

August 2026 Monthly Weather Summary

Temperature Overview

While many of us were hoping that we could see a repeat of August 2025 which featured well below normal temperatures, August 2026 came in above normal for all climate sites, along with high humidity most of the time. While there were not any notable heat waves, nearly all the month saw daily average temperatures near to a few degrees about normal. High humidity was persistent for the 1st 3 weeks of the month- Richmond seeing average daily dew point values of 70° F or higher on all but 4 days, and Norfolk on all but 2 days. Daily max heat index values reached 95° F or higher a majority of the time and 100°F on nearly half of the days through the 20th. A cold front moved through the forecast area August 20th, which finally brought a period of cooler temperatures, along with lower humidity, but the heat and humidity returned on the final few days to close the month. Average dew point values for the month were about 3° F higher than normal- Richmond averaged ~70° F vs. a 1991-2020 mean value of 67° F and Norfolk at 71.6° F vs. a mean of 68.4°. These dew point values are more than 6° F higher than August 2025 at both sites. Despite the above normal warmth, very few temperature records were set, with only Norfolk recording two record high minimums (set 79° on the 18th, tied 78° on the 19th). While there were no notable stretches of well above normal temperatures (or even record high temperatures), all long-term climate and COOP sites saw slightly above normal average maximum, minimum, and overall temperatures for the month. This propelled Norfolk to its 5th warmest August and Elizabeth City to its 7th warmest August on record. Two COOP sites, Louisa (3rd warmest) and Williamsburg (2nd warmest) also saw top 10 warmest August records. The remaining stations were generally in the top 20% of all Augusts, but fell outside the top 10 rankings.

August 2026 Monthly Weather Summary

Precipitation Overview

There was a mixed bag of total precipitation across the area during the month of August, though this is fairly typical in summertime due to the more scattered nature of thunderstorms. For the long-term climate sites, it was split as to whether a site saw a large rainfall deficit or saw and rainfall surplus, with Richmond (+0.99") and Salisbury (+3.98") received above normal rainfall and Wallops Island (-1.97") and Elizabeth City (-2.53") received below normal rainfall. The only exception to this was Norfolk, where near normal rainfall was recorded. Despite Salisbury seeing well above normal rainfall, it still did not make the top 10 wettest Augusts. Throughout the month, there were multiple events that dropped varying amounts of rainfall at the individual sites, but there were no notable events (such as a tropical system) that caused a more widespread flooding event. There was a notable flash-flooding event on August 4th, where multiple Flash Flood Warnings were issued (with a few considerable Flash Flood Warnings issued), but none of the long-term climate sites or even notable COOP sites were in the areas that saw the highest rainfall, so this event was not well represented despite Richmond (1.60"), Wakefield (1.44"), and Edenton (1.32") seeing their highest rainfall totals this day. The rainfall gradients across the area this day was quite impressive, with one example being from the Norfolk area. A Norfolk COOP observer around 2 miles SW of the Norfolk ASOS recorded 2.96", while the ASOS only recorded 1.22" which shows how much variation of rainfall totals is possible, especially in convective situations. No rainfall records were set in the month of August.

A brief summary for the summer of 2026 (June-August) follows on page 3, with a table on page 4 showing detailed temperature and precipitation statistics for August 2026, and a table for summer on page 5. On page 6 and 7, daily average temperature departures are shown at Richmond (6) and Norfolk (7), followed by daily dew point and heat index graphs for Richmond (8) and Norfolk (9). Monthly precipitation maps (page 10), with daily records set during the month at our 4 main long-term sites on the last page.

Summer 2026 Weather Summary

Temperature/Precipitation Overview

Overall, the summer of 2026 (3-month average of June-July-August) ended up warmer than normal with variable rainfall. Of our long-term 1st order climate sites, Norfolk ranked as the 6th warmest summer on record, with the other sites falling just outside the top 10, but still around 1° F above normal. The most notable heat waves were in mid June and early July- all 4 long term climate sites recording daily record highs on June 12th and Richmond, Norfolk, and Salisbury all reaching 100° F or higher on July 4th, with heat index values soaring to oppressive values of 110° to 115°. Salisbury hit 101° on the 3rd and 102° F on the 4th, the hottest 2-day stretch since July 2011. As noted in the August summary, the rest of the summer was uneventful for extremes, but generally hot and humid with above normal temperature. In terms of humidity, June was relatively dry with only a few periods of high dew points, but July and August featured consistent warmth and humidity.

