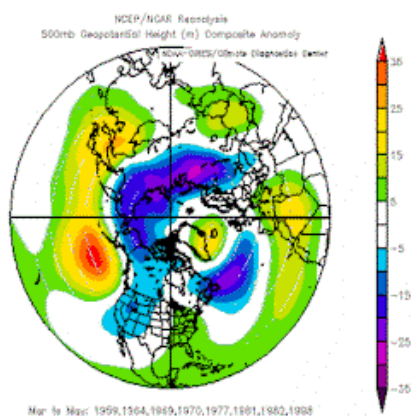


The Pennsylvania Observer

The Pennsylvania State Climatologist



FEATURED CLIMATE HIGHLIGHT

By: Tiffany Wisniewski

There are two climate highlights for this month.

The first highlight shows the August hurricane tracks that followed when both Iowa and Wisconsin experienced a wetter than normal period beginning in April and ending in July.

The second highlight predicts the greatest weather anomaly expected for the Autumn season in Pennsylvania when the first three months in Idaho were cooler than average, the second three month period (April to June) in Iowa were wetter than normal and in that same period conditions were warmer than average in Texas.

August Hurricane Tracks that Followed the Wettest April-July Period in both Iowa and Wisconsin

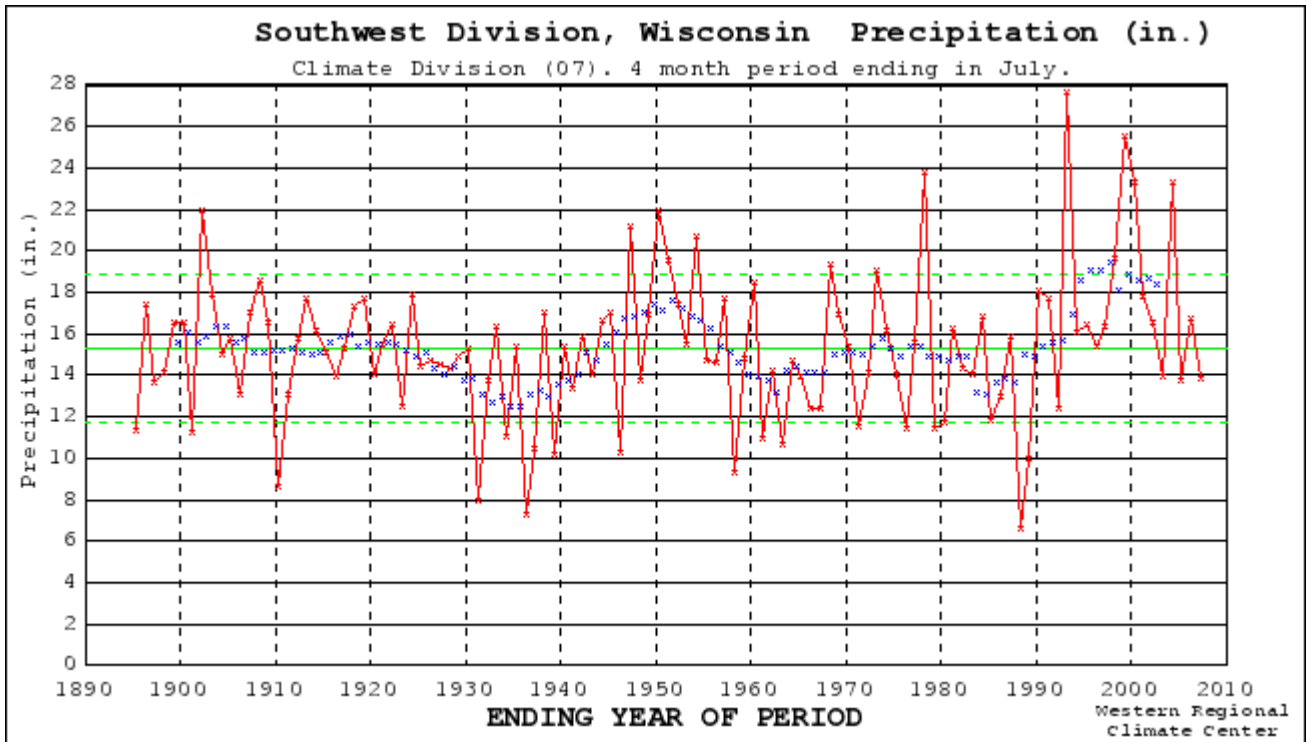


Figure 1: The four month (April through July) average precipitation in southwest Wisconsin.

