

## Oklahoma Climatological Survey Climate Information



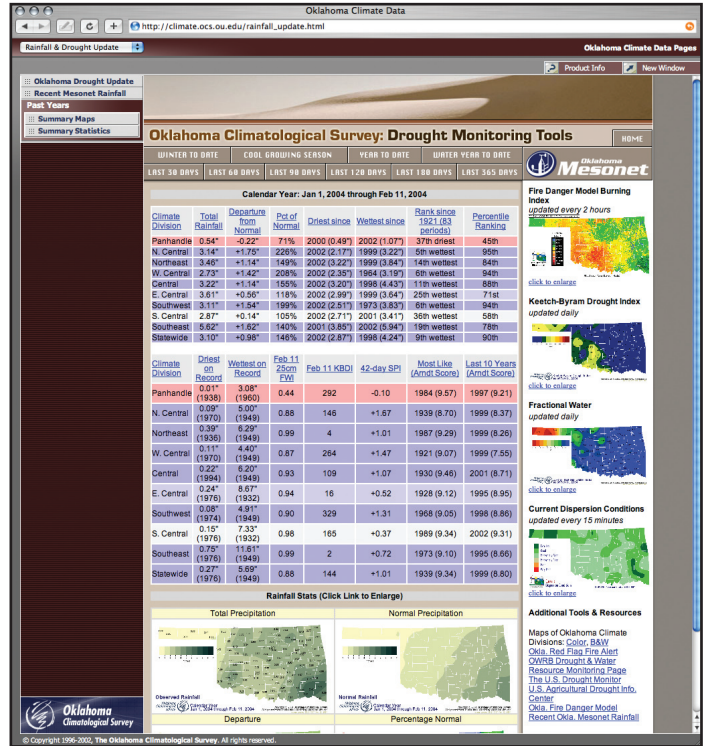
The climatologists of the Oklahoma Climatological Survey (OCS) specialize in helping Oklahoma's citizens and decision-makers use weather and climate information. With a wealth of information available on the web, matching the right sources to individual needs can be challenging. OCS' staff of climatologists, part of the nation's largest and most comprehensive State Climate office, knows the resources and helps people match them to their needs – often one person at a time.

### Climate Services

Examples of ways in which OCS helps people apply climate information include the following:

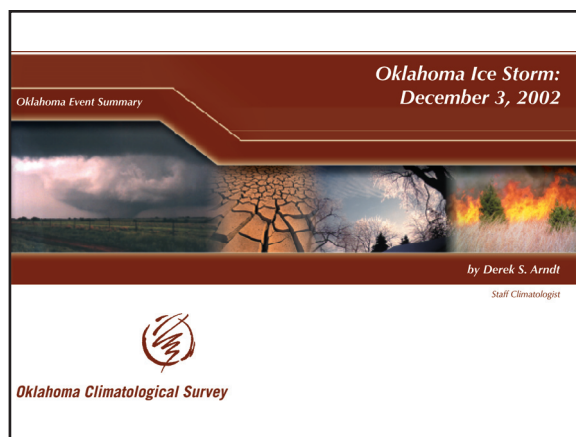
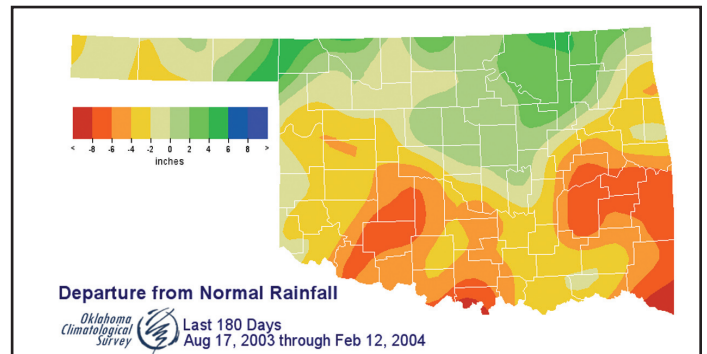
- **Construction Planning** – Whether building a retention pond or a bridge, OCS has historical climate information that helps assess tolerances and conditions likely at the time of the project. OCS climatologists can help answer questions such as ‘will it be warm enough to pour concrete?’ or ‘what is the maximum daily rainfall expected in the next 50 years at Ada?’
- **Insurance Claims** – Storm Reports, Mesonet observations, and local cooperative observer records are used to pinpoint weather conditions in an area. OCS staff have resolved questions about the likelihood of hail, the existence of fog in the area, and the strength of damaging winds. They even aided homicide investigators in solving crimes.
- **Drought Monitoring** – OCS is a recognized national leader in helping Oklahoma water managers recognize the onset and severity of drought. Our website is a national prototype for other states and federal agencies, and our in-house expertise is among the nation's best. In addition to real-time monitoring, OCS scientists examine analog years (‘when was the last time it was this dry?’) and interpret analyses and climate forecasts.

- **Special Publications** – On a monthly, seasonal, and annual basis, OCS produces summaries and outlooks of the weather and climate in Oklahoma. The publications are available on our web site, or by mail for those who do not have Internet access. *Oklahoma Climate* looks at the past season and provides helpful information about weather influences in the upcoming season, such as severe storms, ice storms, or rainfall patterns. OCS also produces *Oklahoma Event Summary* publications, documenting federally declared weather-related disasters in Oklahoma.
- **Economic Development** – OCS will put the right focus on an economic development package, whether for a small town or a state agency. Our climatologists can highlight the positive aspects of Oklahoma's climate in any region of the state, putting perceptions of adverse effects in context. For example, did you know that a house in Oklahoma is likely to be struck by a tornado only once in 4,000 years?
- **Referrals** – If our scientists don't know the answer, we will find out who does. OCS works with private-sector consulting meteorologists, the National Weather Service, and other state, regional, and federal climate organizations to make sure you get to the appropriate place without a lot of phone calls.



## Products and Publications

OCS does more than one-on-one interactions with people needing to understand Oklahoma's climate and data. OCS also produces a variety of products and special publications to meet broader needs. Many of the routine products that you see on OCS' web sites were made with the expertise of the OCS staff climatologists. Mesonet Climatological Data, providing daily summaries of observations from each Mesonet site in Oklahoma, and many of the agricultural models on the Mesonet's agweather website were built with their expertise. Look for additional products and special publications in the future, including an electronic version of *The Atlas of Oklahoma Climate!*



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