

Synopsis

2020 will be another warmer and drier than normal year for New Mexico!

The 2020 average statewide temperature was 57.9, which was 3.4 degrees above the normal of 54.5. While most of the state had above normal temperatures, they were close to normal along the far eastern plains. 2020 was the 2nd warmest year on record!

The 2020 statewide precipitation averaged 8.03 inches below the normal of 13.25 inches, or -5.22" above normalo! Below to well below precipitation was common over much of the state, with the Northwest and Southeast having the greatest departure from normal. There were small pockets of near normal precipitation in central and south central areas, as well as the far northeast. 2020 was the 4th driest year on record!

Our three climate sites, Albuquerque, Clayton and Roswell, were all warmer and drier than normal in 2020. Albuquerque had the 23rd driest year on record and 5th warmest; Clayton had the 24th driest and 18th warmest, while Roswell had the 8th driest and the warmest! Details can be seen below.



Grenville tornado July 4 – courtesy of Chad Casey



Cedar Grove rainbow August 31 – courtesy of KJ

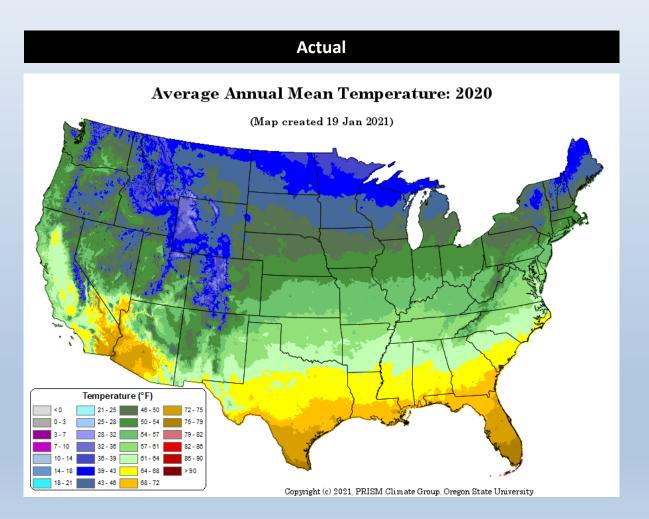


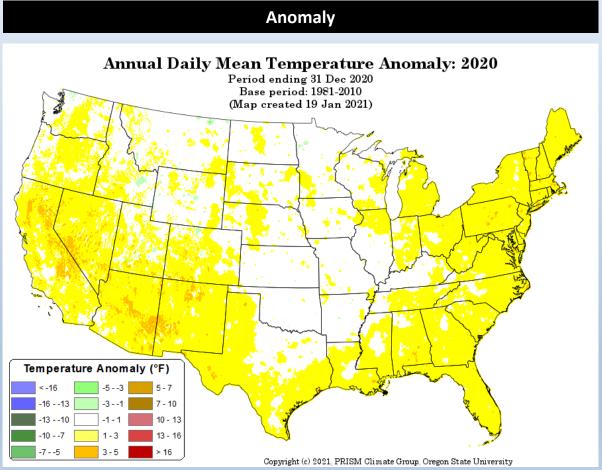
San Antonio – August 31; photo courtesy of Kerry Jones





Temperatures were above normal across New Mexico. Statewide, temperatures were 3.2 degrees above the normal of 56.0 degrees, making 2020 tied for the 2nd warmest year on record!



