

# May 2024 Climate & Weather Summary

Issued: June 8, 2024

May 2024 featured both severe weather and critical fire weather. The month started out windy with typical strong, dry west winds and critical fire weather conditions. Around the middle of the month, the pattern shifted more to severe weather and featured rounds of afternoon storms in central and eastern NM, punctuated by a rare tornado in Sandoval County near Jemez Pueblo. Several storms would go on to produce hail as large as baseballs, damaging wind gusts, and a few tornadoes during the last couple weeks of the month. In addition, some of the drier storms produced lightning that started two large wildfires, the Blue 2 fire in the White Mountain Wilderness Area and the Indios fire in the Chama River Canyon Wilderness. The dry and windy conditions helped these fires rapidly grow during the last week of May.



May 27 | Blue 2 fire near Ruidoso, NM  
Photo courtesy Mike McMillan



May 26 | Indios Fire near Coyote, NM  
Photo courtesy Lynn Bjorkland, USFS



May 11<sup>th</sup> | NM-13 near Roswell, NM  
Photo courtesy Wendell Malone

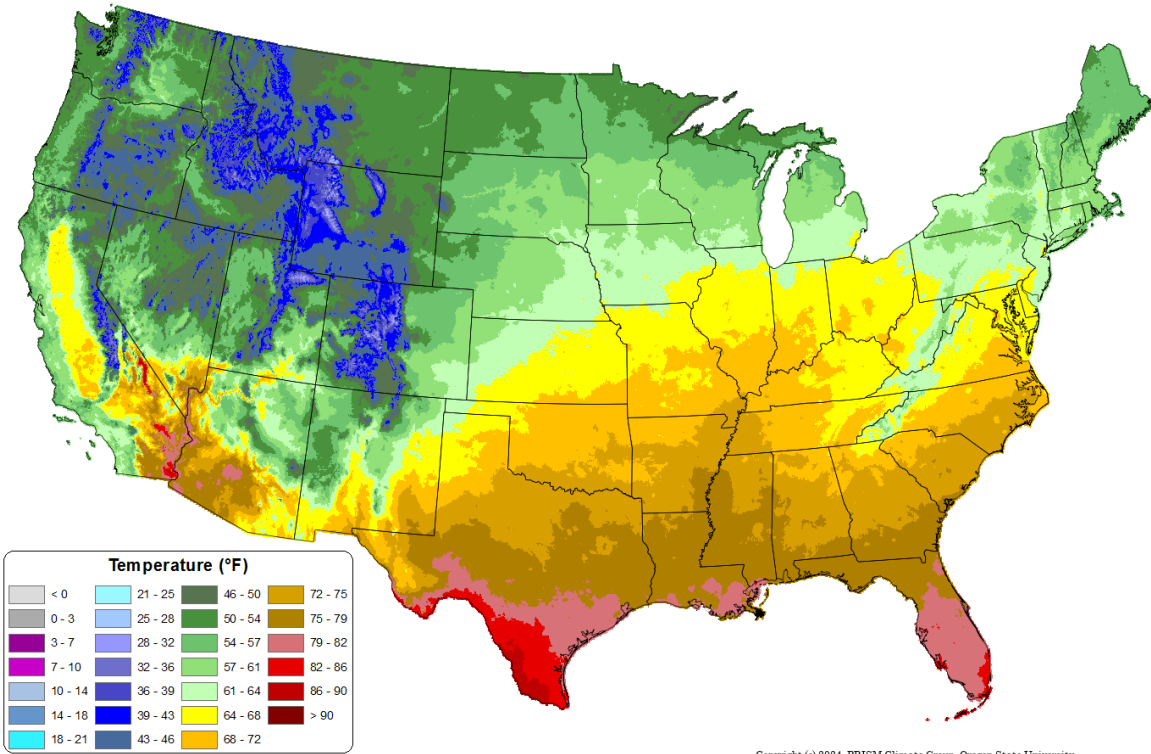


May 28<sup>th</sup> | Dora, NM  
Photo courtesy Corbin Voges



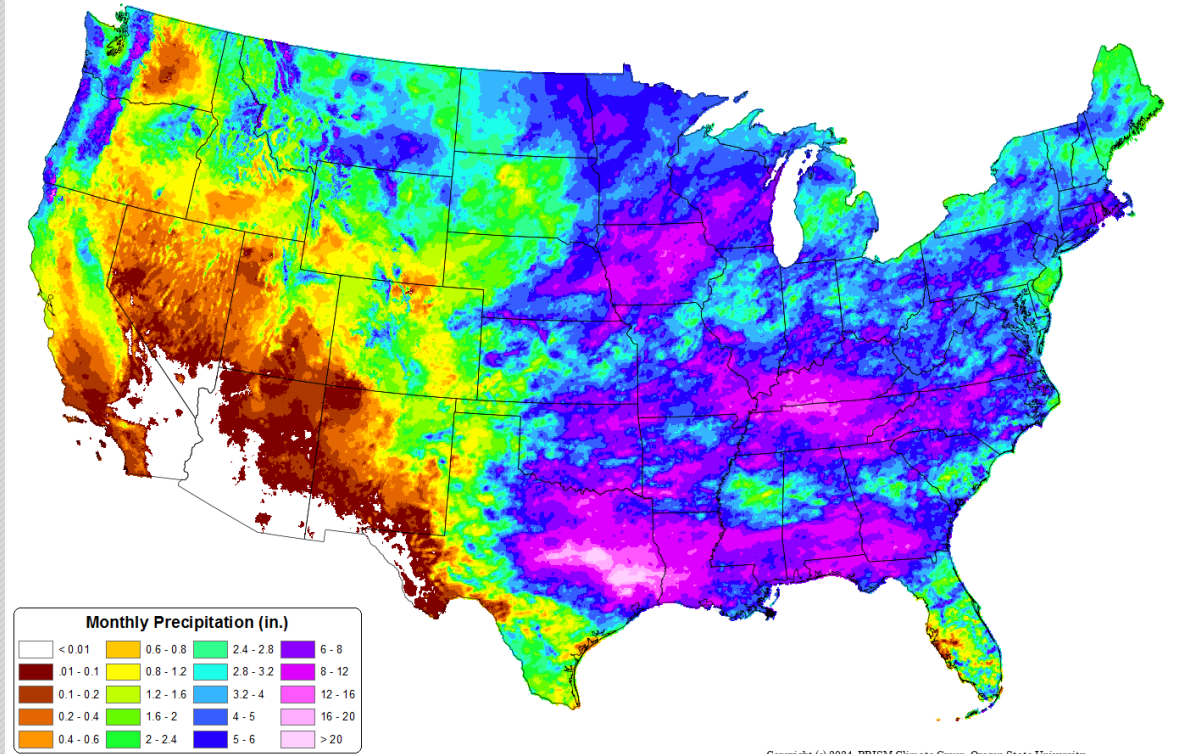
## Average Temperatures

Average Daily Mean Temperature: May 2024  
Period ending 7 AM EST 31 May 2024  
(Map created 03 Jun 2024)

