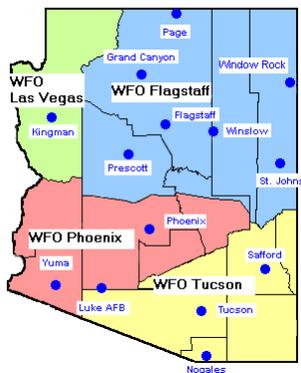


Who we are and what we do

The National Weather Service (NWS) is your local source for weather information. Our primary mission is to protect life and property through our watches, warnings, and advisories. We also provide accurate forecasts 24-hours per day, every day of the year directly to the public and through television, radio, and other media outlets. The National Weather Service collects and processes surface, upper-air, radar, satellite, and spotter data in order to accomplish our mission. We make this data available in support of private-sector weather providers as well. Whether you receive your weather information directly from us or through television, radio, or newspaper, it most likely began at the National Weather Service. The weather office in Flagstaff forecasts and warns for the following areas: Coconino, Apache, Navajo, northern Gila, and Yavapai counties - areas shaded in blue on the map below.



Arizona NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs). WFO Flagstaff shaded in blue.



Providing weather forecasts and warnings for the protection of life and property, and the enhancement of the national economy.

Sources for local weather information

NOAA's National Weather Service

- NOAA Weather Radio: Receivers available at many electronics stores.
Frequency of 162.400 MHz for Flagstaff
Other tuning frequencies for AZ listed at www.wrh.noaa.gov/fgz/office/nwr-freq.php?wfo=fgz
- NWS Flagstaff webpage: <http://weather.gov/flagstaff>
- Recorded Weather Message: (928)774-3301

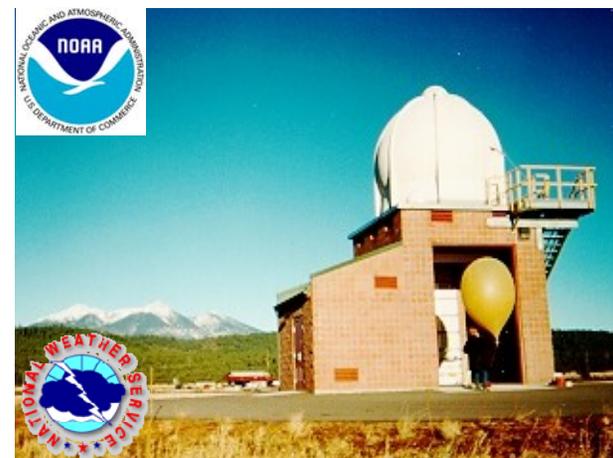
Other sources

- ADOT road conditions: (888) 411-7623 or 511

NOAA's National Weather Service
Flagstaff Weather Forecast Office
P.O. Box 16057
Bellemont, AZ 86015-6057

<http://weather.gov/flagstaff>
(928)556-9161

WEATHER INFORMATION FOR FLAGSTAFF & NORTHERN ARIZONA



Provided by
**NOAA's National
Weather Service
Flagstaff, AZ**

*Your local source
for accurate and
timely weather
warnings and
forecasts.*

Forecasts & weather info
available on the web at:
<http://weather.gov/flagstaff>



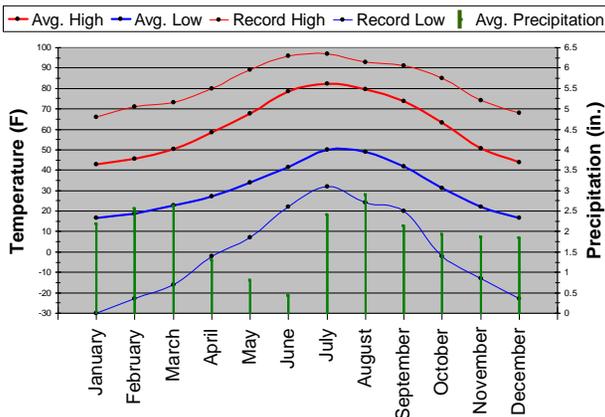
Climate of Flagstaff and Northern Arizona

