



ARIZONA STATE
CLIMATE OFFICE

Arizona Climate Summary

Summary of conditions for May 2026

Published August 9, 2026

May 2026 Summary

This May tied with 1963 as the 22nd hottest May on record, leading to an anomaly of 2.7°F above the 1895-2026 mean of 65.5°F. Arizona received a statewide average of 0.23 inches of precipitation, resulting in an anomaly of 0.09 inches below the 1895-2026 mean of 0.32 inches. Cochise County experienced their wettest May since 2009 with 0.48 inches of precipitation, while Santa Cruz County saw their wettest May since 2012 with 0.56 inches of precipitation. For the water year to date (October-May), the state ranked as the hottest and 55th driest.

On May 1, a weather disturbance combined with lingering moisture, bringing showers to a few southeastern locations, including McNeal (0.35 inches), San Simon (0.24 inches), Douglas (0.13 inches), and Anvil Ranch (0.07 inches).

A low pressure system impacted portions of Arizona from May 3 into May 6. Alpine received 0.50 inches of precipitation, Tucson received 0.40 inches of precipitation (0.26 inches of precipitation on May 4, breaking the previous record of 0.18 inches set in 1918), Heber received 0.24 inches of precipitation, Flagstaff received 0.18 inches of precipitation (trace of snow), Nogales Airport received 0.15 inches of precipitation, Apache Junction received 0.12 inches of precipitation, Duncan received 0.10 inches of precipitation, and Robson Ranch received 0.02 inches of precipitation.

On May 7, a weak low pressure system over Sonora, Mexico brought gusty winds and a trace of rain to Nogales Airport. From May 10-12, a ridge of high pressure brought record-breaking temperatures to a few locations, including Tacna (109°F on the 10th; previous record 107°F in 2018 and 2001), Tempe (109°F on the 11th; previous record 107°F in 1960), and Picacho (111°F on the 12th; previous record 110°F in 1996). On May 12, a dry microburst occurred in the Tucson area, causing roof damage to a large steel warehouse, and on May 13, lingering moisture brought a trace of precipitation to Window Rock and Betatakin.

On May 17, a low pressure system brought strong gusty winds to much of the state, including Tweeds Point (71 mph), Temple Bar (61 mph), Flagstaff (53 mph), and Chiricahua National Monument (45 mph). On May 18, a cold front swept through, triggering showers in Teec Nos Pos (0.22 inches) and Page (0.03 inches).

From May 24 into May 26, a storm system affected portions of Arizona, including Saint Johns (0.51 inches), Coronado National Memorial (0.40 inches), Bellemont (0.38 inches), Williams (0.28 inches), Nogales Airport (0.21 inches), Heber (0.17 inches), Duncan (0.12 inches), and Robson Ranch (0.03 inches). On May 25, a landspout tornado was reported west-southwest of Hunt (located in Apache County), and on May 29, a low pressure system clipped northwestern Arizona, bringing light showers to the Grand Canyon Airport (0.01 inches) and Page (trace).

Data are preliminary and are from NOAA Regional Climate Centers and the National Weather Service Forecast Offices in Flagstaff, Phoenix, Tucson, and Las Vegas.

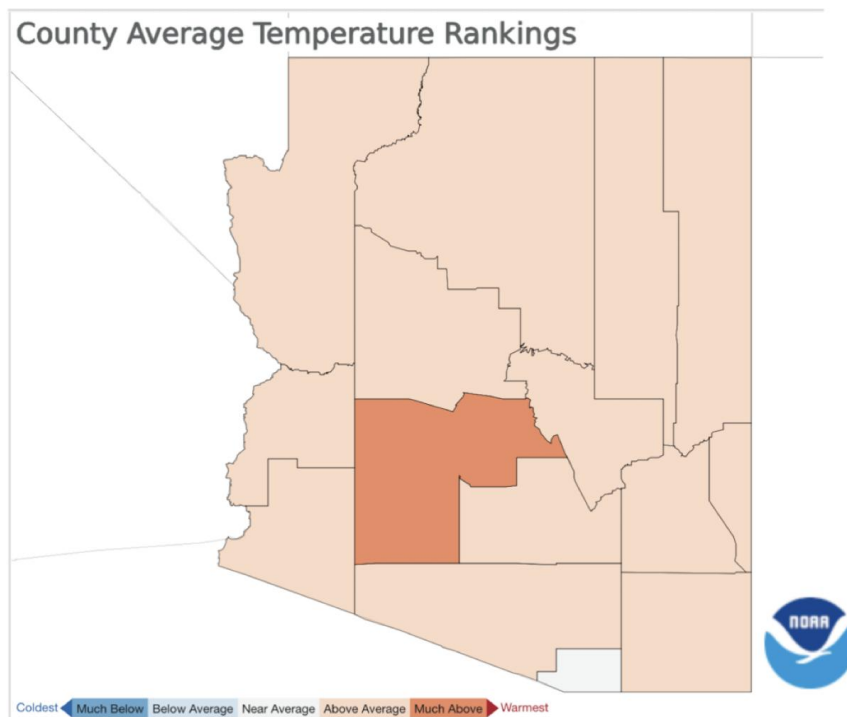
Note: Weather stations across the state have different reporting times. Official daily temperature and precipitation values are recorded at the airports from midnight to midnight, while statewide observations are taken at varying times throughout the day.

Written by **Juliana Likourinou**,
Assistant State Climatologist
<http://azclimate.asu.edu>
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Statewide Average Temperature per County

May 2026



The **average** state temperature for May was **68.2°F**, tying as the **22nd hottest** May within the period of record. The **1895-2026 mean average** state temperature for May was **65.5°F**, resulting in an **anomaly** of **+2.7°F**.