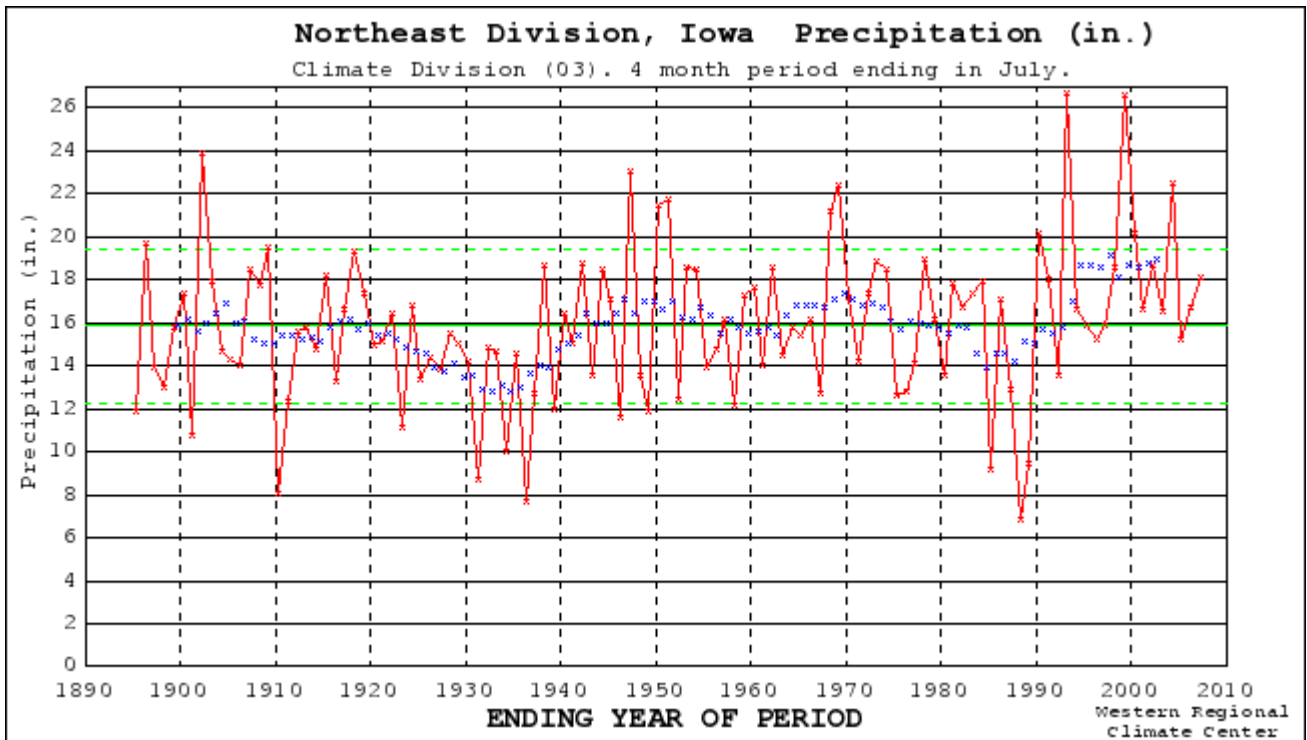


Figure 2: The four month (April through July) average precipitation in northeast Iowa.

Iowa		Wisconsin	
Year	Precip. (in.)	Year	Precip. (in.)
1993	26.62	1993	27.6
1999	26.55	1999	25.53
1902	23.83	1978	23.72
1947	22.97	2004	23.28
2004	22.45	2000	23.23
1969	22.37	1950	21.92
