



Synopsis

March 2019 was warmer and wetter than normal. The weather pattern was extremely active with heavy snowfall over the northern high terrain, freezing drizzle across the plains, two widespread severe wind events across eastern New Mexico, dust storms, funnel clouds, and a significant tornado. An EF-2 tornado produced damage and injuries around Dexter. This was the first March tornado in Chaves County and the earliest EF-2 tornado on record for New Mexico.



I-25 Between Springer and Maxwell, NM
March 1, 2019 | Courtesy of @VTWxAsh



Near Logan | March 13, 2019
Courtesy of NMSP



Dexter Tornado | March 12, 2019 | Courtesy of Shani Pitzer

March 2019 Climate Summary

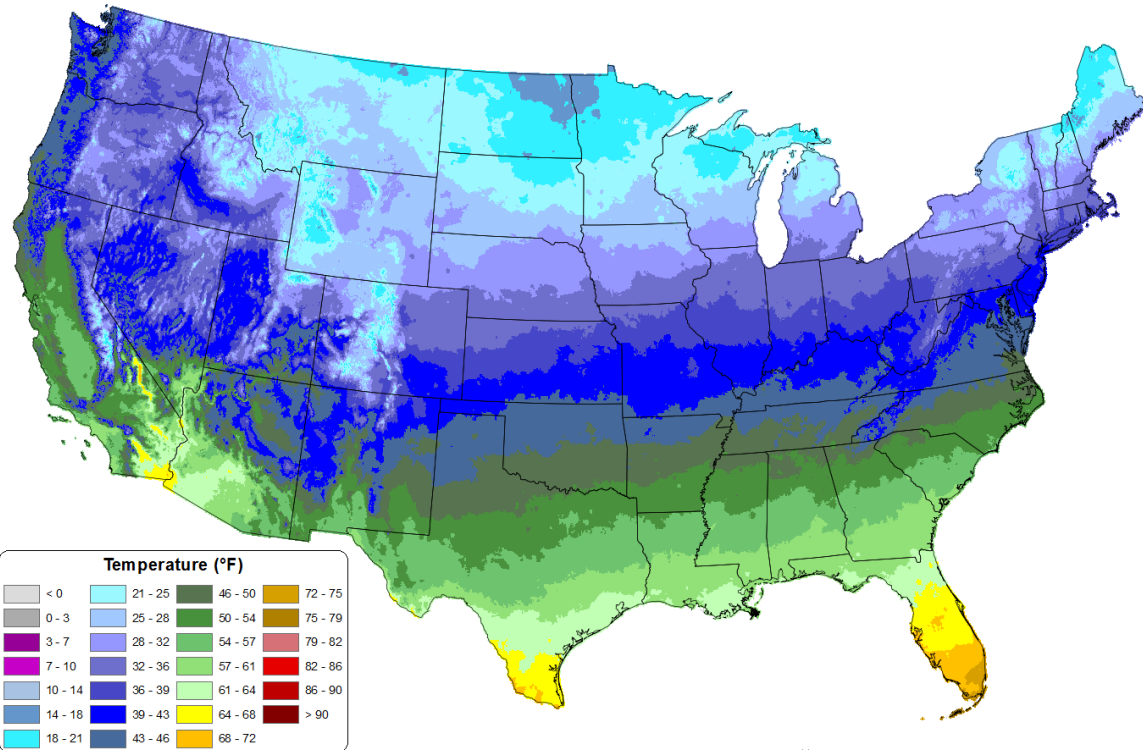
State Temperatures

Weather Forecast Office
Albuquerque, NM
Issued December 23, 2019 7:10 PM MDT



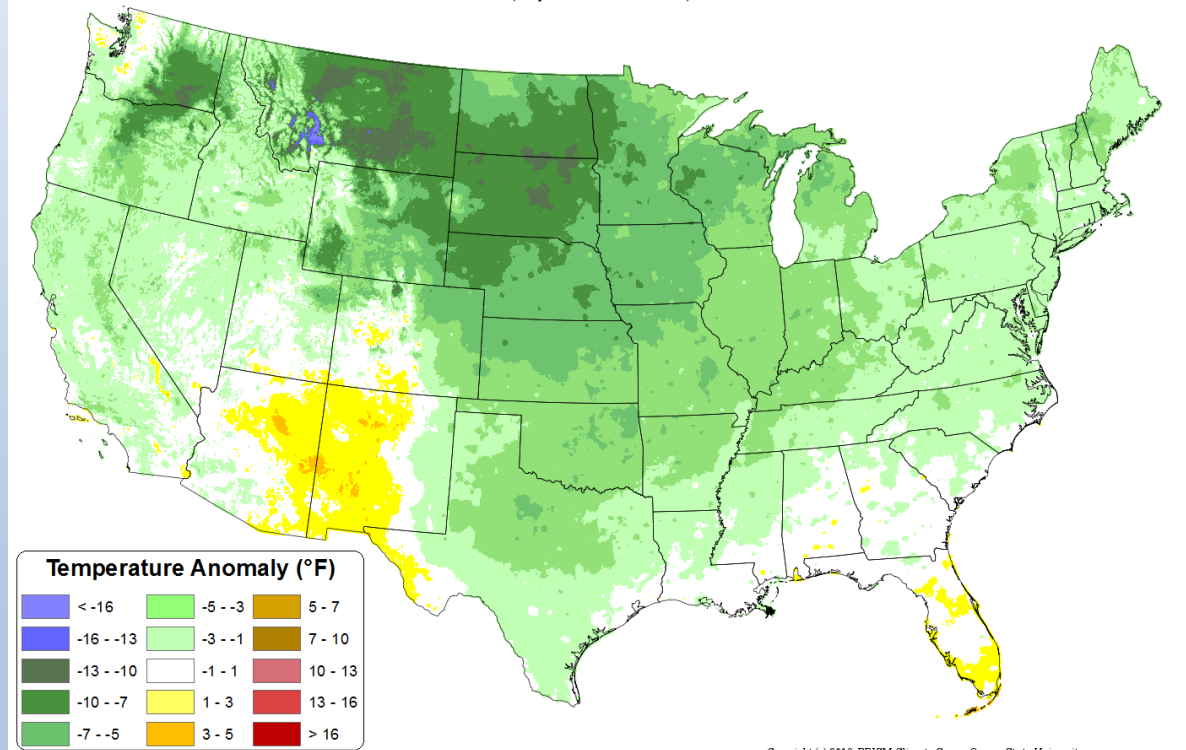
Actual

Average Daily Mean Temperature: Mar 2019
Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2019
(Map created 28 Oct 2019)



