Oklahoma Monthly Climate Summary

JANUARY 2012

OKLAHOMA CLIMATOLOGICAL SURVEY

Snow was mostly a no-show during January as Oklahoma's mild winter weather continued for a second month. The average temperature across the state soared to nearly 7 degrees above normal to rank as the eighth warmest January since records began in 1895. Combine that with a mild December and the first two months of the winter season finished at more than 3 degrees above normal and ranked as the 16th warmest such period on record. In Oklahoma, only a few localized areas in central and northeastern parts of the state reported snowfall totals of more than an inch for the month. The blizzard that struck the Panhandle in mid-December remains the only significant snowstorm to strike the state this season. While the snowflakes were few and far between in January, there was plentiful, drought-quenching rainfall to be had for parts of the state. Southeastern and south central Oklahoma saw totals range from 4-7 inches according to data from the Oklahoma Mesonet. South central's average total of 3.62 inches ranked as the ninth wettest January for that area since 1895. Those generous totals were enough to propel the statewide average rainfall during January to more than a quarter of an inch above normal and a ranking of 38th wettest. Other parts of the state were not so fortunate. Much of western and northern Oklahoma totaled less than half of an inch of precipitation.

January 2012 Statewide Extremes

Description	Extreme	Station	Day
High Temperature	79°F	Magnum	16
Low Temperature	9°F	Nowata	18
High Precipitation	7.11 in.	Lane	--
Low Precipitation	0.0 in.	Boise City	--

PRECIPITATION

The Mesonet site at Boise City received no measurable precipitation for the month and Copan barely wet the gauge with a hundredth of an inch. Northeastern Oklahoma's average January total of a little more than a half of an inch was the 15th lowest on record while the Panhandle averaged just over a tenth of an inch. The Mesonet site at Lane led the state with 7.11 inches of rainfall. Tulsa's total of 0.61 inches was 1.05 inches below normal and Oklahoma City was nearly an inch above normal with a total of 2.23 inches.

TEMPERATURE

January 2012 was more than 8 degrees warmer than January 2011. The highest temperature recorded during the month was 79 degrees at Mangum on the 16th. The lowest temperature was 9 degrees at Nowata on the ninth. While all parts of the state were much above normal, the northeast attained the highest ranking at sixth warmest. That area of the state was 7.7 degrees above normal for the month.

JANUARY DAILY HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY 1-8: The first eight days of January were punctuated by warm weather and mostly clear skies. A few not-so-cold cold fronts moved through the state and cooled things back down to near normal, but temperatures in the 60s were common. A few areas saw temperatures rise above 70 degrees on the fifth and sixth. Virtually no rain fell in the state during this period.

JANUARY 9-10: The first significant rain to fall during the month occurred on the ninth with the approach of an upper-level low pressure system from the southwest. The rain started in southern Oklahoma and eventually spread north and east. The rain was almost entirely south of the I-44 corridor. More than 2 inches fell in parts of the southeast, with 1-2 inches surrounding those areas. Highs were mostly in the 40s and 50s thanks to the cloud cover and precipitation after lows in the 20s and 30s.

January 2012 Statewide Statistics

Temperature

	Average	Depart.	Rank (1895-2012)
Month (January)	42.9°F	6.8°F	8th Warmest
Season-to-Date (Dec-Jan)	40.9°F	3.4°F	16th Warmest

Precipitation

	Average	Depart.	Rank (1895-2012)
Month (January)	1.74 in.	0.29 in.	38th Wettest
Season-to-Date (Dec-Jan)	4.09 in.	0.62 in.	28th Wettest

Depart. = departure from 30-year normal

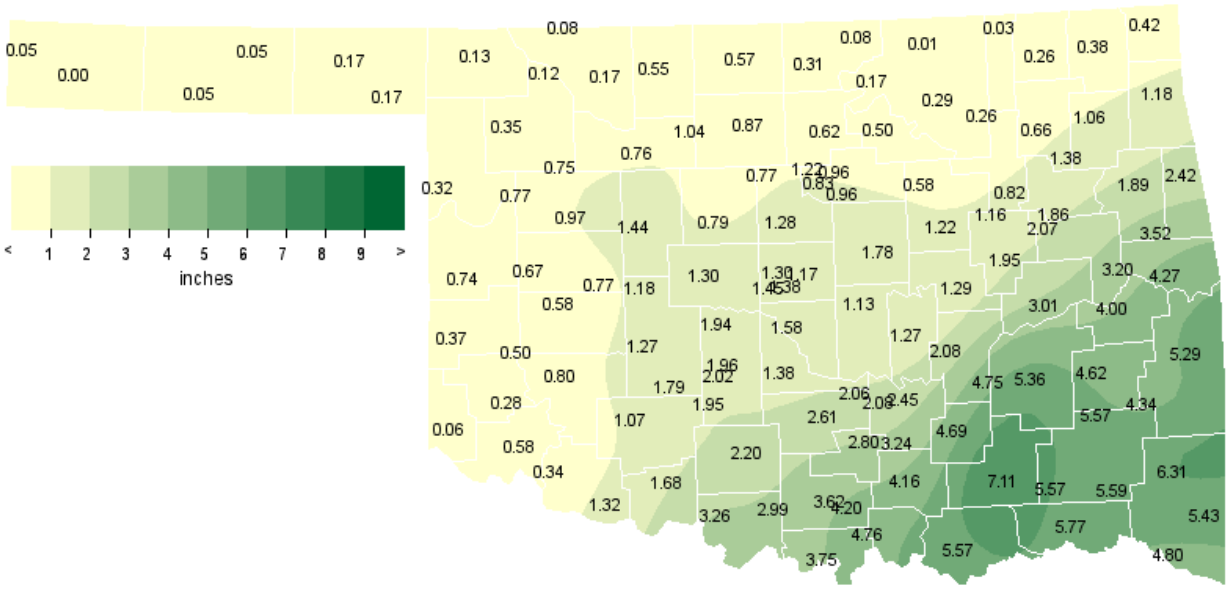
JANUARY 11-16: A warming period ensued after the rain. Lows were cool in the early part of this six-day period, but by the 16th temperatures were 20 degrees above normal in the 40s and 50s. The same story occurred with the high temperatures, with 30s and 40s on the 11th and 12th and into the 70s on the 16th. Mangum reached 79 degrees on the 16th for the highest temperature of the month..

JANUARY 17-23: This seven-day period saw many changes in temperature thanks to a few cold fronts, but remained dry for the most part. Nowata reached 9 degrees on the 18th for the lowest reading in the state during the month. A very strong cold front pushed through the state on the 21st that cooled things down considerably. Wind chill values were in the single digits that morning and temperatures only rose into the 40s that afternoon.

