

# February 2016 Weather Digest



# February 2016 Weather Summary

February started off with a bang and it looked like the El Niño pattern would pick up again. A strong Pacific storm moved in from the west and brought strong winds and mountain snow on the first day of the month. Snowfall of 3 to 6 inches was reported across many mountain areas. However this was to be the last precipitation of the month for most places. The Sacramento mountains did receive another quick shot of snow on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, with Cloudcroft reporting 2 inches. A quick look at the radar estimate of normal precipitation (see map below) reveals well below normal precipitation across all areas. This has led to a drought monitor of abnormally dry conditions, which often leads to a more sustained drought.

Also “un El Niño like”-were temperatures. High temperatures most places about 4 to 5 degrees above normal, while low temperatures were mostly near normal. The El Niño pattern is forecast to continue one or two more months before slowly turning back towards a La Niña this coming fall. We really need to get some rain in March-otherwise we could be looking at the beginning of a drought heading into the monsoon season.

**Feb 1 Upper Valley**



**Feb 1 Anthony, TX**



**Feb 2 Santa Teresa, NM**



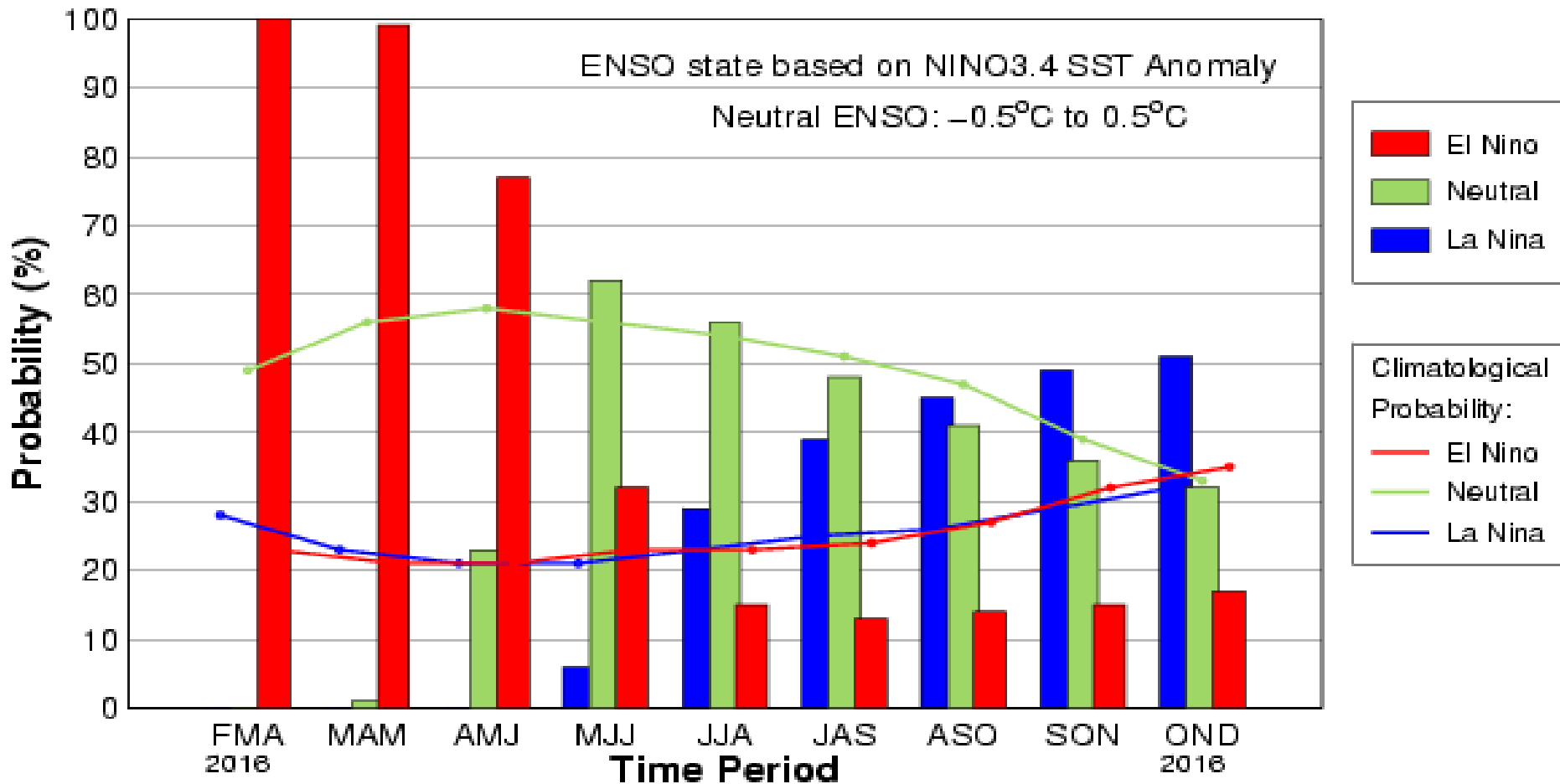
**Feb 2 El Paso, TX**



# ENSO Forecast from February 2016

EL NIÑO WEAKENING. GOOD POSSIBILITY OF GOING TO NEUTRAL THIS SUMMER AND THEN TURNING OVER TO LA NIÑA THIS FALL/WINTER

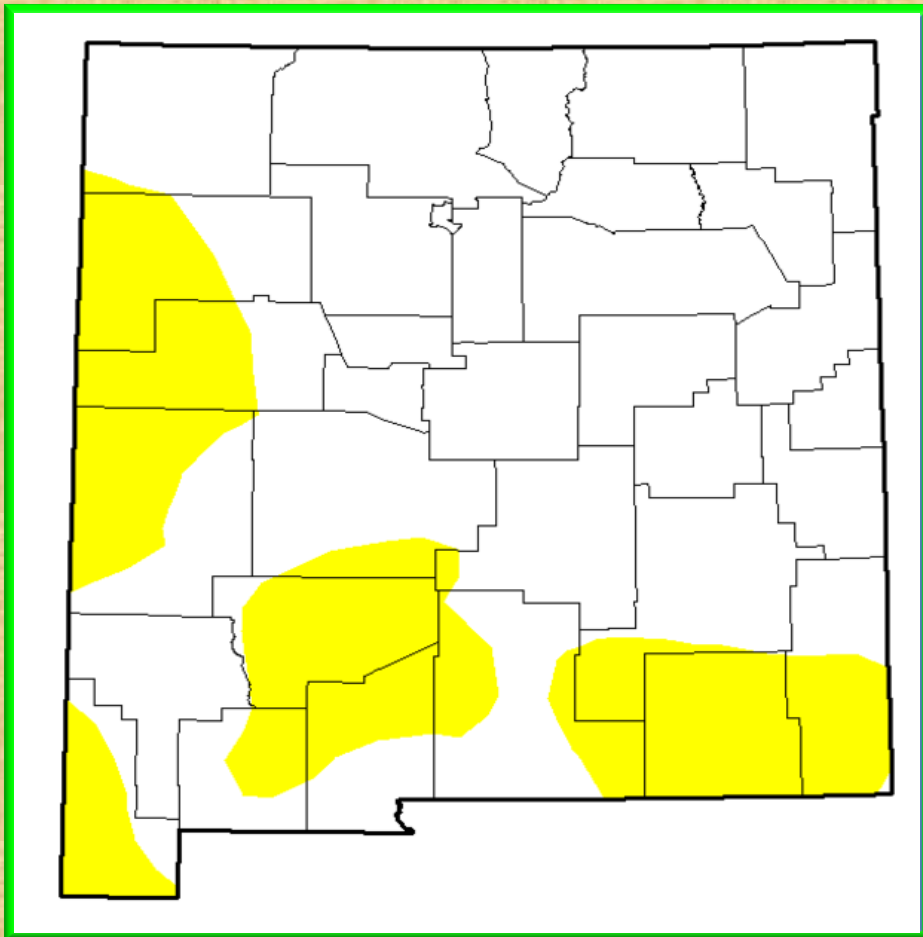
Mid-Feb IRI/CPC Model-Based Probabilistic ENSO Forecast



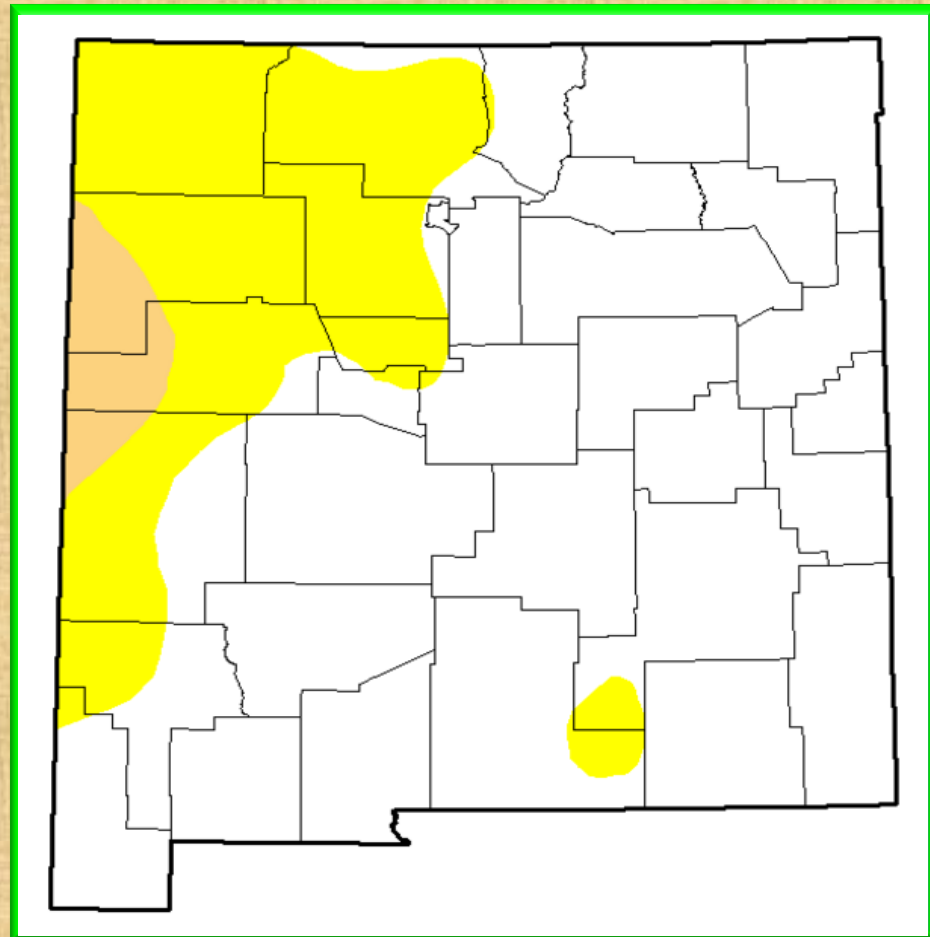
# Current drought conditions for New Mexico and 3 month change

- Abnormally Dry – D0
- Moderate Drought – D1
- Severe Drought – D2
- Extreme Drought – D3
- Exceptional – D4

