

# February 2024 Climate & Weather Summary

Issued: March 6, 2024



ALBUQUERQUE  
Weather Forecast Office

February 2024 was a warmer and wetter than average month for most of the state. The month began seasonably dry and warm, but then a winter storm on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> brought widespread snowfall to the area and the biggest snow of the season thus far to Albuquerque and Roswell. A few weaker winter storms around the middle of the month brought beneficial precipitation, but most of it was confined to the high terrain of western and northern New Mexico. A powerful wind storm around the end of the month created a dust storm with near-zero visibility that sadly led to one fatality in Chaves county. The same storm system also brought more snow and blowing snow to the northern mountains.



February 27 | Near Roswell, NM  
Photo courtesy Wendell Malone



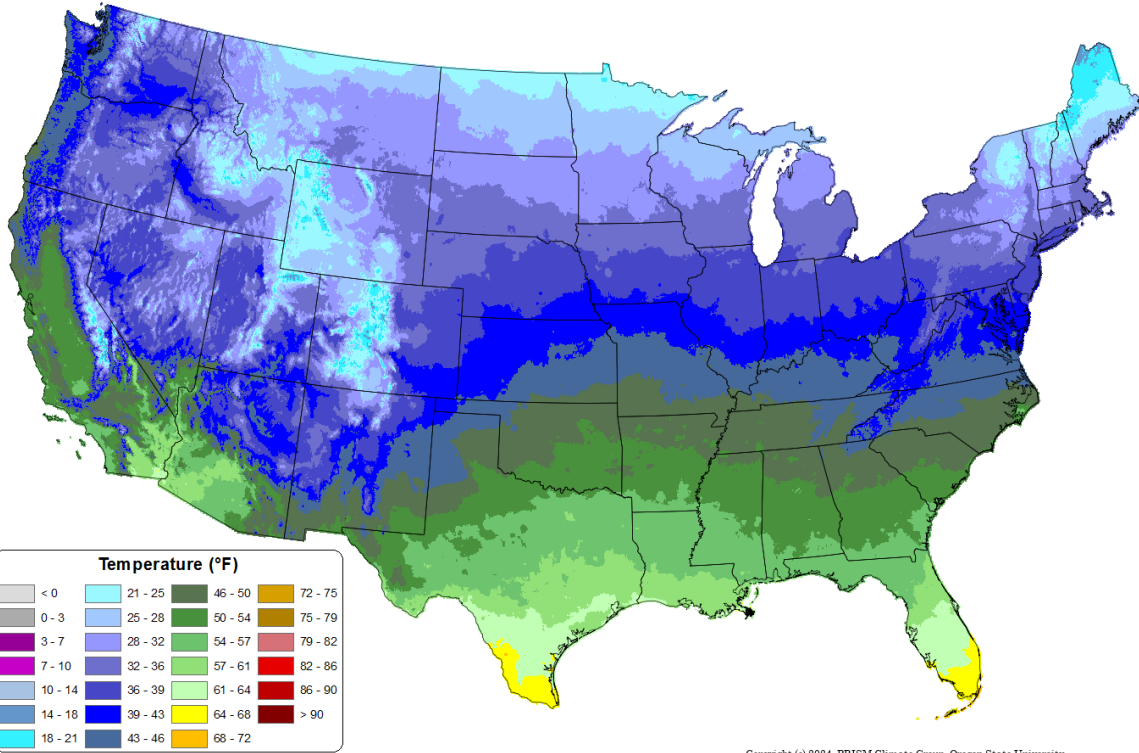
February 10 | Clayton, NM  
Photo courtesy Marianne Rose



February 27 |, NM  
Photo courtesy Kathy DeLucas

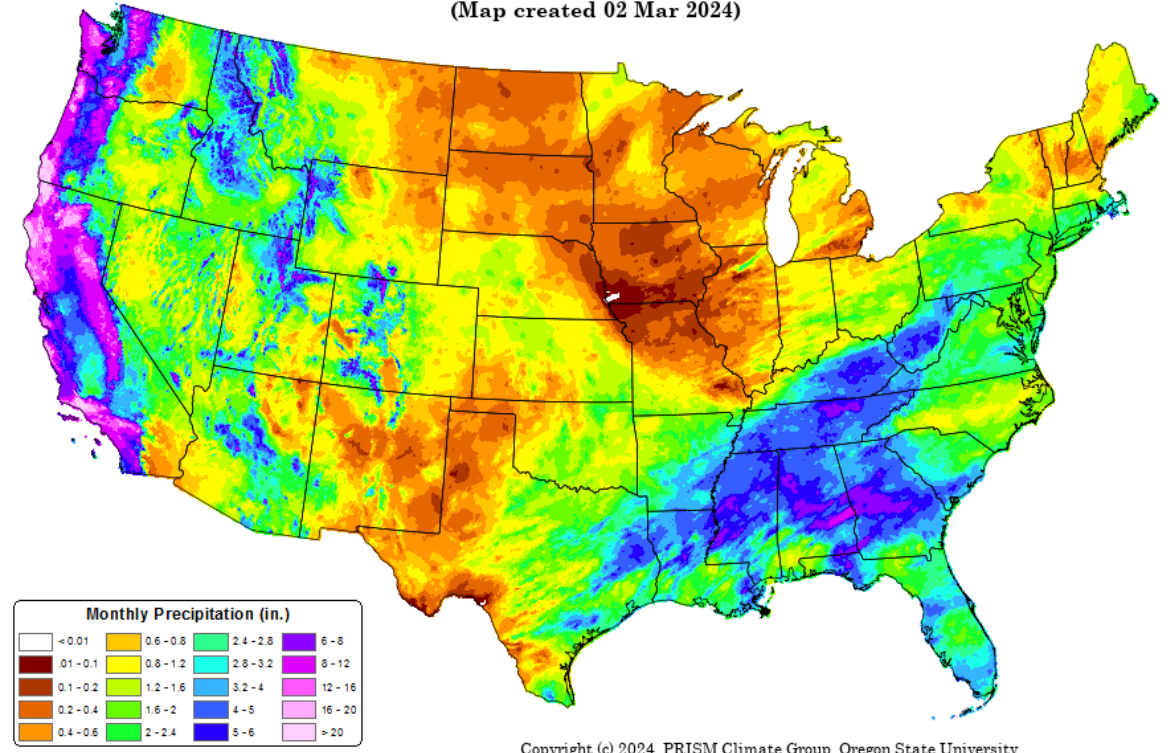
## Average Temperatures

Average Daily Mean Temperature: Feb 2024  
 Period ending 7 AM EST 29 Feb 2024  
 (Map created 02 Mar 2024)