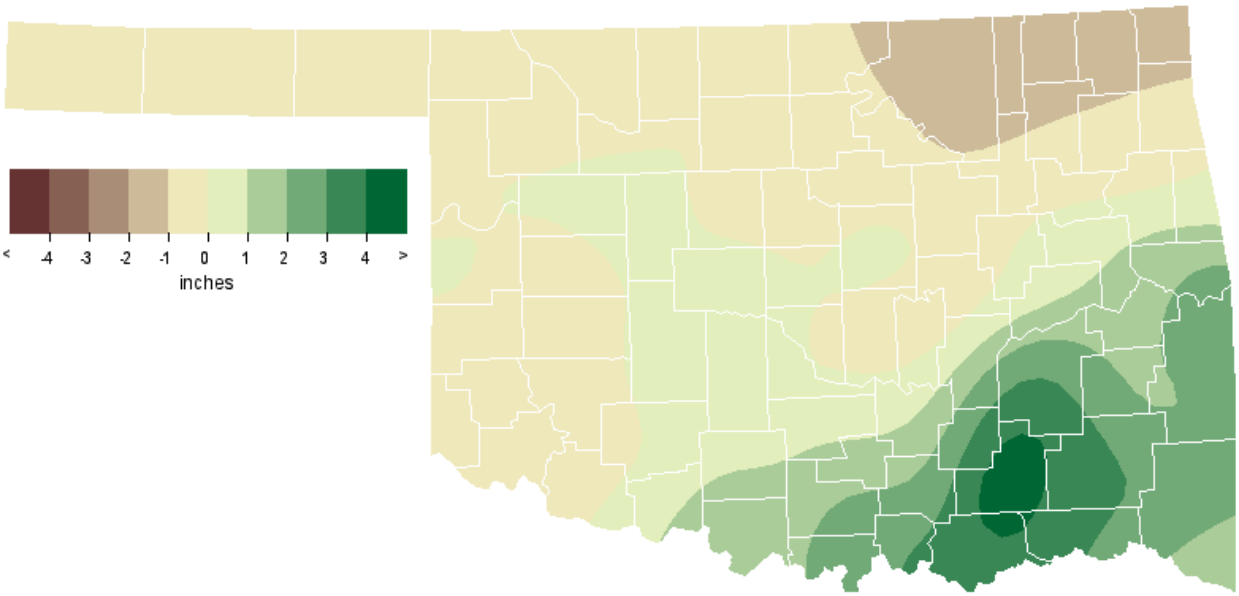
JANUARY 24-26: More rain was in the offing for this period, although it started out clear and unseasonably warm on the 24th. Lows remained in the 30s and 40s before low clouds swooped in during the afternoon in association with an upper-level storm moving through Texas. A few showers and storms formed on the 24th and continued overnight on the 25th. The storm system, and the rain, finally moved out on the 26th. Highs rose into the 50s that afternoon. Total rainfall for this period ranged from virtually nothing in the northwest to about 5 inches in the southeast.

JANUARY 27-31: A couple of cold fronts ended the month. Highs rose into the 50s and 60s for most of this period. A cold front on the 31st kept strong southerly winds pumping ahead of it and brought up some warm Gulf air. Lows were mostly in the 50s with highs rising into the 60s and 70s.

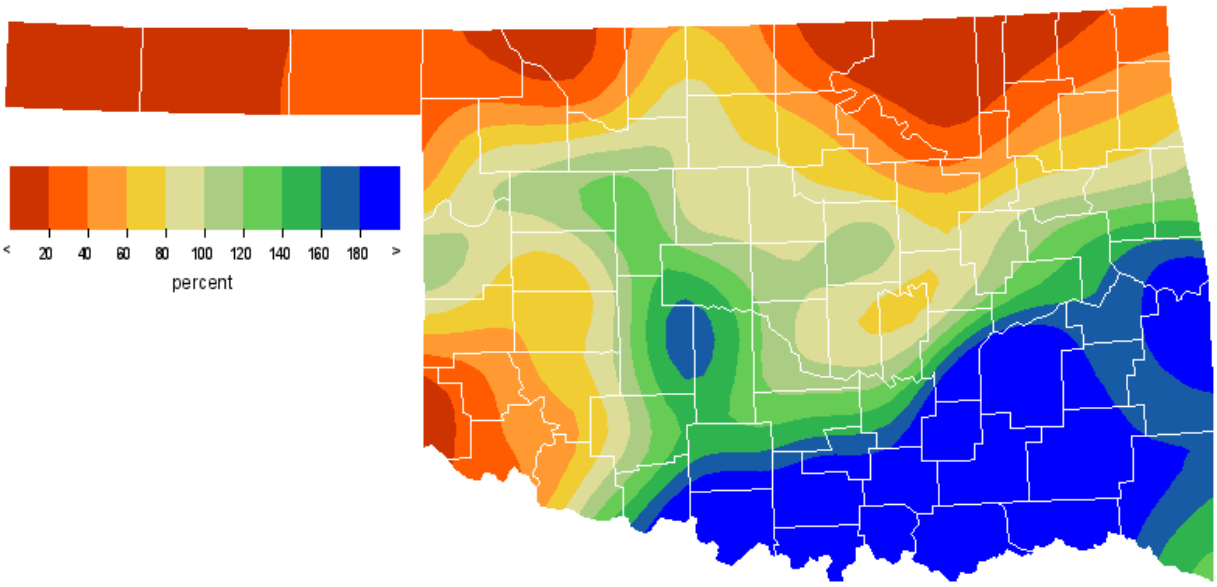
JANUARY 2012 OBSERVED PRECIPITATION



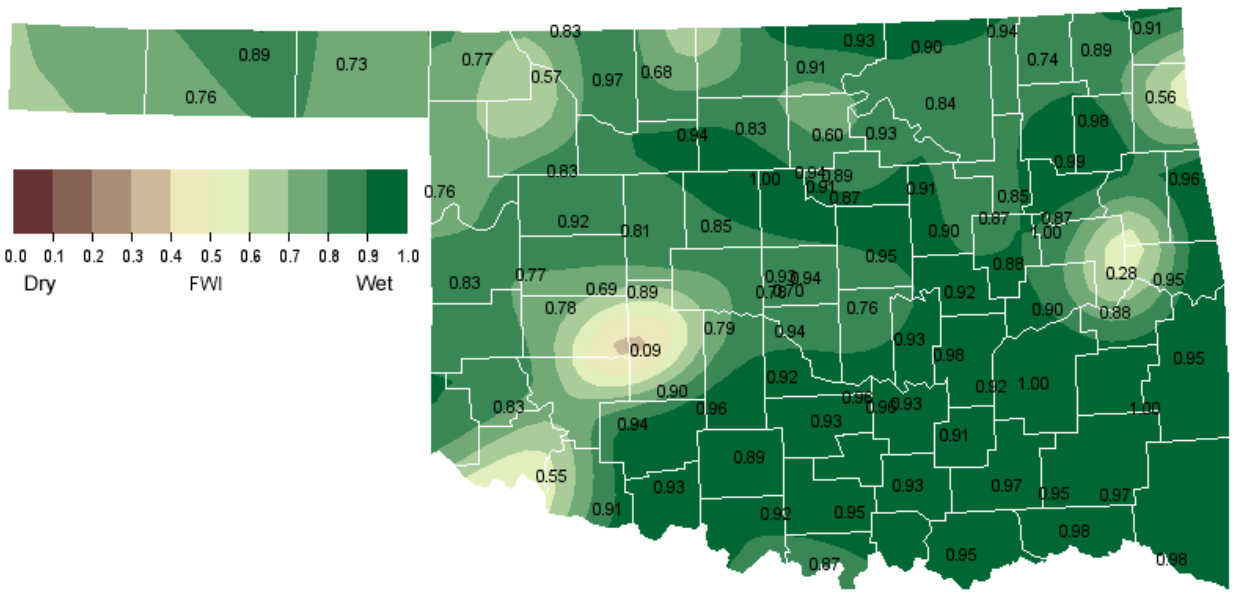
JANUARY 2012 DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL PRECIPITATION



