

The Alabama Climate Report

Brought to you by the Office of the Alabama Climatologist

Volume 4, Number 11, August 2014



Dr. John Christy, Alabama State Climatologist

You might already have heard, but Alabama's record for consecutive years in which no station saw temperatures reach or top 100 degrees remains unbroken at ... one. (We've done that only six times in more than 100 years, including the summer of 2013.)

After a relatively mild June and July, we had a slightly warmer than normal August with a relative handful of sites hitting or going just over the 100 degree mark. August 6, 2014, was the first 100 degree day in more than two years at an Alabama station. The last time that occurred was 101 degrees reported on August 2, 2012, at both Russellville and Muscle Shoals. Stations reporting 100 or higher in August 2014 were:

Temp	Date	Station
102°	24	BON SECOUR ALABAMA
102°	23	ONEONTA
102°	24	ONEONTA
102°	25	ONEONTA
102°	7	TALLADEGA ALABAMA
101°	6	ANDALUSIA OPP AIRPORT
101°	6	HELENA
100°	7	ANDALUSIA OPP AIRPORT
100°	23	BON SECOUR ALABAMA
100°	8	CLAYTON
100°	9	CLAYTON
100°	25	ENTERPRISE 2 W
100°	23	EUFAULA WEEDON FIELD AIRPORT
100°	23	EVERGREEN MIDDLETON FIELD
100°	24	EVERGREEN MIDDLETON FIELD
100°	8	GAINESVILLE
100°	21	HELENA
100°	22	MONTGOMERY 6 SW
100°	23	MONTGOMERY 6 SW
100°	23	MONTGOMERY AIRPORT
100°	23	OAKMULGEE ALABAMA
100°	23	OPEN POND FTS ALABAMA

100°	24	OPEN POND FTS ALABAMA
100°	24	OZARK FORT RUCKER
100°	8	TALLADEGA ALABAMA
100°	23	TUSCALOOSA ACFD
100°	24	SELMA 13 WNW

All days are in August. If there is an "ALABAMA" in the name, it is a Forest Service Station (not NOAA or FAA).

So, it seems Alabama saw two mini-heat waves in August: 6th-8th and 23rd-25th.

Lest anyone think this is a long list of high temperatures, the total number of station-days of 100 degrees or higher in August 2007 was 1,119 statewide — about 30 percent of all reports. During August 2007 there were 26 stations that reported maximum temperatures of at least 106 degrees, with the hottest that year being a scorching 109 degrees in Hamilton on Aug. 16! (It should be noted that August 2007 was also the warmest August in Alabama's 100+ year climate record.)

While much of the state was slightly warmer than normal this August, it was only slightly warmer. According to NWS reports, average temperatures this August compared to August norms:

Anniston	±0.0°
Birmingham	+0.4°
Calera	+1.1°
Decatur	-0.5°
Dothan	+0.8°
Huntsville	+0.3°
Mobile	+0.4°
Montgomery	+1.2°
Muscle Shoals	-1.2°
Troy	+0.5°
Tuscaloosa	+0.4°

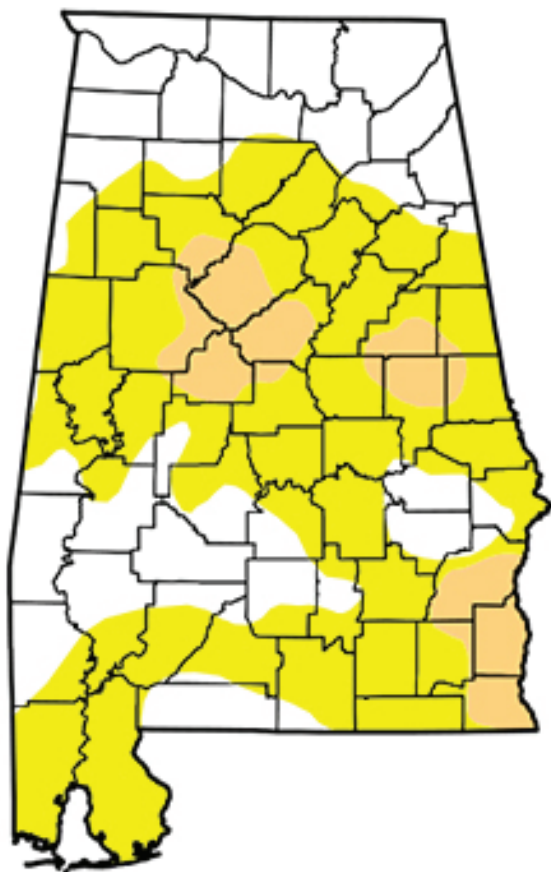
The average of those eleven stations puts a statewide average at 0.31 degrees warmer than the normal August average, with only Decatur and Muscle Shoals coming in cooler than normal for the month.

