



### Synopsis

October 2023 was another warmer and drier than average month for New Mexico. The month began with severe weather across the eastern plains. There was a tornado near Sapello and several inches of hail accumulation in Las Vegas. Winds gusted up to 60mph in the eastern plains with a high wind event on the 11<sup>th</sup>, but the weather was mostly quiet the rest of the month. There was beautiful clear weather for the annular solar eclipse on the 14<sup>th</sup> and for most of the International Balloon Festival.



Photo courtesy Mike  
Santa Cruz Reservoir | October 2<sup>nd</sup>

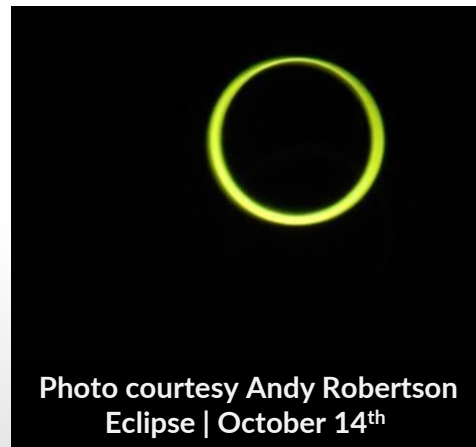


Photo courtesy Andy Robertson  
Eclipse | October 14<sup>th</sup>



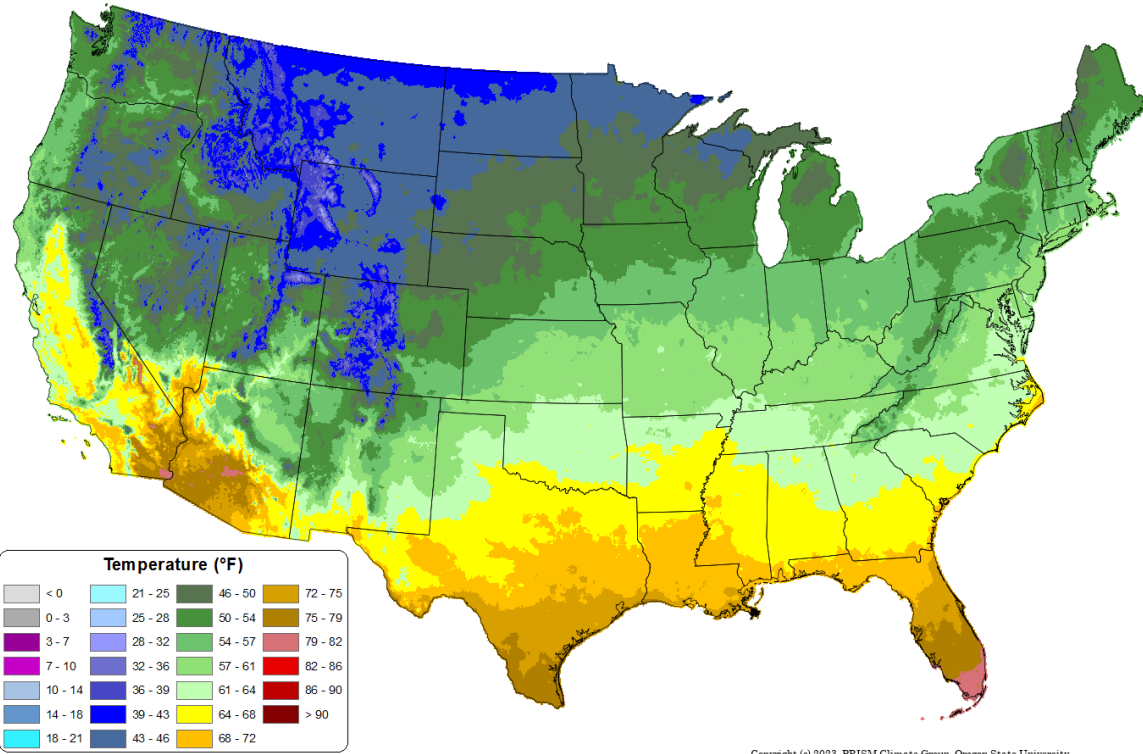
Photo courtesy @RangerNash  
Las Vegas, NM | October 2<sup>nd</sup>



Photo courtesy Dennis Esquibel  
Sapello, NM | October 1<sup>st</sup>

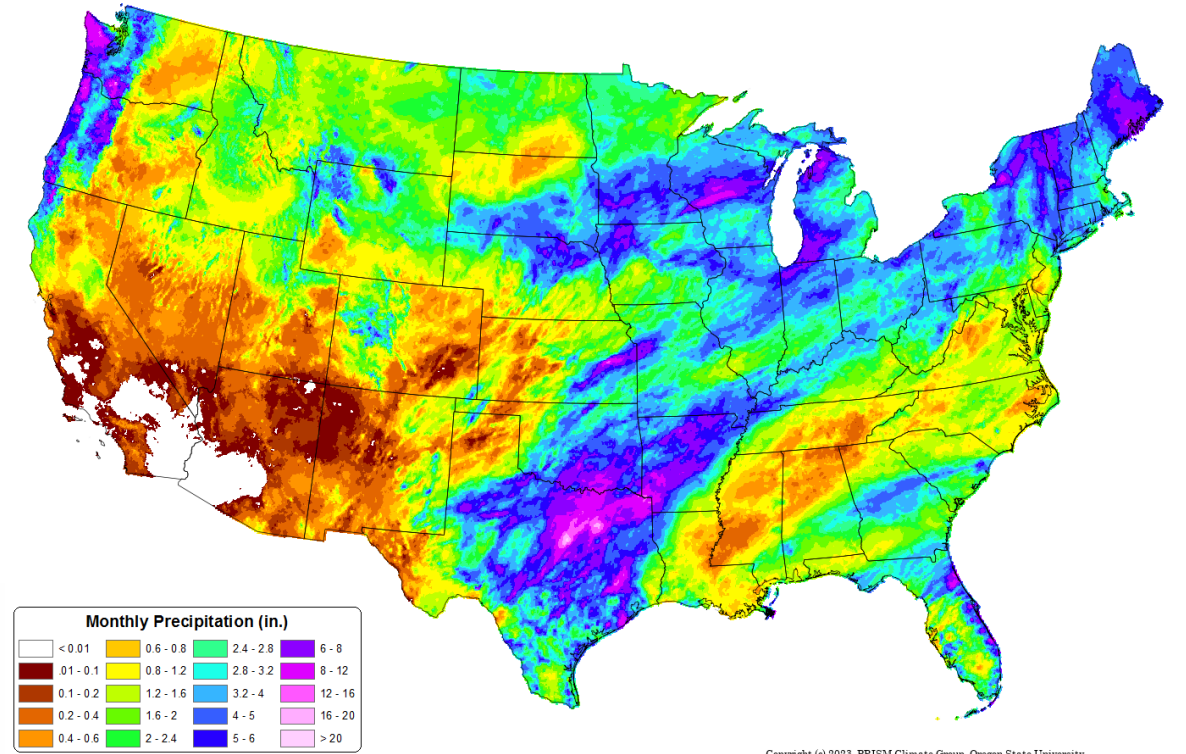
### Average Temperatures

Average Daily Mean Temperature: Oct 2023  
 Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Oct 2023  
 (Map created 17 Nov 2023)



