95	16	42	29	27	187	4.48	1.43	23
SOUTHWEST										
Altus	70.3	94	30	44	25	9	169	3.17	1.21	17
Fort Cobb	69.0	93	30	45	25	16	136	2.35	1.33	17
Hinton	68.8	93	30	46	25	19	133	2.23	.80	10
Hobart	70.4	96	30	43	25	13	174	1.21	.92	2
Hollis	69.5	95	16	44	29	13	148	2.06	.74	2
Mangum	68.5	95	30	41	25	19	123	1.93	1.23	2
SOUTH CENTRAL										
Ada	71.8	95	1	45	29	15	218	2.75	1.55	17
Burneyville	71.9	97	1	44	25	11	217	1.92	.88	4
Byars	71.9	94	16	48	25	9	216	1.89	1.31	17
Centrahoma	71.5	96	22	41	29	17	211	2.28	.96	23
Durant	73.6	96	16	49	29	4	262	3.02	1.11	23
Ketchum Ranch	71.5	97	1	46	29	9	205	4.16	3.22	17
Lane	72.3	96	16	45	29	11	229	3.48	1.34	23
Madill	72.6	96	22	45	29	8	237	2.36	.93	23
Pauls Valley	71.8	95	16	46	25	10	214	2.63	1.63	17
SOUTHEAST										
Antlers	71.0	97	16	40	29	18	198	2.96	1.32	17
Clayton	71.2	95	22	40	29	22	206	2.28	.77	23
Cloudy	70.8	94	11	40	29	18	192	3.23	1.27	17
Hugo	72.8	96	11	44	29	8	243	3.86	1.52	17
Idabel	71.7	94	16	42	29	****	****	4.40	2.58	23

NAME	MEAN TEMP	HIGH TEMP	HIGH DAY	LOW TEMP	LOW DAY	HDD	CDD	TOT PPT	HIGH 24-HR	HIGH DAY
Goodwell	64.5	90	16	37	28	****	****	1.19	.53	2
Hooker	65.5	92	16	37	28	****	****	1.29	.55	1
Kenton	61.5	85	30	35	28	130	26	.71	.32	12
Slapout	66.6	93	16	40	28	42	89	*****	*****	***
Medford	69.5	96	16	41	19	23	158	.83	.71	1
Newkirk	68.3	94	16	43	19	28	127	.85	.36	21
Red Rock	68.9	95	16	42	29	28	145	1.34	.49	1
Seiling	68.3	92	30	40	25	27	127	1.44	.75	10
Woodward	68.1	92	30	42	19	27	120	1.42	.70	10
Alva	68.9	95	16	43	25	****	****	.81	.36	2
Pryor	67.9	92	16	39	29	42	130	3.69	1.89	17
Skiatook	70.6	95	16	46	25	14	182	1.91	1.64	17
Vinita	68.4	95	16	39	29	36	137	3.68	3.17	17
Wynona	69.3	95	16	43	28	26	155	1.09	.58	21
Porter	69.9	94	16	43	29	25	172	3.86	2.06	17
Inola	68.6	92	16	42	28	34	143	3.00	1.43	17
Claremore	70.4	96	16	45	29	20	184	2.91	1.31	23
Putnam	69.1	93	16	45	18	17	139	.91	.62	10
Retrop	69.5	93	30	47	25	13	148	2.81	1.30	2
Watonga	70.0	92	16	48	28	14	164	1.58	.66	17
Weatherford	69.2	93	16	47	24	18	143	1.88	.50	10
Okemah	70.2	95	16	43	29	22	179	4.43	2.58	17
Perkins	70.7	96	16	46	25	15	185	2.69	1.72	17
Shawnee	70.5	95	30	46	25	16	181	1.88	.83	17
Spencer	70.7	95	16	47	25	17	189	2.02	1.42	17
Stillwater	69.9	96	16	42	25	25	170	1.32	.54	17
Washington	69.6	93	16	42	29	17	156	2.81	1.52	17
Ninnekah	70.0	94	1	44	25	16	166	3.92	1.86	17
Acme	69.6	93	1	43	25	****	****	3.38	2.11	17
Norman	70.3	93	16	46	25	16	173	2.96	2.09	17
Marshall	69.6	95	16	42	25	25	162	.74	.51	21
Stigler	70.6	96	16	41	29	26	193	4.09	1.50	17
Stuart	72.1	94	22	44	29	****	****	*****	*****	***
Tahlequah	67.6	91	16	40	29	****	****	3.20	1.78	23
Webbers Falls	70.8	96	16	42	29	23	199	5.59	2.38	22
Westville	67.5	92	16	42	29	46	121	4.37	1.43	23
Hectorville	70.4	95	16	45	29	****	****	2.45	1.40	17
Medicine Park	71.1	93	30	51	29	7	191	3.49	1.84	17
Tipton	71.0	96	16	45	25	8	188	2.85	1.09	17
Walters	71.8	96	16	45	25	****	****	3.49	2.10	17
Apache	69.4	92	30	47	29	15	147	6.07	4.15	17
Grandfield	72.0	95	30	46	25	7	216	2.06	.87	2
Ringling	72.5	97	1	46	29	****	****	1.81	.63	4
Sulphur	71.3	96	22	42	25	18	207	1.89	.95	23
Tishomingo	71.5	96	16	43	29	****	****	2.48	1.53	23
Waurika	72.1	96	1	46	25	7	219	3.53	1.54	10
Vanoss	71.0	95	16	43	29	19	200	2.91	1.94	17
Newport	73.0	98	22	48	25	2	243	.97	.49	23
Ardmore	72.8	97	22	48	25	5	240	1.69	.96	23
Fittstown	71.3	95	22	45	29	16	205	2.57	.90	23
Mt Herman	70.0	90	16	42	29	****	****	4.74	1.95	17
Talihina	70.4	94	16	39	29	26	187	2.44	.93	23
Wilburton	70.3	94	16	41	29	****	****	2.52	.91	11
Wister	69.4	96	16	37	29	****	****	2.53	.87	21
Broken Bow	69.9	93	16	38	29	****	****	2.72	1.61	23