1951	21.68	1902	21.9
1950	21.42	1947	21.1
1968	21.18	1954	20.63
2000	20.09	1998	19.57
1990	20.07	1951	19.51
1896	19.68	1968	19.28

Table 1: List of the 12 years in which the precipitation total was the greatest in Iowa and Wisconsin from April to July.

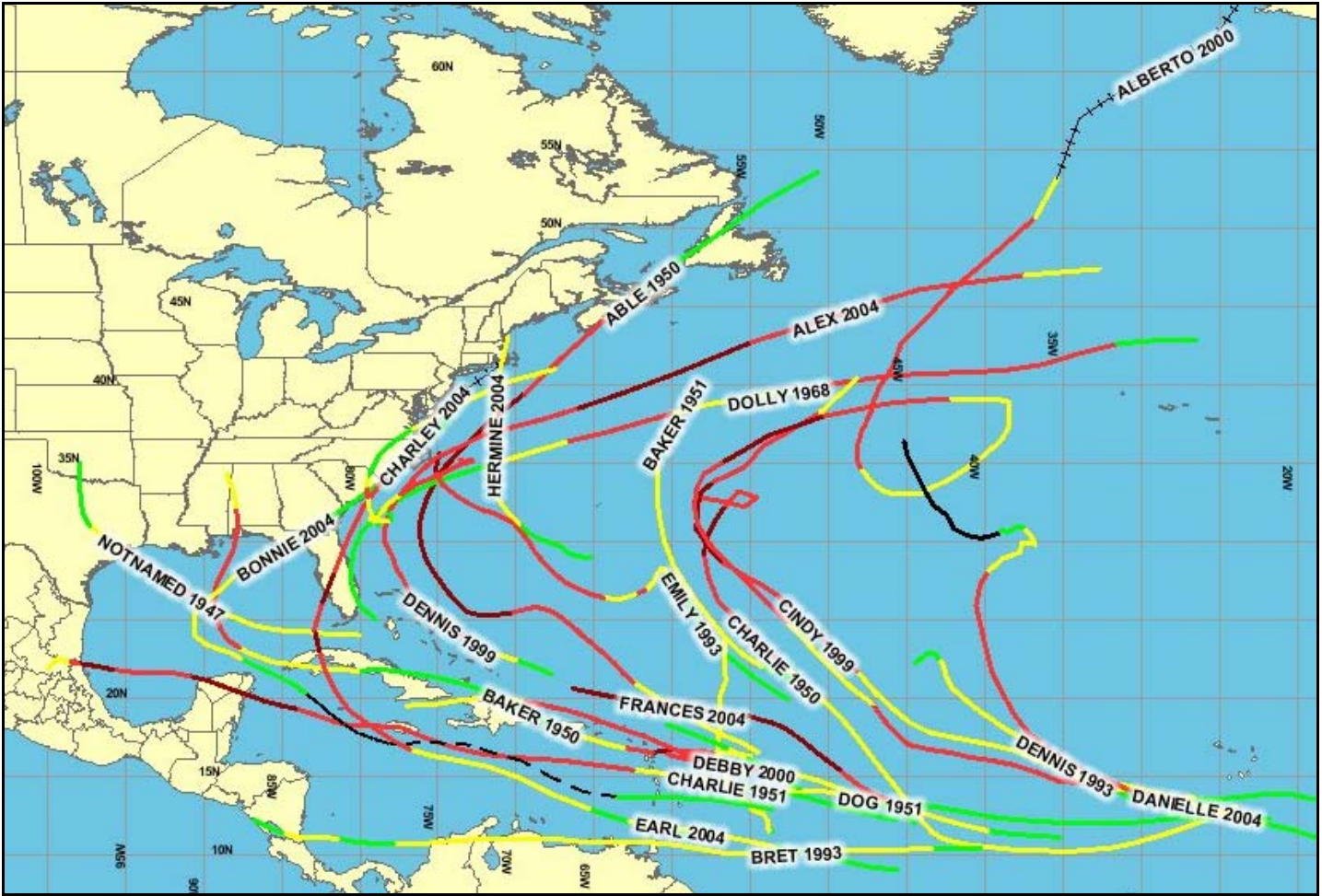
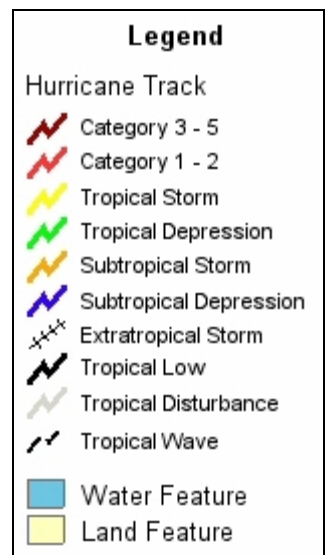


