

Alabama Climate Report

Brought to you by the Office of the Alabama Climatologist



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March signifies the beginning of climatological spring (March, April, and May), which for most Alabamians started warmer and wetter than normal. As mentioned in last month's report, March also marks the start of the peak months for the spring severe weather season in Alabama. Fortunately, this March was relatively quiet in terms of severe weather. Only two tornadoes were reported this month, bringing the total for the 2024 year to 10, which is slightly below normal for this time of year.

As mentioned earlier, March was wetter than normal, with 6.89 inches of rainfall reported statewide. This was 0.73 inches above the long-term average of 6.16 inches. The wettest areas were in Alabama's black belt region and north/northwest of the Birmingham metro area, thanks to multiple storm systems throughout the month. The COOP station in Oakman recorded the most rainfall of the month at 12.71 inches. In contrast, most of the drier areas were located in Madison, Morgan, Talladega, and Calhoun counties, with the Talladega 10 NNE station recording the driest location of the month at 4.03 inches of rainfall, with no missing observations.

Temperature-wise, March's monthly average temperature was 3.0°F warmer than the long-term average of 55.1°F. The warmest weather of the month mostly occurred in the middle of March. Two stations (Eufaula Weedon Field AP & Greensboro) recorded the warmest location of the month at 86°F on the 15th. While most of March was certainly warm, there were many sub-freezing temperatures across the state due to a few bouts of cold weather. The Russellville 4 SSE station and the Sudduth Farms station were tied for the coldest spot of the month, with both dropping to 22°F on the 19th. These freezing temperatures will likely be the last many across the state will see until the fall season, as most of the state has passed the climatological date for the last spring freeze.

At the conclusion of a wet March, drought designations were removed across the whole state (Figure 2). Though the fall 2023 Flash Drought is fully in the rearview mirror, effects of its impacts can still be seen. Winter Wheat acres in Alabama are down 30% from the previous year, and 23% form the 10-year average. This is likely due in part to the dry conditions during the fall planting. Overall, pastures (which suffered the most last fall) had largely rebounded to normal conditions according to the USDA crop conditions and progress report.

As mentioned prior, March was relatively quiet in terms of severe weather. Historically, however, April has been the most active month for severe weather in Alabama. Thus, it is crucial to have a severe weather plan and to be prepared.

Monthly summaries are provided by Dr. Rob Junod, Lee Ellenburg and John Christy.



Figure 1.

U.S. Drought Monitor Alabama



Figure 2.

U.S Drought Monitor conditions valid March 26, 2024

March 26, 2024

(Released Thursday, Mar. 28, 2024) Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)						
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4	
Current	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Last Week 03-19-2024	99.78	0.22	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3 Month s Ago 12-26-2023	10.10	89.90	68.81	44.61	12.62	0.00	
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024	0.90	99.10	78.97	44.62	12.61	0.00	
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	21.58	78.42	30.60	16.04	2.30	0.00	
One Year Ago 03-28-2023	71.20	28.80	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	

Intensity:



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.uni.edu/About.aspx

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U.S. Department of Agriculture