September 2006 Mesonet Precipitation Comparison

Climate Division	Precipitation (inches)	Departure from Normal (inches)	Rank since 1895	Wettest on Record (Year)	Driest on Record (Year)	Sep-05
Panhandle	1.33	-0.55	43rd Driest	4.57 (1985)	0.05 (1956)	0.68
North Central	0.93	-2.20	12th Driest	7.08 (1945)	0.04 (2000)	1.06
Northeast	2.17	-2.61	26th Driest	12.42 (1986)	0.13 (1948)	2.41
West Central	1.46	-1.57	27th Driest	8.64 (1986)	0.02 (2000)	1.44
Central	2.39	-1.72	42nd Driest	10.68 (1945)	0.19 (1956)	2.16
East Central	3.99	-0.97	54th Wettest	10.40 (1970)	0.23 (1948)	1.92
Southwest	2.81	-0.58	48th Wettest	8.68 (1936)	0.00 (1898)	2.75
South Central	2.49	-1.85	47th Driest	9.98 (1936)	0.00 (1909)	2.45
Southeast	3.24	-1.33	54th Driest	11.75 (1974)	0.29 (1948)	3.17
Statewide	2.29	-1.52	39th Driest	7.86 (1945)	0.27 (1956)	1.99

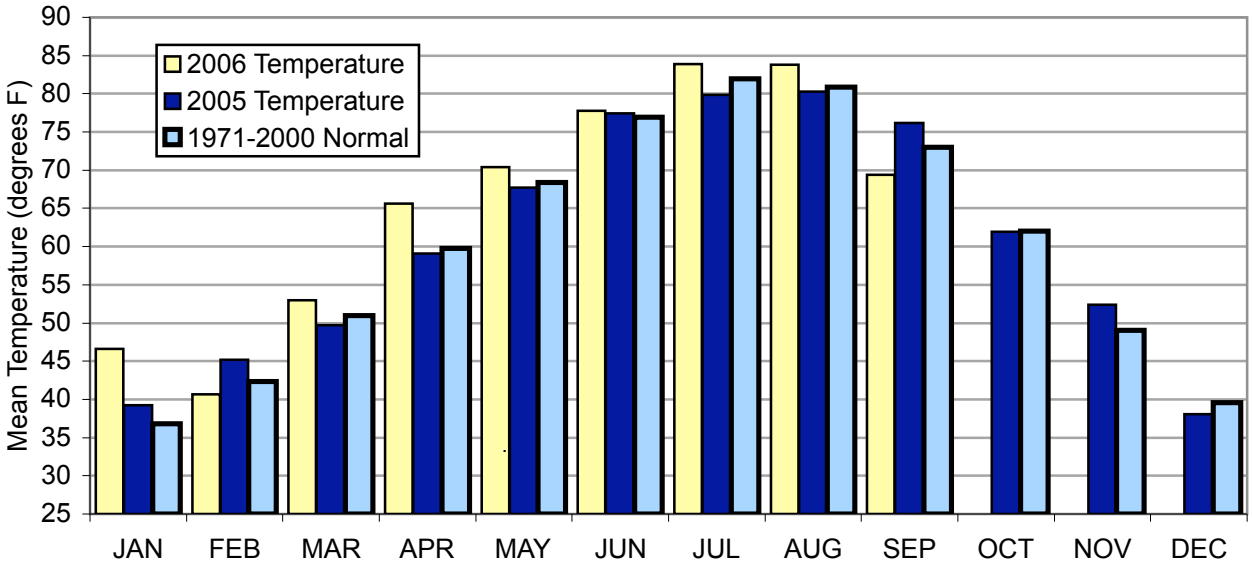
2005 and 2006 Statewide Precipitation Monthly Totals vs. Normal



