



NWS Houston, Texas

April 2020

Regional Climate Summary

Produced by Jimmy Fowler

...Stormy April Resulting in Drought Improvements...

The month of April was a very different month across Southeast Texas compared to March. A series of cold fronts brought rounds of showers and thunderstorms across the region bringing some much needed rain for parts of the region. Although the scattered nature of these showers and thunderstorms did result in some areas getting more precipitation than others. Most of the drought north of I-10 has been removed, however Extreme Drought conditions are still being felt in the southwestern portion of the area. There were some severe weather events during the second half of the month. An EF-3 tornado went through most of Polk County on the 22nd and then a squall line brought damaging winds across the most of the region on the 29th.

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By the Numbers: April 2020

Location (records started)	Average Temp	Ranking	Total Rainfall	Ranking
City of Houston, TX (1888)	70.8°F	31 st Warmest	6.20"	24 th Wettest
Houston Hobby, TX (1930)	72.5°F	14 th Warmest	2.82"	46 th Driest
City of Galveston, TX (1871)	73.8°F	6 th Warmest	2.35"	68 th Driest
City of College Station, TX (1882)	68.5°F	64 th Warmest	3.86"	50 th Wettest
Conroe, TX (1997)	67.8°F	11 th Warmest	4.25"	3 rd Wettest
Huntsville, TX (1997)	68.6°F	12 th Warmest	2.49"	11 th Driest
Sugar Land, TX (2000)	71.0°F	8 th Warmest	2.38"	11 th Driest
Palacios, TX (1943)	72.1°F	19 th Warmest	1.64"	30 th Driest
Clover Field (Pearland), TX (1997)	72.0°F	8 th Warmest	1.06"	4 th Driest
David Wayne Hooks (Tomball), TX (1998)	69.0°F	11 th Warmest	3.92"	6 th Wettest
Angleton, TX (1998)	70.9°F	10 th Warmest	2.65"	13 th Driest
League City, TX (1990)	71.3°F	10 th Warmest	3.32"	16 th Driest



