Oklahoma Monthly Climate Summary

MARCH 2012

OKLAHOMA CLIMATOLOGICAL SURVEY

March might have entered like a lamb, but it exited like July, smashing temperature records in the process. The March statewide average temperature, as measured by the 120-station Oklahoma Mesonet, was more than 9 degrees above normal at 59.4 degrees. That eclipses the previous top mark of 58.3 degrees set in March 2007. Oklahoma statewide average climate statistics date back to 1895. Not satisfied with being the warmest March on record, the month's temperature also topped well over half of the previous 117 Aprils in the record books. Beginning with March 2010, 19 of the past 24 months have finished warmer than normal. In addition to July and August of 2011, the March monthly heat record is the third in the last nine months. Oklahoma's July statewide average of 89.3 degrees is the highest for any calendar month for any state since 1895, helping propel Oklahoma's 2011 summer to a similar record. June 2011 finished just a degree away from its top spot to land in second place. The state's January-March statewide average of 48.6 degrees is also tops in the record books at 5.9 degrees above normal.

March 2012 Statewide Extremes

Description	Extreme	Station	Day
High Temperature	90°F	Beaver	31
Low Temperature	17°F	Boise City	3
High Precipitation	8.61 in.	Pryor	--
Low Precipitation	0.43 in.	Kenton	--

PRECIPITATION

Heavy rains during March built off steady moisture that began last October to deal a final blow to drought impacts that had plagued the state over the last 18 months. The statewide average precipitation total finished at 4.5 inches to rank as the sixth wettest March on record, 1.4 inches above normal. Eastern Oklahoma received 6-9 inches while radar estimates indicate as much as 10-12 inches may have fallen in localized areas. The National Weather Service cooperative observer at Spavinaw reported 9.97 inches of rain for the month. The western half of the state saw 2-6 inches in general. The Panhandle, still the area hit hardest by drought, received less than a half of an inch of rainfall in western Cimarron County to over 2 inches in Beaver County.

TEMPERATURE

Many individual locations broke records for the month. Oklahoma City and Tulsa both finished with their hottest Marches on record at 60.8 degrees and 61.5 degrees, respectively. The month's hottest day was also its last. The 90 degrees at Beaver on the 31st is the highest temperature recorded in the state since October 25, 2011, when Altus and Hollis reached 92 degrees. Cold weather still managed to make an appearance, albeit a brief one. The lowest temperature recorded by the Mesonet was 17 degrees at Boise City on the third. Nine Mesonet stations failed to see a low temperature touch the freezing mark, with many others only spending a few hours at 32 degrees or below.

MARCH DAILY HIGHLIGHTS

MARCH 1-6: Very quiet and uneventful weather dominated the month's first six days. A cold front on the second cooled the weather down into the 50s and 60s from the 70s and 80s. The cooler weather held for a couple of days before becoming unseasonably warm again on the fifth and sixth. Strong southerly winds were responsible for the warmth, gusting to over 40 mph on the fifth and sixth. It did get cold a time or two. Lows on the third were in the 20s and 30s and again on the fourth. Boise City reported 17 degrees on the third for the lowest temperature of the month.

March 2012 Statewide Statistics

Temperature

	Average	Depart.	Rank (1895-2012)
Month (March)	59.4°F	9.2°F	Warmest on Record
Season-to-Date (Jan-Mar)	48.6°F	5.9°F	Warmest on Record

Precipitation

	Average	Depart.	Rank (1895-2012)
Month (March)	4.52 in.	1.41 in.	6th Wettest
Season-to-Date (Jan-Mar)	8.33 in.	2.01 in.	10th Wettest

Depart. = departure from 30-year normal

MARCH 7-8: Cloudy skies and strong southerly winds ahead of an approaching storm system greeted the state on the seventh. A cold front into the northwest late that evening generated showers and storms that lasted into the afternoon on the eighth. Rainfall amounts were mostly between a half of an in and an inch. A few locations neared 2 inches, and extreme southeastern Oklahoma had 1.5-2 inches, in general. There were a few reports of strong winds and medium-size hail, but not much in the way of severe weather occurred. Lows were in the 50s and 60s on the seventh but had dropped into the 30s and 40s on the eighth. Highs were dependent on where the front was – behind the front, temperatures stayed in the 40s and 50s. Ahead of the front, temperatures managed to rise into the 70s.

MARCH 9-11: Temperatures dropped into the 20s and 30s behind the strong front of the previous period. Northerly winds gusting to 30 mph made it feel even cooler. The afternoon of the ninth was quiet, sunny and seasonable with highs in the 50s and 60s. Showers and moderate rain had developed by the 10th and 11th. Rainfall amounts were highest in south central Oklahoma where more than 2 inches fell. A streak of more than an inch extended from that region up into the northeast. High temperatures depended on whether it was raining in a particular location or not. Highs for the most part rose into the 50s and 60s, but some 40s remained where precipitation was falling.

MARCH 12-17: This six-day period was more like May than March. Highs rose into the 70s and 80s after lows in the 50s and 60s. Temperatures were 20-25 degrees warmer than normal. A persistent dryline in northwestern Oklahoma allowed that area to get warmer in the afternoons and cooler in the mornings than most parts of the state.

MARCH 18-23: A large, slow-moving upper-level low-pressure system to the west of Oklahoma created several rounds of showers and storms for the state. The bands of precipitation spinning around the low eventually brought rain to all parts of the state. Significant flooding occurred in eastern Oklahoma where up to 10 inches of rain fell in localized areas. Most of the eastern third of the state saw from 4-6 inches of rain. The amounts became lesser to the west, generally between 1-2 inches in far western Oklahoma and 2-4 inches in central Oklahoma. Severe weather accompanied the storm system, especially on the 18th. Four tornadoes touched down in Greer and Beckham counties on that day to go along with hail to the size of tennis balls. Another tornado touched won in Sequoyah County on the 19th. Flash- and river-flooding was widespread in eastern Oklahoma on the 19th with the heaviest rains. Temperatures were kept on the mild side with the rainfall. Some clearing on the 23rd as the storm system moved out brought temperatures back up into the 60s and 70s.

MARCH 24-28: This period enjoyed pleasant conditions and very spring-like weather. Highs rose into the 70s and 80s after lows in the 50s and 60s throughout this period. An approaching system on the 28th brought strong winds and even warmer weather.

MARCH 29-31: A weak cold front across northwest Oklahoma on the 29th and into the overnight hours on the 30th produced severe weather and over an inch of rainfall. Unfortunately, that rain came with some large hail. Softball size hail was reported near Roll in Roger Mills County early on the 30th. After that bit of rain, things quieted once again. Temperatures rose 20 degrees above normal on the afternoon of the 31st. The month's high temperature of 90 degrees was recorded at Beaver on that day.

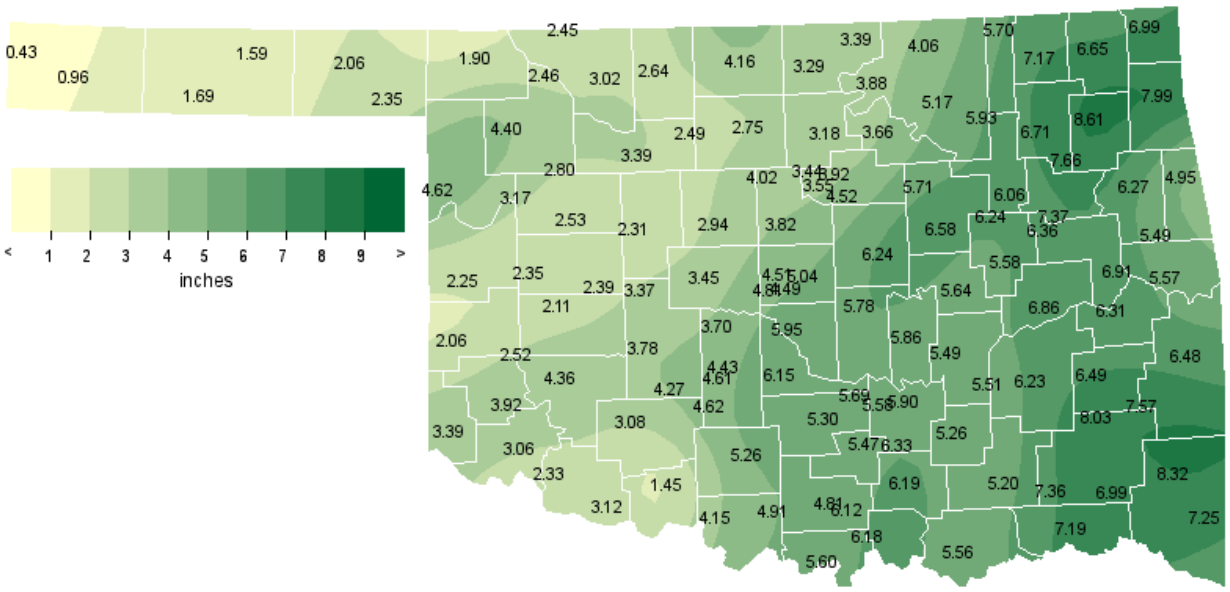
Hail
(2 inches in diameter or greater)

