



North Dakota

Monthly Climate Summary

May 2010

Precipitation:

Monthly precipitation totals ranged from 2 to 7 inches. The higher amounts from 5 to 7 fell in the northeast and east central regions with 2 to 4 inches falling elsewhere. Total precipitation was above normal for most of the state and ranged primarily from 50% to 300% of normal (Figure 1. North Dakota State Climate Office). The first half of the month had lighter scattered rainfall and a snowfall event. Snow fell in the southwest and central regions on the 7th with totals ranging from 8 inches in the southwest to 2 inches in the central region. The second half of the month had widespread heavy rains and thunderstorms. A major thunderstorm on the 24th produced hail and damaging high winds in the central, northeast, and southwest parts of the state. Tornadoes were reported on the 24th in Sioux and Morton counties. Record rainfall was recorded on the 24th at Grand Forks, Jamestown, Dickinson, Minot, and Williston.

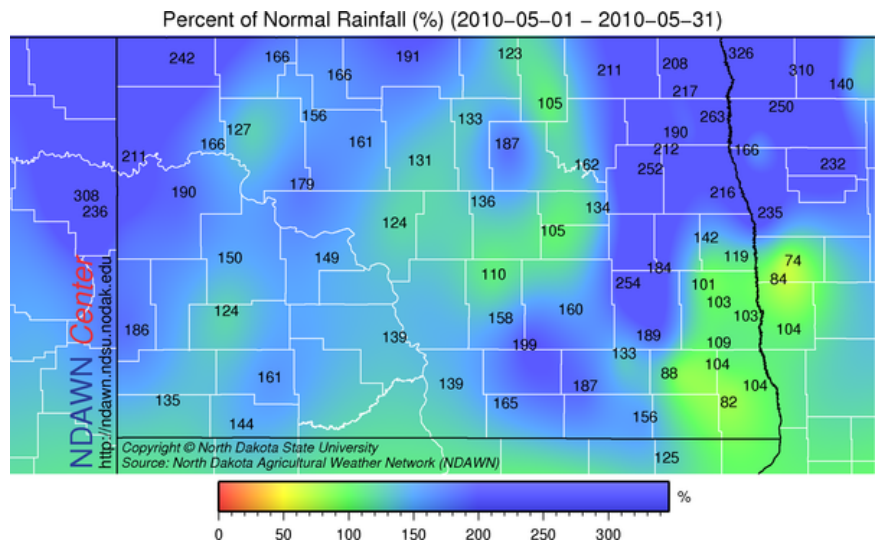


Figure 1. Precipitation Percent of Normal in May 2010 for North Dakota (North Dakota State Climate Office)

Temperature:

May average monthly air temperatures ranged from 48°F to 58°F with the lower temperatures in the west and higher temperatures in the east. The average May temperatures were near normal in the east and below normal in the west with departure from normal temperatures ranging from 1°F to -5°F (Figure 2. North Dakota State Climate Office). Daily air temperatures were below normal in the first half of the month. The second half of the month had near normal daily temperatures with the last few days having above normal temperatures. Record high temperatures were set on the 29th at Grand Forks airport with 93°F and Fargo with 95°F.

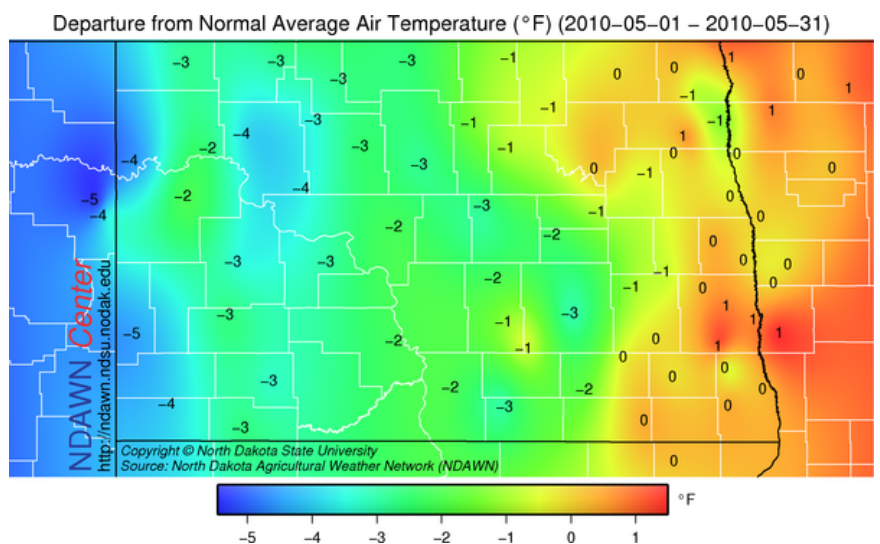


Figure 2. Temperature Departure from Normal in May 2010 for North Dakota (North Dakota State Climate Office)