### Total Precipitation

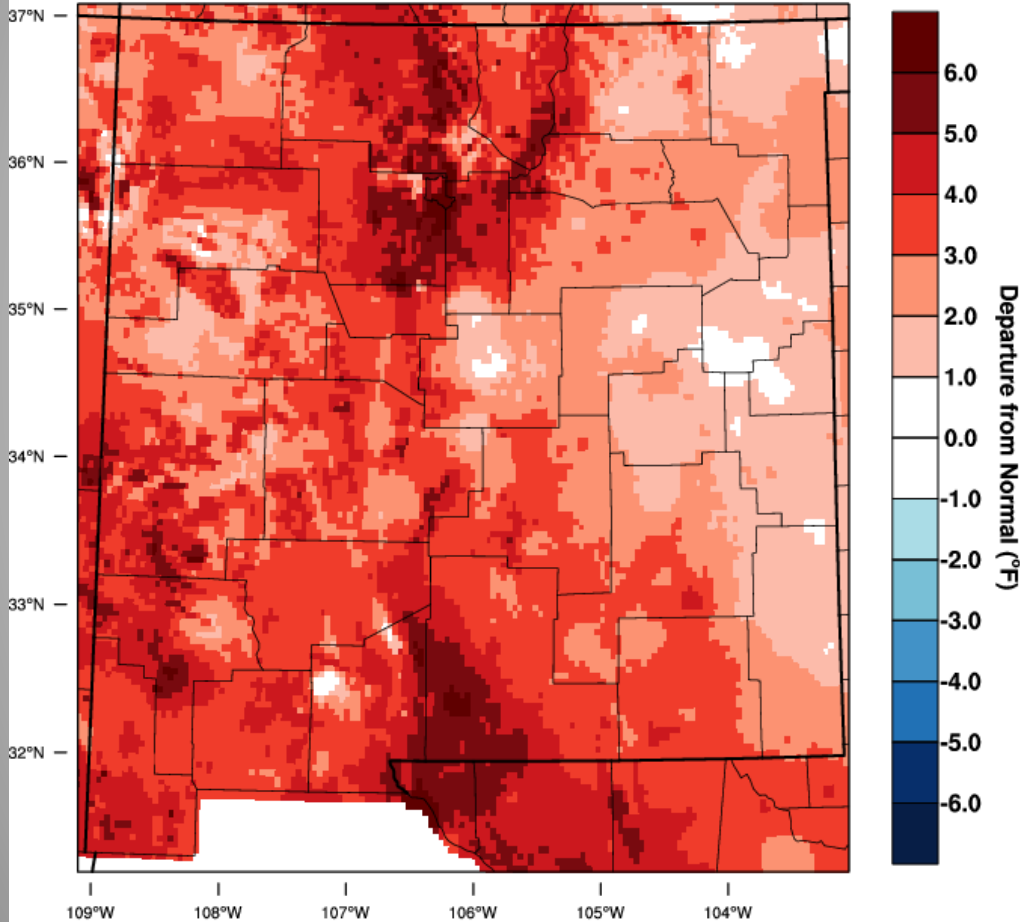
Total Precipitation: Oct 2023  
 Period ending 31 Oct 2023  
 (Map created 17 Nov 2023)





### Anomaly

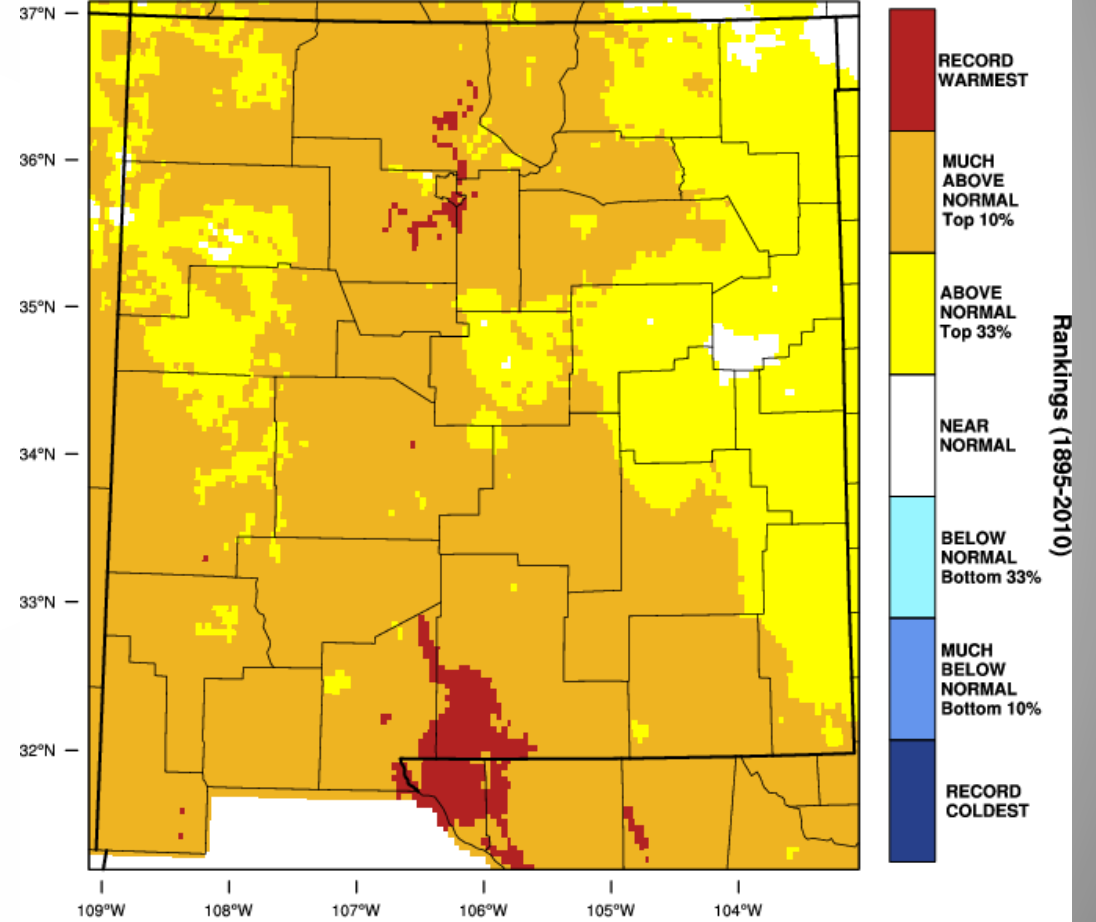
October 2023 Departure from 1981-2010 Normal



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 16 NOV 2023

### Percentile

October 2023 Percentile



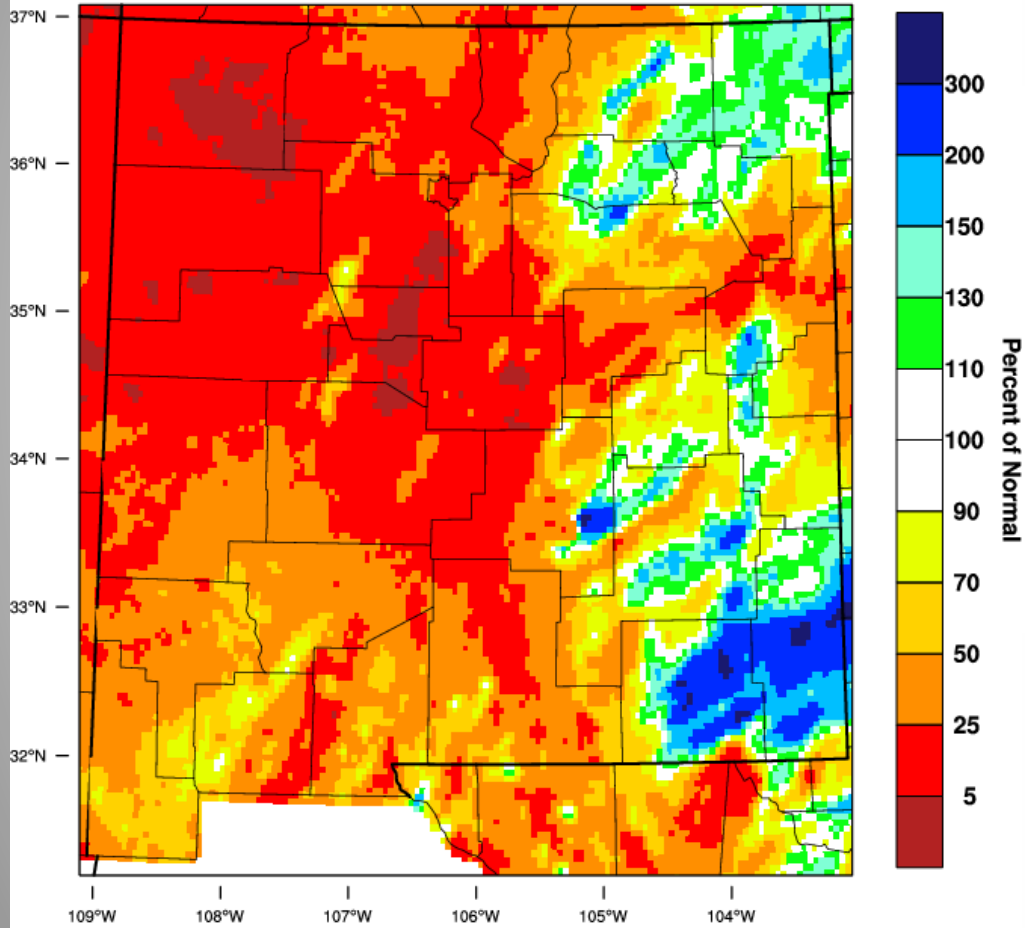
WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 16 NOV 2023





