

2025 KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS Information Packet



SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK

March 3-7, 2025

TORNADO SAFETY DRILL
Wednesday, March 5, 2025

10AM CST/9AM MST
(11AM CST for the EAX/SGF coverage area only)

KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK
MARCH 3-7, 2025

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[Check out these additional resources](#)

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[Lightning Safety Toolkits](#) [StormReady Program](#)

**KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK
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2024 Kansas Tornado Overview

Tornadoes: 76 15 above the 1950-2023 average of 61
 5 below the past 30 year average of 81
 14 above the past 10 year average of 62

Fatalities: 1 **Injuries:** 6

Longest track: 20.89 miles (Cherokee County, May 6, EF0)

Strongest: EF3 (Pottawatomie County, April 30)

Most in a county: 7 (Wilson County)

Tornado days: 20 (Days with one or more tornadoes)

Most in one day: 17 (April 27)

Most in one month: 40 (April)

First tornado of the year: February 9 (Finney Co, 2:15 PM CST, EFU, 0.10 mile length, 25 yard width)

Last tornado of the year: August 14 (Pottawatomie Co, 6:39 PM CST, EFU, 0.01 mile length, 15 yard width)

Length of tornado season: 187 days (Days between first and last tornado)

2024 Monthly Tornado Totals

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	
EF5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
EF4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
EF3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.3%
EF2	0	0	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	9.2%
EF1	0	0	1	10	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	17.1%
EF0	0	0	0	11	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	32.2%
Unknown	0	1	2	14	6	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	29	38.2%
Total	0	1	5	40	19	8	1	2	0	0	0	0	76	100%
Percent	0%	1.3%	6.6%	52.6%	25.0%	10.5%	1.3%	2.6%	0%	0%	0%	0%		

Violent (EF4—EF5) in red, Strong (EF2-EF3) in yellow, Weak (EF0-EF1) in green, Unknown in orange. Monthly totals in gray. Tornadoes not causing damage ranked as unknown due to insufficient data to assign a rating. (Percent values may not add to 100% due to rounding)

Annual Highlights: 2024 was a more active year for tornadoes in Kansas than recent years, with 76 tornadoes being reported in 39 different counties. For comparison, 2023: 44 tornadoes, 2022: 56 tornadoes and 2021: 7 tornadoes. The strongest tornado in 2024 occurred in Westmoreland, KS (Pottawatomie County) on April 30th. It was rated an EF-3, and unfortunately ended up killing one person and injured four others. This tornado was on the ground for a little over two miles and produced intense damage for to two homes, a mobile home and trees. The tornado with the longest track occurred in Cherokee County on May 6th, traversing over 20 miles. It was rated an EF-0 with some tree damage observed after the tornado. The most active tornado day occurred on April 27th when 17 tornadoes were observed. April was the most active month with 40 total tornadoes across the state.

**KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK
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Kansas Tornado Statistics

