Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia
Kneza Viseslava 66
11000 Belgrade
Republic of Serbia

MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR SERBIA

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Division for Climate Monitoring and Climate Forecast
Department of National Center for Climate Change, Climate Model Development and Disaster Risk Assessment
web: http://www.hidmet.gov.rs
mail: office@hidmet.gov.rs

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❖ ***Averagely warm and the 8th driest April in Serbia***

AIR TEMPERATURE

Mean monthly air temperature

Mean air temperature in April ranged from 10,7 ℃ in Dimitrovgrad to 13,8 ℃ in Negotin, 13,7 ℃ was recorded in Belgrade, and on the mountains it was in a range from 3,2 ℃ at Kopaonik to 8,1 ℃ at Zlatibor (*Figure 1).*

Departure of the mean monthly air temperature from the normal[1] for the 1991–2020 base period ranged from -0,5 ℃ in Zrenjanin, Kikinda and Smederevska Palanka to +0,9 ℃ in Negotin (*Figure 2*).

Mean April air temperature, based on the percentile method[2], was in the normal category in most of the country, and warm category in Negotin (*Figure 3).*

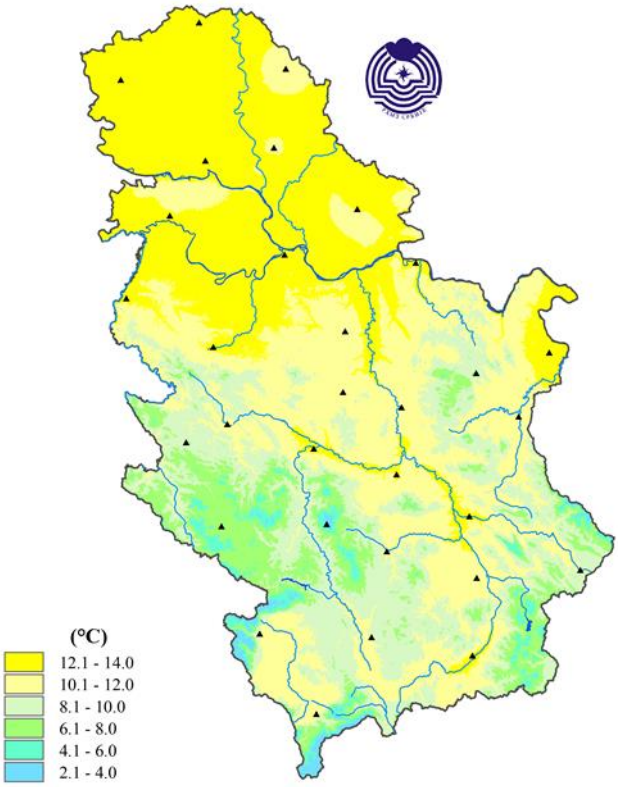


Figure 1. Spatial distribution of mean monthly air temperature (ºC)

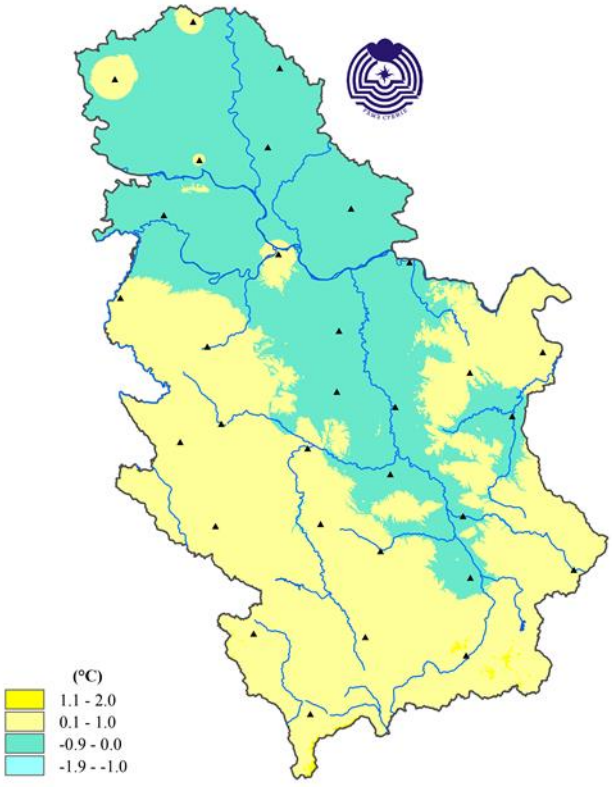


Figure 2. Spatial distribution of mean monthly air temperature anomaly (ºC)

[1] Term ***normal*** refers to ***climatological standard normal***, that is, the average value of a particular climate element, calculated for the period from January 1, 1991 to December 31, 2020

[2] **n**th percentile of a variable refers to the value of the observed variable below which there is n percent of data previously arranged in an ascending order

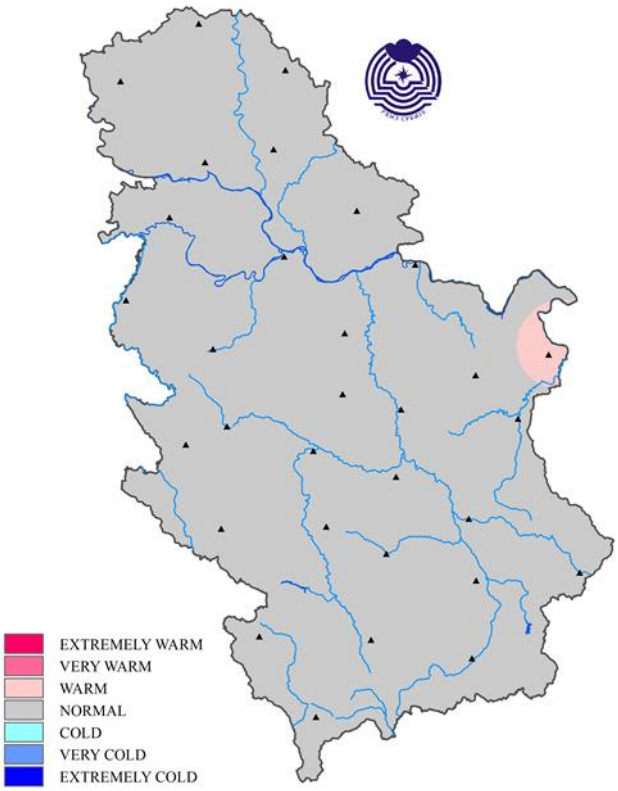


Figure 3. Spatial distribution of the mean monthly air temperature using percentile method

Based on the percentile method, mean daily air temperature, was in the normal category most of the month, and warm category in the middle of the first and middle of the second decade, and cold category at the beginning and end of the first decade as well as the beginning and end of the third decade of April (*Figure 4).* Daily course of the mean daily air temperature and the accompanying percentiles for the stations Sombor, Novi Sad, Loznica, Negotin, Kragujevac, Zlatibor, Nis and Vranje are given in the Appendix.

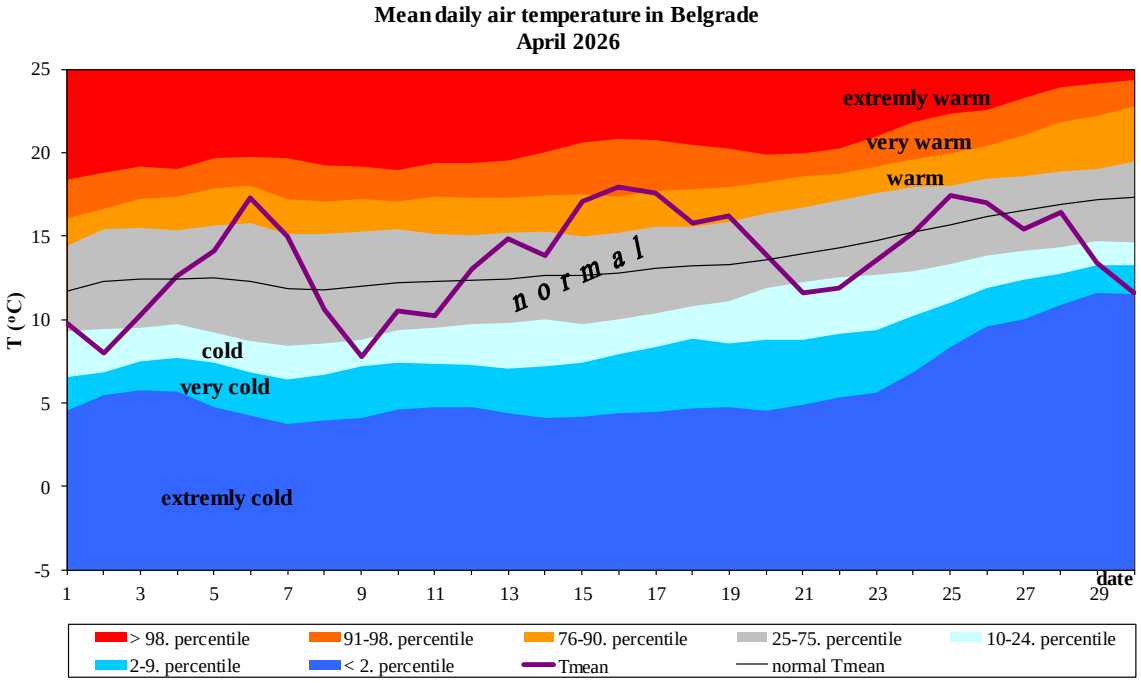


Figure 4. Daily course of the mean daily air temperature and accompanying percentiles for Belgrade

Maximum air temperature

Mean maximum air temperature in April ranged from 17,8 ℃ in Dimitrovgrad to 19,5 ℃ in Cuprija and Negotin, and 18,5 ℃ in Belgrade. As for the mountains, mean maximum April air temperature ranged from 7,7 ℃ at Kopaonik to 13,9 ℃ in Sjenica.
Based on the percentile method, mean maximum monthly air temperature was in the normal category in most of Serbia, and warm category at Crni Vrh and Kopaonik.

The highest maximum daily air temperature of 26,5 ℃ was recorded in Zajecar on April 26, while Belgrade observed 24,4 ℃ on April 25.

There were 2 ice days[3] at Kopaonik.

The number of summer days[4] was as follows: Zajecar - 4, Veliko Gradište - 3, Smederevska Palanka, Negotin, Ćuprija and Leskovac -2, Sombor, Kraljevo, Kruševac and Nis – 1.

Figure 5 shows daily course of the maximum daily air temperature and the accompanying percentiles for Belgrade in April 2026 and for the stations Sombor, Novi Sad, Loznica, Negotin, Kragujevac, Zlatibor, Nis and Vranje are given in the Appendix.

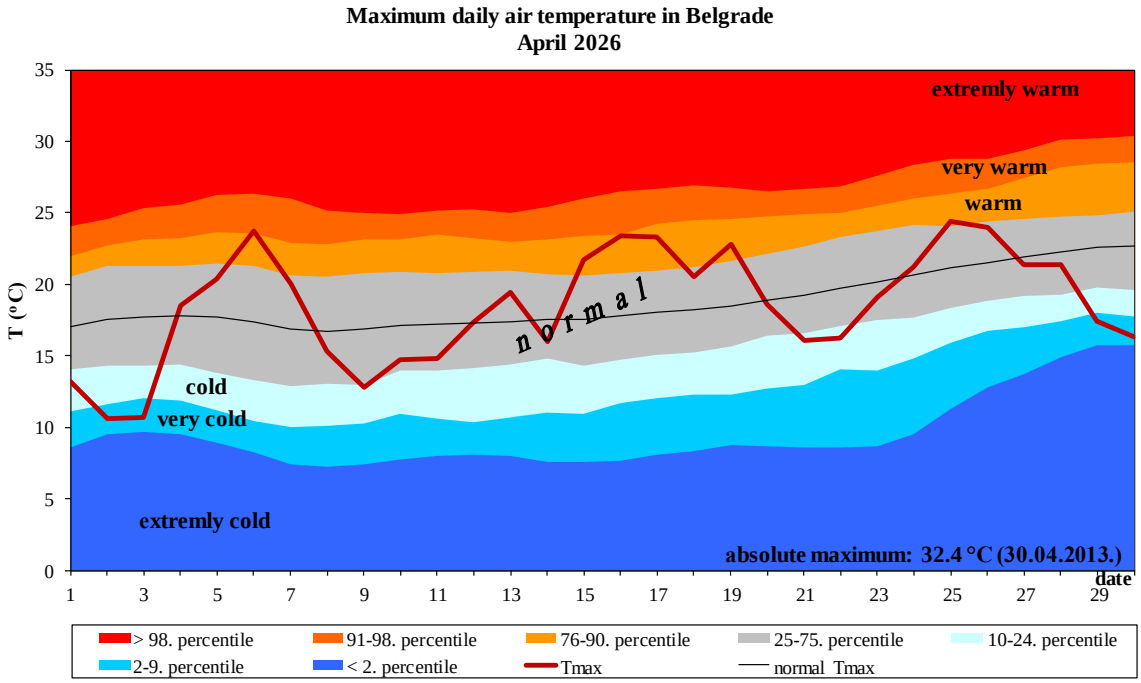


Figure 5. Daily course of the maximum daily air temperature and accompanying percentiles for Belgrade

[3] Ice day refers to a day with maximum daily air temperature lower than 0 °C
[4] Summer day refers to a day with maximum daily air temperature 25 °C and above

Minimum air temperature

Mean minimum April air temperature ranged from 3,7 ℃ in Zajecar to 8,5 ℃ in Belgrade. On the mountains, mean minimum air temperature ranged from -0,2 ℃ at Kopaonik to 3,9 ℃ at Zlatibor.

Based on the percentile method, mean minimum monthly air temperature was in the following categories: normal in most of Serbia, cold in Novi Sad, Zrenjanin, Banatski Karlovac, Smederevska Palanka, Veliko Gradiste, Cuprija and Zajecar, and very cold in Kikinda.

The lowest minimum daily air temperature of -7,9 ℃ was measured at Kopaonik on April 10. As for the lowland, on the same day, Cuprija recorded -3,2 ℃. On April 9, Belgrade recorded the lowest air temperature of 3,6 ℃.

Frost days[5] were recorded in most of Serbia, There weren't any in Sombor, Loznica, Belgrade and Nis, while the highest number, total of 4, was recorded in Veliko Gradiste. On the mountains, number of frost days ranged from 5 at Crni Vrh to 17 at Kopaonik. The recorded number of frost days was around the April average.

Figure 6 shows assessment of the minimum and maximum air temperature in Serbia for April based on the tercile distribution relative to the 1991-2020 base period. It can be noted that mean minimum air temperature was slightly above the lower tercile threshold, while mean maximum air temperature was slightly below the upper tercile threshold.

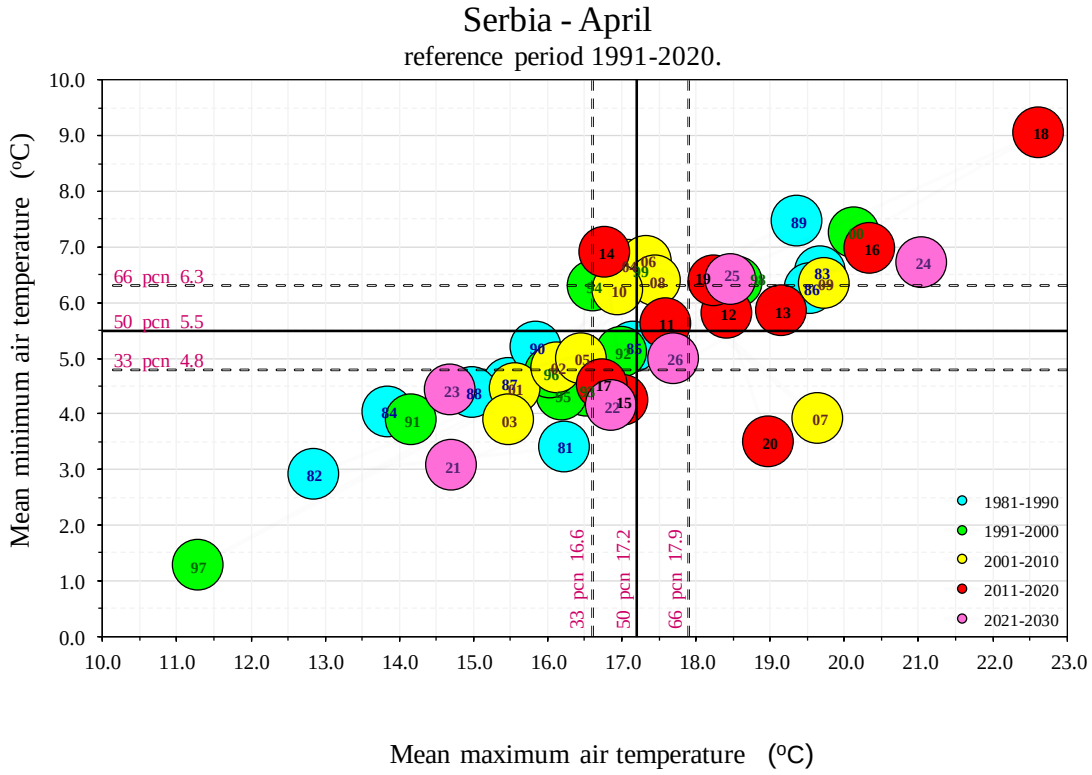


Figure 6. Assessment of minimum and maximum air temperature for Serbia with the accompanying terciles in relation to the 1991-2020 base period

[5] Frost day is defined as the day with minimum air temperature lower than 0 °C

Figure 7 shows daily course of the minimum daily air temperature and the accompanying percentiles for Belgrade in April 2026, and for the stations Sombor, Novi Sad, Loznica, Negotin, Kragujevac, Zlatibor, Nis and Vranje are given in the Appendix.

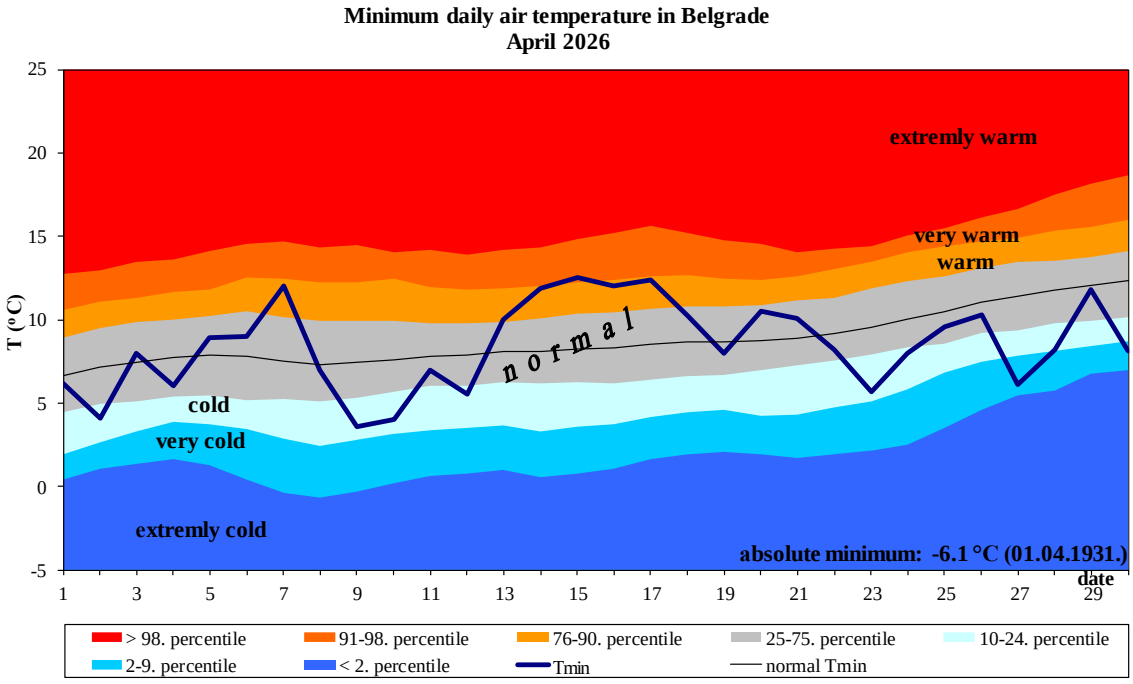


Figure 7. Daily course of the minimum daily air temperature and accompanying percentiles for Belgrade

PRECIPITATION

April 2026 ranks as **the 8th driest** for Serbia since 1951 (*Figure 8*). At 11 stations April was among the 8 driest since the record-keeping at these stations began (*Table 1*).

In the appendix are graphs showing 15 driest years since the record-keeping began for the stations: Kikinda, Banatski Karlovac, Nis, Sombor, Crni Vrh, Zrenjanin, Novi Sad, Palic, Veliko Gradiste, Krusevac, Cuprija, Belgrade, Vranje and Leskovac.

