

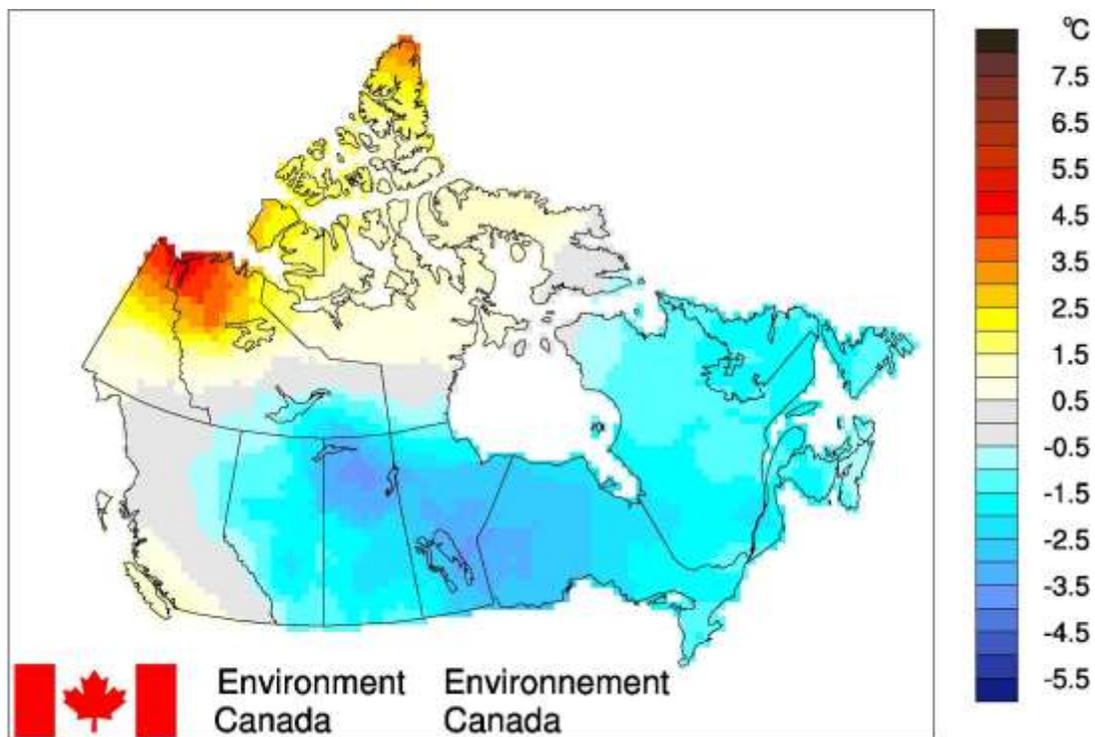
## Climate Trends and Variations Bulletin – Spring 2014

This bulletin summarizes recent climate data and presents it in a historical context. It first examines the national temperature, and then highlights interesting regional temperature information. Precipitation is examined in the same manner.

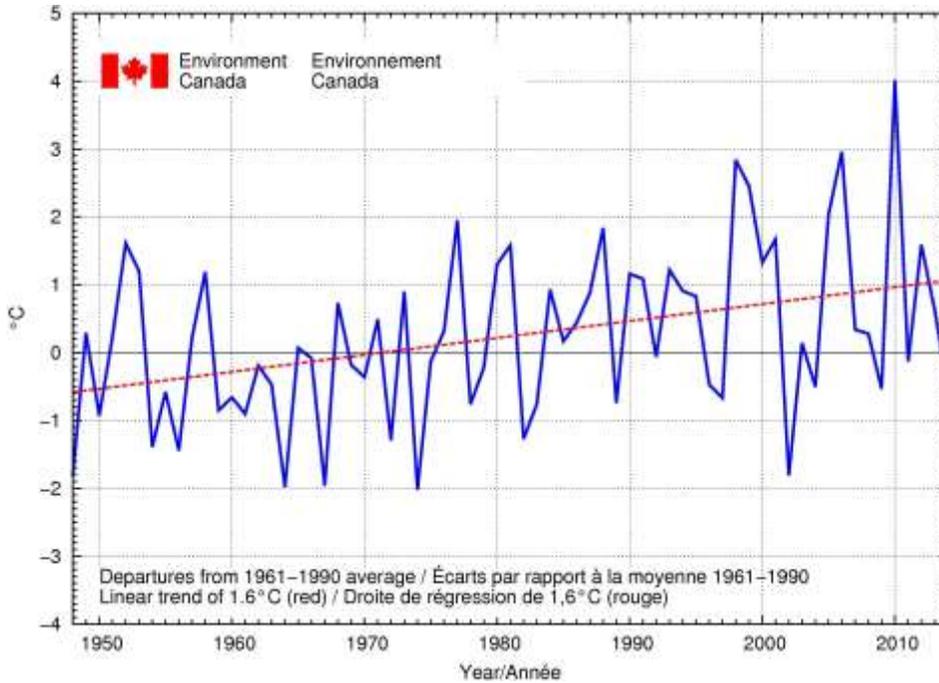
### National Temperature

The national average temperature for the spring of 2014 was 0.5°C below the baseline average (defined as the mean over the 1961–1990 reference period), based on preliminary data, which is the 19th coldest observed since nationwide recording began in 1948. The warmest spring on record was 2010, when the national average temperature was 4.0°C above the baseline average. The coldest spring occurred in 1974, when the national average temperature was 2.0°C below the baseline average. The temperature departures map for the spring of 2014 (below) shows that most of Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic regions experienced temperatures below the baseline average. Above-average temperatures were recorded in the northern regions of Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