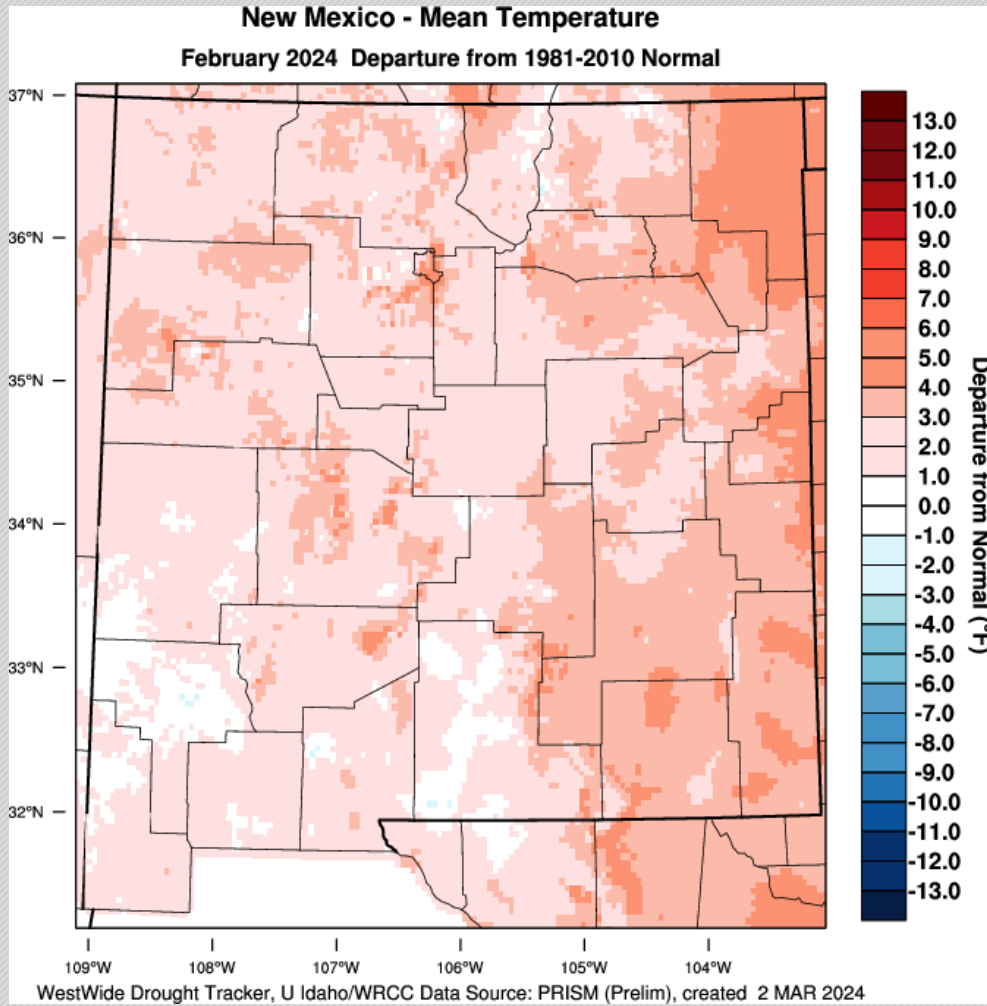
## Average Precipitation

Total Precipitation: Feb 2024  
 Period ending 29 Feb 2024  
 (Map created 02 Mar 2024)

