

office of the
state climatologist



TEXAS CLIMATIC BULLETIN

Office of the Texas State Climatologist
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JANUARY 2005

The beginning of 2005 was a roller coaster of record highs and freezing lows. The month began with temperatures some 15-20° above normal across the state. Temperatures dropped below normal beginning on the 4th when a cold front began to pass over the state. A high pressure system followed the front and temperatures again reached 15-20° above normal. A low pressure system reached the state on the 12th, and a line of heavy precipitation and severe weather developed ahead of a cold front. Temperatures dropped consistently behind the front as an arctic air mass settled over the state. Following that line of storms, no precipitation was recorded at any of the first-order stations for two weeks. A slight warm up occurred before a dry cold front passed over the state beginning the 22nd. Another high pressure system moved in and temperatures returned to above normal levels. During the final week of January, a low pressure system moved in from Mexico causing showers across the entire state beginning on the 26th. Temperatures dropped about 15-20°, and the rains continued as another low pressure system moved around the state borders.

For the month, all first-order stations had above normal temperatures. The first-order station average was 4.3° above normal. Most stations received above normal precipitation as well mostly due to the showers at the end of the month. Austin (1.36"), Houston (1.22"), Port Arthur (1.33"), San Antonio (1.57"), and Shreveport (1.22") all had at least one day of heavy rainfall during the last week of the month. Several other stations received at least 1.00" spread out over 3-4 days. The stations along the Gulf of Mexico and Louisiana border plus the stations in the middle of West Texas along I-20 did not receive their normal amount of precipitation for January.

Michael Hammer (Undergraduate Assistant)

JANUARY 2005

Station	Avg Max Temp	Dep	Avg Min Temp	Dep	Mean Temp	Dep	Abs Max Temp	Abs Min Temp	No. of Days Precip.	Total Pcpn (In)	% of Avg Pcpn	Gr'st 24 hr Pcpn	HDD*	CDD*
Abilene	60.1	4.9	38.2	6.4	49.2	5.7	79	20	6	0.72	74%	0.34	489	5
Amarillo	50.7	1.8	28.6	6.0	39.7	3.9	72	14	8	1.41	224%	0.88	778	0
Austin	63.2	1.7	45.6	5.0	54.4	3.4	80	29	9	2.25	102%	1.49	359	39
Brownsville	75.7	7.0	55.1	4.6	65.4	5.8	85	39	7	0.27	20%	0.08	104	125
College Station	63.3	2.7	45.9	6.1	54.6	4.4	81	29	10	3.92	118%	1.29	360	44
Corpus Christi	70.5	4.5	51.4	5.2	61.0	4.9	83	35	8	0.74	46%	0.42	194	75
Dallas/Ft. Worth	59.5	5.4	39.6	5.6	49.5	5.4	79	22	9	4.33	228%	2.03	483	10
Del Rio	65.8	3.0	46.5	6.8	56.1	4.8	80	32	5	0.90	158%	0.76	282	15
El Paso	60.1	2.9	37.2	4.3	48.6	3.5	74	28	6	0.66	147%	0.34	498	0
Galveston	64.7	2.8	51.9	2.2	58.3	2.5	77	37	6	2.16	53%	0.89	221	21
Houston	65.2	2.9	47.3	6.1	56.3	4.5	79	32	9	3.41	93%	1.51	303	41
Lubbock	55.5	3.6	31.8	7.4	43.7	5.6	77	18	6	1.33	266%	0.90	633	0
Midland	59.5	2.7	36.4	6.8	48.0	4.8	73	20	3	0.41	77%	0.37	521	0
Port Arthur	66.0	4.5	47.4	4.5	56.7	4.5	80	30	8	3.01	53%	1.33	286	36
San Angelo	62.2	4.3	38.2	6.4	50.2	5.3	77	19	3	0.55	68%	0.50	454	3
San Antonio	65.0	2.9	46.8	8.2	55.9	5.6	79	29	8	2.18	131%	1.65	312	37
Victoria	66.6	3.8	47.8	4.2	57.2	4.0	80	31	10	2.68	110%	0.98	282	48
Waco	60.8	3.8	41.8	6.7	51.3	5.2	82	23	9	3.30	174%	1.38	432	17
Wichita Falls	54.8	2.7	33.3	4.4	44.0	3.5	76	17	6	1.48	132%	0.55	642	0
Shreveport, LA	60.1	3.9	41.8	5.3	51.0	4.6	77	26	11	4.37	95%	1.32	446	19

* Based on the 1971-2000 normals.

