

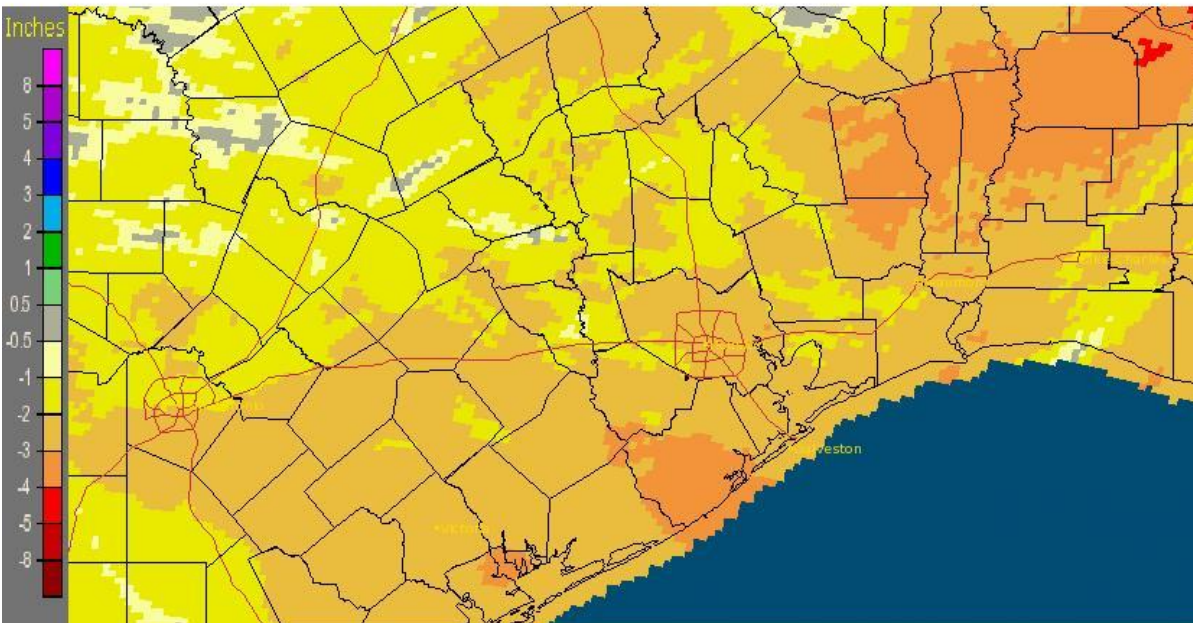


# March 2013 Climate Summary for SOUTHEAST TEXAS WFO Houston/Galveston



March 2013 continued a dry trend that began in mid-January. Rainfall totals were below normal at most sites, and no new records were established. For temperatures, most locations averaged below normal readings. New record highs were set at all four major climate sites around the middle of the month.

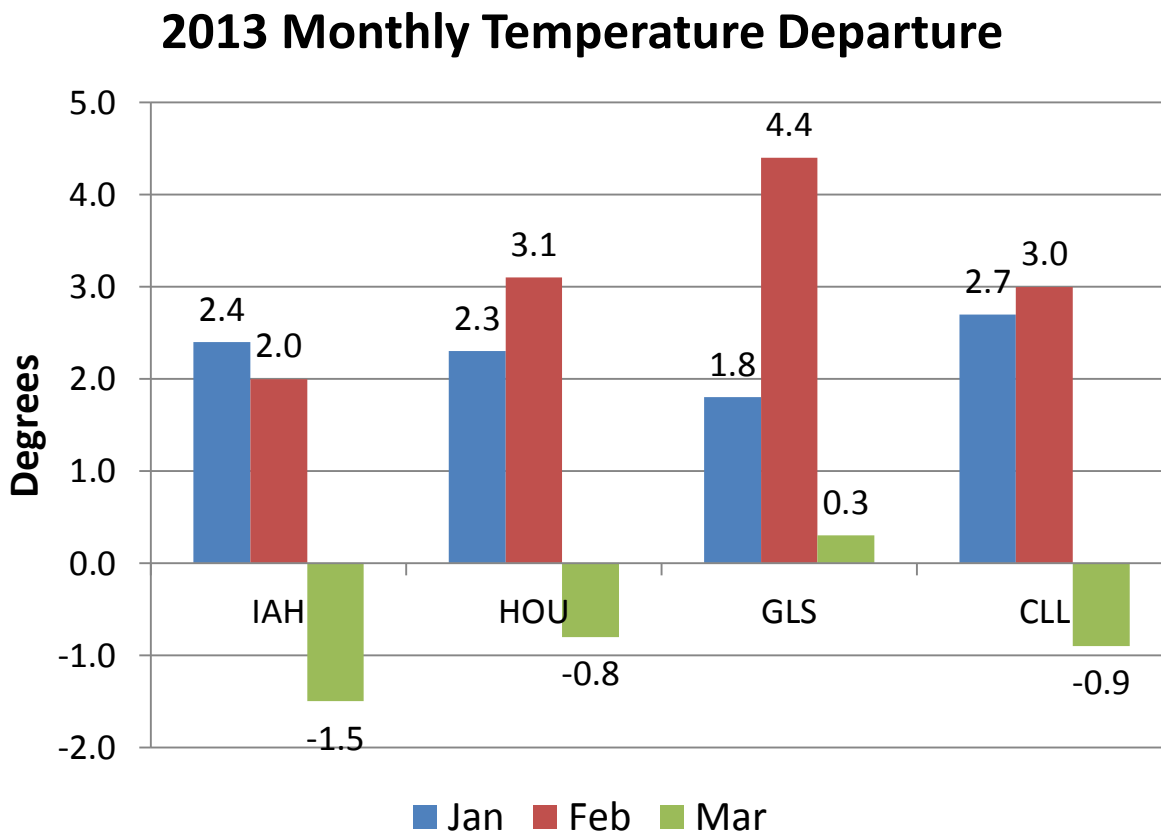
Houston/Galveston, TX (HGX): March, 2013 Monthly Departure from Normal Precipitation  
Valid at 4/1/2013 1200 UTC- Created 4/3/13 19:54 UTC