As is often the case, warmer summer temperatures mean less rainfall. Of those same eleven cities, only Anniston (+0.15"), Birmingham (+0.34") and Muscle Shoals (+0.77") saw higher than normal rainfall in August. Several places saw significant shortfalls: Dothan was 2.3" short in August, while Mobile was more than four inches below normal in August precipitation.

- John Christy

U.S. Drought Monitor Alabama

August 26, 2014
(Released Thursday, Aug. 28, 2014)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	36.66	63.34	10.18	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 09/20/2014	54.84	45.16	4.13	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 02/27/2014	91.80	8.20	0.54	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12/31/2013	97.35	2.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10/1/2013	96.85	3.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 08/27/2013	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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.

Author:
David Simeral
Western Regional Climate Center



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

Alabama Monthly Climate Summaries

August 2014

	Station Began	August Mean August Norm	August Hi Temp Record Hi	August Low Temp Record Low	Total Precip. Normal Prec.	Wettest August Driest August	Heaviest Day Record Day
Anniston	2/1903	79.6°	99° 8/7/14	57° 8/14/14	3.44"	7.54" 1974	1.15" 8/17/14
		79.5°	106° 8/21/83	50° 8/28/52	3.35"	0.50" 1983	5.57" 8/24/87
Auburn	1/1893	78.1°	93° 8/24/14	63° 8/26/14	1.34"	11.03" 1944	.56" 8/3/14
		79.7°	106° 8/20/25	54° 8/29/88	4.29"	0.01" 1925	3.73" 8/17/39
Birmingham	1/1930	81.1°	99° 8/7/14	62° 8/15/14	4.27"	8.98" 1998	1.48" 8/18-19/14
		79.6°	104° 8/8/35	51° 8/31/46	3.48"	0.38" 1989	4.15" 8/2/41
Brewton	4/1977	78.8°	94.6° 8/24/14	64.4° 8/15/14	6.35"	14.69" 1977	3.34" 8/12/14
		79.7°	104°+ 8/13/54	53°+ 8/30/88	5.64"	1.67" 1980	7.20" 8/4/95
Calera	9/1900	81.2°	97° 8/23/14	63° 8/14/14	2.95"	15.00" 1939	2.24" 8/8/14
		78.4°	102° 8/10/56	50° 8/26/86	4.23"	0.33" 1998	5.70" 8/26/08
Clanton	2/1893	78.1°	97.1° 8/7/14	60.0° 8/14/14	4.88"	7.98" 1974	1.41" 8/30/14
		78.3°	105° 8/8/35	51° 8/24/57	3.73"	0.45" 1990	6.75" 8/26/70
Courtland		76.8°	93.4° 8/23/14	57.1° 8/14/14	2.06"	M	0.58" 8/30/14
		M	M	M	M	M	M
Cullman	7/1907	75.5°	92.1° 8/7/14	55.1° 8/14/14	3.00"	M	1.26" 8/18/14
		M	M	M	M	M	M
Decatur	2/1880	78.4°	97° 8/23/14	53° 8/14/14	1.57"	11.93" 1919	0.44" 8/30/14
		79.8°	107° 8/1/35	52° 8/26/17	3.61"	0.00" 1962	3.95" 8/22/60
Dothan	2/1902	81.9°	99° 8/23/14	63° 8/28/14	2.18"	20.85" 1939	1.65" 8/11-12/14
		81.2°	103° 8/26/38	43° 8/24/1902	4.81"	1.47" 1958	4.80" 8/10/31
Fairhope	8/1917	80.0°	96.4° 8/24/14	64.9° 8/15/14	2.35"	14.23" 1984	.72" 8/9/14
		81.1°	102° 8/30/00	60°+ 8/30/92	6.22"	1.25" 1997	5.74" 8/2/84
Gadsden	7/1893	79.0°	99° 8/7/14	57° 8/14/14	1.07"	9.52" 1992	.66" 8/9/14
		78.9°	105° 8/16/54	52°+ 8/12/87	3.65"	0.10" 1983	3.32" 8/6/60
Gainesville Lock	6/1948	78.4°	97.6° 8/7/14	60.6° 8/14/14	5.31"	8.11" 1992	1.81" 8/7/14
		80.3°	103°+ 8/30/00	55° 8/30/86	2.91"	0.37" 1990	4.12" 8/10/70
Greensboro	2/1890	78.2°	98.4° 8/24/14	58.7° 8/14/14	1.14"	7.01" 1993	.72" 8/9/14
		81.3°	107° 8/26/43	55° 8/22/56	3.30"	1.16" 1989	4.22" 8/31/61
Highland Home	3/1892	78.7°	95° 8/23/14	63.3° 8/26/14	2.73"	8.28" 1984	1.08" 8/7/14
		79.0°	103° 8/9/54	56° 8/29/92	4.30"	0.89" 1997	3.65" 8/12/86
Huntsville	1/1959	80.4°	97° 8/23/14	57° 8/14/14	3.08"	9.81" 1986	1.55" 8/18/14
		78.9°	108° 8/8/30	50° 8/10/1954	3.42"	0.58" 1998	4.29" 8/10/86