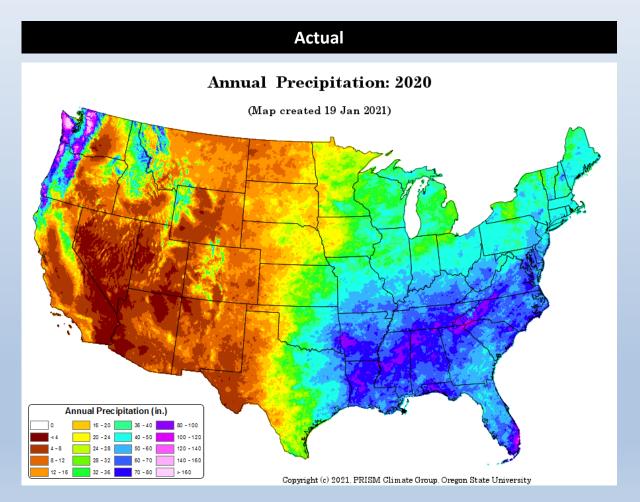


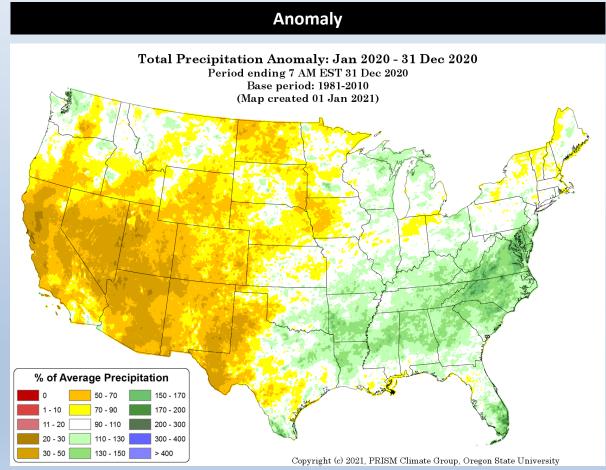






Precipitation in 2020 was below normal over nearly all of New Mexico (Right image). The statewide precipitation was 8.42 inches, which was 5.57 inches below the statewide normal of 13.99 inches, making the year the 4th driest on record!



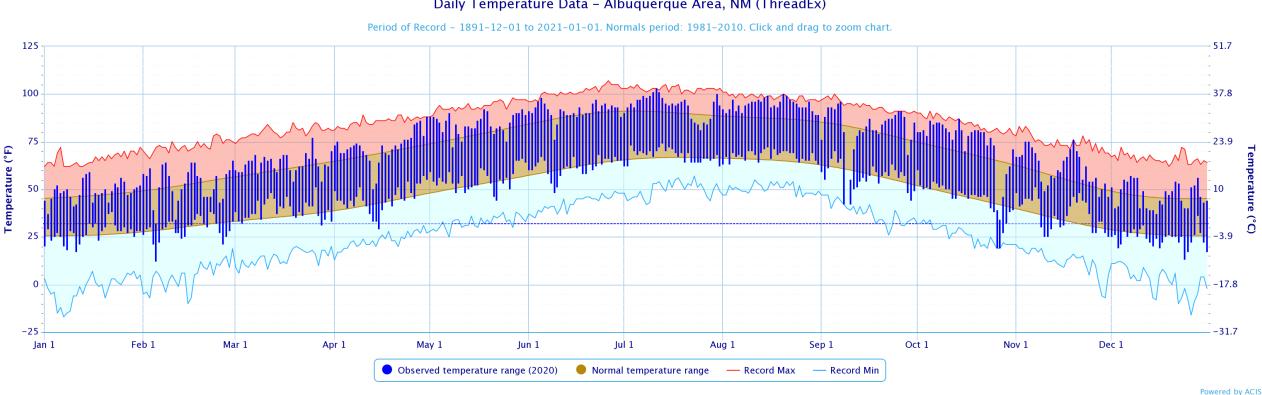








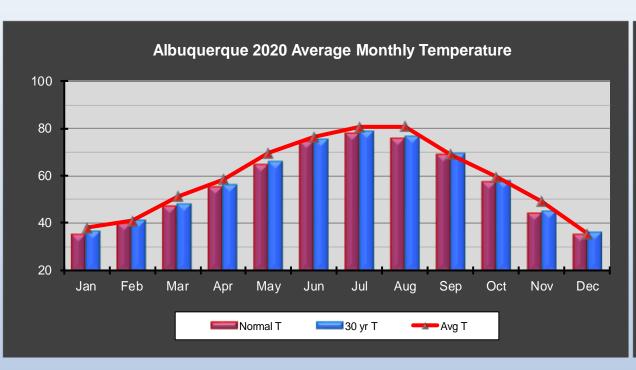
Daily Temperature Data - Albuquerque Area, NM (ThreadEx)

