

March 2020 Climate Summary

Overview

Weather Forecast Office
Albuquerque, NM
Issued April 3, 2020 4:36 PM MDT



Synopsis

March 2020 was warmer than normal statewide, especially in the east. The precipitation was variable, with below normal in the northeast, near normal over central areas, and above to well above normal across the south.

Early March was pretty quiet, then a widespread rain and snow event impacted the state on the 12th and continued into the 14th. The first tornado of the season to strike NM occurred near Pleasant Hill on the 17th. Light snow fell on the 19th, then high winds swept through the state from the 26th to the 28th.



Morning Moonset at NWS ABQ
March 8, 2020



Rio Rancho Sunset
March 7, 2020
Courtesy of DebFurm NM (Facebook)



Ski Apache's Fresh Snowfall March 4, 2020
Courtesy of Kerry Jones (Twitter)

March 2020 Climate Summary

State Temperatures

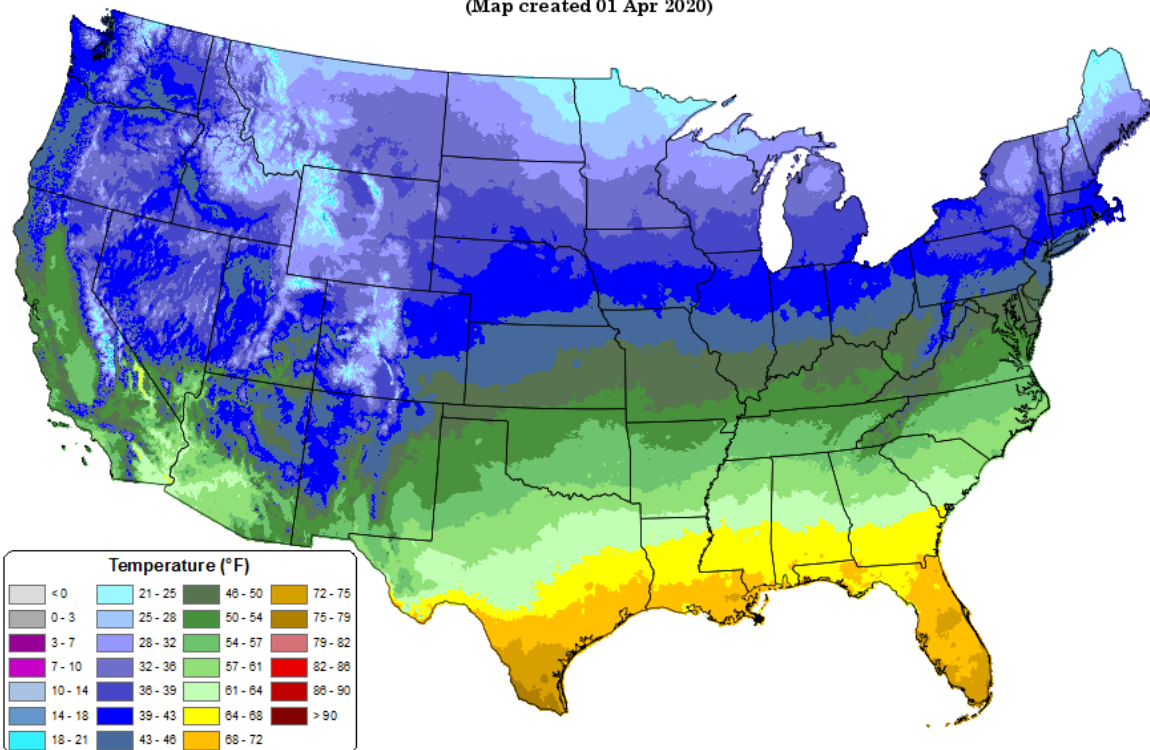
Weather Forecast Office
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Actual

