

# The Alabama Climate Report

Brought to you by the Office of the Alabama Climatologist

Volume 5, Number 2, November 2014



Dr. John Christy, Alabama State Climatologist

November in Alabama was cold. That's the straightforward way to say it. It was cold. But that doesn't tell us much, so we look at the numbers.

The average temperature for the month was uniformly cold across the state, ranging from 6.4° cooler than normal in Mobile to 5.2° cooler than normal in Calera. A five or six degree departure from normal is fairly rare — especially when we look at November high temperatures that were in the mid to upper 70s both before and after the cold front!

Location	Nov. high	Date	Nov. low	date
Anniston	74°	11/24	18°	11/19
Birmingham	76°	11/11	20°	11/19
Decatur	76°	11/11	19°	11/14
Huntsville	76	11/11	21°	11/19
Mobile	78°	11/24	23°	11/19
Montgomery	78°	11/24	16°	11/19
Muscle Shoals	77°	11/11	20°	11/19
Shelby County	74°	11/11	21°	11/19
Troy	80°	11/24	18°	11/19
Tuscaloosa	77°	11/11	21°	11/19

Early reports indicate the lowest temperature reported in Alabama during November was in Addison on Nov. 19, when the temperature there dropped to 11°.

So how do we gauge whether the cold front that hit Alabama in mid November was your garden variety front or something unique?

One way is to look at the records. We see some new climate records — especially daily temperature or rainfall records — in Alabama almost every month. But sometimes you can see a difference.

Two towns, Geneva and Opelika, had their coldest November temperatures on record, Geneva at 18° and Opelika at 15°, both on Nov. 19.

Some records are things you might not think about, such as Montgomery setting a new record on Nov. 19, when the temperature there hit 16° F. That was the earliest report of a temperature below

20° F in Montgomery's 142-year weather record.

Sometimes a record stands out because it is significantly more or less than the old record, such as when Enterprise broke its record for the coldest Nov. 19 temperature by 10 degrees: Enterprise hit 21°, besting the 31° set in 1968.

Even more impressive, Opelika saw cold temperature records broken by 10 degrees on consecutive days, with 15° lows on both Nov. 19 and 20, smashing a pair of records set in 2008.

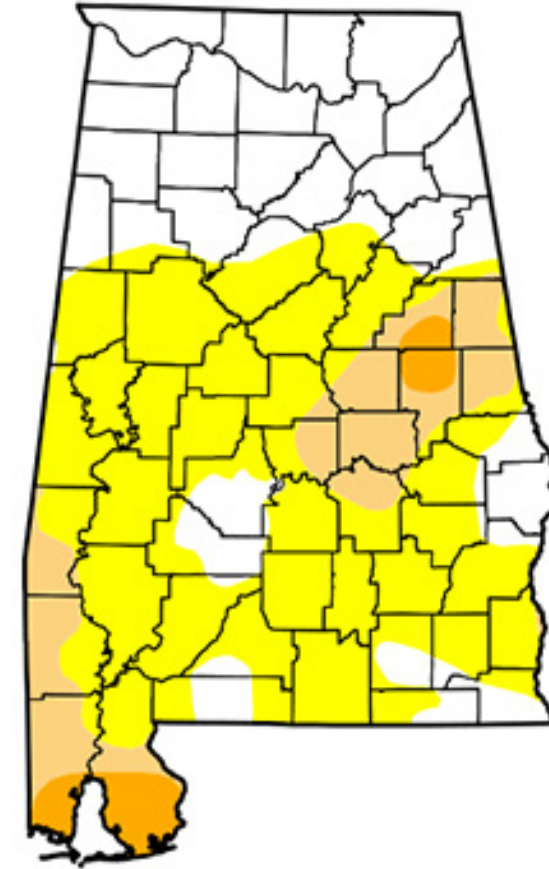
Sometimes a new record stands out because the old record stood for a long time, even if it was eclipsed by only one or two degrees. That happened in Anniston and Selma on Nov. 19, when the low in Selma dropped to 22° and the low at the Anniston airport hit 18°. Both lows broke records (23° in Selma and 20° in Anniston) set on the same date ... in 1903.

