

The seemingly impenetrable heat wave and dry spell that had punished Oklahoma since early June continued through nearly all of July, giving Oklahoma the type of scorching hot weather unseen in the state since the brutal summers of 2011 and 2012. A strong cold front snuck through the heat dome's defenses near the end of the month to bring some relief, but the damage was done. The combination of hot weather, a lack of significant moisture, and relentless sunshine combined to plunge Oklahoma into flash drought that had covered the entire state by the end of July. Farm ponds evaporated, soils dried out and baked, and vegetation of all types either went dormant or died, turning the state's landscapes a sickly shade of yellow. Drought covered 31 percent of the state at the end of June according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, but coverage skyrocketed to 100 percent by the end of July. Wildfires increasingly became a problem as the arid weather persisted. One large fire

in 1997. Oklahoma had not seen a temperature that high since Kingfisher hit 115 back on Aug. 1, 2012. Oklahoma's all-time highest recorded temperature of 120 degrees was set at three separate locations in 1936. The 19th was also the third time in Mesonet history that all 120 sites reached at least 100 degrees, sharing that honor with July 9 and 10, 2011. However, it was the first time all sites reached at least 103 degrees. Mesonet sites recorded temperatures of at least 110 degrees 72 times during July, and at least 105 degrees 594 times. The heat index soared even higher, hitting 119 degrees at Eufaula on July 8, and 118 degrees at Burneyville on July 20. The Mesonet observed heat index values of at least 110 degrees 383 times during the month. Lake Carl Blackwell had the month's lowest reading at 58 degrees on the 19th. The first two months of summer stand as the 10th warmest on record, 3 degrees above normal, and the first seven months of the year came in as the 26th warmest, 0.6 degrees above normal.

### July 2022 Statewide Extremes

Description	Extreme	Station	Day
High Temperature	115°F	Mangum	19
Low Temperature	58°F	Lake Carl Blackwell	19
High Precipitation	7.73 in.	Sallisaw	--
Low Precipitation	0.0 in.	Altus	--

northeast of Mooreland consumed more than 21,000 acres. Significant severe weather was largely absent during the month, although an EF-1 tornado managed to touch down near Broken Arrow that damaged homes and trees. That report brought the number of tornadoes during 2022 up to 41 according to preliminary data from the National Weather Service. The 1950-2021 average through July is 49.5, and the annual average is 57.2.

The statewide average temperature finished at 85.9 degrees according to preliminary data from the Oklahoma Mesonet, 4 degrees above normal and tying both 1998 and 2012 for the seventh warmest July on record. That mark remained far behind July 2011's 89.2 degrees, which still stood as the warmest month of any month, any year, and any state since records began in 1895. This July's temperature topped out at 115 degrees at Mangum on July 19, tying the Mesonet's all-time highest reading with six other sites since its inception

### July 2022 Statewide Statistics

#### Temperature

	Average	Depart.	Rank (1895-2022)
Month (July)	85.9°F	4°F	7th Warmest
Season-to-Date (Jun-Jul)	82.6°F	3°F	10th Warmest
Year-to-Date (Jan-Jul)	60.6°F	0.6°F	26th Warmest