September 2006 Mesonet Temperature Comparison

Climate Division	Average Temp (F)	Departure from Normal (F)	Rank since 1895	Hottest on Record (Year)	Coldest on Record (Year)	Sep-05 (F)
Panhandle	65.2	-4.2	3rd Coolest	76.2 (1931)	62.4 (1974)	74.4
North Central	69.0	-3.1	12th Coolest	80.8 (1931)	64.0 (1974)	76.3
Northeast	69.0	-2.7	15th Coolest	79.1 (1931)	63.4 (1974)	76.2
West Central	69.2	-2.7	15th Coolest	80.4 (1931)	64.4 (1974)	76.6
Central	69.9	-2.9	13th Coolest	81.3 (1931)	65.0 (1974)	77.2
East Central	70.0	-2.7	10th Coolest	80.5 (1939)	65.1 (1974)	78.3
Southwest	70.0	-3.7	7th Coolest	81.2 (1931)	66.4 (1974)	78.3
South Central	72.0	-2.1	21st Coolest	81.3 (1998)	66.3 (1974)	80.5
Southeast	70.8	-2.3	17th Coolest	81.2 (1939)	65.9 (1974)	78.8
Statewide	69.4	-3.0	10th Coolest	79.8 (1931)	64.7 (1974)	77.4

2005 and 2006 Statewide Temperature Monthly Averages vs. Normal



Mesonet Extremes for September 2006

Climate Division	High Temp (F)	Day	Station	Low Temp (F)	Day	Station	High Monthly Rainfall (inches)	Station	High Daily Rainfall (inches)	Day	Station
Panhandle	96	16th	Buffalo	35	28th	Kenton	2.07	Arnett	1.59	2nd	Arnett
North Central	96	30th	Fairview	40	25th	Seiling	1.72	May Ranch	0.75	10th	Seiling
Northeast	96	16th	Burbank	38	29th	Nowata	3.86	Porter	3.17	17th	Vinita
West Central	95	30th	Erick	40	25th	Camargo	2.81	Retrop	1.34	10th	Butler
Central	96	16th	Perkins	38	29th	Bristow	4.43	Okemah	2.68	17th	Bowlegs
East Central	96	16th	Webbers Falls	39	29th	Cookson	5.76	Eufaula	2.98	17th	Okmulgee
Southwest	96	16th	Tipton	41	25th	Mangum	6.07	Apache	4.15	17th	Apache
South Central	98	22nd	Newport	41	29th	Centrahoma	4.16	Ketchum Ranch	3.22	17th	Ketchum Ranch
Southeast	97	16th	Antlers	37	29th	Wister	4.74	Mt Herman	2.58	23rd	Idabel
Statewide	98	22nd	Newport	35	28th	Kenton	6.07	Apache	4.15	17th	Apache

October Climatological Outlook

October typically brings Oklahoma some of its most pleasant weather. Days are usually pleasantly warm and nights typically are refreshingly cool. On the occasions that the weather does turn nasty, however, the result too often is flood, as October seems to be a favored time for extreme precipitation events. The year's tenth month is Oklahoma's 6th warmest and 4th wettest, according to the most recently compiled statewide normals. From 1971 through 2000, the period from which current normals of temperature and precipitation were calculated, Oklahoma's October average temperature was 62.0 degrees Fahrenheit and the average reporting station received a monthly precipitation of 3.38 inches.

