

## Climate and Weather Summary for April 2018

Table 1 summarizes April 2018 temperature, precipitation, and departure from normal for Abilene and San Angelo.

Site	Average Temperature (°F)	Departure from Normal (°F)	Normal Average Temperature (°F)	Total Precipitation (In.)	Departure from Normal (In)	Normal April Precipitation (In.)	Total Snowfall (In.)
Abilene	61.0°	-3.6°	64.6°	0.30"	-1.34"	1.64"	0.0
San Angelo	64.3°	-1.7°	66.0°	0.13"	-1.29"	1.42"	0.0

**Table 1: April Climate Data for Abilene and San Angelo.**

Additional temperature and precipitation data for Abilene and San Angelo is summarized in Table 2.

Site	Warmest High Temperature (°F)	Warmest Low Temperature (°F)	Coollest High Temperature (°F)	Coldest Low Temperature (°F)	Maximum Daily Precipitation (In.)
Abilene	94° on Apr. 12	64° Apr. 12	44° Apr. 7	28° on Apr. 7	0.16" Apr. 24
San Angelo	98° on Apr. 12	64° on Apr. 12	51° on Apr. 7	32° on Apr. 15	0.09" Apr. 21

**Table 2: Additional April Climate Data for Abilene and San Angelo.**

- Monthly precipitation was well-below normal at Abilene and San Angelo.
- This was the 10<sup>th</sup> driest April on record at San Angelo. Abilene tied its 8<sup>th</sup> driest April on record. Climate records date back to 1886 for Abilene, and 1907 for San Angelo.
- Temperatures averaged below normal for April at San Angelo, and to a greater extent at Abilene.
- At Abilene, a daily record low temperature of 28 degrees was tied on Apr. 7.
- At San Angelo, a new daily low temperature of 34 degrees was set on Apr. 26.

A map of total precipitation for April is shown in Figure 1. Percentage of normal precipitation for April is shown in Figure 2.

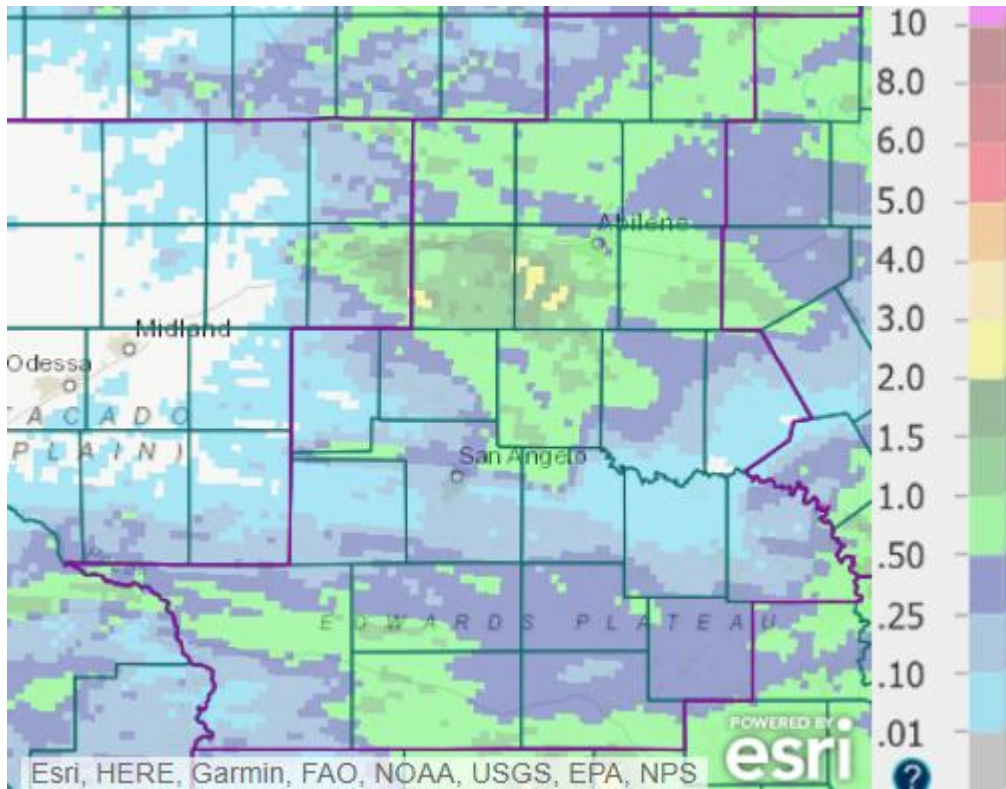


Figure 1: Total Precipitation for April.