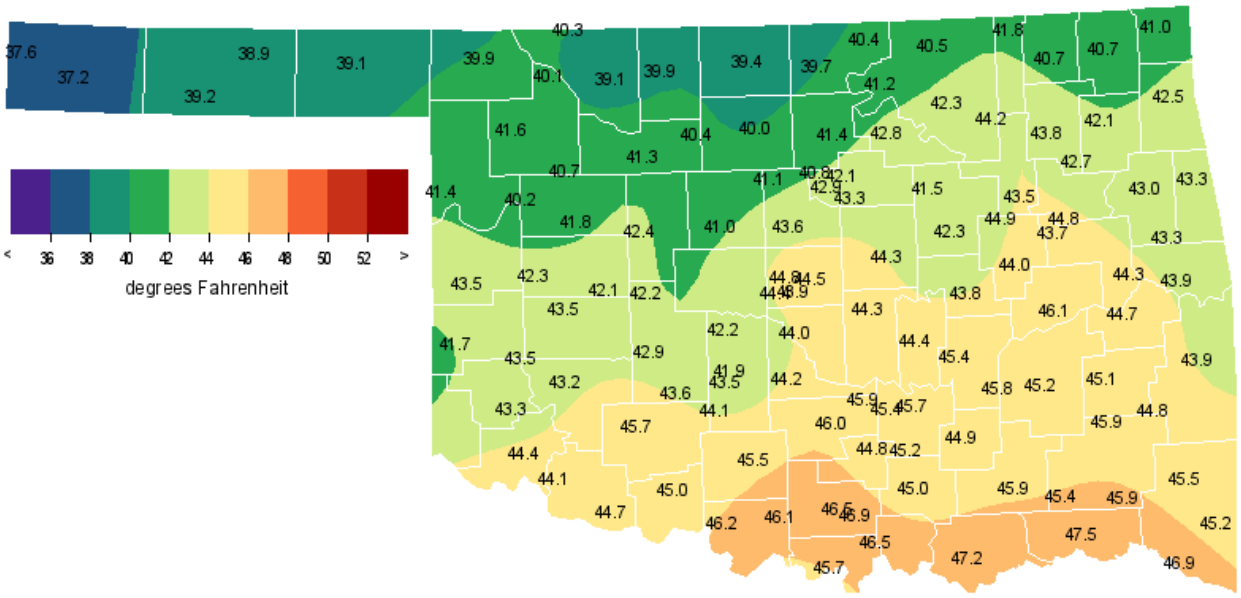
JANUARY 2012 PERCENT OF NORMAL PRECIPITATION



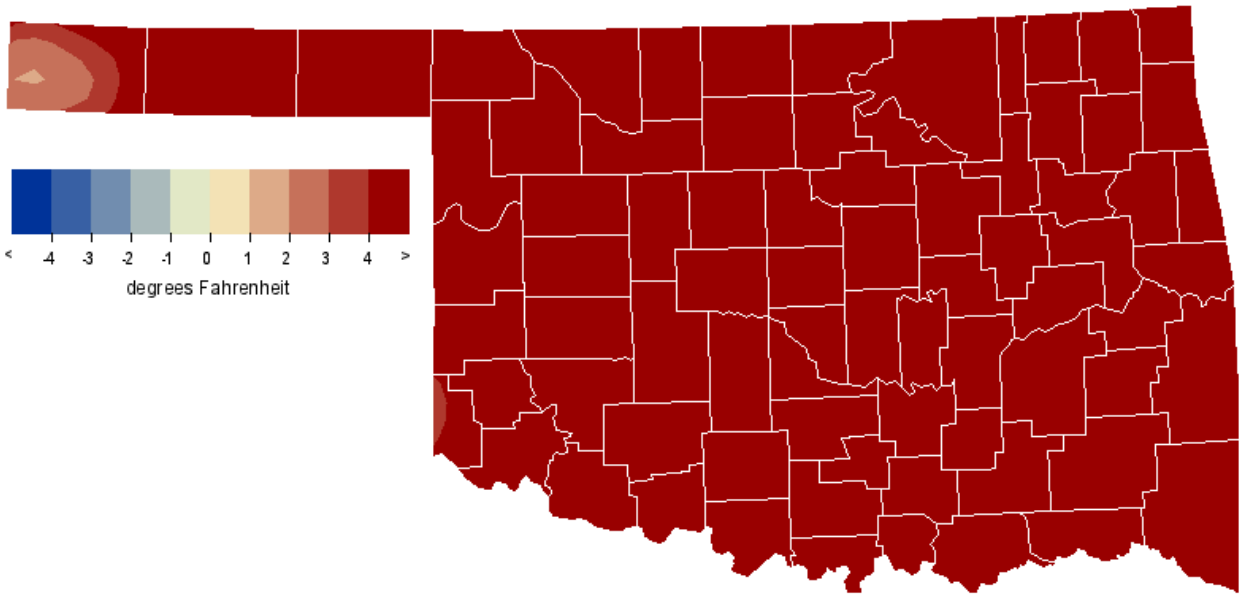
JANUARY 2012 AVERAGE SOIL MOISTURE AT 25CM



