texas_agriculture_eda

November 14, 2025

# 1 Texas Agriculture & Climate Data - EDA

## 1.1 Exploring patterns in crop yields and weather (2000-2023)

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**Course:** CS 4347 - Introduction to Machine Learning
**November 2025**

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This notebook explores our merged dataset combining USDA agricultural data with NOAA climate records for Texas. We're interested in understanding how weather patterns might affect crop production, which will inform our predictive modeling approach.

[17]:
```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns
```

## 1.2 Loading the data

[18]:
```
# Load our merged dataset
df = pd.read_csv("./texas_agriculture_with_climate_2000_2023.csv",␣
 ↪low_memory=False)

print(f"Dataset dimensions: {df.shape[0]:,} rows x {df.shape[1]} columns")
print(f"Total data points: {df.shape[0] * df.shape[1]:,} points")
```

```
Dataset dimensions: 398,204 rows x 120 columns
Total data points: 47,784,480 points
```

## 1.3 Understanding our features

The 120 columns break down into a few categories: - Agricultural metadata (crop types, measurement units, etc.) - Climate measurements (monthly temp/precip data) - Features we engineered (seasonal and annual aggregates)

[19]:
```
# Group columns by category for easier analysis later
usda_columns = [
    "SOURCE_DESC",
```

```python
    "SECTOR_DESC",
    "GROUP_DESC",
    "COMMODITY_DESC",
    "CLASS_DESC",
    "PRODN_PRACTICE_DESC",
    "UTIL_PRACTICE_DESC",
    "STATISTICCAT_DESC",
    "UNIT_DESC",
    "SHORT_DESC",
    "DOMAIN_DESC",
    "DOMAINCAT_DESC",
    "AGG_LEVEL_DESC",
]

location_columns = [
    "STATE_ANSI",
    "STATE_FIPS_CODE",
    "STATE_ALPHA",
    "STATE_NAME",
    "ASD_CODE",
    "ASD_DESC",
    "COUNTY_ANSI",
    "COUNTY_CODE",
    "COUNTY_NAME",
    "REGION_DESC",
    "ZIP_5",
    "WATERSHED_CODE",
    "WATERSHED_DESC",
    "CONGR_DISTRICT_CODE",
    "COUNTRY_CODE",
    "COUNTRY_NAME",
    "LOCATION_DESC",
    "COUNTY_FIPS",
]

temporal_columns = [
    "YEAR",
    "FREQ_DESC",
    "BEGIN_CODE",
    "END_CODE",
    "REFERENCE_PERIOD_DESC",
    "WEEK_ENDING",
    "LOAD_TIME",
]

# Monthly climate data
months = [
```

```
    "JAN",
    "FEB",
    "MAR",
    "APR",
    "MAY",
    "JUN",
    "JUL",
    "AUG",
    "SEP",
    "OCT",
    "NOV",
    "DEC",
]
precip_columns = [f"PRECIP_{m}" for m in months]
tmax_columns = [f"TMAX_{m}" for m in months]
tmin_columns = [f"TMIN_{m}" for m in months]
tavg_columns = [f"TAVG_{m}" for m in months]
cdd_columns = [f"CDD_{m}" for m in months]  # cooling degree days
hdd_columns = [f"HDD_{m}" for m in months]  # heating degree days

# Aggregated climate features we created
engineered_columns = [
    "GROWING_SEASON_PRECIP",
    "GROWING_SEASON_TEMP_AVG",
    "GROWING_SEASON_TEMP_MAX",
    "GROWING_SEASON_TEMP_MIN",
    "ANNUAL_PRECIP",
    "ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG",
    "ANNUAL_CDD",
    "ANNUAL_HDD",
]
```

### 1.4 Column breakdown

Let's see what we're actually working with:

[20]:
```
# Show what columns we have in each category
print("USDA AGRICULTURAL COLUMNS:")
print(f"({len([c for c in usda_columns if c in df.columns])} columns)")
for col in usda_columns:
    if col in df.columns:
        print(f"  - {col}")

print(f"\n\nLOCATION COLUMNS:")
print(f"({len([c for c in location_columns if c in df.columns])} columns)")
for col in location_columns:
    if col in df.columns:
```

```python
        print(f"  - {col}")

print(f"\n\nTIME COLUMNS:")
print(f"({len([c for c in temporal_columns if c in df.columns])} columns)")
for col in temporal_columns:
    if col in df.columns:
        print(f"  - {col}")

print(f"\n\nMONTHLY CLIMATE COLUMNS:")
climate_cols = (
    precip_columns
    + tmax_columns
    + tmin_columns
    + tavg_columns
    + cdd_columns
    + hdd_columns
)
monthly_count = len([c for c in climate_cols if c in df.columns])
print(f"({monthly_count} columns)")
print("  Sample columns:")
print(f"    Precipitation: {[c for c in precip_columns if c in df.columns][:3]} ...")
print(f"    Max Temp: {[c for c in tmax_columns if c in df.columns][:3]} ...")
print(f"    Min Temp: {[c for c in tmin_columns if c in df.columns][:3]} ...")
print(f"    Avg Temp: {[c for c in tavg_columns if c in df.columns][:3]} ...")
print(f"    Cooling Degree Days: {[c for c in cdd_columns if c in df.columns][:3]} ...")
print(f"    Heating Degree Days: {[c for c in hdd_columns if c in df.columns][:3]} ...")

print(f"\n\nENGINEERED CLIMATE FEATURES:")
print(f"({len([c for c in engineered_columns if c in df.columns])} columns)")
for col in engineered_columns:
    if col in df.columns:
        print(f"  - {col}")
```

```
USDA AGRICULTURAL COLUMNS:
(13 columns)
  - SOURCE_DESC
  - SECTOR_DESC
  - GROUP_DESC
  - COMMODITY_DESC
  - CLASS_DESC
  - PRODN_PRACTICE_DESC
  - UTIL_PRACTICE_DESC
  - STATISTICCAT_DESC
  - UNIT_DESC
```

```
  - SHORT_DESC
  - DOMAIN_DESC
  - DOMAINCAT_DESC
  - AGG_LEVEL_DESC


LOCATION COLUMNS:
(18 columns)
  - STATE_ANSI
  - STATE_FIPS_CODE
  - STATE_ALPHA
  - STATE_NAME
  - ASD_CODE
  - ASD_DESC
  - COUNTY_ANSI
  - COUNTY_CODE
  - COUNTY_NAME
  - REGION_DESC
  - ZIP_5
  - WATERSHED_CODE
  - WATERSHED_DESC
  - CONGR_DISTRICT_CODE
  - COUNTRY_CODE
  - COUNTRY_NAME
  - LOCATION_DESC
  - COUNTY_FIPS


TIME COLUMNS:
(7 columns)
  - YEAR
  - FREQ_DESC
  - BEGIN_CODE
  - END_CODE
  - REFERENCE_PERIOD_DESC
  - WEEK_ENDING
  - LOAD_TIME


MONTHLY CLIMATE COLUMNS:
(72 columns)
  Sample columns:
    Precipitation: ['PRECIP_JAN', 'PRECIP_FEB', 'PRECIP_MAR'] …
    Max Temp: ['TMAX_JAN', 'TMAX_FEB', 'TMAX_MAR'] …
    Min Temp: ['TMIN_JAN', 'TMIN_FEB', 'TMIN_MAR'] …
    Avg Temp: ['TAVG_JAN', 'TAVG_FEB', 'TAVG_MAR'] …
    Cooling Degree Days: ['CDD_JAN', 'CDD_FEB', 'CDD_MAR'] …
    Heating Degree Days: ['HDD_JAN', 'HDD_FEB', 'HDD_MAR'] …
```

```
ENGINEERED CLIMATE FEATURES:
(8 columns)
  - GROWING_SEASON_PRECIP
  - GROWING_SEASON_TEMP_AVG
  - GROWING_SEASON_TEMP_MAX
  - GROWING_SEASON_TEMP_MIN
  - ANNUAL_PRECIP
  - ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG
  - ANNUAL_CDD
  - ANNUAL_HDD
```

### 1.5 Missing data check

[21]:
```
# Check which columns have missing values
missing_data = pd.DataFrame(
    {
        "Column": df.columns,
        "Missing": df.isnull().sum().values,
        "Percent": (df.isnull().sum().values / len(df) * 100),
    }
)
missing_data = missing_data[missing_data["Missing"] > 0].sort_values(
    "Percent", ascending=False
)

print(f"Columns with missing data: {len(missing_data)}/{len(df.columns)}")
print(f"Total missing: {missing_data['Missing'].sum():,}")
print(
    f"Overall completeness: {100 - (missing_data['Missing'].sum() / (len(df) *␣
↪len(df.columns)) * 100):.1f}%"
)
print(f"\nTop columns with missing values:")
print(missing_data.head(10).to_string(index=False))
```

```
Columns with missing data: 88/120
Total missing: 3,348,024
Overall completeness: 93.0%

Top columns with missing values:
             Column  Missing    Percent
              ZIP_5   398204 100.000000
        REGION_DESC   398204 100.000000
CONGR_DISTRICT_CODE   398204 100.000000
     WATERSHED_DESC   398204 100.000000
        WEEK_ENDING   398204 100.000000
               CV_%   211970  53.231509
```

```
COUNTY_ANSI    14133   3.549186
 PRECIP_JAN    14133   3.549186
 PRECIP_SEP    14133   3.549186
 PRECIP_FEB    14133   3.549186
```

## 1.6 What's in the data?

[22]:
```python
# Quick look at the categorical variables
print(f"Counties covered: {df['COUNTY_NAME'].nunique()}")
print(f"Different crops: {df['COMMODITY_DESC'].nunique()}")
print(f"Statistic types: {df['STATISTICCAT_DESC'].nunique()}")

print(f"\nMost common crops:")
for crop, count in df["COMMODITY_DESC"].value_counts().head(5).items():
    print(f"  {crop}: {count:,} records")

print(f"\nTypes of measurements:")
for stat, count in df["STATISTICCAT_DESC"].value_counts().head(5).items():
    pct = count / len(df) * 100
    print(f"  {stat}: {count:,} ({pct:.1f}%)")
```

```
Counties covered: 256
Different crops: 165
Statistic types: 16

Most common crops:
  COTTON: 47,859 records
  WHEAT: 45,658 records
  SORGHUM: 27,754 records
  HAY: 22,679 records
  CORN: 21,495 records

Types of measurements:
  AREA HARVESTED: 166,318 (41.8%)
  PRODUCTION: 45,786 (11.5%)
  SALES: 32,474 (8.2%)
  AREA BEARING & NON-BEARING: 31,155 (7.8%)
  YIELD: 23,473 (5.9%)
```

