

The Pennsylvania Observer

April 30, 2014



April 2014 - Pennsylvania Weather Recap

By: Jordan McCammon

April is Mother Nature's most indecisive time of the year with a tug of war between departing wintry chill and advancing warmth of spring. There were several swings of max temperature as large as 20 degrees Fahrenheit from one day to the next. The lowest minimum temperature ranging in the teen's while the highest maximum temperature were ranging in the 80's. Even with these fluctuating temperatures, the month's mean temperatures were very close to the normal temperatures for April across the state, with eastern PA trending towards the colder side. Along with the temperature, monthly precipitation was generally in a deficit until the last two days when excessive rainfall on April 30 raised the totals above average in the western quarter and eastern third of the state. There was no widespread severe weather reported, and only minor flooding, which made for a very average April.

April severe weather summary: 1 hail report, 15 wind reports.

Here are the weather extremes across Pennsylvania (**observations taken at 8AM EDT**) during April 2014 from the NWS Cooperative & ASOS Networks of which our office receives routine observations. The extremes occurred in the 24-hour period prior to the date listed.

Parameter	Location	Value	Date (8 AM EDT)	County
Highest Temperature	Lock Haven Sewage Plant	86°F	April 14 th	Clinton
Lowest Temperature	Chandlers Valley 1 Mi. SE	12°F	April 17 th	Warren
Greatest Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Sellersville	5.88"	April 1 st – April 30 th	Bucks
Least Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Covington 2 Mi. WSW	1.90"	April 1 st – April 30 th	Tioga
Greatest Cumulative Snowfall	Mountain Top 1.0 Mi. SW	3.2"	April 1 st – April 30 th	Luzerne

Links to Pennsylvania Weather Stories during April, 2014

Grape growers assess losses due to cold winter

http://dailyadvocate.com/news/home_top-news/4459379/Grape-growers-see-loss-due-to-Polar-Vortex

Longer winter may portend worse allergy season

<http://www.abc27.com/story/25235264/long-winter-could-mean-more-intense-allergy-season>

Changing climate challenges maple syrup businesses in PA

<http://wesa.fm/post/climate-change-not-so-sweet-maple-syrup>

Cold start to spring may lead to pollen problems

<http://www.wtae.com/weather/pollen-season-begins-after-harsh-winter/25496846?absolute=true>

The Pennsylvania Observer

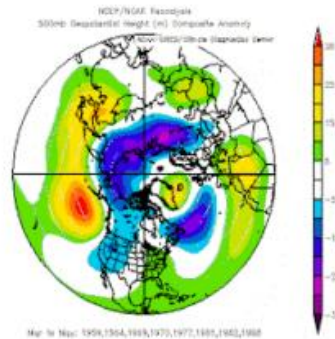


Pennsylvania State
CLIMATOLOGIST



PENNSTATE

A Service to the Commonwealth
by the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences



FEATURED CLIMATE HIGHLIGHT 1

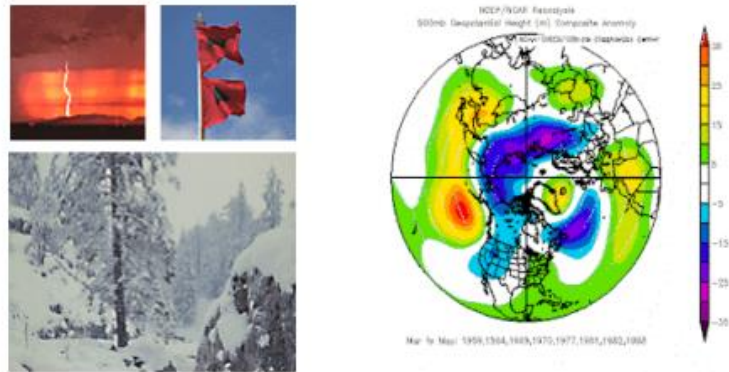
By: Katie D'Adamo

Year	Precipitation	Percent of Normal
1895	6.97	0.83
1899	7.44	0.88
1904	8.86	1.05
1905	10.4	1.24
1912	8.55	1.02
1914	7.66	0.91
1920	9.66	1.15
1934	7.56	0.90
1940	7.63	0.91
1941	10.01	1.19
1963	6.29	0.75
1970	9.62	1.14
1978	7.96	0.95