Some other Alabama long-time daily low temperature records broken in November included:

Location	Date	New record	Date	Old record
Wetumpka	11/14/2014	22°	11/14/1907	25°
Guntersville	11/20/2014	21°	11/20/1910	22°
Fairhope	11/20/2014	22°	11/20/1937	26°

- John Christy

## U.S. Drought Monitor Alabama



**December 2, 2014**  
(Released Thursday, Dec. 4, 2014)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	36.15	63.85	14.76	3.39	0.00	0.00
Last Week 11/26/2014	36.15	63.85	12.61	1.58	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 9/2/2014	34.99	65.01	10.19	0.01	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12/1/2013	97.35	2.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 9/30/2014	17.21	82.79	26.99	1.25	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 12/2/2013	73.95	26.05	1.32	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought
D2 Severe Drought	

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

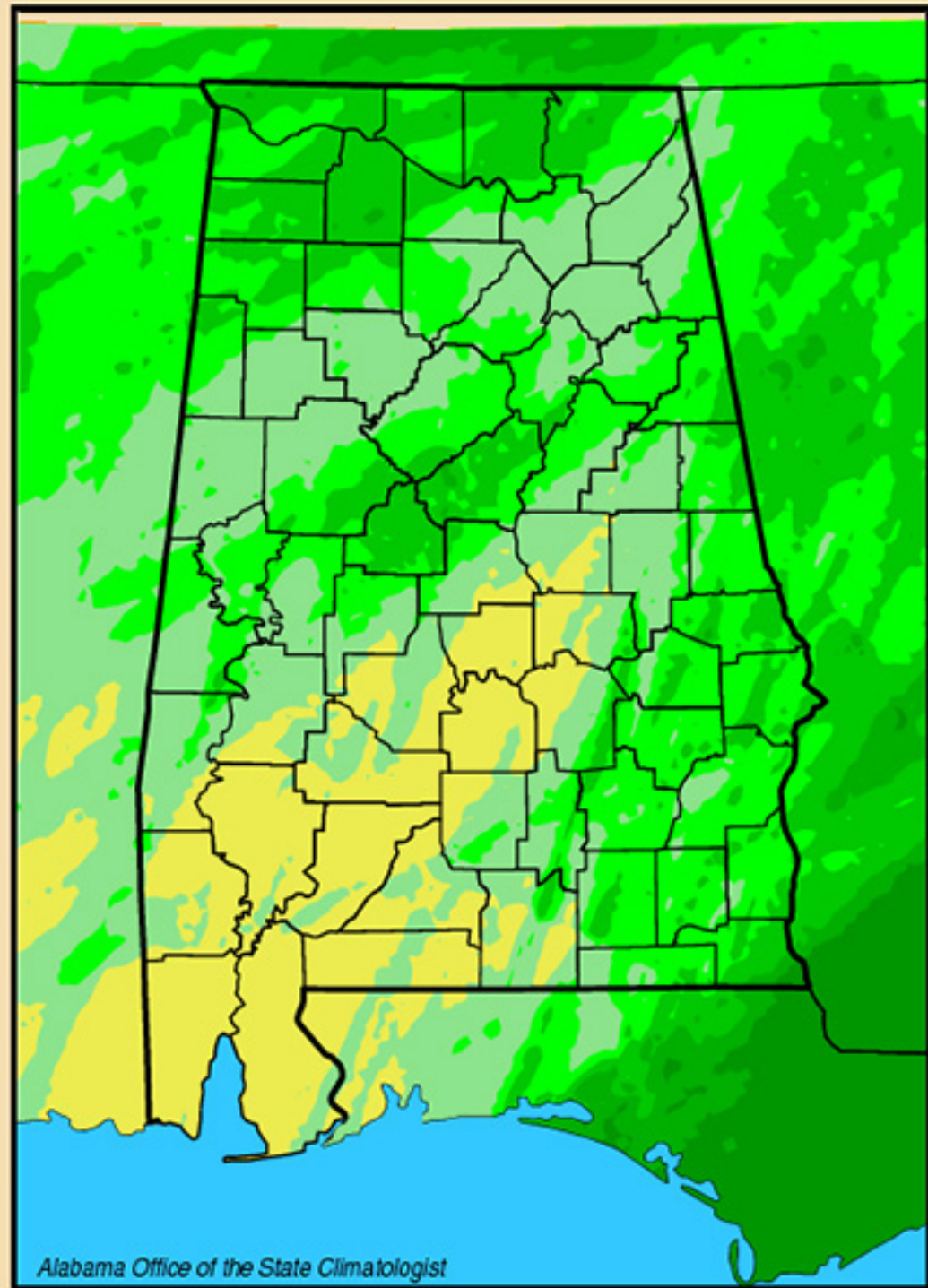
Author:

Anthony Artusa  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

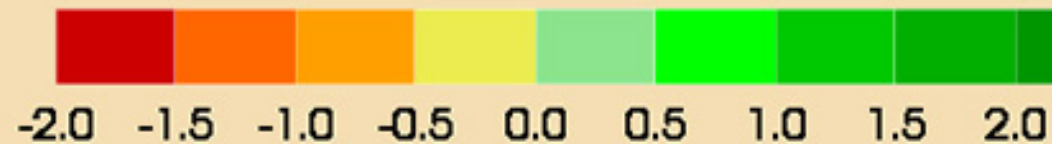


<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

## Lawn-and-Garden Moisture Index for December 4, 2014



Alabama Office of the State Climatologist



## Alabama Monthly Climate Summaries

Nov. 2014

Station	Station Began	Nov. Mean Nov. Norm	Nov. Hi Temp Record Hi	Nov. Low Temp Record Low	Total Precip. Normal Prec.	Wettest Nov. Driest Nov.	Heaviest Day Record Day
Anniston	2/1903	47.8° 53.4°	74° 11/24/14 88° 11/2/74	18° 11/19/14 5° 11/25/50	5.31" 4.20"	10.32" 1992 1.03" 1980	*3.45" 11/16/14 3.21" 11/28/48
Auburn	1/1893	48.7° 53.4°	73° 11/24/14 90° 11/1/35	19° 11/19/14 9° 11/25/50	0.66" 3.47"	17.77" 1948 0.23" 1924	0.62" 11/17/14 7.05" 11/27/48
Birmingham	1/1930	48.9° 53.1°	76° 11/11/14 85°+ 11/1/00	20° 11/19/14 5° 11/25/50	4.46" 4.63"	9.66" 1986 1.67" 1981	2.43" 11/16/14 4.41" 11/27/83
Brewton	4/1977	50.5° 58.0°	78.5° 11/24/14 89°+ 11/1/81	19.4° 11/19/14 15° 11/28/38	1.29" 5.16"	13.01" 1989 1.20" 1993	0.61" 11/23/14 4.52" 11/8/89
Calera	9/1900	49.5° 53.0°	74° 11/11/14 86° 11/2/74	21° 11/19/14 12° 11/30/59	5.90" 3.69"	16.94" 1948 0.00" 1924	2.87" 11/16/14 4.70" 11/12/29
Clanton	2/1893	47.4° 53.0°	71° 11/24/14 88° 11/1/35	18.4° 11/19/2014 8° 11/25/50	1.64" 4.96"	17.37" 1986 0.80" 1981	0.64" 11/16/14 5.50" 11/12/29
Courtland		45.8° M	73.7° 11/11/14 M	19.9° 11/19/14 M	3.38" M	M M	1.63" 11/16/14 M
Cullman	7/1907	44.9° M	72.8° 11/11/14 M	15.3° 11/19/14 M	3.73" M	M M	1.27" 11/16/14 M
Decatur	2/1880	45.2° 51.0°	76° 11/11/14 86° 11/3/35	19° 11/19/14 3° 11/25/50	2.87" 3.69"	14.26" 1957 0.00" 1910	1.10" 11/16/14 3.97" 11/10/91
Dothan	2/1902	52.4° 58.0°	80° 11/24/14 88° 11/5/46	20° 11/19/14 17° 11/25/50	1.61" 3.01"	10.29" 1930 0.05" 1931	0.82" 11/23/14 4.50" 11/7/12
Fairhope	8/1917	52.0° 59.5°	78.7° 11/5/14 91° 11/2/71	*19.2° 11/19/14 21° 11/25/50	1.59" 5.19"	12.03" 1997 0.81" 1981	1.08" 11/17/14 4.88" 11/2/95
Gadsden	7/1893	44.0° 51.8°	69° 11/11/14 87° 11/1/00	15.8° 11/18/14 14°+ 11/25/70	3.10" 4.56"	8.97" 1982 1.30" 1981	1.25" 11/16/14 4.31" 11/28/73
Gainesville Lock	6/1948	48.4° 53.6°	75.5° 11/4/14 87° 11/1/81	20.8° 11/19/14 17°+ 11/30/76	5.86" 4.51"	10.24" 1986 0.93" 1998	*4.75" 11/16/14 3.58" 11/28/01
Greensboro	2/1890	48.5° 55.7°	76.3° 11/11/14 98° 11/7/40	17.5° 11/19/14 12° 11/25/50	3.10" 4.47"	14.70" 1986 0.75" 1981	1.82" 11/16/14 4.55" 11/12/29
Highland Home	3/1892	50.9° 58.0°	76.7° 11/24/14 88°+ 11/1/84	24.4° 11/19/14 10° 11/25/50	2.92" 4.71"	11.87" 1997 0.73" 1999	1.84" 11/17/14 3.20" 11/28/48
Huntsville	1/1959	47.4° 51.2°	76° 11/11/14 84°+ 11/1/00	21° 11/19/14 15°+ 11/30/76	2.67" 5.22"	11.53" 1977 1.82" 1971	1.00" 11/17/14 3.33" 11/27/73