Figure 3: August hurricane tracks that occurred during the analog years. (Courtesy of NOAA).



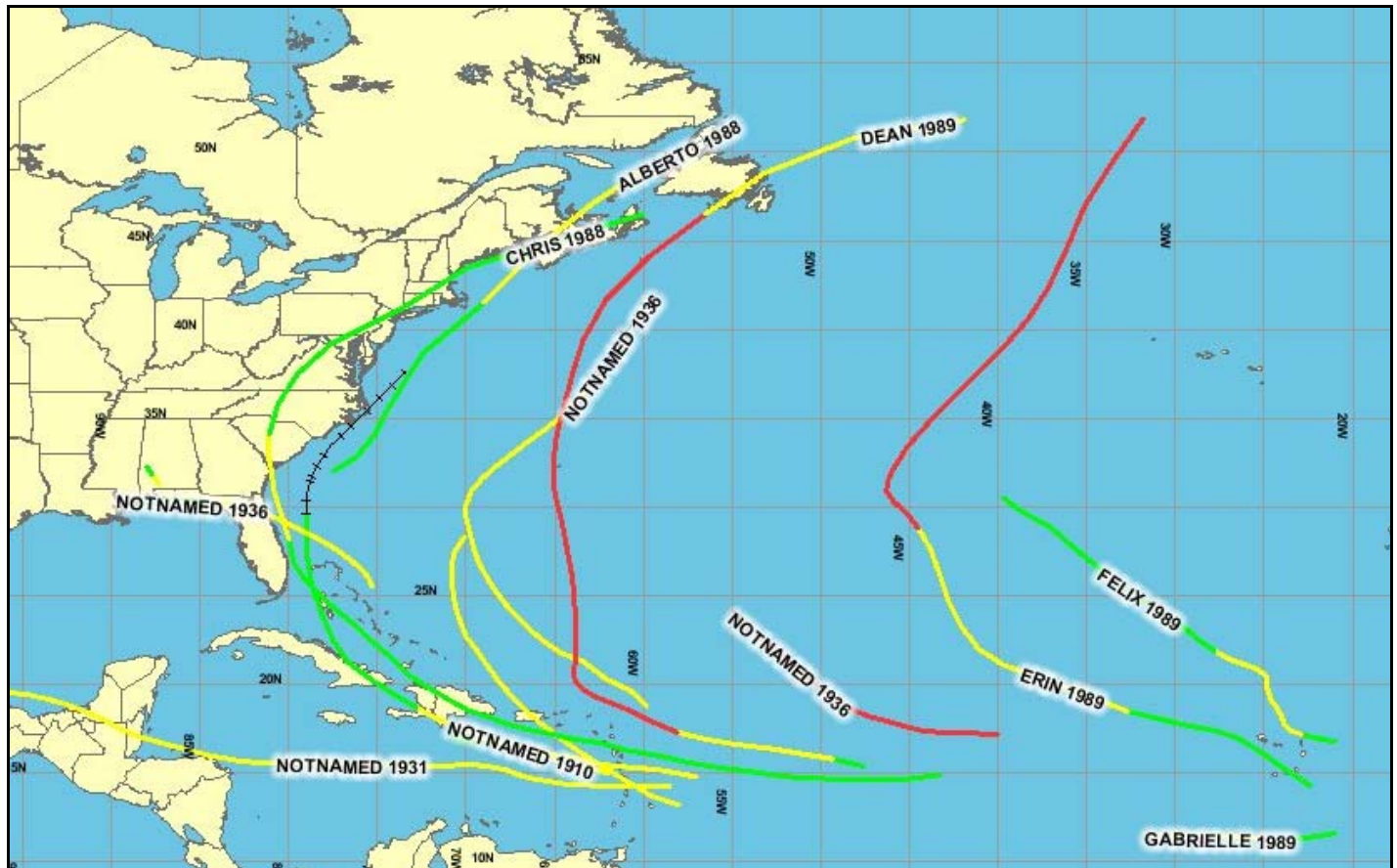


Figure 4: August hurricane tracks that occurred during the years in which both Iowa and Wisconsin experienced their driest period from April to July. (Courtesy of NOAA).

By comparing Figure 3 and Figure 4, it is evident that more hurricanes traveled up through the Gulf of Mexico when precipitation totals were greatest in Iowa and Wisconsin during the April-July period. In contrast, years in which both Iowa and Wisconsin experienced their driest period, a dearth in Gulf hurricanes is present.

The Greatest Anomaly Expected for the Autumn Season in Pennsylvania

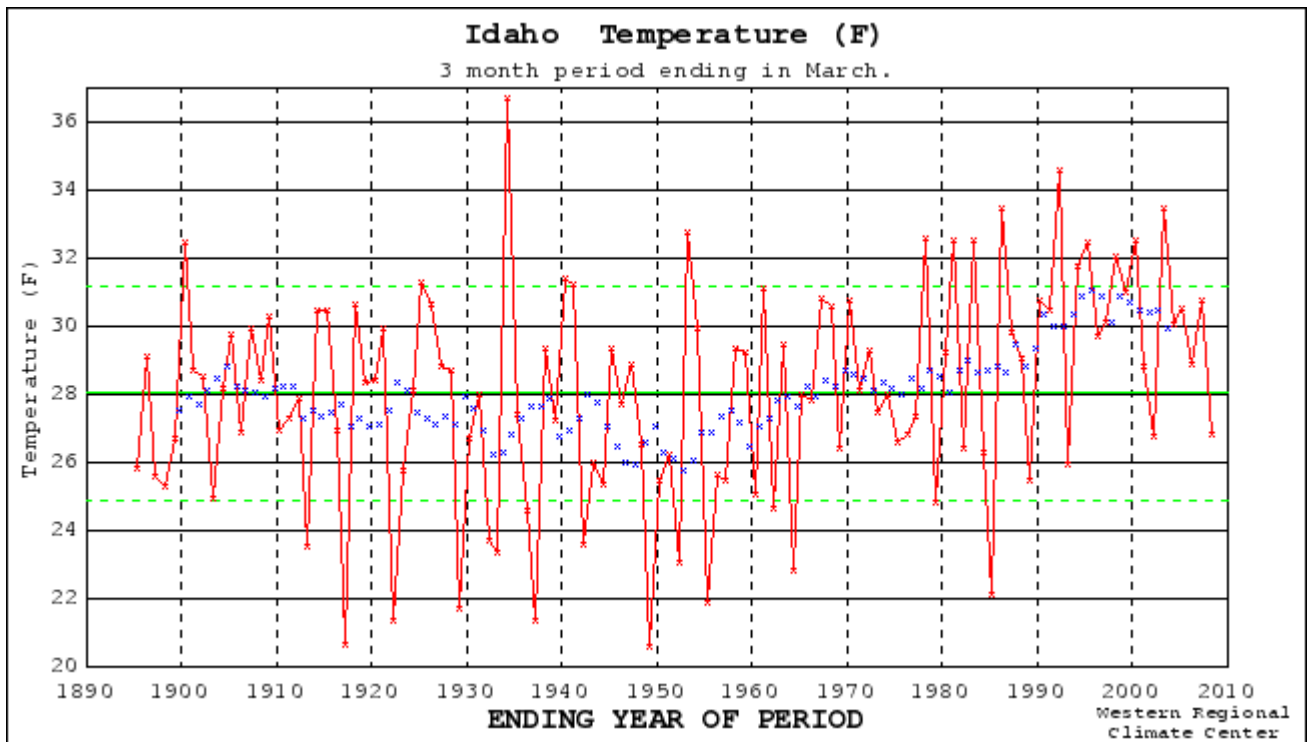


Figure 5: The three month (January through March) average temperature in Idaho.

