

Climate and Weather Summary for May 2017

Temperatures averaged below normal at Abilene and San Angelo in May. Table 1 summarizes May 2017 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 May Precipitation (In.)
Abilene	70.7°	-2.3°	73.0°	2.73"	-0.45"	3.18"
San Angelo	73.4°	-1.1°	74.5°	2.06"	-0.76"	2.82"

Table 1: May 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)	Coollest High Temperature (°F)	Coollest Low Temperature (°F)	Maximum Daily Precipitation (In.)
Abilene	99° May 26, 27	75° May 26, 27	66° May 23	42° May 1, 5	0.99" on May 10
San Angelo	105° May 27	73° May 27	71° May 23	41° May 5	0.68" on May 19

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

A map of total precipitation for May is shown in Figure 1. Percentage of normal precipitation for May is shown in Figure 2.

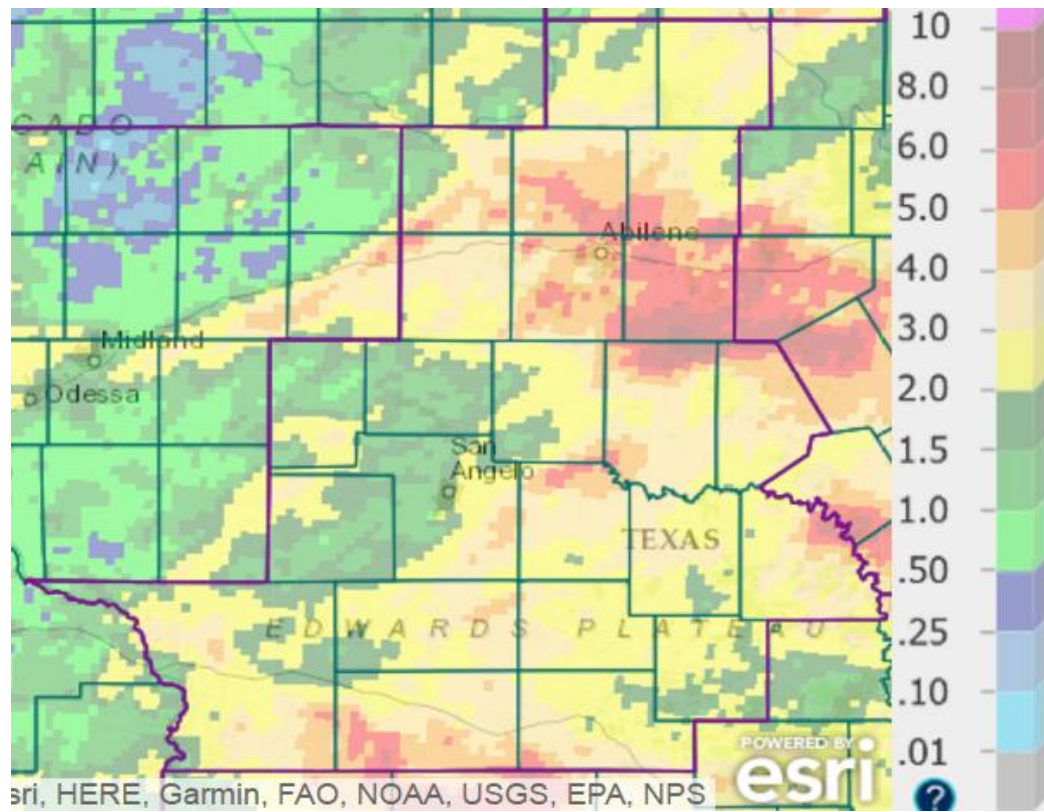


Figure 1: Total Precipitation for May.

