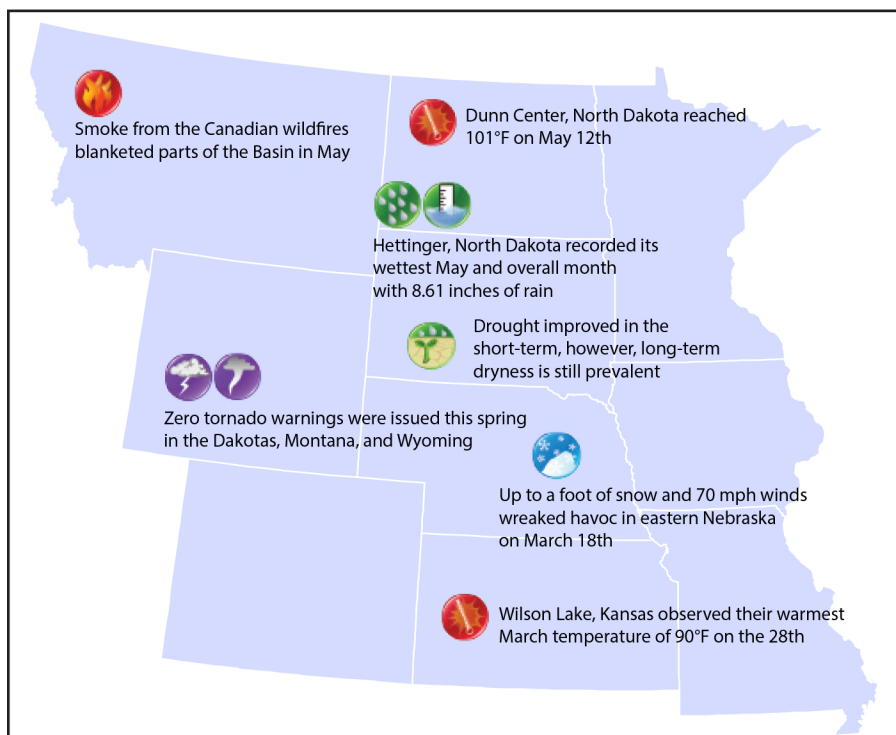


Regional – Significant Events for March - May 2025



Highlights for the Basin

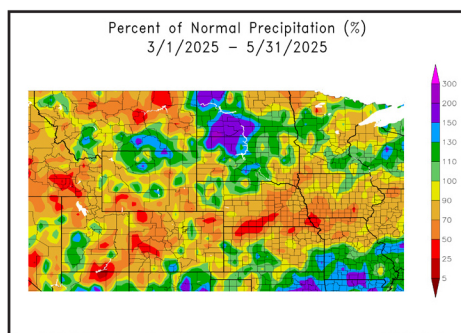
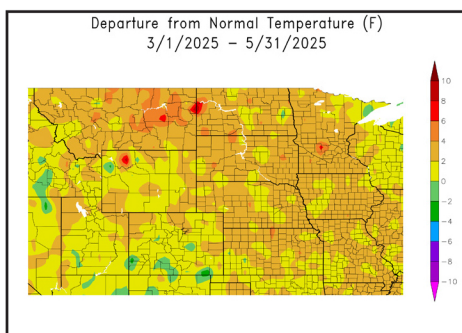
An intense severe weather outbreak impacted Kansas and Nebraska on May 18th, with over a dozen tornadoes touching down. Seven EF3s would touch down in Kansas alone, the highest total of F3/EF3 or stronger tornadoes in a single day for the state since April 26, 1991. Despite multiple tornado emergencies and [several towns being struck](#), only a few injuries were reported.

Dry soils and gusty winds in March led to one of the [deadliest dust storms](#) in Kansas in recent history. Winds reached over 50 mph on the 18th, leading to near-zero visibility between Colby and Goodland. The blinding conditions created a 71-car pileup, with eight fatalities reported. These would be the first fatalities due to dust in the area in over a decade.

Regional – Climate Overview for March - May 2025

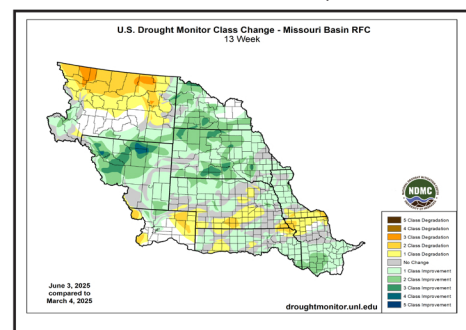
Temperature and Precipitation Anomalies

Departure from Normal Temperature (°F) (left)
and Percent of Normal Precipitation (right) for Spring 2025



Changes in

Drought Conditions
March 4 to June 3, 2025



Spring began on a warm note, with dozens of counties in Kansas, Nebraska, and South Dakota ranking in the top 5 warmest. Temperatures in April were near normal, while May was above normal in the northern Missouri Basin states due to a unseasonably warm three day stretch in the early part of the month.

Snowfall in March was exceptionally high across northern Wyoming, with over 5 feet falling in some areas. April was very dry in Nebraska and eastern Wyoming, with less than half an inch of precipitation in some areas. Precipitation was above normal in the western parts of the Dakotas this spring due to abundant rainfall in the latter half of May.

The map above shows the areas of increasing (yellow shading) and decreasing (green shading) categories of drought. Up to 4 classes of improvement occurred across northern Wyoming, with drought nearly removed in the area. Northern Montana was the opposite this spring, with up to 3 classes of degradation.