by County

1950 - 2024

TORNADOES, FATALITIES, AND INJURIES

Legend: Tor = Tornado | Fat = Fatalities | Inj = Injuries

County	Tor	Fat	Inj	County	Tor	Fat	Inj	County	Tor	Fat	Inj
Allen	28	0	4	Greenwood	49	0	18	Pawnee	54	0	1
Anderson	15	3	12	Hamilton	33	0	1	Phillips	41	0	1
Atchison	16	0	11	Harper	65	0	1	Pottawatomie	41	2	5
Barber	42	0	2	Harvey	51	1	63	Pratt	74	3	10
Barton	108	2	40	Haskell	33	0	10	Rawlins	54	0	4
Bourbon	20	0	7	Hodgeman	59	0	4	Reno	87	0	22
Brown	49	0	5	Jackson	37	4	17	Republic	63	0	3
Butler	91	28	226	Jefferson	43	0	101	Rice	50	0	6
Chase	50	0	4	Jewell	43	0	2	Riley	34	0	51
Chautauqua	25	0	0	Johnson	49	0	12	Rooks	53	0	6
Cherokee	43	4	66	Kearny	46	0	0	Rush	53	0	8
Cheyenne	49	0	0	Kingman	67	0	1	Russell	83	1	7
Clark	42	0	0	Kiowa	61	11	74	Saline	48	0	66
Clay	46	1	31	Labette	43	1	29	Scott	58	1	1
Cloud	53	1	8	Lane	50	0	2	Sedgwick	90	13	362
Coffey	26	0	5	Leavenworth	32	2	30	Seward	40	0	15
Comanche	44	0	2	Lincoln	35	0	2	Shawnee	60	18	528
Cowley	87	77	293	Linn	14	0	3	Sheridan	46	0	0
Crawford	37	4	43	Logan	37	0	0	Sherman	116	0	0
Decatur	51	0	5	Lyon	51	7	222	Smith	46	0	2
Dickinson	44	1	17	Marion	52	1	2	Stafford	73	3	5
Doniphan	21	0	2	Marshall	41	0	1	Stanton	26	0	0
Douglas	43	1	64	McPherson	55	1	16	Stevens	25	1	5
Edwards	57	0	7	Meade	57	0	0	Sumner	88	5	14
Elk	31	2	8	Miami	23	4	10	Thomas	59	0	1
Ellis	66	0	6	Mitchell	52	0	5	Trego	63	5	101
Ellsworth	52	0	0	Montgomery	37	1	1	Wabaunsee	45	1	26
Finney	103	1	41	Morris	37	0	7	Wallace	47	0	4
Ford	115	0	2	Morton	20	1	2	Washington	41	2	12
Franklin	30	3	34	Nemaha	43	0	3	Wichita	36	0	4
Geary	21	0	3	Neosho	31	0	4	Wilson	23	0	0
Gove	62	0	3	Ness	53	0	4	Woodson	14	0	8
Graham	43	0	0	Norton	32	0	0	Wyandotte	10	2	36
Grant	27	0	9	Osage	53	17	6				
Gray	55	0	3	Osborne	46	0	13				
Greeley	43	0	0	Ottawa	35	2	12	Total	5039	237	2955

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Kansas Tornadoes 2024



76 tornadoes impacting 39 counties

Kansas Tornado Facts

Days with more than 20 tornadoes

Date	#Tornadoes
05/23/08	70
04/14/12	43
06/15/92	39
05/05/07	36
05/24/16	34
06/04/55	33
05/29/04	28
10/26/06	28
05/25/97	25
06/09/05	25
05/15/91	24
07/07/04	23
05/06/15	22
04/26/91	21
06/15/09	21

Kansas Tornado Count by Decade

1950s:	560
1960s:	457
1970s:	303
1980s:	339
1990s:	789
2000s:	1192
2010s:	768
2020s:	230

Most Tornadoes in One Episode

May 23, 2008	70 Tornadoes
April 14, 2012	43 Tornadoes
June 15-16, 1992	41 Tornadoes

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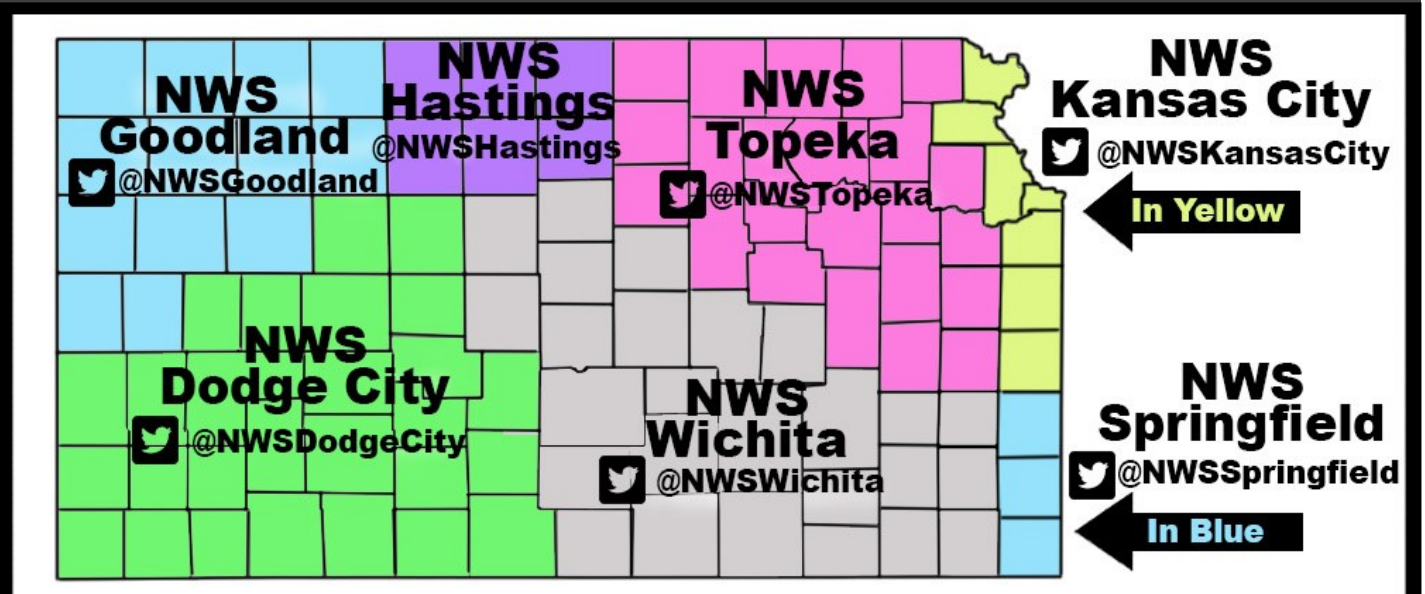
Did you know...