Average Daily Mean Temperature: 01 Mar 2020 - 31 Mar 2020

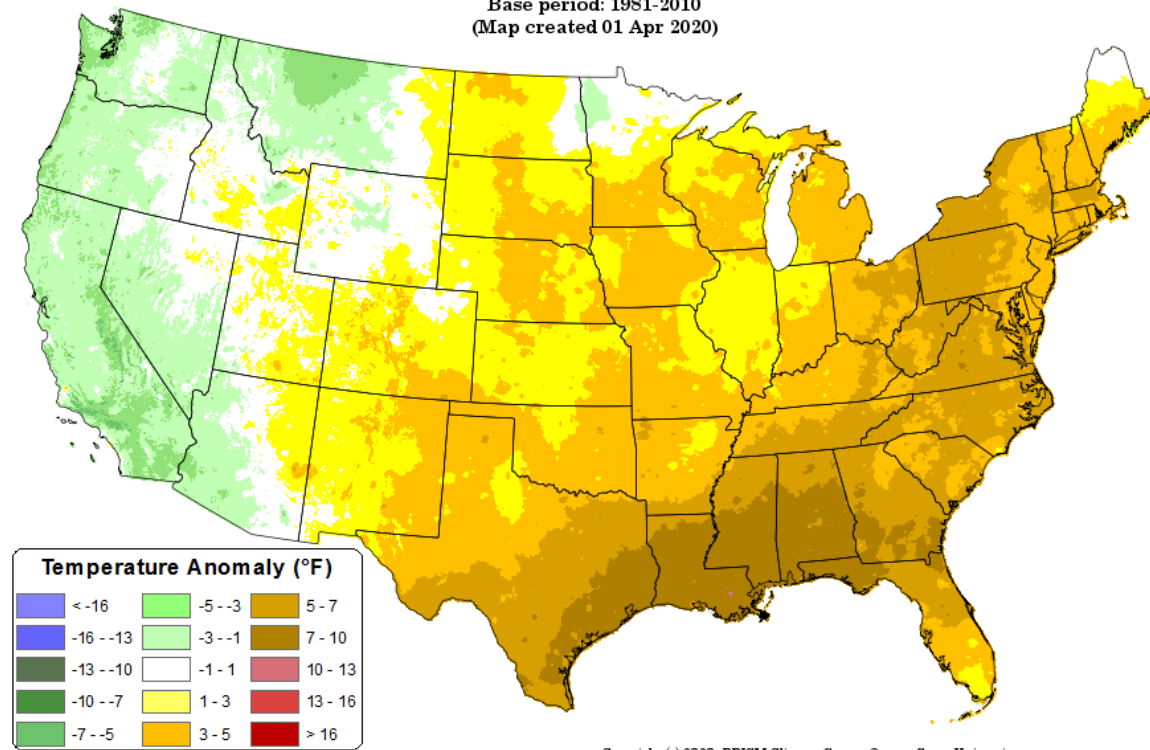
Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2020
(Map created 01 Apr 2020)



Anomaly

Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: 01 Mar 2020 - 31 Mar 2020

Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2020
Base period: 1981-2010
(Map created 01 Apr 2020)



March 2020 Climate Summary

State Precipitation

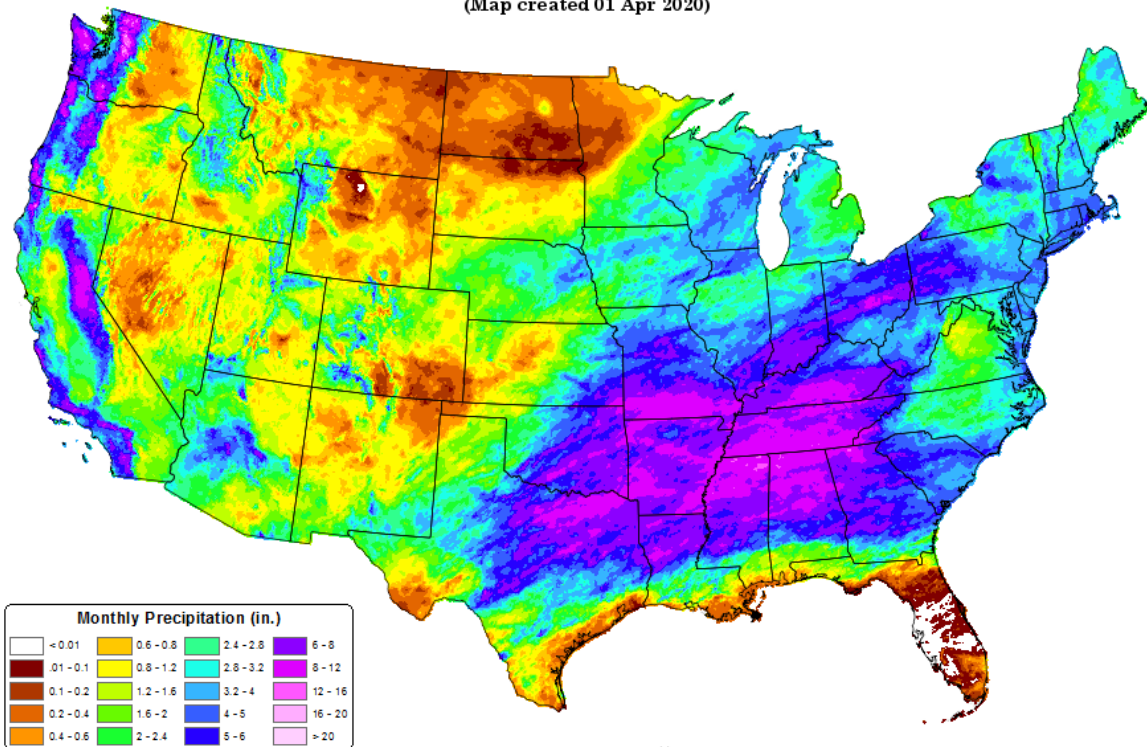
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Actual