#### Precipitation

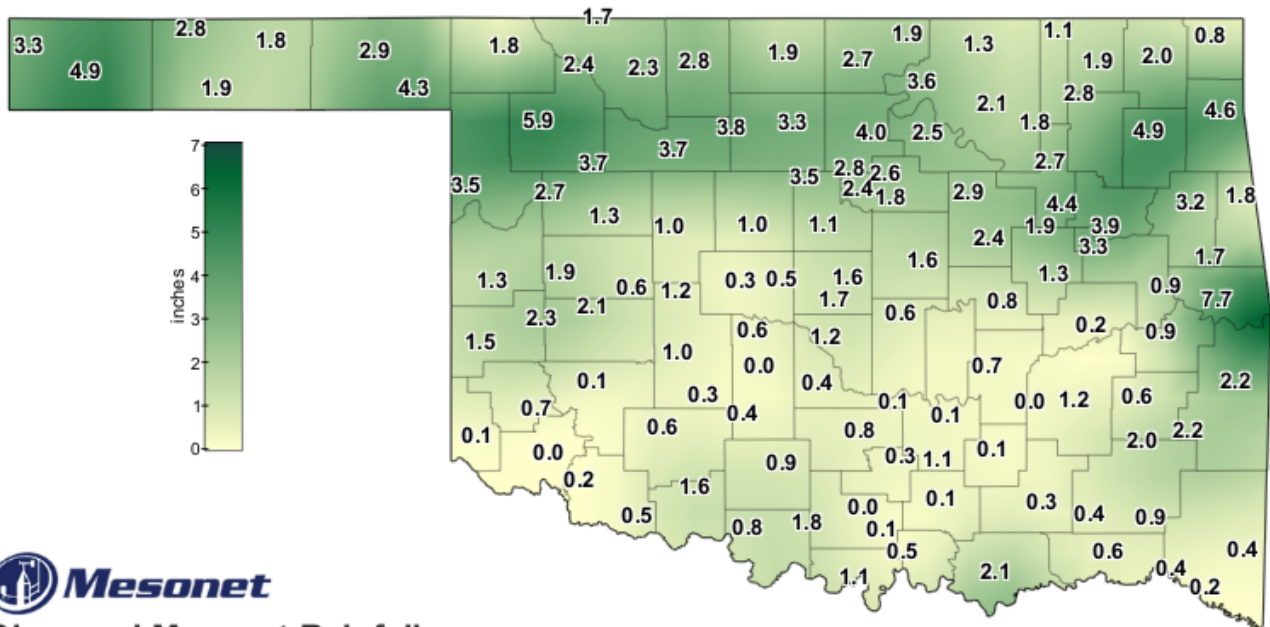
	Total	Depart.	Rank (1895-2022)
Month (July)	1.79 in.	-1.41 in.	32nd Driest
Season-to-Date (Jun-Jul)	5.6 in.	-1.86 in.	40th Driest
Year-to-Date (Jan-Jul)	19.45 in.	-2.57 in.	51st Driest

The statewide average rainfall total ended at 1.79 inches for the month, 1.41 inches below normal and ranked as the 32nd driest July on record. The disparity in rainfall between northern and southern Oklahoma was striking, however. Southwestern, south central, and southeastern Oklahoma suffered through their 14th, 14th, and 8th driest Julys on

record, respectively, while the Panhandle enjoyed its 42nd wettest. Totals ranged from 7.73 inches at Sallisaw to zero at Altus. In addition to Altus' goose egg, nine other sites recorded less than a tenth of an inch of rainfall. Nineteen received at least 3 inches for the month. At the end of July, 20 Mesonet sites had failed to receive at least a quarter-inch of daily rainfall for more than 50 consecutive days, and nine had not received at least a tenth of an inch for the same span. The first seven months of the year ended as the 51st driest on record at 19.45 inches, 2.57 inches below normal.

The same hot and dry conditions that dominated most of June and July are expected to prevail once again in August. The August outlooks from the Climate Prediction Center call for increased odds of above normal temperatures across the entire state and below normal precipitation in all but the western Panhandle. CPC's August drought outlook predicts drought persistence across the southern one-third of Oklahoma, but improvement across the northern two-thirds. However, much of that improvement is based on the heavier rains that fell in late July.

