General: April was a mild month with near-normal rainfall, above normal fog and light winds.

Temperature: April continued the trend of above normal temperatures – the 13th such month in the past 14. The April average of 56.1°F is 2.1°F above the 29-year normal. Both highs and lows were up from expectations, especially the daytime highs: 65.6°F (vs 62.9°F normal) and 46.5°F (vs 45.1°F normal). The month’s absolute high, 82°F, occurred on 12 April while the low of 41°F was registered on both 2 and 3 April. The past month is the warmest April since 1966 and the third warmest April in the past 29 years.

Precipitation: The April rainfall of 1.77” is considered normal in view of the 29-year average of 1.74”. The rain-year (Jul 1, 79 to Jun 30, 80) total now stands at 23.19”, equivalent to 5.36” above normal and classifying the year thus far as on the boundary of above to much-above normal.

The early month rain (4-5 Apr) yielded up to a half an inch locally but upwards of 2.5” south of Monterey in the Big Sur area. The light/moderate rain late month (28-29 Apr) was accompanied by thunder in the afternoon of 28 Apr. Thunderstorms at this time of the year are unusual, this being the first one recorded in the period 17 Apr to 3 June, considering the past 17 years. Monterey expects 4 (mild) thunderstorm days a year. Two days with thunder have been recorded thus far in 1980.

Wind: Winds were light on the average – unlike April’s reputation as the second windiest month of the year (May is the windiest). The Airport average for Apr 80 of 5.7 miles per hour (mph) compares to a recent three-year average of 9.0 mph in April. No gusts in excess of 37 mph were recorded the past month; on most days the maximum gusts were in the 20-29 mph range.

Fog: After a no-fog month in March, April recorded 12 days with some fog. This compares to a 17-year average of 7 such days. Apr 80 is the second foggiest Apr in the past 17 years (13 such days in Apr 1966).

Earthquake: A mild earth tremor was recorded at 10:16 PM PST, 12 Apr 80. There were no reports of damage or injury.
NWS Climate Station, Monterey, CA

April 1980

Temperature (degree F) vs Precipitation (inches)

- Minimum Temperature
- Maximum Temperature
- Precipitation

Total = 1.77
Average = 46.5
Average = 65.6