Like August, rainfall for the summer featured significant variability across the local area, ranging from 4” to 6” wetter than average at Richmond, Salisbury, and Ashland, to more than 5” drier than average at Wakefield and more than 3” drier than normal at Williamsburg. In general, the widespread drought conditions that prevailed at the beginning of the season saw some relief by the end of August, particularly across southside Hampton Roads and metro Richmond where the seasonal rainfall was wetter than average. However, south central and interior southeast Virginia, as well as interior northeast North Carolina, and the Virginia eastern shore remain in moderate to severe drought status as of early September. The long-term outlook is favorable to see improving conditions, with eventual drought removal probable by late fall and winter due to the transition to a strong El Nino event.

Tabular Summary of Data for Selected Climate Sites (August):

August 2026 Temperature Summary Data

* also on other dates

All Normals are 1991-2020

Site	Avg Max		Avg Min		Avg Temp		Daily Highs						Daily Mins						Remarks
	(°F)		(°F)		(°F)		Warmest (°F)			Coolest (°F)			Warmest (°F)			Coolest (°F)			
	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	
Richmond	89.2	1.7	70.4	2.8	79.8	2.3	94	*20th	-3	83	*25th	8	75	3rd	0	62	*26th	3	5th Warmest
Norfolk	88.4	1.5	74.1	2.5	81.2	2.0	95	20th	0	78	21st	2	79	*18th	1	66	26th	2	
Salisbury	86.8	1.4	69.5	3.2	78.2	2.4	93	*10th	-2	78	22nd	3	76	7th	1	61	26th	7	
Wallops Island	85.7	1.5	72.0	3.3	78.9	2.4	93	10th	0	80	*29th	5	77	*9th	1	63	26th	4	
Elizabeth City	88.6	1.8	72.3	2.3	80.5	2.1	94	14th	-1	80	21st	2	77	*18th	0	64	*26th	5	7th Warmest
Ashland, VA	86.2	1.1	68.7	2.5	77.5	1.8	91	*20th	-2	80	25th	6	73	*29th	-1	58	25th	2	*** 3rd Warmest ***
Cape Charles, VA	85.9	2.5	72.3	3.2	79.1	2.9	92	*10th	0	78	*21st	3	78	*9th	0	61	26th	1	
Louisa, VA	88.2	2.9	67.6	3.9	77.9	3.5	94	20th	-1	80	*22nd	4	76	4th	4	55	24th	3	
Wakefield, VA	90.9	3.2	69.8	3.5	80.4	3.4	96	17th	0	83	21st	8	75	3rd	1	59	26th	3	
Williamsburg, VA	89.5	3.0	71.4	2.7	80.5	2.9	95	*10th	0	83	*21st	7	76	9th	0	62	26th	3	
Edenton, NC	87.8	1.0	73.8	3.2	80.8	2.1	94	14th	0	80	21st	1	79	10th	2	67	24th	7	

August 2026 Precipitation Summary Data

* also on other dates

All Normals are 1991-2020

Site	Total Pre		# Pre Days		# Pre Days		Greatest		Total Snow		# Snow Days		# Snow Days		Greatest				Remarks
	(in.)		(≥0.01")		(≥0.10")		(in.)		(in.)		(≥0.1")		(≥1.0")		(in.)		(in.)		
	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Act	Date	Act	Dep	Act	Dep	Act	Dep	Daily	Date	Storm	Date	
Richmond	5.89	0.99	12	3	8	1	1.60	4th											
Norfolk	5.78	-0.10	13	3	10	3	1.22	*22nd											
Salisbury	9.25	3.98	14	5	10	4	1.60	20th											
Wallops Island	2.35	-1.97	10	1	9	4	0.43	17th											
Elizabeth City	2.79	-2.53	15	3	10	3	0.43	5th											
Ashland, VA	5.31	1.40	10	2	9	3	1.33	2nd											
Cape Charles, VA	3.12	-1.02	9	-2	5	-1	1.31	20th											
Louisa, VA	5.73	2.05	14	5	14	8	0.96	2nd											
Wakefield, VA	3.90	-1.60	11	1	6	-1	1.44	4th											
Williamsburg, VA	2.36	-3.32	15	4	9	2	0.46	10th											
Edenton, NC	3.89	-2.27	10	1	9	1	1.32	4th											