**February 23, 2016**








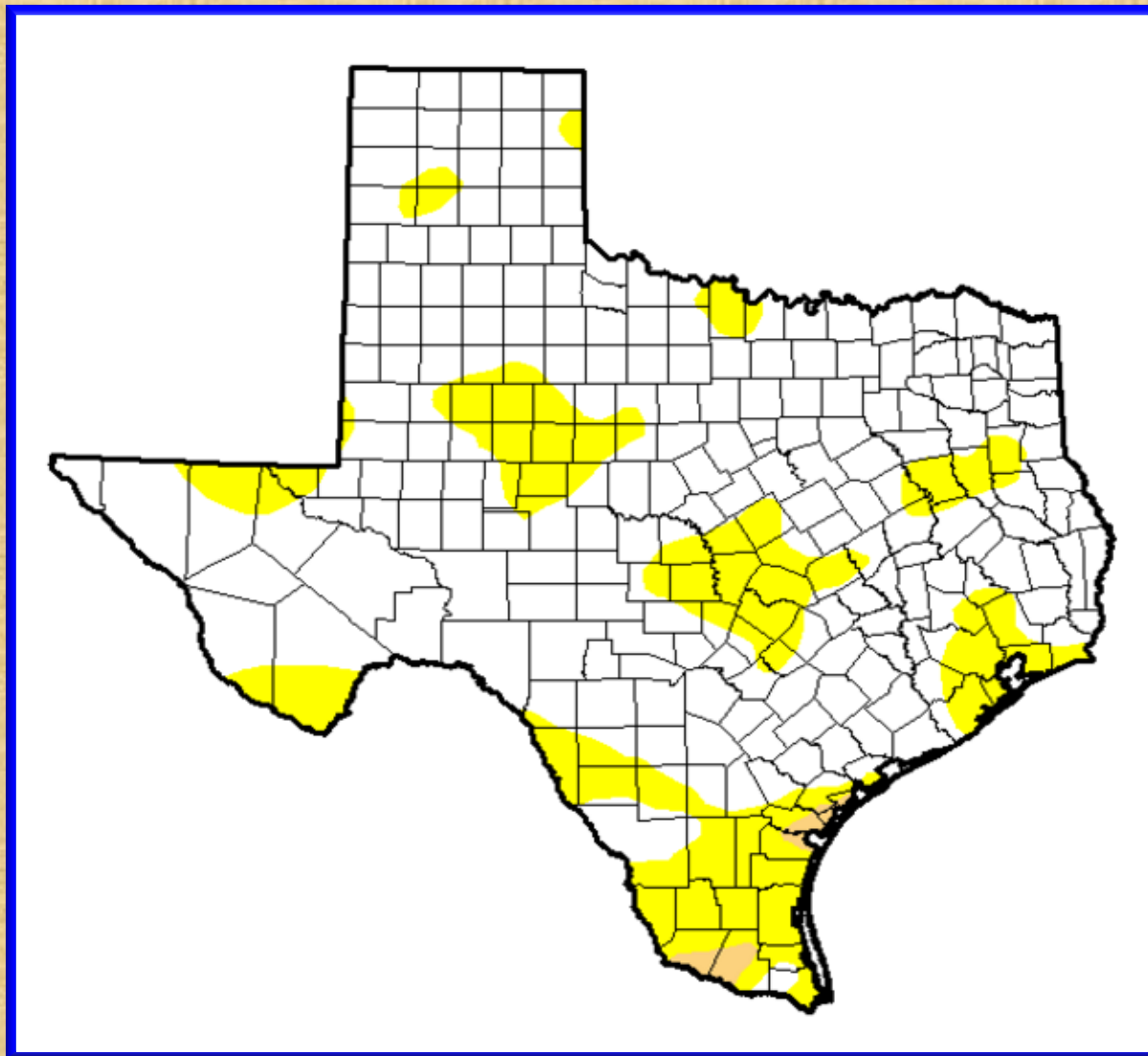
**November 24, 2015**



# Current drought conditions for Texas as of February 25, 2016

Intensity:

-  D0 - Abnormally Dry
-  D1 - Moderate Drought
-  D2 - Severe Drought
-  D3 - Extreme Drought
-  D4 - Exceptional Drought



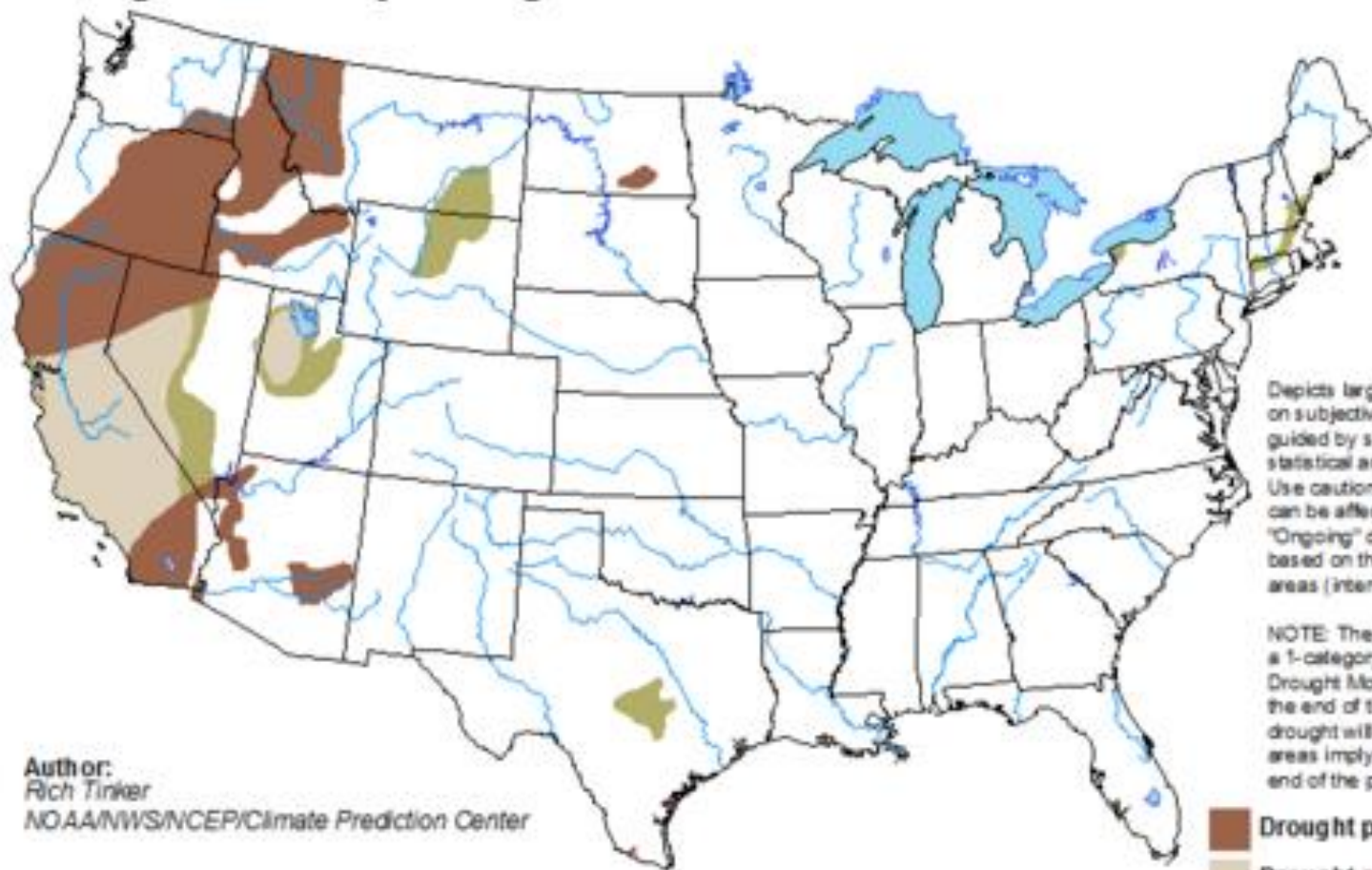
**Build your own custom slider maps here at:**

**<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/MapsandData/ComparisonSlider.aspx>**

# U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

## Drought Tendency During the Valid Period





Valid for February 18 - May 31, 2016  
Released February 18, 2016



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

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Rich Tinker  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