### Alabama Monthly Climate Summaries

Nov. 2014

Station Began	Nov. Mean Nov. Norm	Nov. Hi Temp Record Hi	Nov. Low Temp Record Lo	Total Precip. Normal Prec.	Wettest Nov. Driest Nov.	Heaviest Day Record Day
Mobile 3/1900	53.2° 58.9°	78° 11/24/14 87°+ 11/2/71	23° 11/19/14 22° 11/25/50	1.48" 5.41"	12.70" 1992 0.85" 1981	0.78" 11/17/14 7.01" 11/6/75
Montgomery 6/1948	51.0° 58.1°	78° 11/24/14 87°+ 11/8/86	16° 11/19/14 13° 11/25/50	1.21" 4.53"	10.18" 1988 0.51" 1981	0.55" 11/17/14 8.16" 11/26/48
Muscle Shoals 12/1940	46.7° 51.5°	77° 11/11/14 85° 11/1/00	20° 11/19/14 2° 11/25/50	4.29" 5.09"	11.06" 1988 1.90" 1971	1.97" 11/16/14 3.65" 11/30/91
Russellville 9/1953	45.0° 50.1°	73.7° 11/11/14 85°+ 11/2/00	18.1° 11/18/14 10°+ 11/25/70	3.16" 5.08"	9.76" 1988 0.84" 1971	1.74" 11/16/14 3.80" 11/2/99
Scottsboro 10/1891	43.4° 50.2°	71.9° 11/11/14 85°+ 11/2/00	15.8° 11/19/14 1° 11/25/50	2.47" 4.98"	11.43" 1977 1.52" 1971	0.98" 11/17/14 4.90" 11/17/27
Selma 1/1895	48.7° 56.2°	75.4° 11/11/14 91° 11/3/30	17.5° 11/19/14 13° 11/25/50	1.28" 4.32"	10.44" 1988 0.53" 1981	0.85" 11/17/14 3.62" 11/27/48
Talladega 2/1888	46.6° 51.4°	73.8° 11/11/14 86°+ 11/2/74	16.6° 11/19/14 5° 11/25/50	5.44" 4.59"	10.60" 1992 0.66" 1981	3.06" 11/16/14 3.31" 11/2/92
Thomasville 9/1891	49.3° 56.3°	74.6° 11/30/14 90° 11/4/35	19.6° 11/19/14 14° 11/25/50	1.78" 5.31"	11.26" 1988 0.86" 1981	1.18" 11/17/14 3.80" 11/6/59
Troy 6/1908	49.4° 56.2°	78.1° 11/24/14 89° 11/4/35	18.2° 11/19/14 12° 11/25/50	2.60" 4.44"	10.53" 1992 1.33" 1990	1.21" 11/23/14 6.12" 11/8/43
Tuscaloosa 6/1948	49.2° 55.3°	77° 11/11/14 87°+ 11/3/00	21° 11/19/14 10° 11/25/50	4.23" 4.84"	10.04" 2000 0.84" 1985	3.27" 11/16/14 3.67" 11/11/95
Valley Head 1/1893	43.1° 48.5°	69.8° 11/9/14 84°+ 11/3/74	13.7° 11/19/14 -2° 11/25/50	3.26" 5.00"	9.76" 1983 1.19" 1971	1.01" 11/17/14 4.06" 11/5/77
Statewide Nov. 2014	48.28°	80° Dothan	13.7° Valley Head	2.97"	17.77" Auburn	4.75" Gainesville Lock
Nov. Norm	53.98°	98° Greensboro	-2° Valley Head	4.60"	0.00" Calera	8.16" Montgomery

M: Data is missing or not available

\*New Record

#This data is missing this month due to an instrument malfunction

^ This record differs from long-term data in the AOSC climate database:

[http://nsstc.uah.edu/alclimate/climate/daily\\_climate\\_and\\_normals.php](http://nsstc.uah.edu/alclimate/climate/daily_climate_and_normals.php)

### Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Snow Network (CoCoRAHS)

