NWS FORM E-5 (11-88) (PRES. by NWS Instruction 10-924)	**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE** NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE	HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA (HSA) **Tulsa, Oklahoma (TSA)**
MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS		REPORT FOR: MONTH **December** YEAR **2025**
TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2 NOAA / National Weather Service 1325 East West Highway, Room 7230 Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283		SIGNATURE **Steven F. Piltz** (Meteorologist-in-Charge) DATE **January 21, 2026**

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924)

[X] An "X" in the box indicates no flood stages were reached in this Hydrologic Service Area (HSA) during the month above.

December 2025 was the Record driest December for the state of Oklahoma, tied with 1950, the 2nd driest December on record for the state of Arkansas, the driest December on record at Fort Smith and Fayetteville, and the third driest December on record at Tulsa. This report, past E-5 reports, and monthly hydrology and climatology summaries can be found at https://www.weather.gov/tsa/climo_summary_e5list.

Monthly Summary

Using the radar-derived estimated observed precipitation from the RFCs (Fig. 1a), rainfall totals for December 2025 ranged from 0" to 0.75" across eastern OK and northwest AR, with much of the area receiving less than 0.25". These rainfall totals correspond to 0% to 15% of the normal December rainfall with most of the area receiving less than 5% of normal (Fig. 1b).

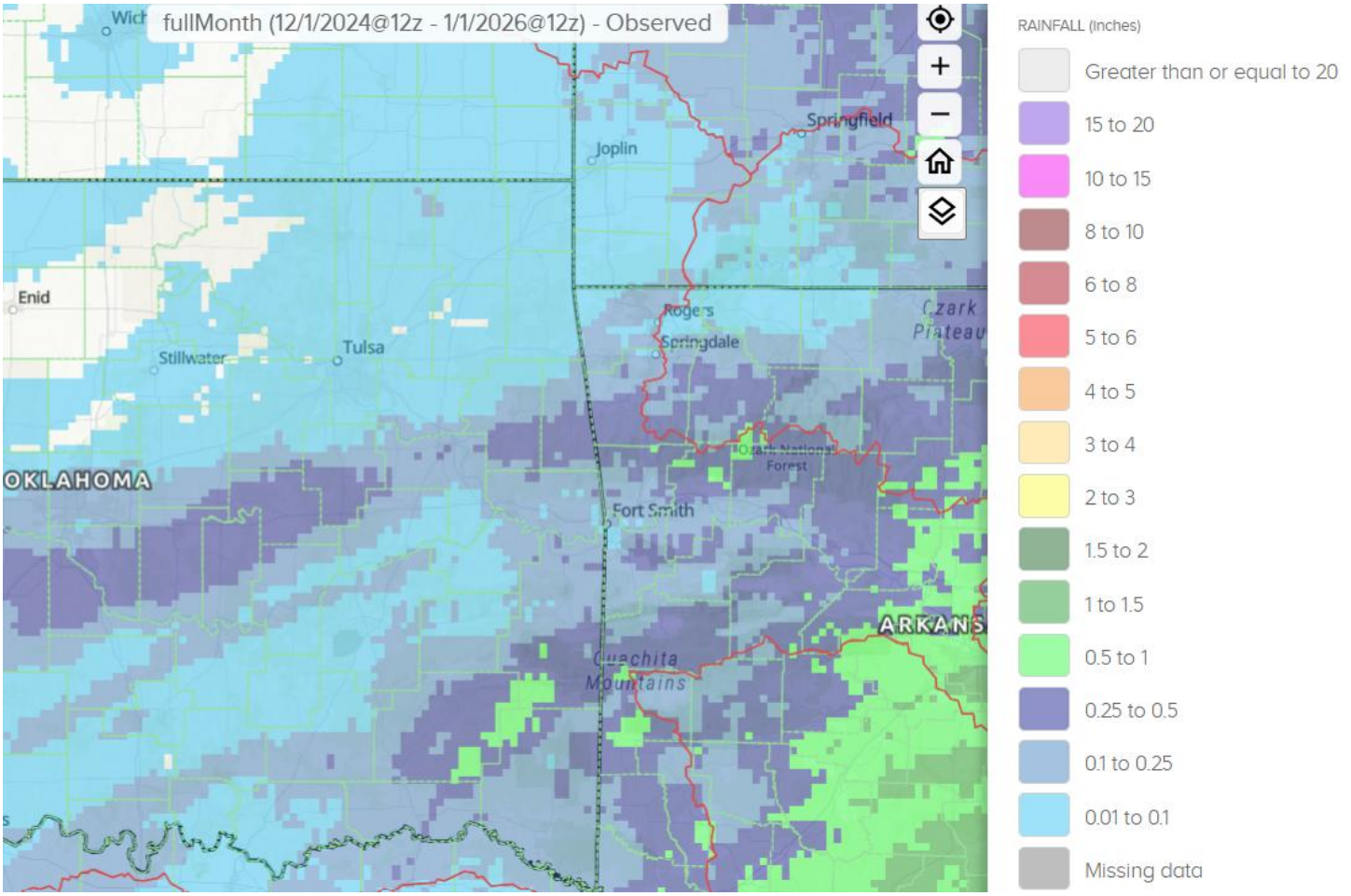


Fig. 1a. Estimated Observed Rainfall for December 2025

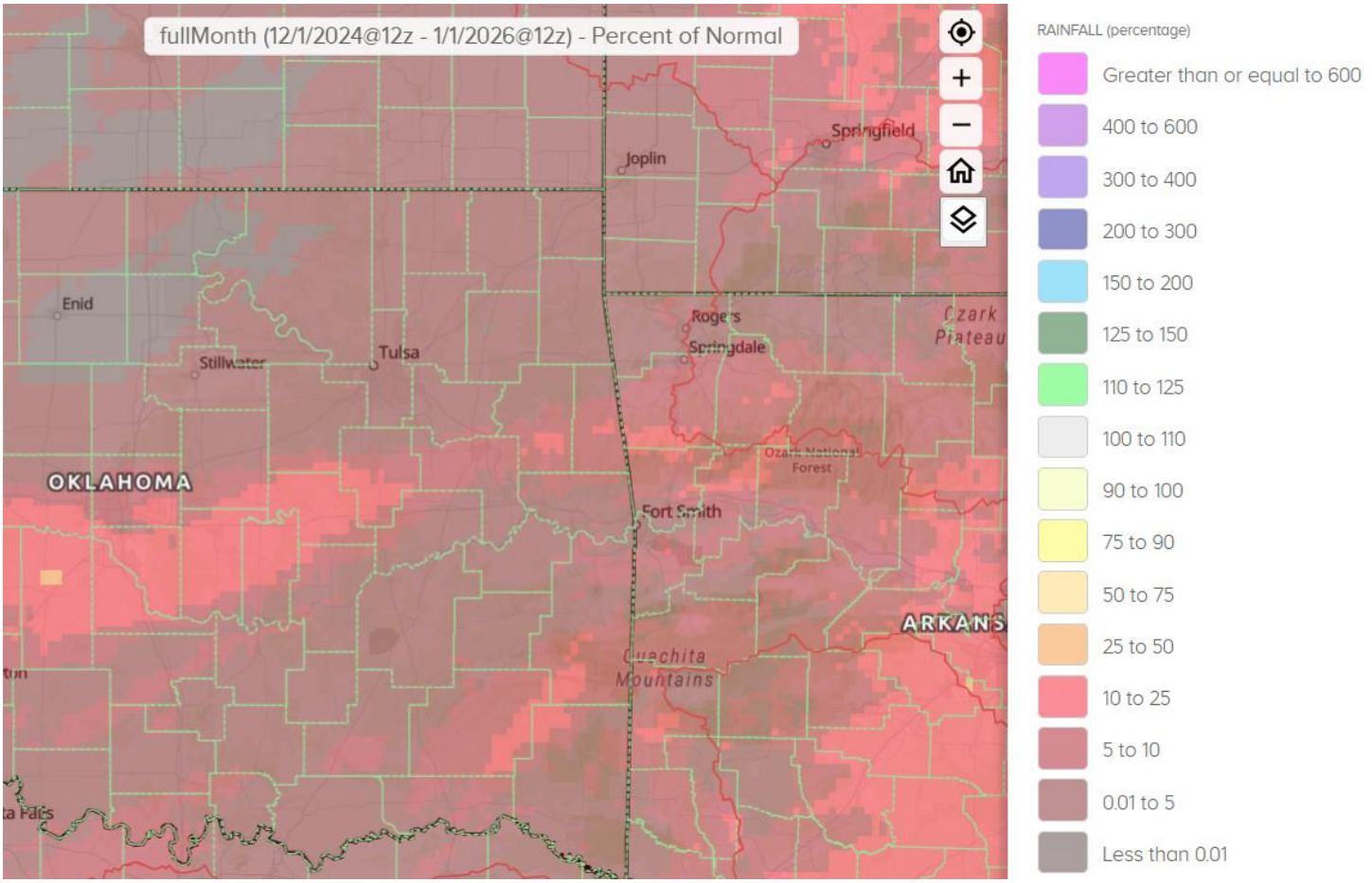


Fig. 1b. Estimated % of Normal Rainfall for December 2025

In Tulsa, OK, December 2025 ranked as the 7th warmest December (45.5°F, tied 2023; since records began in 1905) and the 3rd driest December (0.01"; since records began in 1888). Fort Smith, AR had the 9th warmest December (47.7°F; since records began in 1882) and the Record driest December (0.07", previous record was 0.09" in 1908; since records began in 1882). Fayetteville, AR had the 4th warmest (44.9°F) and the Record driest (0.11", previous record was 0.26" in 1955) December since records began in 1950.

