

# April 2025 Monthly Weather Summary

## Temperature Overview

**After a warm March**, April once again was well above normal, actually even more significant in terms of rankings. Area-wide, the month was mostly 3 to 5 degrees above normal- enough of an anomaly for 2025 to rank as the 3rd warmest April on record at Norfolk, 6th warmest at Elizabeth City, and 10th warmest at Richmond. In addition, data from our most complete, long-term co-op stations revealed this to be the 3rd warmest at Ashland, 4th warmest at Edenton, tied for 5th warmest at Louisa, and the 9th warmest at Williamsburg.

**The month started** off close to normal before temperatures skyrocketed between the 3rd and 6th as a strong ridge set up across the region. Average temperature anomalies ranged between 15-20 degrees above normal. Norfolk and Elizabeth City, NC both recorded their first 90°+ days of the year on the 6th, with highs of 91°F and 90°F respectively. This April 6th date is more than one month earlier than the median first 90-degree day for both locations, and ranks around the 95th percentile. At Norfolk, this represents the earliest 90°+ day since a high of 90° on April 6th, 2010 and at Elizabeth City, while not a daily record high, it was the earliest occurrence of 90° since March 29th and 30th, 1985. A record high minimum temperature of 70°F was set at Elizabeth City on the 4th (the 2nd earliest occurrence on record for a 70°F minimum, 2nd only to April 2, 1988). Both Norfolk and Elizabeth City set daily record high minimums on the 5th. Thereafter, multiple cold fronts moved through and brought a stretch of generally cooler than normal temperatures through April 18th, aside from a brief warm-up April 14th- 15th. In fact, temperatures dropped below freezing for almost all of the area, outside of coastal communities, early on April 9th due to strong radiational cooling after a cold front moved through on April 7th. This was a little later than the median last freeze date for most of the area, though not particularly unusual. From the 19th through the end of the month, above-average temperatures were the norm, aside from a couple of transient cool-downs to near to slightly below normal values on the 23rd-24th and 27th-29th.

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## Precipitation & Snow/Ice Overview

**Precipitation-wise**, April saw a mixed bag of rainfall totals across the area. Norfolk and Elizabeth City were once again were drier than normal, with departures of 0.74 inches and 1.18 inches below normal, respectively. Richmond and Wallops Island both saw around to just above normal precipitation, and Salisbury was the only climate site that saw over 0.50" above normal precipitation in April. All climate sites received their greatest storm total rainfall on April 7th as a moisture laden front slowly advanced through the forecast area, bringing widespread rainfall totals of 1-2", although no daily rainfall records were set that day. Richmond and Salisbury were the only long-term climate sites to set any daily rainfall records this month- Richmond's 1.37" on the 11th broke the previous record of 1.07" from 1962, and Salisbury's 1.47" on the 11th broke their previous record of 1.13" in 2009. Most of the precipitation across the forecast area fell within the first half of the month, followed by a very dry 2nd half. Between April 16th and 30th, all but one climate site measured less than one quarter of an inch of rainfall. Richmond saw the 2nd driest second half of April, measuring only 0.01" between April 16-30th. All other sites, aside from Norfolk, ranked in the top 8 driest periods between the 16-30th . Norfolk measured 0.65" between the 16-30th , with a majority of that rainfall (0.62") falling on April 23rd as a cold front drifted through SE VA and NE NC that morning.

**No snowfall** was recorded at any sites this month, a fairly typical scenario, as only 6 Aprils in the past 20 years have seen a trace or more of snowfall at any of our 5 climate sites; 2016 was the last occurrence with measurable snowfall at any of the 5 sites (Wallops Island and Salisbury), while Richmond and Norfolk have not received measurable April snow in nearly 20 years, last occurring in 2007 (note that Elizabeth City has an incomplete snow record and is unsuitable for comparison purposes).