Alabama Monthly Climate Summaries

August 2014

	Station Began	August Mean August Norm	August Hi Temp Record Hi	August Low Temp Record Lo	Total Precip. Normal Prec.	Wettest August Driest August	Heaviest Day Record Day
Mobile	3/1900	82.0°	98° 8/24/14	67° 8/15/14	2.83"	15.19" 1984	1.13" 8/27-28/14
		81.3°	105° 8/29/2000	57° 8/25/1891	6.20"	1.04" 1997	5.65" 8/1/84
Montgomery	6/1948	82.7°	100° 8/23/14	63° 8/15/14	3.41"	10.43" 1984	1.07" 8/17-18/14
		81.2°	104°+ 8/24/83	56° 8/29/92	3.63"	0.73" 1997	5.38" 8/2/84
Muscle Shoals	12/1940	76.7°	93.9° 8/7/14	57.5° 8/14/14	3.84"	6.78" 1979	1.02" 8/9/14
		79.1°	105°+ 8/16/54	53°+ 8/29/92	2.96"	0.15" 1990	3.43" 8/25/76
Russellville	9/1953	74.9°	91.1° 8/28/14	55° 8/14/14	5.19"	6.83" 1997	1.54" 8/2/14
		77.0°	103°+ 8/30/00	46°+ 8/29/67	2.97"	0.07" 1999	3.69" 8/16/85
Scottsboro	10/1891	74.3°	91.6° 8/22/14	55.4° 8/14/14	6.12"	7.70" 1985	1.85" 8/18/14
		77.7°	105°+ 8/16/54	46° 8/23/82	3.43"	0.74" 1999	4.39" 8/11/01
Selma	1/1895	79.0°	97.4° 8/24/14	57.8° 8/15/14	2.38"	8.84" 1984	0.77" 8/30/14
		81.0°	105°+ 8/30/54	57°+ 8/30/92	4.01"	0.71" 1990	5.35" 8/15/39
Talladega	2/1888	77.8°	97.8° 8/7/14	59.0° 8/14/14	2.44"	9.11" 1984	0.64" 8/7/14
		77.3°	103° 8/16/54	46° 8/23/50	3.52"	0.60" 1999	4.30" 8/11/82
Thomasville	9/1891	78.2°	96.2° 8/24/14	59.0° 8/15/14	3.45"	9.01" 1996	1.24" 8/18/14
		80.9°	105°+ 8/31/54	53° 8/22/56	3.88"	1.02" 1989	6.05" 8/14/39
Troy	6/1908	80.8°	98° 8/23/14	62° 8/28/14	3.03"	8.38" 1996	1.24" 8/8/14
		80.2°	106° 8/28/54	55° 8/31/46	3.56"	0.55" 1989	6.75" 8/31/61
Tuscaloosa	6/1948	81.7°	99° 8/23/14	62° 8/15/14	2.55"	8.84" 1970	1.08" 8/9/14
		81.2°	107° 8/10/07	53° 8/22/56	3.80"	0.57" 1953	2.87" 8/10/67
Valley Head	1/1893	73.3°	90.5° 8/7/14	52.7° 8/14/14	4.78"	6.68" 1981	1.37" 8/20/14
		75.3°	105° 8/16/54	46° 8/13/64	3.49"	0.58" 1983	3.61" 8/4/84
Statewide August 2014		78.92°	100° Montgomery	52.7° V. Head	3.31"	20.85" Dothan	3.34" Brewton
	August Norm	79.52°	108° Huntsville	43° Dothan	3.94"	0.00" Decatur	7.20" Brewton

