Climate and Weather Summary for May 2018

Temperatures averaged above well-above normal at Abilene and San Angelo in May. Table 1 summarizes May 2018 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	78.1°	5.1°	73.0°	1.93”	-1.25”	3.18”
San Angelo	79.1°	4.6°	74.5°	6.03”	3.21”	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)	Coolest High Temperature (°F)	Coolest Low Temperature (°F)	Maximum Daily Precipitation (In.)
Abilene	102° May 26, 31	76° May 31	74° May 4	54° May 5	1.20” on May 3
San Angelo	103° May 27, 30	76° May 31	71° May 4	52° May 5, 6	1.99” on May 4

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

- 4th warmest and 8th wettest May on record at San Angelo.
- 6th warmest May on record at Abilene.
- San Angelo: 8th warmest average high temperature for May (92.2 degrees).
- Abilene: 6th warmest average high temperature for May (90.7 degrees).
- At Abilene, a new record high temperature of 102 degrees was set on May 26.

- At San Angelo, a record high minimum temperature of 70 degrees was tied on May 1.
- At San Angelo, a new record high minimum temperature of 74 degrees was set on May 2.
- At San Angelo, a new daily record rainfall of 1.99 inches was set on May 4.
- At San Angelo, a new daily record rainfall of 1.62 inches was set on May 14
- At San Angelo, a new record high minimum temperature of 76 degrees was set on May 31.

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

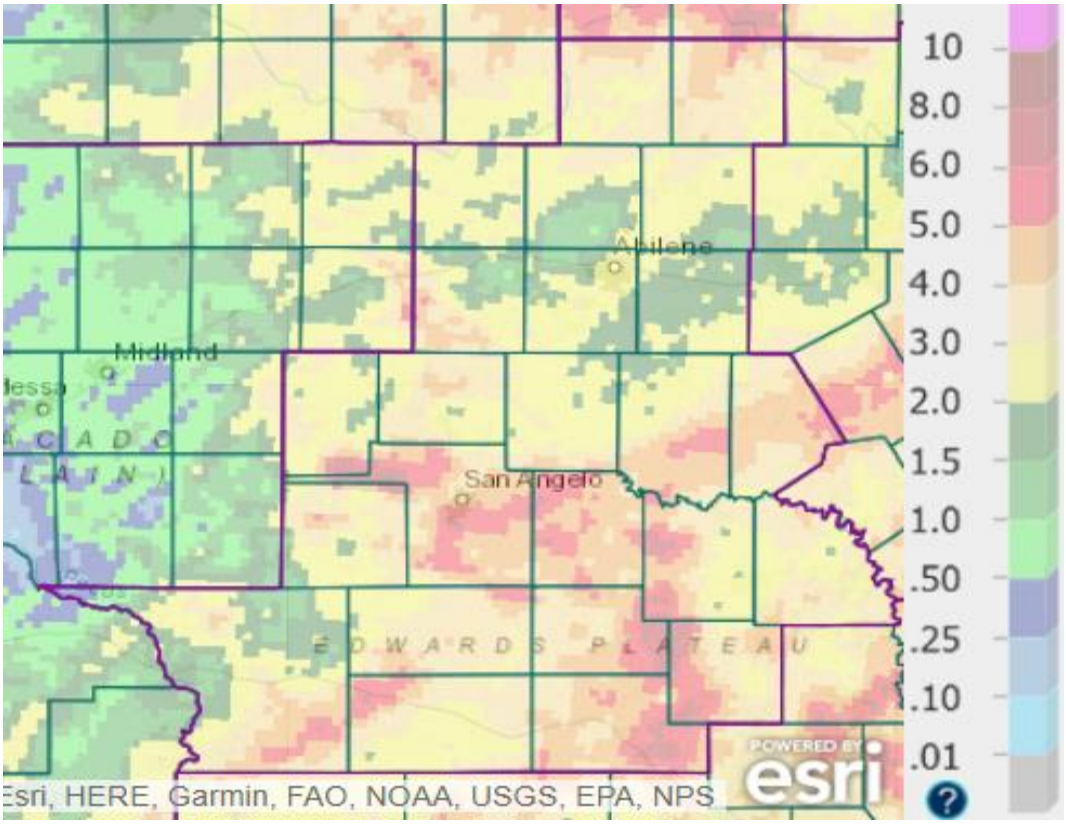

Figure 1: Total Precipitation for May.

