

It's difficult to say which weather hazard should claim top billing for April. Two late season freeze events made their pitch by battering the state's winter wheat crop and fruit orchards, primarily on the 15th and again on the 18th. Temperatures dropped into the 20s as far south as the Red River, with a bit of light snow falling across the western half of the state during the extended cold snap. Drought also made a bid for the top spot by threatening to spread from its confines in the far western Panhandle to a much broader area of western Oklahoma. Some locations barely had enough moisture to wet the topsoil, further damaging agricultural interests. A burn ban was implemented in Texas County due to extreme fire danger, a result of the dry conditions. Despite the impacts of those hazards, the winner of the headline battle went to the gold standard of Oklahoma's springtime hazards – severe weather. Four different storm systems brought violent weather to Oklahoma during April, including

event for the state's lowest reading. Hours spent below freezing ranged from 92 at Boise City to about an hour at several locations across the southeast. Six of the Mesonet's 120 stations failed to fall below freezing during April. The first four months of the year remained 1.9 degrees above normal at 49.3 degrees, the 20th warmest January-April on record.

The statewide average precipitation total finished at 2.69 inches to rank as the 43rd driest April on record at 0.57 inches below normal. Thirty-four Mesonet sites recorded at least 4 inches of rain for the month, with 13 of those seeing 5 inches or more. Clayton led the state with 9.01 inches. Twenty-seven sites saw an inch or less with Watonga bringing up the rear at 0.23 inches. The eastern quarter of the state had surpluses ranging from 1-3 inches for April, while parts of western and central Oklahoma suffered deficits of nearly 3 inches. West central Oklahoma's total of 0.83 inches was 1.58 inches

April 2020 Statewide Extremes

Description	Extreme	Station	Day
High Temperature	98°F	Altus	28
Low Temperature	19°F	Kenton	15
High Precipitation	9.01 in.	Clayton	--
Low Precipitation	0.23 in.	Watonga	--

hail from the size of golf balls up to softballs, damaging winds of over 80 mph, and at least 13 tornadoes. The worst of those twisters struck southern portions of Madill late on the afternoon of the 22nd, killing two and destroying at least a dozen homes and businesses. The tornado was rated as an EF2 by National Weather Service investigators. Another EF2 twister touched down in McCurtain County on the 28th. The two fatalities were the first in the state due to a tornado since May 25, 2019, in El Reno. The 13 confirmed tornadoes raised the preliminary 2020 total to 18. Average for January-April in Oklahoma is 16.5.

According to preliminary data from the Oklahoma Mesonet, the statewide average temperature for the month was 57.5 degrees, 1.8 degrees below normal to rank as the 28th coolest April since records began in 1895. Altus recorded the month's highest temperature of 98 degrees on the 28th. Kenton dropped to 19 degrees during the April 15 freeze

April 2020 Statewide Statistics

Temperature

	Average	Depart.	Rank (1895-2020)
Month (April)	57.5°F	-1.8°F	28th Coolest
Season-to-Date (Mar-Apr)	56.5°F	1.7°F	29th Warmest
Year-to-Date (Jan-Apr)	49.3°F	1.9°F	20th Warmest