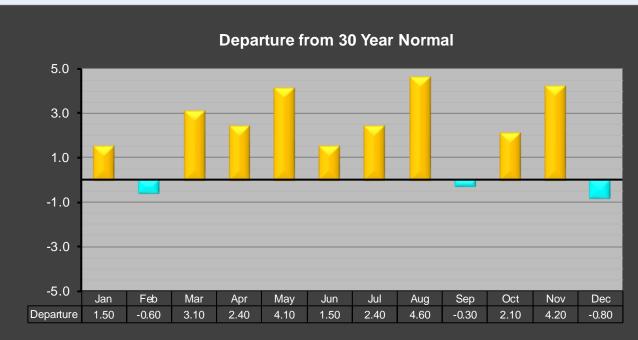


The average temperature for Albuquerque was 59.2°, which was 2.1° above the 30 year (1981-2010) normal of 57.1°. The average maximum temperature was 72.2°. This was 3.5° above the normal average maximum temperature of 68.7°. The average minimum temperature was 46.1°. This was 0.7° above the normal average minimum temperature of 45.4°.









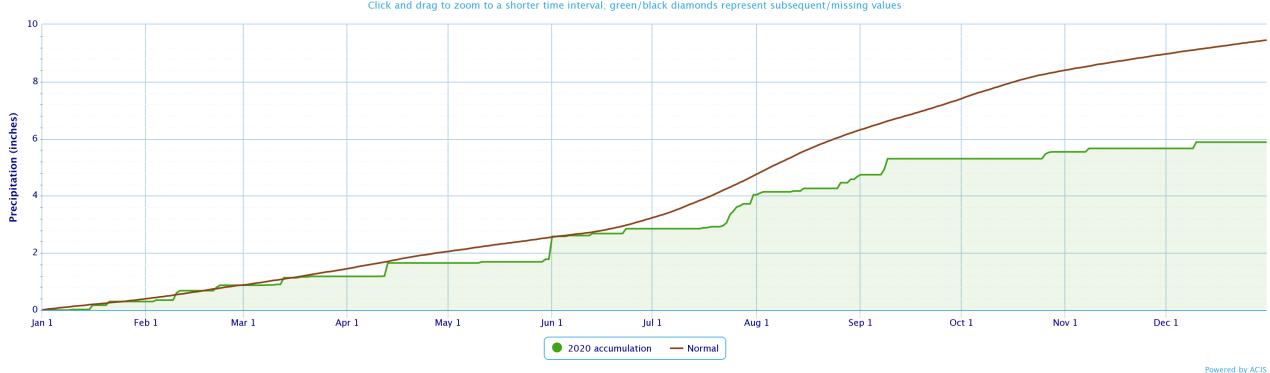
Temperatures at the Albuquerque Sunport were above normal once again, 9 months were above normal, while 3 months were below normal, and not by much! This resulted in a tie for the 5th warmest year on record!





Accumulated Precipitation - Albuquerque Area, NM (ThreadEx)