droughtmonitor.unl.edu





DROUGHT MONITOR



ALABAMA MONTHLY CLIMATE SUMMARIES

Alabama Manthlu Climata Summarica									
		Alabama Monthly	Climate Summari	es					
		Wiai C							
							1		
	Mar Maan	Mar High Tomp	Mar Low Tomp	Total Provin	Wattaat Mar	Heaviest Day			
	Mar Norm	Record High	Record Low	Normal Precip	Driest Mar	Record Day			
	57	82 3/14/24	28 3/19/24	3 90"	18 09" 1977	1 71" 3/8/24	-		
Anniston	54.9	89+ 3/9/74	12 3/14/93	6.28"	1.38" 1985	7.96" 3/29/77	-		
Auburn	М	М	М	М	17.47" 1929	М			
	56.2	89 3/27/1910	13 3/4/43	6.44"	.69" 1918	5.06" 3/23/44			
Birmingham	58.7	82 3/14/24	28 3/19/24	5.05"	15.80" 1980	1.77" 3/8/24			
	60.1	81 5 3/15/24	30 8 3/19/24	8.06"	15 82" 1990	3.02" 3/8/24	-		
Brewton	57.6	91 3/31/78	10 3/3/80	7.01"	2.80" 1985	13.00" 3/15/29	-		
Calora	58.3	82 3/14/24	30 3/19/24	4.94"	18.86" 1980	2.08" 3/8/24			
Calera	54.2	88 3/10/74	9 3/3/80	6.50"	.40" 1918	6.45" 3/29/51			
Clanton	57.8	82.2 3/14/24	30.5 3/19/24	6.89"	15.88" 1976	2.38" 3/8/24	_		
	55.8	82 1 3/14/24	25.8.3/19/24	6.96"	Z.Z7 1985 M	1 92" 3/26/24	-		
Courtland	M	M	M	M	M	M	-		
Cullman (St. Bornard)	54.9	81 3/14/24	23.2 3/19/24	6.11"	М	1.93" 2/26/24			
	M	M	M	M	M	M			
Decatur (Pryor Field)	50.9	82 3/14/24	28 3/19/24	4.58"	11.45" 1929	1.57" 3/26/24	-		
	61.9	84 3/15/24	33 3/19/24	5.97"	16.40" 1929	3.86" 3/8/24	-		
Dothan	59.3	89 3/24/1904	21 03/04/43	5.66"	.42" 1955	9.00" 3/14/29	-		
Fairbona	60.8	78.3 3/15/24	34.5 3/19/24	8.07"	11.60" 1980	2.86" 3/9/24	Ĩ		
rannope	59.8	85+ 3/10/74	21+ 3/3/80	6.71"	2.59" 1981	6.20" 3/16/90			
Gadsden	54.2 52.2	78 3/14/24	24.4 3/19/24	1.36"	17.41" 1980	1.14" 3/26/24	_		
	58.5	81 3/14/24	29.6 3/19/24	7.72"	17.26" 1976	2.47" 3/8/24	-		
Gainesville	54.8	88+ 3/13/67	15 3/3/80	5.97"	1.57" 1985	5.12" 3/29/51	-		
Greenshoro	58.9	81.6 3/14/24	28.4 3/19/24	9.21"	14.57" 1976	2.73" 3/26/24			
	56.8	91 3/23/95	10 3/14/93	6.51"	2.37" 1985	7.30" 3/28/51	-		
Guntersville	52.8	87+3/13/90	11 3/3/80	6 20"	1 89" 1974	4 30" 3/12/77	-		
	60	81.1 3/14/24	32.4 3/19/24	10.00"	13.84" 1973	4.12" 3/8/24	-		
Highland Home	57.8	88 3/12/55	14 3/3/80	6.95"	2.92" 1984	8.13" 3/30/60			
Huntsville	56.9	82 3/14/24	28 3/19/24	4.58"	17.00" 1980	1.57" 3/26/24	_		
	52.1	88 3/31/63	6 3/3/80	6.11" 5.40"	1.12" 2007	5.24" 3/16/73	_		
Mobile	59.7	89 3/15/67	21 3/14/93	7.20"	3.00" 1981	7.15" 3/16/90	-		
M	59.8	85 3/14/24	25 3/19/24	7.60"	12.4" 1990	3.18" 3/8/24	-		
Montgomery	57.1	89+ 3/22/95	17 3/14/93	6.39"	1.75" 1997	7.89" 3/16/90			
Muscle Shoals Airport	57.6	84 3/14/24	27 3/19/24	6.08"	2.09" 3/25/24	1.64" 3/26/24	_		
	52.2	86+ 3/13/67	10 3/3/43	6.21"	2.22" 1985	4.80" 3/27/94			
Russellville	55.5 49 1	82.2 3/14/24	22.1 3/19/24 5+ 3/4/80	7.18" 6.28"	15.75" 1973	2.00" 3/26/24	-		
•	54.6	82.2 3/14/24	25 3/19/24	7.09"	16.48" 1980	2.00" 3/15/24	-		
Scottsboro	51.5	90 3/25/29	8 3/14/93	6.52"	2.28" 1982	4.88" 3/16/73			
Selma	58.5	79.6 3/14/24	27.8 3/19/24	6.75"	14.06" 1973	2.07" 3/8/24			
	58.5	90 3/25/36	18 3/4/80	6.67"	1.07" 1985	9.75" 3/16/90	_		
Talladega	54.8	88+ 3/24/95	6 3/14/93	6.82"	1.18" 1985	7.81" 3/30/77	-		
Thempsonille	58.8	79.5 3/14/24	30.9 3/19/24	9.40"	15.35" 1976	3.46" 3/8/24	-		
Inomasville	57.6	89+ 3/20/80	14 3/3/80	6.95"	1.62" 1978	11.10" 3/12/35			
Тгоу	60.7	84 3/14/24	31 3/19/24	7.07"	13.75" 1990	3.59" 3/8/24			
-	58.4	84 3/14/24	28 3/19/24	5.36	19 99" 1976	2 39" 3/25/24	-		
Tuscaloosa	55.4	90 3/23/95	12 3/14/93	6.37"	1.12" 1986	6.08" 3/13/75	-		
Valley Head	53.5	79.6 3/14/24	23.4 3/19/24	5.35"	15.87" 1980	1.23" 3/26/24	ī		
valley neau	49.6	84+ 3/20/82	2 3/3/80	6.57"	1.91" 1985	4.87" 3/4/79			