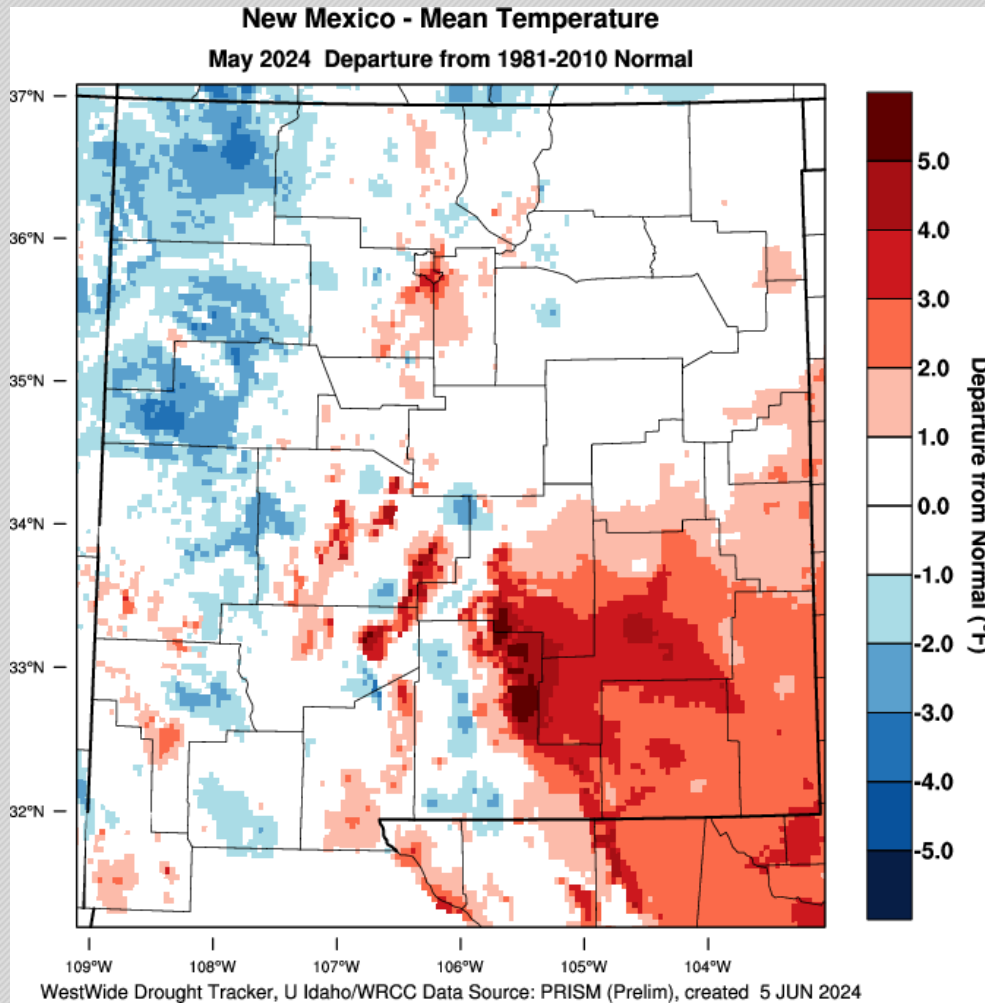


## Total Precipitation

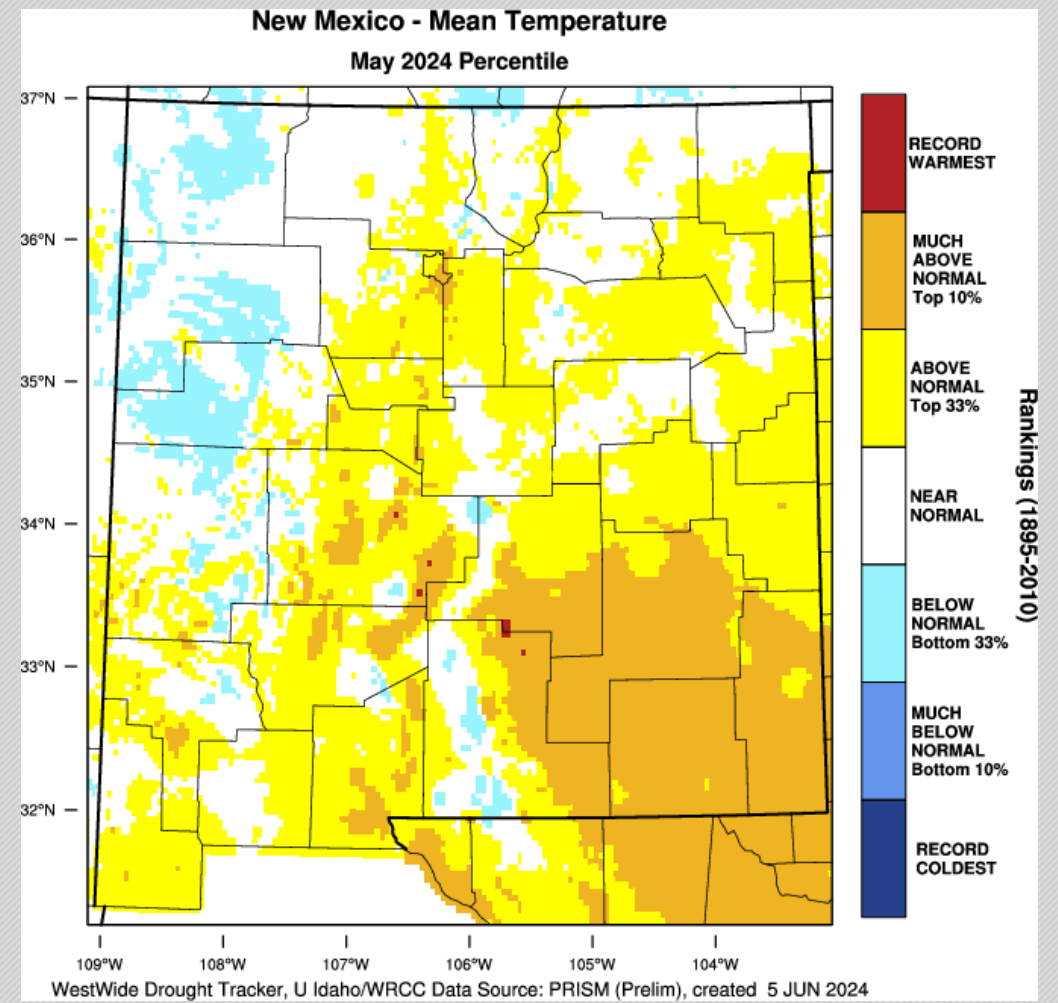
Total Precipitation: May 2024  
Period ending 31 May 2024  
(Map created 03 Jun 2024)



