

September 2026 Monthly Weather Summary

Temperature Overview

September 2026 was warmer than normal across the region, with most places ending up between 2 and 4 degrees above average. Elizabeth City ranked as the 6th warmest on record, while the co-op station at Louisa and Williamsburg both recorded their 5th warmest September on record. Elsewhere, values did not rank among the top 10 warmest. The month started summer-like with highs in the mid to upper 90s, along with high humidity, leading to heat indices of 105° or higher for much of the region. Multiple Heat Advisories were needed from the 1st through the 4th before temperatures finally cooled off closer to normal for a few days. In general, it remained warm to hot and moderately humid until late in the month when an area of low pressure developed offshore with strong high pressure to the north. This pattern persisted for several days, bringing a prolonged period with onshore flow, light to moderate rain and much cooler temperatures. Highs were only in the 60s to lower 70s, but with the clouds and rain, nighttime lows were near normal. After that, near normal readings were observed for the last few days of the month. The only daily record that was set was a high minimum of 77° on the 12th at Elizabeth City.

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Precipitation Overview

Overall, September 2026 was drier than normal across the region; Richmond was the only station among our long-term climate sites and notable co-op stations that recorded above normal precipitation. Several stations, including Norfolk and Elizabeth City received less than 50% of the normal amount, leading to a return to D0 (abnormally dry) to D1 (moderate) drought across far southeast Virginia and northeast North Carolina by the end of the month. Despite the lack of rain for most of the area, none of the long-term stations were dry enough to rank among the top 10 driest Septembers. As is typical with scattered showers and storms, some locally heavy rainfall was observed from time to time despite the overall dry pattern. Elizabeth City recorded 1.53” on the 4th (not a record), and Richmond received 2.35” on the 12th which was a daily record. While some locally heavy rainfall was recorded with the coastal low pressure system late in the month, much of the area largely missed out on significant despite several days of clouds and unsettled conditions.

The table on page 3 shows detailed temperature and precipitation statistics for September 2026. On page 4 and 5, daily average temperature departures are shown at Richmond (4) and Norfolk (5), followed by monthly precipitation maps (page 6), with daily records set during the month at our 4 main long-term sites on the last page.

Tabular Summary of Data for Selected Climate Sites (September):

September 2026 Temperature Summary Data

* also on other dates

All Normals are 1991-2020

Site	Avg Max		Avg Min		Avg Temp		Daily Highs						Daily Mins						Remarks
	(°F)		(°F)		(°F)		Warmest (°F)			Coolest (°F)			Warmest (°F)			Coolest (°F)			
	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	Actual	Date	Dep	
Richmond	83.4	2.2	65.0	3.9	74.2	3.0	97	*4th	4	63	23rd	-4	75	2nd	3	53	25th	4	6th Warmest
Norfolk	81.9	0.5	69.2	2.6	75.6	1.6	93	*10th	1	67	26th	-2	77	2nd	2	59	*27th	3	
Salisbury	79.6	0.1	63.2	3.3	71.4	1.7	92	1st	1	62	27th	-4	73	4th	0	54	15th	10	
Wallops Island	78.9	0.2	65.6	2.6	72.3	1.5	92	1st	3	62	27th	-5	76	1st	2	55	26th	5	
Elizabeth City	84.2	2.4	67.4	2.5	75.8	2.4	96	4th	4	66	25th	-6	77	12th	2	56	28th	4	
Ashland, VA	80.9	1.7	63.0	3.5	72.0	2.7	93	*4th	3	62	23rd	-4	72	*11th	1	50	*26th	5	*** 5th Warmest ***
Cape Charles, VA	80.4	2.5	67.2	3.3	73.8	2.9	92	*10th	3	67	24th	-2	75	*12th	0	59	*25th	7	
Louisa, VA	83.7	4.7	62.2	5.9	72.9	5.3	98	4th	7	64	24th	-3	72	*13th	3	44	25th	4	
Wakefield, VA	85.2	3.4	63.8	3.6	74.5	3.5	100	4th	8	65	24th	-4	73	3rd	1	54	16th	8	
Williamsburg, VA	83.0	2.5	66.3	3.2	74.7	2.9	98	4th	7	65	24th	-4	76	4th	3	56	25th	6	
Edenton, NC	83.1	1.6	68.2	3.1	75.7	2.4	94	*5th	4	68	25th	-4	78	4th	4	57	25th	5	