1979	6.8	0.81
1994	9.26	1.10

Much Above	Above	Below	Much Below
5	2	4	4

Temperatures in Pennsylvania were observed January through March and were compared to precipitation during the following months of June and July. The percent of normal precipitation (1.00) was calculated and ranked above or below normal based on a less than ten percent difference. Much below and much above were ranked based on a greater than or equal to ten percent difference. The contingency chart shows a slight bias towards precipitation being below normal.



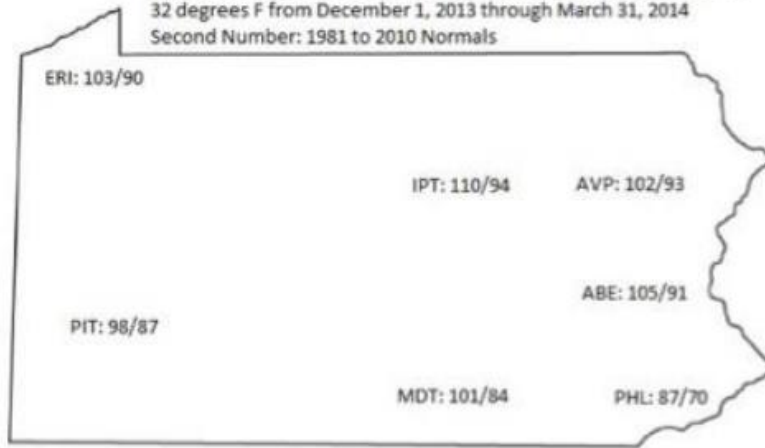
FEATURED CLIMATE HIGHLIGHT 2

By: Eric Donten

All the traditional measures show that this past winter season was abnormally cold.

Pennsylvania

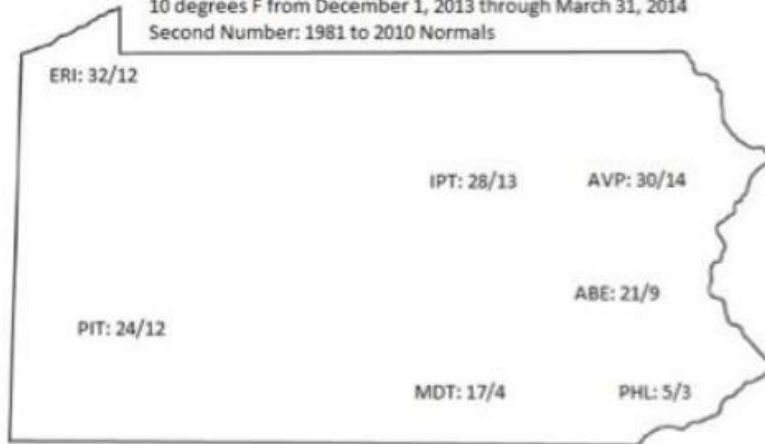
First Number: Number of days with minimum temperature below
32 degrees F from December 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014
Second Number: 1981 to 2010 Normals



There is a possible 121 days in this time period.