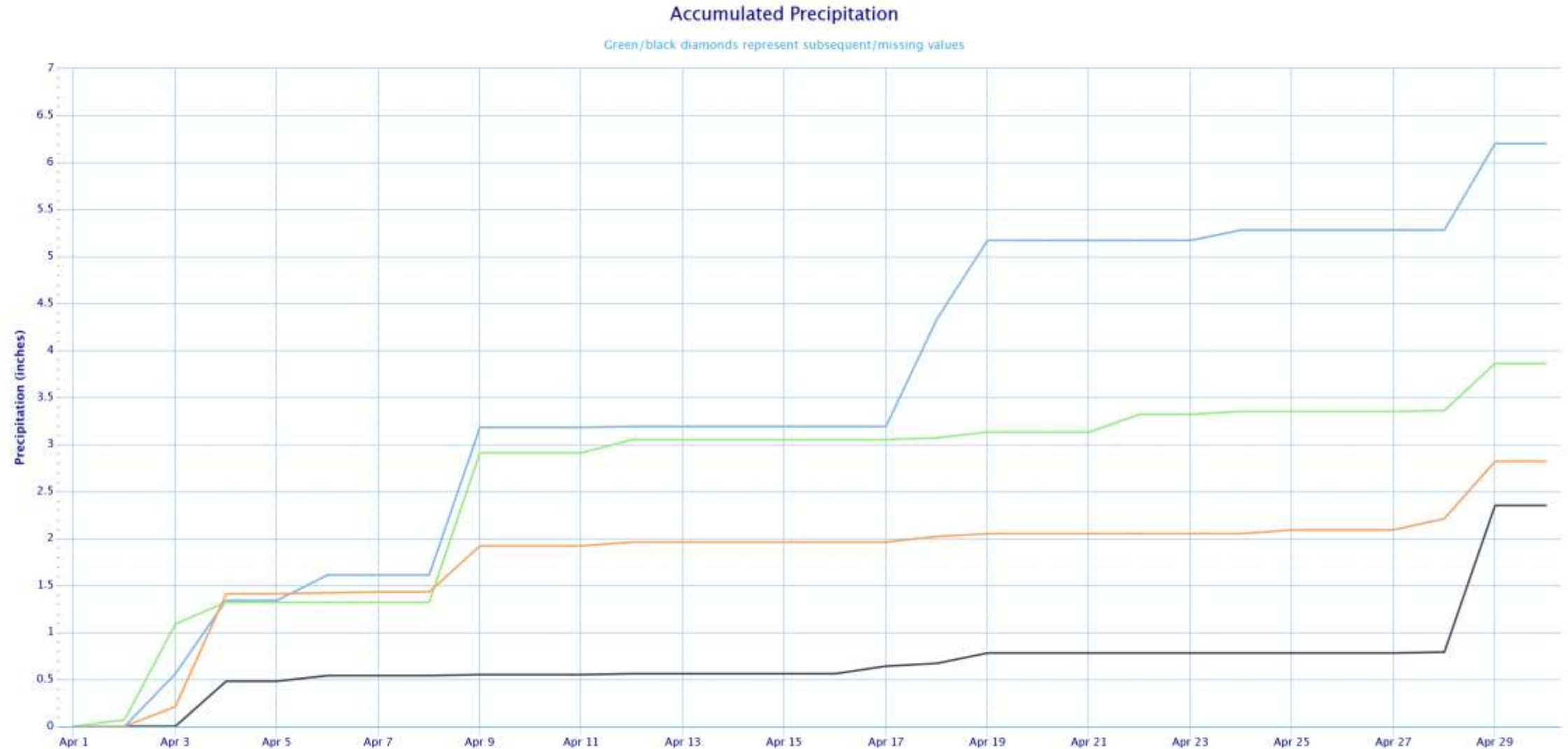
Precipitation

Location	Total Precipitation (in.)	Departure from Normal (in.)	Number of Thunder Days	Maximum Daily Precipitation (in./date)	
Galveston (GLS)	2.35	-0.70	5	1.56	29 th
Houston Hobby (HOU)	2.82	-0.43	7	1.20	4 th
City of Houston (IAH)	6.20	+2.89	8	1.57	9 th
College Station (CLL)	3.86	+1.20	8	1.59	9 th

Scattered showers and thunderstorms led to a fairly uneven distribution of precipitation totals during the month of April. The City of Houston saw over six inches of rain during the month, but the Houston-Hobby Airport only saw about two and a half inches. Overall the area saw some much needed rain compared to the past few months resulting in drought improvements across much of the area. The City of Houston did report hail on April 9th, which is recorded as a trace of snow in the daily records.