Size (in.)	Location	County	Day
2.00	2 W Reed	Greer	18
2.50	4 W Hollis	Harmon	18
2.75	6 SW Arnett	Ellis	29
4.00	3 N Roll	Roger Mills	30
4.50	4 N Roll	Roger Mills	30

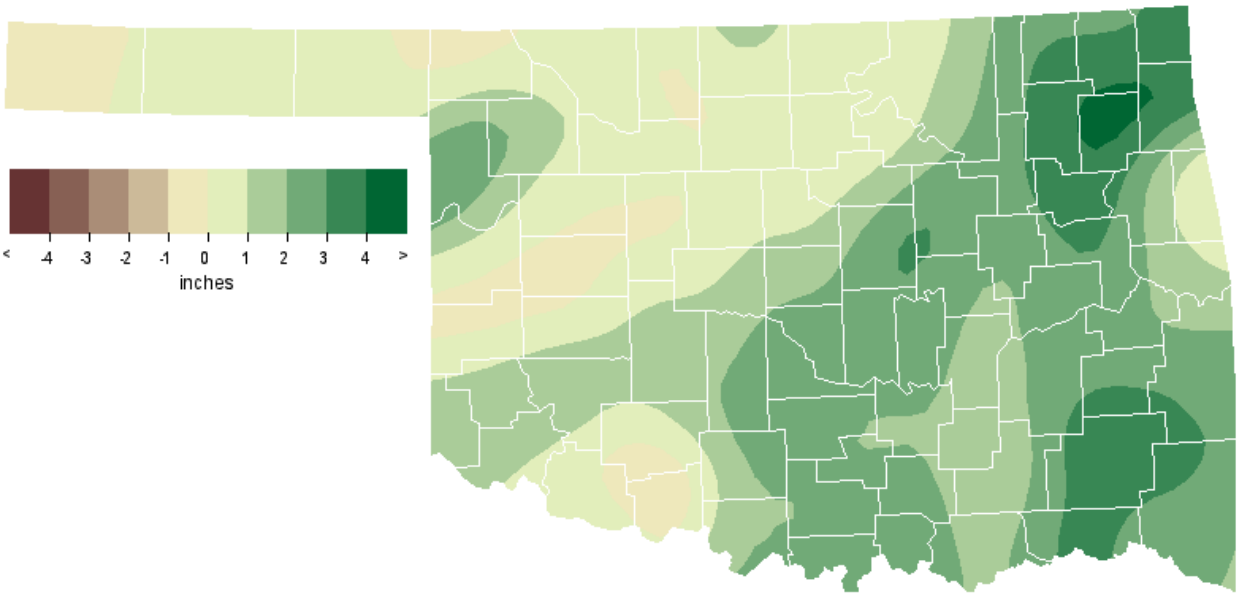
Flooding

Location	County	Day
Pryor	Mayes	19
Jenks	Tulsa	19
Bixby	Tulsa	19
Chouteau	Mayes	19
5 SSW Tulsa	Tulsa	19
5 W Tulsa	Tulsa	19
2 N Okay	Wagoner	19
Tahlequah	Cherokee	19
Muskogee	Muskogee	19
Haileyville	Pittsburg	20
McAlester	Pittsburg	20
3 E Owasso	Rogers	20
Miami	Ottawa	20
Dunbar	Pushmataha	20
Cardin	Ottawa	20
1 W Cardin	Ottawa	20
1 E Cardin	Ottawa	20
1 NE Picher	Ottawa	20
5 S Wyandotte	Ottawa	20
1 S Wyandotte	Ottawa	20
Afton	Ottawa	20
3 ESE Miami	Ottawa	20
5 E Wyandotte	Ottawa	20
2 N Wyandotte	Ottawa	20
4 ESE Wyandotte	Ottawa	20
4 N Fairland	Ottawa	20
6 SW Haileyville	Pittsburg	20
4 W Octavia	LeFlore	20
5 E Antlers	Pushmataha	20
7 N Nowata	Nowata	20
2 SSW Inola	Rogers	20
Wilburton	Latimer	20
4 NW Wilburton	Latimer	20
5 W Hulbert	Cherokee	20
Grove	Delaware	20

