

January 2024 Climate & Weather Summary

Issued: February 13, 2024



ALBUQUERQUE
Weather Forecast Office

January 2024 started out very active with widespread snowfall, cold temperatures, and gusty winds. Blizzard conditions impacted northeast NM around the 7th with snow drifts up to 4 feet and visibility below one-quarter mile around Union County. An arctic outbreak mid-month plunged much of eastern NM into the freezer with high temperatures in the single digits for two days and subfreezing temperatures for four days. Low temperatures fell below zero as far south as Clovis. Light to moderate winds with these temperatures resulted in wind chill values between -15° and -30° across northeast and east-central NM. A more tranquil weather pattern returned toward the latter half of the month with above normal temperatures for mid to late January. Rain and snow was reported on a few days later in the month however amounts were relatively light.



January 8th | Colfax County, NM
Photo courtesy Colfax County Sheriff



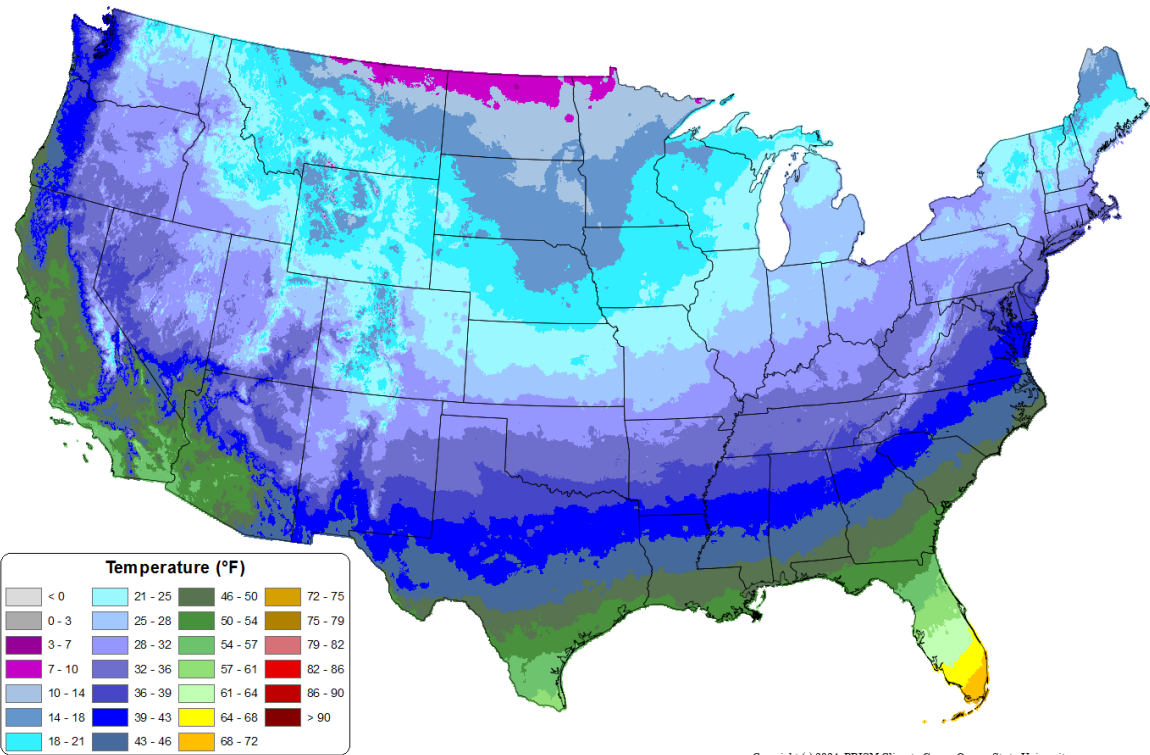
January 13th | near Wagon Mound, NM
Photo courtesy NMSP



