

houston weather history by month

Houston weather history by month reveals a fascinating tapestry of climatic patterns that shape the lives of its residents. Houston, Texas, known for its vibrant culture and booming economy, experiences a diverse range of weather conditions throughout the year. From the sweltering heat of summer to the mild winters, understanding the monthly weather history can help residents and visitors alike prepare for what to expect. Below, we delve into the weather patterns of Houston, month by month, providing insights into temperature averages, precipitation, and notable weather events.

January

January in Houston typically marks the heart of winter, although temperatures can fluctuate.

Temperature Averages

- Average high: 61°F (16°C)
- Average low: 42°F (6°C)

Precipitation

January is one of the wetter months, with an average of 3.3 inches (84 mm) of rain, as winter storms can occasionally bring cold fronts.

Notable Weather Events

- January 1985: A significant cold snap brought temperatures down to 18°F (-8°C) in Houston, marking one of the coldest days in the city's recorded history.

February

February continues the winter trend, but temperatures gradually begin to rise.

Temperature Averages

- Average high: 64°F (18°C)

- Average low: 45°F (7°C)

Precipitation

February averages about 3.1 inches (79 mm) of rainfall.

Notable Weather Events

- February 2021: A historic winter storm hit Texas, causing widespread power outages and bringing unprecedented cold; Houston experienced temperatures below freezing for several days.

March

March marks the transition from winter to spring, with a notable increase in temperatures.

Temperature Averages

- Average high: 71°F (22°C)

- Average low: 53°F (12°C)

Precipitation

March typically sees around 3.5 inches (89 mm) of rain, and thunderstorms become more common as the month progresses.

Notable Weather Events

- March 2016: Severe storms caused flash flooding in the region, highlighting the potential for heavy rain during this transitional month.

April

April is one of the wettest months in Houston, with spring in full swing.

Temperature Averages

- Average high: 77°F (25°C)
- Average low: 58°F (14°C)

Precipitation

April averages about 4.3 inches (109 mm) of rain.

Notable Weather Events

- April 1979: A devastating tornado outbreak affected the Houston area, resulting in significant damage and several fatalities.

May

May is characterized by warm temperatures and a mix of sun and rain.

Temperature Averages

- Average high: 83°F (28°C)
- Average low: 66°F (19°C)

Precipitation

May can be quite rainy, with an average of 5.3 inches (135 mm) of precipitation.

Notable Weather Events

- May 2015: Severe flooding occurred following heavy rains, leading to road closures and emergency declarations in several areas.

June

June marks the beginning of summer in Houston, with rising temperatures and humidity.

Temperature Averages

- Average high: 90°F (32°C)
- Average low: 73°F (23°C)

Precipitation

June typically sees an average of 4.9 inches (124 mm) of rain, often in the form of thunderstorms.

Notable Weather Events

- June 2001: Tropical Storm Allison caused widespread flooding in Houston, resulting in billions of dollars in damages.

July

July is often the hottest month in Houston, with oppressive heat and humidity.

Temperature Averages

- Average high: 94°F (34°C)
- Average low: 75°F (24°C)

Precipitation

Despite the heat, July averages about 3.4 inches (86 mm) of rain, primarily from afternoon thunderstorms.

Notable Weather Events

- July 1998: A heat wave pushed temperatures above 100°F (38°C) for multiple days, leading to heat-related illnesses.

August

August continues the trend of high temperatures, with the potential for tropical storms.

Temperature Averages

- Average high: 93°F (34°C)
- Average low: 75°F (24°C)

Precipitation

August sees about 4.5 inches (114 mm) of rainfall, with tropical systems occasionally affecting the area.

Notable Weather Events

- August 2017: Hurricane Harvey made landfall near Houston, resulting in catastrophic flooding and widespread destruction.

September

September signals a gradual end to the summer heat, although temperatures can still be high.

Temperature Averages

- Average high: 88°F (31°C)
- Average low: 71°F (22°C)

Precipitation

September averages around 5.4 inches (137 mm) of rain, with the potential for hurricanes as the Atlantic storm season peaks.

Notable Weather Events

- September 2008: Hurricane Ike struck the Texas coast, severely impacting the Houston area with high winds and flooding.

October

October brings cooler temperatures and less humidity, making it one of the most pleasant months in

Houston.

Temperature Averages

- Average high: 80°F (27°C)
- Average low: 58°F (14°C)

Precipitation

October averages approximately 4.0 inches (102 mm) of rain.

Notable Weather Events

- October 2015: A significant rain event caused flash flooding in many parts of Houston, leading to road closures and rescues.

November

November marks the transition to cooler weather, as fall sets in.

Temperature Averages

- Average high: 69°F (21°C)
- Average low: 49°F (9°C)

Precipitation

November typically experiences around 3.0 inches (76 mm) of rainfall.

Notable Weather Events

- November 1970: A severe cold front brought unseasonably low temperatures, with some areas experiencing frost.

December

December concludes the year with cooler temperatures and the potential for winter weather.

Temperature Averages

- Average high: 61°F (16°C)
- Average low: 43°F (6°C)

Precipitation

December averages about 3.3 inches (84 mm) of rain.

Notable Weather Events

- December 1989: A rare snowfall occurred, with some areas of Houston receiving up to an inch of snow, creating an unusual winter scene.

Conclusion

Understanding Houston weather history by month provides crucial insights into the city's climate and its impact on daily life. Each month presents unique weather patterns that influence everything from outdoor activities to infrastructure planning. The variability of Houston's weather, marked by extremes and notable events, underscores the importance of preparedness and adaptability for both residents and visitors.

Whether you're planning a trip or considering a move, being informed about the monthly weather history can enhance your experience in this dynamic city.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the average temperature in Houston during January?

The average temperature in Houston during January ranges from 43°F (6°C) to 61°F (16°C).

How much rainfall does Houston typically receive in July?

Houston typically receives about 3.5 inches (89 mm) of rainfall in July, making it one of the wetter months.

What are the historical weather patterns in Houston for September?

September in Houston is usually hot and humid, with average temperatures between 70°F (21°C) and 88°F (31°C), and a higher chance of tropical storms.

Does Houston experience snowfall in December?

Snowfall in Houston during December is extremely rare, but it can occasionally happen. Historically, the city has seen light snow on very few occasions.

What is the peak hurricane season month for Houston?

The peak hurricane season for Houston is typically in September, when conditions are most favorable for tropical storms and hurricanes.

What is the average humidity level in Houston during August?

The average humidity level in Houston during August is around 70-80%, contributing to the muggy conditions typical of the summer months.

What weather events are common in Houston during spring months?

Spring months in Houston, particularly April and May, often see severe thunderstorms, heavy rainfall, and occasional tornadoes.

How does the weather in Houston change from winter to spring?

Houston experiences a significant warming trend from winter to spring, with average temperatures rising from the low 50s°F (around 10°C) in February to the mid-70s°F (around 24°C) by April.

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