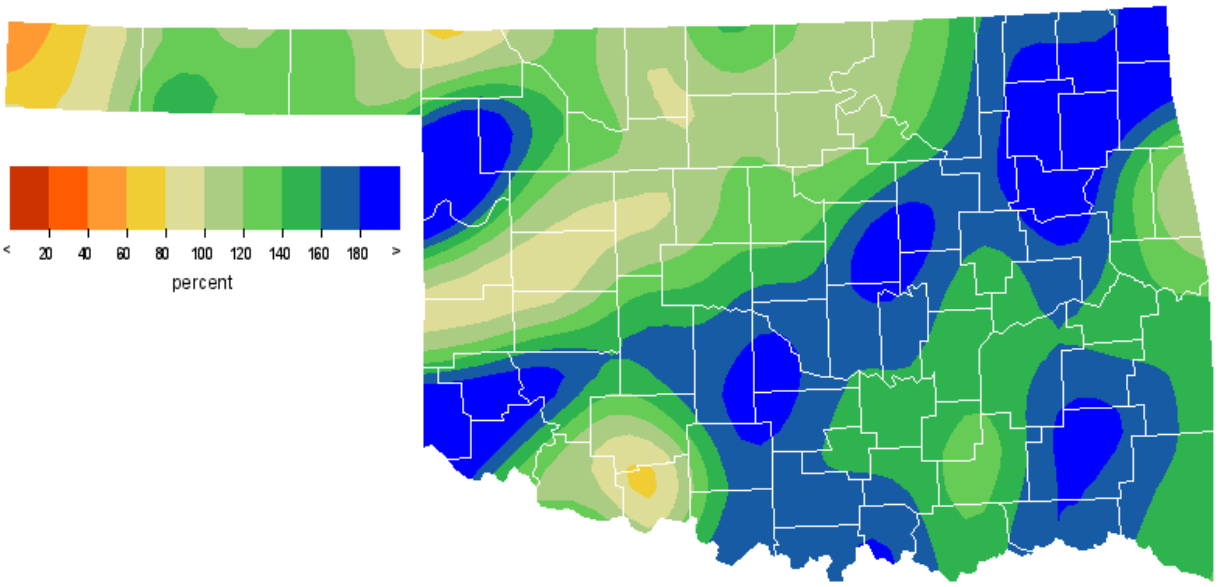
MARCH 2012 OBSERVED PRECIPITATION



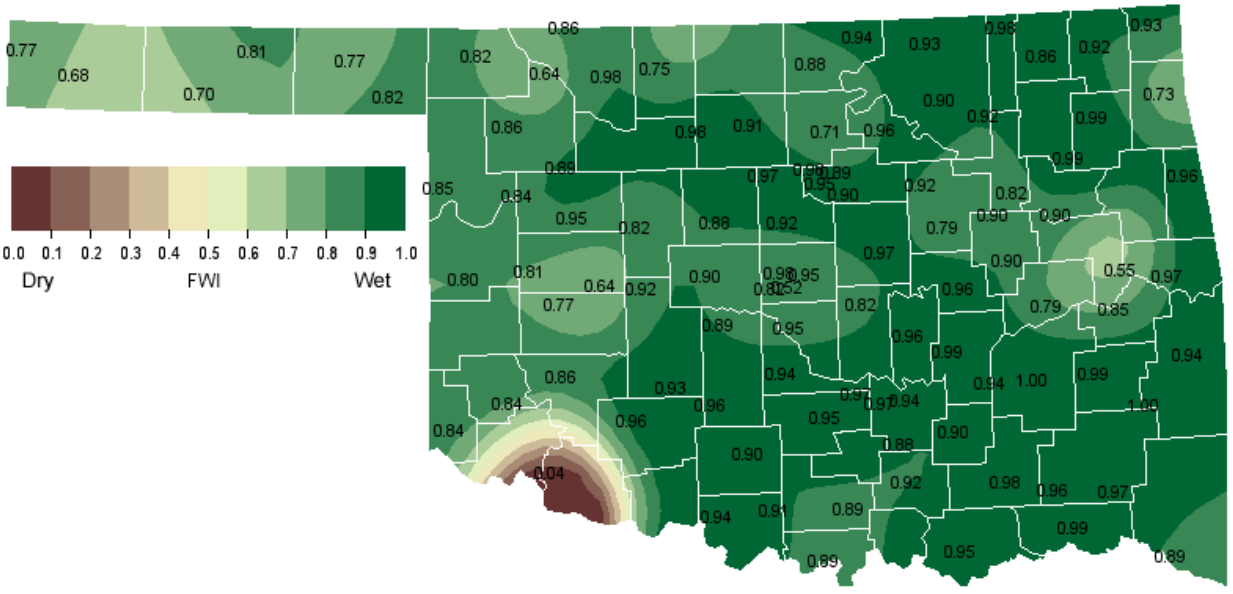
MARCH 2012 DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL PRECIPITATION



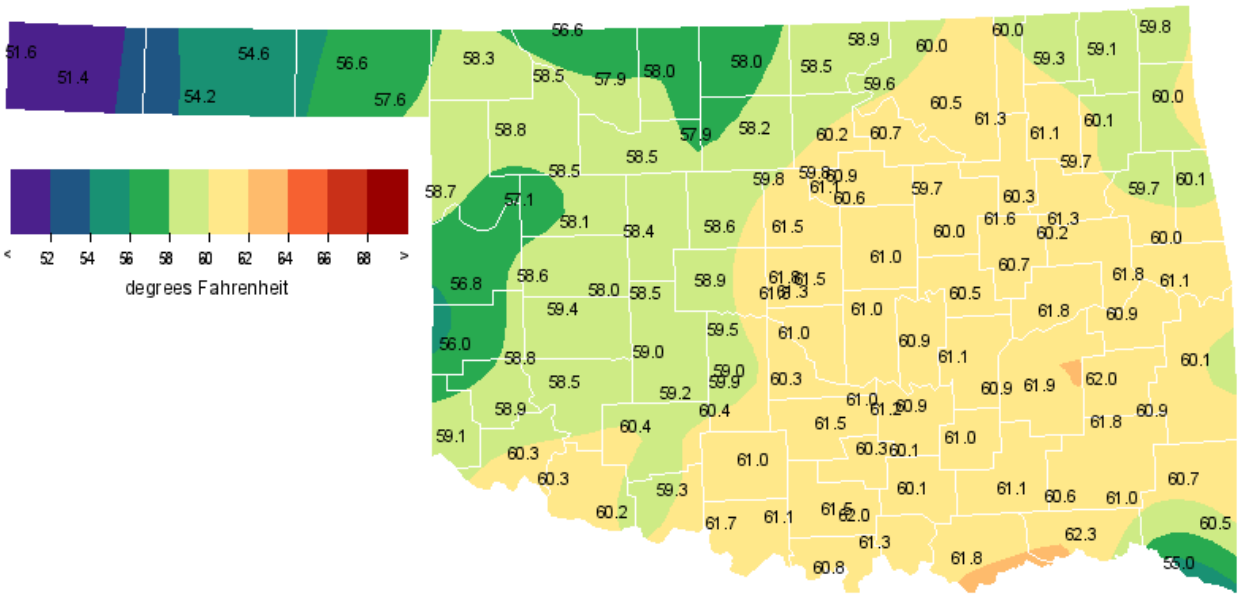
MARCH 2012 PERCENT OF NORMAL PRECIPITATION



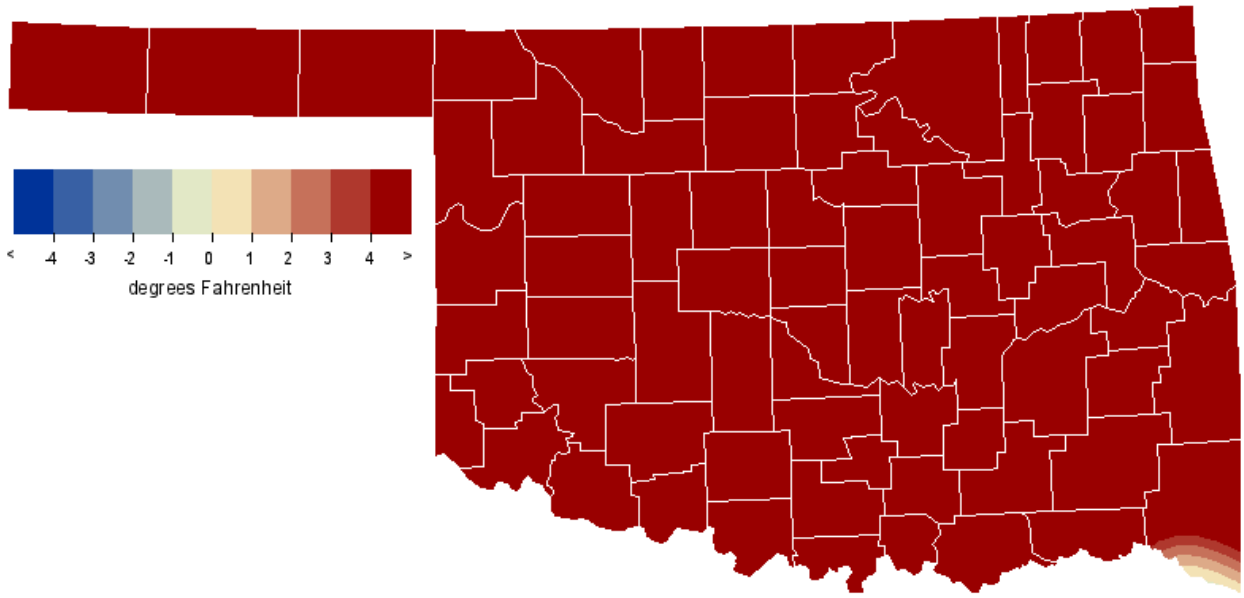
MARCH 2012 AVERAGE SOIL MOISTURE AT 25CM