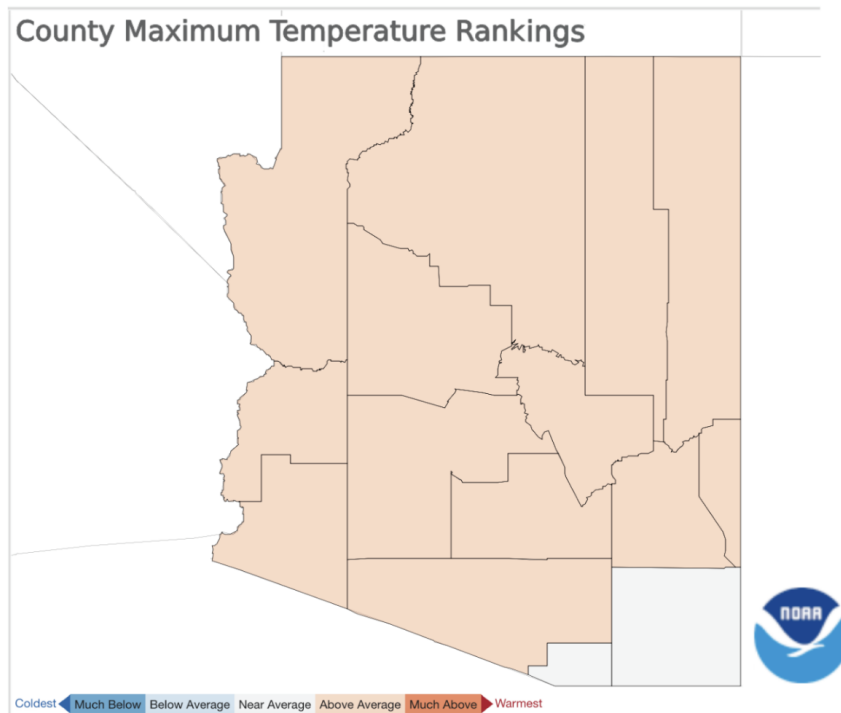
County	Average Temperature	Rank (132 Years)	Anomaly From the 1895-2026 mean
Apache	59.1°F	19 th hottest	+2.7°F
Cochise	68.2°F	Tied 32 nd hottest	+1.5°F
Coconino	60.9°F	Tied 26 th hottest	+2.6°F
Gila	67.0°F	19 th hottest	+2.9°F
Graham	69.1°F	20 th hottest	+2.6°F
Greenlee	63.7°F	Tied 26 th hottest	+2.0°F
La Paz	79.1°F	Tied 24 th hottest	+2.8°F
Maricopa	78.6°F	Tied 12 th hottest	+3.6°F
Mohave	70.4°F	Tied 18 th hottest	+2.9°F
Navajo	60.7°F	Tied 22 nd hottest	+2.7°F
Pima	74.6°F	Tied 21 st hottest	+2.6°F
Pinal	76.7°F	Tied 19 th hottest	+2.9°F
Santa Cruz	65.8°F	Tied 49 th hottest	+0.8°F
Yavapai	66.6°F	19 th hottest	+3.2°F
Yuma	79.1°F	Tied 19 th hottest	+2.9°F

Period of record: 1895-2026

Data are from the National Centers for Environmental Information and are **preliminary**.

Statewide Maximum Temperature per County

May 2026



The **average maximum** state temperature for May was **84.2°F**, tying as the **25th hottest** May within the period of record. The **1895-2026 mean maximum** state temperature for May was **81.3°F**, resulting in an **anomaly** of **+2.9°F**.

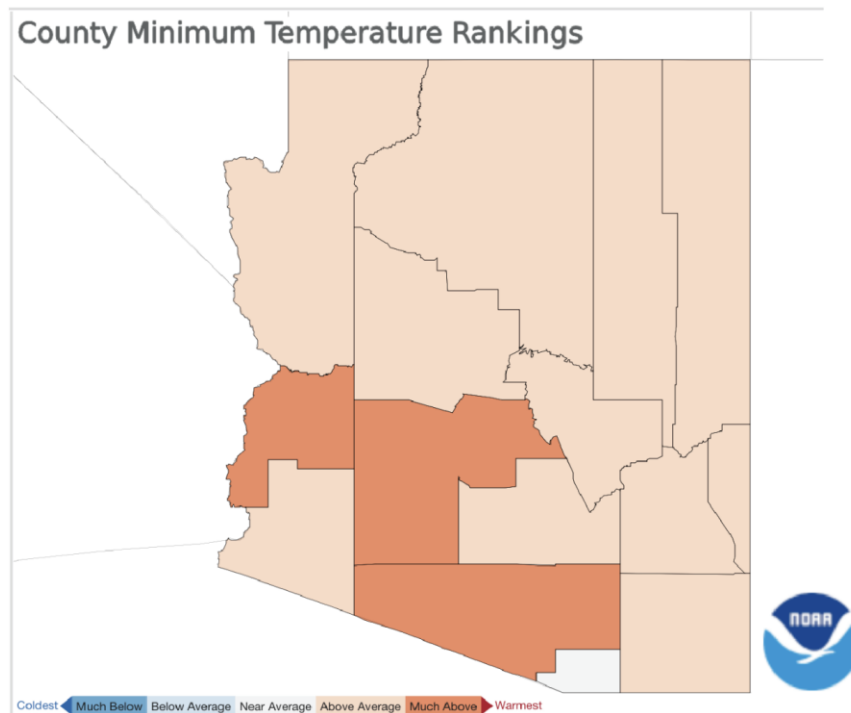
County	Maximum Temperature	Rank (132 Years)	Anomaly From the 1895-2026 mean
Apache	75.6°F	Tied 25 th hottest	+3.1°F
Cochise	84.6°F	Tied 46 th hottest	+0.9°F
Coconino	77.7°F	Tied 25 th hottest	+3.7°F
Gila	83.1°F	Tied 24 th hottest	+3.3°F
Graham	84.4°F	Tied 27 th hottest	+2.5°F
Greenlee	79.6°F	Tied 31 st hottest	+2.2°F
La Paz	93.2°F	44 th hottest	+1.7°F
Maricopa	94.2°F	21 st hottest	+3.3°F
Mohave	84.4°F	30 th hottest	+2.9°F
Navajo	78.0°F	Tied 20 th hottest	+3.7°F
Pima	90.6°F	Tied 33 rd hottest	+2.0°F
Pinal	92.3°F	34 th hottest	+2.4°F
Santa Cruz	83.1°F	Tied 49 th hottest	+1.1°F
Yavapai	82.9°F	Tied 23 rd hottest	+3.5°F
Yuma	95.3°F	19 th hottest	+2.9°F

Period of record: 1895-2026

Data are from the National Centers for Environmental Information and are **preliminary**.

