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SEASONAL BULLETIN FOR SERBIA

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Analysis of the spring season 2026 for Serbia compared to the 1991-2020 base period

Warm and dry spring in Serbia. The mean seasonal air temperature above the upper tercile threshold, spring precipitation sums below the lower tercile threshold *(Figure 1).*

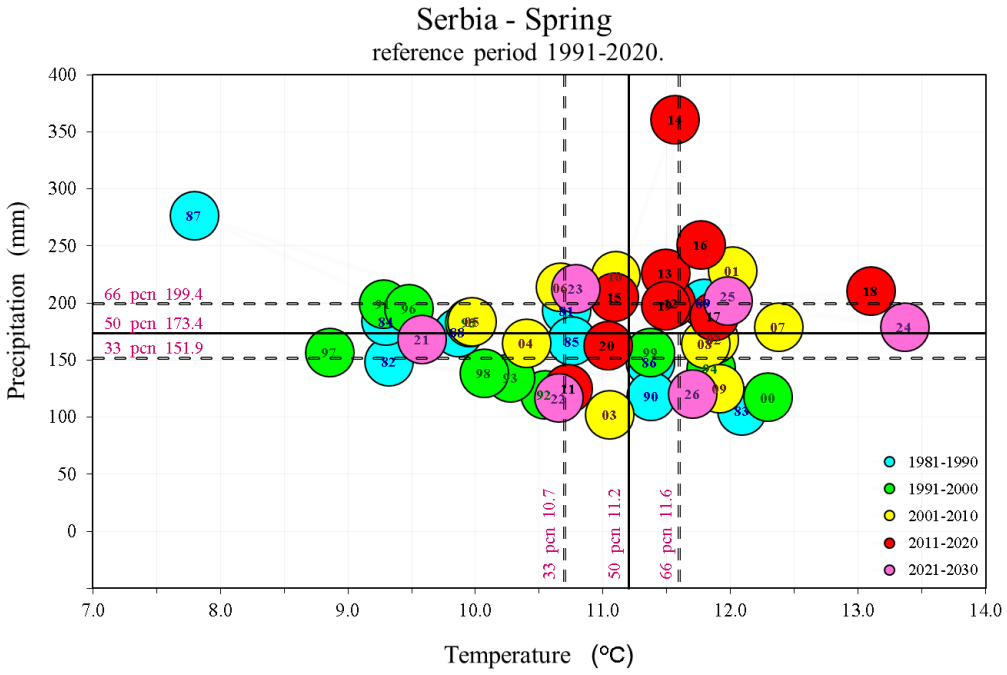

Figure 1. Assessment of mean air temperature and precipitation for spring in Serbia based on the accompanying terciles relative to the 1991-2020 base period

Temperature

Spring 2026 ranks as **the 18th warmest** for Serbia since 1951 with the mean air temperature of 11,7 °C which is +0,6 °C above the normal (*Figure 2).* It was **the 4th warmest** for Novi Sad, **the 8th warmest** for Belgrade and Palic, and **the 10th warmest** for Kikinda since the record-keeping at these stations began (*Table 1).*

In the appendix are given graphs showcasing the 15 warmest years since the record-keeping began for the stations: Novi Sad, Belgrade, Palic and Kikinda.

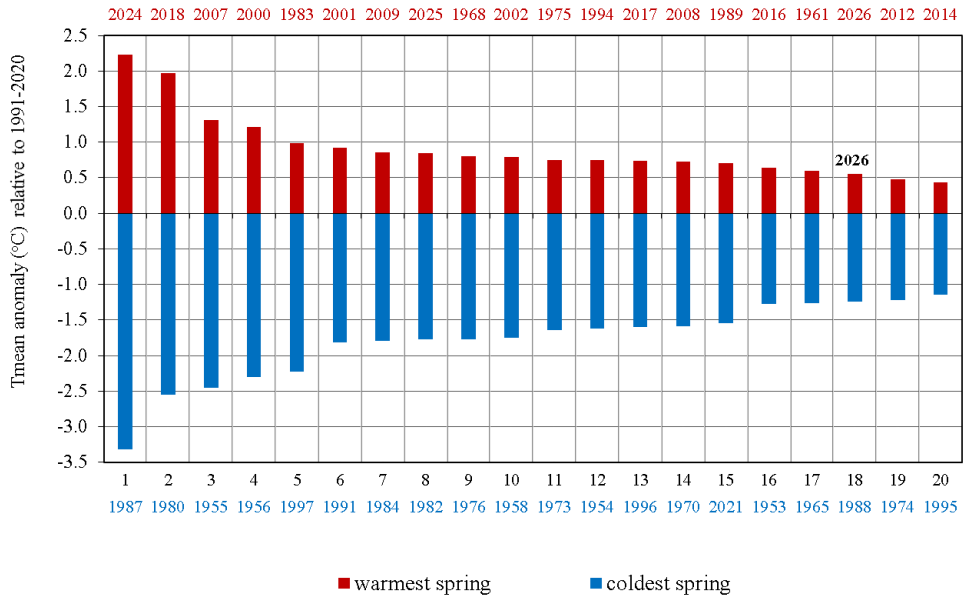

Figure 2. Rank of twenty warmest and coldest spring seasons in Serbia for the 1951-2026 period

Table 1. Ranking of spring 2026 with mean air temperature, average and departure from the normal 1991-2020

STATION	historical period	Tmean (°C) - Spring 2026	1991-2020 base period for Spring	temperature anomaly (°C)	ranking for Spring 2026
NOVI SAD	1948-2025	13.4	12.2	1.1	4
BELGRADE	1888-2025	**14.5**	13.4	1.1	8
PALIC	1945-2025	13.0	12.0	1.0	8
KIKINDA	1948-2025	13.0	12.2	0.8	10

Mean seasonal air temperature ranged from 10,5 ºC in Dimitrovgrad to 14,5 ºC in Belgrade, and on the mountains from 3,3 ºC at Kopaonik to 8,5 ºC at Zlatibor (*Figure 3*).

Departure of the mean air temperature from the normal[1] in spring ranged from -0,1 ºC in Zajecar to +1,1 ºC in Novi Sad and Belgrade, and on the mountains from +0,6 ºC at Kopaonik and Sjenica to +0,9 ºC at Crni vrh (*Figure 4*).

Based on the percentile method[2], mean spring air temperature was in the following categories: normal in most of Serbia, warm in the north and northwest of Serbia, and very warm in Novi Sad (*Figure 5).*

Based on the tercile method, mean spring air temperature was in the warm category in most of Serbia and within the average in Sremska Mitrovica, in the southeast and parts of central Serbia (*Figure 6).*

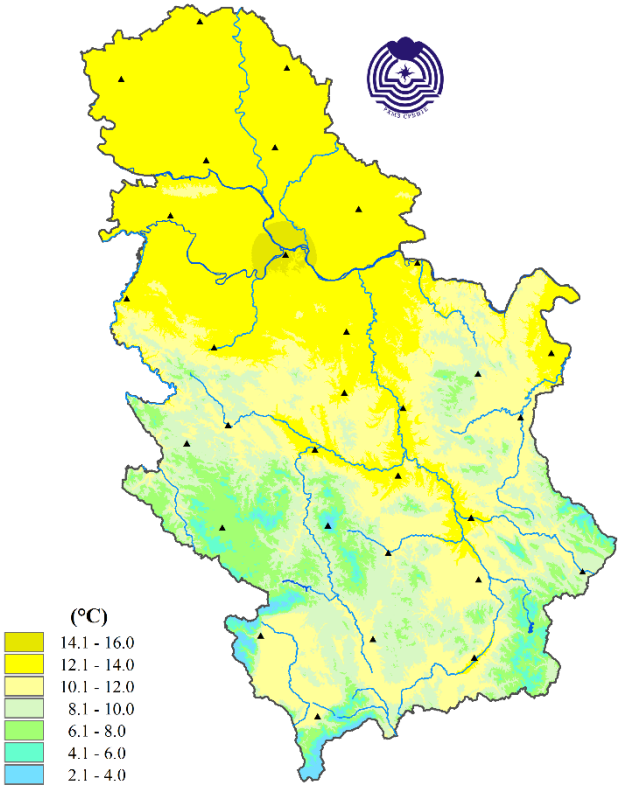

Figure 3. Spatial distribution of mean spring air temperature

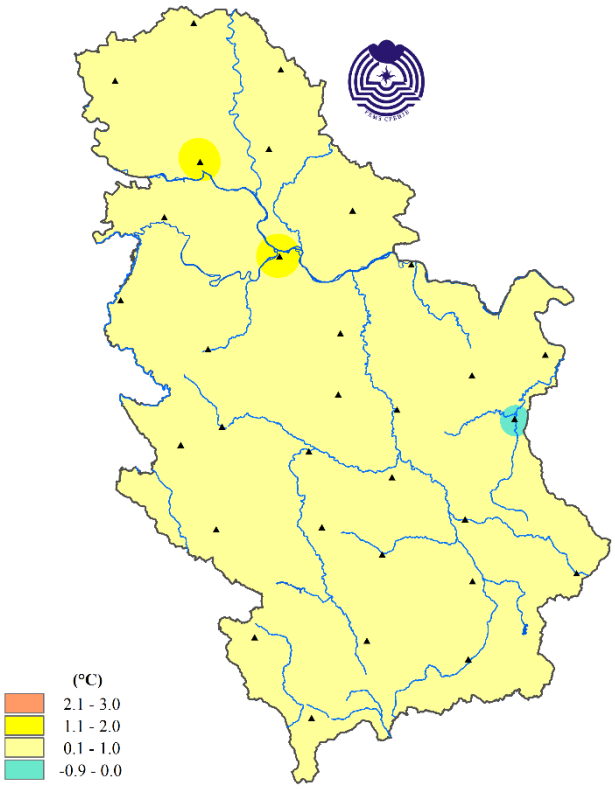

Figure 4. Spatial distribution of mean spring air temperature anomaly from the normal

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

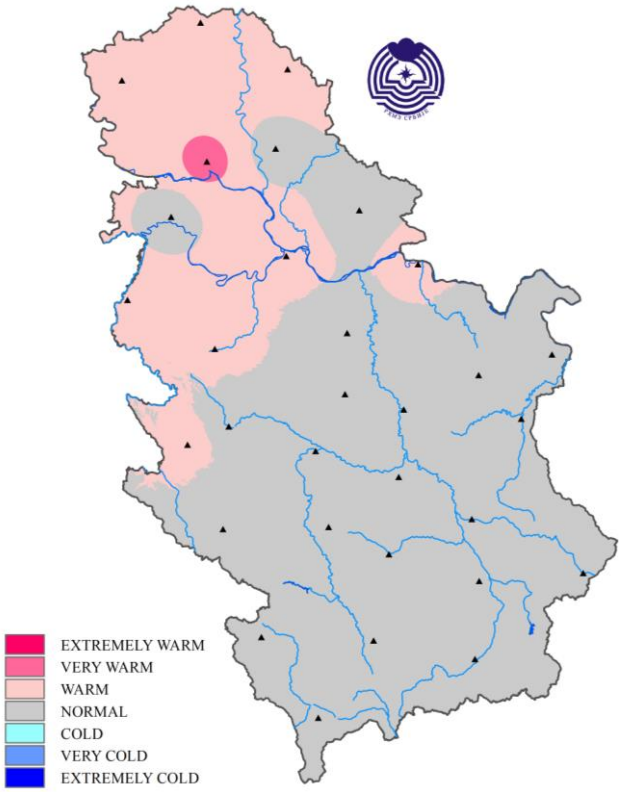

Figure 5. Spatial distribution of mean spring air temperature according to the percentile method