MARCH 2012 AVERAGE TEMPERATURE



MARCH 2012 DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL TEMPERATURE

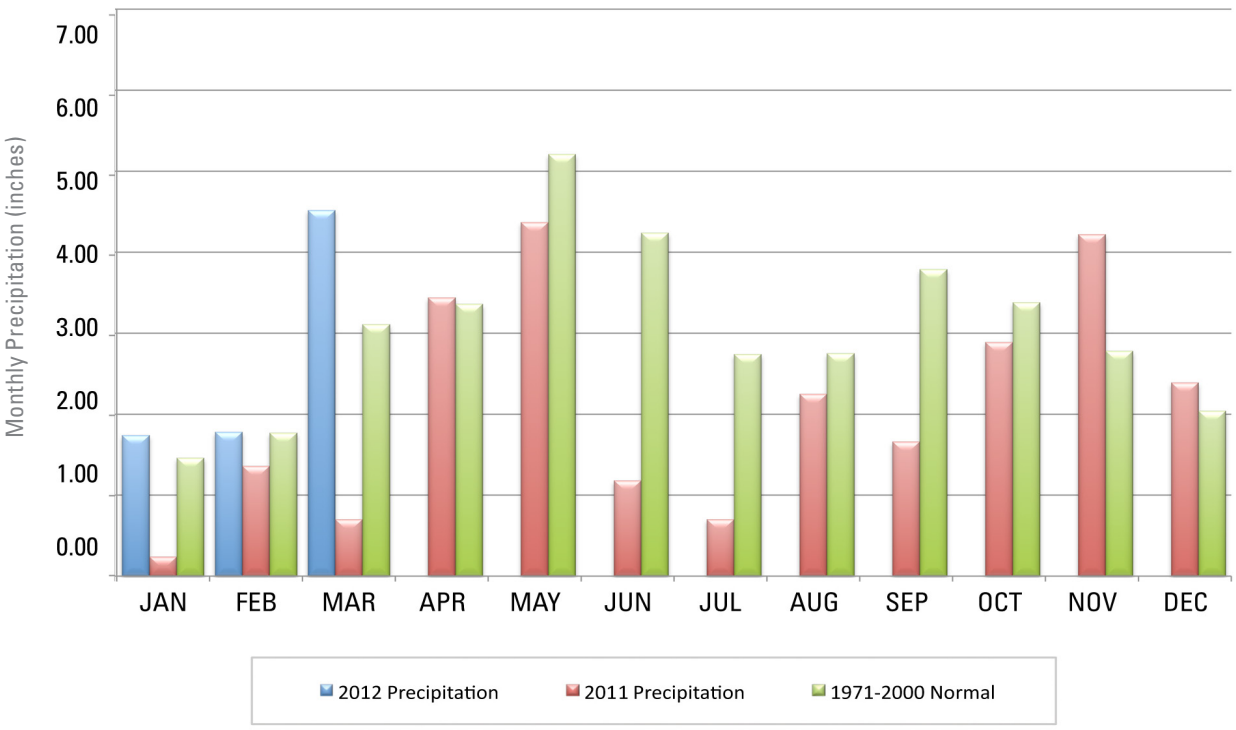


MESONET MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR MARCH 2012

NAME	MEAN TEMP	HIGH TEMP	HIGH DAY	LOW TEMP	LOW DAY	HDD	CDD	TOT PPT	HIGH 24-HR	HIGH DAY
PANHANDLE										
Arnett	58.6	89	29	24	3	248	51	4.62	1.77	29
Beaver	56.6	90	31	20	4	295	35	2.06	.64	21
Boise City	51.3	87	25	17	3	425	0	.96	.51	22
Buffalo	58.2	87	29	25	3	260	51	1.90	.76	19
NORTH CENTRAL										
Alva	57.9	85	13	23	3	260	39	3.02	1.12	19
Blackwell	58.6	84	31	25	3	243	44	3.29	1.80	19
Breckinridge	58.2	81	31	27	3	247	38	2.75	1.40	19
Cherokee	58.0	82	29	27	3	248	31	2.64	.99	19
Fairview	58.5	83	29	28	3	238	36	3.39	.96	19
Freedom	58.5	85	13	25	3	244	42	2.46	1.05	19
Lahoma	57.9	80	13	27	3	244	24	2.49	1.08	19
NORTHEAST										
Bixby	60.3	84	31	27	4	198	52	6.06	3.22	19
Burbank	59.6	84	13	29	4	220	52	3.88	1.61	19
Claremore	61.1	84	31	31	9	188	68	6.71	3.05	19
Copan	60.1	84	31	28	9	213	61	5.70	2.55	19
Foraker	59.9	87	31	28	3	222	65	4.06	1.81	19
Inola	59.7	83	31	27	4	209	45	7.66	3.75	19
Jay	60.0	84	31	27	9	220	65	7.99	4.31	19
Miami	59.8	82	13	28	9	219	57	6.99	3.12	19
WEST CENTRAL										
Bessie	59.4	81	31	30	3	214	40	2.11	1.13	19
Butler	58.6	82	28	24	4	240	42	2.35	.88	19
Camargo	57.1	84	28	24	3	274	28	3.17	1.07	19
Cheyenne	58.8	83	28	27	3	****	****	2.25	.94	19
Erick	57.9	86	28	25	4	****	****	2.06	1.01	19
CENTRAL										
Acme	60.3	84	31	30	4	196	52	4.62	2.70	19
Bowlegs	60.9	85	31	29	9	181	54	5.86	2.10	19
Bristow	60.0	84	31	25	4	209	54	6.58	3.82	19
Lake Carl Blac	59.8	85	31	26	4	214	53	3.44	1.35	19
Chandler	61.0	84	31	29	9	183	60	6.24	3.80	19
Chickasha	59.0	83	31	22	4	219	34	4.43	2.40	19
El Reno	58.9	82	31	26	3	231	41	3.45	1.54	19
Guthrie	61.5	85	31	29	9	182	73	3.82	1.78	19
Kingfisher	58.7	82	31	26	4	230	36	2.94	1.17	19
Marena	61.1	85	13	31	4	184	64	3.55	1.51	19
Minco	59.5	82	31	29	3	208	39	3.70	2.22	19
Marshall	59.9	84	31	27	4	216	56	4.02	1.56	19
EAST CENTRAL										
Cookson	59.9	83	31	29	3	208	51	5.49	2.17	20
Eufaula	61.8	84	31	31	9	167	67	6.86	3.02	19
Haskell	60.2	83	31	29	9	191	44	6.36	2.80	19
Hectorville	61.7	84	31	31	9	172	69	6.24	3.56	19
Holdenville	61.2	83	31	30	9	175	56	5.49	2.40	19
McAlester	61.9	86	31	30	4	171	75	6.23	2.13	20
Okmulgee	60.6	85	31	24	9	194	59	5.58	2.79	19
SOUTHWEST										
Altus	60.3	85	28	26	4	202	56	3.06	1.14	19
Apache	59.1	82	31	32	9	216	34	4.27	2.50	19
Fort Cobb	59.0	83	31	27	4	224	39	3.78	1.58	19
Grandfield	60.2	82	31	31	4	193	45	3.12	1.34	19
Hinton	58.5	81	31	28	3	234	33	3.37	1.40	19
Hobart	58.5	81	31	25	4	233	30	4.36	1.74	19
SOUTH CENTRAL										
Ada	60.9	82	26	30	10	180	53	5.90	1.94	19
Ardmore	62.0	82	1	32	4	154	61	6.12	1.57	19
Burneyville	60.8	82	1	29	4	184	54	5.60	1.74	10
Byars	61.0	82	31	32	9	173	49	5.69	1.53	19
Centrahoma	61.0	82	31	28	4	179	55	5.26	2.00	19
Durant	61.8	80	26	33	4	155	57	5.56	1.97	20
Fittstown	60.2	80	26	35	9	186	37	6.33	2.06	19
Ketchum Ranch	61.0	83	31	30	4	178	53	5.26	1.89	19
Lane	61.1	83	31	29	4	173	52	5.20	2.01	20
SOUTHEAST										
Antlers	60.7	84	31	28	4	180	46	7.36	3.07	19
Antlers	*****	***	***	***	***	****	****	*****	*****	***
Broken Bow	60.5	85	31	26	4	176	36	7.25	3.24	20
Clayton	61.8	85	31	29	4	168	68	8.03	3.13	19
Cloudy	61.0	84	31	34	4	169	44	6.99	2.52	20
Hugo	62.3	83	31	35	9	146	64	7.19	2.57	19