January 4th | Tijeras, NM
Photo courtesy Robbie Brinkley via Facebook

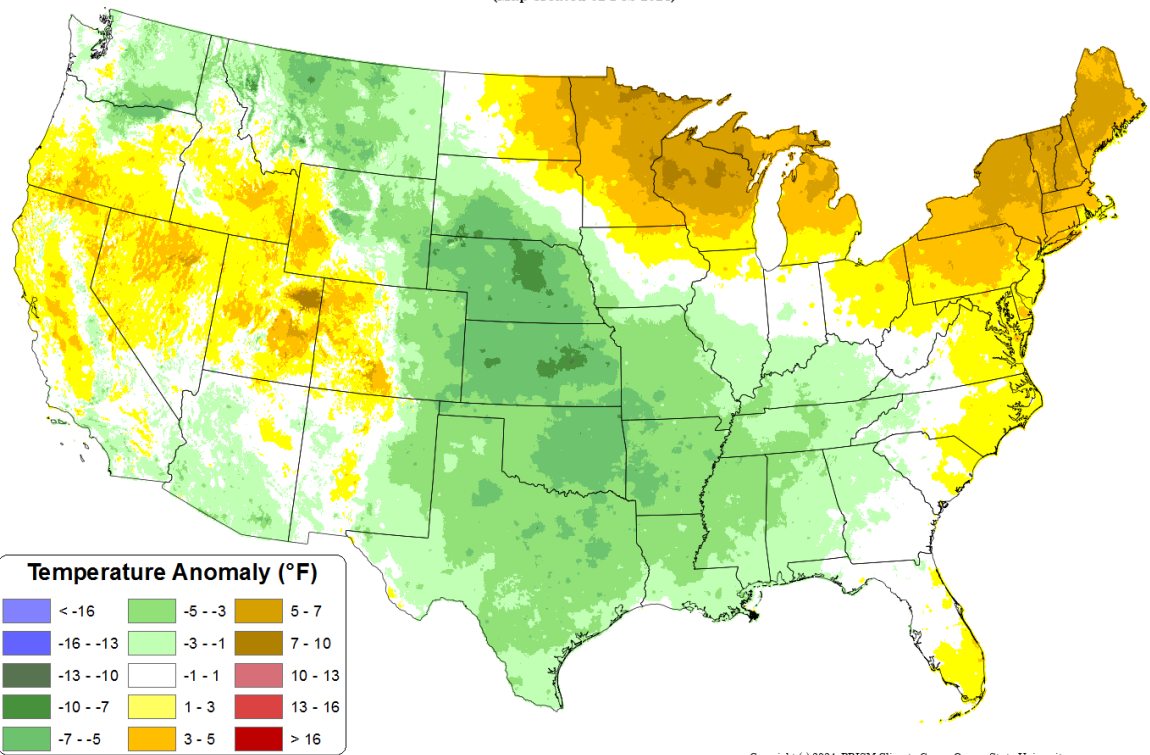
Actual

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



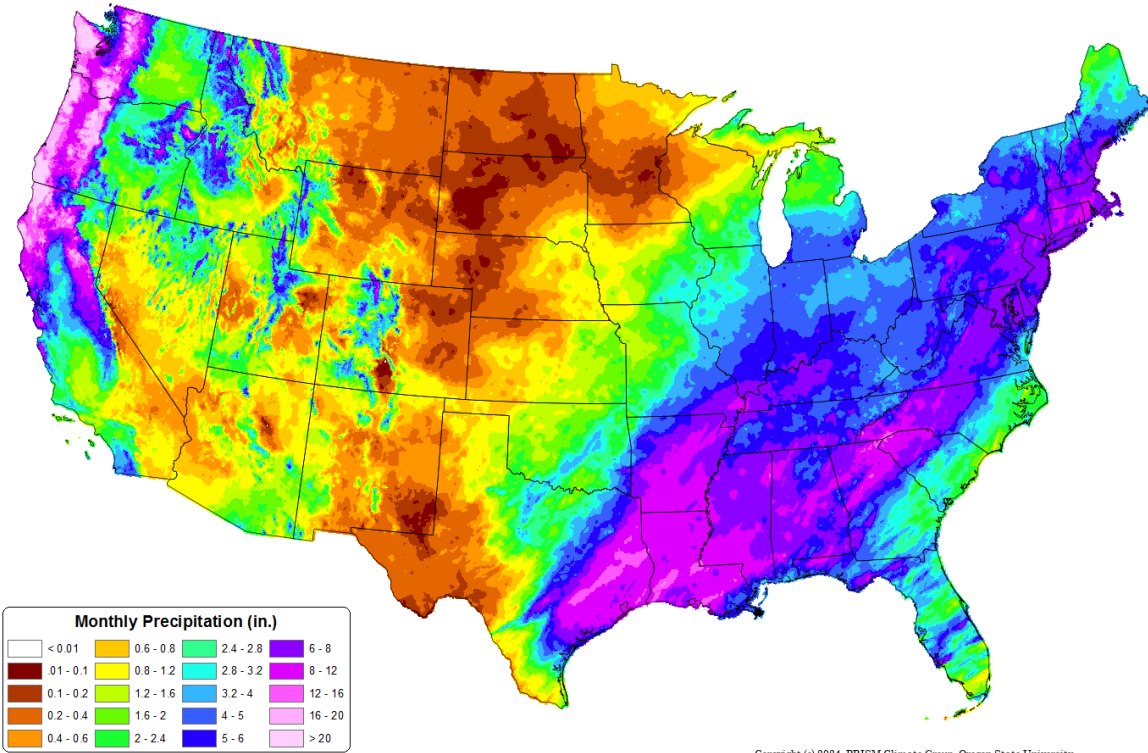
Anomaly

Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: Jan 2024
Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Jan 2024
Base period: 1991-2020
(Map created 02 Feb 2024)



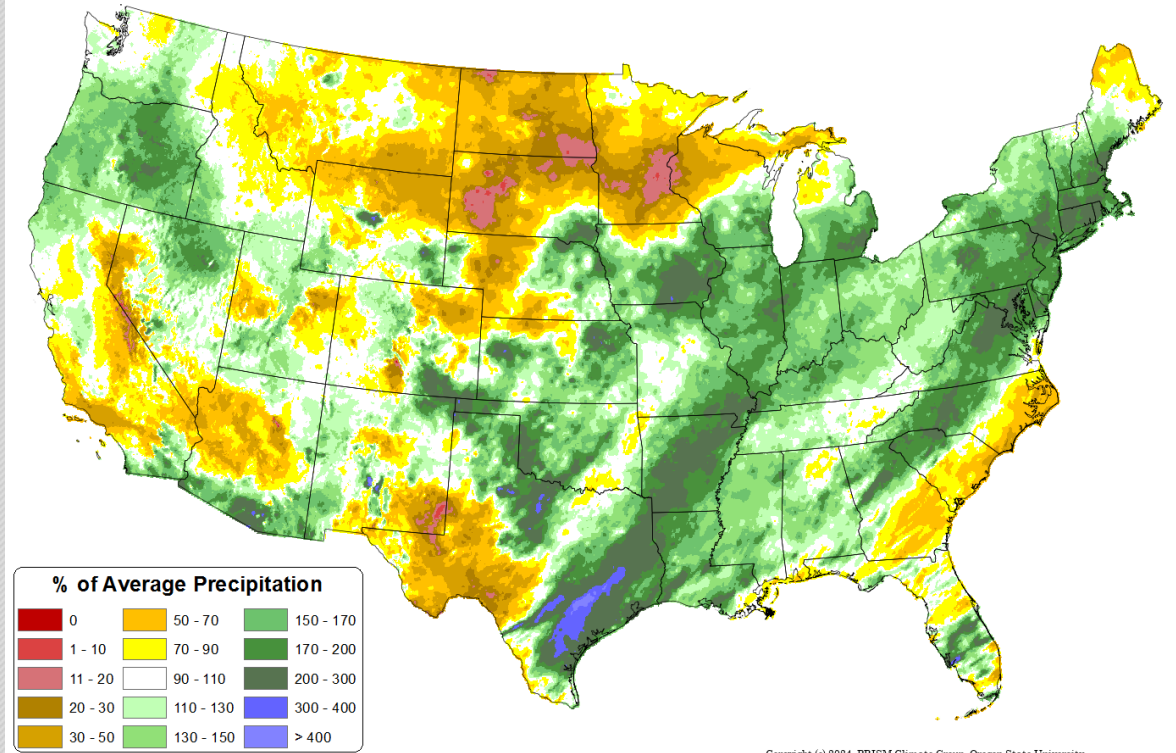
Actual

Total Precipitation: Jan 2024
Period ending 31 Jan 2024
(Map created 02 Feb 2024)



Anomaly

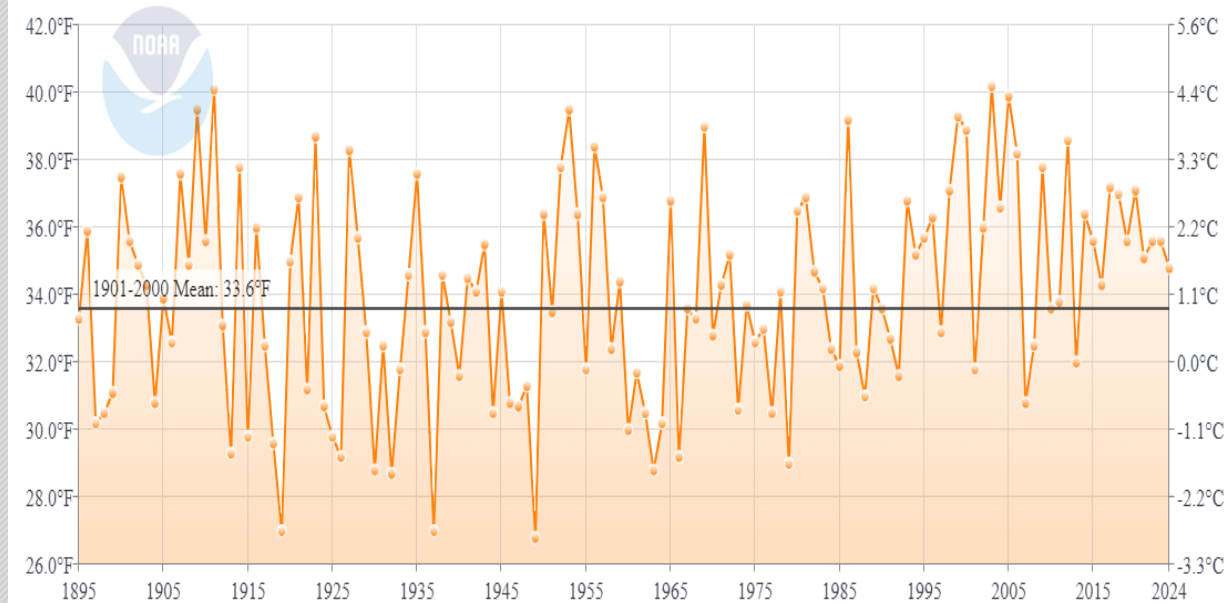
Total Precipitation Anomaly: Jan 2024
Period ending 31 Jan 2024
Base period: 1991-2020
(Map created 02 Feb 2024)