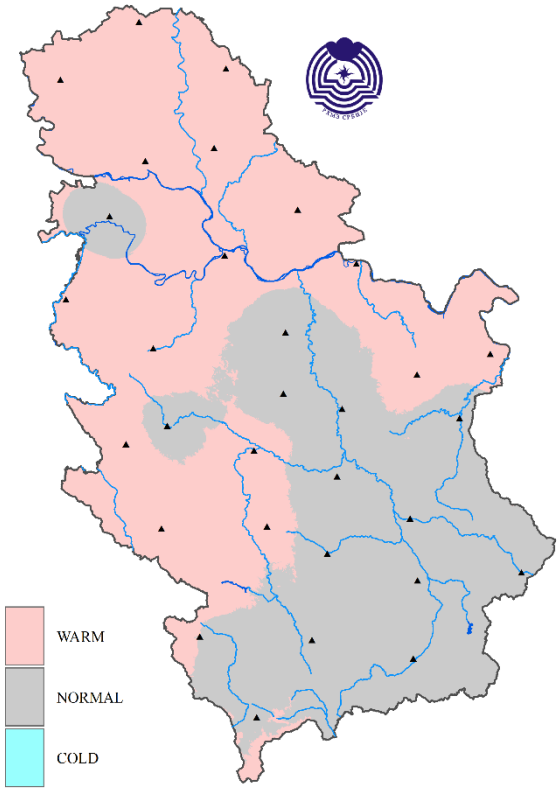

Figure 6. Spatial distribution of mean winter air temperature according to the tercile method

The highest spring daily air temperature of 33,7 ºC was measured in Kikinda on May 27. On May 26, Belgrade observed the highest spring air temperature of 31,5 ºC. Number of summer days[3] ranged from 9 in Dimitrovgrad to 22 in Veliko Gradiste, and in the upland, 1 in Sjenica. In parts of northern, central and eastern Serbia, departure of the number of summer days was positive, up to 2 days in Zrenjanin, Negotin and Smederevska Palanka up to 6 days in Veliko Gradiste. Elsewhere, it was negative, up to 1 day at Crni Vrh, Sjenica, Kursumlija, Vranje and Krusevac up to 4 days below the average in Kragujevac and Nis (*Figure 7).*

Number of tropical days[4] was around the average in most of Serbia. Tropical days were not recorded on the mountains or in Pozega, Kursumlija and Dimitrovgrad, while the highest number was registered in Veliko Gradiste.

Kopaonik and Zlatibor recorded 10 and 1 ice day[5] respectively, elsewhere there weren't any. On the mountains, there were up to 3 to 8 ice days below the spring average. As for the lowland, the absence of ice days during spring season is rather common.

[3] Summer day refers to a day with maximum daily air temperature of 25 °C and above
[4] Tropical day refers to a day with maximum daily air temperature of 30 °C and above
[5] Ice day is defined as the day with maximum daily air temperature below 0 °C

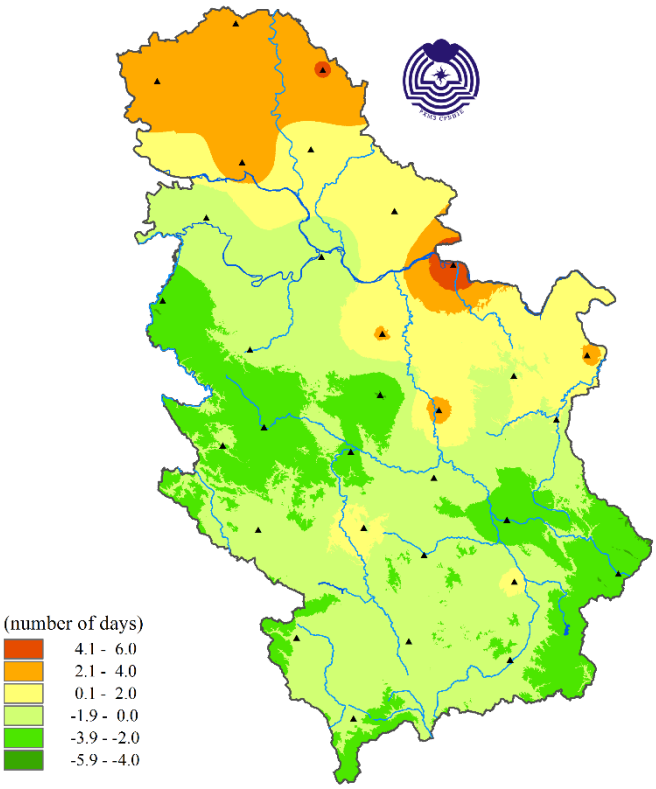

Figure 7. Deviation of the number of summer days from the normal

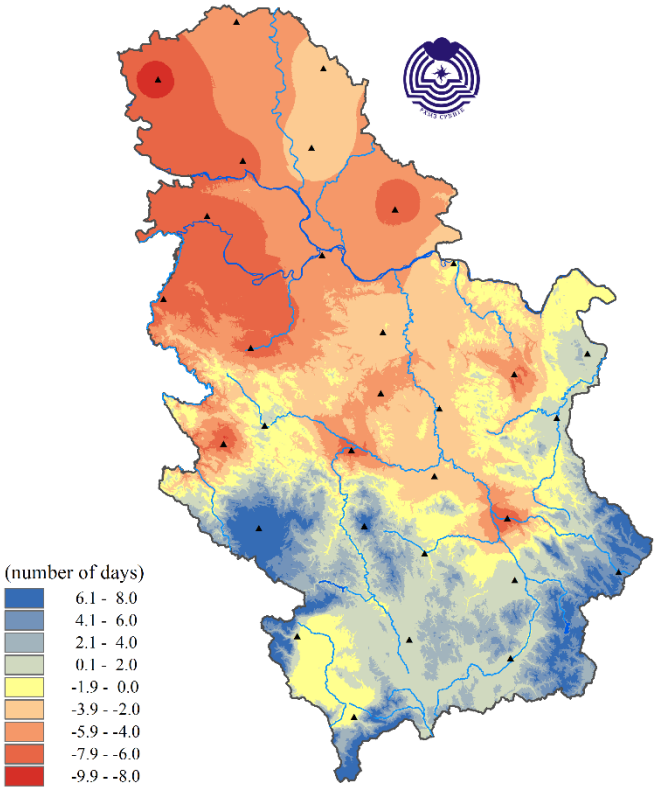

Figure 8. Deviation of the number of frost days from the normal

The lowest spring air temperature of -7,9 ºC was measured at Kopaonik on April 10, while in the lowland, Zajecar recorded 5,8 ºC on March 2. On March 1, Belgrade recorded the minimum daily air temperature of 1,7 ºC.

During spring, frost days[6] were not recorded in Belgrade, whilst the highest number, total of 23 was recorded in Dimitrovgrad. On the mountains, their number ranged from 16 at Zlatibor to 55 at Kopaonik. The recorded number of frost days was from 2 to 8 days below the spring average (*Figure 8).*

There were any days with severe frost[7] during spring.

Negotin recorded 1 tropical night[8].

Mean, maximum and minimum air temperature in Belgrade were above the multiannual average most of spring and below the average at the end of March, beginning and end of April, as well as beginning and end of May (*Figure 9).*

[6] Frost day is defined as the day with minimum daily air temperature below 0 °C
[7] Day with severe frost is defined as the day with the minimum daily air temperature below –10 °C
[8] Tropical night is defined as the day with minimum daily air temperature of 20 °C and above

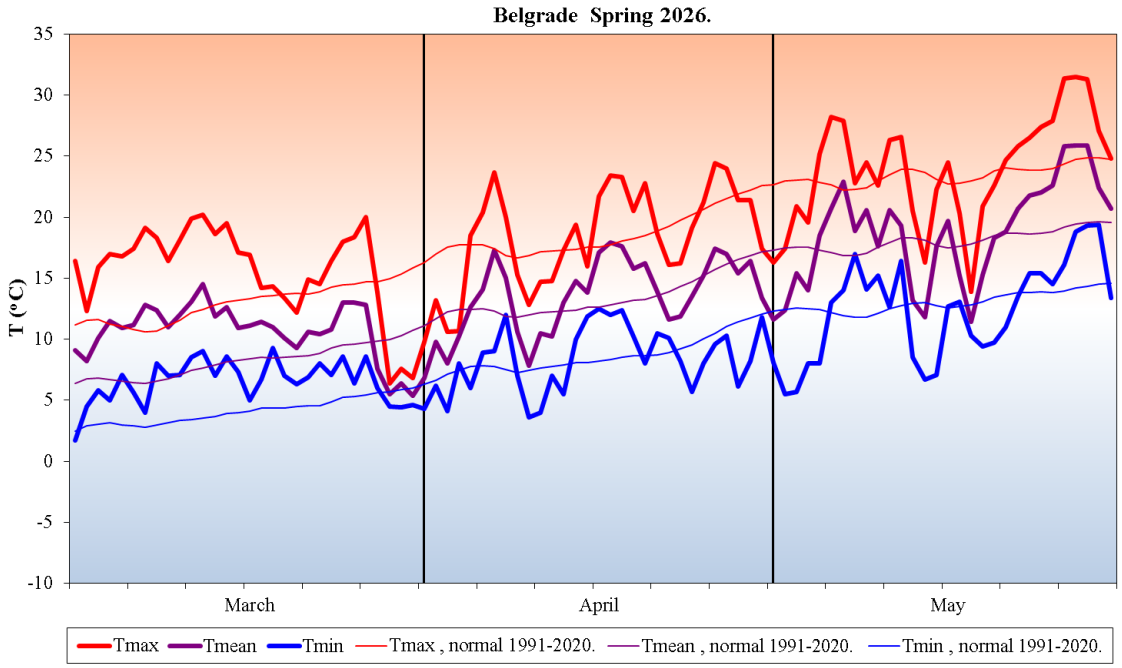

Figure 9. Three–month course of the mean, maximum and minimum daily air temperature in Belgrade

Heat waves and cold waves during spring 2026

There were 2 heat waves[9] during spring: from March 10 to 14 on Palic, Novi Sad and Sremska Mitrovica and from May 23 to 27 in Novi Sad. There were 2 cold waves[10]. The first one lasted from April 23 to 28 in Veliko Gradiste, from April 23 to 27 in Pozega, and from April 24 to 28 in Leskovac. The second one was registered at the end of April and at the beginning of May in the north, parts of western and southeastern Serbia. The longest lasting cold wave was registered in Kikinda from April 27 to May 4 (*Table 2).*

Tabela 2.

