

A dramatic, high-contrast photograph of a stormy sky. The clouds are dark and heavy, with bright, jagged lightning bolts striking down from the bottom right. The overall color palette is dominated by deep blues, purples, and greys, with the white of the lightning providing a stark contrast.

# April 2020 Climate Review

**Presented By:**

**National Weather Service**

**Newport/Morehead City, NC**

# April 2020 Highlights



Storm damage in the Jacksonville, NC area on April 13<sup>th</sup>. A storm survey confirmed an EF1 tornado impacted the area.

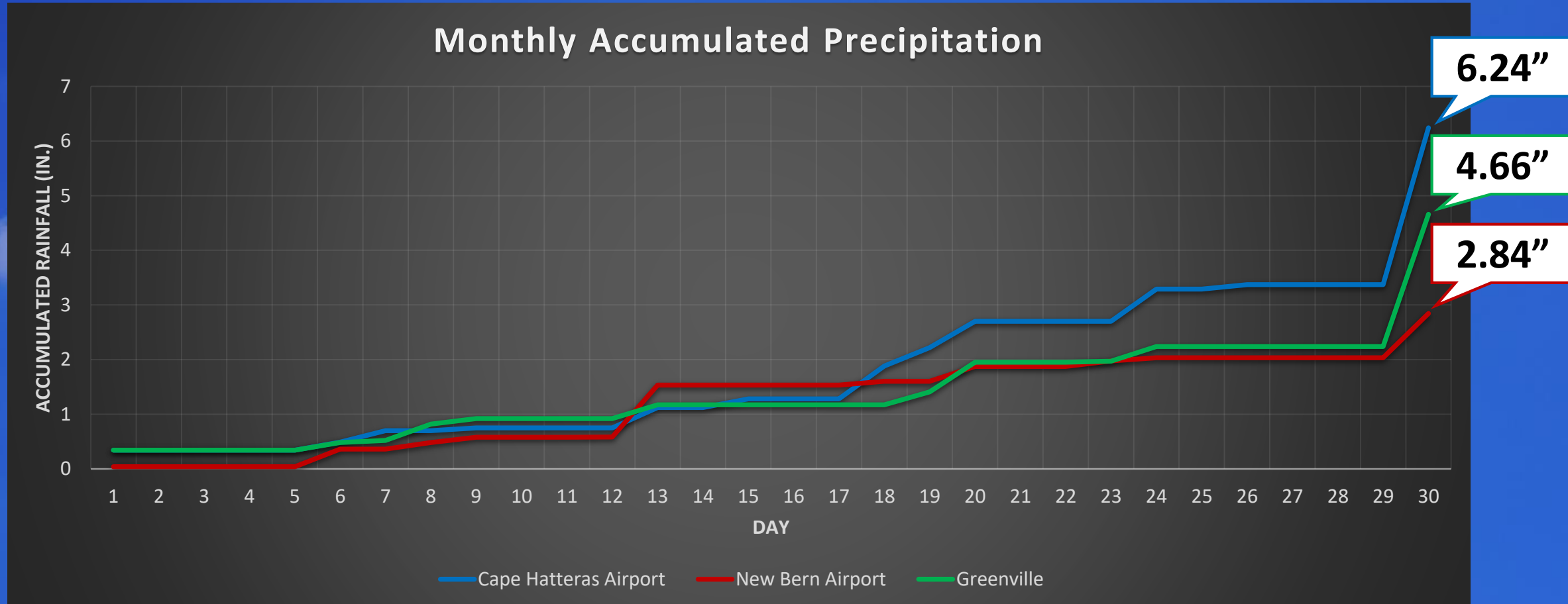
**Out Like A Lion:** Despite the adage, April was a very active weather month across Eastern NC. Multiple waves of winds and thunderstorms raked the region with the most pronounced event on April 13<sup>th</sup>, when 6 confirmed tornadoes touched down across the region.

**Inland v. Coast:** Coastal NC saw wetter and somewhat warmer conditions in April (courtesy of several offshore lows), while drier and cooler weather prevailed inland.