Some of the larger precipitation reports (in inches) for December 2025 included:

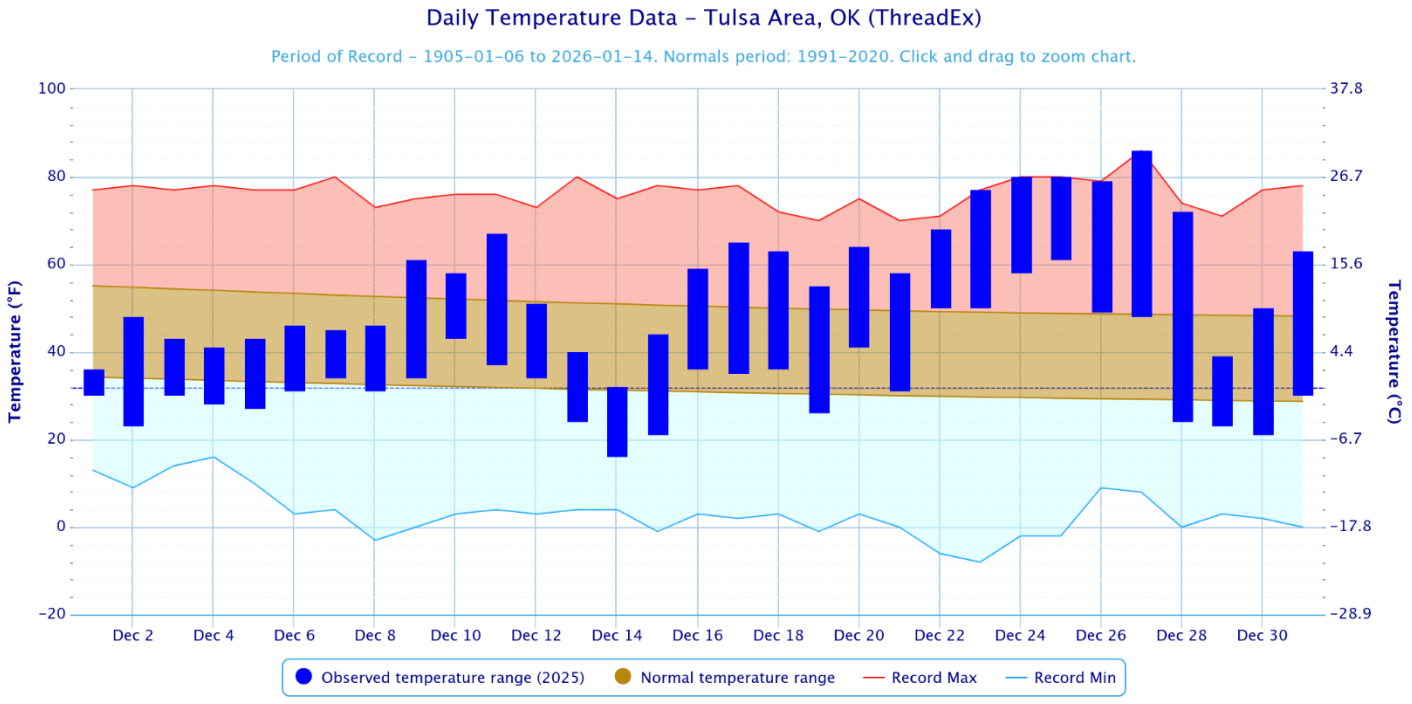
Cloudy, OK (meso)	0.68	Kingston 2S, AR (coop)	0.57	Hugo 1.9ENE, OK (meso)	0.35
Elkins 10.6SSE, AR (coco)	0.35	Antlers, OK (meso)	0.33	Bentonville 1.6NE,AR (coco)	0.33
Okemah, OK (meso)	0.32	Mountainburg 2NE, AR (coop)	0.29	Green Forest 7NNE, AR (coop)	0.28

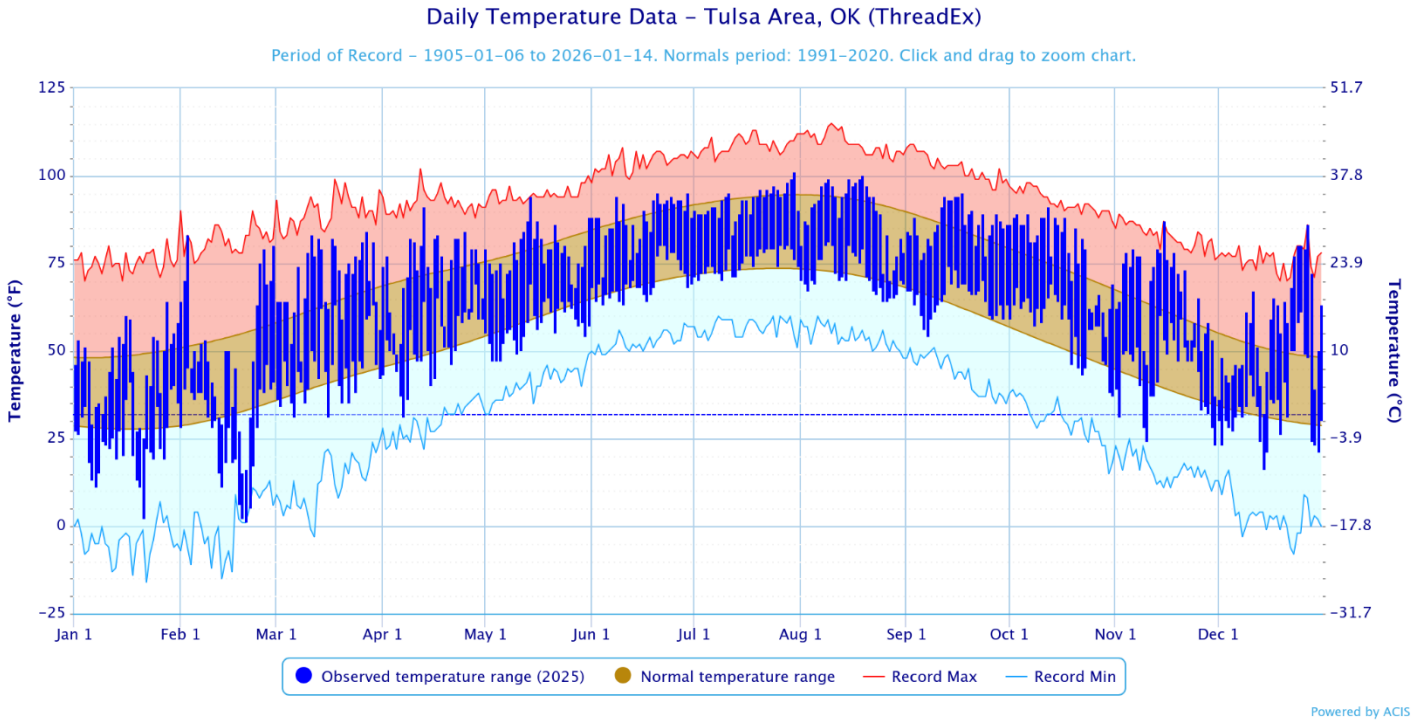
Some of the lowest precipitation reports (in inches) for December 2025 included:

Talala, OK (meso)	0.00	Tulsa 2.6SSW, OK (coco)	0.00	Owasso 3.6NNE, OK (coco)	0.00
Inola 6.7NE, OK (coco)	0.00	Jay 3.3NNE, OK (coco)	0.00	Jennings 3.5NNE, OK (coco)	0.00
Sand Springs 2.7S, OK (coco)	Trace	Bixby 3.4SW, OK (coco)	Trace	Collinsville 2.1WSW, OK (coco)	Trace

According to statistics from the Oklahoma Climatological Survey (OCS) Mesonet:

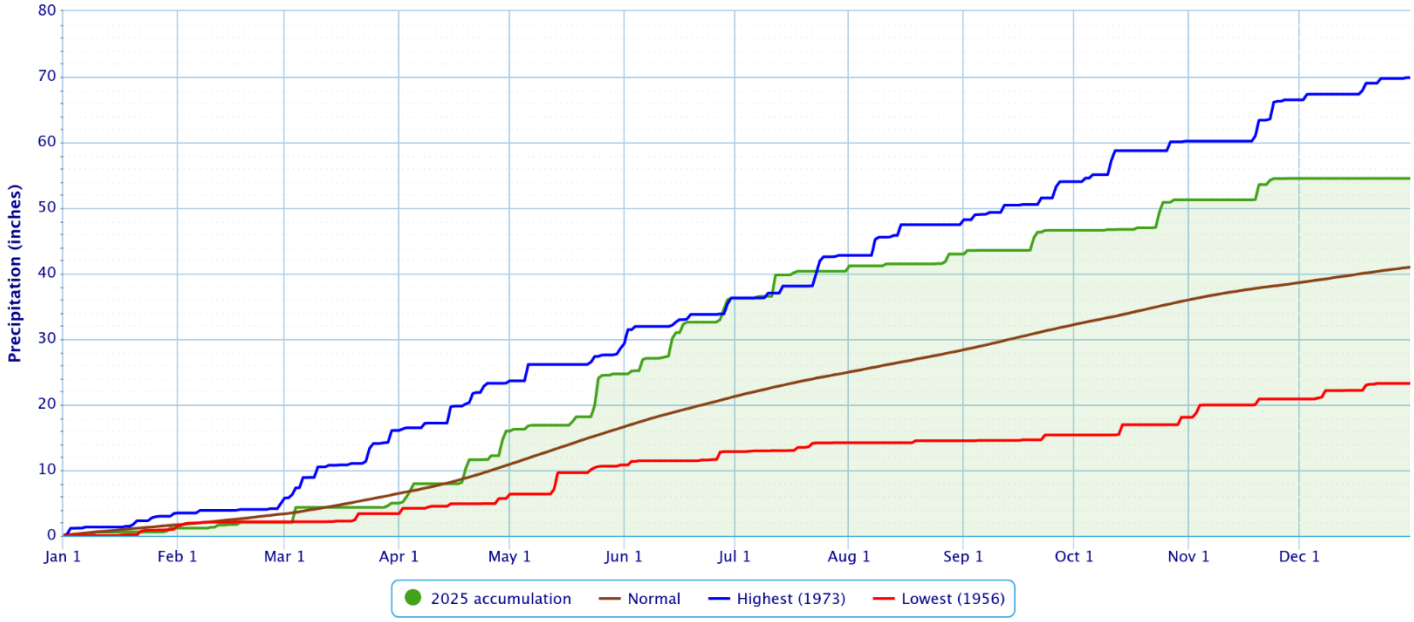
Rank since 1921	December 2025	2025	Last 60 Days (Nov 3 – Jan 1)	Last 180 Days (Jul 6 – Jan 1)	Cool Growing Season-to-Date (Sep 1 – Jan 1)	Water Year-to-Date (Oct 1, 2025 – Jan 1, 2026)
Northeast OK	1st driest	16th wettest	9th driest	27th driest	20th driest	25th driest
East Central OK	1st driest	15th wettest	9th driest	32nd driest	18th driest	25th driest
Southeast OK	2nd driest	39th wettest	33rd driest	33rd driest	16th driest	22nd driest
Statewide	2nd driest	27th wettest	15th driest	24th driest	13th driest	21st driest