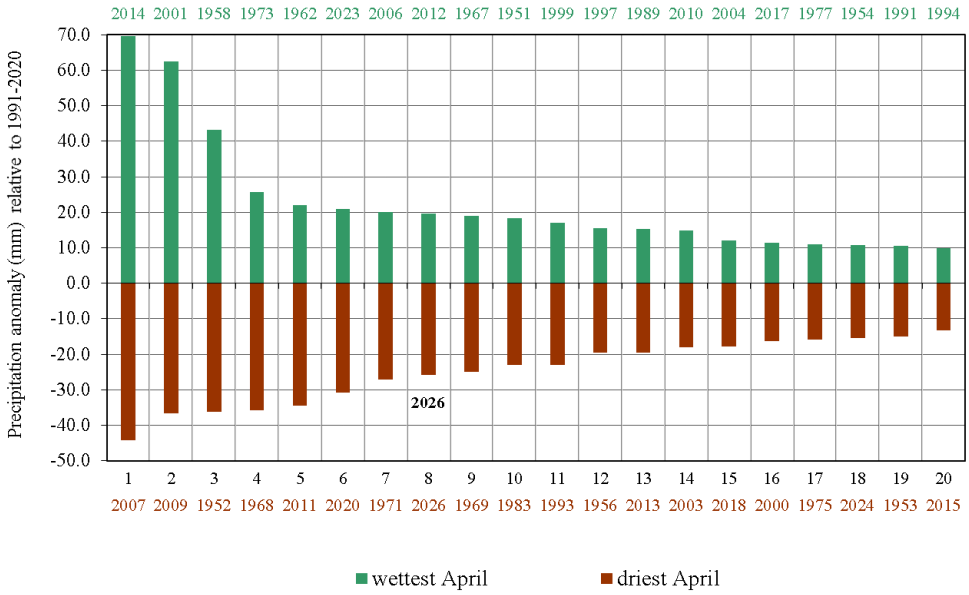


Figure 8. Rank of the wettest and driest April in Serbia for the period from 1951 to 2026

Table 1. The ranking of April 2026 in terms of precipitation, average, and percentage of the 1991-2020 normal

STATION	historical period	∑RR for April 2026 (mm)	normal for April 1991-2020	percentage (%) from normal	ranking for April 2026 (ascending RR)
KIKINDA	1925-2025	**4.5**	41.3	11	2
B.KARLOVAC	1946-2025	8.7	49.2	18	3
NIS	1925-2025	11.9	55.9	21	4
SOMBOR	1931-2025	9.6	40.3	24	4
CRNI VRH	1967-2025	27.5	70.3	39	5
ZRENJANIN	1925-2025	9.9	41.0	24	5
NOVI SAD	1945-2025	14.8	46.6	32	6
PALIC	1936-2025	6.3	40.3	16	6
V.GRADISTE	1926-2025	16.9	56.5	30	7
KRUSEVAC	1925-2025	23.8	59.9	40	8
CUPRIJA	1925-2025	20.0	61.9	32	8

April precipitation sums ranged from 4,5 mm in Kikinda to 94,9 mm at Kopaonik, while Belgrade recorded 19,8 mm (*Figure 9*).

Precipitation totals compared to the normal for the 1991-2020 base period ranged from 11% in Kikinda to 103% at Zlatibor (*Figure 10).*

Based on the percentile method, precipitation sums were in the normal category in the west as well as in Negotin, whereas in the remainder of the country it was dry and very dry (*Figure 11*).

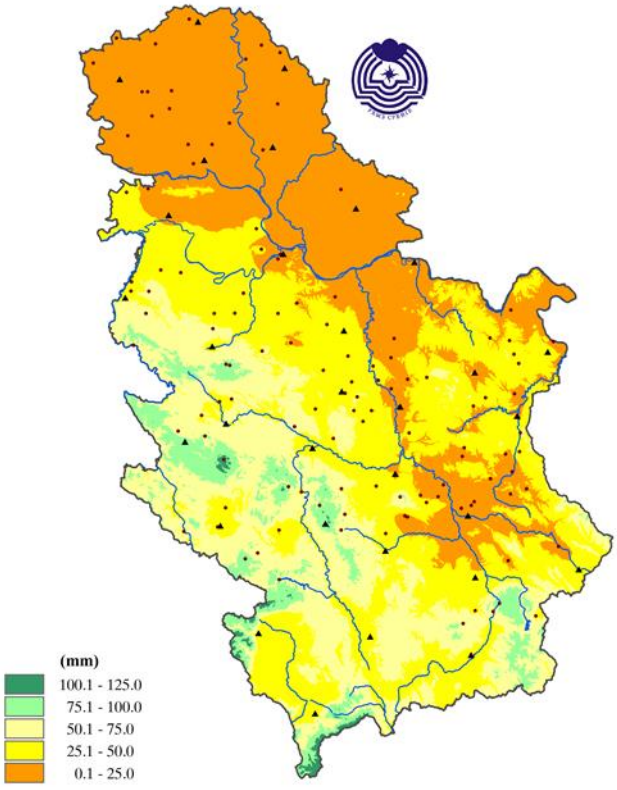


Figure 9. Spatial distribution of the monthly precipitation sums (mm) according to data from 28 major meteorological, 27 climatological and 89 rain gauge stations

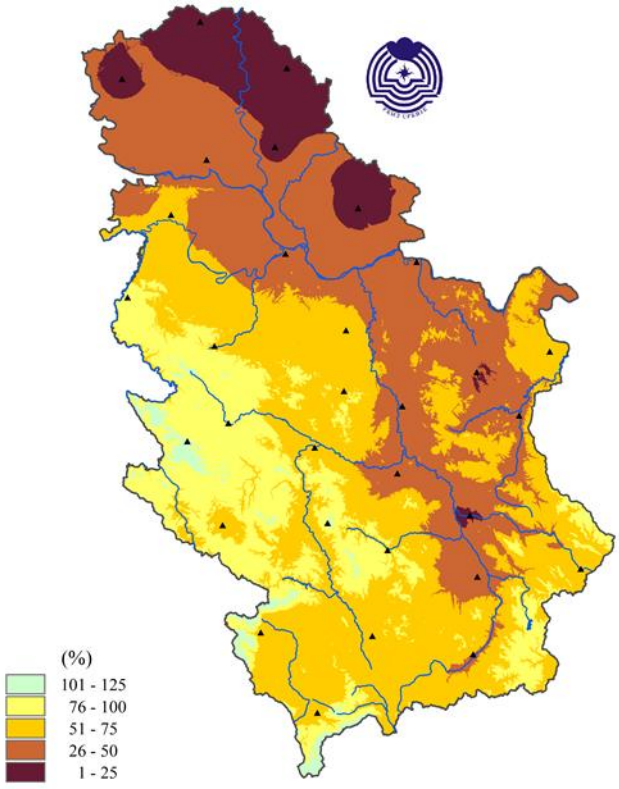


Figure 10. Spatial distribution of the monthly precipitation sums in the percentages of normal for the 1991–2020 base period

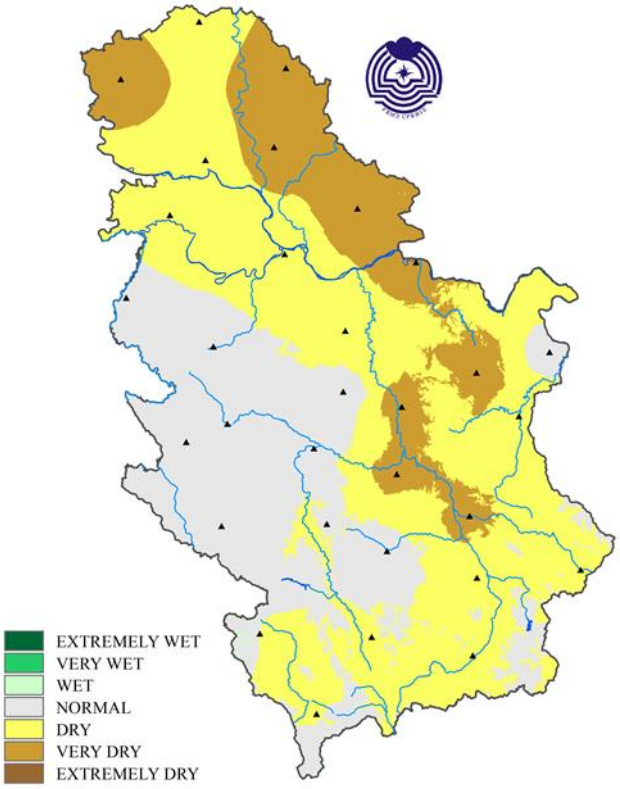


Figure 11. Monthly precipitation sums according to the percentile method

The highest daily precipitation sum of 29,5 mm was measured at Kopaonik on April 3. On the same day, Belgrade observed the highest daily precipitation sum of 6,6 mm.

Number of days with precipitation ranged from 3 in Negotin to 13 in Sjenica. The observed number of days with precipitation was 1 to 7 days below April average (*Figure 12* and *13*).

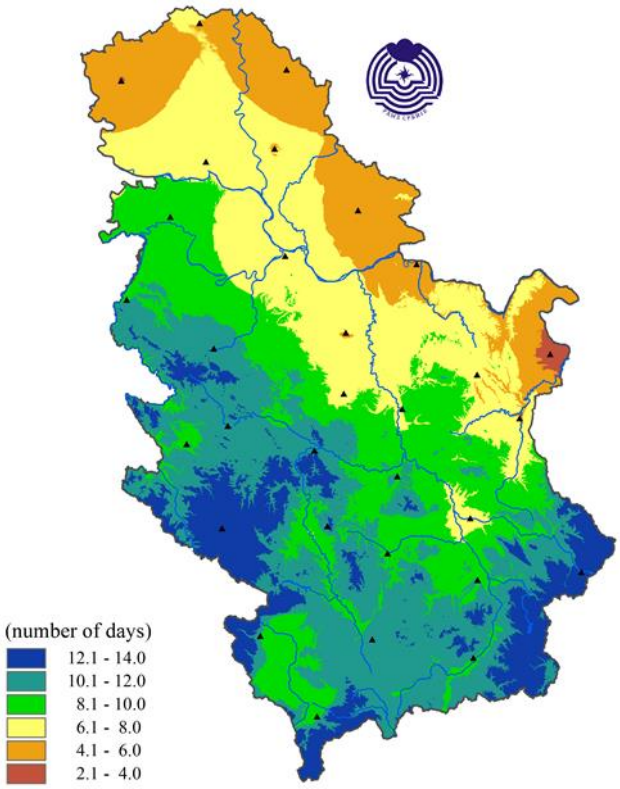


Figure 12. Spatial distribution of number of days with precipitation

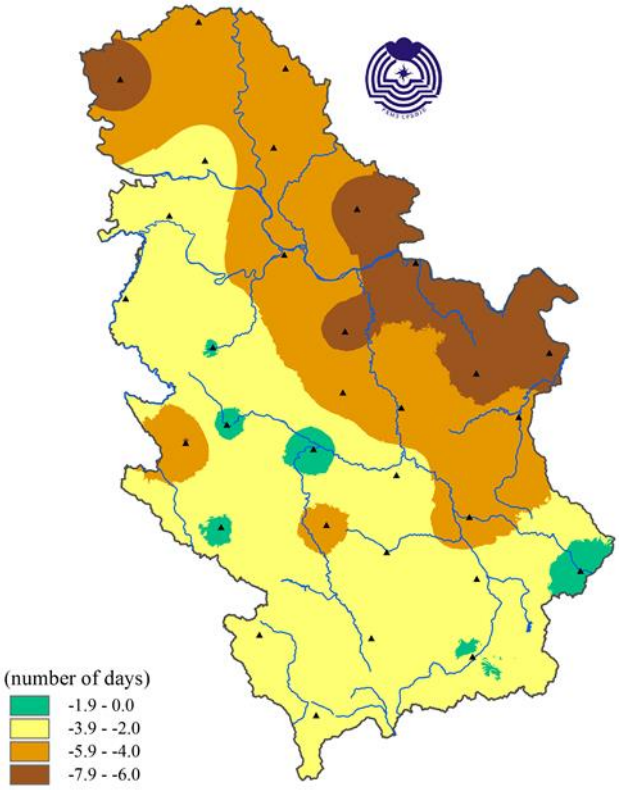


Figure 13. Spatial distribution of deviation of number of days with precipitation

Snow cover was recorded at Zlatibor: from April 1 to 5 and on April 30 (6 days) and at Kopaonik from April 1 to 18, and from April 21 to 23 as well as on April 30 (6 days).

The highest snow cover at Kopaonik was measured on April 3, measuring 83cm whilst Zlatibor recoreded 28 cm on April 1.

Figure 14 shows assessment of air temperature and precipitation sums for Serbia for April based on the tercile distribution relative to the 1991 – 2020 base period. It can be noted that April 2026 was marked by air temperature within the average and precipitation sums below the lower tercile threshold.

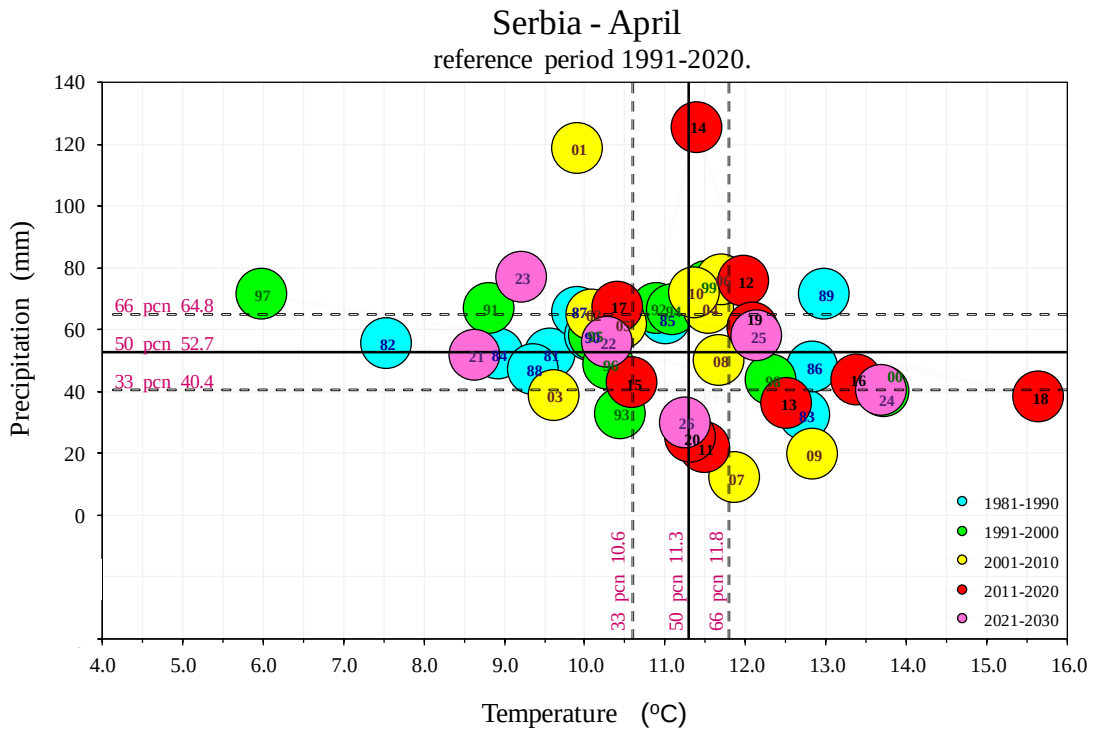
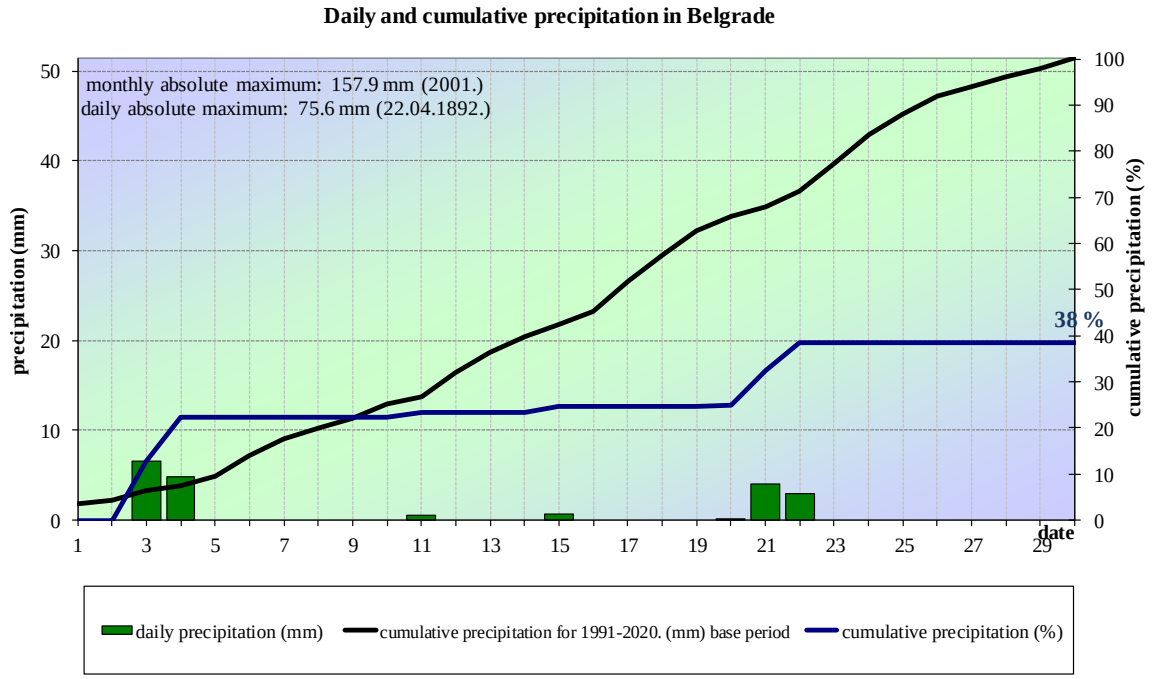


Figure 14. Assessment of air temperature and precipitation for Serbia with the accompanying terciles in relation to the 1991-2020 base period

Figure 15 show daily and cumulative precipitations sums with averaged normal 1991-2020 for April in Belgrade, and for the stations Sombor, Novi Sad, Loznica, Negotin, Kragujevac, Zlatibor, Nis and Vranje precipitation sums are given in Appendix.



CLOUD COVER, BRIGHT AND CLOUDY DAYS

Mean April cloud cover in Serbia was slightly below the average, ranging from 4/10 to 6/10. Figures 16, 17 and 18 show average daily cloud cover in April for Belgrade, Kopaonik and Banatski Karlovac.

Number of bright days[6] ranged from 3 days at Kopaonik to 11 days in Belgrade. The observed number of bright days was above the April average for 1 to 6 days in most of the country.

Number of cloudy days[7] ranged from 4 in Sombor to 11 in Loznica. Belgrade observed 7 cloudy days. Number of cloudy days was 1 to 3 days below the April average in most of the country.