NEW ALABAMA CLIMATE RECORDS

NO MONTHLY WEATHER RECORDS FOR MARCH 2024									
Highest Maximum Temperature Daily Record									
	DATE	RECORD	PREV DATE	PREV RECORD	NUMBER OF YEARS	DIFFERENCE			
	3/14/24	82	3/14/63	82	121	0			
RUSSELLVILLE NUMBER 2. AL US	3/14/24	82	3/14/67	82	70	0			
MONTGOMERY AIRPORT. AL US	3/14/24	85	3/14/20	85	76	0			
MUSCLE SHOALS AIRPORT. AL US	3/14/24	84	3/14/21	82	83	2			
GREENSBORO. AL US	3/15/24	86	3/15/82	86	132	0			
GUNTERSVILLE, AL US	3/15/24	82	3/15/21	80	114	2			
HEFLIN, AL US	3/15/24	82	3/15/20	82	68	0			
MOULTON 2, AL US	3/15/24	83	3/15/84	81	67	2			
Highest Minimum Temperature Daily Record									
ATHENS, AL US	3/4/24	54	3/4/11	53	32	1			
BESSEMER 3 WSW, AL US	3/4/24	57	3/4/11	55	47	2			
DOTHAN REGIONAL AIRPORT, AL US	3/4/24	62	3/4/77	62	54	0			
ANNISTON METROPOLITAN AIRPORT, AL US	3/4/24	59	3/4/15	59	121	0			
BREWTON 3 ENE, AL US	3/5/24	65	3/5/15	62	47	3			
BREWTON 3 ENE, AL US	3/6/24	58	3/6/82	58	47	0			
HAMILTON, AL US	3/6/24	59	3/6/67	55	62	4			
OPELIKA, AL US	3/6/24	60	3/6/67	60	67	0			
OPELIKA, AL US	3/9/24	58	3/9/12	57	67	1			
BESSEMER 3 WSW, AL US	3/15/24	61	3/15/21	60	47	1			
HAMILTON, AL US	3/26/24	56	3/26/17	56	62	0			
Lowest Minimum Temperature Daily Record									
BELLE MINA 2 N, AL US	3/19/24	26	3/19/23	26	74	0			
GENEVA NUMBER 2, AL US	3/19/24	30	3/19/07	31	48	-1			
HALEYVILLE, AL US	3/19/24	23	3/19/81	25	121	-2			
JACKSON, AL US	3/19/24	31	3/19/19	33	40	-2			
MARION JUNCTION 2 NE, AL US	3/19/24	31	3/19/23	31	74	0			
MOULTON 2, AL US	3/19/24	25	3/19/23	26	67	-1			
DOTHAN REGIONAL AIRPORT, AL US	3/19/24	33	3/19/05	36	54	-3			
MONTGOMERY AIRPORT, AL US	3/19/24	29	3/19/49	31	76	-2			
GENEVA NUMBER 2, AL US	3/20/24	30	3/20/88	0	48	-2			
Highest Precipitation Daily Record	a /1 /a 1		a // /aa						
BILLINGSLEY, AL US	3/1/24	1.4	3/1/39	1.12	85	0.28			
FAYETTE, AL US	3/1/24	2.5	3/1/50	0.92	115	1.58			
FORT PAYNE, ALLUS	3/2/24	1.32	3/2/53	1.04	88	0.28			
JACKSON, AL US	3/2/24	2.0	3/2/05	1.72	62	0.88			
	3/2/24	2.05	3/2/23	1.90	129	0.09			
GENEVA NUIVIBER 2, AL US	3/5/24	1.5	3/5/81	1.49	48	0.01			
DESSEIVER S WSW, AL US	2/0/24	1.9	3/8/90	0.88	47	0.95			
	3/0/24	1.77	3/8/70	1.43	54	0.65			
	3/8/24	3.18	3/8/98	2 39	76	0.55			
	3/8/24	1 41	3/8/11	1 25	76	0.75			
ALEXANDER CITY ALLIS	3/9/24	3 45	3/9/22	1.23	54	1.83			
CLANTON, AL US	3/9/24	2.5	3/9/11	2.25	129	0.25			
	3/9/24	3.37	3/9/98	3.2	95	0.17			
COFFEEVILLE LOCK AND DAM, AL US	3/9/24	3.5	3/9/11	1.37	41	2.13			
GENEVA NUMBER 2. AL US	3/9/24	4.3	3/9/03	1.64	48	2.66			
GREENSBORO. AL US	3/9/24	2.47	3/9/13	2.05	132	0.42			
HEADLAND, AL US	3/9/24	3.24	3/9/58	1.47	74	1.77			
JACKSON, AL US	3/9/24	3.51	3/9/94	2.95	62	0.56			
OPELIKA, AL US	3/9/24	3.3	3/9/76	1.8	67	1.5			
SELMA, AL US	3/9/24	2.91	3/9/19	2.9	129	0.01			
SYLACAUGA 4 NE, AL US	3/9/24	2.21	3/9/11	2.12	69	0.09			
DOTHAN REGIONAL AIRPORT, AL US	3/9/24	3.25	3/9/11	1.85	54	1.4			
ATHENS, AL US	3/15/24	1.4	3/15/20	1.25	83	0.15			
BESSEMER 3 WSW, AL US	3/26/24	1.82	3/26/83	1.2	47	0.62			
GAINESVILLE LOCK, AL US	3/26/24	2.1	3/26/17	1.2	76	0.9			
HALEYVILLE, AL US	3/26/24	3.1	3/26/65	2.95	121	0.15			
BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT, AL US	3/26/24	1.62	3/26/34	1.54	94	0.08			
TUSCALOOSA AIRPORT ASOS, AL US	3/26/24	2.32	3/26/76	2.17	76	0.15			

