11-88)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATIC	E HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA (HSA)	
PRES. by NWS Instructi	ion 10-924) NATIONAL WEATHER SERVIC	CE Tulsa, Oklahoma	(TSA)	
		REPORT FOR:		
MONTHLY F	REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS	MONTH	YEAR	
		April	2022	
		SIGNATURE		
TO:	Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2	Steven F. Piltz		
	NOAA / National Weather Service	(Meteorologist-in-Charge)		
	Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283	DATE		
		May 11, 2022		

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record lo cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924)

An "X" in the box indicates no flood stages were reached in this Hydrologic Service Area (HSA) during the month above.

While the northwest half of the NWS Tulsa HSA received well below normal rainfall in April 2022, the southeast half received above normal rainfall, with minor to moderate flooding occurring along the Illinois River and Poteau River basins this month. A few tornadoes also impacted the area. This report, past E-5 reports, and monthly hydrology and climatology summaries can be found at https://www.weather.gov/tsa/climo_summary_e5list.

Monthly Summary

Using the radar-derived estimated observed precipitation from the RFCs (Fig. 1a), rainfall totals for April 2022 ranged from 0.50" to around 10" northwest to southeast across eastern OK and northwest AR, with much of the area receiving 2"-6". These rainfall totals correspond to 10% to 90% of the normal April rainfall for most locations northwest of an Okmulgee, OK to Grove, OK line, and 110% to around 250% for most locations southeast of that line (Fig. 1b).



Fig. 1a. Estimated Observed Rainfall for April 2022



Fig. 1b. Estimated % of Normal Rainfall for April 2022

In Tulsa, OK, April 2022 ranked as the 57th warmest April (60.8°F; since records began in 1905) and the 25th driest April (2.09"; since records began in 1888). Fort Smith, AR had the 57th warmest April (62.2°F; since records began in 1883) and the 5th wettest April (9.30"; since records began in 1883). Fayetteville, AR had the 23rd warmest (59.2°F, tied 2010) and the 35th driest (3.94") April since records began in 1950.

Some of the larger precipitation reports (in inches) for April 2022 included:

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Fort Smith, AR (ASOS)	9.30	Winslow 7NE, AR (coop)	8.86	Webbers Falls, OK (meso)	8.81
Westville, OK (meso)	8.72	Sallisaw 1.0SE, OK (coco)	8.72	Sallisaw, OK (meso)	8.41
NW AR Regional Airport (ASOS)	7.98	Van Buren 2.1NNW, AR (coco)	7.89	Vian 5.3ENE, OK (coco)	7.86
Some of the lowest precipita	tion rep	ports (in inches) for April 2022	2 include	ed:	

Pawnee, OK (coop)	0.87	Burbank, OK (meso)	1.11	Foraker, OK (meso)	1.35
Oilton, OK (meso)	1.51	Bartlesville, OK (ASOS)	1.83	Jenks Riverside Airpt, OK (ASOS)	1.99
Drumright 0.6SW, OK (coco)	2.04	Tulsa, OK (ASOS)	2.09	Tulsa 6.3WSW, OK (coco)	2.11

According to statistics from the Oklahoma Climatological Survey (OCS) Mesonet:

Dankainaa	ا تع م	Coring	Loot 00	Veerte		Water Veer to	Last 265 Davia
Rank since	April	Spring-	Last 90	rear-to-	Last 180	vvater rear-to-	Last 365 Days
1921	2022	to-Date	Days	Date	Days	Date	(May 1, 2021 –
		(Mar 1 –	(Jan 31	(Jan 1 –	(Nov 2 –	(Oct 1, 2021 –	Apr 30, 2022)
		Apr 30)	– Apr 30)	Apr 30)	Apr 30)	Apr 30, 2022)	
Northeast	29 th	38 th	38 th	27 th	21 st	39 th	44 th
OK	driest						
East	19 th	16 th	17 th	29 th	43 rd	30 th	48 th
Central OK	wettest						
Southeast	25 th	25 th	25 th	39 th	36 th	37 th	43 rd
OK	wettest	wettest	wettest	wettest	driest	driest	wettest
Statowida	38 th	38 th	36 th	22 nd	12 th	23 rd	25 th
Statewide	driest						



Daily Temperature Data - Tulsa Area, OK (ThreadEx)

Period of Record - 1905-01-06 to 2022-05-03. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.

Accumulated Precipitation - Tulsa Area, OK (ThreadEx)

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



Powered by ACIS



Daily Temperature Data - Fort Smith Area, AR (ThreadEx)

Period of Record - 1882-06-01 to 2022-05-03. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.

Accumulated Precipitation - Fort Smith Area, AR (ThreadEx)

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values





Daily Temperature Data - FAYETTEVILLE DRAKE FIELD, AR

Period of Record - 1949-07-14 to 2022-05-03. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.