NAME	MEAN TEMP	HIGH TEMP	HIGH DAY	LOW TEMP	LOW DAY	HDD	CDD	TOT PPT	HIGH 24-HR	HIGH DAY
Goodwell	54.2	87	31	19	3	346	13	1.69	1.16	21
Hooker	54.6	88	14	21	3	333	12	1.59	1.05	21
Kenton	51.6	87	25	19	3	419	3	.43	.32	22
Slapout	57.6	89	31	23	3	268	38	2.35	.59	19
May Ranch	58.5	89	29	25	3	****	****	2.45	1.27	19
Medford	58.0	82	29	25	3	253	35	4.16	1.73	19
Newkirk	58.8	85	13	25	3	241	51	3.39	1.43	19
Red Rock	60.2	85	31	28	3	206	56	3.18	1.30	19
Seiling	58.5	85	29	26	3	249	47	2.80	1.14	19
Woodward	58.8	87	29	25	3	236	43	4.40	1.39	29
Nowata	59.2	83	31	23	9	232	53	7.17	2.85	19
Pawnee	60.7	86	13	30	9	199	65	3.66	1.54	19
Porter	61.4	85	31	31	9	176	65	7.37	4.02	19
Pryor	60.1	85	31	27	4	210	57	8.61	4.46	19
Skiatook	61.2	85	13	33	4	185	67	5.93	2.90	19
Vinita	59.1	82	31	27	9	223	40	6.65	3.03	19
Wynona	60.5	86	13	30	4	205	66	5.17	2.49	19
Putnam	58.1	81	28	27	3	246	32	2.53	.85	20
Retrop	58.8	81	28	26	4	226	35	2.52	1.16	19
Watonga	58.5	82	31	30	3	239	36	2.31	1.09	19
Weatherford	57.9	79	31	28	3	242	23	2.39	1.10	19
Ninnekah	59.9	83	31	28	4	205	47	4.61	2.41	19
Norman	61.0	83	31	31	9	180	55	5.95	3.99	19
Oilton	59.7	84	31	25	3	220	54	5.71	3.40	19
OKC East	61.2	85	31	30	9	182	66	4.49	2.71	19
OKC North	61.8	85	31	32	9	171	72	4.51	2.27	19
OKC West	61.8	85	31	35	4	168	69	4.81	2.83	19
Okemah	60.5	84	31	26	4	192	53	5.64	2.96	19
Perkins	60.6	84	31	29	9	191	55	4.52	2.03	19
Shawnee	61.0	83	31	28	9	181	56	5.78	3.47	19
Spencer	61.5	85	31	30	9	181	74	5.04	2.91	19
Stillwater	61.0	87	13	28	4	191	67	3.92	1.56	19
Washington	60.3	82	31	32	9	187	41	6.15	3.46	19
Sallisaw	61.1	85	31	27	4	188	68	5.57	1.95	20
Stigler	60.9	84	31	30	9	180	52	6.31	2.29	20
Stuart	60.9	83	31	31	10	178	52	5.51	1.72	19
Tahlequah	59.7	83	31	29	4	214	50	6.27	2.29	20
Webbers Falls	61.8	85	31	28	4	168	69	6.91	2.39	20
Westville	60.1	82	31	30	4	204	52	4.95	1.82	20
Hollis	59.2	85	29	25	4	219	39	3.39	1.56	19
Mangum	58.8	83	28	21	4	227	36	3.92	1.83	19
Medicine Park	60.4	82	31	35	8	188	45	3.08	1.45	19
Tipton	60.3	83	31	25	4	201	57	2.33	.76	8
Walters	*****	***	***	***	***	****	****	*****	*****	***
Madill	61.3	81	1	28	4	163	48	6.18	2.26	19
Newport	61.5	81	1	32	4	160	50	4.81	1.37	10
Pauls Valley	61.5	82	31	32	4	162	55	5.30	1.82	19
Ringling	61.0	81	31	30	4	169	46	4.91	1.93	10
Sulphur	60.3	80	26	26	4	189	43	5.47	1.62	19
Tishomingo	60.1	80	26	31	4	186	33	6.19	2.22	19
Vanoss	61.1	83	26	30	10	177	57	5.58	1.61	19
Waurika	61.7	83	31	30	4	164	62	4.15	1.82	10
Idabel	60.8	85	31	31	4	****	****	8.09	3.54	20
Mt Herman	60.7	84	31	27	4	179	45	8.32	2.32	20
Talihina	60.9	84	31	25	4	180	52	7.57	2.69	19
Wilburton	62.0	85	31	29	4	165	72	6.49	2.71	20
Wister	60.1	85	31	27	4	190	38	6.48	1.75	20

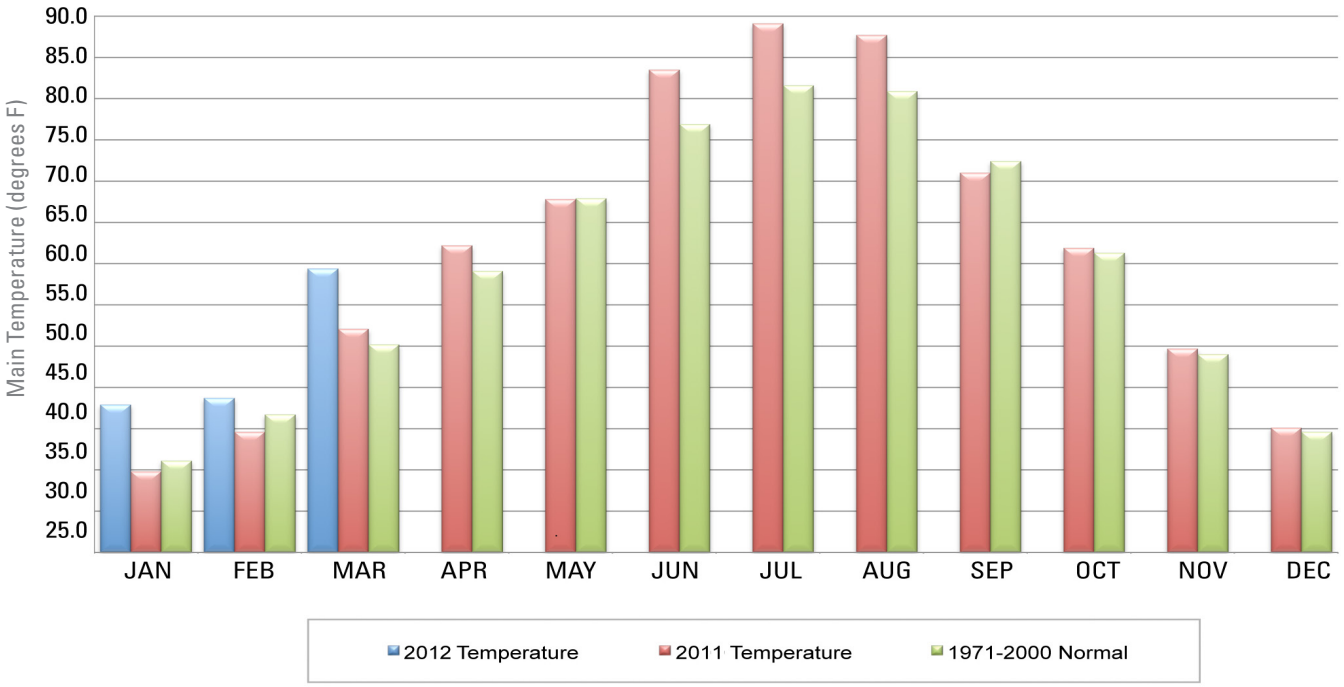
2011 AND 2012 STATEWIDE PRECIPITATION MONTHLY TOTALS VS. NORMAL



March 2012 Mesonet Precipitation Comparison

Climate Division	Precipitation (inches)	Departure from Normal (inches)	Rank since 1895	Wettest on Record (Year)	Driest on Record (Year)	Mar-11
Panhandle	1.95	0.32	22nd Wettest	5.84 (1973)	0.00 (1895)	0.38
North Central	3.11	0.43	21st Wettest	8.18 (1973)	0.00 (1936)	1.09
Northeast	6.24	2.57	6th Wettest	9.79 (1973)	0.00 (1900)	2.26
West Central	2.41	0.01	33rd Wettest	7.24 (1973)	0.00 (1895)	0.43
Central	4.74	1.50	9th Wettest	7.88 (1990)	0.00 (1900)	0.37
East Central	5.98	1.89	13th Wettest	10.63 (1945)	0.46 (1911)	0.61
Southwest	3.28	1.02	13th Wettest	5.52 (1973)	0.00 (1940)	0.04
South Central	5.50	1.95	10th Wettest	8.46 (1945)	0.20 (1950)	0.26
Southeast	7.30	2.82	11th Wettest	12.38 (1945)	0.81 (2011)	0.81
Statewide	4.52	1.41	6th Wettest	7.46 (1973)	0.38 (1971)	0.71

2011 AND 2012 STATEWIDE TEMPERATURE MONTHLY TOTALS VS. NORMAL



March 2012 Mesonet Temperature Comparison

Climate Division	Average Temp (F)	Departure from Normal (F)	Rank since 1895	Hottest on Record (Year)	Coldest on Record (Year)	Mar-11 (F)
Panhandle	55.4	9.1	1st Warmest	54.3 (1910)	32.9 (1915)	48.4
North Central	58.3	10.1	1st Warmest	57.6 (1910)	35.3 (1915)	49.5
Northeast	60.2	10.6	1st Warmest	58.6 (2007)	37.3 (1960)	51.5
West Central	57.9	9.0	1st Warmest	57.3 (2007)	35.8 (1915)	51.0
Central	60.4	9.9	1st Warmest	59.1 (2007)	37.7 (1915)	52.8
East Central	60.9	9.4	1st Warmest	60.2 (2007)	39.2 (1915)	53.4
Southwest	59.4	7.9	1st Warmest	58.8 (2007)	38.2 (1915)	54.2
South Central	61.1	8.1	2nd Warmest	61.1 (1907)	40.4 (1915)	55.9
Southeast	60.5	7.7	3rd Warmest	61.5 (1907)	42.0 (1915)	54.5
Statewide	59.4	9.2	1st Warmest	58.3 (2007)	37.6 (1915)	52.3