Precipitation Accumulation Graph



City of Houston

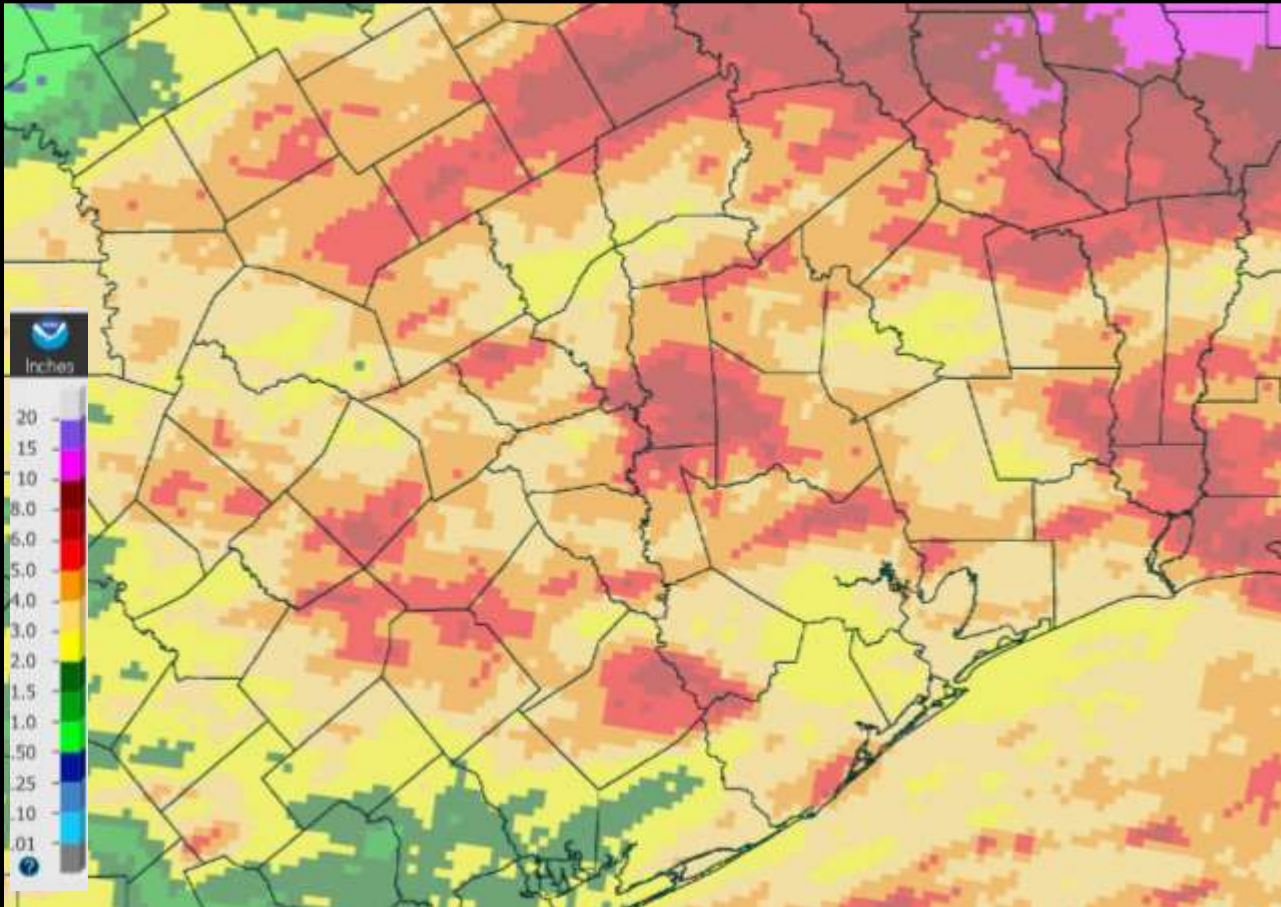
City of Galveston

City of College Station

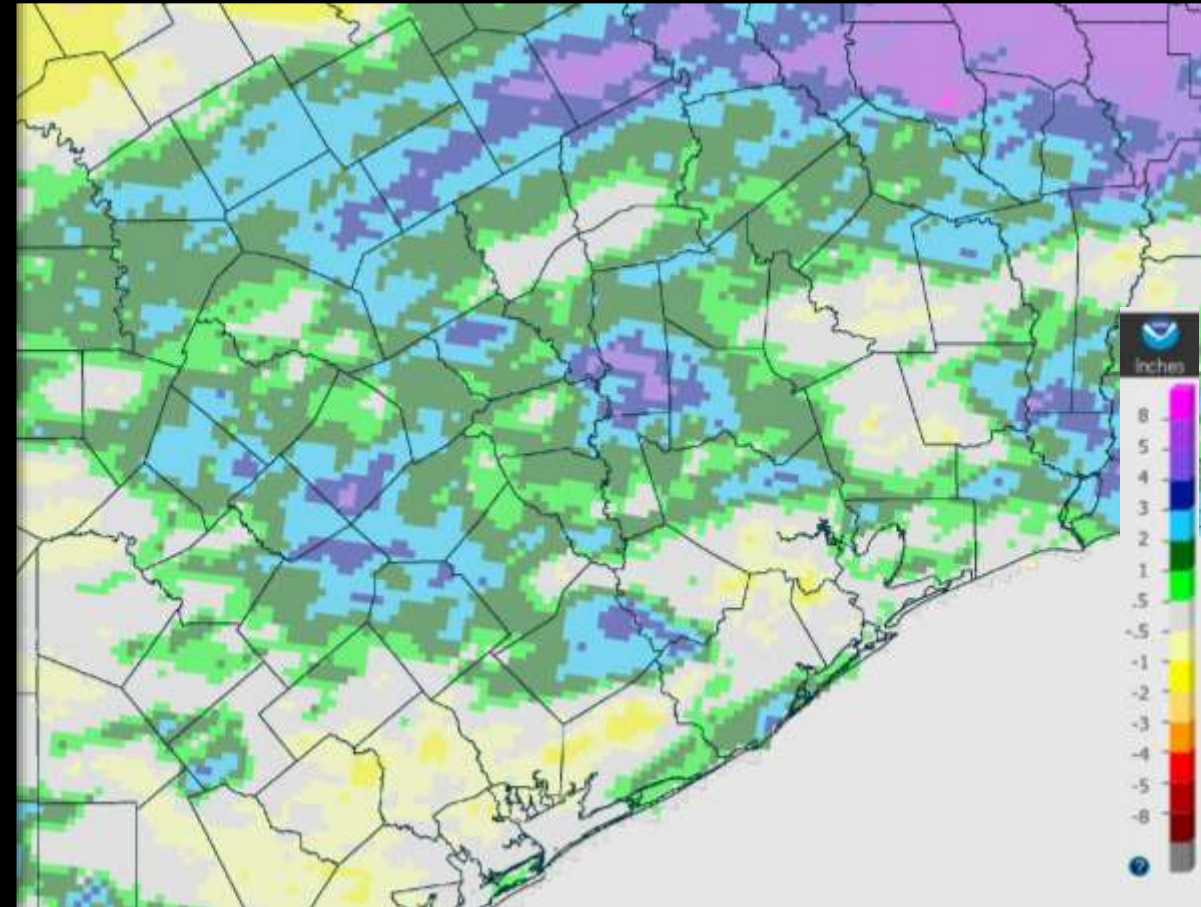
Houston-Hobby

Precipitation Maps

Total Precipitation during April (inches)



