



# Hot and Cold Monthly Averages

—by Al Sutherland

**HOT, COLD, HOT, COLD.** November of 2014 went up and down the temperature scale like a yo-yo. While the days and weeks of November brought up and down weather, a similar trend played out between the months of October and November.

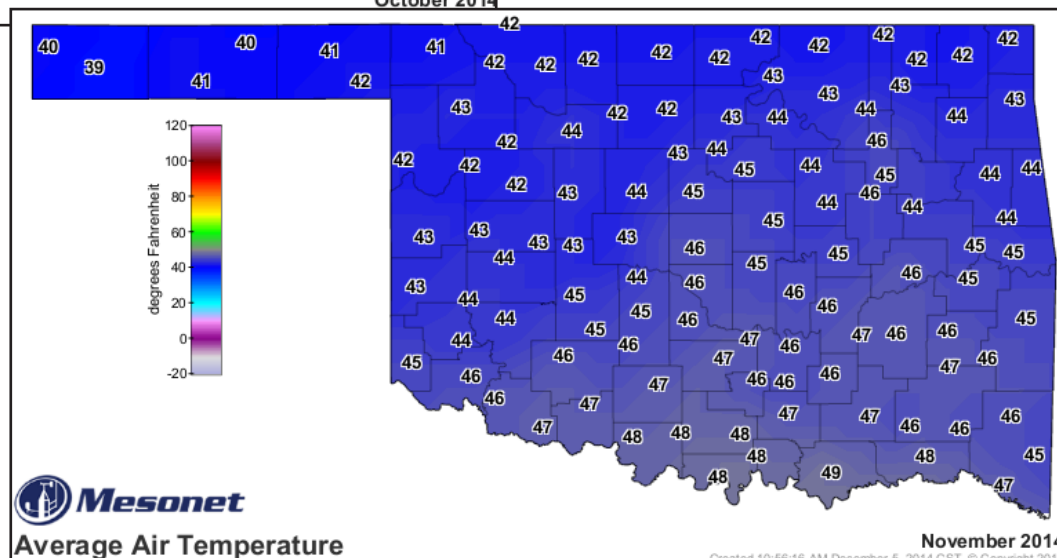
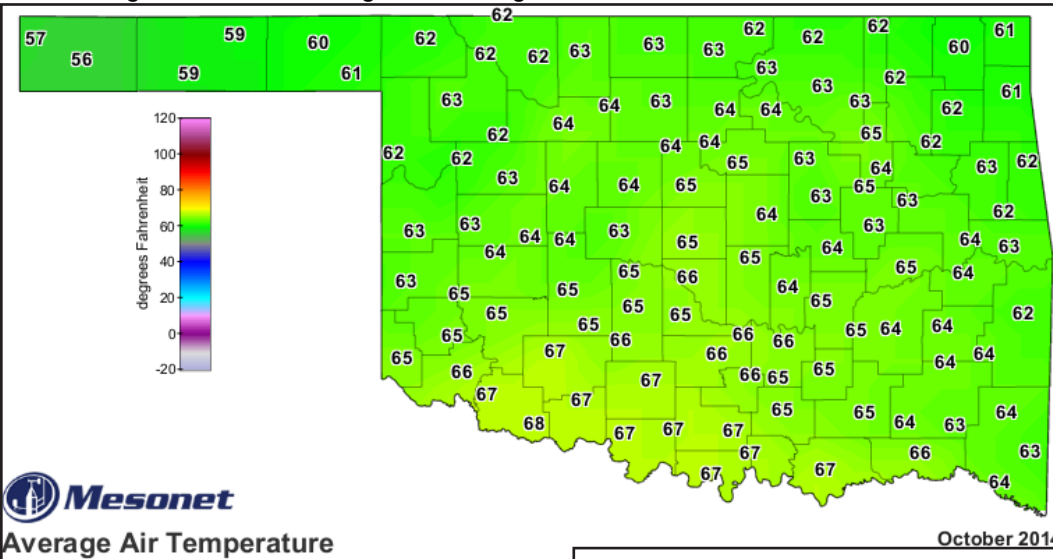
October turned out to be the Mesonet's Long-Term Averages' warmest October. The Mesonet Long-Term Averages are for the 15 years from 1999-2013 for every Mesonet site. The departure from average air temperature ranged from one degree higher at Talihina to five degrees higher at Medicine Park. Locations in Central Oklahoma were commonly 4 degrees above the long-term average in October 2014.

The October 2014 air temperature averages ranged from 56 degrees at Boise City to 67 degrees for multiple Mesonet sites in south central Oklahoma.

November was sharply colder. Compared to Novembers from 1999 to 2013, only November 2000 was colder. The range was 3 degrees below average in the Panhandle to 7 degrees below average in the northeast. The majority of Mesonet sites came in at 6 degrees below average.

The November 2014 air temperature averages ranged from 39 degrees at Boise City to 49 degrees at Durant.