JANUARY 2012 AVERAGE TEMPERATURE



JANUARY 2012 DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL TEMPERATURE

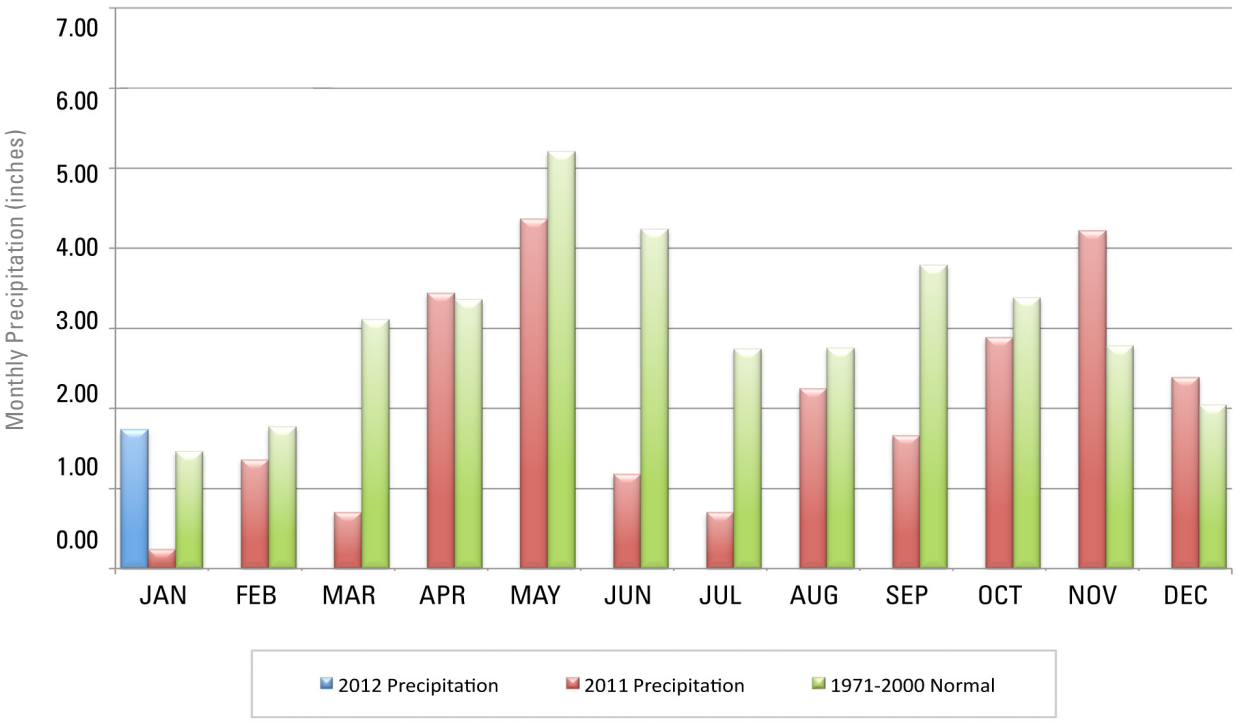


MESONET MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR JANUARY 2012

NAME	MEAN TEMP	HIGH TEMP	HIGH DAY	LOW TEMP	LOW DAY	HDD	CDD	TOT PPT	HIGH 24-HR	HIGH DAY
PANHANDLE										
Arnett	41.4	75	16	15	21	730	0	.32	.17	24
Beaver	39.2	73	16	15	21	800	0	.17	.17	22
Boise City	37.2	68	30	12	12	861	0	.00	.00	1
Buffalo	39.9	70	5	14	18	777	0	.13	.13	22
NORTH CENTRAL										
Alva	39.0	73	16	10	18	805	0	.17	.11	24
Blackwell	39.7	70	16	13	18	783	0	.31	.22	25
Breckinridge	40.0	69	16	14	17	775	0	.87	.58	24
Cherokee	39.9	67	22	14	18	777	0	.55	.49	24
Fairview	*****	***	***	***	***	****	****	.76	.62	24
Freedom	40.0	69	5	15	18	774	0	.12	.10	22
Lahoma	40.3	71	16	15	18	765	0	1.04	.82	24
NORTHEAST										
Bixby	43.4	73	16	16	13	669	0	.82	.56	25
Burbank	41.2	71	16	11	18	736	0	.17	.10	25
Claremore	43.8	72	16	15	18	656	0	.66	.62	25
Copan	41.8	71	16	11	18	718	0	.03	.02	25
Foraker	40.5	72	16	10	18	758	0	.01	.01	26
Inola	42.7	72	16	15	18	692	0	1.38	1.30	25
Jay	42.5	69	16	13	18	696	0	1.18	1.13	25
Miami	41.1	70	16	12	18	742	0	.42	.41	25
WEST CENTRAL										
Bessie	43.5	70	16	19	21	666	0	.58	.41	24
Butler	42.4	73	16	15	18	702	0	.67	.65	24
Camargo	40.2	74	16	12	18	767	0	.77	.75	24
Cheyenne	43.5	75	16	18	21	666	0	.74	.73	24
Erick	41.7	77	16	14	18	724	0	.37	.37	24
CENTRAL										
Acme	44.1	69	16	17	18	649	0	1.95	1.14	24
Bowlegs	44.4	73	16	15	18	638	0	1.27	.50	24
Bristow	42.3	73	16	13	18	704	0	1.22	.71	25
Lake Carl Blac	40.8	68	6	11	18	750	0	1.22	.82	24
Chandler	44.2	73	16	16	18	644	0	1.78	1.08	25
Chickasha	41.9	70	22	14	18	716	0	1.96	1.47	24
El Reno	40.9	70	16	14	18	****	****	1.30	.86	24
Guthrie	43.7	68	16	17	13	662	0	1.28	.71	24
Kingfisher	41.0	71	16	15	18	744	0	.79	.57	24
Marena	42.9	70	16	14	18	684	0	.83	.55	24
Minco	42.2	68	22	17	13	706	0	1.94	1.34	24
Marshall	41.0	68	16	14	13	743	0	.77	.42	24
EAST CENTRAL										
Cookson	43.3	68	6	14	18	672	0	3.52	2.21	25
Eufaula	46.0	71	16	21	18	590	0	3.01	1.47	25
Haskell	43.8	71	16	17	13	657	0	2.07	1.46	25
Hectorville	44.8	72	16	17	18	626	0	1.16	.73	25
Holdenville	45.4	71	16	18	18	607	0	2.08	1.02	25
McAlester	45.2	73	20	15	13	615	0	5.36	2.15	25
Okmulgee	43.9	72	16	14	18	653	0	1.95	1.30	25
SOUTHWEST										
Altus	44.4	78	16	18	18	640	0	.58	.57	24
Apache	43.6	68	16	19	18	664	0	1.79	1.41	24
Fort Cobb	42.9	70	16	17	18	686	0	1.27	.79	24
Grandfield	44.7	73	16	20	18	629	0	1.32	.70	24
Hinton	42.2	68	16	19	21	706	0	1.18	.98	24
Hobart	43.1	70	22	18	18	679	0	.80	.73	24
SOUTH CENTRAL										
Ada	45.6	73	16	18	18	602	0	2.45	.94	10
Ardmore	46.9	74	20	22	13	562	0	4.20	1.65	10
Burneyville	45.6	77	20	17	18	600	0	3.75	1.27	24
Byars	45.9	71	16	19	18	592	0	2.06	.91	10
Centrahoma	44.8	73	20	17	13	625	0	4.69	2.06	25
Durant	47.2	75	20	23	18	550	0	5.57	2.73	25
Fittstown	45.2	70	31	19	18	613	0	3.24	1.33	25
Ketchum Ranch	45.5	71	16	19	18	603	0	2.20	.88	10
Lane	45.8	75	20	21	13	595	0	7.11	3.29	25
SOUTHEAST										
Antlers	45.3	76	20	18	12	610	0	5.57	2.23	25
Antlers	*****	***	***	***	***	****	****	*****	*****	***
Broken Bow	45.3	75	20	18	3	612	0	5.43	2.36	25
Clayton	45.9	76	20	19	3	591	0	5.57	3.13	25
Cloudy	45.9	73	20	22	3	592	0	5.59	2.63	25
Hugo	47.5	75	20	23	3	542	0	5.77	2.57	25

NAME	MEAN TEMP	HIGH TEMP	HIGH DAY	LOW TEMP	LOW DAY	HDD	CDD	TOT PPT	HIGH 24-HR	HIGH DAY
Goodwell	39.2	72	30	13	12	799	0	.05	.05	22
Hooker	38.9	72	30	14	28	810	0	.05	.05	22
Kenton	37.7	67	30	13	12	847	0	.05	.03	22
Slapout	39.8	73	16	12	21	****	****	.17	.17	22
May Ranch	40.3	68	15	14	21	766	0	.08	.06	22
Medford	39.4	73	16	15	18	795	0	.57	.42	24
Newkirk	40.4	70	16	13	21	764	0	.08	.08	25
Red Rock	41.4	70	16	13	18	732	0	.62	.38	24
Seiling	40.8	74	16	13	18	751	0	.75	.63	24
Woodward	41.6	76	16	15	21	725	0	.35	.20	24
Nowata	40.7	72	16	9	18	753	0	.26	.26	25
Pawnee	42.7	70	16	14	18	691	0	.50	.30	25
Porter	44.8	71	16	18	18	627	0	1.86	1.36	25
Pryor	42.2	71	16	13	18	708	0	1.06	1.06	25
Skiatook	44.1	71	16	16	21	647	0	.26	.25	25
Vinita	40.6	71	16	10	18	755	0	.38	.38	25
Wynona	42.3	70	16	11	18	703	0	.29	.28	25
Putnam	41.8	73	16	17	21	720	0	.97	.84	24
Retrop	43.5	77	16	18	18	666	0	.50	.49	24
Watonga	42.4	69	16	17	21	700	0	1.44	1.28	24
Weatherford	42.1	66	16	18	21	710	0	.77	.48	24
Ninnekah	43.5	70	16	16	13	668	0	2.02	1.46	24
Norman	43.9	70	22	19	13	654	0	1.58	.89	24
Oilton	41.6	71	16	11	18	727	0	.58	.30	25
OKC East	43.9	70	16	17	13	656	0	1.38	.93	24
OKC North	44.7	69	16	19	21	629	0	1.30	.94	24
OKC West	44.3	69	16	19	13	642	0	1.45	1.02	24
Okemah	43.8	71	16	16	13	656	0	1.29	.62	25
Perkins	43.3	69	16	15	18	674	0	.96	.55	24
Shawnee	44.3	71	16	16	18	641	0	1.13	.63	24
Spencer	44.5	69	22	18	18	635	0	1.17	.84	24
Stillwater	42.1	71	16	15	18	709	0	.96	.66	24
Washington	44.2	71	16	16	18	644	0	1.38	.67	24
Sallisaw	43.9	70	16	16	3	656	0	4.27	2.63	25
Stigler	44.8	70	16	18	3	626	0	4.00	2.54	25
Stuart	45.8	71	22	21	3	594	0	4.75	1.95	25
Tahlequah	43.1	69	16	15	13	680	0	1.89	1.54	25
Webbers Falls	44.3	70	6	19	18	642	0	3.20	2.06	25
Westville	43.3	68	16	16	18	673	0	2.42	1.95	25
Hollis	43.7	78	16	17	13	****	****	.06	.06	24
Mangum	43.3	79	16	16	18	673	0	.28	.26	24
Medicine Park	45.7	70	16	21	21	598	0	1.07	.80	24
Tipton	44.1	74	16	18	13	647	0	.34	.28	24
Walters	44.9	71	16	20	18	622	0	1.68	.94	24
Madill	46.6	75	20	19	13	571	0	4.76	1.60	10
Newport	46.5	72	16	22	18	573	0	3.62	1.40	10
Pauls Valley	46.0	72	16	20	18	590	0	2.61	1.13	10
Ringling	46.1	71	22	22	18	586	0	2.99	1.40	10
Sulphur	44.8	71	31	17	13	627	0	2.80	1.16	10
Tishomingo	45.0	72	20	19	12	620	0	4.16	1.65	25
Vanoss	45.5	72	16	16	18	606	0	2.08	.84	10
Waurika	46.3	73	16	21	18	581	0	3.26	1.54	10
Idabel	46.9	75	20	21	3	560	0	4.80	2.01	25
Mt Herman	45.5	73	20	18	13	605	0	6.31	3.32	25
Talihina	44.8	74	20	19	3	625	0	4.34	2.42	25
Wilburton	45.2	76	20	18	13	615	0	4.62	2.75	25
Wister	43.9	73	20	16	3	655	0	5.29	2.50	25

