



### Synopsis

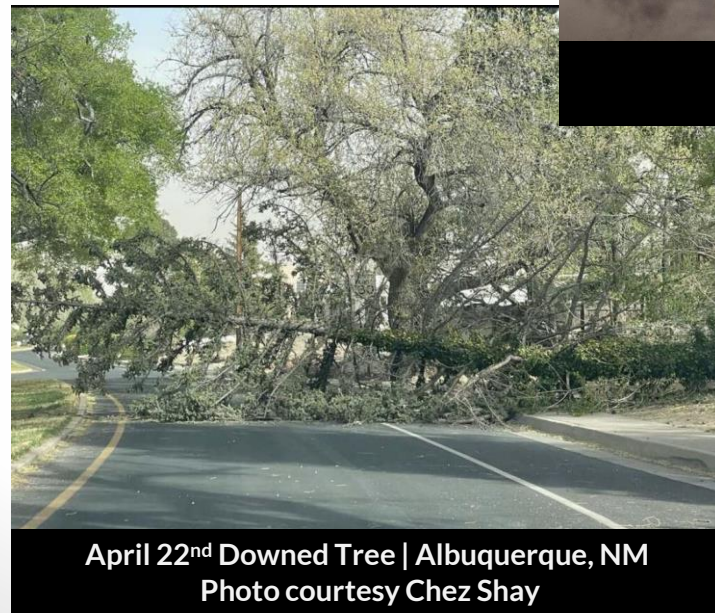
April 2022 was exceptionally dry, warm, and windy with dangerous fire weather conditions on many days. Most areas received no rain or snow for the entire month. Several destructive wildfires erupted across the state with well over 100,000 acres burned by the end of the month. A damaging wind event on the 22<sup>nd</sup> produced wind gusts of 60 to 80 mph with widespread blowing dust. The only severe weather reported was quarter size hail in Quay County on the 27<sup>th</sup>.



April 29<sup>th</sup> Hermits Peak/Calf Canyon Fire  
Photo Owner Jim O'Donnell



April 13<sup>th</sup> McBride Fire | Ruidoso, NM  
Photo courtesy Carrizozo Volunteer FD



April 22<sup>nd</sup> Downed Tree | Albuquerque, NM  
Photo courtesy Chez Shay



April 22<sup>nd</sup> Dust Storm I-25 | San Felipe Pueblo  
Photo courtesy Russell Contreras





April 13<sup>th</sup> Big Hole Fire | Belen, NM  
Photo courtesy Annalisa Pardo, via twitter

April 23<sup>rd</sup> Cooks Peak Fire  
Photo courtesy Tom Bird



April 30<sup>th</sup> Cerro Pelado Fire  
Photo courtesy InciWeb

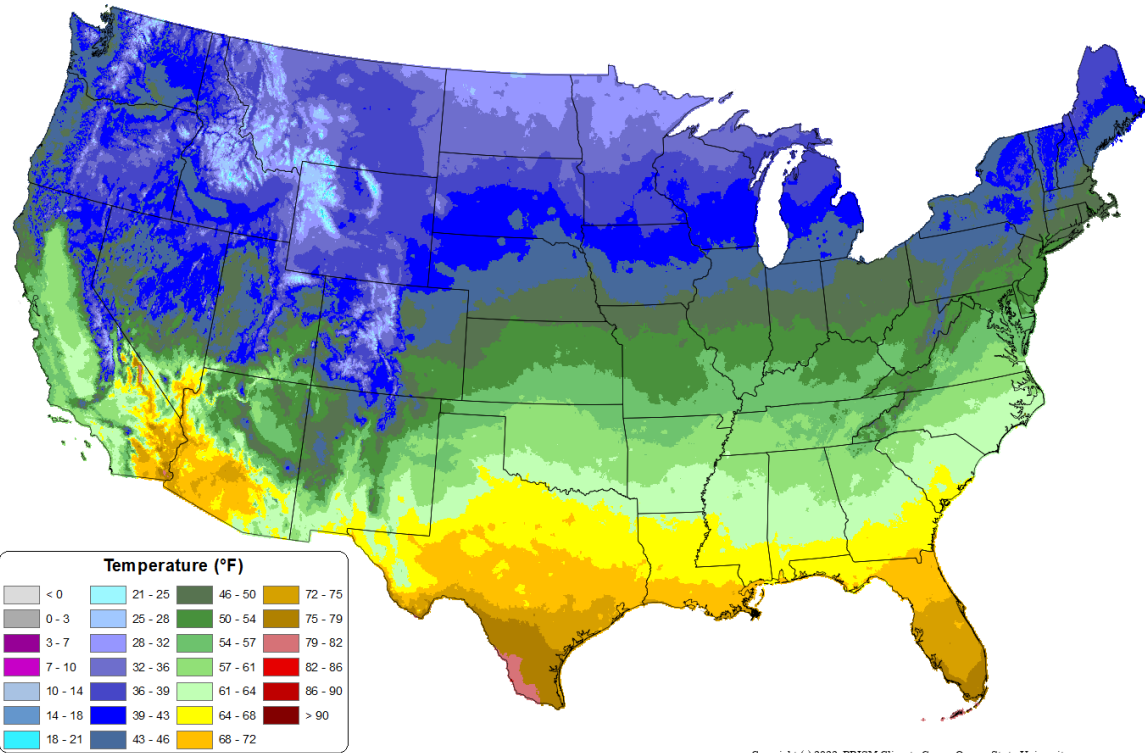


April 22<sup>nd</sup> Wind Damage | Bosque Farms  
Photo courtesy Chez Shay



Actual

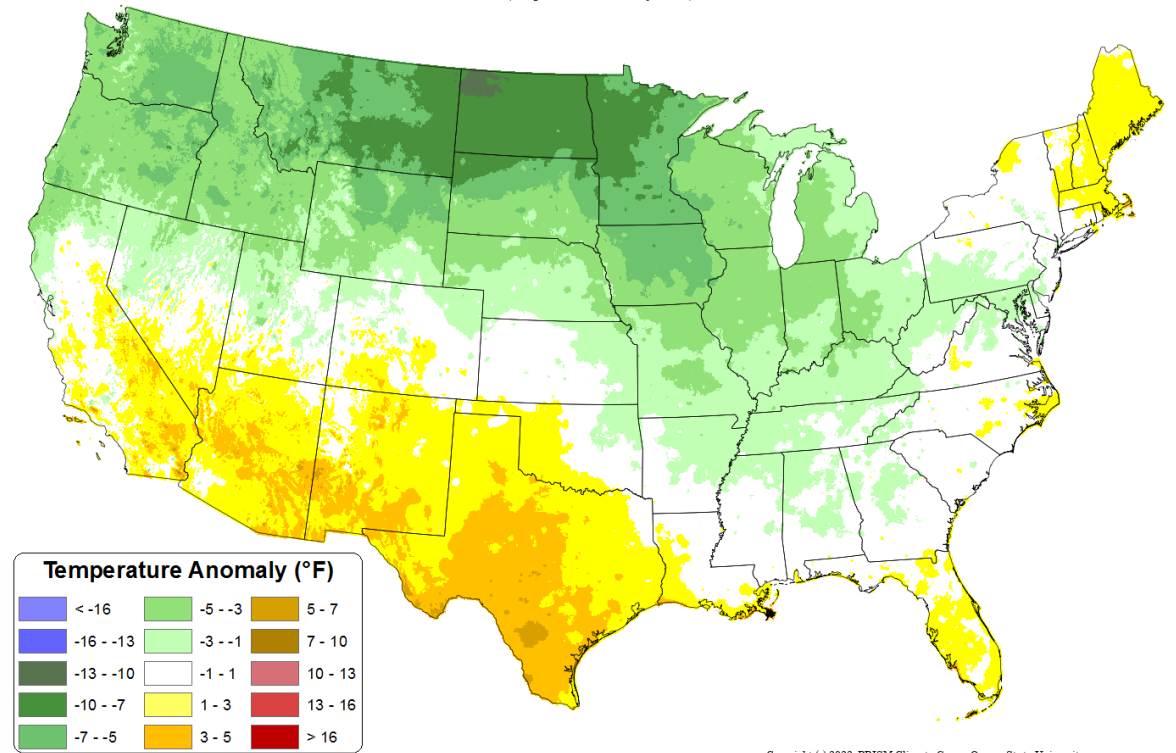
Average Daily Mean Temperature: Apr 2022  
 Period ending 7 AM EST 30 Apr 2022  
 (Map created 02 May 2022)