### Temperature Departures from the 1961-1990 Average – Spring 2014

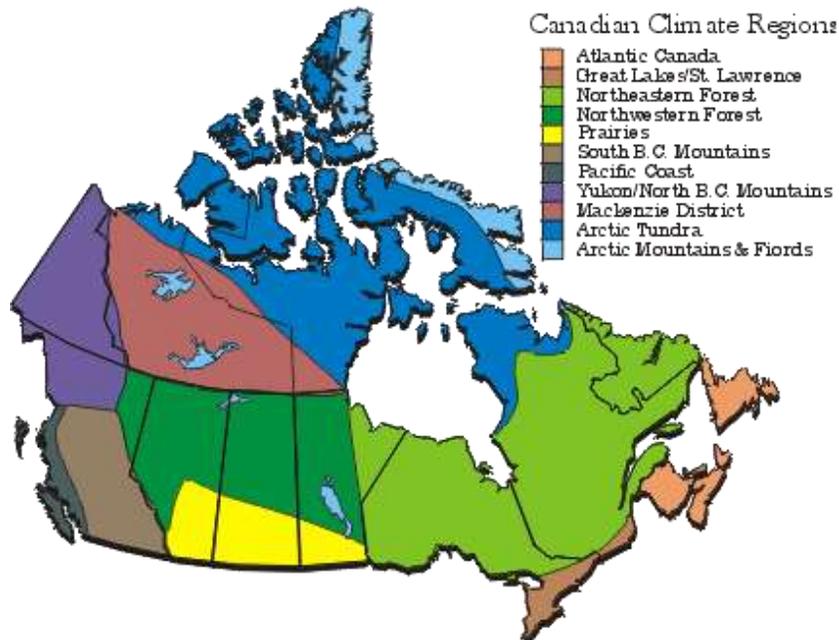


# Spring National Temperature Departures and Long-term Trend, 1948–2014



## Regional Temperature

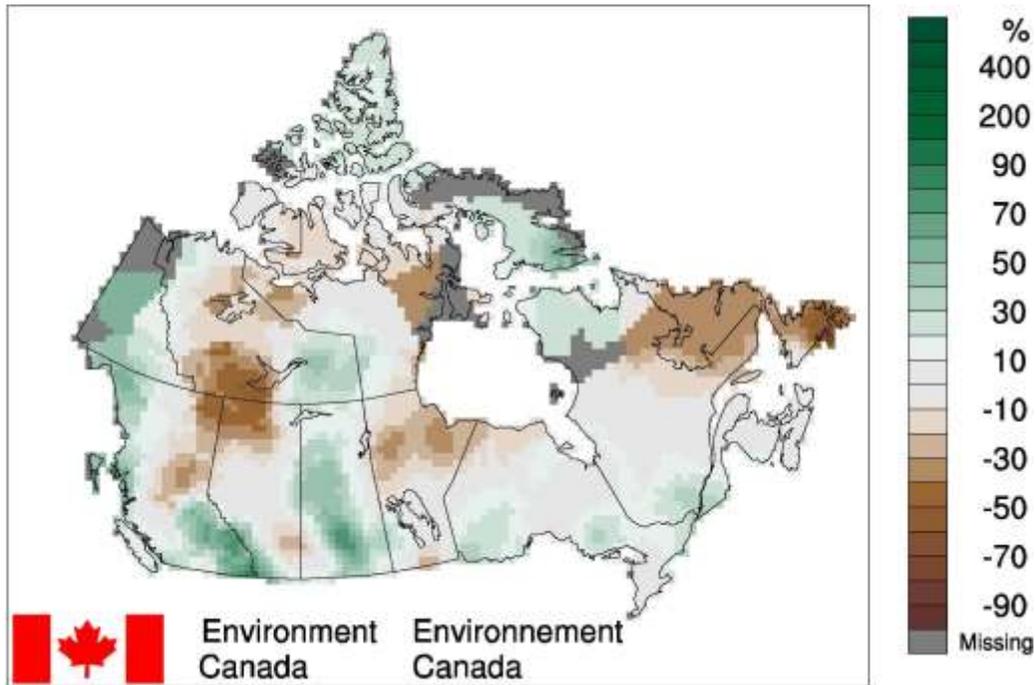
When examined on a regional basis, average spring temperatures for 2014 were among the 10 coldest on record for 4 of the 11 climate regions: the Northwestern Forest (9th coldest at 2.2°C below the baseline average), the Northeastern Forest (4th coldest at 1.9°C below average), the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Lowlands (7th coldest at 1.5°C below average) and Atlantic Canada (7th coldest at 1.3°C below average). None of the regions experienced average spring temperature for 2014 among the 10 warmest. All 11 climate regions exhibit positive trends in spring temperatures over the 67 years of record. The strongest trend is observed in the Mackenzie District (2.4°C) while the weakest trend (1.0°C) is observed for both the Arctic Mountains and Fjords and Atlantic Canada regions. A table listing the regional and national spring temperature departures and rankings from 1948 to 2014 and a table that summarizes regional and national trends and extremes are available on request to [CTVB@ec.gc.ca](mailto:CTVB@ec.gc.ca).