## 1.7 Data types and climate features

[23]:
```python
# Distribution of data types
print("Data types:")
for dtype, count in df.dtypes.value_counts().items():
    print(f"  {str(dtype):15s}: {count:3d} columns")

# Summary stats for our engineered climate features
print("\n\nClimate feature ranges:")
```

```python
climate_stats = df[engineered_columns].describe().T
climate_stats["range"] = climate_stats["max"] - climate_stats["min"]
print(climate_stats[["min", "max", "mean", "std"]].round(2))
```

```
Data types:
  float64        :  90 columns
  object         :  24 columns
  int64          :   6 columns


Climate feature ranges:
                            min      max     mean     std
GROWING_SEASON_PRECIP      1.53    71.66    18.95    8.94
GROWING_SEASON_TEMP_AVG   67.15    85.70    77.32    3.31
GROWING_SEASON_TEMP_MAX   81.30    98.68    88.92    3.11
GROWING_SEASON_TEMP_MIN   52.68    76.05    65.70    4.26
ANNUAL_PRECIP              2.97    95.03    32.51   14.55
ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG           54.83    77.10    66.21    4.20
ANNUAL_CDD               923.00  4909.00  2630.56  679.48
ANNUAL_HDD               340.00  4929.00  2158.47  908.58
```

```
                            min      max     mean     std
GROWING_SEASON_PRECIP      1.53    71.66    18.95    8.94
GROWING_SEASON_TEMP_AVG   67.15    85.70    77.32    3.31
GROWING_SEASON_TEMP_MAX   81.30    98.68    88.92    3.11
GROWING_SEASON_TEMP_MIN   52.68    76.05    65.70    4.26
ANNUAL_PRECIP              2.97    95.03    32.51   14.55
ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG           54.83    77.10    66.21    4.20
ANNUAL_CDD               923.00  4909.00  2630.56  679.48
ANNUAL_HDD               340.00  4929.00  2158.47  908.58
```


### 1.8 Dataset overview

[24]:
```python
# Put together a comprehensive summary
print("=" * 70)
print("DATASET SUMMARY".center(70))
print("=" * 70)

print(f"\nSize:")
print(f"  {df.shape[0]:,} records × {df.shape[1]} features")
print(f"  Memory: {df.memory_usage(deep=True).sum() / (1024**2):.1f} MB")

print(f"\nFeature breakdown:")
print(f"  Agricultural: {len([c for c in usda_columns if c in df.columns])}")
print(f"  Location: {len([c for c in location_columns if c in df.columns])}")
print(f"  Time: {len([c for c in temporal_columns if c in df.columns])}")
monthly_climate = len(
    [
        c
```

```
        for c in precip_columns
        + tmax_columns
        + tmin_columns
        + tavg_columns
        + cdd_columns
        + hdd_columns
        if c in df.columns
    ]
)
print(f"  Monthly climate: {monthly_climate}")
print(
    f"  Engineered climate: {len([c for c in engineered_columns if c in df.
 ↪columns])}"
)

if "YEAR" in df.columns:
    print(f"\nTime coverage:")
    print(f"  {df['YEAR'].min()}-{df['YEAR'].max()} ({df['YEAR'].nunique()}␣
 ↪years)")

    # Check census year pattern
    year_counts = df["YEAR"].value_counts().sort_index()
    census_years = [2002, 2007, 2012, 2017, 2022]
    census_avg = year_counts[year_counts.index.isin(census_years)].mean()
    non_census_avg = year_counts[~year_counts.index.isin(census_years)].mean()
    print(f"  Census years avg: {census_avg:,.0f} records")
    print(f"  Other years avg: {non_census_avg:,.0f} records")

if "COUNTY_NAME" in df.columns:
    print(f"\nGeography:")
    print(f"  {df['COUNTY_NAME'].nunique()} counties")

if "COMMODITY_DESC" in df.columns:
    print(f"\nAgriculture:")
    print(f"  {df['COMMODITY_DESC'].nunique()} commodities tracked")

if "STATISTICCAT_DESC" in df.columns:
    print(f"  {df['STATISTICCAT_DESC'].nunique()} measurement types")

print(f"\nData quality:")
total_missing = df.isnull().sum().sum()
total_cells = df.shape[0] * df.shape[1]
print(f"  {100 - (total_missing/total_cells)*100:.1f}% complete")
print(f"  {len(missing_data)}/{len(df.columns)} columns have missing values")

print("=" * 70)
```