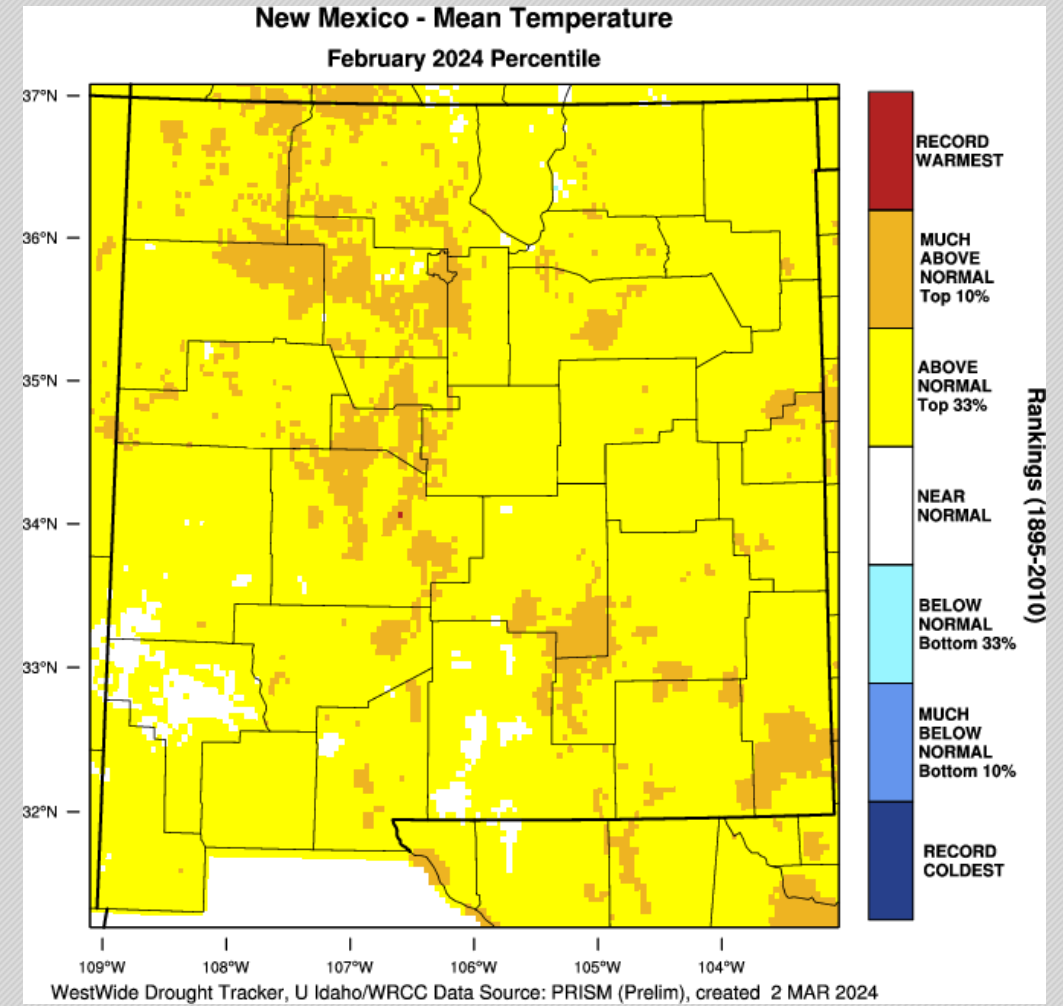




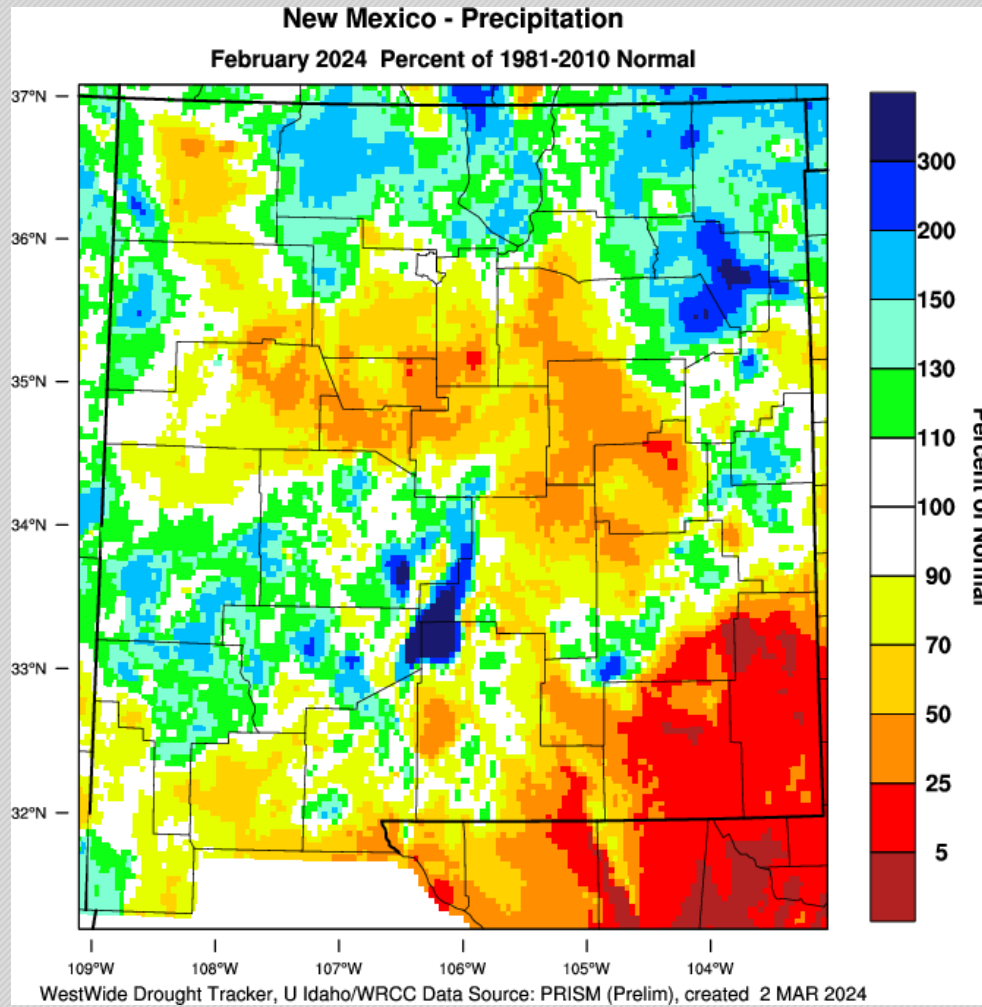
## Anomaly



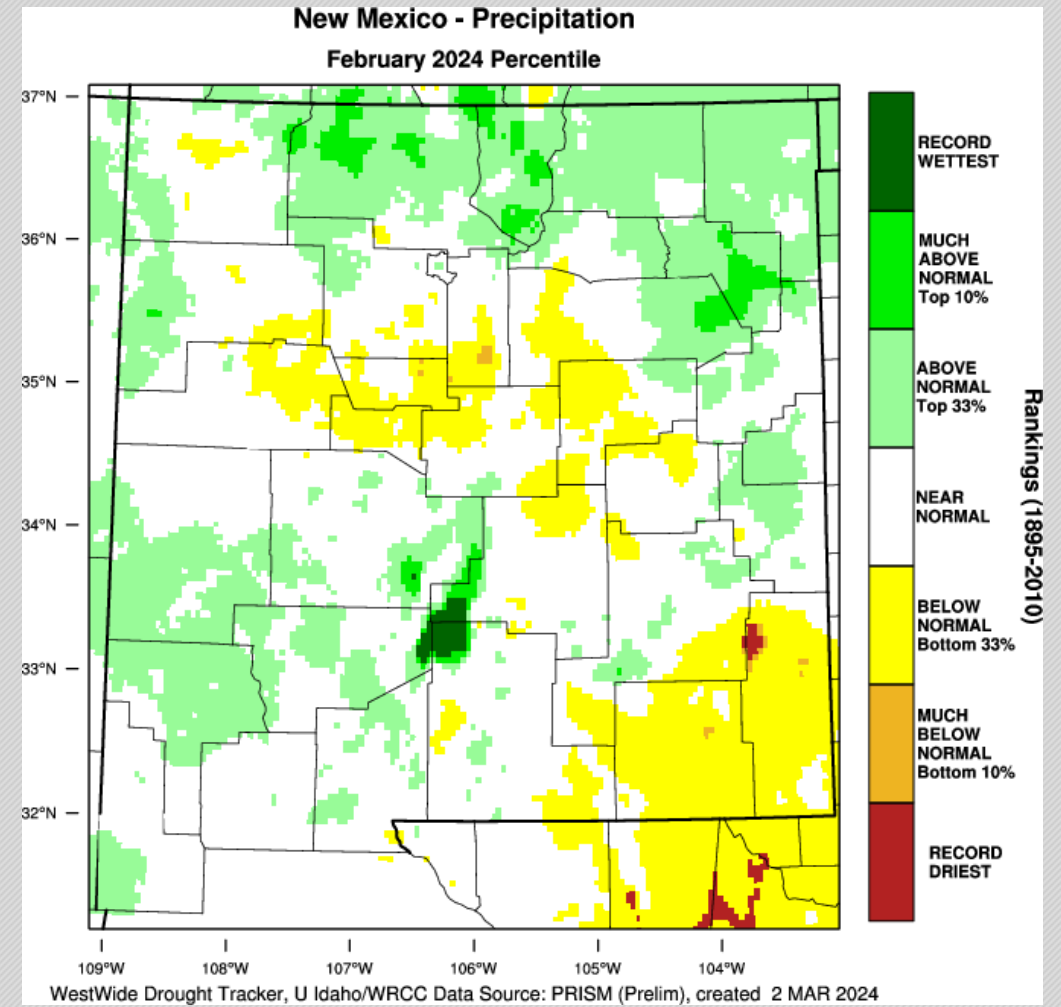
## Percentile

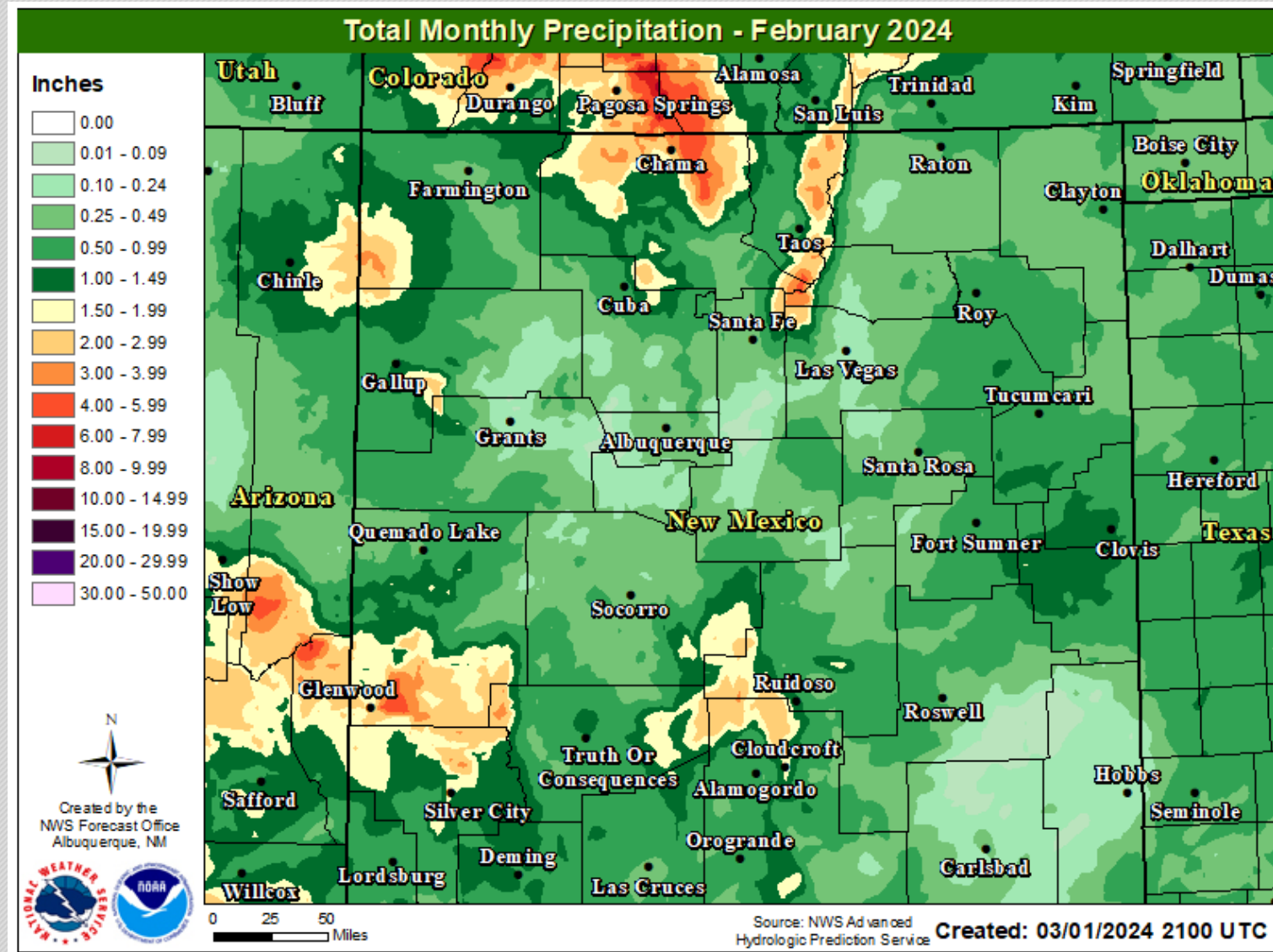


## Anomaly

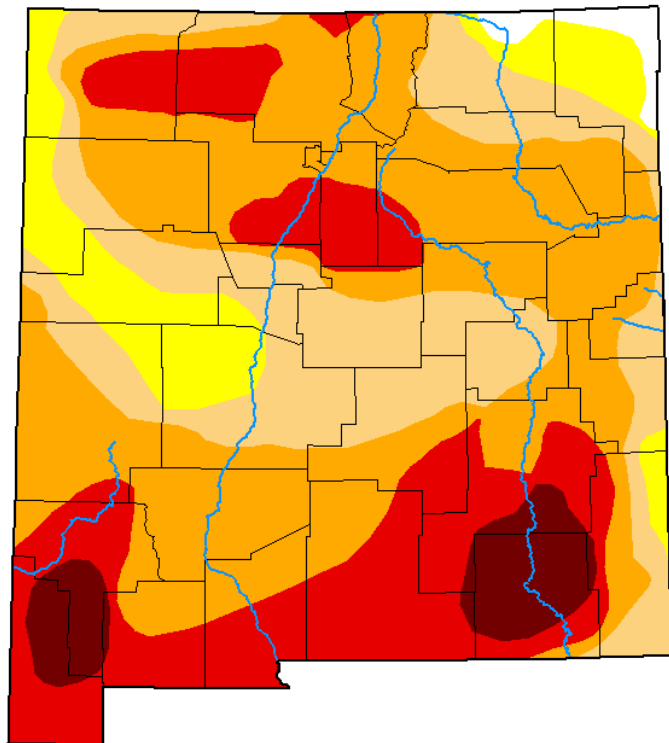


## Percentile





## U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico



**February 6, 2024**  
(Released Thursday, Feb. 8, 2024)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	1.23	98.77	89.51	67.51	27.32	5.53
<b>Last Week</b> 01-30-2024	1.23	98.77	91.38	69.44	28.86	5.53
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 11-07-2023	0.39	99.61	96.98	84.74	43.62	7.45
<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> 02-07-2023	17.92	82.08	47.47	18.37	3.81	0.19