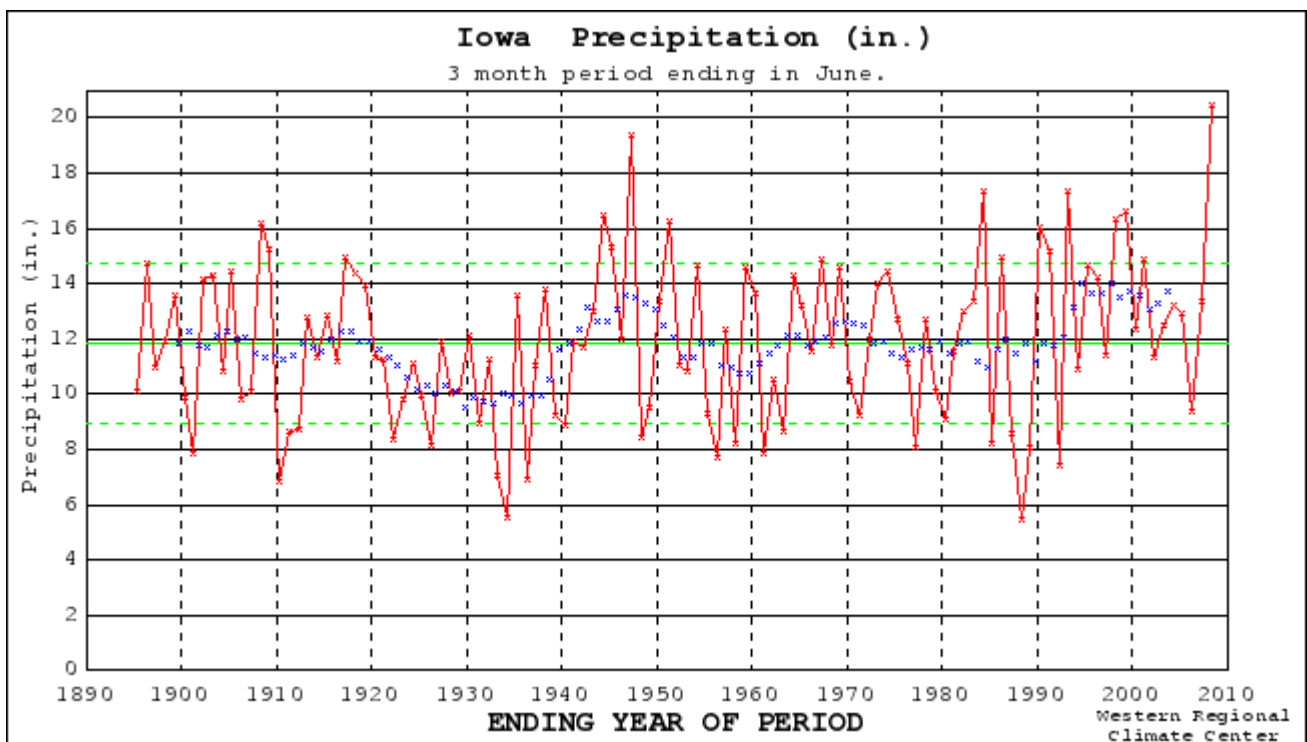


Figure 6: The three month (April through June) average precipitation in Iowa.

