

Climate and Weather Summary for March 2019

Temperatures in March averaged below normal at Abilene and San Angelo. Precipitation was below normal at both locations. Table 1 summarizes March 2019 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.)
Abilene	54.2°	-2.2°	56.4°	1.29"	-0.45"	1.74"
San Angelo	55.1°	-2.7°	57.8°	0.66"	-0.84"	1.50"

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)	Coldest High Temperature (°F)	Coldest Low Temperature (°F)	Maximum Daily Precipitation (In.)
Abilene	85° on Mar. 24	60° Mar. 28, 29	31° on Mar. 4	19° on Mar. 4	0.62" Mar. 13
San Angelo	88° on Mar. 29	61° on Mar. 28	32° on Mar. 4	15° on Mar. 5	0.64" Mar. 13

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

- Abilene and San Angelo recorded no snowfall in march.
- A new daily rainfall record was set at San Angelo on Mar. 13.
- At Abilene, a daily record low maximum temperature was tied on Mar. 4.
- At San Angelo, a new daily record low maximum temperature was set on Mar. 4. A new daily record low temperature was set on Mar. 5.

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

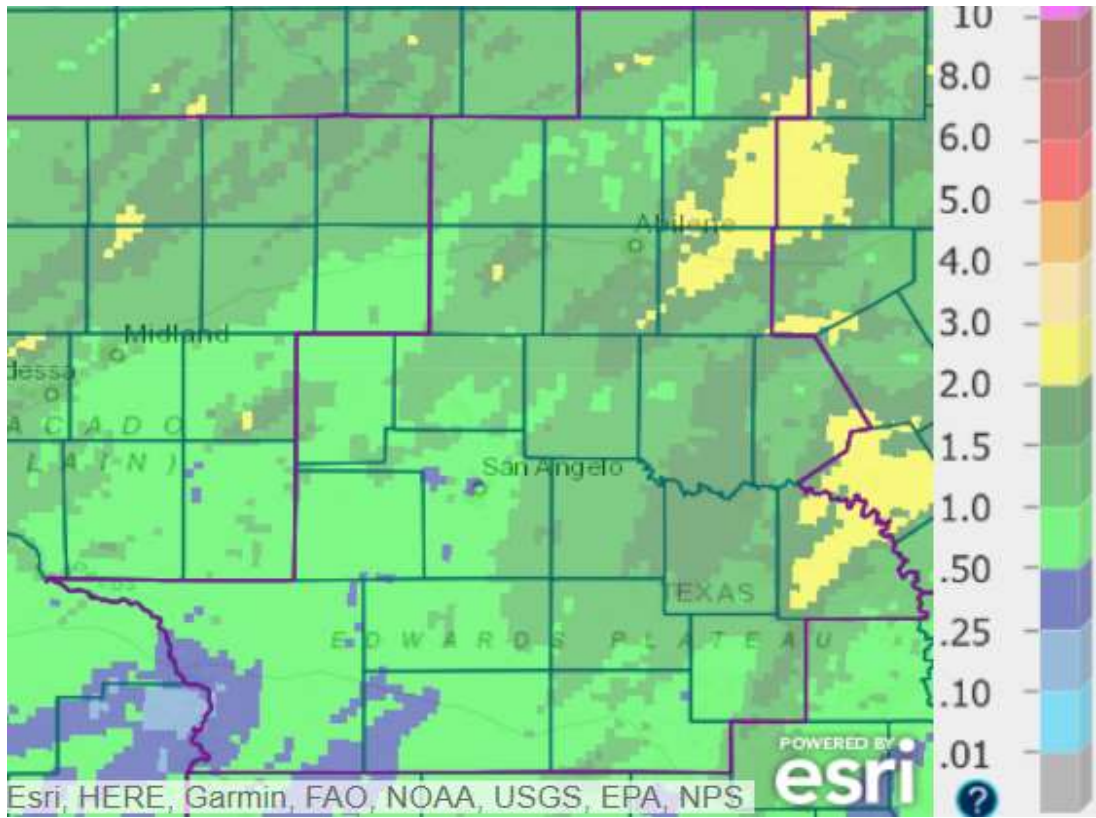


Figure 1: Total Precipitation for March.