### Anomaly

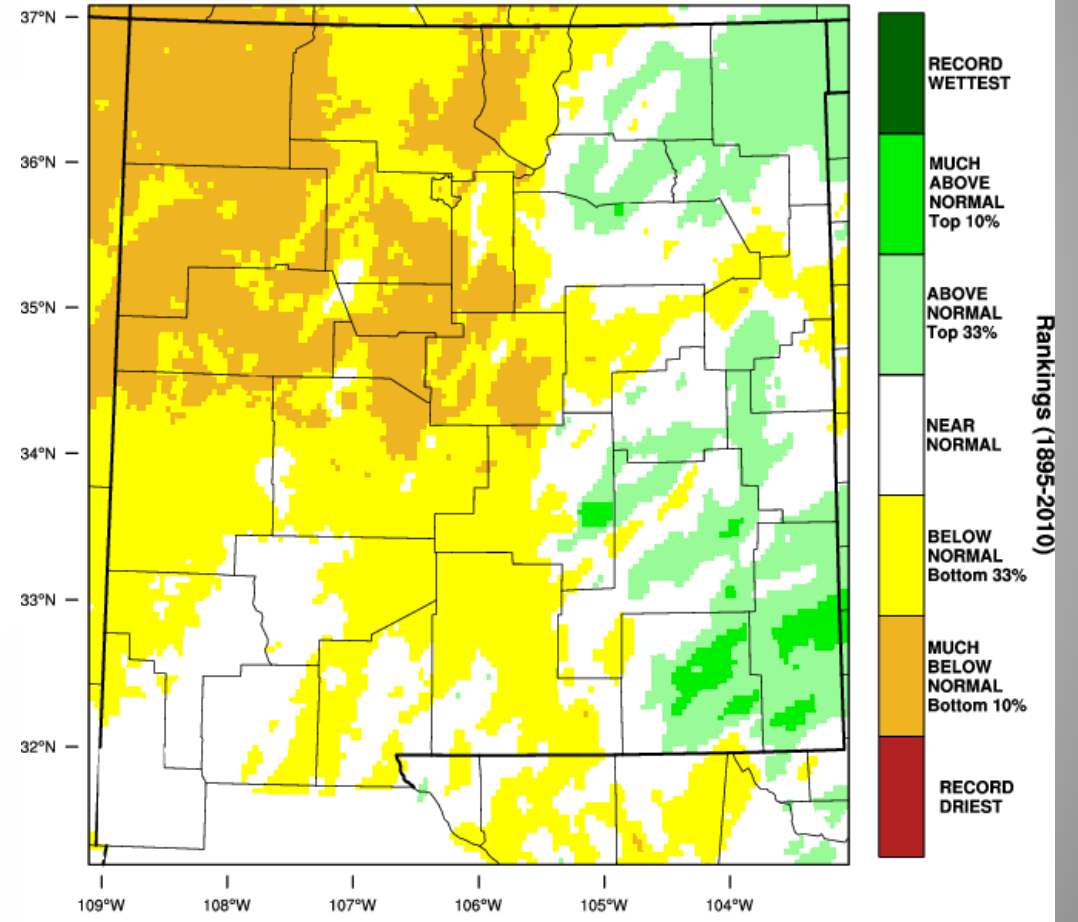
October 2023 Percent of 1981-2010 Normal



