

# The Alabama Climate Report

Brought to you by the Office of the Alabama Climatologist

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Dr. John Christy, Alabama State Climatologist

After a wet winter in most of the state, with some areas experiencing their wettest December through February rainfall, things dried out in March. The statewide average was only 3.27 inches, just a little over half of the normal 6.16 inches. It was dry enough that by month's end, drought conditions were designated for the southern and southeastern parts of the state. The impact was most evident in the stream flows as the vegetation charged out of its winter dormancy and drew heavily on the soil moisture to come alive with branch and leaf development. Some stream flows in SE Alabama dropped to a 1 in 20-year dry spell by month's end. Though dryness was the operative word for March, Alabama's variability was evident as a few stations exceeded their average March total with Chatom, about 45 miles north of Mobile, leading the pack with 8.22 inches.

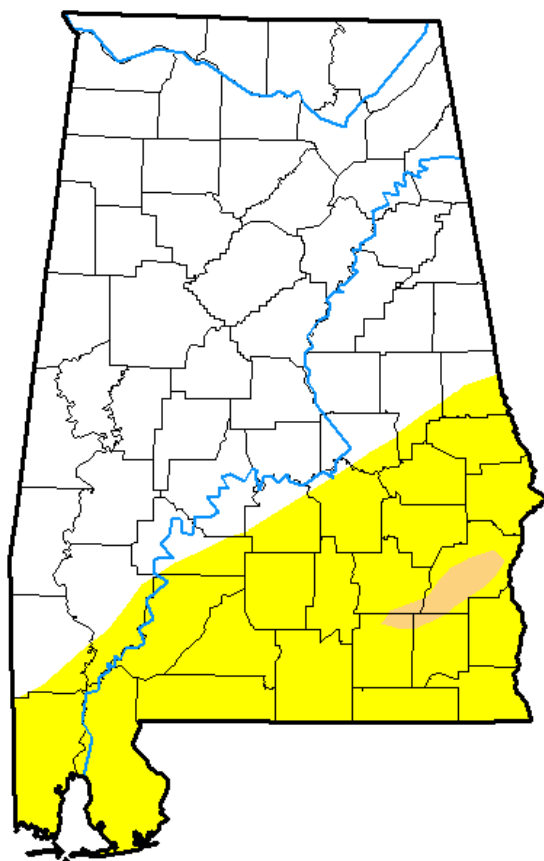
Statewide, Alabama's temperature finished the month 0.2 °F below the long-term average at 54.9 °F. Many of you remember just 7 years ago in 2012 when March was 9.5°F above average for the hottest March on record. (The coldest was 1960 at 9.8 °F below average.) The warmest daily high this year was Mobile (Brookley Airport) with 86°F on the 11th. It was cold this March too with hard freezes between the 4th and the 7th when temperatures dipped into the teens at several locations. The coldest day of the month was felt in Addison at 15 °F.

When I look at long-term climate indicators, there is not much change at all to see in Alabama since some records began mostly by 1875. We track tornadoes, hurricanes, rainfall, temperature – all the factors about which people are curious because we all live with these events. At this point, I think what I said in a presentation made on the Weather Channel in 1988 is still an important way to look at this: "If it happened before, it will happen again, and probably worse." So, be ready for anything.

