

Climate and Weather Summary for September 2018

Temperatures in September averaged below normal at Abilene and San Angelo. Precipitation was well-above normal at both locations. Table 1 summarizes September 2018 temperature, precipitation, and departure from normal for Abilene and San Angelo.

Site	Average Temperature (°F)	Departure from Normal (°F)	Normal Average Temperature (°F)	Total Precipitation (In.)	Departure from Normal (In)	Normal September Precipitation (In.)
Abilene	74.1°	-1.4°	75.5°	5.75"	3.51"	2.24"
San Angelo	75.0°	-0.6°	75.6°	6.66"	4.20"	2.46"

Table 1: September Climate Data for Abilene and San Angelo.

Additional temperature and precipitation data for Abilene and San Angelo is summarized in Table 2.

Site	Warmest High Temperature (°F)	Warmest Low Temperature (°F)	Coollest High Temperature (°F)	Coollest Low Temperature (°F)	Maximum Daily Precipitation (In.)
Abilene	96° on Sep. 1	75° on Sep. 1	67° on Sep. 22	50° on Sep. 27	1.87" on Sep. 6
San Angelo	98° on Sep. 1	72° on Sep. 4, 6	68° on Sep. 22	55° on Sep. 27	2.35" on Sep. 7

Table 2: Additional September Climate Data for Abilene and San Angelo.

- 9th wettest September on record at San Angelo
- Record daily rainfall was recorded at San Angelo on September 7 and 21.
- San Angelo, Abilene, and Junction recorded no days in September with high temperatures 100 degrees or more.
- At San Angelo and Abilene, highs were 90 degrees or above on only 2 days. For San Angelo, only one year (1967) had fewer days (1 day) with highs 90 or above. For Abilene, only three years (1991, 1967, and 1906) had fewer days (1 day) with highs 90 or above.

Maps of total precipitation for September (Figure 1) and percentage of normal precipitation for September (Figure 2) are shown below.

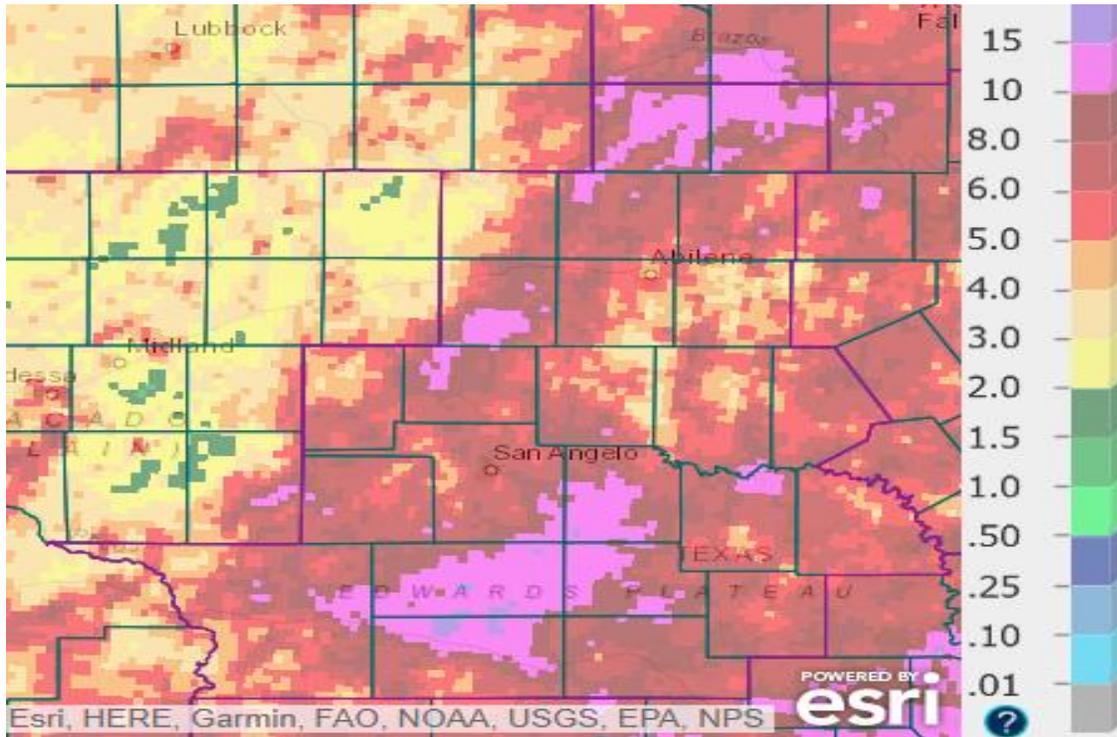


Figure 1: Total Precipitation for September.

