

Central Alaska Network

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Alaska Region
Inventory & Monitoring Program



Denali NP & PRES • Wrangell-St. Elias NP & PRES • Yukon-Charley Rivers N PRES

Winter 2025

Weather & Climate Summary Denali National Park & Preserve Winter 2025

Late winter tree shadows. NPS Photo/Ken Hill

Denali Park Headquarters Winter Season 2024-2025

Winter 2024-2025 was warm and dry at Park Headquarters. It was the 6th warmest winter on record. January was the warmest month compared to normal. The winter season was 7.8°F warmer than the 1991-2020 normal. Daily temperatures were above freezing ($\geq 32^{\circ}\text{F}$) on 38 out of 90 days this winter! On average there are zero days above freezing during the winter months. This winter the lowest temperature did not hit minus 30°F . The total precipitation (melted snow) for the winter season was 1.43 inches, only 67% of normal (Table 1 and 2, Figures 1 and 2). The winter season snowfall total between December 1 and February 28 was 21 inches, normal is 31.6 inches.

December

December was warm and dry. The average monthly temperature was 8.6°F warmer than normal at 14.2°F. It was the 13th warmest December on record. It was much warmer than normal December 3-13 and again around Christmas, December 22-26. The total snowfall was 60% of normal with only 5.5 inches of total snowfall for the month. The water content of the snow was 0.37 inches.

January

January was much warmer than normal with near normal precipitation. The temperatures were well above normal for most of the month. On 19 of the 31 days in January the daily high temperatures were at or above freezing. It was the 10th warmest January on record, $\sim 14^{\circ}\text{F}$ warmer than normal. Precipitation (melted snow) was near normal at 0.57 inches,

but the snowfall total was 4 inches below normal at 5.5 inches. Indicating heavy wet snow or rain.

February

Temperatures moderated a bit in February but were still above normal while the precipitation for the month was only 69% of normal. February 1 was the coldest day of the month with a daily low temperature of -27°F (also the lowest temperature of the winter). The snowfall total was near normal with 9.5 inches.

Table 1. Denali Park HQ winter 2024-2025 average monthly temperatures compared to the 1991-2020 normal.

Winter 2024-2025	Average Monthly Temp ($^{\circ}\text{F}$)	1991-2020 Normal ($^{\circ}\text{F}$)	Departure from Normal ($^{\circ}\text{F}$)
December	14.2	5.6	+8.6
January	15.8	2.2	+13.6
February	10.5	9.3	+1.2

Winter Temperature Departure from normal: $+7.8^{\circ}\text{F}$

Table 2. Denali Park HQ winter 2024-2025 monthly snowfall totals compared to normal.

Winter 2024-2025	Total Monthly Precip. (in.)	1991-2020 Normal (in.)	Departure from Normal (in.)
December	0.37	0.83	-0.46
January	0.57	0.61	-0.04
February	0.49	0.71	-0.22

Winter Precipitation Departure from normal: -0.72 in. (67% of normal).

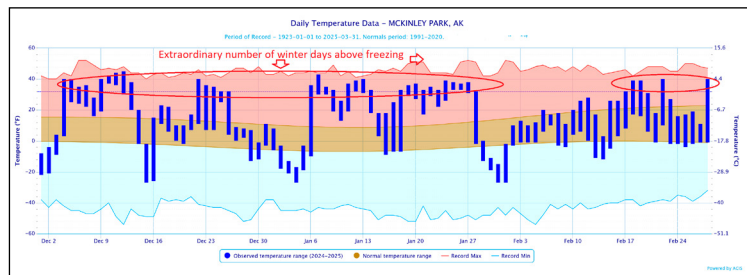


Figure 1. Winter 2024-2025 daily temperatures at Denali Park HQ showing record maximum (red), record minimum (blue), normal (brown) and observed range (blue bars). <http://xmaxis.rcc-acis.org/>

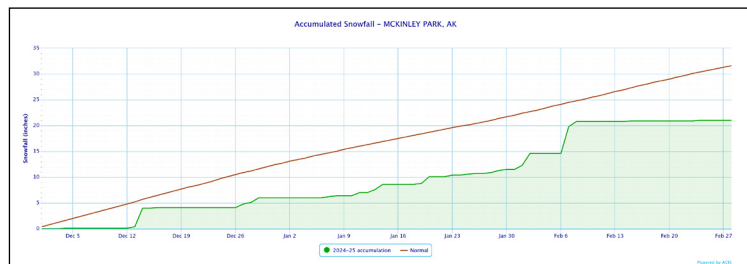


Figure 2. Winter 2024-2025 accumulated precipitation at Denali Park HQ (green) compared to normal (brown line). <http://xmaxis.rcc-acis.org/>

Winter in Talkeetna

Talkeetna had a warm wet winter. December and January were both much warmer than normal, while February was near normal. It was the 4th wettest January on record (with >100 years on record). Total precipitation for January was 4.38 inches, normal is 1.34 inches. It was a wet January statewide, but much of that precipitation fell as rain rather than snow in southern Alaska due to the warm winter temperatures (Figure 3). December and February were both drier than normal.

