# The Alabama Climate Report

Brought to you by the Office of the Alabama Climatologist

## **MARCH 2021**



#### Volume 11, Number 12 :: March 2021



March broke the four-month streak of consecutive drier than normal conditions for Alabama. Dry winter conditions, especially in the southern half of the state, are typical of a La Nina year in which tropical Pacific Ocean water temperatures are below average. The average statewide rainfall total was 7.86 inches which is 1.70 inches wetter than normal. There were large swaths of impressive rainfall across the state with over a hundred stations with 10 inches of rainfall or greater for the month! Many of these stations were concentrated in Alabama's northern counties. Most of these counties had their top 10 wettest March on record. Individually, a station in Somerville, AL recorded the most rainfall for the month at 18.07 inches. Another station in Addison, AL broke the all-time single month record for rainfall (at 16.74 inches) with records starting in 1938 (previous record was in December 1990 at 15.51 inches). With the above normal rainfall, drought conditions across Alabama have improved significantly, especially for counties in the southwestern Alabama where drought no longer exists.

Temperature-wise, March was warmer than normal by 4.4°F statewide. Much of the warmth across the state was due to predominantly southerly flow in the last half of the month. Three stations (Selma, Evergreen Middleton Field, and Andalusia-Opp Airport) recorded the hottest spot month at 88°F. Even with the warmth, sub-freezing temperatures hit most of the state during the first ten days of the month. At one of the more mountainous stations, the thermometer dropped to 22 °F, the coldest spot of the month.

The above average warmth and moisture contributed to an environment primed for severe weather for the last two weeks of the month. In total, there were 39 tornadoes (several long-track tornadoes), 16 hail reports with the largest reported hail at 2.75 inches in diameter in Pickens County, and 66 wind reports (preliminary). This active month of severe weather comes at the heels of the tenth anniversary of the terrible outbreak of tornadoes that swept across the southern U.S., including Alabama, in late April 2011.

If you don't have a severe weather plan, now is the best time to make one. Know where to go and what to do the next time severe weather threatens.

## Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor Alabama



April 6, 2021 (Released Thursday, Apr. 8, 2021) Valid 8 a.m. EDT

#### Intensity:



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

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu

## Lawn & Garden Index



#### <mark>Alabama Mon</mark>thly Climate Summaries

Alabama Monthly Climate Summaries								
		Marc	h 2021					
	Mar. Mean	Mar. High Temp	Mar. Low Temp	Total Precip.	Wettest Mar.	Heaviest Day		
	58.6	84 3/27/21	29 3/7/21	4 34"	18 09" 1977	1 16" 3/17/21		
Anniston	54.9	89+ 3/9/74	12 3/14/93	6.28"	1.38" 1985	7.96" 3/29/77		
A., b.,	59.7	84 3/27/21	36 3/7/21	6.96"	17.47" 1929	1.37" 3/2/21		
Auburn	56.2	89 3/27/1910	13 3/4/43	6.44"	.69" 1918	5.06" 3/23/44		
Birmingham	59.2	83 3/13/21	31 3/7/21	9.54"	15.80" 1980	2.81" 3/17/21		
g	54.5	89+ 3/19/82	2 3/14/93	6.10"	1.71" 1985	6.91" 3/19/70		
Brewton	60.7 57.6	83.1 3/26/21	31.6 3/8/21	6.90"	15.82" 1990	1.96" 3/23/21		
	59.0	83 3/27/21	34 3/8/21	9.65"	2.00 1905	3.03" 3/24/21		
Calera	54.2	88 3/10/74	9 3/3/80	6.50"	.40" 1918	6.45" 3/29/51		
Clanton	57.9	82. 3/27/21	30.1 3/8/21	10.04"	15.88" 1976	2.47" 3/17/21		
	54.5	93 3/25/29	10 3/14/93	6.96"	2.27" 1985	6.85" 3/4/79		
Courtland	55.9	81.2 3/27/21	27.3 3/7/21	9.00"	M	2.24" 3/17/21		
	M FF 4	M	M	M	M	M		
Cullman (St. Bernard)	55.1 M	90.2 3/27/21	20.4 3/7/21	16.45 <sup>°</sup>	M	4.45° 3/25/21		
	55.7	81 3/27/21	26.3/7/21	8.50"	11 45" 1929	2 35 3/17/21		
Decatur (Pryor Field)	52.4	93 3/22/1907	4 3/7/1899	6.15"	.65" 1910	4.95" 3/23/29		
Dothan	63.1	86 3/27/21	35 3/9/21	6.96"	16.40" 1929	1.94" 3/18/21		
	59.3	89 3/24/1904	21 03/04/43	5.66"	.42" 1955	9.00" 3/14/29		
Fairhope	62.1	79.9 3/31/21	36.7 3/9/21	4.87"	11.60" 1980	1.69" 3/23/21		
-	59.8	85+ 3/10/74	21+ 3/3/80	6.71"	2.59" 1981	6.20" 3/16/90		
Gadsden	52.2	88 3/11/74	25.13/7/21	6 55"	1 46" 1980	4.22 3/25/21		
	58.9	85.8 3/27/21	30.8 3/7/21	6.62"	17.26" 1976	1.58" 3/25/21		
Gainesville	54.8	88+ 3/13/67	15 3/3/80	5.97"	1.57" 1985	5.12" 3/29/51		
Greensboro	59.2	83.9 3/27/21	31.5 3/8/21	7.51"	14.57" 1976	1.45" 3/17/21		
	56.8	91 3/23/95	10 3/14/93	6.51"	2.37" 1985	7.30" 3/28/51		
Guntersville	M 50.0	M	M 11 2/2/80	M 6.20"	17.49" 1980	M 4 20" 2/12/77		
	60.5	80.3 3/27/21	37.7 3/7/21	10.40"	13.84" 1973	2.67" 3/26/21		
Highland Home	57.8	88 3/12/55	14 3/3/80	6.95"	2.92" 1984	8.13" 3/30/60		
Huntsville	56.7	80 3/14/21	28 3/7/21	11.32"	17.00" 1980	2.35" 3/15/21		
	52.1	88 3/31/63	6 3/3/80	6.11"	1.12" 2007	5.24" 3/16/73		
Mobile	63	82 3/26/21	36 3/8/21	5.72"	13.46" 1980	2.23" 3/23/21		
	59.7	89 3/15/67	33 33/8/21	7.20 <sup>°</sup> 8.34"	12 4" 1990	1.72" 3/16/90		
Montgomery	57.1	89+ 3/22/95	17 3/14/93	6.39"	1.75" 1997	7.89" 3/16/90		
Musala Shaala Airport	59.3	83 3/27/21	31 3/7/21	11.22"	14.25" 1980	4.74" 3/17/21		
	52.2	86+ 3/13/67	10 3/3/43	6.21"	2.22" 1985	4.80" 3/27/94		
Russellville	55.4	79.9 3/27/21	23.8 3/7/21	10.12"	15.75" 1973	2.06" 3/28/21		
	49.1	84+ 3/24/95	5+ 3/4/80	6.28"	2.14" 2000	8.40" 3/16/73		
Scottsboro	51.5	90.9 3/27/21 90 3/25/29	8 3/1//93	6.52"	2 28" 1980	3.08° 3/1//21 4.88" 3/16/73		
• •	58.6	84.1 3/27/21	29 3/8/21	10.96"	14.06" 1973	3.47" 3/17/21		
Selma	58.5	90 3/25/36	18 3/4/80	6.67"	1.07" 1985	9.75" 3/16/90		
Talladega	57.3	82.3 3/27/21	26.2 3/7/21	7.53"	18.24" 1976	1.93" 3/17/21		
	54.8	88+ 3/24/95	6 3/14/93	6.82"	1.18" 1985	7.81" 3/30/77		
Thomasville	59.1	83.1 3/27/21	30.3 3/8/21	6.95"	15.35" 1976	3.34" 3/16/21		
_	62.8	86 3/27/21	32 3/8/21	8.68"	13.75" 1990	1.69" 3/2/21		
Iroy	58	89 3/12/55	13 3/3/80	6.56"	1.81" 1982	8.56" 3/17/90		
Tuscaloosa	60	86 3/27/21	31 3/8/21	8.45"	19.99" 1976	2.34" 3/17/21		
	55.4	90 3/23/95	12 3/14/93	6.37"	1.12" 1986	6.08" 3/13/75		
Valley Head	53.8	79.6 3/27/21	22.3 3/7/21	11.94"	15.87" 1980	3.09" 3/25/21		
	49.6	84+ 3/20/82	2 3/3/80	6.57"	1.91" 1985	4.87" 3/4/79		

