

# Central Indiana

## September 2016

### Climate Summary

*Tied for 13<sup>th</sup> Warmest on record at Indianapolis*

*Tied for 27<sup>th</sup> Wettest on record at Indianapolis*

#### Temperatures

The warm and humid weather frequent through August continued into September. After a brief drop back into the 70s to start the month, temperatures rose back into the upper 80s and lower 90s from Labor Day through the 7<sup>th</sup>, which was the warmest day of the month for most of central Indiana. The passage of a front on the 9<sup>th</sup> brought a cooldown to more seasonable temperatures through the middle of the month as highs ranged from the mid 70s to lower 80s and lows fell back into the 50s. For Indianapolis, the morning of the 11<sup>th</sup> brought the coolest temperature since early July when the low fell to 55.

Beginning on the 16<sup>th</sup>, most of central Indiana experienced an extended stretch of very warm temperatures that lasted into the final weekend of the month. High temperatures were consistently in the middle and upper 80s most days through the 25<sup>th</sup> with even a few spots warming into the lower 90s from the 21<sup>st</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup>. A strong cold front tracked through the region late on the 25<sup>th</sup>, ushering in a much cooler and less humid airmass into the Ohio Valley. After two pleasant days in the 70s on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, a cutoff upper level low drifted into the area and brought showery, damp and cool weather to wrap up the month as highs remained in the 60s.

Most locations in central Indiana finished up September 3 to 6 degrees above normal. For Indianapolis, September 2016 was the warmest September since 2007.

Site	September 2016 Avg Temp	September 2016 Difference from Normal	Highest Temperature	Lowest Temperature
Indianapolis	71.3	<b>+4.4</b>	90 on 7	48 on 27
Lafayette	69.1	<b>+2.9</b>	91 on 7	45 on 27
Muncie	70.7	<b>+5.2</b>	90 on 7 and 23	53 on 27 and 28
Terre Haute	70.6	<b>+4.7</b>	91 on 6 and 7	47 on 27
Bloomington	70.5	<b>+4.9</b>	89 on 5 and 7	49 on 27
Shelbyville	71.7	<b>+6.2</b>	91 on 21 and 22	48 on 27
Indy – Eagle Crk.	71.4	<b>+4.3</b>	90 on 7	50 on 27

At Indianapolis, there were 24 days with above normal average temperatures and 2 days with below normal average temperatures and 4 days with normal average temperatures.

September 2016 was tied for the 13<sup>th</sup> warmest in the Indianapolis area since 1871.

## Precipitation

September rainfall ranged from below normal to much above normal. The driest areas were extreme northern and extreme southern Indiana and the wettest was southeast Indiana. Rainfall in central Indiana ranged from slightly below to above normal. Monthly totals measured from around an inch and a half in Gibson County in southwest Indiana to more than 8 inches in Franklin County in southeast Indiana. Most of the state received between 2 and 5 inches of rain during the month.

Precipitation frequency decreased in Indiana during September. Much of the state received little rainfall from the 1<sup>st</sup> through the 7<sup>th</sup> and from the 11<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup>. Indiana remained virtually rain-free from the 18<sup>th</sup> through the 24<sup>th</sup>. Rainfall of 2 inches or more occurred from the 8<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup>, the 16<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup>, the 26<sup>th</sup> and from the 28<sup>th</sup> through the 30<sup>th</sup>. The biggest event was from the 8<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup> when in less than 3 days a small portion of southeast Indiana received more than 6 inches of rainfall.

Rains on the 8<sup>th</sup> caused flash flooding in southeast Indiana followed by lowland flooding of the East Fork White River in Jackson County. The rains on the 17<sup>th</sup> brought the Eel and White Rivers in west central and southwest Indiana to bankfull levels. Lowland flooding along the East Fork White River in Jackson County lasted less than 2 days.

The cool, weather pattern at the end of the month helped alleviate abnormally dry areas of northeast and southern Indiana. Stream levels remained above normal as September ended.

Site	September 2016 Precipitation	September 2016 Difference from Normal	Wettest Day	Longest Dry Stretch
Indianapolis	4.67	<b>+1.55</b>	1.09 on 17	7 days 18-24
Lafayette	2.91	<b>+0.25</b>	1.14 on 8	7 days 1-7 and 18-24
Muncie	4.70	<b>+1.74</b>	1.50 on 17	7 days 1-7
Terre Haute	3.62	<b>+0.20</b>	1.04 on 10	7 days 18-24
Bloomington	5.13	<b>+1.78</b>	2.64 on 8	7 days 18-24
Shelbyville	3.80	<b>+0.63</b>	1.04 on 8	8 days 18-25
Indy – Eagle Crk.	4.04	<b>+1.79</b>	1.11 on 17	7 days 1-7 and 18-24

September 2016 was tied for the 27<sup>th</sup> wettest in the Indianapolis area since weather records began in 1871.

## Severe Weather

While it was a wet and at times stormy September for most, there was very little severe weather across central Indiana throughout the month. Strong thunderstorms accompanied a cold front during the evening of the 9<sup>th</sup> with gusty winds. There were reports of wind damage and power outages caused by storms moving through the Indianapolis metro area on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Scattered storms associated with an upper level low produced small hail and cold air funnels on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Heavy rain and flooding from slow moving thunderstorms impacted southern portions of central Indiana on the evening of the 8<sup>th</sup>, including multiple water rescues and closing Interstate 74 for a period of time in eastern Decatur County.

For information on severe weather in other areas during September, visit the Storm Prediction Center “Severe Weather Event Summaries” website at <http://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/online/>.

## Miscellaneous

The maximum wind gust at Indianapolis International Airport was 50 mph out of the west on the 16<sup>th</sup> with thunderstorms in the vicinity. Fog or haze was reported at Indianapolis on 16 days during the month, with dense fog occurring on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Thunder was reported on 9 days during September, with small hail impacting the airport as storms moved through on the afternoon of the 28<sup>th</sup>.

## October 2016 Outlook

The official outlook for October 2016 from the Climate Prediction Center indicates greater chance for above normal temperatures for central Indiana. At Indianapolis, the average temperature for the month is 55.0 degrees. The outlook also suggests a greater chance of near to slightly below normal precipitation. The average precipitation for October at Indianapolis is 3.12" and average snowfall is 0.4".

***Data prepared by the Indianapolis Forecast Office.***