Precipitation

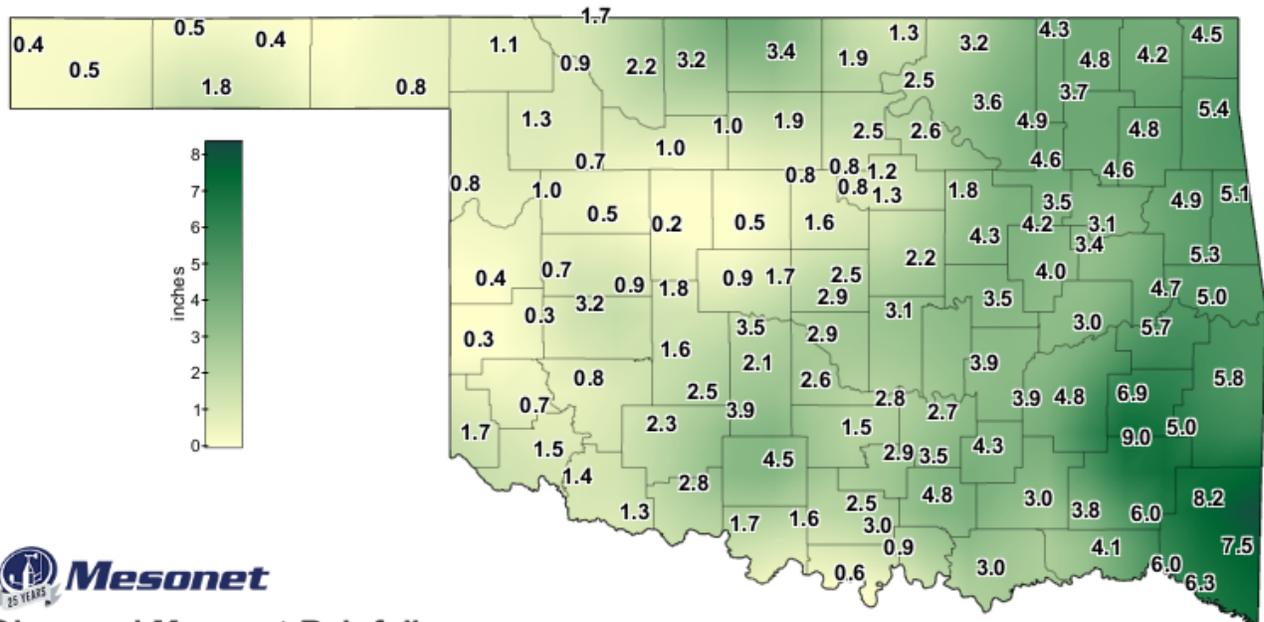
	Total	Depart.	Rank (1895-2020)
Month (April)	2.69 in.	-0.57 in.	43rd Driest
Season-to-Date (Mar-Apr)	7.74 in.	1.44 in.	22nd Wettest
Year-to-Date (Jan-Apr)	13.16 in.	3.47 in.	10th Wettest

Depart. = departure from 30-year normal

below normal to rank as their 13th driest on record, while the southeast saw their 32nd wettest at 6.22 inches, 1.74 inches above normal. The January-April statewide average was 13.16 inches, 3.47 inches above normal to rank as the 10th wettest on record.

The persistent moderate to severe drought conditions across the western Panhandle expanded slightly eastward during April, but the amount of “abnormally dry” conditions – signifying areas in danger of drought – increased from 4% at the end of March to 14% at the end of April. The new areas were contained entirely within the western half of the state. The May temperature and precipitation outlooks from the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) don’t hold much hope for alleviating the dry areas of western Oklahoma. Greatly increased odds of above normal temperatures are indicated for far western Oklahoma, with increased odds for above normal precipitation confined to the eastern two-thirds of the state. The increased heat would exacerbate the loss of soil moisture across western Oklahoma, possibly intensifying and expanding the current drought conditions. CPC’s May Drought Outlook reflects that thinking with the western one-quarter of Oklahoma expected to see drought development through the month.