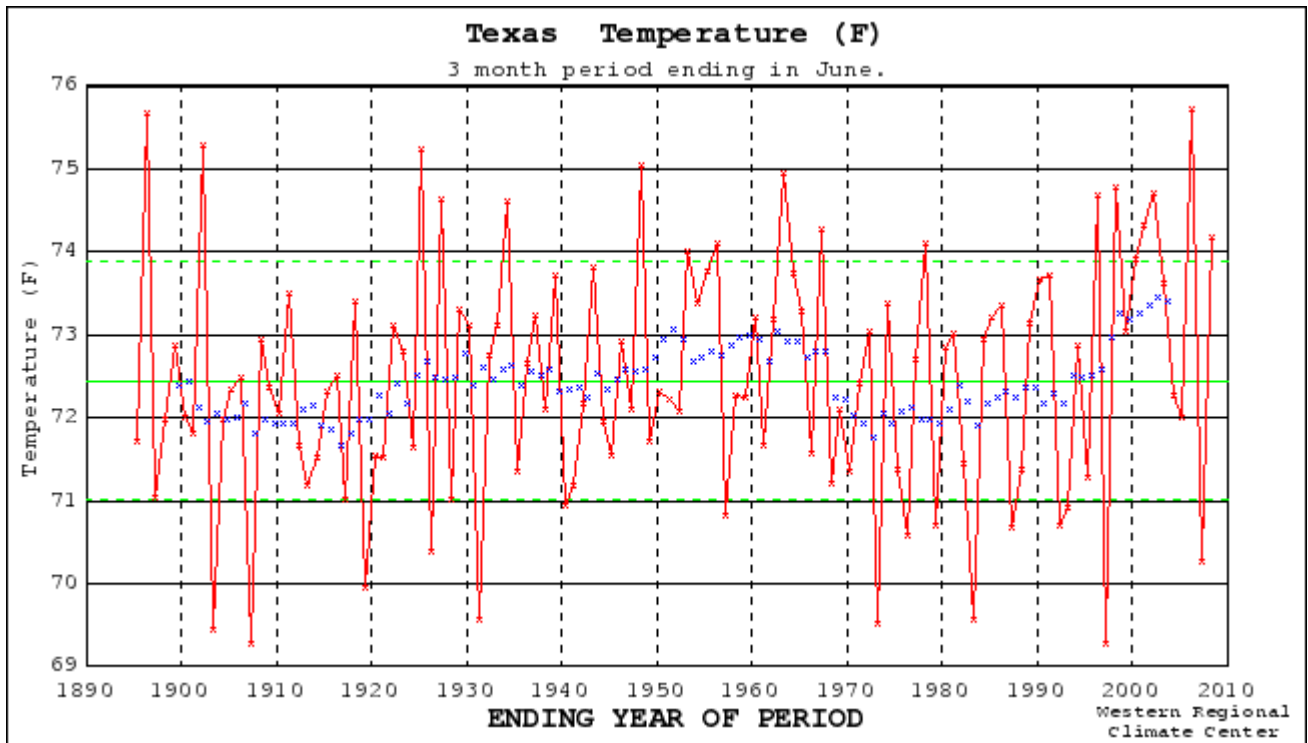
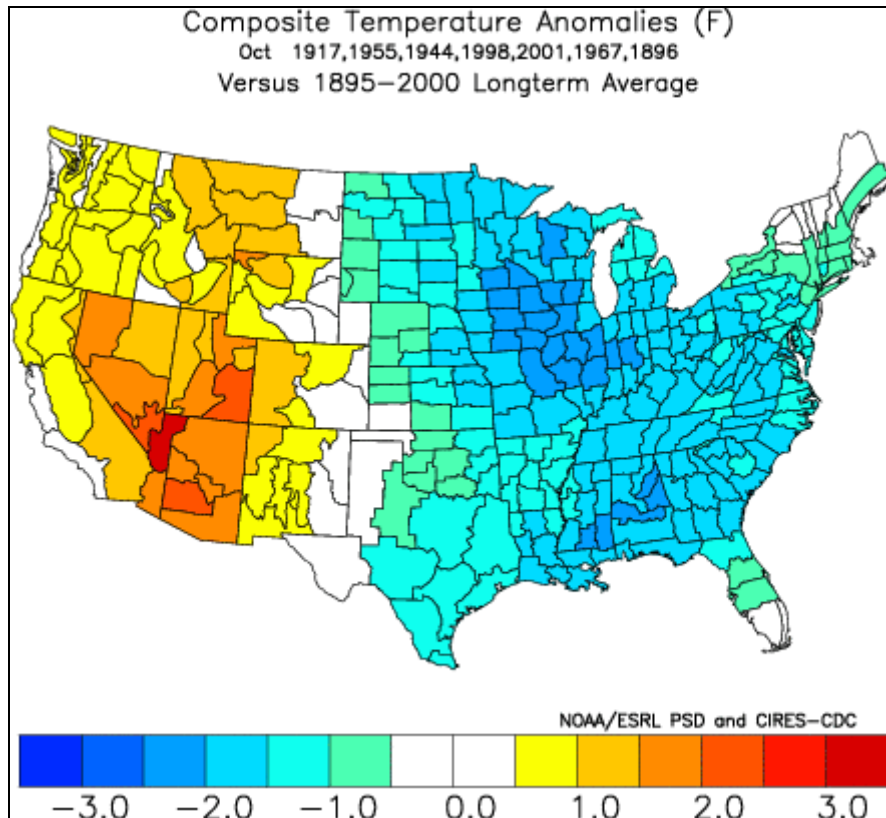


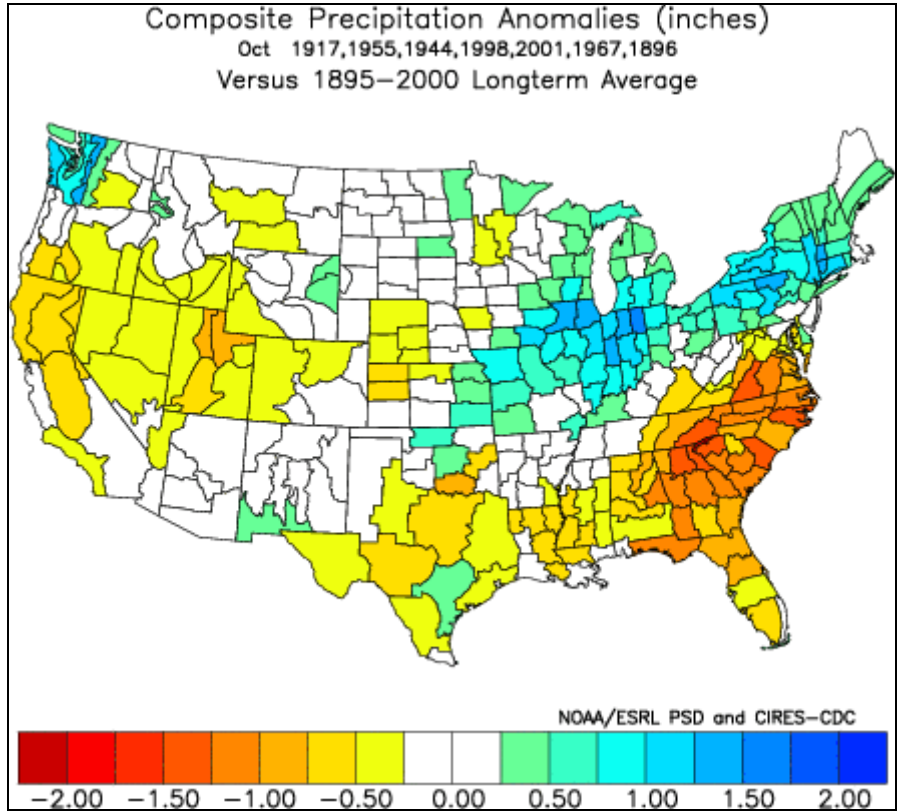
Figure 7: The three month (April through June) average temperature in Texas.