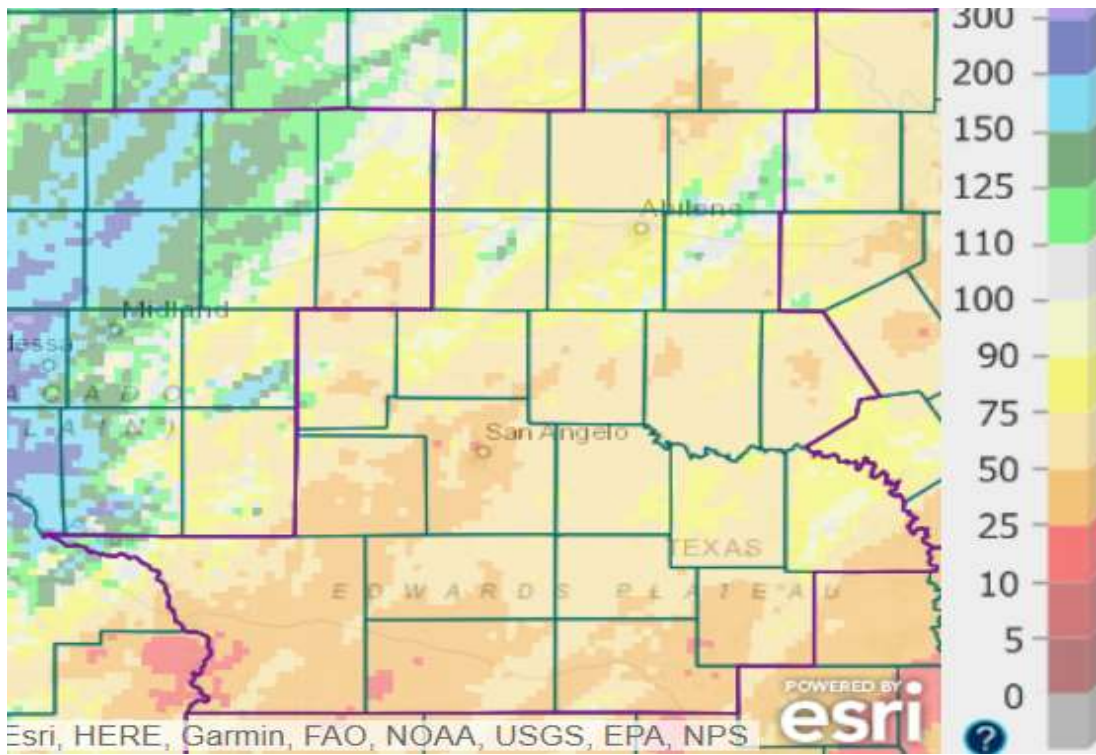


Figure 2: Percentage of Normal Precipitation for March.

Total precipitation for March varied from more than 2 inches (yellow shading in Figure 1) to less than one-half inch (dark blue shading in Figure 1). The monthly precipitation for March was below normal across much of [west-central Texas](#) (orange, tan, and yellow shading in Figure 2). The exception was at a few locations in the Big Country where the monthly precipitation was above normal (green shading in Figure 2).

Weather Highlights:

At the beginning of the month, temperatures were much warmer on Mar. 1 across the southern half of [west-central Texas](#), where highs were mostly in the 80-85 degree range. Colder air moved south into the area on March 2, behind a cold front. Temperatures were sharply colder on Mar. 3-4, as a very cold airmass plunged south into Texas. Highs on Mar. 4 were only in the upper 20s to mid 30s. Daily record low maximum temperatures were tied at Abilene (31 degrees) and newly set at San Angelo (32 degrees) on Mar. 4. Lows on Mar. 5 were in the teens across the area. San Angelo set a new daily record low temperature (15 degrees) on Mar. 5.

During the middle of March, a [significant severe weather event occurred on the 13th](#). With the approach of a potent upper level storm system from the southwestern part of the country and northern Mexico, strong and gusty south winds occurred on Mar. 12. Peak wind gusts were over 40 mph at a number of locations, including Abilene (49 mph) and San Angelo (49 mph). With the arrival of the upper level storm system and cold front into an unstable airmass, an intense squall line moved east across west-central Texas, during the post-Midnight hours of Mar. 13. The towns of Zephyr (Brown County) and Junction (Kimble County) sustained damage from embedded tornadoes within the squall line.

Strong, gusty southwest winds occurred during the afternoon hours on Mar. 13. This was in association with the upper level storm system tracking into parts of Colorado and Kansas, and the accompanying deepening and record low surface pressure (for March) across parts of northeastern New Mexico, the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles, and into Colorado and Kansas. Peak wind gusts were in the 40-60 mph range across the northern and much of the central parts of west-central Texas.

Quiet weather followed Mar. 14-20, with dry conditions and below normal temperatures. This was followed by a warming trend Mar. 21-24.

A few showers and thunderstorms occurred in central parts of west-central Texas on the evening of Mar. 22, and in the eastern Big Country on the early morning of Mar. 23. Where the showers and storms occurred, rainfall amounts generally varied under four tenths of an inch.

The quiet weather pattern continued late in the month. Temperatures were warmer and generally above normal. Warm temperatures on Mar. 29 were followed by windy and much cooler conditions Mar. 30. Highs were in the 80s across much of west-central Texas on Mar. 29. Afternoon temperatures on Mar. 30 were mostly in the mid to upper 50s. Gusty north winds followed passage of a strong cold front on Mar. 30. Peak wind gusts were over 40 mph at several locations in the Big Country, including Abilene. A light freeze occurred in parts of the northern Big Country (Haskell and

Throckmorton Counties) on the early morning of Mar. 31, when a high pressure system settled south into Texas. The chilly airmass remained over the area to close out the month.

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