

March 2025 Climate & Weather Summary

Issued: April 10, 2025



March 2025 will be remembered for the rounds of dust storms that battered the state throughout the month. Widespread blowing dust occurred on four different days (Mar. 3rd, 6th, 14th, and the 18th), with the 18th being the dustiest of them all. Throughout the afternoon, numerous dust storms impacted travel throughout central and eastern NM and the WFO shattered the daily record for number of Dust Storm Warnings issued. The dust was accompanied by damaging wind gusts in excess of 70 mph and critical fire weather conditions as well, which did lead to several new fire starts. Unfortunately, snow was hard to come by during March and the entire state ended up with below average precipitation. This stretch of dry weather prompted a drastic expansion in severe drought conditions. Overall, the month was warmer than average despite a couple of cold snaps.



March 3 | South of Roswell, NM
Photo courtesy Wendell Malone



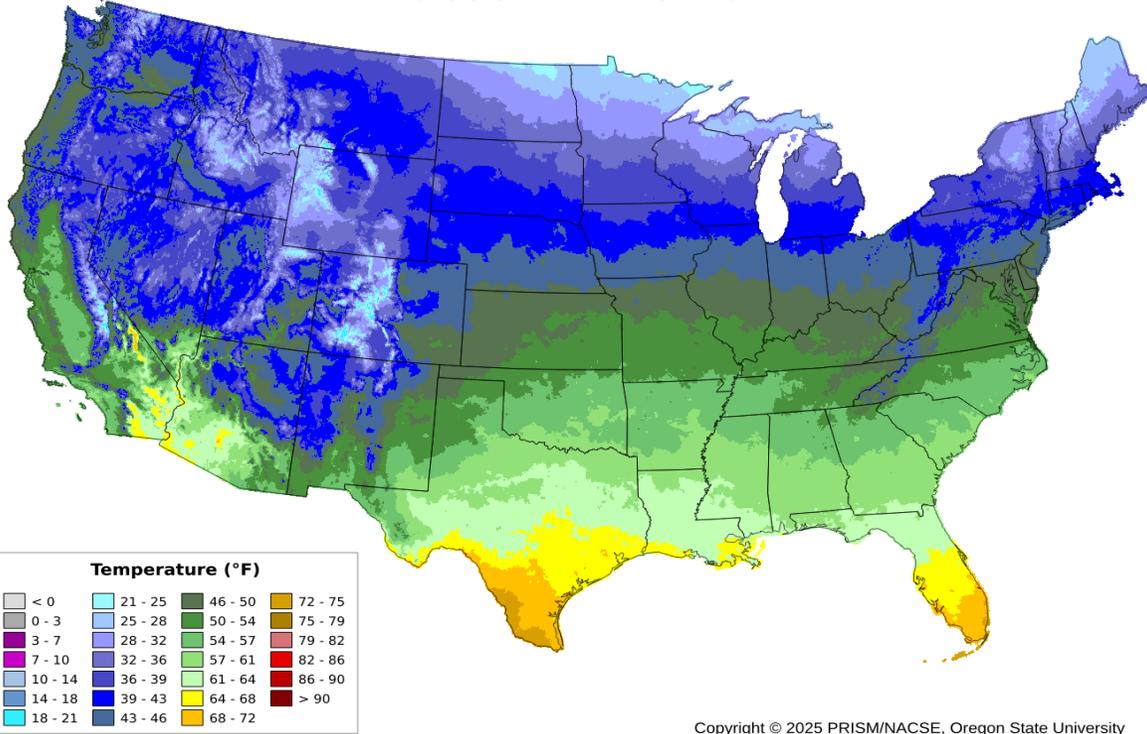
March 18 | Near La Bajada on I-25
Photo courtesy of NM Forestry Division



March 18 | Near Elk, NM
Photo courtesy Camille Graham

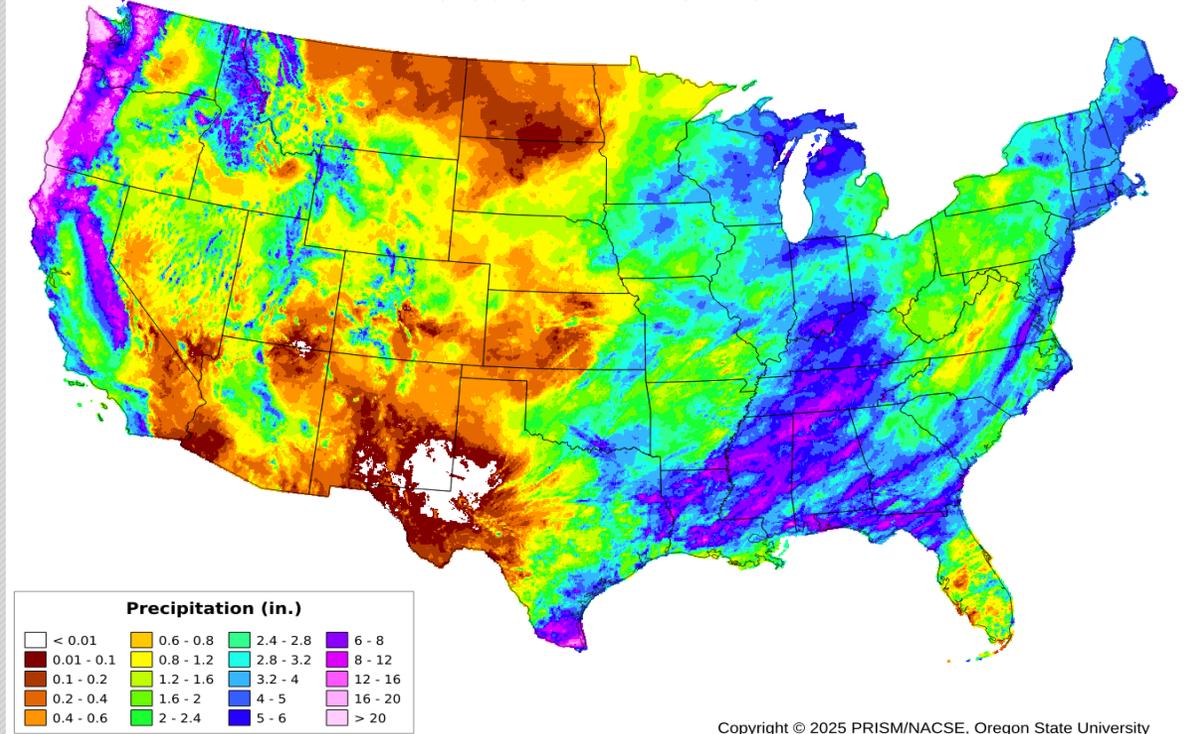
Average Temperatures

Average Daily Mean Temperature: Mar 2025
 Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2025
 (Map graphic created 02 Apr 2025)