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>

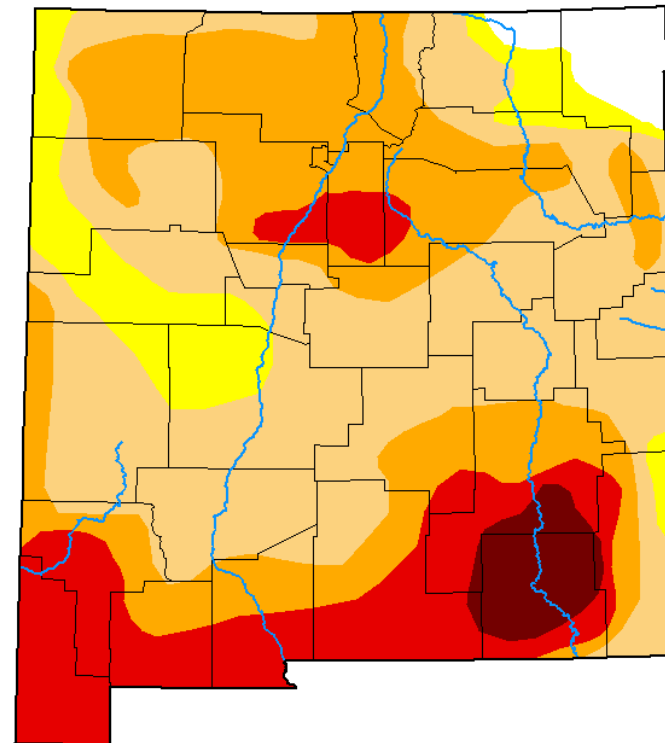
Author:

Deborah Bathke  
National Drought Mitigation Center



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

## U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico

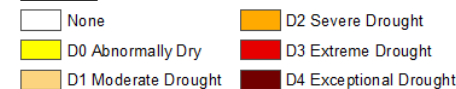


**February 27, 2024**  
(Released Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	2.82	97.18	88.19	47.86	19.28	3.51
<b>Last Week</b> 02-20-2024	2.82	97.18	88.19	47.86	19.28	3.51
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 11-28-2023	0.40	99.60	96.75	87.73	43.48	6.48
<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> 02-28-2023	25.96	74.04	44.75	16.46	3.82	0.19

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

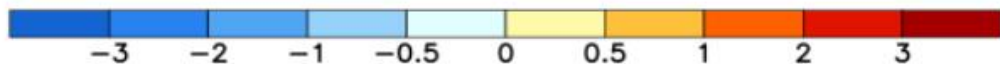
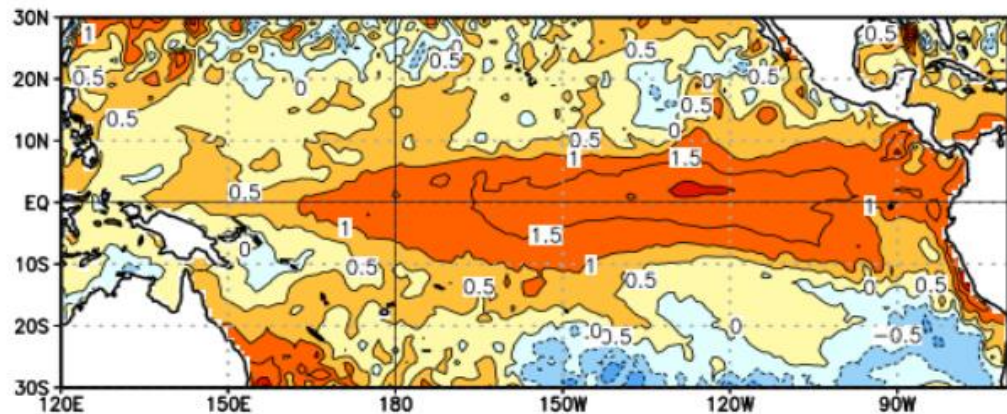


[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

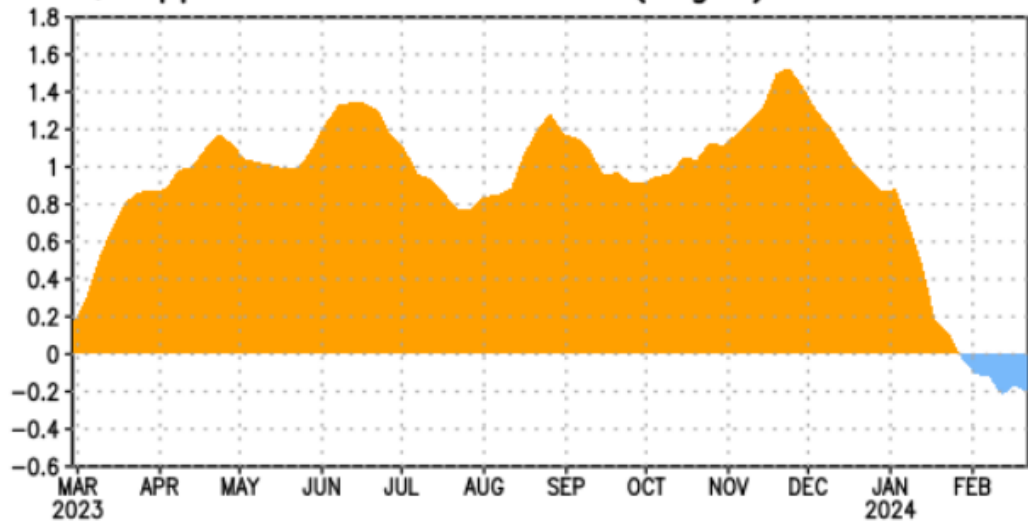
Drought conditions in February improved slightly for parts of the region, mainly central and northwest NM. A more active storm track entering the western U.S. in February helped to focus the greater rain and snow across the northern and western high terrain.