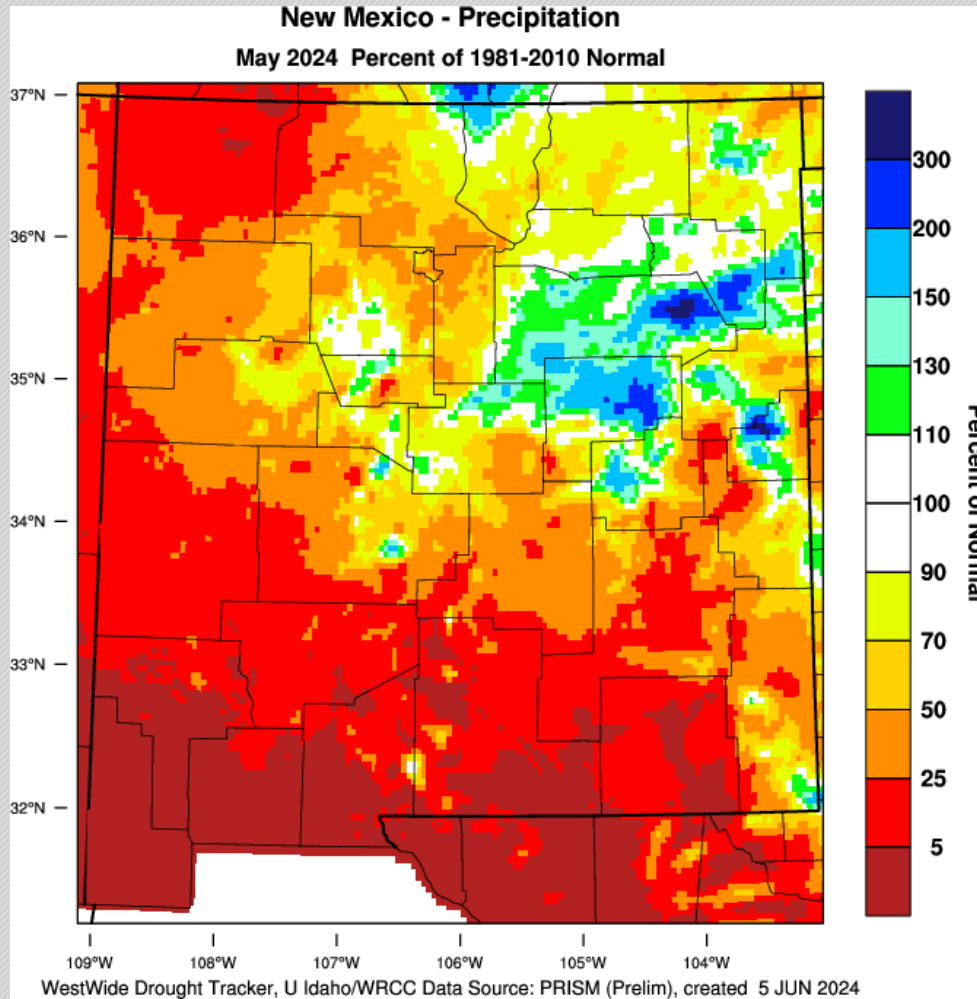
## Anomaly



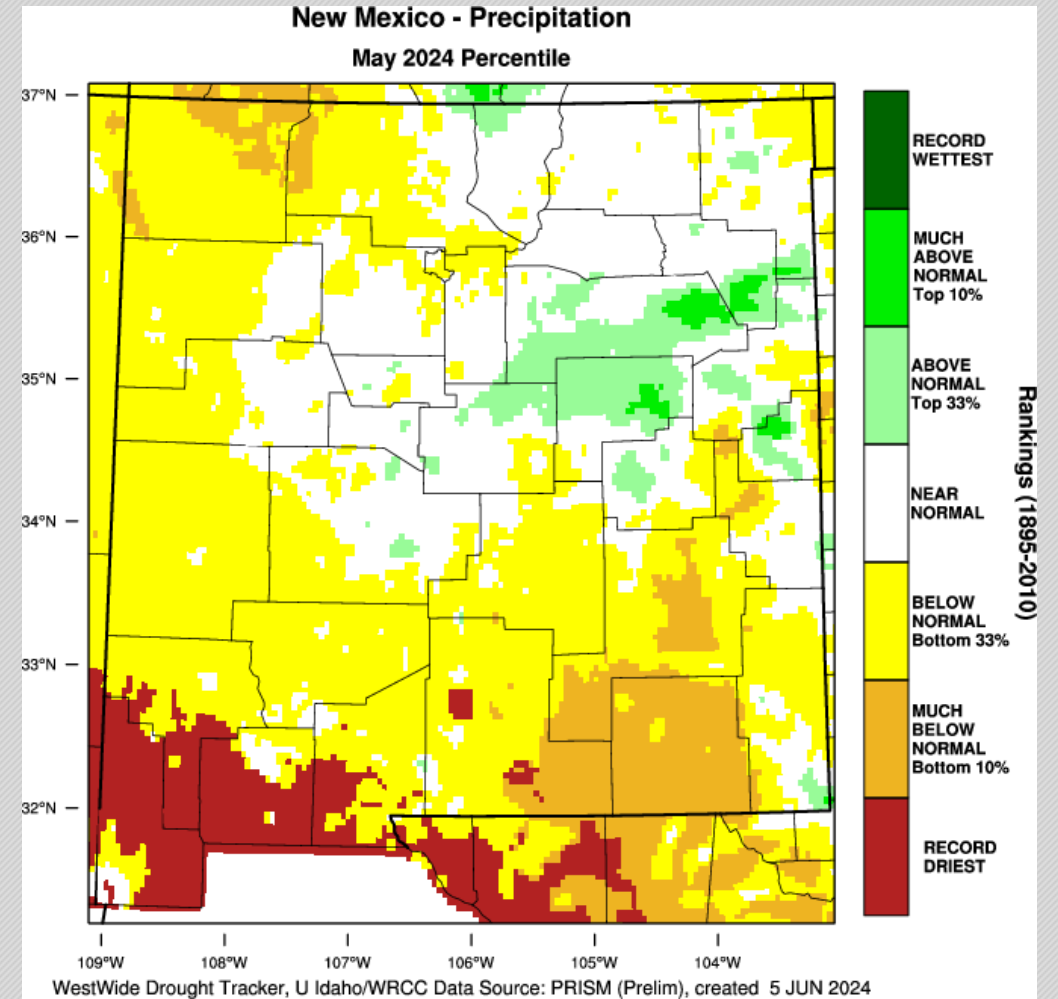
## Percentile



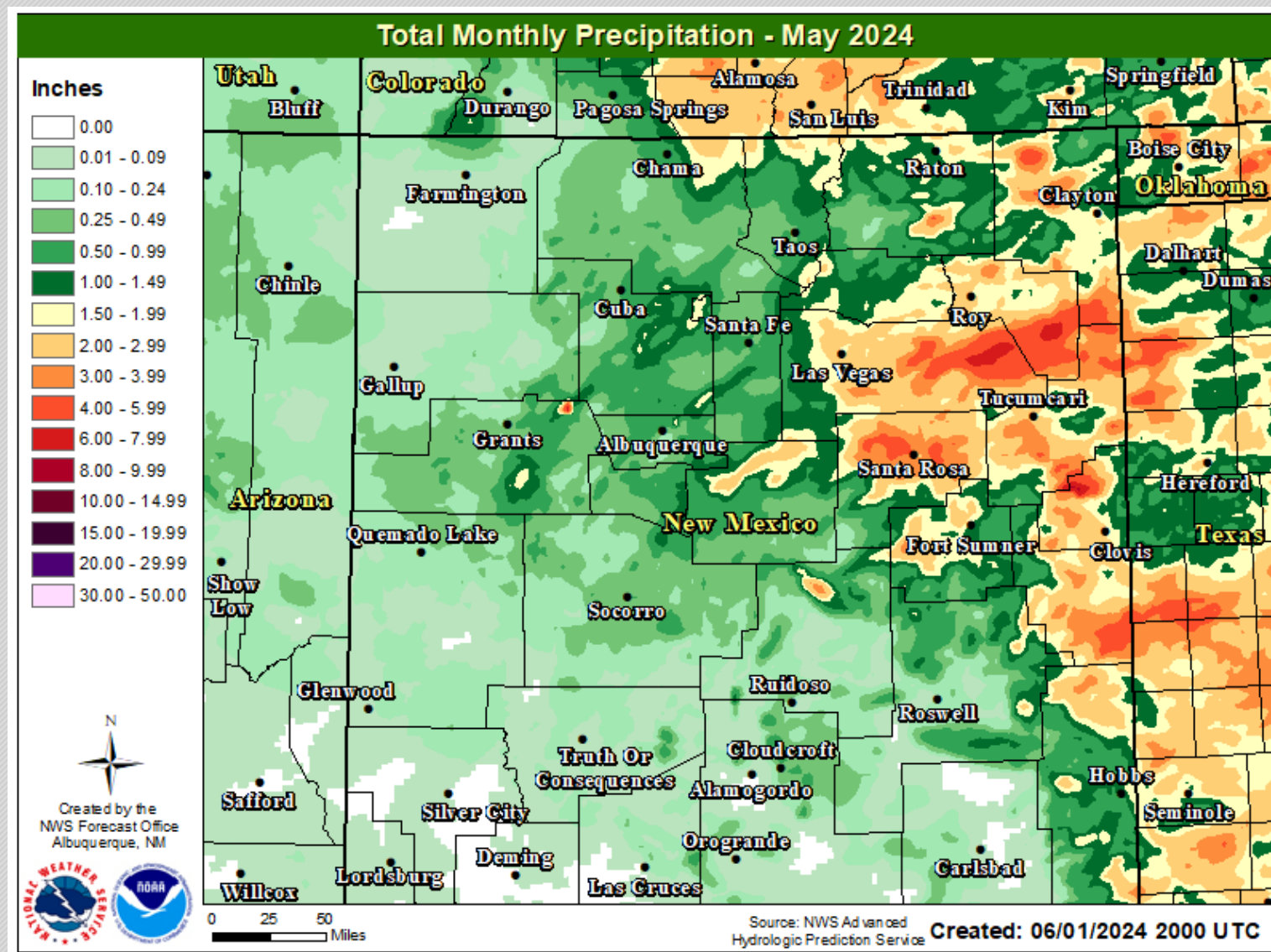
## Anomaly



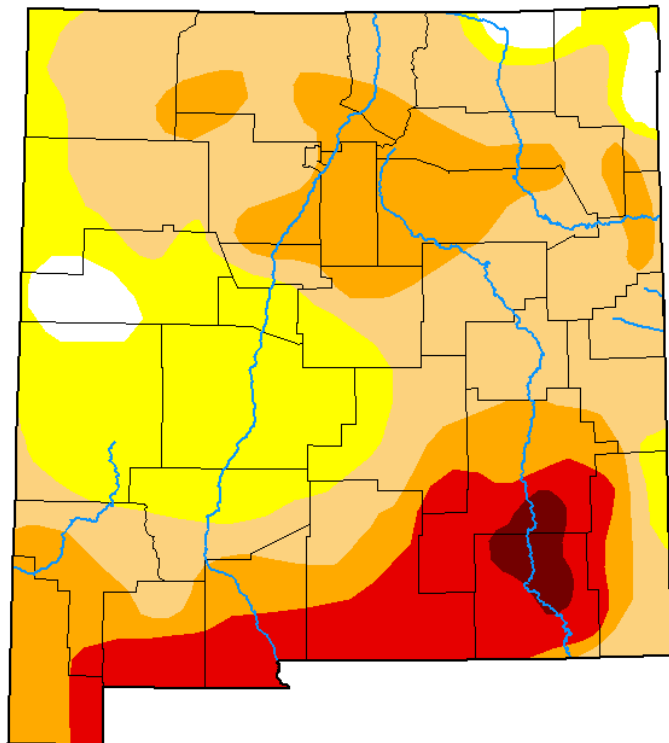
## Percentile







## U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico



**May 7, 2024**

(Released Thursday, May 9, 2024)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	3.22	96.78	74.41	35.67	13.42	1.53
<b>Last Week</b> 04-30-2024	3.49	96.51	74.41	35.67	13.42	1.53
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 02-06-2024	1.23	98.77	89.51	67.51	27.32	5.53
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-02-2024	0.71	99.29	94.04	79.22	38.39	6.48
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-26-2023	0.00	100.00	96.87	67.52	32.31	6.85
<b>One Year Ago</b> 05-09-2023	46.60	53.40	32.10	17.81	4.99	0.21