Daily Temperature Data - Tulsa Area, OK (ThreadEx)
Period of Record - 1905-01-06 to 2026-01-14. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.
Temperature (°F)
Temperature (°C)
100
80
60
40
20
0
-20
37.8
26.7
15.6
4.4
-6.7
-17.8
-28.9
Dec 2
Dec 4
Dec 6
Dec 8
Dec 10
Dec 12
Dec 14
Dec 16
Dec 18
Dec 20
Dec 22
Dec 24
Dec 26
Dec 28
Dec 30
Observed temperature range (2025)
Normal temperature range
Record Max
Record Min
Powered by ACIS


Daily Temperature Data - Tulsa Area, OK (ThreadEx)
Period of Record - 1905-01-06 to 2026-01-14. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.
Temperature (°F)
Temperature (°C)
125
100
75
50
25
0
-25
51.7
37.8
23.9
10
-3.9
-17.8
-31.7
Jan 1
Feb 1
Mar 1
Apr 1
May 1
Jun 1
Jul 1
Aug 1
Sep 1
Oct 1
Nov 1
Dec 1
Observed temperature range (2025)
Normal temperature range
Record Max
Record Min
Powered by ACIS

Accumulated Precipitation – Tulsa Area, OK (ThreadEx)

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



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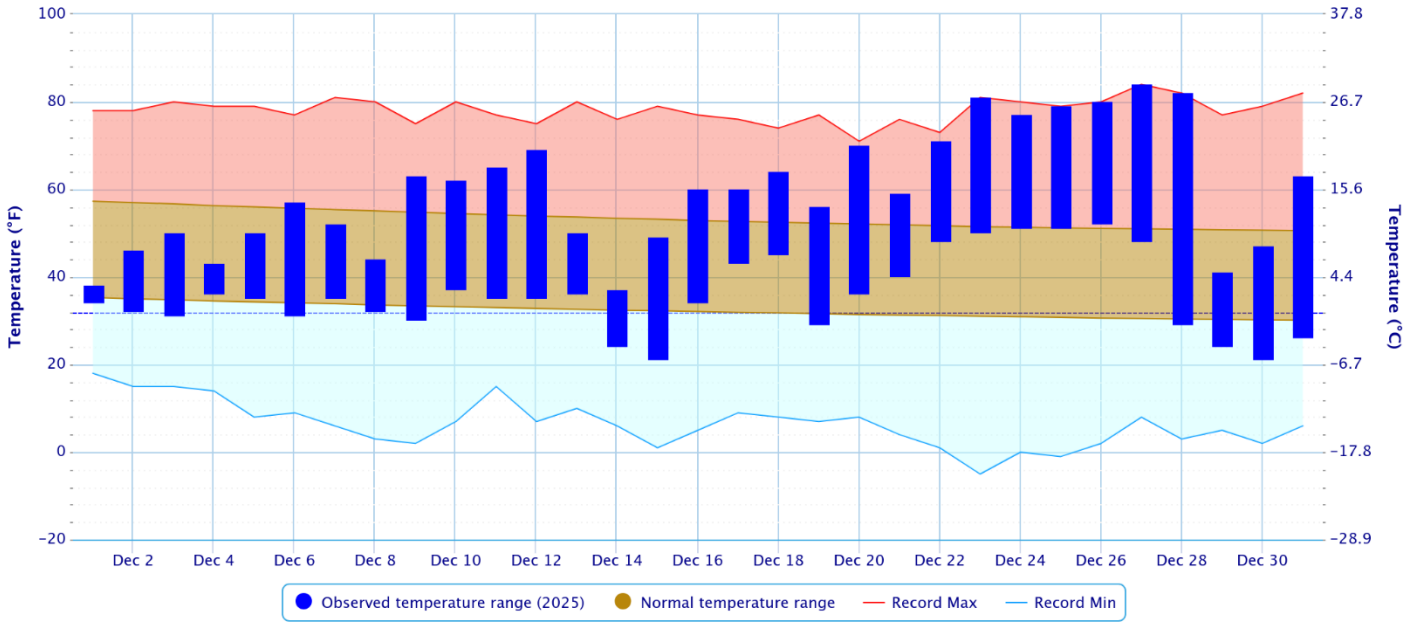
Daily Temperature Data – Fort Smith Area, AR (ThreadEx)

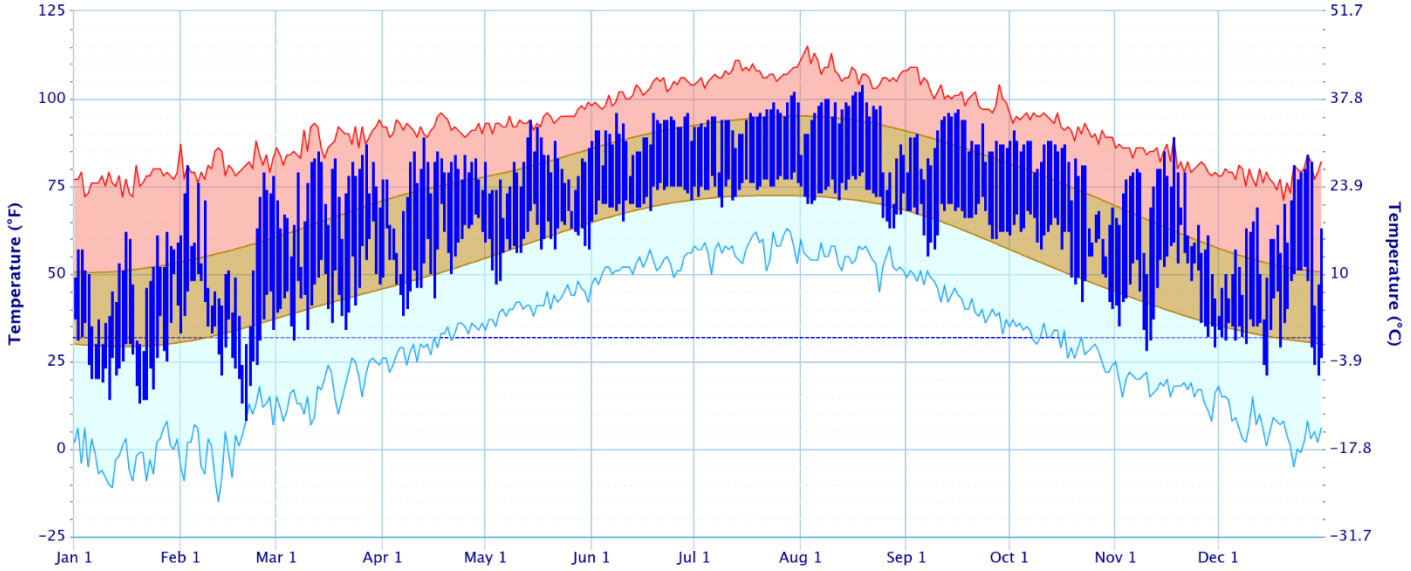
Period of Record – 1882-06-01 to 2026-01-14. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



Powered by ACIS

Daily Temperature Data – Fort Smith Area, AR (ThreadEx)