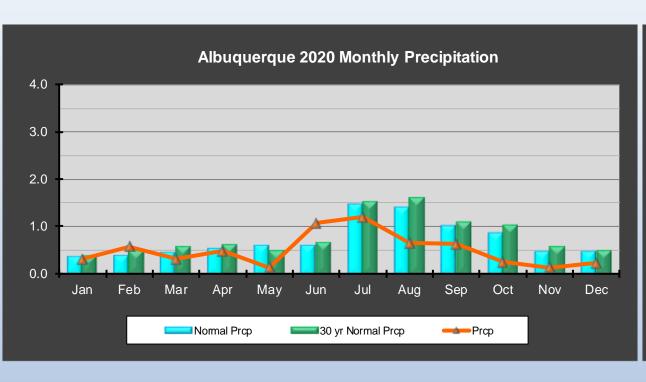


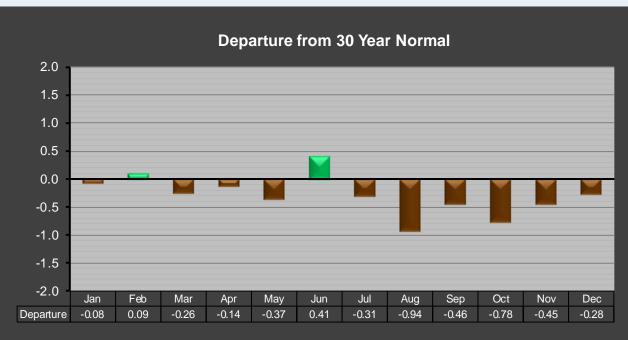
The total precipitation for Albuquerque was 5.88", which was 3.57" below the normal yearly precipitation of 9.45".









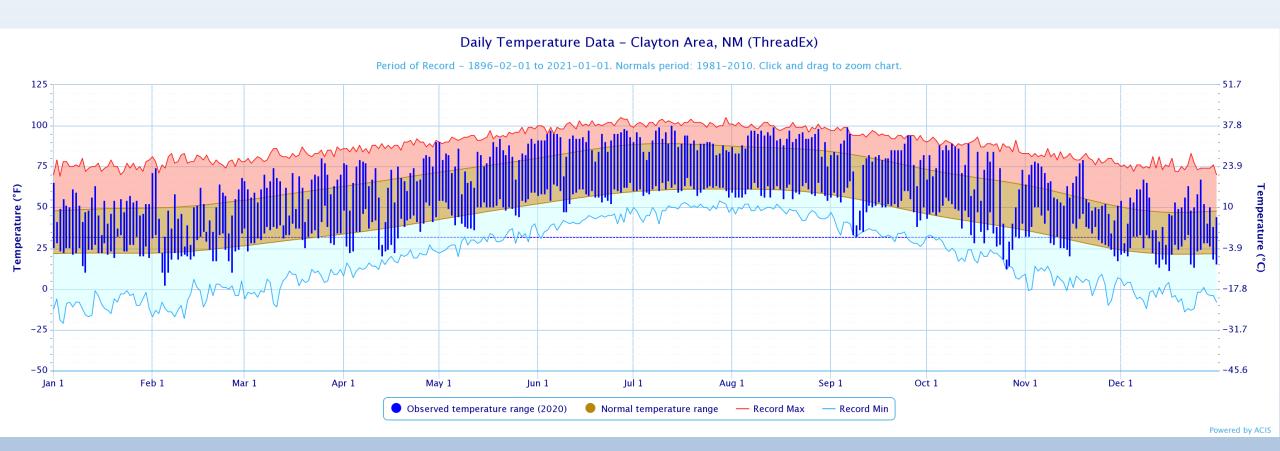


Precipitation at the Albuquerque Sunport was 5.88" which was below normal (-3.57"). Only February and June had above normal precipitation. This was the 23rd driest year on record.

There was 7.1 inches of snow in calendar year 2020, compared to the normal of 9.6 inches.