M: Data is missing or not available

*New Record

#This data is missing this month due to an instrument malfunction

^ This record differs from long-term data in the AOSC climate database:

http://nsstc.uah.edu/alcimate/climate/daily_climate_and_normals.php

Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Snow Network (CoCoRAHS)

July 2014

Normal

July

Precipitation*

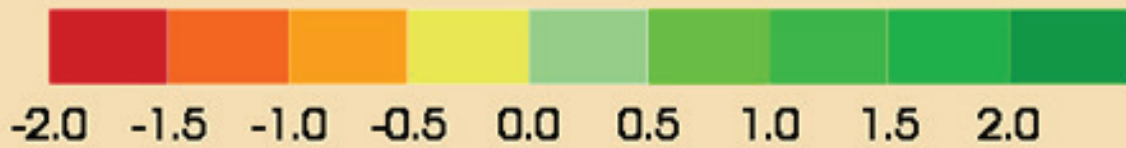
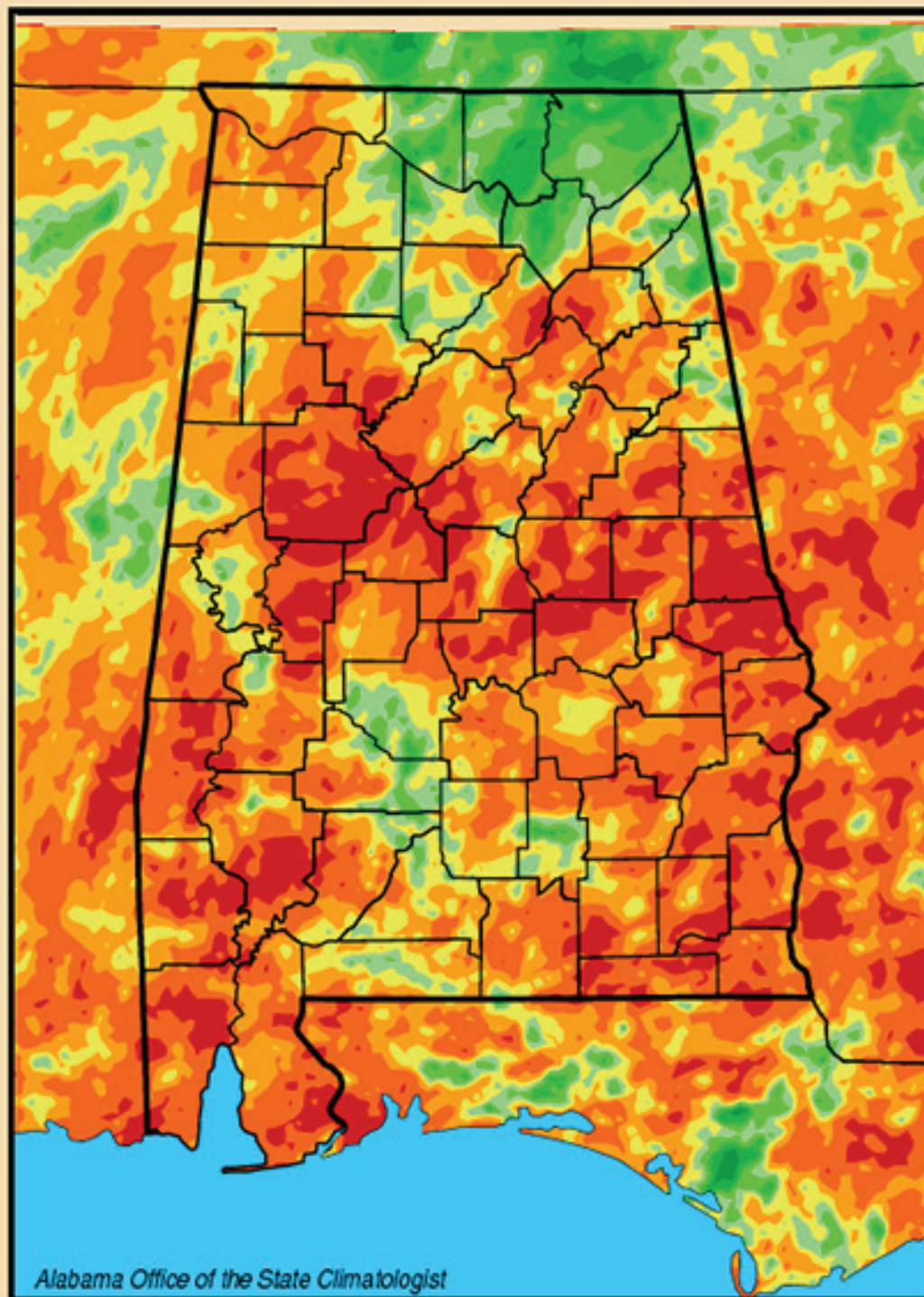
Abbeville	6.14"
Alberta	5.00"
Alex City	5.14"
Aliceville	4.55"
Andalusia	6.47"
Ashland	5.64"
Athens	4.30"
Bay Minette	8.08"
Bessemer	5.25"
Billingsley	5.33"
Centreville WSMO	5.15"
Chatom	6.21"
Claiborne L&D	5.39"
Clayton	5.91"
Dauphin Isl.	6.43"
Elba	6.45"
Eufaula WR	5.14"
Evergreen	6.41"
Fayette	4.77"
Geneva 2	5.94"
Greenville	5.86"
Haleyville	4.94"
Hamilton 3S	4.67"
Heflin	4.82"
Hurtsboro	5.23"
Jasper	5.25"
Lafayette	5.52"
Livingston	5.76"
Melvin	5.94"
Milstead	5.19"
Moulton	4.47"
Oneonta	5.66"
Perryville	5.04"
Plantersville	5.18"
Rock Mills	5.12"
Rockford	5.82"
Sylacauga	5.13"
Union Springs	5.62"
Uniontown	5.11"
Vernon	5.29"
Warrior L&D	4.12"
Wetumpka	4.71"

