

Eglin Air Force Base and Duke Field Climate Summary

September 2024

Mr. David Biggar
Staff Meteorologist, 96th Weather Squadron

Our string of “top five warmest months on record” for Eglin AFB (KVPS) has ended in September 2024. After having the second warmest May on record, a tie for the fifth warmest June, a tie for the warmest July, and the second warmest August on record at KVPS, our mean daily temperature of 26.8 deg C (80.3 deg F) ranked in a tie (with 1977) for the 13th warmest September on record.

For KVPS, September of 2024 had a mean daily temperature of 80.3 deg F (26.8 deg C), which was 1.3 deg F above normal for the month. The warmest temperature during the month of September 2024 for KVPS was 96 deg F on the 2nd, and the coolest temperature was 67 deg F on the 27th. For precipitation, after having the driest August on record last month at KVPS, precipitation rebounded a bit with a total of 4.91”, which was 1.49” below normal for the month. We only had a total of five days with a thunderstorm reported during the month (well below the normal September amount of nine thunderstorm days for the month).

For KEGI, the mean daily temperature was 79.5 deg F (26.4 deg C). The warmest temperature during the month at KEGI was 97 deg F on the 1st and 2nd and the coolest temperature during the month was 63 deg F on the 30th. For precipitation at KEGI, there was a total of 4.57” of rainfall during the month, which was only slightly below the KVPS precipitation amount for September. There were only two days with thunderstorms reported at KEGI in September 2024.

One item of note for precipitation in the Okaloosa County/Santa Rosa County area, there was one isolated area over southwest Santa Rosa County/extreme southwest Okaloosa County which had an extreme amount of precipitation compared to KVPS and KEGI. At one private measurement location in an area of Navarre in the extreme southeast corner of Santa Rosa County, a total of 20.53” of rainfall was recorded during the month. A large part of that extreme amount of rainfall occurred on the evening of 15 September to the morning of 16 September when a very isolated but nearly stationary, intense area of showers and thunderstorms developed across southeastern Santa Rosa and southwestern Okaloosa

counties and adjacent waters (and Navarre Beach) to the south along a nearly stationary frontal boundary. A total of 8.03" occurred with this event in southeast Santa Rosa County, while KVPS only had 0.03" of rainfall during this period of time. The significant difference in September rainfall measurements between the southeastern corner of Santa Rosa County, at a location approximately 21 miles southwest of KVPS and the September rainfall at both KVPS and KEGI is a good example of how much difference there can be in total rainfall amounts for nearby locations during the summer convective season (with September being the last month of our local area convective rainfall season). The difference between 20.53" for the month in southeast Santa Rosa County compared to 4.91" at KVPS and 4.57" at KEGI during September of 2024 was quite extraordinary! Also, of interest during the month is that neither hurricane Francine (making landfall near New Orleans during the first half of September) nor Hurricane Helene (which made landfall southeast of Tallahassee near the end of September) led to significant precipitation amounts for either KVPS or KEGI.

Daily records:

For KVPS, the first three days of the month came close (within one deg F) of tying a daily maximum temperature record each day but came up just short of the record. So, there were no daily maximum temperature records tied or set during the month for KVPS. There were four daily maximum temperature records tied or set during the month at KEGI. There were no new daily minimum temperature records or precipitation records tied or set during the month at either KVPS or KEGI.

KEGI

Maximum Temperature Records for September 2024:

- 1 September: 97 deg F tied the previous record for the date set in 2015.
- 2 September: 97 deg F tied the previous record of set both in 2015 and 1964.
- 3 September: 96 deg F broke the previous record of 95 deg F set in 2019.
- 23 September: 95 deg F tied the previous record set in 1980.