RECORD EVENT REPORTS

Description	Day	Location	Record	Previous Record	Year
Warm Minimum Temperature	7	Oklahoma City	61	61	2009
High Temperature	13	Ponca City	84	83	1971
Warm Minimum Temperature	14	Oklahoma City	64	56	1955
Warm Minimum Temperature	14	Tulsa	63	58	1944
Warm Minimum Temperature	15	Oklahoma City	65	58	1919
Warm Minimum Temperature	16	Oklahoma City	60	57	2003
Warm Minimum Temperature	17	Oklahoma City	65	61	2011
Warm Minimum Temperature	17	Tulsa	68	65	2011
Warm Minimum Temperature	18	Oklahoma City	63	62	1898
Warm Minimum Temperature	18	Tulsa	67	63	1933
Daily Rainfall	19	Oklahoma City	3.02 inches	1.78 inches	1903
Daily Rainfall	19	Tulsa	2.81 inches	1.15 inches	1968
High Temperature	25	McAlester	82	81	2000
High Temperature	26	McAlester	84	81	2000
Warmest March		Oklahoma City	60.8	60.5	1910
Warmest March		Tulsa	61.5	61.3	1910

MESONET EXTREMES FOR MARCH 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	90	31st	Beaver	17	3rd	Boise City	4.62	Arnett	1.77	29th	Arnett
North Central	89	29th	May Ranch	23	3rd	Alva	4.40	Woodward	1.80	19th	Blackwell
Northeast	87	31st	Foraker	23	9th	Nowata	8.61	Pryor	4.46	19th	Pryor
West Central	86	28th	Erick	24	4th	Butler	3.17	Camargo	1.16	19th	Retrop
Central	87	13th	Stillwater	22	4th	Chickasha	6.58	Bristow	3.99	19th	Norman
East Central	86	31st	McAlester	24	9th	Okmulgee	6.91	Webbers Falls	3.56	19th	Hectorville
Southwest	85	29th	Hollis	21	4th	Mangum	4.36	Hobart	2.50	19th	Apache
South Central	83	31st	Waurika	26	4th	Sulphur	6.33	Fittstown	2.26	19th	Madill
Southeast	85	31st	Clayton	25	4th	Talihina	8.32	Mt Herman	3.24	20th	Broken Bow
Statewide	90	31st	Beaver	17	3rd	Boise City	8.61	Pryor	4.46	19th	Pryor

APRIL OUTLOOK

April is the first full month of spring- the season of newly green trees and grass, redbud trees in bloom, and wildflowers aplenty. Baseball, romance, and pollen permeate the air, creating the dizzying mixture of joy and misery that marks the season. Most of April features exceedingly pleasant weather, much like that on April 22, 1889. According to the weather report submitted by the observer at Fort Reno, the day of the first great land run featured a high temperature of 80 degrees Fahrenheit, sandwiched between overnight lows of 46 and 54 degrees. Winds were northeasterly and light. Clouds were few.

April is the state's 5th wettest and 7th warmest month, establishing it clearly as part of the spring transition season. The statewide-averaged normal precipitation, based on the 30-year record compiled from 1971 through 2000, is 3.32 inches. The average monthly temperature, compiled from observations over the same period, is 59.8 degrees.

Temperature

Mean	59.8 degrees
Warmest Location	63.9 degrees, Waurika
Coolest Location	54.0 degrees, Boise City
Warmest April	1954, 65.4 degrees
Coolest April	1983, 54.0 degrees
Hottest recorded	106 degrees, Mangum, April 12, 1972
Coldest recorded	7 degrees, Hooker, April 4, 1979

Precipitation generally increases from southeast to northwest. Monthly normal precipitation for individual stations ranges from 1.36 inches at Oklahoma's driest observing station, Regnier (in the northwestern panhandle), to 5.19 inches at Daisy, on the western edge of southeastern Oklahoma's Ouachita Mountains. A statewide–averaged precipitation of 8.50 inches rates 1942 as the wettest April in the state's annals. The driest April, statewide, was in 1989 when the state's reporting stations received an average of just 0.58 inch for the month. The greatest April precipitation at any reporting station was 17.78 inches recorded at Okemah in 1945. Snowfall is rare in April, except in the panhandle. Boise City averages 2.5 inches of snow during April. Goodwell reported 17 inches of snow during April 1988, and Fargo received 14 inches during that month in 1973.

Normal monthly temperatures decrease from south to north. Waurika is the state's warmest location during April with a normal temperature of 63.9 degrees. Boise City ranks as the coolest site with a monthly average temperature of 54 degrees. Normal daily maximum temperatures range from 77 degrees at Waurika to 67.8 degrees at Newkirk. Normal daily minimum temperatures range from Waurika's 50.7 degrees to Boise City's 37.3. Temperatures drop below the freezing mark an average of nearly 8 times during April at Kenton, but freezes are uncommon across most of the main body of the state. Except in the panhandle, any sub-freezing temperatures after mid-April would constitute a late freeze and would be harmful to plants, especially fruit or pecan trees. Southwestern Oklahoma experiences temperatures in the 90s an average of three times each April. Hot and cold do manage to creep in, however. On April 12, 1972, Mangum recorded a high temperature of 106 degrees, the highest of the 15 temperature reports of 102 degrees or more across the state that day. Conversely, Hooker's daily minimum temperature on April 4, 1979 was 7 degrees, thereby establishing the other extreme temperature for the month.

Precipitation

Mean	3.32 inches
Wettest April	1942, 8.50 inches
Driest April	1989, 0.58 inches
Wettest location	Daisy, 5.19 inches
Driest location	Regnier, 1.36 inches
Most recorded	17.78 inches, Okemah, 1945

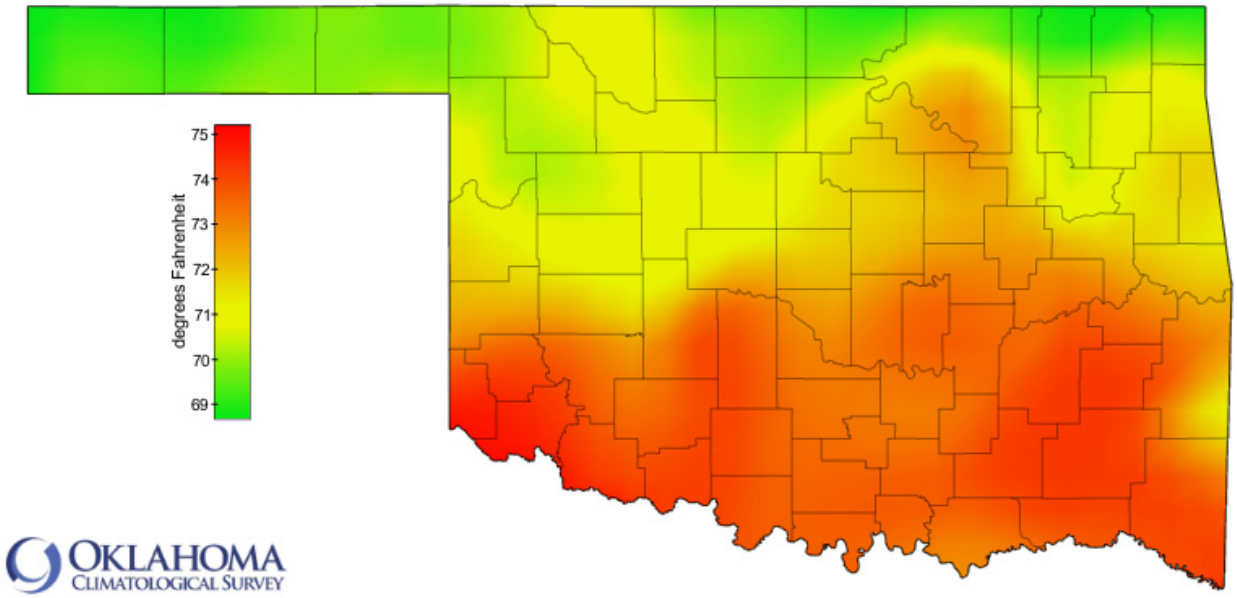
Tornadoes

Average April Tornadoes	11.0
Most	50 (2011)