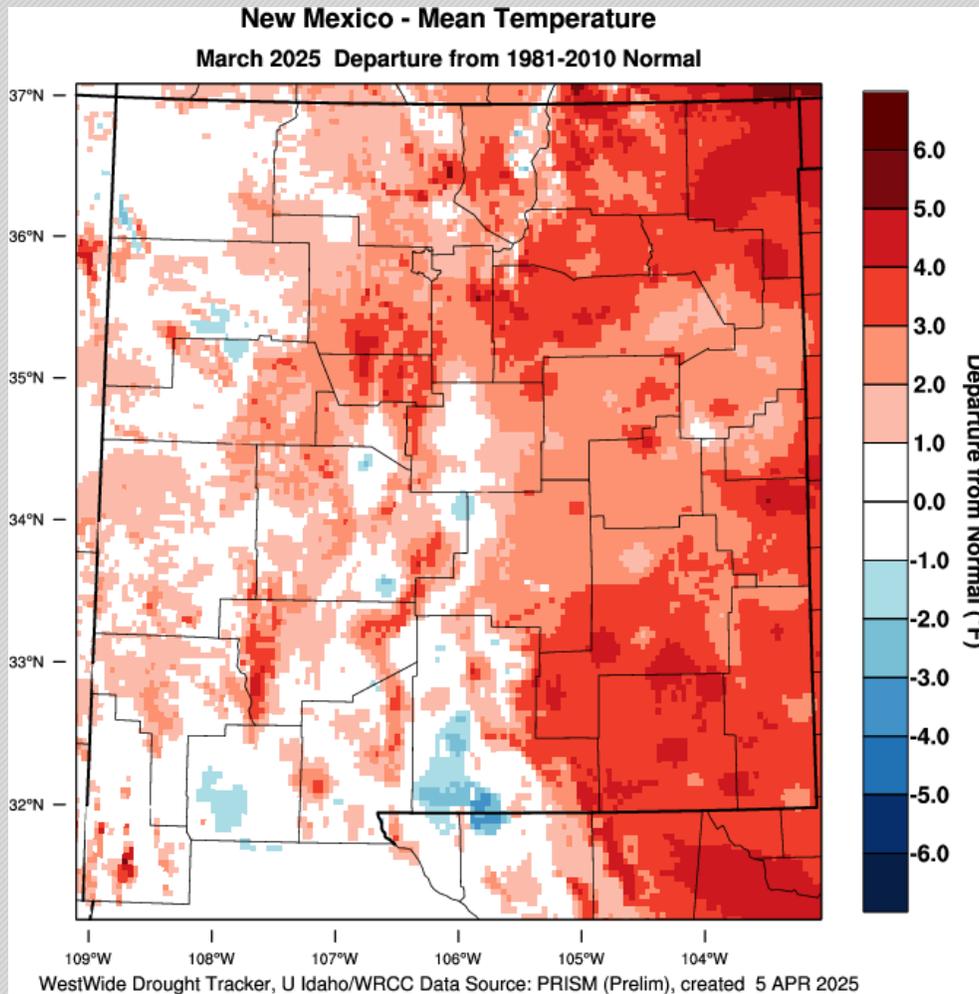


Total Precipitation

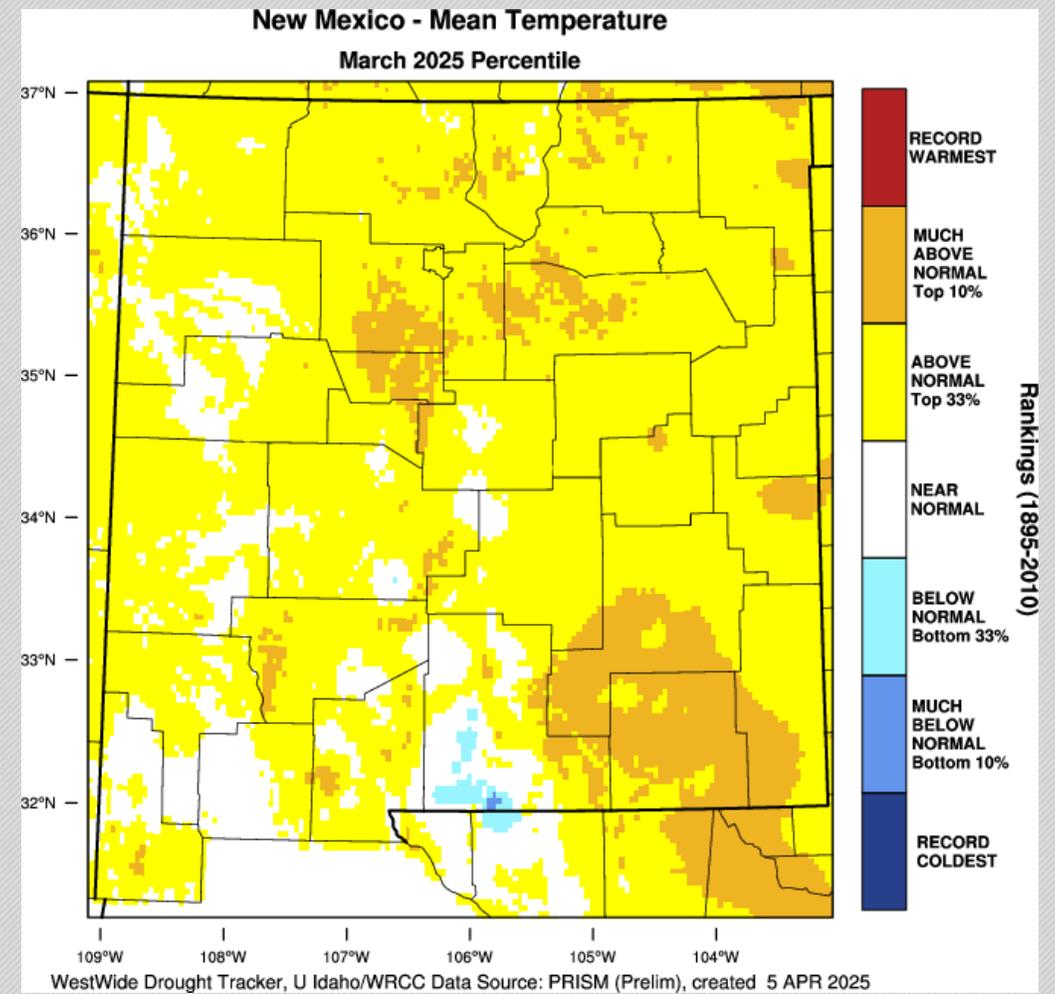
Total Precipitation: Mar 2025
 Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2025
 (Map graphic created 02 Apr 2025)



