

## PIREPs: You Can Help!

If you're a pilot, you can help the NWS and the aviation community by submitting **Pilot Reports**



(PIREPs). PIREPs include reports of flight level winds, cloud layers, turbulence, icing, or low-level wind shear, the location of the phenomena and the aircraft type that encountered it.

PIREPs can be submitted in-flight by contacting the nearest Flight Service Specialist or after landing by calling the AFSS or using the AWC Online PIREP Entry Form (QICP login required) at:

[https://aviationweather.gov/exp/pirep\\_submit/](https://aviationweather.gov/exp/pirep_submit/)

AOPA has an easy-to-use form to assist you:

<http://www.aopa.org/asf/publications/pirep.pdf>

## Important Websites

### National Weather Service-Amarillo, TX

**Home:** <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ama>

**Aviation:** <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ama/?n=aviation>

### Aviation Weather Center

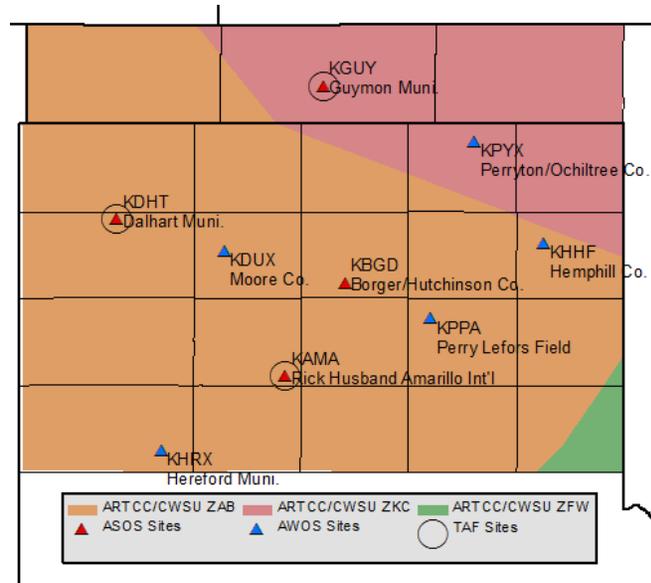
**Home:** <http://aviationweather.gov/>

**ADDS:** <http://aviationweather.gov/adds/>

### Center Weather Service Units

**ZAB:** <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/zab>

**ZFW:** <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/zfw>



### National Weather Service-Amarillo, TX

1900 English Road  
Amarillo, TX 79121

Phone: 806-335-1121

Email: [sr-ama.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-ama.webmaster@noaa.gov)

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ama>



# Amarillo, TX

## Aviation Services

Serving the Texas & Oklahoma Panhandles



## Why is Weather Important?

Weather plays a large role in aviation operations. Aircraft are most vulnerable to accidents during takeoff and landing. Adverse weather conditions can put the lives of passengers and crew at risk. Aviation in the United States is a multi-billion dollar industry. Takeoff/landing delays or ground closures due to the weather can have major impacts upon air traffic across the entire country. Being aware of the weather can help keep personnel safe and minimize the effects of adverse weather on aviation operations.



## NWS-AMA: Who We Are



The **National Weather Service (NWS) in Amarillo (AMA)** operates 24-hours a day, 7-days a week. Our office is located on U.S. Highway 60 on the north side of Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport, just northeast of Amarillo. We serve 20 counties in the Texas Panhandle and the 3 counties of the Oklahoma Panhandle.

Find us online:

**Home:** <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ama>

**Aviation:** <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ama/?n=aviation>

## Local Aviation Products

**Terminal Aerodrome Forecasts (TAF)** are forecasts valid within a 5-mile radius of an airport. At NWS-AMA, TAFs are issued at 00z, 06z, 12z, and 18z, and are updated as needed for Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport (KAMA), Dalhart Municipal Airport (KDHT), and Guymon Municipal Airport (KGUY). TAFs include 24-hour forecasts for

```
TAF
KAMA 011023Z 0110/0206 36030G40KT 6SM BLSN OVC015
TEMPO 0112/0116 1/2SM -SN BLSN OVC015
FM012200 36016G26KT P6SM OVC020=
```

surface wind speed and direction, visibility, significant weather, obstructions to visibility, sky coverage, cloud heights, and non-convective low-level wind shear.

**Area Forecast Discussions (AFD)** are issued along with the TAFs, and usually contain a section titled “AVIATION” that deal solely with the TAFs. This product is a narrative that describes the forecaster’s thoughts on the TAF, including confidence level.

**Aviation Weather Warnings (AWW)** are issued for Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport (KAMA) and Tradewind Airport (KTDW) for surface wind gusts of 40 knots or greater and for hail one-half inch or larger in diameter. AWWs are intended to provide support for the safety of ground operations, not in-flight operations.

Certified pilot briefings must be obtained through the Automated Flight Service Station (AFSS) by calling:

1-800-992-7433 (1-800-WX-BRIEF).

## Aviation Weather Center

The **Aviation Weather Center (AWC)** is located in Kansas City, MO, and provides weather forecast and hazard information for the entire National Airspace System. AWC forecasts include information on hazards such as convection, icing, turbulence, IFR (instrument flight rules) conditions, and volcanic ash. Some of this information can be found in Airman’s Meteorological Advisories (AIRMET) and Significant Meteorological Advisories (SIGMET).

AWC also maintains the **Aviation Digital Data Service (ADDs)**. ADDs is a new online weather information database developed by NOAA and the FAA. ADDs is FAA-certified as a Qualified Internet Communications Provider (QICP) and can be found online:

<http://aviationweather.gov/adds/>

## Center Weather Service Units

**Center Weather Service Units (CWSUs)** are co-located at each of the 21 FAA Air Route Traffic Control Centers (ARTCCs) across the U.S. The Meteorological Impact Statement (MIS) is a forecast of weather conditions expected to impact air traffic in the ARTCC’s airspace within 12 hours. The Center Weather Advisory (CWA) is short-term warning of hazardous weather conditions. The CWA is basically a more localized version of the AIRMETs or SIGMETs issued by the AWC. Portions of the Texas & Oklahoma Panhandles are covered by three different CWSU/ARTCCs: Albuquerque (ZAB), Kansas City (ZKC), and Fort Worth (ZFW).