

...Above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation characterized Richmond weather in May...

The average temperature at Richmond International Airport was 70.0 degrees, which was 3.6 degrees above normal. The average high temperature was 81.1 or 3.2 degrees above normal. The average low temperature was 58.8 degrees or 3.8 degrees above normal. The highest temperature was 94 degrees on the 13th. The lowest temperature was 47 degrees on the 19th. There were 7 days with maximum temperatures above 90 degrees, which is 5.0 days above normal. May 2014 ranks as the 12th warmest May on record, including the 9th warmest minimum temperature average on record.

Precipitation came in at 2.44 inches, which is 1.34 inches below normal. The greatest 24 hour total was 1.04 inches on the 15th and 16th. There were 9 days with measurable rainfall, which is 1.8 days below normal.

There were 599 accumulated growing degree days (GDD), which was 85.5 GDD above the 1981-2010 normal of 513.5 GDD. The highest was on the 13th, at 26.5 GDD.

For 2014, precipitation has reached 16.04 inches, which is 0.85 inches below normal. The average temperature year-to-date is 49.6 degrees, which is 0.8 degrees below normal.

A record high temperature was tied on May 13 with a temperature of 94 degrees.

Meteorological Spring 2014 finished with slightly above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation. The average temperature was 58.0 degrees, which was 0.3 degrees above normal. Precipitation totaled 9.73 inches, which was 1.36 inches below normal.

...Above normal temperatures and above normal precipitation characterized Norfolk weather in May...

The average temperature at Norfolk International Airport was 69.6 degrees, which was 3.0 degrees above normal. The average high temperature was 78.4 or 3.0 degrees below normal. The average low temperature was 60.8 degrees or 2.9 degrees above normal. The highest temperature was 92 degrees on the 13th and 28th. The lowest temperature was 52 degrees on the 19th and 20th. There were 4 days with maximum temperatures above 90 degrees, which is 3.0 days above normal.

Precipitation came in at 4.64 inches, which is 1.23 inches above normal. The greatest 24 hour total was 3.01 inches on the 16th. There were 8 days with measurable rainfall, which is 2.6 days below normal.

There were 593.5 accumulated growing degree days (GDD), which was 77.5 GDD above the 1981-2010 normal of 516 GDD. The highest was on the 10th, at 27 GDD.

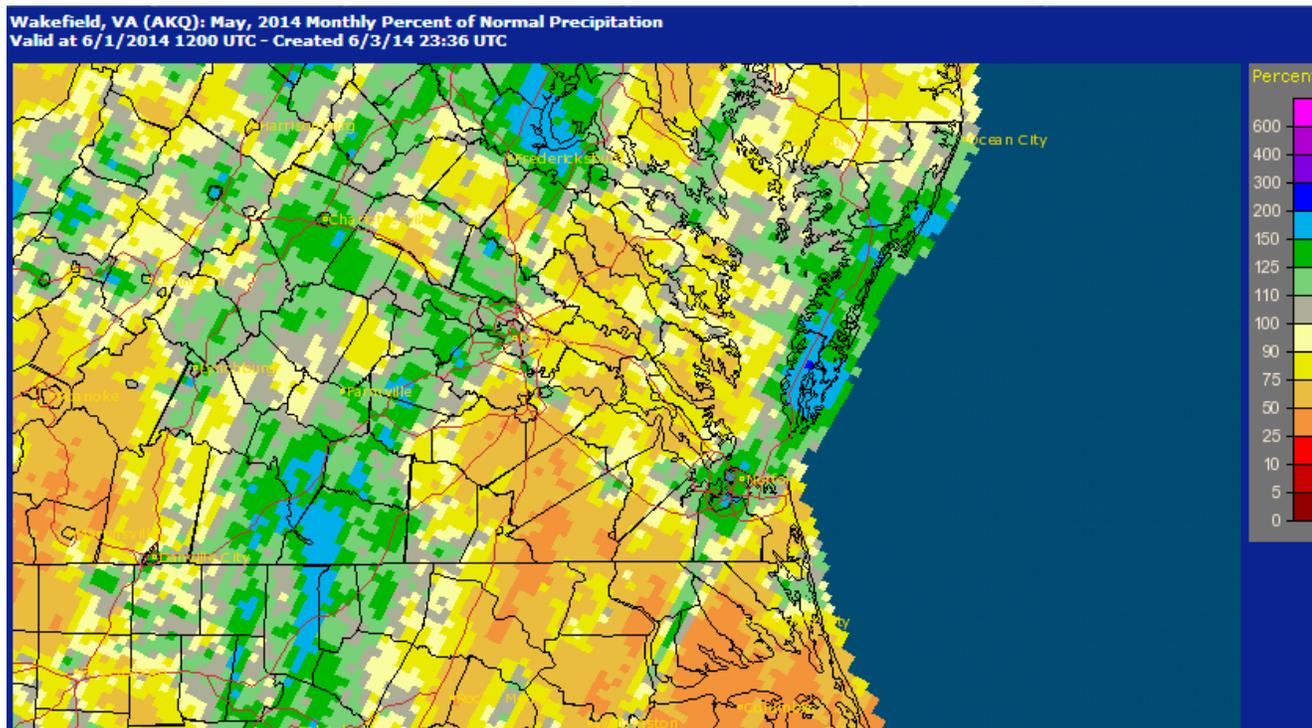
For 2014, precipitation has reached 19.62 inches, which is 2.60 inches above normal. The average temperature year-to-date is 50.6 degrees, which is 0.8 degrees below normal.

A record daily maximum rainfall amount was set on May 16 at 3.01 inches.