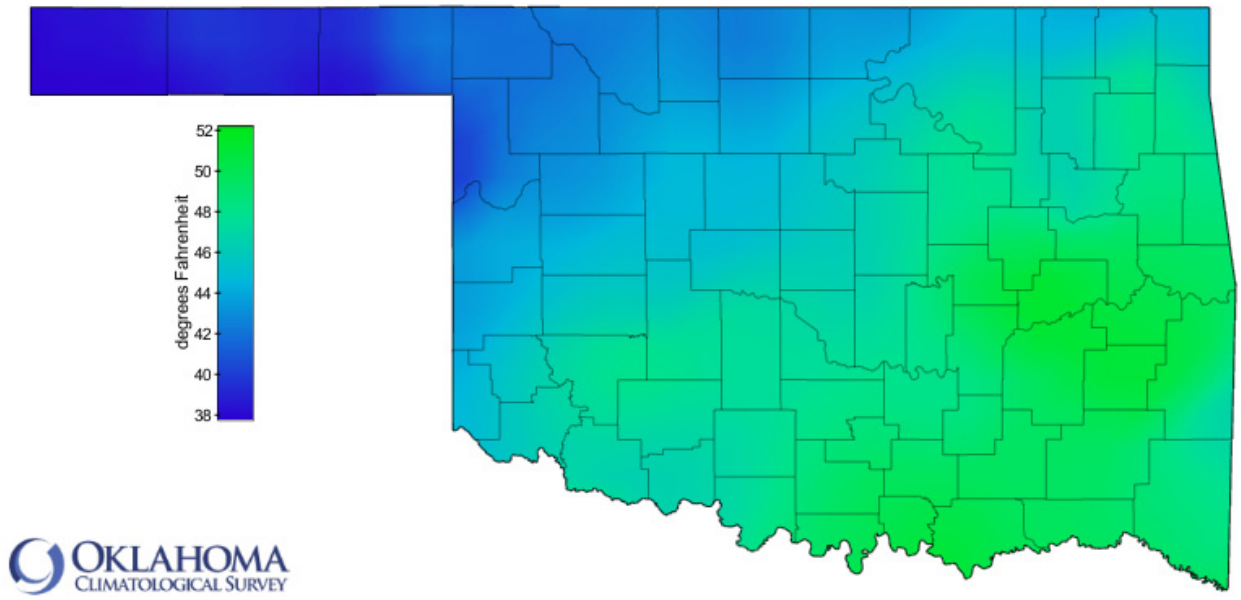
Spring brings with it Oklahoma's noted severe weather season. April is Oklahoma's windiest month and ranks second among the 12 months in the number of tornadoes observed across the state. The state has averaged 10.7 tornadoes each April since 1950, a monthly average exceeded only by May. Eight years of wind observations from the statewide Oklahoma Mesonet have revealed an average April wind speed, statewide, of 10.6 miles per hour, which barely edges March for windiest month honors. South winds prevail in most areas, although passing cold fronts are still capable of turning winds to northerly for a day or so at a time.

Comprehensive records of tornado occurrence are available from 1950 to the present. A total of 579 tornadoes are listed as having struck within Oklahoma during April from 1950 through 2003. Forty of those tornadoes were reported in 1957, easily the most of any April during the period.

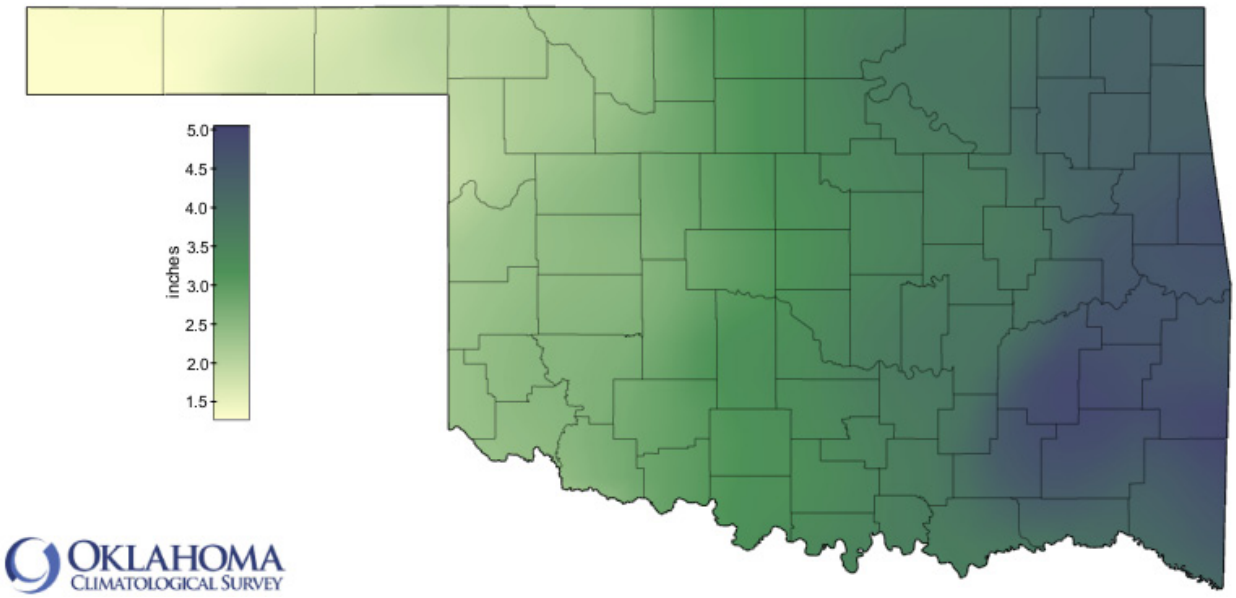
APRIL NORMAL DAILY MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE (1981-2010)



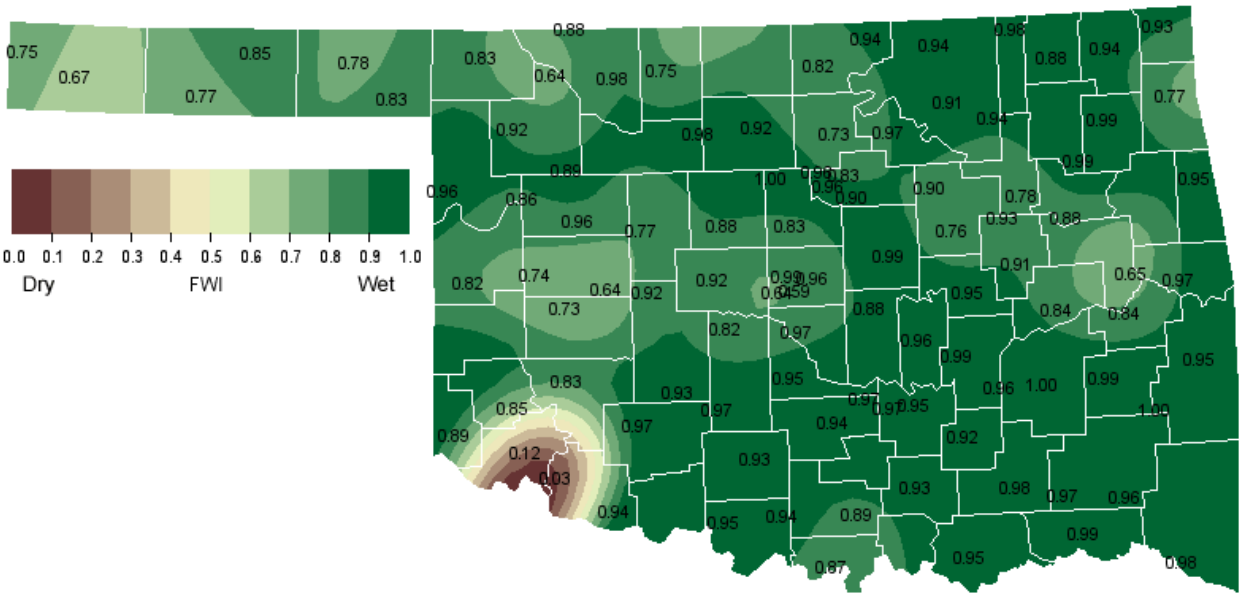
APRIL NORMAL DAILY MINIMUM TEMPERATURE (1981-2010)



APRIL NORMAL PRECIPITATION (1981-2010)