HEAT AND COLD WAVES IN SERBIA - SPRING 2026

(relative to the 1991-2020 base period)

MARCH

station/day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
PALIC										VW	VW	EW	VW	VW																	
SOMBOR																															
KIKINDA																															
ZRENJANIN																															
NOVI SAD										VW	VW	VW	VW	VW																	
SR.MITROVICA										VW	VW	VW	VW	VW																	
BELGRADE																															
LOZNICA																															
VALJEVO																															
V.GRADISTE																															
SM.PALANKA																															
KRAGUJEVAC																															
KRALJEVO																															
POZEGA																															
ZLATIBOR																															
CUPRIJA																															
KRUSEVAC																															
NEGOTIN																															
ZAJECAR																															
CRNI VRH																															
KOPAONIK																															
SJENICA																															
NIS																															
VRANJE																															
DIMITROVGRAD																															
LESKOVAC																															
KURSUMLIJA																															
Б.КАРЛОВАЦ																															

APRIL

station/day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
PALIC																														VC
SOMBOR																														EC
KIKINDA																											EC	EC	VC	VC
ZRENJANIN																														VC
NOVI SAD																														
SR.MITROVICA																														VC
BELGRADE																														VC
LOZNICA																														
VALJEVO																														
V.GRADISTE																							EC	VC	VC	VC	EC	EC		
SM.PALANKA																														
KRAGUJEVAC																														
KRALJEVO																														
POZEGA																							VC	VC	VC	VC	EC			
ZLATIBOR																														
CUPRIJA																														
KRUSEVAC																														
NEGOTIN																														
ZAJECAR																														
CRNI VRH																														
KOPAONIK																														
SJENICA																														
NIS																														
VRANJE																														
DIMITROVGRAD																														
LESKOVAC																								VC	VC	VC	EC	VC		
KURSUMLIJA																														
Б.КАРЛОВАЦ																														VC

MAY

station/day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
PALIC	EC	VC	VC	VC																											
SOMBOR	EC	VC	VC	EC																											
KIKINDA	EC	EC	VC	VC																											
ZRENJANIN	EC	EC	VC	VC																											
NOVI SAD																							VW	VW	EW	EW	EW				
SR.MITROVICA	EC	EC	VC	VC																											
BELGRADE	EC	EC	VC	VC																											
LOZNICA																															
VALJEVO	EC	EC	VC	EC	VC																										
V.GRADISTE																															
SM.PALANKA																															
KRAGUJEVAC																															
KRALJEVO																															
POZEGA	EC	EC	VC	EC	VC																										
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SJENICA																															
NIS	EC	VC	VC	EC	VC																										
VRANJE																															
DIMITROVGRAD	EC	EC	VC	EC	VC																										
LESKOVAC																															
KURSUMLIJA																															
Б.КАРЛОВАЦ	EC	EC	VC	VC																											

EW	EXTREMELY WARM
VW	VERY WARM
EC	EXTREMELY COLD
VC	VERY COLD

[9] Heat wave, according to the percentile method, is a period of minimum five days with maximum daily air temperature is in the very warm and extremely warm categories

[10] Cold wave is, according to the percentile method, is a period during which minimum daily air temperature is in the very cold and extremely cold categories for 5 consecutive days or longer

Precipitation

Spring 2026 ranks as **the 11th driest** for Serbia in the period from 1951 (*Figure 10).* It was **the driest on record** for Crni Vrh, and it was among the 9th driest at 8 stations (*Table 3*). The previously driest spring at Crni Vrh was in 1969 with average precipitation sum of 102,1 mm, while this spring the precipitation of 94,3 mm was observed.

In the appendix are given graphs showcasing the 15 driest years for the stations: Crni Vrh, Kikinda, Cuprija, Palic, Vranje, Leskovac, Sjenica, Krusevac and Veliko Gradiste.

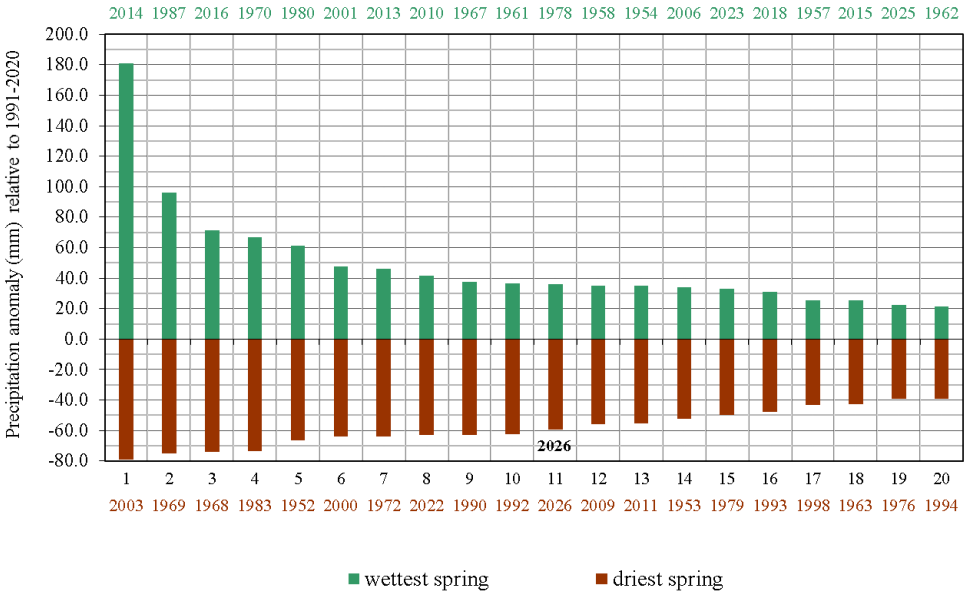


Figure 10. Rank of the wettest and driest Spring in Serbia for the period from 1951 to 2026

Table 3. The ranking of Spring 2026 in terms of precipitation, average and percentage of the 1991-2020 normal

STATION	historical period	∑RR for Spring 2026 (mm)	normal for Spring 1991-2020	percentage (%) from normal	ranking for Spring 2026 (ascending RR)
CRNI VRH	1967-2025	94.3	210.2	45	1
KIKINDA	1925-2025	**47.7**	137.0	35	4
CUPRIJA	1926-2025	91.8	187.6	49	4
PALIC	1936-2025	63.2	137.0	46	5
VRANJE	1926-2025	78.1	159.5	49	6
LESKOVAC	1925-2025	92.2	184.3	50	6
SJENICA	1925-2025	107.0	197.1	54	6
KRUSEVAC	1925-2025	96.8	184.3	53	8
V.GRADISTE	1926-2025	107.6	171.3	63	9

Spring precipitaiton totals for Serbia ranged from 47,7 mm in Kikinda to 227,1 mm at Kopaonik (*Figure 11*). precipitaiton sums compared to the normal ranged from 35% in Kikinda to 99% in Loznica (*Figure 12).*

Based on the percentile method, spring precipitation sums were in the following categories: dry and very dry in most of Serbia, normal category in Sombor, Novi Sad, Banatski Karlovac, Loznica, Sremska Mitrovica, Belgrade, Kragujevac and Negotin, and extremely dry at Crni Vrh, Sjenica, Cuprija, Nis and Leskovac (*Figure 13).*

Spring precipitaiton sums based on the tercile method were in the following categories: dry in most of Serbia, and within the average in Novi Sad, Loznica, Sremska Mitrovica, Belgrade and Kragujevac (*Figure 14).*

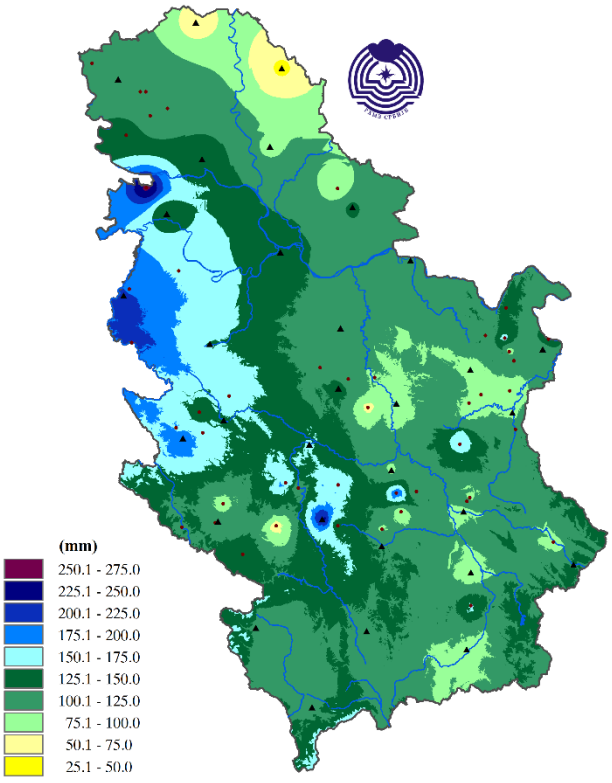


Figure 11. Spatial distribution of spring precipitation sums based on data from 28 Primary meteorological, 12 climatological and 35 rain gauge stations

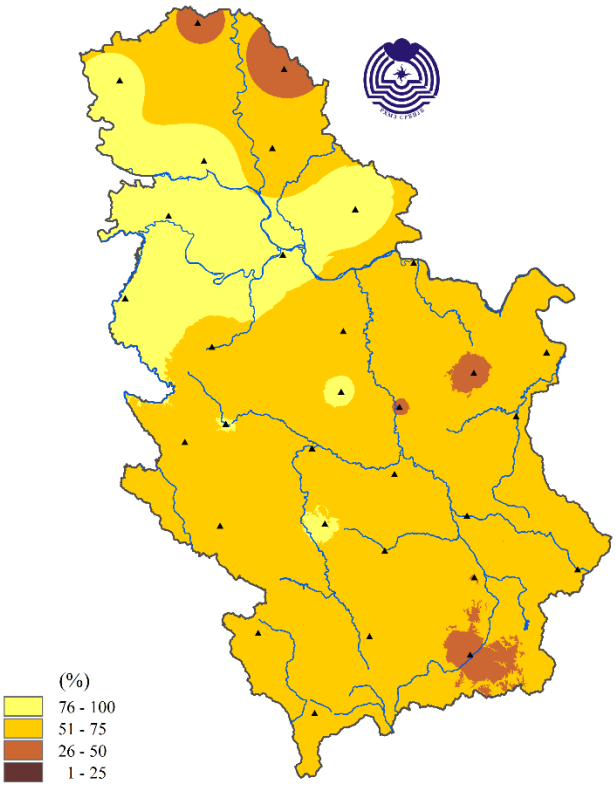


Figure 12. Spatial distribution of spring precipitation sums in percentage of normal