Statewide Minimum Temperature per County

May 2026



The **average minimum** state temperature for May was **52.2°F**, ranking as the **19th hottest** May within the period of record. The **1895-2026 mean minimum** state temperature for May was **49.6°F**, resulting in an **anomaly of +2.6°F**.

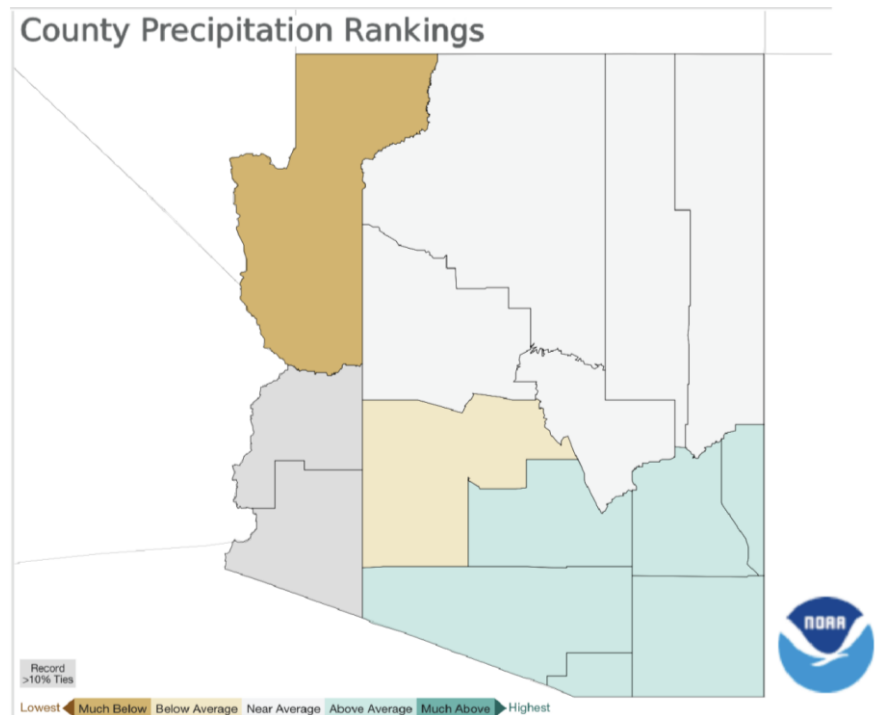
County	Minimum Temperature	Rank (132 Years)	Anomaly From the 1895-2026 mean
Apache	42.6°F	Tied 20 th hottest	+2.3°F
Cochise	51.8°F	Tied 24 th hottest	+2.2°F
Coconino	44.1°F	Tied 35 th hottest	+1.5°F
Gila	50.9°F	Tied 20 th hottest	+2.5°F
Graham	53.7°F	Tied 22 nd hottest	+2.7°F
Greenlee	47.8°F	Tied 31 st hottest	+1.8°F
La Paz	65.0°F	11 th hottest	+3.8°F
Maricopa	62.9°F	Tied 13 th hottest	+3.8°F
Mohave	56.3°F	18 th hottest	+2.9°F
Navajo	43.4°F	Tied 33 rd hottest	+1.7°F
Pima	58.6°F	Tied 13 th hottest	+3.3°F
Pinal	61.0°F	Tied 15 th hottest	+3.2°F
Santa Cruz	48.4°F	Tied 58 th hottest	+0.4°F
Yavapai	50.3°F	Tied 17 th hottest	+2.8°F
Yuma	62.9°F	Tied 18 th hottest	+3.0°F

Period of record: 1895-2026

Data are from the National Centers for Environmental Information and are **preliminary**.

Statewide Total Precipitation per County

May 2026



The **average state precipitation** for May was **0.23 inches**, ranking as the **61st driest** May within the period of record. The **1895-2026 mean state precipitation** for May was **0.32 inches**, resulting in an **anomaly of -0.09 inches**.

