

2026 KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS Information Packet



SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK

March 2-6, 2026

State Tornado Drill

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

10AM CST/9AM MST

(11AM CST for the EAX/SGF coverage area only)

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Check out a storm identification and weather safety training presentation near you this spring!

Each spring National Weather Service offices offer storm identification and weather safety training sessions in most counties in the state or virtually. The sessions are free and open to the public. Training sessions vary in each community, please check out www.weather.gov and click your location for more information on a training session in your area.

**KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS
WEEK MARCH 2-6, 2026**

2025 Kansas Tornado Overview

Tornadoes: 30 31 below the 1950-2025 average of 61
 49 below the past 30 year average of 79
 29 below the past 10 year average of 59

Fatalities: 0 **Injuries:** 0

Longest track: 32 miles (Pratt-Stafford-Reno, May 18th, EF3)

Strongest: EF3 (160 mph Pratt County on May 18th)

Most in a county: 5 (Kiowa County)

Tornado days: 12 (Days with one or more tornadoes)

Most in one day: 18 (May 18)

Most in one month: 18 (May)

First tornado of the year: April 1 (Ellsworth Co, 9:53 PM CST, EFU, 0.04 mile length, 20 yard width)

Last tornado of the year: September 14 (Butler Co, 4:15 PM CST, EFU, 0.33 mile length, 10 yard width)

Length of tornado season: 167 days (Days between first and last tornado)

2025 Monthly Tornado Totals

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	
EF5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
EF4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
EF3	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	23%
EF2	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	17%
EF1	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	10%
EF0	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	13%
Unknown	0	0	0	2	2	3	0	3	1	0	0	0	11	37%
Total	0	0	0	4	18	4	0	3	1	0	0	0	30	100%
Percent	0%	0%	0%	13%	60%	13%	0%	10%	3%	0%	0%	0%		

Violent (EF4–EF5) in red, Strong (EF2–EF3) in yellow, Weak (EF0–EF1) in green, Unknown in orange. Monthly totals in gray. Tornadoes not causing damage ranked as unknown due to insufficient data to assign a rating. (Percent values may not add to 100% due to rounding)

Annual Highlights: Kansas experienced an unusually quiet tornado year in 2025, reporting only 30 tornadoes, a sharp decrease compared to the 76 tornadoes documented in 2024.

The most intense tornado activity of the year occurred on May 18th when 18 tornadoes were reported. This outbreak included all seven of the year's strongest storms which were rated EF3 with estimated wind speeds between 140-160 mph. One tornado from this event had the longest track of the year spanning approximately 32 miles across Pratt, Stafford, and into Reno County.

The final tornado of 2025 was documented on September 14th in Butler County. Thankfully, no serious injuries or fatalities were reported across Kansas as a result of tornadoes during the entire year.

**KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK
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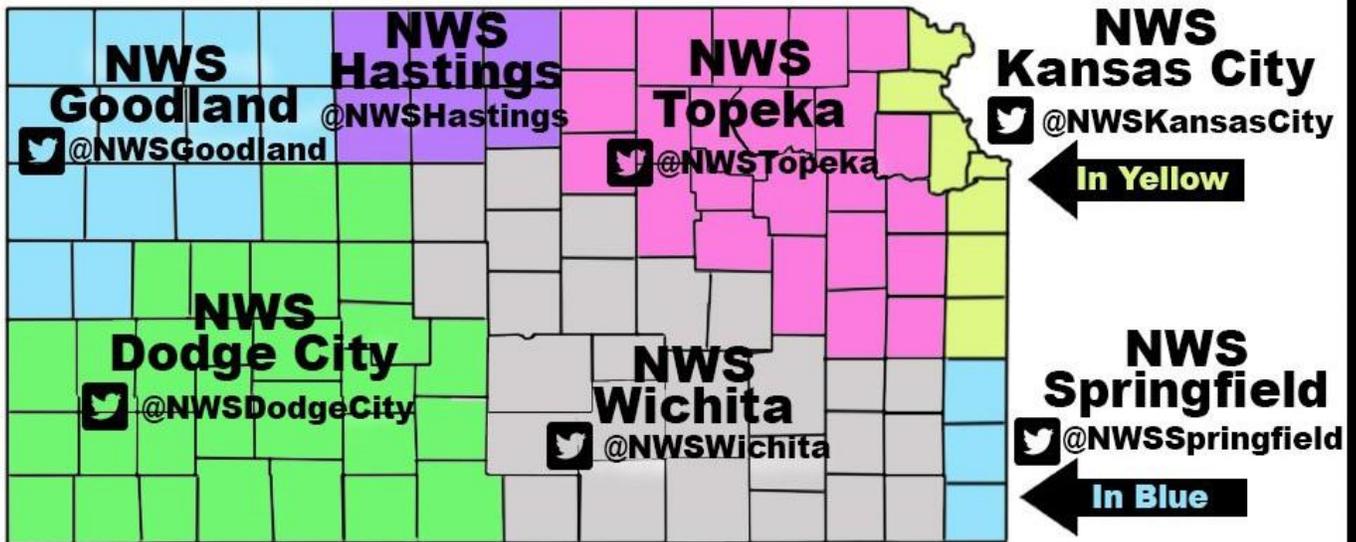
Did you know...