* **"Dep"**= **Departure** from the 30-year normals (1991-2020). Temperature departures are shaded orange for 1 F or more warmer than average (dark red for 4 F or greater anomalies) and blue for 1 F or more cooler than average (dark blue for 4 F or more below normal). Similarly, precipitation departures are shaded green for 0.50" or more wetter than average (dark green for 2.00" or more) and tan for 0.50" or more drier than average (dark brown for 2.00" or more drier). Snowfall departures are shaded purple for 1" or more above average and tan for 1" or more below average. *****Rankings in Remark section are included for Co-op sites where a complete period of record is of sufficient duration to be meaningful.** N/A in Remarks section indicates sites with a shorter period of record, leading to rankings being of less significance.

Tabular Summary of Data for Selected Climate Sites (Summer 2026):

Summer (Jun-Jul-Aug) 2026 Temperature Summary Data																	* also on other dates			All Normals are 1991-2020		
Site	Avg Max		Avg Min		Avg Temp		Daily Highs						Daily Mins						Remarks			
	(°F)		(°F)		(°F)		Warmest (°F)			Coldest (°F)			Warmest (°F)			Coldest (°F)						
	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep				
Richmond	88.6	1.1	68.6	1.5	78.6	1.3	100	7/4	0	75	6/2	4	76	7/3	-1	54	6/4	1	6th Warmest			
Norfolk	87.6	0.4	72.0	1.2	79.8	0.8	100	7/4	1	69	6/2	-1	80	7/4	0	54	6/3	-2				
Salisbury	87.3	2.0	66.3	0.6	76.9	1.4	102	7/4	4	74	6/8	6	77	7/3	-1	46	6/9	0				
Wallops Island	84.6	0.7	69.3	1.2	77.0	1.0	98	*6/25	2	71	6/1	3	78	*7/16	-1	52	*6/4	0				
Elizabeth City	87.6	0.8	69.9	0.5	78.8	0.7	99	6/12	2	68	6/2	-5	80	7/22	1	48	6/3	-6				
Ashland, VA	87.0	2.1	67.0	1.3	77.0	1.7	101	7/4	5	77	6/2	7	76	*7/20	1	50	*6/4	-1	*** 7th Warmest ***			
Cape Charles, VA	84.5	1.4	70.0	1.1	77.3	1.3	95	7/3	0	69	6/2	0	78	*8/9	-2	50	6/3	-4	*** 3rd Warmest ***			
Louisa, VA	88.5	3.4	65.5	2.3	77.0	2.9	102	*6/24	5	76	7/25	6	76	8/4	2	44	6/3	-2				
Wakefield, VA	90.1	2.4	67.6	1.7	78.9	2.1	101	6/12	2	73	7/25	2	77	7/4	1	47	6/3	-2				
Williamsburg, VA	88.1	1.6	69.3	1.2	78.7	1.4	100	7/3	2	74	6/2	2	78	7/4	0	52	6/3	0	*** 5th Warmest ***			
Edenton, NC	87.8	0.5	71.7	1.5	79.8	1.1	99	6/12	2	77	*7/25	4	80	7/22	0	50	6/3	-4	*** 5th Warmest ***			