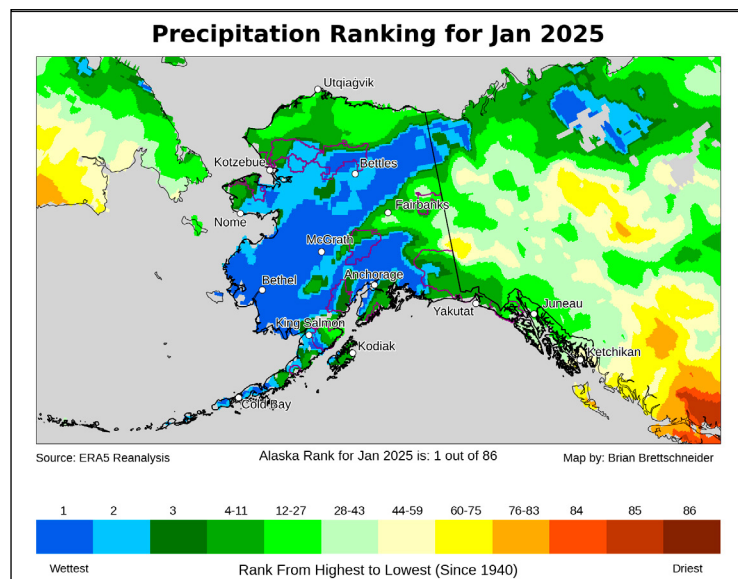


Figure 3. Precipitation ranking for Alaska. Dark blue indicates the wettest January on record.

Warm Winter at Toklat

This was the warmest winter in two decades at Toklat (Figure 4). The average winter temperature was 17.2°F which is eight degrees warmer than average. A remarkable 36 days

had daily high temperatures at or above freezing (32°F) between December 1 and February 28. There were five days in December with temperatures above 40°F.

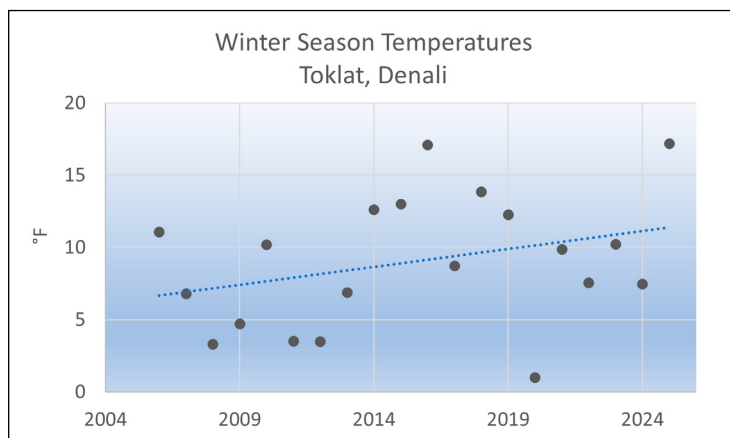


Figure 4. Average winter temperatures at Toklat 2006-2025.

Tokositna and Kantishna Snow

The Tokositna Snotel site on the south side of the Alaska Range had below normal snow water equivalent (SWE) until mid-January when a warm, wet storm system pushed through the region. Between January 19 and 27 the snow depth went from well below normal to above normal, increasing by about two feet. The snow water equivalent (melted snow) increased by 8 inches (Figure 5). The snow depth at Kantishna on the north side of the range was near normal through mid-January; after that there was little additional snow through the end of the winter season. On February 28 the snow depth was 18 inches, six inches shy of average.

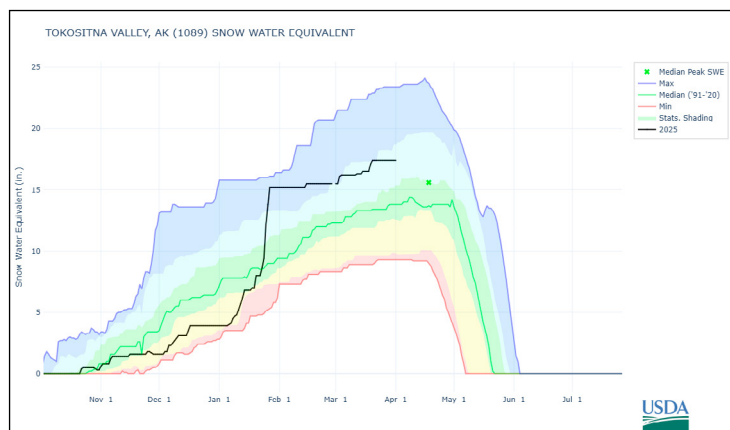


Figure 5. Tokositna Valley snow water equivalent October 1, 2024 through the end of March 2025 (black line).

More Information

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Current Weather in Denali

<https://www.nps.gov/im/cakn/climate.htm>

Data disclaimer: Please note that the near-real time data used to generate these reports is subject to change. QA/QC data from the NPS CAKN climate stations are available at [NPS Data Store](#)