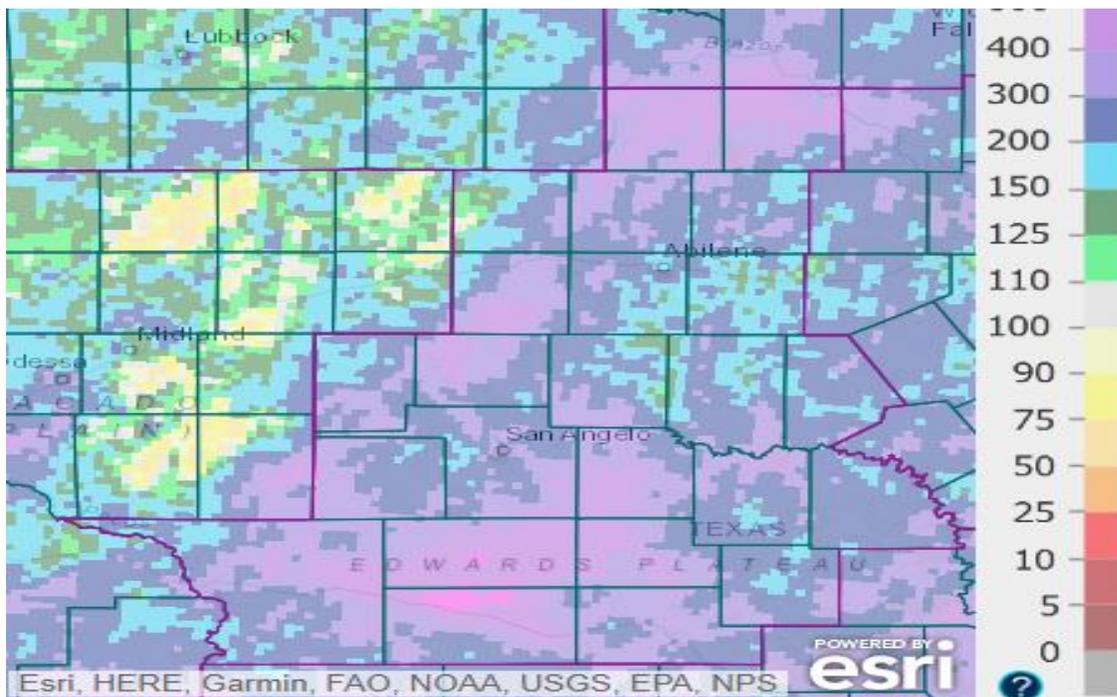


Figure 2: Percentage of Normal Precipitation for September.

Precipitation for September was well-above normal across [west-central Texas](#). The monthly rainfall was 10-15 inches across the areas in purple shading in Figure 1. Most of the area received 5-10 inches (red shading in Fig. 1). For most of west-central Texas, normal September rainfall is 2-3 inches (not shown). Thus, for much the area, September rainfall was 300-500 percent of normal (Figure 2).

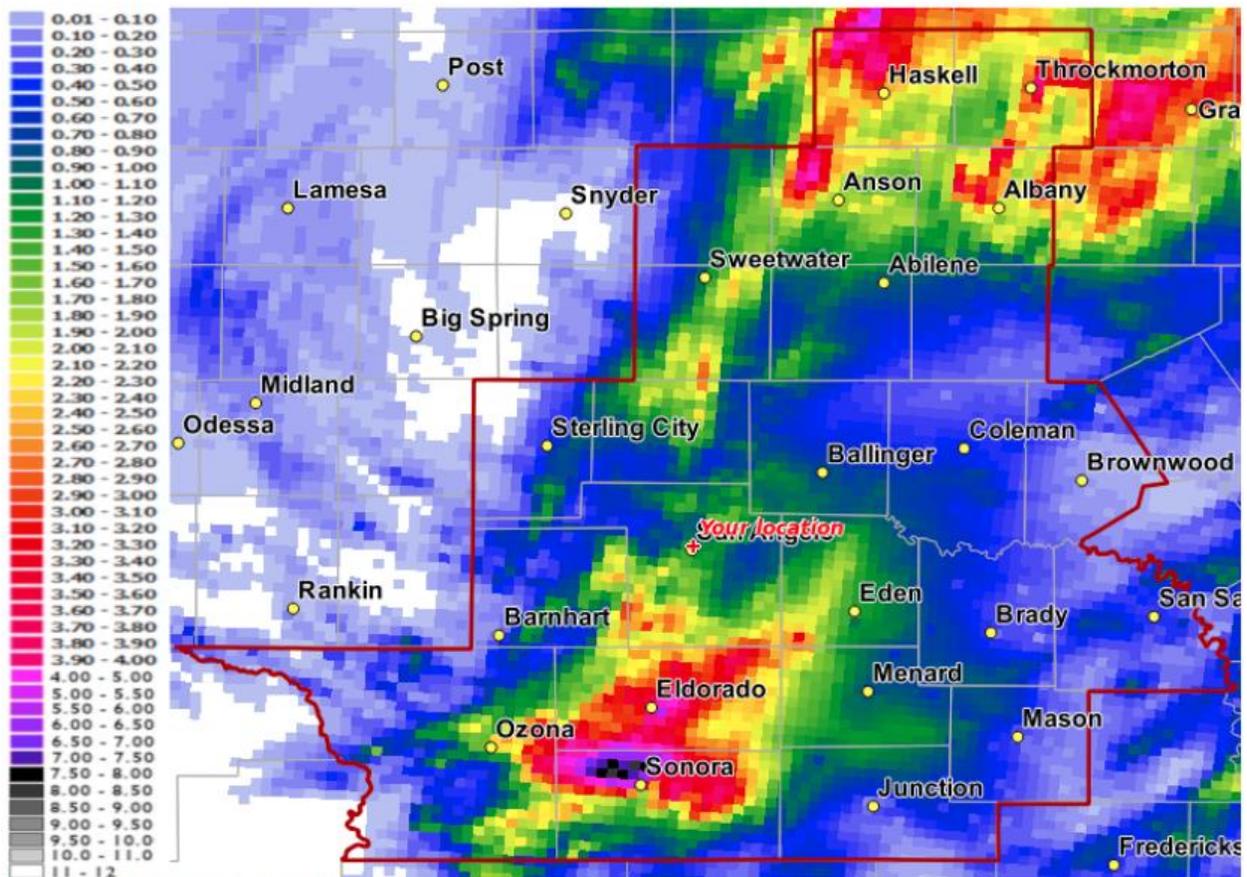
Weather Highlights:

September was a rather wet month across west-central Texas. Numerous rain events occurred during the month with showers, thunderstorms and heavy rainfall. This occurred as upper level disturbances interacted with moist air over the area.

The heavier rain events occurred primarily on the following dates during the month: Sep. 2-8; Sep. 15-16; and Sep. 21.

With the heavy rainfall on Sep. 21, a major flash flood occurred in Sonora. Rainfall amounts of 7-8 inches occurred in a 3-hour time span, in hilly terrain just northwest of Sonora. This rainfall is shown on the map below. The excessive water runoff led to major flash flooding in Sonora.

West Texas Daily Rainfall Totals
24Hr Rainfall Ending: Sep 22 2018 7:00AM



Note: Rainfall amounts consist of both rain gauge data and radar precipitation estimates.

Flooding of several area highways also occurred with the Sep. 21 rainfall. Most of the road flooding occurred in the Big Country north of Abilene, and in the [Northern Edwards Plateau](#). The most notable road closures included a portion of Interstate 10, across Sutton County, and U.S. Highway 277 north of Sonora.

With the ground nearly saturated from previous rain events during the month, the heavy rainfall on Sep. 21 produced considerable water runoff into lakes, streams and rivers. This led to flooding along the California Creek in the northern Big Country, and along the South Concho River at Christoval.

The increase in area reservoir levels, between Sep. 1 and Sep. 24, is shown in the table below.

Name of Reservoir	September 1 Percent Full	September 24 Percent Full	Percent Increase September 1-24
Lake Sweetwater	13.7	19.7	+6.0
Lake Stamford	66.8	100.0	+33.2
Lake Abilene	32.3	46.4	+14.1
Fort Phantom Hill	75.5	83.0	+7.5
E.V. Spence	11.6	13.2	+1.6
Twin Buttes	3.0	10.5	+7.5
O.H. Ivie	13.6	15.1	+1.5

Source of Data: Texas Water Development Board

With increased cloud cover and rain in September, daytime temperatures were limited to the 70s for highs, on several days during the month. The second half of September was marked by temperature changes with a few cold frontal passages.

Temperatures were much cooler on Sep. 26, following passage of a stronger cold front. Clearing skies and light winds allowed temperatures to dip into the 50s for early morning lows, across most of west-central Texas on the 27th. This was the first occurrence with low temperatures in the 50s since early May.

[Additional Tabular and Graphical Daily Climate Data](#)