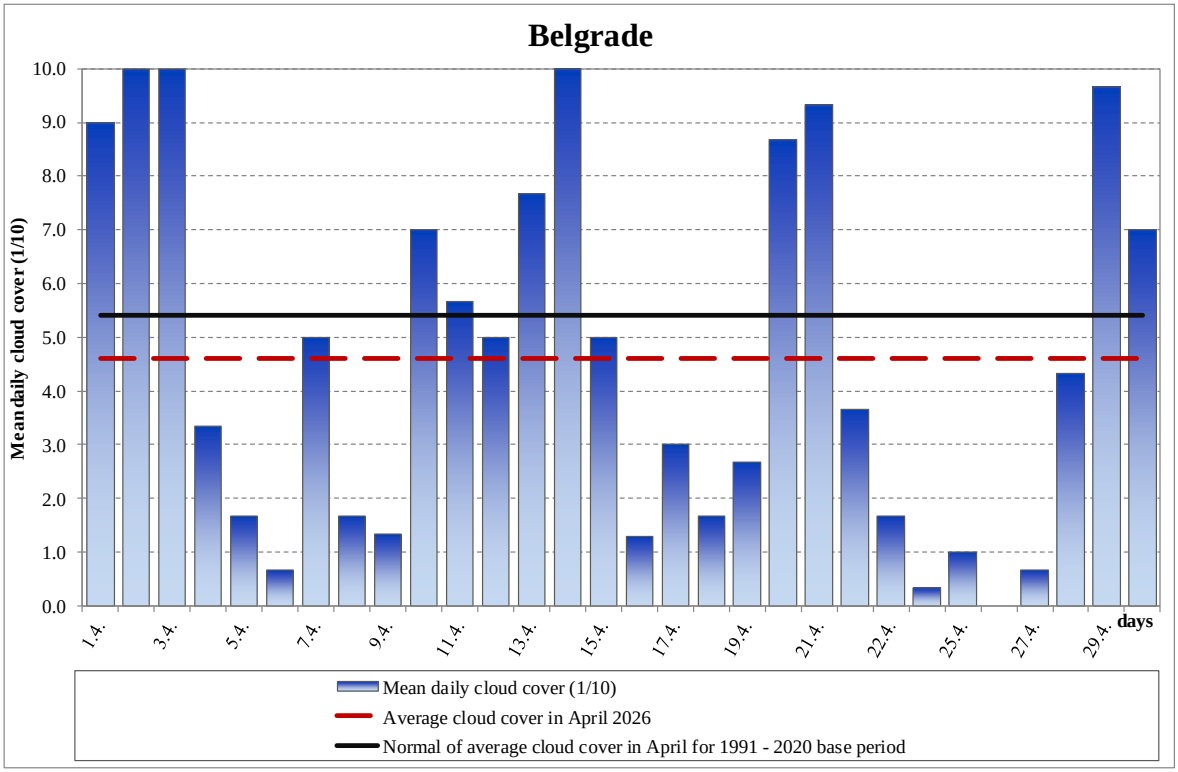


Figure 16. Mean daily cloud cover in Belgrade

[6] Bright day refers to a day with cloud cover less than 2/10

[7] Cloudy day refers to a day with cloud cover over 8/10

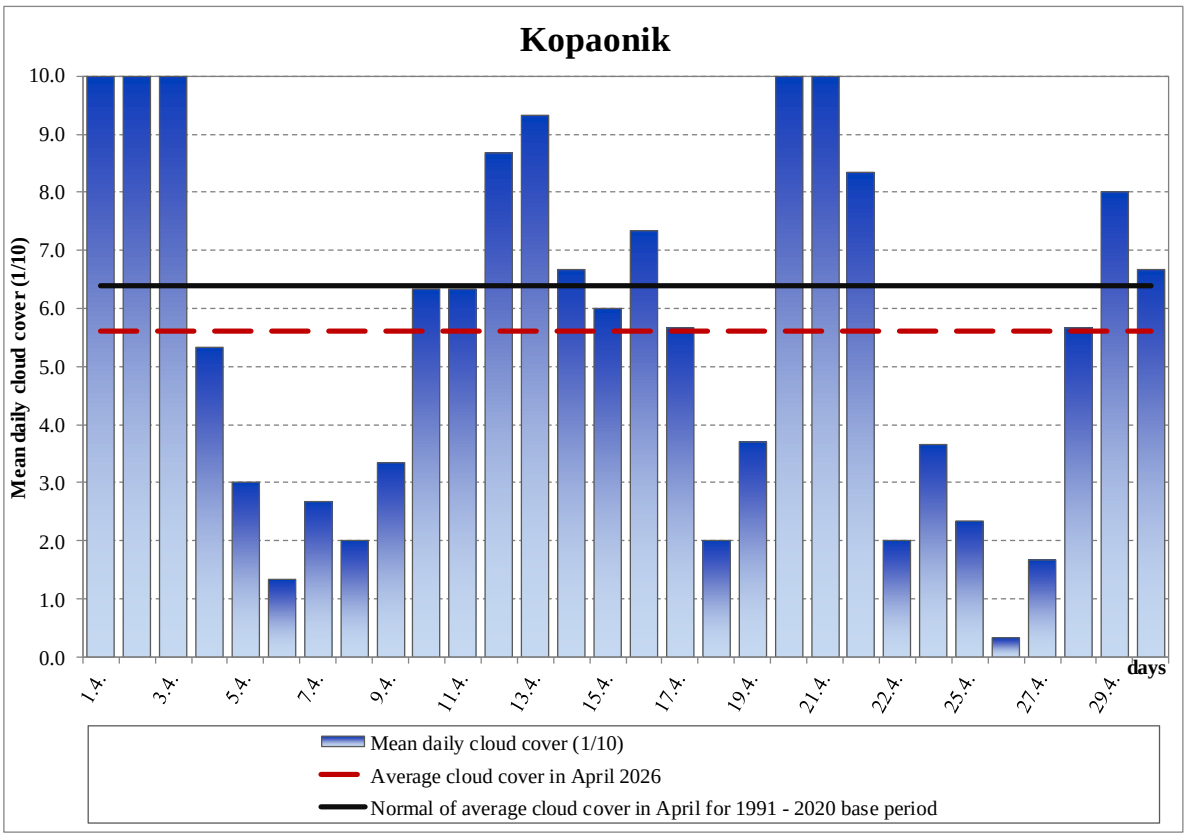


Figure 17. Mean daily cloud cover in Zajecar

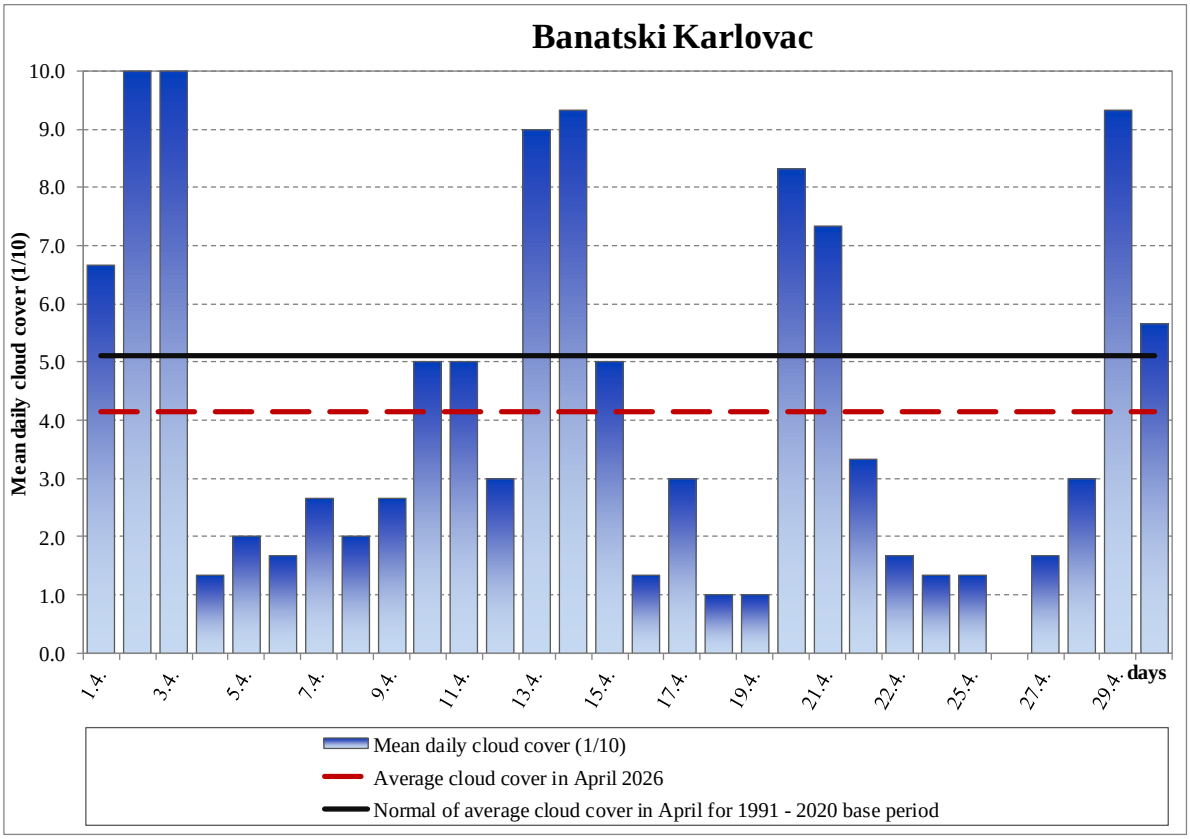


Figure 18. Mean daily cloud cover in Sremska Mitrovica

SUNSHINE DURATION (INSOLATION)

Sunshine duration in April ranged from 184,4 hours in Zajecar to 290,8 hours in Kikindia (*Figure 19*).

April insolation ranged from 110% in Smederevska Palanka and Zajecar to 145% in Pozega compared to the normal for the 1991-2020 base period (Figure 20).

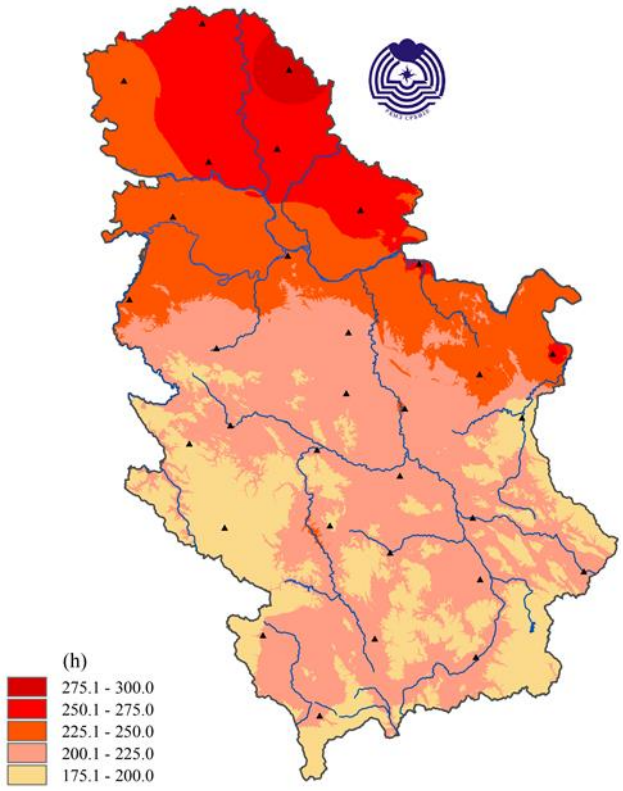


Figure 19. Insolation, expressed in hours

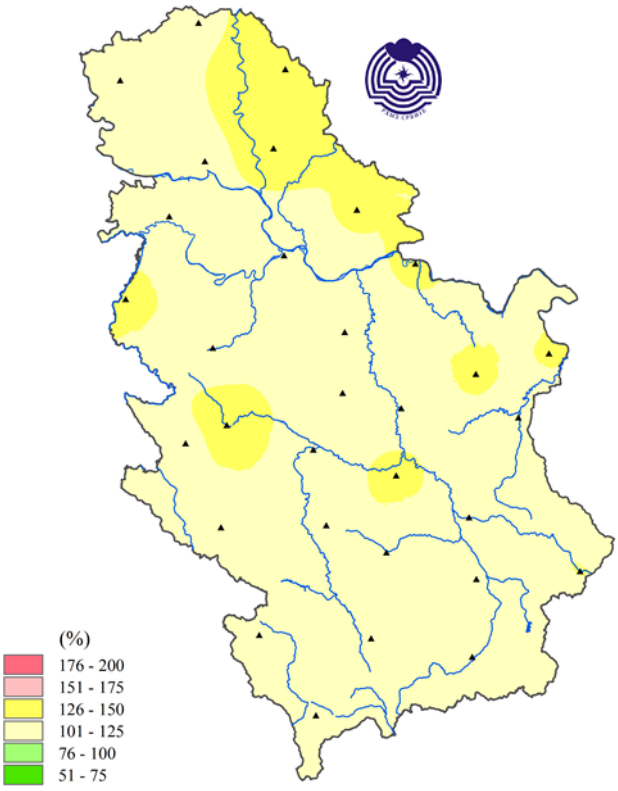


Figure 20. Insolation expressed in the percentages of normal

Note: Climate analysis of meteorological elements was done based on the preliminary data obtained from 28 main meteorological stations

OVERVIEW OF THE SYNOPTIC SITUATION*

Periods of ridge influence, warm and relatively wet air mass from the Mediterranean and cold air mass from the north, i.e. northwest, frequent low pressure system activities in the northwest, in the area of Iceland, as well as in the north of the continent with the incursion toward western Mediterranean, that is, across the east toward the Carpathians and the Balkans, changeable weather, occasionally with rain and relatively warm.

Period at the beginning of the month was marked by the influence of a developed low pressure system from the south of the Apennines and the central Mediterranean, along with a cold air mass, producing cold weather across most of the country, with rain and snow in the mountains, more frequent in the western, central, and southern regions.This was followed by a short spell of dry and relatively warm weather, due to the gradual advection of a warmer air mass and the establishment of a ridge over the western, and then central, Mediterranean, as well as over the Apennines and the Balkans. At the same time, in the northwest of the continent, over the Iceland and North Sea region, a series of cyclogenesis events took place, bringing waves of wet air across northern Europe toward the east and southeast. These processes, by the end of the first decade, led to the deepening of an upper-air depression over eastern Europe toward the southwest and the Carpathian region. As a result, toward the end of the first and the beginning of the second decade, cold air advection occurred over our region, accompanied by scattered, mostly light precipitation and a drop in temperature.

Most of the second decade, weather was changeable but warmer, occasionally with light rain and wind. Reestablishment of the ridge across the central Mediterranean toward our territory in the east of the continent caused strengthening of the gradient in the pressure field across the Balkans. The subsequent period was marked by the development of the low pressure system in the north of the continent as well as weakening of the low pressure in the south with the advection of the warm air mass across the western Mediterranean toward the Balkans. Across the central Europe deepening of the upper air trough and incursion of somewhat colder air mass took place across the north and northeast of the continent.

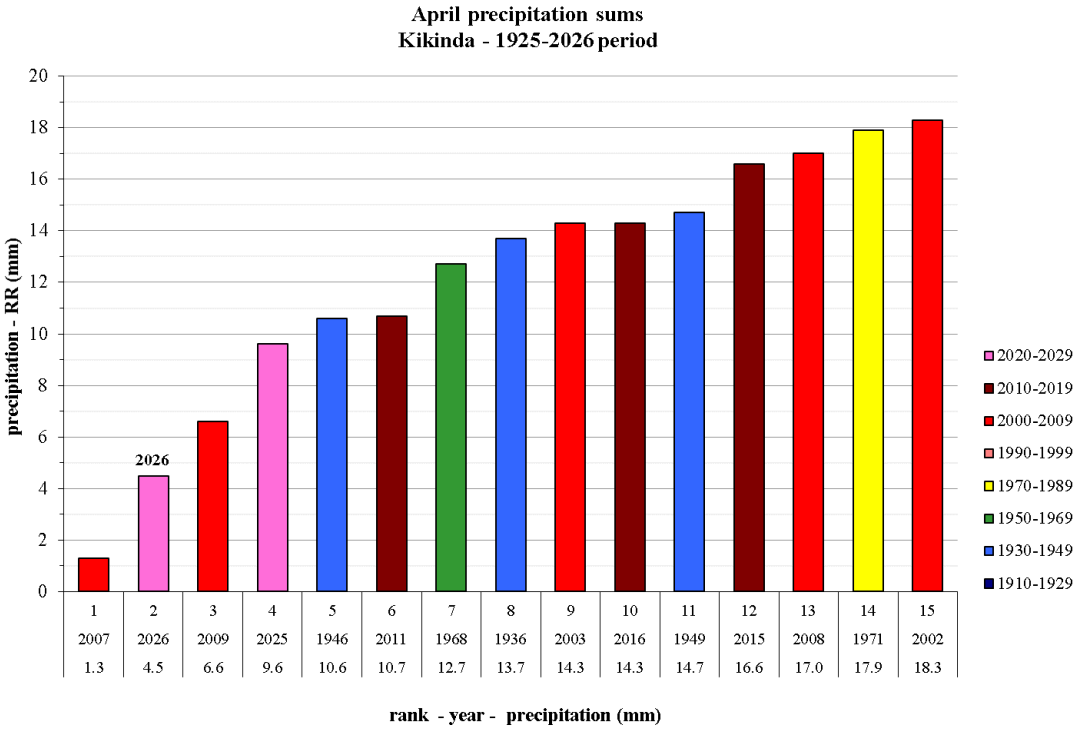
At the beginning of the third decade, cold atmospheric front from the northwest passing across Serbia toward southeast and upper air depression deepening toward the Pannonia Plain towards the Balkans, brought windy weather with the temperature drop and scattered mostly short-lived rain or local showers largely affecting the central and southern areas. Following the pressure increase and establishment of anticyclone above the Balkans with the geopotential rise and lingering northwesterly upper air circulation led to advection of warm air mass from the west.

Until the end of the month, weather was influenced by spatial anticyclone field emanating from the south, from the Mediterranean as well as weakly pronounced northwesterly and westerly upper air circulation at the back side of the low pressure from the northeast, i.e. north. Period at the end of the month was marked by reestablished low pressure system in the north and northeast, advection of the cold air mass across the central Europe and influence and passage of the cold front across our territory caused temperature drop in the north and west, occasionally rain, on the mountains snow and increased wind.

* National Center for Hydrometeorlogical Early Warning System

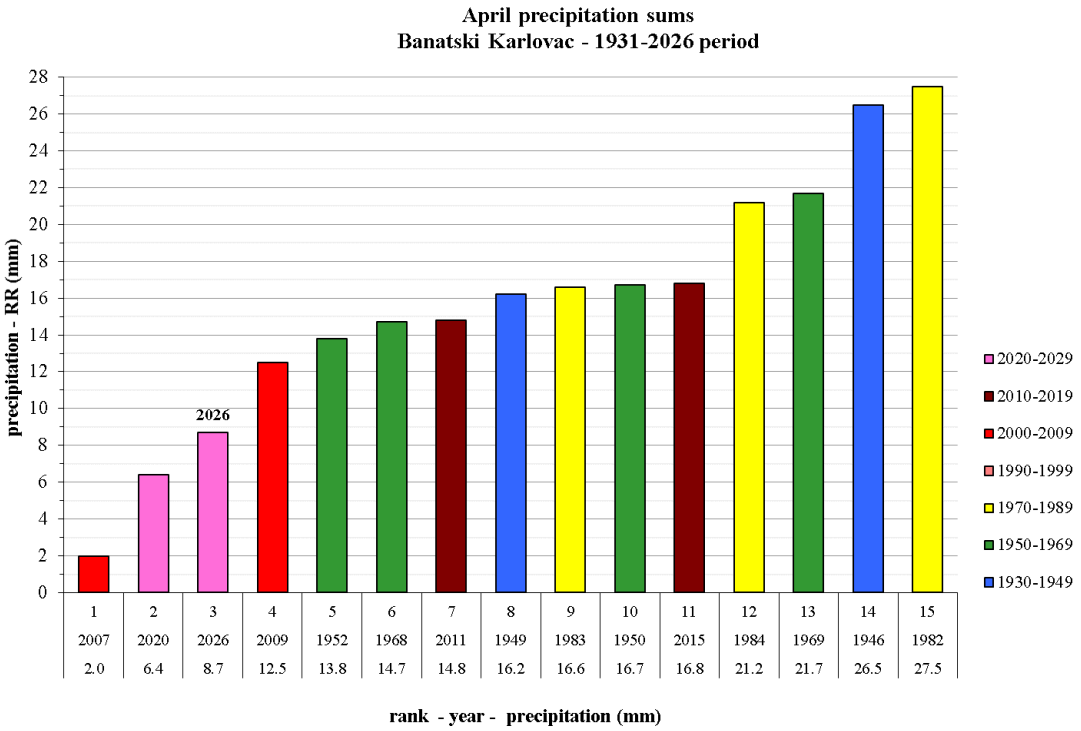
APPENDIX

Ranks of the driest April



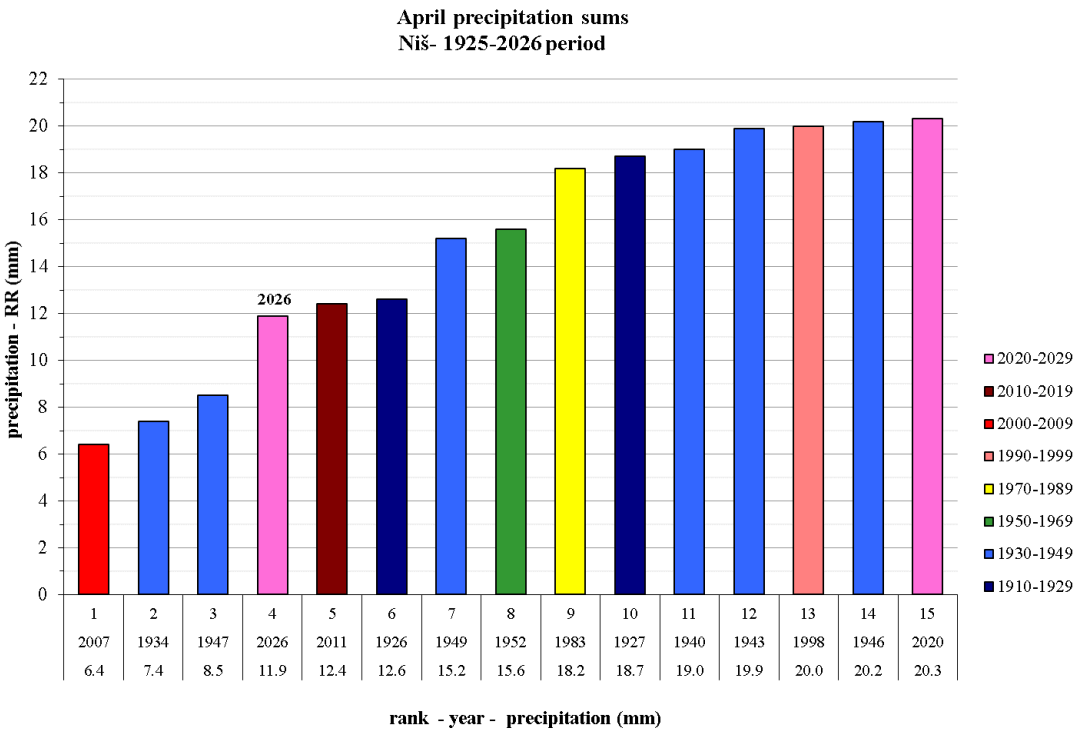
rank	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
year	2007	2026	2009	2025	1946	2011	1968	1936	2003	2016	1949	2015	2008	1971	2002
precipitation (mm)	1.3	4.5	6.6	9.6	10.6	10.7	12.7	13.7	14.3	14.3	14.7	16.6	17.0	17.9	18.3

Appendix 1. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Kikinda

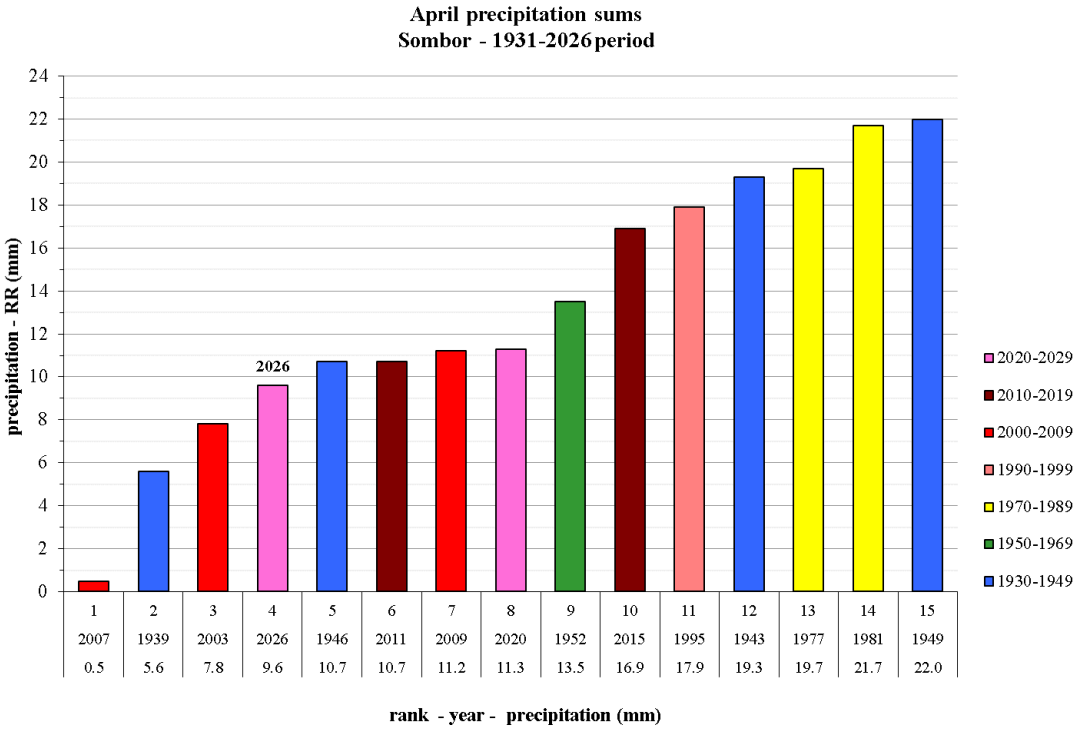


rank	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
year	2007	2020	2026	2009	1952	1968	2011	1949	1983	1950	2015	1984	1969	1946	1982
precipitation (mm)	2.0	6.4	8.7	12.5	13.8	14.7	14.8	16.2	16.6	16.7	16.8	21.2	21.7	26.5	27.5