Accumulated Precipitation - FAYETTEVILLE DRAKE FIELD, AR

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



Powered by ACIS



While April 2022 was quite windy, the average April wind speed in 2022 was not unusual based on the period of record at Tulsa, OK. However, it has been several years since the region has seen above average windy conditions.

Reservoirs



Reservoir Levels and Storage as of 5/2/2022

Oklahoma Surface Water Resources

According to the USACE, several lakes in the HSA were above 3% of top of their conservation pools as of 5/01/2022: Beaver Lake 72%, Lake Tenkiller 27%, Wister Lake 12%, Ft. Gibson Lake 5%, Sardis Lake 5%, and Lake Eufaula 4%. A couple of lakes were more than 3% below the top of their conservation pools: Birch Lake 91% and Skiatook Lake 92%.

Drought

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) from May 3, 2022 (Figs. 2, 3), Extreme (D3) Drought conditions were occurring across a portion of Osage and Pawnee Counties in eastern OK. Severe (D2) Drought conditions were present over parts of Osage, Pawnee, and far northwest Washington Counties in eastern OK. Moderate (D1) Drought conditions were occurring across portions of Osage, Pawnee, Washington, Nowata, Creek, Rogers, and Tulsa Counties in eastern OK. Abnormally Dry (but not in drought) (D0) conditions were present over portions of Osage, Washington, Nowata, Craig, Mayes, Rogers, Wagoner, Tulsa, Creek, Okfuskee, McIntosh, Pittsburg, Pushmataha, and Choctaw Counties in eastern OK. No drought or abnormally dry conditions were occurring in northwest AR.

> U.S. Drought Monitor Oklahoma

May 3, 2022 (Released Thursday, May. 5, 2022)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)								
	None D0-D4 D1-D4 D2-D4 D3-D4 D4								
Current	22.77	77.23	65.34	55.29	39.38	10.40			
Last Week 04-26-2022	22.73	77.27	<u>65.40</u>	55.30	39.39	11.03			
3 Month s Ago 02-01-2022	3.91	96.09	88.62	77.66	49.17	2.90			
Start of Calend ar Year 01-04-2022	5.02	94.98	88.14	72.26	40.44	0.00			
Start of Water Year 09-28-2021	6.45	93.55	73.23	23.72	2.65	0.00			
One Year Ago 05-04-2021	57.13	42.87	17.20	3.02	0.08	0.00			

Intensity:

None D0 Abnormally Dry

D2 Severe Drought D3 Extreme Drought D1 Moderate Drought D4 Exceptional Drought

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/About.aspx

Author: David Simeral Western Regional Climate Center



Fig. 2. Drought Monitor for Oklahoma

U.S. Drought Monitor Arkansas



May 3, 2022 (Released Thursday, May. 5, 2022)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	85.85	14.15	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 04-26-2022	82.98	17.02	5.96	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Month s Ago 02-01-2022	57.18	42.82	29.99	19.32	3.78	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-04-2022	39.91	60.09	28.99	14.24	0.41	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-28-2021	51.41	48.59	5.17	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 05-04-2021	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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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/About.asp

<u>Author:</u> David Simeral

Western Regional Climate Center



Fig. 3. Drought Monitor for Arkansas

<u>Outlooks</u>

The <u>Climate Prediction Center</u> (CPC) outlook for May 2022 (issued April 30, 2022) indicates an enhanced chance for above normal temperatures and above median precipitation across all of eastern OK and northwest AR. This outlook was largely based on dynamical model output and, to a much lesser extent, La Niña impacts.

For the 3-month period May-June 2022, CPC is forecasting a greatly enhanced chance for above normal temperatures across all of eastern OK and northwest AR (outlook issued April 21, 2022). This outlook also indicates an enhanced chance for below median precipitation northwest of I-44 and an equal chance for above, near, and below median precipitation across the remainder of eastern OK and northwest AR. This outlook is based on long-term trends, La Niña impacts, current soil moisture, and incorporates both statistical and dynamical forecast tools. According to CPC, the combined effect of the ocean-atmosphere system remains consistent with La Niña conditions. La Niña conditions are expected to continue through summer 2022 (59% chance) and there is a 50%-55% chance of La Niña continuing in the fall. CPC continues the La Niña Advisory.

<u>Summary of Heavy Precipitation Events</u> Daily quality-controlled rainfall maps can be found at: <u>http://water.weather.gov/precip/index.php?location_type=wfo&location_name=tsa</u>

Scattered showers and thunderstorms began to affect eastern OK and northwest AR after midnight on the 4th as a mid-level wave within strong zonal flow aloft moved across the region. A cold front slowly moved into northeast OK during the early morning hours as well and became stalled near I-40 by afternoon. After a mid-day lull with just widely scattered showers across the area, showers and thunderstorms increased in coverage through the afternoon and evening hours as a second, stronger mid-level trough impacted the area. With the zonal flow nearly parallel with the stalled front, training of storms occurred along and south of the I-40 corridor through the afternoon and evening. The rain finally shifted southeast of the area shortly after midnight on the 5th. Rainfall totals ranged from around 0.25" to 2.5" (Figs. 4-6).