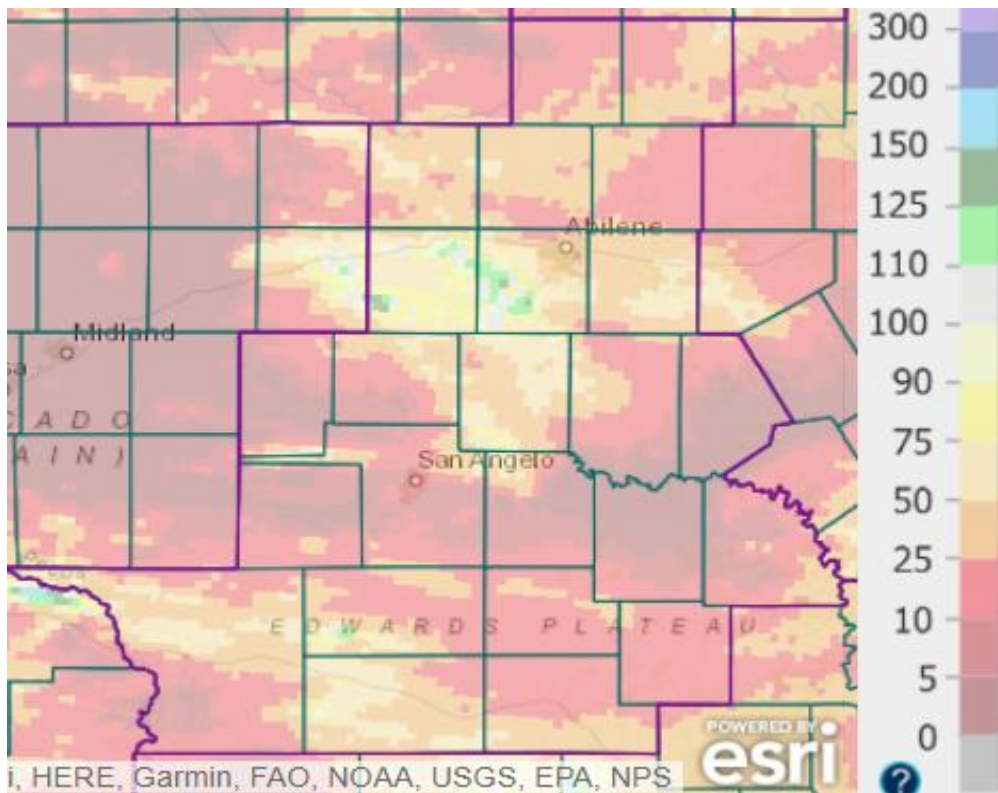


Figure 2: Percentage of Normal Precipitation for April.

Precipitation for April was well-below normal across most of west-central Texas. For much of west-central Texas, April precipitation was less than 25 percent of normal (red shading in Figure 2). The only areas which received near to above normal precipitation for the month were in the Big Country south of Interstate 20, and in part of southwestern Schleicher County. Most of the April precipitation occurred with a rain event on Apr. 24-25.

