

office of the
state climatologist



TEXAS CLIMATIC BULLETIN

Office of the Texas State Climatologist
College of Geosciences
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February 2007 was a very dry month for the entire state. El Nino conditions of the previous months brought some much needed rain to the drought affected areas of the state. However, as the El Nino weakened, conditions across the state this month were very dry. No station in the state received above average precipitation. In fact, Brownsville reported the highest percent of normal with only 76%. Moreover, Brownsville was the only station in the state that reported above 58% of their normal precipitation total. Six stations reported precipitation totals of less than 10% of normal. As a result, this was the driest February ever reported in Galveston; only 0.03" of rainfall was reported for the entire month, 1% of normal. In College Station and San Antonio, this February was the 2nd driest and 4th driest, respectively, of all time. In the panhandle area, all of the stations reported at least 50% of their normal totals, the most throughout the entire state, but still only slightly larger than half of their normal values. The south and southeast received the least of amount of their normal total precipitation with values ranging from 1% in Galveston and 4% in Corpus Christi to 39% in Houston. Central Texas did not fair much better with the values in the area ranging from 7% in Austin and 5% in San Antonio to 23% in Waco. February 2007 could be one of the driest Februarys ever reported (data to be available later this month).

While precipitation for the state was far below average, mean temperatures were within a degree of average in most place. The coldest places were Amarillo, Houston and Galveston which were all 1.5°F below average. The southeast areas of the station were all below average, while the southern areas were all slightly above average. The warmest place in the state was Brownsville, where the mean temperature was 1.2°F above average. A strong cold front moved across the state on Feb. 15. The air behind the front was cold and dry and allowed temperatures to drop to record lows. Six stations, all in central or southeast Texas, reported record low temperature between Feb. 16th – 18th. Waco reported a record low of 16°F on the 16th. Houston, and Port Arthur reported record lows on the 16th with values of 26°F and 25°, respectively. College Station reported a record low on the 17th with a low temperature of 21°F. As the month moved on temperature warm up considerably, even setting record highs in the few locations near the end of the month. Corpus Christi set a record high on the 24th with a high temperature of 90°F. That was also the highest temperature reported during the month for the entire state. San Angelo also set a record high with a high temperature of 85°F on the 28th.

As for severe weather, February is usually a quiet month, and February 2007 was no exception. There were only three days with storm reports. However, three tornadoes were reported on the 23rd. For the entire month, there were 3 tornado reports, 6 hail reports, and 5 severe wind reports.

February 2007

	<i>Avg</i>		<i>Avg</i>				<i>Abs</i>	<i>Abs</i>	<i>No. of</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>% of</i>	<i>Gr'st</i>		
	<i>Max</i>		<i>Min</i>		<i>Mean</i>		<i>Max</i>	<i>Min</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Pcpn</i>	<i>Avg</i>	<i>24 hr</i>		
Station	<i>Temp</i>	<i>Dep</i>	<i>Temp</i>	<i>Dep</i>	<i>Temp</i>	<i>Dep</i>	<i>Temp</i>	<i>Temp</i>	<i>Precip.</i>	<i>(In)</i>	<i>Pcpn</i>	<i>Pcpn</i>	<i>HDD*</i>	<i>CDD*</i>
Abilene	60.8	0.1	35.7	-0.8	48.2	-0.4	84	16	3	0.32	28%	0.31	469	5
Amarillo	53.4	-0.7	25.5	-1.5	39.4	-1.2	76	4	4	0.29	53%	0.13	711	0
Austin	65.8	-0.7	43.2	-1.2	54.5	-1.0	87	24	4	0.14	7%	0.04	308	20
Brownsville	72.9	0.7	55.0	1.7	63.9	1.2	84	40	3	0.90	76%	0.80	99	79
College Station	63.5	-2.0	42.9	-0.5	53.2	-1.3	83	21	4	0.08	3%	0.04	340	17
Corpus Christi	69.5	-0.2	49.8	0.5	59.6	0.1	90	33	1	0.08	4%	0.05	197	55
Dallas/Ft. Worth	60.4	0.3	38.3	-0.4	49.3	-0.1	81	16	3	0.43	18%	0.30	438	6
Del Rio	68.2	0.2	44.0	-0.1	56.1	0.0	87	30	3	0.04	4%	0.02	252	11
El Paso	64.2	0.8	36.9	-0.6	50.6	0.1	74	24	3	0.19	49%	0.16	397	0
Galveston	63.2	-1.2	49.7	-1.8	56.5	-1.5	74	33	1	0.03	1%	0.03	241	11
Houston	66.1	-0.4	44.2	-0.1	55.1	-0.3	82	26	6	1.15	39%	0.63	288	19
Lubbock	58.8	1.0	28.4	-0.5	43.6	0.3	78	10	4	0.36	51%	0.16	593	0
Midland	62.2	-0.8	34.4	0.3	48.3	-0.3	79	22	3	0.14	24%	0.08	463	3
Port Arthur	64.6	-0.7	43.5	-2.4	54.1	-1.5	78	25	3	0.32	10%	0.23	305	4
San Angelo	63.0	-0.5	36.2	0.2	49.6	-0.1	85	16	2	0.55	47%	0.54	431	6
San Antonio	66.6	-0.5	43.1	0.7	54.8	0.1	84	24	2	0.08	5%	0.03	290	13
Victoria	67.6	1.0	45.0	-1.7	56.3	-0.4	84	23	5	0.35	17%	0.21	266	29
Waco	62.6	0.3	38.3	-1.0	50.4	-0.4	83	16	3	0.55	23%	0.43	407	6
Wichita Falls	58.3	0.2	33.6	0.2	46.0	0.3	85	12	4	0.91	58%	0.78	530	5
Shreveport, LA	61.7	-0.3	39.5	-0.8	50.6	-0.6	82	21	6	3.32	79%	1.65	399	4