Precipitation Total Difference from Normal during April (inches)



Temperature

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Location	Average High Temp (F)	Average Low Temp (F)	Average Temp (F)	Normal Average Temp (F)	Departure From Normal Average (F)	Maximum Temperature (F)	Minimum Temperature (F)
Galveston (GLS)	79.6	68.1	73.8	70.1	+3.7	92 on the 12 th	53 on the 16 th
Houston Hobby (HOU)	81.4	63.6	72.5	69.8	+2.7	93 on the 12 th	50 on the 14 th & 15 th
City of Houston (IAH)	80.9	60.7	70.8	69.5	+1.3	92 on the 12 th & 24 th	47 on the 15 th
College Station (CLL)	78.9	58.0	68.5	68.5	0.0	92 on the 24 th	44 on the 15 th

Increased precipitation kept the temperatures closer to normal during the month of April compared to March, but it still skewed above average. The warmest day of the month for most of the area was on April 12th (Easter) when dry westerly winds quickly brought temperatures into the 90s across the area. This ended up being the warmest Easter on record across most of the area. There were nine daily temperature records broken through April.



Temperature Charts

Daily Temperature Data – College Station Area, TX (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – Max temperature: 1888-10-01 to 2020-04-30, Min temperature: 1882-05-15 to 2020-04-30. Normals period: 1981-2010. Click and drag to zoom chart.



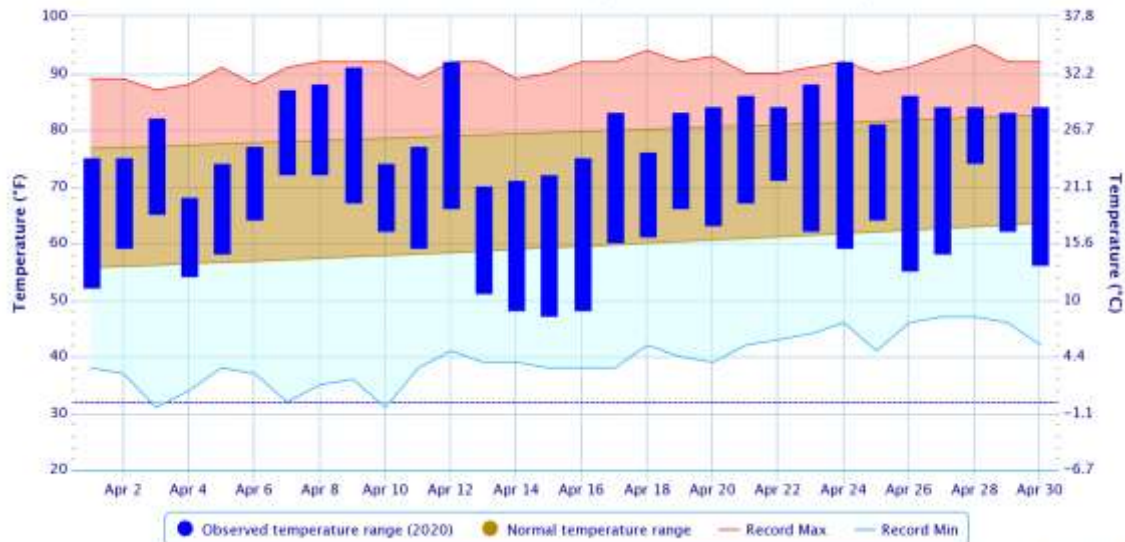
Daily Temperature Data – Galveston Area, TX (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – 1874-05-10 to 2020-04-30. Normals period: 1981-2010. Click and drag to zoom chart.



Daily Temperature Data – Houston Area, TX (ThreadEx)