September 2026 Precipitation Summary Data

* also on other dates

All Normals are 1991-2020

Site	Total Pre		# Pre Days		# Pre Days		Greatest		Total Snow		# Snow Days		# Snow Days		Greatest		Remarks		
	(in.)		(≥0.01")		(≥0.10")		(in.)		(in.)		(≥0.1")		(≥1.0")		(in.)		(in.)		
	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Actual	Dep	Act	Date	Act	Dep	Act	Dep	Act	Dep	Daily	Date	Storm	Date	
Richmond	5.50	0.89	10	1	7	1	2.35	12th											
Norfolk	1.62	-3.78	10	1	2	-4	0.73	5th											
Salisbury	2.26	-2.22	8	-1	5	-1	0.66	26th											
Wallops Island	2.83	-1.50	9	1	6	0	0.58	26th											
Elizabeth City	2.03	-2.49	8	-2	3	-3	1.53	4th											
Ashland, VA	3.28	-0.91	9	1	7	1	0.86	23rd											
Cape Charles, VA	1.55	-2.66	8	-1	5	0	0.85	26th											
Louisa, VA	4.44	-0.05	10	0	9	3	1.40	11th											
Wakefield, VA	2.75	-3.30	9	0	5	-1	1.19	12th											
Williamsburg, VA	4.40	-1.00	11	1	7	1	1.98	22nd											
Edenton, NC	1.74	-3.88	9	1	6	-1	0.70	13th											

* **"Dep"**= **Departure** from the 30-year normals (1991-2020). Temperature departures are shaded orange for 1 F or more warmer than average (dark red for 4 F or greater anomalies) and blue for 1 F or more cooler than average (dark blue for 4 F or more below normal). Similarly, precipitation departures are shaded green for 0.50" or more wetter than average (dark green for 2.00" or more) and tan for 0.50" or more drier than average (dark brown for 2.00" or more drier). Snowfall departures are shaded purple for 1" or more above average and tan for 1" or more below average. *****Rankings in Remark section are included for Co-op sites where a complete period of record is of sufficient duration to be meaningful.** N/A in Remarks section indicates sites with a shorter period of record, leading to rankings being of less significance.

Daily Average Temperature Departures at Richmond, VA (September)

September

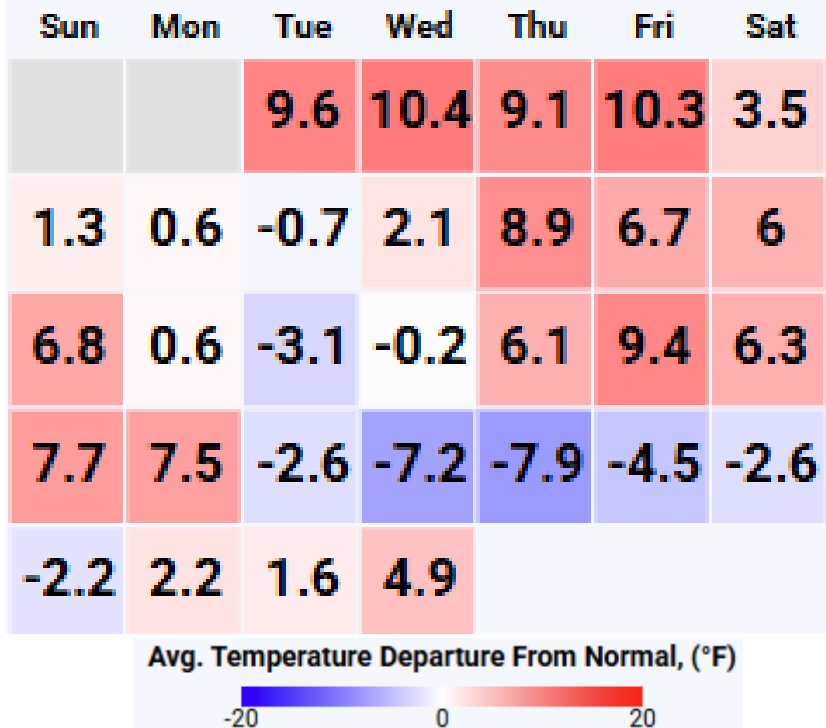


Figure 1: Daily Average Temperature Departures at RIC

Daily Average Temperature Departures at Norfolk, VA (September)