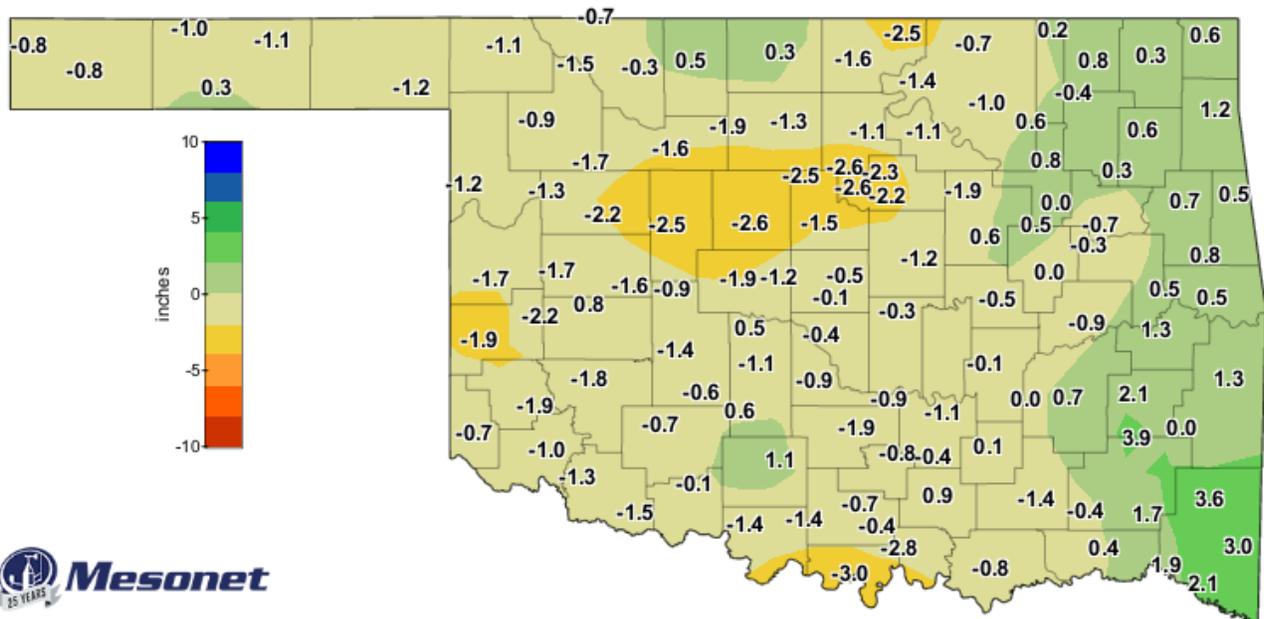
APRIL 2020 OBSERVED PRECIPITATION



Observed Mesonet Rainfall
Calendar Month to Date

Apr 1, 2020 through Apr 30, 2020
Created 12:01:10 PM May 1, 2020 UTC. Copyright 2020

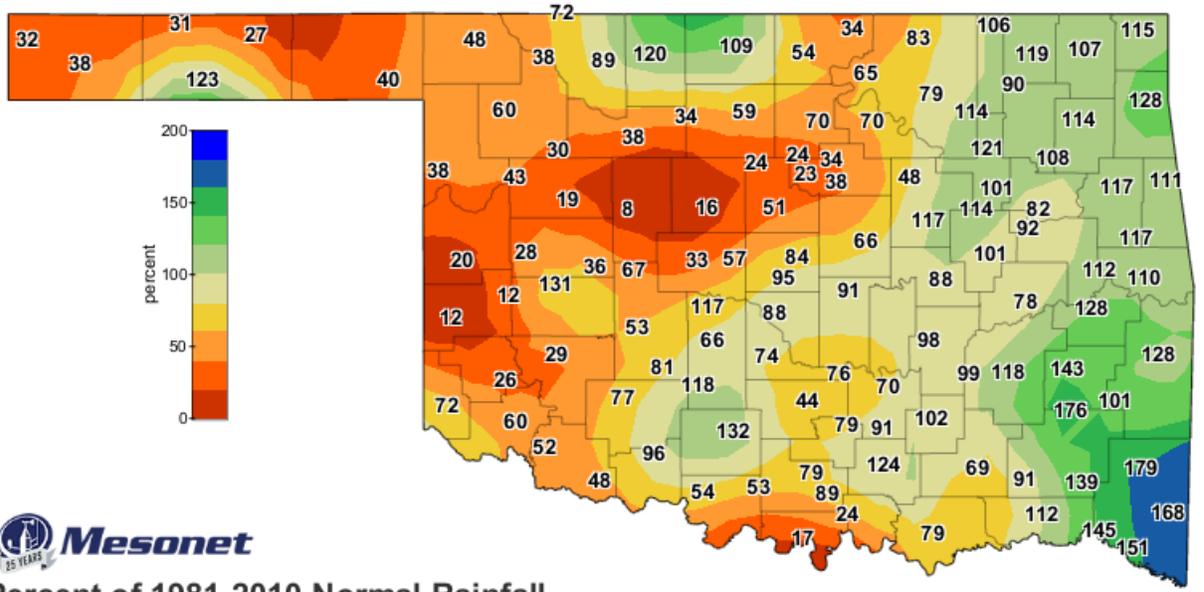
APRIL 2020 DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL PRECIPITATION



Departure from 1981-2010 Normal Rainfall
Calendar Month to Date

Apr 1, 2020 through Apr 30, 2020
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APRIL 2020 PERCENT OF NORMAL PRECIPITATION