Pennsylvania

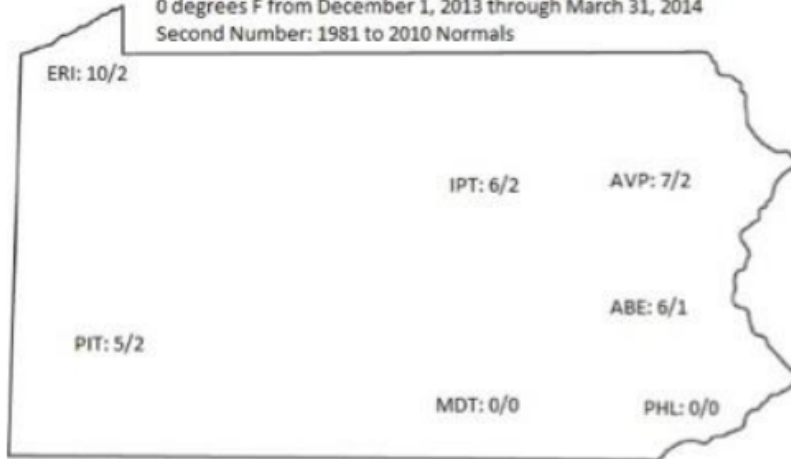
First Number: Number of days with minimum temperature below
10 degrees F from December 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014
Second Number: 1981 to 2010 Normals



Even the cold mornings (minimums below 10F) were at least twice as many as in a normal year.

Pennsylvania

First Number: Number of days with minimum temperature below
0 degrees F from December 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014
Second Number: 1981 to 2010 Normals



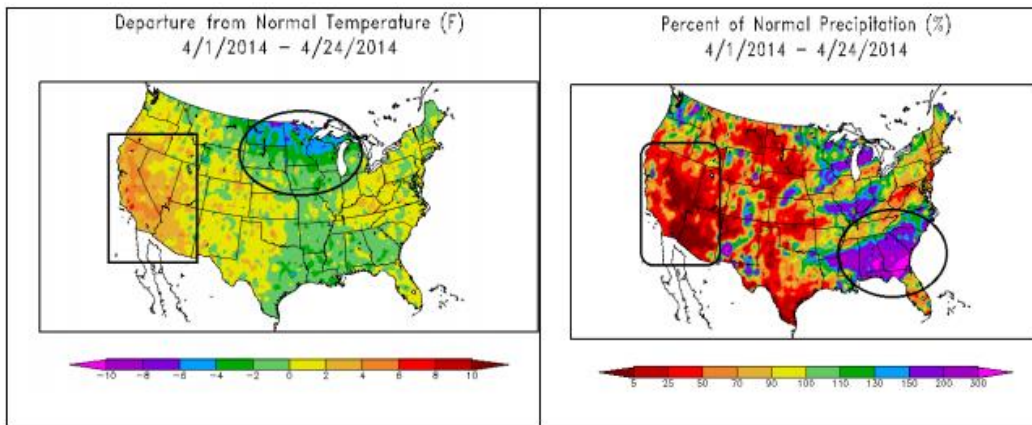
Sub-zero readings were reported in all but the southeast counties. In some sections, this past winter tallied 3 to 5 times the normal number of frigid mornings.