Summer (Jun-Jul-Aug) 2026 Precipitation Summary Data																	* also on other dates			All Normals are 1991-2020		
Site	Total Pre		# Pre Days		# Pre Days		Greatest		Total Snow		# Snow Days		# Snow Days		Greatest		Greatest		Remarks			
	(in.)		(≥0.01")		(≥0.10")		(in.)		(in.)		(≥0.1")		(≥1.0")		(in.)		(in.)					
	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Act	Date	Act	Dep	Act	Dep	Act	Dep	Daily	Date	Storm	Date				
Richmond	18.59	4.68	35	4	24	3	2.02	7/12											*** 9th Wettest ***			
Norfolk	14.52	-1.87	31	0	23	3	2.38	7/23														
Salisbury	19.88	5.85	29	-2	23	3	2.68	7/27														
Wallops Island	15.64	3.56	28	-2	20	2	3.57	7/22														
Elizabeth City	13.64	-2.04	39	5	23	0	1.96	7/12														
Ashland, VA	18.15	5.37	29	2	27	7	2.18	6/13														
Cape Charles, VA	11.11	-1.52	28	-4	18	-1	1.98	7/12														
Louisa, VA	13.19	1.00	37	6	31	10	2.41	7/9														
Wakefield, VA	10.70	-5.05	32	0	21	-1	1.44	8/4														
Williamsburg, VA	12.23	-3.53	42	8	23	0	1.80	6/22														
Edenton, NC	20.24	3.12	32	5	27	4	3.07	7/20														

* **"Dep"**= **Departure** from the 30-year normals (1991-2020). Temperature departures are shaded orange for 1 F or more warmer than average (dark red for 4 F or greater anomalies) and blue for 1 F or more cooler than average (dark blue for 4 F or more below normal). Similarly, precipitation departures are shaded green for 0.50" or more wetter than average (dark green for 4.00" or more) and tan for 0.50" or more drier than average (dark brown for 4.00" or more drier). Snowfall departures are shaded purple for 1" or more above average and tan for 1" or more below average. *****Rankings in Remark section are included for Co-op sites where a complete period of record is of sufficient duration to be meaningful.** N/A in Remarks section indicates sites with a shorter period of record, leading to rankings being of less significance.

Daily Average Temperature Departures at Richmond, VA (August)

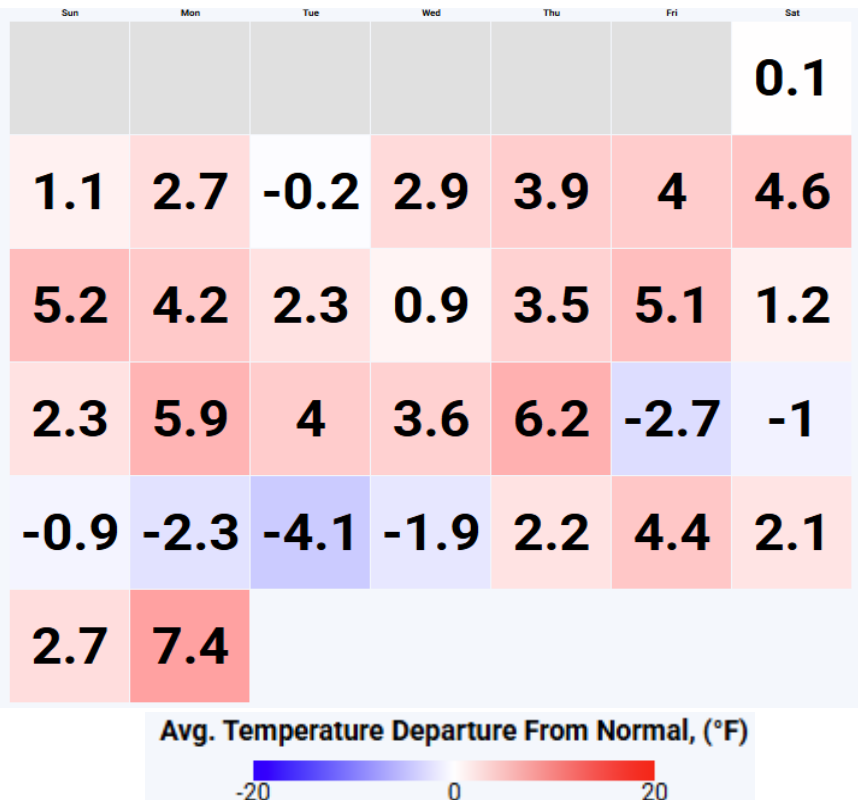


Figure 1: Daily Average Temperature Departures at RIC

Daily Average Temperature Departures at Norfolk, VA (August)

