

# August 2015 Climate Summary for Southwest Lower Michigan

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## Overview

Temperatures in August 2015 were near to slightly below normal. As is often the case during summer months, rainfall due to thunderstorms varied significantly by location. Lansing recorded its third wettest August with 6.82 inches. Records go back to 1863. Lansing also recorded its wettest August day with 3.77 inches on August 10<sup>th</sup>, breaking the old record of 3.39 inches set on August 27, 2013. August 10, 2015 is now the 6th wettest calendar day on record at Lansing.

Temperatures were near normal to a little on the cool side of normal during August 2015. Highs in the upper 70s and 80s were common in the early and middle parts of the month, with a cool down during the last week of the month with highs in the 60s for a few days. Most locations reached 90 degrees one time. Muskegon and Jackson did not have a 90 degree day.

August got off to a quick start with active weather as a line of strong to severe thunderstorms moved south through Lower Michigan during the evening hours of [August 2<sup>nd</sup>](#). Though the storms produced destructive winds and baseball size hail in Northern Lower Michigan, the main effects of these storms in central to southern Michigan were 40-50 mph winds with some locally higher gusts. Locally heavy rainfall, small hail, and very frequent lightning were also common. Resulting impacts included some power outages and broken tree branches as well as a few trees that came down and caused damage.

Periods of rain with scattered thunderstorms returned to the area on [Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup>](#). Grand Rapids received 1.22 inches, but many locations did not receive significant amounts of rain. However, storms with over 1 inch per hour rainfall rates persisted near Rockford and Lansing, leading to higher totals. Areas between Portland and Lansing received 2.5 to 4.5 inches. Moderate street flooding and ponding of water was common in Lansing. Roads in some low spots had water levels approaching the roofs of cars. US-127 near Saginaw Hwy was shut down for hours due to deep floodwaters and clogged storm drains.

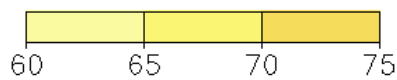
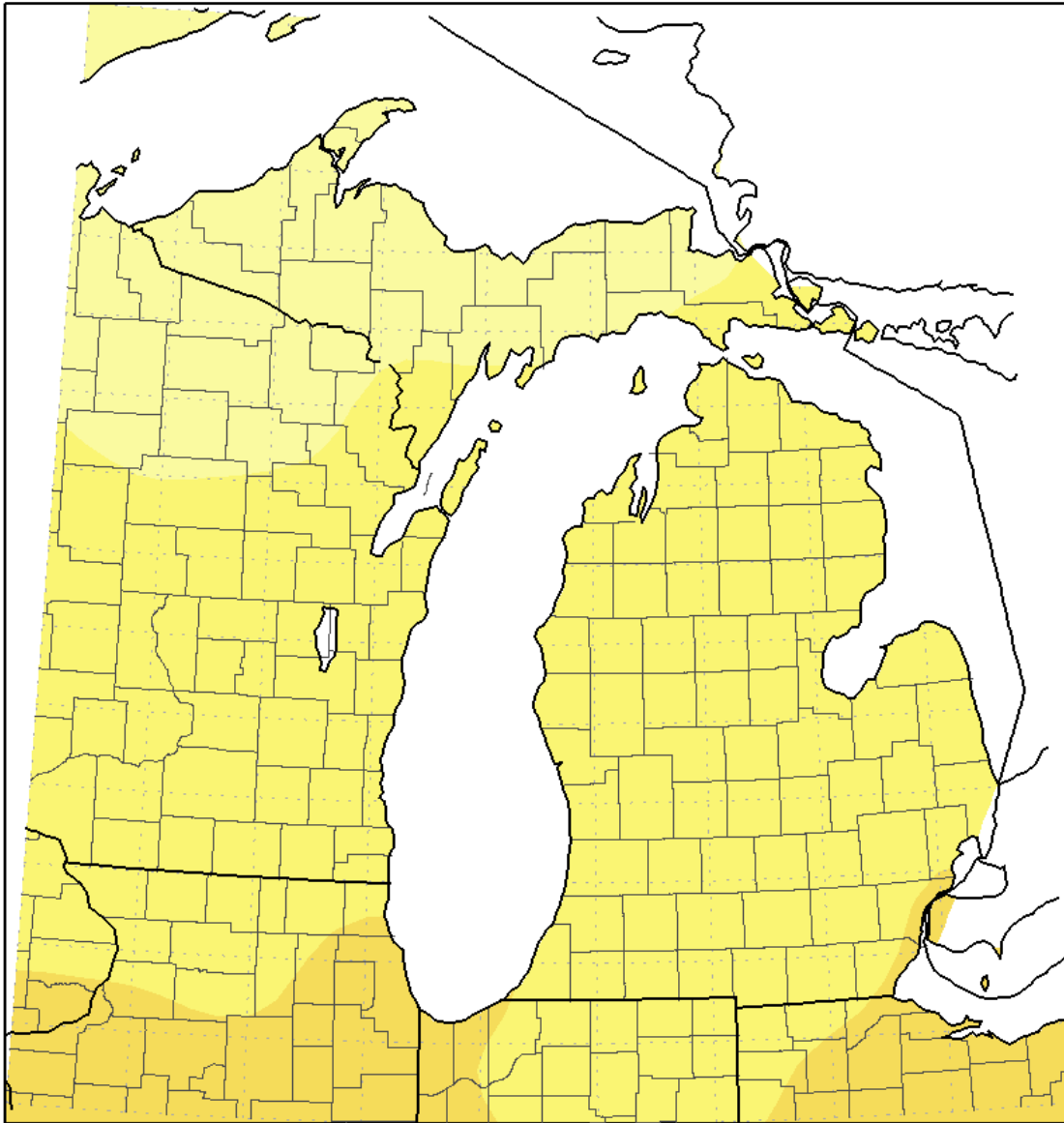
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Table 1. Reported temperature and precipitation amounts for August 2015 at the primary climate stations in Southwest Lower Michigan and departures from normal.

