

March 2024 Climate & Weather Summary

Issued: April 11, 2024



ALBUQUERQUE
Weather Forecast Office

March 2024 was full of winter storms and high wind events. The month began windy and dry with rounds of strong winds in excess of 55 mph throughout eastern NM. Then, there was a transition to wetter weather around the middle of the month. A tandem of storms from the 13th through the 17th brought feet of snow to the northern mountains and wind gusts in excess of 65 mph to central and eastern NM where precipitation was mostly in the form of rain. To cap off the active month, two more high wind events created dust storms in the Roswell area on the 24th and 31st. Despite numerous days with critical fire weather conditions throughout the month, no large fires were started fortunately. Monthly precipitation was above average to well-above average across the western half of the state and near to below average across the eastern half of the state.



March 17 | South Tijeras, NM
Photo courtesy Jeff Young



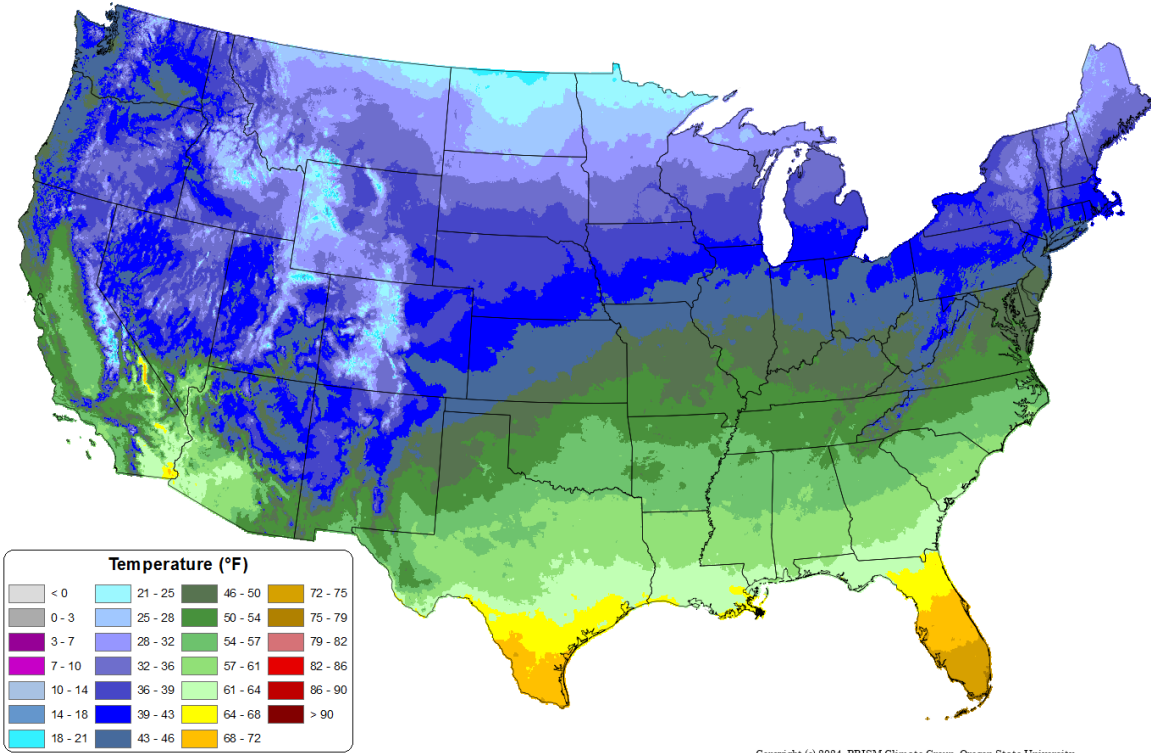
March 31 | Roswell, NM
Photo courtesy Jim Tucker



March 17 | Abiquiu, NM
Photo courtesy Mike Caffey

Average Temperatures

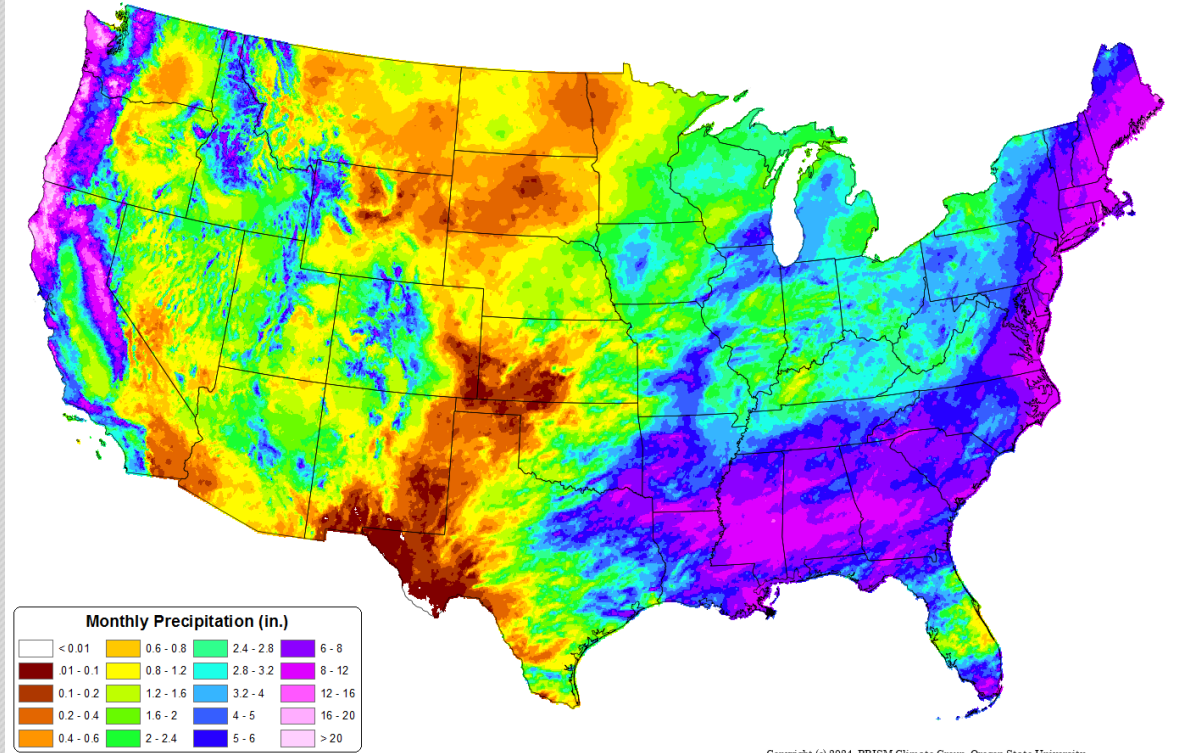
Average Daily Mean Temperature: Mar 2024
 Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2024
 (Map created 02 Apr 2024)