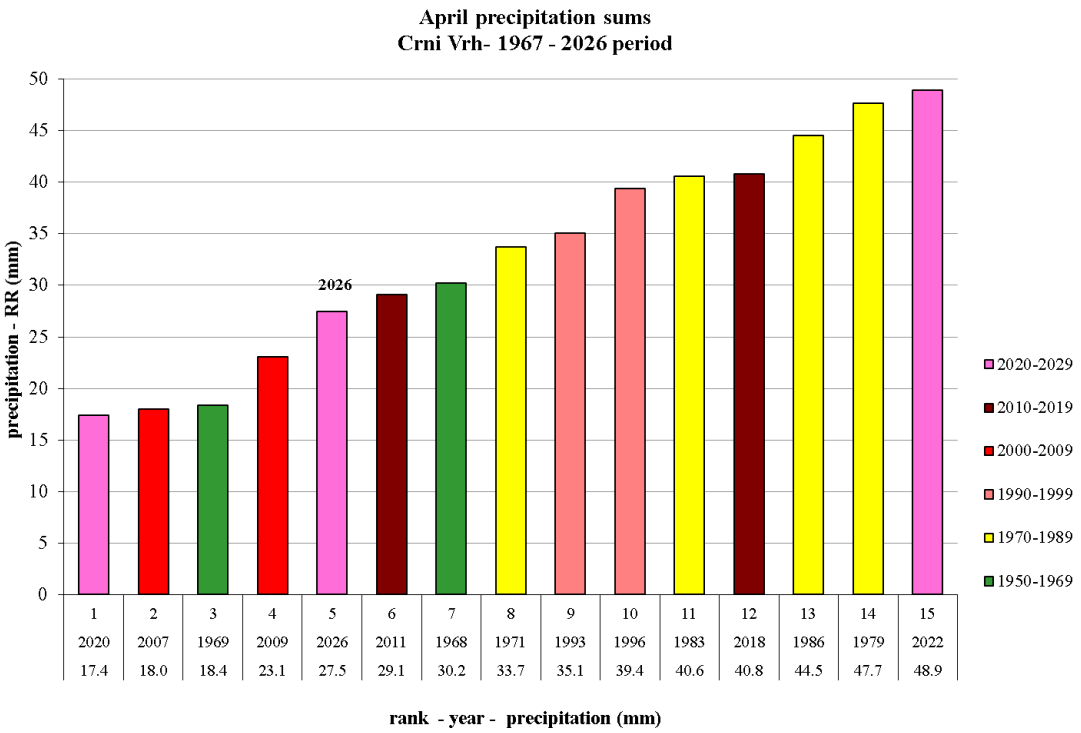
Appendix 2. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Banatski Karlovac



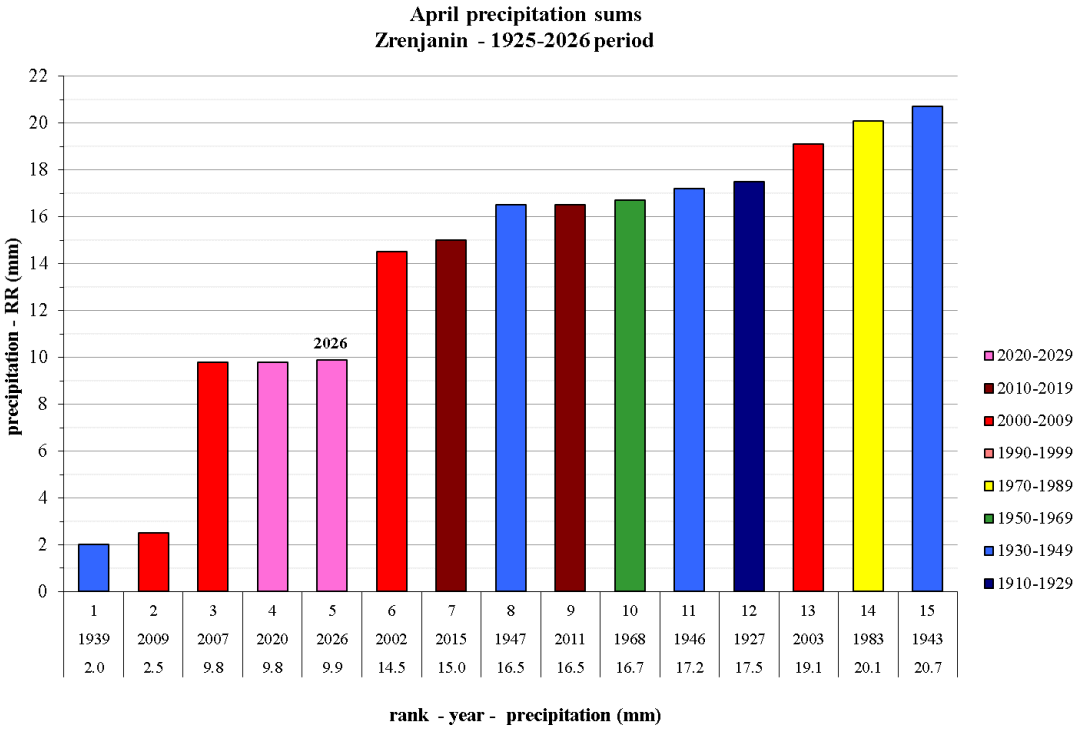
Appendix 3. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Nis



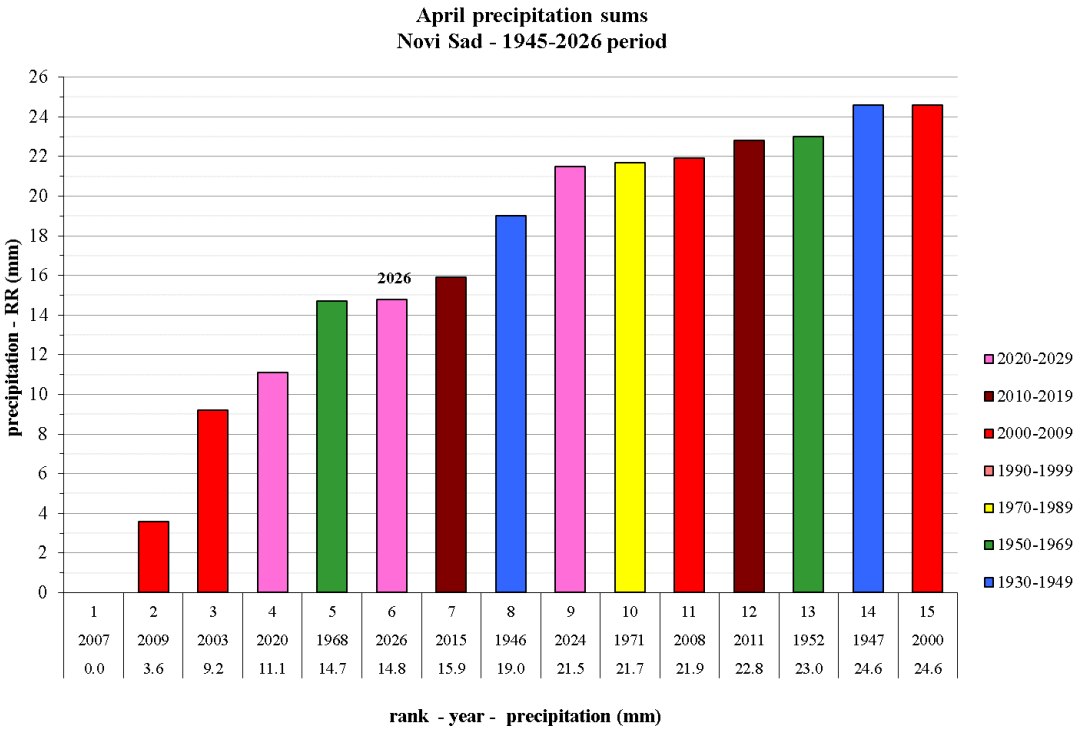
Appendix 4. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Sombor



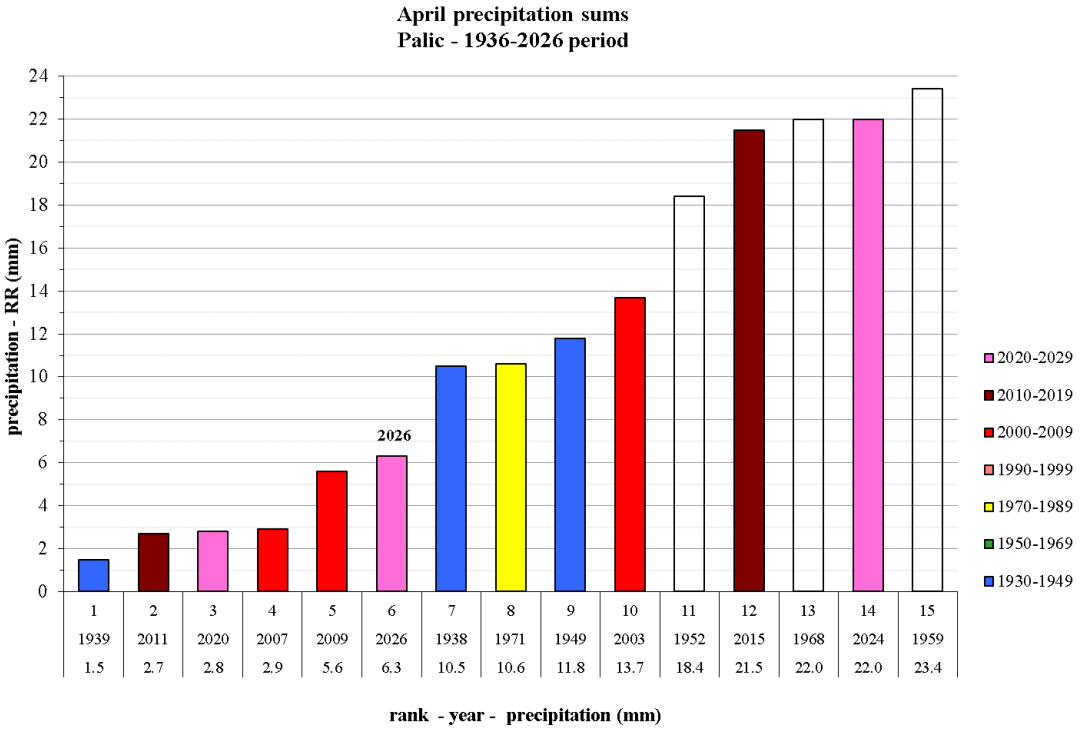
Appendix 5. Rank of the lowest precipitation on Crni Vrh



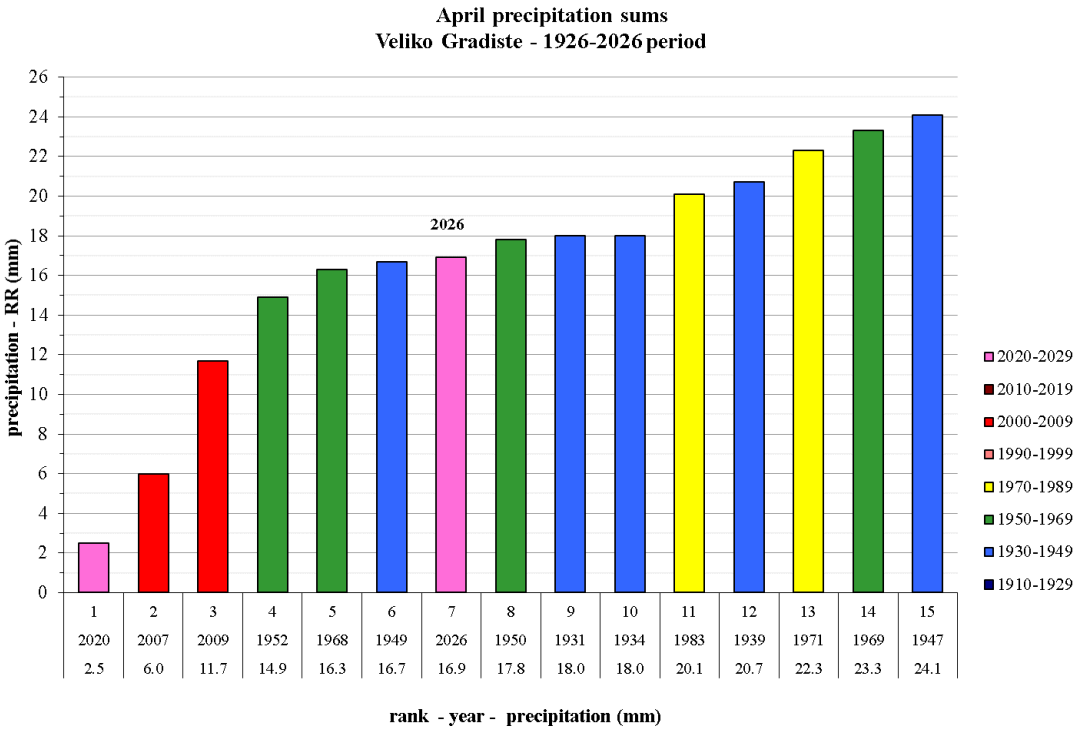
Appendix 6. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Zrenjanin



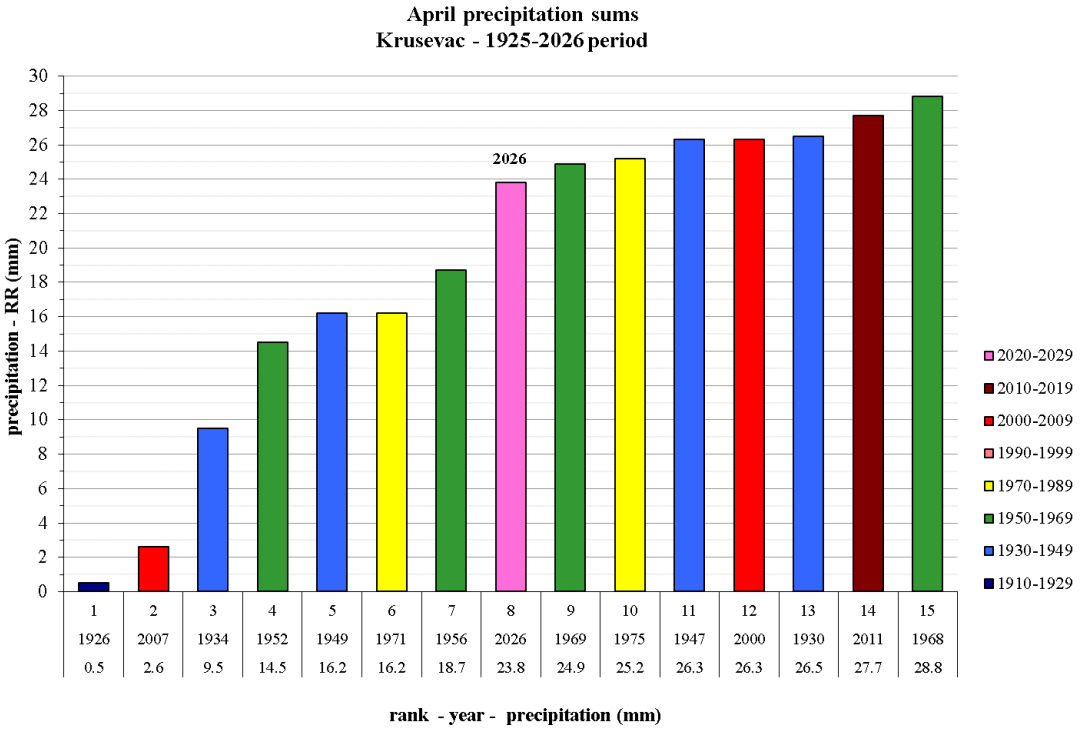
Appendix 7. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Novi Sad



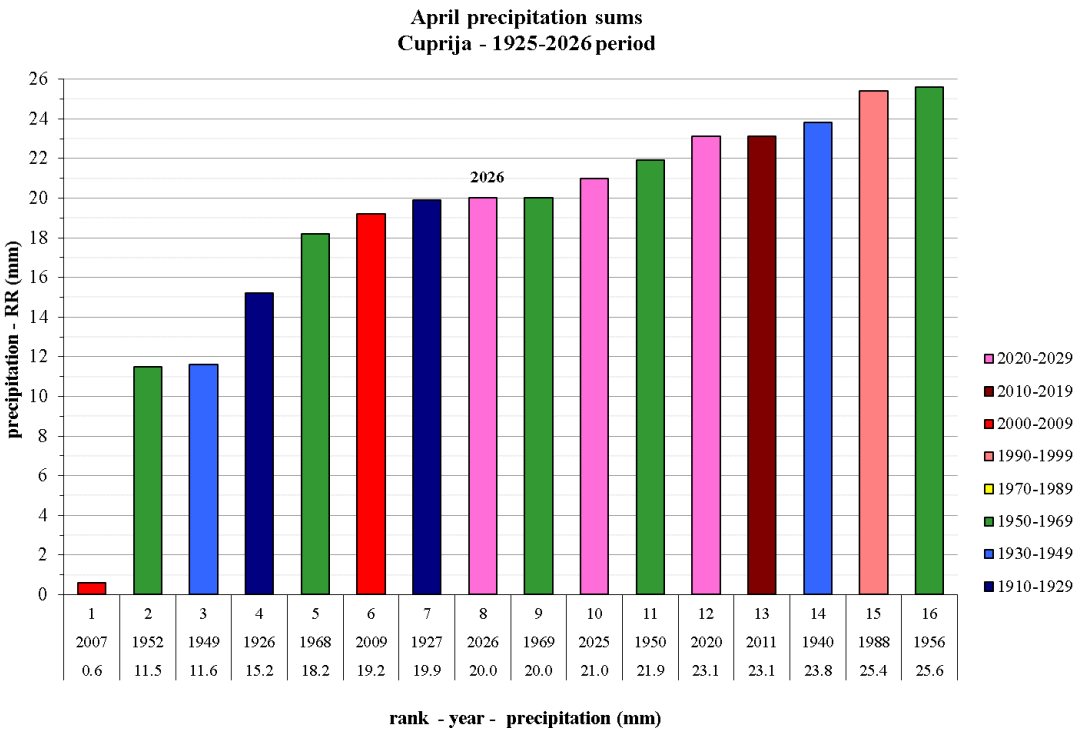
Appendix 8. Rank of the lowest precipitation on Palic



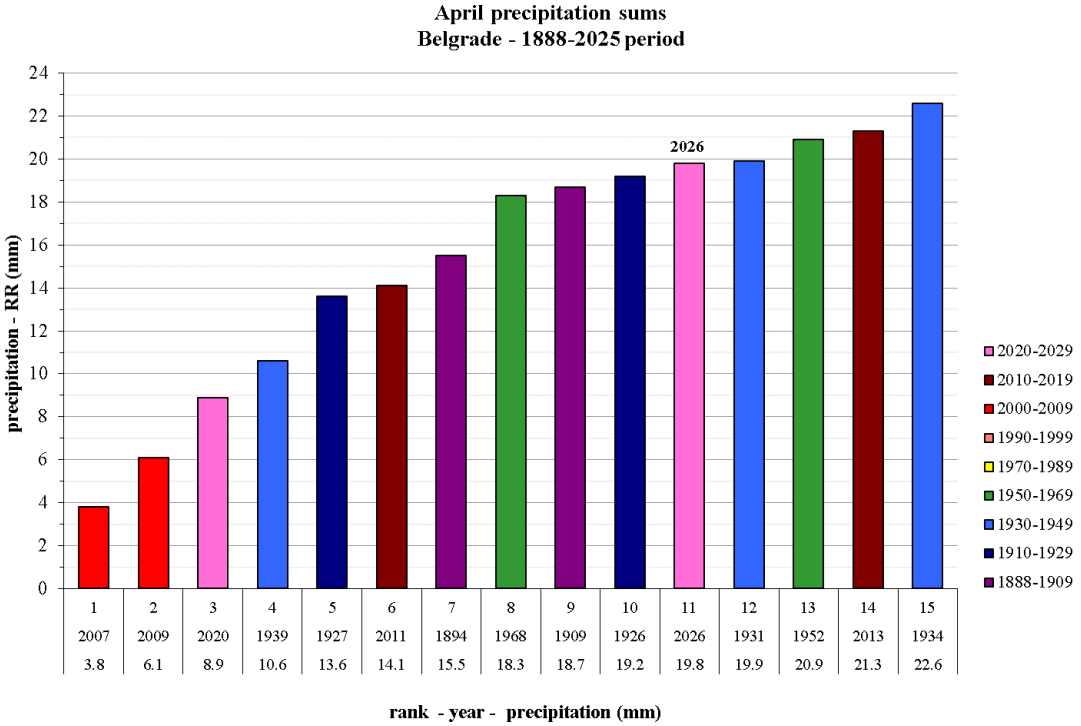
Appendix 9. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Veliko Gradiste



