



NOAA In Your State

■ Kansas ■

NOAA is an agency that enriches life through science. Our reach goes from the surface of the sun to the depths of the ocean floor as we work to keep citizens informed of the changing environment around them. From daily weather forecasts, severe storm warnings, and climate monitoring to fisheries management, coastal restoration and supporting marine commerce, NOAA’s products and services support economic vitality and affect more than one-third of America’s gross domestic product. NOAA’s dedicated scientists use cutting-edge research and high-tech instrumentation to provide citizens, planners, emergency managers and other decision makers with reliable information they need when they need it.

The following is a summary of NOAA facilities, staff, programs, or activities based in, or focused on, your state or territory: Starting with highlights, then by congressional districts and cities or towns, and then [statewide programs](#).

[A Snapshot of NOAA in Kansas](#)

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|--|----------------------|------|
| U.S. Climate Reference Network Stations | Oakley and Manhattan | KS-1 |
| NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps Payroll Unit | Topeka | KS-2 |
| NWS Center Weather Service Unit | Kansas City | KS-3 |

[Weather Forecast Offices](#)

| | |
|------------|------|
| Dodge City | KS-1 |
| Goodland | KS-1 |
| Topeka | KS-2 |
| Wichita | KS-4 |

[NWS Weather Forecast Offices \(WFO\)](#) are staffed around-the-clock every day and provide the best possible weather, water, and climate forecasts and warnings to residents of Kansas. Highly trained forecasters issue warnings and forecasts for events, including severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, winter storms, floods, and heat waves. This essential information is provided to the general public, media, emergency management and law enforcement officials, the aviation and marine communities, agricultural interests, businesses, and others. Information is disseminated in many ways, including through dedicated government channels, satellite, the Internet, and NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards. Forecasters also provide Impact-based Decision-Support Services (IDSS), both remotely and on-site, during critical emergencies, such as wildfires, floods, chemical spills, and for major recovery efforts. The WFO collects and disseminates precipitation, river, and rainfall data, and prepares local climatological data. Each WFO has a Warning Coordination Meteorologist who actively conducts outreach and educational programs, which helps build strong working relationships with local partners in emergency management, government, the media and academic communities. The WFO operates Automated Surface Observing Stations (ASOS), as well as the local Doppler Weather Radar, which provides critical information about current weather conditions. The radar data enables forecasters to issue warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and flash floods.

KS-1

Oakley and Manhattan

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS) and Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) - [U.S. Climate Reference Network](#)

The U.S. Climate Reference Network (USCRN) is an operationally viable research network of 135 climate stations that are deployed nationwide. Data from the USCRN are used in various climate monitoring activities and for placing current climate anomalies into an historical perspective. The USCRN provides the United States with a reference network that contributes to an International network under the auspices of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS).

KS-2

Topeka

Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO) - [NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps Payroll Unit](#)

The NOAA Corps Payroll Unit processes, updates and ensures that all aspects of officers' pay is handled as effectively and efficiently as possible from the time they enter the Corps until they are no longer on active duty. It is responsible for many pay processes, including but not limited to explaining the monthly Leave and Earnings Statement as necessary along with ensuring that the pay entitlements are correct based on an officer's duty location. The Unit is also responsible for processing the reporting of leave, verification of employment, and estimated earnings statements. The Payroll Unit processes all the entitlements through the Global Pay System located at the U.S. Coast Guard Pay and Personnel Center, in Topeka, Kansas. This relationship between NOAA and the U.S. Coast Guard has existed since 1985, with the NOAA Corps Payroll Unit being physically located onsite in Topeka, Kansas beginning in 1999.

KS-3

Kansas City

National Weather Service (NWS) - [Center Weather Service Unit](#)

Housed in the Federal Aviation Administration's Kansas City Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC), the NWS Center Weather Service Unit (CWSU) provides aviation forecasts and other weather information to ARTCC personnel for use in directing the safe, smooth flow of aviation traffic in most of Kansas, Missouri, central and southern Illinois, and northern Oklahoma.

Statewide

National Weather Service (NWS) - [Cooperative Observer Program Sites](#)

The National Weather Service (NWS) Cooperative Observer Program (COOP) is truly the Nation's weather and climate observing network of, by and for the people. The COOP was formally created in 1890 under the NWS Organic Act to provide observational meteorological data, usually consisting of daily maximum and minimum temperatures, snowfall, and 24-hour precipitation totals, required to define the climate of the United States and to help measure long-term climate changes, and to provide observational meteorological data in near real-time to support forecast, warning and other public service programs of the NWS. The data are also used by other federal (including the Department of Homeland Security), state and local entities, as well as private companies (such as the energy and insurance industries). In some cases, the data are used to make billions of dollars' worth of decisions. For example, the energy sector uses COOP data to calculate the Heating and Cooling Degree Days which are used to determine individuals' energy bills monthly. There are 366 COOP sites in Kansas.

National Weather Service (NWS) - [NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards Transmitters](#)

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service (NWS) forecast office. In conjunction with federal, state, and local emergency managers and other public officials, NWR also broadcasts warning and post-event information for all types of hazards – including natural (such as earthquakes or avalanches), environmental (such as chemical releases or oil spills), and public safety (such as AMBER alerts or 911 Telephone outages). Known as the "Voice of NOAA's National Weather Service," NWR is provided as a public service by the NWS. NWR includes 1,100 transmitters covering all 50 states, adjacent coastal waters, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Pacific Territories. There are 23 NWR transmitters in Kansas.

NOAA In Your State is managed by [NOAA's Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs](#) and maintained with information provided by NOAA's Line, Corporate, and Staff Offices. Questions about specific programs or offices should be directed to the NOAA Line, Corporate, or Staff Office listed.

More information for those offices may be found at [NOAA.gov](#).

NOAA In Your State

Kansas

NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