There are seven National Weather Service offices that serve portions of Kansas!

National Weather Service (NWS) offices serving Kansas are located in Goodland; Dodge City; Wichita; Topeka; Hastings, Nebraska; Pleasant Hill (Kansas City), Missouri; and Springfield, Missouri. Each office is staffed by a team of highly trained meteorologists, technicians, electronics technicians, information technology specialists, hydrologists, and administrative assistants. The NWS offices are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

Contact the NWS office in your area to learn more about weather, weather safety, NOAA Weather Radio, office tours, or to learn more about careers in meteorology in the NWS or in NOAA.

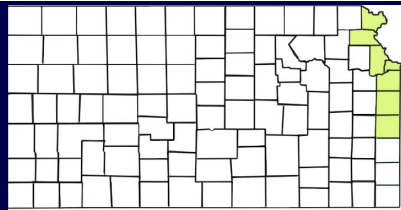
We are here to serve you!



The following pages contain 2024 weather summaries for each NWS office. Here is severe weather terminology you may encounter.

- **Severe Thunderstorm** – The National Weather Service issues severe thunderstorm warnings for storms that are currently or are capable of producing winds of 58 mph or stronger and/or hail one inch in diameter or larger. Severe thunderstorms are often much stronger than this minimum criteria, so it is a good idea to take severe thunderstorm warnings seriously.
- **Tornado** – A tornado is a violently rotating column of air in contact with the ground either as a pendant from a cumuliform cloud or underneath a cumuliform cloud, and it is often (but not always) visible as a funnel cloud. A funnel cloud is a condensation cloud typically funnel-shaped and extending outward from a cumuliform cloud and is associated with a rotating column of air that may or may not be in contact with the ground.
- **Flash Flood** – A flash flood is flooding that occurs very rapidly and usually within six hours of heavy rainfall. Flash flooding may occur along creeks, rivers or streams. It can also occur in low lying or urban areas where drainage is poor. Water levels can rise very quickly during flash flooding including locations that did not receive the heavy rainfall but are located downstream from areas that received an extreme amount of rainfall. Flash flooding can occur in the winter months when rain falls on existing snowpack and causes it to melt rapidly. Flooding is the number one severe weather killer in the U.S.

**KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK
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2024 Weather Summary

Extreme East Central and Northeast Kansas

National Weather Service - Pleasant Hill, MO

 **119**

**Severe
Thunderstorm
Warnings**

 **5**

**Confirmed
Tornadoes**



Strongest Wind Gust:

84 mph
1 NE Lenexa
May 26



Largest Hail:

Apple (3" diameter)
2 SSE Bonner Springs
March 13



Hottest Temperature:
Olathe (IXD)

102° F (6/24)



3 **Most 100°+ Days:**
Olathe (IXD)

Coldest Temperature:
Gardner (OJC)



-9° F (1/13, 1/14, 1/15)



Most 32° or Lower Days:
Gardner (OJC)

12



33.87"

**Most Annual
Precipitation:**
Olathe (IXD)



Highest 1-Day Rainfall:

2.87" Olathe (IXD)
(July 4)



