

Weather 101

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August Rainfall Still Has Time to Catch Up in El Paso

August is typically El Paso's wettest month of the year, thanks in large part to the summer monsoon season. But with just under two weeks remaining in August, the city is still waiting for the kind of rainfall that would put the month closer to its seasonal average.

So far this August, El Paso has recorded **0.93 inches of rain**, leaving the city roughly **1.17 inches short** of the **2.10-inch average** for the month.

That means El Paso would need another 1.18 inches before the end of August to reach its stated monthly average.

The National Weather Service's official 1991–2020 climate normals list August as El Paso's wettest month, although its current normal at the El Paso International Airport station is about **1.67 inches**.

Regardless of the exact climate baseline being used, August remains a critical month for El Paso's annual rainfall totals. And there is still time on the calendar.

With more than a week remaining in August, the city has several opportunities for additional monsoon thunderstorms. A few well-placed storms could quickly narrow the rainfall deficit—or potentially push the month above average.

September offers another opportunity

If August comes up short, September could provide another chance to make up ground. September is also one of El Paso's wetter months, with the National Weather Service showing a **1.52-inch 1991–2020 precipitation normal** for the month.

That makes the next several weeks particularly important for the city's rainfall totals. The combination of the final stretch of the monsoon season in August and the continued potential for storms in September could determine whether El Paso finishes the late-summer period near, above or below its normal rainfall.

With more than a week left in the month, August still has plenty of time to make a run at average rainfall—and we will all be watching the skies.



Weather Trivia:

September and October are just around the corner. What are these 2 months known for?

- A. Uptick in Severe Weather
- B. Lots of Cold Fronts
- C. Blowing dust and sand
- D. Much Drier weather

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Answer: A - Chance for more severe storms

"Doppler" Dave Speelman is the chief meteorologist at KVIATV in El Paso. You can watch his forecasts at 4, 5, 6 and 10 pm on ABC-7(channel 6 cable). If you would like Doppler Dave to address (explain) any weather issues you can email him at Dopplerdave@kvia.com.

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