

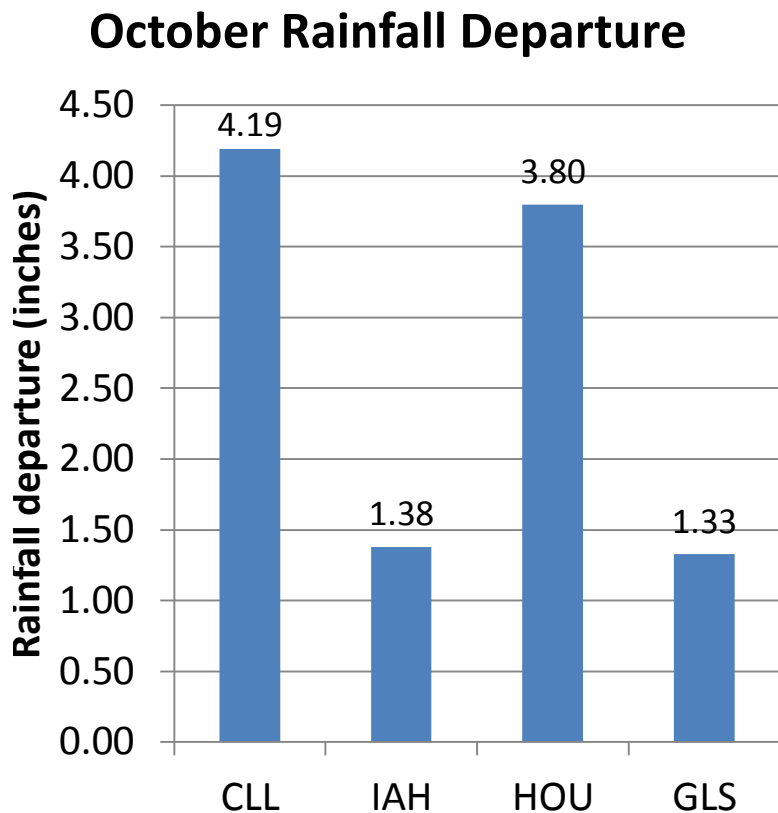


# October 2013 Climate Summary for SOUTHEAST TEXAS WFO Houston/ Galveston



Much needed rainfall brought much needed drought relief across southeast Texas during the month of October. The impact of the above normal rainfall (Figure 1) was enhanced by temperatures averaging out close to normal for the month as well.

A series of frontal systems brought several rain episodes and helped lower the daily average



*Figure 1: October rainfall departure*

temperatures by the end of the month. A couple of events brought the bulk of precipitation, one during the mid-month and the other at the end of the month. The first half of the month did see a couple of warm episodes with afternoon highs reaching into the upper 80s and lower 90s. A frontal system around mid-month then brought an end to the area wide summer-like temperatures. As a result, the last two and a half weeks saw the coolest temperatures of the month.

The resulting rainfall and cooler conditions combined to help ease drought conditions across all of southeast Texas (Figure 2).

By the end of the month, only the western counties were experiencing either abnormally dry or moderate long term drought conditions. A small location around Lake Somerville was classified as severe drought by the U.S. drought monitor on the 29<sup>th</sup> of October. This was mainly due to the low lake levels at the lake.

**U.S. Drought Monitor  
Texas**

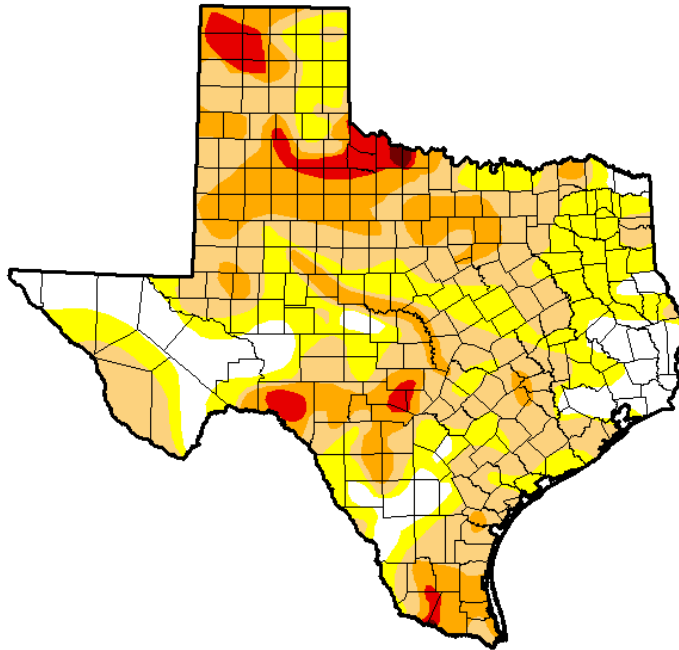
**October 29, 2013**

*(Released Thursday, Oct. 31, 2013)*

Valid 7 a.m. EDT

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

|  | None  | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4    |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Current</b>                                   | 14.17 | 85.83 | 58.51 | 22.40 | 4.26  | 0.23  |
| <b>Last Week</b><br><i>10/22/2013</i>            | 13.16 | 86.84 | 62.03 | 22.76 | 4.19  | 0.23  |
| <b>3 Months Ago</b><br><i>7/30/2013</i>          | 2.83  | 97.17 | 87.69 | 65.36 | 25.97 | 5.65  |
| <b>Start of Calendar Year</b><br><i>1/1/2013</i> | 3.04  | 96.96 | 87.00 | 65.39 | 35.03 | 11.96 |
| <b>Start of Water Year</b><br><i>10/1/2013</i>   | 6.62  | 93.38 | 70.95 | 25.08 | 4.01  | 0.12  |
| <b>One Year Ago</b><br><i>10/30/2012</i>         | 15.36 | 84.64 | 57.86 | 31.61 | 16.23 | 3.67  |



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

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

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

**Figure 2: U.S. drought monitor for October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013.**

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