Intensity:



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>

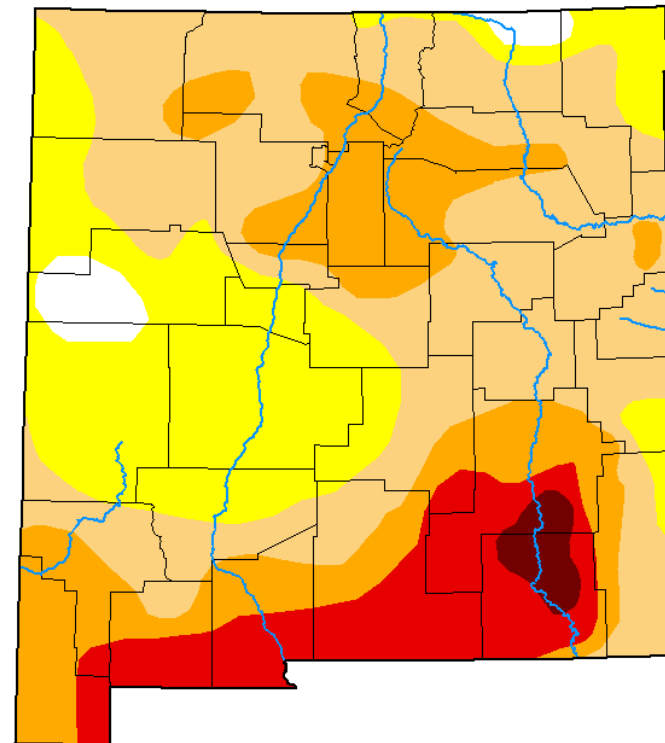
Author:

Curtis Riganti  
National Drought Mitigation Center



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

## U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico



**May 28, 2024**

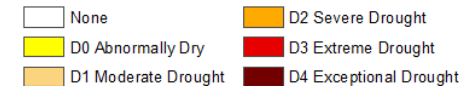
(Released Thursday, May 30, 2024)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	2.40	97.60	73.37	33.09	12.47	1.53
<b>Last Week</b> 05-21-2024	2.40	97.60	73.37	33.09	12.47	1.53
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 02-27-2024	2.82	97.18	88.19	47.86	19.28	3.51
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-02-2024	0.71	99.29	94.04	79.22	38.39	6.48
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-26-2023	0.00	100.00	96.87	67.52	32.31	6.85
<b>One Year Ago</b> 05-30-2023	51.73	48.27	28.82	16.18	0.60	0.00

Intensity:



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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NCEI/NOAA



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

Drought conditions remained largely unchanged during the month of May. Above normal precipitation resulted in very minor improvements across the eastern plains. Most of the state remains in some form of drought.

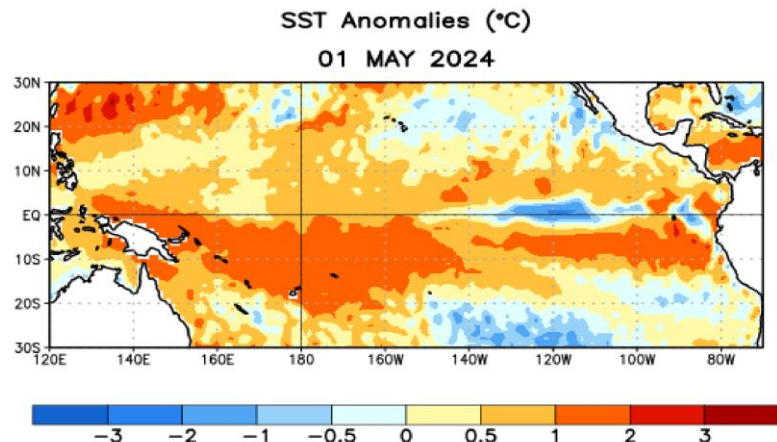


Figure 1. Average sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies (°C) for the week centered on 1 May 2024. Anomalies are computed with respect to the 1991-2020 base period weekly means.

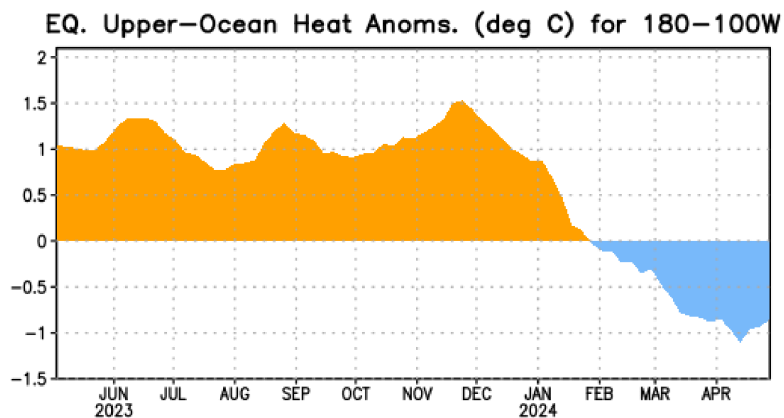


Figure 3. Area-averaged upper-ocean heat content anomaly (°C) in the equatorial Pacific (5°N-5°S, 180°-100°W). The heat content anomaly is computed as the departure from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means.

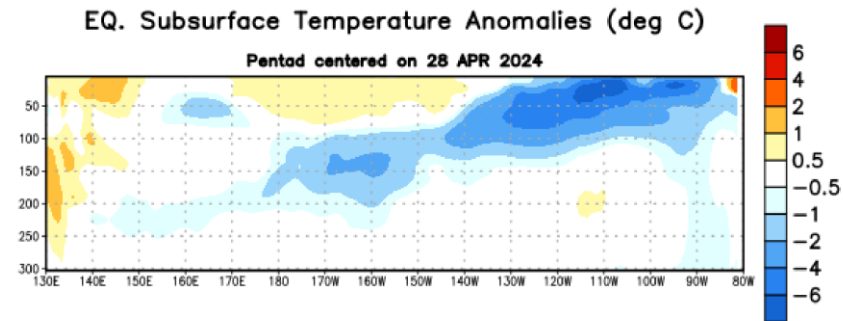


Figure 4. Depth-longitude section of equatorial Pacific upper-ocean (0-300m) temperature anomalies (°C) centered on the pentad of 28 April 2024. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means.