Anomaly

Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: Mar 2019
Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2019
Base period: 1981-2010
(Map created 28 Oct 2019)



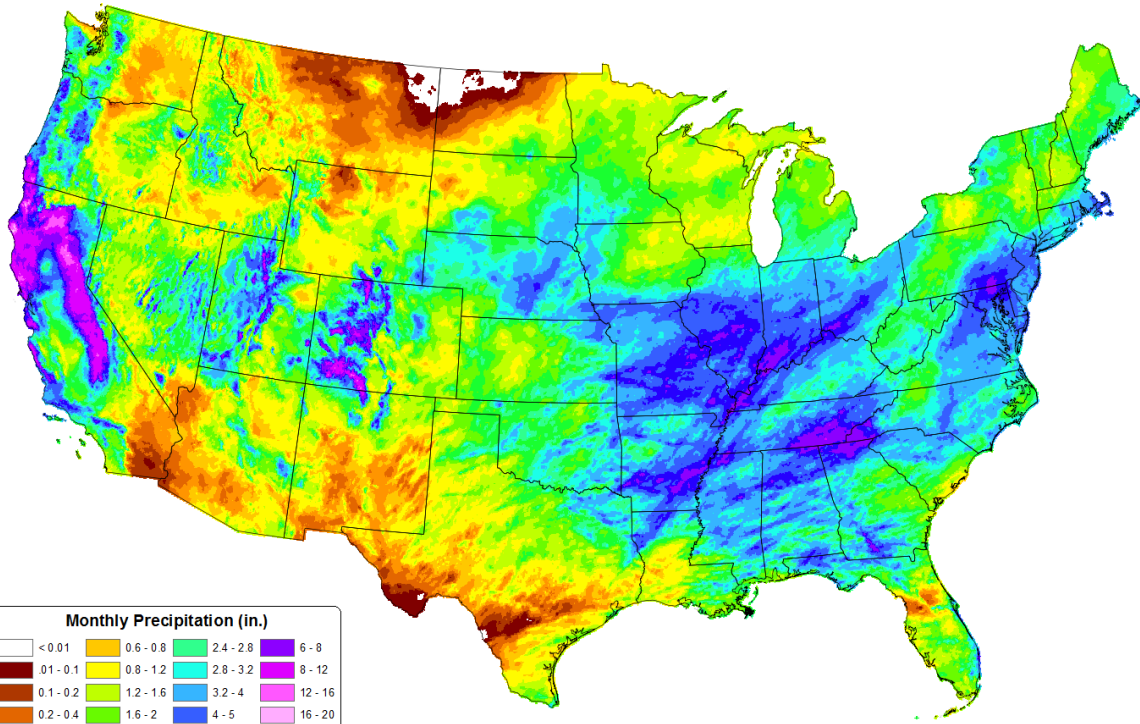
March 2019 Climate Summary

State Precipitation



Actual

Total Precipitation: Mar 2019
Period ending 31 Mar 2019
(Map created 20 Oct 2019)

