

August 2014 Climate Summary for SOUTHEAST TEXAS WFO Houston/ Galveston



The month of August 2014 ended up on the dry side and with near normal temperatures at most of the climate sites across Southeast Texas. Those first- or second- order sites which received over one inch of monthly rainfall experienced their rainfall during one of three episodes.

A cold front brought cooler than normal conditions (Figure 1) and sporadic rainfall during the first week of the month. The second week started out warm but then ended with another cold frontal passage that brought some rainfall. The mid-month period experienced very warm conditions as the subtropical ridge built overhead. August ended with the ridge breaking down and an upper level low pressure area bringing scattered showers and thunderstorms and cooler than normal temperatures.

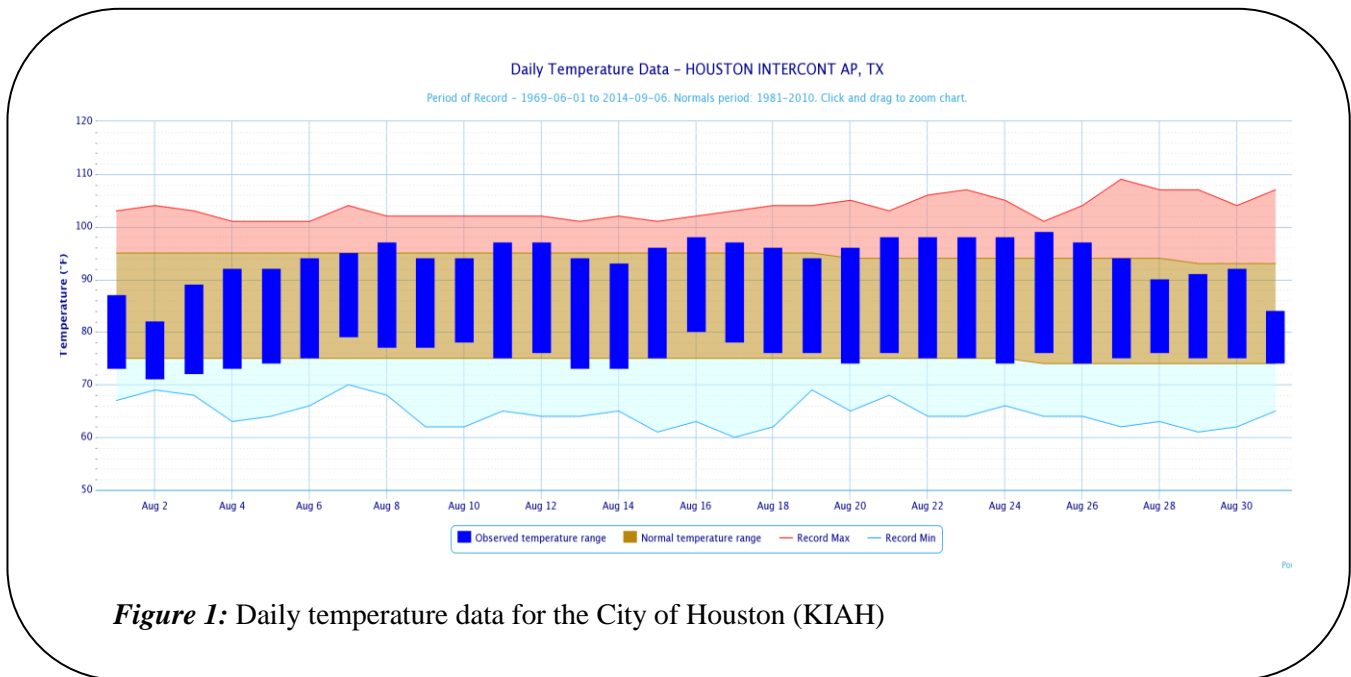
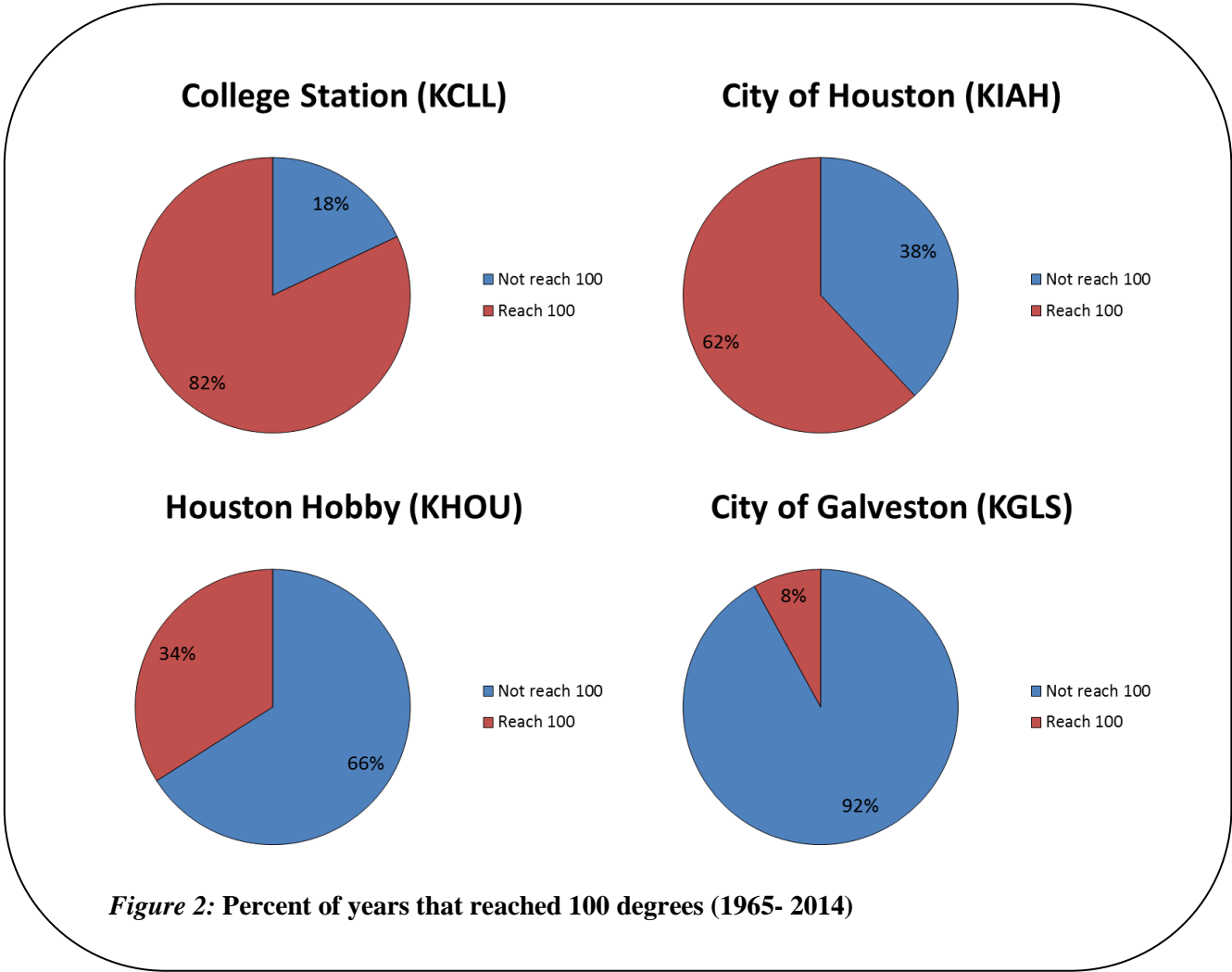