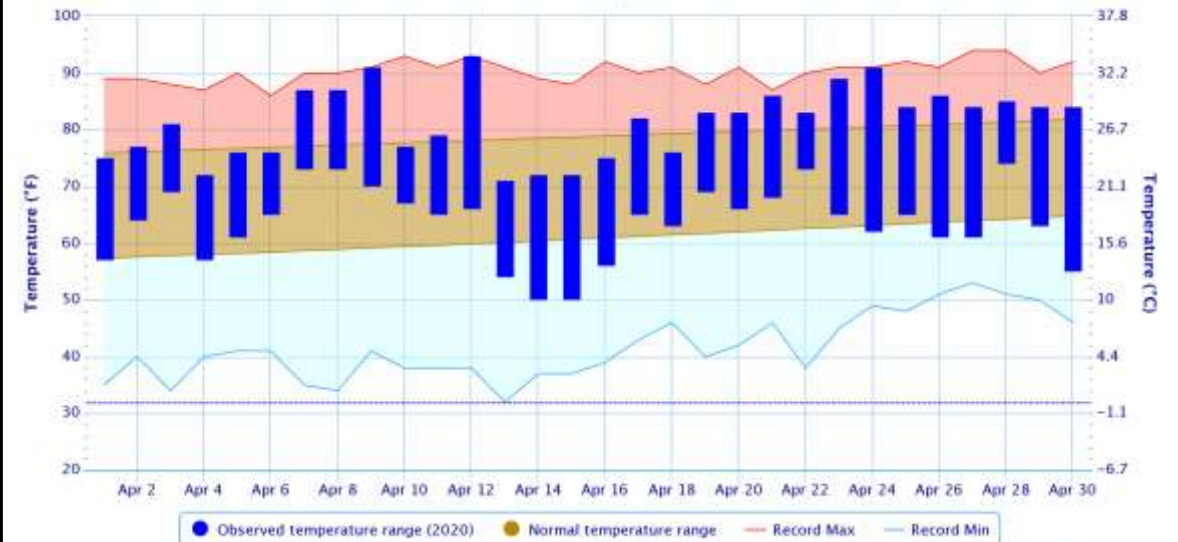
Period of Record – 1889-05-01 to 2020-04-30. Normals period: 1981-2010. Click and drag to zoom chart.



Powered by ACS

Daily Temperature Data – HOUSTON WILLIAM P HOBBY AP, TX

Period of Record – 1930-08-01 to 2020-04-30. Normals period: 1981-2010. Click and drag to zoom chart.



Powered by ACS

Daily Record Reports

Site	Date	Record Type	New Record	Previous Record
City of College Station	April 4 th	Low Max Temperature	53° - T	53° in 2013
City of Houston	April 7 th	High Min Temperature	72° - T	72° in 1999
City of Houston	April 12 th	High Max Temperature	92°	89° in 1981
City of Houston	April 24 th	High Max Temperature	92° - T	92° in 1894
Houston-Hobby	April 7 th	High Min Temperature	73°	71° in 1965
Houston-Hobby	April 8 th	High Min Temperature	73°	72° in 2015
Houston-Hobby	April 9 th	High Max Temperature	91°	90° in 2019
Houston-Hobby	April 12 th	High Max Temperature	93°	89° in 1936
Houston-Hobby	April 24 th	High Max Temperature	91°	90° in 1987
City of Galveston	April 6 th	High Min Temperature	72° - T	72° in 1967

There was 14 daily records set during the month of April.



Key

High Max

Low Max

Precip

High Min

Low Min



Daily Record Reports

Site	Date	Record Type	New Record	Previous Record
City of Galveston	April 7 th	High Min Temperature	74°	73° in 1929
City of Galveston	April 8 th	High Min Temperature	75°	74° in 1882
City of Galveston	April 12 th	High Max Temperature	92°	85° in 1943
City of Galveston	April 23 rd	High Max Temperature	89°	86° in 1971

There was 14 daily records set during the month of April.