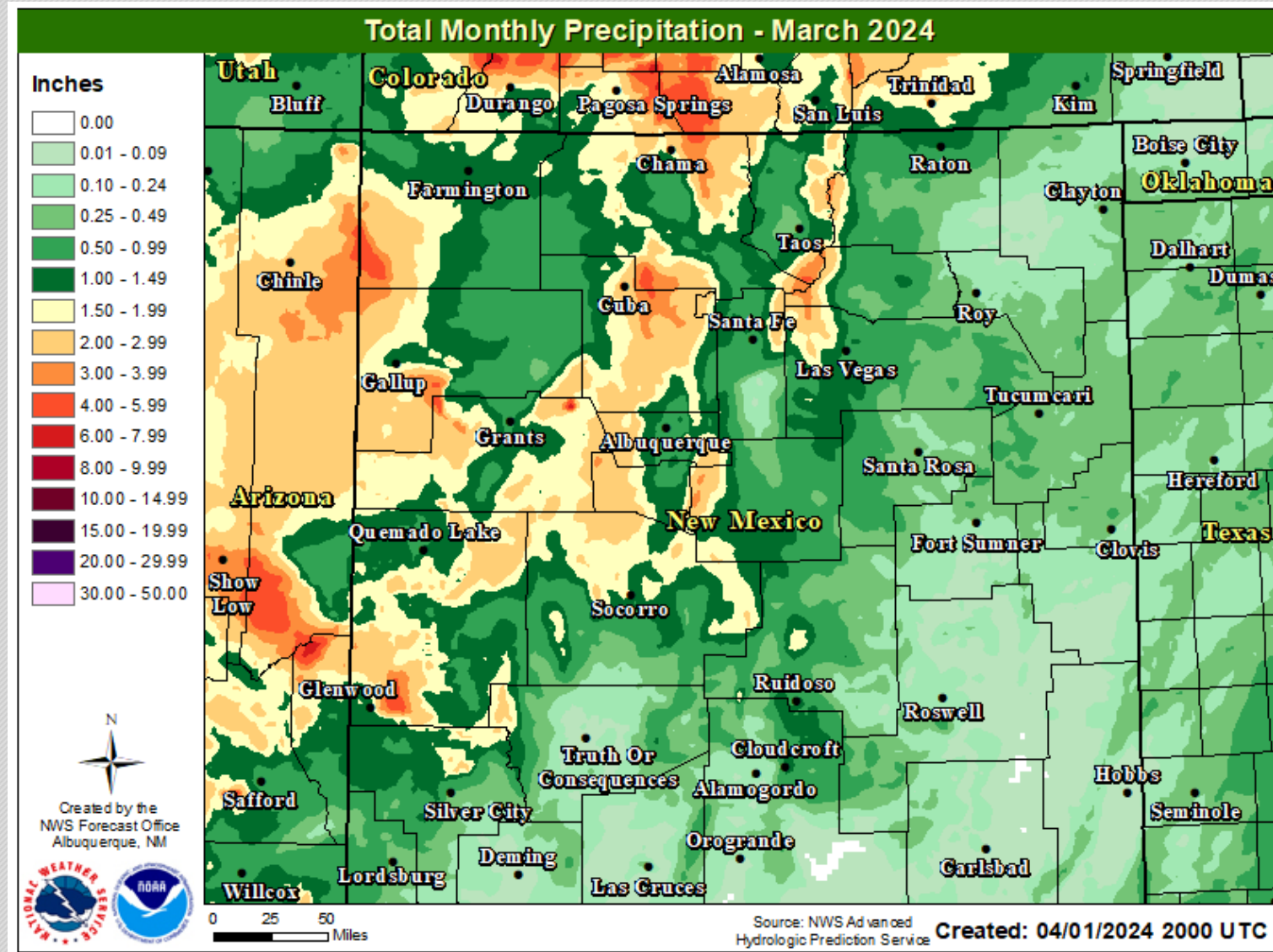
Copyright (c) 2024, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University

Total Precipitation

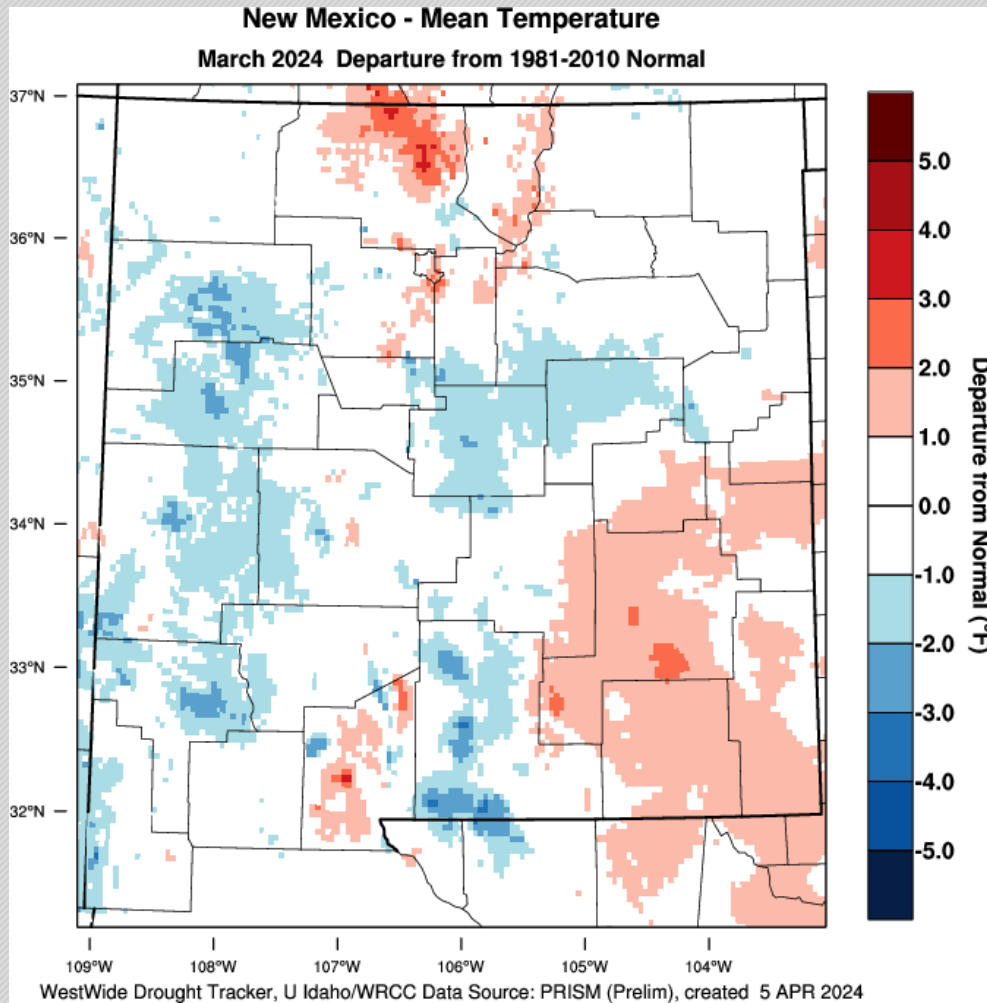
Total Precipitation: Mar 2024
 Period ending 31 Mar 2024
 (Map created 02 Apr 2024)