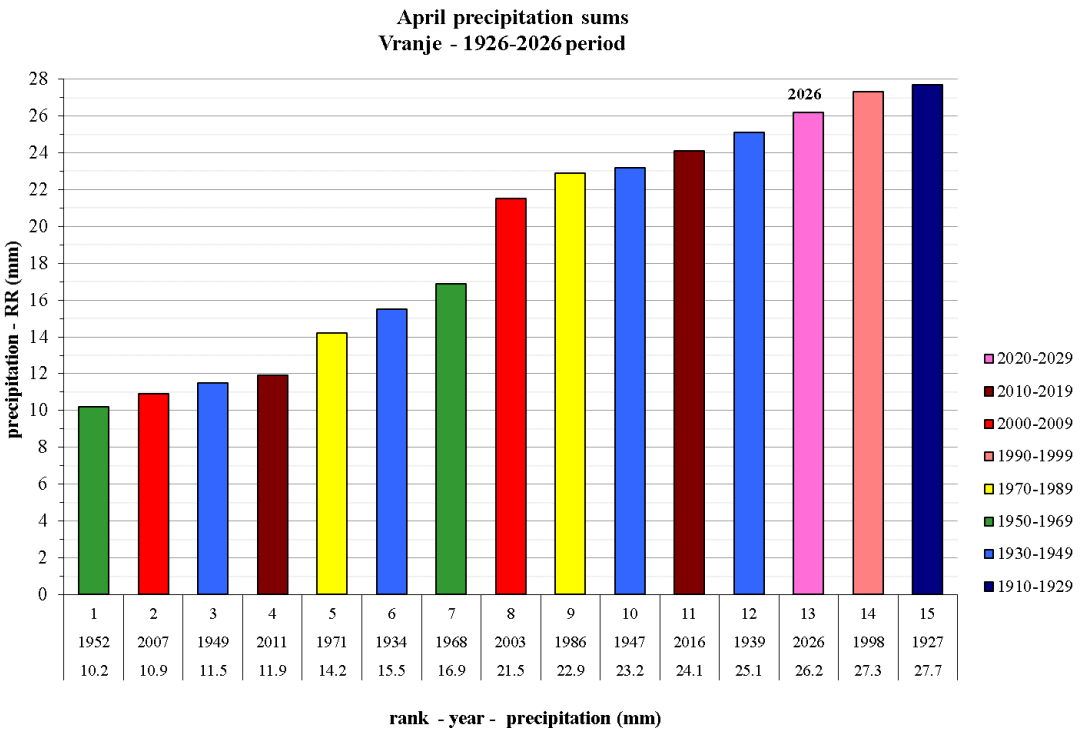
Appendix 10. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Krusevac



Appendix 11. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Cuprija

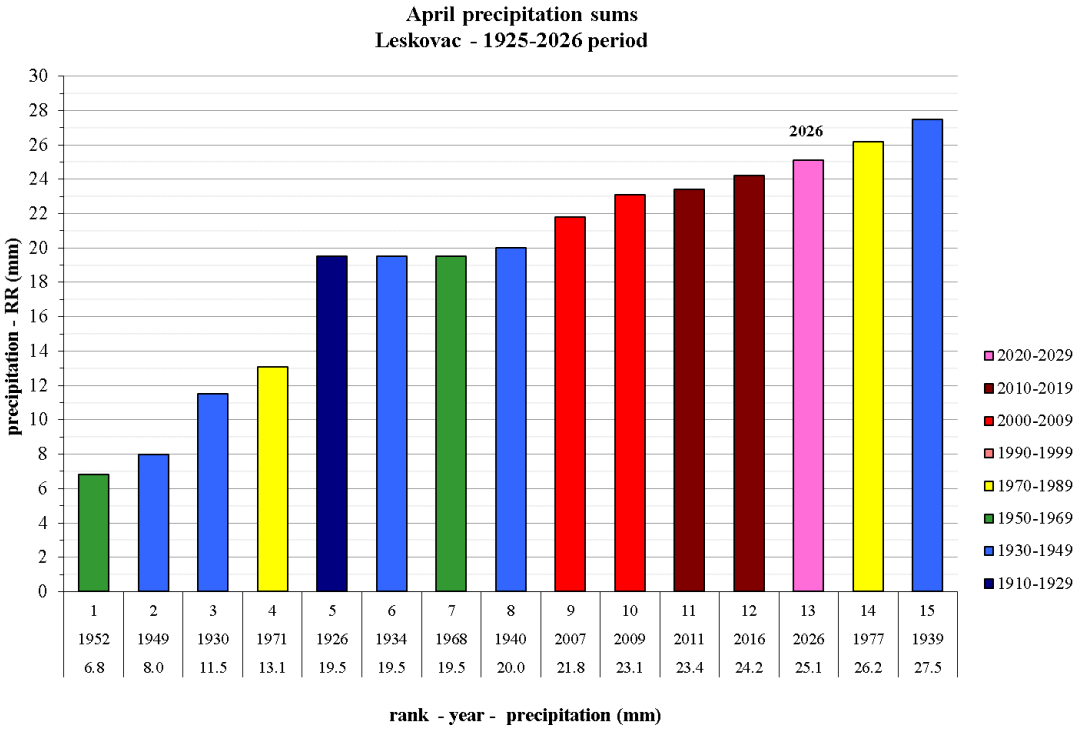


Appendix 12. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Belgrade



rank	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
year	1952	2007	1949	2011	1971	1934	1968	2003	1986	1947	2016	1939	2026	1998	1927
precipitation (mm)	10.2	10.9	11.5	11.9	14.2	15.5	16.9	21.5	22.9	23.2	24.1	25.1	26.2	27.3	27.7

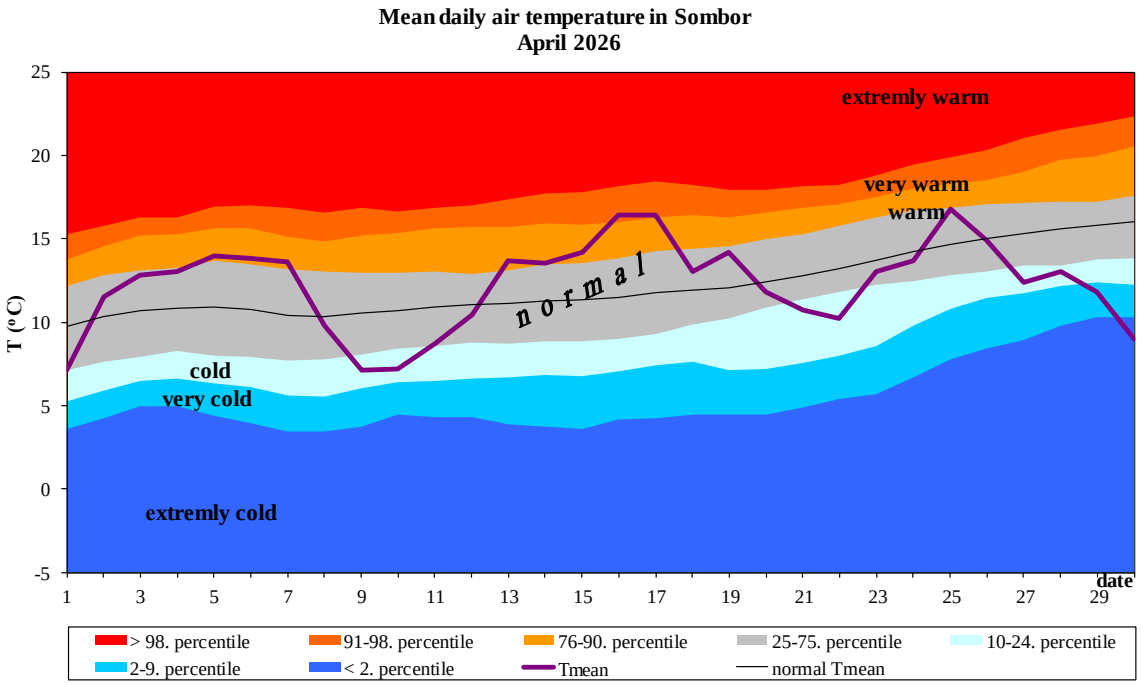
Appendix 13. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Vranje



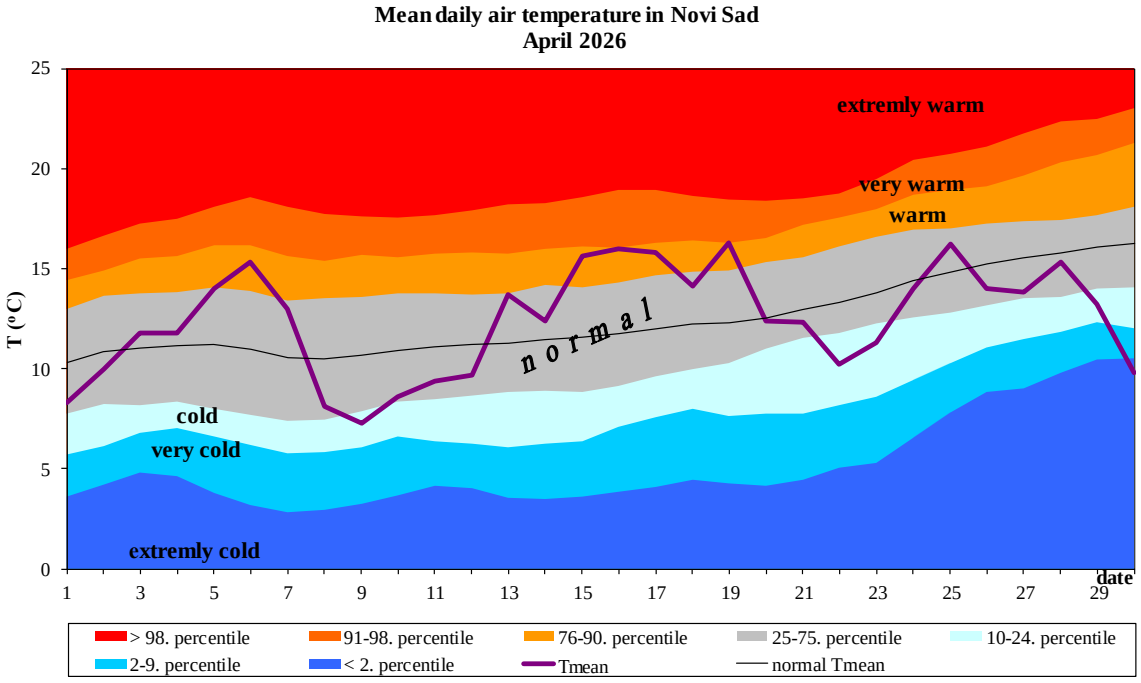
rank	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
year	1952	1949	1930	1971	1926	1934	1968	1940	2007	2009	2011	2016	2026	1977	1939
precipitation (mm)	6.8	8.0	11.5	13.1	19.5	19.5	19.5	20.0	21.8	23.1	23.4	24.2	25.1	26.2	27.5

Appendix 14. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Leskovac

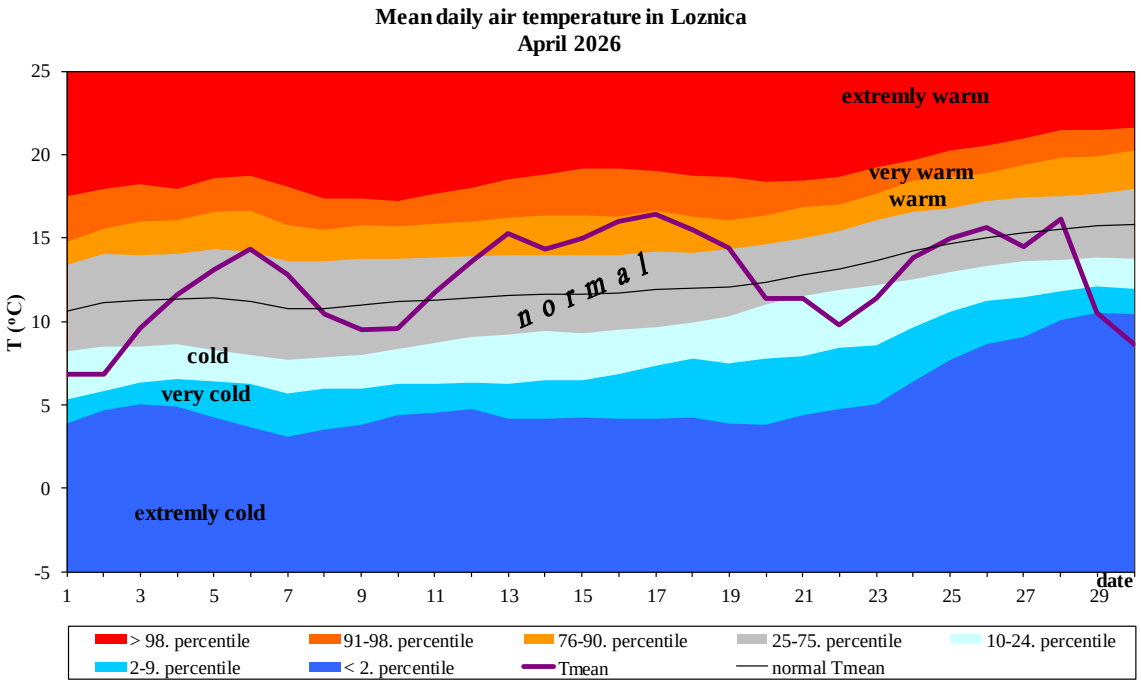
Mean air temperature



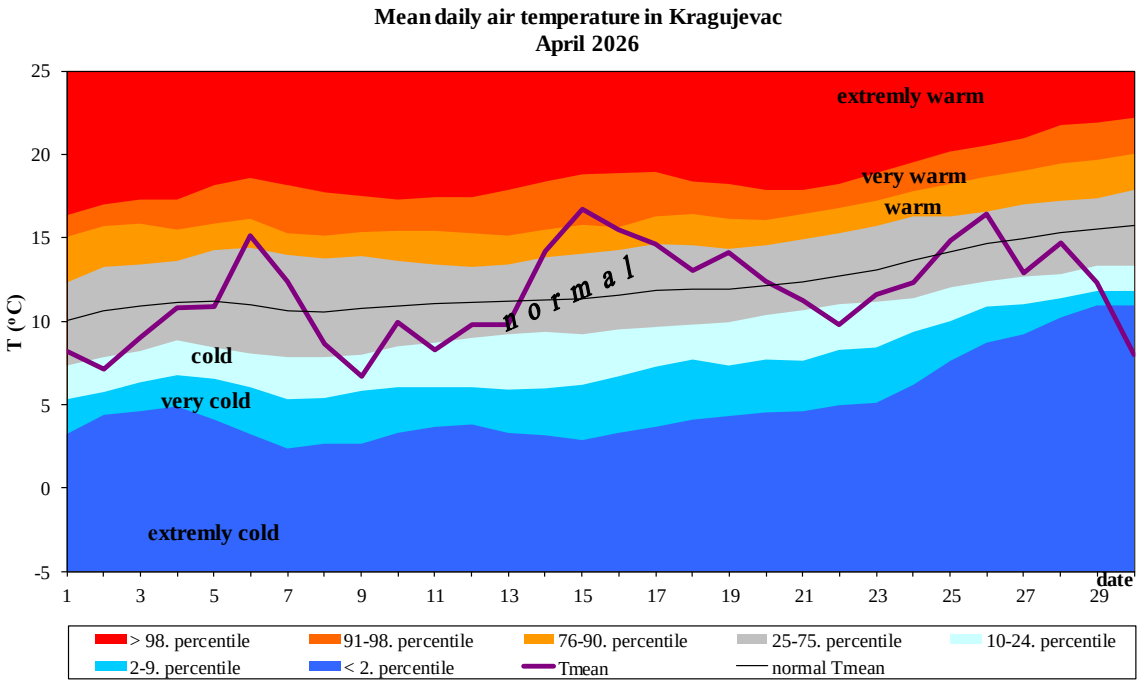
Appendix 15. Daily course of the mean daily air temperature and accompanying percentile for Sombor



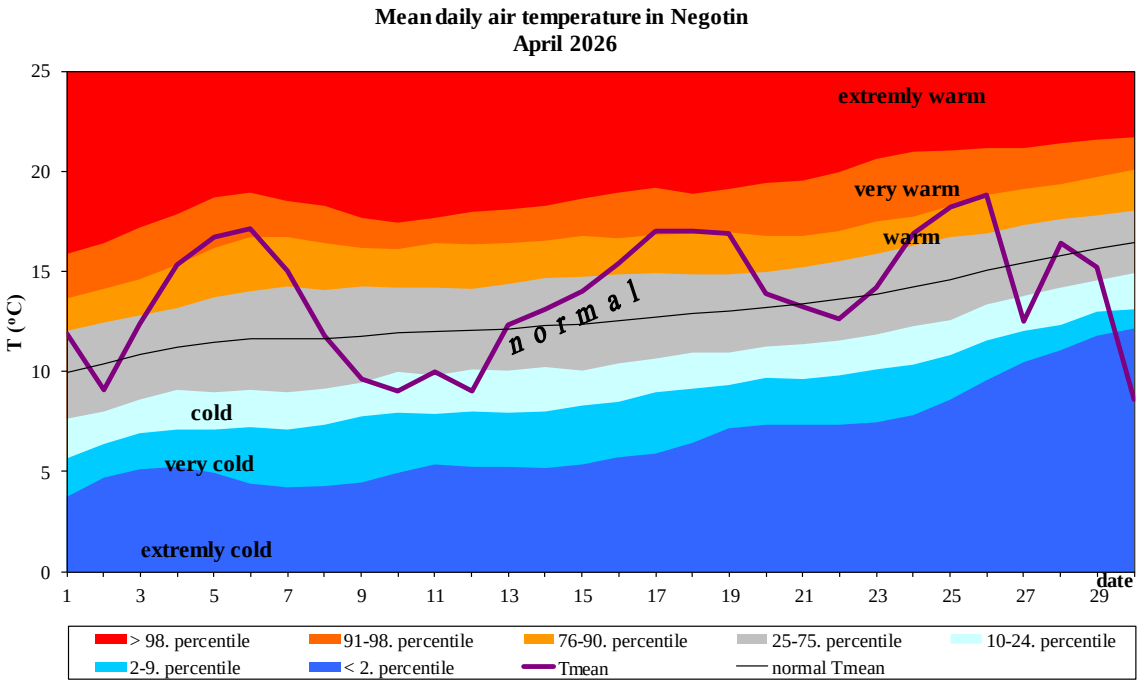
Appendix16. Daily course of the mean daily air temperature and accompanying percentile for Novi Sad



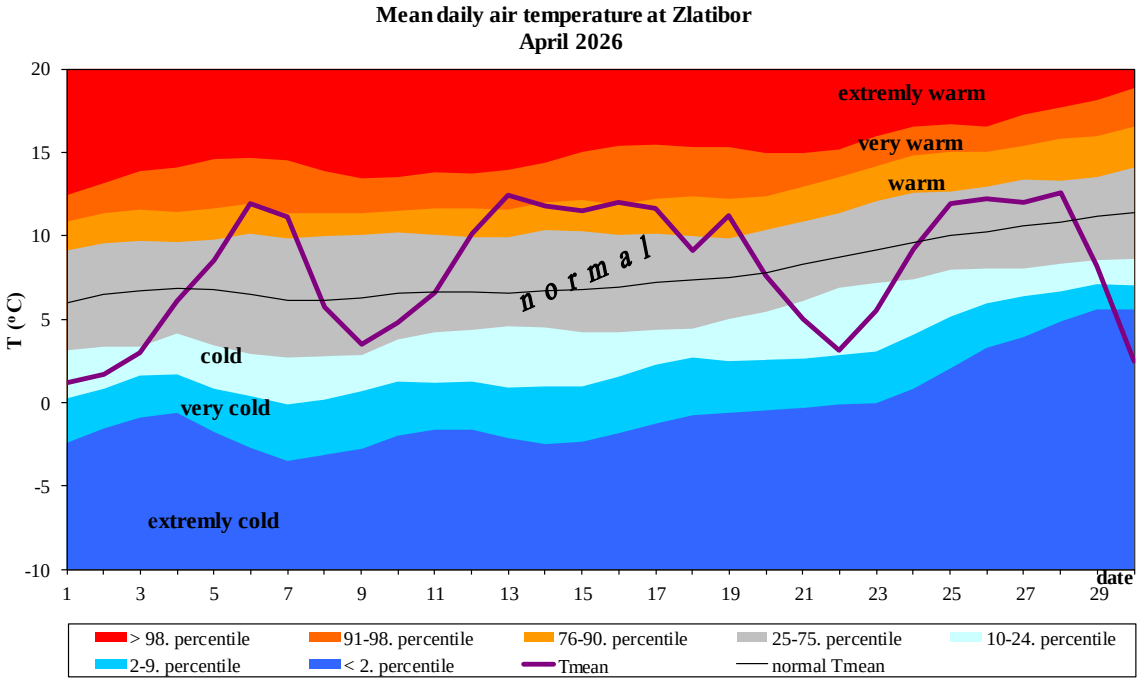
Appendix 17. Daily course of the mean daily air temperature and accompanying percentile for Loznica



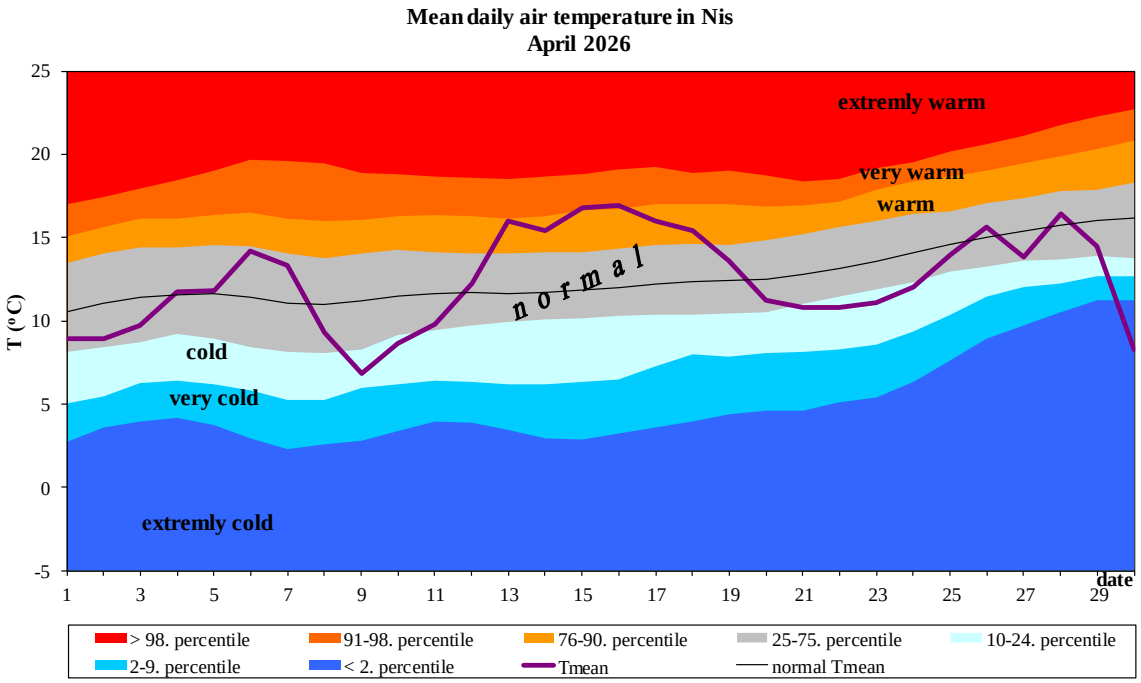
Appendix 18. Daily course of the mean daily air temperature and accompanying percentile for Kragujevac