Temperature
Mean: 62.0 degrees
Warmest October: 1963, 70.7 degrees
Coolest October: 1974, 65.4 degrees
Warmest location: Waurika, 66.3 degrees
Coolest Location: Turpin, 56.6 degrees
Hottest recorded: 110 degrees, Waukomis, October 2, 1898
Coldest recorded: 6 degrees, Kenton, October 30, 1993

October is given to wide extremes of precipitation. The larger monthly figures are usually impacted by one or two very large events. Remnants of tropical storms or hurricanes, usually from the Gulf of Mexico, but occasionally originating in the Pacific Ocean, occasionally bring widespread heavy rains to the state during October. At other times, mid-latitude storm systems have stalled over the state and, taking advantage of moisture borne from the Gulf by the prevailing southerly winds, produced prodigious amounts of rain. In many other years, October is virtually without rain. Monthly precipitation totals include a statewide-averaged high of 11.32 inches in 1941, the largest total ever recorded for Oklahoma (any month), and a low of 0.14 inch, attained in 1952. The remnants of Hurricane Norma provided enough rain over a three-day period in October 1981 to give Madill the greatest monthly precipitation total (25.80 inches) ever recorded at a recognized reporting station in Oklahoma (all months). A thoroughly extra-tropical thunderstorm system inundated Enid with 15.68 inches of rain in about 12 hours (12 inches in just 3 hours) on October 11, 1973. That total, reported the following morning, is the state's greatest 24-hour precipitation in any month, as measured at an official reporting station.

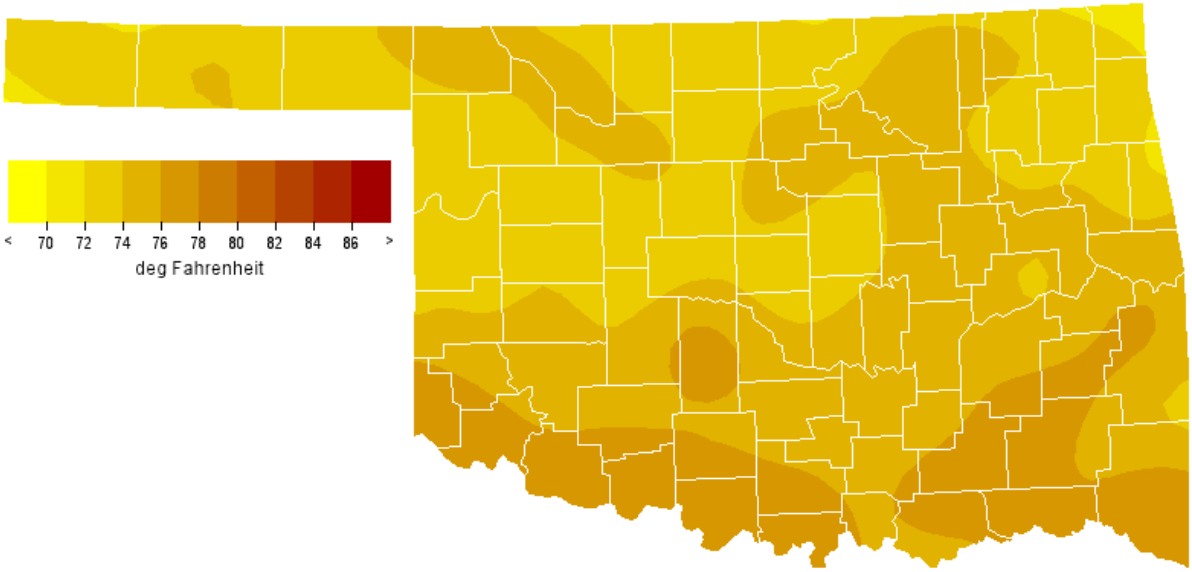
Precipitation
Mean: 3.38 inches
Wettest Year: 1941, 11.32 inches
Driest Year: 1917 and 1952, 0.14 inches
Wettest location: Smithville, 6.22 inches
Driest location: Kenton, 0.99 inches
Most recorded: 25.80 inches, Madill, 1981

The normal precipitation pattern across Oklahoma in October returns to its familiar configuration with eastern stations receiving substantially more rainfall than those in the west. Normal monthly precipitation across the state during October ranges from 6.22 inches at Smithville to 0.99 inches at Kenton. Snowfall is not common during October, but Regnier, Kenton, and Boise City each average receiving about one inch of snow during the month. Those averages were inflated by a freak snowstorm on October 25 and 26, 1997 that dropped 15 inches of snow on Kenton. As many as 15,000 head of cattle across the panhandle died during that snowstorm.

