

Climate and Weather Summary for March 2018

Table 1 summarizes March 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 (In.)	Departure from Normal (In)	Normal March Precipitation (In.)	Total Snowfall (In.)
Abilene	59.4°	3.0°	56.4°	1.47"	-0.27"	1.74"	0.0
San Angelo	62.6°	4.8°	57.8°	1.20"	-0.30"	1.50"	0.0

Table 1: March 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)	Coollest High Temperature (°F)	Coldest Low Temperature (°F)	Maximum Daily Precipitation (In.)
Abilene	88° on Mar. 25	60° Mar. 4, 24	60° Mar. 12, 28	29° on Mar. 7	0.87" Mar. 27
San Angelo	94° on Mar. 25	65° on Mar. 26	62° on Mar. 12	30° on Mar. 7	1.19" Mar. 27

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

- Monthly precipitation was below normal at Abilene and San Angelo.
- The average monthly temperature for March was above normal at Abilene, and well-above normal at San Angelo.
- At Abilene, no daily records were set in March with precipitation, or with maximum and minimum temperatures.
- At San Angelo, a new record high temperature of 94 degrees was set on Mar. 19.

A map of total precipitation for March is shown in Figure 1.

March Rainfall Totals Through: Mar 31 2018

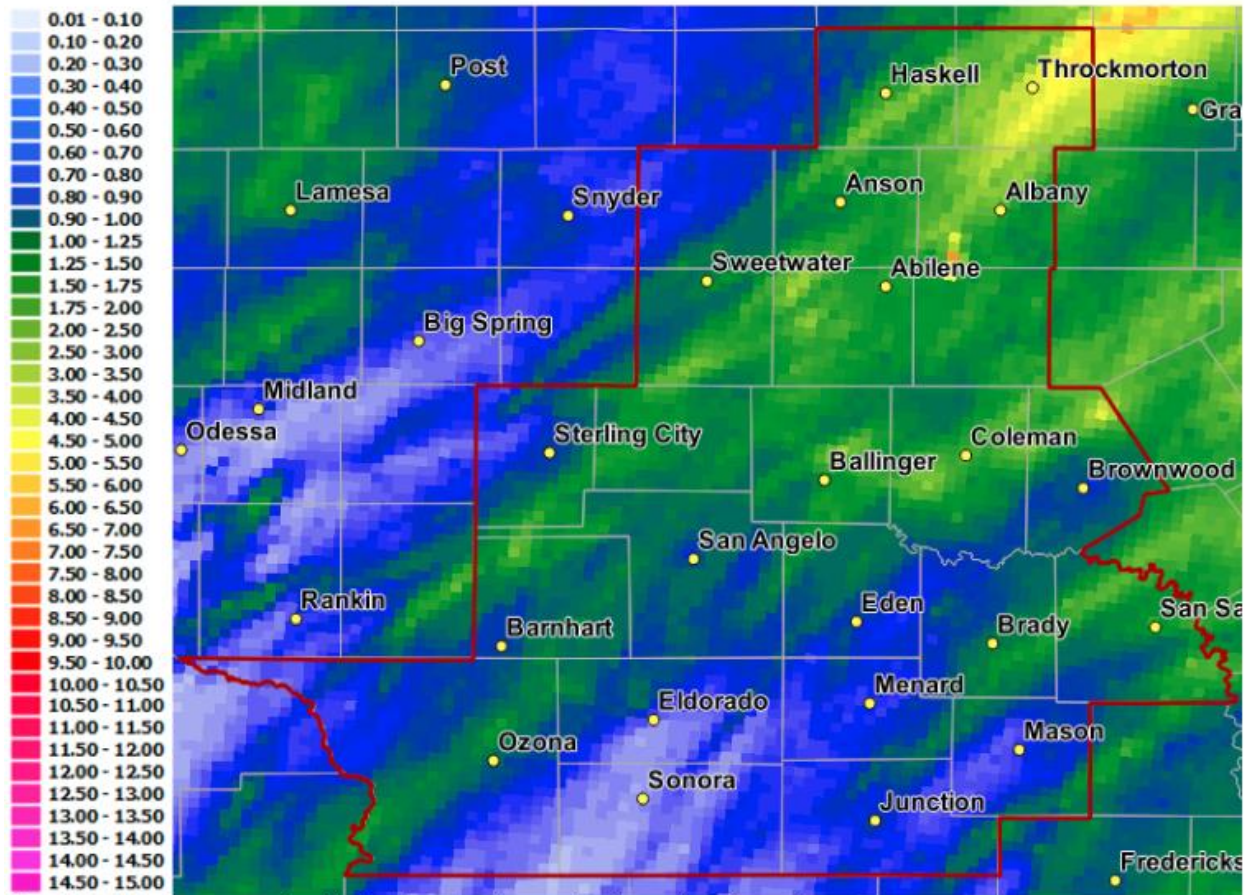


Figure 1: Total Precipitation for March.