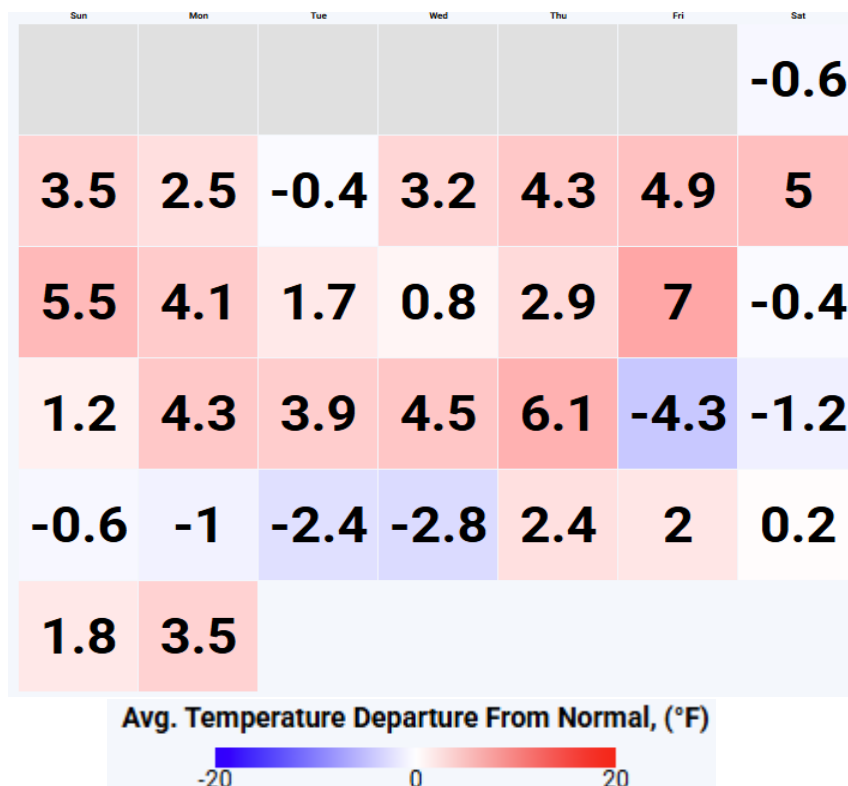