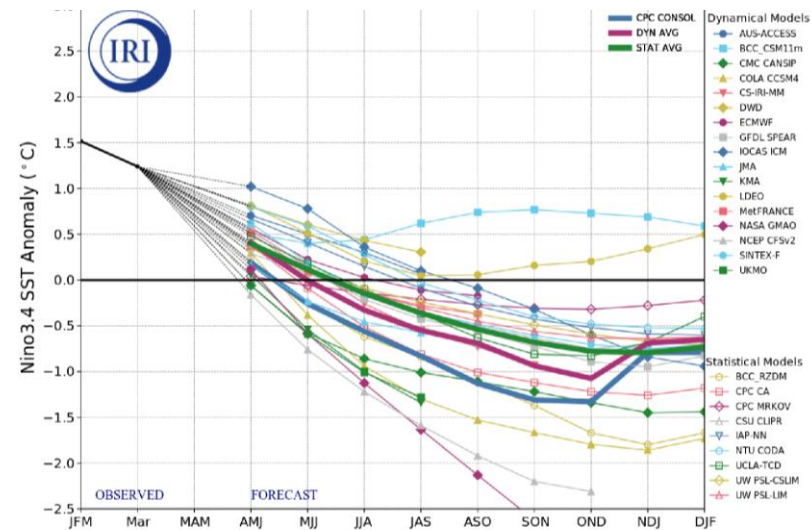
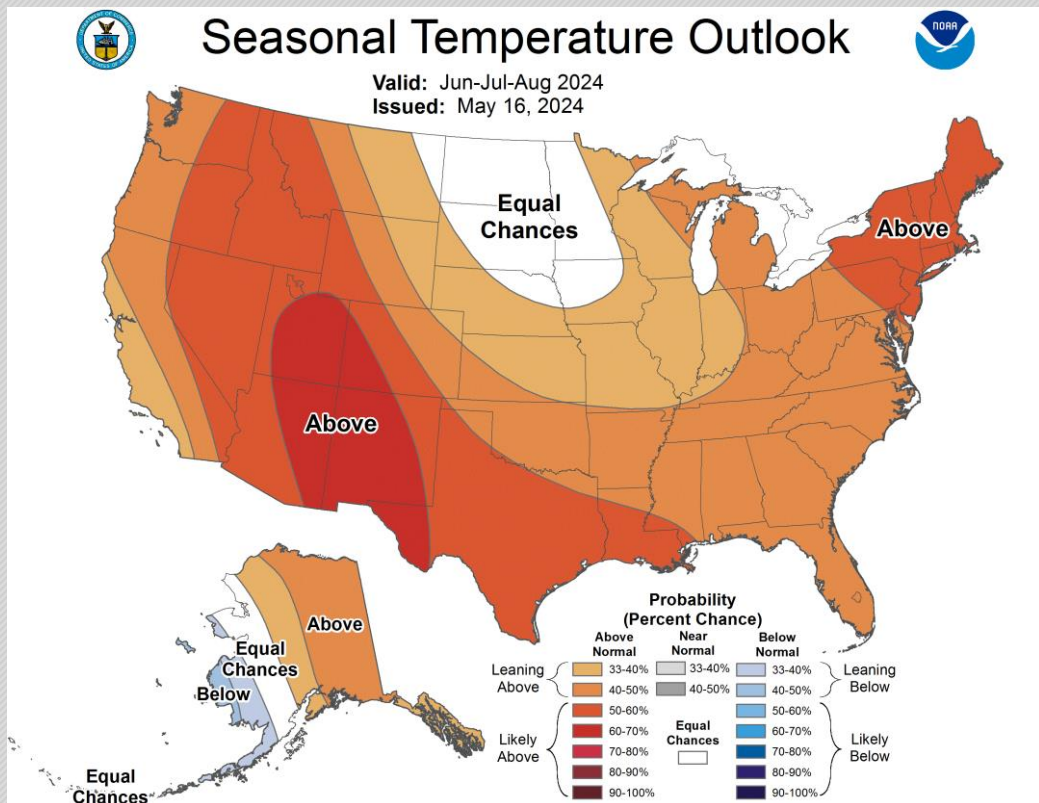


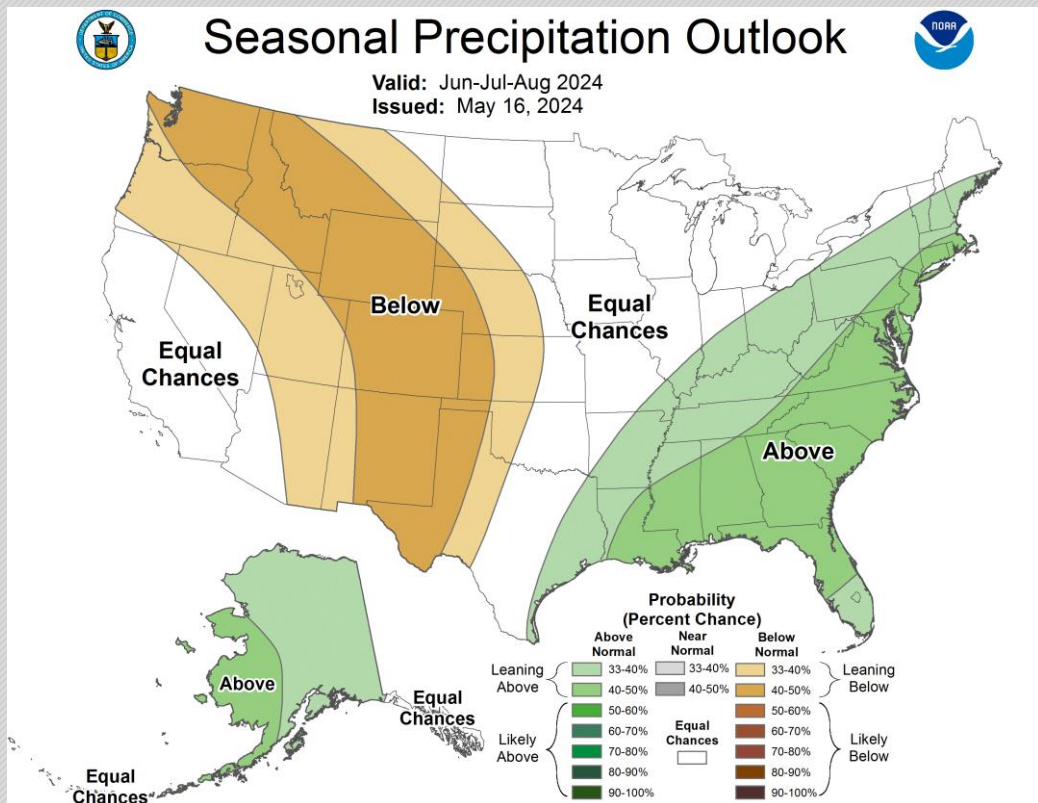
Figure 6. Forecasts of sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies for the Niño 3.4 region (5°N-5°S, 120°W-170°W). Figure updated 19 April 2024 by the International Research Institute (IRI) for Climate and Society.



Temperature  
June-July-August



Precipitation  
June-July-August



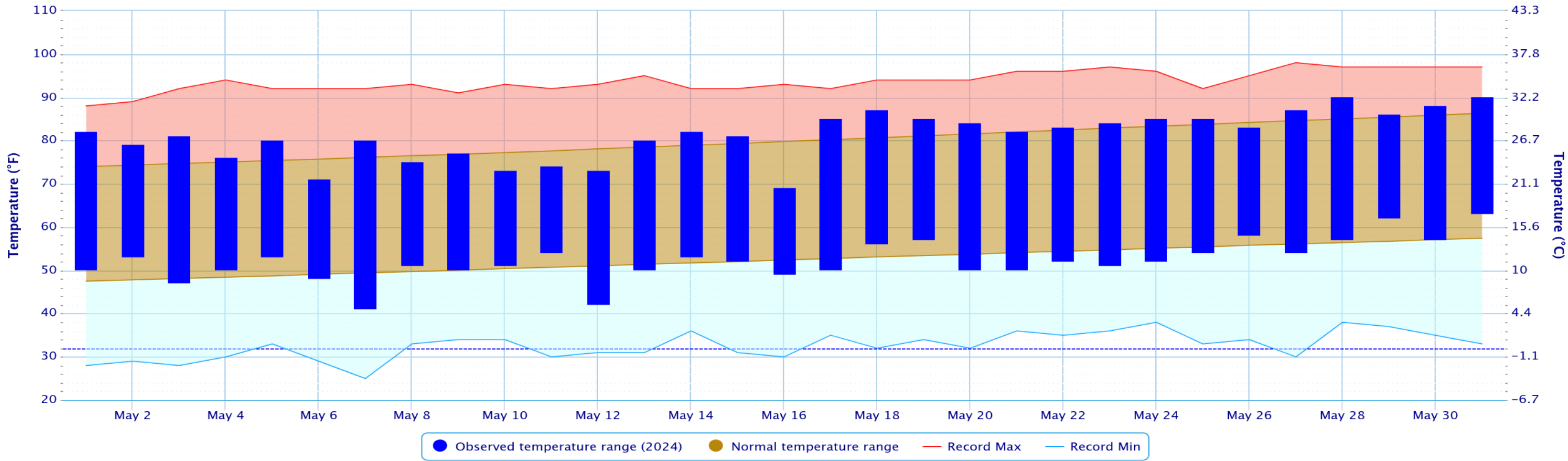
There is high confidence in above normal temperatures during the summer in New Mexico. There is moderate confidence in below average precipitation during the summer as well.