2024 Eastern Kansas: By the Numbers

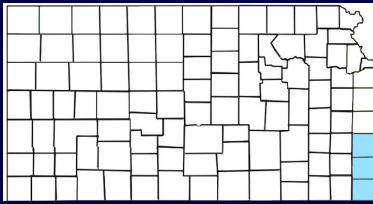
	Gardner <i>(Johnson County Executive Airport DJC)</i>	Olathe <i>(New Century Air Center IXD)</i>
Hottest Temperature	100° Jun 24	102° Jun 26, Jun 26
Highest Heat Index	107° Jul 31	111° Jul 31
100°+ Days	1	3
Coldest Temperature	-9° Jan 13, 14, 15	-8° Jan 14, 15
Lowest Wind Chill	-15° Jan 14	-32° Jan 14
32° or Lower Days	12	10
Annual Precipitation	33.27"	33.87"
Highest 1-Day Precipitation	2.44" Jul 4	2.87" Jul 4

Check out a storm identification and weather safety training presentation near you this spring!

Each spring, the National Weather Service offices that serve the state of Kansas conduct storm identification and weather safety training sessions in most counties in the state. The sessions are free and open to the public. These presentations provide a great deal of information on severe weather in Kansas including ways to get weather information from the National Weather Service. You can also meet a meteorologist from your local office.

The schedule for storm identification training sessions varies in each community, please check out www.weather.gov and click your location for more information on a training session in your area.

**KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK
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2024 Weather Summary

Southeast Kansas

National Weather Service - Springfield, MO

 **59** **Severe Thunderstorm Warnings**

Highest daily total: 8 on 4/28

 **3** **Confirmed Tornadoes**

All EF-0
(4/26 and 5/6)




 **Strongest Measured Wind Gust:**
81mph
Cherokee Co. on 8/16

 **Largest Hail:**
Golfball (1.75" diameter)
Cherokee Co. on 8/16

 **Hottest Temperature:**
(Pittsburg, Fort Scott, Columbus)
99° F (6/25, 8/7, 8/27)

 **0** **Days of 100°+ High Temperatures**


 **Coldest Temperature:**
(Columbus)
-10° F (1/16)

 **Highest Annual Precipitation:**
46.30" **Fort Scott**

2.14" above normal for the year

 **Highest Annual Snowfall:**
2.5" **Columbus**

5.9" below normal for the year

 **Highest 1-Day Rainfall:**
7.18" in Columbus
on 4/28

 **Highest 1-Day Snowfall:**
1" in Pittsburg & Columbus
on 1/15 & 2/12



2024 Southeast Kansas: By the Numbers

	<i>Pittsburg</i>	<i>Fort Scott</i>	<i>Columbus</i>
<i>Hottest Temperature</i>	99° Jun 25	99° Jun 25, Aug 27	99° Jun 25, Aug 7
<i>100°+ Days</i>	0	0	0
<i>Days with lows greater than 75°</i>	11	10	8
<i>Coldest Temperature</i>	-6° Jan 14, 15	-7° Jan 14	-10° Jan 16
<i>32° or Lower Days</i>	79	49	79
<i>0° or Lower Days</i>	4	1	2
<i>Annual Precipitation</i>	44.37"	46.30"	44.84"
<i>Highest 1-Day Precipitation</i>	2.78" Nov 3	7.18" Apr 28	2.92" Nov 4
<i>Annual Snowfall</i>	1.2"	N/A	2.5"
<i>Highest 1-Day Snowfall</i>	1" Jan 15	N/A	1" Jan 15, Feb 12

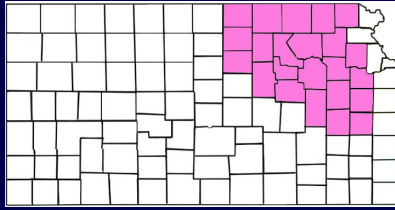
The year 2024 saw 13 days where thunderstorms produced severe weather across far southeastern Kansas. Severe storms occurred in all but January, February, November and December, though only a handful of severe weather events were reported even then. There were 3 EF-0 Tornadoes that impacted areas near Uniontown (April 26), Melrose and Shewin (May 6). Other events that impacted the region included an extreme wind event on August 16th that produced wind reports of up to 70kts (81mph) near Melrose which was the highest wind gust that occurred as a cold front moved through southeastern Kansas.

