

Climate and Weather Summary for December 2023

Temperatures in December averaged above normal at Abilene and San Angelo. Precipitation was above normal at San Angelo and well-normal at Abilene. Table 1 summarizes December 2023 temperature, precipitation, and departure from normal for Abilene and San Angelo.

Site	Average Temperature (°F)	Departure from Normal (°F)	Normal Average Temperature (°F)	Total Precipitation (In.)	Departure from Normal (In)	Normal Dec. Precipitation (In.)
Abilene	51.9°	4.6°	47.3°	1.44"	0.18"	1.26"
San Angelo	51.2°	2.8°	48.4°	2.16"	1.27"	0.89"

Table 1: Dec. Climate Data for Abilene and San Angelo.

Additional temperature and precipitation data for Abilene and San Angelo is summarized in Table 2.

Site	Warmest High Temperature (°F)	Warmest Low Temperature (°F)	Coldest High Temperature (°F)	Coldest Low Temperature (°F)	Maximum Daily Precipitation (In.)
Abilene	80° on Dec. 8	58° on Dec. 8	57° on Dec. 15	24° on Dec. 10	0.77" Dec. 15
San Angelo	82° on Dec. 8	55° on Dec. 8	57° on Dec. 10	28° on Dec. 10	1.20" Dec. 15

Table 2: Additional Dec. Climate Data for Abilene and San Angelo.

- 3rd warmest December tied at Abilene (mean monthly temperature 51.9°).
- Beneficial rain event occurred Dec. 14-15.

Maps of total precipitation and percentage of normal precipitation, for December, are shown in Figures 1 and 2 (next page).

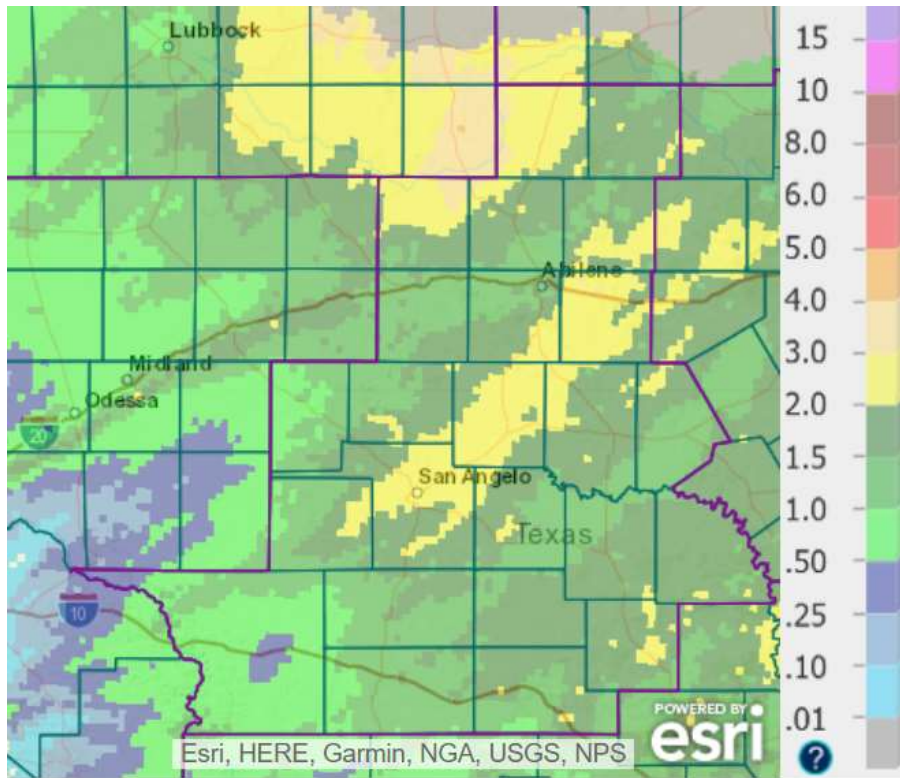


Figure 1: Total Precipitation for December.