	Ave. Total Precip.	# Stations
Autauga	3.50	3
Baldwin	6.72	24
Barbour	n.a.	0
Bibb	5.69	1
Blount	1.60	9
Bullock	n.a.	0
Butler	n.a.	0
Calhoun	3.26	2
Chambers	n.a.	0
Cherokee	3.66	1
Chilton	1.77	2
Choctaw	1.84	1
Clarke	2.49	3
Clay	n.a.	0
Cleburne	n.a.	0
Coffee	5.19	1
Colbert	5.69	7
Conecuh	n.a.	0
Coosa	2.95	2
Covington	n.a.	0
Crenshaw	n.a.	0
Cullman	2.05	4
Dale	5.16	2
Dallas	3.81	1
DeKalb	3.48	2
Elmore	3.96	7
Escambia	3.82	1
Etowah	5.86	1
Fayette	2.84	3
Franklin	n.a.	0
Geneva	n.a.	0
Greene	n.a.	0
Hale	n.a.	0
Henry	n.a.	0

	Ave. Total Precip.	# Stations
Houston	3.80	1
Jackson	5.61	7
Jefferson	1.92	13
Lamar	4.00	1
Lauderdale	6.31	11
Lawrence	5.16	2
Lee	2.76	4
Limestone	4.05	11
Lowndes	n.a.	0
Macon	n.a.	0
Madison	4.63	56
Marengo	n.a.	0
Marion	2.97	1
Marshall	3.17	11
