

Narrative Summary – August 2012

August 2012 was warmer than normal, averaging 77.8°F, 2.0° above normal (75.8°F). The hottest August (1967) averaged 81.5°F, while the coolest (1964) averaged 69.8°F. There were 22 days in August with maximum temperatures $\geq 90^\circ\text{F}$ compared to an August normal of 18. There have been 55 days this year with maximum temperatures $\geq 90^\circ\text{F}$ compared to a normal (through August) of 49 days. There were 9 days in August with maximum temperatures $\geq 100^\circ\text{F}$ which is above normal for August(5). There have been 16 days this year with maximum temperatures $\geq 100^\circ\text{F}$ compared to a normal (through August) of 13. The following daily temperatures records were established during August 2012:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>New Record</u>	<u>Old Record</u>	<u>Year</u>
7	High Minimum	76	75	1945

Precipitation for August 2012 totaled a trace, 0% of normal (0.18 inch). The wettest August (1977) received 1.36 inches, while the driest (1955 and 1988) received no precipitation. Total precipitation for 2012 (through August) is 4.89 inches, 117% of normal (4.19 inches).

The average wind speed for August 2012 was 8.1 miles per hour (mph), which was slightly above normal (8.0 mph). The windiest August (1996) averaged 9.5 mph, while the August with the lightest winds (1956) averaged 6.0 mph. The peak gust for August 2012 was 48 mph on August 23. The record wind gust for August was 66 mph in 1961.

The summer season of 2012 (June, July and August) was slightly cooler than normal, averaging 74.0°F, 0.2° below normal (74.2°F). The hottest summer (1958) averaged 78.2°F, while the coolest summer (1980) averaged 70.2°F. The summer's highest maximum temperature was 108°F on July 8. The highest maximum temperature ever recorded at the Hanford Meteorology Station (113°F was recorded on August 4, 1961, July 13, 2002, and July 23, 2006). Summer season precipitation totaled 1.66 inches, 180% of normal (0.92 inch). The wettest summer (1950) received 2.99 inches, while the driest (1973) received only 0.03 inch.

The monthly climatological data summaries, as well as other information, are available on the Internet:

<http://www.hanford.gov/hms>

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Note: The data in this summary pertain specifically to the Hanford Meteorology Station (HMS), which is located approximately 25 miles northwest of Richland, WA. No attempt should be made to infer meteorological conditions at other locations from these data.