During the late evening of the 10th, thunderstorms developed across northeast OK along a cold front that stretched from northern Missouri, through far southeast KS, and into northeast OK. These storms moved east through the overnight and early morning hours of the 11th, affecting locations generally along and north of Highway 412 in northeast OK and northwest AR. Rainfall totals were generally around 0.50" to around 3" (Figs. 7, 8). The front continued to move slowly south during the day before becoming quasi-stationary near I-40 by evening. Widely scattered convection continued as the front moved, with isolated supercells affecting southeast OK and west central AR through the evening. Two EF-1 tornadoes occurred in west central AR (see https://arcg.is/1eT4580 for details). In those places that had shower and thunderstorm activity, rainfall totals were around 0.50" to near 3" (Fig. 9).

A cold front entered northeast OK during the early morning hours of the 13th, and moved southeast through the day. Just before sunrise, a line of showers and thunderstorms began to develop near the front from near Okemah to near Grove. This line of storms slowly moved to the east before exiting the region shortly after noon. The most intense storms impacted northwest AR and the adjacent portions of northeast and east central OK, with an EF-1 tornado occurring near Stilwell, OK (see https://arcg.is/1eT4580 for details). Rainfall totals were 0.25"-3.5" (Figs. 10, 11). The heaviest rainfall was over the Illinois River basin, resulting in minor flooding (see E3 and preliminary hydrographs at the end of this report).

A couple of thunderstorms developed over Creek County near a dryline during the late evening of the 15th. Meanwhile a cold front was also moving slowly south through the area. By midnight of the 16th, the cold front provided a deeper zone of lift and combined with an intensifying low-level jet, caused additional strong to severe thunderstorm development within the warm sector across east central OK and west central AR. More scattered convection occurred across northeast and east central OK and northwest and west central AR from just before dawn through noon. All of this convection was efficient at producing rain due to precipitable water (PWAT) values of around 1.5". At times, rain rates were 1"-2" per hour. The highest rainfall totals of 1.5"-3" occurred over east central OK, with 0.50"-2" elsewhere (Figs. 12, 13).

A small area of showers and thunderstorms developed over Craig and Ottawa Counties in far northeast OK during the early morning hours of the 21st as warm air advection interacted with a warm front. By sunrise, this activity had lifted north out of OK, but not before producing some localized heavy rainfall of 0.50'-4" (Fig. 14).

A line of elevated storms developed shortly after sunrise on the 23rd northwest of I-44 in northeast OK in response to a narrow axis of warm air advection. This activity quickly moved east, remaining north of I-44 before dissipating by noon. Convection then reinitiated mid-afternoon north of I-44, again quickly moved east, and dissipated a couple of hours later. By mid-evening, stronger surface-based convection fired along a dry line from southwest to north central OK. Several of these storms moved east into eastern OK, becoming more widespread under the influence of the low-level jet. This activity mainly affecting locations between the I-44 and I-40 corridors through the overnight hours. By sunrise on the 24th, this activity became more widely scattered as it shifted to the southeast, lingering across the region through noon. As of 7am on the 24th, rainfall totals ranged from around 0.25" to 2.5" (Fig. 15).

Starting mid-afternoon of the 24th, showers and thunderstorms increased from northwest to southeast as a cold front made its way slowly southward across the area. Precipitation initially was scattered, but became widespread by early evening as a vorticity maximum interacted with the front. By mid-evening, widespread showers and thunderstorms were impacting eastern OK and northwest AR southeast of I-44. As the frontal boundary became more parallel to the upper-level flow, its southward progress slowed and training of storms occurred. Additionally, well above normal PWAT values of 1.5" made these storms efficient rain producers. During the overnight hours, the main corridor of rain slowly shifted to the southeast, and finally moved out the region by dawn on the 25th. Rainfall totals along and south of I-44 ranged from 0.10" to 5", with a large area from south central OK through northwest AR receiving 1.5"-4" of rain (Fig. 16). This rainfall, combined with the previous day's rain (Fig. 17), resulted in rises along area creeks and rivers. Moderate flooding occurred along the Poteau River near Panama and minor flooding occurred along the Illinois River (see E3 and preliminary hydrographs at the end of this report).



Tulsa, OK: April 04, 2022 1-Day Observed Precipitation Valid on: April 04, 2022 12:00 UTC

Fig. 4. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 4/04/2022.



Tulsa, OK: April 05, 2022 1-Day Observed Precipitation Valid on: April 05, 2022 12:00 UTC

Fig. 5. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 4/05/2022.



