An Analysis of 100-Degree Heat in Nashville

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100-Degree Stats

- A 100-degree day occurs every 3-4 years (3.22 years, specifically)
- The most 100-degree days in a year is 20 days in 1954
- The most consecutive 100-degree days is 8 from June 23-30, 1952
- The hottest temperature on record is 109° on June 29, 2012

100-Degree Stats

- The most consecutive years with a 100degree day is 4 years between 1951-1954
- The most consecutive years without a 100degree day is 12 years between 1882-1893
- The most years in a decade with a 100degree temperature is 5 years between 1951-1960
- Slight upward trend in annual and decadal 100-degree days over period of record

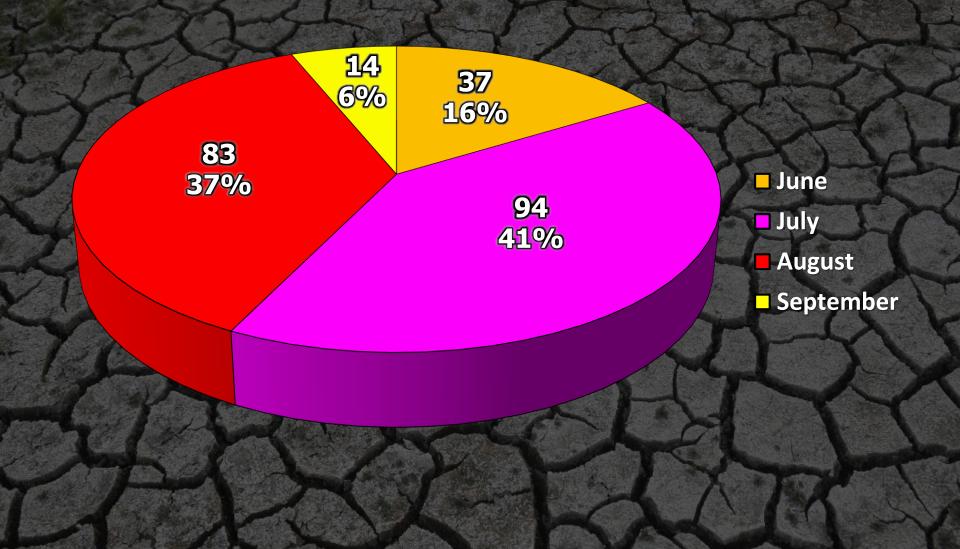
100-Degree Stats

- The average first occurrence of a 100degree day is July 15

 The earliest 100-degree temperature occurred on June 15, 1952
- The average last occurrence of a 100degree day is August 5

 The latest 100-degree temperature
 - occurred on September 11, 1983

Monthly Frequency



Temperature Distribution



7

3%



100°-102°
103°-105°
106°-109°

100-Degree Years vs. Long-Term Drought

MD NN UM

25

20

15

10

5

0

ED

SD

Palmer Drought Severity Index
Extreme Drought
Severe Drought
Moderate Drought
Moderate Drought
Near Normal
Unusually Moist
Very Moist
Extremely Moist

