



Synopsis

February 2019 was cooler than normal and much wetter than normal across western New Mexico, while the east was slightly warmer than normal and much drier than normal. February was also windy on several days, especially across the plains. Several heavy snowfall events impacted the high terrain of northern and western New Mexico. Chama was basically buried in snow by the middle of the month. An exceptionally rare and dramatic “snowspout” was observed over rural areas of eastern McKinley County on February 17th.



Chama, NM | Feb. 15, 2019 | Courtesy of Laura Laws White



Sangre de Cristo Mts | Feb. 2, 2019 | Courtesy of Ed MacKerrow



Shiprock sunset | Feb. 24, 2019 | Courtesy of Nessa Palmer

February 2019 Climate Summary

State Temperatures

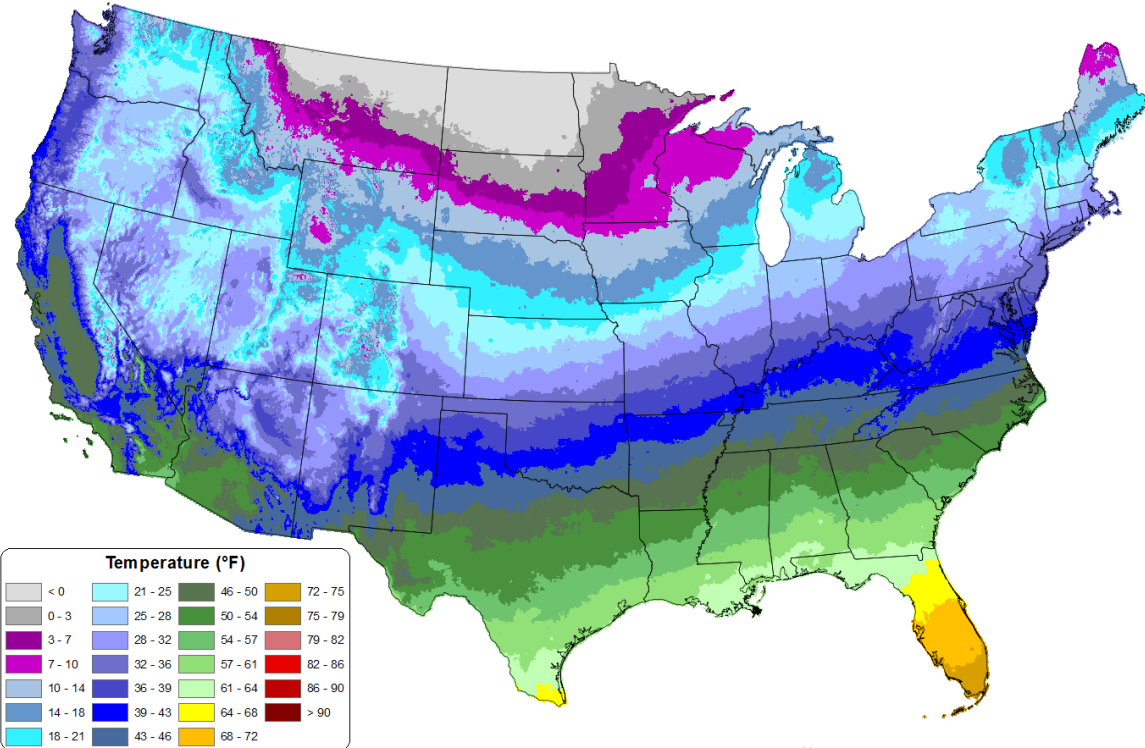
Weather Forecast Office
Albuquerque, NM

Issued December 23, 2019 7:06 PM MDT



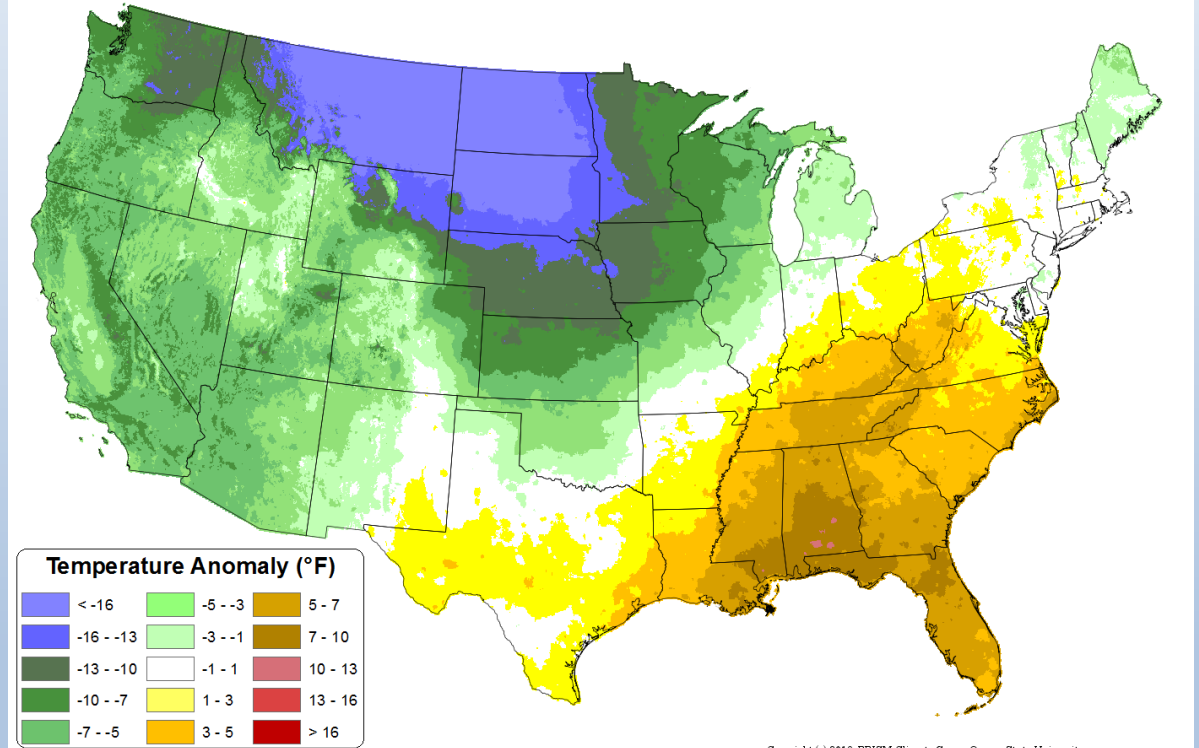
Actual

Average Daily Mean Temperature: Feb 2019
Period ending 7 AM EST 28 Feb 2019
(Map created 28 Oct 2019)



Anomaly

Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: Feb 2019
Period ending 7 AM EST 28 Feb 2019
Base period: 1981-2010
(Map created 28 Oct 2019)