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Anomaly

Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: Apr 2022  
 Period ending 7 AM EST 30 Apr 2022  
 Base period: 1991-2020  
 (Map created 02 May 2022)

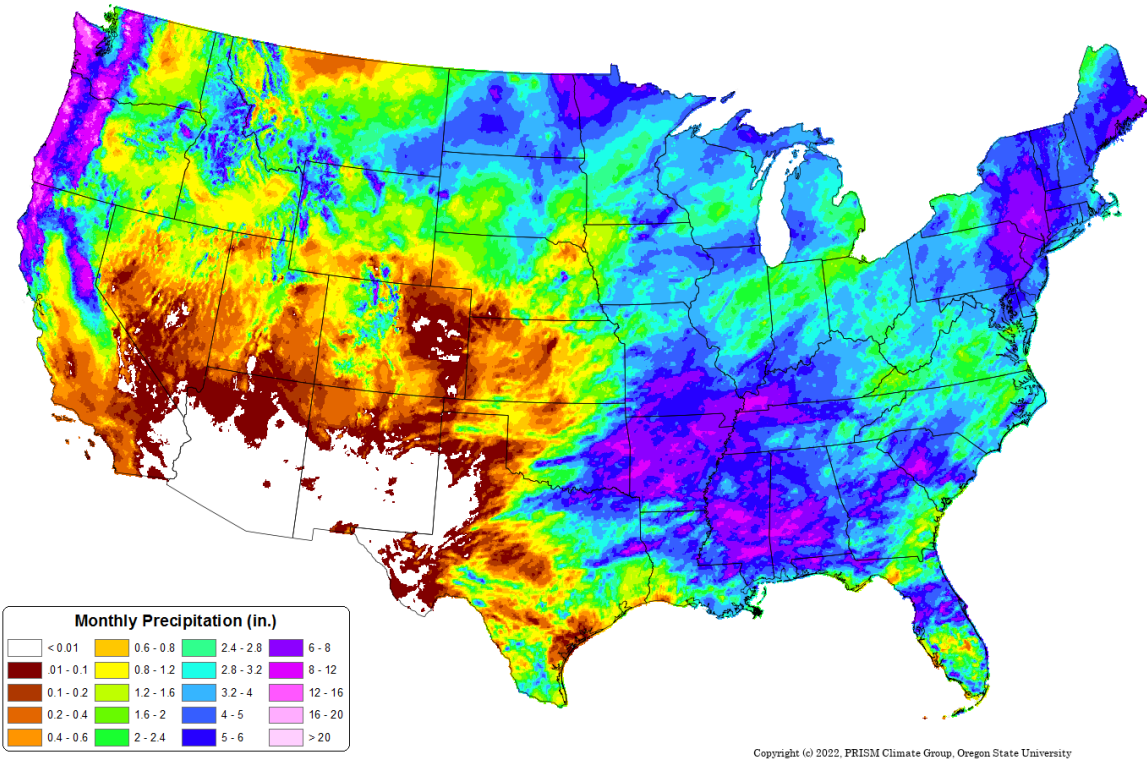


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April temperatures were above normal across most of NM, especially southern areas and the central valley.

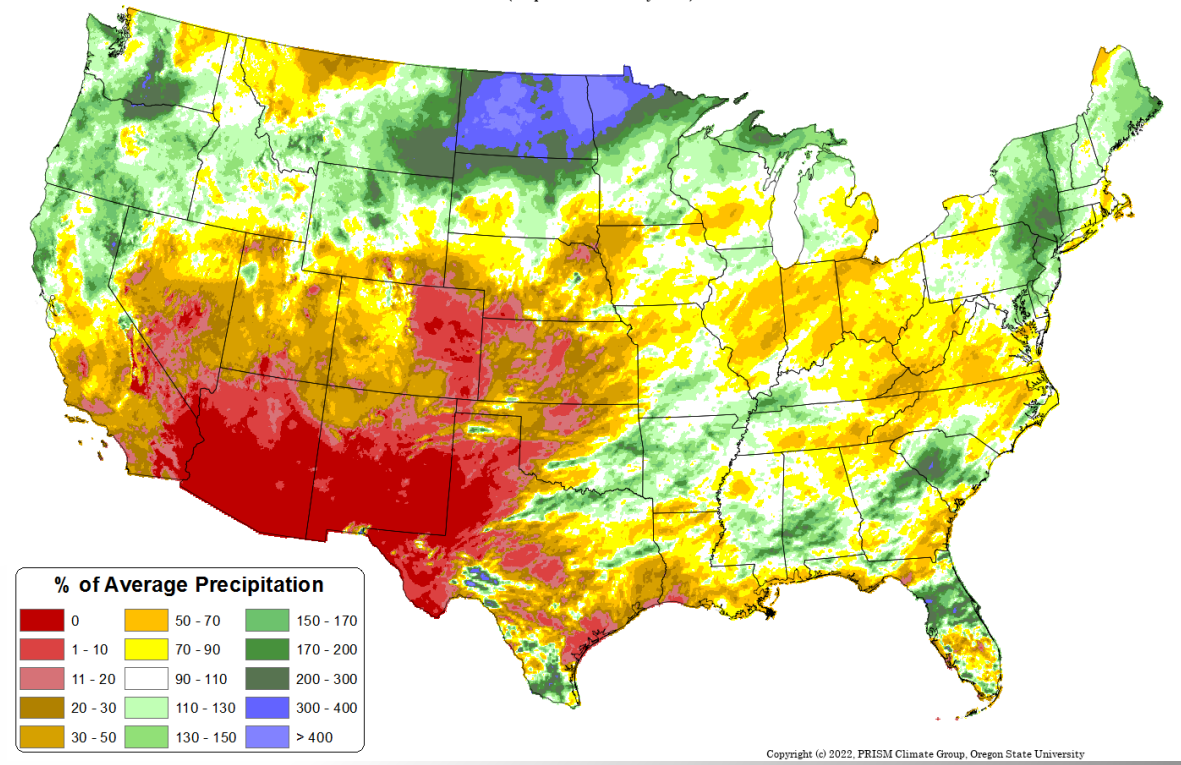
Actual

Total Precipitation: Apr 2022  
Period ending 30 Apr 2022  
(Map created 02 May 2022)



Anomaly

Total Precipitation Anomaly: Apr 2022  
Period ending 30 Apr 2022  
Base period: 1991-2020  
(Map created 02 May 2022)