## JULY 2022 OBSERVED PRECIPITATION

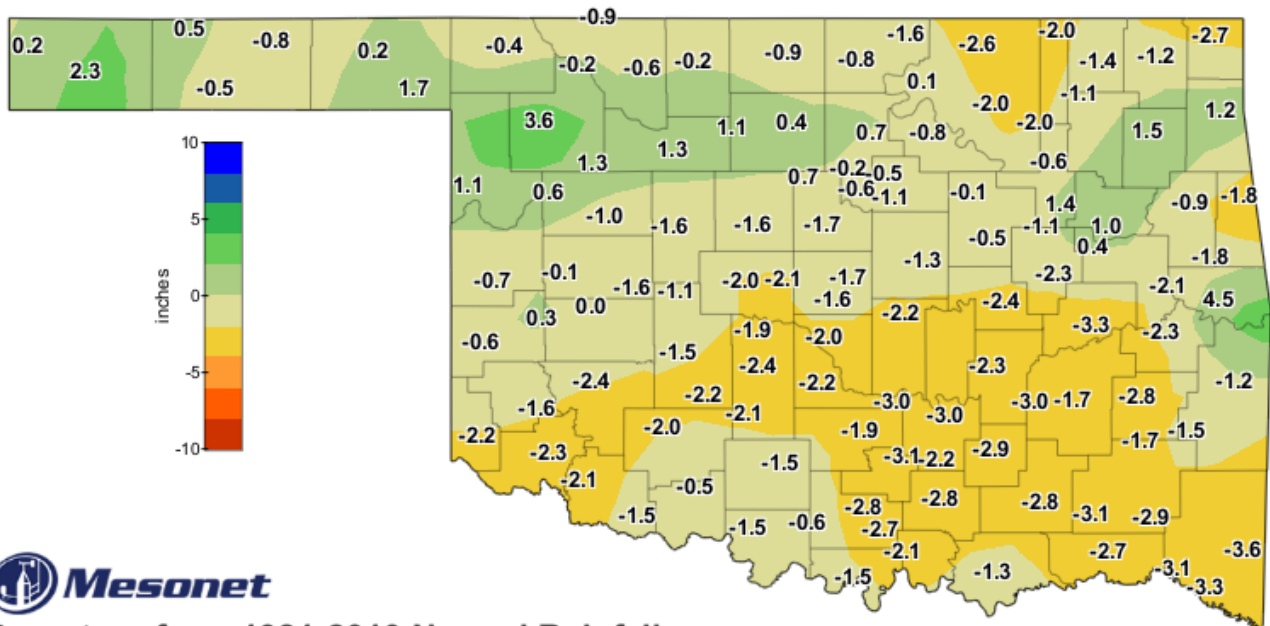


Observed Mesonet Rainfall  
Calendar Month to Date

Jul 1, 2022 through Jul 31, 2022

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## JULY 2022 DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL PRECIPITATION

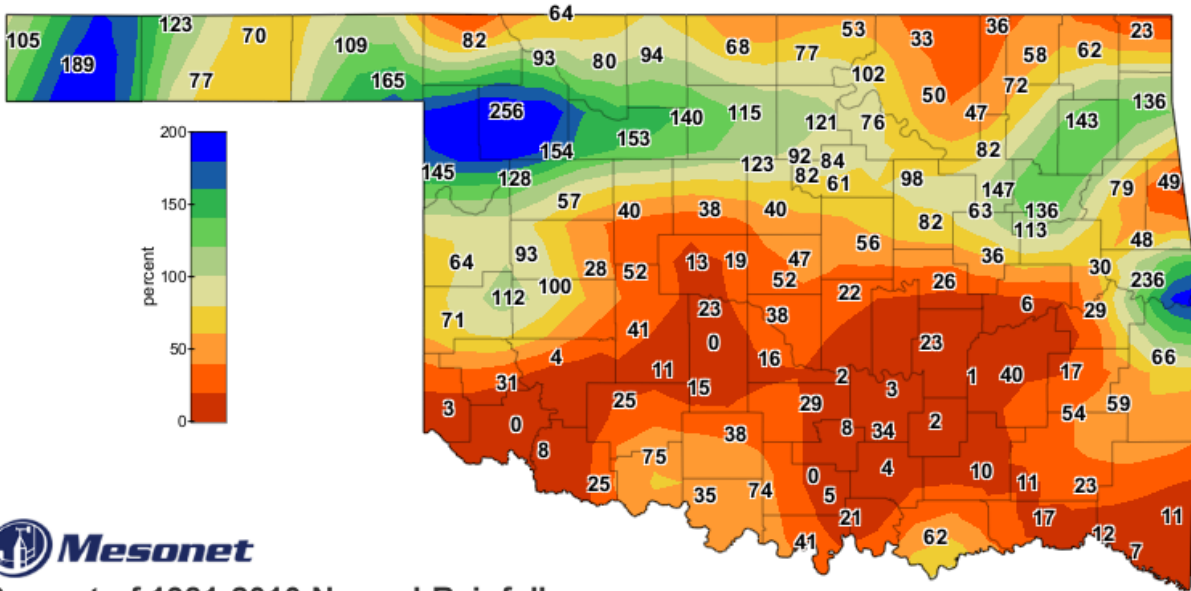


Departure from 1981-2010 Normal Rainfall  
Calendar Month to Date

Jul 1, 2022 through Jul 31, 2022

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# JULY 2022 PERCENT OF NORMAL PRECIPITATION