-  Drought persists
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely

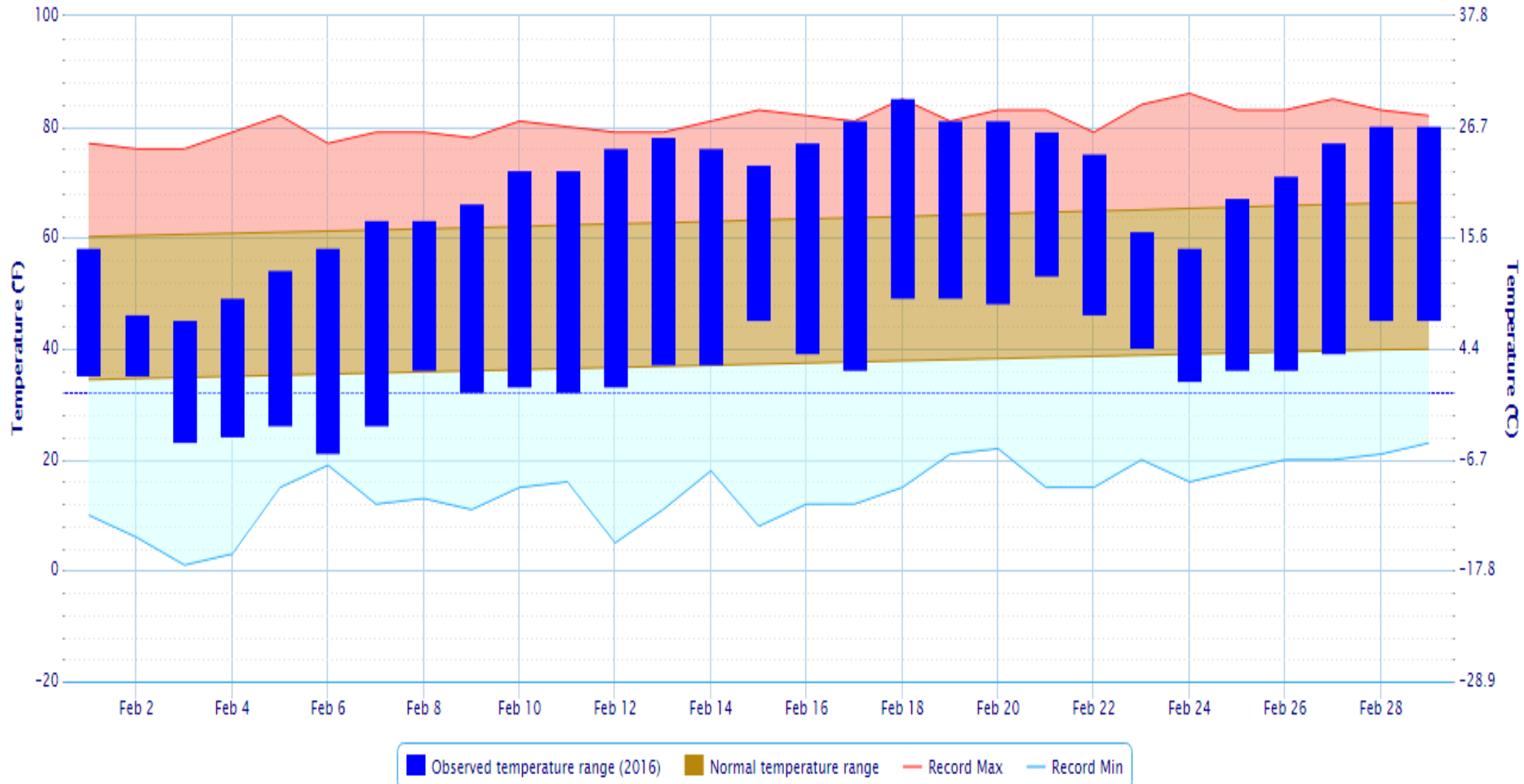


<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

# Daily temperature data for February 2016 in El Paso

Daily Temperature Data - El Paso Area, TX (ThreadEx)

Period of Record - Max temperature: 1887-01-01 to 2016-02-29; Min temperature: 1879-01-01 to 2016-02-29. Normals period: 1981-2010. Click and drag to zoom chart.

