



The North Dakota Monthly Climate Summary

April 2016

Precipitation:

The current 30 year average precipitation for April across North Dakota is generally in the 1 to 1.5 inch range with a statewide average of 1.22 inches. A high percentage of the state recorded well above average rainfall during April 2016 (Figure 1). Although there were several smaller events, most of the rain came from two systems that drop widespread moderate rain amounts, one in the middle of April and the other during the last week of the month. The North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN) average rainfall for stations located in North Dakota was 2.29 inches, which is 1 inch above average for those stations. Using those numbers, April 2016 would rank as the 13th wettest on record.

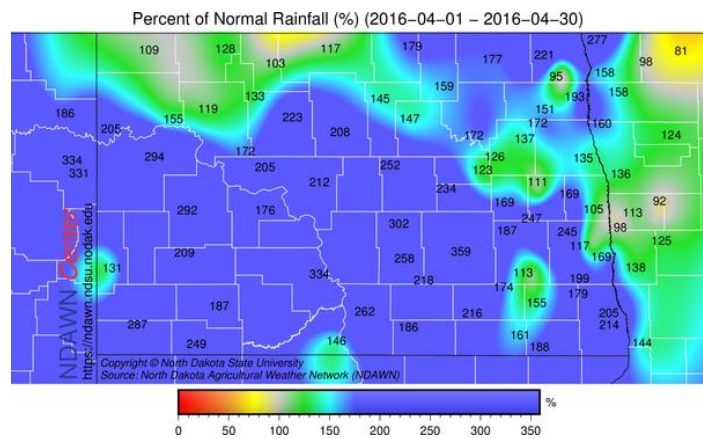


Figure 1. Precipitation Percent of Normal in April, 2016 for North Dakota (North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network, NDAWN)

Temperature:

May 2015 was the last month with below average temperatures in North Dakota taken as a whole. Granted, several of those months would be considered average as the positive temperature anomaly was slight, yet above average nevertheless. April 2016 may have finally ended that streak (Figure 2). The average temperature for the North Dakota NDAWN (North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network) stations in April 2016 was 41.8° which is 0.8° below normal for those locations. Of course that would be considered a very average month but unlike most of the past year, the slight anomaly this time was on the negative side. The highest temperature recorded during the month occurred on April 13 when the NDAWN station near Wyndmere, ND reached 87.7° F. The lowest temperature recorded in the month was 6.9° F at the Plaza, ND NDAWN station on April 11.

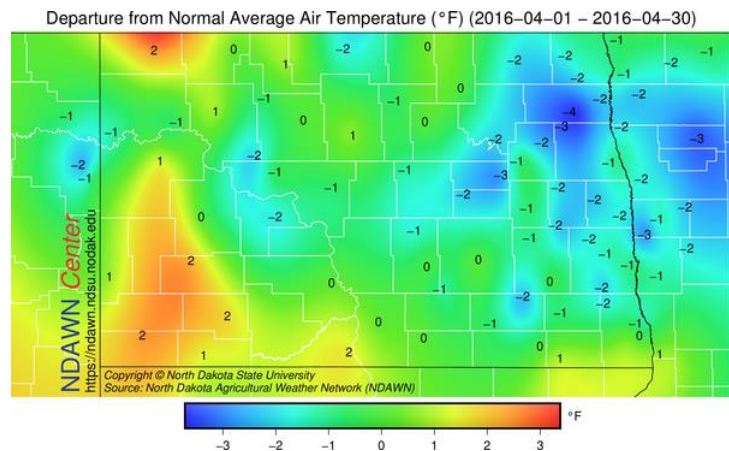


Figure 2. Temperature Departure from Normal in April, 2016 for North Dakota (North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network, NDAWN)