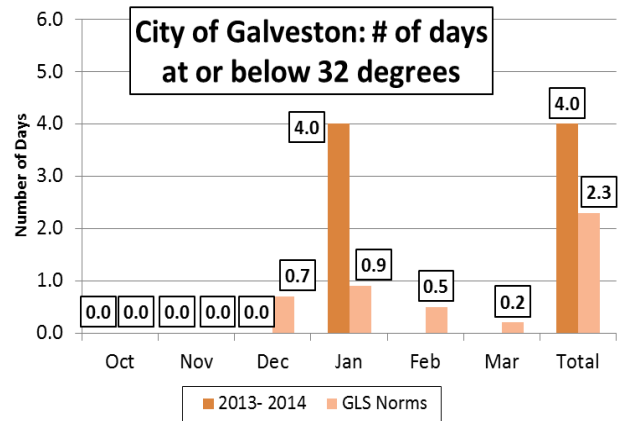
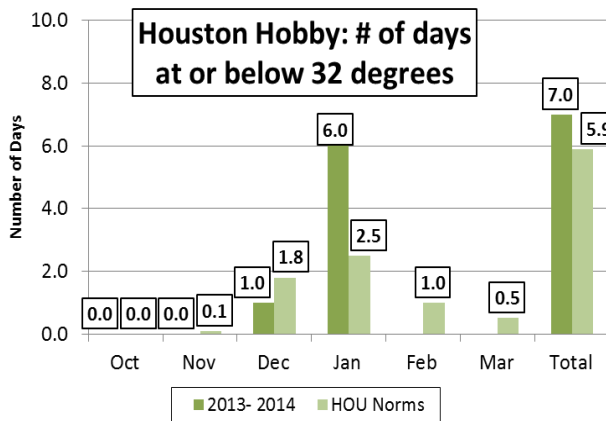
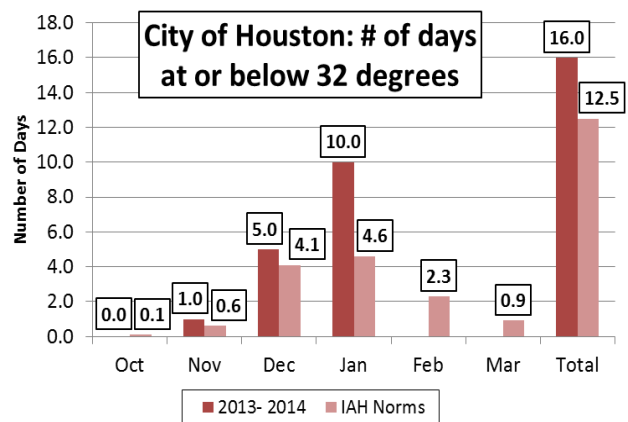
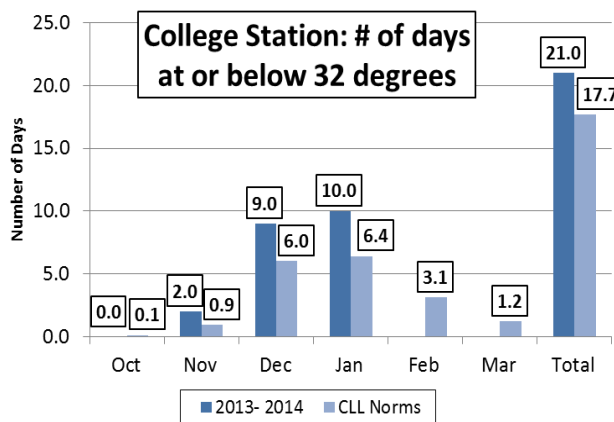




# January 2014 Climate Summary for SOUTHEAST TEXAS WFO Houston/ Galveston



Temperatures this January were three to four degrees colder than the 30 year climatological normal. The coldest day of the month was on the 7<sup>th</sup>. The morning low temperatures fell into the teens over the northern half of the county warning area. Madisonville recorded the lowest temperature with a value of 15 degrees. Livingston was right behind with a morning low of 16 degrees.



