

Weather Bureau/National Weather Service History in Kansas

Location	Type	Years	Details
Concordia	SigSvc WBO WBAS RDO WSO WSCMO	1885-1999	The first station in Concordia was established 5/1/1885 at the B.S. Williams Building, and moved to the Post Office building in June 1915. It remained here until moving to Blosser Municipal Airport in May 1962. The station operated part-time until a WSR-4 radar was commissioned 6/1/1962. The radar was replaced with a WSR-74C on 2/18/1977. The office was contracted out in April 1995, with the station permanently closed in May 1999.
Dodge City	SigSvc WBO WB/UA WSO WFO	1875-present	The Signal Service opened a station in Dodge City in September 1874. The Weather Bureau's operations began in 1891, moving to a new building in 1909 and to the First National Bank in 1931. The station relocated to the Federal Building in 1932, where it remained before moving to the airport in July 1942. Upper air observations began in November 1943. The first radar used was a APS-2 in November 1952; this was replaced by a WSR-1 radar 6/13/1954, then by a WSR-3 on 7/25/1963, which was decommissioned 7/25/1972. One of the first ASOS commissionings in the country was at Dodge City in September 1992. The office was upgraded during the NWS modernization, with a WSR-88D radar commissioned 4/1/1994.
Garden City	WSMO	1971-1995	A Weather Service Meteorological Observatory was opened in March 1971 at the airport to operate the WSR-57 network radar. The office was closed after the WSR-88D network radar at Dodge City was commissioned.
<u>Goodland</u>	WBAS WSO WFO	1943-present	A Weather Bureau Airport Station was established at Renner Field on 12/14/1943, and relocated 3/22/1966. A new facility was established 2/20/1991. The Goodland office was a participant of the NWS modernization demonstration most of the 1990's.
Iola	WBO	1905-1936	A Weather Bureau Office was established in Iola, with the help of U.S. Rep. Charles Scott. Daily observations were telegraphed to the Chicago office for use in making the forecasts. The office was closed in October 1936.
Olathe	CWSU	? - present	The Kansas City area Center Weather Service Unit operates out of the ARTCC in Olathe.
Topeka	SigSvc WBO WBAS RDO WSO WSFO WFO	1887-present	The Signal Service opened its Topeka office on 6/1/1887, with the Weather Bureau taking over in 1890. While operating several downtown locations, an airport office was established in 1944. Upper-air observations began in 1955. Its first weather radar, a WSR-1, was installed in 1953, and was upgraded to the WSR-3 model in 1957. The Weather Bureau Office sustained damage on 6/8/1966 when a tornado crossed the airport. In 1973, the office was assigned as the state forecast office. The radar was replaced with the WSR-74C model in 1976 and the WSR-88D in 1993.
<u>Wichita</u>	SigSvc WBO WBAS WSO WFO	1888-present	The Signal Service opened an office 6/13/1888, although local observations began in December 1879. The Weather Bureau took over operations 7/1/1891, with various downtown locations used. An office also opened at Wichita Municipal Airport (now McConnell AFB) 4/1/1930; the city office merged with the airport office 11/29/1940. The first Weather Bureau radar was installed at Wichita 4/1/1947, known as a WSR-1. It was replaced by the WSR-3 on 6/5/1956, the WSR-57 6/22/1960, and the WSR-88D 10/13/1992. The office moved to the new Municipal Airport (now Eisenhower National Airport) 12/1/1953, with further moves at the airport on 12/10/1981, and 1/17/1992.