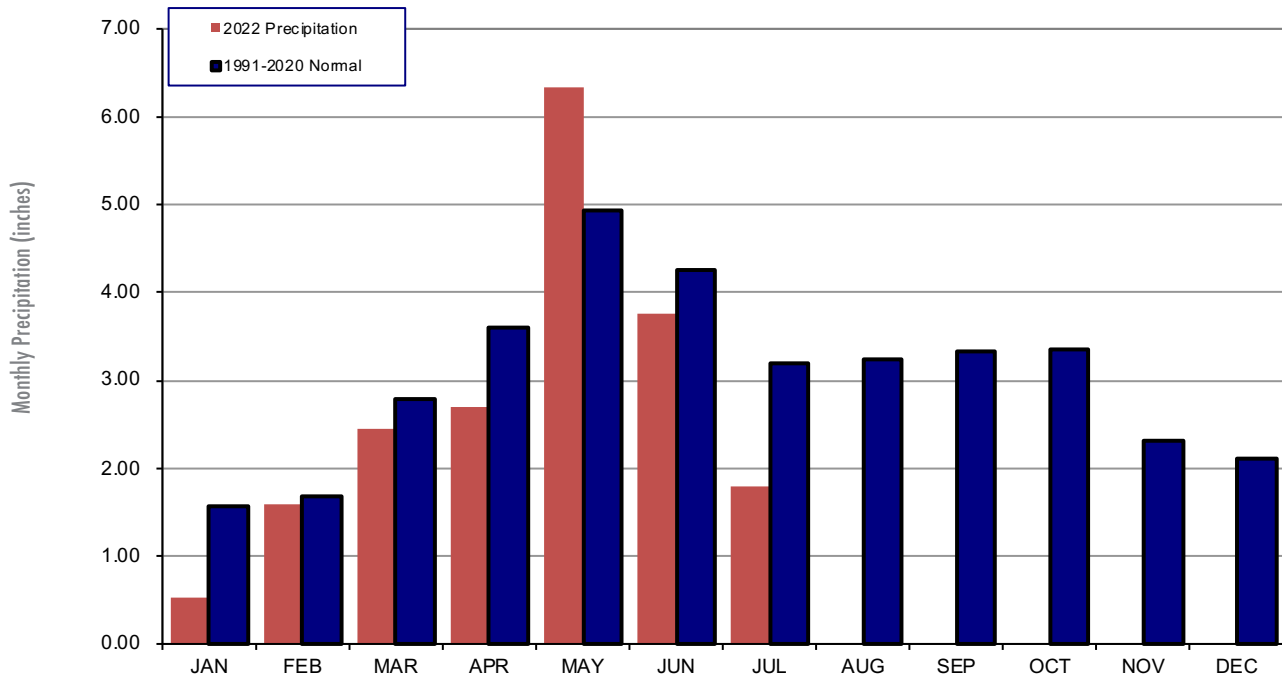
Percent of 1981-2010 Normal Rainfall  
Calendar Month to Date

Jul 1, 2022 through Jul 31, 2022  
Created 3:41:26 AM August 1, 2022 CDT. Copyright 2022