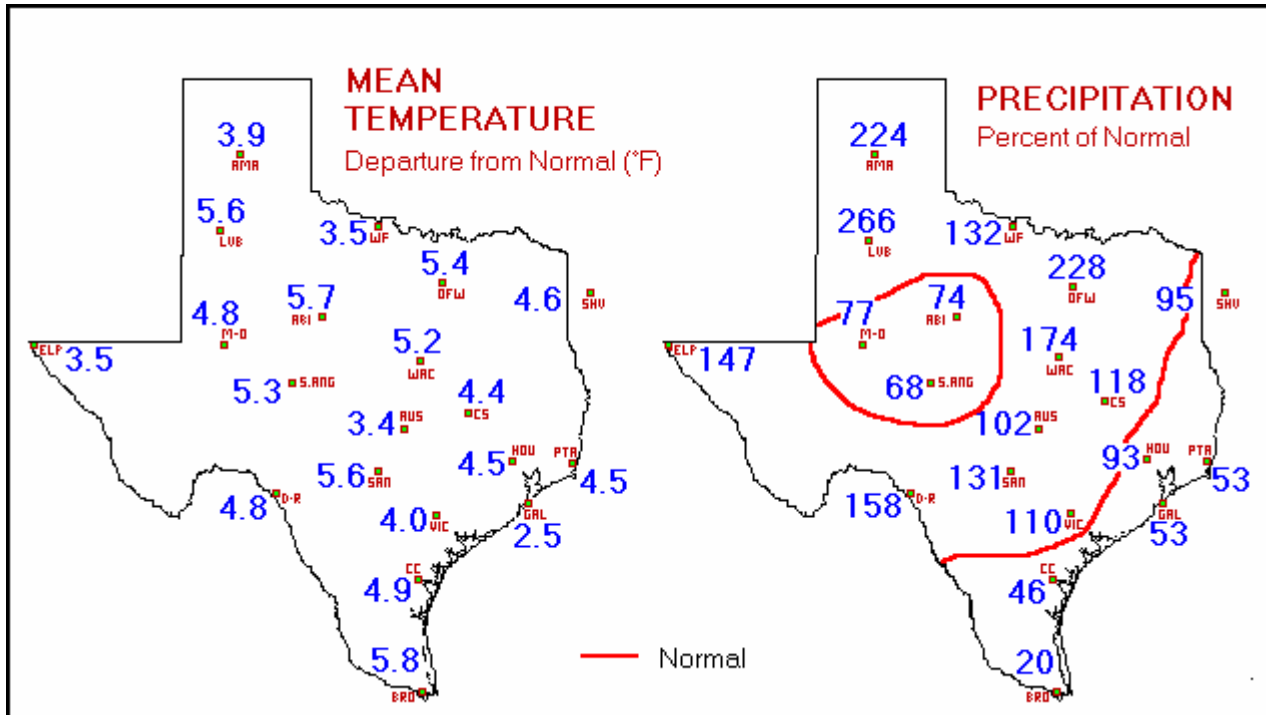
* Complete temperature data were unavailable. Temperatures are rounded to the nearest whole degree.

*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.



CLIMATIC AVERAGES FOR FEBRUARY

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	60	35	90	-7	1.16	3.55	1.94	0	11	5	493	0
Amarillo	53	26	88	-14	0.61	1.83	1.28	0	22	4	722	0
Austin	63	42	99	7	2.17	6.56	3.73	<1	4	8	353	11
Brownsville	72	53	94	22	1.06	10.25	4.98	<1	<1	6	135	62
College Station	63	42	99	5	2.62	9.82	3.81	<1	6	8	361	8
Corpus Christi	69	48	98	18	1.96	8.11	4.85	<1	1	7	213	31
Dallas/Ft. Worth	59	37	95	7	2.18	6.20	4.06	0	9	7	484	5
Del Rio	67	43	99	13	0.95	3.80	2.57	<1	3	5	291	14
El Paso	62	34	83	8	0.41	1.69	0.87	0	12	3	473	0
Galveston	61	50	83	8	2.26	8.34	6.55	0	<1	9	287	13
Houston	65	43	91	20	2.96	5.99	2.22	<1	4	9	322	11
Lubbock	58	29	87	-8	0.68	2.51	2.15	0	19	4	613	0
Midland	62	33	90	-11	0.62	2.55	1.22	<1	14	4	501	0
Port Arthur	64	44	85	20	3.38	11.76	5.05	0	3	9	307	10
San Angelo	62	35	97	-1	1.07	4.45	3.16	<1	11	5	465	0
San Antonio	66	41	100	6	1.81	6.43	2.44	<1	5	8	332	10
Victoria	67	45	95	19	2.00	9.08	3.21	<1	2	7	266	17
Waco	61	38	96	4	2.09	6.29	3.96	<1	8	7	441	0
Wichita Falls	57	32	93	4	2.09	4.55	3.00	<1	14	5	441	0
Shreveport, LA	62	40	89	12	4.21	8.57	3.53	0	8	8	416	7

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

[AgNews - Texas A&M University Agriculture Program > News and Public Affairs](#)

Past Weather Events in February

February 20-22, 1971: Blizzard. Panhandle. Paralyzing blizzard, worst since March 22-25, 1957. Storm transformed Panhandle into one vast snowfield as six to 26 inches of snow were whipped by 40 to 60 miles per hour winds into drifts up to 12 feet high. At Follet, three-day snowfall was 26 inches. Three persons killed; property and livestock losses were \$3.1 million.

February 21, 1996: Anomalously high temperatures were reported over the entire state, breaking records in nearly every region of the state. Temperatures near 100°F shattered previous records by as many as 10°F as Texans experienced heat more characteristic of mid-summer than winter.

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