## Monthly Rankings

|          | Average Temp             | Total Rainfall           |
|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Hatteras | 19 <sup>th</sup> Warmest | 12 <sup>th</sup> Wettest |
| New Bern | 15 <sup>th</sup> Coolest | 34 <sup>th</sup> Driest  |

# April 2020 Rainfall

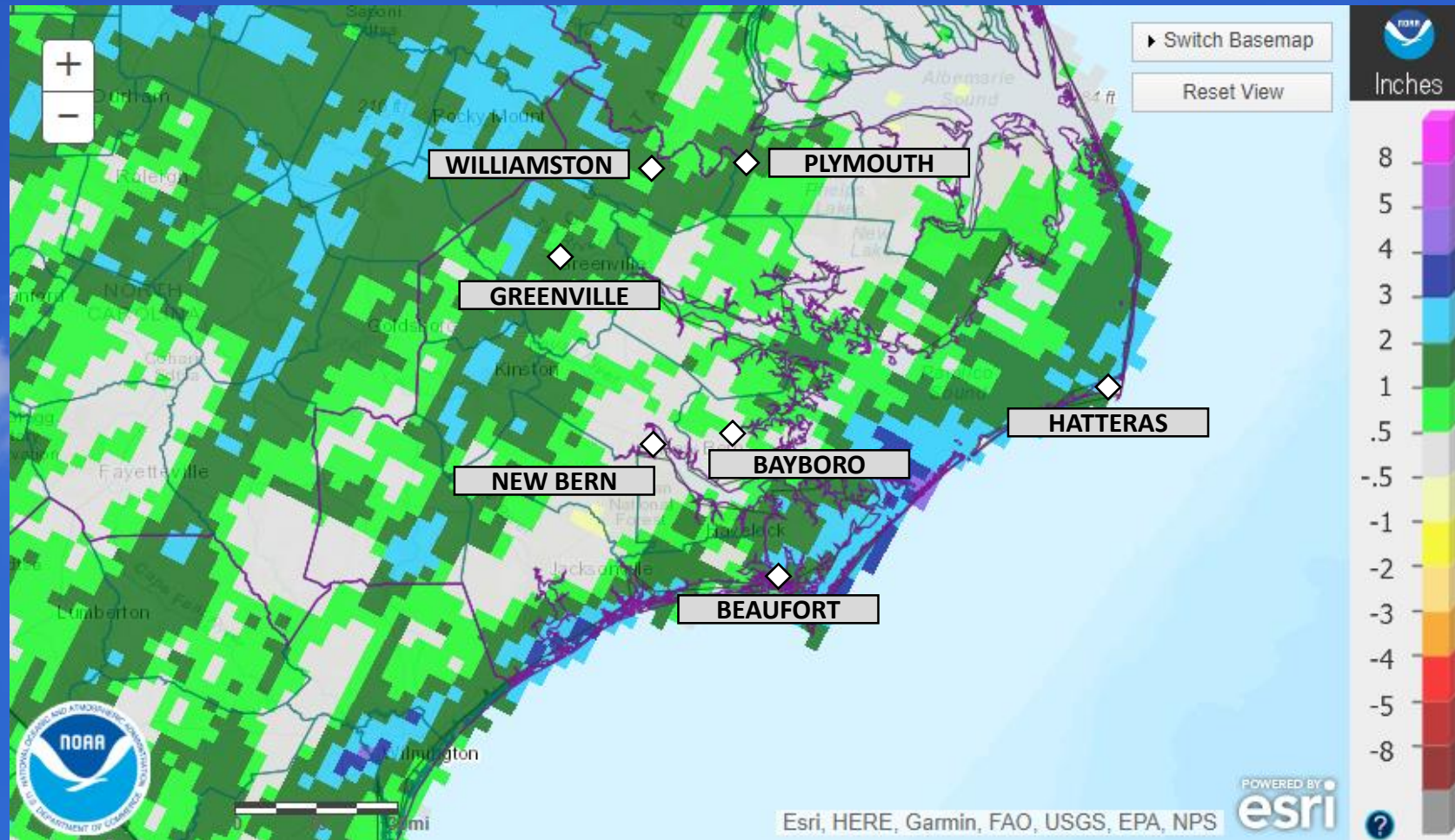


*White diamonds denote missing 24-hour precipitation report. Asterisk denotes total with missing data.*

# April 2020 Rainfall vs. Climate Normal

|                 | Observed (In.) | Normal | Difference |
|-----------------|----------------|--------|------------|
| <b>Beaufort</b> | 4.36           | 3.55   | ▲ 0.81     |
| Hatteras        | 6.24           | 3.64   | ▲ 2.60     |
| New Bern        | 2.84           | 3.17   | ▼ 0.33     |
| Greenville      | 4.66           | 3.17   | ▲ 1.49     |
| Williamston     | 4.05           | 3.17   | ▲ 0.88     |
| <b>Plymouth</b> | 6.37           | 3.33   | ▲ 3.04     |
| Bayboro         | 3.41           | 3.61   | ▼ 0.20     |