The largest hail reported only reached golf balls in size which occurred on August 16th near Melrose. Otherwise a handful of other hail reports of quarter to half dollar in size occurred during the spring and fall. Flooding rainfall occurred even less frequently with only a few reports received in April and May. Most of the reported flooding was street and urban flooding.

Relatedly, abnormally dry conditions were in place for parts of the regions to start the year with more significant drought from D2 to D3 developing in September and continued through the end of November. Rain did provide some relief into the end of the year with only D1 to D0 drought in place at the end of December. Reports of some crop and hay losses occurred as a result of the drought conditions. Rainfall in the spring and summer and again in late November and early December helped mitigate the severity of the drought conditions.

Through the winter months, there were no significantly impactful winter weather events across far southeastern Kansas.

**KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK
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2024 Weather Summary

Northeast and East Central Kansas

National Weather Service - Topeka, KS


 **346** **Severe Thunderstorm Warnings***

 **22** **Confirmed Tornadoes**

 *Most since 1984!*
*Highest daily total: 21 on 4-30 and 8-14**

Strongest was EF-3
Pottawatomie Co. on 4/30

 **Strongest Measured Wind Gust:**
87mph
Pottawatomie Co. 4/18


 **Largest Hail:**
Softball (4" diameter)
Wabaunsee Co. on 3/13.

 **Topeka Hottest Temperature**
102° F (6/24, 7/18, & 8/26)

 **11** **Topeka Days of 100°+ High Temperatures**

 **Topeka Coldest Temperature**
-8° F (1/15)


Heat indices around 110°F 7/14-15 & 7/29-31


 **34.27"** **Topeka Total Precipitation**

2.26" below normal for the year (Jan. through Dec.)

 **12.6"** **Topeka Total Snowfall**

4.5" below normal for the year (Jan. through Dec.)

 **Highest Event Rainfall:**
6.00" in Franklin Co.
on 5/30-31

 **Highest Event Snowfall:**
6" in Washington Co.
on 1/21-22

The 2024 severe weather season across northeast Kansas was a very active one, with a total of 22 tornadoes and numerous other large hail and high wind events. In fact, the total number of severe thunderstorm and tornado warnings was the highest on record surpassing the old record from 2019.

The year started off with a bang as the first event of the season was a significant one in mid-March. A cluster of super-cells moved across portions of the Flint Hills producing large hail up to 4" in diameter and two EF-2 tornadoes. The first tornado stayed in mainly rural areas northeast of Alta Vista in Wabaunsee County, while the second did significant damage to several homes on the northwest side of Rossville in Shawnee County.

April saw several notable events starting on April 16 with two very rare pre-sunrise tornadoes rated EF-1 as they moved northeast across Osage and Shawnee counties. April 26 and 27 were both days of higher-end tornado potential, but other than a few brief tornadoes on April 27, the worst on both days stayed just north and south of northeast Kansas.

Unfortunately, the most significant event of the year happened shortly afterwards on April 30. An intense EF-3 tornado hit the town of Westmoreland destroying several homes and producing the first tornado fatality in Kansas since 2012. Additional brief tornadoes and 70-90 mph wind gusts occurred as the storm moved southeast clipping the northern edges of Topeka and Lawrence.

May wasn't quite as busy as April but still saw a couple notable events. May 6 and May 19 both saw lines of severe storms with widespread 60-70 mph winds as well as a few brief embedded tornadoes. June saw a continued active pattern with several events producing widespread damaging winds and hail as well as a few brief tornadoes on June 28 in east-central Kansas. July into August turned a bit quieter but was marked by events on July 16, July 31, and August 14 that all saw widespread wind damage along the I-70 corridor from Junction City to Topeka to Lawrence. With the exception of two damaging wind events in late October, the rest of the year from late August to December was much quieter with just a few minor wind and hail events.



EF-2 tornado near Alta Vista, KS on 3/13 (photo by Travis Heying of Kansas.com).



EF-3 tornado as it hit Westmoreland on 4/30 (photo by Daniel Reese).