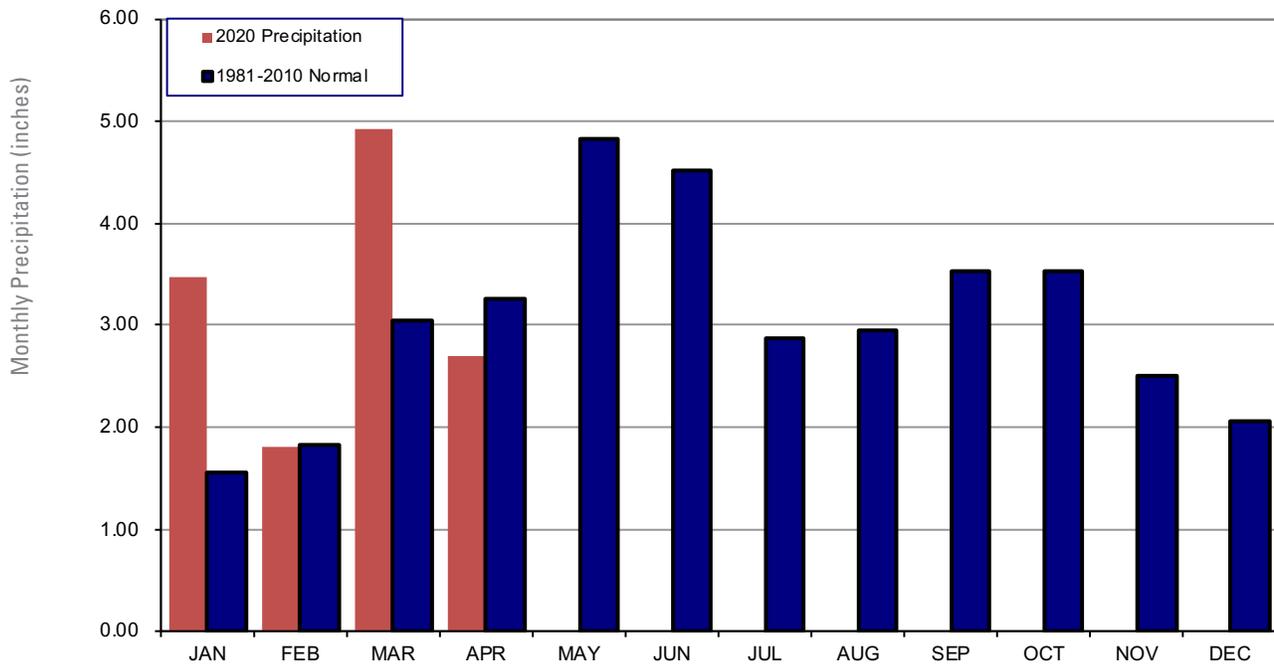
Percent of 1981-2010 Normal Rainfall
Calendar Month to Date

Apr 1, 2020 through Apr 30, 2020
Created 12:01:08 PM May 1, 2020 UTC. Copyright 2020