Temperature

New Mexico Average Temperature

January

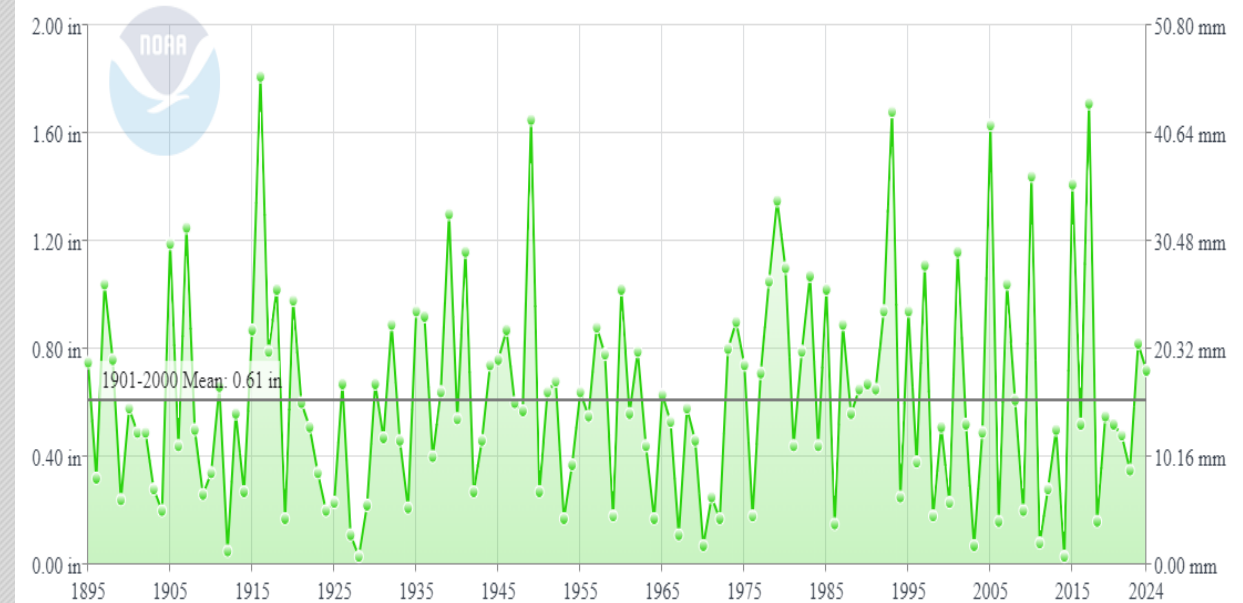


The January 2024 average statewide temperature was 34.8°, which was 1.2° above the long-term normal of 33.6° (1901-2000). This ranked as the 54th warmest January on record (1895-2024).

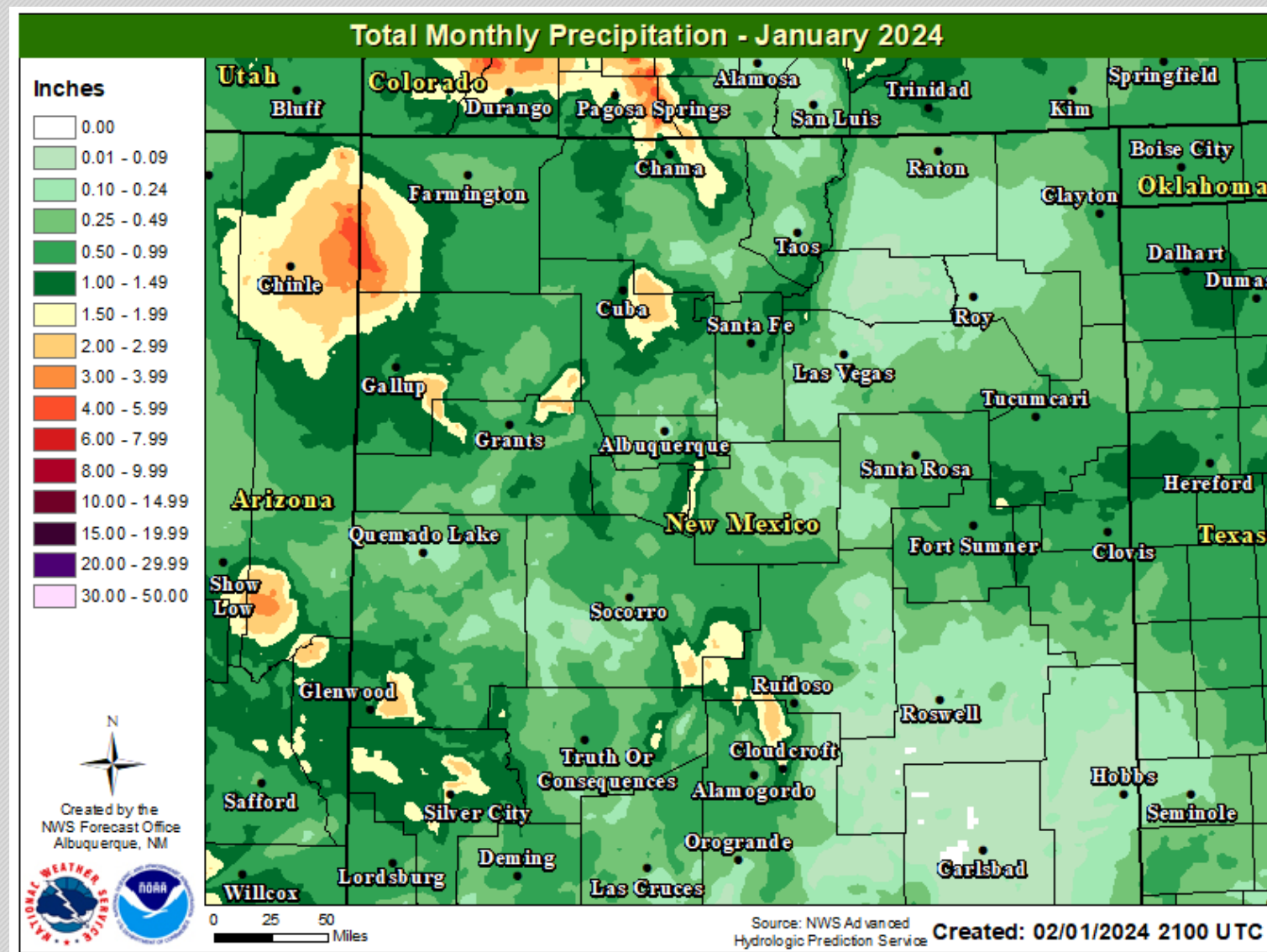
Precipitation

New Mexico Precipitation

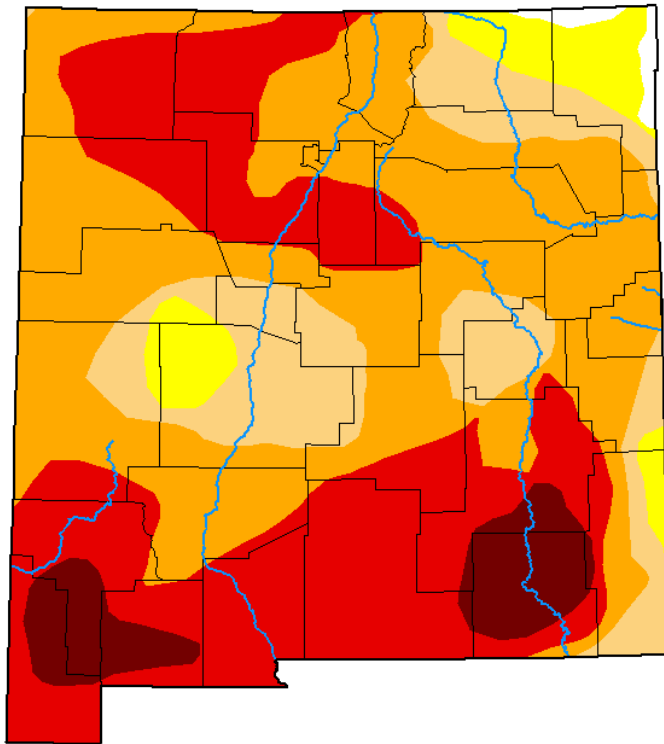
January



The January 2024 average statewide precipitation was 0.72", which was 0.11" above the long-term normal of 0.61" (1901-2000). This ranked as the 45th wettest January on record (1895-2024).