Average Temperature: 66.7°

Daily Temperature Data – ALBUQUERQUE INTL AP, NM

Period of Record – 1891-12-01 to 2024-06-05. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



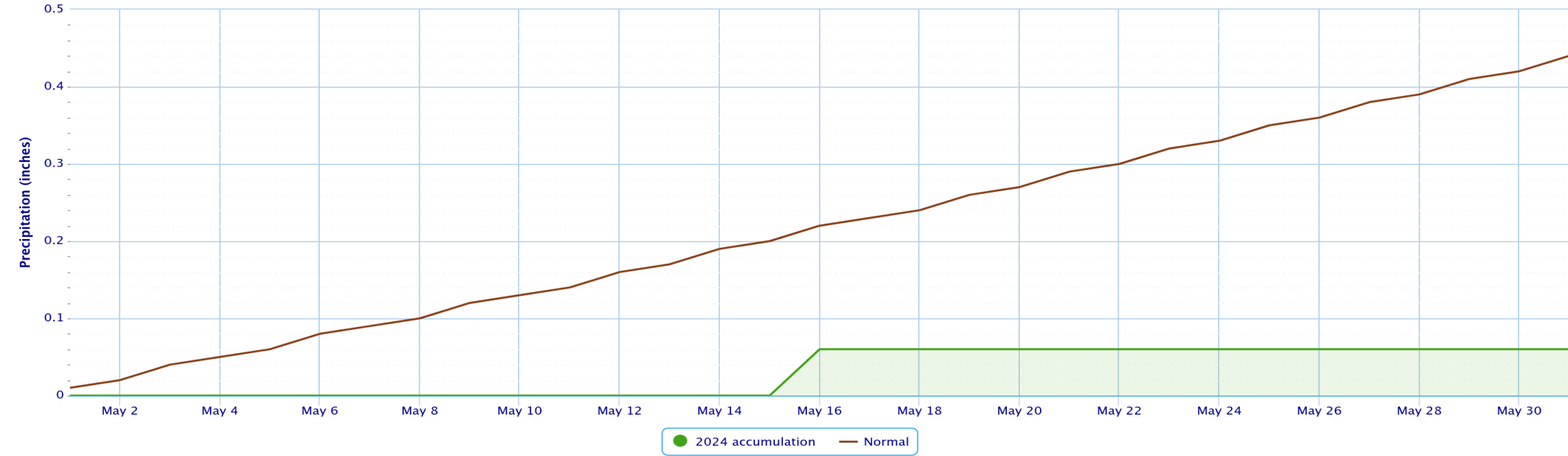
Powered by ACIS

The May 2024 average temperature for Albuquerque was 66.7°, which was 0.6° above the normal of 66.1°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 81.2°. This was 1.3° above the normal average maximum temperature of 79.9°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 52.2°. This was 0.2° below the normal average minimum temperature of 52.4°. This ranked as the 29<sup>th</sup> warmest May on record.

Precipitation: 0.06"

Accumulated Precipitation – ALBUQUERQUE INTL AP, NM

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



The May 2024 precipitation for Albuquerque was 0.06", which was 0.38" below the normal of 0.44". This ranked as the 25<sup>th</sup> driest May on record.

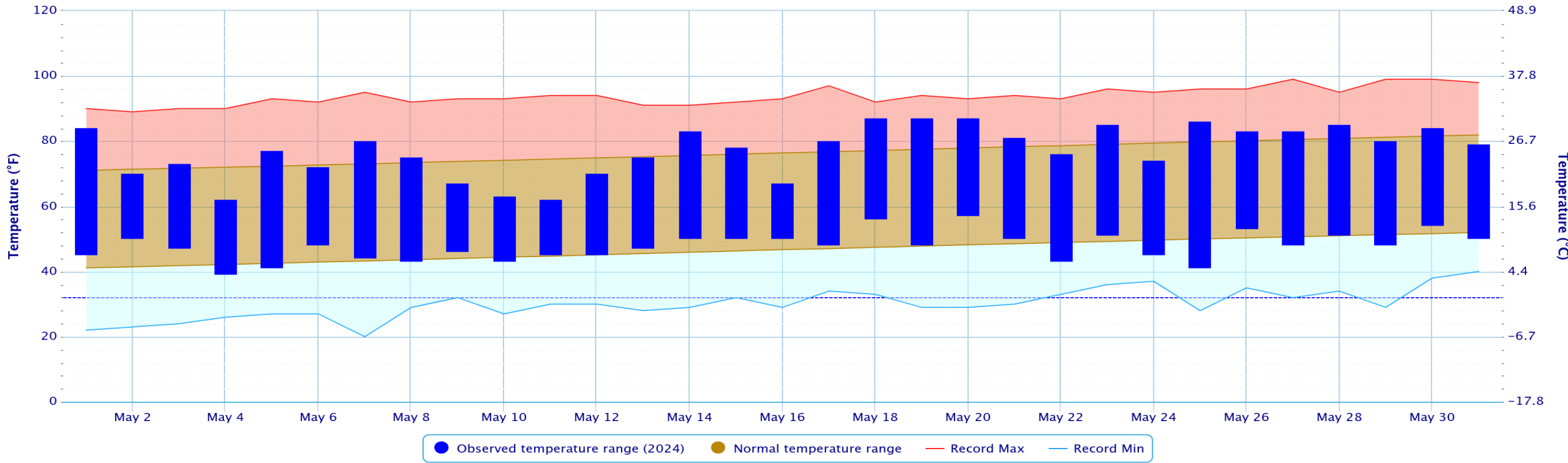
There was 0.0" of snow, compared to the normal of 0.0".



Average Temperature: 62.4°

## Daily Temperature Data – CLAYTON MUNICIPAL AIR PARK, NM

Period of Record – 1896-02-01 to 2024-06-05. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



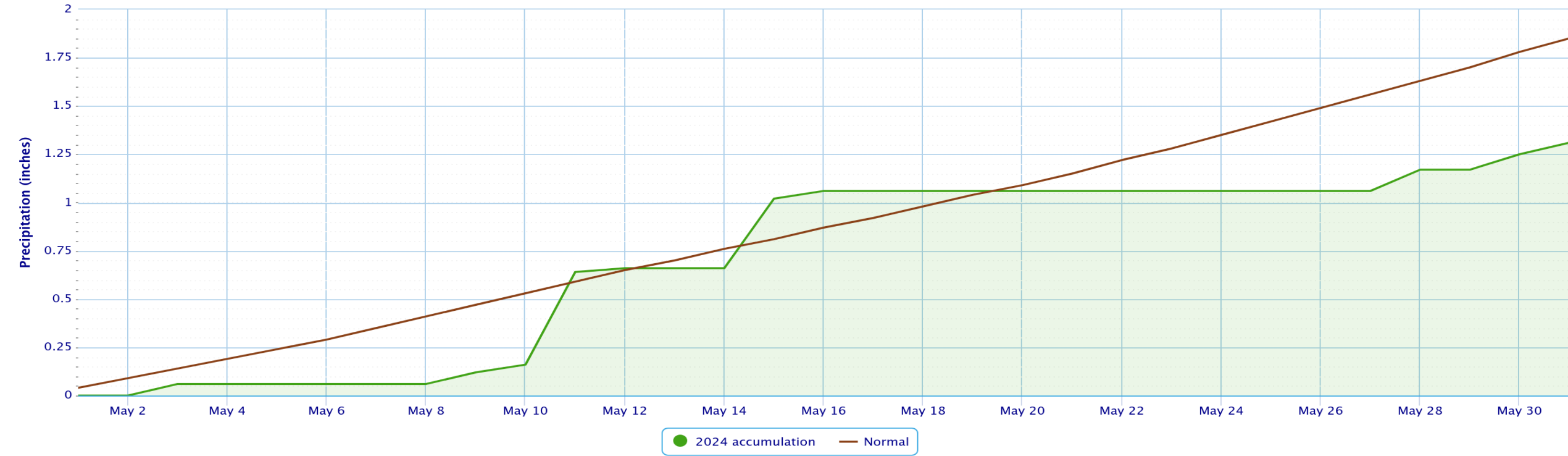
Powered by ACIS

The May 2024 average temperature for Clayton was 62.4°, which was 0.9° above the normal of 61.5°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 77.3°. This was 0.9° above the normal average maximum temperature of 76.4°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 47.6°. This was 1.0° above the normal average minimum temperature of 46.6°. This ranked as the 30<sup>th</sup> warmest May on record.