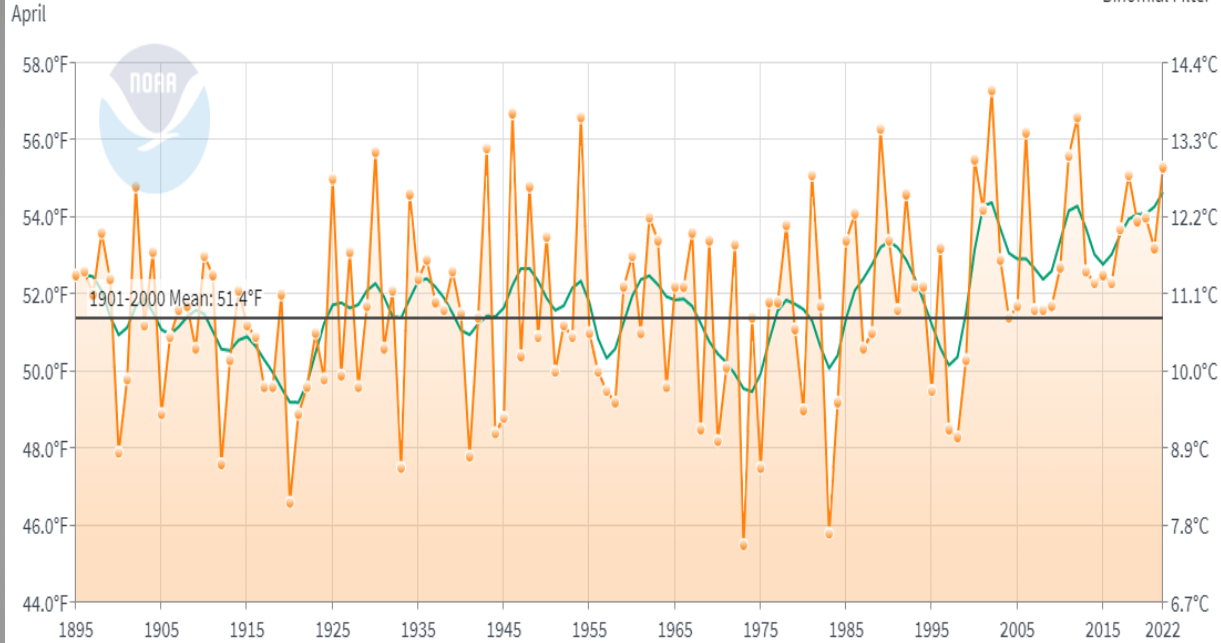


April precipitation was significantly below normal with most areas reporting zero precipitation for the entire month.



Temperature

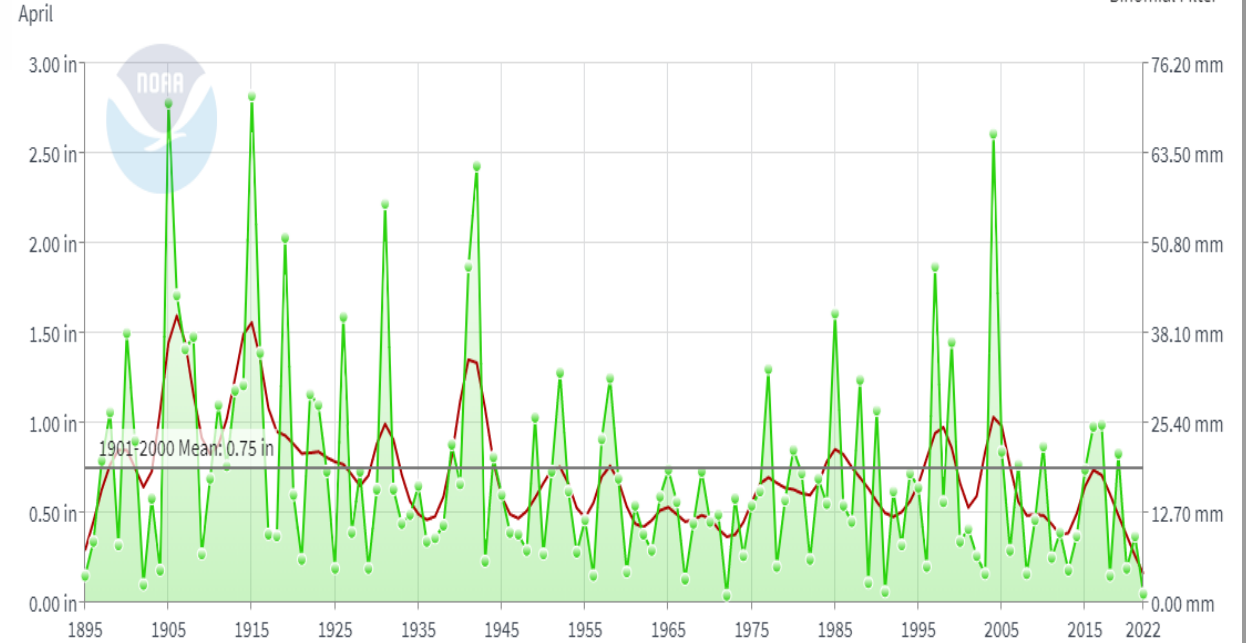
New Mexico Average Temperature



The April 2022 average statewide temperature was 55.3°, which was 3.9° above the long-term normal of 51.4° (1901-2000). This ranked as the 11<sup>th</sup> warmest April on record (1895-2022).

Precipitation

New Mexico Precipitation

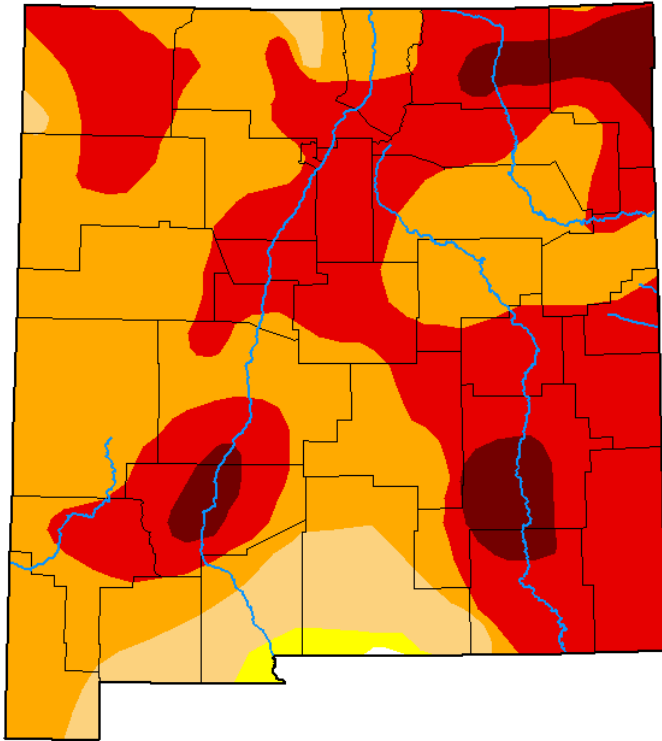


The April 2022 average statewide precipitation was only 0.05", which was 0.70" below the long-term normal of 0.75" (1901-2000). This ranked as the 2<sup>nd</sup> driest April on record (1895-2022)! Only 1972 (0.04") was drier.