**Figure 1: Number of days at or below 32 degrees for October – March. Normal period is 1981-2010.**

The City of Houston and College Station recorded ten days with low temperatures at or below 32 degrees during the month. Houston normally records five days with temperatures at or below 32 degrees and College Station usually has six days at or below 32 degrees during the month. Figure 1 above illustrates the average number of days at or below 32 degrees (1981-2010) during the cold season defined as October 1<sup>st</sup> through March 30<sup>th</sup> and the actual number of days at or below 32

far for the 2013 – 2014 cool season. Despite the very cold temperatures during the month, none of the primary climate sites recorded a monthly average temperature that cracked their respective top ten coldest January. However, taking the last three month period as a block, some conclusions can be drawn about the extent and breadth of this year’s cold weather. That is, it has been very cold and well below the 30 year climate normal. The City of Houston endured its eighth coldest November through January with an average temperature of 52.9 degrees. Figure 2 below ranks the November 1<sup>st</sup> through January 31<sup>st</sup> period average daily temperature and the coldest values recorded for this time period. The period of record for the City of Houston is 1892- Present, Houston Hobby 1931- Present, City of Galveston 1875- Present, College Station 1902- Present. The coldest year for all the four sites was during the winter of 1976- 1977.

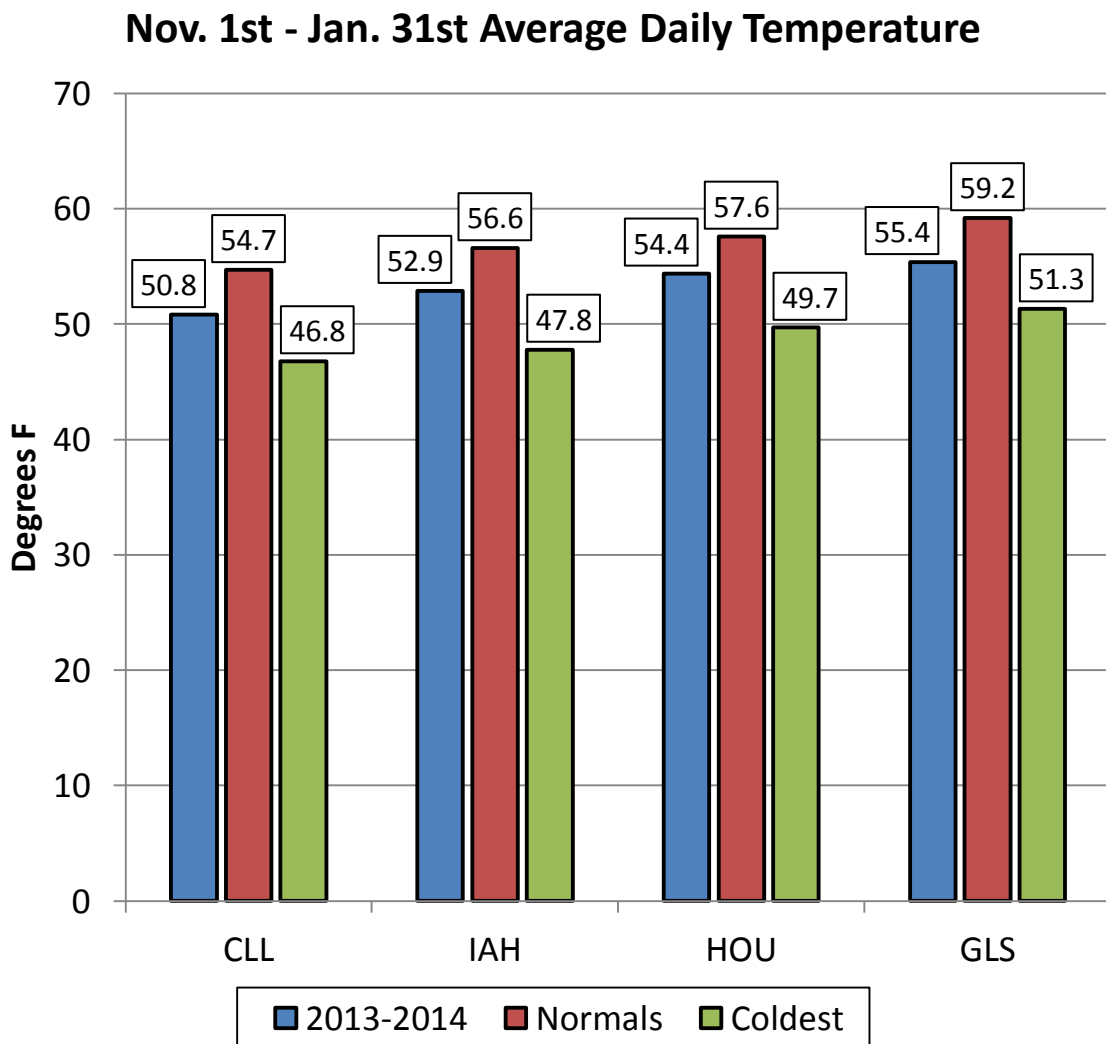
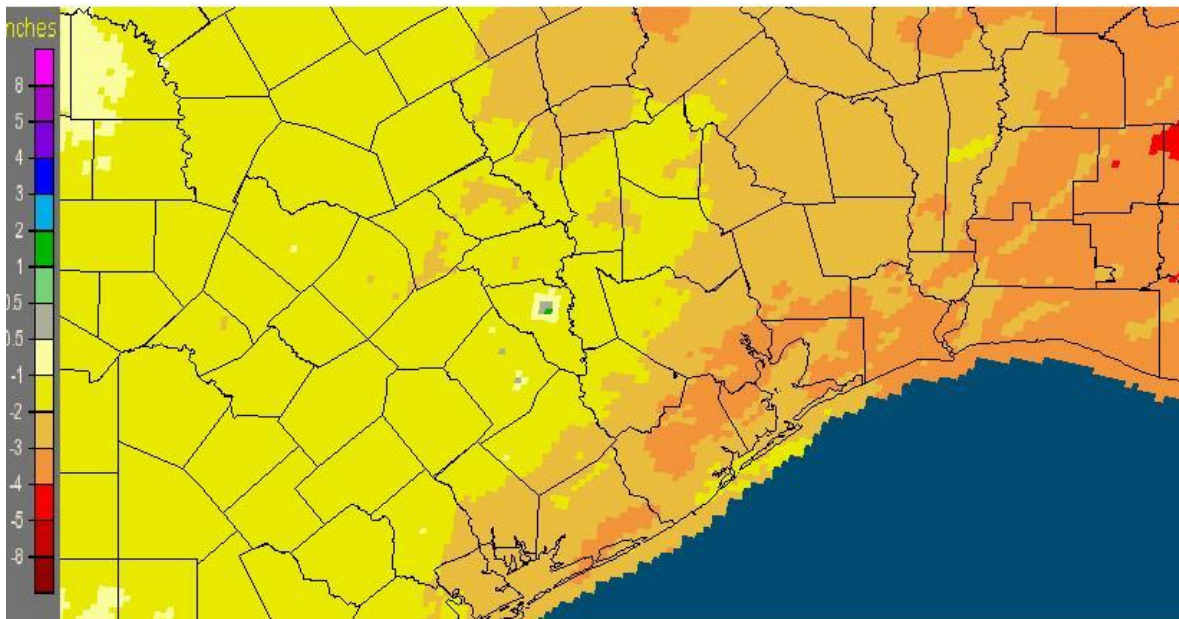