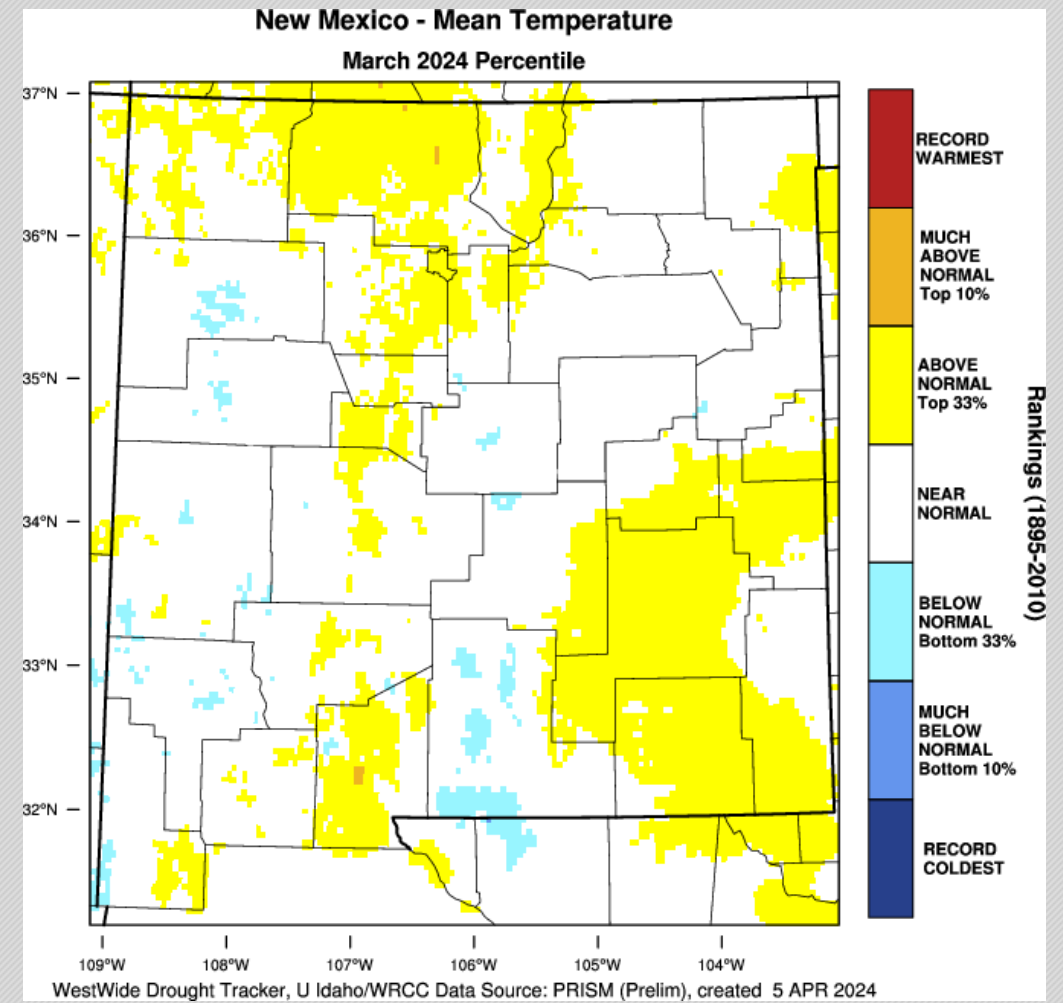
Copyright (c) 2024, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University