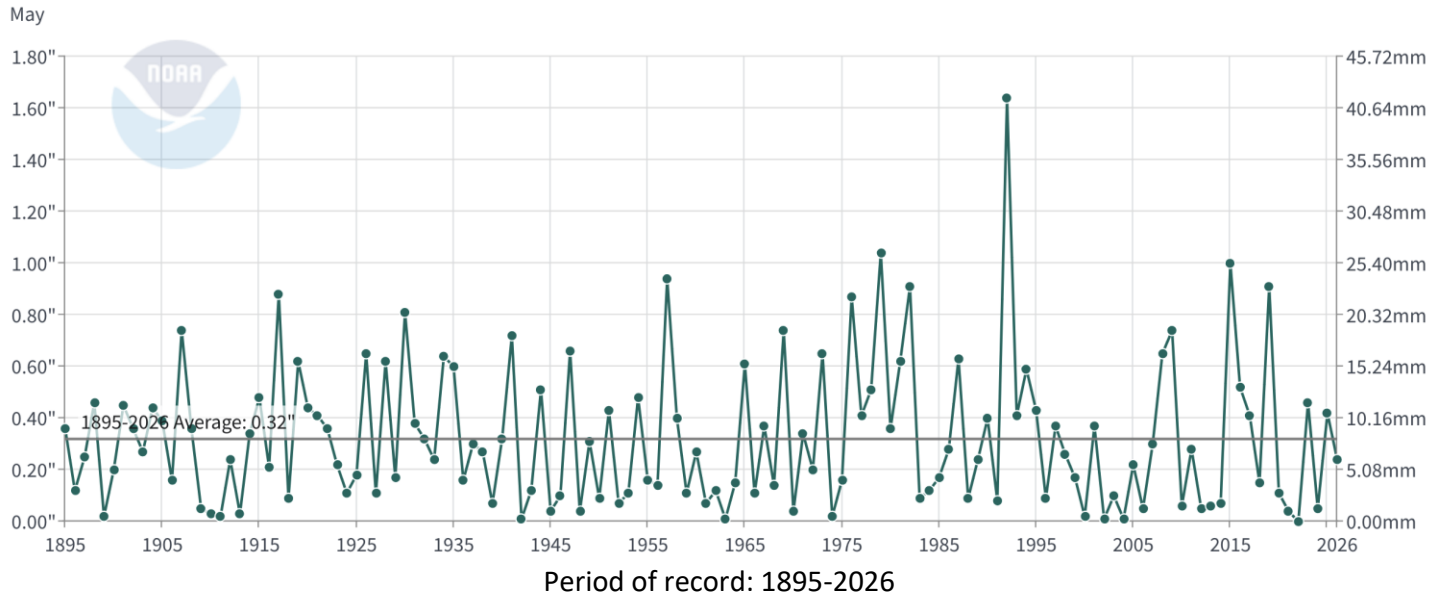
County	Precipitation	Rank (132 Years)	Anomaly From the 1895-2026 mean
Apache	0.43"	Tied 63 rd wettest	-0.07"
Cochise	0.48"	Tied 22 nd wettest	+0.27"
Coconino	0.26"	Tied 47 th driest	-0.23"
Gila	0.47"	46 th wettest	+0.01"
Graham	0.38"	Tied 39 th wettest	+0.08"
Greenlee	0.82"	23 rd wettest	+0.42"
La Paz	0.00"	Tied driest	-0.07"
Maricopa	0.02"	Tied 44 th driest	-0.11"
Mohave	0.02"	Tied 12 th driest	-0.30"
Navajo	0.24"	Tied 55 th driest	-0.18"
Pima	0.22"	Tied 36 th wettest	+0.07"
Pinal	0.20"	44 th wettest	-0.01"
Santa Cruz	0.56"	17 th wettest	+0.34"
Yavapai	0.12"	Tied 47 th driest	-0.25"
Yuma	0.00"	Tied driest	-0.03"

Period of record: 1895-2026

Data are from the National Centers for Environmental Information and are **preliminary**.

May Statewide Precipitation (1895 to date)

Arizona Precipitation



This chart shows average Arizona precipitation each May through the period of record (1895 to present). May 2026 ranked as the **61st driest** with an average of **0.23 inches**, which is **0.09 inches below** the **1895-2026 average of 0.32 inches**.

Data are from the National Centers for Environmental Information and are **preliminary**.

Flagstaff Climate Statistics

May 2026

This tied as the 32nd hottest May on record (9/10/1898 to present). With 0.26 inches of precipitation, it tied as the 44th driest May on record.

Avg Max Temp: 69.8°F Normal: 68.1°F
Avg Min Temp: 35.4°F Normal: 34.6°F
Avg Mean Temp: 52.6°F Normal: 51.3°F

Highest Monthly Avg Temp: 56.8°F in 1984
Lowest Monthly Avg Temp: 44.6°F in 1917

Highest Temp this month: 82°F on 12th
Lowest Temp this month: 26°F on 19th

Record High: 89°F on 5/31/2002
Record Low: 7°F on 5/3/1915

Temperature and precipitation records this month:
On next page

Flagstaff Number of Days of:

Minimum Temp 32°F or lower	8
Maximum Temp 80°F or greater	2
Measurable Precipitation (0.01" or greater)	2
Trace Precipitation (less than 0.01")	0

Total May Precipitation: 0.26"
Normal May Precipitation: 0.77"
Departure from Normal: -0.51"
Greatest 24-Hr Precip: 0.18" on 5th
(Midnight to Midnight)

Total Precipitation Year-to-Date: 4.35"
Normal Precipitation Year-to-Date: 7.76"
Departure from Normal: -3.41"
Total Precip Year-to-Date (Last Year): 5.76"

Greatest May Precipitation: 4.14" in 1992
Least May Precipitation: 0.00" in 2012
and 2 other years

Average Wind Speed: 7.8 mph
Highest Wind Speed: 35 mph from 220° on 18th
Highest Peak Gust: 53 mph from 220° on 17th

Data are from NOAA Regional Climate Centers and are **preliminary**.

Normals on this page are from 1991-2020

Flagstaff Highest Minimum Temperature Records

May 2026

1 record tied

Date	Record	Previous record
May 4, 2026	44°F (tied)	44°F in 1947, 1925, 1919

Data are from NOAA Regional Climate Centers and are **preliminary**.



Flagstaff recorded 15 days of above average temperatures, 3 days of average temperatures, and 13 days of below average temperatures this month.

Phoenix Climate Statistics

May 2026

This tied as the 11th hottest May on record (8/6/1895 to present). With a trace of precipitation, it tied as the 24th driest May on record.