There are seven National Weather Service offices that serve portions of Kansas!

National Weather Service (NWS) offices serving Kansas are located in Goodland; Dodge City; Wichita; Topeka; Hastings, Nebraska; Pleasant Hill (Kansas City), Missouri; and Springfield, Missouri. Each office is staffed by a team of highly trained meteorologists, technicians, electronics technicians, information technology specialists, hydrologists, and administrative assistants. The NWS offices are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

Contact the NWS office in your area to learn more about weather, weather safety, NOAA Weather Radio, office tours, or to learn more about careers in meteorology in the NWS or in NOAA.

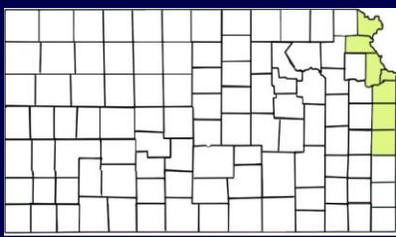
We are here to serve you!



The following pages contain 2025 weather summaries for each NWS office. Here is severe weather terminology you may encounter.

- **Severe Thunderstorm** – The National Weather Service issues severe thunderstorm warnings for storms that are currently or are capable of producing winds of 58 mph or stronger and/or hail one inch in diameter or larger. Severe thunderstorms are often much stronger than this minimum criteria, so it is a good idea to take severe thunderstorm warnings seriously.
- **Tornado** – A tornado is a violently rotating column of air in contact with the ground either as a pendant from a cumuliform cloud or underneath a cumuliform cloud, and it is often (but not always) visible as a funnel cloud. A funnel cloud is a condensation cloud typically funnel-shaped and extending outward from a cumuliform cloud and is associated with a rotating column of air that may or may not be in contact with the ground.
- **Flash Flood** – A flash flood is flooding that occurs very rapidly and usually within six hours of heavy rainfall. Flash flooding may occur along creeks, rivers or streams. It can also occur in low lying or urban areas where drainage is poor. Water levels can rise very quickly during flash flooding including locations that did not receive the heavy rainfall but are located downstream from areas that received an extreme amount of rainfall. Flash flooding can occur in the winter months when rain falls on existing snowpack and causes it to melt rapidly. Flooding is the number one severe weather killer in the U.S.

**KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS
WEEK MARCH 2-6, 2026**



2025 Weather Summary

Extreme East Central and Northeast Kansas

National Weather Service - Pleasant Hill, MO



76

**Severe
Thunderstorm
Warnings**



0

**Confirmed
Tornadoes**



Strongest Wind Gust:

76 mph

**May 19th - Gardner
July 17th - Olathe**



Largest Hail:

**Lime (2" diameter)
4 N Blue Mound
June 18**



**Hottest Temperature:
Olathe (IXD)**

97° F (8/08)



Most 100°+ Days

0



**Coldest Temperature:
Olathe (IXD)**

-9° F (2/20)



**Most 32° or Lower Days:
Gardner (OJC)**

26



**31.28" Most Annual
Precipitation:
Gardner (OJC)**



**Highest 1-Day Rainfall:
3.02" Gardner (OJC)
(July 17)**

[Check out these additional resources](#)

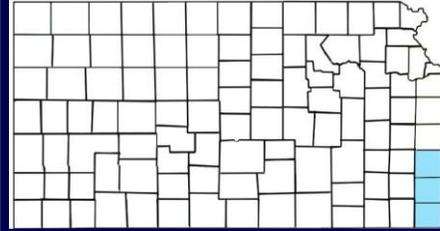
[Helpful Weather Websites](#) [Seasonal Safety Campaigns](#)

[Lightning Safety Toolkits](#) [StormReady Program](#)