Average SST Anomalies  
28 JAN 2024 – 24 FEB 2024

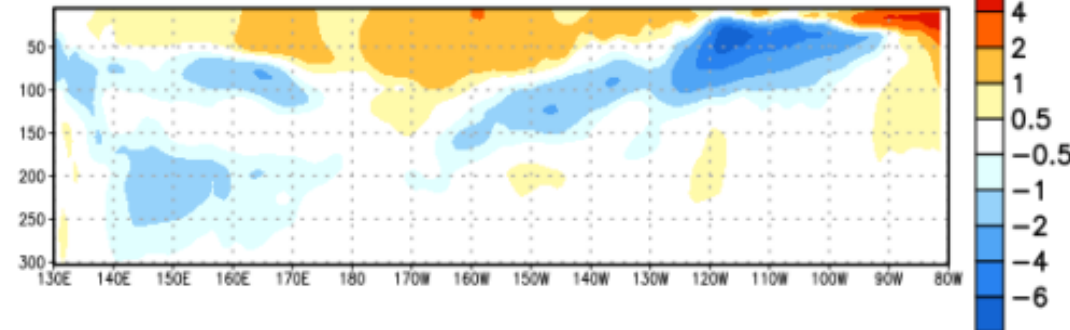


EQ. Upper-Ocean Heat Anoms. (deg C) for 180–100W



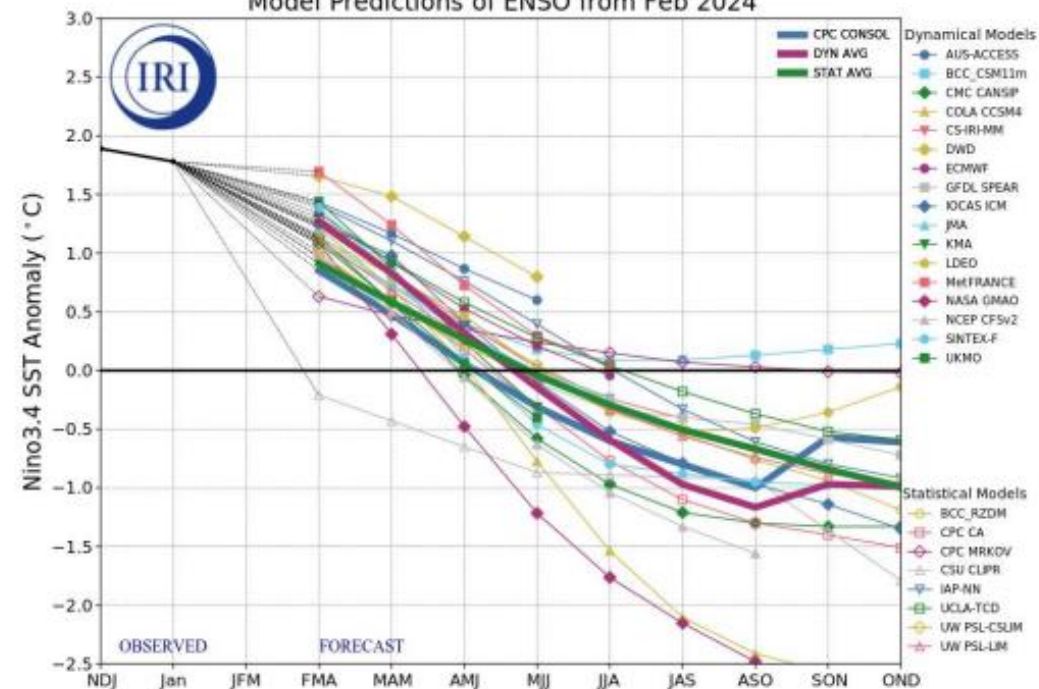
EQ. Subsurface Temperature Anomalies (deg C)

Pentad centered on 22 FEB 2024

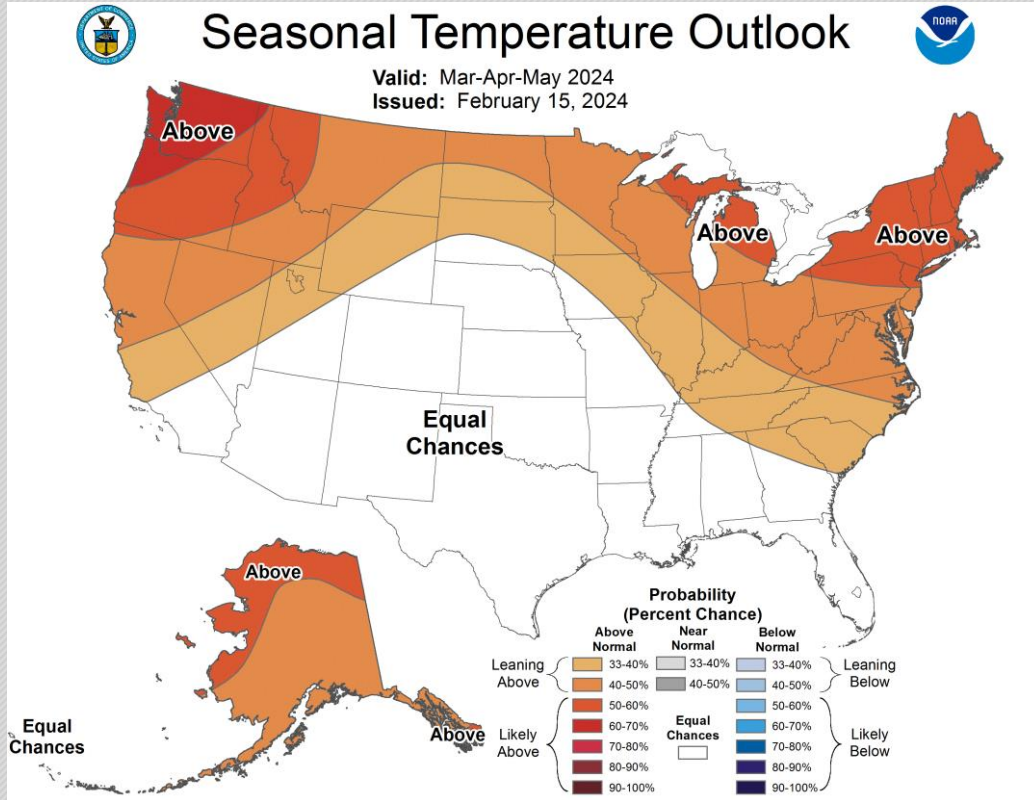


Most recent pentad analysis

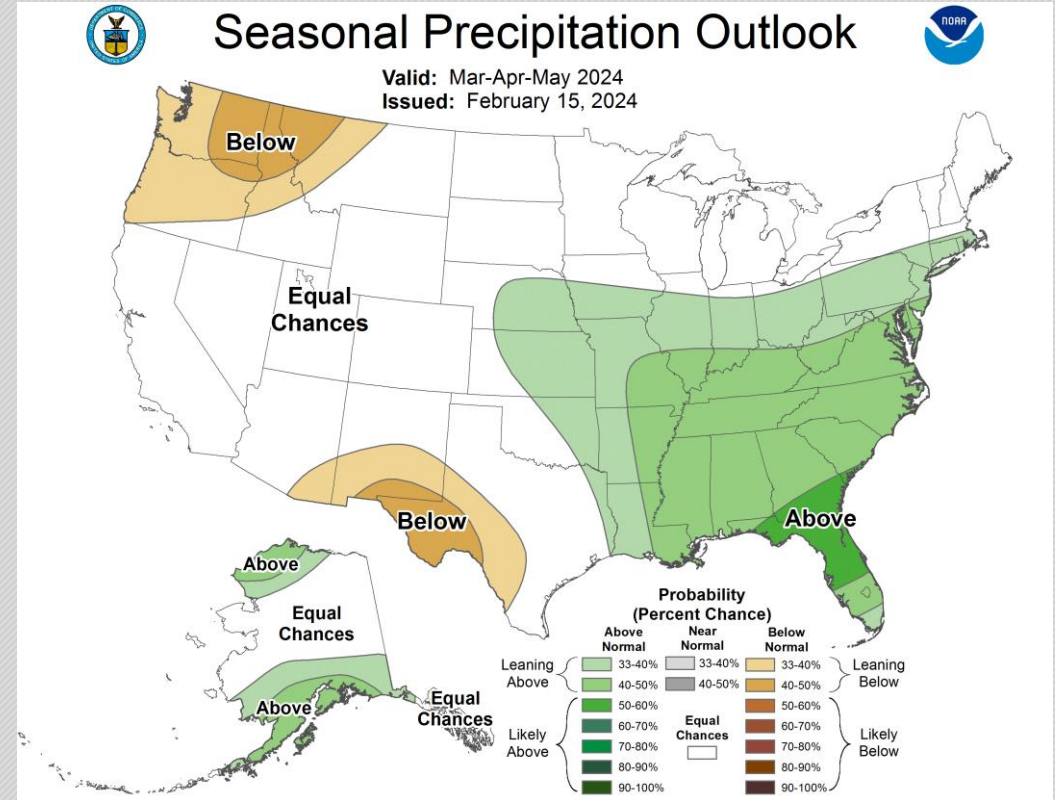
Model Predictions of ENSO from Feb 2024



## Temperature March-April-May



## Precipitation March-April-May



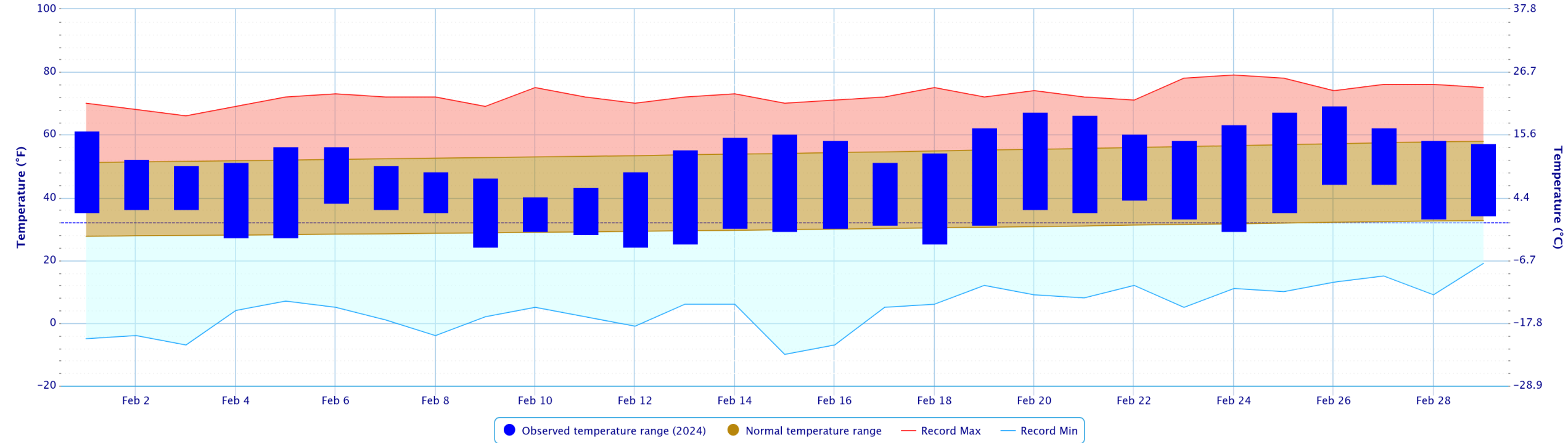
There are equal chances for above, near, and below normal temperatures and precipitation for most of New Mexico. There is a slightly greater chance of below normal precipitation in the southern portion of the state.