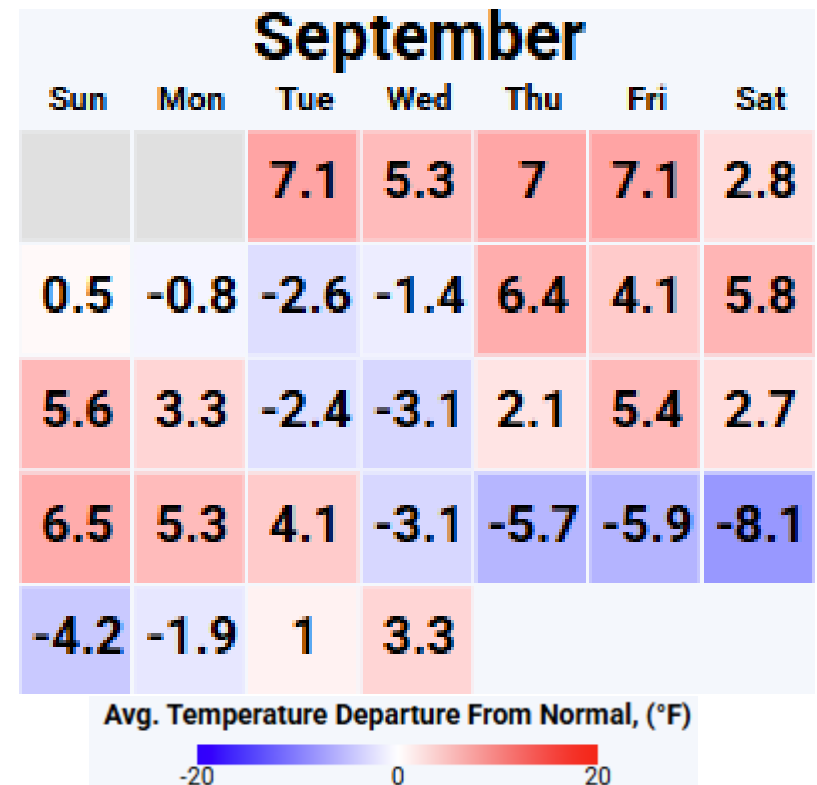


Figure 2: Daily Average Temperature Departures at ORF

Regional Precipitation Maps: September 2026

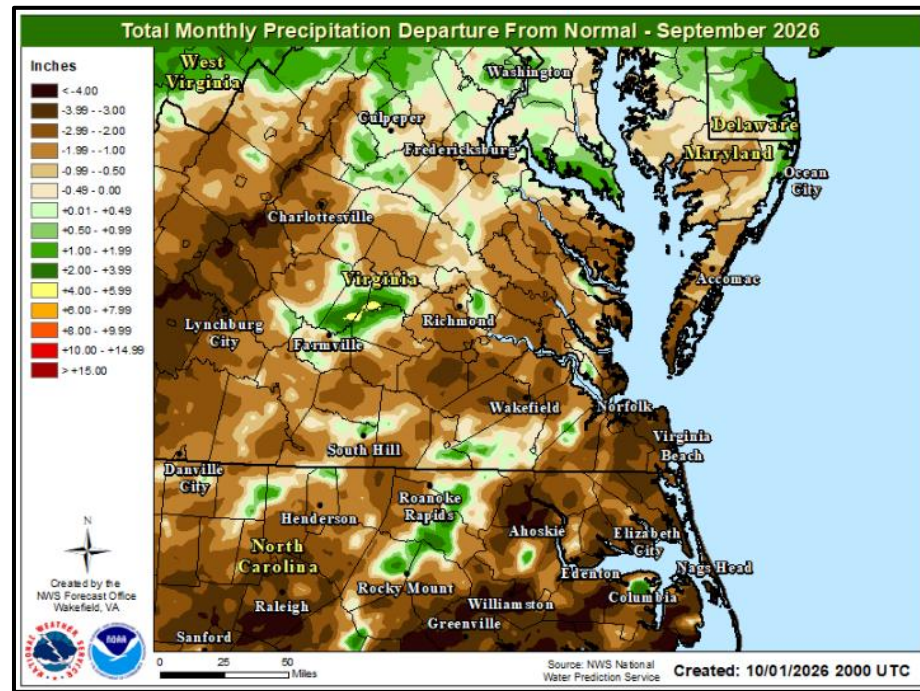
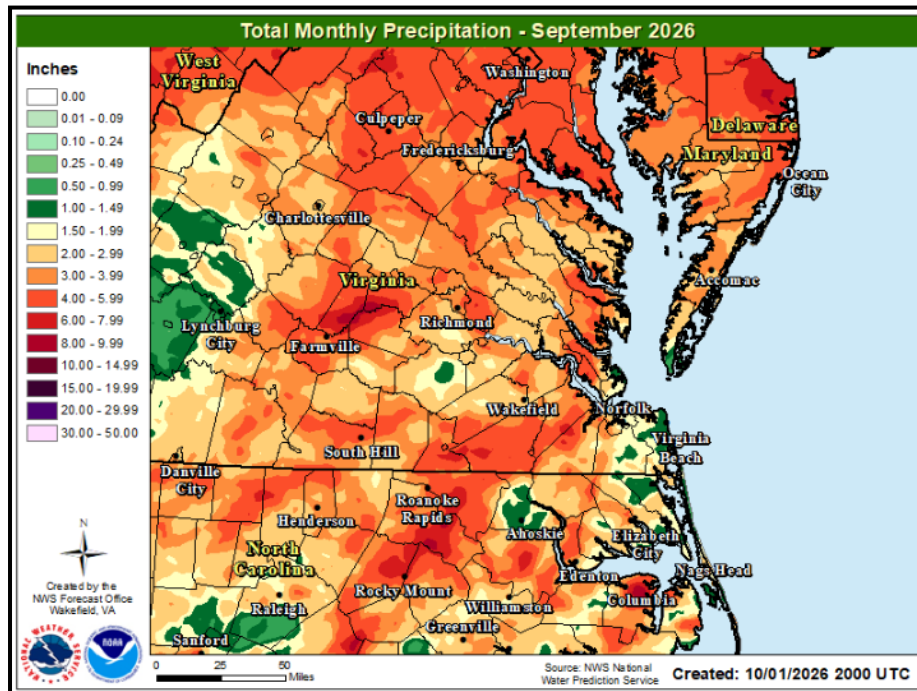


Figure 3: *Total Precipitation* for the month is shown in the map on the left. *Departure* from the 30-year normals (1991-2020) is shown on the map on the right.

Daily Records for Long Term Sites (September):

Norfolk, VA Records (Period of Record 153 yrs./1874-2026)

**tie*

Record Highs: none set.

Record Low Maximums: none set.

Record Lows: none set.

Record High Minimums: none set.

Daily Precipitation: none set.

Richmond, VA Daily Records (Period of Record 130 yrs./1897-2026)

**tie*

Record Highs: none set.

Record Low Maximums: none set.

Record Lows: none set.

Record High Minimums: none set.

Daily Precipitation: 2.35" (12th)

Salisbury, MD Daily Records (Period of Record 120 yrs./1907-2026)

**tie*

Record Highs: none set.

Record Low Maximums: none set.

Record Lows: none set.

Record High Minimums: none set.

Daily Precipitation: none set.

Elizabeth City, NC Daily Records (Period of Record 93 yrs./1934-2026)

**tie*

Record Highs: none set.

Record Low Maximums: none set.

Record Lows: none set.

Record High Minimums: 77 (12th)

Daily Precipitation: none set.