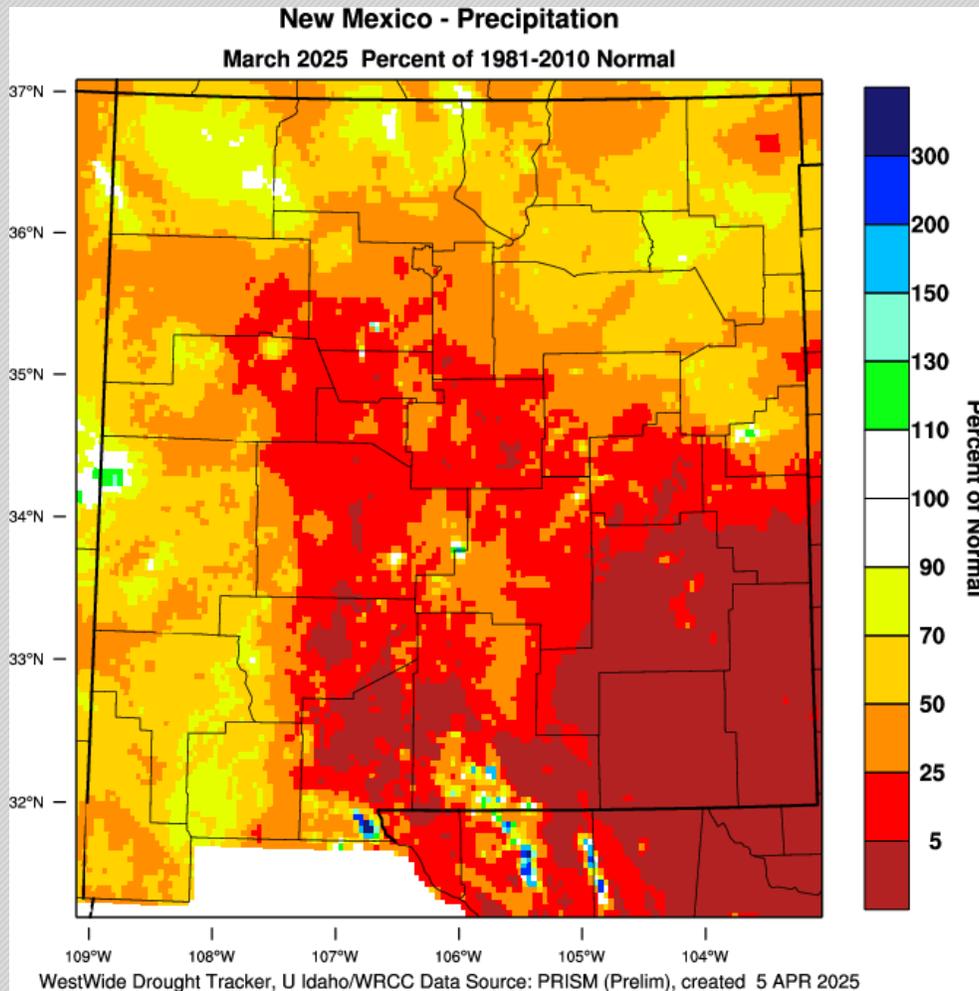
Anomaly



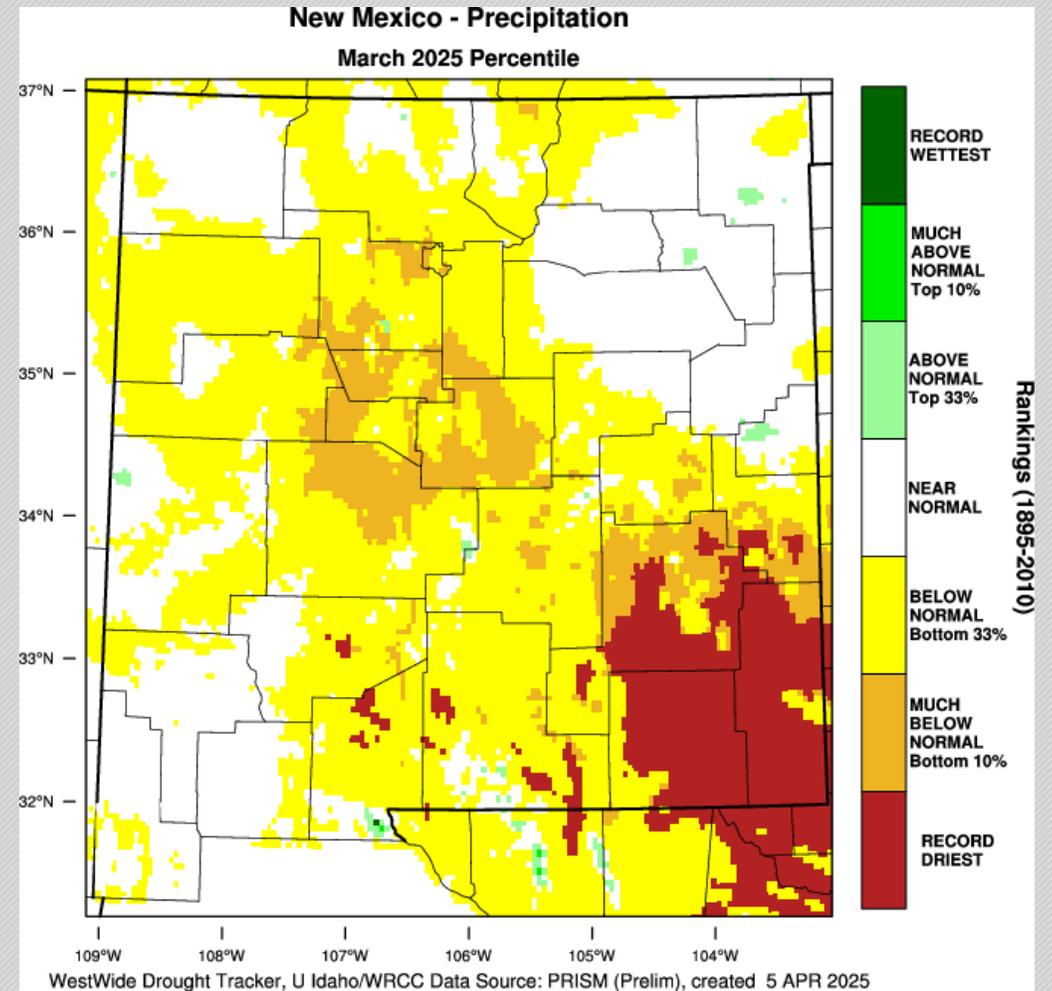
Percentile

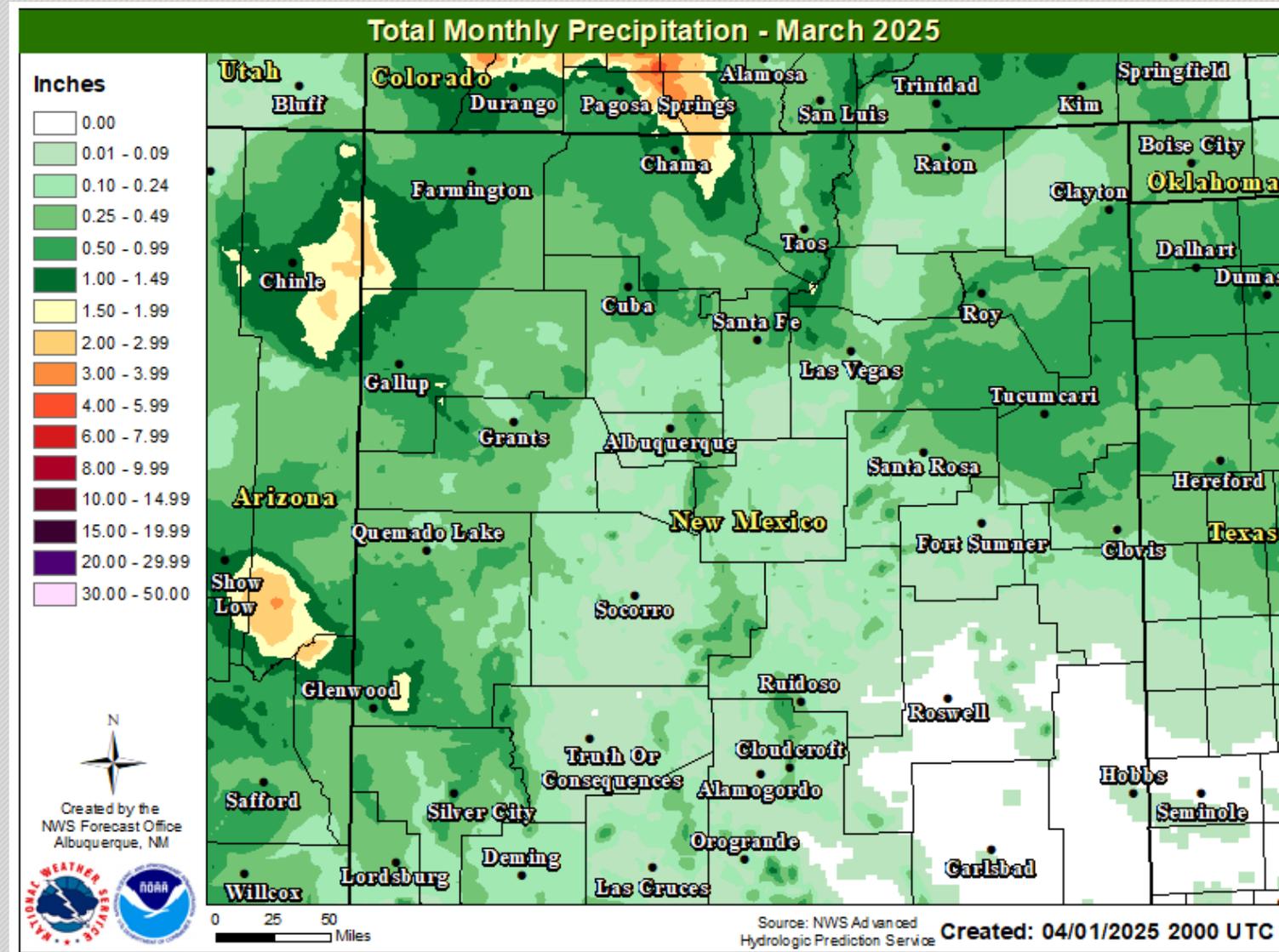


Anomaly

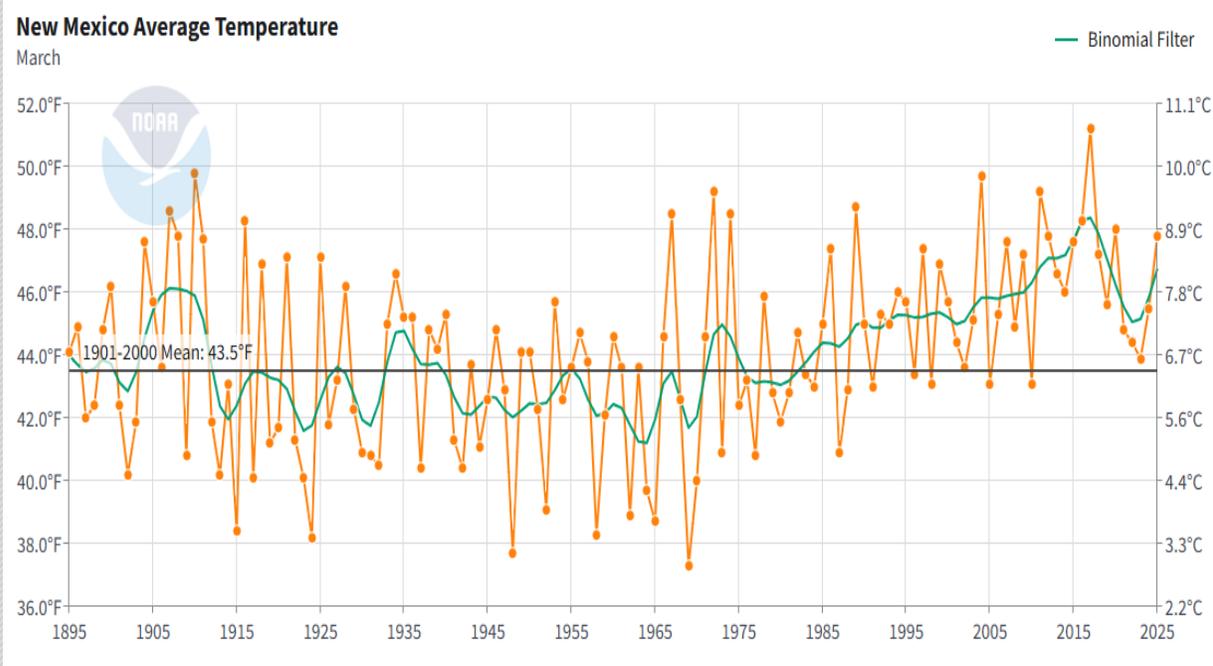


Percentile



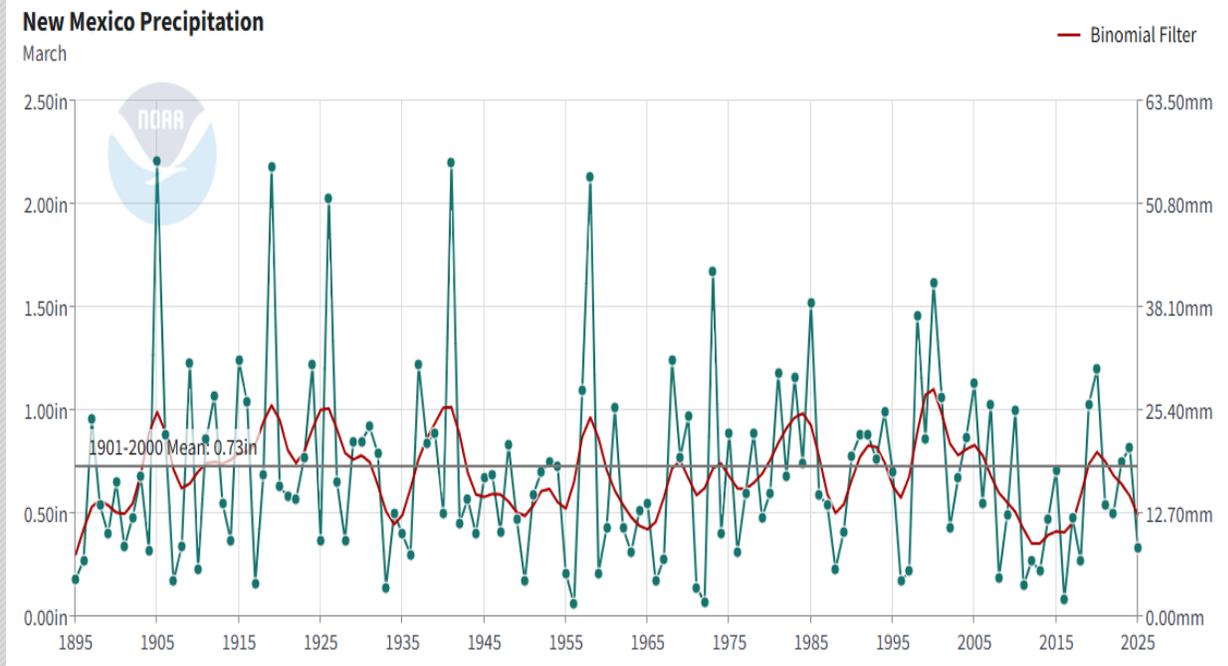


Temperature



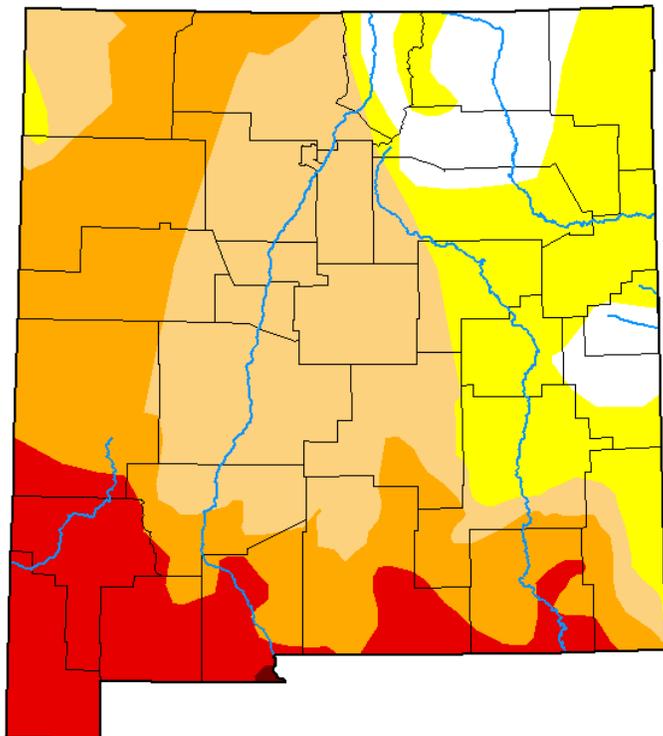
The March 2025 average statewide temperature was 47.8°, which was 4.3° above the long-term normal of 43.5° (1901-2000). This ranked as the 13th warmest March on record (1895-2025).

Precipitation



The March 2025 average statewide precipitation was 0.33", which was 0.40" below the long-term normal of 0.73" (1901-2000). This ranked as the 28th driest March on record (1895-2025).

U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico



March 4, 2025
(Released Thursday, Mar. 6, 2025)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	8.32	91.68	71.42	40.86	13.98	0.08
Last Week 02-25-2025	8.32	91.68	60.21	29.08	13.98	0.00