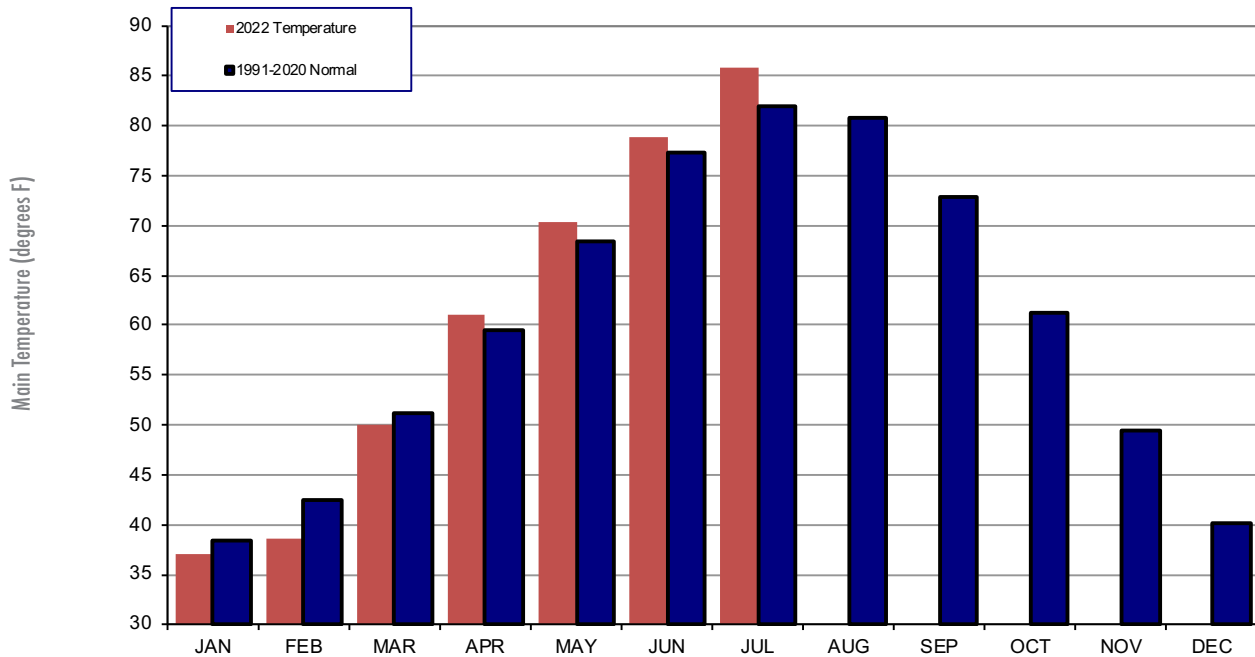
## 2022 STATEWIDE PRECIPITATION MONTHLY TOTALS VS. NORMAL



### July 2022 Mesonet Precipitation Comparison

Climate Division	Precipitation (inches)	Departure from Normal (inches)	Rank since 1895	Wettest on Record (Year)	Driest on Record (Year)	Jul-21 (inches)
Panhandle	3.01	0.25	42nd Wettest	8.81 (1950)	0.44 (1983)	2.55
North Central	3.08	-0.21	55th Wettest	8.59 (1950)	0.12 (1983)	2.55
Northeast	2.67	-1.12	52nd Driest	9.52 (1959)	0.28 (1946)	4.91
West Central	1.63	-0.94	43rd Driest	7.63 (1950)	0.04 (1983)	3.00
Central	1.39	-1.99	30th Driest	9.61 (1950)	0.16 (1980)	3.31
East Central	1.91	-1.85	38th Driest	10.03 (1950)	0.36 (1993)	5.27
Southwest	0.56	-1.92	14th Driest	6.60 (1950)	0.03 (1980)	3.86
South Central	0.64	-2.28	14th Driest	8.46 (1950)	0.11 (1998)	3.61
Southeast	0.99	-2.72	8th Driest	12.47 (1950)	0.19 (1993)	4.16
Statewide	1.79	-1.41	32nd Driest	9.07 (1950)	0.42 (1980)	3.67

## 2022 STATEWIDE TEMPERATURE MONTHLY TOTALS VS. NORMAL



### July 2022 Mesonet Temperature Comparison

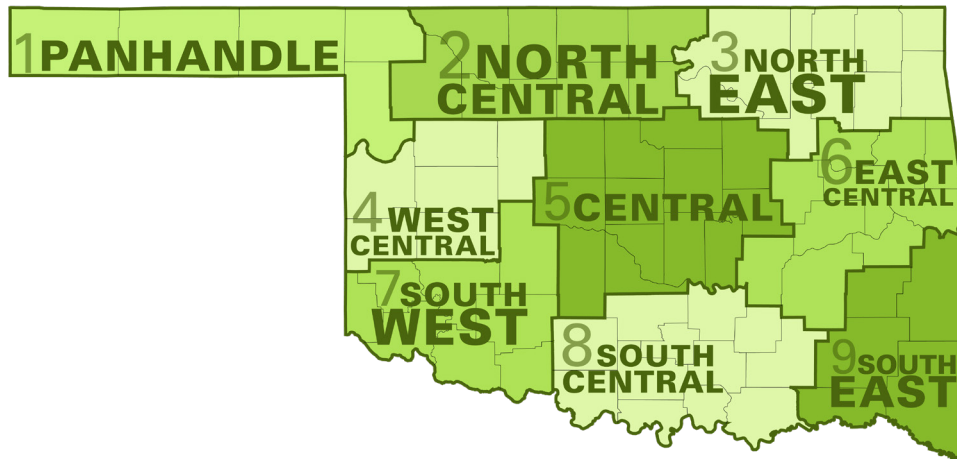
Climate Division	Average Temp (F)	Departure from Normal (F)	Rank since 1895	Hottest on Record (Year)	Coldest on Record (Year)	Jul-21 (F)
Panhandle	83.0	3.2	12th Warmest	86.0 (1934)	72.8 (1906)	78.1
North Central	86.1	3.9	9th Warmest	89.6 (2011)	75.9 (1950)	79.7
Northeast	84.6	3.4	11th Warmest	89.3 (1954)	75.4 (1950)	79.2
West Central	86.8	4.5	6th Warmest	89.6 (2011)	75.8 (1906)	79.9
Central	86.5	4.1	9th Warmest	90.2 (2011)	76.7 (1950)	80.2
East Central	85.8	4.2	9th Warmest	88.9 (2011)	76.2 (1906)	80.2
Southwest	88.3	4.5	6th Warmest	91.7 (2011)	78.0 (1908)	81.1
South Central	87.2	4.2	7th Warmest	90.5 (2011)	77.9 (1950)	81.0
Southeast	85.5	4.4	5th Warmest	87.5 (2011)	76.0 (1905)	80.3
Statewide	85.9	4.0	7th Warmest	89.2 (2011)	76.3 (1906)	79.9