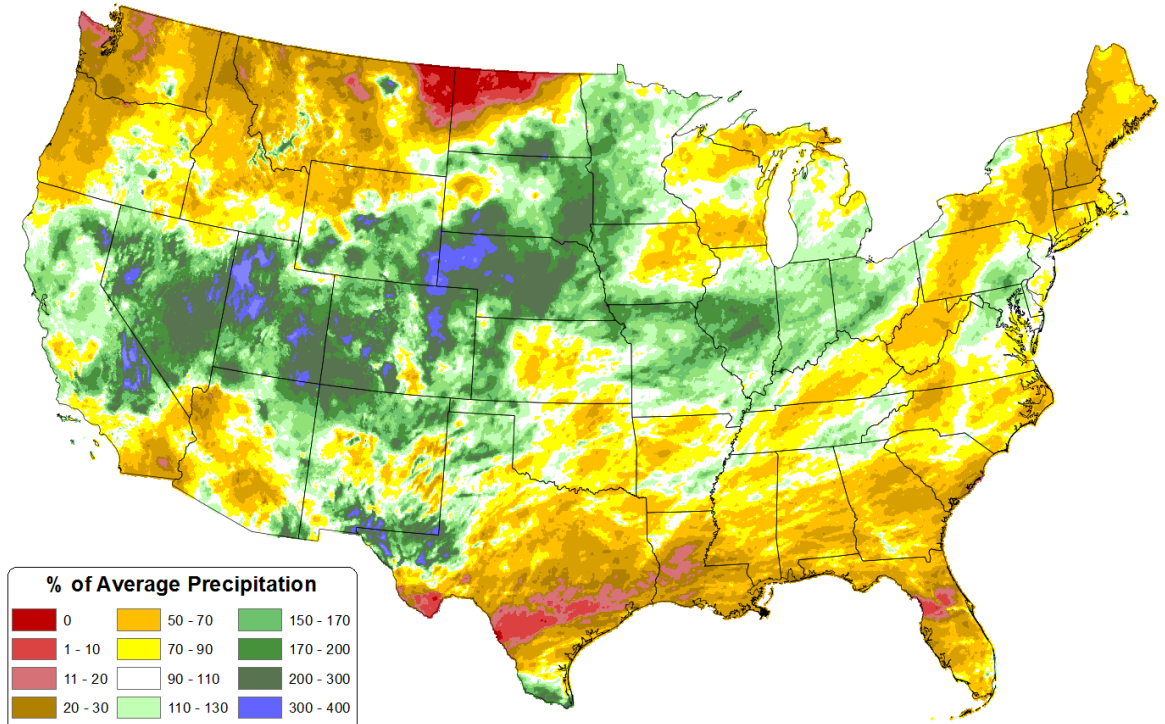


Monthly Precipitation (in.)			
<0.01	0.6 - 0.8	2.4 - 2.8	6 - 8
0.01 - 0.1	0.8 - 1.2	2.8 - 3.2	8 - 12
0.1 - 0.2	1.2 - 1.6	3.2 - 4	12 - 16
0.2 - 0.4	1.6 - 2	4 - 5	16 - 20
0.4 - 0.6	2 - 2.4	5 - 6	>20

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Anomaly

Total Precipitation Anomaly: Mar 2019
Period ending 31 Mar 2019
Base period: 1981-2010
(Map created 20 Oct 2019)



% of Average Precipitation		
0	50 - 70	150 - 170
1 - 10	70 - 90	170 - 200
11 - 20	90 - 110	200 - 300
20 - 30	110 - 130	300 - 400
30 - 50	130 - 150	> 400

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March 2019 Climate Summary

Statewide Temperature & Precipitation Trends

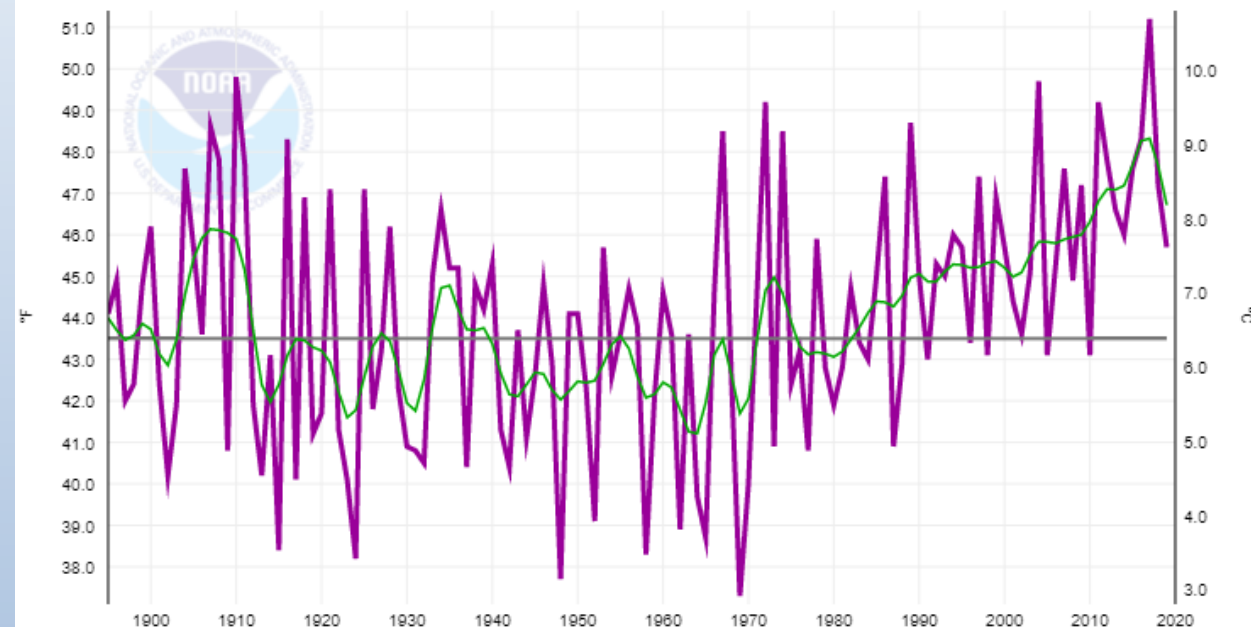
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Temperature

New Mexico, Average Temperature, March

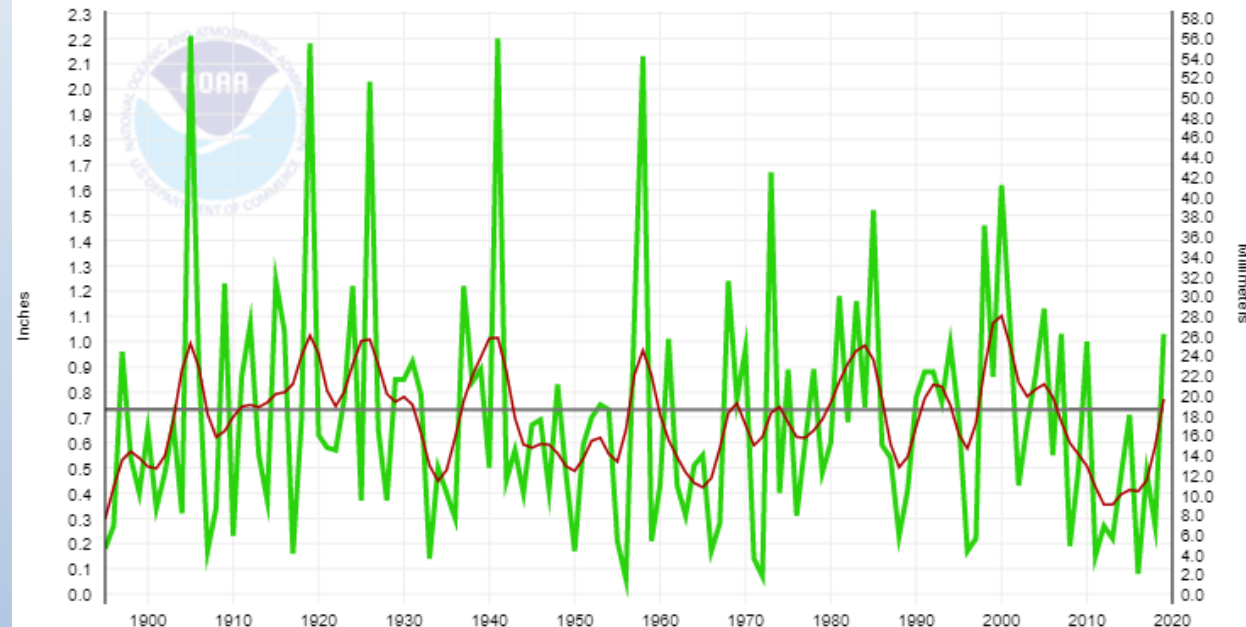
Avg Temperature 1901-2000 Mean: 43.5°F Binomial Filter