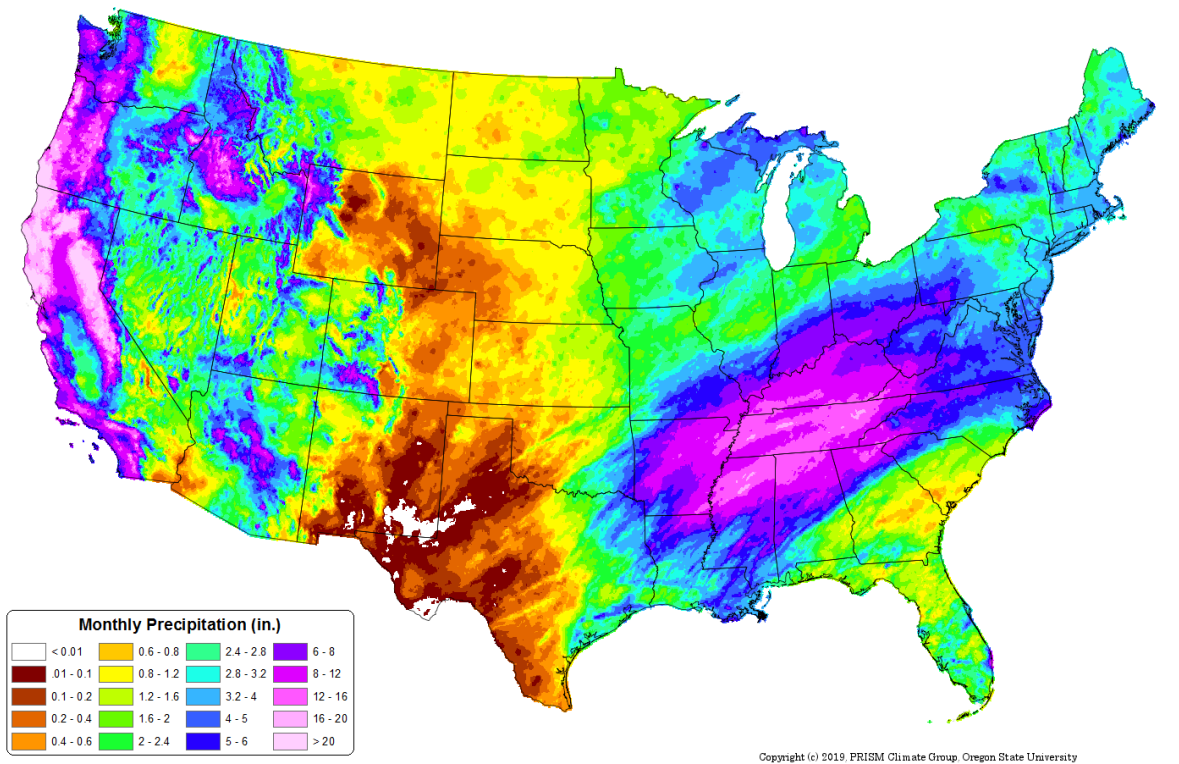
February 2019 Climate Summary

State Precipitation



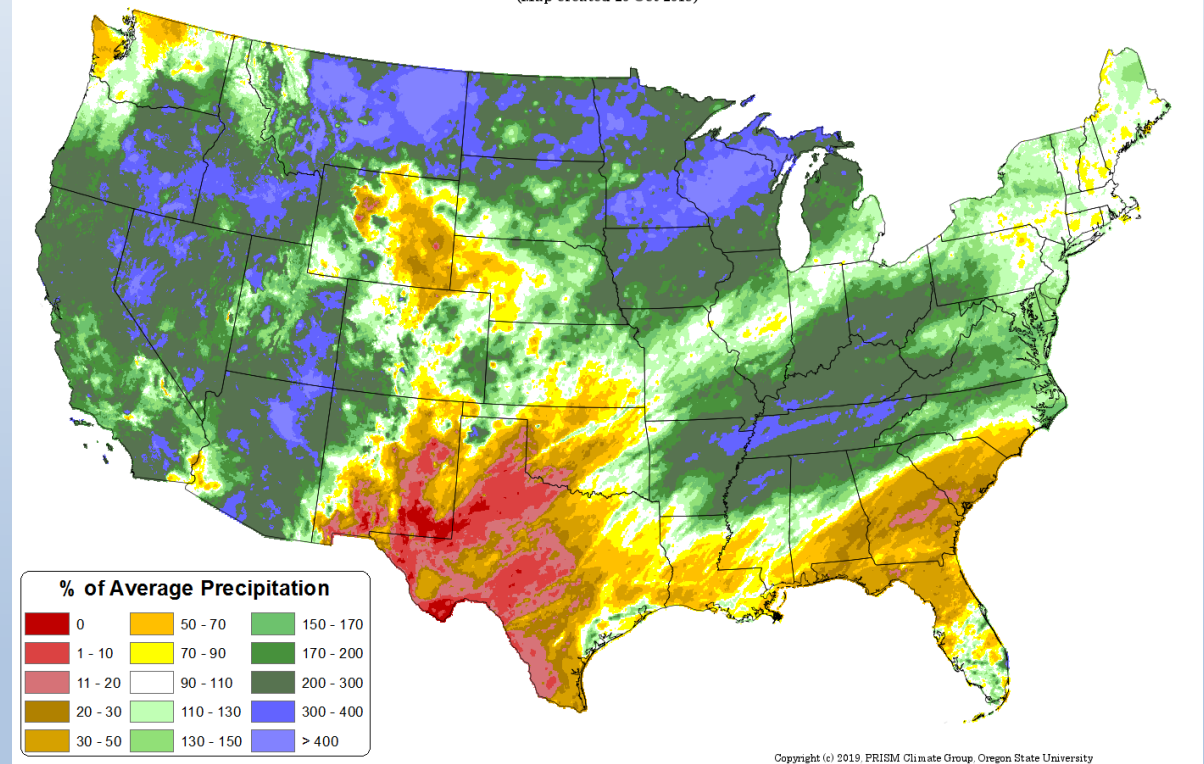
Actual

Total Precipitation: Feb 2019
Period ending 28 Feb 2019
(Map created 20 Oct 2019)



Anomaly

Total Precipitation Anomaly: Feb 2019
Period ending 28 Feb 2019