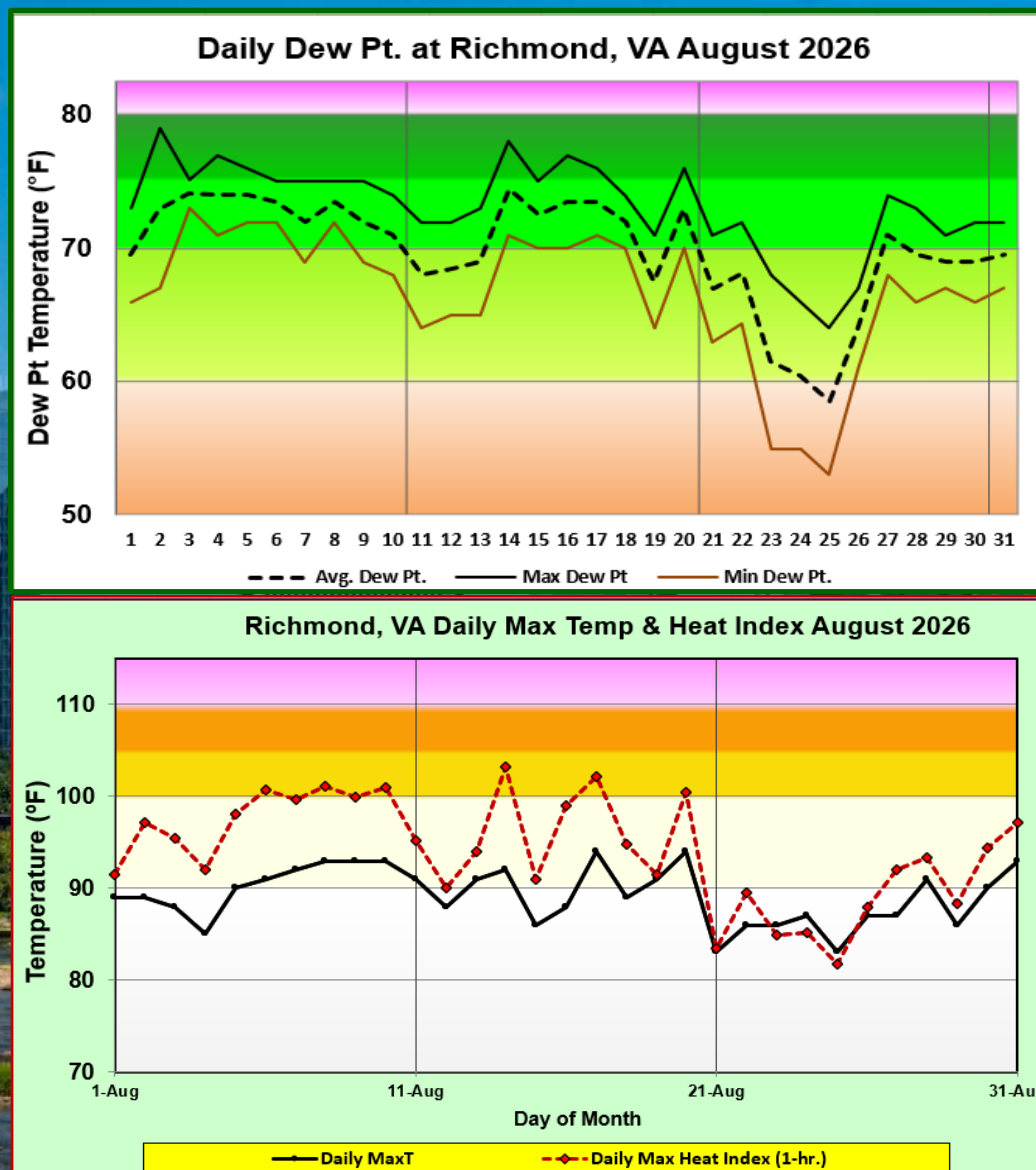