Avg Max Temp: 96.0°F Normal: 94.5°F
Avg Min Temp: 72.2°F Normal: 69.5°F
Avg Mean Temp: 84.1°F Normal: 82.0°F

Highest Monthly Avg Temp: 87.0°F in 1984
Lowest Monthly Avg Temp: 69.0°F in 1917

Highest Temp this month: 109°F on 11th
Lowest Temp this month: 62°F on 6th

Record High: 114°F on 5/30/1910
Record Low: 39°F on 5/3/1899

Temperature or precipitation records this month:
On next page

Phoenix Number of Days of:

Maximum Temp 90°F or greater	26
Maximum Temp 100°F or greater	9
Measurable Precipitation (0.01" or greater)	0
Trace Precipitation (less than 0.01")	1

Total May Precipitation: Trace
Normal May Precipitation: 0.13"
Departure from Normal: -0.13"
Greatest 24-Hr Precip: Trace on 5th
(Midnight to Midnight)

Total Precipitation Year-to-Date: 0.32"
Normal Precipitation Year-to-Date: 2.92"
Departure from Normal: -2.60"
Total Precip Year-to-Date (Last Year): 1.02"

Greatest May Precipitation: 1.31" in 1930
Least May Precipitation: 0.00" in 2022
and 22 other years

Average Wind Speed: 7.5 mph
Highest Wind Speed: 25 mph from 280° on 3rd
Highest Peak Gust: 38 mph from 210° on 28th

Data are from NOAA Regional Climate Centers and are **preliminary**.

Normals on this page are from 1991-2020

Phoenix Highest Minimum Temperature Records

May 2026

1 record set, 3 records tied

Date	Record	Previous record
May 3, 2026	77°F (tied)	77°F in 1985
May 12, 2026	80°F (tied)	80°F in 2025
May 13, 2026	81°F	79°F in 2001
May 25, 2026	80°F (tied)	80°F in 2001

Data are from NOAA Regional Climate Centers and are **preliminary**.



Phoenix measured 18 days of above average temperatures and 13 days of below average temperatures this month.

Tucson Climate Statistics

May 2026

This tied as the 25th hottest May on record (9/1/1894 to present). With 0.40 inches of precipitation, it ranked as the 29th wettest May on record.

Avg Max Temp: 91.3°F Normal: 91.8°F
Avg Min Temp: 63.1°F Normal: 61.8°F
Avg Mean Temp: 77.2°F Normal: 76.8°F

Highest Monthly Avg Temp: 80.7°F in 2020
Lowest Monthly Avg Temp: 64.6°F in 1905

Highest Temp this month: 103°F on 11th
Lowest Temp this month: 52°F on 6th

Record High: 111°F on 5/29/1910
Record Low: 32°F on 5/3/1899

Temperature or precipitation records this month:
On next page

Tucson Number of Days of:

Maximum Temp 90°F or greater	21
Maximum Temp 100°F or greater	2
Measurable Precipitation (0.01" or greater)	2
Trace Precipitation (less than 0.01")	1

Total May Precipitation: 0.40"
Normal May Precipitation: 0.20"
Departure from Normal: +0.20"
Greatest 24-Hr Precip: 0.26" on 4th
(Midnight to Midnight)

Total Precipitation Year-to-Date: 2.51"
Normal Precipitation Year-to-Date: 2.68"
Departure from Normal: -0.17"
Total Precip Year-to-Date (Last Year): 0.56"

Greatest May Precipitation: 1.34" in 1931
Least May Precipitation: 0.00" in 2024
and 25 other years

Average Wind Speed: 7.3 mph
Highest Wind Speed: 32 mph from 200° on 7th
32 mph from 170° on 12th
Highest Peak Gust: 43 mph from 190° on 7th

Data are from NOAA Regional Climate Centers and are **preliminary**.

Normals on this page are from 1991-2020

Tucson Highest Minimum Temperature Records

May 2026

2 records set

Date	Record	Previous record
May 3, 2026	72°F	70°F in 1992
May 12, 2026	75°F	74°F in 2025

Tucson Highest Precipitation Records

May 2026

1 record set

Date	Record	Previous record
May 4, 2026	0.26''	0.18'' in 1918

Data are from NOAA Regional Climate Centers and are **preliminary**.

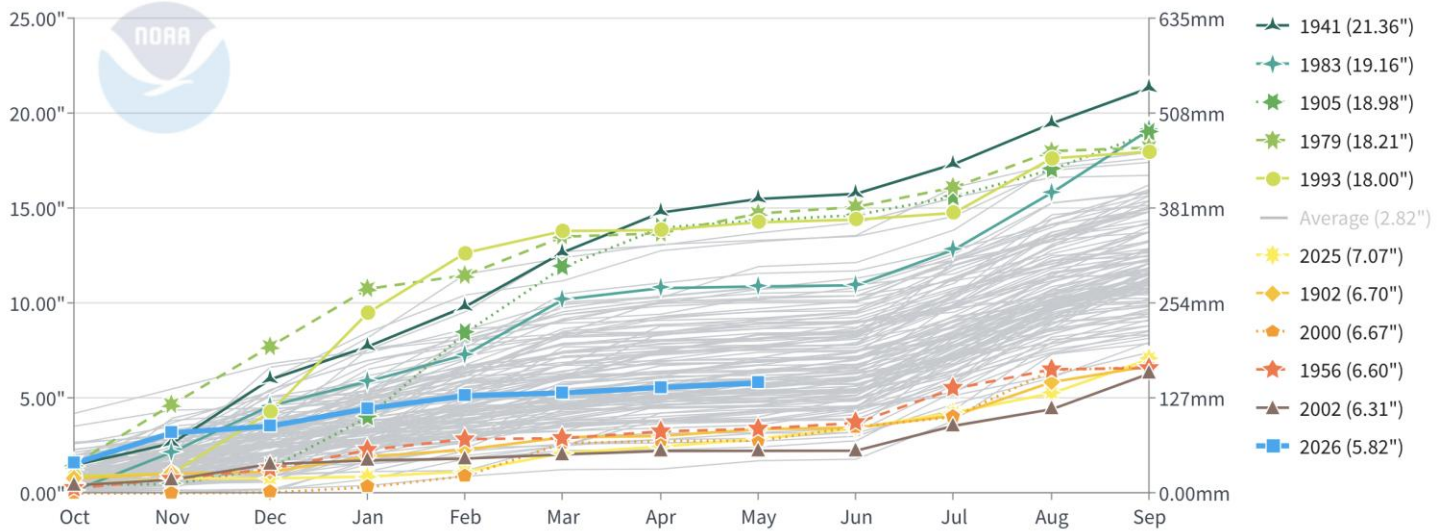


Tucson observed 12 days of above average temperatures, 3 days of average temperatures, and 16 days of below average temperatures this month.