## MESONET EXTREMES FOR JULY 2022

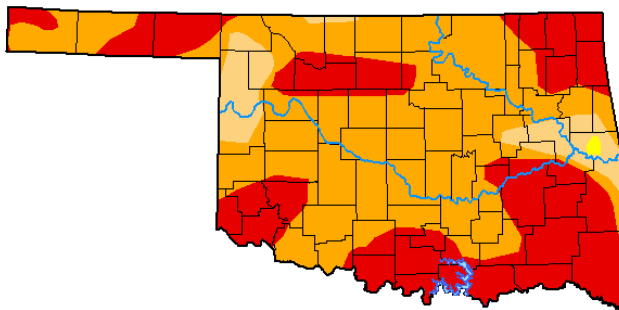
Climate Division	High Temp (F)	Day	Station	Low Temp (F)	Day	Station	High Monthly Rainfall (inches)	Station	High Daily Rainfall (inches)	Day	Station
Panhandle	113	19th	Arnett	59	7th	Eva	4.92	Boise City	3.52	29th	Slapout
North Central	113	19th	Cherokee	61	13th	Breckinridge	5.89	Woodward	2.12	29th	Woodward
Northeast	109	19th	Pawnee	59	14th	Nowata	4.89	Pryor	3.26	30th	Jay
West Central	114	19th	Elk City	63	10th	Camargo	2.69	Camargo	1.23	8th	Bessie
Central	113	19th	Kingfisher	58	19th	Lake Carl Blackwell	3.53	Marshall	1.83	29th	Marshall
East Central	109	19th	Holdenville	60	14th	Okmulgee	7.73	Sallisaw	5.92	21st	Sallisaw
Southwest	115	19th	Mangum	62	11th	Mangum	1.57	Walters	1.44	8th	Walters
South Central	113	19th	Ringling	62	12th	Burneyville	2.08	Durant	2.03	3rd	Durant
Southeast	108	19th	Wilburton	62	11th	Wister	2.21	Talihina	1.85	30th	Talihina
Statewide	115	19th	Mangum	58	19th	Lake Carl Blackwell	7.73	Sallisaw	5.92	21st	Sallisaw

Oklahoma Climate Divisions



# U.S. Drought Monitor Oklahoma

**July 26, 2022**  
(Released Thursday, Jul. 28, 2022)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.00	100.00	99.81	92.11	37.45	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 07-19-2022	0.00	100.00	99.69	57.51	6.80	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 04-26-2022	22.73	77.27	65.40	55.30	39.39	11.03
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-04-2022	5.02	94.98	88.14	72.26	40.44	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-28-2021	6.45	93.55	73.23	23.72	2.65	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 07-27-2021	91.45	8.55	1.13	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>*

Author:

Curtis Riganti  
National Drought Mitigation Center



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

## 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 November differs 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 November result in an artificially high or low value.

## 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 Centers for Environmental Information:

<https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>

### SEASONAL OUTLOOKS

Climate Prediction Center:

[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/OUTLOOKS\\_index.shtml](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/OUTLOOKS_index.shtml)

### CLIMATE CALENDARS AND OTHER LOCAL WEATHER AND CLIMATE INFORMATION

Oklahoma Climatological Survey:

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



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