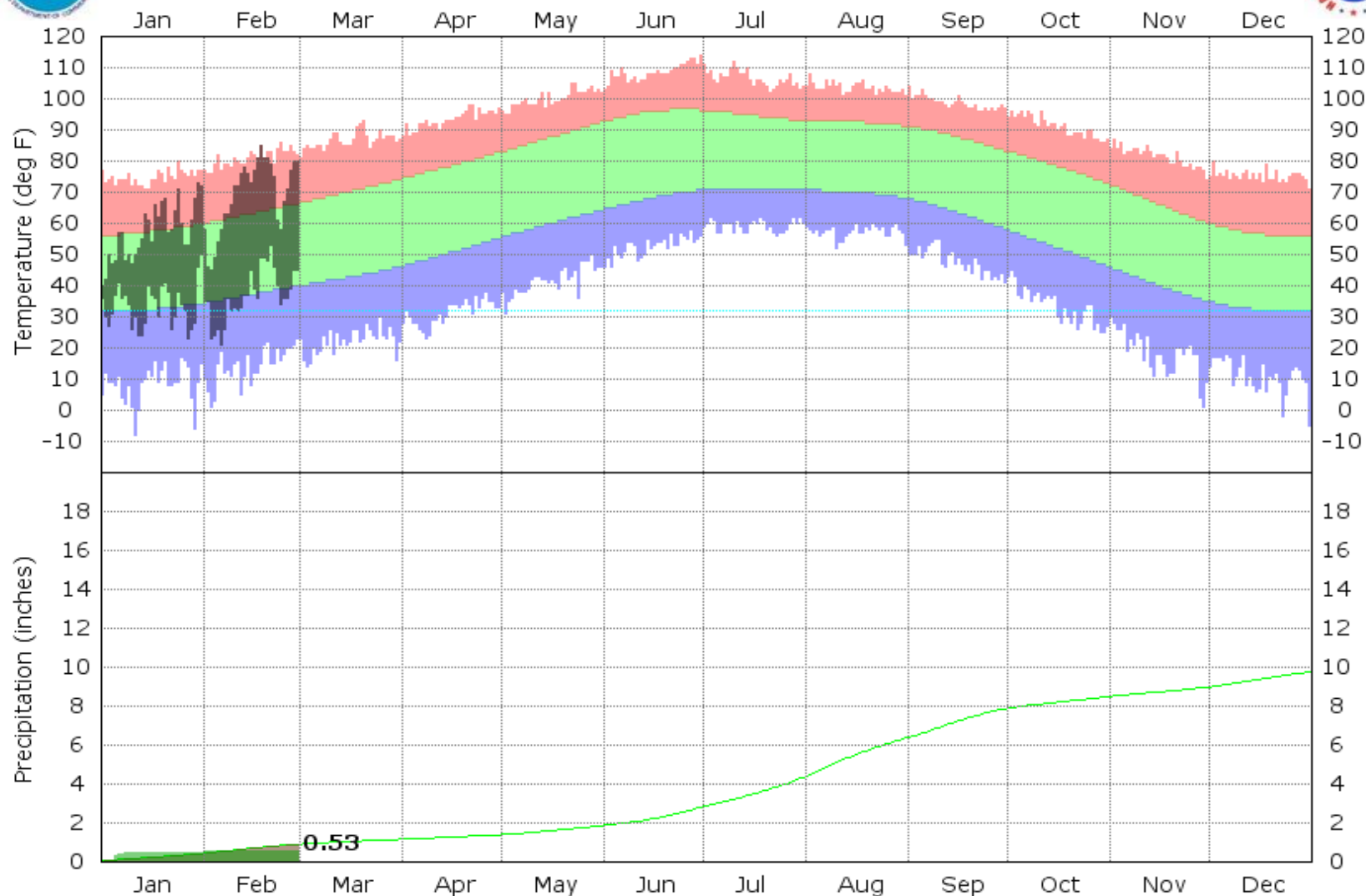




# Daily temperature/precipitation data for February in El Paso



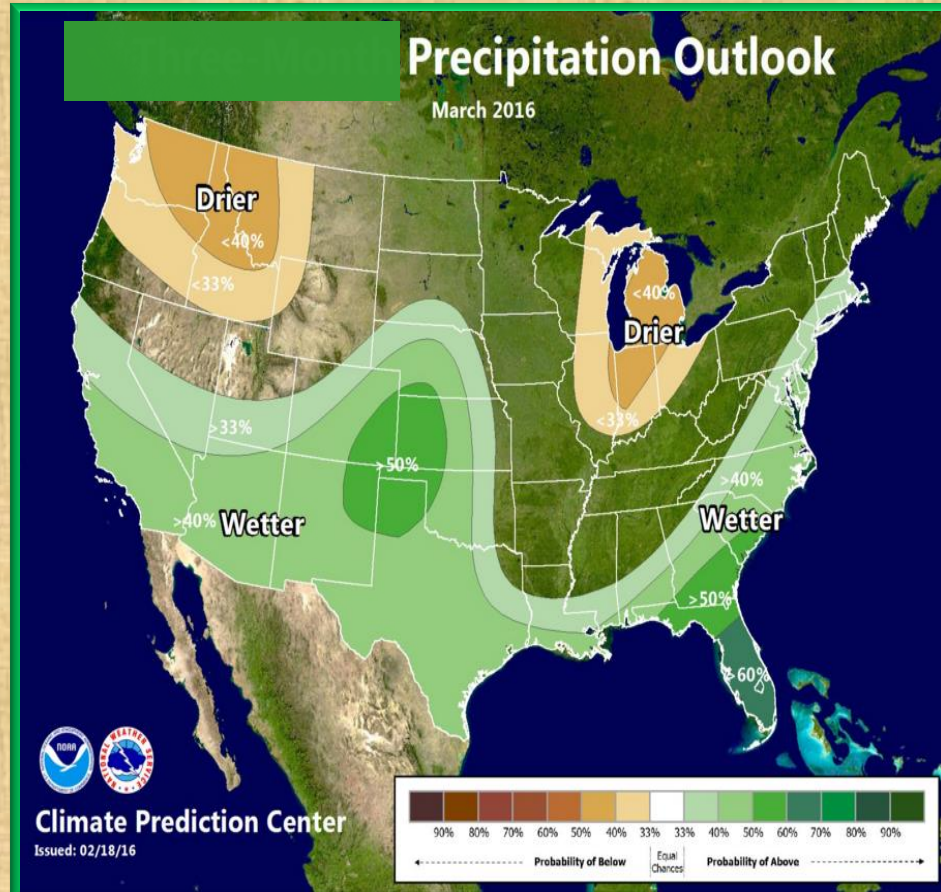
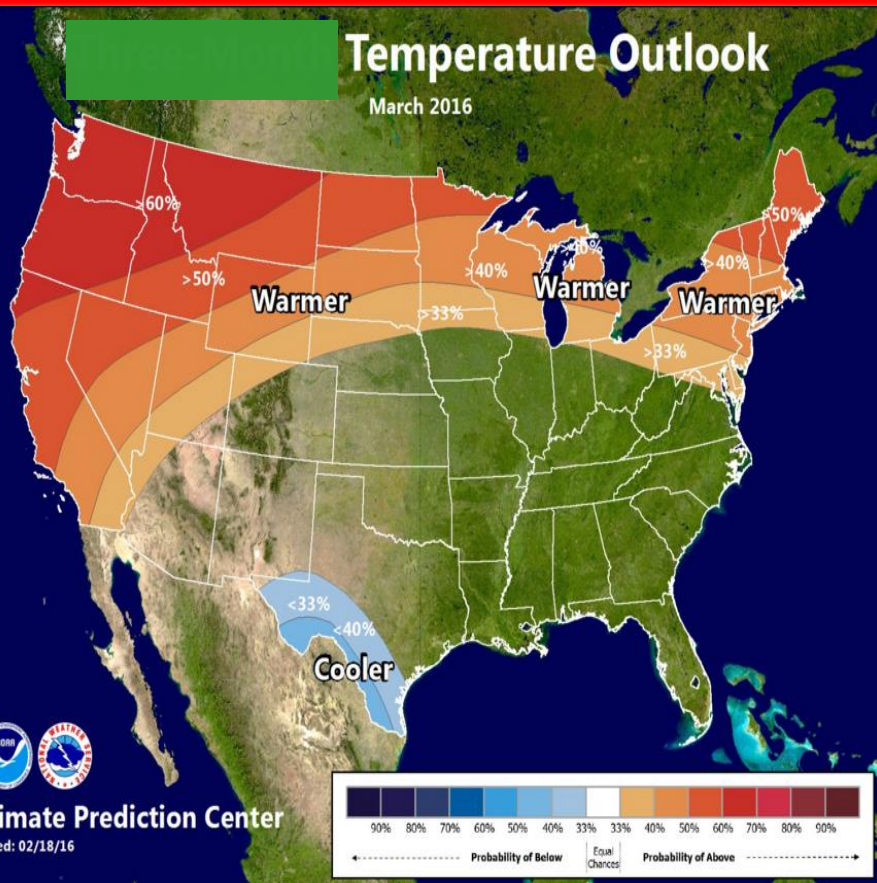
## El Paso TX - 2016