### New Alabama Climate Records

Highest Minimum Temperature Monthly Record								
STATION	DATE	RECORD	PREV. DATE	PREV. RECORD	NUMBER OF YEARS	DIFFERENCE		
ATMORE, AL US	3/1/21	70	3/31/54	70	81	0		
MOBILE REGIONAL AIRPORT, AL US	3/26/21	72	3/29/77	72	73	0		
ATMORE, AL US	3/26/21	71	3/1/21	70	81	1		
ENTERPRISE 2 W, AL US	3/27/21	70	3/29/91	70	55	0		
MONTGOMERY AIRPORT, AL US	3/27/21	70	3/19/48	69	73	1		
JACKSON, AL US	3/28/21	70	3/29/20	70	37	0		
Highest Precipitation for One Day Monthly Reco	rd							
ADDISON, AL US	3/18/21	3.83	3/16/90	3.6	83	0.23		
Highest Maximum Temperature Daily Record								
ATMORE, AL US	3/1/21	85	3/1/51	84	81	1		
CLAYTON, AL US	3/1/21	80	3/1/11	79	65	1		
ENTERPRISE 2 W, AL US	3/1/21	81	3/1/17	80	55	1		
GADSDEN, AL US	3/1/21	78	3/1/12	78	68	0		
GREENSBORO, AL US	3/1/21	84	3/1/97	82	129	2		
GUNTERSVILLE, AL US	3/1/21	76	3/1/11	76	111	0		
OPELIKA, AL US	3/1/21	79	3/1/11	79	64	0		
SAND MOUNT SUBSTATION, AL US	3/1/21	76	3/1/11	76	71	0		
SYLACAUGA 4 NE, AL US	3/1/21	81	3/1/11	79	66	2		
VERNON, AL US	3/1/21	82	3/1/11	80	64	2		
DEMOPOLIS LOCK AND DAM, AL US	3/2/21	83	3/2/97	83	69	0		
DAUPHIN ISLAND NUMBER 2, AL US	3/13/21	77	3/13/17	77	45	0		
BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT, AL US	3/13/21	83	3/13/63	83	91	0		
FORT BENNING LAWSON FIELD, AL US	3/14/21	85	3/14/12	83	72	2		
MUSCLE SHOALS AIRPORT, AL US	3/14/21	82	3/14/89	82	80	0		
GUNTERSVILLE, AL US	3/15/21	80	3/15/84	79	111	1		
ENTERPRISE 2 W, AL US	3/18/21	86	3/18/82	86	55	0		
FORT BENNING LAWSON FIELD, AL US	3/27/21	86	3/27/20	86	72	0		
ANNISTON METROPOLITAN AIRPORT, AL US	3/27/21	84	3/27/20	84	118	0		
TUSCALOOSA AIRPORT ASOS, AL US	3/27/21	86	3/27/12	85	73	1		
ALEXANDER CITY, AL US	3/28/21	83	3/28/20	83	51	0		
DEMOPOLIS LOCK AND DAM, AL US	3/28/21	87	3/28/94	86	69	1		
OPELIKA, AL US	3/28/21	83	3/28/89	83	64	0		
MOBILE DOWNTOWN AIRPORT, AL US	3/28/21	84	3/28/20	84	72	0		
DEMOPOLIS LOCK AND DAM, AL US	3/30/21	87	3/30/98	87	69	0		

