PUBLISH DATE: MAY 27, 2025

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA MONTHLY CLIMATE REPORT APRIL 2025

WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE NEWPORT/MOREHEAD CITY, NC

National Weather Service NEWPORT/MOREHEAD CITY, NC

MONTHLY SUMMARY

pril continued the streak of warm and dry weather from March, allowing drought conditions to expand across eastern North Carolina. The bulk of precipitation was focused in the middle of the month, associated with a strong cold front and a passing upper low. Otherwise, most areas were dependent on scatter-shot convective activity. Cape Hatteras struggled to see rainfall, picking up less than an inch overall and experiencing its 5th driest April on record. The average precipitation across the region was 2.31", or roughly two-thirds of the 1991-2020 normal.

Temperatures remained elevated in April across eastern North Carolina, much like the rest of the state. The average temperature was 65.2°F, or 4.1°F above the 1991-2020 normal. This ended up being the 2nd warmest April on record for every county in our forecast area, as well as the entire state of North Carolina. The combination of heat and dry weather allowed drought conditions to expand after March's brief retreat – over 25% of the region was in Severe (D2) drought by the end of the month.

TEMPERATURES

Temperatures stayed well on the warm side across North Carolina in April, nearing record territory according to the North Carolina State Climate Office. The average temperature statewide for April was 63.0°F or 4.0°F above the 1991-2020 average. This was the 2nd warmest April statewide since records began in 1895, with 131 years of data.



April 2025 Temperature Summary | Source: NC State Climate Office

Eastern North Carolina temperature anomalies were very similiar compared to the rest of the state, with temperatures across our 15 counties 4.1°F above the 1991-2020 average. Since their respective records began, April 2025 was the 5th warmest for Cape Hatteras and 3rd warmest for New Bern. **Due to instrument failure, temperature data at Cape Hatteras is unavailable from Apr 4-9th.**

MITA Select Site Temperature Statistics. April 2025							
Site	Avg. High (°F)	Avg. Low (°F)	Avg. Temp (°F)	Normal (°F)	Departure (°F)		
Beaufort (KMRH)	74.2	59.7	67.0	62.1	4.9		
Hatteras (KHSE)	72.0	57.2	64.6	61.8	2.8		
New Bern (KEWN)	77.8	54.6	66.2	61.8	4.4		

MHX Select Site Temperature Statistics: April 2025

Normals are based on a period from 1990-2020.

County-averaged statistics are presented in the following table. **Mean and departure calculations are based on the 1991-2020 climate normals.** Data courtesy of the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI).

County	Avg. Temperature (°F)	Mean (°F)	Departure (°F)	Rank
Beaufort	65.5	61.3	4.2	2 W
Carteret	66.2	61.9	4.3	2 W
Craven	65.7	61.5	4.2	2 W
Dare	64.2	60.0	4.2	2 W
Duplin	65.3	61.2	4.1	2 W
Greene	65.0	61.0	4.0	2 W
Hyde	65.3	61.3	4.0	2 W
Jones	65.4	61.3	4.1	2 W
Lenoir	65.0	61.3	3.7	2 W
Martin	64.2	60.3	3.9	2 W
Onslow	65.8	61.7	4.1	2 W
Pamlico	66.3	61.9	4.4	2 W
Pitt	64.7	60.9	3.8	2 W
Tyrrell	64.8	60.5	4.3	2 W
Washington	64.7	60.6	4.1	2 W
Area Average	65.2	61.1	4.1	

Means are based on a period from 1991-2020. For rankings, "C" designates coldest and "W" designates warmest.

The upper level pattern across the United States in April was characterized by strong ridging over the country's eastern half at both the beginning and end of the month, giving way only briefly to weak troughing from April 7-17 per analysis from the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI). The strongest ridging occurred at the beginning of April (1-6th), and here temperatures soared to 12-15 degrees above the 20th century average. The "coolest" period, associated with mid-month troughing, was still within 3 degrees of average. The remainder of April saw anomalies return to 3-6 degrees above normal as less pronounced ridging returned.



Daily Maximum and Minimum Temperatures

No temperature records were set at New Bern and Cape Hatteras in April. All of our counties experienced their 2nd warmest Aprils on record, per NCEI.

PRECIPITATION

Analysis conducted by the North Carolina State Climate Office indicated average statewide precipitation was 3.02" for April, or 0.83" inches below average. This ended up being the 42nd driest April for the state since records began in 1895.



April 2025 Precipitation Summary | Source: NC State Climate Office

Eastern North Carolina was primarily drier than the rest of the state, although some pockets of nearnormal rainfall did fall across the coastal plain. Cape Hatteras recorded its 5th driest April, while New Bern experienced its 19th driest. The average accumulation across the MHX forecast area was 2.31", or 1.21" below the 1991-2020 average.

Site	Total Precipitation (in.)	Normal (in.)	Departure (in.)
Beaufort (KMRH)	1.68	3.39	-1.71
Hatteras (KHSE)	0.64	3.92	-3.28
New Bern (KEWN)	1.76	3.18	-1.42

County-averaged statistics are presented in the following table. **Mean and departure calculations are based on the 1991-2020 climate normals.** Data courtesy of the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI).