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 16 NOV 2023

### Percentile

October 2023 Percentile

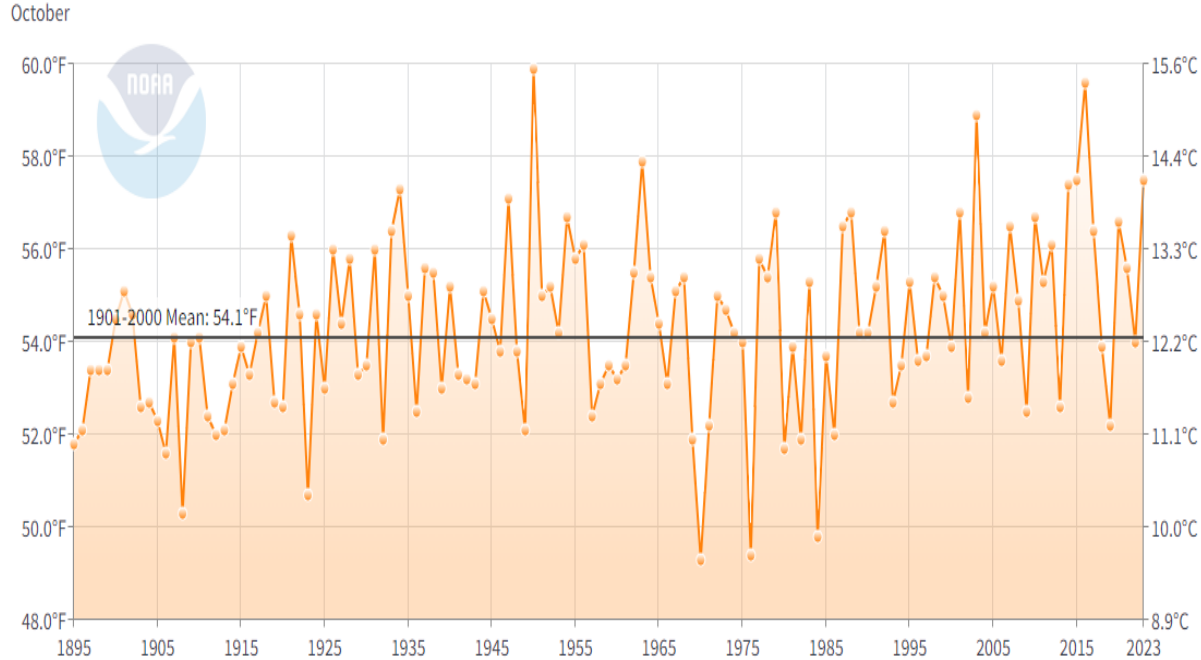


WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 16 NOV 2023



Temperature

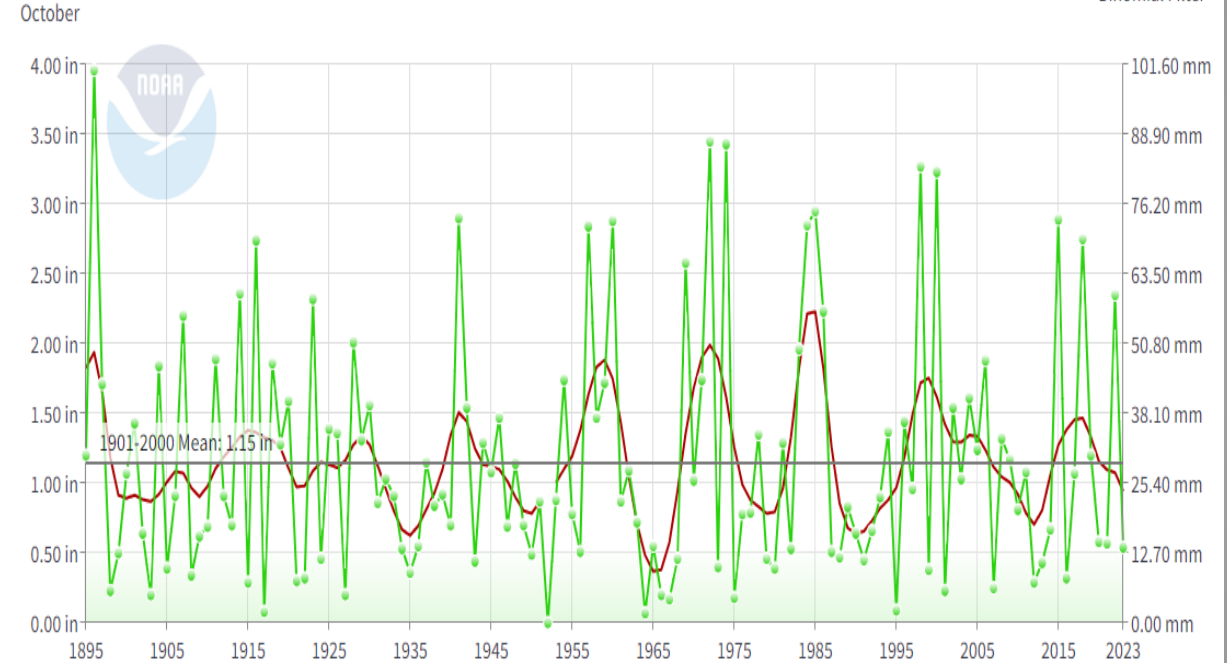
New Mexico Average Temperature



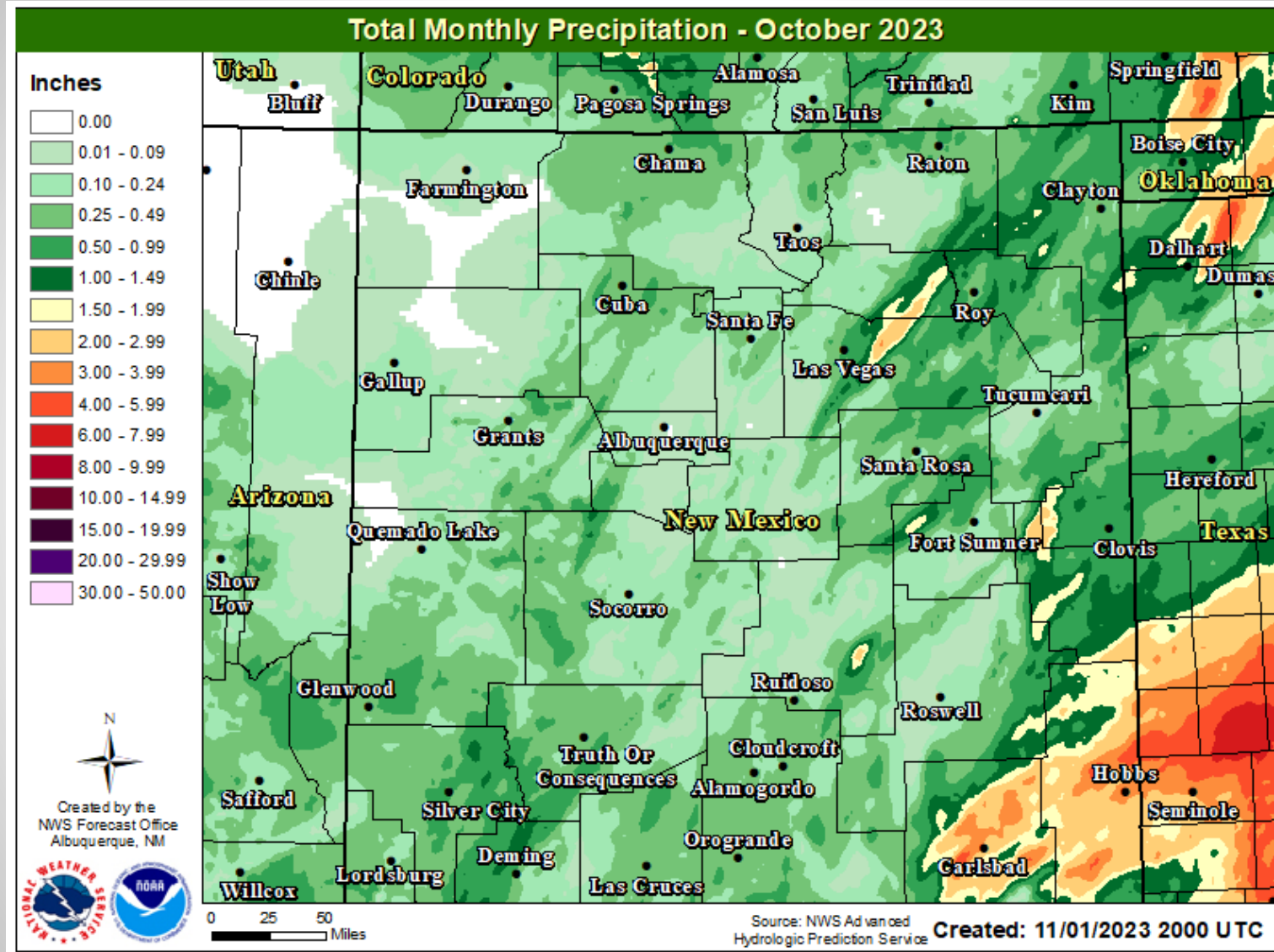
The October 2023 average statewide temperature was 57.5°, which was 3.4° above the long-term normal of 54.1° (1895-2022). This ranked as the 5<sup>th</sup> warmest October on record.

Precipitation

New Mexico Precipitation



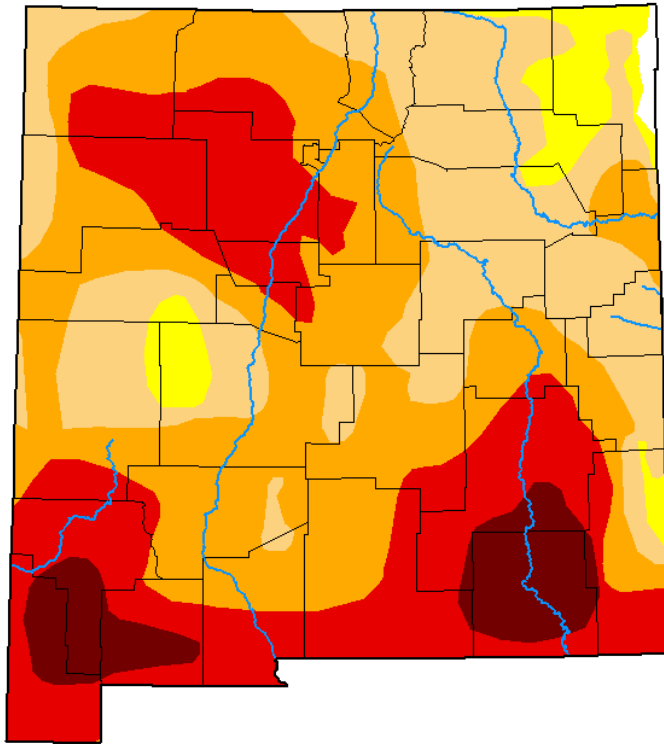
The October 2023 average statewide precipitation was 0.54", which was 0.61" below the long-term normal of 1.15" (1895-2022). This ranked as the 37<sup>th</sup> driest October on record.



Here is a more detailed image of the October 2023 precipitation.