John Christy

**U.S. Drought Monitor**  
**Alabama**

**March 26, 2019**  
(Released Thursday, Mar. 28, 2019)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



**Intensity:**

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

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

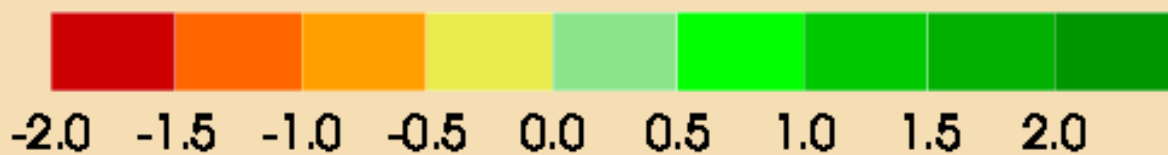
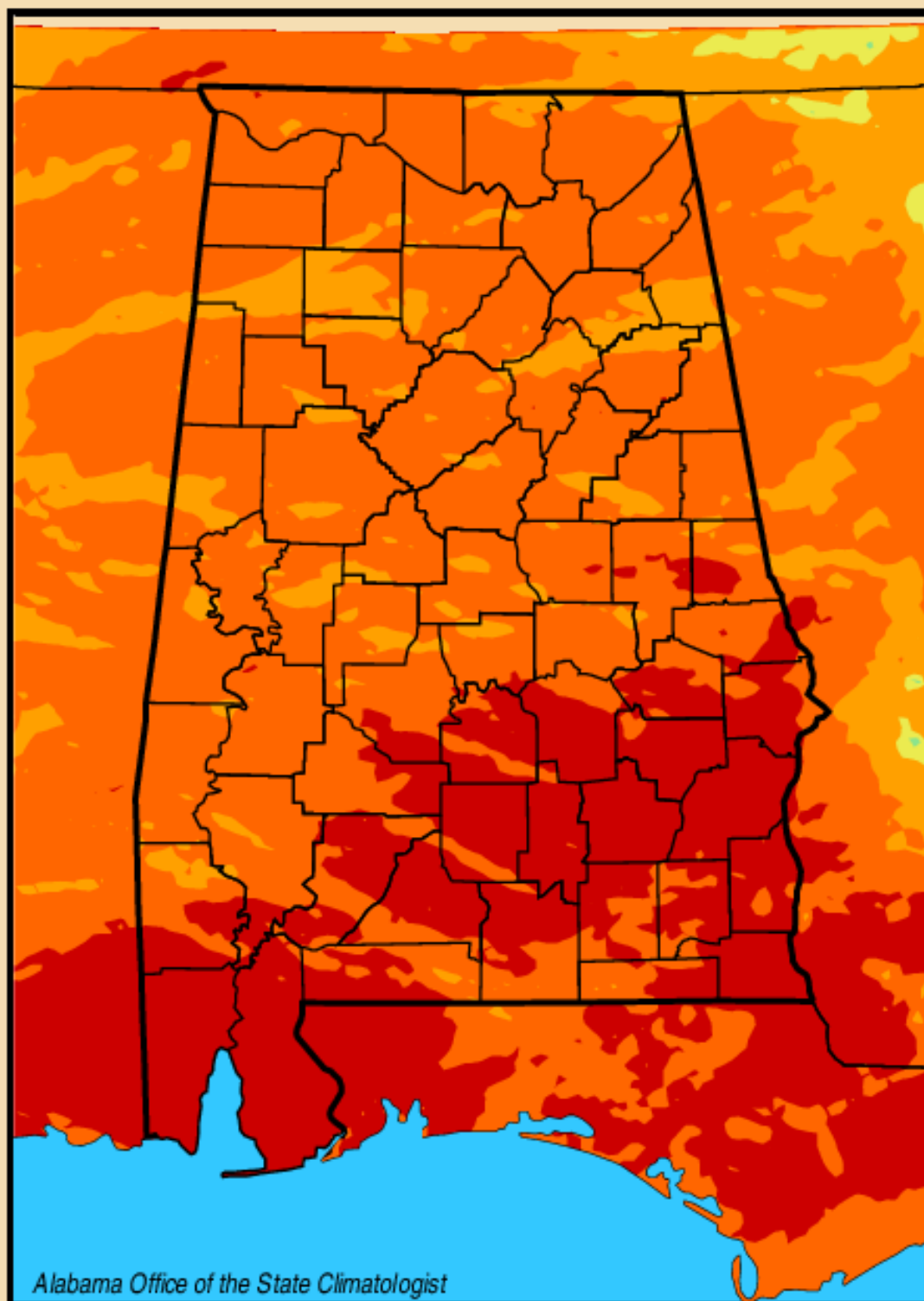
**Author:**