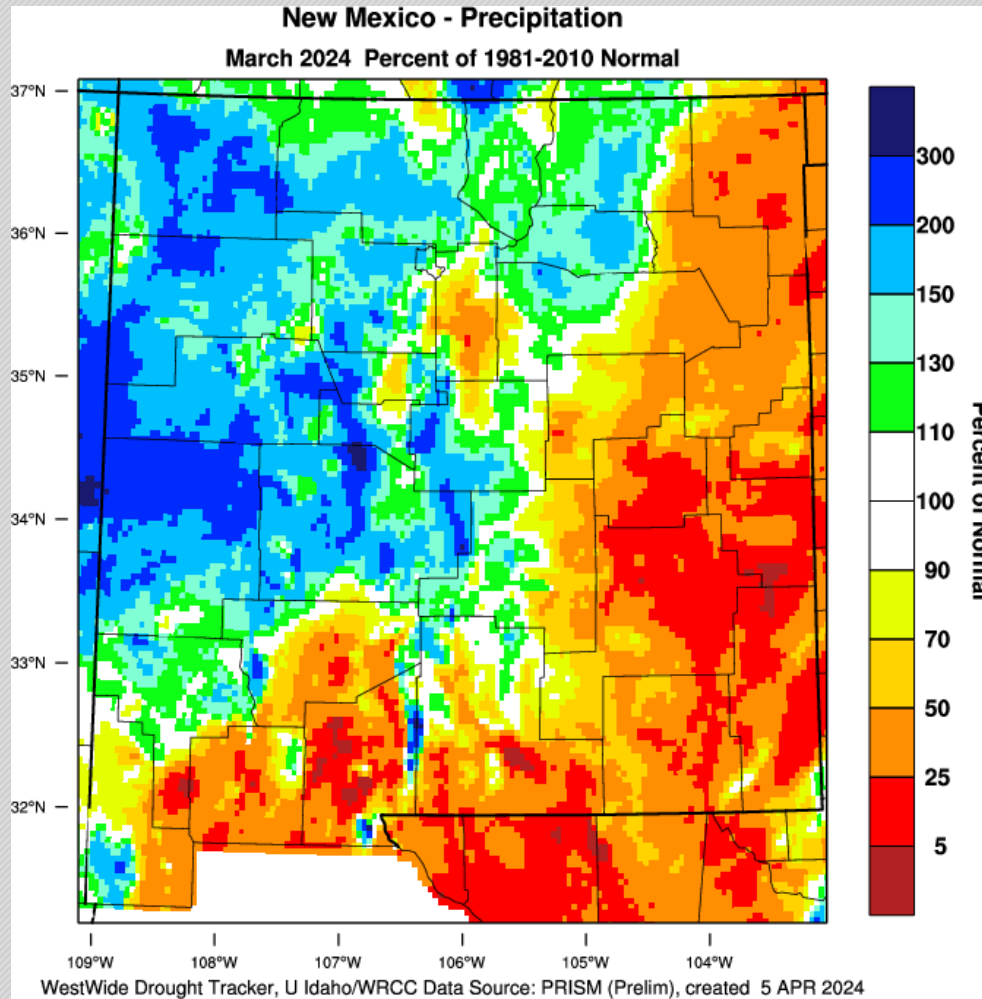
Anomaly



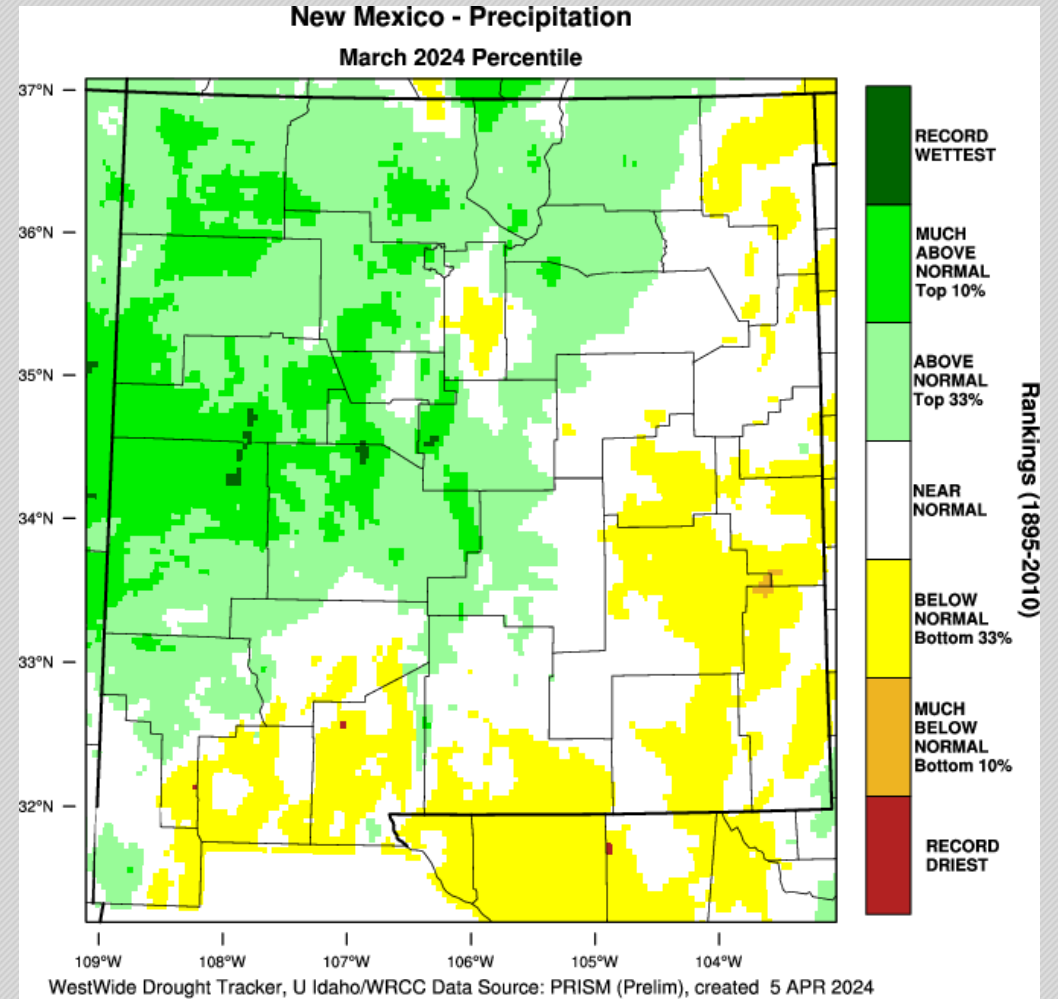
Percentile



Anomaly

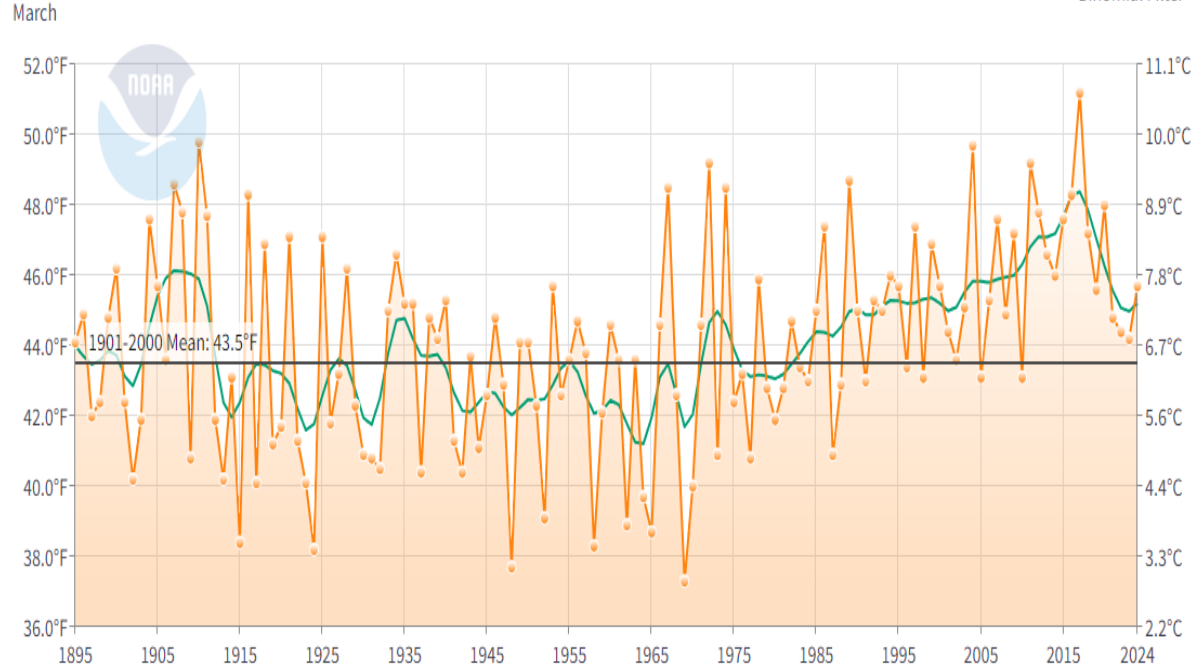


Percentile



Temperature

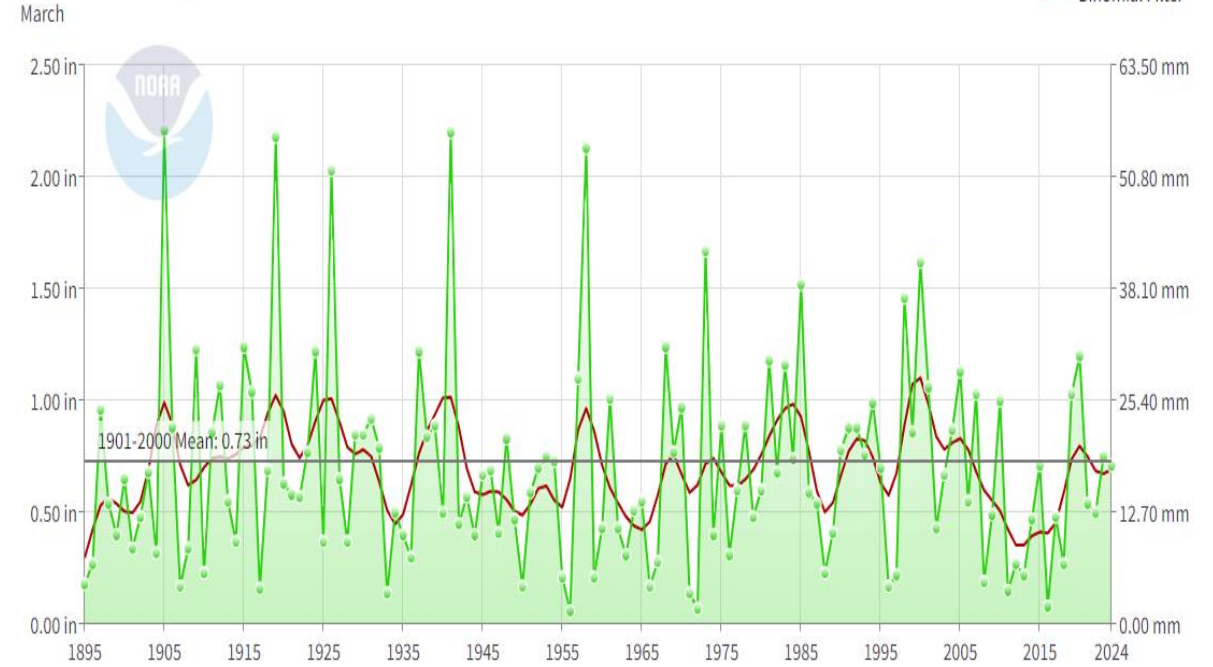
New Mexico Average Temperature



The March 2024 average statewide temperature was 45.7°, which was 2.2° above the long-term normal of 43.5° (1901-2000). This ranked as the 33rd warmest March on record (1895-2024).

Precipitation

New Mexico Precipitation



The March 2024 average statewide precipitation was 0.71", which was 0.02" below the long-term normal of 0.73" (1901-2000). This ranked as the 78th driest March on record (1895-2024).

U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico

March 5, 2024

(Released Thursday, Mar. 7, 2024)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	2.81	97.19	88.19	47.28	19.28	3.51
Last Week 02-27-2024	2.82	97.18	88.19	47.86	19.28	3.51
3 Months Ago 12-05-2023	0.39	99.61	96.83	87.73	43.00	6.48
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024	0.71	99.29	94.04	79.22	38.39	6.48
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	0.00	100.00	96.87	67.52	32.31	6.85
One Year Ago 03-07-2023	28.27	71.73	37.12	15.52	3.82	0.19

Intensity:



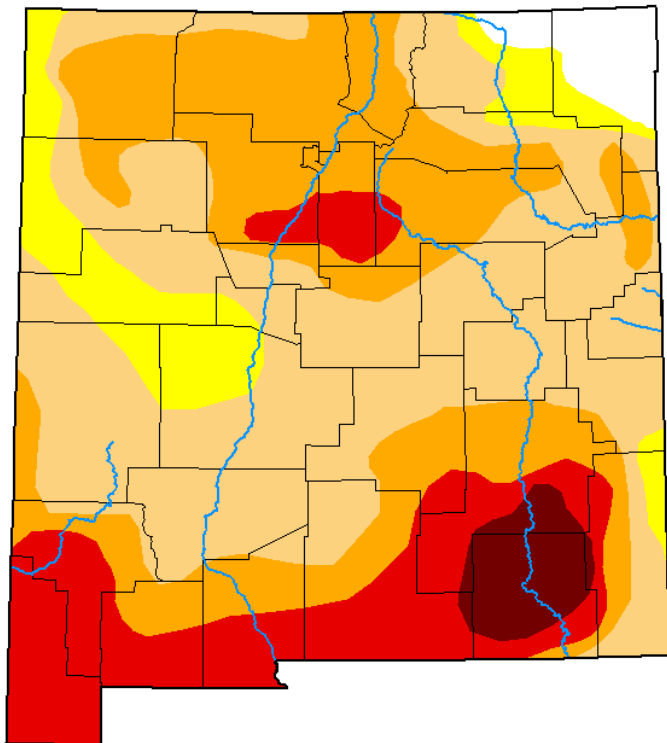
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu



U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico

March 26, 2024

(Released Thursday, Mar. 28, 2024)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	1.76	98.24	77.63	37.77	16.72	3.51
Last Week 03-19-2024	1.76	98.24	85.69	43.95	18.86	3.51
3 Months Ago 12-26-2023	0.71	99.29	94.04	82.04	41.16	6.48
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024	0.71	99.29	94.04	79.22	38.39	6.48
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	0.00	100.00	96.87	67.52	32.31	6.85
One Year Ago 03-28-2023	36.06	63.94	32.91	15.67	4.20	0.21

Intensity:



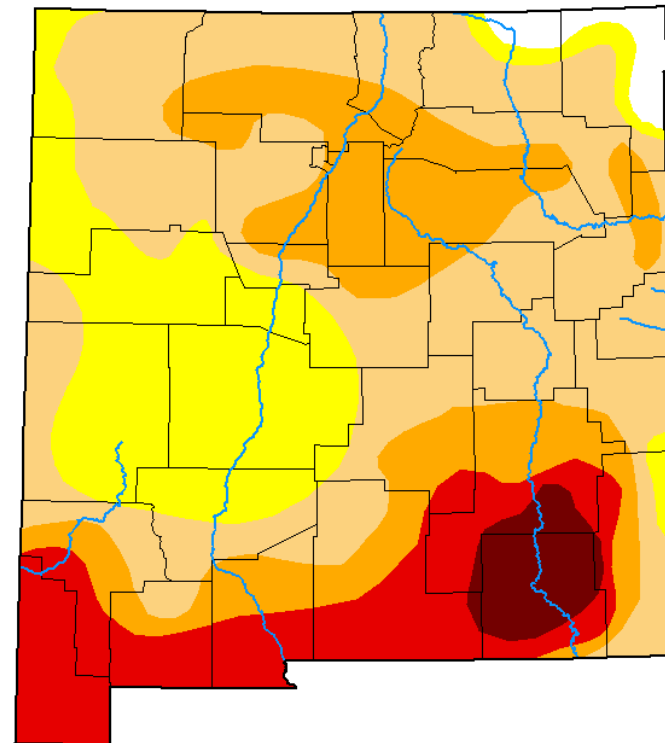
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Brad Rippey
U.S. Department of Agriculture



droughtmonitor.unl.edu



Drought conditions in March improved slightly for parts of the region, mainly central and northwest NM. A more active storm track entering the western U.S. in February helped to focus the greater rain and snow across the northern and western high terrain.

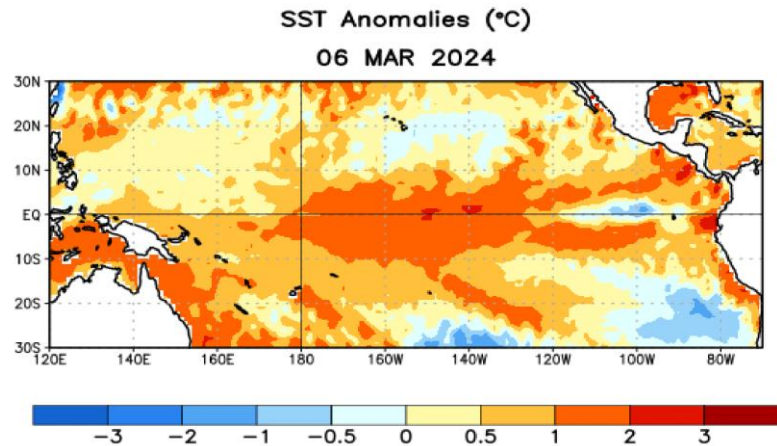


Figure 1. Average sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) for the week centered on 6 March 2024. Anomalies are computed with respect to the 1991-2020 base period weekly means.

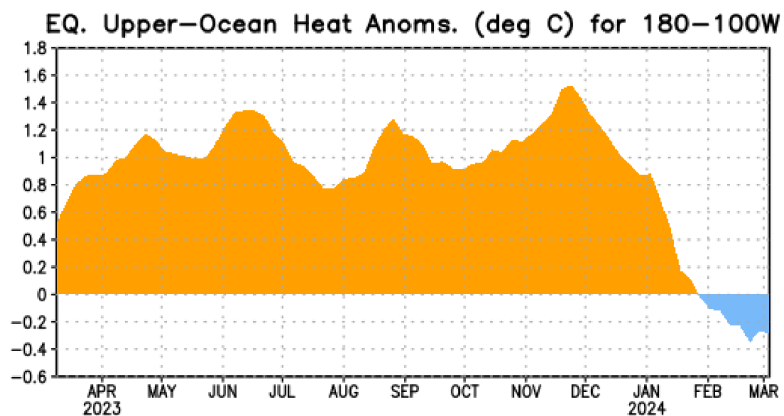


Figure 3. Area-averaged upper-ocean heat content anomaly ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) in the equatorial Pacific (5°N - 5°S , 180° - 100°W). The heat content anomaly is computed as the departure from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means.