Total Precipitation: 01 Mar 2020 - 31 Mar 2020

Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2020
(Map created 01 Apr 2020)

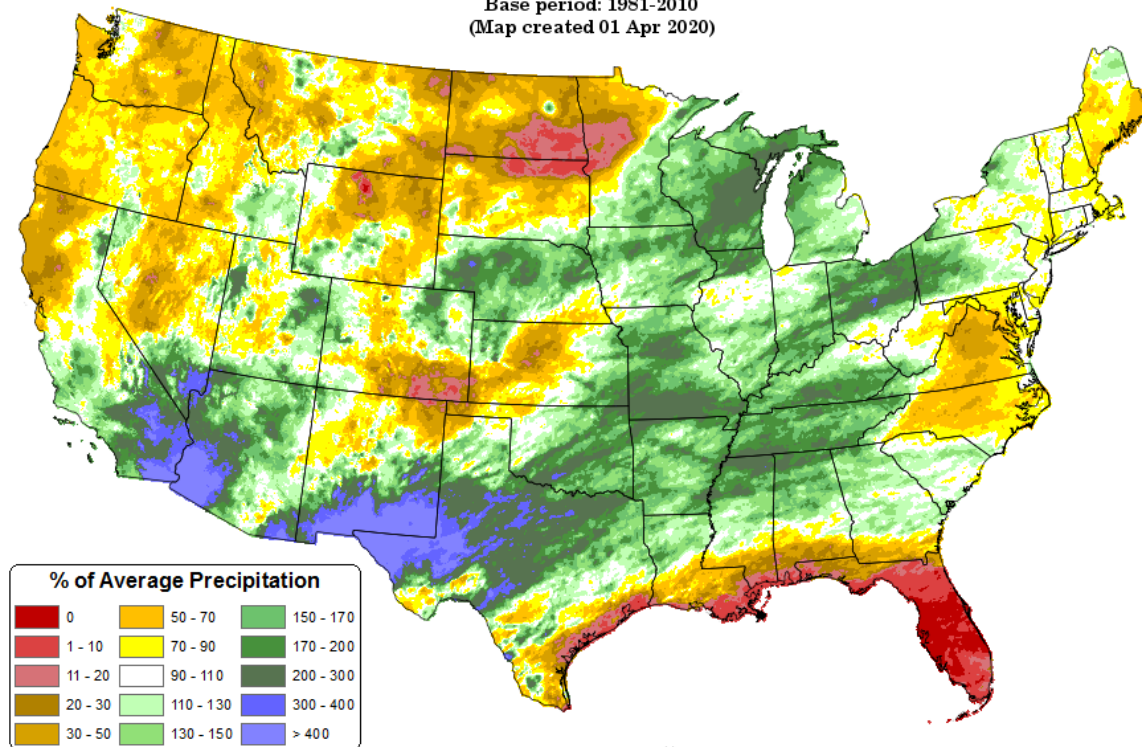


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Anomaly

Total Precipitation Anomaly: 01 Mar 2020 - 31 Mar 2020

Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2020
Base period: 1981-2010
(Map created 01 Apr 2020)