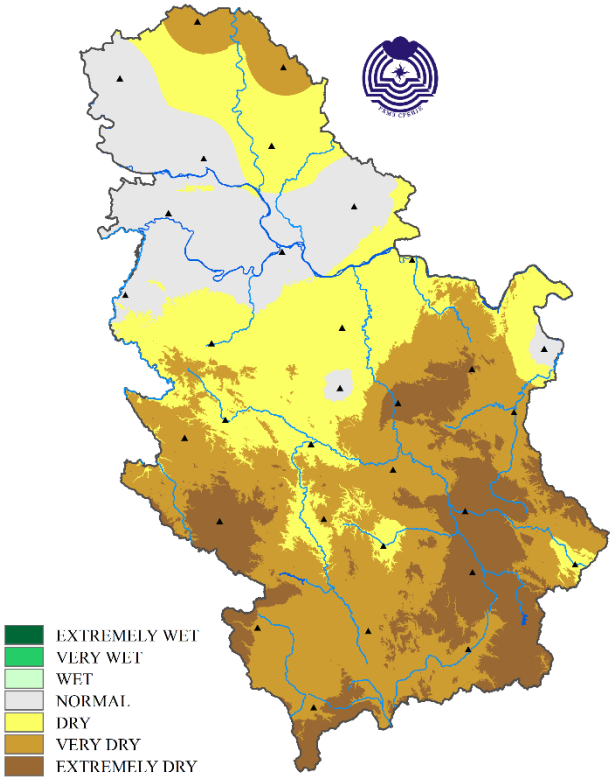


Figure 13. Spring precipitation sums according to the percentile method

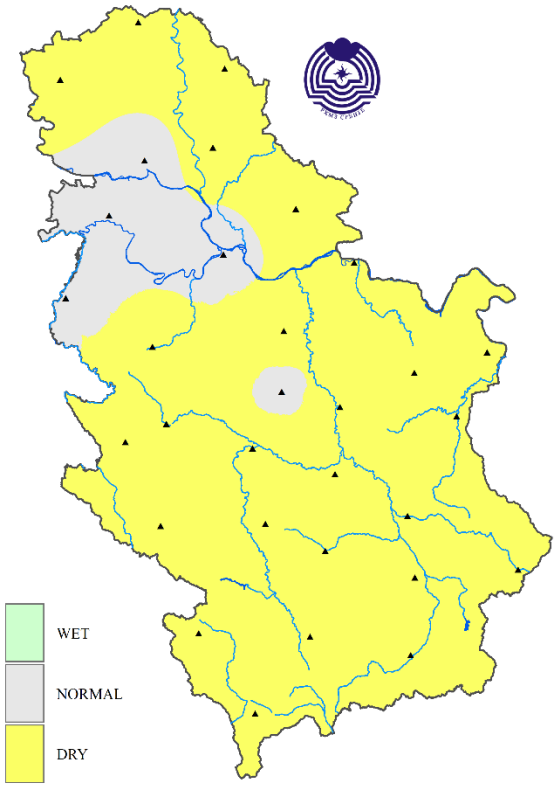


Figure 14. Spring precipitation sums according to the tercile method

The maximum daily precipitation sum of 53,4 mm was measured in Loznica on March 28. On March 29, Belgrade observed the highest daily precipitation sum of 38,2 mm.

Number of days with precipitation during spring ranged from 17 days in Banatski Karlovac, Veliko Gradiste and Negotin to 47 days at Kopaonik. The recorded number of days with precipitation was below the average, up to 4 days below at Kopaonik and up to 22 days below the average at Crni Vrh (*Figure 15).*

Record low number of days with precipitation was recorded in Banatski Karlovac, Belgrade, Palic, Crni Vrh and Zlatibor (*Table 4).*

Table 4. The exceeded minimum number of days with precipitation

MMS	Work period	Number of days RR>=0.1 spring 2026	Exceeded minimum number of days RR>=0.1 entire series	Year RR>=0.1
B.KARLOVAC	1986-2025	**17**	22	1992
PALIC	1936-2025	18	20	1943
BELGRADE	1888-2025	19	22	1918/2007
CRNI VRH	1967-2025	24	28	1992
ZLATIBOR	1951-2025	**29**	34	1969

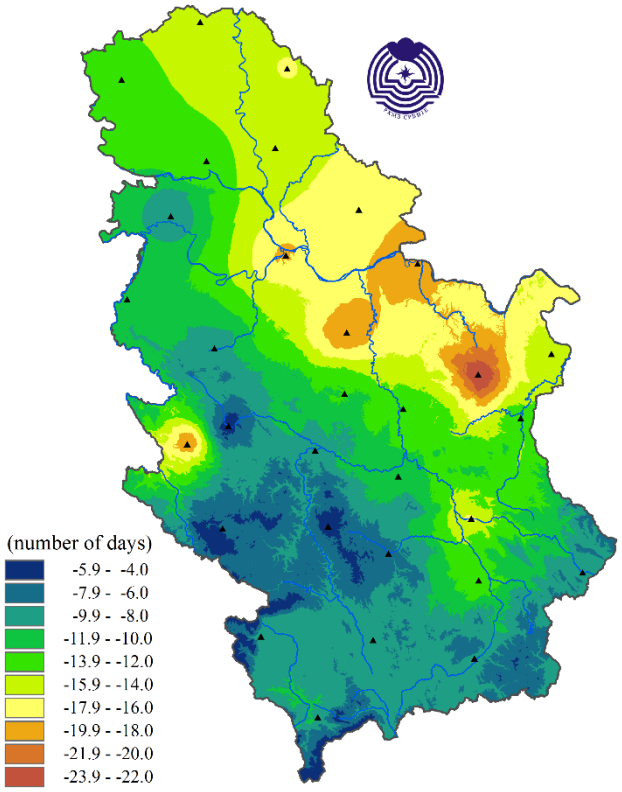


Figure 15. Deviation of number of days with precipitation of 0.1 mm and more from the normal

As for the lowland in spring, 1 day with snow cover was registered in Pozega which is 3 to 6 days below the spring average. In the hilly-mountainous regions number of days with snow cover ranged from 4 in Sjenica to 54 at Kopaonik, which is the average for Kopaonik, as for the other stations, it was 9 to 16 days below the spring average.

The maximum snow cover depth of 83 cm was recorded at Kopaonik on April 3. In Pozega, the snow cover depth of 2 cm was recorded on March 29.

Figures 16 and 17 show cumulative spring precipitation sums for Belgrade and Kopaonik.

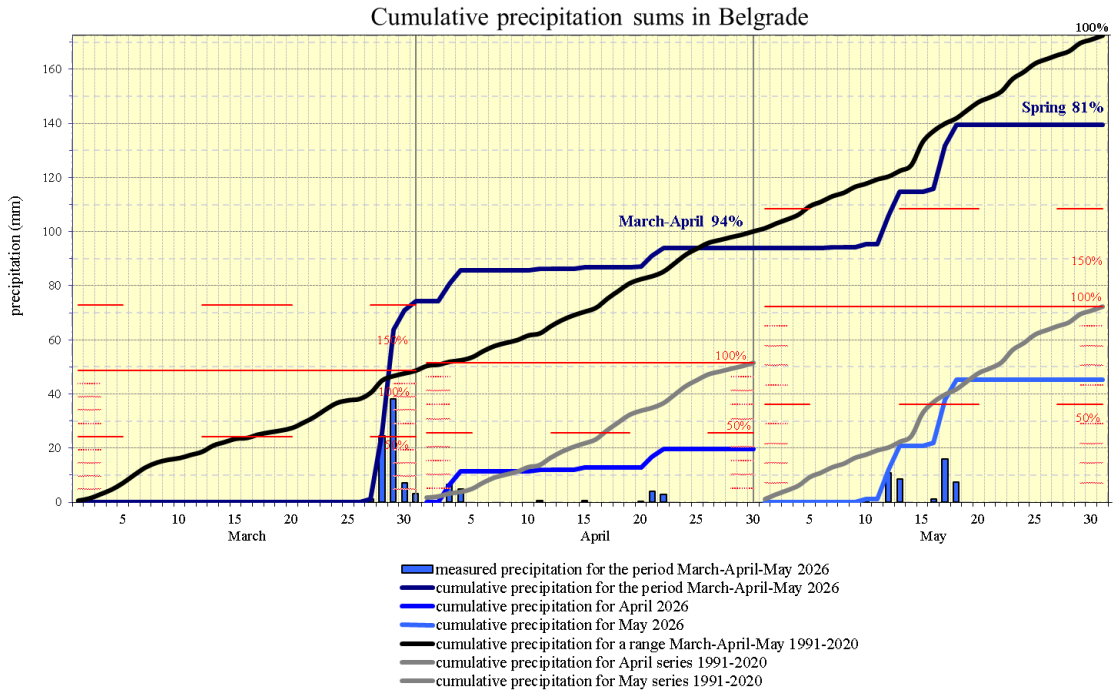


Figure 16. Daily and cumulative precipitation sums in Belgrade

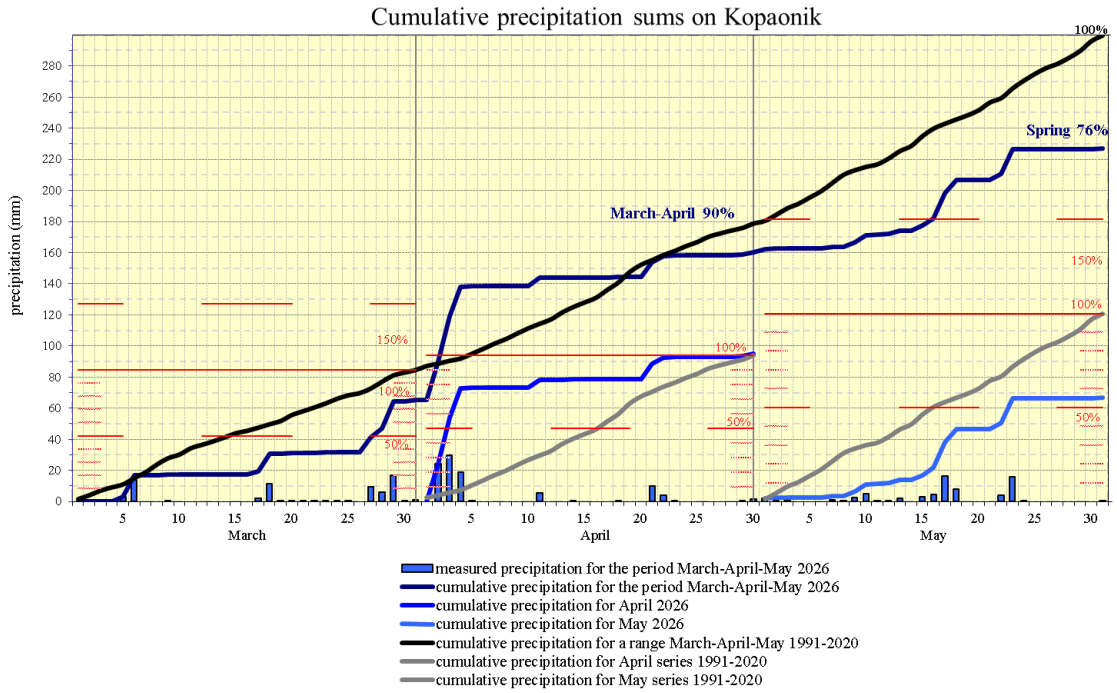


Figure 17. Daily and cumulative precipitation sums on Kopaonik

Sunshine duration (insolation)

Spring sunshine duration ranged from 535,0 hours in Sjenica to 827,8 hours in Kikinda (*Figure 18*).

Compared to the normal for the 1991-2020 base period, spring insolation ranged from 105% at Zlatibor to 135% in Pozega (*Figure 19*).