MESONET MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR APRIL 2020

NAME	MEAN TEMP	HIGH TEMP	LOW TEMP	DAY	HDD	CDD	TOT PPT	HIGH 24-HR	DAY	NAME	MEAN TEMP	HIGH TEMP	LOW TEMP	DAY	HDD	CDD	TOT PPT	HIGH 24-HR	DAY		
PANHANDLE																					
Arnett	56.8	92	7	26	4	280	33	.75	.19	19	Goodwell	54.1	89	30	22	3	330	4	1.80	1.66	22
Beaver	55.9	90	30	25	4	****	****	*****	*****	***	Hooker	53.7	93	30	23	15	343	4	.41	.26	22
Boise City	52.3	92	30	20	3	385	5	.49	.24	21	Kenton	52.8	92	30	19	15	374	7	.38	.23	21
Buffalo	56.1	89	30	24	4	287	22	1.05	.90	22	Slapout	56.1	89	30	25	4	292	26	.76	.51	22
Eva	53.1	94	30	20	3	363	5	.45	.31	22											
NORTH CENTRAL																					
Alva	56.3	89	7	27	4	281	21	2.16	1.97	22	May Ranch	56.4	89	7	25	4	287	30	1.65	1.23	22
Blackwell	56.5	89	8	29	3	273	19	1.88	1.47	22	Medford	56.1	87	8	29	3	284	18	3.37	2.88	22
Breckinridge	56.7	88	28	28	15	274	26	1.86	1.60	22	Newkirk	56.9	91	8	29	3	269	25	1.31	.72	22
Cherokee	56.5	89	7	27	4	278	23	3.23	3.06	22	Red Rock	57.2	89	8	31	3	262	29	2.48	1.85	22
Fairview	57.3	89	7	28	4	261	29	1.00	.81	22	Seiling	56.9	91	7	27	3	269	27	.73	.58	22
Freedom	56.4	89	7	26	4	284	27	.88	.73	22	Woodward	57.3	92	7	26	4	267	36	1.30	1.07	22
Lahoma	55.9	87	28	27	15	291	17	1.00	.91	22											
NORTHEAST																					
Bixby	58.9	94	8	30	18	224	40	3.52	1.24	22	Pawnee	58.0	91	8	30	18	245	33	2.58	1.95	22
Burbank	56.8	90	8	28	18	270	24	2.52	1.87	22	Porter	58.4	92	8	31	18	231	34	3.07	.92	22
Copan	57.1	88	8	30	18	262	23	4.30	1.66	22	Pryor	57.1	89	8	28	18	259	22	4.80	1.74	22
Foraker	56.5	89	8	28	18	275	20	3.24	1.67	22	Skiatook	57.9	91	8	33	3	239	27	4.86	2.44	22
Inola	57.3	90	8	28	18	257	25	4.63	1.36	22	Talala	57.4	89	8	29	18	252	25	3.67	1.41	22
Jay	56.0	87	8	28	18	293	21	5.41	1.59	22	Tulsa	58.8	91	8	31	18	221	36	4.60	2.16	22
Miami	56.2	85	8	31	18	283	18	4.50	1.58	22	Vinita	56.2	87	8	27	18	280	17	4.22	1.24	22
Nowata	56.4	88	8	26	18	277	19	4.79	1.48	22	Wynona	57.9	92	8	30	18	241	30	3.63	2.15	22
WEST CENTRAL																					
Bessie	58.1	91	28	29	3	247	38	3.21	2.32	21	Erick	57.7	92	28	27	15	250	30	.26	.13	14
Butler	58.6	93	28	26	15	234	42	.67	.33	21	Putnam	56.5	89	7	27	3	280	26	.51	.31	22
Camargo	56.3	92	7	22	15	283	23	.99	.60	22	Watonga	56.5	90	28	28	3	284	29	.23	.20	22
Cheyenne	58.1	89	7	28	3	251	45	.43	.23	21	Weatherford	56.6	90	28	26	15	279	28	.87	.68	22
Elk City	58.8	93	28	28	15	233	48	.29	.13	21											
CENTRAL																					
Acme	57.8	89	8	30	15	247	31	3.86	1.54	12	Norman	57.9	91	8	31	15	247	34	2.91	1.08	21
Bristow	57.6	92	8	28	18	252	29	4.25	1.39	22	Oilton	57.6	92	8	27	18	255	31	1.78	1.06	22
Lake Carl Blac	56.9	89	8	29	18	269	25	.82	.45	22	OKC East	58.0	90	8	31	3	246	36	2.88	1.11	11
Chandler	58.8	94	8	29	18	233	46	2.22	.86	22	Okemah	57.8	92	8	28	15	248	34	3.45	1.54	22
Chickasha	58.4	94	8	30	15	236	37	2.14	.72	11	Perkins	57.7	87	7	30	18	252	34	1.32	.90	22
El Reno	56.5	90	28	26	15	284	29	.92	.38	22	Seminole	58.9	92	8	31	15	226	43	2.78	1.63	22