3 Months Ago 12-03-2024	46.49	53.51	29.05	16.25	5.19	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-07-2025	43.30	56.70	35.22	19.69	5.37	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	28.35	71.65	34.73	17.54	2.80	0.00
One Year Ago 03-05-2024	2.81	97.19	88.19	47.28	19.28	3.51

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

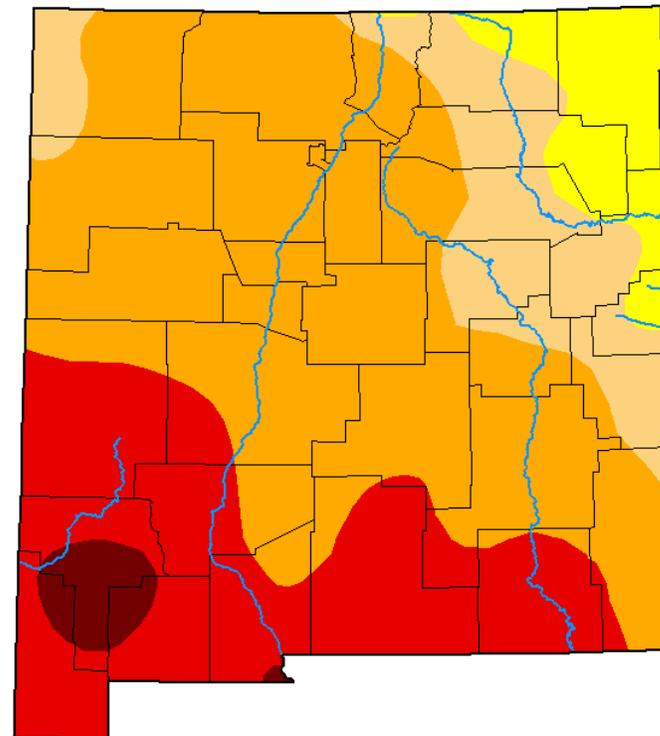
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:
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National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico



April 1, 2025
(Released Thursday, Apr. 3, 2025)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	92.94	78.82	27.69	2.50
Last Week 03-25-2025	0.00	100.00	88.47	67.42	27.63	2.50
3 Months Ago 12-03-2024	43.74	56.26	29.19	16.25	5.19	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-07-2025	43.30	56.70	35.22	19.69	5.37	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	28.35	71.65	34.73	17.54	2.80	0.00
