

MONTH IN REVIEW FOR NORTHERN ARIZONA FOR DECEMBER 2016

. . . DECEMBER TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION OVERVIEW . . .

The month of December saw a few very wet storm systems that brought well above average precipitation to northern Arizona. The first two storm systems were relatively warm with only the highest mountains receiving snowfall, while the third system arriving Christmas Eve brought heavy snow to many areas above the 4000 foot elevation level. A few places ranked among one of the 10 wettest Decembers on record. Temperatures were generally warmer than average, especially overnight low temperatures.

DECEMBER DATA AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL FOR SELECTED CITIES

	Max T		Min T		Precip	Dep	% Normal
	Avg	Dep	Avg	Dep			
Flagstaff	43.9	1.4	20.9	4.1	4.42	2.55	236 %
Winslow	52.5	3.9	25.1	4.5	1.06	0.50	189 %
Prescott AP	52.7	1.5	28.3	3.0	2.66	1.70	277 %
Prescott WTP	52.3	0.8	25.5	2.1	3.71	2.25	254 %
St Johns AP	52.9	4.3	22.6	2.9	0.52	-0.36	59 %
Grand Canyon AP	44.8	1.0	19.4	6.9	1.89	0.38	125 %
Bellemont	43.5	-0.8	15.5	2.3	4.52	2.79	261 %
Show Low AP	48.0	1.1	27.5	4.3	3.33	1.82	221 %
Page Airport	54.1	1.2	25.9	3.3	2.32	1.43	261 %
Window Rock	44.5	0.8	28.9	-0.6	1.10	0.55	200 %
	48.6	4.7	19.9	5.8	1.82	1.03	230 %

Wettest December Ranking

Location	December Precipitation (in.)	Rank
Prescott Airport	2.66"	4 th wettest
Show Low Airport	3.33"	5 th wettest
Payson	4.38"	10 th wettest
Flagstaff Airport	4.42"	12 th wettest
Prescott WTP	3.71"	16 th wettest
Winslow Airport	1.06"	18 th wettest

Warmest December Ranking

Location	December Avg. Temperature	Rank
Show Low Airport	37.8°	5 th warmest
Payson	42.8°	7 th warmest
Winslow Airport	38.8°	12 th warmest
Prescott Airport	40.5°	18 th warmest

...SIGNIFICANT WEATHER...

Dec. 16th-17th Wind and Rain: A strong cold front moved through northern Arizona on December 16th bringing very strong southerly winds (gusting from 40 mph to over 60 mph) and widespread rainfall amounts ranging from 0.50" to over 3.00". The heaviest rain fell across the eastern Mogollon Rim. [Wind and Rain Reports Here](#).

Dec. 22nd Rain: A moist and relatively warm air mass brought widespread rainfall to much of northern Arizona with amounts generally ranging from 0.25" to 1.50". The highest rainfall amounts were recorded from Yavapai County into southern portions of Coconino County, across a swatch of central Arizona. [Rainfall Reports Here](#).

Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Snow Storm: A very strong frontal system surged from west to east across Arizona bringing gusty winds and widespread precipitation, with rapidly falling snow levels. Snow accumulated down to some of the lower valley locations in the Verde Valley such as Sedona, Camp Verde and Cottonwood. Mountainous locations along the Mogollon Rim and Yavapai County received the heaviest snow where amounts of near and over a foot of snow were common. [Snow Reports Here](#). [Wind Reports Here](#).

Dec. 24th Record Snowfall at Flagstaff Airport:

A RECORD SNOWFALL OF 10.1 INCHES FELL AT THE FLAGSTAFF AIRPORT ON SATURDAY, DEC 24TH. THE PREVIOUS RECORD FOR DEC 24 WAS 4.0 INCHES SET IN 1914.