*Figure 1. March 2013 rainfall departure from normal*

Figure 1 (above) shows the departure from normal precipitation for March 2013. The majority of southeast Texas averaged between 1 and 4 inches below normal. At the end of the month, the city of Houston's (IAH) rainfall total of 0.89 inches was 2.52 inches below normal. For the first three months of the year, IAH's total of 5.42 inches was 4.57 inches below normal. For Houston Hobby (HOU), March's rainfall total of 1.18 inches was 2.02 inches below normal. For the first three months of the year, HOU's total of 5.94 inches was 4.34 inches below normal. For Galveston (GLS), March's rainfall total of 0.72 inches was 2.44 inches below normal. For the first three months of the year, GLS's total of 10.14 inches was 0.21 inches above normal. For College Station (CLL), March's rainfall total of 1.73 inches was 12.44 inches below normal. For the first three months of the year, CLL's total of 6.16 inches was 3.10 inches above normal. There were no new rainfall record set in March.

Temperature departures for three of the four first order climate sites were below normal for the month of March (see Figure 2). This is in contrast to above normal departures in January and February. For IAH, HOU and CLL, March was the first month since October 2012 where average monthly temperatures were below normal. For GLS, March 2013 marks the fifth month in a row where average monthly temperatures were above normal.



*Figure 2. Monthly average temperature departures in 2013*

Figure 3 (below) shows year to date observed temperature and rainfall for IAH. As you can see, March was a month of extremes with record highs set on the 18<sup>th</sup> and close to record below normal temperatures days later. This pattern held for all four climate sites.

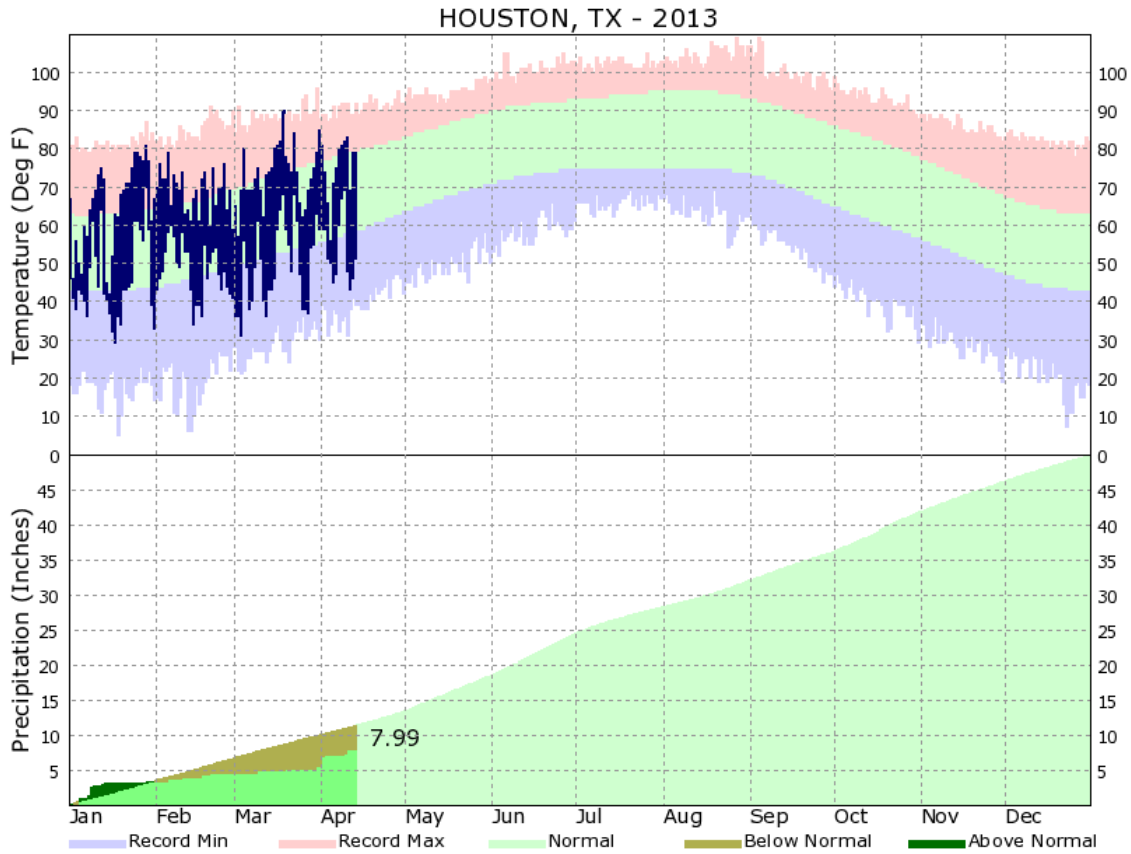


Figure 3. Year to date temperature/rainfall for IAH

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