Be sure to find your local NWS office on social media

NWSDodgeCity

NWSSpringfield

NWSGoodland

NWSTopeka

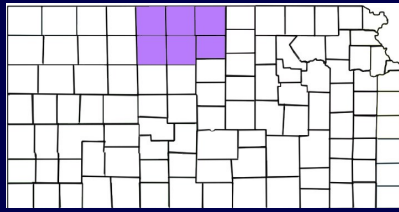
NWSHastings

NWSWichita

NWSKansasCity

Also be sure to check if your county emergency manager has a facebook page for your county.

**KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK
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2024 Weather Summary

North Central Kansas

National Weather Service - Hastings, NE



108 Severe Thunderstorm Warnings



October 3: Most warnings in one day (15)



1 Confirmed Tornado

April 16: Brief tornado 9 miles north of Athol.

Rated: EF-0 (minor damage)



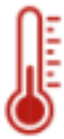
Strongest Wind Gust:

May 1: 83 mph north of Plainville



Largest Hail:

July 31: Softball size (4.00" diameter) 4 miles northeast of Prairie View



NC Kansas Hottest Temperature

111 °F *(July 14 & 16)*

- Webster Dam

NC Kansas Warmest Overnight Low Temperature

80 °F *(July 14)*

- Glen Elder Res.



NC Kansas Coldest Temperature

-17 °F *(January 15-16)*

- Burr Oak

NC Kansas Coldest Daytime High Temperature

-5 °F

- Kirwin Dam (January 14)



Highest Total Precipitation - 27.94" in Phillipsburg

Lowest Total Precipitation - 15.40" near Damar



Highest Total Snowfall - 19.8" near Plainville



Highest 1-Day Rainfall:

September 17: 3.36"

Cawker City



Highest 1-Day Snowfall:

Jan. 9: 9.3" near Plainville

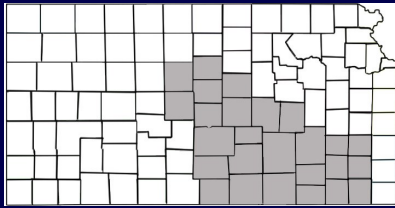
KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK
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2024 In North Central Kansas: By the Numbers

(Jewell, Mitchell, Osborne Phillips Rooks and Smith counties)

	<i>Burr Oak</i>	<i>Plainville</i>	<i>Beloit</i>
Hottest Temperature	104° Aug 5	110° Aug 6	107° Jul 26
100°+ Days	9	22	12
Coldest Temperature	-17° Jan 15, 16	-12° Jan 14, 17	-11° Jan 16
32° or Lower Days	44 days	46 days	40 days
Annual Precipitation	25.93" (1.55" below normal)	21.23" (4.88" below normal)	22.42" (6.66" below normal)
Highest 1-Day Precipitation	2.35" Apr 25	1.76" Nov 19	1.35" Aug 26
Annual Snowfall	12.3" (11.4" below normal)	19.8" (0.1" above normal)	10.8" (4.8" below normal)
Highest 1-Day Snowfall	6.0" Jan 8	9.3" Jan 9	4.0" Jan 9



2024 Weather Summary

Central, South Central & Southeast Kansas

National Weather Service - Wichita, KS

 **335** **Severe Thunderstorm Warnings**

 **29** **Confirmed Tornadoes**

 *Most since 2019, Average since 1990: 257*
Highest 2024 daily total: 36 on 4/27

Most tornadoes since 2012


 **Strongest Wind Gust:**
100mph
Salina Regional Airport
05/19

 **Largest Hail:**
Large Apple (3" diameter)
Barton Co. 05/06

 **Hottest Temperature: Russell**
110° F (7/15)


 **19** **Most 100°+ Days: Anthony**

 **Coldest Temperature: Lincoln 1 SE**
-16° F (1/16)

 **19** **Most 32° or Lower Days: Lincoln 1 SE**

 **50.68"** **Most Annual Precipitation: Humboldt**
(8.38" above average)

 **19.7"** **Most Annual Snowfall**
Albert 5 SE
(About 6 inches above average)

 **Highest 1-Day Rainfall:**
8.50" Fredonia on 4/28

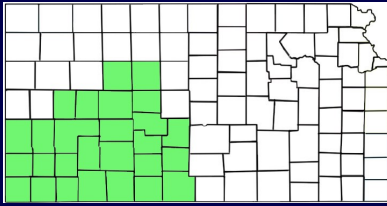
 **Highest 1-Day Snowfall:**
12" McPherson on 1/9