Cumulative Statewide Precipitation per Water Year (Oct 2025-Sept 2026)

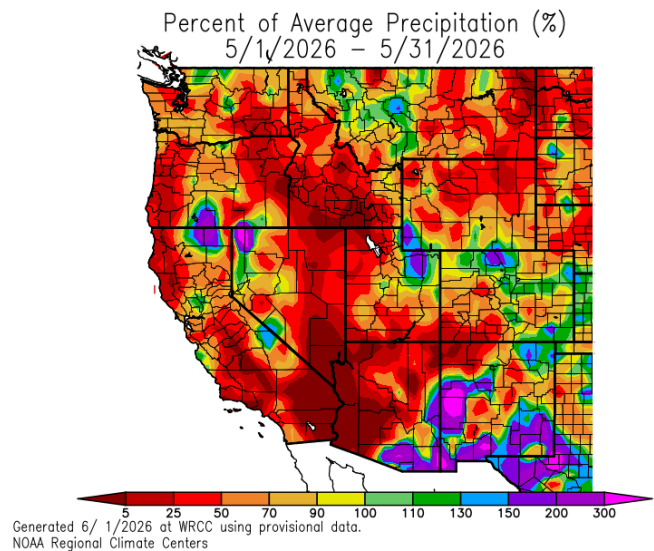
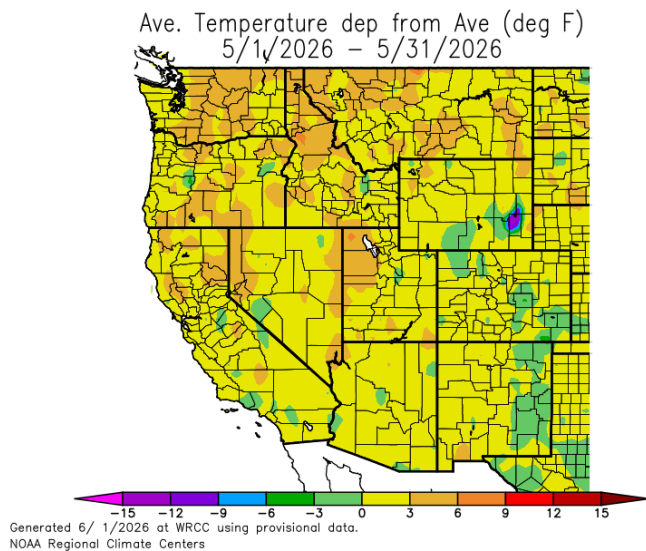
Arizona

October-September Precipitation

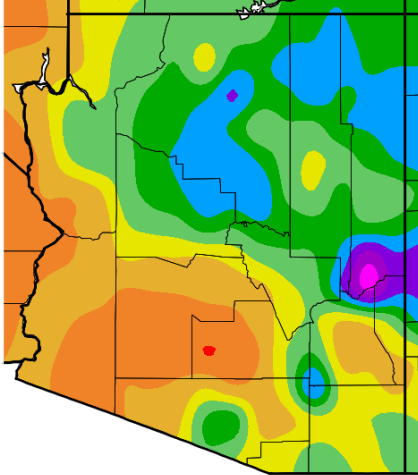


The 5 wettest Water Years are shown with green lines, the 5 driest Water Years are shown with brown lines, and the current Water Year is the blue line. The **average state cumulative Water Year precipitation (October-May)** was **5.81 inches**, which is **1.12 inches below** the **October-May average of 6.93 inches**.

Data are from the National Centers for Environmental Information and are **preliminary**.

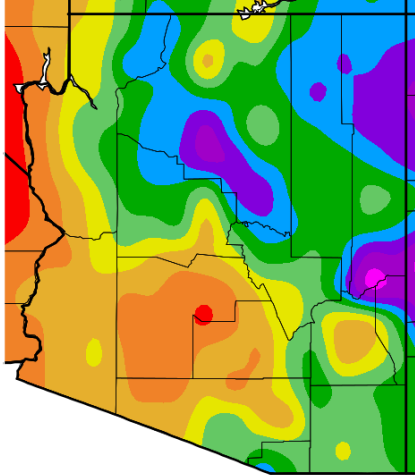


Av. Max. Temperature (deg. F)
5/1/2026 – 5/31/2026



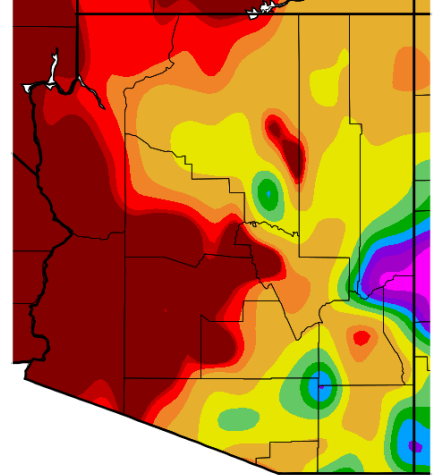
Generated 6/1/2026 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Av. Min. Temperature (deg. F)
5/1/2026 – 5/31/2026



