



# MARITIME CANADA CLIMATE SUMMARY

## April 2024

### Clear Skies Provide Perfect Viewing for Rare Maritimes Total Solar Eclipse

A calm spell of weather across the Maritimes brought perfect viewing for the rare total solar eclipse on April 8<sup>th</sup> and also brought the first 20 C day of the year for some. However, unlike the string of well-above normal temperature of previous months, mean temperatures returned to very close to normal for most of the region. With only two significant storm systems moving across the region, unlike March, precipitation totals were near to below normal. NW NB and PEI received only 25-50% of normal. This “drying out” could lead to an increase in forest fire potential, however the combined March/April totals were above normal for most of the region. Snowfall for the month was confined mainly to northern NB and the eastern Cape Breton highlands partly due to ocean effect enhancement of northeasterly winds. By the end of the month very little snow remained on the ground. Ice cover in the Gulf remained below 0.3% with very little ice left at months end. Coastal sea-surface temperatures remained close to normal.

### The Capital Stats

| Station Name  | Mean Temperature (°C) |             |                  | Extremes   |            |
|---------------|-----------------------|-------------|------------------|------------|------------|
|               | Monthly Mean          | Normal Mean | Diff from Normal | Max (Date) | Min (Date) |
| Charlottetown | 3.9                   | 3.1         | +0.8             | 15.9 (13)  | -7.1 (28)  |
| Halifax       | 4.6                   | 4.3         | +0.2             | 16.7 (28)  | -5.2 (10)  |
| Fredericton   | 5.3                   | 4.8         | +0.5             | 19.0 (28)  | --6.0 (27) |

| Station Name  | Total Precipitation |                   |                | Snowfall   |                  |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|------------------|
|               | Monthly Total (mm)  | Normal Total (mm) | Percent Normal | Total (cm) | SOG End of Month |
| Charlottetown | 34.4                | 83.7              | 41             | 0.8        | 0                |
| Halifax       | 81.7                | 114.5             | 71             | 3.6        | 0                |
| Fredericton   | 64.2                | 81.6              | 79             | 5.1        | 0                |

### Daily Temperature Records

For the first time in many months there were more (23) new overnight minimums set across the region than new daily maximums (16) thanks to two cold spells near the end of the month – 27/28<sup>th</sup> across all Provinces and 23/24<sup>th</sup> in NB. However, NB set 12 of the 16 new daily maximums on 12/13<sup>th</sup>. Once again, higher overnight minimums were the main contribution to the overall monthly means remaining mostly just above normal with 54 new high minimum records – 24 in NS, 22, NB and 8 in PEI. Most of these were set on the nights of 12/13<sup>th</sup>.

### The Warmest (°C)

|                             |      |
|-----------------------------|------|
| <b>New Brunswick</b>        |      |
| Kouchibouguac               | 21.0 |
| <b>Nova Scotia</b>          |      |
| Western Head                | 19.3 |
| <b>Prince Edward Island</b> |      |
| Summerside                  | 18.9 |

### The Coldest (°C)

|                             |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| <b>New Brunswick</b>        |       |
| Mactaquac Prov. Park        | -13.0 |
| <b>Nova Scotia</b>          |       |
| Debert                      | -8.2  |
| <b>Prince Edward Island</b> |       |
| St Peters                   | -8.2  |

### The Wettest (Total mm)

|                             |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| <b>New Brunswick</b>        |       |
| Oak Point                   | 103.2 |
| <b>Nova Scotia</b>          |       |
| Malay Falls                 | 119.3 |
| <b>Prince Edward Island</b> |       |
| St Peters                   | 39.6  |

## Significant Weather Events (information provided by Climate Services, ECCC)

**Apr 4-6** – A system slowly crossed south of the region and resulted in three days of nearly continuous precipitation across NB, western PEI, and western NS. Most precipitation fell in the form of rain or wet snow. 20-50 mm of mostly rain was reported in most areas except 20-35 cm of wet snow blanketed northeastern NB.

[Power outages, several school closures Friday morning | CBC News](#)  
[Weather warnings remain in place in the Maritimes, thousands without power in N.B. | CTV News](#)

**Apr 12-13** –Moisture originating from Texas, streamed northeastward towards southern portions of the region ushering in mild temperatures, strong southerly winds, and considerable rainfall. A few daily maximum temperature records were broken in NB and PEI as temperatures surpassed 20°C for the first time in 2024. Southerly wind gusts of 70-80 km/h blew across southern NB and most of NS with localized gusts near 100 km/h over central NS and northern Cape Breton. These winds caused several thousands to lose power. Southwestern NB, the central and eastern Atlantic coast of NS and Cape Breton saw rainfall amounts of generally 20-40 mm with isolated amounts of 60-70mm reported over Cape Breton and eastern NS.

### Other Climate Related Information-

[An uptick in ticks: Milder weather contributes to longer tick seasons | CBC News New P.E.I.](#)  
[climate risk map predicts future coastal erosion and flooding | CBC News Coastal erosion's effect on fishermen, ferry a concern in eastern P.E.I. | CBC News](#)  
[Weather, high costs, labour top of mind as P.E.I. farmers prepare to plant their crops | CBC News Winter in New Brunswick was as mild as it seemed, says climatologist | CBC News](#)  
[Climate change may force irrigation on P.E.I. potato farmers, says researcher | CBC News](#)  
[Will climate change mean more mosquitoes in Atlantic Canada? N.S. researchers want to know | CBC News](#)  
[El Niño is nearing its end. Does that mean global temperatures will cool down in 2024? | CBC News](#)  
[Maritime wildfire officials prepare for 2024 after record-breaking season | CTV News](#)

Compiled by Peter J. Lewis with data and information provided by Client Service Operations Atlantic, Meteorological Service of Canada Environment and Climate Change Canada / Government of Canada

## Other CMOS News

**Scholarship Recipient:** Congratulations to Jorja-Rain Cain of Auburn High School who is the recipient of the **2024-25 CMOS-ILA Scholarship for students of African or Indigenous Heritage**. We wish Jorja-Rain all the best with their post-secondary studies.

**Congress 2024:** CMOS' 57<sup>th</sup> Congress is fast approaching!!  
Theme: Extreme Events in a Changing Climate  
When: June 3-6  
Where: Virtual Platform  
For more information and to register: <https://cmos-scmo.ca/>

Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (CMOS) | Halifax Chapter

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