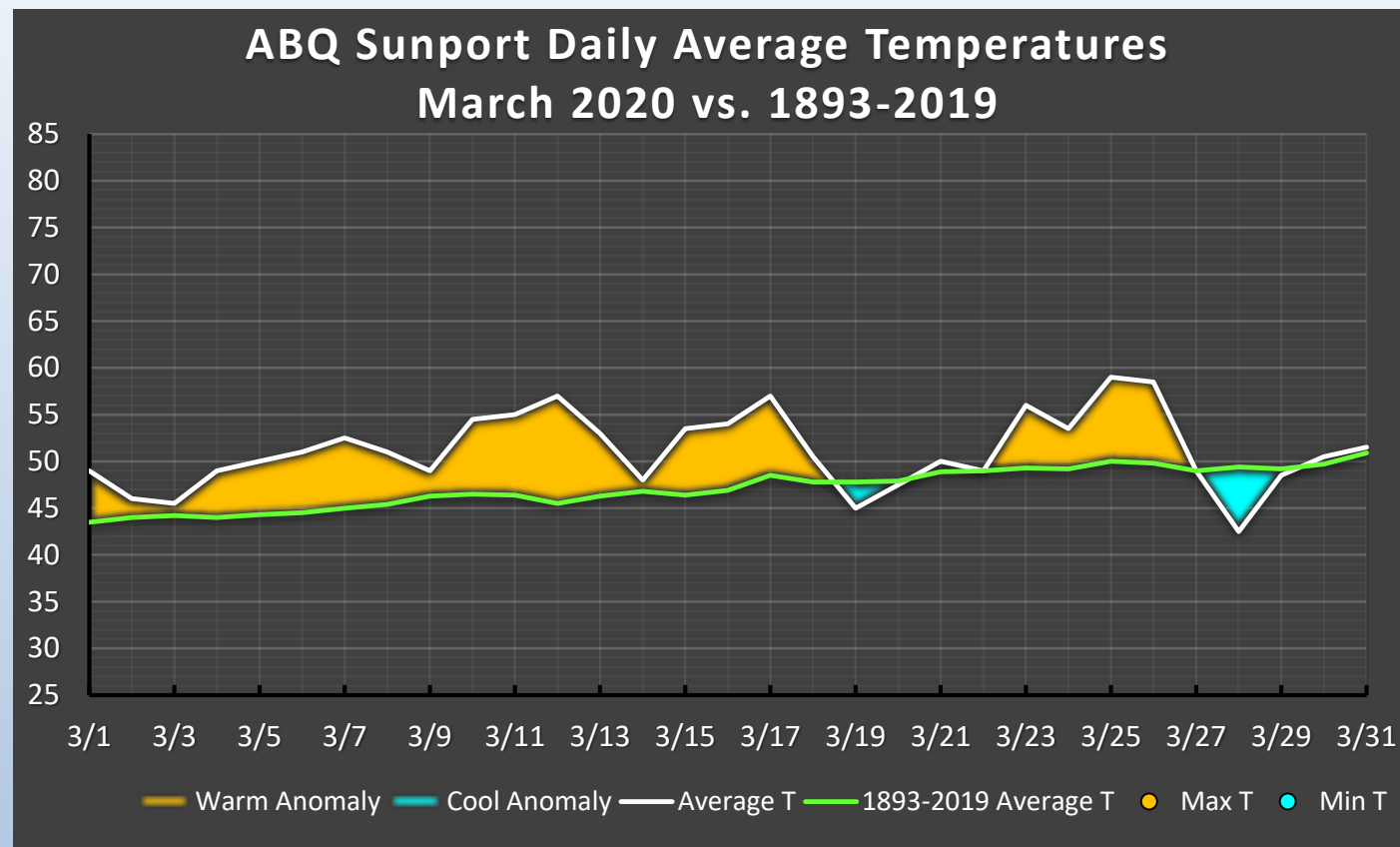


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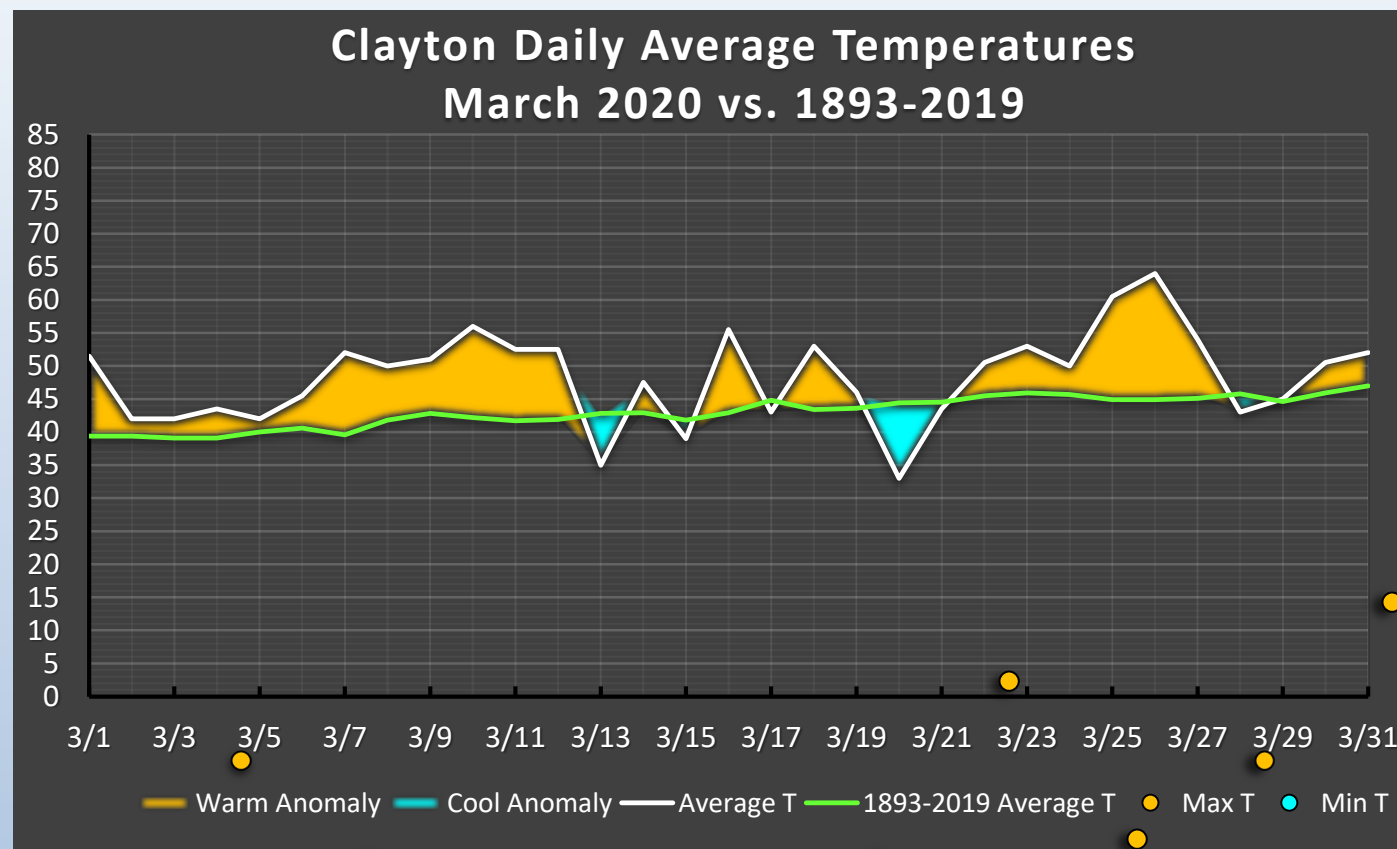
March 2020 Climate Summary

Albuquerque Sunport Temperatures

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The average March temperature for Albuquerque was 51.2°, which was 3.1° above the normal of 48.1°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 63.5°. This was 3.0° above the normal average maximum temperature of 60.5°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 38.8°. This was 3.1° above the normal average minimum temperature of 35.7°. March 2020 was the 13th warmest March on record.

