

Narrative Summary – August 2009

August 2009 was warmer than normal, averaging 76.3°F, 0.9° above normal (75.4°F). The hottest August (1967) averaged 81.5°F, while the coolest (1964) averaged 69.8°F. There were 15 days in August with maximum temperatures $\geq 90^\circ\text{F}$ compared to an August normal of 17. There have been 51 days this year with maximum temperatures $\geq 90^\circ\text{F}$ compared to a normal (through August) of 52 days. There were 6 days in August with maximum temperatures $\geq 100^\circ\text{F}$ which is normal for August. There have been 19 days this year with maximum temperatures $\geq 100^\circ\text{F}$ compared to a normal (through August) of 12. The following daily temperatures records were established during August 2009:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>New Record</u>	<u>Old Record</u>	<u>Year</u>
1	High Maximum	109	109	1971 Tie
2	High Minimum	77	75	1977+others
15	Low Minimum	50	51	1974
20	High Maximum	105	105	1967 Tie

Precipitation for August 2009 totaled 0.04 inches, 15% of normal (0.27 inch). The wettest August (1977) received 1.36 inches, while the driest (1955 and 1988) received no precipitation. Total precipitation for 2009 (through August) is 3.36 inches, 83% of normal (4.07 inches).

The average wind speed for August 2009 was 8.4 miles per hour (mph), which was 0.5 mph above normal (7.9 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 2009 was 41 mph on August 21. The record wind gust for August was 66 mph in 1961.

The summer season of 2009 (June, July and August) was warmer than normal, averaging 75.8°F, 2.1° above normal (73.7°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 109°F on August 1. 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 0.20 inches, 21% of normal (0.95 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.

Address: <http://hms.pnl.gov/>

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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.