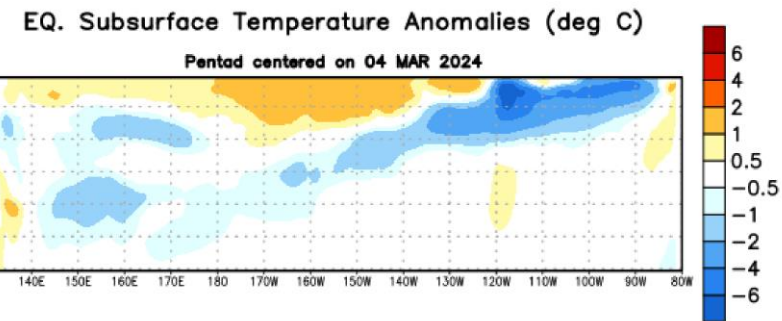
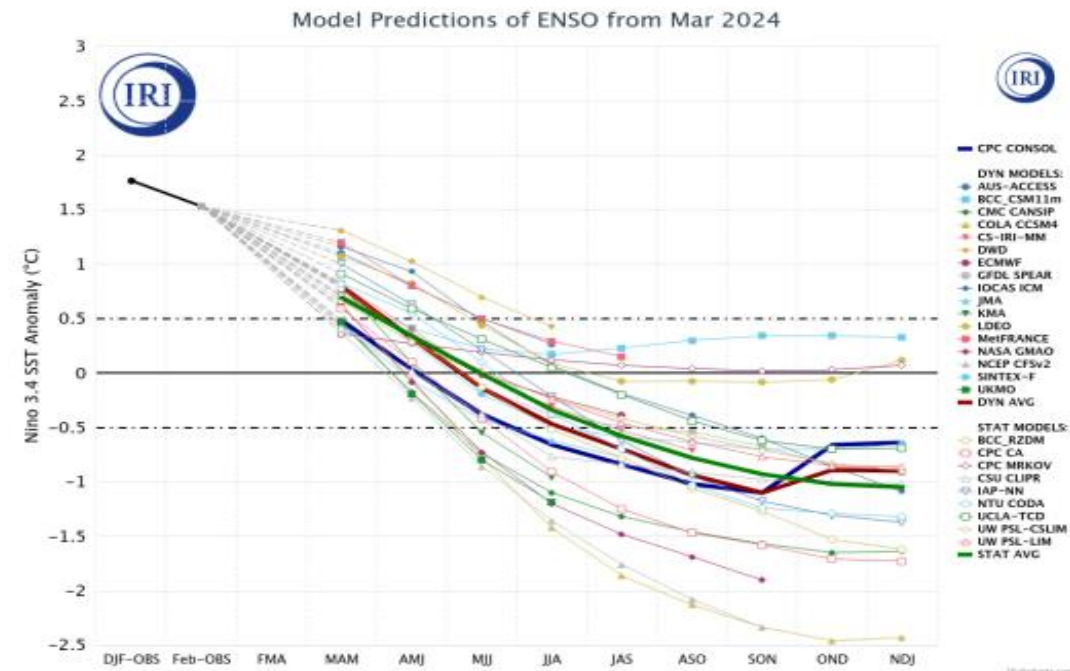
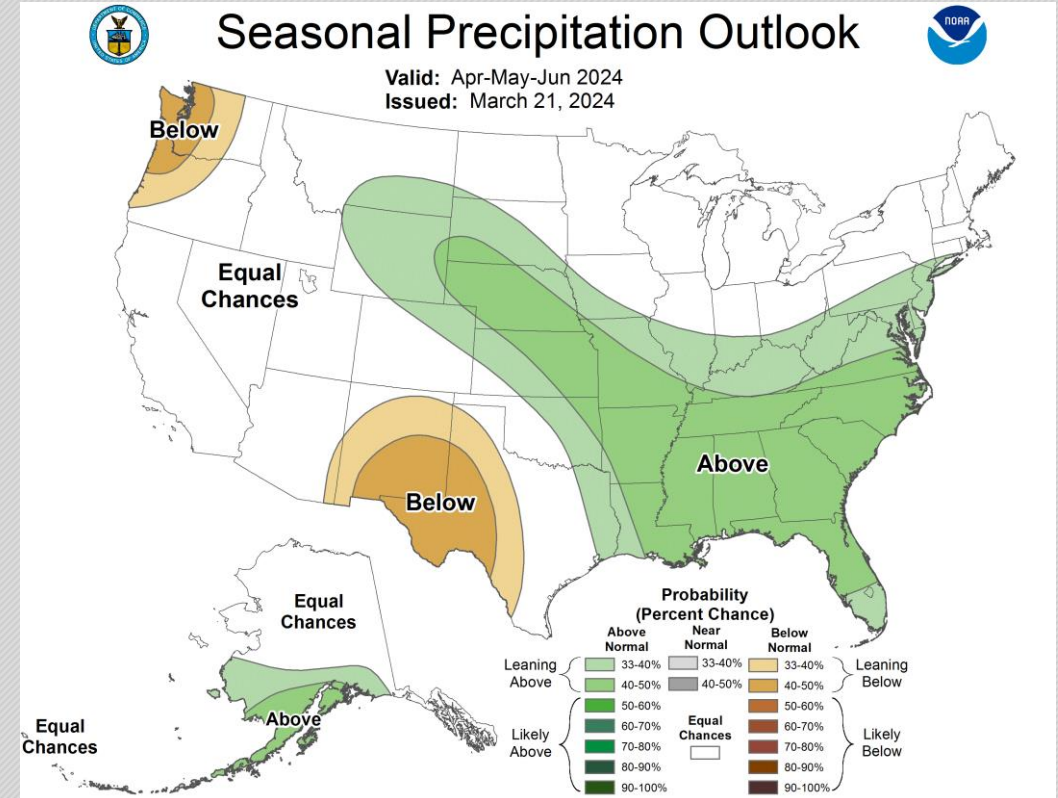
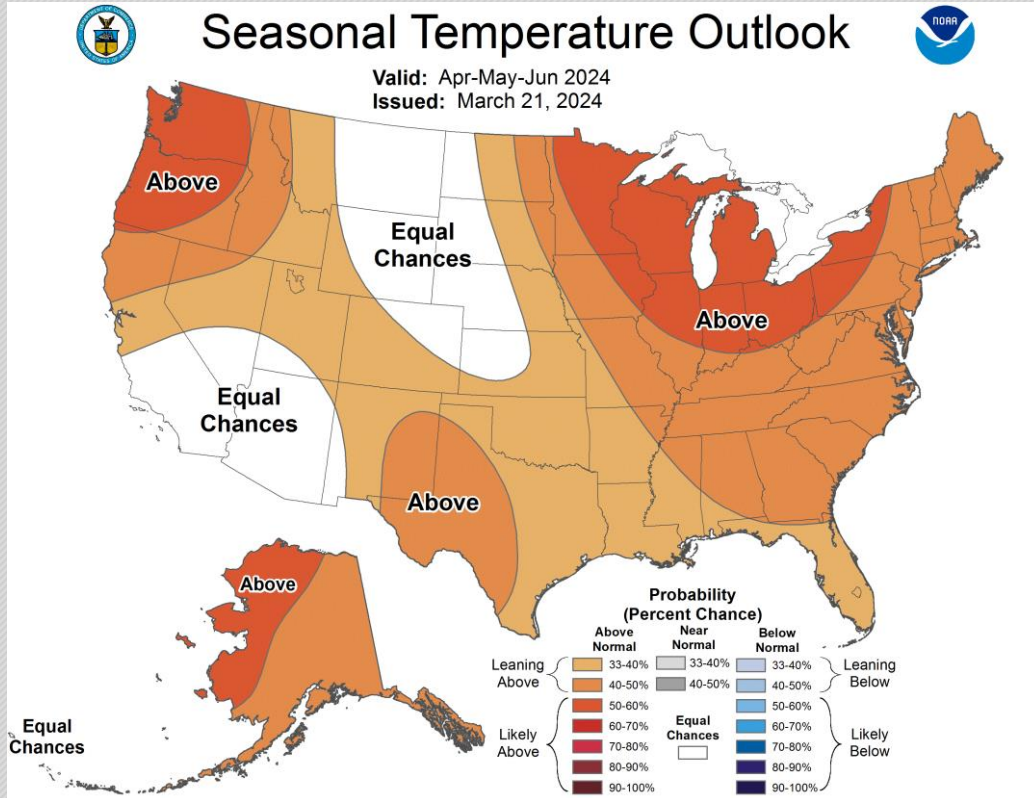


Figure 4. Depth-longitude section of equatorial Pacific upper-ocean (0-300m) temperature anomalies ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) centered on the pentad of 4 March 2024. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means.