# Temperature and precipitation outlook for March 2016

## Temperature

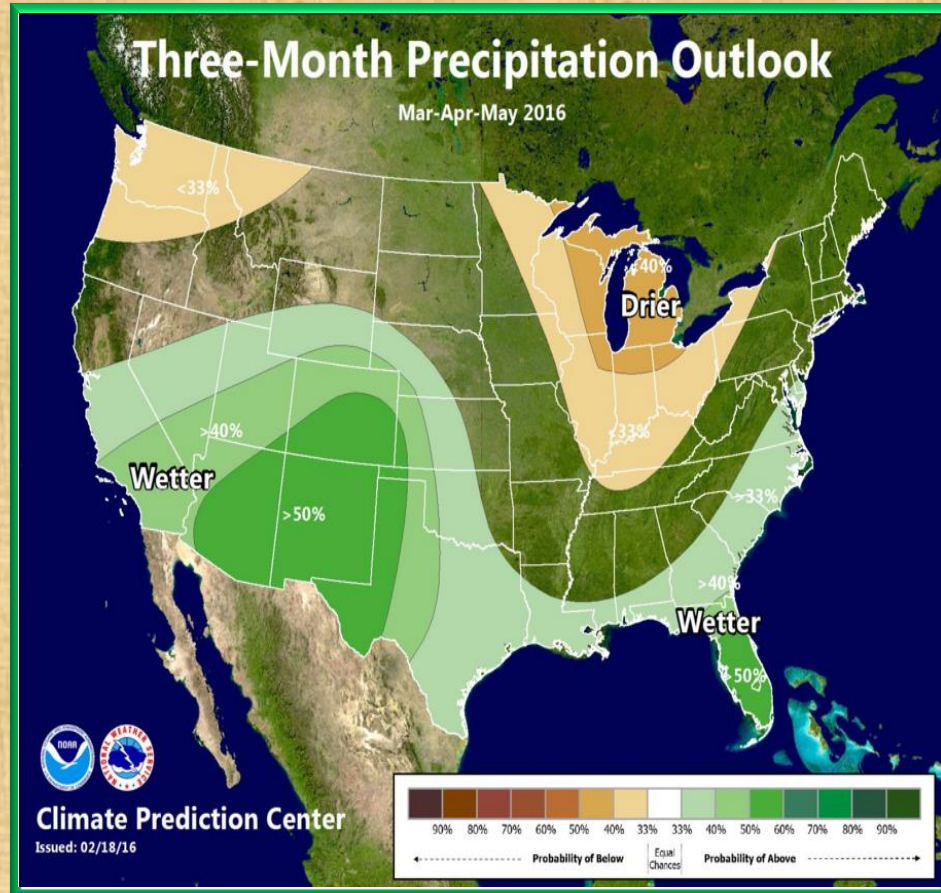
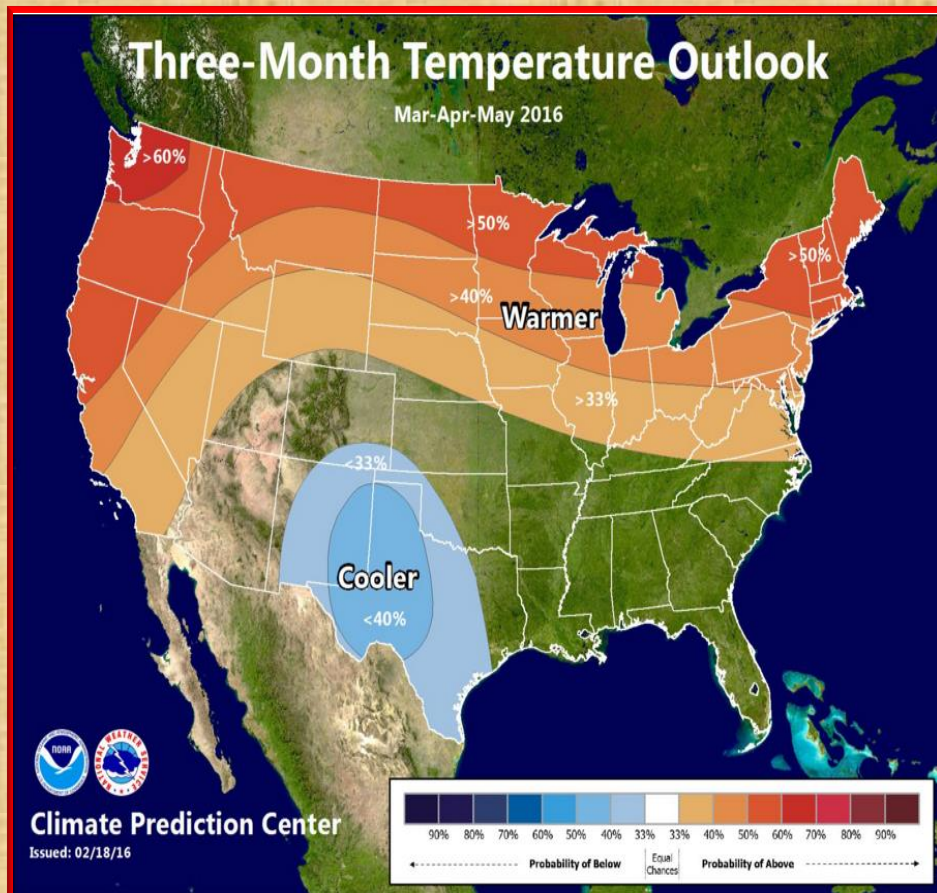
## Precipitation