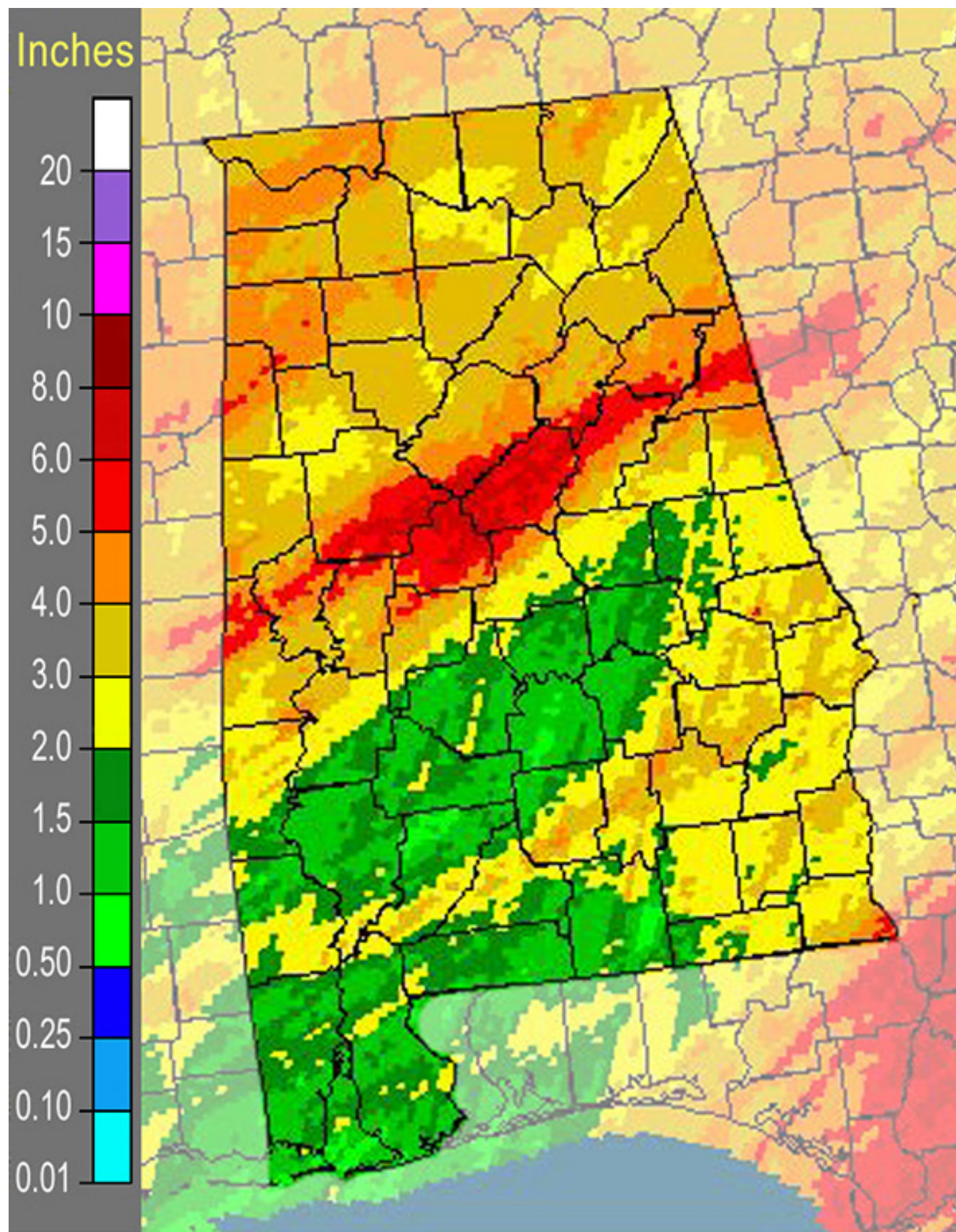
November 2014

	Ave. Total Precip.	# Stations		Ave. Total Precip.	# Stations
Autauga	0.85	3	Houston	2.20	1
Baldwin	1.36	22	Jackson	4.15	7
Barbour	n.a.	0	Jefferson	5.45	14
Bibb	4.81	1	Lamar	3.80	1
Blount	3.80	9	Lauderdale	3.53	12
Bullock	n.a.	0	Lawrence	3.55	2
Butler	n.a.	0	Lee	1.13	5
Calhoun	4.16	2	Limestone	3.92	10
Chambers	n.a.	0	Lowndes	n.a.	0
Cherokee	5.18	1	Macon	n.a.	0
Chilton	1.92	2	Madison	2.90	52
Choctaw	0.75	1	Marengo	n.a.	0
Clarke	1.37	3	Marion	4.88	1
Clay	n.a.	0	Marshall	3.05	11
Cleburne	n.a.	0	Mobile	1.18	13
Coffee	1.58	1	Monroe	2.62	2
Colbert	4.17	7	Montgomery	1.50	3
Conecuh	0.00	0	Morgan	2.53	8
Coosa	1.87	2	Perry	n.a.	0
Covington	n.a.	0	Pickens	4.27	1
Crenshaw	n.a.	0	Pike	n.a.	0
Cullman	3.39	4	Randolph	3.71	1
Dale	2.04	2	Russell	2.45	2
Dallas	1.76	1	St. Clair	4.30	3
DeKalb	3.41	3	Shelby	6.80	21
Elmore	1.21	7	Sumter	n.a.	0
Escambia	1.42	1	Talladega	5.28	6
Etowah	3.95	1	Tallapoosa	1.97	4
Fayette	4.61	1	Tuscaloosa	5.32	4
Franklin	n.a.	0	Walker	n.a.	0
Geneva	n.a.	0	Washington	1.55	1
Greene	n.a.	0	Wilcox	1.61	2
Hale	n.a.	0	Winston	4.60	3
Henry	n.a.	0			