Temperature
April-May-June

Precipitation
April-May-June

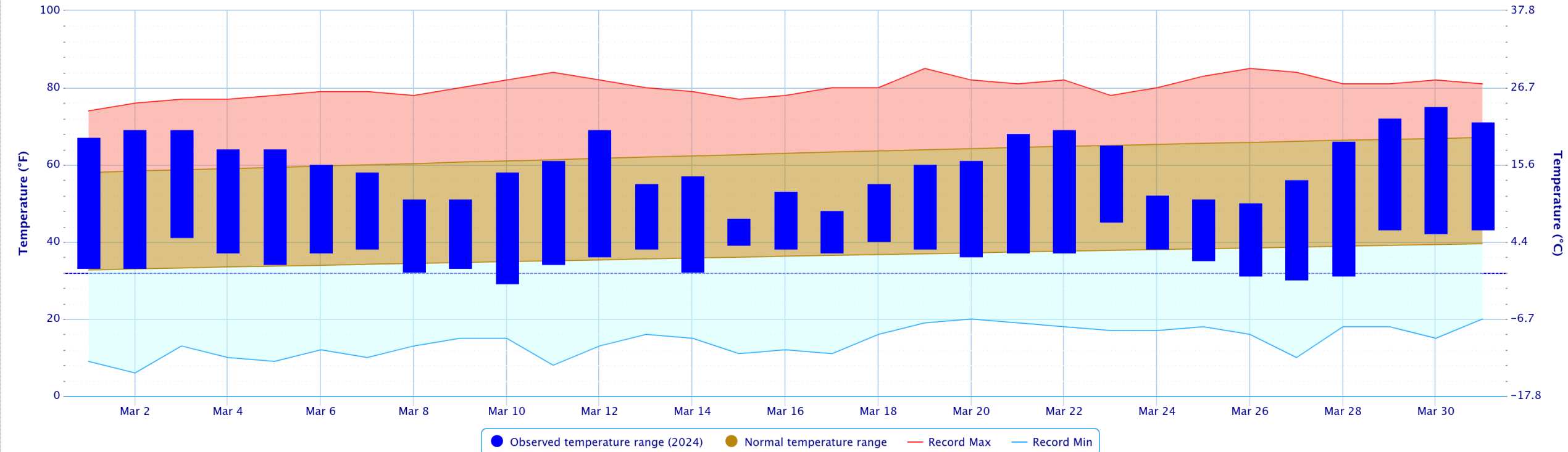


There are equal chances for above, near, and below normal temperatures and precipitation for most of New Mexico through the end of spring. Southeast NM has the greater likelihood to see below normal temperatures and extreme northeast NM has the greater likelihood for above normal precipitation.

Average Temperature: 48.4°

Daily Temperature Data – ALBUQUERQUE INTL AP, NM

Period of Record – 1891-12-01 to 2024-04-07. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



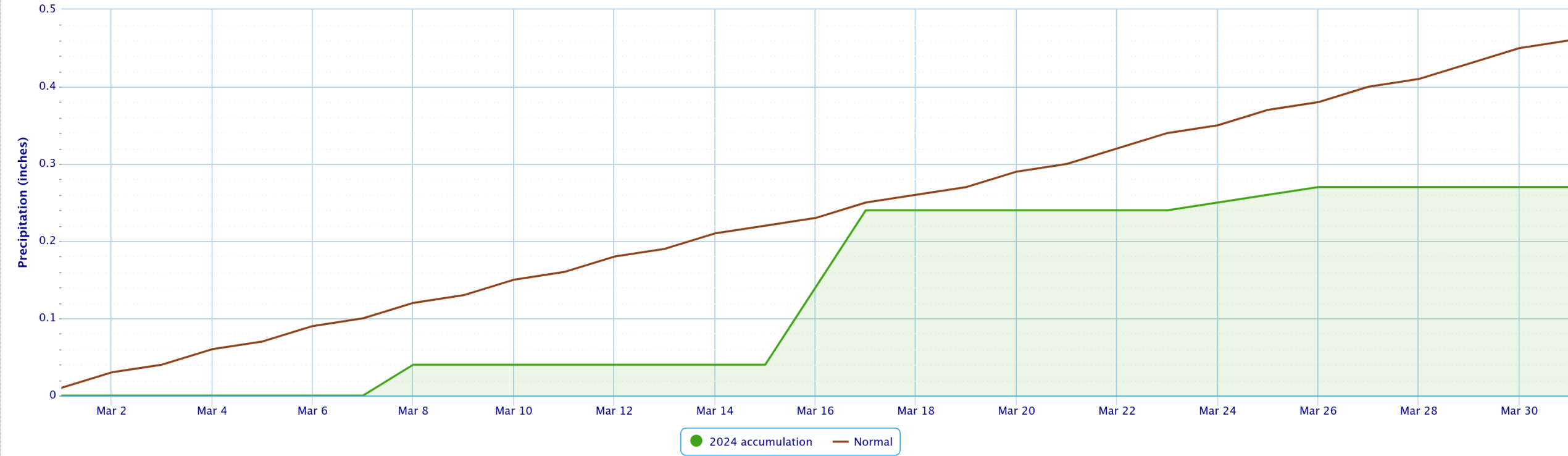
Powered by ACIS

The March 2024 average temperature for Albuquerque was 48.4°, which was 1.1° below the normal of 49.5°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 60.4°. This was 2.4° below the normal average maximum temperature of 62.8°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 36.4°. This was 0.2° above the normal average minimum temperature of 36.2°. This ranked as the 85th coldest March on record.

Precipitation: 0.27"

Accumulated Precipitation - ALBUQUERQUE INTL AP, NM

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



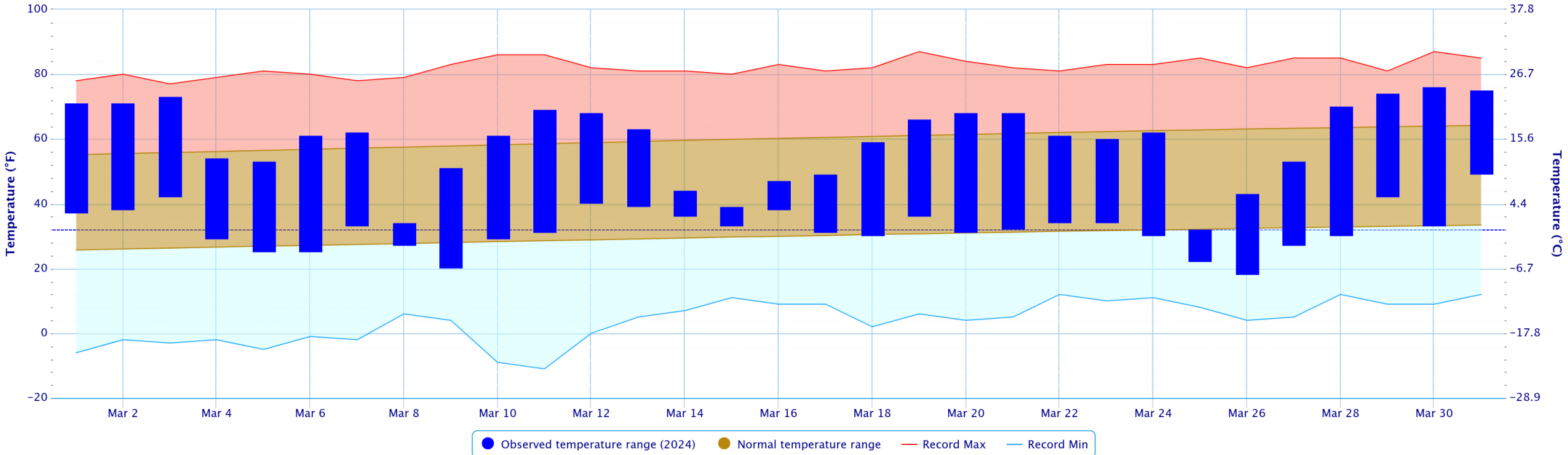
The March 2024 precipitation for Albuquerque was 0.27", which was 0.19" below the normal of 0.46". This ranked as the 56th driest March on record.

There was a Trace of snow, compared to the normal of 0.7".

Average Temperature: 45.8°

Daily Temperature Data – CLAYTON MUNICIPAL AIR PARK, NM

Period of Record – 1896-02-01 to 2024-04-07. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.