Precipitation

New Mexico, Precipitation, March

Precip 1901-2000 Mean: 0.73" Binomial Filter



The average statewide temperature for March 2019 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.

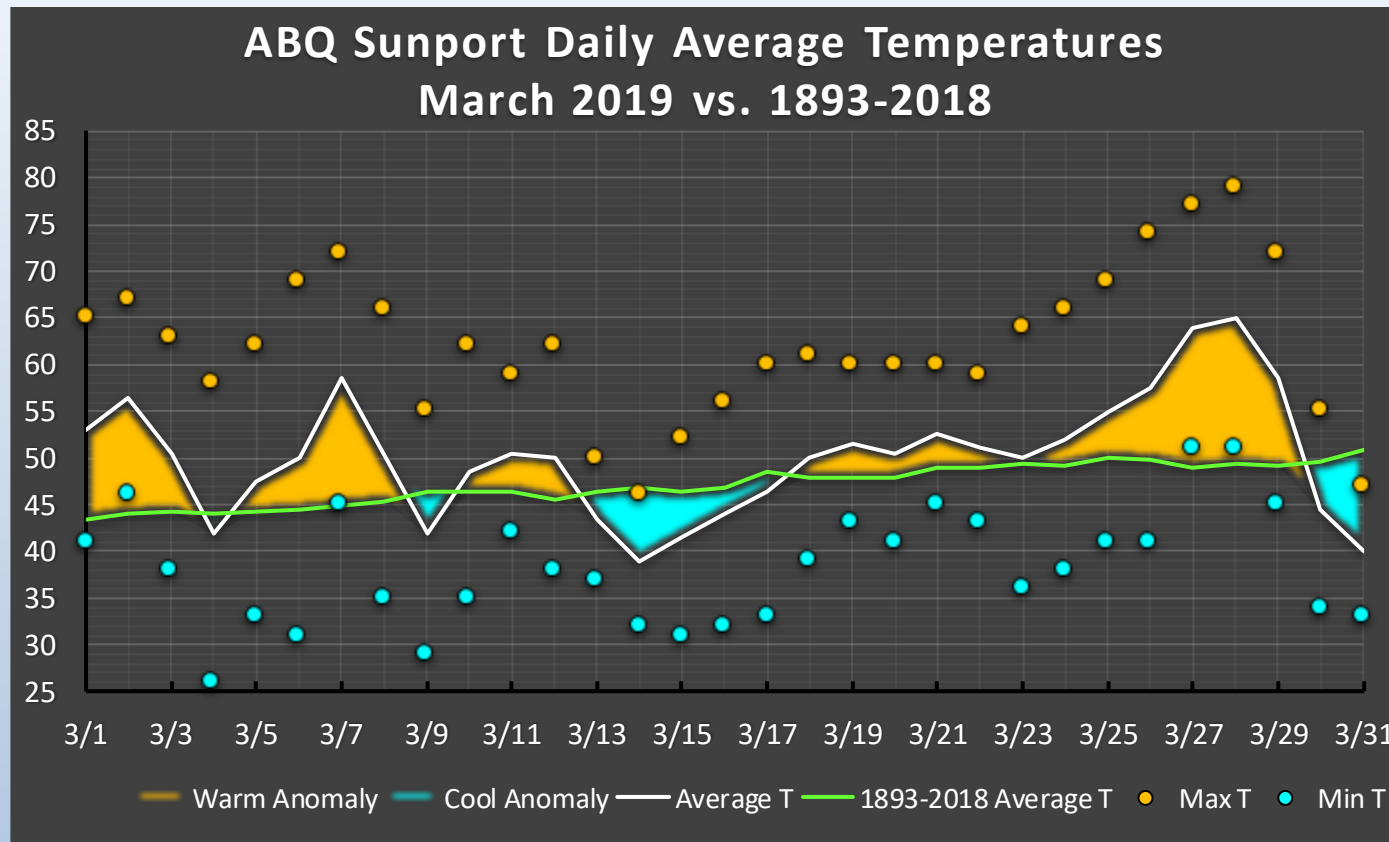
The average statewide precipitation for March 2019 was 1.03" which was 0.30" above the long-term normal of 0.73" (1901-2000). This ranked as the 22nd wettest March on record and the wettest since 2010.