Average Temperature: 44.2°

Daily Temperature Data - ALBUQUERQUE INTL AP, NM

Period of Record - 1891-12-01 to 2024-03-01. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.

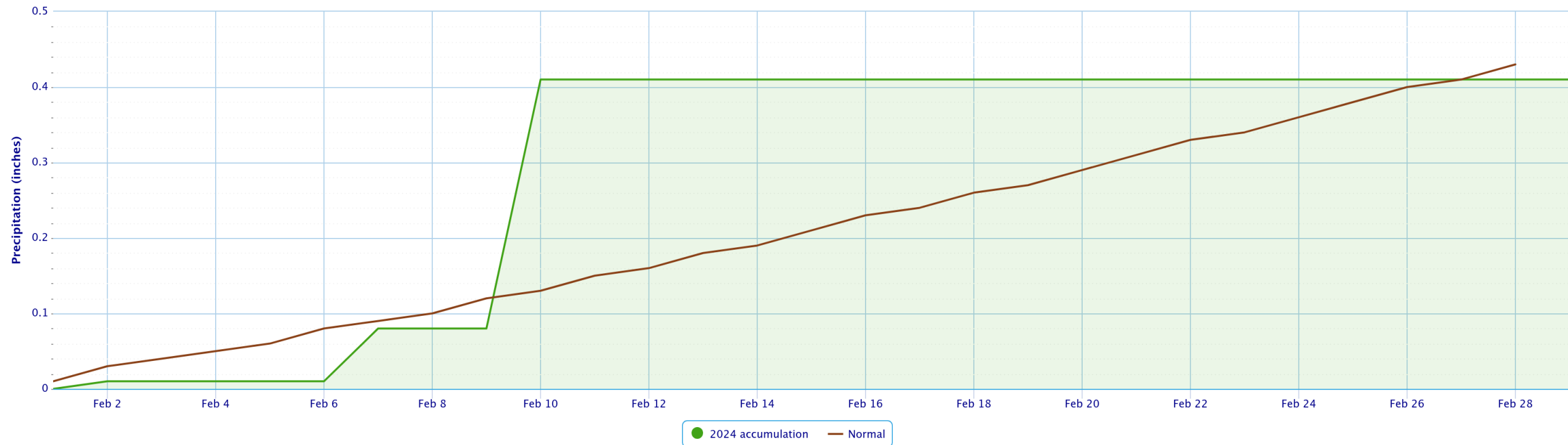


The February 2024 average temperature for Albuquerque was 44.2°, which was 2.3° above the normal of 41.9°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 56.1°. This was 2.0° above the normal average maximum temperature of 54.1°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 32.3°. This was 2.5° above the normal average minimum temperature of 29.8°. This ranked as the 16<sup>th</sup> warmest February on record.

Precipitation: 0.41”

Accumulated Precipitation – ALBUQUERQUE INTL AP, NM

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



The February 2024 precipitation for Albuquerque was 0.41”, which was 0.02” below the normal of 0.43”. This ranked as the 86<sup>th</sup> driest February on record.

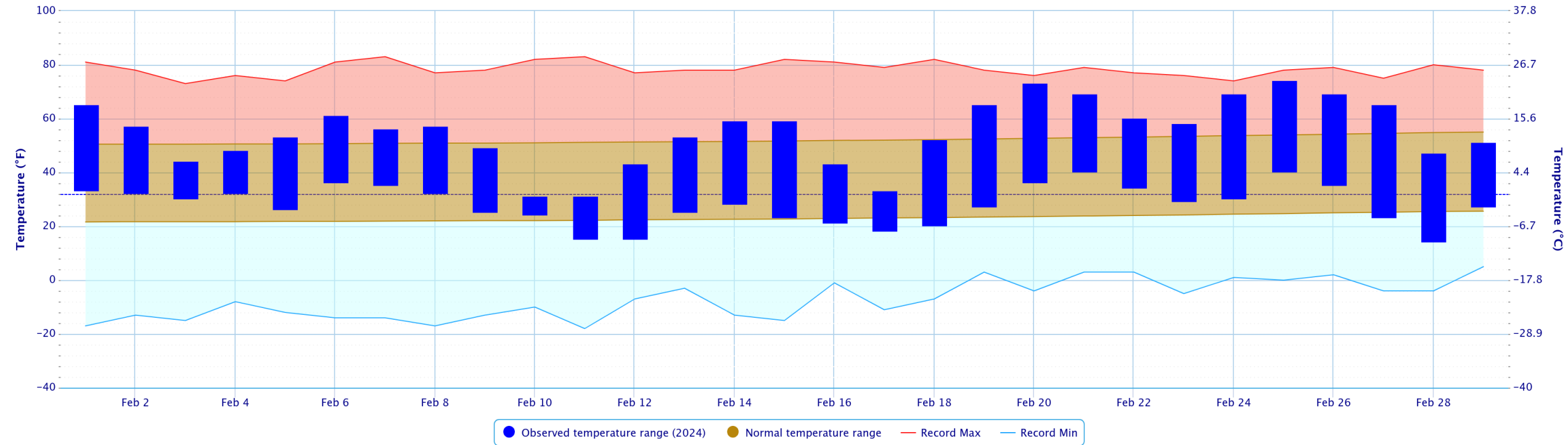
There was 2.7” of snow, compared to the normal of 1.5”.



Average Temperature: 41.4°

Daily Temperature Data – CLAYTON MUNICIPAL AIR PARK, NM

Period of Record – 1896-02-01 to 2024-03-01. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.

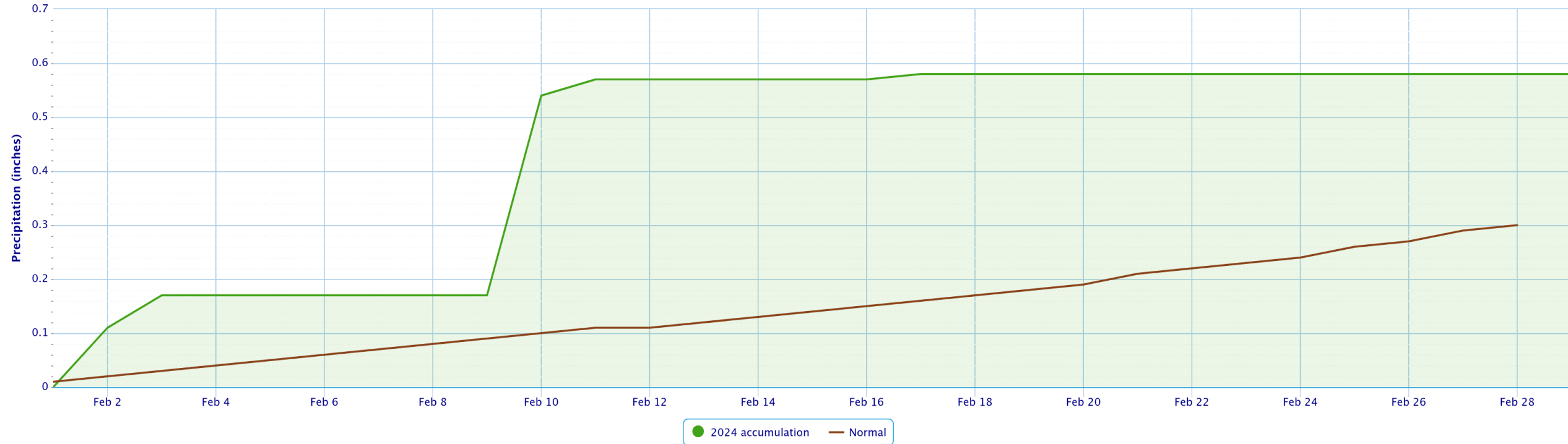


The February 2024 average temperature for Clayton was 41.4°, which was 3.9° above the normal of 37.5°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 55.0°. This was 3.0° above the normal average maximum temperature of 52.0°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 27.8°. This was 4.8° above the normal average minimum temperature of 23.0°. This ranked as the 17<sup>th</sup> warmest February on record.