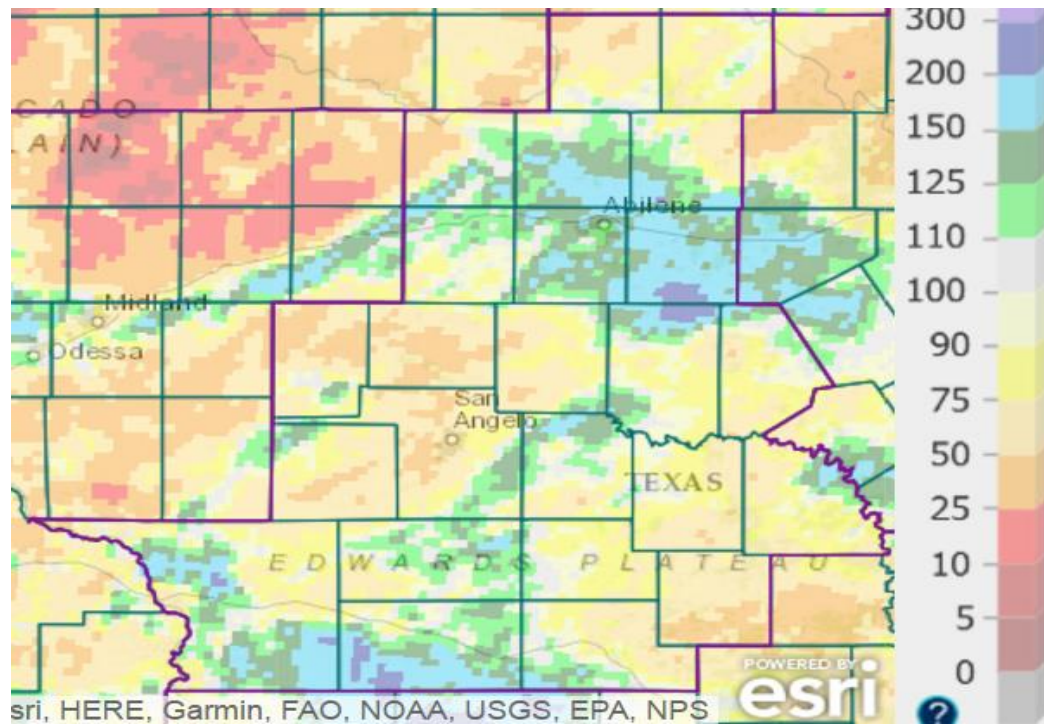


Figure 2: Percentage of Normal Precipitation for May.

Precipitation for May varied considerably, from well-above to well-below normal across west-central Texas. This was due, in part, to the scattered coverage of showers and thunderstorms during the month.

Weather Highlights:

A quiet weather pattern prevailed during the first week of May. The variation in temperatures from late April continued into the first part of May. After highs in the upper 80s to mid 90s on the 2nd, temperatures were much cooler following a cold frontal passage on the 3rd. On the 4th, highs were in the 70s with early morning lows mostly in the upper 40s to lower 50s.

As an upper level storm system moved northeast across the southern Rockies, scattered strong to severe thunderstorms with hail and strong winds occurred across the Big Country between 8 PM and Midnight on the 10th. The largest reported hail was golfball size at Hawley (Jones County). A band of strong thunderstorms moved across east the area south of Interstate 20 and north of Interstate 10, between Midnight and 6 AM on the 11th. Golfball size hail was reported 4 miles north of Brady (Mcculloch County). The heavier rainfall for May 10-11 (between 1.5 and 3 inches) occurred across parts of the [Big Country](#) south and east of Abilene (Figure 3).