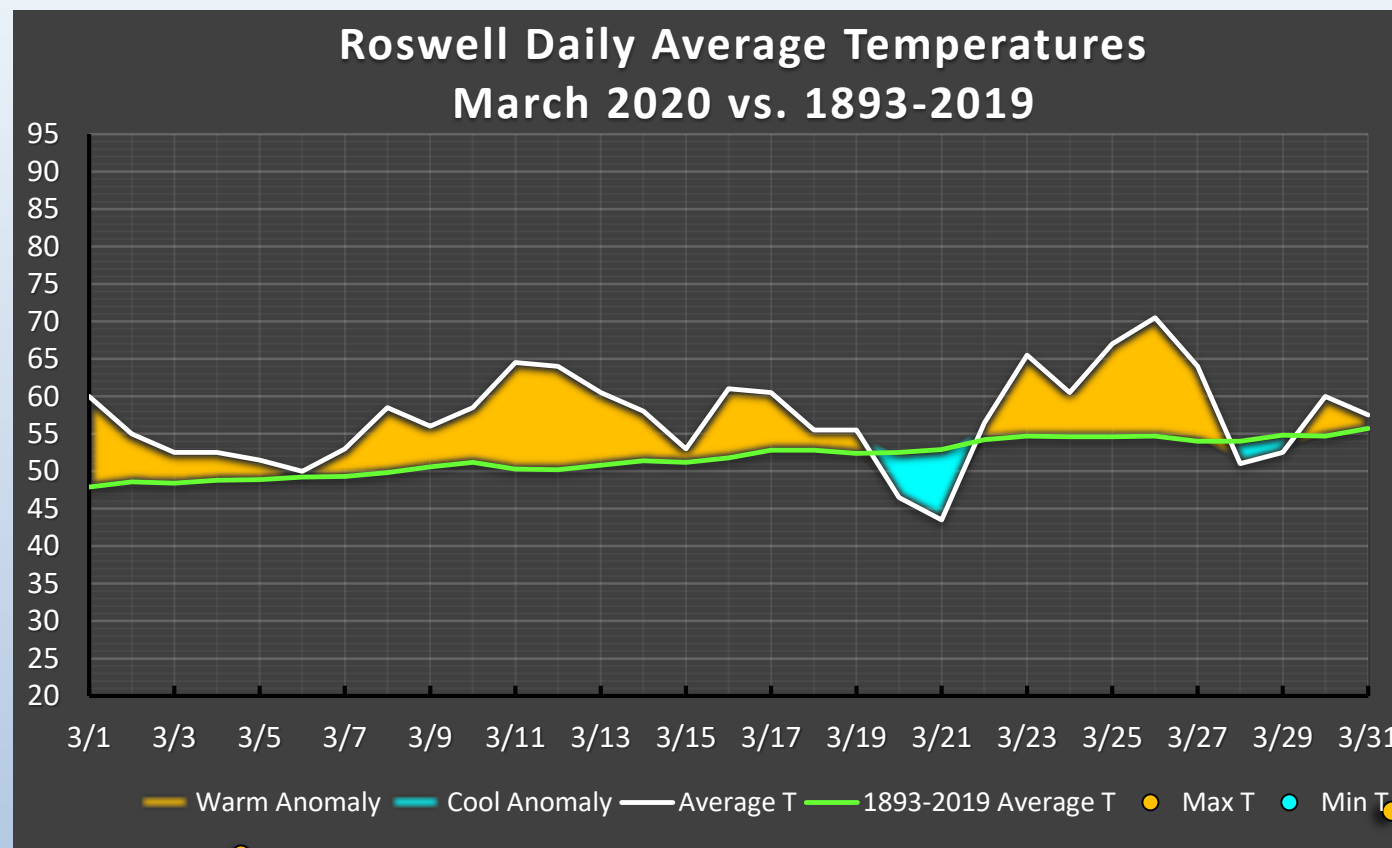


The average March temperature for Clayton was 48.3°, which was 4.1° above the normal of 44.2°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 62.8°. This was 4.3° above the normal average maximum temperature of 58.5°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 33.9°. This was 3.9° above the normal average minimum temperature of 30.0°. This March was the 12th warmest on record.

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Roswell Temperatures

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The average March temperature for Roswell was 57.3°, which was 4.7° above the normal of 52.6°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 69.9°. This was 1.6° above the average maximum temperature of 68.3°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 44.6°. This was 7.7° above the normal average minimum temperature of 36.9°. March 2020 was the 5th warmest March on record!