Below is a comparison of the anomalies that follow for October, November, and December:

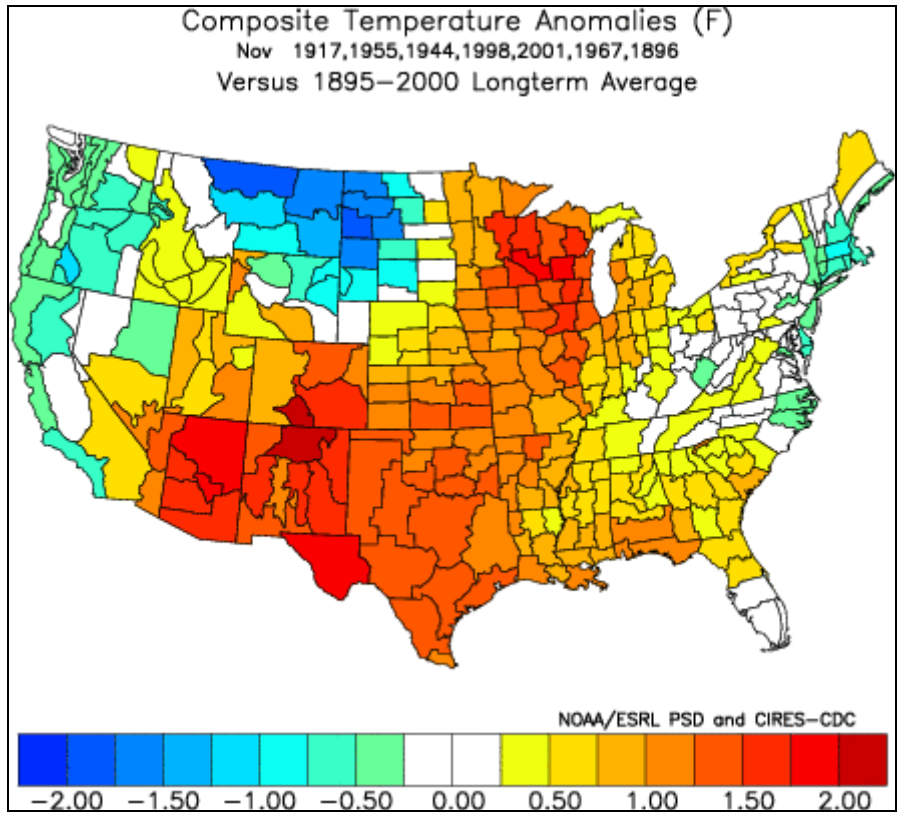
October Temperature:



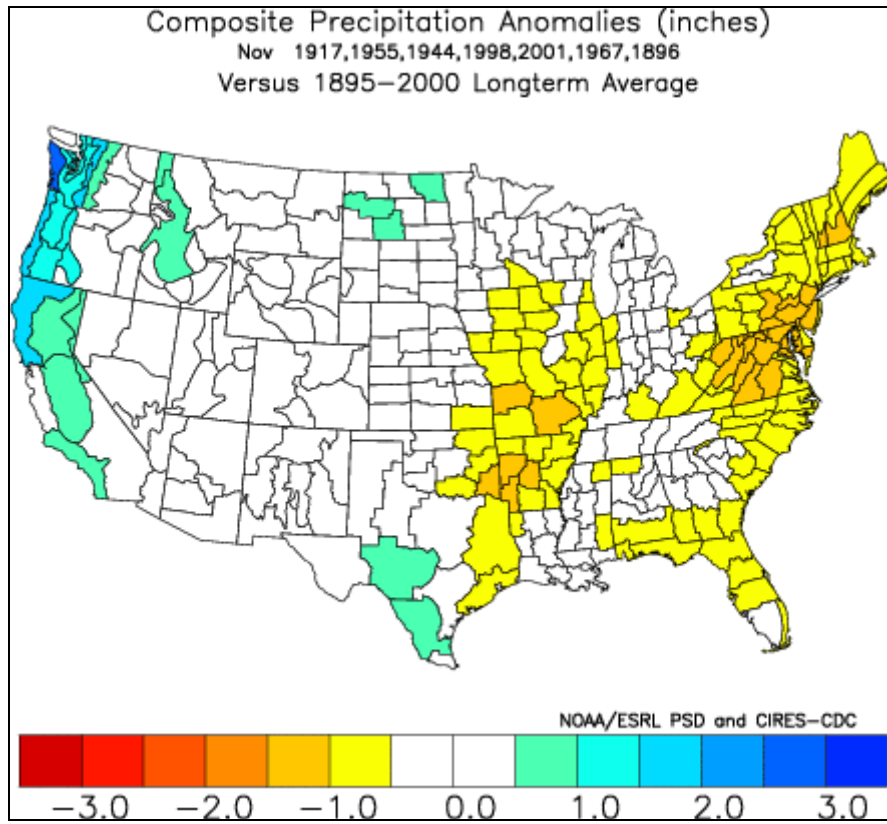
October Precipitation:



