

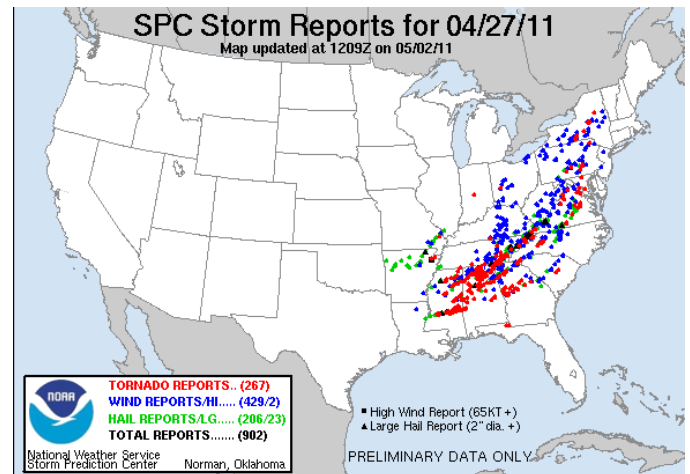
South Mississippi CoCoRaHS Newsletter

Tornado Super Outbreak hits Mississippi

April 27th became one of the most violent weather days in this nation's history as over 100 tornadoes developed across the Gulf States and ravaged several large populated areas. Most notable may be the impacts at Tuscaloosa, Birmingham and Huntsville, AL. However, the episode unfolded in the Magnolia State. An EF-5 rated tornado was determined to move through Smithville, MS, causing numerous deaths and injuries. This was the first EF-5 tornado to occur in Mississippi since the infamous Candlestick Tornado that hit South Jackson in March 1966. As of this writing, NWS field teams

were still conducting storm surveys and compiling information on this historic event. Most of this event greatly impacted locations generally along and north of I-20.

[image courtesy of NWS Storm Prediction Center web site www.spc.noaa.gov]

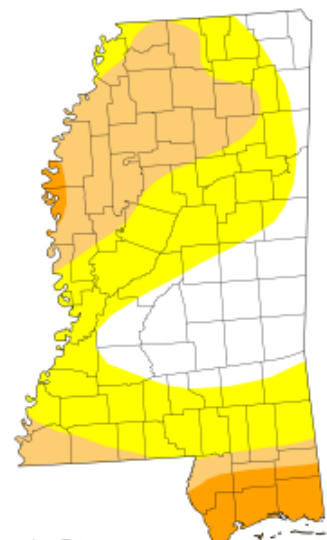


April Statistics

- **Wettest Month State**
MS-OK-22 Maben 6.0 SSE
14.59" on 8 reports
- **Wettest Month Local**
MS-AM-1 Liberty 6.4 ENE
1.74" on 26 reports
- **Number of Rain Days: 23**
- **Wettest Day State**
MS-OK-22 Maben 6.0 SSE
7.20" on April 16th
- **Wettest Day Local**
MS-PK-2 Jayess 5.6 SW
3.92" on Mar 9th
- **Driest Month State and Local**
MS-JC-16 Gautier 5.1 N
0.04" on 22 reports
- **Hail Days: 3**
MS-PK-2 Jayess 5.6 SW
penny (3/4") to hen egg (2")
size—April 15th 3:58 pm

Drought Conditions Persist along the Coast

Unusually dry conditions were felt across the coastal counties for much of April. Most locations recorded well below one inch of accumulation through April. Gautier 5.1N (MS-JC-16) in Jackson County measured only 0.04 inches on 22 reports during the entire month of April. The U.S. Drought Monitor continues to indicate D2 Severe Drought for the three coastal counties and the southern portions of the next tier of counties. May can feature heavy rains with weak frontal systems, but can also be dry. Hopefully some rain comes soon to ease drought impacts.



Intensity:



We're on the Web!
www.cocorahs.org

Robert J. Ricks, Jr.

NWS Forecast Office
62300 Airport Road
Slidell, LA 70460

Phone: (985) 649-0429
Phone: (504) 522-7330
E-mail: robert.ricks@noaa.gov
E-mail: robricks86@hotmail.com



"Because every drop counts"

Comment of the Month: Vicksburg 10.1 NNE (MS-WR-4) on April 28th

My power and Phone was out due to a tree falling on lines Wednesday taking them out. Everyone I know in the area had the same type of problem. A storm system moved through the area Wed. with very strong winds although leaving only 0.17" of rain.

Your observations provide a lot of information that is useful in scientific research and impact monitoring. Any comments you provide adds value to your observations that can explain situations beyond what a measurement simply can. I will start presenting a featured comment each month in the newsletter. Comments added with regard to severe weather are invaluable, and shows a revolution in information sharing with the use of social media like Facebook and programs such as CoCoRaHS.

Reporting Statistics (April)

- Stations reporting: **141**
- Number of reports: **3515**
- Average daily reporting: **117.2**

Busiest Reporting Day

- Date: **April 5th**
- Number of Reports: **134**
- Average reported rainfall: **0.95"**
- Max amount: **2.93"**

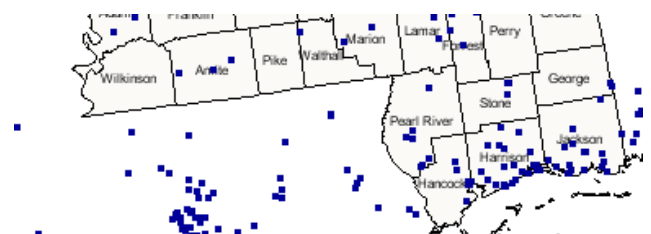
Wettest Reporting Day

- Date: **April 27th**
- Number of Reports: **118**
- Average reported rainfall: **1.01"**
- Max amount: **5.00"**

State of the Network

The latest state roster indicates 284 active members who have taken and reported observations in the past few months. April had 141 stations report an observation, for a 49.6 percent participation rate among active members. This is a few percentage points improvement over the past couple of years. Locally, southern Mississippi has 64 active members, or 22.5 percent of the state roster. Only two counties remain without an observer—Wilkinson and Walthall. Two new members enrolled in April, one in Pearl

River County and one in Harrison County. Each dot on the map below is an active station in the southern-most counties of Mississippi.



Keep those rainfall and hail reports coming!