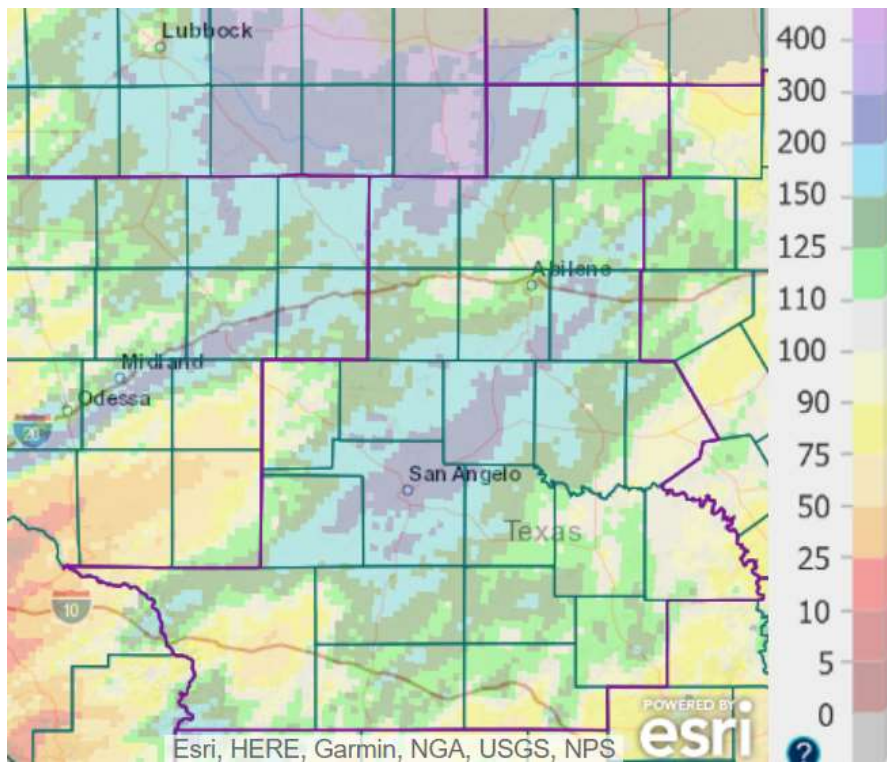


Figure 2: Percentage of Normal Precipitation for December.

Precipitation for December varied from below to well-above normal across [west-central Texas](#). For a majority of the area, the monthly precipitation was above normal (green, blue and purple shading in Fig. 2). The higher monthly amounts (2-3 inches) occurred in some of the Big Country, Concho Valley, and in scattered areas in southeastern parts of the area (yellow shading in Fig. 1).

December 2023 Weather Highlights

The weather pattern was quiet with dry conditions Dec. 1-6. Unusually warm temperatures and gusty southwest to west winds followed passage of a dryline Dec. 8. Highs were in the upper 70s to lower 80s across most of the area.

A beneficial rain event occurred 15, as an upper level storm system tracked from New Mexico into Oklahoma. Rain showers began Dec. 14, but the bulk of the rain (bands of showers with a few thunderstorms) occurred on the 15th. A new daily rainfall record was set at San Angelo on Dec. 15 (1.20 inches). Rainfall was 1-2 inches across nearly all of the Big Country, most of the Concho Valley and some of the Heartland. Lower rainfall amounts (less than one-half inch) occurred in far southern and southeastern parts of the area.

Breezy south winds occurred Dec. 19-20, and this led to increased low-level moisture and cloud cover over the area Dec. 20-21.

The weather pattern became unsettled Dec. 21-24. An upper level disturbance moved over the area in southwest flow aloft, and interacted with the increased moisture over the area. With this setup, an area of showers slowly overspread the mainly the eastern half of west-central Texas Dec. 21. With the approach of a strong upper level disturbance from New Mexico, additional showers (and a few thunderstorms) occurred Dec. 23-24. The primary rainfall occurred with a large area of showers and thunderstorms, which moved east across the area from the evening of Dec. 23 to the early morning of Dec. 24. Daytime and nighttime temperatures were mild Dec. 21-24.

Conditions were dry and colder on Christmas Day, after a cold frontal passage Dec. 24. The weather pattern was quiet and dry during the last week of December. Skies were mostly clear, with seasonably cool days and cold nights.

[Additional Tabular and Graphical Daily Climate Data](#)