County	Avg. Accum. (in.)	Mean (in.)	Departure (in.)	Rank
Beaufort	2.05	3.45	-1.40	24 D
Carteret	1.56	3.53	-1.97	17 D
Craven	2.18	3.45	-1.27	33 D
Dare	1.56	3.31	-1.75	20 D
Duplin	3.07	3.62	-0.55	64 D
Greene	3.10	3.72	-0.62	54 D
Hyde	1.49	3.40	-1.91	13 D
Jones	2.56	3.48	-0.92	45 D
Lenoir	3.40	3.61	-0.21	64 W
Martin	2.53	3.66	-1.13	38 D
Onslow	2.42	3.58	-1.16	46 D
Pamlico	1.86	3.41	-1.55	22 D
Pitt	2.75	3.66	-0.91	45 D
Tyrrell	2.00	3.38	-1.38	26 D
Washington	2.05	3.53	-1.48	28 D
Area Average	2.31	3.52	-1.21	

Means are based on a period from 1991-2020. For rankings, "W" designates wettest and "D" designates driest.

The wettest period in April was the 7-8th, and to a lesser extent the 11th, coinciding with the brief period of troughing over the eastern United States. The highest rainfall totals fell on the 7-8th as a strong cold front slowly drifted across the Carolinas after dousing much of the Midwest and southern plains a few days prior. A second, more scatter-shot round of precipitation fell on the 11th as showers and thunderstorms developed ahead of a wave of low pressure lifting across the state. Outside of this period, any rainfall was dependent on highly variable shower and storm develop. Overall, precipitation was roughly 66% of 1991-2020 normals for eastern North Carolina. No daily rainfall records were set across the climate sites in April.



Monthly Accumulated Precipitation

After a brief reprieve on March, drought conditions worsened in April. Severe (D2) drought expanded across the forecast area, impacting 25.5% of the area by month's end and focused along the Highway 17 corridor. Moderate (D1) drought expanded to 96% of the region.

U.S. Drought Monitor **Newport/Morehead City, NC WFO**



April 29, 2025 leased Thursday, May. 1, 2025) Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	
Current	0.00	100.00	96.04	25.49	0.00	0.00
Last Week 04-22-2025	0.00	100.00	88.38	29.70	0.00	0.00
3 Month s Ago 01-28-2025	0.00	100.00	100.00	45.80	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-07-2025	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 04-30-2024	53.74	46.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

D2 Severe Drought D0 Abnormally Drv D3 Extreme Drought

D1 Moderate Drought D4 Exceptional Drough

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/Ab

Author: Richard Tinker CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP

Intensity:

None



ADDITIONAL CLIMATE RESOURCES

For a look at climate on the national scale, as well as statistics from a CONUS-wide to county and city level, please visit the **National Centers for Environmental Information** at https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/. Additional maps and data, as well as teaching materials and a climate resiliency toolkit, can be found at NOAA's https://www.climate.gov.

For additional drought information, including a wealth of maps of data focused on topics such as agriculture, fire, and water supply, please visit NOAA's National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) at https://www.drought.gov.

For climate statistics and real time observations across the state of North Carolina, please visit the **North Carolina State Climate Office** at <u>https://climate.ncsu.edu/</u>.

For climate forecasts and outlooks, visit the Climate Prediction Center at https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/.

For community-based precipitation observations from across the United States, visit **CoCoRaHS** at <u>https://www.cocorahs.org/</u>.

For climate statistics relevant to various regions of North Carolina, please visit the following climate pages:

Eastern (WFO Morehead City): https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=mhx

Southeastern (WFO Wilmington): https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=ilm

Northeastern (WFO Wakefield, VA): https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=akq

Central (WFO Raleigh): https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=rah

Northwestern (WFO Blacksburg, VA): https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=rnk

Southwestern (WFO Greer, SC): <u>https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=gsp</u>

Cherokee and Clay Co. (WFO Knoxville, TN): https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=mrx

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL TEMPERATURE DATA

Site	Avg. High (°F)	Avg. Low (°F)	Avg. Temp (°F)	Normal (°F)	Departure (°F)
Greenville	76.2	53.9	65.1	61.8	3.3
Kinston	77.1	53.4	65.3	63.4	1.9
Williamston	75.9	52.4	64.2	60.8	3.4
Plymouth	76.8	53.8	65.3	61.6	3.7
Bayboro	77.4	53.7	65.6	60.2	5.4
Manteo	71.1	56.6	63.9	59.6	4.2

Cooperative Observation Site Temperature Statistics: April 2025

Normals are based on a period from 1991-2020.

Site	Max High (°F)	Date Observed	Min Low (°F)	Date Observed
Beaufort (KMRH)	80	Apr 24-25	49	Apr 12-13
Hatteras (KHSE)	81	Apr 25	45	Apr 17
New Bern (KEWN)	89	Apr 6	41	Apr 13, 17
Greenville	87	Apr 30	38	Apr 10
Kinston	87	Apr 5-6, 21	39	Apr 10
Williamston	87	Apr 7	38	Apr 9-10
Plymouth	87	Apr 7	37	Apr 10
Bayboro	87	Apr 5, 7, 21	42	Apr 16-17
Manteo	84	Apr 7, 27	45	Apr 9-10

Maximum and Minimum Monthly Temperatures: April 2025

APPENDIX B: ADDITIONAL PRECIPITATION DATA

Site	Total Precipitation (in.)	Normal (in.)	Departure (in.)
Greenville	2.82	3.81	-0.99
Kinston	4.09	3.53	0.56
Williamston	2.63	3.72	-1.09
Plymouth	1.37	3.74	-2.37
Bayboro	2.39	3.76	-1.37

Cooperative Observation Site Precipitation Statistics: April 2025

Sites in red have missing data in their record.

Site	County	Amount (in.)
Bath 0.7 N	Beaufort	2.12
Aurora 4.8 E	Beaufort	1.93
Pantego 0.4 WSW	Beaufort	1.91
Washington 1.0 SSW	Beaufort	1.37
Morehead City 6.0 WNW	Carteret	1.82
Beaufort 3.6 NNW	Carteret	1.78
Beaufort 3.8 N	Carteret	1.76
Morehead City 2.9 WNW	Carteret	1.72
Beaufort 0.5 W	Carteret	1.71
Newport 2.5 W	Carteret	1.70
Newport 1.0 N	Carteret	1.67

Site	County	Amount (in.)
Morehead City 0.6 NW	Carteret	1.57
Beaufort 5.3 N	Carteret	1.55
Cedar Point 0.7 NNE	Carteret	1.54
Swansboro 2.7 NE	Carteret	1.49
Cedar Point 0.9 WSW	Carteret	1.47
Cape Carteret 1.0 NNW	Carteret	1.46
Cedar Point 0.4 WSW	Carteret	1.45
Pine Knoll Shores 0.3 NE	Carteret	1.40
Pine Knoll Shores 1.4 E	Carteret	1.37
Newport 2.3 SE	Carteret	1.36
Newport 1.7 SSE	Carteret	1.25
Cape Carteret 1.5 NE	Carteret	1.24
Newport 0.2 SW	Carteret	1.20
Cedar Island 0.3 SSE	Carteret	1.08
New Bern 1.3 NNE	Craven	2.70
Bridgeton 0.3 SSE	Craven	2.66
New Bern 5.3 SW	Craven	2.45
Trent Woods 1.3 WNW	Craven	2.29
New Bern 3.8 S	Craven	2.13
Brice Creek 0.9 WNW	Craven	2.04
Trent Woods 1.2 ENE	Craven	1.89

Site	County	Amount (in.)
Southern Shores 1.9 NNW	Dare	3.37
Kitty Hawk 2.4 NW	Dare	2.86
Southern Shores 0.5 NNE	Dare	2.57
Manteo 2.8 NW	Dare	1.37
Rodanthe 1.0 SSE	Dare	1.00
Buxton 0.3 ENE	Dare	0.62
Mount Olive 2.4 SW	Duplin	4.79
Kenansville 1.1 SW	Duplin	1.93
Rose Hill 0.1 NNW	Duplin	1.63
Ayden 6.5 WNW	Greene	3.09
SQ Tower	Hyde	1.06
Ocracoke 0.6 SW	Hyde	0.81
Kinston 3.1 W	Lenoir	3.67
Kinston 4.4 WNW	Lenoir	3.41
Kinston 1.2 NW	Lenoir	3.36
Kinston 4.6 ESE	Lenoir	3.31
Kinston 5.1 WNW	Lenoir	3.19
Pink Hill 2.5 NE	Lenoir	2.93
Grifton 1.8 WNW	Lenoir	2.11
Williamston 8.9 SSE	Martin	2.45
Jamesville 6.1 SW	Martin	1.97

Site	County	Amount (in.)
Jacksonville 5.4 WSW	Onslow	2.89
Jacksonville 3.3 W	Onslow	2.29
Swansboro 1.2 NNW	Onslow	1.90
Swansboro 2.8 WSW	Onslow	1.81
Hubert 4.9 SE	Onslow	1.71
Jacksonville 2.4 NNE	Onslow	1.64
Sneads Ferry 3.3 SW	Onslow	1.52
Grantsboro 4.6 SSW	Pamlico	3.22
Lowland 0.2 SE	Pamlico	1.85
Oriental 4.3 NNW	Pamlico	1.76
Merritt 1.5 WSW	Pamlico	1.73
Fountain 0.1 NE	Pitt	3.39
Farmville 0.8 ESE	Pitt	3.38
Greenville 5.7 NW	Pitt	2.87
Winterville 3.5 W	Pitt	2.75
Greenville 4.4 SSE	Pitt	2.72
Greenville 4.6 W	Pitt	2.58
Greenville 7.1 SSE	Pitt	2.43
Greenville 5.0 SE	Pitt	2.34
Greenville 2.8 ESE	Pitt	1.85
Columbia 0.8 NNE	Tyrrell	2.06

Site	County	Amount (in.)
------	--------	--------------

CoCoRaHS inclusion in this table is based on a complete 30-day liquid precipitation record. Thank you to all observers!