Guthrie	57.6	87	7	30	3	254	33	1.60	1.00	22	Shawnee	58.4	92	8	32	15	237	40	3.13	.76	12
Kingfisher	56.8	90	28	27	15	271	24	.50	.31	22	Spencer	58.1	90	8	30	3	245	39	2.54	1.00	22
Marena	57.3	88	7	29	18	264	31	.79	.61	22	Stillwater	57.8	91	8	30	18	249	34	1.19	.80	22
Minco	57.2	90	8	28	15	266	31	3.49	1.73	21	Washington	58.2	91	8	30	15	240	35	2.59	.81	11
Marshall	56.5	87	28	28	15	277	23	.80	.70	22	Yukon	57.7	89	8	30	3	253	35	1.66	.76	11
EAST CENTRAL																					
Cookson	56.4	89	8	28	18	281	22	5.27	1.30	12	Sallisaw	57.9	91	8	30	15	235	24	5.03	1.23	3
Eufaula	58.9	93	8	32	15	221	39	3.02	1.12	22	Stigler	58.1	92	8	29	18	235	29	5.72	1.18	12
Haskell	57.7	91	8	28	18	246	27	3.42	.99	22	Stuart	59.1	94	8	30	15	224	47	3.91	1.45	22
Hectorville	58.5	91	8	31	18	229	35	4.15	1.14	22	Tahlequah	56.4	89	8	27	18	280	22	4.86	1.07	22
Holdenville	58.5	93	8	30	15	237	42	3.85	1.24	22	Webbers Falls	59.1	92	8	33	18	207	30	4.66	1.54	22
McAlester	58.7	94	8	28	15	232	42	4.76	1.81	22	Westville	55.9	88	8	28	15	293	19	5.12	1.79	12
Okmulgee	57.7	92	8	28	18	250	33	4.03	1.66	22											
SOUTHWEST																					
Altus	59.7	98	28	29	15	208	50	1.46	1.03	11	Hollis	59.2	96	28	29	15	213	39	1.66	1.52	11
Apache	57.8	91	8	30	3	247	31	2.54	.99	11	Mangum	58.3	97	28	23	15	239	37	.68	.50	11
Fort Cobb	57.8	91	28	27	15	248	32	1.56	.76	21	Medicine Park	58.8	90	8	31	3	227	41	2.26	1.41	11
Grandfield	59.5	91	28	31	15	200	36	1.33	.71	12	Tipton	59.7	94	28	29	15	199	41	1.36	.83	11
Hinton	56.5	87	8	28	3	279	25	1.76	1.48	21	Walters	59.7	89	28	31	15	196	38	2.76	1.38	12
Hobart	58.4	94	28	28	15	236	37	.75	.47	21											
SOUTH CENTRAL																					
Ada	58.6	93	8	30	15	234	41	2.69	1.59	22	Lane	59.3	91	8	29	15	211	40	3.02	.91	22
Ardmore	60.7	91	8	31	15	184	56	3.00	1.77	22	Madill	60.1	92	8	27	15	202	54	.89	.32	12
Burneyville	60.4	93	8	27	15	194	56	.61	.33	3	Newport	60.2	90	8	30	15	192	49	2.54	1.34	22
Byars	58.9	91	8	31	15	223	40	2.82	1.91	22	Pauls Valley	59.7	94	8	29	15	204	44	1.50	.51	11
Centrahoma	59.0	94	8	29	15	222	43	4.34	1.90	11	Ringling	60.1	88	28	28	15	194	45	1.58	.65	11
Durant	60.3	90	8	32	15	187	47	3.03	1.14	12	Sulphur	58.7	91	8	27	15	226	37	2.92	.88	11
Fittstown	58.3	91	8	27	15	238	36	3.48	1.56	11	Tishomingo	59.0	91	8	29	15	217	38	4.81	3.06	22
Ketchum Ranch	59.8	88	8	28	15	196	41	4.50	1.68	21	Waurika	61.2	91	28	28	15	172	57	1.65	.83	3
SOUTHEAST																					
Antlers	58.9	91	8	29	15	217	32	3.80	.83	4	Mt Herman	58.5	89	8	30	15	216	22	8.18	1.64	12
Broken Bow	59.9	90	8	33	15	178	24	7.47	2.02	22	Talihina	58.6	92	8	28	15	218	25	4.97	1.28	22
Clayton	58.8	93	8	32	15	218	33	9.01	2.76	22	Valliant	59.4	88	8	31	15	196	28	5.99	1.71	22
Cloudy	58.9	90	8	30	15	209	26	6.02	1.47	12	Wilburton	58.5	93	8	29	15	225	31	6.88	2.21	22
Hugo	60.3	90	8	33	15	184	44	4.09	.92	22	Wister	57.8	90	8	30	18	236	19	5.76	1.67	22
Idabel	59.7	88	8	34	15	****	****	6.23	1.12	4											