High Max

Low Max

Key
Precip

High Min

Low Min



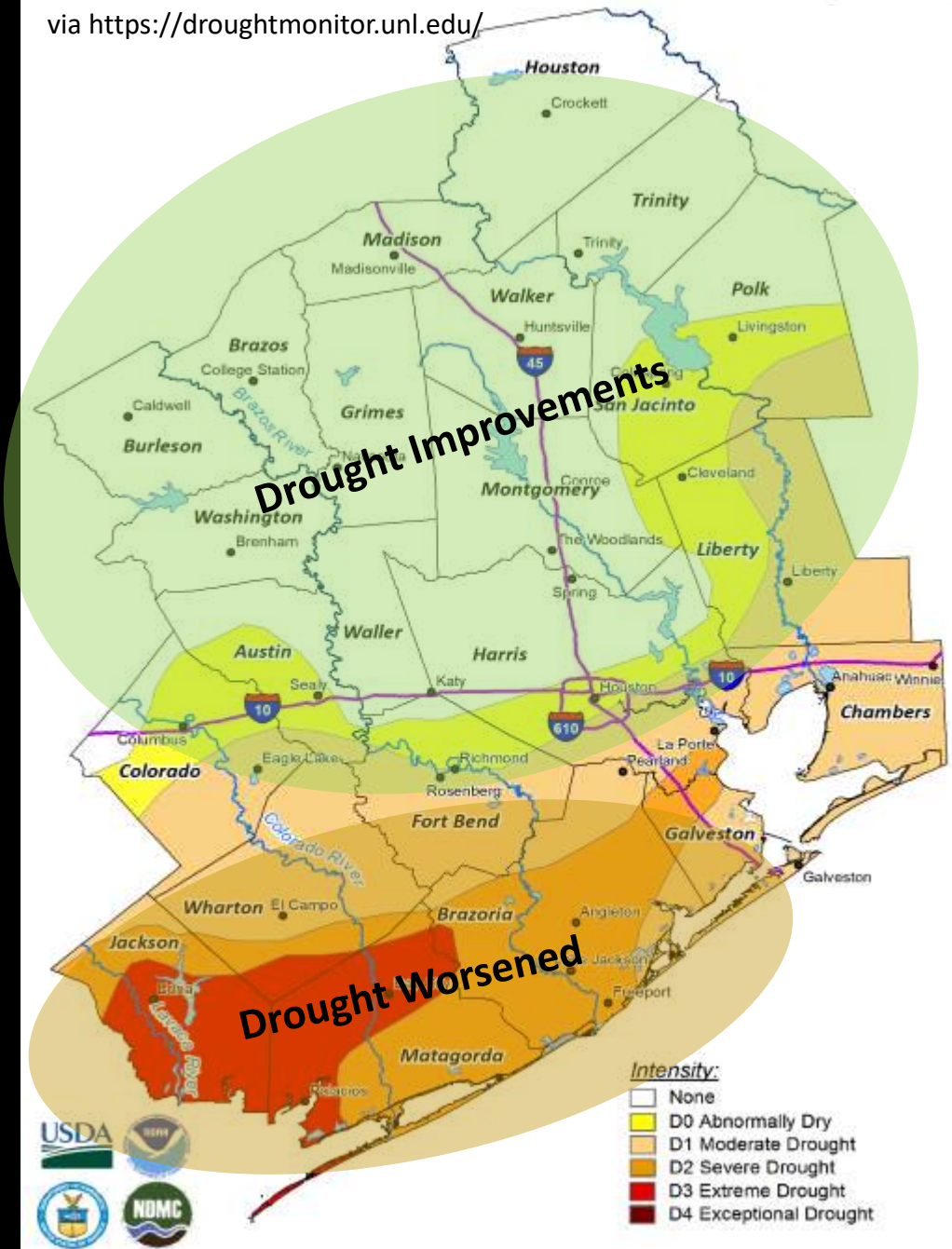
Drought Monitor

As of April 30th

During April, drought conditions across the northern portion of the region continued to improve, while areas across the southwest and along the coast continued to get worse.

No drought conditions are currently seen north of I-10, besides in Liberty, Polk, and San Jacinto counties which sees at least partial coverage of Moderate Drought (D1). The area of Extreme Drought (D3) expanded to cover more of Matagorda County, but there were some improvements as D3 is no longer seen in Colorado and Austin counties.