Location		Average Temperature (°F)	Precipitation (inches)
<b>Grand Rapids</b>	Observed	69.6	3.75
	Normal	70.8	3.59
	Above/Below Normal	-1.2	+0.16
<b>Lansing</b>	Observed	69.5	6.82
	Normal	69.8	3.23
	Above/Below Normal	-0.3	+3.59
<b>Muskegon</b>	Observed	69.8	2.35
	Normal	69.9	3.39
	Above/Below Normal	-0.1	-1.04

# August 2015 Climate Summary for Southwest Lower Michigan

Average Temperature (°F)  
August 1, 2015 to August 31, 2015

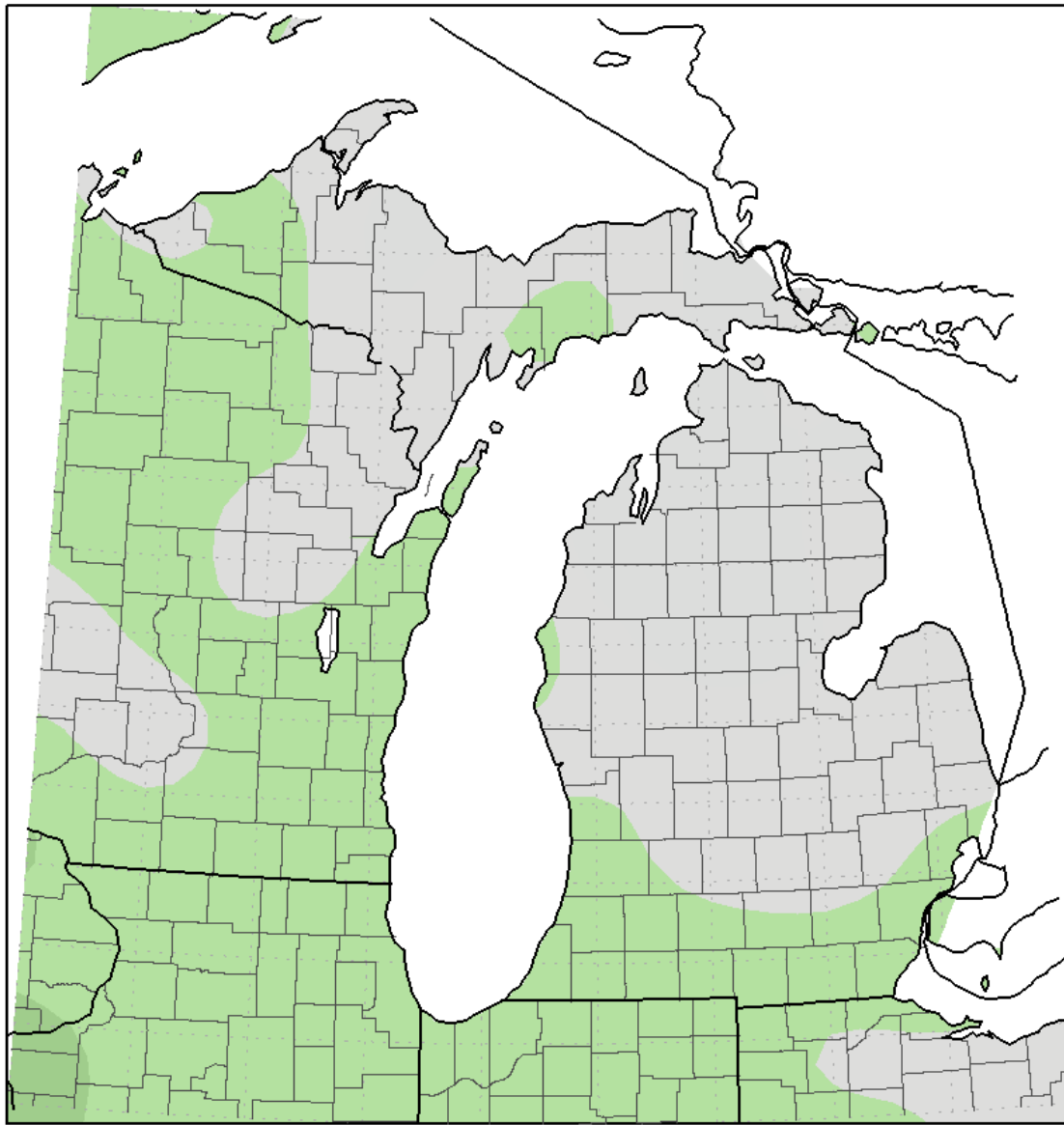


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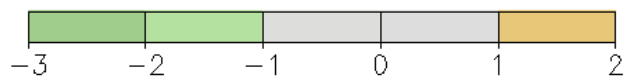
Figure 1. Average temperature (°F) for August 2015.

# August 2015 Climate Summary for Southwest Lower Michigan

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from Mean  
August 1, 2015 to August 31, 2015



Mean period is 1981-2010.