Base period: 1981-2010
(Map created 20 Oct 2019)



February 2019 Climate Summary

Statewide Temperature & Precipitation Trends

Weather Forecast Office
Albuquerque, NM

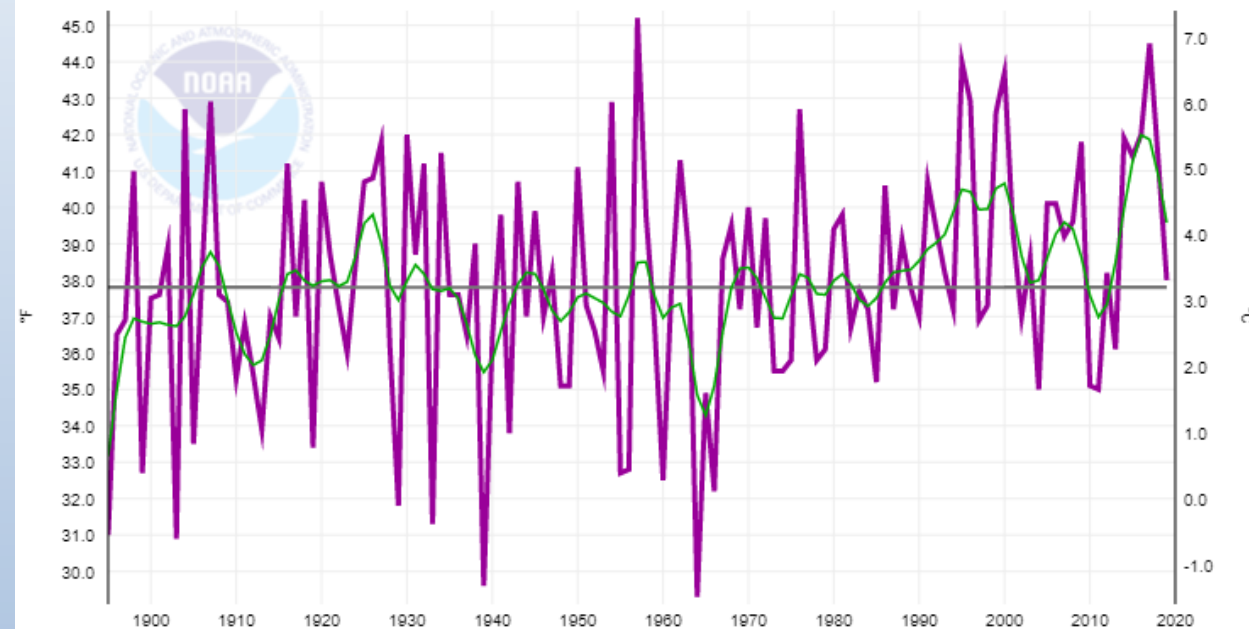
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Temperature