Highest Minimum Temperature Daily Record						
BAY MINETTE, AL US	3/1/21	69	3/1/97	68	106	1
ENTERPRISE 2 W, AL US	3/1/21	62	3/1/12	61	55	1
SELMA, AL US	3/1/21	66	3/1/04	65	124	1
ATMORE, AL US	3/1/21	70	3/1/97	67	81	3
BESSEMER 3 WSW, AL US	3/15/21	60	3/15/04	57	44	3
RUSSELLVILLE NUMBER 2, AL US	3/15/21	61	3/15/15	59	67	2
HUNTSVILLE INTNL AIRPORT, AL US	3/15/21	60	3/15/12	58	62	2
VERNON, AL US	3/15/21	61	3/15/73	60	64	1
MUSCLE SHOALS AIRPORT, AL US	3/15/21	62	3/15/55	60	80	2
BESSEMER 3 WSW, AL US	3/16/21	65	3/16/82	61	44	4
DAUPHIN ISLAND NUMBER 2, AL US	3/16/21	68	3/16/16	68	45	0
JACKSON, AL US	3/16/21	66	3/16/16	64	37	2
MOBILE DOWNTOWN AIRPORT, AL US	3/16/21	69	3/16/55	68	72	1
MUSCLE SHOALS AIRPORT, AL US	3/16/21	64	3/16/82	63	80	1
BESSEMER 3 WSW, AL US	3/17/21	61	3/17/18	58	44	3
MOBILE DOWNTOWN AIRPORT, AL US	3/17/21	71	3/17/18	65	72	6
SYLACAUGA 4 NE. AL US	3/18/21	57	3/18/20	57	66	0
MOBILE DOWNTOWN AIRPORT. AL US	3/26/21	71	3/26/49	69	72	2
SYLACAUGA 4 NE. AL US	3/26/21	60	3/26/09	59	66	1
MARION JUNCTION 2 NF. AL US	3/26/21	63	3/26/50	63	71	0
JACKSON, AL US	3/26/21	64	3/26/09	64	37	0
GENEVA NUMBER 2. AL US	3/26/21	63	3/26/09	62	45	1
ENTERPRISE 2 W. ALUS	3/26/21	64	3/26/97	62	55	2
BANKHEAD LOCK AND DAM AL US	3/26/21	63	3/26/17	59	64	4
	3/26/21	71	3/26/49	68	81	3
MOBILE REGIONAL AIRPORT AL US	3/26/21	72	3/26/49	69	73	3
MONTGOMERY AIRPORT ALLIS	3/26/21	65	3/26/49	65	73	0
ALEXANDER CITY AL US	3/27/21	63	3/27/17	58	51	5
	3/27/21	68	3/27/11	66	81	2
TUSCALOOSA AIRPORT ASOS, AL US	3/27/21	67	3/27/20	64	73	3
MONTGOMERY AIRPORT, AL US	3/27/21	70	3/27/17	63	73	7
	3/27/21	70	3/27/11	69	73	2
BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT ALLIS	3/27/21	68	3/27/20	67	91	1
	3/27/21	71	3/27/20	71	72	0
	3/27/21	64	3/27/20	60 60	72	4
SVI ACALIGA 4 NE AL LIS	3/27/21	62	3/27/03	61	66	1
BANKHEAD LOCK AND DAM ALLIS	3/27/21	63	3/27/09	62	64	1
	3/27/21	64	3/27/91	64	65	0
ENTERPRISE 2 W/ ALLIS	3/27/21	70	3/27/94	67	55	3
	3/27/21	69	3/27/44	69	103	0
GENEVA NUMBER 2 ALLIS	3/27/21	63	3/27/87	62	105	1
HEELIN ALLIS	3/27/21	60	3/27/95	58	45	2
	3/27/21	64	3/27/09	63	37	1
	3/27/21	62	3/27/05	62	57	
	3/28/21	67	3/28/20	63	66	1
	3/20/21	61	3/28/20	61	71	4
	3/28/21	65	3/28/07	64	64	1
	3/20/21	70	3/20/17	69	27	2
	3/20/21	70 64	3/20/20	50	57	5
	3/20/21	67	2/20/20	59	CD E 1	5 E
	2/20/21	67	2/20/1/	61	10	2 2
	3/20/21	63	3/28/31	50	/2	2
DRIDGEPORTS INW, AL US	5/31/21	62	5/31/12	59	65	3

## New Alabama Climate Records

(cont.)