**The following table on page 3 shows detailed temperature and precipitation statistics for April 2025 at many locations within the Wakefield CWA. On page 4, daily average temperature departures are shown at Richmond and Norfolk, followed by monthly precipitation maps (page 5), with daily records set during the month at our 4 main long-term sites on the last page.**

# Tabular Summary of Data for Selected Climate Sites (April):

April 2025 Temperature Summary Data																* also on other dates		All Normals are 1991-2020	
Site	Avg Max		Avg Min		Avg Temp		Daily Highs					Daily Mins					Remarks		
	(°F)		(°F)		(°F)		Warmest (°F)			Coldest (°F)		Warmest (°F)			Coldest (°F)				
	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	Actual		Date	Dep
Richmond	73.5	3.1	49.5	3.1	61.5	3.1	88	30th	0	52	11th	1	64	4th	1	29	9th	-3	10th Warmest
Norfolk	74.8	4.8	54.0	3.9	64.4	4.3	91	6th	4	52	9th	2	67	22nd	2	41	10th	4	3rd Warmest
Salisbury	68.5	2.4	44.5	0.4	56.5	1.4	83	*30th	-1	47	12th	-2	62	22nd	0	28	9th	0	
Wallops Island	67.6	3.3	48.1	2.2	57.9	2.8	86	6th	4	49	*12th	0	65	19th	7	28	9th	-4	N/A
Elizabeth City	75.3	4.5	52.9	3.5	64.1	4.0	90	6th	4	54	9th	1	70	4th	5	41	17th	7	6th Warmest
Ashland, VA	73.9	2.8	50.8	5.6	62.3	4.2	86	5th	-1	54	*12th	3	69	4th	7	27	9th	-2	**3rd Warmest
Louisa, VA	74.2	4.4	47.7	5.4	60.9	4.8	87	30th	0	54	11th	2	68	4th	8	24	9th	-1	**5th Warmest
Wakefield, VA	75.6	4.2	48.1	2.9	61.8	3.5	89	*30th	2	54	11th	3	67	4th	4	29	9th	1	N/A
Williamsburg, VA	73.1	3.1	50.3	2.6	61.7	2.8	88	30th	1	53	*12th	0	66	*22nd	2	33	9th	1	**9th Warmest
Edenton, NC	74.8	2.6	55.2	4.6	65.0	3.6	85	*30th	0	52	9th	-2	68	*6th	3	38	9th	4	**4th Warmest

April 2025 Precipitation & Snowfall Summary Data																* also on other dates		All Normals are 1991-2020	
Site	Total Pre		# Pre Days		# Pre Days		Greatest		Total Snow		# Snow Days		# Snow Days		Greatest		Remarks		
	(in.)		(≥0.01")		(≥0.10")		(in.)		(in.)		(≥0.1")		(≥1.0")		(in.)				
	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Act	Date	Act	Dep	Act	Dep	Act	Dep	Daily	Date		Storm	Date
Richmond	3.54	0.36	10	-1	5	-2	1.40	7th	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0					
Norfolk	2.63	-0.74	6	-4	4	-2	1.54	7th	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0					
Salisbury	4.01	0.59	9	-2	6	-1	1.52	7th	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0					
Wallops Island	3.46	0.34	8	-3	5	-1	1.39	7th	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0					
Elizabeth City	1.98	-1.18	5	-4	3	-3	1.54	7th	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0					
Ashland, VA	3.56	0.15	6	-4	6	-1	1.15	7th	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0					
Louisa, VA	3.72	0.34	7	-4	5	-2	1.72	7th	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0					
Wakefield, VA	4.14	0.38	8	-2	3	-4	1.74	7th	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0					
Williamsburg, VA	4.31	0.33	11	1	5	-2	1.99	11th	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0					
Edenton, NC	2.79	-0.48	5	-3	3	-3	1.38	8th	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0					

\* **"Dep"**= **Departure** from the 30-year normals (1991-2020). Temperature departures are shaded orange for 1 F or more warmer than average (dark red for 4 F or greater anomalies) and blue for 1 F or more cooler than average (dark blue for 4 F or more below normal). Similarly, precipitation departures are shaded green for 0.50" or more wetter than average (dark green for 2.00" or more) and tan for 0.50" or more drier than average (dark brown for 2.00" or more drier). Snowfall departures are shaded purple for 1" or more above average and tan for 1" or more below average. **\*\*Rankings in Remark section are included for Co-op sites where a complete period of record is of sufficient duration.** **N/A in Remarks section indicates sites with a shorter period of record, leading to rankings being of less significance**