March 2019 Climate Summary

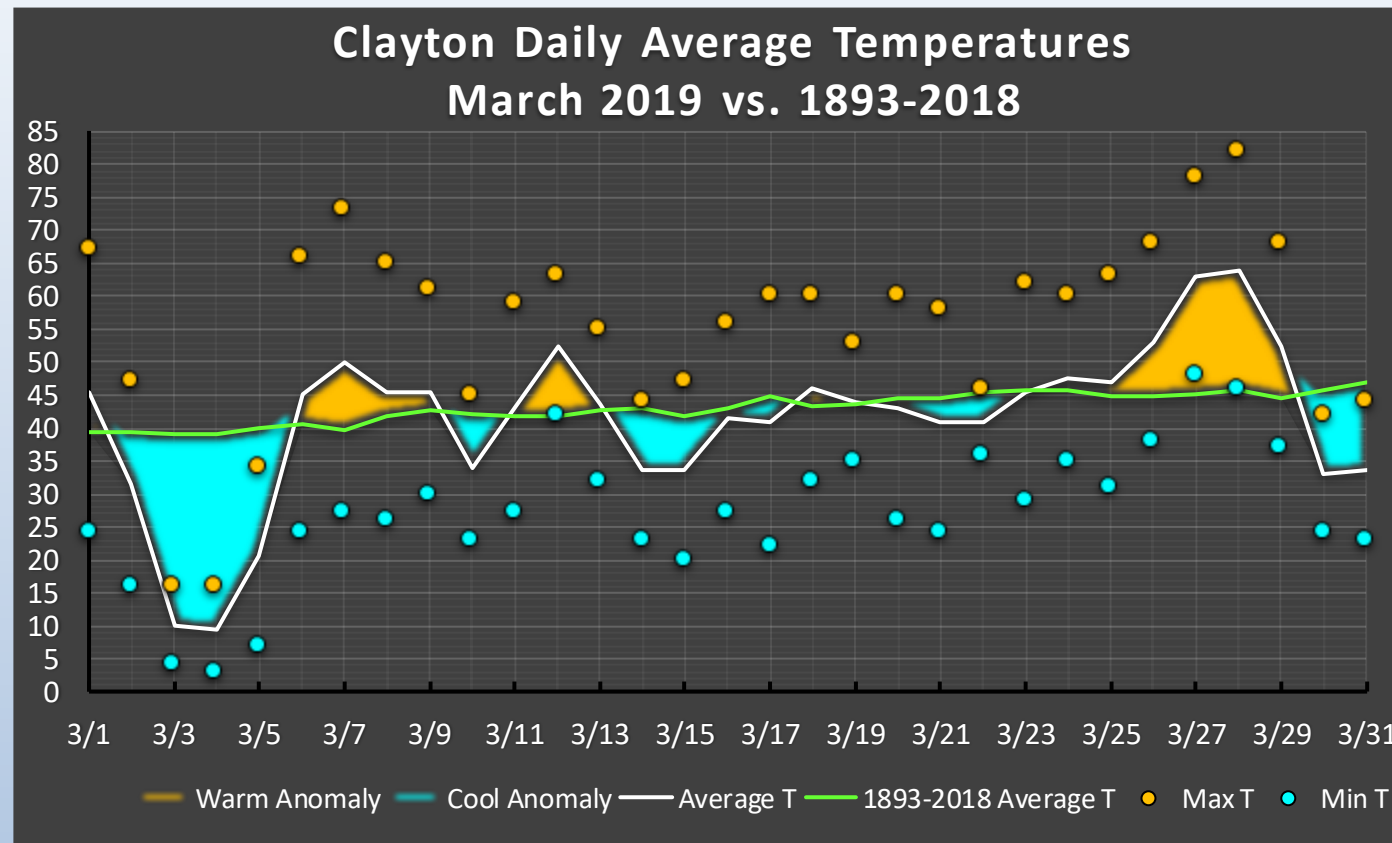
Albuquerque Sunport Temperatures

Weather Forecast Office
Albuquerque, NM

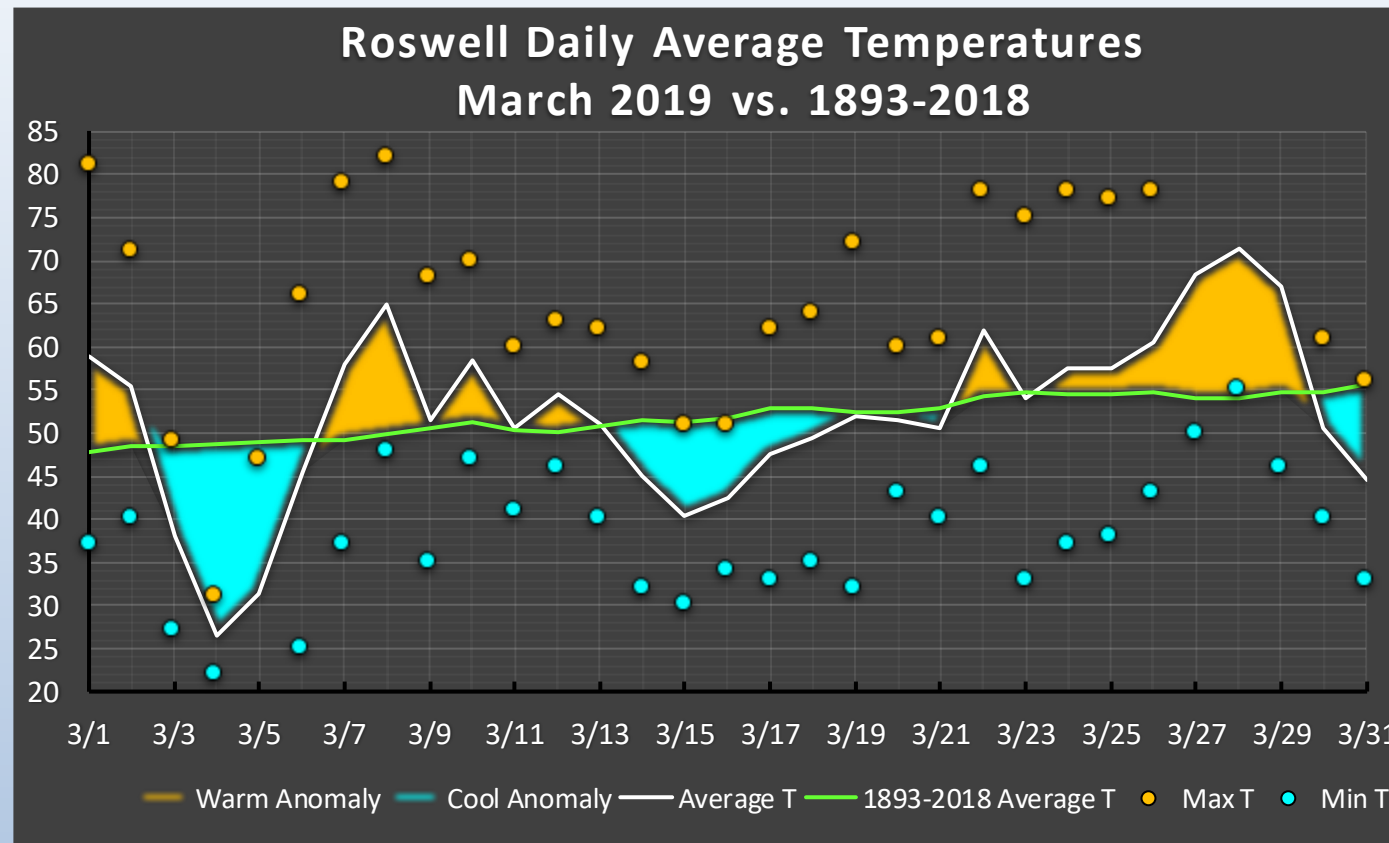
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The average temperature for Albuquerque was 50.2°, which was 2.1° above the normal of 48.1°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 62.2°. This was 1.7° above the normal average maximum temperature of 60.5°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 38.2°. This was 2.5° above the normal average minimum temperature of 35.7°. This ranks as 21st warmest March on record (1893-2019).