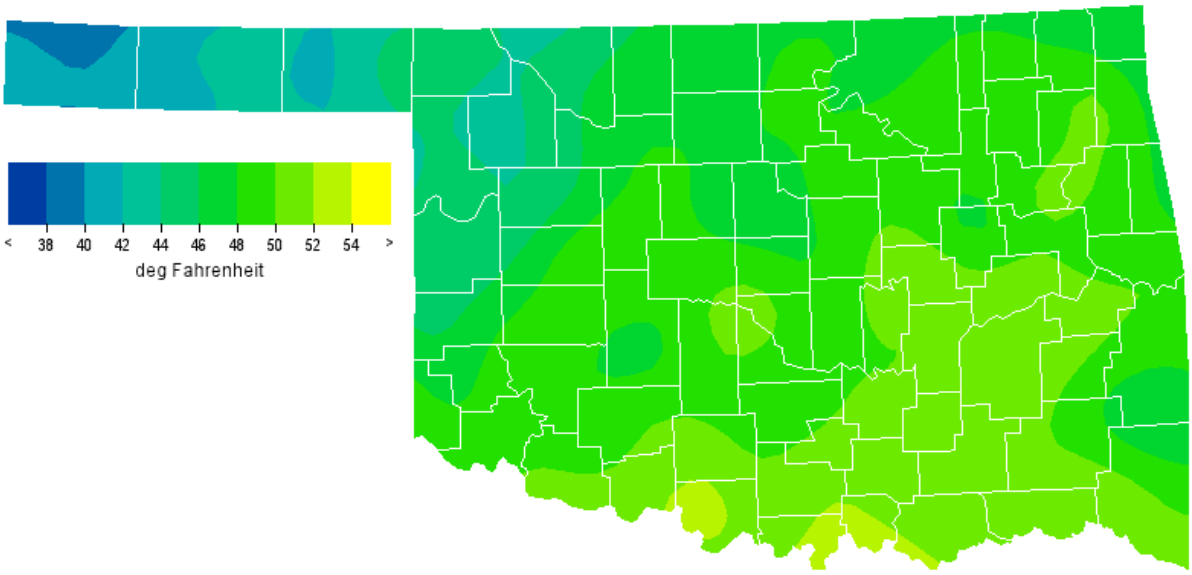
Tornadoes
Average October Tornadoes: 2
Most: 27 (1998)

Severe thunderstorms, apart from the floods, historically have been little more than footnotes in October for most of the state's history. However, recent occurrences have altered that notion somewhat. Reasonably comprehensive and well-documented tornado records in the state date from 1950. During those 54 years, 123 October tornadoes have been identified in Oklahoma, an average of 2.3 per year. There were no October tornadoes reported during 23 of those years. However, 25 tornadoes were reported in the state on October 4, 1998 and 19 more were reported on October 9, 2001. Those two days account for over one-third of the tornadoes reported (and confirmed) within the state in October during that 54-year period. The state's monthly total of 27 tornadoes during October 1998 represents the most tornadoes ever reported within any state during an October.

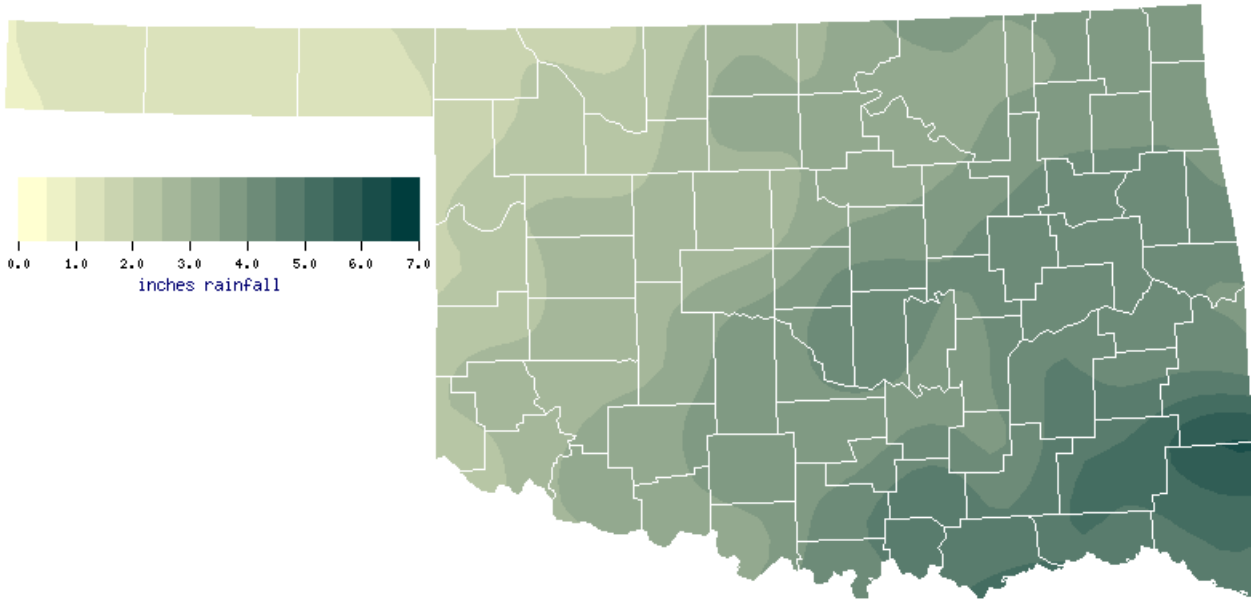
October Normal Monthly Maximum Temperature (1971-2000)