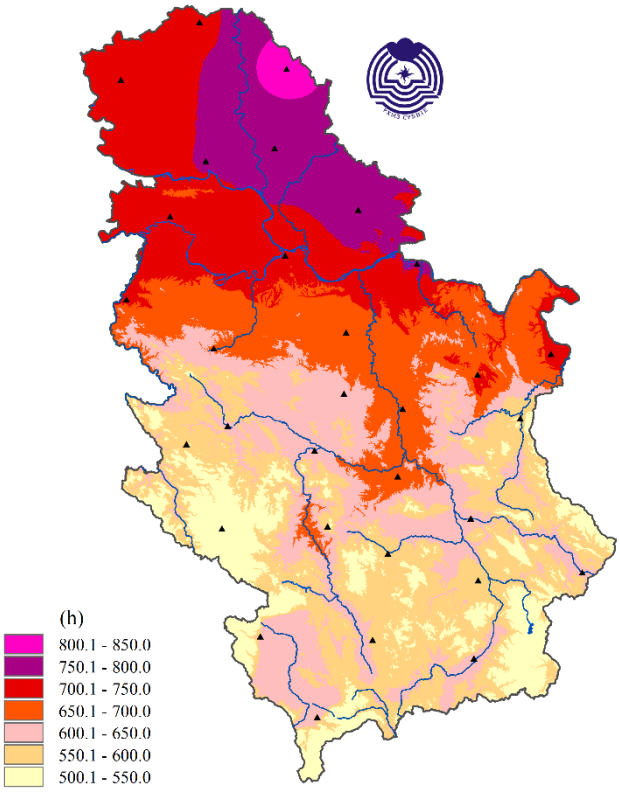


Figure 18. Insolation in hours

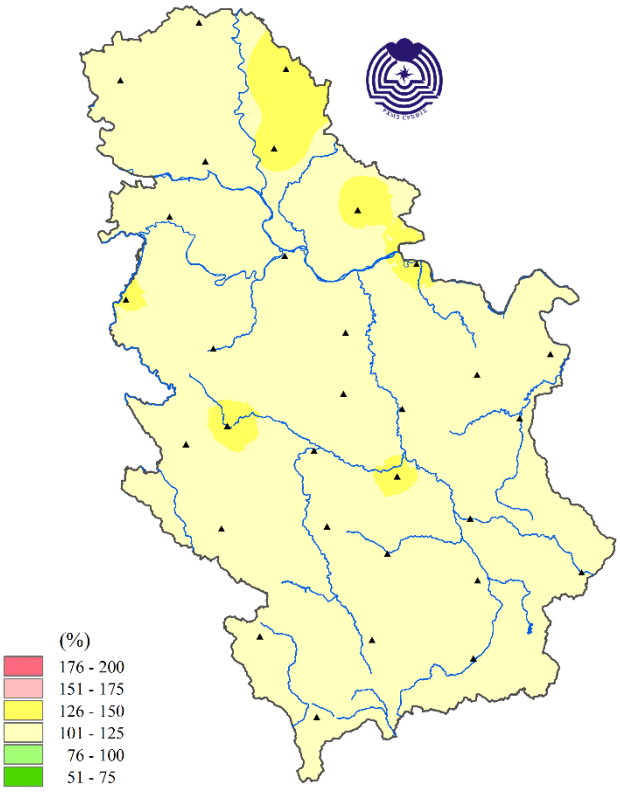


Figure 19. Insolation in percentage of normal

Analysis of the spring season 2026 for Serbia compared to the 1961-1990 base period

Temperature

Departure of the mean air temperature from the normal, in spring, for the 1961-1990 base period ranged from +0,6 ºC in Leskovcu to +2,2 ºC in Belgrade, and on the mountains from +1,2 ºC at Crni Vrh to +1,8 ºC at Kopaonik (*Figure 20*).

Based on the percentile method, mean spring air temperature was in the following categories: warm and very warm in most of Serbia, extremely warm on Palic, Sombor, Novi Sad, Loznica, Valjevo, Belgrade and Negotin, and normal in Leskovac and Dimitrovgrad (*Figure 21).*

Based on the tercile method, mean spring air temperature was in the warm category across entire Serbia.

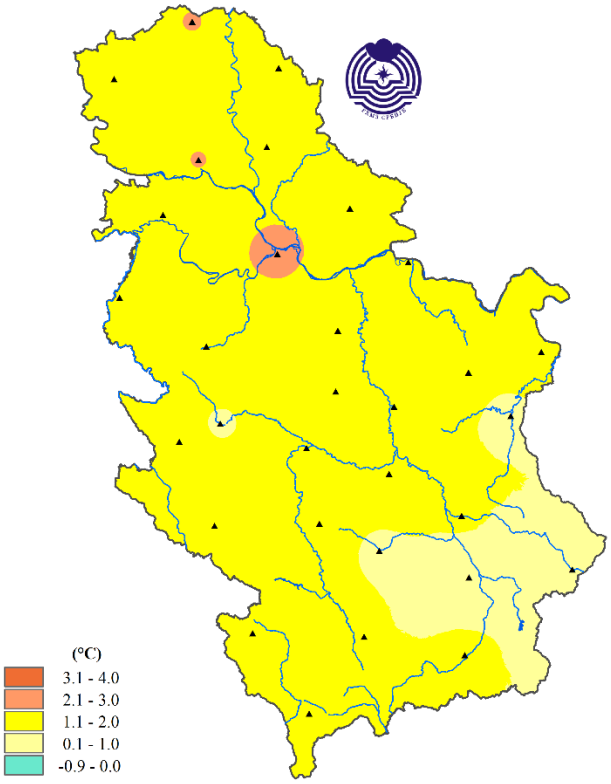


Figure 20. Spatial distribution of mean spring air temperature anomaly from the 1961-1990 normal

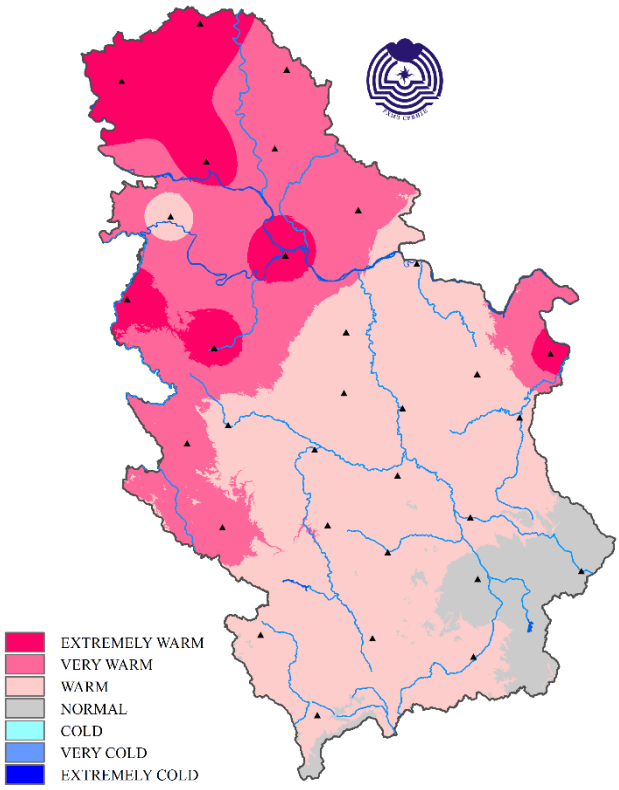


Figure 21. Spatial distribution of mean spring air temperature according to the percentile method

Precipitation

Spring precipitation sums compared to the normal for the 1961-1990 base period ranged from 36% in Kikinda to 104% in Loznica (*Figure 22*).

Based on the percentile method, spring precipitation sums were in the following categories: dry and very dry in most of Serbia, extremely dry on Palic, Crni Vrh, Kikinda and Vranje, and normal category in Novi Sad, Banatski Karlovac, Loznica, Sremska Mitrovica, Kragujevac and Kopaonik (*Figure 23).*

Based on the tercile method, precipitation sums were in the dry category in most of Serbia, normal category in Novi, Sad, Loznica, Sremska Mitrovica, Kragujevac and Kopaonik.

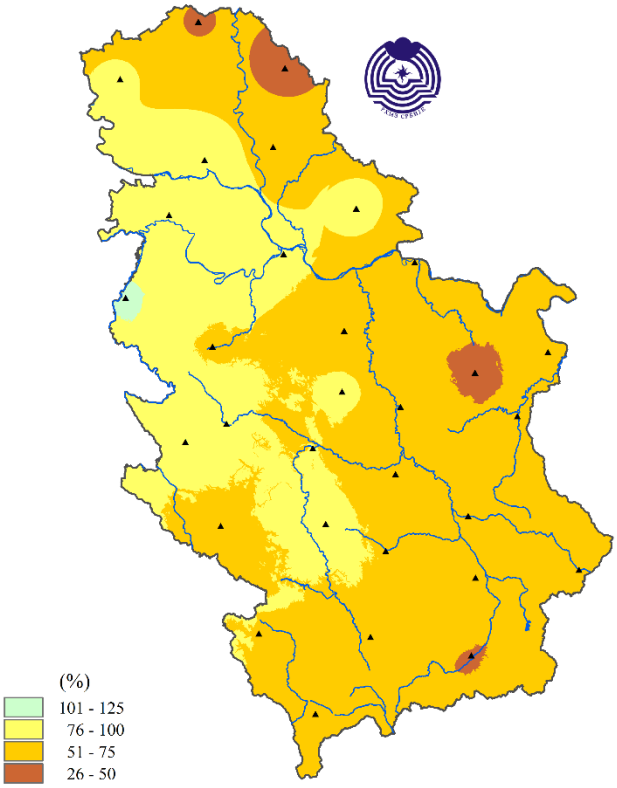


Figure 22. Spatial distribution of spring precipitation sums in percentage of the 1961-1990 normal