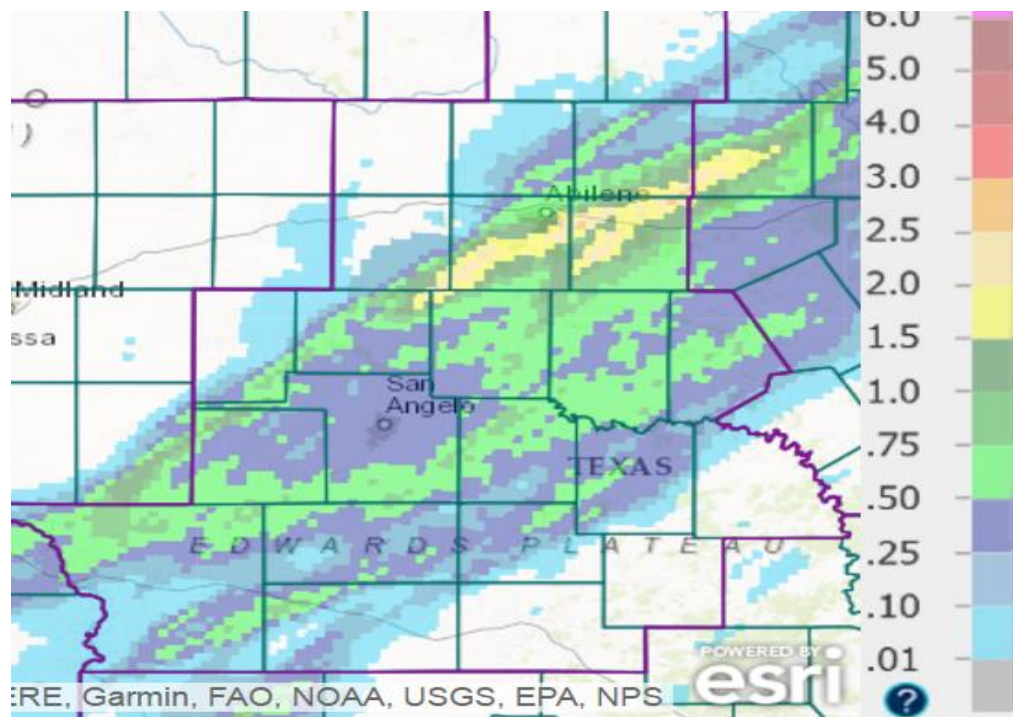


Figure 3: Precipitation for the 24-hour period ending at 7 AM, May 11.

Cooler and drier conditions briefly followed a cold frontal passage on the 11th. This was followed by very warm temperatures on May 14-16. More humid conditions on the 16th were accompanied by gusty south-southeast winds.

A band of showers and thunderstorms moved across most of west-central Texas during the overnight hours of May 16-17, as a strong upper level disturbance moved northeast across the southern Rockies. Some of the storms contained gusty winds and small hail. Several locations (Stamford, Clyde, Wall, San Angelo) recorded wind gusts 50-55 mph. A very strong wind gust of 75 mph was recorded at Haskell. Rainfall amounts of one-half to one inch occurred at scattered locations across northern and central parts of west-central Texas, with an area of 1-2 inch amounts in northwestern Irion County.

An active period with severe weather occurred on both [May 18](#) and [May 19](#). Mostly cloudy and cooler conditions occurred on the 20th, in the wake of a cold frontal passage on the preceding night. Skies remained mostly cloudy with cool temperatures on May 21-22. Showers and scattered thunderstorms occurred on the 21st across the region south of Interstate 20, with the arrival of an upper level disturbance from northeastern Mexico.

Temperatures remained below normal on May 22, and to a greater extent on May 23. Small clusters of strong to severe storms affected west-central Texas from the evening of the 22nd into the early morning of the 23rd. Most of the [severe weather](#) occurred in the [Big Country](#). In the Abilene area, quarter size hail was reported, and a 62 mph gust was recorded at the Abilene Regional Airport. The San Angelo Regional Airport recorded a peak wind gust of 45 mph.

Record cool temperatures on May 23-24 were followed by record heat a couple of days later on May 26. New record low temperatures were set at San Angelo (46 degrees) and Abilene (48 degrees) on May 24, and at San Angelo (48 degrees) on May 23. New record high temperatures were set at San Angelo (104 degrees) and tied at Abilene (99 degrees) on May 26.

Temperatures cooled into mostly the 80s for highs, following a cold frontal passage on May 28. Scattered showers and thunderstorms with locally heavy rainfall occurred across the southern third of west-central Texas on May 28-31. Scattered showers and storms also occurred across the [Big Country](#) area on May 31.