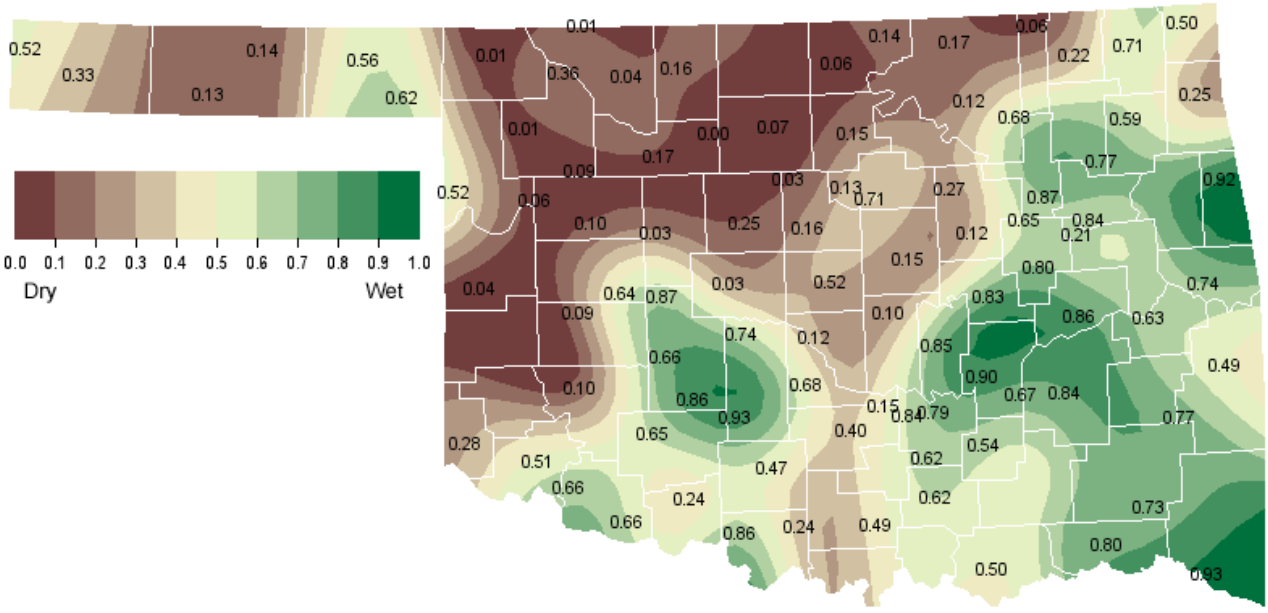
October Normal Monthly Minimum Temperature (1971-2000)



October Normal Precipitation (1971-2000)



October 1, 2006 Soil Moisture Conditions at 25cm



October 2006 Drought Indices

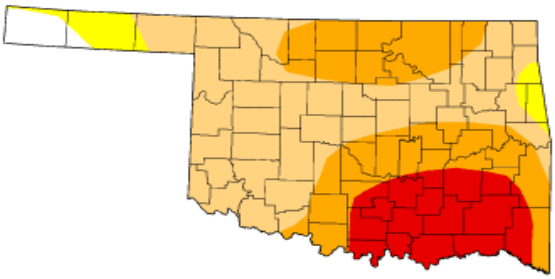
U.S. Drought Monitor

Oklahoma

September 26, 2006
Valid 8 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	2.7	97.3	92.7	46.2	16.6	0.0
Last Week (9/19/2006 map)	2.6	97.4	94.3	46.2	16.6	5.5
3 Months Ago (6/13/2006 map)	0.0	100.0	88.4	67.5	33.2	0.0
Start of Calendar Year (1/3/2006 map)	1.3	98.7	79.9	40.8	10.1	5.7
Start of Water Year (10/4/2005 map)	80.1	19.9	9.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
One Year Ago (9/27/2005 map)	81.9	18.1	8.1	0.2	0.0	0.0