The Pennsylvania Observer



LONG RANGE OUTLOOK

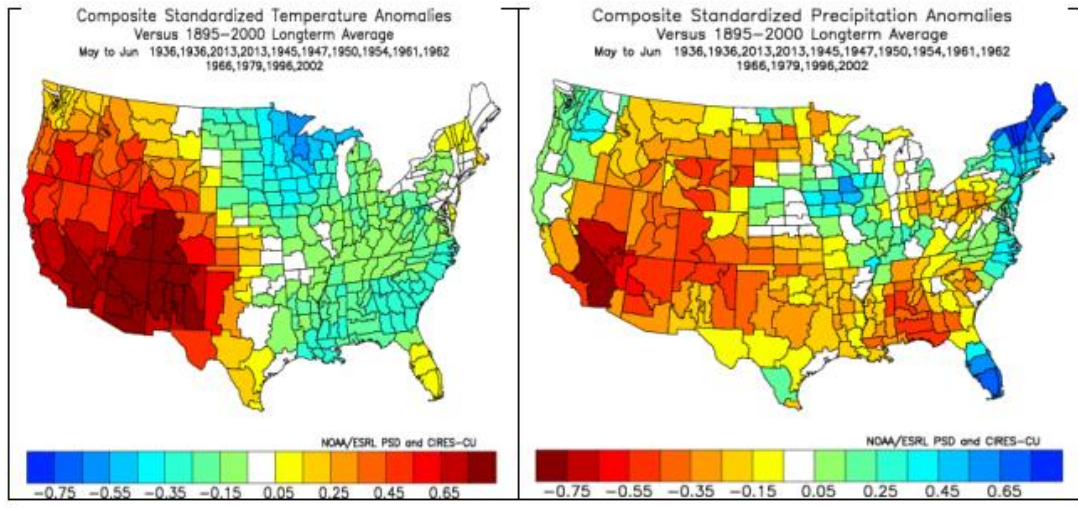
By: Robert Mayo and Paul Knight



The anomalous chill in North Dakota and warmth in California during April were combined with the wet weather in Georgia and the scarcity of rain in Arizona to determine the following analog years:

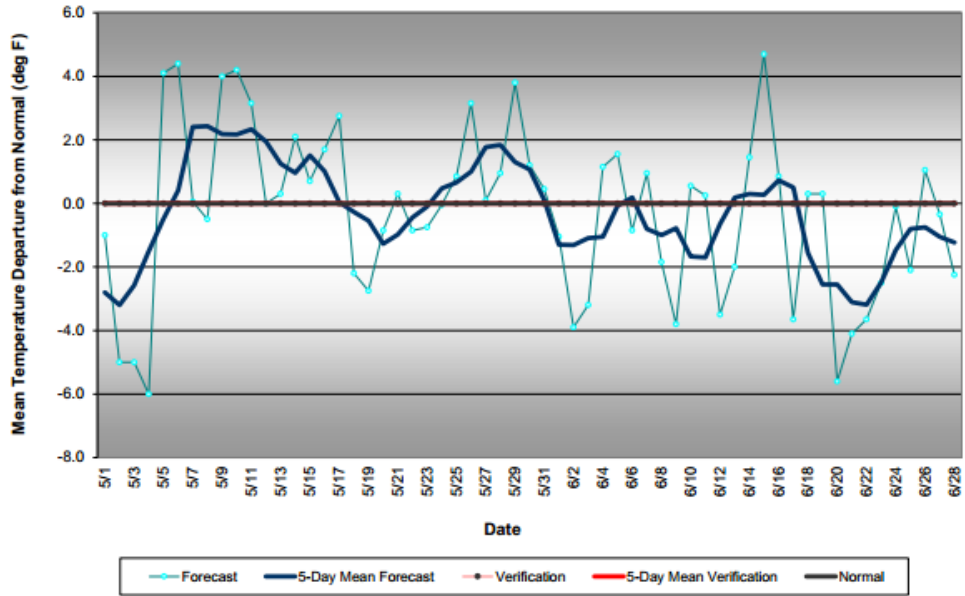
ND-Chill	1899	37.4	CA-Warm	1897	56	GA-Wet	1900	5.41	AZ-Dry	1895	0.08
	1904	37.3		1898	56.9		1907	5.81		1897	0.13
	1907	32.3		1910	57.2		1908	6.75		1899	0.22
	1909	34.1		1926	57.8		1912	7.35		1901	0.14
	1916	39.2		1930	56.2		1918	5.42		1902	0.07
	1917	36.8		1931	57.4		1920	7.24		1904	0.03
	1920	32.1		1934	59.8		1924	5.77		1909	0.19
	1923	38.6		1936	56.4		1928	8.2		1918	0.15
	1924	38.8		1939	58.3		1936	7.26		1936	0.15
	1928	35.9		1940	55.7		1937	6.74		1937	0.14
	1935	37.9		1946	56.3		1938	6.27		1938	0.2
	1936	35.2		1947	56.2		1944	7.07		1945	0.18
	1940	37.5		1949	57.3		1945	6.21		1947	0.05
	1945	37.8		1950	56.3		1947	5.2		1948	0.11
	1950	32		1954	57.5		1948	4.96		1950	0.03
	1951	38.2		1959	58.8		1949	5.41		1954	0.05
	1953	35.7		1962	58.2		1953	5.07		1955	0.14
	1954	38.7		1966	57.8		1955	4.91		1960	0.23
	1956	34.8		1977	56.7		1958	6.09		1961	0.19
	1961	36.9		1981	56.5		1961	6.95		1962	0.04
	1966	35.8		1985	58.2		1962	5.51		1966	0.15
	1967	37.5		1987	59.3		1964	7.31		1969	0.11
	1970	36.9		1989	59.9		1973	7.24		1972	0.1
	1975	33.5		1990	58.4		1975	5.75		1974	0.16
	1979	33.3		1992	58.9		1979	7		1979	0.18
	1982	38.5		1994	55.9		1982	6.28		1989	0.01
	1983	38.5		1996	56.8		1983	5.45		1991	0.01
	1995	36.7		2000	57.8		1988	4.87		1993	0.05
	1996	36.4		2002	56		1991	5.06		1996	0.06
	1997	36.5		2004	57.3		1998	6.32		2000	0.11
	2002	38.2		2007	56.3		2005	4.96		2002	0.17
	2011	39.1		2012	55.8		2009	6.73		2008	0.02
	2013	31.3		2013	58.2		2013	5.08		2013	0.2