One Year Ago 04-02-2024	1.76	98.24	76.24	37.77	16.72	3.51

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Drought conditions continued to worsen during March across New Mexico due to continued dry and warm conditions. The most notable change was the significant expansion of Severe Drought (D2) across central and northern New Mexico.

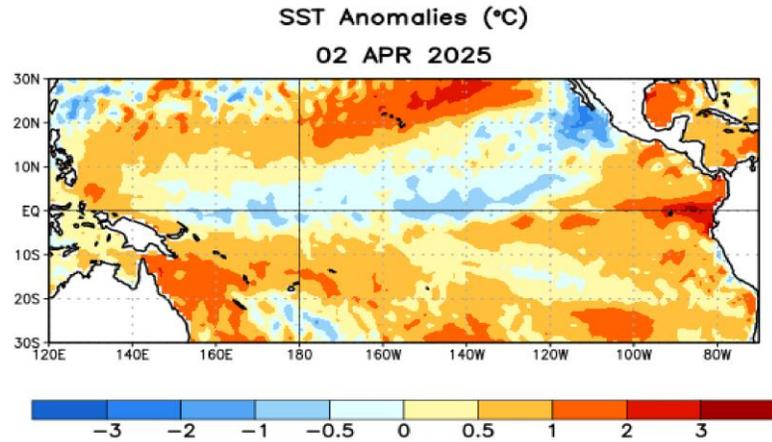


Figure 1. Average sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies (°C) for the week centered on 2 April 2025. Anomalies are computed with respect to the 1991-2020 base period weekly means.

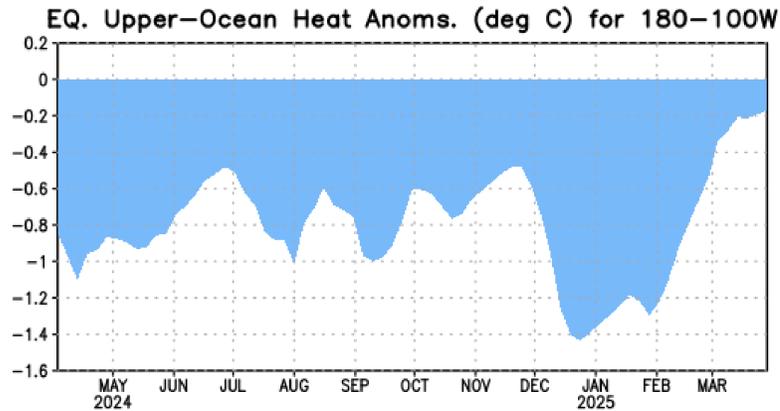


Figure 3. Area-averaged upper-ocean heat content anomaly (°C) in the equatorial Pacific (5°N-5°S, 180°-100°W). The heat content anomaly is computed as the departure from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means.