via <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

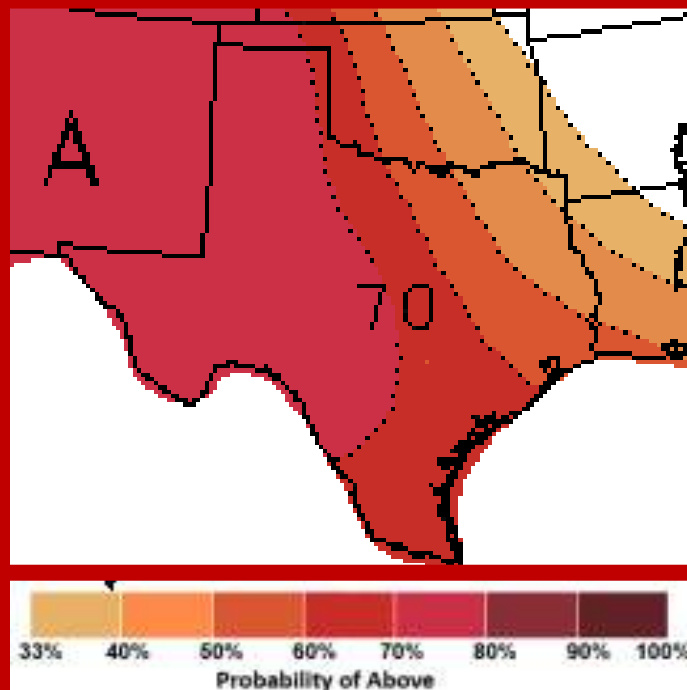


May Climatology & Outlook

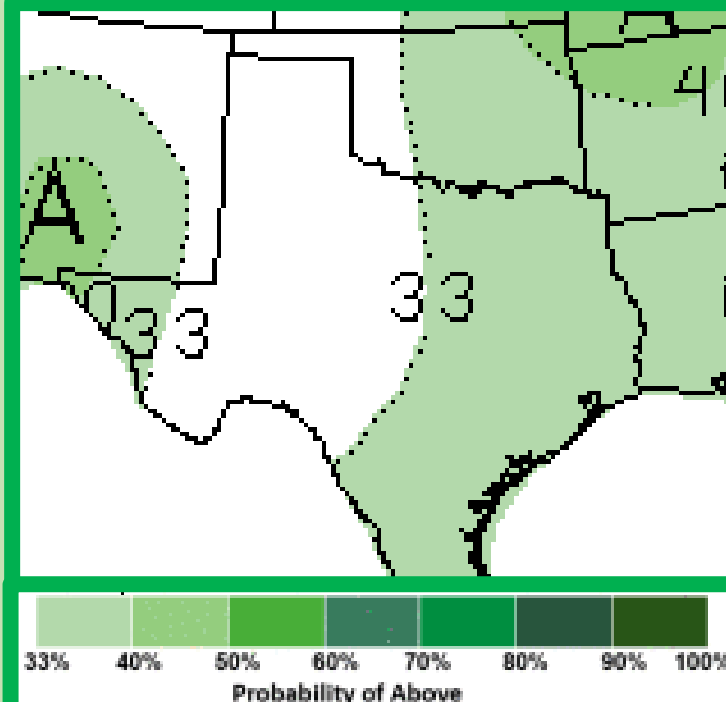
Location	Average Temp(°F)	Normal High (°F)	Normal Low (°F)
Galveston	77.6	83.0	72.3
Houston Hobby	77.0	85.4	68.7
City of Houston	76.9	86.3	67.6
College Station	76.2	85.8	66.6

Location	Normal Monthly Precipitation (in.)
Galveston	4.32
Houston Hobby	4.75
City of Houston	5.09
College Station	4.33

Temperature Outlook



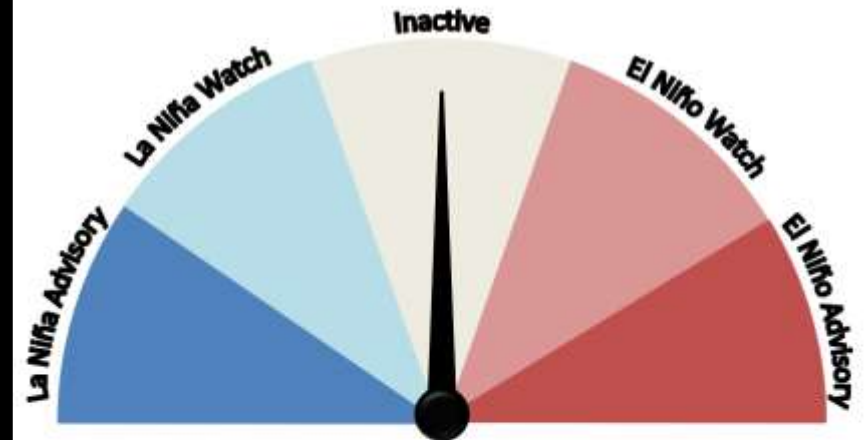
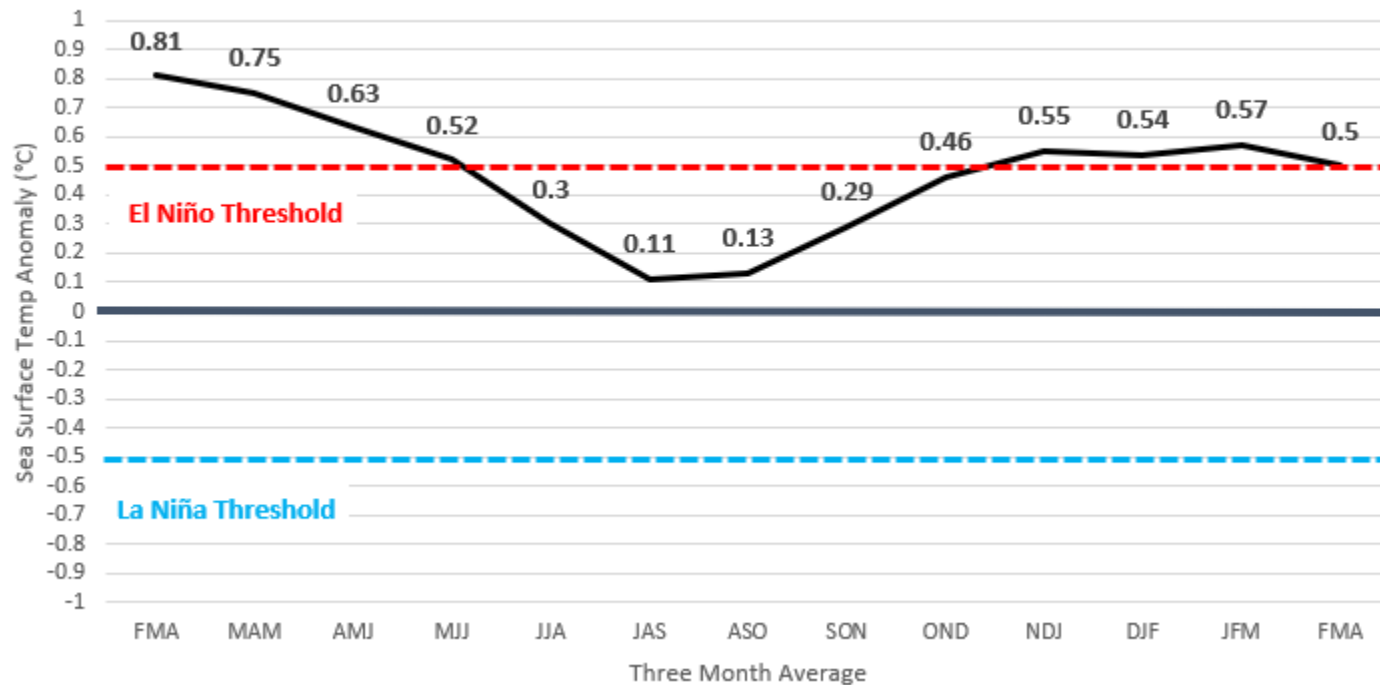
Precipitation Outlook