2024 Central & Southeast Kansas: By the Numbers

	<i>Wichita</i>	<i>Salina</i>	<i>Chanute</i>	<i>Russell</i>
Hottest Temperature	105° Jul 15	107° Jul 15	102° Jun 24, Jul 31, Aug 5	110° Jul 15
Highest Heat Index	113° Jul 31	114° Aug 24	115° Jul 31	110° Jul 31
100°+ Days	11	17	8	15
Coldest Temperature	-4° Jan 14	-11° Jan 16	-5° Jan 16	-15° Jan 16
Lowest Wind Chill	-24° Jan 13	-27° Jan 16	-24° Jan 13	-34° Jan 16
32° or Lower Days	9	12	7	14
Annual Precipitation	28.97"	22.11"	39.32"	19.44"
Highest 1-Day Precipitation	3.13" Nov 2	1.66" Aug 8	5.76" Apr 27	1.38" Aug 29
Annual Snowfall	6.3"	N/A	N/A	N/A
Highest 1-Day Snowfall	3.3" Jan 5	N/A	N/A	N/A

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2024 Weather Summary Southwest Kansas National Weather Service - Dodge City, KS

 **322**

**Severe
Thunderstorm
Warnings**



**6 Confirmed
Tornadoes**



Strongest Wind Gust:

**93 mph
Lane Co. & Finney Co.
June 8**



Largest Hail:

**Tea Cup (3" diameter)
Finney Co. Kearny Co. &
Ellis Co.**



**Hottest Temperature:
Medicine Lodge**

115° F (8/24)



**37 Most 100°+ Days:
Medicine Lodge**



**Coldest Temperature:
Syracuse**

-20° F (1/16, 1/17)



**Most 32° or Lower Days:
WaKeeney**

18



**35.12" Most Annual
Precipitation:
Greensburg**



**20.6" Most Annual
Snowfall**

Scott City



Highest 1-Day Rainfall:

**4.59" Collyer 10 S
(Sep 17)**



Highest 1-Day Snowfall:

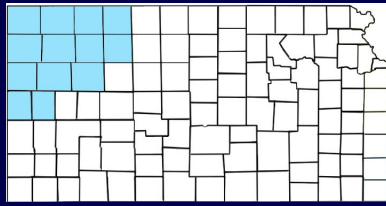
11" Scott City on Jan 9



2024 Southwest Kansas: By the Numbers

	<i>Dodge City Area</i>	<i>Garden City Regional</i>	<i>Medicine Lodge</i>
<i>Hottest Temperature</i>	106° Aug 18, 24, 25	108° Aug 18	115° Aug 24
<i>Highest Heat Index</i>	109° Jul 31	102° Jun 13, Jul 31, Aug 18	114° Jun 25
<i>100°+ Days</i>	10	12	37
<i>Coldest Temperature</i>	-7° Jan 16	-14° Jan 16	-3° Jan 16
<i>Lowest Wind Chill</i>	-25° Jan 13, 16	-31° Jan 16	-18° Jan 13
<i>32° or Lower Days</i>	9	10	7
<i>Annual Precipitation</i>	30.45"	23.49"	31.42"
<i>Highest 1-Day Precipitation</i>	4.39" Jun 30	1.88" Aug 30	2.57" Jul 17
<i>Annual Snowfall</i>	16.3"	14.3"	5.0"
<i>Highest 1-Day Snowfall</i>	8.1" Jan 8	5.0" Jan 9	4.0" Jan 5

KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK
MARCH 3-7, 2025



2024 Weather Summary Northwest Kansas National Weather Service - Goodland, KS

 **373** **Severe
Thunderstorm
Warnings**

 **8** **Confirmed
Tornadoes**

 Highest daily total: 21 on 4-25


Strongest was EF-U


 **Strongest Measured
Wind Gust:
120 mph
Greeley Co. 5/29**

 **Largest Hail:
Softball (4.50" diameter)
Gove Co. on 5/1**

 **Goodland Hottest Temperature
105 °F (6/24-25, 7/30)**

 **14** **Goodland Days of
100°+ High
Temperatures**


 **Goodland Coldest Temperature
-16 °F (1/15)**

 **14.46"** **Goodland Total
Precipitation**

*4.63" below normal for the year
(Jan. through Dec.)*

 **25.6"** **Goodland
Total Snowfall**

*4.4" below normal for the year
(Jan. through Dec.)*

 **Highest Event Rainfall:
3.20" in Gove Co.
on 9/17**

 **Highest Event Snowfall:
12" in Logan Co.
on 1/9**

**KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK
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2024 was a rather tranquil severe weather season for northwest Kansas. In total there were eight tornadoes that occurred in the Kansas portion of the Goodland forecast area; all of them were rated as EF-U. Three of those tornadoes occurred in Gove County. The first tornado of the year occurred in Logan County on March 24th near Oakley; shortly followed by a second near Campus, Kansas in western Gove County. The interesting part of these tornadoes was that a Blizzard Warning was in effect for the next day. The final tornado of the year occurred on July 6th near Achilles, Kansas in Rawlins County.

For hail, there were 136 instances of severe hail (1 inch or larger). The first report of severe hail was on March 24th with 1.25 inch to 1.5 inch hail occurring in Sheridan County, and the final instance of severe hail occurred on October 21st in Norton County when 1 inch hail fell. The largest hailstone of the year in northwest Kansas occurred in Gove County on May 1st when hailstones ranged from the size of apples to grapefruits (4.5 inches). Numerous other reports of baseball and softball sized hail occurred with other storms across Gove County on this day.

The strongest thunderstorm wind gust was estimated at 120 mph in Greeley County on May 29th. There were 450 people who lost power along with 10 snapped power poles and two irrigation pivots that were blown over as well. For the year there were 134 severe wind reports that were associated with thunderstorms. The first gust occurred on February 7th in Sherman County, and the final ones occurred on September 17th across Sherman and Cheyenne counties.

May 1st Severe Weather Outbreak: Two rounds of severe weather impacted northwest Kansas as a strong low pressure system moved across the Central High Plains. Initially, two strong supercells moved over the southern portions of Logan and Gove counties producing up to grapefruit sized hail and two EF-Unknown landspout tornadoes. The hail and tornadoes primarily occurred in southern Gove County along and east of Highway 25. One of the landspouts developed along the Gove-Lane county line and continued on into northern Lane County. No damage was reported with either tornado. During the evening hours, a linear cluster of storms moved across northwest Kansas from Colorado producing large hail and wind gusts estimated around 96 mph. The strongest winds occurred in eastern Graham County where estimated 90-96 mph straight line winds produced significant damage to two metal buildings.



Gove County hail on May 1st (photo by NOAA-NSSL).



Tornado SE Gove County on May 1st (photo by Cameron Venable).

Emergency Kit

Make sure your emergency kit is ready to go!

- ✓ **First Aid Kit**
- ✓ **3 day supply of water/non-perishable food (for each family member including pets)**
- ✓ **Change of clothes/shoes for each family member**



- ✓ **Prescription medicine & special needs items**
- ✓ **Battery powered radio & NOAA Weather radio**
- ✓ **Cash & credit card**
- ✓ **Flashlight & extra batteries**
- ✓ **Whistle (to call for help)**
- ✓ **Cell phone & charger (solar/battery powered)**

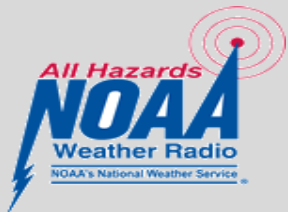
Do you have a NOAA Weather Radio?

What is it?

NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) broadcasts National Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day.

How does it notify you?

Weather radios equipped with a special alarm tone feature can sound an alert and give you immediate information about a life-threatening situation. During an emergency, NWS forecasters will send out a special tone to activate weather radios in the listening area.



Where do you get a NWR?

You can buy receivers at many retail outlets such as electronics, department, sporting goods, and boat and marine accessory stores and their catalogs as well as online at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/info/nwrrcvr.html#residential>

How much does it cost?

Prices vary from \$20 and up depending on the model.

Options for those with special needs?

The hearing and visually impaired can get these warnings by connecting weather radios with alarm tones or other such as strobe lights, pagers, bed-shakers, personal computers and text printers.

Public safety experts agree: a NOAA Weather Radio should be standard equipment in every home.

**KANSAS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK
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