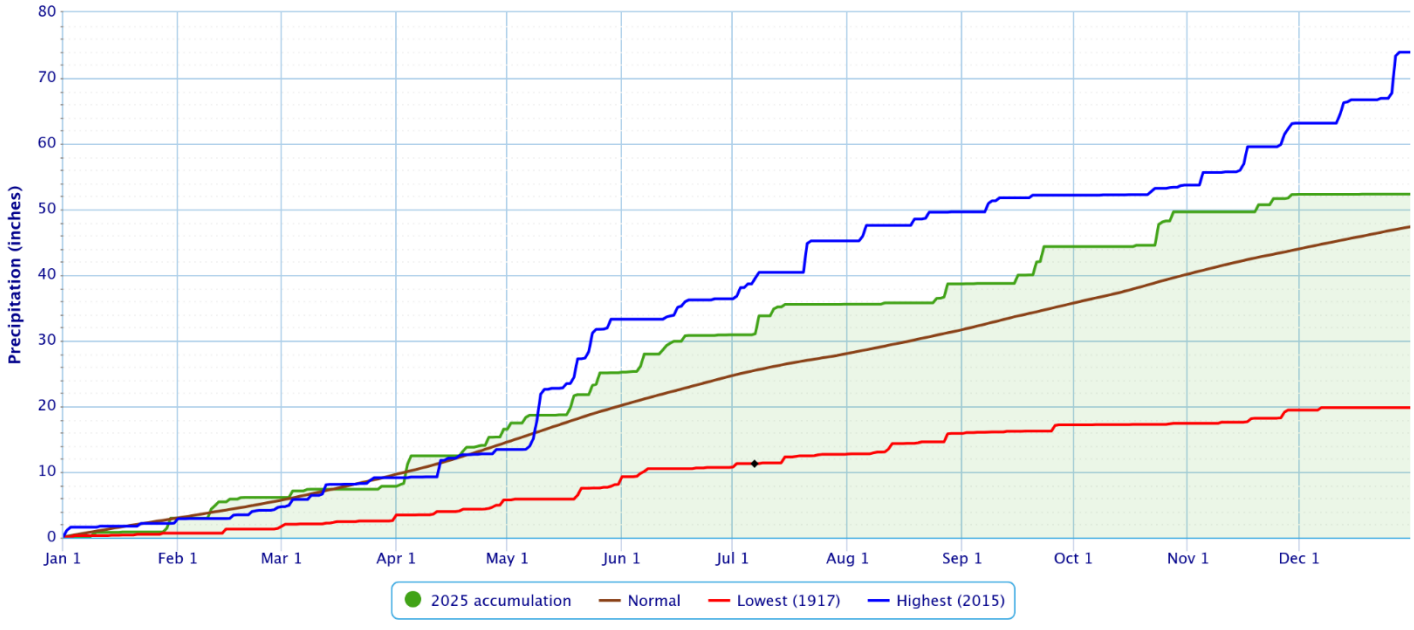
Period of Record – 1882-06-01 to 2026-01-14. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



Powered by ACIS

Accumulated Precipitation – Fort Smith Area, AR (ThreadEx)

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



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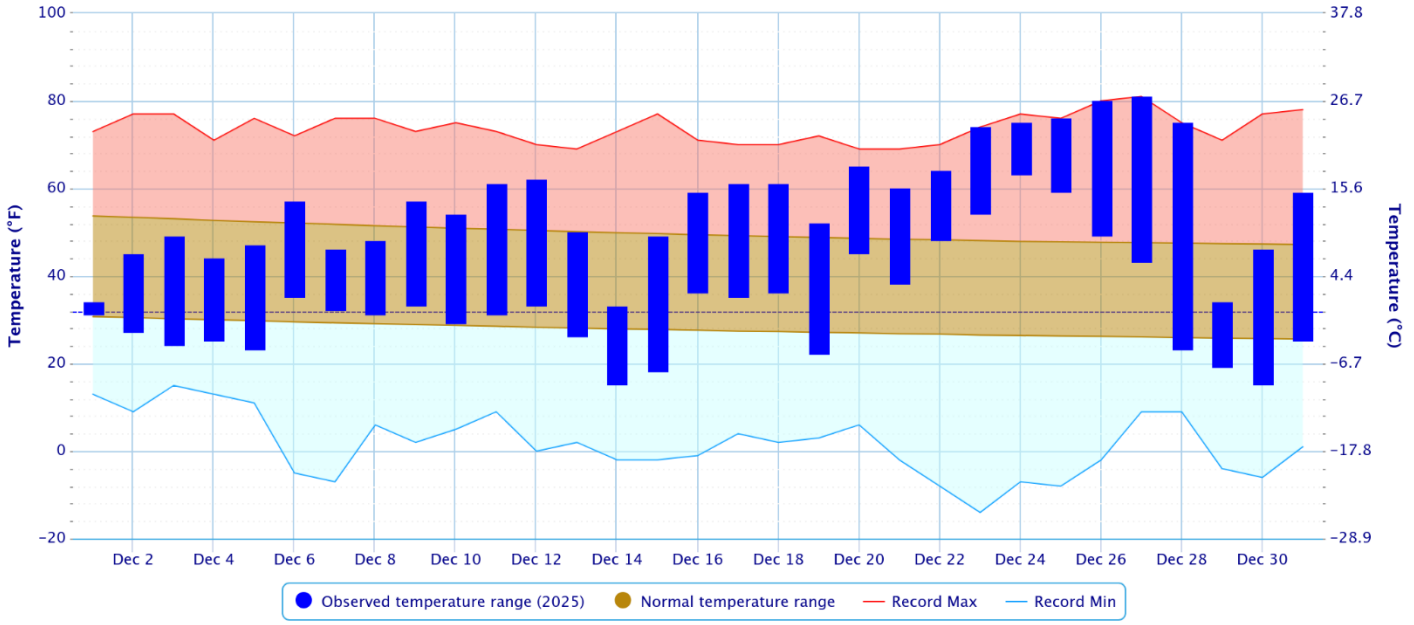
Daily Temperature Data – FAYETTEVILLE DRAKE FIELD, AR

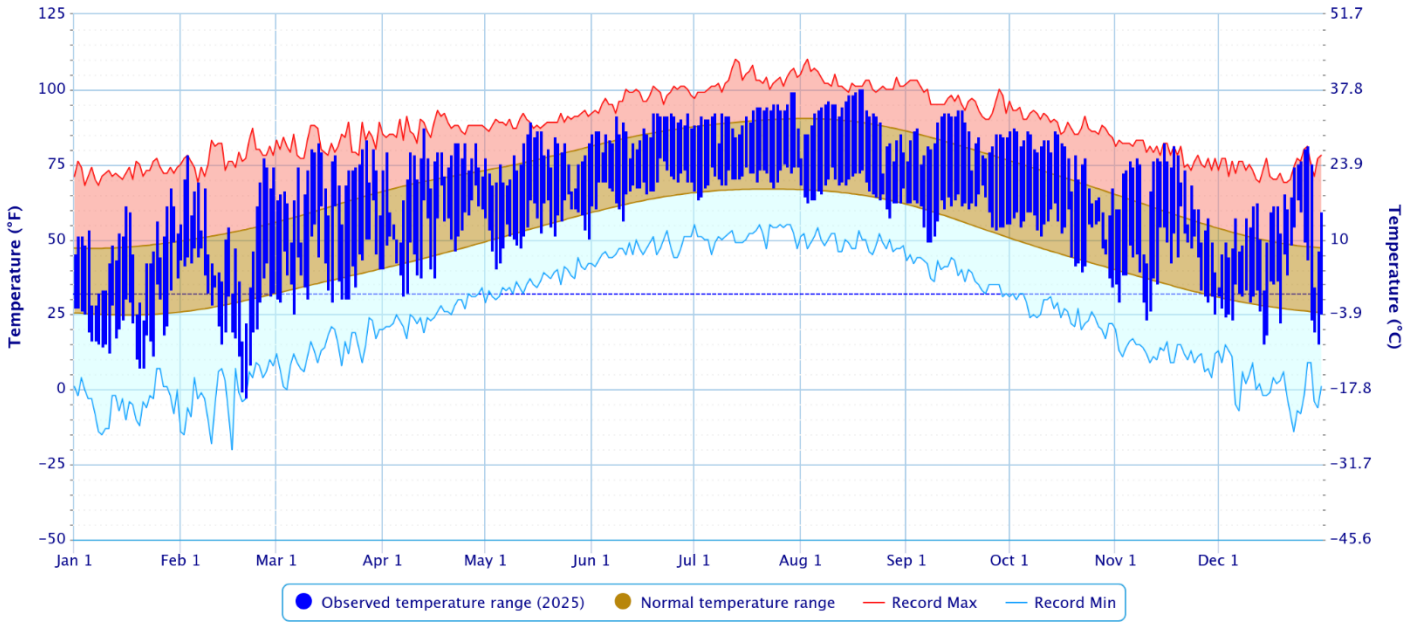
Period of Record – 1949-07-14 to 2026-01-14. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



Powered by ACIS

Daily Temperature Data – FAYETTEVILLE DRAKE FIELD, AR

Period of Record – 1949-07-14 to 2026-01-14. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