The average temperature for Clayton was 41.3°, which was 2.9° below the normal of 44.2°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 55.4°. This was 3.1° below the normal average maximum temperature of 58.5°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 27.1°. This was 2.9° below the normal average minimum temperature of 30.0°. This ranks as the 36th coolest March on record (1893-2019).



The average temperature for Roswell was 52.2°, which was 0.4° below the normal of 52.6°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 66.9°. This was 1.4° below the average maximum temperature of 68.3°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 37.5°. This was 0.6° above the normal average minimum temperature of 36.9°.

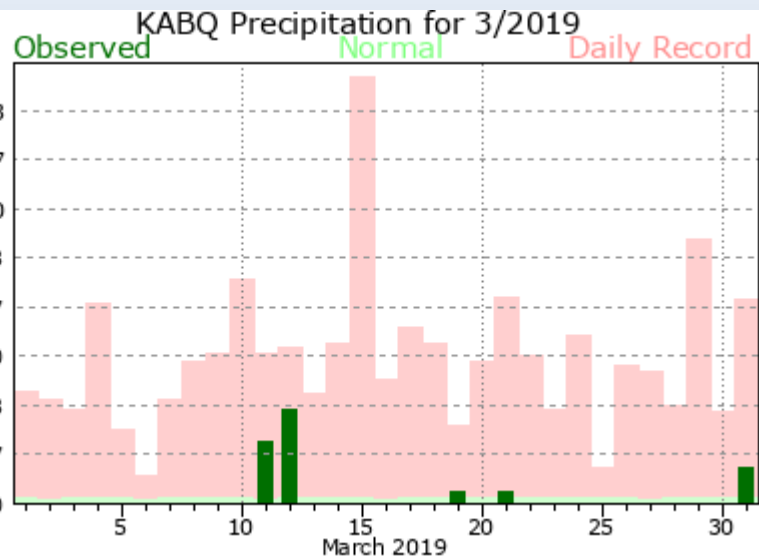
March 2019 Climate Summary

Precipitation – Climate Sites

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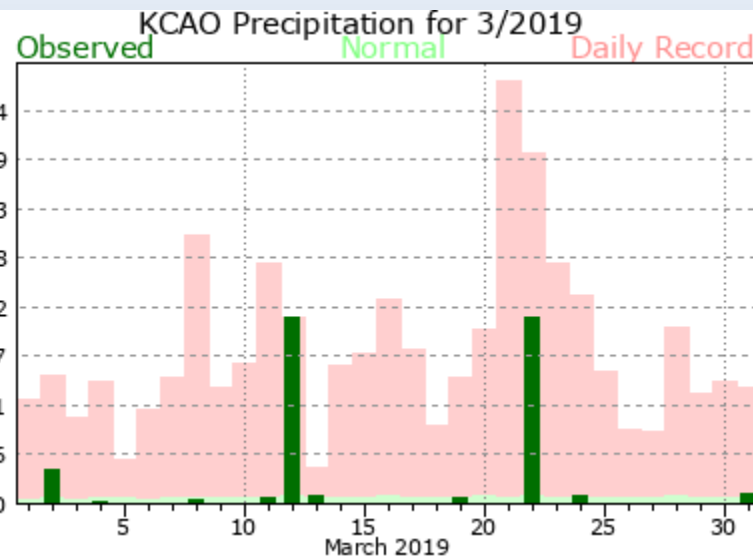