Clayton Daily Temperatures

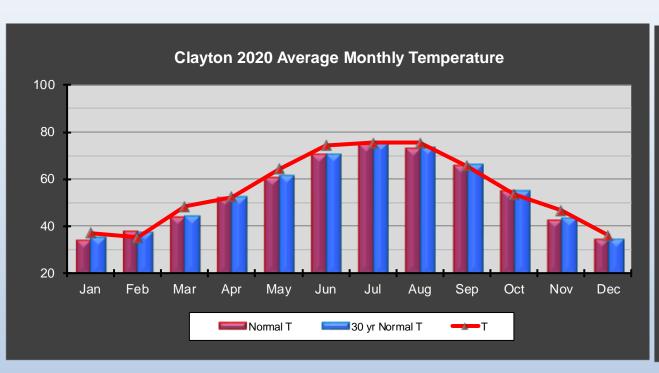


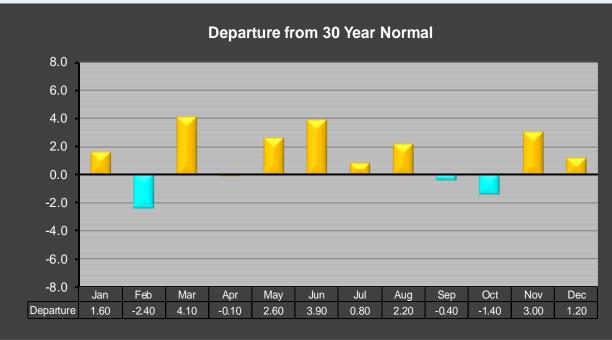
The average temperature for Clayton was 55.4°, which was 1.4° above the normal of 54.0 (1981-2010). The average maximum temperature was 70.0°. This was 2.8° above the normal average maximum temperature of 67.8°. The average minimum temperature was 40.3°. This was exactly the normal average minimum temperature of 40.3°.











Temperatures at the Clayton Airport were above normal in 2020. Three months were below normal, while nine months were above normal. March and June stand out with temperature departures around 4° warmer than normal. 2020 was tied for the 18th warmest year on record.

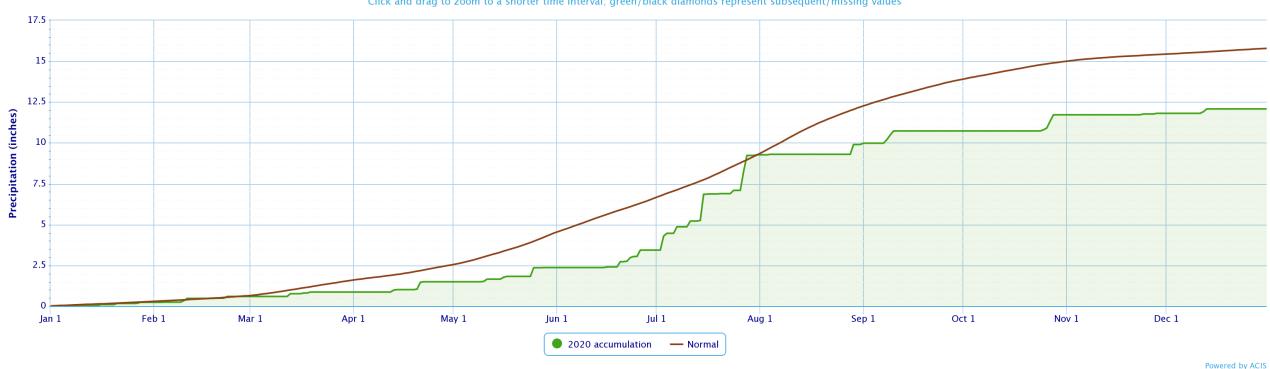




Clayton Daily Precipitation

Accumulated Precipitation - Clayton Area, NM (ThreadEx)

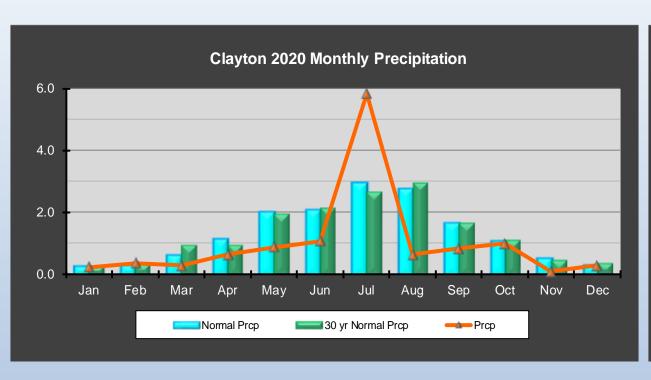


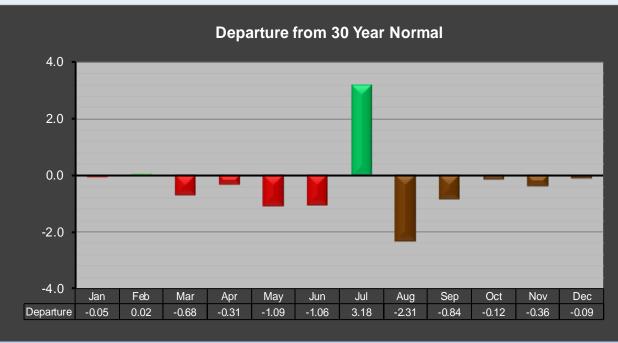


The total precipitation for Clayton was 12.08", which was 3.71" below the normal of 15.79".