Neutral category ranges from -1.9 to +1.9

Annual 100-Degree Days

 1874

 1874

 1874

 1874

 1879

 1879

 1879

 1879

 1879

 1879

 1879

 1879

 1879

 1879

 1879

 1879

 1889

 1989

 1999

 1994

 1954

 1954

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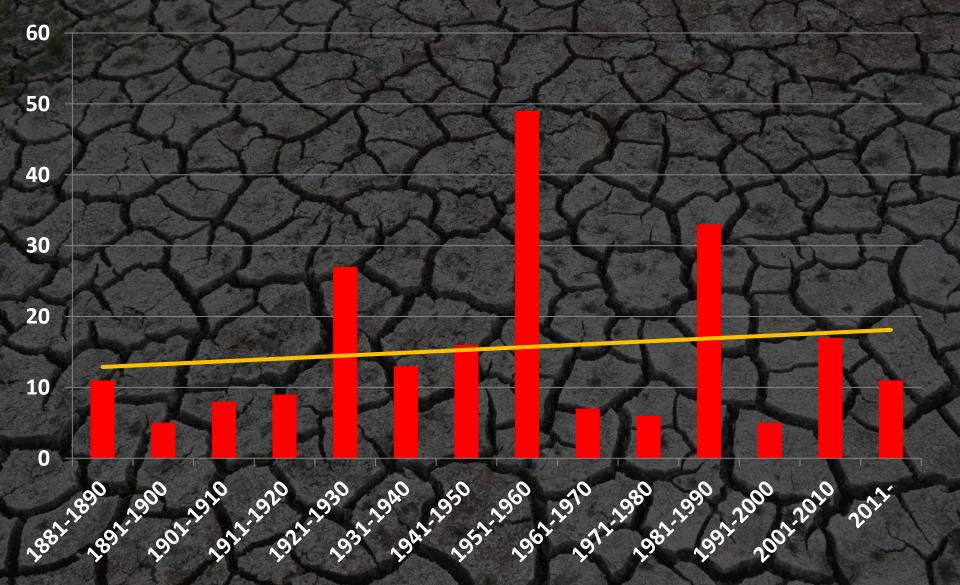
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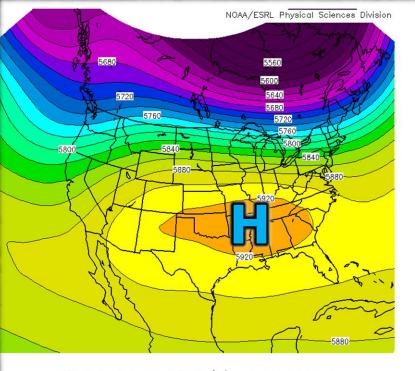
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Decadal 100-Degree Days



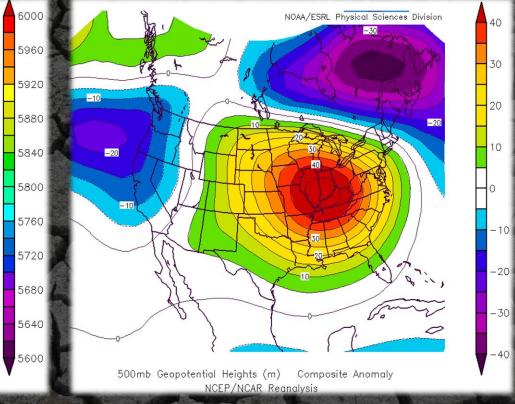
Synoptic Pattern

500 hPa Heights



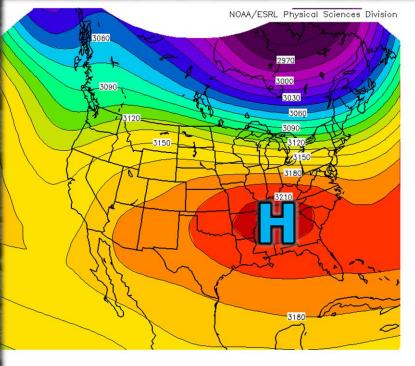
500mb Geopotential Heights (m) Composite Mean NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis

500 hPa Mean



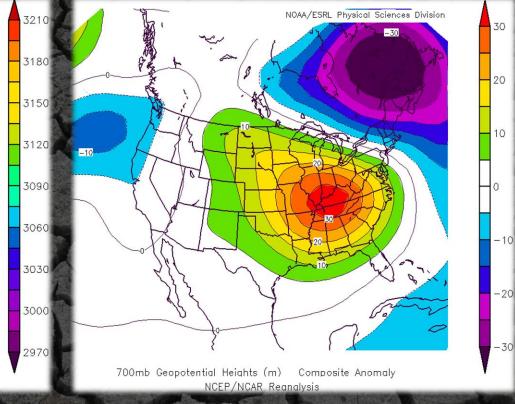
500 hPa Anomaly

700 hPa Heights



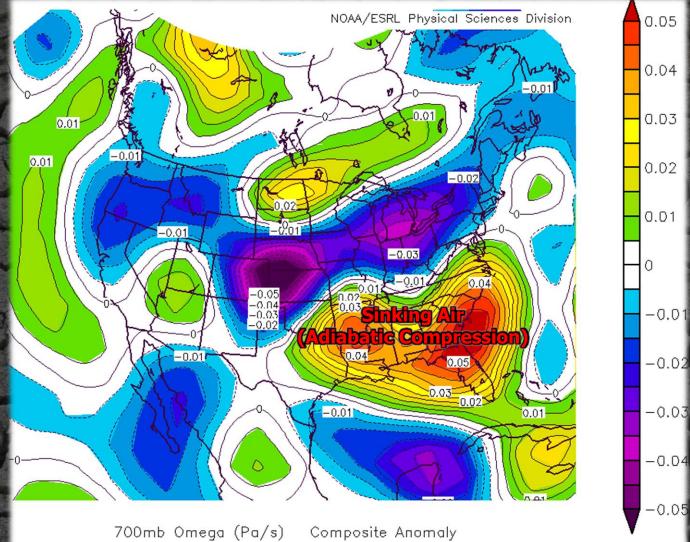
700mb Geopotential Heights (m) Composite Mean NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis

700 hPa Mean



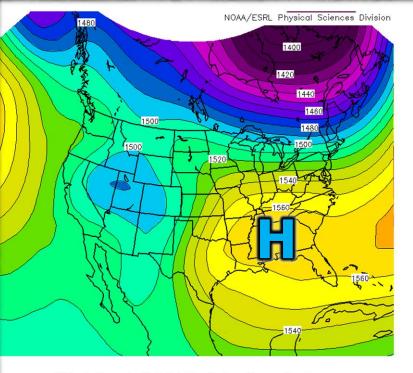
700 hPa Anomaly

700 hPa Omega



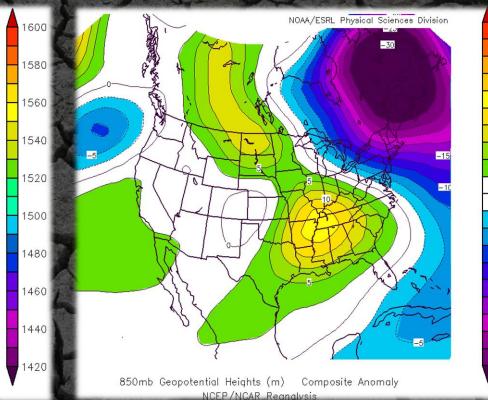
NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis

850 hPa Heights



850mb Geopotential Heights (m) Composite Mean NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis

850 hPa Mean



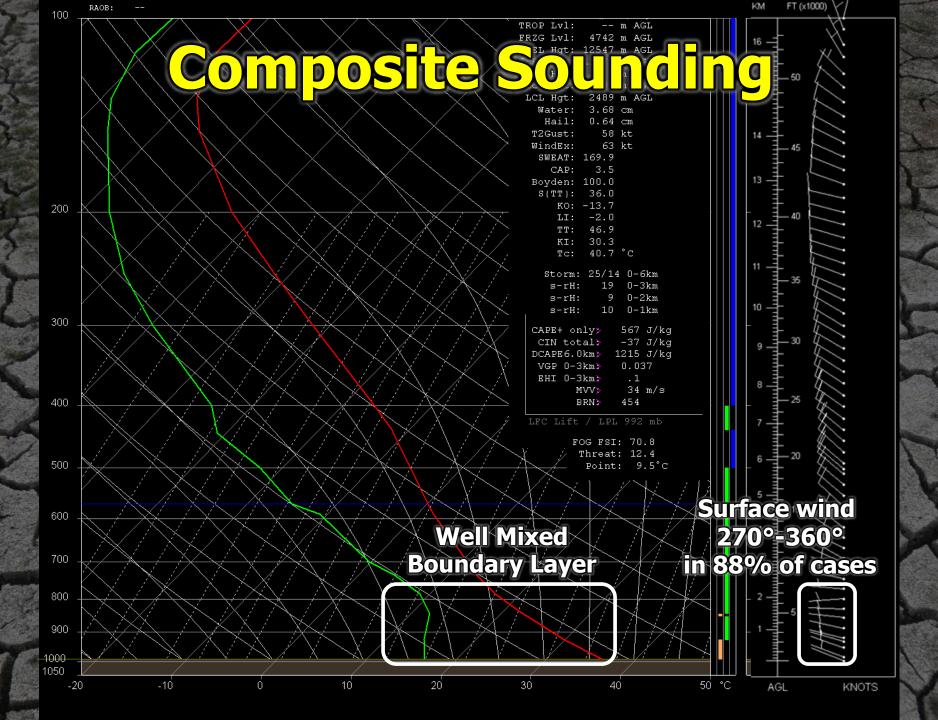
20

15

10

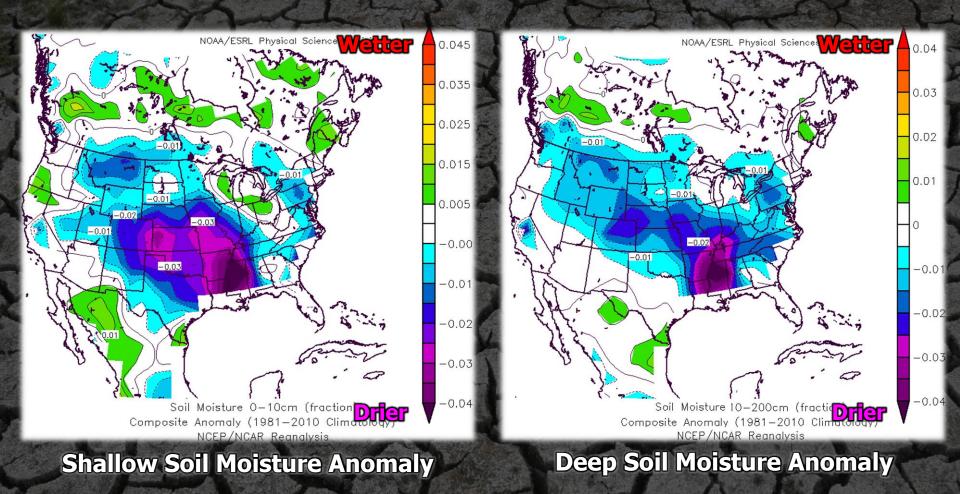
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850 hPa Anomaly



Moisture & Rainfall

Soil Moisture



Rainfall

	Previous 30-Days Rain	30-Day Departure	Year-To- Date Departure	Days Since Last 1″ Rain
Mean	1.65‴	-1.99″	-4.18	54
Highest	6.90	2,99	11.75	170
Lowest	0.05	-4.35	-15.52	7

The 30-day rainfall departure was only above normal 8 times out of 228 times. 96.5% of the time a 100-degree temperature occurred, the 30-day rainfall departure was below normal.

Rainfall -- Isolated vs. Multiple 100-Degree Days



30-day & YTD rainfall departure are statistically significant between isolated 100 days and multiple 100 days.

Dew Points -- Isolated vs. Multiple 100-Degree Days

Isolated 100 Days (< 4)	Dew Point	
Mean	67.3°	
TASA	X-V-7	
Multiple 100 Days (> 4)	Dew Point	
Mean	64.10	
1A-A-CA	274	
T-Test	Dew Point	
P-value	0.03	

Dew point is statistically significant between isolated 100 days and multiple 100 days.

100-Degree Decision Tree