**U.S. Drought Monitor  
New Mexico**



**April 5, 2022**  
(Released Thursday, Apr. 7, 2022)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.06	99.94	98.89	91.50	47.20	6.03
<b>Last Week</b> 03-29-2022	0.06	99.94	98.89	91.19	43.84	5.53
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 01-04-2022	0.00	100.00	97.83	75.86	20.91	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-04-2022	0.00	100.00	97.83	75.86	20.91	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-28-2021	10.70	89.30	79.47	49.33	19.12	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 04-06-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	99.35	79.88	53.50

Intensity:



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>

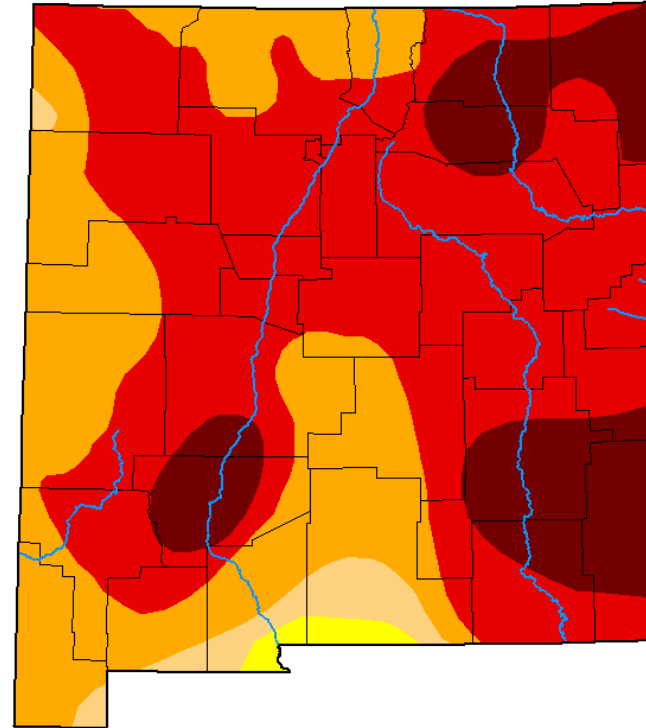
Author:

Deborah Bathke  
National Drought Mitigation Center



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

**U.S. Drought Monitor  
New Mexico**



**April 26, 2022**  
(Released Thursday, Apr. 28, 2022)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.00	100.00	98.94	95.79	67.99	15.74
<b>Last Week</b> 04-19-2022	0.00	100.00	98.94	93.32	63.32	7.17
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 01-25-2022	0.00	100.00	97.15	78.16	30.01	1.88
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-04-2022	0.00	100.00	97.83	75.86	20.91	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-28-2021	10.70	89.30	79.47	49.33	19.12	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 04-27-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	99.37	80.93	53.16

Intensity:



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:

Brad Rippey  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

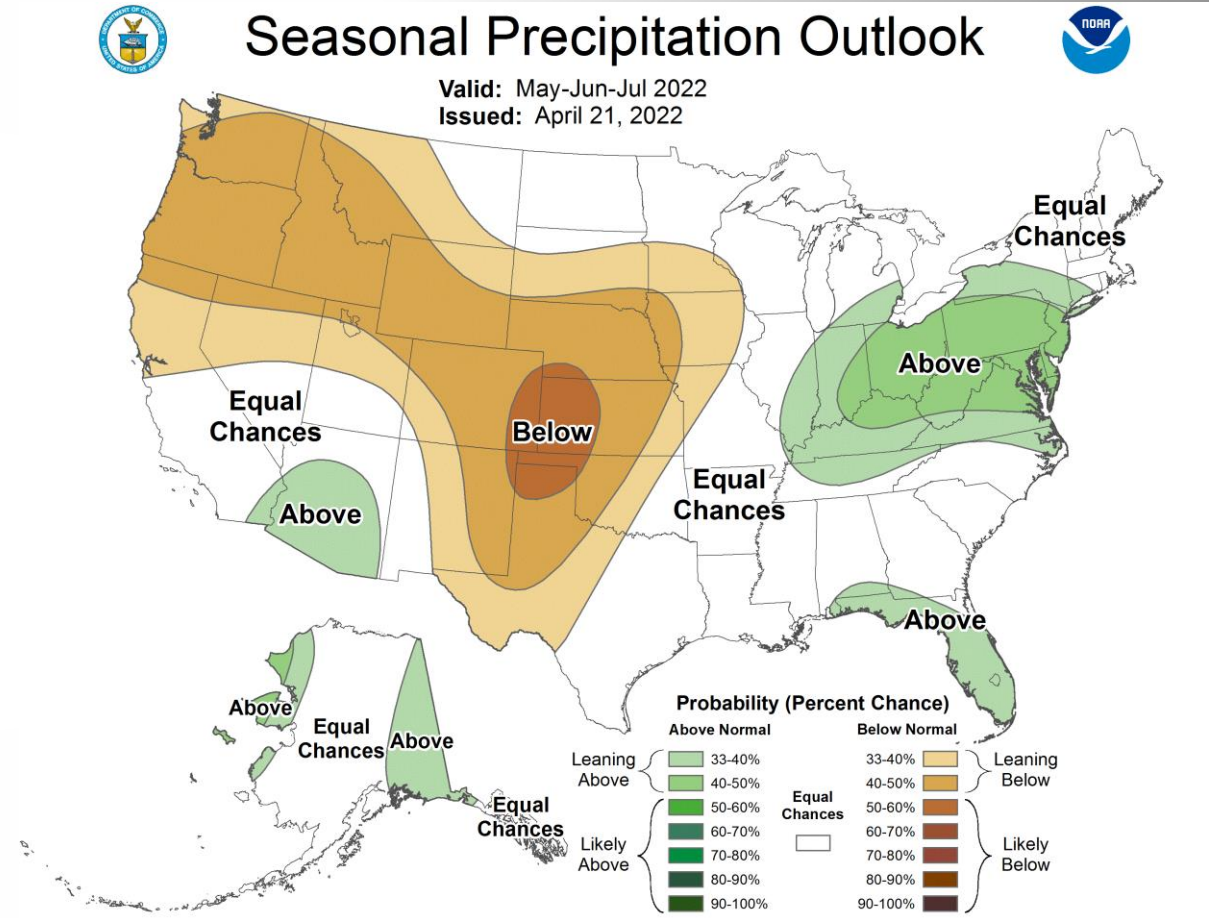
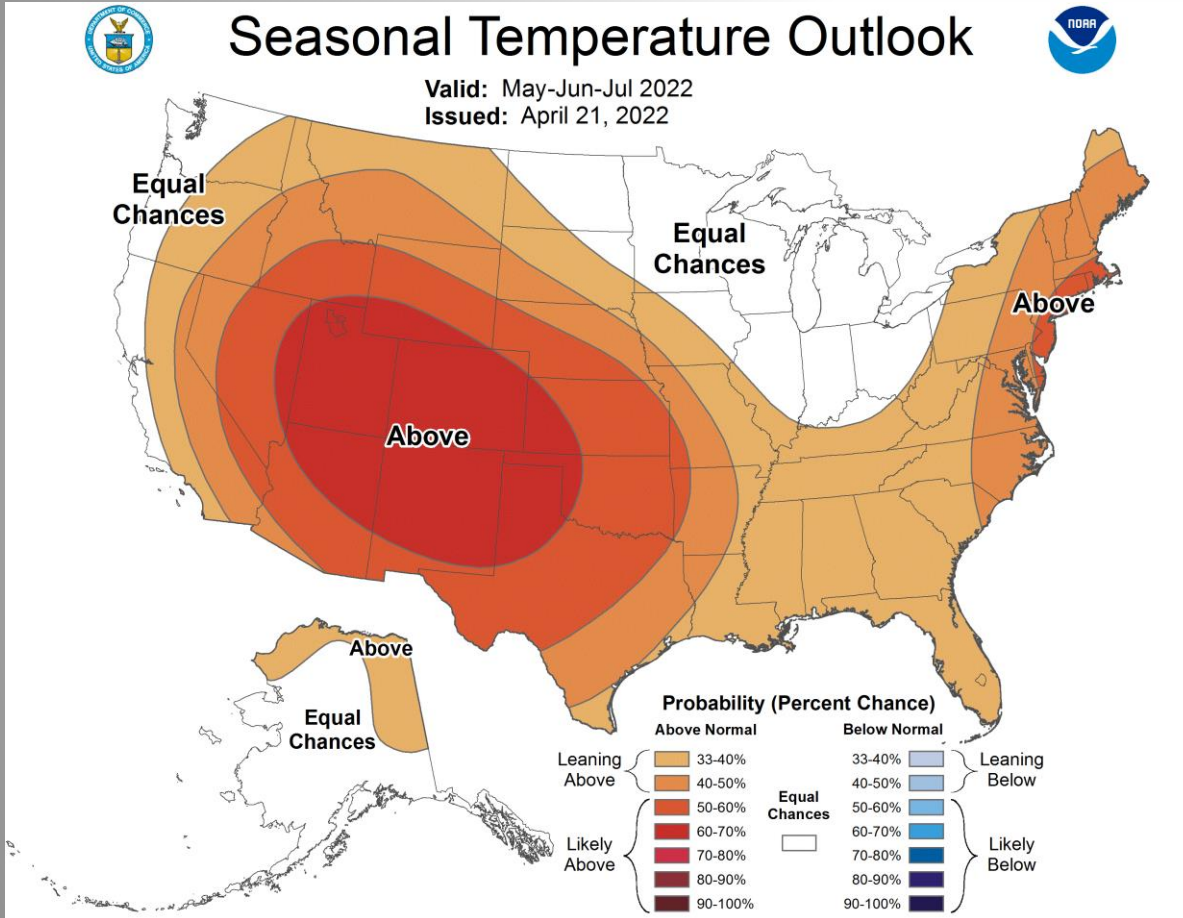