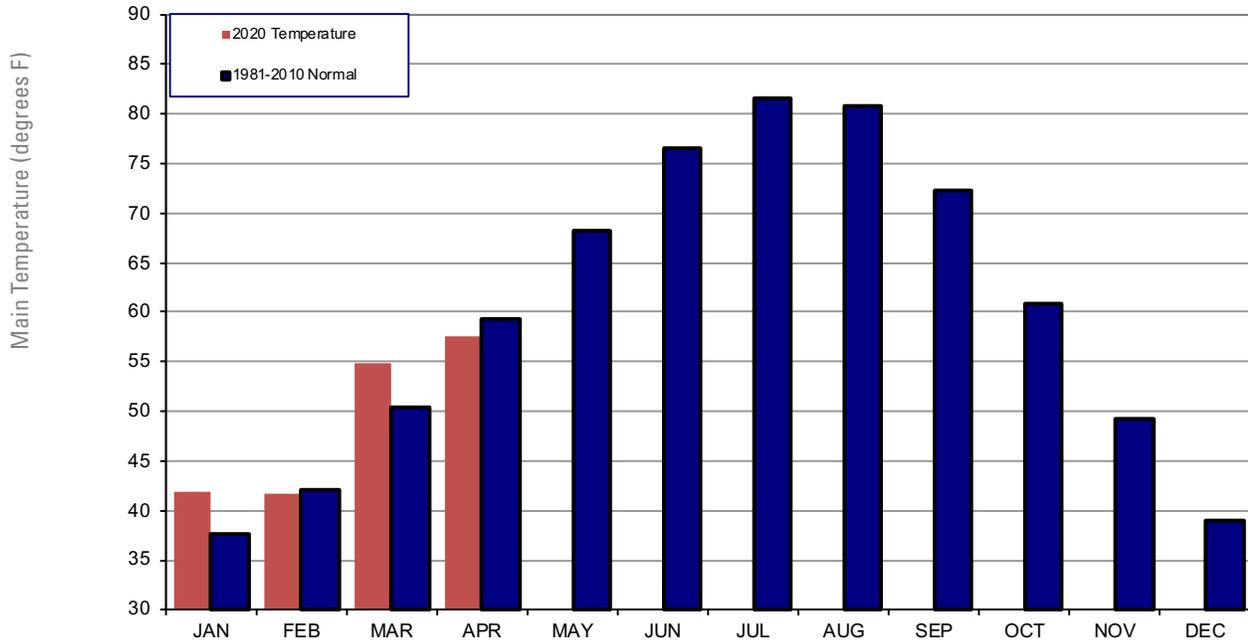
2020 STATEWIDE PRECIPITATION MONTHLY TOTALS VS. NORMAL



April 2020 Mesonet Precipitation Comparison

Climate Division	Precipitation (inches)	Departure from Normal (inches)	Rank since 1895	Wettest on Record (Year)	Driest on Record (Year)	Apr-19 (inches)
Panhandle	0.76	-0.90	25th Driest	5.31 (1900)	0.02 (1935)	0.84
North Central	1.76	-1.06	33rd Driest	7.14 (1999)	0.47 (2014)	2.63
Northeast	4.02	-0.05	56th Wettest	10.82 (2017)	0.22 (1989)	3.63
West Central	0.83	-1.58	13th Driest	8.43 (1997)	0.16 (1996)	3.90
Central	2.16	-1.19	31st Driest	9.37 (1942)	0.28 (1989)	4.52
East Central	4.45	0.22	54th Wettest	11.32 (1957)	0.74 (1989)	5.15
Southwest	1.65	-0.98	37th Driest	7.53 (1997)	0.14 (1989)	4.92
South Central	2.71	-0.91	40th Driest	11.33 (1942)	0.40 (1903)	4.01
Southeast	6.22	1.74	32nd Wettest	12.81 (1957)	0.80 (1987)	6.06
Statewide	2.69	-0.57	43rd Driest	8.32 (1942)	0.55 (1989)	3.90

2020 STATEWIDE TEMPERATURE MONTHLY TOTALS VS. NORMAL



April 2020 Mesonet Temperature Comparison

Climate Division	Average Temp (F)	Departure from Normal (F)	Rank since 1895	Hottest on Record (Year)	Coldest on Record (Year)	Apr-19 (F)
Panhandle	54.1	-1.2	41st Coolest	62.1 (1946)	48.8 (1983)	56.6
North Central	56.7	-1.0	44th Coolest	64.4 (1981)	50.4 (1983)	58.5
Northeast	57.3	-1.7	38th Coolest	65.7 (1954)	52.5 (1983)	60.6
West Central	57.2	-1.2	41st Coolest	65.1 (2006)	52.2 (1983)	59.2
Central	57.7	-2.2	23rd Coolest	66.9 (2006)	53.6 (1983)	61.4
East Central	58.0	-2.4	18th Coolest	67.8 (1896)	54.5 (1907)	62.0
Southwest	58.7	-1.9	24th Coolest	67.6 (2006)	54.9 (1997)	61.5
South Central	59.6	-2.1	21st Coolest	68.8 (1925)	56.2 (2018)	61.9
Southeast	58.7	-1.9	19th Coolest	66.7 (2006)	55.3 (1983)	61.3
Statewide	57.5	-1.8	28th Coolest	65.8 (2006)	53.2 (1983)	60.3