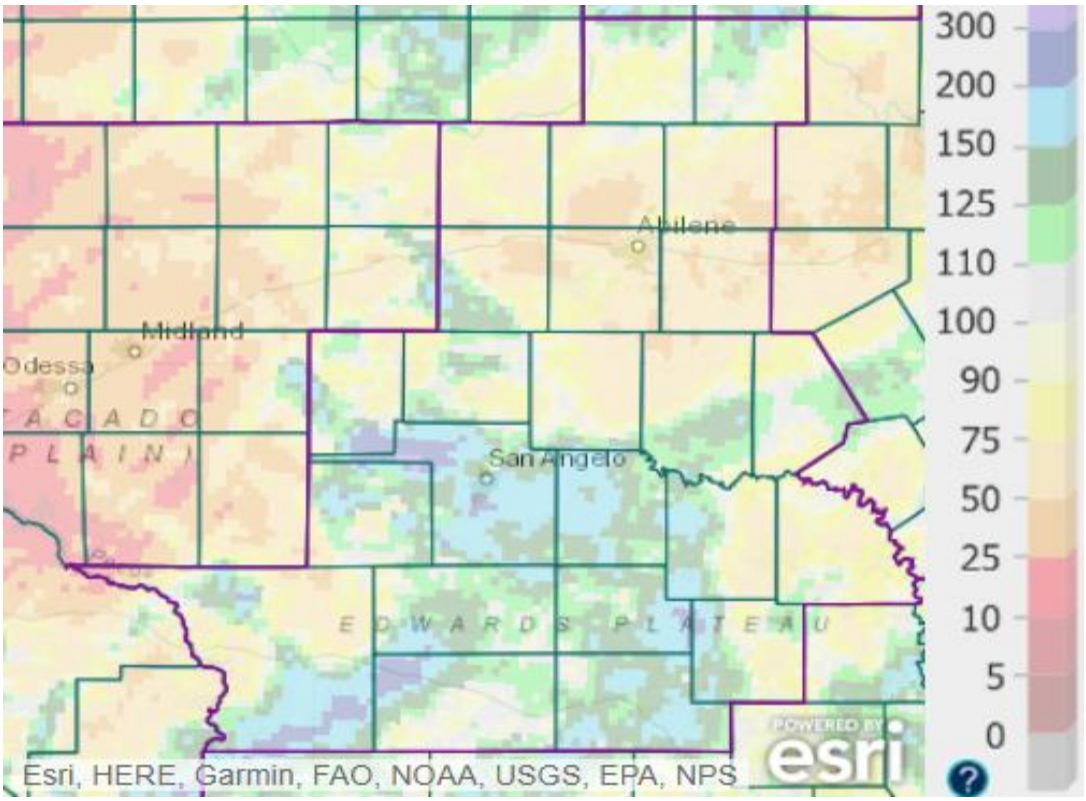

Figure 2: Percentage of Normal Precipitation for May.

Precipitation for May varied from well-above to well-below normal across west-central Texas. The monthly rainfall was below normal across much of the Big Country, and above normal in some of the central and southern parts of west-central Texas. Total rainfall for May ranged from less than one inch (light green shading) to more than 6 inches (dark red shading).

Weather Highlights:

A few rounds of strong to severe thunderstorms occurred on May 2-3, as upper level disturbances approached the region from the west and interacted with unstable air. One of the storms produced a brief tornado in extreme south-central Crockett County (34 miles south-southwest of Ozona). This tornado damaged RVs and nearby power lines, and uprooted a few mesquite trees at a hunting camp. The estimated tornado damage path was 30 yards wide and 1 mile long. Most of the severe weather reports were for large hail and damaging winds. The storms and associated severe weather occurred from the evening of May 2, into the morning of May 3. Most of the severe weather reports were for large hail and damaging winds. In all, a total of 19 severe weather reports were received. Additional showers and thunderstorms occurred across approximately the southeastern half of west-central Texas on the early morning of May 4. With these storms, a peak wind gust of 52 mph was recorded at the San Angelo Regional Airport.

Heavy rainfall from the showers and thunderstorms May 2-4 was beneficial in the short term for much of west-central Texas, especially across the area east of a Haskell to Abilene to San Angelo to Ozona line. The rainfall for May 2-4 is encapsulated in Figure 3.