[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

Drought conditions deteriorated during April 2022 with greater expansion of severe to exceptional drought across much of central and eastern NM. Severe drought now covers nearly 70% of NM, of which almost 16% is considered exceptional drought. Much of central and southern NM received no precipitation during April 2022.

**Temperature**  
May-June-July

**Precipitation**  
May-June-July



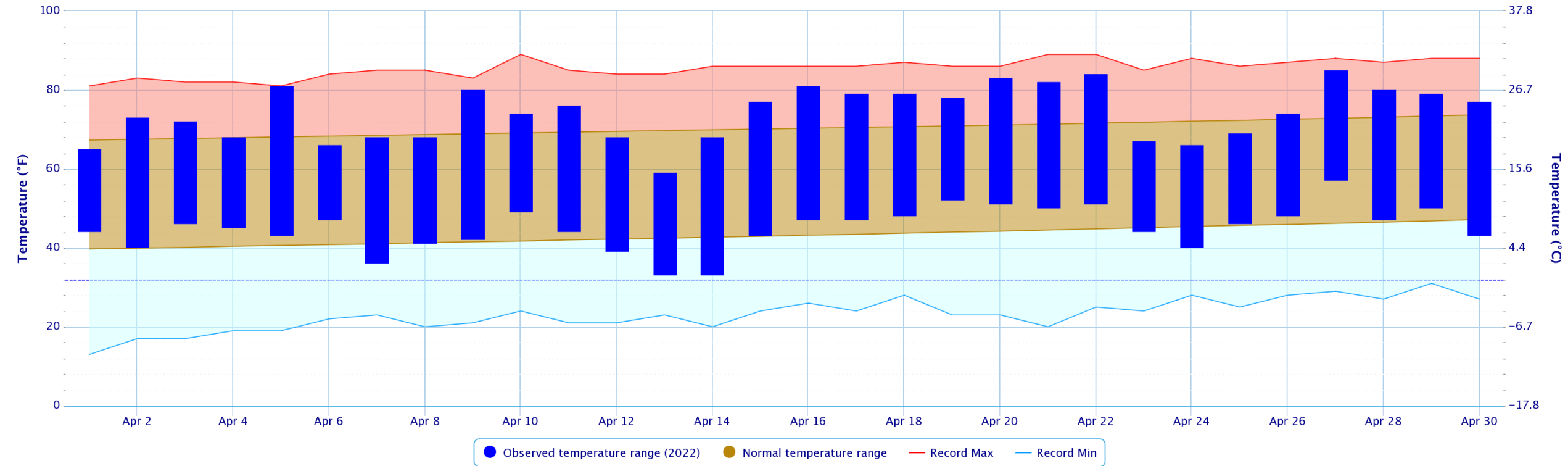
Above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation continue to be the most likely weather scheme for the late spring to mid summer season, except for western New Mexico, which has equal chances of below, near or above normal precipitation.



Average Temperature: 59.5°

Daily Temperature Data – Albuquerque Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – 1891-12-01 to 2022-05-02. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



The April 2022 average temperature for Albuquerque was 59.5°, which was 2.7° above the normal of 56.8°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 74.2°. This was 3.9° above the normal average maximum temperature of 70.3°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 44.9°. This was 1.7° above the normal average minimum temperature of 43.2°. This ranked as the 10<sup>th</sup> warmest April on record.

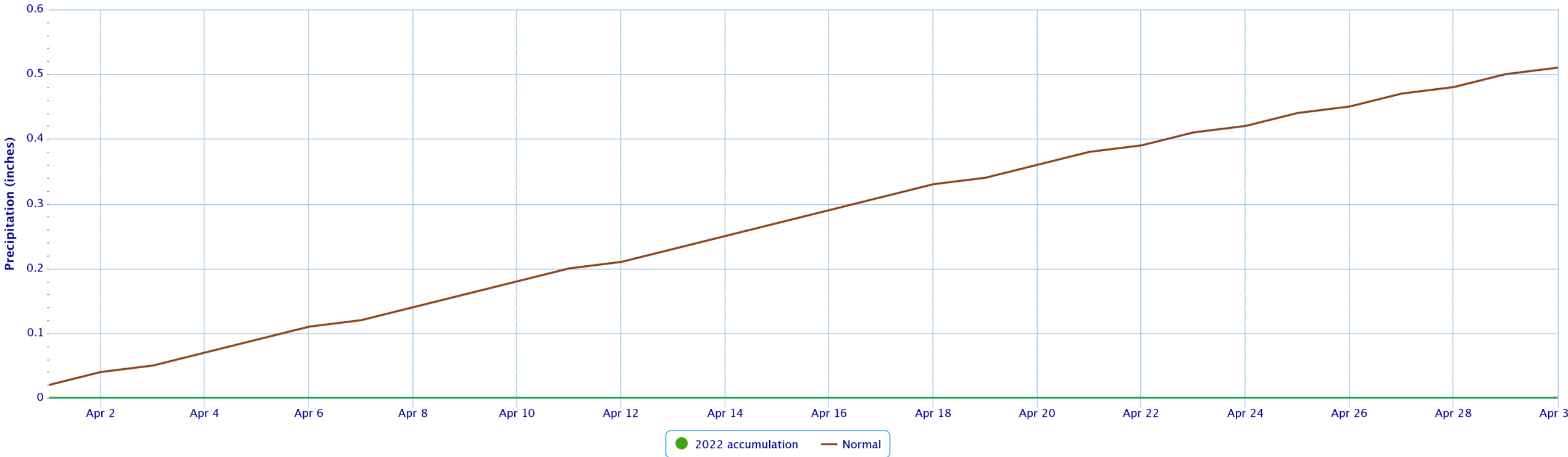




Precipitation: Trace

Accumulated Precipitation – Albuquerque Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



The April 2022 precipitation for Albuquerque was a trace, which was 0.51" below the normal of 0.51". This tied as the 2<sup>nd</sup> driest April with several other years.