2-Day Rainfall Accumulation (inches)

8:40 PM April 5, 2022 CDT 6:03 PM April 5, 2022 CDT. © Copyright 2022

Created 8:46:03 PM April 5, 2022 CDT Fig. 6. OK Mesonet (values) and NWS RFC rainfall estimate (image) 48-hour rainfall ending at 08:40 pm CDT 4/05/2022.



Tulsa, OK: April 11, 2022 1-Day Observed Precipitation Valid on: April 11, 2022 12:00 UTC

Fig. 7. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 4/11/2022.



24-Hour Rainfall Accumulation (inches)

2:15 PM April 11, 2022 CDT Created 2:20:55 PM April 11, 2 122 CDT. © Copyright 2022

Fig. 8. OK Mesonet (values) and NWS RFC rainfall estimate (image) 24-hour rainfall ending at 02:15 pm CDT 4/11/2022.



Fig. 9. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 4/12/2022.



Valid on: April 14, 2022 12:00 UTC

Fig. 10. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 4/14/2022.



24-Hour Rainfall Accumulation (inches)

4:15 PM April 13, 2022 CDT Created 4:20:55 PM April 13, 2022 CDT. © Copyright 2022

Fig. 11. OK Mesonet (values) and NWS RFC rainfall estimate (image) 24-hour rainfall ending at 04:15 pm CDT 4/13/2022



Tulsa, OK: April 16, 2022 1-Day Observed Precipitation Valid on: April 16, 2022 12:00 UTC

Fig. 12. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 4/16/2022.



Tulsa, OK: April 17, 2022 1-Day Observed Precipitation Valid on: April 17, 2022 12:00 UTC

Fig. 13. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 4/17/2022.



Tulsa, OK: April 21, 2022 1-Day Observed Precipitation Valid on: April 21, 2022 12:00 UTC

Fig. 14. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 4/21/2022.



Tulsa, OK: April 24, 2022 1-Day Observed Precipitation Valid on: April 24, 2022 12:00 UTC

Fig. 15. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 4/24/2022.



Tulsa, OK: April 25, 2022 1-Day Observed Precipitation Valid on: April 25, 2022 12:00 UTC

Fig. 16. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 4/25/2022.



2-Day Rainfall Accumulation (inches)

11:55 AM April 25, 2022 CDT Created 12:00:55 PM April 25, 2022 CDT. © Copyright 2022

Fig. 17. OK Mesonet (values) and NWS RFC rainfall estimate (image) 48-hour rainfall ending at 11:55 am CDT 4/25/2022



Tulsa, OK: April 29, 2022 1-Day Observed Precipitation Valid on: April 29, 2022 12:00 UTC

Fig. 18. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 4/29/2022.



Fig. 19. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 4/30/2022.

Shortly after sunrise through mid-afternoon of the 28th, a cluster of showers and thunderstorms associated with a gradually weakening upper-level wave moved east across northeast OK and northwest AR. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.10" to 2.5" (Fig. 18).

Around midnight of the 30th, a line of thunderstorms along a cold front moved into northeast OK and southeast KS. As the line progressed southeast through the overnight hours, it began to weaken and became more of a scattered line. Rainfall totals in eastern OK and northwest AR were primarily 0.10" to around 1". However, higher rainfall totals of 1"-2.5" occurred in far southeast KS along the OK/KS state line (Fig. 19). This impacted the Neosho River basin but no river flooding occurred.

Written by:

Nicole McGavock Service Hydrologist WFO Tulsa

Products issued in April 2022:

*CWYO2 became a daily river forecast point September 7, 2016 *MLBA4 and OZGA4 transferred to NWS Tulsa HSA February 5, 2014 *Mixed case River Flood products began July 31, 2013

- 2 Flash Flood Warnings (FFW)
- 4 Flash Flood Statements (FFS)
- 2 Flash/Areal Flood Watches (FFA) (12 Watch FFA CON/EXT/EXA/EXB/CAN)
- 10 Urban and Small Stream Advisories (FLS)
- 1 Areal Flood Warnings (FLW)
- 1 Areal Flood Statements (FLS)
- 8 River Flood Warnings (FLW) (includes category increases)
- 49 River Flood Statements (FLS)
- 7 River Flood Advisories (FLS) (15 Advisory FLS CON/EXT/CAN)
- 0 River Flood Watches (FFA) (0 Watch FFA CON/EXT/CAN)
- 0 River Statements (RVS)
- 0 Hydrologic Outlooks (ESF)
- 1 Drought Information Statements (DGT)

Preliminary Hydrographs:



KNSO2(plotting HGIRG) "Gage 0" Datum: 854.59'



TALO2(plotting HGIRG) "Gage 0" Datum: 664.14'











PANO2(plotting HGIRG) "Gage 0" Datum: 387.96'