Figure 2: Daily Average Temperature Departures at ORF

Dew Point, MaxTemperature, Max Heat Index at Richmond, VA (August)

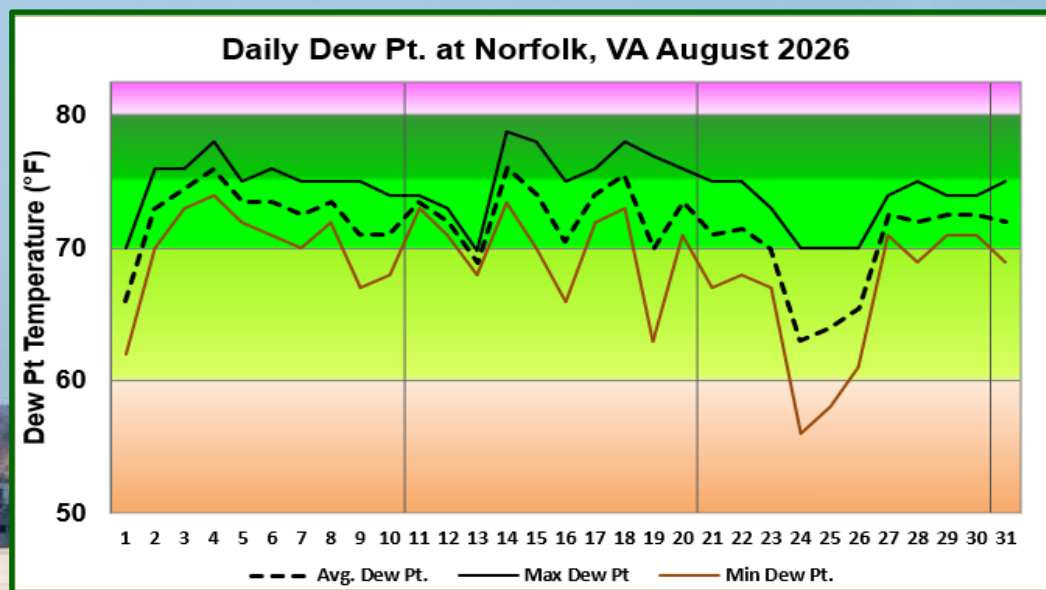


Avg Max Td : 73°
Avg Min Td: 67°
Avg Td: 69.9°

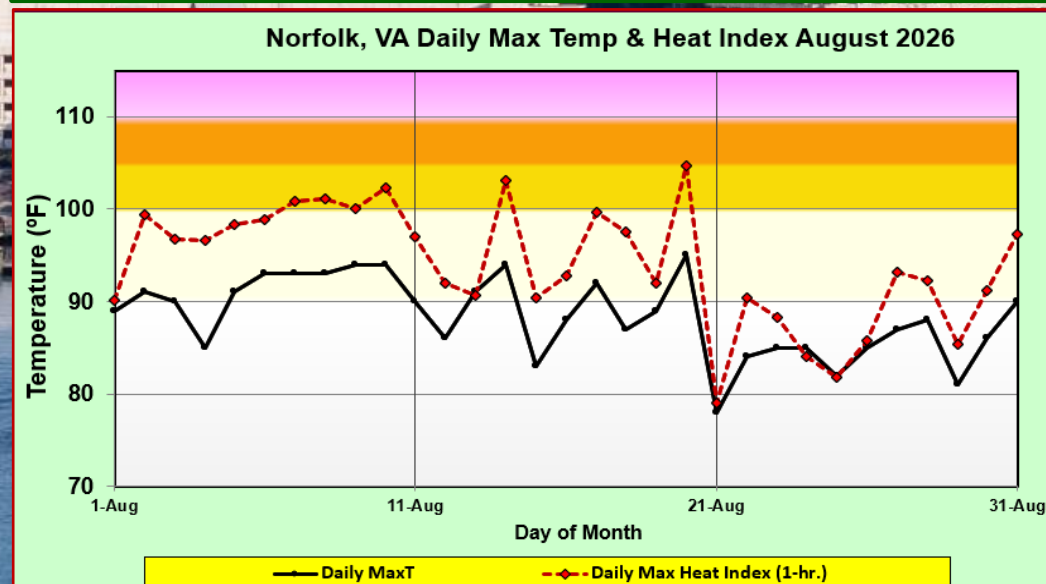
Avg High: 89.2°
Avg Max HI: 94.1°

Figure 2a: Daily Td, MaxT, Max Heat Index at RIC

Dew Point, MaxTemperature, Max Heat Index at Norfolk, VA (August)