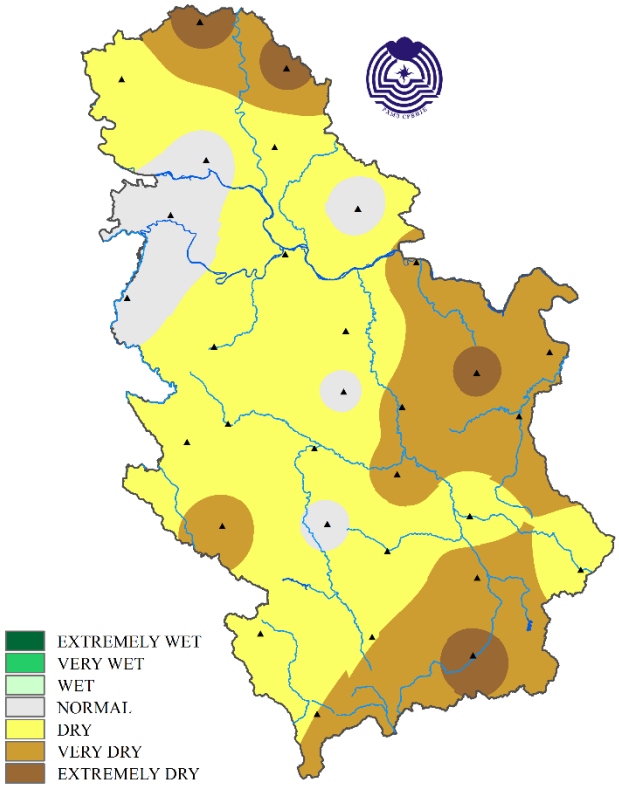
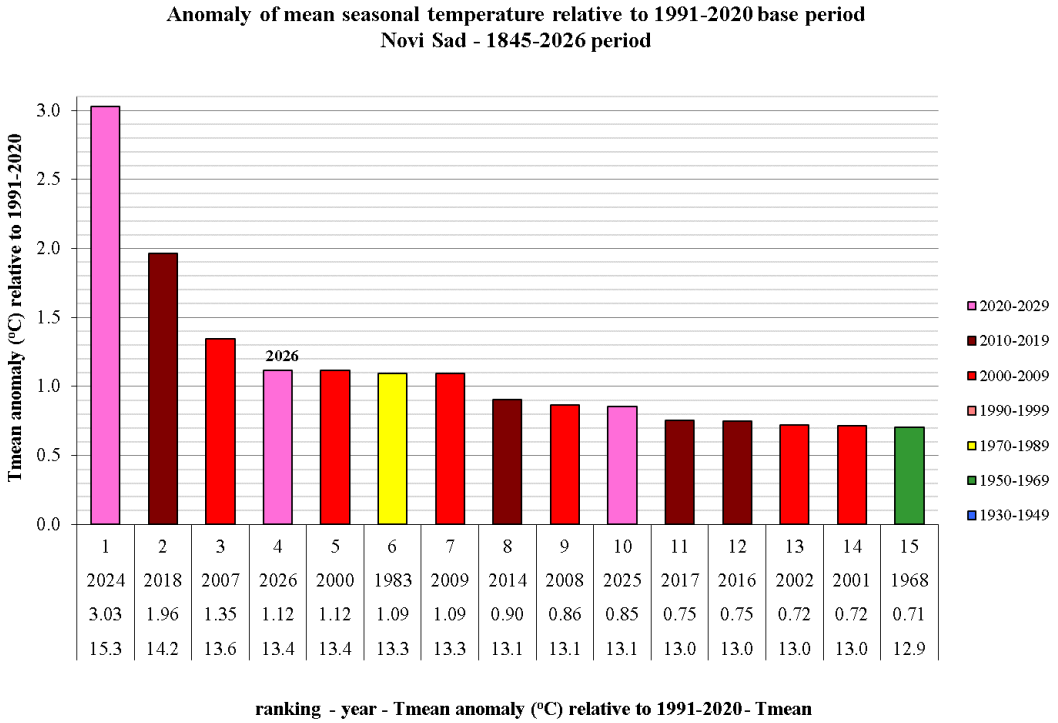


Figure 23. Spring precipitation sums according to the percentile method

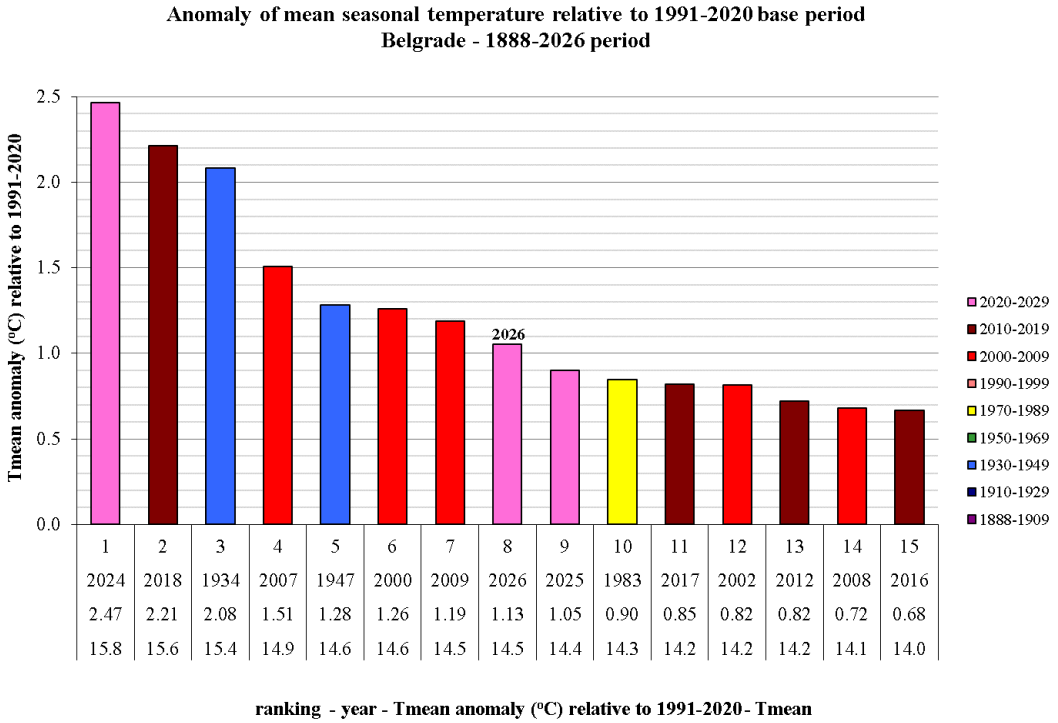
Note: Climatological analysis of the meteorological elements based on the preliminary data obtained from the 28 Primary meteorological stations

APPENDIX

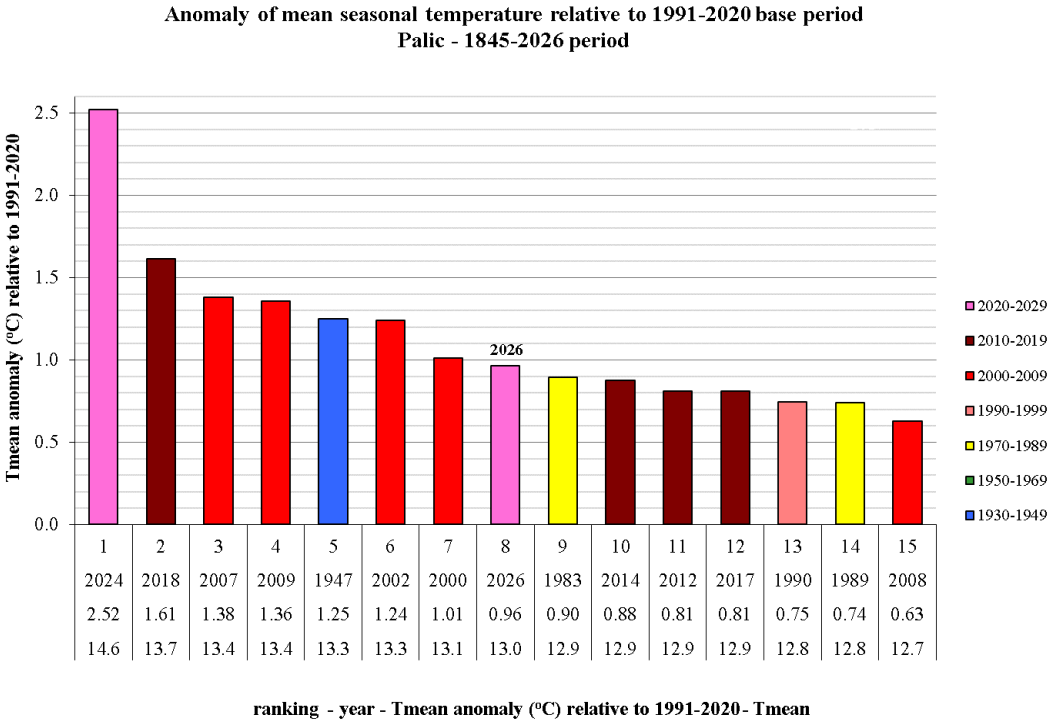
Ranks of the warmest Spring



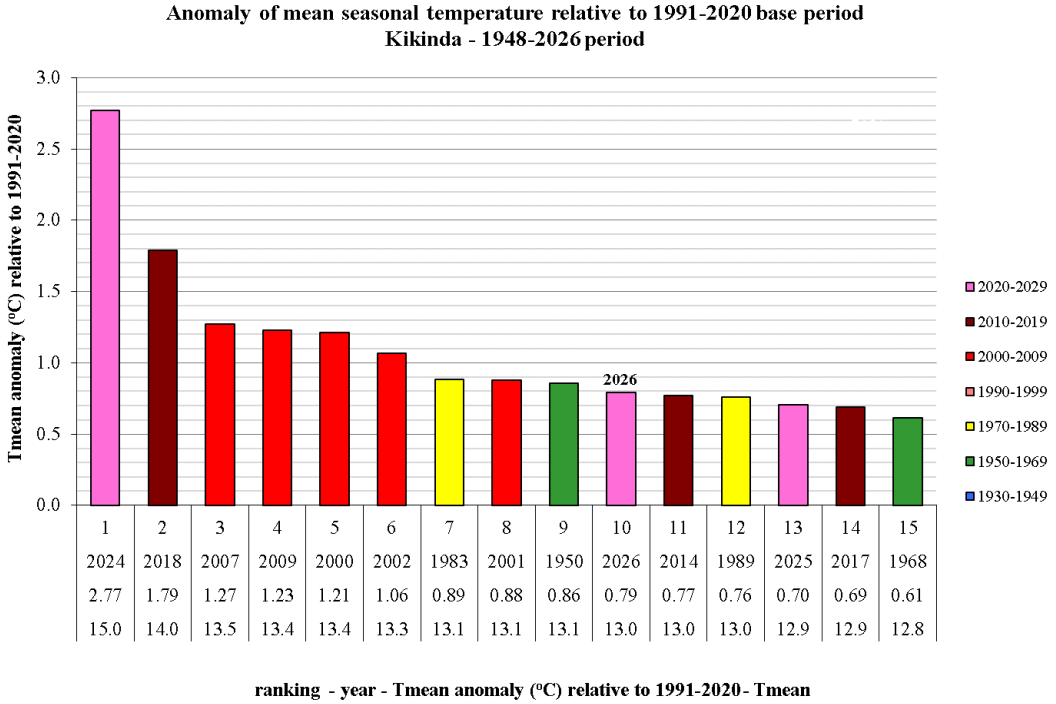
Appendix 1. Rank of the warmest Spring in Novi Sad