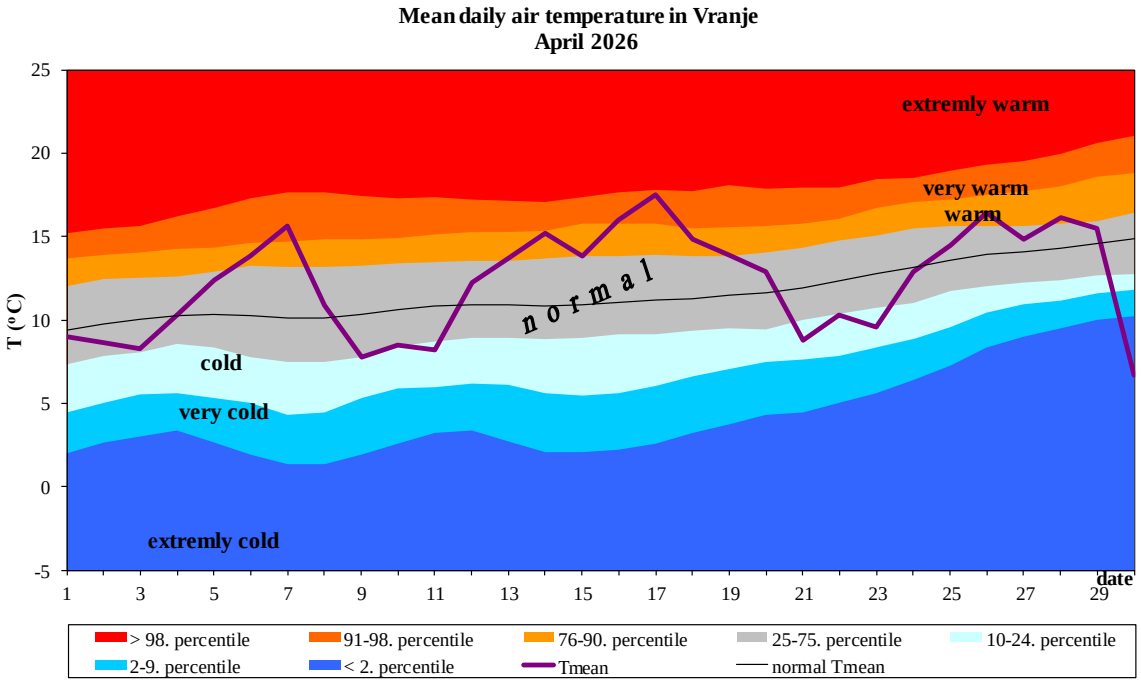
Appendix 19. Daily course of the mean daily air temperature and accompanying percentile for Negotin



Appendix 20. Daily course of the mean daily air temperature and accompanying percentile on Zlatiboru

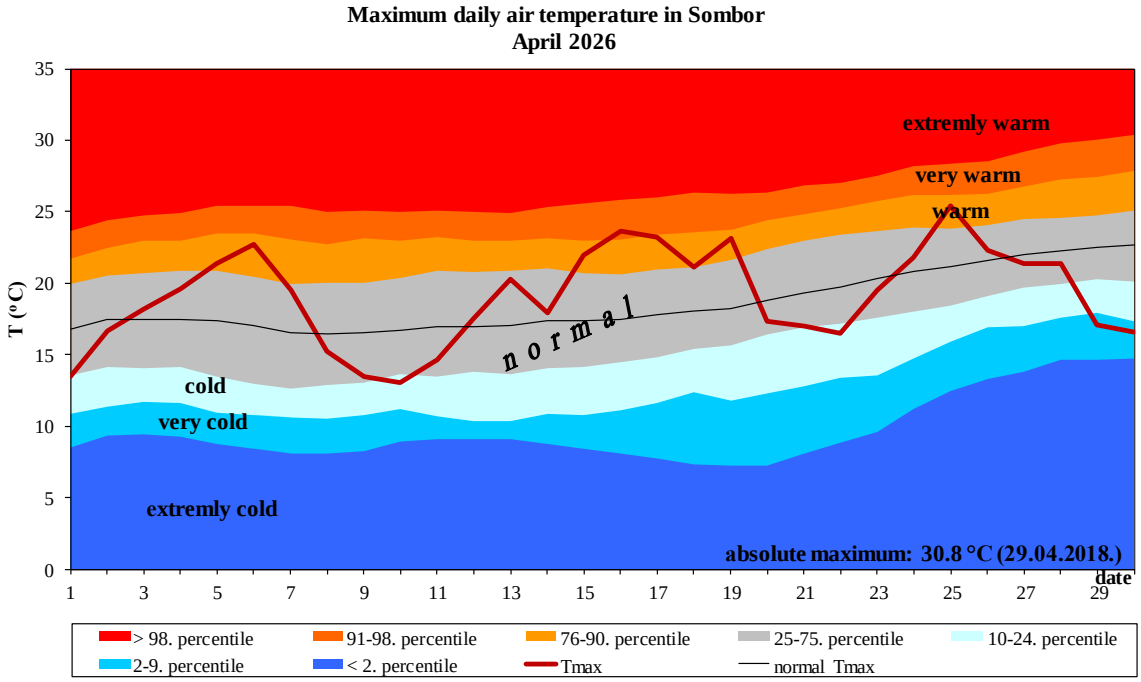


Appendix 21. Daily course of the mean daily air temperature and accompanying percentile for Nis

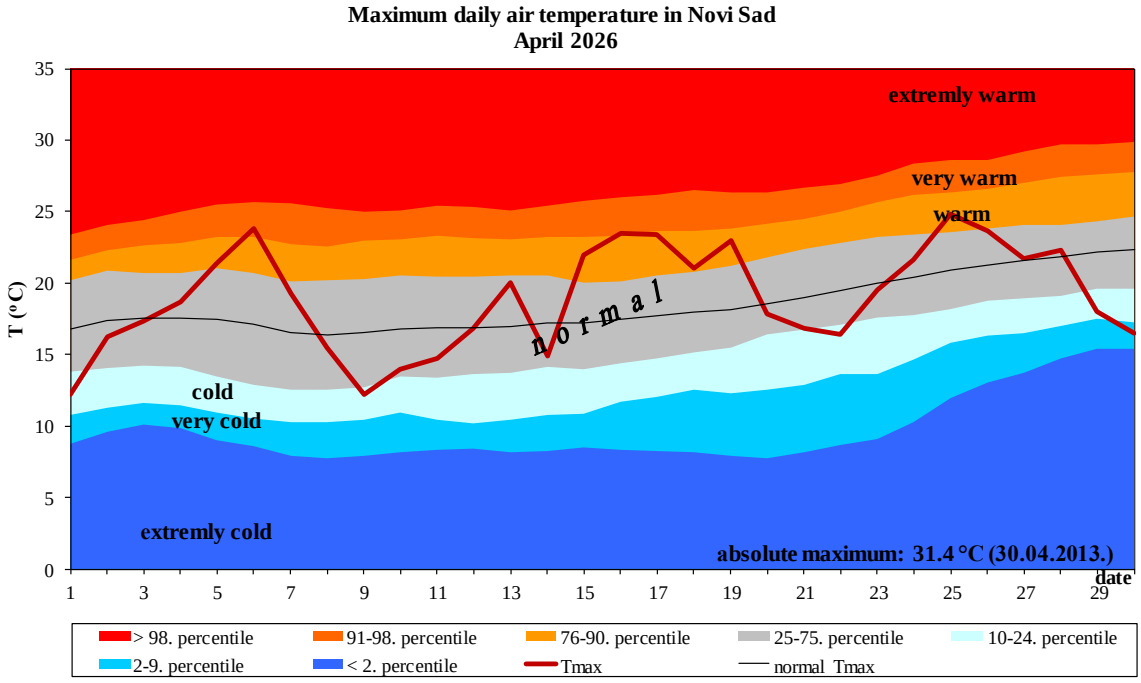


Appendix 22. Daily course of the mean daily air temperature and accompanying percentile for Vranje

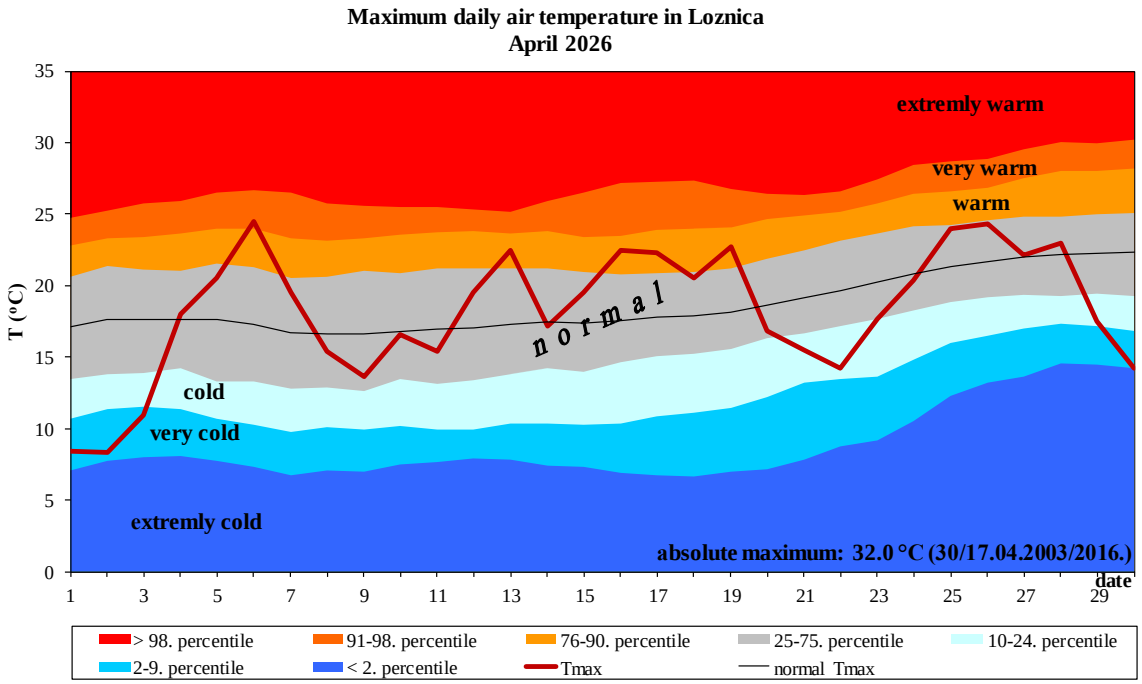
Maximum air temperature



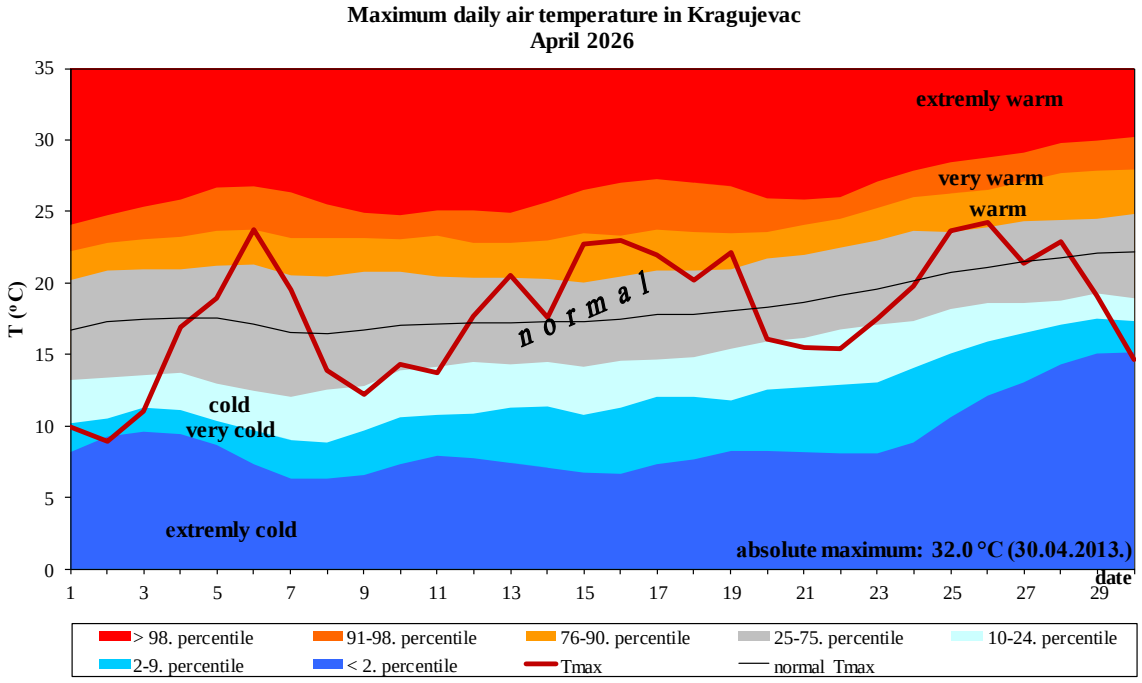
Appendix 23. Daily course of the maximum daily air temeperature and the accompanying percentile for Sombor



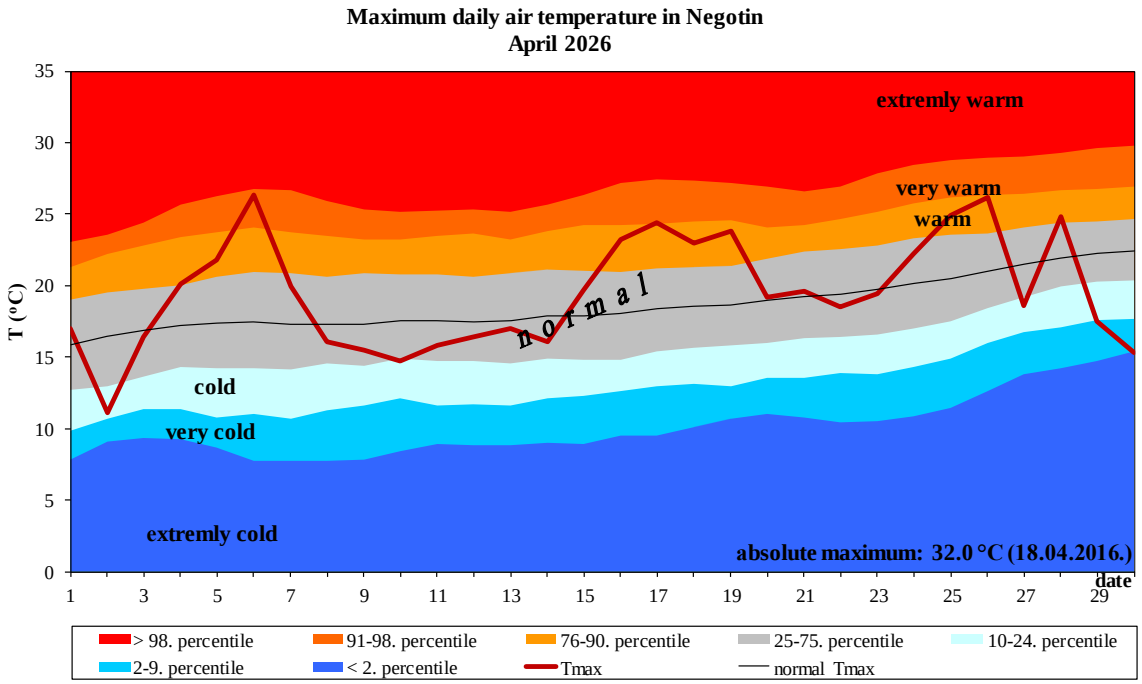
Appendix 24. Daily course of the maximum daily air temeperature and the accompanying percentile for Novi Sad



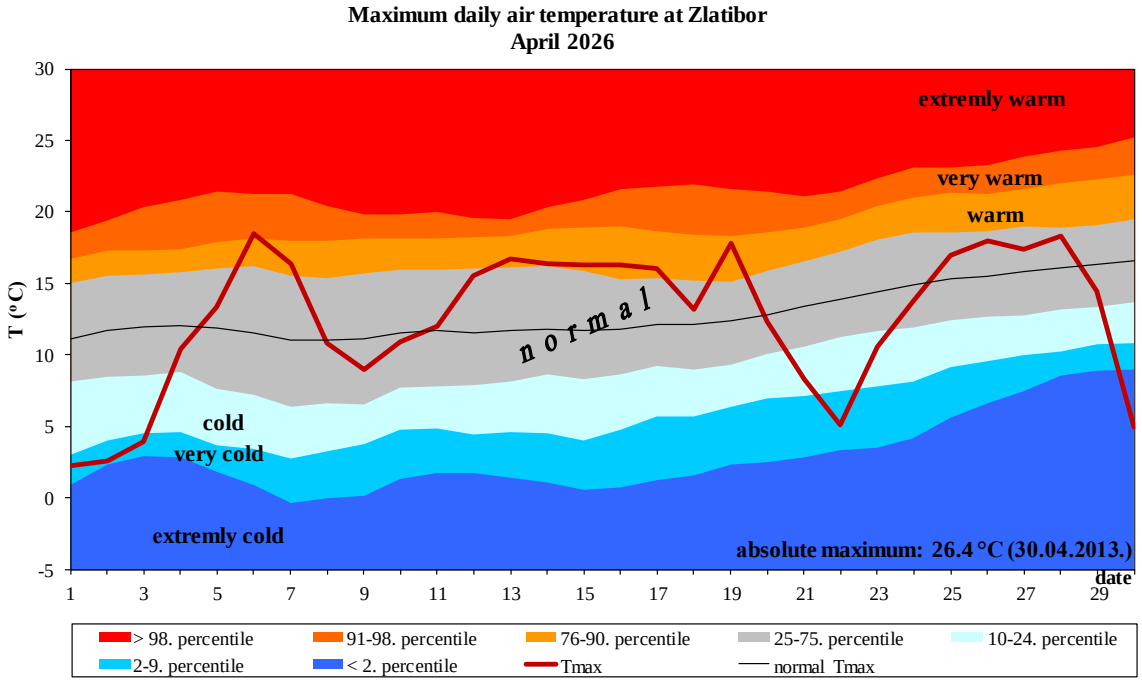
Appendix 25. Daily course of the maximum daily air temeperature and the accompanying percentile for Loznica



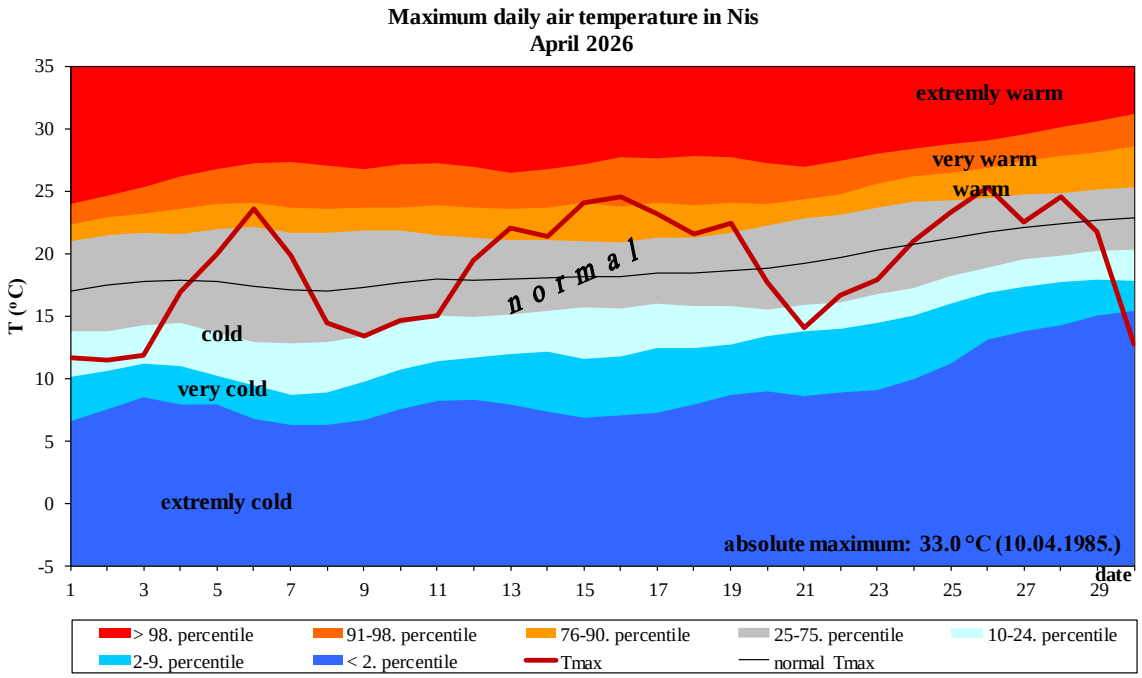
Appendix 26. Daily course of the maximum daily air temeperature and the accompanying percentile for Kragujevac