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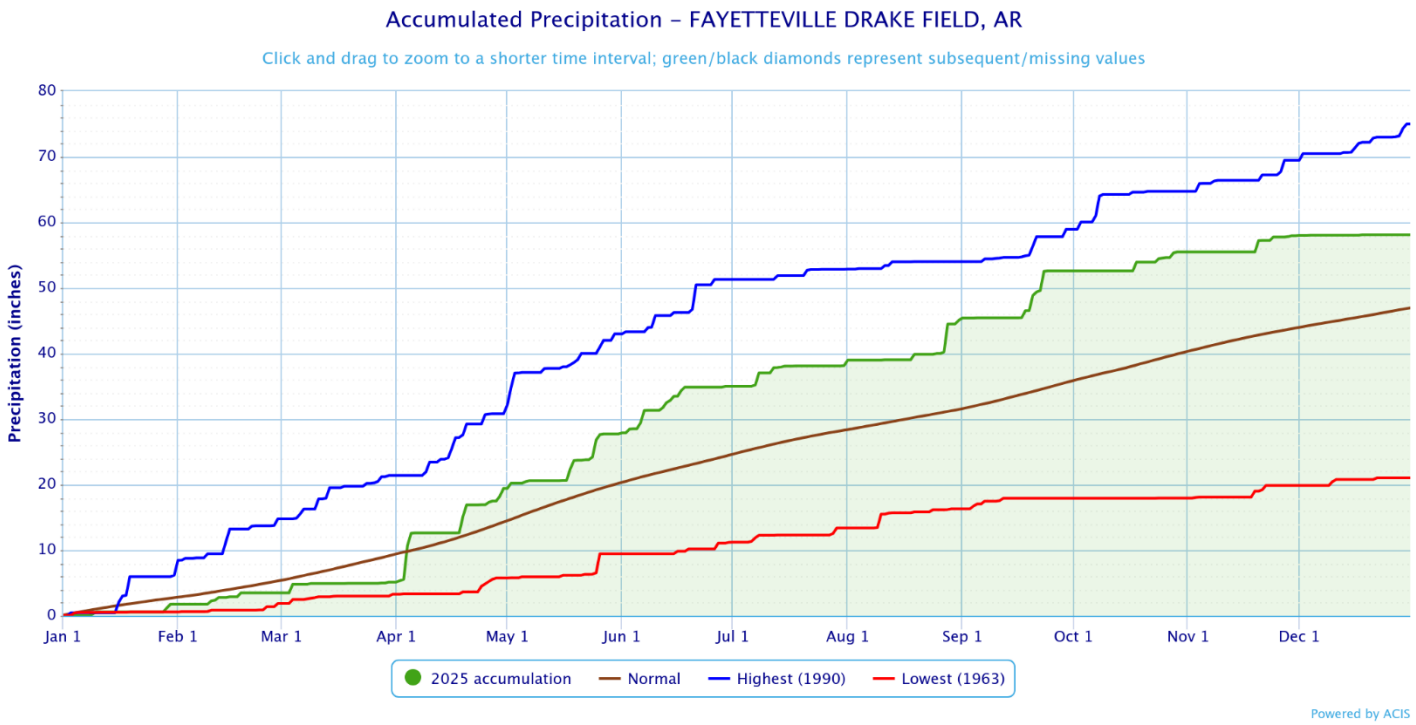
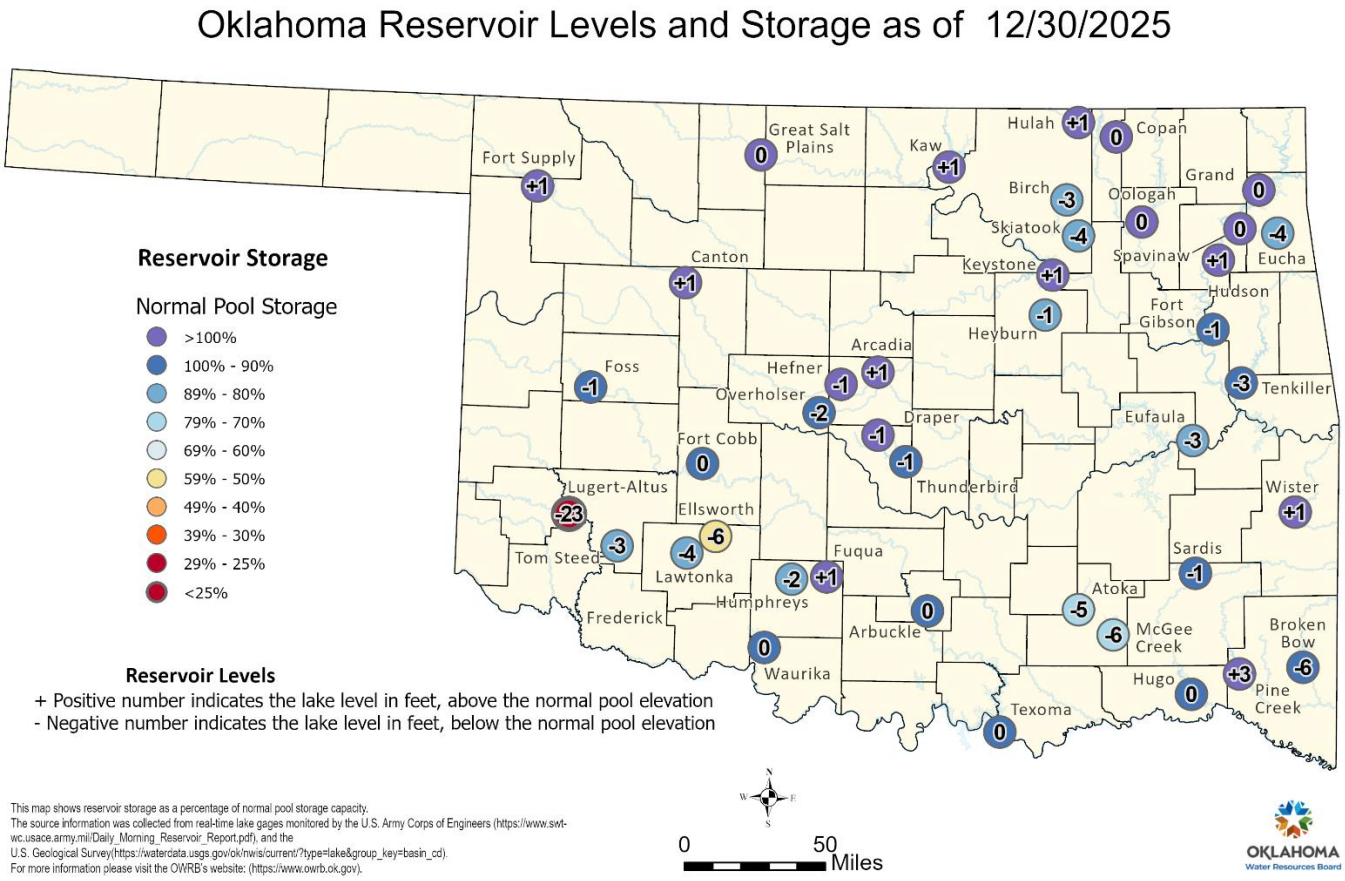


Reservoirs



This map shows reservoir storage as a percentage of normal pool storage capacity.
The source information was collected from real-time lake gages monitored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (https://www.swt-wc.usace.army.mil/Daily_Morning_Reservoir_Report.pdf), and the U.S. Geological Survey(https://waterdata.usgs.gov/ok/nwis/current/?type=lake&group_key=basin_cd).
For more information please visit the OWRB's website: (https://www.owrb.ok.gov).

According to the USACE, one lake in the HSA was above 3% of the top of its conservation pool as of 12/31/2025: Hudson Lake 5%. A few lakes were also more than 3% below the top of their conservation pools: Ft. Gibson Lake 74%, Heyburn Lake 75%, Birch Lake 80%, Skiatook Lake 86%, Tenkiller Lake 90%, Beaver Lake 92%, and Hugo Lake 96%.

Drought

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) from December 30, 2025 (Figs. 2, 3), Severe (D2) Drought conditions existed in a portion of Choctaw County in eastern OK. Moderate (D1) Drought conditions were present in portions of Pawnee, Creek, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, McIntosh, Pittsburg, Pushmataha, Choctaw, Latimer, Muskogee, Wagoner, Cherokee, Adair, Delaware, Mayes, Ottawa, Craig, Nowata, and Washington Counties in eastern OK, and Benton, Washington, Carroll, and Madison Counties in northwest AR. Abnormally Dry (D0) but not in drought conditions were occurring in parts of Craig, Nowata, Washington, Osage, Pawnee, Creek, Tulsa, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Wagoner, Rogers, Mayes, Muskogee, McIntosh, Pittsburg, Haskell, Cherokee, Adair, Sequoyah, Latimer, Le Flore, Pushmataha, and Choctaw Counties in eastern OK, and Washington, Madison, Crawford, Sebastian, and Franklin Counties in northwest AR.