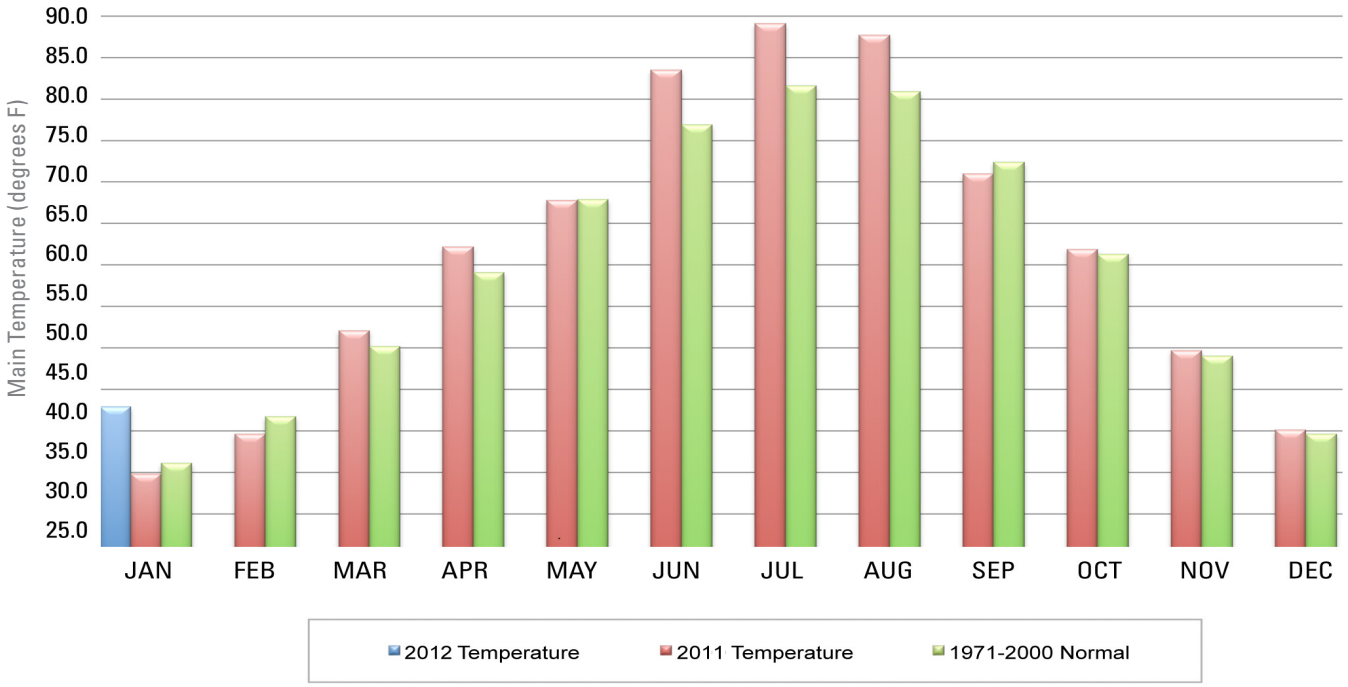
2011 AND 2012 STATEWIDE PRECIPITATION MONTHLY TOTALS VS. NORMAL



January 2012 Mesonet Precipitation Comparison

Climate Division	Precipitation (inches)	Departure from Normal (inches)	Rank since 1895	Wettest on Record (Year)	Driest on Record (Year)	Jan-11
Panhandle	0.12	-0.40	18th Driest	1.92 (2005)	0.01 (1904)	0.20
North Central	0.48	-0.45	46th Driest	4.43 (1949)	0.00 (1912)	0.27
Northeast	0.62	-0.95	15th Driest	6.01 (1949)	0.01 (1986)	0.69
West Central	0.76	-0.12	52nd Wettest	4.08 (1949)	0.00 (1912)	0.16
Central	1.31	-0.06	50th Wettest	6.18 (1949)	0.00 (1912)	0.15
East Central	3.05	0.92	30th Wettest	7.99 (1932)	0.04 (1986)	0.40
Southwest	0.94	-0.12	50th Wettest	4.89 (1949)	0.00 (1902)	0.07
South Central	3.62	1.72	9th Wettest	6.85 (1932)	0.00 (1909)	0.23
Southeast	5.33	2.52	17th Wettest	11.08 (1932)	0.11 (2003)	1.10
Statewide	1.74	0.29	38th Wettest	5.23 (1949)	0.04 (1986)	0.35

2011 AND 2012 STATEWIDE TEMPERATURE MONTHLY TOTALS VS. NORMAL



January 2012 Mesonet Temperature Comparison

Climate Division	Average Temp (F)	Departure from Normal (F)	Rank since 1895	Hottest on Record (Year)	Coldest on Record (Year)	Jan-11 (F)
Panhandle	39.0	6.0	8th Warmest	42.7 (2006)	19.5 (1930)	32.5
North Central	40.3	6.8	11th Warmest	44.6 (2006)	19.4 (1930)	32.0
Northeast	42.3	7.7	6th Warmest	46.0 (2006)	21.3 (1940)	33.5
West Central	42.3	7.3	9th Warmest	46.2 (2006)	20.8 (1930)	34.8
Central	43.2	7.0	8th Warmest	47.4 (2006)	22.5 (1930)	35.2
East Central	44.4	7.1	9th Warmest	47.8 (2006)	24.8 (1940)	36.0
Southwest	43.9	6.4	9th Warmest	47.8 (1923)	24.2 (1930)	36.4
South Central	45.8	6.7	9th Warmest	49.5 (1923)	27.0 (1930)	37.2
Southeast	45.6	6.0	10th Warmest	49.4 (1952)	28.3 (1979)	35.7
Statewide	42.9	6.8	8th Warmest	46.4 (2006)	23.5 (1930)	34.8

RECORD EVENT REPORTS

Description	Day	Location	Record	Previous Record	Year
Daily Maximum Rainfall	10	McAlester	1.9 inches	0.62 inches	1954
Daily Maximum Rainfall	24	Oklahoma City	1.52 inches	0.37 inches	1949

