

September 2013 Climate Summary for SOUTHEAST TEXAS WFO Houston/ Galveston



September was a month of above normal average daily temperatures at all of the first and second-order climate sites. There was a cold frontal passage which only kept temperatures below normal for a day or two. However, much needed rain fell across most of the area and helped ease drought conditions by the end of the month.

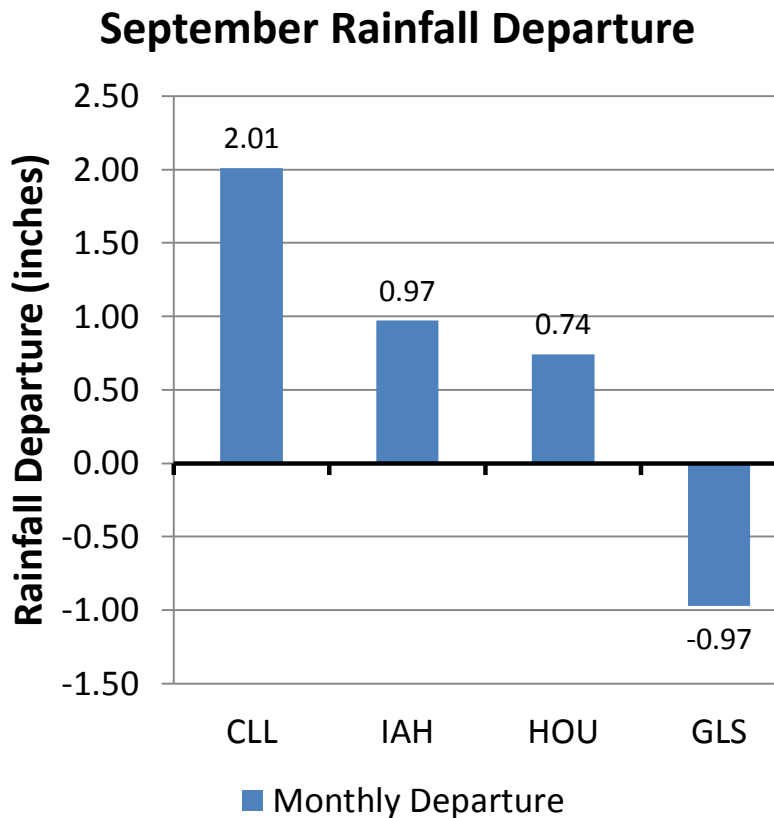


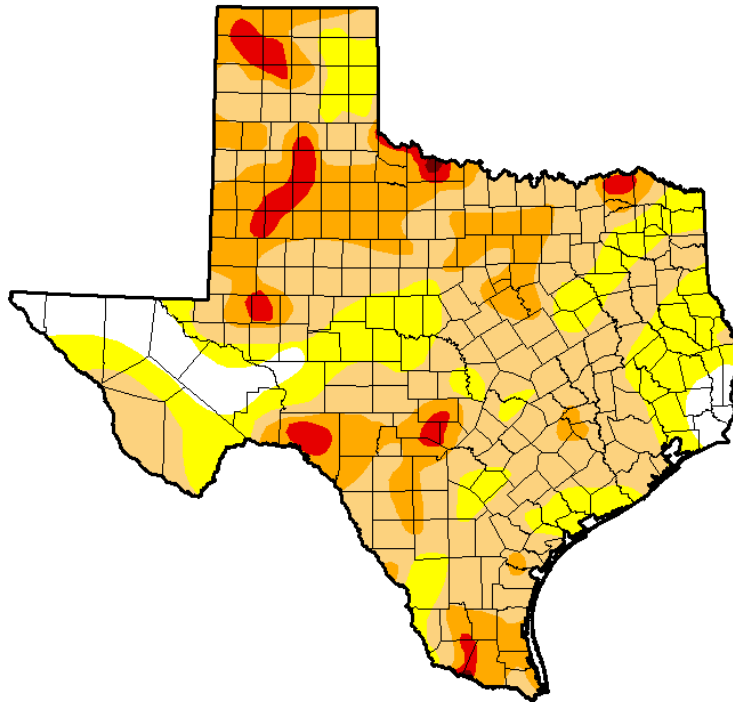
Figure 1: September Rainfall Departure

Rainfall of between 3 and 7 inches was recorded at the climate sites. Three out of the four first order climate sites managed to be above normal for the month. (Figure 1). The U.S. drought monitor released on October 1st (Figure 2) found that the moderate to severe drought conditions in August had eased by the end of September. Abnormally dry conditions were found across Jackson and Matagorda counties and across those counties along and east of a line from Crockett to Baytown. Elsewhere, moderate drought conditions were reported with some severe drought conditions over

portions of Washington, Austin, and northern Colorado counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor
Texas

October 1, 2013
(Released Thursday, Oct. 3, 2013)
Valid 7 a.m. EDT



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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Figure 2: U.S. drought monitor for October 1st, 2013

A major contributor to the very warm temperatures was the very hot first week of September. There were 8 reports of 100 degree high temperatures during this time at the major climate sites. Another 6 days of 100 degree temperatures can be added from the unofficial site located at Brenham, which recorded a daily high of 100 on the 1st and 6th, 101 on the 2nd and 5th, and 102 on the 3rd and 4th. Although the first front of the month did bring a much cooler weather pattern for a few days beginning on the 7th, most of the remainder of the month saw daytime highs reaching back into the 90s. Even with relief from the hot conditions arriving by the end of the month, September still ended up being one of the top ten warmest months on record.

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