* Based on 1971-2000 normals

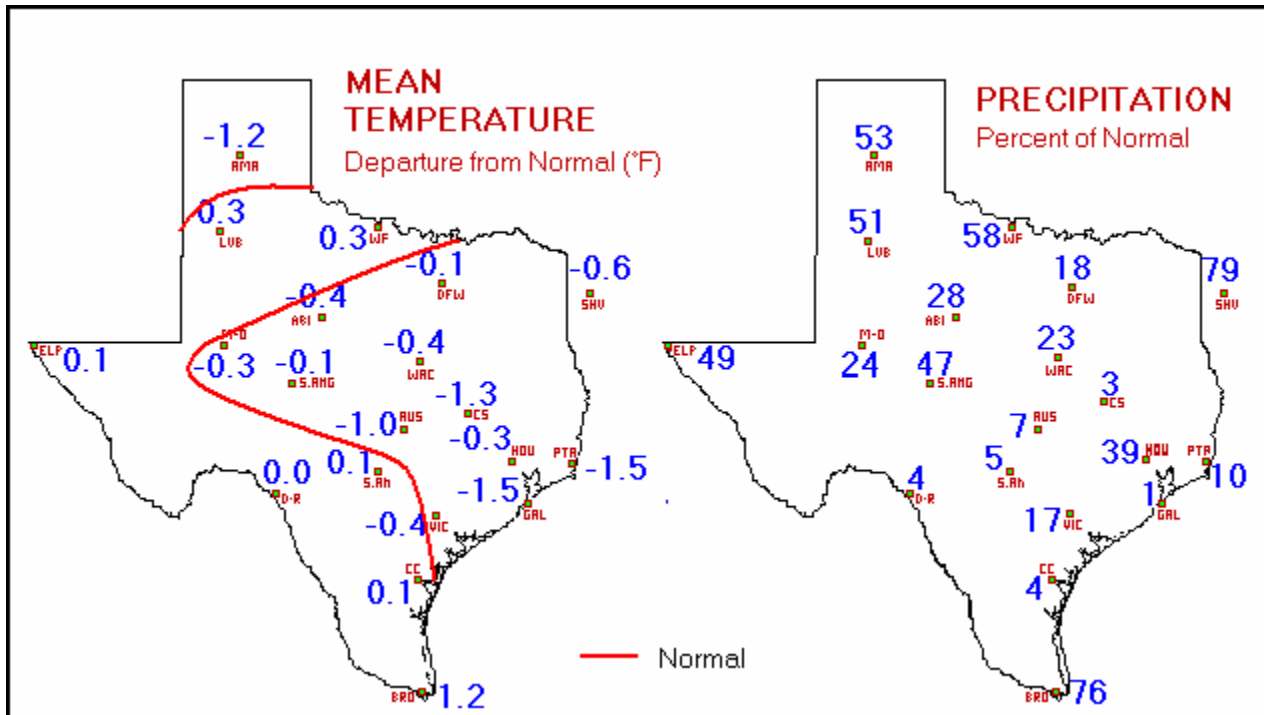
* Complete temperature data were unavailable. Temperatures are rounded to the nearest whole degree.