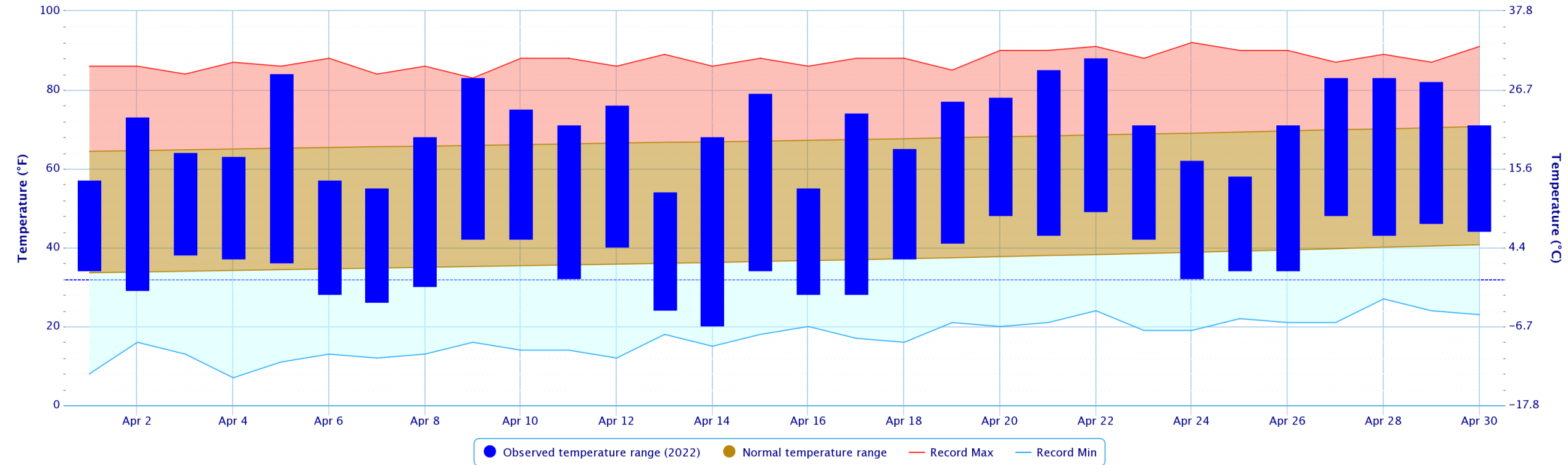
There was no snow, compared to the normal of 0.3".



Average Temperature: 53.7°

Daily Temperature Data – Clayton Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – 1896-02-01 to 2022-05-02. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



The April 2022 average temperature for Clayton was 53.7°, which was 1.7° above the normal of 52.0°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 71.0°. This was 3.7° above the normal average maximum temperature of 67.3°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 36.3°. This was 0.5° below the normal average minimum temperature of 36.8°. This ranked as the 33<sup>rd</sup> warmest April on record.

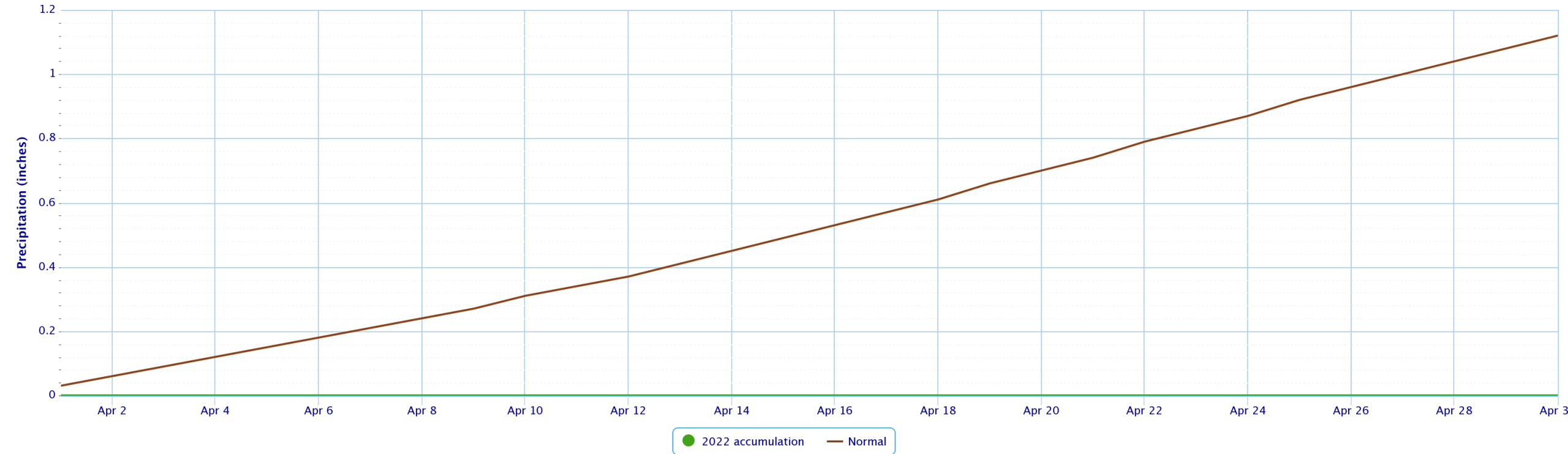




Precipitation: Trace

Accumulated Precipitation – Clayton Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



The April 2022 precipitation for Clayton was a trace, which was 1.12” below the normal of 1.12”. This tied as the 2<sup>nd</sup> driest April on record with 1935.

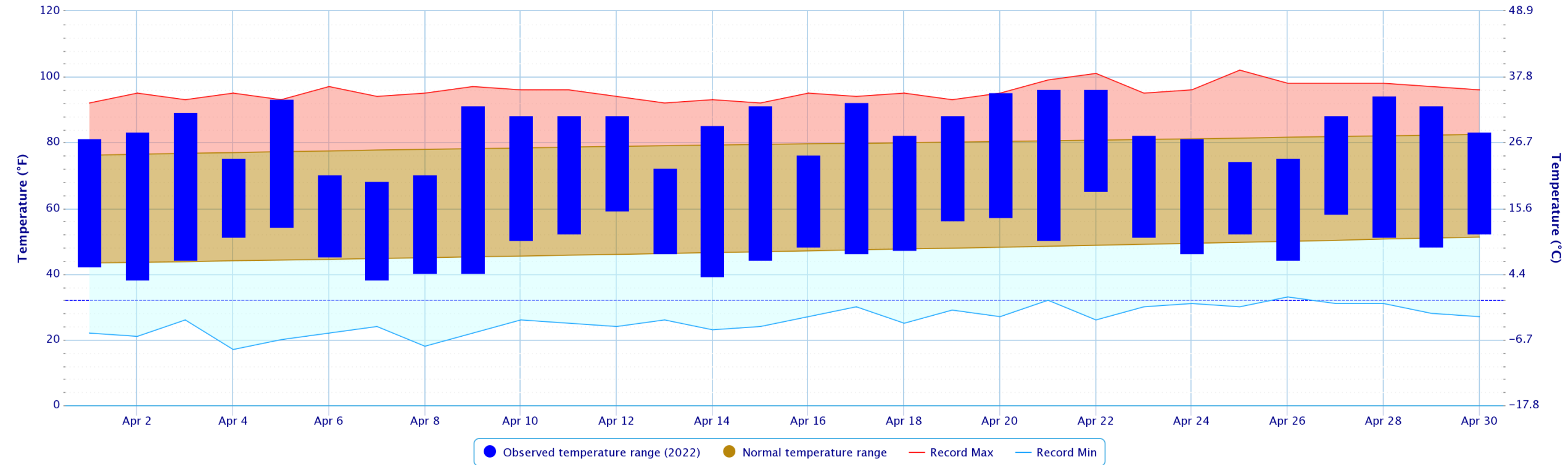
There was no snow, compared to the normal of 1.3”.



Average Temperature: 66.3°

Daily Temperature Data – Roswell Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Period of record – Max temperature: 1893-01-03 to 2022-05-02; Min temperature: 1893-01-21 to 2022-05-02. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



The April 2022 average temperature for Roswell was 66.3°, which was 3.1° above the normal of 63.2°. The average maximum temperature for the month was 84.2°. This was 4.8° above the average maximum temperature of 79.4°. The average minimum temperature for the month was 48.4°. This was 1.4° above the normal average minimum temperature of 47.0°. This ranked as the 4<sup>th</sup> warmest April on record.