MESONET EXTREMES FOR JANUARY 2012

Climate Division	High Temp (F)	Day	Station	Low Temp (F)	Day	Station	High Monthly Rainfall (inches)	Station	High Daily Rainfall (inches)	Day	Station
Panhandle	75	16th	Arnett	12	12th	Boise City	0.32	Arnett	0.17	22nd	Beaver
North Central	76	16th	Woodward	10	18th	Alva	1.04	Lahoma	0.82	24th	Lahoma
Northeast	73	16th	Bixby	9	18th	Nowata	1.86	Porter	1.36	25th	Porter
West Central	77	16th	Retrop	12	18th	Camargo	1.44	Watonga	1.28	24th	Watonga
Central	73	16th	Bristow	11	18th	Lake Carl Blackwell	2.02	Ninnekah	1.47	24th	Chickasha
East Central	73	20th	McAlester	14	18th	Cookson	5.36	McAlester	2.63	25th	Sallisaw
Southwest	79	16th	Mangum	16	18th	Mangum	1.79	Apache	1.41	24th	Apache
South Central	77	20th	Burneyville	16	18th	Vanoss	7.11	Lane	3.29	25th	Lane
Southeast	76	20th	Wilburton	16	3rd	Wister	6.31	Mt Herman	3.32	25th	Mt Herman
Statewide	79	16th	Mangum	9	18th	Nowata	7.11	Lane	3.32	25th	Mt Herman

FEBRUARY OUTLOOK

February is the warmest of the Oklahoma's three winter months, a product of the combination of gradually lengthening days - often heralding an illusory approach of spring - and the very real existence of the continuing winter. Recorded temperatures in Oklahoma during the second month of the year traverse a range of 126 degrees Fahrenheit, from 99 degrees at Arapaho on February 24, 1918, to -31 degrees at the Nowata Mesonet site on February 10, 2011. The latter thermometer reading is the state's all-time lowest temperature. Oklahoma's normal monthly temperature, based on data obtained from 1971 through 2000, is 42.3 degrees. Monthly values of normal daily maximum temperatures across the state range between 60.3 degrees along the Red River at Waurika and 49.5 degrees at Newkirk near the state's northern border. Normal daily minimum temperatures vary between 34.4 degrees at Waurika and 22.0 degrees in the Panhandle at Beaver. The monthly mean temperatures for February, compiled as a statewide average since 1892, have varied between a high of 50.7 degrees in 1954 and a low of 26.6 degrees in both 1899 and 1905.

Temperature

Mean	42.3 degrees
Warmest January	1954, 51.8 degrees
Coolest January	1899, 27.9 degrees
Hottest recorded	99 degrees, Arapaho, February 24, 1918
Coldest recorded	-31 degrees, Nowata, February 10, 2011

Of all the other months, only January has a normal precipitation lower, when averaged statewide, than February's 1.77 inches. Southeastern Oklahoma's Idabel possesses the state's greatest precipitation normal during February at 3.60 inches. Kenton, in the shadow of Black Mesa, gains distinction as the state's driest reporting station during February with a normal total of 0.33 inch. The February statewide-averaged precipitation varies substantially, being bounded by a low of 0.18 inch attained 1996 and a high of, 4.66 inches in 1938. In contrast to the many stations that have suffered through February precipitation voids, Tuskahoma was treated to an excessive 13.21 inches during February 1945. Snow is an important part of the precipitation picture in northwestern Oklahoma. Helena and Woodward both average about 4.7 inches of snow during February, compared to less than one-half inch at stations in southeastern Oklahoma.

Oklahoma's extreme snowstorm of record was the blizzard of February 21-23, 1971. This blizzard buried northwestern Oklahoma under as much as three feet of snow, not accounting for drifts. Buffalo was the hardest hit, reporting 23 inches of snow on the 21st and a state-record snow depth of 36 inches by the morning of the 24th. The snow was driven by winds 30 to 50 miles per hour, producing drifts as high as 20 feet. Military cargo planes were used to airdrop hay to cattle stranded in the far-flung pastures of the region. Losses to agriculture were estimated at $2.1 million (1971 dollars). Lost livestock included approximately 11,000 cattle, 3,500 hogs, and 1,000 sheep. Buffalo reported a total of 39.5 inches of snow during the month (a state record for all months).

Tornadoes are not generally considered a February phenomenon, but a total of 44 February tornadoes have been recorded across the state since 1950, including six in 1975. Three people were killed on February 22, 1975, bringing the confirmed total of February tornado deaths in the state to nine, according to storm-by-storm death tolls compiled by Thomas P. Grazulis and published in the book "Significant Tornadoes: 1880-1989."

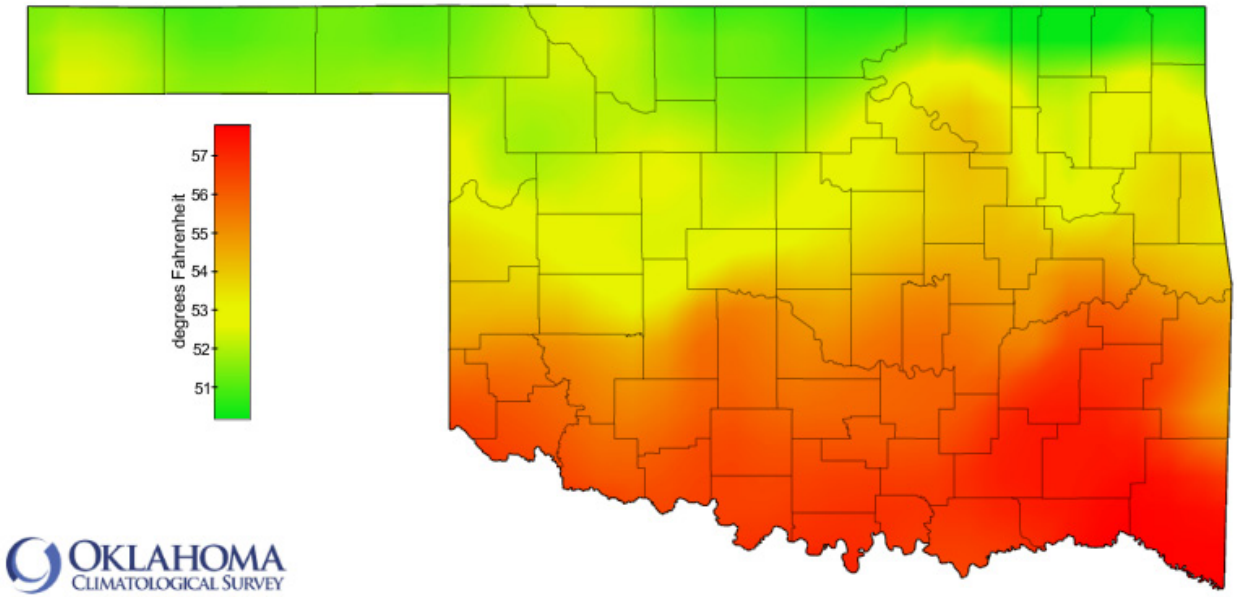
Precipitation

Mean	1.77 inches
Wettest year	1938, 6.44 inches
Driest year	1947 and 1996, 0.20 inches
Wettest location	Idabel, 3.60 inches
Driest location	Kenton, 0.33 inches
Most recorded	13.21 inches, Tuskahoma, 1945