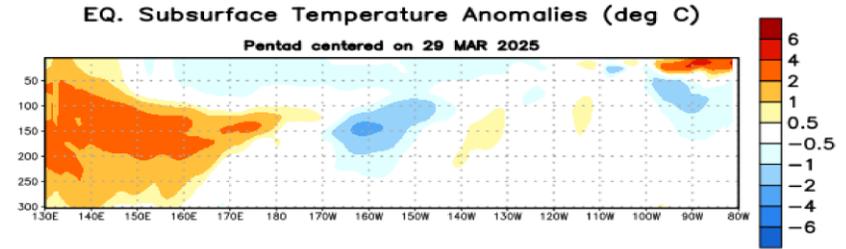


Figure 4. Depth-longitude section of equatorial Pacific upper-ocean (0-300m) temperature anomalies (°C) centered on the pentad of 29 March 2025. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means.

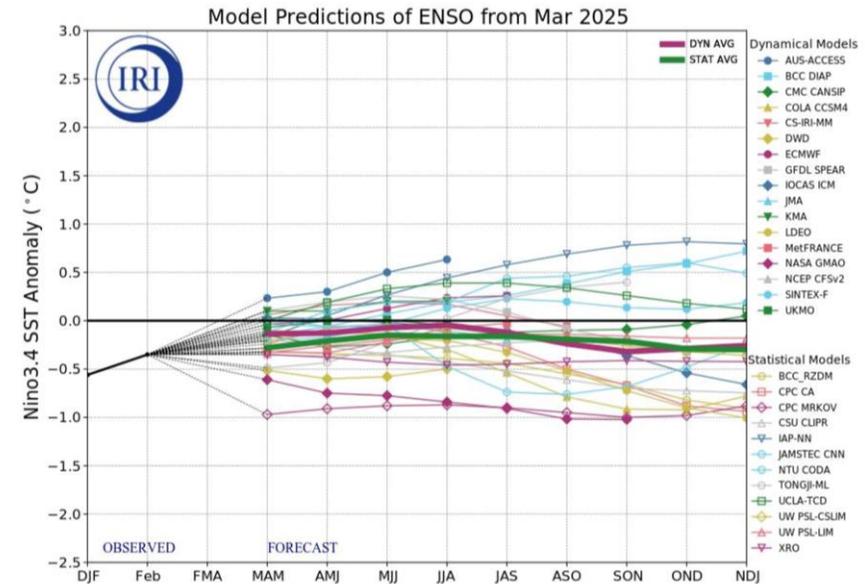
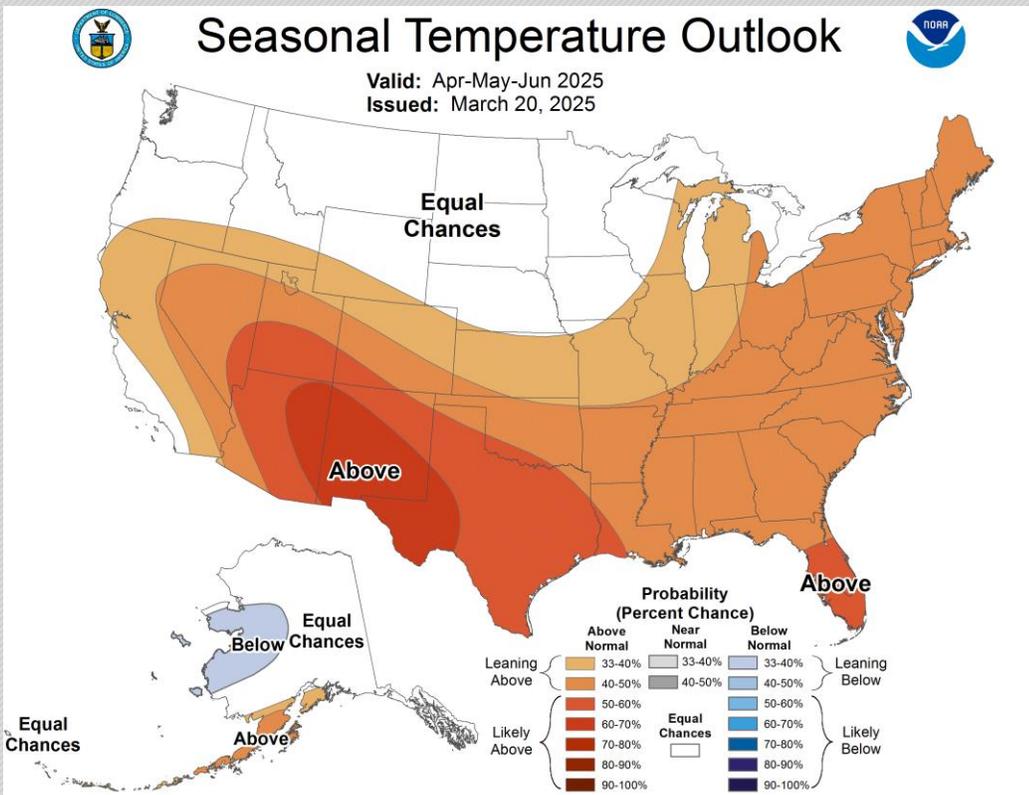
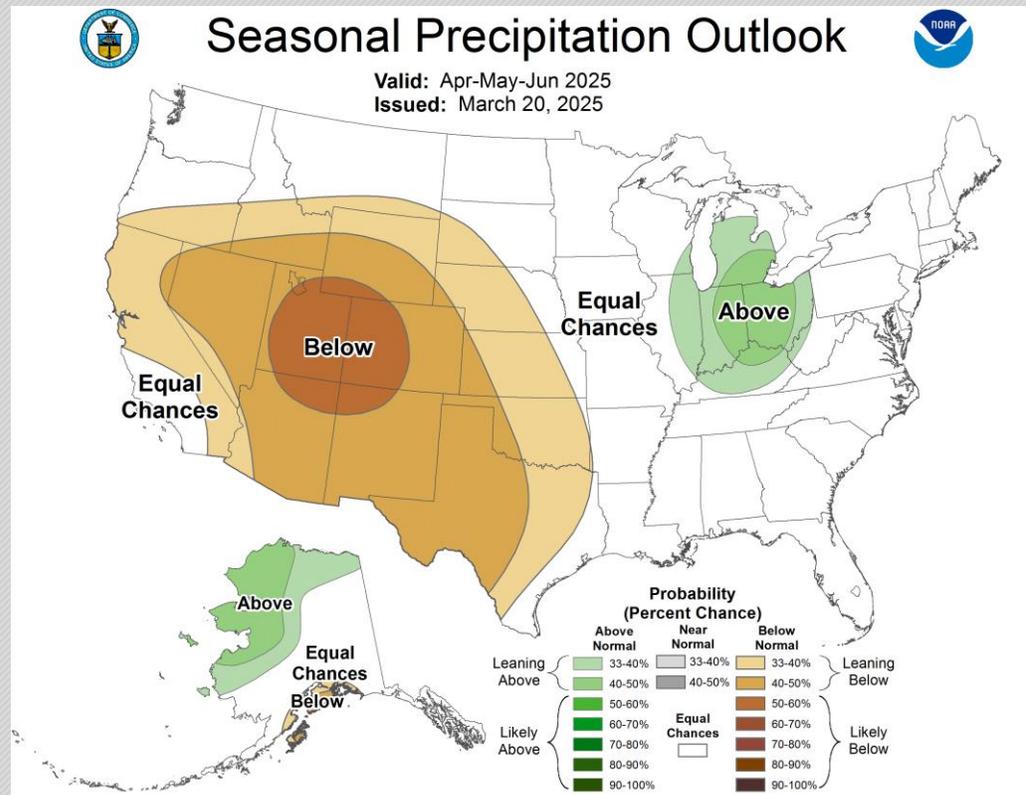


Figure 6. Forecasts of sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies for the Niño 3.4 region (5°N-5°S, 120°W-170°W). Figure updated 19 March 2025 by the International Research Institute (IRI) for Climate and Society.