2025 Eastern Kansas: By the Numbers

	<i>Gardner</i> <i>(Johnson County Executive Airport OJC)</i>	<i>Olathe</i> <i>(New Century Air Center IXD)</i>
<i>Hottest Temperature</i>	94° 7/16, 7/27, 7/29, 8/8, 8/18, 8/19, 9/12	97° 8/08
<i>Highest Heat Index</i>	107 Jul 27	109 July 27
<i>100°+ Days</i>	0	0
<i>Coldest Temperature</i>	-8° 2/20	-9° 2/20
<i>Lowest Wind Chill</i>	-24° Feb 20	-24° Feb 20
<i>32° or Lower Days</i>	26	25
<i>Annual Precipitation</i>	31.28"	30.27"
<i>Highest 1-Day Precipitation</i>	3.02" July 17	2.81" June 3



2025 Weather Summary

Southeast Kansas

National Weather Service – Springfield, MO



48

**Severe
Thunderstorm
Warnings**



Highest 2025 daily total: 9 on 5/19



1

**Confirmed
Tornadoes**
EF-1

*Lowell, Cherokee County
on 4/20*



Strongest Wind Gust:

**Measured 85mph
Baxter Springs
on 3/30**



Largest Hail:

**Hen Egg (2" diameter)
Bronson & Hammond
on 6/8**

**Hottest Temperature:
(Pittsburg)**



100 °F (8/19)

**Coldest Temperature:
(Fort Scott)**



-10 °F (2/21)



1

**Days of 100°+ High
Temperatures**



**49.56" Highest Annual
Precipitation:
Girard**

4.02" above normal for the year



**16.6" Highest Annual
Snowfall:
Girard**

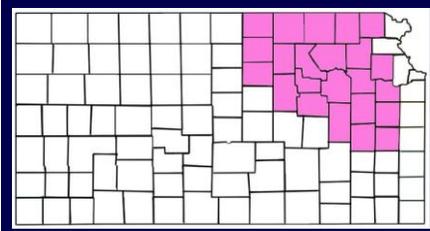
10.4" above normal for the year



**Highest 1-Day Rainfall:
4.90" Pittsburg on 4/30**



**Highest 1-Day Snowfall:
6.2" in Devon on 1/10**



2025 Weather Summary

Northeast and East Central Kansas

National Weather Service - Topeka, KS



177

**Severe
Thunderstorm
Warnings**



2

**Confirmed
Tornadoes**

5th Fewest Since 2007

Highest daily total: 30 on 5/19

Both EF-0

3rd Fewest On Record

Strongest Measured

Wind Gust:

91mph

Ottawa Co. 6/17

Largest Hail:

**Baseball (2.75" diameter)
Dickinson Co. on 4/28.**



Topeka Hottest Temperature

99° F (8/8)



0

**Topeka Days of
100°+ High
Temperatures**

*Heat Indices 103° to 111°
nearly half of July*



Topeka Coldest Temperature

-13° F (2/20)



**31.31" Topeka Total
Precipitation**

*5.22" below normal for the year
(Jan. through Dec.)*



**30.5" Topeka Total
Snowfall**

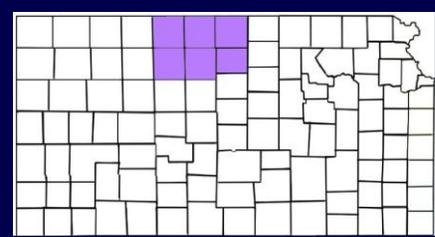
*13.4" above normal for the year
(Jan. through Dec.)*

Highest Event Rainfall:

7-10" near Tescott 9/8

Highest Event Snowfall:

**12-18" along/north of I-70
1/5**



2025 Weather Summary

North Central Kansas

National Weather Service – Hastings, NE



70 Severe
Thunderstorm
Warnings

38 less warnings than 2024



July 21: Most warnings in one day (12)



0 Confirmed
Tornadoes



Largest Hail:

May 18: 2" diameter (hen egg size)
1W of Beloit



Strongest Wind Gust:

August 10 1: 90 mph 7NE Burr Oak



NC Kansas Hottest Temperature

109 °F (August 8)

- Plainville 4 miles west/northwest

NC Kansas Warmest

Overnight Low Temperature

79 °F (June 21)

- Beloit



NC Kansas Coldest Temperature

-20 °F (February 13 & 20)

- Smith Center & Burr Oak

**NC Kansas Coldest Daytime
High Temperature**

-1 °F

- 4WNW Plainville (Feb. 19)



Highest Total Precipitation - 40.72" 10SW of Beloit

Lowest Total Precipitation - 20.46" near Stockton



Highest Total Snowfall - 29.5" 7NE of Plainville

Highest 1-Day Rainfall:

June 30: 4.45"
Near Formoso



Highest 1-Day Snowfall:

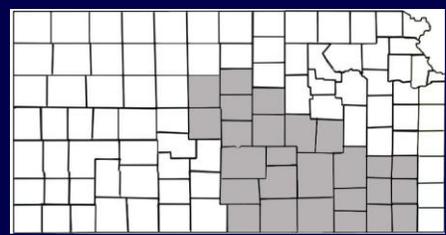
Jan. 5: 10.0" Beloit



2025 In North Central Kansas: By the Numbers

(Jewell, Mitchell, Osborne Phillips Rooks and Smith counties)

	<i>Burr Oak</i>	<i>Plainville</i>	<i>Beloit</i>
<i>Hottest Temperature</i>	99° August 8	109° August 8	102° August 8
<i>100°+ Days</i>	0 (9 less than 2024)	13 (9 less than 2024)	2 (10 less than 2024)
<i>Coldest Temperature</i>	-20° Feb. 20	-13° Feb. 20	-16° Feb. 20
<i># of days Average Temp. 32° or Lower</i>	44 days	54 days (8 more than 2024)	60 days (20 more than 2024)
<i>Annual (2024) Precipitation</i>	23.98" (3.50" below normal)	24.78" (1.33" below normal)	31.64" (2.46" above normal)
<i>Highest 1-Day Precipitation</i>	2.86" June 30	1.95" April 24	3.00" Nov. 21
<i>Annual Cal. Yr. Snowfall (2024)</i>	22.7" (1.0" below normal)	21.4" (1.7" above normal)	20.4" (4.8" above normal)
<i>Highest 1-Day Snowfall</i>	8.0" Jan. 5	4.5" Jan. 6	10.0" Jan. 5
<i>Highest 1-Day Snow Depth</i>	8" Jan. 5-7	6" Jan. 7	11" Jan. 6



2025 Weather Summary

Central, South Central & Southeast Kansas

National Weather Service - Wichita, KS



314

**Severe
Thunderstorm
Warnings**

Average since 1990: 257

Highest 2025 daily total: 42 on 6/17



5

**Confirmed
Tornadoes**

Least tornadoes since 2021

1 EF3 Tornado - Plevna, KS

Strongest Wind Gust:

102mph

**Wichita Eisenhower Airport
06/17**



Largest Hail:

**Softball (4" diameter)
Kingman Co. 09/01**



Hottest Temperature:

Hutchinson 10 SW

107° F (8/8)



11

**Most 100°+ Days:
Wilson Lake**

Coldest Temperature:

Lincoln 1 SE

-16° F (2/21)



32

**Most 32° or Lower Days:
Lincoln 1 SE**



**57.02" Most Annual
Precipitation:
Oxford**

(18.18 inches above average)



**30.0" Most Annual
Snowfall:**

Sterling

(20.7 inches above average)



**Highest 1-Day Rainfall:
8.88" Marquette on 7/21**

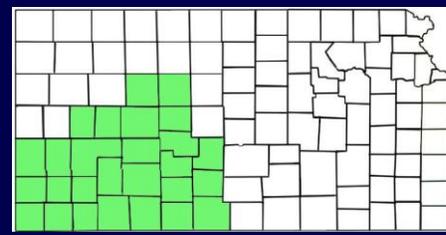


**Highest 1-Day Snowfall:
14" Sylvan Grove on 1/6**



2025 Central & Southeast Kansas: By the Numbers

	<i>Wichita</i>	<i>Salina</i>	<i>Chanute</i>	<i>Russell</i>
<i>Hottest Temperature</i>	102° Aug 8	105° Aug 8	99° Jul 29	105° Jul 19
<i>Highest Heat Index</i>	106° Aug 15	109° Jul 29	113° Jul 27	109° Jul 21
<i>100°+ Days</i>	1	6	0	9
<i>Coldest Temperature</i>	-9° Jan 21	-12° Jan 21	-9° Feb 20	-14° Feb 20
<i>Lowest Wind Chill</i>	-23° Feb 20	-26° Jan 21	-24° Feb 20	-28° Feb 20
<i>32° or Lower Days</i>	24	30	20	30
<i>Annual Precipitation</i>	40.45"	28.44"	39.96"	24.49"
<i>Highest 1-Day Precipitation</i>	4.19" Jun 17	2.86" Sep 8	2.62" Mar 4	2.21" Jun 17
<i>Annual Snowfall</i>	18.2"	N/A	N/A	N/A
<i>Highest 1-Day Snowfall</i>	5.4" Feb 18	N/A	N/A	N/A