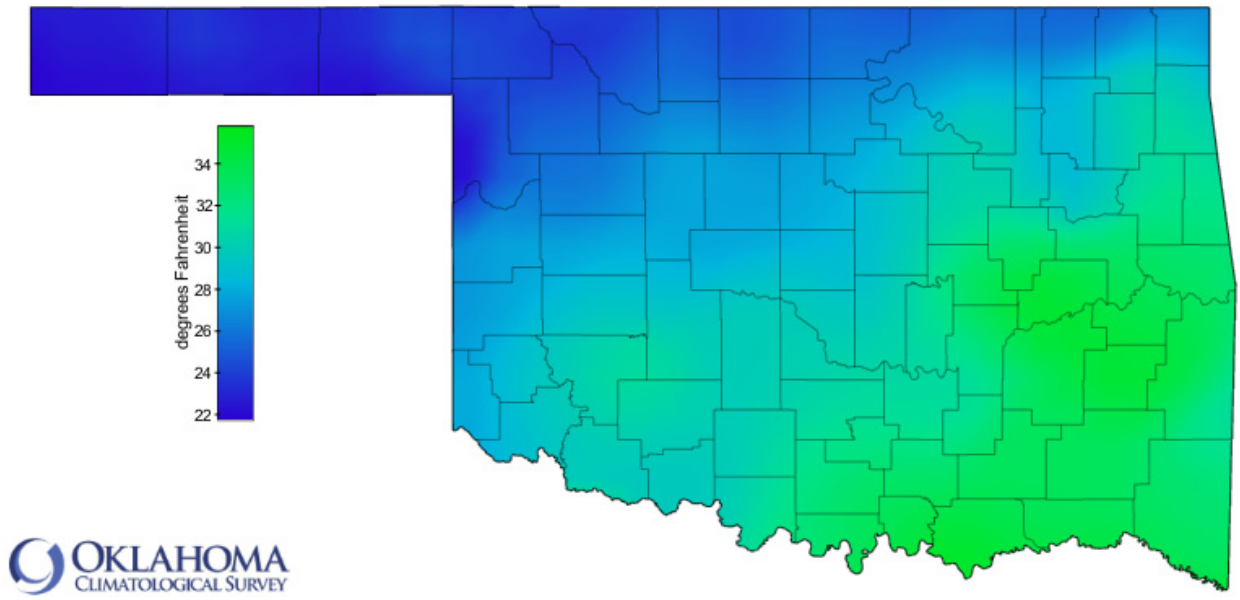
Tornadoes

Average Decembert Tornadoes	0.8
Most	6 (1975, 2009)

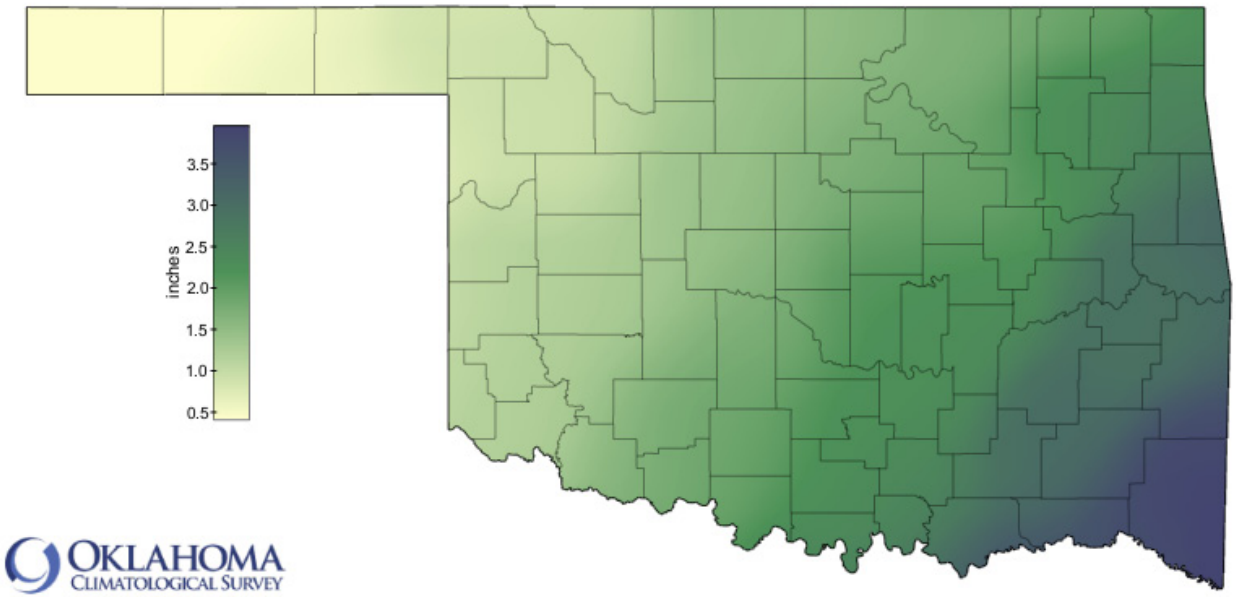
FEBRUARY NORMAL DAILY MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE (1981-2010)



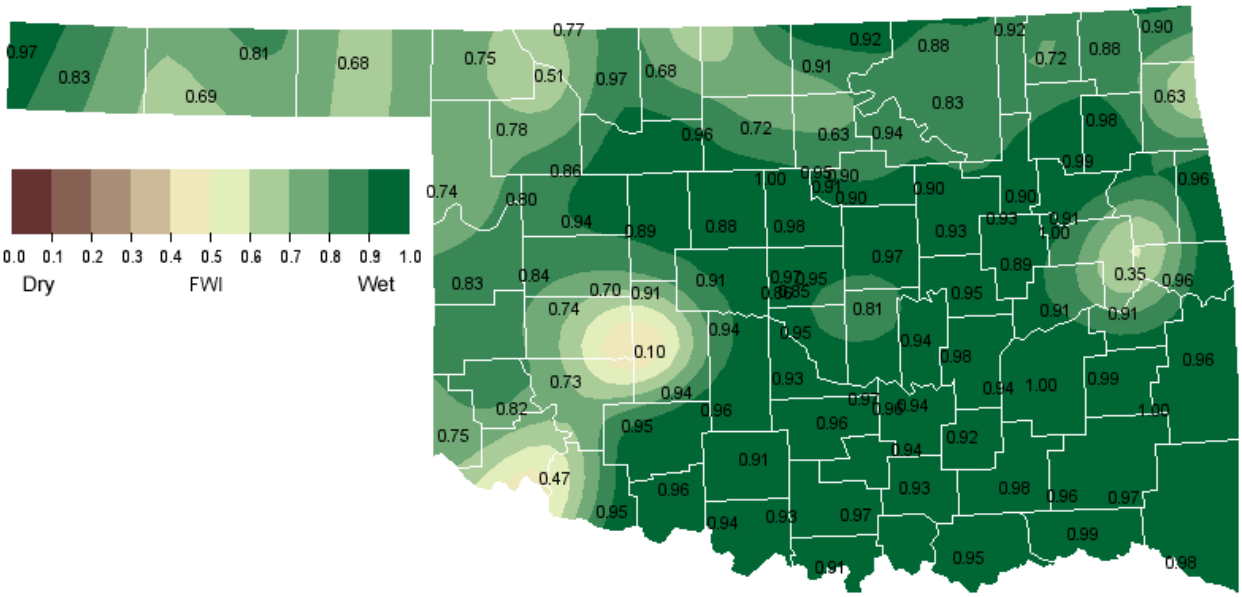
FEBRUARY NORMAL DAILY MINIMUM TEMPERATURE (1981-2010)



FEBRUARY NORMAL PRECIPITATION (1981-2010)



FEBRUARY 1, 2012 SOIL MOISTURE CONDITIONS AT 25CM



FEBRUARY 2012 DROUGHT INDICES

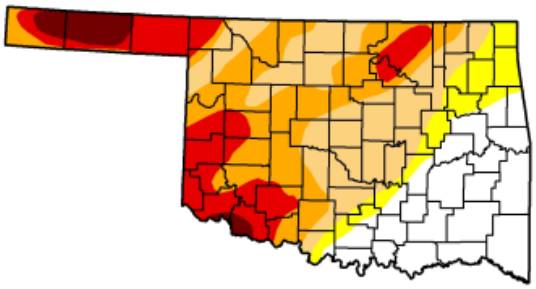
U.S. Drought Monitor

February 14, 2012
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Oklahoma

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	24.91	75.09	66.53	41.79	19.03	3.78
Last Week (02/07/2012 map)	24.91	75.09	66.53	41.82	18.57	3.78
3 Months Ago (11/15/2011 map)	0.00	100.00	97.33	85.25	55.39	31.77
Start of Calendar Year (12/27/2011 map)	14.83	85.17	78.76	50.55	27.48	3.33
Start of Water Year (09/27/2011 map)	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	78.97	66.42
One Year Ago (02/08/2011 map)	0.08	99.92	57.88	5.55	0.00	0.00



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.