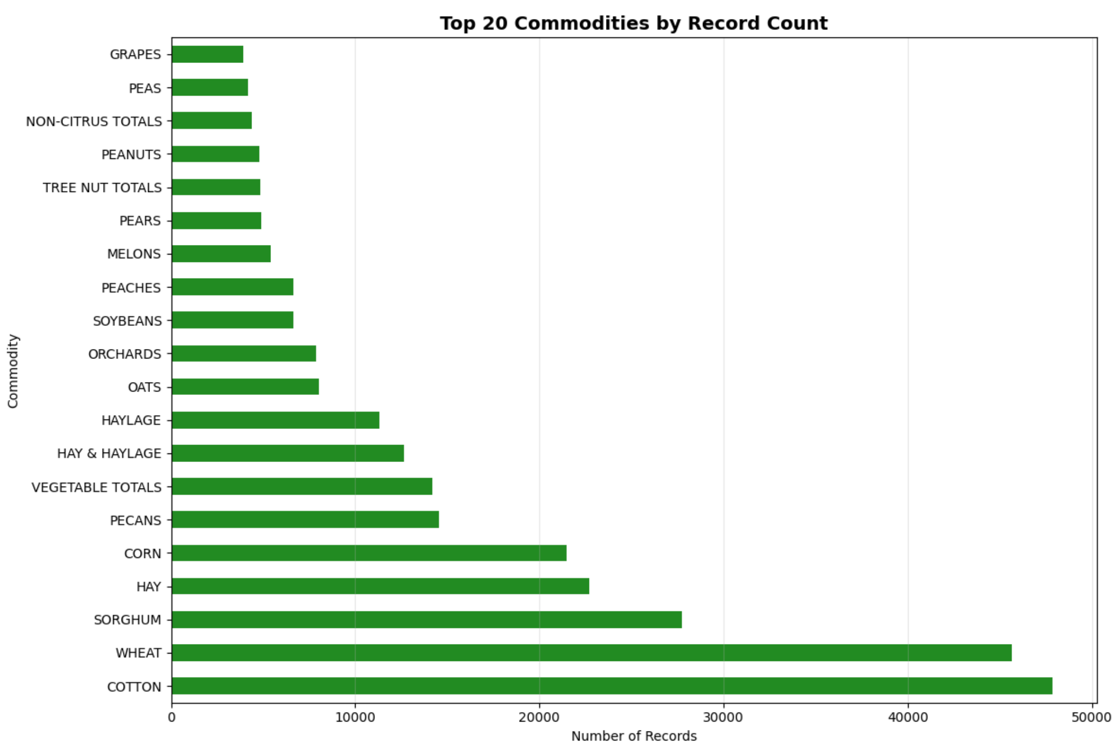
```
===========================================================================
                           DATASET SUMMARY
===========================================================================

Size:
  398,204 records × 120 features
  Memory: 842.9 MB

Feature breakdown:
  Agricultural: 13
  Location: 18
  Time: 7
  Monthly climate: 72
  Engineered climate: 8

Time coverage:
  2000-2023 (24 years)
  Census years avg: 62,236 records
  Other years avg: 4,580 records

Geography:
  256 counties

Agriculture:
  165 commodities tracked
  16 measurement types

Data quality:
  Memory: 842.9 MB

Feature breakdown:
  Agricultural: 13
  Location: 18
  Time: 7
  Monthly climate: 72
  Engineered climate: 8

Time coverage:
  2000-2023 (24 years)
  Census years avg: 62,236 records
  Other years avg: 4,580 records

Geography:
  256 counties

Agriculture:
  165 commodities tracked
  16 measurement types
```

```
Data quality:
  93.0% complete
  88/120 columns have missing values
======================================================================
  93.0% complete
  88/120 columns have missing values
======================================================================
```

## 1.9 Visualizations

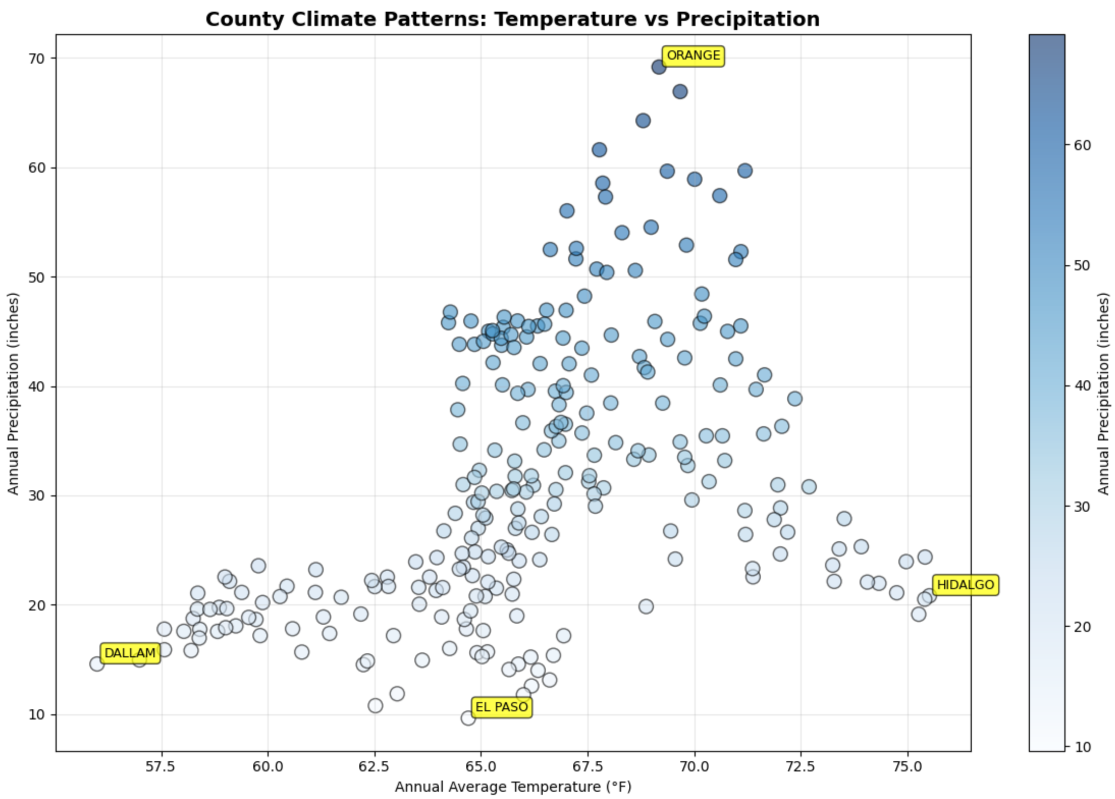
Let's look at what crops dominate the dataset:

[25]:
```python
# Top commodities in the dataset
plt.figure(figsize=(12, 8))
df["COMMODITY_DESC"].value_counts().head(20).plot(kind="barh",␣
↪color="forestgreen")
plt.title("Top 20 Commodities by Record Count", fontsize=14, fontweight="bold")
plt.xlabel("Number of Records")
plt.ylabel("Commodity")
plt.grid(axis="x", alpha=0.3)
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```



### 1.9.1 Geographic climate patterns

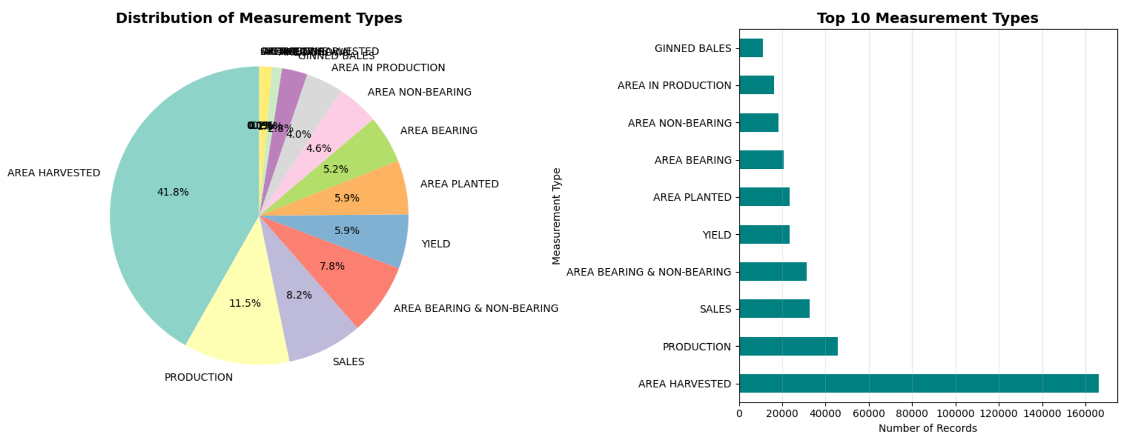
[26]:
```
# Scatter: precipitation vs temperature by county
county_climate = (
    df.groupby("COUNTY_NAME")[["ANNUAL_PRECIP", "ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG"]].mean().
 ↪dropna()
)

plt.figure(figsize=(12, 8))
plt.scatter(
    county_climate["ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG"],
    county_climate["ANNUAL_PRECIP"],
    alpha=0.6,
    s=100,
    c=county_climate["ANNUAL_PRECIP"],
    cmap="Blues",
    edgecolors="black",
)
plt.colorbar(label="Annual Precipitation (inches)")
plt.title(
    "County Climate Patterns: Temperature vs Precipitation",
    fontsize=14,
    fontweight="bold",
)
plt.xlabel("Annual Average Temperature (°F)")
plt.ylabel("Annual Precipitation (inches)")
plt.grid(True, alpha=0.3)

# Annotate a few extremes
wettest = county_climate.nlargest(1, "ANNUAL_PRECIP").index[0]
driest = county_climate.nsmallest(1, "ANNUAL_PRECIP").index[0]
hottest = county_climate.nlargest(1, "ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG").index[0]
coolest = county_climate.nsmallest(1, "ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG").index[0]

for county in [wettest, driest, hottest, coolest]:
    row = county_climate.loc[county]
    plt.annotate(
        county,
        (row["ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG"], row["ANNUAL_PRECIP"]),
        xytext=(5, 5),
        textcoords="offset points",
        fontsize=9,
        bbox=dict(boxstyle="round,pad=0.3", facecolor="yellow", alpha=0.7),
    )

plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```




### 1.9.2 What types of measurements do we have?

[27]:
```python
# Breakdown of statistic types
stat_counts = df["STATISTICCAT_DESC"].value_counts()

fig, (ax1, ax2) = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(15, 6))

# Pie chart
colors = plt.cm.Set3(range(len(stat_counts)))
ax1.pie(
    stat_counts.values,
    labels=stat_counts.index,
    autopct="%1.1f%%",
    startangle=90,
    colors=colors,
)
ax1.set_title("Distribution of Measurement Types", fontsize=14,␣
 ↪fontweight="bold")

# Bar chart for top 10
stat_counts.head(10).plot(kind="barh", ax=ax2, color="teal")
```

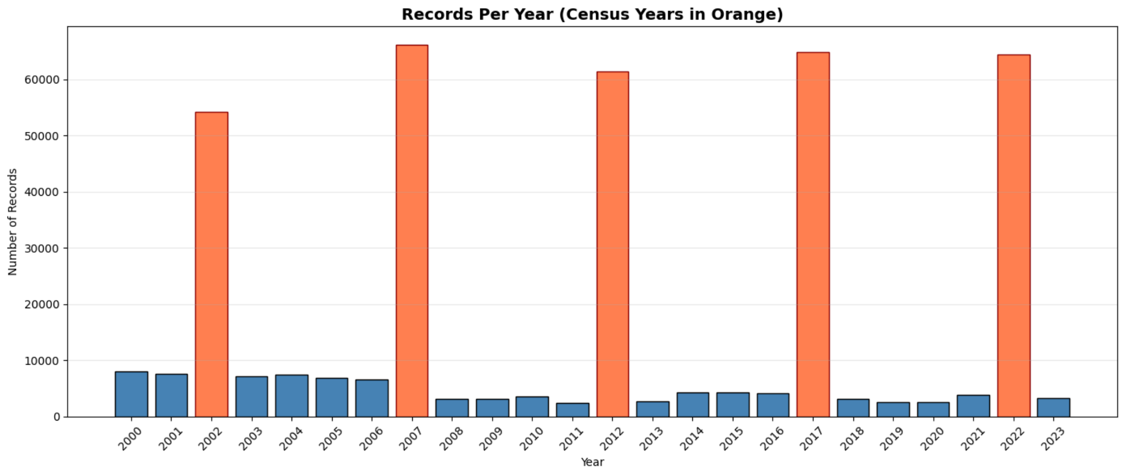
```
ax2.set_title("Top 10 Measurement Types", fontsize=14, fontweight="bold")
ax2.set_xlabel("Number of Records")
ax2.set_ylabel("Measurement Type")
ax2.grid(axis="x", alpha=0.3)

plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```




### 1.9.3 Data collection over time

[28]:
```
# Records per year - shows census year pattern
year_counts = df["YEAR"].value_counts().sort_index()
census_years = [2002, 2007, 2012, 2017, 2022]

plt.figure(figsize=(14, 6))
bars = plt.bar(
    year_counts.index, year_counts.values, color="steelblue", edgecolor="black"
)

# Highlight census years
for i, year in enumerate(year_counts.index):
    if year in census_years:
        bars[i].set_color("coral")
        bars[i].set_edgecolor("darkred")

plt.title("Records Per Year (Census Years in Orange)", fontsize=14,␣
↪fontweight="bold")
plt.xlabel("Year")
plt.ylabel("Number of Records")
plt.xticks(year_counts.index, rotation=45)
plt.grid(axis="y", alpha=0.3)
plt.tight_layout()
```

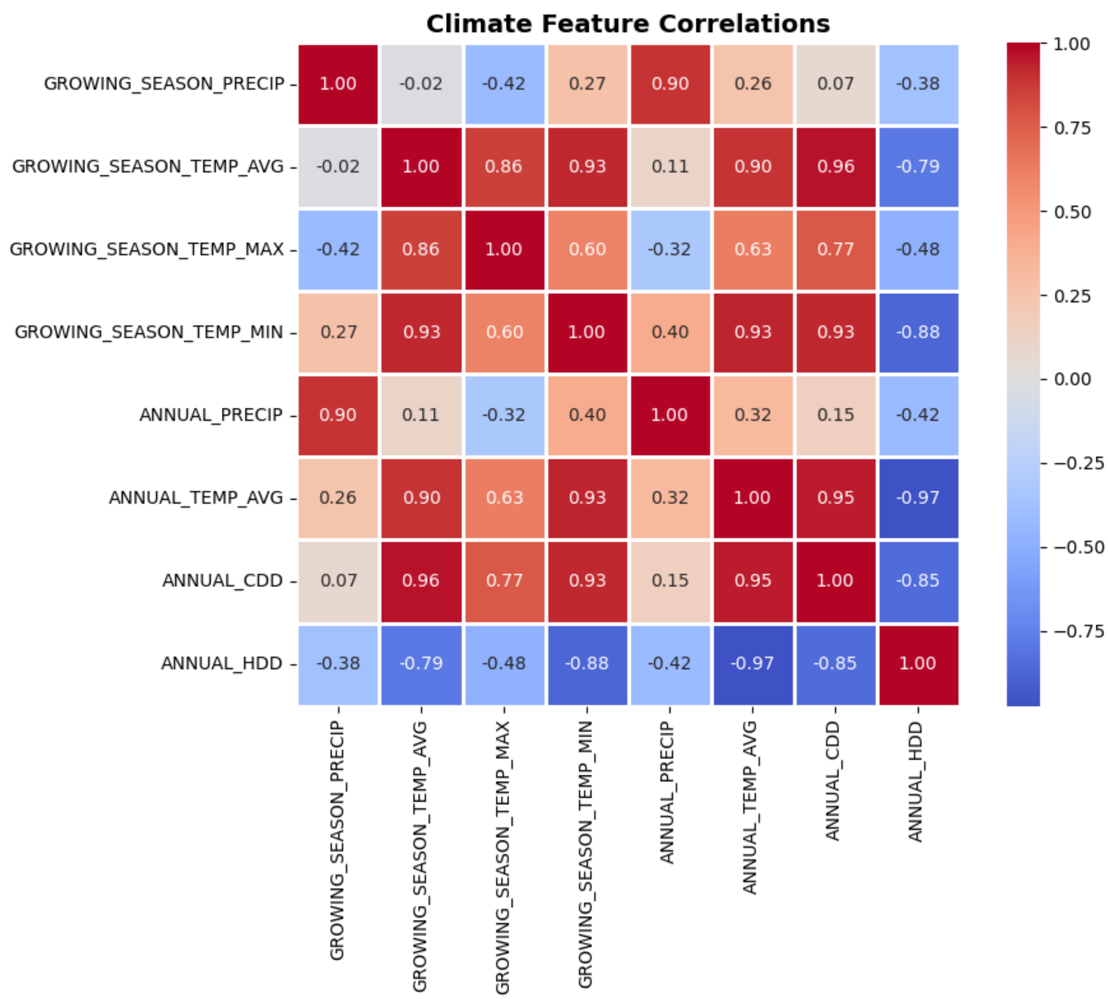
```
plt.show()

print(
    f"Census years have {census_avg/non_census_avg:.1f}x more records than␣
 ↪non-census years"
)
```




```
Census years have 13.6x more records than non-census years
```

### 1.9.4 How do climate features correlate?

[29]:
```python
# Correlation between our engineered climate features
climate_features = [col for col in engineered_columns if col in df.columns]
if len(climate_features) > 0:
    plt.figure(figsize=(10, 8))
    corr_matrix = df[climate_features].corr()
    sns.heatmap(
        corr_matrix,
        annot=True,
        fmt=".2f",
        cmap="coolwarm",
        center=0,
        square=True,
        linewidths=1,
    )
    plt.title("Climate Feature Correlations", fontsize=14, fontweight="bold")
    plt.tight_layout()
    plt.show()
```

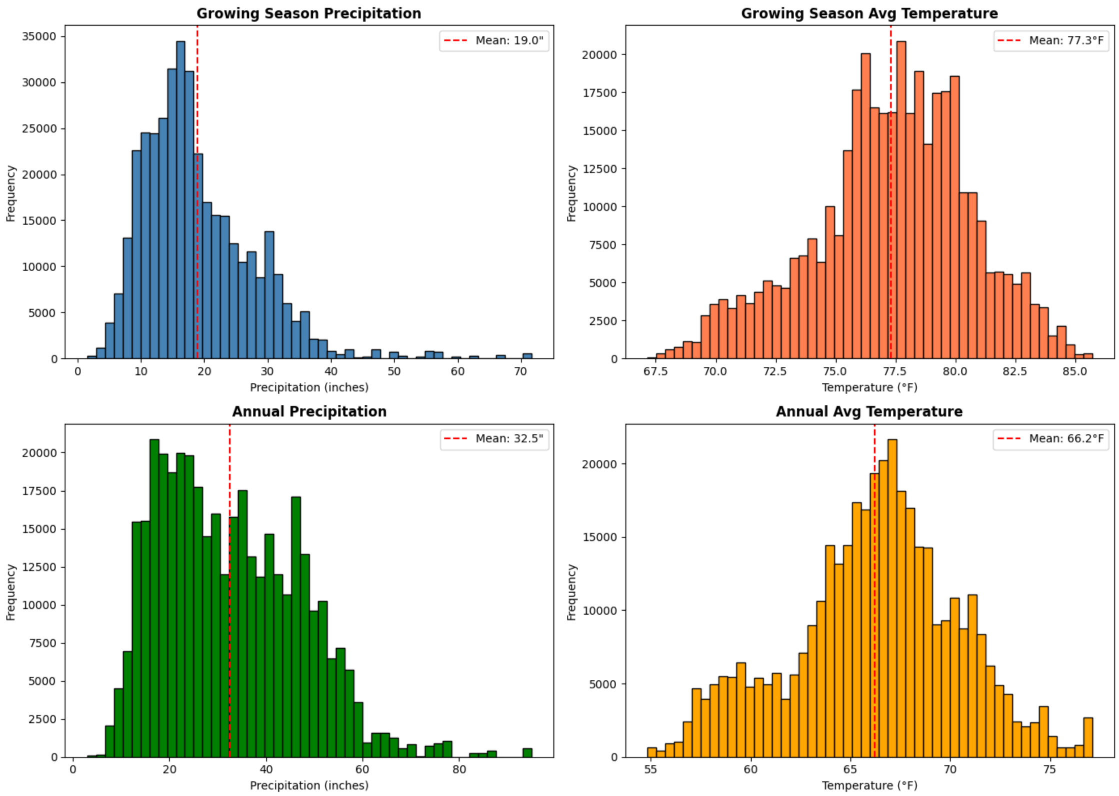



### 1.9.5 Climate variable distributions

[30]:
```
# Distribution plots for key climate variables
fig, axes = plt.subplots(2, 2, figsize=(14, 10))

# Growing season precip
axes[0, 0].hist(
    df["GROWING_SEASON_PRECIP"].dropna(), bins=50, color="steelblue",␣
  ↪edgecolor="black"
)
axes[0, 0].set_title("Growing Season Precipitation", fontweight="bold")
axes[0, 0].set_xlabel("Precipitation (inches)")
axes[0, 0].set_ylabel("Frequency")
mean_precip = df["GROWING_SEASON_PRECIP"].mean()
axes[0, 0].axvline(
    mean_precip, color="red", linestyle="--", label=f'Mean: {mean_precip:.1f}"'
```

```python
)
axes[0, 0].legend()

# Growing season temp
axes[0, 1].hist(
    df["GROWING_SEASON_TEMP_AVG"].dropna(), bins=50, color="coral", edgecolor="black"
)
axes[0, 1].set_title("Growing Season Avg Temperature", fontweight="bold")
axes[0, 1].set_xlabel("Temperature (°F)")
axes[0, 1].set_ylabel("Frequency")
mean_temp = df["GROWING_SEASON_TEMP_AVG"].mean()
axes[0, 1].axvline(
    mean_temp, color="red", linestyle="--", label=f"Mean: {mean_temp:.1f}°F"
)
axes[0, 1].legend()

# Annual precip
axes[1, 0].hist(df["ANNUAL_PRECIP"].dropna(), bins=50, color="green", edgecolor="black")
axes[1, 0].set_title("Annual Precipitation", fontweight="bold")
axes[1, 0].set_xlabel("Precipitation (inches)")
axes[1, 0].set_ylabel("Frequency")
mean_annual_precip = df["ANNUAL_PRECIP"].mean()
axes[1, 0].axvline(
    mean_annual_precip,
    color="red",
    linestyle="--",
    label=f'Mean: {mean_annual_precip:.1f}"',
)
axes[1, 0].legend()

# Annual temp
axes[1, 1].hist(
    df["ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG"].dropna(), bins=50, color="orange", edgecolor="black"
)
axes[1, 1].set_title("Annual Avg Temperature", fontweight="bold")
axes[1, 1].set_xlabel("Temperature (°F)")
axes[1, 1].set_ylabel("Frequency")
mean_annual_temp = df["ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG"].mean()
axes[1, 1].axvline(
    mean_annual_temp,
    color="red",
    linestyle="--",
    label=f"Mean: {mean_annual_temp:.1f}°F",
)
axes[1, 1].legend()
```