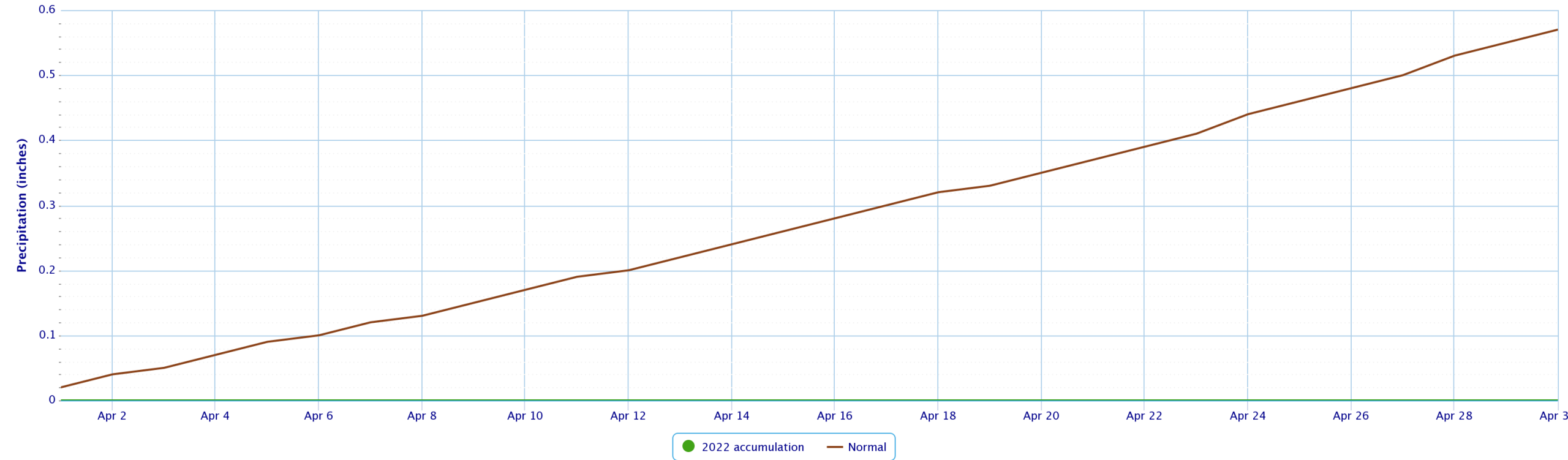




Precipitation: 0.00"

Accumulated Precipitation – Roswell Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



The April 2022 precipitation for Roswell was 0.00", which was 0.57" below the normal of 0.57". This tied as the driest April on record with several other years.

There was no snow, compared to the normal of 0.0".



Event Type	Date	County/Zone Name	Magnitude	Type	Event Narrative
High Wind	4/5/2022	Central Highlands	56 kt	Gust	Clines Corners measured a peak wind gust of 64 mph.
High Wind	4/5/2022	Central Highlands	41 kt	Sustained	Clines Corners measured a peak sustained wind speed of 47 mph.
High Wind	4/5/2022	Jemez Mountains	54 kt	Gust	Los Alamos measured a peak wind gust of 62 mph.
High Wind	4/5/2022	Far Northeast Highlands	52 kt	Gust	Cimarron measured a peak wind gust of 60 mph.
High Wind	4/10/2022	Central Highlands	52 kt	Gust	Clines Corners measured a peak wind gust of 60 mph.
High Wind	4/10/2022	Far Northeast Highlands	68 kt	Gust	Raton measured a peak wind gust of 78 mph.
High Wind	4/10/2022	Northeast Highlands	51 kt	Gust	Las Vegas measured a peak wind gust of 59 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	West Central Plateau	54 kt	Gust	Gallup measured a peak wind gust of 62 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	West Central Mountains	56 kt	Gust	Pie Town measured a peak wind gust of 65 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Southwest Mountains	50 kt	Gust	Luna measured a peak wind gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Tusas Mountains Including Chama	36 kt	Sustained	Vallecitos measured a peak sustained wind speed of 41 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Glorieta Mesa Including Glorieta Pass	43 kt	Sustained	Seton Village measured a peak sustained wind speed of 50 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	East Slopes Sangre De Cristo Mountains	50 kt	Gust	Angel Fire measured a peak wind gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Lower Rio Grande Valley	62 kt	Gust	A WSMR mesonet station southeast of Socorro measured a peak wind gust of 71 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Estancia Valley	51 kt	Gust	Estancia measured a peak wind gust of 59 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Central Highlands	60 kt	Gust	Clines Corners measured a peak wind gust of 69 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	South Central Highlands	52 kt	Gust	Corona measured a peak wind gust of 60 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Upper Tularosa Valley	51 kt	Gust	Carrizozo measured a peak wind gust of 59 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	South Central Mountains	70 kt	Gust	Several weather stations measured wind gusts of 70 to 80 mph near Ruidoso.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Johnson And Bartlett Mesas Including Raton Pass	56 kt	Gust	Capulin measured a peak wind gust of 64 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Johnson And Bartlett Mesas Including Raton Pass	45 kt	Sustained	Capulin measured a peak sustained wind speed of 52 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Far Northeast Highlands	39 kt	Sustained	Cimarron measured a peak sustained wind speed of 45 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Northeast Highlands	60 kt	Gust	Las Vegas measured a peak wind gust of 69 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Northeast Highlands	44 kt	Sustained	Las Vegas measured a peak sustained wind speed of 51 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Union County	61 kt	Gust	Clayton measured a peak wind gust of 70 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Union County	43 kt	Sustained	Clayton measured a peak sustained wind speed of 49 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Guadalupe County	60 kt	Gust	Santa Rosa measured a peak wind gust of 69 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Quay County	56 kt	Gust	Tucumcari measured a peak wind gust of 64 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Quay County	40 kt	Sustained	Tucumcari measured a peak sustained wind speed of 46 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Southwest Chaves County	51 kt	Gust	Dunken measured a peak wind gust of 59 mph.
High Wind	4/12/2022	Middle Rio Grande Valley/Albuquerque Metro Area	53 kt	Gust	Albuquerque measured a peak wind gust of 61 mph.
High Wind	4/13/2022	Far Northeast Highlands	52 kt	Gust	Raton measured a peak wind gust of 60 mph.
High Wind	4/13/2022	Northeast Highlands	50 kt	Gust	Las Vegas measured a brief wind gust of 58 mph.
High Wind	4/15/2022	Central Highlands	50 kt	Gust	Clines Corners measured a brief wind gust of 58 mph.