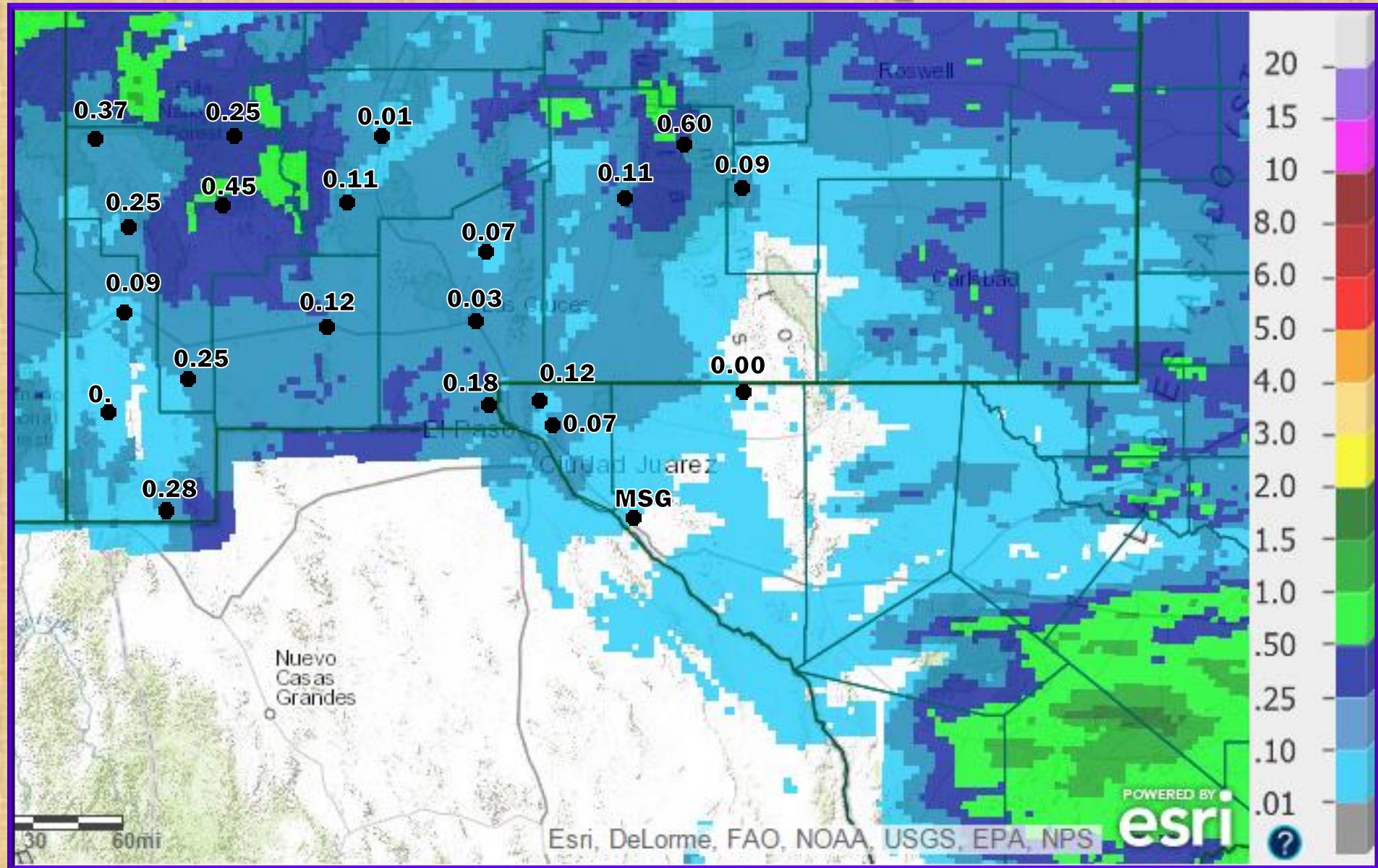
# Temperature and precipitation outlook for Mar - May 2016