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

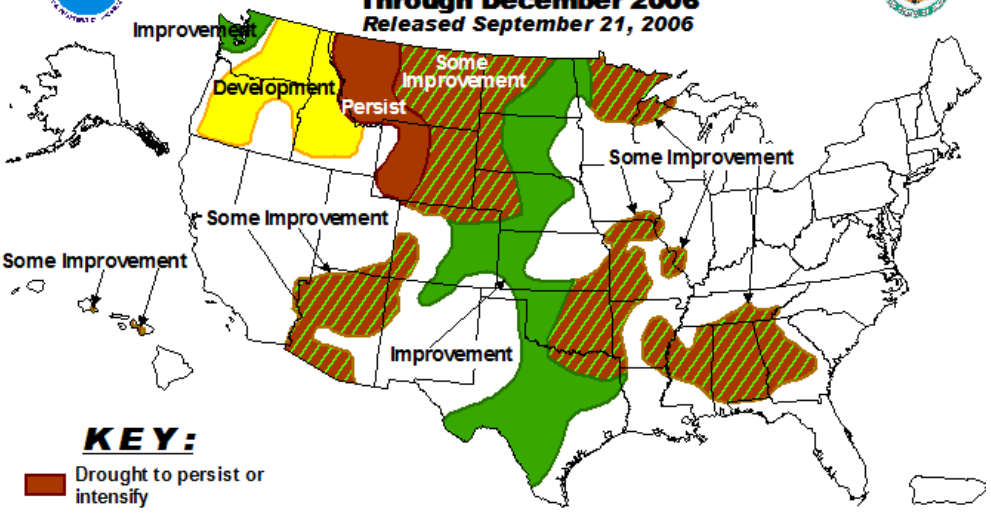
http://drought.unl.edu/dm

USDA · National Drought Mitigation Center

Released Thursday, September 28, 2006
Author: Ned Guttman/Liz Love-Brotak, NOAA/NESDIS/NCDC

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Through December 2006
Released September 21, 2006

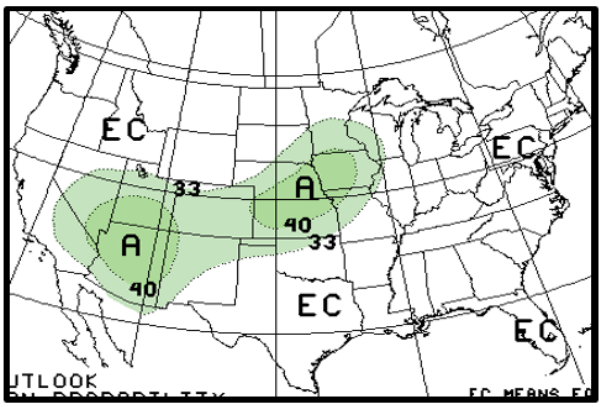


KEY:

- Drought to persist or intensify
- Drought ongoing, some improvement
- Drought likely to improve, impacts ease
- Drought development likely

Depicts general, large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by numerous indicators, including short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events -- such as individual storms -- cannot be accurately forecast more that a few days in advance, so use caution if using this outlook for applications -- such as crops -- that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4). For weekly drought updates, see the latest Drought Monitor map and text. NOTE: the green improvement areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels, but do not necessarily imply drought elimination.

October 2006 U.S. Precipitation Forecast



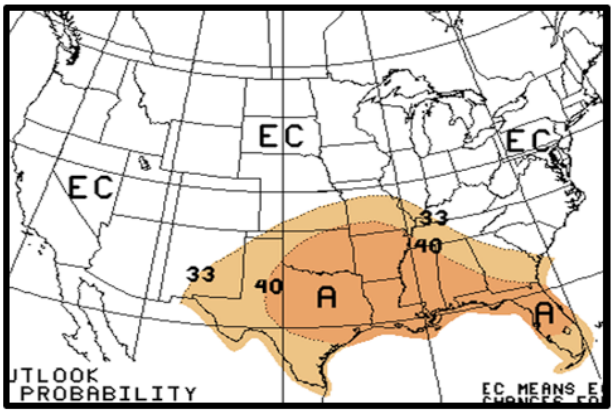
Percent Likelihood of Above or Below Average Precipitation*

5% - 10%
0% - 5%
A = Above

0% - 5%
5% - 10%
B = Below

*EC indicates no forecasted anomalies due to lack of model skill.