Lowest Maximum Temperature Daily Record						
BAY MINETTE, AL US	3/3/21	46	3/3/50	47	106	-1
Highest Precipitation Daily Record						
ADDISON, AL US	3/1/21	1.66	3/1/17	1.63	83	0.03
MOULTON 2, AL US	3/1/21	1.42	3/1/91	1	64	0.42
HANCEVILLE, AL US	3/1/21	1.21	3/1/87	0.78	35	0.43
CLAYTON, AL US	3/3/21	2.65	3/3/01	2.1	92	0.55
SELMA, AL US	3/17/21	3.3	3/17/73	2.96	126	0.34
ATHENS, AL US	3/17/21	2.9	3/17/02	1.15	80	1.75
MUSCLE SHOALS AIRPORT, AL US	3/17/21	2.01	3/17/84	1.36	80	0.65
CLANTON, AL US	3/18/21	1.95	3/18/61	1.52	126	0.43
FORT PAYNE, AL US	3/18/21	2.23	3/18/80	1.83	85	0.4
GUNTERSVILLE, AL US	3/18/21	3.21	3/18/45	1.55	116	1.66
HANCEVILLE, AL US	3/18/21	2.85	3/18/87	1.08	35	1.77
HOLT LOCK AND DAM, AL US	3/18/21	1.59	3/18/87	1.22	40	0.37
JACKSONVILLE, AL US	3/18/21	2.25	3/18/58	0.85	73	1.4
JASPER, AL US	3/18/21	2.45	3/18/69	1.3	60	1.15
MARION JUNCTION 2 NE, AL US	3/18/21	3.68	3/18/51	2.2	71	1.48
CAHABA PUMP HOUSE, AL US	3/18/21	1.32	3/18/87	1.1	39	0.22
BRIDGEPORT 5 NW, AL US	3/18/21	4	3/18/69	1.03	124	2.97
BOAZ, AL US	3/18/21	2.71	3/18/80	1.26	83	1.45
BELLE MINA 2 N, AL US	3/18/21	2.2	3/18/69	1.05	71	1.15
BANKHEAD LOCK AND DAM, AL US	3/18/21	2.17	3/18/80	1.4	64	0.77
BEVILL LOCK AND DAM, AL US	3/18/21	1.41	3/18/87	1.12	41	0.29
ADDISON, AL US	3/18/21	3.83	3/18/51	1.15	83	2.68
SAND MOUNT SUBSTATION, AL US	3/18/21	2.56	3/18/69	1.7	72	0.86
SELMA, AL US	3/18/21	2.51	3/18/80	1.82	126	0.69
SCOTTSBORO, AL US	3/18/21	3.68	1899-03-18	3.5	129	0.18
MOBILE REGIONAL AIRPORT, AL US	3/23/21	2.07	3/23/69	1.5	73	0.57
JACKSON, AL US	3/24/21	2.4	3/24/94	1.64	59	0.76
ENTERPRISE 2 W, AL US	3/24/21	1.08	3/24/73	1.03	55	0.05
ATMORE, AL US	3/24/21	2.5	3/24/57	1.8	81	0.7
GUNTERSVILLE, AL US	3/26/21	3.55	3/26/65	3.45	116	0.1
FORT PAYNE, AL US	3/26/21	3.46	3/26/64	3.12	85	0.34
FAYETTE, AL US	3/26/21	2.55	3/26/65	2	112	0.55
BOAZ, AL US	3/26/21	3.85	3/26/64	3	83	0.85
ADDISON, AL US	3/26/21	2.55	3/26/00	1.93	83	0.62
ONEONTA, AL US	3/26/21	4.8	3/26/64	2.56	126	2.24
WALNUT GROVE, AL US	3/26/21	4.12	3/26/64	3.5	80	0.62
SAND MOUNT SUBSTATION, AL US	3/26/21	3.21	3/26/65	2.65	72	0.56
HUNTSVILLE INTNL AIRPORT, AL US	3/28/21	1.67	3/28/91	1.44	62	0.23
ADDISON, AL US	3/31/21	2.86	3/31/05	1.11	83	1.75
BESSEMER 3 WSW, AL US	3/31/21	1.84	3/31/05	1.48	44	0.36
GADSDEN, AL US	3/31/21	2.78	3/31/05	2.5	68	0.28
HALEYVILLE, AL US	3/31/21	2.8	3/31/73	1.83	118	0.97
SCOTTSBORO, AL US	3/31/21	2.04	3/31/32	2.02	129	0.02
WALNUT GROVE, AL US	3/31/21	3.03	3/31/73	2.48	80	0.55
TUSCALOOSA AIRPORT ASOS, AL US	3/31/21	1.33	3/31/62	1.31	73	0.02