Albuquerque Sunport



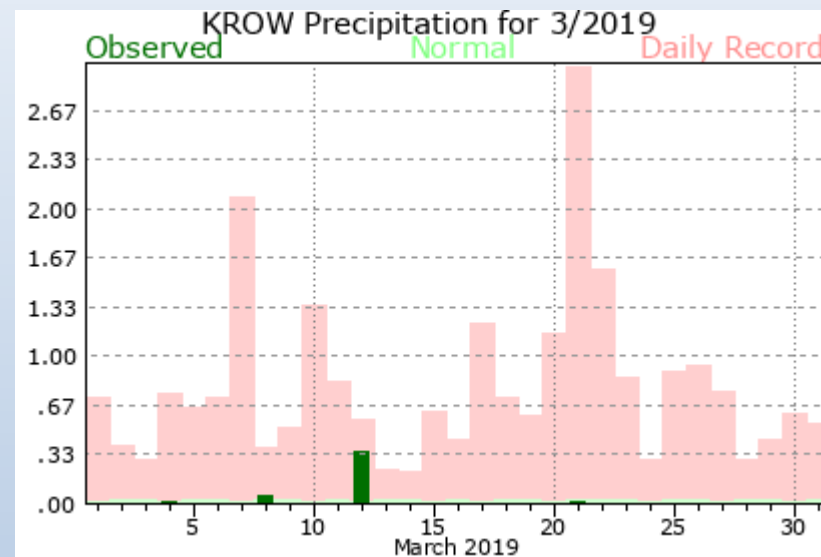
There was 0.73" of precipitation measured at the Sunport, compared to the normal of 0.57", or 0.16" above normal. This ranks as the 24th wettest March on record (1893-2019).

Clayton



There was 2.33" of precipitation measured at Clayton, compared to the normal of 0.95", or 1.38" above normal. This ranks as the 6th wettest March on record (1893-2019).

Roswell



There was 0.42" of precipitation measured at Roswell, compared to the normal of 0.51", or 0.09" below normal.

March 2019 Climate Summary

Severe Weather*

Weather Forecast Office
Albuquerque, NM

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Event Type	Date	County/Zone Name	Magnitude	Type	Event Narrative
High Wind	3/1/2019	Far Northeast Highlands	60 kt	Gust	Raton peak wind gusts up to 69 mph.
Dust Storm	3/1/2019	Far Northeast Highlands			Near zero visibility along I-25 Springer.
High Wind	3/2/2019	Central Highlands	51 kt	Gust	Clines Corners peak wind gusts to 59 mph.
Heavy Snow	3-2/4-19	San Juan Mts	6-13"		Higher terrain of eastern Rio Arriba County.
Winter Wx	3/4/2019	Chaves County PLains			U.S. 285 and 70 closed due to freezing drizzle.
Winter Wx	3/4/2019	E Lincoln County			U.S. 70. closed due to freezing drizzle.
Winter Wx	3/4/2019	South Central Mts			U.S. 70 closed due to freezing drizzle.
Winter Wx	3/4/2019	Guadalupe County			U.S. 285 closed due to freezing drizzle.
Winter Wx	3/4/2019	De Baca County			U.S. 285 closed due to freezing drizzle.
Wildfire	3-7/8-19	ABQ Metro Area	100 acres		Los Chaves to Rio Communities.
High Wind	3-6/7-19	N Sangre de Cristo Mts	56 kt	Gust	Kachina Peak wind gusts up to 64 mph.
High Wind	3/7/2019	Far Northeast Highlands	56 kt	Gust	Cimarron peak wind gusts up to 64 mph.
High Wind	3/7/2019	South Central Mts	43 kt	Sustained	Nogal sustained winds up to 50 mph.
High Wind	3/7/2019	Northeast Highlands	38 kt	Sustained	Las Vegas sustained winds up to 44 mph.
High Wind	3/7/2019	Raton Ridge/Johnson Mesa	58 kt	Gust	Des Moines peak wind gusts up to 67 mph.
High Wind	3/7/2019	Central Highlands	39 kt	Sustained	Clines Corners sustained winds up to 44 mph.
High Wind	3/7/2019	Central Highlands	53 kt	Gust	Clines Corners peak wind gusts up to 61 mph.
High Wind	3/8/2019	Southwest Mts	42 kt	Sustained	Red Hill sustained winds up to 48 mph.
High Wind	3/8/2019	N Sangre de Cristo Mts	66 kt	Gust	Kachina Peak peak wind gusts up to 76 mph.
High Wind	3/8/2019	ABQ Metro Area	60 kt	Gust	ABQ Sunport peak wind gust up to 69 mph.
High Wind	3/8/2019	Lower Rio Grande Valley	50 kt	Gust	WSMR peak wind gust up to 58 mph.
High Wind	3/8/2019	Sandia/Mazano Mts	36 kt	Sustained	Placitas sustained winds up to 42 mph.
High Wind	3/8/2019	Estancia Valley	41 kt	Sustained	Willard sustained winds up to 47 mph.
High Wind	3/8/2019	Central Highlands	57 kt	Gust	Clines Corners peak wind gusts up to 66 mph.
High Wind	3/8/2019	Central Highlands	40 kt	Sustained	Clines Corners sustained winds up to 46 mph.
High Wind	3/8/2019	South Central Mts	57 kt	Gust	WSMR peak wind gusts up to 66 mph.
High Wind	3/8/2019	South Central Mts	52 kt	Gust	Nogal peak wind gust up to 60 mph.
High Wind	3/8/2019	Northeast Highlands	50 kt	Gust	Las Vegas peak wind gust up to 58 mph.
High Wind	3/8/2019	Northeast Highlands	37 kt	Sustained	Las Vegas sustained winds up to 43 mph.
High Wind	3/8/2019	Guadalupe County	50 kt	Gust	Vaughn peak wind gusts up to 58 mph.
High Wind	3/8/2019	Quay County	56 kt	Gust	Tucumcari peak wind gust up to 64 mph.
Tstorm Wind	3/8/2019	Curry County	62 kt	Gust	Cannon AFB peak wind gust up to 71 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/>