MESONET EXTREMES FOR APRIL 2020

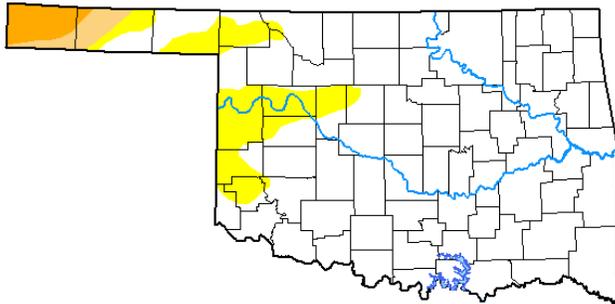
Climate Division	High Temp (F)	Day	Station	Low Temp (F)	Day	Station	High Monthly Rainfall (inches)	Station	High Daily Rainfall (inches)	Day	Station
Panhandle	94	30th	Eva	19	15th	Kenton	1.80	Goodwell	1.66	22nd	Goodwell
North Central	92	7th	Woodward	25	4th	May Ranch	3.37	Medford	3.06	22nd	Cherokee
Northeast	94	8th	Bixby	26	18th	Nowata	5.41	Jay	2.44	22nd	Skiatook
West Central	93	28th	Butler	22	15th	Camargo	3.21	Bessie	2.32	21st	Bessie
Central	94	8th	Chandler	26	15th	El Reno	4.25	Bristow	1.73	21st	Minco
East Central	94	8th	McAlester	27	18th	Tahlequah	5.72	Stigler	1.81	22nd	McAlester
Southwest	98	28th	Altus	23	15th	Mangum	2.76	Walters	1.52	11th	Hollis
South Central	94	8th	Centrahoma	27	15th	Sulphur	4.81	Tishomingo	3.06	22nd	Tishomingo
Southeast	93	8th	Clayton	28	15th	Talihina	9.01	Clayton	2.76	22nd	Clayton
Statewide	98	28th	Altus	19	15th	Kenton	9.01	Clayton	3.06	22nd	Cherokee

Oklahoma Climate Divisions



U.S. Drought Monitor Oklahoma

April 28, 2020
(Released Thursday, Apr. 30, 2020)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	85.96	14.04	3.94	2.27	0.00	0.00
Last Week 04-21-2020	89.09	10.91	3.94	2.27	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 01-28-2020	81.34	18.66	8.03	0.85	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12-31-2019	76.45	23.55	10.47	3.64	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2019	71.94	28.06	11.08	1.01	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 04-30-2019	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

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National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

INTERPRETATION INFORMATION

MEAN DAILY TEMPERATURE: Calculated from an average of the daily maximum and minimum temperatures. Daily averages are summed for each day, and then divided by the number of valid data points – typically the number of days in the month. Although this November differ from the “true” daily average, it is consistent with historical methods of observation and comparable to the normals and extremes for stations and regions of the state.

DEGREE DAYS: Degree Days are calculated each day of the month for which there is a temperature report and the mean temperature for the day is less than (Heating Degree Days) or greater than (Cooling Degree Days) 65 degrees. Daily values are summed to arrive at a monthly total. HDD/CDD are qualitative measures of how much heating/cooling was required to maintain a comfortable indoor temperature. Missing observations November result in an artificially high or low value.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

SUNRISE / SUNSET TABLES

U.S. Naval Observatory: <http://aa.usno.navy.mil/data>

SEVERE STORM REPORTS

Storm Prediction Center: <http://spc.noaa.gov/climo/>

National Centers for Environmental Information:
<https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>

SEASONAL OUTLOOKS

Climate Prediction Center:
http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/OUTLOOKS_index.shtml

CLIMATE CALENDARS AND OTHER LOCAL WEATHER AND CLIMATE INFORMATION

Oklahoma Climatological Survey:
<http://climate.mesonet.org> or <http://climate.ok.gov/>



Oklahoma Climatological Survey is the State Climate Office for Oklahoma

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