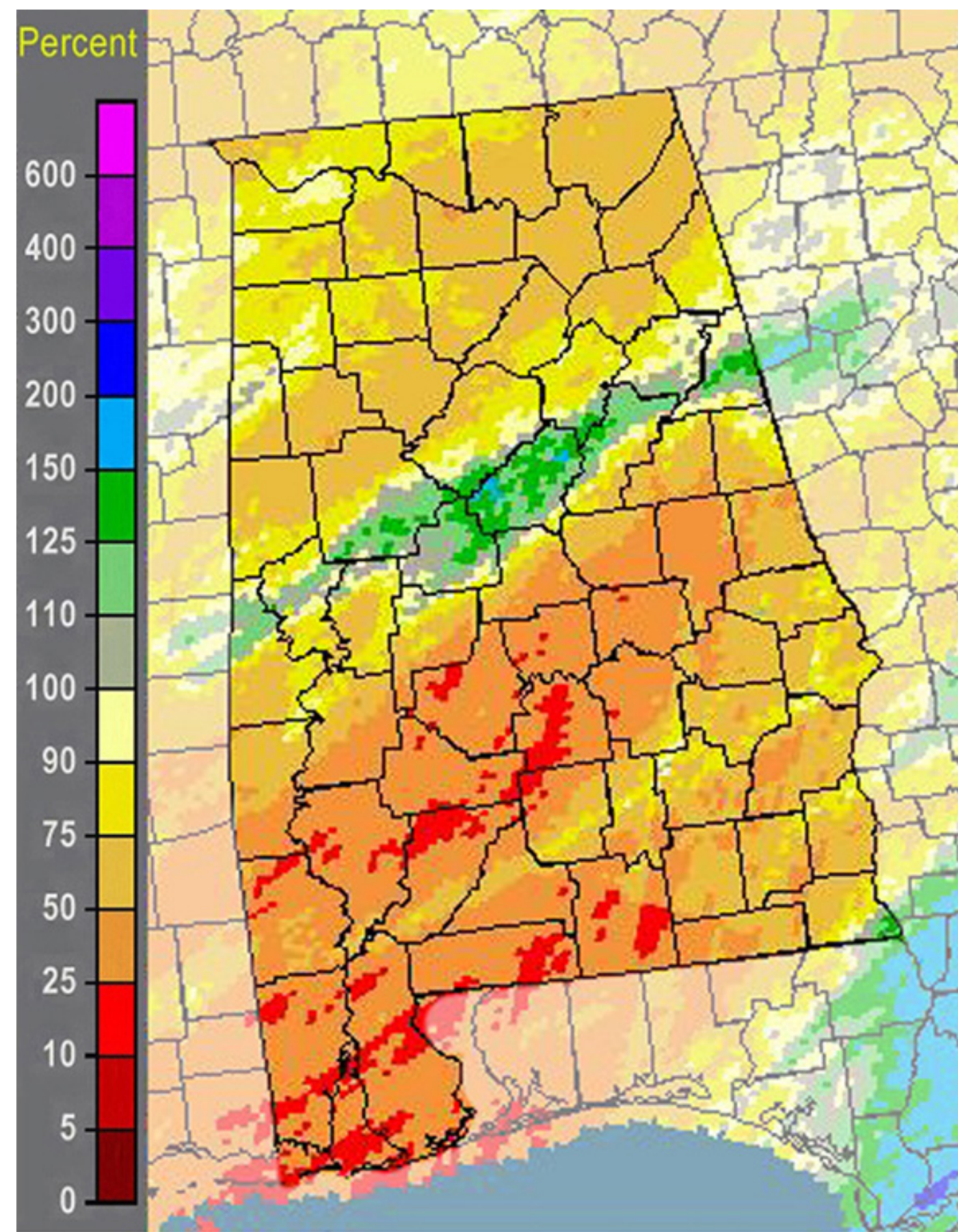
### Normal November Precipitation\*

Abbeville	4.19"
Alberta	4.12"
Alex City	4.34"
Aliceville	4.39"
Andalusia	4.19"
Ashland	4.50"
Athens	4.59"
Bay Minette	4.36"
Bessemer	5.11"
Billingsley	4.27"
Centreville WSMO	5.04"
Chatom	4.33"
Claiborne L&D	4.26"
Clayton	3.60"
Dauphin Isl.	4.15"
Elba	3.96"
Eufaula WR	4.26"
Evergreen	4.05"
Fayette	4.41"
Geneva 2	5.16"
Greenville	3.94"
Haleyville	5.02"
Hamilton 3S	4.92"
Heflin	4.44"
Hurtsboro	4.57"
Jasper	4.61"
Lafayette	4.01"
Livingston	3.86"
Melvin	3.73"
Milstead	3.74"
Moulton	4.87"
Oneonta	3.89"
Perryville	3.95"
Plantersville	4.31"
Rock Mills	4.16"
Rockford	4.23"
Sylacauga	4.30"
Union Springs	3.70"
Uniontown	3.48"
Vernon	5.14"
Warrior L&D	4.16"
Wetumpka	3.48"

\*Southeast Regional Climate Center  
www.serc.com



*November 2014 NWS multi-sensor precipitation estimate*



*November 2014 NWS percentage of normal precipitation*

MONTHLY AND YEAR-TO-DATE RAINFALL - YEAR 2014

Choctawhatchee, Pea and Yellow Rivers Watershed Management Authority

Flood Warning System Rain and River Level Gauges

County	Gauge	Location & Water Body	Jan 2014 2013	Feb 2014 2013	March 2014 2013	April 2014 2013	May 2014 2013	June 2014 2013	July 2014 2013	Aug 2014 2013	Sept 2014 2013	Oct 2014 2013	Nov 2014 2013	Dec 2014 2013	YTD 2014 2013
Barbour	Star Hill	AL Hwy. 239 S	2.64	5.20	4.84	10.60	3.52	4.20	4.72	2.92	0.52	3.32			42.48
	Star Hill	(Rainfall only)	3.28	11.04	5.16	3.72	1.88	5.00	12.44	5.76	1.52	1.00			50.80
	Texasville	East Fork	3.40	5.00	4.40	14.80	3.08	2.88	2.92	2.12	1.52	4.64			44.76
	Texasville	Choctawhatchee	2.00	9.28	2.60	4.40	0.96	7.48	19.56	5.96	2.80	0.28			55.32
Big Creek	Big Creek	Big Creek	3.24	5.60	4.48	13.68	5.44	4.64	3.76	4.36	2.60	4.16			51.96
	Big Creek	Hwy. 87 North	2.84	9.92	2.88	4.04	1.40	7.72	12.52	6.00	2.56	0.76			50.64
Elba	Elba	Pea River	2.92	5.20	4.16	13.24	4.84	3.16	2.52	3.68	4.72	5.56			50.00