## Temperature

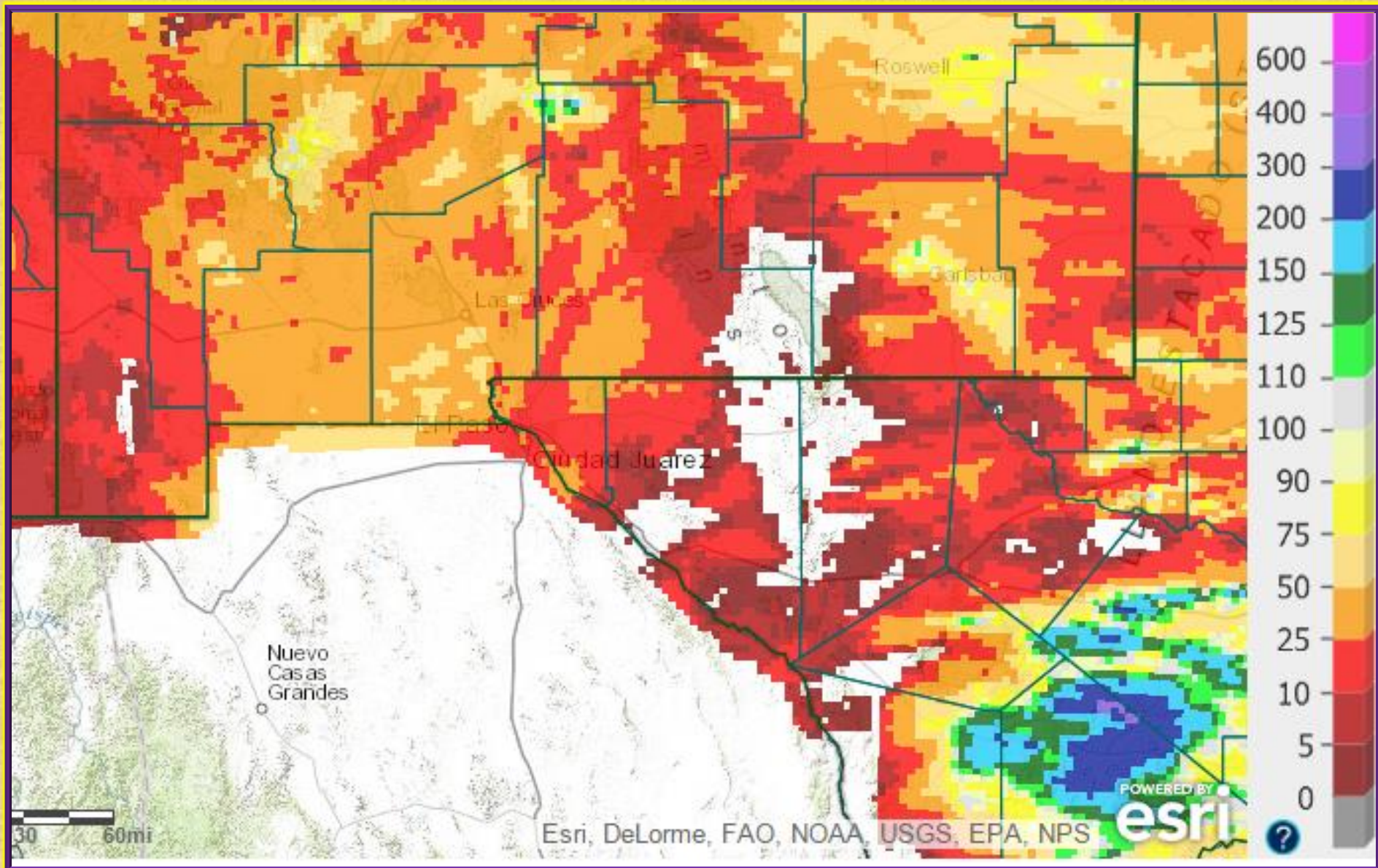
## Precipitation



# February 2016 radar rainfall estimate with surface rainfall reports

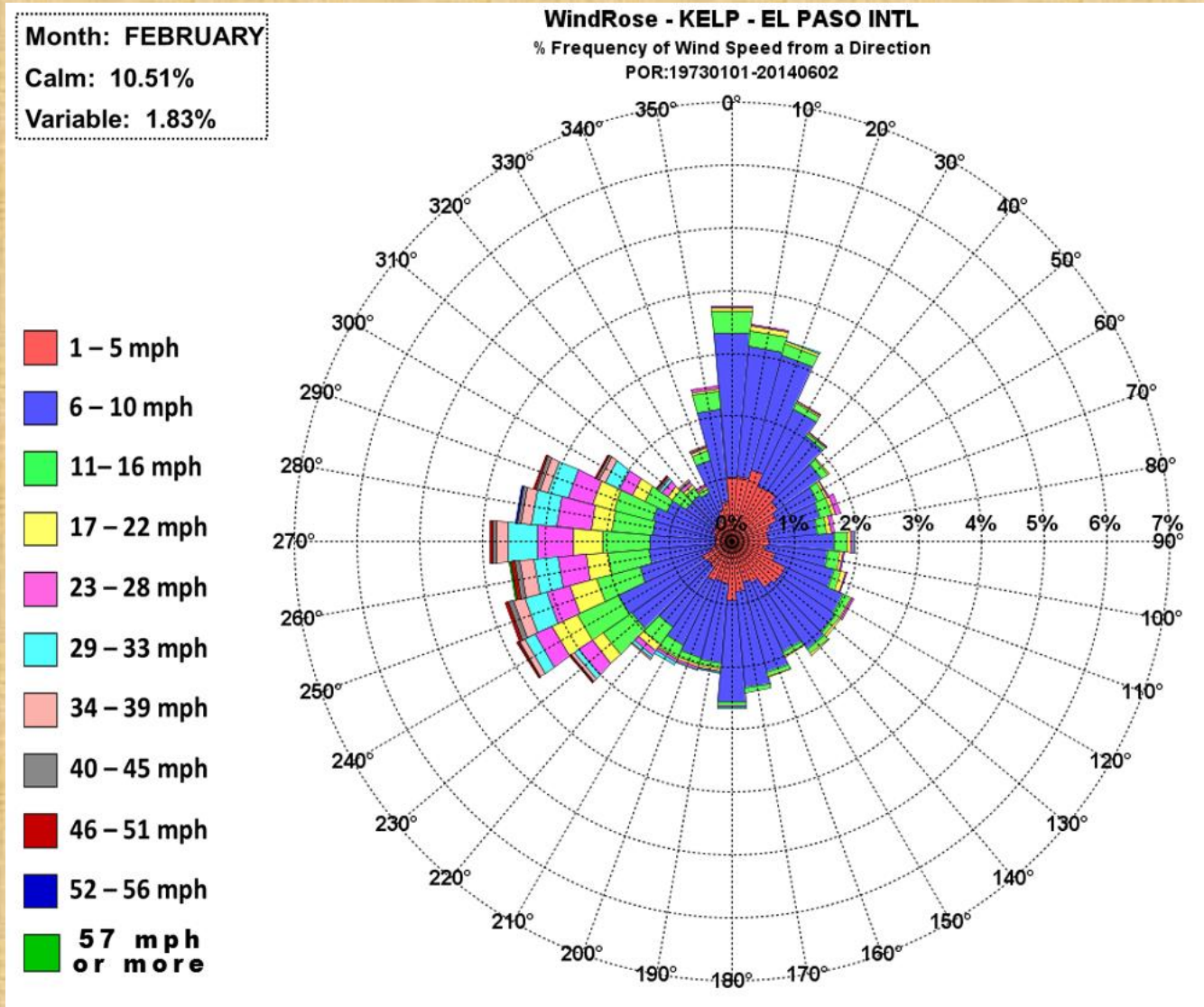


# February 2016 Radar Rainfall Estimate (Percent of normal)



# Special Features

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/epz/?n=elpwindrosedata>



# Selected weather reports February 2016

| <b>Date/Time</b> | <b>Location (County)</b>    | <b>Event</b>     |
|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 02/01/16 600 AM  | SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DOÑA ANA  | 95 MPH PEAK WIND |
| 02/01/16 330 AM  | WSMR MAIN POST-DOÑA ANA     | 64 MPH PEAK WIND |
| 02/01/16 205 AM  | TULAROSA 20NW-OTERO         | 63 MPH PEAK WIND |
| 02/01/16 600 AM  | DEMING 2SE-LUNA             | 57 MPH PEAK WIND |
| 02/01/16 440 AM  | HACHITA 15SW-HIDALGO        | 56 MPH PEAK WIND |
| 02/01/16 1259 AM | REDROCK-GRANT               | 54 MPH PEAK WIND |
| 02/01/16 301 AM  | ORGAN 11 NE-DOÑA ANA        | 53 MPH PEAK WIND |
| 02/01/16 106 PM  | PIÑOS ALTOS-GRANT           | 5 INCHES OF SNOW |
| 02/22/16 324 PM  | TWIN PEAKS-DOÑA ANA         | 57 MPH           |
| 02/22/16 435 PM  | LAS CRUCES AIRPORT-DOÑA ANA | 52 MPH           |
| 02/22/16 359 PM  | REDROCK-GRANT               | 44 MPH           |
| 02/22/16 454 PM  | ROAD FORKS-HIDALGO          | 48 MPH           |
| 02/22/16 400 PM  | 2 SE DEMING-LUNA            | 47 MPH           |
| 02/22/16 353 PM  | 4 SE TULAROSA-OTERO         | 58 MPH           |
| 02/22/16 230 PM  | 25 E ENGLE-SIERRA           | 69 MPH           |

# Selected weather reports February 2016

| <b>Date/Time</b> | <b>Location (County)</b> | <b>Event</b> |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| 02/22/16 425 PM  | NE EL PASO-EL PASO       | 58 MPH       |
| 02/22/16 601 PM  | HORIZON CITY-EL PASO     | 51 MPH       |