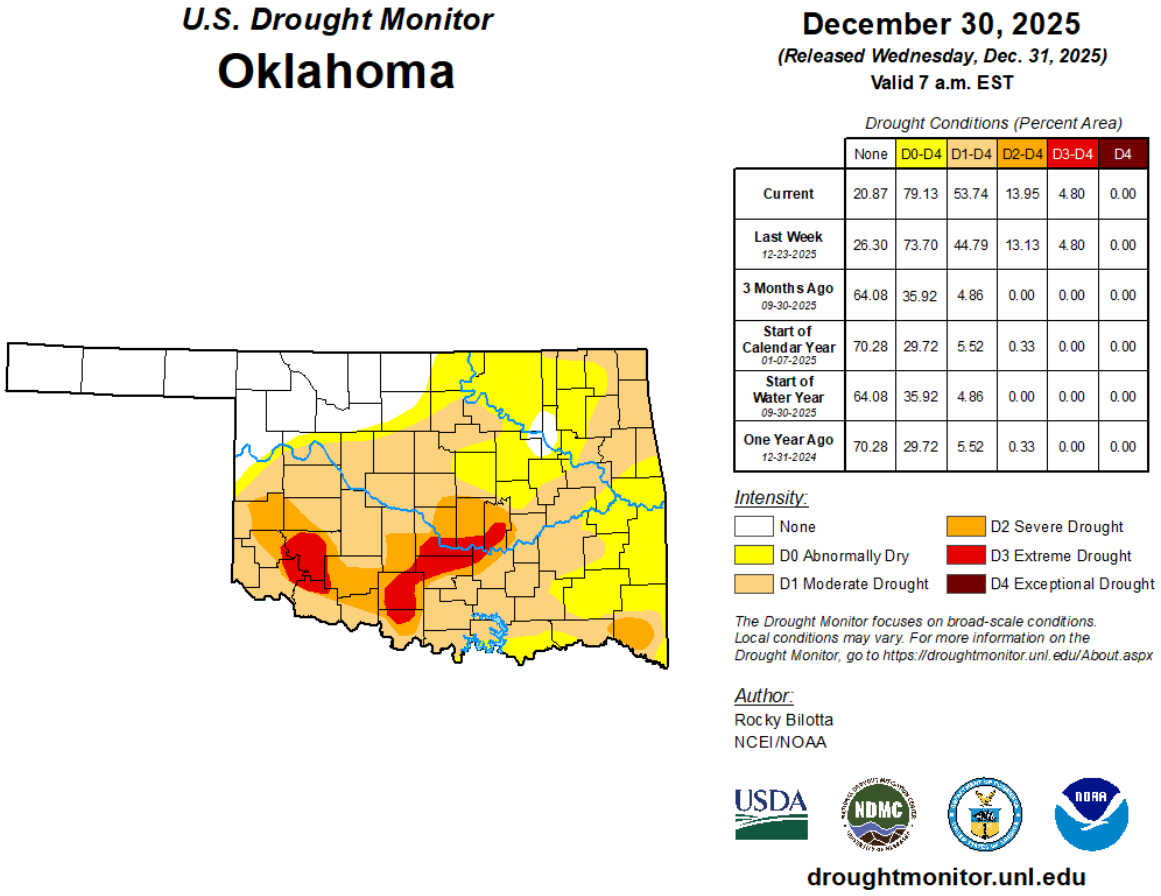


Fig. 2. Drought Monitor for Oklahoma

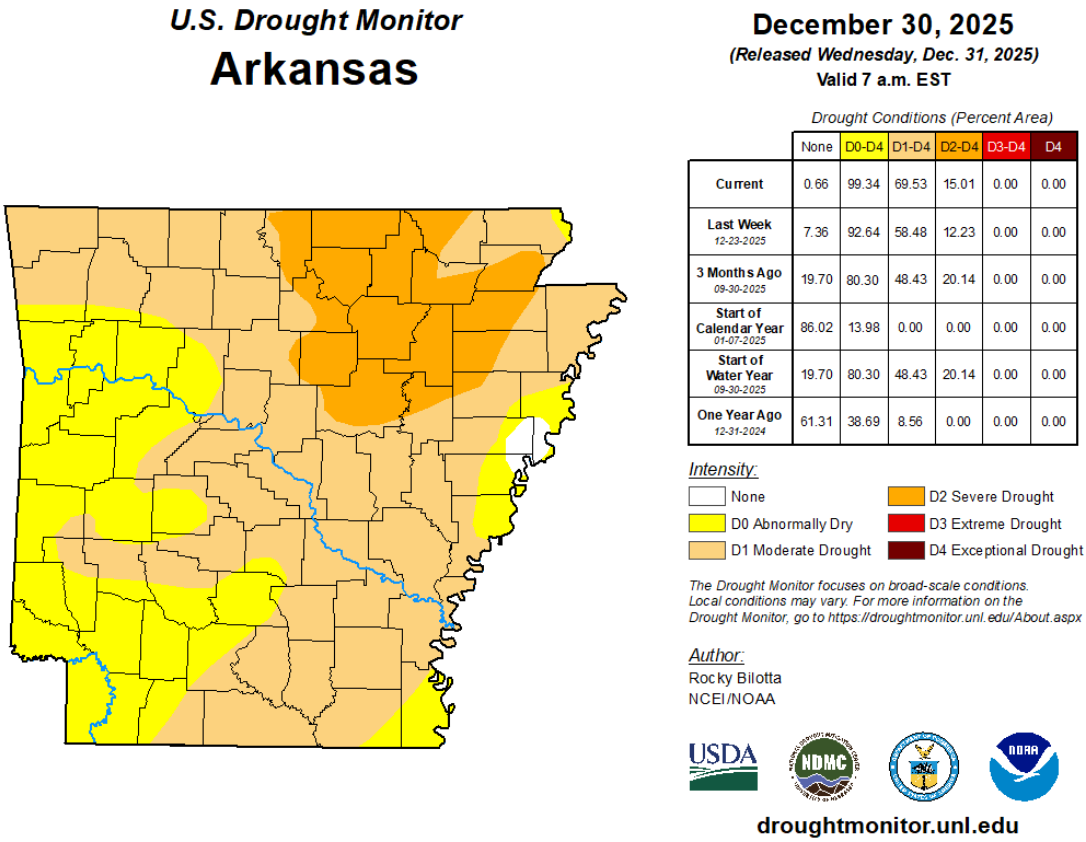


Fig. 3. Drought Monitor for Arkansas

Year 2025 Summary

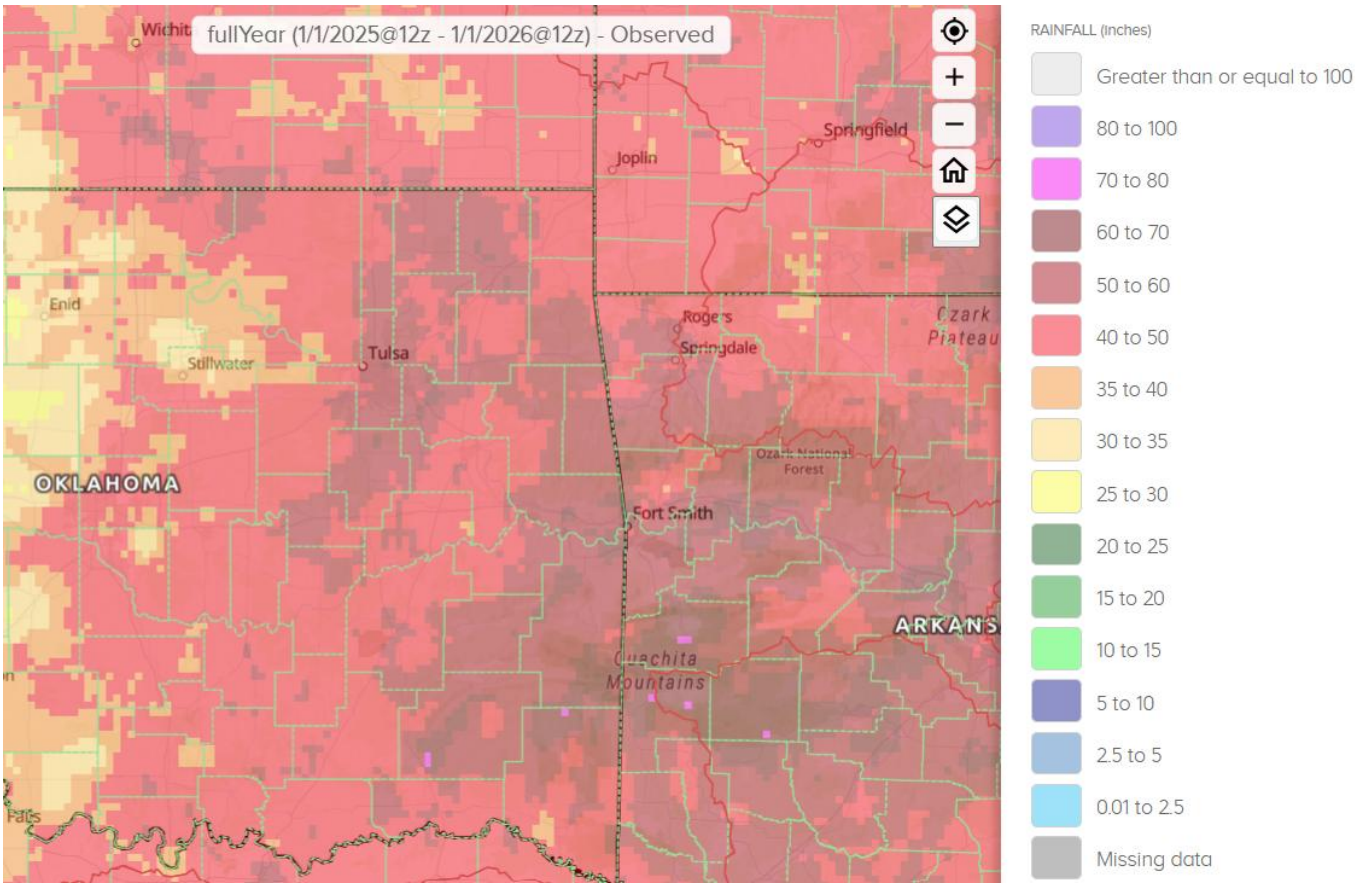


Fig. 4a. Estimated Observed Rainfall for 2025 ending at 6am CST 01/01/2026.