Avg Max Td : 75°
Avg Min Td: 69°
Avg Td: 71.6°



Avg High: 88.4°
Avg Max HI: 94.0°

Figure 2b: Daily Td, MaxT, Max Heat Index at ORF

Regional Precipitation Maps: August 2026

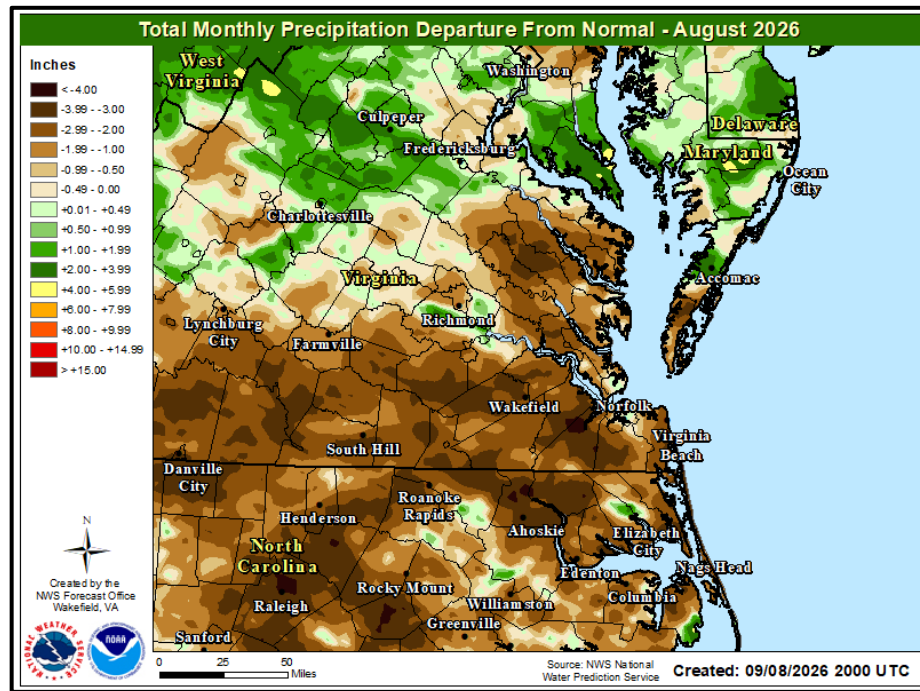
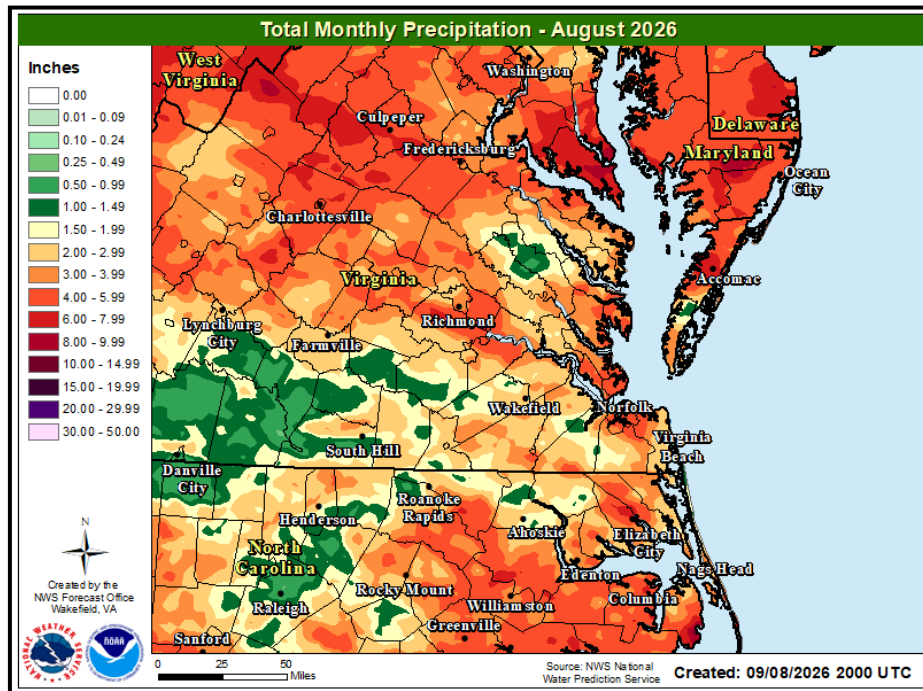


Figure 3: *Total Precipitation* for the month is shown in the map on the left. *Departure* from the 30-year normals (1991-2020) is shown on the map on the right.

Daily Records for Long Term Sites (August):

Norfolk, VA Records (Period of Record 153 yrs./1874-2026)

**tie*

Record Highs: none set.

Record Low Maximums: none set.

Record Lows: none set.

Record High Minimums: 79° (18th), *78° (19th)

Daily Precipitation: none set.

Richmond, VA Daily Records (Period of Record 130 yrs./1897-2026)

**tie*

Record Highs: none set.

Record Low Maximums: none set.

Record Lows: none set.

Record High Minimums: none set.

Daily Precipitation: none set.

Salisbury, MD Daily Records (Period of Record 120 yrs./1907-2026)

**tie*

Record Highs: none set.

Record Low Maximums: none set.

Record Lows: none set.

Record High Minimums: none set.

Daily Precipitation: none set.

Elizabeth City, NC Daily Records (Period of Record 93 yrs./1934-2026)

**tie*

Record Highs: none set.

Record Low Maximums: none set.

Record Lows: none set.

Record High Minimums: none set.

Daily Precipitation: none set.