Meteorological Spring 2014 finished with near normal temperatures and above normal precipitation. The average temperature was 58.0 degrees, which was 0.1 degree below normal. Precipitation totaled 13.33 inches, which was 2.83 inches above normal.

...Highly variable rainfall amounts characterized the Wakefield Forecast Area in May...

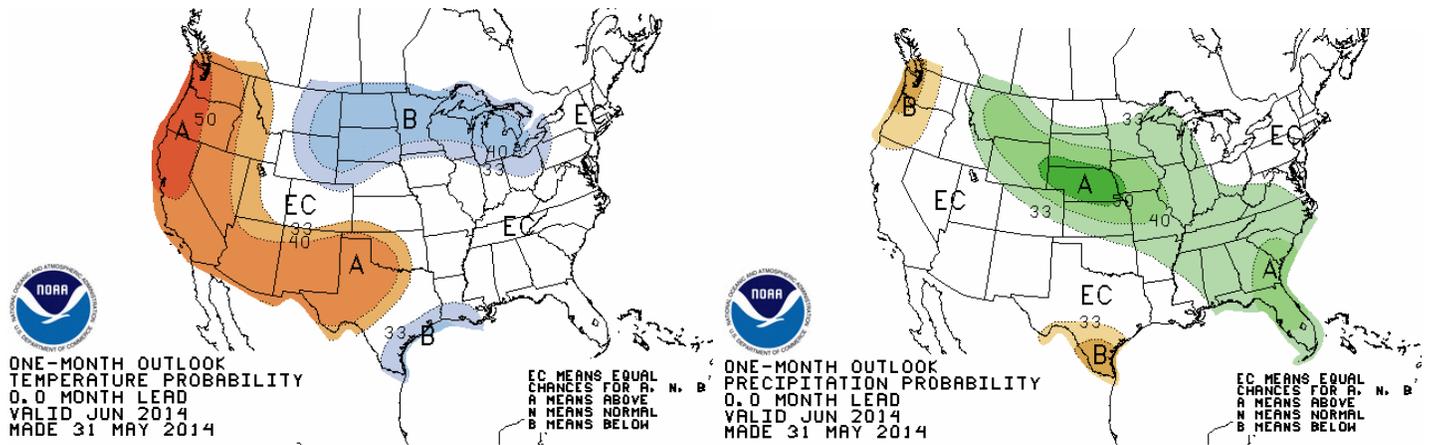
Rainfall during May was highly variable due to convection. Most of the area had 2 to 4 inches of rain but most locations west of Interstate 95 and through Caroline County had from 5 to 8 inches. There were occasions when thunderstorms occurred north and west of Richmond and dissipated just to the east. Total rainfall at Richmond Int'l Airport was 2.44 inches while the western part of Henrico County had close to 6 inches. Portions of the Virginia Eastern Shore and in the Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Suffolk area had 5 to 7 inches with amounts dropping to around 3 inches in Virginia Beach. Norfolk had 4.64 inches but over three inches of that fell on the 16th.



Percent of normal rainfall for May. Additional data can be found at: <http://www.weather.gov>

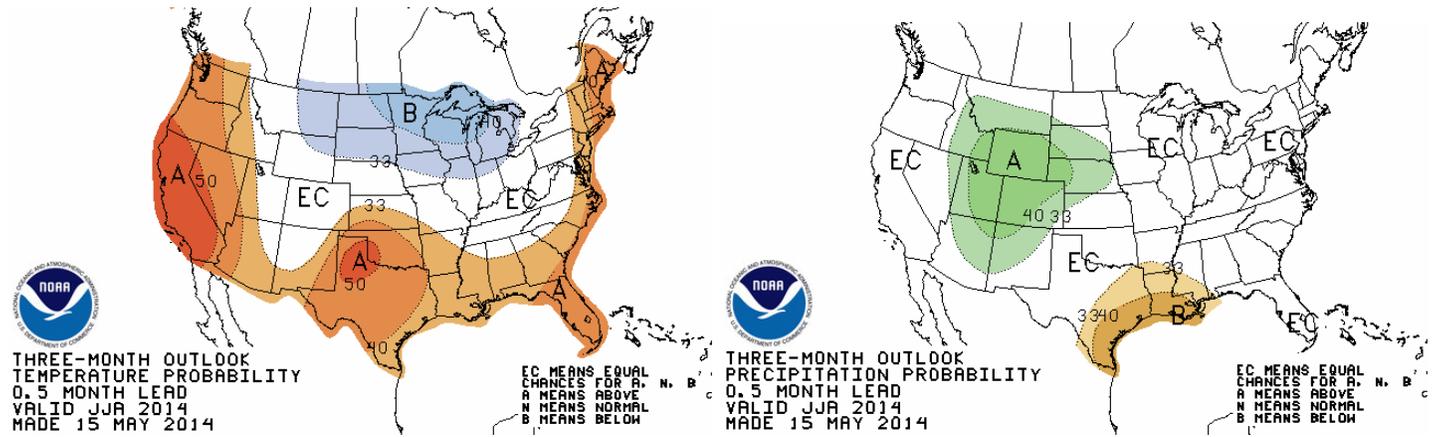
Outlooks (see <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>)...

The 30 day outlooks for temperature (left image) and precipitation (right image) generally predict equal chances for above, below, or near normal conditions. There is a higher likelihood of above normal precipitation across south central Virginia and northeast North Carolina.



30 day outlooks for temperature (left) and precipitation (right)

The 90 day outlooks for temperature (left image) and precipitation (right image) predicts increased chances for above normal temperatures with equal chances for normal as well as just above or below normal precipitation. The increased confidence in above normal temperatures is due in part to developing El Nino in the Pacific Ocean.



90 day outlooks for temperature (left) and precipitation (right)