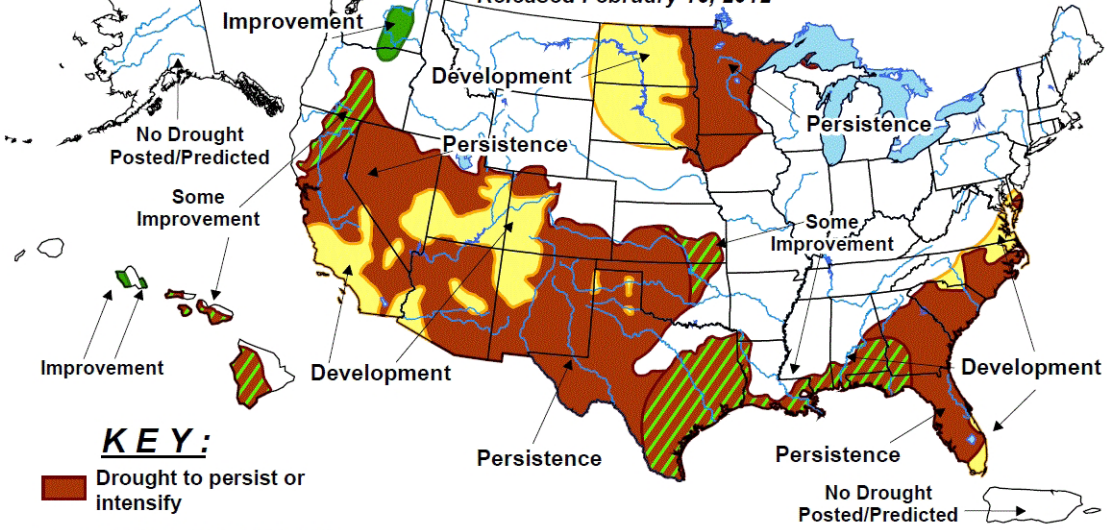
http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Released Thursday, February 16, 2012
Rich Tinker, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for February16 -May 31, 2012
Released February 16, 2012

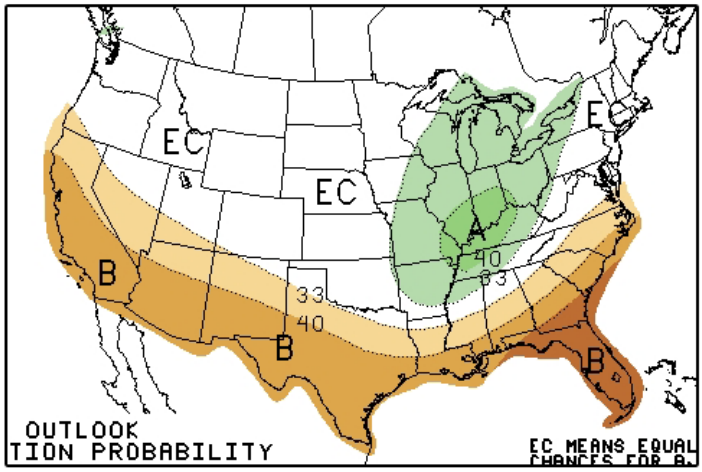


KEY:

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

Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events -- such as individual storms -- cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance. Use caution for applications -- such as crops -- that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4 intensity). For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor. 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.

FEBRUARY 2012 U.S. PRECIPITATION FORECAST



Percent Likelihood of Above or Below Average Precipitation*

- 5% - 10%
- 0% - 5%

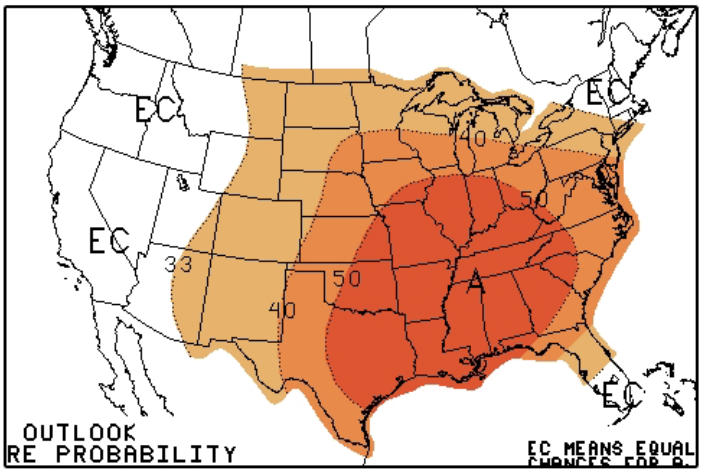
A = Above

- 0% - 5%
- 5% - 10%

B = Below

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

FEBRUARY 2012 U.S. TEMPERATURE FORECAST



Percent Likelihood of Above or Below Average Temperatures*

- 10% - 20%
- 5% - 10%
- 0% - 5%

A = Above

- 0% - 5%
- 5% - 10%

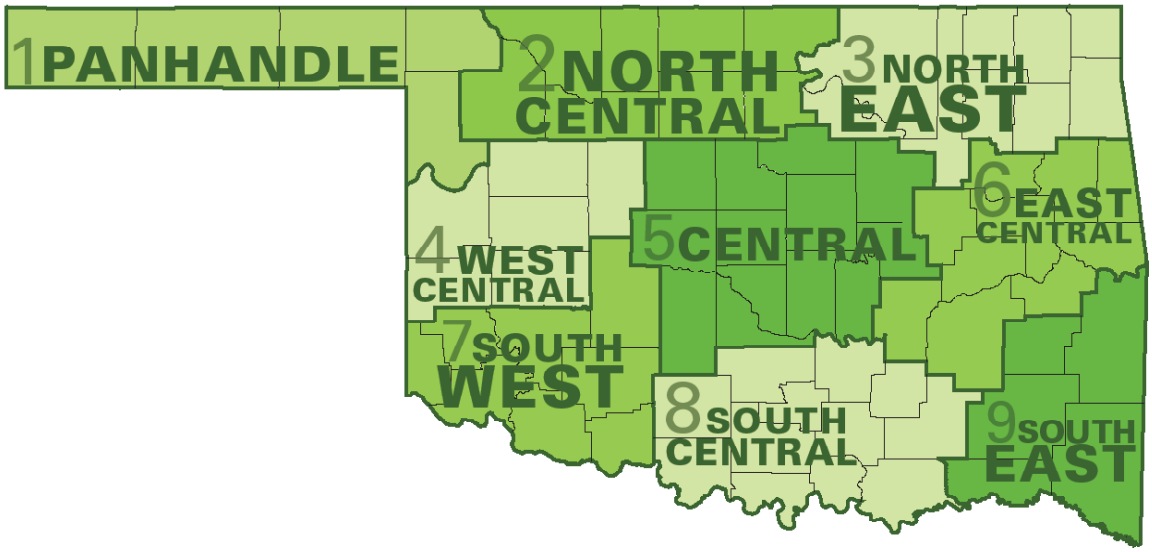
B = Below

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

FEBRUARY CLIMATE NORMALS

Climate Division	Max. Temperature (°F)	Min. Temperature (°F)	Avg. Temperature (°F)	Precipitation (inches)
1	53.3	23.8	38.6	0.64
2	51.4	25.1	38.3	1.23
3	52.9	28.8	40.9	1.96
4	53.2	26.9	40.1	1.09
5	53.9	29.2	41.6	1.77
6	54.4	31.2	42.8	2.35
7	55.9	29.0	42.5	1.36
8	56.8	31.9	44.4	2.21
9	57.3	31.9	44.6	3.13
Statewide	54.2	28.7	41.5	1.82

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.mesonet.org or http://climate.ok.gov/

OKLAHOMA CLIMATOLOGICAL SURVEY

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