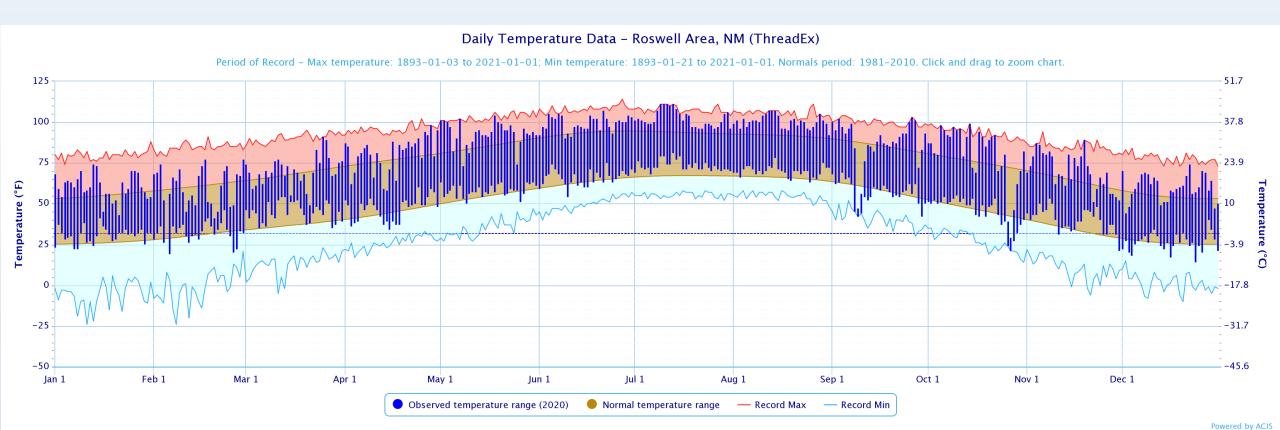


Precipitation at the Clayton Municipal Air Park was 12.08". This was 3.71" below the normal of 15.79". Only 2 months had above normal precipitation, February (barely) and July. If not for the well above normal July precipitation, 2020 would have been exceptionally dry. This was the 24th driest year on record.

There was 21.9 inches of snow in 2020, compared to the normal of 28.0 inches.

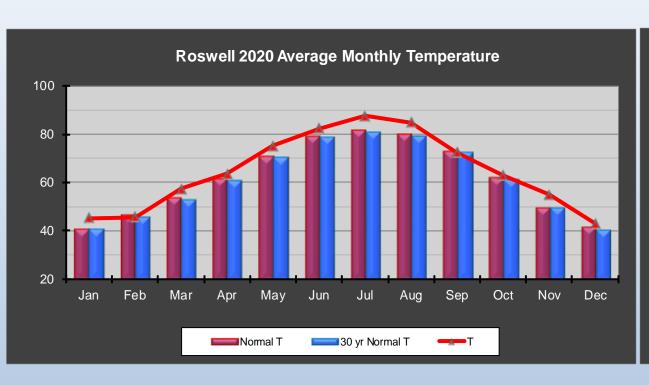


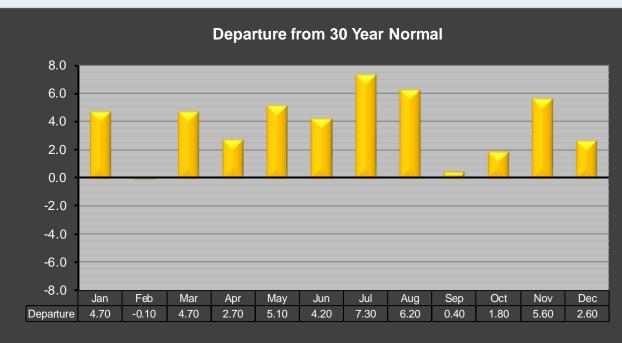
Roswell Daily Temperatures



The average temperature for Roswell was 64.7°, which was 3.9° above the normal of 60.8°. The average maximum temperature was 80.4°. This was 5.0° above the average maximum temperature of 75.4°. The average minimum temperature was 49.0°. This was the 2.8° above the normal average minimum temperature of 46.2°.