## **Volunteer P**recipitation Reports

		Community Co	llaborative Rain, Hail and Sn	ow Network (CoCoRAH	S)		
			March 2021				
	Ave. Total Precip.	#Stations		Ave. Total Precip.	#Stations	Normal March Precipitation*	
utauga	6.99	1	Houston	5.50	1	Abbeville	6.21
aldwin	4.80	31	Jackson	13.00	5	Alberta	6.76
arbour	10.09	1	Jefferson	9.65	14	Alex City	7.09
ibb	6.55	1	Lamar	11.72	1	Aliceville	6.03
lount	12.98	5	Lauderdale	12.16	9	Andalusia	6.63
ullock	n.a.	0	Lawrence	10.79	4	Ashland	7.16
utler	8.81	1	Lee	7.78	6	Athens	5.92
alhoun	8.25	1	Limestone	9.82	8	Bay Minette	6.54
hambers	n.a.	0	Lowndes	n.a.	0	Bessemer	6.38
herokee	0.58	1	Macon	n.a.	0	Billingsly	6.04
hilton	8.13	1	Madison	10.12	25	Centreville WSM	7.39
hoctaw	15.82	1	Marengo	n.a.	0	Chatom	6.37
larke	9.36	3	Marion	13.62	1	Claiborne L&D	6.28
lay	n.a.	0	Marshall	13.85	10	Clayton	6.18
leburne	n.a.	0	Mobile	5.68	20	Dauphin Isl.	6.47
offee	n.a.	0	Monroe	10.75	2	Elba	6.65
olbert	11.63	6	Montgomery	9.47	4	Eufaula WR	6.19
onecuh	5.77	1	Morgan	14.84	6	Evergreen	6.52
oosa	6.85	2	Perry	n.a.	0	Fayette	7.00
ovington	7.87	1	Pickens	n.a.	0	Geneva 2	6.91
renshaw	n.a.	0	Pike	n.a.	0	Greenville	6.28
uliman	11.36	4	Randolph	4.95	1	Haleyville	6.50
ale	7.13	1	Russell	3.68	2	Hamilton 3S	6.33
allas	12.20	1	St. Clair	10.03	5	Heflin	6.88
eKalb	14.12	7	Shelby	7.74	15	Hurtsboro	6.30
Imore	7.26	4	Sumter	n.a.	0	Jasper	6.80
scambia	6.57	1	Talladega	7.74	4	Lafayette	6.71
towah	12.20	1	Tallapoosa	6.77	1	Livingston	6.20
ayette	11.50	1	Tuscaloosa	8.60	5	Melvin	7.22
ranklin	n.a.	0	Walker	10.37	1	Milstead	6.08
ieneva	7.81	1	Washington	9.86	1	Moulton	6.42
ireene	n.a.	0	Wilcox	10.92	2	Oneonta	6.28
lale	n.a.	0	Winston	16.21	3	Perryville	6.51
lenry	n.a.	0				Plantersville	6.73
						Rock Mills	6.43
						Rockford	6.93
						Sylacauga	6.22
						Union Springs	6.21
						Uniontown	6.21
						Vernon	6.78
						Warrior L&D	6.26
						Wetumpka	6.06

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