Figure 2: Average daily temperature for November 1<sup>st</sup> through January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Rainfall was below normal once again. Rainfall deficits during January averaged between 1 and 3 inches below normal. Some of the precipitation that fell during the month fell in the form of sleet, snow and freezing rain. On January 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>, most of the area received some type of wintry precipitation with freezing rain glazing elevated roadways and bridges. A swath of two to four inches of snow fell from near Madisonville to Huntsville to Coldspring. Livingston received three inches of snow and Onalaska reported four inches of snow. Another winter weather event occurred on the 28<sup>th</sup> with some very light freezing rain and sleet reported.

It's been dry since mid-November and some of the rainfall deficits south of I-10 are now between six and nine inches below normal. Houston Hobby also recorded their third driest January on record with a precipitation total of 0.53". The month of January was below normal for almost all of Southeast Texas (Figure 3). The U.S. drought monitor shows parts of Southeast Texas in moderate to severe drought. Despite the recent dry spell, area reservoirs remain near capacity.

Houston/Galveston, TX (HGX): January, 2014 Monthly Departure from Normal Precipitation  
Valid at 2/1/2014 1200 UTC- Created 2/3/14 23:35 UTC



**Figure 3: Rainfall deficits for the month of January from 1981 – 2010 normal values**  
(<http://water.weather.gov/precip/>)