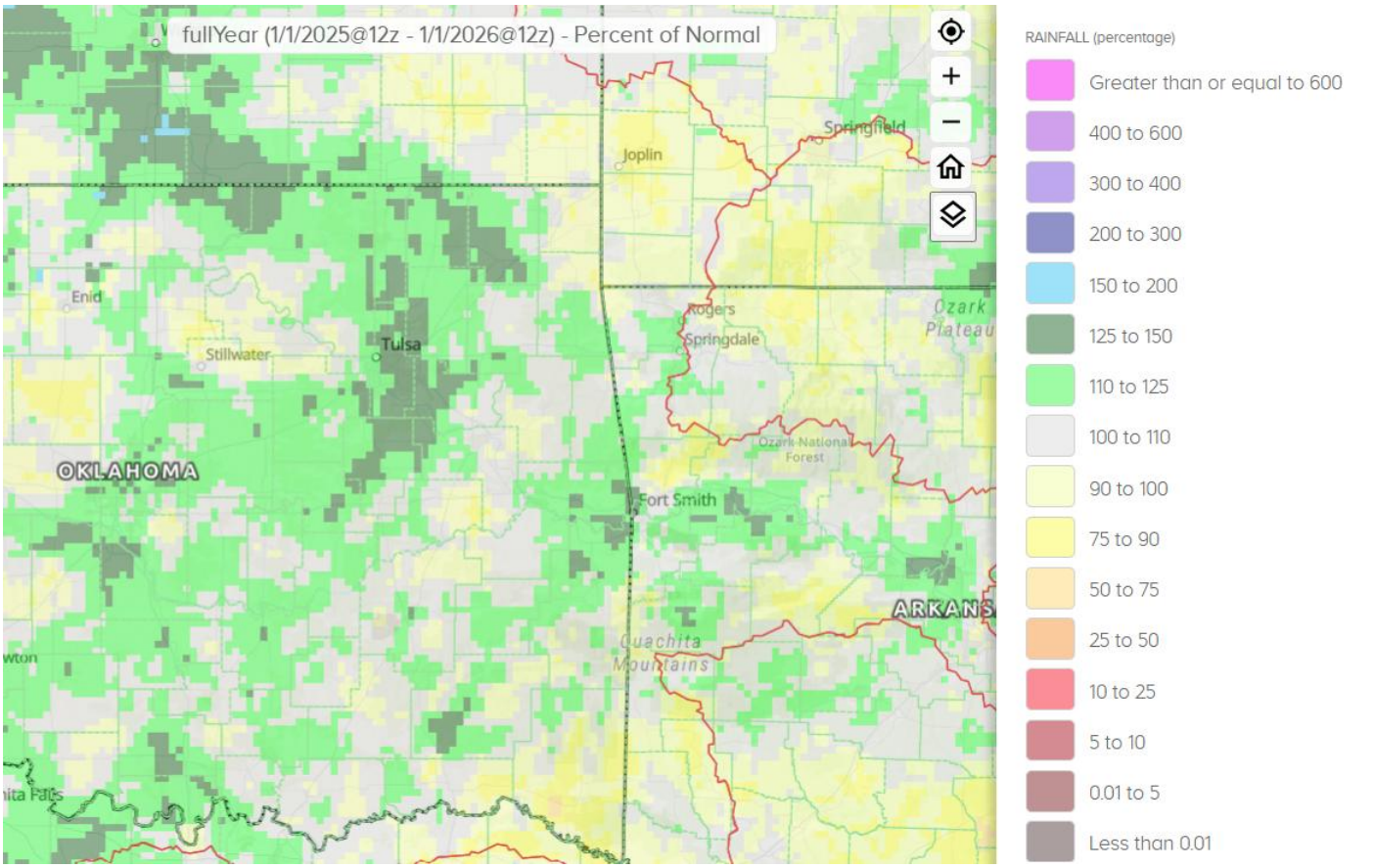


Fig. 4b. Estimated % of Normal Rainfall for 2025 ending at 6am CST 01/01/2026

Using the radar-derived estimated observed precipitation from the RFCs (Fig. 4a), rainfall totals for 2025 ranged from 34" to 70" across eastern OK and northwest AR. These rainfall totals correspond to 75% to 150% of the normal annual rainfall across eastern OK and northwest AR (Fig. 4b). There were 58 tornadoes this year in the NWS Tulsa area of eastern OK and northwest AR (details can be found at https://arcg.is/1D1zrC0).

In Tulsa, OK, 2025 ranked as the 23rd warmest Year (62.2°F, tied 2021, 1939; since records began in 1905) and the 12th wettest Year (54.51"; since records began in 1888). Fort Smith, AR had the 12th warmest Year (63.8°F, tied 2006; since records began in 1883) and the 21st wettest Year (52.33"; since records began in 1883). Fayetteville, AR had the 3rd warmest (60.5°F) and the 8th wettest (58.09") Year since records began in 1950.

Some of the larger precipitation reports (in inches) for 2025 included:

Wister 3.0NNE, OK (coco)	61.40	Sallisaw, OK (meso)	61.33	Vinita 4.9WNW, OK (coco)	60.62
Sallisaw 0.3SE, OK (coco)	60.31	Claremore 7.5W, OK (coco)	60.01	Tulsa 5.4SSE, OK (coco)	59.88
Tulsa 1.4S, OK (coco)	59.35	Owasso 1.5ESE, OK (coco)	58.57	Vian 5.3ENE, OK (coco)	58.29

Some of the lowest precipitation reports (in inches) for 2025 included:

Pawnee, OK (meso)	37.70	Burbank, OK (meso)	42.22	Bristow, OK (meso)	42.77
Pryor, OK (meso)	43.54	Foraker, OK (meso)	43.72	Oilton, OK (meso)	43.90
Miami, OK (meso)	44.52	Antlers 6.3SE, OK (coco)	44.88	Wynona, OK (meso)	46.41

Outlooks

The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) outlook for January 2026 (issued December 31, 2025) indicates an enhanced chance for above normal temperatures across southeast OK and an equal chance for above, near, or below normal temperatures across the remainder of eastern OK and northwest AR. There is an equal chance for above, near, or below median precipitation across all of eastern OK and northwest AR. This outlook was based on impacts from the ongoing weak La Niña, dynamical and statistical model output, and long-term trends. The Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) is not expected to be a factor for January.

For the 3-month period January-February-March 2026, CPC is forecasting an equal chance for above, near, or below normal temperatures and precipitation across all of eastern OK and northwest AR (outlook issued December 18, 2025). This outlook is based on long-term trends, ENSO state, and incorporates a suite of statistical and dynamical forecast tools. According to CPC, "La Niña is favored to continue for the next month or two, with a transition to ENSO-neutral most likely in January-March 2026 (68% chance)."

Summary of Heavy Precipitation Events Daily quality-controlled rainfall maps can be found at: http://water.weather.gov/precip/index.php?location_type=wfo&location_name=tsa

No significant precipitation events occurred in December 2025. Most of eastern OK and northwest AR have gone over 30 consecutive days without receiving 0.25" (Fig. 5) or 0.10" (Fig. 6) of rain.

Record warm daily temperatures occurred from December 22-28, 2025 (see tables below), including new Christmas Day record warm temperatures. Additionally, all-time December record warm maximum daily temperatures were set at Tulsa, Fort Smith, Fayetteville, and McAlester.

Warmest December day in Tulsa, OK: new record maximum temperature of 86°F was set Dec. 27, 2025. Previous record was 80°F on Dec. 7, 1966, Dec. 13, 1948, Dec. 24, 1955, Dec. 24, 2025, and Dec. 25, 2025.

Warmest December day in Fort Smith, AR: new record maximum temperature of 84°F was set Dec. 27, 2025. Previous record was 82°F on Dec. 31, 1951.

Warmest December day in Fayetteville, AR: new record maximum temperature of 81°F was set Dec. 27, 2025. Previous record was 78°F on Dec. 31, 1951.

Warmest December day in McAlester, OK: new record maximum temperature of 83°F was set Dec. 27, 2025. Previous record was 80°F on Dec. 1, 1970, Dec. 7, 1966, Dec. 10, 2021, and Dec. 26, 2025.

Tulsa, OK				
New Record Warm	**Temperature (°F)**	**Date Set**	**Previous Record (°F)**	**Previous Date**
Maximum Temperature	77	December 23, 2025	73	December 23, 1982
Maximum Temperature	80	December 24, 2025	80 (tied)	December 24, 1955
Maximum Temperature	80	December 25, 2025	73	December 25, 1922
Maximum Temperature	79	December 26, 2025	76	December 26, 2008
Maximum Temperature	86	December 27, 2025	77	December 27, 1946
Minimum Temperature	61	December 25, 2025	51	December 25, 2016
Mean Temperature	71	December 25, 2025	62	December 25, 1971
Mean Temperature	64	December 26, 2025	64 (tied)	December 26, 2008
Mean Temperature	67	December 27, 2025	66	December 27, 1946
Period of record: 1905-2025				

Fort Smith, AR				
New Record Warm	**Temperature (°F)**	**Date Set**	**Previous Record (°F)**	**Previous Date**
Maximum Temperature	81	December 23, 2025	75	December 23, 1889
Maximum Temperature	79	December 25, 2025	77	December 25, 2021
Maximum Temperature	80	December 26, 2025	79	December 26, 1889
Maximum Temperature	84	December 27, 2025	76	December 27, 2005
Maximum Temperature	82	December 28, 2025	74	December 28, 1928
Mean Temperature	65.5	December 23, 2025	63.0	December 23, 1885
Period of record: 1882-2025				

Fayetteville, AR				
New Record Warm	**Temperature (°F)**	**Date Set**	**Previous Record (°F)**	**Previous Date**
Maximum Temperature	74	December 23, 2025	70	December 23, 2019
Maximum Temperature	76	December 25, 2025	73	December 25, 2021
Maximum Temperature	80	December 26, 2025	77	December 26, 2021
Maximum Temperature	81	December 27, 2025	74	December 27, 1971
Maximum Temperature	75	December 28, 2025	71	December 28, 2021
Minimum Temperature	63	December 24, 2025	54	December 24, 2023
Minimum Temperature	59	December 25, 2025	56	December 25, 2016
Mean Temperature	64.0	December 23, 2025	64.0 (tied)	December 23, 1982
Mean Temperature	69.0	December 24, 2025	66.5	December 24, 2021
Mean Temperature	67.5	December 25, 2025	61.5	December 25, 2016
Mean Temperature	64.5	December 26, 2025	62.0	December 26, 1971
Mean Temperature	62.0	December 27, 2025	61.0	December 27, 2021
Period of record: 1950-2025				