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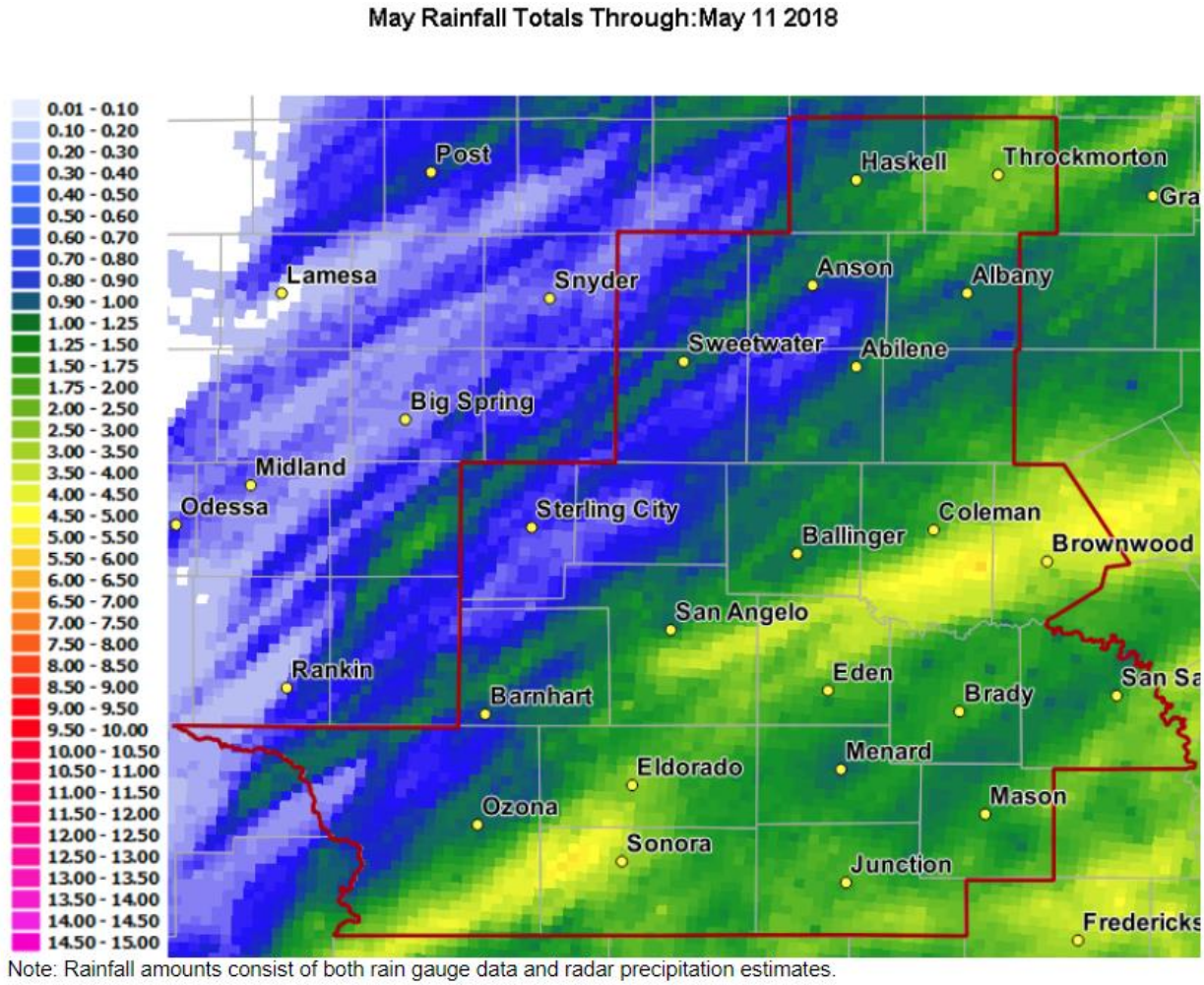

Figure 3: Rainfall for May 1-11. This captured the May 2-4 rainfall, as no rainfall occurred on May 1 and May 5-11.

The weather pattern was quiet for the remainder of early May. Temperatures were consistently 5-10 degrees above normal May 7-12, with gusty south winds and gradually increasing humidity.

An active weather pattern affected areas of West Central Texas on May 14-17, with severe thunderstorms, heavy rainfall and localized flash flooding.

Additional showers and thunderstorms occurred May 19-20, across various parts of west-central Texas. With a cold frontal passage and considerable cloud cover, temperatures were cooler on the 21st with highs in the 70s to lower 80s.

A warming trend in temperatures ensued May 21-24 with slow drying of the airmass and conditions gradually becoming less humid.

Severe weather affected the Heartland and Big Country areas of West Central Texas, between 7 PM and Midnight on May 25. In the Heartland area, a supercell severe thunderstorm moved to the southwest across southern Brown and much of San Saba Counties. Significant damage occurred with this storm in Richland Springs. Other scattered thunderstorms with strong, gusty winds moved south across the Big Country area.

Hot and dry conditions occurred over the Memorial Day holiday weekend, when an upper level high pressure system developed over Texas. This marked the first occurrence of 100 degree temperatures for the year. These conditions continued through the end of the month, with the upper level high pressure system remaining over the area.

Additional Tabular and Graphical Daily Climate Data