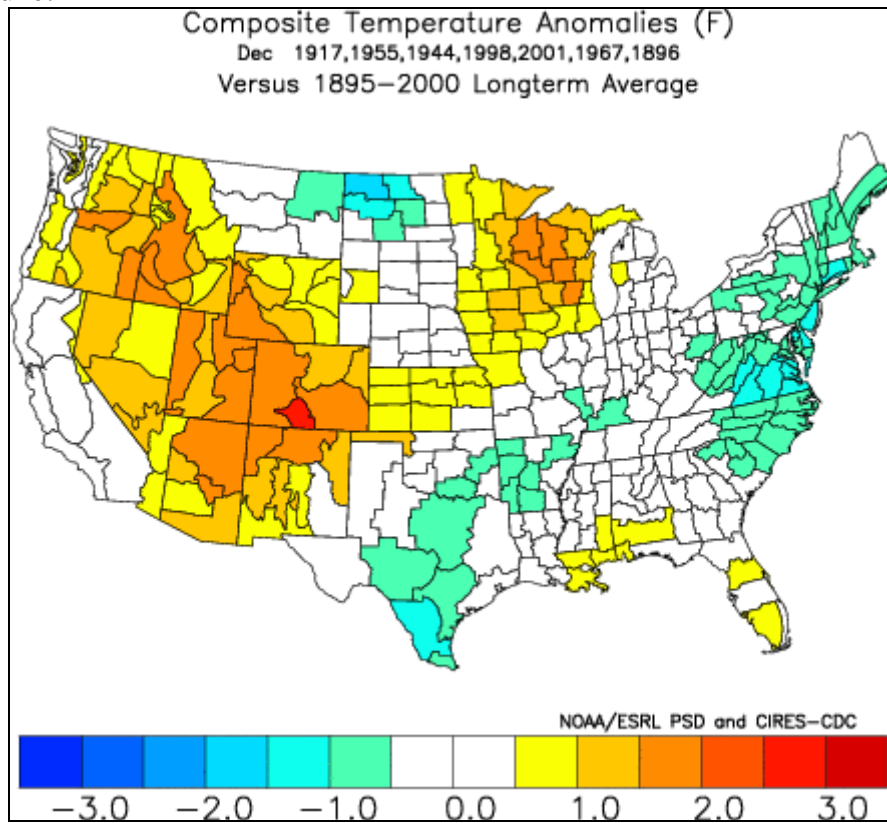
November Temperature:



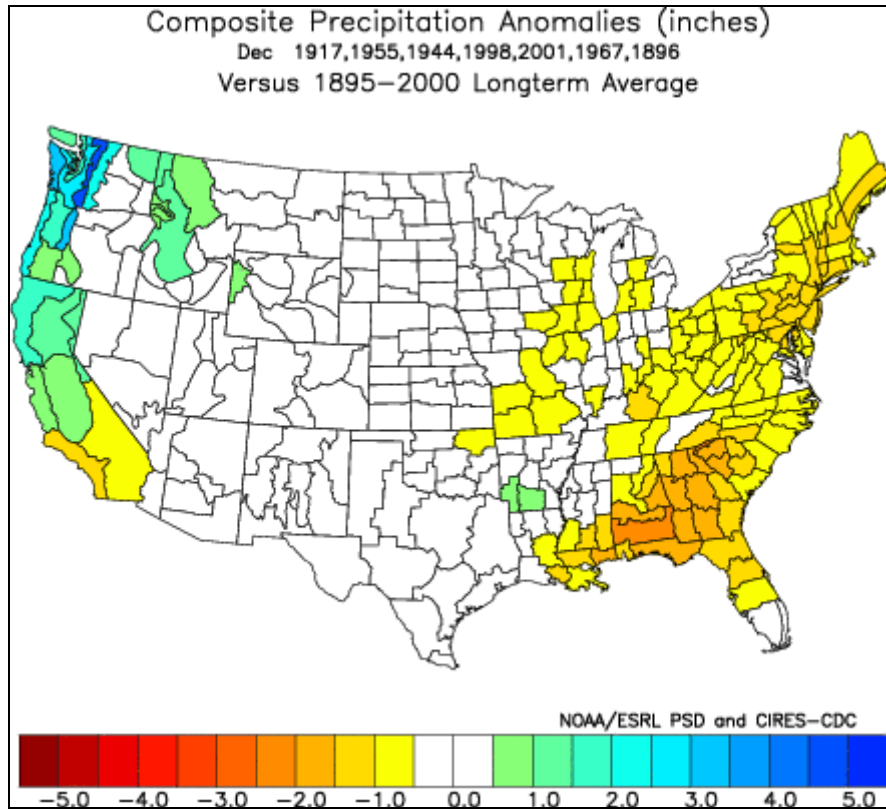
November Precipitation:



December Temperature:



December Precipitation:



The composite anomaly graphs show precipitation to have the greatest departure from normal during the autumn season. Temperatures begin the season below average, but hovers around the normal threshold for the remainder of the time.

Autumn Precipitation					
Year	Div 1	Div 3	Div 5	Div 7	Div 9
1917	9.75	9.12	8.32	8.02	9.21
1944	9.76	12.53	9.77	8.89	8.85
1955	15.19	8.76	11.3	11.58	12.17
1967	8.71	6.98	9.79	10.48	12.09
1998	8.91	6.63	6.08	5.77	7.31
2001	8.45	5.61	8.71	9.57	11.36
AVG	11.93	11.4	10.85	10.41	9.11

Table 2: List of the average precipitation departures for selected divisions in Pennsylvania during the analog years for the month of October.

This table shows that no biases are present in the predicted departures above for October’s precipitation.