# Daily Average Temperature Departures at Richmond & Norfolk, VA (April)

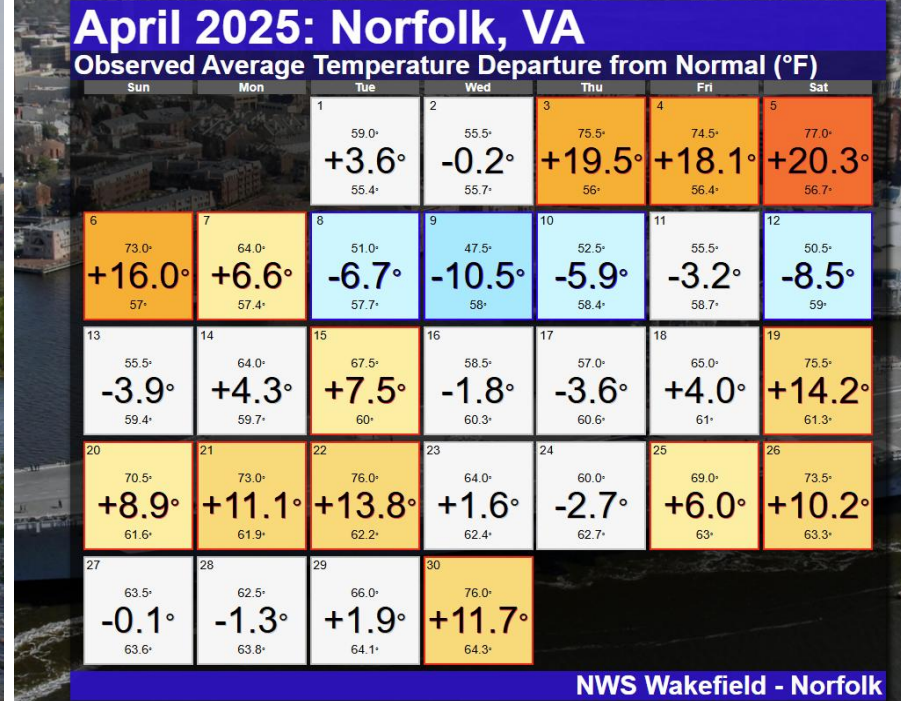
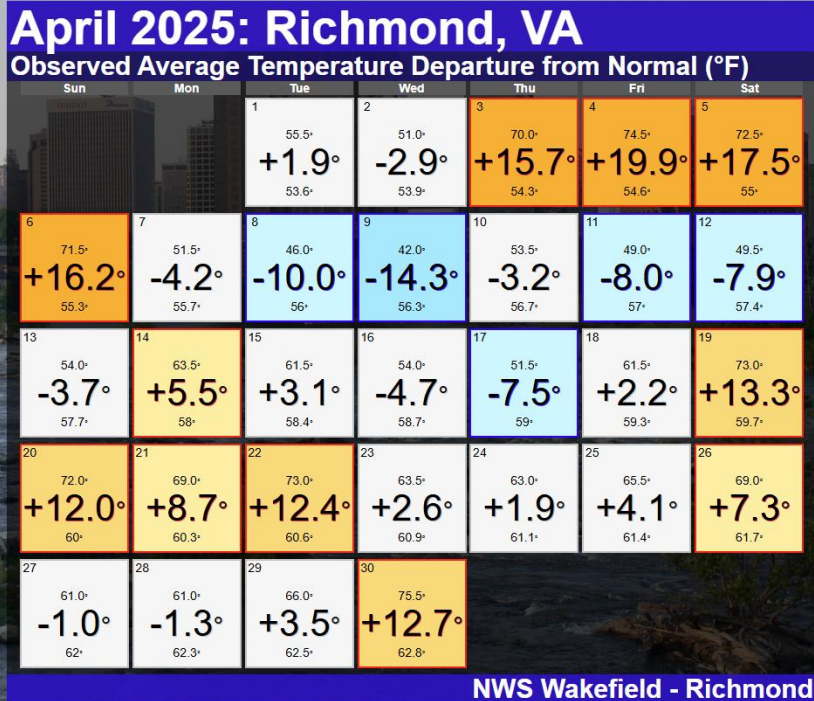
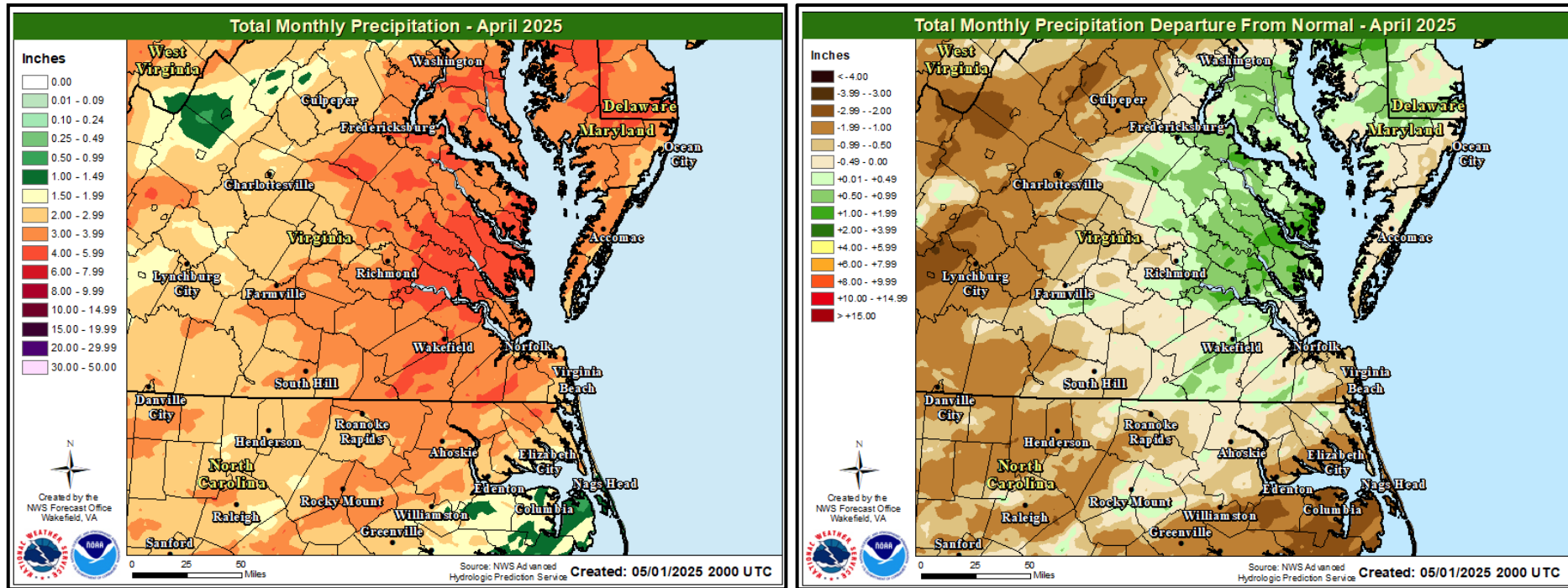