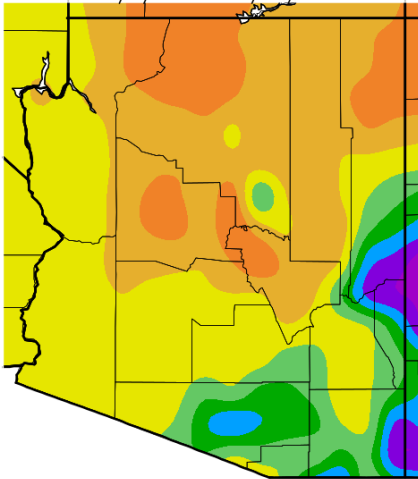
Generated 6/1/2026 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Total Precipitation (in.)
5/1/2026 – 5/31/2026



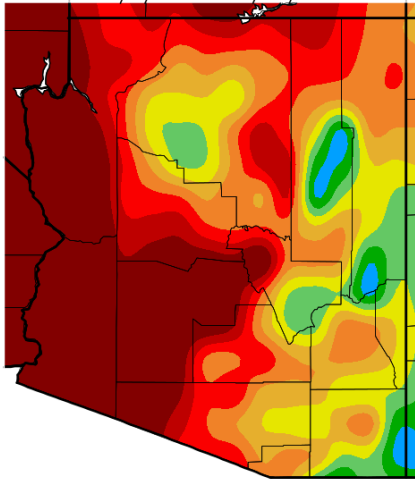
Generated 6/1/2026 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Precipitation Departure from Average (in.)
5/1/2026 – 5/31/2026



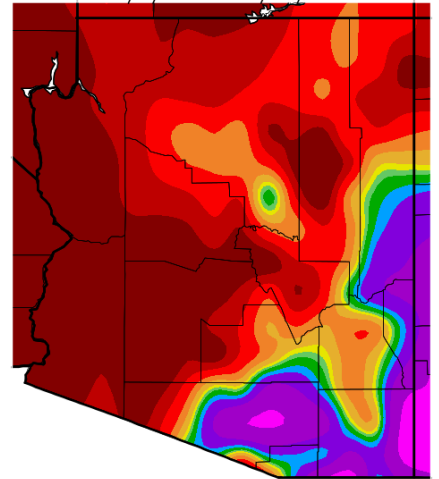
Generated 6/1/2026 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Precipitation # Days > 0.01"
5/1/2026 – 5/31/2026

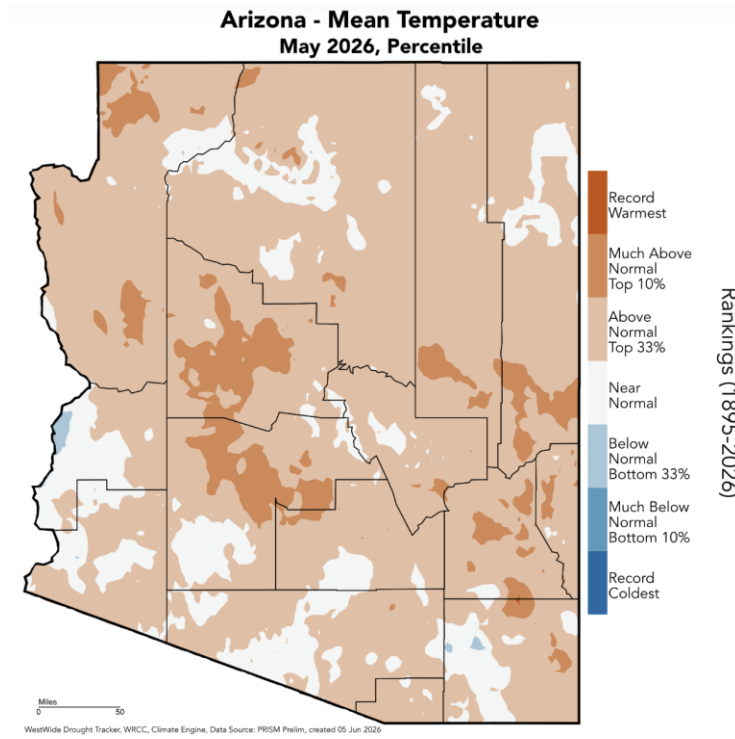


Generated 6/1/2026 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

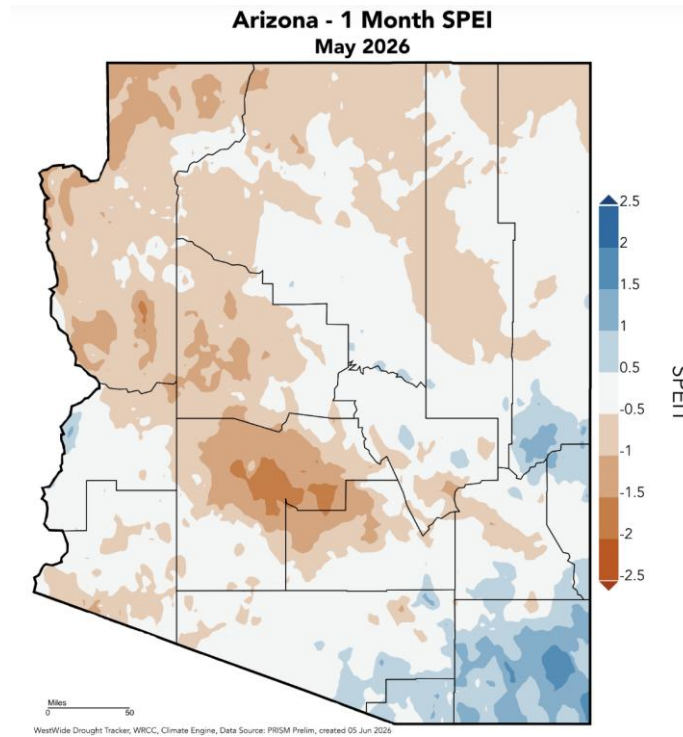
Percent of Average Precipitation (%)
5/1/2026 – 5/31/2026



Generated 6/1/2026 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers



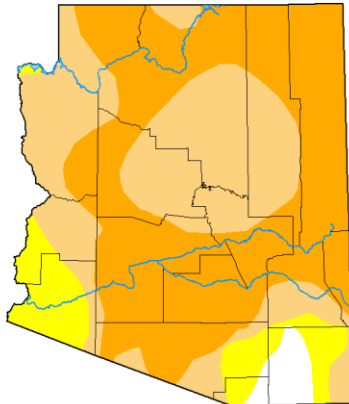
Temperatures were above average across much of the state.