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Event Type	Date	County/Zone Name	Magnitude	Type	Event Narrative
High Wind	4/19-4/20/2022	Central Highlands	52 kt	Gust	Clines Corners measured high wind speeds with a peak wind gust of 60 mph.
High Wind	4/19/2022	West Central Plateau	56 kt	Gust	Gallup measured a peak wind gust of 64 mph.
High Wind	4/20/2022	Central Highlands	38 kt	Sustained	Clines Corners measured a peak sustained wind speed of 44 mph.
High Wind	4/19/2022	East Slopes Sangre De Cristo Mountains	53 kt	Gust	Angel Fire measured a peak wind gust of 61 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Northwest Plateau	62 kt	Gust	Farmington measured a peak wind gust of 71 mph with significant blowing dust.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Northwest Plateau	45 kt	Sustained	Farmington measured a sustained wind speed of 52 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	West Central Plateau	61 kt	Gust	Gallup measured a peak wind gust of 70 mph with blowing dust, roof damage, downed tree limbs, and power lines.
High Wind	4/22/2022	West Central Plateau	42 kt	Sustained	Gallup measured a peak sustained wind speed of 48 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	West Central Mountains	52 kt	Gust	El Morro measured a peak wind gust of 60 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	West Central Highlands	54 kt	Gust	A weather station at I-40 and SR-6 measured a peak wind gust of 62 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	West Central Highlands	42 kt	Sustained	A weather station at I-40 and SR-6 measured a peak sustained wind speed of 48 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Southwest Mountains	55 kt	Gust	Old Horse Springs measured a peak wind gust of 63 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Jemez Mountains	53 kt	Gust	Los Alamos measured a peak wind gust of 61 mph with blowing dust.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Jemez Mountains	41 kt	Sustained	Los Alamos measured a peak sustained wind speed of 47 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Glorieta Mesa Including Glorieta Pass	52 kt	Gust	Glorieta measured a peak wind gust of 60 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Northern Sangre De Cristo Mountains	81 kt	Gust	Taos Ski Valley measured a peak wind gust of 93 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	East Slopes Sangre De Cristo Mountains	50 kt	Gust	Angel Fire measured a peak wind gust of 58 mph with blowing dust, smoke, roof damage, and downed tree limbs.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Upper Rio Grande Valley	55 kt	Gust	Taos measured a peak wind gust of 63 mph with blowing dust.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Upper Rio Grande Valley	46 kt	Sustained	Taos measured a peak sustained wind speed of 53 mph with blowing dust.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Espanola Valley	52 kt	Gust	Espanola measured a peak wind gust of 60 mph with minor damage reported.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Santa Fe Metro Area	61 kt	Gust	Santa Fe measured a peak wind gust of 70 mph with blowing dust.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Santa Fe Metro Area	39 kt	Sustained	Santa Fe measured a peak sustained wind speed of 45 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Middle Rio Grande Valley/Albuquerque Metro Area	56 kt	Gust	The ABQ Sunport measured a peak wind gust of 64 mph with blowing dust, downed tree limbs, and power outages.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Middle Rio Grande Valley/Albuquerque Metro Area	39 kt	Sustained	Albuquerque Sunport measured a peak sustained wind speed of 45 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Lower Rio Grande Valley	61 kt	Gust	A WSMR station near Bosque del Apache measured a peak wind gust of 70 mph. Wind damage was reported in Socorro.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Lower Rio Grande Valley	45 kt	Sustained	A WSMR station southeast of Bosque del Apache measured a peak sustained wind speed of 52 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Estancia Valley	55 kt	Gust	Estancia measured a peak wind gust of 63 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Central Highlands	61 kt	Gust	Clines Corners measured a peak wind gust of 70 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Central Highlands	44 kt	Sustained	Clines Corners measured a peak sustained wind speed of 51 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	South Central Highlands	55 kt	Gust	A WSMR station south of Bingham measured a peak wind gust of 63 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Upper Tularosa Valley	55 kt	Gust	A WSMR station west-southwest of Oscura measured a peak wind gust of 63 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	South Central Mountains	59 kt	Gust	Ruidoso measured a peak wind gust of 68 mph with blowing dust.
High Wind	4/22/2022	South Central Mountains	44 kt	Sustained	Ruidoso measured a peak sustained wind speed of 51 mph with blowing dust.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Johnson And Bartlett Mesas Including Raton Pass	63 kt	Gust	Capulin measured a peak wind gust of 72 mph.

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Event Type	Date	County/Zone Name	Magnitude	Type	Event Narrative
High Wind	4/22/2022	Far Northeast Highlands	70 kt	Gust	Raton measured a peak wind gust of 81 mph with blowing dust and smoke.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Far Northeast Highlands	49 kt	Sustained	Raton measured a peak sustained wind speed of 56 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Northeast Highlands	64 kt	Gust	Las Vegas measured a peak wind gust of 74 mph with blowing dust and smoke.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Northeast Highlands	45 kt	Sustained	Las Vegas measured a peak sustained wind speed of 52 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Union County	70 kt	Gust	Clayton measured 80 mph wind gusts with blowing dust, smoke, and wind damage.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Union County	45 kt	Sustained	Clayton measured a peak sustained wind speed of 52 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Harding County	38 kt	Sustained	Mosquero measured a peak sustained speed of 44 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Guadalupe County	35 kt	Sustained	Santa Rosa measured a peak sustained wind speed of 40 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Quay County	55 kt	Gust	Tucumcari measured a peak wind gust of 63 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Quay County	39 kt	Sustained	Tucumcari measured a peak sustained wind speed of 45 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Chaves County Plains	51 kt	Gust	Roswell measured a peak wind gust of 59 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	San Agustin Plains And Adjacent Lowlands	56 kt	Gust	Magdalena measured a peak wind gust of 65 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Sandia/Manzano Mountains Including Edgewood	54 kt	Gust	Sandia Park measured a peak wind gust of 62 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Northwest Highlands	52 kt	Gust	Cuba estimated peak wind gusts of 60 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Eastern San Miguel County	61 kt	Gust	Maes estimated peak wind gusts of 70 mph.
High Wind	4/22/2022	Eastern Lincoln County	52 kt	Gust	Arabela estimated peak wind gusts of 60 mph with blowing dust and minor wind damage.
Dust Storm	4/22/2022	Northwest Plateau			Visibility fell below one-quarter mile along U.S. 550 and U.S. 64 around Farmington.
Dust Storm	4/22/2022	Santa Fe Metro Area			Visibility fell below one-quarter mile along I-40 between Algodones and Waldo Canyon with numerous accidents.
Dust Storm	4/22/2022	West Central Plateau			Visibility fell below one-quarter mile along U.S. 491 north of Gallup.
Wildfire	4/11-4/25/2022	Middle Rio Grande Valley/Albuquerque Metro Area			The Big Hole Fire near Belen destroyed one home and 18 outbuildings.
Wildfire	4/22/2022	Lower Rio Grande Valley			A barn fire near San Antonio started a brush fire which then burned a camper.
Wildfire	4/12-4/30/2022	South Central Mountains			The McBride Fire destroyed 207 homes and structures. An elderly couple died in the fire.
Wildfire	4/6-4/30/2022	East Slopes Sangre De Cristo Mountains			Hermit's Peak Fire destroyed 7 outbuildings before merging with the Calf Canyon Fire on April 12th.
Wildfire	4/12-4/30/2022	South Central Mountains			The Nogal Canyon Fire burned 6 homes and 8 outbuildings.
Wildfire	4/19-4/30/2022	East Slopes Sangre De Cristo Mountains			The Calf Canyon Fire merged with the Hermit's Peak Fire and grew to one of the largest fires in NM history.
Wildfire	4/17-4/30/2022	East Slopes Sangre De Cristo Mountains			The Cooks Peak Fire grew rapidly in historic fire weather conditions on April 17th.
Wildfire	4/22-4/30/2022	Jemez Mountains			The Cerro Pelado Fire burned over 15,000 acres by the end of April. Three homes were destroyed.
T-storm Wind	4/27/2022	Union	52 kt	Gust	A spotter near Clayton estimated wind gusts of 60 mph with blowing dust.
Hail	4/27/2022	Quay	1 kt	1"	An amateur radio user near Ute Lake State Park reported quarter size hail.
Hail	4/27/2022	Quay	1 kt	1"	A member of the public near Logan reported quarter size inch hail.
High Wind	4/29/2022	Southern Sangre De Cristo Mountains	54 kt	Gust	Cowles measured a peak wind gust of 62 mph.
High Wind	4/29/2022	East Slopes Sangre De Cristo Mountains	57 kt	Gust	Gascon measured a peak wind gust of 66 mph.

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-  NCEI Climatological Rankings: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/national/rankings>
-  PRISM Climate Data: <http://www.prism.oregonstate.edu/>
-  NWS Local Climate Pages: <https://w2.weather.gov/climate/index.php?wfo=abq>
-  NCEI Storm Data: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>
-  Questions?: [sr-abq.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-abq.webmaster@noaa.gov)
-  NWS Albuquerque Facebook
-  @NWSAlbuquerque & #nmwx