McAlester, OK				
New Record Warm	**Temperature (°F)**	**Date Set**	**Previous Record (°F)**	**Previous Date**
Maximum Temperature	72	December 22, 2025	71	December 22, 2015
Maximum Temperature	79	December 23, 2025	74	December 23, 1982
Maximum Temperature	79	December 25, 2025	75	December 25, 2021
Maximum Temperature	80	December 26, 2025	78	December 26, 2008
Maximum Temperature	83	December 27, 2025	77	December 27, 2005
Maximum Temperature	79	December 28, 2025	75	December 28, 2016
Minimum Temperature	66	December 23, 2025	62	December 23, 1982
Minimum Temperature	63	December 24, 2025	62	December 24, 2021
Minimum Temperature	60	December 25, 2025	59	December 25, 2016
Minimum Temperature	61	December 27, 2025	52	December 27, 2021
Mean Temperature	73	December 23, 2025	68	December 23, 1982
Mean Temperature	71	December 24, 2025	70	December 24, 2021
Mean Temperature	70	December 25, 2025	67	December 25, 2016
Mean Temperature	67	December 26, 2025	67 (tied)	December 26, 2008
Mean Temperature	72	December 27, 2025	65	December 27, 2005
Period of record: 1953-2025 (missing December 1996, 1997, 2018)				

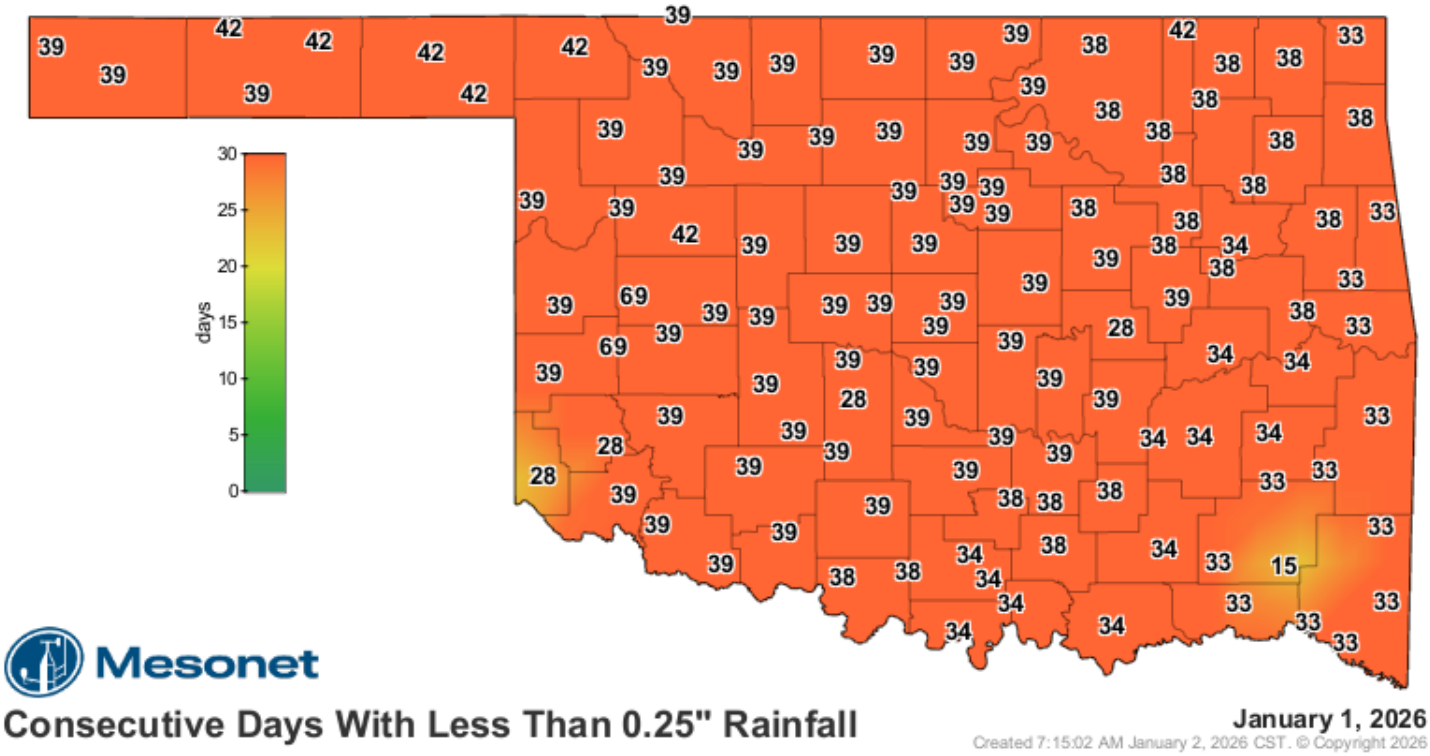


Fig. 5. OK Mesonet consecutive days with less than 0.25” of rainfall through 1/01/2026.

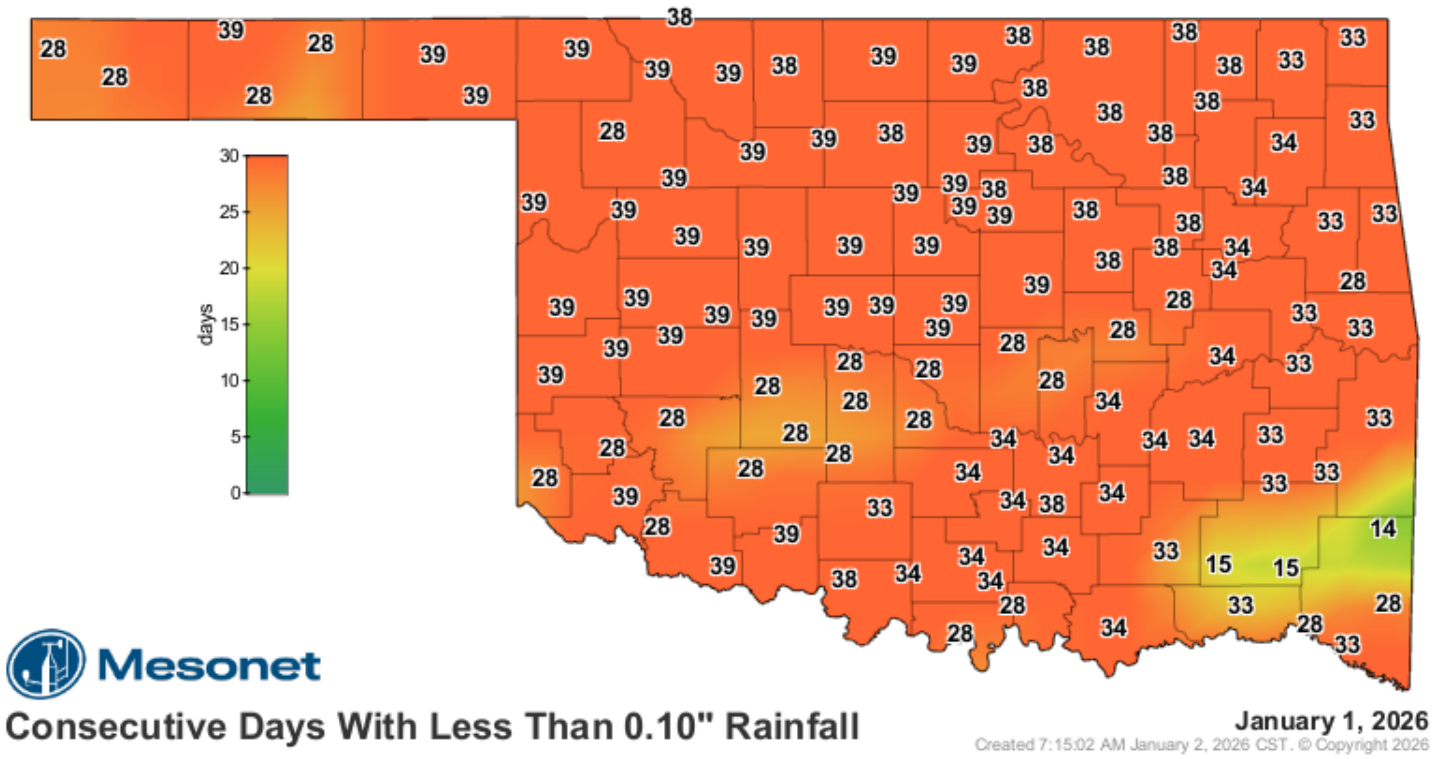


Fig. 6. OK Mesonet consecutive days with less than 0.10" of rainfall through 1/01/2026.

Written by:

Nicole McGavock
Service Hydrologist
WFO Tulsa

Products issued in December 2025:

0 Flash Flood Warnings (FFW)
0 Flash Flood Statements (FFS)
0 Flash/Areal Flood Watches (FFA) (0 Watch FFA CON/EXT/EXA/EXB/CAN)
0 Urban and Small Stream Advisories (FLS)
0 Areal Flood Warnings (FLW)
0 Areal Flood Statements (FLS)
0 River Flood Warnings (FLW) (includes category increases)
0 River Flood Statements (FLS)
0 River Flood Advisories (FLS) (0 Advisory FLS CON/EXT/CAN)
0 River Flood Watches (FFA) (0 Watch FFA CON/EXT/CAN)
0 River Statements (RVS)
0 Hydrologic Outlooks (ESF)
0 Drought Information Statements (DGT)

Preliminary Hydrographs:

None