This map shows the Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) across Arizona. May precipitation and evapotranspiration totals are measured across the state and are compared to previous May precipitation and evapotranspiration totals through the period of record (1895-present). Positive values represent wet conditions, while negative values represent dry conditions.

Short-term Drought

U.S. Drought Monitor Arizona



May 5, 2026
(Released Thursday, May 7, 2026)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	2.84	8.80	35.96	50.40	0.00	0.00
Last Week (04-29-2026)	2.84	11.59	60.55	25.02	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago (02-03-2026)	31.98	33.66	28.19	6.18	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year (01-01-2026)	27.93	24.39	33.93	12.73	1.03	0.00
Start of Water Year (09-30-2025)	0.00	0.00	20.79	54.16	23.57	1.49
One Year Ago (05-05-2025)	0.00	0.00	16.52	19.31	57.01	6.51

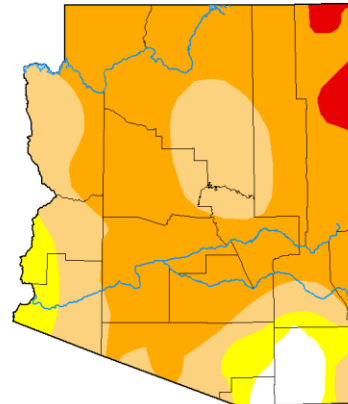
Intensity
None D0 Abnormally Dry D1 Moderate Drought D2 Severe Drought D3 Extreme Drought D4 Exceptional Drought

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>

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U.S. Drought Monitor Arizona



May 26, 2026
(Released Thursday, May 28, 2026)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	3.54	7.11	27.02	60.19	2.14	0.00
Last Week (05-19-2026)	3.54	7.11	27.02	60.19	2.14	0.00
3 Months Ago (02-24-2026)	32.01	33.63	28.19	6.18	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year (01-01-2026)	27.93	24.39	33.93	12.73	1.03	0.00
Start of Water Year (09-30-2025)	0.00	0.00	20.79	54.16	23.57	1.49
One Year Ago (05-27-2025)	0.00	0.00	17.16	21.44	54.60	6.14

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>

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Severe (D2) short-term drought expanded in portions of Mohave, Coconino, Navajo, Gila, Maricopa, and Yavapai counties, while Extreme (D3) short-term drought advanced in portions of Apache County.

Percent of Statewide Area Change in Short-term Drought

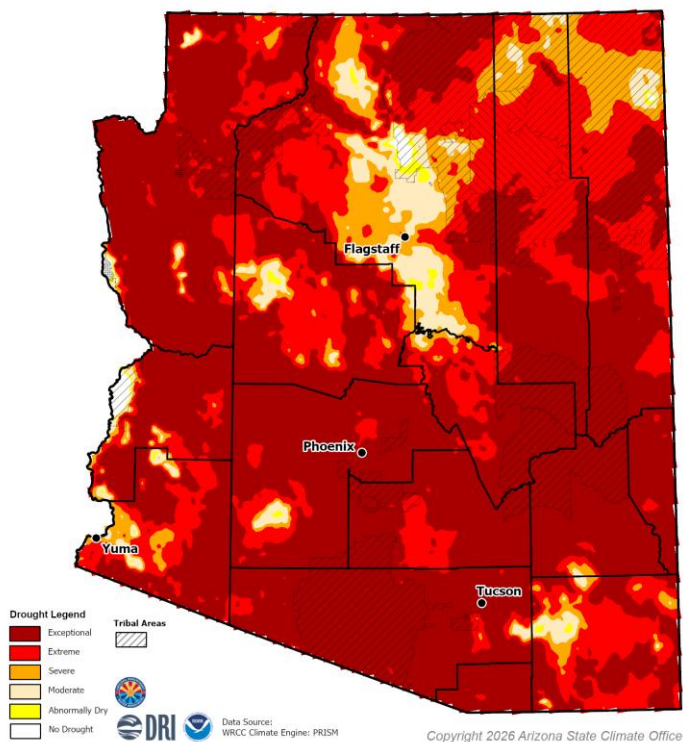
Category	May 5, 2026	May 26, 2026	Change
No Drought	3	4	+1
D0 – Abnormally Dry	10	7	-3
D1 – Moderate Drought	37	27	-10
D2 – Severe Drought	50	60	+10
D3 – Extreme Drought	0	2	+2
D4 – Exceptional Drought	0	0	0

Long-term Drought

Arizona Long-Term Drought

Average SPEI

Published June 2026



The Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) takes into account temperature and precipitation for long-term drought. From June 2022 to May 2026, Arizona tied as the hottest and ranked as the 30th driest.

Report written by Juliana Likourinou, Assistant State Climatologist



The Arizona Monthly Climate Report is issued in partnership with NOAA National Weather Service Weather Forecasting Offices

Special thanks to:



NWS Weather Forecast Office Flagstaff, Arizona

NWS Weather Forecast Office Phoenix, Arizona

NWS Weather Forecast Office Tucson, Arizona

NWS Weather Forecast Office Las Vegas, Nevada

Disclaimer

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