Precipitation: 0.58"

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 February 2024 precipitation for Clayton was 0.58", which was 0.28" above the normal of 0.30". This ranked as the 22<sup>nd</sup> wettest February on record.

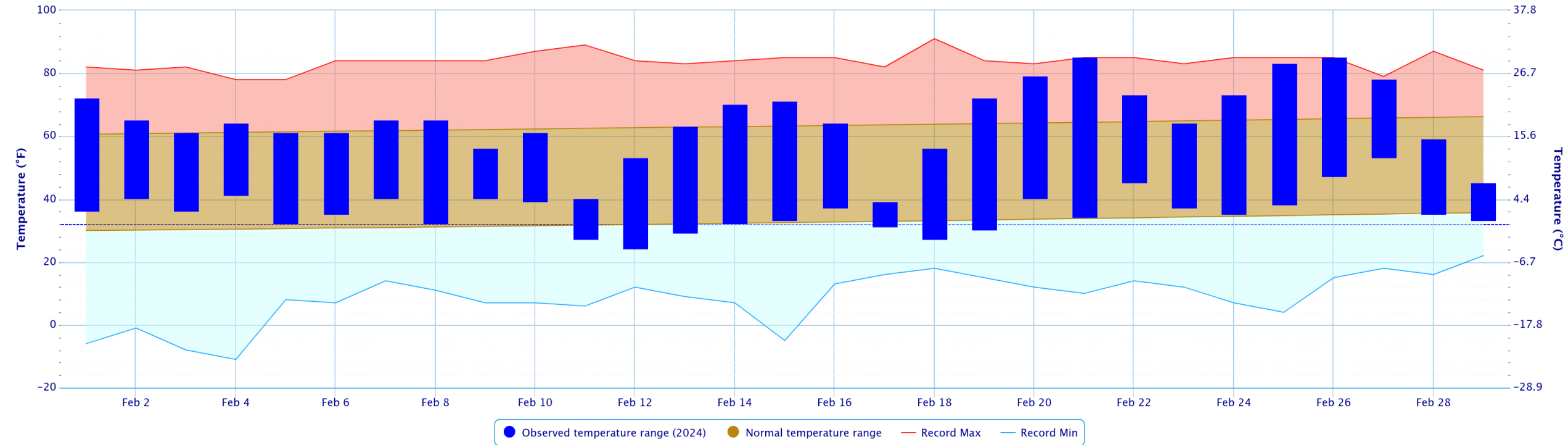
There was 5.8" of snow, compared to the normal of 2.7".



Average Temperature: 50.4°

Daily Temperature Data – ROSWELL INDUSTRIAL AIR PARK, NM

Period of Record – 1946-12-01 to 2024-03-01. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.

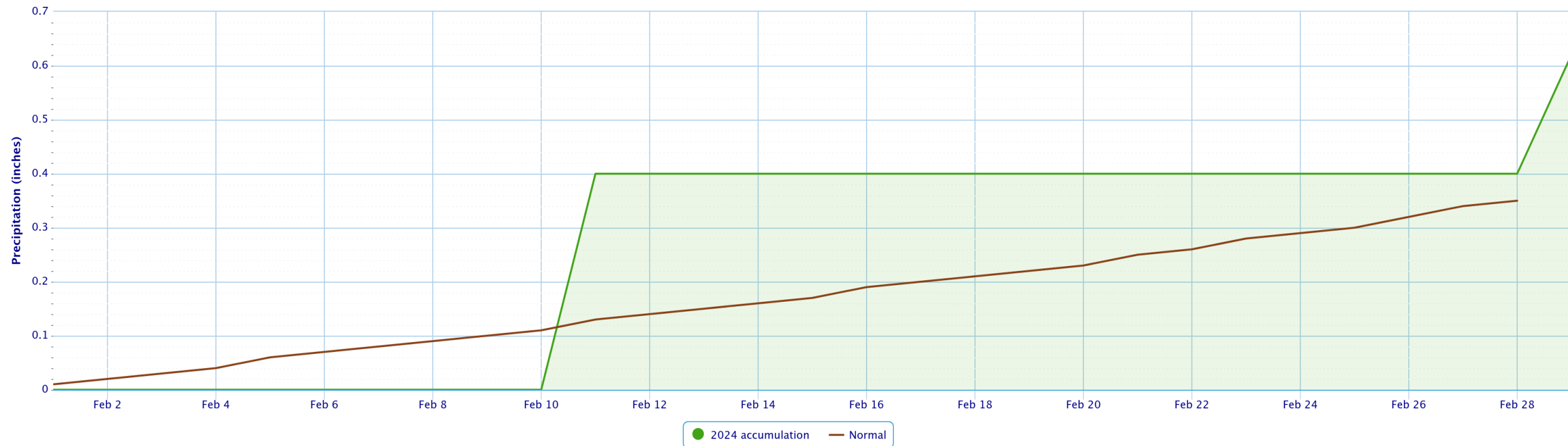


The February 2024 average temperature for Roswell was 50.4°, which was 2.6° above the normal of 47.8°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 64.9°. This was 1.7° above the average maximum temperature of 63.2°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 35.8°. This was 3.3° above the normal average minimum temperature of 32.5°. This ranked as the 9<sup>th</sup> warmest February on record.

Precipitation: 0.62”

### 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 February 2024 precipitation for Roswell was 0.62”, which was 0.27” above the normal of 0.35”. This ranked as the 13<sup>th</sup> wettest February on record.

There was 6.0” of snow, compared to the normal of 1.1”.