**Weather Highlights:**

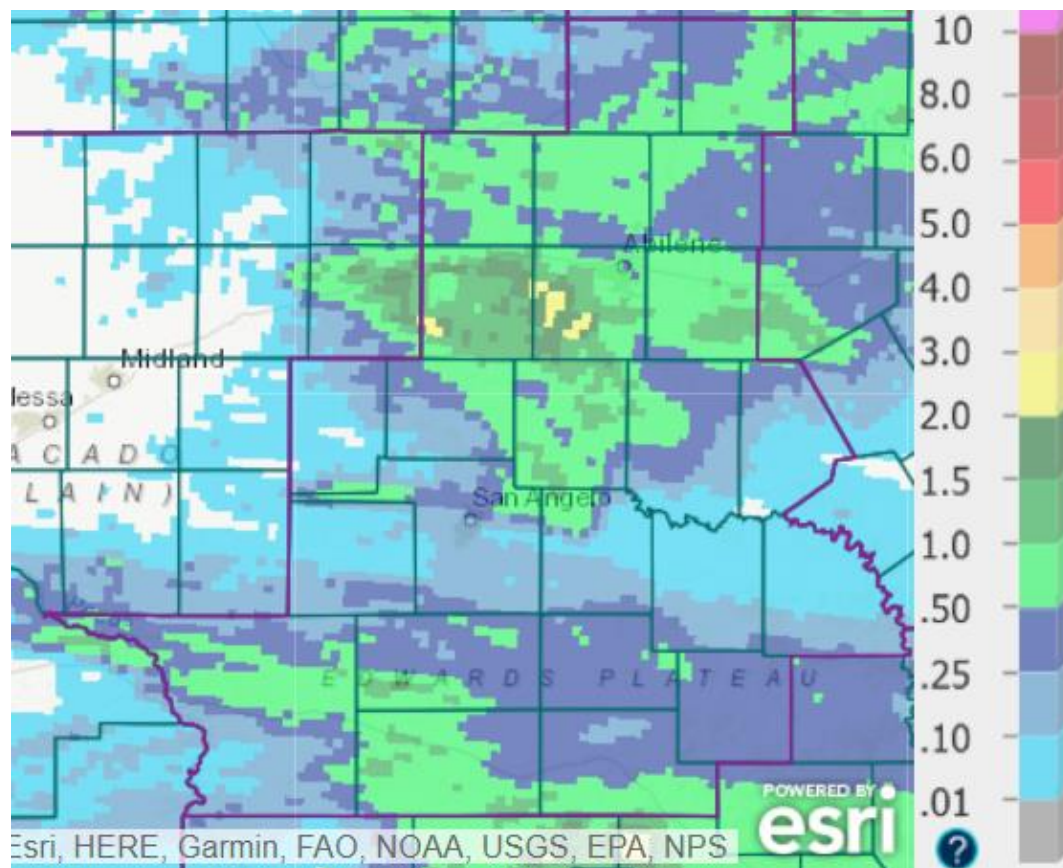
Much of April was marked with a roller coaster type pattern with the temperatures, and windy conditions. Some of the days were very warm with highs 85-95 degrees, and were often accompanied by gusty south to southwest winds. Periodic, dry but fairly strong cold frontal passages brought abruptly cooler temperatures and gusty north winds. Daily peak wind gusts were 40 mph or higher on several days during the month. In the days following cold frontal passages, high pressure systems settled into the area, resulting in cold nighttime temperatures. The coldest low temperatures were on Apr. 7 and 15, when many locations recorded a light freeze.

With a combination of lack of precipitation, rather dry airmasses occupying the area, and gusty winds, critical fire weather conditions occurred on a number of days. Several wildfires (grass fires) were reported. Information on the larger fires is summarized in the table below.

<b>Location of Fire</b>	<b>Size (estimated number of acres burned)</b>	<b>Dates of Occurrence</b>
<b>Southeast Jones County</b>	<b>2625</b>	<b>Apr. 13-15</b>
<b>Northern Crockett County</b>	<b>4173</b>	<b>Apr. 13-17</b>
<b>Mason County</b>	<b>1400</b>	<b>Apr. 14-17</b>

In addition, with the rather dry airmasses, daily temperature ranges (between the early morning lows and afternoon highs) were 35-45 degrees on some of the days.

The majority of rainfall for April occurred with an event late in the month. Scattered showers and thunderstorms affected the northern half of west-central Texas on Apr. 24, in the unstable air ahead of an approaching cold front. A couple of the storms were severe. Strong winds damaged a convenience store sign in Bronte (Coke County). In Callahan County, a couple of power lines were blown down in Clyde and Baird. Additional scattered showers and thunderstorms occurred on Apr. 25. Rainfall for Apr. 24-25 was locally heavy, but beneficial for the area. Rainfall amounts for Apr. 24-25 are shown below in Figure 3.



**Figure 3: Rainfall for the 7-Day Period ending 7 AM (CDT) April 26.**

With clearing skies, light winds and moist air following the rain event, areas of fog occurred on the early morning of Apr. 26. The fog was locally dense, with visibilities one-quarter of a mile or less, across parts of the [Heartland area](#). In addition, a new record low temperature of 34 degrees was set at San Angelo on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

Warm and windy conditions occurred at the end of the month (Apr. 29-30), with south winds bringing an increase in low-level moisture and humidity.

[Additional Tabular and Graphical Daily Climate Data](#)