New Mexico, Average Temperature, February

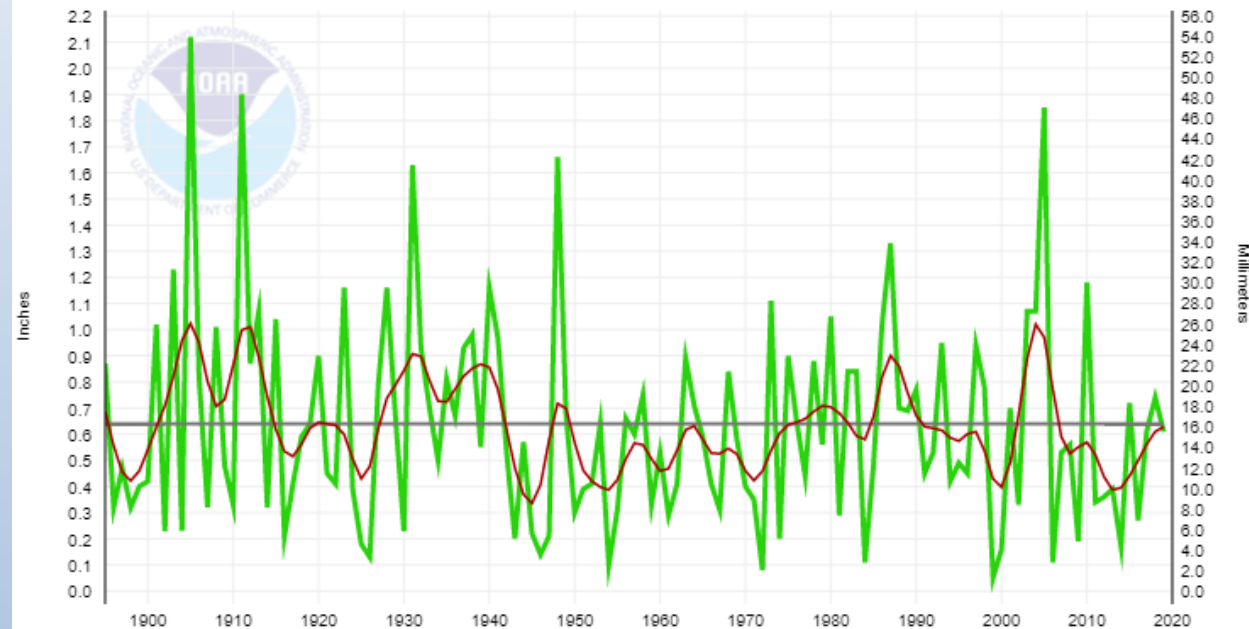
Avg Temperature 1901-2000 Mean: 37.8°F Binomial Filter