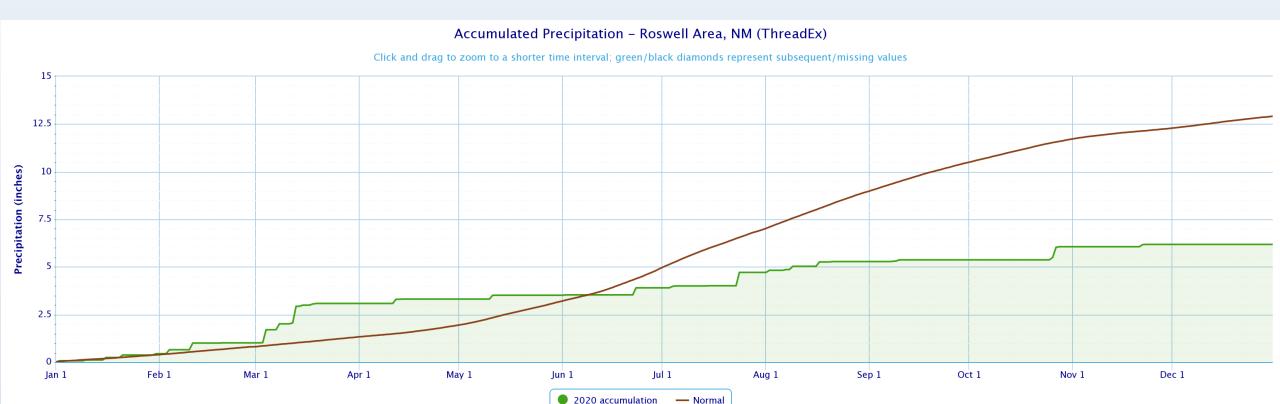




Temperatures at the Roswell Industrial Air Park were well above normal once again. Only February was below normal, and only by one tenth of a degree. The Summer (Jun-Aug) was exceptionally hot. In fact, June through August was the hottest summer on record with an average temperature of 85.0 degrees. The Spring was 3rd warmest and fall the 10th warmest. Needless to say, 2020 was the warmest year on record!



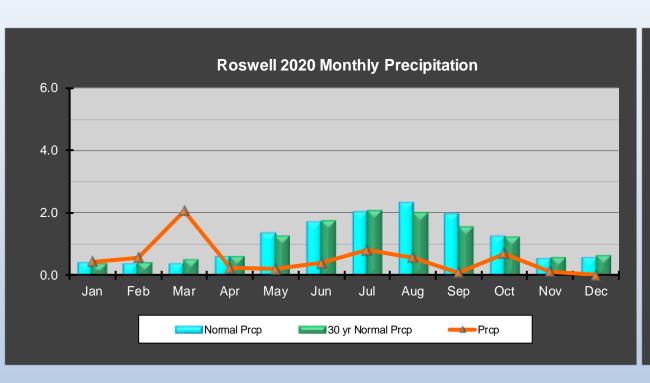
Roswell Daily Precipitation



The total precipitation for Roswell was only 6.18", which was 6.73" below the normal of 12.91".









Precipitation at the Roswell Industrial Air Park was below normal once again. The annual total was 6.18", which was -6.73" the normal of 12.91. Only the first three months of the year had above normal precipitation, with March the only significant above normal month. This was the 8th driest year on record for Roswell.

There was 9.5 inches of snow in 2020, compared to the normal of 11.9 inches.





- 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
- f NWS Albuquerque Facebook
- @NWSAlbuquerque & #nmwx