Precipitation for March varied from less than one quarter of an inch (light blue shading) in parts of the [Northern Edwards Plateau](#), to more than 4 inches in northeastern Throckmorton County. Most of this precipitation occurred with a rain event on Mar. 26-27. For much of west-central Texas, March precipitation was below normal (not shown).

Weather Highlights:

With the combination of dry vegetation, lack of rainfall, and periodic gusty winds with low relative humidity values, a few grass and brush fires occurred during the first half of March.

Rather dry airmasses occupied west-central Texas during the early part of March. Temperatures fluctuated with a couple of cold frontal passages.

Very warm and dry conditions occurred on Mar. 10, following passage of a dryline. Afternoon temperatures reached the 85-90 degree range for highs, and relative humidity values dropped into the 5-15 percent range. With these conditions and somewhat gusty west winds, grass fires were reported in western Haskell and northern Brown Counties.

Much cooler temperatures and gusty north winds followed a strong cold frontal passage early on Mar.11. Afternoon highs ranged from the upper 50s across the Big Country area, to the mid 60s along the Interstate 10 corridor. Temperatures remained several degrees below normal through Mar. 13, with early morning lows in the 30s across much of the area.

Warm and extremely dry conditions occurred on Mar. 16, with mostly sunny skies and west winds. Highs were mostly 80-85 degrees, and afternoon relative humidity values dropped into the 5-10 percent range.

The pattern was [somewhat unsettled with a variety of weather occurring Mar. 17-19.](#)

Following a period of warm weather Mar. 16-18, temperatures were cooler on Mar. 19-20.

A warming trend, which began on Mar. 21-23 was accompanied by gusty south winds. Temperatures were very warm on Mar. 25, when highs were in the upper 80s to mid 90s across most of the area. A new record high of 94 degrees was recorded at San Angelo on the 25th.

A pattern change late in the month brought stormy and wet conditions to west-central Texas on Mar. 26-27. A [severe weather event occurred on Mar. 26](#), across parts of the northern half of west-central Texas. Additional showers and thunderstorms occurred across the area On Mar. 27. Some of the rainfall was heavy on Mar. 26-27. This was the most significant rain event in a little over a month (since Mar. 20-21), and was a short-term benefit for much of the area. Rainfall amounts for Mar. 26-27 are shown in Figure 2.

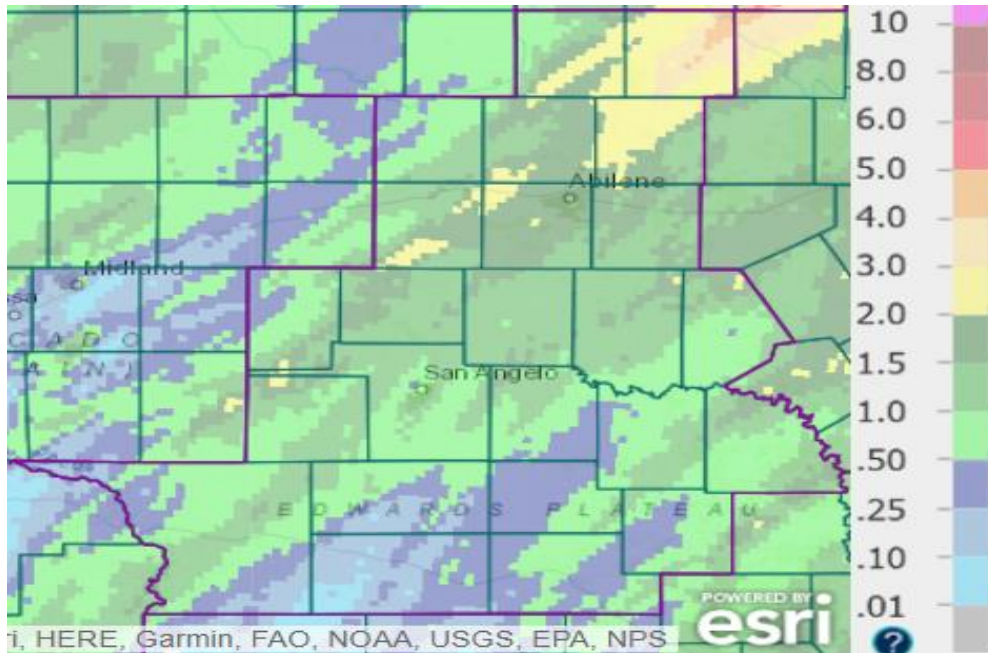


Figure 2: Rainfall for the 7-Day Period ending 7 AM (CDT) March 31.

The rainfall in Figure 2 occurred on Mar. 26-27. Some locations in Throckmorton County received 3-5 inches of rain. Other locations north and west of Abilene, and in the far western Concho Valley, received 2-3 inches (yellow shading). The lowest rainfall amounts (less than one half inch) occurred mainly in parts of the southern half of west-central Texas.

Temperatures were considerably cooler Mar. 27-28, followed by a warming trend during the last few days of the month. Gusty south winds occurred on Mar. 31.

[Additional Tabular and Graphical Daily Climate Data](#)