APRIL 1, 2012 SOIL MOISTURE CONDITIONS AT 25CM



APRIL 2012 DROUGHT INDICES

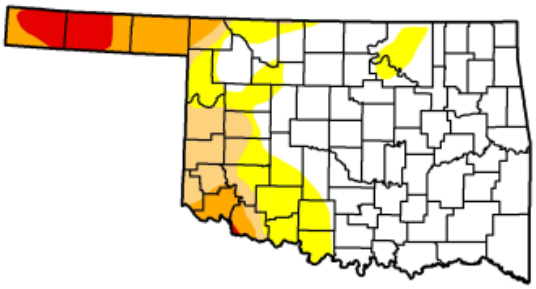
U.S. Drought Monitor

April 3, 2012
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Oklahoma

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	66.66	33.34	18.58	10.92	3.77	0.01
Last Week (03/27/2012 map)	66.48	33.52	23.64	11.88	4.97	1.05
3 Months Ago (01/03/2012 map)	14.83	85.17	78.76	50.55	27.48	3.78
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 (03/29/2011 map)	2.83	97.17	92.03	71.84	15.82	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

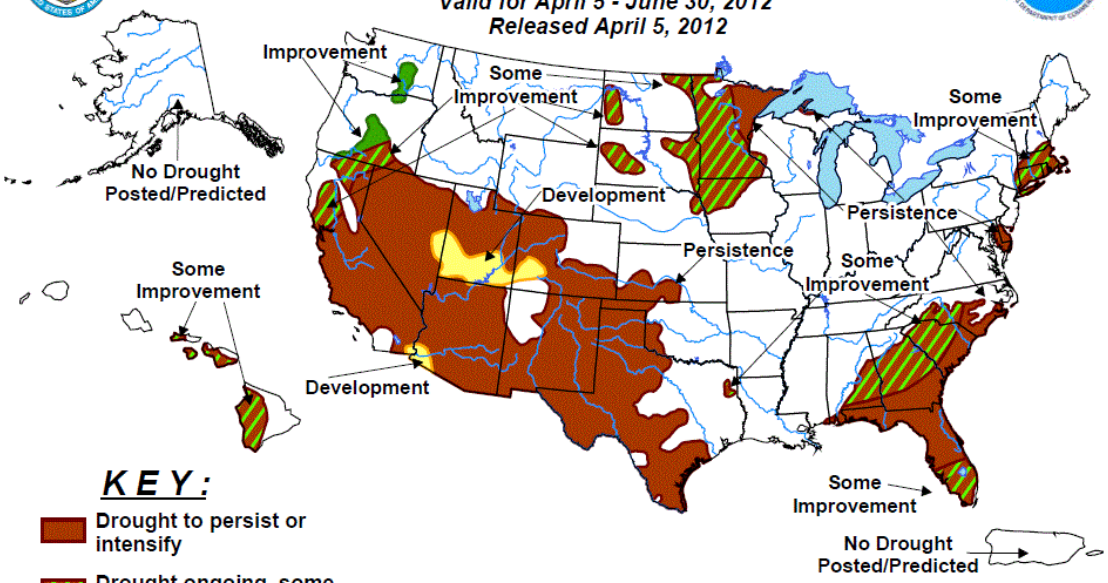
USDA · National Drought Mitigation Center

Released Thursday, April 5, 2012
Brian Fuchs, National Drought Mitigation Center

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for April 5 - June 30, 2012
Released April 5, 2012

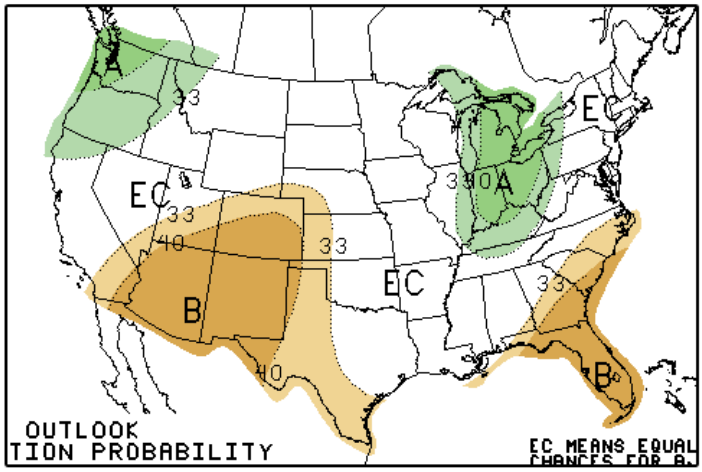


KEY:

- 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.

APRIL 2012 U.S. PRECIPITATION FORECAST



Percent Likelihood of Above or Below Average Precipitation*

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

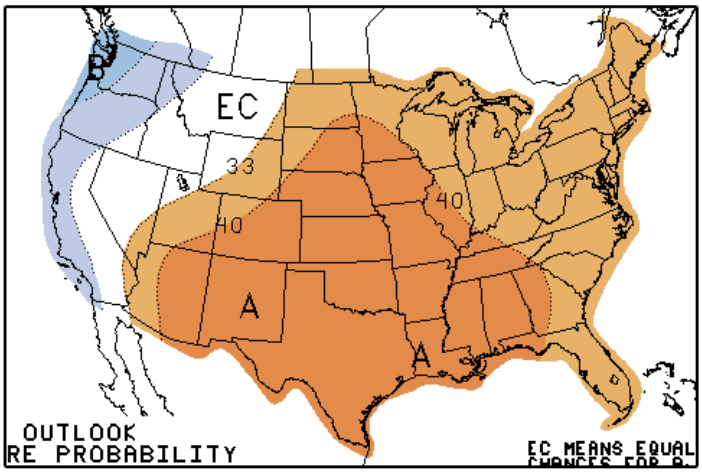
A = Above

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

B = Below

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

APRIL 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%

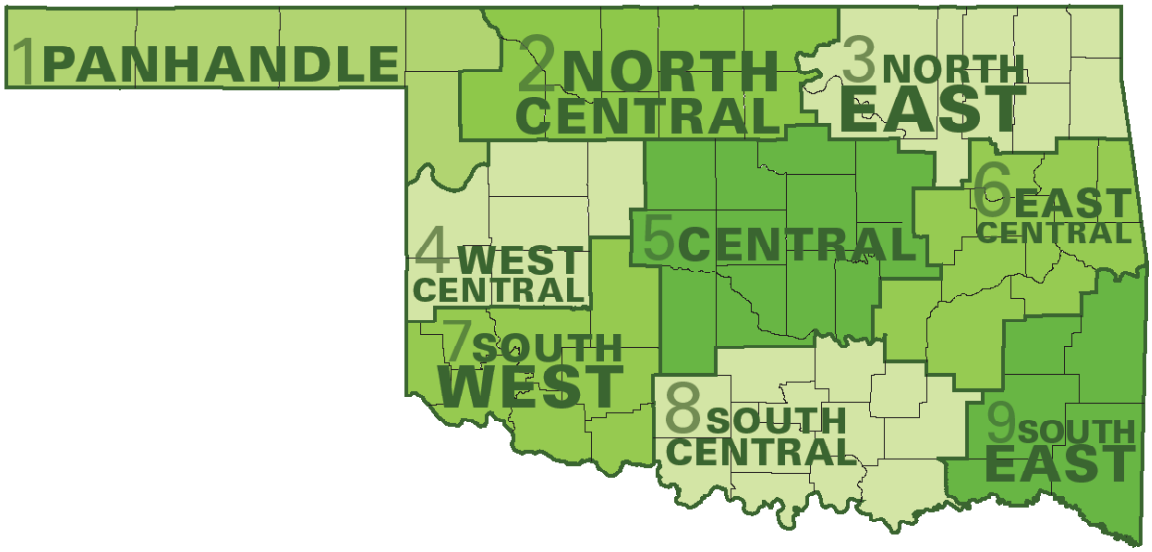
B = Below

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

APRIL CLIMATE NORMALS

Climate Division	Max. Temperature (°F)	Min. Temperature (°F)	Avg. Temperature (°F)	Precipitation (inches)
1	70.7	40.5	55.6	1.81
2	70.2	43.6	56.9	2.95
3	72.1	47.1	59.6	3.92
4	71.0	44.3	57.7	2.48
5	71.9	47.2	59.6	3.47
6	72.3	48.3	60.3	4.24
7	73.6	46.4	60.0	2.66
8	73.5	48.9	61.2	3.74
9	73.7	47.8	60.8	4.46
Statewide	72.1	46.2	59.2	3.41

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

Oklahoma Climatological Survey is the State Climate Office for Oklahoma

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