Mobile	6.13	15
Monroe	2.68	2
Montgomery	3.65	3
Morgan	3.12	9
Perry	n.a.	0
Pickens	2.43	1
Pike	n.a.	0
Randolph	4.69	1
Russell	6.05	2
St. Clair	1.25	4
Shelby	1.76	22
Sumter	n.a.	0
Talladega	1.83	6
Tallapoosa	4.70	4
Tuscaloosa	2.07	4
Walker	n.a.	0
Washington	3.33	1
Wilcox	3.05	2
Winston	4.21	2

*Southeast Regional Climate Center
www.serrc.com

Lawn-and-Garden Moisture Index for September 1, 2014



Alabama Climate Report Climate Extremes

Wettest - Driest

Statewide Average Precipitation

http://www.sercc.com/climateinfo/monthly_seasonal.html
Record begins in 1895

Alabama Climate Report Climate Extremes

Hottest - Coldest

Statewide Average Temperature

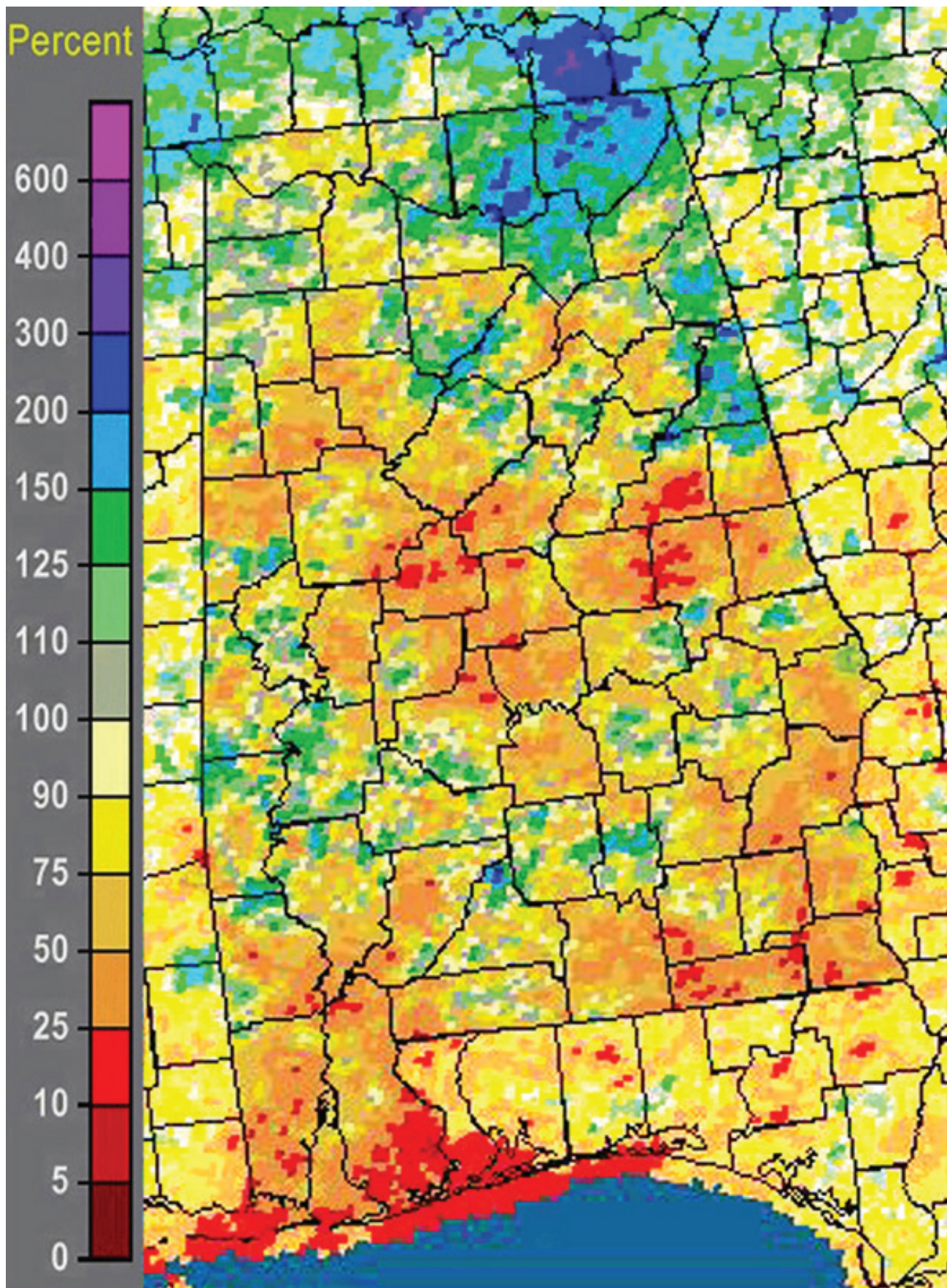
http://www.sercc.com/climateinfo/monthly_seasonal.html
Record begins in 1895