Variability is the main feature of the climate of Northern Arizona. Northern Arizona's larger communities range in elevation from 3000' to 7000' and typically vary in temperature by 15 to 25 °F. Here in Flagstaff, our winters are moderately cold with occasional heavy snow storms. Nights can be extremely cold on clear nights between snow storms, but afternoons tend to be relatively mild. Spring frequently brings windy daytime weather. May and June are typically quite dry. During the first half of July, the monsoon begins to draw tropical moisture into the state, providing almost daily thunderstorms throughout the region into the latter half of summer. The monsoon rains generally wind down in September as a mini dry season begins for the fall. Flagstaff's coldest weather typically occurs by the beginning of January.

Flagstaff Weather Facts

- Annual average snowfall: 109.4"
- Greatest seasonal snowfall: 210.0" (1972-73)
- Greatest 24-hour snowfall: 31.0" (Dec. 30, 1915)
- Greatest storm total snowfall: 84.6" (Dec. 13-20, 1967)
- Annual average precipitation: 22.91"
- Greatest annual precipitation: 36.59" (1965)
- Least annual precipitation: 9.90" (1942)
- Highest temperature: 97 °F (Jul. 5, 1973)
- Lowest temperature: -30 °F (Jan. 22, 1937)

Flagstaff Climate Data



Climate information for additional cities available at: <http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/summary/climsmaz.html>

Frequently Asked Questions About Northern Arizona Weather

What is the monsoon and how does it affect Northern Arizona?

The monsoon is a seasonal shift in the winds from typically westerly during the winter and spring to southeasterly during the summer. The southeasterly winds carry moisture from the Gulf of California and the Gulf of Mexico into Arizona, resulting in numerous rain showers and thunderstorms. Sometimes these thunderstorms are erroneously called "monsoons".

How much snow does Flagstaff normally get each winter and when does it typically see its first snow?

Typical and normal are words not easily used to describe Northern Arizona winters. Seasonal snowfall totals can be quite erratic, varying from 11 to 210 inches since records began in 1898. The average snowfall is 109 inches*, but 25% of annual totals are 74 inches or below, and another 25% are 137 inches or above. The average date of the first accumulating snowfall is Oct. 11.

*Snowfall statistics based on 1971-2000 data

Do tornados occur in Northern Arizona?

Yes. There have been 27 confirmed tornado reports in Northern Arizona since 1995, or 2.7 per year. However, much of Northern Arizona is sparsely populated so this number is likely significantly underreported. If you add in unconfirmed tornado warnings when forecasters at NWS Flagstaff have spotted tornado signatures on radar, the number increases to 4.3 per year. Although tornados in Northern Arizona are fewer and typically less damaging than their Great Plains counterparts, they can strike anywhere and are always dangerous when they occur. NOAA's NWS is your only source for tornado and severe weather warnings.

What should I do in case of a flash flood?

Seek higher ground, never camp in a dry wash, and never attempt to cross flood water on foot or in a vehicle. Moving water with a depth as low as 6 inches can knock you off your feet and 1 to 2 feet of flowing water can sweep away most vehicles, including sport utility vehicles. Keep in mind that it is nearly impossible to judge the depth of flood water because surfaces and roadways underneath could be washed out.

More frequently asked questions can be found at the "Science Corner" section of our webpage at <http://weather.gov/flagstaff>

WEATHER SPOTTERS NEEDED!



Are you or a member of your family a weather nut? Do you live in Northern Arizona? Then you might be a great candidate to be one of our certified SKYWARN storm spotters. Our meteorologists rely on hazardous weather reports from our trained spotters to help provide timely and accurate weather warnings. So if you live in Coconino, Apache, Navajo, northern Gila, or Yavapai County, and you would like to become a weather spotter, call our telephone number during normal business hours or visit the "Spotter Information" link from our webpage for more information about the program.

<http://weather.gov/flagstaff>