Temperature
April-May-June



Precipitation
April-May-June

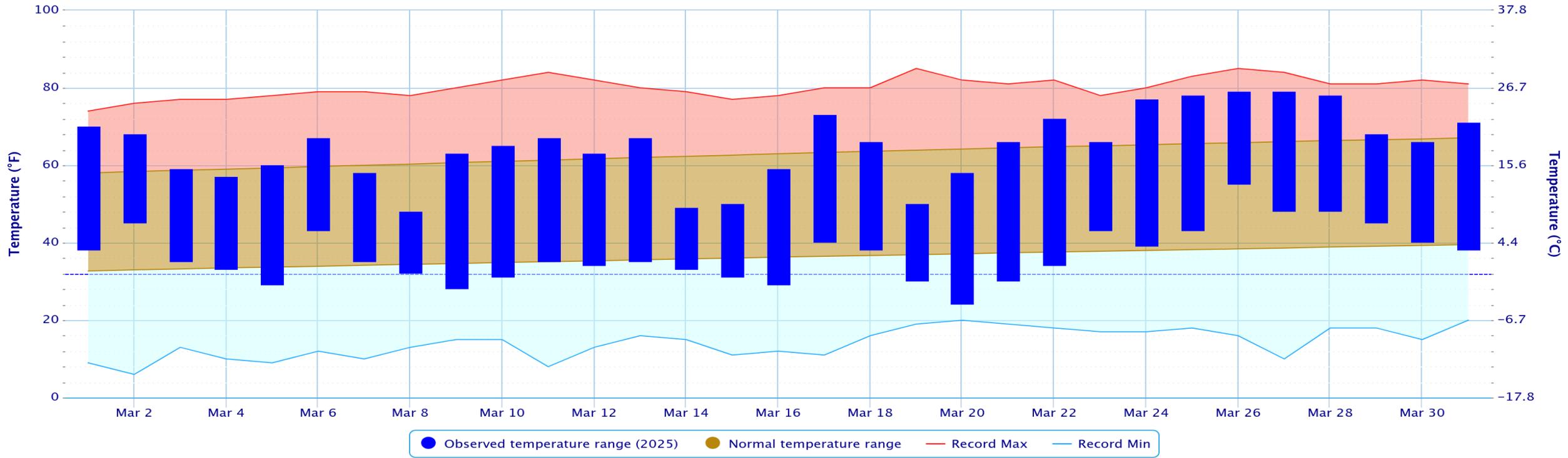


There are increased chances for above average temperatures and below average precipitation during the April through June timeframe across the entire state of New Mexico.

Average Temperature: 50.9°

Daily Temperature Data – Albuquerque Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – 1891-12-01 to 2025-04-09. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.

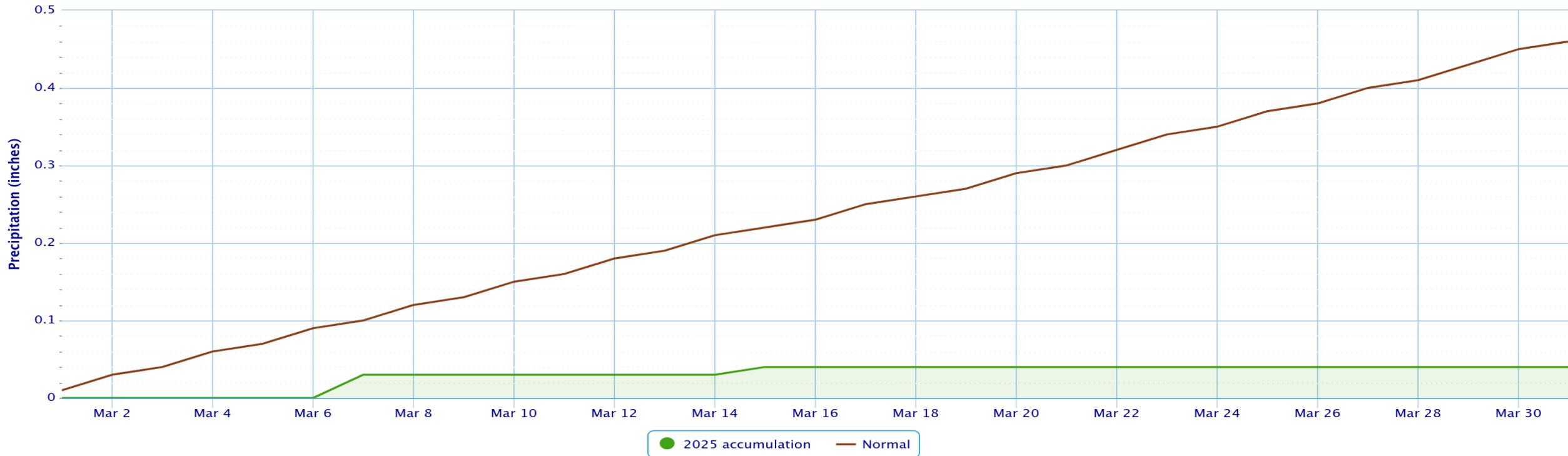


The March 2025 average temperature for Albuquerque was 50.9°, which was 1.4° above the normal of 49.5°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 65.1°. This was 2.3° above the normal average maximum temperature of 62.8°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 36.8°. This was 2.6° above the normal average minimum temperature of 36.2°. This ranked as the 20th warmest March on record.

Precipitation: 0.04"

Accumulated Precipitation – Albuquerque Area, NM (ThreadEx)

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



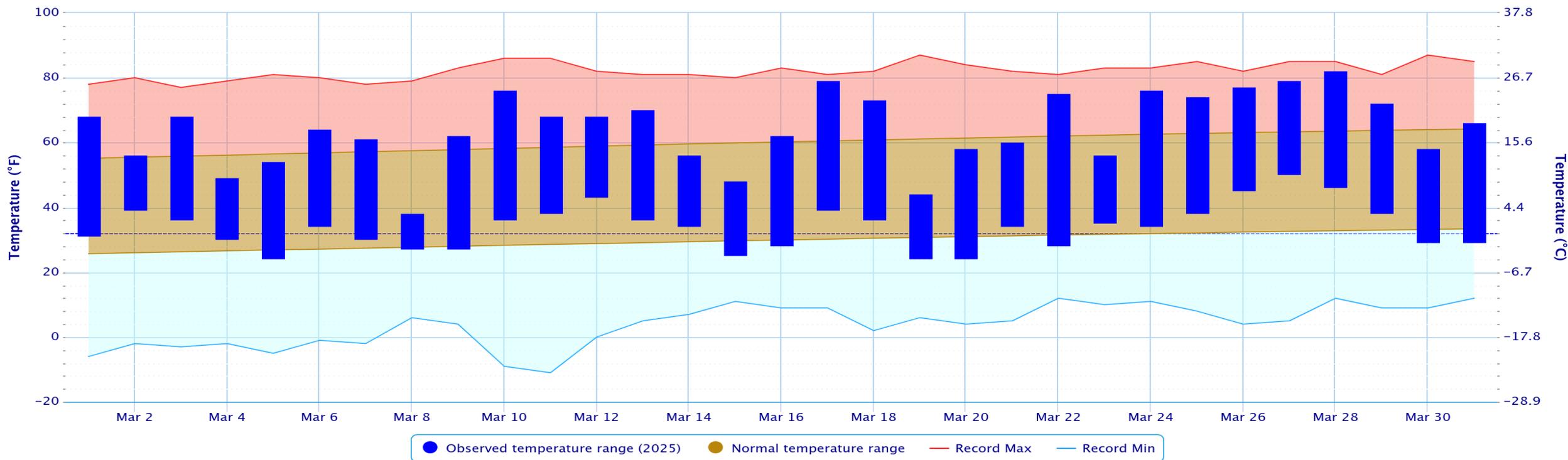
The March 2025 precipitation for Albuquerque was 0.04", which was 0.42" below the normal of 0.46". This ranked as the 20th driest March on record.