	Elba	Hwy. 84 East	2.64	12.08	2.56	4.24	1.16	6.24	12.72	6.60	4.84	0.32			53.40
Enterprise	Enterprise	137 Lester Dr.	3.24	5.48	6.60	16.52	3.76	3.36	3.56	2.60	3.64	4.32			53.08
	Enterprise	(Rainfall only)	2.08	13.08	2.16	3.92	1.28	5.04	17.12	8.52	3.64	0.52			57.36
Coffee	Folsom Bridge	Pea River	3.08	5.48	4.32	15.16	6.76	3.24	2.44	3.68	2.12	3.96			50.24
	Folsom Bridge	Hwy. 167 North	3.00	12.08	2.72	5.48	1.32	8.52	11.32	7.84	3.16	0.36			55.80
	Lowry Mill	Whitewater	3.16	6.04	4.28	13.84	4.36	6.60	3.80	3.56	4.40	3.84			53.88
	Lowry Mill	Creek	2.72	9.20	3.08	3.92	1.00	5.36	12.52	6.24	2.84	0.96			47.84
New Brockton	New Brockton	Farm Center, Hwy. 84	3.00	4.96	5.16	16.20	4.72	2.88	3.68	3.12	4.92	3.92			52.56
	New Brockton	(Rainfall only)	2.12	11.92	1.84	4.16	1.24	6.00	11.32	9.48	3.56	1.04			52.68
Covington	Yellow River	Yellow River	3.16	5.16	7.04	15.88	4.60	4.32	3.68	2.64	4.92	3.20			54.60
	Yellow River	Hwy. 55	3.52	12.28	2.12	3.76	2.00	9.28	8.88	7.40	6.04	1.32			56.60
Ariton	Ariton	Pea River	3.36	5.48	4.12	14.00	2.88	4.80	2.96	2.36	3.16	4.08			47.20
	Ariton	US Hwy. 231 North	2.72	8.92	3.08	4.72	3.00	11.68	12.60	7.20	2.08	0.80			56.80
Daleville	Daleville	Claybank Creek	2.60	6.00	6.44	16.08	2.52	3.68	4.60	4.52	4.48	4.20			55.12
	Daleville	Hwy. 84 West	1.72	14.48	2.48	5.16	1.36	4.16	19.08	9.08	3.80	1.20			62.52
Dale	Newton	Choctawhatchee	2.44	5.32	5.48	14.16	5.76	3.12	4.52	2.32	2.04	4.28			49.44
	Newton	River, Hwy. 123 N	2.68	13.80	1.92	5.64	1.20	4.56	20.44	10.60	3.80	0.64			65.28
	Ozark	Little Claybank Cr.	2.84	5.48	4.56	15.04	3.92	1.56	3.56	2.76	3.52	4.08			47.32
	Ozark	US Hwy. 231	1.36	13.20	2.96	4.08	2.52	7.72	17.88	5.48	4.32	0.72			60.24
Skipperville	Skipperville	West Fork	2.80	5.68	4.44	12.28	3.28	3.80	2.84	1.56	5.80	4.64			47.12
	Skipperville	Choctawhatchee	2.52	12.96	3.16	4.36	0.76	10.20	17.32	6.52	3.20	0.32			61.32