The Climate Prediction Center's ENSO Forecast: ENSO-Neutral Continues

- There is a 65% chance of ENSO-Neutral conditions continuing through the spring
- There is a 55% chance of ENSO-Neutral conditions continuing through the summer

Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies (°C) in the Tropical Pacific



El Niño or La Niña Watch: Issued when conditions are favorable for the development of El Niño or La Niña conditions within the next six months.

El Niño or La Niña Advisory: Issued when El Niño or La Niña conditions are observed and expected to continue.

April 22nd EF-3 Onalaska Tornado

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NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



Preliminary Damage Survey Results

San Jacinto-Polk County/Onalaska Tornado

Date	April 22, 2020
Time (Local)	5:35-6:15 PM, CDT
EF Rating	EF-3
Est. Peak Winds	140 MPH
Path Length	32 miles
Max Width	1100 yards
Injuries/Deaths	33/3

On April 22, a tornado touched down on the west coast of Lake Livingston in San Jacinto County. It crossed the lake and struck the city of Onalaska and continued across much of Polk County. NWS meteorologists found evidence that most damage along the path of this tornado was of EF-1 or EF-2 intensity. They did find EF-3 damage in the Paradise Acres subdivision in Onalaska, with estimated winds of 140 mph.

NWS Houston/Galveston

ISSUED: 9:50 PM - Thursday, April 23, 2020



Climate Primary Site History

Galveston (GLS)

Records for Galveston are from observations at the following locations: 67-69 Strand (April 1, 1871 - Aug 31, 1874); 23rd and the Strand (Sep 1, 1874 - July 29, 1878), 1.75 miles WSW of the previous location; the Custom House at Bath Street and the Strand (July 30, 1878 - May 8, 1882); Colorado and Santa Fe Railroad Building at 25th and the Strand (May 9, 1882 - March 14, 1883); back to the Custom House which later became the Cotton Exchange Building (March 15, 1883 - June 24, 1898), about a 1/3 of a mile E of the previous Custom House location; The Levy Building at 2223 Market Street (June 25, 1898 - Nov 26, 1900); the Trust Building at Tremont and Post Office Streets (Nov 27, 1900 - June 24, 1946), one-quarter mile south of the Levy Building; the U.S. Post Office Building at 601 Rosenberg (June 25, 1946 - 1994); Scholes Field (January 1995 to present).

College Station (CLL)

Records from 1893 through July 1951 are based on observations taken at the Texas Agriculture Experiment COOP Station main farm located 6 miles southwest of College Station. Records from August 1951 through the present are based on observations taken at Easterwood Field. Normal temperatures are calculated from 1981 to 2000 period.

City of Houston (IAH)

Records for the City of Houston are from observations at the following locations: Cotton Station from July 1881 through September 1909, Stewart Building at Preston and Fannin from September 1909 through February 1926, Shell Building at Texas and Fannin from March 1926 through August 1938, Federal Building at Franklin and Fannin from August 1938 through May 1969, Intercontinental Airport from June 1969 to the present .

Houston Hobby (HOU)

Records are based upon observations beginning in August 1931.