Eric Luebehusen  
U.S. Department of Agriculture



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

## Lawn-and-Garden Moisture Index for April 2, 2019



## Alabama Monthly Climate Summaries

March 2019

	Mar. Mean Mar. Norm	Mar. High Temp Record High	Mar. Low Temp Record Low	Total Precip. Normal Precip.	Wettest Mar. Driest Mar.	Heaviest Day Record Day
Anniston	53.7 54.9	78 3/14/19 89+ 3/9/74	24 3/6/19 12 3/14/93	2.35" 6.28"	18.09" 1977 1.38" 1985	1.36" 3/3/19 7.96" 3/29/77
Auburn	56.2 56.2	78 3/14/19 89 3/27/1910	26 3/6/19 13 3/4/43	2.12" 6.44"	17.47" 1929 .69" 1918	.71" 3/3/19 5.06" 3/23/44
Birmingham	54.5 54.5	80 3/14/19 89+ 3/19/82	24 3/5/19 2 3/14/93	2.85" 6.10"	15.80" 1980 1.71" 1985	1.59" 3/3/19 6.91" 3/19/70
Brewton	57 57.6	80.9 3/11/19 91 3/31/78	26.9 3/6/19 10 3/3/80	3.09" 7.01"	15.82" 1990 2.80" 1985	1.81" 3/11/19 13.00" 3/15/29
Calera	54.9 54.2	79 3/14/19 88 3/10/74	26 3/5/19 9 3/3/80	1.84" 6.50"	18.86" 1980 .40" 1918	.99" 3/3/19 6.45" 3/29/51
Clanton	54 54.5	78.9 3/14/19 93 3/25/29	24.9 3/6/19 10 3/14/93	3.50" 6.96"	15.88" 1976 2.27" 1985	.98" 3/3/19 6.85" 3/4/79
Courtland	50.1 M	75.3 3/29/19 M	20.8 3/6/19 M	3.40" M	M M	1.01" 3/3/19 M
Cullman (St. Bernard)	50.1 M	74.1 3/13/19 M	19.4 3/6/19 M	4.38" M	M M	1.30" 3/14/19 M
Decatur (Pryor Field)	49.9 52.4	76 3/13/19 93 3/22/1907	20 3/6/19 4 3/7/1899	3.42" 6.15"	11.45" 1929 .65" 1910	1.53" 3/9/19 4.95" 3/23/29
Dothan	59.7 59.3	83 3/14/19 89 3/24/1904	50 3/6/19 21 03/04/43	2.39" 5.66"	16.40" 1929 .42" 1955	.85" 3/3/19 9.00" 3/14/29
Fairhope	58.3 59.8	79 3/10/19 85+ 3/10/74	30.3 3/6/19 21+ 3/3/80	1.26" 6.71"	11.60" 1980 2.59" 1981	.77" 3/3/19 6.20" 3/16/90
Gadsden	49.5 52.2	71.9 3/30/19 88 3/11/74	21.4 3/6/19 11+ 3/6/60	2.86" 6.55"	17.41" 1980 1.46" 1986	1.08" 3/3/19 4.98" 3/4/79
Gainesville Lock	M 54.8	M 88+ 3/13/67	M 15 3/3/80	M 5.97"	17.26" 1976 1.57" 1985	M 5.12" 3/29/51
Greensboro	54.6 56.8	79.7 3/14/19 91 3/23/95	22.5 3/6/19 10 3/14/93	3.47" 6.51"	14.57" 1976 2.37" 1985	1.15" 3/3/19 7.30" 3/28/51
Guntersville	M 52.8	M 87+ 3/13/90	M 11 3/3/80	M 6.20"	17.49" 1980 1.89" 1974	M 4.30" 3/12/77
Highland Home	56.4 57.8	78.9 3/14/19 88 3/12/55	26.2 3/6/19 14 3/3/80	1.32" 6.95"	13.84" 1973 2.92" 1984	.57" 3/3/19 8.13" 3/30/60
Huntsville	51.6 52.1	77 3/30/19 88 3/31/63	23 3/6/19 6 3/3/80	3.86" 6.11"	17.00" 1980 1.12" 2007	1.29" 3/9/19 5.24" 3/16/1973
Mobile	60.3 59.7	83 3/10/19 89 3/15/67	29 3/6/19 21 3/14/93	1.62" 7.20"	13.46" 1980 3.00" 1981	.75" 3/3/19 7.15" 3/16/90
Montgomery	58 57.1	82 3/14/19 89+ 3/22/95	28 3/6/19 17 3/14/93	3.85" 6.39"	12.4" 1990 1.75" 1997	2.11" 3/3/19 7.89" 3/16/90
Muscle Shoals Airport	51.6 52.2	77 3/14/19 86+ 3/13/67	24 3/5/19 10 3/3/43	3.05" 6.21"	14.25" 1980 2.22" 1985	1.14 3/3/19 4.80" 3/27/94
Russellville	49.6 49.1	74.1 3/30/19 84+ 3/24/95	17.8 3/6/19 5+ 3/4/80	3.38" 6.28"	15.75" 1973 2.14" 2000	1.45" 3/9/19 8.40" 3/16/73
Scottsboro	49.6 51.5	75.3 3/30/19 90 3/25/29	22 3/6/19 8 3/14/93	5.11" 6.52"	16.48" 1980 2.28" 1982	1.84" 3/8/19 4.88" 3/16/73
Selma	54.9 58.5	80.5 3/14/19 90 3/25/36	22.9 3/6/19 18 3/4/80	4.43" 6.67"	14.06" 1973 1.07" 1985	2.09" 3/14/19 9.75" 3/16/90
Talladega	53.1 54.8	78.4 3/30/19 88+ 3/24/95	23.1 3/6/19 6 3/14/93	2.43" 6.82"	18.24" 1976 1.18" 1985	1.56" 3/3/19 7.81" 3/30/77
Thomasville	55.2 57.6	78 3/14/19 89+ 3/20/80	24 3/6/19 14 3/3/80	2.80" 6.95"	15.35" 1976 1.62" 1978	.84" 3/15/19 11.10" 3/12/35
Troy	56.5 58	81 3/4/19 89 3/12/55	27 3/6/19 13 3/3/80	2.75" 6.56"	13.75" 1990 1.81" 1982	.97" 3/3/19 8.56" 3/17/90
Tuscaloosa	56.2 55.4	84 3/14/19 90 3/23/95	24 3/6/19 12 3/14/93	2.54" 6.37"	19.99" 1976 1.12" 1986	1.29" 3/3/19 6.08" 3/13/75
Valley Head	48.5 49.6	72.5 3/30/19 84+ 3/20/82	19.1 3/6/19 2 3/3/80	4.07" 6.57"	15.87" 1980 1.91" 1985	1.20" 3/3/19 4.87" 3/4/79

**Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRAHS)**

**March 2019**

	Ave. Total Precip.	# Stations			Ave. Total Precip.	# Stations
Autauga	3.17	1		Houston	3.67	1
Baldwin	2.31	22		Jackson	4.55	4
Barbour	3.88	1		Jefferson	4.10	15
Bibb	n.a.	0		Lamar	5.78	1
Blount	5.65	7		Lauderdale	3.83	8
Bullock	n.a.	0		Lawrence	5.15	3
Butler	n.a.	0		Lee	3.18	3
Calhoun	3.04	2		Limestone	4.78	7
Chambers	n.a.	0		Lowndes	n.a.	0
Cherokee	n.a.	0		Macon	1.00	1
Chilton	3.81	1		Madison	4.60	20
Choctaw	2.89	1		Marengo	n.a.	0
Clarke	3.68	4		Marion	5.96	1
Clay	n.a.	0		Marshall	4.77	10
Cleburne	n.a.	0		Mobile	2.29	15
Coffee	n.a.	0		Monroe	2.22	2
Colbert	4.21	5		Montgomery	3.74	4
Conecuh	n.a.	0		Morgan	4.60	6
Coosa	4.23	2		Perry	n.a.	0
Covington	n.a.	0		Pickens	n.a.	0
Crenshaw	n.a.	0		Pike	n.a.	0
Cullman	5.06	4		Randolph	3.68	2
Dale	2.72	1		Russell	3.34	1
Dallas	4.30	1		St. Clair	4.65	5
DeKalb	5.48	5		Shelby	3.81	15
Elmore	3.82	4		Sumter	n.a.	0
Escambia	3.88	2		Talladega	4.15	4
Etowah	n.a.	0		Tallapoosa	3.19	1
Fayette	5.60	1		Tuscaloosa	3.45	5
Franklin	n.a.	0		Walker	n.a.	0
Geneva	3.33	1		Washington	5.65	1
Greene	n.a.	0		Wilcox	3.67	2
Hale	n.a.	0		Winston	4.74	2

Normal March Precipitation*	
Abbeville	6.21
Alberta	6.76
Alex City	7.09
Aliceville	6.03
Andalusia	6.63
Ashland	7.16
Athens	5.92
Bay Minette	6.54
Bessemer	6.38
Billingsly	6.04
Centreville WSMC	7.39
Chatom	6.37
Claiborne L&D	6.28
Clayton	6.18
Dauphin Isl.	6.47
Elba	6.65
Eufaula WR	6.19
Evergreen	6.52
Fayette	7.00
Geneva 2	6.91
Greenville	6.28
Haleyville	6.50
Hamilton 3S	6.33
Heflin	6.88
Hurtsboro	6.30
Jasper	6.80
Lafayette	6.71
Livingston	6.20
Melvin	7.22
Milstead	6.08
Moulton	6.42
Oneonta	6.28
Perryville	6.51
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