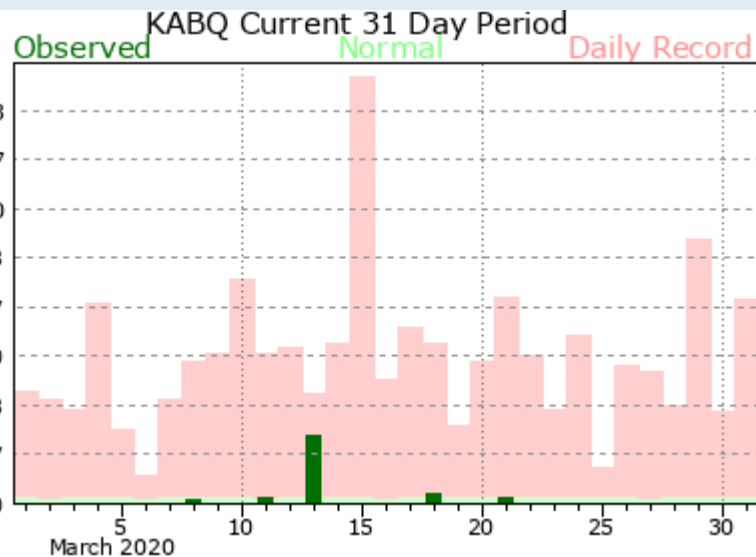
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Precipitation – Climate Sites

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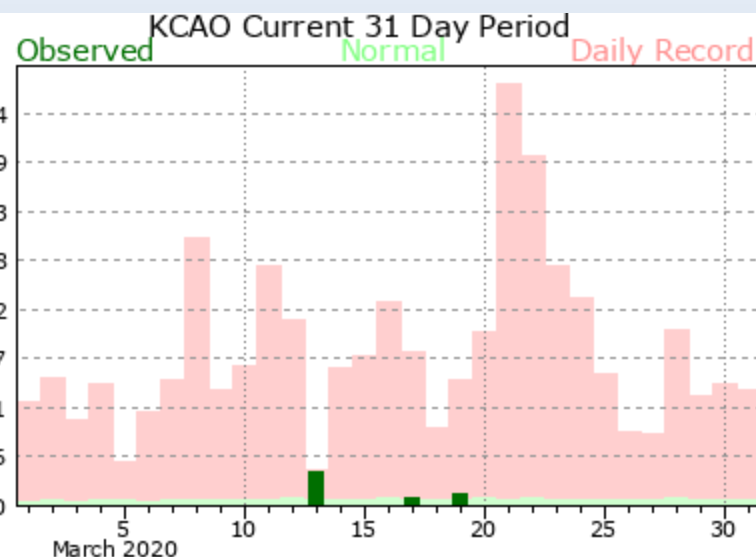


Albuquerque Sunport



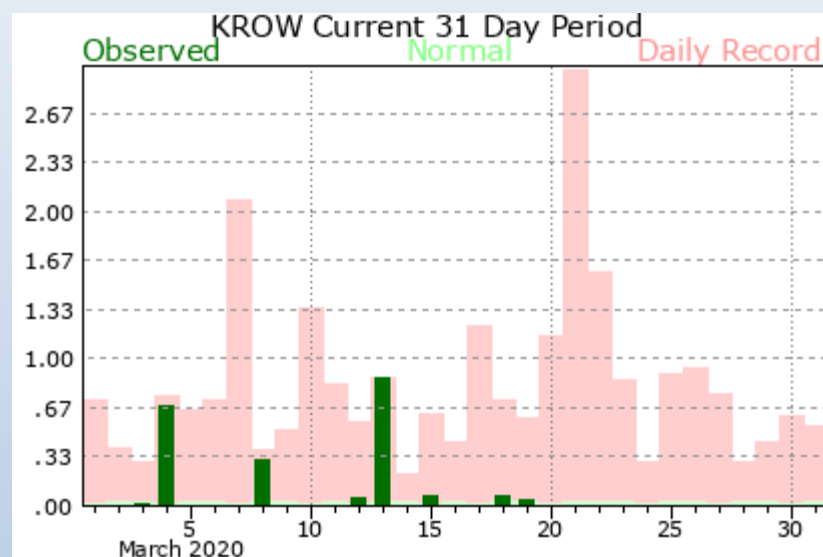
There was 0.31" of precipitation measured at the Sunport, compared to the normal of 0.57", or 0.26" below normal. This ranks as the 60th driest March on record (1892-2020).