Precipitation

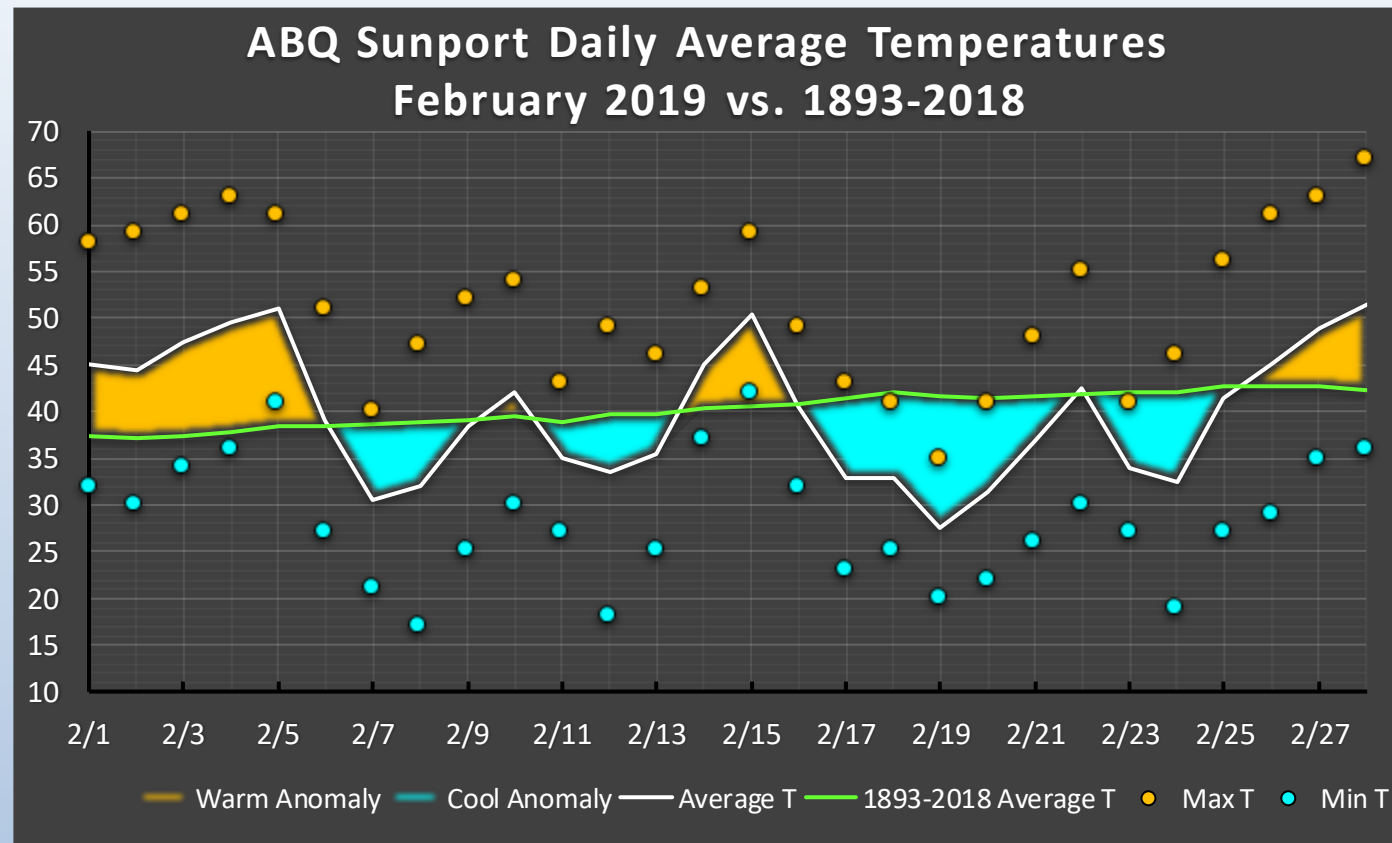
New Mexico, Precipitation, February

Precip 1901-2000 Mean: 0.64" Binomial Filter

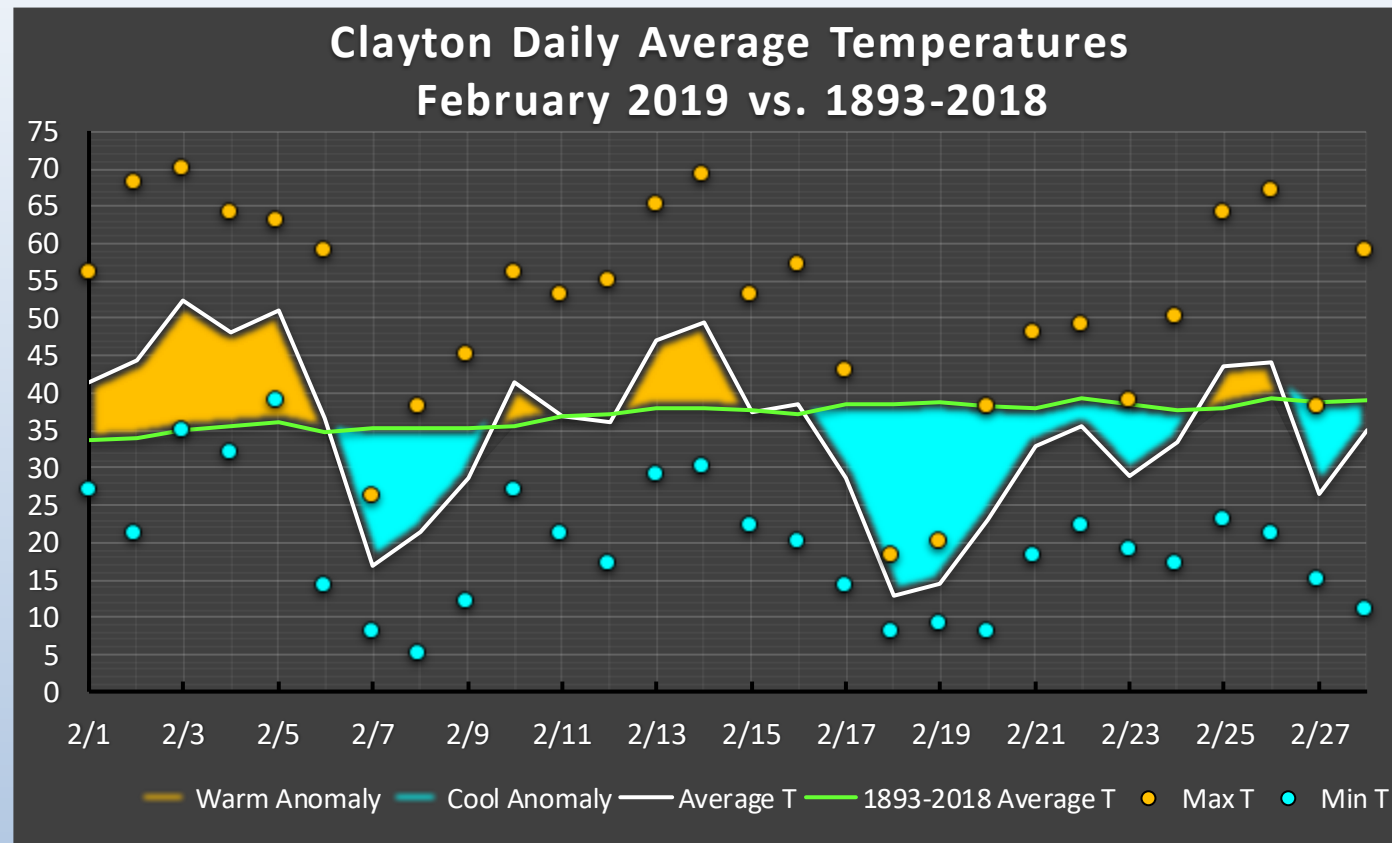


The average statewide temperature was 38.0°, which was 0.2° above the long-term normal of 37.8° (1901-2000).