```
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```




### 1.9.6 Regional climate patterns

[31]:
```
# Average climate by county
county_climate = (
    df.groupby("COUNTY_NAME")[["ANNUAL_PRECIP", "ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG"]].mean().
 ↪dropna()
)

print("Wettest counties (annual precipitation):")
print(county_climate.nlargest(10, "ANNUAL_PRECIP")[["ANNUAL_PRECIP"]].round(1))

print("\n\nDriest counties:")
print(county_climate.nsmallest(10, "ANNUAL_PRECIP")[["ANNUAL_PRECIP"]].round(1))

print("\n\nHottest counties (annual avg temp):")
print(county_climate.nlargest(10, "ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG")[["ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG"]].
 ↪round(1))
```

```
print("\n\nCoolest counties:")
print(county_climate.nsmallest(10, "ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG")[["ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG"]].
    ↪round(1))
```

```
Wettest counties (annual precipitation):
             ANNUAL_PRECIP
COUNTY_NAME
ORANGE                69.1
JEFFERSON             66.9
HARDIN                64.2
NEWTON                61.6
GALVESTON             59.7
LIBERTY               59.6
CHAMBERS              58.9
JASPER                58.5
HARRIS                57.4
TYLER                 57.3


Driest counties:
             ANNUAL_PRECIP
COUNTY_NAME
EL PASO                9.6
HUDSPETH              10.8
REEVES                11.8
CULBERSON             11.9
LOVING                12.6
BREWSTER              13.1
WARD                  14.0
PRESIDIO              14.1
GAINES                14.5
PECOS                 14.6


Hottest counties (annual avg temp):
             ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG
COUNTY_NAME
HIDALGO                 75.5
CAMERON                 75.4
STARR                   75.4
ZAPATA                  75.3
WILLACY                 75.0
KENEDY                  74.7
BROOKS                  74.3
JIM HOGG                74.1
KLEBERG                 73.9
NUECES                  73.5
```

```
Coolest counties:
              ANNUAL_TEMP_AVG
COUNTY_NAME
DALLAM                   56.0
HARTLEY                  57.0
DEAF SMITH               57.6
SHERMAN                  57.6
PARMER                   58.0
OLDHAM                   58.2
CASTRO                   58.3
OCHILTREE                58.4
LIPSCOMB                 58.4
MOORE                    58.4
```

### 1.9.7 Does climate affect yields?

[32]:

```python
# Look at yield correlations for major crops
df["VALUE_numeric"] = pd.to_numeric(df["VALUE"], errors="coerce")

# Focus on yield stats for major crops
major_crops = ["COTTON", "WHEAT", "CORN", "SORGHUM"]
yield_data = df[
    (df["STATISTICCAT_DESC"] == "YIELD") & (df["COMMODITY_DESC"].
 ↪isin(major_crops))
].copy()

if len(yield_data) > 0:
    print("Correlation: Growing Season Precipitation vs Crop Yield")
    print("-" * 60)
    for crop in major_crops:
        crop_data = yield_data[yield_data["COMMODITY_DESC"] == crop]
        if len(crop_data) > 100:  # need enough data points
            corr = (
                crop_data[["GROWING_SEASON_PRECIP", "VALUE_numeric"]].corr().
 ↪iloc[0, 1]
            )
            print(f"{crop:12s}: {corr:6.3f}")

    print("\n\nCorrelation: Growing Season Temperature vs Crop Yield")
    print("-" * 60)
    for crop in major_crops:
        crop_data = yield_data[yield_data["COMMODITY_DESC"] == crop]
        if len(crop_data) > 100:
            corr = (
                crop_data[["GROWING_SEASON_TEMP_AVG", "VALUE_numeric"]]
```

```
                .corr()
                .iloc[0, 1]
            )
            print(f"{crop:12s}: {corr:6.3f}")

    print("\n(Values range -1 to 1: positive = yield increases with variable,")
    print(" negative = yield decreases with variable)")
else:
    print("Not enough yield data for correlation analysis")
```

```
Correlation: Growing Season Precipitation vs Crop Yield
------------------------------------------------------------
COTTON      :  0.239
WHEAT       :  0.164
CORN        : -0.166
SORGHUM     :  0.286


Correlation: Growing Season Temperature vs Crop Yield
------------------------------------------------------------
COTTON      : -0.102
WHEAT       : -0.115
CORN        : -0.704
SORGHUM     :  0.059

(Values range -1 to 1: positive = yield increases with variable,
 negative = yield decreases with variable)
```

### 1.10 Key Takeaways

**Dataset scope:** - ~398k records spanning 24 years (2000-2023) across all 256 Texas counties - 165 commodities tracked, but cotton, wheat, and sorghum dominate (top 5 crops = ~165k records) - Census years (every 5 years) have way more data - 62k avg vs 4.6k avg for other years

**Data quality:** - 93% complete overall - pretty good - Most missing values are in administrative fields (ZIP codes, regions, etc. are 100% missing) - Climate measurements are 96.5% complete

**Climate patterns we noticed:** - Temperature variables are highly correlated, which makes sense - Precipitation ranges from ~3 to 95 inches annually (mean: 32.5") - Clear regional differences: east Texas is wetter, south is hotter, west is drier - Correlations between climate and yields vary a lot by crop - corn really doesn't like heat (r = -0.70)

**For modeling:** - The strong temperature correlations suggest we could reduce dimensionality there - Definitely need to account for census year effects - that's a huge data imbalance - The climate outliers are real weather events (droughts, floods), not errors - keep them - Might need separate models for different statistic types since "Area Harvested" dominates (42%)