Appendix 2. Rank of the warmest Spring in Belgrade

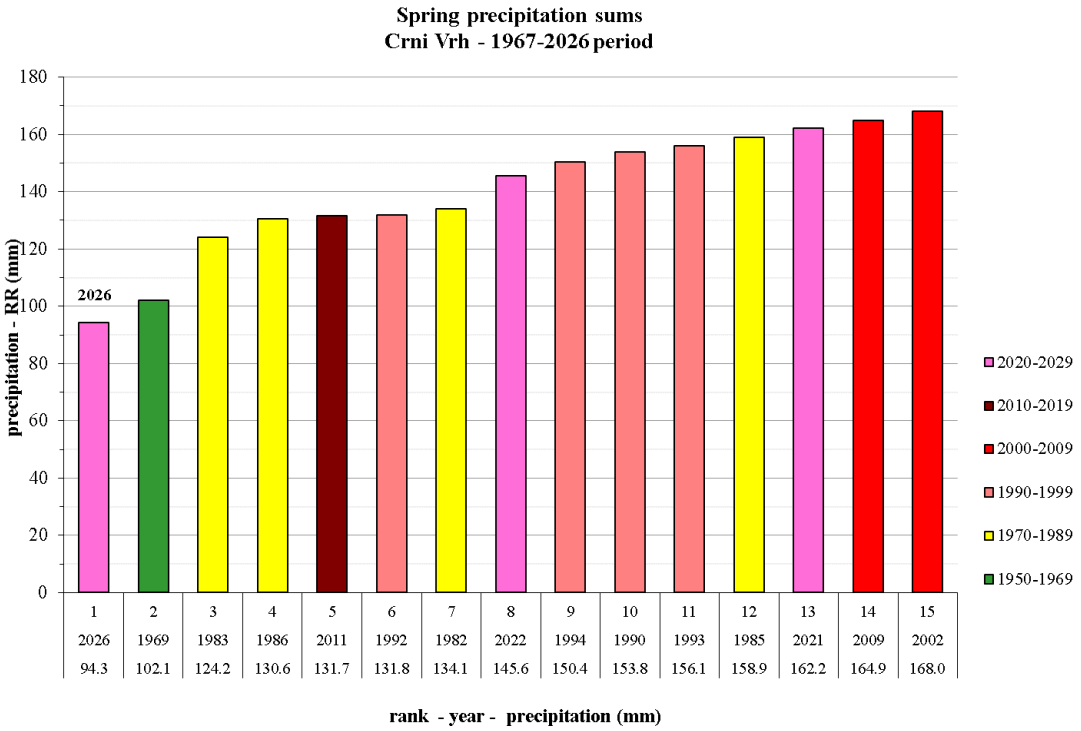


Appendix 3. Rank of the warmest Spring on Palic

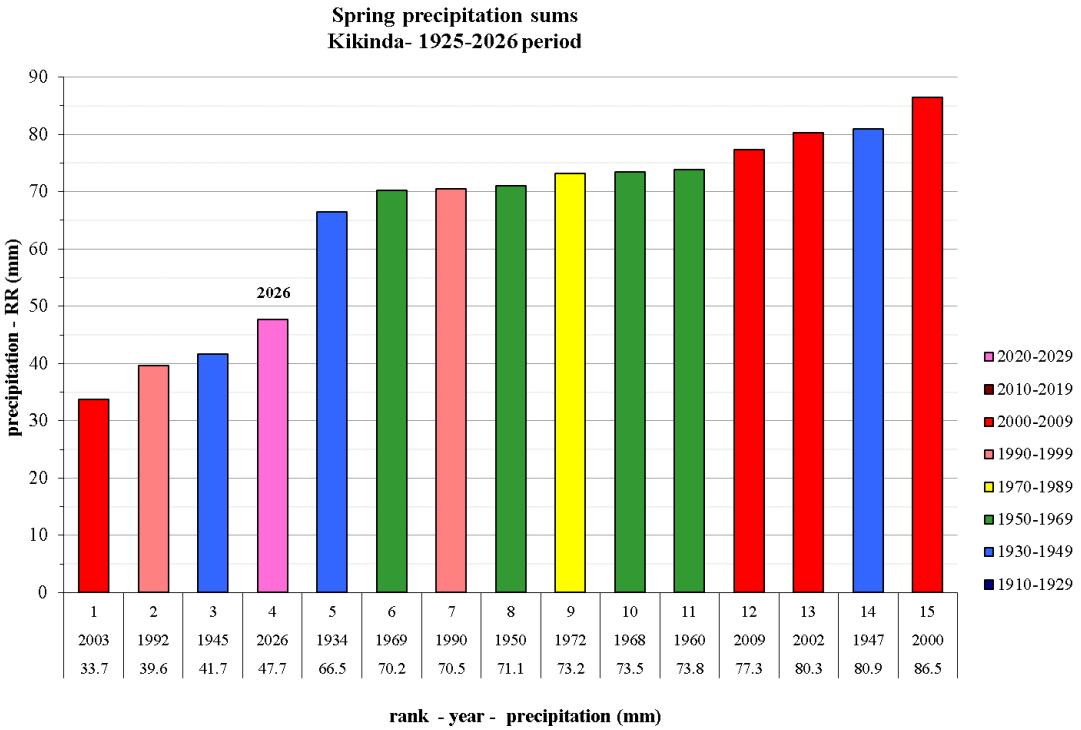


Appendix 4. Rank of the warmest Spring in Kikinda

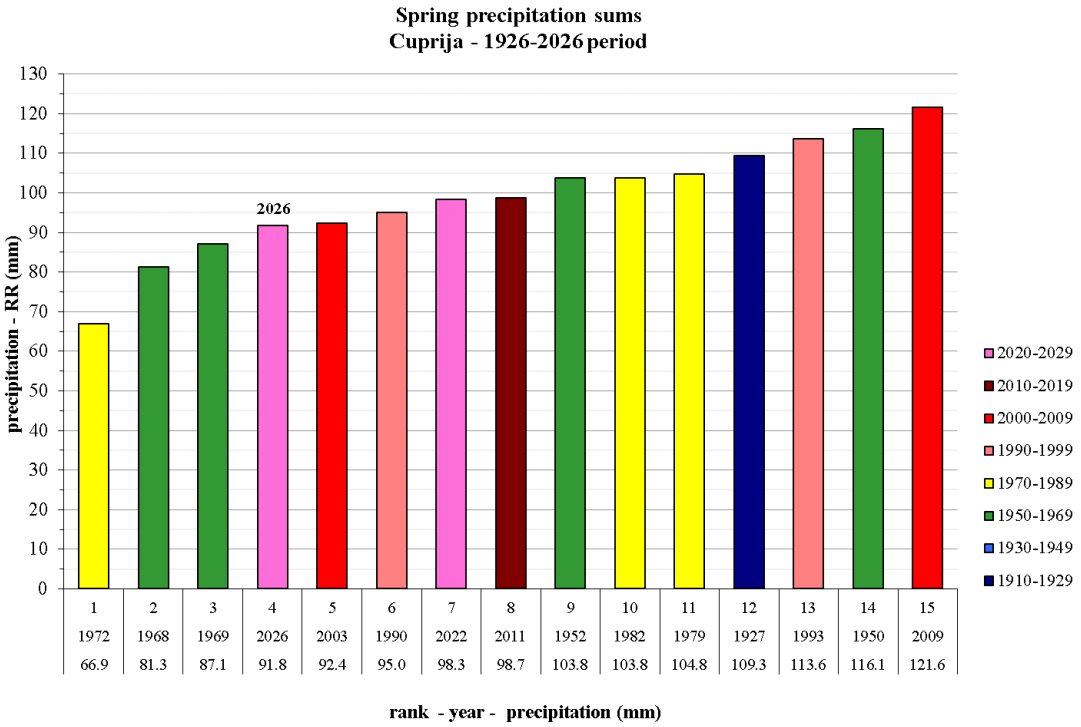
Ranks of the lowest precipitation in Spring



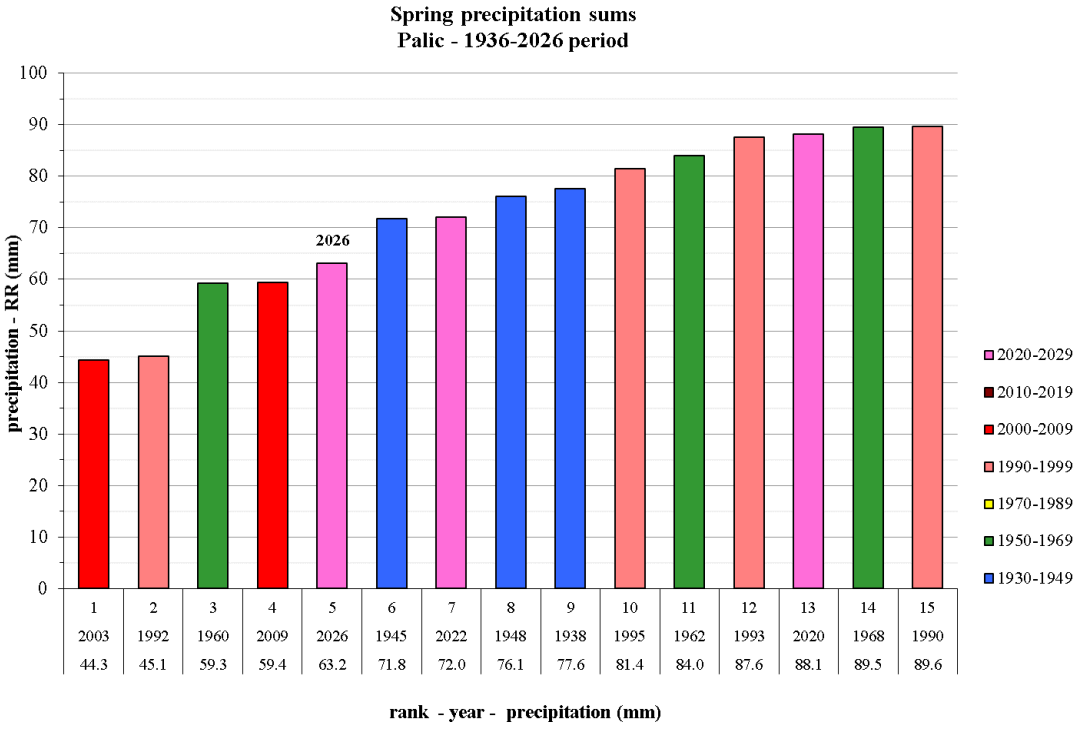
Appendix 5. Rank of the lowest precipitation on Crni Vrh



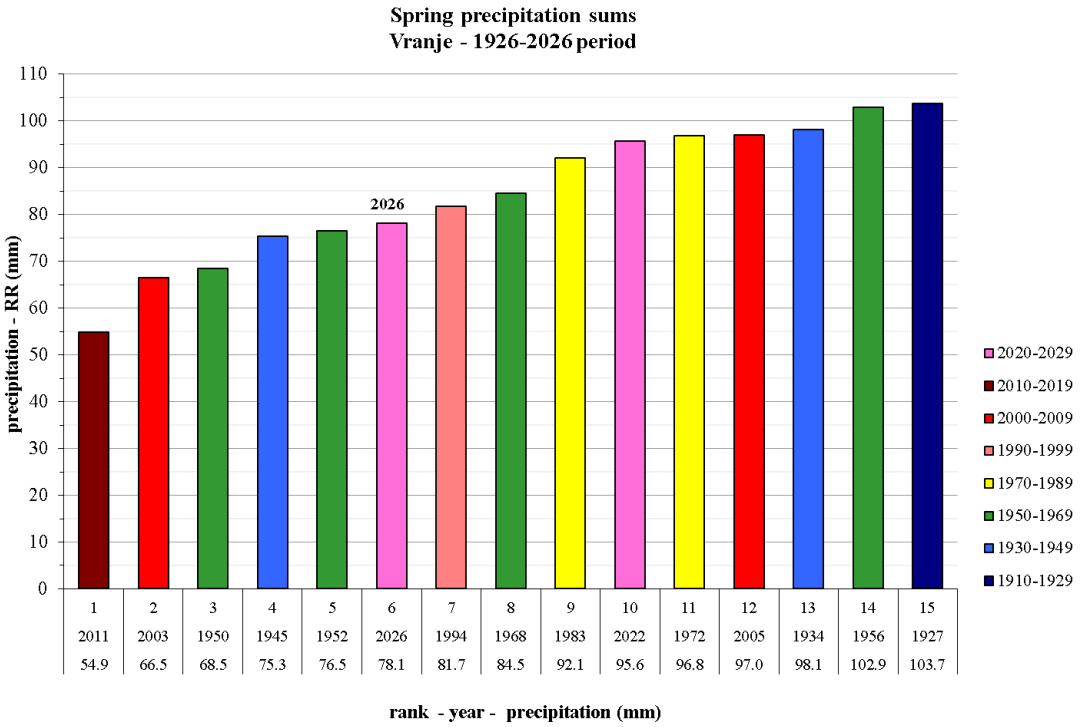
Appendix 6. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Kikinda