* HDD - Heating degree-day: Refer to the Monthly Average chart for a definition

T = Trace (<0.005")

* CDD - Cooling degree-day: Refer to the Monthly Average chart for a definition

M: Information not available.



Station	Avg Max Temp	Avg Min Temp	Rec High Max Temp	Rec Low Min Temp	Avg Pcpn (In)	Gr'st Mon Pcpn (In)	Gr'st 24 hr Pcpn (In)	Mean # of Days			HDD*	CDD*
								Max. T. >90°F	Min. T <32°F	Pcpn >or= 0.01"		
Abilene	69	44	97	7	1.41	5.16	2.23	1	4	5	296	28
Amarillo	62	34	94	-3	1.13	3.99	2.27	2	15	5	532	2
Austin	74	52	98	18	2.36	6.03	2.69	1	1	7	126	51
Brownsville	78	60	106	32	0.93	4.27	2.59	2	<1	4	57	176
College Station	73	51	96	17	2.84	8.03	4.02	<1	2	7	147	42
Corpus Christi	76	56	102	24	1.73	4.80	2.67	1	<1	5	82	114
Dallas/Ft. Worth	68	46	96	15	3.06	6.39	4.39	<1	3	7	247	10
Del Rio	76	52	101	21	0.96	2.60	1.73	2	1	5	120	84
El Paso	70	44	89	14	0.26	2.26	1.72	0	5	2	257	8
Galveston	70	58	85	26	2.76	9.49	8.10	0	<1	8	92	65
Houston	73	51	91	22	3.36	8.52	7.47	<1	2	9	148	63
Lubbock	66	36	95	2	0.76	3.23	1.80	<1	11	4	435	8
Midland	71	41	95	9	0.42	2.86	2.20	<1	6	3	299	16
Port Arthur	72	52	87	23	3.75	9.35	6.04	0	1	8	141	55
San Angelo	71	43	97	8	0.99	5.00	4.65	1	4	4	271	30
San Antonio	74	50	100	19	1.89	4.19	2.36	1	2	7	157	68
Victoria	73	54	97	21	2.25	5.51	2.65	<1	1	7	120	81
Waco	70	47	100	15	2.48	6.84	3.07	<1	2	7	240	39
Wichita Falls	67	41	100	8	2.27	5.24	4.32	1	6	6	352	18
Shreveport, LA	70	47	92	20	4.18	7.23	3.63	<1	3	9	250	31

CLIMATIC AVERAGES FOR MARCH

Records are at the current site, other records may have occurred at previous sites.

*CDD - Cooling degree-day: The difference between the mean individual daily temperature and 65°F, with one CDD resulting for each degree above the standard 65°F during one day.

*HDD - Heating degree-day: The difference between the mean individual daily temperature and 65°F, with one HDD resulting for each degree below the standard 65°F during one day.

Agricultural Weather Highlights

<http://agnews.tamu.edu/dailynews/index.html>

Past Weather Events in March

March 23, 1909: Tornado. Slidell, Wise County; 11 killed, 10 injured; damage \$30,000.

March 30, 1933: Tornado. Angelina, Nacogdoches and San Augustine Counties; 10 killed, 56 injured; damage \$200,000.

March 13, 1953: Tornado. Jud and O'Brien, Haskell County; and Knox City, Knox County; 17 killed, 25 injured; damage \$600,000.

March-May, 1998: According to the Climate Prediction Center, this three-month period ranks as the seventh driest for a region including Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. May 1998 has been ranked as both the warmest and the driest May that this region has ever seen.

March 28, 2000: A supercell over Fort Worth produced an F3 tornado which injured 80 people and caused significant damage. Flooding claimed the lives of two people.

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