

Weather Bureau/National Weather Service History in Arizona

Location	Type	Years	Details
Flagstaff	WBO WBAS WSO WFO	1943-present	A Weather Bureau office opened at the Post Office building in June 1943, then moved to the municipal airport (now Pulliam Airport) in January 1950. Office operations dropped to 8 hours a day in April 1981, but later expanded back to 16 hours. In 1998, the office staff and focus was expanded as part of the NWS modernization, going to 24 hour operations and taking over upper-air duties from the Winslow office.
Payson	WBO	1945-1952	A Weather Bureau station opened in November 1945, but dropped down to part-time status the following January. It resumed 24-hour operations in July 1948, before permanently closing in May 1952.
Phoenix	SigSvc WBO WBAS WSO WSFO WFO	1876-present	The Signal Service commenced operations in Phoenix in January 1876, with the Weather Bureau taking over in 1891. The city office remained downtown until 1953. An airport station was established in May 1933 at Sky Harbor Airport, but closed in 1935 before being reactivated in 1939; the two offices were combined at the airport October 1953. Pilot balloons were released beginning in 1930, continuing until 1966. The office was upgraded to a Weather Service Forecast Office in June 1971, and became a Weather Forecast Office as part of the modernized NWS in the 1990's and moved to the Salt River Project administration building in Tempe.
Prescott	WBAS WBO	1942-1964	A Weather Bureau Airport Station was established at Love Field 8/8/1942. The station operated part time much of this period, with personnel from the CAA/FAA staffing the other times. The station was closed 12/31/1964.
St. Johns	WBAS	1944-1945	A Weather Bureau Airport Station operated at Saunders Airport from June 1944 through the end of 1945.
Tucson	SigSvc WBO WBAS WSO WSCMO WFO	1875-1880, 1891-1895, 1932-1934, 1940-present	The Signal Service opened a station in Tucson in October 1875, although the Army had been taking observations in the area since 1866. This station closed in 1880; a Weather Bureau station was established in October 1891 at the University of Arizona, but it closed in 1895. In 1932, a Weather Bureau Airport Station was established at Tucson Municipal (now International) Airport, but was transferred to the CAA for a period from 1934-1940. Upper-air observations began in March 1956. A WSR-74C radar was commissioned in January 1983, and decommissioned after a WSR-88D was installed in the area in the 1990's. The office itself was relocated to the University of Arizona campus in February 1997, and the office was upgraded to a Weather Forecast Office. A contract meteorological observatory remained behind at the airport to conduct upper-air observations until 2004, when the function was also moved to the university campus.
Winslow	WBAS WBO WSO	1931-1998	A Weather Bureau Airways Station opened up at the end of October 1931. Rawinsonde observations were begun in November 1961. In 1998, an ASOS was commissioned and the upper air program was transferred to the Flagstaff office, and the Winslow office was closed.
Yuma	SigSvc WBO WBAS WSO	1875-1998	Signal Service operations began at Fort Yuma in October 1875, with the Weather Bureau taking over in July 1891. The office was moved to the Yuma County Airport in 1948, sharing observing responsibilities from the CAA. The office was closed in 1998.

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