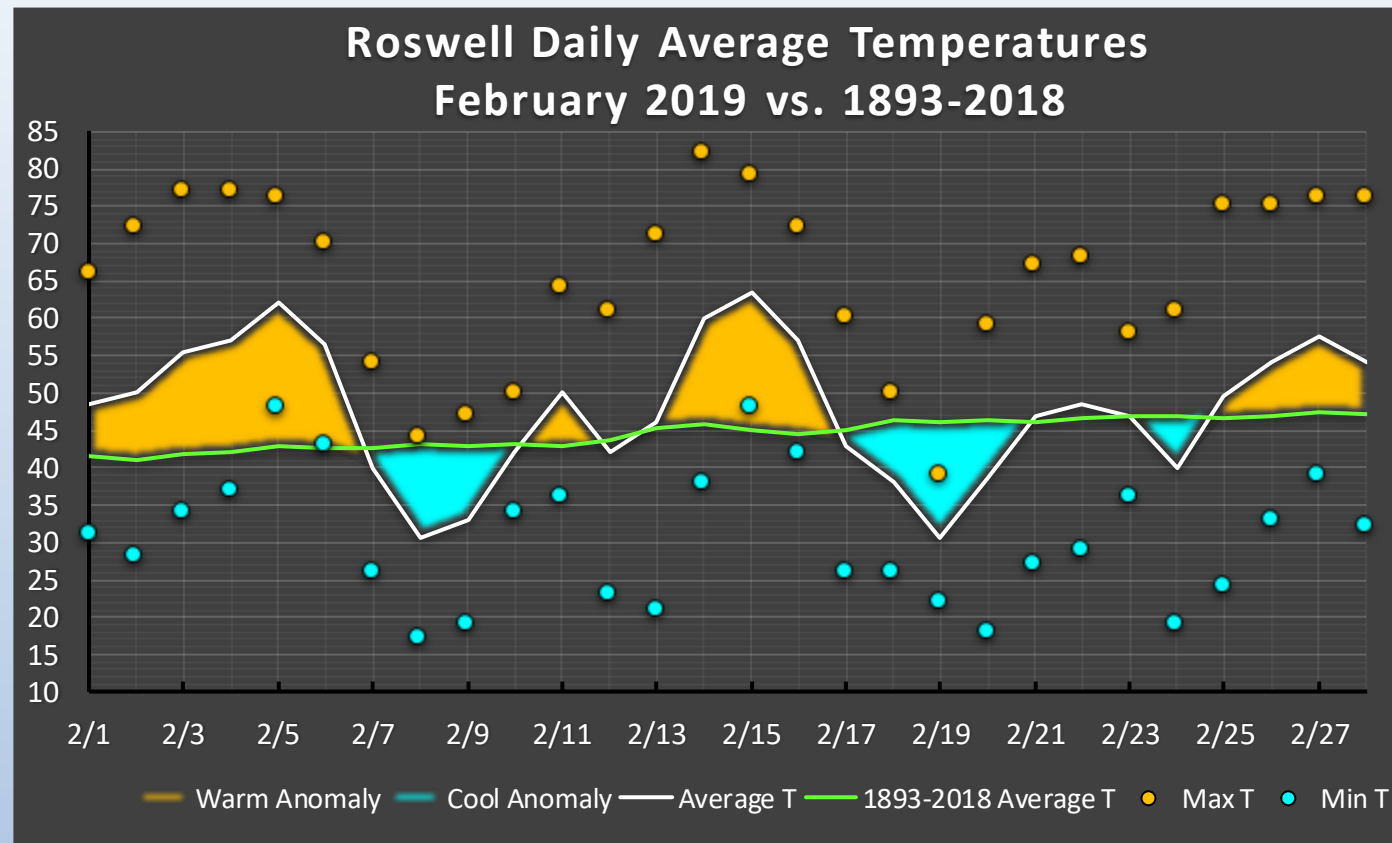
The average statewide precipitation was 0.61", which was 0.03" below the long-term normal of 0.64" (1901-2000).



The average temperature for Albuquerque was 39.9°, which was 1.5° below the normal of 41.4°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 51.5°. This was 1.0° below the normal average maximum temperature of 52.5°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 28.3°. This was 2.0° below the normal average minimum temperature of 30.3°.



The average temperature for Clayton was 35.3°, which was 2.2° below the normal of 37.5°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 51.1°. This was 0.2° below the normal average maximum temperature of 51.3°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 19.4°. This was 4.2° below the normal average minimum temperature of 23.6°. This ranks as the 32nd coolest February on record (1893-2019).



The average temperature for Roswell was 47.9°, which was 2.2° above the normal of 45.7°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 65.2°. This was 4.5° above the average maximum temperature of 60.7°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 30.6°. This was 0.1° below the normal average minimum temperature of 30.7°. This ranks as the 26th warmest February on record (1893-2019).

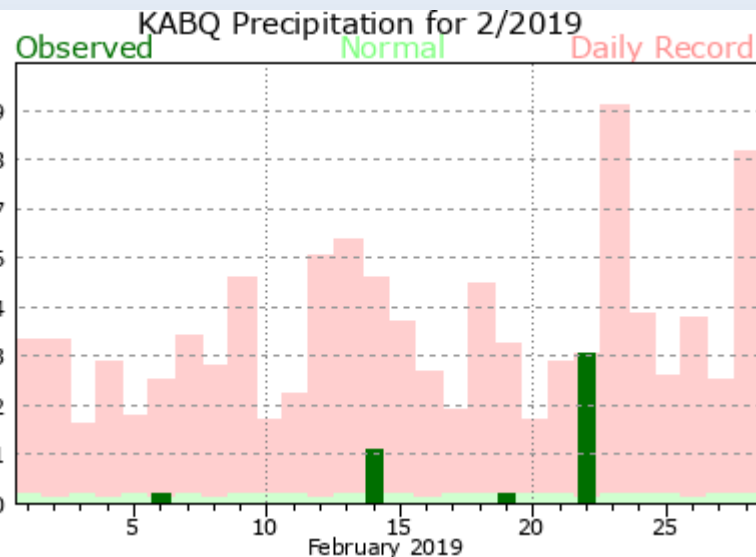
February 2019 Climate Summary

Precipitation – Climate Sites

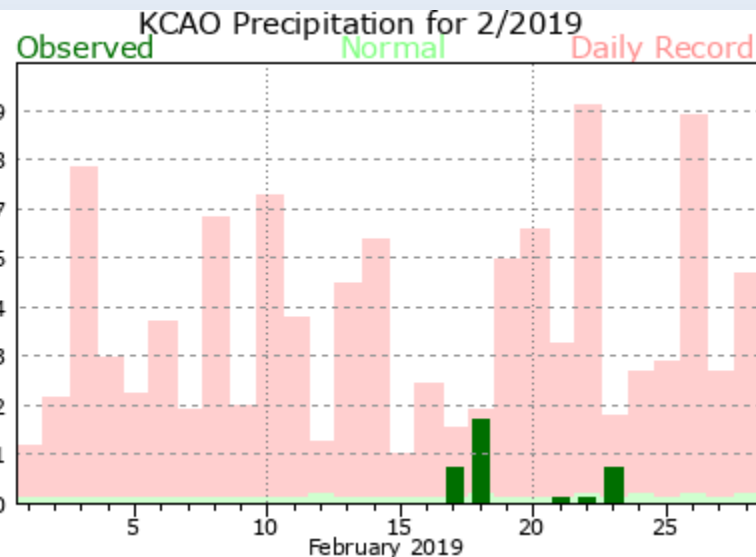
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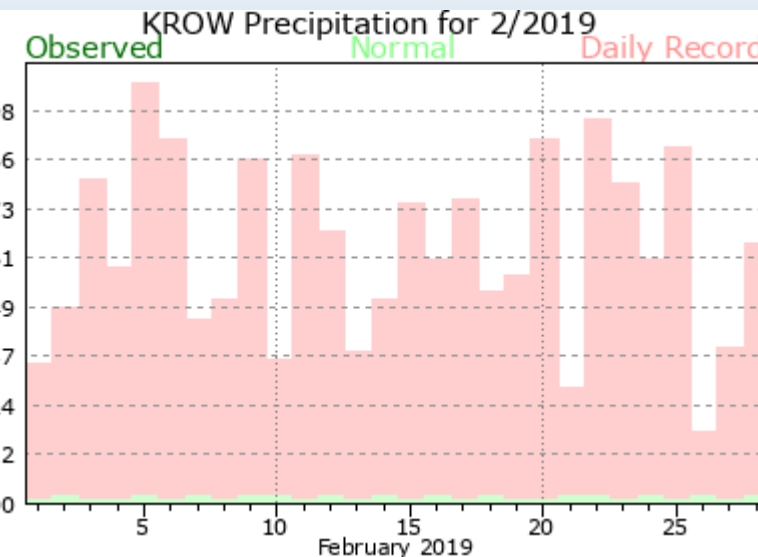
Albuquerque Sunport



Clayton



Roswell



There was 0.50" of precipitation measured at the Sunport, compared to the normal of 0.48", or 0.02" above normal. This ranks as the 34th wettest February on record (1893-2019).

There was 0.37" of precipitation measured at Clayton, compared to the normal of 0.34", or 0.03" above normal. This ranks as the 39th wettest February on record (1893-2019).

There was a trace of precipitation measured at Roswell, compared to the normal of 0.42", or 0.42" below normal. This ranks as the 9th driest February on record (1893-2019).

February 2019 Climate Summary

Severe Weather*

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Event Type	Date	County/Zone Name	Magnitude	Type	Event Narrative
High Wind	2/3/19	E Slopes Sangre de Cristos	53 kt	Gust	Angel Fire peak wind gusts up to 61 mph.
High Wind	2/3/19	South Central Mountains	53 kt	Gust	Sierra Blanca airport peak wind gusts up to 61 mph.
Winter Storm	2-6/7-19	San Juan/Tusas Mts	3-6"		Extreme winter travel U.S. 64/84 and NM-17.
Winter Storm	2-6/7-19	N Sangre de Cristos	6-10"		Taos Ski Valley with 68 mph wind gust.
High Wind	2/6/19	South Central Mts	55 kt	Gust	Sierra Blanca airport peak wind gust up to 63 mph.
High Wind	2/6/19	Northeast Highlands	50 kt	Gust	Tecolotito peak wind gust up to 58 mph.
High Wind	2/6/19	Lower Rio Grande Valley	52 kt	Gust	WSMR mesonet sites peak wind gusts up to 60 mph.
High Wind	2/6/19	South central Highlands	52 kt	Gust	WSMR mesonet sites peak wind gusts up to 60 mph.
High Wind	2/6/19	Quay County	51 kt	Gust	Tucumcari airport peak wind gust up to 59 mph.
High Wind	2/6/19	Quay County	40 kt	Sustained	Tucumcari airport sustained winds 40 to 46 mph.
High Wind	2/6/19	Southwest Chaves County	52 kt	Gust	Dunken RAWS peak wind gusts up to 60 mph.
High Wind	2/11/19	De Baca County	40 kt	Sustained	Fort Sumner peak sustained winds 40 to 46 mph.
High Wind	2/11/19	Central Highlands	39 kt	Sustained	Encino 7 miles WSW sustained winds 40 to 45 mph.
High Wind	2/11/19	South Central Highlands	53 kt	Gust	WSMR mesonet sites peak wind gusts up to 61 mph.
High Wind	2/11/19	South Central Mountains	52 kt	Gust	Capitan peak wind gusts up to 60 mph.
High Wind	2/11/19	Curry County	51 kt	Gust	Clovis peak wind gusts up to 59 mph.
High Wind	2/11/19	Roosevelt County	52 kt	Gust	Dora peak wind gusts up to 60 mph.
High Wind	2-13/14-19	Far Northeast Highlands	56 kt	Sustained	Raton airport peak sustained wind of 64 mph.
High Wind	2-13/14-19	Far Northeast Highlands	73 kt	Gust	Raton airport peak wind gust of 84 mph.
High Wind	2/13/19	E Slopes Sangre de Cristos	63 kt	Gust	Rociada peak wind gust up to 72 mph.
High Wind	2/14/19	Northeast Highlands	50 kt	Gust	Tecolotito peak wind gust up to 58 mph.
High Wind	2/14/19	Guadalupe County	50 kt	Gust	Vaughn peak wind gust up to 58 mph.
Heavy Snow	2-14/15-19	San Juan/Tusas Mts	6-14"		Canjilon to Tierra Amarilla and Chama.
Heavy Snow	2-14/15-19	Jemez Mountains	3-6"		Gusts up to 59 mph Valles Caldera to Los Alamos.
Heavy Snow	2-14/15-19	N Sangre de Cristos			Red River to Taos Ski Valley with gust up to 77 mph.