Figure 1: Daily temperature data for the City of Houston (KIAH)

The climatological summer defined as the months of June, July and August has come to an end. There was no 100 degree days recorded at any of the four first-order climate sites during this period. Houston has not had a summer free of 100 degree days since 1997 and College Station has not achieved this feat since 2004. In fact, in the past 50 years College Station has not reached 100 degrees in a year only nine times or 18% of the time (Figure 2). The average temperature for the summer was also cooler than normal for areas north of I-10 and a bit warmer than normal for areas south of I-10.



Even with the sporadic rain events, dry conditions continued over most of Southeast Texas as all but three of the climate sites recorded below normal rainfall. Deficits ranged between 1.21 and 4.33 inches (Figure 3). The sites which experienced above normal rainfall were Galveston (+0.56 inches), Sugar Land (+2.99 inches), and Angleton (+0.54 inches). As of August 26th, abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions were reported by the U.S. Drought Monitor generally along and west of a line from Snook to Wallis to Sargent (Figure 4).

Houston/Galveston, TX (HGX): August, 2014 Monthly Departure from Normal Precipitation
Valid at 9/1/2014 1200 UTC- Created 9/3/14 23:56 UTC

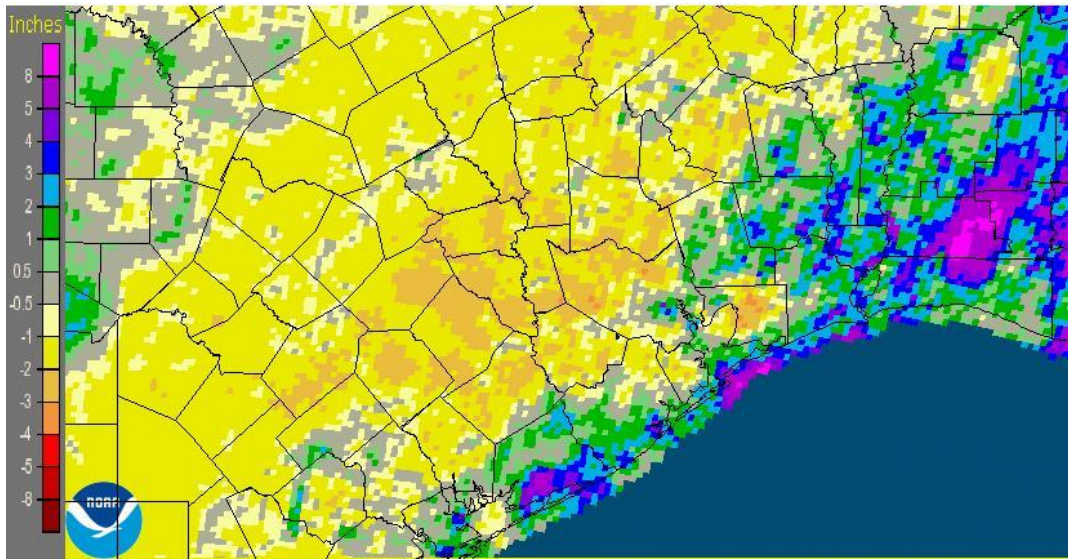
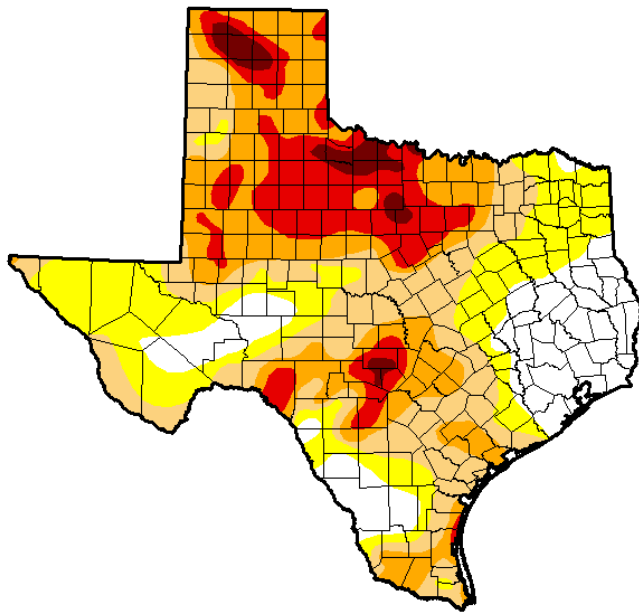


Figure 3: Rainfall deficits across Southeast Texas for August 2014 (water.weather.gov)



August 26, 2014
(Released Thursday, Aug. 28, 2014)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	16.83	83.17	61.25	38.21	16.23	2.76
Last Week 9/8/2014	19.17	80.83	59.28	34.23	15.16	2.76
3 Months Ago 5/27/2014	10.72	89.28	71.16	49.16	32.81	10.76
Start of Calendar Year 12/1/2013	28.48	71.52	43.84	21.15	5.82	0.79
Start of Water Year 10/1/2013	6.62	93.38	70.95	25.08	4.01	0.12
One Year Ago 8/27/2013	2.82	97.18	87.88	66.12	19.34	2.74

Intensity:
■ D0 Abnormally Dry ■ D3 Extreme Drought
■ D1 Moderate Drought ■ D4 Exceptional Drought
■ D2 Severe Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:
David Simeral
Western Regional Climate Center



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

Figure 4: Drought Monitor as of August 26, 2014

National Weather Service
Houston/ Galveston, TX Weather Forecast Office
1353 FM 646 Suite 202
Dickinson, TX 77539
281-337-5074
Questions/ Comments: sr-hgx.webmaster@noaa.gov