You can make your own monthly average or departure from average maps on the Mesonet.org website. Select 'Weather' in the top menu bar, then 'Past Data & Files' from the left menu. Click on 'Mesonet Long-Term Averages - Maps' to open the map maker page. There are 57 measured or calculated weather variables that can be mapped for the years from 1999 to 2013. At the end of each calendar year, the previous year is incorporated into the Mesonet long-term averages. Months for the current year can be mapped after the month ends. ■







# November Snow Steals Show

By Gary McManus, State Climatologist

## NOVEMBER WRAP-UP

Oklahoma's weather began and ended on the warm side, and had a good dose of January thrown in during the middle. That's the simplified version, of course. As is often the case with Oklahoma weather, however, the excitement lies in the details. A big rain late in the month provided some drought-quenching exhilaration, and the strong arctic cold front on November's final day was a non-gentle reminder of the season. But the big story was undoubtedly the brush with frigid weather in the middle of the month, one of the most significant early-season winter outbreaks on record for Oklahoma. Despite the abundance of warm weather, that mid-November arctic blast pulled the entire month down to a statewide average of 44.5 degrees, 4.8 degrees below normal to rank as the 10th coolest November since records began in 1895. The year is still on course to be one of the coolest in recent memory with a January-November statewide average of 60.6 degrees, 1.3 degrees below normal and the 19th coolest such period on record.

The cold snap began with a cold front on the 11th that dropped temperatures from the 70s and 80s into the 30s and 40s. The Oklahoma Mesonet station at Boise City struggled to a high of 15 degrees on the 12th just two days after reaching a high of 81 degrees. Kenton dropped to a low of 3 degrees on the 17th for the month's lowest reading. Temperatures were on the rise from that point forward signaling an end to the weeklong foray into deep winter, but not before most of the state had spent from 100 to more than 150 hours below freezing. The event also came with a statewide blanket of snow. Amounts of 3-4 inches were common across parts of western, northern and central Oklahoma. Totals of more than 4 inches were reported near Forgan and Laverne. Within a few days, highs had risen back into the 60s and 70s across much of the area, culminating in widespread 70s and 80s on the 28th and 29th. November 30 was a day of transition as the month's second strong cold front barreled through the state.

The snow added a bit of moisture, but the big rains of Nov. 21-23 provided the biggest boost to the month's statewide average of 2.12 inches, 0.4 inches below normal and the 50th wettest November on record. Areas across south central Oklahoma recorded more than 6 inches of moisture with the Mesonet station at Ketchum Ranch in Stephens County leading the way at 6.6 inches. Totals of 3-5 inches surrounded that mark from southwestern up into east central Oklahoma. Much of the far northwest remained considerably dry with less than an inch of moisture. Far southeastern Oklahoma was also left wanting with barely an inch falling across that region. The statewide average precipitation total for climatological fall, September-November, finished at 7.84 inches, 1.74 inches below normal to rank as the 58th driest autumn on record. The year-to-date period remained quite dry at 27.04 inches, more than 7 inches below normal and the 25th driest January-November on record.

Oklahoma did see a reduction in drought intensity according to the U.S. Drought Monitor report. Parts of southwestern through central Oklahoma saw extreme-to-exceptional drought reduced to severe-to-moderate intensity. With the southeastern corner's poor showing during the month, that area actually saw abnormally dry conditions increase. The "abnormally dry" designation is not a drought intensity, but signifies an area that could be entering (or leaving) actual drought conditions. By month's end, 60 percent of the state was considered to be in at least moderate drought.

# 2.12"

average statewide precipitation  
for November

# 10th COOLEST

November since records began in 1895

# 44.5°F

average statewide temperature  
for October

# 60 PERCENT

of the state in at least moderate drought  
according to the U.S. Drought Monitor  
on November 25



## CALENDAR

### DECEMBER

- ▶ 2nd-3rd: OK State Dept of Education Science Standards Workshop, OKC
- ▶ 2nd-3rd: 2014 Oklahoma Turfgrass Conference exhibit, Stillwater
- ▶ 11th: Mesonet Steering Committee Meeting
- ▶ 12th: Oklahoma Agricultural Leadership Program NWC Tour, Norman
- ▶ 16th: OK-FIRE Workshop, Stillwater
- ▶ 16th: MakerFaire, Irving Middle School, Norman

### JANUARY

- ▶ 9th-10th: KNID Agrifest exhibit, Enid
- ▶ 19th-21st: Oklahoma Ag Aviation Association Conference, Midwest City

### *Tweet of the Month*

*November 10 - @jasondasho - @okmesonet graphics are looking amazing on tonight's frontal system! #musthaveapps*

Find us on   

## CONTACTS

Accessing recent (within the past 7 days)  
Mesonet data  
Contact: [Mesonet Operator](#)

Instrumentation, telecommunications, or  
other technical specifications  
Contact: [Chris Fiebrich](#)

Mesonet agricultural data and products  
Contact: [Al Sutherland](#)

Mesonet meteorological data  
Contact: [OCS Data Requests](#)

Earthstorm - K-12 educational outreach  
Contact: [Andrea Melvin](#)

OK-First - Public safety outreach  
Contact: [James Hocker](#)

OK-FIRE - Fire management outreach  
Contact: [J.D. Carlson](#)

Not sure?  
Contact: 405-325-2541 or [Chris Fiebrich](#).

## FORECAST FOR DECEMBER

[Click here to view the original maps from the Climate Prediction Center.](#)

**DISCUSSION:** Chance for above normal temperatures across most of the state. Chance for above normal precipitation statewide.

**Chance for above normal temperatures across most of the state and a chance for above normal precipitation statewide.**