Clayton



There was 0.27" of precipitation measured at Clayton, compared to the normal of 0.95", or 0.68" below normal. This was the 41st driest March on record (1892-2020).

Roswell



There was 2.07" of precipitation measured at Roswell, compared to the normal of 0.51", or 1.56" above normal. This ranks as the 5th wettest March on record (1892-2020).

March 2020 Climate Summary

Severe Weather*








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Event Type	Dates	County/Zone Name	Magnitude	Type	Event Narrative
Tornado	3/17-3/19/2020	Curry County			A brief tornado touched down near Pleasant Hill, NM.
High Wind	3/17-3/19/2020	Northeast Highlands	65 kt	Gust	Various stations reported peak wind gusts of 65 to 75 mph around Las Vegas.
High Wind	3/19/2020	Eastern San Miguel County	37 kt	Sustained	A public weather station at Conchas Dam reported sustained winds up 43 mph for several hours.
High Wind	3/19/2020	Union County	51 kt	Gust	The Clayton airpark reported a brief wind gust up to 59 mph.
High Wind	3/19/2020	Johnson/Bartlett Mesas	55 kt	Gust	A small carport and a dead elm tree were blown over in Capulin.
Tornado	3/21/2020	San Juan County			A brief landspout tornado touched down over the NAPI farm complex south of Bloomfield.
High Wind	3/23/2020	Far Northeast Highlands	53 kt	Gust	The Raton airport reported a peak wind gust up to 61 mph.
High Wind	3/26-3/27/2020	South Central Mountains	58 kt	Gust	The Sierra Blanca airport reported a peak wind gust up to 67 mph.
High Wind	3/26-3/27/2020	South Central Mountains	45 kt	Sustained	The Sierra Blanca airport reported sustained winds up to 52 mph.
High Wind	3/26/2020	Northeast Highlands	38 kt	Sustained	The Las Vegas airport reported sustained winds up to 44 mph.
High Wind	3/26/2020	Southwest Mountains	50 kt	Gust	Public weather stations reported peak wind gust up to 58 mph near Red Hill and Omega.
High Wind	3/26/2020	Central Highlands	35 kt	Sustained	Clines Corners reported sustained winds of 40 mph.
High Wind	3/27/2020	South Central Highlands	38 kt	Sustained	A couple weather stations around Corona reported sustained winds near 40 mph.
High Wind	3/27-3/28/2020	Central Highlands	38 kt	Sustained	Clines Corners reported sustained winds up to 44 mph.
High Wind	3/27/2020	Central Highlands	56 kt	Gust	Clines Corners reported peak wind gusts up to 65 mph.
High Wind	3/27/2020	Northeast Highlands	42 kt	Sustained	The Las Vegas airport reported sustained winds up to 48 mph.
High Wind	3/27/2020	Northeast Highlands	62 kt	Gust	The Las Vegas airport reported a peak wind gust up to 71 mph.
High Wind	3/27/2020	Quay County	40 kt	Sustained	The Tucumcari airport reported sustained winds up to 46 mph.
High Wind	3/27/2020	Quay County	51 kt	Gust	The Tucumcari airport reported a peak wind gust up to 59 mph.
High Wind	3/27/2020	Far Northeast Highlands	51 kt	Gust	The Raton airport reported a peak wind gust up to 59 mph.
High Wind	3/27/2020	Union County	37 kt	Sustained	The Clayton airpark reported sustained winds up to 43 mph.
High Wind	3/27/2020	Upper Tularosa Valley	54 kt	Gust	Various stations around Carrizozo reported peak wind gusts near 60 mph.
High Wind	3/27/2020	Guadalupe County	51 kt	Gust	The Santa Rosa airport reported a peak wind gust up to 59 mph.
High Wind	3/28/2020	Central Highlands	51 kt	Gust	Clines Corners reported a peak wind gust up to 59 mph.

*Storm reports are considered preliminary until a final review is certified in the NWS Storm Data publication. Certified data is available three to four months post-event at: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>



-  NCEI Climatological Rankings: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/national/rankings>
-  PRISM Climate Data: <http://www.prism.oregonstate.edu/>
-  NWS Local Climate Pages: <https://w2.weather.gov/climate/index.php?wfo=abq>
-  NCEI Storm Data: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>
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