Event Type	Begin Date	County Name	Magnitude	Type	Event Narrative
Heavy Snow	2/2/2024	TUSAS MOUNTAINS INCLUDING CHAMA	14-16"		The Hopewell and Bateman SNOTEL stations showed an accumulation of 16 and 14 inches respectively.
Heavy Snow	2/2/2024	NORTHERN SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAINS	27-33"		The Taos Ski Valley area reported amounts ranging from 27 to 33 inches of snow within their area.
Heavy Snow	2/2/2024	SOUTHERN SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAINS	27"		Ski Santa Fe and Sipapu ski resorts reported a storm total of 27 inches of snow at each location.
High Wind	2/3/2024	SOUTHWEST MOUNTAINS	65 kt	Gust	The Magdalena Ridge Observatorys weather station measured peak gusts regularly exceeding high wind criteria, and peaking at 75 mph.
High Wind	2/3/2024	SANDIA/MANZANO MOUNTAINS INCLUDING EDGEWOOD	55 kt	Gust	A public weather station near Sandia Airpark measured high wind gusts with a peak gust of 63 mph.
High Wind	2/3/2024	ESTANCIA VALLEY	36 kt	Sustained	A public weather station near Stanley measured high sustained winds peaking at 41 mph.
High Wind	2/3/2024	CENTRAL HIGHLANDS	59 kt	Gust	The Clines Corners ASOS measured a peak gust of 68 mph, while also measuring a peak sustained wind of 47 mph.
High Wind	2/3/2024	SOUTH CENTRAL HIGHLANDS	42 kt	Gust	The Little Burro mesonet within the White Sands Missile Range measured high sustained winds peaking at 48 mph, alongside a peak wind gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	2/3/2024	SOUTH CENTRAL MOUNTAINS	58 kt	Gust	The Nogal NMCC measured a peak wind gust of 67 mph.
High Wind	2/3/2024	SOUTH CENTRAL MOUNTAINS	58 kt	Gust	The Sierra Blanca Airport AWOS measured a peak wind gust of 67 mph.
High Wind	2/3/2024	GUADALUPE COUNTY	50 kt	Sustained	The SE Vaughn mesonet station measured high sustained winds peaking at 58 mph, with peak gusts reaching the measuring limit of the station of 67 mph.
High Wind	2/3/2024	DE BACA COUNTY	52 kt	Gust	A mesonet southeast of Fort Sumner measured a peak wind gust of 60 mph.
High Wind	2/3/2024	CHAVES COUNTY PLAINS	65 kt	Gust	A trained spotter relayed a report of a semi-truck rollover along U.S. Highway 285 approximately 20 miles north of Roswell.
High Wind	2/3/2024	CHAVES COUNTY PLAINS	50 kt	Gust	The Roswell Airport ASOS measured a peak wind gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	2/7/2024	GUADALUPE COUNTY	55 kt	Gust	The ziamet station southeast of Vaughn measured peak gusts over 58 mph peaking at 63 mph at 2:25am.
High Wind	2/8/2024	FAR NORTHEAST HIGHLANDS	58 kt	Gust	The Raton Airport ASOS measured a peak gusts of 67 mph. Wind gusts regularly surpassed 58 mph during this time.
Heavy Snow	2/6/2024	NORTHERN SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAINS	10"		The Taos Ski Valley measured 10 inches of snow.
Heavy Snow	2/6/2024	SOUTHWEST MOUNTAINS	10"		An estimated 10 inches of snow fell at the Silver Creek Divide SNOTEL.
Heavy Snow	2/10/2024	JEMEZ MOUNTAINS	11"		The Pajarito ski area measured 11 inches of snow.
Heavy Snow	2/10/2024	SOUTHERN SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAINS	10"		The Santa Fe ski area measured 10 inches of snow.
Heavy Snow	2/10/2024	SANDIA/MANZANO MOUNTAINS INCLUDING EDGEWOOD	8.2"		A CoCoRaHS station near Cedro measured 8.2 inches of snow. Other amounts ranged rom 2 to 7.5 inches of snow through the East Mountain Communities.
Heavy Snow	2/10/2024	SOUTH CENTRAL MOUNTAINS	19.5"		A CoCoRaHS station near of Alto measured 19.5 inches of snow.
Heavy Snow	2/10/2024	UNION COUNTY	7"		A CoCoRaHS station in Clayton reported 7 inches of snow. Other amounts across the county ranged rom 2 to 6 inches.
Heavy Snow	2/10/2024	HARDING COUNTY	7"		A trained spotter just west of Mosquero reported 7 inches of snow. Amounts across the county ranged from 3 to 7 inches.
Heavy Snow	2/11/2024	CURRY COUNTY	6"		The Melrose COOP observer reported 6 inches of snow. Amounts in Clovis ranged from 2 to 5.2 inches.
Heavy Snow	2/11/2024	ROOSEVELT COUNTY	7"		A trained spotter just southwest of Portales reported 7 inches of snow. Other reports across the county ranged from 3 to 6 inches.
Heavy Snow	2/11/2024	DE BACA COUNTY	2-5"		There was a public report of 6 inches in the far east-central part of the county. Other amounts ranged from 2 to 5 inches across the zone.
Heavy Snow	2/11/2024	CHAVES COUNTY PLAINS	2-5"		The Roswell Community Disaster Relief pulled out 21 cars that were stuck in snow. Reports in Roswell ranged from 2 to 5 inches of snow.



\*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	Type	Event Narrative
High Wind	2/21/2024	SOUTH CENTRAL MOUNTAINS	51 kt	Gust	The Sierra Blanca Airport recorded a peak wind gust of 59 mph. Sustained winds also reached a high of 43 mph.
High Wind	2/21/2024	CHAVES COUNTY PLAINS	58 kt	Gust	The Roswell Airport measured a peak wind gust of 67 mph. Blowing dust also reduced visibility to one quarter mile.
High Wind	2/21/2024	SOUTHWEST CHAVES COUNTY	60 kt	Gust	The Dunken RAWS mesonet station measured a peak wind gust of 69 mph.
High Wind	2/27/2024	WEST CENTRAL PLATEAU	53 kt	Gust	The Gallup Airport measured a peak wind gust of 61 mph.
High Wind	2/26/2024	SOUTHWEST MOUNTAINS	70 kt	Gust	The Magdalena Ridge Observatory measured gusts of 60 to 70 mph throughout this time frame with a peak gust of 81 mph at 12:34pm MST.
High Wind	2/27/2024	GLORIETA MESA INCLUDING GLORIETA PASS	61 kt	Gust	A NMDOT weather station along I-25 at Rowe, NM measured a peak gust of 70 mph.
High Wind	2/26/2024	NORTHERN SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAINS	56 kt	Gust	The Taos Ski Valley measured a peak wind gust of 64 mph at Kachina Peak.
High Wind	2/27/2024	EAST SLOPES SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAINS	59 kt	Gust	A public weather station near Angel Fire measured a peak gust of 68 mph.
High Wind	2/27/2024	SANTA FE METRO AREA	52 kt	Gust	The Santa Fe Airport measured a peak gust of 60 mph.
High Wind	2/27/2024	MIDDLE RIO GRANDE VALLEY/ALBUQUERQUE METRO AREA	55 kt	Gust	The Albuquerque Sunport measured a peak gust of 63 mph. These wind gusts coincided with a semi-rollover along I-25 at Bobby Foster.
High Wind	2/27/2024	SANDIA/MANZANO MOUNTAINS INCLUDING EDGEWOOD	56 kt	Gust	The Edgewood mesonet station measured a peak gust of 64 mph.
High Wind	2/27/2024	ESTANCIA VALLEY	54 kt	Gust	A mesonet station just southwest of Estancia measured a peak wind gust of 62 mph.
High Wind	2/27/2024	CENTRAL HIGHLANDS	62 kt	Gust	A NMDOT weather station along I-40 at the intersection of U.S. Highway 285 measured a peak wind gust of 71 mph
High Wind	2/27/2024	SOUTH CENTRAL HIGHLANDS	50 kt	Gust	The North Oscura Peak WSMR mesonet station measured a peak gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	2/27/2024	UPPER TULAROSA VALLEY	60 kt	Gust	The Pole 616 WSMR mesonet station measured a peak gust of 69 mph.
High Wind	2/27/2024	SOUTH CENTRAL MOUNTAINS	58 kt	Gust	The NMCC Nogal mesonet station measured a peak gust of 67 mph.
High Wind	2/27/2024	FAR NORTHEAST HIGHLANDS	53 kt	Gust	The Raton Airport measured a peak gust of 61 mph. A public weather station in Maxwell also measured a peak wind gust of 60 mph at 14:24 MST.
High Wind	2/27/2024	NORTHEAST HIGHLANDS	59 kt	Gust	The Las Vegas Airport measured a peak gust of 68 mph. High sustained winds surpassing 40 mph were consistent during this timeframe as well.
High Wind	2/26/2024	UNION COUNTY	35 kt	Sustained	The Clayton Airport measured high sustained winds of 40 mph for one hour.
High Wind	2/27/2024	UNION COUNTY	56 kt	Gust	The Clayton Airport measured a peak wind gust of 65 mph.
High Wind	2/27/2024	GUADALUPE COUNTY	43 kt	Sustained	High sustained winds of 40 to 49 mph near Vaughn. Peak gusts reached the upper limit of the equipment of 67 mph for this weather station.
High Wind	2/26/2024	QUAY COUNTY	39 kt	Sustained	The Tucumcari Airport measured high sustained winds of 40 to 45 mph with a peak gust of 61 mph at 12:53 MST.
High Wind	2/27/2024	QUAY COUNTY	61 kt	Gust	The Tucumcari Airport measured a peak gust of 70 mph.
High Wind	2/27/2024	CURRY COUNTY	50 kt	Gust	Cannon Air Force Base measured a peak wind gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	2/27/2024	ROOSEVELT COUNTY	50 kt	Gust	A mesonet station just north of Portales measured a peak gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	2/27/2024	DE BACA COUNTY	51 kt	Gust	Two mesonet stations at Canyon Blanco and the other just east of Fort Sumner measured peak wind gusts of 59 mph.
High Wind	2/27/2024	CHAVES COUNTY PLAINS	63 kt	Gust	The Roswell Airport measured consistent wind gusts over 58 mph with a peak gust of 73 mph at 15:51 MST.
High Wind	2/27/2024	SOUTHWEST CHAVES COUNTY	53 kt	Gust	The Dunken RAWS station measured a peak gust of 61 mph.
Dust Storm	2/27/2024	CHAVES COUNTY PLAINS			Multiple multi-vehicle crashes within a dust storm from Roswell to Hagerman. One involved a fatality.
Heavy Snow	2/27/2024	TUSAS MOUNTAINS INCLUDING CHAMA	16"		An estimated 16 inches of snow fell at the San Antonio Sink SNOTEL.
Heavy Snow	2/27/2024	NORTHERN SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAINS	12"		Taos Ski reported 12 inches of new snow. Lighter amounts of 3 inches were reported elsewhere in the zone.

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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/>
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