Climate and Weather Summary for February 2018

Temperatures for the month averaged above below normal at San Angelo, and below normal at Abilene. Table 1 summarizes February 2018 temperature, precipitation, and departure from normal for Abilene and San Angelo.

Site	Average Temperature (°F)	Departure from Normal (°F)	Normal Average Temperature (°F)	Total Precipitation (ln.)	Departure from Normal (In)	Normal February Precipitation (In.)	Total Snowfall (In.)
Abilene	47.5°	-1.1°	48.6°	2.41	1.05"	1.36"	0.5"
San Angelo	52.8°	2.5°	50.3°	1.36"	0.01"	1.35"	Trace

Table 1: February Climate Data for Abilene and San Angelo.

Additional temperature and precipitation data for Abilene and San Angelo is summarized in Table 2.

Site	Warmest High Temperature (°F)	Warmest Low Temperature (°F)	Coldest High Temperature (°F)	Coldest Low Temperature (°F)	Maximum Daily Precipitation (In.)
Abilene	82° on Feb. 15	61° on Feb. 15	32° on Feb. 22	16° on Feb. 5	1.13" Feb. 20
San Angelo	84° on Feb. 20	63° on Feb. 19	40° on Feb. 22	21° Feb. 8, 12	1.02" Feb. 21

Table 2: Additional February Climate Data for Abilene and San Angelo.

- Monthly precipitation was near normal at San Angelo, and well-above normal at Abilene.
- Monthly temperature range (from warmest high temperature to coldest low temperature) was 66 degrees at Abilene and 63 degrees at San Angelo.
- At Abilene, a new record high minimum temperature of 61 degrees was set on Feb. 15. In addition, new daily records for precipitation were set on Feb. 20 (1.13 inches), and on Feb. 21 (1.10 inches).
- At San Angelo, new record high minimum temperature of were set on Feb. 16 (61 degrees), and on Feb. 19 (63 degrees).

A map of total precipitation for February is shown in Figure 1. Percentage of normal precipitation for February is shown in Figure 2.

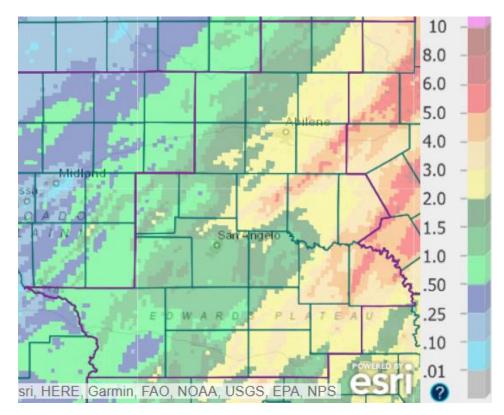


Figure 1: Total Precipitation for February.

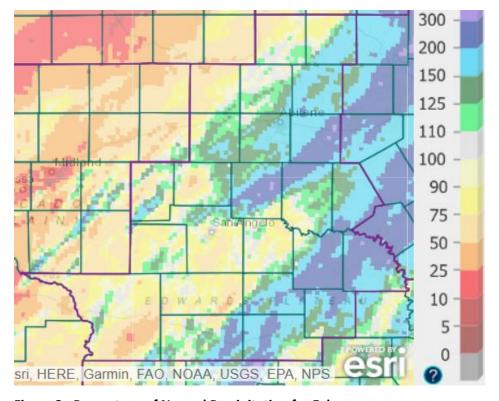


Figure 2: Percentage of Normal Precipitation for February.

February precipitation varied from below to well-above normal. The monthly precipitation was well-above normal (light blue, dark blue and purple shading in Figure 2) across much of the <u>eastern Big</u> <u>Country, northeastern Concho Valley, Heartland and Northwest Hill Country areas</u>, where the amounts were more than 2 inches (yellow, beige, orange and red shading in Figure 1). The lowest precipitation amounts (less than one-half inch) occurred across mainly far western parts of <u>west-central Texas</u>.

Much of the precipitation for the month occurred on Feb. 20-21.

Weather Highlights:

Dry conditions prevailed Feb. 1-13 with a couple of strong cold frontal passages. Patchy light freezing rain and sleet occurred on the 11th.

Temperatures were much warmer and spring-like during the middle of the month. Highs on Feb. 14-15 were in the 80-85 degree range at a number of locations. At San Angelo, new record high minimum temperatures were set on the 16th (61 degrees), and on the 19th (63 degrees). At Abilene, a new record high minimum temperature was set on the 15th (61 degrees).

The pattern was unsettled Feb. 18-22. Showers and thunderstorms affected various parts of the area, in association with upper level disturbances entering the area in southwest flow aloft. Temperatures were much colder following a strong cold frontal passage on the 20th. With an overrunning type of pattern, showers and thunderstorms occurred across much of west-central Texas on the 21st, mostly between Midnight and 2 PM. The precipitation was a cold rain across roughly the southern half of the area. The area from San Angelo to Brownwood received some freezing rain, resulting in a light coating of ice on trees and elevated objects. Farther north across the Big Country area, a mix of freezing rain and sleet occurred and resulted in icy road conditions and hazardous travel. At Abilene, new daily records for precipitation were set on Feb. 20 (1.13 inches) and Feb. 21 (1.10 inches).

Despite the winter weather, this precipitation event (Feb. 20-21) was beneficial to the area. Prior to Feb. 18, very little precipitation had occurred across west-central Texas since the beginning of the year.

Dry conditions resumed late in the month, with a warming trend in the daytime temperatures. Low-level moisture increased at the end of the month.

Additional Tabular and Graphical Daily Climate Data