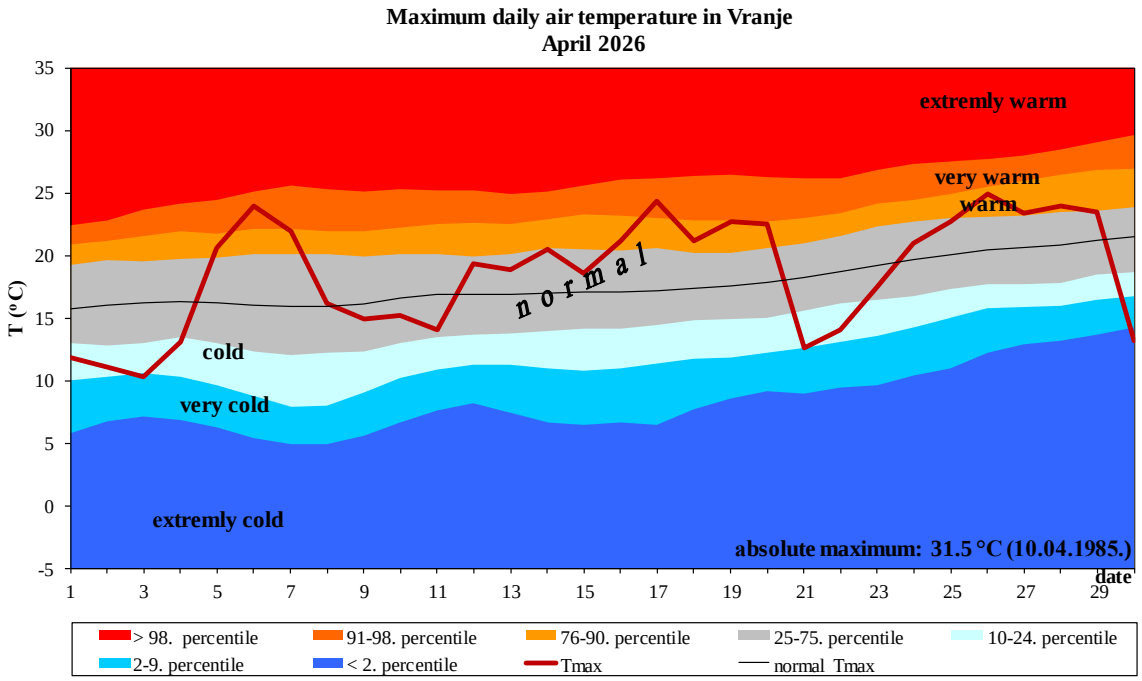
Appendix 27. Daily course of the maximum daily air temeperature and the accompanying percentile for Negotin



Appendix 28. Daily course of the maximum daily air temeperature and the accompanying percentile on Zlatibor

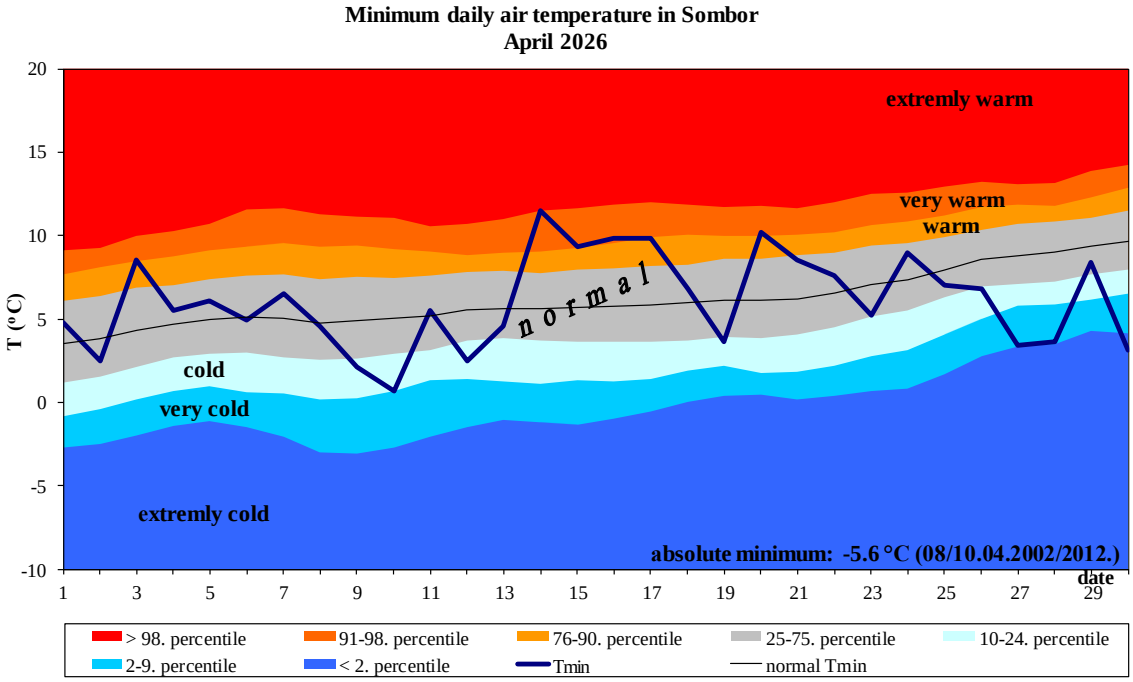


Appendix 29. Daily course of the maximum daily air temeperature and the accompanying percentile for Nis

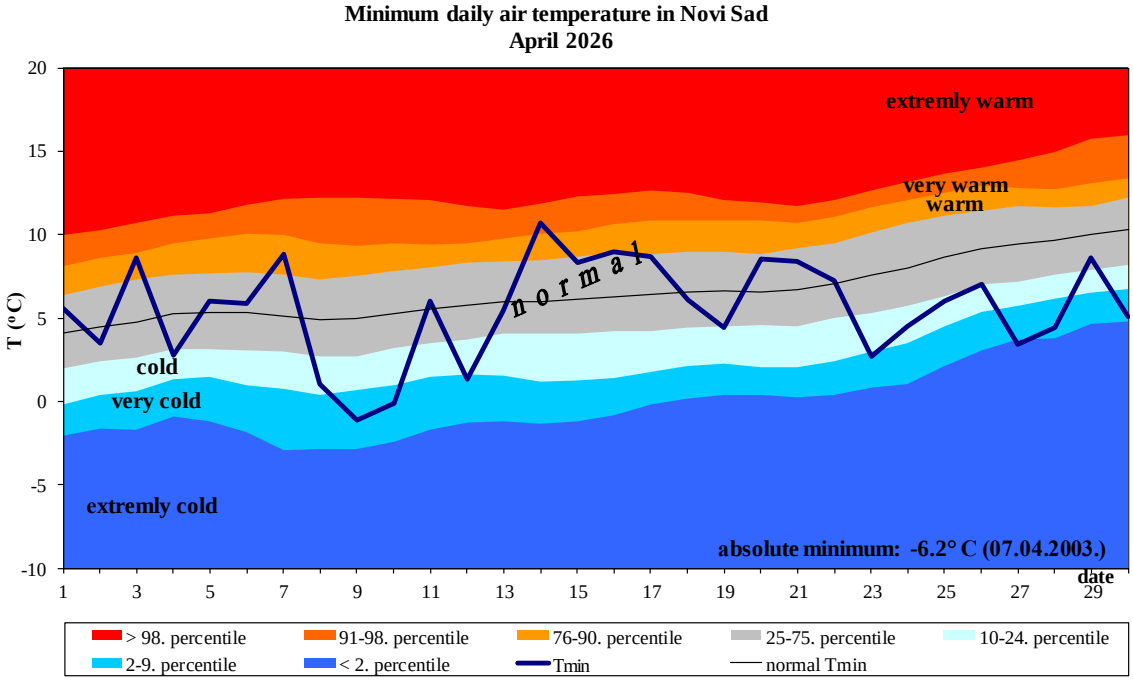


Appendix 30. Daily course of the maximum daily air temeperature and the accompanying percentile for Vranje

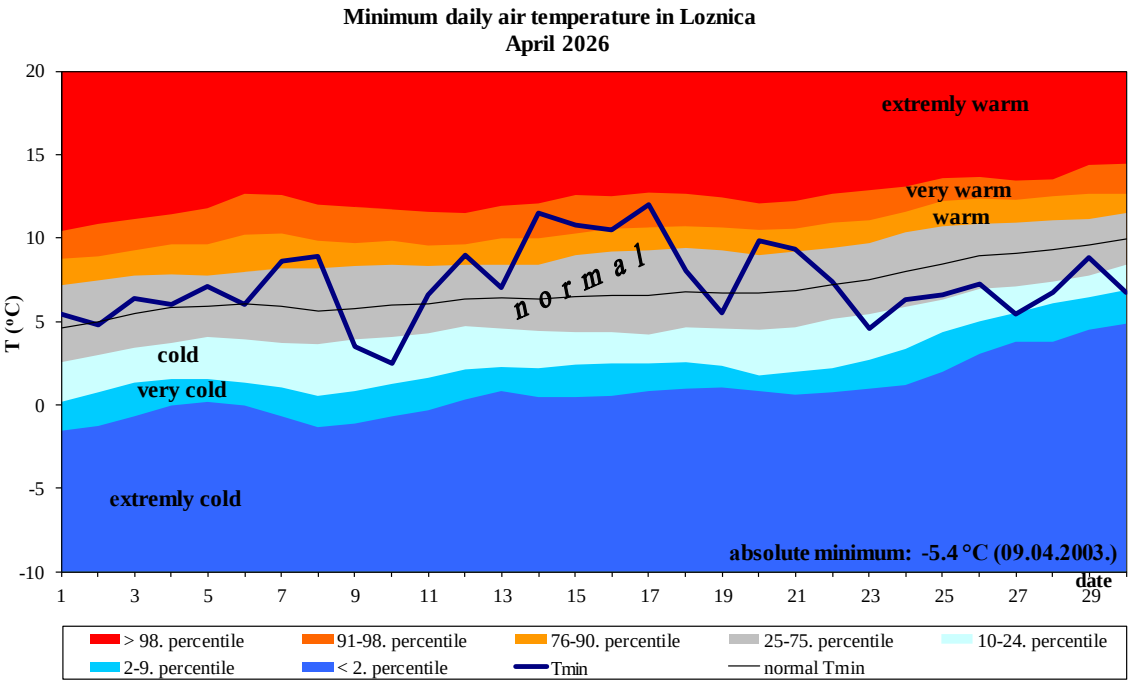
Minimum air temperature



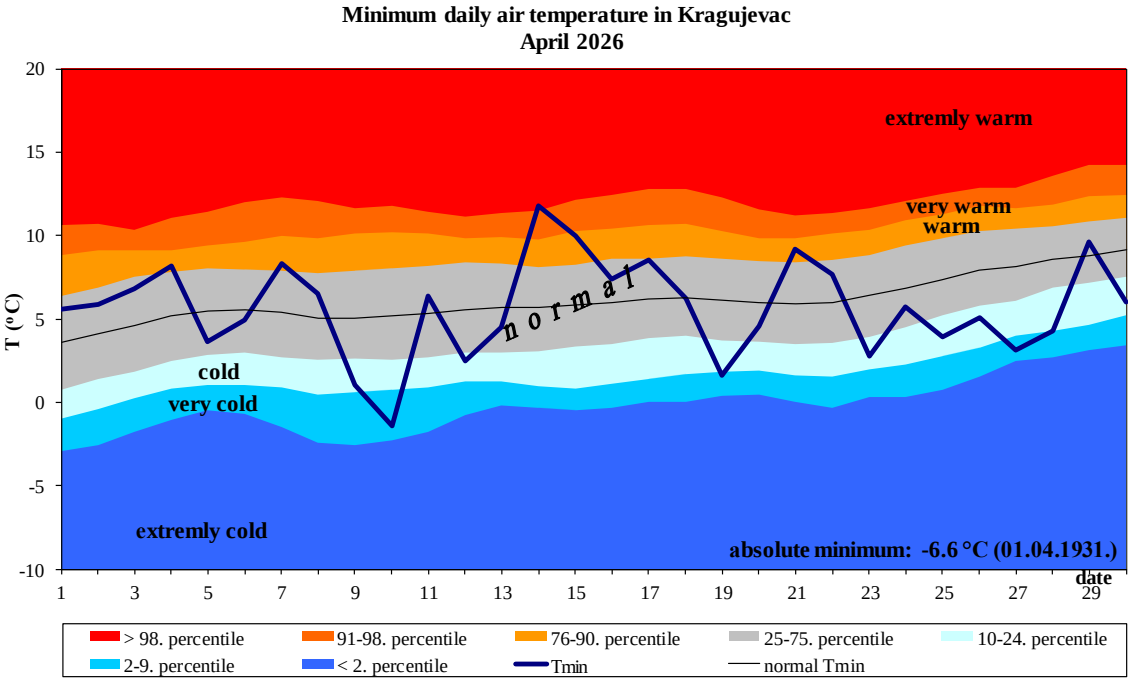
Appendix 31. Daily course of the minimum daily air temperature and the accompanying percentile for Sombor



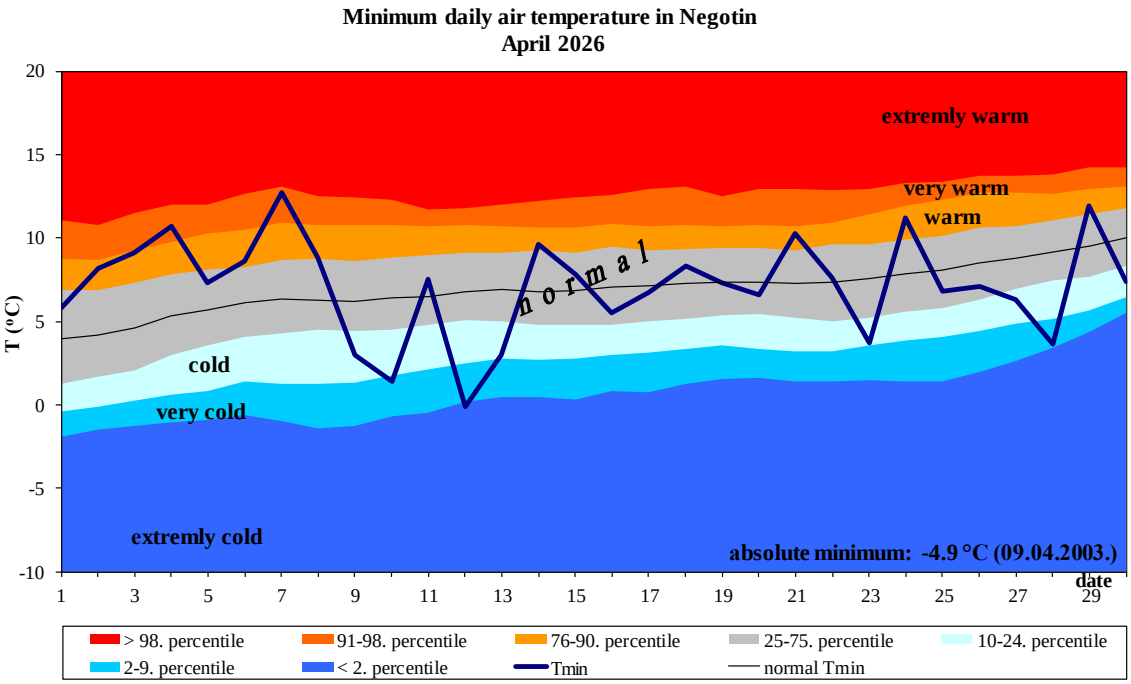
Appendix 32. Daily course of the minimum daily air temperature and the accompanying percentile for Novi Sad



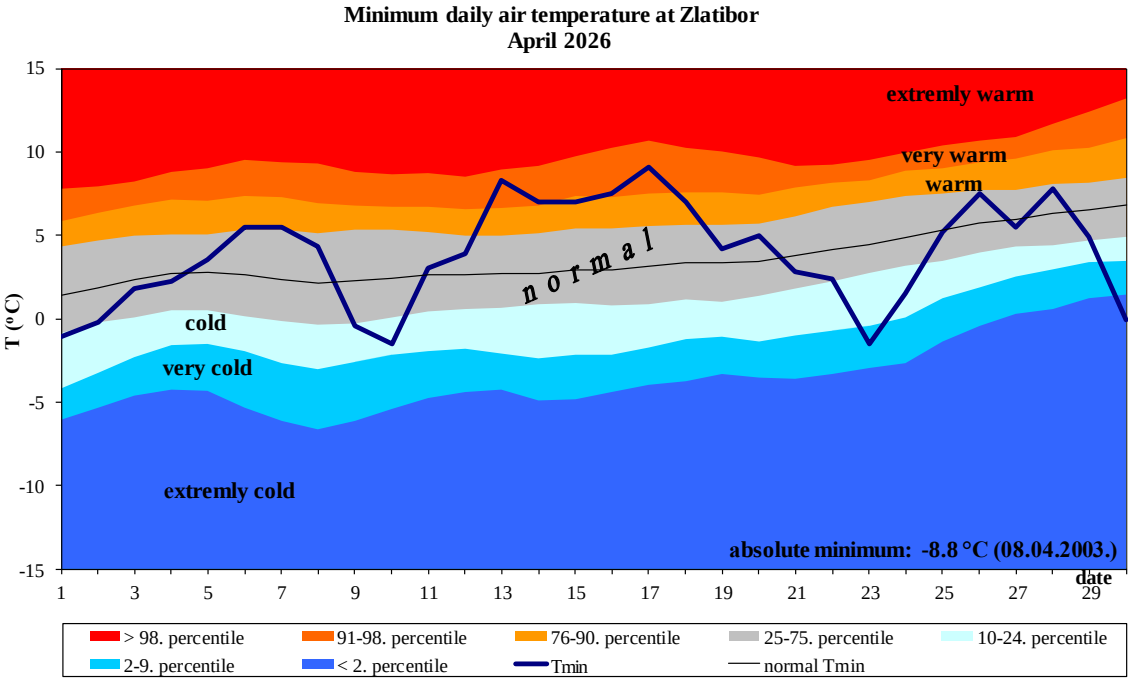
Appendix 33. Daily course of the minimum daily air temperature and the accompanying percentile for Loznica



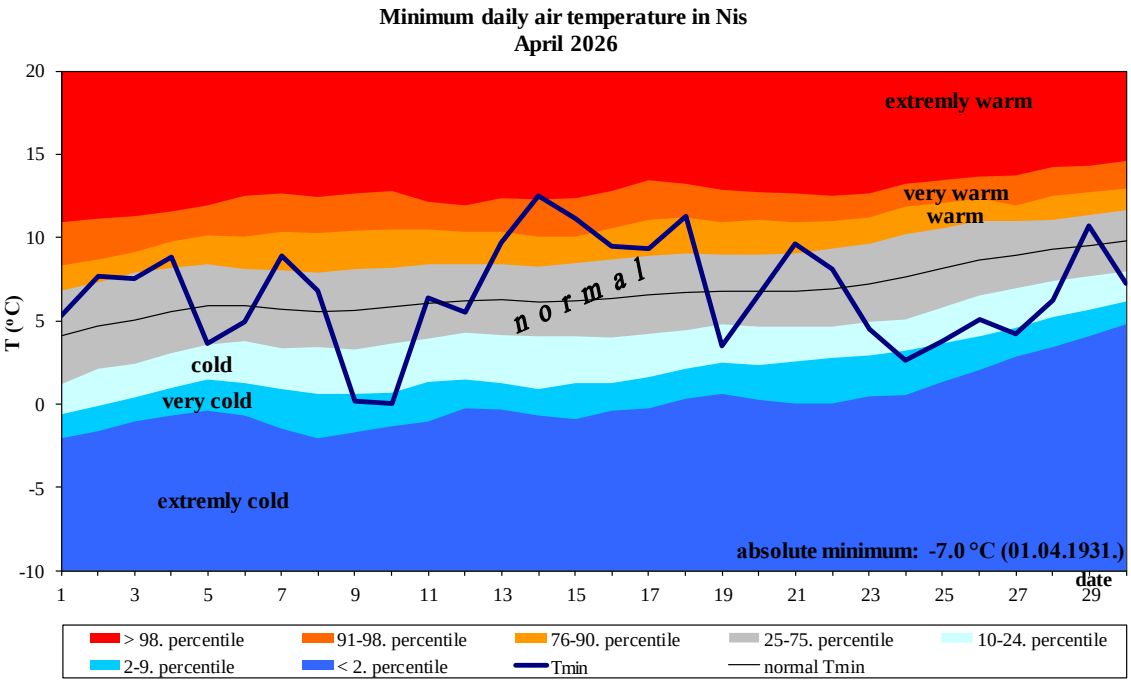
Appendix 34. Daily course of the minimum daily air temperature and the accompanying percentile for Kragujevac



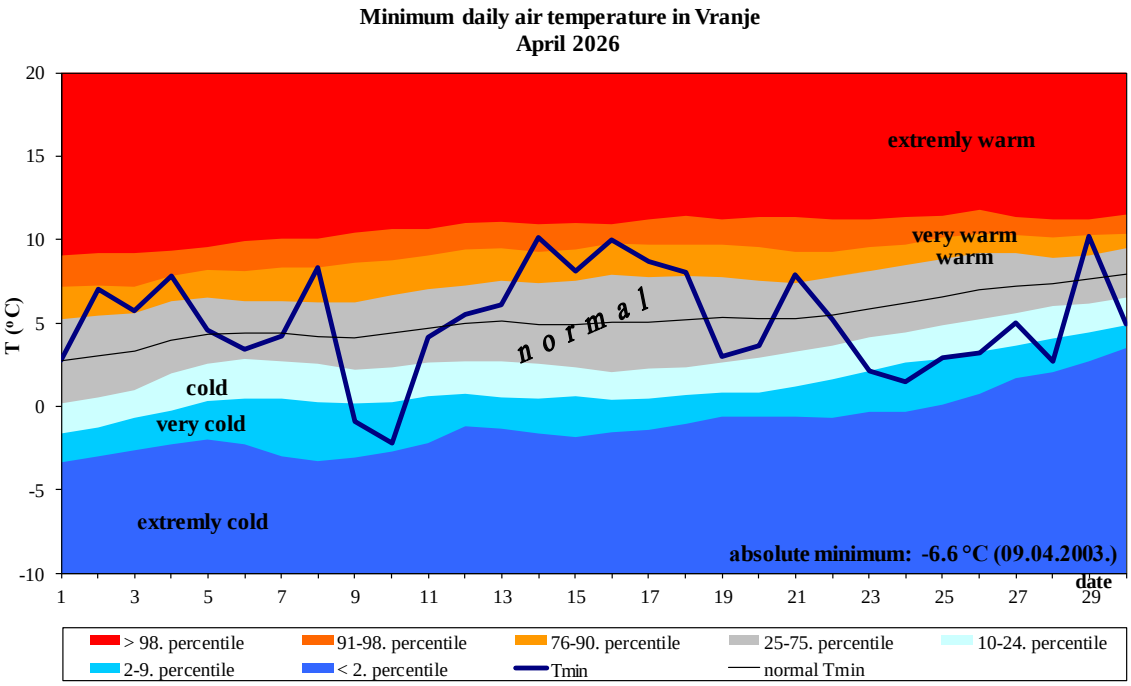
Appendix 35. Daily course of the minimum daily air temperature and the accompanying percentile for Negotin