There was 0.1" of snow, compared to the normal of 0.7".

Average Temperature: 49.1°

Daily Temperature Data – Clayton Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – 1896-02-01 to 2025-04-09. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



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The March 2025 average temperature for Clayton was 49.1°, which was 4.2° above the normal of 44.9°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 64.4°. This was 4.4° above the normal average maximum temperature of 60.0°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 33.8°. This was 4.0° above the normal average minimum temperature of 29.8°. This ranked as the 12th warmest March on record.

Precipitation: 0.41"

Accumulated Precipitation – Clayton Area, NM (ThreadEx)

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



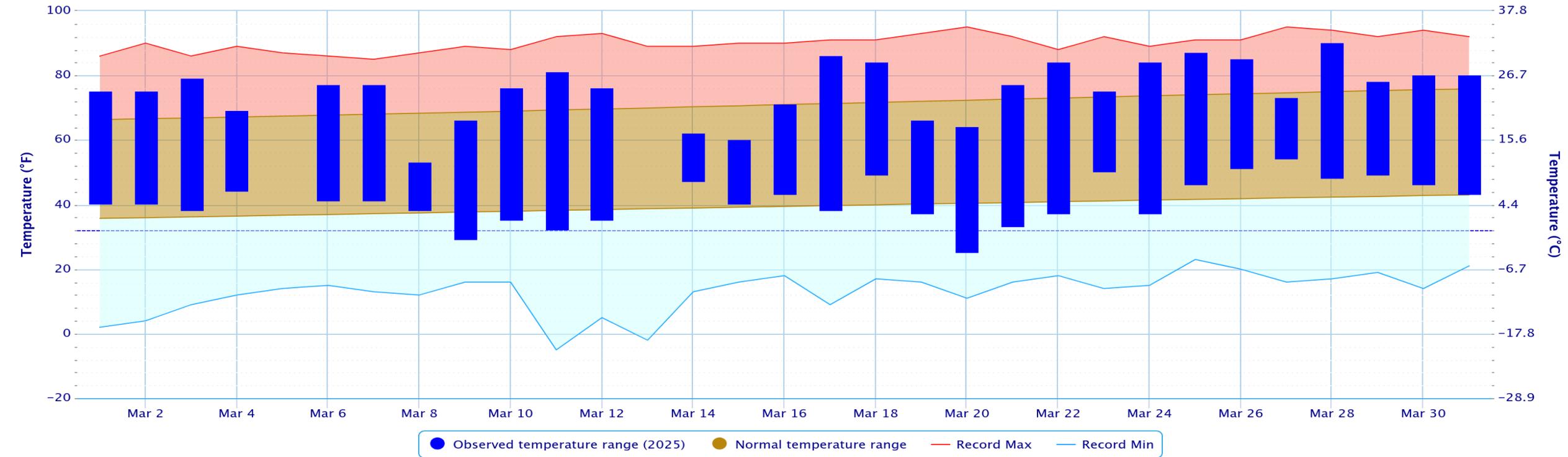
The March 2025 precipitation for Clayton was 0.41", which was 0.50" below the normal of 0.91". This ranked as the 56th driest March on record.

There was 2.4" of snow, compared to the normal of 3.4".

Average Temperature: 58.2°

Daily Temperature Data – Roswell Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – Max temperature: 1893-01-03 to 2025-04-09; Min temperature: 1893-01-21 to 2025-04-09. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.

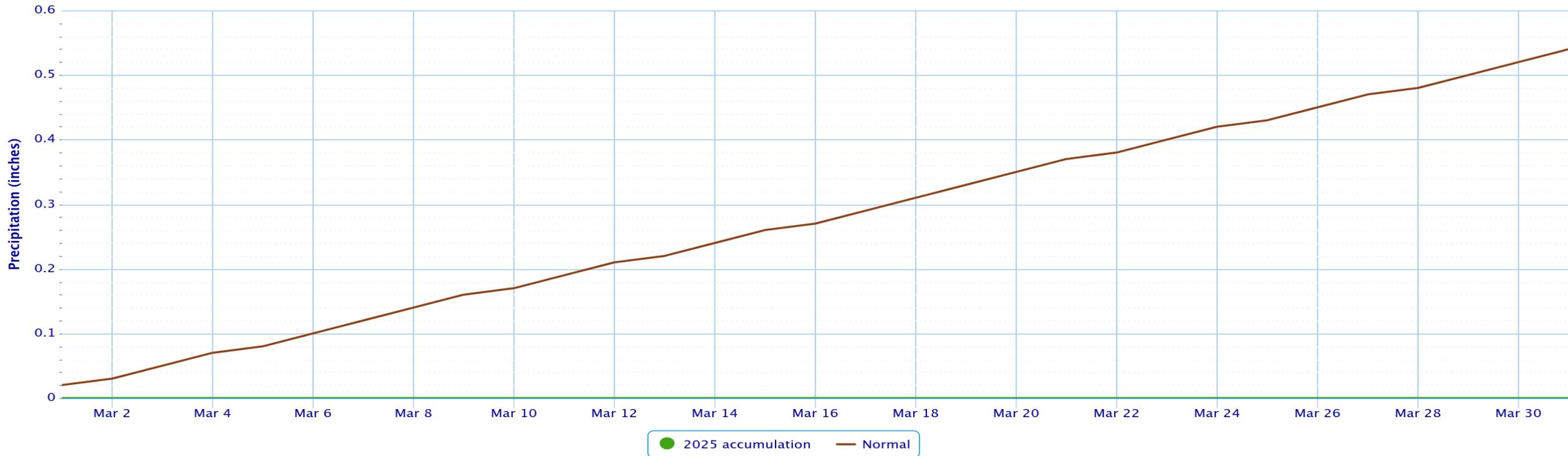


The March 2025 average temperature for Roswell was 58.2°, which was 3.0° above the normal of 55.2°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 75.5°. This was 4.5° above the average maximum temperature of 71.0°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 41.0°. This was 1.6° above the normal average minimum temperature of 39.4°. This ranked as the 8th warmest March on record.

Precipitation: Trace

Accumulated Precipitation – Roswell Area, NM (ThreadEx)

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



The March 2025 precipitation for Roswell was a Trace, which was 0.54” below the normal of 0.54”. This tied the 8th driest March on record.

There was 0.0” of snow, compared to the normal of 0.7”.

-  NCEI Climatological Rankings: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/national/rankings>
-  PRISM Climate Data: <http://www.prism.oregonstate.edu/>
-  NWS Local Climate Pages: <https://w2.weather.gov/climate/index.php?wfo=abq>
-  NCEI Storm Data: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>
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