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Event Type	Date	County/Zone Name	Magnitude	Type	Event Narrative
High Wind	2/16/19	Northeast Highlands	52 kt	Gust	Tecolotito peak wind gust up to 60 mph.
High Wind	2/16/19	Central Highlands	53 kt	Gust	Clines Corners peak wind gusts up to 61 mph.
High Wind	2/16/19	Quay County	51 kt	Gust	Tucumcari peak wind gust up to 59 mph.
High Wind	2/16/19	Quay County	39 kt	Sustained	Tucumcari peak sustained winds 40 to 45 mph.
High Wind	2/20/19	E Slopes Sangre de Cristos	51 kt	Gust	Angel Fire peak wind gust up to 59 mph.
High Wind	2/20/19	Central Highlands	51 kt	Gust	Clines Corners peak wind gust up to 59 mph.
Heavy Snow	2-17/19-19	Northwest Plateau	6-10"		Farmington, Aztec, and Bloomfield.
Heavy Snow	2-17/19-19	Chuska Mountains	11"		Navajo Whiskey SNOTEL.
Heavy Snow	2-17/19-19	Far Northeast Highlands	3-7"		Cedar Hill, Navajo Lake, and Dulce.
Heavy Snow	2-17/19-19	San Juan/Tusas Mts	6-12"		Chama to Tierra Amarilla and Canjilon.
Heavy Snow	2-17/19-19	Jemez Mountains	6-16"		Vacas Locas to Jemez and the Valles Caldera.
Heavy Snow	2-17/19-19	N Sangre de Cristos	6-12"		Red River and Taos Ski Valley.
Heavy Snow	2-17/19-19	S Sangre de Cristos	6-11"		High terrain east of Santa Fe.
Heavy Snow	2-17/19-19	E Slopes Sangre de Cristos	6-16"		Angel Fire to Mora.
Heavy Snow	2-17/19-19	Upper Rio Grande Valley	2-8"		Taos area.
Winter Storm	2/19/19	ABQ Metro Area	2-4"		Rio Rancho to western Albuquerque and Los Lunas.
Heavy Snow	2-17/18-19	Far Northeast Highlands	5-10"		Cimarron to Raton.
Heavy Snow	2-17/18-19	Northeast Highlands	4-8"		Higher terrain near Las Vegas.
Heavy Snow	2-17/19-19	Union County	4-7"		Clayton area.
Tornado	2/17/19	McKinley County			Landspout, or "snowspout", near Tinian.
High Wind	2/23/19	Sandia/Manzano Mts	52 kt	Gust	Peak gusts 50 to 60 mph.
High Wind	2/23/19	Estancia Valley	50 kt	Gust	Stanley peak wind gusts up to 58 mph.
High Wind	2/23/19	Central Highlands	51 kt	Gust	Clines Corners peak wind gusts up to 59 mph.
High Wind	2/23/19	South central Highlands	52 kt	Gust	Corona peak wind gust up to 60 mph.
High Wind	2/23/19	Upper Tularosa Valley	51 kt	Gust	WSMR sites peak wind gust up to 59 mph.

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High Wind	2/23/19	South Central Mountains	52 kt	Gust	Capitan peak wind gust up to 60 mph.
High Wind	2/23/19	South Central Mountains	39 kt	Sustained	Capitan sustained winds of 40 to 45 mph.
High Wind	2/23/19	Curry County	38 kt	Sustained	Clovis airport sustained winds of 40 to 44 mph.
High Wind	2/23/19	Curry County	57 kt	Gust	Clovis peak wind gusts up to 66 mph.
High Wind	2/23/19	Roosevelt County	41 kt	Sustained	Dora sustained winds between 40 and 47 mph.
High Wind	2/23/19	Roosevelt County	51 kt	Gust	Dora peak wind gusts up to 59 mph.
High Wind	2/23/19	De Baca County	37 kt	Sustained	Sumner Lake sustained winds 40 to 43 mph.
High Wind	2/23/19	Chaves County Plains	55 kt	Gust	Eight Mile Draw peak wind gusts up to 63 mph.
Heavy Snow	2-21/22-19	Northwest Plateau	4-8"		Farmington, Aztec, and Bloomfield area.
Heavy Snow	2-21/22-19	Chuska Mountains	15"		Navajo Whiskey SNOTEL.
Heavy Snow	2-21/23-19	Far Northwest Highlands	8-12"		Cedar Hill to Dulce.
Heavy Snow	2-21/23-19	Northwest Highlands	6"		Continental Divide along U.S. 550.
Heavy Snow	2-21/22-19	West Central Plateau	5-15"		Tohatchi to Gallup and Zuni.
Heavy Snow	2-21/22-19	West Central Mountains	5-10"		Continental Divide of Interstate 40.
Heavy Snow	2-21/23-19	Southwest Mountains	4-18"		Gila region to Quemado.
Heavy Snow	2-21/23-19	San Juan/Tusas Mts	2-12"		Tierra Amarilla to Chama area.
Heavy Snow	2-21/23-19	Jemez Mountains	6-12"		Jemez Springs to Valles Caldera and Los Alamos.
Heavy Snow	2-21/23-19	W Slopes Sangre de Cristos	6-26"		Questa to Arroyo Seco and near Cundiyo.
Heavy Snow	2-21/23-19	N Sangre de Cristos	12-24"		Red River to Taos Ski Valley.
Heavy Snow	2-21/23-19	S Sangre de Cristos	12-24"		Higher terrain east of Santa Fe.
Heavy Snow	2-21/23-19	Upper Rio Grande Valley	8-16"		Taos to El Prado and Arroyo Hondo.
Heavy Snow	2-21/23-19	Santa Fe Metro Area	2-8"		Madrid to Santa Fe and Tesuque.
Heavy Snow	2-21/23-19	ABQ Metro Area	2-7"		Mainly east side of ABQ metro to Placitas.
Winter Wx	2-21/23-19	Union County			U.S. Highway 64/87 closed Clayton to Des Moines.
Winter Wx	2-21/23-19	Raton Ridge/Johnson Mesa			U.S. Highway 64/87 closed Des Moines and Raton.

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-  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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