Precipitation: 1.31"

Accumulated Precipitation – CLAYTON MUNICIPAL AIR PARK, NM

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



The May 2024 precipitation for Clayton was 1.31", which was 0.54" below the normal of 1.85". This ranked as the 42<sup>nd</sup> driest May on record.

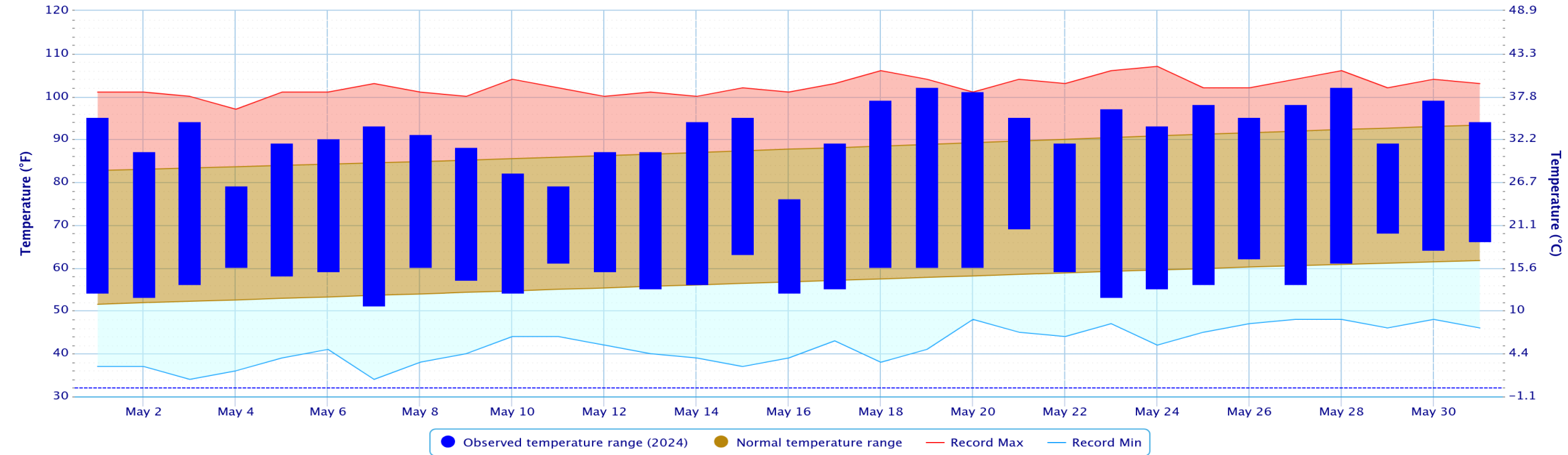
There was 0.0" of snow, compared to the normal of 0.5".



Average Temperature: 75.2°

### Daily Temperature Data – ROSWELL INDUSTRIAL AIR PARK, NM

Period of Record – 1946-12-01 to 2024-06-05. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



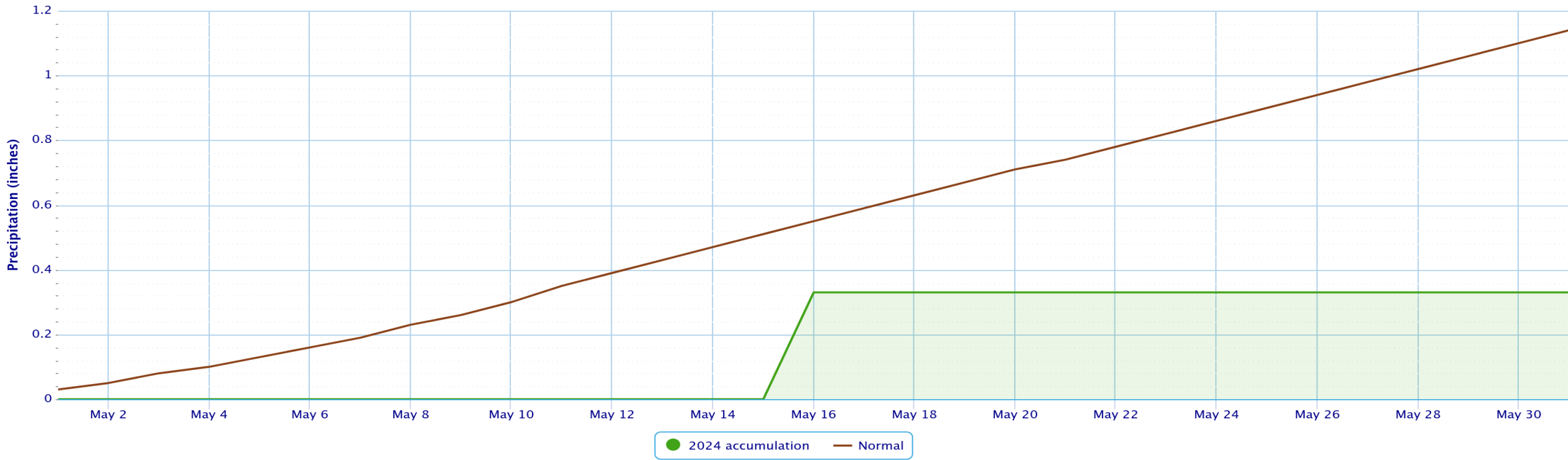
Powered by ACIS

The May 2024 average temperature for Roswell was 75.2°, which was 2.9° above the normal of 72.3°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 91.8°. This was 4.0° above the average maximum temperature of 87.8°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 58.5°. This was 1.8° above the normal average minimum temperature of 56.7°. This ranked as the 6<sup>th</sup> warmest May on record.

Precipitation: 0.33"

## Accumulated Precipitation – ROSWELL INDUSTRIAL AIR PARK, NM

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



The May 2024 precipitation for Roswell was 0.33", which was 0.81" below the normal of 1.14". This ranked as the 19<sup>th</sup> driest May on record.

There was 0.0" of snow, compared to the normal of 0.0".



Event Type	Begin Date	County Name	Magnitude	Type	Event Narrative
Hail	5/3/2024	UNION	1 "		A trained spotter reported quarter sized hail in Grenville from a severe thunderstorm.
Hail	5/3/2024	UNION	1 "		A severe thunderstorm produced penny to quarter sized hail in Clayton.
High Wind	5/1/2024	UNION COUNTY	51 kt	Gust	A brief high wind gust of 59 mph was observed at the Clayton Municipal Airport.
High Wind	5/5/2024	NORTHWEST PLATEAU	58 kt	Gust	The Farmington Four Corners Regional Airport measured a peak wind gust of 67 mph during the passage of a Pacific cold front.
High Wind	5/5/2024	NORTHERN SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAINS	66 kt	Gust	The public weather station at Kachina Peak in Taos Ski Valley measured a peak wind gust of 76 mph during a Pacific cold front passage.
High Wind	5/6/2024	CENTRAL HIGHLANDS	51 kt	Gust	The Clines Corners ASOS measured a wind gust of 59 mph.
High Wind	5/6/2024	FAR NORTHEAST HIGHLANDS	51 kt	Gust	The Raton Municipal Airport measured a wind gust of 59 mph.
High Wind	5/6/2024	UNION COUNTY	50 kt	Gust	The Clayton Municipal Airport measured a wind gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	5/6/2024	GUADALUPE COUNTY	56 kt	Gust	A peak wind gust of 65 mph was measured by a public station a few miles northwest of Santa Rosa.
High Wind	5/7/2024	NORTHERN SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAINS	55 kt	Gust	The public station at Kachina Peak in Taos Ski Valley measured a peak wind gust of 63 mph.
High Wind	5/7/2024	SANTA FE METRO AREA	50 kt	Gust	The Santa Fe Municipal Airport measured a wind gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	5/7/2024	CENTRAL HIGHLANDS	57 kt	Gust	The Clines Corners ASOS measured a peak wind gust of 66 mph.
High Wind	5/7/2024	FAR NORTHEAST HIGHLANDS	53 kt	Gust	The Raton Municipal Airport measured a peak wind gust of 61 mph.
High Wind	5/7/2024	NORTHEAST HIGHLANDS	62 kt	Gust	The Las Vegas Municipal Airport measured a peak wind gust of 71 mph.
High Wind	5/11/2024	NORTHWEST PLATEAU	52 kt	Gust	A high wind gust of 60 mph was recorded at the Farmington Four Corners Regional Airport, likely from nearby showers.
Hail	5/11/2024	BERNALILLO	0.75 "		A thunderstorm produced pea to penny sized hail across southwest sections of Albuquerque.
Hail	5/11/2024	SANDOVAL	1 "		A severe thunderstorm produced nickel to quarter size hail in Jemez Pueblo.
Hail	5/11/2024	LOS ALAMOS	0.75 "		Significant accumulations of pea to penny size hail in downtown Los Alamos from a thunderstorm.
Tornado	5/11/2024	SANDOVAL			Tornado near NM Highway 4 between Jemez Pueblo and Los Alamos.