### U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico



**October 3, 2023**  
(Released Thursday, Oct. 5, 2023)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.41	99.59	94.86	68.63	33.19	6.85
<b>Last Week</b> 09-26-2023	0.00	100.00	96.87	67.52	32.31	6.85
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 07-04-2023	55.79	44.21	18.89	6.93	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-03-2023	7.03	92.97	41.30	18.55	3.74	0.19
<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> 10-04-2022	3.30	96.70	76.81	32.32	7.27	0.18

Intensity:

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

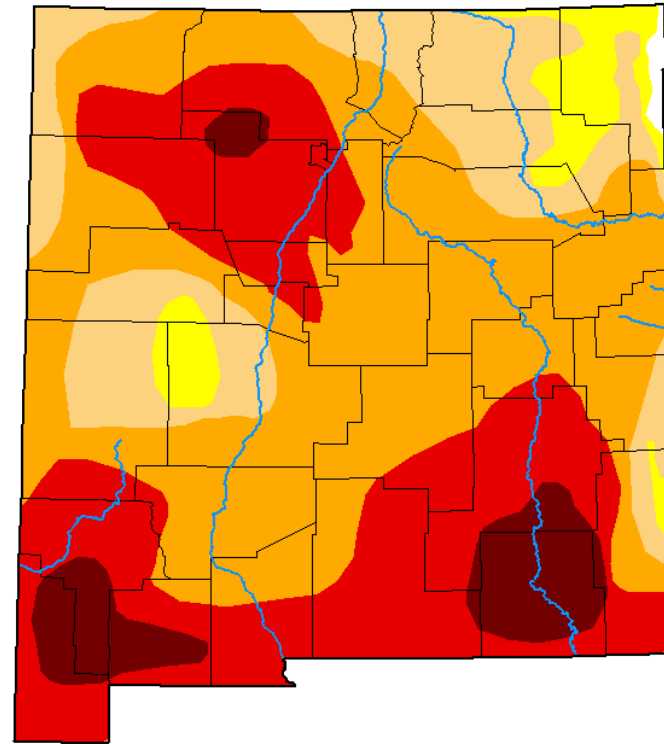
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:  
Brad Pugh  
CPC/NOAA



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

### U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico



**October 31, 2023**  
(Released Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.38	99.62	94.87	78.37	36.69	7.45
<b>Last Week</b> 10-24-2023	0.42	99.58	94.89	78.37	36.69	7.45
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 08-01-2023	5.72	94.28	46.89	12.99	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-03-2023	7.03	92.97	41.30	18.55	3.74	0.19
<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> 11-01-2022	6.76	93.24	42.20	20.41	4.93	0.19

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:  
Brian Fuchs  
National Drought Mitigation Center



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

Drought conditions continued to deteriorate in October after yet another warmer and drier average month. The most notable change was the expansion of severe drought across the central mountain chain and adjacent highlands.



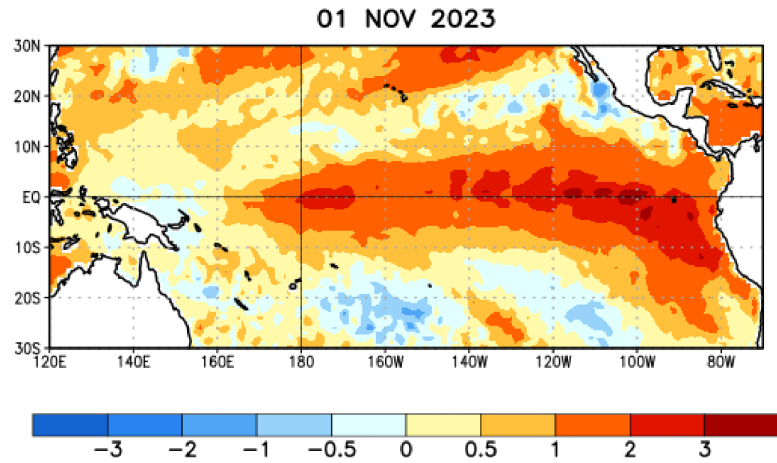


Figure 1. Average sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies (°C) for the week centered on 1 November 2023. Anomalies are computed with respect to the 1991-2020 base period weekly means.

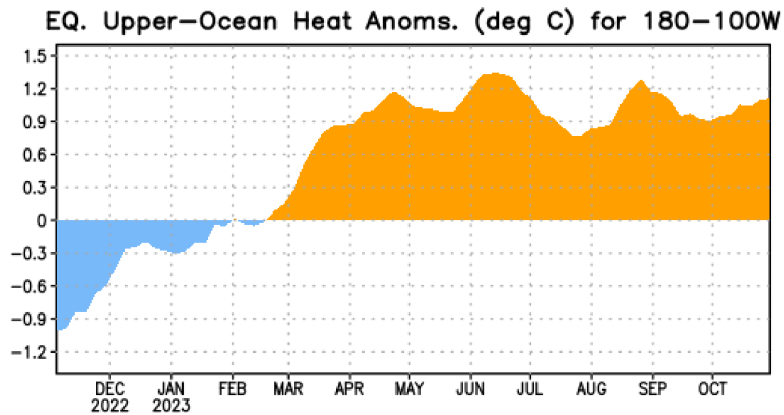


Figure 3. Area-averaged upper-ocean heat content anomaly (°C) in the equatorial Pacific (5°N-5°S, 180°-100°W). The heat content anomaly is computed as the departure from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means.

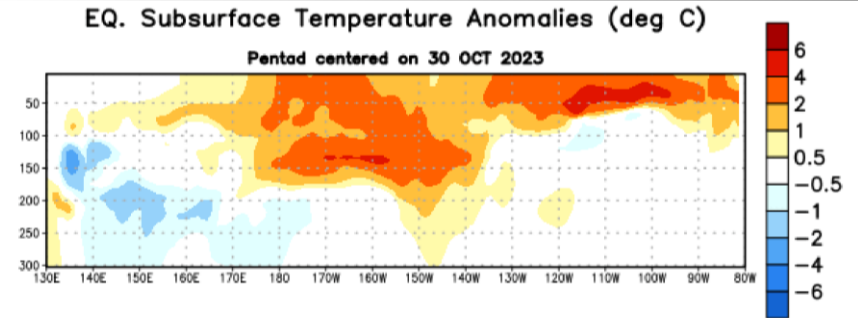


Figure 4. Depth-longitude section of equatorial Pacific upper-ocean (0-300m) temperature anomalies (°C) centered on the pentad of 30 October 2023. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means.

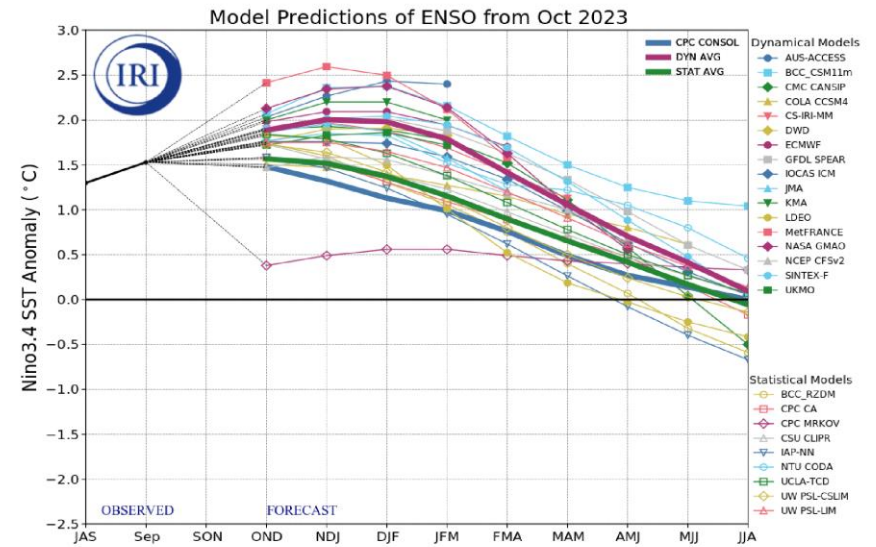
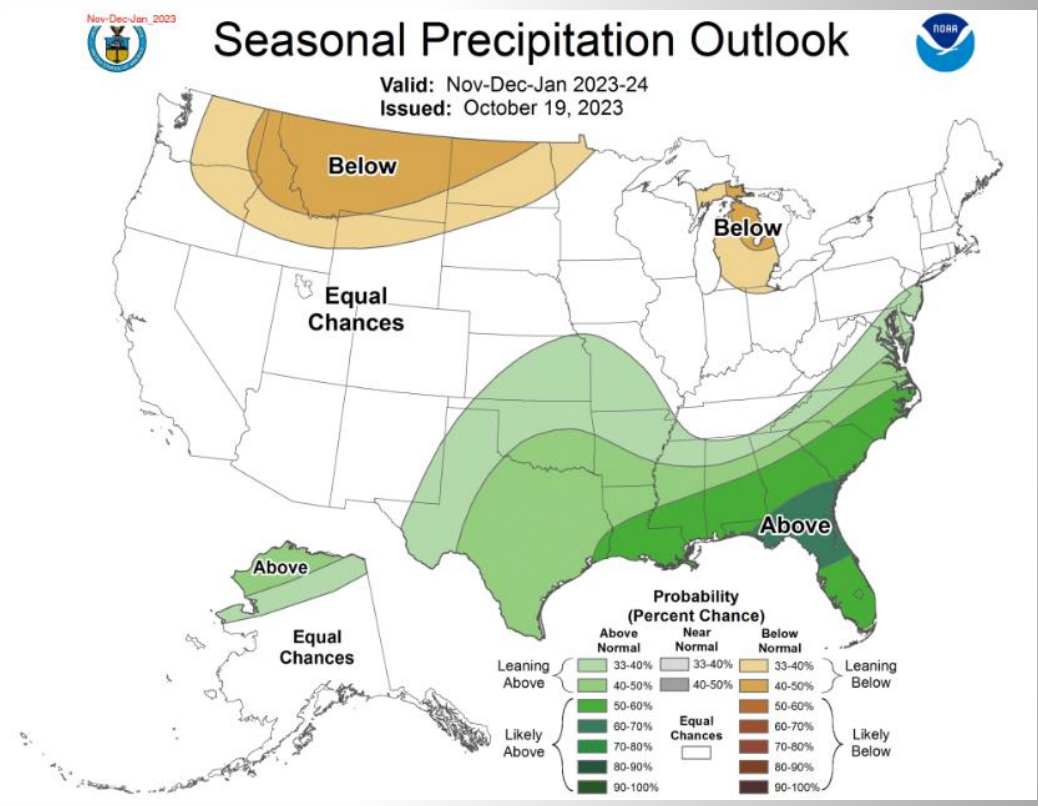
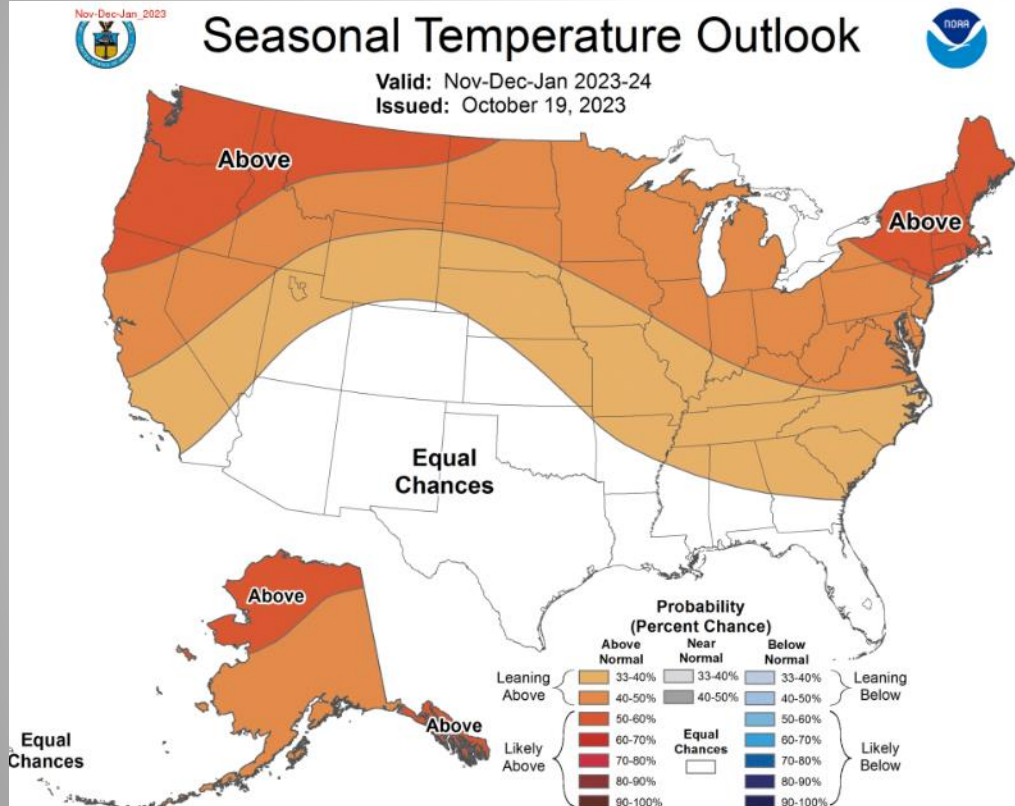


Figure 6. Forecasts of sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies for the Niño 3.4 region (5°N-5°S, 120°W-170°W). Figure updated 19 October 2023 by the International Research Institute (IRI) for Climate and Society.



**Temperature  
November-December-January**

**Precipitation  
November-December-January**



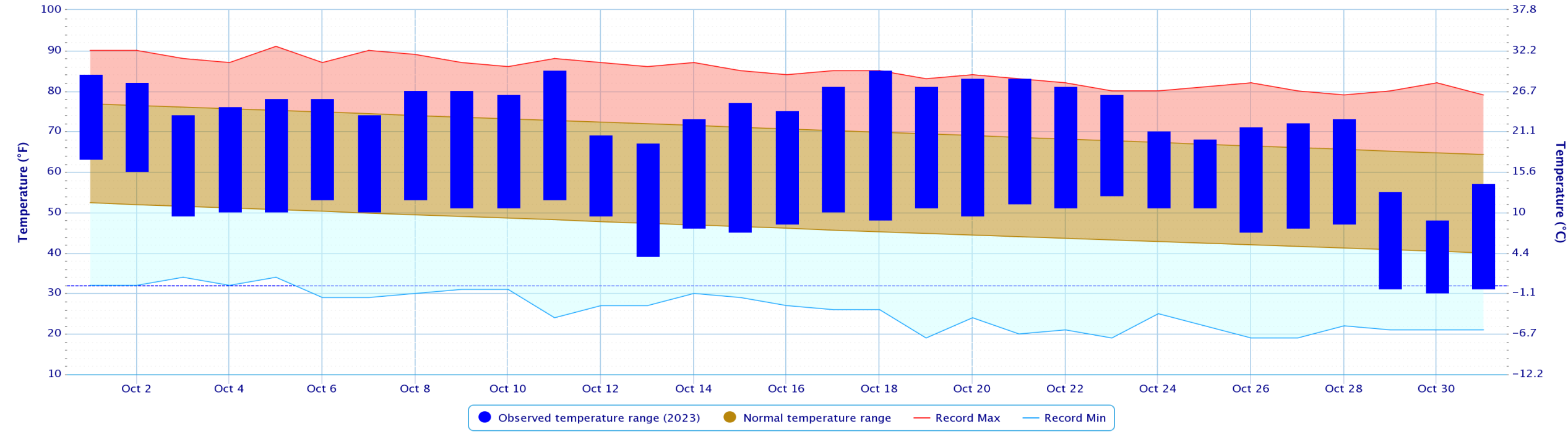
Near normal temperatures and near normal precipitation are favored across New Mexico November through January. Far southeastern New Mexico has a slightly higher chance of above average precipitation.



Average Temperature: 61.5°

Daily Temperature Data – ALBUQUERQUE INTL AP, NM

Period of Record – 1891-12-01 to 2023-11-23. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



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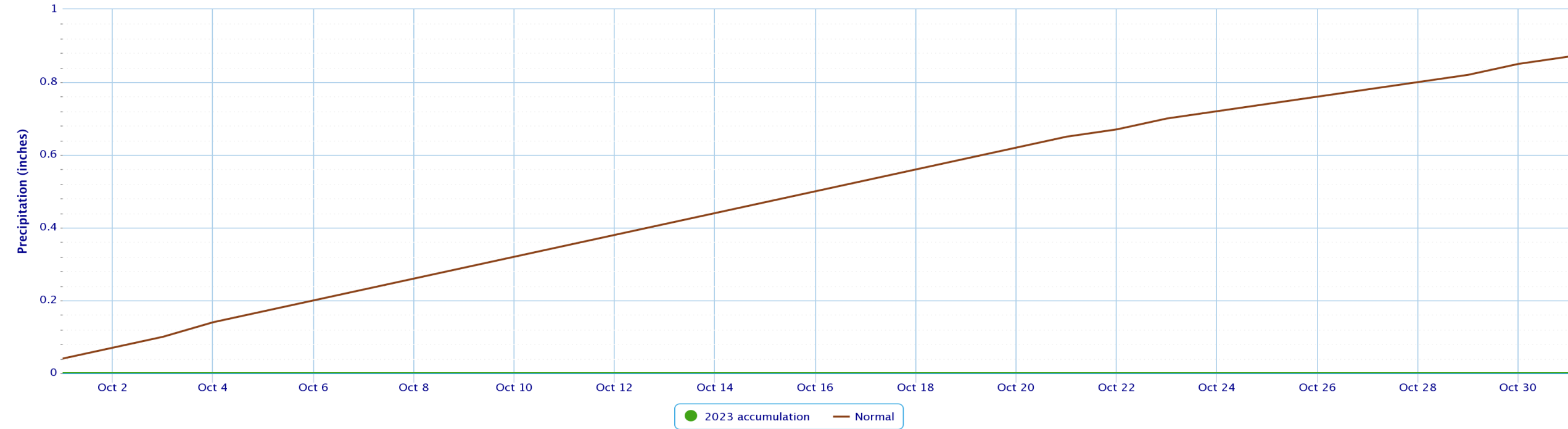
The October 2023 average temperature for Albuquerque was 61.5°, which was 3.1° above the normal of 58.4°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 74.8°. This was 4.2° above the normal average maximum temperature of 70.6°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 48.3°. This was 2.1° above the normal average minimum temperature of 46.1°. This ranked as the 4<sup>th</sup> warmest October on record.



Precipitation: Trace

Accumulated Precipitation – ALBUQUERQUE INTL AP, NM

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



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The October 2023 precipitation for Albuquerque was as Trace, which was 0.87" below the normal of 0.87". This tied for the 5<sup>th</sup> driest October on record.

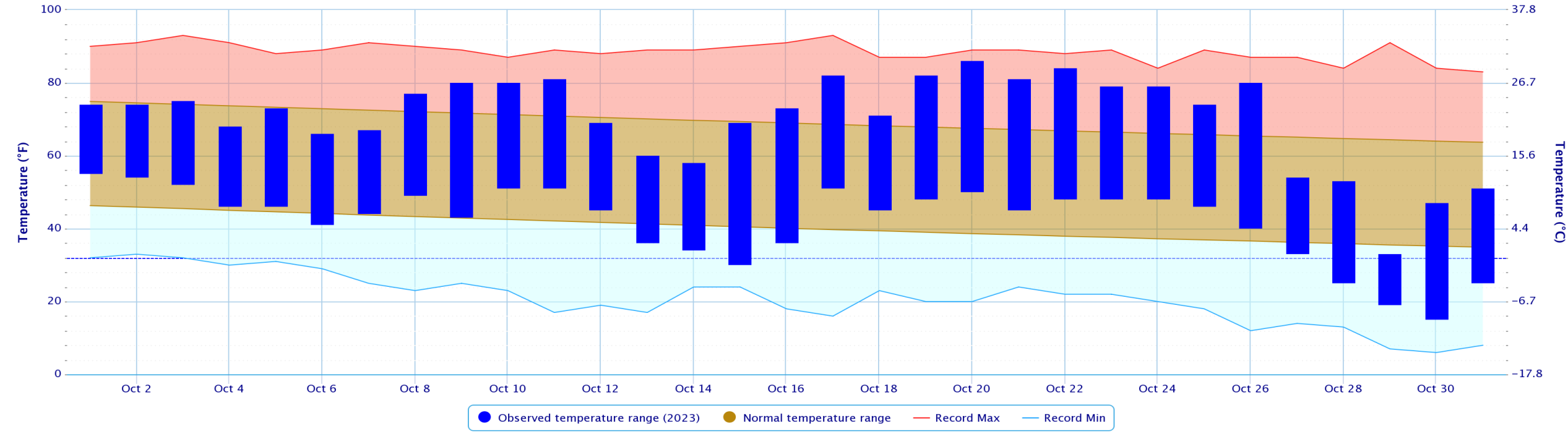
There was 0.0" of snow, compared to the normal of 0.3".



Average Temperature: 56.1°

Daily Temperature Data – Clayton Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – 1896-02-01 to 2023-11-23. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



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The October 2023 average temperature for Clayton was 56.1°, which was 1.4° above the normal of 54.7°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 70.3°. This was 1.2° above the normal average maximum temperature of 69.1°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 41.9°. This was 1.6° above the normal average minimum temperature of 40.3°. This ranked as the 39<sup>th</sup> warmest October on record.

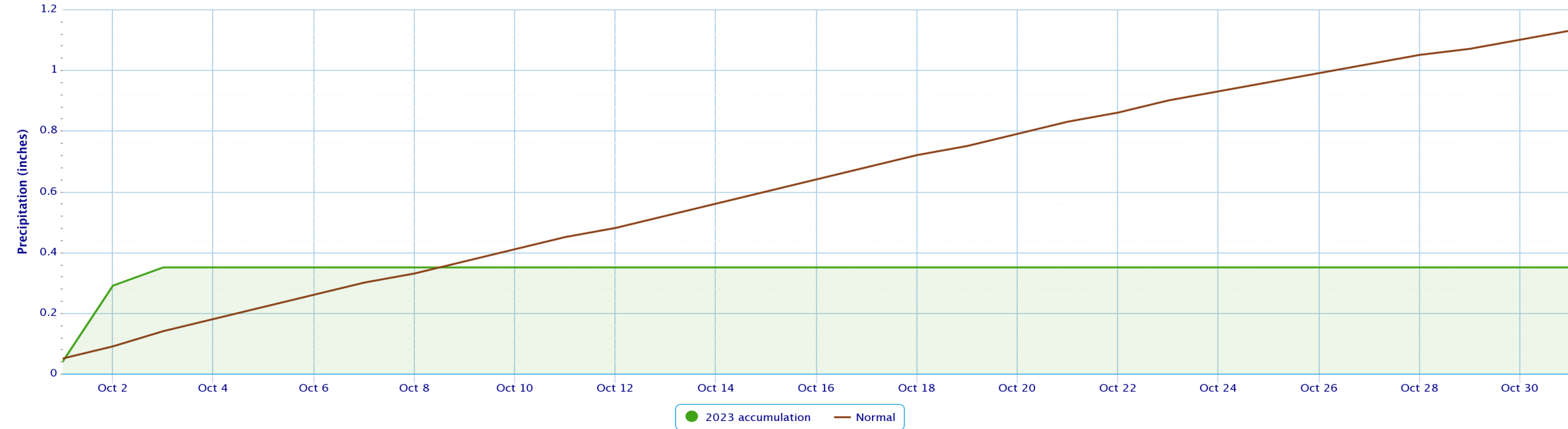




Precipitation: 0.35"

Accumulated Precipitation – Clayton Area, NM (ThreadEx)

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



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The October 2023 precipitation for Clayton was 0.35", which was 0.78" below the normal of 1.13". This ranked as the 38<sup>th</sup> driest October on record.

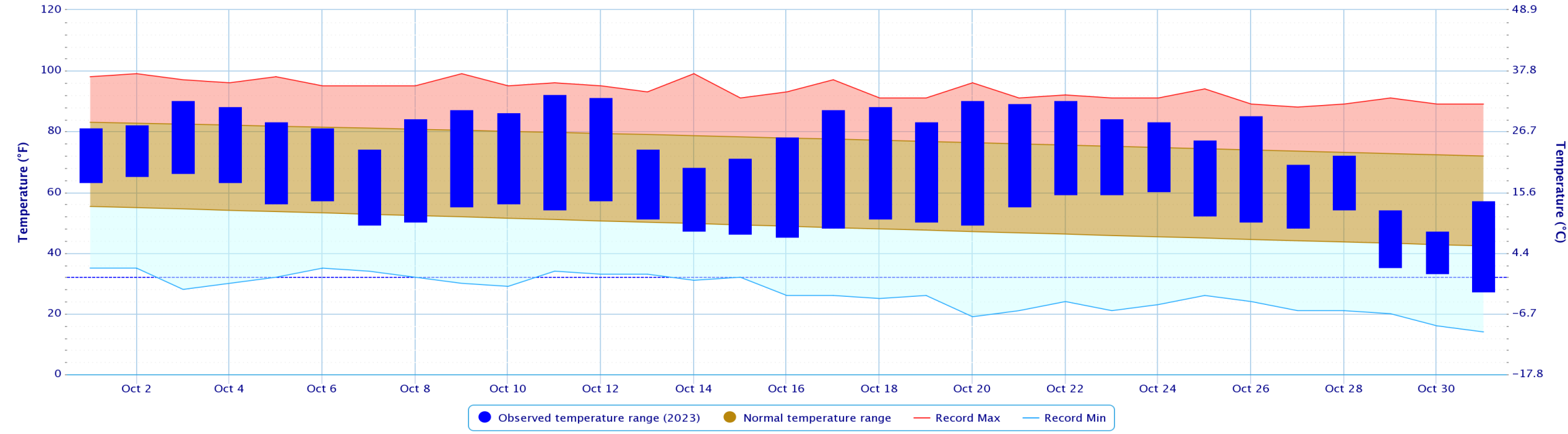
There was 0.0" of snow, compared to the normal of 1.2".



Average Temperature: 65.7°

Daily Temperature Data – Roswell Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – Max temperature: 1893-01-03 to 2023-11-23; Min temperature: 1893-01-21 to 2023-11-23. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



Powered by ACIS

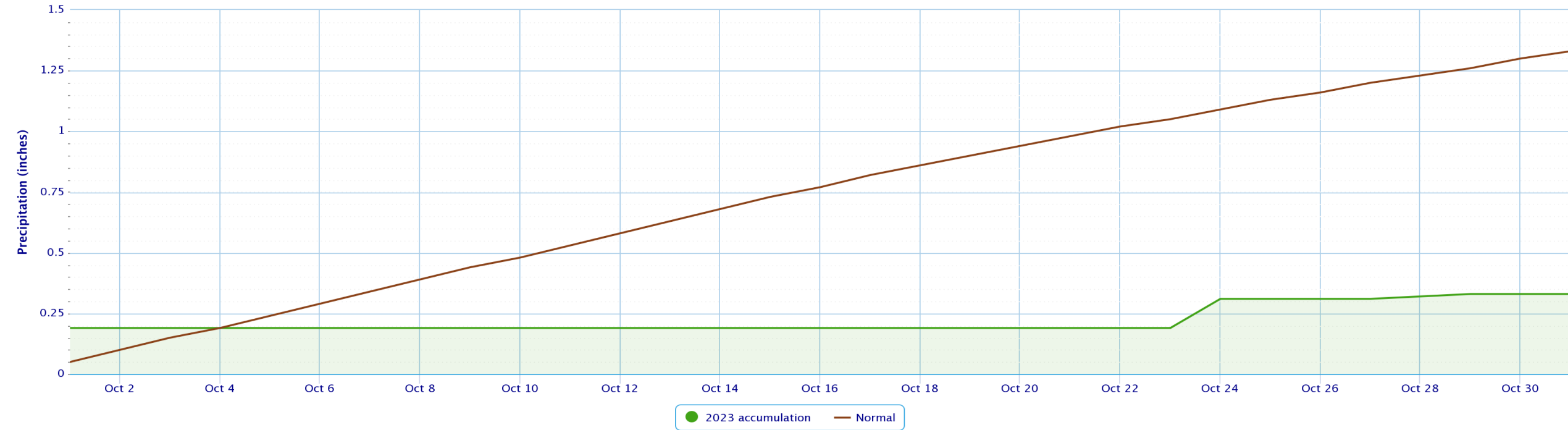
The October 2023 average temperature for Roswell was 65.7°, which was 2.5° above the normal of 63.2°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 79.5°. This was 1.8° above the average maximum temperature of 77.7°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 51.9°. This was 3.1° above the normal average minimum temperature of 48.8°. This ranked as the 3<sup>rd</sup> warmest October on record.



Precipitation: 0.33"

Accumulated Precipitation – Roswell Area, NM (ThreadEx)

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



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The October 2023 precipitation for Roswell was 0.33", which was 1.00" below the normal of 1.33". This tied as the 39<sup>th</sup> driest October on record.

There was a Trace of snow, compared to the normal of 0.4".










Event Type	Begin Date/Time	County Name	Magnitude	Type	Event Narrative
Tornado	10/1/2023	SAN MIGUEL			Damage to a roof of one house and chicken coop at one residence. Power poles down b/w Escondido Lane and Wyatt Dr intersecting county road A1.
Hail	10/2/2023	SAN MIGUEL	0.88 "		
Hail	10/2/2023	SAN MIGUEL	0.75 "		
Hail	10/2/2023	SAN MIGUEL	1 "		Nickel to quarter size hail accumulated to about 3 inches deep in some parts downtown area. There was minor flooding that resulted in town.
Hail	10/2/2023	SAN MIGUEL	1 "		A copious amount of nickel to quarter sized hail resulted in the dispatch of New Mexico Department of Transportation snowplows on Interstate 25.
Hail	10/2/2023	MORA	0.88 "		Heavy accumulations of dime to nickel size hail was observed on the ground.
Thunderstorm Wind	10/2/2023	QUAY	66 kt	Gust	
Hail	10/2/2023	HARDING	0.88 "		
Hail	10/2/2023	SAN MIGUEL	1 "		The Las Vegas Animal Care shelter suffered hail damage. A window was knocked out, and crates and kennels were damaged. No injuries reported.
Hail	10/2/2023	SAN MIGUEL	1.25 "		Hail was reported at the USFS Las Vegas district office building. Hail damage to the roof was reported with a leak resulting from the damage.
High Wind	10/12/2023	CENTRAL HIGHLANDS	53 kt	Gust	The Clines Corners ASOS measured a peak wind gust of 61 mph.
High Wind	10/11/2023	SOUTH CENTRAL MOUNTAINS	51 kt	Gust	The Nogal mesonet station measured a peak wind gust of 59 mph.
High Wind	10/12/2023	UNION COUNTY	50 kt	Gust	The Clayton Airport measured a peak wind gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	10/12/2023	GUADALUPE COUNTY	51 kt	Gust	A mesonet station southeast of Vaugh measured a peak wind gust of 59 mph.
High Wind	10/12/2023	QUAY COUNTY	52 kt	Gust	The Logan NMCC mesonet station measured a peak gust of 60 mph.
Thunderstorm Wind	10/24/2023	SOCORRO	50 kt	Gust	Stallion Runway station.

\*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/>





-  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)
-  NWS Albuquerque Facebook
-  @NWSAlbuquerque & #nmwx