CoCoRAHS

	-					······	
		Community Collabo	orative Rain, Hail and Sno	ow Network (CoCoRAH	5)		
			March 2024				
						Normal March	
-	Ave. Total Precip.	#Stations		Ave. Total Precip.	#Stations	Precipitation*	
Autauga	7.27	1	Houston	5.19	3	Abbeville	6.21
Baldwin	6.05	37	Jackson	5.99	6	Alberta	6.76
Barbour	6.56	2	Jefferson	5.45	17	Alex City	7.09
Bibb	n.a.	0	Lamar	5.69	1	Aliceville	6.03
Blount	7.65	6	Lauderdale	6.96	8	Andalusia	6.63
Bullock	n.a.	0	Lawrence	6.34	3	Ashland	7.16
Butler	5.31	1	Lee	8.23	5	Athens	5.92
Calhoun	4.84	3	Limestone	6.53	8	Bay Minette	6.54
Chambers	n.a.	0	Lowndes	n.a.	0	Bessemer	6.38
Cherokee	n.a.	0	Macon	n.a.	0	Billingsly	6.04
Chilton	6.89	1	Madison	5.81	28	Centreville WSM	7.39
Choctaw	8.12	1	Marengo	n.a.	0	Chatom	6.37
Clarke	10.18	2	Marion	7.65	1	Claiborne L&D	6.28
Clay	6.33	1	Marshall	6.17	10	Clayton	6.18
Cleburne	n.a.	0	Mobile	5.83	24	Dauphin Isl.	6.47
Coffee	n.a.	0	Monroe	9.03	4	Elba	6.65
Colbert	5.46	6	Montgomery	9.35	4	Eufaula WR	6.19
Conecuh	n.a.	0	Morgan	5.48	9	Evergreen	6.52
Coosa	n.a.	0	Perry	n.a.	0	Fayette	7.00
Covington	10.94	1	Pickens	n.a.	0	Geneva 2	6.91
Crenshaw	n.a.	0	Pike	n.a.	0	Greenville	6.28
Cullman	5.47	4	Randolph	5.99	2	Haleyville	6.50
Dale	n.a.	0	Russell	10.20	1	Hamilton 3S	6.33
Dallas	7.56	1	St. Clair	5.32	7	Heflin	6.88
DeKalb	6.64	7	Shelby	4.66	18	Hurtsboro	6.30
Elmore	6.38	5	Sumter	n.a.	0	Jasper	6.80
Escambia	7.97	2	Talladega	5.46	2	Lafayette	6.71
Etowah	8.08	2	Tallapoosa	6.30	2	Livingston	6.20
Fayette	6.18	2	Tuscaloosa	5.43	6	Melvin	7.22
Franklin	n.a.	0	Walker	9.35	2	Milstead	6.08
Geneva	5.90	1	Washington	10.39	1	Moulton	6.42
Greene	n.a.	0	Wilcox	10.75	2	Oneonta	6.28
Hale	n.a.	0	Winston	6.39	4	Perryville	6.51
Henry	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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