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High Wind	3/8/2019	Curry County	50 kt	Gust	Cannon AFB peak wind gust up to 58 mph.
Tstorm Wind	3/8/2019	De Baca County	56 kt	Gust	Ft Sumner peak wind gust up to 64 mph.
High Wind	3/8/2019	Southwest Chaves County	51 kt	Gust	Dunken peak wind gusts up to 59 mph.
Heavy Snow	3-12/13-19	Chuska Mts	16"		Navajo Whiskey SNOTEL.
Heavy Snow	3-11/13-19	Jemez Mts	6-16"		Jemez Mountains.
Heavy Snow	3-11/14-19	San Juan Mts	12-19"		Higher terrain of eastern Rio Arriba County.
Heavy Snow	3-11/13-19	W Slopes Sangre de Cristos	4-22"		Tres Ritos to Questa.
Heavy Snow	3-11/14-19	N Sangre de Cristo Mts	20-40"		Red River to Taos Ski Valley.
Heavy Snow	3-11/14-19	S Sangre de Cristo Mts	32"		Higher terrain east of Santa Fe.
Heavy Snow	3-11/14-19	E Slopes Sangre de Cristos	15-25"		Mora to Gascon and Bobcat Pass.
Heavy Snow	3/13/2019	Upper Rio Grande Valley	4-6"		Valdez to Los Cordovas.
High Wind	3/13/2019	West Central Highlands	45 kt	Sustained	I-40 and NM-6 sustained winds up to 52 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	West Central Highlands	56 kt	Gust	I-40 and NM-6 peak wind gusts up to 64 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Santa Fe Metro Area	61 kt	Gust	Madrid peak wind gusts up to 70 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	E Slopes Sangre de Cristos	55 kt	Gust	Angel Fire peak wind gust up to 63 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	ABQ Metro Area	35 kt	Sustained	Double Eagle sustained winds of 40 mph.
Avalanche	3/13/2019	N Sangre de Cristo Mts			Near Taos Ski Valley.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Lower Rio Grande Valley	57 kt	Gust	WSMR peak wind gusts up to 66 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Lower Rio Grande Valley	38 kt	Sustained	Socorro sustained winds up to 44 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Sandia/Mazano Mts	56 kt	Gust	Manzano peak wind gusts up to 60 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Estancia Valley	53 kt	Gust	Moriarty peak wind gusts up to 61 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Estancia Valley	40 kt	Sustained	Moriarty sustained winds up to 46 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Central Highlands	69 kt	Gust	Clines Corners peak wind gusts up to 79 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Central Highlands	44 kt	Sustained	Clines Corners sustained winds up to 51 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	South Central Highlands	71 kt	Gust	WSMR peak wind gusts between up to 82 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	South Central Highlands	41 kt	Sustained	WSMR sustained winds up to 47 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Upper Tularosa Valley	55 kt	Gust	WSMR peak wind gust up to 63 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	South Central Mts	51 kt	Gust	Smokey Bear peak wind gusts up to 59 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Raton Ridge/Johnson Mesa	52 kt	Gust	Folsom peak wind gust to 60 mph.
Winter Wx	3-13/14-19	Raton Ridge/Johnson Mesa			U.S. 64 closed from Raton to Clayton.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Far Northeast Highlands	68 kt	Gust	Wagon Mound peak wind gusts up to 78 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Northeast Highlands	58 kt	Gust	Las Vegas peak wind gusts up to 67 mph.

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Event Type	Date	County/Zone Name	Magnitude	Type	Event Narrative
High Wind	3/13/2019	Northeast Highlands	58 kt	Gust	Las Vegas peak wind gusts up to 67 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Union County	56 kt	Gust	Sedan peak wind gusts up to 64 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Harding County	56 kt	Gust	Mills Canyon peak wind gusts up to 64 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	E San Miguel County	39 kt	Sustained	Conchas Lake sustained winds up to 45 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Guadalupe County	63 kt	Gust	Peak wind gusts up to 72 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Quay County	62 kt	Gust	Cargo train blown off bridge near Logan.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Quay County	49 kt	Sustained	Tucumcari sustained winds up to 56 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Curry County	69 kt	Gust	Cannon AFB peak wind gust up to 79 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Curry County	51 kt	Sustained	Clovis sustained winds up to 59 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Roosevelt County	61 kt	Gust	Dora peak wind gusts up to 70 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Roosevelt County	46 kt	Sustained	Dora sustained winds up to 53 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	De Baca County	58 kt	Gust	Peak wind gusts up to 67 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Chaves County Plains	59 kt	Gust	Roswell peak wind gusts up to 68 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Chaves County Plains	51 kt	Sustained	Roswell sustained winds up to 59 mph.
High Wind	3/13/2019	E Lincoln County	54 kt	Gust	Peak wind gust of 62 mph near Encinoso.
High Wind	3/13/2019	Southwest Chaves County	52 kt	Gust	Dunken peak wind gusts up to 60 mph.
Tornado	3/12/2019	Chaves County	EF-2		Near Hagerman to Dexter.
Hail	3/12/2019	De Baca County	1"		Quarter hail six miles west of Fort Sumner.
Tstorm Wind	3/12/2019	Quay County	52 kt	Gust	Tucumcari outflow wind gusts up to 60 mph.
Tstorm Wind	3/21/2019	San Juan County	54 kt	Gust	Peak wind gust up to 62 mph at Farmington.
Hail	3/21/2019	Sandoval County	0.75"		Penny hail in Rio Rancho.
Hail	3/22/2019	Union County	0.88"		Nickel hail north-northwest of Sedan.
Hail	3/22/2019	Santa Fe County	0.75"		Penny hail a few miles north of Madrid.
Hail	3/22/2019	Rio Arriba County	1"		Quarter hail reported in Espanola.
Hail	3/22/2019	Santa Fe County	1"		Nickel to quarter hail around Eldorado.
Hail	3/22/2019	Santa Fe County	1"		Quarter hail in Glorieta.
Hail	3/22/2019	Curry County	0.88"		Nickel hail near Bellview.
Hail	3/22/2019	Curry County	0.75"		Penny hail along NM-209 north of Clovis.
Hail	3/22/2019	Curry County	1"		Quarter hail near Broadview.
Funnel Cloud	3/22/2019	Roosevelt County			West of Portales.
High Wind	3/29/2019	Central Highlands	52 kt	Gust	Clines Corners peak wind gust to 60 mph.

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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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