\*Storm reports are considered preliminary until a final review is certified in the NWS Storm Data publication.

Certified data is available three to four months post-event at: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>

Event Type	Begin Date	County Name	Magnitude		Event Narrative
Thunderstorm Wind	5/11/2024	TORRANCE	54 MG	Gust	A wind gust of 62 mph was observed at Clines Corners ahead of a thunderstorm complex.
Hail	5/11/2024	CHAVES	1.75 "		A resident near the Roswell Correctional Facility reported golf ball sized hail from a severe thunderstorm moving east across southern Chaves County.
Hail	5/11/2024	CHAVES	1.75 "		Golf ball size hail from a severe thunderstorm moving east across southern Chaves County damaged a car travelling along U.S. Highway 285.
Hail	5/11/2024	GUADALUPE	1.5 "		A storm chaser travelling along Interstate 40 reported ping pong ball size hail from a severe storm moving east along the interstate.
Hail	5/11/2024	GUADALUPE	1.75 "		Local law enforcement reported a severe thunderstorm producing golf ball size hail in Santa Rosa.
Hail	5/11/2024	GUADALUPE	1 "		A local resident south of Santa Rosa reported quarter size hail from a severe thunderstorm moving east.
Hail	5/11/2024	GUADALUPE	1 "		A CoCoRaHS observer reported pea to quarter size hail a few miles east southeast of Puerto De Luna.
Hail	5/11/2024	QUAY	1 "		A severe thunderstorm produced quarter size hail a few miles north of Wheatland.
Hail	5/11/2024	CURRY	0.75 "		A thunderstorm produced up to penny size hail a few miles south of Broadview.
Flash Flood	5/11/2024	CHAVES			Flash flood waters inundated four culverts beneath State Highway 13 and overtopped the Highway 101 near Brady Road.
Flash Flood	5/11/2024	CHAVES			Sheriffs Office reported the normally dry Rio Felix overtopped Morgan Road west of Hagerman. Lincoln and Cherokee Roads were also flooded.
Hail	5/15/2024	UNION	1 "		Local law enforcement reported penny to quarter size hail a few miles north of downtown Clayton.
Hail	5/15/2024	UNION	1 "		A trained spotter in Clayton reported penny to quarter size hail at her residence.
Hail	5/15/2024	UNION	1.5 "		A trained spotter at the local radio station on the south side of town reported ping pong ball size hail.
Thunderstorm Wind	5/20/2024	SAN JUAN	65 kt	Gust	The Farmington Four Corners Regional Airport measured a peak wind gust of 75 mph, caused by nearby convective virga showers in the area.
Thunderstorm Wind	5/20/2024	SAN JUAN	52 kt	Gust	The Raton Airport measured a peak wind gust of 60 mph, caused by nearby convective virga showers in the area. No lightning was observed the ASOS.
High Wind	5/25/2024	SOUTH CENTRAL MOUNTAINS	54 kt	Gust	Brief wind gust of 62 mph. Strong winds transported smoke from the Blue 2 fire in the Lincoln National Forest over Ruidoso resulting in poor air quality.
Hail	5/28/2024	UNION	1 "		A trained spotter reported quarter size hail from a severe storm in northern Union County.
Tornado	5/28/2024	UNION			A storm chaser reported a brief tornado over an open field south of Mount Dora and west of Clayton.
Hail	5/28/2024	UNION	1.75 "		Storm spotters reported quarter to golf ball size hail along U.S. Highway 56 near the Otto Cemetery southwest of Clayton.
Thunderstorm Wind	5/28/2024	UNION	52 kt	Gust	Powerlines down along U.S. Highway 56 near Otto Cemetery southwest of Clayton from damaging thunderstorm wind gusts.
Hail	5/28/2024	UNION	1 "		A trained spotter a few miles south of Amistad reported quarter size hail from a severe thunderstorm.
Hail	5/28/2024	UNION	1.75 "		A trained spotter north of Nara Visa in far southern Union County reported golf ball size hail from a severe thunderstorm.
Hail	5/28/2024	HARDING	1.75 "		Golf ball size hail from a severe thunderstorm was observed in southern Harding County northwest of Ute Lake State Park.








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Event Type	Begin Date	County Name	Magnitude		Event Narrative
Hail	5/28/2024	QUAY	1 "		The Logan Fire Department reported quarter size hail from a severe thunderstorm.
Hail	5/28/2024	QUAY	1 "		A trained spotter reported quarter size hail from a severe thunderstorm east of Tucumcari.
Hail	5/28/2024	QUAY	1 "		A trained spotter near Wheatland reported lots of quarter size hail and wind gusts of up to 50 mph from a severe thunderstorm.
Hail	5/28/2024	CURRY	1.5 "		A trained spotter southwest of Clovis reported ping pong ball size hail along with 70 mph wind gusts from severe thunderstorms.
Hail	5/28/2024	ROOSEVELT	1.75 "		A severe thunderstorm produced golf ball size hail in Portales. Report was shared by a media outlet in Lubbock, Texas.
Hail	5/28/2024	ROOSEVELT	1.75 "		A severe thunderstorm produced golf ball size hail in Dora, NM. Report was forwarded by a media outlet in Amarillo, TX.
Tornado	5/29/2024	CURRY			Trained spotter documented a brief tornado relayed by Curry Co emergency manager. No damage was reported.
Thunderstorm Wind	5/28/2024	CURRY	61 kt	Gust	A trained spotter reported an estimated 70mph wind gust from thunderstorm outflow just southwest of Clovis.
Flash Flood	5/28/2024	CURRY			Street flooding reported in Clovis.
Tornado	5/29/2024	CURRY			Photo from Roosevelt County Emergency Manager shows a rope funnel apparently in contact with the ground.
Hail	5/29/2024	CURRY	2.5 "		A tornadic supercell produced tennis ball size hail at Cannon Air Force Base.
Hail	5/29/2024	CURRY	2.75 "		Golf ball to baseball size hail was observed SE of Cannon AFB north of the Curry and Roosevelt County line. The hailstones ended up breaking a house window.
Hail	5/29/2024	ROOSEVELT	2.5 "		Tennis ball to teacup size hail was observed just in Portales from a supercell thunderstorm.
Hail	5/31/2024	ROOSEVELT	1 "		A severe thunderstorm produced penny to quarter size hail a few miles south of Floyd.
Hail	5/30/2024	QUAY	1 "		Logan Fire Department reported quarter-size hail with a few stones slightly larger from a brief severe thunderstorm.
Hail	5/31/2024	ROOSEVELT	1.75 "		Elida Fire Department reported golf ball size hail from a severe thunderstorm.
Flash Flood	5/29/2024	CURRY			Water 8 to 9 inches deep was reported at the intersection of West Grande Avenue and North Hull Street. A car was stalled in deep water.
Thunderstorm Wind	5/31/2024	ROOSEVELT	50 kt	Gust	The Roosevelt County Emergency Manager reported downed utility poles at South County Road 33 and South County Road P.
Flash Flood	5/31/2024	ROOSEVELT			Road closure from standing water over roadway along NM 267 from mile marker 10 to 13.
Wildfire	5/24/2024	SOUTH CENTRAL MOUNTAINS			The Blue 2 wildfire was discovered in the remote White Mountain Wilderness, growing in size and forcing evations around Bonito Lake.
Wildfire	5/24/2024	JEMEZ MOUNTAINS			The Indios wildfire was discovered in the remote wilderness 7 miles northwest of Coyote and upstream of Abiquiu Lake and along the Rio Chama Valley.

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-  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/>
-  Questions?: [sr-abq.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-abq.webmaster@noaa.gov)
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