Year to Date

Wettest	1.	1929	39.86"
	2.	1980	36.48"
	3.	1979	36.19"
	4.	1991	36.02"
	5.	1983	35.63"
	6.	1973	35.23"
	7.	1975	34.46"
	8.	1990	34.31"
	9.	1922	34.24"
	10.	1912	34.03"
	11.	1944	33.92"
	12.	1964	33.68"
January through May 2014	33.	2014	28.03"
	AVG		25.26"
	12.	1967	18.30"
	11.	1927	18.06"
	10.	2000	17.88"
	9.	1910	17.54"
	8.	1904	17.52"
	7.	1931	17.19"
	6.	1954	16.94"
	5.	1986	16.06"
	4.	1914	15.22"
	3.	1898	14.59"
2.	1941	13.75"	
Driest	1.	2007	13.18"

Year-to-date

Hottest	1.	2012	61.04°
	2.	1927	60.34°
	3.	1911	59.60°
	4.	1938	59.46°
		1950	59.46°
	6.	1974	59.32°
	7.	1921	58.94°
	8.	1957	58.86°
	9.	1922	58.72°
	10.	1945	58.68°
		1990	58.68°
	12.	1925	58.64°
January through May 2014	AVG		56.34°
	12.	1979	54.06°
	11.	2014	53.90°
	10.	2010	53.86°
	9.	1971	53.72°
	8.	1895	53.58°
	7.	1924	53.48°
	6.	1968	53.44°
	5.	1983	53.42°
	4.	1960	53.22°
	3.	1958	52.58°
	2.	1940	51.94°
Coldest	1.	1978	51.90°



water.weather.gov

August 2014 NWS percentage of normal precipitation

Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Snow Network (CoCoRAHS)

August 2014

	Ave. Total Precip.	# Stations
Autauga	2.70	3
Baldwin	2.72	24
Barbour	n.a.	0
Bibb	0.80	1
Blount	2.73	9
Bullock	n.a.	0
Butler	n.a.	0
Calhoun	3.91	2
Chambers	n.a.	0
Cherokee	4.86	1
Chilton	3.56	2
Choctaw	1.95	1
Clarke	3.54	3
Clay	n.a.	0
Cleburne	n.a.	0
Coffee	1.62	1
Colbert	3.29	7
Conecuh	n.a.	0
Coosa	2.93	2
Covington	n.a.	0
Crenshaw	n.a.	0
Cullman	3.02	4
Dale	2.74	2
Dallas	2.39	1
DeKalb	2.18	4
Elmore	3.23	7
Escambia	4.75	1
Etowah	3.61	1
Fayette	2.33	2
Franklin	n.a.	0
Geneva	n.a.	0
Greene	n.a.	0
Hale	n.a.	0
Henry	n.a.	0

	Ave. Total Precip.	# Stations
Houston	2.73	1
Jackson	6.88	7
Jefferson	3.67	13
Lamar	2.68	1
Lauderdale	3.43	10
Lawrence	3.59	2
Lee	3.22	4
Limestone	2.56	11
Lowndes	n.a.	0
Macon	0.00	0
Madison	3.89	55
Marengo	n.a.	0
Marion	3.24	1
Marshall	4.54	12
Mobile	2.69	14
Monroe	1.45	2
Montgomery	2.50	3
Morgan	4.06	8
Perry	n.a.	0
Pickens	2.61	1
Pike	n.a.	0
Randolph	1.90	1
Russell	2.16	2
St. Clair	3.29	4
Shelby	3.50	22
Sumter	n.a.	0
Talladega	3.84	6
Tallapoosa	1.73	4
Tuscaloosa	2.92	4
Walker	n.a.	0
Washington	2.32	1
Wilcox	1.25	2
Winston	4.80	2

Normal August Precipitation*

Abbeville	4.52"
Alberta	4.16"
Alex City	4.40"
Aliceville	3.32"
Andalusia	5.38"
Ashland	4.22"
Athens	3.33"
Bay Minette	6.60"
Bessemer	3.70"
Billingsley	4.30"
Centreville WSMO	4.49"
Chatom	4.76"
Claiborne L&D	4.28"
Clayton	4.53"
Dauphin Isl.	7.12"
Elba	4.70"
Eufaula WR	3.81"
Evergreen	4.73"
Fayette	4.71"
Geneva 2	5.07"
Greenville	4.86"
Haleyville	4.21"
Hamilton 3S	4.04"
Heflin	3.39"
Hurtsboro	3.78"
Jasper	3.53"
Lafayette	3.76"
Livingston	3.72"
Melvin	4.40"
Milstead	4.13"
Moulton	3.77"
Oneonta	4.08"
Perryville	3.53"
Plantersville	4.18"
Rock Mills	3.91"
Rockford	4.20"
Sylacauga	4.12"
Union Springs	4.64"
Uniontown	3.92"
Vernon	3.40"
Warrior L&D	3.82"
Wetumpka	4.47"

*Southeast Regional Climate Center
www.serc.com

New Local Climate Records¹

August 2014

Minimum Low Temperature, Daily

	New Record	Previous Year	Previous Record	Period of Record
1 August 2014				
ATMORE	63	1997	67	74
CODEN	62	1994	67	57
DEMOPOLIS LOCK & DAM	58	2012	64	62
ENTERPRISE 2 W	64	1997	65	48
FAIRHOPE 2 NE.....	62	1918	64	96
GENEVA NUMBER 2.....	59	1993	63	38
GREENVILLE.....	59	1936	62	87
JACKSON	63	1984	67	30
2 August 2014				
GENEVA NUMBER 2.....	60	1997	65	38
12 August 2014				
MOBILE DTOWN AIRPORT.....	70	2003	71	65

Precipitation, Daily

	New Record	Previous Year	Previous Record	Period of Record
3 August 2014				
WEST BLOCTON	1.90"	1968	1.40	74
8 August 2014				
GAINESVILLE	1.76"	1993	1.35	66
9 August 2014				
DEMOPOLIS L&D	1.50	1974	0.94	62
MOBILE DT AIRPORT	1.58	1958	0.61	65
TALLADEGA	1.40	2005	1.16	126
WARRIOR LOCK & DAM	1.65	1995	1.50	56
10 August 2014				
ADDISON	1.84	1950	1.55	76
HOLT LOCK AND DAM	1.67	1997	1.45	33
JACKSON	1.43	2012	1.32	52
RUSSELLVILLE No. 2	1.45	1997	1.25	60
11 August 2014				
COFFEEVILLE L&D	2.30	1992	0.81	31
JACKSON	2.60	1996	1.86	52
WARRIOR LOCK & DAM	1.50	1970	1.15	56
12 August 2014				
SYLACAUGA 4 NE	3.25	2004	1.58	59
18 August 2014				
JONES BLUFF L&D	1.12	1982	0.28	33
MILLERS FERRY L&D	1.50	1987	0.92	33
19 August 2014				
BESSEMER 3 WSW	0.32	1990	0.21	37
CAHABA PUMP HOUSE	2.60	2002	0.64	32
20 August 2014				
WALLACE 2 E	2.00	1964	1.50	73
22 August 2014				
ALICEVILLE LOCK & DAM	1.52	1994	0.80	34
25 August 2014				
OPELIKA	2.00	1985	1.22	57
31 August 2014				
ADDISON	2.90	1950	1.87	76
CAHABA PUMP HOUSE	1.28	2009	0.62	32
GUNTERSVILLE	1.99	1961	1.64	109

¹ <http://lwf.ncdc.noaa.gov/extremes/records/>

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