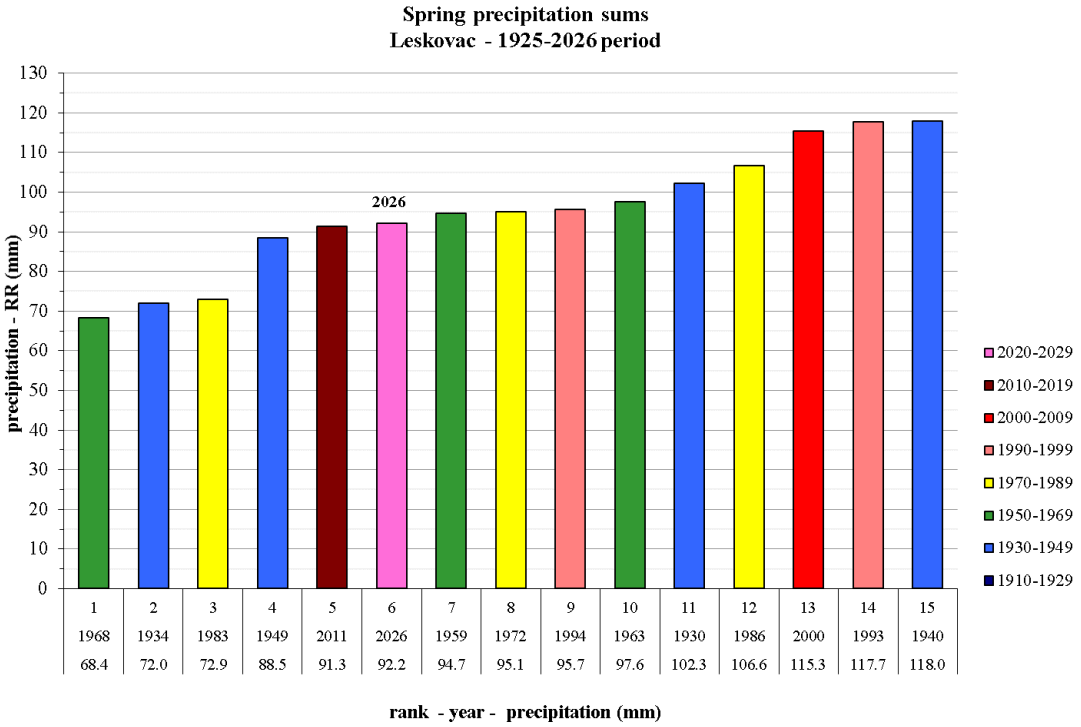
Appendix 7. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Cuprija



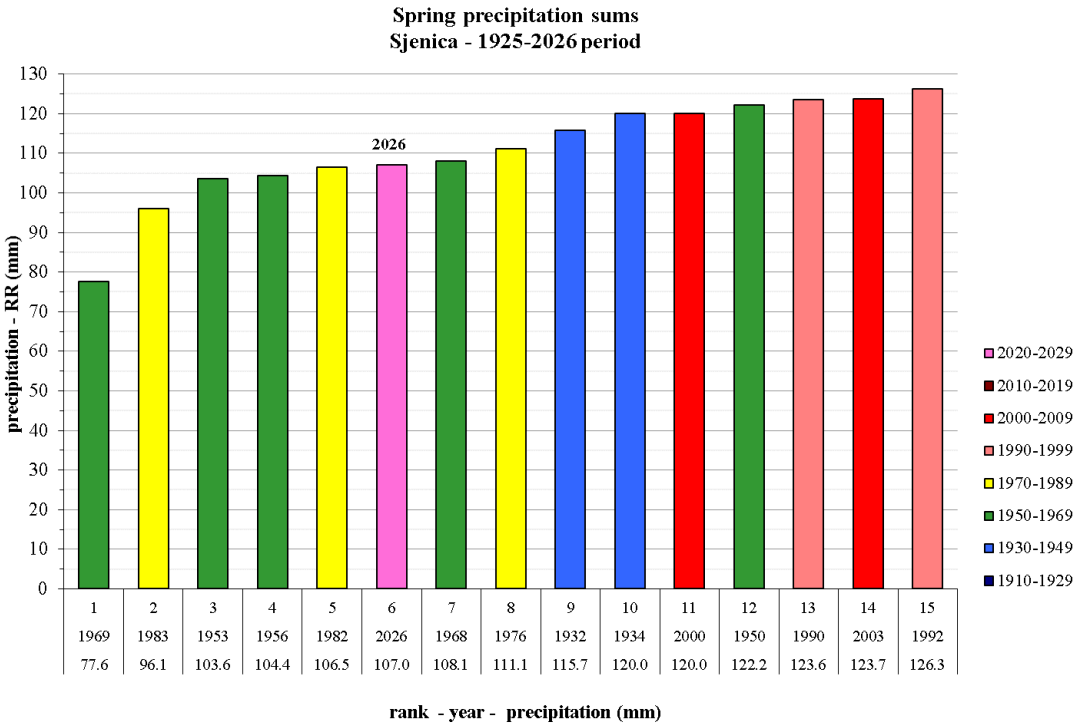
Appendix 8. Rank of the lowest precipitation on Palic



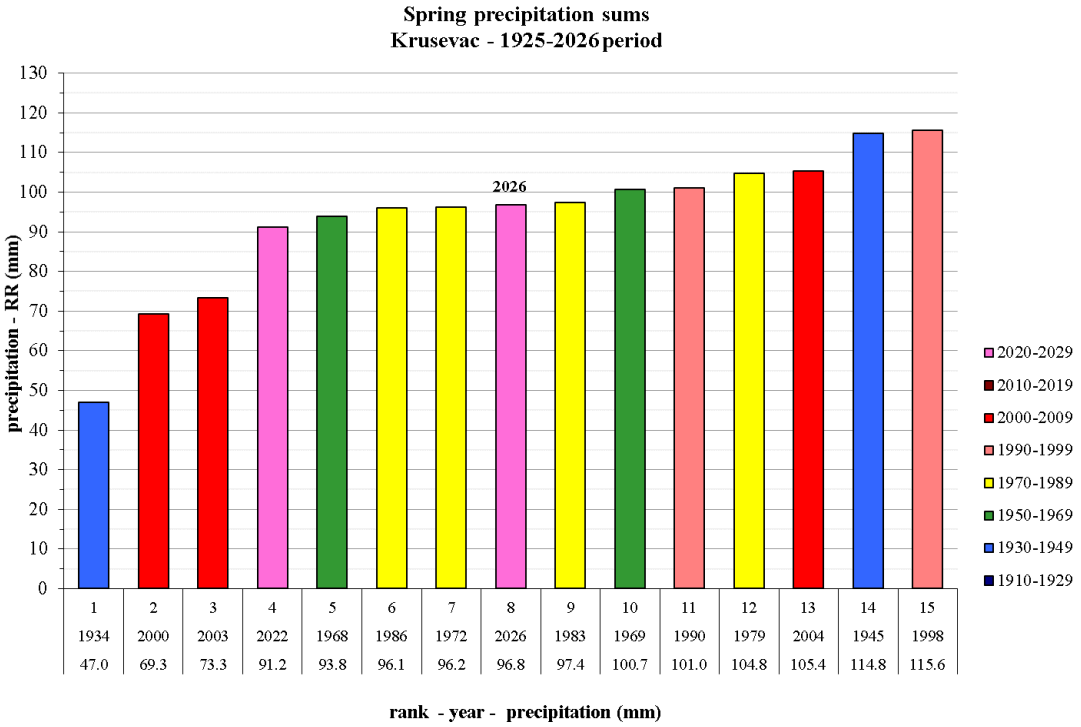
Appendix 9. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Vranje



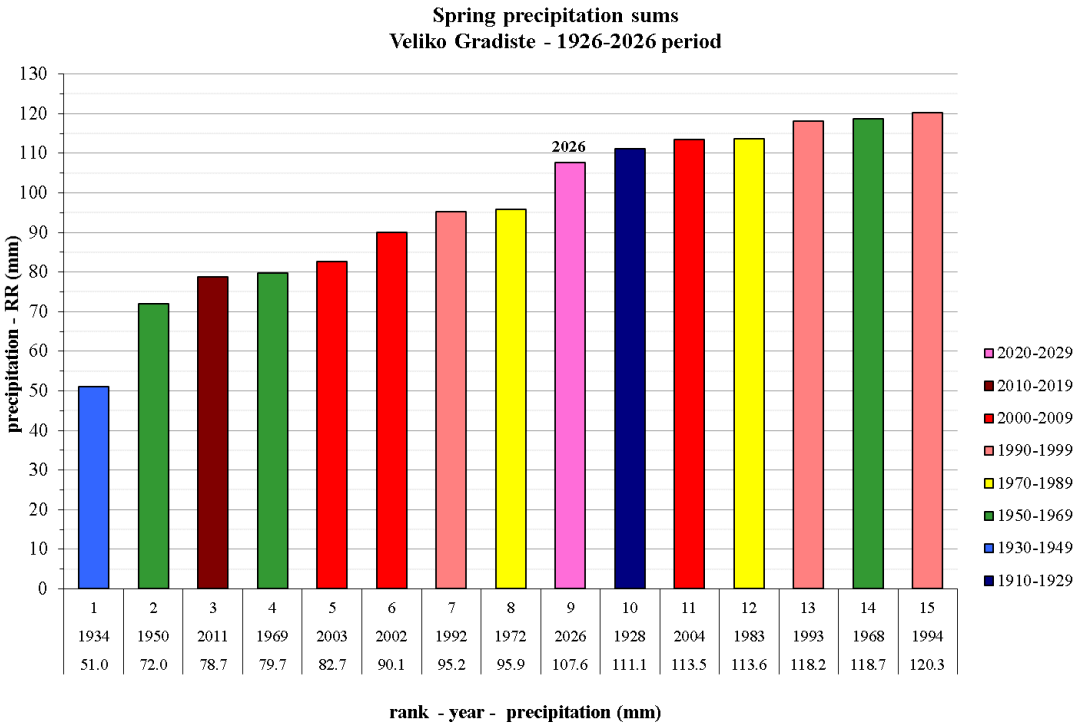
Appendix 10. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Leskovac



Appendix 11. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Sjenica



Appendix 12. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Krusevac



rank	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
year	1934	1950	2011	1969	2003	2002	1992	1972	2026	1928	2004	1983	1993	1968	1994
precipitation (mm)	51.0	72.0	78.7	79.7	82.7	90.1	95.2	95.9	107.6	111.1	113.5	113.6	118.2	118.7	120.3

Appendix 13. Rank of the lowest precipitation in Veliko Gradiste