County	Gauge	Location & Water Body	Jan 2014 2013	Feb 2014 2013	March 2014 2013	April 2014 2013	May 2014 2013	June 2014 2013	July 2014 2013	Aug 2014 2013	Sept 2014 2013	Oct 2014 2013	Nov 2014 2013	Dec 2014 2013	YTD 2014 2013
Geneva	Geneva	Choctawhatchee	3.68	6.28	7.52	14.16	4.88	3.32	6.24	1.08	2.52	3.92			53.60
	Geneva	River, Hwy. 52 E	2.48	21.44	1.72	4.20	1.12	7.80	21.44	9.08	8.48	1.04			78.80
	Sellersville	Double Bridges	2.48	5.16	6.52	14.12	5.52	2.92	3.72	1.08	1.88	4.28			47.68
	Sellersville	Creek, Cty. Rd. 40	1.96	17.84	1.64	3.84	1.20	7.32	14.56	7.48	5.08	0.60			61.52
Henry	East Choctaw	E. Choctawhatchee	2.80	5.24	4.72	12.92	5.40	3.24	4.72	1.24	4.40	5.60			50.28
	East Choctaw	Hwy. 27 East	1.92	12.64	2.52	5.80	0.92	6.84	14.32	5.68	2.84	1.36			54.84
Houston	Dothan	Little Choctaw	3.24	4.84	5.52	11.36	2.92	2.40	5.52	0.64	1.36	6.32			44.12
	Dothan	Brannon Stand Rd.	1.60	19.76	3.16	4.32	1.24	4.28	14.56	12.12	5.52	0.28			66.84
Pike	Troy	400 Pell Ave.	2.96	5.04	4.76	9.08	5.32	4.40	3.44	3.00	1.80	3.08			42.88
	Troy	(Rainfall only)	1.84	10.72	4.12	2.72	1.20	5.04	14.20	4.96	1.28	1.16			47.24
	Shiloh	Hwy. 130 West	4.08	4.88	4.32	11.00	2.84	5.72	3.04	2.16	3.32	3.72			45.08
	Shiloh	(Rainfall only)	2.80	8.72	3.36	3.60	3.12	4.60	10.80	6.96	2.04	1.36			47.36

Choctawhatchee, Pea and Yellow Rivers Watershed Management Authority  
 400 Pell Avenue, Collegeview Building  
 Troy, AL 36082  
 (334) 670-3780  
[www.cpyrwa.alabama.gov](http://www.cpyrwa.alabama.gov)  
 email: [choctaw@troy.edu](mailto:choctaw@troy.edu)

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