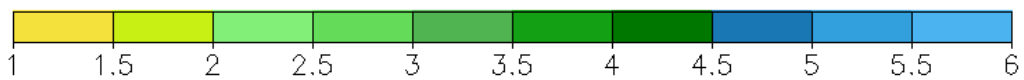
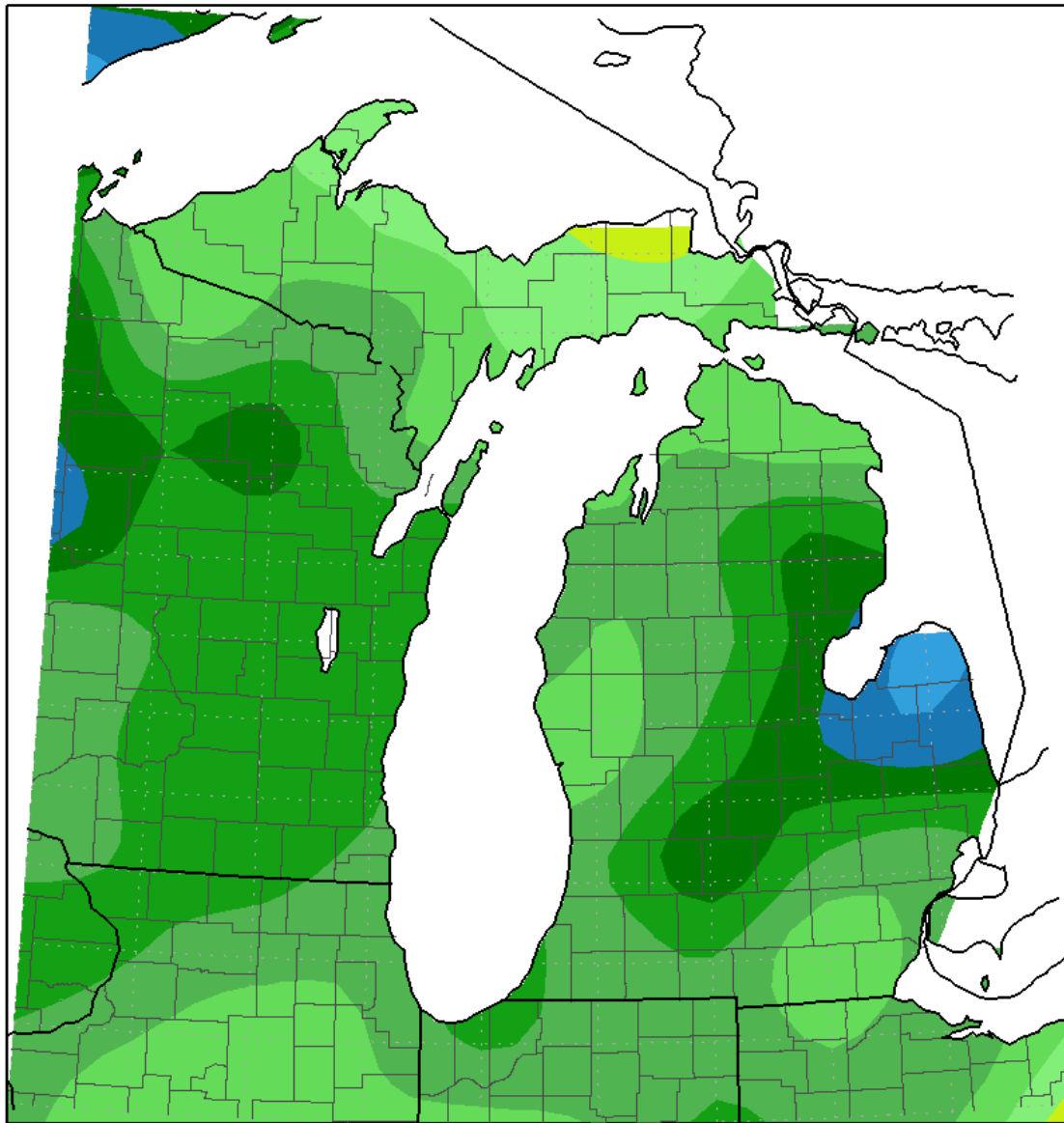


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Figure 2. Average temperature departure from normal (°F) for August 2015.