### Highest Maximum Temperature Daily Record

STATION	DATE	RECORD	PREV. DATE	PREV. RECORD	NUMBER OF YEARS	DIFFERENCE
MOBILE DOWNTOWN AIRPORT, AL US	3/3/19	78	3/3/00	77	70	1
MOBILE DOWNTOWN AIRPORT, AL US	3/10/19	81	3/10/17	81	70	0
MOBILE REGIONAL AIRPORT, AL US	3/10/19	83	3/10/80	83	71	0
MOBILE DOWNTOWN AIRPORT, AL US	3/11/19	86	3/11/55	81	70	5
DAUPHIN ISLAND NUMBER 2, AL US	3/12/19	77	3/12/00	76	43	1

### Highest Minimum Temperature Daily Record

BANKHEAD LOCK AND DAM, AL US	3/1/19	60	3/1/12	58	62	2
HALEYVILLE, AL US	3/9/19	60	3/9/64	59	116	1
ANNISTON METROPOLITAN AIRPORT, AL US	3/9/19	62	3/9/73	62	116	0
BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT, AL US	3/9/19	63	3/9/16	62	89	1
MOBILE REGIONAL AIRPORT, AL US	3/9/19	66	3/9/16	65	71	1
MONTGOMERY AIRPORT, AL US	3/9/19	63	3/9/73	63	71	0
TUSCALOOSA AIRPORT ASOS, AL US	3/9/19	65	3/9/16	60	71	5
ATMORE, AL US	3/10/19	66	3/10/16	62	79	4
JACKSON, AL US	3/10/19	66	3/10/16	63	35	3
OPELIKA, AL US	3/10/19	60	3/10/73	60	62	0
GENEVA NUMBER 2, AL US	3/11/19	64	3/11/16	63	43	1
BESSEMER 3 WSW, AL US	3/14/19	65	3/14/95	59	42	6
GADSDEN, AL US	3/14/19	62	3/14/97	58	66	4
HALEYVILLE, AL US	3/14/19	65	3/14/07	60	116	5
MOBILE DOWNTOWN AIRPORT, AL US	3/14/19	68	3/14/55	68	70	0
ANNISTON METROPOLITAN AIRPORT, AL US	3/14/19	63	3/14/73	58	116	5
BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT, AL US	3/14/19	65	3/14/33	65	89	0
MOBILE REGIONAL AIRPORT, AL US	3/14/19	70	3/14/73	70	71	0
MONTGOMERY AIRPORT, AL US	3/14/19	66	3/14/73	66	71	0
TUSCALOOSA AIRPORT ASOS, AL US	3/14/19	67	3/14/73	67	71	0

### Lowest Maximum Temperature Daily Record

ATMORE, AL US	3/5/19	41	3/5/14	41	79	0
BESSEMER 3 WSW, AL US	3/5/19	46	3/5/15	51	42	-5
GUNTERSVILLE, AL US	3/5/19	33	3/5/02	36	109	-3
HAMILTON 3 S, AL US	3/5/19	33	3/5/65	33	57	0
VERNON, AL US	3/5/19	37	3/5/65	38	62	-1
ALEXANDER CITY, AL US	3/6/19	47	3/6/15	50	49	-3
BAY MINETTE, AL US	3/6/19	50	3/6/54	50	104	0
ENTERPRISE 2 W, AL US	3/6/19	52	3/6/69	54	53	-2
GENEVA NUMBER 2, AL US	3/6/19	52	3/6/78	55	43	-3

### Lowest Minimum Temperature Daily Record

ALEXANDER CITY, AL US	3/7/19	25	3/7/15	25	49	0
FORT BENNING LAWSON FIELD, AL US	3/7/19	22	3/7/10	25	70	-3

### Highest Precipitation Daily Record

ADDISON, AL US	3/4/19	0.9	3/4/01	0.43	81	0.47
HOLT LOCK AND DAM, AL US	3/4/19	1.14	3/4/88	1.14	38	0
MOULTON 2, AL US	3/10/19	1.75	3/10/92	1.21	62	0.54
ATMORE, AL US	3/12/19	1.72	3/12/51	1.6	79	0.12
GENEVA NUMBER 2, AL US	3/12/19	1.5	3/12/13	1.1	43	0.4

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