2025 Weather Summary Southwest Kansas National Weather Service – Dodge City, KS



298

**Severe
Thunderstorm
Warnings**



14

**Confirmed
Tornadoes**

Strongest Wind Gust:



**95 mph
Ford County
7/16 & 8/3**

Largest Hail:



**Softball (4" diameter)
Scott Co., Stanton Co.
& Clark Co.**

**Hottest Temperature:
Scott City**



111 °F (8/9)



24

**Most 100°+ Days:
Lakin**

**Coldest Temperature:
Hugoton/Cimarron**



**-16 °F 1/21 Hugoton
2/13 Cimarron**



**Most 32° or Lower Days:
27 Hays**



**35.84" Most Annual
Precipitation:
Burdett**



25"

**Most Annual
Snowfall:
Hays**



**Highest 1-Day Rainfall:
5.25" Burdett on 6/24**

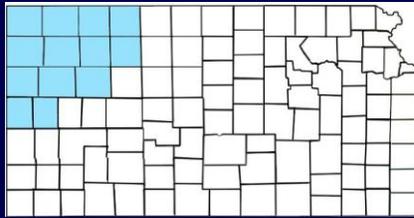


**Highest 1-Day Snowfall:
10" Alexander & Burdett on
1/5**



2025 Southwest Kansas: By the Numbers

	<i>Dodge City area</i>	<i>Garden City regional</i>	<i>Medicine Lodge</i>
<i>Hottest Temperature</i>	103° Aug 8	107° Aug 8	109° Aug 7
<i>Highest Heat Index</i>	109° Jul 20	104° Aug 8	113° Jul 21
<i>100°+ Days</i>	3	3	23
<i>Coldest Temperature</i>	-6° Jan 21	-11° Jan 21 & Feb 13	-10° Jan 21
<i>Lowest Wind Chill</i>	-29° Feb 18	-29° Jan 21	-18° Feb 18
<i>32° or Lower Days</i>	19	16	14
<i>Annual Precipitation</i>	27.38"	17.18"	28.06"
<i>Highest 1-Day Precipitation</i>	1.95" Jul 16	1.67" Aug 24	2.48" Jun 14
<i>Annual Snowfall</i>	19.2"	missing	11.9"
<i>Highest 1-Day Snowfall</i>	4.6" Jan 5	missing	5.0" Jan 9



2025 Weather Summary Northwest Kansas National Weather Service - Goodland, KS



270

**Severe
Thunderstorm
Warnings**



9

**Confirmed
Tornadoes**

Highest daily total 5/18

Strongest was EF-3

**Strongest Estimated
Wind Gust:**

100 mph

**Wichita Co. (6/28) &
Thomas Co. (8/18)**



Largest Hail:

**Softball (3.00" diameter)
Norton Co. on 7/6**



Goodland Hottest Temperature

106 °F (8/8)

**Goodland Days of
100°+ High
Temperatures**

8



Goodland Coldest Temperature

-8 °F (2/19)



14.46" **Goodland Total Precipitation**

*4.63" below normal for the year
(Jan. through Dec.)*



25.6" **Goodland Total Snowfall**

*4.4" below normal for the year
(Jan. through Dec.)*

Highest Event Rainfall:

**4.32" 3 WSW Norcatur
on 7/5**



Highest Event Snowfall:

**10" Lenora
on 3/19**



Emergency Kit

Make sure your emergency kit is ready to go!

- ✓ **First Aid Kit**
- ✓ **3 day supply of water/non-perishable food (for each family member including pets)**
- ✓ **Change of clothes/shoes for each family member**



- ✓ **Prescription medicine & special needs items**
- ✓ **Battery powered radio & NOAA Weather radio**
- ✓ **Cash & credit card**
- ✓ **Flashlight & extra batteries**
- ✓ **Whistle (to call for help)**
- ✓ **Cell phone & charger (solar/battery powered)**

Do you have a NOAA Weather Radio?

What is it?

NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) broadcasts National Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day.

How does it notify you?

Weather radios equipped with a special alarm tone feature can sound an alert and give you immediate information about a life-threatening situation. During an emergency, NWS forecasters will send out a special tone to activate weather radios in the listening area.



Where do you get a NWR?

You can buy receivers at many retail outlets such as electronics, department, sporting goods, and boat and marine accessory stores and their catalogs as well as online at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/info/nwrrcvr.html#residential>

How much does it cost?

Prices vary from \$20 and up depending on the model.

Options for those with special needs?

The hearing and visually impaired can get these warnings by connecting weather radios with alarm tones or other such as strobe lights, pagers, bed-shakers, personal computers and text printers.

Public safety experts agree: a NOAA Weather Radio should be standard equipment in every home.