Appendix 36. Daily course of the minimum daily air temperature and the accompanying percentile on Zlatibor

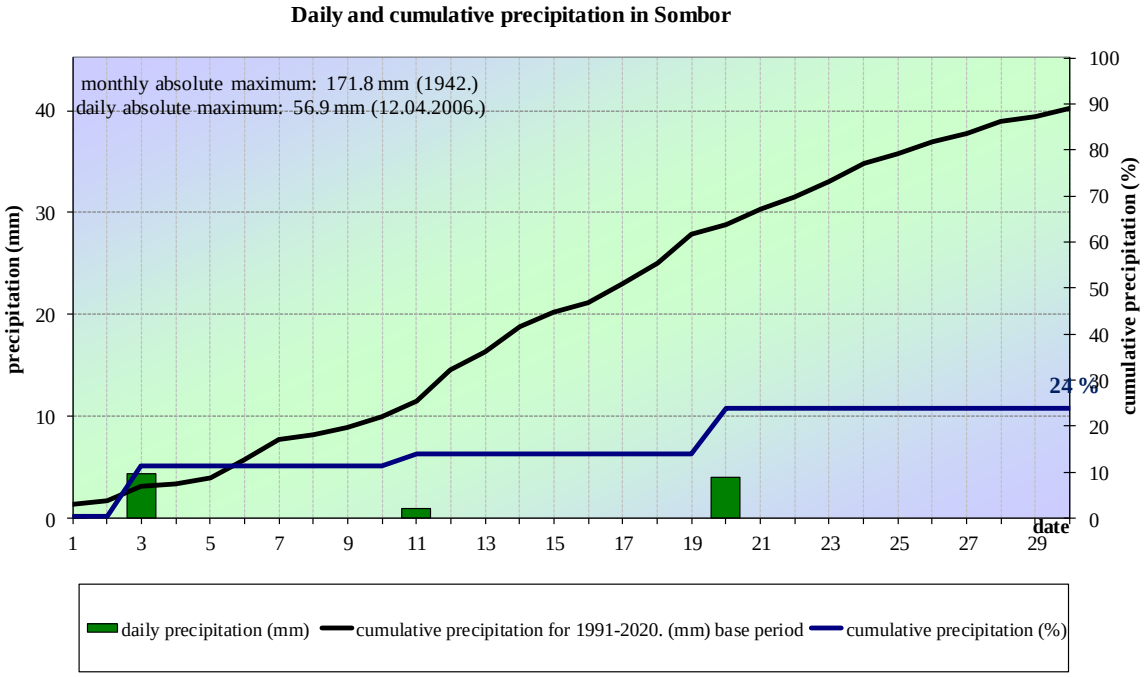


Appendix 37. Daily course of the minimum daily air temperature and the accompanying percentile for Nis

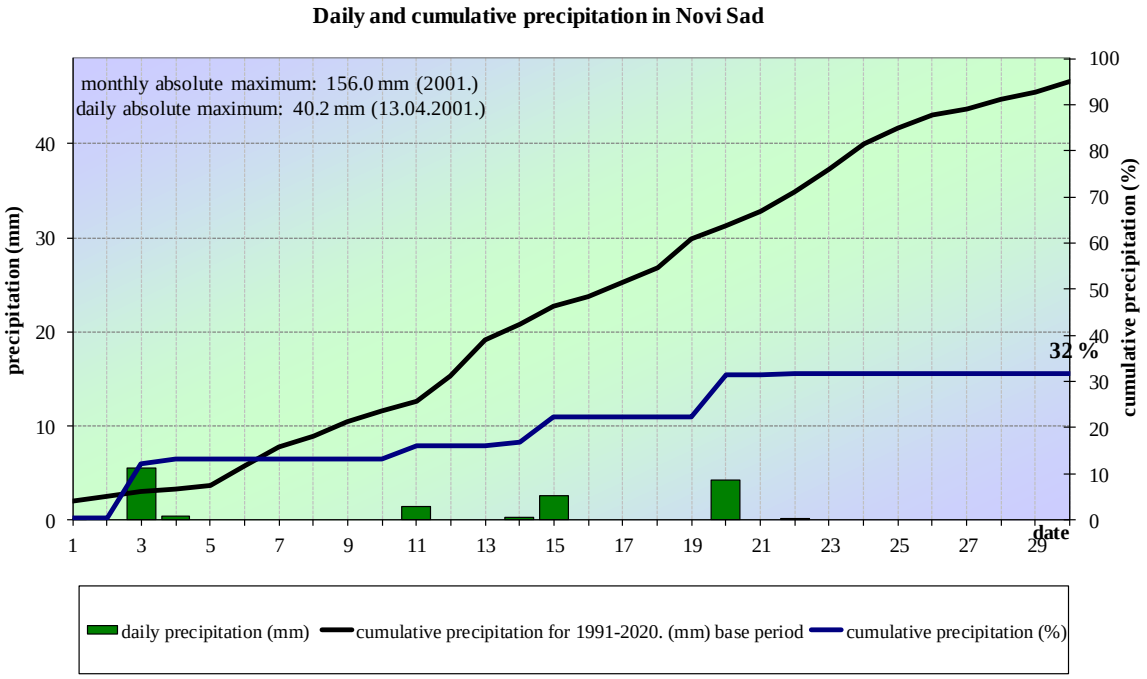


Appendix 38. Daily course of the minimum daily air temperature and the accompanying percentile for Vranje

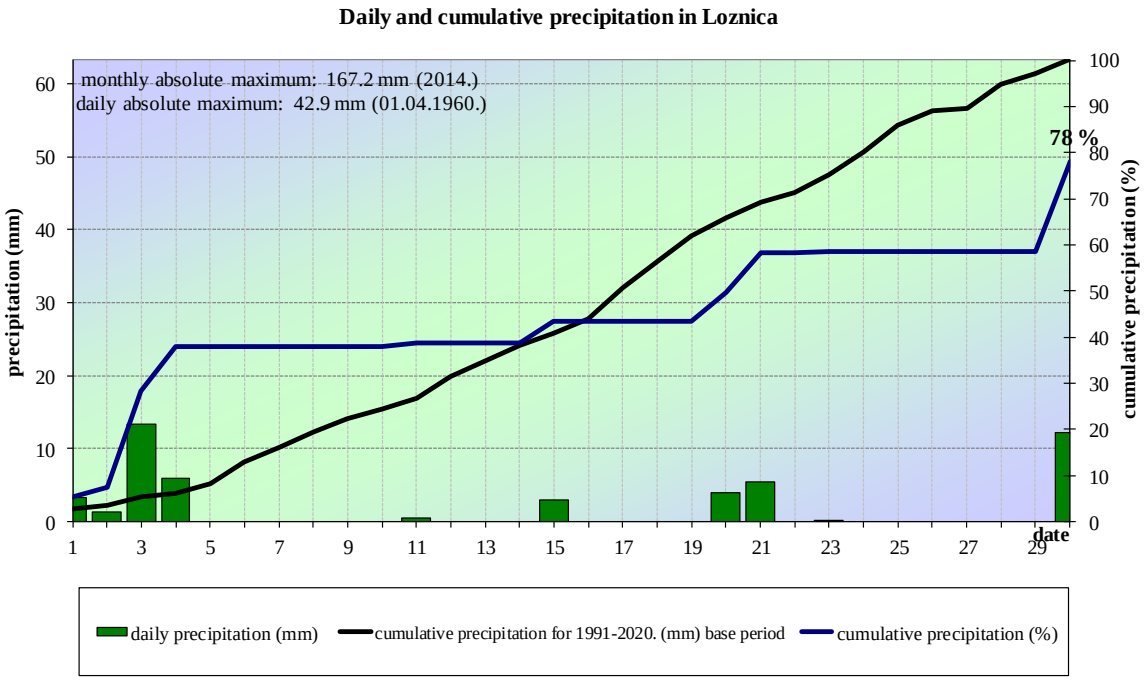
Precipitation



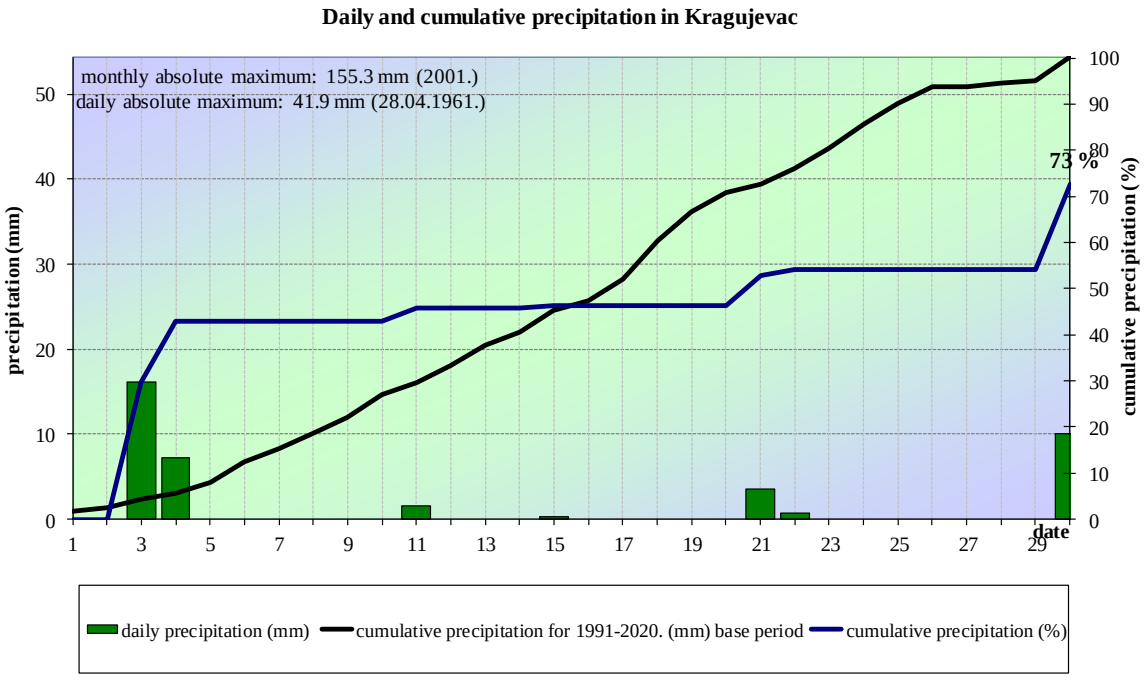
Appendix 39. Daily and cumulative precipitation sums for Sombor



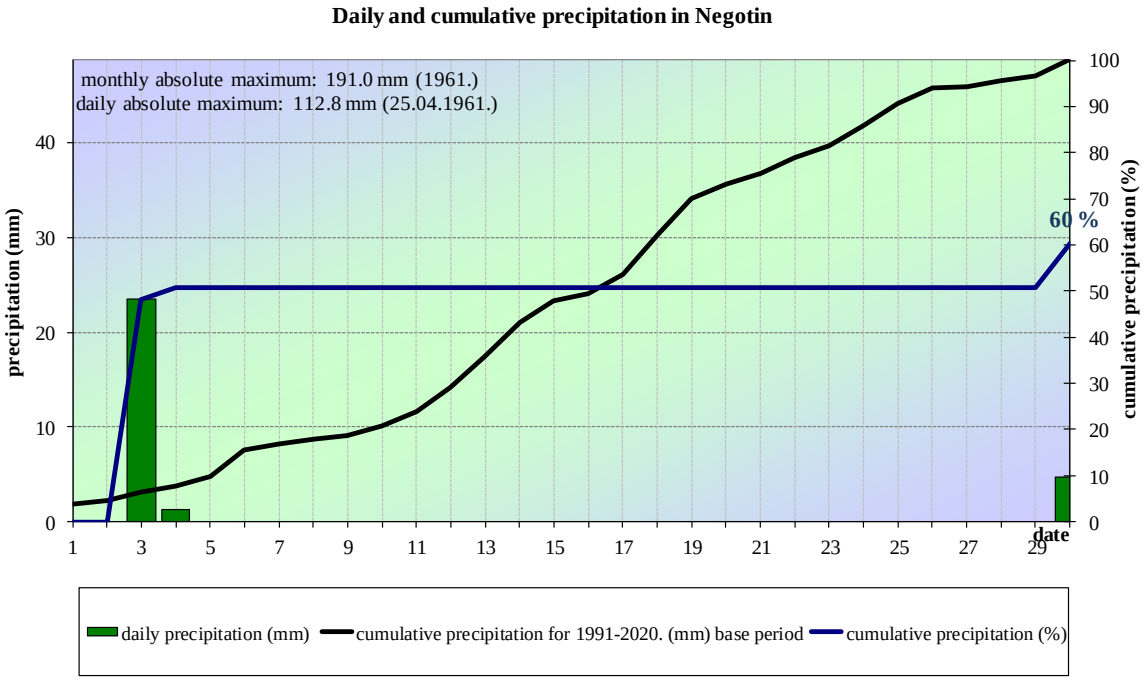
Appendix 40. Daily and cumulative precipitation sums for Novi Sad



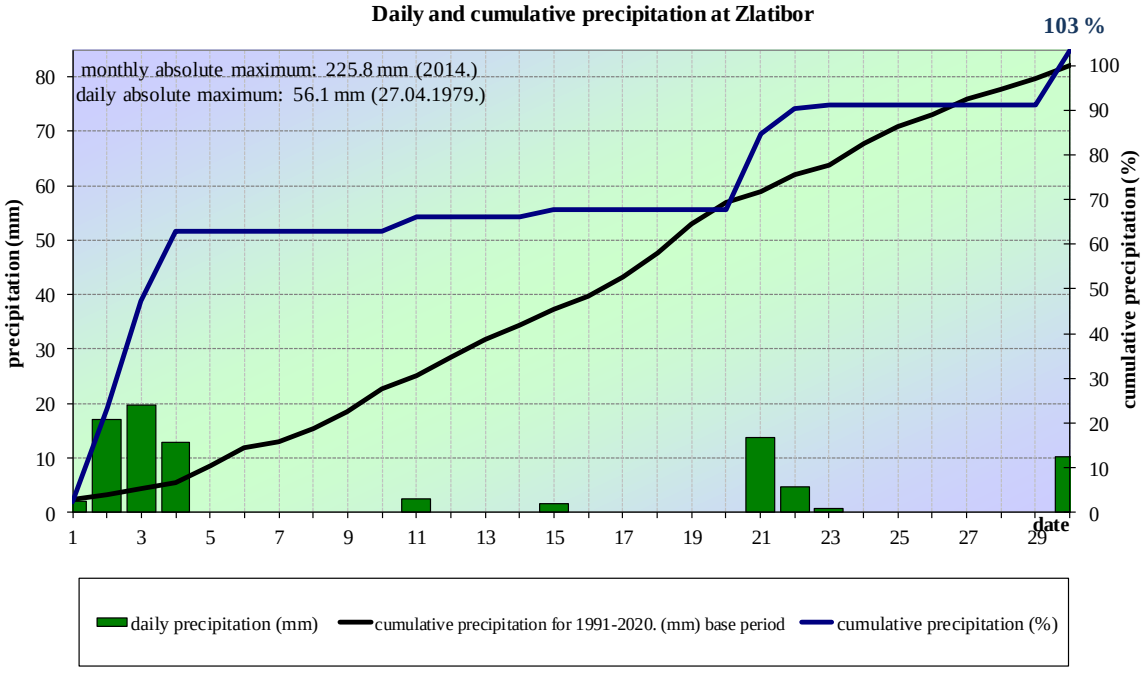
Appendix 41. Daily and cumulative precipitation sums for Loznica



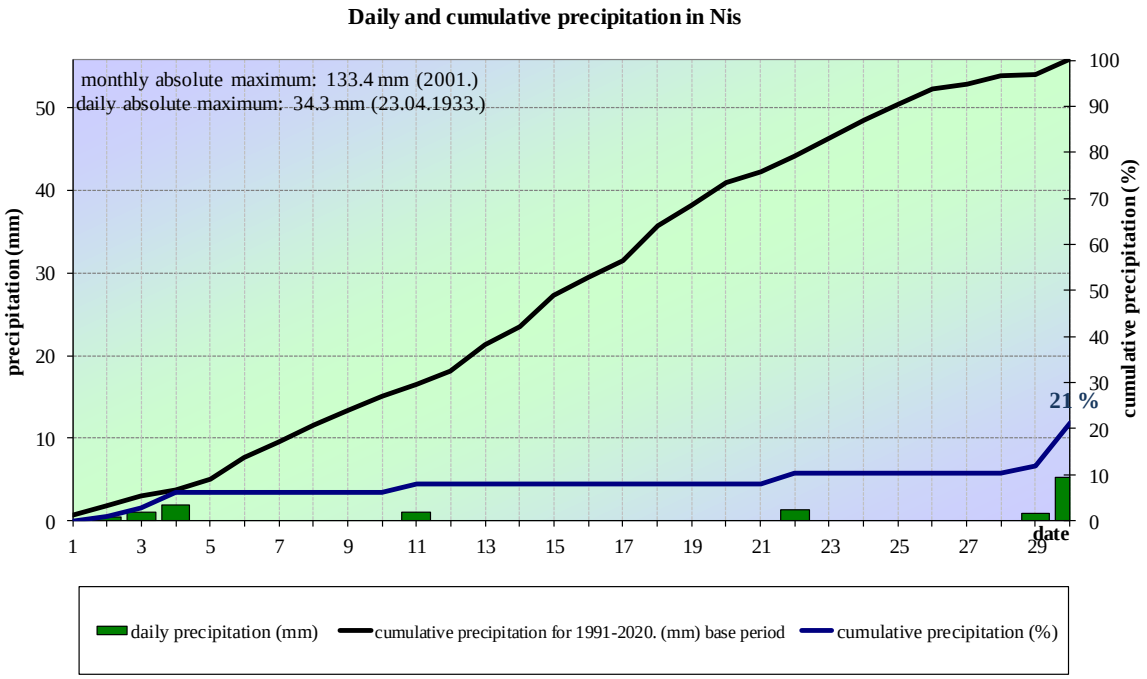
Appendix 42. Daily and cumulative precipitation sums for Kragujevac



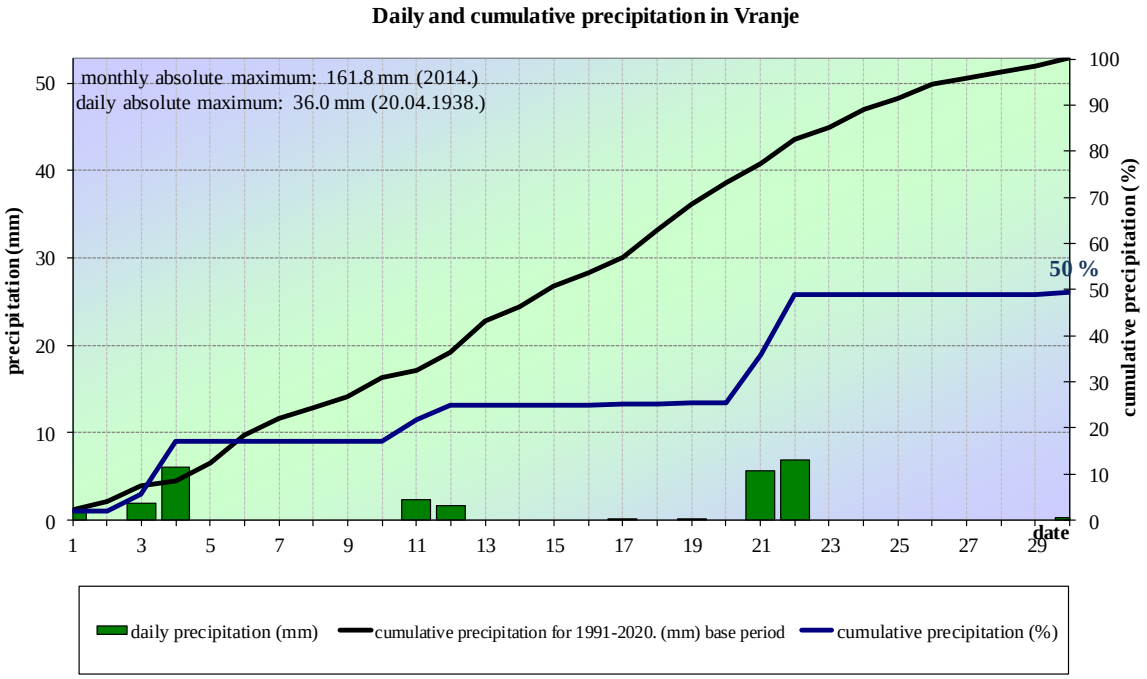
Appendix 43. Daily and cumulative precipitation sums for Negotin



Appendix 44. Daily and cumulative precipitation sums on Zlatibor



Appendix 45. Daily and cumulative precipitation sums for Nis



Appendix 46. Daily and cumulative precipitation sums for Vranje