U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico



January 2, 2024
(Released Thursday, Jan. 4, 2024)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.71	99.29	94.04	79.22	38.39	6.48
Last Week 12-26-2023	0.71	99.29	94.04	82.04	41.16	6.48
3 Months Ago 10-03-2023	0.41	99.59	94.86	68.63	33.19	6.85
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 01-03-2023	7.03	92.97	41.30	18.55	3.74	0.19

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate 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>

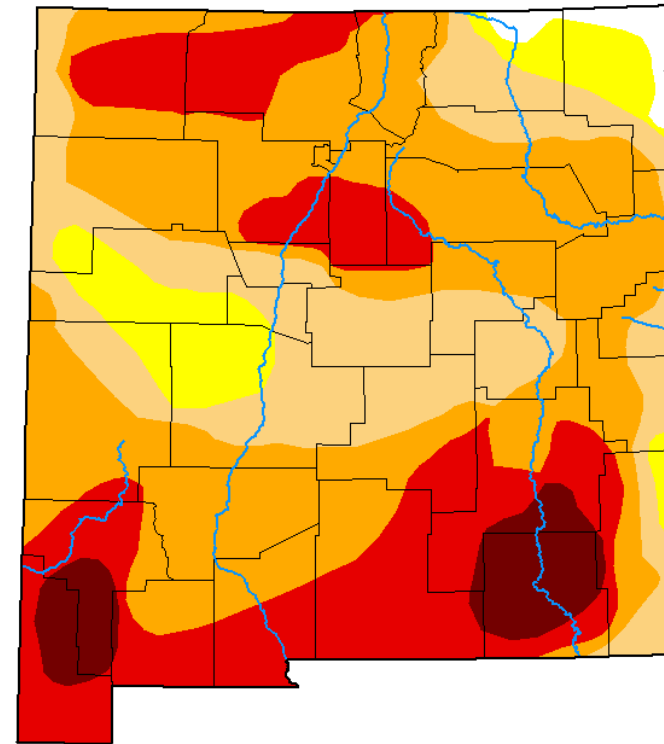
Author:

Lindsay Johnson
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico



January 30, 2024
(Released Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	1.23	98.77	91.38	69.44	28.86	5.53
Last Week 01-23-2024	1.23	98.77	93.02	72.08	34.93	5.53
3 Months Ago 10-31-2023	0.38	99.62	94.87	78.37	36.69	7.45
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 01-31-2023	17.92	82.08	47.31	18.37	3.78	0.19

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate 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:

Brian Fuchs
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

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

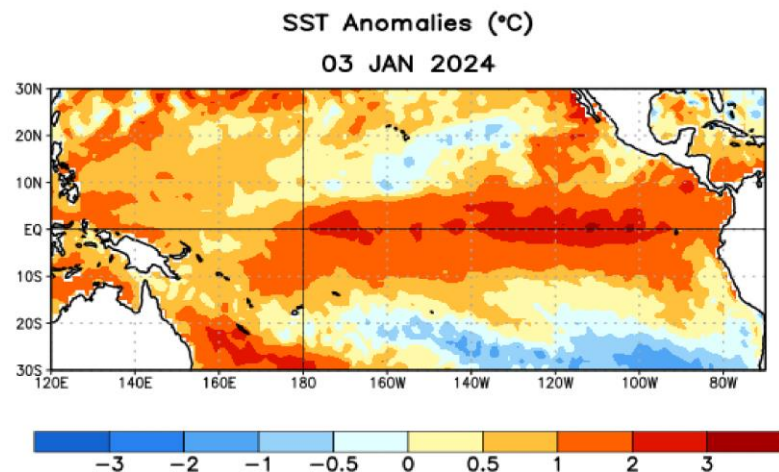


Figure 1. Average sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) for the week centered on 3 January 2024. Anomalies are computed with respect to the 1991-2020 base period weekly means.

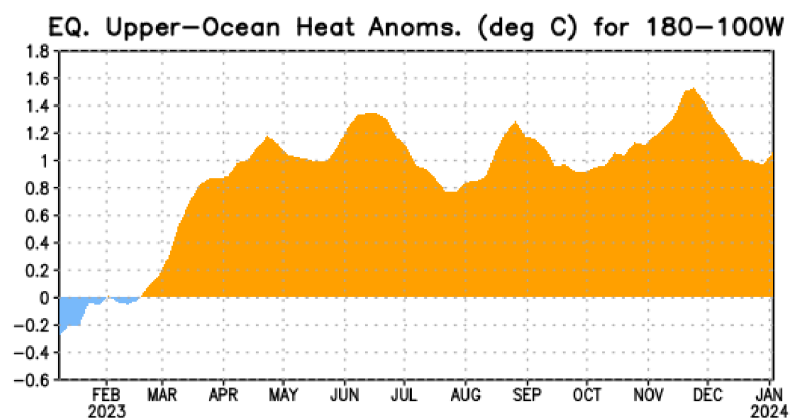


Figure 3. Area-averaged upper-ocean heat content anomaly ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) in the equatorial Pacific (5°N - 5°S , 180°W - 100°W). The heat content anomaly is computed as the departure from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means.

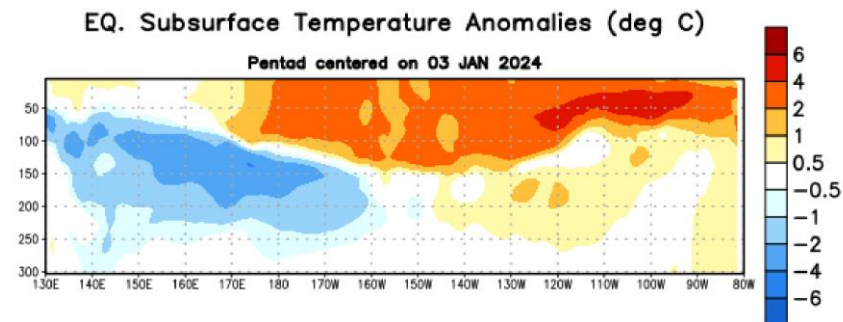


Figure 4. Depth-longitude section of equatorial Pacific upper-ocean (0-300m) temperature anomalies ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) centered on the pentad of 3 January 2024. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means.

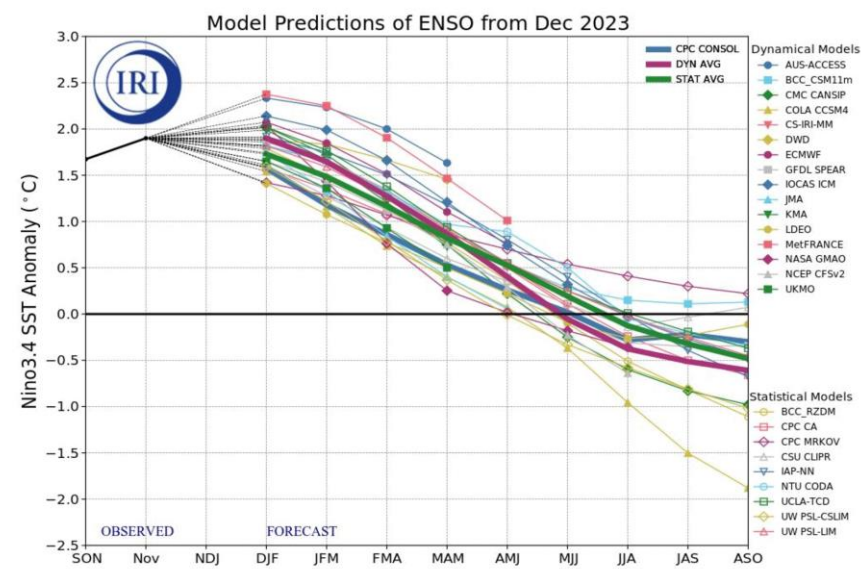
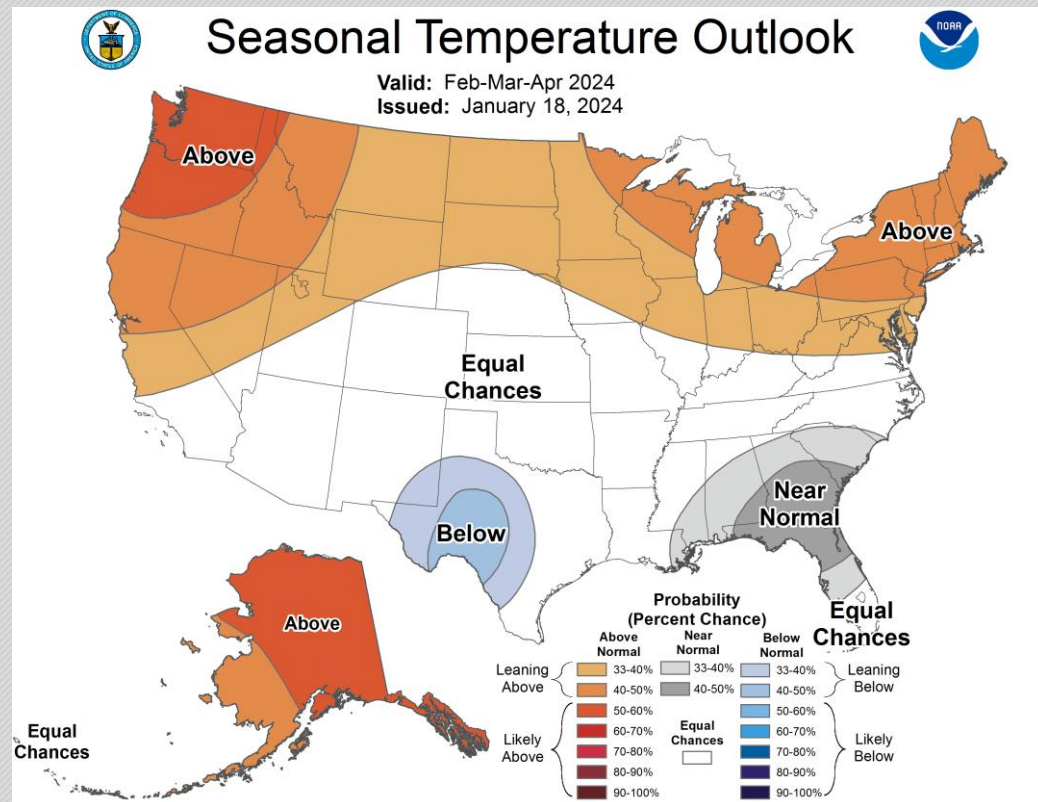
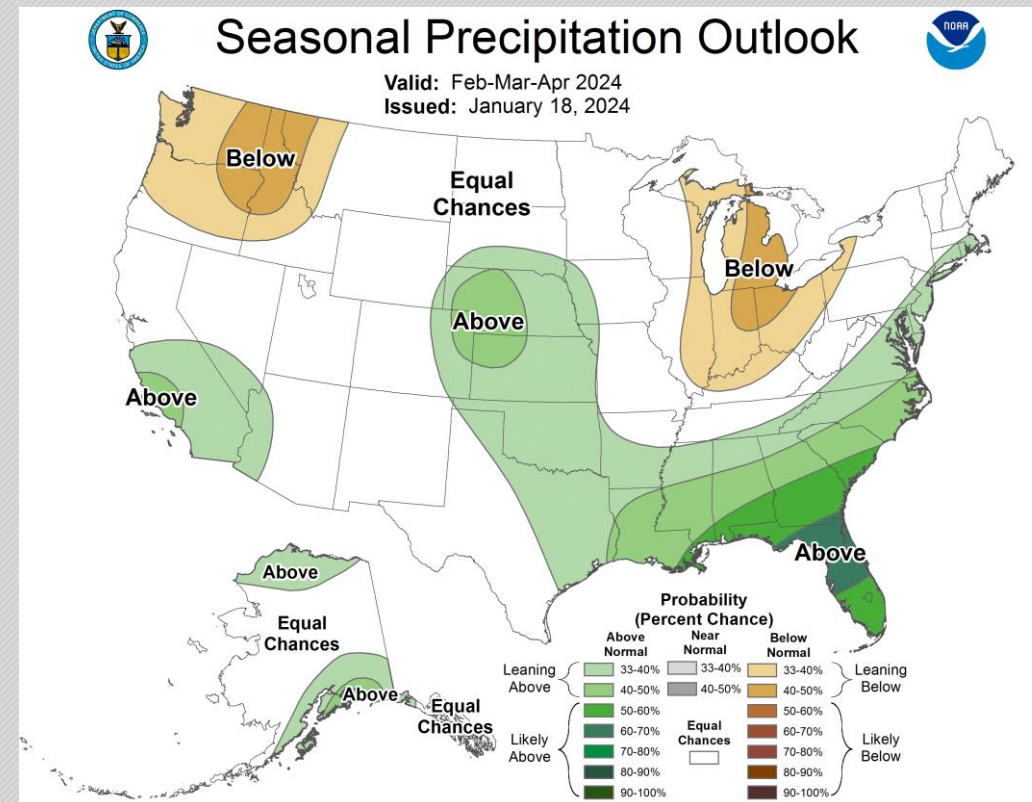


Figure 6. Forecasts of sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies for the Niño 3.4 region (5°N - 5°S , 120°W - 170°W). Figure updated 19 December 2023 by the International Research Institute (IRI) for Climate and Society.

Temperature February-March-April



Precipitation February-March-April



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

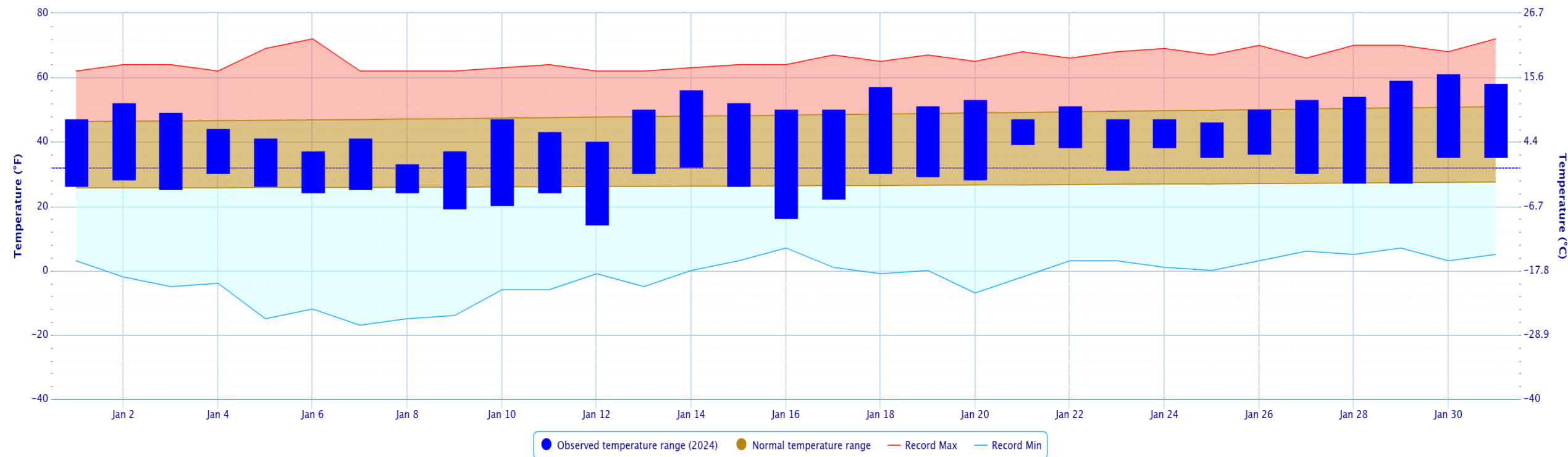
January 2024

Albuquerque Sunport Temperatures

Average Temperature: 38.3°

Daily Temperature Data – Albuquerque Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – 1891-12-01 to 2024-02-04. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



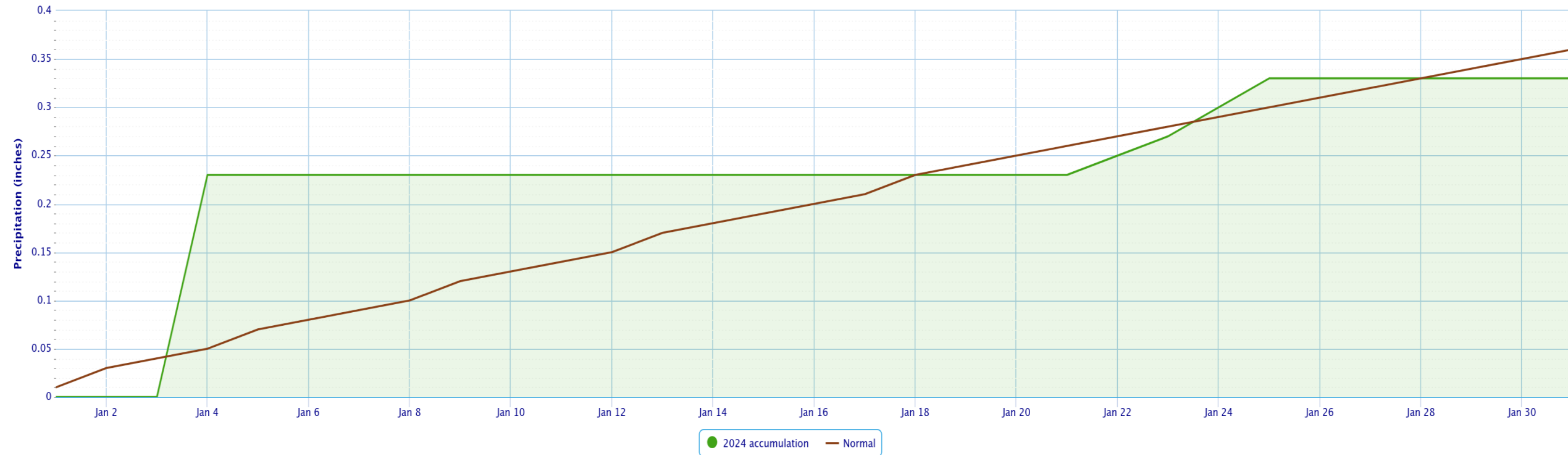
Powered by ACIS

The January 2024 average temperature for Albuquerque was 38.3°, which was 0.9° above the normal of 37.4°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 48.5°. This was 0.2° above the normal average maximum temperature of 48.3°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 28.0°. This was 1.6° above the normal average minimum temperature of 26.4°. This ranked as the 29th warmest January on record.

Precipitation: 0.33"

Accumulated Precipitation – Albuquerque Area, NM (ThreadEx)

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



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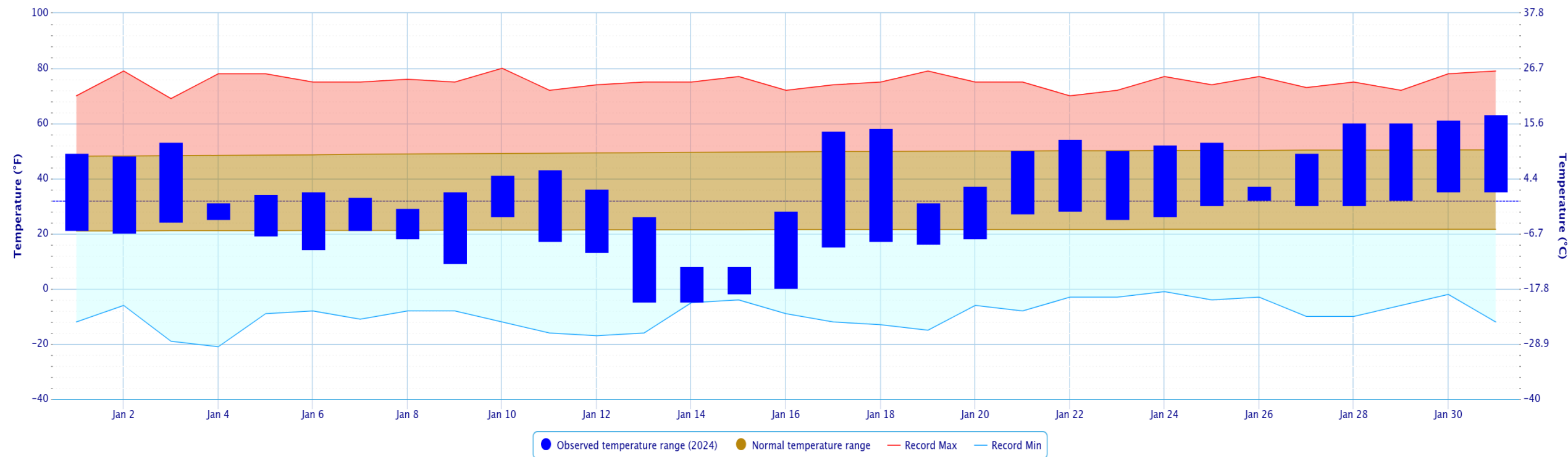
The January 2024 precipitation for Albuquerque was 0.33", which was 0.03" below the normal of 0.36". This ranked as the 75th driest January on record.

There was 2.4" of snow, compared to the normal of 1.4".

Average Temperature: 31.0°

Daily Temperature Data – Clayton Area, NM (ThreadEx)

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



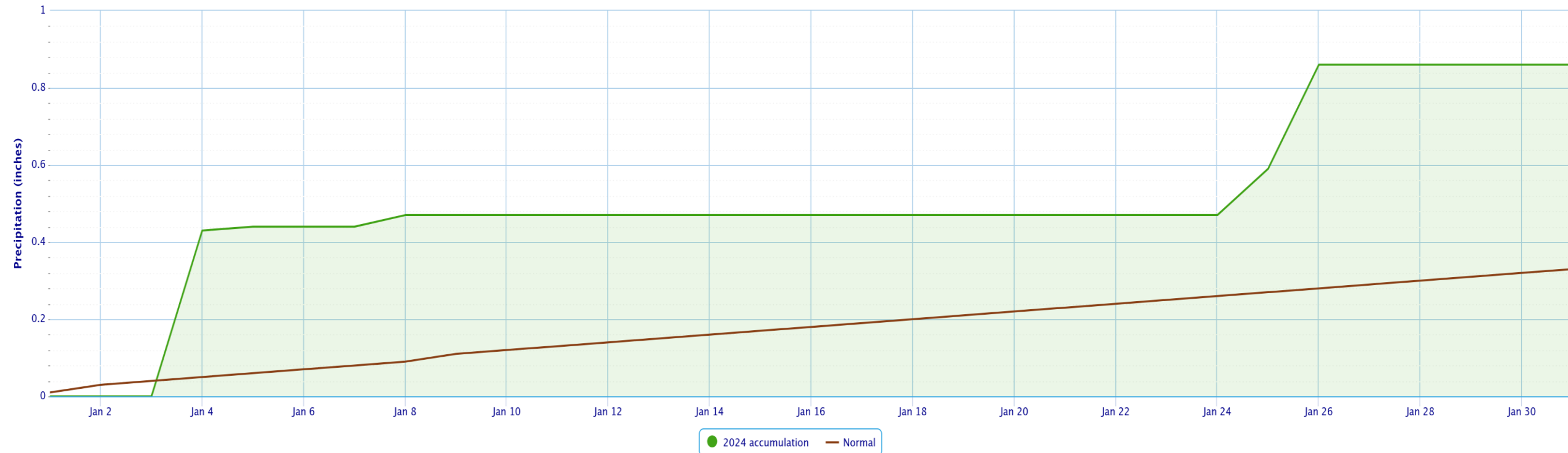
Powered by ACIS

The January 2024 average temperature for Clayton was 31.0°, which was 4.5° below the normal of 35.5°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 42.2°. This was 7.3° below the normal average maximum temperature of 49.5°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 19.7°. This was 1.7° below the normal average minimum temperature of 21.4°. This ranked as the 23rd coldest January on record.

Precipitation: 0.86"

Accumulated Precipitation – Clayton Area, NM (ThreadEx)

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



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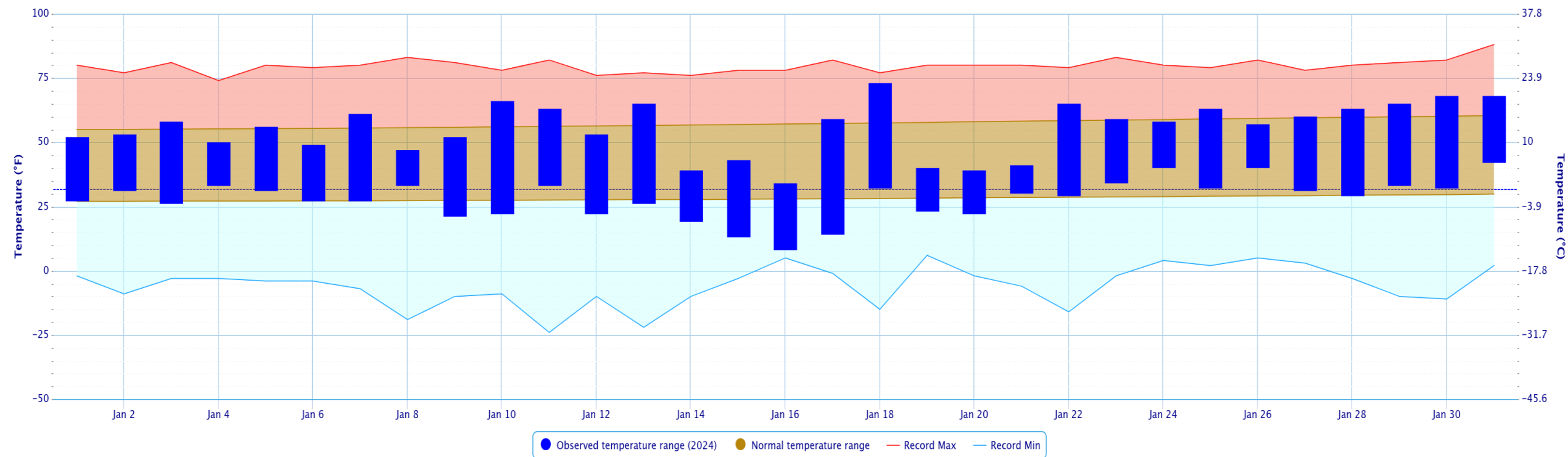
The January 2024 precipitation for Clayton was 0.86", which was 0.53" above the normal of 0.33". This ranked as the 9th wettest January on record.

There was 9.8" of snow, compared to the normal of 3.7".

Average Temperature: 41.6°

Daily Temperature Data – Roswell Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – Max temperature: 1893-01-03 to 2024-02-04; Min temperature: 1893-01-21 to 2024-02-04. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



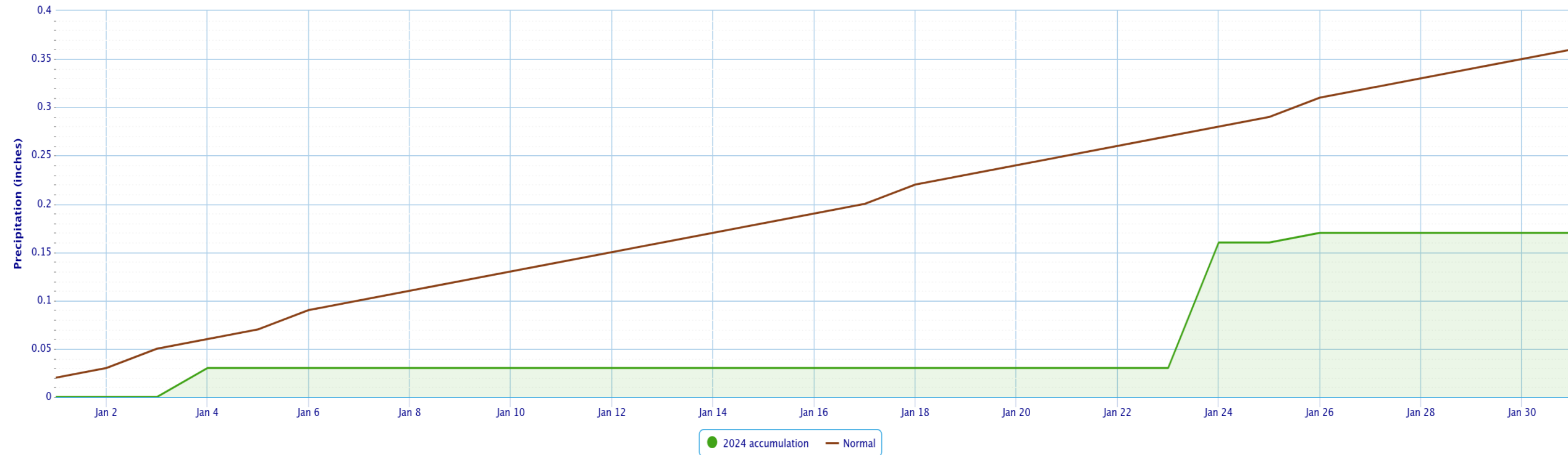
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The January 2024 average temperature for Roswell was 41.6°, which was 1.1° below the normal of 42.7°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 55.5°. This was 1.8° below the average maximum temperature of 57.3°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 27.8°. This was 0.3° below the normal average minimum temperature of 28.1°. This ranked as the 83rd coldest January on record.

Precipitation: 0.17"

Accumulated Precipitation – Roswell Area, NM (ThreadEx)

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



Powered by ACIS

The January 2024 precipitation for Roswell was 0.17", which was 0.19" below the normal of 0.36". This ranked as the 52nd driest January on record.

There was 0.0" of snow, compared to the normal of 2.4".



Event Type	Date	County Name	Magnitude	Type	Event Narrative
Heavy Snow	1/4/2024	Northwest Highlands	5-7"		around Cuba
Heavy Snow	1/4/2024	West Central Plateau	3-7"		Gallup to Zuni Pueblo.
Heavy Snow	1/4/2024	West Central Mountains	16"		around Mt. Taylor and Continental Divide. Major accident on I-40 at MM47.
Heavy Snow	1/4/2024	Jemez Mountains	6-11"		Senorita Divide SNOTEL to Los Alamos to Jemez Springs.
Heavy Snow	1/4-1/5/2024	Glorieta Mesa Including Glorieta Pass	2-3"		Semi truck crash near Glorieta.
Heavy Snow	1/4/2024	Southern Sangre De Cristo Mountains	8-15"		Ski Santa Fe area.
Heavy Snow	1/4-1/5/2024	East Slopes Sangre De Cristo Mountains	4-10"		Angel Fire Ski area.
Heavy Snow	1/4/2024	Espanola Valley	2-8.5"		Abiquiu area.
Heavy Snow	1/4-1/5/2024	Middle RGV/ABQ Metro	5-6"		Four Hills area to Mesa del Sol.
Heavy Snow	1/4-1/5/2024	Sandia/Manzano Mts & Edgewood	2-5"		Sandia Park to Tijeras.
Heavy Snow	1/7-1/8/2024	Chuska Mountains	10"		Navajo Whiskey SNOTEL.
Heavy Snow	1/7-1/8/2024	Far Northwest Highlands	6"		The USFS Ranger Station in Cuba.
Heavy Snow	1/7-1/8/2024	West Central Mountains	10"		near Ramah.
Heavy Snow	1/7-1/8/2024	Tusas Mountains Including Chama			Tierra Amarilla to Tres Piedras. U.S. 64 now closed.
Heavy Snow	1/7-1/8/2024	Northern Sangre De Cristo Mountains	12-14"		Taos Ski area and SNOTELs.
Heavy Snow	1/7-1/8/2024	Southern Sangre De Cristo Mountains	10-30"		Ski Santa Fe area.
Heavy Snow	1/7-1/8/2024	Upper Rio Grande Valley	2-7"		around Taos.
Heavy Snow	1/7-1/8/2024	Espanola Valley	4-16"		around Chamisal, NM.
Heavy Snow	1/7-1/8/2024	Santa Fe Metro Area	5-6"		Santa Fe foothills area.
Heavy Snow	1/7-1/8/2024	Sandia/Manzano Mts & Edgewood	2-8"		Sandia Park to south of Tijeras.

*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/>

Event Type	Date	County Name	Magnitude	Type	Event Narrative
Blizzard	1/8/2024	Johnson/Bartlett Mesas & Raton Pass			U.S.64/87 closed with whiteout conditions. Des Moines recorded wind gusts as high as 55 mph.
Blizzard	1/8/2024	Far Northeast Highlands			I-25 closed at Springer due to zero visibility and blizzard conditions. Raton ASOS measured wind gusts of 45 to 90 mph.
Blizzard	1/8/2024	Union County			Widespread severe winds, whiteout conditions, large drifts, and stranded motorists.
Blizzard	1/8/2024	Harding County			Roy measured peak wind gusts up to 60 mph with near whiteout conditions.
Blizzard	1/8/2024	Quay County			The Tucumcari ASOS reported whiteout conditions with high winds gusting 45 to 51 mph.
Blizzard	1/8/2024	Curry County			The Clovis Airport and Cannon AFB observed blizzard conditions with gusts up to 47 mph and 3 ft drifts north of Clovis.
Blizzard	1/8/2024	Guadalupe County			Santa Rosa measured peak wind gusts to 47 mph with near whiteout conditions. Major wreck on I-40 near Cuervo.
High Wind	1/7/2024	South Central Mountains	57 kt	Gust	The Sierra Blanca Airport measured gusts of 60 to 66 mph.
High Wind	1/7/2024	South Central Mountains	43 kt	Sustained	The Sierra Blanca Airport measured high sustained winds of 40 to 49 mph.
High Wind	1/8/2024	Chaves County Plains	54 kt	Gust	The Roswell Airport measured a peak gust of 62 mph. Blowing dust also dropped visibility to 1 mile.
High Wind	1/11/2024	Upper Tularosa Valley	75 kt	Gust	The Chupadera RAWS measured peak gusts of 86 and 74 mph over the course of one hour.
High Wind	1/11/2024	South Central Mountains	52 kt	Gust	A mesonet station near Nogal measured a peak wind gust of 60 mph.
High Wind	1/11/2024	Chaves County Plains	35 kt	Sustained	The Roswell Airport measured high sustained winds of 40 mph over the course of one hour alongside a peak wind gust of 60 mph.
High Wind	1/11/2024	Chaves County Plains	52 kt	Gust	The Roswell Airport measured a high wind gust of 60 mph during the evening of January 11th.
High Wind	1/13/2024	East Slopes Sangre De Cristo Mountains	67 kt	Gust	Mora reported high wind gust of 60 mph and Rociada 77 mph with large snow drifts.
High Wind	1/13/2024	Far Northeast Highlands	56 kt	Gust	High winds blew existing snow into massive drifts along I-25 near Wagon Mound.
High Wind	1/13/2024	Northeast Highlands	59 kt	Gust	A public weather station southeast of Las Vegas measured a peak gust of 68 mph during the early morning hours of the 13th.
High Wind	1/13/2024	Northeast Highlands	49 kt	Sustained	A public weather station southeast of Las Vegas measured high sustained winds of 56 mph during the afternoon of the 13th.
High Wind	1/12/2024	Guadalupe County	52 kt	Gust	The SE Vaughn mesonet station measured a peak gust of 60 mph, with persistent high sustained winds of 37 to 45 mph.
High Wind	1/13/2024	Guadalupe County	58 kt	Gust	The SE Vaughn mesonet station measured a peak gust of 67 mph, with persistent high sustained winds of 40 to 49 mph.
High Wind	1/13/2024	Eastern Lincoln County	50 kt	Gust	The CSBF transwestern pump mesonet station measured a peak gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	1/17/2024	Central Highlands	52 kt	Gust	The Clines Corners ASOS measured a peak wind gust of 60 mph.
High Wind	1/18/2024	South Central Mountains	50 kt	Gust	The Nogal mesonet station measured a peak gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	1/18/2024	Guadalupe County	38 kt	Sustained	The southeast Vaughn mesonet station measured an hour of high sustained winds peaking at 44 mph.
High Wind	1/18/2024	Guadalupe County	58 kt	Gust	The southeast Vaughn mesonet station measured a peak wind gust of 67 mph.
High Wind	1/17/2024	Quay County	52 kt	Gust	The Tucumcari ASOS measured a peak wind gust of 60 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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