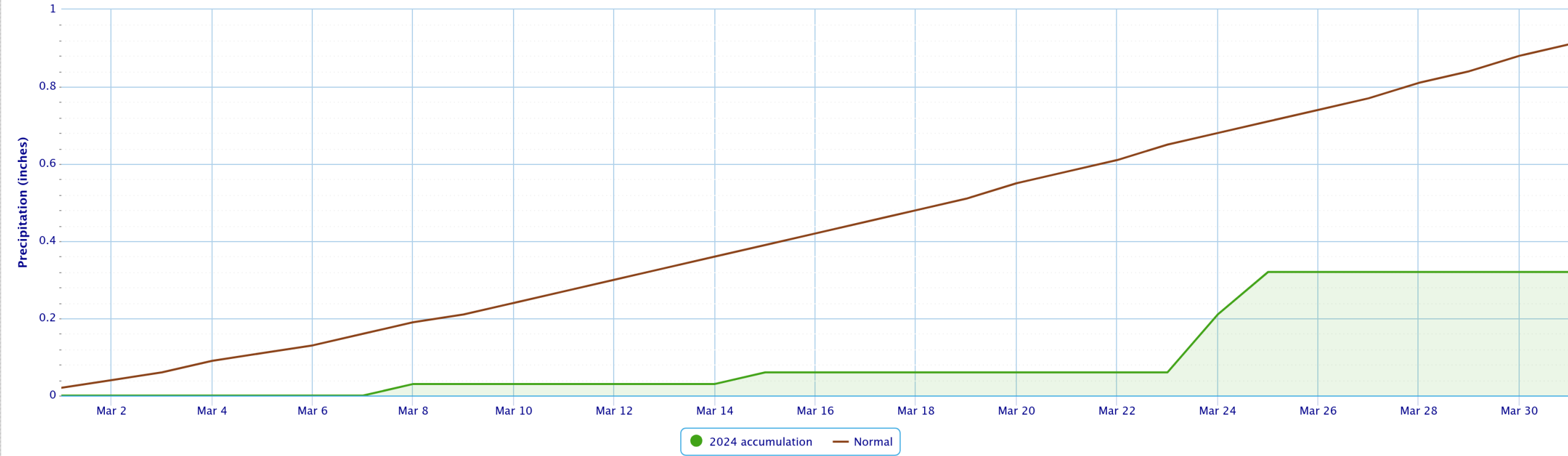


The March 2024 average temperature for Clayton was 45.8°, which was 0.9° above the normal of 44.9°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 59.3°. This was 0.7° below the normal average maximum temperature of 60.0°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 32.3°. This was 2.5° above the normal average minimum temperature of 29.8°. This ranked as the 28th warmest March on record.

Precipitation: 0.32"

Accumulated Precipitation – CLAYTON MUNICIPAL AIR PARK, NM

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



Powered by ACIS

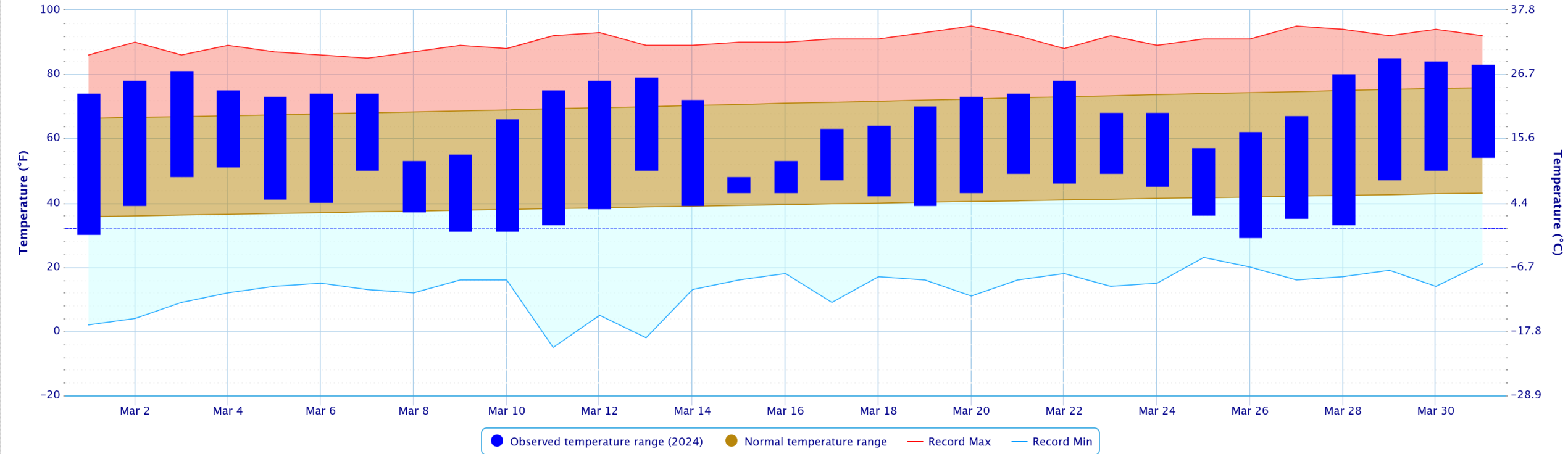
The March 2024 precipitation for Clayton was 0.32", which was 0.59" below the normal of 0.91". This ranked as the 48th driest March on record.

There was 2.0" of snow, compared to the normal of 3.4".

Average Temperature: 56.0°

Daily Temperature Data – Roswell Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – Max temperature: 1893-01-03 to 2024-04-07; Min temperature: 1893-01-21 to 2024-04-07. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



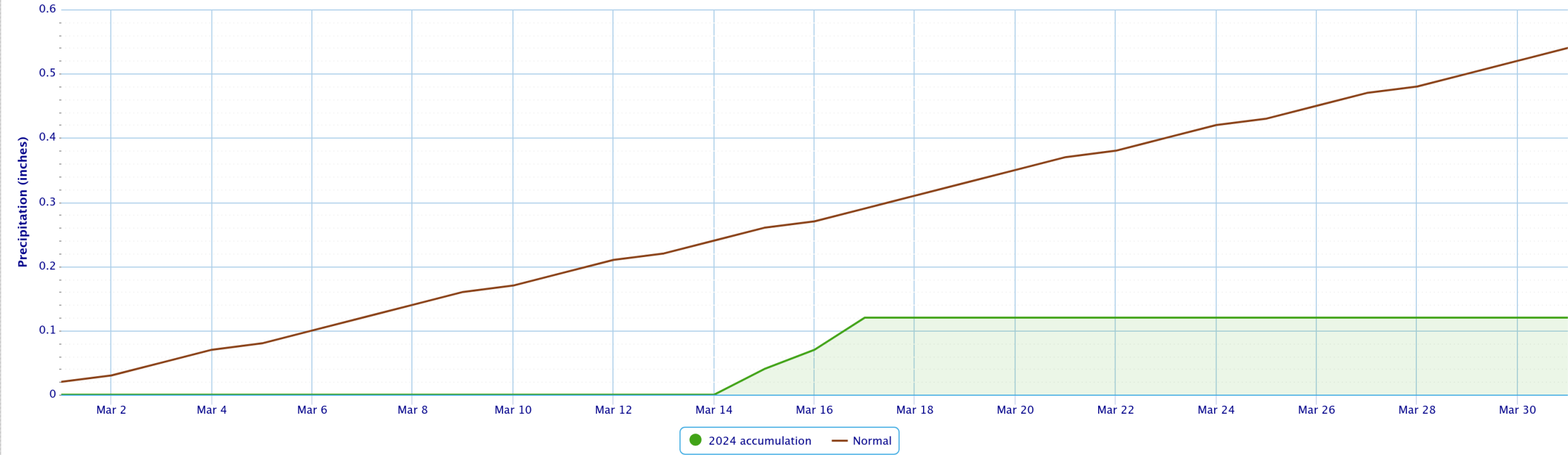
Powered by ACIS

The March 2024 average temperature for Roswell was 56.0°, which was 0.8° above the normal of 55.2°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 70.5°. This was 0.5° below the average maximum temperature of 71.0°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 41.5°. This was 2.1° above the normal average minimum temperature of 39.4°. This ranked as the 12th warmest March on record.

Precipitation: 0.12"

Accumulated Precipitation – ROSWELL INDUSTRIAL AIR PARK, NM

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values




The March 2024 precipitation for Roswell was 0.12", which was 0.42" below the normal of 0.54". This ranked as the 31st driest March on record.

There was 0.0" of snow, compared to the normal of 0.7".


 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/>

 Questions?: sr-abq.webmaster@noaa.gov

 NWS Albuquerque Facebook

 @NWSAlbuquerque & #nmwx