Red sites have missing data



# Wettest and Driest Aprils

|                         | Cape Hatteras | Year Observed | New Bern | Year Observed |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------|---------------|
| Wettest                 | 9.94"         | 2003          | 8.36"    | 2000          |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wettest | 9.57"         | 1989          | 7.16"    | 2003          |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wettest | 9.25"         | 1928          | 6.66"    | 1961          |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Wettest | 8.96"         | 2008          | 5.58"    | 1989          |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Wettest | 8.61"         | 2019          | 5.51"    | 1975          |

|                        | Cape Hatteras | Year Observed | New Bern | Year Observed |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------|---------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Driest | 0.67"         | 1985          | 1.17"    | 1981          |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Driest | 0.59"         | 1976          | 1.16"    | 2002          |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Driest | 0.51"         | 1942          | 0.72"    | 1986, 1994    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Driest | 0.44"         | 1995          | 0.60"    | 1957          |
| Driest                 | 0.36"         | 1957          | 0.52"    | 2010          |

# Average Temperatures: April 2020

|                    | Average High | Normal High | Difference | Average Low | Normal Low | Difference |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| <b>Beaufort</b>    | 70.4         | 69.0        | ▲ 1.4      | 51.9        | 53.1       | ▼ 1.2      |
| <b>Hatteras</b>    | 70.1         | 66.3        | ▲ 3.8      | 54.5        | 52.6       | ▲ 1.9      |
| <b>New Bern</b>    | 72.3         | 73.5        | ▼ 1.2      | 47.7        | 50.1       | ▼ 2.4      |
| <b>Greenville</b>  | 71.7         | 73.2        | ▼ 1.5      | 48.2        | 49.1       | ▼ 0.9      |
| <b>Kinston</b>     | 71.1         | 75.6        | ▼ 4.5      | 47.4        | 50.3       | ▼ 2.9      |
| <b>Williamston</b> | 68.5         | 71.4        | ▼ 2.9      | 47.3        | 47.3       | 0.0        |
| <b>Plymouth</b>    | 72.7         | 73.7        | ▼ 1.0      | 48.2        | 48.5       | ▼ 0.3      |
| <b>Bayboro</b>     | 70.7         | 72.6        | ▼ 1.9      | 46.0        | 48.4       | ▼ 2.4      |

Red sites have missing data

# Warmest and Coolest Aprils By Avg. Temp

|                         | Cape Hatteras | Year Observed | New Bern | Year Observed |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------|---------------|
| Warmest                 | 68.3°         | 2017          | 67.2°    | 2017          |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Warmest | 66.6°         | 2011          | 65.7°    | 1985          |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Warmest | 66.0°         | 2019          | 65.6°    | 1955          |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Warmest | 65.7°         | 1994          | 65.4°    | 1960          |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Warmest | 64.1°         | 1991          | 65.3°    | 1994          |

|                         | Cape Hatteras | Year Observed | New Bern | Year Observed |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------|---------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Coolest | 55.4°         | 1899          | 58.9°    | 1993          |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Coolest | 55.0°         | 1965          | 58.6°    | 1966          |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Coolest | 54.7°         | 1971          | 58.5°    | 1983          |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Coolest | 52.9°         | 1907          | 58.2°    | 2018          |
| Coolest                 | 52.4°         | 1901          | 57.1°    | 1961          |

# Temperature Extremes: April 2020

|                    | Max High | Date Obs.                         | Min Low | Date Obs.  |
|--------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|---------|--|
| <b>Beaufort</b>    | 82       | 8 <sup>th</sup>                   | 43      | 15 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup>                    |
| <b>Hatteras</b>    | 78       | 29 <sup>th</sup>                  | 44      | 17 <sup>th</sup> , 28 <sup>th</sup>                    |
| <b>New Bern</b>    | 85       | 8 <sup>th</sup>                   | 35      | 11 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup>                    |
| <b>Greenville</b>  | 83       | 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> | 34      | 16 <sup>th</sup>                                       |
| <b>Kinston</b>     | 85       | 9 <sup>th</sup>                   | 33      | 16 <sup>th</sup>                                       |
| <b>Williamston</b> | 82       | 9 <sup>th</sup>                   | 35      | 16 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup>                    |
| <b>Plymouth</b>    | 82       | 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> | 32      | 16 <sup>th</sup>                                       |
| <b>Bayboro</b>     | 84       | 9 <sup>th</sup>                   | 36      | 11 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> |