The above analogs (orange – 4 states; green – 3 states; yellow – 2 states) were used to discern the probable pattern during the May-June periods that follow. More weight was given to the years with 3 or 4 states in common.

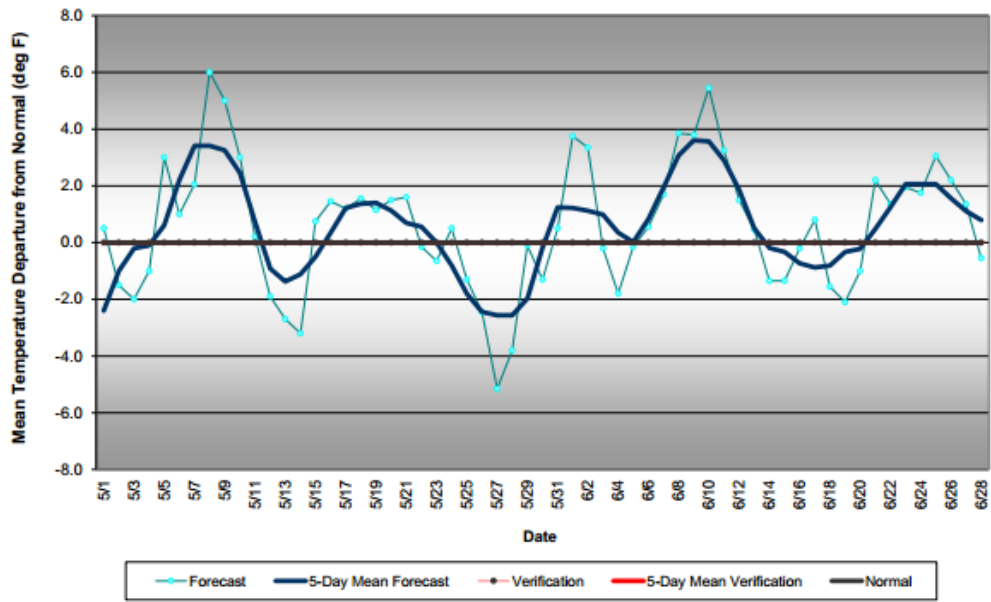


Summary: On balance, the months of May and June should average slight below normal temperatures in Pennsylvania and drier than average in all but the eastern climate zones.

Western Pennsylvania Temperature Forecast
May - June 2014



Central Pennsylvania Temperature Forecast
May- June 2014



**Eastern Pennsylvania Temperature Forecast
May - June 2014**