# August 2015 Climate Summary for Southwest Lower Michigan

Accumulated Precipitation (in)  
August 1, 2015 to August 31, 2015

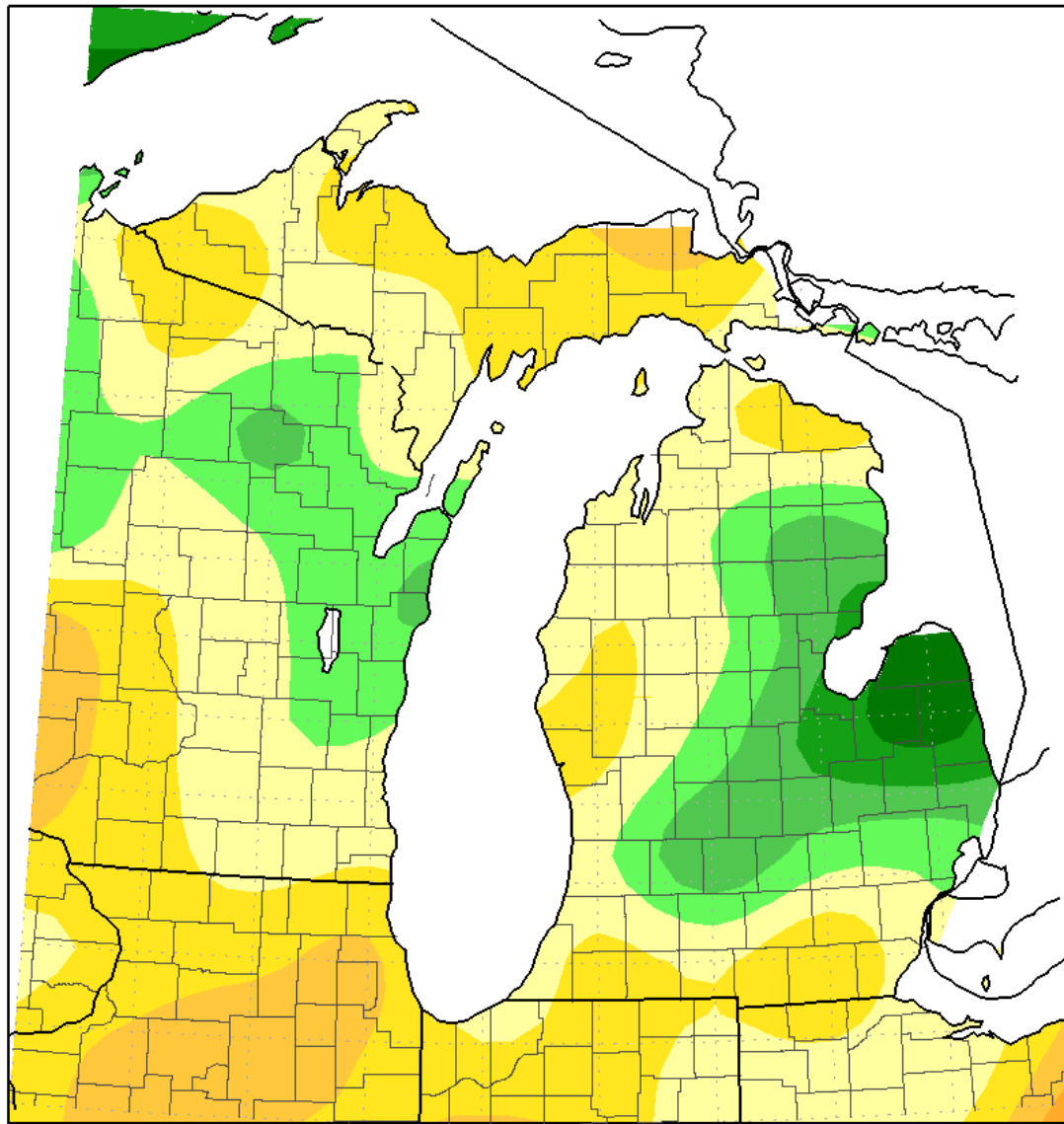


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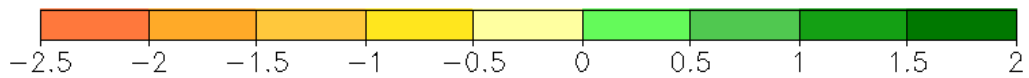
Figure 3. Total precipitation (in inches) for August 2015.

# August 2015 Climate Summary for Southwest Lower Michigan

Accumulated Precipitation (in): Departure from Mean  
August 1, 2015 to August 31, 2015



Mean period is 1981-2010.



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Figure 4. Total precipitation departure from normal (in inches) for August 2015.