October 2006 U.S. Temperature Forecast



Percent Likelihood of Above and Below Average Temperatures*

10% - 20%
5% - 10%
0% - 5%
A = Above

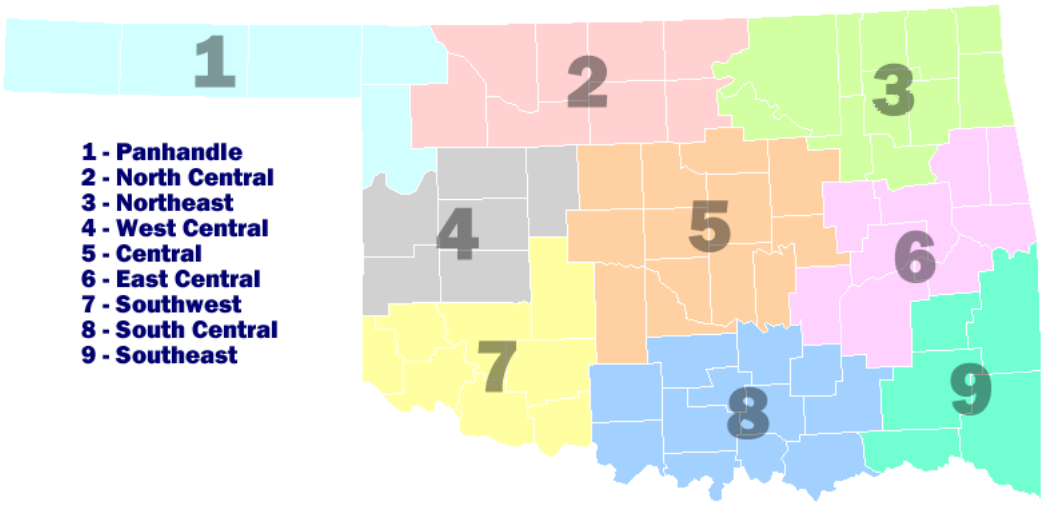
0% - 5%
5% - 10%
B = Below

*EC indicates no forecasted anomalies due to lack of model skill.

October Climate Normals

Climate Division	Max. Temperature (∞F)	Min. Temperature (∞F)	Avg. Temperature (∞F)	Precipitation (inches)
1	73.70	42.90	58.30	1.49
2	73.50	46.50	60.00	2.66
3	73.80	48.70	61.30	3.62
4	73.70	47.20	60.50	2.47
5	74.40	49.30	61.80	3.64
6	74.50	50.00	62.30	4.19
7	75.80	48.90	62.30	2.99
8	76.10	50.80	63.50	4.17
9	76.10	49.50	62.80	4.98
Statewide	74.60	48.30	61.50	3.48

Oklahoma Climate Divisions



Interpretation Information

Mean Daily Temperature: Calculated from an average of the daily maximum and minimum temperatures. Daily averages are summed for each day, and then divided by the number of valid data points – typically the number of days in the month. Although this may differ from the "true" daily average, it is consistent with historical methods of observation and comparable to the normals and extremes for stations and regions of the state.

Degree Days: Degree Days are calculated each day of the month for which there is a temperature report and the mean temperature for the day is less than (Heating Degree Days) or greater than (Cooling Degree Days) 65 degrees. Daily values are summed to arrive at a monthly total. HDD/CDD are qualitative measures of how much heating/cooling was required to maintain a comfortable indoor temperature. Missing observations may result in an artificially high or low value.

Severe Weather Reports: Only the most significant events are listed. Tornadoes of F2 or greater strength (on the 0-5 Fujita scale), hail of two inches diameter or greater, and wind speeds of 70 miles per hour or above are listed. National Weather Service defines storms as severe when they produce a tornado, hail of three-quarters inch or greater, or wind speeds above 57 miles per hour (50 knots). For additional reports, contact the Oklahoma Climatological Survey, Storm Prediction Center, or your local National Weather Service forecast office.

Soil Moisture: The soil moisture variable displayed is the Fractional Water Index (FWI), measured at a depth of 25 cm. This unitless value ranges from very dry soil having a value of 0, to saturated soils having a value of 1.

Additional Resources

Sunrise / Sunset tables
U.S. Naval Observatory: http://aa.usno.navy.mil/data

Severe Storm Reports
Storm Prediction Center: http://spc.noaa.gov/climo/

National Climatic Data Center (more than about 4-5 months old):
http://www4.ncdc.noaa.gov/cgi-win/wwcgi.dll?wwEvent~Storms

Seasonal Outlooks
Climate Prediction Center:
http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/OUTLOOKS_index.html

Climate Calendars and other local weather and climate information
Oklahoma Climatological Survey: http://climate.ocs.ou.edu or
http://www.ocs.ou.edu/
E-mail (ocs@ou.edu) or telephone (405/325-2541)

OKLAHOMA CLIMATOLOGICAL SURVEY

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