## National Precipitation

The national average precipitation for the spring of 2014 was 4% above the baseline average, based on preliminary data, making it the 22nd wettest spring since nationwide recording began in 1948. Over the period of record, the wettest spring was 2012 (22% above average) and the driest was 1956 (27% below average). The precipitation percent departure map for the spring of 2014 (below) shows overall conditions near the baseline average.

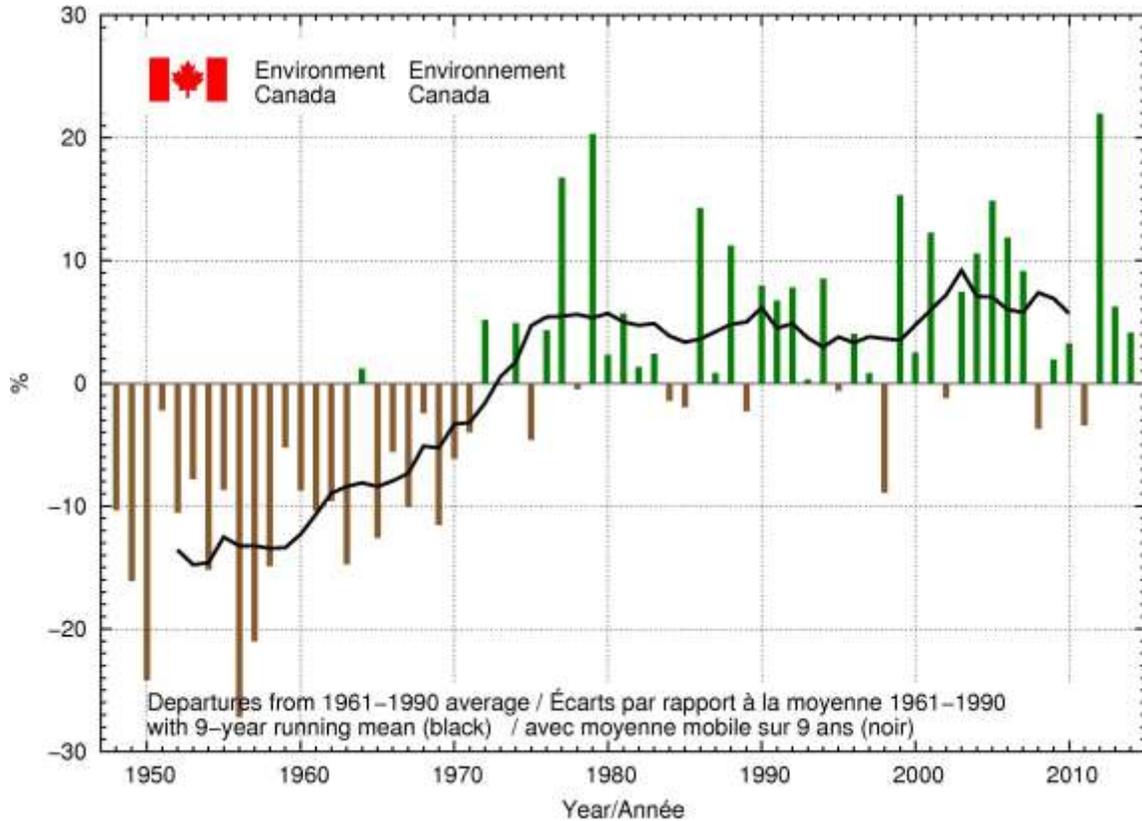
## Precipitation Departures from the 1961-1990 Average – Spring 2014



It should be noted that "average" precipitation in northern Canada is generally much less than it is in southern Canada, and hence a percent departure in the north represents much less precipitation than the same percentage in the south. The national precipitation rankings are therefore often skewed by the northern departures and do not necessarily represent rankings for the volume of water falling on the country.

The precipitation percent departures graph below shows that, when averaged across the nation, springs have tended to be wetter than the 1961–1990 baseline average since the mid-1970s.

# Spring National Precipitation Departures with Nine-year Running Mean, 1948–2014



## Regional Precipitation

Precipitation for the spring of 2014 was among the 10 wettest recorded since 1948 in 2 of the 11 regions: the Pacific Coast (9th wettest at 24% above average) and the North B.C. Mountains/Yukon (5th wettest at 26% above average). The other regions were near the baseline average. A table listing the regional and national winter precipitation departures and rankings from 1948 to 2014 and a table that summarizes regional and national extremes are available on request to [CTVB@ec.gc.ca](mailto:CTVB@ec.gc.ca).

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