Figure 2: Daily Average Temperature Departures at RIC and ORF

# Regional Precipitation Maps: April 2025



**Figure 3:** *Total Precipitation* for the month is shown in the map on the left. *Departure* from the 30-year normals (1991-2020) is shown on the map on the right.

# Daily Records for Long Term Sites (April):

## Norfolk, VA Records (Period of Record 152 yrs./1874-2025)

*\*tie*

**Record Highs:** \*86° (4th), 89° (5th).

**Daily Snowfall:** none set.

**Record Low Maximums:** none set.

**Record Lows:** none set.

**Record High Minimums:** 65° (5th), 67° (22nd).

**Daily Precipitation:** none set.

## Richmond, VA Daily Records (Period of Record 129 yrs./1897-2025)

*\*tie*

**Record Highs:** none set.

**Daily Snowfall:** none set.

**Record Low Maximums:** none set.

**Record Lows:** none set.

**Record High Minimums:** 63° (22nd).

**Daily Precipitation:** 1.37" (11th).

## Salisbury, MD Daily Records (Period of Record 119 yrs./1907-2025)

*\*tie*

**Record Highs:** none set.

**Daily Snowfall:** none set.

**Record Low Maximums:** none set.

**Record Lows:** none set.

**Record High Minimums:** none set.

**Daily Precipitation:** 1.47" (11th).

## Elizabeth City, NC Daily Records (Period of Record 92 yrs./1934-2025)

*\*tie*

**Record Highs:** \*88° (4th).

**Daily Snowfall:** none set.

**Record Low Maximums:** none set.

**Record Lows:** none set.

**Record High Minimums:** 70° (4th), 67° (5th), \*66 (22nd).

**Daily Precipitation:** none set.