Red sites have missing data



# Drought Monitor: North Carolina



**April 28, 2020**

*(Released Thursday, Apr. 30, 2020)*

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

|  | None   | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4   |
|--|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| <b>Current</b>                                     | 100.00 | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00 |
| <b>Last Week</b><br><i>04-21-2020</i>              | 100.00 | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00 |
| <b>3 Months Ago</b><br><i>01-28-2020</i>           | 75.65  | 24.35 | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00 |
| <b>Start of Calendar Year</b><br><i>12-31-2019</i> | 93.61  | 6.39  | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00 |
| <b>Start of Water Year</b><br><i>10-01-2019</i>    | 37.68  | 62.32 | 41.69 | 4.40  | 0.00  | 0.00 |
| <b>One Year Ago</b><br><i>04-30-2019</i>           | 100.00 | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00 |

Intensity:

- None
- 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. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>*

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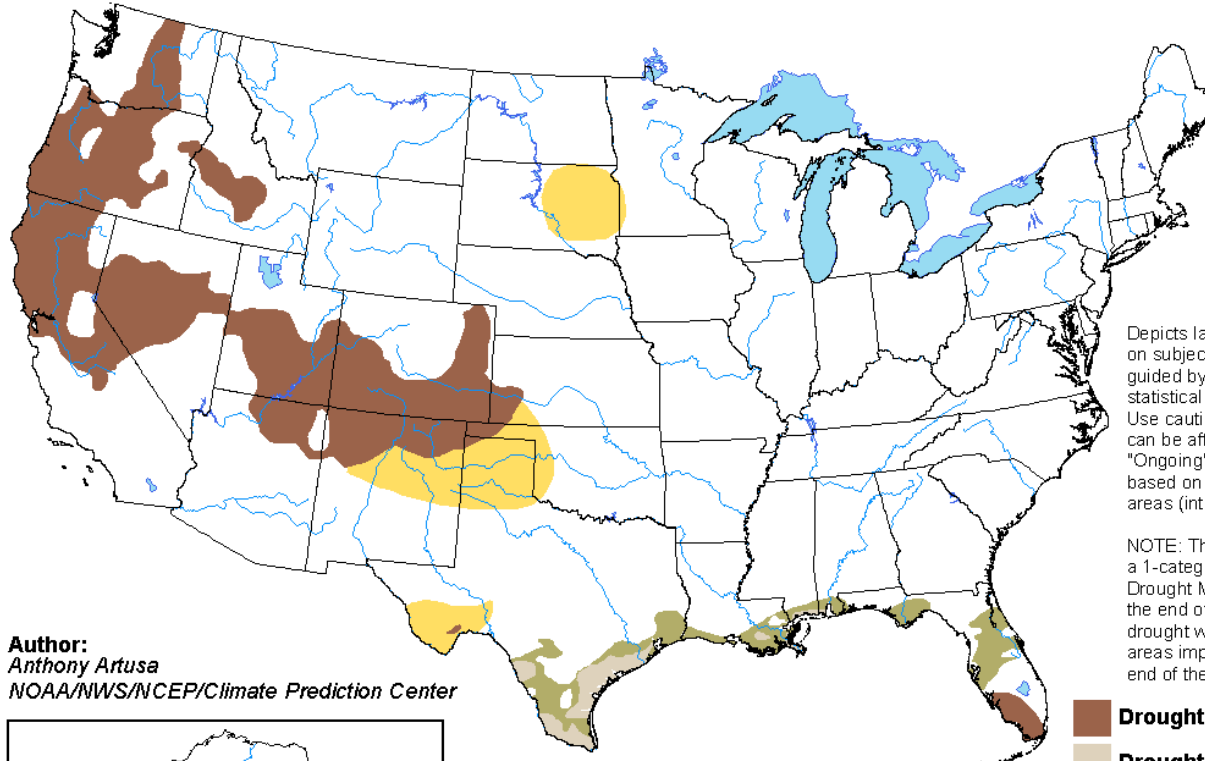


[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

# Monthly Drought Outlook

## U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

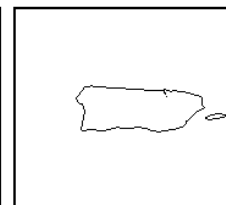
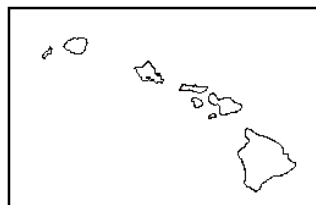
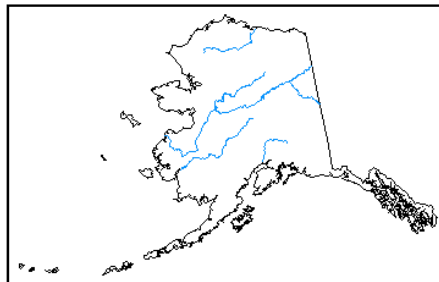
Valid for May 2020  
Released April 30, 2020



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

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-  Drought persists
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZGd>